Mac Davis on life: put it into song

Mac Davis on Lubbock: leaving is good, coming back is better

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily compete in the Pro and Celebrity still claims him, and we want him some negative feedback from the

If you don't know his name, you've at least heard some of his work.

Singer, songwriter and actor supporters at Mac Davis is returning after leaving Lubbock in his rearview mirror when he was 16 years old. And during this trip back, the city will honor him.

Mayor Marc McDougal has Street at 7 proclaimed Saturday as Mac Da- p.m. Friday. vis Day in Lubbock. And Davis The concert could not be more thrilled.

"I'm looking forward to the per couple. whole thing," he said. "I got to perform at the inaugural tourna- gal said ment at the Rawls Course, and through the now I get to come back to be awarded."

Davis has won many awards in ment Task his day, but being honored with Force, he an entire day in his hometown is something else.

"I've been put in the Music the connec-Hall of Fame, been called a Lone Star Legend, and those were all Lubbock old-man awards," he said. "It tells songwriters, me that I used to be that, and used to be this. But they're all nice things, and I'm just tickled about this event."

Saturday, Davis will perform for he's still a part of this city."

his fans and hometown the National Ranching and Heritage Center located on 4th costs \$100

McDouhelp of the Entertainhas tried to bring back tions with singers, and performers.

"Mac Da-

vis falls underneath all of those corded is "Lubbock, Texas, in my After a trip to Texas Tech's categories," he said. "We just rearview mirror." After releasing

Golf Tournament on Friday and to visit us more often and that Lubbockites he grew up with.

The song really explains what every teenager goes through, whether they're from Dallas or Los Angeles. It's

a state of rebellion. But the end of the song is what really counts.

- MAC DAVIS

Singer/songwriter from Lubbock

the Rawls Course, and McDougal said honoring Davis with his own day is a way to everything.

"He represents Lubbock, and continues to do stay. so through a songs," he said. "This is how we can appreciate all that he's done on bock."

Jerry S. Rawls Golf Course to want him to know that Lubbock the song, Davis said he received

"They put a billboard up that The golf said, 'Mac Davis, you're right. tournament Happiness is Lubbock, Texas," will bring in he said. "The song really exproceeds for plains what every teenager goes through, whether they're from Dallas or Los Angeles. It's a state of rebellion. But the end of the song is what really counts."

At the end of the song, Davis sings about comsay thanks for ing back to be buried here when he dies.

He said Lubbock is a town he has always loved, but he just could not

"I think it's a tribute," number of his he said. "After graduating at 16, I moved to Atlanta to go to Emory University. Then I moved L.A., and I've lived there ever since

Davis said his dream of bebehalf of Texas coming a big star first happened Tech and Lub- on the streets of Lubbock.

"I saw Buddy Holly driving The most down the street with a bunch of notable song girls in his car. I knew that's what Davis has re- I wanted to be," he said.

> And he accomplished his dream. Davis composed several songs for Elvis including a current hit, "A Little Less Conversation," used in several movies and television shows.

And singing is not Davis' only talent

He has played different roles in several movies, including "North Dallas Forty," and is scheduled to appear this fall in an ABC sitcom, "Rodney," featuring country comedian Rodney Carrington.

Even with several ways of stardom, Davis said some

people still do not know who he is.

"Nobody knows who I am anymore," he said. "But I enjoy that side of it. To come back on the other side, that one of anonymity."

Since he has left, Davis has faced fame, fortune, and grief from hometown citizens.

But he said there is one thing about Lubbock that makes it special.

"The people there are great, and they are very supportive of everybody. It's a great place to be," Davis said. "If I ever get caught with a flat tire and no spare, there's no other place I would want to be other than Lubbock, Texas."

Other celebrities in the tournament are Spike Dykes, Tommy Brookshire, Dan Irons, Bobby Joe Conrad and Cotton Davidson.







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FRIDAY July 30, 2004

Volume 79 ■ Issue 17 Lubbock, Texas © Copyright 2004

for missing women

By Beth Aaron/ The University Daily

Lubbock residents, including students from Texas Tech, slowly and meticulously combed territory surrounding Lubbock Cooper High School and north Lubbock County last weekend looking for traces of missing Lubbock residents Joanna Rogers and Jennifer Wilkerson.

Julie Allen, a junior mechanical engineering major, said she and the search party were told to look for items such as jewelry and clothing that may belong to the missing

Allen, a San Angelo native, said she decided to lend a hand in searching for Rogers and Wilkerson because she wanted to feel like she had done something to help.

"My heart really goes out to them every time I see one of those posters," she said. "I wanted to know that anytime I saw those posters around town, that I did something to help."

The search was conducted by the United Response Search and Rescue Team, which also conducted an extensive search in May for Rogers.

Rogers, a 17-year old Lubbock High School student, has been missing since May 4. She was last

seen in her home at approximately 12:30 a.m.

When her parents woke at 7 a.m. they noted her missing and began calling friends, Rogers but were unable to locate anyone who knew her whereabouts, Sgt. Greg Parrot of the Lubbock County Sheriff's Department



available for comment.

mother was un-

Wilkerson, 26, was reported

SEARCH continued on page 5

Search still ongoing Stenholm visits Tech campus

By Heidi Toth/ The University Daily

One of the biggest races involving Lubbock this fall won't take place in Athens. It will be decided in the voting booth.

That race is between U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, and U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene - two incumbents who have to run against each other after the state government redrew the district boundaries last year, putting Abilene and Lubbock together and giving Midland/Odessa its own representative.

But Stenholm isn't concerned. He's coming to the starting line with 26 years of experience and his lengthy record behind him, as well as his starting position of ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee and 29th ranking member of the House.

And he came to Texas Tech to talk to students about the government, Washington, D.C., and why they should vote for him come Nov. 2.

We want to meet with as many students, young people, young future leaders as we can,"



LINC ARMES/The University Dail

NICK ERVIN, LEFT, of Lubbock, Trey Thomason, a senior business management major from Colleyville, and Kinsey Croslin, a senior political science major from Lubbock, disucuss issues such as taxes, tuition and debt of the Iraq war with U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, at the free speech area Thursday morning. Stenholm was a guest of the University Democrats.

Stenholm said, standing in the shade in the free speech gazebo Thursday. "There's so much negativity. I like to show the positive side of government."

Stenholm discussed the fiscal policy of the United States, which he said is a major issue in this election. Under President George W. Bush, the United States has recorded the largest deficit creation

in history.

"That has a direct effect on students at Texas Tech, because you're going to be paying interest on that for the rest of your life," he said.

Additionally, he addressed the party issue — he is a Democrat campaigning in a largely Republican region. He does, however, have

STENHOLM continued on page 3

Animal science building to be completed on schedule

By Erin McMath/Contributing Writer

Students and faculty may be moving into Texas Tech's new animal and food sciences building on schedule. The project superintendent said it should be completed approximately Oct. 7.

The walls are up, the roof is on and most of the south side windows have been installed for the \$17 million, two-story, 52,000-square-foot building.

The animal and food sciences building is located just south of Tech Freeway along Indiana Avenue. It connects to the existing meat lab.

Steven Littlejohn with Lee Lewis Construction said the company began the project July 14, 2003, and construction is close to being on schedule.

"The exterior of the building is about 90 percent complete," Littlejohn said. "We are starting interior finishing.



CONSTRUCTION ON THE animal and food sciences building located at Indiana Avenue and 15th Street continues.

Meat science and muscle biology professor Markus F. Miller said animal and food science classes will be held in the new building in January or earlier.

CONSTRUCTION continued on page 5

Bank creates fund to send Johnson's mother to Athens

Parents love to see their children succeed. But when it comes with a price, it can be hard to find the funds. That situation goes for the mother of Tech Olympian junior Jonathan Johnson.

Johnson will compete at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece, as one of three members of the U.S. men's 800-

To help send his mother, Mary Johnson, to watch him race, the First National Bank of Abilene has set up

All donations will be appreciated and can be sent to the First National Bank at Box 701, Abilene, 79604. Checks may be made to the Mary Johnson Grant.

Johnson took first place in the U.S. Olympic trials, and he also won the Big 12 championship and the NCAA championship earlier this year.

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Publishing information

Periodical Postage paid by The University Daily, Student Media Subscription Rates: \$120 annually; building, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Publication Postmaster: send address changes number: 766480. The UD is a to The University Daily, Box 43081 student newspaper published Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Monday through Friday, September Texas 79409.

through May; Tuesdays and Fridays June through August, except during university examination and vacation periods. The UD is funded primarily through advertising revenues generated by the student sales staff with free student service fees.

Subscriptions

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single issues: 25 cents.

Heavy rain pounds Dallas, causing severe flooding

DALLAS (AP) - An estimated foot of rain fell during fierce storms dents from more than 240 homes overnight in parts of North Texas, flooding homes and highways and knocking out power to thousands. One man died in a weather-related wreck that toppled power lines onto his vehicle and cut power to homes.

Southern Dallas County was hit especially hard by flooding, with 175 to 200 homes damaged by high water in the suburb of Lancaster. Flood waters damaged the Lancaster police headquarters.

Some areas of South Dallas County received up to 13 inches of rain, said National Weather Service forecaster Bob Carle.

Thursday morning and the forecast does not call for significant amounts to fall the rest of the day.

Lancaster police evacuated resi- underneath. rose out of its banks alongside one subdivision.

"It's a mess out here," dispatcher Debbie Brand said. "We had to get those people out of their houses."

Ten Mile Creek floodwaters swept through the sales lot of Comark Building Systems, a seller of prefabricated office structures on the Lancaster-DeSoto line. The floodwaters swept most of the office modules into a pile on one side of the lot, while a few others were swept down closed for a time by high water. the creek bed.

He said the rain began to taper off railroad trestle was washed out by power by mid-morning. An estimated strong waters. The Union Pacific 45,000 were without power at the track remained in place, but a 50-foot peak of the storms, said spokeswoman stretch of track no longer had soil Eliza Anderson.

Union Pacific spokesman Mark early Thursday after Ten-Mile Creek Davis said a UP bridge also was out near Midlothian, southwest of Dallas, and a 1,000-foot bridge was underwater near Ennis. Davis said Dallas-to-Houston traffic can be diverted via Waco.

> Authorities received more than 80 calls for high-water rescues in South Dallas County, said Sgt. Don Peritz, a spokesman for the Dallas County Sheriff's Office. It was unclear how many people were rescued. Parts of Interstates 20, 35 and 45 were

About 5,000 TXU Electric De-In Southeast Dallas County, a livery customers remained without

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Voting on the rise heading into presidential election

By Andrew Bell/The University Daily

If a United States citizen is over the age of 18, that person has the right to vote for an official he believes will do the best job for the people of his city, state or country.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a record number of people seized that right in the 2002 election. In the nonpresidential election year, 128 million citizens were registered to vote. Of that number, 89 million said they voted in the elections.

In 1998, 69 percent of the 123 million gible is a more imregistered voters went to the polls to express their right to vote, according to the Census Bureau. What had previously been the all-time high for registered voters was overtaken by the amount of people who nonpresidential voting years, there are registered and voted in 2002.

The majority of the increase is aided by the number of people who decided to register and vote. Since the first time since the Census Bureau began surveying nonpresidential turnouts in 1966, nearly 44 million more people have registered to

vote, according to the bureau.

should be careful when looking at the numbers. The assistant professor of political Senate elections, helped create the record 2002 report. science said the most telling number is the number.

number of people who were eligible to vote and went to the polls.

"The percentage of people who voted who are eliportant number." he said

voter turnout in 2002, Collins said. In gubernatorial and some U.S. Senate elections. In 2002, Arnold Schwarzenegger ran for and won the position of governor for

"Since it is a big state," he said, "it has a big impact on the statistics."

Also, many other states held guber-

turnout numbers. That, in addition to the

tion overall, whether it is a presidential election year or not, Collins said. However, presidential always had higher

There are many reasons for the record numbers than nonpresidential election the polls.

As in 2000, this year's presidential election between President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry could be extremely close. Usually, Collins said, close elections bring out a larger number of people to the polls.

According to the Census Bureau, people who are older, married or have at least a bachelor's degree are more likely to vote. November.

natorial elections, and Collins said those Also, women are more likely to vote in However, Brian Collins said people elections have a tendency to skew the any election, according to the Voting and Registration in the Election of November

> Then, there are people who are registered Historically, vot- but decide not to vote. Among the regising has had fairly low tered nonvoters in 2002, nearly 27 percent levels of participa- reported they did not vote because they were too busy or had conflicting schedules, according to the report.

In Lubbock, there are 151,204 registered voters, according to the Lubbock County Clerk's Office. Although the office did not election years have have the numbers for voter turnout, Collins said big issues usually bring more people to

> For students interested in becoming a registered voter, voter registration cards are available in the Student Government Association office in the third floor of the Student Union Building. Also, the SGA is planning to hold voter registration drives during the first couple of months of the fall semester before the presidential election in

Stenholm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a history of voting for what is best for his constituents, even when it is against his own party line, out." something he has not seen from the current administration and

"When you're in the majority and making decisions, you get the credit for the things that go good and the blame for things that go bad," Stenholm said, adding his colleagues in the Republican Party seemed to forget that.

He is known as the most independent member of the House because of disagreements with his

Stenholm and his group did more than campaign at Tech, though. Students for Stenholm set up a voter registration table and got students registered in Lubbock

"This is going to be one of the most looked-at congressional races in the country," Chad Lancaster, a senior finance major from Abilene, said. "We're trying to get the word

Lancaster, a member of Students for Stenholm, said he was campaigning because he believed Stenholm had the necessary qualities to represent Lubbock.

'Seniority is a huge, huge part of it," Lancaster said. "He knows the area, knows the folks. It would be a shame to lose somebody with that much experience, that much going for him right now."

George Pigg, a graduate student from Quitaque in the master's of public administration program, said Stenholm connects well with the students, and he believes Stenholm stands a good chance in the election despite the party difference.

"West Texans are pretty inde-

pendent. We're not followers," he County and he also had a rather said. "Once they see who he is and what he stands for, I believe they'll

What Stenholm stands for is something all of West Texas stands for, Pigg said.

the independent conservative values we have out here in West Texas," he said.

The crowds also attracted a few Lubbock residents who wanted to talk to Stenholm and students who wanted to find out what was

Marcus Jennings, a junior psychology major from Sherman, said he stopped to register in Lubbock

curious question to ask Stenholm.

"I was thinking about asking him about his standpoint on the decriminalization of marijuana,"

Jennings, who is 19, is coming "I think he's more in tune with up to his first major election, and he said he plans on exercising his right to vote in November.

In addition to Stenholm's seniority, particularly on the agriculture committee, Stenholm asked voters to think about some things before they cast their votes. If they were honest, he will win, he said.

"Who can best represent the needs of rural West Texas?" he said. "Who can get done . . what you've asked me to do?"

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Making a payment on my debt to society

think the hardest thing about being a parent would be if one of my children disappeared. The uncertainty, the difficulty of not knowing where she is, if she's safe, hurt, hungry, cold or scared, would drive me crazy. I wouldn't sleep at night, I couldn't eat, I don't even know if I would be able to focus on the daily grind of living. I'd be too overwhelmed with grief, pain and uncertainty.

The one thing I would do, though, is everything within my power to find her. I'd be driving around town to her favorite hangouts, I'd be calling her friends and her boyfriend, her teachers, coaches, coworkers, acquaintances. I'd be scouring fields, neighborhoods, parks, the Internet, everything. My life would become one endless search for my little girl.

This is why, when I found out the United Response Search and Rescue Team was holding a search on Saturday for missing Lubbock residents Joanna Rogers and Jennifer Wilkerson, I knew I had to go. If I didn't, and then I sometime found myself in this situation, I wouldn't deserve the help of friendly, concerned residents like those



who joined me at Cooper High School on Saturday morning.

The search itself was relatively easy. We divided into teams, and my team went to a field north of town. We spread out in a line and started walking very slowly, pushing away waist-high weeds and staring at the ground. It was complicated most by the fact that we weren't entirely sure what we were looking for. Some of it would have been easily noticeable — a body, bones, what could be a grave. But most of it jewelry, buttons, pieces of clothing - was less clear-cut. There was a lot of guesswork, a lot of uncertainty from a dozen inexperienced searchers.

I heard, what I saw in the people around me, and most affected. A hundred people, people who what I thought. I knew what I was looking for before I went; I knew anything we found would most likely not lead to a joyful reunion. And I knew that if I found anything unpleasant, I would be screwed up for life. But when URSAR was giving us instructions, vocalizing my fears, I had to fight the urge to turn and run. I listened to what to look for in a grave and to watch out for an old towel half covered in mud. I don't think excessive flies. It hurt to hear the words spoken, and the images in my mind were terrifying.

I saw Joanna's father, broken up by the loss of his daughter but still out there, still searching, still hoping, truly sorry his daughter was no longer the only missing person. I saw Jennifer's mother and sisters wiping tears as they spoke, and one of her relatives who, despite her pain, wanted to be out in the field searching. I saw immense strength in ordinary people who were given an awful set of circumstances and, instead of buckling under the weight, stood taller and stayed strong.

I saw other people, people whose children were safe, people who didn't have to carry this What made the experience difficult was what burden, pick up some of the weight from those UD@ttu.edu.

were a little afraid to be there, who were unsure about the whole thing, who wanted to do what they could but didn't know what to do, so they showed up and fought through nature, looking for something. I saw a community respond to help its own.

I didn't find anything on Saturday, except for any major leads were reported from the search. I don't know if it's better nothing definitive was found; that would provide closure and certainty, but not a happy ending. Not knowing has to hurt, but there's still hope with uncertainty.

All I know is, if there's another search, I'll be there. I owe it to myself, to my future children. It might scare me, it might scar me. But I can't not do it. Because someday, it might be me.

For more information about the search, go to www.ursarteam.org.

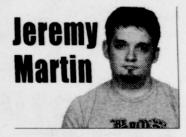
Toth is a graduate student from Roswell, N.M., studying business and editor of The UD. E-mail her at

Democratic Convention — It's no 'Survivor'

ateline: My girlfriend's couch—Howdy Red Raider fans! The UD couldn't afford to send somebody to Boston to cover the Democratic Convention like we'd wanted to, so we're giving you the next best thing-me sitting here watching C-span all this week for upwards of five hours a day. That's course the Democrats are going to right; I'm watching the convention so you don't have to. While the rest of you guys are out living it up LBK style, I'm sitting here in a puddle of my own sweat trying to keep track of what people like Christie Vilsack and Barack Obama have to say about the upcoming election so you'll have something interesting to say to that cutie on Monday. There's no need to thank me; just show your appreciation by going out and voting in November tive deleted) one of them!" with tears O.J. Simpson? If they didn't want the or maybe sending me some money.

I will now summarize every speech I've seen in the following sentence: Nothing personal against George Bush, but he is destroying the progress this country made during the Clinton to decaf. The things that man could years like a drunken, brain-damaged chimp steering a spaceship toward the sun, and the only one who can save us is John Kerry.

That's the convention's biggest problem. There are no surprises, no crazy plot twists. It's so cliché — of about that one the next day.



support the Democratic nominee. They had the whole reality TV thing; with a few changes this could have been the surprise hit of the summer.

Think how much better the ratings would have been if Al Gore had called in a line of people hauling in bag after bag of Florida ballots like so many children's letters to Santa Claus and screamed "Count them America — count every last (explestreaming down his face.

"Real World" or "Survivor?" Tension and controversy sell. They made a big mistake switching Howard Dean have yelled might have been pure gold. Instead of encouraging his former supporters to shift their enthusiasm to Kerry, what if he'd challenged George Bush to a knife fight in the parking lot? I bet you'd be talking

Not only were the speeches predictable, the convention had few if any surprising guest speakers. Senators, governors, Ted Kennedy - boring. There were more women, children and minorities than you could shake a stick at, but they were nothing to write home about. Incidentally, if you do write home about the speakers at political conventions, your mom is just throwing those letters away.

How about somebody unexpected? Sure, Ron Reagan was kind of a surprise, but not that exciting. Stem cells? Really? I kind of zoned out during his speech. If I wanted to hear a bunch of scientific stuff, I'd watch CSI.

Why not cause a stir with somebody controversial like Howard "the FCC wont let me be" Stern or maybe controversy, they could have appealed Have they learned nothing from to the "I Love the 80s" retro crowd in a big way with a surprise speech by Goonie-great Corey Feldman or Dave "Uncle Joey" Coulier.

It's hard for me to take the party seriously when they're promising exciting changes but offering the same old boring convention. I give it three stars out of five.

Martin is a junior creative writing major from Lubbock. E-mail him at jeremy.t.martin@ttu.edu.

LETTER TO THE **EDITOR**

Article discounts other contributors to House bill

The regarding U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer's vote in favor of the Agricultural Funding Bill (July 20) undermined the role played by the rest of the U.S. Congress.

Although the bill may bring benefits to Texas Tech, the article inaccurately projected Neugebauer's role to have been a crucial factor in the passage of the bill, whereas he actually voted in the same manner as 388 other representatives, for a bill no representative from West

Texas could have voted against. The bill originated in the Committee of Agriculture, of which Congressman Bonilla (R-San Antonio) and Congressman Stenholm (D-Abilene) share responsibility, and the bill was crafted to improve the agricultural industry, which supports at least two million American families.

I believe it is vital for such articles to be comprehensive, especially in an election year, and fairly include the crucial role Stenholm plays in the agricultural industry while serving as the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee.

Blake Moore, senior agricultural business major from Welch



Heidi Toth / Editor Joey Kirk / Managing Editor

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GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all colu the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a

hoest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letter as far as identification and submittal

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Search

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

missing on July 14 when she did not arrive at work after leaving her boyfriend's home at 11 a.m. the previous morning.

Parrot said Wilkerson's vehicle was discovered in front of her home, and her to be on the lookout, Parrot said. Lubbock house and car keys were locked inside her residence.

Parrot said the only similarities noted about the two disappearances are that both girls are residents of South Lubbock, with eight to 10 miles separating the two.

know where they're at."

Wilkerson is a white female with blue eyes and short reddish brown hair. She is about 5'5", 110 pounds and has numerous tattoos and piercings. Authorities also are looking for a suspicious vehicle in her disappearance. It is a small black truck that is low to the ground, with decals on the back window. It could have tinted windows and out of state license plates and has unique hubcaps.

Rogers is a white female with long red hair. She is 5'5" and 125 pounds.

The sheriff's department is aggressively looking at evidence from both cases, trying to identify a suspect, Parrot said. They have not yet identified a suspect in either case.

"At this point, we do not have anything a suspect," he said. "However, we are hopeful someone with information will contact us or that we are able to glean information from and Rescue at (817) 501-9296.

interviews with her associates."

An Amber Alert was issued after Rogers' disappearance, Parrot said, but a similar alert could not be issued for Wilkerson because the circumstances surrounding the two disappearances are different, he said.

An Amber Alert is an immediate notification to media sources and law enforcement residents also should be careful, he said.

"We would caution Lubbock residents or students to be cautious or be aware regardless of where they live using good common sense and judgment," he said.

Students and other residents should be "At this time," he said, "I just need to cautious, Parrot said, but overall, he said situations such as these occurring in Lubbock

> "We boast a very low instance of abductions in our community," he said. "These two episodes are highly unusual and very frustrating for family members and law enforcement.

> Rewards are being offered for information about both Rogers' and Wilkerson's disappearances, Parrot said. If a suspect is apprehended and convicted, he or she faces time in prison.

> "We want to bring Jennifer and Joanna home to their families," he said. "Their families are hurting and experiencing a pain that no parent should ever have to endure."

Anyone with information about Joanna definitive linking Joanna's disappearance to Rogers or Jennifer Wilkerson should call the Lubbock County Sheriff's Department at (806) 775-1406 or United Response Search

Construction

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Miller said the new building will replace the existing animal science building, but staff and students will still use the existing food technology building because it has several laboratories.

Both buildings are located at 15th Street between Flint and Boston av-

Miller said many people have been involved in seeing the new building become a reality for the department of animal and food science.

"It has taken about 40 years since the initial concept," Miller said. "Dr. Pond has worked really hard to get a new building for the department.

Kevin Pond is the department chairman for animal and food sciences. Miller said Pond played a significant role in designing the building.

Dale Woerner, a Tech meat science graduate student from Fredericksburg,

received his bachelor's degree in animal science at Tech in 2003.

"One of the main advantages of the new building is that our whole department will be together," Woerner said. "Food technology and animal science won't be separated.'

Woerner said the modern classrooms with better lighting will be an improvement from the current building. The new building also has more laboratories and offices than the old building and more updated technology.

"A new facility looks impressive," Woerner said. "I think it will help with our recruitment. The building will look more impressive to new students and research companies.

'We have never had an anatomy and physiology lab," Woerner said. "Now, instead of just working on a table top, we will actually have a laboratory.'

Miller is looking forward to the completion of the building.

"This building will help the department in our pursuit of excellence," he said.

Plans show the new building will include

- Four classrooms
- Offices
- Retail shop
- Food chemistry and nutrition laboratory
- Anatomy and physiology laboratory
- Dairy, fruits and vegetable processing laboratory
- Courtyard

Extreme measures available to keep identity thieves at bay

NEW YORK (AP) — Little by usage is low simply because the credit little, a weapon against identity theft is gaining currency — but few people know about it.

It's called the security freeze, and it lets individuals block access to their credit reports until they personally unlock the files by contacting the credit bureaus and providing a PIN code.

the credit-reporting industry believes it complicates things unnecessarily.

But it appears to be one of the few ways to virtually guarantee a fraudster cannot open an account in

The freeze became an option in California and Texas last year, and Louisiana and Vermont will allow it beginning next July. However, the Texas and Vermont laws apply only to people who already have been victimized by identity theft.

Only 2,000 Californians and 150 Texans have taken advantage of the freeze, according to Experian Inc., one of the three major credit bureaus.

But identity theft watchdogs say

bureaus don't publicize the option. With identity theft growing, advocates hope the freeze gains national momentum. Congress resisted calls for a freeze rule during debate over a major credit law last year.

'It's the best protection we have," said Linda Foley, executive director of The process is a bit of a hassle, and the Identity Theft Resource Center in offers crowd mailboxes and appli-San Diego.

While the freeze may be extreme, come-ons. its backers say it is necessary because the existing system is broken.

The Internet and consumer databases have made it easier than ever to find someone else's social security number and apply for accounts in that name. Meanwhile, obtaining credit is a breeze, as zero-percent financing ance stores make no-money-down

place fraud alerts on their credit reports. But identity theft watchdogs say the alerts are often ignored by creditors person turns out to be a con artist.

who are willing, say, to gamble that People who suspect trouble can the potential plasma TV purchaser in front of them is legitimate, and write off any losses that might occur if the





Judge rules convicted sniper can be put on trial for second attack

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) - Sniper mastermind John Allen Muhammad lost a bid Thursday to bar a the triggerman in the killing prosecutor from putting him on of Linda Franklin, but that trial for a second attack in the Muhammad was so intricately sniper spree.

Muhammad's attorneys argued the death penalty. that Robert F. Horan Jr. should be removed from the case because of that was what we argued then, arguments he made while trying Muhammad's accomplice, Lee Boyd Malvo.

Muhammad's lawyers said that during the Malvo trial, Horan made such a strong case that Malvo acted independently in the shootings that they actually want Horan as a defense witness.

as a witness creates an inevitable conflict that required his removal from the case. Circuit Judge Jonathan Thacher rejected the defense request.

will not take inconsistent posi- left 10 people dead and woundtions.

He said he will argue as he did before that Malvo was involved that he also deserved

"They're peas in a pod, that is what we'll argue now," Horan said.

Muhammad was convicted last fall and sentenced to death for another sniper slaying. Horan, who did not try the first Muhammad case, has said a second trial is necessary because of the seriousness of the The lawyers said calling Horan crime and the possibility that the original conviction could be overturned on appeal.

Malvo was convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

The October 2002 sniper Horan told Thacher that he spree in the Washington area ed several others.

Trial continues of U.S. soldiers accused of manslaughter

FORT CARSON, Colo. (AP) nighttime curfew. - A second soldier testified Thursday that he spotted two civilians on a riverbank not long after other soldiers are accused of forcing two Iraqis to jump into the Tigris River, killing one.

Staff Sgt. Michael Kay testified that he could tell through his nightvision goggles the men he saw on the bank were civilians, not soldiers. He said his gunner, Spc. Tony Fincher, had spotted them first.

"I told him it was probably the detainees," Kay said.

The "Article 32" hearing that began Wednesday, the equivalent of a preliminary hearing in a civilian court, is to decide whether the three defendants will face court-martial.

Two are charged with involuntary manslaughter in the alleged drowning, while the third faces lesser charges. A man identified by family members in Iraq as Zaidoun Hassoun allegedly drowned near Samarra on Jan. 3 when he and a cousin were forced to jump in the river after being caught breaking a

Defense lawyers are trying to show that it is possible no one actually drowned that night. They said insurgents have frequently faked deaths to embarrass U.S. forces and get soldiers into trouble.

Fincher, the gunner who was with Kay, had testified Wednesday. He said he did not see the men forced into the river, but later saw two civilians emerging from the river through thermal imaging equipment. He said investigators had asked him only if he saw Iraqis being forced off a bridge.

Sgt. Alexis Rincon, a member of the patrol Jan. 3, testified that none of the soldiers believed the two Iraqi men were in danger because one quickly made it to shore.

Also Wednesday, the chief investigator in the case conceded under cross-examination she had not seen Hassoun's body.

Sgt. Irene Cintron said it was too dangerous to exhume the body, and she relied on the word of family members and members of the Iraqi

Civil Defense Force that a body had been found several days after the men were forced at gunpoint to jump into the river.

Sgt. 1st Class Tracy E. Perkins, 33, and Sgt. Reggie Martinez, 24, are charged with involuntary manslaughter, as is 1st Lt. Jack M. Saville, 24, whose Article 32 hearing is set for later. The third defendant in this week's hearing, Spec. Terry Bowman, is charged with assault for allegedly pushing the second man into the river at the same time.

That man, a cousin of Hassoun named Marwan Fadel Hassoun, 23, survived.

Marwan Hassoun has told The Associated Press said he tried to help his cousin swim to safety, only to lose his grip as the soldiers watched and laughed from above.

"They were behaving like they were watching a comedy on stage,"

Attorneys in the case say troops in Iraq have not been able to locate Marwan Hassoun to get a sworn statement.

102 STUDENT MEDIA BLDG. / 742-3384

TYPING

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