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Myers, Leach address budget woes

By MELISSA GUEST
EDITOR

In a press conference held Wednesday, Texas Tech Athletics Director Gerald Myers and Head Football Coach Mike Leach assured the media the football budget would not have deficit at the end of the fiscal year.

"We will be able to cover the budget differences thanks to some revenue that will come from Red Raider Club fundraising," Myers

said during the conference. "Plus we will have an extra football game this season that will bring in more money."

The department overspent their \$1.2 million budget by \$400,000, yielding a \$1.6 million total by the end of the fiscal year Aug. 31.

Both Leach and Myers read prepared statements at the conference and after a question and answer session said they would not comment further on budget issues.

"We held the joint press confer-

ence to address issues in football and the budget, and now we are going to focus on the team and the upcoming season," Myers said.

The two met Tuesday with Tech president David Schmidly to discuss budget issues.

"I think the administration and the coaching staff has a lot of passion and energy for what they do and that really came in to play here," Leach said. "This has carried both sides a long way and in the end turned out to be a real positive."

Lynda Gilbert, vice president for fiscal affairs, said the budget problems with Tech football in particular, and Tech athletics in general, are not unusual.

"It's a nationwide issue that athletic departments across the country have to address," she said.

Additionally, Gilbert said recent trends have increased costs for athletics.

"Growing salaries for coaches, the cost of travel, and the overall

cost of operating a successful program are all factors," she said. "Especially in a conference like the Big 12 where they have to travel long distances to compete."

Gilbert said the budget for the department is set in advance, using projections for the fiscal year. Unlike some other state-funded budgets, the football department's budget is an auxiliary, or self-generating budget.

"Revenues have to equal expendi-

see **BUDGET**, page 5

Tech student wins swimsuit competition

■ Miss Lubbock USA to compete in Miss Texas USA pageant Monday

By KELI JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

When Texas Tech student Nicole Neal claimed the crown of Miss Lubbock USA in March, she said it was time to bring the Miss Texas USA crown back to Lubbock. That opportunity is now for the 20-year-old junior interior design major.

Neal and 124 participants will all get their shot at the Miss Texas USA crown at 8 p.m. Monday at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium.

Neal won the swimsuit competition in the pageant Wednesday at the County Line Restaurant in the first week of rehearsal and competition.

Judges evaluated each contestant's physical fitness and poise in front of more than 100 viewers at the event. Each individual was given a random color of the same style of a two-piece swimsuit.

"It's an honor to win," Neal said. "There are 123 other beautiful girls who are just as physically fit as I am, and whether it was from luck or hard work or both, it's still a great feeling to win."

Neal has competed in the Miss Texas USA pageants for three years and said her goal is to win the Miss USA title. She said she intends to



Photo courtesy of Ladd Photography
Miss Lubbock USA, Nicole Neal, a junior interior design major, accepts her award for winning the swimsuit portion of the Miss Texas USA pageant from Kasi Kelly, 2001 Miss Texas USA.

put her power to good use by furthering her cause to help increase communication between parents and children.

"I have been preparing to become Miss Texas (USA) and later to become Miss USA for 20 years," Neal said. "It's been a dream of mine since childhood."

Fay Headley, director of Miss Lubbock USA and Neal's coach, said Neal has an excellent

chance at wearing the crown on her home turf Monday night.

"Nicole is a very focused girl," he said. "She's very smart and coachable. She's a pleasure to work with, which is not necessarily very common."

Bring it Home, a foundation initiated by

see **MISS TEXAS**, page 5

Stadium showing progress

By KRISTEN GILBRETH
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech student Amanda Broadwell said the cranes and construction crews working on Jones SBC Stadium do not appear to be moving in the direction of progress.

"It seems to be going a lot slower than it should," said Broadwell, a sophomore architecture major from Wichita Falls. "They have been working on it for a long time. The fall season is coming up and it will be game time. Finishing the stadium should be a priority. I sure hope it is worth the long wait."

Blayne Beal, assistant athletic director of media relations, said much of the finished work is internal, and that is the reason why some may believe the stadium is lacking progress.

"Anytime you go through a renovation process it takes longer than if you built from scratch. It is getting now to the phase where people see progress," he said. "Things are rising from the ground, and people measure things from what they can see."

see **STADIUM**, page 5

Tech seeks four-year medical school in El Paso

By APRIL TAMPLEN
STAFF WRITER

Prompted by a state report indicating the need for another Texas medical school, Texas Tech is looking at expanding their medical school in El Paso.

Richard Homan, dean of the school of medicine at Tech, said the location of the El Paso campus is sound for the campus to become a

four-year medical school.

"The border area is especially underserved medically," he said. "There is an enormous need for a medical school there, especially in El Paso."

The Tech campus in El Paso currently is a third and fourth year medical school.

Homan said they educate in clinical sciences only, while full medical schools educate in both

clinical and basic sciences.

"To make a school become a full medical school, we need support from the legislature, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Liaison Committee of Graduate Medical Education," he said. "It is expensive to become an accredited school."

Homan said in the last 25 years, no medical school in the United States has become accredited.

"The tentative plan would be to have two medical schools reporting to one president in the Texas Tech University system," he said. "We would be the first school to try and develop an accredited school like this in 25 years."

Reasons schools are not seeking accreditation include the fact it is expensive and there has not been a lack of physicians entering the field.

Homan said Tech has a head start in becoming an accredited school in El Paso because there is already an existing medical school campus.

"It is a natural place for the school," he said. "We do not want to build a new school, we already have one. So therefore, it would compliment what we already have."

Acting Health Sciences Center President Elmo Cavin said Tech is in the process of approving and planning a \$38.5 million research tower on the El Paso campus.

"The board is in the process of making a wise decision in identifying that Texas needs another medical school," he said. "Especially if it is made part of the Texas Tech University System."

On Thursday the staff will present a report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board saying why El Paso would be the best place for a four-year school.

Homan said the board will look at the recommendations and consider if it is true Texas needs another medical school.

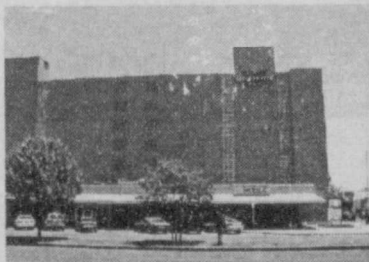
"Tech would have two independent medical schools in one system," he said. "This would most likely bring national recognition to Texas Tech because no other school has tried to become accredited in the past years. It would make us unique."

Cavin said having a new medical school would be positive for Tech and West Texas.

"If it is positive for West Texas and Tech, then it has to be positive for the whole state of Texas," he said. "If we make this four-year school, it would provide research in diseases that are unique to the border, give more medical profession in West Texas and help create more diversity."

There are seven medical schools in Texas. The other location being considered for a full medical school is the Rio Grande Valley.

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LPD begins to train K-9 units on Tech campus

By KRISTEN GILBRETH AND
KELI JOHNSON
STAFF WRITERS

Despite what civilians might think about K-9 police units, the dogs do not attack suspects with the intent to cause harm. The purpose of the dog is simply to prevent one from escaping.

Sgt. Dennis Kelley, one of three members of the K-9 unit, has been working for the Lubbock Police Department for 27 years.

"People have the misconception that our dogs will rip your head off, but in fact, they have been socialized and won't attack unless provoked," he said. "Twenty to 30 years ago they used junkyard dogs that you couldn't take anywhere. Now, we train dogs to be under control."

The K-9 unit of the Lubbock Police Department, which answers calls within a 100-mile radius of the city, began training the dogs on the Texas Tech campus about three months ago. The Tech police department allows vacant buildings, such as Weeks residence hall, to be used for the training sessions.

One-man, one-dog teams are called out three to four times a night on actual requests. Training the dogs for building searches is done weekly, with additional train-

ing throughout the week.

Cpl. Jim Holmes, a member of the K-9 unit, said for about three hours they play a game of hide and seek in order to prepare the dogs for duty.

One officer, posing as a suspected fugitive, puts on a bulky protective red suit and hides behind closed doors in the dark, solemn building.

The alpha-dominant male dog barks when he catches the human scent. The officer playing the good guy then releases him for the search with German commands. Using a high-powered flashlight, the officer sheds some light on the bleak hallways, providing assistance to his partner.

Frantically probing the building, the animal, wearing a black bulletproof vest, clamps down on its target once found.

Thor, a German Shepard from Hungary, and Duco, a Belgium Malinois from Holland, are trained in narcotics and patrol. Nitro, also a Belgium Malinois from Holland, is trained in explosives detection and patrol.

"The only problem is that you have to understand that the dogs are expendable," Holmes said. "We'd rather put a dog in a building than a human."

Each member of the K-9 unit gets attached to his dog, which is

his only partner.

"Mine is like a member of my family," Holmes said.

The dogs are used for crowd control, area searches, explosives detection, narcotics searches and to find people.

In the event that a dog becomes missing in action, the police have implanted a microchip that can be scanned and located through the dog's veterinarian.

K-9 unit member and LPD Officer Michael Jordan said it took him 10 years to get into this program.

"It's more difficult to get into than the SWAT unit or to become a detective," he said.

There are certain qualifications an officer must possess in order to be considered for the unit. The officer must own a home, have a minimum of three years in the police department, have previous training with dogs, must undergo an extensive background check and an in-depth interview.

Eddie Huckabee, assistant chief of the Tech police department, said the dogs are great tools.

"The partnership that we have with the K-9 unit allows us access to a very important law enforcement tool on pretty much an as-needed basis," he said. "As long as there is a threat of terrorism, for example, it is important to have this K-9 partnership."



CRAIG SWANSON/The University Daily

In a training demonstration in front of Weeks Residence Hall near the entrance of the Texas Tech campus, Lubbock Police Officer Michael Jordan wears a protective jacket while a police dog attacks him. Lubbock K-9 units are trained to be aggressive when police officers may be in danger. The dogs are trained weekly on the Tech campus.

The University Daily

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College student pleads guilty in AIDS case

HURON, S.D. (AP) — An HIV-infected college student whose arrest on charges of having unprotected sex with a woman spread fear on campus and prompted the testing of hundreds of people for AIDS pleaded guilty Thursday and could get up to 15 years in prison.

Nikko Briteramos, a 19-year-old SiTanka-Huron University basketball player from Chicago, is the first person prosecuted in South Dakota under a 2000 law against knowingly exposing someone to the AIDS virus.

Sentencing was set for Aug. 20. In return for his guilty plea, two other charges involving the same woman were dropped.

Prosecutors said Briteramos had learned in March after donating blood that he was HIV-positive,

and had unprotected sex with the woman in April.

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Football coach uses '33-percent rule'

[GUEST COLUMN]

Michael Duff

michael@michaelduff.net

Texas Tech football coach Mike Leach has recently been scolded for exceeding his budget by \$400,000.

I'm not writing to condemn Leach. On the contrary, I think he has a great idea. Imagine how much easier your life would be if you could exceed your budget by 33 percent. Only have \$200 in your bank account? No problem. Go ahead and write that check for \$266. The bank can just "increase your allotment" by \$66.

I'm going to try this on my boss next week. "Sorry sir, I spent \$250 this week and my paycheck is only \$200. Could you spot me fifty bucks till next year?"

Just think, judicious application of this "33-percent rule" could get Martha Stewart, Dick Cheney and the entire executive staff of Enron out of jail.

In this complex, fast-moving world of ours, who has time to

keep track of every little thing? Any honest accountant will tell you balancing budgets is like tossing hand grenades. You don't have to get everything right. Just get close and call it even.

Rather than condemn Leach for this creative fiscal management, I think we should use it as a recruiting tool. "Come and play football for Texas Tech — the only Big 12 Conference team with overdraft protection!"

To be fair, this practice is not confined to athletic teams. Tech is a state institution, and in government accounting, it's common to have ostensibly "self-supporting" departments exceed their budgets and get bailed out. It's all coming from the same pool of public money, so administrators can just shift funds from other programs at the end of the year.

It's not stealing in the literal sense. The state has already given them the money. It's just a numbers game at this point.

Want to see something funny? Visit an academic department at

the end of their fiscal year. They have to spend every dollar in their annual allotment or their budgets will be cut in the following year.

Visit Central Warehouse in late August and you'll see departments buying hundreds of dollars worth of office supplies — desperate to spend their money before the clock runs out.

The point is academic budgets are not written in stone. They are basically "spending estimates," only loosely related to real money. This case is notable because of the amounts involved, and because of the high-profile nature of the athletics program, but I guarantee, bigger discrepancies happen all over campus.

If you're going to be outraged over this, don't confine your criticism to Leach. Spread the abuse around and investigate sloppy accounting all over campus.

It won't actually change anything, but it's cheap entertainment, if you're looking for something to feel self-righteous about.

proportion. I wouldn't be writing this letter if not for Myers' incompetent leadership. Sure, there are many people saying this is the same guy that brought Bob Knight to Lubbock and helped revive our moribund basketball program. But that's the only thing we can say about his legacy. He (Myers) was a horrible basketball coach, and he is an even more horrible athletics director.

His handling of situations involving the football program currently and in the past is reminiscent of the Jim Carlen-era of Tech football. Here again, we have a terrific, bright, young coach being royally screwed by an inept AD.

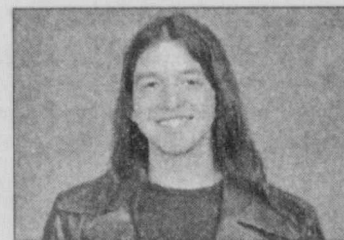
Leach proved himself to be the people's coach with his reaction to the events after the Texas A&M football game last year, and Myers wastes no time to lambaste both Leach and the student body. Myers is still stuck in the good ol' boys system, the system popularized in the days of

Spike Dykes, and the system that is directly responsible for our many years of mediocrity. It appears to me that the good ol' boys don't like our coach — not because he's a bad coach, but because he's one smart SOB, and he isn't one of them.

It is my opinion that it is time for Myers to go. He's served his time here, and there is no need for him to cause further damage our athletics department. His record for ineptness speaks for itself. Getting rid of Myers is the best solution to fixing the problems with leadership.

As for fixing the problem with the budget, let's all give a little more money to the Booster Club. We've caught up with the A&M's of this world, and now we should all be concerned with catching up with the UT's of this world. So expect to pay a little more for this. The only way you're going to play with the big dogs is to pay like the big dogs.

- Jildardo Arias, a junior civil engineering major

**Jason Rhode**

rhodcolumn@hotmail.com

Pledge panic is circus-like

Just four words. Bizarre, how a collection of syllables carries so much weight in human affairs, as we saw the other week. Ah, admit it. Since it's been raining Pledge of Allegiance outrage recently, you thought I might summon up the ever-popular "One nation under God." I truly meant to, but it seems that of late it's been over-booked. I put in a request to borrow "under God" for my column, only to find that it's on tour — appearing in hack columns, on the lips of our braying statesmen, in tavern opinions. As far as issues go to stir up the national hive of blunt indignation, this one's the craziest yet. I decline to take a position on the Pledge, because it's a trivial matter. What makes me laugh is the hysteria over this little thing.

The fury following the Pledge ruling has to be the most ridiculous display of national anguish I have yet seen. Not since the glorification of former President Ronald Reagan have I seen such self-righteousness masked as patriotic virtue. The no-God decree stands about as much chance of enduring as a lighted match in a twister. The Supreme Court has mentioned previously that it finds no coercion in the monotheistic portion of the Pledge. The shelf-

life of the appellate decision makes Vanilla Ice's career look vast. It's not a matter of if the decree will be struck down, but a matter of when.

The entire affair is silly. Yet, note the noise that has followed. Whatever your position on the Pledge, you can't ignore the incredible spectacles offered to us in this media circus. Step right in! Thrill to high comedy as Congressmen take up the noble task of bravely jumping on the popular bandwagon like drunken hill people piling into the back of a pickup. See the Senate, already the windiest lot of blowhards in Christendom, become even moreso with professional curmudgeon Sen. Robert Byrd's majestic phrases; "these stupid judges!" Byrd was referring to the Ninth Circuit justices — federal ones, approved by the House in which he serves.

Has all sense flown from this mighty Republic? Local DJ Kelly Green almost cried on his supposed "Man Show" as in emotional throes he sputtered out former President Dwight Eisenhower's proclamation of 1954 inserting "under God" into the Pledge. Primate studies benefited Wednesday; I've never heard so many hollering apes speak on call-in radio before. The yokels used primarily two arguments to fuss over "under God's" removal; No. 1, it has been in existence since the 50's, No. 2 we're all goin' to hell fer this.

One lady proclaimed this as Taliban-work. Another argued that Jesus wrote the Constitution. A new friend of mine saw the Devil's hand in this. I challenge you to find a polemic against the decision not including the words "fighting and dying" in it. Appropriately, about this non-issue, we hear non-sense. Are we "under God?" Then I ask the Almighty to send some smiting our way. We suffer an excess of prophets.

Voice your opinion at ud@ttu.edu

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GUEST COLUMNS: *The UD* accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 450 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

STADIUM

from page 1

Mike Ellicott, vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction, said Phase I is complete and crews have advanced to Phase II. Refurbishing of the west side of the stadium, adding club-seat levels, 45 luxury suites and a camera deck for the working press are current projects.

When this stage is finished the 175,000 square foot building will have Spanish Renaissance architecture similar to other facilities on campus.

A steel archway outlining the entrance to the stadium has been constructed in the last couple of months to begin this theme, Ellicott said.

Phase II will be complete in early August if weather cooperates.

The final phase of the remodeling, the building of a new football training facility, has begun on schedule, Ellicott said.

The 57,500 square foot facility

will include a new weight room, dressing rooms, large capacity meeting rooms and offices for the coaches.

Tech Athletics Director Gerald Myers said the photo deck in the press box will be only portion of the west side of the building that will be ready for the 2002 season. There will not be anything usable by the fans.

"A lot of progress has been made in the last year,"

he said. "You can see a lot of the press box has been done. A lot of other stuff is being put together on the ground. This will be one attractive showcase for the university."

Jones SBC owner's representative, Michael Bodnar, said in the upcoming weeks, steel structures will go up another four stories from

what is now in place and masonry walls will begin to cover the exterior of the building.

The construction will not hinder the approaching season, Bodnar said.

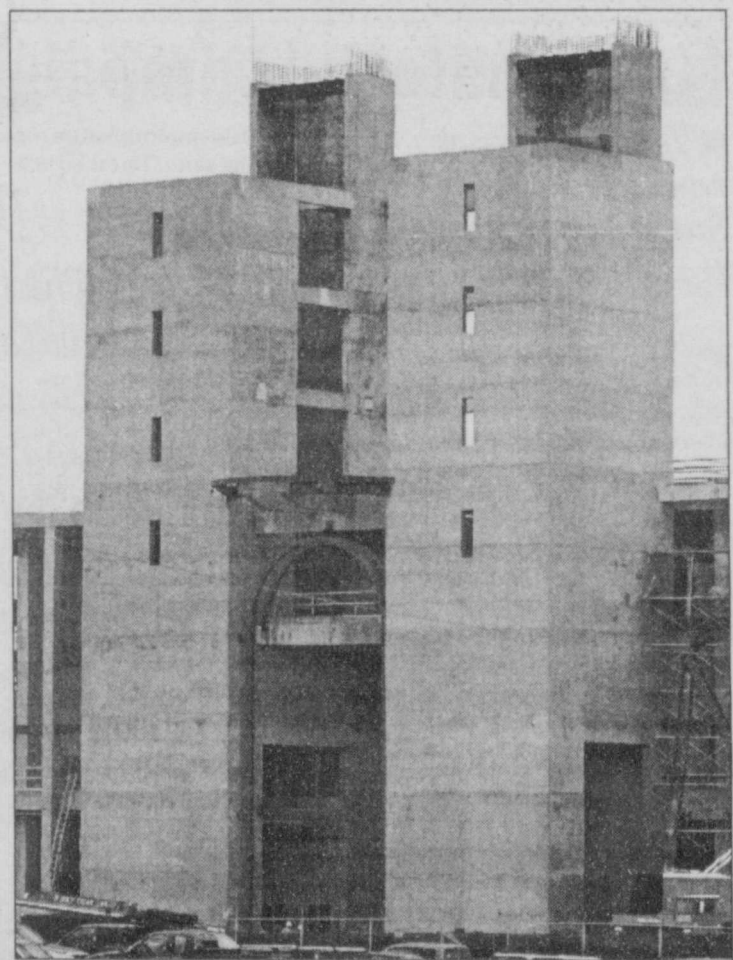
"Recently we have been having game day meetings," he said. "The areas will be fenced off

where there is construction similar to what was done last year."

Ellicott said he is confident the final product will be one of the finest facilities in the Big 12 conference.

"You can see a lot of the press box has been done. A lot of other stuff is being put together on the ground."

Gerald Myers
TEXAS TECH
ATHLETICS DIRECTOR



CRAIG SWANSON/The University Daily

Phase I of the renovation of Jones SBC Stadium is complete and crews have begun to work on Phase II of the stadium. Phase II will refurbish the west side of the stadium by adding club-seat levels, 45 luxury suits and a camera deck for the working press. Phase II is expected to be completed in early August if weather permits.

Read The UD online at
www.universitydaily.net

BUDGET

from page 1

penditures," she said. "It's like getting a salary of \$12,000 a year and spending (\$14,000)."

In the budgeting process, Gilbert said the athletics director must use revenue projections to determine the budget.

"They have to go in base it on expected revenues," she said.

"You can't spend more than you earn."

Myers said the administration and coaching staffs would work together in the future to prevent overspending.

"We will work closely with the coaches and the staff in our business office to give our coaches the best possible budgets that we can through increased revenue."

Leach said in his statement the team is looking forward to its

most exciting season and the staff will continue to watch budget issues.

"Like many universities across the country, we must watch out revenues and expenditures carefully," Leach said in his statement. "With regard to the football budget, we have worked together to successfully resolve anticipated budget difficulties through successful fund-raising efforts."

MISS TEXAS

from page 1

Neal with the help of Headley, is a program to teach kids how to talk to their parents. The parents also can learn how to better communicate with their children through this program.

Inspired by her parents, Danny Neal and Becky Anderson, Nicole Neal said she wanted to open the door of communication for other families.

Anderson said Nicole Neal is focused on the programs she works with.

"This is really something Nicole feels so passionately about," she

said. "This program means a lot to her and she wants to do as much as she can to help out those kids and their parents."

Nicole Neal said many people may doubt the message pageants send society. She disagrees.

"Come out and experience a pageant," she said. "It's a whole different world."

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Gubernatorial campaign ads create stir, variety of opinions

■ Texas Governor candidates, Perry, Sanchez, use ads to trash competitor

By APRIL TAMPLEN
STAFF WRITER

With the 2002-2003 Gubernatorial election coming up in November, political ads on the television and radio are getting intense.

Candidates Gov. Rick Perry, a republican, and Tony Sanchez, a democrat, have begun to launch ads arguing each of the weaknesses of the other candidate.

Texas Tech political science professor Nelson Dometrius said Texas is beginning to see the affects of mean campaign ads, but it seems to have started earlier than usual this year.

"Usually mean ads do not be-

gin until a few months before the election," he said. "But this year the mean ads have launched earlier. Most of this is started by M r Sanchez."

Dometrius said most political campaign ads are based on a small bit of honest information.

"The bit of information behind political ads is honest. It is informative data, but it just may not be said in a fair way," he said. "Negative ads are used be-

cause they usually work."

Jon Marc Bernal, external chief of staff for the Student Government Association at Tech, competed in this year's student government elections. He said campaigning outside the Student Union every day helped get his name in the public, but voters really cared about what the issues were and how each candidate would keep his or her promises.

The bit of information behind political ads is honest. It is informative data, but it just may not be said in a fair way.

Nelson Dometrius
TEXAS TECH
POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

"I think campaigning says a lot to voters who pass by or watch TV," he said. "As for affecting voter turn out, I do not know. But it does tell the voter how and when to vote."

Dometrius said the line between a negative ad and a positive ad is subject to anyone's opinion.

"It is a subjective opinion on what makes a negative ad and a positive ad," he said. "Ads give the voters information. Mostly it is what candidate A has done that candidate B has not done."

Bernal said he has been watching the campaign ads on TV. He said he noticed each candidate is "mudslinging" at the other candidate and said that is what makes a bad campaign ad.

"I saw an ad that was by Sanchez and he said 'Rick Perry did this and we didn't elect him,'" he said. "On one side people look at that and think 'yeah you are right,' but on the flip side it

shows that trashing the other candidate is all Sanchez has to go by. And it goes the same way for Perry."

Political ads have some affect on the way voter's vote, Dometrius said.

"These ads do swing some voters to vote the way they do, especially those who are considered the middle people," he said. "If you are a strong republican or democrat, then these ads should not affect you."

Dometrius said everything a person does in the course of an election affects the outcome of how they may vote.

"People look more at campaign ads because they do not get the issues in local news coverage," he said. "Everything affects the way people vote. You decide watching TV, listening to the radio and even sitting at a local bar drinking a beer."

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Perry says help is on the way for Central Texas flood victims

AUSTIN (AP) — Rampaging rivers and flooded roads all around him, Texas Gov. Rick Perry swooped into San Antonio by helicopter and declared "help is on the way."

While parts of Central and South Texas were swamped under as much as 30 inches of rain, Perry was asking President Bush for federal disaster aid and activating the Texas National Guard for high-water rescues. He toured New Braunfels to see the Guadalupe River gushing into houses and visited the flooded home of the Mendoza family in San Antonio, pausing near repair workers to study a buckling wood floor.

Witnessing devastation, arranging for disaster relief, comforting

victims — it's what governors do after natural disasters.

And Perry did it often in the past week.

The Republican governor's trips to the flood zone probably gave him a boost in his campaign against Democratic challenger Tony Sanchez, said Bruce Buchanan, a government professor at the University of Texas.

"It puts him on the front pages taking care of the business of Texas the way very few things have since he's been governor," Buchanan said.

Perry is seeking his first election to the governorship. He was lieutenant governor and ascended to the state's top job in December

2000 when Bush resigned to become president.

Houston's tropical storm Allison tested Perry's leadership in June 2001, but he also came under harsh criticism that month for his record 82 vetoes of state legislation.

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Perry urged calm, attended prayer services, signed declarations limiting price gouging and put the Texas National Guard on alert. The same week, he toured the South Texas site where the Queen Isabella Causeway collapsed and killed eight people.

Buchanan emphasized that any edge Perry may have gotten from extensive news coverage of this month's flooding is likely to be only temporary.

No one, not even Perry's opponent, seems to be accusing him of playing politics with the flood, which left nine people dead and inflicted property damage expected

to top \$1 billion.

"In times of tragedy, the state's political leaders have a job to do that is above politics, and I think we've seen that from the state leadership," said Sanchez spokesman Mark Sanders.

By the middle of this week, Perry was back to talking about such state issues as transportation and the environment. But he said Wednesday he hopes his visits with flood victims shows he's a governor who gets involved.

"It's important for a governor to see firsthand the devastation, to walk into the home of the Mendozas and see the curled-up floors and know firsthand the impact it's having on a single family," Perry said.

"It's important for a governor to get outside of Austin, Texas, to interact with both those who are offering service and those who are receiving service," he said.

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Search to fill vice chancellor void under way

By Keli Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Richard Butler, senior vice chancellor of Texas Tech, is leading a search for a replacement for the vice chancellor of institutional advancement.

The April 28 death of William "Bill" Wehner has left the position of vice chancellor of special projects and of institutional advancement open.

Butler said he has been calling individuals to see if they are interested in the position and meeting with potential candidates to interview each person.

"Meeting in person gives our program a face. It's not just

a position," he said. "I give them a unique perspective on the program to promote interest."

Tech chancellor Dr. David Smith said the advisory committee, which is comprised of Elmo Cavin, acting Health Sciences Center president David Schmidly, Tech president, and Butler, hopes to fill the position by September or October.

"Dr. Smith and I have gone about this in a nontraditional way," Butler said. "We have made contacts from coast to coast, and have done a lot of networking."

Jeff Whitley, director of development communication, said Wehner was the campaign

chief for Tech's horizon campaign and worked with volunteers and officers for Tech Incorporated. Wehner's influence on the Horizon Campaign helped meet and surpass the campaign goal of raising \$500 million for the university.

Smith said the committee is redefining the job description to fit the new fundraising campaign. The new campaign has not yet been named, but this year the office of institutional advancement has acquired about \$32 million for Tech.

The new campaign aims to raise about \$100 million for scholarships, with other focus on fellowships, faculty support and foundations. Smith said

he is optimistic about the search.

"We're getting some incredibly good names and some interest internally," he said. "We're also getting great input from across the country from people with good experience in fundraising."

In the early stages of the search, Butler said he has interviewed about seven individuals.

"At this point I have three to four very solid prospects," he said.

Each potential candidate will meet with the presidents and chancellors as well as regents and various deans, Butler said. They will narrow the

pool to four or five prospects.

Following intensive, two-day interviews, the group will be narrowed to one or two candidates. Butler will then make a recommendation to Smith, who makes the final decision with Board approval.

Butler said he has chosen not to hire a search firm for various reasons. He said the firms can be expensive, time-consuming and not necessarily the most effective means of finding the best candidate.

"What we're looking for is an individual who possesses the rare combination of leadership skills, managerial knowledge and a fundraising background," he said.



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'Men in Black II' rehashes old stuff, still works

[MOVIE REVIEW]



James Eppler
jeppler@hotmail.com

Remember a movie back in 1997 called "Men in Black?" It seems like a long time ago, and now five years later the sequel finally arrives. The main reason for the delay had to deal with the two stars, Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones, getting greedy and holding out for more money and some back-door deals with

the studio. So with five years to write it, one would think screenwriters Robert Gordon and Barry Fanaro would be able to come up with some original ideas and expand on the original film. Guess again.

This outing simply has new scum for the MIB to waste. Smith reprises his role as Agent J, and is now the hot-shot agent looking for a decent partner he can work with. The film opens with J paired with another agent, played by the hilarious Patrick Warburton. When that doesn't work out, J is forced to seek a new partner. He temporarily takes Frank, the talking dog from the original voiced by Tim Blaney, alongside. Meanwhile an alien named Serleena that looks like a plant root takes the human form of an underwear model played by Lara Flynn Boyle. She enlists the

help of Scrad (Johnny "Jackass" Knoxville), a two-headed alien. She is looking for "the light of Zartha," which will allow her to rule the universe, but if it stays on Earth then Earth will blow up. I'm not sure why all of this will happen, but the script doesn't trouble itself with these little details.

Apparently, the only MIB agent who knew anything about the "light" is Agent K (Jones), who was "Neutralized" (had his memory erased) at the end of the original. So now J must bring K back to "De-neutralize" him and help him remember his history with the MIB. It's a reversal of roles from the original as now Jones is the wide-eyed student and Smith the teacher.

But when Serleena takes MIB headquarters hostage, the two Agents must find clues leading

them to the "light" while jogging K's memory and finding a way to rescue MIB.

It's unfortunate that there aren't more new ideas presented in this sequel, but one interesting scene involves a society of creatures living in a locker that worship the key-holder. This idea also is referenced at the film's finale with an intriguing shot that sci-fi fanatics are going to love.

When all is said and done, however, it's obvious there was no need for a sequel to the stylish and clever original. This sequel merely rehashes old material. But the old material worked then, and still does. Smith and Jones banter back and forth reminding us how much we like this partnership and still fit nicely into their roles. Also reprising their roles are Rip Torn as Zed, head of the MIB, and Tony

Shalhoub as Jeebs who has to grow a new head every time K blows it off.

With five years time to get this movie made, it could have been much better.

But fans of the original film will likely find themselves enjoying another ride with the Men in Black.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★★★

★★★★★ - Flawless
★★★★ - Excellent
★★★ - Good
★★ - Mediocre
★ - Awful

Talk show host, Jerry Springer, sued by son of former guest who was killed by ex-husband

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Talk show host Jerry Springer was sued Wednesday by the son of a former guest, killed by her ex-husband hours after the airing of an episode the couple had appeared on involving love triangles.

Jeffrey Campbell of Kalamazoo,

Mich., alleged that The Jerry Springer Show episode on which Nancy Campbell-Panitz appeared created "a mood that led to murder."

A spokeswoman for the program said that neither the show nor its producers were responsible for the death.

Ralf Panitz, 42, was convicted of second-degree murder and received a life sentence in May for the July 24, 2000, beating death of his ex-wife. The show had been taped in May 2000.

The lawsuit said the show encouraged Ralf Panitz, who ap-

peared on the episode with his new wife, to lie to Campbell-Panitz in order to get her to appear.

The suit claims Campbell-Panitz thought she was on the show to reconcile with Ralf Panitz. Instead, she learned that her ex-husband had secretly married Eleanor

Panitz in March 2000.

Campbell-Panitz stormed off the stage as she was mocked by Eleanor Panitz and jeered by the audience.

Panitz and Campbell-Panitz divorced in 1999 but still lived together off and on.

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