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(INSIDE)



GHOST RIDER GETS REVIEWED
SEE PAGE 6

(INBRIEF)

STATE

**Refinery explosion
sends 19 to hospital**

SUNRAY (AP) — The last flames were burning off at a West Texas refinery Saturday, a day after an explosion sent 19 people to the hospital and produced a billowing cloud of smoke that could be seen 60 miles away.

No deaths were reported and all employees at the Valero Energy Corp. McKee Refinery were accounted for, the company said.

The company said Saturday that the fire was "essentially extinguished."

NATION

**3 women found
bludgeoned to death**

CHICAGO (AP) — Three women were found bludgeoned to death with a hammer in two apartments on the city's far North Side, and police had a suspect in custody Sunday.

Officers found the bodies after they were called to a domestic dispute Saturday morning.

They also found a man hitting himself on the head with a blunt object, apparently trying to kill himself, police spokeswoman Monique Bond said. The 56-year-old man was hospitalized in police custody and was in fair condition early Sunday, authorities said.

WORLD

**Rice tries to revive
peace efforts**

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday she would use a three-way meeting with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to explore peace prospects.

Rice spoke before going into a meeting with moderate Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank city of Ramallah. She is to meet separately with him and later in the day with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert before all three meet on Monday in Jerusalem.

DEATH TOLL

3 | 1 | 3 | 7

U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



WINDY
HIGH 70/
LOW 41

Tuesday



PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 66/
LOW 39

INSIDE

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Senate gridlocks on troop surge debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Sunday disagreed with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's claim that the Iraq war was "the worst foreign policy mistake" in U.S. history.

White House press secretary Tony Snow said it was important to remove Saddam Hussein from power and noted that a majority of senators voted in 2002 to authorize the use of force in Iraq.

He said President Bush should

not see votes in Congress in opposition of his new Iraqi strategy as a rebuke.

"The strategy has barely had a chance to begin working," Snow said.

The House passed a nonbinding resolution Friday that rejected the president's 21,500-troop buildup in Iraq. The vote put Bush on the defensive going into a far more consequential confrontation over paying for the plan.

On Saturday, Senate Republicans foiled a Democratic bid to repudiate Bush's deployment of additional combat troops. The 56-34 vote fell four short of the 60 needed, but Democrats quickly claimed victory, noting that a majority of senators voted against the escalation.

"This war is a serious situation," Reid said Saturday. "It involves the worst foreign policy mistake in the history of this country. ... We find ourselves in a very deep hole. We

need to find a way to dig out of it."

Snow disagreed.

"The war is tough, but the solution is not to get out. It is to provide the kinds of resources and reinforcements our forces need to get the job done, and at the same time say to the Iraqis 'You guys got to step up,'" Snow responded.

He said the president understands the importance of debate about the war on Capitol Hill and understands lawmakers' anxiety about the war.

"What I would say to members of Congress is: Calm down and take a look at what's going on, and ask yourself a simple question: If you support the troops, would you deny them the reinforcements they think are necessary to complete the mission?"

Snow cited surveys that showed a majority of Americans do not want Congress to cut the purse strings for the war.

Snow appeared on "Late Edition" on CNN.

Curtain Call



WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador

GUARD JARRIUS JACKSON gets fouled while driving to the basket during the Red Raiders 95-74 victory over Colorado Saturday night at the United Spirit Arena. See Page 8 for full coverage.

Lubbock police close down Chippendale's show

By PAUL ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

After spending one night in jail, eight Chippendale dancers, their manager and a Jake's Sports Cafe manager were released from prison Saturday afternoon after being arrested for allegedly violating the city's sexually oriented business ordinance during a show at Jake's Sports Cafe Friday night.

Police said the eight dancers and two

managers were released without having to post bail.

According to police, Jake's Sports Cafe manager Duff Ripley was charged with a Class A misdemeanor when he was released from prison Saturday afternoon.

According to the Texas penal code, a person charged with a Class A misdemeanor can face a fine not to exceed \$4,000 and a one-year-or-less jail sentence.

The Chippendale dancers scheduled

three sold-out shows Friday night, but they only performed 30 minutes of one show before being arrested.

According to Lubbock Police, the Special Operations Unit arrested the dancers for simulating sex acts in violation with city ordinances. Police said the dancers broke the law because Jake's Sports Cafe does not have a sexually oriented business

CHIPPENDALE'S continued on page 2

Car bombs kill 56 in Baghdad

By BRIAN MURPHY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Two car bombs exploded in an outdoor market in Baghdad on Sunday, killing at least 56 people and injuring scores in the deadliest attack since U.S. and Iraqi forces began a major security push around the capital last week.

The twin blasts — which tore through the open-air market in the mostly Shiite district of New Baghdad — marked the first major response by militants to the sweep launched last week and a sobering reminder of the huge challenges facing any efforts against the well-armed factions.

The death toll was reported by police and ambulance service officials on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media. At least 127 people were injured, they reported.

The explosions toppled wooden vendors' stalls and utility poles, and blood pooled in the debris. Victims were carried into hospitals on makeshift stretchers or in the arms of rescuers.

A separate car bomb in the mostly Shiite area of Sadr City killed at least one person and injured 10, police said.

The U.S. military reported the deaths of two American soldiers, one of them in Baghdad who was killed when an insurgent hurled a grenade

CAR BOMBS continued on page 3

Helicopter crash kills 8 U.S. troops

By NOOR KHAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHAHJOI, Afghanistan (AP) — A U.S. helicopter suffered a "sudden, unexplained loss of power" and crashed Sunday in southeastern Afghanistan, killing eight American troops, the military said. Fourteen people on board survived.

A NATO spokesman denied the helicopter had been shot down, saying the pilot had radioed ahead to report engine problems. It was the deadliest U.S. crash in Afghanistan since last May.

The CH-47 Chinook helicopter was carrying 22 U.S. service members under overcast skies when there was a "sudden, unexplained loss of power and control and crashed," U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. David Accetta said. The 14 survivors suffered injuries.

The helicopter crashed in the Shahjoi district of Zabol province, about 50 yards from the main highway between Kabul and Kandahar, and appeared to be destroyed and scattered in several pieces.

"It was not enemy fire related," Col. Tom Collins, spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, said earlier. "The pilot was able to radio in that he was having engine problems. We're confident it was not due to enemy action."

Zabol provincial governor Dilber Jan Arman said it was possible that the "helicopter crash was due to bad weather." There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the crash.

U.S. and Afghan military blocked reporters

HELICOPTER continued on page 3

Salmonella scare affects peanut butter eaters

By **MAGGIE KIELY**
STAFF WRITER

Peanut butter, an unlikely suspect, has received the blame for a recent salmonella outbreak.

According to a press release, the Center for Disease Control began conducting investigations comparing foods eaten by people with the salmonella germ after several cases of the germ were reported in August. The CDC study found a correlation between 288 reported cases of salmonella and Peter Pan peanut butter.

Salmonella is a bacterial germ that is passed from the feces of people or animals to other people or animals through contaminated food. Once infected, symptoms usually turn up within 12 to 72 hours and include diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps. Such symptoms typically last four to seven days.

Judy Fiene, former president of the Austin Area Infection Control Council, said salmonella is so rare she has only come across the bacteria a few times in her career.

"Only a small proportion of cases are recognized," Fiene said. "A lot of people have it and they don't even know it. You can get it in a household if you don't wash your hands after going to the bathroom."

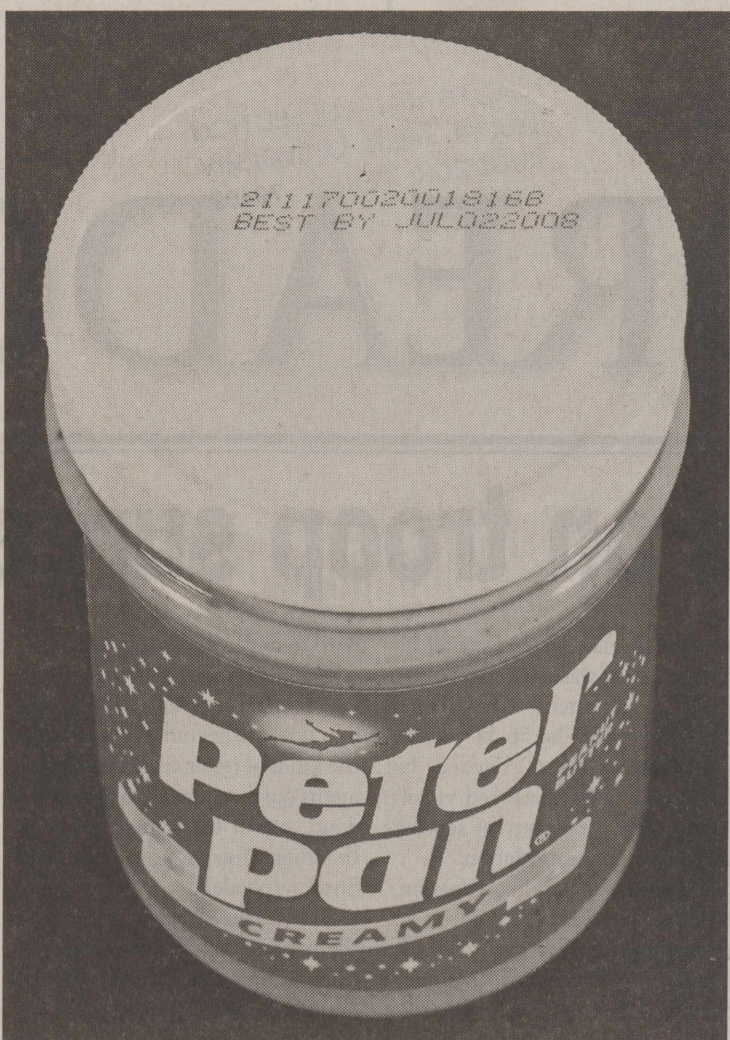
ConAgra Foods, the company that manufactures Peter Pan peanut butter and Great Value peanut butter in Georgia, is recalling all peanut butter products beginning with the product code 2111, according to the press release. Great Value peanut butter has not been found to be contaminated, but it undergoes the same risks as Peter Pan peanut butter because it is manufactured in the same factory.

The source of the outbreak is unknown, according to the CDC Web site. Investigation is still ongoing, and production of the peanut butter has been halted until all necessary safety measures have been taken.

"It is very unusual for it (salmonella) to be in peanut butter," Fiene said. "That leads me to believe that there is a contamination at the factory."

Fiene said cases she has been involved in usually sourced eggs or chicken as the salmonella culprit.

Chad Pickering, a senior finance major from Lubbock, said he heard about the recall last week and checked his Peter Pan peanut butter for the



KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Treador

THIS JAR OF Peter Pan peanut butter with a product code beginning with "2111" is said to possibly contain salmonella.

product code. He said his peanut butter product code began with "2111" so he threw it away.

"I guess I've had it for like two months," Pickering said. "They said they had the recall and that was it, I threw it away."

Pickering said he was never really worried about the potential contaminated peanut butter in his pantry.

"I haven't eaten it in a long time, and I haven't gotten sick," he said, "so I figured there was nothing wrong."

Pickering said he does not plan on getting a refund and will probably continue to eat Peter Pan peanut butter after the situation is sorted out.

Mary Lynn Hess, of Lubbock, said she realized she had a jar of Peter Pan peanut butter that was possibly contaminated last week; she became worried because she had made her son three peanut butter and jelly sandwiches from the jar.

"I wish that we could send in the

peanut butter to get tested," Hess said. "I appreciate the refund, but I want to know if my peanut butter had salmonella or not."

According to the CDC Web site, 290 cases of this type of salmonella have been reported since Aug. 1, 2006. While 44 of those inflicted were hospitalized, no deaths have been reported.

ConAgra is telling all customers to check their Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter lids for the product code. If the code begins with "2111," it possibly could be a contaminated jar. In this case, the consumer should discard the jar and send the lid in for a refund. ConAgra's address is ConAgra Foods, P.O. Box 57078, Irvin, CA, 92619-7078.

In the case of medical bills, ConAgra notified its customers that all medical expenses would be covered as long as a doctor's diagnosis, procedure form and any invoices are provided.

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WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

Olmert: Palestinian gov't must denounce violence

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Sunday that the U.S. and Israel are in total accord on shunning any Palestinian government that doesn't meet international demands to recognize Israel, renounce violence and accept existing peace accords.

Olmert said at the start of the weekly Cabinet meeting that he and President Bush had spoken by phone

on Friday about a Palestinian power-sharing accord whose platform falls short of meeting those demands, posed by the so-called Quartet of Mideast negotiators — the U.S., European Union, U.N. and Russia.

"A Palestinian government that won't accept the Quartet conditions won't receive recognition and cooperation," Olmert said. "The American and Israeli positions are totally identical on

this issue."

The comments come ahead of a three-way meeting with the Palestinians on Monday.

In a further indication of tensions before the meeting, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas canceled a press conference that had been scheduled to follow their one-on-one talks Sunday afternoon, Abbas' office said.

Asians celebrate first day of Lunar New Year

BEIJING (AP) — Asians flocked to temples, parks and Disneyland on Sunday to pray, play, eat, and celebrate the first day of the Lunar New Year, ushering in the Year of the Pig.

At the Lama Temple and White Cloud Temple in Beijing, faithful burned incense and tossed coins at incense burners, believing that if

they landed in the pot they would have better luck in the New Year.

At a traditional fair in the capital's Ditan Park, performers sang folk songs and snippets of Peking opera for throngs of people snaking through the park, many carrying balloons and pinwheels. Vendors sold pork dumplings and other treats, such as freshly made caramel candy sculpted into chubby pig shapes.

The pig is one of 12 animals (or mythical animals in the case of the dragon) on the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac, which follows the lunar calendar. According to Chinese astrology, people born in pig years are polite, honest, hardworking and loyal. They are also lucky, which is why many Chinese like to have babies in a pig year.

FBI prepares unconventional defense against terrorists

QUANTICO, Va. (AP) — Kirk Yeager makes bombs from the stuff found under kitchen sinks. He does it to help the FBI defend against what officials say is the next frontier for terrorists in the United States.

Ten years ago, peroxide-based bombs were mostly the work of young pranksters. But the easy-to-make yet deadly chemical cocktails

were embraced in the late 1990s by Palestinian militants and suicide bombers bent on killing large groups of people.

Now, Yeager says, such explosives are considered the most likely weapon that terrorists will use against the U.S.

"Every serious terrorist group knows about them and knows how to

make them," Yeager said. The forensic scientist heads the explosives unit at the FBI's laboratory.

The bombs are made by mixing chemicals used in common household items and easily found at drugstores or hardware stores. Experts know them as TATP, short for triacetone triperoxide, and HMTD, or hexamethylene triperoxide diamine.

Man sues IBM for \$5 million for Internet addiction

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — A man who was fired by IBM for visiting an adult chat room at work is suing the company for \$5 million, claiming he is an Internet addict who deserves treatment and sympathy rather than dismissal.

James Pacenza, 58, of Montgomery, says he visits chat rooms to treat traumatic stress incurred

in 1969 when he saw his best friend killed during an Army patrol in Vietnam.

In papers filed in federal court in White Plains, Pacenza said the stress caused him to become "a sex addict, and with the development of the Internet, an Internet addict." He claimed protection under the American with Disabilities Act.

His lawyer, Michael Diederich, says Pacenza never visited pornographic sites at work, violated no written IBM rule and did not surf the Internet any more or any differently than other employees. He also says age discrimination contributed to IBM's actions. Pacenza, 55 at the time, had been with the company for 19 years and says he could have retired in a year.

Chippendale's

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 permit.

Beatrice Alvarez, a Jake's Sports Cafe waitress who was working the night of the arrests, said she does not believe the Chippendale's dancers did anything wrong.

"We opened the doors at 6 (p.m.) and the first show began at 8 (p.m.)," Alvarez said. "The show lasted maybe 30 minutes before the dancers were arrested. I don't think the dancers broke any rules. They were fully clothed, except for their shirts. They came off the stage only to blow on a woman's neck as part of the show."

Alvarez said after the show was stopped, police forced all

the show's guests to exit, and Jake's Sports Cafe was temporarily closed.

Alvarez said \$20,000 in ticket sales will be refunded to all the disappointed guests. A manager of Jake's Sports Cafe said the cafe faced an overall loss of \$90,000 in one night.

"No one was allowed to close their tabs," Alvarez said. "It was a mess."

She said one of the waitresses had to inform an officer if they did not allow a guest to pay for a large tab, then the police officer would have to pay for it.

Police were at Jake's before and during the Chippendale's show, Alvarez said, to make sure no laws were broken.

"We were told what we could and could not do about 30 minutes before the show," she said. "As far as I know, we followed everything."

The city ordinance states nude and non-nude dancers must be on a stage 18 inches above the floor and six feet

away from patrons. Lubbock City Councilman Floyd Price said the Lubbock City Council will begin looking into the case Monday to see if any side is at fault. He said the investigation will look into whether the police provided enough guidelines for the event or if Jake's Sports Cafe knowingly broke the city ordinance. Price said the only information he currently has is what he watched on television Friday night.

Alvarez said at least seven police officers were in the crowd and a paddy wagon was parked outside the bar before the show started.

She said what is most disappointing to her is the amount of money she could have made in tips at the sold-out show Friday night.

"Usually, waitresses make over \$200 on a Friday night," she said. "In my three years of working here, we have never had to close early for any reason."

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Use of coal plants comes under fire

HOUSTON (AP) — The state's most contested environmental fight in decades is a legal and political dispute over 19 proposed coal-fired electric power plants in East and South Texas, with rivals accusing each other of spending millions to confuse Texans about the plants' dangers and benefits.

Dallas-based TXU Power wants to build 11 of the plants and says they will lower utility costs and ensure a sufficient power supply for the future. Environmentalists, business groups and natural gas companies say the plants would generate so much pollution that the state would fail to meet federal clean-air standards, jeopardizing millions in federal funding.

Gov. Rick Perry issued an executive order "fast-tracking" the usual 18-month hearing process for such plants. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality already has granted permits for four of the plants, and is expected to decide

on the remainder within the next six months.

Administrative hearings on six of TXU's proposed plants are scheduled to begin Wednesday and continue for about two weeks. The hearing judge will then make a recommendation to TCEQ by April 23, and TCEQ officials will then decide whether to approve the plants.

With the clock ticking, plant opponents in the Legislature have lined up behind a nonbinding resolution sponsored by state Rep. Charles "Doc" Anderson, a Republican whose Waco-area district would be surrounded by nine of the plants. Anderson's resolution would ask the TCEQ to impose a 180-day moratorium on applications for pulverized coal-fired power plant permits. The resolution is now pending in the House Committee on Environmental Regulation, which is chaired by state Rep. Dennis Bonnen, an Angleton Republican usually at odds with environmentalists.

Helicopter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from entering the crash site.

In July, an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter plunged to the ground shortly after taking off from Kandahar Air Field while responding to a reported rocket attack against the air base. One crew member was killed.

In May 2006, a CH-47 Chinook helicopter went down while attempting a nighttime landing on a small mountaintop in eastern Kunar province, killing 10 U.S. soldiers. In 2005, a U.S. helicopter crashed in Kunar after apparently being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing 16 American troops. The military relies heavily on helicopters for transport and operations because of Afghanistan's forbidding terrain and lack of passable roads. Dust and the high altitude of Afghan's mountains take a heavy toll on helicopter engines.

Thousands of U.S. forces are deployed in southeastern Afghanistan.

Separately, NATO-led forces in southern Afghanistan shot to death an Afghan man they mistook for a suicide bomber, the alliance said Sunday.

The man was crossing a road Saturday about seven miles west of Kandahar and appeared to be approaching a NATO convoy, NATO's International Security Assistance Force said in a statement.

"He appeared to be chanting and refused to heed warnings to stop," the ISAF statement said. "As he continued his approach, members of the convoy noted what appeared to be a device with wires protruding from it on his chest."

The man failed to stop after the troops fired two warning shots, so they fired on him, said Capt. Andre Salloum, an ISAF spokesman in Kandahar.

The troops subsequently searched the man and found that "he had twine, straps and other materials protruding from his jacket, which resembled wires, but there were no explosives," the ISAF statement said.

"Any loss of life is a tragic affair; however, ISAF forces take every step necessary to protect themselves when confronted with threats or suspicious behavior," Salloum said.

NATO-led troops shot to death another Afghan man on Saturday as he ran between vehicles of a military

convoy stopped near Kandahar's military airfield.

The man, whom the troops also believed to be a suicide bomber, was taken to a military hospital for treatment but died of his wounds, ISAF said in a statement Saturday.

President Hamid Karzai has repeatedly called on U.S. and NATO-led troops to exercise extreme caution to prevent civilian casualties. Dozens of civilian deaths during operations by foreign troops have undermined his authority among Afghans.

Afghan troops, meanwhile, detained 11 suspected militants Saturday at a checkpoint in Sangin district of the volatile neighboring province, Helmand, said Defense Ministry spokesman Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi.

The men were traveling in two trucks and were carrying mortar tubes when they were stopped, Azimi said Sunday.

In an operation that ended early Sunday, British and Afghan troops attacked a major Taliban extremist headquarters south of Garmsir in Helmand, said an ISAF statement. The troops destroyed three major compounds and a tunnel complex linking them.

There were no British or Afghan casualties. It was not immediately clear if any Taliban were killed or arrested in the operation.

Southern Afghanistan is the center of the growing Taliban insurgency as well as the world's biggest opium poppy-producing area.

Meanwhile, al-Qaida released a video showing a young man asking for forgiveness from family, friends and teachers before he purportedly carries out a suicide car bombing against foreign troops in Afghanistan.

The video also carries previously released comments from Ayman al-Zawahiri, al-Qaeda's No. 2 leader, as a train of armed men are shown walking through mountains and while an explosion hits a military vehicle on a turn in a road.

In the video, the man, who does not identify himself, asks his parents to pray for their patience when they get word that he has been "martyred."

Last year, militant supporters of the resurgent Taliban stepped up attacks, targeting Afghan government and foreign security forces. According to the U.S. military, there were 139 suicide attacks during 2006, up from 27 in 2005.

Changes coming to meat, poultry inspections

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first major changes to food inspection in a decade will increase federal scrutiny of meat and poultry plants where the danger from E. coli and other germs is high or where past visits have found unsafe practices.

The new policy will result in fewer inspections at plants with lower risks and better records for handling meat and poultry.

"We're just putting resources where the risk is greatest, and those plants that demonstrate excellent control will get less of our resources," said Richard

Raymond, the Agriculture Department's top food safety official.

To decide the level of scrutiny a plant should get, the "risk-based" system will consider the type of product and the plant's record of food safety violations.

A plant that makes hamburger and has repeated violations would get more inspection. A plant that makes cooked, canned ham and has a clean track record would get less scrutiny.

"There are certain food products that carry a higher inherent risk than others," Raymond, the undersecretary for food safety, said in an interview with The Associated Press. "And there are certain plants

that do a better job of controlling risk than others.

For now, the new system will be used in processing plants, not in slaughter plants. No timetable has been set for shifting to the new inspection system.

Critics say the idea sounds good, but they fear department officials are rushing a complex new system into place.

"One of the concerns is that this is simply an effort to save money in a tight budget year," said Caroline Smith DeWaal, food safety director at the Center for Science in the Public Interest. "We want to make sure a budget shortfall is not what's driving these important inspection

decisions."

Raymond says the agency's budget is not driving changes in the inspection program. "We're not going to save any money on this part of risk-based inspection," he said, adding there could be cost-savings if the changes are extended later to slaughtering operations.

The risk-based inspection system will be the most significant change to food safety inspections in a decade.

The department overhauled inspections in 1996 when hundreds of people got sick and four children died after eating undercooked hamburgers from Jack in the Box restaurants.

Car bombs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at his vehicle. The other soldier died when a patrol came under fire north of Baghdad, the statement said. Both died Saturday.

Iraq reopened border crossings with Iran after a three-day closure that coincided with the launch of the security push.

The key Shalamcha border point, about 35 miles east of the southern city of Basra, was cleared of blockades along with others along the long frontier with Iran, said the director of border operations, Brig. Gen. Rahdi Karim al-Makiki. The United States and allies claim Iraqi militants receive aid and supplies from Iran, including parts for lethal roadside bombs targeting U.S. forces. Iran denies any role in trafficking weapons.

The Iranian and Syrian borders were closed as the security operation got under way in Baghdad. A spokesman for the plan, Brig. Gen. Qassim Moussawi was quoted in the

Azzaman newspaper that the borders would be reopened gradually but remain under "intense observations."

In Tehran, Syrian President Bashar Assad held talks with Iranian leaders, including President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Though allies, they are generally on opposing sides of Iraq's sectarian divide: Iran backing the majority Shiites and Syria seen as a key supporter of Sunnis.

But Iran denied that radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr has crossed over from Iraq.

"No, he is not in Iran," Mohammad Ali Hoseini, spokesman for the ministry, told journalists during a regular press briefing in Iran's first comment on the issue. "The report is baseless and a kind of psychological warfare against Iran by the U.S. to put more pressure on Iran."

The chief U.S. military spokesman in Iraq, Maj. Gen. William Caldwell, said Thursday that al-Sadr "is not in the country" and that "all indications are, in fact, that he is in Iran." An adviser to Iraq's prime minister also said al-Sadr was in Iran, but he fled to escape possible capture during the increased

security sweeps.

Al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia in Iraq is widely believed to receive Iranian money and weapons, but his forces are also cooperating on some levels with Iraq's U.S.-backed government.

In Baghdad, U.S. and Iraqi forces expanded their network of checkpoints and moved search teams into new neighborhoods to seek weapons and suspected militant leaders. But the more difficult goal was convincing nervous residents that the more aggressive policing could be a genuine sign of hope.

Iraqi officials had quickly boasted of the security plan's successes after several days of relative calm. A spokesman for the plan, Brig. Gen. Qassim Moussawi, said Saturday that Baghdad had witnessed an 80 percent drop in violence since it took effect.

In past security drives, militants simply held back while soldiers pushed through and then returned to their campaigns of bombings and attacks. On Thursday, seven civilians were killed in a series of car bombs on the first full day of the security operation.

"The Baghdad security plan is very

important to push Iraq ahead," said Haider al-Obadi, a parliament member from the Dawaa party of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

On Saturday, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told al-Maliki that the security push needs to "rise above sectarianism" and tackle both Sunni and Shiite districts in order to be credible, said an Iraqi official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media.

Sunni officials have complained that the troops are concentrating on Sunni areas and have avoided Shiite strongholds in the city, including the Mahdi Army hotbed of Sadr City.

Rice also urged al-Maliki not to squander the relative calm in the capital since the security operation got under way.

"None of us knows the full story of precisely what the militias are doing," Rice said. "But if there is a diminution in the violence as a result, if they have decided that they are not going to challenge the Baghdad security plan, then the use of that time for good purposes could make the situation much more stable."

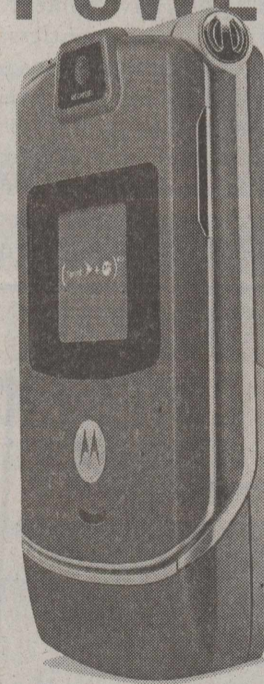
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Even college students have to participate on all juries

By KEVIN BEHR
MINNESOTA DAILY (U. OF MINNESOTA)

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — About three weeks ago, Alison Carter got a letter many people dread: a summons to jury duty.

The communications studies and English literature senior at the University of Minnesota said she was initially nervous and upset by the letter. A past experience with the court system that confused her record with a criminal's left her with negative feelings about going to court, she said.

"I was a little frustrated" upon receiving the letter, Carter said. "Initially, I was dreading it."

So Carter did what just about anybody would do: She tried to get out of it. Carter said she called and asked to be removed from service because she's a student. She said she thought she'd be able to get out of it because her mom had jury duty waived while she was in college.

Unfortunately for Carter, being a college student isn't an excuse for missing jury duty, said Lynn Lahd, Hennepin (Minn.) County court operations supervisor of the jury division.

Potential jurors are selected from a pool of names collected from driver's licenses and voter registra-

tion cards, Lahd said. So if students' addresses are located in Hennepin County or they have voted, they're fair game for jury service, she said.

Exemptions from jury service are limited to those who: are serving in the military, have a doctor's note saying they are physically or mentally unable to serve, or are 70 or older and decide to opt out, Lahd said.

A special nonresidency guideline might apply to students, however.

Students who attend courses at the university and hold permanent residence in a different county or state are exempt as long as they provide a driver's license showing their permanent address.

Students "get frustrated with us, but we do require documentation to prove where they're residing," Lahd said. Otherwise, it would just be too easy for people to avoid service, she said.

Carter, to whom the exemption doesn't apply, said she was upset with the rule primarily because she has to focus on class and graduate in May. She said she can't just take two weeks off during school to sit in the courthouse.

People summoned to jury service must report to the courthouse every day for two weeks and wait to be called to hear a case, Lahd said.

Even then, they're not guaranteed a spot. The courts recommend bringing a book.

Carter thought maybe the non-exemption rules were new, but Nancy Peters, spokesperson for the 4th Judicial District, set the record straight. It simply isn't a new thing, she said. College and high school students have always been eligible for jury service, Peters said.

For students who are summoned but taking classes, their only recourse is to postpone their service date until classes take a break anytime within the next six months, Peters said.

So, Carter deferred her service until July, but she said she's afraid it could hurt her chances of being hired at a full-time job.

Employers must excuse workers to attend jury duty, but don't have to reimburse their wages for missed work.

If none of that sounds appealing, the last option remaining is to skip out completely, but beware: An arrest warrant will be issued for anyone dodging jury duty, Peters said.

Carter said she will probably be reading a lot during her two-week stint as a potential juror.

"Hopefully I'll get put on an interesting case," she said. "But, at this point, I don't really care."

Communication is key to preventing suicide

By MATT WALTON
TECHNICIAN (N.C. STATE)

(U-WIRE) RALEIGH, N.C. — This past week the Wolfpack family lost one of its own, sadly in an apparent suicide. We must now ask ourselves what we as a campus can do to make people realize there is no need to turn to suicide.

In his last LiveJournal entry, Frank Chen stated, "I don't feel like I'd be particularly missed." He went on to say, "I'm replaceable." These statements should send red flags throughout the entire University.

It is imperative for members of the campus community to make more of an effort to get to know and understand one another. Establishing this kind of bond would hopefully deter one from feeling the need to take his or her life.

According to suicide.org, a young person (age 15 - 24), on average, commits suicide every 2 hours and 12 minutes. Furthermore, according to a 2006 study by the American

College Health Association, 10 percent of college students have considered suicide. These numbers are far too high, and we must act to reduce them.

After someone commits suicide, friends and family members often say they were unaware of what the person was dealing with. This is a major problem, and one that we must strive to solve.

It is easy to notice how cut off from the world we have become by walking around campus. MP3 players and cell phones are distractions and deprive us of personal human interaction. It is time to stop distancing ourselves from our peers and reenter the world of conversation.

No one should feel ostracized or replaceable in society. Everyone has a place in his or her environment. Our University has countless organizations that cover the entire spectrum of student interests. These groups should strive to have open hearts, open minds and open doors to the entire campus community.

The sad part about suicide

is people could be contemplating it and no one may ever know.

According to statistics, if you are in a class of 100 students about 10 of them have thought about ending their lives — one of them might even be sitting next to you. Unlike having a cold or the flu, there are often no signs that people have thought about taking their own lives. Usually, all that is left is a note, a video or posting on a Web site, such as LiveJournal. Unfortunately, when people see the video or read the note, they question its validity or it is already too late.

Only when people announce their intentions do they get the attention they desperately deserve before their thoughts turn to suicide.

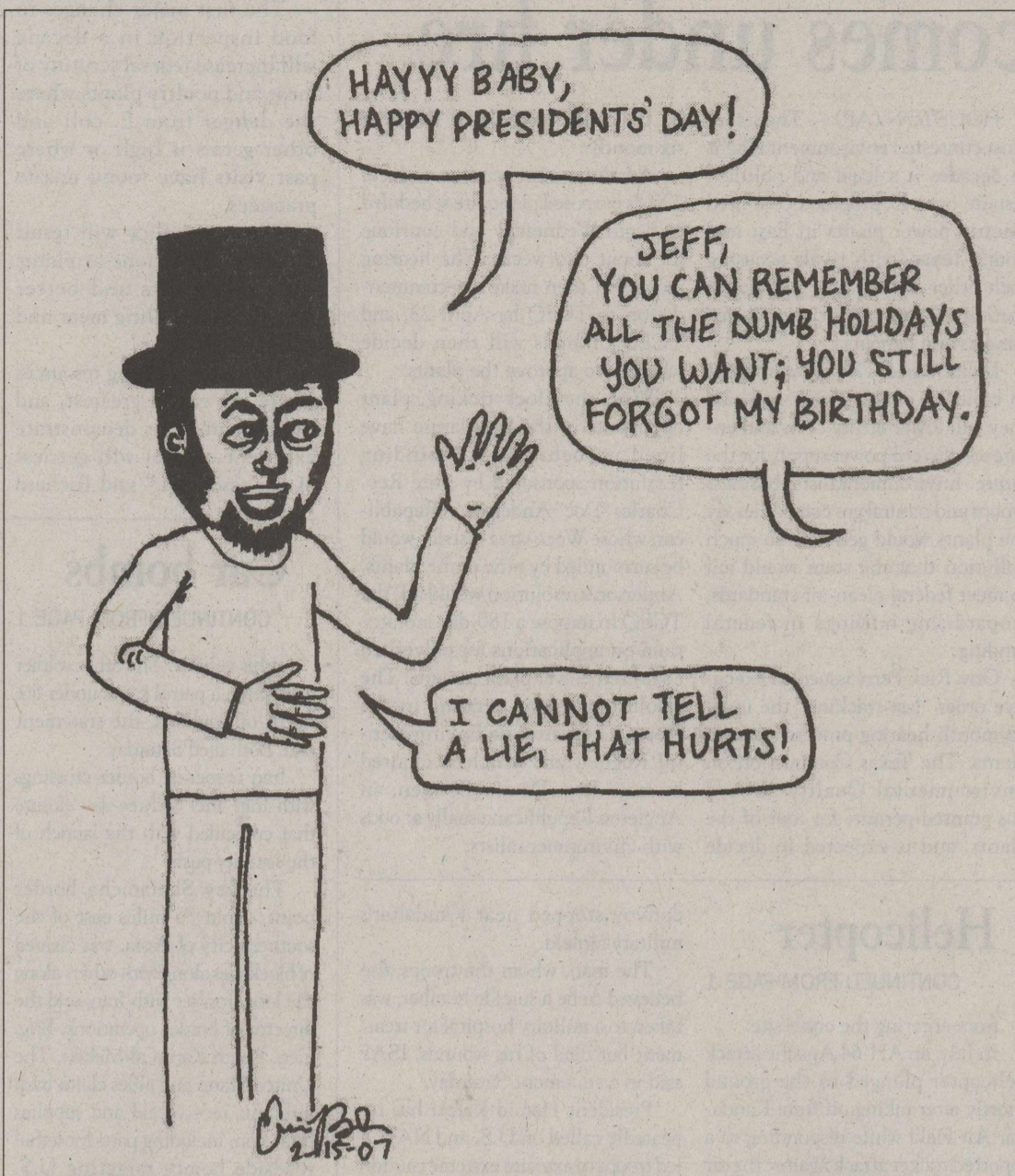
As members of the N.C. State community, there is only one way to address this issue, and that is to become more in-tune with each other and willing to reach out.

It is only in this way that we can take the first steps to eliminating suicide.



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"How about this \$1,700 charge in December? Was that for the mortgage, health insurance or Starbucks?"



Vista opens host of problems for PC users

By JOHN WENZ
DAILY NEBRASKAN (U. OF NEBRASKA)

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — Vista is Spanish for "view," but the new Windows operating system seems to have a pretty bleak outlook.

In fact, like solitary confinement, the real view is through the tiny hole in the door; the gleams of light in "the hole" from "Shawshank Redemption."

You see, Vista, to help the RIAA and MPAA in their quests for increased piracy protection, has installed a number of measures to ensure that piracy come down with an iron-clad fist.

The efforts towards curbing piracy are a nice step — after all, piracy is a crime.

But the way Vista has gone about it has many worried about what it means for the functionality of their computers.

For starters, the Green Party of the United Kingdom is launching an offensive against Vista, whose content management systems require frequent authentication which, if not performed, will shut the users out of the operating system.

In addition, older computer monitors can be shut out of Vista so that they can't be used to screen capture movies.

"Future archaeologists will be able to identify a 'Vista Upgrade Layer' when they go through our landfill sites," Sián Berry, female principal speaker for the Green Party told reporters.

That's a pretty loaded statement, but unfortunately a true one. In order to stay up to date, computer upgrades will be required not necessarily because the computer is out of date, but because it doesn't fit in with the digital rights management parameters.

In a world in which open is the new way — open source software, encyclopedias, idea exchange, videos, public books and the like — Vista is closing itself off, while still trying to visually imitate UNIX-based systems like Linux and Mac OS X.

With all the digital rights management technologies built in, there are additional dangers outside of an "outdated" monitor or other computer hardware, or a user who misplaced their serial number getting permanently locked out of their own computer.

The DRM software itself is expensive enough that it can take a viable toll on the processing power of the computer.

In "A Cost Analysis of Windows Vista Content Protection," a breakdown of the OS by Peter Gutmann, he refers to the DRM software as, "the longest suicide note in history."

Essentially, the computer's resources will be continually burdened by the DRM software, det-

rimental enough to affect system performance — from random access memory to processor speed, in addition to the space it may take up on the hard drives.

For older computers, this could significantly slow down the computers processing and memory and create yet another addition to the garbage heap.

In their persistent attacks on piracy, there have been a number of embarrassments — the 2005 Sony spyware debacle comes to mind, in which the company encoded spyware into their CDs to monitor how consumers used the product, but also opened the door for Trojan horse viruses in the process.

If Microsoft and various PC companies have been worried about Apple gunning for them before, they're going to have to fight back pretty hard — especially in the face of dissatisfied customers who'd prefer the idea that everything they need is right before them, and they can simply plug and play away without the interruption.

Already, Apple is telling their iPod consumers not to upgrade to Vista just yet — the iPod family doesn't yet have a way to port over to the system with

DRM software. I've heard it likened (albeit by my editor) as a move that's maybe Microsoft packaging a failed experiment — a lemon in a box — to give themselves an excuse to go down the UNIX shell route after trying to sate the blood thirst of the RIAA and MPAA and various software companies.

In the wave of open source, it's certainly a bleak outlook — will the average user-designed program pass the test of the DRM software? Will they be able to conform to the system?

Macs can update their obnoxious Mac vs. PC commercials with a new addendum — the stumpy guy in the suit trapped inside a small cell crying to get out as Justin Long turns up his iPod to try to avoid the muffled screams. Then he can dangle an iPod Shuffle or Nano as comfort to Stumpy, who will be unable to let it into his box.

This isn't average Mac vs. PC snobbery in action. This is a matter of consumers being played into the hands of companies who have taken the scorched earth offensive against their own consumers.

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Tech debate team receiving national attention

By NAOMI KASKELA
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech Speech and Debate team is ranked among the top 10 teams in the nation for the first time in five years.

The team followed its individual and team titles at the Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association state championships held Feb. 2 to Feb. 4, with wins at the United States Air Force Academy tournament on Feb. 9 to Feb. 11.

"I did have high expectations," said Joe Gantt, the director of forensics. "I had high expectations and we met those expectations."

Tech placed third out of 28 schools at the USAFA tournament.

Gantt said the win at the state tournament was especially satisfying because of the school they beat to earn the title.

"We were especially proud of it because this is the first time we've competed with Texas A&M for the state title," he said. "And just like in basketball, the results were the same."

The win at state was also expected, he said.

"I think a lot of people expected it given our results from earlier in the year," he said.

Compared to past teams, the 2007 Tech team is younger overall.

Amy McCarthy, a freshman

political science major from Paris, Texas, said she is looking forward to working with the other freshmen on the team in the future. "Absolutely, they're going to be tough competition though," she said. "We all get along really well."

Gantt said the youth of the team resulted in some rough spots toward the beginning of the year, but those rough spots have gone away.

The juniors and seniors on the team are stronger than any Tech has had before, he said.

While expectations going into the state meet were easy to set, Gantt said, going into nationals is not the same.

"It's hard to have concrete expectations with nationals," he said.

Currently, seven students have qualified for nationals, but several others are close to qualifying as well.

"I mean, they've qualified for nationals which means they're good, but everyone will be good," Gantt said.

March will be the last opportunity for students to qualify for the Individual National Tournament in April, while the Debate National Tournament is scheduled to be conducted in March.

McCarthy said she is nervous because she still has not qualified for nationals yet, although she is close.

"I'm really nervous because I have to get another event qualified," she said.

To prepare for nationals, Gantt said individual competitors will be polishing their events, while the debate team has as many practice debates as possible.

"On the individual side, we'll be taking the event and tweaking them a bit," he said.

At nationals, the biggest competition for Tech will be Western Kentucky, which is the favorite in both debate and individual events, he said.

Still, Tech's coaching staff will provide the Red Raiders with a solid base.

"We have the best coaching staff in the country in my opinion," Gantt said.

Recognition is something McCarthy said she hopes will increase for the Speech and Debate team at Tech.

"I don't think a lot of people know about us," she said. "I think that forensics needs to have a place."

Gantt said Speech and Debate is for anyone who is willing to put in the effort, whether or not he or she has background experience.

"We are always looking for new people to be members of the team," he said. "We view this as an educational activity first and foremost. We talk about things every major on campus talks about."

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At least 23 bombs explode in southern Thailand killing 3

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — At least 23 bombs exploded Sunday in apparently coordinated attacks in parts of southern Thailand plagued by a Muslim insurgency, killing three people and wounding more than 50, the military said.

The bombings targeted electricity transmitters, hotels, karaoke bars and markets in the country's southernmost provinces, the only parts of predominantly Buddhist Thailand with Muslim majorities. Two schools were torched.

Violence in the south has been escalating in recent months despite a major policy shift by the military-imposed government, which is trying to replace an earlier, iron-fisted approach in dealing with the rebels with a "hearts and minds" campaign.

More than 2,000 people have died in the provinces bordering Malaysia since the insurgency erupted in 2004, fueled by accusations of decades of misuse by the central government. The insurgents have not announced their goals, but they are believed to be fighting for a separate state imbued with radical Islamic ideology.

In Sunday's attacks, two people were killed and 33 injured in Yala province, while one person

"We believe that the attacks were planned to cause division, create fear among the people. They want to show that they are still capable (of carrying out attacks)," he said, adding the military has sent additional troops to the region.

Two explosions tore through electricity transmitters in Pattani province, causing blackouts in several areas, said Pattani police Maj. Gen. Kokiart Wongworachart.

Five bombs exploded in the border town of Sungai Kolok, a popular destination for Malaysian and Singaporean tourists, said Maj. Gen. Yongyut Chareonwanit, the Narathiwat police chief. At least two schools in the province had been torched, he said.

Wichai said seven bombs went off in the Yala provincial capital and another seven in the border town of Betong, which also attracts tourists to its entertainment venues. A sizable number of Sunday's bombings were against karaoke parlors, which are regarded as decadent by the Islamic rebels.

Two bombings were also reported in neighboring Songkhla province.

"We believe that the attacks were planned to cause division (and) create fear among the people. They want to show that they are still capable (of carrying out attacks)."

— COL. WICHAI THONGDAENG
MILITARY SPOKESMAN

died and 20 were wounded in a tourist town in Narathiwat province, said Col. Wichai Thongdaeng, a military spokesman.

College of Engineering celebrates Engineers Week

By GLENYS BOLLS
STAFF WRITER

The College of Engineering is celebrating Engineers Week today through Saturday in conjunction with National Engineers Week.

The week kicks off with Pink Engineering Day, which celebrates women in engineering fields. According to the National Engineers Week Web site, www.eweek.org, women are highly underrepresented in the world of engineering. Because of this, Thursday is national Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day.

"The ratio's pretty bad, I'm going to be honest," said Maanisaad Shahriar, a junior petroleum engineering major from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. "I know in the petroleum department we have about 350 undergraduates and like 35 women. That's like 10 percent. I think the ratio's much better in the (Chemical Engineering) and (Mechanical Engineering) departments, but overall it's pretty bad."

Still, women are not the only group being appealed to Tuesday. The college is reaching out to local middle school students with its "Rockets Away!" program in the Student Union Building from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program brings in eighth-grade students from the Hale Center Independent School District; the students will learn to use physics through the design, building and launching of model rockets.

"I think it's pretty good because it gets the younger people interested in engineering," said Chase Henslee, a graduate student in electrical engineering from Wolfe City. "It lets them know what en-

gineering students might be doing, more hands-on kind of stuff."

Wednesday's activity, a party from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Science Spectrum, celebrates the premier of the new PBS show "Design Squad," which tries to attract interest from younger audiences. The show — aimed at 9-year-olds to 12-year-olds — follows two teams of high school students as they compete to design, construct and test machines. Professional engineers mentor the teams.

"That's pretty neat," said Kyle Purvis, a senior chemical engineering major from Carlsbad, N.M. "I think a lot of people don't go into engineering because they don't know anything about it. There's a lot of people who don't understand what engineers do, so I think that's a good way to get information out to students."

More information will be available in a Research Open House Thursday. Anyone interested can

visit the engineering labs where students will see demonstrations, including a heart simulator, pulsed power and the applied-vision laboratory. Open from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., the Lankford Lab in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Building will also offer informational sessions.

"The research is the most informative session," Shahriar said. "Every department is going to have informative PowerPoint slides and presentations to give people a better idea of what engineering deals with."

Friday's first event, "Trebuchet With Toilet Paper," begins at noon in the Engineering Key. Because a trebuchet is a medieval catapult that was used frequently to bombard castles with large rocks, the name implies the event's nature.

"It's a competition," Purvis said. "They're going to launch things across campus."

At 5:30 p.m., the Iron Ring Order of the Engineer Ceremony

will begin in Biology Lecture Hall Room 100. At the ceremony, engineering graduates will receive their engineering rings. The ring is a sign to all other engineers that the person wearing it has graduated with a degree in engineering.

"The engineers who graduate with a good GPA automatically get selected into the Iron Ring Order," Shahriar said.

The final event of Engineers Week is the Honors Convocation, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday. Students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher will be recognized, and one student will receive the McAuley Award, a \$5000 award given to an outstanding graduating senior.

Shahriar said Engineers Week is a good way to recognize people in the engineering field, but it also serves another purpose.


"Texas Tech has a really good College of Engineering," he said. "Engineers Week is a way of promoting it."

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"There's a lot of people who don't understand what engineers do, so I think that's a good way to get information out to students."

— KYLE PURVIS
TECH STUDENT

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7 AM Curious	Today A fashion show; baby trends; affordable beach resorts (HD)	Early Show	Believer	(500) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna	Paid Program
7:30 Clifford			Life Today	Awesome Adv.	Judge Lopez	To Be Announced	
8 AM Dragon Tales	It's a Big World	700 Club	Eye for an Eye	Judge	Greg Behrendt	Monel Williams	Martha
9 AM Sesame Street			Judge Mathis	Greg Behrendt	Monel Williams	Martha	
9:30							
10 AM Callow	Regis and Kelly	Price is Right	Divorce Court	Divorce Court	Paid Program	The View (HD)	Tyra Banks
10:30 Barney			Divorce Court	Divorce Court	Paid Program		
11 AM Teletubbies	Jopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Alex	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Dr. Keith Ablow
11:30 Mister Rogers	Jopardy! (HD)		Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	
12 PM Q&A	News	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer	Costly Show	Costly Show	All My Children	Access
12:30 Gary Spatz	Days of Our Lives	Bob & Beaur	As the World Turns	Maury	Roseanne	One Life to Live	People's Court
1 PM Scrapbook	Passions	Guiding Light	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Cristina Court
1:30 Jay Jay	The Lions	Inside Edition	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill
2 PM Puppy	Coprah Winfrey	Judge Joe	Jerry Springer	Reba	Paid Program	Reba	Reba
2:30 The Lions	Cyberchase	Judge Joe	Jerry Springer	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba
3 PM Reading	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Maury	Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Rachael Ray	Fox 34 News First@Four
3:30 Cyberchase	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Maury	Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Rachael Ray	Fox 34 News First@Four
4 PM Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Maury	Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Rachael Ray	Fox 34 News First@Four
4:30 Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Maury	Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Rachael Ray	Fox 34 News First@Four
5 PM Mays & Miguel	News	KLBK 13 News	Access	Still Standing	Still Standing	ABC News	Simpsons
5:30 Bus Report	News	CBS News	Family Feud	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill
6 PM Newshour with Jim Lehrer	Wheel (HD)	Millions	Extra	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill	King Of The Hill
6:30 Jim Lehrer	Deal or No Deal	How I Met (HD)	Wicked Wicked Games (HD)	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond
7 PM Antiques Roadshow	Deal or No Deal	How I Met (HD)	Wicked Wicked Games (HD)	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond	Everybody Loves Raymond
7:30 American Experience	Heroes "Unaffected" (HD)	Two & 1/2 (HD)	Rules of (HD)	Watch Me Sleep on Saturday (HD)	Getaways (HD)	Supernanny "McAlie Family"	24 "Day 6: 8:00 PM-4:00 PM"
8 PM *** "Book of Bridges" (W)	Heroes "Unaffected" (HD)	Two & 1/2 (HD)	Rules of (HD)	Watch Me Sleep on Saturday (HD)	Getaways (HD)	Supernanny "McAlie Family"	24 "Day 6: 8:00 PM-4:00 PM"
8:30 Book of Bridges	Heroes "Unaffected" (HD)	Two & 1/2 (HD)	Rules of (HD)	Watch Me Sleep on Saturday (HD)	Getaways (HD)	Supernanny "McAlie Family"	24 "Day 6: 8:00 PM-4:00 PM"
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9:30 Book of Bridges	Heroes "Unaffected" (HD)	Two & 1/2 (HD)	Rules of (HD)	Watch Me Sleep on Saturday (HD)	Getaways (HD)	Supernanny "McAlie Family"	24 "Day 6: 8:00 PM-4:00 PM"
10 PM Bus Report	News	KLBK 13 News	70s	Sex and City	Sex and City	Sex and City	Sex and City
10:30 Charlie Rose	(3:35) Jay Leno (HD)	(3:35) Jay Leno (HD)	King of Hill	Sex and City	Sex and City	(3:35) Nightline	Pravda
11 PM News	(3:35) Late Night (3:35) Craig Ferguson	(3:35) Late Night (3:35) Craig Ferguson	Malcolm	The Nanny	The Nanny	(3:35) ET	Friends
11:30 News	(3:35) Late Night (3:35) Craig Ferguson	(3:35) Late Night (3:35) Craig Ferguson	Malcolm	The Nanny	The Nanny	(3:35) ET	Friends
12 AM Distinct	(3:35) Last Call	(3:35) Last Call	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program
12:30 GED	(3:35) Last Call	(3:35) Last Call	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program

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PRISONBREAK 7:00

24 8:00

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Healthy Relationships Week brings discussions, seminars to students

By **HALEY DAVIS**
STAFF WRITER

Students interested in learning how to build and maintain healthy relationships can participate in a variety of activities offered during Healthy Relationships Week.

The four-day string of events begins today and is filled with seminars and discussions about aspects of healthy relationships.

Healthy Relationships Week is comprised of four different seminars and discussions. The first discussion will be from 8:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. tonight in the Red Raider Lounge of the Student Union Building; it is entitled "How to Talk About the Tough Stuff & the Sweet Stuff in Close Relationships."

Lane Powell, a faculty member in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, is leading tonight's discussion along with her husband.

"Our goal is to provide education that will promote healthy relationships," she said.

Powell said relationships today aren't what they used to be. "We want to promote lasting relationships, and there seems to be an increase in irresponsibility," she said. "We're concerned that so many marriages today end in divorce."

Powell is just one of the many people trying to promote healthy relationships throughout the week. She said there are a variety of departments involved, like the Tech Council on Family Relations and Phi U, which is an honorary organization for HDFS majors.

Powell said she and her husband, who are co-facilitators of the Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment, both agree about what the foundation of a

lasting, healthy relationship is.

"Communication is your foundation," she said. "You've got to learn, really, how to say the sweet things and the tough things, in ways that will enhance your relationship rather than making it conflicted and problematic. That doesn't mean you don't discuss the tough things, but you just can do it in ways that are less harmful in the relationship."

Powell said she thinks the recipe for a successful relationship is simple.

"You want to keep the positives high and the negatives as low as possible," she said.

Along with tonight's event, Healthy Relationships Week is offering a panel discussion featuring couples at diverse points across the marriage lifespan. The panel features one student couple who have been married for 18 months and another couple who have been married for 44 years.

"We're going to let them tell us what they wish they'd known about marriage before they got married and what kinds of things have helped them to build a strong relationship," she said of the panel's participants.

Powell said there will be two events offered Tuesday; one of the which includes an abbreviated discussion about the book "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk," while the other event features a video about the changing nature of families, followed by a discussion led by HDFS graduate students.

Dewain Stroebel, a senior HDFS major from Cisco, said he has been organizing the week of events along with Jeremy Boden, who is leading the discussion of "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk."

"A lot of people drift into relationships for the wrong rea-

sons," Stroebel said.

Stroebel is in agreement with Powell concerning the role communication plays in a good relationship.

"Realize how much it (communication) needs to happen in a relationship. Really how much it really doesn't among college kids," he said. "They drift into it for more so of attraction and sexual relations with another person, and basically just the whole bar scene atmosphere, which isn't where you're gonna find your soul mate."

Powell said she thinks students in today's world have many things on their plates, and some don't necessarily know how to prioritize those responsibilities.

"We don't, as a society, give anybody much education about forming intimate, close relationships," she said. "So we have a lot of victims, I think, of a society that somehow overlooks or thinks that you can develop and maintain it for years, with no help. If you've ever been in a close relationship, you know it's the hardest thing in the world."

While Powell said she invites anyone and everyone to the events being offered this week, she recommends both people in a couple attend if they want to get the most out of the experience.

"I think if you're in a relationship and your significant other is able to come, that'll make it even better," she said. "When both of you are hearing this and can talk about it together."

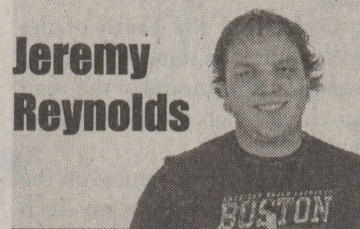
Amanda Ball, a graduate student from Seguin and the president of CFR, said she hopes this week will open some student's eyes about their own relationships.

"If you know beforehand how to communicate better in your relationship and things that are signs that you are in a healthy relationship, and how to keep it healthy, then you have a much better chance of maintaining that marriage later on," Ball said.

For times, dates and locations of all Healthy Relationships Week events, visit the Web site <http://techannounce.ttu.edu>.
► haley.davis@ttu.edu

Ghost Busted: 'Ghost Rider' delivers transparent plot, recycled dialogue

Jeremy Reynolds



I often wonder why it has become such a fad for studios executives to slum it by heading to their local comic book stores to find whatever bargain-bin reject heroes are three for \$1.

Columbia Pictures, best known for its "Spider Man" franchise, has brought "Ghost Rider" to the silver screen with the help of writer/director Mark Steven Johnson ("Daredevil").

The film's sole redeeming quality is Nicolas Cage's performance. He has all the character traits of someone worth a role far better than a comic-book hero. Cage, who plays the title character Johnny Blaze, doesn't drink; he prefers to eat jellybeans. He also loves to listen to The Carpenters before he takes the stage for one of the daredevil jumps he performs as an Evel Knievel type of entertainer.

Early in the film, Cage sells his soul to save his father from cancer. From the moment Cage's blood touches the dotted line, he is the devil's bounty hunter.

In a back story narrated by Sam Elliot, we learn every generation the devil chooses one soul to bargain for, and that person becomes the Ghost Rider. He will be normal by day, but at night — and in the presence of evil — he becomes a flaming-skulled bounty hunter.

Cage lives most of his life without ever having to know the price he paid to save his father, but

character. They can have a script that's full of Shakespeare; just look at "Batman Begins."

I enjoyed Bentley in the role of the villain. I thought he pulled off the part of the antagonist better than a lot of people do when they try to play someone truly evil. Most of his acting was done with his eyes and body language, which made him a slice better than villains of the past.

As a sub plot with any comic-book film, there's the love story. Cage, before one of his daredevil jumps in Houston, is reunited with the woman he knew as a teenager.

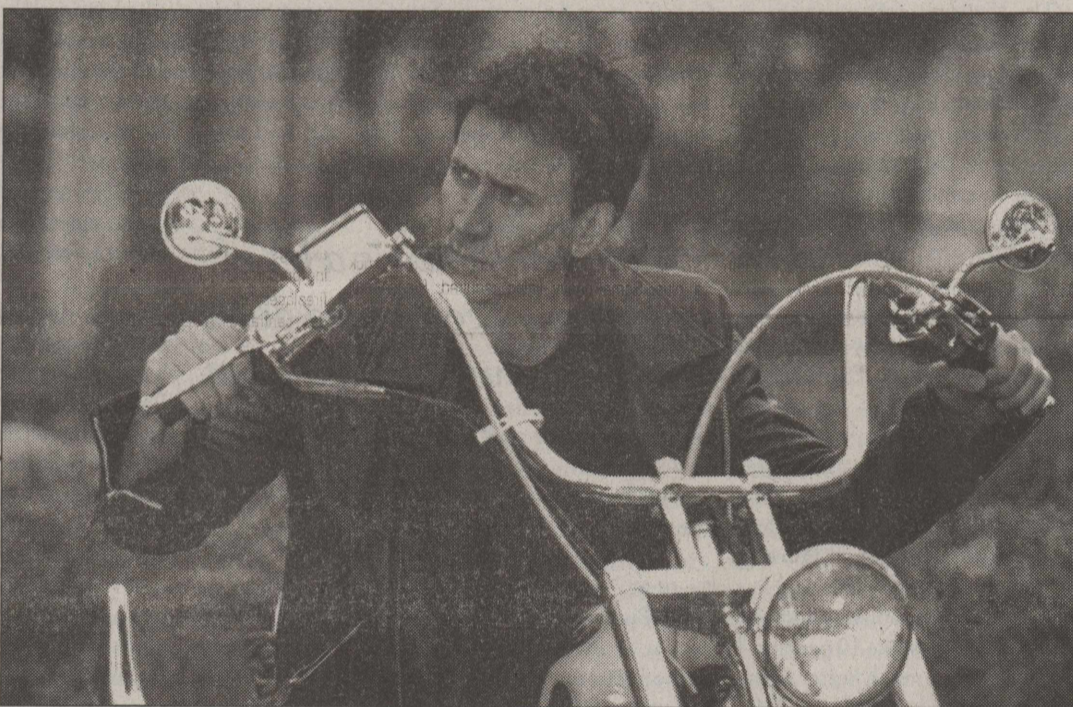
Eva Mendes plays the old flame, who is now a journalist and trying to remember why she ever fell for Cage all those years ago. Is it a requirement that basically every comic book film features a journalist?

I thought this part of the film was completely cheesy. I wish there was a better word to describe it, but I think a cliché word like "cheesy" is best when referring to the love story of Cage and Mendes.

If someone can forgive the sappy dialogue, then "Ghost Rider" is an enjoyable film. Cage does an amazing job as Johnny Blaze. This movie reminds me why I named Cage as one of the top actors or our generation last year.

2 out of 6 POOR

► **Reynolds is The DT movie critic.**
E-mail him at jeremy.n.reynolds@ttu.edu



NICOLAS CAGE STARS along side Eva Mendes in the new comic book inspired film "Ghost Rider." COURTESY PHOTO/Sony Pictures

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 baby
- 6 Bivouac
- 10 Summit
- 14 Diarist Nin
- 15 On the briny
- 16 Singer Young
- 17 The three things to hit
- 20 Soccer passes
- 21 Golfer Gulbis
- 22 Dipl. address
- 24 Opera song
- 26 Italian seaport
- 27 Podium
- 29 Off-road 4-wheeler
- 30 Gaucho milieu
- 33 Fem. labor org.
- 35 Giggie sound
- 37 Hit by Ronny & the Daytonas
- 38 Web places
- 39 Rock composer Brian
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- 45 Come to a point
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- 55 More clouded with sediment
- 58 Day TV series
- 60 The three things to hit
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- 65 —Carlo Menotti
- 66 Felt unwell
- 67 Spoken fanfare
- 68 In (in actual being)
- 69 Tennis champ Monica

DOWN

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- 6 Feline minder
- 7 Gray shade
- 8 Nasty
- 9 Due
- 10 Turkish capital
- 11 The three things to hit
- 12 Longish skirt
- 13 Other
- 18 Gumbo veggio
- 19 Most overused
- 22 Prolific U.S. inventor
- 23 California beach
- 25 Thoroughfare
- 28 Nor. neighbor
- 31 Different ones
- 32 Evening do
- 34 Greet and seat
- 36 Macaulay Culkin movie
- 41 Detroit labor grp.
- 44 Roone of TV sports
- 47 "Quantum Leap" star
- 49 Mt. Rushmore state
- 53 "Dream," Lohengrin aria
- 55 CEO's job
- 56 Fertilizer compound
- 57 Baseball stat
- 59 Irish Rose's guy
- 61 PAU's successor
- 62 Singer Brenda
- 63 Mormon ltrs.

By Verne Sult
Silver Spring, MD
2/20/07

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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Trump asks for jury trial in Palm Beach flag case

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Lawyers for Donald Trump have requested a jury trial in the legal battle for a large American flag flying over his Palm Beach club, Mar-A-Lago.

An amended complaint was filed Friday in federal court, said a lawyer for Trump, James Green. It claims that fines assessed against the club since January by flying the 15-by-25-foot flag atop an 80-foot flagpole — \$1,250 a day — are excessive.

Town officials say the flagpole violates codes because it is taller than 42 feet.

Trump has not paid any of the fines, Green said Saturday.

"He thinks the town is singling him out and signaling Mar-A-Lago out for

different treatment," Green said.

The town has 10 days to respond, Green said.

Trump's club hoisted the flag at the sprawling waterfront site in October.

In a separate filing Friday, lawyers asked the judge to send some issues back to the state courts. The lawyers allege in part that Palm Beach ordinances prohibiting the club's flag display go against Florida's constitution, and that the club should receive damages as a result.

The amount of damages Trump is seeking is not specified in his complaint. Lawyers for Trump said in previous filings that any damages awarded will go to "The Returning Veterans of the Iraqi War."

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♥ **Healthy Relationships Week** ♥
(Sponsored by: Tech CFR & Phi U)

February 19-22

Monday, February 19 (8:15-9:15pm): "How to Talk About the Tough Stuff & the Sweet Stuff in Close Relationships," Drs. Bob & Lane Powell, Red Raider Lounge (SUB)

Tuesday, February 20
6-8pm: "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk (or Jerkette)," Jeremy Boden, Human Sciences, Room 111
7-8pm: "Diversity Rules: The Changing Nature of Families" (movie & discussion), Human Sciences, Room 226

Wednesday, February 21, 7-8pm: "What I Wish Someone Had Told Me About Marriage" (panel discussion), Red Raider Lounge (SUB)

Thursday, February 22, 7-9pm: "How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk (or Jerkette)" (repeated), Jeremy Boden, Red Raider Lounge (SUB)

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Tech men upset No. 30 Rice

By ADAM COLEMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's tennis team upset one of the top teams in the nation with a 4-3 victory over No. 30 Rice Saturday while the women fell to Colorado, but bounced back in a win over Colorado State Sunday.

Against Rice, it appeared the men were down and out when Rice took a 3-1 lead, but Tech did not give in as Micheal Breler and Milos Kustadija helped Tech rally for a 4-3 victory over the Owls.

Tech men's coach Tim Siegel said he is proud of the way his team never gave up.

"This was a tremendous team effort," Siegel said. "A week ago against Denver, we're down 3-2 in matches, and the same two guys were on (Breler and Kustadija), and I thought these were two guys that played very well in Washington, so I was confident they could do it."

The doubles match provided an early hint that pulling out the win.

The doubles point, which was earned by Rice, proved to offer an early hint that the win would be easy to pull out. Christian Rojnar and Bojan Sumanski were the first to go down after losing to Rice's Ralph Knupfer and Tobias Scheil. The men gave themselves a chance to get back in the game as the No. 3 duo of Dimitrio Martinez and Teddy DiBlasi took down Ben Harknett and Filip Zivojinovic, 8-4.

The doubles point rested on the shoulders of the No. 2 team in Michael Breler and Sinisa Markovic, but they came up short against Rice's Christopher Muller and Ben Mok, 8-6.

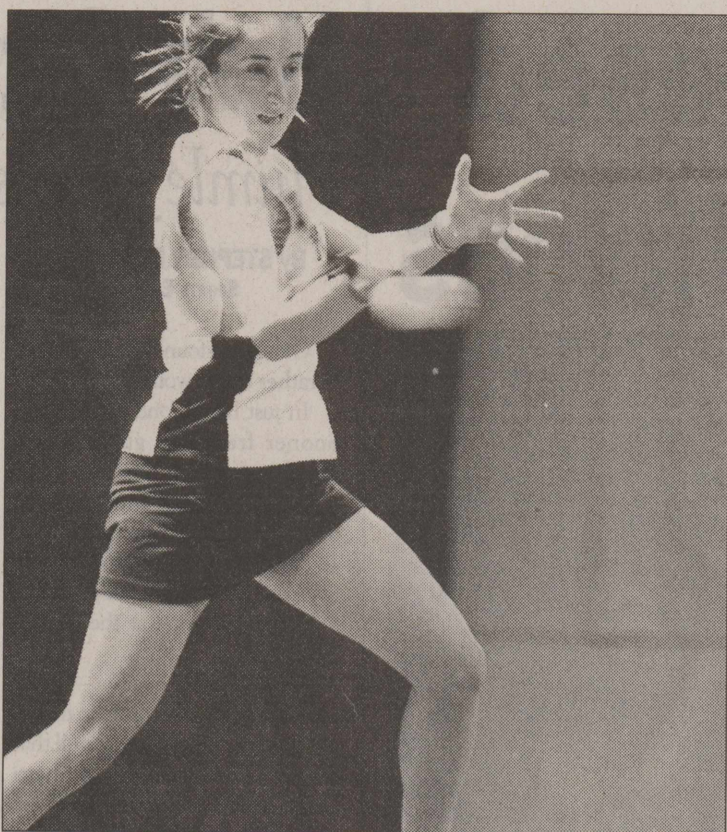
After losing the doubles matches, Tech needed to rely on the singles competition to pull out the win. Senior captain Martinez defeated Rice's Filip Paroci in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2. Rice racked up two more wins as No. 50 Ben Harknett defeated Tech's Bojan Sumanski, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) and Ralph Knupfer defeated No. 92 Sinisa Markovic, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

From there, Tech took over the match and eventually tied the score at 3-3. It came down to Breler for Tech and Mok from Rice and went down to the last set. In the end, it was Breler who pulled out the win, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

The women were not as successful as the men; they opened conference play against No. 53 Colorado Friday with a 6-1 loss. Brenna Jackson, who returned to the women's lineup, and Kerryn Potgieter came up short against Colorado's Franziska Jendriani and Martina Sedivce, 8-4. Additionally, Samantha van der Drift and Janet Durham suffered their first losses of the season. The only point for Tech came from Lakann Wagley as she defeated Camila Belassi, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Coach Cari Groce said the team will be better if doubles play gets back on track.

"Colorado played a solid Big 12 match today," Groce said. "If we can get the doubles going again, we'll be a lot better



CAITY COLVARD/The Daily Toreador

FRESHMAN TENNIS PLAYER Maria Jose Andres returns a serve in her match against Colorado State Sunday morning.

off in the long run."

After losing to Colorado, the women's team shutout Colorado State Sunday, 7-0. Tech came out strong as the doubles point was swept by Tech. Jackson and Potgieter got their first win as a duo and Durham and van der Drift immediately got back on the winning track.

Groce said her team was serious about making a statement against Colorado State.

"We recognized we had to pick it up heading into upcoming matches," Groce said. "Our players came out and responded real well in today's matches."

adam.coleman@ttu.edu

Waiting for Barry: Bonds buzz about to start humming

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The Barry Bonds buzz has begun, along with a whole lot of questions:

What time will he arrive at spring training? Or will he even show at all Monday when position players are to report? When will he speak? Is he in as good shape as he says after a winter of intense workouts at UCLA?

The hype surrounding San Francisco's 42-year-old slugger — who's been in Las Vegas for NBA All-Star game festivities — will start in earnest the second his vehicle pulls up at Scottsdale Stadium. His first workout with the entire team is scheduled for Tuesday, so he doesn't have to show at the ballpark until then. He wasn't even expected to get to the desert until later in the day Monday.

"It'll be interesting," pitcher Matt Cain said Sunday. "He's always fun. He brings excitement to the team. He's got a goofy comment here and there, but it's fun to watch."

Last season, the seven-time NL MVP moved past Babe Ruth for second place on the career home run list amid further allegations of steroid use. It could be even more crazy this season considering he is 22 homers from passing Hank Aaron's career record of 755 and

reportedly failed an amphetamines test last year.

What's more, he is still being investigated by a federal grand jury trying to determine whether he perjured himself when he testified in 2003 in the BALCO steroid distribution case that he hadn't knowingly taken performance-enhancing drugs.

"The last time it was a zoo was when he chased the single-season record," pitcher Russ Ortiz said, referring to Bonds' 73-homer season in 2001. "Now he's chasing what's considered the most coveted record in the game."

Several television camera crews began to arrive Sunday in anticipation of Bonds' big entrance, signaling the official start of his 22nd major league season and 15th with the Giants. He had offseason surgery on his left elbow but has been deemed completely healthy after he batted .270 with 26 homers and 77 RBIs and drew 115 walks in 130 games last year.

"He's probably the best player of all time," said new San Francisco catcher Bengie Molina, who played with Bonds in a tour to Japan in 2000. "I can't wait to play with him. For me, it's exciting just to be able to share the same field and be in the same lineup with a guy who changed the game. I had fun with him. Obviously he's the kind of player everyone will have fun with."

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Knight not pleased in win over Buffaloes

By JAY LANGLEY
News Editor

In his 41st season of coaching, Texas Tech men's basketball coach Bob Knight is still a perfectionist.

With his team up by 20 points with 10 minutes to play in Saturday's 95-74 Tech win over Colorado, Knight kicked the scorers table in frustration following a Charlie Burgess turnover.

"Tonight we played very well at times," Knight said. "We had some really good situations, but instead of being up 17 or 18 at the half, we're up 11. We gave up five points in 15 seconds. In the second half we're up 24, and then all of a sudden we're up 16. I wish I had an answer for that."

Tech (17-10, 6-6 Big 12) was led by senior guard Jarius Jackson, who scored a team-high 28 points on 9-of-17 shooting. Jackson moved past former Kansas forward Nick Collison into second place on the Big 12 career scoring list with 2,104 career points. Tech's Andre Emmett is first on the list with 2,256 points.

"It's a great honor for me," Jackson said of the record. "I don't even really pay attention to it, so it's just a big honor for me."

Jackson said he was happier to get the victory.

"It feels real good, we're very excited," he said. "We knew coming in that they were a dangerous team and we couldn't let them get on a run and not let them get rolling so we just had to maintain our defensive pressure and just try to come out with this win."

Forward Martin Zeno added 24 points for Tech in the win.

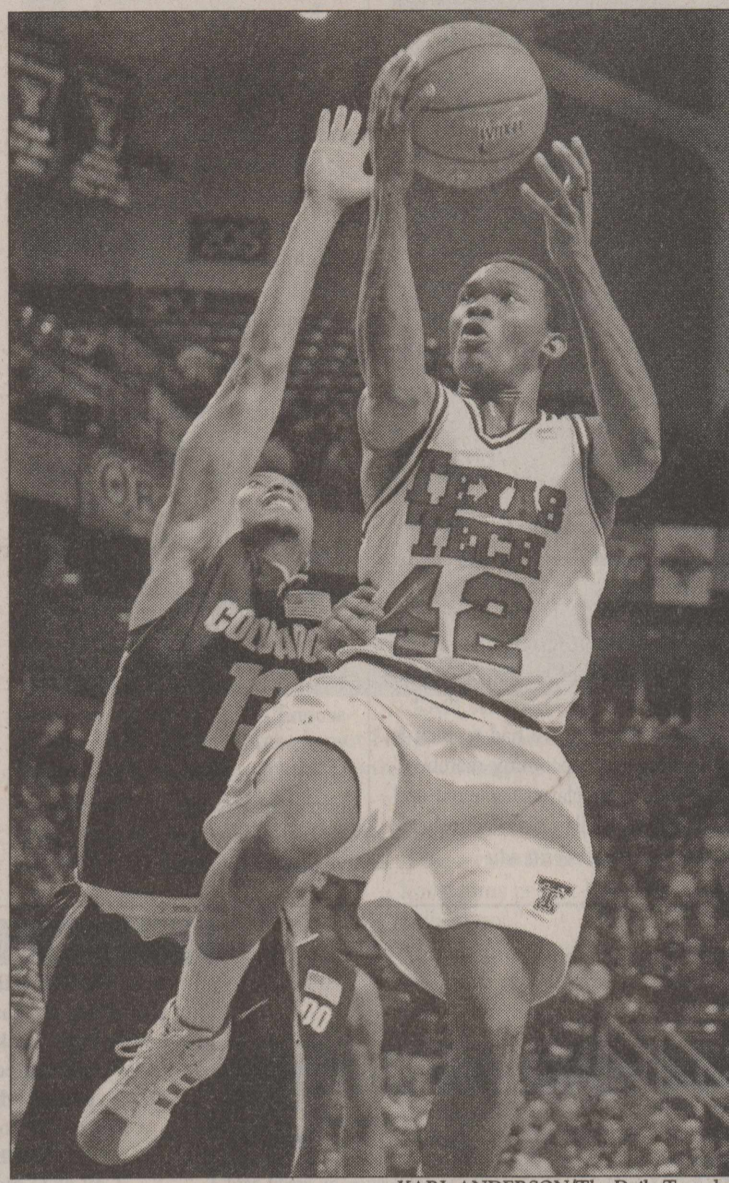
"What can I say, Texas Tech, guys like Zeno and Jackson," Colorado coach Ricardo Patton said, "we knew going into the game that those guys would score the bulk of their points, and the other guys do a nice job of complementing those two players. There is not an NBA scout that I speak with that I don't mention Jarius Jackson. I think he is one of the best players to ever play in the Big 12."

Colorado (6-16, 2-10 Big 12) was led by Richard Roby and Jermil Jackson-Wilson with 17 and 15 points, respectively. The loss was the 11th straight conference road loss for the Buffaloes.

"I was very proud of our guys for coming in here and giving ourselves a chance," Patton said. "I thought the zone defense was effective early in the game. But we had 20 turnovers — 11 at the half — and so they were really at inopportune times."

Knight, who earned his 886 career victory, said despite the 21 point win, the Raiders made too many mistakes.

"I think a lot of that is we have worked really hard this year, and we haven't gotten anywhere with it and that's really strong, strong internal leadership and we just don't have that," Knight said. "It becomes me being the leader, but I'm always the leader on the practice floor and in the locker room, but that's the extent of it. I don't go on dates with these guys or pick girlfriends for them. I don't wake them up



KARL ANDERSON/The Daily Toreador

COLORADO'S XAVIER SILAS attempts to block a shot from Charlie Burgess during Saturday's game at the United Spirit Arena.

in the morning. That's where guess really need to step up."

Knight said he hasn't had a vocal leader since guard Ronald Ross played during the 2004-2005 season.

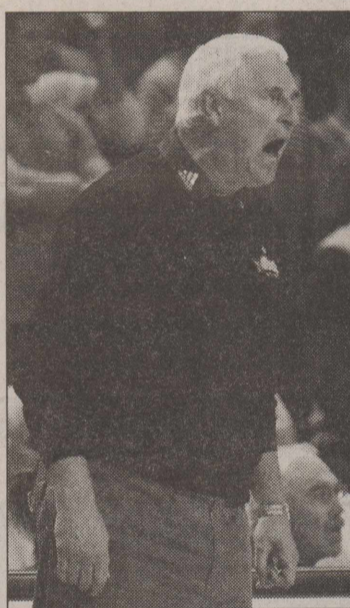
"I think that the problem is that — I think that these are all really good kids and they get along well, but I just think they're reluctant to get on someone's ass," Knight said, "and that hurts us. We just don't have anybody like that."

Burgess added 16 points for Tech and a team-high six assists.

"The thing that Burgess did (Saturday) that was good and refreshing was that he had six assists," Knight said. "There are games where I should have been credited with more assists than Burgess and the ball is in his hands too much with the number of assists that he gets. There are games where, hell, we could have revived Elvis and he would have been a better passer than Burgess was."

Burgess said he was happy with the way Tech played Saturday following Tuesday's upset win at No. 6 Texas A&M.

"We kind of had a lapse before when we beat Kansas and A&M and then we came into Missouri and we went downhill," he said. "But we just tried to stay on top of it and stay aggressive this game and try not to go into that lapse that we had in the previous time so that was all up to coach and the players and the others on the coaching staff. We did a great job on



WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador

COACH KNIGHT ARGUES a referees' call during the Red Raiders, 95-74 victory over Colorado Saturday night at the United Spirit Arena.

preparing for this game so we just got to look forward to this next game."

Tech's next game is an 8 p.m. tip-off Tuesday at Texas.

Wednesday, Knight received a public reprimand from the Big 12 for comments he made about the officiating following Tech's loss to Oklahoma State Feb. 10. Following Saturday's win, Knight had a message for the Big 12 office.

"The officiating was fantastic. Unbelievable," Knight said. "Print that. Let's see if I get a thank you from the Big 12 office."

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Hub City assassination: Plumley helps lead OU past Lady Raiders

By STEPHEN MONAHAN
Sports Editor

Oklahoma found its triggerman, or rather triggerwoman.

In just her second career start, Sooner freshman guard Jenna Plumley shot 6-of-8 from 3-point land and finished with a career high 22 points to help lead No. 14 Oklahoma to a 70-67 victory over the Texas Tech Lady Raiders Saturday afternoon at the United Spirit Arena.

"She had some huge 3s — pretty open but still those things in transition, it takes a lot of guts to pull that trigger," Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale said of Plumley. "They were at critical times and that changes momentum. It does a lot of things besides give you three points."

Plumley killed runs of 7-0 and 12-2 by the Lady Raiders in the second half with her 3-point shots, including one with 2:47 left in regulation that gave Oklahoma a 66-63 lead and put the Sooners up for good.

"She's a little firecracker," Tech coach Kristy Curry said of the 5-foot-4 Plumley. "You gotta love her. I thought she shot the ball really well today, but she's a set shooter. We allowed her to get her feet set and didn't do a good job on her, but you gotta give her a lot of credit. I hope my 3-year-old, who looks like she's going to be about that size, can be like Jenna."

Having lost three of her last four games before the match-up against Texas Feb. 12, Coale shuffled the Sooner lineup, benching veterans Leah Rush and Chelsi Welch for Plumley and Amanda Thompson.

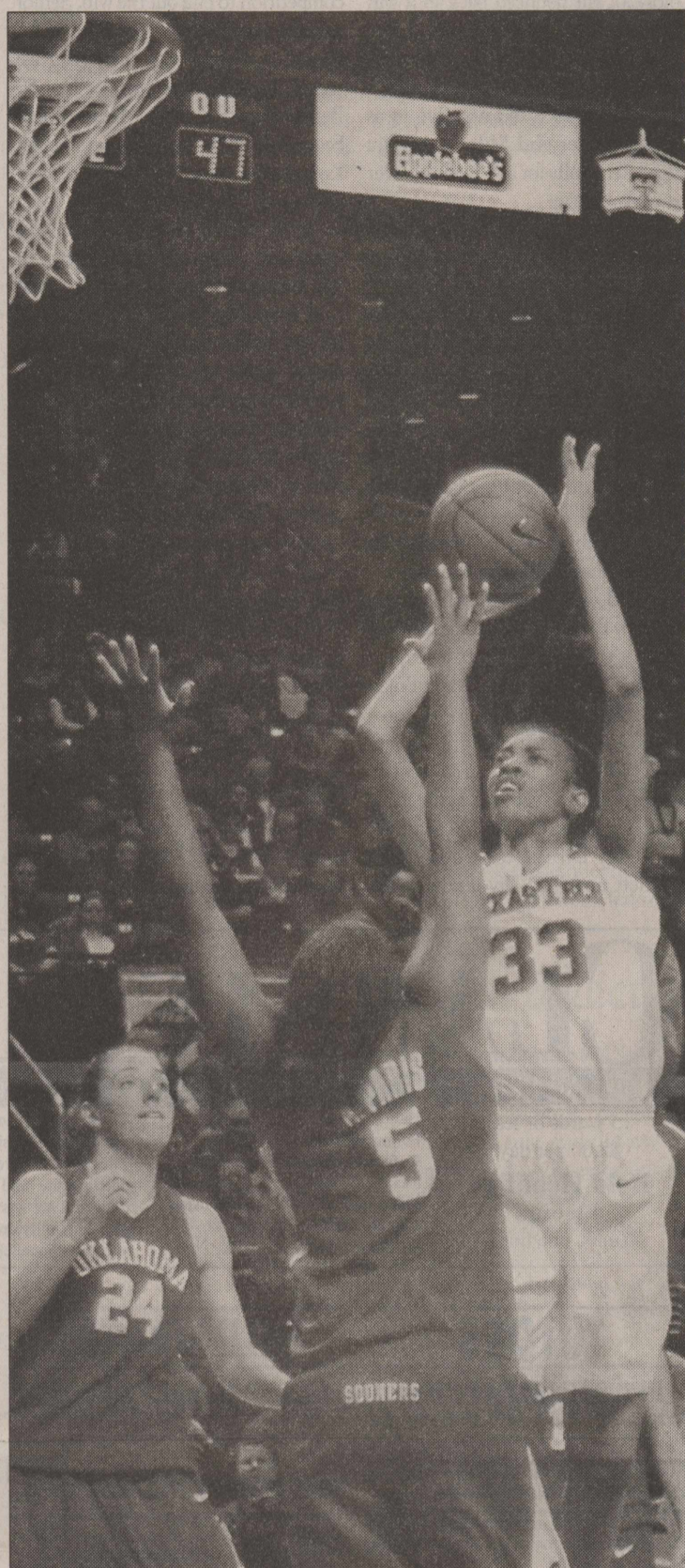
With Rush and Welch coming off the bench, Coale said having that experience coming into the game has paid dividends thus far.

"Being able to bring that experience off the bench — it's a special situation not many coaches find themselves in," Coale said of Rush and Welch. "As much as anything, it's their poise that comes from having been here for years and have been in this environment and know what it's about."

Tech (15-12, 6-7 Big 12) found itself down 36-29 at halftime but used a quick 7-0 run to open the second half thanks to buckets from Alesha Robertson and Tawanna Flower and five turnovers by the Sooners.

"I felt like we were in a great spot at halftime, and then came out in the first minute of the second half and just completely shot ourselves in the foot," Coale said. "We were able to regroup and make the plays when we needed to make the plays."

It was another run-of-the-mill game for Sooner sophomore Courtney Paris who recorded her 52nd-straight double-double with 18 points and 16 rebounds. However, Coale and Paris agreed Tech post players Patrice Edwards, who finished with 16 points and five rebounds, and Erin Myrick caused Paris to be indecisive at times because of the different styles the two play defensively.



WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH CENTER Patrice Edwards shoots during the Lady Raiders 70-67 loss against Oklahoma Saturday afternoon at the United Spirit Arena.

"I think the best thing about is we know we didn't play the best game we could've," Paris said. "Texas Tech played great and they challenged us and did a lot of things. I think what made us come through at the end is we played together."

Oklahoma (20-4, 10-3) led by as

much as 10 points in the second half at 61-51, but Tech, behind shots from Edwards and Tiny Henderson and a 3-pointer from freshman Raquel Christian, cut the lead to 61-60 and eventually tied the game at 63-63 with another 3-pointer from Christian.

► stephen.monahan@ttu.edu

Tech hurdles continues success in Norman

With less than a week away from the Big 12 Indoor Championships, the Texas Tech track team continued to improve to end the indoor season on a high note. The Texas Tech men's hurdling team added new personal bests Friday at the Sooner Open in Norman, Okla.

Tech senior All-American Marlon Odom added two NCAA provisional times for the season. Odom ran a 7.81 time in both the preliminary and final round of the

60-meter hurdles, finishing in first place.

Tech sophomore Jansen Hyde completed the finals in third place. Hyde ran the 60-meter hurdles in 8.07, a new personal best.

Tech freshman Omo Osaghae added a personal best in the preliminary round of the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 7.98.

The Red Raiders will travel to Ames, Iowa, Friday for the Big 12 Indoor Championships.

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