



Raiders focused on run game ■ page 12

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New Orleans prepares for Hurricane Ivan

By Allen G. Breed/Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — With 135-mph Hurricane Ivan closing in with frightening intensity, this flood-prone city scrambled Wednesday to get people out of harm's way, putting the frail and elderly in the cavernous Louisiana Superdome and urging others to move to higher floors in tall buildings.

Along some 300 miles of threatened coastline from Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle, the churning surf, ominous clouds, swaying traffic lights and escalating winds were all the reminders some people needed to take cover from a storm that made a slight turn north on a path that could bring it ashore early Thursday at the Alabama-Mississippi line, near Mobile, Ala.

"If we turn up dead tomorrow, it's my fault," said Jane Allinder, who stayed stubbornly behind at her daughter's French Quarter doll shop to keep an eye on her cat.

Ivan's eleventh-hour turn may have spared this bowl-shaped direct hit, but forecasters said everyone from New Orleans to the Panhandle should be worried because even the tiniest adjustment in the storm

track could change where Ivan comes ashore by hundreds of miles.

Hurricane-force winds extended out 105 miles from the Category 4 storm, meaning a large swath of the Gulf Coast could get slammed with a storm surge of 10 to 16 feet and up to 15 inches of rain. After reaching land, Ivan threatened to stall over the Southeast and southern Appalachians, with

a potential for as much as 20 inches of rain.

Ivan's monster waves — some up to 25 feet — were already destroying homes along the Florida coast Wednesday. Twelve-foot waves boomed ashore at Gulf Shores, Ala., eroding the beach. A buoy about 300 miles south of Panama City registered waves over

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Isn't She Lovely?



JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/The University Daily

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE student Erica Lopez walks under the sabres of the Texas Tech ROTC after she won the 2004 Miss Hispanic Lubbock Scholarship Pageant Wednesday night at the Fiestas del Llano in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

South Plains College student wins Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant

By Kandis Wenk/The University Daily

Lubbock has a new queen, as Erica Lopez was crowned Miss Hispanic Lubbock Wednesday as a part of the Fiestas del Llanos celebration.

Lopez, a senior at Lubbock High School who also attends classes at South Plains College, said she had slightly mixed feelings about being the new queen.

"Of course I am excited and honored," she said, "But I'm also relieved."

Lopez said although she has been involved with Fiestas del Llanos for many years, this time was her first in the competition.

Lopez said the final competition was the most thrilling and most difficult aspect of the pageant experience.

"Tonight was exciting, all the nerves and everything," she said. "But it was also the hardest thing to overcome."

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Parking concerns addressed during SOAC meeting

By Jackie Schirard/The University Daily

Student Government Association members and Traffic and Parking Director Buddy Knox informed Texas Tech organization representatives about upcoming events and issues at the Student Organization Advisory Congress Wednesday evening.

SGA President Mitchell Moses welcomed the organizations back to Tech and said the goal of SOAC is to inform students about events and issues that can be applied to organizations around campus.

"Lubbock Area United Way is one campaign we want organizations to get involved with," Moses said. "If you do not have a philanthropy project, then this is an excellent way to raise money. Our goal this year is to raise at least \$15,000 to this worthy cause. We want to encourage competition among students, where the largest contribution will win six front row RaiderGate spots and reserved seating in the student section for the Tech

SOAC continued on page 8



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

COL. BUDDY KNOX, director of Traffic and Parking, gives an update about the current and future parking situation at Tech during the SOAC meeting in the Student Union building Wednesday evening.

County working to meet state law

¿HABLA ESPAÑOL?: Lubbock County in need of 200 bilingual election clerks.

By Katherine Amerson/The University Daily

Bilingual election clerks wanted: seeking registered voters in the Lubbock area to preside in the general election.

Bill Kenyon, communication director for the Secretary of State, said counties are not required to have bilingual election clerks in every precinct for the general election.

"The law states that any place where there's 5 percent of Hispanic voters, the county should make an effort to have a Spanish speaking person," Kenyon said. "They need to have one centrally located election clerk. One county I know is making an effort to have a Spanish speaking person in every precinct."

According to the bilingual requirements chapter in the election code, bilingual election materials shall be used in each election precinct that is situated either wholly or partly in a county where 5 percent or more of the inhabitants are of Spanish origin or descent in accordance with the most recent official federal decennial census.

Dorothy Kennedy, elections administrator for Lubbock County, said 63 precincts out of 90 in Lubbock County will need one to three workers, and 96 already have come and filed paperwork.

"It's not so much a direct mandate as the Department of Justice is saying this is what we'd like to see you do," she said. "They want us to make every reasonable attempt."

Kenyon said a law was passed last year to put states in accordance with federal laws and to allow the counties to conduct the elections.

According to section 003 of the requirement, for a precinct to be exempt from the bilingual requirement, the presiding officer or governing body must file with the authority responsible for procuring the election supplies.

Freshman Eric Salome, a restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Waco, said he thinks the requirements are good. He said he speaks a little bit of choppy Spanish.

"Spanish is the second most spoken language in this country," he said. "I think it will help get more Hispanic votes."

Ballots and voting system ballot labels must be printed in English and

BILINGUAL continued on page 8

Vote!	¡Voto!
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

KTXT-FM DJs, left to right, Ingrid Reynolds, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Sydney, Kate Moonshine, a sophomore marketing major from Paris, and Amanda Murphee, a junior agricultural communications major from Monahans, work a shift in the KTXT-FM studio in the Student Media building Monday afternoon.

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Weather

Today SUNNY High 86 / Low 65	Tomorrow SUNNY High 94 / Low 66
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Wall Street at a Glance

Dow Jones Industrials Close: 10,231.36 Change: -86.80	NYSE: 6546.32 -47.89
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Three beheaded in latest surge of violence in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Security forces discovered three beheaded bodies Wednesday on a road north of Baghdad, and a car bomb exploded in a town south of the capital, killing two people amid a surge of violence that has left more than 200 dead in the past four days.

The three bodies were found without documents near Dijel, about 25 miles north of Baghdad, said Col. Adnan Abdul-Rahman of the Interior Ministry. They were all male and had tattoos, he said.

A U.S. military official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the bodies appeared to be Iraqi nationals and that their hands were tied behind their backs.

The car bomb targeted a National Guard checkpoint in Suwayrah, about 40 miles south of Baghdad, Abdul-Rahman said. A national guardsman was one of the two dead, he said. Ten people were injured.

Militants released a Turkish man taken hostage in Iraq, according to a videotape obtained by Associated Press Television News.

"Today, the mujahedeen released me, and I will go to the embassy," said the hostage, identified as Aytulla Gezman. He was shown standing next to a masked man before getting into a car. Where the release of the Arabic translator took place was not immediately clear.

In Ramadi, 10 people were killed and six wounded Wednesday in clashes between insurgents and U.S. forces, according to Saad al-Amili, a senior Health Ministry official in Baghdad.

Insurgents also fired a rocket-propelled grenade Wednesday at U.S. and Iraqi soldiers securing a city council building in Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, officials and witnesses said.

No one was injured in the attack, which occurred as a city council was meeting, days after being reinstated, said Maj. Neal O'Brien, of the 1st Infantry Division. The insurgents fired once, missed, then fled, he said.

City officials cut a deal with the Americans last week to reopen the city in return for an end to attacks.

The chief of the provincial health directorate, Khamis Hussein, escaped unhurt when gunmen opened fire on him, al-Amili said. One of his bodyguards was killed, and his deputy was wounded, he said.

On Tuesday, clashes between U.S. troops and insurgents killed at least eight civilians and wounded 18 in Ramadi, a predominantly Sunni Muslim city west of the capital where anti-American sentiments are high.

The violence followed attacks Tuesday that saw guerrillas bomb a Baghdad street full of police recruits and open fire on a police van north of the capital. At least 59 people were killed, bringing the total dead in the past four days to nearly

150 in Baghdad alone.

The car bomb near the police headquarters for western Baghdad wrecked buildings and cars on central Haifa Street, leaving charred bodies and hurling body parts, shoes and debris into nearby trees and homes.

The recent violence appeared to be part of an increasingly brazen and coordinated campaign by insurgents to bring its battle to Baghdad, sowing chaos for Prime Minister Ayad Alawi and his American allies.

The Tawhid and Jihad group, headed by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, posted a Web statement claiming responsibility for Tuesday's car bombing. The al-Qaida-linked group also launched a surprise assault in Baghdad on Sunday, killing dozens, and boasted it had the upper hand in the fight against the Americans.

In Baqouba, northeast of the capital, gunmen in two cars opened fire Tuesday on a van carrying policemen, killing 11 officers and a civilian.

The release of the Turkish hostage came a day after a militant group said in a video that it would free Gezman after he converted to Islam and repented working for the Americans. The Shura Council of the Mujahedeen threatened to behead all those who deal with coalition forces.

The Rundown



Judge: School finance plan unconstitutional

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas' \$30 billion system for financing public schools is unconstitutional, and the state must stop funding education within a year if the Legislature does not find a new, equitable method, a judge ruled Wednesday.

State District Judge John Dietz ruled moments after closing arguments in the case brought against the state by more than 300 school districts.

The districts contended that the system violated the state Constitution by not providing equal educational opportunities.

"Are we at this present day to turn our backs on 168 years of heritage of Texas public education and say we are not prepared for the sacrifice?" Dietz asked before issuing the ruling. "I think not."

Dietz said he would issue an injunction ordering state funds for public education to cease within a year if the Legislature does not find an adequate solution.

The decision, which follows nearly six weeks of testimony, is expected to be appealed.

The suing districts, both wealthy and poor, argued that the state depends too heavily on local property taxes and should share more of the financial burden of public education.

Opponents refer to the 10-year-old system as Robin Hood because property tax revenue from wealthy districts is redistributed to poorer districts. Wealthy and poor districts contend that the state should appropriate more money to Texas' 1,037 school districts.

The system passed the Legislature in 1993 only after the state Supreme Court ordered lawmakers to devise a plan guaranteeing poor school districts equal access to funds. The system has been criticized for years, and the districts turned to the courts after the Legislature failed to find a new system.

The state argued the system meets the minimum constitutional requirements for Texas' 4.3 million students. Changing the system should be the responsibility of the Legislature, not the courts, the state has argued.

Senate committee votes against overtime law

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate committee defied President Bush and voted Wednesday to derail new federal overtime rules that critics say would prevent six million American workers from getting the bonus pay.

The Republican-run Senate Appropriations Committee approved the provision blocking the rules by a vote of 16-13. Two Republicans — Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, who is seeking re-election this year, and Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado, who is retiring — joined Democrats in supporting the proposal.

The language was offered by Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, who said new Bush administration overtime rules that took effect on Aug. 23 would deny the extra pay to many workers who had received it.

Harkin said the new rules are "anti-worker, anti-job growth, and anything but family friendly."

Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H. said the estimate of six million workers losing overtime was "totally bogus."

And the committee's chairman, Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, argued that the new rules should be left in effect for a while so their impact can be judged.

The overtime provision was added to a \$145.9 billion spending bill financing labor, health and education programs. The overall measure was approved by a 29-0 vote.

The committee's action was Congress' second embarrassing rebuke to Bush in a week on the issue, and underscored the sensitivity of Republicans from labor districts have on overtime.

Last Thursday, the GOP-led House voted 223-193 to prevent the Labor Department from carrying out the new rules.

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's edition of *The University Daily*, in "Ban on assault weapons officially over," assault rifles and automatic weapons are not considered assault weapons and are not affected by the ban or the expiration of it. *The UD* regrets the error.

Brown gets \$100 million from liquor retailer

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Brown University has received a \$100 million gift from a liquor importer for its financial aid program, allowing the Ivy League school to offer its neediest students outright grants instead

of loans. The gift is the largest single donation in Brown's 240-year history.

"It's hard to convey how important it is for families, low-income families, to be spared the burden of taking out

loans," said Ruth Simmons, Brown's president. "It's quite crippling."

The donation comes from Sidney Frank, who attended Brown for one year as a member of the class of 1942. Frank said he was too poor to complete his education and wanted to help other students get their degrees.

Frank is credited with the marketing success of such products as Jagermeister Liqueur and Grey Goose vodka. Jagermeister used scantly clad models — called Jagerettes — to promote the German liqueur in bars and restaurants.

He recently gave \$20 million for a new campus building that will carry his name.

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Turkish students study Tech teaching strategies

By Erica Hoff/
The University Daily

Transportation is the biggest adjustment Oylum Akkus Cikla and Pinar Ozdemir have had to make since arriving in Lubbock from Ankara, Turkey.

Cikla and Ozdemir are both doctoral students from the Middle East Technical University and research assistants at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. They arrived in Lubbock June 20 and will be studying at the Texas Tech College of Education until the end of October.

The transportation adjustment has been tough, because Cikla said they are accustomed to walking rather than driving cars.

While at Tech, they are observing graduate and undergraduate courses with a concentration in teaching strategies, Ozdemir said. The main focus is on cross cultural studies and the differences between Turkish and American schools and teachers.

Cikla said she teaches basic fundamental math education to sophomore students and math education to juniors and seniors at Hacettepe. Ozdemir said she teaches fundamentals of biology, creative drama and a sciences education lab also at Hacettepe. While at Tech, Ozdemir and Cikla are working with Hunkar Korkmaz, from Turkey, along with Julie Thomas, associate professor of education, and Jennifer Wilhem, assistant professor of education.

Their trip is funded by a government grant to study math and science education, said Karen Jacobsen, director of external affairs in education.

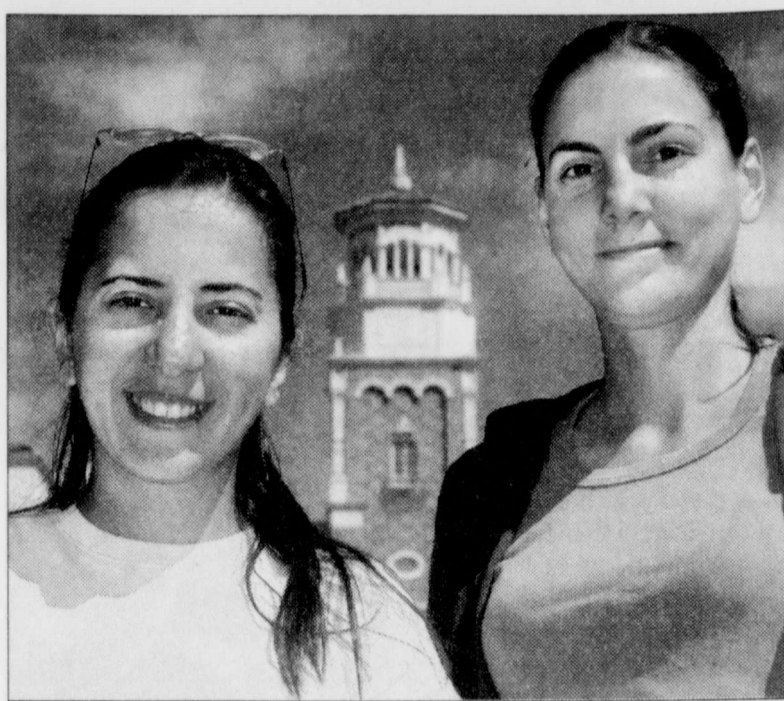
Three years ago, three individuals from Tech traveled to Turkey in a similar exchange, Jacobsen said.

Teaching is a very popular occupation in Turkey, Ozdemir said, especially for women.

The classrooms in Turkey are very crowded, with hundreds of students, Cikla said. The classes are smaller at Tech, and there is access to better materials such as computers, projectors and slides.

The teaching strategies on which the women are focusing are multiple intelligences and creative drama. Teaching based on practice seems to be better than teaching based on reading, Ozdemir said. With the multiple intelligence strategy, teachers work with the basics of math and verbal and expand into music and group activities. Cikla said using this method incorporates all students.

"The main point is that students



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily
PINAH OZDEMINH AND Oylum Cikla are from Ankara, Turkey, and are here studying American's view of math and science.

do not learn in the same manner," Ozdemir said.

Creative drama is a strategy aimed at incorporating individual expression and understanding other communication, Ozdemir said. This method is sustained by the use of role-play, group activities and theater techniques in the classroom with emphasis on the student's experiences.

Many studies support this teaching technique, and it improves attitudes towards math and science, Ozdemir said.

In their final months at Tech, Ciklas and Ozdemis will finish their research and compile it into several articles. They also will attend the 11th Annual Panhandle Area Mathematics and Science Conference.

Their final goal is to discover America, said Ozdemir. Since arriv-

ing in the U.S., they have had the opportunity to travel throughout Austin, Houston, Alabama, Florida, New Orleans and Mississippi. Now the women hope to have some time to take their travels north.

"It's been a good experience for us, but its also very different," Cikla said.

Perhaps the biggest adjustment has been social interactions, said Ozdemir. Although this visit is their first visit to the states, Cikla said it has gone well.

"We are glad to be here," Ozdemir said.

Once Cikla's and Ozdemir's research is completed at Tech they will return to Turkey where they will be giving lectures on their research. Both women will finish their dissertation and are almost finished with school.

SGA to discuss homecoming issues at Thursday meeting

By Jackie Schirard/
The University Daily

The Student Government Association will meet Thursday evening in the Electrical Engineering building in the Lankford Lab to propose new legislation regarding Texas Tech Homecoming and fall voting events.

SGA Vice President of Internal Affairs Nathan Nash said the SGA is proposing to have the 2004 homecoming king and queen announced at halftime of the football game instead of the night of the pep rally.

"It would hold more prestige if they were announced at halftime, and there would be more hype at the game," Nash said. "This will also interest students to stay during the halftime presentation. We are also proposing to have student voting of the candidates at the bonfire to increase bonfire attendance and to make the voting more legitimate. We could do this by setting up voting tables at bonfire."

Nash said a proposal will be presented to have the interview determine the top five candidates. This way, the resume and interview will drop the candidates to five each, and then students would vote on the top five.

"This will give those candidates who have good interviewing skills and resumes a more fair chance to be on the court," Nash said.

Student Senator at Large Heather Smith said she agrees with Nash about these proposals.

"All week the candidates go

through so much, and I think to have them announced at the game in front of the crowd will make it so much more special for everyone," Smith said. "Also, it would be better for students to vote at the bonfire so they will have more time to review the top five candidates, which will be selected from interviews that Wednesday."

Justin Barnes said the resume screening committee for homecoming elections will be selected the week prior to Freshmen Council Elections. Since a member from the Freshmen Council is on the committee, the SGA is proposing to choose a freshman who meets the qualifications to serve on the committee.

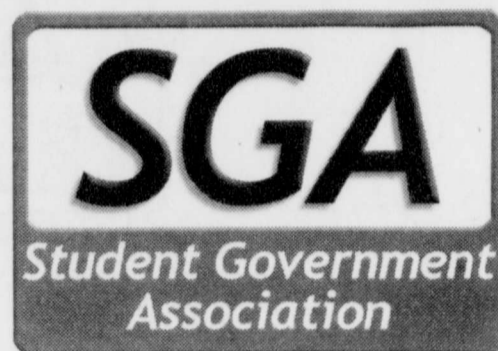
The Senate is also proposing to move RaiderGate to the Engineering Key.

"This way, it will be closer to the stadium," Barnes said. "We also want to start a new tradition where a few members from the Goin' Band, Spirit Squad and Saddle Tramps will go through each hall before the bonfire and attract an accumulating crowd of freshmen. The students will rally from dorm to dorm until all residence halls have been covered, then they will

go to bonfire. This interaction of organizations can help freshmen students to learn the cheers and traditions."

The SGA will also discuss, making an addition to the homecoming voting ballot, implementing a fall break, using a student's eRaider user name and password for voting purposes and the implementing a sportsmanship sign placed above the student entrance of Jones SBC Stadium. These proposals will be introduced to the senate to help voting processes and to increase attendance at Tech events.

"Since we no longer distribute student test numbers, we should use eRaider account information to vote on-



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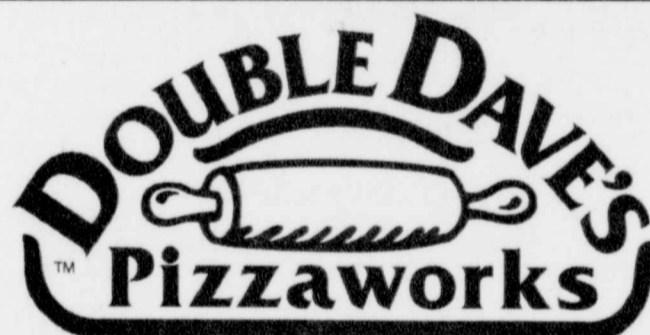
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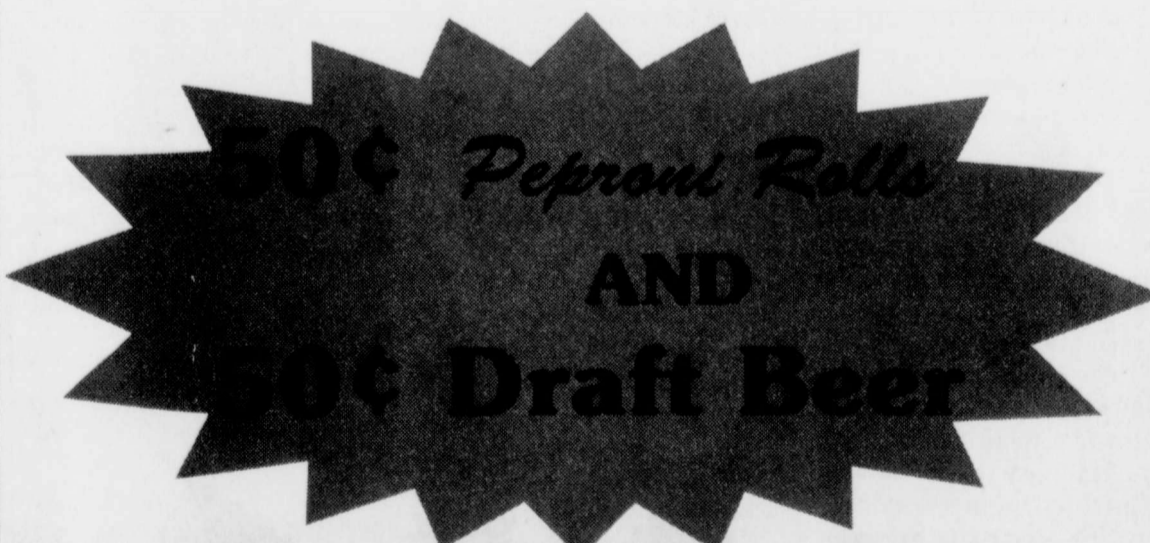
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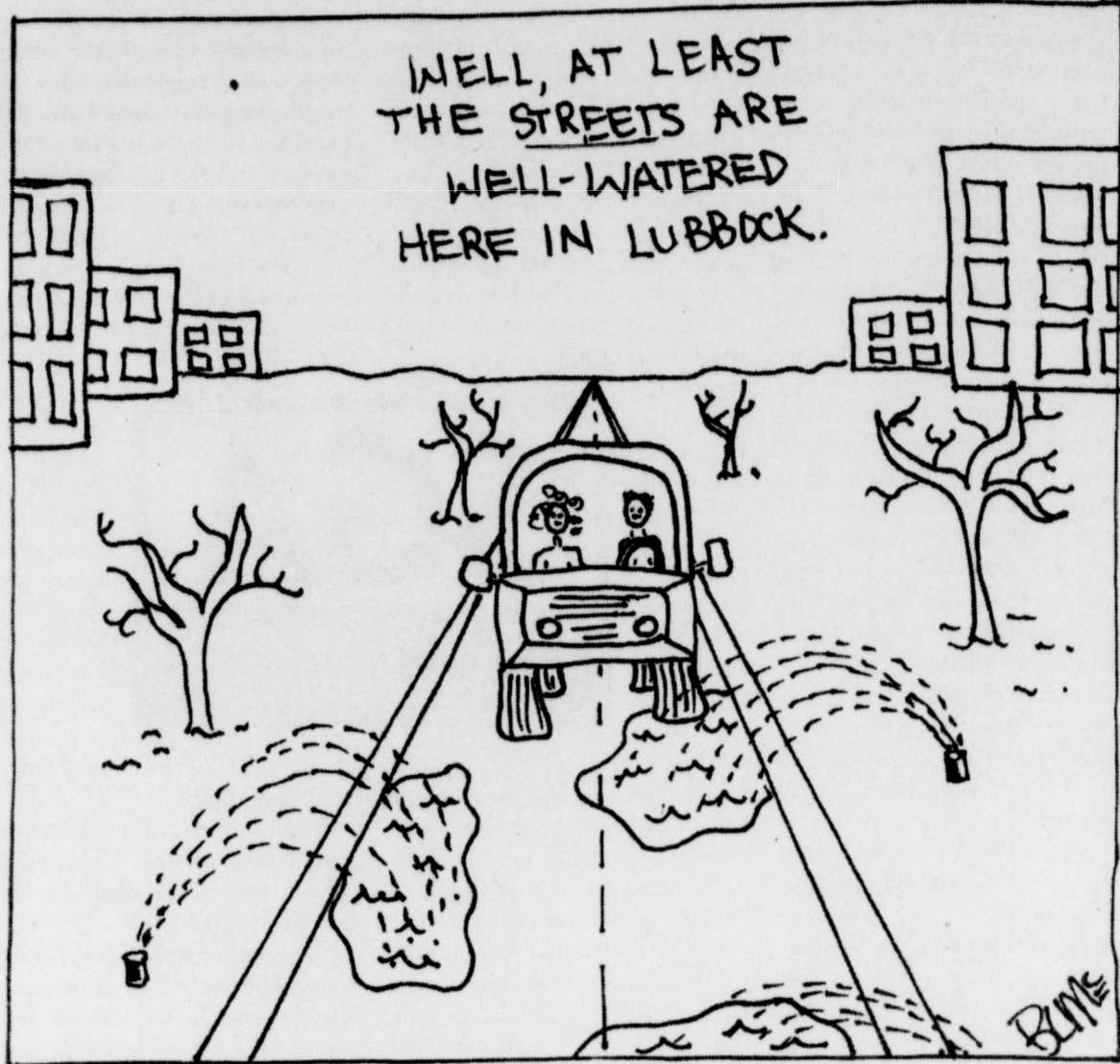
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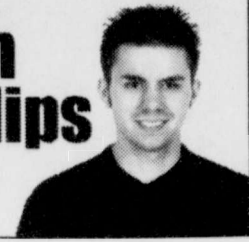
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Freedom of speech and freedom from it

Seth Phillips



I am of the persuasion that an individual's constitutional rights to speech end when he intrudes on someone else's right to privacy (defined as freedom from interference).

Americans hold their freedoms dearly and bristle at any attempt to curb them. The Patriot Act, for example, has seen no end of controversy as a result of alleged infringement on rights.

"The land of the free and home of the brave" means different things to different people. Our Constitution says Congress has no power to "abridge the freedom of speech," but what about our state, our county or even our university?

Often hear people complain the Free Speech areas around campus are an attempt to do just that abridge free speech. How, you might ask? They force organizations to apply for a specific time and date to use grounds around campus. Additionally, if the group plans to sell items, it also must complete a solicitation request.

Maybe this can be accurately perceived by some as abridging their rights of expression, but I cannot see this point.

According to the Center for Campus Life guidelines, six free speech areas are around campus, not just the one free speech pavilion marked by the gazebo near the Library at 15th and Boston. In fact, three different areas are in that region alone. Other areas around campus are no less prime locations, such as the Engineering Key, the courtyard near the BA and the Urbanovsky Amphitheatre.

Impromptu events are still allowed under this system, but the main point is a line does not seem to be forming for the use of these areas.

It is only for areas outside of these designated free speech areas that any form of grounds use request is required. Otherwise, use is first come, first serve.

Once the construction on the Student Union is completed, an additional free speech area will

avoid free speech activities.

I am of the persuasion that an individual's constitutional rights to speech end when he intrudes on someone else's right to privacy (defined as freedom from interference).

By isolating gatherings or demonstrations to designated areas, students are not bombarded between classes with literature or other materials. They can choose to see what the group is promoting or just walk around it.

Free speech is not limited to only these areas, however.

According to Section VII, A and F of the "Student Handbook," other grounds also can be used by filing a one page form at least two days in advance.

To those who advocate a free speech campus, the idea may sound nice, but it would not be a nice reality.

Residence hall students do not want to be the target of undue door knocking any more than students who walk between classes want to be assaulted by fliers. People should be able to avoid those areas if they so choose.

All types of student organizations are allowed on campus, from conservative faith-based groups to left-wing social groups. Registered student organizations can use virtually any empty classroom in which to conduct their meetings. Organizations can hold all kinds of activities on campus on a non-content based approval process.

This system is not without precedence in such cases as Speaker's Corner at Hyde Park in London. These types of areas are created to help people develop traditional areas in which to have public gatherings.

That is how the Texas Tech system was set up and should be continued as is. Our nation is based on freedom for all, not just for protestors.



be established at 18th and Akron. Where else would you want them?

The basic argument in favor of having these areas rather than a "free speech campus" is to give students a real option to attend or to

■ Phillips is a senior communications studies major from Tyler. E-mail him at seth.phillips@ttu.edu.

Pills versus pot: which is worse?

Sarah Looten



Society looks at pills differently than it does weed. Pills are classy, whereas weed is tacky. Pills are upper class, and weed is lower class. Pills are almost legal. Weed is definitely not legal.

There is some bad news for people with stock in chip companies. Pot, bud, reefer, weed and chronic have been replaced by Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet, Oxy-Cotin and Hydrocodone.

The national Survey on Drug Use and Health finally has published results. Lifetime use of marijuana has significantly declined.

People have taken up the slack by popping pills. There has been a significant increase in lifetime use of pills for non-medical use. There were no other major changes in illicit drug and alcohol use.

This is a sad time for society. Pill poppers should not be the alternative to potheads.

Let me begin by saying this. I do not necessarily believe drug use is good or bad. I realize it is a part of society. Mind-altering drugs have been and always will be a part of any culture. I am including alcohol in the drug sphere.

This said, while I believe drug use is allowable, I do believe certain drugs are more detrimental to society than others. Prescription drugs — painkillers and muscle relaxers, specifically — fall in that category.

More prescriptions are written for painkillers than any other pharmaceutical drug. This includes allergy medications and birth control. You get a prescription from your doctor because you need it: you had surgery, were in a car wreck or otherwise in massive amounts of pain. There is a need for the pain to be relieved.

But then, something happens. To quote the prescription bottle, a habit is formed. Your neck feels better, but you still want that "la-la feeling" that comes when you take two Hydrocodone. You still have pills in the bottle. Your name is on the bottle. You are not breaking the law. You are not standing on a street corner trying to support your habit.

Society looks at pills differently than it does weed. Pills are classy, whereas weed is tacky. Pills are upper class,

send them to rehab. Good luck with pill poppers. You could not tell just by looking at someone that he goes to four different doctors and raids medicine cabinets of open houses just for his next fix. It is true. Pill poppers do this. I saw it on "Dr. Phil."

When it comes down to it, pill poppers scare me. It looks like a downward spiral. It is easy to do. It is easy to get addicted. It is easy to justify. It is easy to get away with. It is just plain easy. I should know. For completely legitimate medical reasons I have had several prescriptions for various painkillers. But, it is hard not to go and get a refill when you do not need it. I do not need to go to the Betty Ford Clinic. But, I know how easy it would be to wind up there.

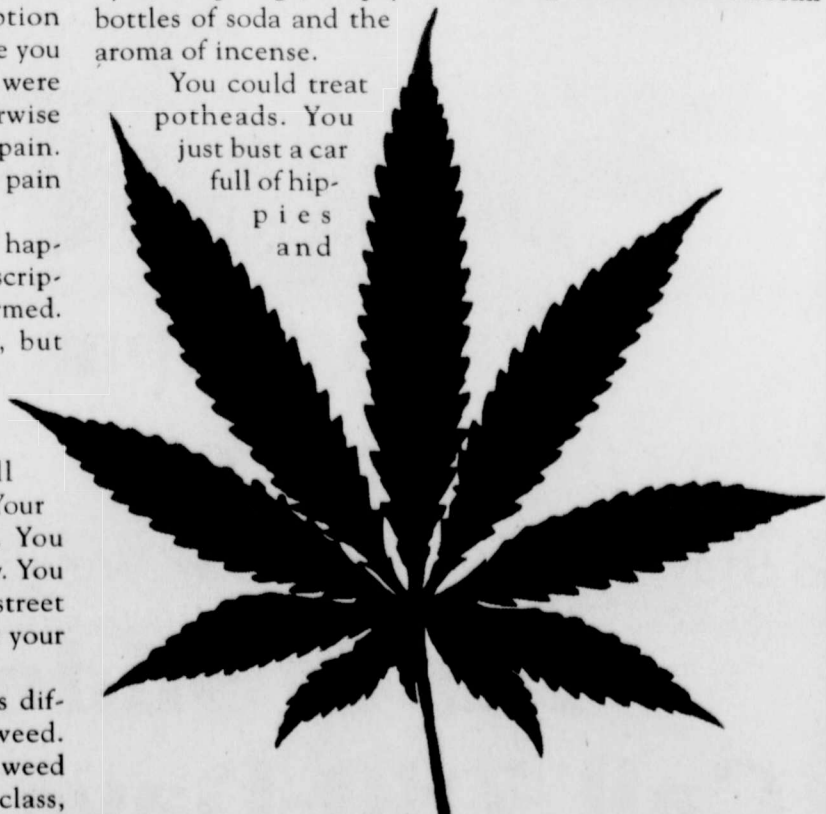
I understand the how and why of the increase in pill popping. But the same reasons for its rise in popularity are reasons to be most concerned about. So I say to you illicit drug users, put the bottle back in the cabinet and go back to lighting up.

■ Looten is a senior political science and sociology major from Panhandle. E-mail her at s_looten@hotmail.com.

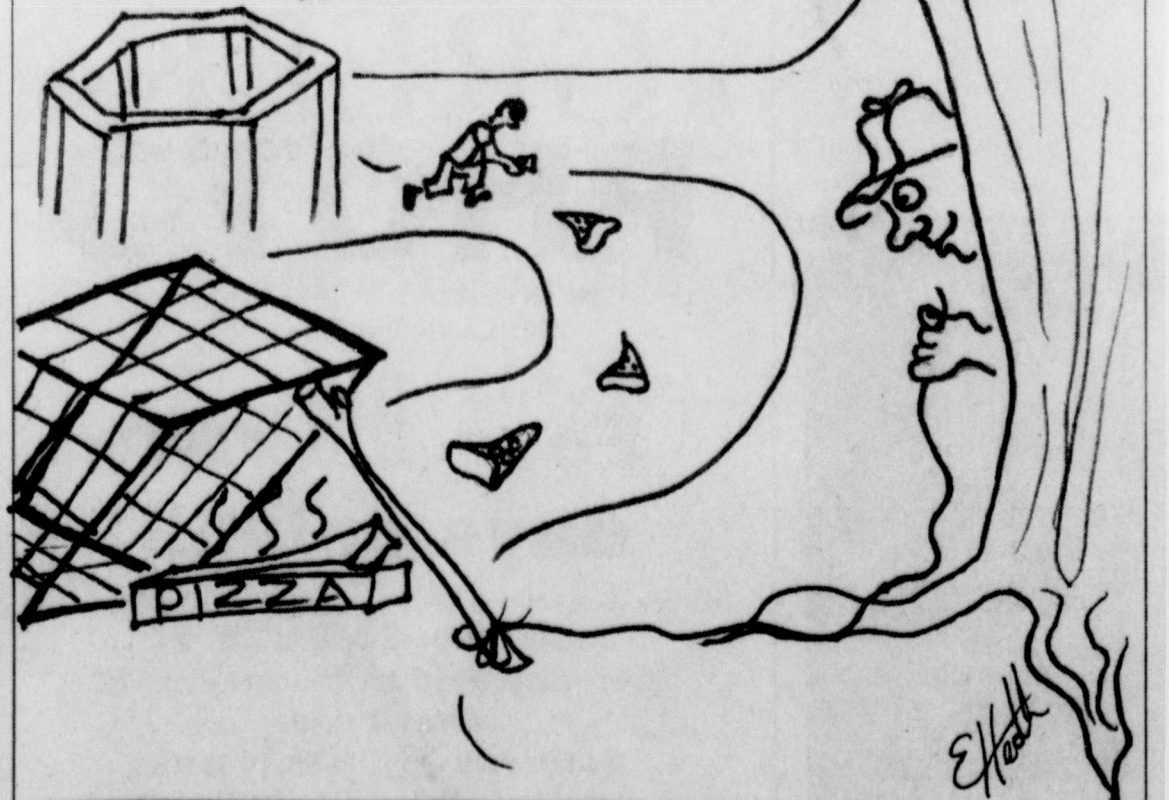
and weed is lower class. Pills are almost legal. Weed is definitely not legal. Nancy Reagan might even pop pills. But she wants you to just say no to weed.

You can take pills in the privacy of your own home and still be a functioning member of society. The same is true of pot. But pills are easier to hide. The pot culture is easy to spot — fuzzy posters, hemp necklaces, black lights, red eyes, chip bags, empty bottles of soda and the aroma of incense.

You could treat potheads. You just bust a car full of hippies and



While hunting the elusive freshman organization joiner, one must place large quantities of bait near their habitat



LETTERS: The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, Social Security number and a description of university affiliation. Students should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters will be verified before they are published. Letters can be e-mailed to UDletters@ttu.edu or brought to 211 Student Media. Letters should be sent in before 3 p.m. to ensure the editors have enough time to verify and edit the submissions.

GUEST COLUMNISTS: 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 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

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Editor's Note: Due to high volumes of letters to the editor, *The UD* has decided to allow a page for letters and guest columns only. Normally, because of space, this is not an option. *The UD* cannot guarantee all letters will make it to print; however, we do encourage and appreciate all feedback.

TECH TALKS BACK

Guest Column

Present issues more important than military record

I am just one of the many veterans on the Texas Tech campus, but I am sure I am not alone in being surprised that military service has become such a hot topic in this year's Presidential election. No one is talking about the economy in 2004. Instead, "Where were you in 1971?" seems to be the question of the day. Accusations have been thrown around about both President Bush's and Sen. Kerry's military service, and there is even more.

The Democrats must believe veterans as a whole are up for grabs as a voting bloc since their convention's theme was Kerry's service to his country, and there have been signs that say "Veterans for Kerry" held up at almost every Kerry-Edwards rally.

So is the veterans' vote up for grabs this election year? That is hard to say.

I am a member of a couple of veterans' organizations, and among these groups there is a real sense neither party does a great deal for veterans. Democrats in Washington show little interest in veterans' issues, and Republicans tend to take the veterans' votes for granted.

I know many fellow veterans on campus, and the common denominators among us are: a stronger degree of discipline, respect for our country, a shared hatred for needless bureaucracy and a keen interest in foreign affairs and military issues. You cannot help but pick up these traits when you are in the military. Other than that, veterans come from all ages,

racess, religions, and we come from all over the world.

Veterans are like any other group of voters in the United States, except more tend to be conservative. There are Democrats, Republicans, and many do not vote. This is fairly representative of America as a whole.

This also means probably some "Veterans for Kerry" are at Tech, along with those who strongly support Bush's foreign policy. I am a veteran who will vote for President Bush, and Stenholm for Congress. One is a Republican, the other is a Democrat, and both are strong on the issues that matter most to me.

I really hope the presidential campaigns start to focus on issues like the economy and our nation's place in the world. Kerry deserves respect for serving in Vietnam, when many chose to avoid service; Bush should be respected for his service and what he has done as president in support of our armed services.

Believe me, being in the military is a big sacrifice, and all honorably discharged veterans have certainly earned their veterans benefits, including respect from others. With Bush and Kerry, both should learn to respect each other's military service, and move the presidential race from the events of 1971 to the issues facing our nation in 2004.

— William Mattiford, graduate student and honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Army

Guest Column

Davis ill-informed about Bush's military record

Will Davis has to be joking. I know so-called conservatives are hypocrites, but Davis takes the cake with his Sept. 15 editorial, "Liberals Not A Bright Group." Groups tied to Bush have spent millions of dollars impugning John Kerry's Vietnam service with mud-slinging allegations that are at best questionable and at worst complete fabrications. And Democrats are wrong for pointing out — quite factually — that Bush's account of his National Guard service has holes in it that you can drive a Bradley tank through? You are kidding me! The "fair and balanced" propaganda machine of FOX News cranks out half-truths about Kerry and serves as an echo chamber for the Bush's administration's lies and exaggerations — yet you continue to repeat the myth of a "liberal" media. You imply CBS is part of this liberal bias. You remember CBS, don't you, Davis? The same CBS that cancelled a mini-series on Reagan because it was not a rosy enough portrayal. The same CBS that refused to accept Super Bowl ads criticizing Bush. Remember them? When Bush makes his role as commander-in-chief a central campaign issue and struts about aircraft carriers playing military dress-up, his actions during the war of his generation become a legitimate story. When you look at the evidence, it is obvious he used Daddy's connections to evade military service. That much is indisputable. It also is becoming quite clear that Bush received special treatment in the "Champagne Unit," and the evidence strongly suggests he did not fulfill even the lightweight requirements given him while his peers were dying in the jungle. The bottom line is the memo in question — the legitimacy of which has not been conclusively determined one way or the other — was one small piece of a bigger picture. Connect the remainder of the dots and you get the same picture. It is not pretty, but it is still the picture that emerges. It is a perfectly legitimate news story, and frankly one the media has been irresponsible in ignoring to this point. I only wish the media spent as much time investigating Bush's WMD lies as they have investigating the legitimacy of this single document. We might have 1,000 more living, breathing American soldiers. Bush's actions in the current war, not the one three decades ago, are the real travesty.

— David G. Taylor, doctoral student studying business

Letter to the Editor

Rhode's column helps Republican cause

Jason Rhode: I believe in your first amendment rights just as much as I believe in my own, but you should really think before you write something

as ludicrous as you did today in *The University Daily*. It is obvious you went to the rally wearing your bleeding heart liberal views on your sleeve in order to try and paint Lt. Col. North as someone who, "has a lot in common with Tehran." Jason, you are a poor writer, but a wonderful liberal. Every time you guys open your mouth you clearly display just how out of touch you really are with the views of the majority in America. Keep up the good work, and we will not have any problem getting President Bush elected for another term!

— Kris Wilson, a doctoral student studying animal science from Tolar.

Guest Column

Voting not an archaic or useless notion

When reading the "Tech Talks Back" section of *The UD*, I was disturbed by the ranting of Brandon Hemsberger about what an "illogical and archaic notion" voting in the upcoming election is.

An archaic notion, as in outdated, old, prehistoric? You obviously are new to this voting thing. I am curious on how the idea of voting was outdated. Maybe to your standards, but incredibly, the idea of voting is still alive, because we live in a democracy.

You went on to say how meaningless voting for Bush or Kerry is. Let me ask what you are doing in the great "democracy" of America? Honestly, how can not voting help our "apathetic youth?" By apathetic you are saying youth do not care or are indifferent to what happens. Apathetically speaking, you are saying we should all stop voting and run the country ourselves. Excuse me, but your views seem a little distorted. I guess I am bemused on your view of how our country should be managed.

Later you said Bush and Kerry are the same. Bush is a Republican; Kerry is a Democrat. What more needs to be said on how they are different? I guess you seclude yourself from politics or are void of any intelligence of either candidate.

Let us look at a few of Bush's and Kerry's views. For one, Bush is pro-life; Kerry is pro-choice. This is just one view that puts the candidates on different sides of the field. In your letter you said, "They basically have the same platform, which differ in the smallest way, and most people will never bother trying to understand."

Is not that responsibility to us, whether we would bother to understand? You gave no evidence to back your conjecture. You are correct. Most politically uninformed people will not "understand." You are writing this to enlighten people on the current president and his adversary, yet you give no enlightenment. If we accept your views as true, merely

because it is your perception on what our country needs, at least educate us further on what you are saying.

Next on to your views about the "semi-fascist military state concerned with governing other countries rather than granting its own citizens the freedom they are guaranteed." I guess I just cannot comprehend this one. By semi-fascist you are saying our country is 'somewhat' headed by a dictatorial leader. Kind of awkward since, once again, our government is a democracy. Tell me, when those cowards flew those planes into the towers, did you feel a little hurt about what just happened to your fellow Americans? Let me guess, you are one of those anti-war patrons who rant about how terrible it is that we are punishing those who killed over 5,000 Americans on American soil. How can you say that George W. Bush is governing other countries? Honestly, where have you been? Did we not put a government in place for the Iraqis after we liberated them from Saddam's tyrannical hold?

According to you, not voting is more patriotic than voting; I am interested in your views of patriotism. Also, you followed your letter by encouraging us to rip up our voter registration to 'change' the future for our children. So, ripping up our voting registration, which would keep us from voting, could somehow change everything? The point of a democracy is for people to vote on how to change the government. How can we accomplish this if we rip up our registrations or ballots? I guess I am just as confused as everyone else about your oxymoron.

Basically, your letter is about why we should not vote and how the government is so terrible. You think breaking away and being free from any government would be superior. One word describes what life without government would be: chaos. If Civil Disobedience is the key to a better future for our children, I would entrust their future to Bush, or even Kerry, before I would entrust it to you.

— Chase Hill, freshman computer science major from Borger.

Send feedback to ud@ttu.edu

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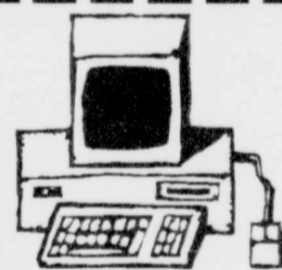
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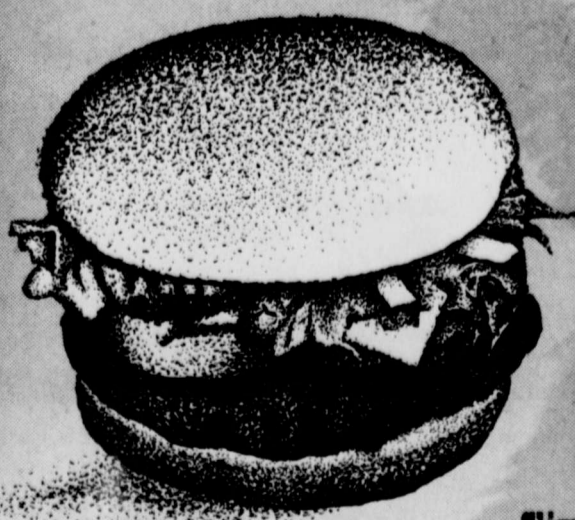
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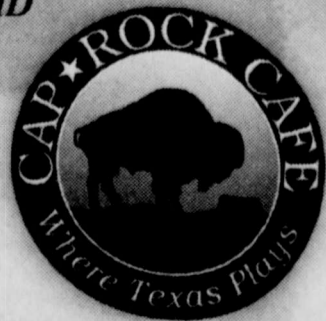
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Student scripts wanted for one-act play

By Erica Hoff/
The University Daily

Calling all creative minds!
The Department of Theater and Dance now is accepting submissions for the 2005 spring production of "Raider Red's One-Act Play Spectacular."
Any Texas Tech student is eligible to submit an original script before the Oct. 4 deadline.
"We would like to see a variety of students with varying creative ability to submit scripts," said Jim McDermott, graduate part-time instructor in the theater and dance department and producer of this year's presentation.

Submitted pieces tend to be wide ranging from lighthearted comedy, romantic and darker scripts all with a controversial sort of feel, McDermott said.

Musicals and children's plays will not be accepted, according to a document from the department.

Only one script may be submitted per person, and the script must be typed in standard play script form, not exceeding 30 pages. Length of the play should run between 5 and 15 minutes but no more than 30 minutes, according to the document.

Entry forms are posted on the callboard in the Department of Theater and Dance in the Maedgen Theater building. When completed, five copies of the submission may be turned into the main office of the Maedgen Theater in room 125.

All scripts are selected in a blind process, therefore no identifying information is allowed in the text. A committee of five faculty members from the theater and dance department will review the scripts, McDermott said. Mainly, McDermott said the committee will be looking for entertainment value and script-wise authors. The committee will choose four or five scripts to be produced, McDermott said.

In the past years, there have been reoccurring authors, and McDermott said for scripts to be submitted for other programs is not uncommon.

In the 2004 production, the selected individual's script was done with poetry, he said although it was not strongly theatrical, it was done beautifully. While theater students submitted 10 to 12 pieces, he said script submission is not limited to theater students. Students from all backgrounds and majors are encouraged to submit a script, and McDermott said an English major submitted one of the selected scripts last year.

The department is aiming to present a rounder evening of art and theater with this year's production by including work from the

dance department. McDermott said sadly not enough dance submissions were turned in last year to incorporate dance into the production.

The production is completely student designed, directed and acted, said Richard Privitt, audience relations specialist with the Department of Theater and Dance.

Auditions for student actors will begin in January when classes resume and are open to all Tech students.

"It's a completely student produced evening," Privitt said.

The theater and dance department provides funding, and the

selected writers receive no financial compensation. McDermott said a writer is seeing his production gain strength through the Tech presentation is possible.

One writer whose play was performed at the Spectacular in years past was invited to a writer's conference as a result of the production, McDermott said.

"This is a way for aspiring playwrights to have a starting point and move onto future presentations," he said.

For more information, students may contact McDermott at 742-3601, ext. 255.

Gibbs appointed to VP of development

By Jackie Schirard/
The University Daily

Texas Tech Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement Mark Lindemood appointed Russ Gibbs as associate vice chancellor for development programs.

Russ said Lindemood created this position to coordinate all development among the colleges and college development officers. Russ will be in charge of key development programs, including major gifts, annual giving, development communications, planned giving and fundraising efforts for university outreach programs such as KOHM-FM radio, KTX-TV and the Tech Museum.

Lindemood said he hired Gibbs at the end of August and Gibbs will start working next week.

"I hired him because I think his background in private college fundraising, value system and professional expertise gives him great potential for this position," Lindemood said. "He's made great contributions at Texas Tech Law School, and I'm excited about the leadership he'll bring here."

Gibbs is familiar with the Tech campus, he said.

"I've been working here for a year

as a development officer for the law school," Gibbs said. "Before, I was vice president of advancement at Wayland Baptist University. I came to Texas Tech because it was a great opportunity to work at a premiere institution in Texas."

Gibbs said he handles major gifts from telephone callers.

"Undesignated cash gifts are fundamental to support projects that fall through the cracks," he said. "These mass mailings and gifts over the phone are very important to Texas Tech."

The department has outstanding leadership, he said.

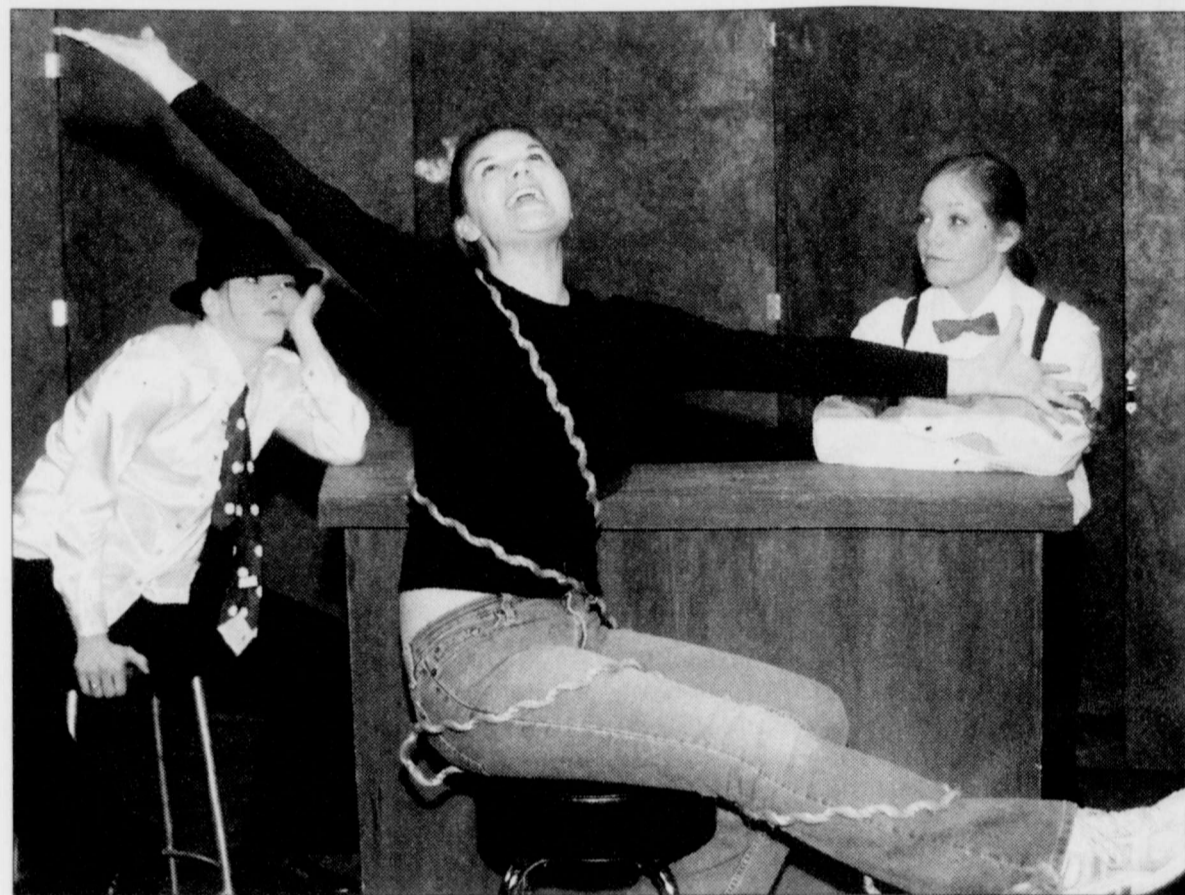
"I work with a great team, and I want to help Texas Tech strive for excellence," Gibbs said.

Lindemood said the department has ambitions for the upcoming year.

"Our goal for this new position is to have better integration and coordination of overall major gift fundraising," he said.

Gibbs earned his bachelor's degree from Baylor University and earned his master's degree and doctorate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Gibbs also served as the West Texas regional development officer for Buckner Baptist Benevolences in Lubbock from 1997 to 1998.



FILE PHOTO FROM "So This Guy Walks into a Bar" in March.

DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

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Ivan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

34 feet high. "We're leaving today. All this is going under," surfer Chuck Myers said along the beach at Gulf Shores. "We surfed it all day yesterday. It was glorious." At 5 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Ivan was centered about 125 miles south of the Alabama coast and was moving north at 14 mph. Of the roughly 2 million who fled the path of the storm, often in bumper-to-bumper caravans on high-ways turned into one-way evacuation routes, 1.2 million were from greater New Orleans, a city particularly vul-

nerable to hurricanes because it sits below sea level, between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain. Officials warned that the levees and pumping stations that normally hold back the water may not be enough to protect the city. Police began clearing people off the streets, enforcing a 2 p.m. curfew. "I think it's safe to say we will have flooding in this city," said Mayor Ray Nagin. However, he contradicted a statement from his emergency preparedness director that the city needed at least 10,000 body bags to handle possible drowning victims. Thousands of tourists were believed stranded in New Orleans, along with 100,000 mostly inner-city

residents without cars. The mayor advised them to resort to "vertical evacuations," suggesting they take shelter in buildings taller than two stories. If that is not possible, he said, they should go into an attic and take equipment with them that would let them get out. Rick Pfeifer, a salesman from Washougal, Wash., was stuck in New Orleans with no flights out and no cars to rent after arriving earlier this week for a National Safety Congress convention. His storm rations included as many chips, pretzels and bottled water as he could buy. "I'm going to ride it out in the high-ground area of the city," he said wryly. "Fourth floor in a good hotel,

with a good bar." Frail, elderly and sick residents unable to get out were moved to the 72,000-seat Louisiana Superdome, where 200 cots supplanted the dome's usual tenant, the New Orleans Saints. LuLinda Williams wept after dropping off her bedridden grandmother, who is on oxygen, at the Superdome. Only one family member was allowed to stay with each patient, so Williams left her daughter. "I thought they'd let the family stay with them," Williams said. "Where are the rest of us supposed to go now? How are we supposed to know she's OK?" The city decided against opening the Superdome to able-bodied

Bilingual

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Spanish for these precincts as well, according to the election code. Salome is planning on voting in the general election, but he said he will use the English ballot. Graduate and part-time Spanish instructor, Elaine Hill, said she thinks the requirements are a good measure to help increase voter turnout, and she said she plans to sign-up to be a bilingual election clerk for the general election. She said she thinks the requirements for someone are to be a registered voter and bilingual. "I think that anywhere where a large percentage of the population speaks a language other than English, it helps to have it in their language," she said. Hill thinks the county needs more than 200 bilingual election clerks to help during the election, she said.

"Somehow they need to relay the message to the Hispanic community that there will be bilingual clerks to help them," she said. "I'd like to encourage anyone on campus that's bilingual to register to help with the elections, including faculty and staff." Gisela Piedra, a senior political science and Spanish major from Dallas, said she grew up speaking Spanish, and also said she thinks the requirements are a good thing. "People are not going to want to vote if they can't read the ballot," she said. "They'd be embarrassed." Piedra's parents are more comfortable speaking and reading Spanish, but Piedra said she will use an English ballot when she votes in the election. "I know people are going to start asking about the other languages; we don't want another Florida incident," she said. "This is going to be a generation with a lot of first time voters, people are really pushing for this (election). They want people to vote and have an opinion."

Pageant

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lopez said her role as queen involves many responsibilities. "As queen, you must represent the Hispanic community in Lubbock and promote your platform," she said. "My platform is to build character through volunteerism." Lopez said to uphold her platform she plans to go out into the community and get involved. "I'm going to get out there and make myself available to anyone," she said. "I will give my time and efforts to anyone who needs my help, to be a service in any way I can." Lopez said although competing while being a student was difficult she was successful because of the love and support she received from her friends. "It was hard trying to balance everything at once," she said. "It was nerve-racking, and I struggled at times, but my family and friends were always behind me." Lopez said she was unsure if another pageant is in her future. "I'm happy and proud to be Miss Hispanic Lubbock," she said, "But I don't know if I'll be competing again in any other pageants." Lopez will receive a \$2,000 scholarship to attend Texas Tech for winning the competition. Amberly Gomez was the first runner up and will receive a \$1,500 scholarship to attend Tech. Gomez, a freshman at South Plains College, said she was thankful the competition was over but was happy she had the experi-

ence. "I'm relieved it's over," she said, "but I had a wonderful time, and I'm so glad that I had this opportunity." Gomez said this year was her second competing in the pageant, but the thrill always is the same. "I love getting to meet new girls and make new friends," she said. "I'm also thankful for the opportunity this pageant has given me—to get involved with the community." Gomez said the hardest part was the onstage interview. "The onstage question was tough," she said. "I always get nervous." Rosa Salazar, pageant coordinator, said the pageant has been held for about 20 years, starting as a small event at local parks and escalating to the Miss Hispanic Lubbock Pageant. "It began with little groups getting together at parks and then moved to the Queen of the Fiestas del Llanos," she said. "Last year was the first year we used the title Miss Hispanic Lubbock." Salazar said the pageant is much like any other pageant in that it consists of an opening dance routine, a talent portion, an evening wear competition and an onstage interview. She said while no national Hispanic pageant exists, this pageant does have ties to other pageants. "The emcee this year is Miss Texas 2004, Stephanie Guerrero," she said. "We also have Miss North Texas, who will be handing out the awards." Tech also has ties to the pageant. The Department of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs awards the pageant scholarships. \$7,500 in scholarship money was awarded at Wednesday's pageant.

SOAC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

versus Baylor game Nov. 6." Moses said there must be teams of 10 or more people, and the competition will last Oct. 1 through Oct. 31. All teams must register by 5 p.m. Oct. 8. He also spoke to the representatives about the new student entrance at the Jones SBC Stadium. "This is paid for by your student services fee," Moses said. "It's still located at the south-east entrance and is the nicest entrance to the stadium. With more card readers, the lines will go a lot faster." External Vice President Anne Hunninghake said she works as a liaison between Tech students and the Lubbock community. She spoke to students about "Take a Kid to the Game," a tradition started 13 years ago. "The Covenant Health System is sponsoring 1,000 kids to come to the Tech-TCU game," Hunninghake said. "We encourage as many students to participate in this as possible. We've extended the deadline to sign up until Thursday." Knox informed representatives of the history and current updates with traffic issues. "As Tech continues to build, the buildings become denser, knocking out a lot of potential parking spaces," Knox said. "We plan to make 500 more parking spaces at the park and ride on the west side of the Health Sciences Center, which will provide a parking lot of 1,500 spots. Every day, there hasn't been a single parking lot that has

been completely full at peak times, except for the C1 and C4 commuter lots. We have sent letters to 300 satellite parkers to receive commuter permits, but they will have 10 days to respond to this." Knox said he is looking for ways to fund more parking garages. "The only source of money for funding is permit sales and citations, and I don't want to give citations," he said. Knox proposed charging \$5 a parking spot on game days to help fund additional garages and better parking. "The main point is don't let this issue die," he said. "Make the administration do something about it." Engineering Sen. Justin Barnes passed around sheets for organizations to sign up for an SGA Senator to attend to their organizational meetings and register members to vote. "Early voting will be Oct. 25 through Oct. 29 at the Student Recreational Center," Barnes said. Senator-At-Large Heather Smith announced the funding meeting times and dates for organizations funded by the SGA to attend. "There are four different seminars which you can attend, and we'll explain how to receive your funds and describe ways you can spend your money," Smith said. Moses closed the meeting and encouraged students to come to the SGA with any ideas to better the school. "If there are any concerns or issues, we want your ideas so we can propose legislation and do something about it," Moses said.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
 1 Jogging gait
 5 ...vincit omnia
 9 Freer from risk
 14 Novelist Jaffe
 15 Easy gait
 16 Handbag
 17 Robert of "The Sopranos"
 18 Pension \$\$
 19 Playwright Clifford
 20 Chance event
 23 Held first place
 24 Narc's org.
 25 Gas' pref.
 26 Spacesuit, to NASA
 29 Obliterate
 31 Zhivago's love
 33 Physics particle
 34 Kind
 36 Dossage amt.
 37 Caron title role
 38 Chance event
 42 Operatic prima donna
 43 Wish undone
 44 Put on
 45 Historic periods
 46 Tips
 48 Approaches
 52 Fish with a long snout
 53 Contemptuous interjection
 54 Goddess of folly
 56 Menlo Park initials
 57 Chance event
 61 Steeple top
 63 Title role for Peter Fonda
 64 Geometry calculation
 65 Penultimate round
 66 Ranked competitor
 67 Clenched fingers
 68 Bikini blast
 69 Author Ferber
 70 Ferrara family

DOWN
 1 Unimportant thing
 2 Caster piece

By Phillip J. Anderson
 Portland, OR
 9/16/04

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

A	B	O	M	B	F	R	E	Y	C	O	E
P	U	R	E	E	L	O	L	A	A	B	L
B	R	A	D	Y	B	U	N	C	H	P	T
S	N	L	O	R	B	A	W	A	I	T	E
G	N	U	E	R	E	C	T				
B	R	O	O	D	I	N	G	H	E	A	V
R	I	L	L	S	E	G	O	S	L	I	M
A	V	I	D	E	R	O	R	S	O	B	I
S	A	V	E	S	D	O	Z	E	A	L	E
S	L	A	N	T	S	L	E	M	O	N	A
H	O	T	E	L	A	U	G				
T	H	R	O	W	E	R	D	D	T	D	I
H	O	U	R	A	R	N	I	E	S	A	R
A	P	E	D	L	O	S	E	E	G	Y	P
W	I	D	E	S	L	U	M	T	E	N	S

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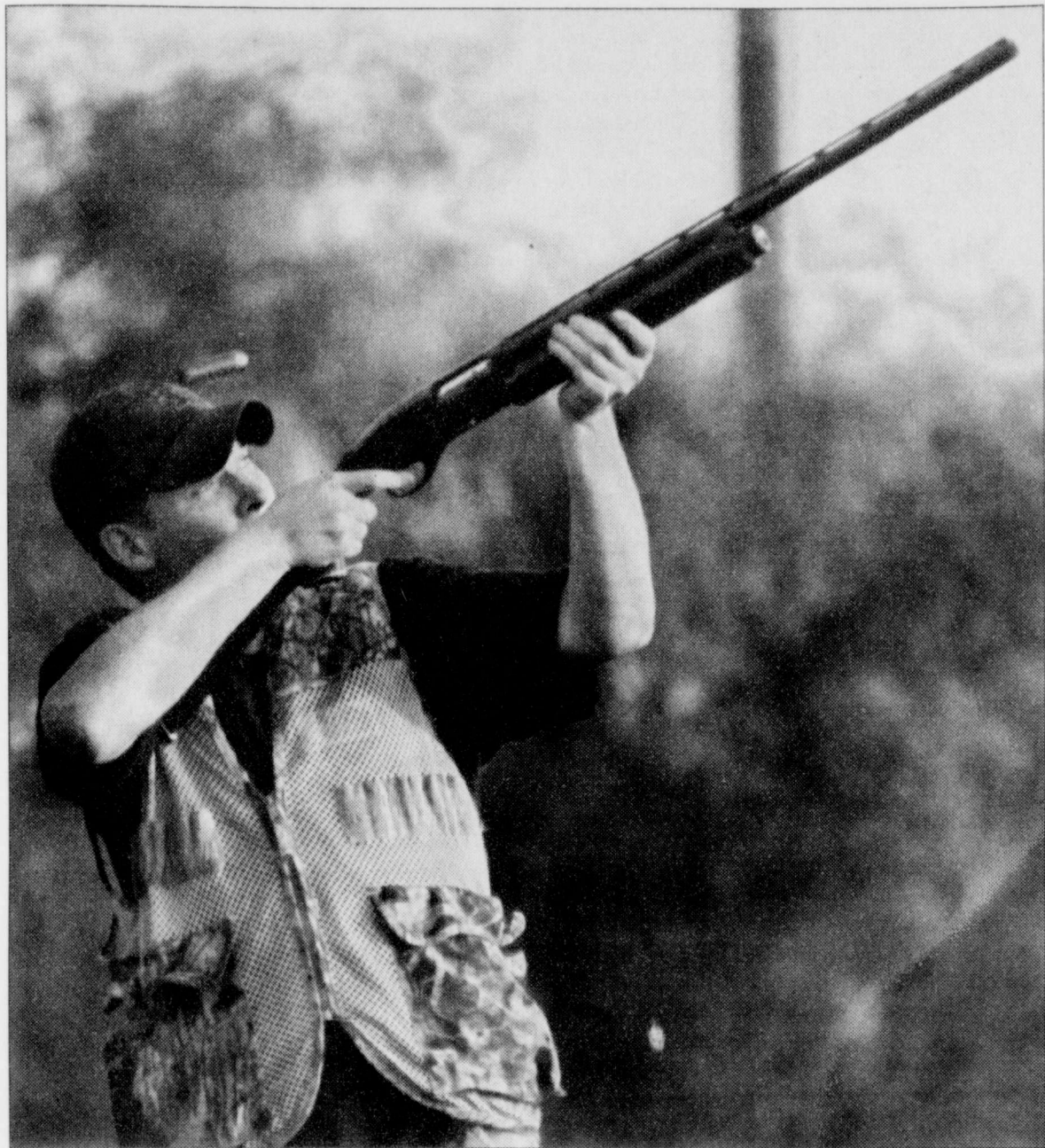
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 Sept. 24th @ Conference w/ Mark David Manders

'Shhh, we're hunting Doves'



ANDREW WEATHERL/Photo Illustration

BRANDON GROSVENOR, A senior political science major from Abilene, takes a shot at a dove while hunting in Albany.

By Brittany Fish/
The University Daily

While baseball players are encouraged to keep their eye on the ball, dove hunters strive to keep their eye on the bird.

Chris Britton, a senior marketing major from Lubbock and an avid dove hunter, said not losing sight of the dove once it has been shot is imperative.

"You have to keep your eye on it," he said. "It's kinda like playing Marco Polo with birds."

Britton said he is a regular hunter in the Stratford and Lubbock area. Dove hunting is by far the easiest hunting, he said.

"With dove (hunting), you pick a spot, put your chair down and wait for the doves," he said. "You're almost guaranteed to see some birds. With pheasant hunting, you

have to walk, and walk, and walk. We'd walk 15 to 20 miles a day."

The best and most helpful tactic when hunting is location, Britton said.

"You have got to have a good spot," he said. "One time we shot 42 doves in an hour and another time shot only two doves the entire time."

Talking to landowners and farmers also can help hunters find

the most plentiful spot, Britton said.

Scott Barnes, a junior construction engineering major from Granbury, agreed talking to farmers beforehand for tips on where to hunt is a good idea.

"I've wanted to go and talk to farmers," he said. "They're not hunters, so they don't care about it. We're kids and that's what we like to do."

Barnes said many farmers do not mind letting hunters use their land for the sport.

Britton said hunting with a large group of people to help keep track of where the birds fall after they are shot is not a bad idea.

"That's the huge benefit of hunting with other people," he said.

Britton said he has been hunting only for a few years, but dove hunting is something he will continue.

"I received my first shotgun as a wedding present and have 28 guns since," he said. "I'm kinda an addict."

Sometimes, he said, he will bring along his wife.

"She likes to go if there's a lot of action," he said. "She likes to shoot the game."

Barnes said the more people who go, the merrier, because with a large group, you can accomplish more.

"With a group, you can kinda put yourself in two positions," he said. You put your buddy 50 feet away, and the shot that he can't make, maybe you can."

Those who do not like to kill doves still can practice their aim with clay birds, Barnes said.

"One of the fun things to do is to shoot clays," he said. "That's a blast. It's for those who aren't real blood-thirsty. A lot of people just want to shoot at anything that flies."

Paul Hejl, a senior construction technology major from Austin and

a hunter since he was 12-years-old, said he is a fan of dove hunting, but he prefers to duck hunt.

His advice for aspiring dove hunters is simple.

"Just point and shoot," he said. "I get the bag limit every time."

Matthew Nasche, a senior finance and economics major from Muenster, said he prefers deer hunting, but will go on the occasional dove hunt.

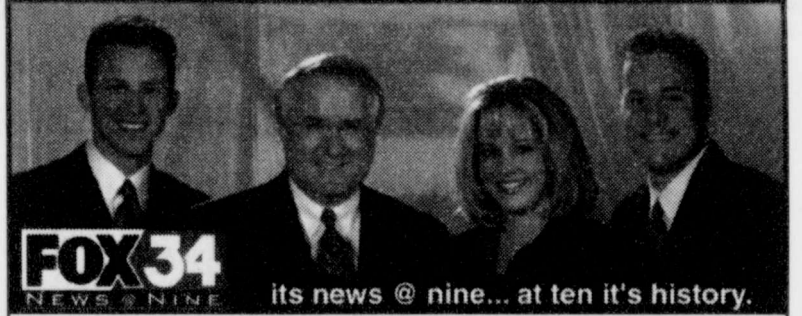
"It's a little bit harder than dove hunting, because you might see like three deer, rather than 100 dove," he said.

Barnes said he has not seen a plentiful amount of doves this season because of the cool and wet weather.

"We went just this weekend, and saw two birds. It all depends where you're at. The season tells some of it," he said.

THURSDAY

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Body Elec. Callow	Today Show	Early Show	K. Copeland J. Robison	Good Morning	K. Copeland Spin City
8:00	Berenstain Barney		Early Show	Paid Program	America	GraceFire Roseanne
9:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Home Delivery	Becker Dharma/Greg
10:00	Sesame Street	Regis & Kelly	Price is Right	Hatchett Hatchett	View	Makeover Makeover
11:00	Mr. Rogers Jeopardy	Jeopardy Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program	Paid Program	Access Extra
12:00	Old House Watercolors	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live
1:00	Needle Arts Dragon Tales	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Paid Program	One Life to Live	People's Court
2:00	Zoom Betw. Lions	In/Edtion	Guiding Light	Jack Hanna	General Hospital	Divorce Ct. TX Justice
3:00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Maury Povich	Dharma/Greg Sabrina	Montel Williams	Joe Brown Joe Brown
4:00	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	That 70's Malcolm	Jane Pauley	News
5:00	TBA Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Access Family Feud	ABC News	Friends Simpsons
6:00	News Hour	News W/fortune	News Millionaire	Family Feud Extra	ABC News	Friends Raymond
7:00	This Old House	Joey PG Will/Grace	Survivor: Vanatu	WWE Smackdown	Extreme Makeover	O.C.: Phenomenon
8:00	Old Amusement	Apprentice PG	C.S.I. TV14		Secrets of Ext.	Outrageous Crazy Video
9:00	Wide Angle		Without a Trace PG	Sneak Peek King/Hill	Primetime	News
10:00	Nightly Bus. Destinos	News Tonight Show	News David	That 70's Magnum P.I.	News Nightline	Friends Seinfeld
11:00	GED Conn. Charlie Rose	Conan	Letterman Craig	Blind Date	Insider E.T.	Frasier Cheers
12:00		O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Shop @ Home	Jimmy Kimmel	Shoot Me Paid Program



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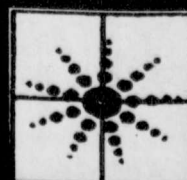
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Peebles gives father a 'Baadasssss!' tribute



Almost never has a film's title been more fitting. While "Baadasssss!" is, essentially, a movie about making a movie, it also highlights a key moment in film history in which black filmmakers and black audiences were able to connect.

In 1971 Melvin Van Peebles wrote, directed, produced and starred in "Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song," a low-budget film Peebles dedicated to "all the Brothers and Sisters who had enough of the Man."

He refused to submit his film to the all-white MPAA, which earned the film an immediate X-rating.

"Sweetback" finds a young black

pimp, who, after killing a racist white cop, is on the run and on a journey of self-discovery.

The film connected with its intended audience and became the highest grossing independent film of 1971 with \$15 million.

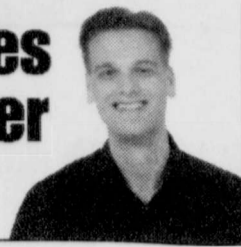
It proved to be a milestone in film history and gave birth to the subgenre of blaxploitation with such black icons as Pam Grier in "Foxy Brown" and "Coffy," and Richard Roundtree in "Shaft" (which was meant for a white actor before "Sweetback").

Reaching that tremendous outcome, however, was a severe struggle for Peebles, now called "the godfather of modern black cinema."

In "Baadasssss!" (originally titled, "How to get the Man's Foot Outta Your Ass"), Melvin Van Peebles' son, Mario Van Peebles, writes, directs and stars as his father in a film that chronicles Melvin's struggle to get his film made.

"Baadasssss!" shows how "Sweetback" was made right on the heels of the black power movement of the 1960s. The narrative is in docudrama style, and we see clips from early films demonstrating how blacks were treated

James Eppler



Students of filmmaking and film history do themselves an injustice to miss 'Baadasssss!.' 'Power to the people!' I say, power to the Peebleses.

by Hollywood.

It asserts even films portraying blacks in a favorable light were really just white men showing how blacks wanted to fit in with society ("Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," for example).

Melvin decided to make a film that would bite back at how blacks had been portrayed in Hollywood. His film would work opposite from the tradition—he would show a black hero who fought against the white machine.

Melvin's first film, "The Watermelon Man," was a black comedy, and his white agent advises him to keep making easy black comedies. "How about 'Fried Chicken Man?'" the agent suggests.

Instead, Melvin writes "Sweetback," which his agent is sure will never work. Melvin is forced to sink his own money into the project, to hire a racially diverse film crew with some members he must train himself and to work without any SAG actors.

To stay under the radar of the film unions, Melvin laced his film with hard sexuality so the unions would merely write off the project as black porn.

One key scene at the beginning of "Sweetback" shows the 13-year-old hero losing his virginity in a whorehouse, which then transforms him into a grown man.

Melvin forced his son, 13-year-old Mario, to do the scene.

In playing his father in "Baadasssss!," Mario is unafraid to reveal his father's faults, including stubborn resoluteness, heavy-handed leadership and outright contempt for those who disagree with him.

We also sense some resentment toward some of the hardships through which his father put him.

The father/son dynamic in "Baadasssss!" is a key feature. The young Mario (Khleo Thomas) originally feels a distant connection with his cold father, which becomes closer as they work together.

That closeness is from where this film is coming.

Mario Van Peebles turns in his career-best work—both behind and in front of the camera. Behind the camera, Mario inter-cuts actual scenes from "Sweetback" and takes great care that the locations and situations are true to

the original film.

His performance as Melvin is dynamite. We watch a driven, determined and desperate filmmaker almost see his work come to failure. He deprives himself of sleep, which causes him to lose vision in one of his eyes, some of his crew desert him and the rest get arrested for carrying around filmmaking equipment authorities assume is stolen because they are minorities.

But just as Melvin's film was a wake-up call to a white-driven Hollywood, Mario's film is a wonderful tribute to his father's work and an important reminder to modern audiences.

Students of filmmaking and film history do themselves an injustice to miss "Baadasssss!"

"Power to the people!" I say, power to the Peebleses.

Now available on DVD.

EPPLER'S RATING:



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

After 25 years on '20/20', Barbara Walters says good-bye

NEW YORK (AP) — Mind you, Barbara Walters is not retiring.

But she's about to do something almost as notable: Relinquish her role as co-host of "20/20" after a quarter-century with that ABC newsmagazine.

Walters, who has interviewed almost every big shot worth interviewing and whose own celebrity matches many of her subjects, is ready to retreat from the spotlight—a little.

But first: Friday at 9 p.m. EDT,

Walters will preside over a two-hour retrospective of many of the 740 interviews (but who is counting?) she has done for "20/20."

Then on Sept. 24, she will air one more: a conversation with Mary Kay Letourneau, the former sixth-grade schoolteacher who went to prison for having sex with a student.

After that broadcast, she plans to spend a whole week with her daughter Jackie at a spa in Southern California.

"I don't know when I've gotten away for a week," she says, "without getting called on something."

Time to take the phone off the hook!

"I know that everybody said, 'She'll never stop working. They'll carry her out feet first,'" says Walters, looking relaxed and stylish in a mint pantsuit at her desk a few days ago. "But I wanted to get out of the week-in-week-out grind. And I wanted to leave at the top.

I didn't want to leave and have people say, 'Is she still there?'"

Walters, who marks her 73th birthday next week, has been reliably there on the nation's TV screens since the 1960s, as the first female co-host of NBC's "Today."

She became a "20/20" fixture in 1979, joining forces with its then host Hugh Downs following the disastrous experiment that had brought her to ABC three years before: co-anchoring the evening newscast with Harry Reasoner, who quickly made it clear he wanted no one alongside him, especially a woman.

"Very difficult, very painful," Walters calls that misadventure. But at

"20/20" she flourished, and, in 1984, became its co-host.

Now replacing her at the anchor desk next to John Stossel will be Elizabeth Vargas.

"But I'm not retiring," Walters says. "I'll be doing specials that I can pick and choose. We're already working on 'The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2004,' for December. I'll continue to do 'The View' (the morning chat and interview hour she started in 1997 whose panel of women she joins a couple of days each week). I might even do an interview for '20/20' from time to time.

"But in terms of anchoring '20/20,' I'm done," she declares.

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Look at these hose

By Brittany Fish/
The University Daily

They are not your mother's stockings.

Women who have been "hosed" by traditional pantyhose might want to check out the new leg accessory making its way from the red carpet to Lubbock.

Meredith Sloane, co-owner of Melonets, a company that manufactures fishnet stockings, said fishnets with a twist are a perfect trend for all seasons.

"I noticed that fishnets were coming back into style, and they're something I really love," she said. "It's something I really wanted to wear and I can't believe no one had already started this trend. I was gonna make a small quantity, and everyone loved them."

Sloane said after she began designing fishnets, a buzz began, and their popularity grew.

Ingrid Reynolds, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Cleburne, said she has always loved fishnets.

"I could talk forever about fishnets," she said. "I was a goth kid, so that could be a part of it."

Reynolds said she owns gloves,

arm sleeves and a jacket, all made of the material.

Sloane said her fishnets are available online and in stores across the country, including one store in Lubbock.

Carole Daniel, owner of Déjà Vu, said her store received a shipment of Melonets in early spring.

"They're (Melonets) like a knee-high piece of hosiery," Daniel said, "And what makes these a little bit different from ordinary is they have a really cute banding at the top that adds a bit of color to the fishnet."

They are a twist off the fishnet that was popular in the 1960s and early 1980s, except without the discomfort of how the pantyhose fit, she said.

Sloane said her goal was to bring this leg accessory back into the fashion world.

"The thing I wanted to do was take a trend that had already been back in the past and make a new trend with the bands at the top," she said. "I've noticed this year legwear has really been in style."

However, some Texas Tech students disagree.

Amy Wroble, a senior advertising major from Bedford, said she would not be caught dead wearing fishnets.

"Oh, heck no," she said. "If they are in style or not, I think they look kinda trashy. It's just not my style."

Zach Henderson, a junior telecommunications major from Dallas, said he would never date a girl who followed this trend.

"I don't like girls wearing fishnet hose," he said.

Mike Simmons, a senior public relations major from San Antonio, agreed with Henderson.

"If I ever see girls wearing them on campus, I'd call the fashion police ASAP," he said. "I declare shenanigans on fishnets."

People should not automatically associate negative things with the stockings, Reynolds said.

"The thing about fishnets is that they have bad connotations," she said. "In all actuality, they are really very slimming because of the diamond pattern."

Michelle Ray, a junior public relations major from Fort Worth, was undecided about the issue of fishnets.

"If I was going for that style," she said, "fishnets would be my first choice."

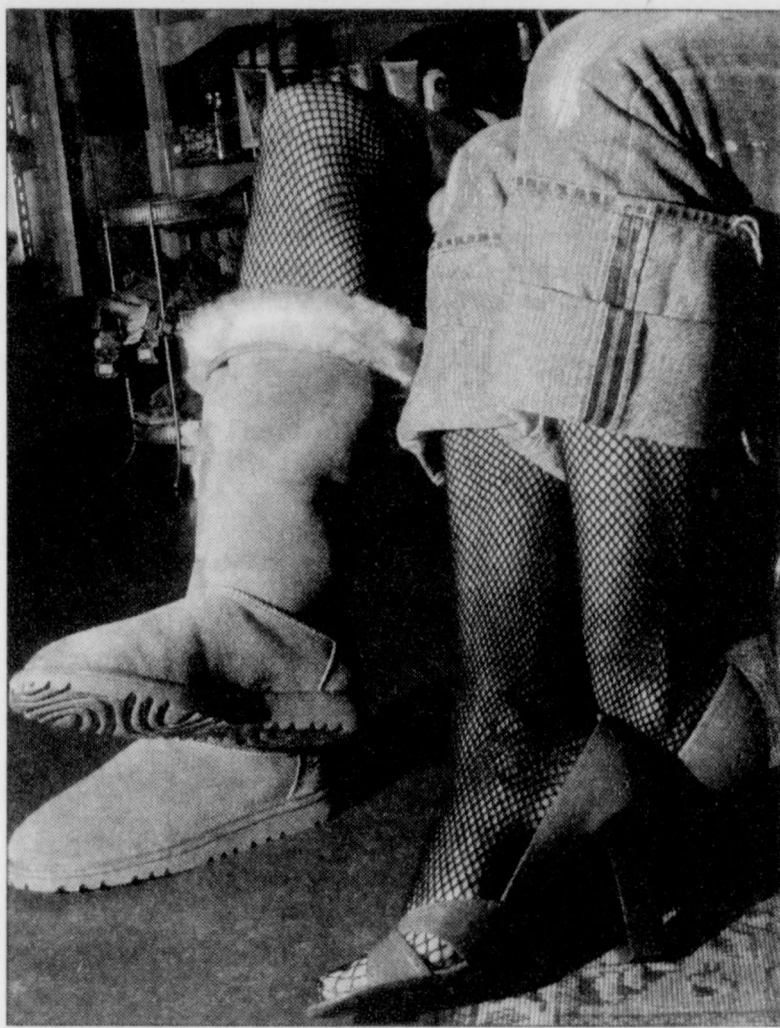
Leg accessories are appropriate for Halloween, funerals and closed-toed shoes, Ray said.

"I might wear pink ones," she said. "But for an 8 a.m. class in the morning — that wouldn't work."

Sloane said pink fishnets are her best seller.

"A lot of celebrities like the pink fishnet," she said. "It's really girly."

Sloane said Melonets will be included in gift bags given to top Emmy Award nominees such as Jennifer Aniston, Jennifer Garner and Sarah Jessica Parker.



JAMIE TOMÁS AGUILAR/The University Daily

TWO EMPLOYEES OF Déjà Vu model the "Melonets" (fishnet) stockings.

God's existence to be debated on television

NEW YORK (AP) — It could be the ultimate challenge for a TV show: debating the topic of God's existence.

How do you bring that subject down to earth? And what on earth do you do for visuals?

But the ineffable can be made accessible.

Behold: "The Question of God," two unusual two-hour programs airing on PBS Sept. 22 (check local listings) with home video to follow.

Director Catherine Tatge produced past PBS series about mythological scholar Joseph Campbell and

the Bible's Book of Genesis, both hosted by Bill Moyers.

"Question" stems from a book of the same title by psychiatrist Armand Nicholi, who for decades has taught Harvard University courses that compare the lives and religious thought of this odd couple:

— Sigmund Freud (1856-1939), the founder of psychoanalysis, arguably the most influential atheist of modern times (now that the credibility of communist Karl Marx has imploded).

— C. S. Lewis (1898-1963), English literature scholar at Oxford and Cambridge universities, a hard-

bitten atheist who then embraced Christianity and became arguably the era's most influential defender of belief.

These two fascinating fellows allow Tatge to leaven the inevitable talking heads with documentary materials and dramatized re-creations from their lives, artfully filmed in European locales and using their actual words. Peter Eyre plays Freud

(yes, complete with cigar) and Simon Jones is a pipe-puffing Lewis.

There is rich Freudian material here. If God is merely the projection of childhood wishful thinking, as Freud thought, did Sigmund himself spurn God because he rebelled against Daddy? And did young Lewis turn atheist because Daddy packed him off to a cruel boarding school after his beloved Mommy died?

Unfortunately, the biographies are interspersed with round-table chats led by Nicholi. The seven panelists are a pleasant enough group. But except for atheist Michael Shermer, who runs the California-

based Skeptics Society, we are never quite sure who these individuals are, why they were invited, what religious backgrounds they reflect and why we should pay particular heed to their opinions.

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Soccer team taking road trip to border matches

By Bryan Wendell/
The University Daily

The Texas Tech soccer team is heading for the border this weekend to compete in El Paso for a two-game tournament.

Thursday's game against University Of Texas - El Paso and Sunday's match against Weber State mark Tech's final non-conference games before Big 12 Conference action begins.

Assistant coach Jamie Woods said Tech should expect the same intensity against these two teams that it experienced when hosting No. 1-ranked Notre Dame last Sunday.

"We're expecting UTEP and Weber State to be extremely physical, just as physical as Notre Dame or New Mexico," Woods said. "All week this week we've been doing a



lot of physical things."

Woods said the focus of Tuesday's practice was almost exclusively air ball drills. She said those types of situations in the air prepare the Red Raiders for the physical play to be expected from their tournament foes.

The players also are preparing for the physicality. Freshman forward Jenifer Thomas said she knows the importance of balls in

the air.

"I think if we are more aggressive in the air, it will help our offensive threat," she said.

The team's set pieces off corner kicks have improved, Thomas said, but it is important for the team to still get a head on every corner.

Sophomore forward Jennifer Vasquez said controlling the ball is important not just in the air, but also everywhere on the field.

"We need to keep being physical and going up and challenging for every ball: 50-50 balls, air balls, balls on the ground and just making sure that we're there to support each other to get behind the defense, rather than just taking them one-on-one all the time," Vasquez said.

Tech plays Sunday against Weber State, a team with two wins in seven games this season, both by

one goal. Thursday, the Raiders take on 5-1 Texas-El Paso. The Miners outscored their opponents 22-5 during their six contests.

A Thursday game is uncommon in college soccer. Tech plays Friday and Sunday games exclusively for the rest of the season. Tech coach Felix Oskam said Thursday games are beneficial for coaches and their players because that schedule provides an extra day of rest.

"This is my first Thursday and Sunday game, which is actually what we as Big 12 coaches have talked about, is to have the conference change to Thursday-Sunday to give us an extra day of rest. But it was voted down," Oskam said.

Woods said the team might actually be hurt if the players do not diligently use the extra time.

"The Thursday-Sunday difference, it's nice to have two days of break, but it also can be a disadvantage. We have to use those two days and still stay focused," she said.

The team will use Friday night to watch its Sunday opponent, Weber State, play against host

school UTEP. Woods said getting a first-hand scouting report on Weber State would be good for the team.

Oskam said he is not entirely familiar with Weber State, but has an excellent resource on his staff. Assistant coach Steve Crum coached at the University of Idaho from 1999 to 2004, and Oskam has used Crum as well as Crum's connections as scouting tools.

Oskam's scouting report tells him both opponents will be very physical, but he said he is confident his team can handle the pressure.

"Our kids really believe that they can play with any team in the country now after playing Notre Dame, and that's half the battle," he said. "If we can stay focused for 90 minutes with the same intensity we had against Notre Dame, we're gonna win some games."

Woods said she knows this weekend could be big for the 3-3 Raiders.

"It's important for us to go 2-0 this weekend," she said. "But we have to take it one game at a time."

Running

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

part of that falls on my shoulders to get us in the right play," he said. "Sometimes we're out there playing with nine guys or 10 guys as opposed to 11 guys on the same page, so I think it's a lot of communication problems. Also, I just need to get us into better running plays and get us into more running plays."

Tech has 22 rushing attempts in each of its first two games. Leach said just looking at the numbers the team has put up in its first two games can be a bit deceiving, and the best advice he has for his players is to relax.

"We really haven't run it that many times," he said. "New Mexico blitzes all the time, so that presented a whole different scenario there. I think in some cases we have some guys trying to make too many things happen. They had a big offseason, and they're highly motivated. I think at times they push themselves for perfection, and stuff's not always going to be perfect."

UD Sports Desk Weekly Picks

Sept. 16 - Sept. 18



	Joey Kirk	Kyle Clark	Adam Boedeker	David Wiechmann	Bryan Wendell
North Texas @ Colorado	Colorado, 38-10	Colorado, 17-10	Colorado, 23-10	Colorado, 24-13	Colorado, 39-13
N. Illinois @ Iowa St.	Iowa St., 21-3	Iowa St., 16-13	Iowa St., 27-14	Iowa St., 21-17	Iowa St., 20-10
Kansas @ Northwestern	Kansas, 24-13	Kansas, 48-24	Kansas, 46-24	Kansas, 24-21	Northwestern, 24-20
UL-Lafayette @ Kansas St.	Kansas St., 49-20	Kansas St., 37-10	Kansas St., 41-12	Kansas St., 42-20	Kansas St., 40-14
Ball St. @ Missouri	Mizzou, 52-24	Mizzou, 31-13	Mizzou, 52-17	Mizzou, 38-17	Mizzou, 42-16
Nebraska @ Pittsburg	Nebraska, 42-32	Nebraska, 24-18	Nebraska, 37-20	Nebraska, 27-21	Pittsburgh, 21-17
Oregon @ OU	OU, 48-24	OU, 45-14	OU, 38-17	OU, 35-20	OU, 35-6
Clemson @ Texas A&M	Clemson, 35-28	A&M, 28-27	Clemson, 24-21	Clemson, 28-20	Clemson, 32-28
SMU @ Oklahoma St.	Okla. St., 56-24	Okla. St., 38-17	Okla. St., 39-10	Okla. St., 42-17	Okla. St., 35-14

*No picks are made for Baylor and Texas because of bye week.

Tomorrow's Feature Pick: TCU at Texas Tech in Jones SBC Stadium

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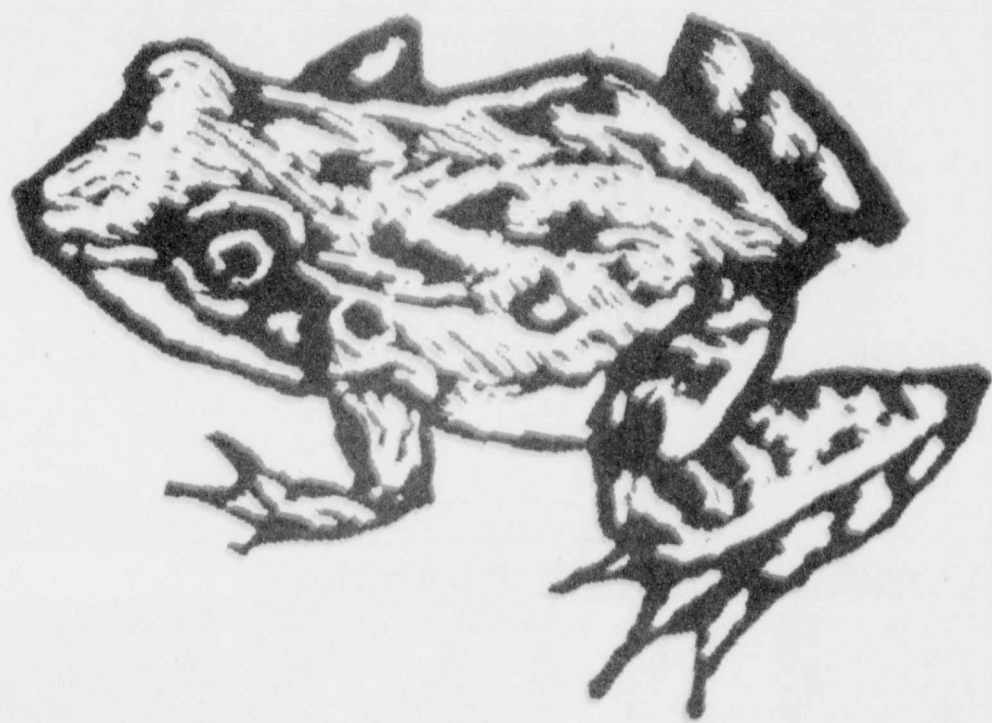
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Volleyball takes first Big 12 win of season

By David Wiechmann/
The University Daily

The Texas Tech volleyball team was beaten statistically by the Oklahoma Sooners in its Big 12 Conference opener, but the Red Raiders won the battle for the most important stats — games, kills and aces.

Tech (5-2, 1-0 Big 12) handed Oklahoma its first loss of the season under new head coach Santiago Restrepo, 3-1, Wednesday night and extended its winning streak to four matches. It was a win coach Nancy Todd said her team achieved because it stepped up when it mattered.

"We made it when it counted," she said. "We had some big hits, and the blocks we had were very key. We didn't have very many, but they came at key moments."

OU (8-1, 0-1) used its size to dominate the middle and to keep Tech's attack at-bay with 17 blocks as opposed to the Raiders' nine, but Tech found a way to get kills and to claim the victory over a team that had yet to taste the agony of defeat.

The Raiders took command late in game one with a five-point run to go up 28-24, and Tech took a comfortable 2-0 lead at the intermission. That lead would fall to 2-1, however, when the Raiders came out flat in game three, something Todd said she warned of at the break.

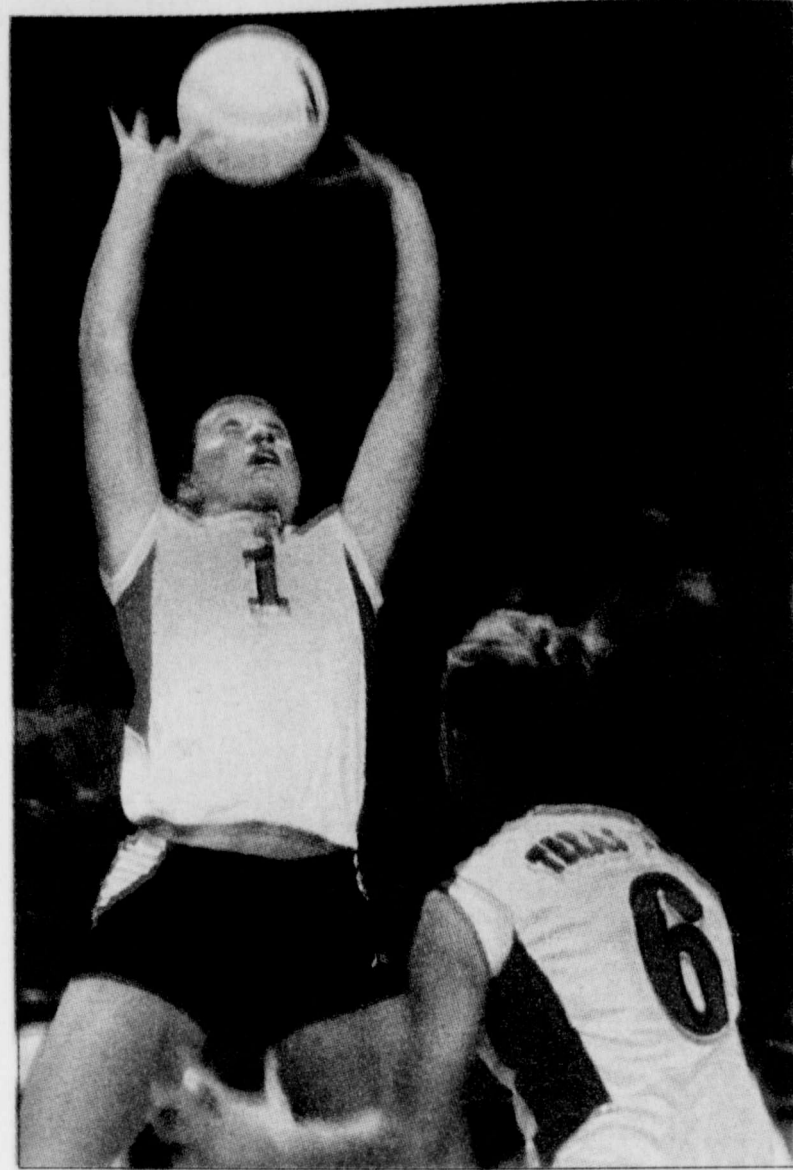
"That's something I told them about," she said. "You're up 2-0. How are you going to keep your team up? You know the other team is down; they're 8-0, you know they'll be gunning for it because this is their last chance."

The Sooners extended their last chance to game four where Tech took advantage of its enthusiasm and will to win.

"We had more energy than they did," said senior outside hitter Kelly Johnson. "We had fun, and it didn't look like they were having fun, even when they were winning, and we did."

The energy of the home crowd from the first conference match and the confidence in the team's ability is what Johnson, who led Tech with 14 kills, said pulled the Raiders to victory.

"I really never had a doubt, even in that fourth game when we got streaky," she said. "The confidence in the team



ANDREW WEATHERL/The University Daily
SENIOR LAURA GROTE sets to sophomore Nina Miller during the match against Oklahoma Wednesday night at the United Spirit Arena.

is at a whole new level."

Tech's first conference win of the season was not without flaws, however. The Raiders' mistakes seemed to come at inopportune times for the team, but Tech responded. Johnson said the squad's ability to bounce back from mistakes sheds light on the future in that the team does not crumble when mental errors find their way into the match. Instead, the Raiders turn around and make a big play.

"We just kept making stupid errors," Johnson said. "Other than that I knew we were gonna win."

Johnson's clairvoyance comes directly from seeing how the team prepares for matches and what is taking place among the teammates every day.

"It's a new passion (on the court)," she said. "You see it in practice, in warm-ups and off and on the court."

There is no time for the Raiders to

relax after this first win, however. Tech faces No. 8 Nebraska on Saturday at the United Spirit Arena. With the Cornhuskers dropping from No. 2 in the polls this week after a loss to an unranked team and the strength of the Big 12, Todd knows no team is unbeatable, and she brings that approach to the court.

"I think everyone is beatable," she said. "In our conference any team can win, it's just a matter of who wears who out faster. When it gets to this point, it's do or die. It's time to step up to the plate. We're starting at zero right now."

For sophomore Kiley Lyons (12 kills) the match against Nebraska means a chance to make more noise in the conference and play a well-respected opponent.

"It's always fun to play them; they're a big team, high profile," she said. "I think it will be a good match."

Eight years make a noticeable difference in the Big 12 North

Hey, remember the '90's? Flashback time. Mariah Carey and Boyz II Men's "One Sweet Day," was beginning an 11-week run as the No. 1 song in the United States, and "12 Monkeys" had just wrestled the billing of top movie from "Toy Story."

The date was January 6, 1996, and four of the top 10 college football teams in America played in what is now the Big 12 North.

The Nebraska Cornhuskers had completed a 62-24 rout of the Florida Gators to win its second consecutive national championship. Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel's Buffaloes finished the 1995 season as the No. 5 team in the nation.

The Kansas State Wildcats finished 1995 as the No. 7 team in the country and were paced by a great defense led by some guy named Bob Stoops. And the Kansas Jayhawks finished No. 9 in the country in what many college football minds thought was a sign of things to come.

Let us return to present day Earth.

Maroon 5's "She Will Be Loved," is the No. 1 song in the U.S., and "Resident Evil: Apocalypse" had the best weekend.

Oh and by the way, a Big 12 North squad is not in this week's top 25 poll.

What a difference eight years makes.

Kansas State dropped out of the polls this week after a 45-21 loss to Fresno State, and Missouri lost its spot in the rankings after a 24-14 loss to Troy of the Sunbelt Conference.

Nebraska, which was on the bubble of the polls last week lost at home to Southern Mississippi Saturday, and Iowa State lost yet another intrastate battle to Iowa.

Kyle Clark



Trends do not last forever; I have a closet full of tie-dye shirts and hammer pants to prove it.

In fact Colorado and Kansas are the only undefeated squads in the North division. Colorado finished 2003 with a 4-7 record, and Kansas finished its 2003 campaign with a 7-6 record — its first winning season since 1995.

Translation — the scores do not lie, and the Big 12 North is bad. Like Bubble Boy bad.

I am not saying the North is dead, but starting to dig a grave might not be a bad idea.

The division once had so much promise. When the Big 12 began, the North was expected to destroy the South, but five events began a trend that would eventually turn the Conference upside down.

Dec. 29, 1995 — Kansas State beat Colorado State 54-21 in what would be Wildcat defensive coordinator Bob Stoops' last game as a KSU coach. Stoops joined Steve Spurrier's Florida staff and helped lead the Gators to a national title win in 1996. Stoops was named Oklahoma head coach in 1999, and his Sooners are now the No. 1 team in the nation.

Dec. 7, 1996 — The North representative Nebraska entered the Big 12 Championship with a 10-1 record while Texas came into the game at 7-4. The Cornhuskers were heavily favored, but the Longhorns won the first Big 12 title after being spurred by a fourth-down conversion late in the game.

Dec. 4, 1997 — After the Longhorns followed up its 1996 Big 12 championship with a 4-7 season in 1997, Texas hired former North Carolina coach Mack Brown. Although Brown has yet to win a Big 12 title, he has led the 'Horns to a 59-18 record during the last five years.

Jan. 2, 1998 — Nebraska coach Tom Osborne coaches the last game of his career during the Cornhuskers' national championship win against Tennessee. The 'Huskers lost only three games during Osborne's last five years but would lose 19 in the next five years under coach Frank Solich.

Dec. 5, 1998 — Texas A&M defeated Kansas State 36-33 in double overtime. The Wildcats entered the game with a 19-game winning streak, and a win would have sent them to the BCS national championship game. Instead, the Big 12 South garnered its second title victory.

While these events and others have reshaped the Big 12, it does not mean the North cannot turn things around. Trends do not last forever; I have a closet full of tie-dye shirts and hammer pants to prove it. But North division fans might want to hold off on reserving bowl game tickets.

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