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“The crew of the shuttle Columbia did not return safely to Earth, but we can pray they are safely home.”
— President George W. Bush

HEADING HOME

Shuttle Columbia disintegrates over Texas; Lubbock resident, Tech alumnus aboard

By Marcia Dunn,
Pam Easton and Paul Recker/
Associated Press

High over Texas and just short of home, space shuttle Columbia fell to pieces Saturday, raining debris over hundreds of miles of countryside. Seven astronauts perished — a gut-wrenching loss for a country and world already staggered by tragedy.

The catastrophe occurred 39 miles above the Earth, in the last 16 minutes of the 16-day mission as the spaceship re-entered the atmosphere and glided in for a landing in Florida. In its horror and in its backdrop of a crystal blue sky, the day echoed one almost exactly 17 years before, when the Challenger exploded.

“The Columbia is lost,” said President Bush, after he telephoned the families of the astronauts to console them.

“The same creator who names the stars also knows the names of the seven souls we mourn today,” Bush said, his eyes glistening. “The crew of the shuttle Columbia did not return safely to Earth, but we can pray they are safely home.”

The loss of seven explorers of space's dark reaches — shuttle commander Rick Husband, Michael Anderson, David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, Laurel Clark, William McCool and Ilan Ramon — brought a new round of grief to a nation still in mourning after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

And again, Americans were forced to confront the risks of space, along with the glories.

“The reality of what these people do has often escaped me,” said Charlie Dillon, 52, of Denver. “But they are frontiersmen, they're out there making my life better and creating endless possibilities for my children.”

NASA appointed an independent commission to investigate.

Just before it disintegrated, the space shuttle Columbia experienced a sharp and sudden rise in temperature on its fuselage, NASA said Sunday.

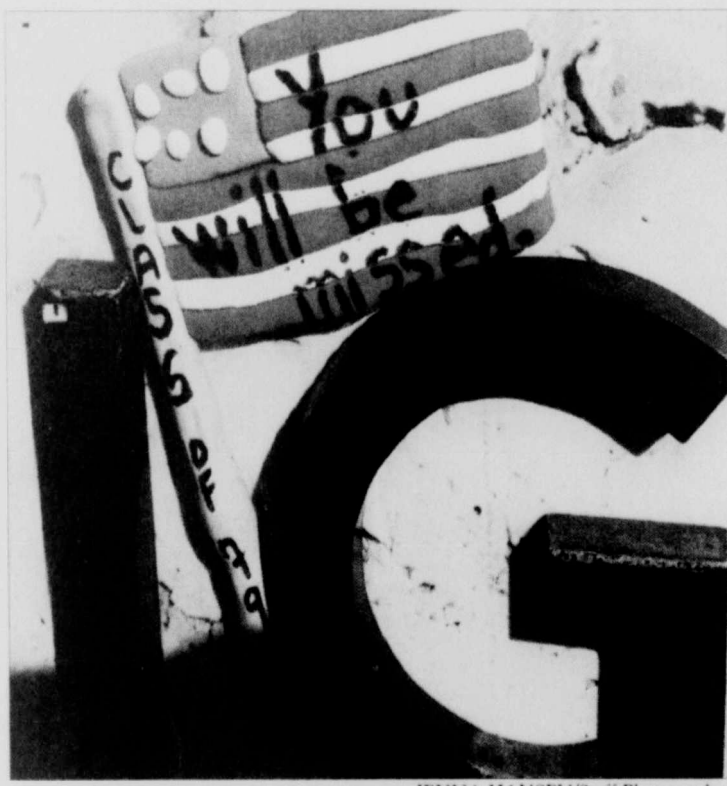
The sharp rise was followed by increased drag on the spacecraft that caused its flight system to adjust its path.

COLUMBIA continued on page 2



Photo courtesy of NASA

SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA crew members from left to right: David M. Brown, mission specialist; Rick D. Husband, commander; Laurel Clark, mission specialist; Kalpana Chawla, mission specialist; Michael P. Anderson, payload commander; William C. McCool, pilot; Ilan Ramon, payload specialist.



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

A HAND-MADE American flag is placed on the Coronado High School Mustangs' sign outside of Coronado High School on Sunday morning in remembrance of Coronado graduate and space shuttle pilot William C. McCool, who is a 1980 graduate.

Tech community reacts to shuttle tragedy

By Angela Timmons/Staff Reporter

Seven astronauts died Saturday morning in the shocking demise of space shuttle Columbia, which exploded into flames over the Southeast part of Texas. The Columbia began its journey Jan. 16.

Commander Rick Husband and pilot William McCool died on board the Columbia, the oldest shuttle in NASA's fleet.

Husband, 45, an Air Force Colonel from Amarillo, was a 1980 graduate of Texas Tech with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

McCool, 41, was a Navy commander from Lubbock, a graduate of Coronado High School and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in 1983.

The shuttle also carried the first Israeli astronaut, Ilan Ramon.

According to a Saturday Associated Press report, the Columbia broke

apart into flames just 16 minutes short of its destination, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Columbia, on its 28th mission, is the first shuttle in the history of space exploration to experience a fatal accident on its descent to Earth.

Jerry R. Dunn, associate chairman and professor in Tech's mechanical engineering department, said the loss of Husband and his crewmembers is a tragedy for the country, the field of space exploration and for the families and friends affected.

Dunn said space exploration is a complicated and risky matter.

“There are over 100,000 parts in a shuttle,” Dunn said. “Anytime there's something moving out on the frontiers, there's going to be risks.”

“The shuttle program is an engineering wonder, a combination of technology and expertise of a lot of different disciplines, such as science and engineering. There will obviously be an extensive investigation to de-

termine what precise technical problem it was ... it's far too early to speculate.”

While Dunn never taught Husband, he did meet the commander during a visit to Tech a few years ago.

During the visit, Husband presented the American Society of Mechanical Engineering students with memorabilia from a previous mission he had been on, including a photographed picture of him on a shuttle, with his guns up, displayed inside the Mechanical Engineering building.

“We proudly display that and will continue to do so,” Dunn said. “It's representative of the type of students Texas Tech tries to produce, someone who accepts those challenges and capable to advance our technology.”

Dunn said he feels the same about McCool, calling the loss of both astronauts a “double personal tragedy” for the city of Lubbock and also for the university.

“Commander Husband represented not only the department but TTU,” Dunn said, adding hopes that the university will consider an appropriate recognition of Husband.

Aaron Harris, a senior electrical engineering major from Tyler, speculated on the accident, saying the explosion occurring in the Southeast part of Texas “hits home.”

Harris said there are always risks in explorations of this type.

“There are so many great things coming out of NASA; this just has to be accepted,” Harris said.

Jake Goree, a freshman architecture major from Dallas, had a different perspective.

“It seems like (NASA) should take more attention and build new equipment,” he said. “They shouldn't use old stuff; it seems like they should scrounge up money for new ships. It's

REACTION continued on page 3

University remembers fellow Raider

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter

Smiling and holding his guns high while wearing a Texas Tech Department of Mechanical Engineering T-shirt, Col. Rick D. Husband was proud to be a Red Raider.

Director of Choral Studies, John Dickson said he had been in steady contact with Husband since last summer.

“As a 1980 graduate of Tech, he said his best memory was singing in the Tech choir,” Dickson said. “He e-mailed the choir last Wednesday and said he was exercising to the (Tech choir's) CD while in space.”

Dickson said the choir had been rehearsing a piece entitled “Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine” to perform for Husband upon his return from

space. Husband died Saturday as the shuttle broke up while re-entering earth's atmosphere over Texas.

The Tech choir will perform and dedicate the piece to Husband at 8 p.m. March 7 at the Hemmle Recital Hall.

Husband gave Interim President Donald Haragan a Tech flag after it had been taken into space aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1999.

“I wasn't aware of the flag until he presented it to me,” Harragan said. “I still have the flag.”

Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith said he knew Husband personally and was invited to Columbia's launch in January, but was unable to attend.

“Rick would have wanted us to proceed,” he said.

Husband was born in Amarillo in 1957. He graduated from Amarillo High School in 1975.

Photographs of Husband can be found in the main display case in the Mechanical Engineering building at Tech.

Husband graduated from Tech with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1980 and served as a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Professor of engineering James Lawrence remembers Husband well.

“Something just stood out about him,” he said.

In 1997, Husband was inducted as a Distinguished Engineer of the College of Engineering. He was a gradu-

HUSBAND continued on page 3



A SIGNED PHOTOGRAPH OF space shuttle Columbia commander Rick D. Husband is displayed along with other memorabilia inside the Mechanical Engineering building.

JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/Staff Photographer

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COACH KNIGHT STILL SITTING AT 799 SPORTS, PAGE 8



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Columbia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

NASA space shuttle program manager Ron Dittmore cautioned that the information was preliminary but said it could suggest that the thermal tiles that are designed to protect the shuttle from burning up during re-entry into Earth's atmosphere were damaged or missing, possibly from an episode earlier in the shuttle's flight.

"We've got some more detective work. But we're making progress inch by inch," Dittmore said.

Dittmore said the engineering data showed a temperature rise of 20 to 30 degrees in the left wheel well of the shuttle about seven minutes before communication was lost with the spacecraft. There was an even more significant temperature rise — about 60 degrees over five minutes — in the middle left side of the fuselage, he said.

The drag on the left wing began a short while later, causing the shuttle's automated flight system to start to make adjustments.

Across Texas and Louisiana, meanwhile, officials were marking the exact satellite measures of the locations where debris was found in hopes it would help reconstruct the accident.

Dittmore said NASA engineers are still trying to recover 32 seconds worth of additional data from the flight computers. But he said the combination of new engineering data and an observer who reported seeing debris from the shuttle while it was still passing over California may create "a path

that may lead us to the cause."

The shuttle broke up shortly before landing Saturday, killing all seven astronauts. Most of its debris landed in eastern Texas and Louisiana.

Earlier Sunday, NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe named a former Navy admiral to oversee an independent review of the accident, and said investigators initially would focus on whether a broken-off piece of insulation from the big external fuel tank caused damage to the shuttle during liftoff Jan. 16 that ultimately doomed the flight 16 days later.

"It's one of the areas we're looking at first, early, to make sure that the investigative team is concentrating on that theory," O'Keefe said.

The insulation is believed to have struck a section of the shuttle's left side.

The manufacturer of the fuel tank disclosed Sunday that NASA used an older version of the tank, which the space agency began phasing out in 2000. NASA's preflight press information stated the shuttle was using one of the newer super-lightweight fuel tanks.

Harry Wadsworth, a spokesman for Lockheed, the tank maker, said most shuttle launches use the "super-lightweight" tank and the older version is no longer made. Wadsworth said he did not know if there was a difference in how insulation was installed on the two types of tanks.

Wadsworth said the tank used aboard the Columbia mission was manufactured in November 2000 and delivered to NASA the next month. Only one more of the older tanks is left,

he said.

O'Keefe emphasized that the space agency was being careful not to lock onto any one theory too soon. He vowed to "leave absolutely no stone unturned."

For a second day, searchers scoured forests and rural areas over 500 square miles of East Texas and western Louisiana for bits of metal, ceramic tile, computer chips and insulation from the shattered spacecraft.

State and federal officials, treating the investigation like a multi-county crime scene, were protecting the debris until it can be catalogued, carefully collected and then trucked to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana.

The effort to reconstruct what is left of Columbia into a rough outline of the shuttle will be tedious and painstaking.

When a shuttle piece was located this weekend, searchers left it in place until a precise global position satellite reading could be taken. Each shuttle part is numbered; NASA officials say experts hope to trace the falling path of each recovered piece.

The goal is to establish a sequence of how parts were ripped off Columbia as it endured the intense heat and pressure of the high-speed re-entry into the atmosphere.

At least 20 engineers from United Space Alliance, a key NASA contractor for the shuttle program, were dispatched to Barksdale for what is expected to be a round-the-clock investigation.

Other experts, including metallurgists and forensic medicine specialists, are expected to join the investigation.

Their focus will be on a microscopic examination of debris and remains that could elicit clues such as how hot the metal became, how it twisted and which parts flew off first.

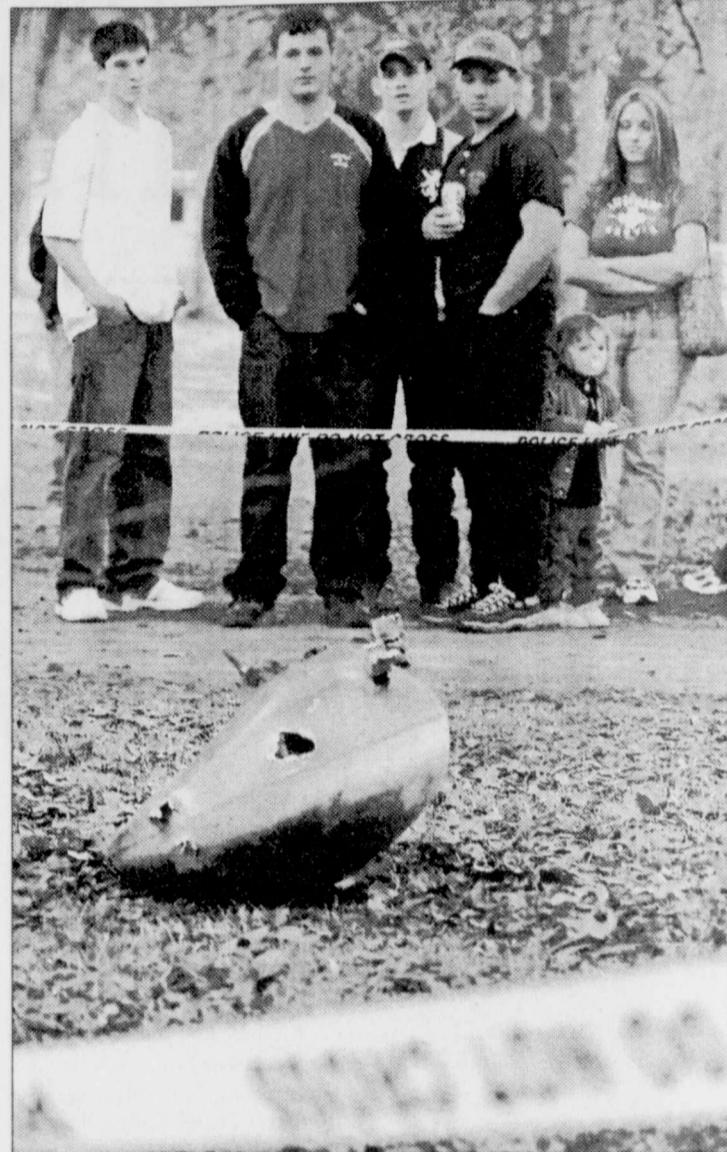
In addition to NASA's investigation, O'Keefe named an independent panel to be headed by retired Navy admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr., who previously helped investigate the 2000 terrorist attack on the USS Cole.

Gehman's panel also will examine the Columbia wreckage, and come to its own conclusions about what happened. O'Keefe described Gehman as "well-versed in understanding exactly how to look about the forensics in these cases and coming up with the causal effects of what could occur."

Authorities said there was no indication of terrorism; at 207,135 feet, the shuttle was out of range of any surface-to-air missile, one senior government official said. Security was extraordinarily tight on this mission because Ramon, Israel's first astronaut, was among the crew members.

Television footage showed a bright light followed by white smoke plumes streaking diagonally across the brilliant sky. Debris appeared to break off into separate balls of light as it continued downward.

"We saw it coming across the sky real bright and shiny and all in one piece. We thought it was the sun shining off an airplane," said Doug Ruby, who was driving with his father along a Texas highway, headed for a fishing trip. "Then it broke up in about six pieces — they were all balls of fire — before it went over the tree line."



IAN MCVEA/Fort Worth Star-Telegram
CURIOS ONLOOKERS NEAR BRONSON look at a piece of the space shuttle Columbia that landed at the home of Bronson resident Jimmie Brown. The piece fell at the front of Brown's property near Hwy 96.

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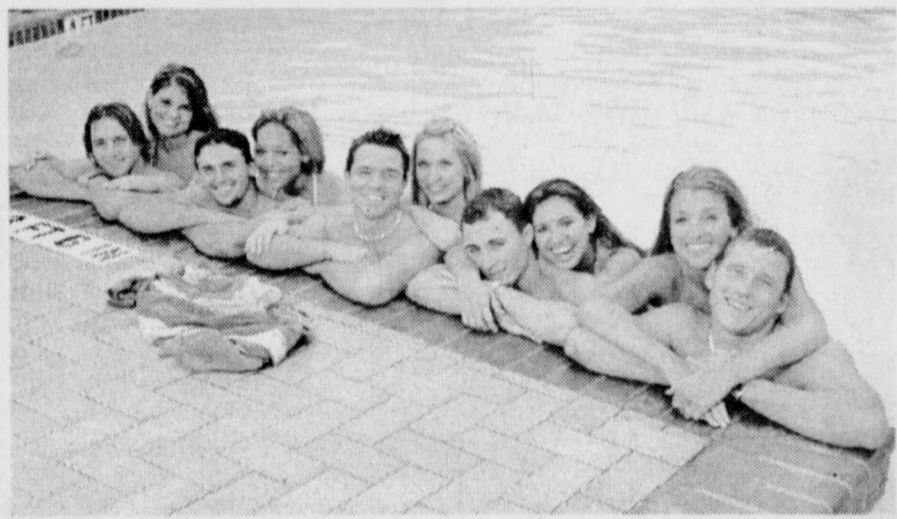
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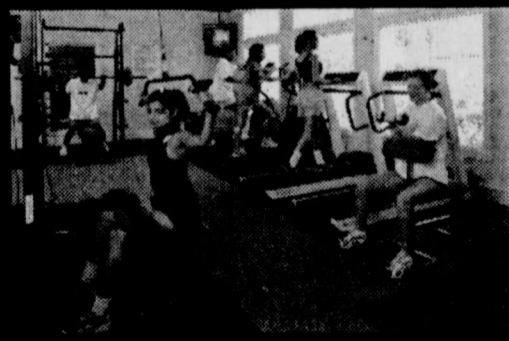
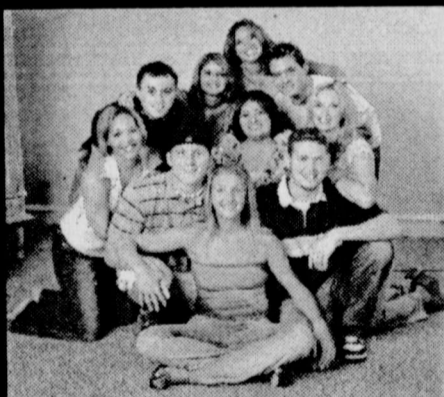
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Reaction

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shocking of course — anyone who goes up to space from our area and didn't make it...it's just sad."

Nolan Haisler, a senior electrical engineering and computer science major from Ennis, recalled watching the Challenger explosion on television in 1986 and compared it the Columbia tragedy.

"I'm surprised we never had a problem with a shuttle entering like this — there's been so many missions since the Challenger with no problems," Haisler said.

Some spoke in terms of the accident in general while others emphasized Husband's role on the mission.

"I think we need to make everybody aware of it; it's part of our history now," Brookae Matson, a freshman undecided major from Dallas, said. "These are people's lives."

Whitney Parnell, a freshman biochemistry major from Bowie, said she would like to see Tech memorialize Husband and the Columbia with some type of service.

"I'd like to see the school do something," Parnell said. "[Husband] was educated here, a lot of the things he learned were here, from professors here."

Erin Moore, a freshman early childhood major from San Antonio, agreed with the idea of a memorial service, especially for the sake of the families and people in the area.

"It's a shock — it's really sad, especially because it was reentry and they'd already been on their whole mission," Moore said. "I hate to think some little thing affected it."

John Gesing, a freshman mechanical engineering major from San Antonio, said he has had hopes of becoming an astronaut since his childhood. He said waking up to find out about the event shocked him.

"I've always wanted to go into space since I was a kid — this puts a big damper on my ability to do it," Gesing said. "Every time something happens in space, it contracts the space program...It's going to make entry into the program even harder than it was before."

Aerook Kim, a graduate student studying mechanical engineering from Seoul, South Korea, said seeing this event as a Tech student has made it seem even more tragic.

"He graduated from my department," Kim said. "I was about to mail him to get his signature — I lost my chance. I just feel really sorry."

Kim expressed his pride in Husband and is considering sending something to Husband's family.

"There's no astronauts from Korea, so I was proud of him; he was a Tech student, he was from my department, and I lost my chance to contact him," Kim said. "I've never seen him, but damn, I was proud of him."



LORYN WHITE, A junior early childhood development major from Lucas, keeps up with the events of the Columbia Space Shuttle tragedy Saturday while exercising at the Robert H. Ewalt Recreation Center.

JAMIE TOMAS AGUILAR/Staff Photographer

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Husband

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ate of the university's Air Force ROTC program and was commissioned into the Air Force after he graduated, Lawrence said.

He said Husband came back to the department after graduation on several occasions. He once brought the department memorabilia from his first flight into space.

The Tech T-shirt he wore was signed by the crew of mission STS-96 and framed for the department. Husband autographed a photo of

himself wearing the T-shirt aboard the shuttle: "To the Texas Tech ASME student section — Best wishes and keep your guns up! Rick Husband, TTU, BSME '80."

Alongside the shirt is a letter from Husband, which reads: "This shirt was flown for the student chapter of ASME at Texas Tech University aboard shuttle Discov-

To the Texas Tech ASME student section — Best wishes and keep your guns up!

— RICK HUSBAND
TTU, BSME '80'

ery." Another frame encases a plaque in the shape of the state of Texas upon which is inscribed: "Red Raider in Space."

According to his NASA biography, during his career as a test pilot, Husband logged more than 3800 hours of flight time in more

than 40 different types of aircrafts. Lubbock-native William C. McCool also was on board the doomed shuttle mission. He attended Coronado High School and graduated second in his class at the U.S. Naval Academy.

McCool was named "Outstanding Student" and "Best DT-II-thesis" when he graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School.

He made two deployments aboard the USS Coral Sea and acquired more than 2800 hours of flight experience in 24 different aircrafts.

The Science Spectrum, located

on the South Loop, has set up a special table for visitors who would like to write letters or messages of condolence in memorial of the seven crew members who perished in the shuttle explosion.

President of the Science Spectrum Sandy Henry said the pages will be copied and given to the astronauts' families.

The Science Spectrum's hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Smith said Tech officials will meet today to schedule memorial services for the astronauts.

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Does policy violate First Amendment?

Well, ladies and gentlemen, Texas Tech is in the news again-and I'm not talking about the Lubbock news; I am talking about national news. Now that the scare of the plague has come and apparently gone, we have a new plague, an intellectual plague.

Recently, biology professor Michael Dini has been generating more press than he is used to. He has been generating more press than most people are used to, and this is only the beginning.

By now, most everyone has been introduced to the background of what is happening. Briefly, the controversy is based on the ability of one to gain the ever-more important letter of recommendation.

A letter, or multiple letters, of recommendation are needed to gain admittance to graduate school, medical school or the like.

Dini states on his Web site that one must meet three criterion to receive a letter of recommendation from him.

One, they must earn at least one A in a semester of his introductory biology course.

Two, the person must have a relationship with Dini on a more personal level than simply being in his class of more than 400 students, to which he provides many different ways of doing so.

And three, and here is where the controversy is generated, one must "truthfully and forthrightly affirm a scientific answer" to the question "How do you think the human species originated?"

With knowledge of Dini's background, as well as beliefs, one would deduce that it is necessary to believe in the theory of evolution to get a letter.

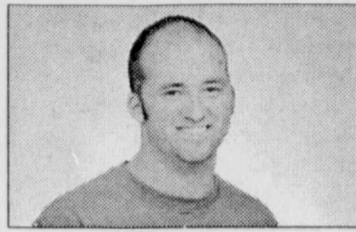
Dini is an evolutionary biologist. Evolutionary biology, in Dini's opinion, is a redundancy. And it very well may be. According to many biologists, including Dini, "The central, unifying principle of biology is the theory of evolution."

Let's change gears a little bit here and dig into the heart of the controversy.

On Dec. 15, 1791, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution were ratified. Briefly, the First Amendment, which guarantees the freedom of religion, among other things, states that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

The recent arguments against Dini claim his policy is blatant disagreement with the First Amendment; that his policy of recommendation letters is "prohibiting the free exercise" of one's religion, if their religion is in contradiction with the theory of evolution. Well, is it?

Many people feel the question of



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evolution is not a religious question at all; it is a question to be answered by science, and science alone. Many feel religion and science should not have any overlap, as in a case like this one. So it is necessary to determine whether the theory of evolution is a question that should be answered by science, or whether this is a question that should be answered by religion.

It is a common practice today to give credit to the first person that comes up with a particular idea. Undoubtedly in the scientific world, credit must be given to the person, or group of persons, who are first to make the discovery. In the literary world, one must, when using an idea that is not his or her own, cite whose idea it is. Basically, the first to the cookie jar gets the cookie.

Charles Darwin is given credit for the basis of modern-day evolution. Darwin's complete theory of "evolution by natural selection" was published in 1859 and was entitled "On the Origin

of Species."

However, thousands of years before Darwin took his trip around the world generating data that would later be published, another well-known book was written, also dealing with the theory of evolution. This book is called the Bible.

In the first chapter of the Bible, Genesis, a differing version of the "origin of species" is clearly discussed. Indeed, there are verses in the Bible that discuss the creation of plants, livestock, birds and sea animals.

What is interesting is that there is a completely different section dealing with the creation of humans. Genesis, chapter 1, verse 27 states that "God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

So now there are two books dealing with the same topic, written thousands of years apart and that say contradictory things. Which one does the credit go to? Which book is right? Are both books right?

I will not commit literary suicide and even attempt to answer this question to a public with differing beliefs.

What I will do, however, is say that, as Americans, one must realize the possibility that people are going to believe on both sides of the fence on this one. Americans also must realize that to many, the Bible is equally as factual as a

biology book is to a scientist. Consequently, the debate over evolution is equally scientific, and also equally religious.

Is Dini respecting the rights of both groups? It would appear that he is not.

Is Dini discriminating against people who believe in the Bible before they believe in "On the Origin of Species"? Has the first amendment been violated? Is he prohibiting the free exercise of one's religion?

If you are a creationist, then the answer is obviously yes. If you are not, then nothing is lost. The fact that religion deals with the topic prevents any person from using evolution as a springboard for his or her own criterion -Dini included.

In conclusion, as Americans, we have to realize the Constitution was written to protect the freedoms of the minority.

The Constitution was written to protect the people who believe the Bible and evolution contradict. The Constitution was written to protect the creationists, just as the Constitution protects the evolutionists.

And to these people, the creationists, attaining a letter of recommendation means giving up your constitutionally-guaranteed rights to practice religion as you please. And that, friends, is a violation of every American's rights.

Awareness week looks to improve self-esteem, images

Show me more sex appeal honey," he ordered as his slimy hands inched the camera lens closer. Something about the "I'm your-pimp" way he said it made my skin crawl.

But this time last year, the finances were running way below zero, so when a photographer offered me a job as a fashion model for department store advertisements, it seemed harmless.

And it was, until I really started to think about it.

In the "real" world, I'm just an average-looking girl, far from flawless, who could definitely benefit by putting a bit more meat on my bones.

However, in the pseudo world of print, I was transformed into a glamorous goddess with absolutely no imperfections.

I was already uncomfortable with making money off my sex appeal, which didn't seem as if it should be breaking as if it were for sale.

Breaking it down for me he said, "This world is all about money, honey. When you put on that shirt,

girls see you in that ad and you get paid because they will buy it thinking they can look like you."

His way of rationalizing became ridiculous as I looked at the phony photo thinking, "I don't even look like me!" Not even close.

A psychological study done in 1995 found that three minutes spent looking at models in fashion magazines caused 70 percent of women to feel depressed, guilty and shameful.

Whether you are considering Maxim models, Cosmo cutouts or edited-for your television Trista from the quasi-reality-based program "The Bachelorette," the result is the same. Women look at airbrushed images, caked with more makeup than Tammy Faye uses in a week's time, and somehow surmise that they are not good enough.

And it's not just a woman's issue.

In her book on self-esteem, best-selling author Gloria Steinem wrote, "The more I talked to men as well as women, the more it seemed that inner feelings of incompleteness, emptiness, self-doubt and self-hatred were



Kristen Gilbreth
kristengilbreth@aol.com

the same."

She said out of five billion people in the world, five billion suffer with self-esteem issues.

So what's the solution?

First, we need to help each other out. As women, we need not only to edify one another, but also to uplift the men in our lives. We must understand that while they often cannot express it, they have a need to be sincerely complimented. There are plenty of seemingly cocky Casanovas who are crying out for a confidence boost. The idea of giving someone a "big head" is not possible.

Perhaps to return the favor, men will stop comparing the women in their lives to each other and surgi-

cally shaped superstars. If a critique is made, let it be based on character instead of cup-size. A trophy date is the prize of an insecure man, so the more you improve his self-image, the less he needs you to become an impossible image.

On a campus inundated with materialism mania as widespread as our STD rate, it seems unrealistic to hope for such change.

But despite how others treat you, there is always truth in these words by Eleanor Roosevelt: "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

For the duration of this week, Texas Tech is holding Body Awareness Week to inspire students to take control of the way they see themselves.

Today is "Inside Out Day." Everyone is encouraged to wear a piece of clothing inside out to symbolically demonstrate it is what's inside that matters most.

If you don't already have part of your visible wardrobe inside out, stop caring what others think and make the switch to remind yourself what is

really important in life.

Don't allow yourself to be defined, classified and shoved into a category based on the measuring stick the world hands you. You are not your clothes, company, car or checking account. You are not the number that shows up on the scale, the amount of weight you can lift in the gym or the double digits equaling the years you've been alive. You are more than a number.

Out of the more than 70 billion humans who have inhabited this earth, you have infinite value based on the fact that there is only one you.

Pick your eyes up from the pavement. Look the world in the face with love, and know each person, including you, has worth beyond compare. Never forget: The external is a temporary illusion, while the internal will always be there.

For more information on Body Awareness Week activities check the Lifestyles section of The University Daily or contact health educator Juli Benson at Thompson Hall at (806) 743-2860 ext. 279.

Letter to the Editor

Tragedy leaves mark on Texas Tech, engineering department

The events concerning the space shuttle on Saturday really hurt me personally. As an engineering student in general, I would probably feel some sort of attachment to the NASA program for a multitude of reasons.

The crash gripped me personally because of the connection the Texas Tech Mechanical Engineering department had with this par-

ticular mission. As you probably know, Rick Husband went to Tech and received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1980. Despite the fact I have never met the man, I feel connected to him.

If you have ever walked in the Mechanical Engineering building, you would immediately see a picture of him in space wearing a Tech mechanical engineering T-shirt and giving the

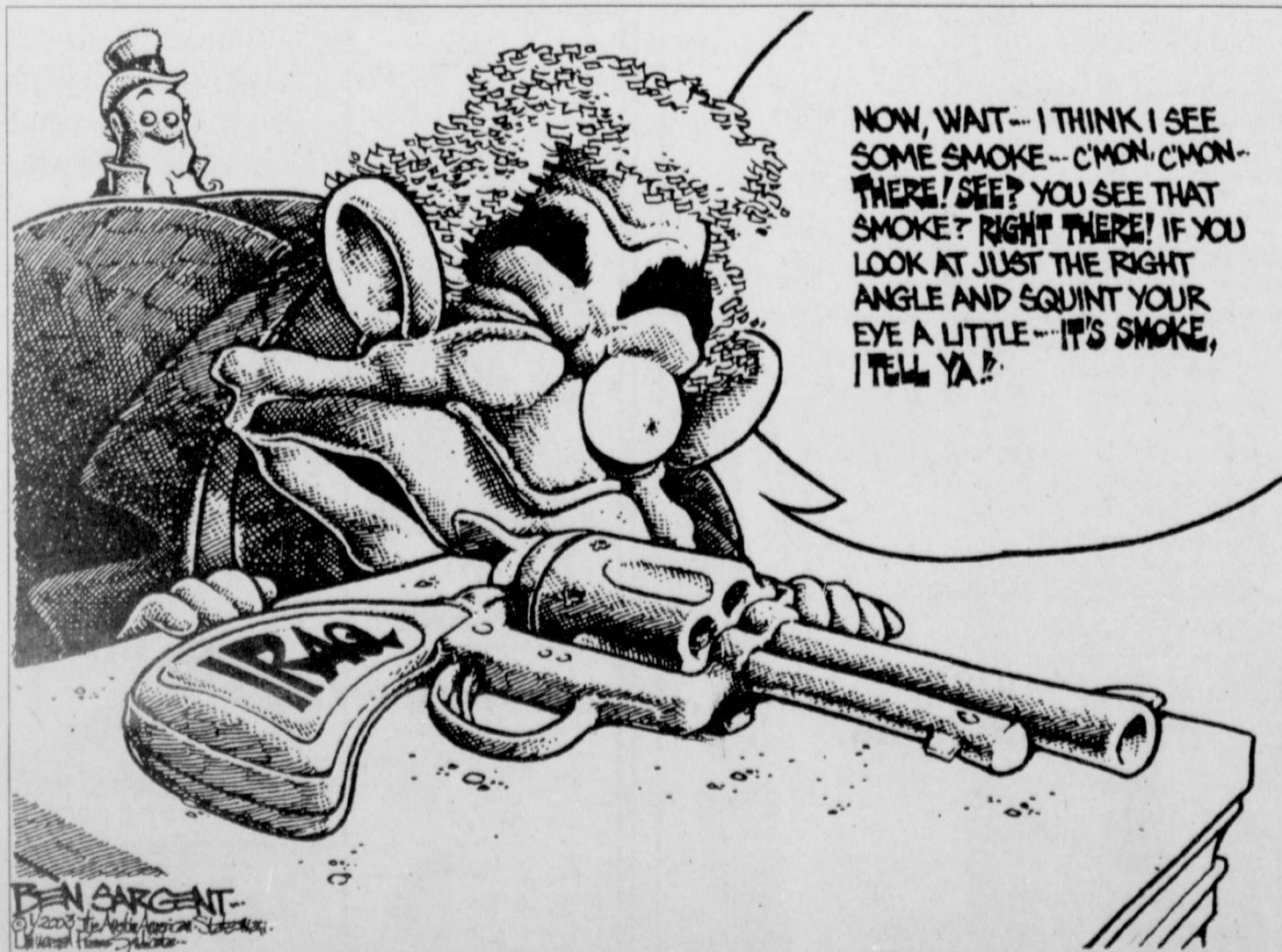
guns up. You also would see other pictures of him with various people affiliated with Tech.

He was one of the most important graduates in the mechanical engineering department. I had mentioned the fact that this school had produced an astronaut to just about all of the people I know. I realize that my sadness cannot compare to what his family and friends are going through, but I would

imagine that I am not alone in those who feel deeply saddened by his passing.

When I heard about the shuttle on Saturday morning, I was on my way to the library to do some dynamics and heat transfer homework. I obviously did not make it there, but I will continue to study hard so that I can do my part to prevent another tragedy in the future.

I believe that my fellow engineering students who have had co-ops at NASA and are currently applying for internships with them will be motivated by these events to strive to be better engineers. We must mourn our loss, but we must also do what we can to make the world a better place. — David Krzyzaniowski is a junior mechanical engineering major from Plano.



BEN SARGENT
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Lubbock, Texas

Up to date ...
Look online for stories, letters to the editor and columns that do not appear in print.

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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. Guest columns should be no longer than 750 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

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Isett addresses budget cuts, insurance reform

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

High insurance rates, court reform and the statewide budget reductions were the main topics of discussion at state Rep. Carl Isett's constituent briefing Saturday.

Gov. Rick Perry called for the budget cuts after Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn revised the budget estimate, Isett said.

He said the sales tax figures after December were not as high as expected so there was less government money.

Rita Jo Fitzgerald of Lubbock raised the issue concerning how the cuts could affect the local economy.

"Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and the university are a big part of the Lubbock economy," she said, adding that losing jobs through either of those employers could adversely affect the city.

The government is not telling agencies what departments they need to cut back, Isett said. Each agency can evaluate its situation and make the cuts where appropriate.

In the last few years there have

been several projects that received onetime funding and are no longer receiving that funding so the state has to pay for them, he said. Government also has grown significantly.

"We rolled the dice and we came up short," he said. "It's important to remember... we don't have a revenue problem in Texas. We have a spending problem in Texas."

However, state agencies should be drawing back the exponential growth experienced in the past year and focus mainly on the four societal aspects government should provide: public safety, public health, public transportation and public education.

Many agencies have taken on programs that do not support the mission of the agency, he said.

The legislature plans to clean out those programs to get the agency doing what it is supposed to do, Isett said.

"That will ensure we keep essential services, those things only government can do and government must do," he said.

He would like to see the budget reductions in areas that are inefficient, he said.

"We should set the priorities, not some mid-level or high-level bureaucrat in Austin," he said.

Fitzgerald also expressed concern as to why building projects are still continuing when money is being cut from other sources, she said. The classroom is not as important as what the students are doing.

Isett pointed out that construction projects are paid for by bonds,

which is a different set of money than the general funds the reductions will come from.

"The governor feels as though he has a mandate ... to carry forward a more conservative vision of government," he said.

The state government will do everything in its power to protect jobs and keep the promises it has made to Texas retirees and other groups, he said.

Mike Krack of Lubbock said he was concerned with the agencies choosing where to cut funding.

The core missions and functions of government may be preyed upon, and the government needs to give some kind of direction.

Perry will use a modified zero-budgeting system, Isett said. A zero budget is when an agency starts at zero and justifies every dollar it wants for the year.

Speaker of the House Tom Craddick also wants to create a Duplication of Services Committee, which will determine where all the money is going and reduce redundancy across the board.

High insurance rates also were called into question. Isett said what may have happened is that insurance companies had low rates in recent years because the rates were supplemented by the stock market, which was doing well.

When the market value dropped so did the insurance companies' stocks, and rates increased to cover the difference.

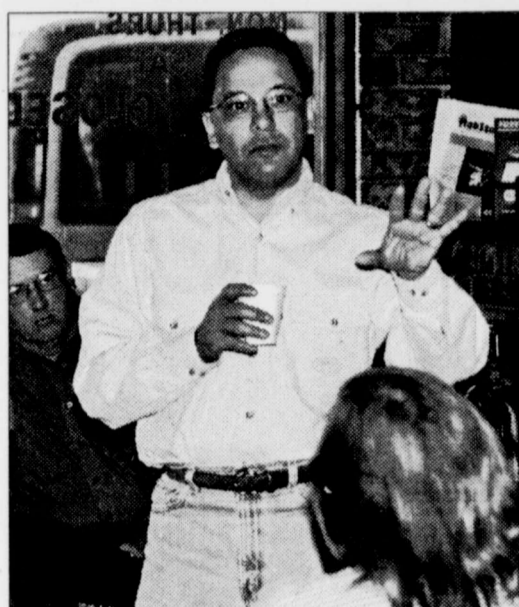
"Farmer's ... has been kind of the whipping boy for the government," he said. "All the insurance companies are in exactly the same boat."

The court system is a major factor with the insurance problem, Isett said.

More policyholders are going to court so the companies have to raise their prices to deal with the added lawsuits, Isett said.

"There's going to be a lot of discussion about courts," he said. "We need to have common sense on what true damage is."

The insurance companies are working with the government, and Isett said he is optimistic they will get insurance companies back to Texas.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE CARL Isett speaks with constituents at J&M Bar-B-Q on 34th Street Saturday morning. Isett spoke on a variety of topics, including insurance policy and state budget cuts. CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

The University Daily

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Lady Raiders rock Jayhawks

The No. 8 Texas Tech Lady Raiders remained on top of the Big 12 Conference this weekend with a win on the road at Kansas.

Tech (18-2, 7-1 Big 12) dominated the game and came out with an 84-57 victory, and Plenette Pierson put another bid for Big 12 Conference Player of the Week.

Pierson posted a career-high 32 points Tuesday night against Missouri, and she followed the performance with 29 points Saturday. Like Tuesday, Pierson missed just three shots from the field.

It was not a one-woman show, however. Tech's defense forced 18 turnovers and turned them into an offense. The Lady Raiders had 25 points off turnovers for the game and reduced the Jayhawks to shoot 33 percent for the game.

The win helps Tech continue to be a force on the road. Tech is 4-1 on the road in Big 12 play, and five of the Lady Raiders' remaining games will be at home.

Tech now has a week off to prepare for Iowa State on Sunday in the United Spirit Arena.

Tech opens with tight misfortune

The Texas Tech softball team has comprised a 2-3 record in competition at the SWT/Century Tel Tournament in San Marcos.

In the Raiders' last game Saturday, the team lost a nine-inning contest to Arkansas, 6-5. The game began as a defensive showdown. Tech was held scoreless until the bottom of the third when catcher Elyssa Sigala hit a long single that brought shortstop Shayne Gipson from second to home.

Tech would keep Arkansas scoreless until the top of the fifth inning when a three-run home run by Razorback Julie Young put Arkansas up 3-1.

The Red Raiders would battle back that inning with a three-run double by outfielder Amanda Douglas to put Tech back in the lead, 4-3.

Arkansas took the lead again in the top of the seventh inning, but in the bottom of the seventh, shortstop Kristy Robles hit a home run to send the game into extra innings.

Arkansas scored in the ninth inning to take the lead that would win the game. Tech pitcher Amie Stines pitched seven complete innings and gave up four earned runs in facing 29 batters.

Earlier that day, Tech defeated Southwest Texas State 2-1 to earn the

team's first win in the tournament.

Tech pitcher Kristina Blair threw a phenomenal game, facing 23 batters and walking one. Blair and her teammates held SWT scoreless until the bottom of the third when Bobcat Kristen Zaleski had an RBI double.

Tech outfielder Kelly Rhyne hit a home run in her first at bat of the game to give Tech its initial lead.

The home run was Rhyne's second of the tournament, as the outfielder got her first as a Red Raider on Friday in a 2-1 loss to Oregon.

The game against Oregon was a defensive stalemate, as the Ducks were kept

scoreless until the bottom of the sixth inning, while Tech was kept hitless until the top of the fourth when outfielder Esmerelda Perez swatted the first pitch.

Tech began the tournament with a 4-0 loss to Corpus Christi A&M on Friday.

Blair relieved Stines in the fifth inning, which ended the scoring in the game, but Tech's offense did not produce a run.

Tech defeated Houston 4-2 in its final game of the tournament Sunday. Erin Crawford recorded her first career win and gave up only five hits in the winning effort.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
1 Gradual
5 Classic violin
10 Son of Eiel Saanen
14 Director
15 Aftercation
16 Go a round with?
17 List-shortening abbr.
18 Popped the question
19 Questionable contraction?
20 Benevolent
23 Spanish bulls
24 Kang's joy
25 McBain and McMahon
28 Of a symphony
33 Meat cut
36 Sandusky's lake
37 Aristo's father
38 Gillette razor
40 Razor sharpener
43 Western lily
44 Faking
46 River to the Baltic
48 Gait
49 Split-leaf houseplant
53 Equivalent wd.
54 Eur. country
55 Puccini opera
59 Full of wisdom
64 Jai
66 Kennedy cabinet member
67 Organize
68 Silent signal
69 Mason's Street Designer, born Romain de Tiroff
71 -majesty
72 Bacon or Lamb paper
73 Clairvoyant

DOWN
1 Dropped off
2 Stone. pref.
3 Studio sign
4 Thrash

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR 2/3/03

Friday's Puzzle Solved

5 Island group off Galway
6 Have to
7 Egyptian cross
8 del Fuego
9 Within a building
10 Morales of "La Bamba"
11 Focal point
12 Flowed
13 Food scrap
21 U.S. tennis stadium
22 Stately display
26 Muralist Rivera
27 Catch of the day
29 April 15 grp.
31 Ignited
32 Wading bird
33 PAU's successor
34 Abrasive tools
35 In need of more scratch?
36 Craniums
39 That's ___ folks!
41 Quaint

42 For each
45 Hindu mystic
47 Author of "Fortynine's Complaint"
50 Misdread
51 Wears away
52 Clamblings
56 Twenty

57 ___ blanche
58 Change
60 Pleasure trek
61 Magpie and Mineo
62 ___ podrida
63 Act as
64 Leather punch
65 Abandon truth

Baylor coach sees bright recruiting future

WACO, Texas (AP) — Guy Morriss has been in this situation before, even if the coach is just getting started at Baylor.

His old job at Kentucky and his new one are similar in that both teams have struggled to perform in major conferences, the Wildcats in the SEC and Baylor in the Big 12. The competi-

tion is tough both on the field and during the offseason in the battle for the top high school players.

There are two big differences, however, and they give Morriss every reason to believe that he can eventually have success with the Bears.

"The thing that has been a blessing is we aren't dealing with sanctions

here or any of those penalties," Morriss said. "And we're sitting right in the middle of what is the best pool of high school talent in America."

"If we can't go out and find those 20, 25 kids that want to be here, something's wrong."

Kentucky is serving three years of NCAA probation, which includes

scholarship reductions, because of recruiting violations before Morriss got the job. Former coach Hal Mumme resigned in February 2001 as a result of the NCAA's investigation.

Morriss isn't promising a quick fix at Baylor. He knows the foundation is just being laid, and the first major step is Wednesday's national signing day.

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Aggies deny Knight career win No. 800

By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

(College Station) - Texas A&M guard Bernard King knew Reed Arena would be sold out Saturday against Texas Tech to witness something big. However, he said they came and saw something different than what they expected.

No, Tech coach Bob Knight did not claim his 800th career victory like anticipated.

Instead, the fans saw an up-and-coming Aggie team knock out the Red Raiders 64-59.

"We knew a lot of people were coming here (Saturday) to see him get his 800th win," said King, who scored 18 points. "We wanted every-

one to come think he was going to get his 800th win, and then they were going to come in and see him not get it. Instead, they were going to see us play."

Play well is what the Aggies did.

Tech (12-5 overall, 2-4 Big 12 Conference)

erased an early 16-point deficit but continued its bad habit of not finishing games strong to drop to 0-3 on the

"We knew a lot of people would be here (Saturday) to see him get his 800th win."

— BERNARD KING
TEXAS A&M GUARD ON
THE CROWD AT REED ARENA

road in conference play and lose its third game in its last four outings.

Knight said he cannot explain it.

"I don't have an answer for it," he said. "Almost every conference game we have played, including the two that we won, we

have gotten behind to start with. Our major problem is getting back into the game. There's a lot of credit to be

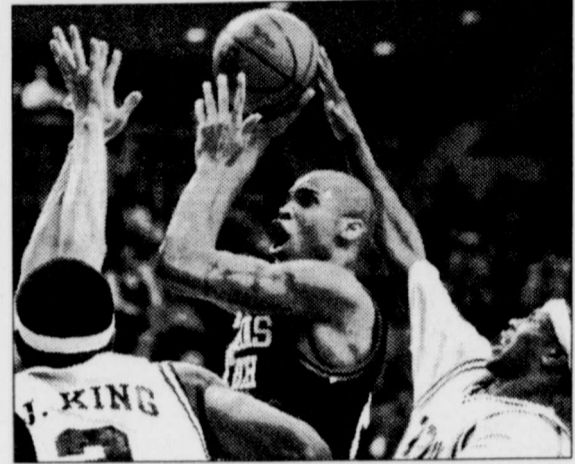
given to a team that gets back in the game like ours did. But more credit goes to a team who can get ahead and finish the game."

Tech trailed 25-9 with 7:50 remaining in the first half when it began chipping at the Aggie lead with 3-pointers and aggressive defense. By halftime, the Raiders were down 33-26.

That is when Tech made its move, thanks to a quick second-half start by guard Andre Emmett.

Emmett scored nine points in four consecutive possessions to ignite a 15-2 run to give the Raiders a 41-35 lead five minutes into the final frame and quiet the crowd of 12,611 fans.

The silence did not last long.



FORWARD KASIB POWELL splits two defenders in the air during Tech's 64-59 loss to Texas A&M on Saturday in College Station. DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer

Texas A&M (11-6, 3-3) answered Tech's surge with a 13-2 run to stay ahead for good and move past the Raiders in the Big 12 standings.

Tech fought back again, but after a crowd-pleasing dunk by true freshman Antoine Wright, the win seemed in the books for the Aggies.

Wright ran the floor and dunked over Tech forward Kasib Powell to send the crowd to their feet and Knight's hands to his face with 2:37 remaining.

"At the time, it put us over the top," Wright said. "After the dunk, we felt more comfortable with the ball."

He even had a name for the dunk. "That's a Bobby Knight dunk right there," he said.

King said that was when he knew the game was over.

"Man, I almost turned a flip," he said. "I almost ran off the court because I thought it felt like the game was over. It was a great dunk, and it should be on SportsCenter."

Tech did not get much scoring help from Powell, who finished with four points, the lowest for him this season, before fouling out.

Texas A&M coach Melvin Watkins said his squad's defensive strategy was simple: Stop Emmett and Powell.

"We were trying to make sure their key players did not get good shots," he said. "That was basically it. I didn't mind seeing (Powell) sitting (after he fouled out)."

Emmett finished the game with a team-high 17 points after scoring only four points in the initial period.

"Emmett got off to a terrible start," Knight said. "In the second half, he was a different player. Now that player in a whole ball game is tough to play against. But a half just doesn't get it done."

Knight's next chance to get in the 800-win club is at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday at the United Spirit Arena against Nebraska.

Coach Bob Knight goes for his 800th win at home. Tech takes on Nebraska at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday in the United Spirit Arena.

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