



Verdict: Coleman convicted of perjury

Jury gives officer seven-year probated sentence

By Brittany Barrientos/The University Daily

After less than an hour, the jury deliberating over the Thomas Coleman case decided Friday that Coleman deserved a seven-year probated sentence.

Coleman was eligible for probation because he has no previous criminal record.

Coleman stood trial for two counts of aggravated perjury relating to several incidents connected to the false imprisonment of 46 Tulia residents on drug charges, including lying about stealing gasoline and lying about his arrest records at the hearings of four Tulia residents in 2003.

Coleman was convicted on the first count of aggravated perjury, which stated that he knowingly made false statements under oath regarding his previous theft charges and the amount of time he had been aware of them.

He was found not guilty on the second count of ag-

gravated perjury, that he filled up his personal vehicle with gas intended only for the use of official vehicles of the Cochran County Sheriff's Department.

The jury voted unanimously in both decisions.

Coleman's head stayed down, as it did throughout the majority of the trial, while the punishment was read and was crying noticeably when he looked up.

Residents of Tulia who attended Coleman's sentencing looked shocked by the result.

Kizzie White, a Tulia resident who was arrested and served four years in jail because of Coleman's Tulia drug bust, said she was happy the jury convicted Coleman.

"(I am) satisfied they found him guilty of aggravated perjury," White said. "I just want him to get a little taste

Tulia residents, attorneys react to conviction

By Brittany Barrientos/The University Daily

To all involved in the Thomas Coleman case, the verdict and sentence had an immense effect.

Coleman was convicted of one count of aggravated perjury and sentenced to a seven-year probated sentence on Friday.

Freddy Brookins Jr., a Tulia resident who was arrested and convicted on false charges by Coleman and served four years in prison, said he respects the jury's recommendation.

"(I) can't say I'm happy, but that's what the jury thinks," he said. "(I) still feel like they've done a good job of finding him guilty. I still feel like Rod (Hobson) did a good job."

Gerodd Ervine, another Tulia resident who was arrested in the 1998 drug sting, said he thought

probation might be the outcome, but does not necessarily agree with it.

"I think he should get more time based on the time he gave us," he said.

The defendants in the Tulia drug cases received major sentences, ranging from three to 434 years in prison. The defendants eventually began plea bargaining out of their trials to avoid these harsh sentences, according to crimelibrary.com.

In a press conference held immediately following the 7 p.m. punishment reading, both the prosecution and the defense commented. Jurors were invited to the press conference since their gag orders were lifted, but none was present.

John Read, a member of the defense team that represented Coleman free of charge, said Coleman was thankful for their work, and an appeal will be discussed

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School funding top issue for legislature

By Meghann Lora/The University Daily

Texas Tech students will have the opportunity to voice their concerns about the increasing cost of higher education to the state legislature.

The Texas Legislature meets for its 79th regular session Jan. 11 through May 30 in Austin. Changing the state's school funding system is a top priority for this session.

The legislature will decide how much state funding Tech receives.

Tech President Jon Whitmore said the amount of funding Tech receives from the legislature will affect how much tuition will increase next year.

"The key will really be the legislative session," he said. "I'll be focusing a lot of energy on that."

Tech has been preparing for the legislative session for many months, Whitmore said. Tech finalized the proposed budget in August, and Whitmore testified to a review board about six weeks ago.

Whitmore said he is optimistic about the legislative session.

Several opportunities will arise for Tech to testify on the budget to various legislators, Whitmore said. One of those opportunities would involve Tech students testifying in Austin.

Mitchell Moses, president of the Student Government Association, said the SGA has been planning a Tech Day to lobby for more funding.

"That is where we're going to be going to Austin and talking to the members of the legislature about why Tech deserves more funding," he said.

The group will leave Feb. 8, testify at the capitol Feb. 9 and return Feb. 10.

Moses said the trip initially would be offered to SGA senators since they were elected to represent Tech students. Additional spots will be available for other students to travel with the senators, he said.

Students who are interested in this opportunity can pick up an application at the SGA office in the Student Union. The exact number of openings will be known by 12 p.m. Tuesday, Moses said.

Another way for students to help Tech without leaving Lubbock is through the SGA's letter-writing campaign, Moses said. The purpose of the



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REFEREE RIDICULE



VANESSA VELA/The University Daily

ARMEN WILLIAMS, A junior marketing major from Arlington, and Cole Whisenhunt, a freshman marketing major from Brady, mock the officials during a timeout at the Texas Tech-Texas A&M men's basketball game Saturday in the United Spirit Arena.

Tech students, faculty join in Social Justice Walk

By Brandi Fleming/The University Daily

Laura Mullen, an area coordinator of Housing and Residence Life, began the Social Justice Walk Monday afternoon by asking that participants remember the sacrifices made for civil rights.

"Wonderful things have been done in the last 40 years (for social justice), but we need to remember that the work is not done," Mullen said.

Housing and Residence Life and the Black Faculty and Staff Association coordinated the walk, Mullen said. Participants met at the Bookman statue outside of the Student Union and walked with lighted candles to Memorial Circle meditating on the works of Martin

Luther King Jr.

"We wanted to do something to commemorate the day," Mullen said. "A lot is being done tonight in the community, but really nothing was planned for students on campus."

Andy Foran, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Austin, said he came to the walk because he has a great deal of respect for King.

"Dr. King was a great man," he said. "I heard about the walk from my friend Austin, and I decided to participate."

Austin Mullins, a senior electrical engineering and computer science dual major from Arlington, said he came to help address the issues of social justice in today's society.

"I feel social justice is a big thing, and not enough is being done to address it in the mainstream," he said. "People need to step up and realize there is a lot to be done."

Chris Flores, a sophomore design communications major from Fort Worth, said he decided to walk because it makes him feel he is part of something bigger.

"It is really important to me to do this because so many people in the past struggled for civil rights," he said. "I feel that I am at least doing something to show my support."

Andy Reay, a sophomore chemical engineering major from Albuquerque, N.M., said

MARCH continued on page 2

POLAR PLAY



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

A POLAR BEAR at the San Diego Zoo in San Diego plays with a plastic polar bear hours before kickoff at the 26th Annual Pacific Life Holiday Bowl Dec. 30.

Local restaurant helps 11-year-old girl's wish come true

By Jeremy Martin/The University Daily

Doctors diagnosed Jennifer Bush with muscular dystrophy when she was 11 years old. Her mother, Sylvia Bush, has the same disease.

"The only difference is she got it when she was 11," Sylvia Bush said. "I got it when I was 26. I had a life before it. She didn't."

When the Make-A-Wish Foundation gave Jennifer Bush the chance to have a dream come true, she said she wanted to go to Walt Disney World.

Angie Graham, field office director for the Lubbock branch of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, said she often tries to encourage local businesses to sponsor

requests like Jennifer Bush's. Graham said the foundation must occasionally put a wish on hold until it finds a sponsor.

The pledge to sponsor Jennifer Bush's wish came from an unexpected source — Hooters.

Mark Burckel, general manager for the restaurant, said the Hooters' staff

decided to sponsor the wish by holding a stocking auction.

Waitresses volunteered to put together 57 themed stockings, Burckel said, adding each waitress was responsible for making stockings and securing donations. Stockings then were auctioned off to the highest bidder at an event Dec. 22.

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Legislature

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letter-writing campaign would be to reach representatives from around the state. Students would write a letter aimed to gain support from the representative of their hometown.

"The student would just be responsible for writing the letter and providing their home address," he said. "The plan is to deliver the letters when we go visit the capital on the 9th."

Sophomore music education major Kelli Rohlman said she believes students could positively affect the legislature.

"They'll be hearing firsthand how we're feeling and how things really effect us," she said.

Rohlman, a student from Allen, Texas, said she has experienced the rising cost of education and living on campus.

Rohlman said she pays more to live in Wall this year compared to last year, but the Wall/Gates dining hall is no longer in operation. She said students are also paying more for less of an education.

"I don't know if we're getting what we're paying for," she said. "I think if we're going to pay so much, they should up the standard."

Daisy Garcia, a sophomore pre-med major from Plainview, said she believes Tech should receive the same funding as the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M. Tech receives less funding because others do not see Tech on the same level, she said.

"I think we're becoming a really prominent school," she said. "We deserve our recognition."

March

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

he greatly respects Dr. King and his work.

"People need to understand that the work in racial and class issues is not finished," he said. "I think this is an important event to participate in so that we all remember what has been done."

Henry Matthews, a visiting professor from Seattle, Washington, said Martin Luther King was a vital part of

America's past.

"I came because Dr. King was a great man and made tremendous contributions to the struggle for civil rights," he said.

Godfrey Christophe, a clinical lab technician at Thompson Hall, wore a sign that read, 'I Am A Man,' to show his views and support for the walk.

Christophe said many civil rights activists through the years have worn the saying while protesting. It was the core of Dr. King's beliefs and for what he stood, he said. The idea behind it is a reference to God and the fact that black

men were created by the same God and should enjoy the same rights and privileges as any other man.

"This idea was one of Dr. King's most enduring motifs," Christophe said. "It has played a significant role in African-American history in this country."

Christophe said the sign is a symbol of the work of Dr. King that should never be forgotten.

"The sign asks the question, 'Why am I being marginalized?'" he said. "It is an abstract reality that people don't realize."



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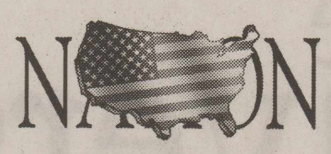
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Graner sentenced for abuse scandal

FORT HOOD (AP) — Army Spc. Charles Graner Jr. was sentenced to 10 years behind bars Saturday for physically and sexually mistreating Iraqis in the first court-martial stemming from the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, an embarrassment to the U.S. military fueled by the release of graphic photographs.

Graner, labeled the leader of a band of rogue guards at the Baghdad prison in late 2003, will be dishonorably discharged when his sentence is completed. He also was demoted to private and was ordered to forfeit all pay and benefits.

A day after convicting him, the jury of four Army officers and six senior enlisted men deliberated about two hours to determine Graner's sentence. He could have received 15 years.

Graner, who had been free prior to trial, was taken into custody after the sentence was read.

Asked if he felt remorse, he said, "There's a war on. Bad things happen."

Before the jury foreman read the sentence, he gave his mother, Irma, a big hug and his father, Charles Sr., a firm handshake.

Afterward, Graner tried to put on a brave face, but his mother said, "He's scared to death."

Tsunami warning system to be erected Abbas sworn in as Palestinian leader

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration unveiled a \$37.5 million plan Friday to erect a tsunami warning system designed to protect both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts by mid-2007.

The plan would quadruple the size of the warning network in the Pacific and would erect similar safeguards for the Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf coasts, officials of the White House science office said. Operating the network would cost about \$24.5 million a year.

To help monitor for waves from a tsunami, the plan envisions a network of 38 high-tech buoys attached to pressure recorders on the ocean floor. Twenty-five buoys would be added to the six now in the Pacific, including two as back-ups to existing ones off the coast of Alaska.

Five new ones would be installed in the Atlantic Ocean, and two in the Caribbean Sea to provide coverage also for the Gulf of Mexico. None now exists in those areas.

The buoys would be connected to pressure recorders below the ocean floor, and data would be relayed by satellite to scientists. The system also would include an expansion of seismic sensors.

Tsunamis can strike thousands of miles away from an earthquake or a volcanic eruption, lashing coastlines with energy built as it rushes across the ocean floor.

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Mahmoud Abbas extended his hand in peace to Israel as he was sworn in as the new Palestinian leader Saturday, but he faced a series of crises that imperiled those fledgling moves and raised questions about the elections that brought him to power.

Israeli army fire killed eight Palestinians in the Gaza Strip a day after Israel cut all ties with Abbas until he reins in militants. The boycott came after six Israelis were killed during an attack at a Gaza cargo crossing this week.

Also, 46 election officials resigned Saturday over alleged irregularities in the Jan. 9 balloting that gave Abbas a landslide victory with more than 62 percent of the vote.

In his inaugural speech, Abbas condemned violence, urged an immediate cease-fire and said he was extending Israel his hand in peace.

Officials in Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office called the speech disappointing, saying it did not define how Abbas would end attacks on Israel.

Abbas made only vague mention of how he would deal with the violent groups that are dampening the new optimism for peace that followed the Nov. 11 death of Yasser Arafat.

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Coleman

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of what I went through." Friday began with closing arguments from both the prosecution and the defense. Each side was given 45 minutes to state its case, and it was the state's job to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Coleman is guilty of aggravated perjury.

Prosecutor Rod Hobson referred to the large numbers of lies he says Coleman presented under oath.

"Tom Coleman always has an explanation," Hobson said. "Problem is, he also always needs an explanation for everything."

Hobson said no unimportant lies exist, and Coleman is guilty.

"(The) narrow reason we are all here is Tom Coleman is a liar and a perjurer. He is absolutely 100 percent, positively, certainly, without a doubt guilty," he said. "Even Lady Justice with her blindfold on could see that."

Kirk Lechtemberger, a member of the defense, argued the prosecution focused on a smear campaign, getting the jury to hate Coleman instead of presenting evidence that he is guilty. Lechtemberger called Coleman's inconsistencies on the witness stand mistakes and said Coleman does not have a firm grasp on the English language.

"Tom Coleman can't even speak correctly. He can't even figure out the syntax of an English sentence," he said. "Not every misquote is necessarily a lie."

Closing arguments concluded, and the jury deliberated.

Coleman was asked by Gleason before deliberation if he would like the possibility of perjury, a lesser charge, to be given if his statements were found to be lies, but immaterial. Coleman declined.

After approximately two hours of deliberation, the jury came back with both a guilty and a not guilty verdict.

Sentencing began about 5 p.m.

Hobson began sentencing, calling a Tulia resident who went to jail after the drug busts, Freddy Brookins Jr., to the stand.

Brookins testified he was not guilty of possession with intent to distribute, with which he was charged at 6:45 a.m., as he was drug out of his Tulia home naked by Coleman and the Amarillo task force. Brookins was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

"I couldn't believe that they gave me 20 years," Brookins said. "There was no evidence or anything."

The defense called Coleman's mother, Irma Coleman, to the stand.

"You're badgering me about my son, and I'm not going to answer your questions," Irma Coleman said. "He didn't do anything wrong in Tulia."

Despite speculation that Tom Coleman would take the stand, the prosecution and the defense concluded with closing statements, with Hobson and the state going first.

"Ask not Mr. Coleman for whom the bell tolls," he said, "it tolls for you."

Read and the defense had a different approach to the closing statement.

"Probation is punishment; it is a restriction on his life. His life is over," Read said. "(Now) let's get out of here, and let's go home."

Coleman was booked because of insufficient bond and was taken back to Swisher County, where he will be freed in time for a meeting with Gleason Jan. 18 in Tulia to discuss his probation.

Reactions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

later.

"(It was a) case we believed needed to be tried, needed to be tried to its limits. (We felt) it was the best thing to do," he said. "(The) police office is going to be held accountable like everybody else, just not any more accountable."

Read said he was satisfied with the jury's sentence.

"If you're going to lose a case, the best scenario is probation," Read said. "(Probation) is a compromise."

Rod Hobson said though he knew the case was difficult to try, Coleman's sentence is unsettling.

"(I'm) a little disappointed; it was going to be a hard sell," he said. "(It is) hard for a jury to sentence a former police officer."

Hobson stressed the importance of telling the truth when testifying on the witness stand.

"When people take the stand, they need to tell the truth," he said. "As officers of the court, it is our job to make sure (that happens)."

Despite speculation that Coleman would take the stand, Hobson said he agreed with the defense's decision to keep Coleman off the stand.

"(I) thought it was wise to keep Tom Coleman off the stand," he said. "Did you see Stewart? Multiply that by 100."

Sheriff Larry Stewart was a witness for the defense who was appointed a lawyer after inconsistencies in his testimony. Stewart could potentially be charged with perjury.

"I can't just prosecute anyone I want to, unfortunately," Hobson said.

Coleman was booked Friday because of insufficient bond and was sent back to Swisher County. He will be freed in time for a meeting with Judge David Gleason Jan. 18.

Hooters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

These were no ordinary Christmas stockings.

For example one waitress' stocking was actually a wooden sleigh, called "Toys for Boys," which contained \$450 power tools donated by Home Depot, Burckel said. That sleigh went for \$2,250.

The original goal was \$5,000, but the auction made more than twice that amount. The restaurant raised \$12,224.82, enough money to send another family to Disney World.

Hooter's waitress Lindsey Moon, an exercise and sports science major from Austin, said she was one of the people in charge of organizing the event.

Moon, whose Harry Potter-themed stocking earned a bid of \$125, said she has been involved with charity work before, but this event seemed more meaningful because she knew to whom the money was going, and she was personally involved in making it happen. "It was probably the first (project) I really attacked," Moon said.

Graham said she had not considered talking to Hooters about sponsorship before, but she could not be happier with the results of the auction.

"This was the greatest establishment to have this in, she said. "Their heart was in what they were doing."

Sylvia Bush said she did not have a high opinion of Hooters before it sponsored her daughter's wish, but she has a better impression now.

"They've been wonderful for us," she said.

Because the Hooters' employees were willing to get in the holiday spirit, Jennifer and her parents were able to travel to Florida, an after-

Christmas gift they did not ever expect to receive.

"This gave her a chance to have fun," she said. "She hasn't had a whole lot of fun in her life."

Though Jennifer Bush said she enjoyed her trip to Disney World, she has some advice for future travelers.

"Just never go in December," she said. "It's too cold."

As for Hooters' and whether they plan to continue to get involved in community efforts like this in the future Moon summed it up with an energetic expression: "Whoa we need to do this every year."

For updates on campus and local news, read *The UD online* www.universitydaily.net

Old food pyramid given new nutritional facelift

By Katherine Amerson/
The University Daily

Like the monuments of Egypt, the outdated food pyramid is ancient history. In its place are revamped and reinforced guidelines to make Americans healthier.

Texas Tech food and nutrition professor Debra Reed said if the new recommendations are communicated to the public, they will have an effect, but right now they are confusing.

"There's more of a focus in these dietary guidelines, on the whole-grain products," she said. "Whole-grains are found in the less processed foods. The benefits of those foods are that they're higher in fiber."

Americans are so low in dietary fiber intake, because people are not eating enough fruits, vegetables and whole-grains, Reed said.

"They're not telling you the total number of grain products you can have a day," she said. "They're just saying that of the grain products you're consuming, that three need to be whole-grain."

The new guidelines do not have anything to do with the Atkins diet craze, Reed said, because long-term, the diet is not effective for most people.

"Weight loss does not necessarily translate into fitness," she said.

According to the recently revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans at www.health.gov, the guidelines are updated every five years.

The current revision makes drastic changes in the recommended daily requirements of all foods, according to the report, as well as advising more exercise.

Randall Gentry, a senior marketing major from Texarkana, said he does not plan to follow the new recommendations.

"I've never followed the pyramid

anyway. What they're saying is a general guideline for the basic public," he said. "I take it with a grain of salt."

The new guidelines, based on a 2,000-calorie diet, according to www.health.gov, recommend two cups of fruit and two and half cups of vegetables per day.

Also recommended per day are three or more ounce-equivalents of whole-grain products, according to the Web site guidelines, and three cups of fat-free, low-fat milk or equivalent milk products.

Based on the old food pyramid, the recommendations per day were two to three servings from the milk group and two to three servings from the meat and beans group.

Also per day, the former recommendations were six to 11 servings from the grain group (not specifying whole-grains), three to five servings of vegetables and two to four servings from the fruit group.

Aja Smith, a senior visual studies major, said she is not sure if people will follow the new guidelines.

"I'm sure the reason they're changing

it is because they diagnosed obesity as a disease," she said. "I think they're actually trying to change lifestyles."

Proper nutrition is learned over time, Smith said, which is why it is taught in high school.

"My mom's a nutritionist, so I grew up eating healthy," she said. "I don't eat sweets at all, and I don't eat fast food at all."

As a conglomerate, no protein deficiency is in the U.S. Reed said; the deficiencies here are in calcium, vitamins A and C and in fiber. Therefore, not much change in the meat group area occurs.

"No one food is the perfect food," she said. "I would just encourage college students to increase their repertoire."

College is a perfect time to broaden one's food horizons, Reed said, so students should take advantage of the opportunity.

"We know that when people have transitions in their lives, that they can use that as an opportunity to make improvements, or that can be a time when they make less desirable choices," she said.

"I've never followed the pyramid anyway."

—RANDALL GENTRY
Senior Marketing Major
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Risky business: athletes' drug abuse might cost them fans

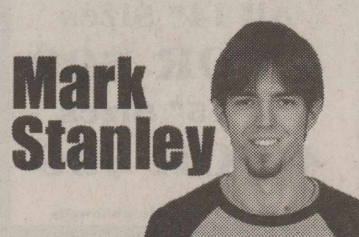
As an American and a die-hard baseball fan, I find myself disappointed but not surprised by recent confessions of steroid use in Major League Baseball.

With a recent performance-enhancing drug controversy at Texas Tech, this issue has been magnified to a point that potentially could affect us. Aaron Shelley, former Texas Tech sports nutrition expert, pleaded guilty to laundering money from Tech late last year. He used this money to buy substances banned by the NCAA, and allegedly sold them on the side for profit.

Anyone who follows sports and baseball knows of the scandal. The Bay Area Laboratory Cooperative allegedly has supplied several Olympic sprinters and baseball players with undetectable steroids.

Baseball's Barry Bonds vehemently denies having taken steroids, saying he was unaware that the substance was. As he approaches the all-time home run record (755, by Hank Aaron) some say MLB commissioner Bud Selig should put an asterisk next to any record broken by an athlete known to have taken steroids. This obviously would include Bonds — or would it?

There is no way to prove Bonds took steroids. From "the clear" to



Mark Stanley

No one ever has done what Ruth did. In 1961, Maris needed eight more games. In 1998, Mark McGuire needed Andro (an anabolic steroid). In 2001, Bonds needed 'the clear.' I am not sure anyone ever will break the record.

"the cream" to THG or HGH, all sorts of untraceable substances are on the market, especially from the chemists at BALCO. I do not think Bonds will be convicted of steroid

use or admit to using them. No cold hard facts are out there, and Bonds and his lawyers will continue to deny any intentional involvement with steroids.

I propose the Baseball Players Union, Selig and the players themselves work together to enforce a zero-tolerance policy similar to the system in the minor leagues. As for the asterisk, without proof of dishonesty, I do not believe baseball executives have the power to introduce such a thing.

In 1961, then MLB commissioner Ford Frick put an asterisk on Roger Maris' single season home run record (61) because he played in 162 games, while the former record holder, Babe Ruth (60), only played in 154 games. There is a legitimate reason for that asterisk, but now the lines of legitimacy have been blurred.

Maybe formal notation never will be in the record books of baseball, but fans everywhere will forever remember the stain Bonds and others have left on the game. I personally never will give him full credit when he holds the record. He never has had my respect and now never will. Baseball fans won't forget what he has done to them,

and, like Pete Rose, never will forgive him.

We have seen this scenario before. Rose also denied allegations he was a cheater, and did so for a long time. Until recently, "Charlie Hustle" never spoke a word of culpability, and I do not expect Bonds will either.

Just like Rose, I will remember Bonds for who he is — a cheater. Even if he does go out and hit 80 home runs this year, completely free of steroids, I never will forgive him for using steroids to break the most sacred record in baseball — ahem — allegedly.

No one ever has done what Ruth did. In 1961, Maris needed eight more games. In 1998, Mark McGuire needed Andro (an anabolic steroid). In 2001, Bonds needed "the clear." I am not sure anyone ever will break the record.

Maybe someday I will forgive Bonds for staining the game I love so much, but right now I am having a hard time doing that.

Stanley is a freshman architecture major from Levelland. E-mail him at mark.stanley@ttu.edu.

TECH TALKS BACK

Protestors, protest away: it's patriotic, and it's your American right

I'm writing about Will Gardner's Jan. 14 opinion, "The election is over, so let it go." Gardner's statements not only were inaccurate and ignorant, but also unpatriotic.

The notion that "loyal liberals need to give up (their) fight against the president" goes against the spirit of our nation. Gardner, when President Clinton was under investigation, were your conserva-

tive comrades as willing to "give up their fight" just because he was not removed from office? I'm sure they dropped their signs and went back to their mansions, satisfied with a job well done.

Here's one for you, Gardner — I hate Bush, too. I hate the fact he has not attended any soldiers' funerals. I hate the fact he won't admit when he's wrong. But while

many fellow liberals and myself would be happy to see him leave office, it obviously is not our purpose when we protest.

Denying an American his right to protest is wrong. We protest that there are 2.5 million more people without jobs under President Bush than under Clinton. We protest the rising crime rate. We protest his inability to communicate with the

American people. We protest his constant rushing off to Central Texas to hide. Not to mention his inability to fulfill his pledge to catch Osama bin Laden "dead or alive." Denying our right to protest actions that we see as wrong — that is un-American.

— Will Roby, senior English major from Beaumont

The life of a pious poliholic

It isn't easy having an addiction — but I know I have a problem

To start the new year, I'd like to get something clear. I know all I write about is politics and politics, making me somewhat of a one-dimensional columnist pandering to a small subculture of devoutly contentious citizens.

Thankfully, I have friends and family who love me enough to hold an intervention to deal with my addiction to neo-con spin, liberal banter and pundit positivism. Now I see the truth.

Hello everyone, my name is Dave, and I'm a poliholic.

Hello Dave. I guess it all started during my childhood. I remember still: the summer of 1988. It was hot for Spokane, Wash., but the presidential fever was even hotter. Dukakis was trying desperately to shake the politician-playing-soldier image from the notorious tank blunder, but truthfully succeeded only in shaking a bunch of sweaty Inland Empire hands.

But for a young boy straight out of Post Falls, Idaho, the vision of that man from Massachusetts standing on that tailgate was lodged into my head to burn like a piece of shrapnel in some Iraqi school kid's cerebrum — except, of course, visions don't kill you.

This was a serious change in my life. I, like any good astronaut in training, had committed the previous eight years to a rigorous NASA simulation course by facing any rollercoaster, riding any Tilt-a-Whirl and pounding gallon after gallon of grandma's Tang in efforts to get a jumpstart on my space career.

But then I saw that the real work is to be done here, on terra firma, and this spectacle of human inconsistency we call campaigning was absolutely the sexiest thing I ever had seen.

It wasn't until recently I realized I truly have a problem. Sure, the fun and romance of the '90s led us to believe the optimistic undercurrents our nation has been longing to embrace had finally bubbled to the surface of American culture. We were all a little high on life. Bubba was in the White House blowing away his Republican opposition like — well, you know where I'm going with this.

But as much as most of you hate to admit it, the Bill Clinton presidency personified its generation like none in recent history — Grover Cleveland being the obvious exception.

The problem with addiction, as we all know, is realizing you have a problem. At once I thought I was alone with my secret. I didn't know there were others out there hiding their weakness too. I remember going to parties searching for anyone who could give me my fix.

All I needed was someone to mispronounce "Eye-rack" or perhaps touch on the socioeconomic consequences of same-sex marriage to feel the chemicals wash over my body, enveloping my whole being into a state of ecstasy and argument.

Oh, the shame. Oh, the excitement.

Today you hold in your hands the musings of a reformed political junkie. The Dave Ring of yesterday was obtusely objective, esoterically witty and mildly readable. But no longer will the lowest common denominator be my target audience. Holding back for

Dave Ring



Today you hold in your hands the musings of a reformed political junkie. The Dave Ring of yesterday was obtusely objective, esoterically witty and mildly readable. But no longer will the lowest common denominator be my target audience.

the sake of decency didn't work for Democrats this year, nor will it work for me anymore.

You can call me a whiner or a pathetic excuse of a citizen. I didn't care before, and I won't care now. It won't stop me from using this space to draw attention to travesties and tragedies befalling our planet through the greed, hatred, bigotry and pride of powerful leaders manipulating the masses.

Americans have lived far too long on the south side of a north-bound global awareness gap.

Just as I feel the rich ought to be responsible to feed the impoverished, it seems natural those "with" have a human duty to those "without." Not just when it's popular or convenient, but always. Am I going to change most readers' minds? Probably not. But that shouldn't stop anyone from doing anything. I know where I stand on some things and am still working others out.

I know now being hooked on what's happening is better than living in ignorance, as many choose to do. It isn't fun knowing that around the world children are being murdered by governments for some idea or that millions are in slavery to provide us with comforts and freedoms we take for granted. But it makes it worthwhile when you get to witness those beautifully unique moments where one person does something for someone else — not for what he will gain, but because it helps others.

That being said, I want everyone to remember I won't write in hopes of invoking anger. It's just about a boy at a computer who wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the efforts of people whining about the government before him.

It is all I can do to get mad and to say something about it. If you get mad at something I say, all I can tell you is that I'm not the only one with a voice.

Ring is a graduate student studying international affairs from Hobbs, N.M. E-mail him at david.j.ring@ttu.edu.

Send your letter to the editor to opinions@universitydaily.net

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Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submission.

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Ross scores 27 in Tech's second conference win

By Joey Kirk/
The University Daily

Robert Frost and John Keats used rhythm to create poems. On Saturday, Texas Tech took the same element, but applied it to the basketball court.

"That's poetry out there the way they were playing," Texas A&M coach Billy Gillispie said after the Aggies lost 70-56 at the United Spirit Arena.

Even though the Red Raiders came out with a victory, Tech coach Bob Knight found a couple of stanzas that did not quite fit.

"I appreciate Billy saying that, but he must have read the wrong poetry that I haven't read," he said. "We must be reading different poets. I don't think we played particularly well on the offense, and in that case, the other team has something to

do with that."

Tech shot 41.9 percent in the first half, holding A&M to 22.2 percent. But the Aggies snagged 16 rebounds, doubling the Raiders' total before the half.

Tech led by 10 points before starting the second period, 31-21, and Knight said Tech still needed to move together on defense to win.

"I felt that A&M would come back strong in the second half 'cause they had some momentum going for them in the first

half," he said. "The only time we had the chance to take the game out of reach was in the first 10 minutes of the game. And after that, it kind of settled down into a game where a team had to play pretty well to

win 'cause the other team was going to play pretty well too."

A & M came back, shooting a strong 57.7 percent from the floor, with forward Antoine

Wright leading the Aggies with a total of 18 points. But Tech guard Ronald Ross hit six of his seven shots in the sec-

ond half to lead the Raiders. Ross totaled 27 points, while getting eight rebounds during the game.

The style of the game did more than just aid Ross in making the buckets necessary to help his team, Ross said.

"A lot of things opened up in the inside, and when it did that, we made good passes," Ross said. "We just were doing things that we've been taught."

Knight said he agreed Ross was a major factor for the Raiders' offense, but another player who stood out in his mind and made an impact in the final results was forward Darryl Dora.

"From an individual standpoint, I was really pleased with Dora," Knight said. "We've been trying to get things out of Dora, and I think we got more out of him tonight than

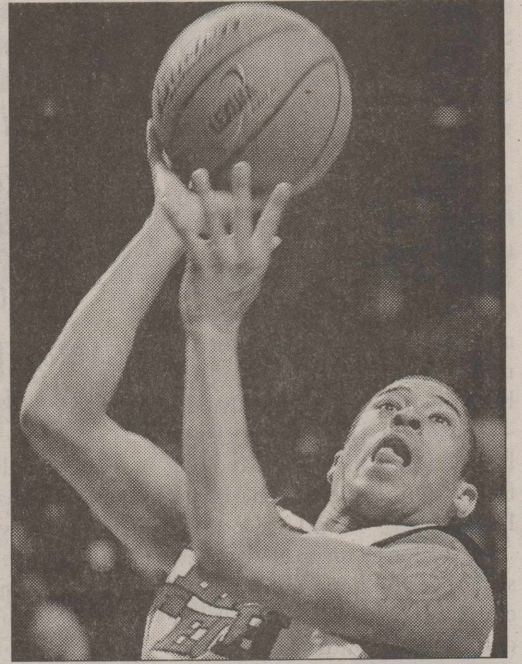
we have all year. And I think he was a real contributing factor to what we did tonight."

Dora shot 4-of-5 from the floor, hit a 3-pointer and got 11 points. But Knight said he still sees things in him that need to change.

"I just want him to be an aggressive player," he said. "He's kind of adopted this role where he's a feeder and a 3-point shooter. Well, he's a (bad) 3-point shooter and he's a (bad) feeder, so we're trying to get him out of that role."

Finding himself in a different position Saturday, Knight said Dora's performance was necessary with forwards Curtis Marshall and Devonne Giles only combining for one score.

"If I would have known before the game that Giles and Marshall would go 1-for-11, I think I would have gone hunting," he said. "Yet being able to win against a good team with them going 1-for-11 says something about our other phases of the game."



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily
TEXAS TECH GUARD JARRISS JACKSON attempts a layup in Tech's 70-56 victory over Texas A&M Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

With the Raiders' defeating A&M by a margin of 14 points, Knight said winning still was a challenge for his players during the process.

"I thought the best part was when A&M cut the lead to seven or five, and that's a tremendous thing for them to do," he said. "We had the game in position to take control in the first 10 minutes, and they never let that happen. Bad news is our lead got cut to five, but then it became where we got it back up to 15. Got it to where if you don't drop dead, you're gonna win."

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

1 Attempt to disprove

6 Schwarz (toy store)

9 News medium

14 Olds model

15 LBJ follower

16 Surgeon's cutter

17 Sunday text

19 Retract one's words

20 Shatner novel "War"

21 Annoy

22 Mulls over

24 Port on the Ob

26 Self-centered individual

27 Slight breeze

30 Actor Zimballist

32 Indy-winner Luyendyk

33 Four-letter swear word?

35 Capital of Bangladesh

39 Physician's pellet

40 Hollow tubes

42 Type of exam

43 Scottish dagger

45 Presidential bill-killer

46 USC rival

47 U-boat detector

49 Whip strokes

51 Not consistent

54 Move along laterally

56 Elements of a strategy

58 Caribbean or Coral

59 Little white lie

62 Home web site?

63 Lincoln's eighty

66 Unifying idea

67 La Bolivia

68 Destiny

69 Sen. Kefauver

70 Actress Joanne

71 Cito aspirant

DOWN

1 Fully absorbed

2 Other

3 Flyer's bill?

4 WWW address

5 Hoyden

6 Pond denizens

7 Latin lesson word

8 Working in a mess?

9 Went down in dictionaries

10 Big name in dictionaries

11 Japanese immigrant

12 Approaches

13 Lovers' rendezvous

16 False charge

23 "The Land" site?

24 1965 Rolling Stones hit

25 Word to add on to 17A, 63A, 10D and 24D

27 Nukes

28 Composer

29 Carpet feature

31 Banjo feature

34 Bounty rival

36 St. Louis landmark

37 Cabbage-like vegetable

38 "Woe is me"

41 Fusing material

44 Observes

48 MoMA location

50 Seward's folly

51 Mississippi or Ohio

52 Trodden tracks

53 Group of eight

55 Honda rival

57 Some CA cops

59 Fill-in sheet

60 "My Friend"

61 Three-salad

64 Paddle's cousin

65 Philanderer

1/18/05

Friday's Puzzle Solved

ALBS	MARES	UGLI
WEEP	IRENE	NOES
OVER	SATAN	DUAL
LIFE	INSOTA	ELSE
ENO	RET	ARIED
DOT	DUCT	ERIG
OLAF	RUST	IRKED
FINAL	LIT	ISDAILY
FOSSE	EPEE	DELE
TAR	ORCS	VAS
DATE	PALM	LEO
OVEN	POPOUI	ZIZES
TITI	PROUD	AIDE
EARN	ERNIE	RODE
SNAG	RESTS	KNAP

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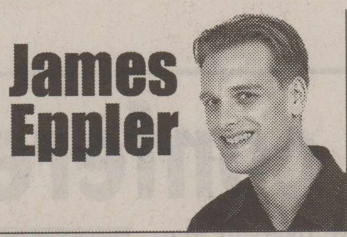
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FILM REVIEW

'Flying Daggers' soars, 'Life Aquatic' sinks

Two unique filmmakers go for end-of-the-year Academy gold. Only one stands a chance.



James Eppler

"House of Flying Daggers"

Director Zhang Yimou already scored a direct hit in the United States with "Hero" earlier this year. That film was a rousing spectacle with dazzling effects and wow-worthy imagery.

Yimou almost matches the film with his follow-up, "House of Flying Daggers," a killer love story that will overwhelm the emotions when not assaulting the eyes.

The House of Flying Daggers is a group of insurgents against the ruling Tang Dynasty. Two of the head officers of the Tang Dynasty — Jin (Takeshi Kaneshiro) and Leo (Andy Lau) — are looking for a way to infiltrate the Flying Daggers.

The plan is for playboy Jin to seduce Mei (Zhang Ziyi), a blind dancer whom they believe is one of the Daggers, into leading him to the house of the resistance.

On their journey through the forest, while evading Leo and his soldiers, Jin and Mei fall in love.

But it's not that simple. Along the way are plot twists and turns and even some outright surprises.

While "Hero" has the edge in terms of overwhelming visuals, "Daggers" has an emotional core that makes its heart throb. But "Daggers" has its share of face-melting effects.

Highlights include a game called "Echo," in which a dancer must hit surrounding drums with her long scarves following a ricocheting nut, and fights in a bamboo forest and a snow-covered field.

It's all for naught in this nautical nuisance. The film's good points don't keep the overall project from slowly sinking.

The equally gorgeous and fierce Zhang Ziyi may be the best female action star ever, and she delivers a brilliant performance in "Daggers" that almost better her work in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." But don't expect the Academy to remember this dynamite performance.

EPPLER'S RATING:



makes them an acquired taste.

Anderson and co-writer Owen Wilson were Oscar-nominated two years ago for their script for "Tenenbaums." This time, Anderson teams with co-writer Noah Baumbach for "Aquatic" and produces his first semi-misfire.

Captain Steve Zissou (Bill Murray in his third teaming with Anderson) has a lot on his mind. He makes documentary films about his seafaring adventures, most of which are staged, and recently has discovered a new breed of shark called the jaguar shark.

Unfortunately, he only discovered it while it ate his best friend on a recent shoot.

So Zissou sets out on a Captain Ahab-like quest to kill the shark in revenge.

But Zissou also must contend with a nosy journalist (Cate Blanchett), a pushy wife (Anjelica Huston), his snooty competition (Jeff Goldblum) and a man claiming to be his long-lost son (Owen Wilson).

The film itself plays out like one of Zissou's cornball documentaries, which is a clever gimmick, but only

for a while. The film hits rough waters with a silly pirate attack, an even sillier rescue mission and a drawn-out ending.

Anderson does his best to steer this ship through the storms he has created, but this boat eventually sinks.

What does work in the film is the reliable Bill Murray, fresh off his Oscar nomination for "Lost in Translation." His bone-dry humor fits Zissou perfectly, but the film does not fit the character.

Wilson also is worthy of mention as he gives one of most genuine and heartfelt performances as a son who desperately wants his father to accept him.

It's all for naught in this nautical nuisance. The film's good points don't keep the overall project from slowly sinking.

EPPLER'S RATING:



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

Entertainment News

Fox cuts back reality TV

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The sagging Fox network's chief executive admitted Monday it had leaned too heavily on reality programming this TV season, including the disastrous "Who's Your Daddy?"

Fox has been caught on the wrong side of audience taste in the past few months. Scripted series like ABC's Golden Globe-winning "Desperate Housewives" and "Lost" are hot, while viewers seem to have little patience for new reality series.

There were others, but Fox's problems were symbolized by "Who's Your Daddy?," the Jan. 3 show where an adopted daughter picked her birth father out of eight strangers and won a

\$100,000 prize.

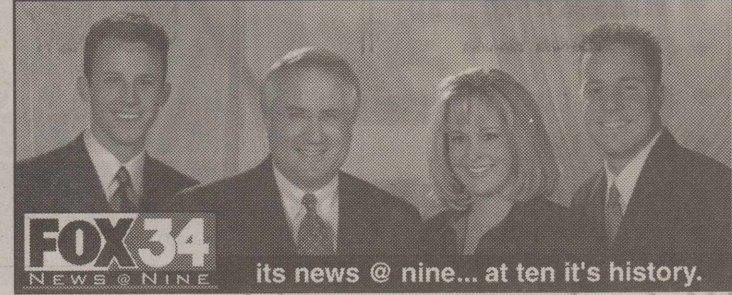
Adoption advocates were appalled; the public did not seem to care. Only 6.3 million people watched, according to Nielsen Media Research. Five other "Who's Your Daddy" episodes already filmed will be shelved, Fox entertainment president Gail Berman said Monday.

At its best, Fox is a mix of scripted and unscripted, high-brow and low-brow. "The Simpsons" can co-exist comfortably with "COPS," she said.

"In the case of this fall, we drifted too much on the unscripted side," Berman said. "But I think the audience expects loud things from Fox."

TUESDAY JANUARY 18

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Body Elec. Callou	Today Show	Early Show	K. Copeland J. Robison	Good Morning	Util. Choice Spin City
8:00	Berenstein Barney			Paid Program	America	Roseanne Roseanne
9:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Home Delivery	Becker Dharma/Greg
10:00	Sesame Street	Regis & Kelly	Price Is Right	Joe Brown Joe Brown	View	Makeover Makeover
11:00	Mr. Rogers Teletubbies	Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program	Paid Program Home Impr.	Access Extra
12:00	Motorweek	News Days of Our Lives	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live
1:00	Body Zoom	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Paid Program	One Life To Live	People's Court
2:00	Betw./Lions R. Rainbow	In/Edtion	Gulding Light	Jack Hanna Paid Program	General Hospital	Divorce Ct. TX Justice
3:00	Postcards Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Masury Povich	Dharma/Greg Sabrina	Jane Pauley	Fear Factor
4:00	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	That 70's Malcolm	Montel Williams	News
5:00	Maya/Miguel Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Access Family Feud	News ABC News	Malcolm Simpsons
6:00	Newshour	News W/Fortune	News Millionaire	Family Feud Extra	News E.T.	Friends Raymond
7:00	NOVA	Biggest Loser	NCIS	All of Us Eve	My Wife 'PG G. Lopez 'PG	American Idol
8:00	Unforgivable Blackness	Serbia 'TV14 Committed	Amazing Race 5	Veronica Mars	Accordium Rodney 'PG	
9:00	Rise & Fall of	Law & Order: SVU	Judging Amy King/Hill	King/Hill	NYPD Blue	News
10:00	Nightly Bus. Destinies	News Tonight Show	News David	That 70's Magnum, P.I.	News Nightline	Friends Seinfeld
11:00	GED Conn. Charlie Rose	Conan	Letterman Craig	Blind Date	Insider Paid Program	Frasier Cheers
12:00		O'Brien Last Call	Ferguson	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Jimmy Kimmel	Shoot Me Paid Program



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Covenant School of Nursing

Tennis teams serve up spring season

Nijaki, Paulsen lead confident men's squad

By Trey Shipman/
The University Daily

Sports teams love the beginning of a new season. Everyone begins on a level playing field, and in the world of athletic competition, anything can happen. Certain teams always have better odds of being successful because of the previous season's accomplishments, and the 2005 Texas Tech men's tennis team hopes to feature favorable odds.

Coach Tim Siegel said this year's squad is as talented as ever and has boundless potential.

"This season could be one of our best seasons, if not the best ever," Siegel said. "I think we have all the ingredients for a really good team."

The team returns three experienced seniors in Michael Innerebner, Jakob Paulsen and Esat Tanik to provide solid leadership. In the fall, these three posted a combined 12-8 record as individuals, and they look to build on that

success this spring.

Siegel said he felt that this team's top three or four players are good enough to compete with anyone in the country.

"We have the best one, two, three that I've ever had," Siegel said. "With Radek Nijaki, Bojan Szumanski and Jakob Paulsen, we have very strong players at the top of our lineup, and we also have really good depth in the four through eight spots."

Building on last season's success is one of the main goals of this year's squad. Last season the team finished as one of the top 50 teams in the country and defeated Texas in the Big 12 tournament.

This year's team will feature two of the better players in the nation: Nijaki and Szumanski, Siegel said.

"I think Radek Nijaki will be one of the top 25 players in college tennis for sure," Siegel said. "He has the kind of talent; he's a hard worker and has a

great game and can play with anyone in the country."

Last year's No. 1 player, Jakob Paulsen, also is expected to be one of the better players in the college game.

"He's currently ranked No. 21 in the nation, and that's a pretty good player to have at your No. 2 or 3 spot," Siegel said.

The other star player in Tech's top trio is Szumanski, who played number two last year and also made the finals of the team's regional tournament in the fall.

Tech will play at home at 9 a.m. Feb. 4 against Lamar followed by Texas Southern at 2:30 p.m.

Siegel emphasized that with dedication and determination, this season could be memorable.

"I think this is a team that could be a top 25 team in country," he said. "We have the work ethic; we have the attitude. I've never been more excited or optimistic about a team."

New players add to deep, competitive women's unit

By Anne Gepford/
The University Daily

While some students may have chosen to relax over break, the Texas Tech women's tennis squad had five out of seven members return early for practice.

Coach Cari Groce said the early practices were not mandatory, and she sees this attendance as an indication of where the season will lead them.

"I think after the offseason and seeing the motivation, I've been blown away by it," Groce said. "I don't have to get on this group to get in the weight room. I'm thoroughly impressed."

Team leadership has had an impact on the early return, Groce said, as each player contributes something to the team.

"They all bring certain leadership qualities," Groce said. "At any time, I think we can count on any player to step up."

The team captain, junior Tara Browning said she tries to lead her teammates by example.

"Every time I do something,

I have to think there's six other girls watching," Browning said. "I try to lead by example on court, off court."

Browning said leadership is not all a good program requires, however. She said the improvement of the team does not just depend on players and practices.

"It starts at the top with a good athletic department, and it filters down to good coaches," she said. "Practices are hard; fitness is hard, and with that comes improvement."

Team depth also will be improved this season, Browning said. Amandine Ferot, a native of Paris, will be playing with the Red Raiders.

Groce said Ferot should affect the squad immediately.

"She's going to bring in some depth," Groce said. "After seeing her last summer myself, I know she can compete at this level."

Browning agreed and said Ferot fit in well with the team when they all first met.

"I'm sure she's going to have an immediate impact in the lineup and add some depth," Browning said. "I know she's eager to get into it."

Sophomore Lakann Wagley said the team is eager to begin

play, especially within the Big 12.

"I just look forward to conference play," Wagley said. "We have a lot of good talent."

The talent of the team will cause the competition to increase among teammates this season, Wagley said.

"I definitely think we're better," she said. "We have seven extremely good girls that can basically play any position. It's going to be very competitive on this team."

Groce said the competition among the players will help them with the season, as they face tough competition from their opponents.

"We've got to have everybody playing well every day," Groce said. "We need every player stepping up, playing well every day."

The Raiders open their season against Oregon on Feb. 4 in Eugene, Ore. Groce said the results at the end of the season will depend on the players finishing their season strong.

"Not only do we need to start playing strong tennis, we've got to continue playing strong tennis throughout the tournament," Groce said. "We've got to finish what we start."

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