



SNOW/RAIN
High 43 / Low 22
Tomorrow:
High 54 / Low 29

The University Daily

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THURSDAY
Jan. 24, 2002

Volume 77 ■ Issue 80
Lubbock, Texas
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Governor makes campaign stop on campus

GETTING TECHNICAL:
Last week, Gov. Perry appointed Tech's interim chancellor to Biotechnology council.

By Preston Files/Staff Reporter

Gov. Rick Perry made an appearance at the Merket Alumni Center Wednesday as part of his current campaign announcement tour.

Perry began his campaign to lead a "pathway to progress," exercising his leadership, experience and vision.

"I'm looking forward to sharing my vision with the people in the state of Texas on our children's education, transportation and health care over the course of the next nine months, then imple-

ment that plan," Perry said.

Perry said his goal as governor is to create the tools to deliver his vision for the state.

"It's about who is best qualified, who is best focused, and who is best experienced to have a vision and to implement the tools to make that vision become a reality," he said. "That's what this campaign is about."

Last week Perry announced the formation of a Science and Biotechnology Development Council. Perry recently appointed Dr. David Smith, Texas Tech's interim chancellor and president of the Health Sciences Center, to the council.

"We have the expertise and the talent in our laboratories to compete with anyone in the world," Smith said. "Tech is uniquely positioned because of the critical mass we have in one system; we have both a world class university and health sciences center."

Perry said the council contains some

of the most extraordinary minds in Texas.

"We think we will have an extraordinary plan to present to the legislature in the 2003 session that can put Texas on track to become the world leader in biotechnology," he said.

Tech president David Schmidly said Tech's involvement in the council is good for the university and the state.

"Biotechnology is an extremely prominent industry," Schmidly said. "The idea that we would support and strengthen it is good for Texas."

Schmidly said the Council on Science and Biotechnology Development helps the agriculture and medical industry at Tech, and the university will look forward to aiding its endeavor.

Smith said as more resources are invested in biotechnology, Tech needs to be able to fund the development with federal and private sectors and come up with a strategic plan that can be marketed at a national level.

"Texas should have more tier-one research institutions, I think it will be a wise investment," he said.

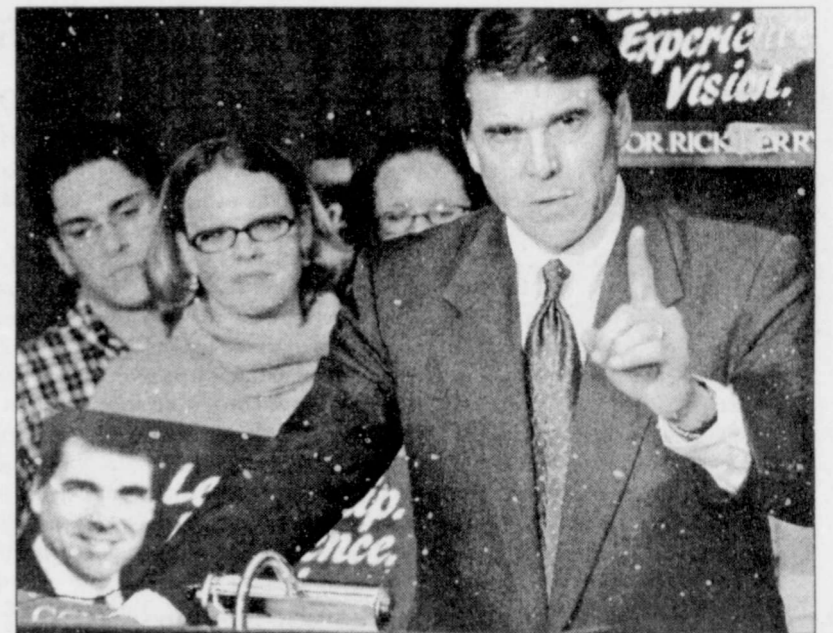
Perry said the university structure in Texas could be beneficial for the development.

"We have the foundation and structure to have the most extraordinary biotechnology effort in the world; that's my goal," he said.

The stop in Lubbock was an early start in Perry's campaign trail.

"What's important is to look forward and work together. We're focused on the future," Perry said.

Governor Perry's campaign trail continues from Lubbock to Amarillo and then to Wichita Falls. The first day of his second campaign announcement tour was Tuesday, where he started in Texarkana and continued in Nacogdoches, Beaumont and Victoria. Perry's final stop will be in San Angelo today.



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer
GOV. RICK PERRY delivered a speech Wednesday afternoon at the Merket Alumni Center for his bid for re-election as Governor.

Ex-Tech student's death leads to local meningitis treatments

ON GUARD: Officials say students at narrow risk for deadly infection.

By Natalie Worthen/Staff Reporter

The death of a former Texas Tech student, caused by bacterial meningitis, led to the treatment of several students at the Tech campus this week.

University of Texas student Joseph Slade Blackstock, died Tuesday after contracting the most severe form of the bacterial infection, which affects fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord.

Cindy Rugeley, vice chancellor for News and Information, said Tech students are most likely not at risk of contracting the infection.

"Unless you were partying with Blackstock in Austin or the Dallas Metroplex, you don't have spinal meningitis," Rugeley said.

Rugeley said that the student at Tech who was thought to have the infection, was administered one dosage of Cipro, a treatment for spinal meningitis, along with four to five other students.

"There are no students at Tech that have Neisseria meningitidis," Rugeley said.

Dr. Ron Warner, associate professor of clinical preventive medicine for family and community medicine at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, explained why the infection that Blackstock contracted is so serious.

"Neisseria meningitidis is carried in the back of the nose and throat, pharynx," Warner said. "It's probably very innocuous and most people who are carriers suffer no consequences."

Warner said a weakened immune system, stress, lack of sleep, poor diet and lack of exercise are factors that could make the infection spread to the bloodstream.

"A small proportion of the population that has the infection will have it travel to the bloodstream from the lining of the pharynx. If the infection spreads, predilection of the tissue between the brain and skull will cause a headache and rash," Warner said.

Early detection is key with meningitis, Warner said. He

MENINGITIS continued on page 5

Reptilian ROOMMATES

Tech students share tales of boa-bonding and hiss-terical situations with unusual pets

By Whitney Wyatt/Staff Reporter

While some may not see a snake as a typical pet for a college student, some Texas Tech students are deciding to journey down this slithering path instead of having the usual dog, cat or fish.

Roommates Ryan Pietsch, a junior business major from Dallas, and Coby Porter, a junior animal science major from Menard, have two dogs and a cat and are also the owners of four snakes.

Pietsch said he has two pet snakes, an 8-foot Burmese Python named Foster, and a baby Honduran King snake, which he has yet to name. The Honduran King snake is only 8 inches long, he said, but it will one day grow to 6 feet.

Porter said he has two pet snakes, as well - Susie, a 6-foot Boa and Slim, a 3-foot Carpet Python, he said.

"It's awesome (having snakes)," Porter said. "Such few people have them as pets. It's just an interesting pet to have."

Pietsch said they feed their snakes every two weeks. "Foster eats a dead rabbit, Susie eats three live rats, Slim eats three live mice and the baby snake eats live fuzzies, which are baby mice," he said. "They swallow whole."

Porter said feeding the snakes, which costs about \$40 a month, is his favorite part.

"It is amazing to watch them eat," he said. "You get to watch them kill things."

After they let the rats or mice run around the cage, Porter

SNAKES continued on page 5



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer
FOSTER, A BURMESE Python, hisses in the ear of his owner Coby Porter, a junior animal sciences major from Menard. RIGHT: Porter and Ryan Pietsch, a junior business major from Dallas, hold their reptile house-pets, including a Burmese Python, Honduran King Snake and Carpet Python.



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

Redistricting could cause voter confusion

NEW BOUNDARIES:
Updated registration cards being sent out.

By Jenny Klein/Staff Reporter

Precinct changes resulting from last year's redistricting could cause confusion among voters in the upcoming elections.

Barbara Brooks, Lubbock County tax assessor-collector, said it is important for Lubbock citizens to be aware of any changes that may affect them. Brooks is sending out new voter registration cards with the corrected information to notify voters of precinct changes.

"We want to ensure that everyone

is clear on where to vote, who they are voting for and who their representatives are," Brooks said.

County redistricting was mandated by population changes reported in the 2000 census, which moved 12 existing voting precincts in Lubbock County and added others, Brooks said.

These redistricting boundaries could change precincts and where people cast their votes. It also affects whom citizens vote for in city council, county commissioner, state and national elections, as well as school districts, Brooks said.

Each of the six city council members represents a district, which consists of precincts, Brooks said. If the new district boundary encompasses a precinct it did not cover before, that precinct will be added to that district, and vice versa, Brooks said. This same concept goes for county commissioners, state representa-

tives, national representatives and school districts.

Not everyone will receive a new voter registration card. Only those needing corrections will be sent out. The card will list the precinct number and district for the city, county, school, state representative and U.S. representative the person will be voting for or is represented by, she said.

"It's very important to know who you are voting for," Brooks said.

The tax assessor-collector's office sent out voter registration cards in December. These cards did not have the corrections on them, Brooks said.

Texas Tech is located in Precincts 49 and 50 and those registered to vote in this area are not affected by the redistricting, County Clerk Doris Ruff said.

VOTERS continued on page 5

John Walker has high-security homecoming

By Pauline Jelinek/Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John Walker Lindh, the American captured as a Taliban soldier, was sent to the United States aboard a military plane and under high security to face charges he conspired with terrorists to kill fellow U.S. citizens.

"He will now have his day in court, and he will be judged impartially and fairly," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told a press conference.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon held off on sending more al-Qaida and Taliban figures from Afghanistan to a U.S. naval base on Cuba for security reasons, a senior defense official said Wednesday on condition of anonymity.

With 158 there now, the makeshift prison is reaching capacity, and officials fear it might be easier for the captives to create problems if they were doubled up in cells while more are being built, he said.

He said several dozen more could be ready in a day or so, but it was unclear when the transfers would resume.

In another development, six anti-Taliban militiamen have been brought to Walter Reed Army Medical Center

for treatment of injuries received when an American bomb went astray last month, another defense official said Wednesday, also speaking on condition of anonymity.

Lindh was expected to arrive late Wednesday in suburban Washington, where he was expected to make an initial appearance Thursday in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

One U.S. official familiar with the process, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Lindh would be handed over to U.S. marshals after the military cargo plane lands, then fingerprinted. Marshals were expected to take Lindh to a federal detention center and transport him Thursday to his court appearance.

Meanwhile, Lindh's parents and attorney James Brosnhan were headed east from San Francisco, said a source familiar with the situation. This person, who spoke on grounds of anonymity, said it wasn't known whether they would see Lindh.

Lindh was taken off the USS Bataan warship in the Arabian Sea by helicopter and transferred to another military plane at the airport at the southern Afghan city of Kandahar, officials said. The Pentagon officially was not confirming the transfer, saying it would be dangerous to release information about his movements.

Up 2 Date

The Rundown



Dallas mayoral race heating up

DALLAS (AP)—The heated Dallas mayoral race has reached a new level, with accusations of bribery being cast against candidates and state officials.

State Rep. Domingo Garcia, who lost his bid for Dallas mayor, is accusing fellow Democratic Rep. Steve Wolens and his wife, Laura Miller, of offering to help pay his campaign debts in exchange for endorsing Miller for mayor.

"Mrs. Miller actually offered to help with whatever campaign debt I had and any political campaign I had in the future," Garcia said.

Both Miller and Wolens deny Garcia's allegations.

Spanish election guide to be printed

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—For the first time, the League of Women Voters of Texas plans to issue a guide to statewide candidates written entirely in Spanish for the March 12 primaries.

The league, which estimates more than 1 million Texas voters use the guides every election, has printed portions of its traditional question-and-answer guide in Spanish for several years.

A "stand-alone" Spanish guide to Democratic and Republican candidates seemed to be the logical next step, league officials told the San Antonio Express-News in Wednesday's editions.



Bush wants more defense spending

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush called Wednesday for nearly \$50 billion in additional military spending for the war on terrorism, the largest increase for the Pentagon in two decades.

Privately, he assured Republican and Democratic leaders that he has "no ambition whatsoever" to exploit the war on terrorism for political gain in this election year.

With his chief political strategist, Karl Rove, seated behind him in the Cabinet Room, Bush gave House and Senate leaders an update on the fight against terrorists.

Identify theft top fraud complaint

WASHINGTON (AP)—Identify theft was the leading consumer fraud complaint reported last year, far exceeding gripes about Internet auctions and services.

Of the 204,000 complaints compiled by the Federal Trade Commission, 42 percent involved identify theft, the agency said Wednesday. The figures come from a government database that collects complaints from more than 50 law enforcement and consumer groups.

Another top consumer fraud complaints were problems with Internet auctions (10 percent), involving goods that were delivered late or not at all and items less valuable than advertised.



Officials looking into uranium leaks

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)—Officials investigating a large spill of radioactive waste at a uranium mine in the Australian outback found there have been 24 other leaks at the site.

Details of the leaks, which were not publicly disclosed at the time, have prompted the South Australian state government to review reporting procedures of all such spills, officials told The Associated Press on Wednesday. The officials said the leaks were not considered harmful to the public.

Earlier this month, some 15,600 gallons of radioactive fluid leaked from a pipe at the Beverley uranium mine, 370 miles north of the state capital, Adelaide.

Quakes, rain add to Congo troubles

GOMA, Congo (AP)—Moderate earthquakes and a cold, heavy rain Wednesday added to the misery of hundreds of thousands of people in northeastern Congo, where a volcanic eruption destroyed 40 percent of the largest city in the region.

The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo on Jan. 17 has left 10,000 families without shelter and hundreds of thousands without any livelihood.

Earthquakes continue to shake the region, some of them strong enough to destroy buildings.

Quote of the Day

"You become more critical of your own opinions. Being away from your own kind and experiencing other cultures has a maturing effect."

— ANASTASIA COLES, Study Abroad Counselor, on students who study in foreign countries. Please see STUDENT SENATE, page 3.

People in the News

London theater gets new director

LONDON (AP)—Michael Grandage was named the new artistic director of the Donmar Warehouse, the studio-sized London theater that's acquired an international reputation during its 10 years under the leadership of Sam Mendes.

Mendes, who is leaving the Donmar to pursue a free-lance film and theater career, will step down at the end of November.

He won the best director Oscar for 1999's "American Beauty," starring Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening.

The selection of the 39-year-old Grandage, a former actor, was announced Tuesday.

He has directed a string of successes at the 251-seat theater in Covent Garden, most recently a revival of Peter Nichols' "Privates on Parade," which opened in December to rave reviews. The production has been nominated for three Olivier Awards, London's equivalent of the Tony.

Last year, his Donmar premiere of Stephen Sondheim's

"Merrily We Roll Along" won three Olivier Awards, including best musical.

Grandage takes over the Donmar in December while retaining his commitment to a three-theater complex in the Yorkshire town of Sheffield, where he has been associate director since 1999.

On March 19, he opens a Sheffield revival of Shakespeare's "Richard III," with Kenneth Branagh in the title role. The production has been the fastest-selling show in the 31-year history of the Crucible Theater, part of the Sheffield complex.

Canadian wins T.S. Eliot poetry prize

LONDON (AP)—Canadian poet Anne Carson has won the T.S. Eliot poetry prize for her powerful chronicle of marriage and divorce, "The Beauty of the Husband."

Carson, the first woman to win the award in its nine-year history, was awarded the \$14,000 prize at a ceremony in London on Monday. The prize is for the best poetry title published in Britain and Ireland.

Helen Dunmore, who was chairperson of the judging panel, praised Carson's "tart, lyrical,

erotic, plainspoken and highly charged" evocation of a collapsing marriage, told in 29 "tangos."

Carson, a 50-year-old history professor at McGill University in Montreal, beat a shortlist of 10 that included Nobel literature prize winner Seamus Heaney.

The prize, presented by Eliot's widow, Valerie Eliot, is sponsored by the Poetry Book Society, which T.S. Eliot helped found in 1953.

Carson, the author of seven books, was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1998 and in 2000 received a \$500,000 MacArthur Fellowship.

A third daughter joins McGraw clan

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Audrey baby makes three — daughters, that is.

Audrey Caroline McGraw was born in early December to Tim McGraw and his wife, Faith Hill. Waiting at home for her arrival were 4-year-old Gracie and 3-year-old Maggie.

"The baby's great. She's doing wonderful," McGraw told reporters. "She's healthy and happy and we're happy and that's all that matters."

How do the couple's older daughters feel about having a new

little sister? "Oh, they love it. They're incredible," he said.

Hill and McGraw, both 34, live in Brentwood, south of Nashville, Tenn.

It's going to be a busy year, he said.

"I'm looking forward to getting a new album out. Faith will have an album out. We've got some shows we're going to do. We're going to be out there. I don't know if we're going to do a great big huge tour. I think we might pop up at a few clubs or do something fun this year."

Cruise, Cruz pick favorite attributes

PARIS (AP)—Tom likes Penelope's kindness. Penelope likes Tom's generosity.

Promoting their film "Vanilla Sky" in Paris on Tuesday, Tom Cruise and Penelope Cruz had a hard time picking just one quality they liked in each other.

"I choose Penelope's kindness," Cruise said at a news conference at the swanky George V hotel. "Her beauty, her intelligence ..."

"It is his generosity," said Cruz. "I was amazed by the way he cares about everyone around him. He values everything he has."

Cruise, 39, plays David Aames, a rich playboy that seems to have everything. Cruz, 27, reprises her original role as Sofia Serrano, a beautiful woman he meets at a birthday party.

"Vanilla Sky," directed by Alejandro Amenabar, is a remake of Alejandro Amenabar's 1997 Spanish thriller, "Open Your Eyes."

RICHARD GERE LAURA LINNEY



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Student Senate set to propose International Education fee

MEMBERS OF THE Student Senate listen to a speaker during a meeting last spring. The Senate's first session this semester is at 7 p.m. today in the International Cultural Center.



By Laura Sepeda/Staff Reporter

The Texas Tech Student Senate will hold their first session of the semester in the International Cultural Center at 7 p.m. today.

The Senate is slated to discuss legislation concerning the International Education fee and the color of the lights in the Victory Bell Tower and the Carillon Bell Tower.

The Senate is proposing that the International Education fee, which is currently set at \$1 per student per semester, will be adjusted to allow more students to participate in the international education programs. The programs offered include study abroad programs, exchange programs and international student programs.

The fee, which was implemented by the Texas Legislature in 1984, funds scholarships for these programs.

Kelli Stumbo, internal vice president of the Student Government Association and president of the Senate, said there are currently 70 scholarships available.

"Twenty-five of those are only \$250," she said. "That will barely get you a plane

ticket, and studying abroad can get really expensive. Eighty-five percent of those who apply for the programs are already on financial aid."

Stumbo said the fee increase would include a clause regulating the amount of the fee. It could only be raised \$1 a year and would cap at \$4.

Stumbo said President Schmidly would like to have 5 percent of the student body studying abroad by the year 2006.

"In 1994 we had 180 students abroad," she said. "Last year we had over 425."

Stumbo said this is an important fee that is needed to promote the programs and increase the number and diversity of students who participate.

Anastasia Coles, a study abroad counselor with the International Cultural Center, agrees.

"Having the means brings a whole new level of students who participate," she said.

Coles said the Tech campus in Seville, Spain, is reasonably priced, but additional funds are still necessary. She said studying abroad could produce enormous benefits for students.

"Students who have experiences outside of where they are from have something of an edge over those who don't," she said. "You become more critical of your own opinions. Being away from your own kind and experiencing other cultures has a maturing effect."

However, Coles said the experiences students have with different cultures are not limited to interacting with students in foreign places.

"We have some students amazed at the culture shock they get with a student from Rhode Island," she said. "It is a beautiful way to learn about the world outside of a book."

In order to participate in international education programs, students must have finished at least one semester and have received their grades for that semester.

The Senate also will vote on a resolution asking for the lights in the Victory Bell Tower and the Carillon Bell Tower to be changed from white to red after an athletic team's victory. The two towers are respectively located on the east and west sides of the Administration building.

Senator Gramm says he knew nothing about Enron's troubles

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, whose wife sits on Enron's board and audit committee, said Wednesday he had no advance warning of the company's bankruptcy or its dire financial situation.

The Republican senator added that he and his wife, Wendy, lost nearly \$700,000 in compensation that had been set aside for payment to her later from an account tied to the value of Enron stock.

Wendy Gramm has been named in a lawsuit by investors against Enron executives and directors.

Gramm said he and his wife, a former head of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, have made it a point not to discuss her business activities.

"My wife and I have had parallel careers ever since we came to Washington," he said. "When we go home, we talk about important things like Texas A&M football, me taking out the garbage, those kind of things."

Gramm said his wife sold all her Enron stock in the fall of 1998, after which the value of the company's stock soared over the next two years.

Her net gain on three stock transactions was about \$207,000, Gramm's office said.

Gramm said he decided to discuss his family's personal stake in Enron's situation because "any time a story has been run alleging profiteering by Enron," his wife's name and photo have generally appeared alongside it.

He said he wanted to tell the "rest of the story."

"Obviously, our loss at Enron is small as compared to some people's," he said. "I'm not complaining about it. I just wanted people to know what the facts

were."

To avoid a conflict of interest with her husband's Senate work, Wendy Gramm decided to accept deferred compensation instead of Enron stock after 1998. The compensation was worth \$687,000 when the company collapsed. Because of the bankruptcy filing, the plan no longer has value.

Gramm, who has received \$97,350 in campaign donations from Enron since 1989, has decided to remove himself from congressional hearings focusing on what went wrong at the company. But he will take part in more general inquiries into accounting standards, investor protection issues and other matters, the senator said.

He said he would not be involved in any "Enron-specific" inquiries.

Gramm defended his wife against the criticisms that have been aimed at the energy company, saying, "she did nothing wrong."

The shareholder lawsuits allege that Enron's directors and senior executives sold \$1.1 billion in Enron shares between 1998 and 2001 with inside knowledge that the company was in financial trouble.

Student Health, Rec Sports gear up for wellness fair

By Justin Matthews/Staff Reporter

Departments and organizations from the campus and community are sponsoring the 6th annual Texas Tech Well Fair beginning 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center.

The fair, which is open to all Texas Tech students, faculty and staff members, addresses different areas of wellness such as emotional, physical, social, intellectual and spiritual wellness, Juli Benson, a health educator for Student Health Services said.

"There are going to be booths set up that will be interactive with students; it's not just walking by, looking at a display, reading a brochure," Benson said. "The booths will help students learn about the different dimensions of wellness in a fun way."

The fair will take place in the carpeted

area on the first floor of the rec center, but will not affect students who do not want to participate.

"In the past, we've had anywhere from 350 to 500 students attend at one time, but it (the fair) doesn't take up any play space," Janda Ibbetson, associate director of Rec Sports said. "It won't affect the students who are just here to work out."

Will Bassham, a junior political science major from Colorado City, Texas attended the fair last year.

"I actually was just going to work out but ended up at Tech Well for quite a while," Bassham said. "I honestly didn't expect it to be any fun, but it was pretty cool - especially the drunk goggles the Tech police had at their booth."

Benson said the event is set up to have a relaxed atmosphere and will be on a come-and-go basis, so students will not be forced to stay for the entire two and a half hours.

There are going to be booths set up that will be interactive with students; it's not just walking by, looking at a display, reading a brochure.

— JULI BENSON
Student Health Educator



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

A TEXAS TECH student attempts to function normally while wearing the vision impairing Drunken Goggles during the Tech Well fair last spring. The annual event, which addresses many different areas of wellness, begins at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center. The fair is open to all Tech students, faculty and staff.

"It's a fun activity where students can learn and actually do something," Ibbetson said. "Plus the rec center is already a fun atmosphere."

Banners are posted in buildings around campus and information about the event

is displayed on screens in the library and Student Union building.

"We hope people come out, have fun and learn something new about wellness and making healthy lifetime choices," Ibbetson said.

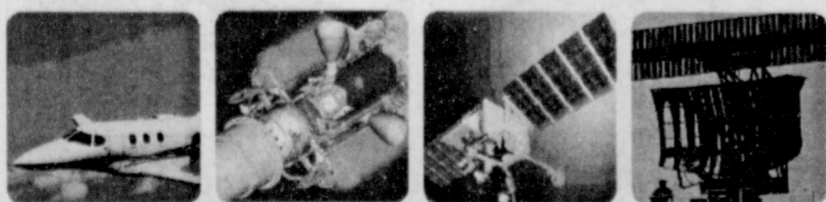
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Autopsy proves to be eye opening

COLUMN



SANDEEP RAO

The poem "Larynx," by Nobel Prize-winning Chilean writer Pablo Neruda, begins:
*Now this is it, said Death
And as far as I could see
Death was looking at me,
at me.*

It serves as my answer to the question, "So, how did you spend your three-day weekend?" I arrived to a Monday morning autopsy of a dead body in the morgue with an equal amount of anticipation and responsibility — anticipation of a medical field relatively unknown to me along with the responsibility of fulfilling a course requirement.

The autopsy experience in the medical school curricula serves a dual role: one, to acquaint second-year students with the basics of forensic pathology, and two, perhaps also to encourage interest into future work as a medical examiner.

The autopsy remains far removed from that of the mannequin-like presence of the corpses encountered by neophyte future physicians in the introductory anatomy lab.

In contrast, the bodies in the morgue are very real: the blood — lukewarm and still fluid; the skin — soft to the touch; and a fetid smell that you can taste, that sits at the back of the palate — not the comparatively benign formaldehyde that had become a part of us during our first year.

We met Mr. X [name withheld] shortly after 9 a.m.

By "we," I'm referring to the four of us — myself, my partner for the autopsy, Dr. Jerry Spencer, the chief medical examiner, and his assistant, wearing a black surgical cap patterned

with numerous skull and cross bones — a sight I do not imagine seeing in the pediatrics ward.

Ironically, my partner for the autopsy, a fellow second-year student, Rocky Bilhartz of Huntsville, did not share my enthusiasm for the experience.

With a name like Rocky, you would think he would be a bit more used to seeing blood. And, originating from a place like Huntsville, you would think he would have been more accustomed to the presence of dead people.

Removing various organs from the body, Spencer attempted to identify the cause of death of this man found lying in his bed.

With a few strokes of the scalpel, Spencer eventually freed the heart from the thin sac. Suspecting a cardiac problem, he then squeezes the blood out of the heart like a sponge, pooling the viscous liquid into the makeshift sink created by the eviscerated chest cavity.

In a manner not unlike that seen on infomercials advertising steak knives, Spencer proceeded to mince the black coronary arteries along their length, attempting to find occlusions.

Bingo. Dr. Spencer accomplishes the mission of the autopsy. Cause of death: arteriosclerosis of the coronaries.

No need for follow-ups. No need to discuss the case with the patient's family. Roll in the next body — after some cleaning up, of course.

As a pre-clinical medical student, I couldn't attend the one-hour autopsy experience without noting the advantages and disadvantages of the fields of forensic pathology.

Life as a medical examiner brings the obvious benefits: no pre-certifications, no inquisitive badgering from overseeing medical directors about utilization and compliance, no difficult questions from patients about new wonder drugs advertised on television.

With two major network television shows involving forensic pathology, the field doesn't need any more publicity. Currently, primetime television captures the allure of Jill Hennessy of

NBC's "Crossing Jordan" and the mystery of Jerry Bruckheimer's "CSI" on CBS.

Yet, despite the intrigue of the field, the formulaic and dispassionate routine of the hour kept coming back, haunting me about the nature of the physician-patient relationship in this field.

For me, the morning had turned into a pure exercise in medical science, devoid of human touch.

As I considered the role of forensic pathology in the patient's life process, I understood the reality that the medical examiner gets only one shot with the patient, where the first visit is also the last. Moreover, while few would welcome the need to see a vascular surgeon, everything pales in comparison to a necessary visit to the medical examiner.

Even the somewhat-mechanical process of surgery has what English poet James Kirkup terms "a correct compassion," a warmth shown by the technical precision necessary of high-stakes care giving.

However, absent the possibility of a macabre necrophilic relationship, the idea of getting to know the patient goes out the window in the morgue.

As a pre-med undergraduate, I recall the stories one of my friends often related about his tough upbringing and attitude molded by a life spent in Rochester, N.Y.

"You're so cold," another once replied in response.

"You should be a cop — or a doctor." Back then, the latter half of that statement never fully made sense to me.

Now however, in hindsight, I've got to believe he was referring specifically to medical examiners.

Theirs is not the medicine I had come to embrace.

■ Sandeep Rao is a second year MD/MBA student from Houston in the School of Medicine. He can be contacted at srao@ttu.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Athletic fee another form of extortion

To the editor: So the Tech administration wants to increase athletic attendance? Is the best the Tech administration can do extortion?

People who live in the dorms must buy an all-sports pass? This is to increase attendance? Maybe if some of the locals that bought season tickets showed up, attendance would be better. Maybe if they didn't want students to sit in the nosebleed section, more students would show up. You can't garner fans by means of extortion. You gain fans because you put out a quality, exciting product, not because you charge people for it.

What is the problem — apathy? Can you charge people money to make them care? People at Tech care. They care enough to buy tickets, just not enough to show up.

The solution is not to charge people more money and hope enough of them think, "Well, we already paid for it, we might as well go."

Students already don't get what they pay for when it comes to education at Tech (not that that seems to bother most of them), now the administration wants to charge everyone for something they not only don't want, but also can't have.

If every full-time student pays this fee, are they going to have enough seats if everyone decides to buy their half-price tickets? No, this is just the Tech administration stealing more money from the students.

To President Schmidly and his cronies — if you want a quality university, you have to start demanding higher standards for everyone associated with the institution, not by building things. I know bigger is the Texas way, but bigger is not always better. Better is always better; bigger is just harder to manage.

Steve Presley
Graduate Student
Biology



Love something? Hate something? Voice your opinion. Send letters to the editor to opinions@universitydaily.net

Proposed fee gives athletics way too much

GUEST COLUMN



DALLAS GRANT

Yesterday, I arrived on campus like any other day — 15 minutes before my first class. I reserve this special time of day for what I like to call "private time." Private time consists of a trip to the "library," otherwise known as the restroom, with a copy of The University Daily.

So yesterday, I grabbed my copy and made for one of the special library stalls to expand my mind with The UD in hand. Five minutes later, a dull thud could be heard outside the "library" when I fell off my porcelain throne. Yes, I actually dethroned.

"What could be the cause of this violent restroom behavior?" you may ask. What headline could possibly disturb the sanctity and peace of an early morning visit to the porcelain throne? "New athletic fee hoped to increase attendance" was the headline that sent me sprawling.

That was it! I know, it doesn't sound like something that would send a person flying through the air, paper in hand. I couldn't help it! I screamed, "I will not be rear-ended!" I quickly realized that the restroom is about as good a place to scream that phrase as a prison shower; so, I quietly finished my article.

I know the students of this university, being properly informed, will not stand for this increase in fees. Here's the fleece they're trying to pull over our eyes:

With the newly proposed athletic fee, students would pay \$65 a semester towards athletics instead of the usual \$35. You say, "A difference of \$30 is nothing to fly off the pot over!" I say it surely is! Let's do some math: \$30 multiplied by two for both semesters equals \$60. Okay, and \$60 per student multiplied by 25,000 students. That's a grand total of \$1.5 million per year, raised by students only, specifically for athletics.

Here is the kicker. The athletic department isn't quite sure what they want to do with the money yet. Isn't that nice! Just give us the money now, and we'll find some way to spend it. I'm not so sure I trust the athletic department, especially when they stand behind me.

Supporters will say, "But we get more seats. It will increase attendance." Yeah? So will free booze at the games, but that will never happen. Besides, what happens when too many students show up for a game? Who gets turned away? The public or the students? I think we all know the answer to that.

The administration is going to rear end the students. Only this time they'll rear-end the entire student body because we'll all have sports passes. They proved their intentions last year when, during the A&M and Oklahoma State games, students with all-sports packages were turned away from the sold-out game.

Can we really expect anything different if we all have passes? Allow me to give everyone a little glimpse into the future:

Sports packages become mandatory. Everyone pays to go to every game, whether they want to or not. The athletic department rakes in an additional \$1.5 million year. They tell all the students, "Come on out and support your Red Raiders." So we, in fine school spirit, show up in record numbers. What happens?

We'll get turned away, because they'll never turn away John Q. Public who paid for the ticket in his hand. They'll turn us away, the currently enrolled students. Why? Because we can't do a damn thing about it! We've already paid!

They will oversell every game, given the chance. Hell, they will have a guaranteed 25,000 tickets sold before every sporting event. Do you know how many seats are reserved for students now in Jones SBC stadium? 11,000.

So the athletic department oversells the stadium and then turns away paying customers, otherwise known as students, with no refund. As it is now, every student over the 11,000-person cap will be turned away. It's a damn good strategy, one that could only be conjured up by the blood-and-money-sucking athletic department.

Here's a thought: find someone besides poot college students to pay for new footballs. Don't try to tempt us with the worthless offer of all-sports packages. We all know the math doesn't quite work out, and students will be the ones to suffer.

I'm ready for someone to put students first. Assess the packages, and then guarantee seats for all students interested. That's my proposal!

So students, pony up in the name of school spirit if you like, but I'll keep my eyes open. They won't give us the seats; they'll only take the money we pay in the name of Tech improvement.

■ Dallas Grant is a senior English major from Austin. He can be contacted at dallas.r.grant@ttu.edu.

THURSDAY JANUARY 24

STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXB PBS Lubbock	KCBD NBC Lubbock	KLBK CBS Lubbock	KUPT UPN Lubbock	KAMC ABC Lubbock	KJTV FOX Lubbock
7:00	Bus. Report Body Elec.	Today Show	News	Recess Tarzan	Good Morning	K. Copeland Magic Bus
8:00	Callou Barney		Early Show	Lightyear Sabrina	America	Caroline Paid Program
9:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Sally Jessy Raphael	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	Crossing Over
10:00	Sesame Street	Maria Stewart	Price is Right	People's Court	View	Aranda Lewis
11:00	Mr. Rogers Teletubbies	Montel Williams	Young & the Restless	Hatchett Paid Program	Mad/You Port Charles	Other Half
12:00	Old House One Stroke	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Paid Program Paid Program
1:00	Sew Young Clifford	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jenny Jones	One Life to Live	Matlock
2:00	Sagwa Zocomafoo	Hyred Square	Guiding Light	Paid Program	General Hospital	Divorce Court
3:00	Arthur Cyberchase	Rosie O'Donnell	Mauri Povich	Paid Program E.T.	Iyanla	Joe Brown Joe Brown
4:00	Beths, Jones R. Rainbow	Oprah Winfrey	For Women Judge Judy	7th Heaven	Tell/Truth Family Feud	Sabrina Home Impr.
5:00	Zoom Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	Jeopardy News	Street Smart Street Smart	News ABC News	King/Hill Simpsons
6:00	NewsHour	News Extra	CBS News	Voyager	News W/Forrest	Friends Raymond
7:00	American Family	Friends Will/Grace	C.S.I.	WWF Smackdown	Whose Line Whose Line	Family Guy Tick
8:00	Mystery!	Will/Grace Shoot Me	C.S.I.		Millionaire PG	Temptation Island 2
9:00	Frontline	E.R. TV14	Agency	Cops Cops	Primetime	News
10:00	Nightly Bus.	News Tonight Show	News David	Change/Heart Blind Date	News Nightline	Seinfeld Frasier
11:00		Conan	Latterman Craig	Blind Date Change/Heart	Incorrect Abbott	Cheers Shoot Me
12:00		O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Paid Program Shop @ Home	Access Paid Program	Spin City Coach



FAMILY GUY 7PM TONIGHT
FOX 34
NEWS @ NINE
9PM FOX34 NEWS @ NINE

Rec center All-Nighter set for Friday

DUSK TO DAWN:
Annual event gearing up;
tournament registration
deadline 5 p.m. today.

By April Tamplen/Staff Reporter

The Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center is hosting the 22nd annual Rec Sports All-Nighter on Friday.

Tournaments will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. with a short break for Tom DeLuca's Hypnosis Show at 9 p.m.

All tournament participants need to pre-register by 5 p.m. today. Registration forms can be picked up in Room 202 at

the rec center. More information can be found at the display near the entry of the rec center expansion. Pre-registered students will receive a free T-shirt provided by the Texas Tech Federal Credit Union.

"This is a free opportunity to enjoy the rec center," Joe MacLean, director of recreational sports, said. "There will be no prizes, just a fun evening with low stress."

Nine tournaments will be held, including indoor soccer, badminton, three-on-three basketball and inner tube water polo.

Teams must consist of five players, Amy McBride, assistant director of recreational sports said. All tournaments are open to Tech students, faculty and staff.

McBride said the inner tube water polo tournament is a sport played in the water with two teams, one ball and no horses.

"The inner tube water polo tournament will be held in the Student Aquatics center and is limited to the first eight teams that register," McBride said. "Each team should have four players and one goalie."

Drop-in activities require no registration and will be going on all night. Some of these activities include pool kayaking, big shot bingo, golf chip shot putting, Raider Grams, and the bring-a-book T-shirt give-away.

"Students will learn how to kayak in the pool, but it is not a competition," McBride said. "This is mainly to see if students are really interested in kayaking."

Big shot bingo, Raider Grams and the ring-a-book T-shirt giveaway are provided by the Red Raider Nights Committee.

Callers for bingo will be Tech athletes

and local celebrities.

The Scoggin Dickey \$10,000 basketball shootout will be held at 11:15 p.m.

"Each player will have to try four different shots for a chance at \$10,000," McBride said. "Students will register Friday night to see if their name is drawn for this competition."

McBride said the highlight for the night will be the hypnosis show.

"If seeing is believing, then I guess I believe that what DeLuca does is real," McBride said.

DeLuca takes volunteers from the audience, hypnotizes them and leads them to believe they are ballet dancers or driving a car, MacLean said.

This year will be DeLuca's 20th year to perform at Tech.

"Kids always come back to see him," MacLean said. "I believe what he does is the power of suggestion."

'Black Hawk' more action movie than war epic

FILM REVIEW

By James Eppler/Staff Critic

Ridley Scott's violent "Black Hawk Down" details a failed U.S. mission in Somalia circa 1993. The United States was helping the United Nations get food to the starving Somalis. Unfortunately, the warlords

there are more concerned about keeping control over their land than they are with feeding their people. The mission, which seemed easy enough, was to raid a meeting of the top warlords by helicopter and ground troops. The mission was so straightforward and viewed by most soldiers as an in-and-out job, so many did not even bother to pack supplies, expecting to be back within an hour. They were in for a big surprise.

The film runs about two and a half hours. The first twenty minutes or so is the set-up of the mission and we meet some of the key players, namely Maj. Gen. William F. Garrison (Sam Shepard), platoon leader Eversmann (Josh Hartnett) and McKnight (Tom Sizemore), who provides leadership for ground troops. The latter two actors are now back on my good side after their

performances in the atrocious "Pearl Harbor" earlier this year; I also spotted about three other actors from "Pearl" making appearances in "Black Hawk." Perhaps this was their way of trying to redeem themselves. Producer Jerry Bruckheimer, who also worked on "Pearl," as well as this film should still beg forgiveness.

The cast also includes Ewan McGregor as a desk soldier, who specializes in typing and coffee making until he is called into this mission at the last minute.

Scott wastes no time getting into the mission itself. The helicopters drop the troops in the middle of town. Unbeknownst to them, their opposition is well armed, and have better placement. They also have more supplies and are ready to call reinforcements.

The bulk of the film, probably over an hour and a half, is the mission in progress. What keeps "Black Hawk Down" from being as good as "Saving Private Ryan" is that it lacks characterization. "Private Ryan" was just as much about the characters as it was about the

war surrounding them. We empathized with, and even became intimate with some of the characters in that film. "Black Hawk" presents characters that seem like they would really be interesting people to get to know, but chooses to hold us at arm's length. They are soldiers of battle, nothing more, nothing less.

The purpose of the film seems to be detailing the failed mission as accurately as possible. Failure ensues when enemy missiles take out two of the Black Hawk helicopters. All ground troops around the city are ordered to double-time it to the crash sights. Subplots include three soldiers getting separated and lost from their platoons, a helicopter pilot being captured by the enemy and Garrison calling the shots from mission control as he watches his troops be massacred.

The violence and action is intense, and the audience does not receive a break or hiatus from the battle because the soldiers do not have that luxury. Credit is due to Scott here, for keeping the audience involved at every juncture. He uses some interesting camera techniques, especially when the soldiers are being dropped from the helicopters. One should also mention the sound quality in this film. The efficient use of sound effects editing is key in creating the illusion of putting us in the middle of the battle, with bombs and firearms going off in every direction.

All things considered, "Black Hawk Down" works more as an action movie, rather than a war movie with an important statement to make. The film is stylish in the way it shows battle but is content with simply being a film about a mission, rather than the soldiers involved.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★★★ 1/2

SCORING SYSTEM

- ★★★★★ — Flawless
- ★★★★ — Excellent
- ★★★ — Good
- ★★ — Mediocre
- ★ — Awful

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Baseball squad opens season with BYU, bad weather

OPENING DAY: Snow flurries in the forecast for Texas Tech's season opener against BYU.

By Jeff Keller/Staff Reporter

A 56-game, regular-season journey begins for the Texas Tech baseball squad with a battle against Brigham Young University 3 p.m. today at Dan Law Field.

The game will be the first of a three-game series. Tech will also battle the Cougars at 3 p.m. Friday and at noon Saturday.

The Red Raiders are coming off a 2001 campaign in which they were one game away from qualifying for the College Baseball World Series for the first time in the program's history.

BYU is also coming off a 2001 season in which they qualified for the NCAA Regional Tournament. The Cougars

went 38-22 under coach Vance Law last season and finished first in the Mountain West Conference.

The past three seasons, Tech has started the season with home games against Howard twice last season and in 1999, and West Texas A&M in 2000.

Tech coach Larry Hays said BYU and Tech will benefit from squaring off against each other to begin the season.

"I don't know how smart it is playing a team as good as they are with as many players as they have got coming back," Hays said. "They called us for a reason. They realized it would be a good RFI game for both of us."

BYU has 23 letter winners returning from last season's team and, Hays said the Cougars will present a challenge for his team.

"They lost a great pitcher from last year, but the rest of their pitchers, they still have," Hays said. "So it will be really a challenging series for us."

The Raiders have 14 letter winners returning from last season's squad with 15 newcomers making this weekend's series their Raider debuts.

Tech right-handed pitcher Chris Phillips will get the start in today's game.

Phillips went 11-5 last season with a 4.13 earned run average, pitching seven complete games.

Hays said Phillips' experience earned him the starting nod for the opener against the Cougars.

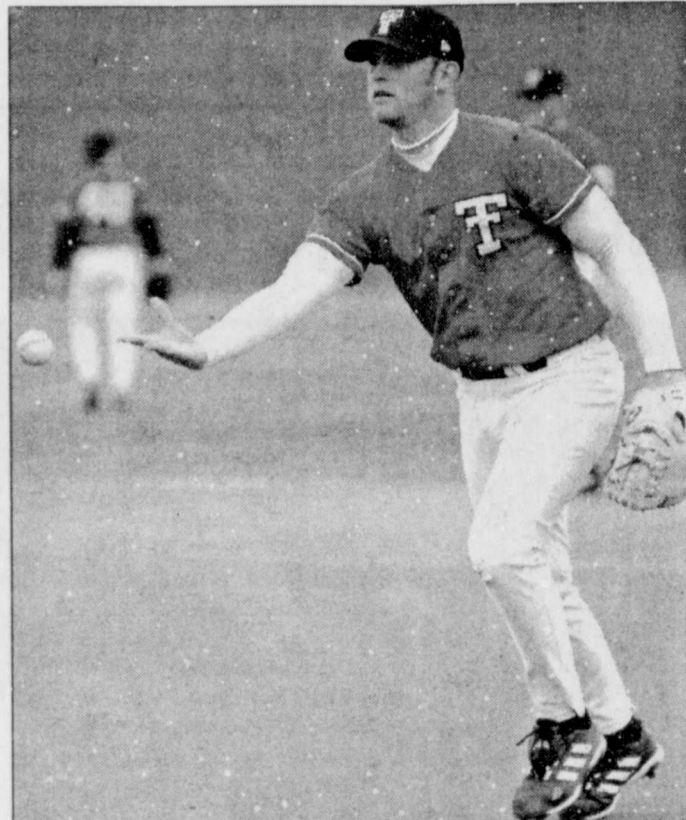
"He is our most experienced guy, so we want to put as much experience and confidence out there tomorrow as we can," Hays said. "I think he is a good candidate for us to pitch."

Phillips said the Red Raiders are anxious to get the season underway even though weather conditions may not be favorable for baseball action.

"We've been anxious for a couple of weeks, ever since we got back from New Year's," Phillips said. "We're ready to get this going. One thing we are not looking forward to is the weather tomorrow, but other than that, we are ready to go."

Chief Meteorologist at CBS 13 David Young said temperatures should be in the high 30s for tomorrow's game with winds from 15-to-25 miles per hour.

The winds are expected to create a wind chill in the teens. Young said snow flurries are possible but accumulation is not expected.



TEXAS TECH FIRST baseman Bryon Smith flips the baseball to the pitcher during workouts at Dan Law Field Wednesday. Tech opens the season at 3 p.m. today when it faces BYU. DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer

One thing we are not looking forward to is the weather tomorrow, but other than that, we are ready to go.

—CHRIS PHILLIPS
Texas Tech Pitcher

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Bull riding contest hits South Plains area starting today

By Liesl Klinkerman/Staff Reporter

The 29th Annual Mid-Winter Championship Bull Run contest will begin 8 p.m. Jan. 24 to 26 at the South Plains Livestock Pavilion.

"This championship is one of the oldest bull ridings," Keith Aikin, a junior agricultural education major from Reasnor, Iowa, said. "There are about 150 people entered, and the first prize is \$5,000. The best stock and the best bull riders will be there."

Cody Nash, a senior agriculture communications major from Tolar, said all rodeos are not the same.

"There are different types of rodeos," Nash said. "The one in Lubbock is open to anybody. In other rodeos, there is a skill level required to compete. Or, you may have to belong to an association."

For Nash, this weekend's competition will be another addition to his list. "I've been riding for four years," Nash said. "Last year, I did 100 or more rodeos."

Aikin has also been riding for a while and said it has always been a dream of his to compete in rodeos.

"I started riding when I was a freshman in high school," Aikin said. "It's always been a dream, something I've always wanted to do. I've competed in lots of rodeos, in places like Oklahoma, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Texas."

Bull riding has been a long-time dream of Nash's as well.

"It was a childhood dream," Nash said. "I was raised around rodeo cowboys. I've always wanted to be a world champion."

Nash said injuries come with the dream.

"I've been hurt before, but nothing too serious," Nash said. "I've messed up my shoulder, and it hurts all the time. I've also had some stitches in the head and broken a few ribs. I guess I'm blessed because none of the injuries have been serious."

Despite the dangers of bull riding, Aikin and Nash both said they are never afraid when riding.

"There is more of an element of respect rather than fear," Nash said. "This is what we do for money, for fun, because we love it. We respect the animal. Of course there are butterflies, but it's obvious that there are dangers involved in riding. But if your mind is focused on fear, you're not going to compete well."

Nash must arrange his schedule so he has time for practice and his other school activities.

"I practice three days a week, about an hour and a half each," Nash said. "I'm also a fourth year member of the Texas Tech Rodeo Team, and I was the 1999 - 2000 president. I also served on the student senate."

Although the bull riding is a championship, both riders say that there is no rivalry between riders.

"You compete against what you're getting on," Aikin said. "You do the best you can with what you have."

Tickets for the Championship are \$15 for adults, \$8 for children and free for kids six years and younger. Advance tickets are \$2 cheaper for adults and \$1 cheaper for children and available at Boot City or Boot City Too.

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The University Daily Ski Report

Ski Area	Base	New Snow	Details
New Mexico			
Angel Fire	37"	----	5 Lifts, 52 Trails
Red River	42"	----	6 Lifts, 23 Trails
Ski Apache	33"	----	11 Lifts, 46 Trails
Santa Fe	30"	----	5 Lifts, 25 Trails
Sandia Peak	----	----	5 Lifts, 16 Trails
Taos	41"	----	12 Lifts, 45 Trails
Colorado			
A-Basin	30"	1"	4 Lifts, P/PP
Aspen Mountain	35"	1"	6 Lifts, PP
Aspen Highlands	34"	1"	4 Lifts, PP
Beaver Creek	35"	1"	13 Lifts, PP
Breckenridge	41"	3"	25 Lifts, P/PP
Buttermilk	31"	1"	----
Copper Mountain	43"	2"	17 Lifts, PP
Crested Butte	31"	0"	13 Lifts, PP
Keystone	29"	0"	16 Lifts, PP
Loveland	36"	1"	8 Lifts, PP
Monarch	37"	0"	5 Lifts, P/PP
Purgatory	27"	0"	10 Lifts, PP
Silvercreek	22"	0"	5 Lifts, P/PP
Ski Cooper	29"	0"	3 Lifts, P/PP
Snowmass	30"	1"	----
Steamboat	44"	8"	19 Lifts, PP
Telluride	34"	1"	16 Lifts, PP
Vail	36"	2"	33 Lifts, PP
Winter Park	49"	2"	20 Lifts, PP
Wolf Creek	56"	----	95% open, P/PP

POW-Powder PP-Packed Powder MG-Machine Groomed SP-Spring Conditions Ice

MID SEASON SALE!

This weekend only: Thurs-Fri-Sat
Jan. 24-25-26
9am to 6pm

SKI LUBBOCK SPORTS

67th & Indiana 799-1699

Putting together a newspaper thousands count on every day takes a lot of work, sweat and talent.



Think you have what it takes?

The University Daily is now accepting applications. Students interested in being a part of the staff that produces Tech's student-run newspaper are encouraged to apply. While The UD is a fast-paced environment requiring dedication and hard work, it is a rewarding experience. Applications are available in 103 Student Media and are due Feb. 1.

