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## Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison visits Tech community

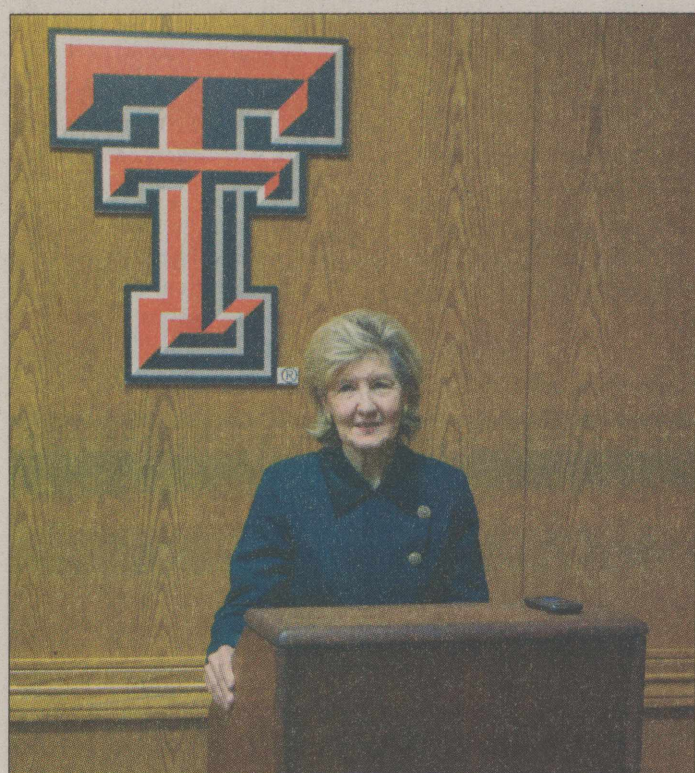


PHOTO BY LAUREN PAPE/ The Daily Toreador  
SEN. KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON (R) speaks at a news conference following a luncheon at the International Culture Center on Thursday.

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 the Senate.

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 we have cut too much from education 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 Leppert.

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

>>>schandler@dailytoreador.com

## IRON WILL



PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/ The Daily Toreador  
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 cyclist. 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

Denver, and headed downtown and then west to Lookout Mountain.

During the trip, when Downing stopped at a bar along the way to fill her 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 back home.

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

horror, did not see anything at all as the 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 walk again.

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

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

scapula and one vertebra in her neck. She had to spend three-and-a-half weeks 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 doesn't mean your life is over."

DOWNING continued on Page 3 >>>

## 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

College of Architecture. "The intention 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

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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## 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 Engineering  
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 tasks.

**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

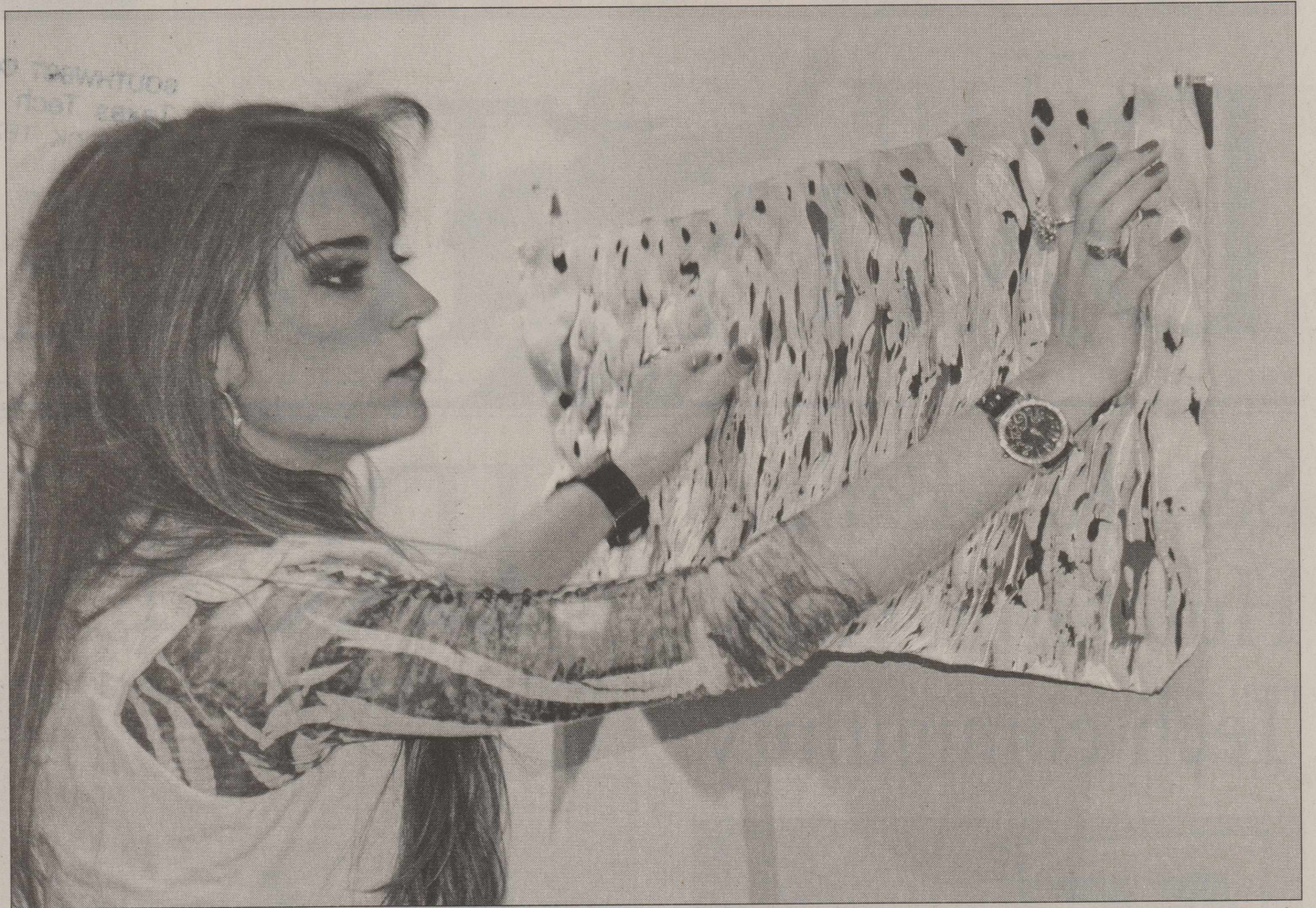
### SUNDAY

**Talk by Suzanne Aker about "Painting Icons"**  
Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
Where: Museum of Texas Tech  
Enjoy a lecture from Suzanne Aker about "Painting Icons."  
**Zumba: Feed Your Body and Soul Week**  
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](mailto: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.

## PICTURE PERFECT



KRISTY SCALES, A senior painting major from Bandera, hangs up her painting for her senior art exhibit in the Landmark Arts Gallery on Thursday. PHOTO BY ASHLEY RATCLIFFE/The Daily Toreador

## Symposium

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lessons from "Spatial Cognition Research on Evidence-Based Architecture," "Self-Generating Territories" and "Beyond Bebop" are some examples of the research projects.

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 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

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 Haq'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 territories.

"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."

A lot of that research has come from Nesbit's indepen-

dent professional work.

"I have a firm called Haecceitas 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 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 jazz music influences his architecture.

"A lot of this is based on notions of jazz and mostly improvisation," he said.

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 architecture.

"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" faculty symposium will be hosted Saturday in the College of Architecture Gallery, room 101A.

»nmlter@dailytoreador.com

## Blotter: Non-student detained in main library

Wednesday

7:58 a.m. — A Texas Tech officer investigated criminal mischief in the B3 parking lot 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 property and released.

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

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

## 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 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 billion 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 contrast with his GOP challengers and made a pointed reference to

what he suggested was Republican 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 "all-of-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 exporting more petroleum products than it imports.

Today's

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	8			2 9	
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9	1 2				
8 6 5					3
1 3			7		
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Puzzles by PageFiller

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

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
6	7	2	3	9	5	1	8	4

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

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## Women's rugby team makes an impact

By 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 rush."

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.

Cybby 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 it's 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 for the season.

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

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

"It was great seeing our progress," she said. "It was amazing 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.

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

people who had never played a sport in their life, but they came 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 bruises."

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 Tech.

"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

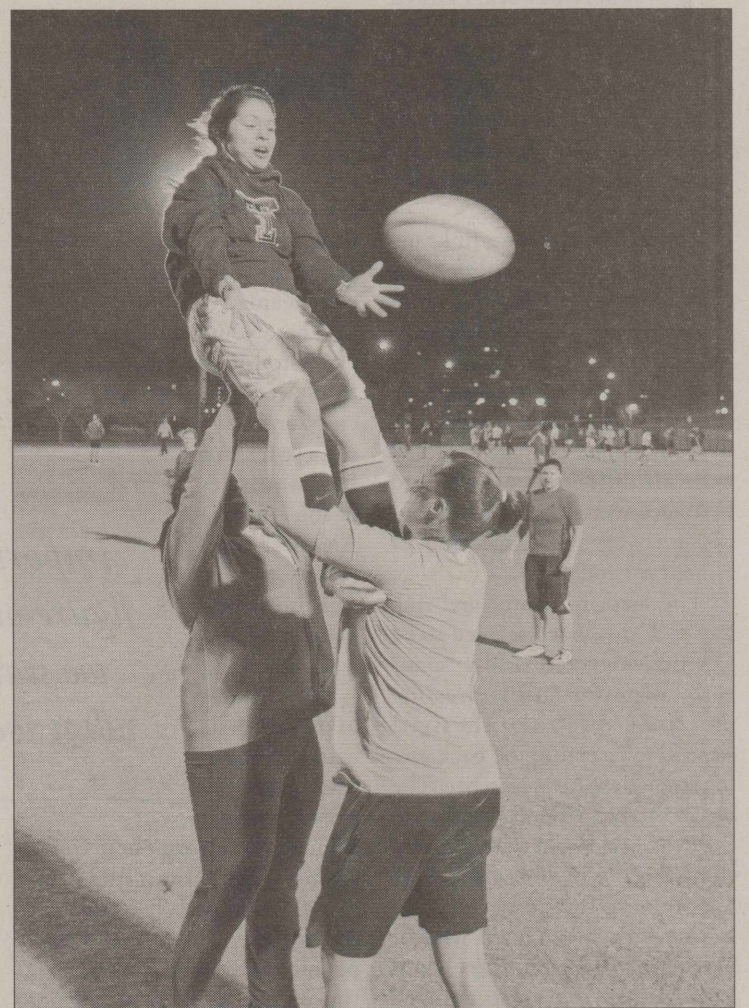


PHOTO BY BRAD TOLLEFSON/The Daily Toreador

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 again.

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 the races.

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.

### 2012 SGA General Elections Ballot

<b>President</b> -Zach West -Alex Alston	<b>Senator - Arts &amp; Sciences</b> -Mauricio Vázquez -Michelle Grefer -Haley Aydam -Tiffany Montemayor -Hayden Hatch -Landry Ackinson -Richard D. Wilborn -Emylee Dillard -Colin Davis -Cody Dieterich -Austin Walker -Dylan Lewis -Madison Sanders -Alex Blitz -Stephanie Acosta -Nadia Tishler -Alex Garcia -Morgan Britten -Tara McGee -Patrick Steed -Rebecca Martin -Jon Jones -Sindi Sanchez	<b>Senator - Engineering</b> -Kash Andersen -Austen Sokolnik -Brian Nieckula -Tyler McGuire -Clint Wells -Matt Pippen -Amir Ravassipour -Logan Dickenson -Ryan McGuire -David Polcari -Jeffery Tew -Tanner Shipp
<b>External VP</b> -Alexis King -Reed Young	<b>Senator - Architecture</b> -Grant Guest	<b>Senator - Rawls COBA</b> -Luke Cotton -Morgan Kinloch -Graham Trull -Colleen Bradley -John Myers -Blake Hoffman -Stuart Blitz -Alex Cabrera -Ashley Thompson -Jill Berger -Keith Scioli -Joseph Jarke -Pearce Martens -Megan McCoy -Marshal Trainer -Alana Zimmerman -Ryan Doyle -Victoria Tarango -Sydney Butler -Laura Rivera-Padilla -Taylor Frank -Brayden Rose -Philip Augsburg -Dale Usery -Alexandra English
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<b>Senator - Agriculture</b> -Stephany Wines -John L. Hawley	<b>Senator - Law School</b> -Ry Ellison	

### 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.

Yes, Executive Officers should be required to fulfill the duties of their office throughout the entire year.  
No, Executive Officers should not have to fulfill their duties year-round.

#### 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 currently written.

#### 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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# 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.

"We've really tried to put 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 difference."

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

previous three meets leading up to this weekend's championship meet.

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

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 we're all working really hard."

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 it can.

"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."

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FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador  
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

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 to 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 to continue and do those things."

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

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

Sands said Soedet is playing some 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 playing 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 the Red Raiders at the tournament.

Sands said the Red Raiders have never participated in the Desert Invitational.

Additionally, 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

*"It's the, I think, third rated hardest tournament in the spring."*

GREG SANDS  
HEAD COACH  
TEXAS TECH MEN'S GOLF

## 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-to-right 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 when I needed it."

## Pitcher Yu Darvish gets going at last with Rangers

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — The Texas Rangers would love to hear Yu 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, orange-tinted 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

he wrapped up his work day. Darvish received a police escort between practice fields.

"I directed traffic," joked pitching coach Mike Maddux. "It's a little post-season 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 home?

"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

the big leagues in Japan and gets a lot of attention, so to him this is normal."

The two-time reigning AL champion Rangers don't envision communication problems with the 25-year-old 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 Ryan 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."

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