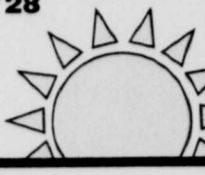


MONDAY
December 4, 2000
Volume 76, Issue 67

Today:
High 54 Low 28
Tomorrow:
High 58 Low 28

Sunny

stocks Nasdaq S&P 500 Dow Jones
price: 2645.29 1315.23 10373.54
change: +47.36 +0.28 -40.95
Friday's closing figures

STATE

Fire triggers 737's emergency landing

DALLAS (AP) — An American Airlines 737 en route from Los Angeles to Orlando was forced to land at Midland International Airport on Sunday after a cockpit indicator light signaled a fire in the jet's cargo bay.
No injuries were reported when Flight 2044 landed about 1:20 p.m. There was no fire, American spokeswoman Andrea Rader said. The problem was with the light, she said.
Before the jet set down, the pilot told the 99 passengers to prepare for an emergency landing. Six crew members also were aboard.
"That's standard procedure," Rader said.
Passengers debarked from the plane at the terminal, Rader said. Members of the Midland Fire Department scanned the luggage as the air carrier's personnel checked the cockpit light.
Passengers were scheduled to re-board the jet and continue on to Orlando.

NATIONAL

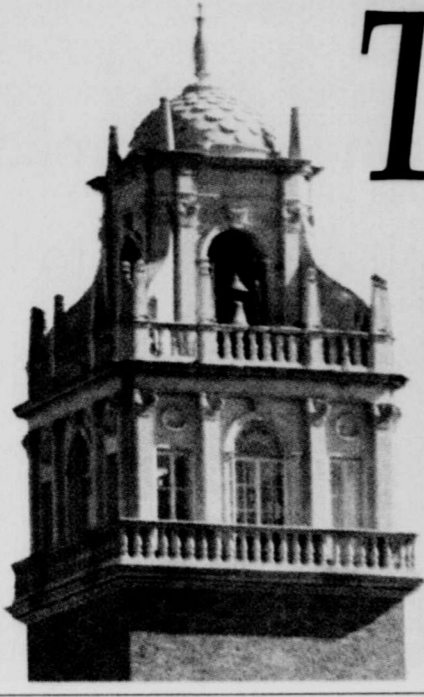
Man awaits hearing for cursing charges

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) — Another Michigan man has run afoul of a century-old law that prohibits cursing in the presence of women and children.
Jeffery Richards, 27, is scheduled for a pretrial hearing Monday on charges of assault, disturbing the peace and using indecent language.
Earlier this year a judge ruled that the 102-year-old law is constitutional, and upheld the conviction of another man who swore in front of children after tumbling out of a canoe.
Richards is accused of using foul language in front of children on a school bus on Nov. 2. Richards said he used a mild obscenity, and only because he believed his daughter was being manhandled and verbally abused by the driver.
"I'm being charged with swearing on the bus and that's a pretty minor charge compared to grabbing my daughter," Richards said.
But Lake City Area Schools' Superintendent Lew Burchard said Richards used stronger language than he claimed and verbally threatened the driver.

WORLD

Fox touts immigrant treatment reformity

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Vicente Fox pledged Sunday to travel to the U.S. border soon to personally greet Mexicans returning home, providing an example of how he believes immigrants should be treated.
During a meeting with Mexican-American leaders, Fox repeated his vision of an economically strong, stable Mexico with jobs for its people and wages that eventually could compete with those in the United States.
"The dream is that each kid, each young person, each of our children could stay with his family on this side of the border, could stay here in Mexico," he said.
His comments were greeted with tears and cheers of "It can be done!"
Fox urged those attending the event to invest in Mexico, promising that their dollars will be used to create job opportunities.

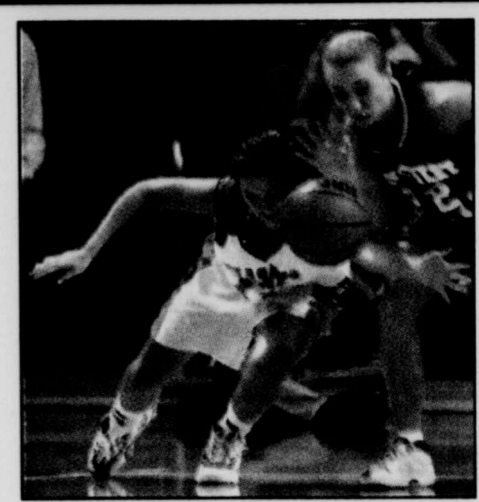


The University DAILY

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INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE



Lady Raiders ready to tame Lobos...p.8

Lubbock, Texas

A colorful tradition



Lights shine bright on the Texas Tech Administration building Friday evening during the 42nd annual Carol of Lights ceremony. Thousands of spectators from all around the state turned out for the event.

Lighting it up

Holiday glow illuminates Raiderland amidst crowd

By Cory Chandler
Staff Writer

Memorial Circle and the science quadrangle were filled with an expectant crowd Friday night as Texas Tech officially kicked off the holiday season with the 42nd annual Carol of Lights ceremony.
Over 25,000 lights blazed on 13 buildings by the end of the ceremony, which electricians had been stringing since early October.
The concert began with a torchlight procession of
see **LIGHTS**, page 5



Justin McGraw, a junior business management major from Bridgeport, walks burning torches down Memorial Circle during the Carol of Lights ceremony Friday night with fellow Saddle Tramps.

Shower peeper lurking

By Jeff Lehr
Staff Writer

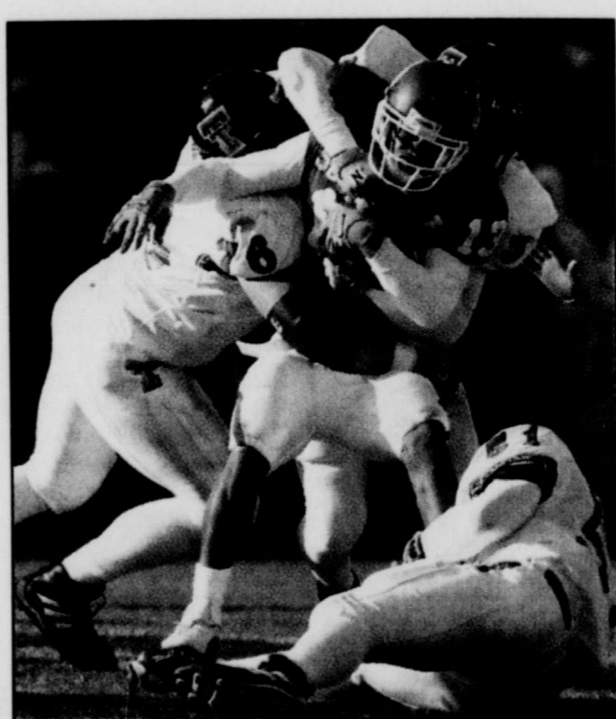
Texas Tech police are investigating several incidents of theft, in which a male entered a shower room of a women's residence hall and stole towels and bathrobes.
Tech Police Capt. Dan Hale said reports concerning the individual, described as male, six feet tall, with short, blond hair, were filed with the Tech Police Department on Wednesday after the suspect was seen in the ninth floor women's shower room of Chitwood Hall.
According to a police report dated Nov. 29, an officer was called to Chitwood Hall shortly after 7 a.m. to investigate the theft of a bathrobe and towel from the shower room. The officer also documented a criminal trespassing offense.
Fliers have since been posted in the lobby of Chitwood Hall describing the individual as wearing a red shirt with a blue pullover and blue jeans. He also was seen wearing a green sweatshirt and green pants.
The fliers also state that the suspect opened the shower curtains on the ninth and 11th floors of Chitwood Hall while they were being used.
Hale said Tech police already have interviewed three suspects but have not narrowed the investigation to one person. He also said police are not sure if the intruder is a student.
"We have increased patrols and our officers have heightened their awareness in that area," he said. "This is a higher-grade offense than a 'peeping Tom' offense."
The police report also lists two similar incidents that occurred in
see **WATCHING**, page 2

Gridiron team going bowling

The Texas Tech football squad accepts an offer to play in first Galleryfurniture.com Bowl in the Astrodome.

By Patrick Gonzales
Staff Writer

Texas Tech quarterback Cliff Kingsbury doesn't have too many fond memories of the Houston Astrodome.
During his senior year at New Braunfels High, Kingsbury lost his final prep football game at the legendary domed stadium, putting a halt to his squad's state championship hopes.
Two years later, the sophomore Red Raider signal caller will get a chance to replace that memory as Sunday, Tech officially accepted an invitation to play East Carolina in the Galleryfurniture.com Bowl at 8 p.m. Dec. 27 at the Astrodome in Houston.
The bowl game will be televised nationally on ESPN 2 and both teams will receive \$750,000 for participating.
"We lost in the semifinals, and I had a pretty rough game too, so I'll be trying to erase some bad memories when I go back this time," Kingsbury said. "It's a pretty neat place to play, and it'll be great for our passing offense, because the weather is always good in the Astrodome."
The contest against the Pirates marks the first meeting between the two squads and the first bowl game for the Red Raiders since 1998 when they suffered a 35-18 loss to Mississippi in the Sanford Independence Bowl.
Tech's last bowl victory came in 1995 when they defeated Air Force, 55-41, in the Weiser Lock Copper Bowl.
"It's going to be real important for us to win,"



Texas Tech defensive tackle Kris Kocurek, defensive end Devin Lemons and linebacker Lawrence Flugence gang tackle an Oklahoma ball carrier earlier this season.

Kingsbury said. "A lot of recruits will be watching that game. Recruiting is going real well so far, and if we can get a win, then that will just make it better."
East Carolina accepted an invitation to the bowl before the end of the regular season.
The Pirates finished third in the Conference USA with a 7-4 record and their battle with Tech will mark their second consecutive bowl appearance and fourth in the last seven seasons.
Last season, East Carolina amassed a 9-3 record and was defeated, 28-14, by Texas Christian in the Mobile Alabama Bowl.
Altogether, the Pirates are 6-4 in bowl contests.
"I've watched them over the years, and they are a
see **GALLERY**, page 2

Tech Web upgrade enters final stages

Texas Tech Internet sites unveil design and content changes today.

By Pam Smith
Staff Writer

New additions and upgrades to several of Texas Tech's information systems are being implemented and planned as the semester is winding down.
Today, the university will unveil improvements to its three main Web sites, www.ttu.edu, www.texastech.edu and www.hsc.edu. These Web sites have undergone both design and content changes.
"At one point, these Web sites were not linked at all," said Michael Sommermeyer, director of electronic media for Texas Tech News and Publications. "Because of this, we have been doubling a lot of the information on these sites."
The goal of the changes was to make accessing information about the university more convenient to the Tech community and future Red Raiders. Sommermeyer said after the changes, texastech.edu would become an all-encompassing Web site that would hold information about the Tech system and student
see **IMPROVE**, page 2

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The University Daily

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WATCHING

from page 1

Coleman Hall, in which the theft of a towel from the women's shower room took place on the seventh and ninth floors on Nov. 28.

According to a Nov. 28 police report, criminal trespassing was documented for both incidents in Coleman Hall, as well as a criminal trespassing incident on the 11th floor women's shower room of Chitwood Hall. All three of these reports were filed in the late evening of Nov. 28.

James Burkhalter, director of Housing and Dining, said he thinks the individual is gaining access to the women's residence hall floors, which are controlled by card readers, by following residents through the controlled doors.

"My guess, and this is just speculation, is that he is tailgating. Unfortunately, this practice is a little more common than we'd like," he said.

Since the incidents occurred last week, Chitwood Hall has instituted a "no tailgating" policy, meaning students who are caught will face disciplinary actions by the university.

Burkhalter said tailgating is a violation of the escort policy, which allows residents to escort supervised guests into the residence halls.

Hale said videotapes from security cameras in Chitwood Hall have been delivered to police and are under review.

"We are looking real strong at how the individual is gaining access to the halls," he said.

When, and if, police apprehend a suspect, Burkhalter said Housing and Dining will pursue criminal charges, and if the individual is a student, Burkhalter said he would be sent before a university disciplinary committee.

IMPROVE

from page 1

system have already noticed a change.

"We've already talked to students and faculty, and they said they have noticed a difference, even when using the system from off-campus locations," he said.

Segran said the upgrades to the Web sites are not the only project Tech has been working on to improve communication on campus. He said beginning in January, all students enrolled in the university will be given an e-mail alias that will facilitate communication between members of the Tech community. The e-mail alias will be similar to the faculty e-mail addresses taking the form of *givenname.middleinitial.surname@ttu.edu*. All mail sent to that alias then will be forwarded to the e-mail account the student has registered with the university. If no e-mail address is listed, one will be created for students by the university.

"We hope to distribute the aliases for students to the professors of classes to increase communication between the two," he said.

Segran said the university plans on sending mail-outs informing students about the e-mail aliases so they can begin reserving their name as an alias. He said the project originally was slated to begin at the end of this semester, but with a number of students graduating and leaving town for the holidays, he said it was not feasible.

Another project Segran said he hopes will increase communication and information flow is the creation of customizable student portals that will allow students to choose which information they would like to be updated about. A

European tour planned for program

By Mara McCoy
Staff Writer

The comparative literature program at Texas Tech is offering students a chance to visit European cities including Salamanca, Paris and Rome.

Five cities will be visited during a 31-night sojourn to Europe.

An informational meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Qualia Room, 9 Foreign Language.

Laura Beard, an associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese, women's studies, comparative literature and Latin and Iberian studies, said both undergraduate students and graduate students can apply for the program.

"There are no prerequisites," she said. "All we ask is that the students have been at Tech for at least two semesters."

Beard said the program, which is in its inaugural year, was started not only to provide students with a stronger background in the countries they visit, but also because Tech is promoting study abroad programs.



"There has been an increased interest; there are more opportunities and more scholarships available," she said. "We're hoping with the study abroad programs and the opportunity to take courses in countries where the works take place, the students will get a unique perspective and better understand and envision what they are studying — it will expand their horizons in a whole new way."

"The students will be exposed to it not just reading the literature, but actually exposed to the culture and country that the

works are in. It will give (the students) a much greater understanding."

Sharon Nell, director of the comparative literature program, said although there are no prerequisites, an intro survey in art history would be a good class to take.

"It's good to have a background knowledge," she said.

"The first time I went to France, I had just taken an art history class. I traveled all over Europe and was amazed to see the works I had studied in class. It made it more meaningful having some knowledge of the works."

Nell said the program will include many unique experiences for the students.

"From Rome, we're going to take a bus or train to Florence, and then we're going to take the night train to Paris and arrive on Bastille Day," she said.

"We'll spend 10 days there, and then fly to Madrid, take a private bus to Salamanca, then go back to Madrid. Although we have many things planned for the students, we left free time for them so they could go back and see things they

liked or tour the city."

The program cost, which includes roundtrip airfare from Dallas to Rome and Madrid to Dallas, as well as room and partial board, museum entrance fees and local transportation costs and an international student ID, is estimated at \$4,445.

Students can apply for scholarships through the International Cultural Center, the Honors College, as well as certain departments within the student's major.

The program can count for six hours of a comparative literature minor and also satisfies the humanities and multicultural requirement for arts and sciences majors.

The program will include two Tech courses, one in comparative literature and one in comparative cultures. Since the courses are Tech courses, financial aid also applies.

For more information, visit the comparative literature program's Web site at www.ttu.edu/~complit or contact Laura Beard or Sharon Nell at 742-3306 or e-mail them at laura.beard@ttu.edu or sharon.nell@ttu.edu.

A few last words from your Student Government

How time flies. The semester is rapidly coming to an end, and if we look back for a second or two at all that took place, there are countless moments that soon will not be forgotten.

Thanks to the involvement of so many students in the Student Government Association this semester, much has been accomplished. We are charting our course for next semester to ensure that we are able to build even further on this semester's accomplishments. Before you pack up and head home for the holiday break, we would like to share several items of interest with you that will hopefully be helpful.

Senators want to hear from you

The Student Senate has worked hard to pass a number of resolutions this fall dealing with fees, new program ideas, campus issues and relations with other universities. For the senators to continue voicing your concerns, they need to hear from you early and often. So please continue to share your thoughts to make Tech the best that it can be. Senators contact information can be found at the SGA Web site,

SGA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

GUEST COLUMN

www.sga.ttu.edu

Student organizational funding

With the coming of spring comes the budget and finance process that allocates supplemental funding to registered student organizations. Packets will be available Tuesday, and there is an informational workshop at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the University Center Matador Room. Questions can be directed to the SGA office at 742-3631. Attendance is mandatory at either Tuesday's or the Jan. 16 workshop in order to be eligible for SGA money.

Get your grades via TechSIS

Do you want to receive your grades? Don't forget to update your address and contact information on the TechSIS Web

site techsis.admin.ttu.edu/student.

Make it home safely

Need a safe ride home or stranded somewhere? Call 765-RIDE to get a safe ride home. The hours of operation are 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, and all you have to show is your Tech ID.

Parents combat drowsy driving

This holiday season, if you think you might nod off at the wheel of your car, plan ahead. Contact the Office of Parent Relations at 742-3630 to find out the names and contact information of Tech parents who would be glad to provide you with a place to take a break so you can make it to your destination safely.

We hope that each of you has a very enjoyable holiday season. To those Red Raiders who are graduating or moving on to bigger and better things, may you find success and fulfillment in all your endeavors. To those who will be back at Tech in January, we look forward to serving you next semester! Go Tech!

Andrew Schoppe, Brenda Schumann and Ryan Weller are the executive officers of the Texas Tech Student Government Association.

portal is a Web site or service that offers a broad array of resources and services such as news, message boards and online shopping malls.

"When a person currently goes to Yahoo, they can create a personalized page," he said. "This page, which comes up when a person logs on, can be customized to show only the updates the person wants to see with the links the person wants to set up."

Segran said once these portals are created, students could customize their page to include updates posted by faculty members about classes or their particular college, movie listings, chat room links and anything else the student

is interested in. The date these portals will be available to students is unknown because the university still is seeking a company to help implement the software. Segran said the university has discussed the issue with several companies, including *mascot.com* but has not finalized any plans.

"With *mascot.com*, we would have very little control of the software, and there would be a lot of advertising on the portals," he said. "Other companies have more options concerning advertising, which would help the university ensure student's names would not be sold to advertisers."

hopefully they can figure a way to add another one after this."

Tech has been practicing sporadically since the end of the regular season and hasn't played a game since losing 27-13 to Oklahoma on Nov. 18.

When the Red Raiders take the field against ECU, it will be their first contest in 39 days, yet Tech linebacker John Norman

doesn't feel the time off will hurt the squad.

"Our workouts, during the time we were off, were aimed to help us not lose a step and stay in shape," Norman said. "We've been hitting the weights, and I think we'll be prepared." "We don't want to end the season with our loss to Oklahoma. We want to go out there, pick up the victory and start a tradition here at Texas Tech."

GALLERY

from page 1

good football team." Tech coach Mike Leach said. "They throw the ball well, and I admire the things they've done in the past. I think it will be a good game."

"It feels great to play one more game and

TechNotes!

REMINDER TO ALL STUDENTS: Don't forget to update your address and information on the TechSIS Web site, so you can receive your grades at the correct address, techsis.admin.ttu.edu/student.

ATTENTION COMMUTERS: Because of an event taking place in Lubbock Municipal Auditorium on Thursday, portions of the Auditorium/Coliseum parking lot (C1) will be closed (Appendix A section 11.e.4 in the Traffic and parking regulations). Please allow additional time to find parking on this day. There should be plenty of available space in the parking lots west of Indiana Avenue.

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Houston looks abroad for teachers

HOUSTON (AP) — Faced with a national shortage of teachers, the state's largest school district is searching abroad for qualified educators.

Importing teachers has helped the Houston district eliminate some of 1,400 vacancies it faced at the beginning of the year. The district also increased recruiting spending five-fold — from \$50,000 last year to \$250,000, the *Houston Chronicle* reported in its Sunday editions.

Rory Malacon, a managing partner in Houston-based Multicultural Professionals, has traveled to the Philippines twice a year since 1991 looking for teachers to bring to California and Texas.

This fall, the company brought in the most teachers it ever has, 54, to work in the Houston Independent School District. Next year, the Hous-

ton district expects to hire 45 more teachers through the company.

"Now there's a huge interest in finding teachers abroad," said Malacon. "I believe we are contributing to helping the problem, but we're quite far from solving the problem."

From 1993 to 1999, traditional teacher preparation programs in Texas produced an average of 15,000 graduates annually.

About 66 percent become teachers. In the 1998-99 school year, more than 63,000 teaching positions had to be filled, according to the State Board for Educator Certification.

Joyce Giron, 32, borrowed \$6,000 from her family in the Philippines to hire a search firm to help her find a job in Houston.

She makes more money in a month here than she did in a year than at a prestigious private school

in the Philippines where she had taught for 12 years.

"I love these kids. This is something very fulfilling for me," Giron said.

Multicultural Professionals also has placed foreign teachers in Dallas, Brownsville and Waco.

Members of Houston-area teacher's unions said school districts should instead focus on improving pay and benefits at home.

"It's not the best use of resources," said Michael Verdone, president of the Houston Congress of Teachers. "If you can't recruit in your own back yard, then that's a problem."

Gayle Fallon, president of the Houston Federation of Teachers, said recruiting abroad isn't the answer.

"The chances of keeping these people are nil," Fallon said. "This doesn't give you a long-term solution

"Now there's a huge interest in finding teachers abroad. I believe we are contributing to helping the problem, but we're quite far from solving the problem."

Rory Malacon
MULTICULTURAL PROFESSIONALS MANAGING PARTNER

to the teacher shortage."

The Houston district will spend \$2,400 to send its own people to Russia to interview teachers selected by Houston recruiting firm Rutex. The district is also considering seeking teachers in India.

Houston school district spokesman Terry Abbott said spending \$2,400 for a math or science teacher is a small investment.

"The state of Texas is not providing enough teachers," Abbott said. "It has to be done this way."

Space shuttle astronauts attach wings

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Two spacewalking astronauts attached the world's largest, most powerful set of solar wings to the international space station on Sunday.

It was a task as monumental as the wings themselves: The future of space station construction hinged on the astronauts' ability to pull off the job and thus provide much needed power to the newly inhabited outpost.

Endeavour astronauts Joe Tanner and Carlos Noriega guided the \$600 million solar wings onto space station Alpha and then bolted them down, their three-plus years of training paying off.

Canadian astronaut Marc Garneau, working inside Endeavour, was the one who actually moved the wings to the space station with the use of the shuttle robot arm. Tanner and Noriega, positioned on either side of the attachment point, gave him instructions for closing the final 3 feet.

Before the wings could be unfurled to their full 240 feet and begin generating electricity, Tanner and Noriega had to release all the bolts and pins that were used to secure the payload for Thursday's launch.

No seatbelt case goes to Supreme Court

AUSTIN (AP) — Gail Atwater's slow drive down a dusty Texas road has taken her all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

She was arrested, handcuffed and locked in a jail cell in 1997 — because she and her two children weren't wearing seat belts while riding in the family pickup truck.

That family drive has become a challenge of the power of police. The Supreme Court will hear arguments today from lawyers for Atwater and the city of Lago Vista on whether her arrest violated the Constitution's Fourth Amendment, which bans unreasonable arrests and searches.

"Our lives would have been much better if we would have just swallowed it," Atwater said. "We're not anti-cop... (but) this is about reining the cops in and how far cops can intrude in our lives."

The court's ruling could affect just about anyone with a driver's license, said Atwater's attorney, Robert DeCarli.

"Every driver, if they get caught committing a traffic violation, they expect to get a ticket. Nobody expects to be handcuffed and taken to jail," DeCarli said.

Atwater, 48, was driving her children, Mac and Anya, who were then 4 and 6, home from soccer practice when she was stopped by Lago Vista police officer Bart Turek.

Atwater said a toy had fallen out of the pickup and she had unbuckled everyone's seat belts so they could look out the windows for it. She was

"We're not anti-cop... (but) this is about reining the cops in and how far cops can intrude in our lives."

Gail Atwater
PLAINTIFF

driving at only about 15 mph on an otherwise deserted road when Turek came along and stopped her.

Atwater could not produce her driver's license and proof of insurance. She said her purse had been stolen.

She said Turek yelled "You're going to jail!"

"I can't tell you enough how horrible it was for my kids," Atwater said.

It was not their first encounter. Turek had pulled her over once before when he thought her son was not belted in, but he didn't give her a ticket that time because the boy was, in fact, wearing a seat belt.

This time, Turek took Atwater to the police station while a friend took the children. She was booked and placed in a holding cell for about an hour before posting \$310 bail. She later pleaded no contest to three seat belt violations and paid a \$50 fine for each, along with a \$110 towing fee on her pickup.

Under Texas law, a police officer is allowed — but not required — to

arrest someone for a seat belt violation. The offense does not carry jail time.

Atwater complained to the city and asked for her \$110 back, but when she got no satisfaction she and husband Mike Haas sued the city, Turek and police Chief Frank Miller.

"All I wanted was to rein this guy in, and get reimbursed the money for towing the truck," Atwater said. She said she never asked for an apology. "I knew they wouldn't do that. That would be an admission of guilt."

A federal district judge first dismissed the case. A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sided with Atwater but the full 17-judge court later reversed that ruling. Atwater is asking the Supreme Court to let her lawsuit proceed.

She has the support of the Texas office of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"The fear of minor traffic offenses that don't even have jail terms does not outweigh the right to be left

alone," said Will Harrell, executive director of the ACLU office in Austin.

Federal and state attorneys filed briefs in support of Lago Vista, a town of about 2,500 people located 15 miles northwest of Austin.

"The state of Texas has a very significant interest in making sure that toddlers are wearing their seat belts so they won't be harmed or killed in accidents on Texas highways," said state First Assistant Attorney General Andy Taylor.

Bill Krueger, the lawyer defending the city and police department, has said the officer's actions were reasonable and constitutional. He would not discuss the case with *The Associated Press*.

Lago Vista Mayor Dennis Jones wouldn't comment. Turek is now a Williamson County sheriff's deputy. It was a career move for Turek and he wasn't asked to leave, Jones said.

In addition to the \$110 towing fee, Atwater and her husband, an emergency room doctor, are seeking attorneys fees. They have spent about \$110,000 fighting the case, sold their house in Lago Vista and borrowed money from their parents.

"We've had more marital fights over whether to go forward with this thing. He's the one staying up all night and watching the money go to lawyers," Atwater said.

"We emptied our accounts. There have been huge emotional sacrifices for our family," she said. "But there's a price for citizenship."

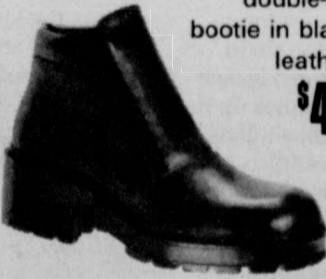
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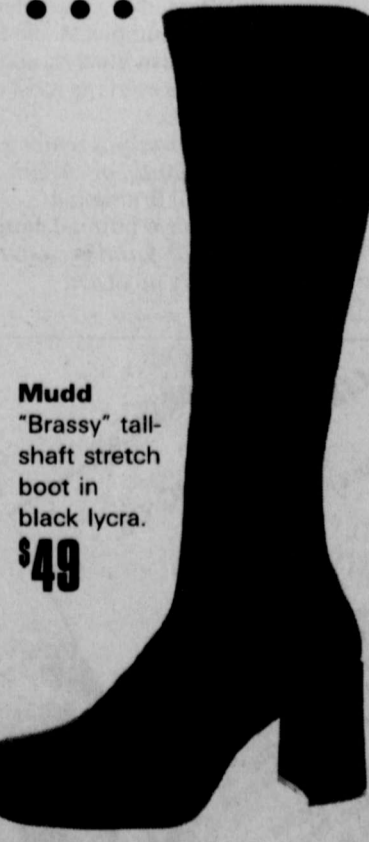
Zodiac "Secure" tall-shaft stretch boot in black. Orig. \$59. **now \$39**



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Mudd "Brassy" tall-shaft stretch boot in black lycra. **\$49**



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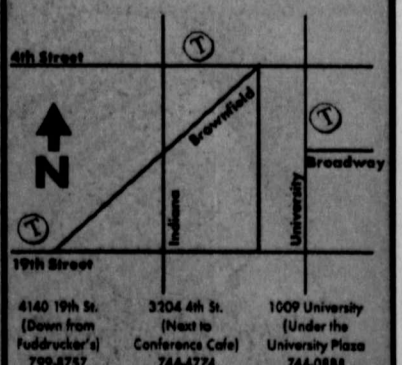


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Opinions & Ideas

The University Daily

The University Daily

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LETTERS: The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, social security number and a description of university affiliation.

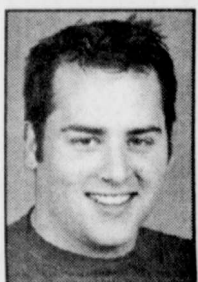
GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified.

Column

Priced to sell

Need an excuse to get you out of that dreaded final? You've come to the right place

Sweet! Finals are just around the corner! I thought they would never get here. Honestly, I've been waiting since August. And for many of you, the fast-approaching exams mean lots of studying, cramming and concentrating.



Brandon Formby

But for me, and those of you like me who have yet to find your classrooms because you haven't been since you got your syllabus, finals mean something far bigger and better than studying. It's time once again for the biannual excuse-a-thon — that wonderful time at the end of the semester when you have to find a way to keep from failing. In my years as a college student, I have found some excuses work every time.

teammates. Coach never put you in because your nose was always stuck in a book. Tell the professor it was a vicious cycle of studying and working out, and all you wanted to do was keep Raider spirits high and still be a good student. Try and muster up a tear or two during the explanation. Have someone in the class play the school fight song on a kazoo as you explain things to the professor.

- They're sure to pass you for the university's sake.
Have a friend pull the fire alarm.
Tell them you fell.
Die. Seriously.

Brandon Formby is senior journalism major from Plano. For custom-made excuses, e-mail Brandon at brandonformby@hotmail.com. Mastercard, VISA and personal checks are welcome. Sorry no CODs.



Column

Recipe for a dysfunctional Christmas

I love Christmas. What can I say, it's the greatest time of year. Of course, the holiday for which we, according to a recent poll of school-aged children, celebrate the birth of our savior, Santa Claus, has its good, its bad and its downright ugly. Really ugly.



Kenneth Strickland

I so enjoy arriving home to a loving and caring family who push aside all differences of opinion just long enough for me to walk to the baggage claim and pick up my garbage bag full of dirty laundry as it makes its way around the carousel. It's about 12 minutes of sheer and utter family happiness before I get blamed for the fact that my cat pissed on the rug about two months earlier, and the appraisal district has dropped the price of our home by \$10,000 because my broken down car from high school is still parked in the driveway.

convince two sets of grandparents, numerous uncles, aunts and cousins, plus the next door neighbors, that despite what my brother had alleged, I wasn't gay. "But you have all those shoes!" each and everyone seemed to point out. This year I've been tipped off by an anonymous source that the rumor my brother is basing his campaign on this Christmas season is that I have erectile dysfunction. How do you prove to someone that an accusation such as this is false? Oh wait, now I know. Damn, the kid's good.

It's after about an hour of being home that I just can't stand it anymore and have to get out of there. After realizing that the Toyota's CD changer has been infected by my little sister's musical taste (or lack thereof), I settle on cruising on down to the mall to the wonderfully untalented sounds of Britney Spears. "Oops I did it again" seems to sum up my return back home. The mall is about five miles from my house, but it literally still takes me longer to get there than it took me to fly from Lubbock to Dallas. If you live in any of the major cities (major being any city that doesn't display their high school football record on the town's water tower) then the Christmas season is especially sacred to you. What better way to celebrate peace for all mankind then by getting stuck in traffic — with all of mankind! After parking in a handicapped spot, which I justify by the fact that I suffer from mild colorblindness, I make my way into the mall.

I won't step foot into the Gap because of the fact that their commercials suck. Old Navy would be a great place to shop if they carried clothing in sizes that any person not confined to perpetual bed rest because of their size could actually wear.

I also refuse to walk into any of the toy stores as well. I used to like toy stores. Back in the day, when you could buy a five-pound die-cast metal Voltron action figure, and it was politically correct for Barbie to have the hourglass figure, toy stores were the place to be. But since the entire population of children in this country became helpless and lethargic couch potatoes, all you can find now are Pokemon cards and computer games that allow children with inadequate social skills to continue avoiding the daunting task of making human friends.

Upon returning home, my mother attempts to ground me because I left my laundry bag on the floor. As hard as it is for me to keep from giving her the male gesture for screw that, I somehow resist. Instead, I give her the Christmas present I had bought her. I'm a really thoughtful person, so last year I bought my mom a six-foot African American Santa for the front yard. I'm kind of cheep when it comes to my brother and sister, though, so they both got T-shirts. My brother's shirt says, "Out of millions of sperm, who would have thought I'd be the first to get to the egg?" And since my sister is a little on the chunky side, hers accordingly says "I beat anorexia!"

After being scrutinized for my gift giving, I've decided that I've had enough. After about 12 hours of being back, I call up the airline. "I want to go home for Christmas," I tell them. So six hours later they have me on a flight back to Lubbock. At least we have snow.

Kenneth Strickland is a sophomore political science major from Mesquite. He wants to wish everyone a merry Christmas. Especially you, Charlie Brown!

Advertisement for Rolix Publishing Co. featuring a cartoon character and text: 'IF YOU'D TRIED THIS SIX MONTHS AGO... Mr. Felix Arbuthnot Cleveland, Ohio April 18, 2000 Dear Mr. Arbuthnot: Enclosed, we are returning the manuscript of your novel, "Dead Even." We could, of course, just tell you it does not meet our current needs, but a simple rejection letter would not convey our astonishment that you would even offer this work for publication. Simply put, Mr. Arbuthnot, your plot is too bizarre for even the most outé nation. Two presidential candidates battle to tie so close that a handful of sunbelt retirees hold the fate of the world in their hands? The electoral process thrown into the hands of? And one candidate's brother is governor of the critical state? Come on, Mr. Arbuthnot! What reader is going to know what "dimpled chad" is, anyway? A political thriller may be wildly imaginative, but it must be at least marginally plausible. We suggest a career other than writing... shepherding on hotel...'

Letters to the Editor

Smoke in your face

To the editor: There is no need for the Lubbock City Council and mayor to consider banning (making illegal) smoking in public places. Right now, in Lubbock, smoking can be banned in any restaurant or club. If the owner of the restaurant or club chooses, he or she can simply put up a no smoking sign and make the entire establishment a smoke-free environment.

An argument has been made by the proponents of making smoking illegal in public places that California has banned smoking in public places and so should Lubbock. Lubbock is not California, and I hope the City Council and mayor will

keep it that way. A free country allows its citizens choices, and that includes the citizens that own restaurants and clubs and their customers. Shouldn't they be the ones to decide whether a restaurant or club allows smoking or not?

David DeLamar chairman Libertarian Party of Lubbock

To the editor: I would like to take this time to express my feelings about the recent decision by the Student Senate to support a smokeless Lubbock. Why is it that people seem to think that every place in the country should be enjoyable to the minority? Where must the majority go to do the things that they enjoy?

Life is full of inconveniences, but systematically alienating huge groups of

people is no way to lessen that burden. I am a smoker, and I do not believe that the city has any right to tell private business owners that they cannot allow smoking in their establishment.

When does it stop? When the city installs smoke detectors in our homes? Adam Barker drafting technician facilities information and reports

ONLY 2 PAPERS LEFT E-mail your letters to UD@ttu.edu, include your name, classification, major, social and phone number for verification.

Keeping the Carol tradition in tune

Trombone Choir remains important part of yearly Carol of Lights Celebration

By Cory Chandler
Staff Writer

While the Carol of Lights is one of Texas Tech's strongest traditions, the ceremony itself has many traditions of its own.

One of the older of these traditions is the accompaniment of the Texas Tech Trombone Choir, which has been performing at Carol of Lights for 24 years.

Don Lucas, an associate music professor who directs the ensemble, said this is one of the Trombone Choir's largest performances of the year.

He said though the band typically has 20 to 30 members, its numbers swell to 40 members for the performance.

Lucas said this is because members of other ensembles on the Tech campus often join to help with the Carol of Lights.

He said preparing for the event can be difficult because it comes so quickly after the Thanksgiving break.

"The students come back to school after a turkey overdose and may or may not have been hitting the horns," he said.

The combined choir meets once a week for a month starting in November and two times the week Carol of Lights takes place.

While the choir accompanies more traditional songs during the performance, it also plays two that were written for the Carol of Lights.

Tyler Everson, a music professor at Boston University, wrote "T-Cubed Fanfare" the first song performed during the ceremony.

Lucas said Everson wrote the song, which stands for Texas Tech Trombone Fanfare, after teaching with Lucas at national music camps.

Lucas said he sent Everson a copy of the Texas Tech fight song and Everson incorporated it into "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."

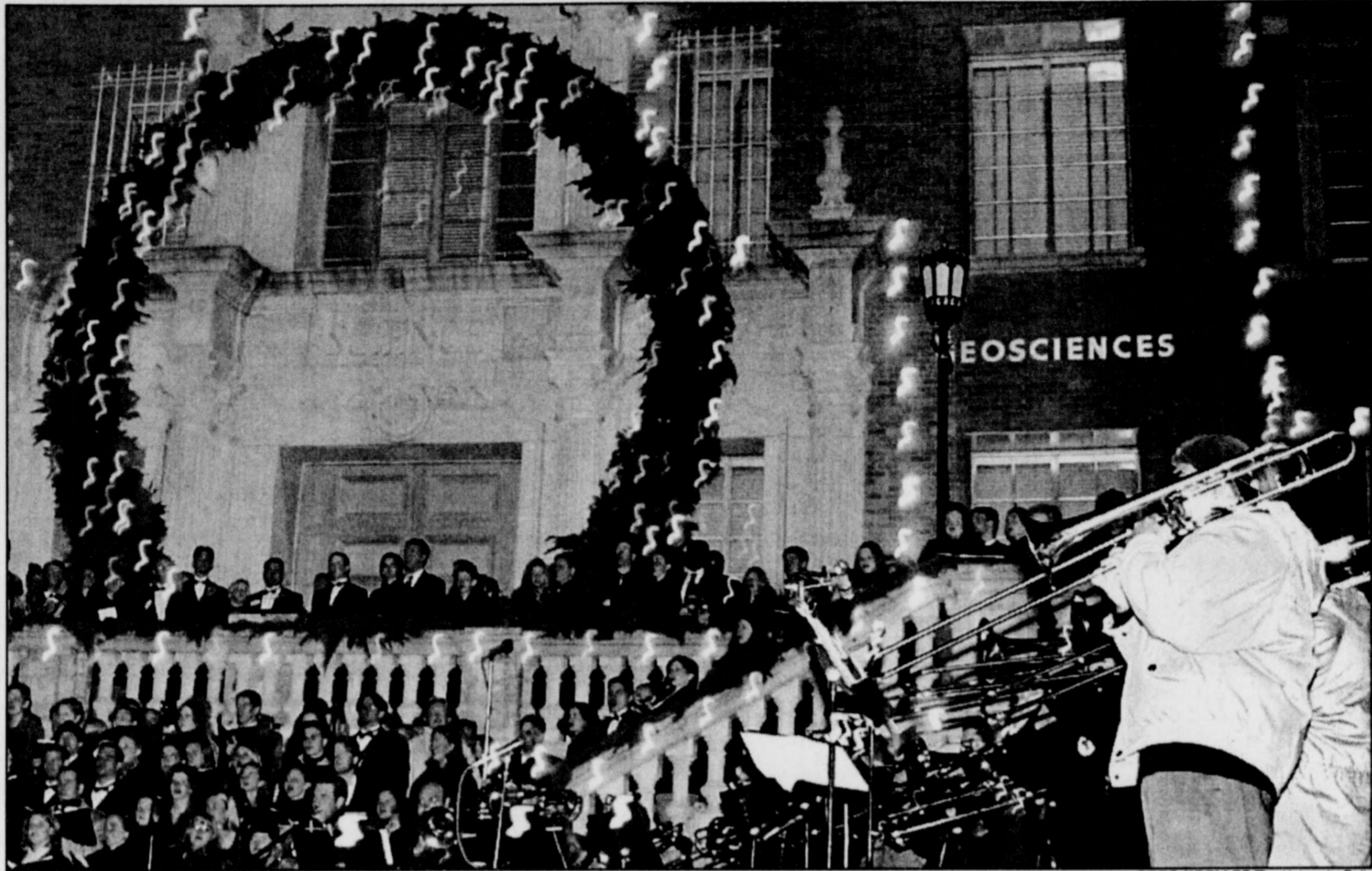
The second song written for the Carol of Lights is the "Christmas Fanfare," which was written by Gary Birch, a Tech student who now teaches in Waco.

Birch wrote the song four years ago, and it is now used during the actual lighting of the buildings during the ceremony.

Lucas said while the Carol of Lights is one of the most important performances for the Trombone Choir, the students are also active in many other musical events in Lubbock.

He said these events include regularly performing in Lubbock and Roswell symphonies, church services, musicals and operettas.

They also recently won an international trombone competition sponsored by the International



The Trombone Choir performs at the 42nd annual Carol of Lights Celebration on Friday evening. The choir is one of the many Trombone within the holiday ceremony.

Trombone Association.

Lucas said this experience helps prepare these students for other ensembles in the future.

Lucas said the Carol of Lights does present more difficulties than many of their other performances though.

He said the weather, which is often chilly, makes the instruments hard to tune and members have to use clothes pins to keep their music from blowing away in the breeze.

He said the hardest part comes when the audience sings along with

"Silent Night".

"The crowd just kind of takes off on its own," he said. "So I end up

watching them to figure out what they are doing and try to lead the choir based on that."

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Who needs Nashville?

Pat Green, Cory Morrow find success at packed Lubbock show

By Leslie Follmar
Staff Writer

Liquid 2000 was busting at the seams last Thursday night as Pat Green and Cory Morrow graced the stage.

The crowded bottom floor, which was standing room only, resembled a smaller version of Kalf Fry. Some arrived at the concert 1 1/2 hours before Morrow took stage, but many joined in singing with the CD that was playing through the speakers to pass the time.

Cory Morrow and his magnifi-

cent back-up band prepared the riled crowd for his good friend, Green. The crowd never died, each song was gasoline added to the audience's fire. The room was electric when Green finally came out.

Some had to do a double take as Green took the stage. One audience member said, "I saw that picture of him in the paper, and that doesn't look like him at all." First-timers to Pat Green might especially have a problem spotting him as a country star. At first the country singer looks more like a lead guitarist for a rock band, not an average honky-tonk

hero. It didn't take long to win those skeptics over when Green opened up with the title cut from his latest CD, *Carry On*.

Green and Morrow appeared together in the night's last set. Green introduced the new song "Texas Sun" and announced it is to appear on an upcoming CD, which was recorded with Morrow.

Green sported a favorite T-shirt of his that said "Nashville Sucks." The shirt is Green's way protesting against the big business country music industry.

Pick-up lines decreased in originality as the night wore on, but the music was never displeasing. Girls with too-tight clothing and guys passing out only added to the night's

entertainment.

Pat Green offered a "real country" stage presence; no glitz or glamour was needed to entertain the college crowd.

Green is a promising musician with his simple lyrics and foot-stomping music. He is bound to go down as a Texas music legend.

The last song was a salute to Buddy Holly, which was performed by Morrow and Green and was great closure to the evening.

Barry Sadler, a 1998 Texas Tech graduate, said that only West Texans can appreciate Green's music in a special way. "Green has a real West Texas sound that only real West Texans can relate to fully. That's why he's so great to listen to."



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily
Pat Green performs on stage at Liquid 2000. The Texas musician and Cory Morrow drew a crowd at their show last Thursday.

MONDAY DECEMBER 4

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7:00 Bus. Report Body Elec.	Today Show	News	Lightyear Recess	Good Morning	K. Copeland Paid Program	
8:00 Barney Teletubbies		Early Show	Sabrina Pepper Ann	America	Greg Mathis	
9:00 Calliope Sesame	Today Show	Sally Jessy Raphael	Nanny Caroline	Live W/Regis	Dr. Laura	
10:00 Street Mr. Rogers	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	Grace/Fire Liv'g Single	View	Divorce Ct. Divorce Ct.	
11:00 Dragon Tales Arthur	Montel Williams	Young & the Restless	Ricki Lake	Mad/You Port Charles	Joe Brown Joe Brown	
12:00 Visionaries Quilt Day	News	Days of Our Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	P/Attorney Paid Program	
1:00 Comp. Chron. Barney	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jenny Jones	One Life to Live	Matlock	
2:00 Zoboombafoo Clifford	Hwyd Square	Guiding Light	Street Smart Paid Program	General Hospital	Paid Program Magic Bus	
3:00 Arthur Wishbone	Rosie O'Donnell	Maury Povich	Clueless Housecalls	Housecalls Housecalls	Magic Bus Lightspeed	
4:00 Zoom R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	For Women News	7th Heaven	Tell/Truth Family Feud	X-Men Digimon	
5:00 Betw./Lions Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	MASH CBS News	People's Court	News ABC News	Sabrina Simpsons	
6:00 Newshour	News Extra	King/Queens Yes, Dear	Judge Judy Judge Judy	News W/Fortune	Spin City Frasier	
7:00 Antiques Roadshow	Titans "TV14	News	Moesha Parks	20/20	Boston Public	
8:00 Lucille Ball	Dateline	Raymond "PG Becker	Hughleys Griffrinds	MNF: Kansas	Aly McBeal	
9:00 "American Masters"	3rd Watch "TV14	Tina Turner	Voyager	City @ New England	News	
10:00 Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Arrest/Trial Cops		Spin City Frasier	
11:00	Conan	Letterman	Blind Date ChangeHeart	News Nightline	Cheers Coach	
12:00	O'Brien Later	Kilborn Seinfeld	E.T. Real TV	Incorrect Paid Program	News	

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ACROSS
1 Pound to a pulp
5 Chops up
10 Final word?
14 Italian eight
15 Turn inside out
16 Great review
17 Yard-sale warning
18 Spanish sauce
19 Food fail
20 Print size, perhaps
23 Overindulging
24 In a dominant position
28 Bygone bargain spot
33 Crimean resident
36 Left bed
37 Miss West
38 Caspian's neighbor
39 Wane
40 Thaw
41 Star Wars letters
42 Raccoon's cousin
43 False appearance
44 Substantial Sletson
47 Word on a door
48 Mario Puzo book
52 Carpenter's three-incher
57 One of The Jacksons
60 Start of path?
61 Author Ferber
62 Moises of baseball
63 Ulan Mongolia
64 Thailand, once
65 Escutcheon flaw
66 Laurel and Mikita
67 Mediocre

DOWN
1 Castles' defenses
2 Confused
3 Work period
4 Medical facility
5 Fashion in the mind
6 Terrible tsar?
7 Ancient Briton
8 In the past, in the past
9 Stick around
10 Passionate tai cocktail
11 Night before
12 Seine
13 Lulu
14 Dissimulation
15 Actress Marisa
16 Ph.D. exams
17 Calvin of the PGA
18 Clive Barker novel
19 Muse of lyric poetry
20 Out
21 Half an African
22 Refined
23 "As You Like It" forest
24 Contaminate
25 Major ISP
26 Silence
27 Be concerned
28 Ill-smelling
29 Leave at once!
30 Tributes paid
31 Active starter?
32 Yethers and Louise
33 San Antonio shrine
34 One-point jacks in cribbage
35 Junior's exam
36 Blues singer James
37 Dodge model
38 Can opener
39 Off one's feed
40 In addition

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
12/4/00

Friday's Puzzle Solved

FRISK	SLOG	ALAS
LANKA	HORA	LIMO
ATTIC	AGES	BLIP
MEL	HOMESTRETCH	
LIMES	RAISES	
INSANE	DINT	
NECKANDNECK	MER	
TRUE	RIM	ACLU
ODD	PHOTOFINISH	
PLOP	OLIVER	
ACTUAL	SEALS	
DAILYDOUBLE	ITS	
MILL	IRIS	GETUP
ANTE	NATE	AMEBA
NEST	GLEN	LUMEN

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Sports

The University Daily

Lady Raiders battle Lobos 7

Nebraska to play in Alamo Bowl 7

Raiders edge Lumberjacks, 54-51

Brown sinks free throws late to preserve Tech win

By Jeff Keller
Sports Editor

Thanks to a timely block from center Andy Ellis and two clutch free-throws from guard Jamal Brown, the Texas Tech men's basketball team was able to hold off a late comeback attempt by Stephen F. Austin and defeat the Lumberjacks, 54-51, Saturday at the United Spirit Arena.

The Red Raiders led by as many as 17 points in the first half and held a 12 point advantage at 47-35 with 4:50 remaining in the game. But the Lumberjacks fought back and with a three-point basket by guard Skip Jackson, with 1:28 left in the game, Stephen F. Austin cut the score to 52-51.

Tech was unable to score on its next possession after the Jackson three-pointer, and the Lumberjacks had a chance to take the lead with 14 seconds left in the game, but Ellis rejected the Lumberjack's shot and Brown snagged the rebound.

Brown dribbled the ball back up court and was fouled with six seconds left and calmly sank both free throws.

The Lumberjacks got off a last second three-point shot but it clanged off the front of the rim and Tech narrowly claimed its third victory of the season.

Brown finished the contest with 10 points and five assists and said he was glad he had the opportunity to clinch the victory at the free throw line.

"That is what you dream of," Brown

said. "Every big-time player wants to be in that position. I just stepped up there and did what a basketball player should do. A player should knock those shots down at this level. There was no pressure even though the momentum was going their way. But when you play basketball that is just what you have to do. You have to take your time, be composed, step up to the line and knock them down."

Tech had only one other player score in double figures as guard Ronald Hobbs contributed 10 points while pulling down five rebounds to help the Raiders' cause.

Center Andy Ellis scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds while blocking three shots, including the Lumberjacks' attempt to take the lead in the closing seconds.

Ellis said there was nothing special about his last block, he just saw the opportunity and took it. "The guy just penetrated to the middle, and I was standing right there," Ellis said. "He was a little shorter than most guards. That made it kind of easy for me to go up and get it. He put it right there in my face and I just went up there and got it. It turned out to be a big play."

For the second consecutive con-

test, the Red Raiders were outscored in the paint as the Lumberjacks scored 28 points to Tech's 18 points in the paint.

Tech also gave up 20 turnovers while forcing only 15 miscues by the Lumberjacks.

Tech coach James Dickey said the Red Raiders need to improve on the offensive side of the ball.

"We turned the ball over way too many times," Dickey said. "We gave up too many offensive rebounds. We were just really ineffective offensively."

The Red Raiders shot 31 percent from the floor in the game and Dickey attributed Tech's shooting percentage to close-range misses.

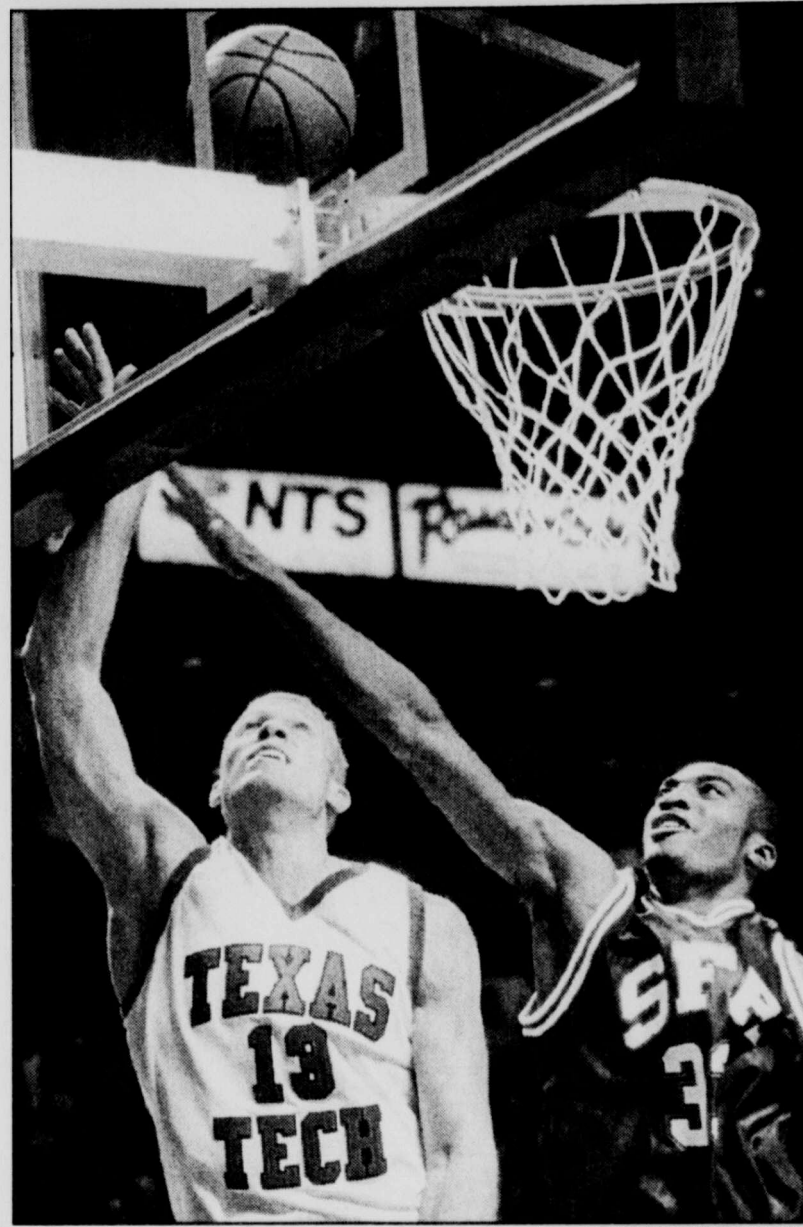
"We've got to shoot the ball better," Dickey said. "We missed a lot of easy shots. Mikey (Marshall) missed several in the first half, and Brannon (Hays) missed a couple. In the second half, we missed some shots right underneath."

With the win, Tech moves to 3-1 on the season and Dickey said even though the Red Raiders did not play their best game, a win is still a win.

"I am glad we got a win," Dickey said. "It is better to play bad and win any day than to play good and lose. I am just happy that we won."

"It is better to play bad and win any day than to play good and lose."

James Dickey
TECH MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH



Texas Tech forward Cliff Owens puts a shot in off of the glass in the Red Raiders' 54-51 win over Stephen F. Austin, Saturday at the United Spirit Arena. With the win Tech improves to 3-1 on the season.

Franchione plans future in Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — New Alabama head coach Dennis Franchione said he expects the majority of his assistant football coaches at Texas Christian University will join him at Alabama, where he hopes he doesn't have to address any NCAA penalties.

Franchione plans to meet Monday with the Alabama assistants — all still under contract. Defensive coordinator Ellis Johnson, recruiting coordinator Ronnie Cottrell and quarterbacks coach Charlie Stubbs have contracts through June 30, 2002. The other assistants' contracts run through June 30, 2001.

Franchione said he hopes one of the first issues he must address does not involve NCAA penalties. Athletic director Mal Moore has already informed Franchione about the NCAA's investigation of the Crimson Tide program. NCAA enforcement staff members spent last week questioning selected players and coaches, including former Coach Mike DuBose.

Florida linebacker Travis Carroll said after Saturday's 28-6 win against Auburn in the SEC Championship Game that he has spoken with the NCAA about possible rules violations involving Alabama.

Carroll transferred to Florida from Alabama last year after playing two seasons for the Tide. He sat out the 1999 season.

"I had to go and talk to the NCAA a couple of weeks ago," Carroll said. "I'd really rather not get into the specifics. I'm not supposed to talk about it."

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MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLEGE
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