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(IN BRIEF)

STATE

Officials say furniture warehouse fire was arson

HOUSTON (AP) — Officials say a fire at a well-known Houston furniture store that caused up to \$20 million in damage is being investigated as an arson.

Robert Elder, the special agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' National Response Team, said Thursday investigators have ruled out all accidental causes of the May 21 blaze at the warehouse at Gallery Furniture.

But Elder said because the investigation is ongoing, he could not comment on how the fire was started.

NATION

Md. teen to be tried as adult in dad's slaying

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (AP) — Danielle Black wasn't shy about it: She told her peers she wanted her father hurt, maybe even dead.

So when Billy Lee Black was fatally stabbed in the alley behind their rented duplex on Halloween, it didn't take police long to question his 15-year-old daughter, who told friends her father had physically abused her.

Danielle, a smart but troubled sophomore at South Hagerstown High School, is charged with soliciting first-degree murder by asking a boy on her school bus to kill her father.

On Thursday, a judge ordered the weeping girl to stand trial as an adult. She faces life in prison.

WORLD

SKorea, US troops on alert after North's threats

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean and U.S. troops raised their alert Thursday to the highest level since 2006 after North Korea renounced its truce with the allied forces and threatened to strike any ships trying to intercept its vessels.

The move was a sign of heightened tensions on the peninsula following the North's underground nuclear test and its firing of a series of short-range missiles earlier this week.

In response, Seoul decided to join more than 90 nations that have agreed to stop and inspect vessels suspected of transporting banned weapons.

DEATH TOLL

4302

U.S. military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

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WEATHER

Today Sunny 88/60

Mostly Sunny Saturday 90/62

'Inhumane' practices

Animal-rights group protests Texas Tech Health Sciences Center's use of live cats

By HANNAH BOEN
STAFF WRITER

Ian Smith held a sign at the corner of Broadway and University Avenue in an attempt to change a 20-year-old Texas Tech Health Sciences Center training practice.

The protest was held by PETA members, including Smith, with hopes to gain attention concerning cats being used in medical training exercises Smith said are unnecessary and inhumane.

"The cats are being killed and mutilated," he said, "for inferior training of medical students."

The American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Heart Association have endorsed other means of training, he said, using simulators rather than animals.

Simulators are being used at most universities throughout the country, he said, because animals are an inferior means of training. Using the cats for training is not only inhumane, but robs medical professionals of the best possible training.

The live cats are used in a medical training exercise at the Health Sciences Center similar to Pediatric Advanced Life Support, or PALS. A statement put out by Health Sciences Center officials said the practice is in compliance with all Federal and State regulations and is regulated on a regular basis by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Smith, however, said PETA members have filed a complaint with the USDA concerning the use of the cats for training purposes. He said non-animal learning methods are typically used and should be considered by the university.

"PETA does think the ethical concerns alone warrant ending this practice," he said. "In this case, there are no concerns to weigh because it's



PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

NANCY WENNRICH, A PETA supporter from Lubbock, Jonathan Lair, a Texas Tech graduate and PETA supporter, and Ian Smith, a PETA supporter from Conn., were holding signs Thursday by the Broadway entrance to Texas Tech University to let the general public know about the treatment of cats in the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center's laboratories.

PROTEST continued on page 2 >>

College of Education interim dean replaces Santos June 1

By HANNAH MOORE
STAFF WRITER

While a national search to find a permanent dean continues, Charles P. Ruch, retired president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, will serve as interim dean of Texas Tech's College of Education effective June 1.

After six years as the dean, Sheryl Santos will be taking a one-year sabbatical to return in the fall of 2010 as a professor.

Santos said Ruch is a good listener and obtains every quality needed to be an effective dean.

"Most important quality for an interim dean is that they have experience and hit the ground running," she said. "We don't want to lose any of our heartbeat. We want to go straight forward. The most important criteria is experience."

Santos, former dean of California State University Bakersfield, said she looks forward to getting back to basics.

"During this year," she said, "I want to hone my skills on teaching online and getting back to doing research in my field, which is bilingual education."

"So I'll spend a lot of time this year reading and trying to do research with colleagues. The end of this year I'll come back for a teaching position as a professor."

With programs such as the Peace Corps Master's International, Santos said she believes the college is headed in a positive direction with a variety of programs meant to enrich the diversity of its students' education.

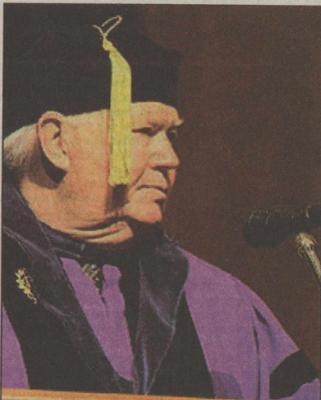


PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS TECH

CHARLES P. RUCH, will take over as interim dean of the College of Education effective June 1.

Traci Sharp, a junior education major from Amarillo, said she was surprised by the extent of programs and opportunities offered by Tech.

"We've got countless things here like the Child Development Research Center, where you can go observe," Sharp said. "Or we have the place in the education college where you can make anything. You can make poster boards, whatever you need. Everything you could ever need as a teacher."

Hoping the future dean will continue to encourage quality programs to enrich education, Sharp said she looks forward to the rest of her classes in the college of education.

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Interest groups already engaged in nominee battle

By JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The battle is on between conservative and liberal interest groups to define little-known federal judge Sonia Sotomayor before senators — away from the capital on a weeklong break — return to weigh in on the fate of the woman who would be the Supreme Court's first Hispanic.

Republican senators are speaking in cautious but measured tones about Sotomayor's qualifications and fitness for the court while Democrats are joining the White House in singing her praises. But the outside organizations that have a major stake in a high-court fight are taking up warring positions.

Conservative groups brand her an activist who would impose her own views and ethnic and gender biases on her interpretation of the law and the Constitution.

"Equal justice under law — or under attack?" a Web ad by the conservative group Judicial Confirmation Network asks. "America deserves better" than Sotomayor, it concludes.

Liberal groups hit back with their own campaign to paint Sotomayor as an experienced and fair judge whose background gives her a better understanding of how the court affects real people and their lives.

"Principled. Fair-minded. Independent," asserts a TV spot by the liberal Center for Constitutional Values.

The noise drowned out a more nuanced and politically sensitive discussion to come on just how far Republicans will want to go in opposing Sotomayor. Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the senior Republican on the Judiciary Committee, said he doesn't foresee a filibuster to block a vote on Sotomayor, and Democrats appear to

have more than enough votes to confirm her.

Nevertheless, Democrats, signaling that they intend to score political points against Republicans in the debate over Sotomayor's nomination, e-mailed contributors telling them that the GOP was "ready to obstruct." Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., the head of the party's Senate campaign committee, wrote that "we have a fight on our hands" over Sotomayor's nomination.

The judge's Capitol Hill debut could come as early as next week, when top aides said she could begin making personal "courtesy calls" to Senate leaders and members of the Judiciary Committee. For now, with many of the senators who hold the judge's fate in their hands scattered in home-states across the country or destinations around the world during their weeklong congressional break, there's little public partisan debate about Sotomayor's nomination.

In private, the 54-year-old Sotomayor — a veteran of the federal bench who was reared in Bronx housing projects and attended Princeton and Yale en route to the highest echelons of the legal profession — phoned key senators as she began preparing to face them in high-stakes hearings. Since President Barack Obama announced her nomination Tuesday, she has spoken with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and GOP leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, as well as Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., the Judiciary chairman, and Sessions.

Staffers on the Judiciary panel, which will run hearings on Sotomayor's nomination, huddled researching her record and released a detailed, 10-page questionnaire the judge will have to answer in advance of the public session she will undergo with senators. Democratic aides on the panel planned to meet Thursday with Cynthia Hogan, Vice President Joe Biden's counsel, to plot strategy.

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New pay-by-phone system hits campus parking lots

By **STEVEN SCHWARTZ**
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech students now have more options when trying to avoid tickets in the university parking lots.

University Parking Services recently has installed a new "pay-by-phone" system in several of the parking lots across campus.

This new system gives commuters the option to pay for their parking through their cell phones, either by making a call or by text messaging. Students can also add additional time to their parking balance through their cell phones as well. A Canadian company, Verrus Mobile Technologies, Inc., developed the program.

The pay-by-phone system, which is now available in 10 of the university's parking lots, was tested last summer on the 4th floor of the Flint Avenue parking garage, said Brian Brand, man-

ager of parking enforcement. He said the system received solid feedback through the test, which is why University Parking Services decided to expand the program.

"We got very good responses from the students," Brand said. "They liked it. They liked the convenience."

Heather Medley, the marketing and training coordinator for University Parking Services, said the new parking systems will make the parking process more convenient for students.

"One of the greatest things is that you don't have to dig for change in your pocket," Medley said.

The pay-by-phone system was installed to help decrease the number of tickets people were receiving in the parking lots, Brand said. University Parking Services also wanted to reduce the reliance on the parking meters that had credit card readers, because they proved to be unreliable.

Tech is the only campus in

Texas to have this new system implemented, and one of only four campuses in the nation at this time, said Medley. These universities include the University of Miami, University of Wisconsin, University of Colorado and Yale University.

Brand said programs such as this show Tech's commitment to the utilization of new technology on its campus.

"We are on the cutting edge," Brand said, "trying to make things as technologically advanced as possible."

However, Brand said the new system was developed for the main purpose of helping Tech students.

"Pay-by-phone was implemented first and foremost, because it is advantageous to the students," Brand said.

Students can sign up for the pay-by-phone parking service online, through parking services.

Medley said the original meters are still available for students who want to pay for their parking spaces with cash or credit card; University Parking Services just wants to make the parking process as simple as possible.

"A student has a lot of things to worry about," Medley said. "This will be one less thing."

For more information about the pay-by-phone service, go to <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/parking/programs/paybyphone.php>.

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PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

THE NEW PARKING system, pay-by-phone, could make it easier for students to deal with campus parking services.

“Pay-by-phone was implemented, first and foremost, because it is advantageous to the students.”

BRIAN BRAND
PARKING ENFORCEMENT
MANAGER

Protest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

common sense.”

The training includes shots and intubation, Smith said. According to a statement issued by Health Sciences Center officials, the cats are free of pain and distress, however, PETA members believe the training is uncomfortable and painful for the animals.

"Intubation is considered extremely painful even when done by a professional," he said. "Consider five to six cats per year with 50 to 60 students using them for practice."

The cats are purchased for training purposes from Animal Control of Odessa. The organization's media relations officer, Sherrie Carruth, said Tech has bought between five and six cats each year since the 1980s. The cats purchased are strays that, if not purchased, will be euthanized.

"These are feral animals," she said, "these aren't pets."

Smith used the protest to encourage students, faculty and community members to evaluate the unnecessary killing of animals for educational pur-

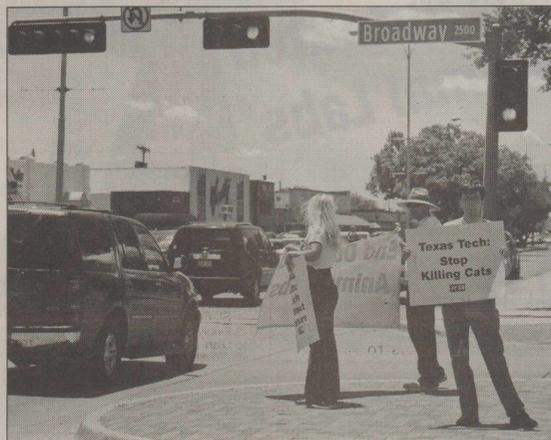


PHOTO BY KEN MUIR/The Daily Toreador

NANCY WENNRICH, A PETA supporter from Lubbock, Jonathan Lair, a Texas Tech graduate and PETA supporter, and Ian Smith, a PETA supporter from Conn., protested Thursday in hopes of letting people know about the treatment of cats in the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center's laboratories.

poses and to educate individuals on the new technology that could eliminate the practice.

Students interested in Thursday's protest were given brochures about

the training exercises and encouraged to contact Health Sciences Center President John Baldwin to voice their concerns.

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Relatives of slain Iraqis confront killer in court

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Weeping relatives of a murdered Iraqi family confronted the killer Thursday in an American courtroom and said he deserved to die.

The object of their outrage, former Pfc. Steven Dale Green, convicted of murder and rape, apologized and said he will face "God's justice."

In a hearing that turned emotional at times, surviving members of the al-Janabi family gestured and questioned Green, convicted earlier this month of killing four people in Iraq.

Hajia al-Janabi, the grandmother of two victims, tried to approach Green at the defense table. As federal marshals led her back to the gallery, she shouted: "I just want to see him. I just want to see him. You have no mercy."

Green, speaking publicly for the first time since his arrest nearly three years ago, told his victims' relatives that he will face "God's justice" after spending the rest of his life in prison.

The statement came as part of a sentencing hearing for Green, 24, of Midland, Texas. The remainder of the hearing and formal sentencing are scheduled for Sept. 4.

Green, dressed in a black-and-white striped prison uniform and shackled at the legs, faced the family and referred to the killings as "evil."

"When I die, I'll be in God's hands," Green said. "In the kingdom of God, there will be justice and whatever I deserve, I'll get."

A civilian jury convicted Green on May 7 of multiple counts, including conspiracy, rape and murder in the March 12, 2006, killings of 14-year-old Abeer al-Janabi and her father, mother and 6-year-old sister near Mahmoudiya, Iraq, about 20 miles south of Baghdad.

The jury failed to agree on a sentence for Green, meaning he automatically receives life imprisonment without parole. He could have been sentenced to death.

During his nearly four-week trial, witnesses described how Green and

three other soldiers went to the al-Janabi home, where Green shot Abeer's father, Kassem, her mother, Fahkriya, and her younger sister, Hadeel, while two soldiers raped Abeer in the next room.

After shooting the family members, Green became the third soldier to rape Abeer before shooting her in the head. Her body was lit on fire.

Thursday's hearing normally would have been part of Green's formal sentencing later. But U.S. District Judge Thomas B. Russell allowed the al-Janabi family to speak to the court and Green without having to make another trip from Iraq.

Five members of the al-Janabi family condemned Green for the slayings, calling him a dog, a coward and a criminal. Several said Green should have received a death sentence.

"You are a bad stigma on your whole family," Ameena Hamza Rashid al-Janabi, Kassem al-Janabi's sister, said through an interpreter. "You are a stigma on your family and all your relations."

Today's su | do | ku

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9						3
	9	1	3	4	2	5
3		2		5	8	9
	5					6
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Puzzles by PageFiller

In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers.

1	5	4	9	3	2	8	7	6
3	2	7	4	6	8	1	5	9
8	9	6	1	5	7	2	4	3
9	4	5	6	2	3	7	1	8
6	1	2	8	7	4	3	9	5
7	3	8	5	9	1	6	2	4
5	8	9	2	1	6	4	3	7
2	6	3	7	4	5	9	8	1
4	7	1	3	8	9	5	6	2

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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

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Wolfram Alpha: Homework helper or brain substitute?

Imagine one night you're doing calculus homework and getting really frustrated with a problem. Your parents didn't see fit to buy you a TI-89 and you can't figure out how to do a certain nasty integral. That nerdy classmate of yours is already asleep and the homework is due the next morning.

Stephen Torrence



Wouldn't it be great if there was a magic, free computer that could show you how to solve the problem? Well now there is, and its name is Wolfram Alpha.

Available since May 15 at WolframAlpha.com, the so-called "Computational Knowledge Engine" was developed by eminent computational physicist and mathematician Stephen Wolfram. He created the engine during five years of intense work that built on his previous accomplishments, such as the popular multi-purpose computational software Mathematica.

At first glance, Wolfram Alpha appears to be some sort of search engine, perhaps a competitor to Google. However, it is not meant for searching the Internet in that way. Rather, Wolfram Alpha processes user input on a wide range of subjects using a vast underlying data set culled from a multitude of sources and spits out the results in a digestible form.

For instance, if you enter "integral of $\sin(x)\cos(x)dx$ " the engine will return the answer, graphs of the function, steps explaining how to do the integral and so forth. It can handle more than just math, too.

If you ask Wolfram Alpha "How old was Shakespeare in 1570?" it will correctly return "five years." The engine can process statistics, stock data, geometry, socioeconomic figures, nutrition facts, time relations and much more in a similar manner.

The designers cleverly built some Easter eggs into the engine's framework as well.

If you ask "What is the answer to life?" it will promptly quip back "42, according to Douglas Adams' 'Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.'" If you enter "88 MPH" it will return a plethora of conversions and comparisons, including the fact that it is the "speed at which Marty McFly needed to drive the DeLorean DMC-12 in order to time travel."

I've found Wolfram Alpha most useful for doing those slightly challenging computations that come up so often in everyday life. The engine is a whiz at unit conversions, for instance. It can also easily tell me how far a trip from Lubbock to San Francisco would take were I to drive or fly. I have friends in other parts of the world and Wolfram Alpha makes finding their local time and weather a snap.

Because of its occasional pickiness about input, many find Wol-

fram Alpha too hard to use and give up on it after only a few tries. The site provides a wide range of examples, however, and it really does become easier to use the more you play around with it.

The engine is brilliant at interpreting language queries, but you can give it pure symbolic input if you wish. Flexibility is the key word.

Since launch, the Wolfram team has been working feverishly to handle server demand for the new engine and also to expand the types of input it can deal with. The scalability of the engine is almost infinite.

As the Internet grows, Wolfram Alpha will continuously cull new data for comparison, becoming more and more useful as time goes on.

A few pundits have raised the concern that Wolfram Alpha will replace independent thought, since people will no longer have to learn useful things like how to calculate distance or how many pounds are in a kilogram.

I don't see this becoming the case, however. Wolfram Alpha is another example of humanity building a tool (like the washing machine or microwave) that eliminates pointless busy work and lets us use our time more efficiently.

Without Wolfram Alpha, I might spend an hour scouring the Internet for GDP data, graphing and comparing it trying to figure out which country has been the poorest on average over the last 20 years.

However, with a few clever searches on Wolfram Alpha I could have this answer within minutes and be off making new discoveries from it in the same amount of time. In many ways, this second course of action results in more productive net thought and on a larger scale facilitates human progress.

Wolfram Alpha may be geeky and obscure right now, but in a few years I believe it will become as integral a part of our lives as Google or Facebook. Take the time to learn it now. You might even find yourself answering some things before that nerdy classmate and catching a few more winks of sleep.

Torrence is a philosophy major from Georgetown. E-mail him at stephen.torrence@ttu.edu.

America misses chance to improve equality

The California Supreme Court upheld a ballot initiative Tuesday to ban same sex marriages. This is a terrible decision that should be frowned upon by anyone that values equality and equal protection under the law.

Paul Williamson



In the opinion written by Chief Justice Ronald George, the court said the ruling "concerns the scope of the right of the people." This is wrong, and it's a cop-out.

In a democracy, it is not just about majority rules — it is also about minority rights.

Opponents of same sex marriage are just wrong.

Here are some of the main, illogical arguments against same sex marriage and the logical responses to them:

1. It will blur the definition of marriage to a point where humans can marry dogs and polygamy will be legal. This is not the case. Polygamy is, and should be, illegal because it actually causes a clear societal harm. It exponentially increases the likelihood of fraud and scams.

It makes it more likely for innocent people to be taken advantage of by others. While yes, the same arguments that apply for same sex marriage can be applied to proponents of polygamy, the societal harm is just too great.

Marrying animals will not happen either. A marriage is a contract and requires two willing parties to submit to the agreements of the contract. A dog, cat, spider, camel, etc., cannot sign a contract.

2. Same sex marriage will allow for insurance fraud much like the movie "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry." This may have some credence and is similar to the argument made above against polygamy.

However, the risk of insurance fraud is just as prevalent for heterosexual marriage as well. There is no reason a man cannot marry one

of his female friends to get insurance. What do you think happens today when a child is born out of wedlock? The parents get married for the insurance. This argument is not unique to homosexuals.

3. Legalizing gay marriage will conflict with religious freedoms. The argument is that churches might be forced to recognize gay marriages. This is not true. The legalization of gay marriage will only be in the eyes of the law. If a religious institution decides to not recognize the union under their laws, so be it. But the government must recognize the marriages under the laws that govern heterosexual couples. It is called equality.

4. Civil unions provide the same basic rights as marriages, thus there is no need to legalize same sex marriage. There are two major problems with this.

First, this would be the same as the separate but equal laws that governed civil rights in the past. Civil unions are separated from marriages — but yet equal. This has been proven to be false.

Second, it is not equal. In New Jersey, it was determined that "the separate categorization established by the Civil Union Act invites and encourages unequal treatment of same-sex couples and their children," the panel said in a 79-page report based on an 18-month investigation. This is according to the Civil Union Review Commission of New Jersey.

There is always going to be a risk that insurance companies, hospitals, financial institutions, etc., will find ways to say civil unions are not enough to meet

their requirements to give same sex couples the same services as their heterosexual counter parts.

This includes denying insurance coverage to a same sex partner or not allowing someone's partner to visit them in the hospital.

5. Allowing same sex marriages will make schools teach same sex marriage to kids in public schools.

First of all, I do not see much of a problem with teaching equality to our children. Why should they be shielded from the world? Teaching them now can only make them more accepting of others when they are older.

But the key point here is that schools will not be forced to teach about homosexuality as per a same sex legalization law. This came about because a California school sent a second grade class to see a lesbian marriage when it was legal. It was a local decision by the local teachers to do this.

Public schools will not be legally required to teach about this

after legalization.

6. Same sex marriages will allow them to adopt children and that will harm children. Not true.

"The vast consensus of the studies is that children of same-sex parents do as well as children whose parents are heterosexual in every way," said Dr. Ellen Perrin, professor of pediatrics at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston, in Medscape medical news. "In some ways, children of same-sex parents actually may have advantages over other family structures."

The fear is that gay couples will raise gay children. Right, like straight couples only raise straight children.

California ought to be ashamed of itself. As should every other state that disallows same sex marriage.

Equality should be for all.

Williamson is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Crosby. E-mail him at paul.w.williamson@ttu.edu

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norrow and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS	1 Debacle	7 Fish used in sashimi	11 "Good Will Hunting" setting, briefly	14 Packet	15 Denpasar is its capital	16 Sumac from South America	17 Flared garb for Tarzan?	19 Old platters	20 First woman to land a triple axel in competition	21 Crumb	22 Levels	24 Manage to provide morning refreshment?	26 Orbital point?	29 Keisters	30 Alphabetical orders?	31 Megadeth native	35 Actress Wray	37 Scarf makers?	40 Wheat beard	41 Short stops	42 Silk, in St.-Etienne	43 Finely contoured	45 Ulan	46 Wrinkle on a dessert topper?	51 Clapton hit that won the 1992 Best Rock Song Grammy	52 Off-the-wall piece on the wall?	53 Humanities degs.	56 Tolkien creature	57 Wolves full of themselves?	60 Modern, in Mannheim	61 Tales and such	62 Yacht spot	63 Sixth of five?	64 Odesa-to-Waco direction	65 Lacing aid					
DOWN	1 Big film maker	2 "a Spell on You": 1957	3 Screamin' Jay Hawkins song	3 Florentine flower?	4 Soap, in British dialect	5 "We want to hear from you"	6 Ingredients in a McFlurry, perhaps	7 Very heavy	8 Not so bright	9 Every	10 Memorable	11 1989 Daniel Day-Lewis film	12 One putting on a show	13 Café cup	18 "Despite what I just said ..."	23 "tree falls ..."	24 Odds and ends: Abbr.	25 Not quite a B	26 "Dancing Queen" group	27 Cutting-edge farm parts	28 It's hoisted on ice annually	31 Serpentine	32 Home of the NCAA's Buckeyes	33 Whitney et al.: Abbr.	34 "You ... here"	36 River to the North Sea	38 In working order	39 1917 abdicator	44 Goethe's "The King"	45 Sell out	46 Knockoff	47 Falls heavily	48 Discomfit	49 Allurophobe's dread	50 Last word in doughnuts	53 Rescue, with "out"	54 Teen breakout?	55 Game with no card lower than seven	58 Mauna ...	59 Ante-

By Dan Naddor

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

A	M	P	A	C	R	O	M	A	G	N	A				
L	O	O	T	H	E	R	E	A	L	O	E				
P	O	T	B	O	I	L	E	R	N	I	T	R			
E	L	S	A	C	A	L	L	I	N	G	O	F	F		
R	A	I	N	H	A	T	F	A	N	S					
T	H	E	J	O	N	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	A	M	
O	N	O	T	O	O	L	E	R							
P	A	R	S	E	P	U	N	A	N	D	E	S			
E	P	A	D	A	R	N	G	P	O						
G	E	N	T	K	E	T	T	L	E	D	R	U	M		
S	I	S	I	R	U	L	E	O	N	E					
B	L	A	C	K	M	A	G	I	C	A	T	I	T		
L	O	C	K	E	H	Y	P	O	C	R	I	T	E		
A	N	K	L	E	A	R	O	S	E	N	E	O			
B	E	S	E	T	O	D	E	S	I	S	R				

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Suicide attacks kill 14 at Peshawar market

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Militants detonated two bombs in a busy market and attacked two police checkpoints in northern Pakistan on Thursday, killing at least 14 people, wounding scores more and testing the resolve of the government as it takes on the Taliban in the Swat Valley.

The attacks in Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan happened within two hours of each other and a day after an assault on security forces in the eastern city of Lahore killed around 30 people. That strike was claimed by the Pakistani Taliban, who warned of further attacks unless the government called off the Swat offensive.

"Our targets are security forces, who are killing innocent people in Swat and other adjoining areas," said Hakimullah Mehsud, a deputy to Pakistani Taliban chief Baitullah Mehsud. "We regret that some innocent people were also killed in the Lahore attack, we did not want that."

He said other attacks were planned for the major cities of Multan, Rawalpindi, Lahore and the capital, Islamabad, and urged civilians to flee.

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SPORTS

PAGE 4
FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009

Tech baseball shows improvement in 2009, coaches optimistic for future

By **CHRISTOPHER MARTIN**
STAFF WRITER

After the Texas Tech baseball team was eliminated from the Big 12 Championships by Texas A&M, the coaching staff remained satisfied with the season overall and expects to build off the momentum for next year.

Although the team's season record was 25-32, the Red Raiders were only one game away from playing for the tournament title. Assistant coach Trent

Petrie said even though there were some areas the team needed to improve, he was happy with the performance as a whole.

"Overall, I think it was a successful season," Petrie said. "We got to the conference tournament, and if we had just taken care of business a little better in a few more mid-week games, we could have been right there in the championship game."

The Red Raiders started the Big 12 Championships with a loss to Oklahoma, but bounced back in an upset victory

against No. 3-seed Missouri. Tech needed a victory over Texas A&M to play in the championship, but the Red Raiders lost 11-4.

The loss to the Aggies was a devastating blow, but Petrie said the coaches still appreciate how close to a championship Tech actually was, considering the level of competition.

"It was tough coming that close, but baseball is a funny game like that," he said. "We got behind early in the game and they had a really good guy on the mound, and we just couldn't come through when we needed to."

Petrie said the goal for this season was to advance past the Big 12 Championship and play in the regional tournament, but a more consistent approach on the mound is necessary to make that happen.

"We have to get better at pitching," Petrie said. "The teams that win are the teams that can pitch, and we have addressed that issue for next year."

The Red Raiders will lose seven seniors after this season, and Petrie said their hard work and productivity on the field will be missed. However, Petrie acknowledged that the late season push supplied the younger players with invaluable

experience.

"We have so many outstanding seniors leaving us this year, but now we will have some guys who know what it takes to get to the conference tournament," Petrie said. "They will just push that much harder."

One of the seniors who will no longer be with the team next year is First-Team All-Big 12 first baseman Chris Richburg, who had a team high 14 home runs this season.

"Chris Richburg had an absolutely phenomenal year on both offense and defense," Petrie said. "but we will have a

lot of experience back and some of these younger guys are going to have to step up on the mound."

After its performance in the Big 12 Championships this year, Petrie said he is confident the team can achieve the coaching staff's overall goal next year.

"Our goal next year is to be a regional-quality ball club, and I definitely think that is a goal we can accomplish," Petrie said. "We know now what the team has to work on, and we are very optimistic as we move into preparations for next year."

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Track prepares for regional championships in Oklahoma

By **CHRISTOPHER MARTIN**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech track and field team will compete in the Midwestern Regional Track and Field Championship Meet today in Norman, Okla.

The field consists of 11 Big 12 Conference schools, as well as teams from the Big Ten Conference, Conference USA, Mountain West Conference, The Big Sky Conference, Southland Conference and the Sun Belt Conference.

Tech will have 15 women and 20 men competing in the meet, all hoping to achieve at least 5th place in each individual event, or 3rd place for the relays, in order to move on to the national championship meet, which will begin June 10 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Tech coach Wes Kirtley said he believes his athletes are ready for this

weekend, despite some slight anxiety.

"I think some of our kids are a little nervous but we have been preparing for this all year," Kirtley said. "I think the Big 12 meet helps prepare you for this level pretty well."

After taking a few days to rest from the Big 12 Championships, the track team resumed its normal practice routine and Kirtley acknowledged that all his athletes seemed to be healthy and ready to compete this weekend.

Kirtley said he hopes to have quite a few athletes advance to the national championships, especially those who won their events at the Big 12 Championships. Kirtley was referring to Patience Knight, who won the shot put, D'Andra Carter in the discus, Omoghan Osaghah in the 110 meter hurdles and Gil Roberts in the 400 meters.

Roberts, who won his event with a

time of 44.86 seconds, grew up in Norman, Okla., and will be running in front of a familiar crowd. Kirtley said that could be a positive factor for Roberts' performance.

"This is his hometown, so I think he is going to want to run good here," Kirtley said. "The big meet is next week but, of course, you still have to get there. I just hope he runs a smooth race and gets prepared for the national championships."

Tech will have competitors in both running and field events including both the men's and women's 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays, and Kirtley said he is pleased to have so many athletes with the opportunity to advance to the national championships.

"We have so many kids who are going to have the chance to keep going," Kirtley said. "We just simply need to run like we know how to run."

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FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador
GIL ROBERTS RUNS during the Big 12 Outdoor Track and Field Championships at the Terry and Linda Fuller Track in Lubbock.

Federer advances at French Open

PARIS (AP) — Roger Federer survived a tough match on his least favorite surface Thursday, rallying from a 5-1 deficit in the third set to beat Jose Acasuso 7-6 (8), 5-7; 7-6 (2), 6-2 in the second round of the French Open.

Federer reached the last three finals at Roland Garros, but the clay-court major remains the only one of the four Grand Slam tournaments he hasn't won.

Against Acasuso, Federer was far from his best. But after losing seven straight games at the end of the second set and beginning of the third, the second-seeded Swiss reeled off five straight to force another

tiebreaker.

"Of course, I'm thrilled to be through," said Federer, who saved four set points in the first tiebreaker. "It was sort of a fun match to be part of with so many ups and downs."

Venus Williams also came close to an early exit, needing to save a match point before defeating Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic 6-7 (5), 6-2, 7-5. Fifth-seeded Jelena Jankovic joined the seven-time Grand Slam champion in the third round by defeating Magdalena Rybarikova of Slovakia 6-1, 6-2, and Serena Williams easily beat Virginia Ruano Pascual of Spain 6-2, 6-0.

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