Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison visits Tech community

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PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/ The Daily Toreador SEN. KAY BAILEY Hutchison (R) speaks at a news conference following a luncheon at the International Culture Center on Thursday.

By SUMMER CHANDLER STAFF WRITER

In what could be her last visit to Lubbock as a U.S. senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison said Texas' increase in research funding was one of her proudest moments during her terms in we have cut too much from education

Thursday at the Texas Tech International Cultural Center, Hutchison said when she took office, Texas was ranked sixth in the nation in the receipt of federal research funds.

The state is now ranked third, she said.

Hutchison said she is glad Tech's research funding has increased in its goal of achieving tier-one status.

"I am real proud of getting \$100 million dollars for the great research projects for Texas Tech," she said. "I think (the research projects) have put Tech on the national map now. I think we're going to grow, we're going to grow economically, and Texas Tech is going to grow in numbers."

However, in comments after the event, Hutchison said, she is not as satisfied with the funding for K-12 education in the state.

She said Terence Stutz of the Dallas Morning News recently quoted Texas Gov. Rick Perry having said Texas schools have an "adequate amount of money." Figures from the National Education Association's most recent report, however, suggest Texas will spend

approximately \$8,900 per student this year. The national average, according to the NEA report, is more than \$11,400 per student.

"I am not pleased with what I have seen in our public education," Hutchison said. "I certainly think that and I think that we need to be much more attentive to the needs of our K-12.

"I think we are not doing what we should be doing at the K-12 level to make sure that every child has a chance to reach their full potential. I would say that we are not nearly what Texas should be."

Hutchison, who will not run for re-election for her Senate seat this year, said she does not plan to retire from politics, necessarily.

"You know, I plan to keep working, but I don't know where," she said. "I don't want to retire. I want to retire from the Senate, but I don't want to retire from being engaged in different things."

Several candidates have filed with the Federal Election Commission signaling their intention to run for Hutchison's seat, including former Texas Solicitor Gen. Ted Cruz, Texas state senator Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, former ESPN football analyst Craig James and former Dallas mayor Tom

Hutchison was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1993.

» schandler@dailytoreador.com



TRISH DOWNING SHARES her story with students during a Tech Activities Board event in the Student Union Building ballroom Thursday. Downing became paralyzed after being hit head-on while training on her bicycle and used the event to inspire people to persevere.

Guest speaker shares motivational story

By ASHLYN TUBBS STAFF WRITER

When life threw a challenge to Trish Downing, she rolled right over it.

Downing, who is an athlete and motivational speaker, had one major goal: to become an elite-level bicyclist. She was obsessed with bike riding, and would travel across the country with her friends, competing in various races.

Since she was a teacher, Downing had the summer off to concentrate on her passion of cycling. She raced with the professional cyclists she looked up to, and started making plans when she got home to take the steps to be in their shoes someday. She hired a cycling coach and began training, harder and harder.

One day her friend, Matt, wanted to go sightseeing on their bikes. They rode out of where she lived, in Cherry Creek in

west to Lookout Mountain.

During the trip, when Downing stopped at a bar along the way to fill their water bottles, she noticed the Olympic games were playing on the TV — more importantly, the cycling event. Downing said she felt like it was a sign from above.

She asked Matt if he would like to watch the cycling with her in the bar, but he said he would rather start their voyage

Downing said she let Matt ride in front of her so he could feel good about himself. As she lagged behind, Downing said she was lost on the thoughts of being a cyclist. She looked up, and Matt was crossing Crab Apple Street. A driver apparently did not see Matt on his bike, and Downing watched as Matt made a large swerving

motion around the car. The driver, Downing realized with car headed for her next The front wheel of her bike hit the

front bumper of the car, and she went sailing into the air. Next thing she knew, Downing said she felt the warm pavement, but nothing below her legs.

Matt called the ambulance, and when the emergency vehicles showed up—after asking Downing some questions — they transferred her to a hospital in Denver.

Downing said as they cut the clothing off her legs, she knew she should feel the cold metal of the scissors, but could not feel anything else.

She had a spinal cord injury, and the doctors told her family she would never

"So much for all my dreams and goals," Downing said.

The accident shattered almost all the vertebrae in her back, two ribs, her

Denver, and headed downtown and then horror, did not see anything at all as the scapula and one vertebra in her neck. in an Intensive Care Unit, basically being put back together until she had to go into rehabilitation.

> "They said they were going to put my life back together," Downing said, "but what's to put together when you're in a wheelchair?"

Downing said she did not know how to get in a bed or shower by herself. She had to start from the beginning.

Her first lesson in rehab was how to sit up. Downing said she thought it would be simple, but she was wrong. As she tried to flex her stomach muscles to sit herself up, nothing happened. Downing said she felt defeated, but said her therapist told her, "Just because you're in a wheelchair

DOWNING continued on Page 3

doesn't mean your life is over."

Architecture faculty to host "Re-Presentations" symposium

By NICOLE MOLTER STAFF WRITER

Six professors from the College of Architecture will present research projects in a faculty symposium called "Re-Presentations" on Saturday, ranging from topics of design methods and environmentalism.

The symposium was organized by Saif Haq, associate academic dean for the College of Architecture. Brian C.R. Zugay, Ben Shacklette, Jeff Nesbit, Bennett Neiman and Dean Andrew Vernooy will present their projects with Haq.

"All six of us had presented papers outside the symposium, all over the place," said Jeff Nesbit, instructor at the

is to bring those papers back into the college and re-present what we've presented at a conference elsewhere. None of the students or faculty internally heard those presentations.'

Each topic is different based upon the individual's research, Nesbit said.

"Architects each have a different

College of Architecture. "The intention vision," Haq said. "They understand your needs in different ways. Even if the need is the same, architects come up with different solutions. The architect puts himself or herself in the design, because they interpret your need in a different way."

SYMPOSIUM cont. on Page 2

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Sunny

Saturday

Sunny

Doughty: We need more tolerance OPINIONS, Pg. 4

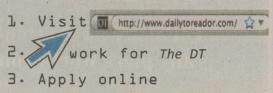


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Community Calendar

TODAY

French High School Day Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Where: International Cultural Center, Hall of Nations So, what is it? James Kaufman will discuss The Texas Tech International Cultural Center will host students in the Lubbock Independent School District for the day to learn about the French program at Tech.

Buesseler Lectureship Featuring Robert Montemayor: "Media, Mentors, and the Truth" Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Where: McKenzie-Merket So, what is it? Robert Montemayor, the director of Rutgers Latino Information Network, 1984 Pulitzer Prize winner and a Texas Tech alumnus, will be the featured speaker at the Buesseler Lectureship.

Feminist Forum: Feed Your Body and Soul

Time: Noon to 1 p.m. Where: Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Center, Room 153

So, what is it? Enjoy this forum to further discuss the past, present and future of feminism, and how to create an environment where the cultural construction of gender can be freely examined.

Texas Tech Baseball vs. St. John's

Time: 5 p.m. Where: Dan Law Field at Rip Griffen Park

So, what is it? Enjoy this forum to further discuss the past, present and future of feminism, and how to create an environment where the cultural construction of gender can be

freely examined.

SATURDAY

Get excited about Robotics (GEAR) Competition for K-8 Students Kickoff Event Time: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Where: College of Engineer-

So, what is it? Get involved with this six to eight weeks LEGO robotics challenge for elementary and middle school-aged students during which student teams will build and program LEGO robotics to perform specified

Jazz Ensemble I Concert Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Where: Hemmle Recital Hall So, what is it? Enjoy this Tech Jazz Ensemble I concert celebrating Black History Month directed by Stephen Jones

SUNDAY

Talk by Suzanne Aker about "Painting Icons" Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Where: Museum of Texas

Enjoy a lecture from Suzanne Aker about "Painting Icons."

Zumba: Feed Your Body and Soul

Time: 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Where: Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, Court 5 Enjoy an introductory Zumba fitness class.

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.

Blotter: Non-student detained in main library

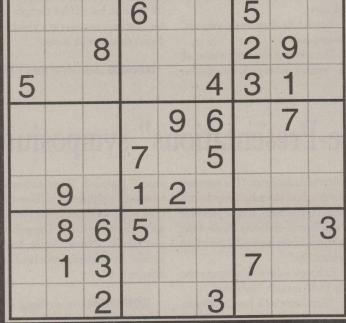
7:58 a.m. — A Texas Tech property and released. officer investigated criminal of the Health Sciences Center. A vehicle's driver side door was scratched.

10:08 a.m. — A Tech officer detained a non-student on the 2nd floor of the Texas Tech Library. The non-student was issued a criminal trespass warning for all Texas Tech University

4:15 p.m. — A Tech officer mischief in the B3 parking lot investigated a theft in the basement of the Civil Engineering building. An unsecured Coach wallet and its contents were

> Information provided by B.J. Watson of the Texas Tech Police Department.

Today's su do



In Sudoku, all the numbers 1 to 9 must be in every row, column and 3 x 3 box. Use logic to define the answers. 2 3 7 6 4 8 9 5 1 9 8 1 5 7 3 4 2 6 5 4 6 1 2 9 3 7 8 8 6 4 7 5 1 2 3 9 1 5 3 9 6 2 8 4 7 7 2 9 8 3 4 6 1 5 3 1 5 4 8 6 7 9 2 4 9 8 2 1 7 5 6 3 672395184

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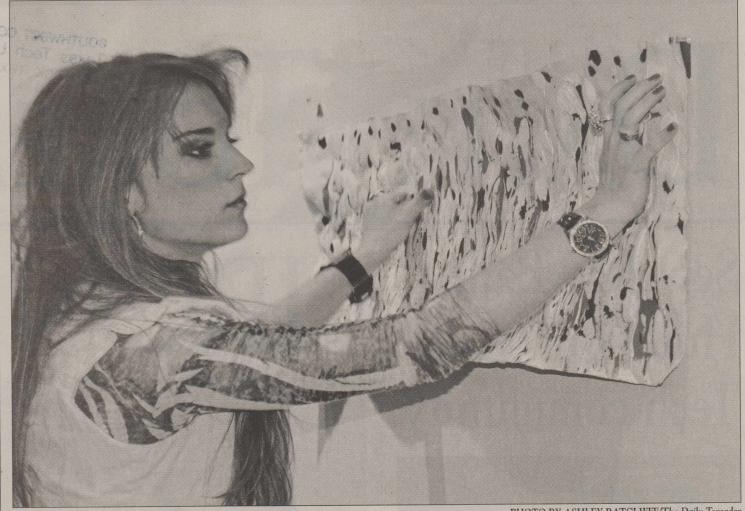


PHOTO BY ASHLEY RATCLIFFE/The Daily Toreador

KRISTY SCALES, A senior painting major from Bandera, hangs up her painting for her senior art exhibit in the Landmark Arts Gallery on Thursday.

Symposiu CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lessons from "Spatial Cog-

nition Research on Evidence-Based Architecture," "Self-Generating Territories" and "Beyond Bebop" are some examples of the research proj-

Spatial cognition and how that can be incorporated in evidence-based design is Haq's subject of discussion.

"Recently, in architecture there has been a big surge in evidence-based design," Haq said. "When architects design anything, you can do it intuitively, based it on experience. Nowadays, the new trend on evidence-based design is that you make design decisions based on research that has been done before and published and peer reviewed."

Spatial cognition means understanding how human beings understand and use come from Nesbit's indepen- improvisation," he said.

space, he said.

Learning how to "take cues from the environment" is an important element in this study, Haq said.

"So if I tell an architect, 'If you get light in such and such way, the study process becomes easier.' A study room can be designed to take advantage of that particular situation," he said.

Research and design for Hag's project has been developing for about 10 to 14 years.

"There is a quality of experience built into it and individuality," he said.

Nesbit said his topic is about self-generating ter-

'A lot of my research deals with trying to understand site conditions, what's there first before planting a building on it," he said. "You don't want to fight the forces and the pressures existing on the site as is."

dent professional work. "I have a firm called Haec-

ceitas Studio where a lot of the work in the studio in that firm is to start a discussion about the emergence of existing conditions on a site to create the proposal," he said.

In-depth discussion of "going green" is also an element architecture. in Nesbit's research.

"I think that just providing a building that is 'green' or sustainable is not giving value to a design," he said. "There's been a real push for being 'green' and sustainable and energy efficient. We shouldn't rely on just the engineering aspect of it. Us, as designers, could be more sensitive to the way we think about how we are constructing these sites."

Bennett Neiman's focus for his project is about how

"A lot of this is based on A lot of that research has notions of jazz and mostly

Some people take this idea too literally, Neiman said.

"For instance, the music is soft, so my design is going to be soft," he said. "I don't approach it that way."

Neiman organizes his project's ideas in an analogy format between jazz music and

"Architects do drawings to build something," he said. "Musicians have notations to play music. Jazz musicians are a little different. They take the idea that's written and improvise on it in different directions. That's what I'm interested in, is how you make it up as you go along, respond to what you've done, and how you are creative with what you have and developing from it."

The "Re-presentations" jazz music influences his ar- faculty symposium will be hosted Saturday in the College of Architecture Gallery, room 101A.

>>> nmolter@dailytoreador.com

Higher gas prices cloud Obama's re-election hopes

WASHINGTON (AP) -Soaring gasoline prices are threatening to undercut President Barack Obama's re-election prospects and offering Republicans an easy target. With prices pushing \$4 a gallon and threatening to go even higher, Obama sought Thursday to confront rising public anxiety and strike back at his GOP critics.

"Only in politics do people root for bad news, do they greet bad news so enthusiastically," Obama said of Republicans. "You pay more; they're licking their chops."

Obama said dismissively that all the Republicans can talk. about is more drilling - "a bumper sticker ... a strategy to get politicians through an election"

— when the nation's energy challenges demand much more. In a speech in Miami, he promoted the expansion of domestic oil and gas exploration but also the development of new forms of energy.

For all the political claims, economists say there's not much a president of either party can do about gasoline prices. Certainly not in the short term. But it's clear that people are concerned — a new Associated Press-GfK poll says seven in 10 find the issue deeply important — so it's sure to be a political issue through the summer.

"Right now, we're experiencing yet another painful reminder of why developing new energy is so critical to our future," the president said. At an average of \$3.58 a gallon, prices are already up 25 cents since Jan. 1, and experts say what he suggested was Republican they could reach a record \$4.25 a gallon by Memorial Day.

Those higher prices could hurt consumer spending and unravel some of the recent improvements in the economy. And they could also be a daily reminder to voters to question Obama's contention that he's making the nation — and them — more secure.

While motorists are already starting to complain, many economists see the \$4-a-gallon mark as a breaking point above which the economy starts to suffer real pain. Analysts estimate that every one-cent increase is roughly a \$1.4 billon drain on the economy.

Obama's Republican challengers aren't letting it all slide by. They have stepped up their attacks on his energy policies, including his rejection last month of a pipeline to carry oil from Canada to refineries on the U.S. Gulf Coast. And they're full of promises.

"I've developed a program for American energy so no future president will ever bow to a Saudi king again, and so every American can look forward to \$2.50-a-gallon gasoline," former House Speaker Newt Gingrich said in the Wednesday night GOP debate in Mesa, Ariz. He calls his strategy "Drill Here, Drill Now."

At the same event, former Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania — who has warned of \$5-a-gallon gas — asserted that "we have a lot of troubles around the world, as you see the Middle East in flames and what's going on in this country with gas prices and the economy." And former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney suggested that even more troubling than rising gasoline prices was Iranian President Mahmoud "Ahmadinejad with nuclear weapons."

In his speech at the University of Miami, Obama sought to draw a and made a pointed reference to than it imports.

glee at rising gas prices.

"And you can bet that since it's an election year, they're already dusting off their three-point plans for \$2 gas," Obama said. "I'll save you the suspense. Step one is drill, step two is drill, and step three is keep drilling. .. We've heard the same thing for 30 years. Well, the American people aren't stupid."

Addressing the rising public anxiety, Obama said, "There are no quick fixes to this problem, and you know we can't just drill our way to lower gas prices." Anyone suggesting otherwise was not being honest, he said.

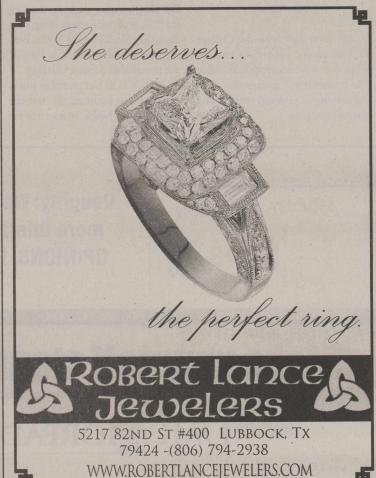
Still, Obama said he had ordered his administration to search for every possible area to help consumers in the coming months. He said his administration's "allof-the-above strategy," one that includes oil, gas, wind and solar power, is the "only real solution" to the nation's energy challenges.

Gingrich quickly dismissed Obama's energy speech as "excuses and fantasies."

Presidents often get blamed for rising gas prices, but there's not much they can do about them. The current increases at the pump have been driven by tensions in Iran and by higher demand in the U.S. as well as in China, India and other quickly growing nations.

"Obviously, people go to the pump all the time, so it's something that really hits home with the voters," said Fred Greenstein, a Princeton University professor emeritus of politics. "It's an easy issue to talk about, and not an easy issue to accomplish very much on." In his Miami remarks, Obama

said that despite political criticism of his policies "America is producing more oil today than at any time in the last eight years. He also noted that, for the first time in 30 years, the United States is now contrast with his GOP challengers exporting more petroleum products



Women's rugby team makes an impact

Bv ASHLYN TUBBS STAFF WRITER

This group of women is not afraid to get a little physical.

In fact, that is how they prefer it. This is the Texas Tech Women's Rugby team, consisting of about 15

players who enjoy to hit and run. "I like that there's a lot of

running involved, so it's not only like physically challenging, but it takes a toll on your body," said team president Candace Balderas. "It's intense. It's like an adrenaline Tech's team was established

in 1995. It practice three times a week from 6 to 8 p.m. in order to prepare for its regional competitions throughout Texas. Some teams it competes against include Texas A&M and Texas, whom it plays once each semester. Its next game is against A&M at 1:00 p.m. March 3 at the Rugby Pitch field, which will be its last home game before playoff season begins.

Cybbi Barton, a team member, said the group needs a lot of support as it competes, because this game determines if it will qualify for the Western Rugby Collegiate Finals. She said students would enjoy watching the team play at the competition.

"It's a sport not a lot of people know about, and I think its more entertaining than any other sport,

not just being biased about it," she said. "It's just a foreign sport that I think everyone could be entertained with, and it's another team to support during rivalry games."

Balderas said the team also has "friendly games" in tournaments at Oklahoma and against A&M in order to prepare

Some team members have played in Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and even Florida in 2010, when the team competed in the national

for the season.

"In Spring of 2010 we blew everyone out in Texas and went on to play twice at

tournament.

the regional tournament in LSU," Balderas said. "We beat both those teams, and then we went on to the national tournament, where we lost to the team that ended up winning the national tournament last year."

Nkeonye Okafor, a first-year graduate student who has been on the team for four years, said playing in the national tournament was probably the best rugby experience she has ever had.

ress," she said. "It was amazing sport in their life, but they came being able to play different rugby teams and seeing the different styles of rugby, and being able to represent Texas Tech at nationals."

This year, the team will compete against a different division.

You get to meet

people you

probably never

would have been

friends with from

the beginning.

NKEONYE OKAFOR

TEXAS TECH

WOMEN'S RUGBY

Okafor said she definitely thinks the team has the potential to compete at the national tournament again — not this year because of a lack of players but definitely

next year. Okafor, who is considering coaching next year since she will be ineligible to

play - said the team has the potential to compete in the national tournament in 2013. She urges more students to consider joining the team. Dues are \$80 per semester, she said.

"I really do encourage people to try it at least," she said. "It's not as intense as people try to make it seem. We've had people who were cheerleaders, or in sororities, or played basketball or softball, or

"It was great seeing our prog- people who had never played a out and tried it and loved it. It's for everyone.'

> Okafor said one of the best things about the team is how all the team members are different from one another.

> 'You get to meet people you probably never would have been friends with from the beginning," she said, "and it's awesome to love these people who are so different from you, but yet they're the exact same once you start playing rugby."

Barton said she wanted to join for a long time, but was too intimidated. Now she wishes she would have done it sooner.

"It's like 15 of my best friends playing a sport we all love," she said. "That makes it worth the

Barton said by being on the team, she is in the best shape of her life. She said playing rugby is the best thing she has done through

"You get to meet people from other schools, and we're friends with the girls from New Mexico and Oklahoma," she said, "so you stay in contact with them individually and you get to meet people from everywhere, so that is one of the things I like the most."

Those interested in joining can contact Balderas at candace. balderas@ttu.edu.

>>> atubbs@dailytoreador.com

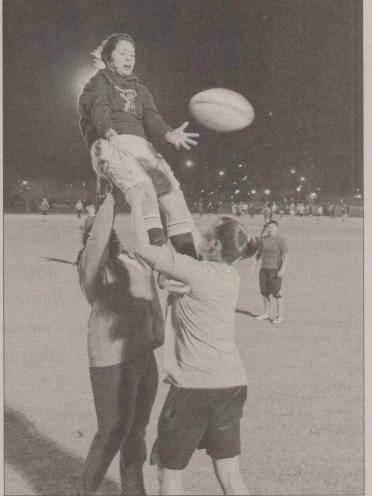


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

NKEONYE OKAFOR, A biomechanics graduate student from Houston, and Ashley Watson, a sophomore history major from Hawley, lift up Bianca Cervantes, a sophomore bilingual education major from San Antonio, as a part of the line-out exercise during practice for the Texas Tech Women's Rugby Club at the rugby fields Thursday. The line-out is used to put the ball back in play after it went out of bounds.

Downing CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Then another therapist, Claire, came

to help Downing.

Claire gave Downing a list of options, including tennis, golf, scuba diving and other physical activities to try. But there was only one thing Downing wanted more than anything — to ride a bike

To her surprise, Claire showed her a hand cycle and that is where Downing said her life picked back up again.

Claire and Downing rode out of the therapy room into the neighborhood on their hand cycles for a two-mile bike ride.

On January 26, 2000, Downing was discharged. She could not return to her house with all the stairs, so she had to move into a first floor condo. She moved in by herself, and that was when she realized how alone she was.

No doctors, no friends, no colleagues. All by herself.

She said she would look at the legs that use to power a bike and realized she would never be happy.

Then one day, Downing remembered something she learned in rehab. Being in a wheelchair was a lot like a sport — not the kind of sport you choose for yourself, but because of the physical awareness and mental toughness.

Downing said she realized if she started looking at her chair as a sport rather than something confining her, then the wheels underneath could set her free.

She called Claire and picked up where she had left off.

Downing wanted to participate in a triathlon. She traveled to Ft. Collins in Colorado with a support group, and even though she was usually the last one to complete the events, Downing ended up passing seven people on her hand cycle. When she crossed them, she raised her hands up in victory because she realized she was still an athlete. She changed many people's perceptions that day.

"In the morning they were seeing my disability," she said. "In the end, they realized my ability."

This was when Downing realized she could go as far as she wanted to go. She decided to take on the Ironman Challenge, a triathlon which consists of swimming 2.4 miles, biking 112 miles and running 26.2 miles.

She began intensive training before the event, and then attended a half-Ironman race in Lubbock at Ransom Canyon. She was the only woman there, which meant if she finished the race in eight hours, she would advance to the Ironman in Hawaii.

After five-and-a half-hours, Downing was exhausted. She kept breaking down and crying as she tried to push her way up the hills to finish the race. She passed the finish line in eight hours, 29 minutes and 46 seconds.

Downing thought she had failed, but she was wrong.

The judges had actually extended

the time to eight-and-a-half hours, so Downing had reached her goal with 14 seconds to spare.

Although she did not finish the race in Hawaii, Downing realized something important: there were not very many women in her position competing at

She began researching the reasons why, and discovered 82 percent of spinal cord injuries happen to be men.

With a group of friends, Downing

founded Camp Discovery, to bring fitness activities to women in chairs through sports. It is a support system for women in wheelchairs, with the motto "Redefining Able."

This slogan especially touched one audience member at Texas Tech named Ashley Alston, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from The Woodlands.

"That is amazing to me because you're redefining what you're able to do and not what people think you can do," she said.

This is Alston's first year with the Texas Tech Triathlon Team, and she ran her first race this past weekend. She said knowing Downing did an Ironman race with her arms exclusively will cause her to think twice about whining next time she is racing.

"I just want to do more races now," she

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can't believe that people are in doubt of people who are disabled."

Kelcie Silva, an outreach coordinator for Tech Activities Board, said she found Downing's speech very inspirational

"I enjoyed her story because it let people know that even if you go through bumps and challenges, you can still make

it through anything and accomplish your dreams," she said. Downing left the audience with these

words of advice: "We all have races to run and finish

lines to cross," she said. "Always look toward your finish line."

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President

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-Stetson Whetstone

-Stephany Wines

-John L. Hawley

Senator - Agriculture

-Mauricio Vázquez -Michelle Grefer -Haley Aydam -Tiffany Montemayor -Hayden Hatch -Landry Actkinson -Richard D. Wilborn -Emylee Dillard -Colin Davis -Cody Dieterich -Austin Walker -Dylan Lewis -Madison Sanders -Alex Biltz -Stephanie Acosta -Nadia Tishler -Alex Garcia -Morgan Britten -Tara McGee -Patrick Steed -Rebecca Martin -Jon Jones -Sindi Sanchez Senator - Grad School -Matthew Kidd -Terrance Rodrigues -Lakeiva Council -Macy Anderson -Rachel Graham -Peter G. Brady -Natalie Wilkinson -Lauren Coker -Taylor Steele -Jocelyn Owens Senator - VPA

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-Andrea Fraga -Haley Hutchens -Alicia Henson Senator - Law School -Ry Ellison

Senator - Architecture Senator - Rawls COBA -Laura Rivera-Padilla -Philip Augsburger -Alexandra English Senator - Honors -Erika Allen -Scott Stracener

BALLOT REFERENDUMS SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47.01

Currently the Executive Officers of the Student Government Association and the Members of the Student Senate who are impeached are not barred from running or being appointed to offices in the Senate or Executive Branch. The insertion of this rule into the Constitution of the Student Government Association will help ensure students protection from unqualified people in student government. This referendum is put forth as required by Article V. Section 2 of the Student Government Association Constitution.

Yes, I approve. No, I do not approve

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47.02

Currently, the Executive Officers of the Student Government Association are not required to work during the summer months, time for which they are paid and is vital for the execution of the duties of the offices to which these students were elected. This amendment to the Constitution of the Student Government Association would require all Executive Officers to maintain office hours throughout their entire year of service, including the summer months.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47.03

Currently, representatives in the Student Senate of the Texas Tech University Student Government Association are required to have a 2.0 grade point average. Executive Officers (President, External and Internal Vice Presidents) are only required to have a 2.25 grade point average. It is the opinion of the Student Senate that the grade point average requirements need to be changed from a 2.0 to a 2.5 for the Student Senate, and from a 2.25 to a 2.75 for the Executive Officers. Through this referendum students are being given the opportunity to enhance the standards of the Student Government Association and improve its current constitution.

Yes, I approve of the changes to the SGA Constitution which will change the current grade point average requirements.

No, I do not approve of the changes to the SGA Constitution which will leave the grade point averages as they are

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47.04

The Third Amendment of the Student Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Texas Tech University prohibits policies or rules that would establish or contribute to discrimination against the University community. Currently, the language in the Third Amendment only covers the areas of race, color, creed, and sex. This policy is now obsolete when compared to the non-discrimination policies of Texas Tech University, admission for any of the Texas institutions of higher education, federal government, state government, and local governments. If approved, this referendum will allow students to extend protections to match these existing policies in the following areas: race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, marital/familial status, and citizenship.

Yes, I approve of the changes to the Third Amendment. No, I do not approve of the changes to the Third Amendment



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OPINIONS

We need more tolerance Rethink gender

... it is

important we

figure out where

we stand and

what we believe.

arlier this week, I wasted dabout 25 minutes of my ✓ life watching a couple of videos featured on The Huffington Post's website. I don't usually mind a little bit of mindless cyber trash to fill my day, but what I saw really got to me.

As I clicked on the link, my screen pans to two young girls whom I assume can't be more than 16 years old. One seems to be of Latin descent and the other a "modern day" Caucasian. I say "modern day" because we all know that our genealogies are muddled with all different cultures and heritages, meaning the term Caucasian covers a wide spectrum of Americans today.

The main instigator and ring leader of this video seemed to be wearing characteristically "emo" garb, slang for gothic dressing practices, and the other girl seemed to just sit in the back giving strength to her queen bee. The girl in the background was a bit on the heavier side and wore glasses. I think the look of these girls is very important to this article.

I wasn't quite sure what I was getting myself into when I clicked on the video entitled "Racist White Teen Girls Goes On A Rant About Blacks." Soon, and many other issues. However, to be super careful with what I

Doughty

I realized I was about to witness one of the most racist rants I have ever heard.

These young girls played into every stereotype, said many things that are taboo in today's so-

ciety and gave straight-up false statistics of the African-American com-

I couldn't believe what I was watching — 14 minutes of these girls using derogatory terms and pitting their

African American "best friend" against other African Americans.

Of course, much of this goes on in today's society and many people stereotype and fall victim to slander of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation and very impressionable. I have

I think I was most shocked to say around her and make sure I hear it coming out of such young am keeping an open mind to my people's mouths.

It got me thinking about all the different influences on these two girls. Both come from such different backgrounds and fall into categories among high school students that would land them as targets to discrimination as well.

First, of course, are these young girls own insecurities, but that is the blatantly obvious and politically correct answer.

> I think the true problem lies with the parents, family members and friends of these girls. Mostly, I say the parents are to blame. These girls have probably grown up with jokes about minorities and

thinking that it was OK to put other people down.

Often, we, as adults, don't realize the things we say have an impact on younger generations. I have a niece that is 5 years old

surroundings because I want to teach her that the world is filled with all kinds of people.

Even college can be a process of finding oneself and beliefs. In Texas, we have a stigma of being highly conservative and "insidethe-box" thinkers. However, I think college students begin stepping out of their comfort zones and seeing the world as a bigger place than a small town or small group of friends with one view.

It is important that we, as a higher educational institute, start opening our minds and showing we are not discriminatory. Sooner or later, we will have children and we will be the ones instilling what we consider right and wrong in their minds

Scary thought, but it's the truth. And with a nation becoming more liberal on social issues, it is important we figure out where we stand and what we believe. However, having tolerance of all different types is vital for our society to succeed.

Doughty is a junior English major from Nederland.

» adoughty@dailytoreador.com

roles in society

The pressure put on women to be physically attractive is far greater than the stress put on

Think about it, if a man and a woman are both getting ready to go on a date, who is more likely to take longer? Of course, the obvious choice would be the

The woman isn't going to take longer because she is slow or vain. It's just the man has fewer expectations to adhere to. Women are happy if a man takes a shower.

While men are simply showering and putting on clothes women are expected to perform a laundry list of tasks before venturing out on a date. They are supposed to shave or wax their legs, wax their eye brows, get their hair done, take a shower, put on make-up, get dressed and top it all off by wearing heels.

Women are left with the inconvenience of looking like Toucan Sam when applying make-up and imposed stress on their calves when wearing heels. While women are killing their bodies and concealing their faces men get the luxury of just being themselves.

I strongly doubt that the world we live in would impose these types of pressures on men. It is even more doubtful that a man could be convinced to do these things, unless he, on his own, merit would like to.

Pardon my feminism showing but isn't this just another way of controlling women? It's so subtle that it goes unnoticed. I don't see men getting all dolled up to go to the grocery store.

But I also wonder who is media portrays are traps that many of us fall into. Women want to be this woman. Men want to be with this woman.

She doesn't exist. Women have to take the blame for some of what media puts out for consumption. If women weren't buying the magazine with the underweight woman on the front these images would no longer be pushed

Jaira Kevs



as the ideal because these magazines wouldn't sell.

These companies only give what the consumers want. Obviously consumers want fantasy. Consumers want women who are thin and airbrushed.

Perhaps you are even guilty of preferring to see touched-up images opposed to real, everyday women. Would you buy a magazine with the average woman on the cover? I never thought reality was so backward that we had to pretend in order to survive.

It is perfectly healthy to not always have an accurate depiction of one's self. However, it is crazy to believe that if you do a ten-day diet you will somehow get a body like whichever celebrity

They don't even look that way. Yes, they are probably in shape, but between being airbrushed, photo shopped and bundled up under their clothing, you can't be too sure that what you see is what you get.

It's great to want to look nice. The question is: for whom are you doing it? If you are getting dressed for a man or another woman perhaps that is the problem. If you get all dolled-up because it makes you feel good, well go right ahead with your bad self.

Sometimes we have to reconsider assigned gender roles and the expectations placed on us because of our sex. The world we live in is extremely progressive.

The ultimate progress would actually to blame. These ideas be to no longer have to place of the perfect woman that the everything into a box. It would be great to no longer describe things as female or male behavior but simply behavior.

Erase all definitions and allow everything to be undefined. Instead, let the individual define things for themselves.

Keys is a senior sociology major from Houston. » jaira.keys@ttu.edu

Santorum threatens Romney's credibility

If Romney loses

what's essentially

his home state,

he can't be taken

seriously as

a nominee.

By DYLAN R. MATTHEWS HARVARD CRIMSON (HARVARD U.)

Rick Santorum might defeat Mitt Romney in the Michigan primary next Tuesday. It's worth dwelling for a second on how insane this is.

Mitt Romney spent his entire precollege life in Michigan. He was born in Detroit and grew up in Bloomfield Hills. His father was first the Chief Executive Officer of American Motors, and as such a major public figure in the state, and then governor for a Santorum win

Republican politics, having run for Attorney General in 1998. And Romney won the state by nine points in 2008, despite John McCain having bested him in New Hampshire the previous week.

Michigan, along with Massachusetts and Utah (where he can count on heavy Mormon turnout), is one of date needs to enthe states that it just makes no sense for Romney to lose.

But as of this writing, the polls show Santorum beating Romney by an average of five points. The New York Times' Five Thirty Eight blog gives Santorum a 57 percent chance

I'm still in the camp that thinks a Santorum nomination is basically impossible. To nominate a candidate whose last election ended in a 20-point landslide loss as an incumbent would be an unprecedented act of electoral suicide.

Political scientists tell us that primaries are decided, ultimately, by

party elites, and I think the elites in question fear enough to stop it But I also agree with the anonymous GOP senator who's been telling reporters that if Romney loses Michigan, another canditer the race and

force a brokered convention.

ously as a nominee. That, too, would be a disaster

If Romney loses what's essentially

his home state, he can't be taken seri-

without much precedent, and it's

worth asking how the GOP got itself caught in this bind. Focusing on any one factor would be a mistake.

It's true that Romney just isn't a very exciting candidate, that Santorum is more charismatic, and that for socially conservative primary voters, the notoriously anti-gay and anti-birth control Santorum is more appealing than the man who once

told an LGBT newspaper that he'd be better than Ted Kennedy on gay and lesbian issues. But in Michi-

gan specifically, Santorum's relative success may owe to something stranger: he's running to Romney's left on economic issues. While both

Romney and Santorum opposed the auto industry bailout that saved Detroit's manufacturing sector, Santorum has taken issue with the fact that Romney supported the bank bailouts that happened around the same time.

"Governor Romney supported the bailout of Wall Street and decided not to support the bailout of Detroit," Santorum said. "My feeling was that we should not support—the government should not be involved in bailouts, period." The implication is clear: Romney will bail out big finance, but not auto workers. Santorum may not help anybody, but at least he doesn't treat the little guy worse.

Even more jarringly, Santorum has spoken enthusiastically about unions, saying, "I have no problem with private sector unions" and recalling his grandfather's membership in a coal miner's union.

In a way, this isn't too surprising.

Santorum, after all, spent two terms as a Senator from Pennsylvania, a state where unions have a substantial presence and where catering to industrial interests is the only way to get elected.

He voted against a national right-to-work law (which would ban union-only workplaces) and pushed repeatedly for tariffs and other unionbacked protectionist measures to help the U.S. steel industry.

And, more generally, Santorum represents a kind of Republican who should be anathema to libertarianleaning Tea Party types.

He backed all manner of major government programs in the Bush years, including the Medicare prescription drug benefit and No Child Left Behind. He was skeptical of free trade, voting against The North American Free Trade Agreement while a member of the House. He said he was "proud" of his

record of securing earmarks. When faced with a choice between endorsing fellow Senator Arlen Specterwho would five years later become a Democrat and support the stimulus and health care reform—and economically conservative Representative Patrick J. Toomey, Sr. in a Senate primary, he backed Specter.

Santorum was, in other words, everything wrong with Bush-era Republicanism, according to the prevailing narrative among Tea Partiers. Against a guy like Romney, who seems positively giddy when attacking unions or defending the rights of corporations, that should be a death sentence.

In fact, not only has it not killed Santorum so far, but it may also even be helping him in economically depressed and union-friendly Michigan. And if even Republican primary voters are responding well to a guy with that message, it could mean that the past two years' sharp right turn in economic policymaking is more of a blip than a realignment.

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Editor-in-Chief editor@dailytoreador.com

Managing Editor Brett Winegarner managing@dailytoreador.com

News Editor news@dailvtoreador.com

Kassidy Ketron features@dailytoreador.com **Opinions Editor**

Sports Contact

Photo Editor photo@dailytoreador.com

Electronic Media Editor Andrew Nepsund online@dailytoreador.com

Copy Editor Jennifer McKown **REACHING US**

Newsroom: 806-742-3393 Sports: 806-742-2939 **Advertising:** 806-742-3384 Classified: 806-742-3384 Business: 806-742-3388 Circulation: 806-742-3388 Fax: 806-742-2434 Email: dailytoreador@ttu.edu

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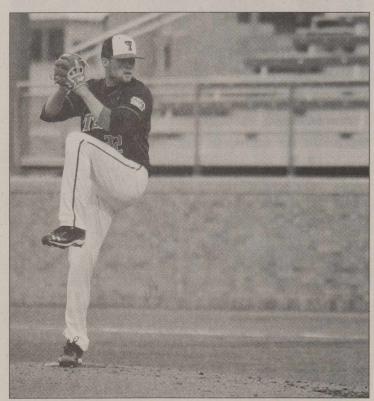
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Pitching duels highlight four-day tournament for Tech



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

The six-foot-eight inch Han-

sen has dominated batters during

the last two years with a blazing

fastball that registers in the mid

to upper 90s. According to Col-

lege Baseball Daily's 2012 Top

100 College Baseball Players

list Hansen ranked 14th, and he

proved why in his opening debut

Hansen scorched batters strik-

ing out nine of the 16 batters he

faced, while only giving up two

LeJeune said it is going to be fun

having such a solid team come

to Lubbock, and also to face a

come up here because they have

a lot of good pitching arms," he

said, "so that's what we've talked

about. Anybody that throws

above 90 — we love to face that.

It's something that gets us amped

he is facing both St. John's and

Northern Illinois — the other

team participating in the classic

— they are going to have a hard

general anxiety disorder, LeJeune

started the 2012 season on a tear

going 7-for-15 from the plate with

After leaving the team due to

time containing him.

If LeJeune does in fact per-

"We love to have good teams

Tech's first baseman Scott

hits and two runs.

potential first-rounder.

up a little bit.'

He may only have pitched four

TEXAS TECH PITCHER Shane Broyles gets ready to throw the ball during Texas Tech's 9-5 victory against Tennessee Tech at Rip Griffin Park on Saturday.

from there."

By BRETT WINEGARNER MANAGING EDITOR

The Texas Tech baseball team will face its toughest competition of this young season come Friday during the Brooks Wallace Memorial Classic.

This comes in the form of the No. 18 ranked St. John's Red Storm. St. John's started the season at No. 11, but fell seven spots down after two losses in innings and took the loss, but

three games. However, the Red Storm's ability to stay in the polls shows the quality of opponents they played against in their weekend opener as the two games they dropped where against Michigan State and Illinois. Both schools rank in the top of the Big 10 Conference.

Friday night will showcase the best of what both Tech and St. John's has, as both teams send their best starts out to the mound.

Tech head coach Dan Spencer said this is exactly what baseball at the collegiate level is all about.

"I think that Friday night in college baseball, that's what it's form better because of the teams supposed to be - two studs," he said. "We have a lot of respect for (Kyle) Hansen, but we really like our guy. So we're going to line up and play, and we want to win on Friday night and Duke's (von Schammann) our best guy at this point to ride out there and start a weekend with, so we'll go

two doubles and four RBIs.

Also, back on the mound, Tech won't be sending a slouch up to the mound to battle against Hansen. von Schammann will

be the Red Raiders' Friday starter for the secondstraight week after getting Tech off to fast start last weekend. In the season opener von Schammann went seven innings while only giving up one hit and allowing one unearned

run to score. He also struck out a career high eight batters.

Spencer said this is the kind of performance he would like out of his starters each time they head out to the mound.

"We'd like to say our starters are good enough and efficient enough to give us six and then let us get to the bullpen," he said. "Anything after that, especially this time of the year is icing on

This is exactly the kind of performance Spencer had last

JACK DANIEL

Jose Cuervo

Tito's.

Handmade

weekend as the first three starters that will help me out." for Tech opened the season by going at least seven innings for the first time since 1999. Daniel Coulombe was the Red Raider who

snapped the We have a lot of respect for (Kyle)

DAN SPENCER

like our guy.

Hansen, but

we really

HEAD COACH TEXAS TECH

streak, as he went just five and a third innings, but this was his first start back from Tommy John Surgery.

This weekend Coulombe will be bumped up from the fourth to second spot in the starting rotation. Shane Broyles

was the second man out for Tech last weekend and had an impressive game as he pitched seven and a third innings of six-hit ball while giving up four earned runs.

Broyles said he does not see the drop in the starting order as a bad thing, but rather as a better chance to prepare for his start at 1 p.m. Sunday against St. John's

"I think it's good that I can watch two games instead of one," he said. "I think I can read some more batters and see what our pitchers are doing, and I think

Broyles will be pitching against Sean Hagen, who had the best performance on the mound last weekend for the Red Storm by going six innings while giving up one lone hit and no runs.

Tech will also have to go up against Northern Illinois this weekend, as the Red Raiders will play the Huskies at 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Northern Illinois has started the season off on a bad note so far, as it opened up the season by getting swept by Tennessee in a three-game series.

The three teams will all be participating in the third-annual Brooks Wallace Classic Memorial, which is named for former

Red Raider Brooks Wallace, who died when he was 27 from leukemia.

Spencer said it was a good idea to name this tournament after Wallace because of the amount of people Wallace had strong relationships with when he was part of the Red Raiders.

"There's a lot of people at Texas Tech that knew Brooks or he impacted their lives — so for us to do that for him and his family, that's a no brainer," Spencer said, "and we'll stay with it."

Wallace's brother, Larry Wallace, will be throwing out the first pitch of the tournament Friday before Tech's game against St. John's.

>>> bwinegarner@dailytoreador.com

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle ACROSS 1 Woolly grazers 5 It follows John 9 Defunct Olympic sport 13 Dieter's snack? 16 On __with 17 Crop production toast? toast? 18 5'7" Spud who won an NBA Slam Dunk contest 19 Words before 19 Words before coming or out 20 Telegraph sound 21 Lover of Psyche 22 Artist's pad 25 Ability to detect a certain orientation 27 Not like at all 30 PLO part 32 Boxing statistic 33 Actress Thurman 34 Saint in red 36 Raised entrance area area 38 Ave. paralleling 38 Ave. paralleling Park 39 Useless footwear 41 Switz. neighbor 42 Soul 44 Waist-length jackets 45 Gray gp. 46 Stray chasers 48 Not own outright, with "on" 49 Pique 50 Debate choices 52 Piano sonatas, usually 2 "Take it easy!" 3 Goes astray 4 Declining from old age 5 Bavarian carp? 6 Friend of Fidel

7 Knotted 8 Mistletoe piece 9 Played with, in a

way
10 One giving pep
talks between
acts of
"Carmen"?

11 Maternity ward?

usually 54 It covers all the

57 Golden __ 61 Rice from New

55 Tuna of the

"Ghostbusters" auto
15 Relatively cool red giant
23 Fail in business
24 With 35-Down, fairs, and a hint to making sense of this puzzle's pairs of adjacent
10-letter answers Orleans 62 Buckaroo at sea? 65 It has banks in

65 It has banks in Germany and Poland 66 Dance and theater in Texas? 67 Red areas, once: Abbr. 68 Case workers, briefly 26 Acknowledgments 27 Pacific dance 28 Pews, at times? DOWN

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Tech track set to compete at Big 12 Indoor Championships

By MIKE GUTIERREZ STAFF WRITER

After one of the most competitive indoor schedules in school history, the Texas Tech track and field team is set to perform at the Big 12 Indoor Championships this weekend in College Station.

Tech enters the Big 12 Indoor Championships with nine athletes ranked in the Top 20 on the national indoor performance list in their respective events, including three in the Top 10.

Tech coach Wes Kittley said he is excited for the team to run against some of the best athletes in the country at this meet.

"Our conference is as tough as it gets," he said. "I think we're going to have a lot of personal bests. I told the kids in a meeting yesterday that this is a championship meet. I'm expecting really good performances out of both the men and the women."

The 2012 indoor schedule was intended to challenge the Tech track squad, Kittley said.

our kids in the position to compete against the best," he said. "We went to (Texas) A&M, we went to New York, Albuquerque and Arkansas all back-to-back. When we do go to this meet, there's going to be people we've seen all year. It's not going to be against anyone any better than we've run against, so I think that's going to make a differ-

Three Tech athletes to watch at this meet will be juniors Katie Grimes and Bryce Lamb, along with senior Kelly Closse.

Closse has earned her spot in the Tech record books, as she owns four of the top five marks in school history in the weight throw. Three of the marks were set this indoor season.

Grimes has been one of the most consistent athletes in her respective events this indoor season, Kittley said.

She has broken the school record in the 60M hurdles for three consecutive weeks in Tech's we're all working really hard."

"We've really tried to put previous three meets leading up to this weekend's championship

> Bryce recorded a jump of 26 3/4 in his first meet of the

> That mark currently ranks No. 3 on the national indoor list and is just outside the NCAA automatic qualifying mark.

Senior Jamele Mason said he is excited to see how the teams will perform this weekend.

"I think the women have a really good chance of winning conference," he said. "The guys are using this as a good preparation meet. Some of the best athletes will be at this meet that we'll see at the national level, so we're just trying to compete really well."

It is important to maintain a high level of focus at this point, Mason said.

"We're all focused," he said. "Around this time is when it gets a bit more serious. It's time to really go for it right now, so

With a chance to win a conference title, senior Terra Evans said she is excited to see if the women's team can go out and perform as well as she knows

"I think if everyone does what they have to do, we'll win the meet," she said.

With the departure of A&M from the conference at the end of the season, Evans said Tech is motivated to perform well at College Station.

"We're actually excited that we get one last chance to beat A&M," she said. "Hopefully we can beat them on their way out."

Although the schedule has been rigorous for Tech, Kittley said he thinks his athletes should have no problem giving it their all this weekend.

"It's really tough on us trying to do two championships in the spring," he said. "But, we're feeling really good that the kids are going to be rested and ready to go."

>>> mgutierrez@dailytoreador.com



TEXAS TECH'S RACHEL Folan, right, and Caitlin Waters, left, lead during the second lap of the women's 800 meter run. Waters and Folan placed first and third respectively in their heat.

Tech looks to build off first tournament win

It's the, I think,

third rated hardest

tournament in

GREG SANDS

HEAD COACH

TEXAS TECH MEN'S GOLF

the spring.

By CHOIS WOODMAN STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech men's golf coach Greg Sands does not feel like his team needs to change its approach when it competes in the Desert Invitational on Saturday and Sunday in Palm Springs, Calif.

The Red Raiders are coming off their first tournament victory of the season at the UTSA/Oak Hills Invitational in San Antonio and will be trying use the momentum from

the win, Sands said. "We'd like to keep some momentum," he said. "So I think we should try to just build upon what we've done successfully and work on those things that we've done well and try

In San Antonio, Tech freshman Clement Sordet surged to the top of the leaderboard to tie Baylor's

to continue and do those things."

Joakim Mikkelsen, but lost to Mikkelsen in a three-hole sudden death

of his best golf

of the season. "It seems like he's playing well still," he said. "You never know, it's golf. It changes so quickly, but he's been playing so well. I certainly hope he can keep it up. He's been

playing really consistent — I think he's play-

ing with more confidence, so I think he's going to play well again." Along with Sordet, Finley Ew-

ing IV, Logan McCracken, Matias Dominguez and Esteban Restrepo will be the five players representing Sands said Soedet is playing some the Red Raiders at the tournament. Sands said

the Red Raiders have never participated in the Desert Invitational. Addition-

ally, Sands said the tournament will boast some of the best competition in the nation. "It's the, I

think, third rated hardest tournament in the spring," Sands

said, "so we've certainly got our work cut out for us. There's 24

compared to a 15-team field or an 18-team field."

The team is unfamiliar with the course they will be playing at,

"It's a quality golf course," Sands said, "but as far as the details we don't know too much about it."

If the Red Raiders go into the tournament with the mindset a winning mindset, he said they will have a chance to be in contention.

'We're still facing some teams that have had a little bit better fall than we have," Sands said. "We feel like that so far we've had a good spring, and we've got to build upon what we've been doing. We're trying not to worry about where we're going to play, although, we do have a goal to try and get in contention to win every tournament."

>>> cwoodman@dailytoreador.com

Tiger Woods eliminated by Nick Watney

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — The roar resonated across Dove Mountain from fans packed around the 18th green as Tiger Woods, needing a birdie on the last hole to stay in his match, hit a shot that dropped out of the Arizona sky and landed 5 feet from the hole.

That was followed by silence. Woods missed the putt so badly that it never even touched the hole.

No one was more surprised than Nick Watney, who removed his cap to shake hands with Woods after a 1-up victory Thursday in the Match Play Championship. It was the third straight time in this fickle event that Woods failed to get out of the second round, and it raised more questions about his ability to make key putts that once seemed so automatic.

"I was fighting the blocks all

day with my putter," said Woods, who missed three putts inside 10 feet on the last six holes. "Left-toright putt, I took it slightly shut right there, and I knew it - and blocked it open.'

Watney was so sure that Woods would square the match that he already had his yardage book out, checking the hole location on the first green (the 19th hole of their match), trying to decide if 3-wood was the right club off the tee.

"The old adage is to expect your opponent to make it," Watney said. "And when it's Tiger Woods, you really expect him to make it.'

Just not this Tiger Woods.

"I didn't miss a single shot coming in, which is good. And that was fun, to hit the ball that well," Woods said. "Unfortunately, I just didn't make a putt

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Pitcher Yu Darvish gets going at last with Rangers

Darvish's best go at "y'all."

"Some Texas twang, any type of slang," said fellow starter Colby Lewis, who spent time pitching in Japan in the opposite division as Darvish. "He'll have fun. It's going to be good."

Give him a little time, gang. Darvish most certainly would prefer to show off his powerful arm and remarkable athletic abilities before he delves into learning the lingo of the Lone Star State or belting out "Deep in the Heart of Texas.'

Darvish, with his shaggy, orangetinted hair and a dark goatee, pulled a blue long-sleeved Rangers workout shirt over his head Thursday and chatted up teammate Justin Miller as nearly everybody in the clubhouse eagerly watched.

"It's definitely not normal," Darvish said. "Even now, am I the type of player who should get all this attention? I still don't know."

At 6-foot-5, he's quite a presence even before considering that the Rangers spent more than \$107 million this winter to land him.

Texas will be dealing with its share of "Yusanity."

"I guess this comes with success and all that," manager Ron Washington said Thursday, before taking the field to watch Darvish himself. "People are interested in the Texas Rangers so I guess we just have to deal with it."

The team's prize offseason pickup looked plenty comfortable in his new surroundings on the first day for pitchers and catchers at Surprise Stadium, where dozens of Japanese reporters arrived early to record the right-hander's every move.

No question his fame reaches cult status. And Darvish seems unfazed by it all.

"Even in Japan, yes, these things happen and I'm used to it. I'm not surprised," Darvish said. "Even in Japan there's a lot of attention on the baseball side. Away (from the field), just as a professional athlete with some type of status, there are some people who try to get into my private life. I don't let those things worry me."

Fans lined the area around the bullpen to catch a glimpse and autograph hounds were relentless in their efforts, swarming until a claustrophobic circle formed around the pitcher as

Texas Rangers would love to hear Yu received a police escort between of attention, so to him this is normal." practice fields.

"I directed traffic," joked pitching coach Mike Maddux. "It's a little postseason pandemonium here in spring training. A lot of guys are well known. Sometimes you run into somebody who's famous. That's what we're dealing with, someone who's famous."

Texas personnel provided-a detailed schedule for the star Japanese pitcher's highly anticipated first day: from when and where he would stretch and warm up to his first fundamental drill and then his initial bullpen session.

Darvish threw for five minutes in the bullpen followed by five minutes on the mound against live hitters, throwing 19 pitches during that session against a pair of minor leaguers — tossing an array of fastballs to both sides of the plate, sliders, curveballs, change-ups and even one split-finger.

"Actually I don't even know how many pitches I throw," Darvish said. "I think a lot of people in this room have an idea of how many pitches I throw."

Darvish demonstrated his wit and personality for a news conference of an estimated 130 people.

What does he like about his new

"A lot of organic food. I can go to restaurants and not be recognized," he said. "I like everything about the United States."

Catcher Mike Napoli asked to catch Darvish on Day 1, when slugger Josh Hamilton also was out on the field and signing autographs.

"I'm just excited to get the chance to see him pitch for the first time aside from the footage on ESPN," new Rangers reliever Joe Nathan said. "His work ethic seems to be outstanding. We had a chance to talk yesterday. He enjoys getting in the weight room as much as he enjoys pitching. That will help him pitch a long time and he should adjust a lot quicker."

Darvish's father, Farsad, is in the Arizona desert to help his son through that process. The baseball part of Darvish's life will take care of itself, his father said.

"He seems to be doing OK," the elder Darvish said. "I don't really talk to him about his baseball career. That he gets adjusted and used to the culture is my concern. He's been in

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — The he wrapped up his work day. Darvish the big leagues in Japan and gets a lot

The two-time reigning AL champion Rangers don't envision communication problems with the 25-yearold Darvish, and Washington has no plans to learn Japanese — for one, he doesn't see it fitting it into his already hectic spring schedule.

"I don't want to trash the language," Washington quipped. "I'll use my universal baseball language. I trash the English language."

Washington won't say what day Darvish will first pitch in Cactus League action or guess how many wins he will earn as a rookie. There will be huge expectations given he signed a \$56 million, six-year contract and the Rangers paid his Japanese club \$51.7 million just to have the chance to acquire him.

"I think we're all excited about seeing him throw, watching him do his work," Rangers president and CEO Nolan Rvan said. "I think watching video on him I have an expectation of what he's going to be like so I don't think it's going to be really much different from what I've seen in the videos of him. But you know just seeing his delivery, watching him from different angles and that kind of stuff. Obviously everybody that's been involved in this process is anxious to see that.'

When asked about working for Ryan and being coached by Greg Maddux this spring, Darvish said: "Those two people, I feel a little hesitant to approach them. If they come to me with advice I'll be very grateful."

The brass lined up behind the fence to observe Darvish's initial session. He impressed all right — and he was only going at 80 percent according to Napoli and the pitching coaches. When he faced top prospect Jurickson Profar and Ryan Strausborger the protective L screen stood right in front of the mound as a precaution.

Napoli gave Darvish a high-five and a hug after they were done.

Seattle resident and Mariners fan David Duggan showed up Thursday with Darvish's World Baseball Classic jersey hoping to get it signed for his 20-month-old daughter, Hannah.

"When Ichiro came I didn't realize the magnitude of it," Duggan said. "This could be like Ichiro mania or Dice-K mania."