

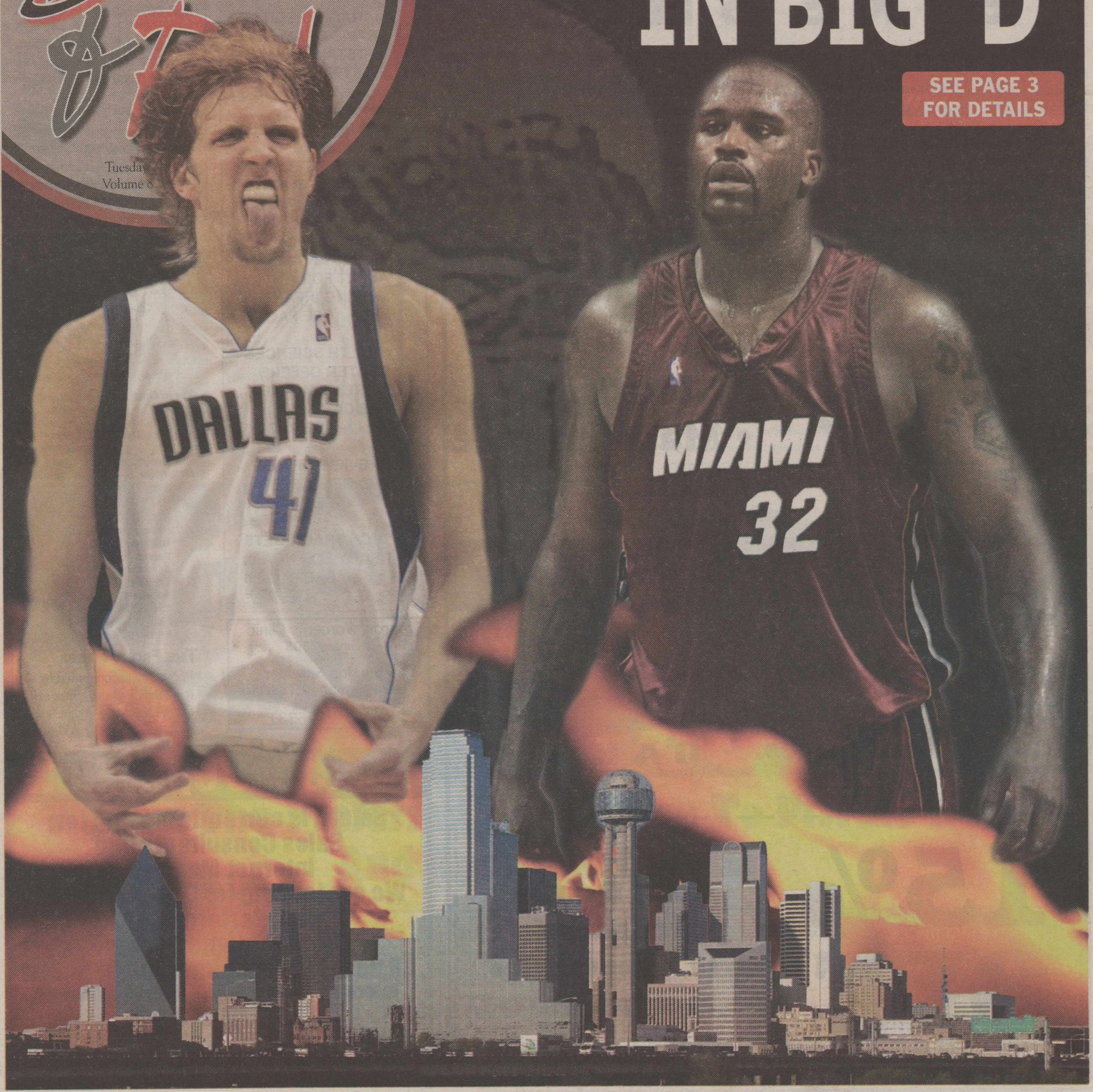
THE DAILY FOREADOR

Black & T

Tuesday
Volume 6

HEAT RISING IN BIG 'D'

SEE PAGE 3
FOR DETAILS




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RUNDOWN

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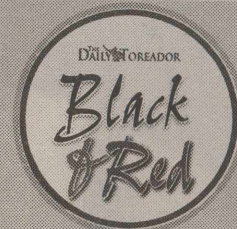
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Sunny
High 99/Low 66



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High 100/Low 68



View next week's forecast
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FRONT PAGE STORY: NBA FINALS

First time for everything

Mavericks make NBA Finals, will face Heat

DALLAS (AP) — Like most longtime Dallas Mavericks fans, Mark Cuban remembers the bad old days, when "postseason play" meant being part of the draft lottery.

Boy, how times have changed.

Injected with Cuban's cash, Dirk Nowitzki's jumper and Avery Johnson's leadership, the Mavs are headed to the NBA finals for the first time, starting Thursday night at home against the Miami Heat.

"We're excited, obviously," Johnson said after the Mavericks erased an 18-point deficit to beat Phoenix 102-93 Saturday night and earn the silver trophy that goes to the Western Conference champion. "Nobody is ripping their shirts off or going too crazy, but they should celebrate.

"But we know we still have a lot of work ahead of us."

With the Mavs several days off to delve into how they will try slowing Dwyane Wade and Shaquille O'Neal, it's worth looking back at how far this franchise has come, both over

the long term of its 26 years and the short term of an uncertain start to this season.

The Mavericks were born in 1980, became contenders amazingly quickly, then faded faster than you can say Roy Tarpley. They were so bad in the 1990s that they had the lowest winning percentage of any team in major pro sports in North America — yes, even worse than the Clippers.

"You could walk up two minutes before game time and buy a front-row seat for \$10," said Cuban, a cheap-seat regular long before he became an Internet billionaire.

When he bought the team in January 2000, Dallas was 9-23 and well on its way to collecting lottery pingpong balls for a 10th straight year.

"Just to speculate we would make the playoffs in the next five years was heresy," Cuban recalled Saturday night in Phoenix, wearing his new Western Conference champion hat and T-shirt. "Now, we've gotten to this."

'Nowitzness' to new dynasty

I have to admit, after knocking Tim Duncan on his rear and beating the Spurs, I was pleased enough with this playoff season for the Dallas Mavericks. But like any other Mavs fan, I know this season would be anything short of spectacular if Dallas fails to take a Finals championship trophy home.

There is one letter that will define this series; the letter "D."

D is for Dallas.

The team tied a franchise-best 60 wins this season, second best in the West and third overall in the NBA. Coach of the Year Avery Johnson's persistence on teaching the Mavs the "bear-hug" defense he learned to perfection under Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, changed the high-scoring Mavs into a team known for its play on the other end of the court and ultimately ended the Spurs chance at a repeat.

D is for Dwyane Wade.

Perhaps one of the best diaper dandies in the NBA, Wade has given Shaquille O'Neal a Kobe-like player without the attitude to destroy a team's chemistry. When Shaq was not there, Wade literally took the team on

his back and gave coach Pat Riley some confidence in what he could do with a team with more talent than 75 percent of the Eastern Conference. And if you are sitting there saying, "No, look at Detroit," remember who is in the Finals and who is going to be watching the game at home crying to mama Wallace.

D is for The Diesel.

The seemingly unstoppable force in the middle has kept his reputation while transferring coasts and conferences. Shaq is averaging over 20 points per game since joining the Heat in 2004 and seems happier after leaving Phil and Kobe in L.A. Shaq made a promise to bring a championship back to Miami and he intends to keep it, buck the next two factors may leave the city of Miami with nothing more than a conference championship and the Diesel's fumes.

D is for defense.

Like I said, this team would not be where it is without the tutelage of Johnson. The defense improved from one of the worst to one of the most recognized in the league, holding opponents under 90 points per game this season. After Game 1 of the conference finals, the Suns never really eclipsed the 100 point mark, except for the blowout in Game 4,

and could never hold big first half leads to finish out a game. Sound familiar to any Mavs fans? It should. That was the Mavs team in 2003, which also won 60 games, but never held teams the way they have this year.

D is for none other than Dirk.

Nowitzki has become an all-around threat to opposing players and a constant headache for any coach that tries to find a defensive match for him. Put a guard on him, Dirk rains threes and jumpshots with ease. Put a big forward or center on him, and he'll go right around him and get the three-point play the hard way, yeah, he shoots 90 percent from the charity stripe, so fouling is out of the question too.

The mismatches of the series will be the most pivotal aspect when watching the two teams try to score constantly, so expect a lot of fouls and attempted shots during the series. To the guys at 101 last Friday, remember what I said; the last D will be Dallas Dominating in 6.

■ **Travis Cram is a senior journalism major from Arlington and managing editor of The Daily Toreador. E-mail him at travis.f.cram@ttu.edu.**

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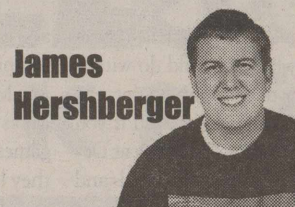
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Celebrated celebrities

Magazines, television and advertising campaigns with carpet-bombing intensity are constant reminders of the world's obsession with celebrities. Though I have spent most of my life as a mild-mannered West Texan, when I was studying abroad in Rome two years ago, I had the opportunity to be on the receiving end of fame-mania.

A group of people and I were out at the bar one night and I had drunk a little too much for a boy of my size and disposition. A friend of mine was wearing a bucket hat with a red, orange and pink flannel pattern on it. It was very sexy on her, and given my altered state, I thought it was also very sexy on me when I tried it on. We wound up losing track of each other and I crashed on the couch that belong to some other friends, still in possession of her hat.

The next day, I woke up to go on a school field trip. I reasoned it unwise to leave the hat at someone else's apartment, so I took it with me on the bus. After the day trip, I was dropped off with another student and one of the teachers off near the train station. I was wearing the hat, torn on whether it made me look cool or feminine, some of you androgynous 80s guys can probably sympathize. As we turned a corner, a group of eight or so blond girls rushed up to me screaming, "Oh my God, are you..." and I didn't catch what they said. So, of course, I responded, "Yeah, want an autograph?"



James Hershberger

As we turned a corner, a group of eight or so blond girls rushed up to me screaming, "Oh my God, are you..." and I didn't catch what they said. So, of course, I responded, "Yeah, want an autograph?"

God, are you..." and I didn't catch what they said. So, of course, I responded, "Yeah, want an autograph?"

Tears were streaming down their excited faces as they took pictures with me, scribbling illegibly on papers I received. After a while, I told them I had to go with my "manager" and "agent" and left them behind, only to wonder whom I was mistaken for.

Social pundits criticize the

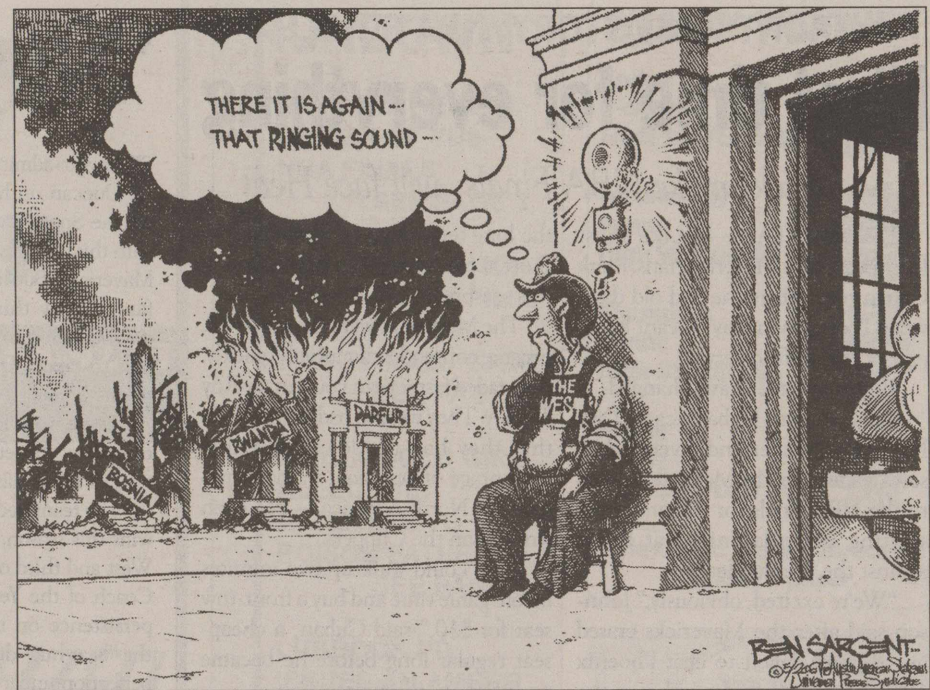
worship of celebrities and I agree that it sometimes gets out of hand. But I also guess that it is not so much as the greatness of famous people that is being celebrated, but only that the extraordinary musicians, athletes and actors are merely an outlet for emotion; a means to be excited.

I went to a concert this past weekend featuring the Roots and Talib Kweli in Houston. The people in the front with me all reached out in hopes of touching the hands of these hip hop demigods.

As Black Thought's hand slapped mine and he said something I didn't catch, I am noticing this to be a problem with me, I wondered what he thinks of all the people who purchase his band's records and the legions who go to see them live.

Does it make him egoistical, is he mystified by it or is he blasé at this point? I think, or maybe hope, he realizes the music he and his legendary crew makes is another tool by which their fans can enjoy existing. They are no more or less important than anyone, just gifted in a different way. We all have our roles in the world, from being accountants to doctors, to badass columnists and to their job; making the ha-hot music that hot music.

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



Larger meals, cheaper food hurting American's health

Super-sized, biggie-sized, jumbo-sized, America's taste for food has come down to one idea, bigger is better. But while that mentality may be good for fast food companies pocket books, it's not good for America's waistline, which has grown larger in the past five years. The bad news is we seem to be stuck in an Mobius strip of eating. The more Americans eat, the higher demand for larger portions, which then lead to larger waistlines and less satisfied customers, which lead to larger portions. The good news is large campaigns already have begun to educate the public about the dangers of eating high-fat and high-calorie meals. Yet, despite constant focus on diet and health by the media, people continue to eat more and more.

Why is this? Why would people choose to put themselves in life-threatening situations? I think the answer comes down to not having a choice. When you look at the dietary habits of Americans, two things are important — satisfaction

Trey Caliva

While not necessarily radical steps, fast food is big business, and big business means big money.

and price — two things that fast food restaurants can supply in abundance. When you can easily spend a little more than \$3 for a burger, fries and Coke, why spend \$5 or more on something healthy?

I think ultimately, the only real answer and solution to this problem is going to come from government intervention, in the form of taxes and tax credits for businesses that pursue healthy alternatives for their customers. I know, I'm a conservative and a Republican, and adding taxes and advocating

government involvement in business is counterintuitive to my mantra. But there are problems that are big enough that only government, with its vast array of power, can deal with. First, all fast food not meeting a healthy set of guidelines would be taxed. That money, instead of going right into the government's coffers, would be used to help subsidize healthier, but more expensive foods. Second, businesses that agree to push healthier alternatives to their main items, and who reduce the size of portions of their meals will get tax-incentives from the federal government in exchange for cooperation.

While not necessarily radical steps, fast food is big business, and big business means big money. If there's one thing companies won't give up, it is their profit margins. But a solution can and needs to happen. Our society is too advanced, and too wealthy to allow ourselves to knowingly hurt ourselves daily.

■ **Caliva is a senior mathematics major from San Antonio. E-mail him at trey.caliva@ttu.edu.**

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

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13-year-old allegedly tries to poison dad

By **RIRO BERTS**
STAFF WRITER

A 13-year-old girl was arrested by Lubbock police for alleged aggravated assault after she attempted to poison her father Friday.

Police were called to the 4800 block of 55th Street after the girl's father informed them of the incident, just shortly after the teenage girl admitted to her guilt, said Sgt. Scott Farmer, Juvenile Division of the Lubbock Police Department.

The entire incident allegedly began the day before when the

father told the 13-year-old-girl to do her chores.

"Well, she decided not to do them, and refused her father's request," Sgt. Farmer said.

The next day, upon noticing the girl's chores unfinished, the father repeated his order. This time, she obeyed and completed the chores.

Sgt. Farmer said while the father was gone for work that day, the daughter allegedly mixed rat poison in juice.

"When the father came home and poured himself some juice, he noticed green particles floating in

the glass of juice that did not belong there," Farmer said.

The father confronted the teenage girl about the suspicious green particles in his juice, and the daughter confessed. She was arrested that night. She is charged with aggravated assault and her next step is an appearance in probationary courts to decide her sentence.

Farmer said cases of this magnitude do not often occur, but police do receive calls of domestic disturbances between parents and children.

► paul.roberts@ttu.edu

Police search for baby

By **RIRO BERTS**
STAFF WRITER

Lubbock Police issued an Amber Alert after a four-day-old baby was allegedly kidnapped from her home Sunday afternoon by a woman who pretended to be a nurse, police said.

Priscilla Nicole Maldonado was born Wednesday at University Medical Center. On Friday, Priscilla was taken home from the hospital by her mother, Erica Ysasaga.

The infant was last seen in the hands of a woman claiming her name to be Lisa Stewart. Stewart told the family of the baby she was a nurse at UMC, where the baby was born. She claimed to work every day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and she often checked on the baby and visited with Ysasaga while she was still in the hospital. She was wearing scrubs, but police said they do believe she was not an employee of the hospital.

According to a statement issued by police Sunday, the woman identifying herself as Stewart visited the baby's family at their home at 2217 46th St. After conversing for a long time, she asked to take the baby for

a walk to show her to some relatives who lived nearby. Ysasaga agreed and went with her while the suspect held the baby. They walked down the block and reached the home of the suspect's relative, but she declined to enter the home and said it appeared no one was there. As they turned around to walk back to Ysasaga's home, she was distracted by her 3-year-old son. When she looked up, the woman and Priscilla were gone.

The mother said she noticed a white van and a red Pontiac four-door Grand Am leaving the area just after the suspect disappeared. Police are still unsure if the vehicles are in fact involved with the kidnapping.

The suspect is described as a white female, 30 to 40 years old. Her height was estimated at 5 foot 3 inches to 5 foot 6 inches, and her weight at 140 to 150 pounds. She had dirty blond hair pulled back in a clip and was last seen wearing a red dress with yellow sunflowers. At this time it is believed that Lisa Stewart is an alias being used by the suspect.

Anyone with useful information should call the Lubbock Crime Line at (806) 741-1000.

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HSC offers more than the eye can see

By **STEPHEN MONAHAN**
STAFF WRITER

While entering the lobby of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, one might presume he or she is inside the walls of a full-scale hospital.

Certainly, that is not the case.

The HSC comprises of five schools: medicine, pharmacy, nursing, allied health sciences and the graduate school of biomedical sciences.

With an enrollment of 2,300 students as of the 2005 fall semester, TTUHSC offers masters and doctoral degrees through each of its schools.

The center has outpatient clinics through which patients can be diagnosed, treated and prescribed medicine, which they can have filled at the operational pharmacy inside the confines of the center.

"We have patients that come for all the different specialties," said Cindy Antonello, assistant director of HSC relations. "That's where, as a teaching facility, our residents and our students at a certain point in

their education get out of the classroom, and our of the teaching labs and actually go into the clinics."

Established as the Texas Tech University School of Medicine in 1969, the HSC expanded to five campuses encompassing 108-county region in West Texas, bordering New Mexico counties.

Amarillo, El Paso, Odessa, Midland and Dallas house regional Tech health sciences campuses with a new addition opening in Abilene in August 2007.

The center has its own president presiding over the campus, deans over each individual college, and its own operating policies. The two campuses share only the chancellor and board of regents position.

"As far as our affiliation/relationship with the university, we believe the health sciences center is a separate institution from the university," Antonello said.

As a teaching facility, the health sciences center is not to be confused with University Medical Center, Lubbock County's general hospital.

Suzanna Martinez, associate di-

rector of media relations, said some people are misguided in thinking the center is a teaching hospital.

The two are separate institutions.

"A lot of people have this misconception that we're practicing on people and that's not the case," Martinez said. "Our students are so well trained, by the time they get to that level, they're well trained in what they're doing."

Antonello said the two thrive off of one another to co-exist.

"We certainly have an affiliation and a relationship," she said. "And one could really not exist without the other."

► stephen.monahan@ttu.edu

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DVD PREVIEW

Running Scared



This is a decent film made better by the gritty atmosphere and knowledgeable directing. The film is about 20 minutes too long, but it still delivers entertainment.

4 out of 6 stars - Good

Glory Road



This is yet another film from Disney's vault of true stories, but, with producer Jerry Bruckheimer's help, this story of a West Texas basketball team that started all black players in the NCAA championship excels where a lot of other sports films fall short. Watch for the great scenes of racism in the film, including the one in a diner bathroom, and whenever the basketball team plays a road game.

4 out of 6 stars - Good

Underworld Evolution



This is a far less film from the first one, but it still is an enjoyable ride along the way. Kate Beckinsale reprises the role of a werewolf hunter with a heart of gold who is on the run from vampires and werewolves alike. The movie is entertaining, but it lacks a lot of the creativity the first one showed.

3 out of 6 stars - Fair

Entourage Season 2



One of the funniest shows on television returns Sunday for Season 3 on HBO, but for anyone who does not know the phrase, "hug it out," then Season 2 will get you caught up on everything. This season includes a cameo by James Cameron and a nominated performance by Jeremy Piven.

6 out of 6 stars - Classic

Vaughan's usual humor lacking in 'Break-Up'

Break-ups are funny. Sometimes they make for a great story, and sometimes, they leave a person wanting to commit suicide. The new film "The Break-Up" makes for a great cautionary tale. Try to stay away from anything Jennifer Aniston stars in.

The movie feels like the last days of a sitcom; the type of sitcom that asks the viewer to take a leap of faith and just trust the producers that something like this could actually happen. What else would someone expect from the director of the timeless classic "Bring it On?"

Vince Vaughn is almost solid gold when it comes to comedy. He's created more odd sayings and goofy one-liners than President Bush. His track record over the last five years has been a highway of financially successful hits with very few speed bumps. However, all this is because he knows how to make the audience laugh. In his newest film "The Break-Up", laughs are more sporadic than constant.

In the film, Vaughn and Aniston are passing one another on the downhill of marriage. He works as a tour guide in the city, and she works at an art dealership. Their friends are complete opposites. He comes home to play video games while she likes to sketch, and after months of going through the same routine, they've finally realized they have nothing in common. Well, almost nothing in common. Since they both love their condo, they both refuse to move out, which means a lot of tiptoeing around one another, which does make for a few funny moments.

In all, the film feels awkward from start to finish. Vaughn's jokes are handcuffed by a PG-13 rating, and Aniston's jokes ... actually she has no jokes in the film. It's not that she's not funny, it's that the writers wrote absolutely no jokes for Aniston, leaving the comedy aspect on the shoulders of Vaughn.

The movie is also incredibly inconsistent. Does she love him? Does she hate him? In one part Vaughn makes a joke that Anniston's sister sleeps with a lot of guys, but whenever the audience sees the sister, played by Joey Lauren-Adams, she is a completely normal woman with a husband and a child. She's not

even goofy or a little flirty with the guys around her.

Most of the better jokes come from Vaughn's friend in the film, and his real-life friend, Jon Favreau. Favreau, who took time off from his writing and directing days to film the movie, stars as a bartender that's a little off when it comes to relationships and constantly harps of getting revenge. He's one of the only highlights of the movie.

One good thing I can say about "The Break-Up" is that it does not keep the normal cliché Hollywood ending. I did feel the last two seconds were a bit of a copout, but it's not every day that a romantic comedy goes against the norms when it comes to the ending, so I can't complain too much.

"The Break-Up" is a major step down for Vaughn, and yet another baby step for Aniston who is trying to move away from her sitcom days. It's just another romantic comedy with a thin plot and the same jokes everyone has already heard. Vaughn is great in comedies, but so far has not found his groove in romantic comedies.

3 out of 6 - FAIR

■ Reynolds is *The DT's* movie critic. E-mail him at Jeremy.N.Reynolds@ttu.edu.

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AVAILABLE AUGUST 1ST:

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AVAILABLE JULY 1ST

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Kittley wants runners focused at NCAAAs

By **STEPHEN MONAHAN**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech outdoor track and field coach Wes Kittley is ready to bring All-Americans back to Lubbock.

The No. 20 Tech men's track team and the women's team are sending 12 athletes to compete for a national championship at the 2006 NCAA Track and Field Championship. The meet will be up and running at the Alex G. Spanos Sports Complex on the campus of Sacramento State Uni-

versity in Sacramento, Calif.

As far as keeping his athletes mentally and physically focused, Kittley said keeping up a normal routine through the summer, such as getting up early for practice and practicing in the evening when the weather is cooler, helps his athletes remain on task.

"Physically is the easy part," Kittley said. "We've been having really high quality practices. Mentally, if they go out there and do the best they've done all year, then they'll have a great op-

portunity to be All-Americans."

Coach Kittley said he feels because practices leading up to the competition have gone well, his team is ready to compete for a national title.

"I really feel like our veterans will do well," the coach said. "The freshmen have no experience, so they won't think about it. They'll just go out there and do it and I think they'll do really well."

Junior Marlon Odom, the two-time defending Big 12 and Midwest Regional champion in the 110M hurdles said he is pressure free going into the national meet.

"I'm just focused right now," the current school record holder for the 110M hurdles said. "I know what I need to do. I felt more pressure during the Big 12 meet and Regionals than I do now because I was defending my titles in both meets."

Odom's 13.45 during the NCAA Regional Championship beat former record holder Shawon Harris by .15 seconds.

No. 16-ranked Bryan Scott, who is competing in the 400M hurdles, said he has never felt more ready or more in shape than he has in his life.

"Everyday in practice I keep getting better and better and I'm ready to do something big," Scott said. "It's a mental thing. Right now, it's just putting it together when I get to the meet."

Women's discus hurlers D'Andra Carter and freshman Patience Knight are also ready to combat the competition.

While preparing for the championships, Carter said she looked to her mother to keep her focused.

"She keeps me calm and confident," Carter said.

Knight said she tries not to let the nerves get to her and keeping her focus has helped her prepare.

"It's just getting our techniques down and then going out there and throw," Knight said. "I just keep going through my throwing techniques in my mind. I just try not to get nervous.

You want to be relaxed just like in practice."

Others making the trip to Sacramento State are Harris in the 110M hurdles and 400M hurdles, Sage Thames in the pole vault, Jamie Robinson in the javelin, Bobby Evers and Sabrina Taylor in the long jump, Irene Kimaiyo qualified for the 5,000M, Lacy Wilson in the high jump, and Althea Chambers will compete in the 800M.

Qualifying rounds continue through Thursday with the finals Saturday on CBS, Cox Channel 7.

► stephen.monahan@ttu.edu

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Tech Golf misses cut

The Texas Tech Golf team missed the final cut at the 2006 NCAA Championship Friday, finishing 27th with a three-day total of 892 (28-over).

Brandon Lakatta had his highlight of the tournament, acing the 183-yard par 3 third hole, and finished with a 77.

Oklahoma State took the title, finishing nine under as a team.

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