



Johnson returns to Lubbock  
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## Two injured in head-on collision Tuesday

By Andrew Bell/The University Daily

Two women were involved in a head-on collision Tuesday afternoon near the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue.

At about 2:45 p.m., a Ford Mustang and a Toyota Celica collided, injuring the women driving each vehicle.

Lubbock Police Department Patrolman Scott Weems said the occupant of the Mustang was driving east on 4<sup>th</sup> Street and attempting to make a left turn onto Indiana Avenue.

As the driver entered the turn lane, she was cut off by another vehicle trying to enter the same lane. To avoid rear-ending

the vehicle, the driver tried to get out of the way, only to cause an accident, Patrolman Richard Calderon said.

As the driver of the Mustang avoided the car in front of her, the driver of the Celica had already driven through the intersection at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue, Weems said. Both vehicles ran head-on into the other.

The wreck occurred in front of the University Medical Center and Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. As the police arrived, ambulances took both women to UMC.

Calderon said, judging by the damage to the cars involved, both vehicles were

not going at an excessive rate of speed, and the damage to the vehicles and the drivers could have been minimal.

The Celica had Tech stickers on the rear window, indicating the driver could be a student of the university, Calderon said.

The only description the officer could give was that both female drivers were young, but he could not determine whether either driver is a current student.

The names of the victims have not yet been released.

The UMC Emergency Center could not give any physical descriptions or details on the condition of the accident victims.



SCOTT WEEMS, A Lubbock Police Department patrolman, inspects damage to the front of a Toyota Celica involved in a head-on collision as it is being hooked to a Lubbock Wrecker truck by driver Billy Powell.

DAVID JOHNSON/  
The University Daily

## Room only for ... CONCERN



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

Tech parking situation leaving students flustered

By Jackie Schirad/  
The University Daily

Although some of the Texas Tech administration think the traffic and parking situation is under control, many students think differently.

Traci Strieker, a sophomore from Plano, purchased a satellite parking permit and said she does not believe she got her money's worth.

"I've been parking in the Hastings parking lot, and the buses don't circulate around near enough, and if you don't get a bus, the walk is horrible," Strieker said. "There's a lot of bad parking. People are trying to park way too close to each other."

Alex Lindsey, a sophomore from Plano, purchased a commuter parking permit and suffers the same problems.

"It's no good," Lindsey said. "I tried to park yesterday, and it took 30 minutes. It's hard to drive around the parking lot as well. I'll probably take the bus until construction is finished. There's also quite a bit of illegal park-



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

ABOVE: A TECH student's truck hangs over the ledge of a ditch on Brownfield Highway and 4th Street Tuesday. The student attempted to park his truck there Tuesday morning thinking the place was open for parking. TOP: Jones SBC Stadium parking lot filled almost to its capacity Tuesday afternoon.

ing going on."

Vice President of Operations Max Hinojosa said he thinks the parking situation was running fine. "We took aerial pictures of the parking lots to find out how many cars each parking lot was holding," Hinojosa said. "The west side of Jones Stadium was totally full, while there were approximately 100 spots open on the

east side and in Hastings' parking lot. The International Cultural Center was filled, and only a few cars parked at the Museum and Heritage Ranching Center."

Hinojosa said seven cars were towed for obstruction. "Three hundred cars were parked along Brownfield Highway, and they shouldn't be parking there; it's out of our jurisdiction," Hinojosa said. "They might be stuck there from the flooding. Students also need to know to park in the parking lot behind the Student Recreational Center and the parking lot behind the horticulture

Center."

Trey Vanley, a junior from Odessa, said the university is not informing students enough about the cap on commuter parking permits. "I bought a parking pass about six days ago online for commuter," Vanley said. "I got to school, and I was informed they were sold out, so they gave me a satellite permit. There wasn't anything on the Internet about it when I purchased my ticket. I want my money back, because I would rather park on the

PARKING continued on page 6

## French hostages may soon be freed

POSSIBLE RETURN: Jordan news service reports Iraqi militants will release journalists.

By Elaine Ganley/Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — France intensified efforts Tuesday to save two journalists held hostage in Iraq, convening crisis talks in Paris and around the Arab world, as a 24-hour execution deadline set by militants neared.

French President Jacques Chirac said every effort was being made to free the journalists.

Foreign Minister Michel Barnier launched a second day of emergency diplomacy in the Middle East, pleading for crucial support from Arab governments and powerful Muslim groups that praised France for its anti-war stance on Iraq.

"Because of France's distinguished position in rejecting the Anglo-American occupation of Iraq, we appeal to the people who kidnaped the journalists to spare their lives," said the Islamic Action Front, Jordan's largest opposition group.

The French government's mission to free the reporters took on new urgency with reports Tuesday that 12 Nepalese hostages had been executed in Iraq. But hopes were steadily rising regarding the fate of Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot, the journalists who disappeared Aug. 19 while traveling to the southern city of Najaf.

HOSTAGES continued on page 5

## Freshmen welcomed to Tech during Convocation

Brittany Fish/The University Daily

About 1,000 Texas Tech students might feel more at home after the official welcome they received from university administration and faculty during freshmen convocation Tuesday at the United Spirit Arena.

Executive Vice President and CEO of the Texas Tech Alumni Association Bill Dean opened the ceremony.

"This is the second year of a revival of an old tradition," he said. Dane McWilliams, a business major from Allen, attended the convocation.

"It's good to be a part of a tradition like that," he said. Convocation has been a part of Tech since 1925 and has since continued, Dean said.

Dean encouraged the students to make their mark when they leave Tech, but to have good experiences along the way.

"Education is more than just going to class," he said.

CONVOCATION continued on page 6



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

Texas Tech freshmen put their guns up after being officially welcomed to Tech at the Convocation ceremony Tuesday in the United Spirit Arena.

### Traffic & Parking



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### Weather

Today	Tomorrow
SUNNY	SUNNY
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The Rundown



Football player dies after collapsing at practice

HOUSTON (AP) — A 15-year-old high school football player died after he collapsed at the end of a two-hour afternoon practice session, a school district spokeswoman said.

Ivan Okafor, a member of Alief Taylor High School's junior varsity team, was walking off the field at the end of practice Monday when he complained he didn't feel well, Alief Independent School District spokeswoman Paula Smith said.

He was taken by golf cart to a field house and lost consciousness while attempts were made to cool him off with ice, Smith said in Tuesday's edition of the *Houston Chronicle*.

Paramedics were called to the school, and Okafor was flown to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he died, Smith said. The exact cause of death had not been determined.

Smith said the players had just finished a light practice and were not wearing their full protective padding. Three water breaks had been scheduled, and student trainers were on hand to provide extra hydration.

Temperatures reached 95 degrees Monday, with a heat index of up to 98 degrees, according to the National Weather Service in League City.

Smith did not have any information about Okafor's medical

Accused kidnapper to stand trial, judge rules

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A judge on Tuesday found the homeless man charged with kidnapping Elizabeth Ruling competent to stand trial.

The ruling came at the start of what had been expected to be a three-day hearing to gauge the mental state of Brian Mitchell, 50.

Salt Lake County District Attorney David Yocom said he and Mitchell's attorney, Kim Clark, had been in negotiations over waiving the hearing.

Clark said at the hearing that the defense reached a "tactical decision" after a judge ruled the competency proceedings would be open.

The defense had sought to close the hearing, arguing media reports concerning Mitchell's mental state would taint the jury pool if he were found competent.

Two court-appointed experts apparently could not agree on the issue of his competency. Both evaluators did agree he suffers from a narcissistic delusion. Mitchell, who describes himself as a prophet, had refused to cooperate.

A handcuffed Mitchell, bearded and with long gray hair, did not speak during Tuesday's hearing but nodded twice when Judge Judith Atherton asked if he agreed with the decision, and if he understood what it meant.

Suicide bomber kills 10 outside train station

MOSCOW (AP) — A woman strapped with explosives blew herself up outside a busy Moscow subway station Tuesday night, killing at least 10 people and wounding more than 50 — the second terrorist attack to hit Russia in a week.

Seven days earlier, at about the hour, two Russian jetliners crashed within minutes of each other in what officials say were terrorist bombings.

All 90 people aboard the aircraft were killed, and the investigation has focused on two Chechen women believed to have been passengers.

A militant Muslim Web site monitored in Cairo published a statement claiming responsibility for the bombing on behalf of the "Islambouli Brigades," a group that also claimed responsibility for the airliner crashes.

The veracity of the statements could not be confirmed immediately.

The statement said Tuesday's bombing was the group's response to Russian President Vladimir Putin, "who's slaughtered Muslims time and again." Putin has firmly refused to negotiate with the rebels in predominantly Muslim Chechnya, saying they must be wiped out.

DISC DIVING



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

CATIE COLGIN, A sophomore agriculture major from Dallas, plays with a flying disc outside the Wall/Gates Residence Complex with Luke Fenlon, a freshman mechanical engineering major from Austin, early Tuesday afternoon.

Lack of popularity closes dining hall

By Jackie Schirard/  
The University Daily

The decline of occupancy in the residence halls and the shift of popularity to mini markets caused Texas Tech to close the dining hall in the Union's Healthy Choice food place, which will open in four weeks.

Director of Hospitality Services Samuel Bennett said during the past six years, Tech officials noticed a distinct change in its clientele's food preferences.

"Quite a while ago, we started going into food courts and mini markets, known as Sam's Place, and those places have grown in popularity," he said. "We did keep Sam's Place South open because it appeals to the preferences of students. In our master plan, we concluded that we would eventually shut down Wall/Gates and build a food court in Hulen/Clement. We started to see a decline in occupancy in the residence halls, and it had severe budgetary impacts for the

upcoming year."

To give students more options for dining, Bennett said he validated all meal plans for the Student Union, such as Union Bistro and their local Sam's Place. The meal plans can be used to purchase food in the Union's Healthy Choice food place, which will open in four weeks.

Bennett said Dining and Hospitality is adding a new food court that will open in January. The Student Union food court will carry national chains, such as Chick-Fil-A, Taco Mayo, Grab-n-Go Healthy Choice Sandwiches, Sbarro's and a Union grill.

"We had to modify the plan as best as we could," Bennett said. "It will be more expensive than the dining halls because we have to pay royalties to the brand name food, as well as rent and utilities to the Student Union."

Some students were not pleased with the news of Wall/Gates Dining Hall's closing.

Kelly Metz, a freshman living in

Chitwood/Weymouth, did not care for the higher prices or the extra walk to eat.

"Expense is the main thing because it will make your meal plan run out faster," she said. "Plus, the Student Union is the longer distance to get to rather than the dining halls."

Hilary Lemar, a sophomore living in Wall/Gates, agreed.

"It kind of makes me mad, because the Hulen/Clement Dining Hall only has one-and-a-half-hour dinners," she said. "The place will always be packed full, and going to the Market is expensive. The new court at the Student Union won't be much better. It will also be a pain in the winter to have to walk around to get your meals."

Although Wall/Gates Dining Hall is closed, Bennett said four Sam's Places and the dining halls of Hulen/Clement, Bledsoe and Horn/Knapp are still available.

"A decision of this magnitude did not come lightly, and it was very painfully done due to timing," Bennett said. "We would have much preferred to see the numbers and plan this out, instead of being surprised by it. We termed this as a temporary closing. If the numbers go up, we may re-open the dining hall next year."

The University Daily

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# Regional task force shutdown goes into effect

By Andrew Bell/  
The University Daily

A warning to drug dealers: local law enforcement officials are refocusing attention on Lubbock.

In an effort to increase the concentration of narcotics officers and operations in the city of Lubbock, the Lubbock Police Department decided to discontinue participation in the South Plains Regional Narcotics Task Force.

The department finalized the split when the city of Lubbock informed the Criminal Justice Division of the Texas Governor's Office of its intention to end the grant funding the city's participation in the task force, LPD Capt. Thomas Esparza said.

The discontinuation, which became effective Tuesday, ended the

department's role as the grantee of the task force, a position the LPD has held since 1988, Esparza said.

Now the LPD will have the ability to work a larger amount of drug cases within the city.

"You will see a larger increase in concentration of narcotics in the city," Esparza said. "We are going to continue to work drug cases, but we are going to concentrate in the city."

The decision to discontinue association with the task force was based on a number of issues, Esparza said. As the grantee for the task force, the city had an increase in liability risks, since the city would be liable for the actions of the officers within the task force.

LPD Chief Claude Jones said the liability of the task force caused too much exposure for Lubbock. Other

cities or towns within the task force would not be able to become the grantee because without a grantee, no task force exists, he said.

Also, the city's grant-funded personnel needed to stay in Lubbock to assist in local drug cases. Jones said four LPD officers were partially funded through the grant. After the discontinuation, the officers will return to the LPD payroll in the narcotics department, he said.

Those officers back on the payroll of the department are officers for a local Drug Enforcement Agency task force. With the four officers spending more time within the city, the narcotics department of the LPD should be able to step up drug enforcement in the city, Jones said.

The enhancement, however, does not mean LPD has a shortage of narcotics officers. Instead, Esparza

said, as the city continues to grow, every available officer is needed to help combat illicit drug use in the Hub City.

"We reached a saturation point within the city," he said, "and we needed them back in to work city cases."

During Lubbock's tenure as grantee of the task force, narcotics officers throughout the South Plains worked together to give various towns access to information that may not have been available, while using undercover agents to operate sting operations, Esparza said.

Now, no task force is active, so each city or town formerly within the task force's region will have to combat illicit drug traffic and use individually, Jones said.

For the past 16 years, LPD has served as the grantee, or respon-

sible agency, for the task force. Essentially, the grant supporting the task force paid for 75 percent of its operations, Esparza said.

However, each participating agency within the 18-county task force was responsible for additional funding, Esparza said. For example, the participating agencies in the task force were responsible for paying 25 percent of the costs.

The city of Lubbock, as the grantee, also contributed to the task force by paying for a 25 percent cash match to equal the amount paid by the participating agencies. In total, Esparza said, Lubbock provided \$110,000 toward task force operation.

While the city was the responsible agency for the organization, citizens within the South Plains would be able to call a toll-free hotline number to provide tips and

information. Although the number possibly still may be used by citizens of the South Plains, Esparza said more than likely the number would no longer be in effect for the citizens of Lubbock.

Instead, LPD would begin issuing the number for the narcotics department of Lubbock.

Now that Lubbock no longer serves as the responsible agency, any remaining task force agencies could apply to serve as the grantee for the South Plains Regional Narcotics Task Force, Esparza said.

However, no remaining agency has decided to become the grantee of the task force because of the liability risks the role would place on the responsible agency, Jones said.

"I think it says something that no one jumped in after we got out," he said.

# Bush announces United States will win war against terrorism

NEW YORK (AP) — The war on terror is "one that we will win," President Bush declared flatly Tuesday as he sought to quiet a flap complicating GOP efforts to portray him as a resolute leader. Republicans at their national convention were turning to conditions at home after opening their gathering by saluting Bush as a wartime leader.

As the convention entered its second day at Madison Square Garden under extremely heavy security, Bush and his supporters scrambled to explain the president's comments in a television interview broadcast Monday that the war against terror could not be won.

Several times in his remarks to the American Legion convention in Nashville, Tenn., Bush talked expressly about winning the war.

"We meet today at a time of war for our country; a war we did not start, yet one that we will win," Bush told the veterans' organization. "If America shows weakness or uncertainty in this decade, the world will drift toward tragedy. This will not happen on my watch."

Bush elaborated further in an interview with Rush Limbaugh, the conservative radio host. "What I meant was that it's not a conventional war,"

Bush said. "I probably needed to be more articulate."

Phil Singer, spokesman for Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, said Bush's speech did not end the controversy the president's comments began.

"I don't think you can win it," Bush told NBC in the pre-taped interview, although he added, "I think you can create conditions so that those who use terror as a tool are less acceptable in parts of the world."

Singer said Bush has "gone from mission accomplished to mission miscalculated to mission impossible on the war on terror."

Convention organizers announced that Barbara and Jenna Bush, 22-year-old twin daughters of the president and first lady Laura Bush, will introduce their father who, by videoconference, will then introduce their mother at Tuesday night's session.

Laura Bush and her daughters will share billing with California Gov. Ar-

nold Schwarzenegger. He is part of the GOP effort to reach out to moderate Democrats and independents.

The Bush daughters will speak about five minutes, said Susan Whitson, deputy communications director for the Bush campaign. "I think you'll see a very personal side to their remarks, a little bit of humor," she said.

In her remarks, Mrs. Bush will present her husband as a commanding warrior against the forces of terrorism, telling delegates that 50 million more people in Afghanistan and Iraq live in freedom thanks to U.S. leadership and the president's vision.

In excerpts of her speech released Tuesday morning, Mrs. Bush saluted "George's work to protect our country and defeat terror so that all children can grow up in a more peaceful world."

"I am so proud of the way George has led our country with strength and conviction," she said.

Democratic vice presidential candidate John Edwards, campaigning

in West Virginia, disparaged GOP convention attacks on the Democratic ticket. "All they could do was attack. You know why? Because they don't have a plan to create jobs, to fix health care or win the war on terror," he said.

Edwards called the loss of U.S. jobs, along with an increase in poverty, stagnating income growth, "the big elephant in the room."

Republicans also added to the convention schedule retired Gen. Tommy Franks, former commander of forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, who will speak Thursday night.

Delegates from Pennsylvania, one of the top battleground states, were expected to formally put Bush over the top for the GOP nomination at around 7 p.m. Tuesday, convention officials said.

There are 2,508 voting delegates, and a candidate needs a simple majority to be nominated. The state-by-state roll calls began Monday.

Protests continued Tuesday around the city. Fourteen people were detained near Wall Street for blocking morning traffic.

Another six protesters were arrested for wearing masks in a Harlem

subway station, authorities said. More than 500 people have been arrested in

convention-related protests since late last week.

## WAR ON TERROR

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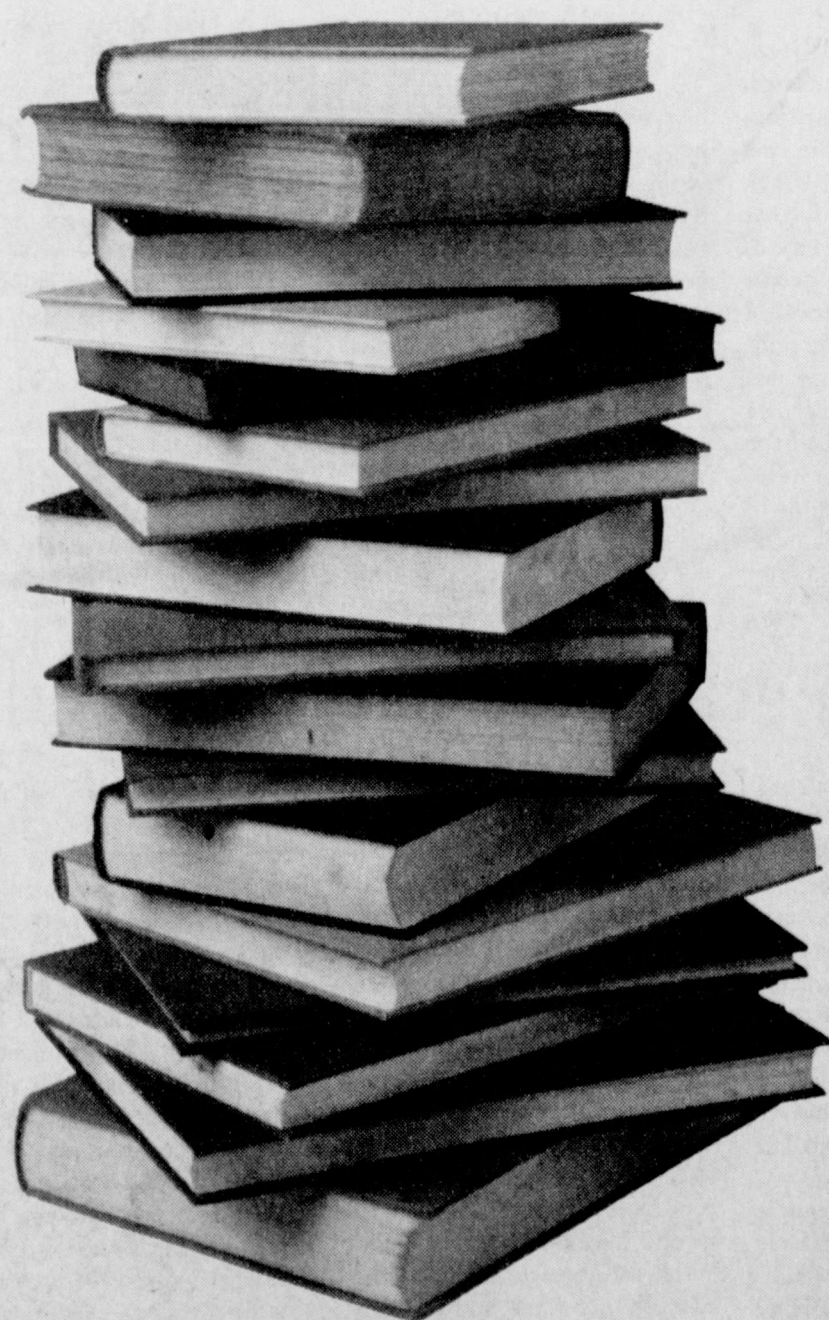


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# Opinions

Opinions Editor:  
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## Parking problems: what Tech can expect

While students were enjoying their summer vacations, several Tech departments were playing a game of hot potato with student parking. The result is a parking lot in the middle of a field and a free parking lot turned into a pay one. Parking seemingly is business as usual.

Most students will assume Traffic and Parking's main culprit. Really, the department probably is not the first to blame. The brunt really falls on the failures of both the contractors and Facilities Planning and Construction.

On August 19, representatives from Traffic and Parking, Facilities and Planning and Citibus met with several administrators to discuss the contingency plan for parking. At this meeting, several elements that culminated in this semester's parking problems were explained. I found out some information about the situation from Student Government officers present at the meeting.

The contractors hired to complete both the road to the satellite parking lot near University Medical Center and the Indiana rerouting project did not start in the most logical order.

They tried to begin on both projects at once, only to concentrate their efforts on the Indiana section, which actually leads nowhere. That part is not set to be finished until an overpass at the up-and-coming Marsha Sharp freeway can be constructed.

Did this plan make sense to anyone? Well, it must have, since Facilities and Planning allowed contractors to get started. Meanwhile, Facilities and Planning did not sufficiently press the issue of keeping the projects on schedule. Thus, the commuter parking at Indiana and 18<sup>th</sup> is now a pile of dirt, while a brand new parking area north of campus sits in the middle of a field. No roads. No access.

Mentioning that the road to the satellite parking area was promised by the contractors to be completed by Aug. 1 is only fair. Some project managers and rain delays later, that plan was lost in the mix, and the brunt of the construction effort was focused on Indiana and not the parking lot with no access road.

So, this situation leaves students in a tough spot. The free parking in the Hastings parking lot now costs

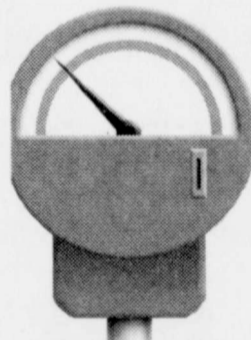
**Seth Phillips**



Aside from the issue of using publicly owned land as a pay parking lot, is parking really fair to Tech students? Why should they have to pay to park in a lot that is: 1) not in the best condition, 2) not on Tech campus and 3) not actually owned by Tech?

you \$75. This came about when the Texas Department of Transportation, which purchased the area for the Marsha Sharp Freeway, allowed Traffic and Parking to use the area as a regulated parking lot.

Aside from the issue of using publicly owned land as a pay parking lot, is parking really fair to students? Why should they have to pay to park in a lot that is: 1) not in



the best condition, 2) not on Tech campus and 3) not actually owned by Tech?

While Traffic and Parking has planned to paint lines for the lot, patrol it during normal hours and offer night shuttle service to the

area, where is this money coming from? Students. Those same students who were promised one large park and ride lot by UMC, not four smaller lots in which they will have to hunt for a decent parking spot.

By the spring semester, the Hastings lot will revert back to Department of Transportation control if the satellite lot is completed. Additionally, the Texas Tech Museum and Ranching Heritage lots also will return to free parking by spring. Upon that occurrence, students will be able to receive a pro-rated refund for the spring semester if they choose to seek free parking.

So, what is the real point in maintaining a parking lot that is about to be torn up? Why not just refund student money, turn the lot back into a free parking area and use the time and effort to finish the road to the satellite lot?

As a result of this incomprehensible problem, we now have a Facilities and Planning allowing contractors to pick the least important project on which to focus their efforts and a Traffic and Parking Department selling parking spaces it really does not, or at least should not, own.

Thus, the SGA has come up with a "Plan of Attack" seen posted on bulletin boards around campus. The only problem is students cannot do much about this problem. The administration failed them, plain and simple.

Basically this year is a good one to live on campus. For those who do not, the only real suggestions are to get to campus about half an hour earlier than normal, not just half an hour before class. If you are willing to get up early enough, parking looks really good at about 8 a.m.

The only other solution is to look for alternate places to park. As SGA External Vice President Anne Hunninghake suggested, park at Wal-Mart. The 4<sup>th</sup> street Wal-Mart has been extremely generous in offering students the use of its lots for the Park and Ride Citibus system. Plus, students save gas and time.

In essence, this year is going to be an interesting year for parking. I think this year would also be good for the restructuring of a few Tech departments.

■ **Phillips is a senior communication studies major from Tyler. E-mail him at seth.phillips@ttu.edu.**



## Greek life underestimated by many on Tech campus

The beginning of the fall semester for some of the university's student population is rung in with endless conversation about majors, residence halls, hometowns and, of course, the sorority chants that never seem to get out of your head. The week before classes start, Greek Circle is filled with men and women who hope to find that little niche on the Texas Tech campus where they belong and can grow within a student organization. Yes, I am writing a pro-Greek column, which to my knowledge has yet to be done here at *The University Daily*. Never fear — in the next few paragraphs, you will not be reading how sorority women can be spotted by heavy makeup or how fraternity men spend most of their time partying and never attend class.

As a member of the Greek community, I am a little biased, but I must admit choosing to join a sorority was one of the best decisions I have made. Greek life has helped me get further involved at Tech, allowed me to meet and network with people I never would have otherwise. I now possess the leadership skills that have changed my personal goals and have made me evolve from the shy, quiet girl in the corner into the girl who never seems to keep her opinions to herself. This evolution was made possible by leadership positions I

**Jenny Walker**



*Greek life has helped me get further involved at Tech, and allowed me to meet and network with people I never would have otherwise.*

held as a member of my sorority and by those I received in other student organizations, with the support of the Greek community. Therefore, I do take stereotypical statements from people who do not understand the benefits of Greek life a little personally. I do believe the association is one of those things a person only understands once involved, and no one gets the full effect of Greek life by outside observance.

Reality television shows like "Sorority and Fraternity Life" did not do much to dispel the myths

surrounding Greek life, but rather aided them. I do not believe in my four years in a sorority I ever have had as much drama in my life as there is in just one episode of that show. These fraternities and sororities were not nationally recognized and, therefore, can take a "no rules" approach to their membership.

Being Greek does not mean we neglect our education, as myths suggest. The fact is, Greeks have maintained a higher GPA than the all-university average year after year. Scholarship is highly encouraged throughout the recruiting, pledging and membership processes. The members of the Greek community work hard to maintain good grades and balance an active social calendar.

More than 800 students chose to join the Greek community this past week. The next few months will be filled with activities and a culture shock. You will be bombarded with new people and with opportunities to expand your involvement on campus. Make the most of every minute, because you will look back on these days and wish that you could relive them. Just like starting anything new in life, you will hit some rough waters, but stick in there, because the pros to being Greek outweigh the cons any day.

■ **Walker is a senior public relations and political science major from Deer Park. E-mail her at jenny.walker@ttu.edu.**

Got a comment or concern? Write a letter to the editor! E-mail us at UD@ttu.edu

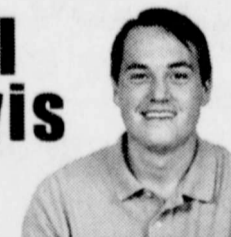
## Republican National Convention serves up a grand old party...literally

Like any good Conservative, I have been glued to my television set this week watching the Republican National Convention. With my Bible in one hand and my Yoo-Hoo in the other, I have been enthralled by the constant excitement of the speeches.

To kick things off, John McCain and Rudolph Giuliani spoke opening night. The media has dubbed McCain the "Maverick" of the Republican Party, but I prefer to think of him more as a "Loose Cannon."

On the other hand, Giuliani is probably the only political figure who has not lost his luster since 9/11 and one of the few Republicans who has cross-over appeal with Democrats. Both speakers were used

**Will Davis**



*I feel Bush has a lot to say. He has led America through a recession, 9/11, two wars and has liberated 50 million people.*

by the Republicans to show a more moderate side of the party, in an attempt to reach out to undecided voters.

The Democrats had this same strategy in mind the first night of their convention, employing Bill Clinton's well-honed skill of reaching out and touching people. I almost felt sorry for John Kerry after I watched Clinton's speech, knowing Kerry could only dream of controlling a crowd like Clinton does.

To make up for this shortcoming, Kerry wrapped himself in the flag during his convention. Usually, war heroes reserve this right until they are dead, but I can forgive Kerry, since on any given day he could be mistaken for a corpse.

Let us face it; he is just not a very attractive man.

Speaking of death, a man who has faced death about five times will speak tonight at the convention. Dick Cheney is like the uncle who is never around and whom you have not seen since you were three. Cheney is known for his calm and low-key temperament, but just last week, the vice president came out of the closet and publicly stated he has a gay daughter.

Moved by this spirit of openness, Arnold Schwarzenegger came out last night and declared that he is a lesbian trapped in a man's body, bringing a roar of applause by the solitary lesbian at the convention and putting to rest his groping allegations.

Of course, the Democrats hate the Republicans for holding their convention in the beloved Democratic city of New York, and protesters are out in full force all over the town. When they were banned from holding demonstrations in Central Park last week, many protestors started marching in the nude. Seeing what liberals do when they do not get their way is always nice.

For me, the highlight of the week will be tomorrow, when President Bush will give his acceptance speech. I feel Bush has a lot to say. He has led America through a recession, 9/11, two wars and has liberated 50 million people. Bush even survived an assassination attempt by a lone pretzel, and he is not even through his first term yet.

Word is Bush will unveil his vision of an "Ownership Society," where Americans will be able to control their health care and their retirement benefits. The Democrats should be petrified, knowing if Bush can make all Americans capitalists, they do not have a prayer.

Seeing what kind of bounce, if any, Bush will get after this convention will be interesting. Kerry was successful, however, at achieving the only inverted bounce recorded in political history following his acceptance of the nomination. Whatever happens, we will not see a party like this for another four years.

■ **Davis is a senior finance major from Lubbock. E-mail him at wjdjw@sbcglobal.net.**

The University Daily

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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 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

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# South Plains students to transfer to Tech for teaching degrees

By Erica Hoff/  
The University Daily

Students considering or pursuing a degree in teaching at South Plains College in Levelland may discover they will be graduating from Texas Tech where the recently approved associate of arts in teaching degree.

The program is designed to attract students who have a strong background in the Spanish language to teach bilingual courses, as well as those interested in teaching special education, said Margaret Johnson, associate professor at the College of Education.

"It means we can identify potential teachers while they are still at South Plains," Johnson said. "It

means they can complete their programs and come onto Tech."

Both areas in the education system are in need, she said, and Tech is aiming to expand the number of people certified in these fields.

Tech and South Plains collaborated to create an agreement that will guarantee students who complete the degree a place in the teacher education program at Tech, with no loss of credits, said Karen Jacobsen, director of external affairs at the College of Education.

Increased contact between faculty, staff and students will ensure a smooth transition for those students choosing to go into the program.

A meeting was held in the spring at South Plains to educate students who showed early interest in the

program. There were about 50 students present, but Johnson said the program has hope of hundreds.

The program will assist students

can move on to Tech, where they will be able to complete a bachelor's and a teaching degree.

According to Tech documents, Tech faculty will be working with South Plains faculty during the upcoming year to make the transition from South Plains to Tech as smooth as possible. The faculty of both colleges will be discussing the curriculum as well as the adjustment for students into a university. Tech faculty also intend to keep close contact

with the students to prevent their becoming intimidated. Plans are to transport South Plains students to the Tech campus during the first two years for classes, presentations and speakers to familiarize students with and encourage continuing to the program, Jacobsen said.

Financial aid for the program is in progress, Johnson said. Grants and other funding are being looked into to help students. The earliest students may transfer to Tech for the program is next summer or fall, with the soonest graduation being in May 2006, she said.

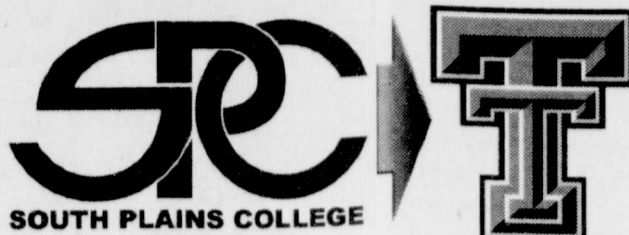
A large number of students at South Plains is pursuing teaching credentials, said Gail Platt, director of the Teaching and Learning Center at South Plains.

"This is really going to help facilitate their entry into the teaching program," Platt said.

The agreement was implemented in July. Expansion into other areas of teaching, such as secondary and high school, remains a future possibility, Johnson said, as well as looking for students who have a strong desire to teach in these areas. Students also have to be fluent in Spanish, with the capabilities to pass both a written exam and an oral exam.

The current focus is on the need for bilingual and special education teachers because of the considerable lack of both in the state of Texas, she said.

"We can identify Spanish speaking students and encourage them to become teachers," Johnson said.



## Hostages

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The official Jordanian news agency, Petra, reported from Iraq that it expected the release of the journalists "within the next few hours." The agency said its report was based on "well-informed" sources.

The journalists, apparently under duress, were shown on a video released by Al-Jazeera television late Monday urging Chirac to meet militants' demands to ban on Islamic head scarves that takes effect when classes resume Thursday. France has ruled out repealing the law.

Condemnation of the kidnapping and support for France poured in from around Europe and the Middle East, from Baghdad.

Mohammed Bashar al-Faidi, spokesman for the Association of Muslim Scholars, an influential Sunni group believed to have links to insurgents, made a televised ap-

peal to the group, saying the kidnapping was not the correct way to fight the French law.

When asked about Arab television reports that the two men would soon be released, al-Faidi said: "We have no information so far on their fate, and we have no direct contact with the kidnappers."

The journalists were believed to be held by the Islamic group of Iraq, thought to be a Sunni group. Militant Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr also called for the reporters to be set free.

"We believe such acts defame Islam and Muslims in general," Ali al-Yasiri, an al-Sadr representative in Baghdad, said Tuesday. "To fight in a battlefield is okay, but to kill a civilian or journalist is blasphemy."

Al-Sadr's comments strongly supported

brokered the Aug. 22 release of U.S. journalist Micah Garen after nine days in the hands of Shiite militia-men. But he is thought to have little influence among extremist Sunnis.

The European Parliament also called for the immediate release of the two Frenchmen, and by Tuesday morning more than 160 EU lawmakers had signed a petition demanding their freedom.

"Whatever its origin, terrorism has but one goal: to kill freedom of expression and thought. Democrats around the world have to fight this," EU assembly President Josep Borrell said in a statement.

In a video broadcast Saturday, the group gave the French government 48 hours to overturn the ban. Al-Jazeera on Monday said the group had extended its deadline by 24 hours, to late Tuesday.

A militant group with a similar name was believed to have killed an Italian freelance journalist last week after Italy's government rejected a demand that it withdraw its 3,000 soldiers in Iraq.

The hostage crisis and terrorism topped talks between the leaders of France, Germany and Russia at a pre-planned summit at Vladimir Putin's

Black Sea resort in Sochi.

At a press conference, Chirac said he told his counterparts that France was determined to see the reporters freed. "Everything will be done to obtain their liberation."

Jordan's Abdull and Foreign Minister Marwan Muasher said Amman was using the contacts developed in freeing its own kidnapped citizens to try to help the French journalists. At least nine Jordanian hostages have been freed in Iraq in the last two weeks.

In Paris, French Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin held an emergency Cabinet meeting to discuss the crisis. Ministers left the meeting without commenting.

The demand to end the head scarf ban was the first time hostage-takers sought to reverse a nation's domestic law.

The kidnapping proved false the notion that France's opposition to the Iraq war and its generally pro-Arab policies may to some extent have inoculated it from Islamic terrorism.

## Iraqi women visit Capitol

AUSTIN (AP) — Two Iraqi women traveling the country to share stories of life before and after Saddam Hussein stopped at the Capitol Tuesday and were welcomed by Secretary of State Geoff Connor.

The women, Sunrod Ahmad and Tagreed Al-Karakoly, are touring the country as part of the Iraq-America Freedom Alliance, a nonpartisan coalition of American and Iraqi organizations and individuals that aims to promote goodwill between the nations.

During a news conference, Ahmad said she and her family suffered under the deposed dictator's regime. Her sister, aunt and stepmother were

killed when they tried to flee Ahmad's hometown of Kirkuk in 1991. Ahmad was able to reunite with the rest of her family only after the liberation of Iraq, she said.

"For the first time, I can say I'm a Kurdish," Ahmad said. "I can say that and not be afraid."

Ahmad, 33, said watching American soldiers drop from helicopters during the war in Iraq "was like angels coming from heaven."

Al-Karakoly said she is pleased with the progress women are making politically.

To honor the visit, Gov. Rick Perry declared the day "Iraq-America Freedom Day."

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# Parking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

side streets and walk."

Nicole Nowlin, a junior from Brady, did not want to buy a parking permit.

"I just park at the Alpha Plasma Center since it's free, and I won't have to deal with the parking situation," Nowlin said.

The First Baptist Church on Broadway Ave. is not selling parking permits, said Chamene Burton, a receptionist at the church.

"As of right now, we are not towing, but if it becomes a problem, then we will put

warning tow signs up," Burton said. "We aren't selling parking permits for the west side, but in two or three weeks, we might start selling parking passes for 10<sup>th</sup> Street."

Construction on the satellite parking lot should be finished in late October, but Hinojosa said the same parking plan will continue until the end of the semester to limit confusion.

Hinojosa said students who purchased satellite parking permits can be put on a waiting list for residence hall parking.

"There are 200 available spots," Hinojosa said. "We will be offering them to students from the law school and to all commuting parkers. After the dust settles in a week, we will address that."

*"There are 200 available spots. After the dust settles in a week, we will address that."*

— MAX HINOJOSA  
Vice President of Operations



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

A VIEW OF the curved lanes at the intersection of 4th Street and Jones SBC Stadium as seen from an upper level of the north side of the stadium. Cars filled the parking lot across the street.



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

TECH STUDENTS PARKED cars in the grass and dirt median between the intersection of 4th Street and Brownfield Highway Tuesday.



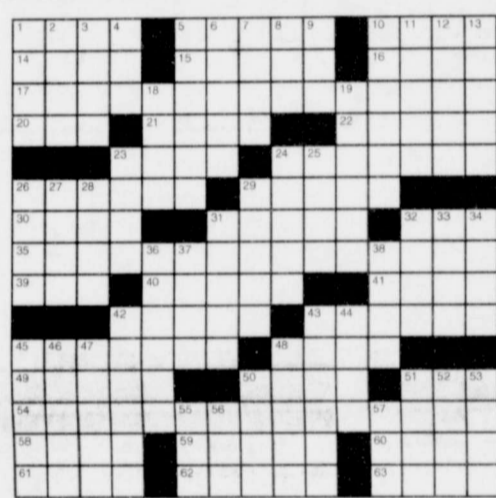
ANDREW WEATHERL/The University Daily

MUD AND PUDDLES of water hindered the parking situation along the median of Brownfield Highway.

## THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

### ACROSS

- 1 Factual information
- 5 Syrupy drink
- 10 Stuff to the gills
- 14 Historic periods
- 15 La Scala offering
- 16 Port of Yemen
- 17 Way out in front
- 20 Drivers lic. and such
- 21 Ages and ages
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- 35 Stuck in second gear
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- 50 Mobile starter?
- 51 Kettle and Barker
- 54 Trailing
- 58 Glance over
- 59 Spout from the gais
- 60 Debate side
- 61 Buffalo bunch
- 62 Senegalese language
- 63 What's left



9/1/04

By Diane C. Baldwin  
Columbia, MD

### Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



- 5 Brimming with good cheer
- 6 Tip over
- 7 Poetic meadows
- 8 Mess up
- 9 Fathers
- 10 Most of Mail
- 11 Proficient
- 12 Tantalize
- 13 All over
- 18 Go at a gallop
- 19 49th state
- 23 For fear that
- 24 Dracula's title
- 25 Strung up
- 26 Vijay Singh's homeland
- 27 Be adjacent to
- 28 ...and tell
- 29 Mixes up
- 31 Ocean ray
- 32 Frame of mind
- 33 Site or room opener
- 34 Zounds!
- 36 Like rhymes and verses
- 37 October birthstone
- 38 Easter bloom
- 42 Maroon
- 43 Sire
- 44 Haulboy
- 45 ...kebab
- 46 From now on
- 47 Open a castle door
- 48 Mesa's cousin
- 50 Way off
- 51 Currycomb target
- 52 Dramatic divisions
- 53 Playlet
- 55 Boxer's stat door
- 56 Mine extraction
- 57 Golf norm

## Convocation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Chancellor Dr. David Smith offered his advice to freshmen students.

Smith said students need to remember to be passionate and to chase their dreams.

"Don't be one of those individuals that wishes something," he said. "Take a course you wouldn't normally take."

President Jon Whitmore, the keynote speaker for convocation, commended the Tech faculty.

"We are here today to honor the faculty and their important work," he said.

Whitmore stressed the most important qualities students should possess as they approach the semester.

"I believe the most important quality you will bring to this experience is your attitude," he said.

Whitmore said the new adven-

tures students will have at Tech require enthusiasm, more than any other commodity.

Whitmore closed with a promise to the students. Tech is an atmosphere where you will flourish, if your attitude is enthusiastic, he said.

Amy Maynard, associate director for the Center for Campus Life, said she hopes freshmen students will feel a part of the Tech community after this event.

"I think convocation is a first year student's official welcome to the university," she said. "I think it builds a real sense of community for all students. It's a special tradition we were able to

bring back."

Senior Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Provost Peggy Flores said the goal of freshmen convocation was to make new students feel a part of Tech.

Getting students off on the right foot along with welcoming students to the Tech community, is important, she said.

"I think the main thing is they feel like they feel welcome at Texas Tech," she said.

Flores also stressed the importance of academics.

"Academics are a very big part of this university," she said.

Flores agreed the faculty members' presence at convocation was important.

"It's a good thing to have faculty there," she said, "and show that we care." "We're ready for them in our classes."

Michael Jaco, a freshman electrical engineering major from Carlsbad, N.M., said freshman convocation is encouraging for the upcoming semester.

Jaco said he has enjoyed the welcome week activities for freshmen and is realizing how to do things at Tech.

"I think it's a good end," he said. "It summarizes the whole thing."

Maureen Vanek, a freshman architecture major from Crawford, said convocation will help her understand everything Tech has to offer.

Kaitlin Underwood, an architecture and business major from Bastrop, agreed.

"It helped me become more familiar with the school," she said.

*"I think convocation is a first year students' official welcome to the university."*

— AMY MAYNARD  
Associate Director for the Center for Campus Life

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# Texas Tech Flashback

By Brittany Fish/  
The University Daily

Tech football defeated the University of Texas at Austin, Coffey said.

live on campus until you were 21," he said.

Executive Vice President of Student Publications, Alumni Director and a professor in the College of Mass Communications.

He said the problem was not as widespread 40 years ago.

he said. "So there were a lot more things to do having friends that were locals."

Tracy Coffey remembers a time

when he would physically run from booth to booth to register for his classes at Texas Tech.

"It was a real nightmare," he said. "You get down on your knees and beg every once in a while."

Coffey, a 1971 Tech graduate, did not have the luxury of registering for his classes online.

"It was wild," he said. "It was like going to fiesta night in Old San Antonio and signing up for classes."

Coffey had to stand in line in the old Tech basketball coliseum trying to get the sections we wanted, and then our academic advisor had to approve the schedule, he said.

"The biggest drag was having to

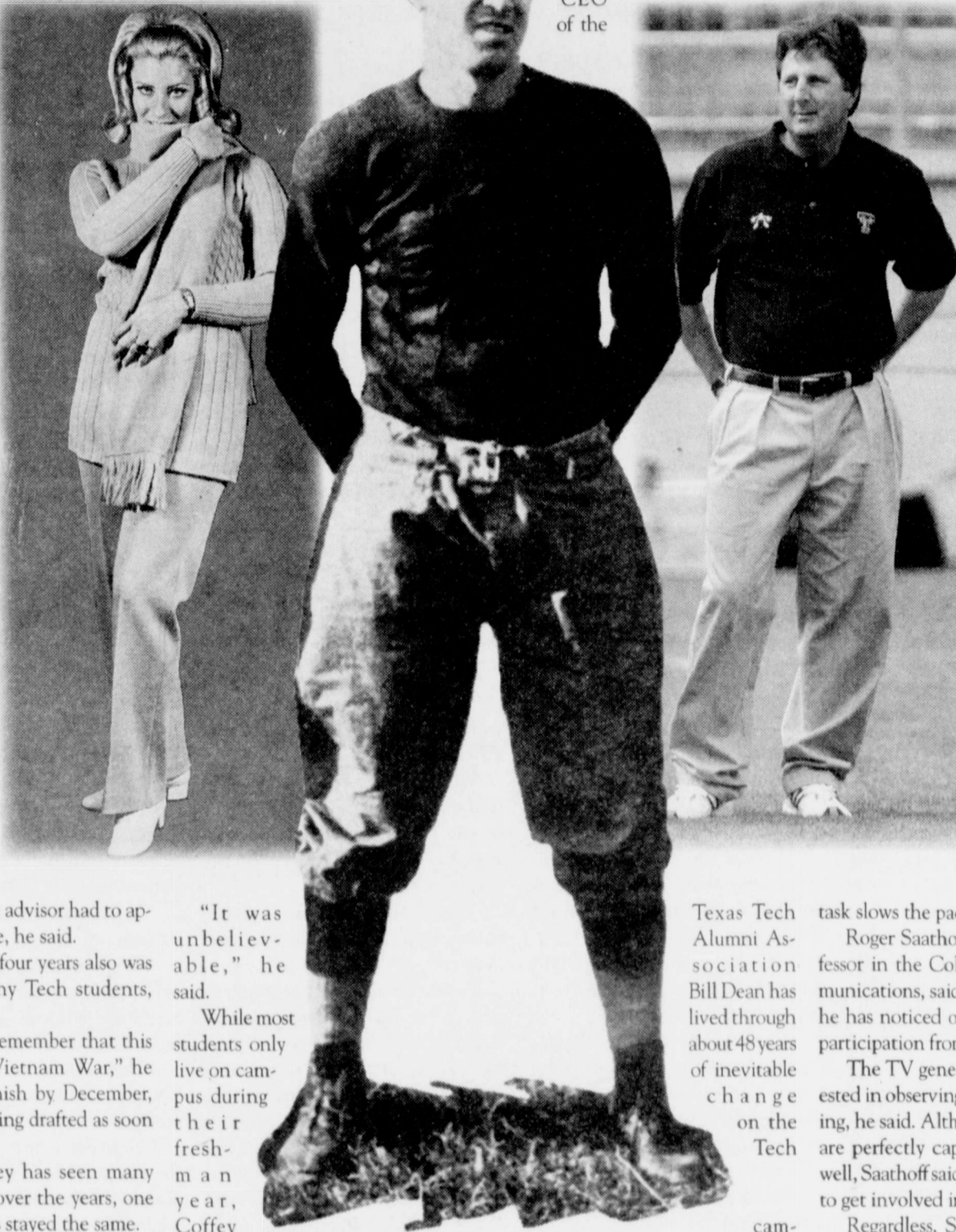
Graduating in four years also was a priority for many Tech students, Coffey said.

"You have to remember that this was during the Vietnam War," he said. "I had to finish by December, because I was getting drafted as soon as I finished."

Though Coffey has seen many changes in Tech over the years, one thing, he said, has stayed the same.

"Athletics was huge," he said. "1967 was the first year that Tech recruited a black athlete."

That year was also the first year



"It was unbelievable," he said.

While most students only live on campus during their freshman year, Coffey had to reside on campus for an extended period of time.

"The biggest drag was having to

and CEO of the

task slows the pace.

Roger Saathoff, an associate professor in the College of Mass Communications, said an obvious change he has noticed over the years is less participation from students.

The TV generation is more interested in observing than in participating, he said. Although these students are perfectly capable of performing well, Saathoff said, there is a hesitancy to get involved in discussion.

Regardless, Saathoff said he discovers a lot about his students.

"I learn more and more from the students every day," he said.

Dean said another concern is students' consumption of alcohol.

Academically, Tech has imposed tougher admission standards, he said.

Through the years, Dean said, Tech has seen higher quality students and better retention rates. In the late 1980s, Tech was losing about 50 percent of students, he said. Now, Tech retains 85 percent of students.

Dean said the reason he thinks students are taking about five and a half years to graduate is because of cost.

Students have to pay for school, he said, and that

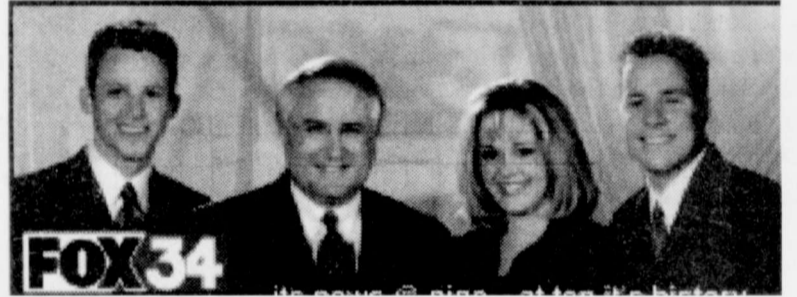
campus.

After graduating from Tech in 1961, he returned in 1967.

His positions have included Direc-

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 1

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:30	Body Slam	Today Show	Early Show	K. Coopers	Good Morning	K. Coopers
8:30	Generation		Early Show	Mid Morn	Amelia	Frankie
9:30	Dragon News	Today Show	Pod Program	Judge Marj	Jane Pauley	Therapist
10:30	Second Street	Regis & Kelly	Price is Right	Hatched	View	Makeover
11:30	Mr. Rogers	Howard Stern	Young & Rubicam	Pod Program	Pod Program	Access
12:30	Woodwright	Days of Our Lives	News	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day
1:30	St. Be Pils	Dragon News	As the World Turns	Pod Program	One Life to Live	People
2:30	Zoom	Star Wars	Full Moon	Street Smart	General Hospital	Divorce
3:30	El Financiero	Cyberchase	World's Wildest	Pod Program	Marci a Week	Joe Brown
4:30	Clifford	Arthur	Judge Judy	Sabrina	Jane Pauley	News
5:30	TBA	Nightly 8	News	Pyramid	Family Feud	News
6:30	News	WFO	News	News	News	News
7:30	Ken Burns	American	Planet	Let's Celebrate	My Wife and My Wife's	FOX Movie
8:30	Stories	Danielle	Jane Pauley	News	News	News
9:30	Great Lodges	20/20	Republi	20/20	20/20	News
10:30	Nightly 8	News	Tonight Show	News	News	News
11:30	Destines	Comet	U.S. Open	Stand Date	E.T.	Play and
12:30		U. S. Open	Crab	Est. Dating	Jimmy Kimmel	Bestor



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# 'Garden State' blooms in theaters

"Garden State" is very close to the heart of first-time writer/director Zach Braff. This is the story he has been waiting to tell and the film he has been anxious to make.

He wrote the script about three years ago, as he was waiting to begin work starring in NBC sitcom "Scrubs."

After three years of starring as Dr. J.D. Dorian on "Scrubs," which is one of the best shows on television, Braff now has the connections and muscle to make his project.

Braff, along with writing and directing the film, cast himself in the lead as Andrew Largeman, who, like Braff, is a New Jersey native who moved west with aspirations of being an actor.

Largeman, —"Large" to his friends—, is a lonely, depressed pill-popper with a medicine cabinet filled with nicely organized prescription drugs.

After experiencing a tragic event when he was young, Largeman's psychiatrist father, Gideon (Ian Holm), prescribed an array of drugs to help his son deal with the pain.

**James Eppler**



He has since become dependent on the drugs and now finds himself numb to the world surrounding him and wondering if there is a way out of this abyss of depression.

His career is struggling, as he has had one big role—a mentally challenged quarterback in a made-for-TV movie.

He receives a call from his father, which he lets the answering machine screen because he has not talked to his parents in years, telling him his paraplegic mother drowned in the bathtub.

He leaves his cabinet of security behind and goes back home to the Garden State for his mom's funeral. One of the gravediggers is an old friend named Mark (Peter Sarsgaard), who helps himself to jewelry placed on bodies when he's not getting stoned.

As Largeman re-encounters some of his old friends who still live in the small New Jersey town, Braff plays his character with a deadpan look of depression.

When he meets a quirky and direct Samantha (Natalie Portman) in a doctor's office, the moment proves to be the beginning of something different—a replacement for the drugs on which he has been depending on.

Portman shines in her best work to date as Samantha, a young woman with seemingly childish innocence,

who also happens to be a pathological liar.

As the relationship between the two develops, Braff begins to slowly open his character like a budding flower. He finds a sense of security and acceptance in her that makes him "feel safe."

The idea may sound trite and simple, but the best aspect of Braff's story is the honesty. Honesty is, at times, best found in simplicity. Falling in love does not solve everything in this film. The conflict between Largeman and his father is not a big fight — it is a simple conversation that, while it does not fix everything, steers events in the right direction.

Questions are still left unanswered. In fact, the last line in the

film is a question.

Braff's character, by the end of the film, has not come to a revelation about himself but is now content with his life. After all, the film only spans four days of his life.

The film's biggest problem may be it relies too much on eccentric characters and quirky situations for humor and plot movement. A scavenger hunt of sorts with Largeman, Mark and Sam meanders, and a scene involving a literal abyss is far too obvious when the point has already been made.

That problem is a rookie mistake on Braff's part, feeling the need to spell things out for his audience.

The film also has garnered comparisons to "The Graduate," another

film about twenty-something self-discovery. Some of the comparisons are almost hard to deny, especially when a Simon and Garfunkel tune plays in "Garden State."

I do not think, however, Braff is trying to attain the greatness of "The Graduate," because he does not. But his small film is full of big ideas and bigger emotions that should not be ignored.

Playing only at Movies 16.



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

■ Eppler is The UD's movie critic. E-mail comments and questions to James.D.Eppler@ttu.edu.



# Two new planets discovered by American astronomers

(AP)— American astronomers say they have discovered the two smallest planets yet orbiting nearby stars, trumping a small planet discovery by European scientists five days ago.

All three of these smaller bodies belong to a new class of planets orbiting distant stars, the scientists said Tuesday.

The planets are roughly the size of Neptune in our solar system and are 14 to 18 times the mass of Earth.

The two new planets were spotted by two separate teams of U.S. researchers.

Scientists not involved in the projects lauded both, saying their planets should be recognized as the first discoveries of planets in this class — rather than the Europeans

who announced their planet last week.

The dueling announcements reflect the intensity of the race to discover exoplanets, or planets orbiting stars other than our sun. The big prize, of course, would be to find an Earth-sized planet capable of supporting life, but today's instruments cannot detect bodies that small.

Using an Olympics analogy, Carnegie Institution planetary theorist Alan Boss said the American groups have tied for first place and should share a gold medal.

Boss noted the Americans' findings have been accepted for publication by international science journals, while the discovery led by a pair of prominent Swiss astronomers still is being reviewed

for publication.

"These two were submitted July and August, while the Swiss discovery is still in consideration," said Boss, who did not participate in any of the discoveries.

"On that basis," he said of the Europeans, "I would award them the bronze" medal.

Over the past decade, astronomers have found as many as 135 planets orbiting various stars, but all of them are giant gas planets similar to Jupiter and Saturn.

One of the new planets, located by University of Texas at Austin astronomers, is orbiting very close to the star named 55 Cancri, which is about the same size as our Sun is and located 41 light-years away.

The star already had three known gas giant planets looping it

in orbits that take anywhere from 14 to 4,520 days.

The new planet is the innermost of the quartet, orbiting the star in less than three days from a distance of about 3 million miles.

"This is the closest analog to our solar system," said astronomer Barbara McArthur, who led the Texas team.

"This star is the premier lab for study of the formation and evolution of planetary systems."

The other new planet discovered by American scientists orbits a star called Gliese 436 that lies about 33 light-years from Earth in the direction of the constellation of Leo.

The Neptune-sized planet also hovers about 3 million miles from

its star and whips around in its tight circular orbit once every 2.64 days.

It was discovered by premier planet-hunters Geoffrey Marcy of the University of California-Berkeley and Paul Butler of the Carnegie Institution.

Together, they have spotted about half of the known exoplanets.

Aside from the exoplanet's size, what makes the discovery remarkable is that Gliese 436 is a red dwarf star that produces only 2 or 3 percent as much light as the Sun. Stars in this category account for 70 percent of the stars in the our Milky Way galaxy, but until now, astronomers had not believed that such faint stars would yield

new planets.

Now the planet-hunters say they are "revamping" their strategy.

"We estimate there is something like 20 billion planetary systems existing in our Milky Way galaxy alone," Butler said.

The European team describes its new object as a "super-Earth."

The planet was spotted in June orbiting a southern hemisphere star called mu Arae located 50 light-years away in the constellation Alter. It orbits mu Arae every 9.5 days and has a temperature of more than 1,160 degrees.

Scientists cannot yet determine the composition of the new smaller planets. They said the planets could be made of rock and ice.

menace to the mainstream

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# Tech student considers priesthood



This is part of an on-going series of stories on members of the Tech community.

By Kandis Wenk/  
The University Daily

To the unknowing eye, Sean Broderick looks like any other college student. Broderick, a senior electrical engineering major from Houston, Broderick likes hanging out with friends and computer gaming.

However, unlike many college students throughout the world, Broderick is contemplating devoting his life to God.

"I've been seriously discerning the priesthood for a little over two years," he said. "I first recognized the call near the end of my freshman year."

Broderick said he was not always an avid churchgoer or believer in the Christian faith. He did not actively pursue his Catholic faith until he came to Tech.

"During high school, I never went to church," he said. "I left (my) agnostic mindset and starting going back to church after I attended Raider Awakening."

Broderick said Raider Awakening, sponsored by the Catholic Student Association, is a college retreat for Christian students wanting to encounter God.

"Since that retreat, I have been a member of the Catholic Student As-

sociation," he said. "I'd just hang out and meet people at events."

Last fall, Broderick was elected as religious co-chairman and helped prepare for student mass.

Broderick also said he stays active with his church by going to mass and going to Bible study.

He also loves reading and is reading "Triumph."

"Triumph" tells history of Christianity," he said. "It's really witty but also has a lot of meat to it."

Broderick said his greatest influences are the priests at his church and a former professor.

"The priests I've met, like Father Brendan and Father O'Conner, are incredible people that you can talk to about anything," he said, "Not just religious topics."

Broderick said although he still is discerning the priesthood, he would not be surprised if 10 years from now he was studying in a seminary or already a priest.

"I'm completely willing to become a priest if God provides the means," he said. "I still have a lot of growing up to do."

Broderick said one reason he wants to become a priest is to help

people in any way he can. He said in the classes, he tries to help colleagues to the best of his ability, but he would much rather help people on a personal level.

"I would like to help husbands and wives have a better marriage and students become better students," he said. "The ultimate goal is to save souls."

Broderick said his religious endeavors sometimes complicate things.

"I've had friends who don't know I'm discerning priesthood and aren't Christian, find out and are completely surprised," he said.

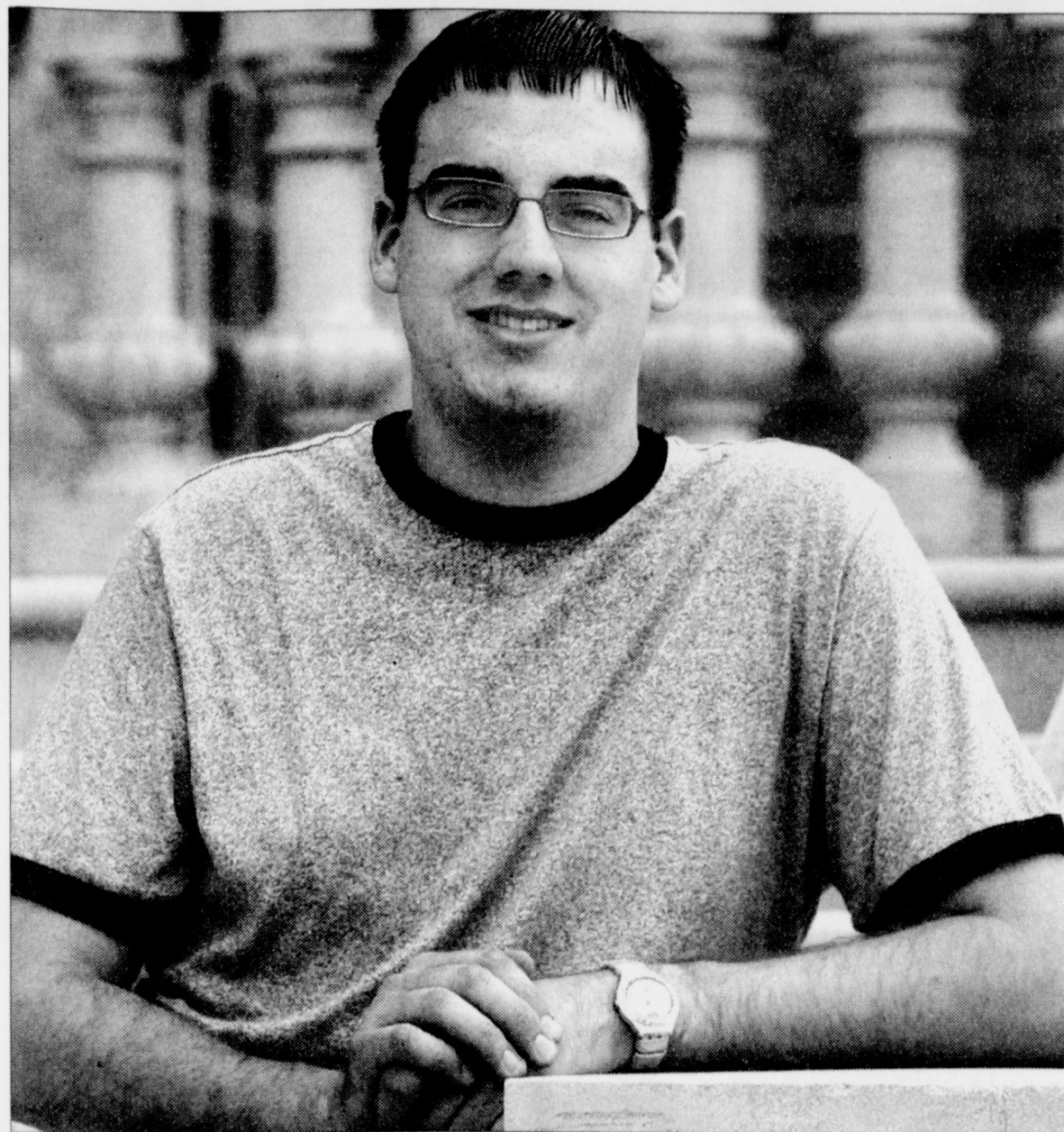
"At the same time though, it's given me opportunities to talk to people I would never talk to, and that will help me to be a better adult."

To some students, priesthood and balancing the course load of an electrical engineering major might seem daunting, but Broderick said he thinks of the challenge as an added perk.

"It forces me to work harder and to be a better person, which is an extra incentive," he said. "I always thought to be a good Christian is to be a good student, which is difficult for me since I've had senioritis since birth."

*"I'm completely willing to become a priest if God provides the means."*

— SEAN BRODERICK  
Senior electrical engineering major from Houston



JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/The University Daily

SEAN BRODERICK, A senior electrical engineering major from Houston, is deciding whether to enter the priesthood as he finishes his education at Texas Tech.

## Protests plague the Republican National Convention

NEW YORK (AP) — Activists donned pig snouts, climbed trees and staged small demonstrations from one end of Manhattan to the other Tuesday as police scrambled to manage a day of civil disobedience aimed at the Republican National Convention.

Officers encircled more than 100 demonstrators with orange netting at one protest, and a police spokesman said they would be arrested for blocking the sidewalk.

At least two people were handcuffed and wrestled into a police van.

The protest's 500 demonstrators, a group called the War Resisters League, said they were staging a "death march" from the former site of the World Trade Center to Madison Square Garden, site of the

convention. The arrests happened about a block from Ground Zero.

More than 500 people have been arrested in convention protest activity since late last week. On Tuesday, police arrested 20 in two small protests.

No major disturbances or confrontations were reported by mid-afternoon. Organizers expected thousands of protesters later Tuesday at the day's biggest planned demonstration, targeting companies accused of profiting from the Iraq war.

"This is an uprising of the non-violent variety of the people of New York and their allies across the country," said Shahid Buttar, 30, a lawyer from Washington, D.C.

Police also announced the arrest of a Thomas Frampton, a 21-year-old Yale student, who came within 10

feet of Vice President Dick Cheney Monday night at Cheney's convention booth and shouted anti-war and anti-Bush slogans. Frampton was charged with assaulting federal officers and impeding the operation of the Secret Service.

On the third day of protests, a day targeted months ago for intense anti-Bush civil disobedience, Manhattan began to resemble a crazy-quilt of barriers, heavily armed police and street-corner activists.

Outside the midtown hotel where Texas delegates are staying, about two dozen protesters, depicting employees of "Hallibacon," grunted through plastic pig snouts Tuesday and bathed themselves in stacks of fake \$100 bills bearing the images of President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney.


The protesters accused Cheney and Halliburton, the company he once led, of profiting from the war in Iraq and its aftermath. They chanted: "We love money. We love war. We love Cheney even more."

Across the street from the Man-

hattan state Supreme Court building, a young man clad in black and wearing a Palestinian-style checkered scarf climbed a tree and was immediately ordered down by police.

As he descended, a police officer

grabbed his arm and pulled him away. The young man stood his ground, holding up his other hand and saying nothing. Other protesters rushed toward the police, shouting "Let him go!" The young man was hustled off.



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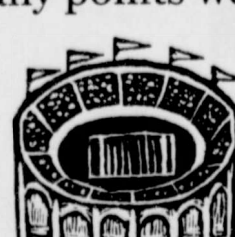
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Example

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Sept.

- 2 Mark David Manders
- 3 Ryan Briggs
- 4 Back to School Party
- 9 Righteous Bastard
- 10 Steve Tenpenny
- 11 Brandon Rhyder
- 16 Almost Cowboys
- 17 Quincy Harper
- 18 Quincy Harper
- 24 Dirty Sancho
- 25 Doug Moreland
- 30 Ryan Briggs

www.bashriprocks.com

# EXPERIENCE Recreational Sports

www.recsports.ttu.edu

### Student Rec Center Hours

Monday - Friday 6:00am - 12:00am  
Saturday 8:00am - 10:00pm  
Sunday 12:00pm - 12:00am

### Aquatic Center Hours

Monday - Friday 6:30am - 8:45am  
Saturday - Sunday 12:00pm - 7:00pm  
12:00pm - 9:00pm

### Heartbeats

A quick pulse around the Rec Sports world...

#### Get Your Rec Locker!

If you are interested in purchasing a locker in the Student Rec Center for the upcoming school year, please come by and visit us today until 5pm. Renting a locker is inexpensive with semester full-lockers only \$8 and annual full-lockers only \$20.

#### Circuit Workshop

Get some great instruction on the cybex selectorize equipment in the circuit weight room on Saturday, September 4 at 9:30 am. Register in the Fitness/Wellness Center.

#### Greek Men Intramurals

A reminder the chairperson's meeting for Greek Men's Intramural sports is today at 4:30pm in room 201 of the Rec Center. Each organization should have their athletic chair or a representative at this meeting.

#### Try Sports Clubs!

The Department of Recreational Sports has 25 active sport clubs for you to choose from! We have clubs ranging from recreational to highly competitive. All you have to do is drop by a practice and see if it is right for you!! No Obligations and no experience necessary to try them out! For a complete listing or please check out the website or contact Dee Pouzol, Coordinator of Sport Clubs at 742-3351.

#### FitRaider Club

FitRaider is a program for resident halls students to participate in group exercise classes and compete for prizes. It's simple - every time you take a class, sign in at the Fitness/Wellness Center. You and your floor are then in the running for great gifts. The kick-off class is Thursday, September 2nd, 7:00 p.m. in room 114. There will be prizes, including an MP3 player, and a great workout. You do not need to attend the kick off to enroll in FitRaider; just drop by the Fitness/Wellness Center to sign up. It's fun, it's free and it will keep you coming back!

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## The Ultimate Campus Party! Friday, Sept. 10 4-7pm

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### FITNESS/WELLNESS

#### Get Your Move On With Specialty Classes

Sign-ups are going on now and the classes begin Sept. 12. Spaces are limited, so hurry to the Fit/Well Center to register.

Class	Day	Time	Cost	Dates
Ballet	T/TH	4:15-5:15pm	\$20	1/27-2/26
Belly Dance	W	8:15-9:15pm	\$10	1/28-2/25
Boxing Tech.	SU	3:30-5:30pm	\$20	1/25-2/22
Cardio Belly	T	3:00-4:00pm	\$12	1/27-2/24
Fit. Inst. Training	T/TH	3:00-5:00pm	\$30	1/29-2/19
Irish Dancing	M	5:30-6:30pm	\$12	1/26-2/23
Jazz Dance	M	7:00-8:00pm	\$10	1/26-2/23
Knockout Jam	M/W	4:15-5:15pm	\$20	1/26-2/25
	T/TH	6:45-7:45pm	\$20	1/27-2/26
Mat Pilates	M	5:30-6:30pm	\$20	1/26-2/23
	T	5:30-6:30pm	\$20	1/27-2/24
	SA	11am-12:00pm	\$20	1/31-2/28
Men's Wt. Training	T/TH	8:00-9:00pm	\$16	1/27-2/19
Racquetball	T/TH	6:00-7:00pm	\$16	1/27-2/19
Spin City	T/TH	12:10-1:00pm	\$20	1/26-2/25
	M/W	6:45-7:45pm	\$20	1/26-2/25
	T/TH	5:30-6:30pm	\$20	1/27-2/26
Tap Dance	SU	4:00-5:00pm	\$10	1/25-2/22
USA Tennis 1-2-3	M/W	5:15-6:15pm	\$20	3/29-4/21
Team Tennis	M/W	6:30-7:30pm	\$20	3/29-4/21
Women & Wgts.	M/W	8:00-9:00pm	\$16	1/26-2/18
Yoga	M	9:00-10:00pm	\$20	1/26-2/23
	W	5:30-6:30pm	\$20	1/28-2/25
	W	6:35-7:35pm	\$20	1/28-2/25
	TH	5:30-6:30pm	\$20	1/29-2/26



## Expanded Hours!

You asked for it, you got it! New for the fall, the Student Rec Center and Aquatic Center will be open longer for you to get your workout in. Workout at night with the Rec Center open till midnight during the week or relax between classes at the Aquatic Center with expanded hours during the afternoon.

### INTRAMURALS

#### Flag Football Officials Meeting Tomorrow Night

Thursday, September 2nd is your chance to become part of the biggest event this semester has to offer. Over 390 teams (5,200 students) will compete in a grueling two-month season. But before it all begins Rec Sports is hiring 60 - 80 students to become Intramural Flag-Football Officials. Officials are paid \$9 per game. There are also paid clinics scheduled to assist perspective employees. The first clinic will be Thursday, Sept. 2nd at 5 PM in room 201 of the Student Rec. Center. If you have any questions regarding employment feel free to call 742-2945.

#### What's the 411? Find Out With Intramural Flag Football

Now is the time to organize your team for intramural flag football. Around 400 teams will compete in the men's, women's and co-rec divisions. The sign-up period begins on Tuesday, Sept. 7 and goes through 5pm on Thursday, Sept. 9.

Flag Football is a fast-paced 7 on 7 game. Only non-contact-screen-blocking is allowed so the games are fast paced and wide open. Everyone is an eligible receiver. Teams may have as many players on the roster as they wish, but individuals are limited to play on one men's or women's team. A player may also participate on one co-rec team.

To enter a team, come to the intramural office (Rec Center room 203) between 8am and 5pm starting Tuesday. Team captains should have a list of players, including, student ID numbers, a \$30 refundable forfeit fee, and an idea of what night and time the team would like to play. Games are held from 5pm to midnight on Monday through Thursday and from noon until midnight on Sunday. It is a first-come-first-served grab for prime days and times so don't be late!

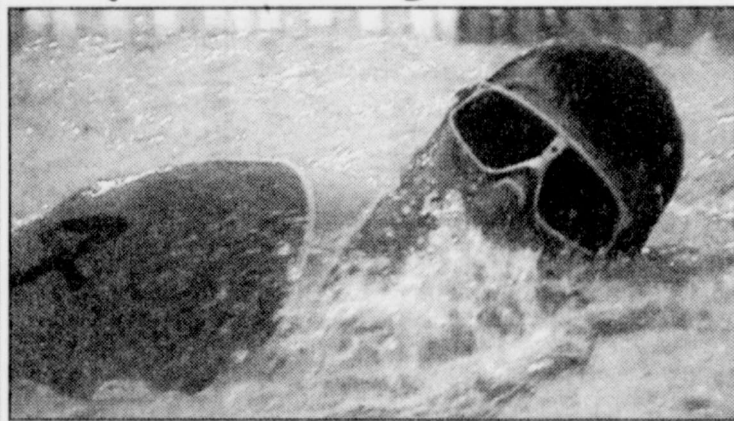
If you don't have a team, stop by and ask about our free agent program. We will have a meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 4pm in room 206 of the Rec Center to get you on a team and playing. Don't miss the fun and excitement of intramural flag football.

### OUTDOOR PURSUITS

#### Try Something New For A Weekend...Caprock Adventure Race

The Caprock Adventure Race presented by Mountain Hideaway Outdoor Outfitters will take place September 18 and 19. This race combines the extreme sports of outdoor adventure with the excitement and fun of team competition. Participants will race in canoeing, mountain biking, running and rock climbing. The event is open to all skill levels and newcomers are encouraged to participate. Register now by visiting the Outdoor Pursuits Center or log on to [www.recsports.ttu.edu](http://www.recsports.ttu.edu) to learn more of this unique experience.

#### Have you been training?



The Rec Triathlon is coming up on Sunday, September 12 at 7:30 pm. Get your gear ready for the 400 meter swim, 11 mile bike and the 2.3 mile run. Register in the Fitness/Wellness Center or online at [active.com](http://active.com) and use our zip code (79409) to register. For all of your cycling gear, check out Broadway Bikes at 2420 Broadway. If you have questions check out [www.recsports.ttu.edu](http://www.recsports.ttu.edu) or call 742.3828.

Coming Soon!

### INTRAMURALS

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Tennis Singles  
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Sept. 7-9  
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Sept. 21-23  
Sept. 22

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### Event Date

Aug. 30-31  
Sept. 2  
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### Event Date

Sept. 8  
Sept. 12  
Sept. 13  
Sept. 18-19



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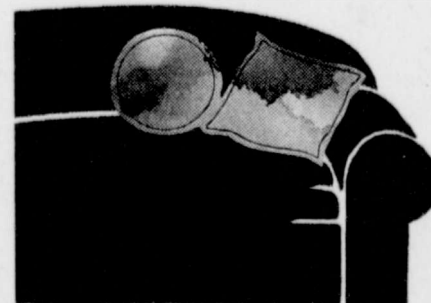
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## Best Dressed SPACE CONTEST

"Show off your personality, creativity and style in the Best Dressed Space contest! Enter one or both sides of your room for a chance to win \$200!"

Applications are available at your hall office.



Deadline for entries:

**Noon, Friday  
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\*Violations of the Room Personalization Guidelines, such as attaching items to surfaces with nails or painting with non approved paint colors, etc., will result in disqualification.

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# Johnson returns to Tech

By David Wiechmann/  
The University Daily



JAIME TOMAS AGUILAR/The University Daily

OLYMPIAN AND SENIOR Jonathan Johnson is greeted by his girlfriend, Jenny Amezcua, after arriving back from his trip to Athens Tuesday morning at Lubbock International Airport.

Jonathan Johnson may have come home from the Olympics without a medal Tuesday morning, but he received a welcoming worthy of a champion from his coaches and his girlfriend.

"I couldn't be prouder, whether he went over there and did what he did and made it to the semifinals, or if he went over there and got the gold," Johnson's girlfriend, Jenny Amezcua, said. "He did his best, and that's all you can ask for. I couldn't be prouder."

Texas Tech's star track and field athlete represented the United States in the 800-meter run and was the only American to advance to the semifinals. He was bumped in the semifinal race when he was in third place and never recovered after falling off the pace. Johnson's coaches found expressing their feelings difficult despite his not advancing to the finals and not having a shot at a medal.

"Words can't describe it. There's just no way," said assistant coach Don Hood. "For him to accomplish what he did at the age he is, and at this time in his career, is far above what most people expected from him. Most of the guys in the Olympics in his event are 27 to 32 years old, so he's got a five-to-six year jump on them."

Coach Wes Kittley traveled with Johnson to the Olympics but could not make the welcoming party. He sent his regards through his assistants, and Diane Wholey said the pride Kittley's staff has for Johnson cannot be measured.

"Off the charts. Off the charts," she said. "There's no way to describe the amount of pride we have in Jonathan as a person and how he has represented our university and our team; he has just done an

exemplary job."

The job left him wanting one thing when he came home - good food. With a smile, Johnson said he would be finding some food as soon as possible and then resting up from his long trip back from the Olympic Games. He enjoyed his time in Greece but said having his feet back on the ground in West Texas was nice, and a delayed flight and lost luggage was not enough to dampen the return home. Johnson was all smiles as he embraced his coaches and his girlfriend.

"The whole experience was good. A lot of people don't get the opportunity to go and achieve something like that," he said. "I'm just grateful to be back. It was a real nice experience, but I was gone for a whole month, so it just feels good to be in Lubbock, Texas."

Just by running in the Olympics, Johnson said he absorbed a lot about track and field. This experience was his first international competition, which he and his coaches said is different from running nationally. The runners were tighter during the race and with more contact. The

contact eventually took Johnson out of the race.

He is using the experience to prepare for his final year as a Red Raider. Johnson has an NCAA title and three consecutive Big 12 Conference titles to defend this spring, and he is ready to get after the task.

"I think this helped prepare me even more for the season, because the environment doesn't get like that in the NCAAAs; 70,000, 80,000 people in that type of environment, you can't beat that," he said.

The disappointment of not receiving a medal is not weighing on Johnson; he is already looking to the future.

"I didn't come home with a medal this time, but I went out there and did what I had to do," he said. "I didn't get a medal, but I'm definitely looking forward to the (Olympics) in the future, and I plan on getting a medal sometime."

The 2008 Olympics will be in Beijing, and Johnson said he already is looking forward to the challenge of getting there, and the preparation "starts now."

# Hockey haters take heed

Auto racing is overrated. Hundreds of laps around an oval in a car someone else built is boring to me. Horse racing is worse. Nobody can actually tell you who will come out in first when animals being kicked in the kidneys run around in circles.

I love watching hockey. Of all sports without horsepower, hockey is the fastest. With speedsters like Niko Kapanen and Martin St. Louis, you will quickly forget about Jeff Gordon or Seattle Slew.

Not only are these guys fast, they do their thing on ice. Yes, the slippery substance that sometimes glazes over Lubbock, causing accidents and embarrassment, is the same stuff the best hockey players in the world skate on at 30 mph.

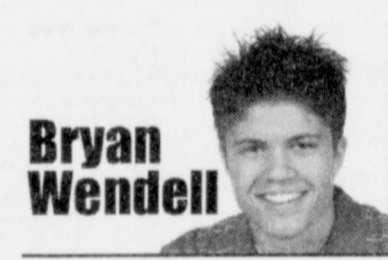
But, the ice is only the beginning.

You also have to worry about sticks, elbows and hard frozen pucks flying at your head.

Hockey has it all: the impact of a big hit, the speed of a fast break and the finesse of a homerun swing. The game is graceful and poetic with skilled passes and skating, but brutally physical and raw with monstrous hitting.

In fact, I consider hockey better than your favorite sport. Whether you favor basketball, football or even lacrosse, hockey reigns supreme.

In basketball, the goal is always there, and nobody can legally stop the ball from going in. In hockey, the goalies defend the goal. They must stop slap shots of more than 100 mph and protect against ankle-shattering deke moves. All this happens while a basketball hoop just sits



*I do not like the hockey haters, the people who say they detest the sport, even though they never have seen an entire game.*

each other. Seeing two guys punch and grab each other while slipping and sliding is something you definitely cannot see in other sports. If you see such events, someone is getting ejected and fined.

To see the elite, check out the World Cup of Hockey, which started Monday. This event will showcase the top players from eight countries, including the United States and Canada. Dallas Stars captain Mike Modano will play for Team U.S.A., and hockey legend Mario Lemieux will grace Team Canada with his presence as its captain.

But hockey in the summer? Since the NHL season may not happen because of player and owner disagreement, summer hockey may be all you can see this year. So chill out and give it a chance. If you do not like it, e-mail me and tell me why.

Just do not tell me that you will not watch because you hate hockey. I do not like the hockey haters, the people who say they detest the sport, even though they never have seen an entire game.

Even if you will not watch, I know you respect the people who play this game. The pressure is high on each player to perform perfectly, since so few goals are scored each game.

Hall of Fame goaltender Jacques Plante once asked, "How would you like a job where every time you make a mistake, a big red light goes on and 18,000 people boo?" That atmosphere is the reality of hockey: my favorite game.

■ Wendell is a junior journalism and Spanish major from Plano. E-mail him at [bryan.wendell@ttu.edu](mailto:bryan.wendell@ttu.edu).

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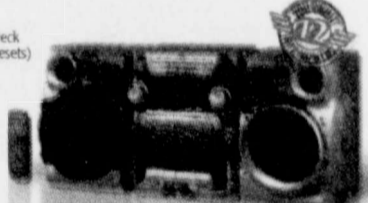
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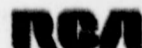
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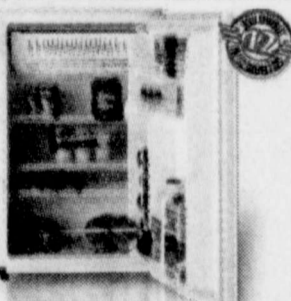
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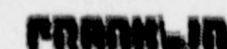
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