

MOSTLY CLOUDY High 47 / Low 28 Tomorrow: High 50 / Low 23

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TUESDAY Feb. 10, 2004

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Butler agrees to give up medical license

By Beth Aaron/The University Daily

Dr. Thomas Butler, former Texas Tech Health Sciences Center professor and plague researcher, agreed to surrender his medical license Friday to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, the body that licenses medical doctors in Texas.

Butler's attorney, Floyd Holder, said convicted felons are not permitted by state law to retain medical licenses.

"The jury found him guilty of several things," he said. "We could force him to revoke it, or we could surrender it. We knew what would happen if they forced him to revoke it, so we simply surrendered it."

Butler was convicted of 47 felony counts

of embezzlement, and in December. His to a bubonic plague scare that prompted in January 2002. According to the

tween Butler and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, practice of internal medicine and infectious disease in Texas and Ohio. He has not previously been the subject of disciplinary action by the Board.

Agreed Order be-

Butler's medical practice shall immedi- order. mail and wire fraud ately cease in Texas, according to the order.

Jill Wiggins, public information officer February. convictions related for the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, said a panel of board members made a recommendation that Butler agree to suran FBI investigation render his license, and he consented.

> "If he had not agreed to it, what we do tion of appeal. is file a formal complaint with the State Office of Administrative Hearings," she to appeal, then we'll appeal."

Butler was licensed in 1988 to engage in the a civil trial, Wiggins said. Surrendering his medical license rather than having it revoked will save Butler from further investigation, hearings, and the expense and in- tition on Butler's behalf in January. The pe- involvement with the matter came to an convenience of litigation, according to the tition was stopped when Butler resigned in end.

Butler's sentencing hearing is set for late continue.

When the Butler residence was contacted Monday, a person close to the case said Butler plans to appeal his sentencing. Butler's attorney did not deny the no-

Ted Reid, professor of ophthalmology at An administrative hearing is similar to the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, is one of about 100 faculty members, mostly in his sentencing. in the medical field, supporting Butler.

January, but Reid said support for Butler will

"We will support him in his appeal," he said. "That will be a long time from now, unfortunately. It's kind of hard; there's not a lot you can do at the moment. It's a very

tragic situation - it's tough." Reid said Tech faculty and outside con-"It's his decision," he said. "If he wants cerned parties plan on presenting letters to the judge presiding over Butler's sentencing hearing, asking him or her to consider Butler's situation and to consider leniency

After Butler's resignation, HSC Presi-Reid and his colleagues circulated a pedent Dr. M. Roy Wilson said the university's

Student Affairs

Tech officials to lobby for federal funds

By Michael Castellon/ The University Daily

WASHINGTON - Texas Tech officials are in town this week to kick off an aggressive campaign that intends to showcase the university's achievements in an effort to attract federal dollars for next year.

The primary goal of the initiative is to justify the university's need for federal appropriations, while at the same time promoting the university through a goodwill campaign that targets some of Washington's most elite decision makers.

The initiative, which is spearheaded by Tech's Director of Federal Relations Beto Cardenas, primarily targets federal lawmakers and higher education organizations.

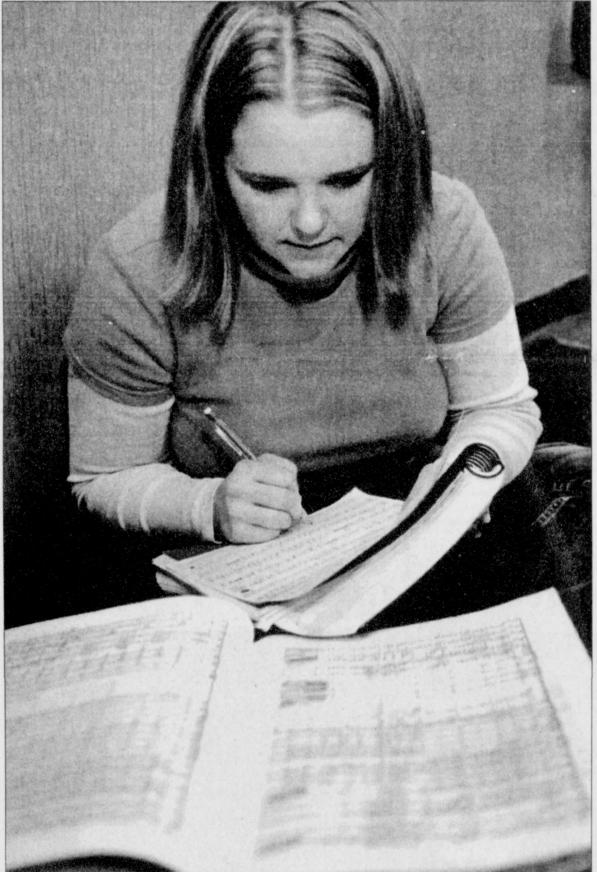
"What we're bringing to the table is our fiscal agenda for 2005," Cardenas said. "This is going to allow us to prioritize specific research initiatives and show the image of Texas

One of the initiatives officials will be bringing to the forefront of attention is the Admiral R. Zumwalt National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats. The program, which strives to coordinate and facilitate research geared toward biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction, will be touted by Tech administrators this week as one of the pinnacle continuing projects at the university.

Among those representing the university are Tech President Jon Whitmore and Student Government Association President Jeremy Brown, both of whom arrived Monday. University Chancellor Dr. David Smith was scheduled to arrive late Monday night.

This year, Tech received about \$10 million in federal appropriations that

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TRAVIS GLODT/The University Daily

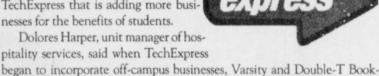
SAMANTHA KEEHN, A senior music performance major from Victoria, studies and takes notes of the part she will be playing in a symphony, "The Three Cornered Hat," by Manuel Maria de Falla on Monday in the Music building.

Student Affairs

Town & Country included in TechExpress expansion

By Andrew Bell/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech is in the process of expansion. Although construction sites are scattered through campus, it is now TechExpress that is adding more businesses for the benefits of students. Dolores Harper, unit manager of hos-



TECH

stores were the only options for students. Shortly after, Joe's Pasta and Pizza, Chicken Express and McDonald's joined with TechExpress. Now students have 118 locations in Lubbock since the off-campus program took off more than a year ago. The newest addition of businesses is the

15 Town & Country Food Store locations in Lubbock, Harper said. Jaclyn Vasquez, TechExpress project manager for Wells Fargo Bank, said the addition of Town & Country allows students to get gasoline with the

Kari Jo Knox, a sophomore nursing major from Vernon, said she uses TechExpress mainly for groceries, but she would use the card to get gas if she

left her money at home. "If I leave money at my house and forget it 'til it is too late, then I can carry the card, and it is useful," she said.

Other additions in the past two weeks include Lords and Ladies Hair Salon, The Outdoorsman, Queso's Grill, Hoot's Bagels and Stars and Stripes Drive-In Theater, Harper said. For students who take courses at the Reese Center, TechExpress is available for use at the South Plains College book-

Among the students interviewed, many said they do not use TechExpress because there is no money on their account. Ashley Rinsom, a sophomore undeclared major from Austin, said she would use the services if she had money in her account.

Every student already has a TechExpress account open. All a student would need to do is deposit the money in the account, Harper said.

Students could deposit money into his or her TechExpress account by delivering the money to the Student ID office in Doak Hall, Room 123. Others could deposit the money through a credit card from TechExpress' Web site, www.techexpress.ttu.edu.

Jaclyn Vasquez, TechExpress project manager for Wells Fargo Bank, said when the program started it was on a need basis for students. This includes restaurants and grocery stores, such as United and Lowe's. Now, the program looks to expand on entertainment.

"The goal is to branch off into the entertainment aspect," she said. "That is one thing students want to do while they are here at Tech."

So students wouldn't always have to carry money, Vasquez said, she would like encouraging movie theaters, golf places, tanning salons and other areas of entertainment students enjoy. She said the first priority of the program is for Tech students.

When some students graduate, he or she can accumulate \$10,000 to \$15,000 in credit card debt. If a student has never owned a checking account, then TechExpress could be a good way to show students how to handle money in a responsible way, Vasquez said.

EXPANSION continued on page 5

Student Affairs

Neugebauer leads push for windstorm mitigation

By Sally Gunter/The University Daily

The 1970 tornado that ripped through downtown Lubbock, killing 26 people and injuring more than 500, is an event U.S. representative for the 19th District Randy Neugebauer said he remembers well.

"My person was safe," he said. "But my property was not."

Neugebauer along with U.S. Rep. Dennis Moore, D-Kansas, held a hearing on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science to strengthen windstorm hazard mitigation and examine public and private efforts Monday afternoon.

The representatives heard testimonies from four experts concerning the need for additional federal funding in the area of windstorm mitigation, or relief.

The Wind Engineering Research and Outreach Plan is intended to reduce losses because of wind hazards and prevent deaths caused by hurricanes, tornadoes and severe wind.

Moore is the chairman for the Wind Hazard Reduction Caucus that focuses on increasing the awareness of members of Congress about the public safety and economic loss issues associated with wind. Its goal is to seek government funding to support a National Wind Hazard Reduction Program that increases public safety and decreases the economic losses caused by tornadoes, hurricanes and thunderstorms.

Both Neugebauer and Rep. Charlie Stenholm, D-Abilene, serve on the caucus. Ernst Kiesling, a professor of civil engineer-

ing at Texas Tech, explained the research being conducted at Tech to improve buildings for wind damage.

"Our research in wind hazard mitigation has two major objectives: saving lives and reducing economic losses," he said. "Roughly two-thirds of the economic losses from natural disasters are from wind-related events."

Safe rooms, or storm shelters, are one way to ensure safety in the event of a tornado,

Kiesling said. Incentives to install shelters in homes needs to be researched and developed more, he said.

Insurance companies also are concerned with the aftermath of natural wind disasters, said Bryan Shofner, president of Shofner & Associates Insurance Agency Inc.

"Insurance companies have very little information on wind damage mitigation techniques and do very little research on wind damage reduction," he said. "Barriers to widespread implementation of existing mitigation techniques include lack of education, failure of insurance companies to provide sufficient financial incentives, knowledgeable construction personnel, cost to the homeowner and lack of mandatory building costs."

Moore reintroduced a bill to the House on May 7 that would authorize increased funding, provide better coordination of the federal effort, prioritize research efforts, increase tech-

WIND continued on page 3



HEATHER DOUGHERTY/The University Daily

U.S. REP DENNIS Moore of Kansas and congressman for District 19 Randy Neugebauer speak at the science committee hearing on behalf of the House of Representatives on Monday afternoon in the Merket Alumni Center. The two were seeking to strengthen windstorm hazard mitigation and examine public and private efforts. The two were concerned about deaths and destruction of property caused by high pressure wind storms.

Two vehicles shot at on Ohio freeway, authorities link them to earlier shootings

gunshots at vehicles south of Columbus were linked to a string of earlier high- Mercedes, described the gunman as a return calls seeking comment. way shootings on Monday, bringing the total number to 23, investigators said.

A van and a Mercedes were shot Sunday from overpasses about a mile apart on Interstate 71 — 25 miles outside the sniper's original target area.

Physical evidence from the scene linked them to the earlier shootings, Franklin County sheriff's Chief Deputy pass Steve Martin said.

He would not comment of the type Mansfield, said of evidence recovered, although he said the shootings were not linked ballisting north on I-71 cally to eight others connected to same

The shootings, about 40 miles south- stop on an overwest of Columbus, were the farthest yet from the area where most of the sniper park his car, get gunfire has happened along the south- out of it, walk to circles the Columbus area.

A woman was killed by one of the a boom, a blast." bullets in November, but no one else was

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Two shootings were the most detailed yet. tral Ohio. No one answered the door

middle-aged white male, with a medium build. Another motorist called 911 Sunday, reporting a black sports car on an over-

Berry, 51, of he was driving when he noticed a car pull to a pass. "I saw him

ern stretch of Interstate 270, which the rail and take his shot," Berry told The Columbus Dispatch. "It sounded like

van driver, identified in a sheriff's report have occurred in an area of I-270 and Witness descriptions after Sunday's as Cheryl Shreyer of Baltimore, in cen- I-71 on the south side of Columbus.

Douglas Berry, the driver of the ather home Monday and she did not

Both vehicles

were struck in the hood on the I saw him park his driver's side, Martin said. car, get out of it, At the rest

stop about a mile walk to the rail and from shootings, a bultake his shot. It let hole was visible in the hood sounded like a of the Mercedes, about six inches boom, a blast. from its wind-

> A lane of I-71 northbound was closed for part of the afternoon as

shield.

officers searched the area.

The serial shootings have targeted cars, homes and schools near the There was no comment from the highway encircling Columbus. Most The Rundown



Legislative board not Pilot asks passengers London police make talking about budget to share faith on plane manslaughter arrests

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A new state spending proposal has been developed, but Legislative Budget Board members and other officials are tightlipped about what it contains.

Budget Board Director John Keel said a "complete packet" running more than 100 pages would be made available Monday morning and "all the details" of the spending proposal would be published in the Texas Register.

State law permits the 10-member board, led by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, to withhold details until members complete a recommendation to Gov. Rick Perry. He has 30 days to ratify or change

The San Antonio Express-News reported in Monday's editions that state officials were poised to declare a fiscal emergency and urge Perry to shift millions of dollars around to fix it.

The newspaper requested all materials, including proposals and explanatory materials, under the Texas Public Information Act.

One board member, Rep. Talmadge Heflin, said leaders may seek Attorney General Greg Abbott's opinion on what information should be released before

"If there's a lot of noise, I would want to have his take on it," Heflin, R-Hous- eral others aboard were so worried ton and chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, told the newspaper. "If, in fact, we did misread what was assured them they were safe and appropriate, we'd be able to correct it next that people on the ground had been time around."

An Austin lawyer who is an authority on open government issues said the spending proposal should have been provided before the meeting.

"There's nothing (in the law) that expressly authorizes them to hold it back," said lawyer Jennifer Riggs. "They ought to release it."

A posted agenda listing agencies seeking additional funds includes the Regional Academic Health Center in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas Tech Univer-Extension and the secretary of state.

NEW YORK (AP) - An American Airlines pilot asked Christians on his flight to identify themselves and suggested the non-Christians discuss the faith with them, the airline said.

The case was handed over to the airline's personnel department for an investigation, spokesman Tim Wagner said Sunday.

"It falls along the lines of a personal level of sharing that may not be appropriate for one of our employees to do while on the job," he said earlier.

American's Flight 34 was headed from Los Angeles to New York's John F. Kennedy Airport on Friday when the pilot asked Christians on board to raise their hands, Wagner said.

The pilot, whose name was not released, told the airline that he then suggested the other passengers use the flight time to talk to the Christians about their faith, and often squalid conditions and em-Wagner said.

Passenger Amanda Nelligan told WCBS-TV of New York that the pilot called non-Christians "crazy" and that his comments "felt like a threat." She said she and sevthey tried to call relatives on their cell phones before flight attendants notified about the pilot's com-

The pilot also told passengers he would be available for discussion at the end of the flight. Wagner said the pilot had just returned to work from a weeklong mission trip to Costa Rica.

Because of privacy issues, there would likely never be any announcement about what kind of may face, Wagner said. The pilot sity at El Paso, the Texas Cooperative was not scheduled to fly during the weekend, he said.



LONDON (AP) - Police said Monday they had arrested five people on suspicion of manslaughter over the deaths of 19 Chinese workers killed as they searched for shellfish in an English

Lancashire Police said three men and two women were arrested and were being questioned about possible involvement in the deaths. They had not been charged and were not identified.

Police would not confirm reports that those arrested were among 16 survivors rescued Thursday in Morecambe Bay, a rich cockle-hunting area in northwest England known for its treacherous sands and tides. Seventeen men and two women were killed after becoming caught in the bay's powerful tides.

But police said the arrests had not come as part of raids conducted over the weekend in the nearby city of

Police said some of the dead were recent immigrants living in crowded ployed at low wages by "gangmasters."

Collecting cockles — a shellfish that lives just below the surface of muddy sand - is estimated to be a multimillion dollar business in Britain, but is largely unregulated.

Geraldine Smith, the Labour Party lawmaker who represents Morecambe, called for cockle-picking should be licensed in the wake of the tragedy.

"We need better regulation of public fisheries, with perhaps a license of 500 before people can go cockle picking," she said. "The money raised from these licenses could then pay for proper enforcement of safety at the bay.

"I also want to see licenses for all gangmasters. This would cut out the criminal element and stop the exploitation of workers.'

Detectives raided nine addresses in Liverpool, 40 miles south of the bay, punishment or reprimand the pilot over the weekend and seized computers, documents and equipment connected to Morecambe Bay cockle-col-



TED REID Professor of Opthamology at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center

We will support him in his appeal. That will be a long time from now, unfortunately. It's kind of hard; there's not a lot you can do at the moment. It's a very tragic situation — it's tou, h

— DOUGLAS BERRY

Driver of car that was

shot at

University Daily

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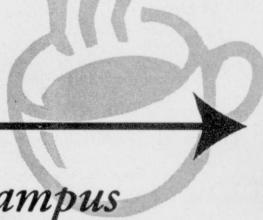
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Feb. 12



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Honors debates gay marriage, court's role

By Robin Briscoe/ The University Daily

As of Monday, 55 percent of Americans agree that an amendment should be added defining marriage as a relationship between a man and a woman, said Associate Dean of the Honors College Kambra Bolch. Relating it to the controversial gay marriage ban recently imposed in Ohio she asked what is the role of the judiciary?

Members of the Honors College examined this element of the constitution Monday at their current event's discussion. Free expression and speech, religious symbols and gay marriages, highlighted much of the hour-long debate.

Bolch pointed to the full-faith credit clause as a starting point of debate, indicating one state's decision should be given credit in another state. This is the issue, she said, especially considering 39 states ban samesex marriages.

Bolch asked attendees if it is the role of the federal government to monitor the majority.

Freshman Kristen Owen, a political science major from Houston, said theoretically it is the role of the majority, but in America today it is the idea that governmental figures should know what is best for Americans.

"Federal government shouldn't be interfering with in-state government," said Denver Cornelius, a senior physics major from Borger.

The federal government should be very limited, he said. With a more centralized power it would more likely turn into a tyranny.

Honors College professor Su-

Tomlinson said if this were the case, what would be there protect the American

people from oppression from others in society.

Dean of the Honors College Gary Bell said he believes the government does interfere.

"They're dictating the way I act, talk, drive my car," Bell said.

Bolch asked if it was a good thing that mostly wealthy, white, older men make all the deci-

sions in the Supreme Court. She questioned if it should be them or the major-

> When it comes to

freedom of expression or hate speech, Owen said, drawing the line can be difficult. She pointed out that no threatening activity was going on when pagan religious symbols were banned from school. She contributed this to the narrow-minded percep-

"That is an overt choice of them to wear a cross (as an example)," Honors College professor Megan

She suggested people define what they are connected to with what symbols they wear. She contributed this as part of the line between government and citizens' freedom to act.

Another student said the government should trust a citizen to make his or her own choice.

Tomlinson brought up first amendment rights. She said freedom of expression and speech did not include threat to some group. If speech actually incites harm or an unlawful

act it is not protected and requires government intervention.

The Brandenburg incitement test asks four questions regarding some unprotected speech and expression. Does the expression advocate the use of illegal force or violence? Is it directed toward actually inciting such illegal conduct? Would the advised conduct be imminent, or immediate? Is the expression likely to produce that illegal conduct?

While the Brandenburg v. Ohio Supreme Court case is not to be used to gauge all expression/speech conflicts, it is one example of how the Supreme Court in the past has acted and interpreted the Constitution, consequently setting the standard for judicial ruling.?

Wind

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nology transfer programs and emphasize public education.

Neugebauer and Stenholm are cosponsors of the Hurricane, Tornado and Related Hazards Research Act.

The current \$6 million in federal spending of wind-related disasters is inadequate, Moore said.

More than \$7 billion is spend annually on losses for wind-related hazards, said Charles Meade, a senior physical scientist with the RAND Corporation's science and technology policy institute.

Tornadoes are a concern to District 19, as are the high wind speeds common in the area, said Neugebauer.

"It is important to me to highlight the important aspects of research at Texas Tech," he said. "It is a real issue for our region and state. This wind engineering is an important aspect."

The hearing was a step in providing information Neugebauer said is crucial in determining the future of wind research.

"It was determining the importance of the issue to the country," he said. "Now we will make recommendations to the full committee on funding of the program."

Washington

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was divided between the university's academic campus and its Health Sciences Center.

Tech officials have raised the bar in their pursuit of federal funding.

This year administrators are expected to request about \$47 million for 15 academic campus projects and four Health Sciences Center projects.

University officials across the country have had to pursue federal funding more aggressively, thanks in part to an \$87 billion federal spending package, the war in Iraq and an exploding population of high school students that are positioning themselves to attend college in coming years.

While the majority of Tech's nearly \$1 billion operating budget comes primarily from state funding, university administrators are

now chasing federal dollars more assertively in light of a nearly \$10 billion state deficit that has crunched university operating budgets throughout the state.

And while the pursuit of federal funding for higher education is becoming increasingly more competitive, Tech officials remain confident that this week's initiative in Washington will play a significant role in determining the level of funding the university can expect to receive next year.

deactivated several rockets that were

primed for launch along a road toward

the city of Baqouba, about 35 miles

Washington said American forces in

Iraq have detained one of the remain-

ing most-wanted members of Saddam

on the 55 most-wanted list, was

turned over last weekend to U.S.

troops in the Baghdad area, the offi-

cials said, speaking on the condition

of anonymity. The officials did not say

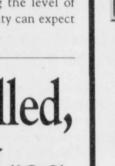
Muhsin Khadr al-Khafaji, No. 48

Also Monday, defense officials in

northeast of Baghdad.

Hussein's government.

who turned him over.



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Recent merger helps tech stock prices remain stable

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks crept higher Monday, with investors searching for a direction as earnings news subsided. A merger between Netscreen Technologies and Juniper Networks gave tech stocks some sup-

Investors may be holding back while they await Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's testimony before Congress, set for Wednesday and Thursday. Uncerwith a holiday weekend ahead, could keep institutional investors from taking large positions this week, said Michael Murphy, head trader at Wachovia Securities in Baltimore.

"I think there will be directionless trading with a lot of volatility until he talks, so that shoots almost the whole week," Murphy said. "Until then, it's more of the same."

The Dow Jones industrials advanced 14.74, or 0.1 percent, to 10,607.77, after rising 1 percent last

Broader stock indicators were also slightly higher. The Nasdaq gained 7.90, or 0.4 percent, to 2,071.91, after dipping 0.1 percent last week. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 0.82, or 0.1 percent, at 1,143.58, following last week's 1 percent gain.

Technical problems delayed the opening of trading at the American Stock Exchange on Monday, but were fixed by early afternoon. The problem was caused by a glitch in the computer and networking system that the Amex jointly owns with the New York Stock Exchange, Amex spokeswoman Mary Chung said. No trading problems were reported at the NYSE, however.

With the bulk of earnings season over and no major economic news released Monday, the uneven start to the week was no surprise: Investors lacked guidance for their next moves. Wall Street also had little momen tum behind it, given the erratic, and mostly lower, trading of the last few

"We started off the year on a pretty strong note and things got a little heated up and maybe a little too enthusiastic," said Steven Goldman, chief market strategist at Weeden & Co. in Greenwich, Conn. "There's some consolidating, but most stocks are pushing higher today. There are strong underpinnings to the market."

Internet security hardware maker Netscreen Technologies Inc. shot up \$10.00, or 38 percent, to \$36.40, after agreeing to be acquired by Juniper Networks Inc. in a \$4 billion stock swap. Juniper was off down \$2.92, or 9.9 percent, at \$26.55

Credit card issuer Providian Financial Corp. gained 61 cents to \$13.75 as analysts and traders discussed the possibility of a takeover by Barclays, one of Britain's largest

Two American soldiers killed, three guards wounded in Iraq BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A were killed in an explosion outside of their families. Elsewhere, U.S. and Iraqi forces

man wearing an explosives belt blew himself up Monday outside the home of two tribal leaders who have cooperated with American forces. Two U.S. soldiers were killed while disposing of explosives in northern Iraq.

Three Iraqi guards were seriously wounded in the blast outside the compound of brothers Majid and Amer Ali Suleiman in Ramadi, northwest of Baghdad.

Witnesses said the brothers were receiving callers when a man approached the compound but was told to leave. He returned moments later and triggered the explosives, the witnesses said. The brothers are two of the city's most prominent tribal leaders who have worked with coalition forces.

Insurgents have repeatedly warned Iraqis not to cooperate with the Americans. The most recent threats were contained in pamphlets circulated in Ramadi and nearby Fallujah by a purported coalition of 12 insurgent groups.

Ramadi and Fallujah are located in the Sunni Triangle, a major center of resistance to the U.S.led occupation.

Sinjar near the northern city of Mosul during an operation to dispose of ordnance, deputy operations chief Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said.

Five soldiers were hurt in the blast, according to a statement issued by the U.S. military's Task Force Olympia. The statement said the soldiers were moving mortar shells and rocket propelled grenades from a storage area to a demolition point when the explosion occurred.

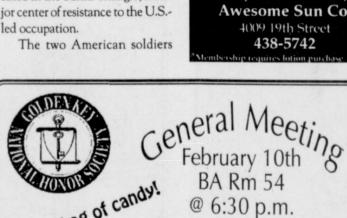
One of the soldiers was killed instantly. The second soldier died later of his injuries. Three of the injured were hospitalized in stable condition and two others were treated for minor injuries and returned to duty.

The names of the two victims were withheld pending notification

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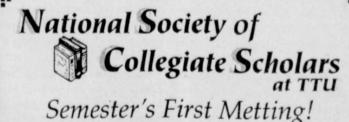
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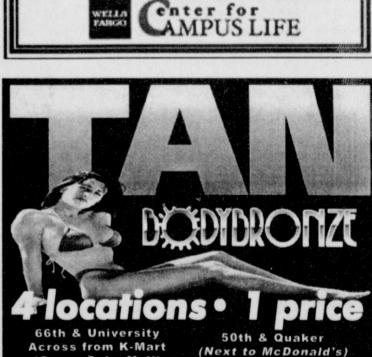
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Another day as hopelessly single Halt the 'Hallmark holiday' hype

nstead of shooting me in the ass this year, Cupid can kiss it. He should go to the optometrist because, with my experiences, his eyesight is not even close

This is more of a column addressing the men, written from a woman's (or gay man's) perspective. Yes, for those of you how are unaware, I am a gay man. Believe it or not, we do get the boyfriend blues too. Gay men and straight women are a perfect match.

a damn about us? We've been there.

Those nights of drinking wine, eating brownies and watching every season of "Sex and the City?" We've

That is actually my favorite type of "therapy." I can have my own little pity party and others are more than welcome to join.

How many of you can say you have had a not-sopleasant Valentine's Day? You had no date, so you got sloshed by yourself, bawled into a pint of ice cream and talked all night to your dog, because no one else was there to listen (or even would)? OK, OK. I won't make anyone admit it.

But we can't lie to ourselves any longer. Valentine's Day, for me at least, is not some "lovey-dovey" holiday full of romance and enchantment.

Why should we have to send ourselves flowers just because our boyfriends are too cheap to do it? See, my friends, this day is no good.

For those of you who are lucky and actually get something, let's examine exactly what you're getting.

There is the cliché gift of chocolates. Does your boyfriend want you to get fat? Does he know how many calories are in each bite? So much for that sexy lingerie you ladies had for this special night.

What about the over-romanticized dozen of long-stem red roses? Roses - yeah, they are romantic red - until they're drop-petals-all-over-the floor dead. Why give us a gift that only lasts a day, two at the most? Does that reflect your love for us, or give us indications of what the next year

they start to wilt. How about a gift that lasts forever? Don't you know that diamonds are a girl's best friend?

The one Valentine's Day my ex and I decided to do something for each other, I ended up spending quite a bit of money on him. What did he tell me? "Well, I don't have anything for you yet, but I will. I promise." That was two years ago and, needless to say, our relationship didn't last much longer.

I was originally planning on lowering my defenses kenneth.I.ham@ttu.edu



Having those boyfriends that just don't seem to give and use this week's column to try and win him back. You know; be "lovey-dovey." So much for that.

That idea was shot to pieces last week when he told me that he did not want anything to do with me any more. We're two different people, blah, blah, blah. You know those cop-out lines.

I'm afraid I'm sounding too bitter or envious of those lucky people, but it just doesn't seem fair. Cupid can hit the target on everyone else, but it seems like he's missing the same people over and over again. I am one of those that are overlooked. Imagine that.

I have never had good luck in the love department, so I don't know why I'm surprised.

I know others can relate to everything I'm saying. There is a day reserved for couples, but what

about those of us who are single? Why don't we have a day

when it is OK to eat dinner alone in a nice restaurant, go to a latenight movie or do something nice for ourselves just because? I will spend this year's

Valentine's Day at work, loving every minute of it. No flowers will

be sent to me, and no hot date is planned. That may be why I was asked to work. Is there a sign on my forehead that says "hopelessly single?" So all you singles out there let's make a vow right now.

On Saturday, we are going to make sure that there is not one drop of alcohol in Lubbock County. There will not be a single brownie/cake/muffin/cookie mix at United, Wal-Mart or any We're sure as hell not going to make potpourri after other store in town. Instead of "Sex in the City," we will watch movies like "The First Wives Club," and plot how to get revenge on all those who have wronged us.

For all of you who have plans this weekend, I hope you have a good time. As for the rest of us, I hope we find solace in the bottom of our bottles.

■ Ham is a sophomore public relations major from Levelland. E-mail him your sob story at

ost romance and love stories have the same plot. Boy meets girl. Boy loses girl. Boy wins girl back. The end.

Too bad this isn't quite how life pans out. In the world outside the storybook the closest thing to a knight in shining armor is a rich guy in North Face clothing. A girl waiting for anything better than

that is destined to get her heart smashed. Don't call me cynical; I'm just skeptical.

I must confess I'm a sucker for "Casablanca" and "Gone with the Wind," not to mention "Roman Holiday" and "Sabrina." (Although my all-time favorite is the daylong saga of "Lonesome Dove.")

At heart that makes me a romantic. I admit this. And being a true romantic, I must defend the sanctity of love.

Now by the sanctity of love, I'm not saying the high school "ask him if he likes me" type infatuation, and I'm also not talking about the drunken college one-night stands. Saying those three little words "I love you" after a couple of months of getting drunk together does not qualify either.

I'm talking about that love each girl desires and some spend their whole lives searching and lusting for. The kind only found in the movies.

> What is Valentine's Day? An overly commercialized holiday meant to torture single women and bankrupt attached guys.

It is a "Hallmark holiday" I dread year-round whether I'm single or not.

The holiday forces each single woman to continu-

ously analyze herself to determine what is so wrong with her that she could be dateless on Valentine's.

Self-esteem and self-confidence fly out the window as a perfectly independent 20-something woman becomes depressed and lonely, drowning out her sorrows in chocolate and a bottle (or two) of cheap wine while her "Grow a Boyfriend" stares in pity at the emotional train wreck she has become. What is so unacceptable about being without a date on Valentine's?



This is second

in a five-day

series.

Tomorrow read the next part of the series love as an addiction

Gunte

What is Valentine's Day? An overly commercialized holiday meant to torture single women and bankrupt attached guys. It is a "Hallmark holiday" I dread yearround whether I'm single or not.

Just because Cupid missed me with his arrow does not mean there is something tragically wrong with me. (By the way, this is the second year I was given a "Grow a Boyfriend" by someone, is that a sign that Cupid will continue to pass me by?)

I'd exchange flowers and those obnoxiously large stuffed animals for a good night of off-key karaoke with

There is no need to max out your Victoria's Secret credit card or cancel your "V" card for a moment of passion with someone you probably will not marry.

What's all the hype around the mushy holiday

Valentine's Day should be every day. A once-ayear day should not be required to show someone you care ... besides you might not make it to the next Valentine's Day.

P.S. My e-mail is sally_gunter@hotmail.com, and I'm still dateless on the 14th.

M Gunter is a sophomore print journalism major form Claude. She can be reached, or asked out, at sally_gunter@hotmail.com

Letter to the Editor

Knight vs. Smith — Truth vs. lies

This past week was another "shining moment" in the record of Texas Tech. We were in the national public eye again but not for "misplacing" the plague or for not having a full Board of Regents, but for an altercation at a supermarket.

Now I know we all have heard this story until it was trampled to death, but with the release of Chancellor Dr. David Smith's account of the disagreement, contradicting the account that coach Bob Knight described, 30,000 plus students, professors and community members are left asking "where's the truth?" The two are as comparable as north and south. Knight describes Smith's attitude as "pretty hard" at the Market Street. In Smith's memo he says that, "I never raised my voice," motioning to the side that he didn't have a tone in his voice.

So where do we as members of the Texas Tech and Lubbock community look for the truth in this matter? Obviously, we cannot look at the two involved in the situation. They only agree that the event happened near a salad bar.

Why won't one of them come out and say "this is what happened." Personally, I would rather have two truthful, high-profiled, members of the university system that might have some blemishes on their record, than two that can be deemed as liars. And that's what thousands of people think right now. Not both of them can be right. So we know one of them is not telling the truth. It's good to see two "outstanding citizens" of the Tech community can be labeled as liars.

I think that one man involved in the situation is petrified to death and doesn't have the courage or self-confidence enough to call a press meeting and say I WAS WRONG. If that perfect time comes and one of the two does this, I believe that man would be a true leader. Then, honesty will make that man's image.

I'm sick and tired of seeing Texas Tech University on the national news every other day because of the unpleasant situations that transpire here. I hate to read in the Dallas Morning News, The New York Times, and even in The Chicago Tribune that once again Tech has screwed up.

These situations are giving current students, alumni, faculty and staff such a bad reputation. Administration needs to devise a plan to put the pride and integrity back into the double T. Until then, were are tarnished.

 Jason Hays, freshman broadcast journalism and public relations major from Allen

Reprimanding Knight a sign of lost leadership

K, at the risk of beating a dead horse that was already beaten to death, let's rehash the events

A seemingly harmless conversation between two Tech faculty members at a grocery store explodes into an angry, mega-hyped, media-frenzied fiasco, and surprise — It involves Bob Knight.

After the incident, Knight was "temporarily" suspended for three days, but it was eventually squeezed down to a reprimand, the technical term for "you're-acoaching-beast-so-here's-just-a-slap-on-the-wrist." Then there came Tech's romping on Baylor. Before the

burnination, Knight was given a hero's welcome as he marched onto the court, the crowd (me included) clapping and cheering insanely, showing him he had our support. After the game, our hero gave his side of the story to

reporters at a press conference, telling how he was approached and his integrity questioned, and that he "never instigated anything."

And he delivered it with such emotion, how could you not believe him? When a man with that much prestige and demand for respect pleads for your trust, you're inclined to believe immediately and ask questions later.

Those questions started popping into my mind, as I am sure they did yours, a couple of days later when Smith's memo explaining his side was brought to the media's attention. This version involved a drastically different telling of the events, complete with a red-faced Knight raising his voice and chasing the chancellor out to his car, and then a stillred-faced Knight abandoning his car at a busy intersection for no apparent reason, until he was coaxed back inside by Gerald Myers. My guess would be he wanted to slash Smith's tires or something.

Anyway, that brings us up to speed. Now we have these two completely different accounts of the same event on our hands, and we have to decide what to believe, if the situation merited punishment, and more importantly, if we even care at all. I'm sure most people will choose the latter, but it's important to decide where you stand on this issue.

First, take into account all the "great" publicity we received because of this. Geez, last spring we got national at-

Courtney Muench/Editor Kyle Clark/Managing Editor Heidi Toth/News Editor David Wiechmann/Sports Editor Jaime Tomás Aguilar & David Johnson Associate Photography Editors

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Knight wasn't suspended not because the incident wasn't that big of deal, but because he's "The General," and it shouldn't be that way.

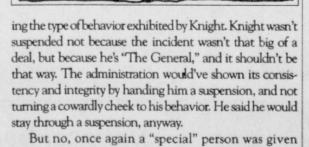
tention for loosing the Black Death upon the nation, and this spring we're the setting for the Great Salad Misadventure. Now all we need is some sort of STD problem ... wait, one in four you say? Ohhh man, it's great to be a Red Raider.

Second, you have to weigh both stories and see which seems more believable, or perhaps more typical. Knight's story seems pretty believable, that Smith made a questionable comment about his behavior and the coach tried to control himself as best as he could. And then look at Smith's story. Without prior knowledge, it seems pretty irrational.

But then again, Knight's past hasn't been exactly rational; allegedly punching a police officer in Puerto Rico, throwing a chair, allegedly choking a player ... and who knows what he did while he was at Army. So if you think about it, the chancellor's story seems sadly plausible, because I can see Knight behaving in the way it describes. And behavior like that, especially in public, definitely merits a suspension.

Now, I wish I hadn't taken part in Knight's ovation last week. Not that he's a bad coach, or undeserving of praise. On the contrary, he is a basketball genius, very intelligent, and has greatly affected this university in a positive way.

But by applauding I showed I approved of Tech condon-



special treatment, which is a growing trend in soci-One need look no further than Kobe Bryant, P.

Diddy or any drugged-up Hollywood high roller to know this is true. It seems that those with higher bank accounts can have inversely proportional ac-

However, this university should think differently it it truly desires for students to walk away from their time here with not only an academic degree, but also some degree of decorum.

Ingram is a sophomore creative writing and music major from Mesquite. E-mail him your comments to spencer.ingram@ttu.edu

LETTERS: The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 200 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number and a description of university affiliation. Letters selected for publication have the right to be edited. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters are subject to verification. Letters can be e-mailed to ud@ttu.edu or brought to 211 Student Media.

GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 600 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

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Bush hitting states after Democratic candidates

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Shadowing Democrats through primary states, President Bush highlighted upswings in the U.S. economy Monday at an engine plant in Missouri, a state he won in a tight contest in 2000 and has been tirelessly courting ever since.

"We're growing," Bush said during an brief stop in Missouri, his 15th presidential trip to the swing state. "The growth is good. New jobs are being created. Interest rates are low. Home ownership in America is at the highest levels ever."

The economy is growing because "we cut your taxes," he said.

Bush spoke inside SRC Automotive Inc., an employee-owned plant remanufacture engines and other parts for automobiles, boats and race

Cylinder heads, engine blocks, manifolds and carburetors were \ ing of the stock market bubble in early stacked on shelves; engines were suspended on chains behind a makeshift stage where Bush had a discussion with employees and businessmen.

Bush, who urged Congress to make the tax cuts permanent, said when lawmakers claim they're going to repeal the tax cuts, what they really mean is that they want to raise taxes and increase the size of the federal government.

The trip to America's heartland coincided with the release Monday

where 120 workers make and of Bush's 2004 economic report, a document prepared by his Council of Economic Advisers.

> In the report, Bush said America has been able to surmount the burst-2000 followed by the first recession in a decade, the terrorist attacks, two wars and corporate accounting scan-

"Americans have responded to each challenge and now we have the results: renewed confidence, strong growth, new jobs and a mounting prosperity that will reach every corner of America," Bush wrote in the message to lawmakers.

In Springfield, Bush touted his job-creation plan, which includes

making health care costs more affordable, reducing the burden of lawsuits, passing an energy bill, streamlining regulations and opening new markets for U.S. products.

Democrats, who have seized on the troubled job market to boost their election prospects, say the president's economic policies aren't working all that well.

"If President Bush's policies had

put America on the right track, he wouldn't be forced into a desperate game of follow the leader," Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe said Monday.

"The Democratic primaries and caucuses are drawing a record number of voters, a fact that apparently has Bush and his campaign nervous enough to play second fiddle in state after state."

Bush went to South Carolina on Feb. 5, two days after that state's Democratic primary. He's in Missouri, six days after this state's primary. In late January, he visited New Hampshire, two days after the primary.

Nationally, the jobless rate fell to 5.6 percent in January, the lowest level in more than two years, as employers stepped up hiring — but not

ACROSS

Pueblo block

14 Arm bone 15 "St. Jerome in His Cell"

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18 Faucet

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Santa's helper Matins division

Paid athlete

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

fast enough to ally concerns about the prolonged job drought. Missouri's 5 percent unemployment rate in December was unchanged from Novem-

Different employment surveys paint contrasting pictures about the health of the economy, which has lost 2.2 million jobs since Bush took office. Factories have lost 3 million jobs in the last 42 straight months since a peak in July 2000.

Mexican agriculture officials say large amount of Texas sorghum crop, seeds contaminated

BROWNSVILLE (AP) - Mexican agricultural officials trying to stop tainted sorghum seeds from crossing out of Texas say more than 20 percent of the crop is contaminated.

Farmers south of the border need the sorghum, one of two cereal grasses mainly cultivated for stock feed in Mexico. But they fear losing their crops to the disease.

Ergot is found often during inspections in Brownsville where Mexican authorities look over the product before it crosses to Mexico through the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates, said Juan Enrique Campos, head of inspections for Senasica-Sagarpa in Matamoros.

"Ergot can destroy harvests if it appears before sorghum flowers bloom," Leon de los Santos, an agricultural inspector with Senasicaagency in Matamoros, told The Brownsville Herald in Monday's online edition.

Ergot is a disease that affects the production of the seeds, if pollen production is poor, according to the Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association. The group said the disease was found in Texas in 1997.

In Brazil, an epidemic of ergot in 1995 covered 300,000 square miles in

Officials say that's why inspections in Brownsville are vital before the seeds are exported to Mexico. Trucks bring the seeds to Brownsville, where Mexican officials inspect them for contamination.

"In order to enter the country, the sorghum must have a limit of (ergot) fungus contamination, which usually

Sagarpa, an agricultural government is about five little seeds for each kilogram of sorghum," said Campos. "Most of the (good) sorghum imported through here stays in Tamaulipas or goes to Guadalajara."

> Contaminated sorghum stays in the United States. "I assume it's returned to the dis-

tributors or producers," said de los

Campos said that before the sorghum is moved into Mexican territory, his agency inspects it in Brownsville, where the Mexican government has several sites to inspect an array of products, including agri-

cultural products. Veterans Interna-

tional Bridge is the only route used

in Brownsville, because it is the only

one approved by the Mexican gov-

ernment. The government began to inspect sorghum closely four years ago.

'We trust our government to stop any contaminated sorghum that could pose a danger to our production and livelihood," said Jose Antonio Perez, a sorghum farmer in Matamoros.

He said Tamaulipas produces its own sorghum, with about two million tons produced yearly for about 5,000 sorghum farmers in the Matamoros

Campos said the high season for sorghum imports begins in November and lasts through February. Importers with contaminated sorghum are not fined, he said.

"It's something normal to find contaminated sorghum," Campos said, adding that most of the sorghum imported through here is Texas

for a business he or she would like

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Expansion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"When you are out of money, you can't use it anymore," she said. "There is no kind of charge backs or returned checks."

However, some students prefer to carry a number of cards, including gas, credit and debit.

Heidi Anderson, a junior math major from Allen, said she would probably use TechExpress to get gas, but she already owns a gas card.

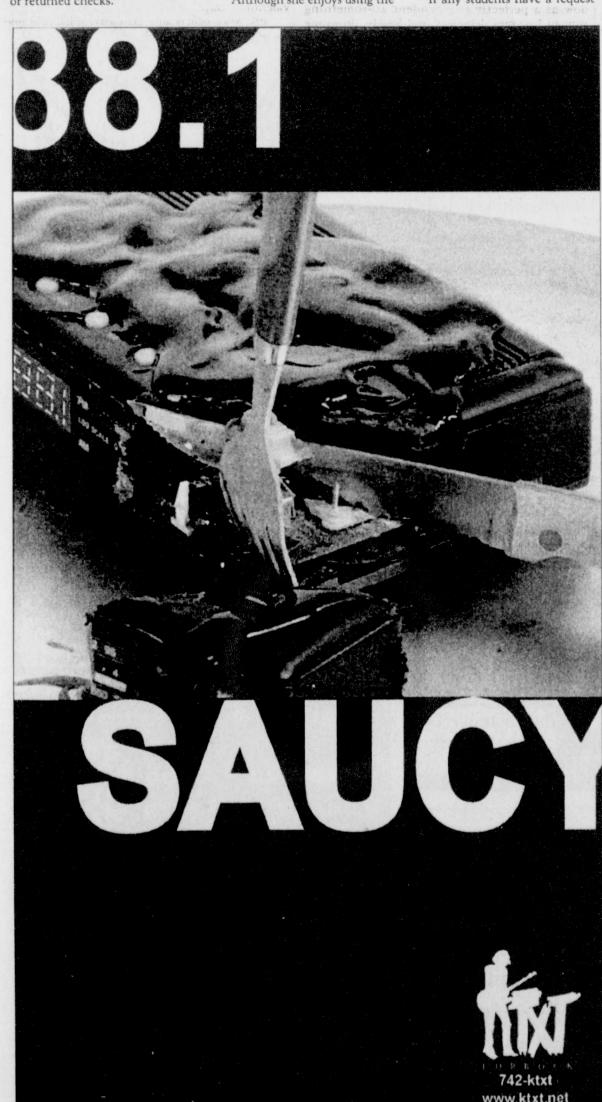
Although she enjoys using the

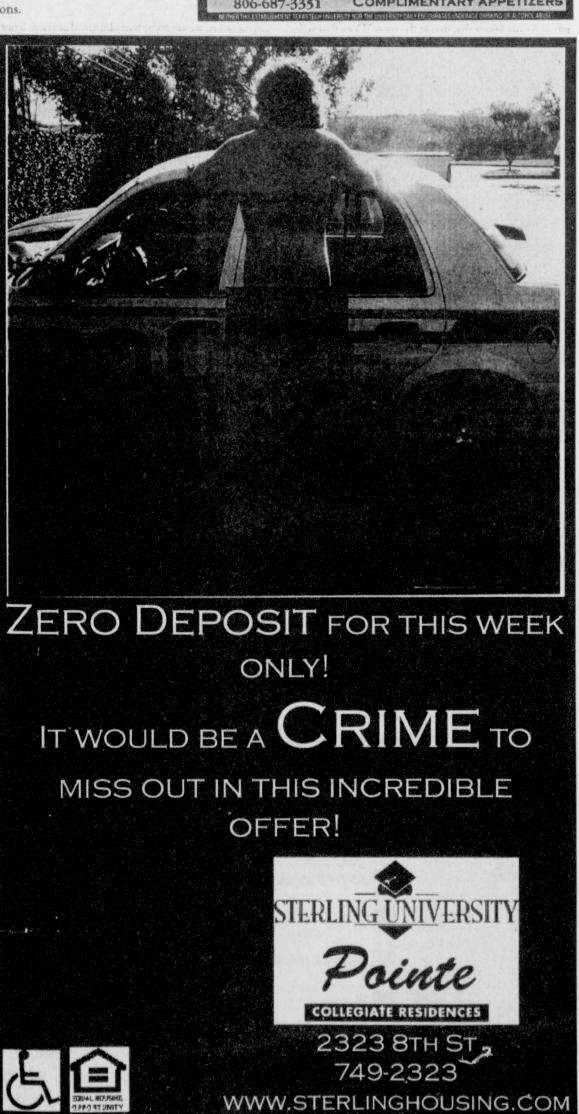
card because it is easily accessible, she said she would like to see more businesses incorporate the card as a method of payment because it is not inclusive enough.

place," Anderson said. If any students have a request

"Wal-Mart would be a good

to see incorporate TechExpress, then Vasquez can be contacted at jaclyn.m.vasquez@wellsfargo.com. She said there is a better opportunity for the business to be contacted when there are more sugges-





ENTREPRENEUR

Tech student markets TowelDRY, sold at United Supermarkets

By Megan LaVoie/The University Daily

atrick Lashford has learned a little something during his first year and a half of entrepreneurship. "A firm handshake and the ability to play golf well will get you a long way in the business world," he said. Lashford, a freshman undecided major from Texarkana, has made large strides in the business world as vice president of the company he co-founded, TowelDRY.

TowelDRY is not only the name of the company, but also the name of the hair product the company sells. "The idea for TowelDRY came about because when you think about it, the product just makes since," he said. TowelDRY is an in-the-shower reusable towel with moisture-drying properties designed to extract excess water out of the hair before the conditioning process.

"Most bottles of conditioner say towel dry hair before use; I don't know anyone who will get out of the shower to dry their hair — this is what the TowelDRY is for," he said.

According to toweldry.com, the benefits of TowelDRY's use is it extracts the water not needed before the conditioning process. With this water gone, the Web site said the individuals hair will look and feel lighter, shinier, healthier and more manageable. TowelDRY also claims to reduce blow-drying time.

Lashford said since starting his business, the experience has been interesting.

"I wouldn't say the experience has been difficult — interesting yes, but difficult no — it has taken a lot of work. I have to wake up a lot at 4 a.m. to talk to manufacturers in Taiwan and China, but its still fun," he said.

Living in a residence hall is a tight squeeze, but Lashford said running a business from his dorm room is an experi-"It's actually kind of fun running TowelDry from my dorm — it's a little crowded and the cell phone reception is

bad and I am constantly on my cell phone; I answer every call day or night," he said. Communication is a key aspect in any workforce, but Lashford said communication is what makes his business

work. "Communication between my partner and I, employees and customers is so important, especially since this product

is getting to the point where it will really make a stand and I think it will," he said. Brandi Arnold, a hairstylist with The Cutting Edge Hair Salon, said she has used the TowelDRy on a few of her customers and has liked the results, but she is more impressed with Lashford's demeanor.

"I think it is awesome that Patrick has created a product like this at such a young age; I wish there were more kids



JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/Staff Photographer

PATRICK LASHFORD, a freshman undecided major from Texarkana, displays TowelDRY, a product he markets through a company he co-founded. TowelDry can be bought at United Supermarkets.

like him," she said.

Penny Truelock, the owner of The Cutting Edge Hair Salon agreed. "You can see the wheels turning in his head; he is polite, courteous and down to earth --- so many kids his age would think that they were all that and then some, but Patrick is very professional," she said.

Since developing TowelDRY, Lashford said he has become fond of the retail and consumer market.

"I can definitely see myself spending the rest of my life working in the retail and consumer market developing TowelDRY and hopefully making it even bigger," he said.

Lashford said he has learned that philosophy and outlook are important to becoming successful.

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door, that is my motto — don't ever throw away something you think could be successful because there is always room for improvement in everything you do," he said.

TowelDRY's can be purchased at all United Supermarkets or at TowelDry.com

Class teaches how Grateful Dead part of traditional, world music

By Nikki Siegrist/ The University Daily

and a lot of music does not seem Grateful Dead fit into greater like the typical class. But "What a Americana," Weiner said. "Also, Long Strange Trip it's been: how the Grateful Dead became a said the class is not just about the America and the Grateful Dead" is part of traditional and world mu- music but also about how it shaped the band, writing and studying. just that and more, said course in- sic."

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Sabrina That 70's

TUESDAY

7:00 Body Elec.

8 :00 Berenstain Barney

10 :00 Sesame Street

11:00 Mr. Rogers Teletubbies

12 :00 Motorweek One Stroke

1 :00 Body Elec. :30 Dragon Tale

2:30 Zoom Betw./Lions

5 :30 Liberty Nightly Bus

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That 70's

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"What I hope to achieve is once a week, beginning today, in was what I wanted to hear." people who take the class leave conjunction with a rock 'n' roll A class with no tests, no books with an understanding of how the movie month with the public li- the Grateful Dead, and he saw them In three hours of class, Weiner

"In low brow tradition, America

them (the band) around was the last Great American Dream," he said.

authored a book entitled "The and other music to compare and Grateful Dead and the Deadheads: an Annotated Bibliography" and edited "Perspectives on the Grateful Dead: Critical Writings."

He first became interested in the group in the '80s at the recommendation of a friend.

"I'd been getting into a lot of bands like REM, and someone recommended them (Grateful Dead). So I took a "Best of" compilation home, and it really hit me inside,"

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The class will meet three times, he said. "It changed my life. This "We're kind of excited

He was 19 when he first heard thing different." live 17 times between 1985 and Weiner has 1991. He said he also devoted seven taught several years working professionally with different

"I'm a student of popular cul- extended ture." he said, "The only thing I'm studies proalways has this tradition of follow- not interested in is sports. Now so ing carnivals around and following much of what goes on in movies and (and popular culture) has a direct result on the culture."

He said most students in the Weiner is a historian. He co- class can expect reading, video clips contrast.

> "The students don't even have to like the Grateful Dead, but I hope by the time they're out of the class they have an application of music in American culture," he

Weiner has taught other classes through the extended studies program and when he pitched his idea to teach a class about a long-lived rock band, his supervisor, MaryRuth Bishop, jumped at the

"I felt like this would be something the students would be interested in," Bishop, the program coordinator for extended studies said.

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about doing some-

classes for the thinks this class will go very well.

"I think it's going to be a lot of fun," she said. "It's something we haven't done before. We are trying to do offer things in conjunction with the library so people can know about different things on in Lubbock."

Weiner's passion for the band is evident, even through his job as a librarian at the Mahon library, coworker Freedonia Pascajll said.

She has known him for more than 10 years and said his love for the Grateful Dead is evident in all

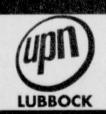
"He's very passionate about

does," she said. "He's very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. He wants to inspire that same love of learning in others. He's always enthusiastic, and I think that leads others to feel

the same enthusiasm." Those wishing to register for the class can call the extended studies program at (806) 742-7200, ext. 270 for more information.



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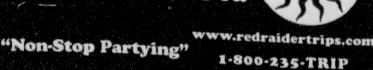
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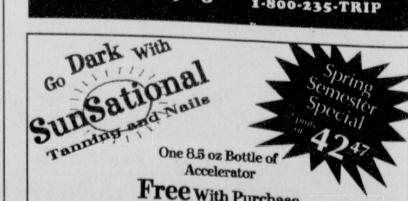
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Butterfly Effect' an intense mind-trip

he first surprise of the year comes from Ahston Kutcher in "The Butterfly Effect," an intense and suspenseful drama that pulls viewers in from the get-go. I know - I wouldn't have believed it,

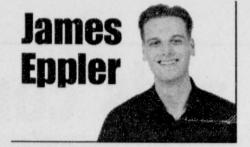
either. The film works as an experimentation of how childhood trauma can affect the

course of people's lives. Several recent films have also dealt with childhood suffering, including the superior "Mystic River" and "Frailty," but "The Butterfly Effect" attempts to deal

with these issues with a certain question in mind: If there were a way that one could venture back in time and change certain events, would everything then work out for good in the future?

Science fiction has dealt with this question for years, but "Butterfly" is still interesting and involving enough to be worth the retread.

Kutcher is Evan Treborn, who as a child suffered from blackouts. The catch, however, is that these blackouts would occur



when something potentially psychologically damaging was about to happen whether it be something he saw or something he was forced to do.

To remedy these blackouts, a doctor suggests Evan keep a journal of his daily activities to help him remember things more clearly. But the power of Evan's mind to try to black out tragedy is too powerful.

We are shown about five different situations that Evan is forced to endure as a child. Evan experiences several of these occurrences with his friends: Tommy and Kayleigh — a brother and sister with a pedophile father (Eric Stoltz) and Lenny —

a chubby kid who is easily influenced.

We are allowed to see only the beginning of the event, and then the film flashes forward to after it has occurred, thereby conveying Evan's blackout to the audi-

The film is often hard to watch in these instances that deal with child sexual abuse and animal cruelty, which may sour some on the film as a whole.

These scenes are handled as tastefully as possible, however, and are central to understanding the characters.

Evan is soon forced by his mom to leave the old neighborhood but tells Kayleigh through a written note, "I'll come back for

We flash forward about six years and all of the friends are college-aged. Evan is a psychology major and hasn't had a blackout since he was a child.

His friends aren't doing as well as he is, though. Kayleigh (Amy Smart) is suicidal, Tommy (William Lee Scott) is homicidal, and Lenny (Elden Henson) is

clinically insane.

When Evan is going through his old belongings, he picks up one of his old journals and reads it. He is suddenly transported back through time and is able to visit one of his buried memories. Not only that, but he is able to make changes to the

When changes are made, he wakes up in the present time again, only to find that everything has changed. His station in life, his relationships with his friends and his friends' lives have all been altered.

But not always for the better.

As good as things may be in one reality, it's never perfect. Each time Evan goes back to change something, someone always suffers in the future.

Evan goes from being a college frat-boy, a prison inmate, a paraplegic and a mental patient, among others.

The film obviously has its flaws in reason but never bothers to explain itself because of its outlandish premise.

You'll either buy into it or you won't.

That same notion goes for Kutcher as a dramatic actor. Some may not be able to release him from his airhead persona. I, on the other hand, decided to give him a chance and was surprised to find that he gave a very strong performance.

Credit writers and directors Eric Bress and J. Mackye Gruber ("Final Destination 2") as well for refusing to take the easy way out with the film's resolution. They resisted the temptation to have one key element in the past change to make Evan's life perfect in the fu-

Life is more complicated than that, and luckily, so is the movie.

EPPLER'S RATING



Eppler is The UD's movie critic. Send comments and questions to James.D.Eppler@ttu.edu.

Michael J. Fox scrubs up for TV return

LOS ANGELES (AP) -Michael J. Fox couldn't resist the lure of television comedy or an executive producer's pleas.

The actor, who left "Spin City" in 2000 after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, guest stars as an inspiring physician in two episodes of the NBC sitcom "Scrubs" beginning this week.

He's reunited with "Spin City" executive producer Bill Lawrence, who admitted to shameless begging to get Fox.

"I told him if he came back to TV and it wasn't 'Scrubs,' I'd kill myself," said Lawrence, executive producer of the NBC series.

When Fox told Lawrence he was feeling good and thinking about series work, he asked if "Scrubs" would be interested in having him. He didn't presume there would be a job for him, Lawrence said.

"That's the kind of guy he is," he

Fox, 42, has devoted much of the last few years to raising money and lobbying for research into his disease, which was diagnosed in 1991 and resulted in symptoms including tremors, stiffness and loss of balance.

The symptoms were not apparent during filming and no accommodation was required for him during production, according to Lawrence and

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research has provided \$35 million for studies and expects to raise \$10 million to \$15 million more by spring.

"It's looking good," Fox, interviewed by NBC, said of research efforts. The work done on Parkinson's overlap with other diseases including Alzheimer's and multiple sclerosis, he

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Feb. 10, 2004

First conference road win adds confidence

By David Wiechmann/ The University Daily

accomplishing something for the first time this season - a conference road win.

Sunday afternoon Texas Tech held off Baylor in the closing seconds of the game to claim its first road win since winning the Surf 'Slam San Diego Classic on December 30. It was a win that showed the team can get things done on the road in the Big 12 Conference and added some much needed confidence for the second half of league play.

"It's always nice to get wins, but especially when the last three road games (have been losses)," said center Jolee Ayers-Curry. "It's nice to 20 out and break that run against a team we were tied with in the standings. It's good to get a road win, especially since it was such a close game, and we've had a couple close ones that haven't gone our way."

Tech is now 20-3 overall and 6-3 in conference play. The Lady Raiders' losses came at Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Texas, and the average margin of loss was 3.7 points. The Iowa State and Oklahoma State losses were by one point.

Against Baylor, Tech found itself down 59-58 with seconds left in the game. Sophomore dence (because) all our games have been close, blocks short of tying the career record at Tech.

rebound and put it back up off the glass to take a 60-59 lead with 32 seconds left in the game. The Lady Raiders will play tonight after A LaToya Davis steal on the defensive side put her on the free-throw line when she was promptly fouled by a Baylor player.

Davis toed the line as a 49 percent freethrow shooter on the season and drained them both to go up by three. Baylor had a shot to send the game to overtime, but the 3-point at-

tempt clanged off the rim giving Tech the win. It was those two clutch performances that gave Tech the win and might have proved the team could step up when it absolutely needed to.

"Chesley had a huge rebound at the end. Obviously, 'Toya hitting those free throws was huge for us, especially in a game when we haven't been shooting free throws very well," Ayers-Curry said. "That's comforting to know we have people who are willing and able to step up in those pressure situations, and that's something we're gonna need for Big 12 games."

Tech was 3-of-9 from the free-throw line before Davis forced Baylor to attempt a 3-pointer. Oklahoma team that has struggled this sea-

Dabbs who eight points and seven rebounds in the win at Baylor said by having people step up in the clutch and just getting a road win does more than boost the team's confidence.

"I think definitely it helps with our confi-

guard Chesley Dabbs pulled down an offensive and I think it will help us to learn the clock management, who to get the ball to and running plays and things like that so I think it will not only help us in our confidence but also the learning aspect of it," she said.

The win, in a way separates the contenders for the conference title with Tech being alone in fourth place now. Tech and Baylor were tied for the position before Sunday. Now Texas and Kansas State sit atop the league with one loss apiece, and Colorado has two with a loss to Kansas State this weekend. The thought of separation is something the team believes is happening and would like to see the race for the title get even tighter.

"I definitely think it's separating itself out, but at the same time I don't think we can say any one team will have one loss or two because in the Big 12 day in and day out there's not one team you can slip up on and win," Dabbs said. "I think we still are definitely in the race, but winning out is what we have to do."

Winning out will have to start with an son and dropped out of the Top 25 last week. The Sooners are 14-6 (4-5). Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at the United Spirit Arena. Tech center Cisti Greenwalt has an opportunity to put her name on top of the record books. She is five



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

FRESHMAN GUARD ALESHA Robertson drives around Aquanita Burras of Kansas during Tech's 67-44 win over the Jayhawks on Wednesday night. The No. 7 Lady Raiders will play host to Oklahoma at 7 p.m. in the United Spirit Arena. Robertson was named Big 12 Rookie of the Week for her performances at Baylor (25 points and 10 rebounds) and home against Kansas (12 points and five rebounds). She had five 3-pointers against Baylor to help Tech to its first conference road game of the season. Center Cisti Greenwalt needs five blocks to tie the career

fourth team of season atop

AUSTIN (AP) — Welcome back to No. 1, Jody Conradt and the Texas beaten six ranked teams, including Longhorns. It's been a long time.

in the Associated Press women's bas- the Longhorns vault to their first ketball rankings Monday for the first No. 1 ranking since star Jamie time since Dec. 28, 1987, another step Carey was 7 years old. in a rebuilding process that has lifted Conradt's program back among the but I'm not surprised that they are sport's elite.

is a good team," said Conradt, enjoy- with Conradt are the only women's ing a resurgence that began when she gave up adminstrative duties to return to full-time coaching three seasons me last year. Watching them in the ago. "This is a team that I think de- Final Four, I thought they were a serves some recognition for their hard great team. Being at the receiving work and talent.'

women's game, Texas was surpassed Summitt said. nationally by Tennessee and Connecticut, and by Texas Tech within its own 47 first-place votes, with No. 2 conference, in the 1990s. At the time, Connecticut getting the rest. Conradt was doing double duty as coach and women's athletic director.

since she returned to coaching fulltime in 2001. The Longhorns were within two points of reaching the NCAA finals last year, losing to eventual champion Connecticut in the Final Four.

This season, Texas already has No. 3 Tennessee and No. 4 Duke. Texas (21-2) took over the top spot Losses by both those teams helped

"I'm surprised it's been that long, in that position now," said Tennes-"I've been feeling for a while this see coach Pat Summitt, who along coaches with more than 800 wins.

"They made an impression on end of their play here ... I thought Once the standard bearer for the they were even better this year,"

The Longhorns received 29 of

Conradt congratulated her team before practice Monday, then quickly The program has been rising ever changed the mood by writing on a chalkboard the next six opponents: Texas A&M, No. 12 Colorado, No. 7 Texas Tech, No. 18 Baylor, No. 9 Kansas State and Oklahoma.

> "That gets you back to reality," Conradt said.

Women's Basketball **Associated Press Top 25**

Rank/Team

Record Prvs

1. Texas(29)	21-2	3
2. UConn(18)	18-2	4
3. Tennessee	19-2	1
4. Duke	18-3	2
5. Purdue	19-2	6
6. La. Tech	17-2	8
7. TexasTech	20-3	9
8. PennSt.	18-4	5
9. KansasSt.	17-3	10
10. Minnesota	18-3	13
11. Stanford	17-5	7
12. Colorado	18-3	11
13. DePaul	20-2	15
14. Auburn	18-5	19
15. UNC	18-4	12
16. LSU	18-4	14
17. MichiganSt.	18-4	20
18. Baylor	17-5	17
19. Georgia	16-6	16
20. Florida		24
21. VirginiaTech	17-4	21
22. TCU	18-4	18
23. SWMissouris		25
24. Arizona		NR
25. Houston	19-3	NR
() is number of first place votes Bold is Big 12 Conference teams		

Texas women claim AP Poll, Men's tennis team drops to 2-1, weather postpones match

The Sunshine State failed to live up to its name Friday when the Texas Tech men's tennis team was set to face Central Florida for its third match of the season.

Due to the inclement weather conditions, Tech was unable make a flight into Florida so the match was rescheduled for 1 p.m. Monday in Orlando, Fla. Results were not available at presstime.

However, Tech did make the journey to Tallahassee, Fla., where the Red Raiders faced the No. 36 team in the

nation, Florida State, on Sunday. Going into the match with a 2-0 record, Tech lost its first match of the 2004 season after falling 1-2 in doubles action and 2-4 in singles play.

Junior Jakob Paulsen played in the No. 1 spot for Tech against Mat Cloer, ranked 29th in the country, and did not manage to come out on top. In the No. 2 position, freshman Bojan Szumanski, beat Jonathas Sucupira, while junior Esat Tanik lost to Jeff Groslimondin in the No.3 spot.

FSU's Chip Webb defeated Tech's Dinko Halachev at the No. 4 spot. Junior Michael Innerebner just came off an injury and was beat by Chris Westerhof in the No.5 spot. The No. 6 player for Tech, freshman Dimitrio Martinez, was the only other Red Raider with success after beating Jarrod Owen.

Szumanski and Tanik teamed up for Tech's No. 1 doubles team and lost to Groslimond and Westerhof, the No. 15 duo in the nation. Paulsen and Halachev lost to Sucupira and Cloer at the No. 2 spot while freshman Teddy DiBlasi and Innerebner won against Joe Bassett and Webb.

Tech will play their next match against Texas-Arlington in Lubbock at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22.

Soccer team inks 10 for 2004 campaign

ing three players from its long roster before the 2004 season to graduation. Since national signing day on Feb. 5, Tech has had 10 athletes wanting to consecutively. Defender Alexis Aton, compete against each other for those of Collevville High School in Grapetop positions.

After finishing the 2003 season with an overall record of 3-13-1, Tech is looking to these individuals to help the struggling program.

Among the new signees, the Red Raiders picked up five defenders, three forwards, one goalkeeper and one midfielder.

Recruit Priscilla Esquivel from Fort

The Texas Tech soccer team is los- her senior year at Fossil Ridge High School. The single midfielder, Grapevine-native Lauren Lothrop, was named to first-team honors three years vine, helped lead her team to the area championships in 2001 through 2003.

Tina Rincon will compete for the starting position as goalkeeper for the Raiders after being named the all-region goalkeeper while playing at Creekview High School in Carrollton. Plano West High School defender Kim Gentry has played all four years in high school and joins club team-Worth was a first-team all-district mate Ashley Reed of Aledo, who was player in 2002 and the varsity captain named district MVP in 2002 and tinue until August 1.

2003. Reed will play forward.

Recruit Amy Mathiak played at Cinco Ranch High School in Katy where she earned first-team all-district along with the defensive MVP as a Two Allen High School defenders,

Whitney Almand and Jacklyn Ferguson, signed with Tech to play in the fall as well. The only player that comes from

outside of the state of Texas is Jenifer Thomas. This forward from Greeley, Colo., was ranked fourth in the state in scoring with 24 goals and 15 assists her junior year.

The spring signing period will con-

WOODSCAPE APARTMENT

Read The UD online at www.universitydaily.net, E-mail the sports desk at sports@universitydaily.net.

Fitzgerald declares himself eligible for NFL

Fitzgerald finally made the decision clared eligible for the draft. everyone expected: to enter the NFL draft.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Larry ment came four days after he was de-

Fitzgerald, who will turn 21 in August, is projected to go early in the The Heisman Trophy runner-up draft. Though the receiver played just said Monday that he would forgo two seasons with the Panthers, that his collegiate career at Pittsburgh was enough time for him to break sevto turn professional. His announce- eral school and NCAA records.

"The main reason people come to college is to better your chances of making a living, and I think that my two years that I've had here, I've given myself a good opportunity to make a good living ... for myself and to support my family," Fitzgerald said.

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