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Watch out, Red Raider opponents. Tomlin's back.  
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ON PAGE 13



Tech tennis hosts Lone Star rivals.

QUOTABLES

To me, it's something I want to keep working on and I like working on it because it's not a particularly sexy topic. But I've already had enough headlines to last me five lifetimes.

Former President Bill Clinton, speaking about the need for better coordination of global relief work for developing nations. (AP)

I think it's an advertisement for a female president. I don't think it's an advertisement for anybody in particular. I think it's just (about) how exciting an idea it would be to have that happen.

Dee Johnson, executive producer of "Commander in Chief," the ABC drama starring Geena Davis as President Mackenzie Allen. (AP)

STATE

Skilling says he and Lay never broke laws

HOUSTON (AP) — Former Enron Corp. Chief Executive Jeffrey Skilling spoke up Wednesday for company founder Kenneth Lay in his third day on the witness stand in the pair's fraud and conspiracy trial, saying they were a "good team" that committed no crimes.

Even though most counts pending against him and Lay allege crimes that occurred at different times before Enron crashed in scandal in December 2001, an overarching conspiracy count alleges they participated in a sprawling effort to portray Enron as strong when they knew accounting tricks hid bad news and weak ventures.

Outside of court, Skilling's lawyer, Daniel Petrocelli, said he expects to finish initial questioning of Skilling on Thursday.

NATION

Smithsonian to spotlight Star-Spangled Banner

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American flag that "so proudly we hail'd," the inspiration for the Star-Spangled Banner, will be the focal point of an \$85 million renovation at the National Museum of American History.

It was on Sept. 14, 1814, that Francis Scott Key peered through the smoke surrounding Baltimore's Fort M'Henry after a 25-hour British bombardment and saw the huge American flag was still flying.

The museum will close Sept. 5 and reopen in the summer of 2008 with a new flag room for displaying the historic 15-star banner.

About \$45 million will come from federal funds and the rest from private contributions, said the director of the museum.

WORLD

Iran vows to ramp up uranium enrichment

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran intends to enrich uranium on a scale hundreds of times larger than its current level, the country's deputy nuclear chief said Wednesday, signaling its resolve to expand a program the international community insists it halt.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Tuesday that Iran for the first time had succeeded on a small scale in enriching uranium, a key step in generating fuel for a reactor or fissile material for a bomb. The U.N. Security Council has demanded that Iran stop all enrichment activity because of suspicions the program's aim is to make weapons.

Saeedi said Iran has informed the International Atomic Energy Agency that it plans to install 3,000 centrifuges.

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## Moussaoui jury hears Flight 93 recording

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Jurors in the Zacarias Moussaoui trial listened Wednesday to a recording of terrified shouts and cries in the cockpit as desperate passengers twice charged panicked hijackers during the final half hour of doomed United Flight 93 on Sept. 11, 2001.

"Is that it? I mean, shall we pull it down?" one hijacker asked in Arabic 123 seconds before the 757 jetliner slammed into a Pennsylvania field with 33 passengers, seven crew members and four hijackers. "Yes, put it in it, and pull it down," another voice replied in Arabic.

In the remaining two minutes, more voices are heard than earlier, including some that say in English:

"Go. Go."  
"Move. Move."  
"Push, push, push, push, push."  
Then in Arabic: "Give it to me. Give it to me. Give it to me."  
Finally in Arabic: "Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest."  
Then only the roar of static.  
The government rested its case for executing Sept. 11 conspirator Moussaoui shortly after 17 jurors and alternates and 150 audience members became the first people other than



INSIDE:  
Read a transcript of the cockpit voice recorder aboard United Airlines Flight 93.  
Page 2

investigators and victims' relatives to hear the only audible cockpit recording recovered from the four jetliners hijacked by al-Qaida in the nation's most deadly terrorist attack.

On Thursday, court-appointed defense lawyers will begin arguing that the 37-year-old Frenchman, who was in jail in Minnesota on 9/11, played so small a role and had such mental problems that he deserves life in prison instead of execution.

The jurors couldn't take their eyes off

the video screens — even during long silent periods — as prosecutors used a multimedia presentation to try to put them inside the Flight 93 cockpit.

Slumped in his chair and impassive, Moussaoui, too, watched intently.

A transcript, which translated Arabic into English and converted many nearly inaudible sounds into text, scrolled up the side of the

MOUSSAOUI continued on Page 2

## Fat food fast: Two chains are fattier in U.S.

By LINDA A. JOHNSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

(AP) — The great virtue — or perhaps the great drawback — of McDonald's and KFC is that the food is pretty much the same all over the world. But a new study suggests the fries and the chicken served in the United States may have more artery-clogging trans fats.

The chief reason, the researchers say, is the type of frying oil used: partially hydrogenated vegetable oil, which is high in trans fats.

A Danish study of the fast-food chains' products around the world found remarkably wide variations in trans fat content from country to country, from city to city within the same nation, and from restaurant to restaurant in the same city.

At a New York City McDonald's, a large fries-and-chicken-nuggets combo was found to contain 10.2 grams of the trans fat, compared with 0.33 grams in Denmark and about 3 grams in Spain, Russia and the Czech Republic.

At KFC's in Poland and Hungary, a large hot wings-and-fries order had 19 grams of trans fats or more, versus 5.5 grams for wings

FAST FOOD continued on Page 6

ALTERNATIVES TO TRANS FAT

Food companies are looking into several options for replacing trans fat. Almost any fat is better than trans fat, so anything is a start, but some options are still better than others.

- Butter and animal fat: Still high in saturated fat and cholesterol.
- Coconut and palm oils: Still more conducive to heart disease than vegetable oils rich in mono- and polyunsaturated fats.
- Fully hydrogenated vegetable oil: Semi-soft fat that is trans free and can be used for margarines, baking and other types of cooking.
- Traditional liquid vegetable oils: One of the healthiest alternatives, these spoil and don't have as long of a shelf life.
- Fat substitutes: Some companies are using corn, soy or oat fiber to make products that taste and feel like fat to the mouth, but act like a fiber for the body.

Source: Harvard School of Public Health



COURTESY PHOTO

## Pop princess SHE'S NOT KT Tunstall isn't your run-of-the-mill musician — and she knows it

By JEREMY REYNOLDS  
FEATURES WRITER

It's been 10 years since KT Tunstall pushed through the doors of cafes and bars in Chicago for open-mic night every Friday after dusk. Her early days of being a lone singer and songwriter might be long gone by now, but she said she still remembers the details.

She hasn't forgotten her roots — even after her debut CD "Eye to the Telescope" shot up music charts and her first single "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" dominated airtime on VH1 Music.

Home for Tunstall is a long way from the windy-city canals of Chicago. Her blood is laced with Chinese

TUNSTALL continued on Page 11

A PASS-PORT ENCOURAGES Lubbock citizens to tour the Hub City in search of attractions on their themed tour. Completed passports can be turned in for a chance at a prize.

COURTESY GRAPHIC/Lubbock Chamber of Commerce

## City looks to stamp out unawareness

By ANDREW WOOD  
STAFF WRITER

Local residents who believe the best entertainment in West Texas is watching wind blow dirt now can be proven wrong.

After Lubbock became the "Giant Side of Texas," as part of an advertising campaign from the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, it now is taking another step with its "Passport Program," which allows Lubbock residents to see what there is in Lubbock.

Kelli Stumbo, marketing assistant for the chamber's Giant Side of Texas campaign and former Texas Tech Student Government Association president, said the program is a chance for local

residents to be "tourists in their own backyard."

"A lot of people think there's nothing to do in Lubbock," she said. "Well, that's not true."

She said the idea originated when the chamber talked to groups and heard them mention places in Lubbock where they never have been or have not visited in a while. Some of Lubbock's amenities mentioned were golf courses, museums, sports and theaters.

Ryan Worley, SGA external vice president and president-elect, collaborates closely with city officials. He said the campaign aims to show people Lubbock is a place where people have a lot to do.

"What they're basically trying to do is get rid of the connotation that there is nothing to do in West Texas," Worley said.

By showing residents how much there is to do, they will say better things to people who may be interested in coming to Lubbock.

"We want to show there is an entertainment side and an entertainment district in Lubbock," he said.

In addition to seeing what Lubbock has to offer, Worley said people also have a chance to see what is happening at Tech.

"They can take advantage of what Texas Tech has to offer," he said refer-

PASSPORT continued on Page 7

# Moussaoui

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

screen. Synchronized with the text and drawn from the recovered flight data recorder, dials showed the plane's speed, altitude and wing attitude compared with the horizon. Other indicators showed the autopilot, the steering yoke position and the plane's trajectory.

Despite the detail and because the cockpit ceiling microphone can pick up sounds from the passenger cabin, particularly if the cockpit door is open, there were multiple interpretations of the final seconds.

Hamilton Peterson, whose father and stepmother died on the plane, said hearing an enhanced tape earlier had persuaded him passengers killed a hijacker guarding the cockpit. "It's an example

of ordinary citizens on a moment's notice stepping up and protecting the U.S. Capitol from a terrorist attack," he said outside the courthouse afterward. Captured 9/11 mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammed has said the Capitol was the plane's target.

*"It's an example of ordinary citizens on a moment's notice stepping up and protecting the U.S. Capitol from a terrorist attack."*

— HAMILTON PETERSON  
Family Member of  
WTC Victims

Some thought they heard the passengers struggling with hijackers for control of the steering yoke inside the cockpit during the final seconds. The Sept. 11 Commission's study reached no conclusion on whether any hijacker was killed in the struggle with passengers and said the hijackers remained at the controls "but must have judged that the passengers were only seconds from overcoming them."

The 30-minute tape begins with a hijacker saying in English: "Please sit down. Keep remaining seating. We have a bomb on board. So sit." There follows several minutes

of commands such as "Don't move." "Shut up." "Down, down, down, sit down."

Nearly six minutes in, a voice in English tells the passengers, "We are going back to the airport, and we have our demands. So please remain quiet." The San Francisco-bound plane then turns over western Pennsylvania back toward the East Coast.

During a period of quiet, apparently unbeknownst to the hijackers, passengers with cell phones learn that jets have crashed into the World Trade Center. But the hijackers detect something is up. One says in Arabic: "The guys will go in, lift up the (unintelligible) and they put the ax in it. So, everyone will be scared."

The transcript gives no further clues about the "unintelligible" object. But the Sept. 11 Commission says the hijackers may have killed or silenced a flight attendant by this point.

Four minutes later, the hijackers notice a fight in the cabin. One says in Arabic: "Let's go, guys. Allah is greatest." After grunts and shouting, another says in Arabic: "They want to get in here. Hold, hold from the inside." The hijacker pilot begins wagging the wings up and down, apparently to knock the passengers off balance.

Another minute of shouts in English: "Hold the door." "Stop him." "Sit down." Much is unintelligible.

Then 30 seconds past 9:59 a.m., an enormous crash: metal against metal, glass breaking, plastic cracking. The Sept. 11 Commission theorized passengers used a drink cart to ram the cockpit door. More unintelligible shouting.

Seven seconds after 10 a.m., in Arabic: "Is that it? Shall we finish it off?"

Another hijacker, also in Arabic: "When they all come, we finish it off."

Six seconds later in English: "I'm injured."

Ten seconds later in English: "In the cockpit. If we don't, we'll die." Followed quickly by a second loud crash of metal, glass and plastic rammed together hard.

The hijacker pilot is pushing the steering yoke forward and back, perhaps to throw the attacking passengers to the floor. The tail sags, sounding the stall alarm. Then the nose comes back down, silencing it.

Then just 123 seconds before the crash, one hijacker asks again in Arabic, "Is that it?" A cacophony of new voices joins the shouting over the next two minutes. The plane rolls belly up and noses over, then crashes.

Prosecutors also called Lorne Lyles, a Fort Myers, Fla., policeman whose wife, Cee Cee, was a flight attendant on 93, and played a voice mail message she left him from the plane on 9/11. She told him her plane had been hijacked and she knew a plane had flown into the World Trade Center. "Please tell my children that I love them very much. ... I hope to be able to see your smiling face again," she said, crying.

Later, the judge rejected prosecutors' request to display a running presentation of the names and photos of nearly all the 2,972 victims of Sept. 11. Prosecutors were instead allowed to show one large poster with the pictures of all but 92 of the victims.

Moussaoui pleaded guilty last year to conspiring with al-Qaida to fly planes into U.S. buildings. A week ago, the jurors ruled him eligible for the death penalty even though he was in jail in Minnesota on 9/11. They decided that lies he told federal agents a month before the attacks led directly to at least one death that day by keeping agents from identifying and stopping some of the hijackers. Now they must decide whether he deserves execution or life in prison.

► brittany.a.barrientos@ttu.edu

# United Flight 93 transcript: Sept. 11, 2001

(AP) — The following is a transcript of the cockpit voice recorder aboard United Airlines Flight 93. All times are in EDT on Sept. 11, 2001. Text in parentheses was translated from Arabic. "Unintelligible" indicates that the tape couldn't be transcribed.

09:31:57 — Ladies and gentlemen: Here the captain, please sit down keep remaining seating. We have a bomb on board. So sit.  
09:32:09 — Er, uh ... Calling Cleveland center ... You're unreadable. Say again slowly.  
09:32:10 — Don't move. Shut up.  
09:32:13 — Come on, come.  
09:32:16 — Shut up.  
09:32:17 — Don't move.  
09:32:18 — Stop.  
09:32:34 — Sit, sit, sit down.  
09:32:39 — Sit down.  
09:32:41 — Unintelligible ... (the brother.)  
09:32:54 — Stop.  
09:33:09 — No more. Sit down.  
09:33:10 — (That's it, that's it, that's it), down, down.  
09:33:14 — Shut up.

09:33:20 — Unintelligible  
09:33:20 — We just, we didn't get it clear ... Is that United 93 calling?  
09:33:30 — (Jassim.)  
09:33:34 — (In the name of Allah, the most merciful, the most compassionate.)  
09:33:41 — Unintelligible.  
09:33:43 — Finish, no more. No more.  
09:34:00 — Go ahead, tie down. Lie down. Down, down, down.  
09:34:06 — (There is someone ... Huh?)  
09:34:12 — Down, down, down. Sit down. Come on, sit down. No, no, no, no, no, no, no.  
09:34:16 — Down, down, down.  
09:34:21 — Down.  
09:34:25 — No more.  
09:34:26 — No more. Down.  
09:34:27 — Please, please, please ...  
09:34:28 — Down.  
09:34:29 — Please, please, don't hurt me ...  
09:34:30 — Down. No more.  
09:34:31 — Oh God.  
09:34:32 — Down, down, down.  
09:34:33 — Sit down.  
09:34:34 — Shut up.  
09:34:42 — No more.  
09:34:46 — (This?)

09:34:47 — Yes.  
09:34:47 — Unintelligible.  
09:34:57 — (One moment, one moment.)  
09:34:59 — Unintelligible.  
09:35:03 — No more.  
09:35:06 — Down, down, down, down.  
09:35:09 — No, no, no, no, no, no, no ...  
09:35:10 — Unintelligible.  
09:35:15 — Sit down, sit down, sit down.  
09:35:17 — Down.  
09:35:18 — (What's this?)  
09:35:19 — Sit down. Sit down. You know, sit down.  
09:35:24 — No, no, no.  
09:35:30 — Down, down, down, down.  
09:35:32 — Are you talking to me?  
09:35:33 — No, no, no. Unintelligible.  
09:35:35 — Down in the airport.  
09:35:39 — Down, down.  
09:35:40 — I don't want to die.  
09:35:41 — No, no. Down, down.  
09:35:42 — I don't want to die. I don't want to die.  
09:35:44 — No, no. Down, down, down, down, down, down.  
09:35:47 — No, no, please.  
09:37:06 — (That's it. Go back.)  
09:37:06 — (That's it.) Sit down.  
09:37:36 — (Everything is fine. I finished.)  
09:38:36 — (Yes.)  
09:39:11 — Ah. Here's the captain. I would like to tell you all to remain seated. We have a bomb aboard, and we are going back to the airport, and we have our demands. So, please remain quiet.  
09:39:21 — OK. That's 93 calling?  
09:39:24 — (One moment.)  
09:39:34 — United 93. I understand you have a bomb on board. Go ahead.  
09:39:42 — And center exec jet nine fifty-six. That was the transmission.  
09:39:47 — OK. Ah. Who called Cleveland?  
09:39:52 — Executive jet nine fifty-six, did you understand that transmission?

09:39:56 — Affirmative. He said that there was a bomb on board.  
09:39:58 — That was all you got out of it also?  
09:40:01 — Affirmative.  
09:40:03 — Roger.  
09:40:03 — United 93. Go ahead.  
09:40:17 — Ahhh.  
09:40:52 — (This green knob?)  
09:40:54 — (Yes, that's the one.)  
09:41:05 — United 93, do you hear the Cleveland center?  
09:41:14 — (One moment. One moment.)  
09:41:15 — Unintelligible.  
09:41:56 — Oh man.  
09:44:18 — (This does not work now.)  
09:45:13 — Turn it off.  
09:45:16 — (... Seven thousand ...)  
09:45:19 — (How about we let them in? We let the guys in now.)  
09:45:23 — (OK.)  
09:45:24 — (Should we let the guys in?)  
09:45:25 — (Inform them, and tell him to talk to the pilot. Bring the pilot back.)  
09:45:57 — (In the name of Allah. In the name of Allah. I bear witness that there is no other God, but Allah.)  
09:47:31 — Unintelligible.  
09:47:40 — (Allah knows.)  
09:48:15 — Unintelligible.  
09:48:38 — Set course.  
09:53:20 — (The best thing: The guys will go in, lift up the ... Unintelligible ... (and they put the axe into it. So, everyone will be scared.)  
09:53:27 — (Yes.)  
09:53:28 — (The axe.)  
09:53:28 — Unintelligible.  
09:53:29 — (No, not the.)  
09:53:35 — (Let him look through the window. Let him look through the window.)  
09:53:52 — Unintelligible.  
09:54:09 — (Open.)  
09:54:11 — Unintelligible.

09:55:06 — You are ... One ...  
09:56:15 — Unintelligible.  
09:57:55 — (Is there something?)  
09:57:57 — (A fight?)  
09:57:59 — (Yeah?)  
09:58:33 — Unintelligible. (Let's go guys. Allah is greatest. Allah is greatest. Oh guys. Allah is greatest.)  
09:58:44 — (Oh Allah. Oh Allah. Oh the most gracious.)  
09:58:52 — Stay back.  
09:58:55 — In the cockpit.  
09:58:57 — In the cockpit.  
09:58:57 — (They want to get in here. Hold, hold from the inside. Hold from the inside. Hold.)  
09:59:04 — Hold the door.  
09:59:09 — Stop him.  
09:59:11 — Sit down.  
09:59:13 — Sit down.  
09:59:17 — (What?)  
09:59:18 — (There are some guys. All those guys.)  
09:59:20 — Lets get them.  
09:59:25 — Sit down.  
09:59:29 — (What?)  
09:59:31 — (What?)  
09:59:36 — Unintelligible.  
09:59:37 — (What?)  
09:59:41 — Unintelligible.  
09:59:42 — (Trust in Allah, and in him.)  
09:59:45 — Sit down.  
09:59:47 — Unintelligible.  
09:59:53 — Ahh.  
09:59:55 — Unintelligible.  
09:59:58 — Ahh.  
10:00:06 — (There is nothing.)  
10:00:07 — (Is that it? Shall we finish it off?)  
10:00:08 — (No. Not yet.)  
10:00:09 — (When they all come, we finish it off.)  
10:00:11 — (There is nothing.)  
10:00:13 — Unintelligible.

10:00:14 — Ahh.  
10:00:15 — I'm injured.  
10:00:16 — Unintelligible.  
10:00:21 — Ahh.  
10:00:22 — (Oh Allah. Oh Allah. Oh gracious.)  
10:00:25 — In the cockpit. If we don't, we'll die.  
10:00:29 — (Up, down. Up, down, in the cockpit.)  
10:00:33 — (The) cockpit.  
10:00:37 — (Up, down. Saeed, up, down.)  
10:00:42 — Roll it.  
10:00:55 — Unintelligible.  
10:00:59 — (Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest.)  
10:01:01 — Unintelligible.  
10:01:08 — (Is that it? I mean, shall we pull it down?)  
10:01:09 — (Yes, put it in it, and pull it down.)  
10:01:10 — Unintelligible.  
10:01:11 — (Saeed.)  
10:01:12 — ... engine ...  
10:01:13 — Unintelligible.  
10:01:16 — (Cut off the oxygen.)  
10:01:18 — (Cut off the oxygen. Cut off the oxygen. Cut off the oxygen.)  
10:01:41 — (Up, down. Up, down.)  
10:01:41 — (What?)  
10:01:42 — (Up, down.)  
10:01:42 — Ahh.  
10:01:53 — Ahh.  
10:01:54 — Unintelligible.  
10:01:55 — Ahh.  
10:01:59 — Shut them off.  
10:02:14 — Go.  
10:02:16 — Move.  
10:02:17 — Turn it up.  
10:02:18 — (Down, down.)  
10:02:23 — (Pull it down. Pull it down.)  
10:02:25 — Down. Push, push, push, push, push.  
10:02:33 — (Hey. Hey. Give it to me. Give it to me.)  
10:02:37 — (Give it to me. Give it to me. Give it to me.)  
10:02:40 — Unintelligible.  
10:03:02 — (Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:03 — (Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:04 — (Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:06 — (Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:06 — (Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:07 — No.  
10:03:09 — (Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest.)  
10:03:09 — (Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest.)

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The members of Christian Faculty & Staff Association (CFSA) at TTU take this opportunity to proclaim that we serve the living Savior, Jesus Christ, and encourage everyone to know Him personally. We would be glad to talk to anyone who has questions about Him.

<b>Bill Dean</b> Mass Communications	<b>Genia Tillinghast</b> Board of Regents	<b>Mark Punzo</b> HSC Plant Operations
<b>Bobby Green</b> Engineering Technology	<b>Herschel Mann</b> Accounting	<b>Marlene Kenady</b> Graduate School
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<b>Ellen Peffley</b> Plant & Soil Sciences	<b>Lissa Goebels</b> College of Education	<b>Stephanie Wehmeier</b> Career Center
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<b>Emily Merrill</b> School of Nursing	<b>Marian Blaylock</b> Civil Engineering	<b>William D. Lawson</b> Civil Engineering
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AN ARMY OF ONE

# Fourth time's a charm: Newest 'Elder Scrolls' game top-seller for Xbox 360

By CARLOS BERGFELD  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Virtual visitors have flocked to the sprawling world of Tamriel, a land of bustling cities, mysterious forests and dark dungeons.

This world exists within the recently released Xbox 360 and PC game "The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion," the fastest-selling Xbox 360 game to date, according to a Monday announcement by the game's developer, Bethesda Softworks.

Selling more than 1.7 million copies on both platforms since its release, the role-playing game additionally has become the No. 1 selling PC title, and in its first week of release, it made up 13 percent of PC game sales.

"It's definitely one of the best games I've ever played," said Brent Hix, a frequent player of role-playing games. "I read about this game and went and bought it the same day."

Hix, a sophomore public relations major from Canyon, said he has played role-playing video games for years, although the Western-developed "Oblivion" differs significantly from Japanese role-playing games.

The title's huge, populated, open world makes the game an incredible experience, but it may be too much for casual players, Hix said.

"There's just so much to do that it's easy to get lost in it," he said.

A single-character-centered role-playing experience delivered in a first-person perspective, "Oblivion," like its predecessor, "The Elder Scrolls III: Morrowind," delivers a different experience than turn-based, traditional, Eastern role-playing games.

Games like "Dragon Quest VIII," from Japanese developer Square-Enix, make it easy to draw parallels between the latest iteration and the beginnings of the series, which many times share features with and set the foundation for future game

designs, Hix said.

While Japanese role-playing games have continuously evolved, they have certain aspects persistent in their design that define them, Hix said, and these remain in almost any Eastern role-playing game, regardless of the developer.

Western-developed games like "Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic" and "Oblivion" have created a different definition of the role-playing genre, he said.

Although not known for a large catalog of role-playing games, the original Xbox and the Xbox 360 have created an environment for this type of game, as Microsoft's platform has not gained as wide support as its competitors in the

Japanese developer market.

Like "Oblivion," many titles released for the Xbox 360 also come out for the PC, a choice that may help both PC gamers and console gamers alike in accessing the games.

"Xbox 360 — that's \$400. The kind of PC it would take to play these same games is probably going to cost you somewhere around \$1,800," Hix said.

The fact that "Oblivion" is available for PC, however, has given Hix another reason to put off buying a 360, as he has yet to do so.

PC developers also have an easier time making their games compatible with the Xbox 360, as both platforms share several features.

"It's the same architecture as the PC pretty much," said Eric Sinzinger, an assistant professor of computer science.

This fact and the American origin of the Xbox and many of its developers should provide an environment for Western-developed role-playing games to thrive, partly because of the lack of competition from their Eastern counterparts, Hix said.

The third "Elder Scrolls" was the first title in the series available on a console, the original Xbox, and has held its spot among the 25 best-selling PC games four

years since its release, according to the game's publisher.

"Elder Scrolls" was a huge hit — more than people expected it to be when it came out," said Sami Islam, a life-long role-playing gamer.

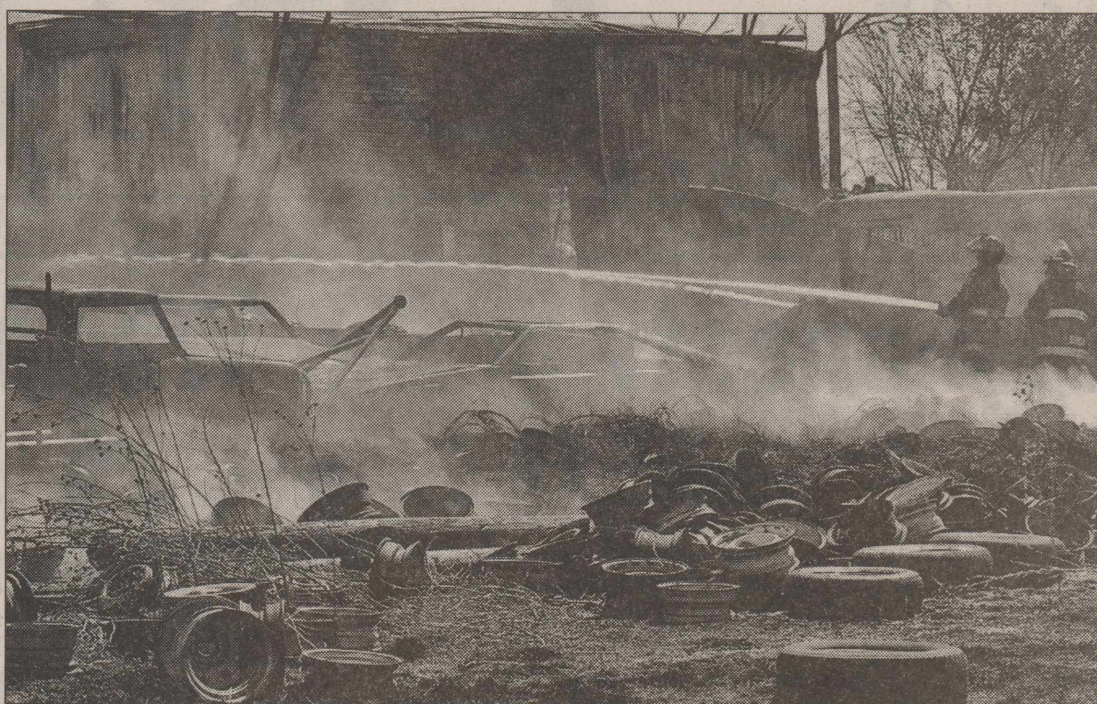
Islam, a graduate student from Lubbock studying finance, said the "Elder Scrolls" games superficially resemble massively multiplayer online role-playing games like "World of Warcraft," with their persistent, open worlds.

Islam said he mostly plays online role-playing games like "World of Warcraft" but prefers the more colorful, Japanese-developed role-playing games to Western efforts.

"Oblivion" features downloadable content, a feature of online role-playing games, which makes continuous and repeated play more likely for gamers, Islam said, and something he sees as a new trend for this type of title.

► carlos.a.bergfeld@ttu.edu  
► brittany.a.barrientos@ttu.edu

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STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Treador

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Xbox 360 — that's \$400. The kind of PC it would take to play these same games is probably going to cost you somewhere around \$1,800.

— BRENT HIX  
Sophomore  
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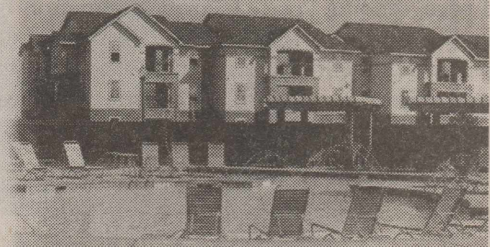
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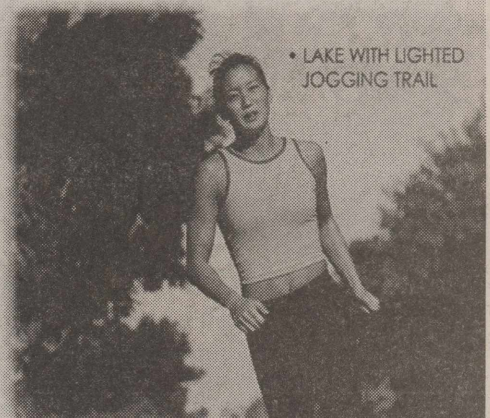
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# Dishonesty in the White House inspires poetry

Editor's note: James Hershberger's column today is a rhyming commentary on current events.

So the other morning, I poured a cup of coffee and opened up my paper. Without warning, shock rose up inside me like a skyscraper. My eyes grew wide at the headline, "Libby says Bush authorized CIA leak," and I read on about the presidential scandal of the week. Things are looking so bad for this guy, it's pathetic, while his office self-destructs like a sweet-toothed diabetic.

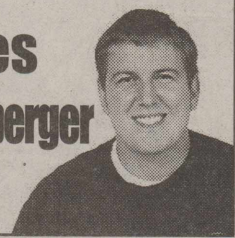
It seems Joe Wilson's report from Nigeria didn't fit Bush's "what I say is the truth"-criteria. Because Wilson found no evidence Hussein was trying to purchase yellow cake, although Bush said the opposite and probably not by mistake. So Wilson called Bush out on New York Times Op-Ed page, sending Prince George into a rage and casting his CIA agent-wife's identity out on the world stage.

Republican sheep claim he leaked Plame's name in self-defense, but like their reasoning against gay marriage, this makes no sense. A better retort would be an unbiased report in support of what the president said instead. But one never came out, at least that we knew about, he just leaked the name causing confusion and letting the public draw their own conclusions.

These revelations about the top office of our nation our causing a massive sensation joined with liberal celebration. Bush's lies and errors are creating public relation terrors so his legacy won't need historians, it'll need pallbearers. It seems nowadays everybody has to choose, either support President Bush or pay attention to the news.

See, when I have a bad day, my pals and I go get Slurpees. But Bush's bad days are infecting the nation like herpes. Like the "response" to Katrina, which was one of the biggest ball-dropping of the whole political arena. Bush

**James Hershberger**



said, "No one knew it was going to be this bad," but he'd been told the levies would break, the tapes proved that he had. So he lied to the faces of the New Orleans evacuees, while they were praying for mercy on their knees.

Let's not forget the alarming news about domestic surveillance. It seems Bush and his gang of liberty assailants are tapping phone lines, despite the citizens rights the constitution designed. They say they only listen to terrorists but how can we trust them? Checks and balances are the American custom. It's very necessary for a guy like Bush to be subsidiary to the judiciary. I don't mean to be vicious but this whole mess is suspicious. How could he

not get a judge's support when he appointed a bunch of right-wing nuts to the courts?

All this has made his approval numbers careen down like a skydiver. No one could get him out of this, not even MacGyver. His polls are hanging around the dirty 30s, with his supporters flying off like birdies. The president's popularity is in a state of disparity. His ratings are lower than the Olympics in Turin, like Dave Ring said, his allies are backing away like he's a kid stinking of urine.

It's too depressing chronicling the president's fall, so instead I'll digress to Big 12 football:

Last season saw the Longhorns become the national champs, but next year they're going down fast like wheelchairs on ramps and get embarrassed worse than the Saddle Tramps. Without Vince Young they're barely competitive, the Raiders will knock them out quicker than one of Bevo's sedatives. The Red Army under General Leach will be storming

the field like it's the Normandy Beach.

The OSU Cowboys won't get lucky again when they fold like origami and Oklahoma is going to get hit with another Soonami. The maroon rags worn by the pathetic Aggie athletics make them look like peasants and playing those clowns at home will be an early Christmas present. Franchione will be sore, he won't believe the score, he won't even want to play anymore. We'll silence all those loudmouths, even the Corps. Now back to what I was saying before.

Bush says what he knows what he's doing but the public is calling his bluff. They look at the news and say enough is enough. Protests against his criminalizing illegal immigration are sweeping the nation. The public wants out of Iraq before the civil war breaks and even Condoleezza Rice says there's been "significant military mistakes." Despite all the evidence, Lubbockites remain staunch supporters of the

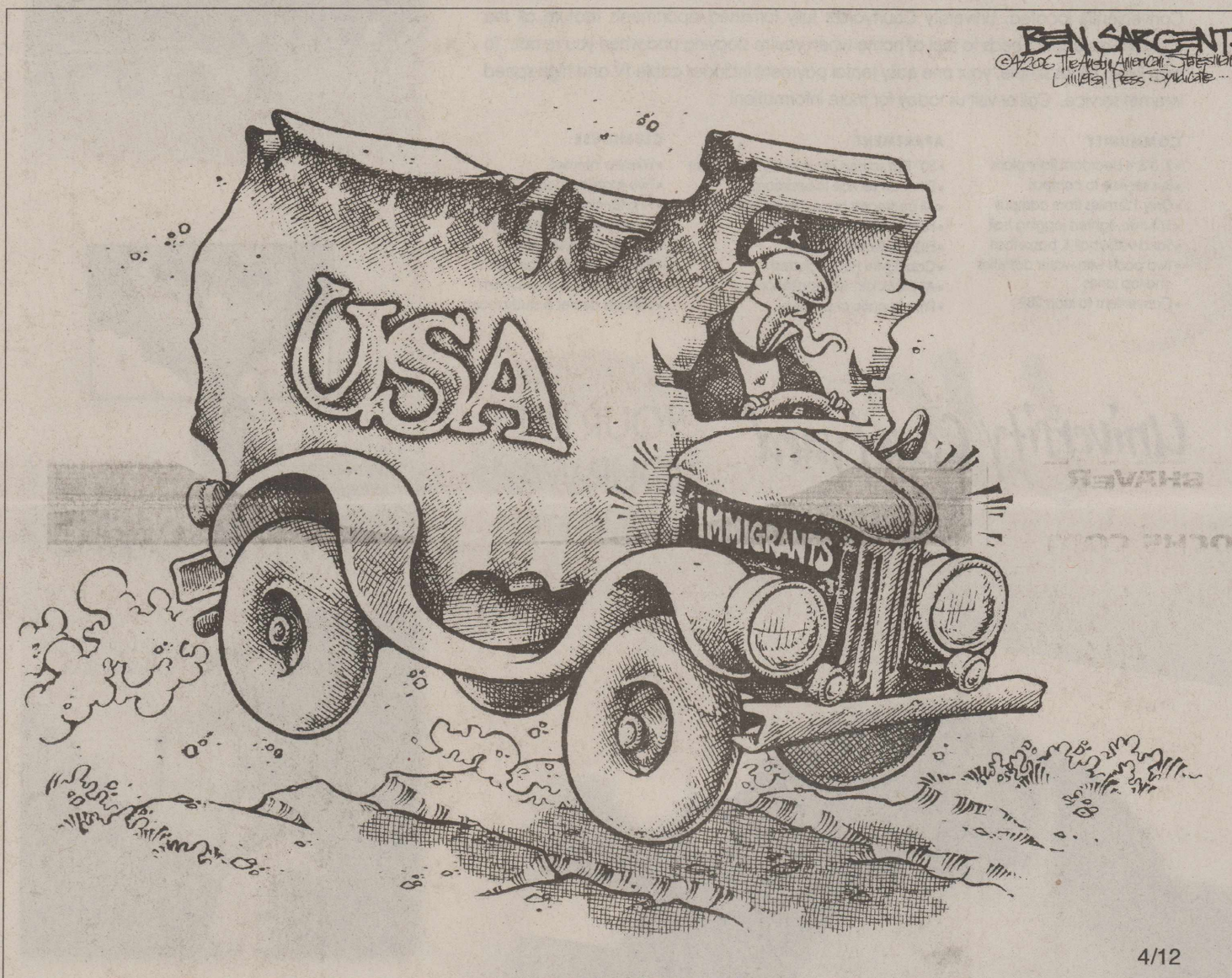
president.

I find a lot of my friends choose to be blind. They don't seem to mind that Bush, DeLay and Abramoff are all intertwined. They say the media's one-sided, but how can tapes and documents be derided?

So hear what I say all across Raiderland, quit burying your heads in the sand. Let's set the record straight like an orthodontist and demand that the government be honest. Because I'm fed up with the feds, they keep striking out like the Cincinnati Reds. Their stoic heroics are corruption in disguise. I'm tired of acts, the cover-ups and lies.

So let's demand better, that they follow the law to the letter. Because out of the 300 million Americans are these guys the best? Personally, gang, I am not impressed.

**■ Hershberger is an English and political science major from Midland. E-mail him at james.s.hershberger@ttu.edu.**



GUEST COLUMN

## Tax Day trouble adds to need for reform

Another dreaded April 15th - Tax Day - is upon us. Our annual tax ritual requires more than 26 hours from the average person filing a standard 1040, and more than 60 percent of Americans will seek professional help. The reason: the U.S. Tax Code now exceeds 60,000 pages, and those pages often give conflicting advice.

No wonder. Back in 1976, President Jimmy Carter declared, "Our income tax system is a disgrace to the human race."

In many ways, things are worse today than they were then. Our tax code is truly irrational and tax day has become an embarrassing national symbol of waste and abuse.

Every year, Congress adds, extends and changes the deductions, credits and other special preferences in our tax law. Because of these loopholes, compliance is a nightmare and the overall complexity is mind-numbing. Worse, the final result often is unfair: taxpayers with similar incomes can game the system and pay vastly different amounts in taxes.

In fact, the U.S. Department of Treasury now estimates the total cost of complying with the income tax at \$125 billion a year. (Other estimates are as high as \$194 billion a year.) Either way, that is a staggering and complete waste of resources. By way of comparison, the entire U.S. automobile and auto parts manufacturing industry added \$120 billion to the economy

in 2004, according to the National Association of Manufacturers. Or to look at it another way, the 6.6 billion hours we will spend as a nation completing our taxes this year is more time than it will take to build every car, truck and van produced in the U.S. America, once a land symbolized by the open road and pioneering muscle cars, is fast becoming the nation of the tax form and the dulled accounting pencil.

The cost of the tax code essentially amounts to \$125 billion in investment capital we do not have for the economy, or for our education system (or for any other purpose you can think of). Unless Congress acts during the next eight years, tax complexity will waste about 1 trillion dollars.

To look at it another way, \$125 billion is more personal income than a lot of states create in an entire year. The Tax Code's loss to our economy is so immense it is as though the federal government has assigned everyone living in South Carolina or Oregon to do nothing more than read and complete tax forms for the entire year. Thanks, Congress.

IRS audits are up 21 percent during the last year, which only compounds the nation's misery on Tax Day 2006. After all, even the IRS does not understand the code they have been forced to administer. The IRS sends out 8 billion pages of forms and instructions each year which, if laid end to end,

would circle the earth 28 times. Nearly 300,000 trees are cut down each year to produce the paper on which IRS forms and instructions are printed. The blame lies with Congress, and the complicated mess our elected officials have foisted on the American people.

The current Tax Code causes tax season headaches and reduces our overall standard of living. It also is the leading driver of political corruption in Washington, D.C. Since 1998, 483 companies have lobbied the IRS alone, hiring 2,884 tax lobbyists, including 277 former federal government employees. While thousands of lobbyists in Washington are prospering under the current complicated tax code, the typical taxpayer clearly is not.

It is clearly time for reform. In a report to Congress earlier this year, Nina Olson, the National Taxpayer Advocate, called for "a sanity check" of regular reviews of the Tax Code. That would be a

good start, but what we really need to do is completely scrap the code and start over with a design that makes sense.

Indeed, a positive way to look at the current mess is to see that tax reform is a huge opportunity to boost economic growth in this country. Instead of creating new government handouts to help struggling American businesses, Congress needs simply to free our economy from the wasteful cost of the tax code. The goal should be a tax code that is simple, fair, honest and flat. The average American should be able to complete their taxes without professional help, using just a single form.

On Tax Day 2006, as America's workers try to pay their taxes, we should also demand that Congress scrap the code and pass fundamental tax reform.

— Kevin Wood  
Junior political science major  
from Friendswood

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## VIEW FROM THE BIG 12 Finding religion in college

By AVA DOYLE  
OKLAHOMA DAILY  
(UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA)

(U-WIRE) NORMAN, Okla. — I've always had a love/hate battle with my religious beliefs. My brothers and I grew up in church because of our parents' dedication to "the ministry."

Before moving to Oklahoma, our parents were constantly invited to speak or serve at different churches.

And guess which children were dragged to every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening service, prayer meeting, "tent revival" and volunteer function?

When I was 6 years old, we moved to Tulsa so my parents could attend the well-known Christian university located there.

I assume my parents equated Tulsa and this school to being the "promised land" for all dedicated to the will of God.

Consequently, this is the time when I started distrusting my religious beliefs.

I remember the struggles our family endured, such as lack of money and food, unstable transportation, no support from extended family members and evictions.

Sadly, this negatively spilled into my personal life affecting friendships, my school learning and any ability to build self-esteem.

Keep in mind I was a child and blaming God for everything was very easy. Especially when I saw other families, with the same beliefs as ours, not struggling so hard.

As I got older, being connected to my religion became stressful.

I started noticing contradictions in people's behaviors and their claims that they were "strong in the Lord."

I noticed intolerance and prejudices for other people's religious beliefs (and sometimes political beliefs) outside of

ours.

And just when I needed support from people in my religion after my parents' divorce, I was rejected.

Finally, I gave up because it wasn't worth the battle.

I understand people are not perfect and will disappoint every time. But I was too confused and hurt to care.

This would be a great opportunity to talk about the negatives of having religious beliefs and why everyone should abandon them.

But since coming to OU, I've had no choice but to embrace them.

Why? Because when you're in a foreign land, you have to hold on to what you know. It is the only sense of balance in a world of unfamiliarity.

Though I struggled through many negative situations in my life, I gained so many valuable principles to help me deal with my personal tests and trials.

I am learning to have compassion and understanding for people's actions, rather than judge them.

Sure, I'm not perfect and mess up, but that's expected. I've also realized the importance of respecting others for their religious beliefs because they too are holding onto their sense of balance.

It's funny when I speak to friends about my religious beliefs and how their faces cringe or they adjust their bodies in their seat because they are uncomfortable.

Some agree with my logic, but most would rather persuade or judge me that I'm wrong.

However, when I'm tempted to react the same way, I have to remember they are holding on to what they know.

Sure, I could try to persuade or judge them too. But if I want to influence them that my beliefs can help them, my actions in everyday life will speak much louder.

**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](mailto: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.

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# Lubbock or leave it: Seems most grads choose the latter

By DANIELLE NOVY  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With graduation just around the corner for many Texas Tech seniors, the lure of big city lights versus the comfort of a small-town atmosphere is an internal debate students must balance when deciding where to launch their careers.

In light of a recent *Associated Press* study which found the urban environment acts as something of a magnet for fresh college graduates, some Tech staff, students and alumni are speaking out about the prospect of moving to pursue one's career.

David Kraus, director of Tech's Career Center, said he understands why cities like Houston or Dallas can be appealing places for people to move to before they have time to frame their diplomas.

Kraus said larger cities tend to offer more job opportunities because the headquarters for various companies and organizations often are located in the whirl of an urban environment.

Meanwhile, the nightlife and other forms of entertainment that are associated with big cities additionally are drawing young adults in, he said. Still, the glamour of cities like New York and Los Angeles is lost on many.

"It varies an awful lot from student to student," Kraus said. "It just comes down to the individual's preferences."

Kraus said his experience with the Career Center highlights the disparities between the different types of environments students are seeking for their post-college lives.

"So much of it depends on what each person values," he said. "If someone comes from a small town, then Lubbock is gigantic."

Kraus said smaller cities have a set

of benefits all their own — benefits which some do not seek until after sampling the city life.

"Some people from Lubbock or a similar place work in a big city after college for a while and then come back later when they are in a different stage in life," he said. "Maybe they are ready to raise a family."

Kraus said the beautiful weather that generally envelops the Hub City is just one of its attractions.

"One advantage of living in Lubbock is that you can get to work, or any other place in town, in about 15 minutes," he said. "At the Career Center, we are much more concerned with each student's needs than with building Lubbock, but if we can do both at the same time, then that's great."

Kraus said there are several institutions, such as South Plains Job Fair and the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance, whose function is to

aid students emerging from college to find jobs in West Texas

"The South Plains Job Fair is a great opportunity for some of our students to talk with local businesses," he said.

Jordan Janik, a senior biology major from Arlington, said after he graduates, he is willing to move to the location that holds the best medical school he can get into, wherever that may be.

"I'd prefer to move to another city because I've had my fun here, and I'm ready to move on," he said.

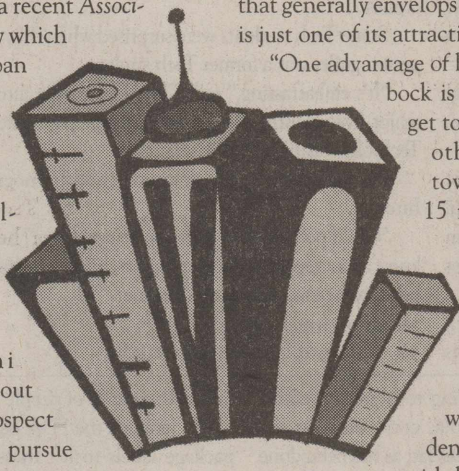
Janik said he does not believe big cities hold better job opportunities; instead, he said where people choose to reside is simply a personal choice.

Taylor Cann, a senior petroleum land management major from Corpus Christi, said he already has a job lined up in Dallas waiting for him when he graduates.

He said he believes bigger cities generally have better job markets simply because they host more occupations.

"Still, when it comes time to raise a family, I'll probably move to a smaller suburb of Dallas," Cann said.

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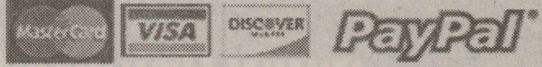
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## YOU'VE LOST THAT LOVIN' FEELING



LINC ARMES/The Daily Toreador

KAPPA ALPHA ORDER members, left to right, Taylor Allred, a freshman civil engineering major from Wellington, Corey McGaughey, a freshman restaurant hotel and institutional management major from Lake Jackson, and Kevin Largent, a freshman business major from Houston, sing their signature song and wave red roses in the air as they invite sorority girls from different Greek houses to their big upcoming formal at Greek Circle Monday afternoon.

## Bush statement on WMD in Iraq based on intelligence that was later debunked

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House faced new questions Wednesday about President Bush's contention three years ago that weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq.

The *Washington Post* reported that a Pentagon-sponsored team of experts determined in May 2003 that two small trailers were not used to make biological weapons. Yet two days after the team sent its findings to Washington in a classified report, Bush declared just the opposite.

"We have found the weapons of mass destruction," Bush said in an interview with a Polish TV station. "We found biological laboratories."

Bush spokesman Scott McClellan said Wednesday that Bush was relying on information from the Central Intelligence Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency when he said the trailers seized after the 2003 invasion were mobile biological laboratories. That information was later discredited by the Iraq Survey Group in its 2004 report.

The CIA and DIA publicly issued an assessment one day after the Pentagon team's report arrived in Washington that said U.S. officials were confident that the trailers were used to produce biological weapons. The assessment said the mobile facilities represented "the strongest evidence to date that Iraq was hiding a biological warfare program."

McClellan said it was unclear whether officials at the White House were aware of the contradictory field report when Bush repeated the claim in the television interview.

"If and when the White House became aware of this particular issue, I'm looking into that matter," McClellan said. "The White House has asked the CIA and the DIA to go and look into that issue."

The *Post* did not say that Bush knew what he was saying was false. But ABC News did during a report on "Good Morning America," and McClellan demanded an apology and an on-air retraction. ABC News said later in a clarification on its Web site that Charles Gibson had erred. McClellan said he had received an apology.

"This is nothing more than rehabbing an old issue that was resolved long ago," McClellan said. "I cannot count how many times the president has said the intelligence was wrong."

"The intelligence community makes the assessment," he said. "The White House is not the intelligence-gathering agency."

CIA spokeswoman Jennifer Dyck declined to speak specifically about the classified field report but said in general that producing a finished intelligence report takes time, coordination, debate and vetting.

"This is not a fast process, especially when dealing with complex issues," she said. "It is not typically something that happens in a matter of hours."

The trailers — along with aluminum tubes acquired by Iraq for what was believed to be a nuclear weapons program — were primary pieces of evidence offered by the Bush administration before the war to support its contention that Iraq was making weapons of mass destruction.

Intelligence officials and the White House have repeatedly denied claims that intelligence was exaggerated or manipulated in the months before the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003. The Iraq Survey Group concluded in 2004 that there was no evidence that Iraq produced weapons of mass destruction after 1991.

## Former Texas Tech student sentenced to 10 years in largest child pornography case yet by Cyber Crimes

By PAUL ROBERTS  
STAFF WRITER

A former Texas Tech student was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison on Friday after the Cyber Crimes Unit allegedly found a large amount of child pornography on his computer, police officials said.

Investigators found 13,664 sexually explicit images and videos of child pornography on 23-year-old Cole Cosby's computer, making it the largest child pornography case ever investigated by the Cyber Crimes Unit, a division of the Texas Attorney General's Office, Laurie Saathoff, a spokesperson for the office said.

The images and videos included children involved in sexual activities, some of the children as young as toddlers, Saathoff said.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott issued a news release describing the efforts of the Cyber Crimes unit to crack down on child pornography.

"Stockpiling child pornography is a child sex crime that will not be tolerated in Texas," Abbott said in the news release. "The case against Cole Cosby is one of most disturbing cases ever investigated by my Cyber Crimes Unit. We will continue our vigorous pursuit of these offenders, and I am deeply grateful to the state and federal authorities who worked to bring this man to justice. I am pleased he will spend a long time behind bars for his despicable actions."

Saathoff said the former Tech student must register as a sex offender and serve 20 years of supervised release after his term is

completed. Cosby is banned from dating anyone under the age of 18 without approval of federal probation officers.

According to the news release, the U.S. Attorney's Office and prosecutors from the Cyber Crimes Unit worked together to obtain the maximum sentence possible for the former Tech student after he pled guilty to one count of possession of child pornography.

Abbott formed the Cyber Crimes Unit in April 2003, Saathoff said.

The unit has made 76 arrests of online predators and obtained 39 convictions of men since Abbott took office in December 2002, she said.

According to the Attorney General's Web site, the Cyber Crimes Unit brings together police officers and prosecutors with expertise and in investigating and prosecuting high-tech crimes.

Some Tech students were surprised when they found out the person guilty was a former Tech student.

"It's embarrassing," said Chris Jennings, a junior marketing major from Austin. "It's an embarrassment to the entire Texas Tech University."

He said there is no place for child pornography on the Internet.

"Child pornography needs to be cut down," he said. "I don't know about regular pornography, but child pornography definitely needs to be erased from the Internet."

► paul.j.roberts@ttu.edu  
► brittany.a.barrientos@ttu.edu

## Fast food

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and fried potato wedges in New York. But in Germany, Russia, Denmark and Aberdeen, Scotland, the same meal had less than a gram.

"I was very surprised to see a difference in trans fatty acids in these uniform products," said one of the researchers, Dr. Steen Stender, a cardiologist at Gentofte University Hospital in Hellerup, Denmark, and former head of the Danish Nutrition Council. "It's such an easy risk factor to remove."

McDonald's Corp., which promised in September 2002 to cut trans fat in half, and KFC parent Yum! Brands Inc. said the explanation is local taste preferences. But nutrition experts and consumer activists said it is about money: Frying oil high in trans fats costs less.

The Danish researchers tested products from the chains' outlets in dozens of countries in 2004 and 2005, analyzing McDonald's chicken nuggets, KFC hot wings, and the two chains' fried potatoes. The findings were reported in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Partially hydrogenated vegetable oil is cooking oil that has been injected with hydrogen to harden it and give it a longer

shelf life. Switching to liquid vegetable oils such as canola, corn, olive or soy eliminates the trans fat, as has been done in Denmark under a 2004 law allowing only a minuscule amount of trans fat in foods.

Trans fat raises bad cholesterol and lowers good cholesterol. Eating just 5 grams of it per day increases the risk of heart disease 25 percent, research shows. "Per gram, it is more harmful than any other kind of fat," Stender said. "It's a metabolic poison."

McDonald's said it "continues to work diligently on ways to reduce" trans fat in its fries.

It said that most of its oils come from local suppliers, based on consumer preference, and that the oil used in the United States is different from that in Europe and elsewhere.

Stender and other experts said many restaurants still use partially hydrogenated vegetable oil to save money because it does not spoil and can be used over and over for frying.

Michael F. Jacobson, executive director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, said his group has petitioned the Food and Drug Administration to drastically limit the use of trans fats and require restaurant menus to note foods containing trans fat. He said FDA is still reviewing the petitions, "even though they agree it's

killing thousands of people a year."

In January, the FDA began requiring package labels to list trans fat content. KFC and McDonald's both list the trans fat and other components of their foods on their Web sites and in stores, on such things as tray liners and brochures.

Jacobson's center estimated a few years ago that trans fats prematurely killed 30,000 to 75,000 Americans a year. That number has probably fallen, he said, because many packaged-food companies have switched to healthier oils.

But many processed foods — including pies, tortilla chips, margarine and microwave popcorn — still contain partially hydrogenated vegetable oil.

Harvard School of Public Health cardiologist Dr. Dariush Mozaffarian and colleagues wrote in the journal that while it may be hard for restaurants and food manufacturers to eliminate partially hydrogenated oil, other countries have replaced it with unsaturated fats without raising costs or reducing quality.

Doing so might prevent thousands of heart attacks and strokes each year in the United States, they wrote.

Jacobson said that the cost might be a penny per order of fries or nuggets, and that the taste difference would be minimal.

"I don't think people would mind paying a penny more or getting one less french fry to avoid heart disease," he said.

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VANESSA VELA/The Daily Toreador

SAN FRANCISCO NATIVES, Adam Stephens, left, and Tyson Vogel, collectively known as Two Gallants, perform at the Winchester Slaughterhouse Monday night, courtesy of KTXT-FM.

# Will you sign my splint?

## Casts cast off modern medicine

CHICAGO (AP) — The black Velcro bandage strapped on 3-year-old Ben Crotty's left arm looks like a Rollerblader's wrist guard, but it's really a mini medical milestone.

It's today's answer to the cast. Once almost a childhood rite of passage, plaster or fiberglass casts were the method of choice for fixing broken bones. But now, doctors around the world are increasingly shunning cumbersome casts in favor of more cutting-edge options for both kids and adults: splints, special boots, metal plates, rods and screws.

For Ben Crotty's broken wrist, it was a removable splint.

The trend is most common among adults, who often develop swelling and pain and sometimes permanent stiffness. "We often refer to this as 'cast disease.' I say, 'Good riddance!'" said Dr. John Fernandez, an or-

thopedic surgeon at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Support for the modern technique on kids was bolstered by a Canadian study last month in the journal Pediatrics. It showed that in children aged 6 to 15 with wrist fractures like Ben's, those who wore removable splints for three weeks had better physical function during treatment and afterward than those treated with plaster casts.

The splinted kids also escaped cast-related problems: Four youngsters sought emergency room treatment for wet casts and one for removing a pencil placed under the cast.

As an ER doctor at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital, Steve Crotty, Ben's dad, is all too familiar with some of casts' nastier complications.

Casts that aren't waterproof can get moldy, and Crotty said he's "seen maggots crawling out of casts" that kids got wet.

So when Ben's doctor offered a splint as an alternative, his dad readily accepted.

"This is nice because he can take a bath and we just take it off," Crotty said. Ben broke his wrist in mid-March when he tumbled down the family's stairs.

"I fell down and I hurt myself, and I cried and I cried and I cried," Ben explained.

Some physicians still hesitate to put splints on young children, fearing they will remove them at will.

Ben said he didn't like his splint "because I can't play with two hands," but his mother, Sheeba, said he balked whenever she wanted to remove it because he remembered his doctor's admonition.

Ben's splint was removed for good on April 7, three weeks after his injury.

Advances in splints have revolutionized treatment of wrist fractures in the past few years, Fernandez said.

"Splints now are custom-molded to the body with thermoplastic material allowing a custom fit to immobilize and support without the constriction of the cast," Fernandez said. "These are not the 'off-the-rack' splints you buy at the pharmacy," he said. They're "more like a custom-tailored suit."

For some kids, though, casts are still cooler.

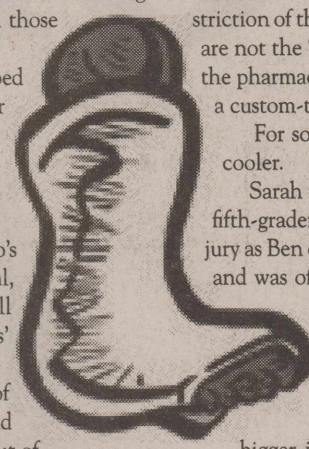
Sarah Bond, 11, a suburban Chicago fifth-grader, suffered the same kind of injury as Ben during a recent basketball game and was offered a splint, but she chose a pink fiberglass cast instead.

"It's fun to have a cast because your friends get to sign it," Bond said.

"The cool factor is much bigger in kids, and the look on their faces when you say they don't need a cast is pretty bad," said Dr. Matthew Bueche, a pediatrician at Naperville's Edward Hospital.

Dr. Stuart Hirsch, an orthopedic surgeon in Bridgewater, N.J., says he gets around that disappointment by offering kids a white sock-like device that fits over splints and can be written on with a felt-tipped pen, telling patients to have their friends sign that.

Other cast alternatives include "cast boots," which look and feel like wearing ski boots and are used to treat some foot and ankle fractures. They're removable for bathing and easier to walk in than old-fashioned "walking casts," said Dr. Cynthia LaBella, medical director at the Institute for Sports Medicine at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital.



## Woman indicted for intoxication manslaughter in Tech student's death

A Lubbock woman was indicted by the Lubbock grand jury Tuesday and charged for the intoxication manslaughter of Texas Tech student Amber Menefee.

Erin Nicole Reagan, 20, faces a second-degree felony offense, punishable of up to 20 years in prison, Sunshine Staner of the Lubbock District Attorney's Office said.

On Feb. 11, Reagan allegedly was driving while intoxicated when she struck 21-year-old Menefee's Ford Explorer, which instantly

killed Menefee. "The next step is assigning her case to the district court, and the usual court docking system," Staner said.

Erin Nicole Reagan's vehicle was traveling south in the northbound lane on Loop 289 when her vehicle collided with Menefee's, who was traveling north in the northbound lane.

"An EMS vehicle was close by and a witness to the accident," said Lubbock Police officer Lt. Roy Bassett said in a previous

interview with *The Daily Toreador*. "They tried to get Reagan's attention, but it was too late."

Records show 20-year-old Reagan had a blood alcohol content of .147 at the time of her arrest after her car collided head-on with Menefee's vehicle.

When police arrived on the scene, they arrested Reagan and took her into custody. Reagan was released the next day on a \$10,000 bond.

## Passport

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to athletic events, as well as arts and entertainment.

"I think what we offer the community of Lubbock is so much," Worley said. "I think it's a good idea. I definitely think we need to dispel that myth (of nothing to do in West Texas)."

To participate in the passport program, Stumbo said users can go to [www.lubbocktexas.com](http://www.lubbocktexas.com) and win prizes for their participation in the

or watch the Red Raiders in the sports that are going on while they are doing the tour, Stumbo said.

whether the category is history, music, sports or wine.

The "Back in Time Historical Tour," allows people to visit historical sites, such as the American Museum of Agriculture, Lubbock Lake Landmark and the National Ranching Heritage Center.

There also is a Lubbock Sound tour, where people can visit several downtown hotspots, like Bleacher's Sports Café and The Cactus Theater.

In the "South Plains Sports Tour," people can watch the Lubbock Cotton Kings hockey organization

Finally, the "Wine Country Tour," allows residents to visit local wineries, such as the Llano Estacado Winery and the Pheasant Ridge Winery.

While visiting locations on their selected tour, Stumbo said people answer trivia questions about the sites they are visiting on their "passports." After the passports are filled out, the person can mail it to the chamber any time before the end of the season.

There are three different ways people can win prizes in the Giant Side of Texas tour, Stumbo said.

In the Civic/Group participation category, the group with the most participants will be recognized as "Giant Side of Texas Experts," and receive a trophy, Stumbo said.

In the Youth/School group participation category, the group with the most participants will win a trip

to Mr. Gatti's.

The grand prize, however, is in the Individual participation category, where the first-prize winner will receive a dinner for two at Cagle Steaks, a weekend getaway at Arbor Inn & Suites and two round trip tickets on Southwest Airlines, Stumbo said.

The spring tour season ends May 31, while the summer tour begins June 1.

Stumbo said other tours will be held in the summer, including a tour

where people can visit Joyland Amusement Park, Science Spectrum & Omnimax Theatre, and Texas Water Rampage. She also mentioned a water tour, where people can visit local lakes, such as Buffalo Springs Lake and Lake Allen Henry.

► [andrew.wood@ttu.edu](mailto:andrew.wood@ttu.edu)  
► [brittany.a.barrientos@ttu.edu](mailto:brittany.a.barrientos@ttu.edu)

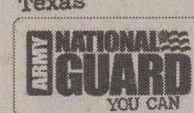


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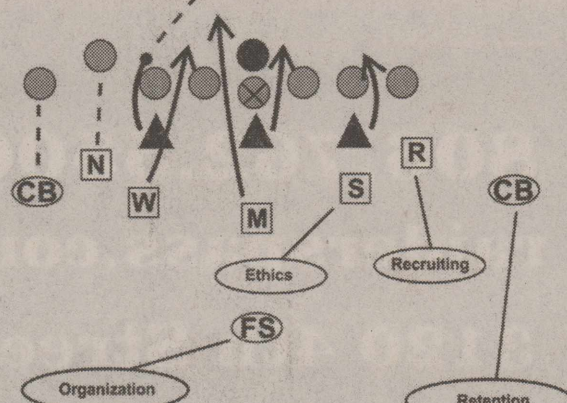
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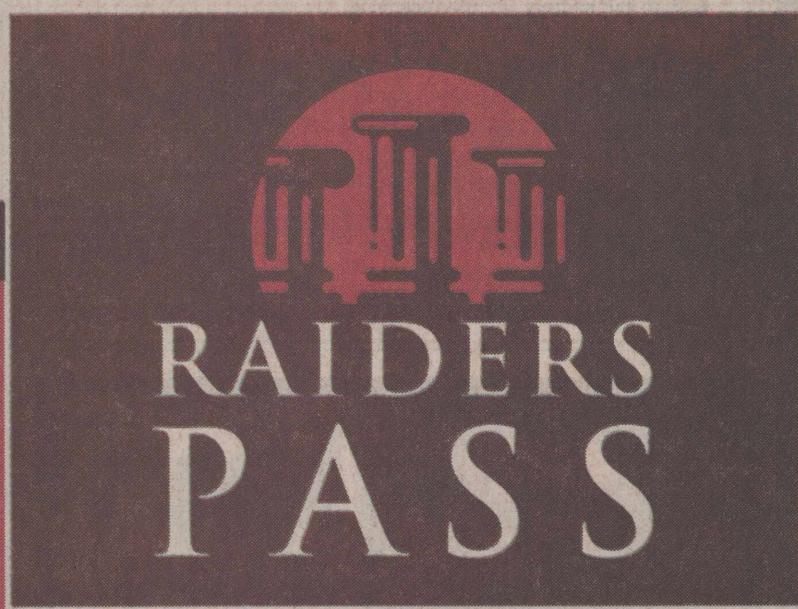
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# Manicures, pedicures:

## Relaxing or a nail-biting experience?

By **ABBY STONE**  
FEATURES WRITER

Manicures and pedicures go hand-in-hand with big massaging chairs, bubbling soaking tubs and warm lotion that is partnered with a massage. The negative reality of this scene is the tub could be bacteria-infested and the file sitting at the station could already have been used on several previous customers.

Sanitation is an important part of the nail service business, and negative consequences can ensue if hygienic standards are not met.

Laura Bishop, Lubbock Cosmetology College instructor, said if unsanitary utensils are being used on nails, a person is at risk for developing a fungus that will kill the nail.

Bishop said the Lubbock Cos-

metology College keeps its instruments clean by washing every tool with soap and water before soaking them in a disinfecting substance for at least 20 minutes.

"Anything that can't be sanitized is thrown away," she said.

The best way to make sure a person is protected while being pampered in a nail salon is to observe the surroundings, Bishop said. Watch where the utensils come from, and if they come right off the workstation, then a person should ask questions.

"The best way to take care of yourself is to be educated and ask questions," she said.

The small tubs used to soak feet prior to a pedicure, or the whirlpools that are more common in new salons, are other aspects of a nail salon customers should make sure are sanitized before sitting down, Bishop said. Flushing

the tubs or the whirlpools with a bleach and water mixture will kill the bacteria that is in the base, as well as the bacteria sitting in the pumps of the whirlpools.

"(Without sanitation) you are circulating bacteria from other feet onto your own," she said.

Brian Reilly, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, said although bacteria does not survive for long on metal, such as doorknobs, it tends to flourish when living on plastic, such as the tubes in the whirlpools or the tubs themselves.

"Plastic is a nice food source for bacteria," he said.

Lynne Franke, nurse manager at Student Health Services, said about two or three years ago in California, people were getting boils on their legs that later were shown to have been caused by the water in nail salon whirlpools.

"People end up with infections on their legs," she said.

Students seen at Student Health Services have come in with nail fungus, Franke said, but none of the cases were linked to nail salons in Lubbock.

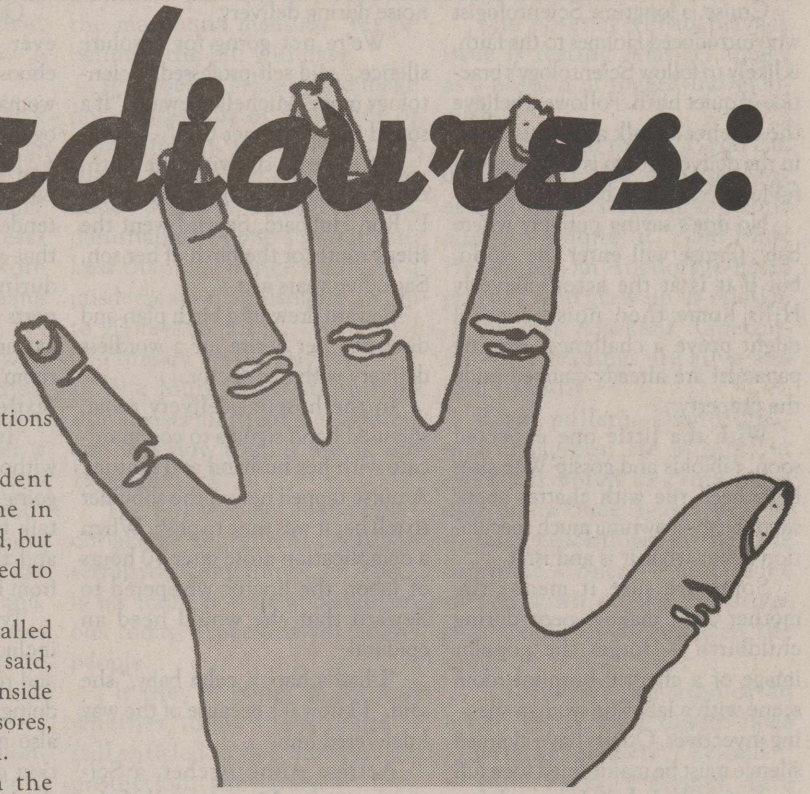
Everyone has bacteria called staph all over their skin, she said, but when the bacteria gets inside of the skin through cuts or sores, this is when it turns harmful.

"(Staph) should be on the outside layer (of the skin) and not going inside," Franke said.

Melanie Hull, senior business assistant for Student Health Services, said she has been a certified nail technician for 13 years. Although she is no longer practicing, she has insight as to how to pick the right salon.

"When you walk in the door, you know," she said.

The overall feel of the salon



needs to be clean, Hull said. If the salon floors and bathrooms are clean, and the nail stations look sanitized, then you should sit down and relax.

"If the salon is taken care of, you can be pretty sure they will take care of you," she said.

Bishop said it is not necessary to get regular manicures and pedicures, but if a day at the spa sounds like a good idea, it is likely that a

person will be safe as long as they ask questions and are observant.

For ultimate protection from other people's bacteria, she said a person can bring their own sanitized utensils from home.

"(If you bring them from home) you know for sure they have been cleaned because you did it yourself," Bishop said.

► abby.stone@ttu.edu  
► megann.a.lora@ttu.edu

## Missouri community that opened its wallets for couple's sextuplets learn it was scam

GRAIN VALLEY, Mo. (AP) — The library books on multiple births crowded the couple's coffee table. The bedroom-turned-nursery awaited the arrival of six newborns.

But in the end, authorities say Sarah and Kris Everson never had the sextuplets as claimed. All they had was what appears to be a big lie.

The couple's dramatic story had holes in it from the start — from their mysterious withholding of information for more than a month to the unanimous response of area hospitals that they hadn't helped deliver the newborns.

On Tuesday, authorities said the mystery had been solved — the entire tale was deemed a hoax aimed at tapping the generosity of others to pay the couple's mounting bills.

"I have never dealt with anything

like this," Police Chief Aaron Ambrose said. "The level of fraud like this involving people, I have not."

Gary Bradley, the city administrator, said charges against the Eversons were forthcoming. Prosecutors had not yet determined how much the couple profited from the scam or whether they would qualify for charges beyond the municipal level.

The Eversons — Sarah, 45, and Kris, 33 — claimed to have given birth to four boys and two girls on March 8. The babies were apparently in intensive care.

The tale exploded in the local spotlight Monday when *The Examiner* in Independence ran on its

front page a photograph of the couple holding six one-piece baby outfits and announcing the births.

Those who heard the Eversons' sad story of tight finances set up a Web site to solicit contributions — including a van, washer and dryer, cash and gift certificates. A real estate agent was even working to find the family new housing.

Hours before admitting it was a scam, Sarah Everson showed an *Associated Press* reporter pictures of her in maternity clothes, her baring a huge pregnant-looking midsection, even sonogram images she claimed were of her infants. She showed off a tiny nursery,

a closet full of baby clothes and the tiny diapers premature newborns must wear.

She said the entire story of her children's births was being kept secret by a court order enacted because a member of her husband's family was trying to kill the Eversons and their new sextuplets.

"I'm so afraid they're not going to make it," she sobbed. "Nobody understands how hard this is. I know that they're here. I know what I had to go through to get them here."

Sarah Everson said a detective began questioning her Tuesday evening;

Bradley and Ambrose said the Eversons were interviewed at the police station for about an hour, during which they revealed the story was a scam. They were released pending charges.

After the Examiner's initial story, *The AP* did not publish a story or transmit photos about the sextuplets over concerns of accuracy.

Reached by phone late Tuesday, Sarah Everson offered no explanation. "I'm not talking to anybody right now," she said, "because nobody gets it."

The Web site soliciting gifts was taken down Tuesday night.

Examiner Editor Dale Brendel

said he was considering a front-page column to readers addressing the issue. He said the incident would force a review of his reporters' verification practices.

"I think that we fell victim to the hoax. There were people out in the community who were doing fund-raisers already, and we feel bad for them and for us that we were the victims of that," Brendel said. "In retrospect, there were things we could have done better from a newspaper standpoint, in terms of our investigations and trying to flesh out some of the red flags there were about the story."

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# What's all the noise about baby Cruise's silent birth?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tom Cruise has been practically shouting from the rooftops about his love for his pregnant fiancée, Katie Holmes. But when their much-anticipated baby is born, the superstar dad probably won't say a word.

Cruise, a longtime Scientologist who introduced Holmes to the faith, is likely to follow Scientology's practice of quiet birth. Followers believe the absence of talk and other noise in the delivery room is more healthful for mother and baby.

No one's saying publicly where baby Cruise will enter the world, but if it is at the actor's Beverly Hills home then noise control might prove a challenge. Buzzing paparazzi are already camped aside the property.

With the little one expected soon, tabloids and gossip Web sites have been rife with chatter about silent birth, spawning much speculation about what it is and isn't.

Some are sure it means the mother can't make a peep during childbirth — forget the popular image of a chaotic hospital-room scene with a laboring woman spewing invectives. Others have claimed silence must be maintained for a full week after the baby is born and that Scientology opposes medical exams for newborns.

According to the tenets of Scientology, known as "Dianetics," words — even loving ones — spoken dur-

ing birth and other painful times are recorded by the "reactive mind," or subconscious. Those memories, adherents feel, can eventually trigger problems for mother and child.

What the doctrine doesn't say is that laboring moms can't make some noise during delivery.

"We're not going for absolute silence," said self-professed "Scientology mom" Michelle Seward. "If a sound is made, that's OK."

After years studying the faith, established in 1950 by fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, Seward went the silent route for the birth of her son, Sage, five years ago.

Seward drew up a birth plan and discussed her desire for a wordless delivery with her doctor.

In the hospital delivery room, she used hand signals to communicate with her husband and mother. A nurse tapped her on the shoulder to tell her it was time to push. When a complication arose after 30 hours of labor, the doctor whispered to Seward that she would need an epidural.

"I had a happy, calm baby," she said. "I know it's because of the way I delivered him."

Actress Anne Archer, a Scientologist for 30 years, called the recent speculation about silent birth "ridiculous."

"We just want to keep the environment as calm, quiet and loving as possible," she said. "Any culture

in the world would understand that and any woman who's given birth would understand that."

Scientology doesn't dictate where babies should be born or whether drugs can be used, she said.

Quiet birth "supplements whatever medical model the mother chooses," said Karin Pouw, a spokeswoman for the Church of Scientology International.

Beverly Hills obstetrician Stephen Rabin said he has never attended a silent birth but believes that verbal communication is key during delivery. While he supports limiting "extrinsic noise" and extraneous visitors in the delivery room, speaking to parents is still "extremely critical."

"It's almost impossible to do without words," he said. "You're not going to yell at the patient. You may talk to them in a calming fashion and the patient will gain comfort from hearing your voice."

Typical delivery-room talk might include direction on how to push and reassurance that the woman is doing it right, he said. A doctor may also need to explain pain medication or unexpected problems with the birth.

But as long as the planned approach isn't harmful, Rabin said, parents should choose the delivery method best for them.

Seward said silence doesn't just

keep the subconscious clear, it also is more relaxing for the mother and less jarring for the newborn.

"The baby is coming from a dark womb," she said. "They come from a muted environment and they're thrust into this world."

Infants deserve to be born into a reverent place, agreed Mindy Goorchenko, a certified doula and birth educator whose own unassisted delivery of twins was featured on the Discovery Channel. The transition from the womb to the world should be peaceful, she said.

But moms, dads and doctors probably need to talk during delivery, Goorchenko noted.

"Communication is key in birth for all people involved," she said.

Sound can also be an effective means of working through labor, she added. Besides, the womb isn't as quiet as one might think; babies can hear voices, music and their mother's heartbeat, Goorchenko said.

"Infants respond in the womb to what's going on around them," she said. "Why at the moment of birth you'd suddenly need silence doesn't make sense physiologically."

Still, said Goorchenko, a mother of four, she wanted privacy during her deliveries and preferred silence following the births.

"You don't need loud, blasting noises while mother and child are bonding."

# New Orleans wastes a big green opportunity

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — In the rush to rebuild, this hurricane-smashed city is dumping its debris into the swamps by the truckload — and throwing away an opportunity to turn America's costliest natural disaster into the nation's greatest recycling effort, environmentalists say.

Every day, trucks rumble down the streets on their way to the Old Gentilly Landfill, a municipal dump in the swampiest part of the city, to unload the debris that homeowners and contractors have piled up on the curbs throughout New Orleans.

With large-scale home demolitions now beginning, there are no comprehensive, citywide plans to salvage and recycle building materials — things such as cypress and cedar boards, bricks, cinderblocks and roof tiles.

"We don't have the time," said John Rogers, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's recycling specialist. He cited the sheer volume of debris created by Katrina — 30 years' worth of the stuff, officials say.

But environmentalists say that in the seven months since Katrina hit, there has been plenty of time for city, state and Federal Emergency Management Agency officials to draw up contracts to recycle debris, buy recycling equipment and put people to work sorting through the rubble.

"I'm getting woken up every morning with demolition crews hauling off cedar beams, good stuff," complained Oliver Houck, a Tulane University environmental law professor. "Once again, we're a day late, a dollar short."

Katrina generated about 25 million cubic yards of "green waste" — tree limbs, trunks, leaves, dead bushes — or enough to fill the Louisiana Superdome nearly twice. Some of that is being incinerated, and some is being used as cover at landfills.

But other eco-friendly ideas have been shot down, or gone nowhere.

Among them: a proposal to put debris at the Old Gentilly Landfill into a plasma furnace capable of generating energy-producing gas. Some things are, in fact, being

recycled. So far, flooded vehicles like cars, vans and trucks and hundreds of thousands of refrigerators, washing machines and other appliances have yielded about 280,000 tons of steel, according to the state.

As for the rest of the debris, some builders, restoration experts, artists and grass-roots organizations have seen value in it, but they are taking only a tiny bite out of the mountain of waste.

Stefano Velacka, a French Quarter jeweler fond of using recycled material, is making earrings, brooches and necklaces out of a copper roof that Katrina blew into the street.

"I'm set for 100 years," Velacka said of all the trash in the city. The damage Katrina did is "ugly," he said, "and I'm trying to bring the ugly back to beauty."

In the Lower Ninth Ward, crews and volunteers with relief groups like Mercy Corps and AmeriCorps are "deconstructing" homes: salvaging bathroom fixtures and cypress wood. The material can be used to repair historic homes or give new places an old-world feel.

"It's good lumber," said Mercy Corps carpenter Preston Brownings. "If it's kept dry, it will last forever."

In the Ninth Ward, a nonprofit recycling center called the Green Project is bustling these days, selling cut-rate lumber, furniture, lamps and other material taken from demolished homes and debris piles.

Doors have become hot commodities, said Sean Wilkerson, a 33-year-old donor who drove up with a load of wooden doors he had picked up on the streets. "All the doors (in the city) were kicked down by pet rescuers. Everybody's looking for doors."

As landfills grow higher, environmentalists worry that Louisiana is creating new problems for itself.

After Katrina struck, city, state and federal officials waived many environmental regulations governing such things as landfills, asbestos removal, oil refinery operations. The city's environmental chief was also laid off; the post has since been refilled.

"We're creating a massive environmental liability for the future," said Forest Bradley-Wright of the Alliance for Affordable Energy in New Orleans.



## Let them entertain you ...

LONDON (AP) — Pete Doherty failed to appear at a London court Wednesday for a review of his progress in drug rehabilitation.

Doherty's representatives told Thames Magistrates' Court that he had been unable to return from Paris, where his group, Babyshambles, had played a concert Tuesday night.

The case was adjourned until May 12.

His drug problems gained international attention after a newspaper published photos of then-girlfriend Kate Moss allegedly using cocaine at a music studio where Doherty and Babyshambles were recording.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tori

Spelling's first marriage will be officially over next week, clearing the way for her to marry fiance Dean McDermott, according to a report.

In court documents obtained Tuesday by syndicated TV news magazine "Entertainment Tonight", a Superior Court commissioner stated that Spelling's marriage to actor Charlie Sheen will be dissolved on April 20.

NEW YORK (AP) — Amanda Peet, Patrick Wilson, Jill Clayburgh and Tony Roberts will be out of work on Broadway next month.

The foursome star in the revival of "Barefoot in the Park," Neil Simon's romantic comedy, which announced Tuesday it would close May 21 after a run of 108 performances.

The *DT* Reader's Choice Awards has just gotten easier. The survey will be available only online, so don't miss your chance to choose Lubbock's best. Use the link provided and give us your opinion. The survey will be available until April 16, 2006. The most popular answers will be published in the April 28 edition of *The Daily Toreador*.

Many questions have options listed that were popular choices from last year's survey. There is also a field to write in a choice not listed.

# Reader's CHOICE

AWARDS  
THE DAILY TOREADOR

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=32971831983>

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# Queen watches Prince Harry in military graduation ceremony

SANDHURST, England (AP) — Prince Harry stood tall with saber drawn Wednesday during ceremonies marking his graduation from Britain's elite military academy, marching proudly in front of his beaming grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, as he completed 40 weeks of training.

The 21-year-old second son of Prince Charles entered Sandhurst military academy in May 2005 and trained to become an army officer in the Blues and Royals regiment of the Household Cavalry, one of the British army's oldest units.

He will be eligible for future military service in Iraq or Afghanistan. The prince has spoken of his determination to take a place on the

front line alongside his colleagues if called.

Charles, the Duchess of Cornwall and the Duke of Edinburgh looked on with pride as the cadets paraded around the academy's grounds about 40 miles southwest of London. The queen delivered a short speech of congratulations and advice.

"If you look at the careers of successful officers, you will find that, no matter how clever they have been, what really matters is how they related to people under their command," she said.

She noted that preparing to be an officer is more than learning some basic military procedures but rather the first step in becoming a leader.

"It was not by chance that the motto chosen for the Royal Military Academy is 'Serve to Lead,'" she said.

As the new officers marched past the queen Prince William and the other new cadets saluted. As other officers approached, the order of "Eyes right!" was shouted, and Harry snapped his neck to look at his grandmother, who was seated on the dais with the Duke of Edinburgh.

About 450 cadets took part in the ceremony, including around 220 officer cadets who are receiving their commissions. Following the ceremony, Harry becomes a 2nd lieutenant.

Harry will serve in an armored reconnaissance unit and train to become a troop commander, in charge of 11 men and four light tanks.

The prince's girlfriend, Chelsy Davy, arrived at London's Heathrow Airport on Tuesday, but a Buckingham Palace spokesman declined to comment on reports she would attend Wednesday's graduation ball.

In the days before the end of training events, two newspapers reported that Harry joined friends at a strip club. *The Daily Mirror* and *The Sun* claimed Harry watched dancers at the Spearmint Rhino nightclub on Friday in Slough, near Windsor Castle west of London.

Prince Charles' office at Clarence House declined to comment on the report.

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Courtesy Photo

### Tunstall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

heritage, and her homeland of Scotland underlines her childhood memories. She admits she is on the wrong side of 25 years old, but when it comes to music executives and respect from her fellow musicians, she said she has no desire to start sucking up.

"Frankly, I don't give a shit," she said.

Living in the bubble of her hometown of St. Andrews, she never watched television, nor did she have any vocal training. She said she was professionally educated and classically trained on the piano, but she taught herself the guitar and drums.

"Basically, I just now pound away on the drums until it sounds good," she laughed.

Her voice has a thicker concentration of her Scottish background than Sean Connery's, but understanding her is not too difficult with careful attention. She said there was a certain beauty to teaching herself how to sing and play various instruments.

"When you teach yourself, you can't be wrong," she said.

Tunstall might have never watched "American Bandstand" or "American Idol," but she does have influences from pop culture. She said she is a fan of many popular artists such as Joni Mitchell, Beck and The Flaming Lips.

"I'm not one of those nerdy people," she said. "I don't have to go out and buy every single thing an artist has done in order to call myself a fan."

Music to Tunstall is not about a single at the top of the charts, or what the latest American teen idol is remaking or remixing. Each album an artist releases, Tunstall said, is a piece in itself. It should not be cherry-picked for the best songs or the most impressive vocal strains.

This philosophy of considering an album an entire work inspired her to make her debut album an autobiographical one. She said she had a few other songs she wished she could have been put on the album, but she believed they would go better with her second release.

"I thought my first CD should be autobiographical to introduce myself," she said. "The other songs I left off are better once people know who I am."

Categorizing Tunstall's music is not an easy task. Her unique sound onstage that mixes blues, jazz, folk, country and rock is echoed in her wardrobe and her attitude. She said she has heard herself described as a former hippie, but, in reality, she said she still is one.

"I'm all about spreading the love," she said.

A wide variety of people come out to support Tunstall at her concerts, which is exactly what she wants, she said.

"We played a concert in Cleveland the other night and in the front row was this wicked-old lady," she said. "She must have been in her 60s, and right next to her was this big black woman rocking out."

The music life for Tunstall always has been a kind of Neverland where no one

grows old and the only way to get there is by following the North Star all the way to America. For a while, she said she didn't even want a big record deal, and once she did, the record deals did not want her.

"Most labels already had their singer/songwriter girl," she said.

A lot of executives turned her away because of her age, which is 30 years old, and others simply did not like her sound.

"I bet they're all happy now that they didn't sign me," she laughed.

Tunstall always has been interested in music and being able to perform in front of people. She said audience members would get a different kind of experience at her shows than they would by listening to her CD.

"What I always longed for was to tour," she said. "And I didn't care how many people that was to. I didn't require that it

be in America. As long as I could get 200 people to come to a show, I would be over the moon."

Since her album was released and climbed the charts, Tunstall said many people have started comparing her to other musicians. She even had a young artist compared to her recently, which she said was the greatest complement, but she does not agree with the idea of comparisons.

"These artists who are being compared to each other are so different," she said. "The reason these musicians have lasted so long is because they are all unique. If they all sounded the same, then they wouldn't have a very long shelf life."

► jeremy.n.reynolds@ttu.edu  
► megann.a.lora@ttu.edu

## Alaska's liberal marijuana law up in smoke?

### Governor wants to restore criminal penalties for pot possession

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Alaska's law on marijuana possession is considered the most liberal in the country — but its governor wants to change that, saying pot has evolved into "a dangerous drug."

Republican Gov. Frank Murkowski argues that recreational use of pot should no longer be protected by Alaskans' right to privacy. He's pressing the Legislature to restore criminal penalties for marijuana possession.

Residents are now allowed to keep up to 4 ounces in their homes.

The intent is to trigger a constitutional challenge and ultimately overturn the landmark Alaska Supreme Court decision that legalized the use of small amounts of marijuana. The American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska is poised to mount such a challenge should the law be enacted.

The state's highest court concluded in 1975 that Alaskans' constitutional right to privacy outweighed any harm that might occur from using a small amount of marijuana in the home. State legislators set that amount at 4 ounces in 1982.

Although 11 other states have "decriminalized" small amounts of marijuana for personal use, they generally set the limit at a single ounce and most levy a fine for possession, said Allen St. Pierre, executive director of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

Alaska's marijuana laws are "bar none" the most liberal in the country, he said.

Federal law prohibits any use of marijuana, but 11 states including Alaska allow it to be used for medicinal purposes.

Murkowski's marijuana bill is wrapped into legislation that seeks to curb the manufacture of methamphetamine and now awaits action in a legislative committee.

House Majority Leader John Coghill, a Republican, said the

marriage of the two bills has caused some resentment within his caucus, especially among members who do not support the marijuana measure. Yet he believes the bill will pass.

If it does, Alaska would make pot possession of 4 ounces or more a felony. Possession of less than 4 ounces but more than an ounce would be a misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail. Less than one ounce would be a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail.

Potency versus privacy The Murkowski administration insists marijuana is a different drug now than it was in the 1970s and 1980s.

The bill says marijuana's psychoactive ingredient, delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, is far more potent and dangerous today, especially for young people.

"If they're going to look at whether today's marijuana is still entitled to the same privacy protection, they need to look at what kind of drug we have now," said Dean Guanelli, the state's chief assistant attorney general.

The state claims THC levels have risen tenfold or more over the last three decades. The state Department of Law provided legislators 30 years of data on THC potency of marijuana seized in

Alaska.

But opponents say the data are flawed because testing in the 1970s was faulty.

The potency-versus-privacy issue is testing Alaska's image as a bastion of rugged individualism.

"It's the old thing of, you can do anything you want as long as you don't step on someone else's toes doing it," said Marc Hellenenthal, an Anchorage-based pollster who grew up in Alaska.

He says Alaskans' Libertarian-style leanings are alive and well in spirit.

Rival pollster David Dittman disagrees. He points out Alaskans voted to criminalize marijuana once again in 1990 — later struck down by the state Supreme Court — and twice turned down citizen initiatives that would have legalized the drug.

"I think it's just kind of an urban myth, that laissez-faire Libertarian element," he said.

Bill Parker, a former state legislator, believes a majority of Alaskans fall somewhere in the middle.

"I don't think Alaska is ready to say, just like Safeway has a tobacco shop, there ought to be a marijuana section," said Parker, now a lobbyist for Alaskans for Marijuana Regulation and Control.

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## Ace in the hole: Tech's Tomlin glad to be back

By **TREY SHIPMAN**  
SPORTS EDITOR

"Baseball is 90 percent mental," former Yankee great Yogi Berra once said. "The other half is physical."

Berra might not have been big on math, but he was onto something with his formula for America's pastime. It holds even more truth when you're a power pitcher trying to overcome an arm injury.

Texas Tech hurler Josh Tomlin entered the 2006 baseball season knowing there were high expectations for him. He had them himself; his coaches had them; his teammates had them, and Red Raider baseball fans probably even had them. When your resume includes being an 11<sup>th</sup> round draft pick by the San Diego Padres in 2005 and getting named to the JUCO All-Star team while at Angelina Junior College, expectations are bound to follow.

Enrolling at Tech at the beginning of the spring semester, Tomlin didn't disappoint. Having been on campus less than a month, he was tabbed the Raiders No. 1 starter by the coaching staff.

In the season opener against Louisiana-Monroe, Tomlin was as good as advertised going six innings allowing one run on just three hits. The start was good enough to earn him the nod against then-No. 4 Rice in Game 1 of the Houston College Classic at Minute Maid Park.

Allowing one run through four innings against a Top 10 team like the Owls wouldn't normally seem problematic. But the issue at hand went deeper than the outcome on the field against Rice. The problem rested in the UCL, or medial ligament, of Tomlin's throwing arm.

Though he knew something was wrong before leaving after the fourth inning, Tomlin's competitive nature set in.

"I had a sense of urgency. I was just trying to perform for my team," he said. "I stayed in there a

little longer and tried to get the job done. My velocity decreased, and I couldn't throw my curve or slider anymore. It was painful, it was just frustrating."

Frustrating might have been Tomlin putting it nicely.

"He was scared," said Billy Whitehead, Tech baseball athletic trainer. "He's been drafted before, wanting to get drafted again. I'm sure every athlete thinks it's going to be a career-ending injury, which it is serious on that side of the elbow."

Fortunately, for the Raiders, the injury was not as serious as it could have been. Surgery was not required and the injury could be treated through rehabilitation. But just four games into the season, the promising Tech pitching rotation had taken a glaring blow.

"I know we have a bunch of pitchers that can step in and do the job, but it was just tough going in and having a pretty good start then that happened," Tomlin said. "The one thing I did not want is to have to sit the bench the rest of the year."

And so the road to recovery began. Tomlin dedicated four to five hours, nearly every day of the past eight weeks in the Tech training room, working with Whitehead to help him heal and return to the ace that once was.

Raider pitching coach Lance Brown said injuries can be expected every season, but how the player deals with it ultimately will decide how badly it hurts the team.

"What we tell them is if you're a player you have a job to do," he said. "If you're hurt you have a job to do and that job is to get well. You have to do your job just as if you were an infielder or an outfielder, the only thing is now you're in the training room getting

yourself ready to go."

Apparently, Tomlin took his coaches advice. For the first four weeks he worked through a series of exercises meant to increase strength and flexibility in his arm. He then began a throwing program with gradual increase in intensity, as long as there was no sign of pain.

Then on Tuesday, almost two months to the day after the injury, after two previous comeback attempts producing sub-par results, Tomlin turned in three brilliant shutout innings with six strikeouts in the Raiders 14-7 over New Mexico.

As Lobo batters found themselves late on fastballs and frozen on hard-breaking sliders, people began to remember the highly touted transfer from Angelina.

"He was one of those guys that came in and was committed everyday and worked hard," Whitehead said. "That's why he's out here playing right now ... (Tuesday) that's Josh Tomlin. That's the way he normally pitches so I think everybody's pretty excited about that."

On par with Berra's words of wisdom, Brown said Tomlin's impressive outing had much more to do with what was between his ears, than what was in his arm.

"The difficult thing being a pitcher, and having surgery myself, you're a little afraid of throwing it," he said. "I think he's fought through that. I don't think he's worried anymore that, that pain will come back."

Tomlin's return couldn't come at a better time. Tech (24-13, 5-6 Big 12) will host Kansas State at 6:30 p.m. today in the first of a three-game conference series, before No. 13 Arizona State comes to Lubbock Monday.

The Wildcats (22-8, 2-7) started hot before being

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DAVID JOHNSON/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH PITCHER Josh Tomlin had his most successful outing of the season Tuesday against New Mexico, after spending eight weeks rehabilitating an injury to his UCL in his throwing arm which occurred Feb. 10 against Rice. The right-hander from Whitesboro began the season as Tech's No. 1 starter.

brought back to earth in conference play and currently sit at the bottom of the Big 12 with just two wins.

Two or three wins over lowly K-State could be essential in helping Tech improve upon their seventh place standing, and move back among the Big 12's best.

When asked how he would feel taking the mound for the first time against a Big 12 opponent, a smile

came over Tomlin's face.

"(I'll have) a lot of adrenaline," he said. "I'm ready to get out there and get on the hill Saturday against K-State and throw a good game and keep our team in it. The way our bats have been lately, it's not going to be hard to pitch and win the game." [trey.shipman@ttu.edu](mailto:trey.shipman@ttu.edu)

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APRIL 21 — vs. No. 17 OKLAHOMA 6:30 P.M.  
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**Saturday April 29**  
**Gates Open 8:30am! Party 'til Midnight!**

**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS  
1 Profusion  
5 God of Islam  
10 Nail smoother  
14 Faquin of "The Squid and the Whale"  
15 Intermesh  
16 Mild Dutch cheese  
17 Start of Evan Esar quote  
20 Bagel topper  
21 Short drink  
22 Dollar bill artist  
23 Wickerwork material  
26 Spread wide  
27 Sneaker  
30 Pleasant  
32 Part 2 of quote  
39 Campus sports org.  
40 North of Mexico  
41 Sty denizens  
42 Part 3 of quote  
45 Words of denial  
46 Rot-resistant wood  
47 Having wings  
51 Danish seaport  
54 Former Turkish titles  
56 Me to Pierre  
57 Gray or Candler  
60 End of quote  
64 Colorful mount  
65 Lauder of cosmetics  
66 Middle section of a scherzo (discordant)  
67 Math course  
68 Extends across  
69 Warren of the NFL  
31 Atkins or Huntley  
33 Centerward  
34 Great, in a way  
35 Oar holder  
36 \_\_\_ better watch  
37 Grimm figure  
38 Exploiter  
43 Shaq of the NBA  
44 Arafat of the PLO

DOWN  
1 Marsh bird  
2 Data  
3 Cameo stone  
4 The way to Lao-tzu  
5 In the least  
6 Bounded  
7 WC  
8 St. cresser  
9 Fashion lines  
10 Tired of it all

11 Model of perfection  
12 Premiering film  
13 Without content  
18 Take away weaponry  
19 Befuddled  
23 Showed again  
24 Automaton  
25 Capone henchman  
27 Out of (discordant)  
28 Mad as a Spaniard  
29 Chinese currency  
31 Atkins or Huntley  
33 Centerward  
34 Great, in a way  
35 Oar holder  
36 \_\_\_ better watch  
37 Grimm figure  
38 Exploiter  
43 Shaq of the NBA  
44 Arafat of the PLO

47 Separated  
48 Work  
49 Brazilian palm  
50 Leather strip  
52 Tunnel of the NFL  
53 "The Highwayman" poet  
55 Takes to court  
57 Taj Mahal site  
58 Tanker or cruiser  
59 On the peak of  
61 Recipe abbr.  
62 Greek letter  
63 "Wonderful Life"

**LOFTS FSTOP TDS**  
**ERASE OPERA AMI**  
**MORAL LURES RIP**  
**TAT ASIA AFRIO**  
**EGESTS BAFFIN**  
**ERATO AGOUTI**  
**MOMANDPOPSTORES**  
**TETRAS ASONE**  
**BLAIRS GROUTS**  
**EERO RAVI LOS**  
**MAANDPAKETTLE**  
**APB ROBIN OUTRE**  
**TEL ALITIO ELTON**  
**ARE MADAM SLEET**

By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA 4/13/06

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HALL

JANUARY

WOODS

RAMIREZ

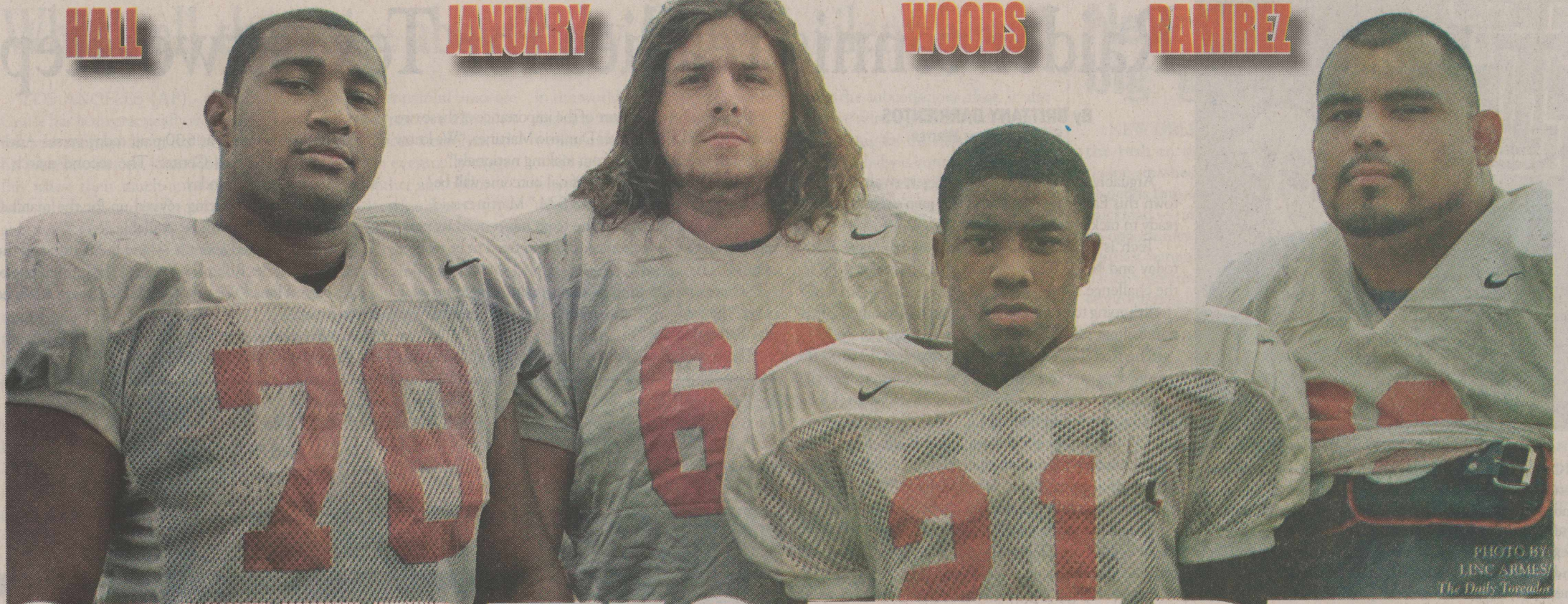


PHOTO BY LINC ARMES/The Daily Treador

# CLEARING THE PATH

BEFORE TEXAS TECH'S AIR ATTACK OFFENSE CAN TAKE FLIGHT, THE MEN UP FRONT MUST PLOW THE ROAD

By TRAVIS CRAM  
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

It is a family atmosphere in the trenches for Texas Tech linemen. Although senior offensive tackle Glenn January said their motto is mean and nasty, these bodyguards are tough, but caring.

The men up front have one goal in mind every game: protect every player on the field at any cost — unless the player is wearing a different color.

"The relationship we have and just knowing each other so well gives us the ability to hold each other accountable for everything," January said.

That ability has enabled this group to build a wall around the highest producing offense in the nation over the last few years.

With the departure of 2005 linemen E.J. Whitley and Bryan Kegans, most would think the group would have to spend a lot of time filling in the gaps.

But in an offensive system built from the ground up by coach Mike Leach, each player has had the opportunity to spend time at different positions, giving them the versatility needed to fill in wherever they are needed.

"You have to be versatile," senior tackle Gabe Hall said. "Just because you never know when somebody is gonna go down and you may be needed."

Hall said the returning linemen all have received considerable playing time over the past few years and with the addition of junior-transfer Ofa Mohetau next season, the group will

be ready for any task that lies ahead.

Linemen have become an important asset under Leach, and January said the Tech coach's ability to recruit the right personnel makes it easier to buy into the run-and-gun offense that has brought the Raider program national attention the last five years.

Being the NCAA leader in passing offense, and a Top 5 scoring offense are statistics that have become synonymous with Tech and Leach; but the numbers the big men in the middle worry about and produce, are hidden within the 600-yard and 50-point games.

Because of the vast amount of passing plays in the Tech offense, quarterbacks face a possible sack situation almost every down of every game, making it more important for the linemen to keep the Raider gun-

slingers out of harms way.

Last season, according to ESPN.com, quarterback Cody Hodges attempted a pass 531 times, completing 353 balls for 31 touchdowns, and more than 4,000 yards.

During the last four seasons, the offense has had to adjust to a new general to lead the air attack each season, but Hall said the athleticism of this line has enabled them to produce the numbers that consistently lead the country.

Of the four quarterbacks' combined attempts and sacks since 2002, Tech's O-line has allowed an average of one sack for every 21 attempts at a pass.

With a team that averages 45

passing attempts per game, it equals a team that allowed less than three sacks per game.

Sophomore running back Shannon Woods said having a senior line that can put up those types of numbers year in and year out is a dream for any young back to step behind and have blocking for him.

"We're focused," he said. "There's nothing better than having guys like that out around you."

Hall said the bond between the group grows stronger every year, and this year could be one of the best

lineups he has seen, especially because of the amount of time the group has spent together since arriving in West Texas.

But not only does he want this group on the football field with him, he'll take them on the basketball court as well.

"You can pick any sport and I'll take these guys any day," Hall said. "We're big guys but we can do the 30-inch vertical or run a 40 under five seconds — we're just athletic."

With the Red-Black game scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at LISD's Lowery Field, the football team will hold one more spring practice Monday to evaluate the performances in the scrimmage, then it is on to summer practices before opening kickoff Sept. 2 against Southern Methodist.

Hall said the most important factor is not just the physical preparations and plays on the field, but also being prepared for some of the toughest defenses in the fall.

"We're trying to get that mental toughness we need to get ready to play," he said. "We have to know that we are going to be in 80, 90 plays a game and that we're gonna hit somebody 80, 90 times a game."

► travis.f.cram@ttu.edu  
► trey.shipman@ttu.edu

*"You can pick any sport and I'll take these guys any day. We're big guys but we can do the 30-inch vertical or run a 40 under five seconds — we're just athletic."*

— GABE HALL  
Texas Tech  
Senior Tackle

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