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White House: journalist not targeted by U.S. forces

By Terence Hunt/Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Monday said it was "absurd" for a former hostage in Iraq to charge that U.S. military forces may have deliberately targeted her car as she was being rushed to freedom.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the car carrying Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena was traveling on one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq, to

the Baghdad airport, when it was fired upon. An Italian intelligence officer in the car was shot and killed.

Responding to Sgrena's statement that the car may have been deliberately targeted, McClellan said. "It's absurd to make any such suggestion, that our men and women in uniform would target individual citizens.

"That's just absurd," McClellan repeated.

He said the airport road "has been a place where suicide car bombers have launched attacks. It's been a

place where regime elements have fired upon coalition forces. It is a dangerous road and it is a combat zone that our coalition forces are in. Oftentimes, they have to make split second decisions to protect their own security."

"And we regret this incident," McClellan added. "We are going to fully investigate what exactly occurred."

Bush called Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlus-

coni last Friday to apologize and to promise a full investigation.

In Rome, hundreds of people packed a church on Monday to pay their last respects to the slain intelligence officer, Nicola Calipari.

Sgrena, the ex-hostage whose life Calipari save, said it was possible they were targeted deliberately because the United States opposes Italy's policy of negotiating with kidnappers.

Supreme Court begins case over commandments statue

By Brittany Barrientos/
The University Daily

Wednesday, the U.S. Supreme Court began hearings to determine whether a Ten Commandments monument on the Texas Capitol grounds is unconstitutional.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, the respondent in the case, is arguing on behalf of the State of Texas that the monument is not an endorsement of religion.

The petitioner, Thomas Van Orden, has been arguing this case since 2002.

According to the Supreme Court transcript, Erwin Chemerinsky, Van Orden's attorney, began arguing Wednesday a state government should not be able to display religious symbols in a way that could be interpreted as imposing religion on others.

"On the grounds of the Texas State Capitol, there is one evident religious symbol that conveys

a powerful religious message that there is a theistic God and that God has dictated the rules for behavior," Chemerinsky said in his opening statement. "Of course the government may put religious symbols on its property, including the Ten Commandments, but must do so in a way that does not endorse religion or a particular religion, but does not have the purpose of advancing religion, but does not favor any particular religion."

Jerry Strickland, press secretary for Abbott, said the monument has stood on the grounds since 1961, when the Fraternal Order of Eagles gave the monument to the legislature.

"The Fraternal Order of Eagles placed several of these monuments around the country to combat what

they called the degradation of youth," he said

The monument is about 6 feet tall, Strickland said, and is made of red granite.

"There's no doubt that the Ten Commandments are a sacred religious text," he said, "but they have also had an undeniable impact on the history, culture and laws of Texas and the rest of the country."

Defined as a museum by statute, the grounds feature 17 different monuments and is one of the smaller monuments on the grounds and in its context, would not convey, to a reasonable observer, any official endorsement of religion, Strickland said.

According to Abbott's brief to the Supreme Court, the overall history, context and surroundings are critical to determining a display's constitutionality.

"The First Amendment does prevent government from establishing a state religion," Strickland said. "However, that's not the same as acknowledging God, which is what we're talking about here."

Other monuments on the grounds honor war victims, crime victims, children and early settlers, he said, and the Ten Commandments is part of the setting.

Katie Chapman, a senior human development and family studies major from Eules, said all religions should be represented with monuments, not just one religion.

"They should probably have the Quran and other religious monuments. It would be smart,"

CASE continued on page 3

PERFECT PRACTICE



JON VILLEGAS, A freshman industrial engineering major from Keller, practices his place-kicking for the upcoming Texas Tech football team tryouts on the field near the United Spirit Arena Monday afternoon.

E-mails troubling Tech employees

By Brandi Fleming/
The University Daily

Texas Tech student-employees recently have received e-mails from the Student Affairs department on campus, and repeated e-mail requests to be dropped from the list have caused a high number of unwanted e-mails in student, faculty and staff accounts.

Angela Smith, senior computer programmer and analyst for Tech, said it is unclear where the e-mail list originated. One theory is a change has occurred in the global directory, causing student employees to be put onto the student affairs staff directory.

"Programmers at housing are experiencing the same types of dilemmas," she said. "Apparently, it automatically puts everyone on a staff."

Smith said when she realized what had happened with the e-mail list, she immediately contacted IT Central on campus to assist in fixing the problem.

"IT Central has been very helpful and they are working as hard as they can to fix the list," she said. "The main person working on the problem came down with the flu last week and so did his assistant, so they were not able to fix it as fast as they had hoped."

An e-mail was sent Saturday asking students to be patient and stop replying to the messages, Smith said.

"The biggest problem is all the students replying to the e-mail and that makes everyone's e-mail boxes flooded," she said.

Because of the number of e-mails sent by students who want to be removed from the list, Smith

E-MAILS continued on page 3



KELLY MATHERLY/The University Daily
DAX COWART AND Hillary Pane, a first-year medical student from Houston, discuss abortion after Cowart's speech at the School of Law Monday afternoon.

Speaker, Tech law students discuss right to decide issue

By Brittany Barrientos/The University Daily

Instinctively, when others are hurt, people are prone to believe it is in their best interest to be kept alive — regardless of what their wishes may be. A discussion held at the Texas Tech School of Law Monday was aimed at informing people of the instances that can occur when patients and doctors disagree.

Dax Cowart, a graduate of the law school, was the speaker of the discussion entitled, "Please Let me Die."

Cowart was involved in an explosion in 1973, which killed his father and left Cowart blind and with third-degree burns.

Cowart said he asked the doctors who treated him at Parkland Hospital and the University of Texas Medical Branch to discontinue treatment, even convincing an anesthesiologist to not sedate him, in turn delaying a skin grafting procedure.

"I wanted my doctors to go on their way and be merciful friends," he said.

Cowart was ruled mentally incompetent and was denied the right to decide if he wanted treatment, he said.

"I did not want to live blind, scarred and without fingers," he said. "I didn't want the sedentary lifestyle."

Cowart said although he is happy and things turned out well, if he knew then what he knows now, he would still have refused treatment.

"It is an end justifies the means argument," he said. "It ignores the (amount) of pain I experienced to be alive today. The price is too high."

Aside from the physical pain he felt, especially while not given pain medication for more than two hours from the time of the explosion, he also suffered from depression, Cowart said.

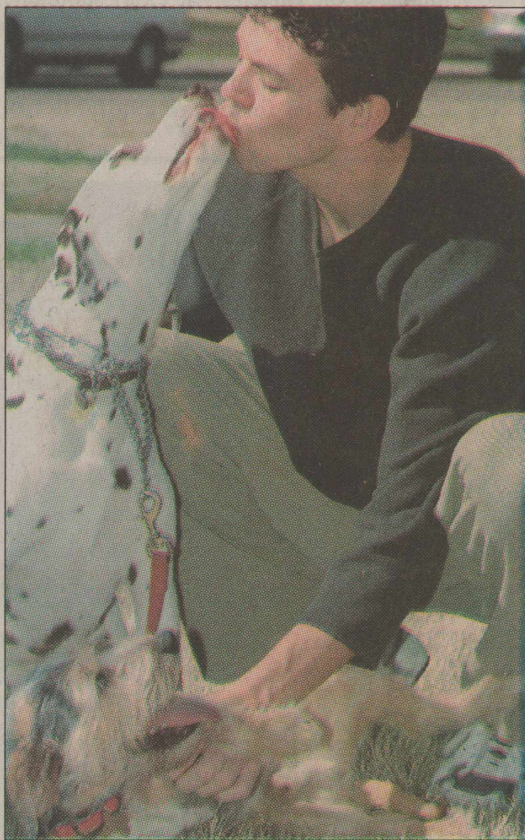
He attributes his depression to the sleep deprivation he has endured since 1980. He said in recent years, he has gotten to the point of sleeping only well enough to function.

Jennifer Bard, an associate professor of law, helped organize the event. She said she collaborated with Dan Benson, a Paul Whitfield Horn professor of law, who also funded the event.

Bard said Cowart is an exceptional alumnus and said a goal of Tech is to bring law and medi-

DISCUSSION continued on page 3

PUPPY LOVE



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily
RYAN SMITH, A junior electrical engineering major from Dallas, kisses Lexi the dalmation as he scratches the stomach of Mozart, a terrier mix, in the engineering key Monday afternoon.

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Spring breakers should take caution when on vacation

By Lindsay Wharton/
The University Daily

Spring break is a popular time for students to relax and enjoy themselves. However, responsibility does not stop during vacation.

Whether going snowboarding or laying on the beach, students need to remember to be safe during spring break.

"Don't take a vacation from responsibility," said Juli Benson, manager of health for Texas Tech Student Health Services.

Students should remember basic safety tips while they are having fun during their vacation time, Benson said.

Alcohol use is common among college students, which may make it difficult to be safe, she said.

Students should always plan a way to get home if they are going to be drinking, Benson said. Designating a sober driver or a calling a cab are safe ways to travel if barhopping on vacation.

Sara Smensky, a sophomore business major from Taylor, said she believes she will not be in danger because the convenience of her hotel location makes driving unnecessary.

"Our hotel is 50 yards from the beach," she said.

Parties and bars may contain unsafe conditions, especially for female college students, Benson said. People should go with at least one friend who can make sure they are safe throughout the night,

she said.

Students should keep a close watch on their drinks to make sure no one has access to them. Date rape drugs such as GHB and Rohypnol are a concern, especially in a strange environment, she said.

Students who believe they or a friend have been administered a date-rape drug should go to the emergency room, Benson said. Date rape drugs are especially harmful if mixed with alcohol.

Like alcohol consumption, sexual responsibility during spring break also is an issue, Benson said.

It is difficult to make responsible decisions while intoxicated. She said students should be aware of their actions, and the wisest choice is for students to not engage in sexual acts while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Benson said students who opt to get body art while intoxicated should exercise caution. Students often get a tattoo or body piercing without realizing the consequences or learning proper care techniques, she said.

Benson said she has seen cases where people have gotten a naval piercing without realizing they have to regularly clean it and that healing time can take up to a year. The best-case scenario is that rather

than looking cool, body art will be an annoyance prone to infection, she said.

Students who have been drinking should also be wary about soaking up too much sun, Benson said. While under the influence of alcohol, there is a possibility they could fall asleep in the sun and get a significant burn, she said.

Sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher should be worn when outside for an extended amount of time, and should be reapplied immediately after swimming or excessive sweating, Benson said.

Scott Sandefur, a sophomore business major from Austin, said he went to South Padre last spring break.

He camped out on the beach and got significantly sunburned.

"It was kind of fun just cause it was such a disaster," he said.

Students should limit their sun exposure during the hottest times of the day, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.,

Benson said, because every burn a person gets in a lifetime increases the risk of skin cancer.

She said physicians at Thompson Hall frequently see students as young as 18 years old with malignant melanoma.



Louisiana man threatens Texas judge

ANGLETON (AP) — A Louisiana man could get up to 10 years in a Texas prison after he was convicted of threatening to stick dynamite in a Brazoria County judge's mouth and to kill his own ex-wife.

The punishment phase in the trial of Simeon Lebleu, 44, of Lake Charles, La., began Monday.

He was convicted Friday on two counts of retaliation, a third-degree felony.

Prosecutors said Lebleu was angered by several rulings that state District Judge Randy Hufstetler

made against him, including the termination of his parental rights after his 1997 divorce.

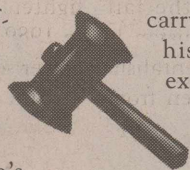
Lebleu called the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in May 2003, after Hufstetler signed a protective order against him and said "maybe" he should put a stick of dynamite in the judge's mouth to see what it's like to have someone control his life, the commission's chief investigator testified last week.

Lebleu was also accused of threatening to kill his ex-wife

while he was in the Brazoria County Detention Center in June 2004.

But defense lawyers argued Lebleu had no intention of carrying out his threats and his actions were just an expression of frustration.

Lebleu was found not guilty of two other counts of retaliation that accused him of threatening to follow Hufstetler home and shoot him, and of saying he would shoot the judge with a dart dipped in cyanide.



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Use Your Spring Break or Spring Semester to Earn a Scholarship

The Texas Tech Faculty Legal Action Association (TTFLAA) invites all Texas Tech students to compete for a \$1,000 Academic Scholarship for use in Academic Year 2005-2006. The scholarship will be awarded to the currently-enrolled undergraduate or graduate student submitting the best original essay on

"The Role and Importance of Academic Freedom in the University"

TTFLAA was formed in 1985-1986 when then President Lauro Cavazos sought to replace the existing tenure system with a system of rollover contracts. The scholarship was created with money contributed by many faculty members to a fund that could be used to challenge the proposal in the courts. Since the proposal was later modified, interest from the fund has been used to fund the scholarship. Typed entries must be no longer than 1,000 words with a cover sheet that indicates the name of the student. The essay should be submitted in three copies by April 8, 2005.

A faculty committee will judge the essays.

The winner will be announced by April 22, 2004.

Lisa Westkaemper of Wolfforth was the 2003 winner. Amy Westfall was the 2004 winner.

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The Rundown

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Bills revive stem cell research debate

United States wary of Syria's pledge

State funeral held for dead Italian agent

AUSTIN (AP) — Tennis, skiing and dance are things of the past for Nina Brown, who has lived with Parkinson's disease for 20 years. Some nights she even has to crawl to the bathroom.

She sees hope in a controversial type of research she thinks could one day cure the disease that is left her feeling weak and lifeless. But the research involves embryonic stem cells, which critics decry as destroying human life.

Debate over the issue has raged across the nation since 2001, when President Bush restricted use of federal money on embryonic stem cell research to existing lines.

Now the controversy is about to divide the Texas Legislature. Four bills filed this session would affect stem cell research in Texas. Two seek to restrict it, while the other two endorse it. All four would outlaw reproductive human cloning.

Embryonic stem cells, which are formed in the first days after an egg is fertilized, are the building block for the numerous types of cells that form the bones, skin, flesh and organs of the human body.

Supporters of embryonic stem cell research say it holds great promise for finding cures for many illnesses, including Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, various cancers and spinal cord injuries.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States reacted warily Monday to word that Syria will pull back its troops to the eastern part of Lebanon and demanded that it withdraw its forces "completely and immediately."

The announcement of a phased troop pullback was denounced by White House spokesman Scott McClellan as "a half measure."

The presidents of Syria and Lebanon announced Monday that the Syrian troops would be pulled back to eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley by March 31. No timetable was announced for a full pullout.

"We stand with the Lebanese people and the Lebanese people, I think, are speaking very clearly. They want a future that is sovereign, independent and free from outside influence and intimidation," McClellan said.

Syrian President Bashar Assad's announcement over the weekend of a phased troop withdrawal "did not go far enough," McClellan told reporters. "Syria needs to withdraw completely and immediately from Lebanon territory."

At the State Department, spokesman Adam Ereli said that until Syrian forces and intelligence agents are out of Lebanon, a full withdrawal under the terms of a U.N. Security Council resolution "is not respected."

ROME (AP) — Italy paid homage Monday to an intelligence officer killed by U.S. fire in Iraq while escorting an ex-hostage to freedom, with a state funeral in a Rome basilica drawing as many as 20,000 mourners — some bringing flowers, some waving flags — and all of the country's top officials.

The killing of Nicola Calipari, 50, fueled anti-American sentiment in a country that was strongly opposed to war in Iraq, and prompted Premier Silvio Berlusconi, a staunch supporter of the U.S.-led military campaign, to demand that Washington provide a full explanation of the shooting in Baghdad.

"A grateful and admiring Italy bows to its hero, the victim of a war without a name," said the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, which opposed the Iraq war. "His gesture has moved the whole country."

The Santa Maria degli Angeli basilica — originally designed by Michelangelo on the ruins of the Baths of Diocletian — and the surrounding piazza were packed with mourners. Berlusconi and U.S. Ambassador Mel Sembler were among dignitaries at the service.

Parents of jailed white supremacist deny their son had any role in murders

CHICAGO (AP) — The parents of white supremacist Matthew Hale, looking forward to visiting their imprisoned son this week, said they don't believe that any member of Hale's group is capable of murdering a federal judge's husband and mother.

"They're scared the government's going to do something to them like they did to Matt," said Evelyn Hutcheson, Hale's mother. "They've all run. They're scared to death ... They're scared puppies is all they are."

In separate telephone interviews, Hutcheson and Russell Hale said Sunday they are worried authorities will cancel their visits to their son, who is awaiting sentencing next month for soliciting an FBI informant to kill Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkowitz.

They are limited to one phone call with Hale each week and visits to the Metropolitan Correction Center in Chicago every other Tuesday.

Russell Hale said two FBI agents questioned him Friday for 15 or 20

minutes, asking if he had any idea who might have killed Judge Lefkowitz's husband — attorney Michael Lefkowitz, 64 — and mother, Donna Humphrey, 89, who had lived in Denver.

Matthew Hale has denied any involvement in the slayings, or of soliciting the judge's murder. But FBI Agent Robert D. Grant has said Hale and his associates are one avenue of investigation.

Authorities have collected a total of 606 tips about the Feb. 28 slayings in the home of Lefkowitz, according to police spokeswoman JoAnn Taylor. Police did not say how many tips had come in since the case was featured

Saturday night on the television show "America's Most Wanted," but on Friday, they reported receiving 230 tips.

Police also said on Sunday that they hoped to learn as early as this week whether material collected at the crime scene contains DNA evidence.

During Hale's murder-plot trial, prosecutors contended that he was furious when Lefkowitz ordered him to stop using the name World Church of the Creator because it had been trademarked by an Oregon religious group that has no ties to Hale. Her original decision in favor of Hale had been overturned by an appeals court.

"They're scared the government's going to do something to them like they did to Matt."

— EVELYN HUTCHESON-
Mother of White Supremacist
Matthew Hale

The University Daily

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Program helps teaching assistants to be more effective

Kelly Gooch/
The University Daily

The Teaching Effectiveness and Career Enhancement Program is still looking for professors to nominate doctoral students in their department for the 2005-2006 academic school year.

Sharon Robinson, faculty development officer and coordinator of the TEACH program, said several requirements exist that doctoral students must meet to be chosen.

Students must be teaching assistants, be nominated within the department, probably by a graduate adviser or the department chair, have two letters of recommendation from professors, and must submit a letter describing their experience and why they

want to be chosen.

Robinson said the letters of recommendation are usually written by professors in the nominee's department, and they had approximately 60 applicants last year. For the 2005-2006 school year only 20 people out of all the nominees will be chosen, she said.

The nominees will probably know by mid-May if they are chosen, and will start attending teaching, learning and technol-

ogy workshops in the Fall 2005, she said.

At the technology workshops, Robinson said teaching assistants learn how to use Power Point and other tools to aid in teaching.

She said the TEACH program is a year-long program, and each teaching assistant re-

ceives \$500 a semester from the provost office for being involved with the program.

Each assistant, Robinson said, must make a teaching portfolio at

the end of the fall and do a year-long project that could include developing a new course.

She said teaching assistants receive many benefits from the TEACH program.

"We get really excellent feedback from the (teaching assistants)," she said.

Bart Durham, teaching assistant in the department of range, wildlife and fisheries, said he knew when he applied for the TEACH program it would be competitive.

Durham said he believed he had a good chance at getting into the program because he had been teaching two semesters prior to applying.

"The program has been getting stronger each year," he said.

Staff of the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center, he

said, videotape teaching assistants each semester so they can evaluate themselves and make needed improvements.

Durham said each assistant has a staff consultant who talks to the assistant's students, and the students give feedback regarding the person's teaching and what improvements could be made.

"It's a good way to broaden your horizons," he said.

Each teaching assistant has a mentor from their department who helps them think about the teaching philosophy for their portfolio because they usually know what the portfolio needs, Durham said.

Generally, three to four people work with the teaching assistants while in the program.

"It's a lot of work (being in the program)," he said.

However, Durham said he recommends the TEACH program to any teaching assistant who wants to participate.

The program, he said, is for professional development and serves as an award.

Durham said most teaching assistants use the \$500 to help pay for school.

"A little extra money in your pocket is kind of nice," he said.

According to the TEACH program Web site, www.tlct.ttu.edu/teach, teaching assistants will examine his fit with a teaching career in higher education.

Robinson said many universities do not show teaching assistants how to teach in the classroom.

"It's a great program," she said. "Ours is pretty unique."

E-mails

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said she had to delete the entire list Monday and wait for a new list to be compiled.

"Hopefully the new list will be ready by the end of the week," she said. "There will be a footer at the bottom of the new list and if someone wants off the list all they have to do is click on 'remove me' and they will never receive an e-mail from that list again."

Smith said the old list is deleted and no more e-mails will be sent until the new list is compiled.

Mary Willeford, a junior agricultural education and communications major from Dayton, said she started receiving the e-mails about a week ago.

"I work in Hospitality, so I'm sure that is how I got linked into the system," she said. "I didn't reply because it goes to everyone and there is no point."

Willeford said she knows the people in the office that is sending the e-mails and she said she does not believe she needs to contact anyone about the problem.

"I was at the meeting when the problem was discussed and I know that an update in the e-mailing system caused the problem so I don't think I need to call anyone about it," she said.

Sara Cadavid, a junior restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Columbia, South America, said she started receiving the e-mails when the spring semester started.

"I work in the advising center as a mentor, so that is probably how I got into the student affairs e-mail list," she said. "It didn't bother me when I was only getting one or two a day, but today I got 30 and that's too much."

Cadavid said she has also been receiving all the e-mails from people asking to be taken off the mailing list.

"I get all their e-mails asking me to stop e-mailing them," she said. "I guess they are just hitting 'reply all' to request to be taken off."

Discussion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cine closer together.

"What we want to do eventually is bring the law school and Health Sciences Center closer together," she said. "(We) thought this was a good place to start."

Bard said Cowart is highly sought after by medical schools and said he has single-handedly been a tremendous influence on patient autonomy in the United States.

Hillary Pane, a first-year medical student, said she believes the discussion about the right to decide served its purpose.

"(I think we) definitely needed this discussion," she said. "We in the medical community aren't talking about it. We have this drive to help and intervene."

If faced with the issue, Pane she would respect a person's wishes, but believes more education and discussions will make everyone more informed of victim's rights.

"We need to listen to patients and hear their stories to determine a treatment plan," she said.

Cowart's case focuses on the patient's right to decide. It is similar to an ongoing Florida case involving Terri Schiavo, a Florida woman who has been in a vegetative state for 15 years, according to an Associated Press story. Schiavo's case is being termed the right to die. Michael

Schiavo, Terri Schiavo's husband, has been in a legal battle with her parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, regarding whether to remove a feeding tube keeping Terri Schiavo alive.

According to the Associated Press, Michael Schiavo believes his wife would not want to live in a vegetative state with extreme measures prolonging her life. However, her parents believe recovery is possible and said she has no wish to end her life.

Cowart said the main thing he has learned through his experience is the need to inform loved ones of last wishes in case extraordinary circumstances arise. He gave his mother common-law power of attorney.

"It is very important to let the person know what your wishes are," he said. "Make sure it is not someone that is not able, because of love, to end your life."

Cowart said he was in extreme pain and refusing treatment and could not do anything about his physicians continuing treatment against his wishes.

Despite earlier conflicts, Cowart said he and his doctors are on good terms, but he hopes everyone realizes no one has the right to unreasonably interfere with another person's life.

Cowart graduated from Tech's law school in 1986 and is now married. He is an attorney who serves as a patient advocate.

Case

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

she said. "I think there should be a division of church and state."

In a statement from a press release, Abbott said the monument can be compared to other government monuments.

"Carvings of Moses and the Ten Commandments appear throughout the Supreme Court building, including the very chambers where we will be arguing this case," he said in the statement. "Like these sculptures, the Texas monument is constitutional, and I hope the Supreme Court will make

that clear when it rules on this case."

There has been some opposition to the case, Strickland said, and Abbott is currently in Washington going from network to network doing interviews.

"We have received overwhelming support from the public," he said. "(But) the arguments to the court are about the law, not public opinion."

Abbott said he is awaiting the Supreme Court's decision on this case.

"We'll be waiting to hear what the court has to say," he said. "(The members of the Supreme Court are) expected to make (a decision) in June."

Afghan women take up high office, but many face long equality battle

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— Fifteen Afghan men, heads slightly bowed, file into a crowded living room to greet the new leader of Bamiyan province. They sip tea and listen patiently as the governor holds court.

Such a courtesy call is commonplace in this deeply hierarchical society when someone wins high office — but this time there's a critical difference: They are paying respect to a woman, the first female governor in the history of this Islamic nation.

Three years after the fall of the Taliban, Afghanistan is casting off the fundamentalism that once barred women from public life and kept girls out of school.

The selection of Habiba Sarobi to head the central province of Bamiyan is a milestone, but she is the first to acknowledge that it masks a sad reality.

"There are equal rights for women on paper. The challenge is to put it into practice ... Afghanistan is still a male-dominated society," Sarobi told The Associated Press as she received well-wishers last week at her Kabul apartment.

For most Afghan women, little has changed since the Taliban's ouster; most women's daily lives are still dominated by archaic traditions and grinding poverty.

Women's literacy rates are just 14 percent, far below the

literacy rate for men, and maternal mortality is about 60 times higher than in industrialized countries, with an Afghan mother dying every half hour on average.

Before Afghanistan descended into war two decades ago, women held high office. As early as the 1950s, they served in parliament, and worked as judges and diplomats. In the 1970s, a woman was minister of health. During the Soviet occupation of the 1980s, up to 70 percent of teachers were women.

A wave of fundamentalism swept the country after Muslim fighters ousted the Soviet army in 1989, and the Taliban came to power seven years later.

Since the hard-line regime's ouster by U.S.-led forces in late 2001, millions of girls have returned to school. And while women are still mostly on the periphery of public life, career opportunities have reopened for them, at least in the cities.

Women's rights were enshrined in a democratic constitution adopted in 2004, and women turned out in force to vote in presidential elections in October. A female presidential candidate is now the women's affairs minister.

President Hamid Karzai has given three women minor posts in his new, 30-member Cabinet, and named women to lead the Afghan Red Crescent Society and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission.

But skeptics — and even high-profile women appointees — con-

cede they have little political clout.

"I still believe most of us are selected for these seats because they (the government) wants to give a good impression to the world," said Fatema Gailani, who has won praise for shaking up the Red Crescent since her appointment two months ago. "But we really want to achieve things," she said.

Malalai Joya, a 26-year-old woman who created a stir at last year's constitutional convention by calling Afghan warlords criminals, said progress in women's rights was only cosmetic.

"Women still live under the shadow of the gun," she said by telephone from her home in western Farah province. "In Kabul, some women now walk to work without a burqa (all-covering veil) ... In the villages, there's no change. Women are still victims of violence."

Joya has received death threats for her outspokenness at the convention, and has three bodyguards supplied by the government.

And there are even disputes between conservatives and liberals over women's place in society — even whether women should sing and dance on television.

Abdul Hafiz Mansour, editor of the conservative Mjahadeen's Message newspaper said women have a right to hold political office. But he said he doubted whether there were enough educated women in some provinces to fill the quota of seats in parliament called for in the constitution.

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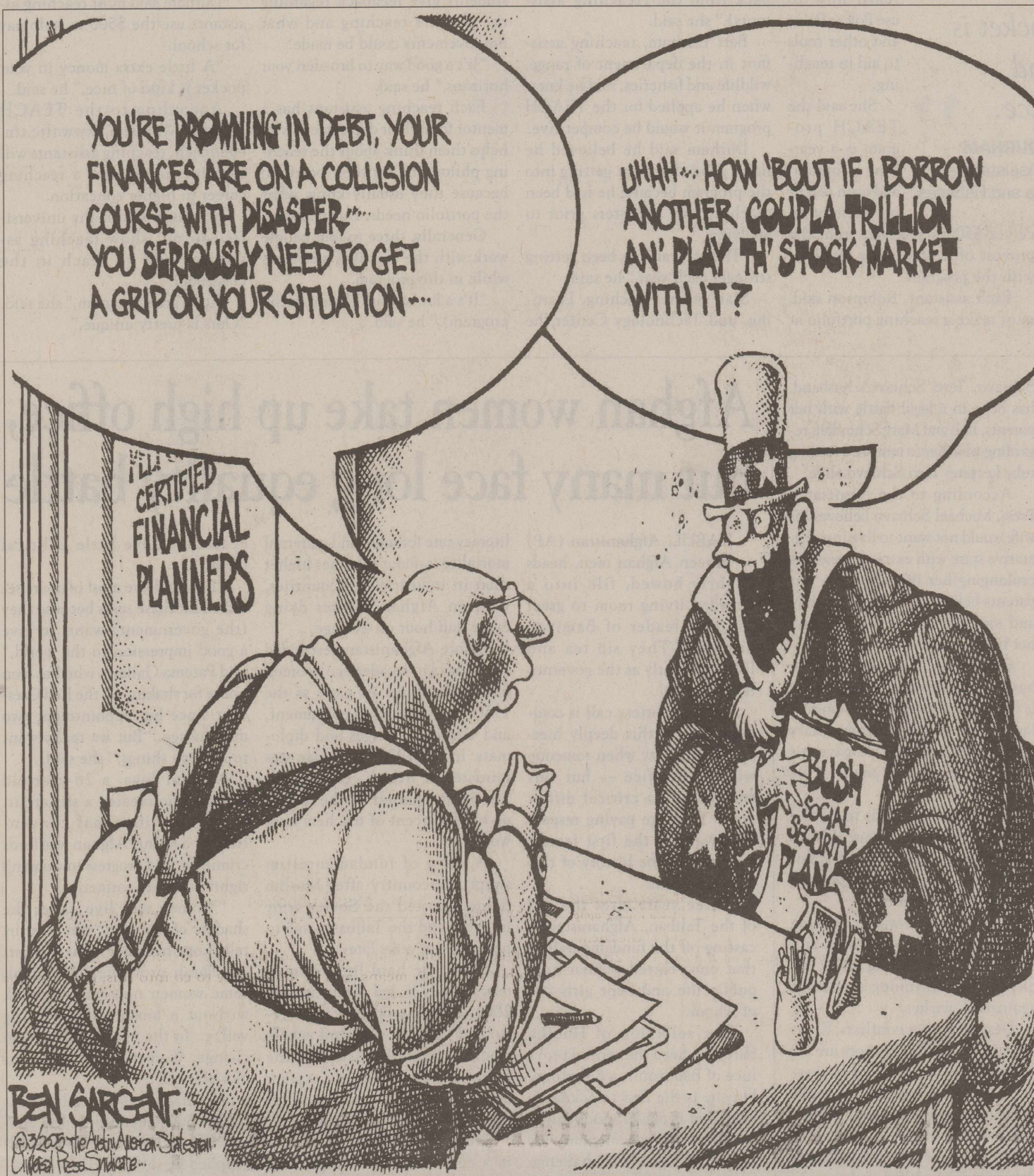
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VIEW FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSITY

A response to American journalism

By Erica Rogers/
Daily Nebraskan

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — Oscar Wilde once said, “There is so much to be said in favor of modern journalism. By giving us the opinions of the uneducated it keeps us in touch with the ignorance of the community.”

I think of Wilde when I look at journalism today. He’s long gone, but his criticism remains remarkably alive.

To write for the public space is to offer your mind’s child to either an audience of crickets or an angry band of teeth-gnashing critics. We live in a society of over-stimulated news consumers, burned by inadequate, biased coverage and mainstream 15-second sound bites.

Democracy in America has become a volatile, undeclared police action of profitable public discourse paraded in front of citizens who can no longer stomach the casualties of war.

News network rating crusades and the recent controversies surrounding ethical failures of newspaper reporters and columnists have produced an entire generation of consumers suffering from battle fatigue.

Voyeurism became journalism. No stone is left unturned: a wife’s secret life as a CIA agent, the semen stain on a blue dress left by a president. Interpersonal relationships are making news a spectacle, a political circus sideshow both intriguing and appalling to its

outraged audience.

Jon Stewart’s now infamous appearance on CNN’s Crossfire was so much more than the humbling of a guy in a bow tie. It was a call for revolution.

Stewart represents those consumers who gleefully burn the journalism industry’s banner of objectivity like an American flag at a Vietnam War protest.

In his role as Fletcher in “The Outlaw Josey Wales,” John Vernon once said, “Don’t piss down my back and tell me it’s raining.”

This seems to be the sum of sentiment found in a public that no longer sees journalists as the purveyors of truth but a legion of scavengers who come down after a battle and shoot the wounded — punditry’s jackals with a deadline.

With the media darlings bent on consolidation, as debutante buy-outs are paraded at the press corps cotillion, the sway and shimmy of satin and sparkle from investor portfolios nearly blinds those of us who believe good journalism is a pillar of citizenship in a healthy democracy.

The public is told not to worry as the tenets of journalism crumble beneath the tenets of capitalism because, “Hot damn baby, ain’t that American?”

But what kind of America will we be a decade or two from now? As journalism colleges move from academic to vocational education models to meet the needs of big business, they move students from

intellectual accountability and investment to trite profitability. Some schools will proclaim journalism a calling while telling students to be independent, to challenge government, the status quo and the injustices in America.

After filling these students with such lofty ideals, schools plop these same students before a number of interviewers from conglomerate-owned newspapers to vie for an all-important internship that will launch their careers.

There’s a mild contradiction in this practice, but let’s face it: Any journalism college needs to prove its program worthy of parental investment.

Any school’s reputation rests within its ability to get its students into the workforce — I certainly don’t begrudge an institution’s method of survival in times like these, when higher education must balance the alleged whimsy of academic pursuits with the hard realities of capitalism. But sometimes I wonder what comes first, the conglomerate chicken or the collegiate egg.

These contradictions and the public’s frustration swirling within and around the journalism industry are precisely why college newspapers need to beef up news coverage and commentary. College papers are the only news outlets not beholden to investment dollars or corporate goals. Students are free to investigate and report the stories within their

communities while offering thoughtful, balanced commentary and context for readers.

Major news services surf U-WIRE, the college version of a wire service, for story ideas and the pulse of the “younger generation.” The eyes of an industry are upon the training grounds, folks. It’s time to answer Stewart’s call for revolution and prove our mettle before our audience of diverse political affiliations.

College papers may prove to be the last place journalists can exercise their full responsibilities as purveyors of truth without testing their corporate allegiance.

Apart from establishing within the student community, a taste for responsible, balanced journalism, college newspaper editors could, if they really wanted to, prompt reform within industry. Nothing spurs reform quite like a bit vicious and fierce competition.

But it’s so much more than that. It’s activism across the political spectrum, a collection of voices seeking to push back the trends in an industry we no longer recognize. It’s protest and protection, the burning of suppression’s symbols and the cracking open of all the conversations the public should have but can’t start. It’s where 1960s activism meets the optimism of youth.

And baby, ain’t that American?

TECH TALKS BACK

Mann doesn’t have it right — the United States governs itself

Mann is very much off the mark regarding actions the United States should take in response to the U.N.’s “stop smoking” campaign.

For the record, I don’t smoke. I can’t stand the smell of it, don’t like the effects it has on my body, and I have friends who feel the same way.

But as much as I don’t like smoking, I do not want the United States to sign into this U.N. scheme.

The principle is simple: The actions of the United States should not be dictated by outside countries. The minute we allow other countries to make our laws, the people

who actually live here lose power to shape the government.

This is the same reason the United States did not sign the Kyoto Treaty. Not because America and “big business” like to pollute, but because there is a fundamental value of self-government at stake.

Allowing the U.N. to dictate American domestic policy in any way, shape or form is a mistake that we will pay for dearly in the future.

— Jason Groves, senior mathematics major from Simi Valley, Calif.

Politics in the classroom

Dave
Ring



I would rather err on the side of having a professor say something I didn’t want to hear than having a professor not be able to say something I need to hear.

Professor Ward Churchill’s name has been batted around the nation lately as a whipping child for how out of touch the nation’s intellectuals are and how infecting their tongue can be on young minds.

His reactionary essay “Coming Home to Roost” is just what it is — an essay. It wasn’t a test issued to his class, it wasn’t on the PowerPoint slide, it wasn’t even required reading — it was a brain dump.

People are attacking Churchill and his actions for both content and context. Before I begin, I want you to keep in mind I am no less saddened by the deaths of 9/11 than are all decent human beings.

That being said, I’m equally saddened by deaths in Iraq, Sudan and any place where ignorance, greed and hatred infect the minds of statesmen and soldiers alike. I do not think the death of a U.S. citizen is a greater loss than that of an Iraqi or a Frenchman or a North Korean. What matters is how they die and who’s responsible, not where they call home because really, we all live in the same place.

This was the motivation behind the content of Churchill’s piece. Too long have the citizens of this country been ignorant to the stories of pain caused directly by U.S. actions. And you can argue Saddam was bad and killing his own people and defying the U.N. all you want, but that doesn’t change that half a million families lost their child as a direct result of U.S. policy.

Whether or not you find this an “acceptable” price is up to you, but any genuine human should cringe at the thought.

Churchill stated the deaths in the Twin Towers and Pentagon were not a first strike by madmen, but instead a retaliation by soldiers. He then pointed out the military/intelligence establishments scattered among civilian offices in the World Trade Center — thus the “little Eichmans” term alluding to the tacit complicity to state-sponsored killing.

The deaths of the children in the nurseries, the firefighters rushing to the scene and those on planes meet the Pentagon’s own definition of “collateral damage,” which ought to make you think twice about the phrase as applied to Iraqis. Either way you cut it, the murders were absolutely wrong on both sides.

The bigger issue facing us here at home deals with the context in which Churchill’s opinion is taken. Those who aren’t arguing about what he said, doubtless because of the First Amendment, are approaching it from how he said it and how he pays his bills. Being a professor at Colorado means he teaches at a public school and is funded by public taxes.

If we are going to start firing opinionated instructors, we will start closing a lot of institutions. To me, there is nothing wrong when a professor starts spouting off her personal beliefs on past or current events. It makes them less like an abstract source of information and more like a real person trying to teach other real people. I’ve never felt my disagreeing with a professor would negatively affect my

grade, regardless of their conviction to their own opinion.

Don’t you think students can make up their own minds by the time they get to college? Sure, there still are kinks to work out, but if someone is naïve and impressionable enough to take their freshman political science professors’ personal opinion as something that must be reflected in their work, then that’s a lesson they need to learn.

It always seems it’s the ones with the worst grades who feel their professors didn’t like them. I’ve known professors who didn’t like me

at all and made it out with a grade I deserved, just as I’ve parted with professors who’ve given me a B+.

I would rather err on the side of having a professor say something I didn’t want to hear than have a professor not be able to say something I need to hear.

No, you can’t scream “fire” in a theater, but nothing in that analogy applies to Churchill. His musings were dug up nearly four years after being penned. If this is such a gigantic issue, why did it take so long for us to hear about it? Wouldn’t we have been even more upset had it come to light back in 2001?

I am damn happy and excited our educational institutions are chock full of cynical, crazy and passionate people, regardless of socio-political affiliation. We are here to learn not just facts about the world or how to do things, but as cliché as it is, to learn about ourselves. The only way to do that is to challenge what you’ve grown up knowing.

Some may not pass the tests, some might. But it is the job of our professors and classmates to push your brain in ways that might make you uncomfortable.

We shouldn’t fear the opinion of academics poisoning the minds of students. Instead we should see the college classroom as the petri dish of future business, agriculture, science and politics, growing potential cures to the world’s ills.

■ Ring is a graduate student studying international studies from Hobbs, N.M. E-mail him at david.j.ring@ttu.edu.

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

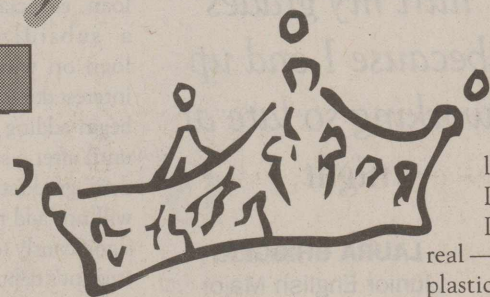
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JULIE UPTON NAMED MISS LUBBOCK USA



By Clara Cobb/
The University Daily

Julie Upton was the last of the final four contestants called.

"I was sweating bullets, standing up there smiling, thinking, 'I'm not going to make it, I'm not going to make it,'" she said.

Upton, a junior broadcast journalism and education major from Seminole, said she did not grow up competing in a pageant circuit but has learned a lot from competing. Upton has won four of the five pageants in which she has competed.

With her latest title, Miss Lubbock, she hopes she can teach.

"For me, this is an opportunity to talk to girls and to show girls it's what's on the inside, not what's on the outside that matters," she said. "I

like to think the reason I won is my personality. I wanted to be the most real — I didn't want to be the plastic girl."

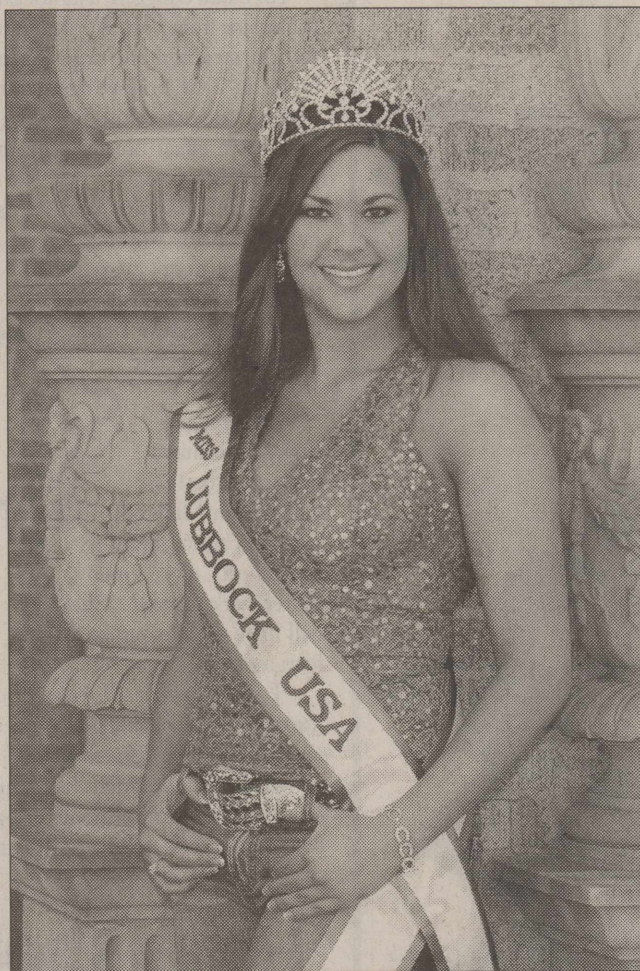
After six months of dieting and working out — doing Pilates and working with an exercise ball — Upton took the Miss Lubbock crown in the Miss USA circuit competition.

The night she won, she said she ate three Krispy Kreme doughnuts and pizza.

"I was worried about my size because I was the biggest girl in the pageant," Upton said. "I was so worried,

"I think the fact that Julie won says the world's finally coming around. You don't have to be a size zero or a size 2 to be beautiful."

— EMILY HALTOM
Sophomore Early
Childhood Education
Major from Seminole



DARREL THOMAS/Student Media Photographer

JULIE UPTON MISS Lubbock USA poses outside of the chemistry building Friday afternoon. Julie won the title Feb. 26.

inches.

"There were days when I thought, 'I am never going to lose enough weight; I am never going to be small enough,'" Upton said. "Denise Austin (fitness guru) — if I looked like that, I would not have worried about the swimsuit portion."

Emily Haltom, a sophomore early childhood education major from Seminole, is Upton's best friend. She said she remembers the morning Upton told her about competing in Miss Lubbock almost as vividly as the competition.

"I was really excited for her; she humbled herself on stage. Her personality, what's on the inside, overshadowed her doubts," Haltom said. "They saw what I see every day. Not only is she gorgeous on the outside, she is gorgeous on the inside. She's not a big girl by any means, and I think the fact Julie won says the world's finally coming around. You don't have to

be a size zero or a size 2 to be beautiful."

Upton competed in three categories: swimsuit, evening gown and interview. She said confidence was one of the keys to her success.

"My (theater) directors in high school taught me confidence. Even if you don't know what you are doing, act like you know what you are doing," Upton said. "I'm going to smile, pretend there's not blisters on my feet, and pretend I know what I am doing. That's how I got through the weekend."

Upton will compete in the Miss Texas competition in Laredo June 24-26. She said she already is looking ahead. Her roommate, Elizabeth Murray, a junior social work major from Seminole, along with Haltom, said they would support her and travel with her to Laredo.

"You have to decide to be optimistic or pessimistic about everything, so I decided to be positive," Upton said. "I stress about things all the time — school, my weight, relationships,

not having a boyfriend. I said to myself, 'I am going to go into this, have fun and make new friends.' I gave it my all and it came out for the best."

"I'm going to smile, pretend there's not blisters on my feet, and pretend I know what I am doing. That's how I got through the weekend."

— JULIE UPTON
Miss Lubbock USA

Jackson accuser's younger brother says pop star appeared naked, showed them Internet sex sites

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — The brother of Michael Jackson's accuser testified at the singer's child molestation trial Monday that Jackson showed them Internet sex sites, gave them wine, slept in bed with them and appeared before them naked and sexually aroused at the pop star's Neverland ranch.

"Me and my brother were watching a movie and Michael walked up naked," the 14-year-old witness testified. "Me and my brother were grossed out. He sat on the bed and said it was natural," then left the room.

District Attorney Tom Sneddon asked if anything was notable about Jackson's appearance, and the boy, using a slang term, said Jackson was aroused. Jackson, 46, is accused of molesting a 13-year-old boy cancer survivor at Neverland, giving him alcohol and conspiring to hold the family captive.

The brother testified extensively about alcohol allegations, saying Jackson referred to wine as "Jesus juice."

He recounted an incident that he said occurred while the family was on a private jet with Jackson as

they returned to Santa Barbara from a trip to Miami. He said that during the flight, Jackson offered him wine from a soda can.

"He leaned over and he handed it to me. I thought it was Diet Coke so I didn't want to be rude. It smelled like rubbing alcohol. I asked him what it was and he said it was wine," the boy testified.

He said he then saw Jackson lick his brother on the head for about six seconds.

During the flight, Jackson made a crank phone call to a woman in which he made remarks about genitalia, the boy testified. He said that on the flight he also saw his brother with a watch and jacket, items that the prosecution alleges were bribes to keep the 13-year-old silent about the wine.

Upon their return to Neverland, he and his brother slept in Jackson's bed with another boy and Jackson, he said. They drank alcohol repeatedly with Jackson during the rest of their stay at Neverland, he said.

Jackson was always present when they drank wine, and most of the

drinking occurred in Jackson's office, bedroom or wine cellar, he said.

The defense contends the boys memorized security codes to enter the wine cellar and other areas without permission. But the boy said the cellar could not be opened without a key and he did not know where it was.

The witness also described making crank calls from the

ranch, dialing random numbers.

"If the phone number didn't exist, he would have us take a drink of wine," the witness testified.

The witness said that on one visit to Neverland, Jackson showed him and his brother sexually explicit Internet sites.

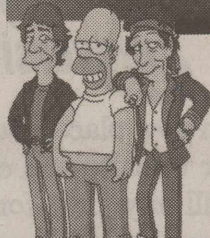
"Michael told us not to tell no one what we did — not to tell our parents what we

"Me and my brother were grossed out. He sat on the bed and said it was natural."

— BROTHER OF JACKSON'S
ACCUSER

did," he testified.

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7 AM	Body Electric	Today Greg Kinnear. Also: a style segment; a "Today's Kitchen" segment.	Early Show Halle Berry.	Believers Voice Life Today	Good Morning America	Ultimate Choice							
8 AM	Come Fly with Dragon Tales			Paid Programming		Spin City							
9 AM				Paid Programming		Roseanne							
10 AM	[15] Sesame Street	Regis & Kelly	Price Is Right	Judge Joe Brown	The View	Becker							
11 AM	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Joe Brown	Paid Programming	Dharma & Greg							
12 PM	MotorWeek	NewsChannel 11	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer "Bitter Brides"	All My Children	Ambush Makeover							
1 PM	Body Electric	Days of Our Lives	Bold & Beautiful	Paid Programming	One Life to Live	Ambush Makeover							
2 PM	Zoom	Passions	Animal Adv	Paid Programming	General Hospital	Extra							
3 PM	Between the Lions	Inside Edition	Mauri Guess "mocked by their peers"	Dharma & Greg	Jane Pauley "Autobiography of Me"	Divorce Court							
4 PM	Postcards Buster	Oprah Winfrey	Judge Judy	That '70s Show	Montel Williams "Lured into Danger"	Texas Justice							
5 PM	Cyberchase	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Malcolm in Middle	KAMC 28 News	Fear Factor "Best of Season 2"							
6 PM	Clifford	Arthurd	Malcolm in Middle	KLBK 13 News at 5	World News	Fox 34 News First@Four							
7 PM	Maya Miguel	NewsChannel 11	KLBK 13 News at 6	Family Feud	KAMC 28 News	Malcolm in Middle							
8 PM	Nightly Business	NewsChannel 11	Who Wants Mill.	Extra	Entertainment	Simpsons							
9 PM	NewsHour with Jim Lehrer	Wheel of Fortune	Billy Graham Crusade	All of Eve	Life and Kids (HD)	Friends							
10 PM	Texas: State of Water	Will & Grace (HD)	Amazing Race 7	Veronica Mars (HD)	According to Jim	Raymond							
11 PM	Nova "Einstein's Dream"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure"	Judging Amy "Hard to Get" (HD)	King of the Hill	Blind Justice "Pi-lot Episode" (HD)	American Idol (HD)							
12 AM	Nightly Business	NewsChannel 11	KLBK 13 News	That '70s Show	KAMC 28 News	Seinfeld							
1 PM	Destinos	(35) The Tonight Show with Jay Leno	(35) David Letterman Michael J. Fox	Magnum, P.I.	(35) Nightline	Frasier							
2 PM	GED Connection	(35) Conan O'Brien Sylvester Stallone	(35) Late Late Show	Blind Date	(35) Paid Program	Cheers							
3 PM	Off Air	(35) Carson Daly	(35) NCIS (HD)	Pacific Pearls	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	Just Shoot Me							



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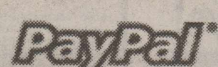
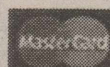
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Students plan for tuition hike

By Jeremy Martin/
The University Daily

The new tuition increase is not scheduled to be announced until the end of the month, but some Texas Tech students already are planning ways to come up with the extra cash.

Some students are unaffected by the increase because it means their parents will be dropping the extra dough. But for many students who pay their own way, an increase means taking out more loan money, clocking in more hours at work or both.

For Laura Ghiggeri, a junior English major from Fort Worth, higher tuition means more time waiting tables at TGI Friday's restaurant. She said the extra shifts might have a negative effect on her academic career.

"I'll probably just work more, but I'm already working a good amount of hours every week," she said. "It'll probably hurt my grades because I end up working so late at night."

Margaret Martinez, a freshman public relations major from Midland, said she cannot afford to add any more time to her work schedule. She will have to take out extra loan money.

"I can't work more hours, so I'll probably add it on to my student loans," she said.

While Tech President Jon Whitmore has said tuition should not go up by more than 5 percent, Joanna

Burk, a junior English major from Snyder, said the increase might still give her financial problems.

Burk said she gets a refund check every semester from her Stafford Loan, which she uses to buy books. If the raise in tuition eats her book money, Burk will face a dilemma.

"If the loan doesn't cover (my tuition and books), I may have to take less hours," Burk said. "Either that or put my books on my credit card."

George Centeno, a senior personal financial planning major from San Antonio,

is a financial counselor for Tech's Red to Black program. He said getting an education is one of the few acceptable reasons to acquire debt.

"If there's one that's worth going into to debt for, it's going to school," he said.

However, he still encourages students to be responsible financially and budget their money. He said students should only take out loans when absolutely necessary.

For a 5 percent increase, which for many students would be less than \$200 per semester, Centeno said students should consider either

tightening their budgets or picking up extra hours at work to pay the difference.

"You can make \$200 working over spring break," he said.

Each student's case is different, he said, and working extra hours may

not be an option for some. In that case, adding the extra tuition onto a student loan, especially a subsidized loan on which interest does not begin adding up until after a student graduates, will not add too significantly to a student's debt.

However, Centeno said, the best option

is always paying off tuition as soon as possible. The less money in loans a student takes out now will mean lower payments after graduation.

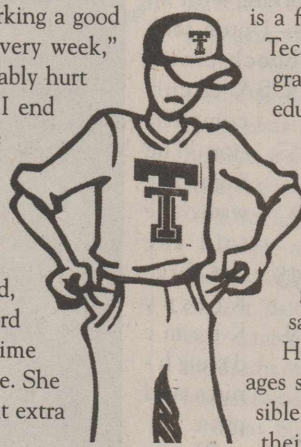
"My suggestion is to work over the summer and save up an extra \$500," he said. "Then you can pay for it all in cash."

Alex Weaver, a junior music performance major from Muscatine, Iowa, said he plans to earn the extra money over the summer. But working to pay the tuition increase off in cash will cost him time and opportunities.

"I'm from Iowa, and I was going to go home for the summer," he said. "I can stay here and work, but that's going to cut down on the amount of time I get to spend with my family and friends back home."

"It'll probably hurt my grades because I end up working so late at night."

— LAURA GHIGGERI
Junior English Major
from Fort Worth



Texas shores hot for spring break

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP)

— Sure there is Cancun and Florida, but when it comes to the college crowd's annual quest for sun and fun, the good ole fashioned road trip to South Texas seems hipper than ever.

And folks here are getting ready — fixing the bungee jump, painting the emcee stands, dusting the strobe lights and waving goodbye to the legions of Midwestern retirees who leave this strip of aquamarine shoreline just before the craziness rolls in.

Sometime during the past few decades, spending Easter break someplace warm with a gang of college buddies became part of Americana.

For the frigid campuses of the Midwest, that meant South Padre Island, with the exodus starting with a trickle in early March and becoming a monsoon when Texas colleges let out en masse for "Texas Week," this year March 14 to 18 for many campuses in the region.

South Padre, once a desolate

barrier island populated mostly by pelicans and migratory birds, grew up with the trend, and continues to embrace as it co-markets itself as a family resort and upscale retirement haven. Now the island is a stretch of campy novelty shops against a backdrop of high-rise hotels and multimillion dollar condominiums. And while March is the peak time for college-age visitors, waves of other tourists come throughout the spring, from families to sports enthusiasts. A "kiteboard rodeo" is scheduled for April 9 and 10, and a windsurfing competition will be held April 30 and May 1.

Right now, however, after a few lackluster years post-Sept. 11, travel bookers say college kids are calling with money to spend on the most upscale debauchery they can find.

"Higher-end beachfronts are really what's going," said Chad Hart of Inertia Tours, one of several agencies that specialize in spring-break packages. "They're just saying, 'What's awesome? That's what we want.'"

While the Internet has allowed

students to book their own hotels and research their own activities, he said plenty of students go for package deals that include meals, club passes, an evening cruise and a jaunt to the Mexican border — particularly the girls.

"Girls like to have a real full package, they don't want to take chances," he said. "A lot of guys, it's still, 'Let's just load into my dad's SUV and sleep in a tent.'"

During the past decade, the island's popularity waned against the competition of package deals to foreign destinations, especially Southern Mexico. But parents have grown warier of sending their kids outside of the country, and each year the area is seeing more East Coast students arrive on \$900 weeklong packages. Those students on tight budgets are saying they'd rather pitch in for a couple of tanks of gas than spend hundreds of dollars on airfare to a destination outside the United States.

Part of South Padre's allure has always been that it is near the Mexican border, where the drinking age is a loosely enforced 18. Buses are on hand to run the spring-breakers back and forth to a neighborhood of bars in Matamoros, Mexico, only a block across the border but fully in another country.

No one here thinks the current U.S. Department of State travel warning about violent drug killings in northern Mexico will stop kids from going.

Dan Quandt, head of South Padre's Convention and Visitors Bureau, said bookings on the Mexico buses are up 30 percent from last year, but the island's message about Mexico has not changed.

"We've always urged students that if they're going to go to go on one of those vans, go in a group, stay with people," he said.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Belly or heart follower
- Starboard side
- Monterey money
- Goatee site
- Other side
- Stead
- at windmills
- Lion
- 10/23-to-11/21 births
- Dead holders
- Armed robbery
- Guinness of "Star Wars"
- Summer ermines
- Charge
- Work with needles
- Nina's sister ship
- Scots' trillings
- NASA's ISS partner
- Acorn producers
- Stan's comic partner
- Peril
- Mineral deposit
- Play part
- Scoundrel
- Zhivago's beloved
- Calendar unit
- Showy bird's male
- Spunk
- Blue-dye plants
- Ribbed fabric
- Insufficiency
- Scrutinized
- Delta material
- Longest river in France
- E-mail button
- Links pegs
- Passover dinner
- Three-spot

DOWN

- Exploits
- "Blondie" creator Young
- Nene
- Beseches
- Negligent
- Fort Knox bar
- Birthstones
- "Pinafore" region
- German physicist Max
- Ireland
- Oracle
- What we have
- Have debts
- Pocketed bread?
- Eagle's residence
- Thread reel
- Coronet
- Completely
- Contrary filly?
- Publication
- Already claimed
- Swell
- Numbers in sequence
- Driver's license requirement
- Backside
- Shoelace ends
- Less affluent
- Tease
- "The Wild Things Are"
- Attention-getting sound
- Dust Bowl migrant
- Old-time journalist Ernie
- Low, wooden platform
- Sarazen or Hackman
- MacDonald's singing partner
- Shad output

By Eugene R. Puffenberger
Houston, TX

3/8/05

Monday's Puzzle Solved

ATMS COBOL MODE
BOAT ARUBA ABEL
ETTA MAGIC TRICK
SECT ELS ALTOS
HURLS NEMO
TASTES CAKEWALK
OPTED TO REMEDIE
ANI SCHMITT ONE
SECS HIES BABEL
TAKEPART BALERS
LARD CARIB
USHER SYR ARAM
CHICK FLICK SIMI
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Red raiding thefacebook

With more than 10,900 users at Texas Tech and 1.94 million members nationwide, it is clear thefacebook — an online social network — has taken over everyone's lives.

The 3,817 interest groups indicate Tech students have a wide variety of interests, with sports playing a dominant role in those groups.

I browsed through those groups to look at the ones related to Tech sports, and I had some interesting findings.

It was strange to see how accurately the views and interests of Tech sports fans seem to be reflected in thefacebook.

The most dominant of all sports-related groups was "Bobby Knight is my hero," which boasted 1,915 members — more than 17 percent of Tech members are in this group.

"...is my Hero" also was used with Johnnie Mack, Darryl Dora, Danny Amendola, Ronald Ross, Sonny Cumbie and — almost sacrilegiously — Texas quarterback Vince Young.

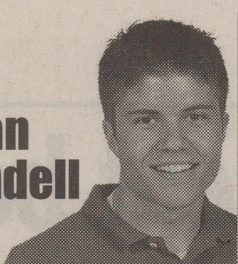
The majority of thefacebook users clearly did not consider former Tech quarterback Cumbie heroic.

"B.J. Symons was way better than Sonny Cumbie" was the most popular of all Cumbie-bashing groups, checking in with 876 members.

Also, there was the simple ("Can Cumbie") and the mathematic ("Cody Hodges > Sonny Cumbie"); the insulting ("Sonny Cumbie is Ugly") and the remorseful ("I don't hate Sonny Cumbie as much as I used to").

Tech football had more groups than any other Tech sport, including a

Bryan Wendell



by-invitation-only group called "Tech Football Players" with 56 members who all suit up for the red and black.

Religion worked its way into two football groups: "(Wes) Welker is God" and "Amen for Danny Amendola."

I was particularly interested by one of the more popular groups in which its 238 members proclaimed "I can outdrink anyone at Texas Tech except coach Leach."

I suppose the 99 members of the group "Mike Leach is a drunk... and I love it" don't even want to try.

Thefacebook users at Tech have started eight different campaigns for Heisman candidates.

Wide receivers Adam Parsons, Anthony Jenkins and Jarrett Hicks were popular candidates, as were defensive players Chris Brister, Fred Thwreath and Keyunta Dawson.

Two others seemed a bit out of place.

Though he is good, I feel the "(Punter) Alex Reyes for Heisman" group may be a bit ambitious, seeing as a special teams player has never won the award.

Also, the argument "Darryl Dora for Heisman," in which its creators claim Darryl Dora's game-winner against Kansas should transcend sports boundaries,

is quite obnoxious.

Speaking of basketball, I found fan clubs for Dora, Tanner Ogden, Drew Coffman, Martin Zeno and Ronald Ross. Zeno's checked in at the top.

After Dora's game-winner, some Raider fans proclaimed "I rushed the court when we beat Kansas."

Speaking of unlikely wins, one group somewhat grossed me out. I really didn't need to know that for 36 members "A little pee came out when Tech won the Holiday Bowl."

Rivalries dominated some groups. "Aggies Suck," not surprisingly, was most popular, and "Longhorns Suck" checked in at No. 2.

Other sports were featured, including baseball, women's basketball ("Alesha Robertson rocks my world" was very big), track and field, softball and "Small sports fans."

I personally liked the cleverness of the group "Marsha Sharp Center for Student Athletes who can't read good."

I also found some irony in the softball fans group. On the group's main page, the picture chosen by its creators to represent the team was a photograph of an empty Rocky Johnson Field — how appropriate.

In the end, I must say: Thanks, thefacebook, for bringing together Tech sports fans with common interests. If it weren't for that site, the four Tech students who think "Texas-Permian Basin sucks" would never have a place to call home.

■ **Wendell is a junior journalism and Spanish major from Plano. E-mail him at bryan.wendell@ttu.edu.**

Men's tennis team still undefeated

By Trey Shipman/
The University Daily

For those men's tennis players still searching for a major, drama would be a good place to start.

For the second consecutive weekend, the 14-0 Red Raiders have defeated their opponent

in dramatic fashion, winning the HEB Invitational in Corpus Christi.

After two come-from-behind victories last weekend against ranked opponents Washington and Oregon, the team did not disappoint as it traveled to the Texas coast and accomplished a similar feat, defeating Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 4-2 in the championship match Sunday.

Once again, senior captain Michael Innerebner carried the team to victory defeating Maxime Godin in the tiebreaker of the final match sealing the win for Tech.

"I'm still laughing about it; it's kind of crazy," Innerebner said. "The most important thing was the support of my teammates. They were there cheering me on the entire way and that helped a lot."

Coach Tim Siegel said what Innerebner has accomplished for the team has been impressive to say the least.

"Most players might play one tie-breaker match in a spring season, Michael has done it three times in eight days and been successful in all of them," Siegel said.

Tech opened play Friday by defeating South-eastern Louisiana and Alabama-Birmingham by a combined score of 8-1. Saturday, Tech kept the momentum going by defeating No. 30 Southern Alabama 4-2.

"I knew in the beginning we had a chance to be very good, but if you had told me that we'd be 14-0 to start the season, I would say there's a very slim chance," Siegel said. "These guys have fought harder than any team I've had before and what's important now is that we keep getting better."

Innerebner continued to emphasize the fact that the togetherness of the team is the key to their hot start.

"The team chemistry is really, really great," he said. "Everybody believes in each other and team spirit and the support of everyone

has really carried us."

Siegel accredited the efforts of assistant coach Toby Hanson as to one the reasons the team has enjoyed success thus far.

"He's done a great job working the guys and pushing them hard," he said. "He's a very good coach and a very good player, and I think that dimension has helped us a lot."

As the team approaches the halfway point of the season, the road for the Raiders does not get any easier. Tech travels to California March 17-21 and will face three more challenges in Clemson, Fresno State and Purdue.

Following the trip out to the west coast, the Raiders open up play in what looks to be one of the toughest conferences in the nation. This year, the Big 12 features No. 1-ranked Baylor as well as Texas and Texas A&M, which are both in the top 25.

"The one thing I'm not going to ever do is say, 'Hey we're a really good team,'" Siegel said. "We've got as difficult a schedule as anyone else in the country with our upcoming matches."

This year's team has an aspect not found in those of past years.

"But the difference between this team and the teams of the past is that we expect to win those matches," he said. "I couldn't be more proud of the way the guys have worked and as long as we continue to do that, we'll be successful."

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2 BR house for rent near Tech on 16th Street. Central heat/air, nice dishwasher & appliances, W/D connections, walk-in closets, fenced backyard, storage in basement & attic. \$650/mo, 806-762-5222.

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FOR LEASE in May. Very nice 2/2 house w/ appliances. W/D included. 2-car garage, fireplace, backyard. 1105 Liberty Ave. Call Cason 806-577-5268.

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Sports

Sports Editor:
Bryan Wendell
(806) 742-2939
sports@universitydaily.net

ASSOCIATED PRESS TOP 25 RANKINGS

Men's College Basketball

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through March 6, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Illinois (48)	29-1	1,725	1
2. N. Carolina (22)	26-3	1,701	2
3. Wake Forest	26-4	1,596	4
4. Kentucky	23-4	1,445	3
5. Duke	22-5	1,393	6
6. Louisville	26-4	1,350	9
7. Boston College	24-3	1,286	5
8. Arizona	25-5	1,192	11
9. Kansas	22-5	1,134	7
10. Oklahoma State	21-6	1,067	8
11. Gonzaga	24-4	1,054	12
12. Connecticut	21-6	1,021	15
13. Michigan State	22-5	919	14
14. Washington	24-5	895	10
15. Utah	25-4	697	16
16. Syracuse	24-6	648	13
17. Oklahoma	23-6	630	20
18. Pacific	25-2	583	17
19. Villanova	21-6	552	19
20. Alabama	23-6	456	21
21. Cincinnati	24-6	333	22
22. Pittsburgh	20-7	288	24
23. Wisconsin	20-7	260	23
24. Nevada	24-5	149	25
25. Charlotte	21-6	112	18

Others receiving votes: Florida 96, LSU 58, S. Illinois 43, Texas 28, Wis.-Milwaukee 9, Georgia Tech 5, New Mexico 5, Texas A&M 4, UCLA 3, Holy Cross 2, Saint Mary's, Calif. 2, Winthrop 2, Minnesota 1, Ohio St. 1, Old Dominion 1, Penn 1, Texas Tech 1, UTEP 1, Vermont 1.

Women's College Basketball

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through March 6, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Stanford (28)	28-2	1,089	2
2. LSU (10)	29-2	1,059	1
3. Tennessee (3)	26-4	1,022	5
4. North Carolina (2)	26-3	971	4
5. Duke	28-3	909	6
6. Baylor (2)	24-3	894	7
7. Michigan State	27-3	871	8
8. Ohio State	28-4	829	3
9. Rutgers	24-5	813	9
10. Notre Dame	26-4	730	10
11. Texas	20-7	646	11
12. Minnesota	24-6	623	15
13. Connecticut	21-7	576	14
14. Texas Tech	21-6	518	13
15. Temple	26-3	485	16
16. DePaul	25-4	426	12
17. Kansas State	21-6	402	17
18. Iowa State	22-5	327	20
19. Vanderbilt	22-7	322	18
20. N.C. State	21-7	215	19
21. Georgia	22-9	206	21
22. Penn State	19-10	152	23
23. Boston College	19-9	91	22
24. Wis.-GreenBay	26-3	80	—
25. TCU	23-9	66	—

Others receiving votes: Maryland 62, New Mexico 52, Arizona St. 44, Florida St. 35, Gonzaga 32, Virginia 28, George Washington 12, Southern Cal 10, Villanova 7, Louisville 6, Houston 5, Utah 5, Oregon 4, Iowa 1.

Women's Big 12 tournament begins today

Every Lady Raider starter named to all-conference team

By David Wiechmann/
The University Daily

throughout the season in assist/turnover ratio in the Big 12.

Junior guard Chesley Dabbs also received her first all-Big 12 honor by

of the top defenders in the league. She regularly received the assignment to defend the fastest and best guards on Tech's opposition.

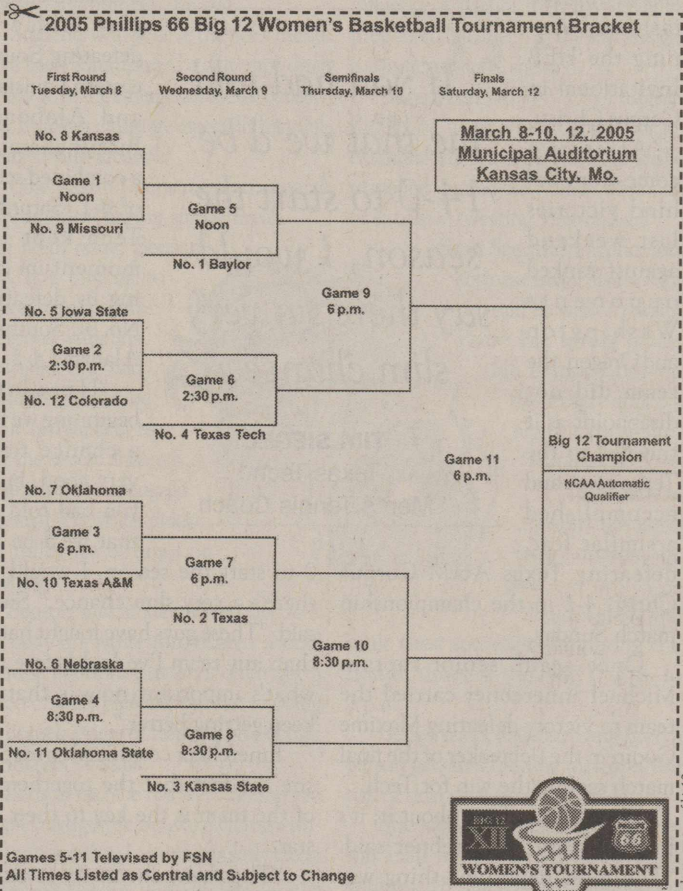
Junior forward LaToya Davis and sophomore guard Alesha Robertson round out the honors for the Lady Raiders with an honorable mention.

Davis also is a first-time recipient of All-Big 12 honors. She averages 12.3 points a game and has the highest shooting percentage in the conference at 61.8. Davis scored in double digits 19 times this season and gets 7.2 rebounds a game.

Robertson was given honorable mention last year as a freshman, and this year she does the same. She is tied with Dabbs on the team with 12.5 points a game and leads the conference in free-throw percentage at 85.7. Robertson also set the school record for 3-pointers in a game with nine against Miami.

Kansas State's Kendra Wecker was named player of the year and is the only player in the league averaging a double-double with 21 points a game and 10.1 rebounds. Wecker became the career leading scorer at K-State this season surpassing two-time Big 12 Player of the Year Nicole Ohlde (2003, 2004).

Baylor's Kim Mulkey-Robertson was named coach of the year. She led the Lady Bears to their first conference title and has turned the program around in her five years there.



Tiebreakers decided several seeds in this year's conference tournament

By David Wiechmann/
The University Daily

tight race for a first-round bye in the tournament.

The top four seeds get a free pass to the quarterfinals, and the top four seeds were determined in the final game.

If Texas Tech had been able to defeat Baylor in the final game of the regular season, it would have created a three-way tie for first place.

Joni James of the Big 12 said if that had happened, she believed the league's tiebreaker rules would not be able to determine the seeds and a drawing would have had to make the seeds.

That did not happen, however, and with the loss to Baylor the Lady Raiders make a three-way tie for fourth place with Kansas State and Iowa State at 12-4 in Big 12 play.

Big 12 tiebreaker rules state that in case of a three-way tie, teams in the same division will be broken according to Rules B through F and head-to-head results with non-divisional teams will be used.

Kansas State and Iowa State split their regular season series. K-State, however, gets the edge in the second tiebreaker. The Wildcats were 9-1 against the North, and Iowa State finished 8-2.

Tech lost to K-State but beat Iowa State; and therefore, they get the last bye of the first round in the No. 4 slot. The Cyclones slide down to No. 5 and facing No. 12 Colorado in the first round Tuesday, while the Wildcats get a bye at No. 3.

All the confusion is now over, and it is time for March Madness to begin for the Big 12. Sophomore guard Alesha Robertson said she loves playing in the Big 12 and the rollercoaster ride the entire league took this year puts it among the top in the nation.

"I think the Big 12 is one of the hardest conferences and just to be able to play in it is an honor," she said. "You've gotta bring it every game."

The Big 12 released its all-conference team Friday, and the No. 13 Lady Raiders are the only team to have their entire starting lineup honored.

Senior Cisti Greenwalt and junior point guard Erin Grant received first-team consideration.

Greenwalt earned her first all-Big 12 award and led Texas Tech in scoring and rebounding by averaging almost a double-double. She scored 13.6 points per game and pulled down 9.3 rebounds a game.

Greenwalt leads the conference in blocking as well and became the career blocks leader at Tech and in the league this season. She set a single-season record for blocks this year, too. She currently has 93.

Grant led the Lady Raiders by running the No. 16 scoring offense in the nation. Grant leads the Big 12 in assists per game with 6.8 and became the career assists leader at Tech this season.

She will have one more year to add to that record, and she is also a finalist for the Nancy Lieberman Award, given to the nation's best point guard for the second year in a row.

Grant's court leadership and vision resulted in her standing at No. 1 or 2

BIG 12 REGULAR SEASON HONORS

Freshman of the Year:
Morenike Atunrase, Texas A&M, forward

Newcomer of the Year:
Jelena Spicic, Nebraska, forward

First Team:
Kendra Wecker, Kansas State, forward
Sophia Young, Baylor, forward
Tiffany Jackson, Texas, forward
Dionnah Jackson, Oklahoma, guard
Anne O'Neal, Iowa State, guard
Steffanie Blackmon, Baylor, forward
Erin Grant, Texas Tech, guard
Jamie Carey, Texas, guard
Cisti Greenwalt, Texas Tech, center
Kiera Hardy, Nebraska, guard

Second Team:
Chesley Dabbs, Texas Tech, guard
Laurie Koehne, Kansas State, guard
Katie Robinette, Iowa State, forward
Leah Rush, Oklahoma, forward
Heather Schreiber, Texas, forward

Honorable Mention:
Colorado: Veronica Johns-Richardson
Kansas: Erica Hallman, Crystal Kemp
Kansas State: Megan Mahoney
Missouri: Tiffany Brooks, Cristelle N'Garsanet
Nebraska: Jina Johansen
Oklahoma State: Nina Stone
Texas A&M: Morenike Atunrase
Texas Tech: LaToya Davis, Alesha Robertson

Ross selected to first team All-Big 12

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Ask Kansas' Wayne Simien for his choice as the best player in the Big 12, and the first of two unanimous selections to The Associated Press' All-Big 12 basketball team will give you the other: Oklahoma State's Joey Graham.

"There are a lot of really good players in the Big 12," Simien said. "But for all-around skills, I'd have to say Joey Graham."

The pair of forwards headline this year's All-Big 12 team, selected by a panel of 24 media representatives who cover the Big 12 full time.

Also named to the team Monday: Oklahoma State point guard John Lucas, last season's Big 12 player of the year, and Texas Tech's Ronald Ross, the former walk-on who earned the respect of a coach who is notoriously hard to please.

But while the top four first-teamers were easy decisions, picking Texas A&M's Antoine Wright as the fifth, in a year when the conference is crowded with talent, was tough.

Curtis Stinson of Iowa State, Jeremiah Massey of Kansas State, Aaron Miles of Kansas, Taj Gray of Oklahoma and Wright were all named on at least five first-team ballots.

Wright emerged with eight first-team votes and 16 votes for placement on the second team. The 6-foot-7 junior, the Big 12's freshman of the year in 2003, played a key role in one of the biggest one-season turnarounds in Big 12 history. He



Ross

averaged 17.6 points and 6.2 rebounds as the Aggies, in coach Billy Gillispie's first year, finished 8-8 one season after going 0-16 in the league.

The 6-9 Simien led the conference in scoring and rebounding and seems certain to receive consideration for national player of the year. The Leavenworth, Kan., native was the only Big 12 player to average a double-double, with 19.4 points and 11.1 rebounds.

"He is difficult to guard because he goes every play. He is relentless," Colorado forward Andy Osborn said. "Offensive rebounds, defensive rebounds, shooting jump shots — he is multifaceted. You can't really stop him in one single area."

An excellent free throw shooter, Simien set a Kansas record this year by hitting 34 in a row. That was still five short of the Big 12 record, set by the 6-7 Graham, the twin brother of the Cowboys' Stephen Graham.

"He's big enough and strong enough to play (inside)," Simien said of Joey Graham. "But he also has perimeter skills that are so sharp, he causes a lot of matchup problems for big guys out there trying to guard

him." Like Simien, Lucas is a repeat choice on the first team. Last season, the 5-11 point guard helped lead the Cowboys to the regular-season title and an appearance in the Final Four after transferring from Baylor. And he's been no less effective as a senior, averaging 18.3 points and almost five assists per game.

No point guard in the conference can match his assists-to-turnover ratio of 2.88. No player at any position bettered his total of 85 3-point baskets.

"Scoring to me comes natural," Lucas said. "I've been a scorer my whole entire life. My coach always pushed me that you've got to score this, you've got to score that. But now that I'm around a whole bunch of players who can score, and I'm a point guard, I get my teammates involved first before I even look to take a shot."

The 6-2 Ross arrived at Texas Tech as an unheralded walk-on from Hobbs, N.M. But he turned himself into one of the league's top players whose scoring average of 16.6 points tells only part of his story. He tops the Big 12 with 66 steals.

"He has worked hard, both in the mental and physical aspects of his play," Texas Tech coach Bob Knight said. "I'm not sure I've ever known a kid that should be more respected, or who has done more with an opportunity than Ronald has done with his opportunity here."

"He's a kid I have as much respect for as any player I've coached in all the years I've coached."

Rounding out the second team are Miles, Gray, Massey, Stinson and Keith Langford, the second-leading scorer for Kansas.

Freshmen Aaron Bruce of Baylor and Daniel Gibson of Texas head the third team, which also includes Missouri's Linas Kleiza, Oklahoma's Kevin Bookout and Brad Buckman of Texas.

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