

Poor de-fence

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Dunk it

Page 5

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60

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NASA flight director shares experiences with Women's Club



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador
Ginger Kerrick, NASA flight director and Tech alumna, speaks to members of the Lubbock Women's Club and the Lubbock community about her experience working for NASA at the Lubbock Women's Club on Friday.

Kerrick is a 1991 graduate from Texas Tech with a physics degree

By GLORIA LERMA
STAFF WRITER

The Lubbock Women's Club welcomed Ginger Kerrick, a NASA flight director and Texas Tech graduate, Friday evening as part of the Annual Community Speaker Series.

Throughout the course of two months, Jill Nelson, president of the Lubbock Women's Club, was able to organize and plan Kerrick's visit to the city.

"Through the years we have welcomed influential women leaders such as Barbara Bush, and this year we are welcoming Ginger Kerrick," Nelson said. "Ginger caught my eye last year and we are thrilled to have her here."

The process of getting the 1991 physics alumna to present was not an easy one, Nelson said.

"We had to arrange things with the NASA Speakers Bureau and the astronauts' public relations officer in order to set up Kerrick's visit," she said.

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Red Raiders, Page 9



The Red Raiders defeated Stephen F. Austin 66-54 Sunday in United Spirit Arena. SPORTS, Page 9

BRIDAL FASHION



PHOTOS BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador
A BRIDAL GOWN designed by Sarah Brown is modeled on the runway during the Texas Tech Bridal Fashion Show on Saturday at the Museum of Texas Tech University.



A DRESS DESIGNED by Rachel Anderson, an instructor of apparel design and manufacturing, is modeled during the Texas Tech Bridal Fashion Show on Saturday at the Museum of Texas Tech University.



CYNTHIA REIMER MODELS a self-designed dress during the Texas Tech Bridal Fashion Show on Saturday at the Museum of Texas Tech University.

Design students showcase bridal wear at on-campus fashion show

By PAIGE SKINNER
STAFF WRITER

Show took place at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Museum of Texas Tech University. The museum, the Apparel Design and Manufacturing program at Tech and the Hi-Tech Fashion Group hosted the sold-out fashion show. There were 15 designers who showcased their bridal designs at the show.

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Katherine Gibbs, president of the Hi-Tech Fashion Group, said the fashion show reflects the ever-changing style of what is considered a "traditional" wedding dress.

The fashion show included a variety of wedding apparel styles, ranging from a green top to pants instead of a dress.

Cynthia Olivares, a designer in the show, said she calls her design a "wedding dress with air quotes."

She said she received inspiration from a website and went on from there.

"I originally saw something on the Wedding Inspirasi website that really helped me," said the senior apparel design and manufacturing major from Slaton. "They were, like, bigger, longer pants and I wanted something shorter, fun and colorful."

FASHION continued on Page 5 >>

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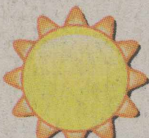
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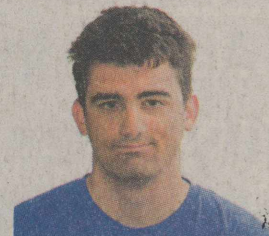
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THE DAILY TOREADOR

Depleted Texas lakes expose ghost towns

BLUFFTON (AP) — Johnny C. Parks died two days before his first birthday more than a century ago. His grave slipped from sight along with the rest of the tiny town of Bluffton when Lake Buchanan was filled 55 years later.

Now, the cracked marble tombstone engraved with the date Oct. 15, 1882, which is normally covered by 20 to 30 feet of water, has been eerily exposed as a yearlong drought shrinks one of Texas' largest lakes.

Across the state, receding lakes have revealed a prehistoric skull, ancient tools, fossils and a small cemetery that appears to contain the graves of freed slaves. Some of the discoveries have attracted interest from local historians, and looters also have scavenged for pieces of history. More than two dozen looters have been arrested at one site.

"In an odd way, this drought has provided an opportunity to view and document, where appropriate, some of these finds and understand what they consist of,"

said Pat Mercado-Allinger, the Texas Historical Commission's archeological division director. "Most people in Texas probably didn't realize what was under these lakes."

Texas finished its driest 12 months ever with an average of 8.5 inches of rain through September, nearly 13 inches below normal. Water levels in the region's lakes, most of which were manmade, have dropped by more than a dozen feet in many cases.

The vanishing water has revealed the long-submerged building foundations of Woodville, Okla., which was flooded in 1944 when the Red River was dammed to form Lake Texoma. A century-old church has emerged at Falcon Lake, which straddles the Texas-Mexico border on the Rio Grande.

Steven Standke and his wife, Carol, drove to the old Bluffton site on a sandy rutted path that GPS devices designate not as a road but the middle of the 22,335-acre lake, normally almost 31 miles long and five miles wide.

Community Calendar

TODAY

Texas Tech Martachi Ensemble Concert

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
Enjoy this mariachi ensemble concert presented by the College of Visual and Performing Art and the School of Music.

Jesse Ballew and John Sprott

Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Lone Star Oyster Bar
So, what is it?
Enjoy this live acoustic performance.

Andrew Why

Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Skooner's Grill and Bar
So, what is it?
Enjoy the piano melodies of Andrew Why.

Santa Claus, enjoy caroling, hot cocoa, a treat and a special gift for each child.

Ballroom Dance Social at Dance With Me

Time: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Where: Dance With Me
So, what is it?
Enjoy ballroom dancing lessons from 7 to 8 p.m. and then show off your new skills from 8 to 11 p.m.

Susan Grisanti

Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Orlando's
So, what is it?
Enjoy a performance by Susan

Grisanti as she plays romantic guitar music.

Run Home Jack

Time: 10 p.m.
Where: Blue Light Live
So, what is it?
Enjoy this band as they perform original, alternative country music.

To make a calendar submission email dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

Events will be published either the day or the day before they take place. Submissions must be sent in by 4 p.m. on the preceding publication date.

TUESDAY

West Texas Polar Express Train

Time: 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Where: 6602 Marsha Sharp Fwy
So, what is it?
Read along with the story as the train makes its round-trip journey to the North Pole. Meet

NASA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kerrick, an El Paso native, has served as a flight director for NASA for more than 10 years. Throughout NASA's history, only 80 women have served as flight directors, and Kerrick is the first Hispanic woman to occupy the position.

"It is always an honor to showcase Tech's very own talent for the Lubbock community," said Ainsley Williams, public relations committee chair for the Women's Club. "We are just beyond proud to have her speak here tonight."

The Historical Foundation, a part of the Women's Club created to preserve the history and architecture

of the organization's building, and the Ernestine Payne Wilburn Endowment made Kerrick's visit possible.

The evening started with a benediction prayer, which was followed by a three-course meal for the 30-plus members of the Lubbock community in attendance.

Kerrick began her speech at the Women's Club by sharing her feelings about being back in Lubbock for a visit and her love for Tech.

"I went to visit some of my professors and my good ol' physics classroom," she said. "I also stopped at some stores to buy some Tech stuff. Now I can annoy my co-workers with all my Tech shirts."

Kerrick also spoke about the current status of the NASA Space Shuttle Program and its official re-

irement on Aug. 31. The media has caused a lot of worry and uncertainty about the future of NASA's role in galactic travel, she said.

"Don't believe the news," she said. "Through this whole process, I learned not to trust the news."

Although it is true that the program is gone, Kerrick said, NASA will be around until at least 2020. She also said Orbital, a private company based in Virginia, and SpaceX, a company based in California, are the primary sources of funding to continue the development of shuttles capable of going beyond low-Earth orbit.

Kerrick said she is not worried about the future of space exploration.

"We still have decades of outer space research," she said.

Hundreds of Afghans protest long-term pact with US

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — More than 1,000 university students blocked a main highway in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday to protest any agreement that would allow U.S. troops to remain in the country after a planned transfer of authority in 2014.

An assembly of more than 2,000 tribal elders and dignitaries known as a loya jirga over the weekend endorsed negotiating a security pact with Washington, though they also

backed a series of conditions proposed by Afghan President Hamid Karzai including the end of night raids by international troops and complete Afghan control over detainees.

On Sunday, the protesters in Jalalabad city denounced any agreement that would keep U.S. troops in the country, blocking the road to Kabul and shouting "Death to America. Death to Karzai."

Both the resolution and the pro-

tests reflect the tension in Afghanistan between a desire for real sovereignty and the need to bolster the relatively weak government against a still-strong Taliban insurgency.

The idea of the proposed security agreement is to keep a U.S. military presence in Afghanistan past 2014, when most international forces are to have left. Afghan and U.S. officials envision a force of several thousand U.S. troops, who would train Afghan

forces and help with counterterrorism operations. The pact would outline the legal status of that force in Afghanistan, as well as the rules under which it would operate and where it would be based.

The jirga's resolution carries no legal weight, but could bolster Karzai's negotiating position with the United States during difficult talks under way to craft what Washington is calling a Strategic Partnership Document.

Witnesses: Ethiopian troops enter Somali town

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)

— A convoy of Ethiopian troops entered Somalia on Sunday, residents said, in a possible attempt to open a third front against al-Qaida-linked Somali insurgents.

The incursion into the central town of Guriel appears to be the largest movement of Ethiopian troops into Somalia since an unpopular Ethiopian invasion nearly

five years ago.

The al-Shabab insurgents are already fighting an African Union force in the Somali capital and Kenyan troops in the south, where al-Shabab said it attacked a Kenyan warship on Sunday. The arrival of the Ethiopians would stretch al-Shabab further but could also hand it a propaganda victory if the insurgents are able to capitalize on the memories of Ethiopia's

previous unpopular invasion.

The Ethiopians met with members of Somalia's Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama militia in Guriel on Sunday afternoon, then moved into an army base in the south of the city, said Sheikh Abdulle Abdi. He belongs to the militia, which is allied to the weak U.N.-backed Somali government and widely considered to be backed by Ethiopia.

Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama supports traditional Sufi Islam and opposes the amputations and stonings carried out by al-Shabab.

However, Ethiopia's foreign ministry spokesman Dina Mufti denied that troops have crossed the border into Somalia. "That is not true," he said of the claims by residents.

But Guriel resident Ali Husein said he saw 21 vehicles carrying unarmed Ethiopian troops. "They waved at people then went to the south part of the town," he said.

Resident Shamso Hamsi also said he saw men wearing the uniforms of Ethiopian troops.

Ethiopia previously sent troops into Somalia in 2006 to defeat the Islamic Courts Union, the forerunner of al-Shabab. But residents complained that the Ethiopians mortared residential neighborhoods and shot indiscriminately when they were attacked. The killings of civilians helped galvanize nationalist sentiment that the Islamists used to recruit new fighters.

The Ethiopian force eventually left in 2009 as part of a peace deal, but the Ethiopian government has remained concerned about al-Shabab's activities and its ability to cross the country's long and porous border with Somalia. Neighboring Kenya is also concerned that Somalia's 20-year-old civil war is bleeding across its borders. Kenyan officials say that's why they sent troops into Somalia last month.

So far, fights between al-Shabab and Kenya have mostly been limited to skirmishes, but the militia claimed it destroyed a Kenyan warship early on Sunday as residents reported a gunbattle at sea lasting several hours.

Al-Shabab said it destroyed the vessel near Madhawa Island, just off the coast of Somalia near the Kenyan border, in a statement posted on a website the insurgents often use.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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By Donna S. Levin 11/21/11

4 Brawls
5 Hi-tech airport connection
6 One-named Deco artist
7 Scroogean exclamation
8 Descriptive lock
9 More than mono
10 Masked critter
11 Ready for picking well
12 Track competition
13 Track
14 Defamatory remark
15 Part of a poker full house
16 Bovine hybrid
17 Urwell
18 Stole
19 Volcanic output
20 Defamatory remark
21 Yellowfin or albacore
22 Fourth man
23 Norms: Abbr.
24 Fashionable
25 Culinary author
26 Rombauer
27 WWII Normandy battle site

39 Doctrinal suffix
40 Cool, like a cat
41 Craps natural
42 Hay fever sufferer's nemesis
43 European languages
44 Split
45 Petty quarrels
46 "Bon appétit," from mom

54 Was so workout
55 Riga natives
56 Cognac bottle letters
57 "Small World" carpenter's clamp
58 Et... and others
59 Petty quarrels
60 Villes
61 Cincinnati team
62 Also

Friday's Puzzle Solved

A	N	N	U	M	B	L	U	R	N	O	S	H
L	E	O	N	I	R	U	N	E	I	K	E	A
A	W	A	R	D	A	M	P	M	N	E	X	T
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Officers in pepper spray incident placed on leave

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A California university placed two of its police officers on administrative leave Sunday because of their involvement in the pepper spraying of passively sitting protesters, while the school's chancellor accelerated a task force's investigation into the incident amid calls for her resignation.

The president of the 10-campus University of California system also weighed in on the growing fallout from Friday's incident at UC Davis, saying that he is "appalled" at images of students being doused with pepper spray and plans a far-reaching, urgent assessment of law enforcement procedures on all campuses.

"I implore students who wish to demonstrate to do so in a peaceful and lawful fashion. I expect campus authorities to honor that right," UC President Mark G. Yudof said. All 10 chancellors would convene soon

for a discussion "about how to ensure proportional law enforcement response to non-violent protest," he said.

Officials at UC Davis refused to identify the two officers who were placed on administrative leave but one was a veteran of many years on the force and other "fairly new" to the department, the school's Police Chief Annette Spicuzza told The Associated Press. She would not elaborate further because of the pending probe.

Videos posted online of the incident clearly show one riot-gear clad officer dousing the line of protesters with spray as they sit in a line with their arms intertwined. Spicuzza told the AP that the second officer was identified during an intense review of several videos.

"We really wanted to be diligent in our research, and during our viewing of multiple videos we discovered

the second officer," Spicuzza said. "This is the right thing to do."

Both officers were trained in the use of pepper spray as department policy dictates, and both had been sprayed with it themselves during training, the chief noted.

Meanwhile, UC Davis Chancellor Linda Katehi said she has been inundated with reaction from alumni, students and faculty.

"I spoke with students this weekend and I feel their outrage," Katehi said in a statement Sunday.

Katehi also set a 30-day deadline for her school's task force investigating the incident to issue its report. The task force, comprised of students, staff and faculty, will be chosen this week. She earlier had set a 90-day timetable.

FLIPPIN' FUNDRAISER



PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

DIEGO VEGA, A senior advertising major from Dallas, grills hamburgers and hotdogs during a Hispanic Student Society fundraising event outside the Student Union Building on Thursday.

Libya says Gadhafi son to be tried at home for humanitarian crimes

ZINTAN, Libya (AP) — Libya's new leaders said Sunday they will try Moammar Gadhafi's son at home and not hand him over to the International Criminal Court where he's charged with crimes against humanity. The government also announced the capture of the toppled regime's intelligence minister, who is also wanted by the court.

In one of several emerging complications, however, the former rebel faction that captured Seif al-Islam Gadhafi a day earlier is refusing to deliver him to national authorities in Tripoli, raising concern over whether he will get a proper trial and demonstrating the interim leaders' weak hold over their fractured nation.

In the capital, Information Minister Mahmoud Shammam said ex-Intelligence Minister Abdullah al-Senoussi was captured alive on Sunday by revolutionary fighters from a southern region called Fazan, not far from where

Gadhafi's son was seized on Saturday while trying to flee to neighboring Niger.

Fighters tracking al-Senoussi for two days caught up with him at his sister's house in Deerat al-Shati, about 40 miles (70 kilometers) south of the desert city of Sebha, said fighter Abdullah al-Sughayer. There were few other immediate details on his capture, and it was not clear whether his captors would also resist turning him over to Tripoli.

Though they are wanted by the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, Libya will likely seek to try both men at home.

Speaking earlier in the day, before al-Senoussi's capture, the information minister said Seif al-Islam, the ousted Libyan leader's one-time heir apparent, must be tried in Libya even though the country's new leaders have yet to establish a court system.

"It is only fair for the Libyan people

that he is tried here. ... Seif al-Islam committed crimes against the Libyan people," Shammam told The Associated Press.

"The ICC is just a secondary court, and the people of Libya will not allow Seif al-Islam to be tried outside," Shammam said.

The ICC indicted the two men along with Gadhafi in June for unleashing a campaign of murder and torture to suppress the uprising against the Gadhafi regime that broke out in mid-February.

Al-Senoussi, Gadhafi's brother-in-law, was also one of six Libyans convicted in absentia and sentenced to life in prison in France for the 1989 bombing of a French passenger over Niger that killed all 170 people on board.

ICC spokesman Fadi El Abdallah said Sunday that Libya would have to convincingly lay out its arguments in what is called a "challenge of admis-

sibility" if it wanted to try the two men at home instead of sending them to The Hague court.

"The issue is that there is already a case before the (ICC) court," he said. "Now Libya has a legal obligation under international law to present a challenge to say: 'We have this suspect and he will be dealt with under our national laws.'"

"... They will need to show that they have a serious, genuine legal system capable of functioning fairly in this case," he said.

Seif al-Islam, who was once the face of reform in Libya and who led his father's drive to emerge from pariah status over the last decade, was captured by fighters from the small western mountain town of Zintan who had tracked him to the desert in the south of the country.

He was then flown to Zintan, 85 miles (150 kilometers) southwest of

Tripoli, where he remains in a secret location.

On Sunday, the fighters holding Seif al-Islam posted a video on YouTube of him saying an injury to his hand was the result of a NATO airstrike a month ago that struck his convoy in Wadi Zamzam, about 90 miles (140 kilometers) southeast of Tripoli. He said 26 people were killed in the strike.

Photos of him with three fingers of his right hand in bandages had raised questions about whether he was mistreated by his captors.

"The agreement is that I receive medical treatment here in Zintan because there is a medical team and they have the necessary anesthesia for an operation," he said.

In the video, he appeared in good health and was dressed in brown robes and a turban in the style of ethnic Tuaregs.

He seemed confident, even refer-

ring to those holding him prisoner as "brothers and family."

"There is no problem. We are talking and dialoguing and we have much to talk about," he said.

The faction of rebel fighters from the western mountains formed one of the key forces against Gadhafi's regime during the six-month civil war.

Even after Gadhafi's fall in August and after his capture and killing in October, Libya's numerous and sometime competing rebel factions have refused to disarm, raising fears of new violence and instability.

"We have priority over Seif al-Islam — we caught him, and we were the forefront leaders in this revolution," said Tahir al-Turki, head of the small town's local council, explaining why he would not be sent to the capital.

"He will be safer with us in Zintan. We don't know who will take him or deal with him in Tripoli," he said.

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Tier-one spending shouldn't distract Tech

Today's society is focused on one aspect: wealth. Our economic system is centered on it, our societal placement is centered on it and our civilization is defined by the wealth it creates.

There are plenty of issues with wealth. For the most part, these issues are out of our immediate control. It has taken centuries of ever-evolving civilization to reach this point.

What is in our immediate control is the ability to take back our educational system from monetary interests. It's fairly bad across the country, but it's particularly bad here at Texas Tech.

In its pursuit to become a tier-one university, it seems Tech has become entirely too focused on spending money to reach arbitrary guidelines than on meeting the needs of its student body.

Funding research comes with many benefits. Discoveries are made that raise the prestige of our school, contribute to society and promote a culture of education. Bringing higher quality professors and researchers creates a more beneficial learning experience

Tony Cardone



for students.

But, doing so should not come at the neglect of students.

We may very well meet the monetary threshold for research dollars, number of degrees handed out and the status of having an honor society, but it will take much more work to become a true tier-one school.

While we may compare with the other Texas tier-one schools in those categories, we are far behind in almost every other category.

Let's start with campus infrastructure. Tech has, by far, the most beautiful campus in the state, in terms of exterior architecture. What really counts, though, is the quality of the classrooms on the inside of those buildings.

Not every school can afford to keep their buildings modern

and glistening. Tech's buildings, however, are woefully behind. There are classrooms seemingly in the same state as they were in the 1970s.

Putting people in these classrooms isn't necessarily going to deter students from coming to Tech (because they won't see them), but it hinders the education being presented when desks are falling apart and chalkboards cannot be erased completely.

It's slowly being improved, as evidenced by the recent renovations to some rooms in Holden Hall. But with campus construction resources being wasted on an unneeded chapel and an expensive upgrade to the alumni center, priorities clearly are elsewhere.

Once we get students in the classroom, classes are still much

bigger than they should be. According to US News & World Report, the student-faculty ratio at Tech is 23:1, with a mere 22 percent of classes having less than 20 students. Rice University, by comparison, has a ratio of 6:1 and nearly 70 percent of its classes have less than 20 students. Texas A&M University, while having a much larger student body, has a better ratio than Tech at 19:1.

This might be acceptable if the tuition at Tech was less than it is at A&M and Rice. It's a more affordable option than Rice, a private university, but it is actually slightly more expensive than A&M.

It's very hard to learn in a situation where 60 students are clamoring for the help of an overwhelmed calculus teacher, and smart students will be lost in

the shuffle.

Our biggest downside, I feel, is the severe lack of diversity on campus. Forty-five percent of Texans are Caucasian, 37 percent are Hispanic and 12 percent are African-American. Texas Tech's demographics are nowhere near these percentages.

For every 13 Caucasian students, there is one African-American student and three Hispanic students. There are so very few role models for minorities to look up to, as the faculty's demographics are worse.

The Office of Institutional Diversity at Tech has African-American professors at 2 percent of all faculty and Hispanic professors at 6 percent.

All nine members of the Board of Regents are Caucasian. The chancellor, the president of Tech and the president of the Health Sciences Center are all Caucasian.

How can a university have a diverse viewpoint on education when 81 percent of its faculty is listed as "White Non-Hispanic"? How does the student body get exposure to other cultures and opin-

ions if 72 percent of students are largely of the same background?

For those 28 percent of students in the minority, there is no institutional support. There are lots of institutional departments, divisions and other grandiose positions supposedly promoting the idea of community diversity. It's such a shame how most of these exist so recruiters can point to our attempts without having to actually do anything.

Tier-one institutions should provide their students with the highest quality of education available. The best education goes beyond the classroom, beyond testable exams and even beyond the almighty dollar.

A tier-one school gives its students the tools to succeed in life. Every school can teach numbers and liberal arts. It's the best schools — and what Texas Tech is striving for in its tier-one goal — that go beyond.

■ **Cardone is a junior computer science major from San Antonio.**
» tcardone@dailytoreador.com

Houston becoming cartel's playground

By **JENNIFER PEARSON**
THE DAILY COUGAR (U. HOUSTON)

When students think about the current conditions in Mexico, it is usually parallel to the images found in news stories: Brutal executions of "outsoken" Mexican journalists, mass graves plighting the Monterrey countryside, or countless batches of packaged narcotics acquired by U.S. border control agents. But all is well if one takes notice of spring break travel advisories, right?

Unfortunately, Houston happens to be a breeding ground for Mexican drug cartels, which have been more than successful in establishing narcotic rings within the Harris county area. Although the dangers of Mexico's drug cartels appear to remain outside the Texas border, it is only a matter of time before innocent bystanders here in Houston get caught in the crossfire.

Attempts to eradicate or weaken the supremacy of drug cartels in Mexico have been futile. Many local police forces in Mexico have either succumbed to the power of local crime syndicates or have been "paid off" to turn a blind eye to criminal activity. More recently, drug cartels have even tracked down and decapitated Internet users posting coverage or criticism online that defaces their authority. According to Reporters Without Borders, Mexico is now listed as the second most dangerous country for journalists.

Houston has been a hub for drug and human trafficking in connection with Mexican and South American crime organizations for decades. We currently have one of the largest deposits of Los Zetas membership in the nation, a fact commonly accepted by Houston police forces.

"We've had drugs being produced from South and Central America and Mexico. We have had those drugs in our community," Harris County

Sheriff Adrian Garcia explains. "In my opinion, that crossover happened a long time ago."

To the dismay of local law enforcement, Mexican drug cartels have taken advantage of street-level gangs in Houston by implementing them into local operations. As a result, it has been difficult to track down and identify drug activities rooted to Mexican cartels, most notably the Zetas cartel.

The Houston area alone has almost 10,000 documented gang members, and the estimated correlations between them and the Zetas is beyond police forces.

With the immense success of advancing their networks across Texas, Mexican cartels are now profiting off of the recruitment of cheap labor, namely young adults or even children to assist in the local distribution of narcotics or other assignments.

Earlier this year, Houston mourned the loss of a Sugar Land-area teen named Elisabeth Mandala, who was brutally beaten to death in Mexico on what was later discovered to be a botched trip linked to the smuggling of illegal immigrants to the US. Other reports confirm that children as young as 12 have assisted in the transportation of marijuana. Less likely to be suspected by cops, they are coined by cartels as "the expendable," and are typically lured in through a small amount of money.

It appears that despite the growing threat flourishing within our city's border, the Houston Police Department has yet to actually address the obvious issue at hand. True, the task of eliminating or curtailing these criminal syndicates is easier said than done, but it's best to take a job at it before it gets worse — which it will.

From brothels disguised as cafes or massage parlors, to kids hired as drug couriers, Houston is becoming a playground for Mexican cartels.

Ask Ioanna

A college student's guide to college life



Q:

Dear Ioanna:

I was at a party the other night and a few questions crossed my mind. Whenever I go to a party with my boyfriend where certain people are present, like his female friends, I can't help but get the feeling that they are somehow jealous of me.

They'll say they like my dress, but I don't think they really do, and sometimes they won't say hello right when I walk in the room. But if you could see how they, like, look and act around me, you would think the same.

But, somehow, the situation is the opposite with my boyfriend's friends. They are all very welcoming. Some even open the door for me and get me drinks.

What is it about us girls? Why are guys so much nicer than us? Or, how likely is it that my boyfriend's friends, like, secretly want me and aren't just being nice to be nice?

I am very confused and this happens a lot.

Sincerely,

TTU Gal.

A:

Dear TTU Gal:

Girls are catty, especially when you date their guy friends. Girls are territorial and they don't like the fact that another girl is swooping in and seeing one of their guy friends. Honestly, you just need to keep being nice to them. Ignore the sly comments or the looks they give because eventually they will stop. The girls just don't trust you yet and they want to make sure you won't hurt their friend. I would maybe ask them to have a girl's night with you so they know you honestly want to get to know them as well.

Now, with his guy friends, some of them might secretly want you. But if they are true friends, they won't act on those feelings. Guys are generally easygoing when it comes to girlfriends. They are not as territorial. Most of them are probably just being nice and trying to figure you out. They probably also want to stay on your good side to make sure you don't start monopolizing their friend's time.

The best thing you can do in this circumstance is to just be yourself. Let the guys and girls see what your boyfriend sees in you and eventually all the sly comments and looks will stop. Good luck and stay true to yourself,

Ioanna.

Questions can be emailed to Ioanna Makris at imakris@dailytoreador.com

Submissions must be limited to 350 words and will be edited for style and clarity.

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The Daily Toreador accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

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DUNK IT



PHOTO BY ANDRE REVILLA/ The Daily Toreador

CHRISTIAN ARTHUR WILLIAMS, a freshman from Mansfield, shoots the ball over an opponent during a basketball game in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

'Breaking Dawn' rises to \$283.5M worldwide debut

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Twilight Saga" has staked out another huge opening with a \$139.5 million first weekend domestically and a worldwide launch of \$283.5 million.

The domestic total gives "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1" the second-best debut weekend for the franchise, after the \$142.8 million launch for 2009's "The Twilight Saga: New Moon." "Breaking Dawn" did more than half of its business, \$72 million, on opening day Friday, while the movie's debut weekend was the fifth-best on record.

Opening in 54 overseas markets, "Breaking Dawn" pulled in \$144 million internationally, according to studio estimates Sunday.

But the Warner Bros. dancing penguin sequel "Happy Feet 2" stumbled in its debut, pulling in just \$22 million over opening weekend. That's barely half what the first film in the animated franchise earned in its 2006 opening.

The comparison is even worse considering the original did not have the sequel's price advantage for 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D shows.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Relativity Media's action tale "Immortals," fell to third-place with \$12.3 million, raising its domestic haul to \$53 million.

George Clooney had a great start with Fox Searchlight's comic drama "The Descendants," which broke into the top-10 despite playing in

just a handful of theaters.

"The Descendants" finished at No. 10 with \$1.2 million in 29 theaters, averaging a whopping \$42,150 a cinema. That compares to an average of \$34,351 in 4,061 theaters for "Breaking Dawn."

Directed by Alexander Payne ("Sideways"), the film stars Clooney as a distressed dad tending to his daughters after his wife falls into a coma from a head injury. The film expands to about 400 theaters Wednesday.

In an industry whose main audience is young males, "Twilight" is a rare blockbuster franchise driven by female viewers. Distributor Summit Entertainment reported that women and girls made up 80 percent of the audience for "Breaking Dawn."

The popularity of "Twilight" has left many men scratching their heads, even those involved in releasing the movies.

"I'm 53 years old, and I haven't figured it out yet," said Richie Fay, head of distribution for Summit. "It relates really to young girls and things that are important to them, their romantic ideas of love and relationships, without getting so physical, at least on screen, that it becomes a worry for their parents."

"Breaking Dawn" has brooding teen Bella (Kristen Stewart) marrying vampire lover Edward (Robert Pattinson), whose family strikes an uneasy alliance with jealous werewolf Jacob (Taylor Lautner) to protect the bride and the baby she's carrying.

Fashion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Olivares said she sewed and stitched everything herself and she has an idea of who could wear her design.

"I could see, like, a non-traditional bride or someone who doesn't like to wear dresses," she said. "I know I have a cousin who hates dresses, and she's going to get married. I could see her in pants."

One designer was inspired by her hometown.

Heather Hazuka, a senior apparel design and manufacturing major from Lubbock, said her vision came from the city's unique characteristics.

"My inspiration was actually Lubbock, Texas," she said. "Just the antiquity of it all and also just the way (a model) flowed with the wind and stuff."

Hazuka said she had a lot of support from people close to her who helped her make it through the demanding time constraints of only having one month to gather materials, sew and stitch everything for the dress.

"I had a lot of friends who just stayed over and helped me," Hazuka said. "Also, my mom helped me out a lot and my family was just there for me."

The wedding custom of "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue" inspired Meghan Rizkal, a designer for the show.

"My inspiration, of course, was obviously the love for my family and the spirit of a wedding," said the sophomore apparel design and manufacturing major from Colleyville. "But also, I did something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue. The blue was of the bird and her birdcage veil. I used old paper. I got a new hoop skirt that I made. Her birdcage veil is a borrowed tulle that we had left

over in the lab. So, I kind of had that theme, and then obviously the blue is in there for good luck."

Rizkal used 1,500 sheets of paper for her dress and said she was fine-tuning the design all the way up to the moment the model walked onto the runway.

She said she was nervous for people to see her design, but she has received encouraging feedback.

"I love it," she said of the dress. "I want people to like it as well. But, I've had a lot of people tell me they like it, which is the best thing for a designer. We love it and we want other people to love it as well. That's why we do what we do."

The show lasted about 45 minutes and was followed by a reception where family, friends and audience members could mingle with designers.

The fashion show left many people impressed with the work showcased.

Kaitlyn McDonald, a junior apparel design and manufacturing major from Austin, said the show inspired her to go home

and design.

"I thought it was amazing," she said. "Everyone went above and beyond. There were a lot of elements to it and I thought that people went beyond just

the classical look. I thought that was really cool. There were, like, different colors and so many different fabrics and textures. It was awesome."

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Demi Moore to divorce Kutcher

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Demi Moore is ending her marriage to fellow actor Ashton Kutcher, she told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Moore, 49, and Kutcher, 33, were wed in September 2005.

The couple's relationship became tabloid fodder in recent months as rumors swirled about Kutcher's alleged infidelity.

"It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I have decided to end my six-year marriage to Ashton. As a woman, a mother and a wife there are certain values and vows that I hold sacred, and it is in this spirit that I have chosen to move forward with my life. This is a trying time for me and my family, and so I would ask for the same compassion and privacy that you would give to anyone going through a similar situation," she said in her statement to the AP.

The pair frequently used Twitter to communicate with each other as millions of fans followed along.

"I will forever cherish the time I spent with Demi," Kutcher tweeted Thursday. "Marriage is one of the most difficult things in the world and unfortunately sometimes they fail."

Moore said in 2007 that her relationship with the star of "That '70s Show" and "Punk'd" — who is 15 years younger than Moore — "caught us both by surprise."

"If somebody would have said, 'OK, here is the prediction: You're going to meet a man 25 years old

and he's going to see being with you and having your three kids as a bonus,' I would have said, 'Keep dreaming,'" Moore said in a 2007 interview with Vanity Fair. "I think it caught us both by surprise, and particularly him."

Kutcher became a stepfather to Moore's three daughters — Rumer, Scout and Tallulah Belle — from her 13-year marriage to actor Bruce Willis. Moore and Willis divorced in 2000 but remained friendly. Moore and Kutcher were photographed socializing with Willis, and the couple attended Willis' wedding to model-actress Emma Heming in 2009.

Moore and Kutcher created the DNA Foundation, also known as the Demi and Ashton Foundation, in 2010 to combat the organized sexual exploitation of girls around the globe. They later lent their support to the United Nations' efforts to fight human trafficking, a scourge the international organization estimates affects about 2.5 million people worldwide.

Moore can be seen on screen in the recent films "Margin Call" and "Another Happy Day." Kutcher replaced Charlie Sheen on TV's "Two and a Half Men" as is part of the ensemble film "New Year's Eve," set for release next month.

Kutcher's publicist did not immediately respond to an e-mail and phone call seeking comment. No divorce papers had been filed in Los Angeles Superior Court as of Thursday afternoon.

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Pope leaves Africa with spiritual 'map'

COTONOU, Benin (AP)— Pope Benedict XVI wrapped up a pilgrimage to Africa on Sunday where he laid out his spiritual vision for the continent and told tens of thousands during an open air Mass that "true royalty does not consist in a show of power," comments that Africans interpreted as a jab at the continent's corrupt rulers.

The 84-year-old pope, who recently began using a moving platform to get across the long aisle at St. Peter's Basilica, weathered the intense heat inside Benin's unventilated chapels and parishes to deliver the layered message on how Africa can emerge from war and poverty.

The pastoral guide includes advice on everything from treating AIDS, to the respect that should be shown toward indigenous beliefs. It's a deeply studied dissertation that reveals the importance that Africa now plays for the Roman Catholic

Church, a region whose congregations are growing more quickly than anywhere else.

The core of his message was aimed at the individual and called on Africans to forgive those that have trespassed against them in order to halt the cycle of violence plaguing the continent. Benedict didn't mince his words, though, when it came to Africa's rulers, whose corrupt regimes have bankrupted nations.

"I launch an appeal to all political and economic leaders of African countries," Benedict said over the weekend. "Do not deprive your people of hope. Do not cut them off from their future by mutilating their present. Adopt a courageous, ethical approach to your responsibilities."

The comment caused taxi drivers listening to his speech on their car radio to honk in approval.

POOR DE-FENCE

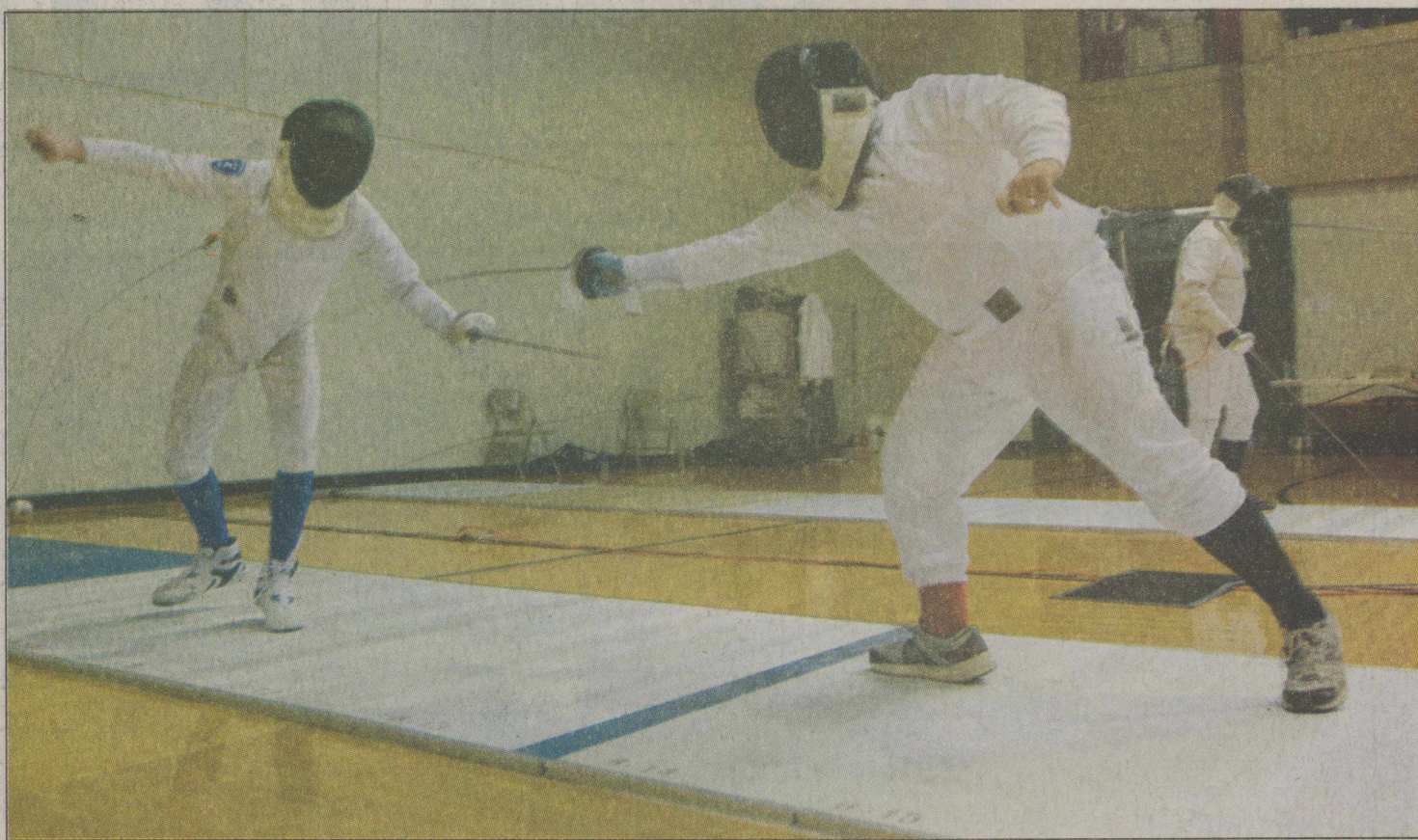


PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador
DAVID SCONYERS, A junior microbiology major from Arlington, fences against an opponent from Amarillo College during the Texas Tech Open hosted by the Double T Fencing Club on Saturday in the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

British woman, Felicity Aston, tries historic Antarctic crossing

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)— Reaching the end of the Earth has become almost routine these days: One hundred years after Norway's Roald Amundsen beat Britain's R.F. Scott to the South Pole, more than 30 teams are trying for it this year.

Some will kite-sail over the vast Antarctic ice and snow. Others will drive in from the coast. A wealthy handful will be dropped off one degree north of the South Pole, for relatively leisurely guided treks of about 70 miles to the pole.

But Felicity Aston has been there, done that. Weather and her own considerable stamina permitting, the 33-year-old British adventurer will only pause at the pole long enough to pick up more food and fuel. Her plan is to keep on skiing, by herself, all the way to the other side of the frozen continent — and become the first person using only muscle power

to cross Antarctica alone.

If she manages to complete this journey of more than 1,000 miles (1,700 kilometers) in late January, she would also set a record for the longest solo polar expedition by a woman, at about 70 days.

"This is my first solo expedition, the first time I will have spent this length of time without company," she said in a phone interview with the Associated Press. "It's part of the challenge of the expedition, to see how I'll cope with it."

Aston spoke from Punta Arenas, Chile, where she was boarding a charter flight Friday after losing a precious week waiting for weather to break. From a base in Antarctica, she'll then take a second plane to her starting point at the foot of the Leverett Glacier, where the Ross Ice Shelf meets the rocky coast.

Already, she was "channeling

down," getting her mind set on what would be a grueling routine.

"Your life reduces to eating, sleeping and skiing. It's a form of meditation. You get into a rhythm, and all you can hear is your own breathing, your own heartbeat, the sound of your clothes and your skis. It's kind of an altered state," she said. "A trip like this is all about keeping going — the stamina, endurance, keeping going day after day after day."

Aston, whose trek is sponsored by the Russian software company Kaspersky Lab and makers of the equipment she is using, has plenty of experience in long-endurance expeditions. She spent nearly three years as a meteorologist with the British Antarctic Survey, and in 2009 led an all-woman group from the coast to the South Pole. Her long list of travel adventures includes skiing across the Canadian Arctic, crossing the

Greenland ice sheet and trekking over Siberia's frozen Lake Baikal. She's also run across Morocco's Sahara Desert and tracked jaguars in Paraguay.

"I've been preparing for 10 years and only now do I feel capable of this. Every trip teaches you something: how tough you are, what your personal limits are, how to wrap up a blister better, how not to get sick," she said. "Particularly on the psychological side, each journey I've had has taught me something about how to feel better about a situation, how to react, how to behave."

The 5-foot-11 (1.80-meter) Aston weighs around 170 pounds (77 kilos) and she'll be hauling up to 187 pounds (85 kilos) of gear on a sledge. It includes freeze-dried food, fuel and a camp stove for melting snow. She's also bringing along a solar recharger and two MP3 players — one has music donated by her friends, everything

from peaceful ska tunes to heavy metal and "fluffy pop songs," the other has mostly audio books from her father on "the whole of British history ... 300 hours of it!"

Antarctic Treaty rules require private support teams to be able to pull people out in a pinch, and Aston is carrying two Iridium satellite phones and a GPS beacon to keep in touch with hers.

"She has to have the beacon, because it's so easy for a solo person to get in trouble," said David Rootes, a veteran polar guide who runs Antarctic Logistics and Expeditions. The company is supporting most of this year's trips, making about 20 flights into Antarctica and moving about 500 people around the continent in all. Most are traveling in groups, hoping to make it in time for a polar party on Dec. 13, (South Pole time), the centennial of Amundsen's achievement.

"What Felicity is doing is not routine at all," Rootes said. "Until she hits the pole, she's really out of contact with anybody at all."

Rootes met Aston years ago at a Royal Geographic Society function in London, and has followed her exploits in the clubby world of adventurers ever since.

"She's a very substantial woman. You have to have a hell of a lot of drive and single-mindedness to do this, because everything in the world will get in the way to stop you," he said.

Once Aston sets off, climbing thousands of feet (meters) in altitude through the Transantarctic Mountains and onto the continent's vast central plateau, she'll be utterly alone, with no other living thing in sight. Then, she'll have to push through fierce headwinds for more than 300 miles (500 kilometers) as she follows a route along 132 West Longitude to the pole.

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THE RETREAT

OSU head women's basketball coach, assistant die in plane crash

By CHOIS WOODMAN
STAFF WRITER

Kurt Budke, head women's basketball coach at Oklahoma State, and Miranda Serna, assistant coach for the team, died in a plane crash Thursday.

The plane went down in Perry County, Ark., and also killed former Oklahoma State Sen. Olin Branstetter and his wife, Paula, leaving no survivors.

Texas Tech will mourn with Oklahoma State in this time of tragedy, Tech women's basketball coach Kristy Curry said.

"Our staff is extremely heartbroken and was devastated this morning to

hear about Kurt and Miranda," Curry said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families, staff, team and the entire Oklahoma State family."

The Big 12 Conference has lost a good coach and a great person, she said.

"Kurt was not only a great basketball coach, but he was an even better husband and dad," Curry said. "I have learned a lot through the years from Kurt on keeping

the game in perspective. Any time we saw each other, sent a text or called, the first thing he would ask me is how Kelly (Curry) and the girls were doing. He loved his family and treated his players and staff like a family."

Budke was in his seventh year as the Cowgirls' head coach. The university has cancelled its games last Saturday and Sunday against Grambling State and UT-Arlington.

"This is obviously an incredibly devastating event," Oklahoma State University president Burns Hargis said in a news conference Friday. "It's our worst nightmare. The entire OSU family is very close, and

to lose anyone — especially these two individuals, who were incredible life-forces in our family — is worse beyond words."

The crash happened 10 years after the plane crash that killed 10 people associated with the Oklahoma State men's basketball program.

Budke was the type of person everyone wanted to be around, Curry said.

"He just loved everybody

around him," she said. "He always had a smile on his face. He was fun-loving and outgoing. Again, he was a dad to so many of those kids who maybe didn't have that figure in their lives."

Budke revived a struggling Cowgirls program and led the team to its first top-10 ranking in school history during the 2009-2010 season.

Associate head coach Jim Littell will take over as interim head coach when Oklahoma State resumes play.

Serna will also be greatly missed as a coach and as a person, Curry said.

"Miranda was a bright young star in our business, but beyond that she was just a tremendous young lady," she said.

Both coaches were a big influence on players on and off the court, Hargis said.

"I think people don't fully appreciate, who are not in athletics and who are not in the coaching profession," he said. "I don't know how much they appreciate what incredible mentors these people are to their teams."

The Lady Raiders circled and prayed before practice started Friday, Curry said.

"It just puts things in perspective," she said. "You want these kids to understand that there's something bigger than basketball, and that there's so many more things that matter. We're just blessed to play a game, and it puts things in perspective."

►cwoodman@dailytoreador.com



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

OKLAHOMA STATE WOMEN'S basketball head coach Kurt Budke looks on during the Cowgirls 80-70 win in Lubbock against Texas Tech in 2010. Budke and OSU's assistant coach Miranda Serna died in a plane crash last Thursday evening while traveling home from a recruiting trip in Arkansas.

"Our staff is extremely heartbroken and was devastated this morning..."

KRISTY CURRY
HEAD COACH
LADY RAIDERS

Houston Texans not ready to succeed in playoffs yet

Does anyone know a good witch doctor or maybe a Native American shaman? If so, can you ask them if they can make a voodoo doll for an entire city?

The city of Houston's sports teams almost seem to be cursed.

The Houston Texans, in the middle of the best season in franchise history, have lost their premier pass-rusher, Mario Williams, for the whole season, and now they have lost their field general, Matt Schaub. Star receiver Andre Johnson also has spent significant time on the bench with an injury.

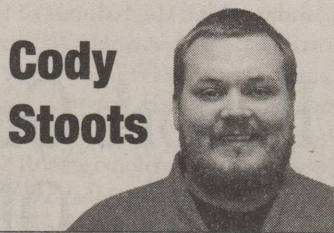
It's still the same Texans team, though.

The reigns fall into the hands of Matt Leinart

to lead a questionable passing game and ferocious run game. He will get Johnson back as a weapon out of the bye week, but this makes little difference. Fans of the Texans have to feel uneasy about the former USC product taking over. They shouldn't feel too out of place. It should be the same feelings they had with Schaub.

This team is no more equipped for a deep run in the playoffs with Schaub than

Cody Stoots



without him.

The Texans seemed like they may have had a shot at a first-round bye in the playoffs. The team was finally beating the teams it was supposed to beat, and then even beat teams they weren't supposed to beat. Don't be fooled.

The only quality win the Texans boast was against the Steelers when Pittsburgh was reeling with injuries and out of its rhythm.

It was a whipping on a pretty good Steelers defense, but the black and yellow you see now is not the team the Texans beat.

There was no reason to trust the Texans in crunch time, and there still isn't.

Gary Kubiak has rarely, if ever, shown effective play calling in a close game.

The Texans will win the AFC South. They may even earn a first-round bye, but it will be on the back of Arian

Foster and Ben Tate running the ball. Leinart never has shown above-average production in the NFL, so he should get familiar with turning around and handing the ball to the Texans backfield duo.

Peering into my crystal ball, I see disappointment for fans who have misconstrued hopes for this team. Make no mistake: a playoff appearance is a huge achievement for the Texans. It will be a complete fulfillment of realistic expectations for this team. Anything else will be gravy on top.

There will not be anything else, though.

Without someone to effectively sling the ball around, the Texans will not be a real threat in the playoffs. A one-and-done appearance is in the team's future. The culture of losing has been moved aside, not completely done away with. There should still be doubt in Kubiak's ability to manage a close game against a good team. There is more doubt now about the passing game than ever.

Just a few weeks ago, many Texans fans were complaining about Schaub's performance. They will miss him when his backup takes over. The offense will not ask Leinart to be a star. In fact, he will be asked to not press and not try to do too much.

The real hero here is the defense for the Texans. They are absolute wildcards when assessing the Texans. Every week it seems like a new player is ready

to emerge and punish opposing offenses. Brian Cushing has surpassed the level of play he showed his rookie season. Rookie J.J. Watt should receive the apology letter I wrote him any day now. He has been fantastic.

If the Texans shocked the world and made a run past one game in the playoffs, it would be because the defense has played very well and the passing game is just effective enough to keep teams honest when defending future Pro Bowler Foster.

The AFC is wide open. If the Texans should get past the huge hill of a first game, it could slowly put momentum on their side. The other AFC teams are not great, but I trust their coaching more than the Texans' coaching. There is no better time than on the big stage for Kubiak and Leinart to shake off doubters.

Now if you will excuse me, I have to look up voodoo doctors on Google.

► Stoots is a senior broadcast journalism major from Houston.
► cody.stoots@ttu.edu

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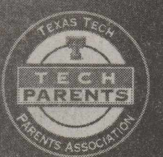
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Texas Tech falls 31-27 to Missouri on late TD

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — If not the losing streak, at least Texas Tech ended the beardowns.

The Red Raiders, who were whipped by an average of 42 points the previous three weeks, led for all except the final 2:22 of a 31-27 loss to Missouri on Saturday night. They were at the Missouri 6 in the final minute, on the verge of spoiling the Tigers' home finale, before Michael Sam intercepted a pass from Seth Doege that had been tipped at the line by Dominique Hamilton.

"It's extremely frustrating because we battled the entire game and I feel like we were in it the entire game," Doege said. "The ball didn't bounce your way."

James Franklin accounted for four touchdowns and got the go-ahead score on a 9-yard run with 2:22 remaining as Missouri, minus suspended coach Gary Pinkel, won on Senior Day and sent Texas Tech to its fourth straight loss.

"A loss is a loss, but this one's tougher because when you're so close, and they take it from you right at the end," safety Terrance Bullitt said. "We just needed the one stop — we were one stop away, and one score away."

Franklin rushed for a career-best 152 yards with two touchdowns to help the Tigers (6-5, 4-4 Big 12) overcome Henry Josey's season-ending knee injury last week. He was 13 for 20 for 172 yards and two more touchdowns, including a 7-yarder to Marcus Lucas earlier in the fourth that cut Texas

Tech's lead to three.

Doege threw for one touchdown and ran for another for Texas Tech (5-6, 2-6), which must beat Baylor next week to become bowl eligible for the 12th straight season.

This was a major improvement for the Red Raiders, who were whipped by an average of 42 points the previous three games and absorbed the worst loss in school history last week in a 66-6 rout against Oklahoma State.

Texas Tech lost three players to knee injuries — wide receiver Alex Torres, running back DeAndre Washington and offensive guard Lonnie Edwards. The Red Raiders weren't happy with the condition of the artificial turf.

"Three bad knee injuries and a couple ankle injuries," head coach Tommy Tuberville said. "We didn't have a punt returner or a kick returner after the first quarter."

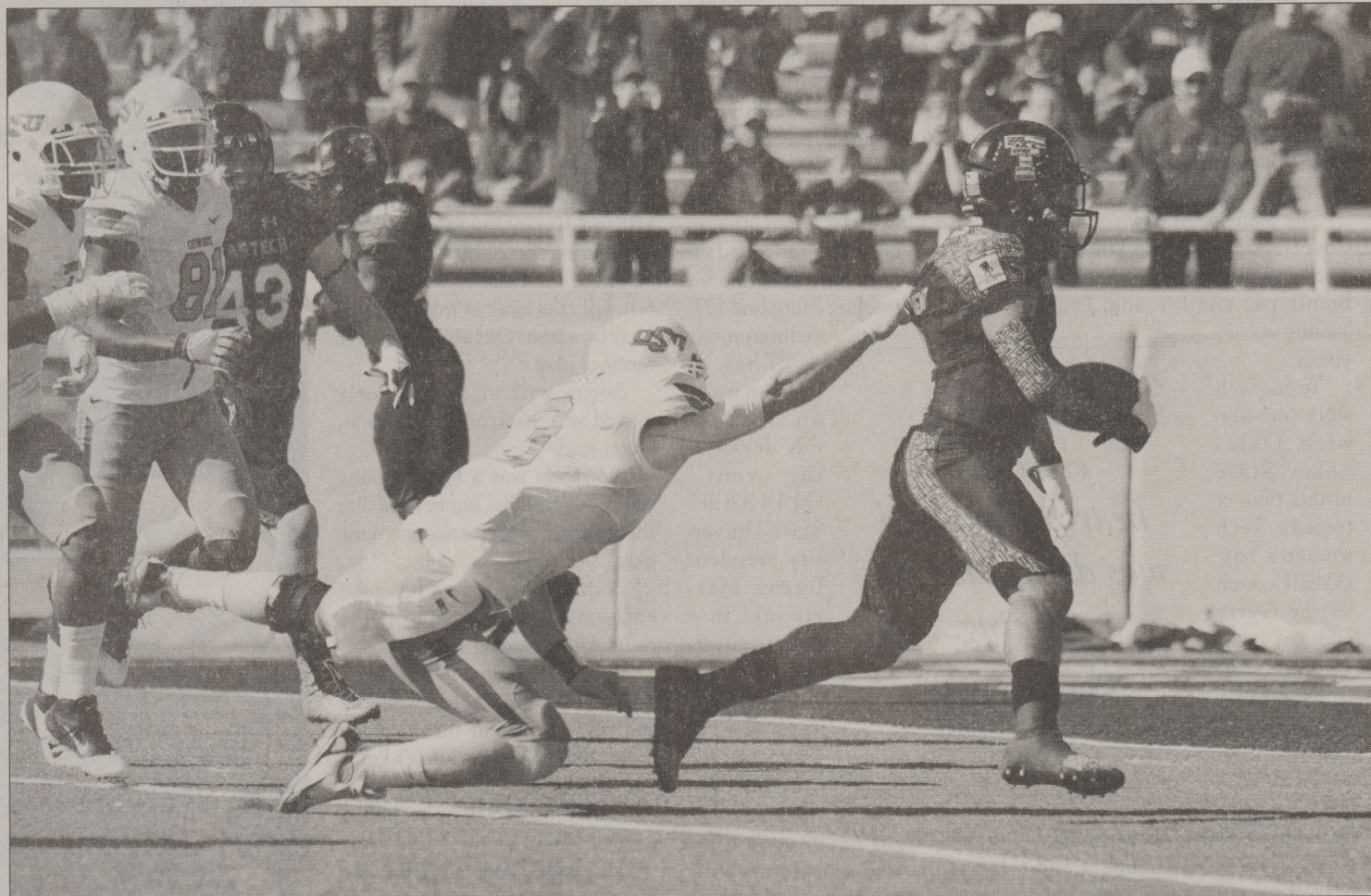
"We were told this turf was pretty tough, and it was pretty tough."

Pinkel can rejoin Missouri on Thursday, two days ahead of the season finale against Kansas in Kansas City. Fans in midfield seats across from the Missouri sideline unfurled a banner that read "We (Love) You, Gary."

Pinkel's wife, Vickie, attended the game.

Missouri trailed entering the fourth quarter for the seventh time, and won for the second time under those circumstances.

A week after trailing 49-0 at halftime in a 66-6 loss to Oklahoma State, Texas Tech



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S CORNELIUS Douglas scores the Red Raiders' only touchdown against Oklahoma State on Nov. 12 in a 66-6 loss to the Cowboys. The Red Raiders then lost their fourth straight game Saturday, as Missouri beat Tech 31-27 in Columbia, Mo.

started fast, playing with the wind on a gusty day, and led 17-10 at the break, fueled by touchdowns on two of the first three possessions — a 1-yard run by Bradley Marquez out of the wildcat formation and Doege's 3-yard run. It was only the third time Tech had led at the break all season.

Michael Egnew's first touchdown catch in five games came on a leaping grab in the

back of the end zone to cut Missouri's deficit to 20-17 with 4:43 to go in the third quarter. It was the first touchdown in the third quarter in five games for the Tigers, who have totaled 40 points in that quarter all year.

Texas Tech went up 10 again on Darrin Moore's 24-yard catch from Doege with one second left in the third that made it 27-17.

The wind was such a factor early that Texas Tech called a timeout to force Missouri to punt into it. The move was foiled when Trey Barrow got a very favorable roll on a 68-yarder into the end zone.

Missouri blew a scoring chance in the first quarter when Kendial Lawrence got stripped by Cornelius Douglas at the Red Raiders 6-yard line and fumbled the ball out of the

end zone.

Moore's 54-yard run to the 6 topped his season total of 39 yards the first 10 games and set up a 5-yard run by Franklin that capped a 10-play, 90-yard drive, the Tigers' longest of the year.

Missouri cornerback E.J. Gaines had two pass breakups for a season total of 16, breaking the single-season school record set by Michael Harden in 2002.

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Baylor's Griffin delivers boom to OU title chance

WACO (AP) — Baylor's Robert Griffin did more than just knock Oklahoma out of the national championship chase with his latest record-setting performance.

The offensive machine known as "RGIII" likely put himself back in serious contention for the Heisman Trophy.

Don't expect an argument from Sooners coach Bob Stoops after Griffin threw for 479 yards and four touchdowns, including the game-winner with 8 seconds left that came right after Oklahoma had overcome a two-TD deficit to tie the game in the final minute.

"He's an excellent player," Stoops said. "I've known that for a long time."

While there was a deflected pass that turned into an 87-yard touchdown against the Sooners (8-2, 5-2 Big 12), Griffin hit plenty of receivers in stride.

Then after Oklahoma called a timeout hoping to get the ball one more time, Griffin scrambled for 22 yards. He ran for 8 more on the next play before two more passes — 12 yards to Kendall Wright, who had a record night of his own, and a 34-yarder to Terrance Williams for a 45-38 victory late Saturday night.

"The dude has the ability to take over a game by himself, and you saw it, and it was amazing," Baylor linebacker Elliot Coffey said. "I'm just glad to be part of it."

Oklahoma plummeted seven spots to No. 12 in the new AP Top 25 on Sunday, and certainly will have a significant slip in the BCS standings as well. The Bears (7-3, 4-3) moved up four spots to No. 21 in the AP poll.

The Sooners' first loss ever against Baylor (in 21 games) couldn't have come at a worse time.

Instead of taking advantage of losses by Big 12 rival and then-No. 2 Oklahoma State and No. 4 Oregon that would have pushed them up the line for a national title shot, the Sooners will now have to be content trying to win their eighth Big 12 title in 12 seasons and just get into one of the Bowl Championship Series games.

Certainly an opportunity lost, especially after Stanford and Boise State had both suffered their first losses the previous weekend while Oklahoma had an open date.

"Sure, we were aware of that. But there's absolutely no thought

that we weren't ready for this game," Stoops said. "We worked hard and were prepared. We just didn't play well enough to give ourselves a chance to win."

The Sooners now have to beat Iowa State — which shocked Oklahoma State in double overtime Friday night — to set up the regular season finale against the in-state rival Cowboys for the Big 12 title and the league's automatic BCS berth.

"We've just got to keep playing ball, our goal to win the Big 12 championship is still out in front of us," said Landry Jones, who completed 36 of 51 passes for 447 yards.

Griffin, the fourth-year junior already with 46 school records, broke his own single-game marks for passing yards (on 21 of 34 passes) and his 551 total yards. It was his fifth consecutive game with at least 400 total yards, and came a week after he directed the biggest fourth-quarter comeback in Baylor history — from 21 points down to win in overtime at Kansas.

"When the ball's in his hand, he's going to make good things happen, because he's very intelligent, very passionate, very gifted," Baylor coach Art Briles said.

Wright had eight catches to break his own record with 208 yards receiving. He caught ball that deflected off the helmet of intended receiver Tevin Reese that tied the game after Oklahoma had scored two quick touchdowns after halftime to go in front.

Griffin leads the nation with 412 total yards per game, and has accounted for 38 touchdowns (33 passing, five rushing) with only five interceptions.

"We know we've got to finish the season. Let that be known. We're going to be ready, we won't be riding a high," Griffin said. "When you work for something extremely hard and for a lot of years and you finally get it, it's a great feeling."

Baylor was already bowl eligible for the second year in a row after never going to a post-season in the Big 12 era before last season. The Bears have two more regular season games, next Saturday against Texas Tech at Cowboys Stadium before the finale Dec. 3 against Texas at home, where they are 6-0 and averaging 48 points a game.

Today's

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6	9	5	4	3	8	1	7	2
1	2	4	7	6	9	8	3	5
8	5	7	6	4	2	3	1	9
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9	4	2	1	8	3	6	5	7
2	7	6	3	1	4	5	9	8
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Tech stays perfect with win against Lumberjacks

By MIKE GUTIERREZ
STAFF WRITER

Despite some struggles with ball control, the Red Raiders were able to defeat the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks 66-54 Sunday.

The Red Raiders (3-0) had an efficient outing offensively as the team connected on 63 percent of its shot attempts.

From the Red Raiders' exhibition games in the preseason to where the team is now, the squad has shown improvements both offensively and defensively, said Stephen F. Austin's head coach Danny Kaspar.

"I think Texas Tech is getting better with every game I've seen," he said. "The school hired a very good basketball coach in (Billy) Gillispie. The team really had a great game against us today. I think this Tech team is going to do a lot better this season than many people are expecting."

Junior guard Ty Nurse led the way for the Red Raiders in scoring with 14 points, shooting 50 percent

from the field and a perfect seven out of seven from the free-throw line.

Nurse was one of four Red Raiders able to get into double-figure scoring on the day.

Despite limited playing time because of early foul trouble, freshman forward Jordan Tolbert scored a perfect five out of five from the field, including two dunks at key moments in the game.

Sophomore forward Jaye Crockett added 13 points of his own and led the team with seven rebounds.

The biggest thing that helped the Red Raiders pick up a win against the Lumberjacks (1-2) was the team's preparation for the game, said sophomore guard Javarez Willis.

"We played the game plan well," he said. "We had good pressure on their team to stop them from getting into their primary offense. We're pleased with a 3-0 start to the season, but there's always room for improvement and we have to get better."

This was a tough win for the

Red Raiders, said Tech coach Billy Gillispie, although the team made it look easy at times.

"I was very concerned going into the game because Stephen F. Austin usually runs a great offense," he said. "I'd like to give a tribute to coach Kaspar and his staff — they have a great team. I was very happy to be able to win a game after this match was over."

Gillispie said he is happy with how his team has been able to perform in its first three games of the regular season.

"I'm very proud of my team's efforts and what they've been able to accomplish, but we're not kidding anybody. We know how it's going to be on the road," he said. "We still need to make dramatic improvements in every single area of our play, and hopefully we will."

Moving on, the Red Raiders will travel to Orlando, Fla., to compete in the Old Spice Classic. The first match-up for Tech in the tournament will be against Indiana State at 11 a.m. Thursday.

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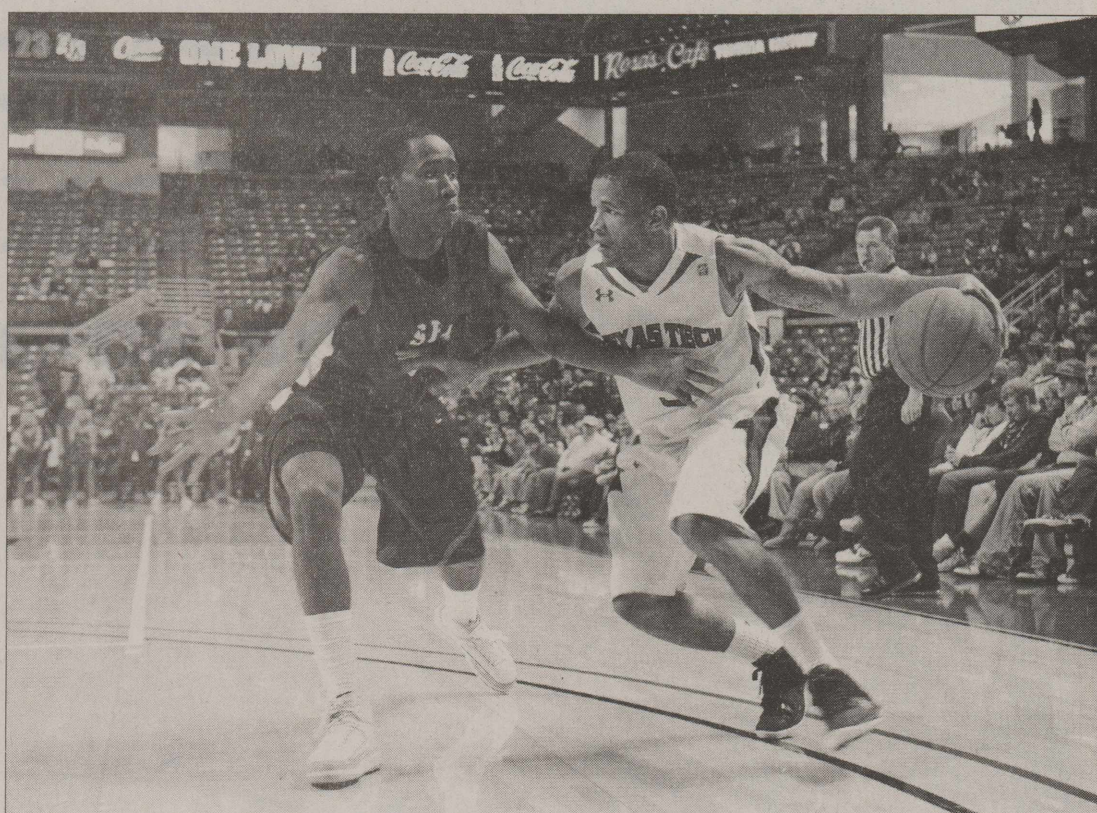


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S JAVAREZ Willis drives to the basket during the Red Raiders' 66-54 victory against the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks in United Spirit Arena on Sunday.

Romo leads Cowboys to 27-24 OT win against Redskins

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Tony Romo went this way and that way, scrambling to find Laurent Robinson for the game-tying touchdown and Jason Witten for the go-ahead score — both in the fourth quarter.

When that wasn't enough, the Dallas quarterback used his feet again in overtime, buying enough time to spot Dez Bryant on a third-and-15. The 26-yard completion set

up Dan Bailey's winning field goal Sunday as the Cowboys won their third straight, topping the hard-luck Washington Redskins 27-24.

"That's Romo. He's like a snake, man," Washington linebacker Brian Orakpo said. "When you rush him, he's slippery. He's all over the place."

Romo completed 23 of 37 passes for 292 yards and three touchdowns — plus no interceptions and a 100-

plus quarterback rating for the third straight week. He keeps, with no dispute, his title as the NFL's Mr. November as he improved to 18-2 with 49 TDs and 12 interceptions in the month. The Cowboys (6-4) also keep their momentum in what is shaping up to be a fascinating December duel with the New York Giants for the NFC East title.

"He makes it look easy," Witten said. "I think it starts with his ability

to see it before the snap, and he has a great awareness about him and an ability to make those type of throws. He's done it for a long time."

On the heels of back-to-back double-digit wins, Romo and the Cowboys had to rally against a team that has been in the doldrums for more than a month. The Redskins (3-7) have lost six straight, the longest skid since owner Dan Snyder bought the team in 1999 and

extending the longest losing run in Mike Shanahan's head coaching career. The 1998 team started 0-7.

At least they mounted a stern challenge this time, proving there's always some steam in the Dallas-Washington rivalry. The Redskins scored more points than the 20 they had in their three previous games combined. They sent the game to overtime on Rex Grossman's 4-yard fade pass to Donte Stallworth with

14 seconds left in regulation and barely missed winning when Graham Gano's 52-yard field goal was barely wide right on the opening possession of the extra period.

"It's not one of those games where we just got beat down," said Washington's Jabar Gaffney, who caught seven passes for 115 yards and a touchdown. "We gave it away. We gave that one away. We've got to learn how to win again."

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ROOMMATE WANTED 4/2 house. From 1/1/12- 5/31/12. \$525/month bills included. To move in 12/1. Located in Tech Terrace. Female Preferred. No cat, dog ok. Call 915-740-8888.

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