

# the UNIVERSITY DAILY



Serving Texas Tech Since 1925

## FRIDAY

December 3, 1999  
Volume 75, Issue 66

high 61  
low 32  
partly CLOUDY

Saturday: chance of snow, high 41

Stocks	Nasdaq	S&P 500	Dow Jones
price:	3,452.78	1,409.04	11,039.06
change:	+99.07	+11.32	+40.67

Thursday's closing figures

### STATENEWS

#### Charter school closes; lawmakers contemplate change

AUSTIN (AP) — Another independent charter school has closed suddenly, causing some lawmakers to question whether they need to tighten regulations over the operations.

The Academy of Austin, a public charter school that opened in August with more than 200 kindergartens through sixth grade pupils, abruptly closed Wednesday.

Dozens of unaware parents and pupils were stranded when they arrived at the school, which had been stripped of its desks, computers and other furniture.

"I got up to drive my child to school, and there was no school," said Donna Mercer, whose daughter attended first grade.

Officials at the Southfield, Mich., company that ran the school faxed a letter to the Texas Education Agency on Tuesday, saying the school would "go inactive" Dec. 31 because of facility problems. TEA spokesman Joey Lozano told the *Austin American-Statesman*. The letter from Charter School Administrative Services did not specify the problems.

### NATIONAL NEWS

#### Drill sergeant imprisoned for sexual contact with trainees

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — A Fort Jackson drill sergeant was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison and dishonorably discharged for groping or otherwise mistreating 20 women under his command at the Army's largest basic training center.

First Sgt. Yoosuf Asad portrayed himself as someone who could help women with the physical ailments that typically arise during basic training. The women in his training group nicknamed him "Dr. Asad" because of his groping.

"He made it seem like that was his job, that you could go to him for anything, that he was supposed to be doing it," one victim said.

Asad pleaded guilty to five counts of indecent assault, eight counts of indecent acts and six counts of illegal association. He originally faced more than 40 charges alleging improper conduct with 28 women under his command. Twenty-nine charges were dismissed under the plea bargain.

Asad could have gotten 79 years in prison if convicted of the original charges. In addition to the prison term, he was busted down in rank to private.

### WORLD NEWS

#### Rescue workers search for bodies in wreckage of crash

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Rescuers worked into the night Thursday searching for bodies in the tangled wreckage of two trains that collided outside Sydney, killing at least seven passengers and injuring more than 50.

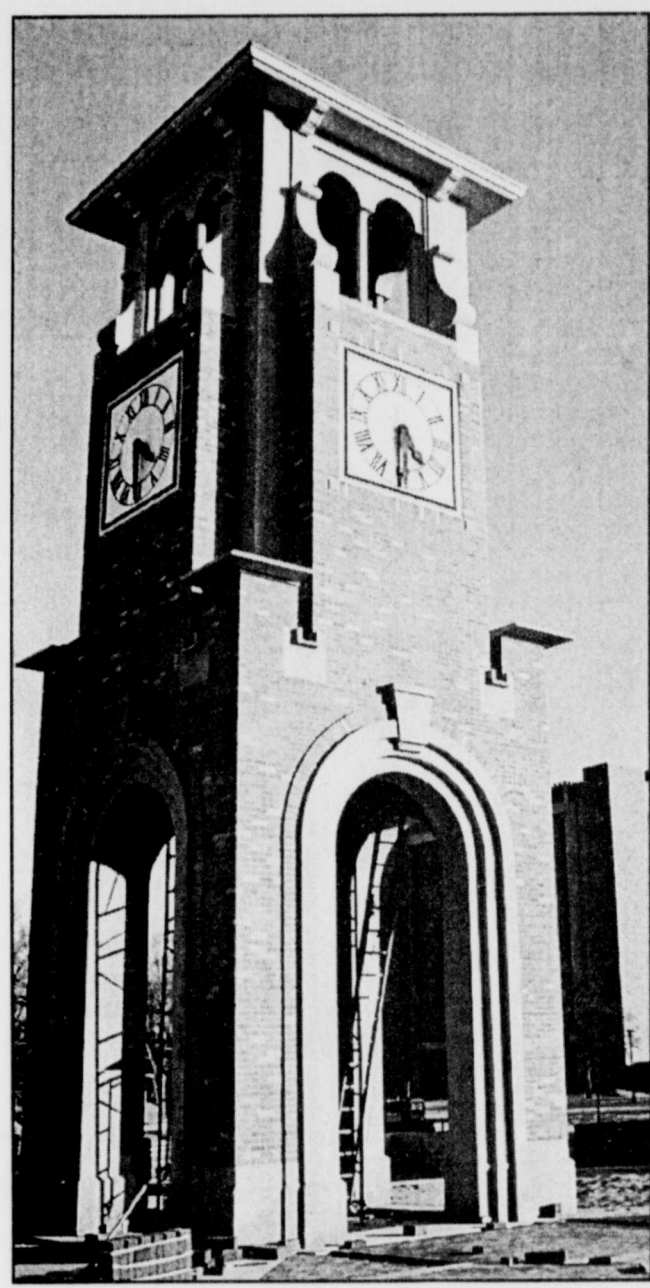
A commuter train carrying 450 people rounded a blind corner during the morning rush and slammed into the back of the transcontinental Indian Pacific, which was carrying 159 passengers, state rail authorities said.

"Seats went flying, people went flying, goods went flying," said Michael Irik, who was aboard the commuter train.

The front of the commuter train was mangled and carved open by the impact. All of the dead had been riding in the first car.

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## PERFECT TIMING



A clock was installed in the Bill Collins clocktower this week.

## Senate discusses driving bill, approves executive pay raises

by Cory Chandler  
Staff Writer

Student government representatives from Texas A&M University and Baylor University spoke about the drowsy driving issue during the Texas Tech Student Senate meeting Thursday.

Rob Ferguson, an A&M student government member, and Jon Rolph, student body president at Baylor, stressed the need to push awareness about drowsy driving.

Ferguson said recent tragedies because of drowsy driving urged A&M's student government to raise awareness about the issue and fight problems leading toward accidents caused by driving while drowsy.

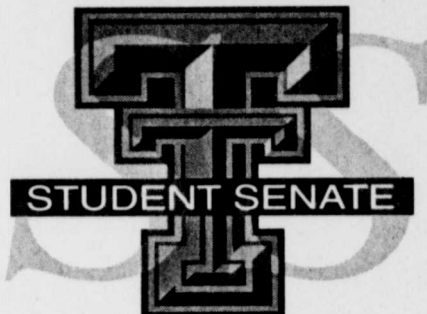
"It's amazing, but one student death can affect an entire student body," Ferguson said, referring to A&M student Lupe Medina. "What is so tragic about these accidents is they are so avoidable."

Medina's death in 1998 prompted their campus to pass legislation to provide student discounts at hotels across the state.

He said there have been 29 student deaths in automobile accidents in Texas this semester. Eleven of these were caused by drowsy driving.

Rolph said the average age of drowsy driving victims is 20, and 2 a.m. is the average time for these accidents.

Tech is working in conjunction



with A&M and Baylor in an effort to spread awareness about the risks of drowsy driving.

Ferguson said one problem with drowsy driving is most students do not realize the risk of driving while deprived of sleep.

Rolph said A&M is hoping to appear before the Texas legislature and lobby for legislation to help end drowsy driving.

These measures would include giving tax breaks to hotels that provide discounts to traveling students.

Ferguson said they also are hoping to add rumble strips to the shoulders of highways that would wake any drivers who have dozed off behind the wheel.

Rumble strips are grooves in the pavement that create a loud noise if a driver drives over them. He said the rate of accidents dropped 34 percent in areas where rumble strips had been added.

Ferguson also said there are 18 hotels offering discounts to traveling students. He said though prices may vary,

according to the locations of the hotels, the average price for one night in these hotels is \$15 or \$20.

Rolph said the show "Dateline" will air an episode dealing with the effects of drowsy driving on students. He also said they hope to take their campaign across more of Texas and eventually the nation.

Senate Bill 35.02 also was passed by the Student Senate. The bill will raise the salaries of the SGA president, internal vice president and external vice president from \$500 a month to \$750 a month.

The increase will go into effect in January.

The salaries have not been adjusted since 1996, said Tim Wright, a senior management information systems major from Plano and chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.

"This issue has been looked over by four senates," he said.

Other Tech employees have received pay raises over the years, and the SGA officials have been overlooked, Wright said.

He also said the budget committee found they had money in the SGA budget to pay for the increase.

Some members of the senate said they felt the increase should be more, but Wright said any further increases would have to come later.

"We settled on the amount we did because pushing an increase above 50 percent is hard to get past anybody," he said.

## Lights to shine on Tech campus in annual event

by Angela Loston  
Staff Writer

Spectators stare spellbound by the comforting glow of more than 25,000 red, white and orange lights illuminating off various campus buildings.

Celestial voices fill the cold, crisp night with cheerful sounds of the approaching holidays. For one night, the spirit of the holidays comes alive, and the Texas Tech community gathers to celebrate.

The extravagant display of lights and caroling are part of the Tech traditional celebration, Carol of Lights.

"It makes you speechless," said Wendy O'Connor, a junior accounting major from Lubbock. "It illuminates the whole area. It just leaves you in awe."

For 17 years, O'Connor said she has attended the holiday event with her family.

"It was an event we could all be a part of with our friends and family members," O'Connor said. "It brought my family together."

The 41st annual Carol of Lights will begin at 7 p.m. today at Memorial Circle and in front of the Geosciences building.

"It's just an exciting event that means a lot to Texas Tech and the community," O'Connor said. "It means a lot to the community because the community really values Texas Tech."

O'Connor, who also is the chairwoman of the Carol of

Lights committee for the Residence Hall Association at Tech, said the social gathering was organized in 1958 by a group of students who gathered around Memorial Circle caroling with candles in their hands.

In 1961, O'Connor said the event officially was named Carol of Lights. The same year, she said students decided to have an added feature for the holiday ceremony — 16,000 Christmas lights.

Various student organizations will participate in the colorful event. With flaming torches in hand, members of the Saddle Tramps will arrive at the event from the Broadway entrance.

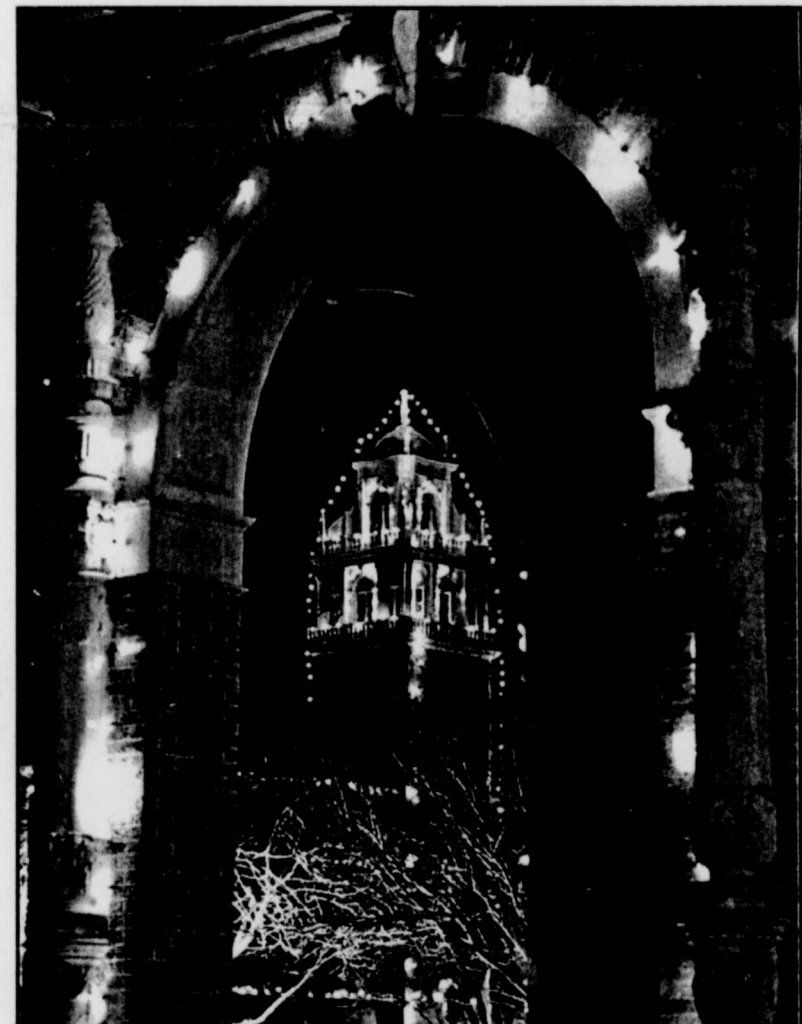
The Masked Rider, dressed in a lighted cape and hat, also will parade in with the Saddle Tramps.

During the festivities, Kenneth Davis, director of choral activities for the School of Music, said the University Choir, the University Singers and the University Chorus all will perform traditional Christmas carols.

"It's a wonderful tradition for the university to have," Davis said. "I love the fact that it is student-run."

With more than a thousand candles, stacks of paper bags and a truck load of sand, members of Chi Rho, Alpha Phi Omega and Women's Service Organization are ready to make numerous luminaries.

Jon Mark Bernal, president of Alpha Phi Omega at Tech, said the glowing paper bags will line the front of the Geosciences building, the Broadway entrance and will surround Memorial Circle.



The 41st annual Carol of Lights will begin at 7 p.m. today at Memorial Circle in front of the Geosciences building.

## For Kids' Sake



Anthony, a sixth grader, chooses his toy with his winnings during the Kappa Sigma Christmas Party. Brad Grimes, a freshman business major from Plano, helped at the event. Heather Dougherty/The University Daily

## Student to compete in 'world's largest' rodeo

by Andy Jones  
Staff Writer

Texas Tech Rodeo Association Coach Chris Guay has a dream involving one of his student athletes.

It begins with the rodeo announcer at the National Finals Rodeo calling out the name of contestant Greg Fuller. Guay, an instructor in the animal science and food technology department, said he imagines the announcer saying, "from Lubbock, Texas, Texas Tech's very own Greg Fuller."

In Guay's dream, the announcer goes on to mention how Fuller won a national intercollegiate bull riding title.

In his own words, the image Guay speaks of is just a dream, at least right now.

Fuller, a junior agricultural communications major from Dimmitt, won his biggest event last weekend. He competed against 220 other bull riders at the 16th annual Championship Bull Riding Extraordinaire in Farmington, N.M.

"It is not PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) or PBR (Professional Bull Riders) sanctioned," Fuller said.

"So it's pretty much open to anyone." The event is billed as the world's largest bull riding event.

Fuller said the event is touted as the "world's largest" because of the number of entrants in the competition.

Fuller rode a bull named Red Rum for a score of 89-1/2 last Friday, and the score was good enough to hold up throughout the weekend.

"The event is a one-hitter, meaning everybody gets one ride and that's it," Fuller said.

"There were three performances and I rode in the Friday performance."

For his efforts, Fuller received an \$8,600 cash prize and the first-place belt buckle.

"It helps out quite a bit," Fuller said about his hobby boosting his financial situation.

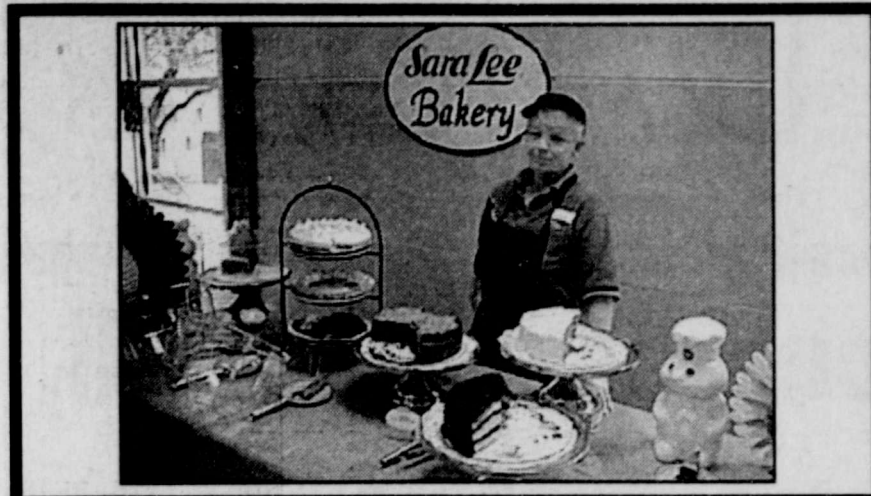
Bull riding is scored on a 50-point scale for riding and a 50-point scale for the caliber of the bull. Guay said the luck of the draw depends on what bull a contestant will ride.

"Before, he wasn't drawing very good bulls at college rodeos, so he wasn't winning," he said.

Fuller said the win did not come as a huge surprise. He also has won bull-riding events at the South Plains Fair, Permian Basin Fair, the Stamford amateur rodeo, and most recently, the 50th annual Tech Intercollegiate Rodeo in October.



# Powerman, Kid Rock hit Lubbock hard



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by Sebastian Kitchen  
 Staff Writer

Music works in cycles. People are getting tired of the pop spin-cycles of boy bands. Now, the music world has cycled into heavy music, and Powerman 5000 has caught the ride.

"People are into heavy music right now, that is lucky for us," said Spider, lead singer for Powerman 5000. "MTV and radio are fickle. Heavy music is big right now. There is a certain amount of luck involved."

Luck or no luck, Powerman 5000 has assaulted rock radio and MTV.

The band's new album, *Tonight the Stars Revolt*, has produced the hit single "When Worlds Collide." The song hit No. 1, and the video received heavy air play.

"It was cool being able to see it happen so quickly," he said. "After being in a band so long, it is great. I am surprised how quickly it took off and how strong it's been."

Spider said it is great to roll into any given town and hear a Powerman 5000 song on the radio.

The band will roll into Lubbock on Saturday, opening for Kid Rock.

### lubbock●alive

who: kid rock, powerman 5000  
 where: fair park coliseum  
 how much: \$25

The bands will perform at the South Plains Fair Park Coliseum located on east Fourth Street.

Tickets cost \$25 and are available through Select-A-Seat and both locations of Ralph's Records and Tapes, 909 University Ave. and 3322 82nd St.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Kid Rock will return to Lubbock to headline the show. Kid Rock has shot up video and radio charts with the hit songs "Cowboy," "I Am The Bullgod" and "Bawitdaba."

After 10 years together, Spider said it is great to see Powerman doing well.

"A lot of bands get together and think in six months they will rule the world," he said. "This way, when it pays off, it is much more rewarding. Everyone knows they have invested a lot in it."



Powerman 5000 will open for Kid Rock on Saturday at the South Plains Fair Park Coliseum.

Although he is not from a musical family, Spider and his famous brother, Rob Zombie, are both lead singers for bands. And now with Powerman's rising popularity, both are successful.

Spider said he does not know what drew him to be a musician.

"I wonder if anyone really knows, something draws you to it," Spider

said. "For me, it is not the performance aspect; it is the creative side. If it was not music, it would be something else. I like to create."

For Spider, the idea of being paid to perform is unbelievable.

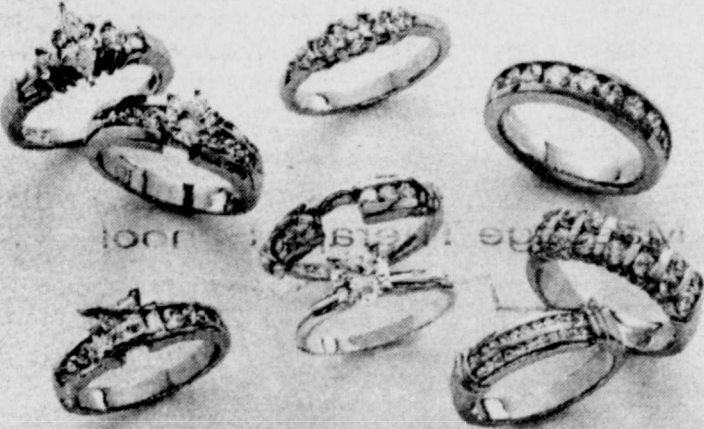
"The idea you can survive with a life like being in a rock band is pretty amazing if you can pull it off," he said.

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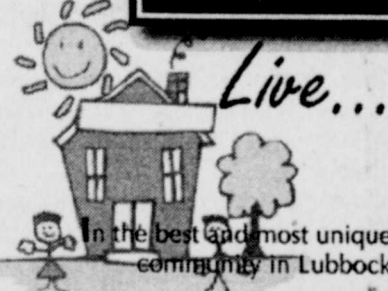


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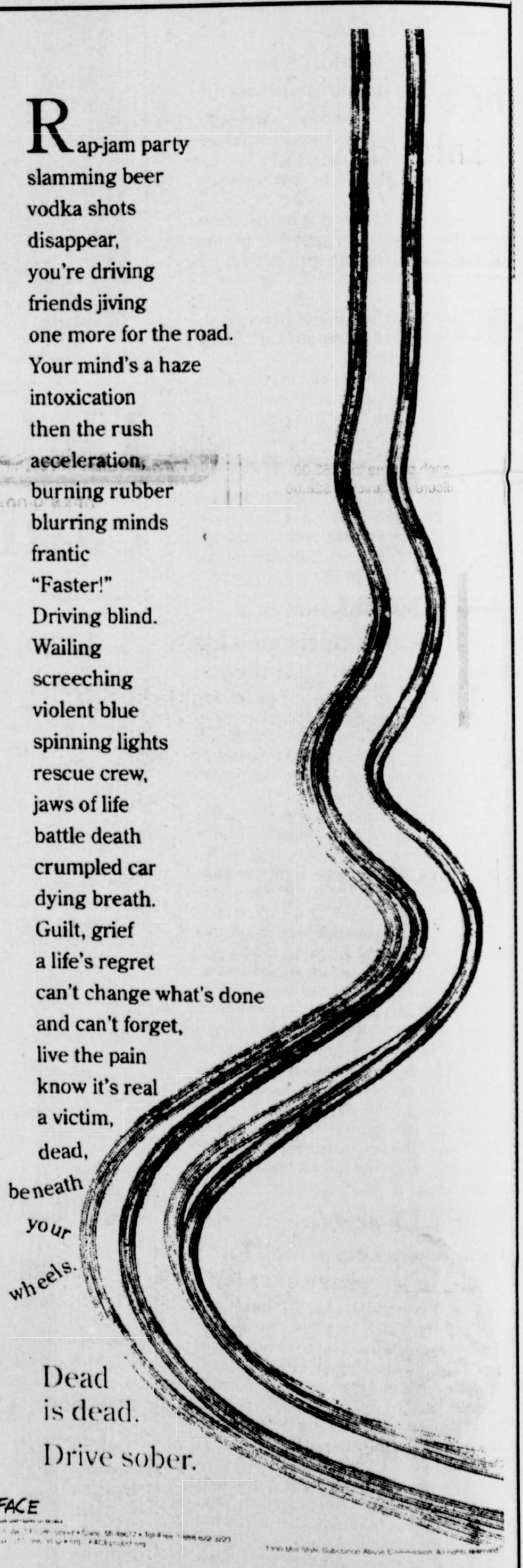
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 battle death  
 crumpled car  
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FACE

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# Healing process begins at A&M as make-shift memorials removed

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Thousands of flowers, notes, crosses, caps, T-shirts and other items left at make-shift memorials for 12 people who were killed in the Texas A&M Univer-

sity bonfire accident will be preserved until student leaders decide how they want it displayed, officials said Wednesday. Students, faculty and staff mem-

bers spent more than seven hours Wednesday carefully removing the remembrances from a portion of the temporary orange fence surrounding the bonfire site. Some of the flowers,

paper wrappings and other items that cannot be preserved most likely will be burned, with the ashes being scattered on campus, officials said. A&M junior Megan Lynch said she

thinks taking the items down will bring closure to the grief-stricken campus. "People need to deal with their grief however they feel it helps them,"

said Lynch, who helped take down the items. "If it helps them to take flowers out there, they need to do that. But it's time to start the healing process on campus."

FRIDAY DECEMBER 3						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 23 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Bloomberg Body Elec.	Today Show	Early Show	Recess Sabrina	Good Morning America	News Paid Program
8:00	Sesame Street			Recess Doug	America Dr. Joy Browne	
9:00	Mr. Rogers Barney	Later Today	Price Is Right	K. Copeland Nanny	Regis & Kathie Lee	Looza
10:00	Teletubbies Wimzie House	Martha Stewart	Young & the Restless	Donny & Marie	View	Diverse Ct. Diverse CT
11:00	Zoboomatoo Arthur	Sunset Beach	Forgive or Forget	All My Children	People Court	
12:00	Nancy Sews S. Adams	News Days of Our Lives	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	News Port Charles	Mills Lane Mills Lane
1:00	Amer. Sews Barney	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Ricki Lake	One Life to Live	MaTock
2:00	T. Tugboat Dragon Tales	Hwyd Square	Guiding Light	Paid Program Liv'g Single	General Hospital	Paid Program Magic Bus
3:00	Arthur Wishbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povich	Grace/Fire Caroline	Sally Jessy Raphael	Monster Beast Wars
4:00	Zoom R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	Family Feud Jeopardy	Enquirer E.T.	Montel Williams	Digimon PR Galaxy
5:00	Kratt's Nightly Bus	News NBC News	News CBS News	Ricki Lake	News ABC News	Home Impr. Simpsons
6:00	News NBC News	News W/ Fortune	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News ABC News	News ABC News	Voyager
7:00	Wash. Week Wall St. Wk.	Providence '99	C. Brown Snowden	Movie: 'Primal Force'	Boy/World Odd Man Out	FOX Movie: 'Cliffhanger'
8:00	Great Performance	Dateline	Nutbeat Nutcracker	Force	Sabrina '10 Hughtleys 'PG	
9:00	Michelangelo Restored	Law & Order 'TV14	Nash Bridges	Jerry Springer	2020	Cops Cops
10:00	Nightly Bus	News Tonight Show	News David	Joe Brown Joe Brown	News MASH	Simpsons Frasier
11:00	Conan	Craig T. Littleman	Greg Mathis	Nightline Mad/You	Cheers Coach	
12:00	O'Brien Friday Night	Kilborn Seinfeld	Real TV Newsradio	Incorrect	Blind Date	Blind Date

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 23 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Teletubbies Imagination	Saturday Today	Rescue '97 Blastin' '97	Jack Hanna Wild Amer.	Sat. Morning	Digimon Cyber 9
8:00	Arthur Zoboomatoo	M. Stewart Hang Time	Resc. Hero Fly'n Rhino	Bob Vila Homeowner	Sabrina	Monster Digimon
9:00	Wishbone	City Guys	Crypkeeper Warriors	Paid Program Sabam Show	Subs Bunny Winnie Pooh	Beast Mash Avengers
10:00	Pets V. Garden	City Guys In/Suff '97	Football: Army vs. Navy	WCW Wrestling	Mouseworks Sculgivias	Under/Helmet Paid Program
11:00	J. Wilson Old House	Saved/Bell P. Ford	Movie: 'Twist Of Fate'	Paid Program Wildie	Next Generation	
12:00	NY Workshop Hometime	C. Amore R. Rainbow	Sports Spec.	Movie: 'Andre'	Agenda Football: Big 12 Champship	Deep Space 9
1:00	Whole Child Motorweek	Golf: Office	Basketball: Kentucky vs. Indiana	Movie: 'Muppet'	Amazon	
2:00	Fine Art Memories	Depot Father/Son	Movie: 'Muppet'	Christmas Carol	Baywatch	
3:00	Democracy Body/Soul	Dumb. Crim. NBC News	Paid Program CBS News	Hollywood Christmas	News Mad/You	J. Stooles
4:00	Viewpoint TX Parks	News TX Country	News W/ Fortune	Parade	Football: SEC Cops	
5:00	Nature	Profounder 'TV14	Xmas w/ Amy Grant	Voyager	Championship	AMW
6:00	Lawrence Weik	Profounder 'TV14	Marital Law	Ultimate Trek	Your Big Break	
7:00	News NBC News	Amazing Videos	Walker TX Ranger	Polarisat	News MASH	MAD TV
8:00	News NBC News	News Saturday	News Xena	Earth Final Conflict	NYPD Blue	Battledome
9:00	News NBC News	Night Live 'TV14	Hercules	Outer Limits	Paid Program NY Undercover	
10:00	News NBC News	Profler	Motown Live			

SUNDAY DECEMBER 5						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 23 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Teletubbies Tots TV	Sunday Today	Paid Program Lord's Way	Doug Recess	Paid Program	Paid Program
8:00	Arthur Wishbone	TX Reporter 1st	CBS Sunday Morning	Sabrina Recess	Food/Child Prophecy	K. Copeland Eddie Trice
9:00	Zoboomatoo	Methodist Most the	News Face Nation	Movie: 'Toys'	In Touch Saturn Show	FOX News Sunday
10:00	Healthweek NOVA	Paid Program Olymp. Gold	NFL Today	Wild Things	This Week Sam & Cokie	FOX NFL Sunday
11:00	Wall St. Wk.	Paid Program	Football: Indian. @	Honey I Shrunk the	Paid Program Riverwalk	Football: Washington
12:00	Burt Wolf New Tastes	Golf: Father & Son Challenge	Miami	Pensacola	Parade Women @ Risk	@ Detroit
1:00	Firing Line	Son Challenge	NY Undercover	Toybot		
2:00	Small Bus. Comp. Chron.	Golf: J.C. Penney	Football: Kansas	Baywatch	'SU Grand Prix	Post Game Grand Slam
3:00	Austin City Limits	Classic	City @ Deriver	V.I.P.	Series Figure	Skat'g Tournament
4:00	J. Lund Healthweek	Paid Program NBC News	Relic Hunter	ABC News	ABC News	Paid Program
5:00	Lawrence Weik	Dateline	60 Minutes	Your Big Break	ABC Movie: 'Winnie Kinghill'	World's Funniest Kinghill
6:00	Nature	Third Watch 'TV14	Touched by an Angel	Movie: 'Invasion'	Rosie Christmas	Simpsons Futurama
7:00	Great Performance	NBC Movie: 'Daylight'	CBS Movie: 'Santa And Pete'	USA	ABC Movie: 'Tuesdays'	X-Files
8:00	Mystery!	News In/Editor	News Seinfeld	Pollard Ford H2M	News MASH	Relic Hunter
9:00	Mystery!	Extra	3rd Rock Spike Dykes	Tejano City. Party of	Access	Amazon
10:00	Profler	Xena	Five Roger Ebert	Paid Program	V.I.P.	

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# FORWARD



## Committee gearing up for 2001

All Student Organizations: The leaves have turned and fallen. The wind suddenly possesses a bone-chilling power, forcing most of the Texas Tech campus to run for the warm shelter of their residence hall, apartment or house.

Fall is nearly over, and winter is nearly upon us. Soon spring will come, bringing green plants, new life and funds for your organizations.

That's right. It's time to start thinking about organizational funding for the 2000-2001

school year. Organizational funds are provided by the Student Services Fee. As a service to students, the Student Government Association allocates money to organizations registered with Tech. If your organization is interested in applying for funds, please make certain that the following tasks are completed:

1.) Make sure your group is a registered student organization. If you are not sure your organization is registered, check with the Student Organization Services Office in Room

210 University Center, or call 742-3621.

2.) A representative from your organization must attend a budget workshop. The members of the Budget and Finance Committee understand that many officers have attended these workshops in the past; however, rules and regulations change every year. The Budget and Finance Committee wants everyone to be kept up to date on current procedures. Besides, what could be more fun than talking about how to get money?

3.) All organizations need to pick up a 2000-2001 Funding Request Packet. This packet must be filled out and turned in no later than Feb. 2. Packets will be available at the first budget workshop and during normal business hours in the SGA office, Room 230 UC, after Dec. 7.

Packets also will be available to download at [www.sga.ttu.edu](http://www.sga.ttu.edu) after Dec. 7.

4.) Finally, every organization that turns in a packet applying for funding must come to the SGA office for an interview with the Budget and Finance Committee. The interviews will run from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 7 to Feb. 10 and from Feb. 14 to Feb. 17. Sign-ups for interviews will be available at the first budget workshop and during normal business hours

at the SGA office after Dec. 7. Refreshments will not be served. (Sorry, we have to be responsible with our money! It's our job.)

The first budget workshop will be at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 in the UC Matador Room. A second workshop will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 19 in the UC Matador Room.

At this time, these are the only budget workshops available.

If an organization misses both meetings, it will not be eligible for funding (sorry, rules are rules).

The committee would like to encourage organizations to come to the first workshop in order to avoid overcrowding at the second one. It sometimes smells when too many people crowd into that room at once.

The Budget and Finance Committee looks forward to serving Tech's outstanding organizations. Most questions can be answered by checking on the SGA Web site at [www.sga.ttu.edu](http://www.sga.ttu.edu).

If you have any questions regarding funding policies that still are unanswered, please direct them to Tim Wright at [TimD1848@aol.com](mailto:TimD1848@aol.com).

Tim Wright is the chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Who's the man?

To the editor: Earlier this year, I wrote a letter to the editor asking a fellow student to have a little more respect and school spirit for Texas Tech. I am now writing to ask for the help of other fellow students on a matter that will affect our college for many years to come. Earlier this week, an article was written in the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* by Don Williams about the head football coach job at Tech. Williams stated the offensive coordinators at Florida State and Georgia Tech had been contacted by the *A-J* and asked about the job at Tech. Both implied that they would be interested but had not been contacted by Tech. I believe that this, my fellow students, is a horrible thing. Gerald Myers, Tech's athletic director, has not contacted these two men. Perhaps this is because he is too big on Rich Rodriguez from Clemson getting the job. I am writing to ask that other fellow students do the same thing that I did. Send an e-mail to Myers asking him why he has not contacted these two men, and tell him your feelings. I personally think that Tech deserves the best coach possible, and I think that we should look at all the possibilities.

Michael Denton  
sophomore  
psychology/business

To the editor: I would like to comment on the letter titled "Decisions, decisions" in Thursday's *University Daily*. The letter implies that Tech needs to hire a big name coach to replace Spike Dikes. A name is not important. Lou Holtz was a genius at Notre Dame, but has anyone seen how he's been doing at South Carolina? Who said that a big name coach wants to come to Tech? Who said that Tech can afford a big name coach? The fact of the matter is, Texas Tech fans have expressed their desire for a young, offensive-minded head coach. Rich Rodriguez certainly fits that description. Rodriguez's experience should not be in question either. The Clemson Tigers went 6-5 this season (the same as Tech), and Rodriguez coached under ACC coach of the year Tommy Bowden. Rich Rodriguez is a great candidate for the job, and he will probably make a big name for himself.

Jason Dugan  
sophomore  
business

To the editor: After reading Thursday's *UD*, I saw two letters to the editor asking why Tech Athletic Director Gerald Myers is interviewing Tony Samuel. Let me just tell you the guy turned a terrible program around in three years. Anybody that can win in a place that is tough to recruit players is a good coach. Whitehead said he was insulted when he heard that Samuel was up for the job. Who do you think you are? Samuel was an assistant and player for Nebraska. This guy comes from big-time football. So I do not know how you can be insulted. Samuel is the man for the job.

Matt Muench  
freshman  
journalism

To the editor: I must say that I grew up in this area, and I am a devoted Raider fan. I have always supported the Raiders and remember watching the first ball game that coach Dykes coached in the Independence Bowl. However, I do agree that it was about time for a change at the top. I would like to thank coach Dykes for his years of work for this university that he loves. But recently, all the talk involving Tech football is about who to hire to replace Dykes. There have been many times this semester that I intended to write this letter to express my opinion, but did not because of time constraints or other situations that prevented me from writing. But today I am writing to respond to two separate letters printed in Thursday's *UD*. Both Whitehead and Sturdivant wrote letters regarding the replacing of coach Dykes at the helm of the football program. First off, I agree that Tech should contact both the offensive coordinator from Florida State and Georgia Tech if they show any interest in the job opening. But this is where the similarities end. Whitehead states that he was "insulted" that Tech would contact the head coach from New Mexico State. Well, if Whitehead knew what he was talking about, he would know that Tony Samuel, the New Mexico State head coach, is a former Nebraska defensive linemen and former Nebraska defensive line and linebackers coach. This guy knows how to win and what it takes to win just from his Nebraska background. I agree that I would rather have a different coach because of his defensive background and running attack offense, but not because he comes from a struggling New Mexico State program. And to respond to Sturdivant who thinks that Gerald Myers shouldn't be athletic director, who should the new coach be? It is under Myers that coach James Dickey and coach Marsha Sharp have received contract extensions to keep them here at Tech. The previous director, Bob Bockrath, almost singlehandedly destroyed Tech's academic reputation. Bockrath did the same at Alabama. The program has been rebuilt under

Myers. So tell me, exactly what has Myers done wrong so far?

Then there is the story on Rich Rodriguez. Yes, he is obviously the favorite for the job right now, and I believe that he has the job if he wants it. And I will fully back that decision. Here's why. Rich does come from Clemson, but he has only coached there for one year after following Tommy Bowden from Tulane. At Clemson, he has put up great numbers in a very tough conference. Clemson is third in the ACC in offense behind Florida State and Georgia Tech. Clemson's 6-5 record is very misleading. Clemson the only team in America to play all three current unbeaten teams in NCAA Division I. Before going to Clemson, Rodriguez coached seven straight all-conference quarterbacks. While leading Tulane to 12-0 season in 1998, his offense was the only one in the nation to average both 300 yards passing and 200 yards on the ground. One of those all-conference quarterbacks that is now in the NFL and currently the starting quarterback in Tampa Bay, Shawn King from Tulane, recently said in an interview that Rodriguez is a player's coach. This is a big statement because players' coaches recruit players who want to play and will play hard for them. It is this reason, and the fact that he has always had an explosive offense and has gotten the most out of his players, that I would support the hiring of Rich Rodriguez to replace coach Dykes.

Joe-Michael Wright  
sophomore  
business

#### Bowling Party

To the editor: I read the article, "Raiders Await Bowling Party in '99" on the Internet edition of *The UD* (11/30). Like many current and former Tech students, I am disgusted at the fact that finishing fourth in the Big 12 and defeating three teams being considered for bowl games (Colorado, Oklahoma and A&M) is not enough to get the Red Raiders into a bowl game. Instead of waiting to see what happens, Tech students should be proactive and get Tech into a bowl game. Use the Internet! Send e-mail messages to the Web sites of the Alamo Bowl (where Tech, as the Big 12 No. 4, rightly belongs), the Insight.Com Bowl and the Independence Bowl. In fact, [www.alamobowl.com](http://www.alamobowl.com) is having an Internet poll on which team to invite. Any student who attended Tech from 1986 on and enjoyed watching the Red Raiders, owes it to Spike.

Tom Murphy  
Class of 1984  
Albuquerque, N.M.

# Nostalgic events highlight decade

Well, fellow students, this is the last column of the semester from yours truly. I have wondered what I should write about, and it occurs to me that no matter what it is, it won't be that dazzling. I figure that since this is the end of the year and the end of the decade, I will pontificate on the past 10 years.



Cameron Graham  
Columnist

Another thought comes to mind: life is replete with choices. I am sure that all of us have on more than one occasion wished we had made different choices — that we should have turned left when we turned right, that we should have taken that particular trigonometry class rather than the art class that lets you draw naked people. Yes, I am sure that if we all had access to Mr. Well's time machine, we would undo many things.

Looking back on the 1990s, we find there were many events that shaped the American ideal. We have, finally, another decade to talk about rather than bemoan the supposed greed and decadence of the 1980s and the nostalgia of the 1970s.

We started this decade off with our military in the Persian Gulf. We went in to do a job, and, in the end, we emerged victorious. And despite what the bleeding hearts say, we had a vested national interest in flexing our muscles in the Middle East. We had to ensure the free flow of oil at market prices. Yes, we were concerned about naked aggression, but, when it came down to it, we had an interest, and we protected it.

Sadly though, after the war, we had our servicemen return with medical problems. Gulf War Syndrome caused many doctors to scratch their heads in wonderment. It remains to be seen if this country will treat these fighting men with the respect that is due to them, rather than simply dismissing them.

Then in 1992 began a great crisis in the nation. A man from Arkansas, along with his wife, were thrust into national prominence and ultimately into the White House. Bill Clinton and his cronies soon set to work destroying the gains that had been made in the 12 years prior to his election.

Despite his promises, we were given the single largest tax increase in the history of this nation. And by making it retroactive, he actually taxed dead people — proof positive that the old saying of "death and taxes" does indeed have merit.

Clinton was also busy getting cozy with unfriendly governments. The most glaring example is China. Not only does it appear that he took illegal campaign funds from them, he also sold them essential missile technology. So he has succeeded in not only undermining his marriage but also the security of this country as well. I trust all the Clinton supporters are happy.

We also had a share of natural disasters. Earthquakes in California, not to mention Turkey and Mexico. The farmers of the Midwest had to endure the disastrous flooding of the Mississippi River. But perhaps the most awesome event of all was Hurricane Andrew. It drove across southern Florida and left utter ruin and destruction in its wake that Floridians are still working to rebuild.

The most devastating event to befall our country came one day in April. Oklahoma City, in America's heartland, was rocked by terrorism. The Murrah Federal Building was destroyed by a couple of poison pills who were smarting over the Branch Davidian episode that took place a few years earlier. What was worse was that it was not foreigners that did it, but American citizens.

Their trial was just one of many that gripped national headlines. But the most famous, or infamous depending on your view, would have to be the trial of O.J. Simpson. Here we learned that if something doesn't fit, then we must acquit.

Yes, my friends, there have been many events of the 1990s that truly make it a decade for the history books. The events I have chronicled are just the tip of the iceberg. We have all experienced these events, and with events in our personal lives, it is going to be a decade long remembered. I know that in my case this is certain to be true.

In closing, I would like to say good luck, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and that I will see you all next semester for more enthralling editorials. Take care.

Cameron Graham is a senior history major from Lubbock.

Write a letter to the editor.  
Drop it by 211 Journalism,  
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include your social security  
number and phone number.

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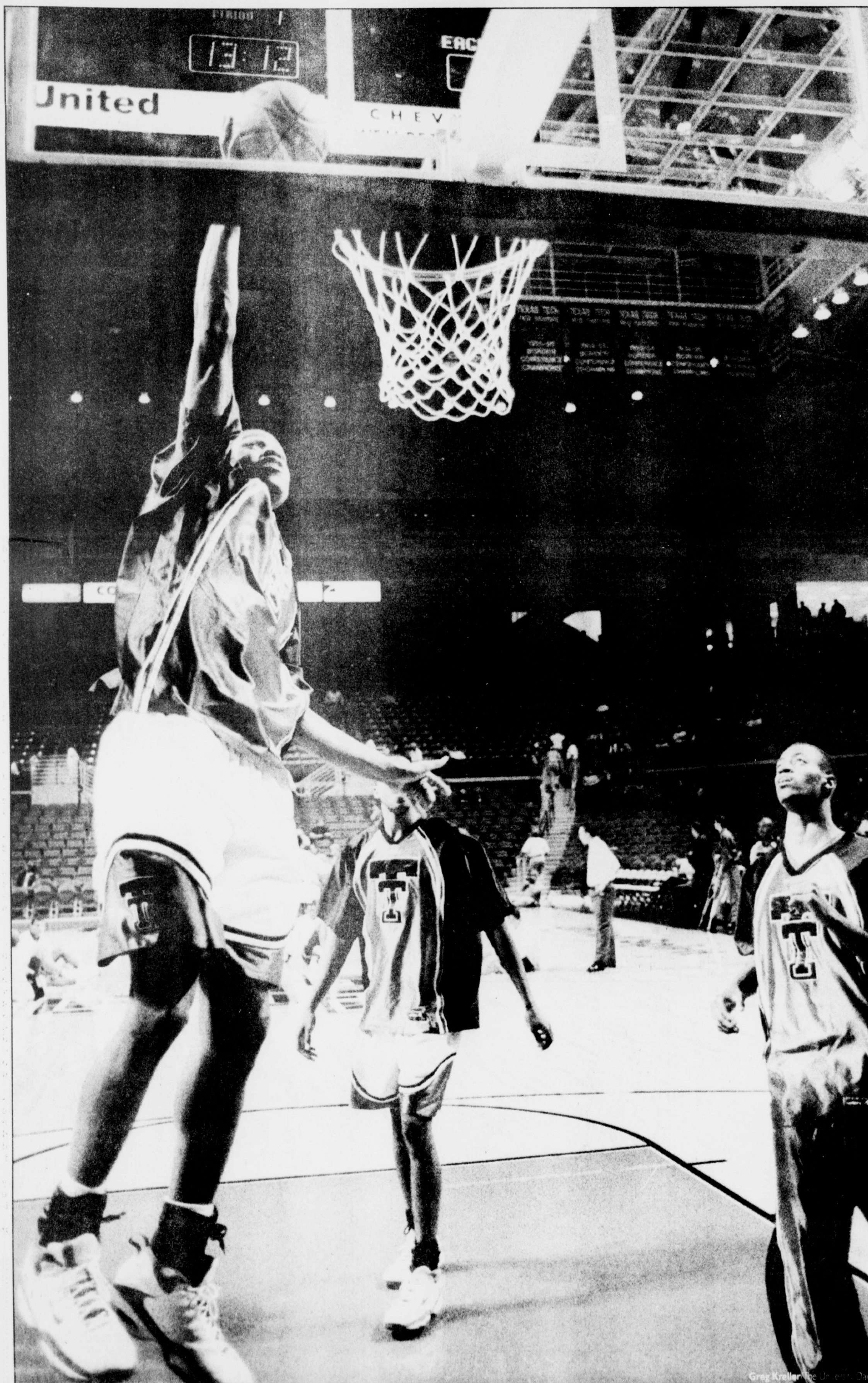
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# HOOP DREAMS



by Jeff Keller  
Staff Writer

**A**fter a 13-17 record last year, the Texas Tech men's basketball team will try to rebound and have a winning campaign this season.

The team will face off against Louisiana-Lafayette at 2 p.m. Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

A season ago, the Red Raiders got off to an 8-5 record in the non-conference schedule but struggled to a 5-12 mark in the Big 12 Conference.

Last year's squad had six players that had never seen a minute of playing time as Raiders.

This season, those players are in their second year in coach James Dickey's system, and they will try to get the Red Raiders back to the postseason for the first time since 1996.

Forward Mario Layne is one of those players in the second year of Dickey's program and said the Red Raiders are not going to accept anything less than a win this season.

"It's all about the wins," Layne said. "It doesn't matter if you play hard or play close. We don't want to take any consolation prizes."

Running the offense this season will be senior guard Rayford Young.

Young averaged a career-high 16 points a game last season and poured in 41 points against nationally-ranked Kansas in a Tech victory.

Young said his senior season is going to be a victorious one without a doubt.

"I am looking forward to this season," Young said. "We're going to be in the tournament. I don't care what anybody says. We are just going to come out and play hard. I am going to do my best to be a leader and make sure everybody is happy."

Returning in the middle for the Red Raiders is sophomore center Andy Ellis.

Ellis was the leading freshman rebounder last year in the Big 12 and proved he was an accurate shooter collecting three perfect scoring outings against Oklahoma, Texas and Baylor.

Ellis scored a career-high 30 points in Tech's season opener this season against Indiana, and Young said Ellis is turning into a dominant force in the middle for Tech.

"Our inside strength this season is definitely improved over last year," Young said. "I've been telling people all summer, and I am going to be telling them all year that I think Andy Ellis is the next Keith Van Horn. He is just a great player, and he is going to really help us."

Tech also will have senior leadership returning at the other guard position with James Ware.

Freshman Ron "Boogie" Hobbs joins the squad this season after earning first team All-District honors as a senior at Eversman a year ago.

Forward Moses Malone Jr. also will join the squad at about midseason as he completes a season of sitting out after transferring to Tech from Houston.

James Dickey enters his ninth season at the helm of the Red Raider program with a 145-89 mark.

Dickey has led his squads to the postseason three times and said making it back this year is the team's goal as always.

"We want to win 20-plus games and be in the NCAA Tournament the same as always," Dickey said. "But we're going to have to work hard."

The Red Raiders will play 11 non-conference contests this season and will begin their 16-game Big 12 Conference schedule Jan. 8 in Stillwater, Okla., against Oklahoma State.

Greg Krall/The Oklahoman



# Lady Raiders underestimated

by Amy Curry  
Staff Writer

For the first time this decade, the Texas Tech Lady Raider basketball team has been selected as an underdog.

Receiving a fifth-place Big 12 preseason ranking is a whole new realm for a team and a coach who don't know the meaning of the words "unsuccessful season."

Winning tradition has long characterized the Lady Raiders. The Tech squad has won back-to-back Big 12 regular season championships and Big 12 Tournament championships. The Lady Raiders also have made 10-straight NCAA appearances. But if any titles or championships are won this season, it will be accredited to a whole new crew.

The 1999-2000 Lady Raiders have some big shoes to fill after losing seniors Angie Braziel, Rene Hanebutt, Julie Lake and Cara Gibbs. Braziel and company accounted for 48.2 points, 18.1 rebounds and 7.4 assists-per-game.

Though the heart of Tech's offense is gone, all is not lost.

Starters Melinda Schmucker-Pharies and Keitha Dickerson and other key players Aleah Johnson, Katrisa O'Neal and Kristi Washington have returned to the lineup this year.

Lady Raiders coach Marsha Sharp said much of the responsibility for this year's team falls on the shoulders of her most experienced players.

"I think there's still a lot of question

marks for this basketball team," she said. "The good news is there are a lot of spots up for grabs and that usually makes your competition within your team pretty strong. I don't think there's any question we'll have to rely heavily upon our senior class. Those three have got to step up and perform."

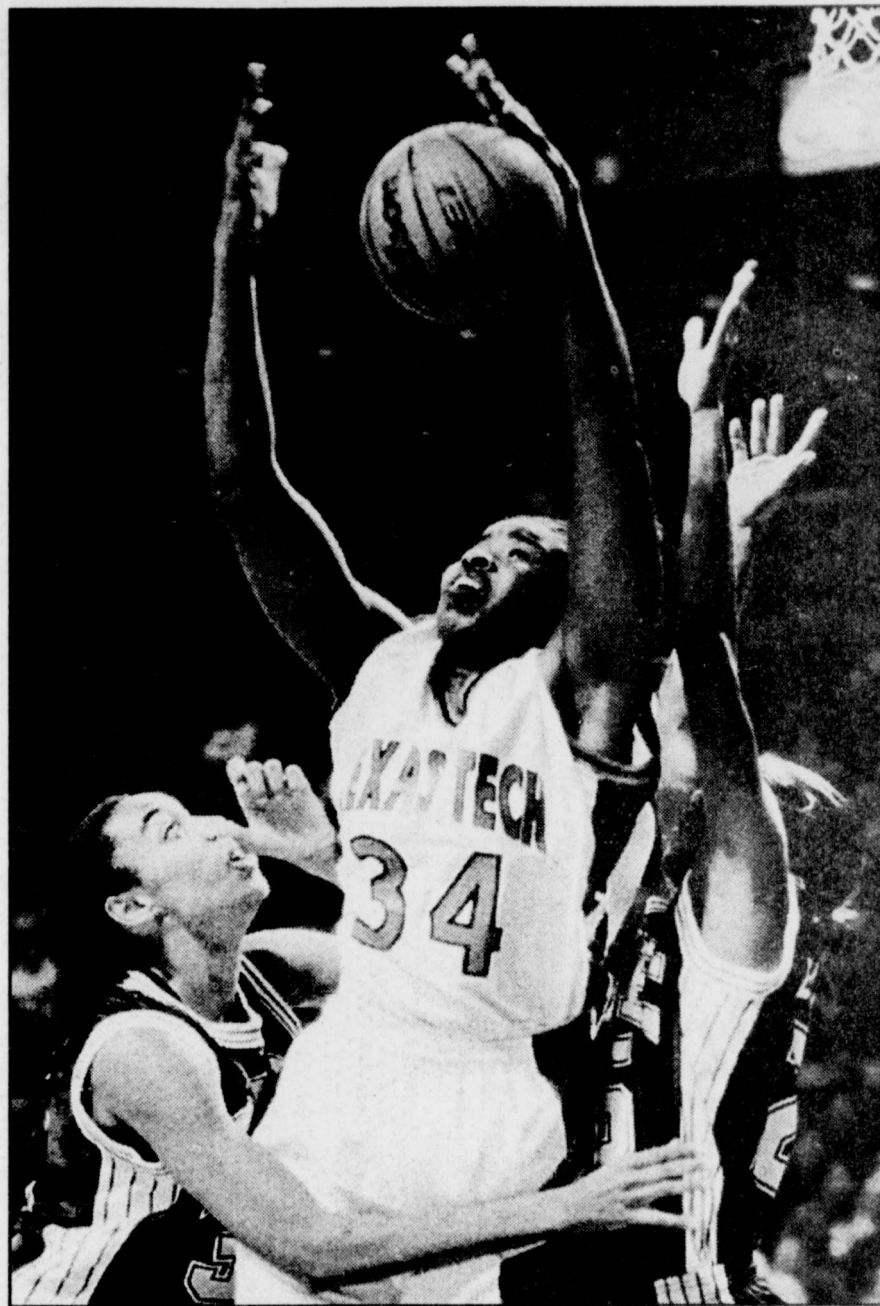
During the recruiting season, Sharp also netted several high school standouts in Courtney Pastner, Plenette Pierson, Jamie Nagle and Nikki Hendrix.

Nagle said she feels honored to have the opportunity to play for a team with such a long-standing reputation for success.

"It's really awesome to be able to play at Tech," Nagle said. "The Lady Raiders have a history of being successful. And with the group we have this year, we have the potential to do some great things."

Tech opened its season with four consecutive victories, the first being a 56-49 win against No. 14-ranked LSU in the Secret Four in the Fall Classic.

With a four-game winning streak to keep alive, the Lady Raiders will face off with SMU on Saturday before they test their skills against professionals when they clash with the USA National Team on Sunday. Both games will be played at 7 p.m. at the United Spirit Arena.



Greg Kreller/The University Daily  
The Lady Raiders are undefeated so far this season. They are ranked 16th in the nation and will take on SMU at 7 p.m. Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

# Colorado set to surprise Big 12

by Amy Curry  
Staff Writer

During the 1998-1999 season, the Colorado men's basketball team fell to a 12-13 record overall after a 31-point loss to Missouri and a 3-9 record in the Big 12 Conference.

Until then, the season had been a series of ups and downs, with no real momentum builders, no real inspired play.

Colorado coach Ricardo Patton had fooled around with the lineup to the extent that 11 of his 12 players started at least three games. Ten started at least eight contests.

Three players had missed as many as 10 games each with injuries. Another was dismissed from the team. After the loss to Missouri, the Buffaloes could have given up on the thought of salvaging what was left of the season. Instead, they found their stride. Colorado won its final four Big 12 games by an average of 12 points. They entered the league tournament with great expectations and won their first game in Kansas City in nearly a decade.

The streak ended, however, in the next round, but Colorado had pulled itself out of a hole and landed in the NIT. The fast finish that produced the 18-15 overall record qualifies as a comeback season at Colorado. The streak left Colorado feeling confident this season.

Missing is lead scorer Kenny Price, the team's top 3-point

threat. In preseason polls, Colorado was ranked seventh in the Big 12 Conference.

So far, the Buffs are 3-1, winning three straight before losing to Virginia Commonwealth.

In an attempt to recover, the Buffs will take on California at 9 p.m. Saturday.

After finishing with a respectable 15-14 overall record and advancing to the second round of the National Invitational Tournament, the Colorado women's squad lost much of its experienced personnel for the 1999-2000 season.

Four players left the Buffalo program, and another decided she didn't want to come back after suffering an injury last season.

One of the players who left, Nikki Weddle.

The departures leave the Buffs facing their third consecutive season with little experience or depth.

The Buffs are the youngest team in the Big 12.

The Buffs now are 2-3 for the season, suffering losses to Denver and Michigan in their first two games of the year before battling back to defeat Wright State and Western Michigan.

CU wasn't able to maintain the momentum, though, as the Buffs went on to lose to Colorado State in their next competition.

The No. 8 Big 12-ranked CU squad will hit the hardwood again at 10 p.m. Saturday when they play Oregon to try to even up their season record at three.

## THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

**ACROSS**

- Tidal situation
- Branch of the mil.
- Sappho's birthplace
- Ingenuity
- East
- Belmont or Preakness, e.g.
- Discovery
- Three-letter sandwich
- Needle case
- Unless, in law
- Set sights
- Bigwig in DC
- Unassisted
- Tokyo, once
- Lon... of Cambodia
- Chalk wiper
- Horse controls
- Orig. of Love
- Adhesive substance
- Ship bunks
- Alfonso's queen
- New Deal org.
- Bart's dad
- Ginnie
- Hair fashions
- Winglike structure
- "Vogue" rival
- Bandleader
- Winding
- Mickey's mouse
- Life insurance policy provision
- Homebound
- Bosh
- Players' representatives
- Ready to go
- Week units

**DOWN**

- Archibald or Thurmond
- Drops the ball
- Leaning precariously
- Water works?
- Leslie of "Mr. MaGoo"
- Coll. sports grp.
- Action word
- Shoreline state
- East ender?
- Father
- Pulsations
- When to enter
- Pewter mug
- Thrash about
- Heroine of "The Good Earth"
- Acronym of a restaurant chain
- Nothing more than
- Croat's neighbor
- fixe (obsession)
- Roulette bet in Monte Carlo
- Heroic Horatio
- Rly-fishing action
- Scatters seed
- Montreal ballplayer
- Nolan or Meg
- Final degree
- Like broken horses
- Latin handle
- Some inhalers?
- Malady
- Morales of "Bad Boys"
- Disfigures
- Produced literary work, e.g.
- Beside
- Circumvent
- Black in poetry
- Rustic hotels
- Singer Simone
- Minuscule
- Looks at
- Fate
- Female deer

By Patrick McConville  
Manassas Park, VA  
12/3/99

### Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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FAIL SCOTTS GALE  
ARNE PARSE URAL  
BEAN ABEAM ETNA  
LANDOCALRISSIAN  
ESE MEL OTC  
WAD AMBUSHES  
TALON ISAO OWE  
ANAKINSKYWALKER  
TOM OLES GEESSE  
ANIMATED TOG  
NOD AIR OVA  
GRANDMOFFTARKIN  
RITA APRIL EAST  
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11:15a 1:50p 4:35p 7:15p 10:25p  
DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) 11:50a 2:35p 5:10p 7:50p 10:30p  
END OF DAYS (R) DIGITAL  
10:50a 1:40p 4:25p 7:40p 10:40p  
HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) DIGITAL  
10:55a 1:35p 4:10p 7:25p 10:00p  
THE MESSENGER: JOAM OF ARC (R) DIGITAL  
12:00p 3:15p 7:10p 10:25p  
MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG-13) 1  
1:10a 1:45p 4:45p 7:35p 10:30p  
POKEMON: THE FIRST MOVIE (G) 1  
1:20a 1:55p 4:20p 7:05p  
SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) DIGITAL ON 2 SCREENS  
11:00a 11:45a 1:30p 2:15p 4:00p 4:45p 7:00p 7:45p 9:50p 10:45p  
THE BACHELOR (PG-13) DIGITAL  
11:25a 2:00p 4:40p 7:10p 9:45p  
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) DIGITAL  
10:55a 1:45p 4:30p 7:15p 10:20p  
THE INSIDER (R) 11:45a 4:05p 7:30p  
THE SIXTH SENSE (PG-13) 11:05a 1:25p 4:05p 7:20p 9:50p  
THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) DIGITAL ON 2 SCREENS  
10:45a 11:05a 1:30p 2:00p 4:30p 5:00p  
7:30p 8:00p 10:35p 11:00p  
THREE KINGS (R) 9:35p  
TOY STORY 2 (G) DIGITAL ON 2 SCREENS  
11:00a 11:45a 1:40p 2:25p 4:20p 5:05p  
7:00p 7:45p 8:40p 10:20p

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THE BACHELOR (PG-13) 2:20p 5:00p 7:40p 10:20p  
BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R) 4:00p 7:40p 9:50p  
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) 4:10p 7:10p 10:10p  
DOGMA (R) 4:05p 7:05p 10:05p  
END OF DAYS (R) 4:25p 7:25p 10:25p  
HAPPY TEXAS (PG-13) 2:05p 4:40p 7:20p 10:00p  
HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) 9:40p  
THE OMEGA CODE (PG-13) 2:20p 5:00p 7:40p 10:15p  
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SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) ON 2 SCREENS  
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STAR WARS EP. 1-CHARITY (PG)  
4:00p 7:00p 10:00p  
TOY STORY 2 (G) No Passes ON 2 SCREENS  
2:15p 2:45p 4:55p 5:25p 7:35p 8:05p 10:20p  
THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) ON 2 SCREENS  
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# Wildcats to claw way to postseason for third time

by Jeff Keller  
Staff Writer



The Kansas State men's basketball squad has made tournament appearances the past two years and will look to make it a third time.

Tom Asbury will enter his sixth season as the head of the Wildcat program and has led the 'Cats to the postseason three times in his career at Kansas.

Kansas State will have senior leadership at the guard and forward positions as it makes another run at the Big 12 title.

Guard Josh Reid was the leading scorer for the 'Cats a season ago, averaging more than 10 points-per-contest.

Groves who averaged 9.9 points-per-outing.

Forward Tony Kitt is the last of the seniors on the squad and will join the two guards as they try to make the 'Cats fourth season in the Big 12 Conference a memorable one.

Kansas State signed junior college transfer Jason Robinson from Kansas' Seward County Community College in the offseason.

Robinson was named an all-con-

ference performer at the junior college and will join Reid and Groves in the backcourt for the 'Cats.

Asbury praised the junior college transfer's shooting abilities.

"Jason is an excellent shooter," Asbury said. "His size and athletic ability allow him to play both the two and three positions."

Kansas State began its season in the Preseason National Invitational Tournament and will get its Big 12 Conference schedule started with a home contest against Nebraska on Jan. 8.

The Kansas State women's basketball squad made a postseason appearance as well last season as they went 16-14 and made it to the second round of the Women's Na-

tional Invitational Tournament.

The trip to the postseason was the Wildcats' second in three years

under the guidance of coach Deb Patterson.

Patterson enters her fourth season at the helm of the program with a 46-43 overall record. The strength of the Wildcats this season will be the frontcourt as a trio of seniors try to make their last season in the program memorable.

Angie Finkes, Olga Firsova and Nicky Ramage combined to score 1,038 points last season.

With the trio returning this season, Patterson said the Wildcats boast one of the best frontcourts in the nation.

"Our front line with Olga Firsova, Nicky Ramage and Angie Finkes can compete with anyone in this or any league," Patterson said.

"Although Angie and Nicky are undersized post players, they have demonstrated that they are great competitors and always a threat to score.

"Olga Firsova is an imposing presence on both ends of the floor. As a junior college transfer, she needed a year to learn our system and now that she's got it, I am expecting great things from her. I look for our post game to be the backbone of this team and our season."

The Wildcats got their season underway against Drake and then traveled to Mexico for the Cancun Tournament.

Kansas State will begin its Big 12 Conference season Jan. 5 with a road game against Texas.

**"I look for our post game to be the backbone of this team and our season."**

**Deb Patterson**  
Lady Wildcats coach

# Starters to have lasting impact on Oklahoma offense

by Amy Curry  
Staff Writer

The Sooners' men's basketball squad is coming off a 22-11 season that tied them for second place in the Big 12 Conference and allowed them to advance to the NCAA Sweet 16 Tournament.

The tournament berth was OU's fifth straight under coach Kelvin Sampson.

This year's squad returns almost half of its scoring and rebounding from last season.

The team's lone returning starter is preseason All-American Eduardo Najera — a senior forward who averaged team highs in points (15.5) and rebounds (8.3) last year.

Sampson said this year's team has a couple of strengths he really likes so far, especially in the aspect that Najera has become more of a scoring threat.

OU also returns several veteran

**"Because of how much we've won around here, it makes it exciting to see if we can get back to that level of success."**

**Kelvin Sampson**  
Sooners' coach

Sooners in seniors Renzi Stone, Victor Avila and Oleg Reztsov, as well as junior guard Tim Heskett.

Heskett is the Sooners' career leader in 3-point percentage (.422) and set a school single-season record in the same category last year (.473).

New to the squad are junior college transfers Jameel Heywood and Nolan Johnson.

Freshmen Jarrett Hart and Hollis Price also will be joining the 1999-2000 Sooners.

All were highly-regarded recruits and are expected to contribute throughout the year.

The depth of this team will be another strength because OU has several quality guards, Sampson said.

He also said he's a little concerned with their depth up front so someone needs to step up and take control there, but he's confident they will.

"Overall, I'm excited about this basketball team," Sampson said.

"Because of how much we've won around here, it makes it exciting to see if we can get back to that level of success."

The OU women's squad with five of its returning starters, including 1998-99 Freshman All-American LaNeishea Caufield and 1999-2000 Preseason All-American Phylesha Whaley, has picked up a sixth-place preseason Big 12 Conference ranking.

The Sooners finished with a 15-14 record and fifth in the conference after a 10th place preseason prediction for the 1998-1999 season. Last year, the Sooners earned their first winning record since 1994-95.

OU ended the season ranked 29th in the nation and 27th in scoring, averaging 75.5 points-per-game and advanced to the second round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

In addition to its All-American veterans, OU also returns sopho-

more Stacey Dales.

She played on the 1999 Canadian National team that won the silver medal at the Pan Am Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dales has been a major factor in all of the Sooners' wins this year, in-

cluding victories against nationally-ranked teams.

So far she leads OU in scoring this season.

The OU squad also gets back 85.5 percent of its scoring and 83.1 percent of its rebounding.

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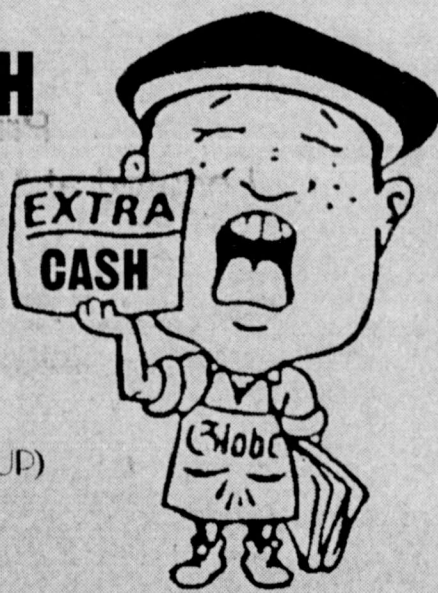
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# NU teams shooting for postseason play

by Jeff Keller  
Staff Writer

After going 20-13 a season ago and qualifying for the National Invitational Tournament, the Nebraska Cornhuskers' men's basketball squad will shoot for even loftier goals this season.

The Cornhuskers closed out the regular season last year winning 12 of their last 18 games after starting the season 8-7.

Nebraska lost three starters off last season's squad including Venson Hamilton, who averaged 15.7 points-per-game.

The Huskers will return two starters from last season's team, one of whom is Cookie Belcher who averaged 11.8 points-per-game.

Under 14th-year head coach Danny Nee, the Huskers have compiled seven 20-win seasons, including the past two years.

Nee said his squad should have the ability to make it three-straight 20-win seasons.

"We have a solid nucleus coming back to build around and then we added a very good recruiting class," Nee said.

"Cookie Belcher and Larry Florence have a lot of experience. They can anchor down a team. We addressed definite needs in recruiting, and I certainly like the way things look on paper."

The men started their season against Eastern Illinois on Nov. 23

and will play their first conference contest against Kansas State on Jan. 8 in Manhattan, Kan.

The women's squad will look to make their third consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament this year.

Since Paul Sanderford took over the program in 1997, the squad has gone 44-22 and has finished no lower than fifth in the Big 12 Conference.



Returning for the Huskers will be Nicole Kubik who was an honorable mention All-American last year while averaging 19.8 points-per-game.

Kubik joins four other seniors as the Huskers try to make it back to the NCAA Tournament.

Sanderford said with this group of seniors, experience will be an asset as the season progresses.

"These seniors have played in two straight NCAA Tournaments," Sanderford said.

"They have played in my system for two years. We have been a pretty good team for two years, but I'm hoping that this team can be better than pretty good."

The women began their season with the Time Warner Cable Classic on Nov. 19 with a clash against Georgia Southern.

The Big 12 season will begin with a road contest against the Texas Longhorns on Jan. 8.

# Cowboys hope experience leads to title

Mason, Gottlieb to help guide OSU to Big 12 championship, NCAA tourney

by Patrick Gonzales  
Staff Writer

With another 20-win season and a second-straight NCAA Tournament appearance under his belt, Oklahoma State men's basketball coach Eddie Sutton will look toward experience to lead his squad this season.

"You always have a goal of trying to win the conference championship and getting into the NCAA Tournament," Sutton said. "But I think the Big 12 is going to be a lot stronger this year because most of the teams were pretty young a year ago."

The Cowboys return eight seniors this season, five of whom started at least 15 games last year.

OSU finished the season 23-11 overall and fifth in the Big 12 Conference with a 10-6 record.

**"But I think the Big 12 is going to be a lot stronger this year because most teams were pretty young a year ago."**

**Eddie Sutton**

Oklahoma State's men's basketball coach

Leading the way for the Cowboys is preseason All-Big 12 candidate Desmond Mason, a 6-foot-6-inch forward who is the squad's leading returning scorer and rebounder.

Last season, Mason averaged 15.4 points and 7.9 rebounds-per-contest, earning him second-team All-Big 12 honors.

Senior point guard Doug Gottlieb

returns after a record-setting season in which he set school records for assists in a game, season and career.

"He's a great passer, a marvelous passer," Sutton said. "If he improves his shooting, he can be a very good player."

Rounding out the starting lineup will be senior shooting guards Joe Adkins and Glendon Alexander and senior center Alex Webber.

The OSU women's squad will look to make its first return to the NCAA Tournament since 1996.

The Cowgirls finished last season 13-15 overall and 11th in the Big 12 with a 4-12 record.

Cowgirl head coach Dick Halterman will be in his 17th season with the school and will have to re-load with a young squad that returns only one senior.

The one senior is Jennifer Crow, who led the team in scoring (17.3 per game), rebounding (5.1 per game), steals (4.7) and 3-pointers made (5.1).

She also led the Big 12 in free-throw percentage (83.2), en route to third team All-Big 12 honors.

The Cowgirls begin conference play Jan. 8 against Texas A&M in College Station.

# Coaches try to rebuild A&M program

Watkins, Gillom look for postseason play in second-year at helm of squads

by Patrick Gonzales  
Staff Writer

After leading the Texas A&M Aggies to a 10th-place finish in the Big 12 Conference his rookie season, second-year coach Melvin Watkins said he thinks this year's team can be more competitive in conference play.

However, with only one starter returning from last year's squad, Watkins will have to rely on newcomers this season.

"The recruiting class has everyone excited because the potential is there," Watkins said. "But potential doesn't win basketball games. You have to come in and play it out on the court."

The Aggies lost their top five scorers from last year, including Big 12 Newcomer of the Year Clifton Cook at point guard who lost his eligibility because of academic problems.

Cook averaged 15.6 points and five assists-per-contest for the Aggies a year ago.

Looking to replace Cook will most likely be the freshmen tandem of Jamaal Gilchrist and Bernard King.

"Jamaal will have to come in and lace his shoes up pretty tight, but he understands what our situation is, and he's excited about it," Watkins said.

"Bernard is a versatile player who can play several positions. He has a chance to be something really special."

The only returning starter for the Aggies is senior small forward Jerald Brown, who led the team in 3-point shooting last season.

The Texas A&M women's squad is in the same boat as the men.

After winning only nine games in the Big 12 during the past three seasons, second-year coach Peggie Gillom's first task this year will be to forget her rookie season with the Aggies.

Last season, the women finished 7-20 overall, winning only two conference games and finishing in last place.

But unlike the men, Gillom's squad returns three starters and several primary backups.

**"The recruiting class has everyone excited because the potential is there."**

**Melvin Watkins**

A&M men's basketball coach

"We have a strong nucleus returning," Gillom said. "We will be a better team."

Leading the way for the Aggies will be senior forward Prissy Sharpe. Sharpe led the squad with 18.4 points-per-contest last season and was a second team All-Big 12 performer.

The other returning starters are senior forward Kera Alexander and junior guard Brandy Jones.

Together the pair averaged 23 total points-per-contest last season.



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