



SHOWERS
High 53 / Low 40
Tomorrow:
High 68 / Low 36

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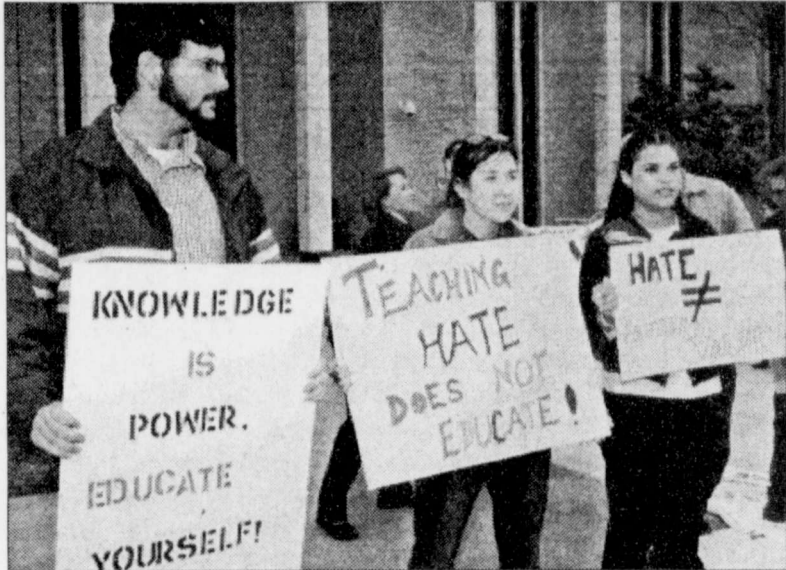
FRIDAY
March 12, 2004

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Queers, allies rally for gay rights, free speech

TEXAS TECH STUDENTS rally in support of free speech and gay rights outside the Federal Building Thursday afternoon.

ANDREW WEATHERS/The University Daily



By Brittany Fish/Contributing Writer

West Texas winds blew cardboard signs of support, but it did not stop individuals in a rally for students of Lubbock Independent School District's Gay Straight Alliance at 4 p.m. Thursday in front of the George Mahon Federal Building.

Megan Bauer, president of Texas Tech's Lambda Law Students, said the rally was a way to show support for Lubbock's Gay Straight Alliance.

"I think the main idea is to raise awareness," Bauer said. "We think (the ruling) is a disservice to the youth of the high school."

Last week, U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings ruled in favor of LISD concerning the lawsuit with the GSA.

Cummings ruled LISD did not infringe on the First Amendment Rights or the Equal Access Act of the Lubbock High School GSA when LISD denied students the right to meet on school property.

Cheyenne White, president of Tech's Queers and Allies, said she hopes the rally shows numerous gay organizations are concerned about the issue.

"As gay students we have the same rights as other students," White said. "I disagree with the ruling because they ruled on the fact that the GSA had a link to gay.com. That's absolutely absurd. The Web site does not promote sex."

White said because the Web site had an advertisement that was sexual, the entire site was considered sexual material.

Cummings released a statement outlining his reasons for the decision and saying he ruled as he did because of the sexual content of the group's Web site.

"In summation, this case has nothing to do with a denial of rights to students because of their sexual viewpoints," Cummings said in his statement. "It is instead an assertion of a school's right not to surrender control of the public school system to students and erode a community's standard of what subject matter is considered obscene and inappropriate. At some point, a line must be drawn that considers the proper subject matter allowed in the schools of this city."

Cummings was unable to comment further.

RALLY continued on page 3

AEROSMITH ROCKS ARENA



ABOVE: LEAD GUITARIST Joe Perry plays his guitar in the United Spirit Arena on Thursday night. BELOW: Cheap Trick opens for Aerosmith's 40-city North American tour.

By Megan LaVoie and photos by David Johnson/The University Daily

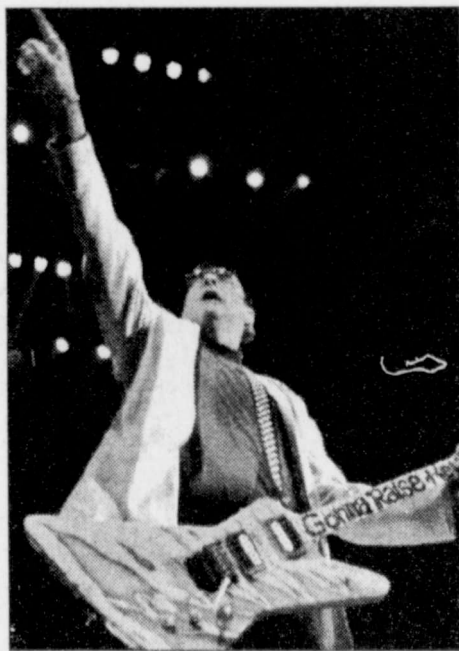
The crowd was almost as big as lead singer Steven Tyler's famous mouth, when Aerosmith and Cheap Trick rocked the United Spirit Arena Thursday night in front of a sold-out crowd.

Lubbock was the first stop in Aerosmith's 40-city North American tour. Cheap Trick opened for Aerosmith and was booed by the loyal Texas Tech crowd when the lead singer made a negative comment about men's basketball coach Bob Knight's guitar skills.

Scott Graves, a senior agriculture economics major from Bronte, was one of the students angered by Cheap Trick's comments.

"They dissed Bobby Knight," he said. "I am glad the whole crowd booed them."

Sandy Gellner, a United Spirit Arena employee



said the crowd was more excited about Aerosmith than Cheap Trick.

"People were still standing in line and asking where they could smoke when Cheap Trick was playing — the crowd is obviously more excited about Aerosmith," she said.

The crowd was a mixture of teenagers and die-hard Aerosmith fans that have followed the bands career from their start in the early '70s.

Cathy Sheppard and her daughter Tiffanie Sheppard traveled from Amarillo to hear the legendary rock band.

"We had to come — it's Aerosmith for crying out loud," she said.

Steven Tyler kept the crowd on their feet by singing to each corner of the Spirit Arena.

Scott Graves, a senior agriculture economics major from Bronte said he had the best seat in the house.

CONCERT continued on page 3

Butler's sentencing brings mixed reactions

By Gunter/The University Daily

The sentencing of former Texas Tech Health Sciences Center president Dr. Thomas Butler on Wednesday caused mixed feelings among Tech employees and students.

U.S. District Court Judge Sam Cummings sentenced Butler to two years in prison and more than \$58,000 in fines for charges related to the January 2003 bubonic plague scare in Lubbock.

Rachael Treadwell, a restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from El Campo, said Butler's sentencing fit the crimes.

"He brought the germs over illegally," she said. "He put a lot of people's health in jeopardy."

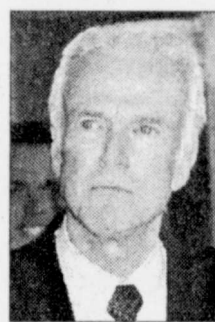
Butler should have found a different method of transporting the bacteria, Treadwell said.

"I agree that he probably had good intentions," she said. "But there is a legal way to go about all of that, and he could have."

That, two years Butler be separated from his loved ones is sad, but Treadwell said he should have known the consequences beforehand.

"I'm sorry he's going to miss out on his family," she said. "But one of his family members could have gotten sick from that."

Butler settled with Tech's Health Sciences Center a month ago, paying \$250,000 and agreeing to retire from his position at the university. Butler also surrendered his Texas medical license.



HSC President Dr. M. Roy Wilson said all issues with Butler are finalized from his standpoint.

Since Butler's sentencing was beyond the control of the HSC, Wilson said the university does not have a comment on the judge's ruling.

"Since we consider the matter closed, we don't have an interest one way or another," he said.

Sharie Patty, a longtime friend of the Butler family, said after the hearing Wednesday she was saddened with the court's decision.

She said the punishment was unjust, but she realized it could have been many more years.

"I think it shows that in America anyone could end up going to jail," she said. "I believe personally he set out to help people and shouldn't spend any jail time."

Butler did not have an evil intent, only the interest of furthering medical research, Patty said.

"He's going to jail when he did not mean to harm anyone," she said. "It is disheartening."

Ted Reid, professor of ophthalmology at the HSC, agreed.

He said Butler got caught in a trap of errors.

"There was a lot of confusion on what the rules were," he said. "So far, no one has really been able to show what the rules are that he broke."

BUTLER continued on page 3

Police make arrests in mosque vandalism

(AP) — Lubbock police arrested four teenagers Thursday in connection with the vandalism of a mosque over the weekend.

Assistant Police Chief Thomas Esparza said the crime is "hateful," but is no longer being investigated as a federal hate crime.

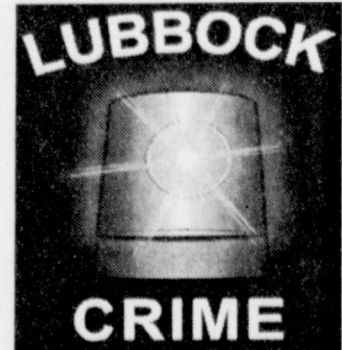
Worshippers at the Islamic Center of the South Plains discovered the damage — estimated to be about \$1,800 — Sunday when they arrived for morning prayers.

The boys, ranging in age from 13 to 15, were arrested on charges of burglary to a building. They remained in juvenile custody Thursday evening. The names of the teenagers were not released because of their age.

Esparza said information from the Lubbock boys indicates their intent was to destroy property and hurt feelings.

The mosque's spiritual leader said he was relieved to learn teenagers were responsible for the vandalism.

"I'm happy because we now know it's done by young people. It's not adults or organized crime or



done by a group that has bias against Muslims," said Imam Mohamed El-Moctar. "At the same time I feel sorry for those young people who are doing something that is not responsible. We hope that the parents will educate their teenagers to respect other people."

Investigators didn't immediately say what led them to the teens.

El-Moctar said authorities told him they found most of the stolen goods in nearby trash bins.

He said he was not disappointed that it was not being investigated as a hate crime.

"We don't want to make it a big issue, really," he said. "What is important is that the police and FBI did a great job trying to find who did it."

Terrorist bombs kills more than 190 in Madrid

FATAL EXPLOSION: Bombs hidden in backpacks blow apart four commuter trains; about 1,200 are wounded.

MADRID, Spain (AP) — A series of bombs hidden in backpacks exploded in quick succession Thursday, blowing apart four commuter trains and killing at least 192 people and wounding 1,200. Spain blamed Basque separatists but a shadow group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spain's history.

Panicked commuters trampled on each other, abandoning their bags and shoes, after two of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the heart of Madrid. Train cars were turned into twisted wrecks and platforms were strewn with corpses. Cell phones rang unanswered on the bodies of the dead as frantic relatives tried to call them.

"March 11, 2004, now holds its place in the history of infamy," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said.

The bombing came three days ahead of Spain's

general election, which is on Sunday. A major campaign issue was how to deal with ETA, the Basque militant group.

Campaigning for the election was called off and three days of mourning were declared.

It was also 2 1/2 years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, and was Europe's worst since the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 killed 270 people.

The 10 backpack bombs exploded in a 15-minute span, starting about 7:39 a.m., on trains along nine miles of commuter line from Santa Eugenia to the Atocha terminal, a bustling hub for subway, commuter and long-distance trains just south of the famed Prado Museum. Police also found and detonated three other bombs.

"An act of barbaric terrorism has engulfed Spain with profound pain, repulsion and anger," King Juan Carlos of Spain said on national television.

Worst hit was a double-decker train at El Pozo station, where two bombs killed 70 people, fire department inspector Juan Redondo said. One corpse was blown onto the roof.

At the Santa Eugenia station, "there was one carriage totally blown apart. People were scattered all over the platforms. I saw legs and arms. I won't forget this ever. I've seen horror," said Enrique Sanchez, an ambulance worker.

Forty coroners worked to identify remains, the national news agency Efe said, and a steady stream of taxis carried relatives to a sprawling convention center that was turned into a makeshift morgue.

The government called for nationwide anti-ETA rallies for Friday evening, and millions were expected to attend. Three days of national mourning were declared.

Who carried out the highly coordinated attack was a mystery. The Spanish government put the Basque separatist group ETA at the top of its list of suspects, although a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida.

BOMBS continued on page 2

Bombs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Arabic newspaper Al-Quds al-Arabi said it had received a claim of responsibility issued in the name of al-Qaida.

The e-mail claim, signed by the shadowy Brigade of Abu Hafs al-Masri, was received at the newspaper's London offices and said the brigade's "death squad" had penetrated "one of the pillars of the crusade alliance, Spain."

"This is part of settling old accounts with Spain, the crusader, and America's ally in its war against Islam," the claim said.

Spain had backed the U.S.-led war on Iraq despite domestic opposition, and many al-Qaida-linked terrorists have been captured in Spain or were believed to have operated from there.

Spain's government is studying the reported al-Qaida claim but still believes ETA is more likely responsible, a senior official in Aznar's office said.

Spain's security forces were not ruling out "any line of investigation," Interior Minister Angel Acebes said.

The United States believes Al-Masri sometimes claims to be acting on behalf of al-Qaida, and it later turns out they were not. For example, they took credit for blackouts in the United States and London last year.

A U.S. counterterrorism official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was too early to determine who was responsible. The official noted that al-Qaida usually does not take responsibility for attacks.

If the attack was carried out by ETA, it could signal a radical and lethal change of strategy for the group that has largely targeted police and politicians in its decades-long fight for a separate Basque homeland.

But after police found a stolen van with seven detonators and the Arabic-language tape parked in a suburb near where the stricken trains originated, Interior Minister Angel Acebes said: "I have just given instructions to the security forces not to rule out any line of investigation."

A top Basque politician, Arnold Otegi, denied ETA was behind the blasts and blamed "Arab resistance," noting Spain's support for the Iraq war.

The government said ETA had tried a similar attack on Christmas Eve, placing bombs on two trains bound for a Madrid station that was not hit Thursday.

"ETA had been looking for a massacre," said Acebes, the interior minister. "Unfortunately, today it achieved its goal."

The Interior Ministry said tests showed the explosives used in the attacks were a kind of dynamite normally used by ETA.

The bombers used titadine, a kind of compressed dynamite also found in a bomb-laden van intercepted last month as it headed for Madrid, a source at Aznar's office said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Officials blamed ETA then, as well.

In a break with past ETA tactics, there were multiple attacks and no advance warning. ETA has usually gone after one target at a time and the largest casualty toll was 21 killed in 1987.

ETA has claimed responsibility for more than 800 deaths since 1968.

The Rundown



Former police chief suing city of Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Fired Dallas Police Chief Terrell Bolton on Thursday sued the city and the city manager who abruptly dismissed him six months ago, claiming wrongful termination and seeking more than \$5 million in damages.

City Manager Ted Benavides cited poor job performance in firing Bolton, the city's first black police chief, in August. Bolton's lawsuit argues that, according to the city charter, he should have been demoted rather than fired outright.

"I regret that it has come to this," Bolton said in a news release. "But we tried to give the city a chance to do the right thing and they refused."

Janice Moss, assistant city attorney, said the lawsuit has no merit.

"What the city did is appropriate under the law and the city will prevail in the suit," Moss said.

She said the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in a separate case in 2003 that the section of the Dallas city charter that regulates firing high ranking officers only limits the city's ability to retain them, not its ability to remove them.

Bolton is suing for damages that include loss of income and benefits, attorneys' fees, defamation of character, mental anguish and emotional distress.

"Mr. Bolton has suffered, and continues to suffer damages to his good name and reputation," the lawsuit states. "He and his family have been unjustifiably scorned and ridiculed by the media and the public. Mr. Bolton was rendered incapable of securing suitable employment."

First negative ads of campaign released

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush unleashed the first negative ads of the general election campaign Thursday, accusing Democratic rival John Kerry of seeking to raise taxes by \$900 billion and wanting to "delay defending America."

"John Kerry: Wrong on taxes. Wrong on defense," says an announcer in a new 30-second ad that will begin airing in battleground states.

Kerry's campaign, calling the \$900 billion figure "completely made up," prepared a response ad titled, "Misleading America." It accuses Bush of distorting the Democrat's record while touting Kerry's middle-class tax cut plans, campaign officials said on condition of anonymity.

A second Bush ad tells voters they face choices on the economy, health care and the war on terrorism. "We can go forward with confidence, resolve and hope. Or we can turn back to the dangerous illusions that terrorists are not plotting and outlaw regimes are no threat," Bush says in the second ad, without mentioning Kerry by name.

The Bush ads, unveiled by the campaign Thursday, will begin airing in 18 states Friday. In addition, Bush will begin running his first radio spot, and it will make the same high-taxes, soft-on-terrorism argument against Kerry.

The Democrat's response ad will air in some of the same states, but advisers said they were unsure how many and how much airtime Kerry could afford to buy.

Sharon questioned about leaving Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP) — Visiting American diplomats pressed Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Thursday for more details of his proposed withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, as his top security advisers recommended Israel also dismantle as many as 24 settlements in the West Bank.

The proposed pullout from much of Gaza and parts of the West Bank is part of Sharon's plan to impose a boundary on the Palestinians, at least temporarily, if peace efforts remain frozen.

The prime minister has given few details, raising concerns in Washington and with the Palestinians that he may abandon the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan. That strategy calls for an immediate end to violence and the creation of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel by next year, but neither side has moved to implement it.

The U.S. diplomats arrived for a two-day visit to hear more about the withdrawal plan, said Paul Patin, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy.

Sharon's office said the prime minister met with the Americans for more than three hours, and further talks would take place Friday.

In Washington, State Department official David Satterfield said the envoys were insisting that Sharon take steps within the framework of the "road map" and contribute to creation of a Palestinian state.

Sharon's proposals "should move us toward that goal, not complicate it," said Satterfield, the deputy assistant secretary of state for the Near East.

Perry proposes decrease in property taxes

HOUSTON (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry, declaring that Texas homeowners need a property tax cut and not a tax charade, proposed Thursday easing the tax burden on them by limiting appraisal increases and putting a cap on the amount of money raised from property taxes.

"It is time to end this rate-gaming, appraisal creep and the 'robbing Peter to pay Paul' property tax doublespeak," he told several hundred cheering supporters at a campaign-style appearance in Houston. "It is time to provide real property tax relief with real reforms that control both appraisals and rates."

The governor, however, who was making a similar announcement later in the day in San Antonio, would not specify how he would replace any revenues lost by such tax declines.

"My hope is it will be a revenue-neutral plan," he told reporters later. "There will be revenues brought in

from some other areas to more fairly create a taxing structure in the state ... I will in the very near future lay out my ideas for where that revenue will come from."

Perry's proposal would do away with what he called "the divisive funding scheme known as Robin Hood," where some revenues from wealthy Texas school districts are diverted to poorer ones.

"Local taxpayers are fed up with their local school tax dollars being spent outside their local community," he said. "People are tired of that."

The governor called for a 3 percent limit on annual appraisal increases for homesteads, down from the current 10 percent.

The Texas House last year approved a measure that would have limited annual appraisal increases to 5 percent, but that bill, opposed by cities and counties, died in the Senate.

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The University Daily

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Congratulations Red Raider CAMP 2004 STUDENT STAFF

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The Center for Campus Life says "GUNS UP" to the 2004 Red Raider CAMP Student Staff. These students are examples of what it means to be a TRUE RED RAIDER.

Center for CAMPUS LIFE
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The University Daily

READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

The Readers Choice Awards are a fun spring promotion sponsored by *The University Daily*. Tell us your opinion of what you think are the best things about Lubbock by filling out the ballot. The most popular answers will be tabulated and published in a special section on Friday, April 30.

The rules are easy...Follow them and your vote will count!

- Entries must be clearly printed or typed on actual ballot, no photocopied ballots will be accepted. To be counted, ballots must include name, address, phone & student ID number (SSN) of the person submitting the ballot
- Entries become property of *The UD* which reserves the right to publish ballot answers & comments.
- Final decisions on ballots, categories & winning entries will be made by *The UD*.
- Ballots must be filled out completely or they will be disregarded!

| | |
|--|---|
| BEST FOOD & RESTAURANT CATEGORY | BEST SIGHTS & SOUNDS CATEGORY |
| 1. Chicken Fried Steak _____ | 1. Place to buy CD's & cassettes _____ |
| 2. French Fries _____ | 2. Local TV News Team _____ |
| 3. Steak _____ | 3. Local TV Sportscaster _____ |
| 4. Barbecue _____ | 4. Local TV Weathercaster _____ |
| 5. Hamburger _____ | 5. TV Show _____ |
| 6. Pizza _____ | 6. TV commercial _____ |
| 7. Buffet _____ | 7. Local Radio Personality _____ |
| 8. Mexican Food _____ | 8. Local Radio Morning Show _____ |
| 9. Italian Food _____ | 9. TV Station _____ |
| 10. Oriental Food _____ | 10. Radio Station _____ |
| 11. Margarita _____ | 11. Movie _____ |
| 12. Cold Beer _____ | 12. Movie Theater _____ |
| 13. Happy Hour _____ | 13. Video Rental Store _____ |
| 14. Fast Food _____ | 14. Local Band _____ |
| 15. All-Night Restaurant _____ | 15. Local C&W Band _____ |
| 16. All-You-Can Eat deal _____ | 16. Soap Opera _____ |
| 17. Favorite Restaurant _____ | 17. Internet Website _____ |
| 18. Friendliest Service _____ | |
| 19. Supermarket _____ | |
| BEST SHOPPING CATEGORY | BEST PLACES CATEGORY |
| 1. Sporting Goods Store _____ | 1. Place to study _____ |
| 2. Women's Shoes Store _____ | 2. Place to take a date _____ |
| 3. Men's Shoes Store _____ | 3. Place to work _____ |
| 4. Department Store _____ | 4. Night Club _____ |
| 5. Jewelry Store _____ | 5. Bar _____ |
| 6. Western Wear Store _____ | 6. Business at the Strip _____ |
| 7. Discount Store _____ | 7. Cleaners _____ |
| 8. Consumer Electronic Store _____ | 8. Carwash _____ |
| 9. Convenience Store _____ | 9. Car Repair _____ |
| 10. Bookstore _____ | 10. Haircut _____ |
| 11. Clothing Bargains _____ | 11. Tanning Salon _____ |
| 12. Tire Store _____ | 12. Apartment Complex/ Housing Community _____ |
| 13. Women's Traditional Clothing Store _____ | 13. Place to buy flowers _____ |
| 14. Women's Casual Clothing Store _____ | 14. Church _____ |
| 15. Men's Traditional Clothing Store _____ | 15. Bank _____ |
| 16. Men's Casual Clothing Store _____ | 16. Pharmacy _____ |
| 17. Shopping Center/Mall _____ | 17. Romantic Dinner _____ |
| 18. Internet Provider _____ | 18. Health Club _____ |
| 19. Best place to buy jeans _____ | 19. Hangout _____ |
| 20. Best Tattoo Shop _____ | 20. Coffee Shop _____ |
| 21. Best Travel Agency _____ | |
| BEST OF TEXAS TECH CATEGORY | |
| 1. Residence Hall _____ | 7. Class _____ |
| 2. Tech Tradition _____ | 8. Major _____ |
| 3. Men's Sport _____ | 9. Most helpful Department _____ |
| 4. Women's Sport _____ | 10. Coach _____ |
| 5. Professor/Instructor _____ | 11. Tech Landmark _____ |
| 6. Student Organization _____ | 12. UD Columnist _____ |

Reader's CHOICE AWARDS
THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

BALLOTS DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 12

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Serendipity makes each day worthwhile

So I don't know about you, but all of last week was awful. I was barely hanging in most of my classes, plowing through work without finding any joy in it, and trying to make it through each day, just so I could wake up the next morning and do it all again.

This lackadaisical attitude was how I found myself on Saturday afternoon, attempting to study accounting.

When I say study, by the way, I mean stare at the book blankly hoping answers jump out of the page at me, because I certainly wasn't putting any thought into it. The mid-semester blues had hit me full force.

At one point, while my eyes roamed over bonds and my mind wandered somewhere else entirely, I decided I needed to get out of the house.

So I hopped in my car and decided to fill it up with gas. Boring task, yes, but at least I could say I accomplished something, because studying was getting me nowhere.

While sitting at the gas station, absolutely going stir crazy from the lack of excitement in my life, I made a decision. I decided to go to Post.

OK, OK, it's not hitchhiking across Western Europe. But I could not go back to my house and read.

Post has Old Mill Trade Days the first weekend of every month, and while it sounded like a corny small-town thing, it had to be better than what I was doing.

So I went to Post. I followed the speed limit and even went a little below it because I wasn't in any hurry to get there.

On the way a truck passed, and I pulled myself out of my little world long enough to see three girls in the back seat waving energetically at me. I smiled and waved back.

While cruising down Highway 84, however, I accidentally exited at Slaton, and while trying to find my way back, I passed a sign for the West Texas Air Museum.

It was like it was meant to be. I've been meaning to go for about a year since a friend told me about it. So I turned around, found the road and drove through about a mile of fields before I found it.

My friend then gave me the VIP tour,

Heidi Toth



One of the lines really hit me — "Maybe every little piece of the puzzle doesn't always fit perfectly" — just one more serendipitous event in my afternoon of serendipity that made me take my perspective out of my textbooks and put it back where it belongs, looking at the big picture of life instead of the little detail of today.

which included an hour of fascinating facts about military planes, the wars America has been involved in, and all the various vehicles we used.

I even got to get into an Army helicopter and check out a Tomcat up close and personal.

Back on the road to my original destination, again going happily along at less than the speed limit, a great song comes on the radio.

One of the lines really hit me — "Maybe every little piece of the puzzle doesn't always fit perfectly" — just one more serendipitous event in my afternoon of serendipity that made me take my perspective out of my textbooks and put it back where it belongs, looking at the big picture of life instead of the little detail of today.

So, more than two hours after leav-

ing my house to get gas, I arrived in Post and found my destination, only to discover it closed at 5 p.m.

I'd driven all the way out there for nothing.

But surprisingly, I wasn't frustrated with this seemingly wasted afternoon. I'd had a good time getting to know myself on my unplanned excursion.

I really enjoyed the West Texas scenery, and yes, I am serious. This area has a strange, perverse beauty that's not found anywhere else.

The barren land speaks of the mountains of potential it holds, the weather-beaten shrubs quietly demonstrate vast strength and resilience under their unassuming demeanor; the gentle slopes and rolling plains, now so modest, have stories beyond the scope of imagination from when the west was wild.

I loved not having everything planned and being able to take a detour that completely altered my afternoon.

I enjoyed the deeper meanings I found in everything, from the songs on the radio to the lessons I learned at the museum. It was nice to not be in a hurry to get to my destination, giving me time to listen and think.

I even had a good time with the small-town atmosphere. Small rural towns are really the cutest things. Driving past Granny's Antique Store and Tom and Betty's Burgers made me wonder what the world would be like if there were no big cities, but if we all hailed from Posts or Slatons. I bet it would be a better place. There's just so much goodness in a small town.

I came home on Saturday a little dusty from the trip and without accomplishing everything I was supposed to that day, but with a renewed vigor for life and an added flavor that's been missing the last few weeks. I'll have to thank Serendipity next time she catches up with me.

Toth is a graduate student from Roswell studying business and the news editor of The UD. E-mail her at heidi.e.toth@ttu.edu.

Bush's 9/11 ads wrong, tasteless

Lucas Flores



Just a few days after Super Tuesday, the Bush campaign began running campaign ads. No one would have given them a second look, but there was something different about them. The ads, in English and Spanish, contained references to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

Critics say the ads, titled "Safer and Stronger," are in bad taste. Many are calling them atrocious because they feature wreckage from Ground Zero.

In a CNN interview Patty Casazza, who lost her husband on Sept. 11, said, "I find it offensive that he's used 9/11 as a pretext for re-election."

Casazza went on to claim the ads are inaccurate because Bush has not made this country stronger; she says Bush could have prevented the tragedy and thus is advertising his mistake.

Bush Camp quickly came out in defense of the ad.

"I think it's very tasteful. It's a reminder of our shared experience as a nation. I mean Sept. 11 is not just some distant tragedy from the past, it really defined our future," former Bush adviser Karen Hughes said in an interview.

It's really hard to agree with someone who could possibly be trivializing a great national catastrophe to help re-elect a president, but I almost do (key word: almost).

The controversial commercials do serve as an emotional reminder. And I agree the tragedy is too recent to forget. But Hughes is dead wrong when she says it is "very tasteful." It is not in good taste to use the terrorist attacks in any fashion, so what makes it OK to use as a strategy to get re-elected?

At first, I was disappointed to hear Bush's misplaced maneuver and disgusted to learn that his team might have hired actors to play these "patriotic" parts.

But then I realized this is nothing new. It's crazy to start complaining now about someone trying to use that tragic day for personal gain. It has been going on for more than two years.

People didn't care when, their beloved, Toby Keith wrote all those songs about America and how great America is. The guy made a lot of money and drew powerful publicity from his memorializing music. This was more of a blatant use of Sept. 11 than Bush's ads.

Really, can anyone name any one of Keith's "hits" before his anthems about American soldiers or how we need to get revenge? I doubt you can because he would have been forgotten if it wasn't for that heartbreaking day in history.

It is hard to think a "hometown" could disown someone for speaking a few words about her dislike for a president, but the same "hometown" could praise someone else for the use of a national tragedy to further

his career.

Some of Lubbock country radio stations still won't budge toward playing a Dixie Chick's song, but every few minutes you can turn on your radio to a Toby Keith song.

It is not just country singers that have gotten into promoting their product with an event that caused our country so much pain. This has been going on since Sept. 12, 2001. Some might have even skipped solidarity and began to think of marketing ideas right after they heard the news.

I have seen everything from T-shirts, to calendars, to mock \$2001 bills with George W. Bush's face on the front.

There were other instances where people thought they were making a "tribute" to those who died, when in essence they were just trivializing the fact that almost 3,000 people were killed in the attacks.

There are appropriate ways to remember and to honor the victims of Sept. 11, their families and even America. But it's hard to know if it is all about reverence when ringing in the background is a sales pitch like this: "It's a tribute to the victims and their families. All you have to do is send \$19.95 and we'll send you your Sept. 11 teddy bear with the American Flag on its tummy."

By using the campaign ads Bush was probably thinking all he needs to do is remind everyone that Sept. 11 happened and he was president when the terrorist attacks occurred. It might backfire because after all, the disaster did happen on his watch, and patriotism has turned into bitterness as many Americans see his administration as negligent.

Perhaps Bush is even trying to use his title as a "war president" to instill fear in the people. Does the quick shot of firefighters carrying remains from ground zero subtly say, "Re-elect me because I was there, I know what's going on, I've got experience and someone new in the White House might let this happen again."

The Bush campaign strategists thought since everyone else has gained from the references to Sept. 11, the president should too. They thought he could.

But in America, we change our minds fast and often. Only November will show if this affected us strongly enough for voters to make an "amendment" to who we want as commander-in-chief.

Flores is a senior journalism major from Anton. E-mail him your comments at lucas.b.flores@ttu.edu

Be safe on spring break

Howdy folks! I realize many students might not get the opportunity to read this column because many students have already left the great town of Lubbock for another destination. However, for the students who were patient enough to stick it out for one more day, I have a little something I would like to say: Be careful.

Although I haven't been at The UD for too long, I have noticed at least one student from Texas Tech dies each break. I would really like to see this trend disappear. I won't assume to say I know every student who goes to this university, but I will say I care for everyone's well being.

It is not my place to preach and tell every student to act like a saint during the break.

I know I won't be. In fact, I will be having a good old time partying back in my hometown with my best friends. Regardless, everyone should consider his or her safety during the break.

The conjunction of spring break and St. Patrick's Day in the same week means there will be a healthy amount of alcohol being consumed. If you are hanging out with friends, at a party or on the beach, know your limits. Alcohol poisoning is not a pretty thing and I have heard it doesn't feel too good either.

Also, don't go driving around if you're going to tie a few on. If you are in any spring break party capital, there are things called cabs and designated drivers. I know it would

be hard to find a DD, but cabs are everywhere.

But I said I wasn't going to preach. It isn't my place. However, I can provide some facts. Lt. Steve Shatley of the Highway Patrol said to watch your speed and wear your seatbelt.

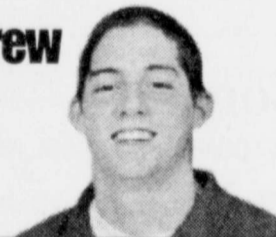
Mostly, he would like to see everyone on the road using his or her brains. As in his words, "courtesy breeds courtesy."

Finally, I would just like everyone to be safe. I know students are going to hear this from their parents, professors and siblings, but I just want to spread the message one more time.

The death of a Texas Tech student has a huge impact on a variety of people. Parents, friends, siblings and a number of other people would like to enjoy their spring break. The last time I checked, a funeral is not an enjoyable thing. We are all too young to have to worry about death or become dead ourselves.

So have fun. I know I am going to, so I hope everyone else can as well. Most importantly, just be careful. But, I said I wouldn't preach, because it isn't my place.

Andrew Bell



Have a fun and safe Spring Break!
www.universitydaily.net

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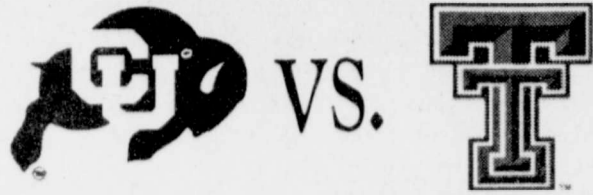
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Sports

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TOURNEY TIME



Knights: revenge should not be factor in game against Colorado



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

TEXAS TECH FORWARD Andre Emmett steals the ball from an Iowa State player during Tech's senior Day win against the Cyclones. Tech will play Colorado at 2:20 p.m. today in Big 12 tournament action.

By Adam Boedeker/
The University Daily

DALLAS — It doesn't matter to Texas Tech basketball coach Bob Knight that his fifth-seeded team lost to Colorado on Feb. 18 in Boulder, Colo.

If his team would have won, he still would feel the same way he does going into today's game against the fourth-seeded Buffaloes to begin Big 12 Tournament play for both teams.

"Any time you play a team again, no matter how the first time goes, you always hope you have better focus and limit mistakes," Knight said. "It's not just because we lost. I'd feel the same if we had won the game."

In the game less than a month ago, the Red Raiders (21-9, 9-7 Big 12) were beaten 85-75. The game was paced by CU's two main threats in center David Harrison and guard Michel Morandais, who had 24 and 22 points respectively. Harrison also grabbed 10 rebounds and rejected seven Tech shots.

Tech forward Devonne Giles led the Raiders with 18 points and 18 rebounds and has since averaged just more than 13 points per game. Emmett scored 16 in the loss.

Knight said Colorado (18-9, 10-6) presents many problems and plays a good overall game on both ends of the floor and "any team that does that is gonna be a tough team."

Colorado is led by Harrison, who was named first-team All-Big 12 earlier in the week. This season he has averaged 17.1 points and 8.8 rebounds per game.

Harrison has been criticized by some for being too emotional, and sometimes letting his emotions get the best of him, and it showed last season when he got in a fight with former Tech forward Pawel Storoszynski and was ejected from the game in the second half. Colorado lost the game.

Buffaloes head coach Ricardo Patton said Harrison has since grown up as a player, as well as a person.

"He's come a long way," Patton said. "He's a young person who's had a lot of attention on him, some of the instances were appropriate and some were not."

Knight said the junior is a deadly weapon for Colorado and has improved greatly since last season.

"I think he's better at everything he does (this season)," Knight said. "He moves around and does everything better on both ends of the floor."

Tech is led by the Big 12's all-time leading scorer Emmett, who is averaging 20.8 points per game, but the team recently has had other players step up.

Most recently those players have been guards Jarrius Jackson and Ronald

Ross. Jackson, a freshman, has averaged 16 points per game during the last six and Ross was the team's leading scorer in their regular season finale against Iowa State, putting in 23.

Knight said his backcourt has been a key to his team's success this season.

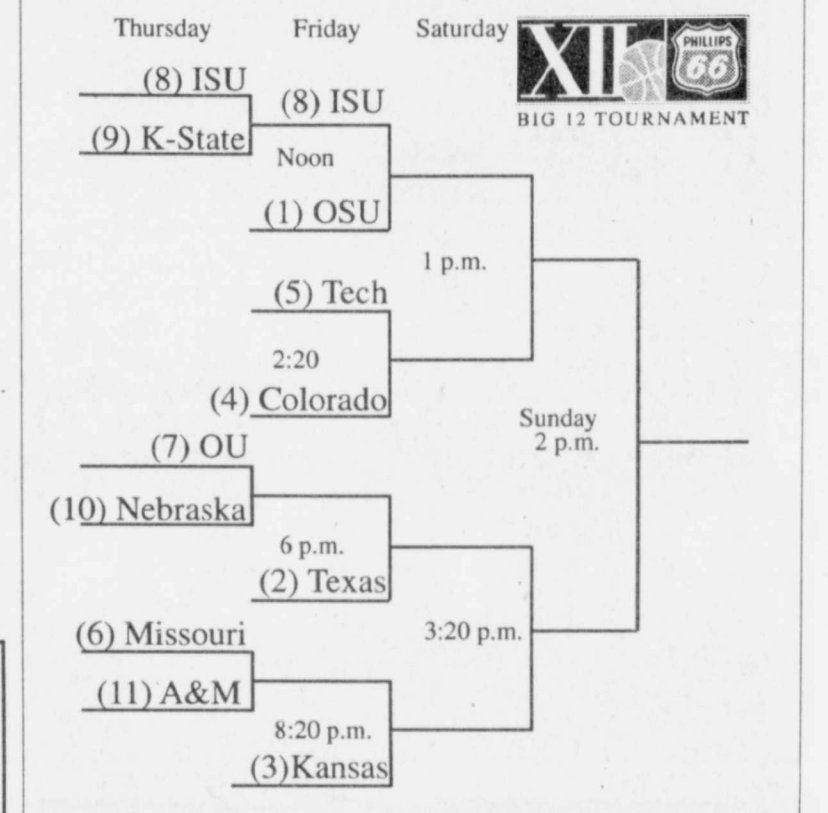
"I think Ross and Jackson have made obvious strides," Knight said. "Not many players are able to keep things going on a scale of efficiency throughout the season. I think they've

done a damn good job of playing or we wouldn't be where we are now."

Patton said he is more than aware of Tech's other threats besides Emmett.

"Everyone talks about Emmett, but he has a good supporting cast," Patton said. "Jackson, their point guard, I voted for him for (Big 12) Freshman of the Year. Giles, (Robert) Tomaszek, they have a great cast of guys that know how to play well together, and they do."

Read The UD online for a feature story about the Raider basketball team's three senior players at www.universitydaily.net



| | Colorado | Tech |
|---------------------|----------|------|
| Points per game: | 74.4 | 73.1 |
| PPG allowed: | 70.2 | 65.8 |
| Rebounds per game: | 38.9 | 33.8 |
| Assists per game: | 6.4 | 8.4 |
| Steals per game: | 14.2 | 15 |
| Turnovers per game: | 14.6 | 12.7 |
| Win-Loss record: | 18-9 | 21-9 |
| Big 12 record: | 10-6 | 9-7 |

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ACROSS
1 Too smooth
5 Foreboding sign
9 Start of Gracie Allen quote
14 One-billionth: prof.
15 Presidential stopper
16 Saintry circles
17 United ____
18 Emirate
19 Bridge position
20 Collector's book
22 Part 2 of quote
22 Collects bit by bit
23 Actor Brynner
24 Rational
26 Part 3 of quote
34 But for Brutus
35 Subdivision of a people
36 Stone marker
37 Window ledge
39 Sample recordings
41 Famous apple-splitter
42 Muse of poetry
43 Hanoi holiday
46 Part 4 of quote
50 Important of time
51 Payable on demand
52 Go against
56 Part 5 of quote
60 French river
61 Practice punching
63 Elmer or Jerry
64 Nearby
65 Fairy-tale beast
66 Son of Seth
67 End of quote
68 Alan or Cheryl
69 Elephant feature

DOWN
1 Do beaver's work
2 Zhivago's love
3 Claire and Ballin
4 Bonds and Bonilla

By Alan P. Olschwing
Huntington Beach, CA 3/12/04

Thursday's Puzzle Solved
ETCH A TOM SEALS
AREA HULA EMOORE
TULLEANDDIESHOP
SETIN SENT ENT
DIST CHO
SUEDEIN THE WIND
OAR SEPIA SENOR
TUBA POTTS SANE
INALL FRAUD NOW
CANVAS FORVOTES
ATT SARX
ALE HOWL I RATE
SERIEPOTIOTIORS
POSER ALLOE AN IS
SITES PAWL REPO
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XXX-DVD'S \$7.95
Video Express
19th & Ave. V

STARTING AT 7:25pm
DIRTY DANCING: HAVANA NIGHTS PG-13
and
MIRACLE PG

STARTING AT 7:40pm
CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN PG-13
and
WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT PG-13

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2424 14TH STREET 806-687-3351 COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZERS

| FRIDAY | MARCH 12 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00 Body Elec. Callou | Today Show |
| 8:00 Barney & Friends | Today Show |
| 9:00 Sesame Street | Martha Stewart Living |
| 10:00 Teletubbies | Young & Rubicell |
| 11:00 Workshop | News |
| 12:00 Nancy | Days of Our Lives |
| 1:00 Zoom | World's Funniest Videos |
| 2:00 R. Rainbow | Cyberchase |
| 3:00 Clifford | Dr. Phil |
| 4:00 Liberty | News |
| 5:00 NewsHour | News |
| 6:00 Wash. Week | Dateline |
| 7:00 News | Wish |
| 8:00 Fever | Music |
| 9:00 Nightly | News |
| 10:00 Destinos | News |
| 11:00 News | News |
| 12:00 O'Brien | News |

| SATURDAY | MARCH 13 |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 7:00 Soqwa | Saturday Morning |
| 8:00 Zorro | Jokers |
| 9:00 Jay Jay | G. Shrink |
| 10:00 Ricki Lake | First |
| 11:00 Steves' Castles | Scout |
| 12:00 Mountains | Squirrel |
| 1:00 Wars | Dart to |
| 2:00 Repair | Donna |
| 3:00 Fine Art | Donna |
| 4:00 Dewberry | Spec. One |
| 5:00 Destinos | News |
| 6:00 Daniel | O'Donnell |
| 7:00 Songs of Faith | Happy |
| 8:00 Funny Ladies | Order: SVU |
| 9:00 British | Comedy |
| 10:00 News | Nightly |
| 11:00 Practice | Practice |
| 12:00 | |

| SUNDAY | MARCH 14 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00 Kids Bookworm | TX Reporter |
| 8:00 Tim Janis | Special |
| 9:00 Small Bus. | News |
| 10:00 Rel/Ethics | McLaughlin |
| 11:00 Albums for Special | Entertaining the Troops |
| 12:00 Daniel | O'Donnell |
| 1:00 Songs of Faith | Special |
| 2:00 Fred Rogers | News |
| 3:00 GP: Harry | News |
| 4:00 News | News |
| 5:00 Daniel | O'Donnell |
| 6:00 Fred Rogers | News |
| 7:00 GP: Harry | News |
| 8:00 News | News |
| 9:00 Daniel | O'Donnell |
| 10:00 News | News |
| 11:00 Practice | Practice |
| 12:00 | |

6 FRIENDS 6 DAYS @ 6PM!
F.R.I.E.N.D.S
MONDAY-SATURDAY
FOX 34

Saturday Afternoon Comedy
JUST SHOOT ME 5:30PM
FRIENDS 6PM
EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND 6:30PM
FOX 34
9pm FOX 34 NEWS @ NINE

LAUGH OUT LOUD SUNDAY EVENING @ 6:30PM
MIKE LEACH SUNDAY AT 9:30PM
MARSHA SHARP @ 10PM
RED RAIDER SPORTS
FOX 34
FOLLOWED BY SEINFELD