

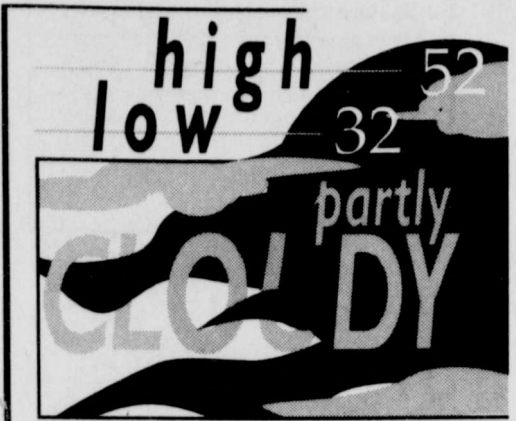
THE UNIVERSITY DAILY



Serving Texas Tech Since 1925

TUESDAY

November 23, 1999
Volume 75, Issue 61



Wednesday: partly cloudy, high 51

Stocks	Nasdaq	S&P 500	Dow Jones
price:	3,392.56	1,420.94	11,089.52
change:	+23.31	-1.06	+85.63
Monday's closing figures			

STATENEWS —

Pasadena mother of two killed, ex-husband missing

PASADENA (AP) — Authorities are searching for a man suspected of killing his ex-wife, abandoning her body in a rural area and fleeing to Mexico, police said Monday.

A body found over the weekend in a wooded area north of Wharton, has been identified as that of Lori Lopez, 25, authorities said Monday. She was shot to death.

Lopez was last reported seen alive Nov. 10, talking to ex-husband Romeo Dominguez Lopez, 24. Dominguez Lopez had just returned the couple's two children to her home in Pasadena, southeast of Houston.

Dominguez Lopez's car was found abandoned Nov. 11 in Laredo. He is suspected of crossing the border into Mexico, where he has family ties, police said.

Dominguez Lopez is wanted only for violating his probation stemming from a prior assault of Lopez. The case of her slaying is expected to go to a grand jury.

NATIONALNEWS —

Students, experts have qualms about meningitis

AMHERST, Mass. (AP) — Lawrence and Sharif Muhammad stood frozen with indecision at the doorstep of a University of Massachusetts vaccination clinic.

Their mom was worried about them catching meningococcal meningitis. She had heard that it can kill an otherwise healthy teen-ager in hours. Two students had already been stricken this fall at the university.

But they got better. And with 18,000 undergraduates at UMass-Amherst, how much of a threat was there really? Besides, at \$75 a vaccination, the price looked pretty steep.

The Muhammad brothers finally turned around and left.

Spurred by the latest federal recommendations, colleges are mounting a widening attack on meningitis this fall with health advisories, educational campaigns and vaccination clinics. The aim is to curb the spread of meningitis in dormitories.

But the latest studies suggest that only a few meningitis deaths might be avoided each year in dorms — leading some health authorities to wonder if they could do better by working against more common college scourges like drunken driving or sexually transmitted diseases.

WORLDNEWS —

Japanese jet crashes, cutting power in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese air force jet ripped through a power line northwest of Tokyo on Monday, cutting off power to hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses and briefly halting some rail service.

The T-33 jet crashed in a dry riverbed near a junior high school, killing both crewmen on board.

There were no reports of casualties on the ground, police spokesman Masami Yoshida said.

As many as 800,000 homes lost electricity in the Tokyo metropolitan area for about three hours after the jet severed the 275,000-volt power transmission line, said Yoichi Takeuchi of Tokyo Electric Power Co. Ltd.

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Department set for renovations

by Ashley Johnson
Staff Writer

With a new department chairman in place, Texas Tech's Department of Chemical Engineering is planning renovations to improve its research division.

Allen Graham, chairman of the chemical engineering department, is in charge of the changes that will begin soon after the turn of the century.

He could not comment on the estimated price of the renovations but said everything should be completed by July.

The renovated research division will provide chemical engineering undergraduates an education that is second to none.

More than \$158,000 has been allocated and donated this year to revamp and enhance the facilities.

The college also has hired five new faculty members from universities around the world to replace those who have retired.

Chemical engineering plans to improve research division

Two primary laboratories in the Petroleum Engineering building will be renovated for students and faculty.

Petroleum Engineering 202 will be renovated into eight faculty offices to provide space for the incoming professors.

The changes in the department will allow each new professor to have his or her own personal office.

Petroleum Engineering 201 will be restructured to accommodate research in rheology, the study of various fluids.

Offices for upperclassmen conducting research in chemical engineering are included in the plans.

Greg McKenna is one of the newest members of the faculty. Before coming to Tech in August, he worked at the National Institution of Standards and Technology in Maryland.

He said there are great expectations for the renovations.

"Renovations will move the material science efforts at TTU into the 21st century with world-class facilities," he said.

"There are still dreams of constructing another building in chemical engineering, but it won't be discussed further until everything going on now is said and done."

Other new faculty members include Jer-

emy Leggoe, assistant professor of chemical engineering.

He joined the department in August and has contributed to the development of Tech's new supercomputer.

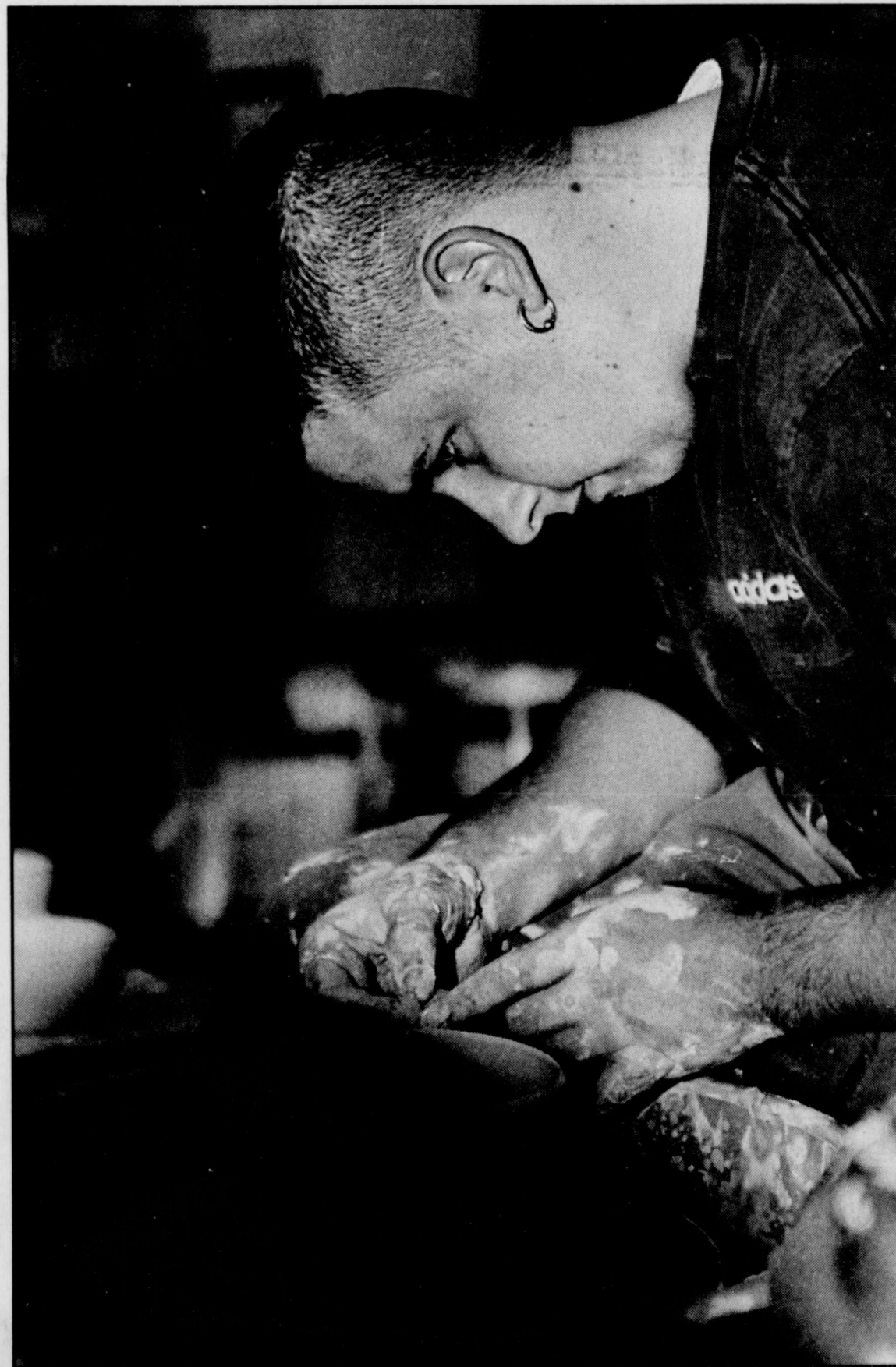
James Abbott also joined the chemical engineering department in September and works as the associate director of the High Performance Computing Center at Tech. Abbott previously worked at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

Karlene Hoo, an associate professor from the University of South Carolina, and Sinee Simon from the University of Pittsburgh completes the list of new faculty members.

William Marcy, dean of the College of Engineering at Tech, said there are future plans to continue with the renovation on a larger scale.

"Bigger changes are scheduled for the department, but the extent of them are not fully known yet," he said.

Easy Made Bowl-ing



Randy Rouse, a junior design major from Carrollton, works on a ceramic dish for a class in the art department.

Tech bonfire once used to light flame in Raiderland

by Andy Jones
Staff Writer

Although the Texas Tech bonfire is not as old as the Texas A&M tradition, it was at one time almost as large.

In 1994, Tech's bonfire was more than 30 feet tall, not much smaller than the A&M structure that collapsed last Thursday, killing 12 students.

Almost 30 years ago, Tech moved the bonfire away from Southwest Conference Circle to areas with much more space.

Jim Douglass, assistant director of the Tech Ex-Students Association, said the bonfire was moved while he was a Saddle Tramp in the late 1960s.

He said bonfires would be held before every game as part of a pep rally. The weekly fires would be held at SWC Circle, but for Homecoming, more space was needed.

"We were very conscious of the fire's potential to cause problems," Douglass said. "We had a perimeter roped off to keep people from getting too close."

Richard Kopytkiewicz, Tech fire marshal, said the bonfire included palettes and other pieces of large wood and was built in a field across Indiana Avenue, behind the intramural softball fields.

He said the safety of the actual structure had nothing to do with the decision to end that type of annual bonfire.

"At the time, the prevailing winds were usually out of the southwest, and smoke and embers would go across the field toward the University Medical Center," Kopytkiewicz said. "The smoke and embers would enter their air-fresh air ducts so that was the reason we had to put a stop to that."

The bonfire was moved back to circle in 1995 and stayed in that location until 1997.

David Nowlin, Saddle Tramps president, said the bonfire was restricted at SWC Circle because of the size of the pit.

He also said there are restrictions at the current location, the rugby field east of the United Spirit Arena.

"They cut us off at 16 feet this year and around 20 feet in diameter," Nowlin said.

"In the location it's at, you've got to consider the Student Recreation Center bubble and Methodist Hospital across the street."

Tech students have differing opinions of our own small version of the bonfire.

Pamela Bruggeman, a junior agricultural economics major from Seymour, said she thinks the Tech bonfire is an important tradition to students, even though she has never been herself.

She also said she thinks the decision to continue a bonfire at A&M is



File Photo/The University Daily
At one time, the Tech bonfire topped 30 feet.

the choice of the students.

"I think it's up to the students. If they all want to continue, then they should," Bruggeman said.

Steve Bagwell, a junior marketing major from Houston, said he thinks the A&M tradition should go on.

"I think they should. It's a bad thing to happen, but it's a tradition," Bagwell said.

He said the Tech bonfire is no where near the A&M version in terms of tradition and involvement.

"I went one time, and it wasn't something that really interested me," Bagwell said.

Douglass said the bonfire became less important over the years since he graduated.

"I assumed over the years, attendance dwindled until it wasn't worth doing as much," Douglass said.

He said the Tech bonfire was a much bigger event when about 10,000 students were living on campus.

Professors, companies clash on noteworthy issue

by Jerrod Edwards
Contributing Writer

A battle is developing between professors and online companies offering lecture notes from accredited colleges and universities, like Texas Tech.

Last year, privately-owned online companies started recruiting students to go into classrooms and take notes, and then posting those notes on their Web sites for commercial distribution. Companies are not asking for professors' permission to post the notes, and many professors are getting upset and complaining these online companies are infringing on their

intellectual property.

Although it is very unclear, there is a legal issue involved, said Wesley Cochran, a law professor at Tech.

"In terms of copyright, which is what most professors are complaining about, it is possible that these hired note takers are violating the professors' copyright protection," Cochran said. "However, there is not a clear-cut answer because it depends on how the professor presents the material."

According to Section 102 of the Copyright Act of 1976, in order for a work to possess copyright protection, it has to be material in a tangible means of expression. This means the professor needs to have previous docu-

mentation of what he presents.

The legality issue might be up in the air, but Cochran said the issue is a serious problem because it affects the dynamics in the classroom.

"The student-teacher relationship has served us well for a long time and serves as a good model for education," Cochran said. "There are a numerous amount of study aids out there, but if students don't go to class and do the work for themselves, then they will not learn how to discriminate from what's important and what's not."

Dean Pawlowic, a Tech law professor, agrees with Cochran.

"I think that the real value of going to class

is actually taking the notes yourself," he said. "Class time is an opportunity for students to participate and ask questions, which is a lot more effective way of learning than taking someone else's word for it."

One professor is starting a campaign to end what some consider intellectual thievery. Mathieu Deflem, an assistant professor of sociology at Purdue University, said the most serious problem with online notes is the way they affect the relationships between students and their teachers.

"These companies do not solve problems — they tap into them. They take advantage of the fact that some students are lost in college," Deflem said.

School of Law to compete for national title

by Cory Chandler
Staff Writer

A team of student negotiators from the Texas Tech School of Law

will compete in the national negotiation finals in hopes of earning its third national title in February.

Third-year law students Kelly Browne, of Beaumont and Shon Ross,

of Lubbock, recently won the regional negotiation finals at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, beating teams from Southern Methodist University, the University of Arkansas and Texas Wesleyan in the final round of competition.

They now will advance to the national negotiation finals, which will be at the American Bar Association's meeting in Dallas in February.

Each round of the competitions consists of four teams. These teams receive folders containing confidential information on theoretical cli-

ents. Based on this information, they negotiate with the other teams. Winners are chosen based on which team gains the best results, stays within guidelines and maintains a working relationship with clients and teammates.

Brian Shannon, a professor for the Tech School of Law, has served as a coach for Tech's negotiation teams for six years. Shannon said he chooses students from competitions within the school to go to the regional competitions.

"I don't necessarily pick students

because they win our competitions," Shannon said. "Just the ones that seem to be most successful."

He said Tech normally enters two to three teams each year.

These teams first compete in the regional finals, which includes schools from Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

For Ross, who served as an alternate last year, this was his first time to compete for the regional title. Ross said he and Browne were expecting to negotiate on environmental issues but ended up covering contract law and private nuisance claims.

Shannon said two other teams from Tech competed in the regional competitions and ended up tied for sixth place.

Tech's negotiation teams won national titles in 1992 and 1997 and have placed no lower than fourth place since 1995.

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Norplant offers alternative method of birth control

by Adrienne Gaviglio
Staff Writer

If you are a young woman and having children in the next couple of years is something you are not interested in doing, there is an alternative form of birth control that offers five years of protection.

Norplant is an alternative that many young women now are trying for pregnancy prevention, said Dr. Kelly Bennett, physician for Student Health Services.

Norplant is a thin, flexible plastic implant about the size of a match that is inserted under the arms. Each Norplant stick contains hormones similar to what women produce in their ovaries. Small amounts of the hormones are constantly released into the body.

"Norplant offers a 1-in-1,000 chance of pregnancy compared to a 1-in-400 chance after having tubal ligation," Bennett said. "The liability is too high for us to offer them at Tech, but we do and have taken quite a few out."

Norplant would be very effective for sexually-active teens who want to avoid pregnancy for the next five

years, she said. The hormone prevents women from ovulating by withholding sperm from entering the egg. The method can be unhealthy if proper health care provisions are not taken, Bennett said.

"Women do not realize that Norplant puts their body in a fake menopause phase, and they need to improve by taking 1,500 milligrams of calcium," Bennett said.

Norplant is a method of long-term birth control recommended by Planned Parenthood, said Ann Henheman, a nurse practitioner with Planned Parenthood.

"We refer patients to OB-GYNs for the implant procedure, but we do offer to take out existing implants after the five-year period," Henheman said.

The cost of Norplant varies from about \$100, but taking them out is more costly and is not recommended by most physicians until the five-year cycle is completed, Henheman said.

With any birth control measures, there are precautions that should be taken, and a physician can help guide you in the direction that would most fit your lifestyle, Bennett said.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
1 Canned pork product
5 Socialist artist Ben
10 Pet protection grp.
14 Distinctive air
15 City in a WWI song
16 Fiddler on the beach?
17 Outside worker?
19 Seine tributary
20 Beat or Jazz, e.g.
21 Assns.
22 Antler coverage
24 Middle of the month
25 Isben's Gabler
26 Made lace
29 Absorbed
32 Accumulate
33 Boxer Roberto
34 Devonshire river
35 Squarish
36 Contends successfully
37 Close up
38 Yes, Yves
39 Skeleton
40 Fashion
41 Established by decree
43 Three ___ to the wind
44 Striped gem
45 Run smoothly
46 "The Cosby Show" kid
48 Cleansing agent
49 Boundary
52 Preschool lesson
53 Popular athlete
56 Fingertboard increment
57 Very short time
58 Hawaiian island
59 High crags
60 Parts of shoes
61 Dross

DOWN
1 Empire's signal
2 Run smoothly
3 Living space
4 Dancer Murray
5 Allowed to live
6 Suspends
7 Circle segments
8 "___ Haw"
9 Banned war weapon
10 Chides
11 Snoop-for-hire
12 Patient, to a doctor
13 Drive the getaway car, e.g.
18 Bonanzas
23 Adam's birthplace
24 ___-bitly
25 Employs
26 Forbidden thing
27 Nice love?
28 Pay-as-you-go partner?
29 Bamboozled
30 Glamorify
31 Removes text
33 Largesse recipient
36 Struggles for superiority
37 Brood
39 Mindset
40 Mall tenants
42 Anti-seniors
43 Candidate lists
45 Part of USAF
46 Loony in London
47 Spanish river
48 Earth
49 & others
50 Okinawa port
51 Medicine
54 In favor of
55 Signal for help

Monday's Puzzle Solved
A N O N S E A M S E M I L
H O B O A L G A E N O N O
A V I D M I A T A C O G S
B A T S P O R T S P A G E S
U B O A T C A M
A V A L O N S T A M P E D E
G O R E N S T O P S D A G
A C I D R H O N E C I T E
M A E B E E R Y B A T E S
A B S U R D L Y R E P O R T
N I A C I D E R
C O R R E C T I O N S I V Y
O K I E T A C O S M A I M
O R B S E L O P E A L E C
L A S T D E N T S O S S A

By Bernice Gordon
Philadelphia, PA 11/23/99

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KXTX 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 23 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Bloomberg Body Elec.	Today Show	Early Show	Recess Sabrina	Good Morning	News Paid Program
8:00	Sesame Street			Recess Doug	America	Dr. Joy Browne
9:00	Mr. Rogers Barney	Later Today	Martin Short	K. Copeland Nanny	Regis & Kathie Lee	Leeza
10:00	Teletubbies Winzie's	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	Donny & Marie	View	Divorce Ct. Divorce Ct.
11:00	Zoboomatoo Arthur	Sunset Beach	Young & the Restless	Forgive or Forget	All My Children	People Court
12:00	Hawaii Cook Motorweek	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	News Portl Charles	Mills Lane Mills Lane
1:00	Fine Art Barney	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Ricki Lake	One Life to Live	Matlock
2:00	T. Tubboat Dragon Tales	Hywrd Square	Guiding Light	Martin Liv'g Single	General Hospital	Paid Program Magic Bus
3:00	Arthur	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povch	Paid Program Caroline	Sally Jessy Raphael	Monster Best Wars
4:00	Zoom R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	Family Feud Jeopardy	Enquirer E.T.	Montel Williams	Digimon PR Galaxy
5:00	Kratz's Nightly Bus	News NBC News	News CBS News	Ricki Lake	News ABC News	Home Impr. Simpsons
6:00	Newshour	News Extra	News W/Forune	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News ABC News	Voyager
7:00	Intimate Strangers	Shoot Me 'PG 2nd Rock 'PG	JAG	McNasty Dilbert	Spin City Charma/Greg Spin City	FOX Movie: "Scream"
8:00	NOVA	Will/Grace Shoot Me 'PG	60 Minutes II	Simp	Sharma/Greg Spin City	
9:00	Frontline	Dabline	Judging Amy	Jerry Springer	Once & Again	Cops Cops
10:00	Nightly Bus	News Tonight Show	News David	Joe Brown Joe Brown	News MASH	Simpsons Frasier
11:00		Conan	Lettermen Craig	Greg Mathis	Nightline Mad/You	Choers Coach
12:00		O'Brien Later	Kilborn Seinfeld	Real TV Newradio	Incorrect Paid Program	Blind Date Paid Program

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Ben Harper burns to shine

by Sebastian Kitchen
Staff Writer

For people attempting to classify Ben Harper's music — good luck. Harper just plays.

He pulls no strings, but he plays away on them.

Harper can rock while sitting in a chair the entire show. There is a little bit of folk, a whole lot of soul and a touch of blues is projected from the mild-mannered, unimposing man.

Ben Harper's shows are very low-key, lack any glamour or pretense, and the audience does not care. His shows are all about the music.

He is not a rock star. Harper is a musician.

During his two-hour set Sunday, Harper rarely moved from his chair.

He ended his tour in Dallas on Sunday. He pulled no punches and said very little. He thanked the crowd, his crew and his band. That was about it. He let his music do the talking. And talk it did.

After two hours of music, the crowd still wanted more. They could not get enough of the laid-back young man.

Besides the amazing lights, Harper did nothing to draw attention. A few lit candles and a chair draped with a quilt were the only props.

Harper and his band, the Innocent Criminals, entertained. No strings attached. The show was entertaining because the music was great. That is it.

Harper played a variety of older music that made fans first fall in love with him and new material that keep

---road review---

them coming back.

He performed "Ground on Down," "Burn One Down" and "Oppression" from *Fight For Your Mind*. Several songs from his new album *Burn to Shine* popped into the set including an energetic "Steal My Kisses."

Harper's first set seemed to fly by. He returned for an encore alone — still on the chair, still with the slide lap guitar sitting across his thighs.

This set was by far the most mellow. Most of Harper's show was laid back with a few exceptions. The first set contained a few guitar-driven tracks that contained energy and surprising power — coming from a man with his hair in tiny buns rolled right above

each ear and casually sitting in a chair.

Harper was backed by a drummer, bassist and percussionist. At one point in the show, Harper and bass player Juan Nelson relaxed as the percussionist and drummer duelled with their various drums.

Harper ended the show with a cover of Jimi Hendrix's "Manic Depression." Some people walked away from the show drawing comparisons to the former guitar great.

In an interview, Harper once said, "The more I played the more I had to play."

His love for music is apparent in his albums, but his passion to play is striking in his live shows.

The music is moving, but the Ben Harper experience itself is unforgettable.



Laura Hensley/The University Daily

Ben Harper recently concluded a national tour supporting his release "Burn to Shine."

Play to entertain through holiday

by Angela Loston
Staff Writer

A meeting between renowned artist Pablo Picasso and ingenious scientist Albert Einstein? It seems preposterous, but through the comical play, "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," this hypothetical encounter is able to come to life.

Written by Steve Martin, the play attempts, in a farcical way, to project the accomplishments of two of the most influential people of the 20th century.

The production uses a barrage of puns to keep the audience's interests piqued and hopefully to motivate them to be intrigued to watch the lives of the two historical figures.

Set in Paris, France, in 1904, both Picasso and Einstein yearn to make their mark on the newly-born century with their talents. Both men boast highly of their creations in the local tavern, Lapin Agile.

Throughout the play, people make predictions of what lies ahead for the 20th century. All of the actors' performances for the play were praiseworthy.

Notable performances were made by lead actors Mark Van Fleet, who played Pablo Picasso, and Austin Sanford, who played Albert Einstein. Michael Moore definitely delivered the much-needed comical relief for the play as drunken patron Gaston.

Special effects such as lighting and some sound added to the delight of the play. The design for the stage and the elaborate costumes fit appropriately for both the location and time of the production.

The scheduling of the play is per-

spotlight review

fect because it is the last production for not only the semester, but also the final 20th century play on the Tech campus.

The dialogue in the play humorously mirrors the contemporary thoughts of people who are about to approach the upcoming 21st century. Just like the characters in the play, people are making numerous projections on the outcome of the future as the present century comes to a close.

The play has light humor that will, at times, keep audience members somewhat amused and entertained. Some scenes in the play such as the

one between Picasso and one of his lovers, Germaine (played by Sally Allen), slows the momentum of the production.

Acts prior to the much-anticipated meeting between Picasso and Einstein may cause viewers to become impatient, but the light humor can make up for the delay.

With the small doses of comedy, viewers are able to have an account of people's reactions to the opening of the 20th century.

This is definitely a play that happily captures the concerns of many people who want to see what is in store for the future.

Unlike most of entertainment's grim expressions of the upcoming

century, the play gives viewers a better and hopeful perspective.

The performances will be Friday through Sunday at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Admission to the production is \$5 for students with their Tech IDs and \$10 for the general public.

Bride receives presidential gift

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — It's the kind of wedding gift you won't find on any bridal registry.

President Miguel Angel Rodriguez signed a decree turning over the presidency to one of his vice presidents, Astrid Fischel, for a few hours Friday — her wedding day.

Rodriguez's aides said it was a gesture to allow Fischel to marry Guatemalan businessman Eduardo Castaneda while serving as president.

Opposition politicians said Rodriguez showed disrespect for the presidency.

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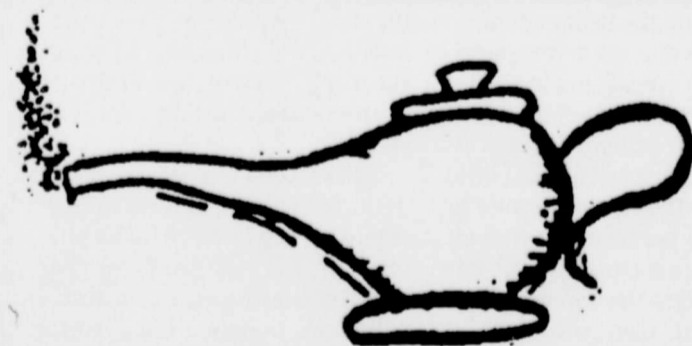
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Snag your copy of *The UD* in any residence hall, academic building, or any cool on-campus student hang out like the UC, West Hall, Drane Hall, Rec Center, Tech Bookstore, Frazier Pavilion, etc.

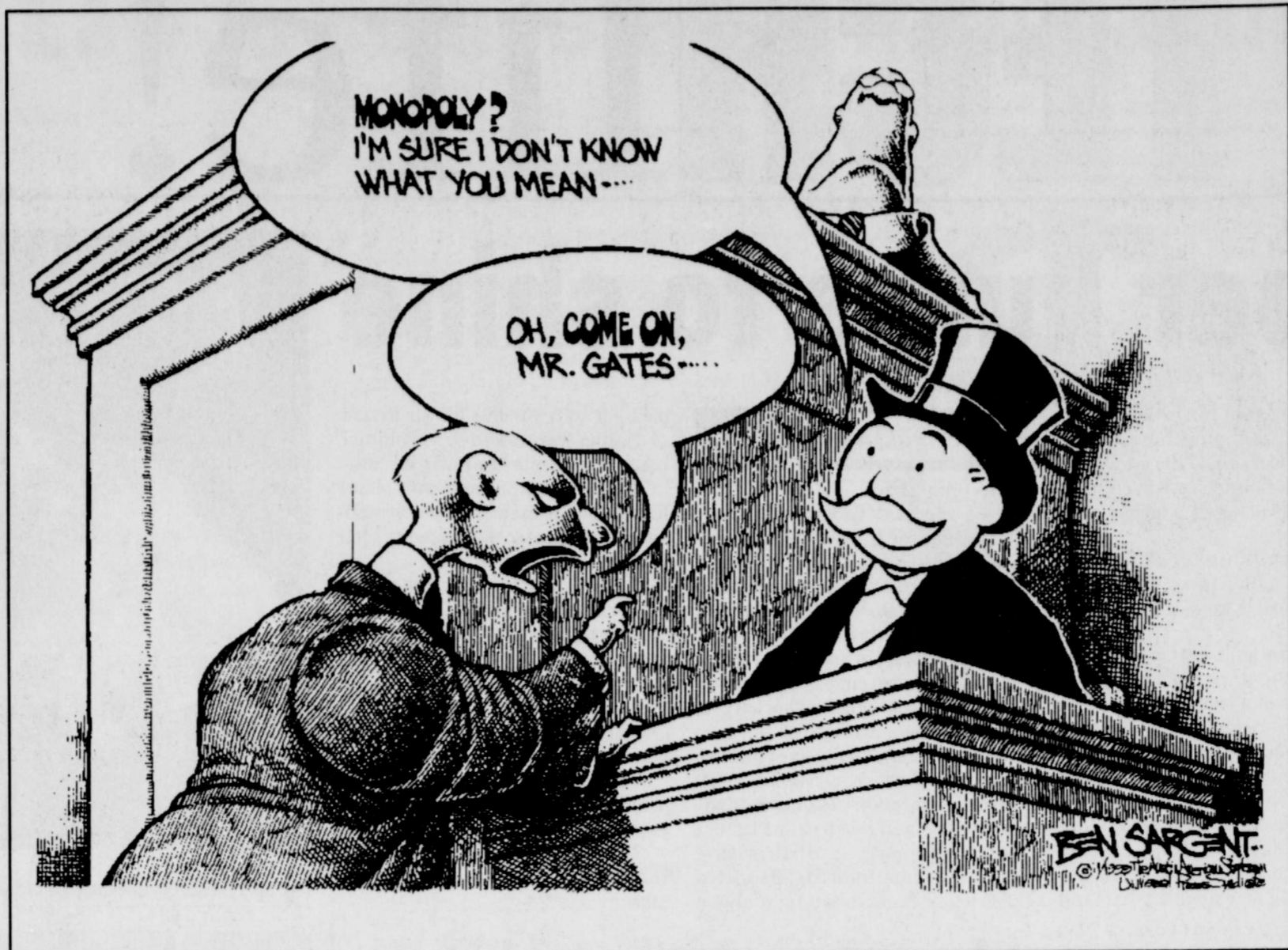
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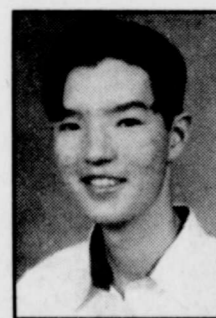
FOR REB



AOL-like companies pick up

In recent financial news, a new trend has emerged practically over night. Stocks associated with China rose suddenly last week.

Stocks worth less than a dollar a share have showed incredible gains, and shares with a decent foothold developed tremendous upward momentum. Some of these stocks are US-China Industrial Exchange (CHDX), China Prosper (CPIH) and China.com (CHINA), though there are numerous others. Attributed to these stocks' incredible recent performance is China's agreement with the United States to open its markets.



Chris Day
Columnist

To do this, China would join the World Trade Organization, allowing capitalism to prosper and grow in what is looked at by myself and many others as the next major economic market.

The big push this week, I feel, were the revelation of an "open China" is starting to exist — investors wanted to get in on the ground floor.

The future AOLs, China.com — partially owned by AOL — and NITE of China, have a short-term outlook that is a rocky road. As with anything new, there's adjustment. The short-term performance of these investments has been a real roller coaster. We will have to wait and see, but from my perspective the future of China's economy and the attention given to this new trend is just the beginning.

The long-term outlook of investment in this sector, I feel, is excellent. Another trend has been B2B, or business to business model, for companies. I'll address that topic in depth next time.

I have been watching and analyzing Knight/Trimark Group, Inc. (NITE) for some time now. This company has been one of my greatest interests, and I intend to share it with you.

NITE is the company the average investor doesn't see. This company has been in the low-profile shadows, but on the contrary is right in the middle of it all when it comes to investing.

If you took a look at the company's chart, you would see its steady growth and leaps of public interest (denoted by its volume).

The online brokerage industry has, since its birth, been constantly growing. New savvy investors enter the market each day looking to either make a quick buck or assemble a last-

ing portfolio (such as an IRA) that in essence will slowly grow.

These future investors require fast and efficient tools. These tools just happen to be the returns of an online brokerage. I'm sure you have heard of them or seen some of their ads — Ameritrade Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, National Discount Brokers, E*TRADE Securities, Inc., Waterhouse Securities, Inc. — and that's just naming a few. Guess who all those major brokers use? That's right — NITE.

NITE is the one of the leading money makers. MMs are the people on the floor of the exchanges actually executing your orders. NITE controls about 18 percent of its market. They are also the largest MMs organization on the street.

It's been a gratifying experience to watch this organization grow since its initial public offering in July 1998. I see undeniable future potential in this company.

NITE's role in the market has increased incredibly since the recent and continuous breaking of records on for the NASDAQ. Don't take my word for it though, look into NITE yourself and see if you feel the same. Be sure to note this is not a recommendation. All investors should use their own judgments in buying securities.

Chris Day is a freshman management information systems major from Sugarland.

SC flag debate has entire state roaring about race

Well, look at it this way: What a boon to the English teachers of South Carolina is all this hoo-ha about flying the Confederate flag over the statehouse. From now on, whenever a teacher announces the dread topic "Five hundred words on the importance of symbolism in Hawthorne," no snotty kid is going to be able to whine:

"What's symbolism? Why is symbolism important? Who cares about symbolism?"

All of South Carolina is in an uproar at this late date over the Stars and Bars. South Carolina is the last state to fly the Confederate flag over its capitol — under the U.S. flag and the state flag — but it turns out that this is not a matter of custom since time immemorial.

The Confederate flag has been up there only since 1962, and even then, it was not intended as a symbol of defiance against integration or any such thing. The legislature was observing the Civil War centennial and thought the thing would be taken down in 1965, according to two former members who served at the time. In an effort to resolve the current impasse, they are now attempting to round up their surviving colleagues and establish legislative intent.

Meanwhile, the NAACP is boycotting South Carolina, which means that lots of professional groups with black members are canceling convention reservations.

The bidness community is concerned. The Civil War re-enactors and Confederacy buffs want to leave the flag up; this is a state where the mention of Gen. Sherman still provokes hisses. Black citizens are understandably peeved. The legislature doesn't want to look like it's kowtowing to the NAACP.

Everybody's mad at everybody. They should all have to write 500 words on the importance of symbolism.

Poor Gov. Jim Hodges, a D, is trying to find a way out. He offered to make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a state holiday if the NAACP would call off the boycott. The NAACP isn't biting.

Meanwhile, the state seems to have a few problems that go beyond symbolism.

Eyeballing the state's papers — "Jail Raising Threatens Safety, Security," "S.C. Inmate Dies in Stabbing" (second case in a month) — it would appear that the prisons need some attention.

The schools could use some help, too. One citizen who thinks he knows what the schools need is Henry Jordan (pronounced Gehrdan) of the state Board of Education, who wants to post the Ten Commandments in every school.

During a board discussion in 1997, when Jordan was told that posting the Ten Commandments would be offensive to people of other religions, he said, "Screw the Buddhists and kill the Muslims." He later said he was just kidding. Try that in writing: "... and kill the Muslims," he joshed.

This side-splitting bon mot upset a Muslim from Rock Hill who wrote asking Jordan to resign. Jordan wrote back asking the fellow to reconsider his beliefs: "Ask the God of the Bible, Jehovah, not Allah ...

to remove the veil from your eyes and heart and reveal the truth ... before it's too late."

Right — no intention at all to proselytize by posting the commandments.

It's nice to know that failure to fully grasp the First Amendment is not limited to important officials of backward places like New York City.

Adding to the recent festivities in the state is former Gov. Carroll Campbell, who was found last week to have a gun in his carry-on luggage at the Greenville airport. He said his wife put it there. (I hate it when they blame their wives.) Local officials decided not to charge him on the felony offense.

What a dandy state it is politically. You may recall that in 1990, a sizable portion of the legislature got busted for bribery during Operation Lost Trust, an Abscam-style sting.

South Carolinians injured by the political peculiarities of their state were embarrassed, not because the legislators were bribed but because they sold out so cheaply.

Lost Trust, unfortunately, overshadowed a more entertaining episode in which a state rep known as Enos the Prince started an escort service from his capitol office. The high number of young lovelies waltzing in and out was finally brought to the attention of the speaker. It gave a new dimension to the old euphemism, "His interviewing secretaries."

Former Gov. David Beasley, a former chairman of the Republican Governors Association, made a name for himself with imaginative biography. Beasley was given to ... ah ... embroidery of his early achievements. He once claimed he ran the 100-yard dash in 9.5 seconds while in high school, which would have put him within an eye-

lash of the world record at the time, not to mention his .600 batting average and playing in the College World Series.

He lasted only one term. Poor fellow was just ahead of his time. Now that Edmund Morris' biography of Reagan has made fiction in biography acceptable, Beasley could claim he was just a la mode.

What can you say about a state where the junior senator is 76 years old? That spring chicken Fritz Hollings still must defer to 96-year-old Strom Thurmond. (Insert your favorite Strom Thurmond joke here.)

There is one serious player in the state — a political science professor at the University of South Carolina, where the Fighting Gamecocks are having a very bad year.

Bill Kreml is running for president, and you might want to consider sending him \$201. The purpose of this gesture is so that Kreml can fail to report your contribution. Because the Federal Election Commission requires reporting of campaign contributions over \$200, this will enable Kreml to get himself sued or even jailed by the Federal Election Commission, which would put him in a dandy position to mount a legal challenge to the entire phony-baloney system of "regulation" of public financing. This is civic service of a high order.

"We are in danger of becoming an oligarchy (rule by the rich)," says Kreml. "Our government is becoming a governing body of a few powerful interests, rather than a representative democracy."

Go, Kreml — he's our man. *Molly Ivins is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.*

Holiday loses meaning over time

Most everybody will be gone for the holidays, spending time with their relatives or getting away from them — depending on the situation — so most of you won't be reading this article. For those of you who will stay in Lubbock for the festivities, you will get to read the following list.

Thanksgiving traditionally is an American holiday, and so it does not have as much permanence for me as it does for most. I am American, but not by birth, and so Thanksgiving was never a holiday that entered my list of dates to revere. I think, though, that it isn't revered by most anyway. It's

just like July Fourth. I celebrate it like everyone else. I get plastered and light fireworks, but I seriously doubt people really think about what that day means. When I tell people this, they ask me if they have Thanksgiving and July Fourth in Malta, which if they thought with their one brain cell for a minute, they would realize that America isn't the only country in the world and everyone else doesn't revolve around us like the sun.

So, the meaning of holidays is something I already have touched on in precious articles, and a lot of people do realize that holidays are no longer what they used to be and no longer represent the reasons for which they were created.

Regardless of this point, what we need to realize in general is that this coming holiday is a for a day of thanks (which should be a daily occurrence anyway, giving thanks), whether or not you're religious, American, etc.

So what should we be thankful for?

We should be thankful that the Red Raiders have showed their support for the Aggies in this time of tragedy. It is nice to see that we can lay down our rivalry for at least a while. It shows a great sense of humanity that I have never witnessed at the campus.

We should be thankful that we get a little break from school at this trying time right before people take finals and/or graduate.

We should be thankful that the United Spirit Arena was finished before the year 2000.

We should be thankful for the opportunities that Armageddon is giving — money to those smart enough to pray on the week, strings of badly written movies and novels dealing with Y2K as the final blow from God, reasons to party like it's 1999, etc.

We should be thankful, in general, that there are people in this world who are honest, good-natured, genuine, helpful, generous even though they sometimes get taken advantage of or put down.

You get the point.

Now, what we really need to start doing is being thankful for things in our life and the world on a daily basis. We shouldn't only be thankful one day a year or else we won't remember all the things that happened to us that were good, like when your girlfriend told you she thought she had hepatitis and it only turned out to be crabs; or when you realized squeezeable pudding tastes better off a woman's (or man's) body; or when you got some random girl at a frat party pregnant and found out it really was one of your brother's anyway.

Seriously, however, apart from individual things that we should be thankful for, we really should look to something broader — like the pilgrims did when the Native Americans gave us food and taught us how to work the land, something that helped all generations thereafter.

Question what has been happening in the world and to you, as an American, and be thankful for something that most people forget. Be thankful that you are an American living in America. I think that Americans forget how lucky they are and how much opportunity is at their hands. I fall into this category as well, and sometimes I have to work to realize that sometimes I can get petty and childish and even, at times, materialistic.

It's hard to understand that we are fortunate because we are surrounded by money, power, consumerism and tales of success to the common man, that we can actually go to college even if we're not the smartest match in the box, that we can get a job at 16 and buy a car for high school, that we can move out on our own at 18 and actually live semi-comfortably.

Use Thanksgiving as a time to re-evaluate yourself and your pace in the world, and most importantly, remember that above all else, this holiday now has become a chance to spend time with families. Use it wisely.

Dwayne Mamo is a senior creative writing and philosophy major from Malta.

Have a good Thanksgiving break

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