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# THE DAILY TOREADOR

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## Gov. Spitzer resigns in disgrace

By VERENA DOBNIK AND MICHAEL GORMLEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP) — In a startlingly swift fall from grace, Gov. Eliot Spitzer resigned Wednesday after getting caught in a call-girl scandal that made a mockery of his straight-arrow image and left him facing the prospect of criminal charges and perhaps disbarment.

"I cannot allow my private failings to disrupt the people's work," Spitzer said, his weary-looking wife, Silda, standing at his side, again, as the corruption-fighting politician once known as Mr. Clean answered for his actions for the second time in three days.

He made the announcement without securing a plea bargain with federal prosecutors, though a law enforcement official said the former governor was still believed to be negotiating one. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because

of the sensitivity of the case.

Spitzer will be succeeded on Monday by Lt. Gov. David Paterson, a fellow Democrat who becomes New York's first black governor and the nation's first legally blind chief executive.

The resignation brought the curtain down on a riveting three-day drama — played out, sometimes, as farce — that made Spitzer an instant punchline on late-night TV and fascinated Americans with the spectacle of a crusading politician

exposed as a hypocrite.

His dizzying downfall was met with glee and the popping of champagne corks among many on Wall Street, where Spitzer was seen as a sanctimonious bully for attacking big

salaries and abusive practices in the financial industry when he was New York attorney general. And his resignation brought relief at the state Capitol in Albany after days of excruciating tension and uncertainty.

"Some rules can't be broken, and when they are broken there are consequences," said state Assemblyman John McEneny, a Democrat. "In this case, one of the most promising careers I've seen in a generation."

The scandal erupted Monday after federal law enforcement officials disclosed that a wiretap had caught the 48-year-old father of three teenage daughters spending thousands of dollars on a call girl at a fancy Washington hotel on the night before Valentine's Day.



(INSIDE)

LY EDITOR PICKED  
SEE PAGE 3

(INBRIEF)

STATE

Police say mother tossed boys from Dallas overpass

DALLAS (AP) — Motorists watched in horror Wednesday as a woman tossed two young boys off a freeway overpass, then took the two-story leap into rush-hour traffic herself. But the shocking moment had an incredibly fortunate ending.

Police said Khandi Busby and her children, ages 8 and 6, somehow survived the fall onto Interstate 30's fast lane and the rush of vehicles.

"It was really miraculous that we didn't have some fatalities with this incident," Dallas police spokesman Sgt. Gil Cerda said.

NATION

2 suspects charged with murder of UNC student

HILLSBOROUGH, N.C. (AP) — Two suspects were charged Wednesday with first-degree murder in the killing of the University of North Carolina's student body president, though one remains at large.

Demario James Atwater, 21, of Durham, was arrested and ordered held without bond. Police said they are still searching for the second suspect, 17-year-old Lawrence Alvin Lovett Jr.

WORLD

Hamas sets terms for cease-fire with Israel

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Hamas prime minister called publicly Wednesday for a period of calm with Israel, laying out conditions that would end attacks on Palestinian militants, open Gaza's borders and lift economic sanctions.

But shortly after the appeal by Ismail Haniyeh, Israeli troops opened fire on a car in the West Bank town of Bethlehem and killed four Palestinian militants, clouding the prospects for a cease-fire.

DEATH TOLL

3974

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Confirmed by the U.S. Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



SUNNY  
HIGH 79  
LOW 45

Friday



WINDY  
HIGH 81  
LOW 38

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## PARTY PEOPLE

Tech administrators, Lubbock officials encourage students to party responsibly

By MATT MCGOWAN  
STAFF WRITER

For students with Spring Break on the brain, Texas Tech's administration decided to take a proactive approach to help students prevent unruly partying, underage drinking and the fateful knock-knock-knock of party poopers wearing badges and blue uniforms.

As part of a new educational outreach program, the city of Lubbock and Tech's Division of Student Affairs published an informational pamphlet Wednesday, which they titled "So You're Having a Party."

The pamphlet, which officials will distribute to students on-campus and to apartment complexes off-campus, is intended to inform students about the potential risks involved with partying off campus.

The pamphlet's goal pertains not to a "prohibitive" approach to partying, said Ethan Logan, managing director of Tech's Student Judicial Programs, but to a more sensible, responsible approach to the various dangers and risks involved

with hosting and attending parties during this year's Spring Break.

"What I like about it is that the approach to this material is not a prohibition of having a party," he said. "That's not what this should be about. That's not what we're about at Texas Tech. We want people to be able to have the functions and the events that they want to have. There are some parameters, obviously, that have to take into consideration. There are some considerations in terms of some responsibilities you have as a party host or a party-goer."

If students can remember to take these parameters into consideration as they plan for a party, Logan said, the likelihood of their parties ending with a visit from police or paramedics greatly is reduced.

Some tips included in the pamphlets urge students to monitor the noise level to prevent complaints to police. Also, it encourages hosts to limit the number of people who attend a party so it does not spill outside where neighbors likely will be subjected to the noise.

When it comes to alcohol consumption, the pamphlet asks students care-

fully to oversee those who are drinking to make sure minors are not imbibing drinks.

Also, it instructs hosts to keep a fair amount of non-alcoholic drinks at hand for those who do not want to drink.

"Be a good host," the pamphlet says. "Not everyone wants to drink alcohol."

Because many traditional party practices affect other houses on the same block, students can take the pamphlet's preventative measures to ensure that they are "good neighbors" while their party rages on into the night, said Mason Moses, president of Tech's Student Government Association who played a big part in the creation of the pamphlet in accordance with commonly heard feedback from students.

Included in the pamphlet is a guide for being a "courteous citizen." Before a party, hosts should tell their neighbors about the party.

"Do not urinate in public," according to the pamphlet.

SPRING BREAK continued on page 3



SEVERAL TEXAS TECH students make a toast to begin the Tour de Tech Terrace bike ride.

FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

## 12 US soldiers killed in 3 days in Iraq combat

By RYAN LENZ  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD (AP) — Three U.S. soldiers were killed in a rocket attack in southern Iraq on Wednesday, bringing to 12 the number of Americans who have been killed in Iraq over the past three days.

With the overall U.S. military death toll in Iraq nearing 4,000, the latest killings mark a significant rise in deadly attacks against Americans.

At least 3,987 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an AP count. The figure includes eight military civilians.

Navy Lt. Patrick Evans, a military spokesman, told The Associated Press that three soldiers were killed Wednesday in a rocket attack on Combat Outpost Adder near Nasiriyah, about 200 miles southeast of Baghdad. Two other soldiers were wounded.

The attack came a day after an American soldier died when a roadside bomb hit his patrol near Diwaniyah, 80 miles south of Baghdad.

Eight soldiers were killed in a pair of bomb attacks on Monday, the heaviest single day of U.S. casualties since September.

Three of those soldiers died in a roadside bombing in Diyala, a violent province where al-Qaida in Iraq has been active.

The five others were killed while on foot patrol in central Baghdad. A suicide bomber approached them and detonated his explosives vest. The Islamic State of Iraq, a Sunni militant group, issued a statement Wednesday claiming responsibility for the soldiers' deaths. Three Americans and an Iraqi interpreter were wounded.

In the United States, a poll showed Wednesday that fewer people know how many U.S. troops have died in the war.

Only 28 percent correctly said that about 4,000 Americans have died, according to a survey by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center.

That's down from last August, when 54 percent gave the accurate casualty figure, which was about 3,500 dead at the time. In previous Pew surveys dating to 2004, about half have correctly given the rough figure for the approximate number of deaths at the time.

## Southwest grounds dozens of jets to examine structural soundness

By DAVID KOEING  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS (AP) — Southwest Airlines Co. canceled flights Wednesday and temporarily grounded 43 planes to examine if they were sound enough to carry passengers, the latest twist in the low-cost carrier's saga of missed safety inspections and civil penalties.

The groundings affected about 8 percent of Southwest's fleet, and came as the airline faces a \$10.2 million civil penalty for continuing to fly nearly 50 planes that hadn't been inspected for cracks in their fuselages.

Southwest shares fell more than 9 percent before closing down 7.3 percent.

Since the Federal Aviation Administration announced the penalty last week, Southwest has endured a steady drip of bad publicity, which is unusual for the nation's most consistently profitable carrier and one that has never had an accident that killed passengers or crew members.

On Wednesday, word filtered out that the airline had taken

38 planes out of service, along with five others that were already in hangars undergoing routine maintenance. That's about 8 percent of Southwest's fleet.

Spokeswoman Linda Rutherford said Southwest took the action after getting clarification from manufacturer Boeing Co. on Tuesday night about the type of inspection — visual or magnetic, or a combination of both — needed for areas around the windows on some older Boeing 737-300 and 737-500 jets.

By late Wednesday afternoon, Rutherford said, 25 planes had undergone the 90-minute inspection at maintenance bases in Dallas, Houston, Chicago and Phoenix and returned to service.

Rutherford said the remainder of the 38 taken off tarmacs were expected to be back flying by Wednesday night. A 44th plane covered by the Boeing instructions had already been retired, she said.

Southwest had canceled 139 flights by late Wednesday afternoon, or about 4 percent of its scheduled flights for the day, according to Flightstats.com, which tracks

airline operations.

The company said it had 520 Boeing 737 jets at the end of last year. Nearly 200 of them are older models, the Boeing 737-300, that were supposed to undergo extra inspections for cracks in the fuselage.

The FAA said Acting Administrator Robert A. Sturgell met Wednesday with Southwest Chief Executive Gary Kelly, who gave a briefing on the steps the airline is taking to comply with inspection orders. The FAA is conducting its own review.

Sturgell has acknowledged that the FAA should have grounded the jets last year, when Southwest itself reported that it had inadvertently missed inspections of the fuselages on its all-Boeing fleet. He has said that "at least one FAA inspector looked the other way."

Rep. James Oberstar, D-Minn., chairman of a House committee looking into the actions of both the airline and the FAA, said this week's groundings and fresh inspections raised serious questions about the FAA's follow-up to the missed examinations last year.

# Pulitzer prize-winning war correspondent tells students his story

By MATT MCGOWAN  
STAFF WRITER

For some Texas Tech students, the realities of war no longer come only through the eyes of soldiers and politicians; they also flow through the veins of the journalists who cover them.

Pulitzer-prize-winning journalist Peter Arnett, who worked as a war correspondent during the Vietnam War, as well as the first and second Gulf Wars, conveyed his experiences as a reporter for the Associated Press and for CNN Wednesday afternoon in the Mass Communications Building.

During his speech, Arnett explained his experiences with — and his views about — several journalistic issues, including the importance of war correspondence, the rigors facing a journalist in a war zone, the historical implications of war and the role of journalists who cover them.

"We need to know what happens in war," he said. "I've been a war correspondent all of my life because I know you have to know, the public has to know, what's going on."

For a war correspondent in a war zone, danger lurks around every corner, Arnett said. The perils he encountered during the Vietnam War, in particular, weigh heavily on his mind to this day, particularly one jarring near-death experience after a pair of American bombs missed their target.

The two bombs, each weighing approximately 250 pounds, he said, were dropped from an airplane after ground troops called in an air strike to take out enemy machine-gun nests approximately 100 yards away.

As he watched the powerful ex-

plosives fall, however, Arnett said he realized they would land dangerously close to the Americans' positions.

"I saw that both bombs were falling short," he said. "They were coming in at us. I stood there, knowing this was my last moment on earth. The first bomb landed in a bunker about 300 feet to my right and exploded. The second came right towards me and hit the base of the tree 20 meters away, 60 feet away, and buried itself in the ground. It did not explode. Only one bomb out of 50 doesn't explode. It's probably still buried there today, and I'm still here today."

As an embedded journalist in Vietnam, he said he lived and acted like a soldier, the only distinguishing trait being that he did not carry a gun.

A troubling aspect of being a journalist embedded in a military unit, Arnett said, is the internal struggle with the role of a journalist who does not fight or definitively contribute during combat.

"I didn't feel particularly comfortable," he said. "I was not helping the soldiers there. I was handing out water bottles. I was trying to assist in bandaging wounds or accompany some of the men, but I didn't have a gun. We weren't allowed to shoot guns."

His contribution, Arnett concluded, came through his duty to disseminate the information he learned first-hand, painting the picture of war for the eyes of the broader public that otherwise would be none-the-wiser.

"If you add all the suffering and the anguish, and all I could really do was be an observer," he said, "but I felt that my observations as an observer were important to tell the story to the American public."

Comparing his 13 years of experience during the Vietnam War to his experiences with the current war in Iraq, Arnett said the life of a war correspondent in Iraq holds much more governmental censorship.

During the Vietnam war, he said, reporters had much more freedom to choose which units they traveled with and which stories to tell, while reporters in Iraq face a stringent set of rules, regulations and governmental oversight as they travel with strategically chosen units the government decides best portrays the war in Iraq.

Reports found it incredibly difficult to write many of the important stories at the beginning of the war, Arnett said, because all sources had to be attributed by name and because an officer had to be present during every interview journalists had with other soldiers.

"These stories were never written," he said, "so the administration claims that we had succeeded in (Iraq), that the mission was accomplished. This was pretty much accepted by the American public, and the media wasn't in a very good position to challenge that."

During the late 1990s, Arnett said he had another rare opportunity as a journalist: he conducted a rare pre-9/11 interview Osama Bin Laden granted to western journalists. As a correspondent for CNN at the time, Arnett said Bin Laden specifically chose him from a large group of journalists who were interested.

After a flight to Pakistan, a week-long wait for the interview, a long drive through Afghanistan and repeated body searches by Bin Laden's security, Arnett said he came face-to-face with a man who intelligence agencies only recently had deemed "a new bad guy on the planet."

Bin Laden, he said, eventually strolled through the door of the small shack in which the journalists waited.

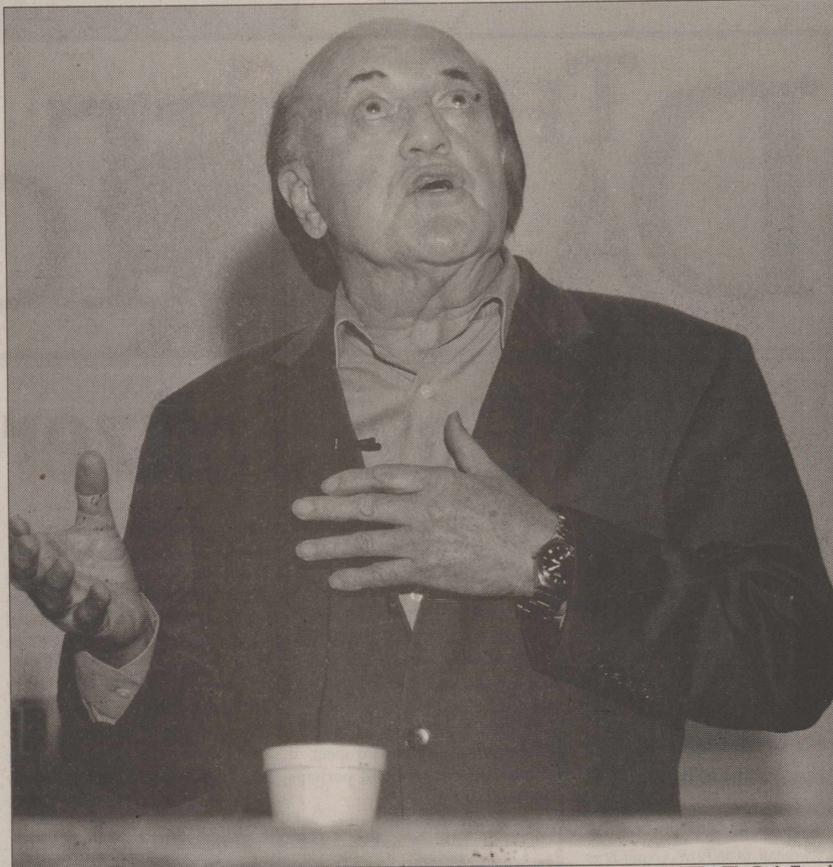


PHOTO BY JESSICA RIVERA/The Daily Toreador

PETER ARNETT TALKS about his experience as a journalist during the Vietnam war, in the Mass Communications building Wednesday afternoon.

As Arnett watched a tall figure wearing a camouflaged jacket step through the door frame with an AK-47 hanging from his shoulder, something occurred to him.

"He sort of nodded to us, walked in, sat down on the other side of the hut on the floor, propped the AK-47 just

beside him," Arnett said. "He looked in danger. I said he was as scared of me, I guess, as I was as scared of him. Why the AK?"

In a monotone voice, Bin Laden explained his intentions to attack Americans for, among other things, their corruption of Islam's culture, Arnett said.

Despite the privileged situations he has seen, Arnett said any journalist has the ability to be a war correspondent, but the opportunity comes only after a reporter first proves his or her ability to report local news. Once journalists prove they are capable of covering more menial stories, their superiors may begin to consider them for open war correspondence positions.

"The recent war, in which several hundred American reporters covered,

was the Iraq war," he said. "I don't think any of them had heard a shot fired in anger before. They were pulled out of city desks. They were out of national jobs, out of safe-like jobs, and sent to Iraq — got into humvees with troops."

For students who attended Arnett's presentation, the correspondent offered considerable insight into the mindset of American media.

"It was good to see somebody off-camera who knows a lot about the situation," said Brett Copeland, a senior public relations major from Boerne who attended Wednesday's event. "I guess journalists are a lot more honest than those who bash the media. They really do just have a job to do, and a lot of them try to follow that."

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### Spring Break Checklist

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## Spring Break

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Also, it encourages hosts to call the police "if you need assistance in breaking up the party."

If the police do arrive, the pamphlet urges students to talk to them courteously, turn down or turn off music if asked and end the party immediately upon request.

The pamphlet lists the possible consequences of certain party-associated offenses such as public intoxication, providing or purchasing alcohol for a minor and "failure to identify," an offense associated with providing police with truthful information

about one's name and age. The failure to do so could result in up to a \$4,000 fine and up to six months in jail.

The "So You're Having a Party" pamphlet resulted from prolific collaboration between Lubbock officials, Tech administrators and students, Lubbock police and local residents, said Michael Shonrock, vice president of Student Affairs at Tech.

"Overall, what we're trying to do is be very proactive," he said, "and this is what the first step will be. I think you'll see a number of other things throughout this next year, as well, that we're going to try to build on in terms of our relationship (with students.)"

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## Detainee asks to boycott trial at Guantanamo Bay

GUANTANAMOBAYNAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — An Afghan detainee said Wednesday that he wants to boycott his trial at Guantanamo Bay and railed against the proceedings as unfair and illegal.

Mohammed Jawad, who is accused of throwing a grenade that wounded two U.S. soldiers, initially refused to attend his first pretrial hearing, delaying its start. After he appeared in the courtroom, the judge, Marine Col. Ralph Kohlmann, warned Jawad that if he does not attend future sessions he could still be tried, convicted and sentenced in absentia.

In combative exchanges with the judge, Jawad said he has been mistreated at Guantanamo Bay — where the U.S. military holds about 275 men suspected of links to al-Qaida and the Taliban — and denounced the tribunal system as unjust.

"I am innocent, I want justice and fairness," said Jawad, who spoke through a Pashto translator and asked the judge whether journalists could hear his statements. "Since I was arrested I've been treated unfairly. I have been tortured. I am a human being."

The only specifics he offered were that he's had a "bleeding lip" for more than a year and he said he suffers from constant headaches from

the bright lights in his prison cell.

Jawad, who wore the orange uniform reserved for the least compliant detainees, later slammed down his translation headphones and put his head down on the desk.

He did not enter a plea to charges of attempted murder and intentionally causing serious bodily injury, which could lead to a maximum sentence of life in prison.

The hearing inside the hilltop courthouse overlooking the Caribbean was delayed more than two and a half hours after Jawad initially refused to attend. Kohlmann ordered his ankles to remain shackled during the hearing because he was not cooperating fully.

The judge also excused Jawad's Pentagon-appointed defense attorney, Army Col. James Sawyers, who asked to be removed from the case because he is leaving active-duty service. He said the effort to find a replacement could cause a delay in bringing the case to trial.

Jawad said he was 16 when he was arrested and did not understand some of the rules the judge explained to him.

He is accused of throwing a homemade hand grenade into a jeep carrying two U.S. soldiers and their interpreter in Kabul, the Afghan capital, in 2002. The three were wounded.

## La Ventana editor selected for 2008-09

One week after selecting the student leaders for *The Daily Toreador* and KTXI-FM radio, the Texas Tech Student Media Committee came together again to select the next leader of the university's yearbook, the *La Ventana*.

The Student Media Committee selected Kate Ozment, a sophomore journalism major from San Antonio, to be the editor for the yearbook for the 2008-09 school year.

"I want to incorporate more of the student body into our pages," Ozment said, "and not just specific organizations, but more student life."

She said she also would like to make it easier for students to obtain copies of the *La Ventana*.

"Nothing captures life at Texas Tech like *La Ventana*," Ozment said.

While Ozment is a sophomore by hours, she is in only her second semester in college.

Dennis Patterson, chairman of the Student Media Committee, said the committee made its decision based on the experience, ability, commitment and vision Ozment showed this year as a staff writer for the publication.

"Both candidates had lots of those qualities," Patterson said, "so it was really tough."

Jennifer Johnson, a freshman journalism major from Flower Mound and an apprentice with the yearbook during the current school year, was the only other person interviewed



JOHNSON



for the position.

Prior to being chosen as its editor, Ozment was a reporter for the *La Ventana*, and Patterson said hands-on experience is part of the reason she

was chosen.

"She has the confidence of the committee and the staff of the student media," Patterson said.

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## EPA toughens requirements for cutting smog

WASHINGTON (AP) — The air in hundreds of U.S. counties is simply too dirty to breathe, the government said Wednesday, ordering a multibillion-dollar expansion of efforts to clean up smog in cities and towns nationwide.

The federal action, which lowers ozone limits for the atmosphere, means that 345 counties will now be in violation of the health require-

ment, about four times as many as under the old rules. However, scientists said the change still isn't enough to significantly reduce heart and asthma attacks from breathing smog-clogged air, and they pressed the Environmental Protection Agency to issue even more stringent requirements.

Electric utilities, oil companies and other businesses had lobbied hard for leaving the smog rule alone, saying the

high cost of lower limits could hurt the economy and noting that many com-

munities still haven't met requirements set a decade ago.

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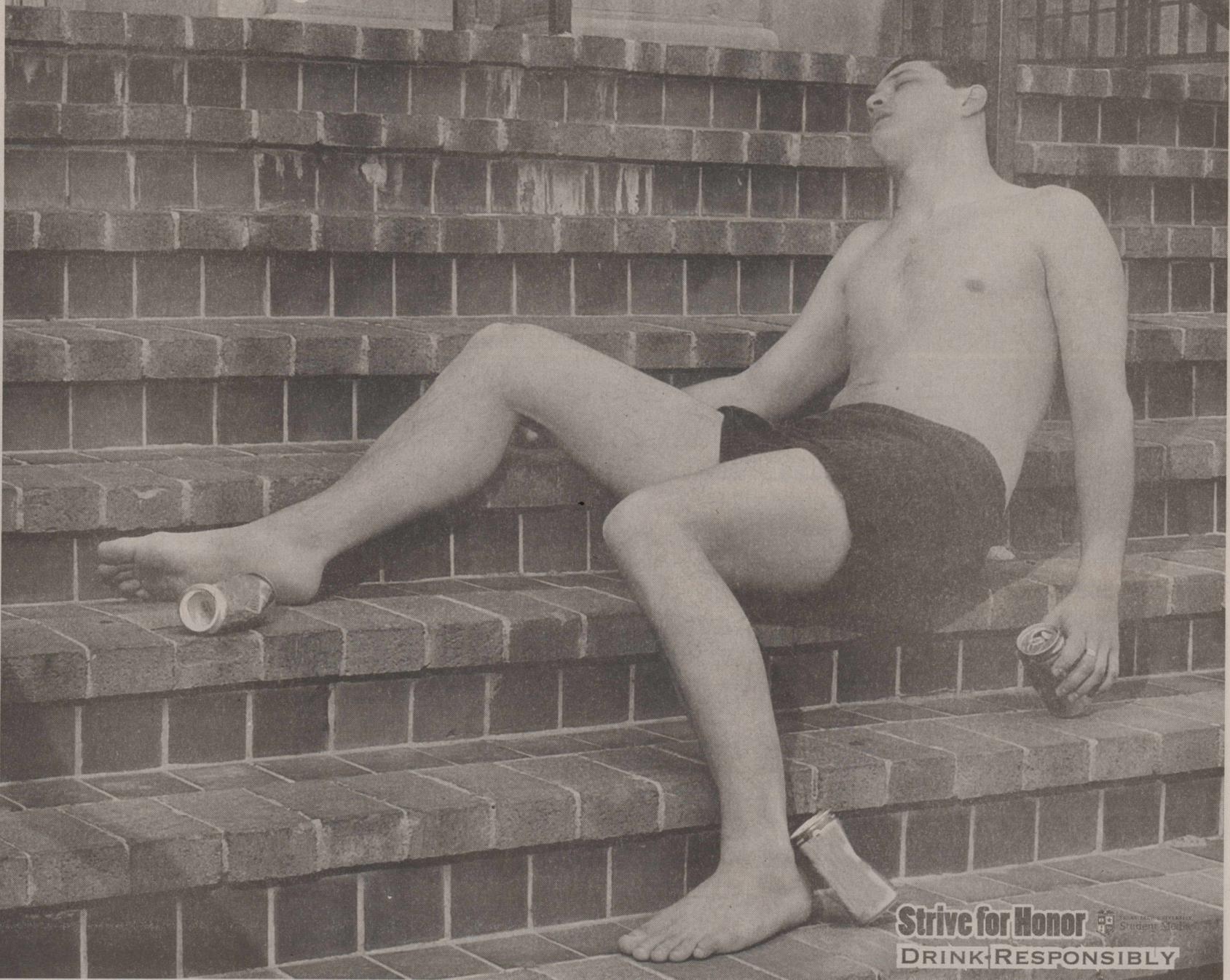
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Strive for Honor DRINK RESPONSIBLY

# OPINIONS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008

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Charlie Brown decided to take a shot at a big red-haired woman instead of a little red-haired girl.

## Daylight Saving Time should be discontinued, un-American

By CHRIS YONKER  
THE POST (OHIO U.)

(U-WIRE) ATHENS, Ohio—Unconfirmed reports from untrustworthy sources say the shift to Daylight Saving Time has finally ripped the space-time continuum.

Uncle Sam has been tinkering with time since World War I and now his hand must have stuck up the gears. This year, Daylight Saving Time started three weeks earlier and will end a week later than in previous years. Moving the date forward brought the time change perilously close to another anomaly: February 29.

The push from Leap Day and the pull from Daylight Saving Time were apparently too much for the continuum, and it stopped continuing. Americans will be doomed to off-kilter circadian rhythms and mild grogginess forever if we do not right this unpatrician wrong.

Like Betsy Ross sewing stars on the first American flag, so must we stitch the rift in space-time. We must take up the needle of freedom and cross-stitch liberty from one coast to another. Only then will our nation and timepieces be free.

Americans must turn back the clock on Daylight Slaving Time and abolish it forever.

DST supporters are now jumping on the Green Bandwagon, claiming that adding an extra hour of sunlight means light bulbs will stay off an extra hour and energy costs will go down.

Our good friend science will be the judge of that.

In 1975, the U.S. Department of

Transportation concluded the daylight saving shift would reduce energy costs by 1 measly percent. But a year later, the National Bureau of Standards reviewed the government's original study and concluded the "savings" were nearly balanced out by pre-dawn energy use.

A study released in February by two professors from the University of California at Santa Barbara shines even brighter light on the problem. When Indiana thought it was joining the civilized world by switching to DST in 2006, these professors compared electricity bills from years before and after the shift. So far, their observations suggest DST actually increases energy consumption by 1 percent to 4 percent.

Oh, but you better believe non-switchers such as China and India smile at America's economic cost attributed to the annual switch. A 2000 study in *The American Economic Review* claimed America lost \$31 billion on the stock exchanges alone because of the time change.

Microscopic energy savings couldn't put a dent in that \$31 billion.

Daylight Saving Time is costing America time and billions. Put it to bed.

Ultimately, Daylight Saving Time

is an evil that does not have the fear and immediacy of a terrorist attack or a Hillary Clinton White House. The space-time continuum will likely heal itself, as it has so many times, and our bodies will adjust to the arbitrary shift.

But the question "why?" lingers; why do we still practice this archaic and silly ritual?

The pointy finger of blame is aimed directly at 7-Eleven. Believe it or not, the convenience store king has been a strong advocate for Daylight Saving Time since the mid-1980s. All that extra heat from the Sun translates into big Slurpee sales. Fortune magazine predicted an extension of DST would lead to \$30 million additional profit for 7-Eleven. So when Daylight Saving Time came to the attention of Congress in 2005 for renewal, 7-Eleven led the charge and expanded DST another month to its current length.

So while our legislators have brain freeze, the public is left out in the cold once again in favor of special interests.

America must end this time-shifting experiment once and for all. Our bodies will be healthier, our coffers will be stuffed and the greedy corporate pigs at 7-Eleven will go to bed knowing the American government cannot be bought with day-old hot dogs.

## On the culture of life

Michael Borshuk



Last week, when Texas voters took to the polls in the primaries, I watched from my usual foreign national's place: on the sidelines. Disenfranchised by my Canadian passport, at least I was able to enjoy the exhibition of democracy in action.

Among the most entertaining sights I saw on that momentous Tuesday was the ironic juxtaposition of two campaign signs, posted by some hopeful Mike Huckabee supporter at the voting station across the street from my house. One sign read, "Huckabee = Pro-Life." The other, "Huckabee = Pro-NRA."

"Aha," I thought, epiphanic, mordant. "So this is what Gov. Huckabee means when he announces proudly on his Web site that his 'convictions regarding the sanctity of life have always been clear and consistent, without equivocation or wavering.'" What better way to celebrate the preserved lives of would-be aborted fetuses than to safeguard the potential means of their destruction?

Now, those of you who were Huckabee supporters may protest at this point that my liberal sarcasm is all a moot point by this time, a week removed from the governor's dropping out of the presidential race.

In my defense, I'm not pointing out the absurd contradiction of Huckabee's pro-life, pro-NRA stance just to throw salt in the wounds of the governor's ill-fated run for the White House.

Instead, I'm sarcastic in the interest of continuing an ongoing pugnant relationship I have with those who trumpet their support of the so-called "culture of life," as they repress that culture's insidious internal conflicts. And I'm not pointing out contradictions here because I think all contradictions necessarily are bad.

To do that, I fear, would be to support the superficial, rhetorical finger-pointing we saw too much of in 2004. You recall: when we learned John Kerry was unfit for the presidency because he was a "flip-flopper." As opposed — I guess the logic was supposed to go — to being a bull-headed decider,

which presumably is a good quality among presidential candidates.

No, I point out these contradictions because, to me, they reflect an obvious lack of self-consciousness about what constitutes the sanctity of life. I, for one, do believe in the sanctity of human life. Despite all evidence to the contrary some days, I also believe that all people inherently are good.

Some mornings, it's only an ideal faith in the greatness of our collective human enterprise that gets me out of bed.

For these reasons, I am — logically, in my mind — a staunch opponent of the death penalty. Similarly, I see no reason for anybody other than the police to carry automatic hand guns. Nor can I sanction any place for assault weapons.

What purpose do those items serve, except to snuff out human life? This is a standard gun-control stump speech, but really, does anybody ever bring along an M-16 to shoot quail?

If any of us truly is a triumphant supporter of the "culture of life," don't we, logically, have to relinquish our hold — literally, in some cases — on handguns and assault rifles? And by extension, wouldn't it also make sense to get behind the beleaguered anti-war movement that's been decrying American military action in Iraq for the past half-decade?

Moreover, if your "culture of life" support means a call for legal control over women's reproductive rights — by which I mean you adopt the position we call, in contemporary political discourse, euphemistically, "pro-life" — then I assume you respect the sanctity of human life all the way.

That is, I hope, you believe the lives we might save under the banner of "pro-life" would, by necessity, be ensured comfort and opportunity for the duration.

I might ease up on my unyielding — or as my critics would say, "villain-

ous" — pro-choice stance myself if any pregnant woman forced, by law, to carry a child full term was guaranteed, through taxation and government intervention, a bountiful measure of support as she raises said child.

Imagine: education, health care, and a Wii assured for every baby born into our magnanimous culture of life.

And yet. Many self-proclaimed proponents of the "culture of life" who I encounter seem to relinquish their defense of the sanctity of life sometime between conception and birth.

That is, Huckabee's self-contradictory juxtaposition of pro-life and pro-NRA — and, as you'll see if you read the policy statements on his Web site, pro-stomp-out-Islamic-extremists-because-it's-the-third-world-war-baby-and-it's-armed-don-now — stances is not an exceptional phenomenon.

Obviously, there is a sizeable population who don't see the combination of these two positions as self-contradictory at all. Why else would the ambitious local Huckabee supporter who posted the signs I saw last week have felt the need to place them side by side?

Maybe these paradoxes would bother me less if they were less cloaked in euphemism and self-denial. If I can't have a reasoned, self-conscious explanation for this apparent contradiction, then perhaps I could settle for an honest acknowledgment of the limits of the "culture of life."

So, be bold, self-proclaimed "culture-of-lifers," tell me what you really believe.

Perhaps something like: "I value the sanctity of human life. Until birth. Then you're on your own, resources-wise. And I really cease to value that sanctity if, out of the desperation of your material hardship, which I've made no effort to suspend, you lose your moral center and decide to steal my stuff. At that point, if you try to break into my home and take my stereo, I will shoot you. With my automatic weapon. No more sanctity of human life. No sir."

Ah, imagine, the humanity.

■ **Borshuk is a Tech English professor from Windsor, Ontario. E-mail him at michael.borshuk@ttu.edu.**

## Google continues to rock my world

By ZIV SHAFIR  
THE STANFORD DAILY (STANFORD)

(U-WIRE) PALO ALTO, Calif. — I feel there's too much hate surrounding our good friend Google these days. In my mind, it seems Google has been portrayed as an ogre-like enemy, deserving of spite. Perhaps this feeling is a product of the Silicon Valley psyche, which champions the small start-up over the powerful giant.

But only the best companies survive the fiercely competitive online world. The fact that so many consumers use Google should point to its popularity in the hearts and minds of consumers. Right?

I think the problem is that Google is too good, and our expectations have been raised. Google-like proficiency in Web search, for example, is the standard, and most people are now indifferent about their Google experience.

Hell, we've even turned the word Google into a generic verb describing web search (to the consternation of Google, which could actually lose the trademark on their name if this pervades society too deeply).

So the only thing that really makes news these days are vaguely

articulated concerns about privacy, perpetuated by companies' lobbying arms (as recently reported in *The New Yorker*), or speculation over whether the combination of Microsoft and Yahoo! could successfully battle Google.

I'd like to shift the focus to the fact that Google has been rocking our world for some time now, and continues to do so. Does anyone even remember Web search before Google? The experience was painful, slow and inaccurate.

The improvement Google has contributed has probably contributed untold billions to our economy via labor saved in finding information and the economic benefit that greater access to information endows. Now you can find nearly anything in record time — which could also be to your detriment if you have something to hide.

Google has also shaken up the e-mail scene in the same way it did to Web search. Again, think back to email before Gmail: You were maxed out at 100 MB of storage space, search features sucked, and the whole process felt like a chore.

Gmail, by correcting many of those sore points, has made email as addicting and as pain-free as possible. This beneficial effect even extended to non-Gmail users, as competitive email

services such as Yahoo! improved their offerings in response to the introduction of Gmail.

There are even more godsend from the Google team. If you have used Google Scholar, Google Patent Search or even Google Image, then you'll be just as devout a follower of Google as I am. I owe entire research projects to Google Scholar for being able to find the academic articles that I needed.

Google Scholar is light-years ahead of any other academic publication search, and if it weren't for Google Scholar, academic research would be significantly more painful. Patent and image searches have been similarly transformed.

It might seem odd that mighty Google needs defense. However, because Google has delivered so many positive changes to the world, I feel that Google deserve more accolades than it currently receives.

As I said, we've grown complacent with the pleasant online experience that Google has provided, and when problems disappear, we take our benefactors for granted.

I think life under a Google monopoly would be pretty comfortable. It would be a society pervaded with free, innovative and well-designed products. Sounds all right to me...

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## Aggravated assault, vehicle burglary reported on campus

Texas Tech police are asking students to be observant but cautious witnesses after the burglary of a vehicle and a related aggravated assault Wednesday morning in a campus parking lot.

A student was walking to his vehicle from the Murdough Residence Hall when he reportedly heard a loud pop from the Z5-C parking lot, and witnessed an unknown male climbing through the passenger side window of a black truck at 12:56 a.m. Wednesday, according to a Tech Police Department news release.

Cpl. Jack Floyd, crime prevention officer with the Tech Police Department, said the student yelled at the suspect, but ran back to the residence hall when the suspect's partner, who was sitting in a nearby vehicle, pulled out what appeared to be a gun. The suspects still are at large.

"Because there was a handgun involved, it's more urgent because we don't want people to approach them because they're armed and dangerous," he said. "We just want them to be good witnesses, and to call us immediately if they see anything suspicious."

Floyd said the student who reported the burglary described the suspects' vehicle as a small blue or gray pickup truck, "but because the description's so vague, it could match nearly a third of our vehicles."

In response to the burglary and aggravated assault, he said,

Tech police will increase patrols in parking lots and be on the lookout for vehicles matching the witness's description.

Despite the report, Floyd said aggravated assaults are not a common occurrence at the university.

"Yes, we did have a car jacking in 2005 at the medical school on the HSC campus, but that's 2005, and this is 2008," he said. "So, we do have stuff like this, but not too much."

According to the Tech police campus crime report, there were no aggravated assaults and three burglaries reported to Tech police in Lubbock between 2004 and 2006.

Though Floyd said Tech police released a TechAnnounce message Wednesday morning and are trying to bring attention to the burglary and aggravated assault to raise public awareness, he is uncertain if the suspects will continue to commit crimes on the campus.

"You never know," he said. "I'd rather be safe than sorry, and I'd rather tell people to use caution."

Floyd said he urges students not to intervene in potential burglaries, instead asks them to call Tech police at 9-911 or 911 on cell phones, because "we don't want anybody to be injured."

"Don't be a hero," he said. "Just call us immediately and, hopefully, we get there in time to arrest these guys."

adam.young@ttu.edu

## Cardinal calls Olympics chance for China to show improvement

ROME (AP) — The Beijing Olympics in August offer China the chance to improve its human rights record, Hong Kong Cardinal Joseph Zen said Wednesday.

The United States, other nations and advocacy groups have tried to use the attention and prestige associated with the Olympics to leverage internal change and diplomatic cooperation from China.

"It's a good opportunity for China to show that it has improved its regard for human rights," Zen said in an interview with Italy's RAI state TV.

Zen, one of the most influential Roman Catholic leaders in Asia, added that he would like to see the Asian country become "one of the top nations that truly defend human rights and work for peace."

The U.S. State Department said Tuesday in its annual report on human rights practices around the world that China still has chronic human rights problems despite rapid economic growth.

Zen, an outspoken champion of religious freedom who at times has drawn the ire of Beijing authorities, was in Rome for a meeting of Chinese bishops at the Vatican to discuss the problems of the Catholic Church in China.

In the interview, Zen did not discuss the meeting but said he

hoped the Holy See and China would soon enter a "new era" in their relations, reaching a deal to improve conditions for Catholics in the Asian country.

Pope Benedict XVI has made the improvement of often-tense relations with China a priority of his papacy, and he is keen on restoring diplomatic relations with Beijing.

He sent a special letter to Catholics in China last year, praising the underground church there but also urging the faithful to reconcile with followers of the nation's official church.

Beijing's ties with the Vatican were broken in 1951 after the communists took power in China.

Millions of Chinese belong to unofficial congregations that are loyal to the pope and sometimes risk harassment.

Catholic clergy in China have at times been jailed and worship is allowed only in state-backed churches, which appoint their own bishops in defiance of the Vatican.

But last year, a cleric well-regarded by the Vatican was installed as bishop of Beijing by China's state-controlled Church, a move seen as easing tensions between the Chinese government and the Holy See, which insists that the pope appoint bishops.

## ETCH-A-SKETCH

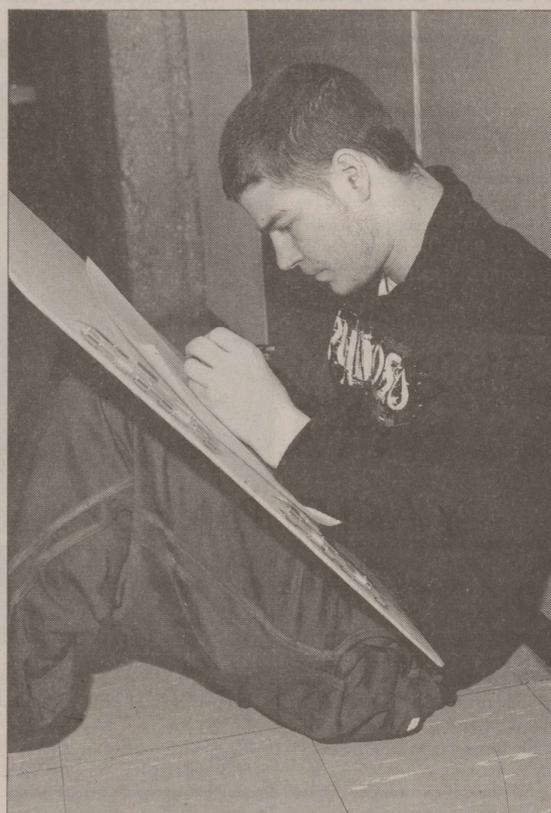
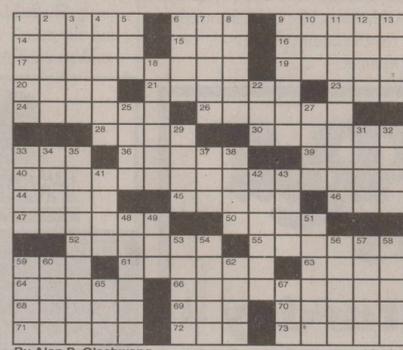


PHOTO BY KERRY LENTZ/The Daily Toreador

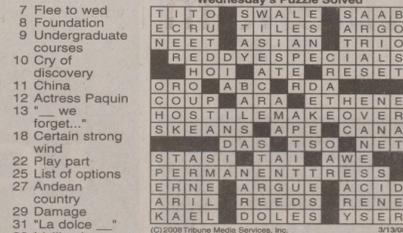
PAUL HAILES, A freshman architecture major from Round Rock, sketches a project for his delineation class while sitting in the fifth floor hallway Monday.

## THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- Fables
  - New entrant into society
  - Of the Vatican
  - Eccle attendee
  - Pie mode
  - European river
  - Start of Will Durant quote
  - Merits
  - Muffled crash
  - Sighting
  - Cool dude
  - Islamic women's quarters
  - Break free
  - Eve's third
  - Dozen
  - Studio letters
  - Approaches
  - Foray
  - Part 2 of quote
  - Zhivago's love
  - "Olympia" painter
  - Bert's twin
  - Kept looking
  - Make booties, e.g.
  - Choir section
  - Scant
  - Last of a log
  - Actress Sobieski
  - Frozen fall
  - Tea of "Spanglish"
  - End of quote
  - Copenhagen populace
  - Summertime refresher
  - Heating apparatus
  - Start
  - Sty
  - Even more calamitous
- DOWN**
- Tithe amount
  - Hilo greeting
  - Madagascar primate
  - Ducks and dodges
  - Bigwig in D.C.
  - Morse dashes
  - Flee to wed
  - Foundation
  - Undergraduate courses
  - Cry of discovery
  - China
  - Actress Paquin
  - "we forget..."
  - Certain strong wind
  - Play part
  - List of options
  - Andean country
  - Damage
  - "La doioe"
  - Idyllic place
  - Wire measures
  - Biting insect
  - Long runs
  - Hand-woven rug
  - Dirty dishes collector
  - Tortoise's rival
  - Judo teacher
  - Trademark swab
  - Sign up
  - Anonymous John
  - Pacific destination
  - Post-game summary
  - Shift out of place
  - Stubble cutter
  - Sitting utensil
  - Senior citizen
  - Ray of "Battle Cry"
  - Penn or Young
  - Tied
  - Born as
  - Leary's drug



By Alan P. Olschweg Huntington Beach, CA 3/13/08



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# Men's tennis breaks into Top 25

By KEVIN CULLEN  
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's tennis team heads to Montgomery, Ala., today to take on No. 64 Wisconsin in the renowned Blue-Gray Classic.

The Red Raiders climbed to No. 25 in the most recent polls released Sunday by College Tennis Online after the 5-2 victory against then-No. 37 Denver. The win improved Tech's record to 12-1.

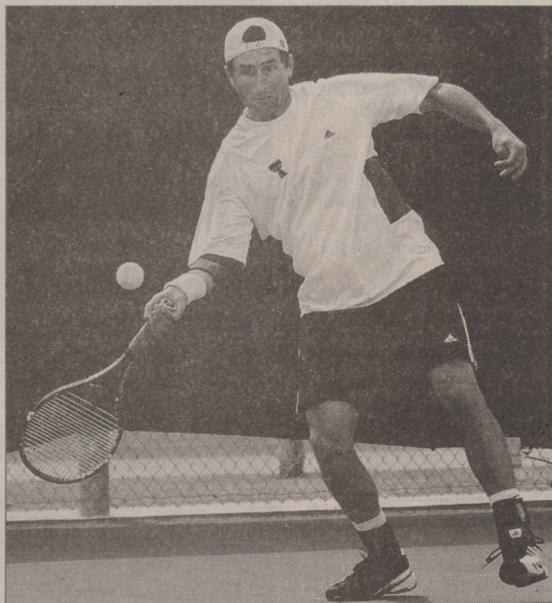
Wisconsin is coming off a win against No. 27 TCU. They are led in singles by No. 50 Moritz Baumann and in doubles by the No. 37 duo of Jeremy Sonkin and Luke Rassow-Kantor.

Tech coach Tim Siegel said the Blue-Gray Classic is the most prestigious tournament in the country and a great test for his team. Tech is among the 14 nationally ranked teams in the field of 16 teams.

Tech's top doubles team, No. 2 Bojan Szumanski and Christian Rojmar, is coming off a loss to Denver's No. 9-ranked doubles team. Siegel said improving the team's doubles play is the key to the team's success at the Blue-Gray and for the rest of the season.

"We have been fortunate that we have only lost one match this year because of our doubles," he said. "Really, the last three doubles matches, we haven't played very well. Without question, we have to improve our No. 3 doubles team. We haven't found the right combination at three. I think when we get that doubles point, we are hard to beat. We have won a handful of matches this year, not having won the doubles point or not even playing the doubles point."

The middle part of the lineup



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S BOJAN Szumanski plays in a doubles match against Denver for the win Saturday at the McLeod Tennis Center.

is also an area in need of improvement, Siegel said. No. 1 singles player Szumanski and No. 6 Michael Breler have been solid so far this season. Szumanski is No. 35 in the nation, and Breler has started the season 12-0.

Siegel said he has been impressed by his team's effort so far this season, and it needs to continue to take every match seriously.

"Bottom line is this team is playing hard," he said. "I have no complaints about that. They understand the importance of every match. They have shown up and played hard, and that is all I can ask as a coach."

Tech's first match is scheduled for 4 p.m. at the Lagoon Park Tennis Center. If Tech beats Wisconsin, it will face the winner of Fresno State and Virginia Commonwealth. If Tech loses, it will face the loser of that matchup.

Top 50 teams participating in the tournament are No. 8 Tulsa, No. 19 Virginia Commonwealth, No. 21 Alabama, No. 24 Oklahoma State, No. 25 Tech, No. 28 Auburn, No. 30 Notre Dame, No. 35 Boise State, No. 46 Oklahoma, No. 48 Fresno and No. 49 North Carolina State.

» kevin.m.

# AP Panel names Texas' Barnes Big 12 coach of the year

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas coach Rick Barnes criticized his players publicly, only to back off later. He chastised himself for "coaching mad" during a midseason lull.

He benched scholarship players, giving away valuable court time to a walk-on to prove a point.

Barnes hit all the right buttons this season, pushing and pulling the No. 6 Longhorns to a school-record 26 regular-season victories and a share of their second Big 12 title in three years.

For doing all that — even without Kevin Durant — Barnes was named Wednesday as The Associated Press Big 12 coach of the year for the second year in a row and third time overall.

In balloting of media members who cover the Big 12 on a regular basis, Barnes garnered 14 votes and Baylor's Scott Drew received five.

"The credit goes to our players," Barnes said. "They've put in the time and do what it takes to be successful."

The question going into the season was just how good could Texas be after Durant, the consensus national player of the year, left school for the NBA after one season?

Very good, it turns out. Texas had four returning starters and a fabulous point guard in D.J. Augustin. With Durant gone, forward Damion James moved out to his natural position on the wing and posted 14 double-doubles this season.

An impressive 11-0 start included wins over No. 3 UCLA and No. 4 Tennessee, even as top recruit Gary Johnson was held out for six weeks while doctors monitored his heart.

Still, Barnes wasn't satisfied. He was frustrated by young post players who weren't playing hard enough. To

send a message, he gave valuable court minutes to walk-on Ian Mooney in wins over TCU and Saint Mary's.

"The message was sent to those guys that there's no entitlement here. You can be on scholarship, you can be whatever. If you don't do the job, you're not going to play," Barnes said. "They realized they're going to have to work. From that point on, you could sense more urgency on the part of those post guys."

Barnes even got after James and Augustin.

After a poor game in a loss at Texas A&M, James started the next game on the bench. He responded by scoring 17 points against Baylor in the start of an eight-game winning streak. Texas went undefeated in February for the first time in 45 years.

"I deserved it," James said after the game. "It worked out. Me coming off the bench I think gave us a spark."

# Tigers' projected opening day lineup pounds Astros' Williams

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP) — Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland played his projected opening day starting lineup for the first time this spring, and it looked pretty powerful in an 11-4 rout of the Houston Astros on Wednesday.

Ivan Rodriguez batted eighth and hit two homers off Houston starter Woody Williams, and the Tigers scored nine runs in the first four innings, eight off Williams.

"We took advantage of the elements," Leyland said. "We hit it well, but it's just spring training."

Gary Sheffield had a single to improve his average to .056 on the spring. Sheffield, who batted third, said he wasn't concerned about numbers until April.

"I am not looking for results in the spring," Sheffield said. "I put my time in and see how it all sets up. I like this team and it's nice knowing that I can usually come bat with somebody on second base. That's special. It is nice to know that if someone is on base, someone will get him in. That's the power of this lineup."

Rodriguez said he is already prepared for the season and playing his part at the bottom of the order.

"I'm not even looking for home runs," Rodriguez said. "All I am trying to do is make contact. I feel great right now. I hope I can keep this stroke all year."

Kenny Rogers pitched five innings for the Tigers, his longest stint of the spring. He allowed three hits and one earned run.

Williams allowed eight earned runs in three innings, and Astros manager Cecil Cooper said Williams and his spring ERA of 15.26 was on his mind.

"I am getting a little concerned," Cooper said. "They hit some good pitches, but they also got too many good swings off of him. I have to start keeping an eye and the clock is ticking. We don't want to go in another direction and we want to give him

every opportunity."

Williams was 8-15 with a 5.27 ERA for the Astros last year. He said he was as frustrated as anyone.

"If a day like today has anything to do with my future then I don't think about it," Williams said. "In my opinion, it is out of my hands."

Notes: @ Former third baseman Brandon Inge never made an appearance even after the Tigers started playing back-ups. Inge has requested a trade ... First baseman Carlos Guillen had three more hits, improving his average to .343. He led the Grapefruit League with four homers entering Wednesday's play ... Leyland said this is the most set team he's had since his days with the Pittsburgh Pirates in the early 90's when he won three straight divisional championships. "This is the close to my most set team ever," Leyland said. "A few years I had in Pittsburgh were set, but the main thing I am thinking about now is the 25th player thing." ... The Tigers trimmed 12 players from their major league camp, leaving them with 46 players. The only surprise was left-handed pitcher Macay McBride, who was assigned to Triple-A Toledo. McBride pitched in 38 games for the Tigers and Braves last season.

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# Former Tech players and 2007 juniors have opportunity to impress NFL scouts at Pro Day

By ADAM COLEMAN  
STAFF WRITER

NFL scouts will visit Texas Tech looking for the next potentially great player for their respective teams.

The 2008 Pro Day takes place at 1 p.m. today at Jones AT&T Stadium.

Former Tech players such as Danny Amendola, Alex Trlica and Joe Garcia are expected to workout for a chance to improve their stock and join a team through the NFL Draft or free agency. Similar to last year's Pro Day, current Tech players who will be seniors in the 2008 season also are allowed to workout for the scouts.

"I'm not sure how many scouts are going to show up," Trlica said. "I plan on going out there and kicking for them. Doing a little field goal, kickoff, asking what they want me to do. Whatever they'd like to see, I'm going to do."

The former kicker was the first Red Raider in school history to score at least 100 points. After a season with such accomplishments, Trlica said since season's end he has rested his leg. Recently, Trlica has returned to form by training and knowing what to expect on Pro Day.

"I've been working out pretty much since I been back in school this semester, because I'm still in school here," he said. "I just started to kick probably (in) the last three or four weeks. Let my leg rest a little bit after the season."

Trlica has not been in contact

with any teams leading up to Pro Day. The process of Pro Day and making an NFL team is something Trlica knows little about, since his offseason has not been filled with calls from other scouts.

"I don't really know how it all works," he said. "Typically, I think you wait until your Pro Day, since I didn't kick at the (NFL) Combine to kinda see what I do and then take it from there. I really haven't been in contact with any teams."

Trlica may have an extra advantage because of what he learned from Tech's kicker during the 2006 season. When Alex Reyes worked out for scouts, Trlica was on hand to understand what the experience may be like for him the following year.

"I was out there for Pro Day last year when Alex Reyes was out there," he said. "It's a pretty relaxed atmosphere. I get to kick in a stadium that I'm used to kicking in. I don't anticipate it being very nerve-racking. I think it's actually going to be probably a pretty relaxed atmosphere, hopefully. Gave me an idea of the process and how things work, what to expect. How to take it step by step as far as trying to get an opportunity at the next level. That definitely helped out."

Amendola was the only Red Raider invited to the NFL Combine this year.

He also will be the only receiver from Tech present at Pro Day. At the Combine, he ran a 4.65 in the 40-yard dash and bench pressed 225 pounds 13 times, among other workouts.

The former receiver has the option to do some workouts again, such as the three-cone drill — also called an L-drill — and shuttles.

Amendola said he is not sure what he wants to do at Pro Day, but he looks forward to running routes here at Tech.

"I'm not sure whether I can get more than 13 right now," he said. "I think what I'm going to try to do going into the deal is: I know for a fact I'm going to run routes. I know I might do the long shuttle and the short shuttle. As far as the benching and the L-drill, I might hold off, just 'cause I did that at the Combine."

Amendola's offseason included more than the Combine, as he trained in Atlanta when the season was finished.

Amendola is getting closer to NFL teams as well; he is scheduled for a workout with the St. Louis Rams March 31 at Tech.

Amendola said the workout is something extra to look forward to along with Pro Day.

"It's a private workout this year at Tech," he said. "I'm excited about that."

Most of the 32 NFL teams are expected to be represented at Pro Day.

The current Tech players who are entering their senior season in 2008 can workout alongside the graduated players. It is solely their option to do so. Amendola worked out with the graduated players at last year's Pro Day.

► adam.coleman@ttu.edu

# Woods tries to keep his winning streak alive

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Tiger Woods used to play like royalty on The King's course.

Woods was a skinny 15-year-old when he won his first U.S. Junior title at Bay Hill in 1991. When his first hit his stride as a pro, Woods set a record by winning four straight years at what is now the Arnold Palmer Invitational, and the last one was a joke. Despite dehydration and the dry heaves, he won by 11 shots.

So this would seem like an ideal spot for Woods to keep alive a winning streak that dates to September, except for one thing. As brilliant as he was during that four-year stretch through 2003, he has played like a court jester ever since.

He has not fared better than

20th over the last four years, his longest such drought of any tournament in the world.

"I just haven't play well, simple as that," Woods said Wednesday. "This golf course, you have to play well on it in order to win the tournament. You can't go out there and slap it around and try and shoot something in the mid-60s here."

A year ago might have been the low point. He hit into the water on the last two holes, closing double bogey-triple bogey for a 43 on the back nine that dropped him into a tie for 22nd.

Then again, last year seems like a lifetime now.

Woods has been unbeatable since he was a runner-up to Phil Mickelson at the Deutsche Bank Championship outside Boston, winning twice after

that to capture the inaugural FedEx Cup, then starting his PGA Tour season with an eight-shot victory at the Buick Invitational and a record 8-and-7 victory in the Accenture Match Play Championship, and shooting 31 on the back nine to win the Dubai Desert Classic.

This doesn't count in the record books, but he also won his Target World Challenge by seven shots.

The last two PGA Tour victories put him at 63 for his career, moving past Palmer — The King — on the career list.

"We don't have time for me to tell you what I think about Tiger and his golf," Palmer said Wednesday. "Because I think that right now, he has got it by the neck, and he's choking it. And he should."

# Lance Mackey wins second straight Iditarod

NOME, Alaska (AP) — Lance Mackey won his second consecutive Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on Wednesday morning, completing the 1,100-mile journey in just under nine and a half days.

The 37-year-old throat cancer survivor and 11 dogs crossed the finish line under Nome's burl arch at 2:46 a.m. ADT Wednesday.

He yelled "Yeah, baby!" as he drove his team down Nome's Front Street. Fans mobbed him along the final 10 blocks, whooping and cheering and slapping his hand while chanting his name.

"I'm not much to brag very often, but damn, I'm going to this time," said Mackey, from Fairbanks, whose father and brother are past

Iditarod winners. "I don't know exactly how to explain it. I'm just blessed with an incredible dog team."

In its 36th running, the Iditarod commemorates a run by sled dogs in 1925 to deliver lifesaving diphtheria serum to Nome.

Mackey's win was a repeat of his 2007 feat, when he became the first musher to win back-to-back runs in the 1,000-mile Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race and the Iditarod. Last month, he won his fourth straight Yukon Quest and headed into the Iditarod, aiming for another double win.

Mackey used many of the same dogs that competed in those races in the trek across some of Alaska's harshest terrain.

At the Nome finish line, his family greeted him and he took congratulatory phone calls from his father, Dick Mackey, and Gov. Sarah Palin.

Palin told Mackey: "You're a hero, and truly an inspiration to all of us."

For much of the race Mackey tussled for the lead with four-time winner Jeff King, who closely tailed him from checkpoint to checkpoint. He also struggled with dogs stricken with diarrhea and slowed by unseasonably warm weather that marked much of the trail.

But Mackey's team was in better health in White Mountain, where mushers are required to take an eight-hour break before heading up the icy Bering Sea coast for the 77-mile homestretch to Nome.

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## FOR SALE

# SPORTS

PAGE 8  
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008

## Tech faces Oklahoma State to begin Big 12 Conference Tournament

By ADAM COLEMAN  
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech and Oklahoma State will meet for a third time this season, but with something more at stake: a chance at postseason play.

No. 8-seeded Tech (16-14, 7-9 in Big 12 Conference) and No. 9-seeded Oklahoma State (16-14, 7-9) kick off the latest edition of the Big 12 Tournament at 11:30 a.m. today in Kansas City, Mo., at the Sprint Center.

Both teams need a win to keep their hopes alive for an NCAA or NIT berth.

Tech guard Mike Singletary said these two teams know each other very well, which will make for a little more intense game than the past meetings.

"It's always going to be physical against Oklahoma State because they play physical," Singletary said. "We gotta be ready for that physicalness. We gotta be ready to adapt to it and just come out and get that win."

Not only are these two opponents

familiar with each other, but the Red Raiders and the Cowboys enter the conference tournament with similar tournament resumes and the same fate at hand.

Tech is coming off an 86-73 loss to Baylor, a game the Red Raiders needed to help ensure a spot in the NIT or NCAA Tournaments. OSU faced the same task when the Cowboys took on Texas Sunday. The 62-57 loss put the Cowboys in a difficult position to make the postseason as well. Tech and OSU need to string together wins for the possibility of an NIT selection or win the conference tournament for an automatic NCAA selection, making this game a must-win for both teams.

Tech made the NCAA Tournament last season. OSU earned an NIT berth. Both teams' runs were cut short as Tech and OSU were knocked out of the first rounds of their respective tournaments.

Tech and OSU also enter the Big 12 Tournament struggling. Both teams lost their last two games to finish off the regular season. Before the Baylor game,

Tech lost 109-51 to Kansas, the worst loss in school history. Prior to the loss to Texas, the Cowboys took a 68-56 loss to Oklahoma March 5. Before the back-to-back losses, OSU was on a five-game winning streak.

OSU assistant coach James Dickey, a former Tech coach, said it was difficult finishing the season with two losses, but the Cowboys have the right attitude to win today's game.

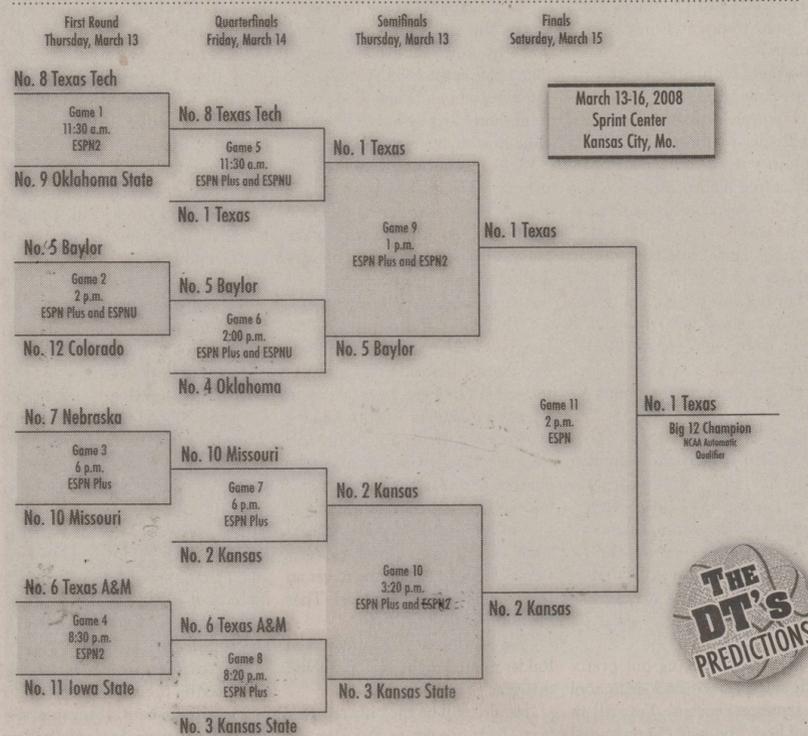
"We're really disappointed in our performance on (March 5), although we thought Oklahoma really played well," Dickey said. "I thought we competed extremely hard (against Texas). They made some big shots down the stretch when possessions were key. Our guys played well, and hopefully, we'll approach (today's) game with the proper mentality and get ready to play."

Tech will run into forward Marcus Dove, who recently was named the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. In the regular season, Dove grabbed 53 steals, tied for fourth in the conference. He also has 34 blocks, 21 of which came in conference games. His block total ranks 10th in the conference.

Last season in the conference tournament, Tech made it to the quarterfinals, losing to Kansas State 66-45 to end its run. OSU made it to the semifinals last season, but a 69-64 loss prevented a championship berth.

The Cowboys and the Red Raiders split the season series. The first meeting between these two teams was the first conference game of the year for both

### The DT's Big 12 Men's Basketball Tourney Predictions



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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

		6		1	9		
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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no numbers repeated in any row, column or box.

Puzzles by Pappocorn

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**THURSDAY MARCH 13, 2008**

STATION	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 19 CBS Lubbock	KMYL 14 MYN Lubbock	KLCW 22 CW Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7 AM	Curious Clifford	Today Scheduled: Steve McKee; top travel websites; home improvement projects (HD)	The Early Show	Copeland Robinson	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna
8 AM	Super Why			Animal Eye	Lopez		Paid Programs Sponsored.
9 AM	Sesame Street		Chickadee @ 11:11	Cristina		Regis & Kelly	Martha Cooking
10 AM	Big World		The Price Is Right	Divorce	Temptation	The View (HD)	The Morning Show
11 AM	Barney	Jeopardy	Restless (HD)	Alex		Paid Programs	Tyra Banks Show
12 PM	Callou	Crosswords		Paid Prog.	Cosby		All My Children
1 PM	Pat Vet	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	As the World	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	One Life to Live
2 PM	Place	Jeopardy		Guiding Light	College Basketball	All of Us	General Hospital
3 PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Brown			Reba	Montel Williams
4 PM	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judy	Mauri	Wilkos	Rachael Ray	News
5 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	TMZ	Standing	News	Raymond
6 PM	NewsHour (HD)	News	News	College Basketball (Live)	Queens	ET	Two & 1/2
7 PM	Old House	Earl (HD)	Micronesia		Smallville "Hero"	Lost Juliet's visit.	Smart 5th Grade
8 PM	Story	Apprentice	CSI: Crime (HD)	"The Crow" (94) Dead man awakes. (R)	Reaper (HD)	Lost "J Year" (HD)	Forgot Lyrics
9 PM	Old House	Lipstick Jungle (HD)	Without Trace (HD)		Sex City	(12) Eli Stone (HD)	News
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	Jim (HD)	Will (HD)	News	Two & 1/2
11 PM	Charlie Rose	The Tonight Show	(1:35) Late Show	70s	Bernie	Insider	Friends
12 AM	Destinee	(1:35) Late Night Show	Late Late Show	King	Bernie	(36) Jimmy Kimmel	Scrubs
	GED	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Malcolm	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.

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**BIG 12 TOURNAMENT**

**2:00PM TODAY**

**PHILLIPS 66**

Now, the two teams will meet on a neutral floor.

"I think we're pretty even teams," Tech guard John Roberson said. "We split 1-1 in the conference. They know how well we can play. We know how well they can play. Hopefully, we can know what we have to do coming into the game. We're going to be focused and try to get this win."

Dickey said every opponent should

know what to expect during the conference tournament because all teams are scouted before conference play begins.

"Once you get to conference play, everyone is well-scouted," he said. "The coaches in this league do a great job. They understand what the strength and weaknesses of each team happens to be. It's not going to be anything new in the conference tournament that they hadn't faced in the regular season of the 16-game schedule in the conference."

The winner of this game will face Big 12 regular season co-champions and No. 1-seeded Texas at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Sprint Center.

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