

Platinum touch
Seven Mary Three makes a Hub City appearance. P. 5

Playoff fever
Big 12 play continues minus Texas Tech. P. 6



low 32
high 47
rainy

TUESDAY

December 2, 1997

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THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

6 pages

Serving Texas Tech University since 1925

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TTUHSC shares knowledge about virus

BY DANIEL KERR

The University Daily

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and HealthNet broadcast an interactive discussion Monday about the hantavirus to about 15,000 people across the U.S. and Canada.

Earlier this year, doctors at TTUHSC diagnosed the 11th confirmed case of hantavirus in Texas and treated it successfully with an experimental nitric oxide treatment.

Hantavirus, which is spread primarily by rodent droppings, is relatively uncommon with 180 confirmed cases in the United States, the first in 1993 near the Four Corners area of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona.

Although it is not common, Dr. David Wagner, the doctor at TTUHSC who made the diagnosis, said the disease is fatal about 50 percent of the time.

Michael Phillips, assistant vice president of telecommunications and computer services at TTUHSC as well as the director of HealthNet, said the focus of the discussion is on physicians.

"The focus is primarily on giving the physicians clinical information about hantavirus to make them more aware early on of hantavirus symptoms," Phillips said. "We wanted to get the information out."

Phillips did not expect the discussion, which was underwritten by Roche Pharmaceutical, to be such a success.

"It's the first program in a series we wanted to launch," he said. "We never had any idea that it would grow to this scale."

Angela Nail, the University Medical Center representative for Roche Pharmaceutical, said underwriting the discussion was something the company wanted to do.

"This project was really important because it furthers education progress and research," Nail said. "We are looking for something that would benefit physicians and ultimately the patients."

Roche donated \$2,000 to an independent education grant which paid for the satellite feed, making a nationwide broadcast possible.

"We knew what the program was about, but we left the specifics up to HSC," she said.

"Roche does not have a product directly involved in this."

Nail said interactive discussions like this one were important, especially to small, rural communities.

"It could help other doctors across the country. Any time after this broadcast, other physicians can access this information through telemedicine programs," she said. "That's really important because a lot of rural communities don't have access to this kind of information."

Burglar hits Alpha Phi lodge

■ About \$1,500 in damages occurred during holiday

BY JAMES WALKER

The University Daily

A burglar broke into the Alpha Phi sorority house over the Thanksgiving holiday, breaking two windows and stealing a videocassette recorder, stereo equipment and housewares totaling about \$1,500 in damages.

The police report states the west kitchen window was smashed in an attempt to gain entry to the house before the burglar got in by smashing the north office window.

Police lifted fingerprints from the wall outlet where the stereo was plugged in and from outside the window.

The crime was reported just after

10 p.m. Friday by Greg Ellis, a tenant in the house who did not leave for the holiday.

Ellis said he lives in the house, where he mows the yard and looks after things. Several weeks ago, he discovered an intruder in the house who fled when he arrived, he said. Ellis thinks the recent intruder could be the same person.

Ellis declined to comment on the details of the break-in, saying he did not want to give out any information which might help future burglars.

Sgt. Keith Woodard of the Lubbock Police Department said the in-



vestigation is ongoing.

"We're still in a process where we're trying to get some more usable information," Woodard said.

The information given to police about the stolen items was sketchy, and police will be better able to recover the items if they have information such as brand names or serial numbers, he said.

Woodard said people should always keep a list of all valuable items with serial numbers in case of theft. Since most burglars do not want to make noise or attract attention, preventing break-ins can often be as simple as making sure doors and win-

dows are bolted shut and having an alarm system.

When leaving home, it is important not to make the building look empty, he said.

The best option is to have a trusted friend house-sit, Woodard said.

Heather Albright, president of Alpha Phi sorority, said the houses on Greek Circle are looking into additional security measures.

"There is an obvious problem here on Greek Circle with the break-ins," Albright said.

The Alpha Phi house soon will have an alarm system installed, and measures to better protect all the houses on Greek Circle are being explored, Albright said.



Fighting Chance: David Merrbach, a sophomore history major from Guahsville, Md., takes a blow from Nathan McWaters, a senior history major from Fort Hood, at the Amtguard Battle games. Characters act out real battles every Sunday in Lubbock's Clapp Park.

Student opens fire at school

WEST PADUCAH, Ky. (AP) — A 14-year-old boy who warned last week that "something big's going to happen" inserted earplugs, drew a gun and shot eight students as a prayer meeting ended in a high school lobby Monday.

Two girls were killed and a third was in critical condition.

The boy, who had three spare clips of ammunition and four other guns, surrendered when Ben Strong — a pastor's son and leader of the prayer circle — grabbed the teen after he stopped shooting.

Afterward, the boy told Heath High School Principal Bill Bond, "I'm sorry."

"He acted just like he had been caught with some minor offense," Bond said.

"Really, the main question is, why," Sheriff Frank Augustus said. "He stated there was no personal vendetta against anyone. It was just a random shooting."

Strong said the boy hung out with people who claimed to be atheists.

The teen, who was not identified because of his age, carried into school a .22-caliber handgun with three spare clips of ammunition, two rifles and two shotguns. He wrapped the rifles and shotguns in blankets and told curious classmates they were props for a science project.

The gunman warned friends in this western Kentucky community last week that "something big's going to happen," Bond said.

The principal said an informal prayer meeting of about 35 students ended at 7:40 a.m., with the shooter and about a dozen others standing nearby. He said the teen calmly inserted earplugs, then drew the pistol from a backpack.

"Only the first three shots could have been aimed," Bond said. "After that, it was just as fast as he could pull the trigger. It was just random shooting."

Ben Heady, a senior, said he was nearby when the shooting began.

"I hear gunshots, about 10 in a row, just bang, bang, bang, bang, bang," he said. "People were just laying on the ground. People were screaming, running out of the hall."

Kacey Steger, 15, died at a hospital about 45 minutes later. Jessica James, 17, died in surgery. Five other students were admitted to hospitals, one girl in critical condition. An eighth wounded student was treated.

"I ran up to him and I just kind of pushed him against the wall," said Strong, who was warned by the gunman not to be in the lobby Monday.

Tech adds wildflower to West Texas, Israeli crops

BY JONATHAN CARROLL

The University Daily

A wildflower is being developed as an alternate cash crop for farmers in both West Texas and Israel.

The Texas Tech Department of Plant and Soil Science and scientists from Israel are developing the evening primrose as a crop for West Texas and Israeli farmers.

"The goal of the project is to diversify agriculture in West Texas," said Dick Auld, chairman of the Tech's Department of Plant and Soil

Science. "The introduction of evening primrose will bring \$30 million into the economy."

The evening primrose is not a replacement crop.

"It's not a replacement for cotton," said Cynthia McKenney, professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Science. "Not everyone can grow

evening primrose because the market doesn't need that much of it, so it is a specific crop for limited acres as an alternative crop."

The project is part of the Texas-Israeli exchange, which is a collaborative effort with Israeli scientists.

"The reason for the alliance is if

you look at water and environmental conditions, there are regions in West Texas and different parts of Texas that very much match the environment in Israel," she said. "Any advances we make would be applicable to them and vice versa."

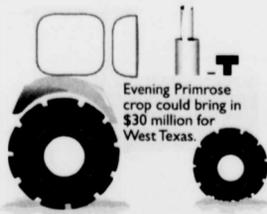
The scientists work by sharing information, McKenney said. The researchers from each country share findings to help develop the plant as a commercial crop.

The project is funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Israeli government. The development

of the evening primrose as a commercial crop is part of this project. The project began at Tech in 1994.

Evening primroses are grown commercially because of valuable fatty acid found in their seeds. The seeds contain gamma lenolonic acid (GLA), which is taken as a dietary supplement. Evening primrose seeds are turned into an oil and sold in health food stores as evening primrose oil capsules.

"The supplement is used to reduce the risk of heart attacks and help treat



Evening Primrose crop could bring in \$30 million for West Texas.

Chemist says residue on truck part caused by blast, not contamination

DENVER (AP) — An FBI chemist testified Monday that traces of explosive fertilizer found on a Ryder truck panel after the Oklahoma City bombing were caused by the blast — not contamination.

Steven Burmeister told jurors in Terry Nichols' trial that his tests de-

termined that the ammonium nitrate crystals were glazed into the panel by the force of the blast and some were embedded in the surface.

The panel fragment was found in a parking lot across the street from the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building that was also a staging area for

rescuers, firefighters and police officers in the days after the bombing.

Defense attorney Michael Tigar pointed out the fragment was outside when a heavy rainstorm swept across Oklahoma City on the night after the bombing.

He noted the lot was littered with bits and pieces of plastic, foam and metal from burned cars and debris from the building.

During a cross-examination of about three hours, Burmeister acknowledged he did not test the parking lot soil to determine if it con-

tained ammonium nitrate crystals similar to those found on the truck piece.

The chemist also could not explain why no other item among the 7,000 pounds of evidence found at the bomb site showed ammonium nitrate crystals.

Program historical, educational

BY JONATHAN CARROLL

The University Daily

Texas Tech students can learn about the origin of mistletoe, the burning of the yule log and the lighting of the Menorah at the program "Tis the Season."

These and other traditions celebrated around the world during Christmas time will be presented by the Museum of Texas Tech's Moody Planetarium.

"It's a really good historical educational program, at the same time it's just a lot of fun," said Elizabeth Locke, education program manager for the Tech Museum and Moody Planetarium.

"It think it helps get people in the mood for the holidays."

The program will be in the planetarium. Stars will light the ceiling

during the entire presentation.

"Tis the Season" traces the development of many of the world's holiday customs and how they involve lighting up the winter season from the burning yule log and sparkling Christmas tree lights to the lighting of the Menorah and luminarias.

The show also recounts the historical, religious and cultural rituals practiced during the time of winter solstice, not only Christian and Jewish, but also Celtic, Pagan, Nordic, Roman, Egyptian and Hopi.

"The show really focuses on how the winter solstice, this time of year,

Show Times Are:

Tuesday-Friday — 3:30 p.m.

Thursday — 7:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday — 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The program begins Dec. 9.

has been celebrated over time and by different cultures, and it talks about various traditions," Locke said.

The program will be narrated by Noah Adams.

Adams is the host of National Public Radio's "All Things Considered," which is a nationally-syndicated radio show.

Additionally, the program includes a presentation on the winter sky in Lubbock.

Different constellations will be shown that can be identified in Lubbock during the winter.

This is the second year "Tis the Season" has been presented. The Lubbock Arts Alliance Inc. partially

funded the program through a grant. The grant is funded by the city of Lubbock's motel/hotel tax.

"It enriches all our lives when we learn about different countries and cultures," Deborah Milosevich, executive director of the Lubbock Arts Alliance. "Anytime we can educate people about other cultures, we're doing our job."

The cost for public planetarium shows is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students. The show is free for children under age five and senior citizens.

The program will begin Dec. 9 and continue through Jan. 4. The planetarium will be closed Dec. 24-25 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

The presentation is 30 minutes in length.

The museum is located at Fourth Street and Indiana Avenue.



John Woelke/The University Daily

Increasing Awareness: Chere Gipson, a sophomore design communication major from Eagle River, Alaska, reads "My Uncle," which she wrote herself, Monday in the UC during AIDS Awareness Day.

Wildflower

continued from page 1

certain skin disorders," McKenney said.

The human body naturally produces GLA, but as people grow older, the levels of GLA drop. When taken daily, the acid helps reduce the risk of heart attacks and the treatment of certain skin disorders.

"It's not snake oil," Auld said. "It's the real thing."

The objective is to develop a plant with high enough levels of GLA that can be grown commercially in West Texas or Israel.

Evening primroses are grown commercially in Europe and Canada, but it is not grown commercially in the United States. The

evening primroses grown in these areas require more rainfall than West Texas or Israel provide.

"We're looking for a plant that will grow in more semi-arid conditions," said Sandra Balch, a first year doctoral student in Department of Plant and Soil Science.

The evening primrose is a native plant of Texas that grows wild throughout the West Texas area.

Researchers searched the West Texas area, from Dallas to the Texas/New Mexico border, looking for different species of the evening primrose growing wild.

The team identified eight different species of the evening primrose in West Texas.

The seeds of the flowers were tested for levels of GLA. The test determined which plants had high

enough levels of GLA to be grown commercially.

Only two species of primrose had high enough levels of GLA to be grown commercially.

These plants are grown at the Tech farm and are being developed as a commercial crop.

A problem encountered with commercial production of the evening primrose is planting them.

"It's been difficult to start them by direct seeding. Our best method has been to plant the seeds in flats in the greenhouse and then transfer it to the fields," Balch said.

"It's very cost intensive to transplant."

Less than 50 percent of the primrose seeds planted directly came up. Tech researchers are using various seed treatments on the primrose seeds

in order to increase direct planting numbers.

Researchers also are developing a method to harvest the seeds.

"For a crop to be marketable, it has to be easy to harvest," Balch said.

The same type of combine used to harvest wheat will be used to harvest the primrose seeds. During the spring, researchers will use a combine to harvest the seeds for the first time.

Additionally, the flower is being developed as an ornamental flower for lawns and gardens in areas. These flowers would require little watering.

"We think they have the potential to go into the ornamental trade as water conserving plants," Balch said.

U.S. infant mortality rate reaches all-time low

CHICAGO (AP) — The infant mortality rate in the United States has fallen to an all-time low, while life expectancy at birth has reached a new high, at 76.1 years.

In 1996, there were 7.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, according to a summary of preliminary 1996 government statistics published in the December issue of *Pediatrics*, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics. That's 5 percent lower than in 1995 and the lowest ever recorded in the United States.

The life expectancy for children

born in 1996 was 76.1 years, or 0.3 years longer than in 1995, according to the summary, which was based on data from the National Center for Health Statistics and the Census Bureau.

Medical developments were the main reasons for the decline in the infant mortality rate, said lead author Dr. Bernard Guyer of Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore.

But while scientific progress is keeping more children alive, it is also contributing to the growing number

of infants with low birth weights — 7.4 percent of all births in 1996, up from 7.3 percent in 1995 and the highest level reported since 1975.

The traditional risk factors did not appear to be to blame. Smoking during pregnancy was down, and early prenatal care rates were up.

Instead, the trend was attributed to increased use of fertility treatments and the growing number of women in their 40s giving birth.

Fertility treatments and giving birth late in life raise the chances of multiple births, which almost always result in premature, underweight babies.

Also, individual babies born to older women are more likely to be underweight.

"It is a problem we have created ourselves with our technology," Guyer said.

The number of multiple births has been increasing by an average of 2 percent per year since 1980, according to the report.

Despite its steady decline in infant mortality rates, the United States continues to rank poorly compared with other industrialized countries because of the number of babies born weighing less than 5.5 pounds.

Underweight babies accounted for nearly two-thirds of all infant deaths in 1995.

The report also noted the fifth consecutive drop in the birth rate for teenagers in 1996, including the first substantial decline for Hispanic teens.

Preliminary 1996 statistics indicate that the level of teen births dropped 4 percent to 54.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19. The rate for Hispanic teens fell 5 percent to 101.6 per 1,000.

The birth rate for unmarried women also declined 1 percent in 1996 to 44.6 births per 1,000 unmarried women.

This continues a trend noted last year for the first time in two decades.

“It is a problem we have created ourselves with our technology.”

Dr. Bernard Guyer

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Genetic defects make some people smell like rotting fish

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have identified genetic defects that make people smell like rotting fish, an uncommon disorder that can lead to ridicule, loneliness and depression.

"These people lose jobs, they lose friends, they're often very isolated," said Dr. Eileen Treacy of McGill University in Montreal, who led one of two competing research teams that found the flaws in a single gene.

Robert L. Smith of the Imperial College School of Medicine in London, a member of the other group, told of a woman who divorced her husband because she thought he was not keeping himself clean. When she learned he had the disorder, "she was full of remorse," he said.

No cure is known for "fish-odor syndrome," though avoiding cer-

tain foods and taking antibiotics can help. The new work might lead to better treatments, researchers said.

The British research team, led by Ian R. Phillips of the University of London, reported its work in the December issue of the journal *Nature Genetics*. Treacy's results were presented last month at a genetics meeting.

It's not clear how common fish-odor syndrome is. Smith said it is mentioned in some ancient literature and even caught the attention of Shakespeare, who in "The Tempest" describes a character with "a very ancient and fish-like smell."

The newly found defects cripple the body's ability to produce an effective version of an enzyme called FMO3. The liver needs that enzyme to process a smelly protein called TMA.

MOMENT'S NOTICE

Moment's Notice is a service of the Student Government Association for student and university organizations. Publication of announcements is subject to the judgment of the Student Government Association staff and availability of space. Anyone who wants to place an announcement should go to the SGA office on the second floor of the University Center and complete a separate form for each Tuesday and Thursday the notice is to appear. The deadlines are as follows: THURSDAY AT NOON TO BE PRINTED ON TUESDAY, MONDAY TO BE PRINTED ON THURSDAY. All questions should be directed to the SGA office at 742-3631.

ST. ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Advent Retreat for Singles, Dec. 6th
St. Elizabeth's Student Center, 8:30-4:30
Contact: Sister Diane, 762-1672

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'Flubber' tops Thanksgiving weekend box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The funny green goo of Robin Williams' "Flubber" topped the Thanksgiving holiday box office with \$36.4 million, bouncing ahead of "Alien Resurrection," according to recent industry estimates.

The latest sequel to "Alien" was the only other film to debut in wide release over the five-day weekend, grossing \$27.2 million, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.

"Flubber," Disney's remake of its 1961 comedy "The Absent Minded Professor," didn't come close to beating last year's record Thanksgiving opening of \$45.1 million for another Disney remake, the live-action version of "101 Dalmatians." But "101 Dalmatians" was the only wide-release premiere that weekend.

Family-oriented movies often do better during holiday weekends, said industry analyst David Davis, a vice

president at the investment banking firm of Houlihan, Lokey, Howard & Zukin.

Fox's animated musical "Anastasia" also performed well in its second week against Disney's re-release of "The Little Mermaid."

"Anastasia" fell from No. 2 to No. 3 in its second week with \$16.7 million. "The Little Mermaid" was No. 8 with \$4.7 million in ticket sales.

Moviegoers should prepare for a busy holiday movie season, with a

slew of releases every weekend between now and the end of the year.

Estimates for Wednesday through Sunday are as follows:

1. "Flubber," \$36.4 million.
2. "Alien Resurrection," \$27.2 million.
3. "Anastasia," \$16.7 million.
4. "John Grisham's The Rainmaker," \$14.5 million.
5. "The Jackal," \$10.3 million.
6. "Mortal Kombat Annihilation,"

\$9.25 million.

7. "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," \$7.3 million.

lion.

9. "Bean," \$4.1 million.

10. "Starship Troopers," \$4 million.

Eight planets and moon line up for rare sky show

MIAMI (AP) — The moon and eight of the planets will be lined up in the sky this week "like pearls on a string" in a sight that won't be visible again from Earth for at least another century.

"It's quite beautiful, an exquisite grouping of the moon and planets," said Jack Horkheimer, executive director of the Miami Space Transit Planetarium and host of the public television program "Star Hustler." "This is naked-eye astronomy at its best."

Beginning Monday night and continuing through Dec. 8, the planets will appear in the southwestern sky in a line slanting upward from the horizon. From west to east, Pluto will be followed by Mercury, Mars, Venus, Neptune, Uranus, Jupiter and Saturn, with a crescent moon alongside.

Mercury, Mars, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn will be visible to the naked eye, with Venus and Jupiter by far the brightest. A good pair of binoculars will be needed to see the small blue

dots that are Uranus and Neptune. Pluto will be visible only by telescope.

Horkheimer, whose syndicated show has been running for 21 years, said that the five bright planets should be visible even in urban areas on a clear night and that the array can be seen all around the world.

The heavenly bodies will be "all lined up like pearls on a string," he said.

He said the planets will be similarly aligned in May 2000, but they will be so close to the sun that they won't all be visible from Earth. Horkheimer said a computer analysis showed it will be at least another 100 years before so many planets will be so close and so visible.

"You would know why I'm so excited if you just understand how wonderful it is to look at the same planets that hundreds of generations have seen," Horkheimer said. "We are the first generation to know what the planets are about."

Carol of Lights set for Friday

Texas Tech community Christmas lighting ceremonies are scheduled for Friday. Thousands of lights lining businesses and houses on Broadway and lights on the Tech campus officially will be lit during these ceremonies.

This year, lights on Broadway and Carol of Lights will coincide offering entertainment, food and music.

"A Holiday Carol," the seventh annual Lights on Broadway Holiday Festival will begin at 5 p.m. in the Campus Advance parking lot, on Broadway between Avenue X and University Avenue. A live nativity

performance, Santa Claus photographs, carriage rides, food booths and live music will be featured at the Broadway festival.

The 39th annual Carol of Lights will begin at 7 p.m. in Memorial Circle. The ceremony will feature the University Singers, the Magic Singers and a trombone choir. William Hartwell will sing "O Holy Night," and the Saddle Tramps will provide a torch-lighted parade.

The 1997 Holiday Parade will follow the Carol of Lights and proceed through the Tech campus to the downtown area.

TUESDAY		DECEMBER 2					
STAT. CHAN.	KTVT	KCBD	KLBK	KUPT	KAMC	KJTV	
AFFIL.	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX	
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	
7:00	Bloomberg Body Elec.	Today Show	This Morning	Tex Avery K-Men	Good Morning	Bobby/World Casper	
8:00	Sesame Street			Super Heroes Bananas	America	101 Dalmatians	
9:00	Tugboat Barney	M. Stewart Gayle King	Sally Jesse Raphael	K. Copeland	Regis & Kathie Lee	Home Team	
10:00	Wimzie Mr. Rogers	Sunset Beach	Price Is Right	Paid Program Pictionary	View	Judge Judy Judge Judy	
11:00	Arthur Magic Bus	Leeza	Young And Restless	Beverly Hills 90210	All My Children	People Court	
12:00	Master Chefs Motorweek	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jenny Jones	News Port Charles	Heat of the Night	
1:00	Painting Barney	Lives Another	As The World Turns	Jerry Springer	One Life to Live	Dr. Quinn	
2:00	Grndg Marsh Magic Bus	World In/Edtion	Guiding Light	Dating Game Newswed Gm	General Hospital	Paid Program Spiderman	
3:00	Arthur Wishbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povitch	Breaker High Sweet Valley	Ricki Lake	Beetleborgs Power Ranger	
4:00	Carmen Bill Nye	Oprah Winfrey	Sainfield Jeopardy	Liv'g Single Martin	Montel Williams	Goosebumps Boy/World	
5:00	R. Rainbow Business	News NBC News	News CBS News	Real TV Real Stories	News ABC News	Mr. Cooper Simpsons	
6:00	Newshour	News Extra	News W/Fortune	Next Generation	News Mad/You	Grace/Fire Home Impr.	
7:00	NOVA	Caroline 'PG Newradio	JAG	Moesha Chueless	Grace/Fire Soul Man	American Comedy	
8:00	Frontline	Mad/You 'PG Shoot Me 'PG	Michael Hayes	Malcolm Hitz	Home Impr. Hill/Diller	Honors	
9:00	Straight Talk	Dateline	Dellaventura	Keenen Ivory	Barbara Walters	Billy Graham	
10:00	Business Report	News Tonight Show	News David	Real TV Hard Copy	News MASH	Fraser Cheers	
11:00		Conan	Letterman Tom Snyder	E.T. Access	Nightline Incomet	Coach M. Brown	
12:00		O'Brien Later	Paid Program	Vibe	Gerardo Rivera	Star Trek	

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSpuzzles@aol.com

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- 25 James, the actor
- 27 Org. of Pepper and Webb
- 28 Cheryl and Alan
- 30 "Mephisto Waltz" star
- 31 Makes a new lawn
- 32 John, the pianist
- 33 Drop heavily
- 34 Futhark letter
- 35 French islands
- 36 Jack
- 38 Cap's visor
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- 45 Sideshow performer
- 47 Crownlets
- 49 Desired
- 51 One of the Barrymores
- 53 Holy cow!
- 54 Japanese seaport
- 55 Do up laces
- 56 Make scholarly corrections
- 57 Adult male pig
- 58 Noun-forming suffix
- 59 Diaphanous
- 61 Characterization
- 62 Sky bear

By Eugene Puffenberger
Reston, VA

Monday's Puzzle solved.

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TRUST IRIS ALOE
MANIA LADE TBAR
SPANNING STEMS
AGREES AAAA
BOITL IDYLL GDS
COFFEETABLEBOOK
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FEEL BANKED
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Society needs to witness executions

JESSE MENDEZ/
GUEST COLUMNIST

Every so often, I manage to catch the news in the morning while I'm getting ready for school. Occasionally the news will have sections on an execution that was carried out early that day — "John Doe was executed at 6 a.m. ..." If it is on CNN or the evening news, the film clip usually shows some death penalty protesters picketing outside the execution building walls as well as those cheering the convict's impending death. This is typically what we see and hear when an execution is carried out through the eyes of the media, and I have a problem with that. We are hiding from ourselves.

Executions should be televised, and I think it would benefit all to see. For individuals who are for the death penalty, this gives them exactly what they wanted. The capital punishment and justice is carried out fully in a public forum. It would resemble some aspects of our untamed history where hanged men were left in the open for all to see. Under this school of thought, it would serve as a deterrent to would-be criminals.

For the people who are against the death penalty — including me — public executions would provide them with more incentive to eliminate this form of punishment. Televised events like these would probably add to their number of supporters.

For all those unopinionated on this matter, it would allow us to see what our government is doing, killing one of our citizens in justice and legal retribution. Some people would do one of three things. They would either remain indifferent, become unfazed after awhile or take action in either camp. Of course, there would be some details to work out with a televised event like this. Parents would have to

regulate what their children watch. Networks would have to decide on whether to cover the executions. If they did, the networks could have to develop a standard policy on their coverage and resist the temptation to advertising. But all of these problems could be worked out.

Why should we bar the media from covering the executions live instead of hearing about it in small news bits? We shouldn't hide from the truth of our actions. Reading and hearing about it is substantially different from watching it live on television. Our society is entitled to see the consequences of its actions. Then, we could all look in the mirror and judge ourselves.

Jesse Mendez is a graduate political science major from Wichita Falls.

'Tis the season

Hurriedness of holidays leaves no extra time

JULIE MITCHELL/
COLUMNIST

So it begins again — the shopping, the pretty lights, the happy music, the 12 days of Christmas, the five days of finals, the late nights, the late papers, the early (oh, ever so early) mornings, the walks through the freezing wind in order to take a comprehensive essay test. 'Tis the season to be jolly.

Christmas time on a college campus is so very different from anywhere else.

While people in malls stroll around listening to carolers and whipping out credit cards to buy toys, students on campus stumble around listening to lectures and whipping out pennies to

pay \$20 parking tickets.

Others stand in line to buy Tickle Me Elmos; we stand in line to buy classes that we can't get into and can't afford. Those other people buy Christmas cards and pour their hearts out to family and friends, while we buy blue books and pour our minds out to professors.

They get candy canes to hang on their tree; we get them for dinner.

While some buy cafe lattes with extra whipped cream to keep themselves warm while putting up the Christmas tree in their living room, we spend our last cents on cheap, luke-warm coffee to keep us warm as we walk across the frozen tundra called a campus.

Mistletoe to them is a mere decoration to be stuck in a corner and for-

gotten about. If we get a hold of some, we treasure it and hang it just over the doorway (making sure that everyone who enters and is of the right sex sees it).

We drag home bags full of essays and books in terrible disarray, at the same time they bring home bags full of toys and gifts neatly wrapped and labeled.

As they look forward to receiving a new wardrobe on Christmas, we're looking forward to getting our old one washed.

You know, I can't remember the last time I had the opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit before New Year's. I recall a time when all I had to do was go to bed early and wake up to a plethora of gifts, food and good company.

Now, I sit in an apartment (completely void of any decoration) studying until a week before the big day. Then comes the long drive home, the throwing together of the Christmas tree, the rushed meetings with family and friends, the drive back.

I miss the times when I didn't even know what gifts I was giving to people. My name just mysteriously appeared on the "From:" portion of the card. Now, Christmas is a time for spending money I don't have, on friends I don't know what to buy for, while pushing my way past people in "good cheer" in a crowded WalMart Dec. 24th.

As things are now, I can't see past all the papers and finals to Christmas time. It's amazing isn't it? How fast things change. One year you're celebrating for an entire month before the holidays and the next year you have to cram it into five days.

All I really want for Christmas is some time to appreciate it.

Julie Mitchell is a senior theatre arts/English major from Corsicana.

BEN SARGENT
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Dallas, Texas, USA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sarcasm should be used sparingly

To the Editor: In response to Julie Mitchell's column "America can save the world," Julie, Julie, Julie you gotta be kidding me.

Is there not enough trouble in the world? Do you have to add to the ignorance of society by proposing that America is so bad? It should be one thing if your cute story (fiction) was based on more than uninformed opinions.

You realize that many people are going to read that and think, "hey, wait just a minute. Who is the A.M.E.R.I.C.A. person? He is a cheating, stealing, enslaving bully."

You really should have concluded your story with the facts of history. For example, was it not the French who first began the construction of the Panama Canal in 1880 only to abandon their ill-fated efforts nine years later?

Then, around 1904 or so, the United States provided the resources and efforts to complete the project.

And from whom did the "bad" Americans purchase the African slaves? Were they free? Was it not commonplace in those years for African slaves to be sold to foreign countries? I wonder which country it was to first free the slaves? The South American countries or the United States. Were the slave owners compensated for their losses when their slaves were freed? I am not a proponent of slavery, but historically it was an accepted practice long before American came along.

And what is all this jabber about "superior morals and religion"? How about freedom of religion? I think that is one of the foundations of the American philosophy.

Anyway, your story made me laugh — not at first, but once I realized that you were kidding.

Please keep in mind that there are some ignorant people who can read and truly believe everything they read. I mean, heck, if it's printed in *The University Daily*, it must be true.

Taylor Denton
senior
zoology

Students should be careful driving

To the Editor: Friday, Nov. 14, 1997, I was able to say, "I have a sweet, beautiful, young talented intelligent niece named Kimberly Ann Moore."

Friday, Nov. 14, 1997, I had a sweet, beautiful, young talented intelligent niece named Kimberly Ann Moore.

Kimberly had just begun her freshman year at Texas Tech. She died in a horrible automobile accident the evening of Nov. 14, and part of me died with her.

She touched the lives of many people I never knew, from neighborhood children who regarded her as the savior of wounded animals to teachers who knew her and remembered her with a smile.

Some brought pictures Kim had given them — which they had kept — from as far back as third grade.

The church could not hold the many people who came to mourn her and to honor her grief-stricken par-

ents and sister.

Flowers were everywhere, and tributes were many.

All were appreciated by her family, but nothing helps — she is gone forever.

I have one more sweet, young, beautiful, talented, intelligent niece here at Tech, and I want to keep her. I have the privilege of working with many sweet, beautiful, young, talented, intelligent students at Texas Tech.

The purpose of this letter is to ask, in Kimberly's name, that you be very careful when you are traveling between Tech and your homes.

Please choose not to travel if the weather is bad.

What are just a few hours delay when compared to the rest of your life?

Death is permanent.

Tragedy can happen in the blink of an eye, and the resulting pain for your loved ones lasts forever.

Verna Allison
staff member
music department

HAVE AN OPINION!

Write a letter to the editor. Bring it by the journalism building, room 211.

Or e-mail The UD at
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Rock group plays in Lubbock

BY SEBASTIAN KITCHEN
The University Daily

The life of Seven Mary Three still is cumbersome after the release of its third album.

The hit song "Cumbersome" brought the band to national attention and brought it on several tours throughout the United States and Europe.

Traveling in a van for several tours and being away from their family brought the band's members hardships, but now they have a platinum album to their name and a bus.

The Virginia band released *RockCrown*, the follow-up to its platinum album, *American Standard*, which received a warm welcome and stayed a year on the *Billboard* music chart and was propelled by the hit songs "Cumbersome" and "Water's Edge."

The album launched the band to fame, and now the group is on the road again. *RockCrown* takes the band in a different direction.

"*RockCrown* is about our young lives in the last two years," said lead singer and guitarist Jason Ross. "It's about four guys who have been together for around five years playing

rock 'n' roll music and having a ball doing it."

The album includes the songs "Make Up Your Mind," "Lucky" and "This Evening's Great Excuse."

The band has been together for five years.

The foursome met and formed Seven Mary Three more than five years ago at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

Ross is joined by lead guitarist Jason Pollock, bass player Casey Daniel and drummer Giti Khalsa.

American Standard brought the band national attention as it appeared on "Late Show with David Letterman," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Late Night with Conan O'Brien." The band also contributed the song "Shelf Life" to "The Crow: City of Angels" soundtrack.

The four will make a stop in Lubbock tonight. Seven Mary Three performs tonight at the Iridium, 1812 Ave. G. Promoter Lane Arnold said tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Arnold has worked for several months to bring the band to the Hub City.

"I thought they were coming in August, but now they are finally go-



Seven Mary Three courtesy photo

ing to be here," he said.

Electric Gypsies will open the show at 9:30 p.m., and it will be followed by The Honeyrods. Doors open at 8 p.m.

The Honeyrods received radio play with their song "Love Bee."

The band is supporting Seven Mary Three on its current tour.

After its stop in Lubbock, Seven Mary Three will hit several radio and Christmas shows including ones in Dallas, Austin, Tulsa, Okla., and Oklahoma City.

Shoppers jam stores, look for low prices

NEW YORK (AP) — Shoppers packed the nation's stores and malls in the first days of the holiday buying season, but many went straight for sale racks and bought only when the price was right.

Stores that offered deep discounts and low prices fared best over the Thanksgiving weekend, retailers said.

"Christmas time is no different than the rest of the year," said Kurt Barnard, a retail consultant and president of *Barnard's Retail Trend Report*. "Shoppers want to get more for their money so they favor stores that offer the best prices."

Despite mediocre sales for much of this year, retailers are optimistic about this Christmas season. But many are finding they must go to great lengths to lure in shoppers.

Many stores unlocked their doors before dawn Friday, while others stayed open 24 hours a day. Some offered extra discounts to

early morning arrivals — as much as 50 percent.

Discounters and moderately priced department stores like Wal-Mart, Target and Sears drew in flocks of consumers with special promotions, good prices and wide selections of merchandise.

"The big deals offered early Friday drove in shoppers," said Ken Volk, marketing director for mall developer Simon DeBartolo Group in the New York City area. "We had hundreds of people on line at many of our malls before 7 a.m."

But, he added, that they "didn't see that same early rush on Saturday."

Many stores reported slower sales as the weekend progressed, with more people browsing than buying. Shoppers used to make most of their holiday purchases over Thanksgiving weekend, but now more favor the days before Christmas, when stores slash prices to clear out inventories.

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Nebraska should pick up first Big 12 Championship

BY HEATH ROBINSON

The University Daily

For Texas Tech football players, the Big 12 Championship Game is a sore subject.

Were it not for being declared ineligible for the postseason, Tech could very well be in the game in place of Texas A&M.

Instead, it is the hated Aggies who will demand the national television audience Saturday against No. 2 Nebraska when the two teams meet in San Antonio.

The Red Raiders are one of the few teams to play both the Aggies and Cornhuskers this season.

All signs point to a Cornhusker blowout.

Tom Osborne's troops enter the game with faint national championship hopes. The Huskers must win their remaining two games and hope for Michigan to lose in the Rose Bowl

Analysis

to claim their third national title in four years.

The Aggies are 9-2, but only one victory came against a team with a winning record, a 28-25 overtime victory over Oklahoma State.

Tech coach Spike Dykes took time to compare the Aggies, who Tech defeated 16-13, and Nebraska, who shut out Tech 29-0.

"They are both really good teams," Dykes said. "But without question, Nebraska is the toughest team we played this season. They push you around the line of scrimmage and really create a lot of room for their running backs to operate."

Dykes called Nebraska's defense the best he has seen this year.

"On defense, they put a ton of pressure on your quarterback," Dykes said. "They have a great defensive line, and even if you think they have a weakness, they cover it up."

But the Cornhuskers are struggling of late. They were lucky to force overtime against Missouri to win 45-38.

Friday, the Cornhuskers narrowly escaped a loss against a 5-6 Colorado team, 27-24. Michigan now holds all but one first-place vote in the *Associated Press* poll and all but four in the *USA Today/ESPN* coaches' poll.

The Wolverines almost certainly would have to lose the Rose Bowl to Washington State, or else Nebraska will become the first team to ever go 13-0 in a season and not win the national championship.

"We've kind of limped in to this game," Osborne said of his squad. "There's no doubt that we are vulnerable right now. Texas A&M has a great offense, and they pose a big threat."

Osborne said of his squad. "There's no doubt that we are vulnerable right now. Texas A&M has a great offense, and they pose a big threat. They are going to have a lot of fans there as well."

"As far as the polls go, it is something you cannot control. The best you

can do is win your games. I know it was upsetting for Penn State to be undefeated in 1994 and not win. It would be a disappointment for us as well."

Osborne despises the championship game.

A 37-27 loss to Texas in the inaugural Big 12 Championship last season cost the Cornhuskers a shot at their third consecutive championship, and it paved the way for Florida to win their first title.

"It's another chance to lose a game," Osborne said.

"Without a doubt, you are going to play a quality team. And you don't have a lot of time to prepare. Last season, I don't think we were ready for what Texas showed us. For us and Texas A&M, we have had great seasons. It is a shame one of those seasons will have to be tarnished with a loss in this game."

There is still a great deal of ani-

mosity between schools formerly of the Big Eight and the four Southwest Conference schools that joined to form the Big 12.

Following his loss to Nebraska, Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel was overheard telling Osborne to "take care of the Aggies."

The animosity stems from increased academic standards the four Southwest Conference schools demanded before entering the new conference.

For Osborne, that animosity only grew following the loss to Texas last season.

Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge assessed the game.

"I believe it will be really close," Lethridge said of the championship game. "Both teams have great defenses and run the ball really well. I guess you would have to say Nebraska has an advantage. But anything can happen."

“There’s no doubt that we are vulnerable right now. Texas A&M has a great offense, and they pose a big threat.”

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne

No. 1 could be decided off the playing field



KRISTIE RIEKEN
SPORTS REPORTER

This week's college football polls are out, and in both the *Associated Press* and the *USA Today/ESPN* polls, Michigan is ranked No. 1 while Nebraska is No. 2.

Nebraska lost the top spot recently when the Huskers slipped by Missouri in overtime, and since that time, they have not stopped squawking about how they should still be No. 1.

Well, the controversy will not be quieted this year because these two teams will not face each other on the gridiron.

So after thinking long and hard

about this situation, the conclusion that I have made is that the best team should be decided on something purely unrelated to the team's football abilities.

Part of this theory came from my late grandmother who was not a sports fan and knew very little about the logistics of football. Other than my

brother's high school football games, the only football games she ever paid any mind to were the one's involving Michigan.

She did not like them because they were good or because she liked the players, no that was not it, she could have cared less if they won a game all season.

The reason she liked them was because of their helmets. She always called them the "watermelon heads" because the stripes on their helmets reminded her of watermelons.

It did not matter who Michigan was playing, where the team was playing or even when they were playing, she always pulled for "her watermelon heads" because of

the design on their helmets.

That is what got me to thinking that maybe, if both Michigan and Nebraska remain undefeated when it is time to name the national champion, it should be decided by something besides their performances on the field.

Maybe we could challenge a

“So, more than likely, the Cornhuskers will still be griping...”

Lett returns to Dallas lineup after suspension

IRVING (AP) — Dallas Cowboys defensive tackle Leon Lett was welcomed back Monday from a yearlong suspension for repeated drug use with a little good-natured ribbing and lot of serious expectations.

Instead of calling Lett by his longtime nickname "the Big Cat," teammates jokingly referred to him as Michael Jordan because he played so much basketball during his layoff.

But the fact Lett returned in good shape is no laughing matter. The Cowboys desperately need him to tighten their run defense — which slipped to 22nd in the NFL during his absence — to keep their slim playoff hopes alive.

"Teams have been running on us pretty good and now Leon's going to have to have something to say about that," Michael Irvin said.

"The pressure is on, Leon. I know you just got back, I understand that. I've been there, done that. But, hoss, do you not feel that world above your shoulders? Please, help."

The 6-foot-6-inch, 290-pound Lett didn't seem to have missed a beat while going through drills Monday alongside fellow defensive tackles.

He was quick out of his stance and he threw around a tackling sled as fiercely as ever. The faded No. 78 on his blue practice jersey added to the feeling that he'd never been gone.

"He didn't look like a guy we just got off the street," coach Barry Switzer said. "He looked

like the Big Cat. He made plays, had a big smile on his face and was glad to be back."

Lett looked good enough that Switzer expects to use him for about 40-50 snaps Monday night against Carolina.

"He's very athletic," defensive lineman Tony Casillas said. "It won't take him long to get back in the routine."

In addition to helping stop the run, Lett's ability to draw double-teams should help the pass rushers. And, having another fresh body gives the Cowboys more flexibility in their ever-shuffling rotation of linemen.

"Since I saw him walk through the locker room, my legs have started coming back," joked Casillas, who stands to get the most extra rest after having started in Lett's place.

Lett, a notorious non-talker, did not make himself available to reporters after practice. Casillas said Lett was even tight-lipped during practice.

"I think he gave a couple of meows out there, but Leon didn't say a whole lot," Casillas said.

Lett, 29, forfeited more than \$1.5 million in salary during his absence, which was caused by a third strike against the NFL substance abuse program. Should he falter again, he could be banned from the league.

Many teammates felt he let them down both on the field and off.

They had suffered without him for four games in 1995 after his second violation and thought he had his addictions under control.

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