

CROWDS STAND AROUND to see the Saddle Tramps, Santa Claus, Combined Choirs, and the 23,000 lights that were set up for the 53rd annual Carol of Lights on Saturday at Memorial Circle and the Science Quad.

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53RD CAROL OF LIGHTS THRILLS, ILLUMINATES TECH

LET THERE BE LIGHT



Community Calendar

TODAY

After Hours: Singer/Songwriter
Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where: Student Union Building, Barnes and Noble Texas Tech Cafe
So, what is it?
Come enjoy students perform their original music or come perform your own favorites and originals.

Symphonic Band Concert

Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
Enjoy this symphonic band concert.

Matador Christmas

Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Where: Legacy Great Hall
So, what is it?
Join the Matador Singers for its annual presentation of traditional and contemporary seasonal music.

SkyView Helicopters Christmas Light Tours

Time: 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Where: Town and Country Airport
So, what is it?
SkyView Helicopters offers the opportunity for friends and family to see the Christmas lights of West Texas while enjoying Christmas music. Reservations are required.

TUESDAY

Holiday Movie: "Elf"
Time: 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Where: Student Union Building, Escondido Theatre
So, what is it?
Join Tech Activities Board for the feature film, "Elf."

Make Your Own Ornament

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: Student Union Building, West Basement
So, what is it?
Tech Activities Board is inviting students to get into the holiday spirit by decorating your own ornament.

Teaching the Ne(x)t Generation: Version 2.0

Time: 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Where: Teaching, Learning and Technology Center
So, what is it?
Join Allison Boye and Suzanne Tapp as they re-examine the traits identified by Howe and Strauss, consider how the recession has affected this generation and discuss what all this means for the higher education classroom.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble/ University Symphony Orchestra

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall
So, what is it?
Enjoy a performance by Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Symphony Orchestra.

To make a calendar submission email dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

Events will be published either the day or the day before they take place. Submissions must be sent in by 4 p.m. on the preceding publication date.

Clarification

In Friday's issue of *The Daily Toreador*, the article "SGA prez's promise falls short" said senator Blake Bradley said there was no effort to take attendance at an athletic seminar.

However, Corbin Williamson, who was present at the athletic seminar, said each attendee was asked to write down his or her name, email address and organizational affiliation.

POLICE BLOTTER

Student arrested for public intoxication

Thursday

3:30 p.m. — A Texas Tech police officer investigated a traffic accident that occurred in the north parking lot of the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. No injuries were reported.

4:17 p.m. — A Tech police officer arrested a student for public intoxication at the Tech Engineering Key. The student was transported to Lubbock County Jail.

10:14 p.m. — A Tech police officer arrested a student for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Friday

2:59 a.m. — A Tech police officer documented a medical emergency that occurred in the Z4P parking lot. A student was possibly involved in an altercation at an off-campus location and was speaking incoherently. The student was transported to the emergency room at University Medical Center.
4:30 a.m. — A Tech police officer arrested a student for public intoxication in the Z4M parking lot. The student was transported to Lubbock County Jail.
Information provided by B.J. Watson of the Texas Tech Police Department.

Va. Tech seeks to block fine in shooting

WASHINGTON (AP) — Virginia Tech says it acted appropriately in alerting the campus that bloody spring day in 2007 during what turned out to be the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

The government disagrees and has levied \$55,000 in fines, contending the school was too slow in notifying students, faculty and staff and therefore in violation of a federal law requiring timely warnings when there are safety threats.

The university gets a chance Wednesday to begin making its case before an Education Department administrative judge, Ernest C. Canellos, in hopes of erasing a fine that isn't hefty but can leave a black mark on an institution's record.

The fines were levied under a law known as the Clery Act, which requires colleges and universities to provide warnings in a timely manner and to report the number of crimes on campus. During the Obama administration, there's been a ramping up in enforcement under the act, which has gotten recent attention because of scandals at Penn State and Syracuse.

Investigators have been on the Penn State campus for a Clery Act investigation into whether the university failed to report incidents of sexual abuse in connection to al-

legations against former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. An Education Department spokesman said the department is also reviewing whether a similar investigation will take place at Syracuse. Three men, including two former ballboys, have accused former assistant basketball coach Bernie Fine of molesting them as minors.

In the Virginia Tech case, the rare hearing is expected to last two or three days. It probably won't end with an immediate ruling and further legal challenges could follow. Virginia Tech hasn't indicated it is backing down even though experts say schools found in violation of the law typically accept a fine and agree to changes or negotiate a settlement.

This has attracted great interest in higher education circles, given the high profile nature of the crime and the chance to learn how the department applies the law. The 1990 law was named after Lehigh University student Jeanne Clery, who was raped and murdered in her dorm room by another student in 1986.

During this administration, the Education Department has conducted more random Clery Act audits and has worked at times with the FBI. Six schools this year alone are facing fines, which is the same number that paid fines in the first 18 years of the law, said S. Daniel Carter, director of public policy at

Security on Campus Inc., a Wayne, Pa.-based organization formed by Clery's parents.

The maximum fine per violation under the law is \$27,500. Colleges and universities can also lose the right to offer federal student loans, but that's never happened. In the highest fine issued under the Clery Act, Eastern Michigan University agreed in 2008 to pay \$350,000 for covering up the rape and killing of a student in her dorm room by telling reporters and her parents there were no signs of foul play.

In the Virginia Tech case, the university opted to exercise its right for an appeals hearing before an Education Department administrative judge. Larry Hincker, a university spokesman, said in an email that the actions taken by Virginia Tech were well within the practices in effect then on campuses.

Virginia's attorney general, Kenneth Cuccinelli, said in a statement earlier this year that the appeal was filed to compel the department to treat Virginia Tech fairly. The university contends the department is holding it to a higher standard than what was in place at the time of the shootings.

"There are important principles and policies at stake here that affect not just Virginia Tech, but colleges and universities all across the country," Cuccinelli said in the statement.

TechBriefly

Researchers link television with child obesity

A study conducted by the Texas Tech College of Human Sciences and the Health Sciences Center School of Nursing found children who have televisions in their bedrooms have a higher chance of engaging in activities leading to childhood obesity.

The research team, which is led by Du Feng, a professor of human development and family studies at Tech, discovered 70 percent of children in the study that had televisions in their rooms, participated in less physical activity and consumed more fast food.

The study specifically targeted low-income Hispanic children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old. Feng said the overweight prevalence among Hispanic children from kindergarten to sixth grade in Southeast Texas was 48.1 percent in 2006, the highest among all races.

"With the change in technology to high-definition TVs, parents may be replacing their current TVs with more updated models and put their older models in their children's bedrooms," nutrition professor Debra Reed said in a news release. "I would like to emphasize the health value of having only one TV per household."

Texas website provides app for stranded drivers

The Texas Extension Disaster Education Network is providing a free smartphone application for stranded winter motorists on its website.

The Winter Survival Kit will help users find their current location, call 911, call friends and family and calculate how long it is possible to run a vehicle's engine to keep warm before running out of fuel. The application is also useful for people who plan to drive outside of Texas to states with hazardous winter conditions.

The application can also alert a driver once every 30 minutes to turn off the vehicle's engine and to check the exhaust pipe for snow buildup, which could cause carbon monoxide poisoning.

"We're always searching for information and applications for the Texas EDEN site that will be of use during disaster or emergency situations," said Andy Vestal, AgriLife Extension director of homeland security and emergency management in College Station, in a news release. "Being stranded in a vehicle in winter weather can be a challenging, not to mention potentially fatal, situation and this app may literally become a lifesaver for someone."

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Egyptian election results deepen the fears in Israel

JERUSALEM (AP) — For Israelis, the Islamist election surge in Egypt is depressing confirmation of a deeply primal fear: An inhospitable region is becoming more hostile still.

This sentiment has been accompanied by a bittersweet sense that Israel was dismissed as alarmist when it warned months ago that the Arab Spring — widely perceived as the doing of liberals yearning to be free — could lead to Islamist governments.

Speaking for most people here, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak called the emerging result of the first round of parliamentary voting in Egypt “very, very disturbing” and expressed concern about the fate of the landmark

1979 Egyptian Israeli peace treaty. “We are very concerned,” added Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz, who has long warned that Egypt could potentially pose a threat. Speaking to The Associated Press Sunday, Steinitz expressed hope that Egypt “will not shift to some kind of Islamic tyranny.”

Experts here, as elsewhere, point out that political Islam comes in varying shades of green: The Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt has about a 10 percent lead over the more radical Salafists and appears far less eager to impose a devout lifestyle or seek conflict.

But most Israelis appear to have little patience for such distinctions. There is a sense that

moderate Islamists are pulling off something of a con, lulling opponents into complacency, projecting a seemingly benign piety to exploit a naive public's hunger for clean government after years of corrupt, despotic rule. And there is a long memory of Iran, once friendly to Israel, where secular forces including the military helped depose the Shah in 1979 only to swiftly be steamrolled by fundamentalists.

“These upheavals are a bad thing for the modern world, for Israel,” said Yitzhak Sklar, a 50-year-old Jerusalem resident. “There is something in their religion that pushes them to extremism. Their religion calls for murdering anyone who opposes them.”

MEAT MARKET



PHOTO BY ANDRE REVILLA/The Daily Treador

AMANDA WHITE, A senior meat science major from Garden City, Kan., right, and Kaitlyn True, a junior meat science major from Plainview, left, offer samples of their product at the Processed and Cured Meat Food Show in the Animal and Food Sciences building Friday.

Officials: 13 hurt when fans storm Oklahoma State field

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — Thousands of fans stormed the field and tore down goalposts after Oklahoma State's 44-10 victory over archrival Oklahoma, leaving at least 13 people injured, including two who were airlifted to hospitals, medical and university officials said Sunday.

Michael Authement, who heads the command post at emergency medical provider LifeNet EMS, told The Associated Press that a throng so big took to the field as the game ended that some fans were trampled and one person fell at least 15 feet onto concrete during a wild celebration by Oklahoma State fans.

No. 3 Oklahoma State routed the No. 13 Sooners on Saturday night to win the Big 12 championship and make its case to play for the BCS national title. The Cowboys (11-1, 8-1 Big 12) snapped an eight-game losing streak in the rivalry and won their first outright conference title since 1948 in the three-team Missouri Valley.

“They won the game and stormed the field and ripped down the goalposts, and some were jumping off the stands and hit the field and others got trampled. It was a nasty deal,” Authement said.

He said the crowd was so big it took police at least 45 minutes

to clear fans from the field at the university's Boone Pickens Stadium, which has a capacity of more than 60,000 people, according to the school's website.

“There were thousands of people. Thousands of people stormed the field. You couldn't move there were so many people,” he added.

AP photographs and video showed fans climbing atop the yellow goalposts and tearing them apart amid a crush of people on the field. Scores of hands stretched out to pull down the goalposts during the celebration.

Students were seen jumping from the roughly 9-foot-tall re-

taining wall that surrounds the stadium and separates the seats from the field.

Authement said nine ambulances, including six from LifeNet, rushed 11 of the injured away and the two with critical injuries were flown to Oklahoma City hospitals. He said he knew of leg fractures but didn't have any details on the extent of the injuries, though two of the 13 had minor injuries and were treated at the scene and released.

A spokeswoman for Integrus Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City wouldn't release details Sunday morning about patients being treated there.

Oklahoma State spokesman Gary Shutt confirmed that two people were airlifted to Oklahoma City, while eight were treated at Stillwater Medical Center — including two who were having surgery Sunday on broken ankles. Three others were treated at the field, he said.

Shutt said the university's policy is that fans are not allowed onto the field, and that he heard fans booing when the public address announcer said on the loudspeaker that fans should not rush the field.

Shutt said the university does not use the form of collapsible goal posts that get laid flat on the ground after the game but they do use a form

that is more easily dismantled. He did not know if any of the injuries were related to the goal posts being brought down.

Lesser injuries included broken ankles, ankle sprains and back sprains, said Shyla Eggers, public relations director for Stillwater Medical Center. She told AP that her hospital received six of the injured in ambulances and two in private vehicles, and at least two of them have been admitted and would undergo surgery on broken ankles.

“Our staff that was on hand took care of it. They were just very busy,” Eggers said. “Game day is always busy.”

Iran says it shot down unmanned US spy plane

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's armed forces have shot down an unmanned U.S. spy plane that violated Iranian airspace along the country's eastern border, the official IRNA news agency reported Sunday.

An unidentified military official quoted in the report warned of a strong and crushing response to any violations of the country's airspace by American drone aircraft.

“An advanced RQ-170 unmanned American spy plane was shot down by Iran's armed forces. It suffered minor damage and is now in possession of Iran's armed forces,” IRNA quoted the official as saying.

No further details were published.

The U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan said in a statement the aircraft may be an American drone that its operators lost contact with

last week while it was flying a mission over neighboring western Afghanistan.

Iran is locked in a dispute with the U.S. and its allies over Tehran's disputed nuclear program, which the West believes is aimed at developing nuclear weapons. Iran denies the accusations, saying its nuclear program is entirely peaceful and that it seeks to generate electricity and produce isotopes to treat medical patients.

The type of aircraft Iran says it downed, an RQ-170 Sentinel, is made by Lockheed Martin and was reportedly used to keep watch on Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan as the raid that killed him was taking place earlier this year.

The surveillance aircraft is equipped with stealth technology, but the U.S. Air Force has not made public any specifics about the drone.

Iran said in January that two pilotless spy planes it had shot down over its airspace were operated by the United States and offered to put them on public display. In July, Iranian military officials showed Russian experts several U.S. drones they said were shot down in recent years.

Also in July, Iranian lawmaker Ali Aghazadeh Dafsari said Iran's Revolutionary Guard shot down an unmanned U.S. spy plane that was trying to gather information on an underground uranium enrichment site.

Dafsari said the pilotless plane was flying over the Fordo facility near the holy city of Qom in central Iran but the Guard denied the report, saying its air defenses had only hit a test target.

Iran publicly confirmed for the

first time in Feb. 2005 that the United States has been flying surveillance drones over its airspace to spy on its nuclear and military facilities.

The Islamic Republic holds frequent military drills, primarily to assert an ability to defend against a potential U.S. or Israeli attack on its nuclear facilities.

Tehran has focused part of its military strategy on producing drones for reconnaissance and attacking purposes.

Iran announced three years ago it had built an unmanned aircraft with a range of more than 600 miles (1,000 kilometers), far enough to reach Israel.

Ahmadinejad unveiled Iran's first domestically built unmanned bomber aircraft in August 2010, calling it an “ambassador of death” to Iran's enemies.

Massive WWII bomb successfully defused in Germany

BERLIN (AP) — A massive British World War II-era bomb that triggered the evacuation of about half of the 107,000 residents of Germany's western city of Koblenz was successfully defused Sunday, authorities said.

It was one of Germany's biggest bomb-related evacuations since the war ended with some 2,500 police officers, firefighters and paramedics on duty across the city to secure the operation.

Experts successfully defused the British 1.8 ton bomb and a 275-pound U.S. bomb that had been discovered last month after the Rhine river's water level fell significantly due to a prolonged lack of rain, said Heiko Breitbarth, a spokesman for Koblenz's

firefighters.

Some 45,000 residents, living within a radius of about 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) from the bomb site had to leave their houses early Sunday before the evacuation order was lifted in the evening, the city said on its website. Among those ordered to evacuate were seven nursing homes, two hospitals and a prison with some 200 inmates.

The British bomb could have caused massive damage in case it exploded.

“I did my job, that was all,” lead defusing expert Horst Lenz told local daily Rhein Zeitung.

Finding unexploded bombs dropped by the Allies over Germany during World War II is common over 65 years after the war's end.

The explosives are usually defused or detonated by experts without causing injuries.

Authorities in Koblenz had set up shelters for the evacuees and

used buses to carry them to safety.

Train and road traffic came to a halt in the area, some 130 kilometers northwest of Frankfurt during the operation.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- Trojan Horse, for example
- Move a muscle
- G sharp equivalent
- Phone downloads
- Grab hold of
- Doctrine
- Open-handed hit
- Feels sorry about
- Intoxicating, as wine
- Notable 1900s anti-alcohol demonstrator
- Try
- Garden hose feature
- Car dealer's deal
- Rotisserie rod
- Divine Secrets of the Sisterhood
- mo replay
- Leeds lads
- Hoopster's target
- The boondocks
- '80s chic
- Final part
- General situation
- Ancient Mexican
- Scott of "Charles in Charge"
- Mosque official
- Group helping the sheriff
- "Just doing my best"
- Crumbly cheese
- Horn sounds
- Bull-bearing pegs
- Genesis locale

DOWN

- Mischief-maker
- Studying into the wee hours, say
- Ancient Athens rival
- Torreria brew
- Throat problem
- Razzes
- Furniture chain founded in Sweden
- Put one's feet up
- Cold outbreak?
- Extreme agitation
- Grassy expanse
- Go on to say
- Gift under a tree, often
- Marcos who collected shoes
- Emulate the Gregorians
- Like the Marx Brothers
- Corrosive stuff
- Have a bite
- Moves with effort
- Letters of obligation
- Fish hawk
- Totally stump
- Aussie greeting
- Corp. bigwig
- It's not fiction or fantasy
- Fannie
- Emotional verse
- Harass
- Garb
- Widened, as a hole
- Present from birth
- Extra o
- Out
- Off-timed contests
- Seagoing attention getters
- Memorial news item
- Kismet
- Suitable
- Petting place
- Chinese menu general

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venke 12/5/11

Friday's Puzzle Solved

MAMA BOMBS ADUE
AVER ARTOO MOPS
RAKE SINSPLINTS
ITO SSN SHINTO
SANGHIGH SOMNI
ARGUE SOCKPROOF
REF THE VWS
SURLYTEMPLE
PLY EEE PRO
SALLOWHAL ARUBA
ACLIP SEADEVIL
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Both tobacco, marijuana have severe health risks

We have all seen the presentations and heard the arguments a thousand different times, such as “don’t smoke because it’s bad for you,” “there are thousands of harmful chemicals,” “weed makes you stupid” or “check out these before-and-after pictures of this methamphetamine addict.”

Perhaps some changes are needed in the anti-drug curriculum that has been forced down all of our throats from day one in elementary school. This is not to say that this isn’t a message deserving to be listened to in order to protect the health and safety of developing generations, but when we get to a certain age, we actually want to do what we’re told not to do.

It’s a classic cookie-jar scenario. While it is necessary to be informed, it may also be necessary to recognize how, after a few years, it may be time to let this knowledge sink in and cement itself.

In terms of the college level, however, drugs and cigarettes are just part of our lives. We all have friends who do them and many of us do them ourselves.

Zach Morrison



According to a tobacco.org report featuring an article from the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, “Anywhere from 33 percent to 40 percent of college students across the United States smoke cigarettes, according to several collegiate sources.” However, several students whom the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* spoke with at Texas Tech believe the percentage is even higher here.

Most people smoke to relax — whether it’s cigarettes or marijuana — and I understand the need to mellow out sometimes. Nonetheless, it doesn’t matter whether you’re smoking cigarettes or weed because what you don’t hear about in the constant lectures throughout grade school about smoking is the chemistry of pyrolysis. This is a type of chemistry involving extremely high temperatures that are intense enough to force cellular mutation.

Smoke isn’t just a semi-transparent gas. Smoke is a cloud of microscopic particulates that can burn at more than 5000 degrees, which is approximately the temperature of the surface of the sun.

When we inhale these thousands of particulates into our lungs, they make contact with soft tissue and the lung’s oxygen exchange surfaces. This pulverizes cells, superheats them and causes the mutation process to begin. Most of these cells die quickly, but a percentage of them turn into cancer cells.

So, it doesn’t really matter what you’re smoking, whether it’s cigarettes, marijuana or anything else. You’re running the same risks in terms of cancer.

In addition to being unhealthy in ways even our high school teachers didn’t inform us about, the bigger point is that using these substances in order to relax or forget our problems for a while is a cop-out. We are in a stressful environment, but this doesn’t mean it is ever acceptable to cause oneself physical or mental harm in order to achieve a bit of peace in the middle of it all. It is counter-productive and,

more to the point, it allows our minds to become complacent and lazy when it comes to dealing with day-to-day problems.

Whether the chemicals in whatever you’re smoking are addictive or not, the mind can still easily become “addicted” to the idea of not having to compartmentalize and actually thoughtfully deal with the issues in one’s life.

So, I encourage you to snuff ‘em out and think about your health first. Additionally, especially if you’re a heavy smoker who happens to be under a lot of stress, you should consider more deeply the idea of exercising your own God-given problem-solving and stress-handling skills.

We all have these skills, and if the trend keeps up as it has been, we will have a situation in which a generation of college students lacking both problem-solving skills and natural emotional stability will inherit this country.

Morrison is a junior geography major from The Woodlands.
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European Union economies prove ‘too large to fail’

**By SAM N. ADAMS
HARVARD CRIMSON (HARVARD U.)**

It’s been a fun 65 years, but the Pax Europa is on the way out. The sovereign debt crisis has put so much strain on the European Union that the system of cooperative confederacy that has prevailed since the Second World War has been hopelessly compromised.

There were good times to be sure. If you were really lucky, you got to bunga bunga alongside Silvio Berlusconi as Rome’s economy burned. But the years of cheap credit, flash-frozen by the mortgage crisis across the pond, have left an irreconcilable divide between the creditors and the debtors.

Now the Eurozone faces an existential crisis as all involved decide whether the union can be saved. As leaders from creditor nations scramble to create a combination of fiscal integration and austerity that could possibly save the common currency, the member nations are left with two unsavory options: fracture the Eurozone or preserve the union at the cost of individual sovereignty.

This current crisis epitomizes what critics of European economic integration feared. A liberal flow of credit was the peace dividend of continental stability and growth. This easy money, alongside the consequent housing bubble, allowed Greece and others to finance luxurious social programs and high wages. Tax evasion became widespread.

When the music stopped during the financial crisis of 2008, countries in crisis had no way to adapt their economy to the new situation. Traditionally, a nation could simply inflate its way into solvency or devalue its currency to spur exports. Painful solutions, but ones that can rescue a nation’s finances. Due to the common currency, though, these debtor nations had no such options.

Now, they must rely on the largesse of more financially stable members to prevent defaults. French and German leaders have attempted to create packages that will bail these countries out including, but not limited to, an International Monetary Fund loan package. A package like this in some form is ultimately the only way to save the economic union, and it needs to be passed quickly.

However, on both sides of the solution, parties are highly uneasy. Debtor nations fear the economic reorganization that will be required by whatever organization ends up rescuing them. The IMF, that symbol of post-Second World War global cooperation, is notorious for mandating unpopular

political and economic reforms as a condition of its funding. Similarly, any package that goes through the EU will likely require those countries to submit their budgets for approval by the body.

Any solution that involves a bailout will almost by definition infringe on individual nations’ sovereignty and bring everyone closer to a one-Europe government.

Germany, the white knight to whom everyone is looking, is dragging its feet for other reasons. Still bearing the scars of the hyperinflation that occurred during the Weimar Republic, it is hesitant to take any steps that could lead to spiraling inflation. A solution that is popular everywhere except in Germany is to fund the bailouts through the release of Eurobonds, thereby increasing the indebtedness of the entire union.

Also, there is a fundamental sense of injustice among Germans indignant about being forced to subsidize other nations’ profligacy.

As a result of these aversions to the solutions that would save the Eurozone, many expect the common currency to fracture or dis-

solve. The fears of being dragged into an inflation spiral could bring Germany and other like-minded countries to withdraw from the Euro and create a new currency.

Or the fears of being subjugated to the demands of the rest of the continent would encourage some debtor countries to withdraw and manipulate a new currency to sacrifice economic strength for political sovereignty.

Whichever way it happens, changing the membership composition of the Euro would have devastating economic consequences. Depending on the way creditor nations go, the Euro could either skyrocket or plummet in value, which would have massive consequences on the foreign exchange and would add a whole new level of volatility that would constrict worldwide capital flows. A new global recession would be almost inevitable.

So now the Eurozone faces a critical decision point. Is it worth a further consolidation of continental governance, and the corresponding escalated economic interdependency to save the union? From a world markets standpoint—yes. In fact, an auction of German bonds last week left over a third of the offering unsold, demonstrating that the market is losing its confidence in even the strongest of European economies.

But the prospects of building a lifeboat before the currency sinks into the sea dwindle by the day. Even if a solution is passed and accepted, the members of the Eurozone will find themselves even more hopelessly intertwined and further on the road toward centralized governance from Brussels.

“A new global recession would be almost inevitable.”

Communism currently more popular than Congress

**By ZACH DAVIS
THE DAILY REVELLE (LOUISIANA STATE U.)**

There are very few people who would argue America is a huge fan of communism.

After half a century of political tension and some propaganda, it isn’t too surprising. Communists were, after all, the source of fear regarding nuclear war.

Whether or not it was truly communism doesn’t make a difference — the damage has been done to the American psyche. This is obvious when you hear those on the right of the political aisle decrying some of the left’s actions because they’re “communist.”

Their definition of communism is off. The intent is to merely connect it with something most Americans despise.

Thus, it’s surprising to find there’s something Americans like even less than communism: Congress.

According to a recent Gallup poll, Congress’ approval rating is sitting at only 13 percent, continuing a historic low point in popularity. As a result of such a low popularity, some have taken it upon themselves to compare this to the popularity of other subjects.

One such person is Senator Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), who created a chart to help explain just how low these numbers are. Although Gallup puts Congress’ popularity at 13 percent, Bennet uses a recent New York Times/CBS poll which found it to be even lower at 9 percent.

As previously mentioned, one of the subjects was communism — specifically America becoming communist. According to a Rasmussen poll performed this year, 11 percent of people polled were OK with the idea of America going communist.

If that doesn’t cause a surprise, some of the other numbers should help. After the oil spill in the Gulf, BP stood at 16 percent. Nixon held 24 percent during Watergate, and banks were still hovering 23 percent as of this year, all according to Gallup polls.

Clearly, Congress isn’t very popular right now.

One last figure that some people like to bring up to help hammer this point home is the popularity of King George during the Revolutionary War. With an estimated 15 to 20 percent of those in the colonies being loyalists, he fares much better than Congress does today.

While these are numbers Congress should heed, they are not things to which we should lend much weight. Polls may be good indicators, but polling in itself simply isn’t accurate all the time.

Take, for example, some of the polling which takes place before and after actual voting. Many

times there have been surprises and disappointments when a candidate fails to do as well as the polling predicted them to. It shouldn’t be surprising.

Everyone lies at some point in time. Big or small, it’s simply a part of human nature, and is not always done maliciously. When being asked about political opinions, or other controversial topics, most people may not tell how they truly feel.

Our political beliefs are often personal things, and there are some who would go with much safer opinions to fit in with the norm. While there’s nothing wrong with this, it’s simply one of the reasons why polls must be taken with a grain of salt.

If nothing else, people can always change their mind between the poll and the vote.

At the end of the day, it’s hard to believe these polls are accurate. While Congress may be inefficient and correctly unpopular, it’s unreasonable to think more Americans agree with a turn toward communism.

Despite some people saying they dislike Congress just because it’s a popular viewpoint, the low numbers seem far more likely an indication of faulty polling.

In the end, however, Congress certainly needs to pay attention to these numbers. While they may be drastic, Congress should be aiming to at least be popular with a quarter of the country.

Twenty-five percent isn’t asking much. If Nixon and the banks can pull it off, surely this Congress should be able to as well.

“... King George during the Revolutionary War ... fares much better than Congress does today.”

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Tech's Carol of Lights tradition in its 53rd year

By PAIGE SKINNER
STAFF WRITER

Twenty-five thousand Christmas lights lit up Texas Tech's campus as students, Lubbock residents, faculty and staff watched.

Tech's 53rd annual Carol of Lights took place Saturday around Memorial Circle and the Science Quad. The Residence Halls Association hosted the Tech tradition.

Thousands of people drank hot chocolate while wearing coats, scarves and hats to stay warm as temperatures were just above freezing.

The event was full of Christmas carols led by the various Texas Tech choirs and members of the Goin' Band from Raiderland, including "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "Silent Night."

Before the lights went on, Raider Red's hat was lit up along with the Masked Rider's cape as the Saddle Tramps walked down the center aisle carrying red flares.

Nicholas Lamy, president of the Residence Halls Association, said committee members were chosen at the beginning of the semester and have been meeting once a week since then to plan the event.

The junior accounting major from Dallas said maintenance start putting up Christmas lights weeks before the event.

"They do a lot of the testing over Thanksgiving break because students aren't here to see it," he said.

Lamy stood in front of the giant wreath outside the Geosciences building Saturday night as he spoke about the



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

CROWDS LINED THE barriers in front of the Physics before the start of the 53rd Carol of Lights on Saturday night.

53-year-old tradition.

He said his favorite part about the Carol of Lights isn't something everyone gets to experience.

"My favorite part is not really a part of the tradition. Rather, it's being up here on the balcony and seeing all the cameras go off all at the same time. It's like a sporting event," he said.

Along with Raider Red, the Masked Rider and the Saddle Tramps, Santa and his elves made an appearance.

Grant Hollowell said this was his fifth year to dress up as Santa.

"It started our freshman years," said the senior landscape architecture major from Dallas. "We just had Santa and elf costumes, so we just came to this our

freshman years just dressed as kind of a joke, and then all the kids loved it, so we kind of got pulled up on stage and walked around."

After noticing the costumes were such a success, Hollowell said his mother and grandmother bought them candy canes to pass out.

While passing out candy canes to children and taking pictures with people is enjoyable for them, Hollowell said he has a certain favorite moment at the event.

"My favorite part is walking down the center aisle when everyone is screaming, 'Santa,'" Hollowell said. "We kind of just sneak in behind the Saddle Tramps and somehow don't get

into trouble."

One of Santa's elves, Devin Winchell, said he agrees with Hollowell on his favorite part of the Carol of Lights.

"I like walking through the middle," said the senior history major from Oakridge. "You feel like you're walking on a red carpet. It's pretty fun."

Santa and his three elves each had about 2,000 candy canes to pass out. Winchell said they got rid of most of them.

"It's fun to do, and we're not a part of any organization, so we're just having fun and giving people candy canes," Winchell said. "It's enjoyable and exciting."

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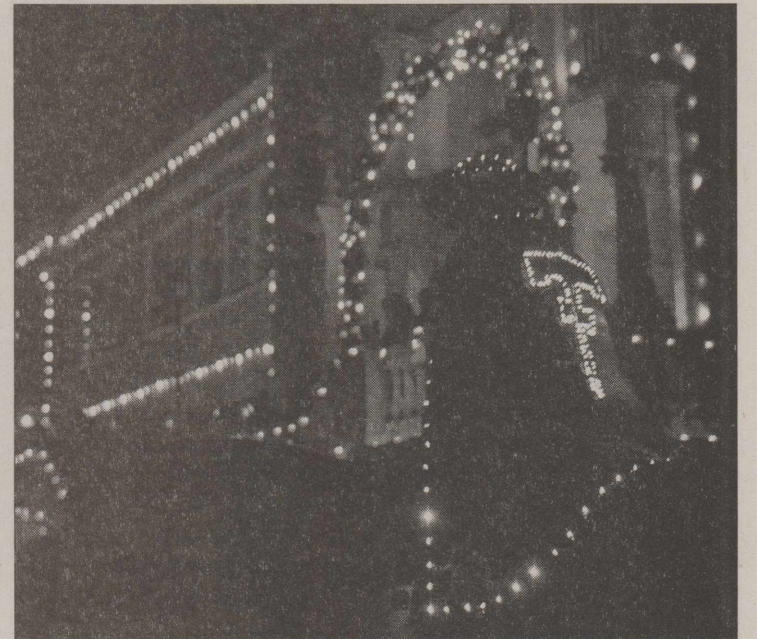


PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

THE MASKED RIDER stands in front of the Science building right after the lights are turned on all around campus during the 53rd annual Carol of Lights on Saturday.

Economy has wildlife rescue on endangered list

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The disabled grizzly bears Huck, Jake, Pete and Mike arrived after a drive-thru animal park closed in 1985.

Drifter the tiger came as a cub after being seized in a 1997 Chicago drug raid.

Booie, the smoking chimp, was brought here in 1995 at age 28 when he was no longer needed for testing vaccines at the New York University School of Medicine.

Through the years, 76,000 animals have come and gone — all welcomed by Martine Colette, founder and director of the Wildlife WayStation, one of the first animal sanctuaries in the country and, at one time, the largest.

Some of Hollywood's biggest stars have rallied around the WayStation in the past decade. Still, the fate of its remaining 420 animals is endangered by a drop in donations, rising upkeep and food costs, and the inability to pay staff.

"If the WayStation does not find a way out from under the horrific financial burden it is currently facing, caused by the current recession and disastrous economic downfall, then all these animals that came to us for safe haven are in real jeopardy," Colette said last week.

It's a problem that extends well beyond the cages and enclosures on her property 30 miles north of downtown Los Angeles. Times are hard for all nonprofits, especially donation-driven sanctuaries, said Adam Roberts, executive vice president of Born Free USA, a California-based animal welfare and wildlife conservation organization.

In recent months, the Wild Animal Orphanage in San Antonio closed because of overcrowding and lack of money. A Florida man lived in a cage with two lions for a month to raise money for his rescue center.

In Ohio, a man released dozens of lions, tigers and other animals from a private preserve before killing himself. Sheriff's deputies had to track and kill nearly 50 runaway animals. Authorities aren't sure of his motive, but he and his wife owed at least \$68,000 in unpaid taxes.

Colette, 69, seems like an unlikely rescuer.

Born in Paris, she traveled with her Belgian diplomat father when he went on safari. Friends, colleagues and customers of her Hollywood costume and design business knew she had been to Africa and Asia, and they were always bringing her unwanted or unsuitable animals.

"They'd say, 'This ocelot is trying to eat our Chihuahua.'"

She took in her first animal

in 1966 and a decade later found herself living with 50 animals in a three-bedroom house. Something had to give, so she sold her business, bought 162 acres in Tujunga Canyon in the Angeles National Forest and incorporated the Wildlife WayStation in 1976.

It was meant to be a place to treat and rehabilitate injured animals before returning them to the wild. But you can't release lions and tigers in this country and some

animals were too sick to ever go back — an eagle blind in one eye, the crippled grizzlies and the lab chimps.

She did not believe any animal in need should be turned away, no matter the problem, no matter the cost. It didn't matter if an animal was wild, tame, hurt or handicapped. Whether it was a hummingbird in a matchbox or 27 lions and tigers from an illegal game farm in Idaho, she embraced them all.

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Lady Antebellum performs in Lubbock

Lubbock has seen quite a few headlining artists this year, and Lady Antebellum is now another name on the list after the group's performance Friday night at City Bank Coliseum as part of its 2011 "We Own the Night" tour.

Kassidy Ketron



he wrote for his little girl, Naleigh, called "Naleigh Moon." He told the crowd it began as a journal entry of his, which he then turned into a song. Maybe it's just because I'm a girl, but I can imagine all of the mothers and fathers in the crowd feeling connected to the song.

Edens Edge was one of the acts that opened for Lady A with a performance of its new song "Amen." Not only did the lead singer have a beautiful voice, but I also really enjoyed her music to the point that I wished I had known the words so I could sing along.

Next up was Josh Kelley, brother to the lead male vocalist of Lady A, Charles Kelley, and husband to Katherine Heigl.

The crowd seemed really excited to see Kelley when he walked onto the stage.

I wasn't very familiar with many of his songs, but they were pretty good. The thing I liked most about him was how personable he was. He told jokes that were actually funny and he rapped some of Snoopy Dogg's lines and sang the theme song of the TV show "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air."

His best song, however, was the one

During the intermission, there were probably three or four cameras set up around the coliseum that would pick random spots in the crowd to record and project on big screens. Of course, there were those who smiled and waved, and then there were those who went crazy, but the best of them all was a man in a bright green shirt who danced for the camera like I've never seen anyone dance before, which had everyone laughing.

Of course, when Lady A came to the

stage, the crowd roared. When the lights flashed, it became obvious how packed the coliseum was.

Hillary Scott, lead female vocalist, Charles Kelley, lead male vocalist and Dave Haywood, harmony singer and multi-instrumentalist, composed the personable trio.

They mingled with crowd before, during and after the show. I heard the group even went to one of the local bars later that night.

During the trio's song "American Honey," the two opening bands came back to the stage to perform with them. It almost reminded me of a big group of people hanging out on a porch while having a Western hoedown, which was my favorite part of the concert.

Even during the more solemn songs, the stage would explode with sound and lights, bringing the audience back into a lighter mood.

I think people think are fascinated by celebrities a lot of the time as if they were aliens, but the members of Lady Antebellum weren't. They were definitely human



PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador

HILLARY SCOTT, CHARLES KELLEY, and DAVE HAYWOOD of Lady Antebellum rise up onto the stage in the City Bank Auditorium to begin their show Friday.

and, like I said, personable ones at that.

The two co-lead singers, Scott and Kelley, had great chemistry. During the song "Just a Kiss," I was waiting for them to grab each other and make-out right on stage. This obviously didn't happen, but

that was just how strong their chemistry was.

They ended the concert with their hit "Need You Now" and had the audience sing a solo of part of the song.

Overall, I was pleasantly surprised by

the concert. I didn't know what to expect, but I left very impressed.

■ **Ketron is The DT's La Vida editor.**
 >>> kketron@dailytoreador.com

'Paranormal State' star premieres autobiographical film at Lubbock Civic Center

By PAIGE SKINNER
 STAFF WRITER

The experience of lying on a waterbed, suddenly feeling an entire body slam down next to you and seeing absolutely nothing at the same time certainly doesn't happen to everyone.

This was just one of the things Chad Calek said he experienced as a child while growing up in a house he and his family had paranormal experiences in.

Calek, a regular on A&E's series "Paranormal State," previewed his autobiographical documentary, "American Ghost Hunter," Friday night at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Lubbock was the 43rd stop on the

documentary's 61-city tour.

Calek said he decided to make this documentary because he felt guilty about helping other families and not his own.

"The reason I initially went back home is because, as a cast member on the show 'Paranormal State,' what we do is help families," he said. "And, to be honest, there was a degree of guilt because here I was helping families night after night when my own needed help. We started gaining fame and awareness for this job that we're doing. I just kind of felt like I couldn't do this much longer without addressing the elephant in the room, which is the fact that my family needed help."

The film begins with Calek explaining how he first felt paranormal activity when he was 12 years old. His family moved into a house where the previous two families had moved out because of alleged paranormal activity.

The documentary continues with Calek interviewing his family members about their experiences. At one point, though, the documentary turns into an exposé, Calek said. As Calek interviews his father about his experiences, Calek's mother is "attacked" and begins to speak in tongues — even speaking in Latin, a language Calek says she does not know.

"When I bring this up, there's a violent reaction that takes place, which is staggering," he said. "It floors the film crew. It floors me, above all people. In fact, I instructed the film crew to stop filming and Ryan (a co-star), who was with me, actually decided to keep filming."

This moment was when the film turned around, Calek said.

"It's a powerful moment because here are all these cameras," he said. "What are we supposed to do? You see your mother hurting in a way you can't even wrap your mind around."

The crowd was small on the cold and rainy Lubbock night, but the fans said they enjoyed the documentary.

Rachael Delarosa, a Lubbock resident, said she and her son appreciated the film's authenticity.

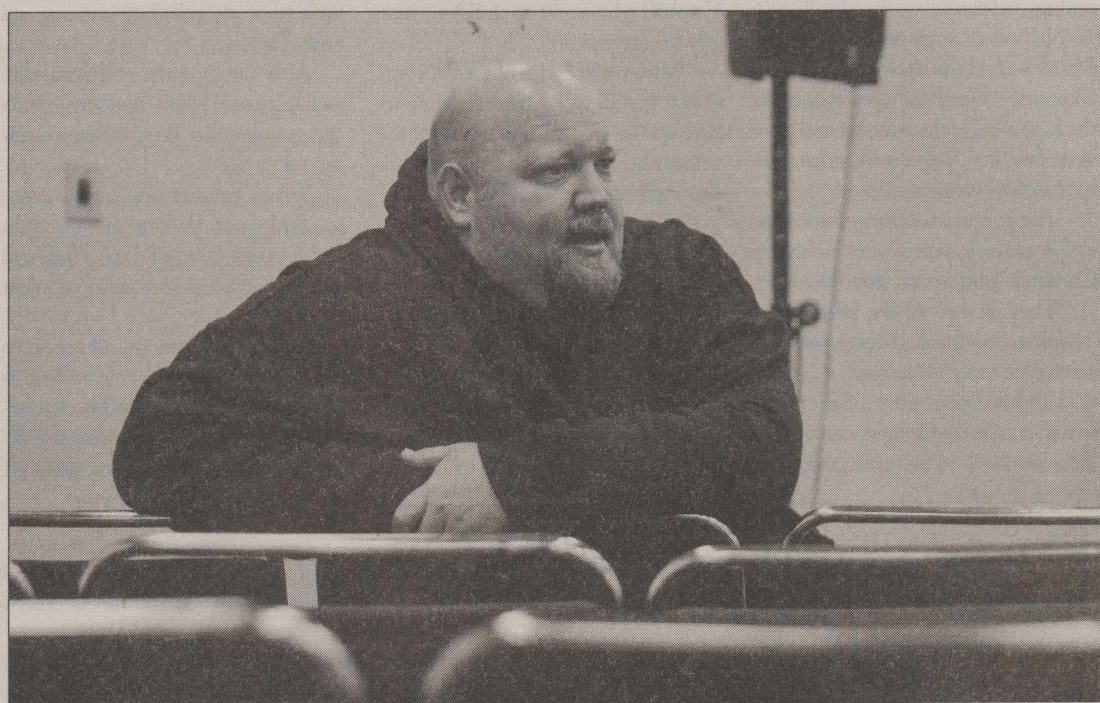


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

CHAD CALEK, GHOST hunter and director, answers questions about "American Ghost Hunter," a documentary about his families experiences with ghosts, after a pre-release screening of the film on Friday in the Lubbock Civic Center.

"I liked it," Delarosa said. "I liked the honesty, like (Calek) was saying, and the realness of it. It wasn't edited by Hollywood. It wasn't anything that someone had taken and ripped apart and made out to be scarier than it was."

A question-and-answer segment between audience members and Calek followed the documentary's showing. Calek reiterated and answered some of the frequently asked questions from his other stops on the tour as audience members asked some of their own.

Laura Tobias, a fan of "Paranormal State," traveled from Post to see the screening of the film.

"I thought it was really an incredible story of a journey through some scary things, and it ended up with faith, which I think would speak really powerfully and boldly to people around this area," she said.

While she's never had a paranormal experience, Tobias said she finds entertainment value in the subject.

"I don't necessarily want to talk to dead people or play with a Ouija board or anything like that," Tobias said. "But, I find great entertainment value in watching other people help families like Ryan Buell on 'Paranormal State' and the journey that he and his mother made through

the movie. If you have that gift, I think you have to use it to bring positivity into people's lives."

Calek said the documentary is expected to be in wide-release format in early 2012 and that it's a "safe bet" it will soon be in theaters.

He said the film begins with his family's involvements with paranormal feelings, but that it quickly expands beyond his family as everyone involved seemed to experience such feelings entering the house.

"It starts out as this singular story, and then, halfway through, everybody experiences the same thing," Calek said.

>>> pskinner@dailytoreador.com

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MONDAY, DEC. 5, 2011

Tech tops No. 16 Penn State, stays undefeated

By CHOIS WOODMAN
STAFF WRITER

The No. 19 Texas Tech women's basketball team beat No. 16 Penn State 70-66 Saturday at United Spirit Arena.

The Lady Raiders moved to 7-0 after their biggest test of the season.

The loud crowd of more than 8,900 people played a large factor in Tech's win against the Lady Lions, Tech coach Kristy Curry said.

"I thought today was a lot of fun," she said. "I hope every single person who was in that crowd today had fun because they were incredible."

The fans in United Spirit Arena gave the Lady Lions a tough road test, Penn State coach Coquese Washington said.

"This was a great basketball environment," she said. "This is a great place to play a game. The fans were into it. They're knowledgeable."

After Penn State shot 54 percent from the field in the first half, Tech stymied the Lady Lions to shooting only 25 percent in the second half.

Tech's hard work on defense was the difference in the game, Curry said.

"We feel like if we can defend, we give ourselves a chance," she said. "We take so much pride every single day of working and just defending. These kids play really hard. If you can get them to understand to play smart with that, to defensively understand the angles and things you need to do and the tendencies of the team you're playing ... You can always give yourself a chance if you'll defend and rebound."



PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH GUARD Monique Smalls breaks free of the Penn State defenders during the Lady Raiders 70-66 victory against the No. 16 Lady Lions on Saturday in United Spirit Arena. Smalls helped Tech to the victory by scoring 15 points and led the team with seven assists.

The game was a back-and-forth matchup featuring 13 ties and 17 different lead changes.

The win for Tech was a big step for the team in moving toward Big 12 Conference play, Curry said.

"It's a great opportunity for us to play someone like that at this point in the season," she said. "We definitely need the barometer and the challenge, but we're far from satisfied for the next couple of days."

The game could have gone either way until the end, which was when Jordan Barncastle hit a three-pointer with 2.4 seconds

left, putting the Lady Raiders up by four points.

"That doggone Barncastle," Washington said. "It was a hell of a shot, wasn't it? We knew where she was and we got out there. She got off a great shot, contested and she made that great shot."

The crowd was loud and supportive from the beginning of the game all the way up to when the final shot was nailed for the Lady Raiders, Barncastle said.

"The environment today was unreal," she said. "It's one of those where you walk in and it just gives you chills. The fans

were with us the whole game. They never lost confidence in us. When the shot went up, they were all pretty excited."

Tech kept the Lady Lions' posts in foul trouble the entire game. Three of Penn State's posts finished the game with four fouls.

"They just told us from the jump to go inside and be aggressive with them," Tech senior Kierra Mallard said, "and to not ease up. So, me and Shauntal (Nobles) and all of the rest of the posts just got the ball and went in."

Mallard recorded her third



PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

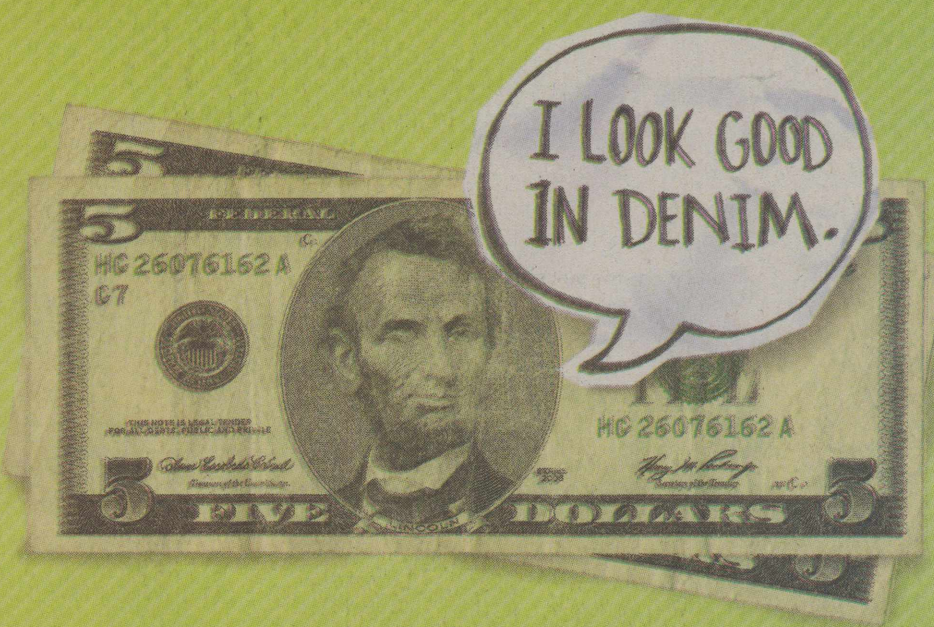
TEXAS TECH FORWARD Kierra Mallard tries to make a shot during the 70-66 victory against No. 16 Penn State on Saturday in United Spirit Arena.

double-double of the season and led the Lady Raiders with 18 points and 15 rebounds. Monique Smalls had 15 points and Casey Morris added 13 of her own.

Tech will celebrate the win, but the team knows it can still

get better, Curry said. "We're far from satisfied," she said. "We've got so much work to do. The room for improvement is the biggest room in our house right now. We've got to continue to get better."

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