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Tech educators first to use new software

College of Education adopts online platform

By NICOLE MOLTER
STAFF WRITER

Technology use is growing on college campuses across the nation, and Texas Tech is no stranger to the movement.

Students and teachers use Blackboard, Facebook, Twitter and Foursquare for class assignments and to interact with each other outside of the classroom. Innovative uses for technology and new computer programs are being introduced every day.

Tech's College of Education is the first college of education in the United States to adopt use of a new online software platform called the Teachscape Reflect Video. The software supports professional growth, improves reflective learning and strengthens teaching techniques.

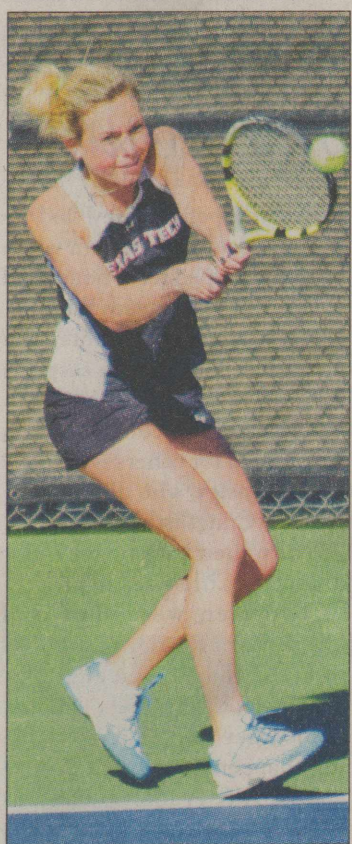
Teachscape has been introduced in Tech's Teaching Preparation Program. Student-teacher candidates are the first to use this program, but Doug Hamman, director of Teacher Education at Tech, said he is hoping current teachers and professors will utilize the program in the future.

"Teachscape increases time observing teaching, helps candidates observe their own teaching behaviors and motivates them to do a better job," said Hamman, who has personally experimented with the program in improving his own teaching techniques.

REFLECT continued on Page 2

Women's tennis recap

SPORTS, Page 7



Texas Tech's women's tennis team won its 2012 season opener Monday against UTEP, 7-0, at the Don and Ethel McLeod Tennis Center on the Tech campus.

Balancing Act



PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

NEHILOT BARAJAS-DI PIAZZA, a senior psychology major, and James Di Piazza, a senior horticulture major, met in high school and will celebrate their fifth anniversary on March 21st. They both attended Amarillo College for their associates degree and plan on furthering their education into grad school.

Texas Tech students juggle classes, marriage

By HALLIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

When Nehilot Barajas-Di Piazza goes out on a Friday night, she never has to worry about a date.

The senior psychology major from Amarillo came to Texas Tech as a transfer student, and a wife.

"For both sexes, part of college is an endeavor to find a mate," said her husband, James Di Piazza. "We've already finished that."

The couple came to Tech after completing associates degrees at Amarillo College, having been together since high school.

"I would say, here at Tech, I only know one other married couple...It's a very small minority," she said.

Nicole Springer, the director of the Texas Tech Family Ther-

apy Clinic, said many factors go into a couple's decision to marry, whether they are students or not. One of the biggest deterrents, she said, is financial support.

"Traditional students often have family support," Springer said. "Sometimes families choose that if you're going to choose (to get married) then you're choosing a more adult life."

Many students' parents cut

them off financially, she said, but Di Piazza, a senior horticulture major from Amarillo, said

both of their families have been supportive, although the couple would like to be able to be more independent, with both working on-campus jobs.

Though they weren't cut off, both said there were challenges.

"If you're not prepared to deal with everything," Barajas-Di Piazza said, "you're just going to want to turn the other way. It ruins people."

The stress saved by not looking for a relationship is spent in other ways, as the couple said they have to work hard at compromising, and being adults. Barajas-Di Piazza said she would recommend students stay engaged as long as possible.

This seems to be the most popular solution among students like Sarah Tucker, a senior exercise sports science major from Burleson, who said she is waiting a year-and-a-half to get married, though she said, "yes" in December.

"I like having time to plan, and to not be stressed," she said.

Though she knew some couples who did well, Tucker said she wanted to be sure both she and her fiancée had jobs and a place to live before they tied the knot.

Many students are unprepared for a lifelong commitment at an early age, said Larry Spain, a professor of family law.

MARRIAGE cont. on Page 3

TechBriefly

Terrorist trial date moved to April

U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings has changed the trial date for terrorist suspect, and former Texas Tech student, Khalid Ali-M Aldawsari, to April 30.

The trial, which was originally set for Jan. 9, was moved to May 14 in November due to the defense team's concerns about its client's mental stability.

Aldawsari entered the United States in September 2008 and transferred to Tech in August 2009 as a chemical engineering major. He then transferred to South Plains College in Leveland in January 2011 as a business major because of his failing grades at Tech.

Aldawsari, who was born April 24, 1990, has citizenship from Saudi Arabia. However, immigration records state he was lawfully admitted into the country via his F-1 student visa.

According to immigration records, Aldawsari's college tuition was funded by a Saudi-based industrial corporation that also paid for his living expenses.

Carolina Biological Supply in Burlington, N.C., first notified Federal Bureau of Investigation agents Feb. 1, of a suspicious purchase of phenol made by Aldawsari. Phenol is defined as a toxic chemical with a variety of uses, including the making of trinitrophenol, an explosive more commonly known as TNP.

The FBI conducted a search of Aldawsari's apartment Feb. 14 with an order under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, where they then found a notebook with Arabic writing inside. The police report states the journal confirmed Aldawsari had been planning to commit a terrorist attack in the United States for years.

Aldawsari was arrested Feb. 23.

Tech debate duo earn entry to competition

Two Texas Tech debaters gained the No. 1 spot in the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence's national rankings after they swept the competition at Western Washington University's Mile High at Sea Level Swing on Jan. 14-16.

Joey Donaghy, a sophomore political science major from Coppell, and Adam Testerman, a senior communication studies major from Springfield, Mo., competed against 80 teams across the country to snag their fourth championship of the year.

The National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence, which will take place in March, is open only to the top 64 teams in the nation.

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Community Calendar

TODAY

Up Against the Wall: Posters of Social Protest
 Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Where: Landmark Arts at the Texas Tech School of Art
So, what is it?
 This exhibition has more than 70 posters by a group of designers from Europe, the U.S. and Mexico highlights the power of design.

Poster Sale
 Time: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Where: Student Union Ballroom
So, what is it?
 Tech Activities Board is giving students, faculty and staff a chance to buy a variety of posters from their favorite bands, movies or TV shows.

Da Vinci: The Genius
 Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Where: Science Spectrum Museum
So, what is it?
 Enjoy a complete world-traveling exhibition on Leonardo da Vinci featuring full-scale machine inventions crafted from da Vinci's personal notebooks, as well as reproductions of his most famous Renaissance art, including the "Mona Lisa," "Virgin of the Rocks," "The Annunciation, the Last Supper," the "Vitruvian Man" and the "Sforza Horse."

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.

WEDNESDAY

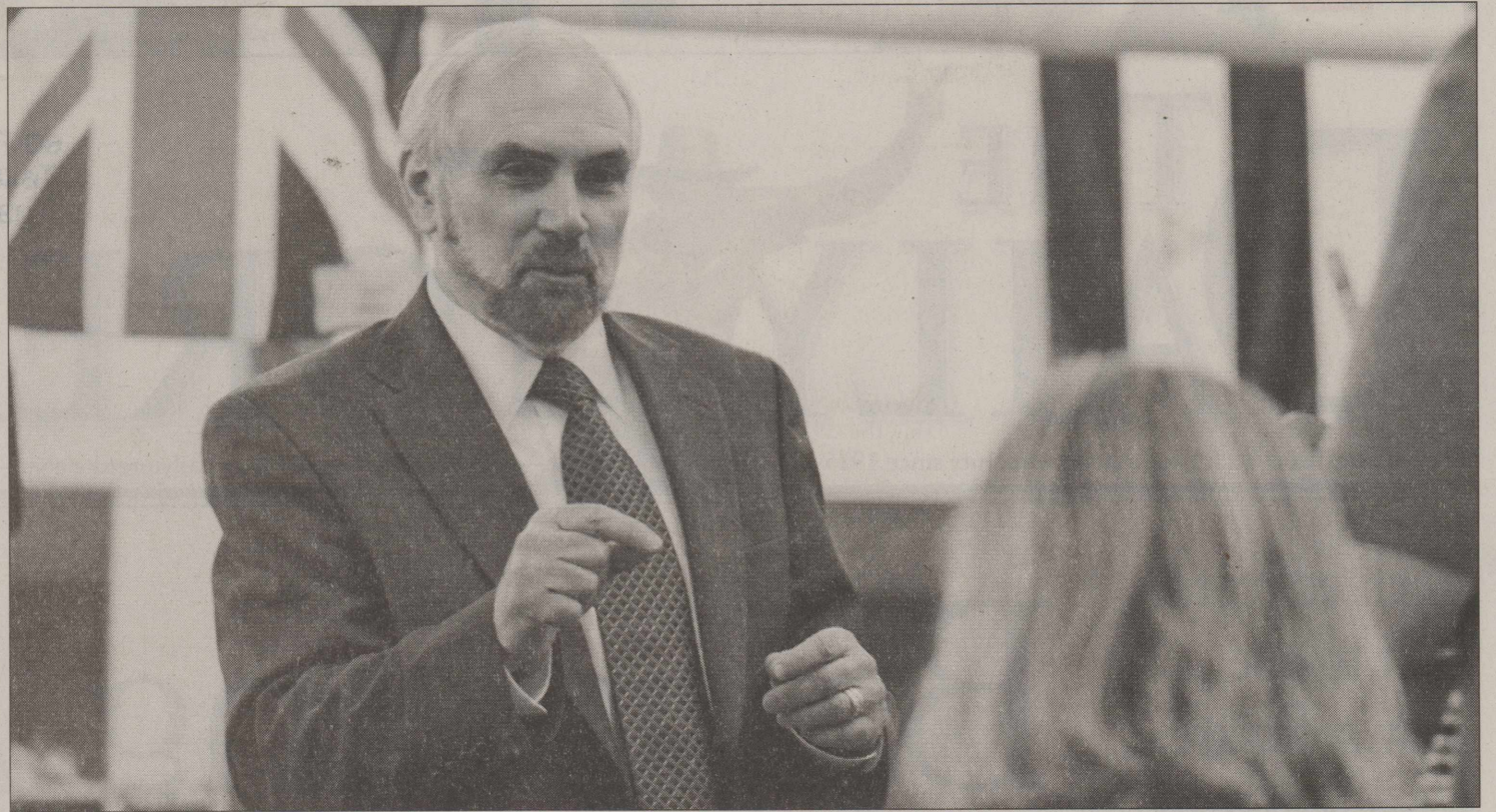
Study Abroad Fair
 Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Where: Student Union Building
So, what is it?
 The Texas Tech Department of International Affairs will have Study Abroad program representatives from more than 300 programs available to students.

Dr. Lewis "Bob" Sorley
 Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
 Where: School of Law, Lanier Auditorium
So, what is it?
 The Vietnam Center and Archive Guest Lecture Series presents its first speaker of 2012, Bob Sorley, a graduate of West Point, who served as an executive officer in Vietnam for three years. He also served as an assistant secretary of general staff, Office of the Chief of Staff and commanded a tank battalion in what was then West Germany.

Texas Tech Men's Basketball
 Time: 8 p.m.
 Where: United Spirit Arena
So, what is it?
 Support the Red Raiders as they compete against Kansas State.

To make a calendar submission e-mail dailytoreador@ttu.edu.

PRESIDENTIAL POINT



AFTER AN EVENT at Ramirez Charter School on Monday, Texas Tech President Guy Bailey asks Bells Hunt, age 5, if she plans to attend Tech. Bailey read the book "Pride by Design," to elementary students at Ramirez to encourage reading on National Reading Day.

Reflect

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to the Teachescape website, "Teachescape Reflect Video allows users to share, comment and evaluate video from any recording device. Teachescape Reflect Video software empowers educators to view, tag, share and comment on (a) 360-degree panoramic video or non-panoramic classroom videos and artifacts."
 Teachescape can use video from any recording device, such as mobile phones or digital camcorders, Hamman said. After being uploaded in a classroom setting, teacher and student activity can be zoomed in on or panned for closer viewing and observation.
 Tags and comments can be posted to

videos and classroom objects. A personal library of videos can be created for easy access of students and other teachers, allowing for comparison between research-based or district-created criteria.
 Use of Teachescape will support focus on clinically intensive and competency-based evaluation for teacher candidates and will help in student-teaching and course work with education students at Tech, Hamman said.
 "Classroom observations are the backbone of any teacher evaluation system and are necessary in supporting and sustaining data-informed instructional improvement," said Mark Atkinson, founder and chief strategist of Teachescape, in a news release. "Reflect Live makes the observation process easier and more efficient for individual observers and teachers, but more critically, the

technology greatly increases the manageability and scalability of observations for an entire district."
 A new program called TechTeach was issued to 20 teacher candidates at Tech after training Jan. 6. They received a Teachescape kit including a Reflect Video subscription and equipment needed to record, upload and evaluate their teaching behaviors. The kit's equipment included an iPod touch, a tripod and a microphone.
 According to a letter Hamman sent to Teacher Education faculty, there are several direct benefits to college students associated with using Teachescape. Students will graduate with advanced teaching skills, will possess distinct advantage in their pursuits of opportunity and — most importantly — will translate into improved achievement for K-12 students.

"Six times per year a teaching candidate will film themselves," Hamman said. "A university supervisor watches that film and evaluates their teaching competence based on the (Teacher Advancement Program) rubric. This is only one part in the reform of the Teacher Prep Program. We will be training the best teachers that districts have."
 By Fall 2012, all junior-level teacher candidates in the College of Education at Tech — approximately 550 each year — will be issued a Teachescape kit for use during their classes and the yearlong Teachescape workshop.
 "Moving forward with TAP and Teachescape are bold decisions," Hamman said, "but they are ones our teacher candidates and public school students deserve."
 >>> nmolter@dailytoreador.com

Giffords says farewell to Tucson constituents

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — On a bittersweet day for Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, the outgoing congresswoman spent her final hours in Tucson as the city's U.S. representative, finishing the meeting she started on the morning she was shot and bidding farewell to constituents who supported her through a long recovery.
 It may not be the end, though. The woman whose improbable recovery captivated the nation promised, "I will return."
 Giffords spent time Monday at her office with other survivors of the shooting rampage that killed six people and injured 13. She hugged and talked with survivors, including Suzi Hileman, who was shot three times

while trying to save her young friend and neighbor, 9-year-old Christina-Taylor Green. The little girl died from a gunshot wound to the chest.
 "The last time I did this I had Christina's hand," Hileman said. "It was something that was hanging out there, and now it's not."
 Others who met with Giffords included Pat Maisch, who was hailed as a hero for wrestling a gun magazine from the shooter that day, and Daniel Hernandez, Giffords' intern at the time who helped save her life by trying to stop her bleeding until an ambulance arrived.
 "It was very touching," said Maisch, who was not hurt in the attack. "I thanked her for her service,

wished her well, and she just looked beautiful."
 Giffords announced Sunday that she would resign from Congress this week to focus on her recovery. Maisch was sad to think that Giffords would no longer be her congresswoman.
 "But I want her to do what's best for her," she said. "She's got to take care of herself."
 However, an upbeat Giffords hinted that her departure from public life might be temporary. In a message sent on Twitter, she said: "I will return & we will work together for Arizona & this great country."
 In her last act in Tucson as a congresswoman, the Democrat visited one of her favorite charities, the

Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona.
 The food bank established the Gabrielle Giffords Family Assistance Center with \$215,000 it received in the wake of the shooting. Giffords' husband and former astronaut Mark Kelly told people who wanted to help Giffords after the shooting that the best way to do so was to donate to one of her favorite charities.
 The center has helped 900 families get on food stamps in the last year and offered guidance to needy families seeking assistance with housing, insurance, clothing and other basic needs.
 "It's a wonderful thing that she gets to come here and see the center

we built," said Bill Carnegie, the food bank's CEO. "But it's also her exit from Congress. I'm concerned about the future."
 Giffords' aides had to yell at TV cameramen and reporters who surrounded the congresswoman as she arrived, telling them to back up. Giffords didn't bat an eye and walked with confidence through the crowd and into the building, where she promptly hugged Carnegie and others.
 When she saw the center that is named in her honor, she said "Wow" and "Awesome."
 When one woman told Giffords, "I love your new hairstyle," she beamed and responded with "Thank

you."
 Giffords did not address reporters at the center and planned to head to the airport right after her visit. She was expected in Washington on Tuesday for President Barack Obama's State of the Union address.
 In her announcement Sunday, Giffords said that by stepping down, she was doing what is best for Arizona.
 "I don't remember much from that horrible day, but I will never forget the trust you placed in me to be your voice," she said in a video posted online.
 The video showed a close-up of Giffords gazing directly at the camera and speaking in a voice that was both firm and halting.

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

ACROSS
 1 fact
 5 Cut in stone
 9 Carell of "The Office"
 14 Tex-Mex snack
 15 "That's not enough!"
 16 Reason for a skull-and-crossbones warning
 17 "Artsy-sounding microbrew"
 19 Spoke (up)
 20 Sci-fi computer
 21 Crumpled into a ball
 23 Unhappy times
 24 Newspaper big shot
 26 "Fantastic!"
 28 Honeybunch
 29 "Brains, informally"
 34 High-pitched winds
 36 "La...": Puccini opera
 37 Muslim pilgrim
 40 Spot for a facial
 42 Like pulp magazine details
 43 It's held underwater
 45 salts
 47 "Officially" restricted yet widely known information
 49 Gave the go-ahead
 53 Sonnet feature
 54 Basic chalet style
 56 Cookie used in milkshakes
 58 Security request, briefly
 61 DVR button
 62 Pitcher Martinez
 64 "When night owls thrive, or where the last words of the starred answers can go"
 66 Humiliate
 67 Sound from Simba
 68 Play to... draw
 69 "See ya!"
 70 Taxpayer IDs
 71 Mix

DOWN
 1 Bugged, as a bug bite
 2 Event with floats
 3 Justice Antonin
 4 Gut-punch response
 5 Ban on trade
 6 See 18-Down
 7 Believability, to homely
 8 Joan of Arc's crime
 9 Sponsor at some NHRA events
 10 "Many 'South Park' jokes"
 11 Overseas trader
 12 Hillside house asset
 13 Finales
 18 With 6-Down, kind of sloth
 22 Not bright at all
 25 "Classic Greek ruse"
 27 Renaissance painter Veronese
 30 High... monitor
 31... your instructions...
 32 Brit. record label
 33 Lobster color
 35 Itsy...

Monday's Puzzle Solved
 RAVES RAPS TAME
 ECONO EVER OPAL
 PUTS UNDEASPELL
 ATE PAIR ATRIA
 YESICAN NILE
 MONKEYSUNCLE
 SATAN REED HAY
 TREX SPITE BASE
 OER IMAC AIRED
 PARTS UNKNOWN
 HATE AMADEUS
 ANERA ASIS DSO
 HERECOMESTHESUN
 ARIA RARE IMEAN
 BOND ODOR NTILLY

By Julian Lim 1/24/12

Ohio Craigslist suspects face trial in home county

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A self-styled chaplain and a teenage boy he apparently mentored will be tried in a deadly Craigslist robbery scheme in their home county, about 100 miles from where prosecutors say three of the four crimes happened.

Although two men were killed in Noble County in rural eastern Ohio and a third was shot and wounded there, neither the victims nor the two suspects were from there.
 The boy, 16-year-old Brogan Rafferty, was in Summit County Juvenile Court on Monday for

a preliminary hearing at which he pleaded not guilty to several juvenile counts brought against him late Friday. Rafferty was a student at Stow-Munroe Falls High School in suburban Akron when he was arrested in the fall.
 Rafferty was charged with three counts of aggravated murder, one count of attempted murder, four counts of aggravated robbery and four counts of kidnapping, Summit County prosecutor's spokeswoman April Wiesner said.

national newspaper, Beasley said he was miscast as a con man when he really helped feed, house and counsel scores of needy families, alcoholics, drug addicts, the mentally ill and crime suspects for years.
 "To call me a con man when I sacrificed for others is wrong," wrote Beasley, who didn't mention the Craigslist investigation. "To turn their back on me is not following Christ's example."
 Two men were shot and killed and a third was shot but survived and escaped after hiding in woods in Noble County, authorities said. Those shootings happened between Aug. 9 and Nov. 6. A fourth man was killed Nov. 13, and his body was found in Akron.

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Those counts replace charges that Rafferty faced in Noble County before his case was transferred to Summit County.
 Rafferty's attorney, John Alexander, said before Monday's hearing that it would involve the review of charges and allow for bond to be discussed.
 The other suspect, 52-year-old Akron resident Richard Beasley, who took Rafferty under his wing and sometimes took him to church, was indicted Friday in Summit County on several charges that carry the possibility of the death sentence if he is convicted. He has denied involvement in the Craigslist plot.
 Beasley was a Texas parolee when he returned to Ohio in 2004 after serving several years in prison on a burglary conviction. He was released from jail in July after a judge mistakenly allowed him to post bond on a drug-trafficking charge.
 In a four-page handwritten letter to the Akron Beacon Jour-

nal newspaper, Beasley said he was miscast as a con man when he really helped feed, house and counsel scores of needy families, alcoholics, drug addicts, the mentally ill and crime suspects for years.
 "To call me a con man when I sacrificed for others is wrong," wrote Beasley, who didn't mention the Craigslist investigation. "To turn their back on me is not following Christ's example."
 Two men were shot and killed and a third was shot but survived and escaped after hiding in woods in Noble County, authorities said. Those shootings happened between Aug. 9 and Nov. 6. A fourth man was killed Nov. 13, and his body was found in Akron.
 The victims had answered Craigslist ads for work on a non-existent cattle farm in the rural county. The scheme targeted older, single, out-of-work men with backgrounds that made it unlikely their disappearances would be noted right away.
 Attorney General Mike DeWine has called the crimes "serial killings" and said last week that authorities can't say for certain whether there are more bodies.
 The Associated Press generally does not identify juvenile crime suspects, but Rafferty's name has been widely reported by local and national media outlets.

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 ~Brian Tracy

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Marriage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The number of individuals going through divorce is significantly greater for 18-24 year-olds, including students and non-students," Spain said.

To help with the decision, Springer said the Family Therapy Clinic offers a pre-marital workshop once a month to address the many facets of marriage, help engaged couples prepare and to help those already married strengthen their foundation.

She said though it is a big

decision for a student, there are some advantages to being married and attending school.

"You don't have quite the full day to day schedule yet," Springer said. "There's some flexibility."

Di Piazza said being married has helped him stay the course, mentioning Greek life and other things he may have technically missed out on, but didn't really miss.

"It's kept me focused on my priorities," he said. "I'm not going to go out and get drunk or party all the time; it keeps me grounded."

Next the couple is facing the decision of what happens after graduation. Di Piazza said it is not such a big decision for couples that were not married.

In a non-married relationship, Di Piazza said, if one went to grad school and the other stayed behind, it may lead to an eventual breakup, but that just is not an option after marriage. Though they are unsure of where they are going, they will face the challenge together.

"You have to be tough," he said. "It's not going to be perfect. It's not all sparkling moments." He also mentioned the simple

challenges of moving in together, and all the compromising that must be done.

"I guess we're not very typical," Barajas-Di Piazza said. "I mean we are lovey-dovey, but we're very pragmatic, too."

With everything that sets him apart from a traditional student, Di Piazza didn't blink when asked if he would do it all over again.

"Oh," he said, "Hell, yeah."

For more information about the pre-marriage workshop, called "Great Start" call the Family Therapy Clinic at 806-742-3074.

hdavis@dailytoreador.com

POSTER PONDERING

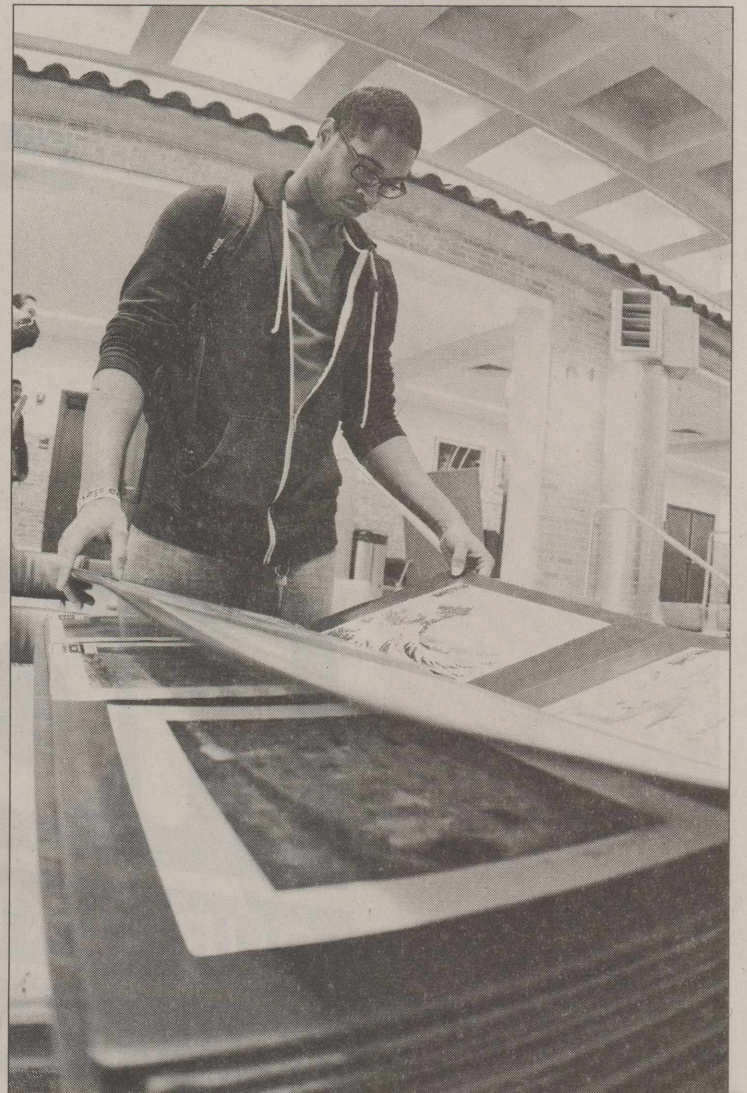


PHOTO BY SCOTT MACWATTERS/The Daily Toreador
ORRIELLE GAGE, A sophomore dance major from Houston, looks through posters at the poster sale in the Student Union Building on Monday.

In deposition, Brooks cannot recall hospital deal

CLAREMORE, Okla. (AP) — Garth Brooks says an Oklahoma hospital pledged to name a women's center for his late mother in return for \$500,000, but a deposition unveiled Monday showed that, after filing a lawsuit, the country singer couldn't remember what he had been promised.

Brooks claims the Integris Canadian Valley Regional Hospital failed to honor a promise to place Colleen Brooks' name on a new women's center in his hometown of Yukon. The center was never built and the singer wants his money back, plus punitive damages.

In testimony Friday, Brooks said he believed that, after a number of meetings and telephone calls, he reached a verbal agreement with the hospital in 2005.

But in a brief cross-examination Monday, Integris lawyer Terry Thomas showed statements Brooks made in a deposition given after the singer filed a breach-of-contract claim against the hospital in 2009. In it, Brooks couldn't say

whether a new women's center was promised, or whether Colleen Brooks' name would be attached to an existing center. "I don't remember," Brooks said in the deposition.

The singer concluded his testimony Monday and both sides rested after two defense witnesses took the stand briefly. Rogers County District Judge Dynda Post set closing arguments for Tuesday morning and told jurors they should expect to stay as late as midnight Tuesday to resolve the case.

Brooks' property manager, Emmett Gillam, who was called by Integris, acknowledged under defense questioning that he had said in a deposition that he didn't believe Brooks and the hospital had reached a formal agreement for naming rights. He said in testimony Monday that he believed they had, and said his different testimony could be attributed to how the question was asked.

"Sometimes it is very difficult to say what you mean because you don't understand the context," he said.

Tony Kouba, a member of the Integris Foundation board at Yukon, said that at a 2007 meeting with Brooks — at which the singer claimed to have been shown building mockups — the discussion centered on possibilities, not proposals. He said no one talked about specific ideas and that Brooks remarked in a 2005 meeting: "I probably should do something for Yukon because they've been awful good to me."

Kouba also said that, when the sides meet in 2007, Brooks seemed indifferent to the ideas discussed.

"There wasn't much response one way or another. He was talking very much in generalities and you always felt you could never get him tied down to something," Kouba said.

In earlier questioning of Brooks, Thomas concentrated on casting doubt on any verbal agreement that Integris would place his mother's name on a new women's center if he donated \$500,000 by the end of 2005. Brooks testified Monday

he couldn't remember 100 percent of the conversations but knew a deal was made.

Thomas also disputed Brooks' insistence that the 2005 deal was firm.

"You have alleged that following (the phone conversations) with Mr. Moore that you relied on the representation of Integris and that you had a deal with Mr. Moore," Thomas said.

"Yes, sir. Most certainly," Brooks replied.

"Isn't it true that conversations occurred for a long time after the (telephone conversations)?" Thomas asked.

"No, sir. That's not true," Brooks said.

Thomas then pointed out the singer's lawsuit, which claimed in its introduction that Brooks, his lawyers and Integris had continuing discussions about Brooks' donation beyond 2005 before they broke down, prompting the 2009 lawsuit.

Colleen Brooks died of cancer in 1999. Thomas suggested that naming the existing women's center after Colleen Brooks could still happen.

Aretha Franklin calls off her wedding

NEW YORK (AP) — Aretha Franklin won't be getting fitted for a wedding gown after all: She's called off her engagement.

A statement released Monday by her representative said Franklin's wedding to Willie Wilkerson wasn't going to happen.

"Will and I have decided we were moving a little too fast, and there were a number of things that had not been thought through thoroughly. There will be no wedding at this time," Franklin said. "We will not comment on it any further because of the very personal and sensitive nature of it. We appreciate all of the many well wishes from friends."

Franklin, 69, announced shortly after New Year's Day that she was getting married. In an interview with The Associated Press, the jovial Queen of Soul talked about getting fitted for gowns by designers including Vera Wang and Donna Karan, and said she hoped for a summer wedding in either Miami or the Hamptons on

Long Island, N.Y.

Franklin said Wilkerson was the one for her and that the relationship was particularly strong because they had been friends first.

"We're very compatible, and he

supports me and I support him a lot, and he has given me specialized attention that I don't think I've received from anyone else," she said.

It's unclear if the pair are still romantically involved.

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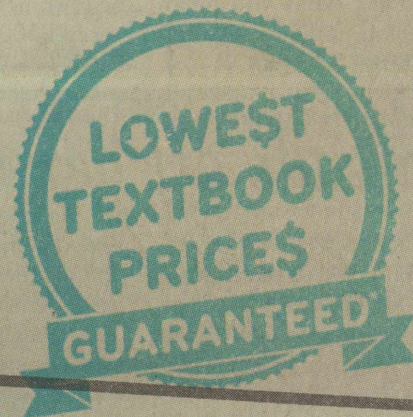
* Comparison based on mailed check from the IRS, which normally arrives 18-25 days after IRS acceptance of your return. Normal time to receive a Refund Anticipation Check (RAC) is 7-14 days after IRS acceptance. Standard tax preparation fees apply. Free RAC offer applies to a RAC loaded onto an H&R Block Emerald Prepaid MasterCard® for Federal only returns. Fees apply if state return is filed or if RAC is provided as a paper check or direct deposit into another bank account. H&R Block Emerald Prepaid MasterCard is issued by, and RAC is provided by, H&R Block Bank, a Federal Savings Bank, member FDIC. You must meet legal requirements for opening a RAC, a loan or extra fees. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated. H&R Block Maine License Number: FRA2. Available at participating offices. Free RAC offer expires 2/04/12. ©2011 H&R Tax Group, Inc.

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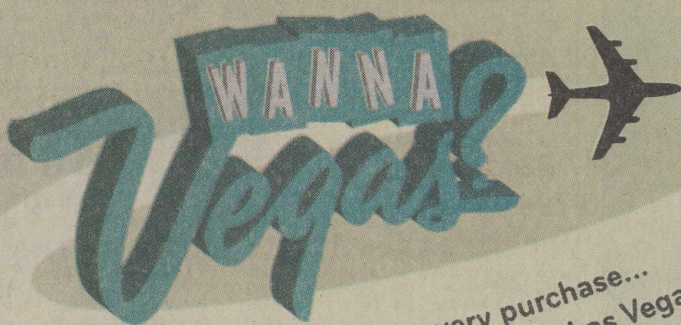
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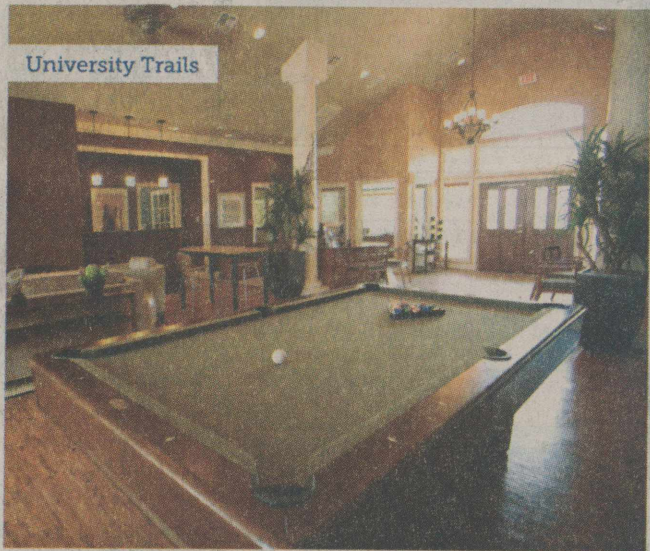
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

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OPINIONS

PAGE 6
TUESDAY, JAN. 24, 2012

US doesn't need 'big ideas'

The election of 1920 mirrors a great deal of what we face today; a massive recession, recovery from a major war and a debt that no one thought could be controlled. Both had incumbent presidents from academia who massively expanded the power of the federal government and saw problems get worse.

President Wilson's philosophy of using the government to engineer people and society into the picture he imagined led to the reestablishment of the KKK, the sterilization of people deemed unfit for reproduction and the segregation of people of different races.

America then looked to a man they thought looked more presidential than any other, a man with big ideas and a big personality, a man who could be charming and smarmy and had the ego to match it all. Americans looked to Warren G. Harding.

If you've never heard of Harding, that's not a surprise. He wasn't the most successful of presidents. His big ideas and big personality did not accomplish very much in terms of actually getting positive things done for the American people. Politics became all about himself. However, the main reason you probably have never heard of

Jeff Frazier



Harding is he died fairly early in his term.

However, the man Harding had chosen as his vice president, Calvin Coolidge, was exactly what the nation needed. Coolidge was about as dry and drab a personality that had ever become president. The kind of man who did not possess the charm or charisma to actually get himself elected president.

Famous for never talking, especially about himself, "Silent Cal" respected the role of the federal government according to the constitution.

Instead of Wilson's philosophy of using the presidency and the federal government as an institution of social engineering and progress, Coolidge chose to

make government boring and restricted.

Coolidge cut the federal budget by 50 percent during his terms in office, allowing the private sector the room it needed to breathe and develop. He cut the deficit by reducing government spending, rather than force the engine of the economy to shoulder the burden of ineffective government programs and misguided social engineering efforts.

As a result, the economy came roaring back to life under Coolidge, and continued to do so until Coolidge's successor, the "big ideas" and social engineering fan, Herbert Hoover, took the job. Once again, following the big government track took the nation into debt and bad economics, helping spur our fall into the Great Depression.

Today we face a similar situation. A "big ideas" academic who promised he would use the federal government to engineer a better future has failed to deliver,

and we look for someone to help us out of these terrible times.

We must learn from the 1920s. We must avoid "big ideas" government and people who promise to use it to build a better world, even if that world is one we think we want. Government is the wrong engine for bringing us into the future.

For Republicans looking at the remaining candidates, avoid the likes of Newt Gingrich and Rick Santorum. Both are "big ideas" social engineers who promise to use the power of the government to make the world more like the one you want. Instead, look to the drab and the boring, such as Mitt Romney and Ron Paul.

Big personalities and big ideas don't belong in government, they belong in private enterprise: in engineering, science and literature. Our future depends on people with big ideas and big personalities, but let's keep them in the places where they can actually do the most good, and let the boring mundane people keep government small and out of our way.

Frazier is a communications studies graduate student from West Columbia.
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American naivete, apathy undermine SOPA, PIPA wins

By ELI WATSON
DAILY TEXAN (U. TEXAS)

This past week saw the defeat of two controversial bills: the Stop Online Piracy Act and the Protect IP Act.

The two bills, both of which are aimed at curbing illegal music, movie and software sharing, have been criticized for violating free speech laws, and placing burdens on less harmful websites such as blogs and social media outlets.

Websites such as Wikipedia, Reddit, Tumblr and Google, participated in a scheduled "Internet Blackout," an online protest that resulted in outcry against the bills from their users. The websites persuaded users to petition and research the bills; some websites even provided petitioners with their representatives' contact information.

Due to the opposition, Sen. Majority Leader Harry Reid shelved SOPA and delayed the PIPA vote. Politicians, musicians and Web developers alike have expressed opposition to the bills, fearing that they will give the U.S. Attorney General unprecedented powers of censorship.

The Obama administration spoke against the bills, saying they "reduce freedom of expression," while Facebook developer Mark Zuckerberg took to his Twitter account, saying the bills would "hurt the Internet."

Although the victory against the United States government shows how the Internet can be a catalyst for protest, it has also shown American shallowness and how unaware we are with domestic issues that affect us.

SOPA and PIPA have been around since October of last year, yet the momentum to fight against it just recently came to fruition. It can be argued that most people do not use the Internet to be informed, but rather entertained, and SOPA

and PIPA are evidence of that.

Only when Wikipedia, Reddit and Google blacked out their sites did opposition come from a flurry of users. According to digitaltrends.com, over 4.5 million people signed Google's petition, and an estimated 162 million observed Wikipedia's blackout page.

These outstanding numbers do not begin to compare to the relatively small number of people who took things further; out of the 4.5 million people who signed Google's petition, only 35,000 people sent letters to their representatives, and only 8 million out of Wikipedia's 162 million viewers actually used the Web site to find the contact information of their representatives.

The fact that not even half of Google's petitioners sent letters to their representatives is an indicator of American apathy.

With a cut-and-paste mentality, online petitioners recycled and shared the petition on their social media outlets, not providing any background on the SOPA and PIPA bills, and only adding a note of support in contributing to the petition. "Just do it," and "If you don't want your freedoms taken away from you, do this," were some of the messages that accompanied the shared links on people's Facebook pages.

Others took to their Tumblr and Twitter, blacking out their pages, and creating hashtags related to the two bills. But what are their reasons for doing so? Would those same people who signed a petition and blacked out their Web sites be the same people who would travel to their representatives' office? The statistics seem to show otherwise.

Here is where the problem lies: in signing the petitions and sharing them through the many social media outlets we frequent, the battle is only half completed, as SOPA and PIPA may return.

Congress has already followed up these bills with the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement, an agreement between countries including Japan, Canada and others, that is aimed at imposing new criminal sanctions and online censorship in the name of copyright. Similar to SOPA and PIPA, ACTA would focus heavily on copyright infringement, putting websites such as Google, Facebook, Twitter and many others, under surveillance.

Yet this legislation is still going unnoticed, its passing similar to the National Defense Authorization Act we experienced this past year. The NDAA, a law that could imprison any American citizen without charge or trial, was passed, and there was no public outcry similar to what SOPA and PIPA experienced.

Online petitions for the NDAA reached a maximum of 39,214 petitioners according to change.org, nowhere near the amount of petitions SOPA and PIPA received.

The way these bills were presented to the American public were totally different. No large Web site or company protested the NDAA. The only protest that came was during last year, and the fervor dwindled shortly thereafter.

The way these bills were brought to our attention is supported by the fact that the NDAA never had any real opposition when it was presented.

America's aloofness is all too apparent, and this is proof of that. If we see the Internet as such an important collection of information that we can use to our benefit, why are we unaware of these problems, and why do we become aware of them so late?

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

PAGE 7
TUESDAY, JAN. 24, 2012

Lady Raiders defeat UTEP in season opener

By **MIKE GUTIERREZ**
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech women's tennis season started out just the way coach Todd Petty had hoped it would.

The No. 46 Lady Raiders tennis team went unbeaten Monday, upending the UTEP Lady Miners 7-0 at McLeod Tennis Center.

Prior to the match against UTEP, Petty said his team needed to establish its character early in the season.

"The identity changes every year, so you have to be hungry

every year," he said. "I think we have good leadership on this team. We have a lot of ability all the way through. This is one of the deepest teams we have had."

"We have a lot of ability all the way through. This is one of the deepest teams we have had."

TODD PETTY
HEAD COACH
TEXAS TECH

Petty said the team played well in its season opener against UTEP, setting the tone early as Tech's No. 1 doubles pair, Samantha Adams and Kenna Kilgo, defeated UTEP's No. 1 duo, Martina Trierweiler and Rebecca Calvillo 8-3.

"I thought we played pretty good doubles for our first match out. I could tell we were a bit nervous at the start of the singles,"

he said. "Some of the first sets from our players were not as clean as we'd like, and there were a lot of unforced errors, but I think a little bit of that was it being the first match out and playing in front of the home crowd. Overall, it was nice to get the first one under our belt."

Freshman Kilgo, who won her singles match in straight sets, 6-1,6-3, had a strong outing to start her career as a Lady Raider, Petty said.

"Out of all the first sets I saw from the players today, I think (Kilgo) was one of the players that had the cleanest first set," he said. "She handled her nerves well. She's a true competitor and I thought she competed toughly."

The Lady Raiders' next opportunity to compete will come against the Arizona Lady Wildcats at the ITA National Indoors competition Jan. 28.

Petty said he has an idea of what his team needs to improve

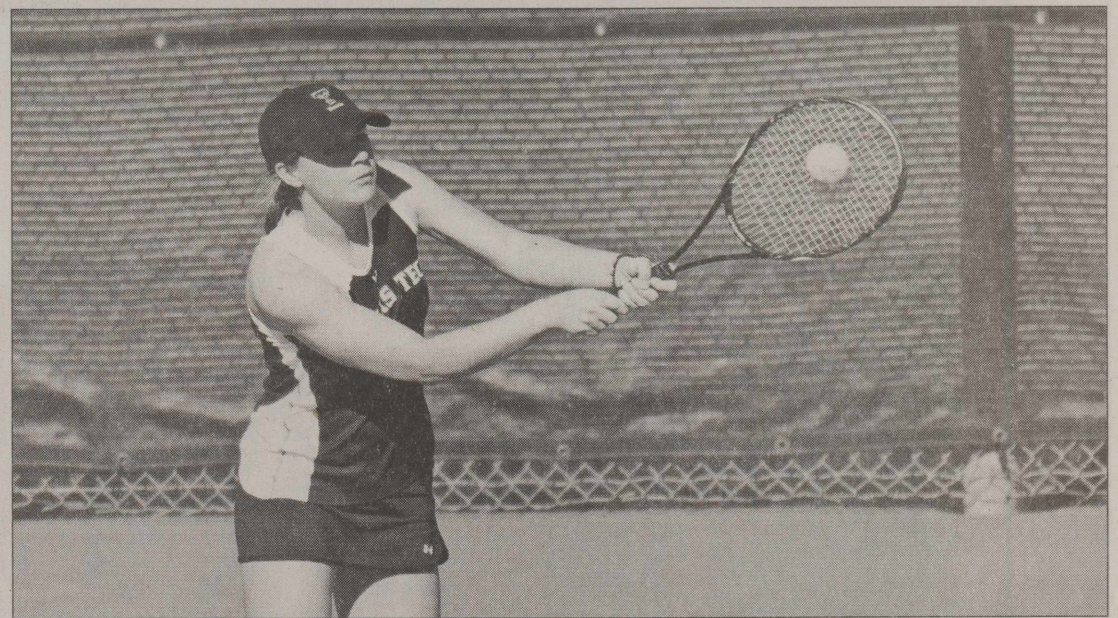


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/The Daily Treador
SAMANTHA ADAMS HITS the ball during a singles tennis match against UTEP's Martina Trierweiler at the Don and Ethel McLeod Tennis Center on Monday.

upon after facing UTEP.

"We just have to focus on not giving away spots and not giving away free points," Petty

said. "We're going to have to be more disciplined to give ourselves an opportunity to win against (Arizona)."

"The girls are excited and I think they'll be ready for the competition."

mgutierrez@dailytreador.com

Crane mulling name change

HOUSTON (AP)—New Houston Astros owner Jim Crane is considering changing the name of the franchise as well as its uniforms.

Crane said Monday the team will conduct a study to decide whether or not to switch the name.

"We're going to study the information both from the fans and from all sorts of marketing people," Crane said. "I'm not saying we're going to change. We haven't made the decision yet whether we're going to change."

The team was established in 1962 as the Colt .45s and has been called the Astros since 1965 when it was changed to coincide with the move to the Astrodome.

Crane said switching uniforms is something they are "highly considering." Any changes wouldn't happen until 2013 when Houston makes the move from the National League to the American League.

"We had the Colt .45s and everybody liked that one," Crane said. "So you can imagine how upset they were when we switched that. What you get when you look at the fan base is the older we get and I'm old, you don't like to change. But the younger fans are very receptive to change and the older ones aren't, so that's what we saw with the American League."

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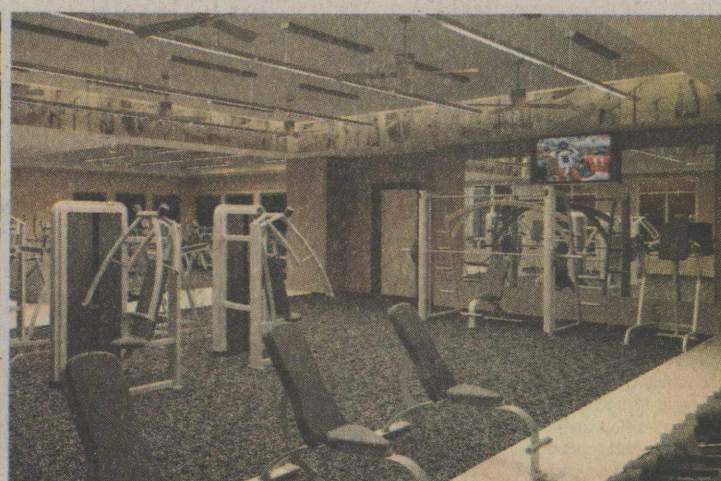
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