

SPRING SEASON HITS CAMPUS

LITERARY JOURNAL GETS A MAKEOVER

FORMER TECH PLAYERS PARTICIPATE IN NFL PRO DAY

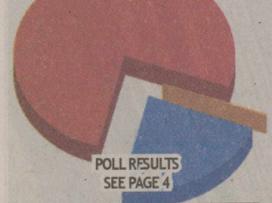
THE DAILY T O R E A D O R

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LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

(INSIDE)



(INBRIEF)

STATE

Federal prosecutor selected to succeed DA

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry plans to name Kenneth Magidson, an assistant U.S. attorney in Houston, as the new Harris County district attorney, the Houston Chronicle reported Thursday.

Magidson is awaiting assurance from the Justice Department that he won't lose his job as a federal prosecutor once a district attorney is elected in November, the newspaper said.

"I don't have any comment because it's not a done deal yet," Magidson said.

He would replace Chuck Rosenthal, who resigned last month after pornographic, racist and political material from his county e-mail account surfaced, until his term expires in January.

NATION

NY governor: Time to get back on track

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Lt. Gov. David Paterson, who will take over as New York's governor following Gov. Eliot Spitzer's fall from power in a prostitution scandal, said Thursday he is ready to lead and "get New York back on track."

Paterson said he promised Spitzer when he accepted the job as lieutenant governor that he would be prepared to take command of the state if necessary.

WORLD

Canada votes to extend Afghan mission

TORONTO (AP) — Parliament voted Thursday to extend the country's mission in Afghanistan to 2011, provided NATO supplies more troops and equipment to back up forces in the volatile south.

The minority Conservative government and opposition Liberals agreed last month to vote together on this motion. Lawmakers passed it 198-77 in the House of Commons.

DEATH TOLL

3975

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began
SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today
WINDY
HIGH 81
LOW 42

Saturday
SUNNY
HIGH 70
LOW 41

INSIDE

- Classifieds.....5
- Crossword.....2
- La Vida.....3
- Opinions.....4
- Sports.....6

Congress endorses budget plans

Blueprint would allow tax increases, produce surpluses

By ANDREW TAYLOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate on Thursday rejected the idea of renewing many of President Bush's tax cuts as all three major presidential candidates interrupted their campaigns to cast their votes. The House approved a budget blueprint that would raise taxes by \$683 billion over the next five years.

The Senate did embrace Bush reductions aimed at low-income workers, married couples and

people with children.

The House budget plan would provide generous increases to domestic federal programs but still is designed to bring the government's budget back into the black by letting all of Bush's tax cuts expire at the end of 2010. That plan passed the House on a 212-207 vote with Republicans unanimously opposing it.

The Senate voted 99-1 to extend the cuts for some workers as well as couples and parents. Senators voted 52-47 to reject a move to extend tax cuts for middle- and higher-income

taxpayers, investors and people inheriting businesses and big estates.

The votes were mostly symbolic, but they put senators in both parties on the record for when the tax cuts actually expire in three years.

Arizona GOP Sen. John McCain, Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting, voted for the full roster of Bush tax cuts. Rivals Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and Barack Obama, D-Ill., both voted against them.

The Senate was debating and voting into the night on a \$3 trillion Democratic budget blueprint for

2009. The nonbinding plan envisions a balanced budget in four years and promises generous increases for many domestic programs, but achieves those goals only by assuming major tax increases when Bush's tax cuts expire.

Obama and Clinton both promise to reverse Bush's tax cuts for wealthier taxpayers, but the Democratic budget they'll be voting for would allow income tax rates to go up on individuals making as little as \$31,850 and couples earning \$63,700 or more.

Opponents of "pork barrel" projects expected to lose a late-night vote to ban such earmarks for a year, despite the endorsement of all three presidential candidates.

Across the Capitol, the House measure anticipates larger surpluses while allowing \$683 billion worth of tax increases over five years with the expiration of Bush's tax cuts.

A Republican alternative that largely mirrored a plan by McCain to permanently extend Bush's tax cuts and eliminate the alternative minimum tax failed.

sew xqwizit

Tech student creates her own line of clothing

By LONDON CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Growing up as a tomboy, Loren Jones never took her eye off the ball. "When she was in the 11th grade, her last basketball game she tore her ACL," said Cynthia Jones, Loren Jones' mother. "With both volleyball and basketball, she had high hopes of receiving a scholarship and had interests from various colleges to come and try out. She ran her track meets in 11th grade with a torn ACL because she was so committed and driven not to give up and wanted to run track so bad."

Throughout high school, Loren Jones always had been in drawing, painting and sculpting classes. She said her artistic base has been advantageous to designing the blue prints of a beginning career.

"I want to be the next biggest thing, like tape," she said. "I want to have this world-renowned something that will go on forever — everyone uses tape. I want to have the type of business that people can continue after I am not here anymore."

Cynthia Jones said she believes Loren Jones' artistic abilities and tenacity will drive the Texas Tech freshman into the fashion industry with ease.

"From her middle school days, prom and dances have always been a big production for her," Cynthia Jones said. "Each year had to top the previous."

Loren Jones, an apparel design and manufacturing and theatre double major from Houston, said she never liked girly clothes until after her sophomore year in high school. She found her niche after taking a sewing class during her first semester of college. Applying her learned seamstress skills, the 18-year-old began to follow her passion for fashion, she said.

The Ms. Black and Gold — an annual scholarship pageant by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. — was Loren Jones' first opportunity to use her seamstress skills and creativity, she said.

SEW continued on page 3



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RUBEN CASTILLO/The Daily Toreador

LOREN JONES, A freshman double majoring in apparel design and manufacturing and theater, started her own clothing line after a sewing class piqued her interest.

Vice Chancellor for Marketing hired to 'tell Tech's story'

By ADAM YOUNG
NEWS EDITOR

Texas Tech officials took a step intended to increase the level of the university's publicity by creating and filling the position of Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing.

David McClure, who currently resides in El Paso, was announced as the communications director for the Tech system by Tech Chancellor Kent Hance at a meeting of the university system's governing board March 7 in El Paso, Hance said.

McClure, who will take over his role at the university beginning March 24, was asked by Hance to conduct a comprehensive review of the university's organizational structure and procedures regarding communications and marketing at the university, according to a Tech news release.

Hance said he believes the new position is needed to ensure a broader promotion of news relating to Tech, including a \$50 million donation to the university by businessman Paul Foster in August.

"We got publicity in Lubbock and El Paso and just did not get publicity in other parts of the state," Hance said, "and I was very disappointed in that, and I think that we've just got to upgrade and make sure that, when we're getting one of the largest gifts in the history of the State of Texas, we've got to make sure that that's carried throughout the state."

Hance said McClure largely will be responsible for the approxi-

MARKETING continued on page 2

41 Taliban militants killed in battle, airstrikes in Afghanistan

By AMIR SHAH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan and international forces killed 41 Taliban militants in a battle in southern Afghanistan, and a suicide car bomb attack on a convoy of U.S. troops left six Afghan civilians dead in Kabul, U.S. and Afghan officials said Thursday.

None of the four American troops traveling in the two armored vehicles of the convoy was badly wounded in the Thursday attack, said Lt. Col. David Johnson, a spokesman for U.S. forces. The troops were traveling in one SUV and one truck, he said.

Six Afghan civilians were killed and up to 20 others wounded in the blast, Deputy Interior Minister Munir Mangal said. The attacker was driving a white Toyota Corolla, he said, a favorite among suicide car bombers.

In a mobile phone text message to an Associated Press reporter in Pakistan, Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid identified the suicide bomber as Abdullah.

The suicide car bomb turned into a fiery hull that burned on the main airport road long after the attack, which also damaged several other vehicles.

U.S. troops and international security contractors surrounded the area after the blast.

Insurgents detonated 160 suicide attacks in 2007, a record number, the U.N. has said. Last year was the deadliest in the country since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion with more than 8,000 insurgency related deaths year, the U.N. said.

In southern Helmand province, Afghan and international forces attacked Taliban militants Wednesday morning as they traveled by motorcycle toward the Pakistan border, said Ghulam Dastagir Azad, governor of neighboring Nimroz province.

The troops employed airstrikes during the four-hour battle and killed 41 militants, including 17 from Nimroz, he said. A Taliban commander from Nimroz was among the dead.

The U.S.-led coalition could not confirm the attack. NATO said they were looking into the report, but did not immediately have any information.

In other violence, U.S.-led coalition and Afghan forces killed nearly a dozen suspected militants in Helmand during a clash Tuesday in Garmisr district, the coalition said in a statement. The troops had been searching compounds for Taliban traffickers of weapons and foreign fighters when they were came under fire.

In Wardak province, a remote-controlled bomb hit a police vehicle Thursday in Saydabad district, killing one policeman and wounding four others, said district police investigator Mohibullah Khan.

In Zabul province, Afghan security forces and NATO troops launched an operation Wednesday against Chechen fighters meeting in Daychopan district, said district chief Fazel Bari. The ensuing two-hour gun battle left three Chechens dead and six wounded, he said.

On Wednesday in Farah province, authorities recovered the dead body of the Pusht Rod district police chief, a day after he was kidnapped along with five other policemen, said Bariyalai Khan, spokesman for the Farah provincial police. There was no information on the fates of the five other men.

Literary arts journal gets a facelift

By ANN LUU
STAFF WRITER

For more than 50 years, Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society, has produced a literary arts journal, called "Harbinger."

Until recently, the journal has been a simple collection of student essays, stories and poems. However, with an editor's imagination and motivation, it has evolved into something more.

The publication has a better design and better content.

Joe Arredondo, the director of the Landmark Arts Gallery at Tech, has advised the editorial board of "Harbinger" in its quest for higher publication quality.

"The previous issues had no design to it," he said. "It was very cheaply printed and had nothing that illuminated the literary work."

Arredondo guided Travis Everett, editor of "Harbinger," in the right direction to finding help.

Now the arts journal will feature visual art and performance art as well as literary art.

"It shows we're finally getting smart," Arredondo said. "This kind of thing has been going on for a long time. Holy cow, it's astounding!"

John Poch, director of creative writing, said Everett came to him looking for assistance to improve the publication and to make it better.

"Why shouldn't it look good?" Poch said, smiling. "The main problem was the funding."

Poch applauded Everett with coming up with funding for the revamped journal.

"Travis worked hard," Poch said. "He went to different departments and asked for a little from each. I think total he raised approximately

"It used to be your traditional literary arts journal. Now, it's more than that."

— TRAVIS EVERETT
EDITOR OF
"HARBINGER"

\$7,000." Poch said the goal of the publication was two-fold.

"First and foremost, it is to represent the quality work that Tech has to offer," he said. "It's a chance for students to feel good about their work and have grounding to see what's possible. Secondly, it's to win national prizes for literary competi-

tion. We've got a good chance with this new issue."

Literary competition is for journals all over the nation, and with a new look, "Harbinger" is looking to shine.

Everett said the makeover started last fall.

"There wasn't a manual, no 'how-to's, just a few guidelines," he said. "We got a lot of encouragement from John (Poch). He had a 'go big' attitude. I don't know where we would be without the motivation he provided."

The editor said the basic sense was trying to get more students involved. The mission of the publication is to have an outlet for creative work and to provide visibility for student artist expression.

"It used to be your traditional literary arts journal," said Everett, a senior creative writing and public relations major from Lubbock. "Now, it's more than that. It's like a campus arts journal with a blend of film and music and more. We want to address what all students are doing."

"Harbinger" is in the process of preparing for the fall 2008 edition. For the first time, the journal will have a special theme. The ground-breaking theme for the next edition will be diversity.

Deidra Dallas, president of Sigma Tau Delta, said the purpose was to recognize the diversity on campus and to give diversity a voice.

"We don't want anything derogatory, of course," said Dallas, a senior English major from Ballinger with a creative writing specialization, "but it's a very broad topic, and we are willing to review any work that a student submits."

Dallas said she hopes the student body will participate and respond to the journal.

"It will benefit the Tech community because it can be applied to any major," she said. "Every major is creative. It affects Tech as a whole."

Dallas believes "Harbinger" is important to Tech because it helps build a strong art community, which is something she said Tech struggles with.

"Numerous students are able to



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

THE LITERARY ARTS journal, "Harbinger," a production of the Sigma Tau Delta honor society, has evolved into more than just collections of student essays, stories and poems.

contribute to 'Harbinger,'" she said. "The broadness takes the journal beyond the Art and English buildings."

Everett said he encourages any student to enter a piece for review.

"It's a unique opportunity to have something published in an artistically capable and competent student journal," he said. "We accept all and any creative work. We will look at everything — fiction, poetry, film or music.

We're prepared to get anything." The deadline for the fall diversity issue of "Harbinger" is March 31. For submission details, visit www.harbingermagazine.com. vinh-an.luu@ttu.edu

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Viscous clump
- Follow secretly
- Evil spell
- Ambiance
- In addition
- In seventh heaven
- Take-out side order
- Indonesian island
- Fetch
- Use one's influence
- Court
- Jazz piece
- River swirls
- Gay Nineties and the like
- Jiffy
- Bakery corner
- Course culmination
- Paparazzi prey
- Ask nicely
- out (barely manages)
- Cambodia's neighbor
- Gutter site
- Novelist
- Deighton
- Work the soil
- Bear witness
- Brightened up
- Respiratory malady
- Influence under the table
- English aristocrats
- Classic Chevy model
- Fossil fuel
- Au revoir!
- Low card
- Enthralled by
- Slow-witted
- Otologist's focus
- Profound

DOWN

- Huff and puff
- Humdinger
- Roberts U.
- Weep noisily
- No-nos

By Diane C. Baldwin
Columbia, MD 3/14/08

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

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Marketing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mately 60 employees in the university system's departments of communications and marketing.

Though he anticipates McClure will do some restructuring in the university's individual departments, Hance said he does not believe it will result in a significant number of changes in personnel.

"We want people to all be on the same page, to coordinate their messages, to make sure that we stay on message, and that's something I think he can do us a good job for," he said.

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HANCE

McClure comes to Tech after working five years as the marketing director for Petro Stopping Centers, a chain of truck stops, Hance said. Previously, he worked for ExxonMobil Corp. for 15 years.

Hance said McClure will receive a \$150,000 salary as well as the resources of a budget, staff and other assistance, which has yet to be determined.

McClure has a bachelor's degree and master's degree from the College of William and Mary in Virginia and was one of 20 candidates selected for the position, said Hance, who believes McClure is "extremely well qualified to be the point person" as director of the university communications and marketing.

Though McClure's most recent positions in marketing are not related to education, Hance said he believes McClure's experience in marketing will translate well to the university system's needs.

"I think it won't be any problem at all," he said. "Communications and marketing is: You've got a product — and we've got a product, and our product is Texas Tech. We've got a great story that we need to tell, and I think that he is the type of person that can make sure that we coordinate that story, and that we do the best job possible at getting it out."

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'Lost' makes acceptable transition to video game platform

Have you ever been watching "Lost," enjoying one of the best shows on television today, and wondered what it would be like to be a survivor of Oceanic flight 815? Then "Lost: Via Domus" is the game for you! Or, at least, it wants to be.

The game centers around a survivor from the crash you will never see on the show itself. The action picks up immediately after the mysterious crash, and your character is quick to realize he lost his memory.

You know nothing about the man or his past, save that he was evidently a photojournalist — even his name is a mystery when you first begin. This serves both to differentiate itself from the hit television show and to give you a somewhat fresh perspective of

Britton Peele



life on the island.

The game tries to be as much like the series as possible, going as far as to make each section of the game a separate "episode" beginning with the all-too-familiar, "Previously, on 'Lost'" voice-over before a short recap of earlier events.

If you've ever watched the show, you probably know each episode prominently features flashbacks of various characters, giving you a look at their life before the fateful crash.

"Via Domus" works in much the same way. While most of the game takes place on the island, there are many flashbacks in which you get a brief look at your previous life, and are required to take pictures of various items, people and events in an effort to help your character piece together the loose bits of his lost memory.

This works well as a story element, and it is an interesting way of handling the main character's amnesia.

You'll encounter all the major characters you would expect to see: Jack, Kate, Locke, Sawyer, Charlie, Hurley, Ben, Juliet — they all make appearances, sometimes long, sometimes brief. The story line takes place during the events of the first two seasons of the show.

Trouble is, while "Lost" fans certainly will recognize events and know what's going on, anyone who doesn't follow the show religiously will be entirely — well, lost.

The events are depicted nicely, but nothing is explained in any detail whatsoever. I expect it would be near impossible to fully enjoy the game's story if you aren't already familiar with the plot. This is something of a shame, as the story is an interesting addition to the "Lost" saga, even if it's not considered entirely "canon."

The game play itself is a bit on the average side, but this actually could be considered a blessing. Video games based on licensed franchises are very, very rarely known for being quality products, but "Lost: Via Domus" certainly is acceptable. The team at

Ubisoft did a nice job of capturing the essence of the show, focusing on plot and adventure rather than action — most of the time, anyway.

They also did a fabulous job with environments, for the most part, giving everything a very "Lost"-like feel. As a fan, admittedly it's exciting to enter the infamous hatch, only to find a computer inside beeping loudly, begging you to input "the numbers."

But, while you do input said numbers, carry dynamite from the Black Rock and evade the Black Smoke, there are still things you might want to do or see if you follow the show. Where's Walt? Why can't you play pingpong with Hurley? Why does Charlie sound nothing like Dominic Monaghan?

But perhaps it would be possible to

look past all of this if it weren't for the biggest problem with "Via Domus": it's far too short. The game easily can be completed — having seen everything there is to see — within six hours. Seeing as how the game retails for \$60, that's pretty unacceptable to most people.

If you don't enjoy or aren't familiar with "Lost," then stay away. There's nothing for you here. But if you're a diehard fan of the show, then this is easily worth a rental — probably not a purchase.

"Lost: Via Domus" is available now for Xbox 360, PlayStation 3 and PC.

■ Peele is a freshman English major from Union Valley. E-mail him at britton.peele@ttu.edu.

Spring Break events to look out for

Spring Break is right around the corner, and every year, it brings with it fun, food and festivities all over town. Students celebrate leisure time, and this year is no exception.

With Easter falling unusually early this time around, Spring Break promises to be one to keep your camera handy for.

The break celebration begins Saturday. Local favorite bar Jazz Louisiana Kitchen will host the show

to catch when Icarus Fixed takes the stage.

Start the break off right, and join them in celebration before heading out of town.

Though it's hard to tell, bands will pick up gigs all over town, so stay tuned into MySpace to keep updated on the week's shows.

The event that already should be marked in everyone's day planner comes on Easter itself.

Easterbash is back at the LoneStar Amphitheatre on March 23, starting around noon and lasting well into the night. Ticket prices have not been announced, so check frequently to keep updated.

Some of the year's headliners include The Dead Sea, Tyler T, Members of the Board, Cellus and the Loose Grip, Jabarvy from Austin and Bob Schneider.

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Sew

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She designed her first clothing piece, modeled by a friend, as a part of the talent portion of the pageant.

Cynthia Jones said her daughter's proudest moment was coming into her freshman year and participating in the pageant.

"That was a very big accomplishment for her, to get the award for Ms. Congeniality — she put her heart and soul into that," she said. "I could hear it in her voice."

Since then, Loren Jones recently said, she created a birthday dress for her friend.

"Now that I know that I can do something and finish it," she said, "now I'm starting to get into it."

Loren Jones said not much brainstorming goes into designing the clothes. She said she

draws ideas to paper as they come to her.

"The design of this room can inspire me to make a dress," she said, as she gestured toward the brown and white walls. "Little things can inspire me. I like dull stuff and putting a flair to it, so that it is my own."

Wearing a bright pink and black shirt, Jones said her fashion line is a "street chic" style — a combination of funky, street and hip-hop. The name of her line is "Xqwitzit."

Although Loren Jones never has liked drawing figures and people, she said, her mother pressured her to use her ability to draw. Her mother has been most influential in her life and is the reason she gained an appreciation for art, she said.

"Art plays a big role in my life because I get creative with different hairstyles and clothes," Loren Jones said.

It was a natural fit for Loren Jones to dive into fashion design,

her mother said. Even at a young age, she said, Loren Jones was multitalented.

"She will still draw on her artistic talents and abilities," Cynthia Jones said. "Putting everything to paper, will nurture her fashion design."

Loren Jones said right out of high school she had her heart set on going to Parsons, a fashion design school in New York City. Her mother disagreed with this idea and decided she should wait until she had more experience.

Loren Jones said she still holds the desire to go to New York to become a top fashion designer.

"I want to be a celebrity that a celebrity comes to get their hair and clothes," she said.

Cynthia Jones said her daughter has many aspirations in life, and doing her own thing has always been her attitude.

"I believe whatever you are going to do, make it represent excellence," Cynthia Jones said.

► london.clark@ttu.edu

'Mummy' star Fraser journeys to 3-D 'Center of the Earth'

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Brendan Fraser is looking to unearth another blockbuster with this summer's third installment of his "The Mummy" franchise.

But first, he's digging a bit deeper underground with "Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D," a take on the Jules Verne science fiction classic updated with the latest in digital three-dimensional film technology.

The result is a thrill ride that has Fraser and his co-stars fighting carnivorous fish, sailing across an underground ocean, tearing down old mining rails like a roller-coaster ride and racing from a hungry dinosaur — with the 3-D images floating off the screen and dangling right before viewers' eyes.

"I think it has the right combination of, when it's appropriate, treating

the audience to coming-at-you, boo scares, but also taking advantage of the depth of field that was never really taken advantage of to my recollection in other 3-D films," Fraser, 39, said in an interview before a screening of the movie Wednesday at ShoWest, a convention of theater owners.

"Those were normally about images jumping off the screen. With 'Journey 3-D,' you can almost see the curvature, the ocean seems to curve a bit, and you want to look up around the corners of things. You want to know what's behind it. You actually almost find yourself wanting to twist your head to look at something that went past you to see the other side of it."

Using cameras leased from "Titanic" filmmaker James Cameron, who is using the same system for his upcoming

3-D sci-fi adventure "Avatar," "Journey to the Center of the Earth" is one of a wave of digital 3-D movies hitting theaters in the next couple of years.

Audiences must wear special glasses, but they are sturdy, comfortable lenses, unlike the flimsy cardboard red-and-blue glasses for old-style 3-D movies, whose images could be fuzzy and strain viewers' eyes.

Digital 3-D movies such as "Journey to the Center of the Earth" and the recent hit "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert" provide crisp images that put audiences in the thick of the action.

"I wanted it to be like the best day in an amusement park you've ever had," said "Journey 3-D" director Eric Brevig. "It's like ride after ride, and they're all fun."

'American Idol' finalist Mercado continues to impress

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — Syesha Mercado is one of those determined "American Idol" contestants who realized her gift early, jumped on the path to stardom and didn't stop trudging until she reached television's biggest stage.

The striking 21-year-old singer, dancer and actress grew up performing in the Sarasota area before moving to Miami for college. She's been singing since she was a toddler in a musical family that included three sisters and mother Zeldia, a former Motown backup singer.

As a child, Syesha — it's pronounced "sigh-EE-sha" — sang in church and grew accustomed to performing in public — she once sang the "National Anthem" at a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game. Her turns in musicals such as "Pippin" and "Seussical: The Musical" at a Sarasota arts high school drew raves. She's acted in commercials, sang in a band, won a car in a statewide singing contest and even appeared briefly on a reality TV show.

So nobody back home is surprised that she's standing among the final 11 on the Fox TV show that has the potential to make her a household name. And, they say, it couldn't happen to a nicer person.

"When she was going to high school, she was aspiring to do that kind of thing. I remember she and her friends talking about it," said Johnnie Mnich, theater director in the elite performing arts program at Booker High School. "I think it was a matter of time before it happened. She knows what she wants, and she knows what she's good at."

Mnich recalls marveling at Mercado's talent when she won the lead in the musical "Once on This Island" as a sophomore.

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OPINIONS

PAGE 4
FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2008

Lubbock elections are approaching fast

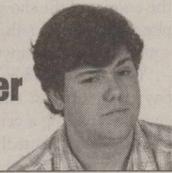
Rejoice, Easter Lubbockites, because the time for the rebirth of our city is coming. The city election is May 10, and with it, the chance for our humble city to finally come out of the shadow of the embarrassment that's been caused by the current administration.

I've been waiting anxiously for this time since the last city election went so poorly. Unfortunately, things here in the city went even worse than anyone possibly could have imagined since then.

Higher taxes, misdirected priorities and mistakes such as red light cameras have plagued us since 2006, thanks to current mayor David Miller and his cronies at city hall.

The more interesting races in this upcoming election are for the Lubbock District 2 City Council seat currently held by Floyd Price, the District 4 council seat held by Phyllis Jones, who is not running for reelection, and the mayoral election

Cole Shooter



with David Miller playing the role of the overly righteous incumbent.

Luckily, there are excellent candidates ready to assume these formerly problematic seats on the council. Also, along with the excellent candidates, are some mediocre candidates and perennial political hangers-on.

The ones up for reelection who I mentioned are part of what's been dubbed the "gang of four." These are the ones responsible for bullying through such horrendous things as red light cameras, raising taxes and promoting the spending of far too much money on amenities the city doesn't need to spend money on — such as a slew of soccer fields for

a very small number of people.

The candidates running for the District 2 City Council seat are Gilbert Salinas, a local electrician; Armando Gonzales, the man who spearheaded two recall efforts against District 1 City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon; and of course, Councilman Price.

Price seems like a nice man, but nice doesn't necessarily mean he's a good leader. Along with Miller, Price voted to inflate city government to unseen levels every time, and through the eyes of a conservative, that makes him an unfit leader.

On the other candidates, Salinas seems to be a decent man, but nobody has heard much about him. The candidate I do know well is Gonzales. Gonzales's son owned the South Beach nightclub that effectively was taken over by the city to make a "visitor's center."

To my knowledge, nothing has been done with the site yet. Gon-

zales has been a tireless crusader against DeLeon, who is yet another of the "gang of four." Gonzales seems to have the best interests of Lubbock at heart, and he would be an incredibly welcome addition to the council.

A man named Freddy Green has filed to run as well, but he hasn't done anything with his campaign, and he isn't even a registered voter here in Lubbock, so no word yet on him.

In the District 4 race, current Councilwoman Jones announced she will not run again. This is welcome news for anyone who pays attention to city politics. The other candidates are local radio personality Paul Beane, Jerry Bell and Tom Kiesling.

So far in their campaigns, both Beane and Bell seem to be intelligent, decent people, but so far, Beane is the only one who has impressed me.

Bell talked about his leadership

experience and his work ethic, which definitely is a plus, but Beane broke down the issues he disagrees with and discussed exactly what he plans to do about them.

This attitude would be a welcome addition to the City Council and could go a long way in helping to repair this city. On the other candidate, I just don't know much about Kiesling. He hasn't done much yet with his campaign, so we'll see.

For the mayoral position, four people have filed to run: incumbent David Miller, former Mayor Pro Tempore Tom Martin, Gilbert Montes and longtime political candidate Roger Settler. For all intents and purposes, only two of these people have an actual chance of being elected, so I'll focus solely on Miller and Martin.

Miller is no conservative — no matter how vehemently he denies otherwise. He fills his speeches with platitudes and excuses, but no explanations for the flawed policies

he's helped to enact.

Martin on the other hand, is an incredibly intelligent and dedicated individual who already knows what it takes to make this city run smoothly, as it did before Miller. Martin knows how to run a budget correctly, he knows how to keep city government small so the city can keep growing effectively and knows what it takes to keep Lubbock worth living in.

Unfortunately, the aforementioned traits are some Miller missed out on. There's no question who is the best man for that particular job.

Lubbock definitely is worth keeping as a decent place to live. The decision on whether we'll keep living in the shadow of the city government's mistakes is up to the voters May 10.

Shooter is a senior political science major from Lubbock. E-mail him at cole.shooter@ttu.edu.



Obama-Clinton? It doesn't matter who's on top — just do it already

By **DAVID SERVATIUS**
DAILY UTAH CHRONICLE (U. UTAH)

(U-WIRE) SALT LAKE CITY — Ironic, isn't it? Barack Obama injects himself into the 2008 Presidential Election cycle because he feels a need to "unite" everybody, and the result is a Democratic Party split wide open, at war with itself and on the verge of chaos at its nominating convention this summer that will make Chicago in 1968 look like a game of patty cake. Of course, once that happens, a big loss in the fall is almost certain, and that is disappointing because at one point the party seemed as close to guaranteed victory as it gets in American politics.

No matter which way it is calculated, it has become clear that neither Hillary Clinton nor Obama will be able to reach the magic number of 2,025 delegates needed to secure the nomination outright. With about 3,000 already allocated, The Associated Press reports that fewer than 100 separate the two.

Obama has the lead in total delegates, but big wins for Clinton in Michigan and Florida are not being counted in that total. Yet they will be, or the party can kiss two of the most important keys to victory in November goodbye.

Obama has prevailed in more individual states and has claimed a slightly higher percentage of the popular vote so far, but Clinton has swept every one of the largest states — California, New York, Texas and Ohio, in addition to Florida and Michigan. The states she has claimed represent almost twice as many Electoral College votes as all of the smaller states Obama has won.

Another important difference to note is that Obama has been doing well in states that hold caucuses, a venue where public pressure plays

a decisive role. Clinton has been much more successful in states that hold primary elections, where private prejudices have more influence. The general election won't include any caucuses.

One week the voters and the media anoint one candidate and shoot the other down, and the next week they reverse it. It has basically been played to a draw, and what that means is that the party's rank-and-file want both of these candidates on the ticket together. It's known as the wisdom of the crowd, and it couldn't be clearer at this point.

Clinton and Obama should come out together before this week is over and announce that they will be the Democratic presidential ticket, in some order, and that the voters in the remaining primary and caucus states will get to decide which order. Both campaigns should agree that the candidate with the most delegates pledged to him or her at the end of the process on June 11, even if it's not the total number needed, will secure the spot at the top of the ticket and the other will become the vice presidential candidate.

Either scenario — Clinton-Obama or Obama-Clinton — would be a surefire winner in the short term for the party and in the long run for the individual candidates. Think of the media buzz over such a unique arrangement and the voter excitement at being a part of the double history about to be made.

If Obama is still ahead in June, Democrats will, in essence, play the promising rookie and bench their Pro Bowl quarterback in the Super Bowl, and then hope that "hope" doesn't pull its all-too-familiar disappearing act on Election Day. History teaches us that hope shows up at rallies, but fear shows up in the voting booth.

If anyone can finally defy history, though, it would certainly seem to be Obama. In that case, Clinton can serve eight years as vice president and then mount a run as an older, Maggie Thatcher-type, only with blood in her veins instead of ice water. No one will be discussing her cleavage then. If Clinton ends up on top and Obama runs as vice president, he will be able to spend eight years learning at the knee of a master and then try again as a seasoned pro in his political prime.

The most important thing is that, by next week, they can be out on the campaign trail again, together, defending and supporting each other instead of tearing each other down and alienating whole segments of their own party. They can both start taking aim at the real target, John "a-hundred-more-years-of-war" McCain and the morally bankrupt and dangerous political forces he represents.

SEX: Media's favorite pastime

Today, many of you no longer are on campus and have decided to take your Spring Break early and go do whatever it is that you need to do to relieve the stress of making it halfway through your semester.

Some of you may be drinking away your problems — such as grades — on a beach or on a snow-capped mountain. Some of you may be going to shows in Austin, such as myself. And some of you may be sitting around watching television and being lazy.

For those of you that are going to be taking the laid back, easy break, you are in for quite the treat — a new sex scandal.

Now, you may be thinking to yourself, "Well, that happened on Monday, it is now Friday, there is no way they can pull out more information on a governor who I just heard about for the first time."

Oh, how you have no faith in the sensationalized world of American news.

Eliot Spitzer is the first big sex scandal of the year, and boy, has everybody been waiting for it. As a media gormandizer, I have seen the pattern fall into place just like any other steaming scandal that has happened in the past few years.

First, there is the initial break: The pundits scamper about, biting at the bit for more information they can use to destroy another life. Because, honestly, can you think of a better feeling than cutting the throat of a promising



David Ward

public life career with facts?

Well, I can think of a few things, but they usually cost an exorbitant amount of money.

Then there is the microscopic look at the individual's public life and how he or she got elevated to his or her limelight stance. And my favorite part of it all is usually there is a nugget of irony involved that just makes me giddy.

With Ted Haggard, Larry Craig and Mark Foley, there was their lively stance against homosexuality. It destroyed families across this fine nation, was their rally cry. It was strong, assertive and factual: It was destroying their own families from the inside.

The tasty chocolate center surrounding the Spitzer's case is that while he was the attorney general of the state, he was working to oust high-end prostitution rings around the state. Apparently, he left his favorite alone.

If you've been keeping track, you know of the governor's record of being this "Mr. Clean" character. He was a proponent of stopping corruption on Wall Street, passing wiretapping bills to clean up government practices and

— my personal favorite — taking a stance against record companies who participated in payola practices.

All these feats have been highlighted by the stories circulating around the wires for a few days now. As I am writing this, the prostitute Kristen's photo — who's real name is Ashley Alexandra Dupre — just has been released to the public, and you can bet the good ol' boys Bill O'Reilly, Glenn Beck and Sean Hannity are doing their best to get her on their shows to talk about what Spitzer is really like. I mean really like.

CNN already has done a profile of sorts about Dupre, looking at her MySpace page and citing some of her favorite artists and her reasons for moving to New York and why she is a prostitute. Hopefully, they will cover Spitzer's MySpace page soon. I bet his profile song is "Roxanne" by the Police.

So, if you thought this story was over, just wait; there are more charges and allegations that could come about from this. The way he moved the funds around to pay for these exploits, the owner of the Web site who may be linked to the IRS and, hopefully, a list of other participants.

Trust me, folks, this thing is just about to get good. And thankfully, it was a heterosexual affair, so it's fun for the whole family.

Ward is a senior journalism major from El Paso. E-mail him at david.j.ward@ttu.edu.

POLL RESULTS

Do you agree with President Bush's decision to veto the ban on waterboarding?

Legend

77% (4,396) ■ Yes

23% (1,322) ■ No

0.002% (12) ■ No Opinion

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Combs fails to qualify for U.S. National boxing team

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

Kayla Combs lost in the semi-final round of the 2008 U.S. Future Stars National Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo., against 2007 national champion Christina Cruz of New York.

Combs, a junior petroleum engineering major from Bloomfield, N.M., fighting in the 119-pound weight class, won her first match by default in a walk-over when her opponent did not

make weight. Combs automatically advanced to the semi-final round after her victory.

Combs' trainer, Edward Hernandez, said going in, Cruz had a height advantage, and they would have to approach the fight differently because of it.

"Christina is a little taller, a little longer arms than (Combs)," Hernandez said. "They are doing that computer scoring. So we are gonna have to try to use (Combs) speed to our advantage, to maneuver around her."

Combs said she was confident before Wednesday's fight, even after not getting the chance to fight in the first round. She said she had been studying the way the judges were scoring with the computer system and working out a game plan around it.

Combs lost the fight against Cruz by decision through points determined by the computer scoring system.

"It was a good, close fight right on up to the end of the third round,"

Hernandez said. "Then, in the third round, that girl just started running. She got ahead on a few points and started running, and we never could make up the difference — never could catch her to actually make a fight out of it. We ended up losing the decision on points."

Because of her loss in the semi-final round, Combs failed to qualify for the 2008 U.S. Women's National Team, which is awarded to the finalists in each weight class.

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Women's tennis opens conference play on road

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech women's tennis team begins Big 12 Conference play this weekend at No. 58 Nebraska and at Iowa State.

The team split its final two non-conference matches with a win against SMU and a loss to TCU. Tech coach Cari Groce said the non-conference schedule was successful in preparing the team for conference play.

"I feel like our non-conference schedule was as strong as we needed it to be," she said. "Unfortunately, a couple tough losses — a loss to BYU and Boise (State) — I had hoped to pick up one of those. We'd be in the Top 50 if we had been able to pick up one of those wins. The wins we have, I thought they would pay off for us a lot more than they have."

Entering conference play, Groce said the Red Raiders (7-3) are ready and focused for the tough competition.

"I know our team is ready for conference," she said. "We're pumped up, we're ready to play. It's a very, very hard-fighting group. They're very feisty. I'm enjoying watching them."

The team faces back-to-back road matches against Nebraska (11-1, 1-1 in Big 12) and struggling Iowa State (3-4, 0-2).

"Nebraska always is a battle for us," Groce said. "We go back and

forth. We trade punches every year. I anticipate it won't be any different this year. We're gonna go to their place, and it's tough playing indoors at their bubble (Nebraska Tennis Center). We're evenly matched. Iowa state always is gonna go out and play hard. Talent-wise we certainly wanna get after them. We have to be prepared for two good teams."

Groce said she, along with the coaches she has faced, is impressed by her team's fighting attitude.

"If you go to the SMU Web site, the coach has some really positive comments about our team and their fight and the way they fight," she said. "I don't think we have had a match that I haven't had a coach shake my hand and say, 'We always tell our team this is gonna be one of the toughest matches. Who cares if they're ranked in the 70s or not ranked, this is gonna be one of the fightingest teams we face all year.'"

Doubles play has been a struggle for Tech this year, as Groce said it is an area the team must work on.

"We've got to do better at doubles," she said. "We've got to win the doubles point. We are playing very, very good in singles across the board. I would like to see some more consistency out of our No. 1 spot. We need more consistency out of Sam (van der Drift) in the win-loss record. I think we probably need some more consistency out of the No. 6 spot, but the other spots have been solid for us. The doubles have just been up and down."

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Women's golf finishes in Top 3 for second straight tourney

By KEVIN CULLEN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech women's golf team finished two tournaments in 6 days Wednesday with its second-straight Top 3 finish.

The team finished in second place at the Rio Verde Collegiate Invitational in Rio Verde, Ariz., Sunday.

Ulrika Van Niekerk led the Raiders individually, finishing in a tie for 10th place. Freshman Stephanie Smith and junior Megan Dowdy helped the Red Raiders in Arizona with 14th- and 21st-place finishes, respectively. No Tech golfer finished outside of the Top 45.

The team followed up its impressive performance at Rio Verde with another Top 3 finish in Las Vegas at the UNLV Spring Invitational, which included a school record in the second round.

Van Niekerk continued her great play in Las Vegas, finishing second

overall with a score of 69 in her final round.

Tech coach Stacey Totman said she was impressed with her team and its effort in the two tournaments.

"I was just really proud of the girls because we played six straight days of tournament golf; including the practice round, we actually had seven straight days of golf," she said. "They were fatigued, and they were tired. They really, at the UNLV event, had to dig deep and kind of go off of sheer adrenaline."

The team shot a school-record low 286 in the second round in Las Vegas. Totman said she attributes the great round to better play in many key areas by her team.

"We were just making some more putts," she said. "We were hitting the ball a little bit closer. We were really accurate off the tee. They just finally started making some birdies and some putts. I think that was the big difference.

They were finally starting to see the ball go in the hole, kind of gained some confidence after the first day."

The performances of her two leaders, Van Niekerk and Dowdy, is something Totman said was necessary for the team's success, and the two juniors deserved to see some good golf.

"The thing about Megan and Uli is that they are just both such great leaders on and off the course," she said. "We have a young group of kids. We have some freshmen that are in — we played three freshman in the Rio Verde event and two in the second event. It was real important for the juniors to step up and lead."

The performance of the freshmen has been key to the team's success this year. Many times, the team has had two or more freshmen in the lineup.

"I think I'm just really excited because we don't have any seniors on the team this year," Totman said. "We (will) have

everybody back. This freshman group is just really here, they came in ready to play. They've pushed the upperclassmen to be better players. They've been really consistent, and they have thrown up some really low numbers for us."

Totman said she hopes the team will be able to take the momentum of its finishes into the next tournament even though the team will have significant time off between now and then.

"Obviously, I think momentum-wise, we'd like to tee it up again tomorrow," she said. "Physically, the girls need a break. Mentally, that much golf in that short of a period of time, especially tournament golf, your mind gets a little tired. So, they need time to rest their bodies and their mind."

The Red Raiders return to action March 29 in Tucson, Ariz., at the Mountain View Collegiate tournament.

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Needed for property management company. General knowledge of commercial equipment is a must. Negotiable transportation is a must. Pay rate is negotiable. Send resumes to PO Box 53533, Lubbock, TX 79453 or email to MICHAELLAMBERTS@SUDDENLINK.NET.

PART TIME OPENING

for shipping and receiving. Some heavy lifting. M-F afternoons. Apply at 4106 N. Frankford, 806-744-8300.

PART-TIME Facilitator/Puller - Sylvan Learning Center - Responsible for pulling materials for teachers, answering phones, light custodial and filing. - Must be dependable, able to work in fast-paced environment and enjoy working with children. TW 4-8 and every other Saturday 9-1. Apply in person. 4601 S Loop 289 Ste 23. 785-4400 ask for Amy.

HELP WANTED

RAISING CANE'S CHICKEN FINGERS
Now Hiring Crewmembers. Come be a part of the unique and FUN Raising Cane's team. We are hiring Crewmembers for our University Avenue location. Benefits include competitive wages, holidays and a fun atmosphere. Apply in person, Raising Cane's @ 907 University Ave/ Raising Cane's values & appreciates individuality. EOE.

REDRAIDERSNEEDJOBS.COM
Paid survey takers needed in Lubbock. 100% free to join. Click on Surveys.

SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED

Evaluate local stores, restaurants, theaters. Flexible hours. Training provided. 1-800-585-9024 ext 6425.

STONELAKE APARTMENTS seeking leasing consultant. Applicant must be outgoing and have positive attitude. M/W 9-4, Sat 10-5 and Sun 1-4. Drug screen and background check a must. Apply in person or send resume by email or fax. 7414 Elgin Ave., 748-1602 (fax). stonelake@arn.net.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT agricultural field technicians wanted. No experience necessary. But a background in ag helpful. Starting pay \$7.00/hr, raises and bonuses given. Earnings of \$5000-\$6500 are possible. Internships are available. 3-9 hours of degree credit may be earned. Call 773-1444 or 745-4706.

THE RANCH at Dove Tree is seeking a chef's assistant. Duties include menu development and execution, including prep and sanitation. Upward mobility and benefits. Starting salary based on experience. Weekend days a must. Please contact Jo Ann Plympton at 746-6777.

UMPIRES NEEDED for Lubbock Little League baseball. For meeting/clinic schedule and to sign up call Jay Temple at 543-8999.

UNDERCOVER SHOPPERS

Earn up to \$70 per day. Undercover shoppers needed to judge retail/dining establishments. No experience required. Please call (800) 722-4791.

WANTED- NUDE models for professional artist life drawing group. \$30 for 2 hour sessions. Call 797-2498 after 5.

WATTS YAMAHA LUBBOCK'S new motorcycle dealership is now hiring for all positions. Full time, part time, available. Submit resume to tyler@wattsyamaha.com.

WE LOVE to write letters of reference for our staff! Kid's Kingdom is accepting applications for preschool teachers and school age teachers. Gain valuable hands on experience working with children & families, & classroom management. Applicants must be 18 years old with the ability to make mature judgments, love to laugh, work well with the public and have a strong work ethic. We offer paid training, vacation pay, sick pay, and child care discounts. Our ratios are lower than state mandated and we operate a program that operates above the minimum standards. Please see our web site at kidskingdomlubbock.com or visit us in person at 5320 50th inside St. Matthew's United Methodist Church.

YARD WORK scalping and mowing. Spring, summer and fall. Call James 745-1614.

YOUR GIFT MEANS THE WORLD

Consider donating your eggs to help other women. Your time is worth \$2000-\$3000. The Centre for Reproductive Medicine. 788-1212.

FURNISHED

\$340 GATEWAY Apartment (<http://www.gateway-atlubbock.com>)!! Sublet (until end of July) for male/female, 1 room (private bathroom) in 2BR fully furnished apt. March's rent is free (already paid)! Immediate occupancy available. Rent includes W-D/microwave/internet/cable/lan/24-hr gym/balcony/sports courts. Best pool in Lubbock. Call 979-777-7972 for details.

FURNISHED

SUBLEASE NEW URBANISM DESIGN
Close to Tech from freshly furnished, 1-queen sized bedroom, living room w/ sofa-bed, big screen TV, ceiling fans, ceramic and stainless appliance finishes, large bath, FREE! high speed internet, cable, electric, washer and dryer, fitness center, pool, covered parking and security. \$695/mo. jean.reynolds@ttu.edu.

ULOFTS LUXURY 2/2 condo for summer sublease. \$800 per month for whole unit. Call for details! Great amenities! 281-413-1613 or 903-641-3358.

UNFURNISHED

2/1 WITH central h/a, fireplace, all appliances included. Awesome fenced backyard with extended car garage. 3010 29th St. \$750/mo, \$450 deposit. 543-6764.

2607 30TH. 4/2/1. Fireplace. Newly built. \$1295/mo, \$250 deposit. 749-3355, 778-1847 after 5.

3/2/2 NEWLY REMODELED
Home for sale or rent. 5004 18th St. Near Higginbotham Park. Just a few blocks from Texas Tech campus. Please call Chris @ (806) 773-3730.

3101 33RD ST. 4/4. \$990/mo, first month free. W/D included, dishwasher, security gate. 441-6886.

3417 28TH. Completely updated, 3 bedroom 2 bath, c h/a. \$895/month, \$600/deposit. 773-5249 or 632-2114.

3418 30TH. New everything. 3/2/1. Available now. \$895/mo. 794-5241.

3714 25TH. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice neighborhood. \$695/month, \$500/deposit. 773-5249 or 632-2114.

4618 DETROIT. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. C h/a, \$550/month \$400/deposit. 773-5249.

5/2/1, 2 story, 2 living areas. Den with fireplace. \$1600/mo \$650 deposit. Available March 1. 3114 28th. 543-6764.

APTS FOR RENT

Great location to campus. Private bedroom/bathroom, furnished, W/D, fitness center. Pre-leasing for fall 2008-09. (806) 762-5500.

DOWNTOWN LOFT APARTMENT AVAILABLE NOW
Not your typical cookie-cutter apartment experience. 1 bedroom / 1.5 bath, 1400 sq. ft. Remodel of old warehouse. 20' exposed wood ceilings. Stained concrete floors. DSL internet available. Very quiet, laid-back community. Perfect for Tech faculty/staff, graduate, law, & medical students. NOTE: all units require non-smoking. \$850/mo. 601 Main St. 763-6097.

DOWNTOWN LOFT Apartment. 1600 sq. ft. Two bedroom, one bath. \$850/month. 747-0193.

FOR LEASE: 3/1 2205 20th St. \$750; 4/2 2218 20th St. \$900; Very nice large 4/2, 4 blocks from Tech, hardwood floors, designer paint, \$1500. Call Bill at 470-7037.

GREAT 4/2 South of Tech. New tile paint carpet. 2815 39th Street. Price negotiable. 797-6358.

LARGE 1 bedroom apartments close to Tech. Lindzey apartments. 2302 17th. \$450/month. 799-5420 or 632-2114.

NEAR TECH. Ideal for faculty or serious student. Large 1 bedroom house with large office. Central h/a, fans, blinds. Stove, refrigerator washer/dryer machines. Fireplace. Covered parking. Year lease. Credit 747-6555.

NEWLY RENOVATED! 2 & 3 bedroom houses for lease. Convenient to Tech. Call 771-1890.

PERFECT FOR 3!

3/3. Living, sun, dining rooms. 1 car garage. Near 49th/Boston. \$1095/mo. 806-787-0000.

RENT 4BR/2BA brick home near Tech. Close to Tech 1 Fenced, parking, pets ok. Call 831-1519 for info.

UNFURNISHED

SOUTH OF Tech, 3/2. Central h/a; W/D connections, dishwasher, stove, fridge included. Large backyard with dog run. 3709 39th St., available April 1st. \$900/mo. \$450 deposit. 543-6764.

TECH TERRACE beauty. 3/2/1. 2805 30th. 2 living areas. Double sinks in master bath. Available March 15. \$1195/month. 794-52

SPORTS

Former Tech football players display skills for NFL scouts at Pro Day

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The 2008 Pro Day was not full of NFL scouts, but former Tech players still took advantage of the opportunity to land a spot on an NFL roster.

Joe Garcia, Danny Amendola, Grant Walker, Alex Trlica, Kellen Tillman and Chris Parker worked out for two NFL scouts Thursday, hoping to improve stock and raise attention for a chance to play at the next level.

After many NFL scouts attended Pro Day at Tech last year, only a scout from the Carolina Panthers and Dallas Cowboys each made their way to Lubbock this year.

With Amendola being the only Red Raider invited to this year's NFL Combine, other former players were excited about the chance to perform in front of scouts, as they had been training since the season ended.

Parker said even with the excitement, there were still obstacles that made it a little more difficult for the NFL hopefuls to perform.

"It was exciting to be out here," he said. "Come back to the Jones and finish it off here. We have a little wind condition, but that's just something you

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gotta fight through."

Players did the annual wide range of drills showing agility, strength and overall basic skills a football player needs.

Some drills, such as route running, were affected by the wind Thursday. Still, players did their best to perform well, and scouts did their best to understand.

Garcia said he felt the wind was not a problem, as the weather in Lubbock is something he expects to be harsh at times.

"We're really use to this wind," Garcia said. "I grew up here for five years, so it was no effect. It was a nice beautiful day."

The players started Pro Day off with the bench press, where each player benched 225 pounds as many times as they could. Previously at the Combine, Amendola benched press 225 pounds 13 times. Garcia said he had 17 repetitions Thursday, which he was unhappy with because he had a goal of 22 repetitions. Other players' results were unavailable for the press.

Players also ran the 40-yard dash. Each ran twice to average the times. Tillman did not run because of a hamstring injury. Trlica did not run the 40-yard dash either.

With a goal of trying to improve a time of 4.62 seconds at the Combine, Amendola ran an unofficial time of 4.57 on his first try.

"I felt like I needed to run the 40 again," Amendola said. "Try to drop my time down a little bit. I did, and it feels good."

Other unofficial times on the first try include a 4.62 for Garcia, 4.6 for Parker and 4.62 for Walker. No official times were not made available to the media.

Other drills included the three-cone drill, long and short shuttles, backpedaling, route running and vertical and broad jump.

Trlica kicked field goals and kicked off from 70 yards.

He had not been training for Pro Day up until a few weeks ago in an effort to let his legs rest after the season.

The windy conditions may have affected Trlica the most.

"Overall, I think it went pretty well," he said. "Kickoffs were pretty good. The wind was blowing pretty hard one way or the other. I hit some good with the wind and then under the wind, I kicked them all right. I kinda got on top of one, but it's all right, not a big deal. Field goals went pretty well. I'm not sure how many I kicked. Pretty sure I only missed one."

The players now look toward other workouts. Parker has a workout April 11 in Dallas. Tillman has a workout April 4 in the same city. Amendola is the only player with an individual workout with an NFL team so far, as the St. Louis Rams will visit Amendola at Tech March 31.

▶ adam.coleman@ttu.edu

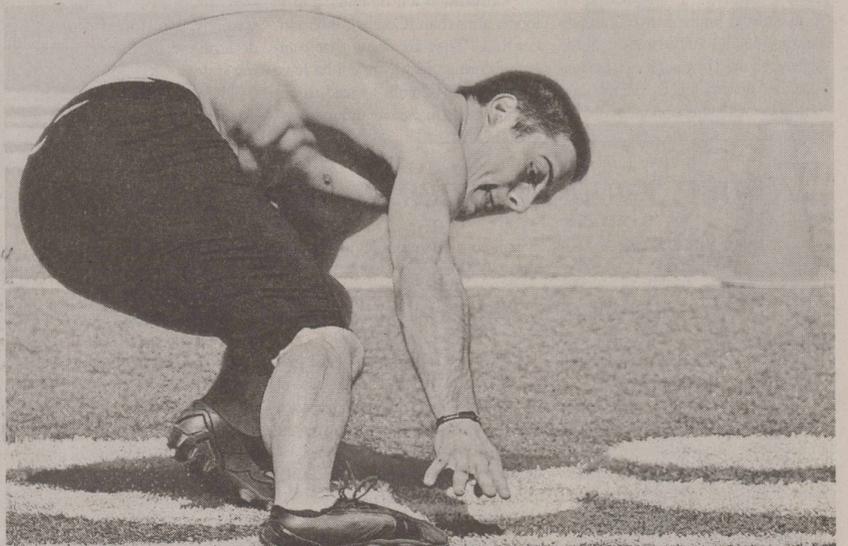


PHOTO BY SAM GRENADEI/The Daily Toreador

DANNY AMENDOLA, A former Texas Tech receiver, demonstrates his speed and quickness in the shuttle drill. Amendola was one of five Tech seniors looking to impress NFL scouts from the Carolina Panthers and the Dallas Cowboys Thursday at Jones AT&T Stadium.



PHOTO BY SAM GRENADEI/The Daily Toreador

FORMER TEXAS TECH safety Joe Garcia shows NFL scouts his speed and agility during Tech's Pro Day. Tech hopefuls participated in the bench press, the 40-yard dash, route running, the three-cone drill, long and short shuttles, back-pedaling, and vertical and broad jumps.

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4		6	9		1
	7		5		8
		2	1		
	4	5		2	9
		8		4	
9	6			1	3
		7	5		
	3		9		2
1		3	4		7

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FRIDAY	KTX	KCBD	KLBK	KMYL	KLCW	KAMC	KJTV
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	5 PBS Lubbock	11 NBC Lubbock	13 CBS Lubbock	14 MYN Lubbock	22 CW Lubbock	28 ABC Lubbock	34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious	Today Sched-uled vitamins for adults; foods to avoid while taking medication - (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Robinson	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna
7:30	Clifford			Wild Abt	Lopez		Paid Programs Sponsored.
8 AM	Super Why			Eye	Lopez		
8:30	Dragon			Cristina	Wilkos	Regis & Kelly	Martha Cook-ing.
9 AM	Sesame Street		The 700 Club	Cristina			
10 AM	Big World			Divorce	Temptation	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
10:30	Word		The Price Is Right	Divorce	Paid Programs		
11 AM	Barnes	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex		Victory	Tyra Banks Show
11:30	Caillou	Crosswords		College Basket-ball (Live)	Cosby	Paid Prog.	Faith
12 PM	Needle	News	News	Cosby	All My Children	Extra	
12:30	Fine Art	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful As the World	Roseanne	One Life to Live	The People's Court	
1 PM	Real Moms	Jeopardy		Roseanne	Degrassi	One Life to Live	
1:30	Place	Crosswords	Guiding Light	College Basket-ball (Live)	All of Us	General Hospi-tal	Judge Mathis
2 PM	Teletub	Inside		Reba	Montel Wil-liams	Ellen De-Generes	
3 PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Maury	Wilkos	Rachael Ray	News
3:30	Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judy Judy				
4 PM	Clifford						
4:30	Arthur						
5 PM	Maya	News	News	TMZ	Standing	News	Raymond
5:30	Bus. Rpt	News	News	Access	Standing	News	Simpsons
6 PM	NewsHour (HD)	News	News	College Basket-ball (Live)	Queens News	Family	
6:30		Wheel	Million.		Queens	ET	Two & 1/2
7 PM	Wash Wk	AmneSis	Price Is Right	Friday Night Smackdown!	Grey's Anat-omy	Jezebel	House (HD)
7:30	NOW PBS				20/20 (HD)		
8 PM	Bill Moyers Jour-nal	Dateline NBC	Ghost Whis-perer	College Basket-ball (Live)	Sex City	20/20 (HD)	News
8:30					Sex City		
9 PM	Theology		Numb3rs (HD)		Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2
9:30	Consuelo				Will (HD)	Nightline	Seinfeld
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News			Bernie	Insider	Friends
10:30	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(35) Late Show	"The Good Son" ('93) Child's evil in-tent.	Bernie	(36) Jimmy Kimmel	Fraser
11 PM	News	(35) Late Night	Late Show		Cops	Kimmel	
12 AM	Destines	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Malcolm	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.

SATURDAY	KTX	KCBD	KLBK	KMYL	KLCW	KAMC	KJTV
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	5 PBS Lubbock	11 NBC Lubbock	13 CBS Lubbock	14 MYN Lubbock	22 CW Lubbock	28 ABC Lubbock	34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Mama	Today Week-end (HD)	Saturday Early	Paid Programs	Scooby-Doo Tom Jerry	Good Morning (HD)	Piñata
7:30	FETCH						
8 AM	WordGirl		Bears	My Lubbock	Stunk Ful	Emperor	Chaotic
8:30	Saddle		Strawberry	Horsealls	Legion	Rapece	Chaotic
9 AM	Dragonfly	Jacob 2-2	Cake	Paid Prog.	Spider-Man	So Raven	TMNT Ninja
9:30	Heartland	Dragon	Horseand	My Lubbock	World	Hannah	Dinosaur
10 AM	TX Parks	Rabbit	Paid Prog.	College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Johny Test	Zack	Adrenaline
10:30	Chronicles	Penguins	College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Jane	Eon Kid	Plangars	Paid Programs Sponsored.
11 AM	Europe	Veggie			Dead Like Me	Rangers	
11:30	Victory	Jane			"Lone Star State of Mind" Better life.	NBA Acc.	NBA Acc.
12 PM	P. Allen	Paid Programs Sponsored.	College Basket-ball "Big Ten Semifinal #1" (Live)	PGA Tourna-ment from Bay Hill Club, Or-lando, Fla. (Live) (HD)	College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
12:30	Old House				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
1 PM	Yanke				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
1:30	Home	PGA Tourna-ment from Bay Hill Club, Or-lando, Fla. (Live) (HD)			College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
2 PM	Woodshop	PGA Tourna-ment from Bay Hill Club, Or-lando, Fla. (Live) (HD)			College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
2:30	Antiques (HD)				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
3 PM					College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
3:30	Food				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
4 PM	Baking				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
4:30	Made Spain				College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Scrub	Wife Lopez
5 PM	Barbecue	Jeopardy	College Basket-ball (Live) (HD)	Access Holly-wood	Standng	News	Idol Top 7 to 6'
5:30	Kitchen	News			Standng	News	
6 PM	Gourmet's	News	Extra	Will (HD)	Will (HD)	Insider	CBS: Miami (HD)
6:30	FarmerTV	Law Order (HD)	Cold Case (HD)	Nobel Peace Prize	Queens	"Catch Me if You Can" ('02 Drama) A mis-ter con man.	Cops
7 PM	Walk	Law Order (HD)	Cold Case (HD)	Criminal Minds	Control Room (HD)	Cheaters	America's Most
7:30	Globe Trekker	Law & Order: SVU		Chuggie	Cheaters	Cops	News Sports
8 PM	Austin City Limits	Law & Order: SVU	48 Hours Mys-tery	Westmark	Friends	Sex City	(35) Entertain-ment
8:30	Masterpiece A young girls body is found.	Saturday Night Live (HD)	Victory	Family H.	'70s	Shield	Paid Prog.
9 PM					"Last Exit" ('06)	Shield Lem's killer.	Paid Prog. Two & 1/2
9:30							Exposure Two & 1/2

SUNDAY	KTX	KCBD	KLBK	KMYL	KLCW	KAMC	KJTV
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	5 PBS Lubbock	11 NBC Lubbock	13 CBS Lubbock	14 MYN Lubbock	22 CW Lubbock	28 ABC Lubbock	34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Thomas	Today Week-end	Sushi Pk	Awakening	Bible	Paid Prog.	Paid Programs
7:30	Bob				Lord's Way		
8 AM	Franny	Reporter	CBS News Sunday Morn-ing		Chidren	Copeland	
8:30	Singing	Methodist			Prophecy	E. Trice	
9 AM	Washbone	Meet the Press	Access Holly-wood	Paid Programs	In Touch	FOX News Sun-day	
9:30	BizKids		Hour of Power	TMZ	Degrassi	Si se pued	Southwest
10 AM	Destines	Southwest	Road to Final Four	1 Baptist Safari	ReGenesis	This Week	Paid Programs Sponsored.
10:30	InnerVIEWS	NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Pits-burgh	College Basket-ball "SEC Championship (Live)	Paid Programs	**1* "8 Sec-onds" ('94) Rodeo legend.	NASCAR Sprint Cup Food City	
11 AM	Business	PGA Tourna-ment from Bay Hill Club, Or-lando, Fla. (Live) (HD)	College Basket-ball "Big Ten Champi-onship" (Live)	College Basket-ball (Live)	Mystery, Alaska" ('99) Town in up-roar.	"The River King" ('06) Boy drifts in river.	NBA Count-down from Bris-bol Motor Speedway (Live) (HD)
11:30	Motors	PGA Tourna-ment from Bay Hill Club, Or-lando, Fla. (Live) (HD)			College Basket-ball (Live)	NBA Count-down from Bris-bol Motor Speedway (Live) (HD)	
12 PM	Edison				Everybody Game		
12:30	Globe Trekker						
1 PM	You: Steps						
2 PM	Money	Paid Prog.	Selection Show	TMZ	One Tree Hill (HD)	News	To Be An-nounced
2:30	Happiness Pres.				Pat Knight	Home Videos	King
3 PM	Walk	Dateline NBC	60 Minutes	Star Trek	Top Model	Home Videos	King
3:30							
4 PM							
4:30							
5 PM							
5:30							
6 PM							
6:30							
7 PM							
7:30							
8 PM	Masterpiece	Law & Order (HD)	Cold Case (HD)	Dexter (HD)	Two & 1/2	Cheaters	(02) Newly-weds
8:30	Writer's sub-scribers.	Law & Order: SVU		Dexter (HD)	Two & 1/2	Cops	News Sports
9 PM	Austen	News	News	Lopez	Dead Like Me	News	Lady Raide
9:30	Guns, Germs	Inside	(35) Without Trace	TBA	Paid Prog.	Cold Squad	(05) Entertain-ment
10 PM	Appalachians	Reel Talk	Westmark	Star Trek		Victory	(05) Entertain-ment
10:30						Stone Under-cover	Paid Prog. Seinfeld
11 PM							
11:30							
12 AM							



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