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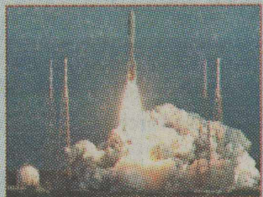
WEATHER FORECAST

 TODAY SUNNY HIGH 54 / LOW 23	 SATURDAY CLOUDY HIGH 49 / LOW 26	 SUNDAY SHOWERS? HIGH 43 / LOW 23
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Red Raiders need a win this weekend in Oklahoma.
PAGE 12.



ON PAGE 2



Rocket is up, up and away to the galaxy's most remote planet.

STATE

DNA test could free sex assault convict

HOUSTON (AP) — A Montgomery County man convicted of sexual assault in 1986 is expected to be freed after 18 years in prison based on recent DNA testing.

Arthur M. Mumphy, 42, was convicted of aggravated sexual assault and sentenced to 35 years behind bars for his alleged role in the rape of a 13-year-old girl in the Dobbin area, about 50 miles northwest of Houston.

Mumphy maintained his innocence, and DNA test results released earlier this week show Mumphy's blood and saliva samples do not match stains on the victim and her clothes.

Mumphy's lawyer, Eric J. Davis, said the DNA test prompted State District Judge Kathleen Hamilton to order a bench warrant for Mumphy's return from a state prison in Pampa.

Davis said Hamilton is expected to release Mumphy on a personal recognizance bond until he is granted a pardon, the *Houston Chronicle* reported in its Thursday editions.

Marc Brumberger, a Montgomery County assistant district attorney, said he expects Mumphy to be pardoned.

NATION

Disney Co. in serious talks to buy Pixar

NEW YORK (AP) — The Walt Disney Co. is in serious talks to buy Pixar Animation Studios Inc., the maker of the hit movies "Toy Story" and "Finding Nemo" among others, following months of exploring how to continue their profitable film distribution partnership, *The Wall Street Journal* reported Thursday.

Citing unnamed people familiar with the plan, the *Journal* said Disney would pay a nominal premium to Pixar's current market value of \$6.7 billion under the deal being discussed in a stock transaction that would make Pixar chief executive Steve Jobs the largest individual shareholder in Disney.

The *Journal* said the outcome of the talks isn't certain, and that other options are possible.

Telephone messages left Thursday morning for Disney spokeswoman Michelle Bergman in Burbank, Calif., and Pixar's Michele Clarke in New York were not immediately returned.

Pixar shares rose \$2.10, or 3.7 percent, to \$59.36 in midday trading on the Nasdaq.

WORLD

Italy to withdraw from Iraq by 2007

ROME (AP) — Italy will withdraw all its troops from Iraq by the end of this year, the defense minister said Thursday in the first official timetable for Rome to end its mission.

Defense Minister Antonio Martino said in an address to a parliamentary committee that the mission "will be considered concluded at the end of the year having definitively completed its mission."

Italy has 2,600 troops based in southern Iraq. The country's military mission will be phased out gradually over the year and a civilian force will replace it, Martino said.

The withdrawal was being made in agreement with allies and according to a timetable that allows for Iraq's reconstruction, Martino said.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the Bush administration was "well aware of the steps that Italy is taking."

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Bin Laden threatens attack on U.S.

By LEE KEATH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Osama bin Laden warned in an audiotape aired Thursday that his fighters are preparing new attacks in the United States but offered the American people a "long-term truce" without specifying the conditions.

The tape, portions of which were aired on Al-Jazeera television, was the first from the al-Qaida leader in more than a year. It came only days after a U.S. airstrike in Pakistan that targeted bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri, and reportedly killed four leading al-Qaida figures, possibly including al-Zawahri's

son-in-law.

There was no mention of that attack in the tape, which Al-Jazeera said was recorded in January. The network initially reported it believed the tape was made in December, but later corrected itself on the air. Editors at the station said they could not comment on how they knew when it was made.

The CIA has authenticated the voice on the tape as that of bin Laden, an agency official said. The al-Qaida leader is believed to be hiding in the border region between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Beyond confirming that bin Laden remains alive, the tape could be aimed at projecting an image of strength to al-Qaida

sympathizers and portray the group as still capable of launching attacks despite blows against it, analysts said.

The White House rejected the truce offer.

The United States will not let up in the war on terror despite bin Laden's latest threats, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said. "We do not negotiate with terrorists," McClellan said. "We put them out of business."

U.S. counterterrorism officials said Thursday they have seen no specific or credible intelligence to indicate an impending al-Qaida attack on the United States. The Homeland Security Department has no immediate plans

to raise the national terror alert, spokesman Russ Knocke said.

In the tape, bin Laden spoke in a soft voice, as he has in previous recordings, but his tone was flatter than in the past and had an echo, as if recorded indoors. He presented his message with a combination of threats, vows his followers can fight forever and a tone of reconciliation, insisting he wants to offer a way to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He even recommended a book for Americans to read — "The Rogue State," apparently a book of the same title by American author William Blum. He said it offers the path to

THREATS continued on Page 5

CHURCH & SKATE



VANESSA VELA/The Daily Toreador

LOCAL SKATEBOARDERS AND BMX bikers practice at One-9 Skate Park Wednesday afternoon.

Local churches offer ministry on wheels

By ABBY STONE
FEATURES WRITER

Whether people live by the slogan "Skate or Die," or are renting skateboards for the first time, this college generation is attached to skateboarding and Lubbock ministries are catching on.

Mark Lakins, a sophomore South Plains College student from Fort Worth, said he skates at Lubbock's free outdoor skate park at Lou Stubbs Park. He is not a very intense skater, but he loves going out and having fun.

"I stopped skating because I got a car," Lakins said. "But, I picked it up again because it is fun, and it is something to do in boring Lubbock."

Kristi Dugger, One-9 Skate Park coordinator, and her husband, Jarrod,

SKATING continued on Page 6



VANESSA VELA/The Daily Toreador

JEROD RISTER, A senior communication studies major from Lubbock, jumps a ramp with his bike at One-9 Skate Park Wednesday afternoon.

Lubbock earns poor rank in safety study

By DANIELLE NOVY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

According to a recent study, the Lone Star State is home to a handful of both the nation's most dangerous and safest cities.

While Dallas was recently named the most dangerous city in Texas by the 12th annual Morgan Quitno Press, Round Rock stole top honors by not only being ranked as the safest city in Texas, but additionally the eighth safest city in the U.S.

Officials from the Morgan Quitno Press, an independent private research company, calculated each city's ranking by comparing their crime rates in categories such as murder, aggravated assault and rape.

Out of the 700 cities and metropolitan areas that were studied, Lubbock fell into the slot of the 128th most dangerous city in the U.S. and the ninth most dangerous city in Texas.

Scott Morgan, president and cofounder of the Morgan Quitno Press, said Lubbock's ranking has changed little over the last few years.

Morgan said Lubbock earned its ranking in the bottom quadrant thanks to its high robbery and assault rates, which were each well above

SAFETY continued on Page 8

MOST DANGEROUS U.S. CITIES

- 1 — Camden, N.J.
- 2 — Detroit
- 3 — St. Louis
- 4 — Flint, Mich.
- 5 — Richmond, Va.

Source: Morgan Quitno Press

SAFEST U.S. CITIES

- 1 — Newton, Mass.
- 2 — Clarkstown, N.Y.
- 3 — Amherst, N.Y.
- 4 — Mission Viejo, Calif.
- 5 — Brick Township, N.J.

Source: Morgan Quitno Press

Bahais strive for peace on earth, goodwill toward other religions

By LAURA BURRUS
STAFF WRITER

World peace may seem impossible to some people, but members of the Bahai Faith believe world peace can be achieved.

According to the Web site www.bahai.us, the Bahai Faith was started in 1844 by a 25-year-old man in Persia, which now is Iran.

According to the site, Siyyid Ali-Muhammed claimed he had been sent by God to bring the news of someone greater than himself who was yet to come.

Marilyn Dykes, a member of the Bahai Faith, said the Bahais believe that all forms of religion have come from one God.

"We believe all the religions in history come from the

same God," she said.

She said the Bahais believe there have been many messengers of God that have been sent to the Earth including, Abraham, Moses, Buddha, Christ and Muhammad. She said the most recent messenger, and who the Bahais believe to be the last messenger, is Baha'u'llah.

According to www.bahai.us, Baha'u'llah's teachings promoted oneness. He taught that there was only one God, and that each religion represented a different stage of humanity. He supported all the ethical beliefs from all the different religions.

He also added social principles and laws that he believed would help achieve oneness among the many religions.

According to www.religioustolerance.org, the Bahais do

BAHAIS continued on Page 6



MARILYN DYKES/Courtesy Photo

THE SHRINE OF the Bab, located in Haifa, Israel, is a place of worship for the Bahai Faith. The stones for the structure were carved in Italy before being shipped to Israel.

Legislators fight perceived political bias in colleges

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Christian DeJohn returned from a National Guard tour in Bosnia only to fight his own war with academics at Temple University who he says have held up his master's thesis because of political conflicts in the classroom.

To some conservatives, the case represents a national trend by some liberal professors to infringe on conservative students' right to free speech at public colleges and universities.

The debate has reached more than a dozen state legislatures, which dole out the taxpayer funds to those schools, but so far there's been more talk than action.

Legislation modeled after an "academic bill of rights" advocated by conservative activist David Horowitz, founder of Students for Academic Freedom, was introduced in at least 15 states last year, but none has passed it, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The document exhorts professors to present a wide spectrum of

intellectual views in the classroom and discourages them from basing students' grades on their religious or political beliefs.

Julie Bell, the conference's education program director, said legislatures have not forced the issue because even public universities typically enjoy considerable autonomy in setting academic policies and procedures.

"Most legislatures have backed away because they really do acknowledge that separation," Bell said.

An Ohio state senator suspended his push for legislation last year after state universities approved a resolution requiring them to ensure students are not graded based on political opinions.

In Pennsylvania, legislators investigating whether their state's public colleges are hospitable to divergent intellectual and political views traveled to Temple for a hearing last week where a small number of students including DeJohn voiced their complaints.

President Bush says his wife never would run for Senate

STERLING, Va. (AP) — The Senate may be the place for some former first ladies, but President Bush on Thursday categorically ruled out a run for office by his wife, Laura Bush.

"She's not interested in running for office. She's interested in literacy," Bush said during an appearance at JK Moving & Storage.

The topic came up as the president took questions from his audience after a speech on the economy. A woman asked if Mrs. Bush would ever run for Senate from the first couple's home state of Texas, and Bush responded "never" — twice.

He also declined the woman's plea that he at least ask Mrs. Bush if she might be willing.

"She's a great lady," the president said. "She's not interested in running for office."

Mrs. Bush's popularity well exceeds her husband's, leading some to speculate that she might follow in the footsteps of her predecessor as first lady, now-Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., and seek elected office. But, as the president dryly pointed out, his intensely private wife has never shown any interest in running for office.

"I'm pretty certain, when I married her she didn't like politics or politicians," Bush said.

With an influence-peddling scandal swirling around Washington, Bush also said he expects elected officials to comply with the law and be open to scrutiny.

"In Washington, D.C., there needs to be high standards for the conduct of public officials," he said after a man asked him about tax fraud.

In Brief

Justice Week preparations begin

Whether it is domestic abuse or children fighting with guns on the street, a Texas Tech student organization is stepping up to prevent injustices experienced around the world.

Namaste, a student organization that strives for equality for all ethnicities, genders and races will sponsor "Justice Week," Feb. 27 through March 3.

The event will be held to raise awareness about several topics, including violence towards women, prostitution, hunger, abuse of control and children as soldiers.

If your club, group or organization would like to participate or has ideas for events, contact Kelcie Kopf at kelcie.m.kopf@ttu.edu. —Andrew Wood/Staff Writer

Digital music sales way up in '05

Digital music sales in 2005 tripled those in 2004, according to a report issued Thursday by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, or IFPI.

Online and mobile music sales reached \$1.1 billion for the year, which made up 6 percent of all music sales worldwide.

This should come as no surprise, as Internet music sales for the first half of 2005 had already tripled those of the first half of 2004, according to a report issued by the IFPI in October.

The IFPI, which supports the recording industry, listed lawsuit wins against illegal peer-to-peer file-sharing providers and the creation of more legal download outlets as some of the reasons for the increase in sales.

—Carlos Bergfeld/
Senior Staff Writer

Maher scheduled to go in to the fishbowl

In addition to their standard slew of products, Amazon.com announced a new offering Thursday soon to be added to their site: Bill Maher.

Maher will host "Amazon Fishbowl with Bill Maher," an Internet TV series which can be streamed from the Amazon.com Web site beginning June 1. The weekly series will air on Thursdays, and feature Maher in addition to authors, musicians and other artists.

Amazon.com will show a preview of the series this weekend at the Sundance Film Festival, and then have clips of the preview up for viewing on the Web site beginning Jan. 24.

Maher is currently the host of "Real Time with Bill Maher," which airs on HBO.

—Carlos Bergfeld/
Senior Staff Writer

New Horizons shuttle launches on third attempt

NASA's New Horizons spacecraft launched Thursday from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida after two scrubbed launches Tuesday and Wednesday.

High winds caused the cancellation Tuesday, followed by a power outage Wednesday at one of the control centers before launch.

Thursday's launch seemed to be mimicking Tuesday's with initial delays due to the weather, as the cloud cover would not permit launch for the first hour of the launch window.

The spacecraft will use a Jupiter gravity assist in making its way to

Pluto and its moons by 2015 at the earliest.

New Horizons includes a student-built dust counter among its seven data-gathering instruments, constructed by students at the University of Colorado.

—Carlos Bergfeld/
Senior Staff Writer

Casting Call

Attention, actors: The Texas Tech University Department of Theatre and Dance is looking for an actor to play in its upcoming production of "Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika." The role of Belize is a pivotal role in the action of this play.

Belize is a black man in his late 20's. He's a nurse, working the night shift in a New York City hospital. He's feisty, articulate, politicized, and never fails to get the last word. He's loving and brutally honest to his friends. Belize is a drag name, left over from his drag queen days. Belize is physically fit, having taken good care of himself over the years.

Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika by Tony Kushner is a voyage toward hope in the face of devastating plague and the culture of homophobia that allows it to spread. The challenges cut across many faiths, socio-economic classes, and political parties.

Rehearsals will start around February 20. Technical rehearsals for the play being April 14. Performances are April 21-23 and April 28-30.

Interested individuals may contact Richard Privitt at (806) 742-3601, Ext. 245 or the show's stage manager Katie Bean at katharinebean@gmail.com to arrange an audition.

—Clara Cobb/
Features Editor

Male cheerleader

Bring it on! Tryouts for Tech cheerleaders will be held

Jan. 25. This tryout though is for males only.

More tryouts will be held in April. Check out the Spirit Squad Web site, <http://www.campuslife.ttu.edu/spiritsquads>, for more information on the tryouts.

Town Hall meeting draws crowd; police chief discusses officer increase

At the District 2 town hall meeting Thursday evening numerous topics were discussed. Several however were not relevant to the Tech community.

Police Chief Claude Jones spoke about the number of uniformed officers on the streets of Lubbock.

"We have one class in school right now. Those students will be graduating Feb. 1. That will increase our force by 34 officers," he said.

Jones went on to say the Houston and Waco police departments have announced their intentions to come to the Lubbock area to recruit officers for their own forces.

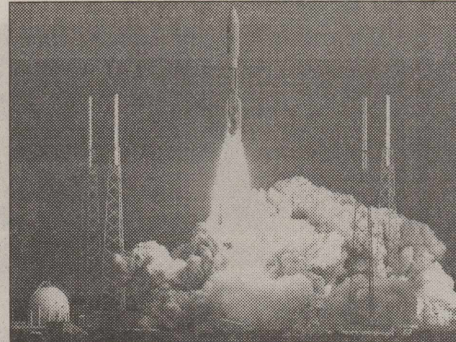
"We are continuing to try and increase our numbers but with these other departments coming in and poaching us, it will make things a little more difficult," Jones said.

In addition to that, Jones said the Lubbock police force is actively pursuing any citizen tips they receive.

"Citizens here are our eyes and ears. Keep telling us about the problems you see and we will respond. You will see results."

Several citizens complained about crimes in the area. Jones responded by saying the police department is aware of crimes which take place and several times when citizens feel their problems are not being addressed there could very well be an undercover operation in progress to end the crime.

—Michelle Casady/
Staff Writer



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Tech Notes
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	5			1
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6		9		7
	7		1	2

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Students not satisfied with parking; officials brainstorm for new ideas

By **MATT EARLE**
STAFF WRITER

College is complicated ... so parking shouldn't be. That's the slogan for Texas Tech Traffic and Parking. Most Tech students agree this slogan is misleading.

Currently, many Tech students have expressed frustration with the current parking situation.

Frustration ranges from lack of parking, drawn-out waits for the bus and excessive amounts of parking tickets.

Tech student Mara Curtis, a junior broadcast journalism major from Lubbock, said she is frustrated with the current parking situation.

"I come to class early so I don't have to worry about the parking on campus," Curtis said. "I've had 10 parking tickets at least; it got ridiculous."

Traffic and Parking is under relatively new management. Eric Crouch became the director of Traffic and Parking in October. Some of the issues Crouch said he would like to improve are customer service and the

amount parking spots available.

"This summer we've added 300 new available commuter parking spaces as well as 150 parking spots outside Carpenter-Wells," he said. "We are also looking to restructure some more parking outside some of the residence halls to add space."

Tech has begun to make steps in constructing more parking, as satellite parking has expanded across campus near the intramural softball fields.

The Tech parking Web site, www.depts.ttu.edu/parking, suggests tips for students, like allowing 20 to 25 minutes to get to class after parking.

Commuter Satellite parking permit holders are allowed to park on campus after 3 p.m., which could cut down on the recommended 20 to 25 minutes allotted to get to class.

Another issue that arose was the lack of current parking for freshmen in the residence halls.

Jordan Kvanli, a junior journalism major from Dallas, said he has firsthand knowledge of this problem.

"I paid for a parking spot my fresh-

men year and couldn't even park in front of my dorm," he said. "I would have to wake up at 7:30 a.m. and move my car every morning. It was unbelievable."

Crouch is aware of this problem and said Traffic and Parking is trying to rectify the problem as soon as possible.

"There are really two issues with residence parking," he said. "First, there isn't enough number of parking (spaces); we need some expansion. Second, the residence hall parking is from 7:30-5:30, we know that many students have jobs and come back, and there is no parking available. We are thinking of extending the residence hall parking hours."

Another issue that has arisen with the Traffic and Parking is the cost of tickets. Tickets range from \$10- \$25 depending on the violation.

The average cost is a \$20 fine.

Students, on average, have had more than one ticket. This is an easy way to dip into the pockets of students who don't have that type of money to for paying for parking tickets.



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Treador

ILLEGALLY PARKED CARS line a parking lot on the first day of classes for the fall semester. Some students say the parking situation has not improved since then. Officials say they understand and are looking for solutions.

When suggested there be some sort of alternative method of payment other than paying the ticket directly Crouch said another payment method had come and gone.

"We tried to allow student's to

come in and work it off in the Parking and Traffic Office," he said. "The students didn't seem interested in it."

There currently are some other ideas being considered. Right now there is development of a parking

education class. This would be the same as a defensive driving course one would take for a city issued citation.

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Study says most college students are not literate enough for complex tasks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearing a diploma, most college students cannot handle many complex but common tasks, from understanding credit card offers to comparing the cost per ounce of food.

Those are the sobering findings of a study of literacy on college campuses, the first to target the skills of students as they approach the start of their careers.

More than 50 percent of students at four-year schools and more than 75 percent at two-year colleges lacked the skills to perform complex literacy tasks.

That means they could not interpret a table about exercise and blood pressure, understand the arguments of newspaper editorials, compare credit card offers with different interest rates and annual fees or summarize results of a survey about parental involvement in school.

The results cut across three types of literacy: analyzing news stories and other prose, understanding documents and having math skills needed for checkbooks or restaurant tips.

"It is kind of disturbing that a lot of folks are graduating with a degree and they're not going to be able to do those things," said Stephane Baldi, the study's director at the American Institutes for Research, a behavioral and social science research organization.

Most students at community colleges and four-year schools showed intermediate skills, meaning they could perform moderately challenging tasks. Examples include identifying a location on a map, calculating the cost of ordering office supplies or consulting a reference guide to figure out which foods contain a particular vitamin.

There was brighter news.

Overall, the average literacy of college students is significantly higher than that of adults across the nation. Study leaders said that was encouraging but not surprising, given that the spectrum of adults includes those with much less education.

Also, compared with all adults with similar levels of education, college students had superior skills in

searching and using information from texts and documents.

"But do they do well enough for a highly educated population? For a knowledge-based economy? The answer is no," said Joni Finney, vice president of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, an independent and nonpartisan group.

"This sends a message that we should be monitoring this as a nation, and we don't do it," Finney said. "States have no idea about the knowledge and skills of their college graduates."

The survey examined college and university students nearing the end of their degree programs. The students did the worst on matters involving math, according to the study.

Almost 20 percent of students pursuing four-year degrees had only basic quantitative skills. For example, the students could not estimate if their car had enough gas to get to the service station. About 30 percent of two-year students had only basic math skills.

Baldi and Finney said the survey should be used as a tool. They hope state leaders, educators and university trustees will examine the rigor of courses required of all students.

The survey showed a strong relationship between analytic coursework and literacy. Students in two-year and four-year schools scored higher when they took classes that challenged them to apply theories to practical problems or weigh competing arguments.

The college survey used the same test as the National Assessment of Adult Literacy, the government's examination of English literacy among adults. The results of that study were released in December, showing about one in 20 adults is not literate in English.

On campus, the tests were given in 2003 to a representative sample of 1,827 students at public and private schools. The Pew Charitable Trusts funded the survey.

"It's actually kind of disturbing that a lot of folks are graduating with a degree and they're not going to be able to do these things."

— **STEPHANE BALDI**
American Institutes
for Research

Nationally, No Child Left Behind seems to be working; locally, Tech professors not so sure

By **HEATHER BLACK**
STAFF WRITER

President George Bush commemorated the fourth anniversary of the No Child Left Behind Act by visiting North Glen Elementary in Baltimore last week, according to CNN.

The law was incorporated in 2002 to help students, teachers and schools meet higher standards in education. This meant big changes for students, parents, teachers and schools.

According to collegeboard.com, parents would be provided with more information and more options with school choice. For students, it meant more standardized testing each year, in subjects from English and math in 2005 to science in 2007.

Teachers also would need to be deemed "experts" in the field in which they are teaching, with degrees and possible extra training. The College Board also claimed schools now must

achieve state standards in regards to testing in which all students should be able to pass these tests at the end of twelve years.

According to CNN, the law seems to be working, as students' scores have risen.

In Bush's visit to North Glen Elementary, he noted that scores are rising on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, which serves as a national report card, and the achievement gap between Hispanics, blacks and white children is narrowing.

While the intentions of this act were to raise a higher standard of education, the overall outcome seems to have strayed, said Kevin Scott, assistant professor of political science at Texas Tech.

"The goals are commendable, but the initial outcomes nixed at best," he said.

Margaret Price, an assistant professor in the College of Education, claims

there are advantages and disadvantages to the act.

"The philosophy behind it is good," she said. "However, in my 18 years of classroom experience, I have learned we are over-testing students."

While Bush has overseen a record amount of school spending, it still is not enough for schools to succeed in Price's opinion.

"While it was initially a good idea, the government did not provide adequate funding so optimum results were not met," she said.

Craig Goodman, an assistant professor of political science, agrees.

"(The act) should be dismissed — the gains are relatively small, and given the financial deficits we face, it is a dubious program," he said.

The act is up for review congressional review in 2007, and some of these concerns likely will be addressed.

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Facebook World

Social rules differ between Web directory and college interactions

There is a phenomenon sweeping college campuses across the nation. That phenomenon is facebook.

Facebook lives in collegiate virtual reality. The rules seem simple: add friend, accept friend, add detail to friend. After all, everyone knows cyber friends are forever. That's why it is important to have a lot of friends on facebook. Even if those "friends" include the geeky guy from your high school biology class.

You actually don't even have to know the people you are facebook friends with. This is a common misconception — you can be cyber friends without actually meeting. It's like that guy or gal who keeps appearing everywhere you go... mainly because you purposely show up there (you little stalker, you).

The rules to facebook might seem a bit confusing at first, but eventually you come to the realization that making, meeting and "friending" people is much easier when you can read their life story on their profile page.

What if the rules of facebook applied to real life, not just virtual reality? A friend of ours told us how much easier dating, even meeting people, would be if everyone walked around with a sign describing them — the real person.

Signage would include such information as political affiliations, sexual preferences, general interests, place of employment, where they live and how to stalk them.

As Bill Engvall would say, "Here's your sign."

In fact, you never would awkwardly be introduced to someone you didn't remember from the first seven or 17 times you met them because the signage over their head would indicate how you know them and how many friends you have in common.

Just think: there never will be anymore awkward conversations when someone says hello to you, and you absolutely have no recollection of ever meeting them in your life. You could always know how you are connected to everyone. Ah, and the real world gets smaller.

If real life were more like facebook you wouldn't have to worry about all of life's ambiguities. You could just walk right up to someone and ask if they would be your friend. Of course no one would say no or "reject" you. It would be like second grade all over again. Will you be my friend? Check yes or no.

Moreover, "poking" people would be completely normal (In virtual facebook reality, you can harmlessly poke people you are interested in to see if they poke you back. If you are poked you get a facebook message alerting you

Clara Cobb & Michelle Casady



someone is interested in you). In face reality, you could, literally, walk around a bar, or a party, or a coffee shop, or a doctor's office, and physically poke anyone you think is cute. Really, it would eliminate a lot of unnecessary shots and group trips to the bathroom or jukebox. Poking is simply dating efficiently.

Along with poking, there should be other options available in the world of facebook to counter poking culture. If you have poking, then you definitely should have "bitch-slapping." Additionally, if the "bitch-slapping" button fails to work there should be a "throw-drink-in-face" button. After that drink hits your face, you'll have to change, because this is facebook reality, not question mark reality.

Remember in middle school when the cool, popular kids would place, say, a "kick me" sticky note on the back of some geeky kid? Well, friends, in the world of facebook that "sticky note" to place on some geeky kid's back is your wall, and in facebook reality, the more posts on your back/wall, the cooler you are.

The more posts you collect and flaunt, the more people would know how much you're loved. The exception to this new social status symbol (And social status symbol it would be. Seriously, wall posts would be a bigger deal than owning a North Face, Uggs boots or a Polo hat) is, for instance, being hit by "the beautiful truck."

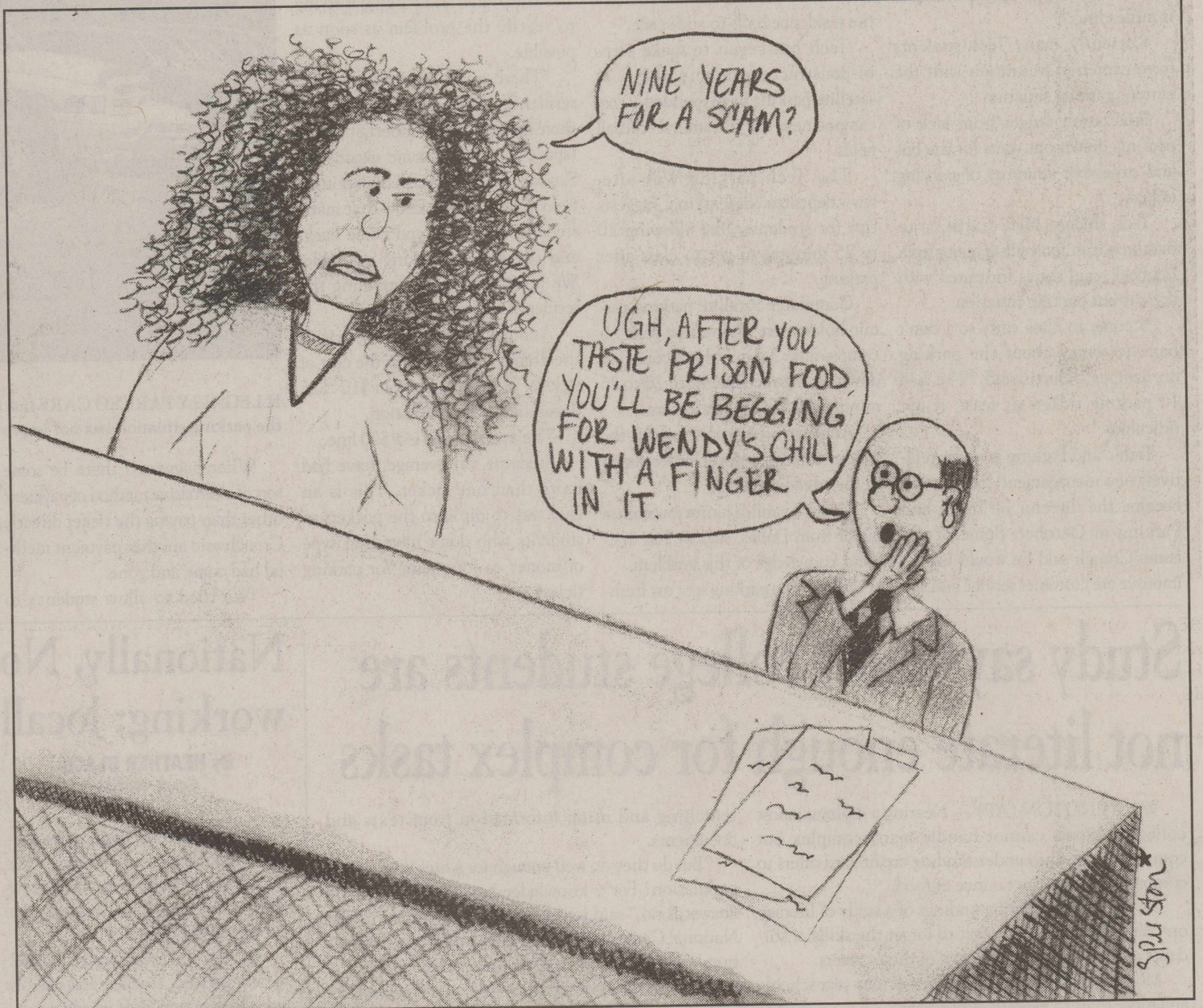
Being hit by "the beautiful truck," the "horny truck," the "ugly truck," the "naked woman made out of computer symbols truck" is never cool. In fact, it puts vehicular manslaughter at an all-time high.

Good thing this is reality, and not facebook reality. Don't "poke" us, because then, we'll have to "bitch-slap" you. Don't post naked women on our walls, because then, we'll have to throw our drinks in your face.

Remember what facebook is really for — looking at pictures of people you had no intention of ever seeing or speaking to again after your high school or college graduation. Unless, of course, you're stalking them.

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Marketing, parents cause child obesity

Blame kids' weight problems on commercials and lax parenting

So, kids today are getting fatter. That is no surprise to anybody who has watched the news in the past few years.

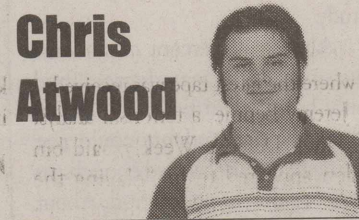
In Massachusetts, a lawsuit has been filed by advocacy groups and parents against Nickelodeon's parent company Viacom and Kellogg Co., the cereal maker.

The plaintiffs claim children are fat because they see too many ads for junk food on children TV networks. "They turn on Nickelodeon and see all those enticing junk-food ads," Sherri Carlson, one of the mothers involved in the lawsuit, said to CNN. "Adding insult to injury, we enter the grocery store and see our beloved Nick characters plastered on all those junky snacks and cereals."

The position defendants are taking is that parents have no idea how to turn off a TV, regulate what their five-year-old eats and blatantly lacks the ability to say, "Go play outside for a while, get some exercise."

On this case, I can see it go either way. Children are enticed by junk food — end of story. They're kids! Any ad-

Chris Atwood



Any advertisement for Nick's Sponge Bob jelly snacks or whatever it is they're selling these days will make a child's eyes light up like he just got a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas.

advertisement for Nick's Sponge Bob jelly snacks or whatever it is they're selling these days will make a child's eyes light up like he just got a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas.

In the end, however, parents still have control. Or at least they should be. Last time I checked, kids under the age of

about 17 don't generally drive themselves to the grocery store to go shopping for their mommies. Hell, some kids that are 25 and living at home won't help their parents out with anything.

When I was little, do you think I got anything I wanted at the grocery store? Uh, I think not. I wanted cookies, cakes and ice cream delights. You know what I got? I received broccoli and carrots and cabbage.

This is going to lead to a tangent rant about how many parents have no control over their children. When I was but a young babe, parents were in charge.

Now kids have gained the reins over their parents. I want to know how the hell I missed receiving that instruction booklet, life would be so much easier if I had the people who gave birth to me curtsying to me because I'm such a queen and bumbling about like a lady-in-waiting.

You can say that I don't love children. I don't hate them, although I'm not necessarily thrilled with the younger ones who haven't been taught manners or how to behave.

These families in Massachusetts let somebody else wear the pants: their children. Kids have found the way, after centuries of attempting it, to controlling their parents. Perhaps they do it with drugs or maybe with mental exercises that take years to implement.

Kids must be doing something to their parents because it seems to me that some people have no idea how to tell their children "no," or how to control them. Kids run rampant with their cereals like monkeys and apparently every junky food that they put in the basket that for whatever reason the parents don't remove and scowl at.

So who's to say that TV and all these businesses are to blame for kids being fat? Parents should be working with their children not only to monitor what they are watching but making sure that they eat right when they're at home and that they exercise or do more than just continually lounge on the couch.

■ Atwood is a junior public relations major from Missouri City. E-mail him at Christopher.Atwood@ttu.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rhode's objection to surveillance illogical, unpatriotic

In response to Jason Rhodes Jan. 17 article "Goodbye Freedom" I would like to say the following:

With the U.S. population hovering around 270 million, I am concerned that the NSA might listen to one of my phone conversations and pry into my civil liberties and thus take away one of my constitutional rights.

The government might find the directions to the keg party, hear me drunk-dialing, or find out about my late-night hook-up. Wait...those

things are not a threat to National Security. I don't care, let them listen all they want. The government could care less about kegs, how wasted I am, or who I might or might not be hooking up with.

Along with many other Americans, I feel the NSA monitoring e-mails and phone calls is no big deal. If you have nothing to hide, why worry? Only Bush bashers and haters of America would find fault in this program.

Liberals only stand up for people's rights when it fits into their ideology. When John Kerry wanted to take away my pump shotgun, he was trying to violate my Second Amendment right to bear firearms. However, all of his liberal buddies sat back and nodded their heads in approval.

If we had a dictator in office, did not have a system of checks and balances, could not vote, and were walking to concentration camps, then I would be concerned for my freedom.

My opinion is that *The Daily Toreador* should stop printing so much liberal propaganda and direct their energy in other directions.

If this program were implemented earlier, our nation might not have to remember tragedies such as 9-11 and the Oklahoma City bombing. Rhode and his liberal friends should go play in traffic.

— Brett Klesitz
Senior nursing major
from Jefferson

LETTERS: *The Daily Toreador* welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, Social Security number and a description of university affiliation. Students should include year in school, major and hometown. We reserve the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters will be verified before they are published. Letters can be e-mailed to dailytoreador@ttu.edu or brought to 211 Student Media. Letters should be sent in before 3 p.m. to ensure the editors have enough time to verify and edit the submission.

GUEST COLUMNS: *The Daily Toreador* accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 650 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community. Guest columns are also edited and follow the same guidelines for letters as far as identification and submittal.

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Wilks' analysis of Christianity in America problematic

In her column "U.S. should return to Christian Roots" of Jan. 19, Rebekah Wilks states that a lack of Christian values have resulted in disrespect, lethargy, and violence, while giving no explanation as to how we are going to fix these problems with Christian morals.

Many important people throughout our country's history have made statements about the importance of God and/or religion, but that says nothing about what the actual

values were. Our current president arguably addresses Christian morals more directly than the founding fathers, so how do quotes from 1796 have anything to do with our current morals?

If this is a call to get it back to "how it used to be," I would like to know when life was that much better. Was it when slavery was legal or maybe when women didn't have the right to vote, or when Asian men, but not Asian women, were

allowed to come to the U.S. to work, but they weren't allowed American wives either? Was spousal abuse not a problem in the 1950s, or was it just overlooked and underreported?

If you look at church attendance numbers, they have consistently gone up in recent decades, so where did we lose all these morals? I won't get carried away with numbers, but in 1850, 34 percent of Americans were church members. Today, the number is more than 60 percent (Finke and

Stark 1992).

Financially endowed Christian groups have a huge amount of power in government today, so I wonder how the values can be that much worse?

I don't deny there are important problems facing our country and our youth, but a simple nostalgia for the "good old days" just doesn't solve the problem.

— Jeff Dennis
Graduate student in sociology
from Gail

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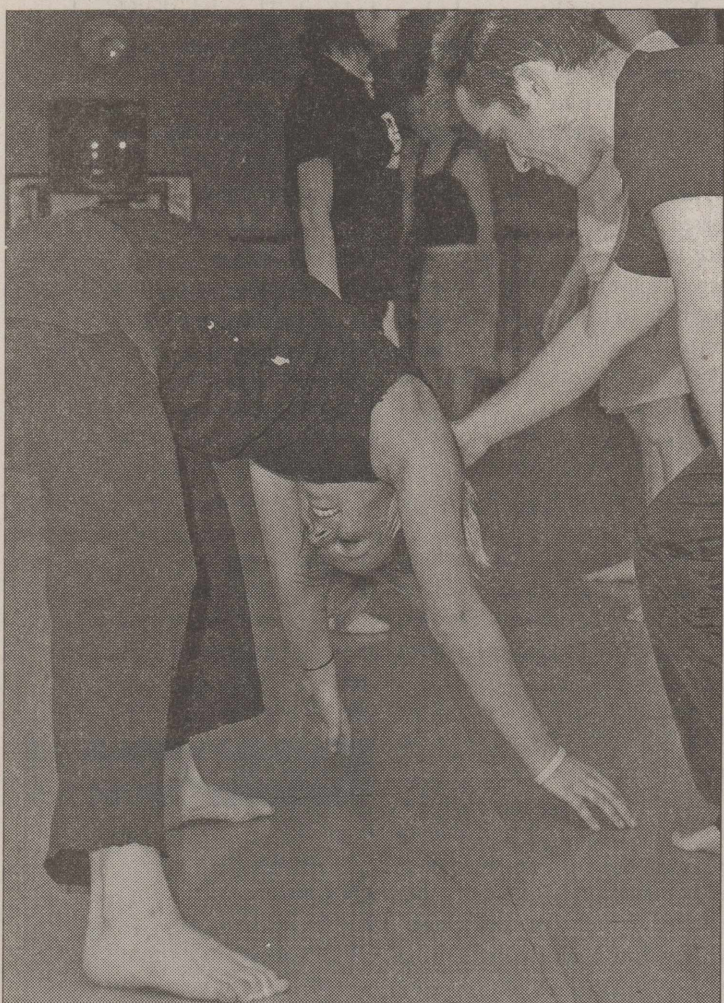
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CAITY COLVARD/The Daily Toreador

BETSY WALKER, A junior dance major from Clear Lake, gets assistance from Craig Allen, a junior vocal performance theatre major from El Paso, on her "S Curves" for their modern dance class Thursday afternoon at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

Recent Rec center deaths shed light on importance of cardio health for students

By **ANDREW WOOD**
STAFF WRITER

Two deaths. Two weeks. One place.

In a two-week span, a Texas Tech football coach and a Tech student both died of apparent heart attacks while playing basketball at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

Tech cornerbacks coach Dave Brown, 52, collapsed Jan. 10 at the Rec. He was taken to the University Medical Center before he was pronounced dead at 6 p.m.

Brown was said to have been a "regular" at the recreational center, and sometimes went three times per week.

Tech student Mark Grecco, 19, of Sugar Land, died Sunday after a similar experience. His friends said he also was taken to the University Medical Center and was pronounced dead approximately an hour later. He eventually was found with an enlarged heart, his friends said.

Grecco was a sophomore civil engineering major.

Joe MacLean, director of recreational sports, said the last two

weeks have been the toughest in his career.

He said it has been a "lifetime incorporated in five days." However, the two deaths have caused the employees to be more alert of the students and employees around them.

"I think the mood of the workers is much more cautious. They're looking at situations differently since they're at an edge," he said. "We're trying to be very alert to students and problems they may have."

MacLean said the rec center has hosted two sessions of discussion for students and employees. There have been counselors from the Tech Counseling Center to help with the group discussions.

Some Tech students said this will not keep them out of the recreational center. Instead, this has made them more aware of their personal health.

Maira Velasquez, a sophomore undecided major from Fort Worth,

said she works out at the recreational center four times per week, usually to lift weights and a cardiovascular exercise. She said the two deaths will not stop her from going to the Rec.

For Rachael Leisten, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Houston, said the recent events also will not keep her out of the workout facility. If anything, this has encouraged her to go even more.

"I would think I'd go to the Rec center more to keep healthy," she said.

For Leisten, nutrition is just as important as exercise habits. She said she knows someone who worked out constantly, but would never eat. As a result, the person suffered a heart attack, she said.

Monica Richards, a junior international business from Houston, said she believes young people suffer heart attacks more than most people realize.

"It was just natural causes," she

said. "You don't necessarily hear of young people having heart attacks, but many do. There's no way of telling till it happens."

Ashley Black, a senior public relations major from Kingwood, goes to the recreational center for cardiovascular workout and some free classes.

She also said this will not keep her out of the Rec and for people to be aware of their medical condition before they work out.

Although MacLean was unsure of the medical cause behind Brown and Grecco's death, he said people should know their family's medical history before they exercise.

"It's not just what you eat, but it's your family too," he said.

Regular visits to the doctor for a symptoms check also are important, he said.

Despite the recent events at the recreational center, MacLean said he is pleased with the employee's reaction to both situations.

"The thing I'm really proud of is that I don't know if I would have approached things differently," he said. "The staff filed protocol perfectly."

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Threats

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

peace — that America must apologize to victims of the wars and promise never to "interfere" in other nations — though it was not clear if these were conditions for the truce.

Bin Laden said he decided to make a statement to the American people because he said President Bush was pushing ahead despite polls which showed "an overwhelming majority of you want the withdrawal of American troops from Iraq."

He said the Bush administration was lying about victories in the Iraq war. Bin Laden insisted the insurgents will eventually win the conflict, which he said is only strengthening the cause of the "mujahedeen," or holy warriors.

But he said that even if the U.S. does prevail in the war, "the nights and days will not pass without us taking vengeance like on Sept. 11, God permitting."

He warned that security measures in the West and the United States could not prevent attacks there, citing the July 7 bombings in London that killed 56 people.

"The delay in similar operations happening in America has not been because of failure to break through your security measures," he said. "The operations are under preparation and you will see them in your homes the minute they are through (with preparations), with God's permission."

He offered a "long-term truce with fair conditions that we adhere to. ... Both sides can enjoy security and stability under this truce so we can build Iraq and Afghanistan, which have been destroyed in this war."

"There is no shame in this solution, which prevents the wasting of billions of dollars that have gone to those with influence and merchants of war in America," he said.

Bin Laden then made an oblique reference to how to prevent new attacks on the United States.

He told Americans that "if you are sincere in your desire for peace and security, we have answered you. And if Bush decides to carry on with his lies and oppression, then it would be useful

for you to read the book 'The Rogue State.'"

He said the book reads in its introduction, "If I were president, I would stop the attacks on the United States: First I would give an apology to all the widows and orphans and those who were tortured. Then I would announce that American interference in the nations of the world has ended."

The Associated Press found a nearly identical passage in another book by Blum: "Freeing The World To Death: Essays on the American Empire," published in 2004. The passage could not, however, be found in the latest edition of "The Rogue State."

The tape ended the longest silence from bin Laden since the Sept. 11 attacks, a lull which had raised speculation over his fate.

The last audiotape purported to be from bin Laden was broadcast in December 2004 by Al-Jazeera. In that recording, he endorsed Abu-Musab al-Zarqawi as his deputy in Iraq and called for a boycott of Iraqi elections.

Previously, the longest period without a message from the al-Qaida leader was from December 2001 to November 2002. He issued numerous tapes in 2003 and 2004, calling for Muslims to attack U.S. interests and threatening attacks

against the United States.

Bin Laden appeared in a video released October 2004, just ahead of U.S. presidential elections, saying the United States could avoid another Sept. 11 attack if it stops threatening the security of Muslims.

In an April 15, 2004, audiotape, he vowed revenge against the United States for Israel's assassination of Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin — and at the same time offered a truce to European countries.

Since December 2004, al-Zawahri, the al-Qaida No. 2, has issued a number of video and audiotapes, including one claiming responsibility for the London attacks, which he said came after Europe rejected the terms of bin Laden's truce offer.

Al-Jazeera's editor in chief Ahmed al-Sheik would not comment on when or where the latest tape was received.

Jeremy Bennie, a terrorism analyst for Jane's Defense Weekly, said bin Laden appeared to be "playing the peacemaker, the more statesmanlike character" with his offer of a truce.

"They want to promote the image that they can launch attacks if and when it suits them," he said. "They want us to believe they are in control," he said.

The mention of rebuilding Iraq and

Afghanistan may be a recognition of divisions among the ranks of Islamic militants over the insurgency in Iraq by bin Laden's ally, al-Zarqawi, who has come under criticism by some radicals for attacks on Iraqi civilians.

Former White House anti-terrorism chief Richard A. Clarke said "the initial significance of this (tape) is that he's still alive."

Beyond that, he told the AP, "the only new element in his statement is that they are planning an attack soon on the United States."

"Would he say that and risk being proved wrong, if he can't pull it off in a month or so?" Clarke asked.

The truce offer may be aimed at making bin Laden "look more reasonable in Arab and Muslim eyes. He's a very sophisticated reader of world opinion and American opinion, and he obviously knows he can't affect American thinking. He's too reviled," he said.

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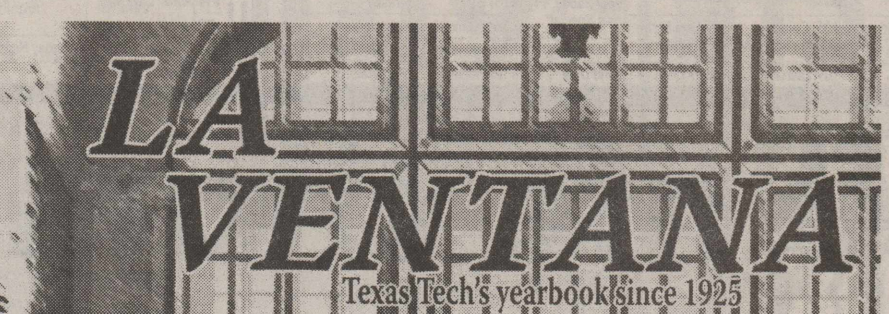
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Calls intensify for release of kidnapped American journalist

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — As a deadline neared for hostage American journalist Jill Carroll, Muslim leaders and her pleading mother appealed Thursday to kidnappers to spare her life and set her free.

Referring to demands from Carroll's abductors that Iraqi women be released from U.S. custody, a senior Iraqi official said six jailed Iraqi women were due to be freed by the U.S. military.

But the White House said no prisoner release appeared imminent, and a major Sunni Arab clerical group said it could do little to help because it did not know who was holding the 28-year-old reporter.

The kidnappers — identified as the previously unknown "Revenge Brigade" — have set a deadline of Friday evening for all Iraqi female detainees to be freed or they will kill Carroll. However, Iraqi kidnappers have often given such ultimatums only to ignore them and continue holding captives.

New images showing Carroll surrounded by three armed and masked gunmen were aired Thursday by Al-Jazeera television. The 20 seconds of silent footage were from the same tape as excerpts broadcast Tuesday announcing the 72-hour deadline.

Carroll's mother said the video images gave her hope her daughter is alive but also have "shaken us about her fate."

"I, her father and her sister are appealing directly to her captors to release this young woman who has worked so hard to show the sufferings of Iraqis to the world," Mary Beth Carroll told CNN's "American Morning."

Iraq's deputy justice minister, Busho Ibrahim Ali, said six of the eight Iraqi women in custody are expected to be freed next week, but he stressed that any release would "not be part of any swap with any kidnappers."

"I insisted that the Americans should bring (the women's) files and release them and they will be freed next week along with other detainees," Ali told Associated Press Television News. He did not elaborate on who the other detainees were, but said the recommendation to free the women was made Monday.

Speculation that the Iraqi women might soon be freed raised hopes for the release of Carroll, a freelance journalist who was working for the Christian Science Monitor when she was seized Jan. 7 in Baghdad. Her translator was killed.

U.S. military officials repeatedly refused Thursday to confirm whether any release was imminent. In Washington, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the Bush administration was working hard to secure Carroll's freedom but said no Iraqi detainees were expected to be released soon.

"Any time you have an American held hostage, wherever they are, they are a priority for the administration," McClellan said. "And we want to see her safe return. As I indicated yesterday, too, I don't think it's really helpful to go beyond that at this point."

Carroll grew up in Ann Arbor, Mich., and received an undergraduate degree in journalism in 1999 from the University of Massachusetts. She worked as a reporting assistant for The Wall Street Journal before moving to Jordan and launching her freelance career in 2002, learning Arabic along the way.

Her newspaper's Washington bureau chief, David Cook, also urged the captors to contact the paper to discuss her release. Cook would not say specifically if the newspaper would pay ransom.

Bahais

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not believe that any one religion's doctrine is correct. The Bahais believe that each religion is from the same God and if combined can result in equality.

Dykes said that there are many sacred texts that the Bahais use, including "The Hidden Valley," which is about the journey that man takes toward the reunion with his maker.

"There are probably a dozen essential books that any Bahai will have on their shelves," she said.

Dykes said the Bahais believe the prophetic cycle has ended and that the fulfillment of all the prophecies has begun. She said she supports Baha'u'llah's teachings and believes that unity in the world is achievable.

"Mankind is one," she said. "Religion is one."

According to www.religioustolerance.org, the Bahai Faith promotes gender and race equality, one world government, freedom of expression, and world peace.

Dykes said science plays a big part in unifying humanity. She said that science is one of her favorite things to discuss about the faith, but she feels sometimes the topics are over her head. She said there is always a mystery with God that no member of Bahai knows.

"We are really very early in trying to understand science in this scheme of history," she said. "God is an un-

knowable essence." According to www.religioustolerance.org, there is contradiction in the beliefs and the practices of the Bahai's. According to the site, women are not allowed to serve in the Universal House of Justice, which is the highest religious court.

The Universal House of Justice is based in Haifa, Israel. The U.S. office is located in Wilmette, Ill., where a House of Worship is located. According to bahai.us, the house is open to the public with no admission charge. It is a place for prayer and meditation.

Dykes said there is a House of Worship on every continent. She said the houses are a place of learning.

"The House of Worship was built as a silent teacher," she said. "There are nine identical sides that each has reflecting pools and gardens. It shows truth is one."

Dykes said the No. 9 is significant to the Bahai Faith because it is the highest numerical unity.

According to bahai.us, the Bahai's lead disciplined lives. Some of their practices include, daily prayer and communion with God, a life dedicated to the services of humanity, avoidance of alcohol, drugs and gambling, and fellowship with believers of all religions.

Dykes said that the three main ideas of the Bahai Faith are unity, diversity and progressive revelation. She said that each member is encouraged to pursue his own independent investigation of the truth.

Dykes said there are about 30 active members of the Bahai Faith in Lubbock. There is no building designated for fellowship, so the members meet in homes for fellowship. According to www.religioustolerance.org, there are currently about six million Bahais in the world and 140,000 in the United States.

While there are no designated clergy for the faith, Dykes said there are nine elected people who serve on the administrative body. She said the voting is all done on secret ballots and the members decide who they believe will be the best for the position. She said there are no titles given to members of the faith.

Dykes said that a Bahai's life does not end with death, but continues on into the afterlife.

"Our life begins with conception," she said. "Manifestations have pre-existing souls that never die."

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BAHAIAN SAYINGS

Baha'u'llah's most famous sayings:

- "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens."
• "The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established."

Source: www.religioustolerance.org

Skating

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

started a skate park because the lack of them in Lubbock. She said she believes it is something this generation loves to do.

"We see it as a recreation that is attractive to young people," Dugger said.

The ministry group latched on to the idea of preaching its Christian beliefs through recreational skating, she said. It always has been on her husband's heart to do something like this.

"He just wanted to build ramps on the church facility," Dugger said. "God has just expanded his vision."

She said they have many Tech students who skate at their park, but they are lacking older participation

in their Skate Church program. "As far as reaching the college students, that is kind of a hit or miss," Dugger said. "They're at the age where they are here to do recreation and that is kind of it."

They are still trying to figure out ways to connect more with college students, Dugger said, but as of now, their Skate Church ministry program is really going after the high school and middle school age bracket.

According to the One-9 Web site, www.one-9.com, their vision is to change the spiritual atmosphere in Lubbock.

Dugger said some skaters come on Sundays because it is free to skate, but a lot of young adults see Lubbock's only indoor skate park as their church.

"It is something that is a little more hip," Dugger said. "It makes

church not quite so boring."

Peri Miller, youth minister for First Methodist Church, said preaching through venues such as skating, mimics field preaching done by John Wesley in the 1600s and street preaching done in the 70's. He said the church needs to go to where people are instead of waiting for people to come to it.

"A lot of the songs John Wesley wrote were bar tunes. They had different words that went with bar songs," Miller said.

This generation is looking for something relevant for their lives, she said, and coming to a building is not going to be relevant.

"(Skateboarding) is relevant to their life," Miller said. "That's where they are."

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SGA postpones major resolutions to next meeting; declines to impeach absentee senator

By PAUL ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

All those in favor say "Aye;" all who oppose say "Nay"; the "Ayes" have it.

The eighth meeting of the 41st session of Tech student senate took place Thursday with two resolutions being pushed to the next meeting.

Student Senator Chuck

Morton did not get impeached for his two consecutive absences. The Committee on Rules and Administration is required to start an impeachment process once a senator has missed two consecutive meetings.

The resolution that encouraged the creation of a recycling coordinator was delayed until the next senate meeting.

The student senate wants to create a recycling coordinator

because a leadership role is necessary in order for the recycling committee to be successful.

The third resolution will remain on the agenda for next senate's meeting.

This resolution will call for the addition of bus turn-outs on Flint Avenue at the Business Administration stop. According to the senate resolution, congestion of buses along Flint Avenue is unsafe for students, and bus turn-outs would allow for a less congested and safer area.

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88.1 FM logo and program schedule for Friday, Sat, Mon, Tues, and Wed. Programs include Invisible College with Therapy, Fusion, The Function, Invisible College, Indie on the Rocks, Made in the UK, Evolution Talk Radio, Windfall Radio, Last Music Show, and The Sauce.

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Table with columns for station (KTXT, KCBD, KLBK, KUPT, KAMC, KJTV) and time slots (7 AM, 8 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 7 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM, 12 AM) for Friday, January 20, 2006.

Table with columns for station (KTXT, KCBD, KLBK, KUPT, KAMC, KJTV) and time slots (7 AM, 8 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 7 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM, 12 AM) for Saturday, January 21, 2006.

Table with columns for station (KTXT, KCBD, KLBK, KUPT, KAMC, KJTV) and time slots (7 AM, 8 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 7 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM, 12 AM) for Sunday, January 22, 2006.

NFL ON FOX nfc championship FOX34 5:00 PM

Stardust mission returned 'cosmic treasure,' scientists say; may explain solar system formation

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — A honeycomb cluster of cells captured thousands of samples of interstellar and comet dust that scientists said Thursday could give them the first definitive evidence about how the solar system formed.

"Its cargo was an ancient, cosmic treasure from the very edge of the solar system — a treasure that formed when the solar system formed 4.5 billion years ago," said Donald Brownlee, a University of Washington scientist who worked on the Stardust mission.

Some of the samples collected during the seven-year, \$212 million mission will be sent to 150 scientists worldwide so they can study the cosmic grains.

The spacecraft swooped past the comet Wild 2 in 2004 and used a tennis racket-sized collector mitt, which contained the honeycomb of cells filled with gel-like material to snatch the dust particles.

The Stardust spacecraft looped around the sun three times to capture the interstellar and comet dust, which hit the gel at a speed six times faster than a bullet fired from a rifle.

The capsule containing the spacecraft's collector returned to Earth on Sunday in Utah and was transported to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, where scientists opened it Tuesday.

"We had a long time to come up with all of the things that could go wrong," said Michael Zolensky, Stardust's curator.

What if the collector didn't open up correctly or the particles slammed with such force into the gel that they blew the material out, leaving scientists with nothing to study, Zolensky and other scientists wondered.

"We were really worried about that and got more and more worried as time went by," Zolensky said. "So when we opened the tray just two days ago in the lab, we were pleased to find that everything went exactly right — just fabulous. We couldn't have done a better job catching these particles."

Most of the particles, which appear black under a microscope, aren't visible to the human eye. But Brownlee said he and other scientists were surprised all of the particles weren't "purely microscopic."

"That's why we were jumping up and down," he said. "We were totally overwhelmed by the ability to actually see this."

Zolensky said scientists who study the dust will determine what minerals are in it and compare the dust particles to meteorites. They also will attempt to determine if the dust contains organic material.

"They are very small rocks, but they are rocks nonetheless. And what do these minerals tell us about how these grains form?" he said. "We think that much of the Earth's water and organics ... perhaps came from comets. So what will these samples tell us about basically where our atoms and molecules came from and then how they were delivered to Earth and in what amount?"

Evidence may show proof of Democratic campaigners' crimes

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Witness testimony, cell phone records and other evidence show that five Democratic campaign workers punctured tires on vehicles Republicans intended to use to get out the vote on Election Day 2004, a prosecutor told jurors in closing arguments Thursday.

The son of a congresswoman and the son of a former Milwaukee mayor are among those accused of the vandalism near a Bush-Cheney campaign office.

Milwaukee County District Attorney David Feiss told jurors that testimony from several national campaign workers brought to Milwaukee indicated the defendants acted together to cause the damage and that the workers overheard the defendants talking about the vandalism.

Safety

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

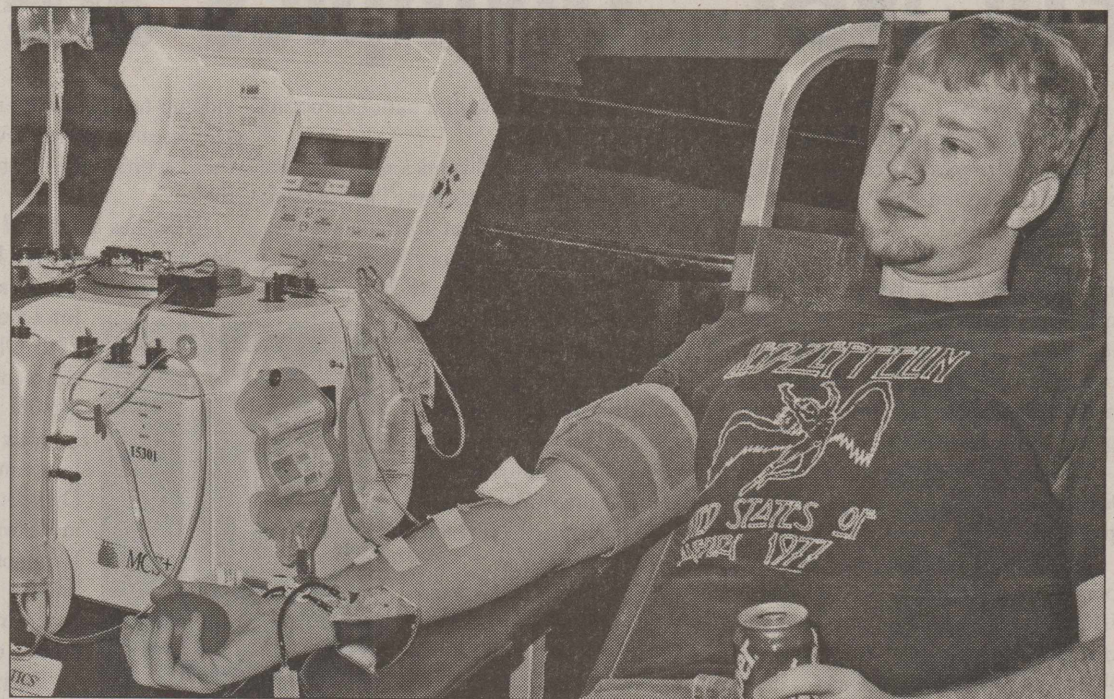
the national average.

Lubbock's murder rate for 2004 was 7.8 murders per 100,000 people while the national average hovers around 5.5 murders per 100,000 people, according to Lubbock's crime statistics as compiled by the Morgan Quinto Press.

At a town hall meeting Thursday evening, Lubbock Police Chief Claude Jones mentioned the city crime rate.

"Throughout 2004 and into 2005, crime rates were down city-wide," he said.

Other Texas cities were splat-



COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Treador

JOSH JOHNSTON, A sophomore international business and marketing major from College Station, donates blood as part of a blood drive held in the lobby of Wall/Gates Thursday afternoon.

tered everywhere across the board; in addition to the highly ranked Round Rock, El Paso was ranked the second-safest city in the U.S. with a population of more than half a million residents. Meanwhile, Austin ranked fifth in the same category while Fort Worth grabbed the ninth position.

Morgan said El Paso's shining ranking provided him with one of the biggest shocks of his research.

"It always surprises me how well El Paso does," he said. "They've continued to do very well for a city of that size."

Yet, Texas' largest cities did not fare as well; while Dallas was ranked the 22nd most dangerous city overall in the nation, Houston was tagged as the 22nd most dangerous metropolitan

BLOOD BROTHER

area.

"I think I expected Dallas and Houston to be down near the bottom," Morgan said. "It shows the diversity of Texas; some cities are nationally among the lowest in crime, while others are among the highest. It is pretty stratified and you see that (diversity) in California and Florida, too."

Morgan said the most startling aspect of the rankings was not in the results but rather the enthusiastic reactions from the public.

"The thing that always jumps out at me is the level of interest that people have in how their city is doing," he said.

Christine Paustian, a sophomore interdisciplinary studies major from Plano, said she can understand where

Dallas' ranking came from.

"I know a lot of people who got shot there," she said.

Kushal Kapse, a junior mechanical engineering major from Bombay, India, said although he agrees with some of the rankings, he does not see Lubbock as a threat.

"I think Dallas and Houston are dangerous, but not Lubbock," he said, naming drugs as one possible reason for the urban problems.

Kapse said a city's crime rate is not a determining factor for him when picking a place in which to reside.

For more information about Morgan Quinto's rankings, visit their Web site, www.morganquinto.com.

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Funeral held for middle school student shot by police in Florida after claiming to have a gun

LONGWOOD, Fla. (AP) — Through sobs, classmates Thursday remembered a quiet 15-year-old who endured bullying and teasing at school before he died there, shot by a deputy while brandishing a realistic-looking pellet gun.

At Christopher Penley's funeral, friends recalled how other students would push him in the hallways and tease him for being so quiet.

He told us all before that he wanted to die. We wonder if we would've told somebody if it would have helped.

— SUSAN WARFORD
Classmate

"I would stand up for Chris because some kids would tease him," said Phyllicia Cromms, a student at an alternative school Penley attended for two months before he was sent back to Milwee Middle School.

"He told us all before that he wanted to die. We wonder if we would've told somebody if it would have helped," classmate Susan Warford said through tears.

cluding three busloads of students, crowded Northland Community Church for Thursday's service.

Last week, police said, Penley fled to a bathroom alcove close to two occupied classrooms at the middle school and held a gun to his neck, saying he was going to either kill himself or die.

Authorities said Seminole County Sheriff's Lt. Mike Weippert did not know the weapon was a pellet gun when he shot Penley. The barrel of Penley's pellet gun, normally painted red or orange, was painted black and resembled a real 9 mm handgun.

The Rev. Robbie Hall, who officiated the service, called the incident a terrible mistake.

"He couldn't have had murder in his heart. If he had murder in his heart he would have tried to get a real gun and do some dam-

age," said Hall, pastor of Landmark Community Church, where Penley attended a Wednesday night youth group.

Hall described Penley as a quiet teen, always ready to help, who loved to play football and to draw.

Penley was a loyal friend, said Oral Nussbaum, his former Boy Scout leader.

"He may not have been quick to make friends, but once he did, you were his friend for life," Nussbaum said.

The teen's parents did not want to be interviewed. Attorney Mark Nation said the family is devastated and trying to cope.

"If they can give any message to anybody today, it is to go home and love your children and teach them to love others," Nation said.

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Holding a grudge against
- Fisherman's chum
- Read, as a bar code
- Writer Segal
- Part of a foot
- Writer Loftis
- Roast host
- Patella's place
- Leave out
- Clicking sound
- Where rich birds live?
- Daughter of Ops
- In conclusion
- Sets to rest
- Sudden shock
- Brock and Costello
- Trampled (on)
- Helpers
- Of and Men
- Transmits
- Go by car
- Low joint
- Shuttle grp.
- Part of a fate
- or "Vissi darte"
- Country on the Mekong
- Talk show host Williams
- Minister
- Kind of boom
- Crow camaraderie
- That guy s
- Grow weary
- John Doe s dog?
- Highly skilled
- Eve s address
- Motel room
- Actress
- Butcher s cut
- Vaccine pioneer Salk
- Former Majority Leader Trent
- Railroad hub

DOWN

- Bump into
- Appendages
- Bandstand chicken?
- Half a natural
- Conjecture
- Two-wheelers
- Actress Paquin
- Frosts
- "Sometime give a war..." (Sandburg)
- Winter falls
- Ajax rival
- Disney mermaid
- Dapper
- Avian abodes
- Casual farewell
- Stand for art
- Soprano Gluck
- Butcher s cut
- Vaccine pioneer Salk
- Better s info
- Clinton s AG
- Tabriz resident
- Inexpensive for a chick
- Falco or Brickell
- Navy commando
- South Pacific island group
- "The Time Machine" race
- Distinguous
- 50 Chargel
- Falk or Fonda
- 52 Stage whisper
- Binge
- Statistical inclination
- Actor Ballo
- Filmstones pet
- Check for typos
- 60 facto
- Proofer s notation
- Actress Ruby

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

HARI SOLO EBBED
ERIN UKES NLER
ACTS RAES BOAST
THE ONLY JOB AT
LOIS ENCAMP
STEEVE WHICHO
NEE ASCII YELP
OER STARTAT ADA
OTIS DEERE YET
THE TOPIUS RECEDE
SERAPE LIONS
DIGGIN GAHOLE
ATRIA EDDA ARIL
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CLIME TEXT POPE

By Norma Steinberg
San Francisco, CA
1/20/06

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FOR KEGS ★ 745-1442

Jose Cuervo Gold Tequila 19 ⁹⁵ 80° 750 ml	Skyy Vodka 15 ⁹⁵ 80° 750 ml
"12-Pack" Corona Reg or Light 12-12 oz. bottles 13 ⁹⁵ Rolling Rock 12-12 oz. bottles 10 ⁹⁵ Shiner Bock 12-12 oz. bottles 10 ⁹⁵	"30 Pack" Coors Reg or Light Bud Reg, Light or Select Miller Lite MGD 19 ⁹⁵ 30-12 oz. Cans

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For NBC, Olympics are a 24.5-hour-a-day job

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — There aren't enough hours in the day to watch all the Winter Olympics coverage that NBC and its cable partners are serving up.

Seriously. Even if you want to watch someone hurtling headfirst down a mountain or actually know what the biathlon is, it's impossible to see it all live. NBC's planned 416 hours of coverage (including the broadcast network and cable outlets) from Turin, Italy, averages out to 24.5 hours a day.

"We are reinventing the clock," said David Neal, executive producer of NBC Sports.

The Winter Games open Feb. 10 and competition stretches for 16 days after that. NBC executives are privately trying to downplay ratings expectations, given that Olympics on U.S. snow and ice — like Salt Lake City in 2002 — tend to draw more interest. But they're hoping a strong United States team will spike the TV turnout.

"The thing that our viewers will immediately notice each day is the strength of the U.S. Olympics team," Neal said. "It's the most accomplished Winter Olympics team that the U.S. has ever fielded."

It's not like NBC is going to wrap itself in a flag and ignore accomplishments of foreign athletes, but it helps if there are

more competitions with a national rooting interest, he said.

For the winter Olympics to really take off for NBC, it requires some kind of story, some personalities that intrigue viewers. Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan won't be around this time, but Michelle Kwan is continuing her quest for ice-skating gold.

And American skier Bode Miller introduced himself to the world away from snow-covered mountains with his "60 Minutes" interview on CBS admitting he has skied after drinking.

"I'm waiting for my thank-you card from my good friend (NBC sports boss) Dick Ebersol for picking out a star for the Olympics and promoting him so well," joked CBS News and Sports President Sean McManus.

NBC's prime-time coverage will feature high-profile sports like figure skating, skiing and snowboarding. And, because Turin is six hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time, those competitions will be taped instead of shown live earlier in the day.

That's an increasing risk in a wired world — even NBC's Olympics Web site will pro-

vide up-to-the-minute results — but Neal said research shows viewers want to watch those sports when it's most convenient to them.

NBC has assembled a veteran, familiar announcing corps, led by prime-time host Bob Costas. Daytime and late-night host Jim Lampley is working his 13th Olympics, surpassing the record set by ABC's Jim McKay.

New to NBC's team is longtime skating analyst Dick Button, a 1948 gold medal winner. He'll join Tim Hammond, Scott Hamilton, Sandra Bezic and Andrea Joyce in talking over the skating competition.

During the figure-skating competition, the USA Network will air a one-hour show at 5 p.m. CST called "Olympic Ice," providing news, analysis and interviews on the sport.

USA, MSNBC and CNBC will provide many hours of coverage — USA and MSNBC during the day and CNBC for three hours in the early evening after the stock market closes.

"For the first time in the Winter Games, every session of every sport will have at least

some coverage," Neal said.

That includes, for die-hards, a numbing 26 curling matches — 15 of them shown live.

All 54 games of the men's and women's hockey games will be shown live, mostly on the cable networks. All games involving the U.S. teams will be shown commercial-free. Gold medal games for the men and women will be shown on NBC.

The Spanish-language Telemundo will offer Olympics news updates and a late-night highlights show. NBC's digital channel will offer a high-definition simulcast of the NBC coverage, although not of anything on USA, MSNBC or CNBC.

NBC promises relatively few new technological twists. A yellow line, similar to those shown to mark the first down on football games, will be used in ski jumping to show the mark an individual skier needs to win a gold medal.

The network has also improved its virtual graphics that allow it to superimpose the image of another skier racing down the mountain next to a competitor, to show how their runs compare to each other, Neal said.

Used in Salt Lake City, it caused some viewer confusion: some people called in to NBC concerned that two skiers were on the course at the same time and would crash.



GET IN THE GAMES

The networks of NBC have planned 416 hours of coverage; here's what to expect on each channel:

NBC: 182.5 hours of coverage. Will feature the opening and closing ceremonies and the marquee sports, including figure skating, alpine skiing, speed skating, short track, snowboarding, ski jumping and freestyle skiing. (Many sports will be available in NBC HD; see below)

USA: 101.5 hours of coverage. Will feature predominantly live coverage of Team USA in the Winter Games' two team sports: ice hockey and curling. Also will have figure skating and live Nordic events.

MSNBC: 71 hours of coverage. Will be "The Hockey Channel" on weekdays and will have some curling.

CNBC: 61 hours of coverage. Will feature curling and hockey.

NBC-HD: Will simulcast coverage of NBC's biggest sports events, including figure skating, hockey, long and short track speed skating, ski jumping, freestyle aerials and moguls, and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Source: nbcolympics.com

States try to toughen penalties for suspected drunken drivers who refuse breath test

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — States are trying to toughen penalties for suspected drunken drivers who refuse to take a breath test, arguing motorists too often get a milder penalty than if they had provided evidence that could convict them.

Bills to lengthen license suspensions or make it a criminal offense to refuse a test are pending in five states, including Ohio, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, where the percentages of people refusing are among the highest in the nation.

An average of 25 percent of people pulled over on suspicion of drunken driving refuse to take a breath test, which is designed to estimate the amount of alcohol in the blood, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

In every state but Nevada, the

punishment is a suspended driver's license. Still, people who refuse believing they would fail a test might avoid a drunken driving conviction and jail time.

"We are seeing cases where people are being stopped 10, 15, 20, 30 times," said Massachusetts Rep. Todd Smola. "Every single case they are refusing the breath test, paying their lawyer a few bucks."

Defense attorneys and motorist groups oppose stricter penalties, and some lawmakers don't see the need.

A proposal in Illinois would increase suspensions to one year from six months. Most drunken driving cases are handled within that six months, said Rep. Robert Molaro, a Democrat from Chicago. A convicted driver would then get a more severe penalty: a revoked license. An acquitted motorist would still be

punished by the suspension, which would be unfair, he said.

"What do we gain by going to a year? I don't get it," Molaro said.

Bills were introduced in 15 states in 2005. Some didn't make it to the debate stage. Maryland, Montana and Virginia approved stricter punishment, with Montana adding up to a \$2,000 fine and two days to six months in jail if a person is caught driving with a license that was suspended for refusing a test, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

In Ohio, a Senate-passed proposal to double the length of most license suspensions now goes to the House. About 40 percent of Ohio suspects refuse the test, the sixth highest among 41 states where data was available, according to a study by the NHTSA. That's despite the state being among 19 that already add penalties such as jail time to the license suspension.

Motorists refuse tests for many reasons. Maybe they have been drinking and fear failing. Some

have heard stories that the machines record some diabetes symptoms as drunkenness. Those with previous drunken driving convictions might be trying to avoid a felony conviction from another arrest.

"The major problem is not with the first-time people," said Martin Aubry, municipal prosecutor in Perrysburg in northwest Ohio. "The more convictions you've had, or the more times you've been stopped, you might learn from your previous experience not to take the breath test."

Defense attorneys and motorist groups say it's unfair to force someone to face a criminal conviction for a test that might be inaccurate.

The machines are supposed to exclude results measuring artificially high alcohol levels if the person vomits or burps, increasing the amount of alcohol in the mouth. That alcohol hasn't yet reached the blood, and thus the brain.

Attorneys question the overall reliability of the machines. They say a direct blood test is the fairest and most accurate test.

Former EPA chiefs: Bush neglecting global warming

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. is failing to take the lead in confronting global warming, a "dishonest" and "self-destructive" approach that only worsens the problem, say former federal environmental chiefs.

"We need leadership, and I don't think we're getting it," Russell Train said Wednesday at an Environmental Protection Agency symposium commemorating the agency's 35th anniversary.

Added Bill Ruckelshaus: "I don't think there's a commitment in this administration."

They were among six former EPA heads who accused the Bush administrations of neglecting global warming and other environmental problems.

Train said slowing the growth of "greenhouse" gases isn't enough.

"To sit back and just push it away and say we'll deal with it sometime down the road is dishonest to the people and self-destructive" said Train, who succeeded Ruckelshaus in the Nixon and Ford administrations. Ruckelshaus was the first EPA chief.

All of the former administrators and the current one, Stephen Johnson, raised their hands when the event moderator asked whether they believe global warming is a real

problem and again when he asked if humans bear significant blame.

Johnson said the Bush administration has spent \$20 billion on research and technology to combat climate change after President Bush rejected mandatory controls on carbon dioxide. That's the chief gas blamed for trapping heat in the atmosphere like a greenhouse.

Bush has kept the United States out of the Kyoto international treaty to reduce greenhouse gases, saying the pact would harm the U.S. economy. Many of the accord's terms were negotiated by the Clinton administration but it was never ratified by the Senate.

"I know from the president on down, he is committed," Johnson said. "And certainly his charge to me was, and certainly our team has heard it: 'I want you to accelerate the pace of environmental protection. I want you to maintain our economic competitiveness.' And I think that's really what it's all about."

Lee Thomas, Ruckelshaus' successor in the Reagan administration, said "if the United States doesn't deal with those kinds of issues in a leadership role, they're not going to get dealt with. So I'm very concerned about this country and this agency."

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Seagram's 7 American Whiskey 12 ⁹⁵ 80° 750ml	Southern Comfort Liqueur 13 ⁹⁵ 70° 750ml
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Let them entertain you . . .

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — A judge has granted a request by Angelina Jolie to change the names of her two children to reflect that Brad Pitt intends to become their adoptive father.

PARIS (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Russell Crowe and his wife are reportedly expecting their second child — and the mayor of a small French town wants to make the baby an honorary citizen.

LONDON (AP) — A court ordered British hip-hop singer Ms. Dynamite to perform 60 hours of community service and pay \$1,324 in compensation to a police officer she slapped outside a nightclub in January, court officials said Thursday.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Lance Armstrong told South Africans that a positive attitude helped him during his battle with cancer.

"You have to believe you are going to get better. You have to believe you are going to survive," he said Wednesday.

NEW YORK (AP) — Wilson Pickett, the soul pioneer best known for the fiery hits "Mustang Sally" and "In The Midnight Hour," died of a heart attack Thursday in a Reston, Va., hospital, according to his management company. He was 64.

Worldly resolutions

Tech celebrates the new year with cultural festivities

By LAUREN SCOTT
FEATURES WRITER

New Year's Eve in the United States is pretty standard: champagne, parties, friends and a final countdown. Just because the United States rings in the New Year this way does not mean every country does.

The International Cultural Center will host an event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday dedicated to the ways cultures around the world celebrate the same holiday.

Yung Ng, vice chair for the Diversity Leadership Council, originally proposed the idea.

Ng said the council, which has about 10 members, is dedicated to educating the Texas Tech and Lubbock communities about the diverse culture that is found in Lubbock.

She said she approached the council with her idea for the event.

"I knew the council did a lot of things like this," she said. "I knew the people at the ICC would be a perfect fit."

Ng, a Malaysia native who has been in the U.S. for 15 years, said she thought this would be a good idea so people could learn about different cultures.

"The more you learn about a culture, the more interested you become in it," she said.

"Also, the more you know, the more you can break down a culture and understand it."

Ng said this time of year was decided on because of the holidays.

"December and January are the holiday months," she said. "I figured we should do something to ring in the New Year."

Lori Romero, special projects coordinator for the Office of International Affairs, said she liked the idea when Ng approached her about it.

"After she talked to me about it, we got the ball rolling," she said.

Ng also said with the spread of the Internet,

among other factors, the world's traditions are growing increasingly similar.

"This world really isn't that big anymore," she said. "When I was in Malaysia last, I noticed all of the kids were the same as they are here. They were wearing the same thing; they listen to the same music. They even had loud music playing on their MP3 players."

Romero agrees with Ng.

"I definitely think this will bridge the gap (among cultures)," she said. "Working with this event, I have learned so much about a country I thought I already knew a lot about."

Referring to India, Romero said different provinces in India celebrate New Year's at different times. Because of this, the booth dedicated to India will feature traditions from several provinces.

Included in other countries' booths are artifacts, maps, food and dessert to share. Some booths will also have recipes to hand out.

Romero said about 40 countries' traditions will be showcased.

"There will be countries from the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Africa on display," she said.

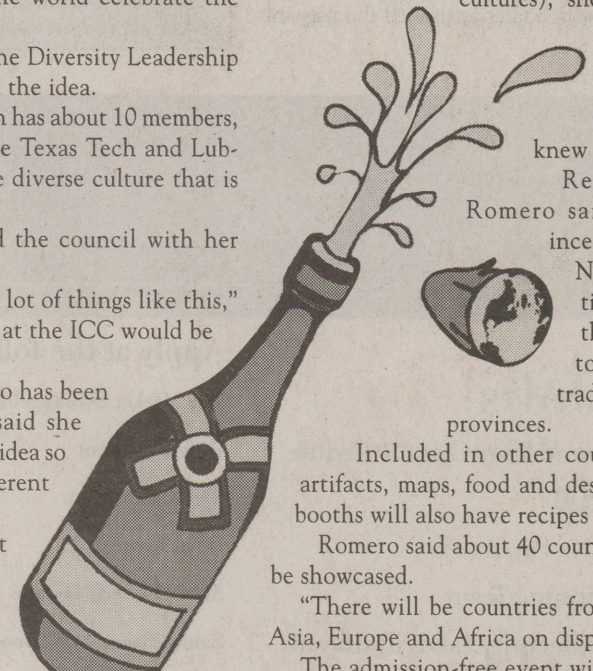
The admission-free event will begin with a Chinese dance.

"The dancers will do a traditional Lion Dance and then a karate demonstration," Romero said.

Romero said after the Lion Dance, refreshments will be served. Also, she said this is a come-and-go event, meaning visitors can arrive or leave when they wish.

The ICC, Diversity Leadership Council and the Center for Campus Life are presenting the showcase.

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More glitz, less dough

Miss America Organization makes 'change' in a changing world

LAS VEGAS (AP) — There may be more glitz for Miss America this year, but there's less dough.

After losing its network television contract, moving to Las Vegas in search of a new glamorous look and turning to former winners for financial help, the Miss America Organization has reduced the amount of scholarship money it awards its winners.

Miss America 2006 will receive a crown Saturday night but \$20,000 less for school than her predecessor. And the total amount of scholarship prize money for the 52 contestants will drop this year by about 44 percent to \$292,500. For the past four years, the pageant handed out about \$528,500 at the national level through awards given to Miss America, the runners-up and the winners of other prizes for community service, talent and swimsuit, according to pageant officials.

"In the process of putting together our budget, we realized we needed to invest in rebranding and redistribute the funding," said Art McMaster, the CEO of the Atlantic City, N.J.-based Miss America Organization.

The scholarship reductions are one of several recent moves McMaster has made in an attempt to keep the 85-year-old pageant afloat. The organization lost \$1.7 million in 2004, due largely to a drop in television revenue from ABC, which later jettisoned the pageant from its lineup.

Cable outlet Country Music Television picked up Miss America, but the broadcast rights are believed to be far less than before.

McMaster cited the financial troubles in explaining his decision to move the pageant from Atlantic City to Las Vegas, a city with less expensive production costs and a built-in media buzz.

This fall, the pageant turned to former winners for help, asking them to underwrite in part what since 2000 had been a \$50,000 scholarship for the winner. This year that scholarship is \$30,000.

"It's too bad that the young lady won't be able to benefit as much as we did," said Miss America 2004 Ericka Dunlap, who plans to use her scholarship for law school and promotion of an upcoming country music album.

The Miss America Organization bills itself as the world's leading provider of scholarships to young women. Along with a network of state, county and city pageants, it says it makes \$45 million in scholarship aid available annually.

With less television revenue flowing in, McMaster said the not-for-profit organization has had to start focusing on fundraising.

Editor's Note: Former Red Raider and Miss Texas Morgan Matlock will compete Saturday.

Shinedown without the sugar coating: band gets real about life, tour, album

By JEREMY REYNOLDS
FEATURES WRITER

Brad Stewart of the rock band Shinedown hates it when journalists and fans try to label the band one thing or another.

"Someone once wrote we sound like the dude from the Guess Who," Stewart said. "We get some wild shit said about us."

Simply put, Stewart said the band used to refer to themselves as super rock metal, but they now have so many influences that nothing really seems to fit. Their new album "Us and Them" features songs of rock, heavy metal, R&B and pop.

Growing up in Jacksonville, Fla., Stewart and his fellow band members had a lot to live up to once they came onto the music scene with their first CD, "Leave a Whisper." They come from the city that saw the rise of the southern-rock band, Lynryd Skynyrd, and Stewart admits the 1970s band has a profound impact on them whenever they sit down to write their songs.

Stewart and the band have been on the road since September and will continue to be on the road for the better part of 2006. The band

is promoting its new record, and Lubbock is its first stop of the New Year after it makes up a concert in Kansas City that has been postponed for some time. The band will play with Seether Saturday at The Winchester Pavillion.

This is not the first time the band has made the dusty-road trip to the Hub City. Stewart said the band came here with Damage Plan a few years ago, and he was excited about returning when he saw the city on the tour list.

"We had a few weeks off for the holidays, and now we're chomping at the bit and ready to get going," Stewart said.

Looking forward to the coming tour, Stewart said he has one wish.

"Hopefully it's going to be a hell of a lot better," he said.

The tour already has started off on the right foot with the band's first single from their new album hitting the No. One spot on rock charts.

"We have a pretty good dynamic," Stewart said.

Since being on tour with their first album, Stewart has noticed a change in things.

"We use to drive around in this car from show to show, then we graduated up to an RV, and then we got this short bus, and then we had this tracker pull," he said. "We still have the tracker pull, and we've also got a bus now."

The band's first major hit from its first album was ".45." The song about suicide was banned later from being played on MTV because of its lyrics.

Stewart said the song writing from the first album has progressed after the first tour, after the band played with other bands like 3 Doors Down and Tantric.

"From touring for two years, we found out what works," Stewart said. "We said let's make each of our parts really special."

On the tour, Brent Smith, leader singer, talked with a lot of the fans. Stewart said these stories have influenced the way he writes.

"Brent really got in touch with the lyrics," Stewart said. "He was inspired by the fans. I think he really took their stories to heart. He's a guy who doesn't sugarcoat shit."

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Just joking, Simon

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Former "American Idol" winner Kelly Clarkson, subject to a scolding from Simon Cowell for not letting her songs be used by new contestants on the show, has agreed to do so, a spokesman said Wednesday.

Roger Widynowski, from Clarkson's Sony BMG record label, said Clarkson's management was negotiating with the show over which songs will be used.

A day earlier, he said Clarkson was not allowing any of her songs to be licensed for other purposes. He said on Wednesday he had not been informed by her management that negotiations were under way, and that Clarkson would allow it on a "case-by-case basis."

That was also a day after "American Idol" judge Cowell sharply criticized her.

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Sooner the Raiders win the better

By **MATT MUENCH**
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Texas Tech forward Martin Zeno is not about to put his finger on the panic button yet.

But his hand is not far from it after a 34-point loss to Texas on Tuesday, and it could be pushed come Saturday if the Red Raiders don't make a move quick.

"We are not touching the panic button," he said. "We still have a lot more games to play. But we have to improve. We can't get ahead of ourselves right now. We have a tough stretch of games. This could be a big turnaround for us."

The button's fate will be determined at noon Saturday when the Raiders are in Norman, Okla., to face the No. 24 Sooners.

"We just have to stick to our game plan," Zeno said, "and do what the coach's want us to do to execute."

What is Bob Knight stressing in

practice?

"Individual play," Zeno said. "That's the biggest thing."

The play Zeno is talking about has been lost most of the season. Check the stats.

Tech has been paced by its usual suspects Jarrius Jackson (19.2 ppg) and Martin Zeno (16.4 ppg). But the two haven't had much help on the offensive side of the ball this season as they combine for more than half of the team's scoring.

The pair has been the team's leading scorers in every game this year except two.

Jackson does not want to point fingers at anybody.

"Us as a team has to step up vocally and physically," he said. "We are not far from being better. Focus is what we need to do better."

Like Tuesday in Austin, it will be another tough test for the young Raiders (10-8 overall, 2-2 Big 12) who are trying to prove they're worthy of a postseason berth. But to get to the Big Dance, Tech must prove itself on the road. The Raiders haven't done that yet.

The Raiders are 1-7 away from Indiana Ave. In their defeats, they have fallen by a combined 124 points, an average of 17 points a game.

To make things harder, Oklahoma (10-4, 1-2) is 7-1 on its home court.

"(Playing on the road) is a big mental thing," Jackson said. "Playing on the road in the Big 12 is a hard thing to do. We have to get better at getting mentally prepared."

Oklahoma has a more balanced attack. Four Sooners average double figures in scoring led by front men Taj Gray and Kevin Bookout. The one-two punch combines to score 27 points per game and pull down 15 rebounds per game.

"We just have to go out and pick apart each individual," Zeno said. "They have a great front court and very quick guards."

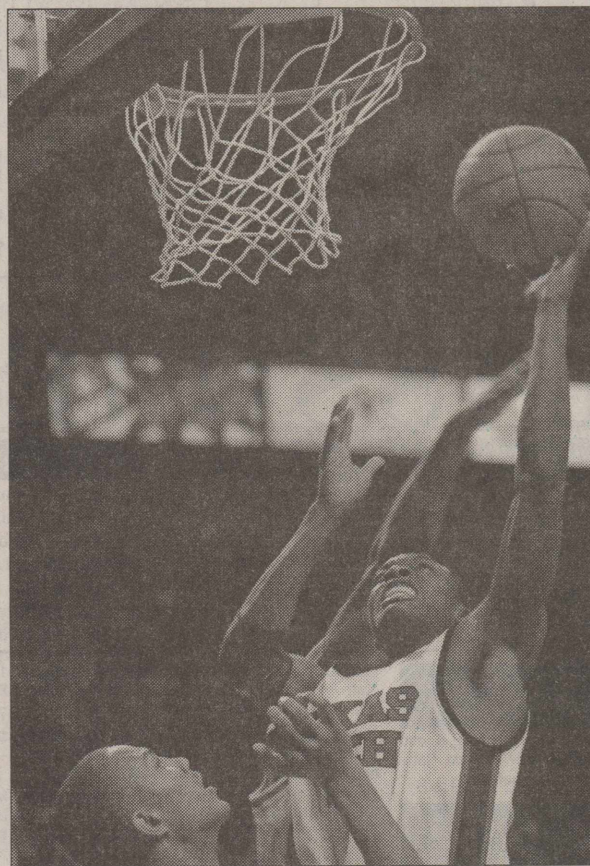
Zeno also said the first part of beating OU begins with not letting the loss to the Horns linger.

"Of course we are down after a loss like that," he said. "It was Texas, and we lost by 34 on TV. But (Saturday), we have to bounce back."

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"We are not touching the panic button. We still have a lot more games to play ... This could be a big turnaround for us."

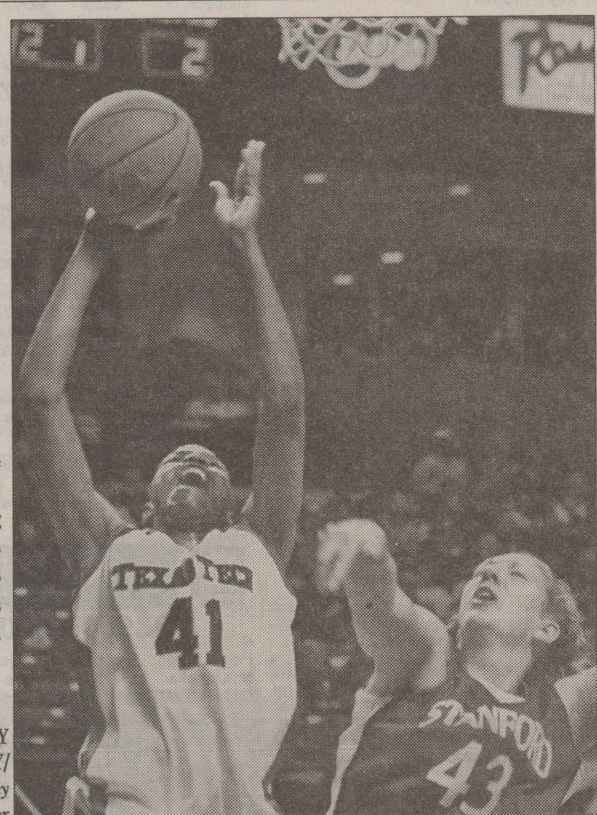
— **MARTIN ZENO**
Texas Tech
Sophomore Forward



TEXAS TECH SOPHOMORE forward Martin Zeno goes for the put-back in a Raider contest earlier this season. Zeno is the Raiders' second leading scorer, averaging 16.4 points per game.

KELLY MATHERLY/
The Daily
Toreador

TEXAS TECH SENIOR forward LaToya Davis puts up a shot in the Lady Raiders' 66-63 loss to Stanford Nov. 27. Davis averages a double-double for Tech, averaging 19.8 points and 10.8 rebounds per game.



KELLY MATHERLY/
The Daily
Toreador

Tech leans on Davis for climb through conference

By **TRAVIS CRAM**
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Senior forward LaToya Davis goes by a few names. LaToya, Toya, L.D., Davis and Warrior.

Warrior. That's how Texas Tech coach Marsha Sharp refers to Davis.

"I don't think I've ever had a post player that finishes the way she does," she said.

The 6-foot-1 All-America candidate said she tries to do whatever she can on the court and knows it is important for her to stay focused for her team to win.

"Coach is always telling me how the team feeds off my excitement and emotions out there," she said.

Davis is in her fourth season

as a Lady Raider and thus far has been performing better than her previous three seasons.

The senior forward started 31 games during the 2004-05 season, averaging 12.5 points per game while snagging around 7.9 rebounds per game.

In her 15 games this season, Davis is scoring 19.8 ppg (fourth in the Big 12) and bringing down 10.8 rpg (second in the conference).

She said it has been because of her hard work during the summer and being able to practice and compete with some of the best players in the country. She also is getting more opportunities to score.

"I think a lot of it has to do with how much I am able to get the ball every game," she said. "Sometimes

it can get frustrating though."

Davis has quickly emerged as a top post player in the Big 12 this year, and teams are beginning to take notice.

Sharp said more teams have been trying to double-team Davis and force the rest of the shooters for Tech to take longer shots from around the perimeter, where the Lady Raiders make only 29 percent of their shots, averaging three treys per game.

Junior Alesha Robertson said Davis is the type of player anyone wants to mimic in practice, and pay close attention to what she does on the court. She said it is even more important for the team to get the points in the paint when the perimeter game is not firing on all cylinders.

"She really tends to set the tone for the rest of team," Robertson said. "It just makes it crucial for us to get her the ball."

It also makes it more important for Davis to stay in the game.

In the first half of Tech's 63-57 loss to No. 16 Oklahoma Wednesday, Davis found herself in early foul trouble against the Sooners and was forced to watch from the bench for the last part of the half.

In her absence, OU was able to take an eight-point advantage into halftime, a lead the Sooners never relinquished.

Sharp was unable to call the shots from the sideline during Wednesday night's game after suffering from what she described as

LADY RAIDERS continued on page 11

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