

Resignation not to affect Master Plan

By Ginger Pope Staff Writer

The absence of a Texas Tech Facilities, Planning and Construction vice chancellor should not put Tech behind in its master planning.

Doug Mann resigned as vice chancellor for Facilities, Planning and Construction on March 12.

"You can't expect someone with Doug's excitement to be out and there be no impact, but we expect it to be minimal," said Tech Deputy Chancellor James Crowson.

Plans for parking still should go before the Board of Regents in May, Crowson said.

Mann is preparing work with parking plans, East/West Freeway construction and the Tech Boulevard to hand over to other personnel

The Tech Faculty Senate also expects to hear from Mann and likely Crowson for a specially called March 31 meeting to discuss a parking plan for future parking garages.

personnel designated for project assignments.

Facilities, Planning and Construction have

So, Mann is not the only one working on

Tech's Master Plan, but a lot of people will have to pick up the slack.

Mann, who will stay on for 30 days or more, has been moved to an office at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center as part of his phasing out, Crowson said.

Tech has not begun advertising for a new vice chancellor, and until a new one is hired, Facilities, Planning and Construction will be directed to Crowson. At the same time the vice chancellor of operations position, formerly held by John Opperman, is open.

Facilities, Planning and Construction is not

too overwhelming, but it is a matter of finding the right person for the right job, Crowson said.

"It's a very busy time with the Master Plan, and dealing with the state bureaucracy is difficult," he said.

Mann agrees dealing with bureaucracies and overseeing \$300 million in construction has been difficult. He said his reasons for leaving are because he needs to spend more time with his wife and 4-year-old son.

"You get to a point where you have to The responsibilities of vice chancellor for make hard decisions. For a guy who has been on the private side, it's difficult to deal with

bureaucracy and try to move things as fast as you can," he said.

Before Mann became an employee of Tech in November 1997, he was involved with designing the Master Plan while working for Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum, an architectural consulting firm.

Mann wants to go back to the private sector but continue with architectural designs for higher education.

"There's something real about a university," he said. "When people look back at how a project came together, it is really important for an architect to be a part of that."

Senate to vote on groups' funding

By Gretchen Verry Staff Writer

Texas Tech's Student Senate will meet Thursday to vote on the 1999-2000 Organization Funding Bill, which allocates money to student organizations. The bill proposes funding amounts for 124 registered Tech organizations. Austin McWilliams, SGA Budget and Finance Committee chairman, said the amounts are not set in stone, and organizations should contact their senators if they have any problems or questions about their funding. Organizations asked for a total of \$310,000 in funding, and a total of \$155,000 will be allocated. New organizations were allotted \$175 each, and that led to a record 17 cuts for other groups receiving large amounts of funding, McWilliams said. Each organization receiving \$2,500-\$3,500 had their budget cut \$100 from last year. Budgets for organizations receiving over \$3,500 were cut by \$200.



Regents approve Fire Ecology Center

By J.D. Boswell Staff Writer

Fire is currently the hot topic with researchers at Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

"We have a duty to help out new organizations, and this \$175 is the number that we came up with for all new organizations," he said.

McWilliams said the funding process includes organization application, followed by a round of interviews conducted by the Budget and Finance Committee.

"We look at a variety of factors, including past use of SGA funding, supplemental fundraising done by the organization and service records," he said. "We then created the proposal that we are looking at."

McWilliams said one organization that applied did not receive any funding in preliminary proposals.

"We are ruled by regulations placed on us by the state," McWilliams said. "We cannot fund certain groups, such as political organizations."

Ryan Lunsford, SGA internal vice president, said he expects to see some changes to the bill Thursday.

"Some senators have expressed concern as to the budget bill as it stands," Lunsford said.

Student groups applied for funding in February, and final decisions will be decided in Thursday's meeting.

listeners at Hub City Burrito Co., while Barker's son John keeps the beat. Dr. Bruno and the Prophets of Rock play from artists such as the Rolling Stones, U2 and Jimmy Hendrix.

Daniel Burns/ The University Daily

Tech professors rock Hub City nightlife

By Laura Hensley Staff Writer

here is nothing very lyrically profound in "Wooly Bully." But, that doesn't stop a group of Texas Tech English professors from performing the classic rock song. To them, it is just pure fun.

Tech professors, Thomas Barker, Bruce Clark and Bill Wenthe are members of the local, classic rock band, Dr. Bruno and the Prophets of Rock, and they do not mind admitting they are a bunch of old guys playing old songs.

"I don't believe there is any other group of Tech professors playing rock music out there," Barker said. "I don't think any of them are out there rocking in public."

The group has been rocking in public for about a year and a half since it formed to play at an English department party. Now,

the band plays regularly at Hub City Burrito Co., where the band can be found Saturday nights entertaining hungry music lovers. The professors agree that the once-a-week gig fits well with their schedules.

"It's perfect," Thomas said. "Kids come and dance around. We just have fun."

The Prophets play a collection of classic hits from each generation. They pride themselves of playing everything from Buddy Holly and Jerry Lee Lewis to the Rolling Stones and U2.

"When you come to hear the band, you will not be confronted with mysterious music of any sort," Clark said. "It's all going to rock. For the most part, it's mainstream classic rock.'

By playing such a mix of music, the band draws a unique crowd ranging from other professors, music lovers and students. "People from their 20s to their 50s can enjoy it," Clark said. There is something fun for everyone.'

The professors said many of their students come to the shows.

see Prophets, page 5

Shut-down allows for inspection of plant

By Melody Ragland Staff Writer

Heating and cooling units were turned off for two days during Spring Break to repair leaks that were found by the Central Heating and Cooling Physical Plant.

Doug Chowning, director of the physical plant, said three leaks were found about four weeks ago in the

plant's 80-pound header. He said after consulting a contractor, they had to fix the leaks immediately.

Spring Break was a good time to shut down the plant, he said. "We wanted minimal interruption

to the university," Chowning said. The plant was shut down mid-

night Thursday and was turned back Saturday morning. During the shutdown, the campus continued to have water and air but was without the hot could have been caused by metal faand cold temperatures.

Chowning said as of now, the cause of the leaks are unknown. A piece of the header was sent off for analysis. It will be a month to six weeks before a cause is known.

"The welds looked suspicious," he said.

He said the work was about 15 to 20 years old. He said the leak also

tigue.

Pete Tarlton, director for utilities, said the header has been here since 1965.

The inside of the header was checked, and Chowning said it was in good condition.

'We think we're in good shape," Chowning said. "As far as we know, we have a good operating system now."

He said if the leak had not been fixed, a failure could have occurred at anytime.

"It could have been a real disaster," he said.

House bill could abolish immunization records

By Apu Naik Staff Writer

If passed during the 76th legislative session, a bill filed by Rep. Carl Isett (R-Lubbock) will abolish the central database of information on all Texas schools and university immunization records.

During the 75th legislative session in 1997, the Texas Legislature passed

House Bill 3054, which created an immunization record book within the Texas Department of Health.

Within that legislation, written permission from the student to be immunized was required in order for that student to be entered in the registry.

But Nathan Zeigler, a legislative aide to Isett, said some students are now being placed in the immunization registry without their knowledge, and some are even being placed in it after they asked specifically not to be.

'There are a number of different reasons that (Isett) wanted to file this bill," Zeigler said. "But the most obvious is the reason that students are being added to the records without signing a consent form, and there have been many other problems involving these records as well."

Tara Shaw, another aide to Isett. said in addition to the high costs of maintaining a state-wide immunization database, many schools also have had problems with clerks changing certain parts of immunization forms, and it creates "an unnecessary and unproductive administrative burdens on our private health care system.

"Private doctors have complained that (HB 3054) puts the state in charge of managing how they record immunizations," Shaw said.

In 1997, the Texas Department of Public Health convinced the state's legislature that a central registry system would need to be established because of low immunization rates. Shaw said

see Immunization Bill, page 2

Creation of the Fire Ecology Center in the range, wildlife and fisheries management department was approved by the Tech Board of Regents and will be financed through grant funding.

"The goal for the Fire Ecology Center is to heighten the awareness of the program and to increase peoples knowledge about the FEC," said Rob Mitchell, professor in range and wildlife management. "We also want to heighten the awareness in the professional ranks.

Mitchell, and a group of students, will burn 240 acres of land near Shallowater today. Controlled fires are becoming a more acceptable way to prepare land for reseeding and conversion to cropland.

"Fire is a natural part of the environment," said Carlton Britton, professor in range and wildlife management. "Prior to the white man fighting natural fire, lightning caused wildfires every two to 10 years. The grasslands always burned before we went with Smokey the Bear."

Several reasons exist for burning land. Removing accumulated debris recycles nutrients into the soil and allows more light to reach the grasses. Also, Mitchell said, controlled fires reduce the amount of dead grass, cutting down on the chances of wildfire, which have a greater chance of hurting people and damaging property.

"Controlled fires are the better and more natural way for the environment," Mitchell said.

Mitchell also said controlled fires might be a way to combat the on-going problem with boll weevils.

"Our hypothesis is that burning grasslands will eliminate the winter habitat of boll weevils," Mitchell said.

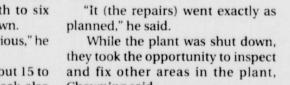
In the summer, the boll weevils live in the cotton fields, but in the winter, the insects move into the grasslands.

The long-term benefits of burning land greatly outweigh the negative short-term effects, Mitchell said. Slow moving insects and animals, such as snakes, turtles and some lizards, are usually the only animals killed by the fires. Insects and animals that are capable of burrowing only one quarter of an inch below the ground are safe.

Long-term benefits include increased species variety and an increase in flowering and seed production. This, in turn, brings insects back into the area. Deer and quail benefit from this because of the increase of greenery and insects.

see Fire Center, page 2

While the plant was shut down, Chowning said.



2 The University Daily

NEWS

Journalism ethics topic of third workshop in series

By Christi Biddy Staff Writer

The School of Mass Communication will be have its third workshop in a continuing series of workshops at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

The workshop on journalism ethics is part of the series "The Write Stuff." The first two workshops, which oc-

curred last semester, focused on internships and computer-aided reporting.

Susan Leonard, a journalism professor and the organizer of "The Write Stuff," said the workshops were useful for both students and working journalists alike.

"It's important for students and professional journalists locally to get more exposure to people in the business," Leonard said.

The workshop will consist of a panel of journalist and non-journalists.

Leonard said the reason for having non-journalists on the panel is to inform the audience on both sides of news reporting.

"It is important to get people involved who are affected by decisions you make and to hear their point of view," Leonard said. "So, I tried to invite people from all walks of life.'

Non-journalists on the panel will

include community activists, an AIDS Resource Center administrator, a Rape Crisis Center assistant administrator, a former Lubbock mayor, a Tech Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Association representative and many oth-

The moderator of the workshop will be Bill Evans, former executive managing editor of The Dallas Morning News

Leonard said the workshop will be an examination of case studies presented by Evans and discussed by the panel.

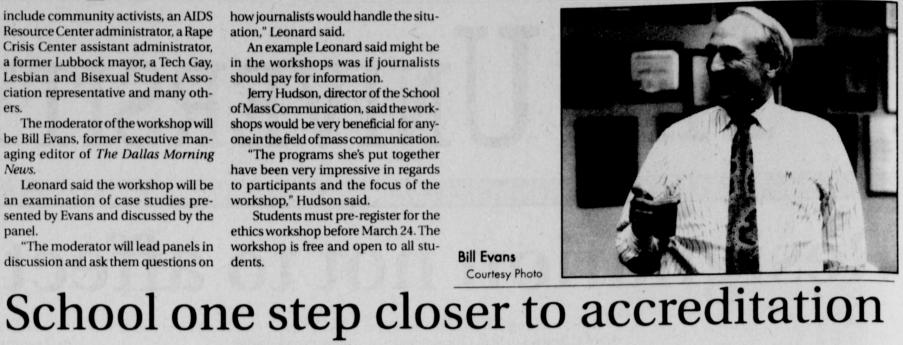
"The moderator will lead panels in discussion and ask them questions on how journalists would handle the situation," Leonard said.

An example Leonard said might be in the workshops was if journalists should pay for information.

Jerry Hudson, director of the School of Mass Communication, said the workshops would be very beneficial for anyone in the field of mass communication.

"The programs she's put together have been very impressive in regards to participants and the focus of the workshop," Hudson said.

Students must pre-register for the ethics workshop before March 24. The workshop is free and open to all students.



Committee to hear bill

Immunization Bill from page 1

But now that the statistics of immunization records are known, Zeigler said, immunization rates are much higher than what anyone expected, and eliminating the costly centralized database has become increasingly necessity.

"The bill has gone to the Public Health Committee, who asked if we wanted it to be heard in March." Zeigler said. "So we expect that it should be heard within the next couple of weeks."

But despite the efforts to change immunization records, Thompson Hall Health Education Coordinator Jo Henderson said the termination of immunization records may not

be such a good idea.

"I haven't really heard much about this particular bill, but we've kept records here for years, and some students have complained about it being a violation of their privacy," Henderson said.

When considering immunization records, however, Henderson said keeping health records of students is a matter of safety to the entire student body.

"Obviously, students are more likely to take their shots if you keep the records and make it a requirement for them to," Henderson said. "And if I'm a student in class and I'm pregnant, the kid sitting next to me could infect me and endanger my baby because he didn't take a shot."

By Tara Nishimura Staff Writer

Jerry Hudson, director of the School of Mass Communications. and Texas Tech President Donald Haragan attended an Accrediting Council of Education in Journalism and Mass Communications committee meeting in Chicago on Saturday.

All 15 members of the committee voted to recommend full accreditation to the ACEJMC council. The council will meet on May 1 in San Francisco to officially grant or deny accreditation.

"We received a unanimous vote to recommend to council for full accreditation," Hudson said.

Will Norton, dean of the College of Journalism and Mass Communi-

cation at the University of Nebraska, led the ACEJMC site visit to Tech's School of Mass Communication last February.

Norton presented the site team's findings in Chicago and recommended the committee grant full accreditation.

"He (Norton) explained what the issues were and addressed corrections for each of the issues," he said.

He said half of the ACEJMC committee and council are academia and the other half are industry representatives.

"The committee was extremely impressed by the assistance provided by the administration," Hudson said. "They felt they responded in a timely and thorough way.'

Beth Barnes, chairman of the S.I.

Newhouse School of Public Com-In my opinion, what the school has munications done in the time given has gone beat Syracuse University, is yond that in some ways." the on ACEJMC committee and was a member of the site team.

Bill Evans

which recommended provisional accreditation in February 1998.

"We recommended provisional accreditation because corrections could be made," Barnes said.

"In my opinion, what the school has done in the time given has gone beyond that in some ways.

Barnes said she was amazed at the

land used in the

research is pri-

vately owned,

but enrolled in

the Conservation

Reserve Pro-

gram. The C.P.R.

is a federal pro-

gram, initiated in

a 1985 farm bill

Beth Barnes chairman of S.I. Newhouse

School of Public Communications

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

changes made to the school in such a short time of one year.

"I have to say, hearing Dean Norton giving the report showed the value of the accrediting process,' Barnes said.

"I'm not sure corrections to the school would have happened this quickly.'

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Tech program raises knowledge of grass fire benefits

Fire Center from page 1

"This is a good thing for the Texas environment," Britton said.

Students in the program are given the opportunity to learn the skills necessary in setting safe and productive controlled fires. About 50 students participate each year. Lessons begin in the classroom

For a limited time only. TWO for ONE gourmet pizzas from our wood oven.

Mitchell said.

fires were each about 3,000 acres. Much of the

... the university supports the Fire Ecology

Carlton Britton Tech professor

fire proof shirts costing \$100 each, with approximately 3.2 million acres drip torches used for lighting the fire in the Southern High Plains. Much

ers donate money to the department for the services. Normally, a professional service would charge about \$5 to \$10 per acre, but Tech researchers will provide the service for as little as \$3 or \$4 per acre.

Tech began researching controlled fires in 1967 under the guidance of former Professor Henry Wright and is considered the home of grassland fire ecology studies in the United States, Mitchell said.

"The main purpose of the program is to show that the university supports the Fire Ecology Center," Britton said. "The program has a very positive effect on the environ-

were responsible for burning 13,000 but "the labs are out in the fields,"

acres of grassland. The two largest

Equipment for these classes consists of two pickup trucks (a one ton truck

and a three quarter ton truck) equipped with Center." 250 gallons and

of hand tools,



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and a few four wheelers. Last year students in the program teer basis, but in some cases ranch-ment."

100 gallons of

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ummer,

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Tuesday, March 23, 1999

NEWS

The University Daily 3

Students may not be getting enough 'Z's'

"In general, that's what we tell

The body is

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14 to about 21,

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"In

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people. The beds are for sex and

need more like eight to 10 hours.'

pends on age, Bennett said. She

said the older a person gets, the

16 to 18 hours a day, although most

less sleep they need.

The amount of sleep needed de-

"An infant sleeps approximately

sleep only," Bennett said.

By Greg Okuhara Staff Write

For many college students, it is not uncommon to stay up until the early morning hours cramming for the big chemistry test.

Weekends for many students consist of sleeping during the day after a night full of partying.

The National Sleep Foundation sponsored a survey in 1998, which found the average adult gets six hours and 57 minutes of sleep a night.

Experts recommend getting eight hours each night.

Dr. Kelly Bennett, a staff physician at Thompson Hall, agrees that most people do not get enough sleep.

She said it is a widely known problem that students are not getting a sufficient amount of sleep.

"Most high school and college students do not get an adequate amount of sleep," Bennett said.

"Especially, when they go off to college and have no parental guidance whatsoever."

dents face.

said.

tionship problems also affect Bennett said. sleep.

"All the psychological things are going to affect your ability to go to sleep," Bennett

said. Fiona Prabhu, an as-Most high school sistant professor of family and college medicine at students do not get the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, said college students do not get enough sleep due to the adjustment to new sur-

roundings. "A lot of it is

stress related. They're getting used to a different routine," Prabhu said

Other stresses like living on their own and handling new responsibilities can affect the ability to get enough sleep, Prabhu said.

Bennett suggests having proper

time," Bennett said.

A Ministry Opportunity As A Camp Counselor Summer Day Camp At **First Baptist Church**

- 7:15am or 8:45am (alternating weeks) and finish

a night is not sufficient.

Bennett said there are five different stages of sleep. Stages I and II are light sleeping stages. In Stage I, you can still consciously hear someone talking to you and are able to respond. Stages III and IV are a deep sleep. Here, brain functions are slowed to a minimum, and people feel much more restored after reaching Stages III and IV sleep.

"Stages III and IV are a deep restorative sleep," Bennett said. "You will not feel restored if you can't get into the deeper stages of sleep."

After Stage IV, Rapid Eye Movement occurs. REM is characterized by brain activity similar to someone who is awake. Dreaming also occurs during

REM. Bennett said REM must be preceded by Stage IV sleep. Inadequate amounts of sleep also

affect performance and motor skills. The 1998 survey also found 23 percent of adults admitted they

have fallen asleep at the wheel. Drowsy driving effects are found through crashes on American roads each year.

100,000 automobile crashes to drowsy drivers each year, with 1,500 deaths as a result of those crashes.

Many sleeping disorders can be a result of not listening to the body's natural circadian rhythm.

"The body's natural circadian rhythm is where you have a sleepy spell at 10 or 11 p.m., lasting until six or seven in the morning and then another sleepy spell that starts around one to three," Bennett said.

"If most people actually followed what their body told them, they would sleep at night and take a nap during the day time. Not a long nap, we're talking 20-30 minutes.'

Other cultures have found w to schedule their work schedules around the circadian rhythm and take naps during the day.

"A lot of cultures in the world know that, and they follow what their body tells them," Bennett said.

"Unfortunately, it's looked upon as lazy in our culture to take a nap."

WTHA presents annual meeting

The West Texas Historical Association's annual meeting will be March 26-27.

The WTHA annual meeting will begin at 2 p.m. Friday in the Formby Room of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library.

There will be seven sessions from "Doctors, Trees and Historical Markers" to "Water and War." There will be a reception at 6:15 p.m. and a banquet at 7 p.m. with a presentation by Paul Carlson, Texas Tech History professor and WTHA's interim executive director, on "The Governorship of Preston Smith." It will conclude with a presidential luncheon at the Ranching Heritage Co

WITHA is part of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library,

Reserve by March 23 by contacting the WTHA at 742-9076.



an adequate teenage years, our metaboamount of sleep." lism kicks up. Teenagers to young adults, Kelly Bennett probably ages Thompson Hall actually need more sleep than adults," Bennett said. "They

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

VIEWPOINTS

Students could be good tour guides

pring is a time of renewal. At long last, our campus is beginning to show signs of life as green emerges from the hardened dirt. People are spending more time outdoors. Everyone is sporting post-Spring Break bronzes. And high school kids are everywhere.

Just as it has always been done year after year, high school seniors are flocking to college campuses getting

history to them.

their post-grad lives.

But how fair is that?



they're actually going to need to Brandon Formby Columnist

know once they get here. They get the watered-down, Grated, edited-for-television version of Tech life where nothing bad happens, everything is wonderful and the whole point of college life is ignored.

tours and information preparing for

Accordingly, Tech's tour guides are out and about walking backwards and dishing out tons of Tech

The kids don't learn anything

Instead of having designated guides who show these kids around, why not have like a lottery.

When the kids get here, some random Tech student's name is pulled from a hat, and they are selected to be tour guide for a day. It would be like jury duty - our required civic duty.

Getting a tour from a random Tech student with no preparation would better prepare these kids for what they will soon face once they get here themselves.

The tour wouldn't be watered down, candy-coated or contrived

It would be like the unedited, unabridged, director's cut.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Many electronic stores have strict return policies

To the editor: I am the software manager at the Hastings here in Lubbock. This letter is my personal rebuttal to the column written by David Turner in Monday's University Daily. This is not necessarily the opinion of Hastings.

Here is a sample of many stores' software return policies:

Store No. 1: (In order to keep our prices low, no returns or exchanges will be accepted beyond 14 or 30 days as appropriate.) Original receipt is required for returns, exchanges, price matches and warranty repair service.

You may exchange these items for the same title if the original is defective.

return the product within 14 days of purchase.

Store No. 4: Merchandise must be unopened and factory sealed. Merchandise must be returned within 90 days of purchase. All adjustments must be accompanied by a valid Target receipt. Opened defective merchandise will be exchanged for the identical item only with a valid Target receipt within 90 days of purchase.

Store No. 5: Just present your receipt, and Wal-Mart will fully refund your money on unopened packages or exchange for the same product.

Your disgruntled columnist must realize that policies are almost the same no matter where you go due to federal copyright laws and retail loss prevention.

A wise consumer would take note of the store policies of where he or she is deciding to make a purchase. To bring a product back with more than a month of use, with none of the original packing and no receipt? Please understand that under these conditions there is nothing we can do for you. At this point, you must contact the manufacturer

Religion important issue in school's decisions, policies

Aaren 23, 19

To the editor: I'm writing because I would like to address the article by Ginger Pope in the March 11 UD. The article was about the Faculty Senate voting on extending benefits to domestic partners. What is a "domestic partner," and why do we have to use these PC terms if there is nothing wrong with having one? If the domestic partners of the world want to be treated as a special interest group they should agree on a single term for themselves.

Also, I was shocked to read that only nine senators were opposed to extending benefits to gay couples. There I said it, the "G" word. These are probably the same people who get polled about the president's popularity. Hopefully, when the recommendation comes before the ad-

The United Spirit Arena wouldn't be described as some state-of-the-art wonderful monument that will soon be completed.

No, the random tour guide would talk about how illegal aliens built it, part of a wall fell once and how it was supposed to be completed for his father's graduation class back in '74, but it's still not done.

The UC would be referred to as the registration house from hell, the story about Will Rogers getting off his horse if a virgin ever graduates would be considered a known fact, and as each residence hall was passed, the random guide would share some funny story about how they got really wasted one night and shacked with someone who lived in that hall when they were still a freshman.

Probably, the best thing about a random tour would be that the random guide wouldn't just stay on campus. Oh no.

They'd take these high school students around Lubbock

They'd show them the Super Wal-Mart and talk about how it's a life saver and has everything you need to survive at Tech.

They'd go by the best places to eat, the cheapest places to shop and of course then there'd be the big huge finale of the entire tour.

How can any tour of this school and description of Tech life be complete without the Strip?

It would be a wonderful bonding moment bridging the gap between current and future Raiders.

And after having such a moment of pure emotion, excitement and wonder at the beautifully amazing sight of that row of brightly colored, flashing lights against the dark, West Texas sky, how could those little high schoolers not come to Tech?

You see, with randomly chosen students like us showing these kids around we'd really be able to capture the essence, spirit and wonderful parts of Tech life for them paving the way for them to continue the time-tested traditions of this fine university.

Brandon Formby is a junior journalism major from Plano.

Don't forget to have an opinion. Write a letter to the editor.

We do not accept returns on these items if opened and non-defective. If any item is returned with any of the original package contents missing, the full purchase price will not be refunded.

Your original receipt is required, and a valid ID may be required for all returns, exchanges, price matches and warranty repair service.

Store No. 2: Due to copyright laws and risk of computer virus, only unopened computer software, including CD-ROM and books, may be returned within 30 days of purchase.

Defective returns will be exchanged for identical program only.

Store No. 3: Opened software, DVD movies, pre-recorded video and game cartridges may only be exchanged for the exact same item and may not be returned for a refund. Also, there is a 15 percent restocking fee for use of a joystick, you must have receipt, and you must

Retailers do not get the privilege of returning defective products to manufacturers as do consumers. We take the hit and have to destroy the product. Over time, this loss has to be reconciled somewhere, thus driving prices

Be a wise consumer. Check for a warranty on products. Ask about return policies. Download demos of games before buying them (or purchase a gaming magazine which included demos of games you are interested in). And above all, keep your receipt and packaging just n case

> **Chris Barnard** Hastings software manager Lubbock

ministration, they will resolve it in a manner which would be more consistent with the majority of the student body and faculty. How can Karen Meaney say "If we start bringing religion into the university decisions, then we're heading down the wrong road"? Any road that doesn't include religion is the wrong road. I know all about separation of church and state, but if Jesus Christ isn't in your daily walk, then you are on the wrong road.

Don't try to argue that sin is sin. People who lie, steal and fornicate are not asking to use my rec center based on the fact that they slept with someone who's a Tech student. Texas Tech is trying to keep up with its liberal big brother in Austin. Why can't Tech stand up for what is moral and correct and not politically correct?

We simply have become a so-

R. Kirk Boswell senior mechanical engineering

Society overestimates opinions' worth



Dwayne Mamo Columnist

t seems like everyone has an Tech by PETA, Kazan's lifetime opinion these days. Wherever one turns you get inundated with someone else's view on some subject we probably don't care about.

It has gotten to the point were opinions are becoming more important than fact, they are becoming news.

Not only are these opinions becoming more important than objective stories, they also are opinions about things we know nothing about.

For instance, no one could keep their nose out of the Clinton/ Lewinsky affair, and others couldn't resist themselves from putting up a billboard claiming that Jesus was a vegetarian.

I wonder what kind of biblical evidence they used for that deduction - probably the same kind that caused the authors to think either Jesus no longer exists or that he no longer is a vegetarian (referring to the "was" in the statement).

Everywhere we see protests of one thing or another: an assault on achievement award caused a little ripple in Hollywood, and pretty soon I'm sure we'll see protestors at the doors of the courthouse that Dr. Kevorkian is being tried in.

We simply have become a society wherein not only can we not keep our hands to ourselves but neither our opinions.

This trend, of course, stems from our wonderful constitution that gives our right to free speech and press. At some point in time, these rights got mangled to the point that now our rights to free speech and press have become a mockery of what our framer's intended.

I wish I could blame this one on squeezable pudding, but the problem is bigger than that.

When actors and technicians cannot make it into their Hollywood studio to continue filming Mr. Magoo or Shakes the Clown, a harrowing set of circumstances comes to surface.

The first thing that is bothersome is that there are people out there who believe people will watch these substandard movies.

Secondly, they think anyone who actually ciety wherein not only can we finds the movie genuinely internot keep our hands to ourselves esting will have a large enough IQ but neither our opinions. to deduce that the movies could possibly be poking fun at the blind or at clowns.

And finally, they also must think the people making the movie are intelligent enough to actually layer these movies with hidden metaphorical value, which would cause the viewing audience to subconsciously ostracize the clown and

blind demographics of America. Arrogant and obnoxious protestors and people with fervent opinions are doing us an injustice by giving us too much credit for our intelligence.

Everything is a conspiracy to these people, everything has a hidden meaning, purpose or agenda to slowly phase them out of society.

I could only wish we were that smart, but unfortunately, there is ample evidence to prove we are not.

Opinions, if conducted properly, are a productive tool toward effective action and problem solving.

Overzealous, negative enthusiasm over trivial (of course, not trivial to the ones with the opinion) semantics, actions and issues is a waste of our time, money and already very short attention span.

If we don't watch out, our opinions could overrun our representative democracy (which it already did with the presidential mock trial) and ruin us for good.

Remember, Hitler had an opinion too, and people took it and him seriously.

> Dwayne Mamo is a senior creative writing and philosophy major from Malta.

Periodical postage paid by The University Daily, journalism building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409.

Postmaster: Send address changes to above address. Publication number: 766480. The University Daily is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May; and twice weekly June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods

The University Daily can be seen online at www.ttu.edu/~TheUD.

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Board of Regents or Tech administration. Subscriptions: \$90 annually; single issues: 25 cents.

Letter Policy: Letters to the editor are accepted for publication on the Viewpoints page. All letters must be no longer than two, doublespaced, typed pages. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters must be submitted in person or by mail with a picture identification and telephone number. Letters sent by e-mail must include the author's name, social security and phone number. The e-mail address is TheUniversityDaily@ttu.edu. Letters are printed at the editor's discretion, and the editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, libelous material, spelling and vulgarity. The University Daily does not discriminate because of race, creed, national origin, age, sex, sexual preference or disability.

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lifestyles

Isn't it ironic?



Sebastian Kitchen/The University Daily Jagged Little Lady: Alanis Morissette performed before thousands in Houston Thursday. After a break from music, Morissette is back touring after the release of Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie

A happier Alanis sings her heart out

mpowerment must come from releasing songs of vulnerability

If not, at least these factor into selling millions of albums.

Alanis Morissette became an icon for women everywhere and one of the world's biggest recording artists with the release of Jagged Little Pill earlier this decade.

Her latest release, Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie, brought even more fans to Morissette but without all the angst. The woman just doesn't seem as angry anymore.

Hit songs, Grammy nominations and videos of her strolling the streets naked are recent experiences of the star.

Last week, Morissette hit stages in Texas to thousands of fans' approval.

The fans sang along to all the words, especially hit songs like "Ironic" and "You Oughtta Know." The latter was a battle cry for women everywhere. Many sang along and acted out the motions and emotions during the song.

Morissette played the harmonica. piano and the guitar, and when she was just singing, she would prance from one side of the stage to the other REVIEW

almost nonstop. The crowd seemed to love every minute of the show and even **Rudy Tomjonavich**, Houston Rockets' head coach, checked out most of the show.

I suppose he was allowed, since she was playing in his house.

Cheers brought Morissette back for two encores. She would smile, thank the crowd, dance around. The stage was even painted with flowers.

The 1995 Jagged Little Pill sold 28 million copies worldwide and 16 million in the United States alone. She had a hard act to follow with Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie. The star must have been up to the challenge.

Morissette was nominated for a Grammy for the song "Uninvited" from the "City of Angels" motion picture soundtrack.

She received a lot of attention for the hip video "Thank U," where she was in front of the camera naked.

Morissette uses music to reflect where she is at in life, to release anxiety and express emotion.

It seems she is much happier than she was in 1995. Her fans seem as happy as ever.

'Forces of Nature' top charts over weekend

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Forces of Nature," the romantic road picture starring Ben Affleck and Sandra Bullock, opened at No. 1 at the box office, topping the comedy "Analyze This," final figures showed Monday.

The latest animated feature, "The King and I," debuted to mediocre business, while the cannibalism drama "Ravenous" was starved for an audience.

a groom-to-be who falls in love with the free-spirited Bullock on the way to his wedding, debuted with \$13.5 million, down 26 percent from the same weekend last year.

"Analyze This" with Robert De Niro as a neurotic mobster collected \$11.7 million for second, while Clint Eastwood's "True Crime," about a broken-down reporter trying to save a man from execution, had \$5.3 million for third.

"Forces of Nature," with Affleck as

Band guarantees songs for all music lovers

Prophets from page 1

They said they enjoy seeing their students at the concerts.

"It's nice to see your students in an informal situation," Clark said. "Students like to see their professors in a different environment, and this gives them that opportunity."

Baker said having his students at shows sometimes spark odd requests.

"I had a guy come up during the middle of a set and ask if he could turn in his paper. He had his paper in his hand," Baker said.

"That was crazy. I wasn't going to let him turn it in then."

Although the band plays nothing but covers, the band boasts a unique guarantee.

"We are the only band in Lubbock, Texas, if not in the entire United States, that guarantees that every time you come out to hear us, we will have at least one new old song for your listening pleasure," Clark said. The professors say the band is

much more than a hobby. Most of them have been in some

sort of band since high school, and music is just a part of their lives. Clark has played in a band off and

on since he was 15. During his college years at Columbia University, he organized and was the original bassist for the '70s group, Sha Na Na.

Although older and wiser, the group still plays the same music they played in high school.

"It's a passion. It's fun," Clark said. "It's connected to our love for the language and literature and song lyrics as modern poetry."

Even the band's name reflects its love for the old.

"We are prophets that look back instead of looking forward," Barker

"We are prophets of the future."

Third- and fourth-largest cable companies hook up for billions

NEW YORK (AP) — In the cable consumer advocates, who decry the mand will increase for high-speed gest deal up until now.

Internet access and phone service over cable lines, which have much greater capacity than phone lines. The industry believes it will be several years before such services are widely sought after and available. MediaOne is a spinoff of the phone company USWest Inc., which in 1997 gave up on the idea that cable and phone providers could complement each other and split its cable business into a separate company.

ated more than \$8

throughout the East,

as well as in the Mid-

Under the agree-

ceive 1.1 shares of Comcast stock for

News of the deal sent MediaOne

ment, MediaOne

shareholders will re-

each MediaOne share.

west and West.

industry's biggest merger ever, Comcast Corp. struck a deal Monday to buy MediaOne Group Inc. in an effort to hasten the day when cable companies offer TV, telephone service and high-speed Internet hookups.

The \$44.3 billion stock swap deal would combine the nation's thirdand fourth-largest cable TV providers.

The new Comcast would serve 11

fact that cable rates have been rising well above the rate of inflation. Government rate regulations have been relaxed in recent years and

will end on March 31. Critics fear that could allow these giant companies to raise rates even faster.

"We see the dramatic effect of relaxed public oversight and it will only continue now," said Gene Kimmelman, co-director of Consumers Union's Washington office.

In addition to cable systems, Philadelphia-based Comcast's interests include a 57 percent stake in the home-shopping network QVC; hockey's Philadelphia Flyers; basketball's Philadelphia 76ers; and stakes in the E! and Golf Channel cable networks.

MediaOne, based in Englewood, Colo., also has interests in wireless communications businesses outside the United States serving more than

billion in revenue last year and will We see the dramatic effect of have cable systems

relaxed public oversight "

Gene Kimmelman

co-director of Consumers Union's Washington office

happens to an acquiring company in a stock swap.

The fall in Comcast stock decreased the value of the deal, origi-



THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

SPORTS

Red Raiders go for 10 in a row against Buffs



Bucky Nance/The University Daily Out: The Red Raiders battle West Texas A&M at 7 p.m. today at Dan Law Field.

By Jason Bernstein Sports Editor

Before heading to Waco for a three-game series with No. 18 Baylor, the Texas Tech baseball team will go under the lights for a 7 p.m. contest with West Texas A&M today at Dan Law Field

Tech (23-5 overall, 7-1 Big 12) is riding a nine-game winning streak and is coming off a three-game sweep of Texas-Pan American over the weekend.

Tech handed the Buffaloes (20-9 overall, 0-0 Lone Star) a 5-1 decision March 16 at Dan Law Field but is prepared for a West Texas A&M squad looking to exact revenge.

"I think they'll bring the same stuff to the table and probably some more with the loss," said Tech infielder David O'Keeffe of the Buffaloes. "I think what we did was give them confidence to think they could play with us. That was our fault."

In the teams' first meeting, Tech scored single runs in each of the first three innings before adding single runs in the fifth and sixth innings to take a 5-0 lead.

Starting pitcher Brad Ralston struck out a career-high 14 batters in the win and teamed with three relievers to toss a five-hitter en route to the win.

But despite the win a week ago, O'Keeffe said the Red Raiders have something to prove against West Texas A&M and are ready for the challenge at home.

The Red Raiders are a perfect 16-0 at Dan Law Field this season, leaving the squad with a distinct home field advantage.

"We've got more confidence now as well as a little added pressure that we like," O'Keeffe said. "At home is where we play better, and the fans are supporting us well here. More importantly, they are coming to the park knowing and expecting us to win."

Tech has racked up wins in 17 of its last 18 outings and has moved up

to No. 10 in the latest Baseball total bases. America poll.

But with the polls comes added pressure - pressure many Red Raiders do not seem to care for.

"I really don't think we look at the polls all that much," said shortstop Lance Woodcock. "We all take a peek at it, but we are a team that takes it one game at a time. We just want to be successful at the end."

Leading the way offensively for the Buffaloes are Steve Lucia and Brian Babek who have a combined 60 RBIs on the year.

Lucia is hitting .408 with a teamleading five home runs this season while Babek leads the squad with 53

The team ran without Josephus

"The men's relay team finished

second, as far as collegiate teams are

concerned, behind the University of

Texas," Sholars said. "But, we were

Howard and Rohan McDonald, and

Sholars said the team still is just get-

ting used to each other.

Statistics aside, Woodcock said the Red Raiders are not taking the Buffaloes lightly and still have many aspects of the game to improve upon to be successful this season.

"You always have to be on your toes and work hard every single day,' he said. "Even the big leaguers do it. We have to practice hard, and hopefully, the best will come out of it.

"Anybody can be beaten. We take the attitude that we don't want to lose at home, especially with the fan support that we have. The fans are hard on us when we don't do well. Everybody wants to play well for the fans, the coaches and ourselves."

Tech track team off and running for outdoor season

By Jeff Keller Staff Writer

The Texas Tech men's and women's track teams kicked off their outdoor track season Saturday at the inaugural Texas Opener in Austin.

The women's team had two, first place finishes with the 100-meter relay team racing to the top spot in a time of 45.90 seconds. Leigh Daniel won the 3,000-meter race in a time of 9:40.38

The 100-meter relay team had never raced together before in competition and lead-off runner Ngozi Iwu said she was surprised at their performance.

"It was quite an experience," Iwu said. "Especially for most of us, this was our first time doing hand-offs. We hadn't really worked on handoffs. We were excited that we actually got the stick all the way around the track.'

Tech coach Greg Sholars said even though the relay team took first place at this event, he thinks they will do even better as the season progresses.

"I think that is a far cry from what those girls are capable of doing," Sholars said. "They're still a little bit away from the national qualifying mark. That's something that we're hoping to do is get that group to the national championship."

Daniel's time in the 3,000 came as a surprise to Sholars, he said.

"We were actually just hoping that she would get a good run in," Sholars said. "But, she kind of surprised us all and just missed qualifying for the national championships. That's not going to be her go-to event. We were just kind of using it to kind of prepare her to run the 10,000-meter race."

This was Daniel's first race since winning the 5,000-meter race at the indoor national championships.

"I was a little nervous heading into the race," Daniel said of her first race since winning the national championships. "But, I felt good in the race, and I actually ran kind of easy. It was just a good way to get the outdoor season started."

For the men's squad, Boniface Ndungu placed third in the 3,000 in his first outdoor meet as a Red Raider. Ndungu transferred to Tech from Dodge City Junior College in Dodge

City, Kan., and said his first race was a positive experience.

"This being the first race, I didn't do what I expected to do," Ndungu said. "It was a nice competition compared to the junior college that I was going to. I think with that competition, it will help improve all of my times this season."

The men's 100-meter relay team finished third with a time of 40.34

It was just a good way to get the outdoor season started."

Leigh Daniel Tech runner

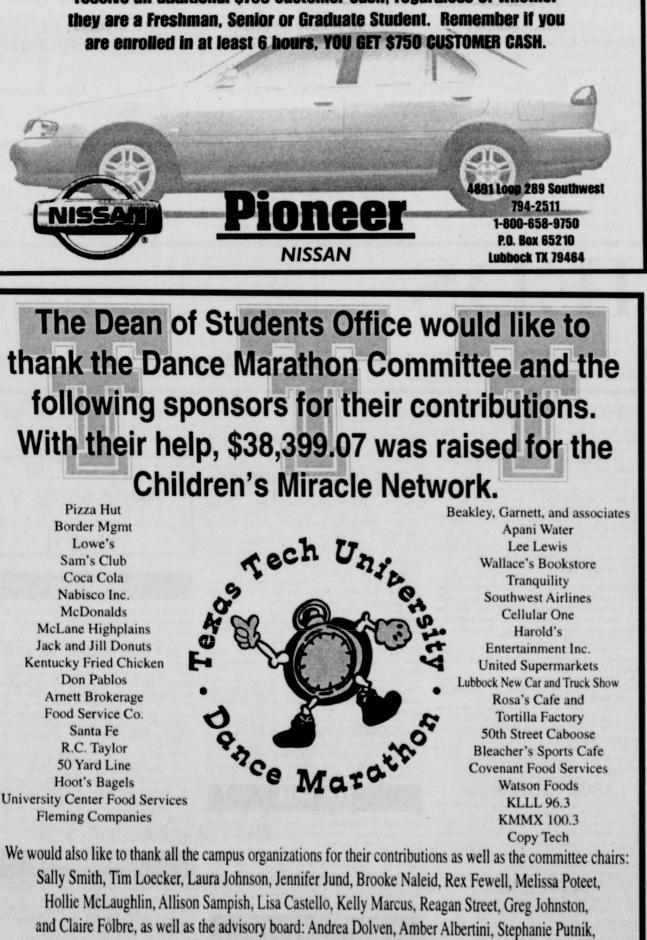
running without Rohan McDonald. And, we were running without Josephus Howard, who we are potentially going to redshirt. We're still just looking for things to kind of gel together as we get our bodies back into it and get away from this hard training cycle that we are in. But, it was a good first outdoor track meet."



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Huffaker and the CMN staff for their assistance, enthusiasm, and supprort.

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