Lubbock residents unite to honor victims of gang violence

Group plans 40 marches

James Walker
The University Daily

Local residents gathered in East Lubbock Friday night for a prayer vigil against gangs and drugs.

“When the drug dealers see us coming, they run,” said Fay Brown, one of the march’s organizers.

The vigil was in memory of those who have died because of gang violence, particularly Derek Wright, who was killed Aug. 8, 1995, a year and a day before the event.

Brown estimated about 100 people attended the march.

“The local businesses are starting to come,” she said. “We’re sending a positive message to the community.”

This is not the first such vigil that has been held in Lubbock. Brown said organizers promised to hold 100 memorial vigils, and Friday’s was No. 40.

Starting in September, the East Lubbock community members hope to have the ceremonies at least twice a month, she said.

The march was attended by several prominent members of the Lubbock community, including Mayor David Langston, Sheriff D.L. “Sonny” Keese and Councilman T.J. Patterson.

“We always think it’s successful when men and women come together to face the evils of the community,” said Patterson.

Success is relative. Marches and vigils are not going to solve the problems of drugs and gang violence, he said.

“We have to get back to the basic cause of the problem, which is the family,” Patterson said.

“It used to be the main influence on a young person was the family and church, then the media and then peers. Now that’s all reversed, with peers influencing them first. We’ve got to go back to the family.”

Many of the members of the community are hopeful that Texas Tech students will become more involved in making Lubbock a better place to live, Patterson said.

“Government can’t save us,” he said. “There are some things we must do as citizens.”

With new revelations, scientists ponder old question: Origin o’ life?

LA JOLLA, Calif. (AP) — Life on Mars? So what?

Stanley Miller has spent four decades researching life’s origins on Earth, and he’s not at all surprised that scientists have found what look like tiny 3.8 billion-year-old microbes on Mars. After all, both planets were barren places with toxic atmospheres back then, and under regular bombardment by giant chunks of rock from outer space.

It’s not that he wasn’t interested last week when scientists announced that a potato-sized meteorite which blasted off Mars 15 million years ago contains several physical and chemical traces suggestive of life.

“If it’s true, it looks like the origin of life is easier than was previously thought,” said Miller, a chemistry professor at the University of California, San Diego.

But the discovery doesn’t answer a question that some of the world’s most audacious scientists have pursued for generations: How did life get going?

The earliest direct evidence for life on Earth is about 3.5 billion years old. And it’s a lot stronger than the evidence presented last week, Miller noted.

Rocks from Australia that are among the world’s oldest unaltered geologic formations contain microscopic blobs that look almost exactly like blue-green algae, a form of bacteria common today.

That’s younger than the meteorite that’s thought to contain evidence of ancient Martian life.

Clinton aides prepare to make environmental announcements

MOOSE, Wyo. (AP) — President Clinton took his family to church in a tiny log cabin chapel at the foot of the Grand Tetons on Sunday, his second full day of vacation. Aides prepared for environmental announcements this week.

The Clintons attended services at the Chapel of Transfiguration, a 71-year-old Episcopal church. A plate glass window behind the altar gave worshippers a breathtaking mountain view. After mingling with fellow churchgoers, the Clintons retired to the estate of Wall Street financier Max Chapman Jr., who is lending them his home. His 800-acre spread gives the president plenty of room to relax and play.

But work will interrupt soon enough. Aides were preparing for a trip Monday to Yellowstone National Park, where Clinton will announce an agreement to prevent gold mining in a national forest just north of the park. Opponents say toxic waste from the mining process could pollute the water supply of the park, harming fish and other wildlife.

Administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Crown Butte company agreed to abandon its mining proposal in exchange for other federal lands.
Adios, this time I mean it

I was a bit nervous when I picked up the phone and made the call. But I convinced myself I had nothing to lose; do it, get it over with, get the experience behind you, I thought. I dialed the phone, and after a few rings a voice on the other end sounded off: “University Daily.”

“Yes, my name’s Kirk Baird and I was calling about the opening for Features reporter and my final semester as Features editor, I said. “I’m calling about the opening for Lifestyles writer. What do I need to do?”

I was told to come by the journalism building and pick up an application and sign up for an interview. It still seems like it was yesterday, but it was actually early November 1989.

The application indicated to bring in any relevant clips I might have to the interview. I had worked on my high school newspaper, but I didn’t really count that experience. In fact, it had probably done more harm than good. I had completed only one mass communications course, so I had no classroom work to bring. All I had was a screenplay written in pencil on three notebooks. Better than nothing, I reasoned, so I threw the soon-to-be-a-major-motion-picture work (yeah, right) into my bookbag and sauntered off to my interview.

The editor at the time was Guy Lawrence, who currently is employed at the Lubbock Avalanche Journal.

As I approached the building, I felt a calmness. I reasoned I had nothing to lose and everything to gain. I didn’t figure to be hired, so I thought I would make a name for myself for the fall ’90 staff.

Now, six years later, my tenure as summer editor is drawing to a close. To say I’ll miss The UD is a bit o’ an understatement. Actually, I’m not leaving entirely. I’ll be around in the fall as a weekly columnist. But the day-to-day interaction, the daily deadlines, the photo assignments, the page layouts... all a thing o’ the past.

As the twilight on my UD career sets in, I can’t help but think of the first time I left The UD. It was the December of 1992. After a year-and-a-half as a Features reporter and my final semester as Features editor, I had had enough.

I wrote this lengthy column concerning my departure and how I was uncertain of my future. I even took some space to take a few jabs at some o’ the people who had written into the paper to criticize me.

I didn’t know what life had in store for me then, and I still don’t. But I leave now better and wiser than before.

As I finish my final column while editor of The University Daily, I would like to publicly thank everyone involved: the staff, office, production, photography, advisers and anyone who contributed to the paper.

And as I finish this column, I leave now as I left before — singing the words of the “Carol Burnett Show”’s closing song:

“I’m so glad we had this time together/ Just to have a laugh or sing a song/ But before you know it/ It’s time to say so long.”

Good night everybody.

Kirk Baird is a l’il senior ‘n’ a journalism major o’ Dallas
International conference on campus

Arid, semiarid studies bring global audience to Lubbock

Chris Gray
The University Daily

The fifth International Conference on Desert Development began Monday at Texas Tech, marking the first time the United States has hosted the global event.

The conference is every three years and will run through Saturday, said Idris Taylor Jr., executive director of Tech’s Office of Internal Affairs.

The conference brings together scientists, academicians, government officials, diplomats and representatives of the private sector for discussion and presentation in applied research, he said.

The research is on the one-third area of the earth’s surface that falls within the classification of arid and semiarid land, Taylor said.

The first two conferences were held in Cairo, Egypt, while the next two conferences were held in Beijing and Mexico City, he said.

Supported by the United Nations Environment Program, the conference is hosting 150 presentations by representatives from more than 40 countries.

“This will be a major international event,” Taylor said. “We at Texas Tech University are proud that this prestigious conference is being held in the United States and also at this institution,” he said.

This marks the first time in the history of the conference that a university was the host, Taylor said.

The conference is not scheduled to make another U.S. appearance in the near future because conferences already have been secured in Spain, Argentina, India and Syria, he said.

All registration fees have been waived for Tech faculty, staff and students.

However, those who wish to attend the barbecue and other events or participate in the various tours will have to pay a nominal fee, Taylor said.

The conference opened Monday with a full session in the University Center Matador Room. Among the speakers during the two-hour session was Adli Bishay, chairman of the International Desert Development Commission, he said.

“Tuition and some fees for the area will continue through Saturday,” he said.

Other guests from Kenya, Switzerland, Egypt, Belgium and Japan also made presentations, Taylor said.

Sessions in the University Center, tours and special events around the area will continue through Saturday, he said.

Daytime presentations and sessions are open to the public at no charge.

For a schedule of events, contact the Tech Office of Internal Affairs at 742-2218.

Brinkley announces retirement

NEW YORK (AP) — Newsman David Brinkley has told TV Guide he will retire from his long-running ABC news series, “This Week With David Brinkley,” after the presidential inauguration in January.

Brinkley, 76, who is anchoring the network’s coverage of the Republican National Convention, says he needs a change after 15 seasons with the program, according to the magazine’s Aug. 24 issue.

“I worked all my life. I’d like to have a little time off,” he said.

Brinkley, who joined NBC News in 1943, first teamed with partner Chet Huntley at the 1956 political conventions. They went on to co-anchor the NBC news from 1956 to 1970.

Brinkley, who joined ABC in 1981, has a year left on his contract and won’t completely disappear from the air. The network has plans for him to be host of a series of documentaries, TV Guide said.

While network sources have said Brinkley will leave after the election, the newsman says he will stay through the inauguration.

He says he won’t pick his successor unless the network asks him to.

“My purpose will be to get out. Since I will not be staying, I don’t expect I’ll have anything to say about it. Let them do it,” he said.

TV Guide cited unnamed sources as saying that ABC’s Ted Koppel and Diane Sawyer are in the running.
Business seminar for artists slated

Chris Gray
The University Daily

Art students who wish to enhance their traditional art education, many artists feel that the business side of their career will automatically take care of itself, Attarid said. "This imbalance between good art and poor business practices keeps the artist from fulfilling their potential," he said.

Art Smart was developed for art students who wish to enhance their traditional art education," he said.

James Walker
The University Daily

KOHM-FM (89.1) is back on the air after a four-week hiatus. The station returned to the airwaves at 3:41 p.m. Monday after repeated delays, said Clinton Barrick, KOHM’s director of programming.

The station went off-line when lightning struck the station’s antenna array about a month ago, Barrick said. The strike destroyed 70 feet of transmission line and filled the antenna array about a month ago, according to a statement released by the station.

The transmission line, however, was not repairable, and 70 feet of new line was ordered from a manufacturer in Michigan. A tower crew spliced in the new line Monday, and the station returned to normal operation.

"Any time you're down, it's bad, because people expect us to be there," Barrick said. "We're here to meet the needs of the community."

The listener-supported station is always trying to increase the size of its audience, he said.

"When we're off the air, that station’s advantage. Delays in manufacturing and shipping have been frustrating," Barrick said.

KOHM’s programs include classical and new-age music, fine arts programming and syndicated programs from National Public Radio. Students may be interested in the in-depth presidential campaign coverage from NPR, he said.

"It will be much more complete than the sound bites you may hear elsewhere," Barrick said.
Women rate good looks, honesty over big bucks

TORONTO (AP) — In findings that should cheer up men who aren’t rich and anybody who loves a happy romance story, it turns out the Beatles were right: Guys, money can’t buy you love.

When college women chose among hypothetical attractiveness of big bucks they ranked behind things like honesty, good looks and having time for family life.

That emphasizes how misleading a popular misconception of love is of a long-standing evolutionary theory about what attracts men and women to each other, said researcher Michael Cunningham of the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

The theory says men look for physical attractiveness more than women do, while women seek financial resources in a mate.

In the popular mind, Cunningham said, that’s been boiled down to, “Men check out women for their figure, and women check out men for their wallet.”

‘Lone Star’ among the year’s best films

Peter Wilkins
The University Daily

During a year in which truly original movies have been few and far between, despite big budgets and mega-special effects, it is nice to sit back and watch a film that features a great story.

So far, the standout of 1996 has been the Coen brother’s “Fargo,” a dark comedy about a kidnapping gone awry. Now, director John Sayles gives us the next great movie of the year with “Lone Star,” a complex and gripping story of a border-town sheriff’s quest to solve a 30-year-old murder.

Chris Cooper stars as Sam Deeds, the stalwart cop who returns to his hometown to become the sheriff under the ever-present specter of his late father, a sheriff whom the townspeople regard as a local hero. When a human skeleton is discovered on the outskirts of town, Deeds begins an investigation that eventually points to his sainted father.

“Lone Star” takes place in the present day, with flashbacks to tell the story of what happened in 1966. At that time, the older Deeds is a mere deputy working for a thoroughly nasty and corrupt sheriff Chris Wade, effectively portrayed by Kris Kristofferson.

When the evil sheriff disappears, Deeds ascends to the position, to the relief of the town. Now, 30 years later, his own son begins to uncover evidence suggesting his father might have been the killer.

More than a murder mystery, “Lone Star” is a love story and an intricate exploration of race relations in a small Texas town. While Deeds tries to solve the murder, he also attempts to rekindle an old high-school romance with his first love, Pilar, portrayed by Elizabeth Peña. Their relationship is not made any easier by the prevailing attitudes toward interracial dating in the town.

In addition to the themes of love, murder, and race relations, “Lone Star” explores generational differences. And there is a completely unexpected surprise at the film’s end that should catch most viewers off guard.

Sayles, who not only directed “Lone Star,” but wrote and edited it also, is a gifted storyteller. He has the rare ability to conceive an excellent story and then translate it effectively to film. His story unfolds on many levels without ever bogging down or bewildering the viewer. He gets the most from his actors, especially Cooper and Kristofferson, but there are no weak performances among the myriad of believable and interesting characters who populate Sayles’ border town.

Unlike “A Time to Kill,” which took a pie-in-the-sky look at race relations, “Lone Star” is as intricate and complex as life itself. There are no pat answers, no predictable conclusions, no ready-made characters to fulfill some formula. Instead, “Lone Star” is an amazingly thoughtful and witty concoction that should keep viewers enthralled.

In the midst of a remarkably dark summer for movies, “Lone Star” provides a ray of light. Go see it.
Tech camp starts without full squad

Brent Ross
The University Daily

The Texas Tech football team completed its second full-squad practice Monday, but the Red Raiders were forced to go without freshman Shaun Carr, Steve McFadden, Clint Robertson, Anthony Johnson, LaQueency Williams and Chad Smith.

Carr, McFadden and Robertson are still in the NCAA clearinghouse waiting to be cleared to play while Johnson is still being reviewed by the Big 12 and may receive Tech’s partial qualifier designation which allows a player to participate with the football team while having grade problems. Williams and Smith will not be attending Tech this fall.

The Tech offense is being looked upon in the preseason as the unit which will be forced to carry the team. Junior quarterback Zebbey Lethridge said it is important for him to take a leadership role.

“I’m at the experience level now that I have to step up and take control and try to make this team the best possible,” Lethridge said. “The past couple of years the defense pretty much carried us at the beginning of the season and we got better as the season went on. We need to start off where we left off last year to have a great season this year.”

The Red Raider defense will be helped by the return of junior defensive end Tony Daniels. Daniels was lost for the entire 1995 season when he tore his patella tendon in a swimming accident in June 1995. “I can bring a little more rush and a little more pressure on the quarterbacks because that’s what I’m here for,” said Daniels, who is projected to be one of the Big 12’s top pass rushers.

The Red Raiders are scheduled to continue two-a-days through Friday, culminating in the first scrimmage Saturday.

Sunday will be the annual Texas Tech Autograph Day for all of the fall sports. Players and coaches from the football, volleyball, cross country and soccer teams will be in attendance at 6:30 p.m. on the field of Jones Stadium to sign autographs and talk with fans.

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Cowboys give Smith, fans peace o’ mind for future

IRVING (AP) — Emmitt Smith, twice involved in contentious holdouts with the Dallas Cowboys, received a $48 million eight-year contract Monday, including an NFL-record $15 million signing bonus.

“I learned from the last two times,” owner Jerry Jones said. “I made some mistakes. And I learned from them.”

The contract will run until Smith is 35, past retirement age for many running backs but not, perhaps, for the man who this year should become the youngest runner to reach 10,000 yards.

Smith, who was in the final year of his contract, has rushed for 8,956 yards in six seasons. “It’s going to be a test to see how I feel in another eight years,” he said. “I think I still have a lot of run left in me.”

But the deal does ensure no more holdouts.

“Now deal is evereasy,” Smith said. “Things went wrong the first two times. Egos got involved. But Jerry did the right thing this time.”

Jones wouldn’t say how he manipulated the salary cap to make the deal. But he said he doesn’t think he’ll have the problems with the league that he had last year with Deion Sanders’ $35 million deal.

Carr returns to USA Select Team for tryouts

Texas Tech’s Cory Carr reported back to the USA Men’s 22 and Under World Championship Qualifying Team Sunday. All 16 members of the team, which gave the Dream Team a scare July 6 in Detroit, will attend the training camp in Stanford, Calif. From that group, 12 will be selected as final members of the USA Select Team.

“I am excited to get back to it,” Carr said. “I really like my teammates and coach (Mike) Montgomery. I am looking forward to the training camp.”

The 12-member team is scheduled to travel to Puerto Rico Sunday to qualify for the 1997 22 and Under World Championship.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1996

SPORTS

Tech soccer program hires James Madison All-American to fill coaching vacancy

Cathy Reid as an assistant coach. Reid joins third-year coach Diane Nichols and Felix Oskam at the helm of the Red Raiders.

Reid was an All-American in 1992 as a member of James Madison’s squad and also was named NCAA All-Region in 1991 and 1992. She served as an undergraduate assistant coach at James Madison in the fall of 1992.

“I am thrilled to have someone of Cathy’s caliber joining our staff,” Nichols said. “Her experience both as a player and coach will help to program our team to the next level.”
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