



RAIN/SNOW
High 48 / Low 34
Tomorrow:
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The University Daily

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"We believe the sentencing to be fair. It sends the appropriate fair message. We will not tolerate financial shenanigans."

— BOB WEBSTER, assistant U.S. attorney

Butler gets two years in prison

By Sally Gunter and photos by David Johnson/The University Daily

U.S. District Judge Sam R. Cummings sentenced Dr. Thomas Butler to 24 months in prison and fines totaling more than \$58,000 Wednesday.

A jury found Butler guilty Dec. 1 of 47 of the 69 counts against him in association with 30 missing vials of the bubonic plague in January 2003. He was found guilty of counts including mail and wire fraud, embezzlement and the unauthorized export and transportation of hazardous materials.

Before being read his sentence, Butler addressed the court, offering to use his medical knowledge to aid the South Plains Food Bank with its dehydrated food program for third world countries.

"I humbly ask that you sentence me to community service and no prison time," he said. "Please let me continue helping people."

The six days he spent in prison were "painful" for Butler and his family, he said. Prison time would only cause more pain.

"Be lenient with me in allowing me to remain with my family doing community service," Butler said.

Butler said he never imagined his work would lead him to "criminal procedures and trial."

In a settlement in January, Butler agreed to pay the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center \$250,000 for fraud of research funds, and to retired from his position within the university. He also surrendered his Texas medical license.

Cummings approved the defense's request for a downward departure, giving himself the discretion to determine how far below the maximum 87 to 108 months in prison Butler would serve.

During his reasoning, Cummings said the "conduct occurred on one occasion" and not during a repeated number of instances. Butler's interest was not "in evil or terrorist intent," but Cummings said in the pursuit of medical reasons for research.



CHUCK MEADOWS, Dr. Thomas Butler's long-time friend and defense attorney, speaks to the media outside the Federal Building before breaking into tears and walking away.

Floyd Holder, defense attorney for Butler, said Cummings gave the lowest possible fine under the penalty.

"As a lawyer, I am very happy for what it did, but I'm sorry that my client is going to wind up having to go to prison," Holder said. "But it's not going to be near as long as what he was looking at this morning."

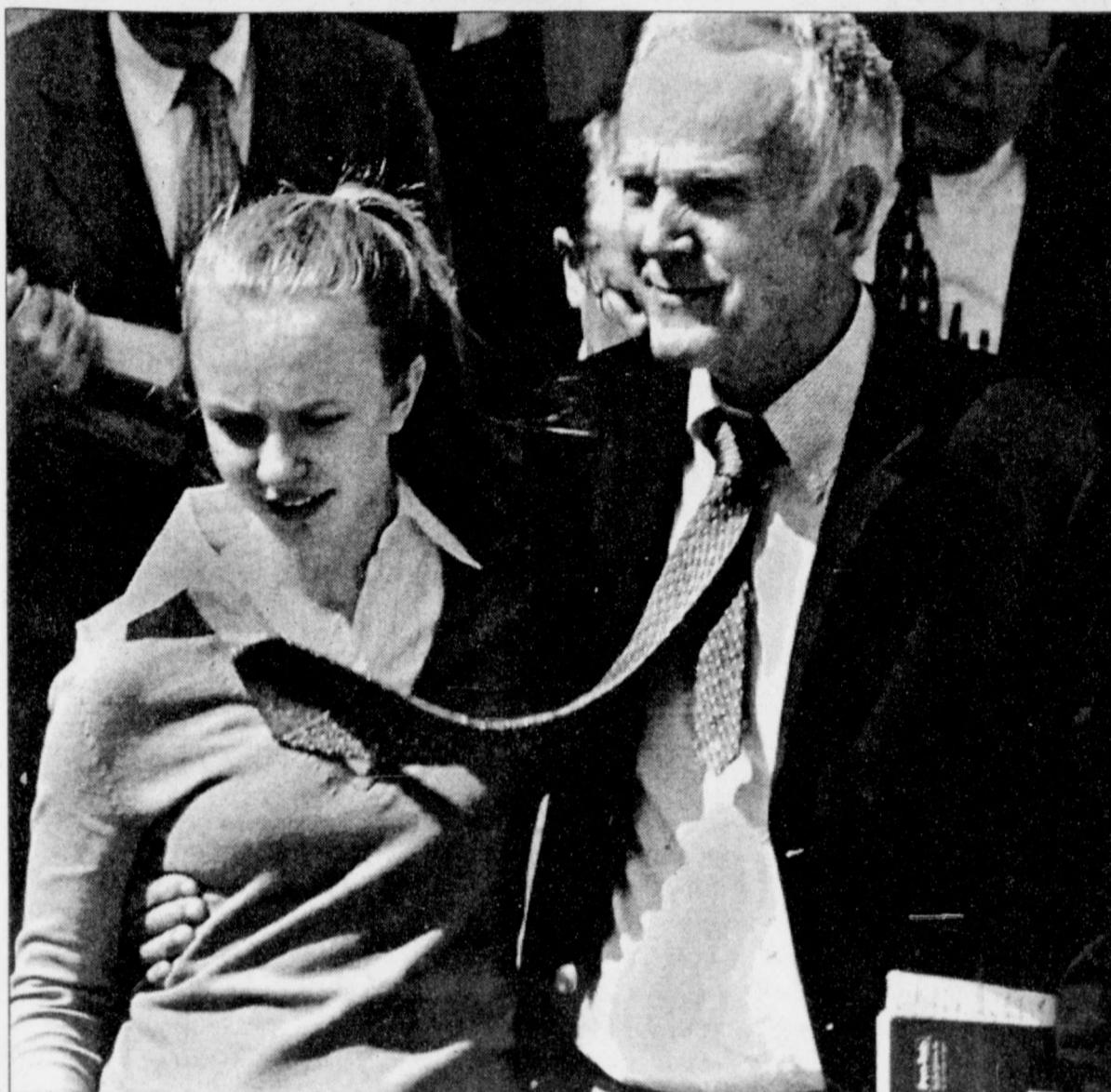
The defense called three witnesses during the hearing to testify on behalf of the character and medical motivation of Butler.

Butler's oldest son, Thomas Butler, said his father should not be separated from his family and three younger siblings. His father was dedicated to the medical profession and did not do anything out of greed, Thomas Butler said.

"He was not out to pad his bank account," he said. "He spent his entire adult life trying to find cures."

A former colleague from John Hopkins School of Education, William B. Greenough, said the places where Butler has done medical research takes a rare person because of the lack of resources.

"I have not had a single colleague say a thing negative



FORMER HSC PROFESSOR Dr. Thomas Butler walks out of the Federal Building on Wednesday afternoon with his arm around his daughter. Butler was sentenced to 24 months in prison and fined \$58,000. Butler was convicted Dec. 1 of 47 of the 69 counts against him in association with 30 missing vials of the bubonic plague in January 2003.

BUTLER continued on page 5

BUTLER TIMELINE

Jan. 14: Vials of bubonic plague reported missing at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center.
Jan. 15: Dr. Thomas Butler arrested for making a false statement to the FBI
Jan. 21: Butler arraigned, released from jail, banned from HSC.
April 10: Butler indicted on 15 counts.
Sept. 3: Butler indicted on 54 additional counts.

Sept. 25: Judge allows Butler's confession in trial.
Nov. 3: Trial begins.
Nov. 25: Jury begins deliberation process.
Dec. 1: Butler found guilty of 47 of the 69 counts.
March 10: Butler sentenced to 24 months, fined more than \$58,000

Administration

Tech parking to get worse before better

By Michael Castellon/
The University Daily

Parking at Texas Tech is expected to get much worse before it gets any better.

Issues involving parking at Texas Tech have always been a hot topic at the university, and Traffic and Parking officials are expecting the debate to get hotter.

Director of Traffic and Parking Buddy Knox told the university's Faculty Senate on Wednesday to expect access to the university to be more difficult in coming years, starting this summer.

"As construction begins on the Texas Tech Parkway, we're anticipating 969 parking spaces to be lost," he said.

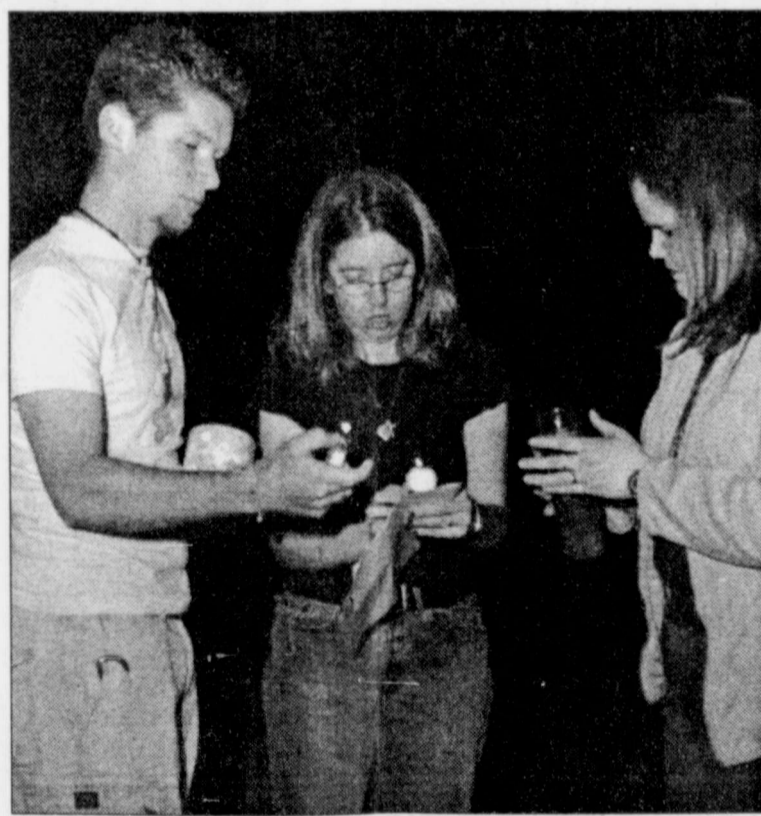
In addition to losing nearly 1,000 spaces, officials are expecting at least 1,000 new customers as the result of

parking spaces being lost at the former Town and Country Shopping Center, located just north of Jones SBC Stadium. Currently, many students and faculty park in the lots free of charge to avoid buying parking permits. Knox expects those displaced by the razing of the lot to add to the university's burden of accommodating commuter drivers.

"It's obvious to me we need to build another vertical parking garage," he said. "But we have yet to find any big donors who want their name attached to a parking garage. We can't start building it until revenue starts coming in."

Other issues involving parking and access include the closing of Indiana Avenue between 4th Street and 19th Street. Construction of the Marsha Sharp Freeway and Tech Parkway will

PARKING continued on page 5



HUTCH STILGENBAUER/The University Daily
KEVIN SISK, A freshman engineering and physics major from Arlington, lights the candles for Kristin Pyle, a sophomore human development and family studies major from Houston, and Amy Cook, a freshman industrial engineering major from Arlington, at the Tech Students For Life candlelight vigil at Memorial Circle.

Student Affairs

Group hosts vigil in support of pro life

By Andrew Bell/The University Daily

Six members from Texas Tech's Students for Life held a candlelight vigil in honor of people who they say have died unjustly Wednesday night in Memorial Circle.

Although the vigil focused primarily on aborted fetuses, the organization also held the vigil for people who have been euthanized and those put to death by the state, said Cheryl Williams, president of the organization.

"We are a 100 percent pro-life organization," she said. "We seek to defend life from conception and natural death."

The primary purpose of the organization is to bring a pro-life voice to Tech and create an active discussion of the subject in the process, Williams said.

The vigil began when Kristen Pyle, a junior human development and family studies major from Houston, read statistics about abortion in the United States.

According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, about 1.4 million abortions occur annually in the United States. Of those, Pyle said, 88 percent occur six to 12 weeks after conception. Another 17,000 occur after 21 weeks of pregnancy.

VIGIL continued on page 5

Public Affairs

Queers, allies protesting judge's ruling today

STUDENT SUPPORT: Tech club to protest with Gay Straight Alliance at Federal Building.

By Brittany Fish/Contributing Writer

"Saturday Night Live" made a parody of the Gay Straight Alliance in Lubbock, but to Joseph Pizano, this issue is no joke.

Pizano, a junior retail major from Corpus Christi and historian for Texas Tech's Queers and Allies, said a group like the GSA is important for students of high school age.

Last week, U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings ruled in favor of the Lubbock Independent School District regarding the lawsuit with the GSA.

Cummings ruled LISD did not infringe on the First Amendment Rights or the Equal Access Act of the Lubbock High School GSA when LISD would not allow the group to meet on school property.

Skip Watson, spokesman for LISD, declined

to comment to *The University Daily*.

To oppose this ruling, Pizano said Queers and Allies is helping The Rainbow Project with a protest at 4 p.m. today in front of the George Mahon Federal Building, located at 1205 Texas Ave.

"Too many kids at that age question their sexuality, and I think they need a venue to go to," Pizano said.

He is not surprised this happened in Lubbock, he said.

"I think with the mindset of the majority of people in Lubbock, it makes something like this more likely to happen," Pizano said.

Cummings released a statement outlining his reasoning for the decision and saying he ruled as he did because of the sexual content of the group's Web site.

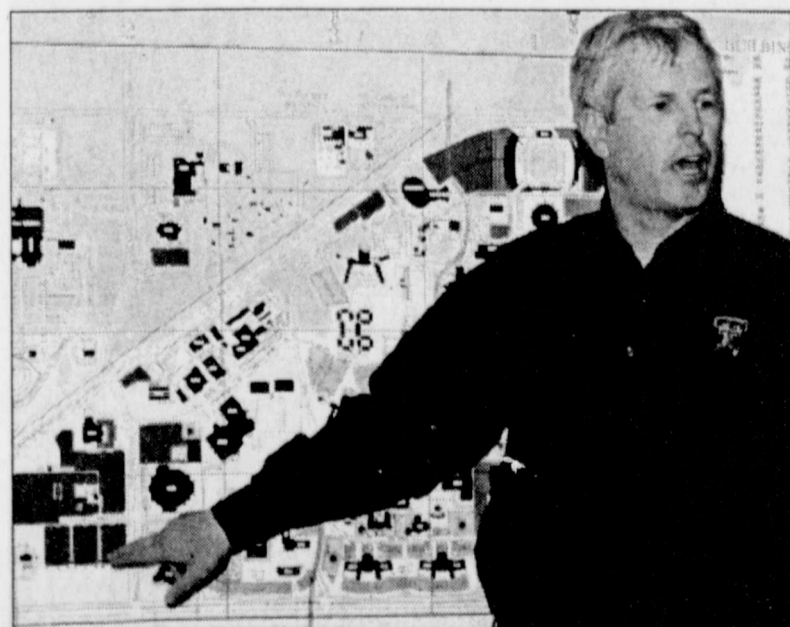
"In summation, this case has nothing to do with a denial of rights to students because of their sexual viewpoints," Cummings said in his statement. "It is instead an assertion of a school's right not to surrender control of the public school system to students and erode a community's standard of what subject matter is considered obscene and inappropriate. At some point, a line must be drawn that considers the proper subject matter allowed in the schools of this city."

Lucas Schneider, a junior public relations major from Austin, said he can see why there is resistance to the group.

"I can understand the parents wanting to shelter their kids from that, but they should have the right to voice their opinion on campus in a decent manner," Schneider said.

Cummings in his statement disagreed and added the ruling would have been the same had a

PROTEST continued on page 5



ANDREW WEATHERL/The University Daily

DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC and Parking Buddy Knox discusses gains and losses in parking spots during the Faculty Senate meeting Wednesday afternoon in the Electrical Engineering building.

TECH TALK

QUOTE OF THE DAY



FLOYD HOLDER
Defense Attorney
for Dr. Thomas
Butler, the HSC
professor who was
convicted of 47
felonies

“As a lawyer, I am very happy for what it did, but I’m sorry that my client is going to wind up having to go to prison. But it’s not going to be near as long as what he was looking at this morning.”

Critics of B-on-Time loan program raise concerns about effectiveness

EL PASO (AP) — Adrian Garcia could certainly use some help paying for college.

Garcia and his wife have a 21-month-old son, a house payment and two cars. He must work full time while pursuing a double major in political science and communications at the University of Texas at El Paso.

“It’s tough,” said Garcia, 24, who already has about \$10,000 in student loan debt. “It takes a lot of faith in God to be able to manage our time and be able to go to school. It takes a lot of discipline.”

Though he could use assistance, he won’t qualify for the full benefits of a new state program that offers zero-interest loans — or forgiveness of debt altogether — to full-time students who get good grades and graduate on time.

The fact that needy students such as Garcia typically can’t take full class loads is a major shortcoming of the “B-On-Time” program, critics say.

“I do feel that our students, many

of whom are commuter students and work as single parents, won’t be able to meet the criteria for the loan forgiveness,” said Linda Fossen, associate vice president for enrollment planning at the University of Texas-Brownsville, and Texas Southmost College, which have a combined enrollment of 10,600.

The program, which started this year, provides no-interest loans that are forgiven for full-time students who graduate in the normal time with at least a ‘B’ average. What’s considered a normal amount of time depends on the degree; it’s typically four or five years.

State Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, who sponsored the bill that created the program, said it will help students get an affordable education, get on with their careers and create room for more students.

Others say it’s a good deal despite any problems.

Karen Krause, University of Texas at Arlington director of financial aid,

noted a provision in the law allowing some students to receive loan forgiveness even if it takes longer than the normal time. Under the provision, students can qualify as long as they don’t have more than six credit hours over what’s required for the degree.

“At the worst, it’s still a zero-interest loan,” she said.

That doesn’t, however, change the 12-hour-per-semester requirement.

The program is expected to provide about \$22 million in loans for 2004 and \$34 million in 2005 to a total estimated 27,000 students, said Lois Hollis, Higher Education Coordinating Board assistant commissioner for student services.

The loans over the next two years will come from savings reaped when another student loan program was refinanced. Long-term funding will come from skimming 5 percent of recent and future tuition increases at public universi-

The Rundown



Teen’s body found at South Padre Island

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) — The body of a teenager who apparently drowned has been recovered from South Padre Island waters as annual spring break festivities get under way.

The body of Johathan Hawes, of Alamo, was pulled from the Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday afternoon, Cameron County Park Police said.

Hawes was swimming with friends Tuesday when he disappeared under the waves about 12:30 p.m. A red flag had been posted to warn swimmers of dangerous conditions.

Coast Guard and park police searched with a helicopter and boat for 3 1/2 hours before finding the body near the jetties that separate the beach from the Brownsville Ship Channel.

Another body was found Tuesday, but the man’s body was found on a remote stretch of beach miles north of town and did not appear to be spring break-related, park police Chief Gus Reyna said. His identity remained unknown Wednesday.

Reyna said Hawes’ death is the first spring break drowning in memory in the county-operated section of the beach.

While he did not have an exact total, city police Chief Robert Rodriguez said drownings sometimes occur during spring break.

“Sometimes we have one, maybe two,” he said. “It just depends on the situations.”

Public schools in Rio Grande Valley are out this week for spring break, and local high school students are a large part of the island’s yearly flood of revelers.

“Texas Week,” the biggest week for the island, starts Friday when the state’s college and university campuses take their spring break.

Dan Quant of the South Padre Island Visitor and Convention Bureau said the island expected 100,000 visitors during March.

“We’ve got a pretty good-sized week going on right now,” he said. “Compared to last year, this year’s going to be much stronger. Last year we had the slow economy and war was breaking out with Iraq.”

NYU student jumps off high-rise building

NEW YORK (AP) — A 19-year-old New York University student committed suicide by jumping from a high-rise roof, the fourth student to die in a plunge this academic year, officials said.

Diana Chien, a transfer student from California, jumped from the 24-story, off-campus building Saturday, officials said. The city medical examiner ruled her death a suicide.

University officials notified students of Chien’s death via e-mail Monday.

“People are sort of angry and bitter,” freshman Dana Delger told *The New York Times* for a story in Wednesday editions. “They don’t understand why this keeps happening.”

The New York Post tabloid published a front-page photo of Chien’s plunge off the building, and university officials said Wednesday the decision to rerun the photo worsened the community’s pain.

The photograph was used inside the newspaper Sunday with a story quoting witnesses to the woman’s fall.

It was republished Wednesday on the front page with Chien’s identity.

“Given that this had already been in the paper once, it seems to show an appalling lack of judgment and insensitivity to the young woman’s family and a disregard for the feelings of students at NYU,” university spokesman John Beckman said.

Post spokeswoman Suzi Halpin declined to comment.

The newspaper’s Sunday edition quoted the photographer, Scott Schwartz, saying the person in the photograph had her back to the street when she leaped and stayed completely still as she fell.

“I saw one shoe go flying into the air after the impact,” Schwartz said.

Former U.N. official arrives in Haiti to lead

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Gerard Latortue, a former U.N. official chosen to lead Haiti out of political turmoil, returned from the United States Wednesday to begin the arduous task of building a government. Loyalists of the former president said they wouldn’t accept him.

His arrival came as the U.S. military announced an escalation in its mission in the Caribbean nation, promising Marines will move quickly to stop Haitian-against-Haitian violence.

“They will intervene to protect life,” Gen. James T. Hill, commander of U.S. Southern Command, told reporters at the Pentagon.

Since Sunday, Marines have killed at least four Haitians, including a driver who sped toward a checkpoint and a gunman who fired on an anti-Aristide demonstration. On Tuesday, the American troops shot to death two Haitians who opened fire near the outgoing prime minister’s private residence.

After walking off a plane that brought him from Florida, Latortue shook hands with police officers and embraced relatives and friends. He was also greeted by members of a council that chose him to be the new prime minister.

Once central President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, he has said his first priority will be to unite a population divided between those who oppose the former leader and supporters who want to see him returned to power.

Aristide fled Feb. 29 amid international pressure to step down and a bloody rebellion that left more than 300 dead. The once popular slum priest, elected on promises to champion the poor, lost support as Haitians accused his government of corruption and attacks against his political opponents.

In the Central African Republic, Aristide still maintained he is the legitimate leader of Haiti and that U.S. officials forced him from office. On Wednesday, his lawyers said they were preparing cases accusing authorities in the United States and France of abducting him and forcing him into exile.

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Authorities give travel tips for Raiders on the go

By Andrew Bell/
The University Daily

Texas Tech students will embark on a mass exodus from the campus Friday to a number of destinations throughout the world for spring break. Whether by road or plane, every student should know helpful tips to make their vacations run smoothly.

Stephen Maddox, a travel consultant for Envoye Travel, said many students have come by his office to set up trips to places across the Western Hemisphere. The vast majority is headed to Cancun, Mexico, for spring break. Although some students will head to Las Vegas, South Padre and the Caribbean, many will be going south of the border for rest and relaxation.

This means many students will have to board a plane to make it to their destination. Norman Michael, a stakeholder liaison for the Transportation Security Administration, gave some tips students should follow to make sure their trips through the airport is quick and worry-free.

Before any student can board a

plane, he or she will need to retrieve a boarding pass and check any baggage. At every airport, there is a one plus one rule for baggage, Michael said. Each individual can have one carry-on and one personal handbag on an airplane.

Any more baggage can slow down the process and become a hassle for passengers. Excess baggage would need to be checked at the front desk, and the process could cost valuable time for people who need to board, Michael said.

To prevent this problem from occurring, anyone leaving the airport should arrive an hour and a half before departure, he said.

Amber Layton, operations supervisor of Lubbock International Airport, said for international flights, students should arrive two hours early.

"Contrary to popular belief," she said, "Canada and Mexico are not part of the United States."

As students approach the screening process, Michael said many tips can make the process run more smoothly.

Students should remove any me-

tallic items from their pockets and place them in carry-on bags. A new process, called the second pass, will begin during spring break for students who forget this. Instead of being screened by the hand wand, students will be given the opportunity to remove additional items from their pockets and go through the screening process again, Michael said.

Additional items attached to key chains could also cause screening problems. Pepper spray and small pocketknives cannot be carried on any flight, Michael said.

If a friend is seeing a student leave, the materials could be given to that person. Otherwise, students could use the airport mailroom to mail the object to themselves or give up the object to the authorities and have them destroy it, Michael said.

Disabled people also will be given options to ensure the quickness of

their airport process. If a traveler has a metal rod in his back, he is welcome to ask for special treatment. The person can go around the screening device and go into a private room to be tested by a hand wand.

Since students will want to take pictures, Michael said, and many will be taking cameras and film with them. To ensure the film makes it through the trip, students should not put unexposed film in checked baggage.

Michael said the checked baggage X-ray is more powerful than the X-ray used for carry-on bags. The X-rays would damage any film containing more than 800 ASA film speed. Students should place the film in a plastic bag and have the screener check the film by hand. This prevents students from spending more on film when they arrive at their destinations.

Most importantly, Michael said, students should not start the party before going to the airport. The airport has the right to not give a boarding pass to someone who is drunk.

This advice also goes for any students who will be traveling by road. Lt. Steve Shatley of the Texas Highway Patrol said students should avoid alcohol while driving.

For Tech students traveling by road, Shatley said they should watch their speeds and always wear a seat belt.

If the road conditions are unfavorable, students should slow down because the number on the speed limit sign is only for ideal weather conditions. Most of the car-crash deaths in the South Plains occur when an individual is thrown out of the car for not wearing a seat belt, Shatley said. Even in the back seat, passengers should wear seat belts.

"The passenger in the back seat can become a projectile in the event of a crash," he said.

Students driving to the Dallas/Fort Worth area or Houston should be wary of highway hypnosis. Any

student who will be driving for an extended period of time should pull over and get a soft drink every two hours or so.

Even if someone on the road is not drinking alcohol, their driving could resemble intoxicated driving when using a cell phone. Shatley said the concentration level of people who drive while using them drops to the level of a drunk driver.

Whether by air or land, Shatley said everyone needs to be careful and return to Lubbock safely.



West Nile danger diminished but still here

By Beth Aaron/
The University Daily

At least two Texas Tech students contracted West Nile virus in 2003, one of whom almost died from the disease.

West Nile is not supposed to be as prevalent in March, but the upcoming months could be potent, said Joe Vargas, vector control supervisor for the Lubbock Health Department.

"Right now, we don't know what kind of year we're going to have," he said. "We expect it to be in the same manner as last year, because of all the rainfall we've had."

West Nile is a viral infection that is transmitted into the bloodstream by infected mosquitoes. The virus is dangerous because it can potentially wreak havoc on the central nervous system.

Last year, the Lubbock Health Department reported at least 46 confirmed cases of West Nile locally.

Mosquitoes typically begin breeding

in April when the weather is warmer. In March, it is often too cold for the larva.

The city of Lubbock tries to prevent the spread of West Nile by spraying for mosquitoes, covering the city every seven to eight days and adding chemicals to kill any larva found in bodies of water around the city, Vargas said.

Because it has been so wet in Lubbock lately, Vargas said the health department may begin spraying for mosquito larva as early as May.

The Health Department is trying to educate the public about how to prevent mosquito breeding grounds, Vargas said.

"Any help that they could give us would be much appreciated," he said. "Most of the mosquitoes were coming from artificial containers."

People should make sure there is no standing water around homes in reservoirs such as bird baths or water dishes.

In an interview last semester, Ron Warner, doctor of veterinary medicine, said students can protect themselves by

using insect repellent often and on all uncovered skin and keeping grass short.

"This thing is 100 percent preventable if people will just use DEET," Warner said. "It's like not picking up your car keys when you've had too much to drink. Just use common sense."

Warner encouraged people to keep in mind the 4 Ds.

"Don't go out at dusk or dawn, dress in long sleeves and pants, drain standing water and wear DEET," he said.

Symptoms of the virus include a fever of 103 degrees or higher, neck stiffness, muscle weakness, and disoriented behavior. Anyone with these symptoms should see a physician immediately.

West Nile Virus has spread rapidly west across the United States since it was introduced to the western hemisphere in 1999. It was brought over by birds, and mosquitoes get the virus when they bite an infected bird. In four years, the disease was detectable throughout the entire continent.

Alleged hazing incident sends two Baylor students to hospital

WACO (AP) — Two Baylor University fraternity pledges suffered serious but not life-threatening injuries as a result of performing extensive physical activity without rest or water breaks, the university said Wednesday.

Both students were hospitalized as a result of the alleged hazing, and one remains hospitalized, Baylor spokesman Larry Brumley said.

The fraternity, Kappa Omega Tau, has been suspended pending a full investigation, Brumley said. "Baylor also took the unusual step of ending the pledge period for

all fraternities," he said.

The pledge period was halted late Tuesday. It had been scheduled to run through Friday.

Baylor's department of student activities was notified of the alleged hazing by one of the victims' relatives late Monday. Officials from Baylor's judicial affairs office and student activities department conducted an initial investigation Tuesday before suspending Kappa Omega Tau.

Baylor plans to convene a task force in the next few weeks to assess the fraternity pledging process, Brumley said.

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Downsizing McDonald's supersize good move

As a native Texan, I grew up with the idea that bigger was better. Big hair, big cars and even big food were the ingredients for a happy life.

As Americans we live in a world of excess, shrouded by a blanket separating us from starving children in third-world countries. In our sheltered world of convenience, it is easier to just "Biggie Size" it than actually do anything to help others; flawed logic exists in the theory that if we eat extra, it will make up for those who do not get to eat at all. Those who suffer from malnutrition won't get the fries we don't eat anyway, right?

On March 2, McDonald's took a step in the right direction with its announcement by the end of the year the franchise will no longer offer its Supersize food and drink portions. Say goodbye to that 7-oz, 28-grams-of-fat fry and the colossal 42-fluid ounce soda because they are slowly going to be phased out.

Perhaps it is a stretch to say this decision is altruistic. After all, the chain children love was just faced with legal action when one group of kids claimed their bad health was the franchise's fault. This could just be a public relations move.

Some customers are even screaming conspiracy complaining this is a plot to get overeaters to buy two fries, instead of simply Supersizing. And, that oversized drink is always cheaper than smaller sizes, so McDonald's will make money off the deal.

But despite the criticism, this action will help curb America's obesity problem. It also sends a message that there is hope for our to downsize its excess in all aspects. The Supersize demise coupled with Mickey D's new menu items such as fruit and yogurt can actually help, not hurt Americans.

Many college students think they are too young to worry the fat content in a 493-calorie Big Mac. But it is never too

Katherine Amerson



early to think about healthy eating. It is important to develop healthy eating habits at an early age because old habits die hard and if one waits until a heart attack at age 50, it is too late.

Some simple ways to avoid unnecessary calories include a switch to water or diet soda instead of regular soda, a substitution of pretzels for chips or french fries, a replacement of sugar-free candy for sugar-laden candy and a change from beef to chicken.

Alone, McDonald's is not responsible for Americans loosening their belts to make room for a larger belly, but it does play a significant role. In "Culture Jam" by Kalle Lasn, it is noted, "One out of every four restaurant-prepared breakfasts in the U.S. is eaten at McDonald's."

If one grabbed hash browns, a sausage McMuffin with egg and a 21-fluid ounce cup of orange juice, he or she would intake 830 calories and 36 grams of fat. This is disturbingly symbolic of the fact that Americans prefer convenient processed food to healthy organic produce. I am not saying eating fast food is completely awful, but remembering moderation is a key factor in healthy living is important.

The salads at McDonald's are pretty healthy. For example, according to the nutritional menu the grilled chicken Caesar salad has only 200 calories and six grams of fat per serving. However, the Big Mac packs a whopping 600 calories and 33 grams of fat! Pair that sandwich with a Supersize order of fries and a Supersize soft drink, and you have 1620 calories and 62 grams of fat. That meal con-

Many college students think they are too young to worry about counting the fat content in a 493-calorie Big Mac. But, it is never too early to think about healthy eating.

tains more than two-thirds of the recommended daily caloric intake. Still want fries after learning that? A healthier choice would be to order a small order of fries that has 210 calories and 10 grams of fat.

Think McDonald's across the globe are alike? Think again. Even little things at McDonald's on American soil contribute to obesity. Americans are accustomed to getting as much ketchup as we want when we use the drive-thru. In Europe however, to get ketchup, it has to be asked and paid for, and even then McDonald's will only shell out a packet or two. These few extra calories per meal may not seem like a big deal, but they add up fast.

I believe Americans should take a closer look at how and what Europeans eat. In Europe there is not a fast food restaurant on every corner, and there are exceptions, but generally, Europeans eat healthier and smaller portions of food than Americans.

Be happy about the Supersize demise because it may inadvertently help save lives. And while you're out partying on spring break, remember the calories in beer add up also, so you might want to stay away from those late night trips to McDonald's to balance it all out.

Amerson is a junior public relations major. E-mail her your comments at katherine.e.amerson@ttu.edu

Wake up, Waco

Cookies, common sense crumble under conservative crackdown

Abortion. Girl Scouts. How are these two things connected?

They aren't. Not until recently, when a group of Girl Scout mothers in Waco decided to yank their daughters from the ranks of the time-honored organization, claiming the Scouts and Planned Parenthood had too "cozy" a relationship.

This story has swarmed the Associated Press and state news, and, embarrassingly enough, national news as well. Yes, America, those Texans are at it again.

According to AP reports, a local Waco Girl Scout organization gave a "woman of distinction" award to a Planned Parenthood executive in 2003. The AP also reports the Girl Scouts have endorsed a Planned Parenthood sexual education program intended to inform young men and women about homosexuality, masturbation and condoms.

What a crime. These poor, misguided children might be accurately informed about a subject they could otherwise find out about via disgusting cable television shows and/or pornographic materials easily located on the Internet that not only objectify sex but teaches them nothing about the reality of sexually-related activities and their consequences.

Apparently, the literature handed out by Planned Parenthood never mentions abortion, but instead handles the aforementioned subjects. But an anti-abortion group in Waco has decided to boycott Girl Scouts and their cookies anyway.

Sounds like a wayward attack by conservatives to once again try to undermine Planned Parenthood. And young Girl Scouts? I'm sure they have many reasons to worry about their next abortion, which they probably never even thought about until the conservatives in Waco started spouting off. Let me tell you, when I was a Brownie, I wasn't thinking about my next Thin Mint sale — I was planning my next abortion.

Not really. But here's the real deal, people: Potter County, which covers half of Amarillo and several surrounding areas, led the nation in teen pregnancies last year. And there are plenty of pregnant teens around the rest of this state as well. Somebody needs to inform young girls and boys about sex and its consequences, because apparently parents and schools are skirting the subject. Since moving to Texas, I've met plenty of girls who have been sexually active but still do not know how to use a condom or what it does. I've met plenty of girls more frightened of gaining weight on birth control than they were scared of an unplanned pregnancy. News flash: you'll gain a lot more weight hauling a big belly around in about seven months than you will from a couple of water-weight pounds.

Where is the sense in this? What these mothers are doing by covering their daughters' eyes from reality is hindering their strides toward independence. When I was a Girl Scout, I was taught we should be strong, smart, independent women. I guess the Waco Girl Scouts — or their mothers, at least — have a different mission. I'll call them Operation: Ignorance.

Miss MD offers spring break safe sex advice

Dear Miss MD,

I am a senior who is normally pretty conservative. But I am going to Cancun for spring break, and I'm planning on getting a little bit wild and crazy since I'm about to graduate. What are some tips you can give me about controlling my drinking? Also, since I just broke up with my longtime boyfriend, I thought I might experiment sexually. What precautions do I need to take? Do STD rates increase during spring break? Am I safe from STDs if I just have oral sex?

Dear "normally pretty conservative,"

Whenever I send people off on spring break I always tell them "don't do anything I wouldn't do, wink, wink." Seriously though you have raised some important questions.

First, the STD rate does tend to go up after spring break, as well as the rate for unplanned pregnancies. Anytime you mix alcohol and drugs with experimenting with different partners you will see more STDs



What's Up Doc?
Dr. Kelly Bennett

and unplanned pregnancies. After just a few drinks your judgment on whether this new person is worthy of your affections drastically decreases. Basically a mailbox would look

sexy to you. Obviously this lack of being choosy can lead to some unwanted results.

I would recommend you try to drink responsibly (one drink per hour with food) and BYOP (that means bring your own partner!) If you absolutely want to experiment with someone new at least use condoms every time.

And to answer your question about oral sex and STDs ... well, let's just say the only thing you can't get from oral sex is — PREGNANT!

— Kelly Bennett, MD, Medical Director, Texas Tech Student Health Services



Have a health question you want answered with blunt brilliance? E-mail them to MissMD@aol.com. Then, check The UD bi-weekly for her common sense column.

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, social security 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 opinions@universitydaily.net 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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Butler

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about Dr. Butler during the whole process," he said. "(Butler) has dedicated his life to finding better ways to treat diseases in poor countries."

The defense also read a sample of the more than 100 letters written to Cummings from scientists, colleagues, patients and friends of Butler. The letters defended

Butler's character and asked Cummings for mercy when sentencing.

Chuck Meadows, defense attorney for Butler, said he had mixed reactions to the sentencing.

"First of all, Dr. Butler is disappointed but wants to thank everyone for their support," he said. "We are pleased the judge departed downward. We are very happy the judge did, but we're upset he didn't go further."

The defense will decide

whether to appeal the sentence during the next few days, Meadows said. They have 10 days to appeal.

Butler has until April 14 to voluntarily surrender and begin serving his term. He will have a three-year probation term once released from prison.

Prosecution for the state, Bob Webster, said they are satisfied.

"We believe the sentencing to be fair," he said. "It sends the appropriate fair message. We will not tolerate financial shenanigans."

Vigil

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nancy. Overall, almost half of the abortions performed are on women who have already had one or more abortions, according to the institute.

One of the members, Amy Cook, said she and others from the organizations go to the local abor-

tion clinic and pray. The freshman industrial engineering major from Arlington said she prays for the end of abortion and forgiveness.

Melanie Carney, public relations officer of Tech Students for Life, believes the vigil is important because the event demonstrates what is happening in the world. Mostly, she said she wants others to know about the pro-life issue and how important it is to many

people.

The vigil opened with a prayer and the statistics of abortions in the country. Then, the group held a moment of silence for personal prayer time. Pyle said the event is usually short, because the there is no need to drag out the event. The vigil was the second of the year.

"We try to do them once a month," she said. "But it can create conflicts with our schedules."

Parking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

severely limit access to the university from the west, and will likely hinder access to the Tech Museum and United Spirit Arena.

The Tech Parkway is expected to replace the portion of Indiana Avenue that provides access to the arena, the Robert H. Ewalt Recre-

ational Center and the International Cultural Center.

Financial concerns also are a major factor that university officials are juggling, Knox said. The cost of parking permits will increase by 7 percent beginning next fall, but the revenue generated by the increase will barely offset the cost of parking spaces lost as a result of construction in the area.

"Right now what we're doing is finding more creative ways to gener-

ate revenue without writing more parking citations," Knox said.

The office may get credit in that area. Last year, Traffic and Parking created an initiative that would allow for more education in parking issues and less citations. The office implemented parking boots which are placed on non-compliant vehicles with multiple outstanding citations, and the number of tows has been drastically reduced.

Stock market declining as investors play it safe

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks tumbled Wednesday for the third straight session as investors, increasingly adopting a defensive strategy, bailed out of technology and other higher-risk shares. The Dow Jones industrial average shed 160 points and other major indexes also dropped sharply.

Investors have been anticipating a temporary market pullback following a nearly yearlong rally, but their recent eagerness to collect profits ahead of a decline may have fueled the correction.

"This is the third day in a row of some pretty heavy-duty rotation out of the cyclical stuff into the defensive stuff," said Scott Wren, equity strategist for A.G. Edwards & Sons. "It's like a steamroller effect, with a little selling early on, then more and more as anticipation of a cor-

rection set in and people decided to lock in some of these profits."

The Dow plunged 160.07, or 1.5 percent, to 10,296.89, its lowest close since Dec. 19. Since Friday, the Dow has dropped 298.66, or 2.8 percent, swinging to a loss for 2004 for the first time.

The broader gauges also fell considerably. On the fourth anniversary of the Nasdaq composite's all-time high of 5,048.62, the tech-heavy index sank 31.01, or 1.6 percent, to 1,964.15. That's a loss of 83.48, or 4.1 percent, so far this week, and its lowest close since Dec. 22.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 16.69, or 1.5 percent, to 1,123.89, its lowest finish since Jan. 13.

While most economists believe the recovery is on track, investors have found few bargains on Wall Street lately. Lack-

luster gains in the labor market and concerns over when the Federal Reserve will move to raise interest rates also have contributed to the market's malaise.

Many traders were looking ahead to Thursday, when the government was to release its weekly report on unemployment claims, and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan was to testify before the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

"The market has definitely hit a point where it's weighing valuations against the changing tide of monetary policy," said Kevin Caron, market strategist with Ryan, Beck & Co. "We're also looking at recent economic data that has been mixed and disappointing to some ... and that's why the market is stalling here."

Protest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

heterosexual group been promoting its sexual views.

"The effects of exposing minors to sexual material before they are mature enough to understand its consequences and far-reaching psychological ramifications compels a school district to step in and draw such a line," according to the statement. "This case is simply about a school district's ability to control sexual subject matter on its campus."

Cummings was unable to comment further on the ruling.

Pizano said Queers and Allies has received a lot of support on the Tech campus.

"We are very lucky," Pizano said. "A couple of times we've had people come into meetings and say (negative) things, but it rolls off our back. We're pretty bold."

Early on, Pizano said meet-

ing on campus was a struggle.

"I believe legal action had to be taken," he said.

Along with Cummings' ruling on the GSA, Pizano said President Bush has stirred up quite a bit of controversy regarding gay marriage.

In a statement made last week, Bush said he would support a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

Pizano said he believes nothing in the Constitution should deny an individual of a right granted to other Americans. Even though he does not plan on getting married, the issue still needs his attention because other people are affected by this.

"I think younger people are a little more apathetic because it does not apply to them right now, so they let it go," Pizano said.

He is optimistic for the future and said everyone should do his or her part.

"I would like to think a lot of people support (same-sex marriage)," Pizano said. "To me it

seems like the right thing."

Homer Valdez, 23, a former Tech student, said he also strongly disagrees with Bush on this issue.

"It's our constitutional right as a U.S. citizen to be who we want to be, and if Bush wants to take that away from us, then I don't think this is the same country our forefathers intended it to be," Valdez said. "Down with Bush and up with rainbows."

Valdez said this issue concerns him because he would have to go outside of Texas to get married and be accepted.

"All we are asking for is a certificate, a piece of paper," Valdez said. "I think if people are in love, it shouldn't matter."

Valdez said he is Catholic and trusts that as long as he asks for forgiveness then he will be forgiven.

"We're just like the heterosexuals, and we are all Americans," Valdez said. "We should have the same rights as everyone else. We have freedom of speech and we should have freedom of choice as well."

The University Daily READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

The Readers Choice Awards are a fun spring promotion sponsored by *The University Daily*. Tell us your opinion of what you think are the best things about Lubbock by filling out the ballot. The most popular answers will be tabulated and published in a special section on Friday, April 30.

The rules are easy...Follow them and your vote will count!

1. Entries must be clearly printed or typed on actual ballot, no photocopied ballots will be accepted. To be counted, ballots must include name, address, phone & student ID number (SSN) of the person submitting the ballot
2. Entries become property of *The UD* which reserves the right to publish ballot answers & comments.
3. Final decisions on ballots, categories & winning entries will be made by *The UD*.
4. Ballots must be filled out completely or they will be discarded!

BEST FOOD & RESTAURANT CATEGORY	BEST SIGHTS & SOUNDS CATEGORY
1. Chicken Fried Steak	1. Place to buy CD's & cassettes
2. French Fries	2. Local TV News Team
3. Steak	3. Local TV Sportscaster
4. Barbecue	4. Local TV Weathercaster
5. Hamburger	5. TV Show
6. Pizza	6. TV commercial
7. Buffet	7. Local Radio Personality
8. Mexican Food	8. Local Radio Morning Show
9. Italian Food	9. TV Station
10. Oriental Food	10. Radio Station
11. Margarita	11. Movie
12. Cold Beer	12. Movie Theater
13. Happy Hour	13. Video Rental Store
14. Fast Food	14. Local Band
15. All-Night Restaurant	15. Local C&W Band
16. All-You-Can Eat deal	16. Soap Opera
17. Favorite Restaurant	17. Internet Website
18. Friendliest Service	
19. Supermarket	

BEST SHOPPING CATEGORY	BEST PLACES CATEGORY
1. Sporting Goods Store	1. Place to study
2. Women's Shoes Store	2. Place to take a date
3. Men's Shoes Store	3. Place to work
4. Department Store	4. Night Club
5. Jewelry Store	5. Bar
6. Western Wear Store	6. Business at the Strip
7. Discount Store	7. Cleaners
8. Consumer Electronic Store	8. Carwash
9. Convenience Store	9. Car Repair
10. Bookstore	10. Haircut
11. Clothing Bargains	11. Tanning Salon
12. Tire Store	12. Apartment Complex/ Housing Community
13. Women's Traditional Clothing Store	13. Place to buy flowers
14. Women's Casual Clothing Store	14. Church
15. Men's Traditional Clothing Store	15. Bank
16. Men's Casual Clothing Store	16. Pharmacy
17. Shopping Center/Mall	17. Romantic Dinner
18. Internet Provider	18. Health Club
19. Best place to buy jeans	19. Hangout
20. Best Tattoo Shop	20. Coffee Shop
21. Best Travel Agency	

BEST OF TEXAS TECH CATEGORY

1. Residence Hall	7. Class
2. Tech Tradition	8. Major
3. Men's Sport	9. Most helpful Department
4. Women's Sport	10. Coach
5. Professor/Instructor	11. Tech Landmark
6. Student Organization	12. UD Columnist

**Reader's
CHOICE
AWARDS**
THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

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the sounds of CULTURE

South Indian music group to perform today in Allen Theatre

By Nikki Siegrist/The University Daily

The sounds of classical South Indian music can be heard from the Allen Theater at 7 p.m. Thursday as Shashank brings the Nada-Laya tour to Lubbock.

The artist gave a lecture to a music history class about the beats and structure of Indian music Wednesday.

When one of his percussionists, P. Satish Kumar, counted some of the rhythms, many of the students' jaws dropped, and they laughed at the intricacy and pace of the counting system.

When the lecture was over, students left saying it was "amazing" and looking to purchase CDs.

The concert promises to have more of the same astounding and new sounds, Padmanabhan "Padhu" Seshaiyer said.

"We want to bring (those in attendance) closer to the spirit of West Texas," the faculty adviser for the Indian Student Association said. "One of the main goals of association is to bring the culture of India closer to West Texas."

The association and the Fine Arts Academy of India brought Shashank to Lubbock for the third time, once in '95 and again in '01.

Those who attend the concert should look to experience new styles of music different from what many West Texans are used to, Seshaiyer said. The tones and notes are different than Western music. Indian music also incorporates half tones, notes that lie between two Western notes.

All of the percussion instruments are played with hands and include a ghatam, or clay pot, a mridangan, a double headed percussion instrument laid on its side and played on both ends and thavil, a larger percussion instrument played similarly to a mridangan, except with sticks.

"The exposure to new instrument and learning a wide range of percussion, and the way you can mix different styles of music," Seshaiyer



COURTESY PHOTO

FLUTE MAESTRO SHASHANK, center, and Partywill play the Carnatic Classical Music of India at 7 p.m today in the Allen Theatre.

said. "Learning more about what you can do, the magic of fingers, that's basically what he does."

Shashank was a child prodigy but said he does not like to call himself one. "To me, I'm a flute player," the 25-year-old said. "Calling yourself a child prodigy doesn't mean anything."

The Madras, India, native could recognize melakritis, or scales, when he was 2 years old. He then began studying the violin and learning how to sing.

Because Indian music fades or curves into the next note, singing is an important tool, Shashank said.

"In India we first learn vocal music," he said. "Everything is a reflection of what you learn through singing. Everything is related to how close you are to the human voice."

He picked up the flute at age 5 and his father took him to see T.R. Mahalingam, a flute virtuoso, in India. Mahalingam told Shashank's father not to have his son formally instructed by a teacher because he would be limited by the teacher's methods and ability.

"The master who revolutionized the field of banswi (bamboo) flute was

a product of self learning," Shashank said. "If you are left alone with the music and no technique, it will lead to a new style of music."

Which is exactly what happened, he said. Shashank developed his own style and technique. More important to his performances is his ability in improvisation, because Indian music depends much on it, he said.

C.V. Surendran, the program chairman with the academy, said the only thing he wishes could be different is for the Aerosmith concert to be on a different night.

"I hope everyone can come," he said. "We are not in competition with Aerosmith because they are already sold out."

He said he is excited to be able to bring such a different sound to West Texas.

"We want to expose this music to West Texans just so they have knowledge and know what it is," Surendran said. "Everyone is familiar with country and rock 'n' roll here, and we all like them. We want to expose them a different form of arts and culture."

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY
3/11/04

Officials warn against irresponsible behavior on spring break

By Megan Lavoie/
The University Daily

The common myth is, "What happens in (insert location here) stays in (insert location here)," but experts and law enforcement caution students heading to the beach or mountains that decisions made next week could come back to haunt them.

Juli Benson, a health educator with Student Health Services, said a majority of students think spring break is a break from reality.

"Before spring break students have midterms and after spring break is the onset of finals," she said. "During that one week I think some students like to take a break from reality."

Justin Malone, a junior marketing major from Arlington, said some students might think spring break is a break from reality because of the pressures of school.

"It is one week where you don't have to worry about what you have to come back to—you just sit back and have fun," he said.

Benson said carefree attitudes can be fun on spring break, but they can also be dangerous.

"I have seen students come back from spring break with STDs, MIPs, DULs and piercings or tattoos they didn't want," she said.

Their intentions were to have a good time, but sometimes people think the normal rules don't apply on spring break, she said.

Maj. Gordon Hoffman, with the Texas Tech Police Department said, students should follow two rules during spring break.

"One rule is to have a good time and the other is to stay out of trouble," he said.

Students need to be careful about not getting out of control, especially if they are in another country like Mexico," he said.

Benson said one of the biggest issues concerning spring break is alcohol consumption.

"A majority of the irresponsible behavior during spring break is due to alcohol," she said.

Students can go out and drink but

still have a good time without putting themselves into danger if they follow simple precautions.

"Definitely eat before you drink, try to alternate between water and alcoholic beverages and never set your drink down or take a drink from someone you don't know," she said.

The precautions you take while home should be the same ones you take while you are on spring break, Benson said.

The abundant amount of alcohol during spring break can make a student's experience more enjoyable, but it can also turn a sunny week into a nightmare.

"Some people intentionally target spring-breakers," she said. "If students are not careful they can be easily susceptible to assault and date rape."

Robert Rodriguez, chief of the South Padre Island Police Department, said the No. 1 tip he gives to spring breakers headed for the island is to stick together.

"I can't stress enough how important it is for students to stay in groups," he said. "If you are planning to go off by yourself, make sure your friends know exactly

where you are going."

Benson agreed.

"You want to have a good buddy system around you," she said. "You want someone who is going to take care of you, not someone who is going to put you in bed half-conscious with someone else."

Rodriguez said date rape and assaults are a reality and can happen to anyone on spring break, but staying in groups and not leaving parties or bars with people you don't know can prevent them.

"If someone is assaulted or raped we encourage them to report it—we can't do anything about it if they don't report it," he said.

For students lucky enough to travel outside the country for their week of heaven, there are also precautions to take.

Hoffman said that citizens of the United States have certain rights and other countries might not exercise those rights.

"In a foreign country you could go to jail and not be able to call an attorney," he said. "I have heard in some instances where the American Consulate has to get involved."

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Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide seeks interns for 2004 to implement an award winning public relations campaign.

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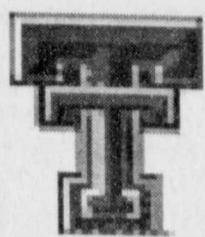
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EARLY EXIT



Baylor ousts Lady Raiders from Big 12 tournament in Tech's first game

By David Wiechmann/
The University Daily

DALLAS — Lady Raider coach Marsha Sharp said it would be difficult to beat Baylor for a third time, and she was right. The Lady Bears had an offensive outpour to eliminate Texas Tech in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 Conference Tournament.

Baylor was led to victory by sophomore post Sophia Young, who had 26 points and 13 rebounds in the 80-72 victory.

"We're disappointed we didn't get to advance," Sharp said. "I think Baylor played really well. I was impressed with how hard they played and the plays they made. They're so hard to play inside, and they took advantage of that all day. I think Sophia Young was great in the middle, and we didn't have an answer for her most of the time."

The answer for Baylor was the paint.

The Lady Bears (24-7, 10-6 Big 12) took the ball to the hole almost every time down the floor, and it resulted in 42 points in the paint versus Tech's 30.

Tech tried to counter Young's play with an inside game of its own, featuring LaToya Davis. Davis had 24 points to rival Young and 11 boards, but it was not enough. Her play was something Sharp was glad to see because it kept Tech in the game.

"I was really proud of LaToya on the offensive end, the way she continued to try to attack and to make some plays to give us a chance to score in the paint," she said.

Tech (24-7, 10-6) found itself down by as much as 16 in the second half, and a comeback was led by Davis and freshman guard Alesha Robertson. In the second half, Robertson shot 5-of-8 from the field and scored 11 of her 17 points. But her contribution was not enough to lead the Lady Raiders to victory. Davis said the inside game of Baylor was just too much.

"Baylor's inside game is always good," she said. "I think Sophia is a great player. You can't really prepare for her because she can jump high, spin and go to the rim on you. You just have to find a game plan and try to find a way to stop her."

Tech was victorious in the previous two games between these teams, but not by much. The total margin of victory was four points. The close losses were the motivating factor the Lady Bears needed for the win on Wednesday. Baylor senior forward Dionne Brown said her team was just a little more emotional than Tech, and that aided in the win.

"When you play a team three times, it's hard to find that emotion and motivating factor," she said. "For us, it was going to be there regardless because we lost to them in those first two games by a total of four points."

Tech is among the nation's best at shutting down its opponents and ranks No. 2 in the conference in scoring defense, sacrificing 56 points a game.

During the last two games Tech has given up 85 and 80 points, which is uncharacteristic of the Lady Raiders.

This season Tech gave up 56 points per game and gave up 62 points per game against Big 12 opponents. Getting back to the defense of old is something Davis said Tech needs to do before heading in the NCAA Tournament.

"I think our mentality is to follow game plan and stop people when we need to stop them," Davis said. "We didn't follow game plan that well. We just need to follow game plan from here and stop people like we know we can stop people."

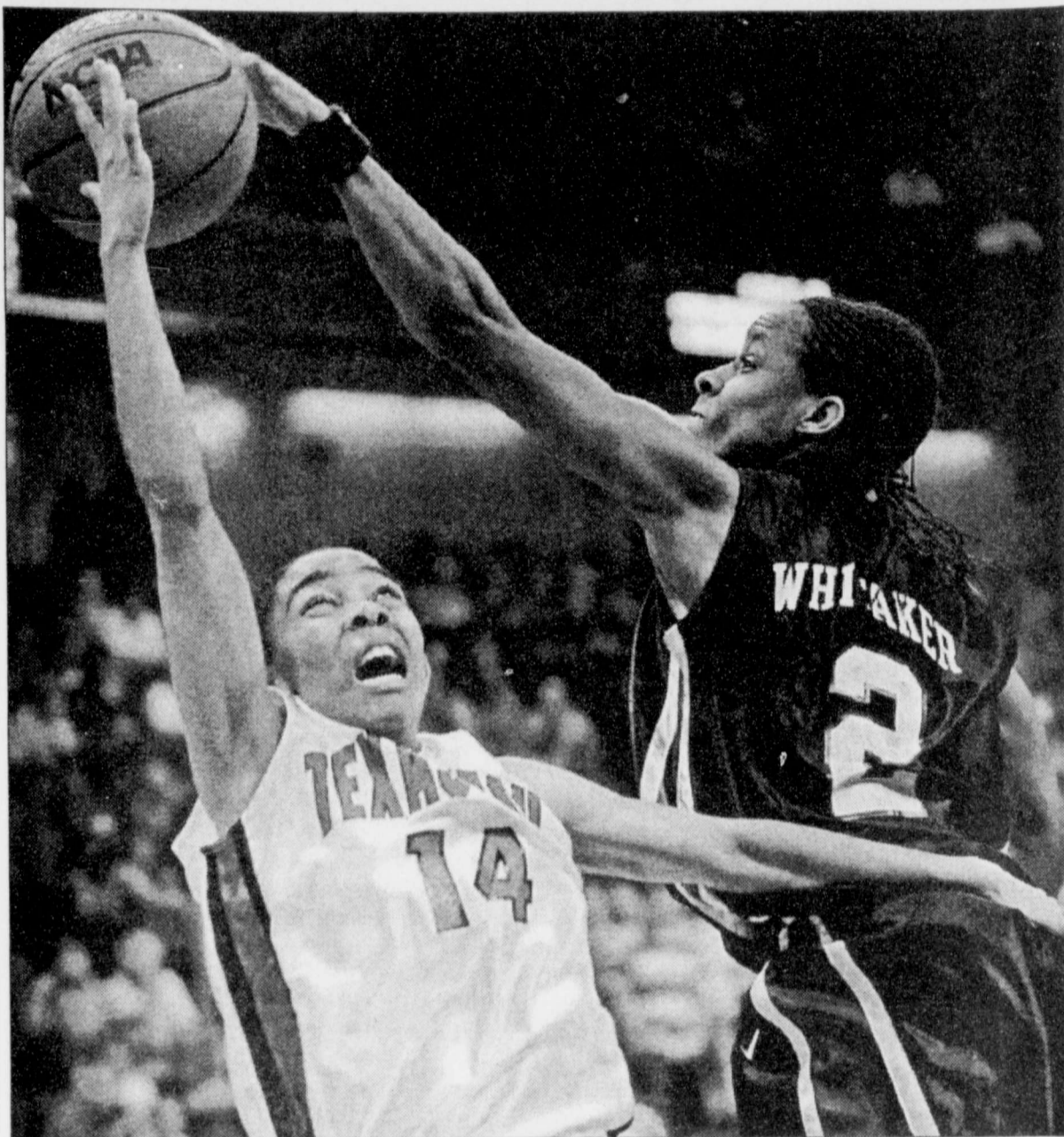
Because Tech's defense was not clicking like it normally does, it put the team behind early and found itself clawing its way back up. Tech got within striking distance a few times, but Baylor answered with buckets. It was a situation Sharp's team could not get the upper hand in, and it cost her team the game.

"We just dug too deep of a hole, and we couldn't get back," she said.

Sharp made it clear she was not happy with going home early from the conference tournament, but she said the loss was not a surprise to her because the Big 12 is so competitive.

"We were the No. 4 and 5 seeds," she said. "So, it's not like we were a monster team or this was a big upset. It's Big 12 Basketball at its best."

Tech now awaits the NCAA Tournament Selection Show at 4 p.m. Sunday on ESPN to see where they will go in the post season.



JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/The University Daily

LADY RAIDER SOPHOMORE guard Erin Grant has her shot blocked before being fouled by Baylor guard Chelsea Whitaker during a second half run in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 tournament on Wednesday in Reunion Arena in Dallas. The Lady Raiders lost to Baylor 80-72. The loss eliminated Tech from the tournament.

Read The UD for men's basketball coverage from the Big 12 tournament in Dallas.

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Tennis team not relaxing during break

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily

While most Texas Tech students will take their beach or mountain vacations during spring break next week, junior Esat Tanik said he doesn't need one.

"I am going to do what I am here for," he said. "I don't need a break." Tanik said by being members of the Red Raider men's tennis team, he and his teammates do not get the opportunity to stop during the spring season, but it is no sweat off their backs.

"I will get enough of a break during the summer," he said. "We have three matches this weekend and three more next weekend, so we get about one day off. I don't care. It's perfect to play tennis right now."

And that is exactly what Tech will do. The Raiders travel to Houston to face three ranked opponents at the Rice Invitational Friday through Sunday. Although the city is near the beach, Tanik said the team will not have time to check out the parties and waves on the Texas coast.

"We have three tough, strong teams in front of us," he said. "Memphis, Virginia Tech and Rice are all top ranked teams, and we have to come off this weekend with wins."

Tech will face No. 75 ranked Memphis on Friday, No. 59 Virginia Tech on Saturday and No. 6 Rice on Sunday. Tanik said the Raiders' biggest test of the season will come on the last day of competition.

"We have to take our mental energy from last weekend and transfer it

to the upcoming tournament," he said. "Rice will push us to our full-potential, and I'm looking forward to it."

Head coach Tim Siegel said facing 11 ranked teams in Tech's next 12 matches will prove the strength of his team.

"We're gonna have our hands full this weekend and for the second half of the season," he said. "It's gonna be tough, but it's about competing, and we'll take some wins."

With that kind of stretch coming at this point of the season, Siegel said the Raiders have no time to rest.

"There's no chance of taking a breather," he said. "We've got six matches in 12 days and it's gonna be a tough, long weekend."

After losing to No. 46 South Alabama in the final round of the H.E.B. National Tournament last weekend in Corpus Christi, Siegel said how Tech plays will determine where they stand among competition in the rankings.

"Where we are right now, if we play well, we're gonna be up in the rankings, and if not, we won't be," he said. "One thing about this team is that they don't know the meaning of the word quit."

Siegel said he taught the team to work hard and throw "quit" out of their vocabulary.

"I'm teaching them how to make better decisions and not to give up," he said. "They can handle constructive criticism, and they would probably say I don't hold back."

Freshman Bojan Szumanski said he



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

TEXAS TECH JUNIOR tennis player Esat Tanik works on his swing during practice at the McLeod Tennis Center. Tech will play in the Rice Invitational in Houston this weekend.

knows Siegel's concerns and so do the rest of the players, which is the reason Tech practices the way it does.

"We know these matches are going to be a challenge, and that's the level we need to be on," he said. "That's why we come out and fight in the matches, and we practice hard and don't complain."

Following the Rice Invitational, the Raiders return to Lubbock for a three-match weekend. Beginning at 1:30 p.m. on March 19, Tech will face Louisiana-Lafayette. The second match is against New Mexico at 1 p.m. on March 21, and the last is at noon on March 22 against Texas Christian.

Women's tennis squad gaining notice after Big 12 road win

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily

Nobody noticed the Texas Tech women's tennis team before. Head coach Cari Groce said now, they have to.

With the win over No. 74 ranked Kansas State last weekend, Groce said the Red Raiders are getting the recognition they have strived for all season. "We just broke into the top 75 this week," she said. "They're taking notice of us, and they will continue to later in the season as we march on."

Even with the excitement from the victory against the Wildcats, Groce said the team's attention must quickly be diverted to its next opponent.

"Saturday's win was Saturday. When the clock struck midnight, they should have been looking to the next opponent," she said.

That next Big 12 foe comes in the form of the No. 48 ranked team in the nation, the Missouri Tigers. Tech travels to Columbia, Mo., to face Missouri at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Groce said the Raiders will compete, but they have to have certain players step up if they want to win.

"They are ranked well ahead of us," she said. "We need players to contribute and play big parts this weekend, so we can get ahead and maintain the lead to get another win."

Sophomore Tara Browning said the match against the Tigers will show what Tech is capable of achieving.

"I'm not expecting anything less than the best," she said. "We have the opportunity to get a good win and keep playing in conference."

With two Big 12 games down and several to go, Browning said the Raiders are proving they can change, and that history may repeat itself.

"Since day one in Colorado, we have improved, and we're playing better tennis," she said. "We beat them last year by being motivated, and there's no reason why we can't win."

Sophomore Katja Kovacic said people's thoughts about Tech will change, if they haven't already, when they see Tech step on the court.

"People are shocked at what a difference it is from last year," she said. "We're playing better, and we show a lot of improvement."

Tech (5-2, 1-1 in Big 12) not only faces Missouri this weekend, but the Raiders will play the Kansas Jayhawks at noon on Sunday in Lawrence, Kan. Kovacic said nothing will get in the way of the team attaining its goal.

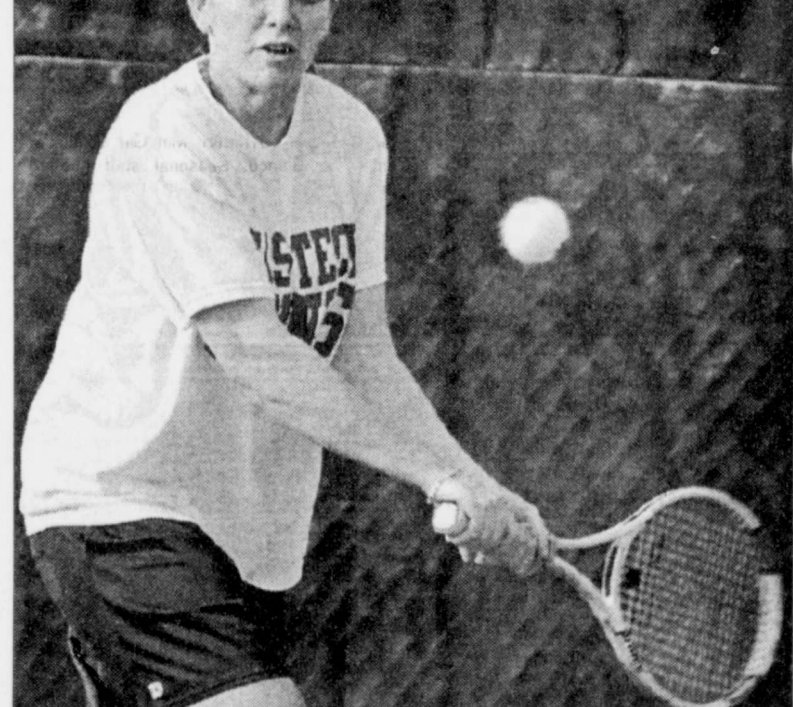
"We are ready for each new challenge, so they can bring it on," she said. "We fight for every point and play our best tennis."

Groce said their best game will come when all of the players realize their potential and reach that level.

"Irina (Tereschenko) has to step it up because she's only got a limited amount of time being a senior," she said. "We do have some players that are putting it all on the line, in doubles and singles, but we have to have all of the players doing that."

Freshman Iva Gyurgina has worked herself into the ranks at the No. 6 spot in singles. Groce said with her playing at that spot, Tech has a solid bottom half of the lineup, but doubles' teams have to be more reliable.

"We have one team we can rely on in doubles, and they're playing well," she said. "We have to win at all three levels, and I know they know how to play. We just have to be stronger."



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

TEXAS TECH TENNIS player Kendall Brooks prepares for a return shot during practice at the McLeod Tennis Center. Tech will play Missouri and Kansas this weekend in Big 12 Conference competition.

THURSDAY		MARCH 11					
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8:00	Berenstein Callou		Early Show	J. Robison Paid Program	America	Grace/Fire Roseanne	
9:00		Today Show		Judge Mathis Paid Program	Regis & Kelly	Family Feud Family Feud	
10:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	Hatchett Paid Program	View	Dharma/Greg	
11:00	Teletubbies	Hiway Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program Paid Program	Home Impr. Paid Program	Access Extra	
12:00	Old House Terry	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer Paid Program	All My Children	Good Day Live	
1:00	Madden's 7 Secret to	Live Passions	As the World Turns	Paid Program Paid Program	One Life to Live	People's Court	
2:00	Zoom Beth/Lions	Op'nEdition	Guiding Light	Big 12 BKB Tournament	General Hospital	Divorce Court	
3:00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Maury Povich		Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown	
4:00	Citford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	Sabrina That '70's	Montel Williams	News & More	
5:00	Liberty Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Pyramid Pyramid	News ABC News	That 70's Simpsons	
6:00	NewsHour	News W/Fortune	News Millionaire	Big 12 BKB Tournament	News E.T.	Friends Raymond	
7:00	This Old House	Friends 'PG Will/Grace	Survivor: All-Stars		Ext. Makeover: NAACP	35th Annual NAACP	
8:00	My Music	Apprentice 'PG	C.S.I. TV14	WWE Smackdown	Extreme Makeover	Image Awards	
9:00		Princess Diana, Pt.	Without a Trace 'PG		Primetime Thursday	News	
10:00	Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Friends Magnum P.I.	News Nightline	Solinfeld Fraiser	
11:00	Destinos Raidernet	Coman Letterman	Craig	Blind Date	MASH E.T.	Raymond Shoot Me	
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Texas outlasts underdog Iowa State, win 64-54

DALLAS (AP) — Outshot and outrounded in the first half by underdog Iowa State, No. 2 Texas track with the help of a halftime pep talk from junior guard Jamie Carey.

Texas opened the second half with a 20-8 run, capped by three straight jumpers from Nira Norman, in a 64-54 victory over Iowa State on Wednesday in the Big 12 tournament quarterfinals.

"I decided to stay out in the hall and not go in the locker room for a few minutes and let Jamie talk to them," Texas coach Jody Conradt said. "She took care of making the points that needed to be taken care of. She had things to say to them and they responded to her."

Norman and Tiffany Jackson had 16 points each for the Longhorns (27-3), who will face No. 14 Baylor in the semifinals. The Lady Bears beat No. 10 Texas Tech 80-72.

One of Carey's halftime messages to her teammates was the need to rebound better and pick up the intensity on defense.

At halftime, the teams were tied at 29, but Iowa State held a 17-11 rebounding edge and the Cyclones converted 11 of their 22 field goal attempts, 6-for-11 from 3-point range.

"We knew we had to pick it up defensively," Conradt said. "Nobody could afford to relax."

Ninth-seeded Iowa State finished with 21 turnovers, leading to 19 Texas points. The Cyclones were scoreless during a 9:37 stretch at the end of the first half and early in the second half.

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Men's Big 12 tournament to begin today

By Adam Boedeker/
The University Daily

DALLAS — The Men's Big 12 Tournament begins Thursday with one common theme continuously brought up in reference to this year's tournament as opposed to past ones.

The consensus between Big 12 coaches is this year's tournament is wide open and one that many teams could win.

The No. 1 seed coming into the tournament is Oklahoma State. The Cowboys will face the winner of the first game today between No. 9 Kansas State and No. 8 Iowa State at 2 p.m. The winner will face the Cowboys at noon on Friday.

Cowboys coach Eddie Sutton said this year's tournament should be the best one to date.

"There are so many good teams," Sutton said. "Even those teams in the lower half of the conference can jump up and get someone. We certainly have respect for whoever we will play, whether it be Kansas State or Iowa State."

The Cowboys are riding high coming into the tournament after

receiving a handful of postseason accolades after winning the Big 12 regular season championship.

The Associated Press selected transfer point guard John Lucas as the Big 12 Player of the Year, while the league's coaches selected Cowboy senior Tony Allen as their conference player of the year, something Sutton is proud to see.



"I would vote them as co-Big 12 players of the year because both are so valuable to our team," Sutton said. "Both players have had great seasons and are great players for us."

The coaches also selected Cowboy junior forward Joey Graham as Big 12 Newcomer of the Year. He is the fifth "Newcomer" award winner for OSU in seven years.

Joining Allen and Lucas on the Coaches All-Big 12 First Team were Wayne Simien of Kansas, Andre Emmett of Texas Tech and David Harrison of Colorado.

Sutton reiterated the parity in the conference this season, and the uncertainty of the potential outcomes of the tournament.

"I think the bottom half of the conference is so much better," Sutton said. "Those teams are much better than they've been in the past. So I wouldn't be surprised at all to see some upsets in the tournament."

Colorado coach Ricardo Patton, whose No. 4 seeded Buffaloes faces No. 5 Tech on Friday, agreed with Sutton.

"It should be a great week of basketball," he said. "I think there will be a lot of surprises. I think one thing we've seen this year in our league is that any team can go out and win any game on any night."

Kansas State coach Jim Wooldridge also believes the tournament is wide open. His team is seeded No. 9, but has just as good a chance as anyone.

"This will be a great challenge for

us," he said. "But I think, perhaps, we're playing our best basketball of the year right now."

In the Wildcats' last game they defeated No. 11 Texas by 10 points.

Even though his team is playing well at the right time, Wooldridge said they must take the tournament one game at a time.

"Right now our tournament is Iowa State," he said. "That is our only focus, it's the big picture, it's the small picture, it's the only picture. When you look at how our conference finished it's a closer race between a lot of teams to see who's gonna win it all, and it's really up in the air."

After the Wildcats and Cyclones play today No. 10 Nebraska will face No. 7 Oklahoma at 6 p.m. and No. 11 Texas A&M will play No. 6 Missouri at 8:30 p.m.

On Friday Tech will play Colorado at 2:20 p.m. after the Oklahoma State matchup. Tech's game will be followed by No. 2 Texas and No. 3 Kansas playing the winners of games two and three, respectively.

The games can be seen on ESPN Regional Television.

Thursday

- 8:00 (8) ISU vs (9) KSU
- 6:00 (7) OU vs (10) Nebraska
- 8:20 (6) Missouri vs (11) A&M

Friday

- Noon (1) OSU vs (5) Tech
- 2:20 (4) Colorado vs (2) Texas

Saturday

- 1 p.m. Winner of (1) OSU vs (5) Tech vs Winner of (4) Colorado vs (2) Texas
- 3:20 Winner of (6) Missouri vs (11) A&M vs Winner of (7) OU vs (10) Nebraska

Sunday

- 2 p.m. Winner of (1) OSU vs (5) Tech vs Winner of (4) Colorado vs (2) Texas vs Winner of (6) Missouri vs (11) A&M vs Winner of (7) OU vs (10) Nebraska

Texas Tech will play Colorado at 2:20 p.m. on Friday in the Raiders' first Big 12 tournament game. Both teams received first round byes to reach the game.

A&M coach announces plans to resign at tournament

DALLAS (AP) — Texas A&M coach Melvin Watkins said Wednesday he's resigning after this season, ending a six-year tenure that botched out with an 0-16 conference record this season.

The announcement came on the eve of the Big 12 tournament. He said he wanted it out now instead of after

the Aggies finish the season to avoid speculation distracting the team.

The Aggies (7-20) play Missouri in the first round Thursday night. Watkins said whenever A&M is eliminated, he'll be done, too.

"Hopefully that last game will be winning the national championship," he said.

Watkins was hired in 1998 after leading North Carolina-Charlotte, his alma mater, to the second round of the NCAA tournament in his first

two seasons as a head coach. Things seemed to be coming around last season when the Aggies went 14-14, ending a run of eight straight losing seasons.

A&M started this season 7-4 but hasn't won since beating Long Island on Jan. 6.

None of its wins were against a team from a major conference and two losses were to Oakland (Mich.) and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. The Aggies lost their final two conference games by 26 and 29 points.

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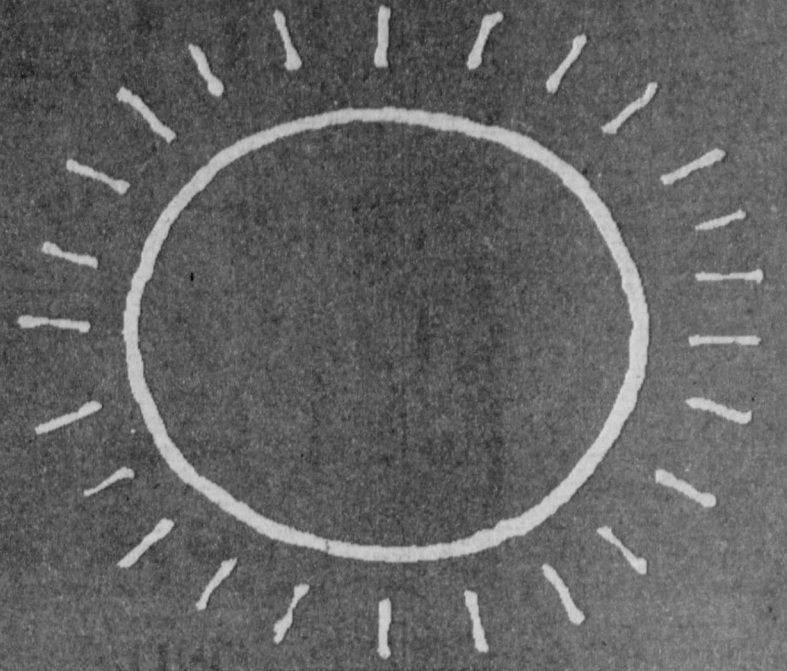
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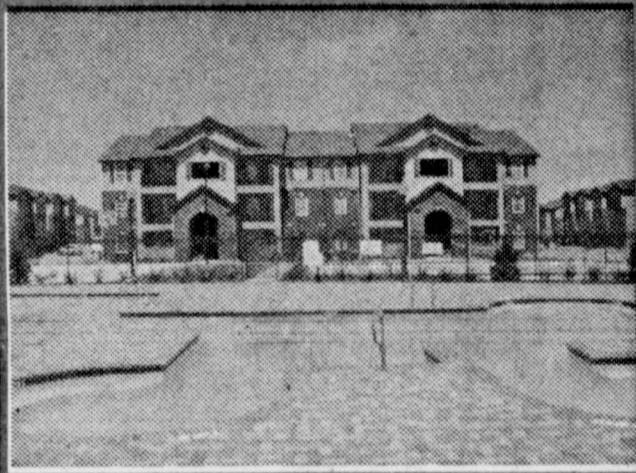
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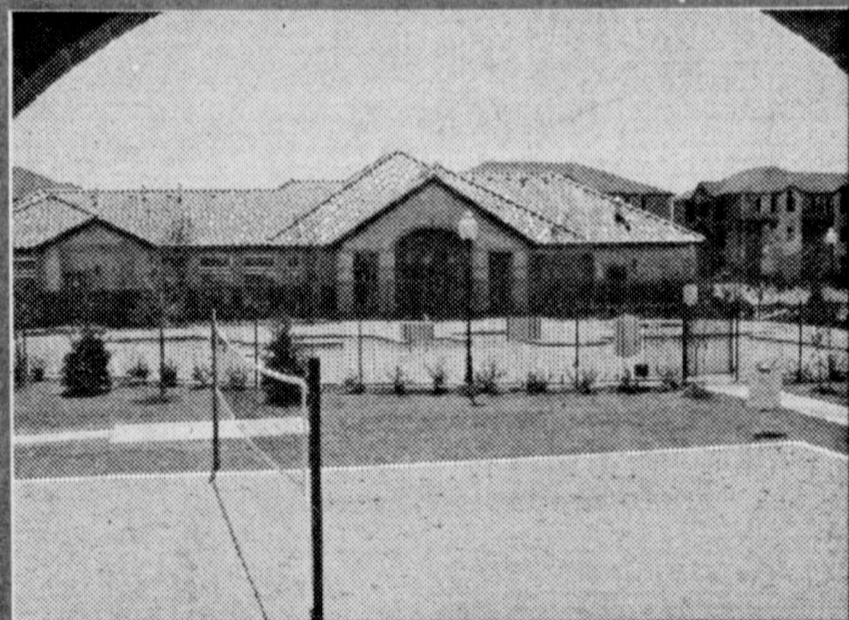
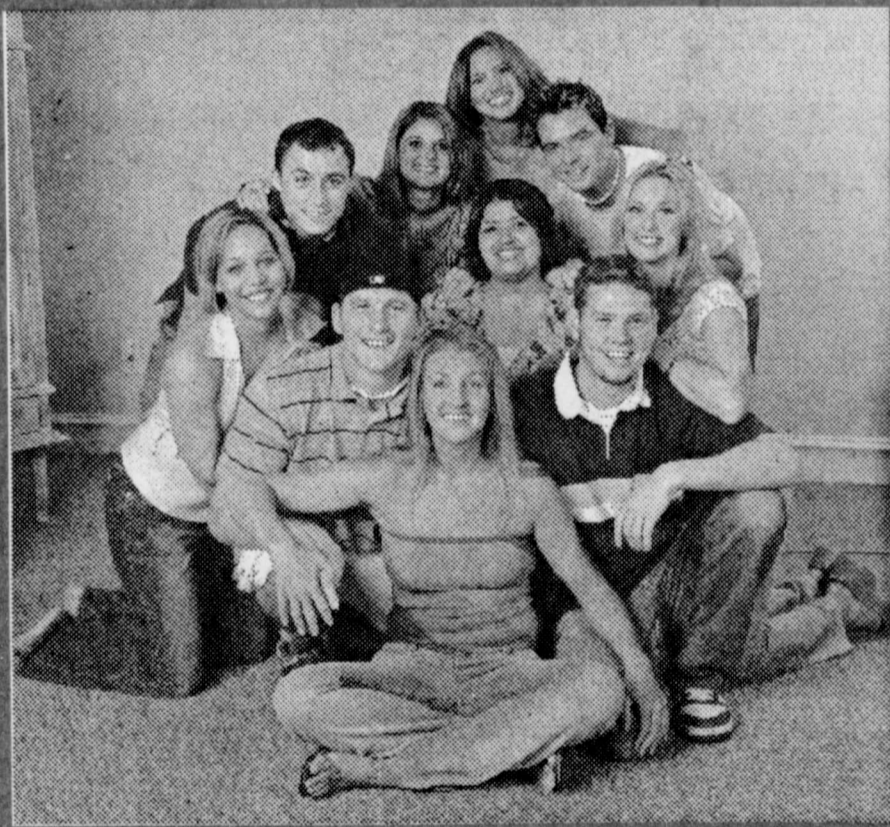


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