

Timothy
Poon

SPORTS, PAGE 8

LA VIDA, PAGE 5

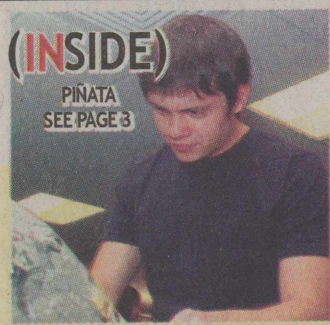


THE DAILY T OREADOR

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Texas Tech University
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MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2008
VOLUME 83 ■ ISSUE 60



(INSIDE)
PINATA
SEE PAGE 3

(INBRIEF)

STATE

Many jailed illegal immigrants released

HOUSTON (AP) — Federal immigration officials let thousands of inmates in the nation's third-largest county walk out of jail despite the suspects admitting they were in the United States illegally, a newspaper investigation found.

More than 3,500 inmates told Harris County jailers they were in the country illegally over an eight-month period starting in June 2007, but records show Immigration and Customs Enforcement only filed paperwork to detain about one-fourth of those suspects.

NATION

Fires reduce hundreds of homes to ash

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Southern Californians endured a third day of destruction Saturday as wind-blasted wildfires torched hundreds of mobile homes and mansions, forced tens of thousands of people to flee and shut down major freeways.

No deaths were reported, but the Los Angeles police chief said he feared authorities might find bodies among the 500 burned dwellings in a devastated mobile home park that housed many senior citizens.

WORLD

Iraq's Cabinet approves security pact

BAGHDAD (AP) — An Iraqi government spokesman says the Cabinet has approved a security pact with the United States that will allow American forces to stay in Iraq for three years after their U.N. mandate expires at the end of the year.

Spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh says all 27 Cabinet ministers present in Sunday's meeting, in addition to Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, voted in favor of the pact. The Cabinet has 37 members and it is not immediately clear why some ministers stayed away. Several of them are believed to be traveling abroad.

DEATH TOLL

4196

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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US supply line threatened by truck halt

By RIAZ KHAN and FISNIK ABRASHI
Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan temporarily barred oil tankers and container trucks from a key passageway to Afghanistan, threatening a critical supply route for U.S. and NATO troops on Sunday and raising more fears about security in the militant-plagued border region.

The suspension came as U.S.-led coalition troops reported

killing 30 insurgents in fighting in southern Afghanistan and detaining two militant leaders — both in provinces near Pakistan's lawless border.

Al-Qaida and Taliban fighters are behind much of the escalating violence along the lengthy, porous Afghan-Pakistan border, and both nations have traded accusations that the other was not doing enough to keep militants out from its side.

The tensions come as violence in Afghanistan has reached its

highest level since the U.S.-led invasion ousted the Taliban regime in 2001, and as a surge in U.S. missile strikes on the Pakistani side of the border has prompted protests from Pakistan government leaders.

A band of militants hijacked about a dozen trucks Nov. 10 whose load included Humvees headed to the foreign forces in Afghanistan. Renewed security concerns prompted officials to impose the temporary ban on tankers and trucks carrying sealed containers late Saturday, government official Bakhtiar Khan

said. He said it could be lifted as early as Monday.

Lt. Cmdr. Walter Matthews, a spokesman for the U.S. military in Afghanistan, acknowledged only that "the appropriate authorities are coordinating security procedures."

"The convoys will continue flowing. We will not discuss when, or where, or what," he said.

Denied entry to the route, dozens of the trucks and oil tankers were parked along a main road near Peshawar, the regional capital.

Asked about security fears, Re-

hmatullah, a driver who gave only one name and said his truck was carrying a military vehicle of some sort, said, "This is our job, and we have to do it, but yes, we have a security risk every time we pass through the route."

Many of the supplies headed to foreign troops arrive in the southern Pakistani port city of Karachi in unmarked, sealed shipping containers and are loaded onto trucks for the journey either to the border town of Chaman or the primary route, through the famed Khyber Pass.

PART THREE OF A THREE-PART SERIES

Examining the social complexities of massive multi-player online role-playing games



Recent studies suggest women becoming increasingly more involved in computer, video games

By TINA L. ARONS
STAFF WRITER

They are female gamers, hear them roar.

Computer and video games often are considered a male-dominated activity, but studies report an increase of gaming among females — a trend that some researchers believe may continue as more pre-teen female gamers continue to play as they grow older.

Mary Parnell, a senior biology major from Rowlett, said she began playing "World of Warcraft" in middle school and has been playing since.

"I wasn't good at sports, because I'm really short," she said, shrugging. "Gaming has strategy, and I'm better at that."

According to a 2008 report by the Entertainment

Software Association, the video and computer game communities combined consists of 40 percent females — 2 percentage points higher than the previous year.

The report found women age 18 or older represented a greater portion of the game-playing population than boys 17 years old and younger — 33 percent compared to 18 percent.

Parnell, who waited almost four hours in line Thursday for the midnight release of WoW's new expansion, said she enjoys the social communities such as guilds in massive multi-player online role-playing games.

"I don't tell people I'm a girl, because people don't care," she said. "I'm just a member of the guild."

Celia Pearce, the Experimental Game Lab direc-

tor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, said in an e-mail that massive multi-player online games "arose from a socio-cultural primordial soup that was particularly heavily dominated by males."

"The first games of this genre were invented on college campuses by computer science students who had access to mainframe computers," Pearce said. "These games were heavily influenced by the tabletop role-playing culture, which is a direct descendent of war-gaming and miniatures."

She said young male players tend to focus on achievement and combat, while women focus on social aspects such as guild management and community building and creativity.

GAMERS continued on page 6

Scalia addresses crowd, discusses Constitution

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

The second-most senior U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Antonin Scalia, addressed a crowd of about 5,000 people Friday evening at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center's Exhibit Hall as a part of the Sandra Day O'Connor lecture series.

During the lecture, Scalia discussed his belief that the U.S. Constitution should not be taken as a living, ever-changing document.

"The Constitution is not a living document," he said. "It is a legal document."

Scalia suggested that people should create the nation's laws instead of allowing the courts to decide the laws.

He interjected some humor into the 37-minute speech, including poking fun at theorists who believe the Constitution is a "living document."

"The living constitutionalist is always a happy person," he said.

People who believe the Constitution is a living document believe it is malleable and can be changed so it reflects their intentions, Scalia said, but he believes the Constitution should be interpreted literally from a legal aspect.

Scalia backed up his philosophy of interpreting the Constitution literally by citing a time during his tenure on the Supreme Court when he voted that American flag-burning

was a constitutional First Amendment right, despite his personal opinion against flag-burning.

"The living constitutionalist never has to confront those things," Scalia said.

Scalia's trip to Lubbock was funded by a Houston-based attorney and 1984 Tech law school graduate, Mark Lanier, who is considered one of the top-10 trial lawyers in the nation, according to legal peer reviews cited by Tech School of Law dean Walter Huffman.

"We've got a great school in Texas Tech," Lanier said. "It's a goal of Becky, my wife, and I to see that the school's reputation gets out to the public more. One way we can do that is that we've got some contacts with some people who will do us the kindness of coming out here and speaking. When I was growing up in Lubbock, Texas Tech brought out some outstanding people that I had to pleasure of meeting and listening to and we just want to continue that tradition."

Scalia was the third U.S. Supreme Court justice to visit Tech. O'Connor visited Tech in 2007 as the inaugural speaker of the lecture series named in her honor and Justice Clarence Thomas has visited in the past.

Scalia began his speech by saying he was proud to be the second speaker of the O'Connor Lecture Series.

SCALIA continued on page 2



KEN MUIR/The Daily Treador

THE HONORABLE JUDGE Antonin Scalia, an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, gives a lecture to students, professors and Lubbock residents as a part of the Sandra Day O'Connor Distinguished Lecture Series Friday at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

	TODAY Sunny		Tuesday Sunny		Wednesday Sunny		Thursday Partly Cloudy		Friday Sunny
	High 72 Low 35		High 67 Low 39		High 72 Low 38		High 59 Low 33		High 62 Low 39

Tech receives funding for Noyce Scholars program

By MIKE GRAHAM
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech received a \$740,275 grant from the National Science Foundation for a program that will give scholarships to math and science majors who want to teach high school math and science courses after graduation.

The new Tech Noyce Scholars Program will provide \$20,000 scholarships for math and science students who want to teach high school math and science courses upon graduation from Tech, according to a Tech news release.

"Basically, it provides a scholarship for two years at \$10,000 a year if math and science students want to become high school teachers, math and chemistry specifically," said Jerry Dwyer, the program director and assistant professor in the mathematics department.

Dwyer said the Noyce Scholars Program's main purpose is to place

highly qualified math and science teachers into high schools that need them.

"There are simply not enough highly qualified teachers in the math and science disciplines," he said. "Some high schools may have to resort to coaches teaching math or Spanish teachers teaching chemistry."

Twenty-six upper-level undergraduate students will be recruited for a two-year K-12 teaching experience, according to the news release. In addition, 10 lower-level undergraduate students will participate in summer K-12 teaching programs.

Upon graduation, students in the program must teach for four years in high schools considered "high need" schools, according to the news release.

"As of yet, we have heard from just a handful of interested students," Dwyer said. "We haven't publicized it much and have not started announc-

ing it to the public much yet."

Tech was one of 20 universities out of 103 that applied to receive Noyce Scholars funding, according to the news release.

Dwyer said he attributes Tech's location and the strong relationships between the math, science and chemistry departments as the main reasons the National Science Foundation chose to fund Tech.

"I think they liked our collaboration between the colleges," he said. "We've built a strong relationship between each other. We are in a region that desperately needs more experienced math and science teachers and we're well placed in the southwestern United States where math and science students from other universities and community colleges may want to transfer here to take advantage of our new program."

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Center for Campus Life kicks off food drive

By BRUCE LAMB
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Tech Can Share Food Drive began collecting food and toiletry donations for the South Plains Food Bank Sunday and will collect donations on the Texas Tech campus until Friday.

Amy Murphy, associate dean of students and director of the Center for Campus Life, said Tech's goal is to collect 25,000 pounds of food. Canned goods will be collected from departments, offices, classes and student organizations.

Murphy said holding the food drive is an opportunity for Tech to give back to the community.

"One of the reasons we do it is to involve ourselves in the Lubbock community," she said. "Also, hunger is an issue throughout the Lubbock community and I think sometimes students do not realize that. It also gives faculty and staff members an opportunity to talk with students about the educational issues surrounding hunger."

Murphy said students are interested in community service and giving back to the Lubbock community based on what students tell the center when they enter the university.

"It's just one of the ways that we offer students to give back to the Lubbock community," she said. "We benefit

but the Lubbock community also benefits."

The week-long food drive started at Sunday's Lady Raider Basketball game, and fans that brought six or more cans of food to the game entered free.

Students can drop off cans at Greek Circle today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cans also may be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday at the band parking lot. Other collection sites include the Robert H. Ewald Student Recreation center, residence halls and the Student Wellness Center.

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4 Gaza militants killed in retaliatory airstrike

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — An Israeli airstrike killed four Palestinian militants as they fired mortars from the Gaza Strip on Sunday, Palestinian officials said, just hours after another group of militants

struck Israel in a separate rocket attack.

The violence was the latest in a surge of clashes that have rocked a 5-month-old truce between Israel and Gaza's militant Hamas rulers. Both sides

say they would like to preserve the Egyptian-mediated truce, which is due to expire next month, but events over the past two weeks signal the opposite is happening.

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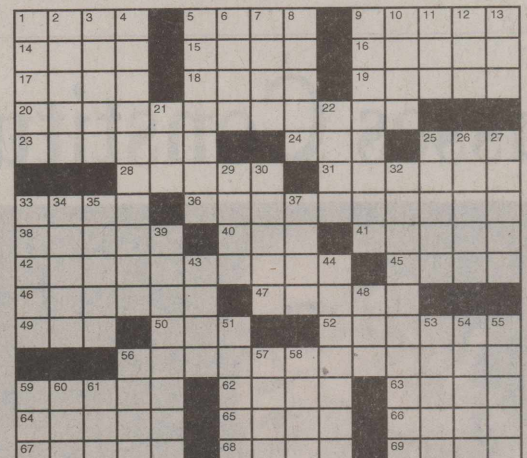
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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hezy lavyer
 - 5 Aida sitcom
 - 9 Capital of Belarus
 - 14 Storybook bear
 - 15 Natural soothing
 - 16 Former Mrs. Trump
 - 17 Cupcake finisher
 - 18 Colombian city
 - 19 Element #54
 - 20 The Nine Days' Queen
 - 23 Slept fitfully
 - 24 City in central Israel
 - 25 Small viper
 - 28 Mosque officials
 - 31 San Luis, CA
 - 33 Pageant attire
 - 36 Sherwood Forest damsel
 - 38 Stand by for
 - 40 One to Juan
 - 41 Majestic
 - 42 Musical set in Vietnam
 - 45 Slaughter of baseball
 - 46 Enter the pot
 - 47 Get a whiff of
 - 49 Size above med.
 - 50 Badminton barrier
 - 52 Tearjerker
 - 56 Flaubert novel
 - 59 Poppy product
 - 62 Bonkers
 - 63 Desiccated
 - 64 Language of Iran
 - 65 "The King and I" actress
 - 66 Congenial
 - 67 Some shoes
 - 68 Knock for a loop
 - 69 Pre-revolution ruler
- DOWN**
- 1 Overflowed
 - 2 Peninsula near Hong Kong
 - 3 Pundits' pieces
 - 4 "CSI: NY" star
 - 5 Paving material
 - 6 Novelist Paton
 - 7 Exclusive
 - 8 Katherine of "27 Dresses" boy
 - 9 Motley assortment
 - 10 Judith of "Sister, Sister" twin
 - 11 Bert Bobbsey's
 - 12 Cone or Cat starter
 - 13 Colo. neighbor
 - 21 "To Kill a Mockingbird" boy
 - 22 Hilton unit
 - 25 Thai or Tibetan
 - 26 Joe of "NCIS"
 - 27 Little lakes
 - 28 Hawaiian island
 - 30 Does a number
 - 32 Not pertinent
 - 33 Nasser of Egypt
 - 34 In debt
 - 35 Fritter away
 - 37 Dire prophecy
 - 39 Big waves
 - 43 Mimicked
 - 44 Recent arrival
 - 48 "Seinfeld" uncle name
 - 51 Converses
 - 53 City on the Seine
 - 54 Susan Lucci's soap role
 - 55 Actress Winona
 - 56 Has to
 - 57 Champagne name
 - 58 Creamy shade
 - 59 Amiss
 - 60 Good buddy
 - 61 Letters for savers



By Doug Peterson
Pasadena, CA

11/17/08

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RUES CAMEO EURO
CLASS CLOWN EMIR
EGRET SEEDLESS
DESSERT RYE RHO
WAIFS CSA
VEST DNA SALTED
OCCUPATION FOOLE
CORNER TAO ERIE
OAT SHRUB
SMU ATE STRATUM
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ODDBALL DAILY

NY pet cemetery ranked among Taj Mahal, pyramids

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — A travel guide's list of the best places in the world to be entombed includes a cemetery for animals in a New York City suburb.

"Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2009" includes the Hartsdale Pet Cemetery with the Taj Mahal and the

Great Pyramids among the 10 "best places of rest."

A spokesman for Hartsdale says it's "delighted to be in such esteemed company."

The guide says the headstones at the pet cemetery are fascinating to read. One says, "Sport: Born a dog,

died a gentleman."

There are 70,000 creatures and several bereaved humans in the 112-year-old pet cemetery, which is 20 miles north of New York City.

A spokeswoman for the publisher says the book tries to include "a variety of travel experiences."

Legal grind ends for woman accused of dirty dance

MARSHALL, N.C. (AP) — Nobody puts Rebecca Willis in a corner.

A small mountain town has agreed to pay \$275,000 for banning her from a community hangout after residents complained about her dirty dancing.

Willis, then 56, was told to stay away from the Marshall Depot community center eight years

ago.

According to court documents, she was accused of gyrating and simulating sexual intercourse with her partner while wearing a skirt so short it exposed her underwear. Willis described her dance style as "exuberant and flamboyant" but not obscene.

She's still not allowed to return to the refurbished train station

where she once danced and socialized, but she said that's OK with her.

Her attorney, Jon Sasser, said the town strongly opposes lifting the ban.

"They said they'd burn the place down before they let her come back, so we decided to see if they'd put a monetary price on the right," he said.

Man arrested after wheeling heater down street

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Police in Memphis figured something wasn't right when they spotted a man wheeling a water heater down a street on a dolly.

And when officers got out of their car to talk to 52-year-old Kenneth Bolden, he took off run-

ning.

The Commercial Appeal reported that police caught him, put him in the squad car and drove around the neighborhood because four delicate pipes were damaged when a visitor napped on

said, "That's the one."

Police found the back door kicked in and the spot where a water heater had been ripped out.

Bolden was held in lieu of \$35,000 bond on aggravated burglary, evading arrest and having burglary tools.

Man arrives at bar with pet alligator; cops called

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Heard the one about the guy who walked into a bar with an alligator?

At Johnny's Saloon in Orange County, it was more than a joke early Saturday when a man arrived with his 3-foot pet gator on a leash.

By the time police and animal control officers arrived at Johnny's, the gator was in the man's vehicle in the parking lot. Officers followed him home, where another alligator was found, animal control spokesman Ryan Drabek said.

Both alligators were impounded and were being held Wednesday

pending an investigation by the Department of Fish and Game, Drabek said.

Alligators are not native to California and it is illegal to keep them as pets.

A woman who answered the telephone at Johnny's Wednesday night declined to comment.

Man's untimely nap damages church's organ pipes

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. (AP) — This isn't music to anyone's ears: The restoration of a church's 130-year-old organ has been delayed because four delicate pipes were damaged when a visitor napped on

them.

The 18-foot pipes were among about 50 stored in the basement at First Churches in Northampton during the sanctuary's renovation.

The Rev. Peter Ives estimates the damage at close to \$15,000. But he says the organ can be played without

the pipes. Ives says the church will not press charges.

The man apparently mistook the pipes for rolled-up rugs and slept on them. He is a homeless man who was in the church for a job counseling meeting.

Scalia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"(O'Conner is) a good friend of mine," he said. "I'm very happy to continue the lecture series named in her honor."

Scalia was introduced by Huffman, Lanier and New York University law professor Arthur R. Miller.

Huffman thanked those in attendance for coming to the lecture and thanked Lanier for his generosity in bringing Scalia to Lubbock. Lanier then introduced Miller.

Miller humorously introduced Scalia to the audience as "colorful,

Bets high as \$1K in dogfighting ring, police say

HOUSTON (AP) — A broken-up dogfighting ring in Texas that drew crowds of 100 people and bets as high as \$1,000 kept detailed journals of fights and used crates used to ship dogs internationally, authorities said.

Nearly 200 dogs have been seized, eight people arrested and 47 others indicted since officials near Houston announced Friday they busted what they called one of the country's largest dogfighting operations.

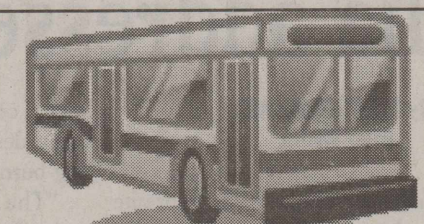
Organizers sold pups for as much as \$500, and champion-type bloodlines could go for \$1,500 to \$3,000, said Harris County Sheriff's Office Sgt.

P. Leone. Animal welfare groups are taking care of most of the seized dogs, but a judge will decide their fate.

Most of the dogs could be euthanized, Leone said.

"Some of the dogs may be people-friendly, but the question you have to ask yourself is whether or not you'd want your 3-year-old child around the dog," he said.

Authorities broke up the ring through a 17-month investigation by undercover officers, who attended some of the weekly or bimonthly fights held at eight secluded sites in Harris County.



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That is the question posed to students in regards to the **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEE**

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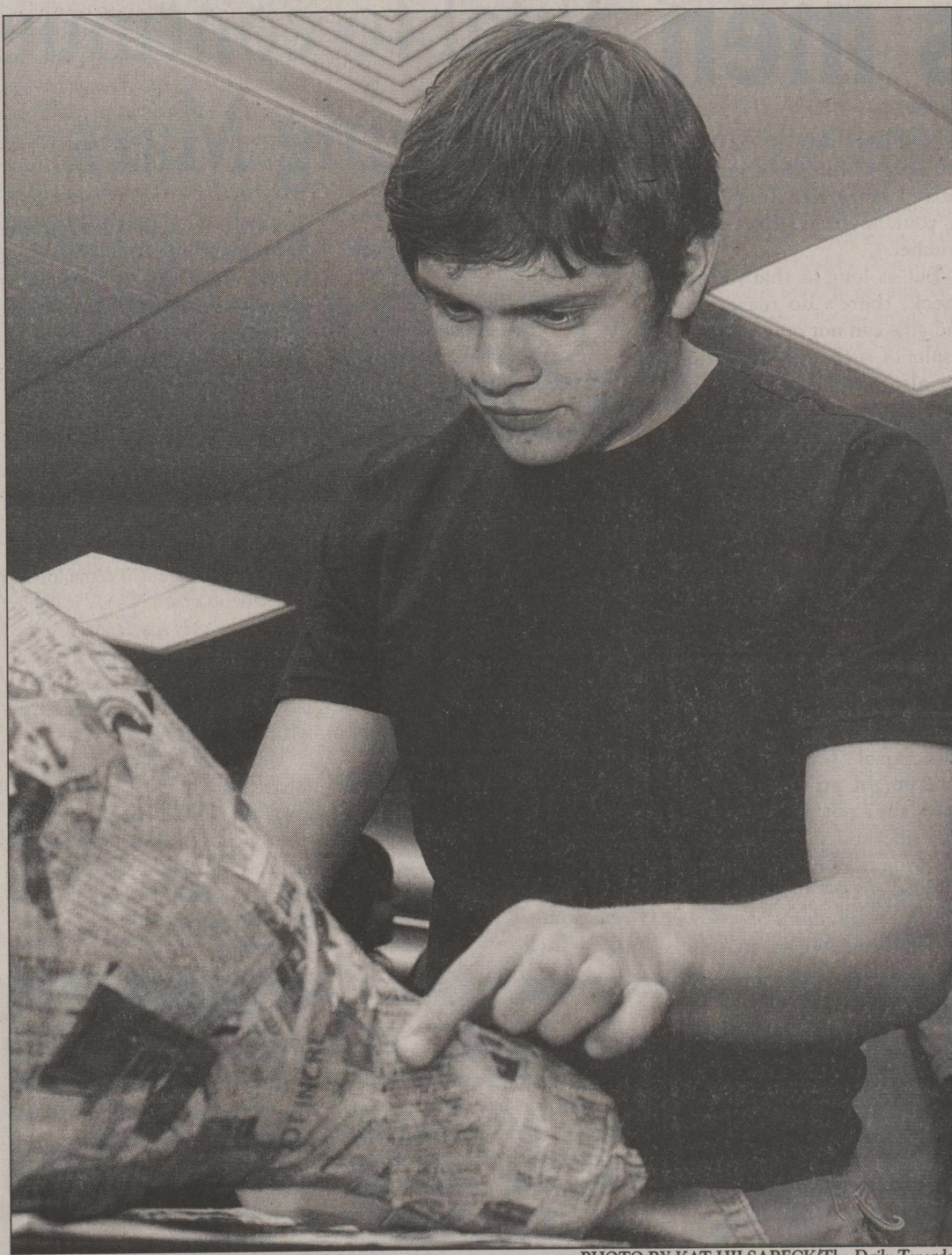


PHOTO BY KAT HILSABECK/The Daily Toreador
RUBEN ABBUD, A freshman landscape architecture major from Arlington, makes a piñata Thursday evening in the Involvement Center of the Student Union Building for a Piñata Fest contest hosted by Unidos por un Mismo Idioma in December.

Couples attend counseling to waive marriage license fees, learn tips for marital success

By BRIDGET DESTEFANO
STAFF WRITER

All lovebirds welcome. The Texas Tech Relationship Education Initiative hosted its third free premarital workshop Saturday to educate couples about conflict resolution, communication and other marriage essentials.

The educational class is an initiative of the state-wide program, "Together in Texas" that awards couples who participate in an approved eight-hour class with a certificate that waives the \$60 marriage license.

Jeremy Boden, a Tech research assistant and graduate student who specializes in marriage and family therapy, said research shows premarital workshops help couples.

"It gives them a good head start," he said, "and they learn a lot about each other."

Boden, who teaches three classes in Lubbock, said the workshops are open to all stages of relationships — dating, engaged or married — and singles are welcome also.

The secular classes cover a number of premarital topics such as finances, sex and expectations.

The workshop gave one recently engaged couple a new perspective on marriage.

Paige Tambunga from Ozona and Sean Taylor from Salado met during their first year at Tech School of Law and dated for about 10 months before they got engaged.

As future attorneys, Tambunga said, marital success may not be on their side.

She said one of her professors told her attorneys have a higher rate of divorce, but her and her fiancé plan to be "proactive" about their marriage.

"We're serious about our professions,"

Taylor said, "but don't want it to affect our future marriage."

Tambunga said learning to communicate and discuss problems in a non-argumentative and competitive way is a skill the workshop stresses and an area the couple will work on.

"I want to be able to find a good balance," she said, "and always remember we are on the same team."

However, Boden said a healthy dose of disagreements may be good for couples.

"Conflict is inevitable," he said. "If you're not ever fighting, you aren't using your voice."

Boden said he cautions couples to be aware that fighting does not mean yelling and verbally abusing one another. It is disagreeing from time to time, which can be healthy.

For another couple, the workshop provided a sense of confidence and hope for the future.

Analisa Gallegos, a teacher at the Child Development Research Center from San Angelo, and Casey McCain, a senior petroleum engineering major from Crane, said they have been dating for one year. Although they are not engaged, they considered the tips from the premarital classes an "extra tool" for their relationship.

"We've learned how to better communicate with each other," Gallegos said.

Longevity, closeness and "always reuniting the flame" are goals the couple said they will continue to strive for.

"It makes us confident that we will work," McCain said.

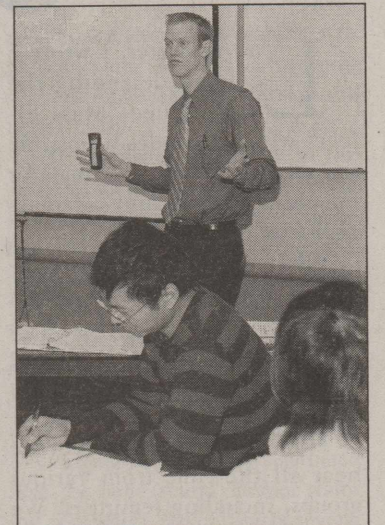


PHOTO BY KAT HILSABECK/The Daily Toreador
JEREMY BODEN, A marriage counselor at Texas Tech, teaches engaged couples how to have a successful marriage Saturday in the Student Union Building.

Boden said attending the class signifies a great deal about the commitment of couples willing to spend eight hours on their Saturday afternoon to work on their relationship.

The success of couples who attend premarital workshops is seen by the stabilization of the divorce rate, he said.

Most importantly, Boden said, people need to create "healthy individuals" in order to stand alone before choosing to be together.

"There are no perfect marriages," he said, "there are just good marriages."

>>>bridget.destefano@ttu.edu

James Bond finds cash 'Solace' of \$70.4M

LOS ANGELES (AP) — James Bond's quantum of the weekend box office: \$70.4 million.

"Quantum of Solace," with Daniel Craig returning as Bond for the first direct sequel in the spy franchise, pulled in nearly \$30 million more over opening weekend than its predecessor, 2006's "Casino Royale," according to studio estimates Sunday.

The debut also topped the previous opening-weekend record for a Bond flick, \$47 million for 2002's "Die Another Day."

Adjusting for inflation, Sony's "Quantum of Solace" easily drew a bigger audience than that installment, the last Bond adventure featuring Pierce Brosnan. Based on 2002 admission prices, about 8.1 million tickets were sold for "Die Another Day" in the first weekend, compared to 9.8 million for "Quantum of Solace."

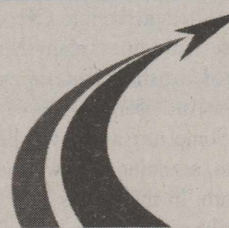
Two years ago, Craig was an unknown quantity as Bond, a stage-trained actor with little action experience and a resume that tended toward small, artsier films. Many fans were unhappy with the casting choice, but the critical and commercial

success of "Casino Royale" silenced the critics.

"Quantum of Solace" picks up where "Casino Royale" left off, with Bond seeking to avenge the death of his lover.

"With 'Casino Royale,' people were rediscovering the franchise in a way

with Daniel Craig as James Bond," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony. "Quite frankly, they loved it. They loved the movie, and they loved him in the role, so I think by the time 'Quantum of Solace' was ready, audiences in the U.S. as well as the world audience was way ready."



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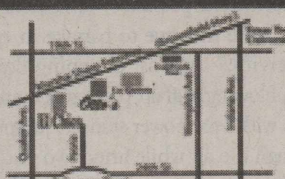
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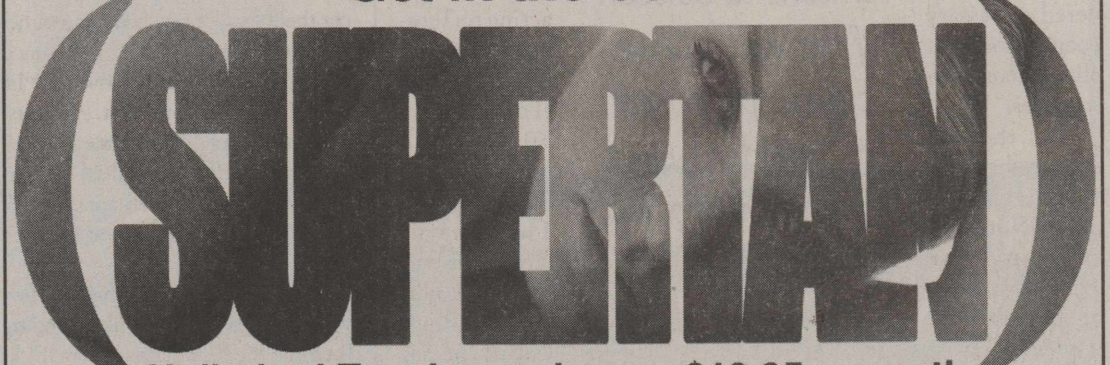
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9			4				1
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Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle



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'Twilight' objectifies men

Last semester, I wrote a column defending the video game "Mass Effect" which includes a possible sex scene between your male or female character and a female character of your choosing.

After the column was published, I recall one commenter on The Daily Toreador Web site berating me for defending video games, which "objectify women."

Now, this is an argument we hear all the time from various groups, including feminists. We hear that all media objectifies women by putting more emphasis on the ones with great bodies: Bigger boobs, thinner thighs, and usually less and less clothing.

While these people certainly can make a good, strong case, I find it funny that they always focus on the women portrayed on screen (be it in a show, movie or video game), outraged that all men are apparently being trained to only expect "perfect" women.

Enter "Twilight's" Edward Cullen.

He's an older man (I hear many women are into that kind of thing) who has everything. Strength, money, nice cars, large intellect and of course good looks.

And he has a heart of gold ... it just doesn't beat.

He doesn't have to sleep or

**Britton
Peele**



even breathe, and he'll always know how to satisfy your needs, because unless your name is Bella Swan, he can read your mind.

Sure, movies might make our girlfriends worry we're falling for the sexy side of Angelina Jolie or Scarlett Johansson, but really, ladies ... how the hell are we guys supposed to compete with a vampire who literally sparkles in the sunlight?

Sure, there's a good story there — yes, I'll admit that I'm a male reader of the "Twilight series" — but how many girls and women are going to see the "Twilight" film later this week purely to see how actor Robert Pattinson stacks up to their imagined version of Edward Cullen?

My guess is quite a few. This isn't an entirely new thing. I'm always hearing about girls watching "Pirates of the

Caribbean" for Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom, or sitting down for a night of the "Bourne" movies just to ogle Matt Damon.

And this isn't a phenomenon limited to any age. I think the primary reason my mom watched "Michael Clayton" was that it starred George Clooney.

And yet, some (though not all) women want to slap us for walking out of a theater thinking that Megan Fox made "Transformers" worth the price of admission,

while they essentially do the same thing we do.

What gives?

Yes, I agree, it's potentially dangerous and unhealthy to only ever show women who have the look of a goddess on screen, but that street should run

both ways. And if your girlfriend is going to swoon over the ripped body of Zac Efron, she should understand if you have a slight crush on Keira Knightley.

Now, understand that this definitely has the potential to go too far. Relationships, of course, should be about far more than physical attraction and good looks. It will always serve you well

to remember this the next time you start wishing your girlfriend looked more like Jessica Biel or your boyfriend like Ashton Kutcher.

But as long as that's kept in check, there's no reason guys and girls can not only accept the results of such "objectification," but also laugh and grow closer over it. "Sure," you can joke. "You can leave me for Brad Pitt, so long as you hook me up with Angelina."

So girls, it's true, no guy may ever be able to measure up to Edward Cullen. For starters, we still have to breathe. But keep in mind that it's us — not a vampire — that can keep you warm at night. Also, we won't try and suck your blood. Probably.

Guys, remember that while the fictional "Tomb Raider" Lara Croft might provide one crazy night, she's not going to stay at your side and take care of you when you need her to.

If you go see "Twilight" with a date this week, don't obsess over the characters on-screen, hot as they may be. Love the person you're with. They may surprise you by being worth more than any vampire or werewolf could ever be.

■ Peele is the DT's Opinions Editor. E-mail him at britton.peele@ttu.edu.

“... how the hell are we guys supposed to compete with a vampire who literally sparkles in the sunlight?”

Vital to continue exploring Mars

By **QUINN MOICKA**
OREGON DAILY EMERALD (U. OREGON)

On Nov. 10, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration declared the conclusion of its most recent mission to Mars. Houston, we have ice!

The Mars Phoenix Lander, sent to excavate the planet's northern pole, ended its more than five-month-long mission when NASA received what it believed to be its last signal on Nov. 2. The exploration of Mars will ideally expand our outlook on the climate and composition of the Red Planet. Samples collected of the planet's ground have led to discoveries such as the existence of ice, and where there's ice, one can only hope there is water.

Think for a moment what it would mean if life had once existed on Mars. The impact of such a discovery would be phenomenal. Perhaps as incredible, even, as when we discovered the moon was not, in fact, made of green cheese.

NASA is at the forefront of Mars exploration and the termination of the Phoenix lander mission signals the need for human exploration of Mars. Human space travel is essential to the future of mankind. While I acknowledge space travel and research are far from inexpensive, the cost of not doing so could prove to be far greater. Our resources are limited and it may not be possible to live here forever.

Global warming and pollution, for example, are real issues that call into question the viability of future life on Earth. No one can see the future, but space should, at the very least, be a grand backup plan, acting as the levees in case of a hurricane. If we were able to live on Mars, global flooding or other disasters wouldn't have to mean an end to human life. Humans must do two things: search for the possibility of life on other planets and determine whether we can inhabit those explored territories.

I'm sure many people have forgotten about NASA's many active exploration programs. It's OK — I did, too,

for a while. The truth is, its efforts have been overshadowed by other significant current events. But we shouldn't be ignoring space travel because of natural disasters and wars.

Instead, space travel should be seen as a solution to these problems. Come on, we've already been to the moon. And sure, there's that International Space Station in progress, but where are the flying cars the future promised us? Wasn't I supposed to be able to travel at the speed of light?

While I'm sure it is committed to achieving its goals, NASA is limited because the only spacecrafts deployed in the name of galactic exploration have been satellites, rovers and landers. Taking pictures and excavating only scratch the surface of our abilities.

Unfortunately, if humans were to explore Mars, I can't help but imagine a multitude of worst-case scenarios. The exploration ends up as a mix between the films "Mission to Mars" and "Red Planet" — astronauts discover current life on the planet, only to be individually killed off.

Still, it's vital that we continue sending robots and satellites to Mars. By doing so, we can determine if it's feasible for humans to inhabit the planet for an extended amount of time. The discovery of water on Mars is one of NASA's most important breakthroughs yet.

I realize sending humans to Mars is a goal that will take many years to achieve, but we should be taking every possible measure to advance our technology to the point where we can perform round trips. If a mission were attempted now, the astronauts wouldn't be able to make it back to Earth, nor turn back if problems occurred. Perhaps we should focus on equipping more than just cars with better fuel efficiency.

We can do it. Maybe not in the next year. Maybe not even in the next five years. But society needs to be intent on backing this idea. In an infinite universe there are infinite possibilities, so who's to say life cannot be sustained on other planets? Remember the third grade, when half the class wanted to be astronauts? I think those 8-year-olds might be onto something.

Will Obama's foreign policy beat Bush's?

By **PAUL ARMSTRONG**
UNIVERSITY DAILY KANSAN (U. KANSAS)

“And that's the flaw of the Bush doctrine,” then-Sen. Barack Obama explained to ABC News anchor Charles Gibson in January. “It wasn't that he went after those who attacked America. It was that he went after those who didn't.”

By consensus, the Bush doctrine is dead. Its tenure as an organizing principle of American foreign policy did not survive the Iraq War. Bush's policies, according to the president-elect, distracted America from more pressing security concerns, stifled its capacity for action, diminished its influence and hindered necessary cooperation with allies in common struggles.

Yet, the verdict on the Bush years remains open. Notwithstanding the exorbitant costs of the Iraq War, it remains to be seen if the alternative course proposed by President-elect Obama will yield better results at lower costs.

Make no mistake: The costs were high, but the Bush doctrine did yield results — results that years of containment and diplomacy failed to deliver on Iran and North Korea. Saddam Hussein is dead. The issue of Iraq has been dealt a final resolution, and only because of this will an Obama administration confront other matters that would have been impossible to manage with Saddam Hussein still astride the Middle East, thwarting American designs.

The test-case in-waiting that will reveal the wisdom or foolishness of Obama's critique of the Bush years is Iran, the primary source of instability in the Middle East.

With the political stakes high both at home and abroad, Obama is not wrong to prefer a diplomatic resolution. In the grandest fantasies of Democratic policy wonks, Iran would be offered

a comprehensive diplomatic bargain under which it would abandon its support of terrorism and its pursuit of nuclear power in exchange for the lifting of sanctions, economic aid, access to Western markets and technology, nuclear fuel and other incentives.

If it plays out according to this outline, then Obama will face few obstacles in keeping his promise of a responsible withdrawal from Iraq. The region will stabilize, and Obama will probably easily win re-election in 2012.

But what if the architects of the Islamic Revolution of 1979 have no intention of dealing with America? Reacting to Tuesday's election results, Seyyid Hossein, a 30-year-old Iranian school teacher, told The Guardian, “Obama's victory could improve things because he has his head on his shoulders. But I believe the regime doesn't want better relations with the U.S. It wants to have a big enemy to frighten people and maintain its rule.”

It remains a self-serving article of liberal faith that Bush's obstinacy has been the only barrier to regional rapprochement.

But if Iran declines to come to terms with “the Great Satan,” then a quick, responsible withdrawal from Iraq will be impossible, and Obama will find himself in the shoes of his predecessor, confronting the world's most dangerous regimes as they seek the world's most dangerous weapons.

If Obama fails, then Bush was right, and it is not unlikely that pre-emption, the cornerstone of the Bush doctrine, will again see its day, this time brought to you by Democrats.

The Bush years demonstrated that pre-emption is a bad option, but it may yet prove to be the least bad option on a policy menu filled with worse options.

“Notwithstanding the exorbitant costs of the Iraq War, it remains to be seen if the alternative course proposed by President-elect Obama will yield better results at lower costs.”

'No shave November' shows manliness of epic proportions

By **EVAN CONNET**
OSU DAILY BAROMETER (OREGON STATE U.)

November is a magical month, one of feasting and merriment. The days grow shorter as the holiday season edges ever closer and we take stock of the year that lies behind us and the one that lies ahead. However, there is something else that sets November apart from every other month.

For eleven months of the year, the average man is shackled to the inescapable pull of the shave. Daily upkeep of facial hair, a process that begins as a rite of passage into manhood, becomes nothing more than a nuisance as men around the world take time out of their day to rid their faces of this societal pariah-maker. So what better way to spend a month than growing out a large, bushy, rustic manbeard? No shave November it is!

As such, November is a time when a man can be a man and, if she so chooses, a woman can be ... um, French. As per the rules of a true believer, neither blade nor shaving cream may touch the body from midnight November 1st to midnight December 1st. As a first time practitioner of this time-honored tradition myself, it has indeed been an interesting journey, even a mere week and a half into the month at the time I write this.

Forgoing the typical shave at first seems strange, foreign, like stepping back into the 70s when growing a thick, full mustache was all the rage. (Okay, I don't have a thick, full mustache, but you catch my drift.) The first few days of itchy scruff and sandpaper face are the hardest, as many men realize just how unkempt and patchy they really look. But fear not, once you clear the hurdles

of the beginning, it is smooth sailing all the way to Beardsville.

Now in doing a little research into this month-long phenomena I have uncovered many different motives for denying the razor for a whole month. For some it is a personal test of endurance, just to prove they can. For others it is a fundraiser, done for a cause. Some, such as myself, take the opportunity just to see what it will look like, since it's never been attempted before. Of course, along those same lines, many bets may be placed as to the endurance and fortitude of the participant.

Some naysayers will bet against them, assuming they will not last the month. In these cases I say be strong, stay the course and victory will be yours. In fact I have a bet with my roommate, who shall remain unnamed, because as soon as the month is up, his shame will alert everyone anyway.

No-Shave November is not for the weak-willed or flaky, and some employers do not see eye-to-eye on the whole “unkempt” look. While I would advise that you be a man and walk out on said employer for their affront, I understand the need for income, and thus a job. In this case I am sorry for you — we can't all be perfect specimens of manliness.

Also be warned, No-Shave November carries the possibility of side effects that create the urge to partake in epic mantivities such as: chopping down trees, blowing stuff up, playing sick guitar solos with epic power stances, jumping through the air while firing two pistols, surviving in the woods with nothing but a hatchet and a bottle of vodka, and BBQ.

I wish the best of luck to everyone partaking in this month of literal and figurative growth.



“There's no place like home. . . there's no place lik--wait a minute. What the hell am I saying? I'm from Kansas!!!”

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Publishing Information
Periodical Postage paid by The Daily Toreador, Student Media Building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 79409. Publication number: 766480. The DT is a student newspaper published Monday through Friday, September through May, Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods. The DT is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free campus distribution resulting from student service fees.

Subscriptions
Call: (806) 742-3388
Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; single issues: 25 cents.
Postmaster: send address changes to The Daily

Toreador, Box 43081 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

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Google makes life easier with applications

Google is what many would call a "substantial" company by now, which means it has influence in a considerable amount of Internet activities.

Google offers e-mail, Web search and a smorgasbord of software applications and suites. These tools have been well explored because many people regularly search from its minimalist home page, use Gmail, route road trips with Google Maps and fiddle a great deal with Google Earth in an attempt to complete a list of worldwide crop circles.

So what's left after throwing out all of Google's staple products?

A great deal, and it's not surprising because Google has had more ideas kicked around the office and fleshed out into full-scale, tangible distractions than the weird lady down the street has cats.

Because of my well-documented penchant for mobile-enabled services, I highly suggest anyone with an interest in daily efficiency and faking texts in sticky situations to look into Google SMS.

Essentially, this free service brings Google's "I'm Feeling Lucky" button to your mobile device.

People can take advantage of it by texting a query to GOOGLE (466453) or meandering to m.google.com/sms with their phone to get immediate answers. Going by the SMS route, users will get a response from Google with what the creators hope is a correct answer to the question asked.

When I get up in the morning and want to check the weather, I usually text "weather Lubbock, TX" to Google SMS and get back enough information about

Timothy Poon



whether I should wear my Members Only Jacket, throw on those fashionable Bermuda shorts or go back to sleep until Christmas. Almost anything people can search with Google, they can search with Google SMS. Product prices, quick facts, movie showtimes, language translations and unit conversions — all can be accomplished with Google SMS.

Users can personalize their location so certain queries are customized for his or her area. The only problem a person could expect to encounter with Google SMS is that some queries will not work as expected. The text "Price ipod player" will, oddly enough, come up with prices for Logitech portable speakers, but it's pretty rare to find a broken query.

Similarly, you could also check out GOOG-411, a free 411 directory search service.

Completely unrelated to mobile search, Google offers a pretty sweet 3D modeling program called SketchUp. Admittedly, the application is rudimentary when compared to other 3D programs like LightWave 3D or Cinema 4D, but is complex enough to compete.

One of the main draws of the program is its ease of use. Rather than working from point to point with an

innumerable amount of polygons, SketchUp allows the user to focus more readily on extruding click-and-drag basic shapes. Also, the program allows for finer vector controls.

One nice feature is a "smart" drawing system that allows users to draw 3D objects in a 2D environment. Once a user finishes modeling in SketchUp, he or she can either animate camera and sun movements with the program or export the model to be used in various other applications, such as renders like Kerkythea or Google Earth, to fill the world with his or her own objects.

If someone wants to get into some easy 3D modeling before diving into mind-bending applications like Maya or 3ds Max, he or she should see what SketchUp can offer.

If anything can be extrapolated from these little tidbits of information, it is that Google takes functionality and ease of use to be the greatest assets of any service or application, regardless of intent.

One product generally under-utilized but incredibly effective in keeping up with copious amounts of information are feed readers.

Google offers a product of this nature called Google Reader, a web-based aggregator that can read in Atom and RSS feeds. If you have no idea what a feed reader or aggregator is, you're missing out. Aggregators collect syndicated web content of your choosing from blogs, web comics and almost anything nowadays.

Even Facebook offers an RSS feed for a person's own notifications so he or

she doesn't have to log in to his or her account or e-mail to check up on what people have been doing. Aggregators can collect news from outlets like *The New York Times* or recommended videos from YouTube. Almost anything that provides new content from day to day can be placed into feeds for the user's convenience.

Google Reader's interface is as Google as it gets, sparse but functional, but features under the hood are what make it fantastic.

These include keyboard shortcuts, an extremely handy search function, widespread integration across products such as mobile devices, Google Gears for offline viewing, built-in functionality with Mozilla's Firefox and automatic markings of viewed and new items on subscribed feeds.

If people are not using Google Reader or some other feed reader, they are making life much harder on themselves when it comes to keeping up with their favorite sites.

Although some Google products hog the spotlight when it comes to the number of users or necessity on the web, some lesser known gems are cherished by those who already use them and will soon be indispensable to those just discovering them.

It's just too bad that Google took down the Swiss cheese from Google Moon.

n Timothy Poon is *The DT's* tech critic. E-mail him at timothy.poon@ttu.edu.

Knights sharpen swords, apply craft at Texas ranch

SANGER (AP) — They're training for a job every little boy dreams of: getting paid to run around in costume, swing swords on horseback and play the role of hero or villain while crowds cheer.

"Being a knight is like being Peter Pan," said Clint Mally, a knight for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament in Lawrenceville, Ga.

"It's always fun to go to work," he said.

Mally is one of several experienced knights who trained six novices this fall at the entertainment company's Chapel Creek Ranch in Denton County. Twice a year, young men drawn here from across the country learn to perform in the 11th-century-inspired dinner show.

The grueling six- to eight-week course teaches physical fitness, horsemanship and gaming skills.

It's fun for an adventurer like Mally, a dashing young knight who strides confidently around the ranch clad in a tight T-shirt and sparkle tights.

"I probably won't be able to get a regular job again," he said.

Ryan Richmond, a trainee from Dallas, joined the knight program after losing his financial aid for college.

A music therapy major at Southern Methodist University, he performed as a trumpeter at Medieval Times in Dallas. His manager recom-

mended him for the training program. "Right now," he said, as swords and axes clanged behind him, "I'd be teaching little bratty kids how to play the trumpet."

"Who's tying who, guys?" Tim Baker, director of stunts and choreography, asks the trainees as they struggle with reins and fumble with bits, trying to shove the metal pieces through the horses' teeth.

At 45, Baker is a rarity in the 100-plus member knighthood. Most knights wash out in their mid-30s, he said. The physical demands of the show, regimented diet and training are tiring. "It's a lifestyle choice," he said.

For the newbies, the horses are the most difficult part of the training.

"Has anyone fallen off yet?" knight trainee Daniel Townsend of Hanover, Md., jokingly asks the guys gathered near the large, round outdoor training pen where Baker directs several trainees. Most, like Townsend, have no experience on horseback. Falling off is routine.

Ryan Hinson of Baltimore did a "spiderman" twice the day before — jumping off the horse instead of falling, and gripping onto the concrete walls of the pen for dear life. The former electrician apprentice was hanging ceiling fans before he joined the knighthood.

Injury is always a possibility in the two-hour show, which includes intricate fight scenes with real weapons — swords and axes that weigh 4 to 8 pounds.

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<p>Monday Nov. 17, 2008</p> <p>Jana Abeln Jose Adame Joshua Albritton Juan Aleman Dustin Alexander Alexander Alvarado Craig Baird Maria Bannout Sarah Barnes Fred Bean Michael Betenhausen Matthew Blair Matthew Boal Andrew Brockman Brian Brooks Casey Brunson Tiffany Bunag Matthew Bussanmas Perla Calderon Jeremy Campbell Jared Campbell Scott Carmack Dondi Carter Michael Cast Charles Clements Nathalie Clouse Aimee Correa John Cowling James Cox Denise Day Jack Delaney Amanda Denler Caitlin Dorian Ralston Dorn Kenton Dubose Robert Dunning Kayleigh Edwards Allison Ernst Joanna Espinoza Jill Fadal Whitney Flynt Ryan Folger Stephen Follis Stephanie Foster Mark Foyle Ryan Garner Coleman Garrison Jacqueline Garza Rachel Gelber Joshua Gentry Geoffrey Gibson Debra Girton Shawana Glenn Peter Gonzales Jacob Gonzales Lakeshia Grant Gregory Griffith William Guy Jared Hagen Samuel Haigis Matthew Hall Adam Hamled Katie Hamilton Amanda Hatfield Jon House Damon Hughes Kevin Hull Lara Hunt Taylor Hyde Colt Hynes Vivien Ingram Patrick Isenberg Joshua Isias</p>	<p>Lance Jackson Jessi Johnson Jacob Jones Catherine Joseph Lauren Keith Brent Kirbo Jacklyn Kirk Cheryl Knabe John Knox Padma Kolluru Zachary Krenak Kellen Kubasak Autumn Lamphier Charles Langdon Craig Lauchner Bradley Layton Zachary Long Christopher Lopez Daniel Lund Travis Maples Robert Martinez Jordan Mason Sarah McCown Cliff McGaha Ryan McKinnon John McPherson Amanda Meyer Mark Moffett Carlos Montoya Amy Morales Luis Munoz Chad Nichols Megan Nietues Shannon O'Bryant Alexandra Olivarez Dedrick Pallanes Tifani Parker Allison Parkes Ashley Phillips Cherity Pierce Cristal Pina Marsha Pope Stephanie Powell Mallory Pridoux Amanda Randle Tobin Rasco Karen Ross Nathan Rotun Dustin Rotun Jenny Roth Rachel Rouse Brett Schellenberg Alyssa Schroeder Kaylee Seddio Ashley Sexton Heather Shelton Nicolas Stanley Krystin Steelman Genevieve Stockburger Gabriel Sustaita Kristina Swanson Rachel Taylor Eric Tension Tiffany Thompson Caryn Turner Lauren Valastro Weston Victor Alexis Vigil H.B. Vine Naomi Wade James Wagner Warren Walters Tommy Ward J. Philip Washington John Weatherbee Chase Weatherly</p>	<p>Walter Whitlitt Kyle Wilkins Ali Williams April Wilmetth Forrest Wilson Sean Wolleydt Deedra Wright Kayla Yorion</p> <p>Tuesday Nov. 18, 2008</p> <p>James Adams Jayme Allison Brandt Anderson Ryan Artho Chris Athens Andrew Bassford Brock Batchko Matthew Bell Paul Boley Christopher Bolinger Bradley Bosworth Shawn Buck Dusty Burkett Austin Burns Chassity Call Jessica Campana Joseph Carranza Brady Carrington Joshua Carver Anthony Catherall Mark Cavazos Gordon Childress Sonia Colon Marianne Condit Joseph Cowling Jennifer Crookham Phillip Culbertson Kendra Decker Noelle Dragisic Mamie Dupre James Encisco Olivia Epperson Chase Evans Mark Friday Kade Frink Nathan Frost Greg Gammel Kyle Geddes Jacob George Zachary Gissi Dustin Goldston Candelario Gomez Eric Gordon Shelley Grayson Aaron Greer Austin Griffin Adam Hagan Soney Halbert Sarah Hansen Garrett Harless Andrea Haro Brett Hathaway Austin Head Gavin Heckman Lara Henneman Paul Hilliard Jacob Hilton Rachel Hilz Yanna Holton Reed Hood Whitney Horton Astrid Illnger Raymond Jenkins Jansen Jones</p>	<p>Andrew Joseph Kevin Kahn Micah Killian Meagan Kimball Miles Kroeger David Ladewig Carol Layton Ryan Leblanc Kacie Lee Jordan Lee Jonathan Lemaster Jacob Lewis Manuela Losoba Annmarie Lyons David Madrid Charles Major Amy Martin Justin Matthews Eason Maykus Zachary McCain Bryan McCalister Kurt McKenney Consuelo Mora Natalie Moreno Russell Morgan Blaine Morris D'Andra Nefondorf Garret Neighbors Robert O'Neal Wonjee Oh Tiffany Olson Jesus Olvera Lindsey Pacatte Jonathan Patterson Karl Pennington Austin Pennington Cindal Peterson Anthony Polito Dominique Ramirez Kristea Rasmussen John Rauscher Katelyn Reed Andrew Reed Jenna Richardson Maricela Rivera Andrew Rymer David Sadowski Bethany Sample Nicholas Scannell Jerrid Seibert Raylynn Shaw Joanna Shim Jeffrey Sifford Zachary Sims William Smartt Whitney Stephens Ashley Stokes Chris Swanson Kelyn Synatschik Ana Tapia Felipe Tarin Warren Jacob Toups Claire Tranter Marcy Ventle Jeffrey Ward William Wedeman Jacob Weems Gregory White Brandon White Jennifer Williamson Megan Wilson Landon Wright Carter Young Nicole Zunker</p>	<p>Wednesday Nov. 19, 2008</p> <p>Kimberly Acosta Raeid Alkhatieb Gamaliel Aranda Aleida Arellano Crystal Baker Catherine Banschach Sheri Bearden Jesse Becker Brad Bellah Brody Berry Matthew Bills Charles Bowen Corey Brazence Joshua Britt Jerrod Brown Cody Browning Dusty Burger Bradley Burke Ronald Byers Adam Cargite Steven Carleton Celeste Castro Denyce Chavero Mike Christopher Travis Coombes Christian Cotton Christopher Cox Carissa Cummins Matthew Decker Jeffrey Diehl Samantha Drak Hardy Elkins Wesley Everett Cody Fullinger Katelyn Filip Rusty Freelen Kyle Gardner Gabriel Garza Shea Gentry Zach Gilbert Steven Giustino Dallas Golden Kelvin Gryder Kyle Hack Sarah Hansen Kati Harral Eric Hekele Raymond Hernandez Samson Hudad Colby Hirt Steven Hohnacki Sarah Hoke Christopher Hollis Elise Howard Melissa Hughes Bryan Hughes Ryan Hunter Matthew Ireton Jeffrey Jackson Joshua Jansek Allison Johnson Jesse Jones Jeana Jones Alice Keys Riley Knox Scott Lackey Cody Landry Robert Lasalle Brittney Lee Amy Lenge Andrew Leonard Todd Lindley</p>	<p>Travis Looney Ryan Looney Marco Lopez Jerrick May Chris Maynard Kendra McBride Jacob McCabe Monica Mericle Brett Metcalf Rachel Miguel Stuart Mitchell Andrew Mitchell Trinity Molina Timothy Monday Joe Montes Lauren Moore Shadi Morieras Michael Morse Courtney Morse Deanna Mortimer Brett Nielus Jonathan Nielson Katie O'Rourke Chris Odum Feiyisayo Ogundiya Manuel Ortega Ankit Patel Jason Patterson David Pearson Dustin Perry Aleah Peterson Jeremy Pudio Adam Purnell Ricardo Ramon Brittany Ray Tyson Reed Megan Revell Michael Rhodes Michael Richey Travis Roach Hannah Robison Patrick Rodgers Claudia Rodriguez Ebony Sargent Shane Schumann Miranda Seif Jenna Shell Andrew Sides Karen Singleton Clark Smith Craig Sparkman Donna Spear Aubrey Spear Gregory Spicer Rankin Starkey Kevin Starling Adam Stone Brady Sullivan Osman Syed Barrett Thorne Christopher Towery Roberto Trevino George Turcios William Vanzandt Keeton Walden Taylor Ward Kendra Ward Bradley Weislo Benjamin Welch Dusty Winkler Cesar Yanez Brian Zachry Dustin Zeigenbein</p>
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Gamers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Emma Foster, a sophomore dance major from Dover, Ark., said she began playing video games with her two brothers when she was about 10 years old.

"I always thought about gaming as an interactive book," she said. "It takes you away from reality and social norms."

When she worked at GameStop, Foster said, her co-workers introduced her to computer games such as WoW, which she still plays.

"At first I said no, because I didn't want it to take my life away," she said. "It's easy to get sucked in and disrupt my sleep time, but I have a lot of self-control. I know when there are more important things to be done."

Foster said she has attended LAN parties where the ratio of female to male gamers was about one-to-10, and she occasionally has met players on WoW who do not believe she is a girl.

Sometimes she feels intimidated when male players challenge her because of her gender, she said, but she does not feel the need to prove herself. She plays games for the social interactions, not necessarily the competition.

Nick Yee, a researcher at the Palo Alto Research Center, studied several aspects of gaming and found that men were 50 percent more likely to select achievement as their primary motivation for gaming, whereas

women were about 50 percent more likely to select a social motivation.

Foster said she enjoys video games because she can play with her friends side-by-side. With online games she can connect with friends who do not live close by or meet new people.

"I'm not talkative outside my group of friends, but it's easy to socialize in games," she said. "You have the option to chime in or not."

Pearce said research suggests the real impact in terms of gender can be found in research about MMORPGs vs. 3-D virtual worlds, which refers to a world where avatars perform activities similar to people in the real-world.

"Barbie Fashion Designer" was the first mega-hit in the mid-90s girl game movement, she said, and "The Sims," with its "prolific skinning community," has a very high percentage of female players, too.

Women seem to appear in equal if not greater proportion in virtual worlds such as "Second Life" and "There.com," Pearce said. In less publicized games, such as the science learning environment "Whyville," the female players consist of 60 percent of players who are mostly pre-teens.

Charts put together by the Play-On group at the Palo Alto Research Center show a disproportion between games and virtual world. WoW is about 25 percent female, while "Second Life" is split down the middle.

"So I really think there is some-

thing significant going on when you see the female percentage participation doubling in one genre of world over another," Pearce said. "It will also be interesting to see if things shift as the current generation of tweens comes of age."

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Facts about the computer and video game industry

- About 65 percent of American households play computer or video games.
- The U.S. computer and video game industry made \$9.5 billion in 2007.
- Computer game sales alone totaled \$910 million in 2007.
- By units sold, the top selling video game of 2007 was Halo 3 for Xbox 360.
- The top computer game sold was World of Warcraft: Burning Crusade Expansion Pack.
- When it comes to online games, 56 percent of players are male and 44 percent are female.
- About 59 percent of gamers play games with other gamers in person.
- And 41 percent of Americans have purchased or plan to purchase one or more games in 2008.

Source: ESA 2008 Report

United Way reaches campaign goal with help from community donors

By HANNAH BOEN
STAFF WRITER

Lubbock Area United Way announced the results of its 2008 Annual Funds Campaign at a luncheon Friday at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

Despite the current economic slump, the funds campaign yielded 100.1 percent of the campaign's goal — a feat that Campaign Chair Wayne Havens said is a direct result of Lubbock's generosity.

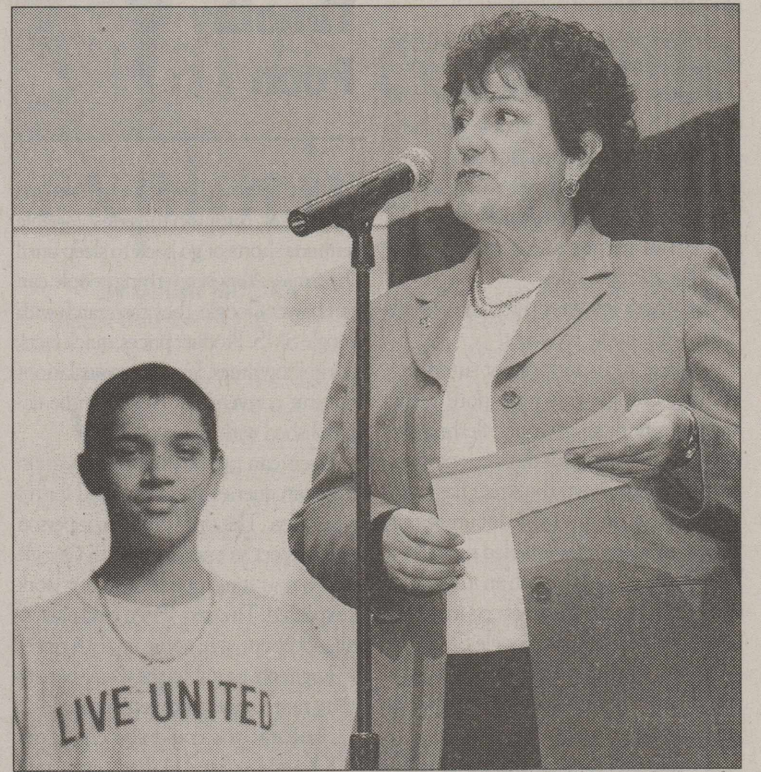
"This community has a bigger heart than any community in Texas, maybe even the nation," said Havens, the Lubbock Independent School District superintendent.

He said the campaign kicked off Aug. 28 with a goal to raise more than \$5.2 million. The funds will allow United Way to assist 23 agencies in the Lubbock community, such as the Red Cross and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"United Way has a long history of helping agencies that provide assistance to those in need," he said.

Havens said he was pleased with the money raised, because the group was ready for national economic problems to hinder the campaign when the goal was set. He attributed the success to about 22,000 local donors and 450 United Way volunteers.

United Way's president and CEO,



COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Treador

Kerry Billingsley, the managing director for Quality Service and Professional Development at Texas Tech, announced Friday at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center that the State Employee Charitable Campaign raised more than \$800,000 for the United Way's 2008 Annual Funds Campaign.

Glenn Cochran, said the donations collected over the past three months will touch over 100,000 people, about half of Lubbock's population.

"This is the biggest philanthropic thing in town," he said.

Cochran said the group "aggressively" raised the amount of money to reach this year's goal, which it would not have been able to do without the generosity of community members.

Campaign cabinet member and Lubbock county commissioner Bill McKay agreed about the spirit of the Lubbock community.

"The Lubbock community is always resilient, no matter what the economic situation," he said, "and they always respond when there's a

need." McKay said he was excited to bring so many different people from different professions together for a common effort and see the results of their hard work.

Big Brothers Big Sisters employee and United Way volunteer Monique Murry attended the luncheon to celebrate the success of the campaign.

"When it comes to Lubbock," she said, "people are willing to give and give a lot."

Murry said she believes Lubbock's generous spirit comes from the community members' faith.

"People give based on the knowledge that God's going to bless you in return," she said.

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Mariachi band wishes Tech's chancellor a happy birthday

By TINA L. ARONS
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance's birthday caused a brief commotion at noon Friday in the International Cultural Center.

Members of the Office of Institutional Diversity at Tech surprised Hance with a mariachi quartet during the AG Banker Luncheon.

"It was an excellent and pleasant surprise," Hance said, "and I enjoyed every minute of it."

Hance, who celebrated his 66th birthday, said he still feels like he's 30 years old.

The Mariachi Amistad performed both "Happy Birthday" and "Las Ma-

ñanitas." Jodi Martinez, the director for the Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center at Tech, said "Las Mañanitas" is the traditional Mexican birthday morning song, which tells the birthday person "what a special day it is now that he or she is in the world."

"We knew his birthday was coming up," Martinez said, "and we wanted to give him a gift that related to what we do with cultural diversity in our office."

For his birthday, Hance said he planned to share a slice of birthday cake with his staff and members of the administration before attending the women's and men's basketball games that evening.

>> tina.arons@ttu.edu

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7 AM	Curious (HD)	Today Sched-uled: Tiki Barber, Cheryl Hines. (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Robison	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	(6:00) Good Day Lubbock	
8 AM	Super Why (HD)	Clifford		Believer's J. Hanna	Steve Wilkos			
9 AM	Sesame Street		The 700 Club	Divorce	Payne	Regis & Kelly	Martha Stewart	
10 AM	Dragon Word		Price Is Right (HD)	The Morning Show	Bernie Cops	The View (HD)	Bonnie Hunt Show	
11 AM	Martha Jeopardy	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex Cytelina	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Tyra "Pomtown"	
12 PM	Quilt News	News	News	The People's Court	Roseanne	All My Children	Paid Prog.	
1 PM	Gary Spatz Scaps	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	As the World	Paid Prog.	Fam Court	One Life to Live	
2 PM	Place	The Doctors	Guiding Light	Mauri	Judge Jeanine	General Hospi-tal	Judge Mathis	
3 PM	Reading	Inside	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Extra	J. Fox	No Deal! Genetare	
4 PM	WorldGirl	Dr. Phil	Judy	Judy	Maury	Standing	Rachael Ray	
5 PM	Bus. Ppt	News	News	Fern. Feud	Queens	News	Lopez	
6 PM	NewsHour (HD)	News	News	Fern. Feud (HD)	Queens	News	Simpsons	
7 PM	Antiques (HD)	Chuck (HD)	College Bas-ketball (Live)	Zone	Gossip Girl (HD)	Dancing with the Stars (HD)	Terminator (HD)	
8 PM	American Ex-perience (HD)	Heroes (HD)	Magie's Se-crets	One Tree Hill (HD)	Sam Who?	News	Prison Break (HD)	
9 PM	Digital TV	Worst Enemy (HD)	CSI: Miami (HD)	Jim (HD)	Sex City (9:07) Boston Legal	News	News	
10 PM	Bus. Ppt	News	News	King	Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2	
11 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(11:35) Late Show	TMZ	Will (HD)	Nightline	Sainfeld	
12 AM	News	(11:35) Late Night	Late Late Show	Malcolm	Cosby	Jimmy Kimmel	Raymond	
12:30 AM	Destine	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Wife	Cosby	Scubs	Scubs	
1:30 AM	Geography	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Punk'D	Paid Prog.	Frasier	

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Lady Raiders take care of Idaho, Washington State, lose Murphree to back injury

By ADAM COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Texas Tech women's basketball team went from a routine season-opening win to a Sunday that presented an early-season test.

While the Lady Raiders (2-0) started the season off with a 90-55 win over Idaho (0-1) on Friday, they defeated Washington State in what was a tightly-contested game without one of their key players in forward Jordan Murphree.

Murphree injured her back in practice Saturday and reportedly is out four to six weeks. Starting in her place on Sunday was freshman Kierra Mallard, who had 16 points against the Vandals and nine points against the Cougars.

"I thought (Sunday) was a really good experience for us," Tech coach Kristy Curry said. "We're fortunate to

be able to come out on the positive side and hopefully grow. We're obviously dealing with a little bit of adversity, but these kids found a way to win — said a lot about them."

Friday's game brought the extra scorer the Lady Raiders needed in guard Maddy Brown.

Recovering from a broken foot last season, Brown had 18 points while shooting 5-of-7 from the 3-point line.

Brown's 18-point performance on Friday did more than just lead the team in scoring.

The five 3-pointers marked a career-high for the junior, and her 18 points were the most she has scored as a Lady Raider. Brown's career-high is 21 points against Duquesne when she was at Pittsburgh.

"They always say shooters — their favorite shot is their next shot," Brown said on Friday. "I always try to go with

that motto. I missed a couple coming out and I just kept shooting. My teammates told me to keep shooting."

However, she followed the performance Friday by scoring four points against Washington State Sunday, scoring the Lady Raiders' only three-point shot against the Cougars (0-1).

Tech had five players in double figures Friday, with Murphree scoring 13 points and center Dominic Seals chipping in with 14.

With Murphree out against Washington State, the Lady Raiders managed to have three players in double figures. Seals scored 21, guard Tilmila Martin had 14 and freshman Jordan Barncastle added 14 points and grabbed 13 rebounds.

After averaging 18.8 turnovers per game during the 2007-08 season, the Lady Raiders committed nine turnovers against the Vandals, but it was a differ-

ent story against Washington State.

With the aggressive style of Washington State (0-1), who Curry warned would be a better team than a 5-25 record last season, Tech committed 17 turnovers.

Washington State used a full-court press and aggressive defense to force early turnovers. At the end of the first half, the Lady Raiders had 10 turnovers.

However, in the process of being aggressive, Washington State had nine fouls with 6:32 remaining in the first half. The Cougars finished the game with 31 fouls and had three players foul out.

After ending the first half with a 37-36 lead, Washington State started the second half on a 5-0 run while Tech committed two turnovers.

But Tech continued to battle.

With a 60-58 lead, it took a 14-3 run near the end of the second half for

Tech to finally pull away. The lead soon extended to 17, which ended up being the largest of the game.

On Friday, the Lady Raiders never gave up the lead to Idaho, but against Washington State there were 17 lead changes and 13 ties.

Washington State coach June Daugherty came into Sunday's game with a different team from the one that finished last in the Pacific-10 Conference and lost 89-45 to Tech last season.

She said playing aggressive defense was something teams had not seen in the film from last year, as she had three new freshman starters to work with.

Still, Daugherty said Tech is a much improved team from last season, which was a reason her young team could not hold on to the lead for the win.

"They've shown great improvement from when we saw them a year ago," she

said. "It's been a while. I thought that they showed their veteran leadership. They were able to go in at halftime — not be worried about being down one — and came back and really just played hard."

Tech's freshmen had ample time to contribute this weekend, particularly Barncastle, who also had 13 points against Idaho to go along with the performance against Washington State.

With Mallard replacing Murphree for the time being, Curry said it is a relief to have players to plug in when times get tough.

"As bad as it is, you try to hope in the long run we're going to be better," she said. "You try to turn everything into a positive."

Next, the Lady Raiders take on Lamar at 7 p.m. Friday in the United Spirit Arena.

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SPORTS

Red Raiders cruise in Knight's first season opener

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

St. Francis (Pa.) coach Don Friday knew what to expect from Texas Tech guards Alan Voskuil and John Roberson Friday night, but he was unaware of some of the newer players on the team.

Particularly Tech guard Nick Okorie, who led South Plains College to a national championship a year ago. Okorie went 4-of-6 from behind the arc and scored 16 points in a 81-47 route of St. Francis Friday at the United Spirit Arena.

Voskuil, Tech's second leading scorer a year ago with 13.1 points per game, was held to eight points and 2-of-6 from 3-point range, but it did not matter as Tech received contributions from virtually every-one on the bench.

"I thought their other kids, these young kids, some of their new faces that came in tonight, those guys made basketball plays," Friday said. "I thought at times, we took Voskuil and made it difficult for him to be able to get easy touches, but it seemed the ball found one more

guy — that extra pass."

Knight was not lying when he said his team would play faster this season, Tech had 25 points off turnovers, pushing it up court frequently. Okorie was able to show off his athleticism on several occasions by stopping on a dime to pull up for a three or catching an alley-oop from Roberson for a layup.

"I thought Nick started off slow, and he can heat up. That's Nick ... you either wanna kill him or you love him," Knight said. "I didn't like him very much the first few minutes and all of a sudden the kid — in five minutes he can score and get going. He's just an explosive player."

Before the game, Knight said St. Francis would find a way to sink three pointers, which is how one on the bench. Back-to-back 3-pointers from the Red Flash almost forced Knight to call a timeout, but he figured the first-game jitters would wear off soon, and with a little help from Trevor Cook, Knight was right.

After Cook subbed in for Darko Cohadarevic, Tech climbed back

into the game as Cook hit two 3-pointers and a shot in the lane in less than three minutes, helping Tech go up 12-6.

"I feel like (Cook) provides a spark that gives us a little in-and-out that can rebound for us and shoot the three," Voskuil said.

Cook did most of his damage in the first half and finished with 10 points, going 4-for-7 from the field and 2-of-3 from beyond the arc, where Tech was pretty comfortable all night. Tech shot 45 percent from 3-point range, putting to rest any notion that the new 20-foot, 9-inch three-point line would make a difference.

Voskuil sparked a 12-0 run with a 3-point and a layup with under eight minutes to go, helping Tech go into halftime with a 43-24 lead, thanks in large part to its stingy defense, which was consistent for the rest of the game. St. Francis went 6-of-32 from field goal range and 3-of-12 from 3-point range in the second half.

"Their length and their physicality," Friday said. "It always seemed that the ball ended up maybe in a

non-scorer's hands and they really exposed our abilities at times not to be able to make basketball plays out of traps."

Knight was able to keep Roberson, who had 13 points, five rebounds and five assists, and Voskuil fresh with plenty of rest on the bench. Knight's rotation had nine players with more than 10 minutes of playing time.

"It's just nice now to have some depth instead of just looking at the end of the bench like we did last year," Knight said. "There was just nothing to go to."

Now Tech turns its attention to a more able opponent in Sam Houston State at 7 p.m. today in the United Spirit Arena. The Bearkats won 23 games in 2007, including a 56-54 upset over the Red Raiders last season in Hunstville.

"I feel we got a little chip on our shoulder," Voskuil said. "I do especially. Losing up there, we shouldn't lose to a team like that. We're gonna come out there and give it our all and see what we can do."

►daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu



KAT HILSABECK/The Daily Treador
TEXAS TECH GUARD Nick Okorie shoots over St. Francis' Mislav Jukic Friday in the United Spirit Arena.

No. 3 Gators swamp Spurrier, Gamecocks

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The Ol' Ball Coach never experienced anything like this at Florida Field.

Not as a player. Not as a coach. Not even as an opponent.

Percy Harvin ran for a career-high 167 yards and two touchdowns, Tim Tebow accounted for three scores and No. 3 Florida thrashed 24th-ranked South Carolina 56-6 Saturday, handing Steve Spurrier his worst loss in 90 games at The Swamp.

The Gators won their sixth in a row, finished unbeaten in the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division and kept their national title hopes alive by beating the Gamecocks for the 16th time in the last 17 years. The 50-point drubbing was South Carolina's worst loss since falling 63-7 to Spurrier's Gators in 1995.

Not even a few visor tosses would have helped Spurrier in this one.

Florida (9-1, 7-1) scored three touchdowns in eight plays in the first quarter, capitalizing on three consecutive turnovers by South Carolina (7-4, 4-4), and put the game away when Harvin went 80 yards for a score on the opening play of the third.

Brandon Spikes started Florida's scoring barrage when he intercepted Chris Smelley's pass — the quarterback was under heavy pressure from linebacker Brandon Hicks — and returned it 12 yards for a touchdown.

Two plays later, Hicks tipped Smelley's pass in the flat. Ahmad Black picked that one off, and Harvin darted up the middle for a 26-yard score on the next snap.

Smelley finished 13-of-24 for 92 yards. He alternated plays with Stephen Garcia, but neither one was effective. Garcia was 6-of-13 for 28 yards with an interception.

The Gamecocks tried a little trickery on the ensuing kickoff, but Dion LeCorn's lateral across the field went over Chris Hail's outstretched arms. Florida's James Smith scooped it up at the 3 and nearly scored. Hail tackled him just shy of the goal line.

Tebow took it from there, scoring his 11th rushing touchdown of the season and putting the Gators ahead 21-0.

Tebow made it 28-0 in the second when he hooked up with Deonte Thompson for a 46-yard score down the sideline. The Heisman Trophy winner finished 13-of-20 passing for 173 yards and two touchdowns. He also ran 14 times for 39 yards. He added a 5-yard TD pass to Aaron Hernandez on the first play of the fourth, then turned things over to backup John Brantley the rest of the way.

Tebow didn't trounce South Carolina's defense like he did a year ago, when he had 120 yards rushing and a school-record five touchdowns to go along with 304 yards passing and two more scores in the 51-31 victory. He didn't have to, either.

Harvin did that. The speedster didn't play in Columbia last year because of migraine headaches, but handed the Gamecocks two games worth of frustration Saturday.

He ran just eight times, but averaged 20.9 yards a carry and surpassed his previous career high (165 yards) set against Michigan in the Capital One Bowl in January.

It was somewhat surprising since Spurrier brought the nation's third-ranked defense to Gainesville. South Carolina led the SEC in total defense, allowing just 256.5 yards a game, and ranked third in scoring defense (15.6 points a game) and second against the run (101.4 yards a game).

The Gamecocks had surrendered 12 rushing touchdowns all season; Florida scored five times on the ground. They hadn't given up more than 24 points in any game, and all three of their losses were by seven points.

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