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Presidential candidate impressed during campus visit



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

TEXAS TECH PRESIDENTIAL candidate Brady J. Deaton speaks to members of the media Thursday afternoon in the Board of Regents Meeting Room in the Administration building to discuss his vision for Tech.

By Sabra Jennings/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech presidential candidate Brady J. Deaton is enthusiastic about being considered for the job. He said it was "inspiring."

Deaton arrived Wednesday to meet with Texas Tech administrators, faculty and staff, students and Lubbock community members. The next presidential candidate is scheduled to arrive in early August.

Deaton is the provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His duties include overseeing faculty members who are responsible for research, enrollment management, graduate studies, business affairs, student affairs and colleges and schools.

"Dr. Deaton has extensive international experience, including teaching, research and establishing university linkage relationships in developing undergraduate student internship programs," said Betsy Tipwood-Hertz, presidential search committee member.

At a press conference, Deaton said his time at Tech has been very inspiring to he and his wife, and he is impressed with what he has seen during his visit.

"The leadership of the institution, the faculty and staff, everyone we've met has reflected a very common theme that they're all pulling together, they're totally devoted to Texas Tech and the important role that Tech plays in American higher education, particularly in the state of Texas," he said.

A 21-member search committee contacted Deaton about filling the opening for university president left by David Schmidly, who accepted a position to become president of Oklahoma State University.

One of Deaton's sons is employed in Fort Worth, and his other son received a doctoral degree from the University of Houston, so Deaton has become familiar with Texas through his children, he said.

Also increasing his familiarity with Tech and the state of Texas are some of Deaton's colleagues who

have served on the faculty at Tech, he said. They have helped him to become excited about the university.

"Alumni are excited about being from here," he said. "They stand out in their devotion to the university and the excellence that they see associated with Texas Tech. I've had this tremendous excitement about Texas Tech that has been reaffirmed in my visit here."

Deaton said he has some ideas about how Tech can move forward. He said institutions always face challenges, and the budget reductions occurring at universities in Texas and across the nation pose an interesting obstacle.

"Certainly here a real challenge is to continue to meet the growing number of high-quality students that want to come and enjoy the benefits of Texas Tech," Deaton said. "Doing that at a time when budget resources are being pulled and strained is a major challenge, and that in itself is one big challenge."

CANDIDATE continued on page 2

Suspect in on-campus mugging on loose

By Ashleigh Adams/Staff Reporter

On July 16, an incoming freshman female was mugged in the Z-4N parking lot outside of Coleman Hall.

According to the police report, at approximately 10:30 p.m. the victim was heading to her vehicle enroute to an off-campus address when she was accosted by a male demanding money.

The assailant grabbed the female's wrist, but did not leave any marks or bruises on her arm. Although the male did not display a weapon, his right hand remained in his sweatshirt pocket, either balled into a fist or holding an unidentified object. After taking a \$20 bill from the victim, the suspect fled toward the Flint Avenue parking garage.

The victim, who asked to remain unnamed, described the attacker as a white or light-colored Hispanic male, approximately in his mid twen-

ties, between 5 feet 7 inches and 5 feet 10 inches tall and a medium build. He was last seen wearing a dark colored baseball cap with no logos or markings, a dark colored, zipper-front sweatshirt or jacket and full-length tan or khaki pants. There are currently no known suspects.

The victim said the incident was random, and she never expected this to happen.

"I heard about it happening to another girl last summer session, but it wasn't like I was expecting it to happen," she said.

Lieutenant Debbie Parke of the Texas Tech Police Department said although these events are not common, there are ways to protect yourself that may help if you are caught in a compromising situation.

"We always tell students the best thing to do is buddy up," she said. "An attacker is far less likely to attack two people than one alone."

Parke said if there is any level of uneasiness, especially if you are walking a long distance through campus late at night, an escort can be provided either through the police department or the residence halls.

"Students shouldn't be afraid to call if they need any sort of help," she said. "We are here for their safety."

Another technique is to always keep a key in hand when walking alone because it can be used as an effective weapon, Parke said.

The victim said she would advise anyone in her situation to be prepared for the worst.

"Have your keys ready," she said. "Don't have your money out in front of you, and. If the situation arises, it's better to give them the money than to get hurt."

MUGGING continued on page 2

Two die from gunshot wounds at New York City Hall on Wednesday

By Michael Weissenstein/
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Michael Bloomberg himself walked through the metal detector at City Hall on Thursday morning, a day after a councilman allowed a rival politician to bypass security, leading to a shooting that left them both dead.

The attack Wednesday turned New York City's seat of government into a crime scene, with screaming political aides and terrified visitors diving for cover.

Councilman James Davis, 41, a former police officer and ordained minister who campaigned against urban violence, was shot several times in the council chamber's crowded balcony and died at a hospital.

A security officer fired up at his killer, Othniel Askew, 31, who died

a short time later at the same hospital, police said.

"I heard bang, bang, bang, bang," said councilman Mike Nelson. "I thought it was firecrackers. Then I heard people screaming, and then I saw people ducking."

For a time before emergency workers arrived, the two fatally wounded men were lying side by side in the balcony.

As he arrived for work around 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Bloomberg set his keys and newspapers he was carrying on a conveyer belt and walked through a metal detector at the east gate.

"We have a city to run ... the same city that Councilman Davis was trying to help," Bloomberg said. "And the rest of us have a responsibility to his family and to 8 million people to continue."

SHOOTING continued on page 2

Unqualified teachers ousted in El Paso

EL PASO (AP) — Sixty-five part-time faculty at the El Paso Community College have been dismissed after an internal investigation revealed they didn't have the required qualifications to teach.

The teachers were fired because the evaluation showed that the instructors did not meet the requirements set by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, which accredits colleges in the South.

The 65 instructors were hired although they did not meet the state standard — a master's degree plus 18 hours of coursework in the discipline they plan to teach — set for community college instructors.

The association could place the school on probation if it does not correct the problem, and the agency may also pull its accreditation, which means that most colleges and universities would not recognize courses taken at EPCC.

Candidate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Strengthening research and garnering funding so that Tech faculty is enabled to compete with the very best researchers worldwide is another area that is important to focus on, Deaton said.

Another challenge is addressing the needs of faculty and staff salaries on campus, Deaton said.

"I think this university will simply have to continue to ensure their faculty and staff are competitive, are being reimbursed on a competitive basis," he said.

Deaton received a bachelor of science degree in agricultural economics and a master's degree in diplomacy and international com-

merce from the University of Kentucky. He received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin.

Deaton's wife, Ann Deaton, said she is also excited about Tech.

"It's a wonderful campus, it's a wonderful community, and people have been very welcoming," she said. "I'm very impressed with what's going on."

Deaton said he is impressed with the spirit of the people he and his wife have met at Tech, and it is a very motivating institution.

"I think the campus as a whole reflects a great deal of pride," Deaton said. "The people of Lubbock and alumni of Texas Tech pull for this university, and that's a very infectious quality, and we've been very impressed with it."

Bush discusses nuclear issue with South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — President Bush and South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun agreed Thursday to seek multilateral talks concerning North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program — again rejecting Pyongyang's call for direct talks with Washington.

Earlier, South Korea's Unification Minister Jeong Se-hyun said U.S.-proposed multilateral talks may begin "in a near future."

Bush and Roh also reaffirmed during their Thursday telephone conversation that North Korea must end its nuclear programs irreversibly and verifiably, the South Korean presidential office said.

"The two leaders expressed their firm belief that they could find through multilateral talks the key to peacefully resolving the North Korea's nuclear issue," said a statement from Roh's office.

The statement did not say who would be involved in those talks.

In recent days, South Korean officials have expressed optimism that the United States, North Korea and China will meet in Beijing, possibly next month, to discuss how to end the crisis over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program.

U.S. and North Korean officials have met only once since the

nuclear dispute flared in October, when U.S. officials said North Korea admitted having a secret program in violation of international agreements.

The United States considers the North's nuclear ambitions a regional threat and has insisted on multilateral talks including South Korea and Japan, two key U.S. allies in the region, and possibly Russia.

North Korea wants a one-on-one meeting with Washington and says it will not give up its nuclear ambitions unless the United States agrees to sign a nonaggression treaty and provide economic aid.

Mugging

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Every new class at Tech gets a lesson on the workings of the police department and the safety procedures on campus, Parke said.

"We are really trying to increase the level of awareness for crime prevention," she said. "We have an officer that attends every new student orientation regarding safety issues so that every student has some sort of indoctrination of

what we do and how we are here to help, as well as reviewing ways for them to take safety into their own hands."

Lisa Keese, a junior education major from San Antonio, said that for the most part, she feels safe on campus.

"Muggings can happen anywhere, it is not something anyone can completely prevent," she said. "I always see the Tech police around on campus, especially at night. I have to admit it makes me feel more safe when I see a policeman walking around the parking lot in early hours

of the morning."

Parke said the Tech police department does everything in its power to guarantee the safety of campus residents.

"I can assure you that between our efforts patrolling parking lots and foot patrols through residence halls, we have a strong safety team," she said.

If you have any information regarding the suspect of this case, please contact the Tech Police Department at 742-3931 and reference case number 03-1341.

Shooting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The shooting had raised new security questions at City

Hall, a stately, 2-century-old landmark near the southern tip of Manhattan.

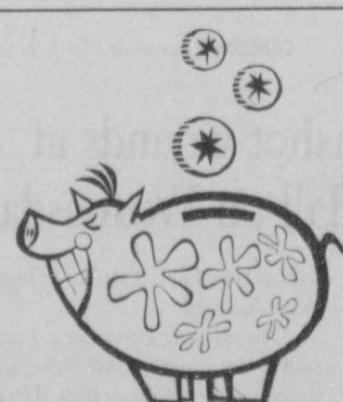
It was once so loosely guarded that passers-by could enjoy lunch on its sun-drenched steps. But stricter

security was installed by Bloomberg's predecessor, Rudolph Giuliani, then tightened further after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that destroyed the World Trade Center, a short distance away.

Metal detectors were installed at each of two entrances to the grounds. But the mayor and council members were allowed to bypass them, and sometimes, as on Wednesday, their guests were, too.

A shaken Bloomberg told a news conference late Wednesday that there would no longer be exceptions. He was startled at his desk in City Hall when the gunfire erupted but was unharmed.

Askew had filed papers to oppose Davis in a three-way council race in this fall's Democratic primary, Bloomberg said earlier. But he was not an official candidate because he had not filed enough petition signatures.



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Tech receives grant for geriatrics research

By Heather Jones/Staff Reporter

Rep. Randy Neugebauer recently announced that a grant for \$248,375 will be given to fund Texas Tech Health Sciences Center's new Geriatric Education and Training Academy.

The academy, which Vice President for Health Policy at TTUHSC, Glen Provost said, is the very first of its kind in this part of the country, will be a component for the Institute of Healthy Aging.

"The Academy is being established to train and direct care personnel to work with elderly in long term facilities," Provost said. "We are focusing on certified nursing assistants."

According to a press release, the experience health professionals gain from the academy will improve high quality health care for older Americans.

"As the population of nursing homes and senior care facilities continues to increase, it's imperative that we provide the professional training necessary to not only improve the quality of health care for seniors, but also increase the quality of life among seniors in their living facilities," Neugebauer said in the release.

The primary purpose of the academy, according to the press release from Neugebauer, is to address the continuing shortage of trained health care professionals to serve the par-

ticular long-term care needs of minority populations and rural residents requiring nursing home, assisted living or in-home care in small towns and rural areas.

Provost said training is very difficult in small towns and rural areas.

"They have small staffs and if they attend training there will be a major staffing problem," Provost said. "We will help them with any expenses, such as travel, that they might need."

Provost also said there is a tremendous shortage of professionals to work in the geriatrics field in general and the number of people needed to help is growing by leaps and bounds.

Executive Director of the Texas

Tech Institute for Healthy Aging, Dr. Lynn Bickley, said one of the most important obstacles to the efforts to improve care and promote healthy aging is the shortage of well-trained staff.

"A top priority of the academy will be to increase and improve geriatric training for direct care staff from small towns and rural areas many of whom have difficulty obtaining the most up-to-date education and information," Bickley said.

Neugebauer said in his press release that rural seniors in particular are often time isolated from their families and professional caregivers.

"The academy will increase the availability of qualified health

professionals in local communities to take care of our grandmothers and grandfathers on a daily basis," he said.

The Institute for Healthy Aging was given an endowment of \$1.5 million in June from Shirley L. Garrison.

Provost said the new grant will complement what Garrison contributed.

"Garrison focuses on Alzheimer's disease," he said. "We will be training nurses aides on how to deal with Alzheimer's."

Bickley said the academy will play a vital role in the Institute for Healthy Aging by allowing the it to focus on training of individuals involved in the direct care of the elderly.

U.S. military officials release photos of deceased sons of Saddam

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The U.S. military released graphic after-death photographs Thursday in an effort to prove to Iraqis that Saddam Hussein's feared sons, Odai and Qusai, were killed in a fierce gunbattle this week.

Two U.S.-military photos showed the first man, identified as Qusai, with bruises and blood spots around his eyes. That face was far more intact than the other, identified as Odai; the mouth was open and the teeth showing.

The face of what appeared to be Odai, the older brother, was severely bloodied. A gash ran from his left eye to the right corner of his mouth, and bruises and blood over his bald forehead.

Washington had hoped that the deaths of Odai and Qusai would weaken the anti-American insurgency, but an attack on a convoy Thursday killed three Americans from the division that led the assault on Saddam's sons' hide-out.

L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. administrator of Iraq, told a Pentagon news conference Wednesday that the deaths of Saddam's sons "will in fact in time help reduce the security threat to our forces."

"In the initial period I would not be surprised to see an uptick in violence against our forces," he said, emphasizing that in the long run the deaths would likely encourage Iraqis to give authorities tips about other members of the Baath Party.

Some Iraqis greeted the release of the photographs with skepticism, saying they were not conclusive proof that the sons were killed. Oth-

ers said they were convincing. President Bush hailed the deaths of Saddam's sons.

"The careers of the two of the regime's ... henchmen came to an end," Bush said Thursday. "Now more than ever, the Iraqis can know that the former regime is gone and is not coming back."

The photos showed the upper torsos of the men, who were bare-chested — one lying on bloody, white sheets, the other in what appeared to be a body bag. Both had their eyes closed, the lids darkly purpled.

The brothers had never worn such thick beards, and may have been trying to disguise their identities as they spent 3 1/2 months in hiding from coalition forces.

The pictures were immediately broadcast to the Arab world including Iraq by two Arab satellite

television networks, Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya.

Abbas Fadhil, a 44-year-old barber shop owner, said he had no doubts after seeing the pictures on Iraqi TV that the photographs were of the brothers, but was confused by the U.S. decision not to show the bodies in full.

"The doubts will remain because the coalition forces didn't show them from the front and the sides, didn't show their profiles," he said, adding Qusai's photograph was a perfect image of him.

"They should show more pictures to be more convincing," he said.

Alla Khalifa, 32, a barber in the shop, said he doubted the pictures of Odai were authentic because he appeared to be slightly overweight.

"Odai is a tall man and thin, but the picture shows him as short and thick," he said, while shaving a

customer's face.

But Qusai's picture left no room for doubt, he said, adding it featured his profile.

But some Iraqis remained unconvinced nevertheless.

"I'm not convinced the pictures shown are of Odai and Qusai, and even if they were I'm not happy. I would have been happy if they were

captured alive and brought to justice before the Iraqi people," said Shant Agob, 37, an accountant who saw them broadcast on CNN in a Baghdad hotel.

Lt. Gen. Wafiq al-Sammarai, former head of Iraqi military intelligence who defected in the '90s and is with the Iraqi opposition, told Al-Jazeera he was not convinced.

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Insects have all the fun

I love the Offbeat news section on cnn.com. I found this Reuters story out of London talking about the luckiest creature on the face of the planet, the male Zeus bug.

At some point in time, everyone has been asked the question, "What kind of animal would you be?" Until now, my answer has always been a three-toed sloth. These creatures might cover a few square miles worth of land during their lifetimes. A sloth, as I understand it, disposes of its waste via skin pores, making it a repulsive target for any predator. Of course, this aroma o' poop is like Davidoff's Cool Water to a female sloth. Finally, since these animals move as slow as Jared before his Subway diet, rumor has it that mating can last up 24 hours.

However, I think this little Zeus bug takes the cake. These critters reside along the eastern coast of Australia, and the male members of the species make the life of a lottery winner seem like crap.

The male is roughly half the size of the female, and therefore, easy for her to transport. The little fella hops on her back, and she takes him anywhere he wants to go.

What happens if he gets hungry? She stops and picks up some chow for him. It's that simple.

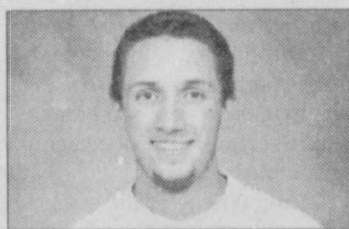
What happens if he starts feeling randy? No problem there, either. He can do his thing while she's taking him somewhere or while they're stationary.

This lopsided monogamy also guarantees the male that it will be his genes being passed on to the next generation.

Does she devote herself to this servanthood for a few hours? Nope, how about a whole week?

Hell, give the little bastard a beer and a football game to watch, and his life would truly be complete.

Mark Elgar, a scientist at the University of Melbourne, attempted to explain why the female would put



Jason Lenz

up with such disrespectful behavior. He said the best bet is that the female does not want to be harassed by a slew of males passionately desiring copulation. By sticking with one and treating him well, she reduces her workload drastically.

I can't help but laugh when I think of what the Tech campus would be like if humans worked this way. Imagine every girl with a guy on her back.

"I'm hungry, walk to the UC."

"Stop, I'm getting excited."

It's a pretty amusing mental image.

What happens to the male Zeus bugs who don't have a female to tote them around? Is there a little Zeus bug bar for them to go to? Imagine this scenario.

"How you doing today, Ted?"

"Same as you, Bob"

"I know. Shirley bucked me off about a week ago."

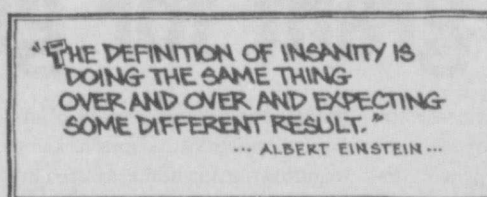
"That sucks man. Laura said she would feed me, too, and then she just up and walked away."

"Two scotches on the rocks please, bartender."

What is the point of this column? Ladies, buck up and hang in there. At least your boyfriend doesn't make you carry him wherever he wants to go. At least you have a choice when it comes to sexual intercourse, and at least he's the one who typically pays for dinner.

Guys, well, life sucks.

Jason is a senior history and German major from Lubbock. Dating tips can be sent to lenzo16@hotmail.com.



Blame foul-ups on Tenet, CIA, not Bush

By Cassie Duong/Daily Evergreen

GUEST COLUMN

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. — History has taught us not to assume.

Not only does it make an "ass" out of "u" and "me," but it is bad politics.

Some would argue President Johnson assumed the Vietnam War would be like the Korean War, which was a wrong turn to a dead end.

I am skeptical of those who assume Bush knew about the false statements about the Iraqi government purchasing uranium from Niger in the president's State of the Union address.

There are many steps the president takes before addressing the nation.

In order to assure the president does not make false accusations to the public, his many advisors and top leaders read over the speeches word-by-word and line-by-line.

One of the individuals who read over Bush's State of the Union address and approved it was none other than the director of the CIA, George Tenet.

Tenet is one of the few individuals on Bush's staff who was carried over from the Clinton administration. Bush had no reason not to keep Tenet because of the past quality of work the CIA had produced.

When Tenet gave the OK for the speech, there is no reason why Bush would have questioned its validity

because it came from the top official in the CIA.

Bush mentioned last Monday doubts were arisen by the CIA after Tenet approved the speech. Tenet should have not signed off on the speech if he had felt the CIA had inaccurate information, leaving many to wonder: how honest is Tenet?

Furthermore, Bush had information from the United Nations in Resolution 1441, released Nov. 8, 2002, that questions the Iraqi government's honesty and highlights the constant failure of fully cooperating with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In the same resolution, written by Hans Blix, executive chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, it notes Iraq had not provided an accurate, full, final and complete disclosure, as required by resolution 687 (1991), of all aspects of its programs to develop weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles.

Furthermore, all the holdings of such weapons, their components, production facilities and locations, as well as all other nuclear programs, including any which it claims, are for purposes not related to nuclear-weapons-usable material.

In addition, British Intelligence also came to the same conclusion.

If it walks like a duck, talks like a duck, and acts like a duck, it's a duck.

Bush had every reason to assume the Iraqi's government involvement with Niger in his speech because the director of the CIA approved his speech.

The U.N. Security Council noted there had been continued failure of the Iraqi government to comply with relevant Council resolutions.

Many would argue the Bush administration should be blamed, but the administration relies on many individuals to report accurate information and do their job.

Tenet had not done his homework. He should be blamed.

The Bush administration had done its homework, and the information concurred with that of other intelligence agencies.

It seems that because weapons of mass destruction have not been found Tenet is trying to shift the blame from himself to the Bush administration.

Someone should tell Tenet patience is a virtue and stop trying to save his own ass.

It only has been three months since the United States overthrew the Iraqi government. WMD aren't black dots on a white map. It takes time to find something that is hidden.

Send Letters to the Editor to
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Make-A-Wish foundation about more than generosity, vacations

Heather Jones

COLUMN

Watching a child with a life threatening disease can be hard, living with one can be harder but actually being that child can be unbearable at times. With numerous hospital stays and surgeries one after another, just living a normal life can be a challenge for everyone involved.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation tries to make life a little easier for these children. For 23 years they have been granting wishes for children who have life threatening medical conditions.

These wishes allow the children to not only get away from their everyday lives for a change but to also experience things that they otherwise would probably not have been able to do.

Every child asks for something different, whether it is a Power Wheel, to meet a famous celebrity or to just go on a vacation.

Which brings me to one child in particular, my brother Christopher Jones. At the age of 2, he was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis, an inherited disease that affects the lungs and digestive system.

Since then Christopher has tried to lead a normal life but being put in the hospital at least once a month does not help. He has had numerous surgeries since his diagnosis, everything from simple procedures to removing half his lung.

But amidst all this Christopher never lost his appreciation for life. When most people would have been sitting in their hospital room being depressed, he made the best of it. He always had a smile on his face.

But a couple of years ago things got hard, and Christopher started to lose his zest for life. Because of this, his doctor referred him to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Christopher asked to go on a seven-day Caribbean cruise, and he got his wish.

When the foundation sends a child on a vacation, they do not leave anything out.

From the stretch limousine to the first class plane tickets, Christopher was denied nothing.

There were so many special things we were able to do that made this trip so memorable.

We met the captain and were given a personal tour around the bridge of the ship.

The chief engineer himself took us on a tour of the engine room, which was really exciting for Christopher with his huge interest in engines and how they work.

Cruises are known for their wonderful food, and towards the end of the trip we were given the chance to meet the head chef and take a tour of one of the three huge kitchens he and his staff work in.

On the ship there was an ice rink, and we were given front row seats for the ice show and were then escorted backstage to meet the cast.

For Christopher and the other children, receiving a wish means more than just going on vacation. It means a chance to do something special, to get away from the doctor visits and constant treatments they receive at home.

Not only was this trip exciting for Christopher, it was also wonderful for my mom and myself because it was the first time in a long time that we had seen Christopher laugh and smile and really mean it.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY HEATHER JONES

CHRISTOPHER AND HEATHER JONES enjoyed a trip to the Caribbean sponsored by the Make-A-Wish Foundation with their mother, Cheryl Nehls. Christopher has Cystic Fibrosis.

Father pleads innocent to murder charges his two of children

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP)—The father of two New Hampshire children whose disappearance has led to a cross-country search pleaded innocent Thursday to charges of murdering the youngsters.

Manuel Gehring, 44, was arraigned on two counts of first-degree murder. He said nothing and looked down as his two public defenders entered the pleas for him.

Gehring was held without bail.

While no bodies have been found, authorities have said they believe he shot the children, 14-year-old Sarah and 11-year-old Philip, in southern New Hampshire on July 4, then buried them a day later somewhere in the Midwest as he traveled to California.

"He's sad," defense attorney Jacalyn Colburn said outside the courthouse Thursday. "These are children he loved and he was devoted to."

Gehring, an accountant who had been locked in a custody battle with his ex-wife, was arrested in California on July 10. Before being returned to New Hampshire, he had been

with detectives in the Midwest, apparently helping authorities in their search for the bodies.

Prosecutors believe they have enough evidence to prove Gehring's guilt even without the bodies, Assistant Attorney General Jeff Strelzin said.

Prosecutors said they did not bring capital murder charges because the case does not meet the narrowly drawn circumstances for a death-penalty case

under New Hampshire law. The only scenario that may have applied was murder in the course of a kidnapping, but prosecutors said they had no evidence that a kidnapping occurred.

On Wednesday, another attorney, Barbara Keshen, said if Gehring did kill his children, the act "raises serious and significant concerns about his mental health."

None of the relatives of Gehring or his ex-wife were in court.

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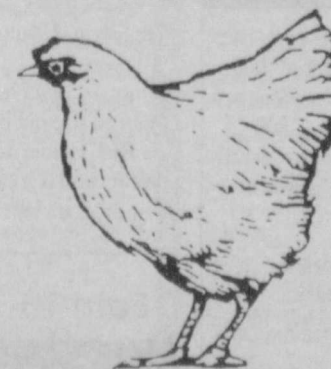
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The University Daily

Hollywood driving moviegoers crazy with summer films

ENTERTAINMENT COLUMN



James Eppler
jeppler@hotmail.com

Is Hollywood close to burning itself out? There's certainly a case to be made for that statement.

This summer has seen more blockbusters and more event films packed in together than almost any summer in recent memory. Usually, it is the case that highly anticipated films open once every three weeks or so and enjoy a

comfy two weeks at the top of the box office charts before the next big movie opens. If you'll remember last summer, "Spider-Man" dominated the box office for several weeks in a row. Not even George Lucas' much anticipated "Star Wars: Episode II" could take the number one spot in its opening weekend. That's unheard of.

This summer, however, studios are cranking out one giant movie after another. Some of them battle it out over the same weekend — "Terminator 3" and "Legally Blonde 2" for example. Since May, there has not been a single movie to stay in the number one spot in the box office past its opening weekend. As is usually the case, opening weekend box office numbers measure the hype for a movie while second week grosses measure word-of-mouth. For example, Disney's "Finding Nemo" opened on May 30th with huge first-

weekend numbers, and just recently got bumped out of the top five this past week. Word-of-mouth is keeping the fish flick strong as it just passed the \$300 million mark.

But regardless of the word-of-mouth factor, audiences keep flocking to the newest movie on the weekends. It's like a game of King of the Mountain every weekend in the box office: Who can knock off last week's leader?

But things have changed concerning movie grosses. Last year, "Spider-Man" opened with \$114 million in a three-day weekend. Nothing this summer has come close to that other than "The Matrix Reloaded" with \$94 million. But now when a highly anticipated movie opens with, say, less than \$50 million, it's considered a let-down.

Wow, the stakes have been raised haven't they?

All of these blockbuster movies

have worked together to make audiences somewhat jaded, I think. Instead of an anticipatory attitude, audiences now seem to have adopted a "go ahead, impress me" approach. The special effects and chase sequences that would have dazzled us, dare I say last summer, now seem to be run-of-the-mill.

That's sad.

I think audiences have also noticed a lack of creativity in Hollywood this summer. There are more sequels now than there have ever been, but audiences keep racing in droves to see them. Some, admittedly, are gems ("Matrix Reloaded," "X-Men 2,") and others are crap ("2Fast 2Furious," "Dumb and Dumberer," "Legally Blonde 2"). That's not to say that some sequels aren't creative and worthwhile, but do we really need "American Pie 3?"

Although one can't really blame

the movie-going public for going to see these re-hashes. In the desert, you'll take any kind of water you can get — whether it be fresh, or raw sewage.

But it also is evident that audiences are tired of Hollywood's creative laziness in that overall ticket sales are way down from last summer.

That encourages me.

In a summer where explosions dominate screenplays and great actors whore their careers for a quick buck (yes, you, Mr. Connery), it's good to see that the summer's bad movies have been taking quick and steep dives from their box-office high chairs.

Will Hollywood learn its lesson this summer? Not likely. As long as there's cash to be made, Hollywood will continue to leech the creativity out of summer movies and replace it with movies with 2, 3, and 4 after the titles and things that go "Boom."



There is a carillon lunchtime concert scheduled for noon today. The carillon is located in the west bell tower of the Administration building. Students, faculty and staff are welcome to enjoy the music from a lawn chair. The Summer Carillon Recital Series has only three remaining concerts, including one at 8 p.m. Sunday, also in the west bell tower. Contact Roy Wilson at (806) 799-7227 for more information.

Colin Allen, a professor from Texas A&M, is giving a lecture entitled "What Can Artificial Moral Agents Teach Us About Morality?" at 4 p.m. today in Room 160 of the English and Philosophy building. It is sponsored by the philosophy honor society Phi Sigma Tau and is open to the public.

Red Raider Camp starts Saturday at the Tech campus in Junction. The program lasts three days and two

nights and is designed to help incoming freshmen learn about Tech before the start of the fall semester.

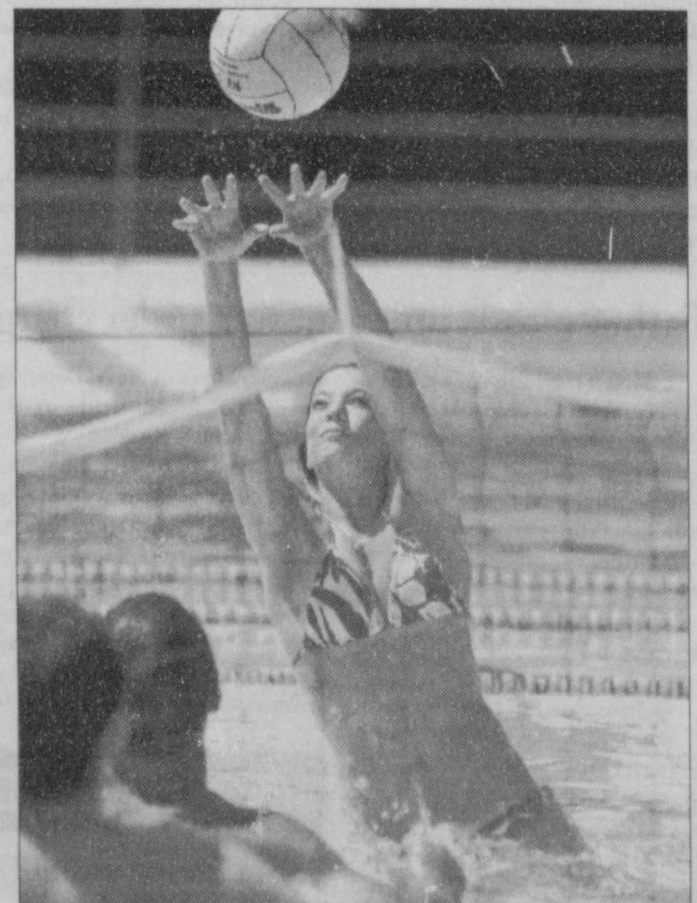
A Mentor Tech information session will take place at noon Monday in 206 Administration for faculty, staff and graduate students interested in serving as mentors in the Lauro Cavazos and Ophelia Powell-Malone Mentoring Program. For more information call (806) 742-8671 or e-mail mentor@ttu.edu. Please RSVP. Another session will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Country music's Toby Keith will be in concert at the United Spirit Arena with Junior Brown and Blake Shelton Aug. 21. Tickets are \$45.50 plus a \$4 service charge and are available at all Select-a-Seat locations including the Student Union building.

Tickets for the third annual women's football clinic are available. Proceeds from entrance fees and a silent auction will go to benefit two charities of the team's choice to be named at the event. The Red Raiders' new uniforms will be unveiled at the clinic as well. For information call (806) 742-4260.

The city of Lubbock has set up a mosquito hotline. For spraying in your neighborhood, call (806) 775-3110.

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CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer
Brittany Cayton, a summer visitor to Tech plays water volleyball with friends at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center on Thursday.

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ROOMMATES WANTED. 3/2/2 house near 4th & Frankford. 1/3 bills. First & last months rent required. Rooms range from \$275 to \$300. Call Shaun @ 795-9689 or page 788-5266.

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Dennehy's family empties apartment as search continues

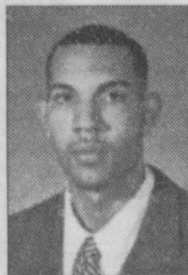
WACO, Texas (AP) — The stepfather of missing Baylor basketball player Patrick Dennehy said Thursday that although the family is suffering, he is praying for the young man accused of killing the athlete.

"You know he's suffering too, and his whole family is also suffering, and nobody needs to be going through this," Brian Brabazon, Dennehy's stepfather, said during a news conference outside City Hall. "His family's going through something similar to what we're going through and yeah, I do pray for Carlton."

Dennehy's mother, Valorie

Brabazon, his stepfather, half-sister and girlfriend, Jessica De La Rosa, cleaned out Dennehy's apartment in Waco on Wednesday.

"It was very hard on me as a mother trying to fold his clothes," Valorie Brabazon said. "Everything in there was his, and the only thing that was missing is actually my son."



Dennehy

Her 21-year-old son has been missing since mid-June and presumed dead. Though his body hasn't been found, his former teammate and roommate, Carlton Dotson, is charged with killing him.

The two were apparently close, and both families say they can't understand why Dotson would have shot Dennehy in the head, as authorities allege.

Police have said Dotson admitted the killing, but after his arrest he told The Associated Press that he "didn't confess to anything."

Dennehy's apartment building is across the street from Baylor's gold-

domed Ferrell Center, where Dennehy hoped to play this winter. He sat out last season after transferring from New Mexico, as mandated by NCAA rules.

Police said they will continue searching for Dennehy's body in locations provided by Dotson, who is being held in his home state of Maryland without bond. An extradition hearing was set for Aug. 19.

De La Rosa implored Dotson to tell all he knows about Dennehy's disappearance. "We need his help. We need Patrick back so bad."

Brian Brabazon said the family may meet with Baylor athletic director Tom

Stanton on Thursday. He and his wife have said Dennehy was threatened shortly before his disappearance and reported the threats to his coaches. Basketball coach Dave Bliss has said Dennehy never reported any threats.

On Wednesday, Stanton said the university had begun an internal inquiry into reports that coaches may have made improper payments or granted special favors to Dennehy.

Brian Brabazon would only say such talk isn't "going to help us find Patrick."

"We have more questions than we have answers. I don't want to be talking about that," he said.

Native Lubbockite hired as pitching coach

Texas Tech baseball coach Larry Hays added a Lubbock native to his coaching staff Thursday by naming Travis Walden pitching coach.

Walden returns to Lubbock after coaching at Southwest Texas last season. He served as a volunteer assistant at Texas A&M for a year prior to going to SWT. Walden also spent six years at Monterey High School in Lubbock as an assistant before coaching at Hardin Simmons. He graduated from MHS and aided in the Plainsmen's state championship in 1981. After high school Walden played collegiate ball at Lubbock

Christian University under Hays again helping win a title, the NAIA National Championship in 1983.

The new pitching coach has professional experience as well, coaching in the Texas Rangers organization. Walden also played three seasons in the Philadelphia Phillies organization from 1986-88.

Walden replaces Greg Evans who accepted a job with Oklahoma State earlier this month. Former Red Raider Joe Dillon returns to Tech as a volunteer assistant for the 2004 season as well and will coach the infield.

Single-game ticket prices announced, 'Operation Sellout' begins

The Texas Tech ticket office announced the prices of single-game tickets for home games for the approaching 2003 football season. Tickets go on sale Aug. 11 at 8:30 a.m. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$50 for four of Tech's six home games.

The campaign to sell all tickets for the Red Raiders' opening game against Southern Methodist University has been coined, "Operation Sellout."

Tickets for all of Tech's home

games will be available on Aug. 11, except for the Texas A&M game scheduled for Oct. 4. Individual tickets for the A&M game are \$75 and are not available until Sept. 1 at 8:30 a.m. Fans without season tickets wanting them sooner for this game can buy a mini-pack for \$90 beginning Aug. 11. The mini-pack includes tickets to the SMU and A&M games.

Single game tickets for the Oklahoma game, Tech's final game of the regular season, will be \$45.

The \$10 to \$50 price range is for games against SMU, New Mexico, Iowa State and Colorado.

Season tickets are still available and will remain so until Aug. 29. Fans can have season tickets on the East side of Jones SBC Stadium for \$99, including tickets for the A&M and Oklahoma games.

The Red Raiders kickoff their season Aug. 30 against the SMU Mustangs.

Armstrong maintains overall lead in Tour de France

BORDEAUX, France (AP) — Lance Armstrong finished 28th in the flat 17th stage of the Tour de France on Thursday, maintaining his overall lead and saving his strength for a crucial upcoming time trial.

Servais Knaben won the 112-mile stage in 3 hours, 54 minutes, 23 seconds. Armstrong's plan on Thursday was to stay safe. He accomplished that goal and was led to the line by his U.S. Postal Service teammates.

Armstrong, trying for a record-tying fifth straight Tour win, finished in a group of riders that included Jan Ullrich, his closest rival.

By finishing with the same time as Ullrich, Armstrong preserved his 67-second lead over the 29-year-old German with just three days of racing remaining.

The flat stage from Dax to Bordeaux, the wine capital of southwestern France, offered few chances for Armstrong to extend his lead or Ullrich to make up time.

The racers were content to hang back while a group of 10 riders, including Knaben, broke away in the first kilometer.

Both Armstrong and Ullrich are fixing their attention on Saturday's individual time trial, when they will race against the clock.

Ullrich, the 1997 Tour champion, is hoping for a repeat of his crushing defeat of Armstrong in a time trial last Friday, when he trimmed 96 seconds off Armstrong's overall lead and set the stage for a close final week of racing.

Armstrong, who was battling dehydration in that time trial, has never lost the last time trial at the Tour since his first win in 1999. He said Wednesday he had no intention of doing so now.

Armstrong's mood has been more

buoyant since his dramatic stage victory Monday in the Pyrenees, when he recovered from a fall and powered past Ullrich to build on his previously narrow overall lead.

"Ullrich is a dangerous rider for the time trial," said Jose Luis Rubiera of the U.S. Postal team. "But I think in normal conditions Lance would not have lost that time during the (last) time trial."

Friday's 18th stage is another flat leg from Bordeaux, where Armstrong will try to stay fresh and out of trouble leading up to Saturday's clash with Ullrich.

Knaben, of the Italian Quick-Step-Davitamon team, couldn't contain his emotion after his first Tour stage win.

"I've always been second, third, fourth in a stage," he said, tears in his eyes. "Today I won. Incredible."

Armstrong finished 8 minutes, 6 seconds behind Knaben. Ullrich, second to Armstrong in 2000 and '01, was 27th in the same time.

"I want to win this Tour. I have never been so close to Armstrong. I feel how my top form is coming," Ullrich said in a posting on his Web site this week.

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