

Welcome incoming Texas Tech freshmen

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

Texas Tech University

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

TUESDAY
June 18, 1991

WEATHER

Mostly sunny
High: high 90s
Low: mid 60s



Vol. 66 No. 146 8 pages

Faculty-to-student ratio becoming greater

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the second in a two-part series on possible statewide budget cuts and their ramifications on Texas Tech University. Today's story deals with faculty views of the budget cuts. Friday's story looked at the administration's view.

By JULIE COLLINS
The University Daily

In recent years, faculty positions at higher institutions around the state have increased by 1.4 percent, while student enrollment has increased by 9.7 percent. The result has been overcrowded classes and an insufficient number of faculty members teaching those classes, according to the Discussion Paper Related to Proposed General Revenue Appropriations to Higher Education in Texas, published by Texas Tech.

Approximately 36,000 students have enrolled in various higher institutions since the fall of 1984. According to the discussion paper, colleges and universities around the state need to hire an

additional 1,363 new faculty members to return to a faculty-to-student ratio that would maintain classroom efficiency.

Ben Newcomb, associate professor of history at Tech, said he does not like to see faculty and staff members overworked due to higher education budget cuts, but he does not like to see students suffer either.

"At this time, we don't have as good a teaching environment as we should have. Despite budget cuts, class sizes should be held down to a certain size, for the betterment of everybody," Newcomb said.

He said the administration should not increase faculty load by enlarging classroom enrollment. The repercussions of such an action could lower faculty morale and productivity.

"Such a decision could make faculty members angry. Extended hours and bigger classes are just not wise," Newcomb said.

If more budget cuts are im-

“ At this time, we don't have as good a teaching environment as we should have. Despite budget cuts, class sizes should be held down to a certain size, for the betterment of everybody. ”

— Ben Newcomb

plemented for the 1991-92 school year, it could be difficult to attract faculty and staff to Tech, according to the paper.

Tech faculty and staff members

face a two-year salary freeze, although no official statement has come from the administration.

According to the paper, Texas universities are losing faculty members to other states that pay higher salaries, and many Texas universities find it difficult to attract outstanding faculty to the state.

Approximately 35 states throughout the country pay faculty members higher salaries than Texas. While faculty members need to be offered more incentives to teach at Texas universities, budget cuts could make it impossible.

According to the Office of Institutional Research, the national average salary for a professor teaching at a university is \$57,427 annually. Regional salaries for professors teaching in Texas are \$55,482 annually.

Tech professors earn an average of \$52,456 a year. The statistics indicate that Tech lags behind both nationally

and regionally in professor salaries.

Likewise, more budget cuts could mean a drastic reduction in the number of graduate students currently working at teaching assistant positions, Newcomb said.

While faculty and staff members could continue to suffer from increased budget cuts, Newcomb said it will be the students who suffer the most.

Many low-income individuals find Tech an ideal place to earn an education due to the fact that tuition is affordable, he said.

If tuition is increased to meet the demands for needed money for the campus, it could eliminate the opportunity of earning an education at Tech, Newcomb said.

"One does not like to see individuals priced out of college dealing with higher education costs. Texas and other states need to decide how they are going to handle the higher education question," Newcomb said.

Combest discusses problems facing Texas Tech, Lubbock

By JULIE COLLINS
The University Daily

Congressman Larry Combest, R-Lubbock, was in Lubbock for the weekend to discuss agricultural concerns of West Texas farmers before members of the House Agriculture Credit Subcommittee Monday at Texas Tech's Livestock Arena/Meat Laboratory.

Combest said he hopes his visit will produce a better policy concerning agricultural affairs around Lubbock.

"Hopefully, the agricultural subcommittee hearing will begin to recognize the problems of agricultural producing and lending and will realize the impact that those problems have on the community," Combest said.

Members of Congress need to be aware of the concerns of farmers, lenders and other West Texans interested in agricultural credit when dealing with agricultural lending programs, Combest said.

"We need to try to make the system run more efficiently. We may not succeed but we have to try," he said.

The subcommittee hearing allowed West Texas farmers to voice their opinions about agricultural lending and, in turn, gave the subcommittee a

chance to offer their opinions as well, he said.

"The problem of agricultural lending is the fact that there are limited amounts of budgets available for lending," Combest said.

The Farm Home Association has come under scrutiny from farmers concerning the time it takes to get a loan application processed. Many South Plains farmers feel that the processing time is too lengthy and may cause a delay in acquiring the money needed to plant their crops.

Neal Sox Johnson, State Director of the FHA from Temple, said producers and lenders have a good relationship concerning money allocated for crops, but that there is always room for improvement.

"We are very pleased with the facts that most of the guaranteed loans are being paid back," Johnson said.

Currently, the FHA has not exceeded the state-funding level on guaranteed student loans available. Producers are mainly concerned about the length of the processing time for applications, he said.

"We want to hear some things that can give us more clues as to how we can increase the processing times of

See COMBEST, page 3



Walter Granberry/The University Daily

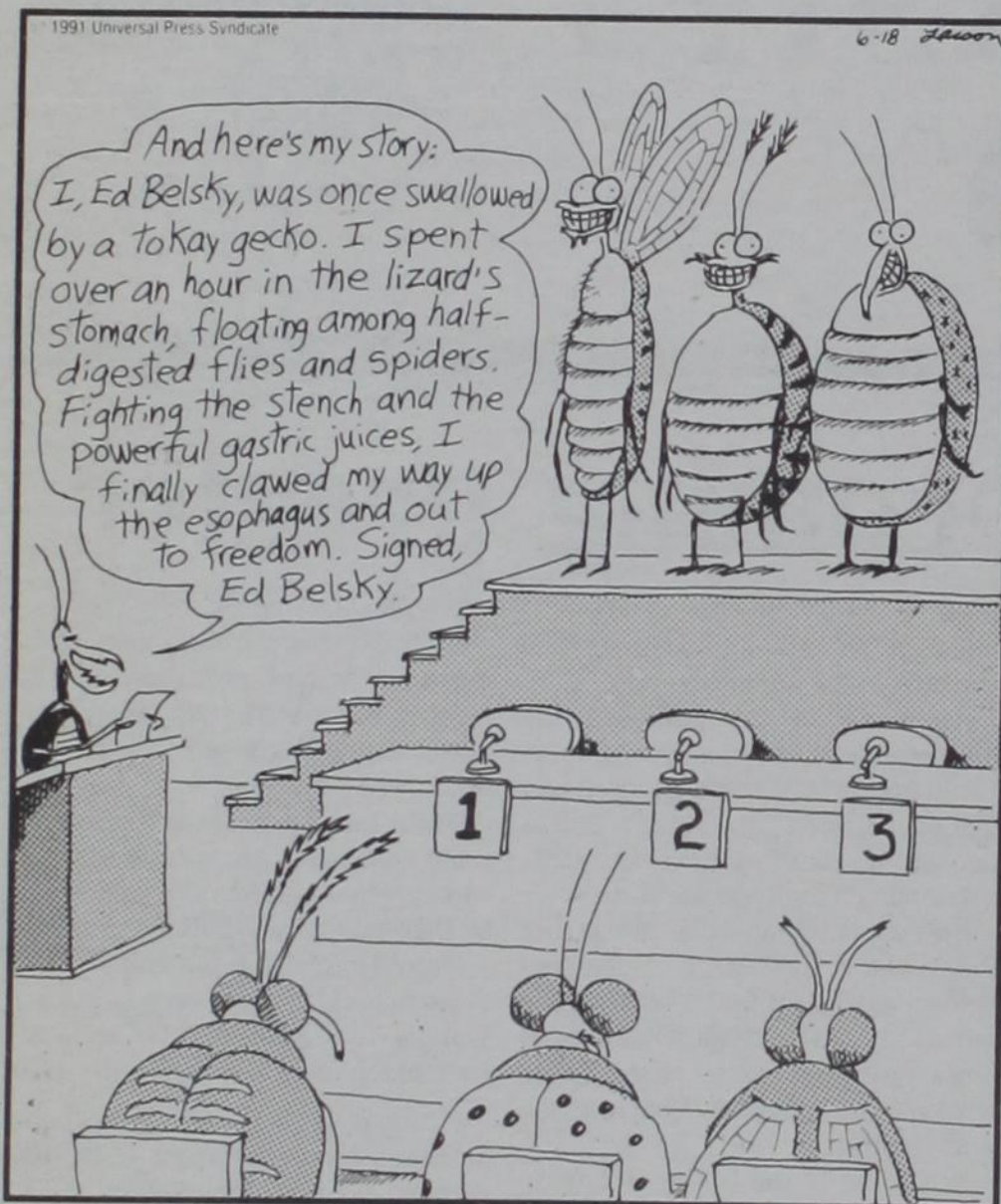
Volleyball break

Sean Fagan, a senior general studies major from Dallas, returns a serve in a relaxing game of volleyball Monday afternoon in the sandpits

outside Coleman Hall. Volleyball is just one activity Texas Tech students enjoy during the summer.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Insect game shows

Letters

Abortion views questionable

To the editor:

On 6-7-91 and 6-11-91 The UD featured op-ed pieces by editor Andrew Harris and columnist Tom Wicker, and an interview of Planned Parenthood (Lubbock) Director Jan Blackwell, by reporter Julie Collins.

Without offering specific, independent references to support their views, Harris, Wicker and Blackwell attempted to pass off an "upbeat" history of Planned Parenthood-style family planning clinics, while suggesting dire consequences should the practice of abortion-on-demand, or its promotion, be inhibited.

Unlike the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is not affiliated with Planned Parenthood. A recent DHHS report (available at the Tech library) indicated that in 1988, 52.6 percent of teens were sexually active compared with only 31.7 percent in 1971. Furthermore, in 1988, 65.3 percent of teen births were extramarital compared to only 29.5 percent in 1970.

The report also states that a third of all abortions performed in the United States are done with teens. In addition, while only five sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) challenged the "well-being" of our nation in 1950, we have about 50 doing so today — some incurable and one deadly. Such evidence directly contradicts Mr. Harris' and Ms. Blackwell's suggestions that family planning clinics have "done wonders" in their "20 year program of prevention and medical information concerning family planning" or reproductive health.

Non-governmental sources have concluded that such programs are a "charade," bordering on "educational fraud" (Scott Thompson, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in the San Diego Union, April 7, 1981). Similarly, William Leatherton, president of the American Bureau of Educational Research, has called them "a scandal of immense proportions" in the ABER's Fall 1981 newsletter.

Other statements by Harris, Wicker

and Blackwell are equally questionable. Mr. Harris claimed that "abortion is the only other possibility" when hardship arises, i.e., adoption, maternal financial support, or adequate pre- and postnatal care are not possible. Is the Supreme Court going to make these things impossible? Rust v. Sullivan does not focus on or affect access to maternal support, adoption, child care, or contraception, nor does it obstruct information about them.

Mr. Wicker's article implies that the availability of abortion-on-demand, and information about it, serves the "well being of the nation." He accords, of course, no consideration to how abortion benefits the status of pre-born human beings.

Apparently, Mr. Wicker is unaware that founding feminists Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth C. Stanton scorned and condemned abortion as anathema for women's rights and well-being: Their journal, "Revolution," urged anti-abortion measures upon the New York legislature in 1869.

"If the practice (abortion) was resorted to at all...it was because of the 'degradation of women' by men...anxious to avoid their responsibility for the children they had fathered." (J.T. Noonan, 1979, A Private Choice, New York: Macmillan). Groups like Feminists for Life and Women Exploited By Abortion (WEBA) articulate similarly critical views of abortion's implications for women's status. What about the well being of families and the nation? According to a DHHS study, between 1973, when abortion was legalized, and 1982, child abuse in America increased more than 500 percent. Furthermore, similar rises in rates of child abuse have followed the increased practice of abortion in other countries, e.g., Japan, Britain, and Canada (Reardon, 1987, Aborted Women: Silent No More, Westchester, IL: Crossway).

When considering how the practice of abortion-on-demand might affect a nation, one could review a study of five major countries which had higher numbers of abortions (per 100 live births) than America's 42: Czechoslovakia (51), China (76), Cuba (85), Romania (131), and the Soviet Union (208)...all heavyweight

champions of human rights violations. These figures were published in "Induced Abortion: A World Review" (1986) by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, in case anyone thinks political bias was involved.

Finally, Ms. Blackwell stated that the Supreme Court clearly does not "have an understanding of what we use our money for." Perhaps they do. In 1981, the Congressional auditing agency, the General Accounting Office, investigated the financial records of Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA). Their findings? Abuse of public trust, use of funds to engage in partisan politics, misappropriation of funds for paying dues to lobbying organizations and diversion of tax dollars to advocate Planned Parenthood's own legislative and judicial interests (Glasow, 1981, "A Look at PPFA Finances," Til Victory is Won: Planned Parenthood's Abortion Crusade).

G.S. Chong

Unnecessary workload

To the editor:

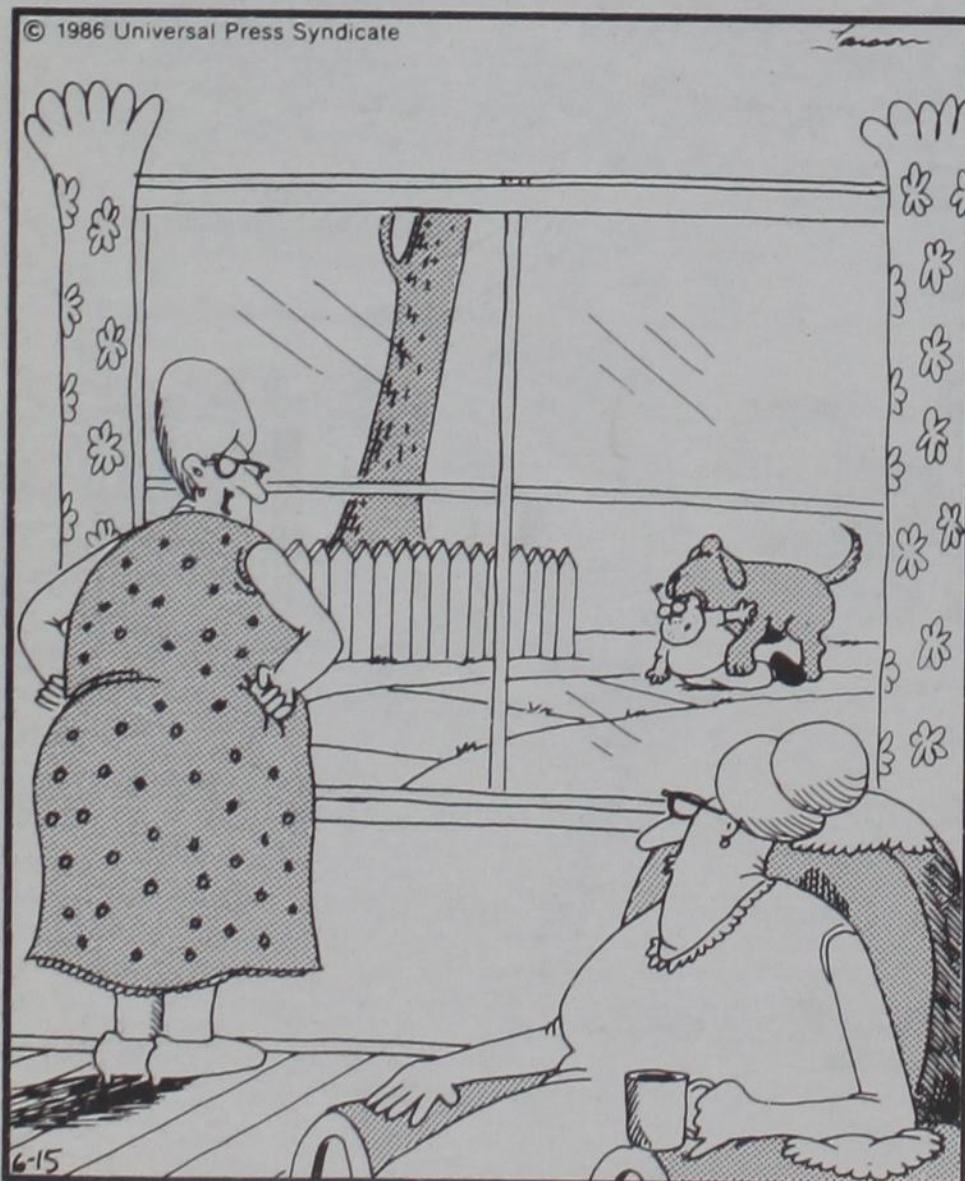
It is appalling to me how Dr. Lawless can speak to politicians and Tech officials about cutting faculty and staff positions because of the budget crunch. At the same time, thousands of dollars worth of perfectly good light bulbs are being replaced by employees that admittedly needed something to do. It is one thing to have too many employees and not enough work for them. However, when employees are told to replace light bulbs every eight months when the bulbs last for a minimum of seven years, something is very wrong.

This is just one of the many areas on this campus where wastefulness needs to be addressed. I feel that better management of our tax dollars and resources is needed before any taxes are raised and faculty positions are cut.

R.L. Brizzolara

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Oo, Sylvia! You've got to see this! ... Ginger's bringing Bobby home, and even though her jaws can crush soup bones, Bobby only gets a few nicks and scratches."

The University Daily

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Opinions expressed in The University Daily are those of the editor or the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the administration or of the Board of Regents.

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The editor reserves the right to edit letters for libel, taste, obscenity and space limitations. Letters will be edited for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

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Tech's School of Law 'wise choice' for students, dean says

By AMY COLLINS
The University Daily

Despite the fact that the Texas Tech School of Law is only 20 years old, its recent accomplishments are quickly establishing Tech as a wise choice for students entering into the legal profession, said Joseph Conboy, a Texas Tech associate dean of law.

The recent accomplishments include placing first in the regional negotiations competition, which included Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.

The Tech law school also placed first in the regional moot court competition, which is an appellate argument and debate competition.

In the fall of 1990, the Tech law school placed first in the state for the number of students passing the bar exam and placed fifth in the spring for the number of students passing the bar exam.

"The reason why our students are so successful in passing the bar exam is the courses we offer at our school; they better prepare students for the bar exam," Conboy said.

"The reason for the fluctuation between the fall and spring semesters concerning the bar exam is that more people take the exam in the fall," he said.

Law schools are rated nationally, and the ratings include the top 20 law schools in the United States.

"Young law schools have trouble receiving large scale notoriety because they are rated by their foundations, libraries and faculty members, which are accumulated over many, many years," Conboy said.

He said future improvements for the law school include expansion of the library, which will be made accessible to the handicapped and continuing to attract intelligent and talented students.

"Test scores for the Law School Admittance Test have gone up tremendously over the past few semesters. We are very proud of our students," Conboy said.

The law school is also introducing a new faculty member, Verna Sanchez, as an assistant professor.

Sanchez's new duties will include bringing a more practical aspect of practicing law through her work as a skills professor.

The recent Tech budget cuts have hampered the progress of the law school to a certain extent, Conboy said.

"We have had a decrease in the amount of money we spent over the last years," Conboy said. "Less money means we can't retain a great faculty. Likewise, we can't hire great faculty."

Summer projects for the law school include a summer entering program for first-year students.

"The summer entering program offers students the opportunity to begin their studies at the law school prior to the official start of school in the fall," Conboy said.

The summer enrollment for the law

school has increased 15 percent, Conboy said.

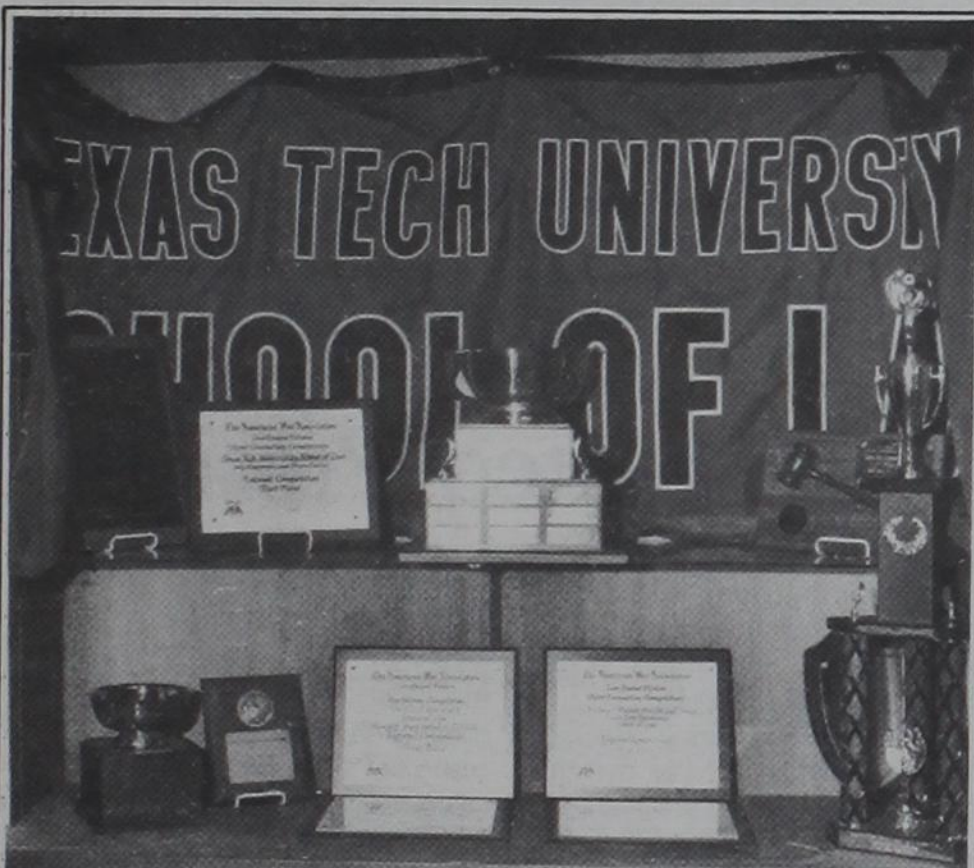
"The reason for such an increase probably is due to the lack of available summer jobs to college students," Conboy said.

The benefit to law students who attend summer school is that they finish school in 2 1/2 years, as opposed to the standard three years.

Most students have to be enrolled in at least 12 hours a semester, and it usually takes students three years to graduate.

Annually, 200 students enroll in the fall, which is a number Conboy said he believes works well for the law school.

In the near future, the recipient of the Alvin Allison Chair will be announced. The recipient of such an award is entitled to money which goes for research and travel to legal conventions across the country.



Walter Granberry/The University Daily

And the winner is...

The awards won by Texas Tech School of Law students during the last two years are on display in the law building. Tech's top-notch performance is attracting more law students annually.

Combest addresses farmers' needs

continued from page 1
applications for guaranteed loans," Johnson said.

One suggestion to shorten the length of loan processing is to hire adequate, trained staff that could deal specifically with loan processing.

"The old adage may be 'if it isn't broken, don't fix it,' but there are a few things broken when dealing with guaranteed loan processing time, and we are here today to try and fix some of those things," Combest said.

In a press conference held Friday at the congressman's Lubbock office, he addressed the issue of the Supreme

Court's recent decision to limit the amount of information concerning family planning options that family planning clinics can offer to their patients.

"The ruling did not drastically change family planning clinic policies around the U.S. Roe v. Wade is still in effect. So in the end, the ruling was not that damaging to family planning clinics across the United States," Combest said.

Combest also said Texas could benefit from a free-trade agreement with Mexico. As of yet, Texas does not have an agreement with Mexico, although one is on the drawing board.



Combest

NEWS FLASH!

If you have an interesting job, hobby, special interest or have any good ideas for stories or photo essays,

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Please Contact:

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Eating disorders rise from poor self-image, doctor says

By ALICIA ALLEN-PEARSON
The University Daily

Millions of American women are not satisfied with their figures. Some look in the mirror and see a different image than what others see.

There are many women, from adolescence to thirty-something, who are suffering from anorexia nervosa or bulimia, said Dr. Libby Stuyt of the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center department of psychiatry.

"It (anorexia nervosa or bulimia) stems from depression," Stuyt said. "People who don't feel good about themselves because life isn't going right often have eating disorders."

"A lot of times it is someone who starts out overweight and who is teased about it. It might be someone whose father might say,

"You're never going to get any dates."

Stuyt said for these women and some men, their bodies become an obsession and that the food they eat rules their lives.

"Bulimics are compulsive and spontaneous," she said. "They binge on large amounts of food, which is usually high in carbohydrates."

It is a cyclical eating disorder of gorging abnormally large amounts of food followed immediately by self-induced vomiting, laxative or diuretic abuse, she said.

"Some have portions of both (anorexia nervosa and bulimia), but usually one is predominant over the other," Stuyt said. "They have a distorted body image and see themselves as fat, whenever they are very thin."

"The most most vulnerable seem

to be white middle-class female adolescents and college age women between 18 and 35 who try to excel in everything. Usually it is an overachiever who feels like they need to be a perfect person."

Often there is no positive feedback from their family and peers. This is usually why they feel a need to be perfect, Stuyt said.

"Anorexics often carry food around in their pockets," Stuyt said. "Some even make meals or prepare food for guests, but won't touch any of it themselves. Many of them have strict food preferences."

Some will make food which is unappetizing. In some noted cases, anorexics pour Sweet 'N Low over everything, she said.

"Through behavioral modification and psychotherapy, patients can be helped," she said. "For those who have poor self-esteem or

self-worth, the psychotherapy can improve their self-image. We educate them on nutrition, normal weight and on how to have a healthy lifestyle," she said.

Stuyt also said anti-depressant medication, family therapy, group therapy and peer support groups are helpful to some patients.

"Often bulimics and anorexics share their methods of weight loss with others while living in a college dormitory or with their friends who are in a sorority," Stuyt said. "Sometimes the eating disorder is identified by friends or family members. The earlier the disorder is picked up on, the better the chance of recovery."

"A bulimic can have scars on the backs of their hands from purging their food. The enamel comes off of their teeth. They have what I call 'chipmunk cheeks' where their face

is swollen from the increase of saliva in the salivary glands."

Stuyt said bulimia and anorexia may often lead to bone and heart problems later in life.

"There are many long-term consequences caused from anorexia," she said. "Because anorexia can stop the menstrual cycle, it can cause osteoporosis in women. Bulimics vomit up potassium, and without it, the body can have heart disease and heart attacks."

If a person thinks he or she might have an eating disorder, Stuyt recommends they have an evaluation done at the Tech counseling center, the department of psychiatry at the Health Sciences Center or by a private practitioner.

For more information about anorexia or bulimia, contact Dr. Stuyt at 743-2770.

Taylor may replace Lincoln as first assassinated President

By AMY COLLINS
The University Daily

The investigation surrounding the death of President Zachary Taylor challenges Abraham Lincoln's dubious honor as being the first U.S. president to be assassinated.

Scientists entered the tomb of President Taylor Monday in Louisville, Ky., to exhume the body and look for traces of arsenic.

Arsenic is suspected as the cause of Taylor's death, as opposed to complications of sunstroke and gastric inflammation.

"This is not the first time that poisoning was suspected in the death of Zachary Taylor," said Ben Newcomb, a Texas Tech associate professor of history. "The suspicion has always been there."

"Passions concerning the Civil War have subsided to the point where such



Newcomb

an investigation can now take place," Newcomb said.

The 140-year-old question can possibly be answered in the next few weeks. However, the question which historians will now be dealing with,

who did kill President Taylor?

"The suspicion will automatically fall upon the South, which could make the South look historically even worse," Newcomb said.

President Taylor was conflicting with Southerners on such issues as slavery, westward expansion, and Texas bond holders.

"There were adequate reasons why the South would conspire to kill the president," Newcomb said. "However, in my opinion, I do not believe he was murdered."

"The assassination of President Taylor at this time in history would be premature because Taylor had not actually vetoed anything that the South submitted to Congress," Newcomb said.

"Due to the possibility of levels of lead arsenic being discovered in the coffin of President Taylor, the evidence found by exhuming the body

may not be conclusive," he said.

The implications of such a discovery would dramatically affect history books, which are revised every three years at Tech.

The task of discovering who killed President Taylor could be more dif-

ficult than actually discovering the truth behind his death, he said.

"Historians would find themselves with the difficult task of examining files and papers of prominent politicians of that era in hopes of finding suspects," Newcomb said.

Campus Brief

RHIM plans Skyviews of Texas Tech

Texas Tech's restaurant, hotel and institutional management department has scheduled Skyviews of Texas Tech, a dinner series featuring international food, for June and July.

The dinners are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays on the sixth floor of the NCB building at 19th St. and University Ave. The first dinner is today, and the focus is Cajun cuisine. The final dinner will be July 25.

Prices range from \$9 to \$13. For reservations, contact Skyviews at 744-7462.

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Debate heats up over ordinance for animal control

By ALICIA ALLEN-PEARSON
The University Daily

City officials and members of the Lubbock community met Thursday at the Lubbock Civic Center to discuss the proposed animal ordinance.

The committee members of the Lubbock Public Health Department, along with some doctors and nurses from the area led the meeting.

Doug Goodman, Public Health Administrator for Lubbock, mentioned the items in the proposed ordinance which he felt should be considered and deleted.

"The buyer of an animal does not want to transmit a disease from the animal, whether it be a dog, cat, monkey or bird," he said. "This is why we (the committee) feel that it is the buyer's decision as to whether he takes it to a veterinarian who can determine an illness and then it can be returned to the seller or owner for a refund."

He also said the pet store owners and the employees need to keep a record or a spiral notebook with the name and address of the person who bought the animal.

"If a mother dog has rabies after the puppies were sold, then we'd (the Health Department) have a devil of a time tracking them down," Goodman said.

"To record the sales of the pets sold in our store would take hundreds and thousands of transactions, and it would be quite a burden for pet owners and employees," said a local pet store owner. "We already keep records of the dogs and cats that are sold. It's not necessary to record the sale of every animal."

All permit fees need to be increased tremendously and there is a need for a permit system to cover the cost of collection, Goodman said.

"I feel that this ordinance is incomplete," said Marshall Chumley, a local kennel owner. "There needs to be a fair ordinance which satisfies all groups. We need a complete ordinance."

Goodman said bees are a big part of the economy in West Texas and that the committee does not want to eliminate bees, but he stressed that a quarantine needs to be placed on bees to keep them from breeding with the killer bees that have migrated to Texas and other areas of the United States.

"We are scared that the killer bees could take over a hive and that a neighbor or innocent bystander could be attacked. There has to be a way to regulate it," Goodman said. "The hives should be kept 30 feet away from the property line. If not, then a barricade fence should be kept 30 feet

from the property line."

"Bees are very important because they pollinate flowering plants, flowering trees and vegetable gardens," said Willie Bob Gschwend Jr., president of the South Plains Bee Keepers Association. "If the killer bees do enter the area, then the bee keeper's help will be needed to manage and control the aggressiveness of the bees."

Goodman also said other dangerous animals should be properly taken care of.

"There should be recourse for an animal which is acting dangerous, such as pit bulls," Goodman said. "There should be a procedure set up to where if the neighbor is just complaining about the animal causing a disturbance because he did not like the other neighbor, then it will be the Health Department's responsibility to hold a hearing."

"It is the owner's responsibility to care for a pet's health and safety," said JoAnn Neal, president of the South Plains Obedience Training Club. "One person's rights begin where another person's ends. We feel that property owners should be allowed to enjoy their property without the intrusion of other people's pets. Real cat lovers already contain their cats, and people who are not responsible cat owners let them run loose and don't care about the welfare of their cats."

"The consensus of veterinarians in the area indicates that we are in favor of responsible pet ownership," said Don Hegi, a local veterinarian and president of the Veterinarian Association of Lubbock. "We are against the

cat leash law. We think that there should be at least three complaints from three different households before rabbits and other animals are considered to be offensive."

"I feel that the animal control facility in Lubbock is outdated," Chumley said. "We need the funding to build a new animal control facility."

"Animals such as boas, pythons, turtles, lizards and fish go to the classroom with me whenever I am teaching," said a science teacher from Matthews Junior High School. "I do not use the reptiles to scare the students, but to teach them (the students) to respect them (the reptiles). Snakes and reptiles are of interest to all children."

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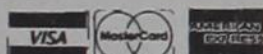
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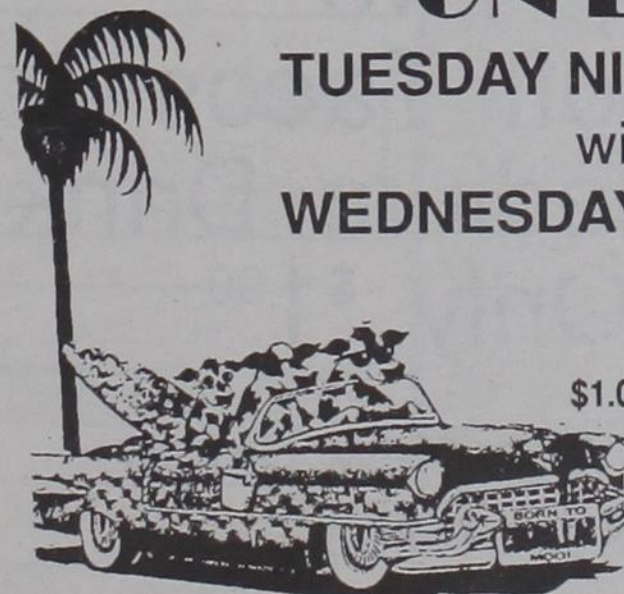
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12:30-3:30-7:00-9:55 (R)

DON'T MOMMY THE BABYSITTER'S DEAD
12:05-2:30-4:55-7:25-9:50 (PG-13)

WILD HEARTS CAN'T BE BROKEN
12:20-2:35-4:50-7:10-9:30 (G)

HUDSON HAWK
12:20-2:45-5:00-7:45-10:15 (R)

SWITCH No Passes
12:05-2:15-4:40-7:05-9:35 (R)

OSCAR No Passes
12:05-2:35-4:45-7:15-9:45 (PG)

FX2
12:30-2:50-5:10-7:40-10:05 (PG-13)

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SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY
12:35-2:55-5:15-7:50-10:20 (R)

KINDERGARTEN COP
12:10-2:30-5:05-8:00-10:25 (PG-13)

HOME ALONE
12:05-2:30-4:55-7:20-10:00 (PG)

WHITE FANG
12:10-2:25-4:40-7:05-9:40 (PG)

What's in a name?

Texas Weather hopes name helps image

By KIRK BAIRD-PARKS
The University Daily

A band's name can sometimes be as important as how well the band performs. The name should sum up the band and its musical style, without becoming a distraction that might impede future bookings.

When Christopher Thomas, Bill Vulcan, Darryl Robbins and James Holcomb formed a band late last year, the name became a crucial factor to them.

"We didn't want something terrifying to club owners," Robbins said.

"We didn't want anything too corny, either," Thomas added. "We wanted to sound professional."

The resulting name, at least to Thomas, conjures an air of unpredictability: Texas Weather.

"With Texas Weather we can play all kinds of music," Holcomb said.

And Texas Weather does play a mixed variety. Fusing classic rock 'n' roll songs from Led Zeppelin with newer pieces from R.E.M., is their musical format, mixed in with tunes ranging from The Dead Kennedys to The Smithereens.

Robbins said the band caters more to the audience than other more-traditional bands.

"A lot of bands play what they want to play as a band and they won't play anything else. That's not the attitude.

"I come from a Top-40 background and you have to play tunes people can dance to or you won't come back (to the club)," Robbins said. "I want to keep people on the dance floor."

Because of the band's aim to please the audience, the group can

“

The reason I got this band together was to play music people knew and would want to dance to. And to take it out on the road and make more money.

—Darryl Robbins

”

churn out 40 to 45 songs on a good night, compared to about 25 by most other bands.

But knowing so many different songs can present a problem, especially as far as memorizing lyrics goes. Lead singer Robbins, however, has found a solution.

"I'll use idiot cards on stage or I'll sing whatever comes out of my mouth and eventually (the song) works its way out," Robbins said.

"This is popular with Darryl," Holcomb added. "We just like to get together, groove and have a good time. The more people there, the more we will rise to the occasion.

"A lot of the songs we don't play the same way twice," he said. "If it is going well, we will stretch the song out; if it is not, we'll kill it."

Texas Weather formed 10 months ago as a trio — Holcomb, Thomas and Robbins. But before the band was ready to start performing in front of an audience, they acquired the services of Vulcan, whom Rob-

bins described as a jazz musician who was able to expand his musical repertoire.

The first performance was at the Kitchen Club opening for Snufalupagus. A performance they described as interesting.

"The reason I got this band together was to play music people knew and would want to dance to," Robbins said. "And to take it out on

the road and make more money."

Taking the band on the road and out to other cities is a big piece of Texas Weather's future

"A lot of the bigger players have moved on from Lubbock," Robbins said. "Texas is so big, musicians, in order to make money, have to move on (to other Texas cities)."

"There is more money in bigger towns and that is where people go,"

Holcomb added.

Regardless of where the band goes, Holcomb would like the band to "keep on rockin'."

"I think we'll stay together and see where we are a year from now," he said. "We have some originals but we haven't performed them in public. We haven't been giggin' that long."



Texas Weather

Texas Weather, a Lubbock band that formed 10 months ago, hopes their unique name and playing style will keep people on the dance floor. Pictured left to right: Christopher

Thomas, bass/keyboard, Bill Vulcan, guitar/keyboard, Darryl Robbins, lead vocals/guitar and James Holcomb, drums.

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Astros owners open bids to out-of-state buyers

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston Astros owners, unsatisfied with attempts so far to sell the team, will entertain offers from cities without baseball franchises who may move the team, the investment banker managing the sale said Monday.

Louis Sussman, senior managing director of Salomon Bros. in Chicago, also said a "quite well-known" potential buyer had been negotiating with the Houston Sports Association and was committed to keeping the team in Houston.

Sussman held a news conference to dispute recent reports that a suitable offer was on the table from a local group headed by Ben Love, former chairman of Texas Commerce Bancshares, and Robert Onstead, founder of the Randall's supermarket chain.

"There is no, I repeat no, offer on the table for any Houston group to purchase the Astros," Sussman said, noting that an offer made by the Love group was unacceptable because it was contingent upon financing, the group refused to disclose the source of its equity and they did not want the deal to include three hotels near the Astrodome.

Sussman said attempts to negotiate that offer were rejected.

Jeff Love, Ben Love's son and part of the local group, said last week that "we again acknowledge we have a very serious interest. We have not approached this in either a cavalier or quixotic way."

National League owners have said they will not support any move by HSA President John McMullen to sell the team to out-of-town buyers who could move the team. Commissioner Fay Vincent said he would study the issue of team relocation.

Sussman said the lack of local interest from potential buyers and the reluctance of the city to commit to a certain number of season ticket purchases may force the team to look elsewhere.

"We have not had any negotiating discussions with failed franchise cities for them to buy the team and try to move it," Sussman said. "We will now entertain those offers."

Sussman said the one potential buyer "is about ready to go public," and although he is not a Texan, he is committed to keeping the team in Houston. But Sussman said he was holding back until he saw a stronger "communal spirit."

Stewart wins mistake-ridden U.S. Open

By The Associated Press

CHASKA, Minn. — SMU's Payne Stewart paid a smaller price for his fewer mistakes and escaped with a two-stroke victory Monday in the highest-scoring U.S. Open playoff in 64 years.

The former Southern Methodist University player added the 91st American national championship to his 1989 PGA title with a 75-77 18-hole playoff victory over stricken Scott Simpson.

It was the highest winning score in an 18-hole Open playoff since Tommy Armour beat Lighthorse Harry Cooper 76-79 at Oakmont, Pa., in 1927.

While it was hardly an artistic success — Stewart, for example, bounced one shot out of the water and made but a single birdie over the last 33 holes he played — it did not lack in drama.

Particularly over the last three, critical holes at the Hazeltine National Golf Club.

Just as he had in the two previous days, Simpson had gone to that home stretch with a two-shot lead in hand.

In regulation play Saturday and Sunday, he blew those two strokes and escaped with a tie.

This time he was not so fortunate. Simpson, the methodical, 1987 Open champion, bogeyed all three this time, including a tee shot into water on the par-3 17th.

And Stewart made his first birdie in

31 holes with a clutch, 25-foot putt on the 16th.

The four-shot swing in three holes capped Stewart's comeback from a neck injury with the grandest title of his career and only his second victory in seven career playoffs.

Five-year-old daughter Chelsea leaped into his arms moments after Stewart closed it out with a 3-foot par-putt on the final hole.

Appropriately enough, the par-4, 384-yard 16th, the signature hole at Hazeltine, proved to be the turning point in a plodding, mistake-prone playoff.

On each of the previous two days, Simpson had bogeyed after hitting an iron off the tee into the left rough.

This time, with the wind blowing left to right, his 1-iron tee shot found the fairway and he flew his approach some 35 feet below the hole.

Stewart, desperately needing to make something happen, also hit an iron into the fairway, but was blocked

from a clear shot to the green by a tree.

He played an 8-iron over the tree to about 25 feet.

After Simpson missed his long, lag putt, Stewart rapped his into the back of the cup for a birdie-3.

Simpson then missed from about 4 feet and, suddenly, they were tied.

Simpson, noted among the other touring pros as a man who rarely makes mistakes, who rarely backs away, obviously was shaken.

After Stewart put his tee shot on the green on the 17th, Simpson pulled his iron into the water. He dropped his club on the tee, his shoulders slumped, full of the knowledge that it was all but over.

After a drop, he bounced a shot off a bank to the right of the green, watched the ball run within 12 feet of the cup and then made that putt to save a bogey.

"After the 15th hole I thought I had a great chance."

Sports Brief

Tech tennis team signs Walker

The Texas Tech women's tennis team has signed a scholarship agreement with Cheree Walker, the sixth-ranked player in the 18 girls division in New Zealand, Red Raider tennis coach Kathy Vick announced Friday.

Walker, from Lower Hutt High School in Wellington, led her school to four consecutive Hutt Valley tennis championships.

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