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Body found at Horseshoe Bay, possibly Putnam's

By Jason Lenz/*Managing Editor*

At roughly 6:30 p.m. Sunday, game wardens for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department discovered the body of a female believed to be Laura Putnam, 23, a graduate of Texas Tech, according to a press release from the Horseshoe Bay Police Department.

Putnam was involved in a hit-and-run boating accident May 26 in Horseshoe Bay that left her missing and two others injured. Although the body has not yet been identified,

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Public Information Officer Kristen Everette said it is likely Putnam.

"The way to phrase it right now is that we believe it to be the body of Laura Putnam," she said. "We're waiting on confirmation on that, but the game war-



Putnam

dens believe it is her body."

Justin Moore, 23, was Putnam's fiancée and was on the boat at the time of the accident. He was in Horseshoe Bay until the day prior to the discovery of the body. He said now the focus can shift from finding Putnam to finding those responsible.

"It's getting the closure on finding her," he said. "We were focused more on finding her. It made it more real. Now we're going to try our hardest to find the people who did this."

One of Putnam's friends, Lizzie Tarbox, a senior communications

major from Lubbock, said the possible discovery of Putnam's body could help in dealing with the loss.

"The fact that she was only missing but never declared dead made it really weird," she said. "I can't explain it, but we didn't think of her that way."

With the possible finding of the body, Tarbox said the grieving process can truly begin.

"I'm just glad she's found, basically," she said. "Now we can begin the closure process."

Liz Boelter, a senior communica-

tions major from Grapevine, was also a friend of Putnam through the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. She said the support she has seen from everyone has been helpful. She said the people of Horseshoe Bay rallied to help.

"Everyone was doing everything they could," she said. "Complete strangers were bringing us dinner."

Tarbox said a memorial service is planned at the First United Methodist Church in Grapevine at 10 a.m. Saturday. She also said there will be

PUTNAM continued on page 3

Texas A&M sued for negligence by family in death of football player

By Justin Smith/*The Battalion*

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE STATION — A lawsuit has been filed against Texas A&M by the family of Brandon Fails, the A&M football player who died last November from complications of a blood clot after a knee surgery.

The lawsuit, filed May 19 in Brazos County, seeks unspecified damages for Charles and Valerie Fails and states that Fails' physicians and trainers were negligent in identifying the clot that formed after the surgery and eventually lead to his death.

Along with A&M, the lawsuit names Fails' doctors, Dr. Joe Paul Bramhall and Dr. Richard Smith, who treated him after he injured his knee.

Also named were A&M trainers Daniel Kniffin and David Weir, Assistant Athletic Director Timothy Cassidy, Assistant Athletic Director for Athletic Training or Therapy Karl Kapchinski, and The Physicians Centre and Central Texas Sports Medicine and Orthopedics, where Fails received treatment.

University spokeswoman Cynthia Lawson said A&M does not comment on pending lawsuits.

On Oct. 15, Fails, an 18-year-old 6-foot-3-inch, 275-pound lineman from Euless, Texas, injured his right knee in football practice and later underwent arthroscopic sur-

gery to repair his knee.

For the next month, Fails was treated by A&M athletic trainers, who used various types of therapy for his knee.

Fails complained of breathing problems and chest pain on Nov. 21 and was diagnosed by Smith as having an upper respiratory infection. He was prescribed antibiotics and inhalers.

On the morning of Nov. 25, Fails said he was having difficulty breathing and collapsed in his Cain Hall dorm room.

He was pronounced dead at St. Joseph Regional Health Center later that day.

Darrell Keith, the Fails' attorney, told the Bryan-College Station Eagle last month that

Fails died a terrible, agonizing death.

"No one, much less someone like Brandon, should have suffered," he said. "This has been a tremendous loss for them [the Fails' family]."

Keith said that almost nothing was done to prevent Fails from suffering and he was given the wrong treatment when he went for help.

A Travis County medical examiner concluded that Fails died of natural causes as a result of a blood clot that moved from his right leg to his lungs.

Charles and Valerie Fails were unavailable for comment.



Signing Party



AMBER SIMPSON, AN early childhood development major from Levelland, receives an autograph from professional wrestler Eddie Guerrero on Monday in the Student Union. Guerrero will be among the wrestlers from the WWE performing Sunday at the United Spirit Arena.

CRAIG SWANSON/*Staff Photographer*

Students get autographs from WWE superstar

By Ashleigh Adams/*Staff Reporter*

Not many people get to lay the Smackdown on their greatest rival. Even fewer get to do it in front of thousands of cheering fans. Those that do get this opportunity are called WWE superstars, and they are laying the "smack" down Sunday afternoon at the Lubbock Mu-

nicipal Coliseum.

The appearance is part of the WWE Up Close and Uncensored Tour that boasts such stars as Kurt Angle, Matt Hardy, Big Show,

WRESTLING continued on page 3

Student loan interest rates reach all-time low

By Heather Jones/Staff Reporter

As decided on May 27, 2003, caused by economic forces, the new interest rates on federal education loans will drop to an all-time low of 2.82 percent. This is a 64 percent drop from last year's 3.46 percent. The new rate will go into affect as of July 1.

The change in interest rates also effects repayment, which will now be 3.42 percent instead of the 4.06 percent it was last year.

According to the Sallie Mae Foundation, a leading provider of

education funding, the interest rates are falling to the lowest levels since the inception of the student loan program in the 1960s. During the past three years interest rates on student loans have dropped nearly five percent points.

"As long as I have worked here I have never seen the interest rates under 3 percent," said Earl Hudgins, Director of Student Financial Aid at Texas Tech. "It is extremely beneficial to students."

According to the Sallie Mae Foundation, interest rates for federal loans are based on the last auction

of the 91-day Treasury bill in the month of May plus a margin of interest set by federal regulation.

The interest rates are at an all-time low because the rates are connected with prevailing short-term treasury yields in late May and June and this past year's short-term interest rates have been on the decline because of a general weakness of the economy.

The new interest rates will go into effect on July 1 and will last until June 30, 2004, when they will again be readjusted according to this year's short-term treasury yields.

This will also be beneficial to students who have already taken out loans, Hudgins said.

"The good thing is that since the rates are variable and set annually a loan that was taken out this past year at 3.46 percent will have their interest rates reduced for this coming year," he said.

The Department of Institutional Research and Information Management Web site reports that more than \$20 million in the form of financial aid was given out to undergraduates this past school year at Tech.

Financial aid helps students with everything from tuition and fees to transportation and living allowances.

Hudgins believes that the number of loans given out will stay pretty much the same, but with the change in tuition and fees there will be an increase in loan volume, to help with the increase in fees.

The Financial Aid Office will still encourage students to borrow money conservatively.

"We would rather work two or three applications for a student then have a student borrow too much," said Hudgins.

According to the same Web


site, 94 percent of undergraduates use some form of financial aid at Tech.

Stephen Layton, a senior mechanical engineering major from Whitharral, said lower interest rates can help him refocus his finances elsewhere.

"I work full-time, my wife and I both do, and (school) is a big expense that I don't have to come up with money for right now," he said. "It helps me concentrate on getting money for other things, like the rent."

Sara Shelton, a senior communication studies major from El Paso, said she thinks many students are welcoming the new rates and expecting changes for the better.

"I think that it will encourage students to take out loans and increase how many students graduate," she said. "It will make life easier for students."



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**WELLS
FARGO**

Suspect arrested in kidnapping case

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Police arrested a suspect Monday in the kidnapping of 9-year-old Jennette Tamayo just hours after the girl walked into a convenience store, shaken but safe.

Police took the man into custody at a friend's home. He tried to fight off officers and was taken to the hospital after a police dog bit him.

The home was less than a mile

from where an intruder brazenly kidnapped Tamayo on Friday after savagely beating her mother and brother.

Police said they believe the man knew of the fourth-grade girl through one of her former schoolmates — though neither she nor her family recognized him.

The man looked like a police sketch of the suspect and had injuries consistent with what police ex-

pected from the struggle he had with Tamayo's mother, Police Chief William Lansdowne said.

"We're very confident this is the right person," Lansdowne said.

The arrest came just 10 hours after the girl turned up safe. Investigators would not say whether the girl was freed or escaped, or what happened to her during the two days she was missing. She seemed healthy with no major injuries, police said.

The girl's mother, her face still puffy from Friday's attack, thanked authorities, the news media and her neighbors as she choked back tears.

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Stewart: Web site gets 40,000 supportive e-mails, 6 million hits

NEW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart thanked her admirers Monday for 40,000 e-mails of praise and support she says have flooded a Web site she set up to defend herself against stock fraud charges.

Image consultants say it's part of a shrewd campaign to win the battle for public opinion — and influence potential jurors who may one day decide her guilt or innocence.

"This is brilliant," said Seth Siegel, co-founder of The Beanstalk Group, a trademark licensing agency. "She is shoring up her base, and simultaneously getting ready for a trial."

The site, marthataalks.com, went up just hours after Stewart was indicted last week on five federal charges related to her sale of ImClone Systems shares just before the stock plummeted on bad news from regulators. She has

pleaded innocent.

In an open letter Thursday, Stewart said the Web site was being launched to reassure her supporters and post "current information about the case."

Stewart, who built a fortune by selling her vision of good taste and gracious living, said Monday the site has been swamped by more than 6 million visitors, and that she was "overwhelmed by the outpouring of support."

Wrestling

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Undertaker, and WWE Tag Team Champion Eddie Guerrero, all of whom will be in attendance for Sunday's show.

"This is going to be a fully loaded show," Guerrero said. "Kurt Angle is making a comeback, and we have Ultimo Dragon from Japan, plus a diva debut. It's going to be a great show."

Students lined the halls of the Student Union on Monday when Guerrero made an appearance to sign autographs, some expressing their frustrations about the event not being televised.

"It is a little annoying that the events usually sell out in Lubbock, but they still only give us house shows," said Justin Wright, a senior Exercise and Sports Sciences major from Abernathy. "If they actually brought a televised show to Lubbock, it would be sold out in no time."

Guerrero, however, said the non-televised shows have just as much to offer.

"Most likely, the matches will be longer," he said. "It's also a different atmosphere, but still a lot of fun."

Also scheduled for Sunday is WWE Bad Blood, one of the year's

biggest pay-per-view wrestling events, taking place at Houston's Compaq Center. Scott Chenault, a junior broadcast journalism major from Carrolton, said that although many big name wrestlers will be performing at Bad Blood, fans will most likely not be disappointed with the Up Close and Uncensored Tour.

"I have been to two house shows that have come to Lubbock so far," he said. "They always have great wrestlers, and I heard there is going to be a big cruiserweight match. I am looking forward to watching Bad Blood that night, though."

Students are not the only ones getting excited about the event. Yolanda Coronado, fast food supervisor for housing and dining, said she has been to every WWE event Lubbock has hosted.

"You name it, I've been there," she said. "I'm going to be first in line on Sunday. I love everything about it, the attention, suspense, violence, its great entertainment."

The events scheduled for Sunday

include two title matches, the WWE Tag Title Match where Guerrero and Tajiri will battle Team Angle, and the Smackdown Six-Man Tag Match featuring Brock, Texas' Undertaker, Kurt Angle, Chuck Palumbo, Johnny Stamboli, and Nunzio. Also, competing for the cruiserweight title in a four-way match will be Matt Hardy, Rey Mysterio, Spanky, and Japan's Ultimo Dragon.

While many still cannot comprehend the lure of professional wrestling, others, like Moses Izeta, a freshman criminal justice major from Lubbock, will continue to speak out in favor of the sport.

"Professional wrestling is like a man's soap opera," he said. "It's got everything — violence, fighting, relationships and hot chicks. What more can you ask for?"

Tickets range from \$15-\$40, and are available at the Municipal Auditorium Box Office. All \$15 and \$20 tickets have been discounted to \$10 for students, faculty and staff with valid ID.

Putnam

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a new scholarship here at Tech in Putnam's honor, which is where Putnam's family wants any donations to be sent.

"They want everything to go to the Laura Leigh Putnam Pass-it-on Scholarship," Tarbox said.

Moore, who proposed to Putnam the day before the accident, said he remembers only a wonderful person.

"She was an angel who touched everybody she ever met," he said. "She was never disliked by anybody. She was loved by everybody. She was just an amazing person."

Boelter said the fond memories of Putnam are not rare.

"What we've ended up doing is sitting together and smiling," she said. "There are so many great memories of her."

Despite being a caring person who would help anyone, Boelter said Putnam had one striking physical feature she recalls.

"Her smile," she said. "She always smiled. That's what I remember about her."

Tarbox said Moore found a song that encompasses what Putnam was all about.

"He wanted to mention this song called 'Thinking of Laura' by Christopher Cross," she said. "It came out about 20 years ago and just describes Laura and who she was. It will be played at the memorial service on Saturday."



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Tuition deregulation could cause more harm than good

This past session of the Texas state legislature made national news for both good and bad things, but to those of us attending public universities, important actions were taken. Every time a state budget is set it's important for obvious reasons.

Public colleges and universities rely on money from the state for just about everything, and traditionally the state of Texas has taken great care to properly fund its outstanding public colleges and universities. After all, the Texas higher education system is one of the finest in the nation, and it draws students from around the world.

But attitudes changed in the Texas legislature this year. Something called tuition deregulation became law and this impacts all of us. It's not that hard to explain what tuition deregulation is, but it is hard to see any benefits from it. Let me explain.

The state of Texas directs tax dollars towards the costs of public education, and then sets certain limits on how much public universities can charge students. This was designed to make a college degree affordable.

"Tuition deregulation" means that the state will contribute much less of our tax dollars toward the costs of public universities and that our Board of Regents can raise tuition rates to cover the lost state funding. The end results are that lawmakers in Austin decided that other things are more important than public education, and left it for us to pay the tab.

There are some powerful Austin legislators who think public education is charity. Public education is not a charity but rather a wise investment in the future of our state and nation.

Texas Democrats have traditionally supported public education, but they did little to oppose this measure. Since the Democrats lost control of Austin, and Republicans run Texas, let's look at the benefits of public education through the eyes of good business people. After all, Austin Republicans should understand the financial value of public education.



William Mattiford
wamattifordjr@yahoo.com

Any good businessperson should understand how this works.

Public education drives the state's economy in many ways. Texas attracts students from all over the world. The immediate effect is a boost to the economies of many Texas towns and cities from the substantial monies spent by students for housing, food, and other living expenses. In many ways this ranks with tourist dollars as a financial windfall for many communities.

The longterm benefits are even more staggering. Great fortunes have been created by the innovations of many who have attended public universities in Texas, and the state has benefited immeasurably from the financial benefits of a well-educated work force.

The ability of Texas to be on the cutting edge of every major technological revolution in our nation's history has come about because of our state's outstanding public education system. Plus how many of those creative minds grew up in other states but came to Texas to get an education and stayed for the great opportunities this state offers?

The folks in Austin need to understand that the fastest way to get voted out of office is to risk the health of our state's economy by driving up the costs of a college degree. Tuition deregulation will put the cost of a college education out of reach for many middle class citizens of Texas, and will force many students to leave the state to find a more affordable education.

William is a graduate student at Killeen. Responses can be sent to wamattifordjr@yahoo.com.



6/7

High Court not needed to declare rap another language

Recently in London three High Court judges were asked to examine the lyrics of a rap song for defamation of composer Andrew Aleece. Aleece is complaining that his composition "Burnin'" was used as background music for a rap song by Heartless Crew which contained references to drugs and violence.

Judge Lewison claimed he could not understand the lyrics and despite the lyrics obvious English origin they were "for practical purposes a foreign language."

Well, duh. Of course it's another language. Rap creates its own words and phrases by modifying English, or sometimes words pop out of nowhere in rap. I'm not privy to all of the language either. I don't speak Rapanese, but I do understand some of the words because I can put context clues together.

These judges act like this is something new. Every culture has its own language. Music is a culture with hundreds of its own subcultures. Lewison should know this. He's from England where depending on what area of the country you live in people speak differently, differently as in different words for different things. If you are not a part of this culture, it is harder for you to



David Wiechmann
wreckem_d_man@hotmail.com

understand this jargon or dialect.

Rap does have its own language. A High Court judge in England probably wouldn't know what "shizzle my nizzle" means. Just like children don't comprehend the sexual innuendos in their Pop music today, but the references are there. The little girls on sugar highs listening to JLo just don't see them because they don't understand what is being said.

Classic Rock 'n' Roll is no stranger to naïve misunderstandings of lyrics. If Aleece and the High Court judges want to hear songs with drug references in them just listen to Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd, ZZ Top, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers or Led Zeppelin.

A line from Hendrix comes to mind when speaking of drug references, "Purple haze all around...excuse me

while I kiss the sky." Could that be any more obvious what it is talking about?

"Stairway to Heaven" by Led Zeppelin is about a woman over dosing on drugs. It's in the lyrics. "She OD's" is not a line in the song, but context clues make it obvious what is happening, but it is its own language.

That's the beauty of music and art. You can say one thing to mean another. The sad part is a lot of people just don't comprehend it, like the High Court in England. We must forgive them for this because can we all say we understand rap? No. Can we all understand ambiguous drug references? No.

I'll leave you with a classic example of not understanding the lyrics and message behind a song: Queen of country music Dolly Parton released her own cover of "Stairway to Heaven" because she thought it was such a "pretty song" about a woman getting to Heaven. She believed the song to be a religious song. Upon being told it was about drugs, i.e. some one "buying a stairway to Heaven" she was surprizzled.

David is a senior journalism major from Lubbock. Encoded responses can be sent to wreckem_d_man@hotmail.com.

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WATCHING GRASS GROW

Texas Tech golf course getting finishing touches

By David Wiechmann/Editor

In mid-August golfers can play the course they have been waiting over a year for, and Texas Tech Director of Golf Jack North said it will be "the best golf course in West Texas by far."

The Jerry S. Rawls Red Raider Golf Course is set to take its first tee-time around Aug. 15 and will be hosting its first tournament Aug. 25. Opening ceremonies will be Sept. 12 and 13 along with a celebrity golf tournament. North said men's basketball coach Bob Knight contacted him about finding celebrities for the tournament and is in the process of getting a list of celebs to play.

Building a golf course in the middle of a flat cotton field took a lot of man power and time, but the maintenance crews are putting the final touches on the course to make it play ready, and North said it should be playable for all types of golfers.

"We have 30 percent more fairway than the average golf course," he said. "The average golf course will have 80 to 85 acres of fairway. We have 133 acres of fairway. So research says that people want to be able to hit that \$400 driver that they bought with the money they hid from their wife and be able to find (the ball)."

Jerry S. Rawls said he is happy to see construction winding down, and he is looking forward to seeing the course finished. However, he said it is frustrating because it is a waiting period right now.

"At the end, the pace of the progress is determined by how fast the grass grows," he said. "In a construction project you can drive bulldozers and pound nails as fast as you can, but the frustration is we're waiting for the grass to grow."

Rawls praised the design and working crews of designer Tom Doak. He said it is hard to believe the Red Raider Golf Course was once a cottonfield.

continued below



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

Above: A sand trap will guard the approach to the 16th green at the Jerry S. Rawls Red Raider Golf Course. This is one of dozens of traps designed to make the links style course more challenging. Lower Left: Jacob Fuller, a sophomore marketing major from Plainview, top dresses the No. 8 green at the Tech golf course. Top dressing consists of spreading sand across the green and watering it in to aid in keeping the greens healthy.

"Tom Doak and his crew have done a tremendous job of turning a cotton field into a golf course that will be very challenging and very beautiful," he said.

North said Doak is one of the most respected designers in the golf industry today. He recently designed Pacific Dune in Oregon, which received the Best New Course Award.

There have been few setbacks in the construction of the course as North said the weather has been nice, and the grass grew quickly. One problem did occur with the trees at the course. Greenscape provided the trees with a warranty, and 244 of the trees died. Greenscape did replace the trees, and all is back on track.

"I feel like people did not plant the trees soon enough," North said. "They sat on the ground too long before being transplanted. ... But Greenscape did real good in replacing them, and they've done a nice job of catching us up."

The recent rains helped the course conditions also. The heat also helps the Bermuda grasses to grow in the fairways and rough.

The 50-acre driving range should

be ready at the end of the month, North said. The three-sided range is expected to hold approximately 100 golfers at the same time for practice. The range teeing area is sodded Tif Sport Bermuda grass and the largest of its kind to North's knowledge.

On the agenda for the course is the construction of the 21,000 square foot clubhouse. A temporary clubhouse has been built on the site, but North said fund-raising should begin soon for the permanent structure soon.

The Red Raider Golf Course has received a lot of attention from the golf community as tours have been going on for sometime, and continuing, numerous golf publications have contacted the course about writing stories, newspaper reporters are frequently coming by and the LPGA is sending representatives to look at the course and discuss a possible event in 2004. North said it would require a \$1.5 sponsor to make the event happen.

Women's golf coach Stacey Totman said she can hardly wait for the course to open.

"This is a very exciting time for Texas Tech golf," she said. "It's going to be awesome, and we are

thrilled to death about it."

With the project winding down, Rawls has begun to take a sense of pride that it will bear his name, and he knows it will be a top notch golf course because of the stipulations he put on the table when he was approached about helping fund the project.

"My pitch to Tech was I would be very happy to help them build a golf course if they would be willing to make a commitment, and if they weren't willing to make this the best collegiate golf facility in the nation then I wouldn't do it," he said. "Unless they shared the same vision I wasn't interested."

Rawls knows what it takes to be successful, and he said he believes in always producing the best you can. He believes this golf course will be a great addition to Tech, and it will be a symbol of pride for more than those directly involved.

"I've taken a lot of pride in producing a quality product, and I think this golf course will be something that all associated with Texas Tech can take pride in as well," he said. "It's going to be truly excellent and will be a part of the pride of Texas Tech."

"Finding Nemo" a big splash for Disney/Pixar

It's beginning to become expected that when Disney and Pixar Animation Studios team up together to make a movie, it will likely be excellent. With a track record that includes the "Toy Story" films, "A Bug's Life" and "Monsters Inc.," they have already produced some classic work. "Finding Nemo" continues the trend as a beautifully animated, hilarious and often touching film.

It seems to be the trend that Disney is at its best lately when working with Pixar. If we look at the recent Disney films without Pixar, ("Treasure Planet," "Lilo and Stitch," "The Emperor's New Groove,") we see that these films simply aren't as good as Pixar's work.

I believe that two factors play into this: First, and most obviously, Pixar's animation is innovative and often stunningly beautiful. Second, the writing that goes into a Pixar film is so rich. It blends the elements of hysterical comedy and deeply writ-

FILM REVIEW



James Eppler

jeppler@hotmail.com

ten human drama in a unique fashion. There are many live-action dramas that wish they could be as touching as a Disney/Pixar film.

"Finding Nemo" continues in pure Pixar fashion. The bulk of the film takes place under the sea with a vast array of colors and movement. This ain't your swimming fish screensaver on your computer. The fish and underwater life are perfectly animated by computers which gives them a sense of weight and realism.

"Nemo" unlike, say, "Monsters Inc." is more of an adventure story. The film opens on Marlin (voiced by Albert Brooks), a clownfish who is about to become a father of many children with his wife. An event soon occurs, however, that is so sad that a friend of mine has compared it as being rival to Bambi losing his mother in the woods. It's so sad, in fact, that I wasn't sure if the film could recover from it.

We flash forward a few years later as Marlin and his only son, Nemo (Alexander Gould), are living together in their little home. Marlin has become fearful of the ocean and so overprotective of his son that Nemo is beginning to harshly resent him. Reluctantly, Marlin takes Nemo to his first day of school.

Soon, Marlin catches Nemo and his friends daring each other to go and touch this thing out in the open water called a "boat." Marlin, furious, scolds Nemo in front of his friends. Nemo

defies him saying, "I hate you" and swims out into the dangerous open water. Much to his horror, he is caught by a human diver with a net.

From this point, the film splits into two stories-the story of Marlin on a mission to find his son, and the story of Nemo making friends in an aquarium and proving his bravery.

On his journey, Marlin meets Dory (Ellen DeGeneres) a fish whom is willing to help him, but has a problem with short-term memory loss. She'll occasionally forget where she is or what she is doing. She doesn't have the luxury of tattooing her scales with details like Guy Pierce in "Memento."

Meanwhile, Nemo is being held in an aquarium in a dentist's office. Among a fun group of fish in the tank, he meets Gill (Willem Dafoe), my favorite character in the film, who has devised a plan for escaping from the aquarium to get back to the ocean. In order for his plan to be carried out, however, he needs Nemo's help.

There are more than a few belly-laughs in the film, one in particular involving a shark A.A.-style therapy group in which they are trying to stop eating fish. "Fish are friends, not food," they chant. This one scene was funnier than the entire script of "Anger Management."

"Finding Nemo" is one of the best films of the year thus far. Those who tend to shrug off animated movies as a whole have no idea what they are missing.

EPPLER'S RATING: *****

★★★★★ - Flawless
★★★★ - Excellent
★★★ - Good
★★ - Mediocre
★ - Awful

Explosions in the Sky music appeals to broad spectrum, show certain to please

The distinction between the sublime and the beautiful is something that is very often overlooked. Those of you who have stood on the edge of

the vast west Texas horizon and gazed in awe at an upcoming thunderstorm have probably later remarked that it was a beautiful sight. This is a mistake.

Webster defines the sublime as; "eminent, inspiring awe, adoration, etc." Watching the devastating dark wall of clouds march ominously your way should be described as a sublime experience, rather than a beautiful one.

What is most notable about the definition of the sublime is its necessary condition of fear. An oncoming storm, a vast canyon, a huge looming mountain - all of these sublime visions

CONCERT PREVIEW



Rock Ramirez

ramirez_rocky@hotmail.com

seem rooted in the fact that you are equal parts in awe, and equal parts terrified of their size or scope.

Experiencing the Austin by-way-of-Midland, Texas band, Explosions In The Sky, is like staring into the sublime face of an oncoming thunderhead.

The members of Explosions In The Sky are the young princes of the purely underground post-rock movement that boasts such powerful bands such as Mogwai, Mono, and Godspeed You! Black Emperor. For those of you not versed in the genre, post-rock is best characterized as instrumental rock that usually takes the form of lengthy songs and usually has no vocals. Another characterization of the genre is to simply say that it is the most sublime music you will ever encounter.

The songs of Explosions In The Sky start off quietly, but quickly build in pace and ferocity until you are utterly engulfed in heart-breakingly powerful

walls of sound. It was an odd twist of fate that when their album "Those That Tell The Truth Shall Die, Those That Tell The Truth Shall Live Forever" was released on September 10th, 2001, that the artwork on the front of the CD depicted a biplane being watched by an angel with an inscription that read; "This plane will crash tomorrow." The shocking literal irony of that inscription is only a hint of the emotive power that Explosions In The Sky creates through their music.

Where most bands convey meaning mostly through their lyrics, Explosions In The Sky let the listener interpret meaning for themselves. Explosions in The Sky's lack of lyrics actually heighten the meaning of the songs by conveying emotion through churning guitar melodies and heart-pounding percussion - emotions that range from happiness and bliss to tragedy, awe, and of course, fear.

The devastating sounds of Explosions In The Sky can be enjoyed by everyone from indie-kids, to metal-heads. All those who have ever sat in their room with their music up loud and just thought quietly to themselves would be at a loss to miss this show this Thursday night at 9 p.m. at space.eleven.ten, which is located at 1110 Ave. K, on Ave. K and Main Street. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Opening for Explosions in the Sky is the acoustic one man band Lazarus.



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North Korea publicly declares need for 'nuclear deterrence'

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea sharpened its tone in the standoff with the United States on Monday, publicly threatening for the first time to develop a "nuclear deterrent" unless Washington abandons its "hostile" stance toward the communist nation.

The statement was the isolated North's most direct admission of its intention to develop nuclear weapons. Until now, Pyongyang has referred to its need for "physical deterrence" against what it calls U.S. plans to attack it, though U.S. officials say the North

Koreans told them privately that the country already has nuclear bombs.

"If the U.S. keeps threatening the DPRK with nukes instead of abandoning its hostile policy toward Pyongyang, the DPRK will have no option but to build up a nuclear deterrent force," the KCNA news agency said in its official English translation, using the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The regime also linked its nuclear ambitions to an effort to rebuild the country's shattered economy.

The "intention to build up a nuclear deterrent force is not aimed to threaten and blackmail others, but reduce conventional weapons under a long-term plan and channel manpower resources and funds into economic construction and the betterment of people's living," the agency said.

Pyongyang keeps two-thirds of its 1.1 million-strong military, the world's fifth largest, near the inter-Korean border, the world's most heavily fortified.

The United States has asked North Korea to reduce its troops near the

border, but the North has emphasized the importance it sees in using military force to stave off a possible U.S. attack in the wake of the war against Iraq. The North has insisted in the past that it has the right to develop nuclear weapons to defend itself.

The escalation came as South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun repeated Monday that his country would never accept a nuclear-armed North Korea.

Addressing Japanese lawmakers at the end of his first official visit to Tokyo, Roh acknowledged that ne-

gotiating an end to the standoff over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program would take time.

"I am not hoping that this issue can be solved in a day or two," Roh said.

Despite the tensions, the Koreans announced that they agreed to connect their railways at the border on Saturday, the first such link between the two in half a century. The railways, under construction in the Demilitarized Zone, will be linked at two points along the 150-mile border, the countries announced Monday.



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School record 15 athletes to represent Tech in NCAA National Tournament

By Jason Lenz/Managing Editor

Three years ago, not very many people knew about Texas Tech track and field. As of Wednesday, this former no-name, last-in-the-conference team is heading to Sacramento, Calif., Wednesday through Saturday for the NCAA National Tournament after the No. 11 ranked men's team finished fourth in the Big 12 Conference and then third in the Midwest Regional.

The Red Raiders are represented by a school record 15 athletes, and the men's team is the highest ranked in the Big 12.

Head coach Wes Kittley said he has enjoyed watching his team gain momentum heading into the national competition.

"I feel like (the) conference (tournament) was a big boost, and regionals even more so," he said. "We went from fourth in the conference, with only 12 schools, to third at regionals, with more than 80 schools."

With such an important competition coming up, there are mixed feelings among the athletes, ranging from confidence to nervous excitement.

Kittley said the team has had lots of time to think about the upcoming meet.

"I do feel like everybody's more antsy," he said. "Sitting out without school going on, practicing once a day. Everybody's thinking about nationals. It's been hard, but everybody's doing just fine."

For Jonathan Johnson, the sophomore sprinter who won the 800-meter run at regionals and ran a leg in the 1,600-meter relay team that is ranked second nationally, this tournament is something he's seen before.

"I just try to stay focused," he said. "I try to keep my mind on the race. (I) listen to music, call my family and stay away from the things that distract me. But nervousness isn't a big thing for me anymore because I've been in a lot of big meets before."

For sophomore distance runner Brionne Yosten, who qualified in the 1,500-meter run, it's a whole other story.

"I didn't really expect it," she said. "There's always a goal, but I didn't expect to run this fast, this year. I thought maybe next year."

Goals are lofty for many of the Raiders, said freshman pole vaulter Bobby Most, who is ranked as the No. 3 pole vaulter in the nation.

"I think the whole team has expectations of running better

times than they have all year," he said. "They'll be pleased with that. I think everyone's goal is to finish top eight. That's All-American status. If we all perform to our best level, we'll all be satisfied with that."

Looking at it from a coach's standpoint, Kittley said he would be pleased to see his team finish in the top 10.

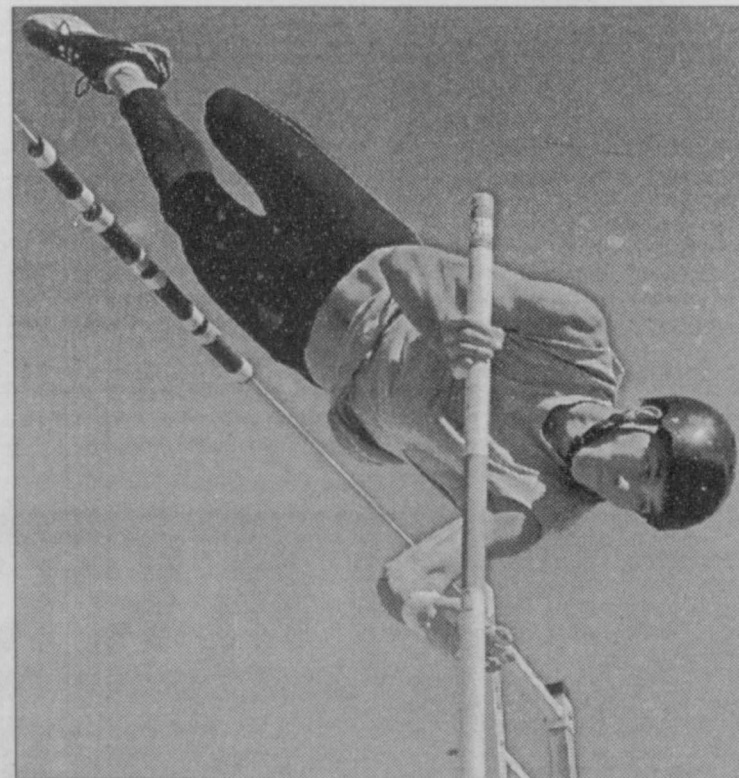
"That would be my dream," he said. "I would be happy if we finished in the top 15, but I'll be ecstatic if we were top 10."

The fact that the team is going to nationals this year is exciting, Johnson said.

"We're going in there with a lot of confidence," he said. "In the last few years, we've made a lot of improvement. We're going down there as a team, not just two or three individuals."

Also going to nationals are sophomores Matt Stewart and Albert Booker and senior Julieon Raeburn who join Johnson in the 1,600-meter relay. Booker and Raeburn are also qualified in the 400-meter dash and 200-meter dash, respectively.

Most is joined by sophomore Jared Thornhill in the pole vault. Rounding out the men's side are Midwest Regional champion and



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

Freshman pole vaulter Bobby Most sails over the top earlier this season. Most joins 14 other Tech athletes at nationals beginning Wednesday.

senior Jason Young in the discus and Regional runner-up and sophomore Chad Pharis in the high jump.

Joining Yosten on the women's side is junior Tracie

Akerheim in the 5,000-meter run. Sophomore Licretia Sibley, junior Rachelle Evans, freshman Tori Polk and freshman Karletha Cook also represent the women's 1,600-meter relay.

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DEPOT DISTRICT

Spurs take game three on Nets' home court

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Tim Duncan and the San Antonio Spurs took a 2-1 lead in the NBA Finals, beating New Jersey 84-79 on Sunday night in a game that featured the lowest-scoring first half in championship series history.

Duncan, the league MVP, had a night that was nothing too special by his standards, finishing with 21 points and 16 rebounds. Tony Parker scored 26 points for the Spurs.

With San Antonio leading 33-30 at the break, the teams broke the first-half record of 66 set by Utah and Chicago in 1998.

Game 4 is Wednesday night in New Jersey.

Send story ideas to
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