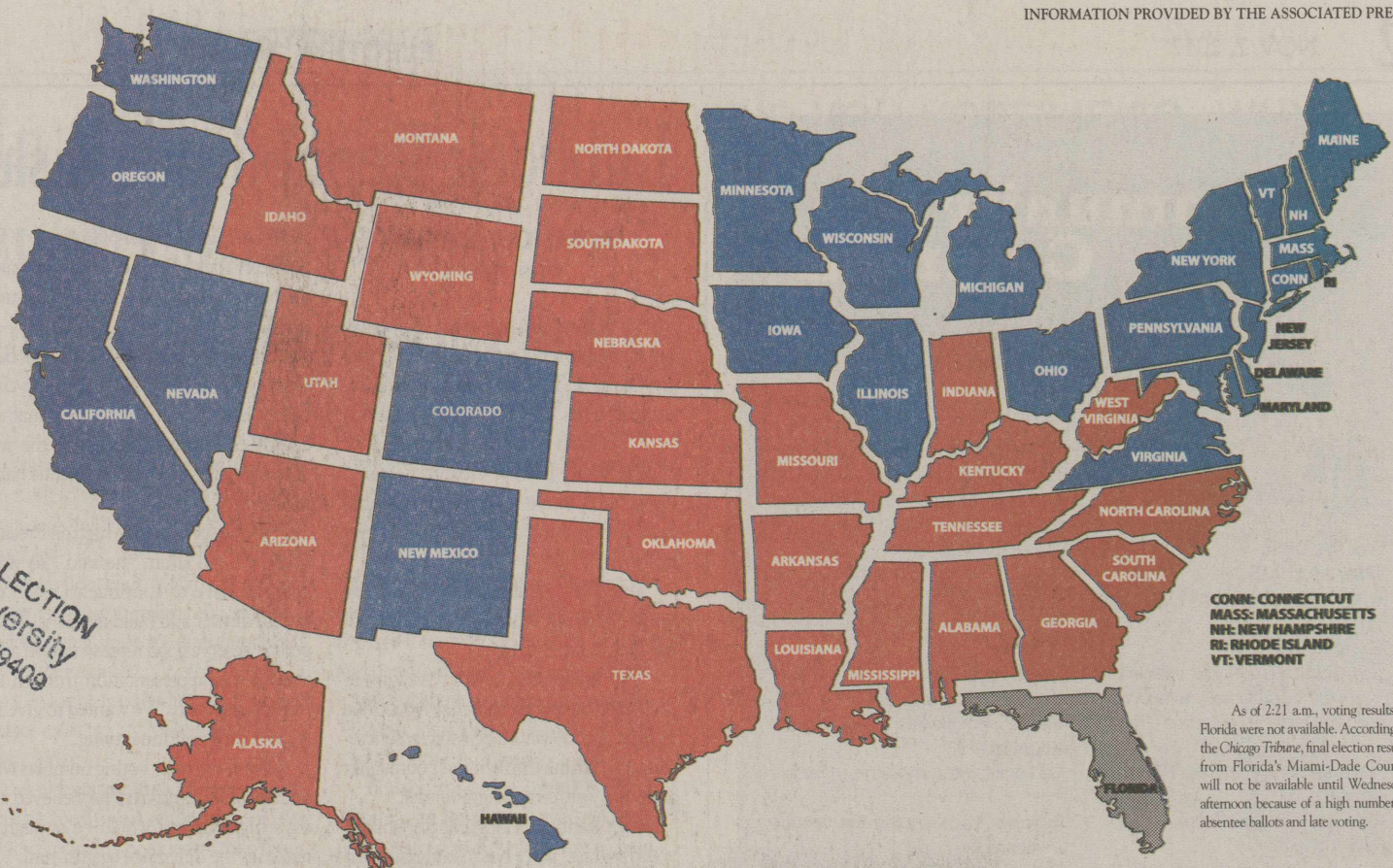


# THE DT

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7, 2012 VOLUME 87 ■ ISSUE 52  
SPECIAL ELECTION 2012 EDITION

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

# FOUR MORE YEARS



CONN: CONNECTICUT  
MASS: MASSACHUSETTS  
NH: NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RI: RHODE ISLAND  
VT: VERMONT

As of 2:21 a.m., voting results in Florida were not available. According to the Chicago Tribune, final election results from Florida's Miami-Dade County will not be available until Wednesday afternoon because of a high number of absentee ballots and late voting.

“ Tonight in this election, you, the American people, reminded us that while our road has been hard, while our journey has been long, we have picked ourselves up, we have fought our way back, and we know in our hearts that for the United States of America, the best is yet to come. ”

— PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama rolled to re-election Tuesday night, vanquishing former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney despite a weak economy that plagued his first term and put a crimp in the middle class dreams of millions. In victory, he confidently promised better days ahead.

Obama spoke to thousands of cheering supporters in his hometown of Chicago, praising Romney and declaring his optimism for the next four years. “While our road has been hard, though our journey has been long, we have picked ourselves up, we have fought our way back and we know in our hearts that for the United States of America, the best is yet to come,” he said. Romney made his own graceful concession speech before a disappointed crowd in Boston. He summoned all Americans to pray for Obama and urged the night’s political winners to put partisan bickering aside and “reach across the aisle” to tackle the nation’s problems.

Still, after the costliest — and one of the nastiest — campaigns in history, divided government was alive and well.

Democrats retained control of the Senate with surprising ease.

Republicans did the same in the House, ensuring that Speaker John Boehner of Ohio, Obama’s partner in unsuccessful deficit talks, would reclaim his seat at the bargaining table.

At Obama headquarters in Chicago, a huge crowd gathered waving small American flags and cheering. Supporters hugged each other, danced and pumped their fists in the air. Excited crowds also gathered in New York’s Times Square, at Faneuil Hall in Boston and near the White House in Washington, drivers joyfully honking as they passed by.

With returns from 84 percent of the nation’s precincts, Obama had 53.7 million, 49.6 percent of the popular vote. Romney had 53 million, or 48.9 percent.

The president’s laserlike focus on the battleground states allowed him to run up a 303-206 margin in the competition for the 270 electoral votes needed to win the White House, the count that mattered most. Remarkably, given the sour economy, he lost only two states that he captured in 2008, Indiana and North Carolina.

Florida, another Obama state four years ago, remained too close to call.

The election emerged as a choice between two very different visions of government — whether it occupies a major,

front-row place in American lives or is in the background as a less-obtrusive facilitator for private enterprise and entrepreneurship.

The economy was rated the top issue by about 60 percent of voters surveyed as they left their polling places. But more said former President George W. Bush bore responsibility for current circumstances than Obama did after nearly four years in office.

That boded well for the president, who had worked to turn the election into a choice between his proposals and Romney’s, rather than a simple referendum on the economy during his time in the White House.

Unemployment stood at 7.9 percent on Election Day, higher than when he took office. And despite signs of progress, the economy is still struggling after the worst recession in history.

Obama captured Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Virginia, New Hampshire, Colorado and Nevada, seven of the nine states where the rivals and their allies poured nearly \$1 billion into dueling television commercials.

Romney won North Carolina among the battleground states.

Florida was too close to call, Obama leading narrowly in a state where there were still long lines of voters at some polling places long after the appointed closing time.

Romney, who grew wealthy in business and ran the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City before entering politics, spoke only briefly to supporters, some of whom wept.

“I so wish that I had been able to fulfill your hopes to lead the country in a different direction,” he said. “But the nation chose another leader and so Ann and I join with you to earnestly pray for him and for this great nation.”

Moments later, Obama stepped before a far different crowd hundreds of miles away.

“Tonight you voted for action, not politics as usual,” he said. He pledged to work with leaders of both parties to help the nation complete its recovery from the worst recession since the Great Depression.

By any description, the list of challenges is daunting — high unemployment, a slow-growth economy, soaring deficits, a national debt at unsustainable. To say nothing of the threat of a nuclear Iran and the menace of al-Qaida and other terrorist groups more than a decade after the attacks of Sept., 11, 2001.

There was no doubt about what drove voters to one candidate or the other.

About 4 in 10 said the economy is on the mend, but more than that said it was stagnant or getting worse more than four years after the near-collapse of 2008. The survey was conducted for The Associated Press and a group of television networks.

In the battle for the Senate, Elizabeth Warren turned Republican Scott Brown out of office in Massachusetts, and Rep. Joe Donnelly captured a seat from GOP hands in Indiana.

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## Community Calendar

### Today

**Free Car Clinic**  
Time: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Where: Commuter West C17 Parking Lot  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and have your vehicle's fluids, belts and other basics checked for free. Also, enter to win a free ePermit.

**Texas Tech Volleyball vs. TCU**  
Time: 6 p.m.  
Where: United Spirit Arena  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and support the Red Raiders play against the Horned Frogs.

**Trombone Ensemble Concert**  
Time: 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and enjoy a free concert from the Trombone Ensemble.

**Scrabble Club**  
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Where: Market Street  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and meet with the local Scrabble Club. All levels of competition are welcome.

**Texas Tech Greek Chess Challenge**  
Time: 2:15 p.m.  
Where: East of the Student Union Building, 15th Street and Akron Avenue  
**So, what is it?**

Come out and watch Tech's chess team's head coach Alex Onischuk compete against about 20 fraternity representatives simultaneously in games of chess.

### Thursday

**Composers Forum Concert**  
Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Where: Hemmle Recital Hall  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and enjoy this free concert.

**Just Not Yet: dodging the vacuum of meaning**  
Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Where: Landmark Arts at the Texas Tech School of Art  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out and view 21 artists' work from Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

**Thursday Nights at the Art Factory**  
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Where: Lubbock Municipal Garden and Arts Center  
**So, what is it?**  
Come out for a new and challenging fine arts project. \$20 every Thursday.

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.

# Lubbock Republicans disappointed by local, U.S. races

By CAITLAN OSBORN  
STAFF WRITER

More than 100 Lubbock County Republicans gathered at the Hillcrest Country Club on Tuesday night waiting for exciting news, only to be disappointed by both local and national election results.

President Barack Obama defeated Gov. Mitt Romney for the presidential race, after gaining crucial electoral votes from Ohio.

Jane May, a Lubbock voter, said the results were not what she expected, but the fight is far from over.

"I'm disappointed, but I have faith in the American people that they'll continue to fight and do what's best for America," she said. "I think the fight just got tougher and we'll just have to fight harder."

Tony Renteria, a longtime Republican voter, said the party has made significant strides for the country, despite some setbacks.

"Of course, I'm strongly for Romney," he said, "but it's scary. It really is. The path that we're going down is a path where we're going to internally combust if (Obama) doesn't change directions. I hope he changes directions and tries to work better with the two houses of Congress."

"I just hope, regardless of who the president is, that people can work together and No. 1, re-strengthen our military, two, rebuild the economy, and three, rebuild the country as far as in us working together rather than so far apart. I think right now people want a change because we need a change and I think that a conservative approach is very necessary in the staggering economy we have."

Beside the presidential race, Lubbock County Republicans eagerly awaited the results from Precinct 3, which traditionally votes for Democratic candidates.

Republican Ysidro Gutierrez lost to Democrat Lorenzo "Bubba" Sedeño for

County Commissioner of Precinct 3. Republican Ricky Wallace also lost against Democrat Marina Garcia for constable of Precinct 3.

Carl Tepper, chairman of the Lubbock County Republican Party, said the city's conservatives are a strong group that will continue to make an impact on the area, although it has been in Democratic hands for a while.

"We've set our sights high on Precinct 3 and we fell short," he said, "so we're going to have to continue to reach out to that district and build relations. Those people deserve good representation and I think better representation through the Republican Party. We wanted to give it a try and we'll continue trying."

When the early voting numbers were released, Gutierrez said he believed the day's high turnout would be enough to make up the difference against him.

After the final numbers, he said he still believes he is the best candidate for County Commissioner.

"This is a Democratic precinct," Gutierrez said. "I'm a Republican candidate. I just want to remind everybody that the Democratic Party in Lubbock County is not a group of people we will negotiate with."

Republican Randy Neugebauer, the current Representative from District 19, said he was confident of his win against his Libertarian opponent, Richard "Chip" Peterson.

"The 19th Congressional District is probably one of the more conservative districts in the country," he said. "Day in and day out, and year after year, I'm one of the most conservative members of the United States Congress. My voting record, I think, is very much in line with the values of the people of this district, and I've kept my promise."

"I told them when I was first elected that when I said something, my voting record would support that. So, I think just



PHOTO BY DAVID VAUGHN/The Daily Toreador.

FRANK MORRISON the general manager of Lubbock's Tent City promotes the purchase of T-shirts at the Republican watch party Tuesday at the Hillcrest Country Club.

that (it's) the fact that I've worked very hard for the people of the district and my voting record reflects that I've kept my promise to them."

Tepper said he is thankful for the amount of support from conservatives across the board.

"It's been a great year," he said. "I've only been doing this job for about six months now, and I can't believe the outpouring of support we've had, and the unity. We'll keep fighting no matter what happens with this presidential race."

"This country's too important to let down just because we lose a presidential race or two, or a County Commissioner, or constable's race or two. This is for the long haul. This country is way too valuable to let go just because of a couple of defeats of an election cycle."

Irene Howell, executive director for Lubbock County Republicans, said she was dissatisfied by the turn of events.

"I'm very disappointed in our local

races," she said. "We had great hopes to take that other seat on the commissioner's court and the constable. I think they worked hard and gave it their best shot and we can't be disappointed in their effort and the result."

She is not happy with voters choosing to continue Obama's presidency, Howell said, but remains hopeful things will change one day.

"I think he's been a very disappointing president and his leadership for our country has not been very good for a lot of us," she said. "I'm at the age where I'd like to see changes in the health care and I'm concerned about where we're headed."

"I'm just thinking that we have unbelievable debt and his plans are just going to make it that much worse. So for the younger generation, it's going to be very hard to overcome that. But, we go on and we'll make the best of the situation."

» [cosborn@dailytoreador.com](mailto:cosborn@dailytoreador.com)

## Correction

In Monday's edition of *The Daily Toreador*, in the article "Lubbock preps for state, county elections," it should have read "Mr. Sadler" in the quote. *The DT* regrets this error.

# Lubbock Democrats celebrate Obama's victory in 2012 Presidential Election

By MATT DOTRAY  
STAFF WRITER

Election night ended with hugs and dance moves at the Lubbock Democratic watch party after Barack Obama was named the 45th President of the United

States on Tuesday. With lights flashing and music echoing throughout the ballroom, Lubbock Democrats cheered along with every state projecting the elections of Democratic members to Congress, and projections of the re-election of Barack

Obama. But, the night did not start off with cheers. While the votes were being counted, nerves and emotions ran high for Democratic voters at the Historic Baker Building. Before any electoral votes were

decided, Jim Barrick, Ph.D., adviser for the Texas Tech Student Democrats, said he expected Obama to win re-election and the Democrats to retain the majority of Senate seats.

This is not just an important election for the president, Barrick said, but also an important election for the members of Congress.

"The president has very limited power," Barrick said in reference to the economy. "More questions are what Congress needs to do. So far, Congress has decided to do nothing."

Despite the Democrats' incentive to retain control of the U.S. House of Representatives, he said, the Democrats did not have a candidate running against Republican Randy Neugebauer, the current Representative from District 19, because Neugebauer is well-funded and has a strong report in an overwhelmingly Republican district.

"It would take a hell of a Democratic," he said. "He would have to be well-known and well-financed to do it. It's too much of a long-shot right now."

In reference to the economy, the most discussed issue throughout the debates, Barrick said he believes the president has been digging the United States' economy out of a deep hole, and considering the mess Obama started with, he has done pretty well and deserves to get re-elected.

Eric Strong, a Democratic supporter at the watch party, said he was optimistic about the re-election of Obama before the watch party started.

Although he said he did not want to jinx the Democratic Party with any predictions, a second term would add to the legacy of the president.

Strong said he was trying to stay optimistic no matter what happens in the elections.

"It's such a great country to where

whoever wins, it'll be all right," Strong said. "I hope there is not too much controversy tied to the victory. We live in a country where it's going to be all right. We have a good system in place."

As the night grew longer, the Democrats attending the watch party began to get louder and more excited with every electoral vote.

Following the confirmation of California, a state with 55 electoral votes, as a blue state, Lubbock Democrats began to get very excited. The addition of California gave the president more than 200 electoral votes, and Obama only needed a few more swing states to seal a second term.

"I think we're looking really good, my friend," Tiger Pratt, a Lubbock Democrat, said. "Of course, we still need Ohio, but I think we're going to get it. I think it's going to swing that way, I really do. With all my heart, I think it's going to swing that way."

Another four years for Obama would give people everything they were expecting during his first four years, Pratt said.

His original visions of the right investments for the country to grow and create jobs will happen during Obama's second term, he said.

Then, as hope and anxiety in the room was reaching its height, the news confirming the re-election of Obama appeared on the projector at about 10:15 p.m. Obama gained the 270 electoral votes needed for a second term.

Amidst the excitement and the song, "Celebrate Good Times," those in attendance began chanting, "Four more years."

"It's huge," Jordan Marks, a Democrat in Lubbock, said. "It a big deal. It shows that the people want to give him a chance to do what he set out to do and actually see where he takes the country. It shows that (voters) have faith in him."

Marks said he wants to see the president reduce the deficit, help middle-class families and help college students with grants.

Only minutes after the news of Obama's victory became known, the news of the Democratic control of the Senate caused more celebration.

Democrats' control of the Senate is crucial for the president, Marks said, because it is essential for the plans Obama wants to put in place.

Kenny Ketter, Lubbock's Democratic Party chairman, said he feels very good about his first election as chairman. He said the Lubbock Democrats have been very active during the elections.

"I think the best gift Lubbock can get is a real two-party system in Lubbock County," Ketter said. "We're going to be a growing party. We have our sights set on 2014. We're going to win a lot more local races."

In addition to the election of Obama, Ketter said the Lubbock Democrats also are excited about Lorenzo "Bubba" Sedeño, a Democrat who won the Precinct 3 seat on Lubbock County's Commissioner's Court.

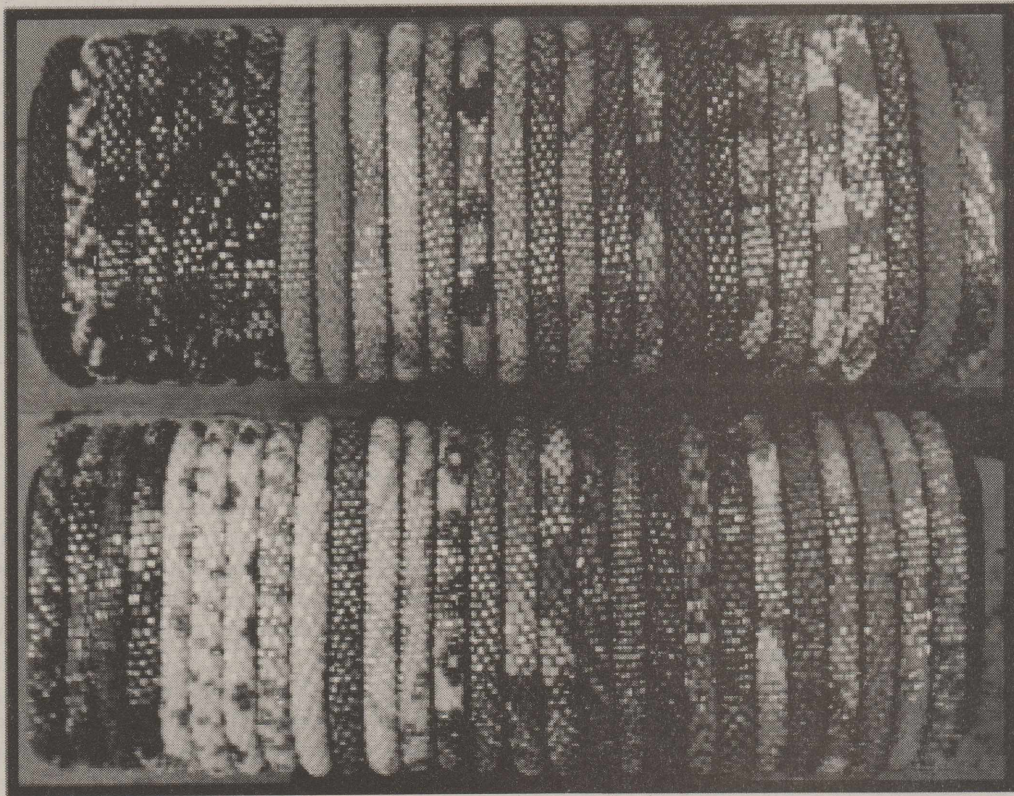
Sedeño was the only Democrat to run in the local elections, he said.

His campaign is about being a voice for the people, Ketter said.

"The citizens in Precinct 3 have felt like they have been missing their voice in the courthouse," he said. "So, he's going to be responding to their needs and wishes and taking that to the Commissioner's Court."

Obama won the election with 303 electoral votes, not counting Florida. Other winners include Republican Ted Cruz, who won a seat in the U.S. Senate, and Republican Neugebauer, who will represent Lubbock in the U.S. House of Representatives.

» [mdotray@dailytoreador.com](mailto:mdotray@dailytoreador.com)



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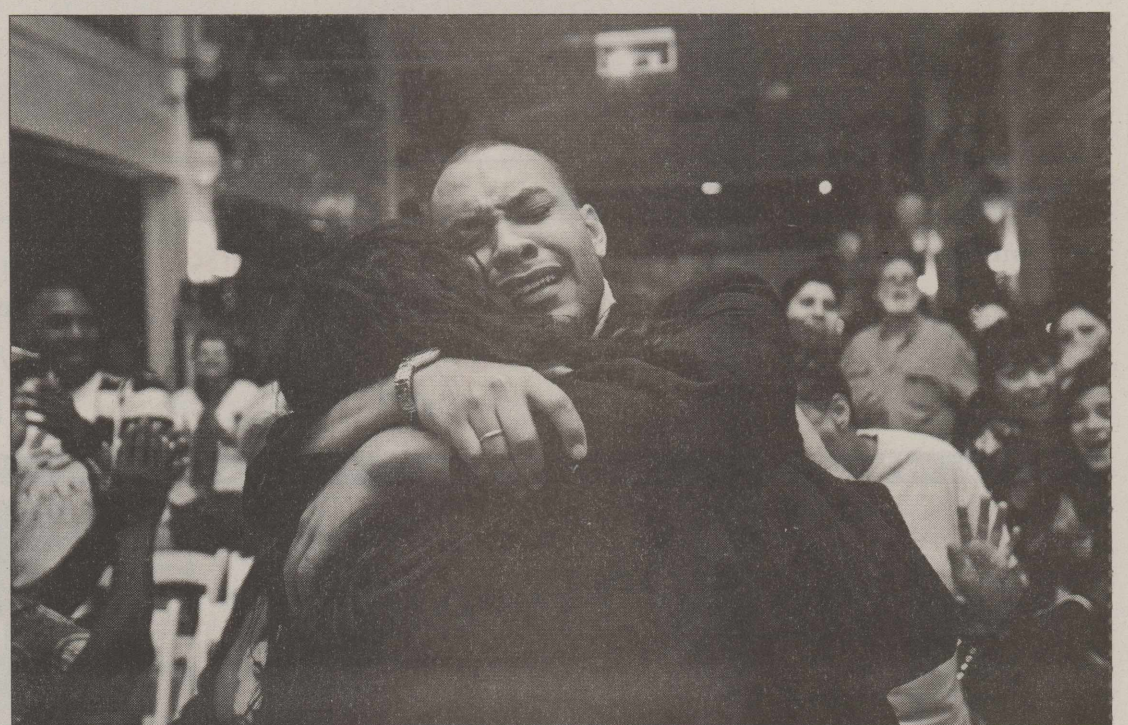


PHOTO BY ISAAC VILLALOBOS/The Daily Toreador.

LEON ELDRIDGE SCREAMS and hugs other viewers of the 2012 presidential election Democratic watch party after President Obama was projected to win his second term Tuesday in the Historic Baker Building.

# Tech alumna weighs in about East Coast voters in storm-affected areas

By EMILY GARDNER  
STAFF WRITER

Since Hurricane Sandy's East Coast landfall last week, the citizens of the affected states have been dealing with the aftermath.

The governments of the affected areas made adaptations to ensure people were still able to vote on Election Day.

"I've heard on the news here that some areas have been able to email their votes in," said Danielle Nagele, a Texas Tech alumna living in Newark, Del. "Some places are allowed to vote in different districts if they

let people know that they are displaced."

The places most affected by Sandy were the areas that had to adapt their voting techniques: New York and the (New) Jersey coastline, Nagele said.

"My personal opinion would probably be that it wouldn't really affect who they vote for, I don't think," Nagele said. "It might reduce — slightly — the amount of people voting who are affected because they may not take the time to figure out how to vote differently, but I honestly don't think it will have much of an impact."

egardner@dailytoreador.com

# In states affected by superstorm Sandy, voters find ways to polls

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — Superstorm Sandy's floodwaters drove Bob Mackie from his home on Long Beach Island, N.J., but nothing was going to stop him from voting Tuesday. The 72-year-old widower drove an hour each way to cast his ballot at a makeshift polling site for island residents, refusing to be disenfranchised by the devastation.

"A lot of people died for it, so we better exercise it," Mackie said of the right to vote.

A week after Sandy's ruinous march up the East Coast, thousands of displaced residents boarded shuttle buses and searched online for alternative polling places to cast their ballots. For millions who were still without power,

cleaning mud out of their homes or living in shelters, voting represented both a return to normalcy and an act of defiance.

West Virginia resident Barbara Bolyard has been without power since the storm, relying on a coal-fired stove for heat and eating meals served by the Red Cross at local fire hall. But she and her three adult children still made it to their polling place in Newburg. "It's your right, do it," Bolyard said she told her kids.

National Guard units in West Virginia set up tents at three polling places and provided generators to help provide power to five other areas that had been buried under 2 feet of snow from Sandy.

## Election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Deb Fischer picked up a seat for Republicans in Nebraska, defeating former Sen. Bob Kerrey.

In Maine, independent former Gov. Angus King was elected to succeed retiring GOP Sen. Olympia Snowe. He has not yet said which party he will side with, but Republicans attacked him in television advertising during the race, and Democrats rushed to his cause.

In the presidential race, Obama won in the reliably Democratic Northeast and West Coast. Pennsylvania was his, too, despite two late campaign stops by Romney.

Romney won most of the South as well as much of the Rocky Mountain West and Farm Belt.

The president was in Chicago as he awaited the voters' verdict on his four years in office. He told reporters he had a concession speech as well as victory remarks prepared. He congratulated Romney on a spirited campaign. "I know his supporters are just as engaged, just as enthusiastic and working just as hard today" as Obama's own, he added.

Romney reciprocated, congratulating the man who he had campaigned against for more than a year.

Earlier, he raced to Ohio and Pennsylvania for Election Day campaigning and projected confidence as he flew home to Massachusetts. "We fought to the very end, and I think that's why we'll be successful," he said, adding that he had finished writing a speech anticipating victory but nothing if the election went to his rival.

But the mood soured among the Republican high command as the votes came in and Obama ground out a lead in critical states.

Like Obama, Vice President Joe Biden was in Chicago as he waited to find out if he was in line for a second term. Republican running mate Paul Ryan was with Romney in Boston,

although he kept one eye on his re-election campaign for a House seat in Wisconsin, just in case. He won re-election to Congress.

The long campaign's cost soared into the billions, much of it spent on negative ads, some harshly so.

In a months-long general election ad war that cost nearly \$1 billion, Romney and Republican groups spent more than \$550 million and Obama and his allies \$381 million, according to organizations that track advertising.

According to the exit poll, 53 percent of voters said Obama was more in touch with people like them, compared to 43 percent for Romney.

About 60 percent said taxes should be increased, taking sides on an issue that divided the president and Romney. Obama wants to let taxes rise on upper incomes, while Romney does not.

Other than the battlegrounds, big states were virtually ignored in the final months of the campaign. Romney wrote off New York, Illinois and California, while Obama made no attempt to carry Texas, much of the South or the Rocky Mountain region other than Colorado.

There were 33 Senate seats on the ballot, 23 of them defended by Democrats and the rest by Republicans.

Democratic Rep. Chris Murphy, a Democrat, won a Connecticut seat long held by Sen. Joe Lieberman, retiring after a career that included a vice presidential spot on Al Gore's ticket in 2000. It was Republican Linda McMahon's second defeat in two tries, at a personal cost of \$92 million.

The GOP needed a gain of three for a majority if Romney won, and four if Obama was re-elected. Neither Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada nor GOP leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky was on the ballot, but each had high stakes in the outcome.

All 435 House seats were on the ballot, including five where one lawmaker ran against another as a result of once-a-decade

redistricting to take population shifts into account. Democrats needed to pick up 25 seats to gain the majority they lost two years ago.

House Speaker Boehner, R-Ohio, raised millions to finance get-out-the-vote operations in states without a robust presidential campaign, New York, Illinois and California among them. His goal was to minimize any losses, or possibly even gain ground, no matter Romney's fate. House Democratic leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California campaigned aggressively, as well, and faced an uncertain political future after her party failed to win control.

In gubernatorial races, Republicans picked up North Carolina, where Pat McCrory won easily. The incumbent, Democratic Gov. Bev Purdue, did not seek re-election.

In a campaign that traversed contested Republican primaries last winter and spring, a pair of political conventions this summer and three presidential debates, Obama, Romney, Biden and Ryan spoke at hundreds of rallies, were serenaded by Bruce Springsteen and Meat Loaf and washed down hamburgers, pizza, barbecue and burrito bowls.

Obama was elected the first black president in 2008, and four years later, Romney became the first Mormon to appear on a general election ballot. Yet one man's race and the other's religion were never major factors in this year's campaign for the White House, a race dominated from the outset by the economy. Over and over, Obama said that during his term the nation had begun to recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression. While he conceded progress had been slow, he accused Romney of offering recycled Republican policies that have helped the wealthy and harmed the middle class in the past and would do so again.

Romney countered that a second Obama term could mean a repeat recession in a country where economic growth has been weak and unemployment is worse now than when the president was inaugurated. A

wealthy former businessman, he claimed the knowledge and the skills to put in place policies that would make the economy healthy again.

In a race where the two men disagreed often, one of the principal fault lines was over taxes. Obama campaigned for the renewal of income tax cuts set to expire on Dec. 31 at all income levels except above \$200,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for couples.

Romney said no one's taxes should go up in uncertain economic times. In addition, he proposed a 20 percent cut across the board in income tax rates but said he would end or curtail a variety of tax breaks to make sure federal deficits didn't rise.

The differences over taxes, the economy, Medicare, abortion and more were expressed in intensely negative advertising.

Obama launched first, shortly after Romney dispatched his Republican foes in his quest for the party nomination.

One memorable commercial showed Romney singing an off-key rendition of "America The Beautiful." Pictures and signs scrolled by saying that his companies had shipped jobs to Mexico and China, that Massachusetts state jobs had gone to India while he was governor and that he has personal investments in Switzerland, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands.

Romney spent less on advertising than Obama. A collection of outside groups made up the difference, some of them operating under rules that allowed donors to remain anonymous. Most of the ads were of the attack variety. But the Republican National Committee relied on one that had a far softer touch, and seemed aimed at voters who had been drawn to the excitement caused by Obama's first campaign. It referred to a growing national debt and unemployment, then said, "He tried. You tried. It's OK to make a change."

More than 30 million voters cast early ballots in nearly three dozen states, a reflection of the growing appeal of getting a jump on the traditional Election Day.

## DID YOU VOTE? IF SO, WHY?



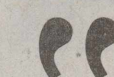
I didn't vote. I was not registered here, and I never made it over to the office. Plus, I'm not really diggin' this election too much.

Brandon Kirby - sophomore business major from Boerne



I did vote. This is actually going to be my first year to be able to vote. I just want to exercise my right and pick who I think will do well as the leader of the country.

Conner Scott - sophomore finance major from Amarillo



Yes, I did (vote) because I want my voice to be heard.

Audrey D'Antonio - sophomore electronic media and communications major from El Paso



Yes because this is my first time voting, and I want to make a difference. It's not every day you can voice your opinion about who you want to vote for. It's better to vote for someone than no one at all.

Chris Aguilar - sophomore computer science major from Abilene



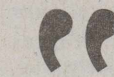
Yes because it's important, and I feel like my vote is different from a lot of people in the state, so I want to try and make a difference and swing things my way. Also if you don't vote, I feel like you shouldn't complain about what's going on.

Kayla Suarez - sophomore public relations major from El Paso



I haven't yet, but I'm going to because I feel like it's important to get a general idea of our age group out to older groups. I feel like it's important we vote so we have a say in that.

Lacey Conklin - freshman business major from Idalou



No, not yet, but I plan on voting soon. I feel like my voice should be heard, and that's the only way my voice will be heard is if I vote.

Taylor Duncan - freshman international business major from Colleyville



Yes, I did. I think it's important to vote, especially at our age, if you want to see a change instead of just complaining about it, you have to actually do something and show proactiveness.

Courtney Harris - sophomore finance major from Houston



I haven't yet, but I plan on voting later today to make a difference. Not everyone is able to vote. The people that are able should vote to make a difference in someone's life.

Patrick Morris - sophomore exercise and sports sciences major



Yes, I did, so I can be involved.

Michaela Yarbrough - freshman art major from Denton

Compiled by Alston Trubula/The Daily Toreador

# Republicans renew control of House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans recaptured control of the House early Wednesday, besting Democrats in a billion-dollar battle and ensuring that the chamber will be dominated by their conservative agenda. Reacting to President Barack Obama's re-election, House Speaker John Boehner said the voters want both parties to find common ground on repairing the economy.

Past midnight in the East, Democrats had knocked off 12 GOP House members — including 10 members of the huge tea party-backed House GOP freshman class of 2010. Republican losers included four incumbents from Illinois, two each from New Hampshire and New York, and one apiece from Florida, Maryland, Minnesota and Texas.

Republicans nearly matched, picking up nine previously Democratic seats. Their candidates defeated one Democratic incumbent apiece in Kentucky, New York, North Carolina and Pennsylvania

and picked up an open seat each in Arkansas, California, Indiana, North Carolina, and Oklahoma currently held by Democrats who retired or ran for another office.

With almost 90 percent of the 435 House races called by The Associated Press, Republicans had won 224 seats and were leading in 15 more. For a majority in the chamber, a party must control 218 seats. Democrats had won 170 seats and were leading in 25 others.

It appeared likely that the two parties' margins in the new Congress would closely resemble the current tally. Republicans control the chamber by 240 to 190, plus five vacancies: two seats once controlled by the GOP and three by Democrats. Early Wednesday, it remained in doubt whether either party would ultimately have a net gain.

Among those re-elected to his seat: Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., the vice presidential candidate on the defeated GOP ticket with Repub-

lican presidential challenger Mitt Romney.

Shortly after Obama's re-election was clear, Boehner — re-elected without opposition — spoke of voters' message of compromise. That was a stark departure from the House GOP's general tone over the past two years, which have been marked by numerous bitter clashes with Obama over deficit reduction, taxes and spending.

"If there is a mandate, it is a mandate for both parties to find

common ground and take steps together to help our economy grow and create jobs, which is critical to solving our debt," Boehner said in a written statement.

Earlier in the evening, Boehner had seemed more combative.

"The American people want solutions, and tonight they responded by renewing our House Republican majority," he said at a gathering of Republicans in Washington. "The American

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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.

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

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## Texas' 2014 elections promise to be exciting

Every time you turn on the TV, people are talking about the current presidential race. After three debates, countless political ads — some of which are downright ridiculous — and months of campaigning, we've finally made it through Election Day. As of this writing, I don't know who the next president will be, so it's a good thing this column doesn't concern that.

Instead, I've decided to take a breather from this marathon of an election and the childish bickering of the candidates and look forward to 2014. It's true there will (mercifully) be no presidential race in two years, but Texas promises to have a number of interesting and high-profile races on the ballot.

The two most important races are for the governor and lieutenant governor. Though Gov. Rick Perry has not officially stated his intention to run for a fourth term, all indications are that he will. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, on the other hand, has declared his intention to run for re-election.

If you've read some of my past columns, you will have noticed that I'm not particularly fond of Gov. Perry. He's the embodiment of cronyism and has quite simply overstayed his welcome in Austin. This doesn't even include his ability to only remember two Washington departments to cut instead of three. We need some new blood in the governor's mansion.

I'm only going to be focusing on Republican candidates because quite frankly, it would take a miracle for a Democrat to win a statewide office. Perhaps San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro might have a shot, but to my

**Andrew Gleinser**



knowledge, he has not indicated an interest in running.

Attorney General Greg Abbott is likely the highest-profile candidate who could challenge Perry. Abbott, for his part, has not decided whether he wants to run for governor or lieutenant governor. The problem I have with Abbott is that he's another one of the Austin insiders, which are just as dangerous as the Washington insiders. I like to think of Abbott, Perry, and Dewhurst as the "Austin Three."

Unlike Perry, Dewhurst seems to be facing a great deal of early competition for his seat. Joining him in the race could be Abbott, Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples and Comptroller Susan Combs. Dewhurst's declaration of his intention to run for re-election may or may not cause some candidates to leave the race. Some could choose to run for governor instead.

Dewhurst, however, seems to be more vulnerable than Perry, especially on the heels of his being embarrassed in the Senate GOP primary by Tea

Party favorite Ted Cruz. Both Dewhurst and Perry, however, could be vulnerable to a Tea Party candidate, similar to the Senate race.

I doubt Abbott would represent that Tea Party candidate, however. The way I look at it, he wouldn't be much of an upgrade over either Perry or Dewhurst, though he would mount a formidable and competitive campaign in either race. His problem is that he would be an establishment candidate running against another establishment candidate, regardless of which office he runs for. It seems that a candidate with strong Tea Party support would

have a legitimate shot at unseating an establishment candidate such as Perry or Dewhurst.

One candidate who could get that Tea Party support is Patterson,

who is largely known more for his opposition to political correctness than anything else. He's an avid hunter and gun owner who would most likely garner support from those who are tired of the standard political jargon and desire someone more outspoken who acts less like the jaded man's view of a politician.

Combs, however, may have difficulty getting those Tea Party voters because of her recent switch on the abortion issue. She could easily be branded as a flip-flopper by her opponents, which would harm her

campaign. Under her watch, personal information of roughly 3.5 million Texas residents was leaked from a server in the Comptroller's office last year, something that also could be exploited. In my view, Combs would not succeed in getting much Tea Party support.

Staples comes off as less of a politician and more of an average Texan farmer and rancher, an image that could certainly help him garner support. Staples' history of fighting for private property rights and tax breaks, as well as his support from Texas legend Nolan Ryan, may very well make him a Tea Party favorite.

The offices vacated by those who run for a higher office will need a replacement, so we could be voting for a new attorney general, comptroller, land commissioner and agriculture commissioner as well.

In addition to statewide offices, numerous local elections will take place, including seats in the Texas legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives. All these races deserve our attention and our vote.

Historically speaking, off-year elections have a significantly lower turnout than years when there is a presidential election. There has been a large effort to get people to the polls this year, but let's not forget about 2014. It was important to vote yesterday, but it's just as important to vote two years from now. The direction of Texas politics could depend on it.

**Gleinser is The DT's opinions editor and a senior political science and history major from Kingwood.**

► [opinions@dailytoreador.com](mailto:opinions@dailytoreador.com)

## Romney a poor choice for blacks, lower class

Forgive me, but I saw the trending topic "Blacks for Romney" last night and went on a Twitter rant.

Blacks for Mitt Romney because I want to get an associate's degree from my local community college.

Blacks for Romney because I don't want to be on my parents' health insurance while I'm still in school.

Blacks for Romney because poor women don't need the preventative health care provided by Planned Parenthood.

Blacks for Romney because those poor women don't need contraception and will have babies they can't afford because of his pro-life stance.

Blacks for Romney because Head Start does not really prepare children for schools.

Blacks for Romney because No Child Left Behind is exactly the kind of assessment we need to make teachers work harder. Surely one test can assess the depths of a child's education.

Blacks for Romney because he is going to tell us to work hard and bring a sense of pride and work ethic back into our community.

Blacks for Romney because we are not the 47 percent. We do not feel we are entitled to anything. Or do we?

I realize by the time you read this, we will know who will be the next leader of the free world. People will be wearing black to either "mourn the death of our country" or because "My president is black."

I also realize this is Texas, which is a red state. Elections are decided by the unaffiliated in the swing states, so our votes matter very little. But you should know for whom you voted.

I would never say that President Barack Obama's term has been spectacular. He was unable to lower the unemployment rate to as low a rate as he promised. His Watergate-like scandal with regards to the Benghazi attack could have buried him. We have to remember all the things he has done, though.

As promised, he ended the war in Iraq (although he still has troops in Afghanistan). As promised, he passed health care reform. He eliminated Osama bin Laden, passed Wall Street reform and the stimulus. You may not agree with every decision he has made, but he has accomplished some things.

We also must remember the economy the Bush administration left him. He could not have easily fixed it in one term. Everyone knows how easy it is to lower your credit rating and how hard it is to get it back up.

Romney believes we should just go to school where we can afford to go. Romney would like to repeal Obamacare as soon as he gets in

**Berea Orange**



office. He also would like to eliminate funds to support preventative health care at Planned Parenthood, and if Congress were to let it get on his desk, he would sign a bill to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Romney believes Head Start is more of a social experience than an educational experience and would like to cut funding for the program. Excuse me, Governor, but I personally believe social experience is part of the educational experience. You need to be socially adjusted to succeed in life.

While Obama has offered exemptions to states from the No Child Left Behind Act, Romney wants to reinforce the law while failing to realize that the law causes teachers to focus on teaching the tests rather than just teaching and caring about the students.

Romney seems to believe blacks have been lazy, and he is the one to motivate us to work harder and not expect handouts. I haven't forgotten foreign policy, but I don't think the president, no matter who he is, really has much to say when it

comes to foreign policy.

With the Pentagon and foreign policy professionals leading the way, the president is just the figurehead. I do, however, believe Obama would be a better decision maker simply because we don't really know where Romney stands

on foreign policy. You can refer to the third debate if you need confirmation.

The issues I have stated here are why I did not vote for Romney. If you couldn't tell, my "Blacks for Romney" statements were all sarcastic. Education, women's rights and the condition of the middle and lower classes are important issues to me.

As previously mentioned, we now know who our president will be for the next four years and I will learn if my vote counted. If Gov. Romney has been elected, then I will deal with it. I won't wear black, slander his name or go to a rally or press conference and throw a shoe at his head.

At the end of the day, whoever won is our leader and deserves our respect. As I urged in a previous column, don't lose yourself after the results of Election Day whether you are black, white, young or old. Respect your superiors and your peers. And if you didn't bother to vote, well then your opinion doesn't really matter, does it?

**Orange is a senior human development and family studies major from Arlington.**

► [borange@dailytoreador.com](mailto:borange@dailytoreador.com)

*It was important to vote yesterday, but it's just as important to vote two years from now.*

*Romney seems to believe blacks have been lazy and that he is the one to motivate us to work harder and not expect handouts.*

### GUEST COLUMN

## Shutting down badge fraud beneficial for Texas

By GREG ABBOTT

Just over two decades ago, the Texas Attorney General's Office had a very limited role in the law enforcement community. It wasn't until 1991 that the Texas Legislature authorized the attorney general to commission peace officers — but even then, the law only allowed the agency to commission up to five officers. Eight years later, the Texas Legislature lifted the cap, but by the time I took office in late 2002 there were only about three dozen officers serving the agency.

Since then, our law enforcement focus has increased dramatically. Today, the agency has 140 commissioned peace officers. At the Attorney General's Office, our approach is somewhat unique. We work to fill gaps in the law enforcement field and have developed unique expertise in a variety of investigative fields.

That helps ensure our work is not duplicative and that specially trained officers with statewide jurisdiction are available to help state and local agencies investigate complex cases that require specialized investigative experience.

For example, we've expanded the state's capacity to pursue white collar criminals who defraud the Texas Med-

icaid program, launched new statewide fugitive sex offender apprehension teams, and developed a highly specialized computer forensics unit that is now the premier source of IT Forensics Analysis for state and local law enforcement agencies across Texas.

As the agency's peace officer ranks and law enforcement responsibilities have expanded, I've had the privilege of learning about great police work from some of the country's finest officers. From the outstanding officers who serve the Texas Rangers to courageous patrol officers who police our state's most dangerous neighborhoods to deputy sheriffs in rural counties who spend every day keeping their small town communities safe, Texas is blessed to have more than 70,000 peace officers willing to devote their lives to protecting their fellow Texans.

Given the risks and sacrifices that these officers and their families endure for their communities, anyone who seeks to pad their own wallet by falsely and fraudulently seeking donations on behalf of Texas peace officers deserves to encounter some real law enforcement. And I'm proud to say that's exactly what we had in store for the folks who ran a badge fraud operation called the Texas

Highway Patrol Association (THPA).

Late last year, the Attorney General's Office charged the THPA, its affiliates — which included the Texas Highway Patrol Museum (THPM) — and the individuals who oversaw the organizations with fraudulently soliciting funds for the benefit of fallen state troopers and their families. We also successfully froze the organizations' accounts so that the defendants couldn't spend any more donated funds for their personal benefit.

Thanks to the asset freeze, we were able to ensure the organizations' remaining funds were put to good use supporting fallen officers' families. By the end of the day, we shut down the organization and prevented its telephone solicitors from continuing their shameless quest for donations that never would have reached the intended beneficiaries.

While the THPM claimed that 100 percent of donated funds went directly to fallen officers' families, our investigation revealed that the real beneficiaries were the organizations' own executives. After scouring the defendants' financial records, our investigation found that THPM officials spent donated funds on veterinarian bills for an executive's prized cat, a trip to Sea World, tickets to Gold Class Cinema and even a flight to Hawaii.

So let's get this straight: The THPA asked generous Texans to support the families of fallen peace officers, promised that 100 percent of the donations would go directly to survivors and claimed to provide these families a \$10,000 death benefit — but they actually spent the proceeds on trips to Hawaii and Sea World.

As the saying goes, don't mess with Texas. The THPA's executives had to learn that lesson the hard way. I'm proud to report that the THPA and its affiliates have now been shut down and the defendants' assets have been liquidated. The proceeds from the liquidation, together with the funds that were frozen last December, are being distributed to the families who lost a beloved officer but never received the \$10,000 death benefit they were promised.

If there are any funds left over after the families have been properly paid, the remaining dollars will be transferred to the Texas Department of Public Safety Foundation, a legitimate charity that will make sure Texans' donations are put to good use. Meanwhile, the perpetrators responsible for this egregious case of badge fraud better be hard at work because they still have to pay off the \$2 million penalty they owe the State.

**Abbott is the attorney general of Texas.**

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**THE DAILY T OREADOR**

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Jose Rodriguez  
[editor@dailytoreador.com](mailto:editor@dailytoreador.com)

**News Editor**  
Kassidy Ketron  
[news@dailytoreador.com](mailto:news@dailytoreador.com)

**La Vida Editor**  
Paige Skinner  
[features@dailytoreador.com](mailto:features@dailytoreador.com)

**Opinions Editor**  
Andrew Gleinser  
[opinions@dailytoreador.com](mailto:opinions@dailytoreador.com)

**Sports Editor**  
Zach DiSchiano  
[sports@dailytoreador.com](mailto:sports@dailytoreador.com)

**Photo Editor**  
Brad Tollefson  
[photos@dailytoreador.com](mailto:photos@dailytoreador.com)

**Electronic Media Editor**  
Andrew Nepsund  
[online@dailytoreador.com](mailto:online@dailytoreador.com)

**Copy Editor**  
Aden Kelly

**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](mailto:dailytoreador@ttu.edu)

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Phone: 806-742-3393, Fax: 806-742-2434  
Email: [dailytoreador@ttu.edu](mailto:dailytoreador@ttu.edu)

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# Tech community shares thoughts on voting in 2012 elections

By KATIE MCKEE  
STAFF WRITER

When the polls closed at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, the voting turnout for Lubbock County was 92,420 of the 156,140 registered voters, or about 59 percent, Nomiss Communication public relations official Kim Davis said.

At the Student Union Building, however, the polls stayed open past 7 p.m. because students were still lined up to vote.

Because society is based on a democracy, assistant political science professor Gregg Murray said, voting is important to maintain a representative government.

"It's important for people to vote because that's how it's fair for them to have a say in what goes on in our government itself," he said. "I'm kind of one of those believers that if you don't vote, you don't have a right to complain. Well, the whole base of democracy is that people have the right to complain. They have a right to say and so, therefore, I think that you need to vote to be able to do that."

Despite the importance of voting, the early voting numbers were lower than the 2008 election.

The early voting turnout for Lubbock County in 2008 was 69,608, while the turnout for 2012

was 62,541.

Jared Campbell, a senior political science major from Perrin, said the decrease was because of disinterest, distrust and discouragement to vote.

However, Murray said he attributes the decrease in early voting turnout to a lack of enthusiasm and motivation and the cost of voting.

The cost, he said, is the time and effort potential voters must put in to reach the polling places and wait in line.

"What we understand is, the cost of voting is a huge determinate about whether people do it or not," he said.

Aside from the enthusiasm and the cost, the situational background behind the 2008 and 2012 elections are different, he said.

The differences, he said, are the improved economy and public view of the Iraq war.

"The economy was terrible," Murray said. "The stock market had crashed again. People were concerned about the Iraq war, and I mean, it's not that the economy is great now. It's not, but it's certainly not in the dire condition it was in 2008."

Camille Studt, a junior nutrition and dietetics major from San Angelo, voted because she said it was her civic duty. The election was

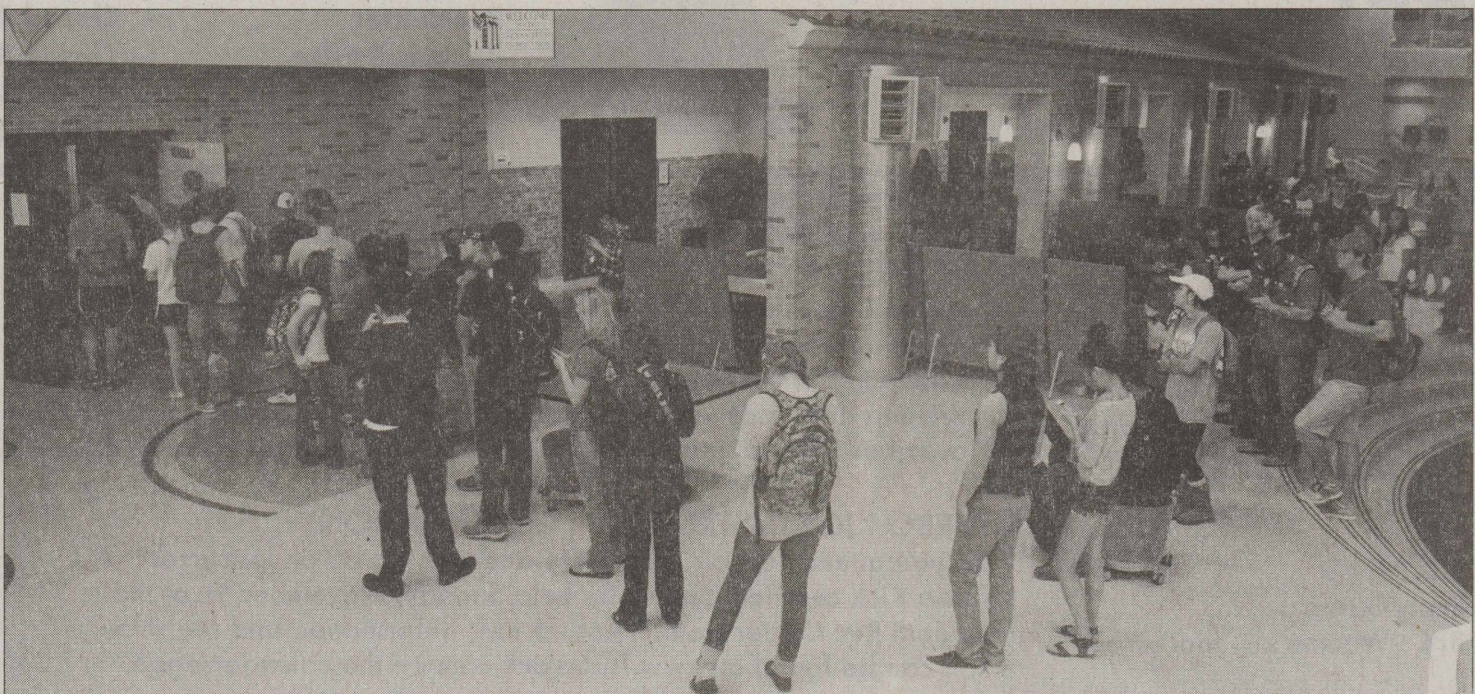


PHOTO BY EMILY DE SANTOS/The Daily Toreador

STUDENTS LINE UP to cast their vote on Tuesday inside the Student Union Building. The polls opened at 7 a.m. and closed at 7 p.m. on Election Day.

the first in which she participated.

Being an adult for the first time during a presidential election, Studt said the key issues, such as education, the economy, foreign policy and social issues, affect her life.

"I feel like (voting) is important," she said. "It deals with anything that happens right now. It deals with schools. It deals with

education. I mean, when I graduate I want to get a job. I don't want the unemployment rate to keep skyrocketing. It's a big deal."

Students, however, are known to vote less than other age groups. This is because students move frequently, are not aware of the voting process and may not know how to locate polling centers, Murray said.

Texas Tech students are lucky, he said, because they had the convenience of voting on campus.

Campbell voted at the SUB after he got off work.

Voting is important for college students because it affects potential jobs, he said.

"We're (college students) one of the lowest voting rates out there,"

he said. "People from 18 to 24 have one of the lowest voting rates just because we don't find it to be important because we haven't been out in the real world for long or at all. Eight years from now, four years from now, we're going to be out in the real world and we should want to have a say."

► kmckee@dailytoreador.com

## GOP-dominated Texas backs Romney, Cruz

DALLAS (AP) — Texas voters made Ted Cruz the state's first Hispanic U.S. senator but their overwhelming support for fellow Republican Mitt Romney wasn't enough to keep Democratic President Barack Obama from winning re-election to a second term.

The GOP dominance at the top of the Texas ticket was no surprise. Democrats haven't won statewide office in Texas since 1994, the longest state losing streak for the party in the country.

Romney won Texas' 38 electoral votes by building a nearly 3-2 margin lead over Obama but lost the overall prize.

In the balloting to succeed retiring U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, Cruz similarly topped underfunded former Democratic state Rep. Paul Sadler. Cruz was virtually unknown as a former state solicitor general before he used tea party backing to emerge from a crowded GOP primary field as runner-up to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, then swept by the mainstream party choice in the runoff to clinch the Republican nomination.

In congressional races, Texas is getting four new representatives thanks to adding 4.3 million residents between 2000 and 2010, bringing the delegation count to 36. Republicans took 22 seats Tuesday and Democrats captured 14, highlighted by state Rep. Pete Gallego's narrow ouster of freshman Republican Francisco "Quico" Canseco in a sprawling district stretching from San Antonio to eastern El Paso County.

In another high-profile contest, Republican state Rep. Randy Weberslipped

by former Democratic Congressman Nick Lampson in the Gulf Coast district being vacated by retiring Republican Ron Paul.

In the Legislature, Republicans lost the 102-vote supermajority in the House that had allowed them to pass legislation even if their Democratic colleagues failed to show up for work, but still maintained their grip on the chamber.

And in the state Senate, an expensive and increasingly nasty battle ended with Fort Worth Democratic Sen. Wendy Davis taking a narrow victory over challenger and tea party Republican state Rep. Mark Shelton. Davis' triumph leaves Republicans with a 19-12 advantage. Under the Senate's traditional rules, a bill needs 21 votes to make it to the floor for debate, and Republicans were fighting for every possible seat to achieve a supermajority that can suspend the rules.

Among the Senate winners was Democrat Mario Gallegos, Jr., an incumbent from Houston who died in October of liver failure. A special election will be held to fill his seat.

Cruz told supporters in Houston if Obama followed through on campaign promises to bring people together to reduce the deficit and get people working, "then I will work with him."

But Cruz said if Obama did not, "then I will spend every waking moment to stop it."

"My pledge to you is to work every single day in the U.S. Senate to champion small business and entrepreneurs

and help them do what they do best, create jobs and get America working again," he said.

Sadler said he called Cruz to congratulate him.

"It's worth the fight, our state is worth the fight, our country is worth the fight," Sadler said of his long-shot campaign. "We expanded the debate and made people think maybe about issues a little deeper."

Voters waited at least 30 minutes at some Texas precincts earlier in the day although state officials predicted overall turnout likely would be below levels of four years ago.

"I don't think you should take money from people just because they are successful," said Bob Ramey, 61, an El Paso accountant, explaining why he couldn't vote for Obama, who advocates higher taxes for wealthier Americans.

But Ben Hernandez, 59, who owns a construction company with his wife in League City outside Houston, credited the president with a good job in his first term and deserving of their votes.

"He did what he had to do," Mary Sue Hernandez, 52, said. "He came in at the toughest time and he did well."

A tight race unfolded in a sprawling congressional district stretching from San Antonio to eastern El Paso County, where freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Francisco "Quico" Canseco and Democratic state Rep. Pete Gallego swapped slim leads.

And in the election for the seat Republican Ron Paul is leaving along the

Gulf Coast, Republican state Rep. Randy Weber narrowly defeated former Democratic Congressman Nick Lampson.

In the winners with surprising backgrounds was Republican former U.S. Rep. Steve Stockman, who served one term in Congress starting in 1994 but accused the government of "executing" members of the Branch Davidian cult after the siege near Waco. He was headed back to Capitol Hill after waging a low-profile campaign in a district north and east of Houston.

Beto O'Rourke also was going to Congress for the first time from heavily Democratic District 16. He is a guitar-playing, twice-arrested former El Paso city councilman who once advocated for legalizing marijuana but nonetheless stunned eight-term incumbent Silvestre Reyes during the Democratic primary.

All 15 of the Texas Board of Education's seats were also on the ballot. Ten Republicans won and five seats went to Democrats, including Martha Dominguez's victory over GOP incumbent Carlos "Charlie" Garza in an El Paso-area region. Still unresolved, however, is whether social conservatives gained more influence.

Among statewide court races, Republican Sharon Keller won a fourth six-year term as presiding judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Keller gained notoriety in 2007 for closing the state's highest criminal court precisely at 5 p.m., barring a final-hour appeal from a death row inmate who was executed that evening.

## Puerto Rico votes on US ties, chooses governor

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Puerto Ricans faced a fundamental question on Election Day: Should they change their ties with the United States?

Citizens in the U.S. island territory cannot vote in the U.S. presidential election, but many were excited to participate in a referendum on whether to push the territory toward statehood, greater autonomy or independence.

Car horns blared and party flags waved after polling stations closed following what election officials said was a high voter turnout. During the day, many voters carried umbrellas against the blistering tropical sun as temperatures neared 90 degrees Fahrenheit (31 degrees Celsius).

The two-part referendum first asked voters if they wanted to change Puerto Rico's 114-year relationship with the United States. A second question gave voters three alternatives if they wanted a change: become a U.S. state, gain independence, or have a "sovereign free association," a designation that would give more autonomy for the territory of 4 million people.

With 243 of 1,643 precincts reporting late Tuesday, 75,188 voters, or 53 percent, said they did not want to continue under the current political status. Forty-seven percent, or 67,304 voters, supported the status quo.

On the second question, 65 percent favored statehood, followed by 31 percent for sovereign free association and 4 percent for independence.

"Puerto Rico has to be a state. There is no other option," said 25-year-old Jerome Lefebre, who picked up his grandfather before driving to the polls. "We're doing OK, but we could do better. We would receive more benefits, a lot more financial help."

But 42-year-old Ramon Lopez de Azua said he favored the current system, which grants U.S. citizenship but prevents Puerto Ricans from voting for president unless they live in the United States, and gives those on the island only limited representation in Congress.

"Puerto Rico's problem is not its political status," he said. "I think that the United States is the best country in the world, but I am Puerto Rican first."

## Several states legalize same-sex marriage, marijuana use

(AP) — While the general election might not break partisan gridlock in Congress, it could result in historic changes for U.S. social policy: Several states had a chance to be the first to approve same-sex marriage by popular vote and to legalize recreational use of marijuana.

Maine residents approved same-sex marriage, giving the gay rights movement a breakthrough victory.

Gay marriage is legal in six states and Washington, D.C., but those laws were either enacted by lawmakers or through court rulings. In popular votes, more than 30 states had previously held elections on same-sex marriage, with all losing.

Maine, Maryland and Washington state were holding up-or-down votes Tuesday on legalizing gay marriage. Minnesota was voting on a proposal to ban gay marriage in the state constitution.

Dating back to 1998, same-sex marriage has been rejected in all 32 states that have held popular votes on the issue. Gay-rights advocates believed they had a chance to break that streak as Maine, Maryland and Washington voted on ballot measures to legalize same-sex marriage, and Minnesota voted on whether to place a ban on gay marriage in the state constitution.

Marijuana legalization was on the ballot in Washington, Oregon and Colorado; each measure would allow adults to possess small amounts of pot under a regimen of state regulation and taxation. The Oregon and Arkansas proposals did not pass, but the Washington and Colorado measures were approved.

The measures set up a direct challenge to federal drug law.

In Arkansas and Massachusetts, voters were deciding whether to allow marijuana use for medical reasons, as 17 states have done previously. Arkansas would have been the first Southern state in that group.

In California, voters were deciding whether to repeal the state's death penalty. If the measure prevailed, the more than 720 inmates on death row there would have their sentences converted to life in prison.

While 17 states have ended capital punishment, most did so through legislative action. Only in Oregon, in 1964, did voters choose to repeal the death penalty; they later reversed themselves to reinstate it.

In all, there were 176 measures on the ballots Tuesday in 38 states, according to the Initiative and Referendum Institute at the University of Southern California. Maine's referendum marked the

first time that gay-marriage supporters put the issue to a popular vote. They collected enough signatures over the summer to schedule the vote, hoping to reverse the outcome of a 2009 referendum that quashed a gay-marriage law enacted by the Legislature.

In both Maryland and Washington, gay-marriage laws were approved by lawmakers and signed by the governors earlier this year, but opponents gathered enough

signatures to challenge the laws.

In Minnesota, the question was whether the state would join 30 others in placing a ban on gay marriage in its constitution. Even if the ban is defeated, same-sex marriage would remain illegal in Minnesota under statute.

Gay marriage is legal in six states and the District of Columbia — in each case the result of legislation or court orders, not by a vote of the people.

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS  
1 Dash, e.g.  
5 Head-hanging emotion  
10 Abolish alternative  
15 Fan favorite  
16 Earthling  
17 Absorbed the loss  
18 Tropical headgear  
20 Passover ritual  
21 Dix halved  
22 Calendar abbr.  
24 Prior to, in verse  
25 Low-tech note taker  
27 Deal-closing aids  
30 Unblemished  
31 Line winder  
32 Baking by-products  
33 Creative enterprise  
34 On the fence  
35 Six-stringed instrument, usually  
36 Urbana-Champaign NCAA team  
41 Two pages  
42 Zip — "Doo-Dah"  
43 Tram car filler  
45 Totally absorbed  
48 Hon.  
49 Pontiac muscle cars  
50 Powerful pin cushion?  
52 "I hit me yet"  
53 Mac follower?  
54 Scientology's Hubbard  
55 Sushi bar soup  
56 Cook-off potful  
58 False  
63 Mixer for a mixologist  
64 Boyfriends  
65 Couple in a rowboat  
66 Run through a reader, as a debit card  
67 Footlocker  
68 Sandstorm residue  
69 "Every Breath You Take" band  
71 "Myra Breckinridge" author  
76 Area of expertise  
77 Calligrapher's flourish  
28 Question of time, to Talmud  
29 — me tangere  
31 Barbecue spit, e.g.  
34 "Every Breath You Take" band  
35 "Myra Breckinridge" author

DOWN  
1 Split  
2 Org. concerned with crowns  
3 Mozart works  
4 Pal of Jerry Seinfeld  
5 Retired seven-foot NBA'er  
6 "Say that again?"  
7 "I Rock"  
8 Fisher-Price parent company  
9 Follow logically  
10 Polluc staple  
11 Summer on the Seine  
12 Turn in for cash  
13 Spain's de Campos  
14 Underline, say  
19 Trio on a phone keypad  
23 Online shopkeeper  
25 Place for pampering  
26 Area of expertise  
27 Calligrapher's flourish  
28 Question of time, to Talmud  
29 — me tangere  
31 Barbecue spit, e.g.  
34 "Every Breath You Take" band  
35 "Myra Breckinridge" author  
37 Ticked pink  
38 Scottish Celt  
39 "As of yet, no"  
40 Pressing need?  
44 Inexact fig.  
45 Throws out  
46 Reservation waster  
47 Spiral pasta  
48 One of Dancer's partners  
49 Far-from-efficient vehicle  
51 Reservations  
52 Best-seller  
56 Perfumery scent  
57 Blistex target  
59 Frat house letter  
60 Flee  
61 The Rams of the NCAA's Atlantic 10 Conf.  
62 D-Day vessel

Love can be expressed with a ring.

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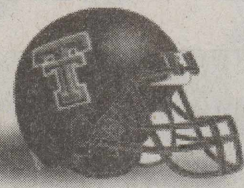
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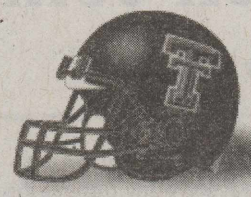
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"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." ~Dalai Lama

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**GAMEDAY HOURS FOR THE REC - SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10th**  
**Rec Center** Closed All Day!  
**Aquatic Center** Closed All Day!  
**Fit/Well** Closed All Day!  
**Rock Wall** Closed All Day!



**Sport Club Results**

**INLINE HOCKEY**  
 The Inline Hockey team defeated North Texas, Sam Houston, and Texas in a tournament before falling to North Texas in the tournament final, 3-4.

**CYCLING**  
 Emily Barrera  
 3rd : Women's B Short Track

David Talley  
 1st : Men's C Omnium  
 1st : Mens-C Cross Country  
 2nd : Men's C Short Track

**RACQUETBALL**  
 (UT Tournament)  
 Men's Team : 3rd Place  
 Women's Team : 2nd Place

**Fit/Well**

**WELLNESS BLOOD SCREENINGS - Nov. 29th**  
 Covenant Health Center has partnered with the Texas Tech Student Recreation Center to provide Wellness Blood Screenings to the Texas Tech Community. Look online at <http://bit.ly/IHMyof> for full screening details as well as explanations of each test. Sign up by November 28th at noon in the Fit/Well for screenings on the 29th.

**TURBO KICK INSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION**  
 Do you attend Turbo Kick classes and want to be an instructor? A Turbo Kick certification will be held Sunday, November 11 at the Student Rec Center from 8 AM - 5 PM. Information and registration can be found at [www.Turbokick.com](http://www.Turbokick.com) on the calendar page.

**CHAIR MESSAGES**  
 Bring a licensed massage therapist to your group for 5-10 minute chair massages. Cost is \$50/hour/therapists. To make a request, log onto the Fit/Well page of [www.recsports.ttu.edu](http://www.recsports.ttu.edu) and click on "Fitness to You".



**PERSONAL TRAINING**  
 The Fit/Well is still accepting clients for personal training sessions! Worried about that big Thanksgiving dinner, or want to stay on top of your fitness target through the Holidays? Our personal training staff will create a plan to meet your goals and fit your schedule! The Fit/Well employs a wide variety of trainers that cater to many different clients with many different goals. Whether you are just starting out, want to learn a fitness routine, get in shape, or are a professional-level athlete, our personal Trainers can help you meet your goals. Inquire at the Fitness and Wellness Center today!

**Aquatics**

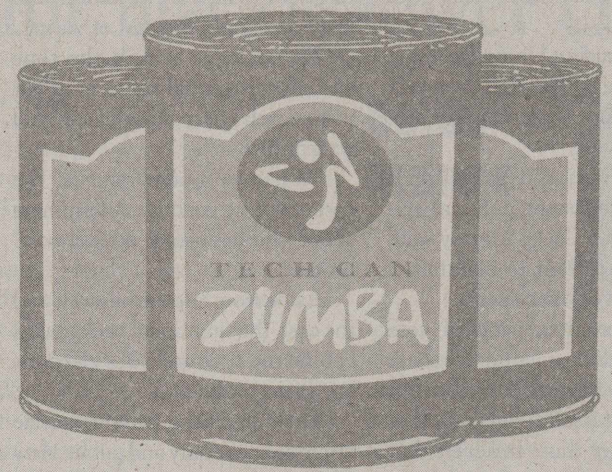
**LONG COURSE SWIM**  
 Tired of flip turns? Stretch it out and swim the entire 50 meter length of the pool before heading back! Long Course swims are free for students and faculty/staff Rec Center members, and \$10 for non-members.  
 Sunday, November 11th | 10:00am - 11:30am  
 Saturday, December 1st | 10:00am - 11:30am

**WE HAVE MOVED INDOORS!**  
 All aquatic center activities are now indoors, and the Leisure Pool, outdoor spa, and competition pool will be closed until the Spring. The indoor pool hours will be Noon to 9 PM on weekdays, and Noon to 7 PM on weekends, with Early Bird swim Monday through Friday from 6:00 to 8:45 AM.

**Outdoor Pursuits**

**THE SASQUATCH**  
 An Adventure Package from the Outdoor Pursuits Center!  
 The Sasquatch Package from the OPC is designed to bring the consummate outdoorsman an inexpensive way to experience the wilderness opportunities provided by the Outdoor Pursuits Center at the Texas Tech Student Recreation Center. This package provides a semester-long set of benefits that include trip discounts, free gear rentals, labor-free bike repairs, and access to all the OPC's clinics and trainings. Stop by the Outdoor Pursuit Center today to inquire about details, or call us at 806-742-2949.

**SKI, SNOWBOARD, AND MORE! WINTER RENTALS!**  
 Reserve your winter sports rentals for Thanksgiving Break today at the Outdoor Pursuits Center right outside the entrance to the SRC. In addition to our Ski and Snowboard rentals, the OPC also has winter camping equipment and outdoor supplies. Stop by the OPC or check out our website, available at [bit.ly/opcadventure](http://bit.ly/opcadventure).



NOVEMBER 8, 2012 | 7:00PM  
 COURT 5 (INDOOR SOCCER)  
 DONATE 2 CANS OR MORE OF FOOD AND RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT

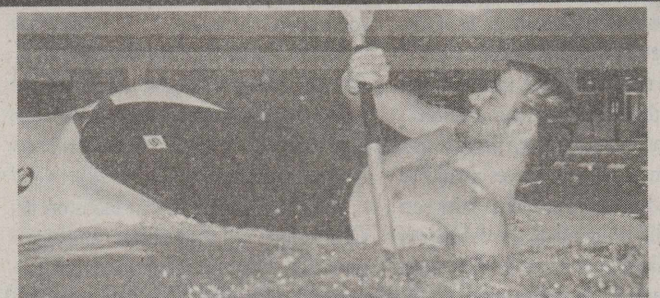
**TECH CAN ZUMBA | NOVEMBER 8 | 7:00PM**  
 Come out to our 4th Annual Tech Can Zumba event! Bring two cans of food to support the South Plains Food Bank and receive a free t-shirt courtesy of the Texas Tech Federal Credit Union! This event happens in the Indoor Soccer Arena, on the lower level of the Rec Center. See you on the dance floor!

**Intramurals**

**SOCCER PLAYOFF SCHEDULES**  
 Intramural soccer playoff schedules are available! Check <http://bit.ly/ttuimleagues> to find your team's playoff schedule. If you have any questions, please call us at 742-2945.

**SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TONIGHT!**  
 Come out to the SRC Softball Fields for the Fall Softball Championship games tonight! Open and Women's divisions start at 8, Co-Rec division plays at 9.

**INTRAMURAL SWIM MEET**  
 Registration is now open for the Intramural Swim Meet to be held on Thursday, November 15 at the Aquatic Center. Enter in the following events:  
 200 Medley Relay (Four person) | Individual 50 Meter Freestyle | Individual 100 Meter Medley | Individual 50 Meter Butterfly | Individual 100 Meter Freestyle | Individual 50 Meter Backstroke | Individual 50 meter Breast Stroke | 200 Meter Freestyle Relay



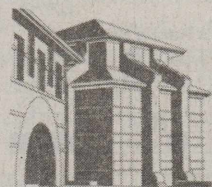
**KAYAK SKILLS CLINIC - November 11**  
 Take a first-time spin out on the water, or continue to develop your Kayak skills with our Kayak Skills Clinic! This event will be held on Sunday at the Aquatic Center, and starts at 7:00 PM.

**ROAD BIKING - November 17**  
 This free activity is a great way for bikers of all skill levels to meet up with other riders of the area for a nice morning ride through the cool air. Rental bikes are available at a discount from the OPC if needed, but the event is free if you have your own equipment! We will meet outside the OPC [by the entrance to the Student Recreation Center] and be on the road by 8:30 AM on the morning of the 17th.

**This Week at the Rec**



Snap the code for directions on how to claim a FREE Rec Sports prize!



Student Union Office  
 806.742.3636  
[www.sub.ttu.edu](http://www.sub.ttu.edu)

**STUDENT UNION & ACTIVITIES AND TECH ACTIVITIES BOARD**

EVENT CALENDAR NOVEMBER 7 - 13



Student Activities Office  
 806.742.4708  
[www.tab.ttu.edu](http://www.tab.ttu.edu)

TODAY	TOMORROW	NOV. 9	NOV. 10	NOV. 12	COMING UP
<p><b>TECH CAN SHARE FOOD DRIVE</b>                      Join TAB in providing canned &amp; nonperishable food items to the South Plains Food Bank. Look for collection barrels in the SUB, Rec, &amp; college buildings!</p> <p><b>TAB FREE MOVIE: THE DARK KNIGHT RISES</b>                      SUB Escondido Theatre                      1pm &amp; 4pm</p> <p><b>TECH JEOPARDY</b>                      SUB Senate Room                      6-10pm                      Test your knowledge in history, literature, the arts, pop culture, science, sports, geography, wordplay and other topics!</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b></p> <p><b>TECH CAN SHARE FOOD DRIVE</b></p> <p><b>AFTER HOURS: OPEN MIC NIGHT</b>                      SUB B&amp;N Cafe                      7pm                      Listen to your fellow students as they perform their hearts out! Got talent? Come to TAB's Open Mic Night! All talents are welcome.</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b></p> <p><b>TECH CAN SHARE FOOD DRIVE</b>                      Last day of our food drive! Be sure to have your donations in by 3pm!</p> <p><b>FALL BUILDING HOURS:</b>                      Monday - Friday                      7:00 am - 11:00 pm                      Saturday                      8:00 am - 11:00 pm                      Sunday                      12:00 pm - 11:00 pm</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b></p> <p><b>RAIDERGATE</b>                      feat. Drake White                      R-1 Lot                      7am</p> <p><b>TEXAS TECH v. KANSAS</b>                      11am</p> <p><b>COMPLETE FALL 2012 CALENDAR:</b>  <a href="http://www.tab.ttu.edu">www.tab.ttu.edu</a></p>	<p><b>MONDAY</b></p> <p><b>SHARE THE WARMTH COAT DRIVE</b>                      Collection Barrels in the SUB! Starts today until Friday! Winter is a time for giving. Share the warmth to those less fortunate by donating your coats to the Lubbock community.</p> <p><b>The Student Union invokes respect</b>  <i>n. [ri-spekt]</i>                      A feeling of deep admiration for someone or something elicited by their abilities, qualities, or achievements.</p>	<p><b>NOV. 14-20</b></p> <p><b>SHARE THE WARMTH COAT DRIVE UNTIL FRIDAY, NOV. 16!</b></p> <p><b>PHOTO BOOTH</b></p> <p><b>KARAOKE</b></p>

## Couple meets during Humans vs. Zombies

By LIANA SOLIS  
STAFF WRITER

When people think of a love story, most would not think about the couple meeting while fighting off zombies.

Couple Chris Brown and Lindsay Quintana met two years ago at the semi-annual Humans vs. Zombies competition at Texas Tech and have been together since.

Brown, a senior science education major from Haltom City, had just transferred from the University of Texas at Austin his sophomore year when he heard about HvZ.

"I have friends here at Tech who wanted me to start it at U.T.," Brown said. "But I knew I was transferring here, so I just waited until I got here to do it."

Quintana, a senior early education major from Plano, also played her first year as a sophomore.

"I was the only one of my friends who was interested in playing that year," Quintana said. "But when I heard about it, I knew it would be something I'd enjoy."

Quintana was by herself during the first day of the hunt when she saw Brown and his friend in the parking lot of the old Mass Communications building, she said.

"I just walked right up and started talking to them when I saw the green bandanas," Quintana said. "We pretty much became friends right away."

The two spent every day together for the rest of the week while the game was going on, Brown said.

"We were actually out playing when a huge storm started and flooded the streets," Brown said. "I carried her back to her dorm so she wouldn't drown in all the water."

They kept in contact after the

competition ended and became a couple a few weeks later, Brown said.

"We were honestly both just winging it because neither of us were looking for a relationship until we met," Quintana said. "We had no idea we would be together this long."

This is the fifth competition for both of them, and the majority of their friends participate with them as well, Brown said.

"Ever since we met, we have been a team together for the rest of the games," Quintana said.

They plan to continue to participate in HvZ until they graduate for the fun, the friends and also in remembrance of where they met their soul mate, Brown said.

"We get along because we are both so weird together and love having fun," Quintana said. "Plus, he's just my best friend."

solis@dailytoreador.com



PHOTO BY EMILY MCCARTHY/The Daily Toreador

CHRIS BROWN, A senior science education major from Haltom City, and Lindsay Quintana, a senior early education major from Plano, met two years ago during Humans vs. Zombies, and have been dating since their first game. Brown and Quintana have played five games of Humans vs. Zombies including this semester's game.

### ROCK HARD

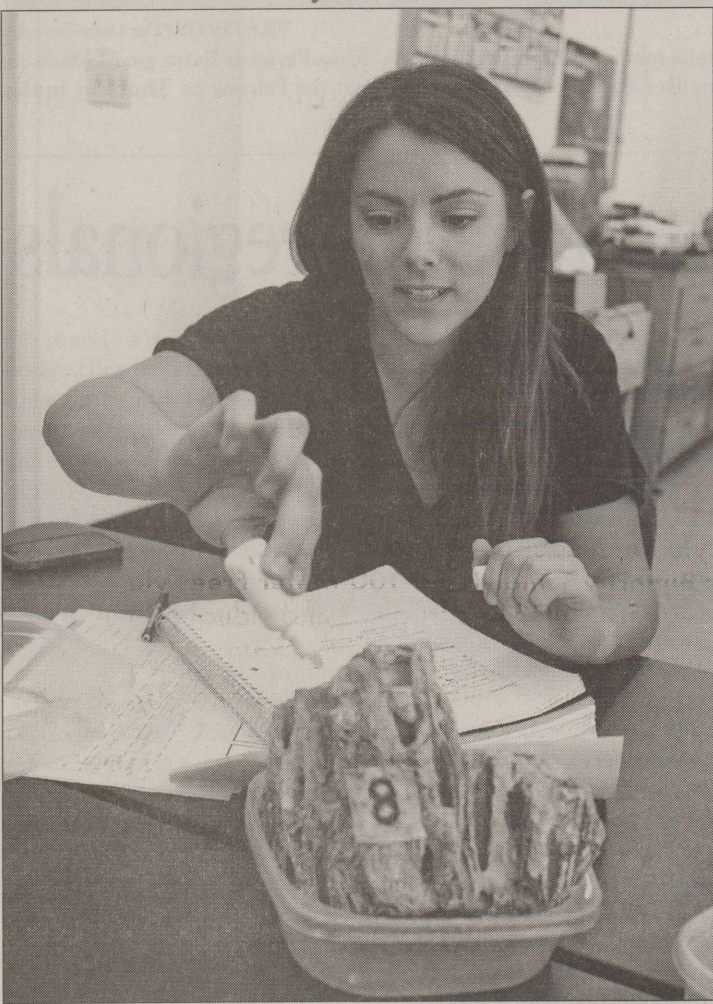


PHOTO BY DAVID VAUGHAN/The Daily Toreador

DEBBIE DRENNAN, A senior geophysics major from Sinton, pours acid onto a sample of sedimentary rock during an earth materials lab Tuesday in the Physics and Geosciences building.

## Sports writer's harrowing tale of Sandy

EDITOR'S NOTE — AP sports writer Dennis Waszak and his family had moved into their Staten Island 'dream house' just weeks before Superstorm Sandy devastated parts of the New York City borough. These are his recollections a week after the storm hit and upended life for Waszak, his wife and their three children.

NEW YORK (AP) — I was the first to cry.

Not my wife. Not our three kids. I was standing in our pitch-black basement as water streamed through the broken windows like a waterfall. A bathtub drain gurgled, the slimy sewage quickly pooling in an ominous mess. Just eight weeks after we'd bought our dream house — three bedrooms, big kitchen, pool, white fence and a finished basement — Superstorm Sandy was ripping it apart with a fury that was hard to comprehend, along with the rest of our Staten Island neighborhood.

EDITOR'S NOTE — AP Sports Writer Dennis Waszak and his family had moved into their Staten Island 'dream house' just weeks before Superstorm Sandy devastated parts of the New York City borough. These are his recollections a week after the storm hit and upended life for Waszak, his wife

and their three children.

At 9 p.m. Monday, I sent my sister Christina a text message saying our basement was still dry.

Minutes later that all changed. The man cave I couldn't wait to show off to my buddies, the one I'd spent hours working on, was fast being covered in rancid brown muck, beginning with what was once a white carpet. Watching it methodically swallow up the mementos that took us a lifetime to gather, I lost it.

Family photos, clothes, thousands of CDs, furniture. Thirty years of Topps baseball cards my dad gave me each and every Christmas. A copy of nearly every story I'd ever written — as a budding sports reporter at Xavierian High School in Brooklyn, from the Super Bowl and World Series, during 16-plus years with The Associated Press — all gone.

My wife, Daria, urged me to stop, if only for the sake of our kids. I ran up the stairs toward the living room, struggling to compose myself. Behind me, all the while, the sludge kept rising. At 9:16 p.m., I texted my sister again: "The basement is completely covered in raw sewage. It's destroyed."

Some 10 hours earlier, I was on a conference call with New York

Jets coach Rex Ryan, hearing him describe the challenges his disappointing team still faced. Now I was swept up in the biggest natural disaster to hit the New York area in decades, wondering how to protect my family.

It's funny the places your mind wanders sometimes, even in moments of crisis. So the fact that my mother's name is Sandy was at least good for a rueful smile. Even she can't believe now how much death and destruction will be attached to it for, well, forever.

Our neighborhood in the Eltingville section of Staten Island was designated a Zone C area, at very low risk for evacuation during a storm. That's why so few of us were alarmed earlier in the day, when the water from a creek that was part of a planned park poured out onto Arthur Kill Road and up our street at high tide. We thought that would be the worst of it.

Then the wind began whipping up, right around 4 p.m., and that picture-postcard white fence was blown to pieces. Soon after, with everything else we could tie down, board up or cover already secured, and roof tiles flying around like the occasional Frisbee, my neighbors and I headed inside to ride the storm out.

The power was on for two more hours, gone just as Daria was cooking dinner for the kids. They thought it was fun to eat and play by candlelight. But I looked out the window, saw the water from the creek halfway up the street, and it struck me that Sandy hadn't even really hit yet. Then came a frantic knock at the door.

"Dennis!" yelled a neighbor. "Your house is leaking gas!"

The hissing outside was louder than the shrill howl of the wind. A man I'd never seen before was walking around in the storm, heard the leak and smelled the gas. Out of nowhere, a neighbor showed up with a wrench and shut off the main valve. Someone else called National Grid and three minutes later, two workers from the power company turned up to make sure everything was locked down.

I'm still not sure who the first of those guardian angels was, but I promised myself to find out soon. When I do, I'm going to hug him. But there were still more pressing concerns first.

Around 7 p.m., our next-door neighbor, a sweet Italian grandmother named Grace, ran outside crying that the water in her basement was already a few feet high.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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15 words or less \$5.00 per day <b>Bold Headline</b> 50¢ extra (max. one line)	Help Wanted Furnished Rentals Unfurnished Rentals Tickets for Sale Miscellaneous Lost & Found Clothing/Jewelry	Typing Tutors For Sale Services Roommates Travel Legal Notice	There is a 15-word minimum on all classified ads. The first 2 words (max. one line) are bold and capitalized. All ads will appear on dailytoreador.net at no additional charge.	Please check your ad carefully on the first day of publication and notify The Daily Toreador of any errors. We are only responsible for the first day's incorrect insertion.	Classified Line Ads: Placed and paid for by 11 a.m. one day in advance. Classified Display Ads: 4 p.m. three days in advance. Please call for rates for display advertising.

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<h3>TUTORS</h3> <p><b>PORTUGUESE/ENGLISH</b> need a tutor to teach English to Brazilian Portuguese speaking person 806.620.9142.</p>	<h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <p><b>LITTLE GUYS MOVERS</b> seeking full/part time employees. 4711 W. Loop 289. Apply in person.</p> <p><b>LOOKING FOR a fun job?</b> YWCA hiring for after-school positions. Various hours available. Apply now at 35th &amp; Flint, or call Carolyn at 806-792-2723, ext. 3217.</p> <p>MR. AQUARIUM accepting applications. All positions. 2523.34th.</p> <p><b>NEED EXTRA CASH?</b> Kelly Services is now hiring Caterers For Short-Term Events. Black Pants, Black Shoes Required. Pay is \$8 For Wait Staff. Day, Evening &amp; Weekend Shifts Available. Apply at 4601 50th Street, Suite 100 Or Call 806-794-2757.</p> <p><b>NOW HIRING Positive &amp; Enthusiastic Instructors</b> for Kids Fitness and Gymnastics. Requires gymnastics/athletic background. FUN &amp; Flexible Job! Visit us at RSA-GYM.com or call 795-ROCK.</p> <p><b>PERSONAL ASSISTANT</b> needed. Part-time, flexible hours in home based business work environment. Leave message 928-9693.</p> <p><b>PM CAFE Aide:</b> 3:30PM - 12AM shift Work food stations in an efficient manner focused on service and sanitation. Contact: UMC Human Resources Department, 602 Indiana Avenue Lubbock, TX 79415. 806.775.9220. Online application @ umchealthsystem.com</p> <p><b>PM SANITATION Aide:</b> 1PM - 9:30 PM shift Responsible for sanitizing all equipment including all smallwares and food preparation areas. Contact: UMC Human Resources Department, 602 Indiana Avenue Lubbock, TX 79415. 806.775.9222, Fax 806.775.9220. Online application @ umchealthsystem.com</p> <p><b>SANFORD &amp; TATUM INSURANCE</b> looking for someone interested in career in insurance industry. Hiring full-time entry level Commercial Lines Processor. Apply online at www.sanfordtatum.com. 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# SPORTS

## Season-opener Friday for Red Raiders

By MEGAN KETTERER  
STAFF WRITER

For the Texas Tech basketball team, the moment is finally here. The season opener against Prairie View A&M is 8 p.m. Friday and the team is preparing for an exciting start.

The team played an exhibition game against UT-Permian Basin on Nov. 1, where they beat the Falcons 88-63, in what Tech coach Chris Walker called a B-minus effort from his team.

Overall, the team played well during the first half, he said, but during the second half, there were some mistakes.

"We got 18 steals and forced 26 turnovers," Walker said. "I think the pressure defense picked up, and we had a number of turnovers in the second half. The effort was there. We just have to clean up some details."

The team is using the exhibition game as a learning experience for the opener against Prairie View, he said. Prairie View is picked to win the Southwestern Athletic Conference this year, so Tech is preparing for them to come out and play hard.

"We have to make sure we take care of our business — play

together hard, smart and with pride," he said.

Redshirt junior forward Dejan Kravic said his focus this game is to be more aggressive and to rebound the ball more.

Kravic finished the game against Permian Basin with a team-high 16 points and six rebounds. Kravic and freshman guard Josh Gray led the team in playing time with 22 minutes.

"Personally, I think I could have done a better job of rebounding and just being more active in general," Kravic said.

The goal is to improve game by game, and if the team can do that, they can be dangerous competition once conference games start, he said.

The team chemistry has improved, Kravic said, which comes with practice and competing against one another.

"We're getting really cohesive game by game," he said.

During the previous game, the team had three turnovers in the first half, but had more in the second, redshirt junior forward Kader Tapsoba said. The team wants to work on lessening them, he said.

"Other than turnovers, something (Walker) has been empha-

sizing the whole time is to play together, so we're in the building process of that," Tapsoba said.

The team is focused, he said, and everyone is stepping up because the season is here.

The only thing Tech is focusing on is the upcoming game against Prairie View, Walker said.

"We play hard," Walker said. "We play together. We play smart and we play with pride. The biggest game on (the) schedule is always the next game for us. We take them one at a time."

Walker has the mindset of wanting to compete every single game and be successful in what they do, he said.

"The focus for me is the journey," he said. "The focus is the game plan. I put all of my energy in that and on my guys, and when we do that, winning becomes a byproduct."

There is still a lot of learning, Walker said, but he has confidence in his team's abilities.

"There's no such thing as luck. There's only cause and effect," he said. "We go out, we do our jobs and we perform. There's nothing to be nervous about."

»mketterer@dailytoreador.com



FILE PHOTO/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH GUARD Dusty Hannahs jumps up for a basket while Texas-Permian Basin guard Madison Turner tries to block the ball during the Red Raiders 88-63 victory against the Falcons on Thursday in the United Spirit Arena.

## Darvish won't pitch for Japan Cross-country races in regionals

(AP)—Yu Darvish won't pitch for Japan in the World Baseball Classic next spring, choosing instead to focus on preparing for his second major league season.

The Texas Rangers right-hander issued a statement Tuesday saying he made the decision after

much deliberation, including consultation with his coaches and trainers.

"Given my substantial workload over the last few seasons and the numerous changes I've endured in my move to the United States, I have decided with my team of

advisers that getting ample rest is the most important thing for me right now as I prepare for the 2013 season," Darvish said. "My ultimate goal is to help win a World Series with the Texas Rangers and to share that accomplishment with the great baseball fans in Japan."

By MEGAN KETTERER  
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech cross-country team is headed to Ft. Collins, Colo. this weekend to continue its postseason and compete in the Mountain Regional Championship.

Kennedy Kithuka, a junior from Thika, Kenya, has finished in first place at every race he has competed in this season and would like to do the same this weekend.

"Individually, I'm ready to go there and take it easy and go in to win it," Kithuka said. "I want to represent myself, and be able to compete in nationals (NCAA Men's Cross Country Championship) and run hard there."

Kithuka's effort at the Big 12 meet where he won was tremendous, Tech coach Jon Murray said.

"It was incredible," he said. "We're very amazed by him beating that quality of a field by that much. I think there's just a few

guys in the nation that will be able to compete with him."

Because of the few male runners able to compete with Kithuka, Murray said it will be a great race to watch when Kithuka does have competition.

He has been training and having good team workouts to prepare for the weekend, Kithuka said.

Kithuka has set large goals for himself, he said, but knows he can succeed.

"Before I thought I had to win the first meet and keep that form," he said. "Now, I'm going in to win and go onto nationals."

He thinks the Tech cross-country men's and women's team are talented, he said, and thinks they have a chance to go to the NCAA Men's Cross Country Championship, which is Nov. 17 in Louisville, Ky.

The regional meet this weekend is the next step after conference, Murray said, and the men's team is on track to do well and qualify for the national meet.

The women's team is younger, but he said it will be good to get experience and learn lessons the team can take into the future.

Senior Rachel Folan said going to the regional meet will be easier than going to the conference meet because all of the teams in the conference are good.

The team goal is to stay within 30 seconds of each other when running, she said.

"We were so close for conference," she said. "We always have one person who is hurt or something. We're hoping everyone is OK now that we can make it 30 seconds or less."

There is a new leader in the conference, so Murray said it will be interesting to see how the meet plays out.

"We're trying to get our gap time in our women down to under 30 seconds and get the whole group to move up just a little bit," he said. "That will definitely improve our team performance."

»mketterer@dailytoreador.com

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## Atlanta Falcons still a top AP Pro32 ranking, Houston Texans second spot

NEW YORK (AP)—A close call on the field for the Atlanta Falcons, a near unanimous choice to stay atop the AP Pro32 NFL power rankings.

Atlanta (8-0) topped Dallas 19-13 over the weekend to remain the league's only undefeated team. The Falcons received 11 first-place votes and 382 points Tuesday from The Associated Press' 12-person panel of media members who regularly cover the league.

The Houston Texans moved into the second spot by one point ahead of the Chicago Bears. Rounding out the top five are the San Francisco 49ers and the Green Bay Packers.

The New York Giants, second the past three weeks, dropped into a tie for sixth with the New England Patriots after a loss to Pittsburgh.

Houston totaled 363 points and Chicago had 362, with San Francisco receiving the other first-place vote and 348 points.

"The NFL's Bon Jovi," said ESPN's Chris Berman of the Falcons, "they're halfway there, but NOT living on a prayer."

Despite the perfect record, not everyone's a believer.

"Undefeated? Yes. Super Bowl threat? Yes. Best team in football? Still not convinced,

said Sporting News' Clifton Brown, who had the 49ers first and the Falcons third behind the Bears.

The Texans moved up a spot after their 21-9 win over Buffalo, while the Giants dropped four places after their third loss of the season. The Bears advanced two places after their 51-20 rout of Tennessee, and are set to host the Texans on Sunday night in a matchup of one-loss teams.

Foxsports.com's Alex Marvez said the game "could be a preview of Super Bowl XLVII."

Many voters singled out the Bears' defense, which already has seven interception returns for touchdowns.

"Which offense would you rather have: Jacksonville's or the Bears' defense?" asked CBSsports.com's Clark Judge.

Houston, meanwhile, rarely gives up the ball. The Texans lead the lead with just six turnovers.

"The Texans haven't had a turnover in five games this year," notes the Chicago Tribune's Dan Pompei. "If they can avoid one Sunday, they can beat the Bears."

San Diego and New Orleans made the biggest advances, moving up six spots each — the

Chargers to 16th, the Saints to 17th despite a 3-5 record. Also, surprising Indianapolis — 23-20 winners over Miami — improved four places to 12th after starting the season 32nd and last.

"The Colts are having a magical season, inspired by the fight of their head coach Chuck Pagano and a rookie QB who looks nothing like a rookie," said Fox Sports' John Lynch.

"Andrew Luck already looks like Peyton Manning. Watch out for the Colts," said SiriusXM NFL Radio/CBSsports.com's Pat Kirwan.

The Philadelphia Eagles, who started the season rated eighth, are now 20th, dropping three spots after Monday night's loss to the Saints.

"A sinking ship for Andy Reid and Michael Vick," said CBS Sports/Sirius XM's Rich Gannon.

Also tumbling were Minnesota and Washington. The Vikings fell six places to 18th, the Redskins five slots to 23rd. Kansas City is 32nd.

"Romeo Crennel gives up his defensive coordinator duties and appoints Gary Gibbs. Next up: Ben Roethlisberger's Steelers on the road. Good luck with that," said Newsday's Bob Glauber.