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Crane operator dies after rollover accident

WORK FATALITY: The crane operator was an employee of Rinks Lease Service in Amarillo.

By Beth Aaron/*The University Daily* and
photo by Hutch Stilgenbauer/*The University Daily*

The operator of a pipe crane employed by Rinks Lease Service of Levelland died Tuesday from injuries suffered after his crane turned over and rolled over him at approximately 4:30 p.m. His name and age are unknown.

"He succumbed to his injuries shortly after he was transported to the hospital," said Chris Angerer, district chief of the Lubbock Fire Department.

Angerer said the extent of the injuries the individual suffered is unknown.

The victim was taken to University Medical Center via ambulance, where CPR was administered upon transport, said Grinner Nelson, an employee of Pop-a-Lock. Nelson said he observed the scene shortly after the accident occurred.

A spokeswoman for Rinks Lease Service said they have great sympathy for the individual's family and are concentrating on taking care of them. She declined to comment further on the accident.

The individual and his crewmembers were working in a field located just north of Brownfield Highway and west of Indiana Avenue, across from the Texas Tech softball fields. They were working to bore a hole for a gas line to go under Brownfield Highway, Angerer said.

"They were setting a trench box when the crane overturned," he said. "Personnel arrived and got the other workers out of the trench."

The area of land Rinks Lease was working on is not Tech property but is Tech stock.

Police removed the operator of the crane using a piece of heavy rescue equipment called a Stokes box. No one else was injured in the accident, Angerer said.

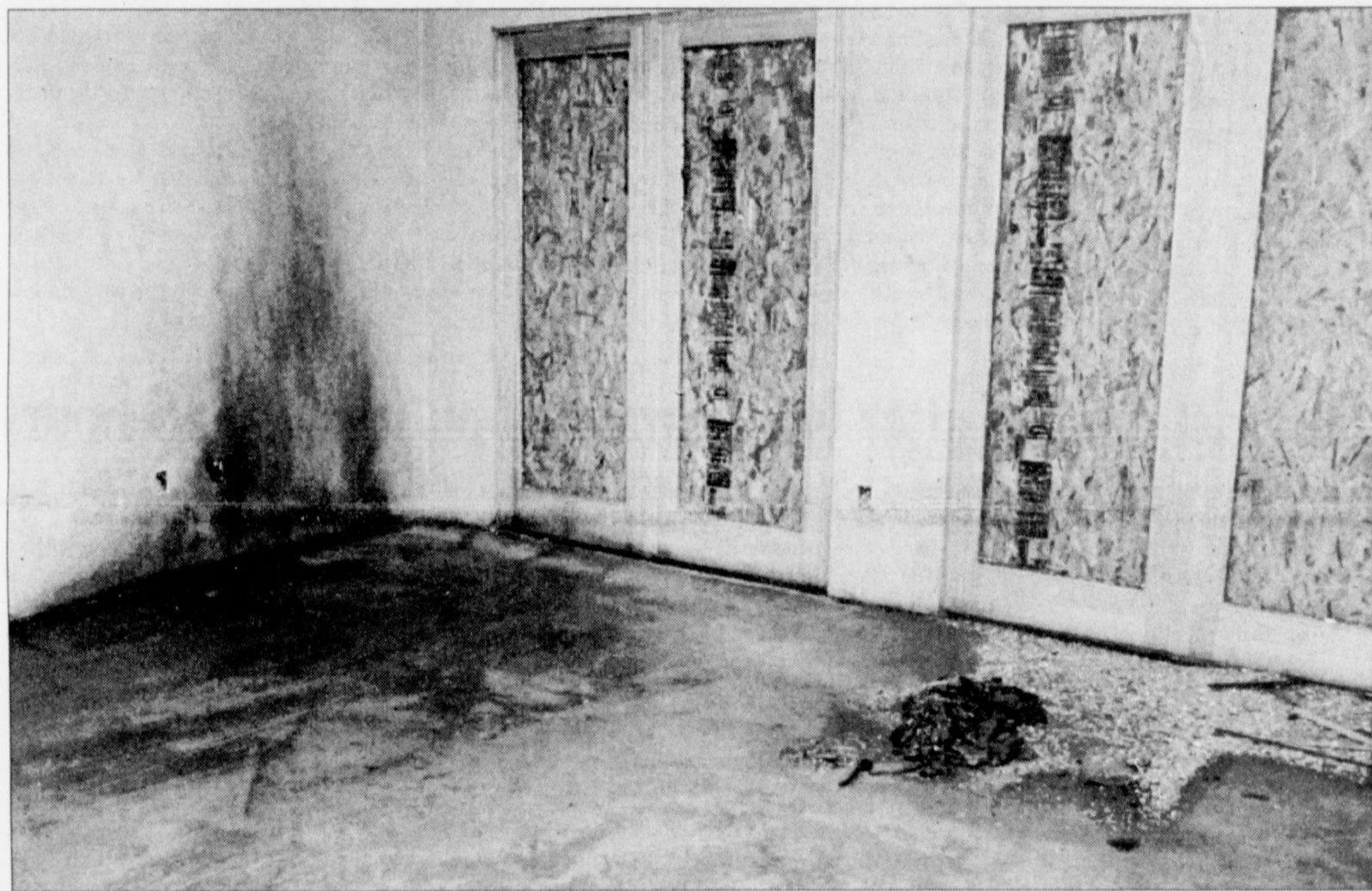
Police and fire crews arrived on the scene at approximately 4:35 p.m. and were still assessing the scene at 6:15 p.m. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration also was present and investigating the situation.

"We have OSHA on the scene right now trying to find out exactly what happened," Angerer said. "The information is still sketchy right now."



A tractor rolled into a ditch Tuesday around 5 p.m. off of Brownfield Highway, a construction worker was killed in the accident.

Crime Cleanup



DAVID JOHNSON/*The University Daily*

A FIRE WAS started in the Delta Tau Delta lodge Monday. Whoever started the fire also threw rocks through the windows of the lodge, which was under construction. The fraternity will now have to wait longer to move in because of repair time.

Fire causes damage to Delta Tau Delta fraternity lodge

By Sally Gunter/*The University Daily*

The next time Steven Dimitt addresses his brothers in Delta Tau Delta he said it will be with a positive attitude despite an arson that caused between \$40,000 to \$50,000 in damages to the fraternity's lodge.

The Lubbock Fire Department received a call from a passerby at 5:59 a.m. Monday reporting a fire at Greek Circle at 13th Street and Quaker Avenue.

Firefighters arrived on the scene to a few remaining flames, said Deputy Fire Marshall Garrett Nelson.

The fire had been intentionally started through a pile of cardboard like material placed against the east wall of the living room.

A quick burning fire diminished into lazy, little flames probably an hour before the fire department arrived, Nelson said.

"It seemed very much typical of a vandalism fire," he said. "Random vandalism like this is frustrating, but I can't rule out retaliation, but at the same time can't find a reason."

The wall was made of sheetrock, which is not flammable. There was minimal structural damage caused by the fire but additional vandalism did occur throughout the house.

Windows on the east side of the lodge along with windows in a French door were busted out. Rocks were thrown against the frames causing additional financial damage, Nelson said.

"There was very little structural damage," he said. "The damage is mostly smoke damage and a loss of time."

Groundbreaking for the house took place during parent's weekend on April 12. The 70 to 75 members of Delta Tau Delta were expected to move into the house in two to three weeks, but Nelson said it will be at least three weeks behind schedule because of the damage.

Dimitt, president of the Epsilon Delta chapter at Texas Tech, said it is frustrating that moving into the new lodge must be postponed.

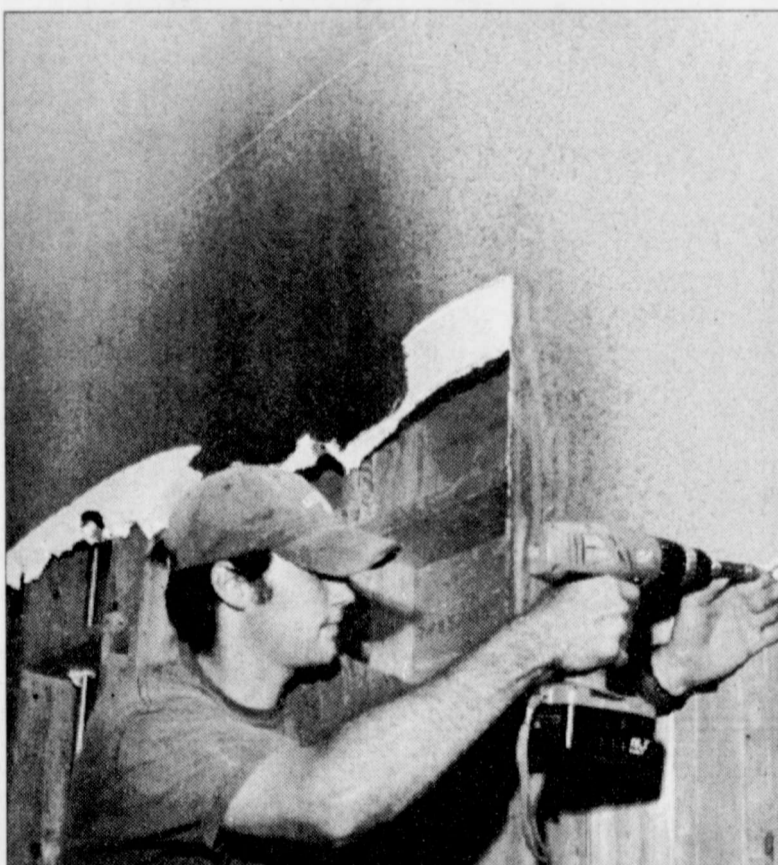
"It's pretty disturbing to see our brand new house catch on fire," he said. "Hopefully, nothing like this happens again."

Dimitt said the installation of security cameras either during the remaining construction or upon completed are a viable option that the fraternity will further look into.

Remnants of green beer bottles scattered the basement stairs and other areas throughout the lodge. Alcohol may have been a factor.

"I would be shocked if it wasn't," Nelson said. "What would inspire you to be that mean?"

Because of the type of crime committed, Nelson thinks more than one



DAVID JOHNSON/*The University Daily*

CLAY LAWSON, AN employee of Mike Becknal Construction, pulls out drywall screws so new drywall can be installed in the Delta Tau Delta fraternity lodge Tuesday. The house was burned and vandalized Monday. person was involved.

The incident will be considered arson, which is a second-degree felony with a penalty of five to 20 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine, Nelson said.

There are no suspects.

"This type of fire you need information," he said. "I think someone did see something."

Vandalism at Greek Circle is not unusual, said Stephen Hirst, coordinator for student organizations and fraternities at Tech.

"My guess is that it wasn't anyone in the Tech community," he said. "It is not an isolated incident to the area. It is fairly common, and it's not all that surprising."

Lubbock City Councilman for District 6 and alumni of Delta Tau Delta Jim Gilbreath said he was shocked to hear about the fire to the new lodge.

"It was a horrible thing to have happened," he said. "But life will go on."

FIRE continued on page 5

Student Affairs

Student accused of murder returns to Tech

By Michael Castellon/*The University Daily*

A Texas Tech student who stands accused of the murder of a Baytown man during spring break has returned to his on-campus residence and has been reinstated at the university, authorities confirmed Tuesday.

Troy Vincent Andrews, a freshman arts and sciences major from Baytown, faces murder charges in connection with the shooting death of Jaime Salazar, 21, also from Baytown.

"He has been reinstated in school and at housing," said Maj. Richard Foster of the Tech Police Department. "That status is in question right now but not by us."

Foster said Student Affairs officials are reviewing the reinstatement of Andrews.

According to the Harris County District Attorney's Office, Andrews posted a \$30,000 bond on March 24.

Police reports indicate on March 18, Baytown authorities responded to a call of an unknown problem at the 200 block of Gresham. After arriving at the scene, authorities found Salazar unconscious at the side of the road. Emergency workers transported Salazar to San Jacinto Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

According to Baytown police authorities, an investigation revealed that Salazar and Andrews had engaged in an argument over a bottle of pills. The argument escalated, and Andrews allegedly pulled a handgun and fired two shots at Salazar, missing both times. A third shot allegedly fired by Andrews hit Salazar in the chest, police reports indicate.

RETURN continued on page 3

Student Affairs

Tech faculty discuss attendance resolution

NO CLASS: SGA Student Senate resolution prohibits adjusting grades based on attendance.

By Andrew Bell/*The University Daily*

The Student Government Association's Student Senate approved a resolution concerning revisions to the current attendance policy last week. As more students are prone to missing classes, the faculty and administration of Texas Tech gave their opinions about the issue.

The resolution gives students who have different learning methods than others the possibility to master a course without attending all of the scheduled classes. Many instructors have used strict grade punishments as attendance incentives, according to the resolution.

The resolution suggests changes be made in the wording of the operating procedure of Tech and the undergraduate catalog of the university.

Currently, the operating procedure states – "The instructor determines the effect of absences on grades, consistent with university policy for excused and unexcused absences. When absences jeopardize a student's standing in a class, it is the responsibility of the instructor to report that fact to the student's dean. Excessive absences constitute cause for dropping a student from class; in such a case the grade of WF will be given. In extreme cases, the academic dean may suspend the student from the university."

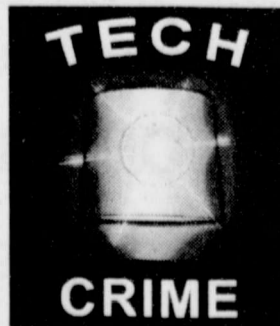
According to the resolution, the same paragraph is used with the addition of the following – "It is not the right of the instructor to negatively alter a student's grade based on poor attendance and that instructors should clearly state in their syllabi their policy regarding student absences."

Although the intent of the additional sentences is for the protection of students who are able to pass courses without attending every class, Vice Provost James Brink said the recommendation is not the best solution for the university.

"We're not going to go for that," he said.

National literature has made it clear the best predictor of good grades is class attendance, Brink said. If a student at Tech takes a course it does not mean that the student will read the book and then take a test. Instead, the

ATTENDANCE continued on page 5



Saddam silent in interrogations

WASHINGTON (AP) — He doesn't have a lawyer in the room, but Saddam Hussein apparently is practicing what most attorneys would advise: Don't talk. Diplomatic and military officials say the former Iraqi leader has provided little useful information in interrogations so far — and may even be having fun.

The questioning of Saddam — initially handled by the CIA — is now a joint CIA-FBI operation, a sign the aim is changing from finding intelligence to gathering evidence for any eventual trials. The people who are asking the questions at the moment are from the FBI, said a U.S. intelligence official, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has indicated in interviews that interrogators aren't learning much from the former president of Iraq.

In a recent interview, Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said he occasionally sees the interrogation briefing reports. "He's a pretty wily guy, and he's not giving much information that I've seen. But he seems to be enjoying the debate," Armitage told WPHT-TV radio in Philadelphia.

When Saddam was captured, hanged in an underground room in December, officials hoped the interrogation would yield details about the Iraqi insurgency, Saddam's weapons programs, human rights violations and corruption in the U.N. oil-for-food program.

Instead, House Intelligence Chairman Porter Goss, R-Fla., now calls the questioning a "patience project."

"He is very good at denial and deception. I am not sure he even knows what the truth is anymore," Goss said. "I think he's been surrounded by yes-men and sycophants."

In an interview with the Associated Press last week, FBI Director Robert Mueller said the FBI is assisting with "certain interrogations" in Iraq, as well as helping with investigations into killings there. He said the bureau is also working with documents obtained in Iraq.

Those most likely include Saddam's papers. Vince Cannistraro, a former counterterrorism director for the CIA, said papers found with Saddam when he was captured have proved much more useful than anything the former leader has said. "Everything they have found and

taken action on has come from documentation found on him," Cannistraro said.

A defense lawyer would say only that Saddam was in good health at an undisclosed location.

Details of the interrogations could come out in any eventual trial of Saddam. But the logistics — including the date — of any trial have yet to be settled.

On Sunday, Jacques Verges, a French lawyer who claims to be representing Saddam at his family's request, said he expects a trial is still some time away. Verges has not met with Saddam and is trying to act as his lawyer from afar, a U.S. intelligence official said.

The International Committee of the Red Cross visited Saddam in jail for the first time in February. The group does not release details of such visits or of a prisoner's confinement. However, Saddam did write a letter to his family that was to be delivered once the United States confirmed it did not contain any hidden messages to his followers. Verges did not discuss that letter.

Police arrest eight terror suspects in London

LONDON (AP) — Police arrested eight men and seized half a ton of ammonium nitrate, a fertilizer compound used in the Oklahoma City bombing, in raids by hundreds of officers — one of the biggest anti-terrorism operations in Britain since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Home Secretary David Blunkett, who has warned for months that London is a prime terrorist target, said the arrests Tuesday were a "timely reminder" of the threat from al-Qaida. But a Muslim leader warned that the headline-grabbing raids risked demonizing the whole community.

Press Association, the British news agency, said all eight were of Pakistani descent, but police would not comment.

In a sweep involving 700 officers, eight suspects were picked up in Lon-

don and towns to the south and west on suspicion of involvement in the "commission, preparation or instigation" of acts of terrorism, London's Metropolitan Police said.

Authorities recovered the ammonium nitrate — often used in terrorist bombings — from a self-storage facility in west London, police said. It was the largest seizure of potential bombing material in England since the Irish Republican Army suspended its campaign of violence in 1997.

"Part of the investigation will focus on the purchase, storage and intended use of that material," said Deputy Assistant Commissioner Peter Clarke, head of the force's anti-terrorist branch.

Clarke said the suspects were British, aged 17 to 32, and were arrested as

part of an operation targeting alleged international terrorist activity. He said the operation, which involved five police forces, was not connected to the Madrid train bombings this month or to Irish terrorism.

Clarke gave no details of the suspects' background or religious affiliation, but he told reporters that "we in the police service know that the overwhelming majority of the Muslim community are law abiding and completely reject all forms of violence."

Three of the arrests were in Uxbridge and Slough, near Heathrow Airport west of London, and four in Crawley and Horley, near Gatwick to the south. Police refused to say whether there was any significance to the proximity. The eighth arrest was in Ilford, east London.

The Rundown



Father asks 'why?' in stoning of children

TYLER (AP) — His voice breaking, Keith Laney told a jury Tuesday that he asks every day why his wife of 19 years bludgeoned two of their sons to death with rocks and severely injured their youngest.

"I don't understand it," he said. "Keith Laney, 47, said there was no change in her mood and no clues she was capable of killing 8-year-old Joshua and 6-year-old Luke last Mother's Day weekend."

Deanna Laney, a 39-year-old stay-at-home mother who homeschooled her children, has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity to charges of capital murder and serious injury to a child.

Keith Laney, who has supported his wife, looked to her and smiled when prosecutors asked what year they were married. When prosecutors brought out a poster-sized photo of the three boys taken months before the killings, Keith Laney saw his crying wife and lost composure in his face for a moment.

Earlier Tuesday, jurors saw a crime scene video of Joshua and Luke with their skulls smashed, lying in a yard where garden signs read "Mom's Love Grows Here" and "Thank God for Mothers."

They were found in their underwear with heavy rocks on their chests. The video also showed a large spot of blood in a baby bed, where Laney severely injured her youngest son, Aaron, 14 months old at the time.

To show the severity of the attack on Joshua, Smith County District Attorney Matt Bingham hammered a 16-pound rock into the floor of the courtroom eight times. Vibrations could be felt throughout the courthouse.

Deanna Laney sunk her head during morning testimony and wept as graphic autopsy photos were shown. Her husband shifted in his seat a few rows behind and often sighed deeply and lowered his head.

Rice to testify before 9/11 Commission

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush agreed Tuesday to do what he had insisted for weeks he would not — allow National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice to testify publicly and under oath before an independent panel investigating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The White House also agreed that Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney would answer questions — together, in private — before the entire commission.

The turnabout reflected administration concern the president's strongest point with voters — his leadership in the war on terror — could be eroded if the high-publicity dispute over Rice's testimony lingered.

"I've ordered this level of cooperation because I consider it necessary to gaining a complete picture of the months and years that preceded the murder of our fellow citizens on Sept. 11, 2001," Bush said.

The nation "must never forget the loss or the lessons of Sept. 11 and we must not assume the danger has passed," Bush said in short remarks in the White House briefing room. He took no questions.

The commission's Republican chairman, former New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, welcomed the decision and said the White House shouldn't be concerned the testimony would violate the principles of executive privilege or separation of powers.

"We recognize the fact that this is an extraordinary event," Kean said. "This does not set a precedent." He said there was still no time set — either for Rice's public testimony or for Bush and Cheney's private appearance.

Bush is staking much of his re-election bid on his performance as president after the 2001 attacks.

Uzbekistan death toll raises to 42 in battle

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) — Gunfire and explosions resumed in the capital Tuesday as Uzbek forces battled for hours with suspected Islamic militants after two more suicide attacks. Officials claimed 20 terrorists and three police died in the fighting.

The bloodshed brought the death toll to 42 in three days of violence, the government said — the most serious unrest in the country since Uzbekistan let hundreds of U.S. troops use a base near the Afghan border after the Sept. 11 attacks. All of this week's attacks appeared to target Uzbek churches.

The clashes Tuesday were centered in the Yalangach neighborhood, just outside the city limits off the road heading to the official home of President Islam Karimov.

An Associated Press reporter saw four separate sites of fighting in the district: remnants from two suicide bombings on roads, a burned-out building pockmarked with bullet holes and the bodies of at least five suspects splayed out in front of an apartment house.

The Interior Ministry said in an statement read on state-run TV that 20 terrorists and three police were killed in the confrontations that began about 7:20 a.m., while five other police were wounded.

"Twenty of them blew themselves up using self-made explosive devices," the ministry said of the alleged terrorists.

The statement didn't say how long the operation lasted, but witnesses indicated explosions and shooting went on for at least several hours.

The clashes began with a pair of suicide bombings.

Motorist rescued after lying paralyzed on freeway 36 hours

FRIENDSWOOD (AP) — A motorist injured after a crash lay paralyzed in the middle of the Gulf Freeway with a broken neck for 36 hours before he was rescued.

Ed Theisen's plight was blocked from the view of passing cars by some traffic barricades.

The 46-year-old chemical engineer

from Friendswood, a Houston suburb, survived a night alone on the concrete, unable to move or summon help.

"Someone riding in the back of a pickup truck spotted him and called police," Debora Rodeffer-Theisen, his wife, said Monday after her husband emerged from surgery. "The officer poked him with a nightstick thinking

he was a dead body, but he was there and he was very much alive. It was a miracle."

Wondering he had been carjacked, Theisen's wife drove past the area twice as her husband prayed for small things such as the ability to grab a plastic bag fluttering nearby to wrap around his arm. He was on his side,

staring at a concrete wall, his shouts inaudible to passing traffic.

Doctors later determined that Theisen had broken his neck and suffered a spinal cord injury. He underwent surgery Monday. Family members are eager for him to recover and also are searching for the person who spotted him and called police.

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Price of college doesn't include eyesight

EASY ON THE EYE: Experts say reading, using computers shouldn't damage eyes.

By Beth Aaron/
The University Daily

Ah, college life. Though students spend countless hours reading books and researching on the Internet for upcoming midterms and ever-looming finals, there is some good news. Their eyes aren't suffering.

Ted Reid, associate professor of ophthalmology at Texas Tech, said college-aged students are not at high risk for eye problems.

"It all depends on what they're doing with their eyes," he said. "Fortunately, college-age kids — that's a good age; unless you have something from birth."

"The best thing to do is to wear reading glasses if they're having trouble focusing," he said. "If you can focus, it's fine."

Reid said generic reading glasses are inexpensive and can be picked up at grocery or convenience stores for about \$5.

Reid said there is non-conclusive evidence linking poor eyesight with lots of reading or spending long times in front of a computer screen.

"I think that the big problem college students have with their eyes," he said, "is going out in the sun with regular sunglasses."

Reid said students should wear protective sunglasses that block wave-

lengths of blue spectral light, which penetrate normal sunglasses causing damage to the cornea or retina.

The retina is the area located in the back of the eye, containing optical nerves. Reid described one's retina as the film in a camera. Once damage is done to the retina, he said, it cannot be repaired.

The cornea is the hole in the middle of the iris, or colored part of the eye, and it allows light to pass through, Reid said.

The thing to look for when shopping for sunglasses is not limited to style, Reid said. Though they look goofy, he said, blue tinted sunglasses block out harmful rays.

"People wear sunglasses and they think, 'Oh, I'm protecting my eyes,'" he said, "actually doing just the opposite."

Wearing no glasses at all is more beneficial than wearing the wrong glasses, Reid said. One way to tell whether a sunglass purchase was a good one is to look at something blue. If the object appears gray through the sunglasses lenses, they offer the correct protection.

Reid suggested students add egg yolks and dark green, leafy vegetables to their diets in an effort to maintain their good eyesight.

Such foods contain a compound called lutein, which is also found in the retina.

Steven Mathews, associate professor in the department of ophthalmology and visual sciences, said he does not believe students are concerned about their long-term eyesight.

"They're young, so a lot of the diseases of the eye haven't necessarily

kicked in yet," he said. "Most of the problems are related to 'I can't see the board!'"

Lutein is effective for people who suffer from molecular degeneration, Mathews said. He said people may benefit from a diet rich in lutein-fortified spinach later in life. Lutein is also available in supplement form, he said.

"I don't know that you'll get any college students to worry about what will happen when they're 70," he said.

To prevent eye-strain, Mathews suggested students take breaks when studying to give their eyes a rest at least every hour for five minutes. Breaks from reading allow the eyes to sustain effort longer, he said.

Mathews said students having trouble seeing the front of the classroom or straining their eyes by studying for four hours at a time should see

an eye doctor because eyeglass or contact prescriptions could help the situation.

However, Mathews said young adults tend to treat their contact lenses badly, causing chance for infection.

"They don't tend to take good care of their lenses," he said, "or replace lenses."

Mathews said in order to maintain good eye health, contact lens users should replace their lenses after they expire and should pay close attention to care information listed on the lens packaging.

"A contact lens is a device that if abused can cause you problems," he said. "If they treat their lenses with an appropriate amount of caution, people can save themselves pain and expense."

Return

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Andrews allegedly fled the scene and was later apprehended in Bellaire.

Calls placed to Andrews' on-campus residence were not answered.

Earlier this month, Baytown officials told *The University Daily* Andrews has been arrested on 10 separate occasions by the department, including an arrest in connection with a theft charge last year.

Associates Director of News and Publications Sally Logue Post said university officials are unable to comment on the matter as a result of federal privacy laws.

The mother of a Tech student, who wished to remain unidentified, contacted *The University Daily* on Tuesday to express concern about Andrews' reinstatement to the university.

"I don't appreciate that other students have to share a bathroom in the residence halls with this man," she said. "I'm sure that parents would be outraged to know that these kids are living with a man who has this kind of history. I'm all about innocent until proven guilty, but I'm still concerned about this."

Vice President of Student Affairs Michael Shonrock and Managing Director of Housing and Residence Life Sean Duggan were traveling Tuesday and unavailable for comment.

Fire

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gilbreath is president of the housing corporation for the Tech chapter and said the lodge was insured through the contractor.

"I hope it's not a sign of more things to come," he said. "I hate that it happened in my district. I hate that it happened at all in Lubbock, and I hate that it happened in Greek Circle. Those kinds of things you can't anticipate."

Numerous phone calls from members of the community have been encouraging to the fraternity.

"The Greek community is very supportive of us getting up and going again," Gilbreath said.

Jason Blazek, a sophomore business major from Carrollton and member since fall 2002, said many of the members of the fraternity are just finding out about the incident.

"I makes me very upset that somebody would do this," he said. "I don't see why somebody would want to come in and destroy our house already."

The fire is still under investigation. Nelson said anyone with information regarding the case is encouraged to call 775-2646.

"What we need now is information to follow up on," Nelson said. "We need people to talk."

Attendance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Instead, the student learns through the wisdom and knowledge of the instructor teaching the course.

"Students get the accumulated wisdom and knowledge of the expert in the field. That wisdom and knowledge are conveyed in a class setting," Brink said. "Especially at the undergraduate level; it is through class discussion that a valuable connection is made leading to the student's understanding."

In essence, this understanding is a greater form of learning than knowledge accumulation, Brink said. Various colleges at Tech have their own attendance policies, which are put in place for the benefit of the student.

Roger Saathoff, an associate professor for the School of Mass Communications, said most policies in the school are in place to motivate students.

As an example, some professors inform their classes that any more than four absences would require the student to take the final exam for the course.

This semester, Saathoff said he has not taken attendance in one of his largest classes. Brink said it is the right of instructors and professors to not have an attendance policy.

Saathoff said almost 120 of his 170 students attend the class.

However, he said he has noticed more discussion and participation than when he made attendance necessary.

At the Tech School of Law, the school has a separate policy than the rest of the university. Although the policy is different, attendance is still important to the grade of the student, Brian Shannon said.

The associate dean and Charles "Tex" Thornton Professor of Law said, in some courses, a professor could exclude a student from the final for excessive absences, which would have a severe impact on the final grade of the student.

If the student is excluded from the final, the professor has the option of giving the student a W or WF for the course.

According to the operating procedure of Tech, after the instructor informs the student's dean of excessive absences, the dean has the option of dropping the student from the course or suspending the student from the university.

Of the nearly 11,000 students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the policy would create hun-

dreds of students who would have to be evaluated by the dean, Saathoff said.

However, students who have to miss classes because of university business are still protected under the operating procedures of Tech.

Brink said a professor cannot penalize a student for missing class if the absence is excused.

According to the operating procedure, any student absent because of university business must be allowed to make up missed work, or have alternate grades substituted for work due to an excused absence.

Regardless, Brink said he still believes good attendance is the best possible action taken by a student.

"It is through attendance that a student makes valuable connections to understanding," he said.



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View from another university

Society's views on beauty send wrong message

By Kaitlyn Andrews-rice/Daily Collegian

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. —

Dear Beautiful,

Not-So-Average Americans (aka models, celebrities and whatever Paris Hilton is): Your fantasy has finally become a reality. Network executives have finally caught onto your game: Being beautiful is everything.

Teams of makeover people, plastic surgeons and reality TV cameras are entering the living rooms of your worshippers.

The viewers will be shocked to know being beautiful isn't natural, but a life-long process of swollen noses and bleached hair. They will realize they, too, can be like you and they will try. You might laugh, but this is a country based on self-worth, and let's face it, beautiful people are the only ones worth anything.

Sincerely,

A Very Average, But Concerned American

All joking aside, there is a problem in America, and it needs to be discussed before it gets out of our hands and into the hands of cosmetic surgeons everywhere. And while I'd love to poke fun at Hollywood and the celebrities who I publicly denounce but secretly enjoy, I think our self-image is more important than whether Britney really had that infamous boob job.

There is no denying image is important to human beings.

When it comes down to it, we all have an innate desire to feel beautiful. If you were to strip us down to our flesh, without any remnants of the objects we use to identify ourselves, we would all scramble in a Darwinian fashion to look better than the naked person next to us.

It's the "keeping up with the Jones" idea that we learn as kids: You don't need what everyone else has.

You are beautiful all on your own. Just because Kelly Clarkson has a nose ring doesn't mean you need one.

Those platitudes are fine in a society that really believes them. In America, however, our self-image has become so distorted that we allow the media to dictate what is beauty. According to the media, "keeping up with the Jones" is nothing compared to keeping up with Jennifer Aniston's hairstyles.

With recent and apparently astounding news that America has an obesity problem, the media has been hungry to tell people about their fatness.

Report after investigative report has said, "America is Fat and Fatter." Or, "American's Children: Fatter than Ever." "Slim Now." "Atkins or Die."

Nothing, though, is more disturbing than the new wave of reality television focusing on beauty. Sure, reality TV seems to take the brunt of most of the blame about why our society is headed for the trash heap, but this goes beyond dating shows and the intrigue of Donald Trump's comb over.

Fox is about to unleash its newest venture into reality television: TheSwan. The show follows a handful of "ugly" women as they embark on three months of surgery, makeovers and life-changing tasks created to improve their life. At the end of every episode, two women will be revealed — in what Fox calls "fairy-tale turned reality" — to their family and friends. Sounds pretty harmless, huh?

Not exactly. The butchering of America's self-image doesn't end there, because only one of the two women can be chosen to participate in the "1st Annual Swan Pageant."

Yes, this series will culminate in a two-hour beauty pageant, where one of the former "ugly ducklings" will be turned into the "Ultimate Swan."

"Fox's Web site for The Swan claims the contestants were chosen from women" seeking a second chance in life." Silly me! I always thought being the

"ugly duckling" was cool. You're only really alive once you've gone under the knife. But even then, you still aren't beautiful enough; only one person can be the "Ultimate Swan."

"I wonder if that's based on how ugly you were to begin with or how much you look like everyone else?"

Speaking of looking like everyone else, MTV just began its newest documentary style show, I Want a Famous Face. On Monday's half-hour show (I swear I only watched in the name of research), Mia underwent surgery to receive breasts implants in order to look more like Britney Spears. Mia, a self-proclaimed Britney impersonator, was convinced that new breasts were all she needed to take her "entertainment career" to the next level.

MTV clearly states that it did not pay for the surgeries. The cable network even inserted a short segment about a 21-year-old who had become extremely ill from silicon breast implants.

Still, I couldn't help but be sickened by the way I Want a Famous Face legitimizes Mia's ridiculous quest to be more like Britney Spears. She kept emphasizing that she was having the surgery for herself, but then she'd go to the mall and sign autographs for kids who thought she actually was Britney.

C'mon now. After all, Mia will always be a Britney Spears impersonator. She might get a million more surgeries to look like her idol, but in the end, she'll still hate herself.

What does Mia's story say to the thousands of easily influenced 15-year-old girls who worship Britney and MTV? For that matter, what does The Swan say to an even larger audience?

You are not going to be good enough until you look like somebody else. You are not going to be beautiful unless you get plastic surgery. And even then, someone will always be more beautiful than you.

Still think obesity is America's biggest problem?

View from another university

Vote-at-pump convenience to resolve apathy

By Mark Karpf/Daily Nebraskan

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — When one thinks about what controls our country or who is behind the democratic machine that powers our nation, one might be quick to say our government, or maybe the captains of industry. You might mention education has a big say in things, or even the moral compass freedom of religion has brought all of us.

What you might not realize, however, is the true power behind our great democracy doesn't lie in the nation's capital or even on the top floors of corporate headquarters. Our country's democratic freedoms aren't held together by public education or even freedom of speech or religion.

The United States of America is held together by one thing and one thing only. It's a Mecca of fluorescent and neon lighting creating a glow burning throughout the night. A haven for every legal vice America has to offer, and a bonding experience of natural resources and humanity.

I'm talking of a place where every man, woman and child must attend religiously at least once a week. The gas station.

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 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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I heard a quote the other day that made me think, "Americans will cross the ocean to start a war trying to spread democracy but Americans won't even cross the street to vote in their own democracy."

I believe paying at the pump has done more for the ATM/debit card than ATMs themselves. It showed us how easy it was to use your check register while bypassing the wait in line at the cash register. With this said, I soon realized how easy it would be to get every eligible American to vote, or at least the vast majority of them: vote at the pump.

There is no other entity that has the all-encompassing effects of the convenience store; in fact, you'd be hard pressed to go more than a near nexus of being one. I've even been to the near nexus of the minimart where there were three of them at a four-way intersection.

Americans don't vote because they don't think they'll make a difference.

Americans don't vote because they are too busy, Americans don't vote because they are lazy! And when Americans don't vote we are stuck with a representative government that isn't representative of our nation.

Currently the American military is forcing the

Iraqi provincial government to have a 25 percent quota of women in the new democratically elected government. This, in a nation that is a hidden of Islamic fundamentalism keeping women hidden under veils and behind closed doors, locked by their very husbands.

Yet in America itself, the upholder of democratic freedoms for every man, woman and child in the entire world, we don't even have a 14 percent representation of females in our own government, all because we are too lazy to cross the street to vote.

I say we can put an end to all of this voter apathy by initiating vote-at-the-pump legislation, with touch screens and receipts showing who and what you voted for, in case you forgot.

No longer will we have the confusion of how to register and where to vote. Gone will be all of the befuddled ballots and dimpled chads.

We finally will be able to vote the quick and easy American way, with a credit card while filling up our gas tanks.

The all-encompassing effects of the minimart can save a country that is afraid to save itself, because vote-at-the-pump legislation will finally form a representative government truly representative of a nation.

Stars not worth that much dough

Million-dollar contracts should not be for just entertainers

So Jay Leno, the large-chinned host of NBC's "The Tonight Show," signed a contract with the broadcasting mogul for another five years — at the rate of \$20 million a year.

Heidi Toth



That's right. The company agreed to pay Leno \$100 million for his services.

Wow. Don't get me wrong, I'm a big fan of Leno. His disrespect for everything and everybody makes for some entertaining late-night quips. But is he really worth that much money?

In a world where worth and importance are measured by a dollar amount, the people at the top are movie stars, athletes and entertainers. That's just a little bit worrisome. Most of these people that grace the bit of our lives and the commercials and broadcast bits on a routine basis are not the role models we should have.

Take "Friends," for example. This is my favorite TV show, and I'm going to cry when I have to say farewell to the Friends. But about a year ago the six stars refused to make any more shows unless NBC signed each of them at a cost of \$1 million an episode. That would make the salaries between \$60 million and \$100 million a season, and that's just for those six actors.

Phil Jackson, head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers, had a five-year contract for \$30 million, a paltry sum compared to some of his players, including embattled All Star Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal.

Britney Spears, the Backstreet Boys and Madonna all rake in million of dollars each year through album sales, concert tours and commercials for various products.

Question: What have any of these people done to make them deserve this kind of money? They're talented, yes. But are they more talented than other people in different fields?

Look at teaching. No matter how good, how talented, how creative a teacher is, he or she will never make \$1 million. Most teachers are lucky to hit \$50,000 a year. That doesn't make that teacher not as good as Shaq. He or she is just not as visible.

With good reason. Watching a teacher grade tests isn't quite as exciting as watching Shaq dunk the game-winner in front of a sold-out crowd. But you get my drift.

We're focusing on the wrong people! We're rewarding people not because they accomplished a major feat that helped society, but because they make us laugh, or because we think they're cute, or because they perform supercool feats of athleticism. These are not the things that made this country great. Fun, maybe. Well-known around the world, be that good or bad, definitely. But not really what I'd like my future children to be idolizing, or for my 13-year-old brother to want to emulate.

It amazes me that we ignore, show disrespect to and pitifully compensate the most important people in our society. Teachers deserve more. My mother is a high school teacher, and she works 24/7, it seems like, to get everything done, all for a bunch of ungrateful teenagers who are convinced they know everything.

How about housewives and homemakers? In a world of go, go, go, do, do, do and buy, buy, buy, it's hard for a mother to stay at home with her children. It's especially difficult with all the crazy feminists who insist that women staying at home to raise their children are disloyal to the suffragists of yore.

Sorry, but this is not the case. Women who want to stay home should be commended. Women who don't want to stay home should not worry about it. Not working is a personal decision, and no one has the right to pass judgment. Besides, the suffragists wanted choice. Informing women they have to work is just as bad as making them stay home.

Besides, raising children is hard, and it never goes away. Think about it. You have an 8 to 5, Monday through Friday job. That's it! You show up, do your work, go home at the end of the day, pick up a paycheck every couple of weeks. Raising children involves lots of unpaid overtime and per diem, multitasking, being a nurse, counselor, chef and taxi driver all at the same time, and who knows what else. Frankly, at this point in my life I'd take the 8-5. Less responsibility.

And let's not forget nurses. I couldn't do their job. They deal with life and death and make serious decisions a lot. They see blood, guts and throw-up. For that we give them 12-hour shifts and no money. Sounds fair to me.

Obviously teachers, homemakers and nurses aren't in the professions for the money, and that's fine. But since we're awarding "influential" people with fat contracts, let's reward the people who actually have an influence on the average, everyday person. Give homemakers a tax break. Raise salaries for teachers, nurses, and all those other underpaid, under-respected positions we can't live without. Let's start appreciating the "little" people who maybe aren't so little after all.

■ Toth is a graduate student from Roswell, N.M., studying business. She also is The UD's news editor. E-mail comments to Heidi.e.Toth@ttu.edu

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STD rates in Lubbock dropping

STD rate among highest in state. Doctor: Rates should not scare students but be a warning to the dangers.

By Nikki Siegrist/
The University Daily

(Editor's note: The source with the STD in the story has been changed to Ann. She is a Tech student.)

Ann tested positive for chlamydia and the human papilloma virus, better known as genital warts, about a month ago.

While chlamydia is curable, and Ann no longer has the infection, there is no cure for genital warts, and she may carry the disease for the rest of her life. Because it is a virus, she will have the disease until it runs its course and dies. It could last a year, 10 years or 50 years.

"I felt devastated," she said. "I've only had two sex partners my whole life. I am a basically good, loving person. I am not promiscuous."

Ann got tested after discovering from a friend that her ex-boyfriend had been diagnosed with chlamydia, but finding out she had genital warts was a surprise.

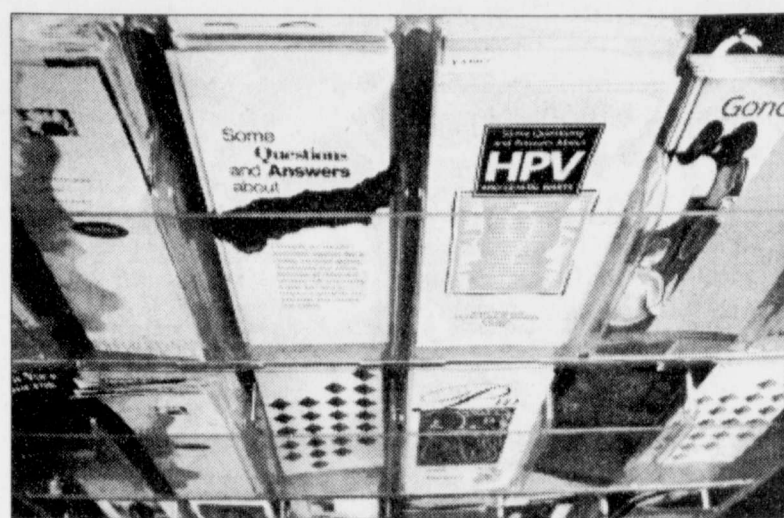
She had the warts on her cervix frozen with liquid nitrogen, a procedure she said was extremely painful. She now has to have pap smears every six months and said future relationships will never be the same.

Using protection could have prevented the chlamydia and probably the genital warts as well. Ann said she did not feel she was properly educated about STDs and their effects.

"My parents never discussed the subject with me, and at school it was only briefly mentioned," she said. "I just never thought it would happen to me."

Many Lubbock county residents feel like Ann. Lubbock County has the highest recorded STD numbers in the state, especially for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

But the numbers are dropping, said disease intervention specialist Vilka Scott-Kitching. Only about six of the many different STDs are required to be reported by the



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

health department. These are chlamydia, gonorrhea, chancroid, syphilis, HIV and AIDS.

Herpes and the human papilloma virus are not required to be reported, and Scott-Kitching said if they were reported, the numbers would be overwhelming.

In 2000, Lubbock County reported 2,528 different STD cases. In 2003, the number dropped to 1,725. Scott-Kitching said she thinks the good disease reporting method in Lubbock is the main reason why the county's numbers are so high.

"Lubbock County residents are not more promiscuous than others," she said.

Scott-Kitching said she believes few people are properly educated about the risks and chances of getting an STD.

"Some people seem to have a complete lack of knowledge that it's not good to have more than one sex partner," she said. "I don't think we should expect the school (to teach children). Sex education in junior high and high school is not enough. That should start at home."

While some people may be afraid of the high STD rate, said Dr. Kelly Bennett, medical director for Student Health Services, the rate on the Texas Tech campus is not higher than other Big 12 schools.

Also, many counties in Texas have fewer young people, and therefore counties with a higher concentration of young people, like Lubbock, will naturally have a higher rate, she said.

"Lubbock is going to be higher because Tech is here, and there are a higher concentration of 18- to 24-year-olds," Bennett said. "When you have this concentration of 18- to 24-year-olds together, it's going to be a breeding ground for STDs."

She said as long as Tech is in Lubbock, the rate will probably be higher. To lower

the rate, she suggested promoting condom use.

"Condoms are used mainly to prevent pregnancy and not STDs," she said.

Bennett said many women taking contraceptive pills do not make their partner use a condom because they are not worried about contracting an STD.

She said the rate should not scare students, but should make them aware of the dangers and take protective measures.

"I don't think that there's any kind of special Lubbock county or Texas Tech version of STDs going around," she said. "A lot of that is all urban myth."

WEDNESDAY							MARCH 31						
STAT. CHAN.	KTXT	KCBD	KLBK	KUPT	KAMC	KJTV	STAT. CHAN.	KTXT	KCBD	KLBK	KUPT	KAMC	KJTV
AFFIL.	5	11	13	22	28	34	AFFIL.	5	11	13	22	28	34
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock
7:00	Body Elec. Callout	Today Show	Early Show	K. Copeland Paid Program	Good Morning	Paid Program Spin City	7:00	Berenstein Barney		Early Show	J. Robinson Paid Program	America	Grace/Fire Roseanne
8:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Paid Program Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	Family Feud	8:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	Hatchett Hatchett	View	Dharma/Greg Dharma/Greg
9:00	Mr. Rogers Telelubies	Hwyd Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program Paid Program	Home Impr. Paid Program	Access Extra	9:00	Woodwright Joy/Painting	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live
10:00	Sit, Be Fit Dragon Tales	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Paid Program Paid Program	One Life to Live	People's Court	10:00	Zoom	Beth/Lions	In/Edition	Guiding Light	Street Smart Street Smart	General Hospital
11:00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Maury Povich	Ryan Seacrest	Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown	11:00	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	Sabrina That 70's	Mortel Williams	News & More
12:00	Liberty 30	Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Pyramid Pyramid	ABC News	12:00	Newshour	News W/fortune	News Millicaine	Access Extra	News Friends Raymond	That 70's Simpsons
1:00	Zoom	National Geographic	Apprentice PG	50 Minutes II	Game Over Mulletts	My Wife PG	1:00	New Americans	West Wing PG	King/Queens Stones	Enterprise	Extreme Makeover	D.C.
2:00	Law & Order TV14	News Tonight Show	Letterman Craig	Blind Date	MASH E.T.	Raymond Shoot Me	2:00	Law & Order TV14	News Tonight Show	Letterman Craig	Blind Date	MASH E.T.	Raymond Shoot Me
3:00	Conan	O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Est. Dating Paid Program	Jimmy Kimmel	Becker Paid Program	3:00	Conan	O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Est. Dating Paid Program	Jimmy Kimmel	Becker Paid Program

The Coens, Hanks devour 'Ladykillers'

When Tom Hanks walked on to the stage to present at the Academy Awards in February, the band played "Hail to the Chief" as he walked across the stage.

It's no wonder. Hanks has proven to be one of Hollywood's finest, and has most recently concerned himself with serious roles ("Road to Perdition," "Cast Away").

In a partnership that is, perhaps, long overdue, he has teamed up with Joel and Ethan Coen ("Fargo," "O Brother, Where Art Thou?") for "The Ladykillers," a remake of a 1955 British comedy of the same name that has now been given the unmistakable Coen spin.

Hanks dons a deep Southern accent, clothes stolen out of the closet of Col. Sanders, and a bushy Vandylke to play Goldthwait Higginson Dorr III, Ph.D., a university professor of Latin and Greek with a love for the poetry of Poe and the sound of his own voice.

He has a certain fascination with himself and his mastering of the English language and manages to make any simple idea or statement sound far more complex than necessary.

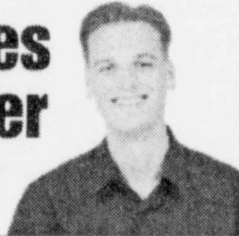
Dorr appears on the doorstep of a widow, an African-American Southern Baptist named Marva Munson (Irma P. Hall). He is inquiring about a room to rent, and oh, do you also have a cellar?

He explains he needs the cellar to rehearse with his small ensemble of baroque instrumentalists. His ensemble, however, are not musicians at all. They are actually a small band of rag-tag thieves that Dorr has assembled to pull off a robbery of a riverboat casino by tunneling from the cellar to the vault.

The film gives us mini-background stories of each of these oddball Coen caricatures: Gawain MacSam (Marlon Wayans) a slacking janitor working at the casino; Garth Pancake (J.K. Simmons) the demolitions expert with a bad case of irritable bowel syndrome; The General (Tzi Ma) a Viet Cong tunneling expert and Lump (Ryan Hurst) a football player who has taken one too many shots to the head.

In looking at the cast list, Hanks and Wayans are probably the only readily recognizable names. But the Coens are not concerned with a marquee full of

James Eppler



A-list names. They've cast good character actors that fit their roles perfectly. The Coens' writing and characterization is so rich that they know that it is the characters that will be remembered long after the film has ended, not the names of the actors.

Neither are the Coens concerned with making this a "Hee-Haw" version of "Ocean's 11." While the film should fit into the mold of "heist movie," it never seems to be that concerned with the heist itself.

The plot is, admittedly, uneven as the film sometimes catches us up by a character saying something like "OK, now that we've done (insert plot point here) while (insert subplot here) we can now do (next plot point)."

It's a fault, but only one that viewers may think of in hindsight or between

laughs.

The Coens stay true to their own form in that the film turns into pitch-dark comedy on a hairpin turn. Bodies soon need to be disposed of, a cat gets a severed finger as a chew-toy, and straws are drawn to try to decide who kills the old lady upstairs.

It's sick, it's wrong, and it's hilariously funny.

They also effectively use Southern Gospel music as a motif here, like they used bluegrass and country music in "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" It only adds to the dark comedy as we watch a character do something deplorable while a church choir sings a hymn.

Hanks is obviously having a blast finally getting to play a curly-mustached villain like something out of a melodrama. Even if the whole movie had been a disaster, he would still be worth watching.

Hall also earns laughs throughout as an old woman everyone thinks is long-gone into senility, and who knows that repeatedly smacking a foul-mouthed "hippy-hop"-listening young man is sometimes the only way.

"The Ladykillers" is not the Coens' best work, but it does possess that intelligent and disturbingly funny wit that is distinctly their own.

EPPLER'S RATING



Eppler is The UD's movie critic. E-mail him questions and comments to James.D.Eppler@ttu.edu.

American Idol - 7:30 Cracking Up - 8:30PM



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Tech looking for defense in doubleheader

ALYSSA SIGALA CEL-EBBRATES with batgirl Jordan Cate after scoring in Tech's series with Iowa State this weekend. The Raiders play host to New Mexico State today at Rocky Johnson Field in a doubleheader at 1 and 3 p.m.

JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/
The University Daily



By David Wiechmann/
The University Daily

The Texas Tech softball team knows it has one part of the equation to winning under control and if the Lady Raiders can get their pitching and defense to be as consistent as their hitting, wins should come today in a doubleheader against New Mexico State.

"We just have to cut down on our errors," said junior outfielder Kelly Rhyme. "We have the talent to play defense really well. We've seen it throughout the season."

The Raiders had three errors in Sunday's 7-4 loss to Iowa State, and the offense produced eight hits. If the defense improves Rhyme said, Tech could increase its chances of sweeping the Aggies at 1 and 3 p.m. at Rocky Johnson Field today.

"If we can score runs and put one,

if not then pitching and defense together, we'll win ballgames," Rhyme said. "The way our offense has been performing has been great, and if we can put one of the two together we'll have a good chance to win some ballgames."

Tech (17-20, 1-1 Big 12) will have to do that against a New Mexico State team that is 9-28 this year and defeated the Raiders in San Marcos earlier this season, beating them 4-0. Tech then beat the Aggies on their home field 5-3, 7-0 in a doubleheader.

Now the teams will play in a doubleheader in Lubbock, and catcher Lisa Lawler said the Raiders are looking to get back on track after a poor defensive and pitching performance against a team they know well.

"(We are) very familiar," she said. "You know what their pitchers throw; you're very aware of what they can do

and what they can't do. Since we know so much about them, we should be able to just go out and play what we know how to play and win."

Tech is batting .263 as a .351 in conference play, but Lawler said the team is not stressing over the average. The Raiders are aware they need their pitchers and defense to take the challenge and make improvements for today's double-dip.

"That's our strongest point is our hitting," Lawler said. "If we don't have pitching or defense, we always have hitting. I can't even recall a game we didn't have hitting. We need at least pitching or defense. Hitting has been there, we don't need to worry about that. But at least pitching or defense, one of those need, to step up in (today's) doubleheader."

Assistant coach Kellyn Tate said the hitting has spread throughout the lineup, but it has not been

enough, and the team has the potential to do some great things if the missing parts of the equation can become as consistent as the bats have been.

"We're swinging the bats really well, and it's starting to become contagious," she said. "We've seen signs of greatness in all of those areas. It's just finding the consistency in those areas that's most important."

Now the bats are hot right now may make the defense a job a little easier, and Rhyme said hitting well can take away some of the burden from the defense and pitchers.

"It's comforting to know that we can stand up there and put some runs on the board, and there's not a whole lot of pressure on the defense like being in a close game 0-0 and not having any runs on the board," she said. "It just takes a lot of pressure off the defense and off the pitching."

sports@universitydaily.net

Red Raiders struggling against southpaws

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily

Southpaws and slow balls are things Texas Tech Larry Hays did not like.

Head coach Larry Hays said the team has struggled against left-handed pitchers and the squad needs to find its problem.

"We have struggled against the left-handed pitchers we have faced," the head coach said. "I can name about five that have shut us down."

In those five games against lefties this season Tech is 0-5. On Feb. 21, Northern Illinois' Zach Minor beat Tech 7-5 at Dan Law Field, and No. 8 Notre Dame's Tom Thornton defeated the Raiders 6-1 on March 13 in Round Rock. New Mexico pitcher Cooper Eddy slashed through Tech's batting order, winning 4-1 on March 16. The last two losses to lefties came in the Raiders' Big 12 Conference opener against Texas A&M's Jason Meyer and Zach Jackson, last Friday, 5-2, and Saturday, 4-1.

Hays said A&M pitchers were probably the best Tech has faced all year.

"They were two very good pitchers," he said. "Friday, we didn't do too bad. There were just a few defensive mistakes. But Saturday, we faced a guy that overloaded us."

Jackson complete game against Tech Saturday, forcing 14 strikeouts, one run on four hits and threw a total of 144 pitches. Hays said he figured his batters would have done better.

"We have enough right-handed batters on the team to be able to hit," he said. "They just shut us down."

At the plate, junior first baseman Josh Brady said the Tech batters are

not worried about the pitchers they face.

"We have struggled as much with lefties as we have with right-handed pitchers," he said. "We're not like, 'Oh great, here comes another left-hander,' but they are pretty good."

As for the A&M pitchers, Brady said the tough pitches came as a shock.

"They were two of the best pitchers I have seen all year long," he said.

To get used to the feel of a lefty, Brady said the coaches are providing extra batting practice and hitting drills.

"(Travis) Walden is the only coach that can throw left handed, so he has been throwing BP for a while now," he said. "Also, some of the lefties that won't play this weekend will get to pitch to us, so we get more practice against them."

Junior right fielder Michael Mask

said batting practice is not the only thing the lineup has worked on to keep from struggling with lefties.

"The cage the Tech Heckler bought us also throws left, so we've worked on curves, fastballs and things of that sort from that side," he said.

All pitchers have their selection they throw, but selection is a matter of finding out what kind batters prefer.

If there's one pitch Mask said he prefers, it is one that almost every ball player wants for.

"I like fastballs, and I think everybody does," he said. "Except for Brady. I think he likes the curve."

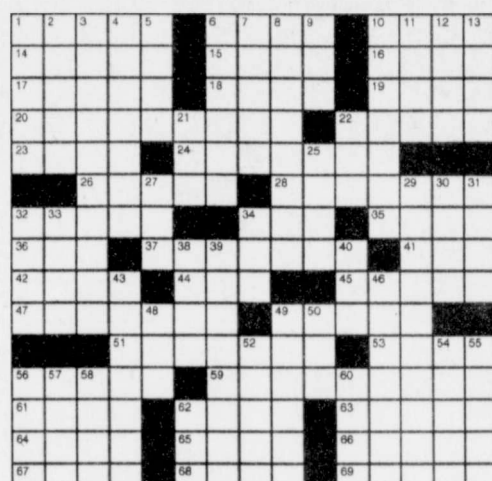
Brady said he disagreed with Mask's assumption and said he also likes the fastball.

"I like them right down the middle, but pitchers don't throw them on purpose," he said. "You have to wait until they mess up and then you can blast them out."

Tech hosts No. 1-ranked Texas this weekend at Dan Law Field beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday. The Red Raiders will play the Longhorns in a three-game series, with game two at 2 p.m. Saturday, and the last set for 1 p.m. Sunday.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- Thermoplastic resin
 - Musical or Lee
 - Bator, Mongolia
 - Varnish ingredient
 - Movie, pref.
 - Palm thatch
 - Meat pastes
 - Director
 - Preminger
 - Consider
 - Start of Mae West quote
 - Part 2 of quote
 - Lady's man
 - Maritime
 - Kind of perception
 - In a tawdry manner
 - Little nails
 - Moines, IA
 - Hook's right-hand man
 - Ely or Howard
 - Part 3 of quote
 - Mil. captive
 - Used?
 - 100 square meters
 - Amherst sch.
 - Make like new
 - Principle
 - Tornado
 - Outer edges
 - 9 Keanu in "The Matrix"
 - Part 4 of quote
 - Kind of frost
 - Narrow secluded valley
 - Vedas reader
 - Scotts Gaelic
 - Legendary loch
 - Open sore
 - New Jersey team
 - Food on the hoof
 - Flash of light
- DOWN**
- Flower part
 - Place to remember
 - Delaying agents
 - Changed for the better
 - Unless, in law
 - Word with pine or tape
 - Church contribution
 - Long-tongued predator
 - Keanu in "The Matrix"
 - Disconnects from the space shuttle
 - In _ of
 - Simians
 - Designate
 - Ready alternative
 - 22 _ jacet
 - Editorial cartoonist of old
 - Greek letter
 - Pestlessness
 - 30 Most born in August
 - Poisonous evergreens
 - Fox's title
 - Ballplayer Pete
 - Female rabbit
 - Ran's wrap
 - Grappler
 - Attila the _
 - Outfits
 - Acress Dina
 - Possess
 - Very little
 - Pause fillers
 - The ones here
 - Euripides play
 - 55 _ und Drang
 - Subsequently
 - Had on
 - Tobacco kin
 - Hoodlum
 - Econ. meas.



By Alan P. Olschwing
Huntington Beach, CA 3/31/04

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

SALALAD SIDES HALO
TISERE LOAM ORAL
KEVIN ATLI MESS
HAILINVAILEASE
TACKLES TEXAN
ELLE DEAL BRIMS
STAN SALSAL OSCO
TENOR REEL MADD
ITALS IBERIA
CORNET ABA
APERNET TERNINBERN
MANE EROS DODIE
ELAN NINO ELITE
OSLO DEAN DETER

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- ADVISOR OF THE YEAR
- MOST IMPROVED ORGANIZATION
- OUTSTANDING NEW ORGANIZATION
- ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 742-5433
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS APRIL 9TH

Awards Will Be Presented at
Arbor Day April 30th

Center for CAMPUS LIFE

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GET INSIDE

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STUDENT MEDIA

Every hour. Every day. Every year.

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DEADLINE: FRIDAY, April 9
Applications will be accepted in the Room 102 of the Student Media Bldg.

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR AN INTERVIEW TIME!!
Hours will be Monday - Friday. Flexible Schedule. Apx 20 hours/week. Needs to have reliable transportation.

The University Daily

Easter 2004 Bash

FEATURING: **HAIRYAPESBMX WATERMELONFASTBASS A+ MACHINES**

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS: **KENT MIGGS**
BAGG : DUSTY JANE : ONE DAY LOCKED & LOADED : KING SCHWAG DADDY & A JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE BY LOW DOG

SUNDAY APRIL 11TH @ THE GOLF STATION 116TH ST & INDIANA AVE.
MUSIC FROM NOON TILL MIDNIGHT. CAMPING IS ENCOURAGED. DISCOUNTED TICKETS AT KLUSOZ (4/9,4/10) & JAKES BACKROOM (4/10)
BYOB - No Glass - Tickets \$12 @ Ralphs Records \$15 @ door

Big E's BBQ Grand Opening Friday, April 2nd
*****HAPPY HOUR PARTY 4-7 PM*****
Free Food, Beer, & Music 'till we run out!
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Cujo's

WINGS AND WELLS Wednesday
Well Drinks- \$1.50 All Day
Wings- \$.25ea.

HOOP ACTION NIT & NCAA

Cujo's **SPORTZ BAR**
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EXPERIENCE Rec Sports

www.recsports.ttu.edu

Heartbeats

A quick pulse around the Rec Sports world...

Baseball Tournament Coming In April

Entries will be available tomorrow for the annual Recreational Sports' Baseball Tournament to be held the weekends of April 24th and May 1. The tournament is restricted to only eight teams with all teams getting to play a minimum of two games. Entries are available in the Student Rec Center and the Recreational Sports office, room 202 of the Rec.

All students, faculty and staff are eligible to compete. There is a \$50 entry fee to cover the costs of umpires. Game balls, helmets and catchers equipment will be provided. The first round of games will be on Hodges Field, 40th and University, with the championship games being played on Dan Law Field May 1 and 2. For further information please call Joe at 742-3351.

How Strong Are You? Bench Press Event

Been working out all winter? Want to find out where you stand? Come find out. The IM Department will be having its annual Bench Press Competition on Wed., April 7th. Sign-in and weigh-in is at 6:30pm, competition is at 7pm. Participants will be split into 7 different weight divisions for competition. Sign-up now in room 203 or just show up at 6:30 to register.

Your First Climb Is Always FREE!

Why not give it try? The climbing wall is an alternative to your daily workout. It will challenge you both physically and mentally. Our friendly staff will introduce you to climbing, and if you like it you can sign up for the Fundamentals of Climbing Course.

Experienced Climbers

Here are more chances to improve your skills: Now that mid-terms are over, come check out the workshops we've got on schedule for the rest of the semester. Movement workshops, lead climbing, and multi-pitch climbing are all in the works.

FITNESS/WELLNESS

The "Natural" Winners...



It was a perfect day for biking and over 60 riders took part in the annual Natural High Mountain Bike Race. Congratulations to all our participants and the following winners from the three divisions (from left) Dax Kastrin, Kay Maddox, Josh Chilton, Joy Ferenbaugh, Mary Donahue, Chris Briggs.

Now Hiring!
Fit/Well Center is hiring for student assistants, personal trainers and fitness instructors. Apply in the Center or on-line at www.recsports.ttu.edu

National Alcohol Screening Day

Where do you draw the line when it comes to your health, safety, and future success? Recent research says that alcohol on college campuses is strongly related to accidents, sexual assault and injury. Even death. So be smart. Don't be a statistic. Learn what you need to know-so you can draw the line for yourself, or, help a friend in trouble.

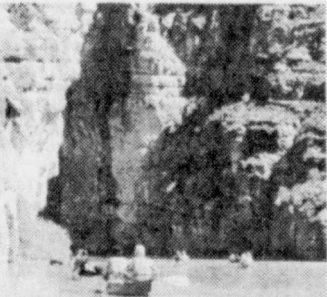
In conjunction with National Alcohol Screening Day, the Raider Assistance Program is presenting the straight facts on alcohol and how it affects your body, the risks you may face if you drink too much, and what you can do to regain control. You can ask questions and talk to a health professional. Sessions will be held at the Student Rec Center, Wall/Gates, Chitwood/Weymouth and Coleman on Tuesday, April 6th from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Colorado River Canoeing
April 9-12

Join the Outdoor Pursuits Center for a weekend 30-mile journey of the Colorado River.

Scenery is the name here with the high limestone bluffs, vistas of rugged cedar-covered hills and one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Texas, Gorman Falls



Sign up today! Call Outdoor Pursuits Cent 742-2949

Time in next week for a new adventure



Intramurals

Tennis Singles
Bench Press
Multiathlon

Special Events

Bike Maintenance Clinic
Dynamics of Fly Fishing Workshop
Baseball Tournament

Entries Due

April 1
April 7
April 12

Entries Due

April 1
April 6
April 21

STUDENT RECREATION CENTER HOURS

Open Recreation Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 6a.m. - Midnight
Friday 6a.m. - 10:30pm
Saturday 9am - 9pm
Sunday noon - 11pm

Aquatic Center Hours

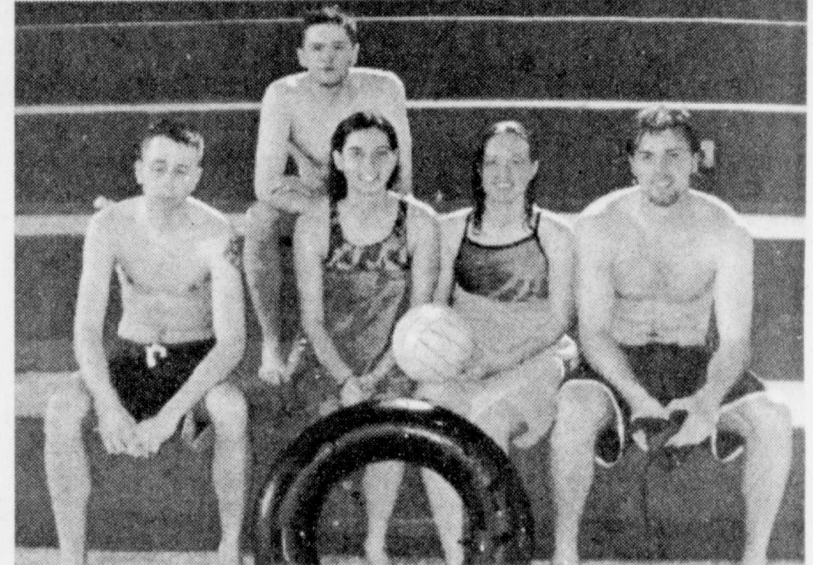
Monday - Friday 6:30am - 8:45am
Saturday - Sunday 2pm - 6:45pm
Noon - 1:20pm
3:00pm - 8:45pm

Need A Summer Job?
Rec Center Employment Opportunities
descriptions at recsports.ttu.edu

INTRAMURALS

Inner-Tube Water Polo Results

BGS! BGS! BGS! A Co-rec Inner tube water polo team that goes by the name of Better Ghetto Society (BGS) was crowned this year's champion—that makes it 2-year running. The defending champions – BGS – defeated the Guppies in the semis then went on to defeat Sink or Swim in the championship game. Sink or Swim gave a valiant effort but in the end BGS took the crown 5 goals to 4. Better Ghetto Society is powered by the female duet of Lindsay Harrell & Lindsey Doherty. The men of Better Ghetto Society include Bradley Doherty, T. J. "tito" Martin, and Mike Graham.



Co-Rec Champions: Better Ghetto Society

In men's action, a new champion was crowned. Fish-N-Chips mauled through their tournament to claim their first Inner Tube Water Polo title. Fish-N-Chips had their mouths full in the semis with Bollweevils. The game went to overtime with the Fish-N-Chips taking an 11 to 10 victory. In the final men's game, the prettiest mermaids were exhausted from playing in the Co-rec finals and Men's finals. Fish-N-Chips dominated 14 to 5. Team members include Kevin Benham, Jason Choate, Nathan Horrell, Ben Mcgehee, Derrick York, & not pictured Chase Pharris.



Men's Champions: Fish-N-Chips

Thanks to all that participated and maybe next year, you can put a team together and come have fun in the pool at the Aquatic Center.

AQUATIC CENTER

Spring Lifeguard Classes Starting Now

Don't miss out on your last chance to become a certified Red Cross Lifeguard. Want to learn lifesaving techniques? Do you want to work outside this summer? Don't wait until it's too late to register! This course includes Lifeguarding, Standard First Aid, and CPR for the Professional Rescuer. The cost is \$120 for TTU students and \$130 for community. Books are included in the course cost.

Session 4: Sat/Sun 8am-5pm Apr. 17 - Apr. 2 Session 5: Sat/Sun 8am-5pm May 16 - May 22

Adult Swimming Lessons

Have you always wanted to swim but were afraid to try, or do you know how to swim but want to work on your stroke... this class is for you! Water skills and safety will be taught by an American Red Cross instructor. The cost is \$ 25 for TTU and \$ 30 for community.

Adult Beginner: April 5th - 26th (M/W) 6:30-7:30 pm
Adult Intermediate: April 5th - 26th (M/W) 7:30-8:30 pm

Apply Now For Summer Positions At The Aquatic Center

Do you want to teach swim lessons, lifeguard, get a tan, make money, and meet new people? This job is for YOU! Come by the Aquatic Center and pick up an application or download one from the website at www.recsports.ttu.edu. More questions? Give us a call at 742-3896.

Summer I Housing Contract Renewals

Live in the halls again.

Don't miss out on your chance to make sure that you still have the best opportunities!

When to reserve a room:

March 18-23 - Single Room Requests Accepted
March 29 - Same Room
March 30 - New Room/Same Hall or Complex
March 31 - New Hall

*Gordon Hall is available for all students for summer only. Gordon Hall will remain a designated Honors College hall for the academic year.

Available Halls:

Carpenter/Wells Complex, Gordon Hall*, Gaston Hall, Gaston Apartments

Apply online at
www.my.housing.ttu.edu/renewals.



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Hospitality services

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