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AAUP drafts letter to support Dini's policy

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter

The Texas Tech Chapter of the American Association of University Professors announced plans Monday it will draft a letter in support of a Tech professor that stands accused of religion-based discrimination.

According to biology professor Michael Dini's Web site students are required to "truthfully and forthrightly affirm a scientific answer" to questions related to the origin of human species before Dini will issue letters of recommendation to them.

The letter of support will circulate to the

university's faculty and administration, outlining the chapter's stance on the issue.

At the group's Monday meeting, Tech's General Counsel Pat Campbell addressed an inquiry opened by the U.S. Department of Justice regarding the criteria students must meet to obtain a letter of recommendation from university professors.

The inquiry specifically probes Dini, who stands accused of religion-based discrimination by several former students.

Campbell said the attorneys he has spoken with at the USDOJ would not answer his questions regarding the inquiry.

The inquiry requests statements and documents related to Dini's criteria from university officials.

"The lawyers I've spoken with at the Justice Department won't answer my questions about where they find religion in (Dini's recommendation criteria)," he said.

Campbell said the student who brought the complaint against Dini pre-registered in August but dropped the class before it was completed. He said the university denies taking part in religion-based discrimination and supports Dini's decision to implement criteria.

The student never made any attempt to

speak with Dini or utilize an internal method of resolution before dropping the class, Campbell said.

Campbell said he believes there is an 80 percent to 90 percent chance of getting the case dismissed by the USDOJ.

"If that does not work, I think we could have an immediate response by the jury (in Tech's favor)," he said.

Campbell said he did not make much progress in terms of establishing a good relationship with the people he had spoken with at the USDOJ, nor did he desire a good relationship with them.

History professor John Howe said he strongly doubted Dini's Web site maintains professional criteria.

Gary Elbow, professor of economics and geography, presented to the AAUP members a resolution in support of Dini's Web site.

AAUP members disagreed with the wording of the first sentence of the resolution, which passed eight to five. After it was passed, Elbow said he would see about getting the first sentence altered.

"I didn't want to promise something I couldn't do," he said. "But we'll see about getting (the first sentence) changed."

NASA analyzing cause of tragedy

By Marcia Dunn/Associated Press

SPACE CENTER, Houston — While Columbia was still in flight, NASA's "best and brightest" minds analyzed the potential damage done to its thermal tiles by a piece of debris during liftoff and concluded that the flight was in no danger, agency officials said Monday.

High-level officials at NASA concurred with the engineering report, which was issued on Day 12 of the doomed 16-day flight, the officials said.

On Monday, 48 hours after the disaster, NASA's top spaceflight official, William Readdy, said the damage done by the broken-off piece of fuel-tank insulation is now being looked at very carefully as a possible cause of the tragedy.

"Although that may, in fact, wind

up being the cause — it may certainly be the leading candidate right now — we have to go through all the evidence and then rule things out very methodically in order to arrive at the cause," he said.

The shuttle broke up 39 miles over Texas and fell to Earth just as it was experiencing maximum re-entry heat of 3,000 degrees. All seven astronauts aboard perished.

Columbia was covered with more than 20,000 thermal tiles to protect it from burning up while re-entering Earth's atmosphere. During liftoff Jan. 16, a hard piece of foam insulation hit the spacecraft's left wing 80 seconds after launch.

That led NASA engineers to conduct thermal analyses and a frame-by-frame examination of the launch foot-

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Newby to oversee search committee

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter

Senior Vice Chancellor Richard Butler said Thursday that Texas Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith would name Board of Regents Vice Chairman Brian Newby as chairman of the advisory search committee for the new university president.

"The chancellor will select a chair for the committee, and it is my understanding that it will be me," Newby said.

Chairman of the Board Robert Black said the advisory committee should consist of 20 representatives from faculty, staff, alumni and students of both the Health Sciences Center and Tech.

The committee will determine whether or not a search firm will be



Newby

used. David Schmidly is president of the university for two years before he moved on to Oklahoma State University in December.

In an analysis conducted by the Newsletter from the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, presidents typically move from universities once every six years.

Five new presidents have been appointed in the past year in Texas, ac-

SEARCH continued on page 5

SGA contender list ready for elections

By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

Let the campaigning begin. The countdown to Student Government Association Election Day began Friday when prospective candidates signed letters of intent to run for office.

On Monday, the names were released. For the 2003-04 election term, 13 students will be running for the three executive positions: president, internal vice president and external vice president.

The Student Senate will fill 68

seats out of 89 candidates, and 19 students will run for senator-at-large.

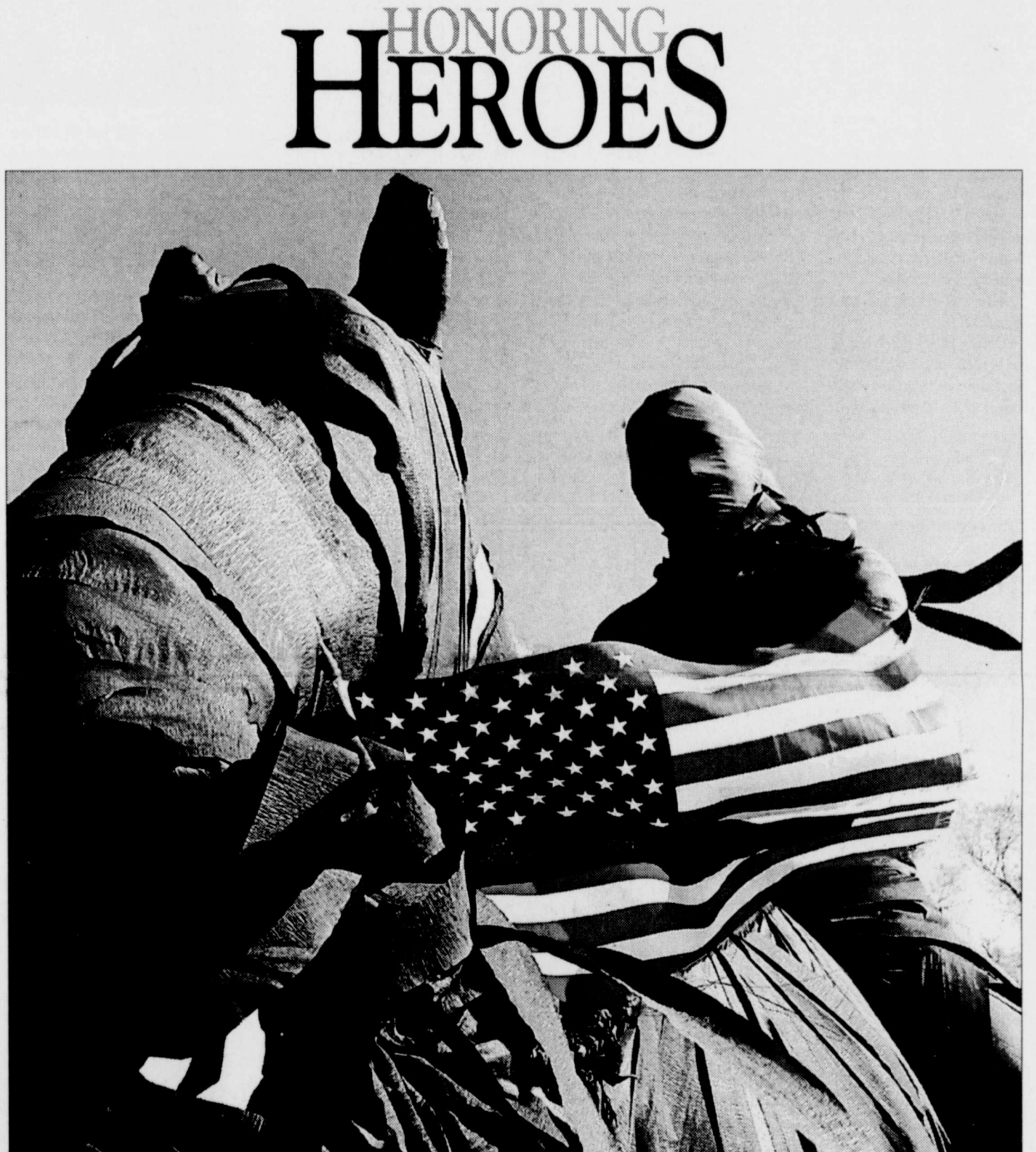
Running for president is current Internal Vice President Jeremy Brown, Louis Constanancio, Carrissa Noel

Nichols and Issac Albarado.

Wesley Stephens, Chris Carr, Jacque Steinmetz, Don Dildy and Darbara Daily are the five students vying for the internal vice president position.

Charles Liar, Colton Batchelor,

CONTENDERS continued on page 5



BELOW: THE SADDLE Tramps wrap the Will Rogers statue in Memorial Circle on Sunday night in memory of the seven astronauts who died Saturday while returning to Earth aboard space shuttle Columbia. Preparing the black wrapping on the statue needed precise work in order for the wrapping to withstand the gusty winds.

Saddle Tramps honor shuttle victims; memorial held today

By Kelly McAlister/Staff Reporter
Photos by Jaime Tomás Aguilar

For all of those who felt the heartache of the astronauts' families and have longed for loved ones, there will be a memorial service at Texas Tech at 4 p.m. today in the Student Union Allen Theatre.

The memorial service will be held in conjunction with the City of Lubbock and the Lubbock Independent School District.

Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith and Interim President Donald Haragan will speak at the memorial with other members of the community who knew shuttle Columbia Commander Rick Husband and shuttle Pilot William McCool.

Husband, a 1980 Tech graduate, and McCool, a Lubbock-native and Coronado High School graduate, were killed Saturday as the shuttle broke apart during its re-entry into the earth's atmosphere.

At today's memorial, the Tech choir will sing the songs Husband had liked in his conversations with John Dickson, director of Choral Studies.

Husband had been in contact via e-mails with Dickson as early as last Wednesday.

More than 20 Saddle Tramps wrapped the Will Rogers statue Sunday night in black crepe paper reserved for tragic occasions.

Saddle Tramps member Ben Monticello said the Saddle Tramps were wrapping Will Rogers in light of the recent tragedy.

"It's our way of having a memorial," Monticello said.

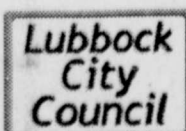
MEMORIAL continued on page 5



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COUNCILMAN
ANNOUNCES HIS
RESIGNATION
NEWS, PAGE 2



TEXAS TECH
BASEBALL IN
ACTION TODAY
SPORTS, PAGE 6



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Coronado graduate remembered as hero

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

Navy Commander Willie McCool saw his dreams come true Jan. 16 when he piloted the Space Shuttle Columbia out of Earth's atmosphere and into outer space for a 16-day journey.

NASA employees and the crew members' loved ones saw their nightmares come to life Saturday when the shuttle burst into flames and exploded over East Texas, killing all seven onboard.

Despite the loss of his friend, Dale Somers of Lubbock, who graduated from Coronado High School in 1979 with McCool, said he was not sorry his friend took to the skies, and he was sure McCool was not either.

"Regrets that he didn't come down, yes," he said. "Regrets that he went up, absolutely not."

Somers said McCool's wife felt the same way.

"The last time I talked to him, he was so fired up about being at NASA and being an astronaut and having a mission," he said.

President Bush commended the crew members and their families for the sacrifice.

"Those astronauts knew the dangers, and they faced them willingly, knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life," he said.

McCool was a dedicated person who did what it took to do his best, Somers said. He was committed, motivated and very bright.

"He was all-out all the time," Somers said.

During high school, running was one of McCool's passions, Somers said. He also was a chess player and had an e-mail chess game going on with

someone from the space station.

McCool, 41, earned a bachelor's degree in applied science from the U.S. Naval Academy,

a master's degree in computer science from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

He was an Eagle Scout and graduated second in his naval class. He joined NASA in 1996 and qualified to be a pilot after logging more than 2,800 hours of flight experience.

McCool and wife Lani have three children.

Ed Jarman taught science at Coronado more than 20 years ago, and he was the teacher who nominated McCool to the Naval Academy.

"It was unbelievable what an outstanding young man this was," he said. "He was my committee of one when I needed something done."

"Cool Willie," as he was known at Coronado, had a dry sense of humor and joked with everyone, he said.

Jarman has lost many friends in combat situations, he said, and in those cases, as with this one, he deals with it the only way he can.

"You don't look back; you just do the best you can and hope for the best," he said. "A lot of good will come out of the project he was involved in."

Mary Hildebrand, a retired mathematics teacher, said she and McCool shared a love of math that brought



McCool

them together.

"It was very unusual that you get somebody that's gifted academically and athletically," she said. "He was just everything you could expect from a human being."

McCool also was personable, she said. He entered Coronado as a junior and graduated with the respect of his classmates.

"He had a bubbly personality with a twinkle in his eye," Hildebrand said. "Kids loved him."

McCool also was active in the First Methodist Church during his time in Lubbock, she said.

Coronado's Web site has allotted space to post memories of McCool. Sarah Fox, one of his classmates, wrote she remembered him as a quiet student who did not change much from 16 to 41.

"I had a good cry when I heard the news, but I take great comfort in the fact that Willie died doing what he most wanted to do," she wrote.

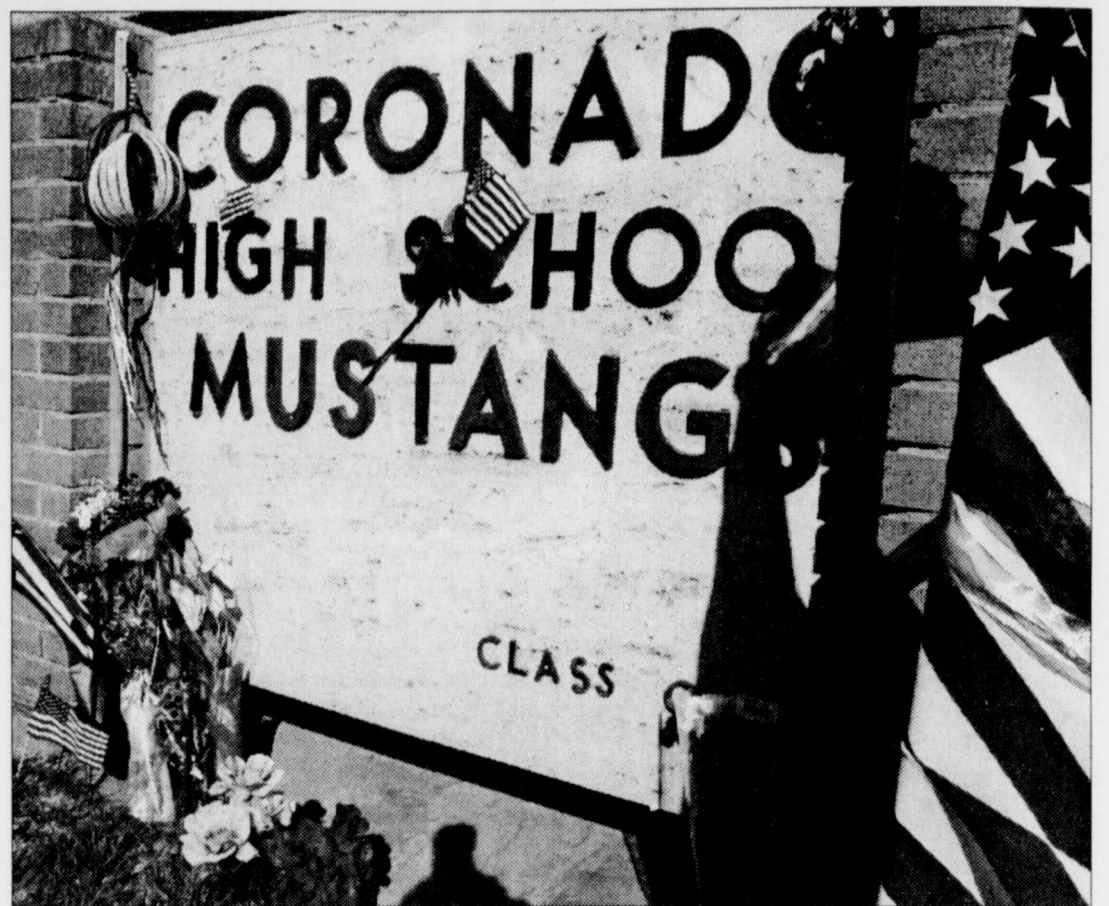
Kelley Thompson echoed Fox's sentiments.

"I don't think it's a great thing to go before your time is up, but if you have to go, I would want to go the same way—doing something I loved," he wrote.

Gordon McMillan, the minister of music at First Methodist Church in Lubbock, knew McCool from his stint in the choir more than two decades ago. McMillan said McCool was very serious for the most part and responsible, as well as being musically talented.

"He was one of the best kids we had here," he said.

The Coronado varsity girls soccer team will have a moment of silence before its game today in honor of McCool.



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

FLOWERS AND MEMENTOS were placed outside of Lubbock Coronado High School on Sunday morning. They were placed in remembrance of William McCool, a Coronado graduate and pilot of the space shuttle Columbia.

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Councilman Cooke retires

City Councilman Alex "Ty" Cooke announced Friday he is resigning from his position as the councilor for District 6.

In his announcement, he said several changes have taken place over the last several months for his family, including the death of his mother and his son returning to Lubbock. He and his wife decided it was time to reconsider priorities.

"It is time to step aside and allow someone else the opportunity to serve as city councilman," he said in the news release.

Mayor Marc McDougal said Cooke has served in the City Council for almost 11 years, has been instrumental in maintaining quality air service through Lubbock International Airport, and has also been supportive of Texas Tech.

Cooke's biggest project, he said, has been his work with Lubbock Power & Light and keeping the local company strong in the overall market.

"He's been an outstanding city councilman," McDougal said. "He will be very, very difficult to replace on the Council."

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Husband remembered as scholar

By Angela Timmons/
Staff Reporter

Wherever he went, Rick Husband made everyone proud of his accomplishments.

Husband, 46, a 1980 graduate of Texas Tech, was married and the father of two children.

Husband was killed Saturday on the space shuttle Columbia as it broke up over East Texas during re-entry.

Husband logged more than 3,800 hours of flying time in more than 40 different types of aircraft and flew on one previous space mission on Discovery in 1999.

Margaret Mehringer, associate principal at Amarillo High School, said Husband has always made the Amarillo High Sandies proud.

She said Husband was inducted into the Sandie Hall of Fame in 2000 and visited the high school for the occasion to speak to juniors and seniors.

"It was probably one of their proudest days ever," Mehringer said. "He showed some videos and slides, and it made students in Amarillo aware that if you dream a dream, you can do it."

Mehringer said AHS boasts a wall to honor inductees into the Sandie Hall of Fame, including Husband.

The high school has set up a memorial at the wall in memory of Husband, she said.

Benjamin Moore, who served as AHS principal while Husband attended the school, had fond memories of him.

"He had a very outgoing personality, always had a smile on his face," Moore said. "He was well liked by students and faculty alike. Everyone liked him."

Moore said in addition to being an exceptionally good student in science and math, Husband excelled in vocal and drama performance.

Husband was a member of the choir and performed in several plays, including playing the lead role in musicals such as "Fiddler on the Roof," Moore said.

"I don't think any of us were surprised when he was accepted (to the astronaut program)," he said. "He was that type of person."

Moore said he knew Husband well and still has many memories of the commander.

"I remember him quite vividly," he said.

In addition to Husband's outstanding attributes, Moore said he was deeply committed to his religious faith as well.

"Even in high school, you could



Husband

tell by the way he lived," he said. "Rick had a deep faith."

James Lawrence, professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, said he taught Husband in the late 1970s.

"He was an outstanding student," he said. "He was active in the department; he was active in ROTC and he sang in the choir."

Lawrence said that as it has been 22 years since he taught Husband, there aren't many "unique" stories he can offer about the commander.

"But No. 1, Rick always felt very strongly about his education at Texas Tech; it served him well," Lawrence said. "We were very proud of him. There aren't many people who get into the astronaut program. He reflected well on the department and Texas Tech."

Lawrence said he has seen Husband two or three times since he graduated from the department, including once after Husband's 1999 Discovery mission.

"He took a T-shirt and medallion up into space and returned those to the department, as well as a flag he took up and returned to (Tech Interim President) Don Haragan," Lawrence recalled.

"It was a sad loss for the country, the family and for the university, and I hate to see this kind of thing happen to anyone," Lawrence said. "He wanted to be an astronaut for a long

time, but he died doing what he wanted and not everybody can do that."

Ken Strange, a 1979 Tech graduate who studied education, was in choir with Husband at Tech and currently resides in Husband's hometown of Amarillo.

"I always found him to be a lot of fun," Strange said. "He was always comfortable in his own skin; that's what he was."

Strange said while Husband was very focused on what he wanted to do, he knew there was more to life.

"He loved his faith and music, which I guess you could say was his avocation," he said. "He was just about the best guy you ever knew, and he could've been egotistical because he was so intelligent and talented, but he was never like that. He was just one of those good people that was a pleasure to have known."

Strange spoke of a visit Husband made to schools in Dimmitt before his Discovery mission in 1999, where Strange was teaching at the time.

"He came and spent the day at Dimmitt and basically talked about the mission and how he had decided early on what to do," Strange said. "He challenged and encouraged students at Dimmitt to get their education, to dream and go down the path they wanted. It was very encouraging and thrilling for the children."

Families of astronauts say exploration must continue

(AP) — The families of Columbia's crew remembered their loved ones Monday as optimists and explorers willing to accept risk for the sake of expanding knowledge.

They urged Americans to support the space effort "for the benefit of our children and yours."

"We've gotten strength from each other," Evelyn Husband, wife of Cmdr. Rick Husband, told NBC's "Today" show Monday, describing a meeting that relatives of the seven-member crew held Sunday.

"We just cried and laughed and hugged each other, and it was very helpful."

She read a statement from the families.

"On January 16th we saw our loved ones launch into a brilliant, cloud-free sky. Their hearts were full of enthusiasm, pride in country, faith in their God and a willingness to accept risk in the pursuit of knowledge — knowledge that might improve the quality of life for all mankind. ...

"Although we grieve deeply, as do the families of Apollo I and

Challenger before us, the bold exploration of space must go on. Once the root cause of this tragedy is found and corrected, the legacy of Columbia must carry on for the benefit of our children and yours."

Appearing on CBS' "Early Show," the mother of payload commander Michael Anderson recalled his enthusiasm for the space program.

"He told me some years ago the word 'can't' should be taken out of the dictionary because there wasn't nothing that can't be done," said Barbara Anderson of Spokane, Wash. "His life wasn't in vain and will do some good to mankind."

The wife of Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon said her husband was such an optimist that he didn't even write a will.

"He thought it was unnecessary," Rona Ramon told Israeli reporters in Houston late Sunday.

She said that at the liftoff, while everyone was celebrating, their 5-year-old daughter said, "I lost my Daddy."

"Apparently she knew," Rona Ramon said, sobbing.

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PERSPECTIVES

Month should celebrate similarities

Finally! A whole month set aside for the appreciation of black history! Woopee! Strike up the band! Give me a freaking break!

The struggle for equal rights is undeniably still a struggle, but for some reason, designating one month out of the year to focus what little attention we Americans have on one minority's struggle is pointless. I don't know what president or committee decided on this whole circus, but I hope they realize how idiotic and probably self-defeating the whole idea was, is and always will be.

I bet it went something like this: "So, I had an idea of taking part of the year, say a month, and using it to raise awareness of black culture."

"Wow, that's a great idea! Which month?"

"Well, I figure that February would work. All that month has is Groundhog's Day, Valentine's and President's day, all holidays no one really cares about. Plus, it is the shortest month in the year, so it wouldn't be THAT big of a deal."

"Great! Let's get a cheeseburger!"

So what is the point of Black History Month? Should we take these 28, sometimes 29 days, to sit around the table recalling the events that have led to the current state of integration within American society? Will people

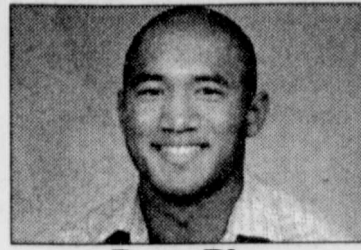
suddenly become enlightened to the racial issues haunting our culture? Will brotherly love expand in everyone's heart like the waistband of a freshman girl's sweatpants? I'm thinking, who really cares?

I don't know if it is just me, but isn't the point of racial harmony to emphasize our similarities, not our differences? By placing this label on February, it seems the rest of the time we really don't need to pay attention to black history. And it's a whole month! Jesus only got one day, maybe two depending on the way you look at it.

I'm thinking that since the start of an annual black history month, things have pretty much stayed the same, race-wise. And I'm beginning to think they might just start going down hill from here.

I admit I'm an elitist. I think if you find yourself in a bad position, it is your own fault, not someone else's conspiracy to keep you down. If you don't get something you want, try harder. If that doesn't work, maybe you just aren't good enough. Those who are ahead of the herd are there because they deserve to be there, not because someone let them be there.

Using your race, gender or religious belief as an excuse or a crutch is sad and pathetic. True, some people may have it easier because of what caste



Dave Ring
inlssspants@hotmail.com

Pointing out our differences only makes them harder to get over and hinders the path to loving everyone blindly.

they belong to, but that's their issue to deal with, not yours. Just because it works for them now, doesn't mean you should try the same thing.

Some of you reading, if there is anyone reading still, agree with me. I salute you. Those of you who disagree with me may think I'm an asshole who's never really understood the struggle for equality. And you're right. I don't understand the struggle. I

don't know if it is my dashing bravado or my boyish charm, but in my life, my racial background has been one of my greatest blessings. I have great friends, a great job, I'm in college, and most of all, I'm happier than a puppy with two ... well you get the idea.

I've never understood why people who are minorities for one reason or another wear this fact like a burden. "Oh I've been oppressed."

"Oh, people look at me differently."

"Oh, I'm being discriminated against."

"Oh, these shoes make me look fat."

Cry me a bloody river. Let it go people, let it go.

I used to think I didn't hang out with certain minorities because they were a certain minority and I didn't really fit in. But now I know it is because I can't stand people who separate themselves on basis of race or background just so they feel like they belong. Isn't Martin Luther King's dream about coming together, not self-segregating?

Nothing makes me laugh in sadness like walking around Texas Tech, which I assume is an establishment of educated individuals, and seeing grown college men and women, of all races, I might add, dressed like they are in a No Limit rap video. What self-respecting person still wears their

pants off of their ass and gold chains that look like they could hoist an engine block?

And I thought you had to take English in high school. I hear conversations that sound like four turkeys attacking a badger. Tech is not the ghetto. Hell, Lubbock doesn't even have projects. The closest thing to the hood we have is the old English/Philosophy building, and that is just because it smells like a urinal.

The hip-hop culture should be limited to rappers and the occasional pro athlete who left college early.

The contemporary philosopher-comic Chris Rock best sums up my thoughts on Black Rock Month. He asks, "Who's the most racist, blacks or whites? Black people. Because we hate black people, too."

The word "hate" is a little over-the-top (great movie), but I think it gets the point across. By dwelling on the past failure of equality, we are only giving it power to continue today. Pointing out our differences only makes them harder to get over and hinders the path to loving everyone blindly.

So put away your false illusion of culture and identity and start working toward a time where we don't need a designated few weeks of racial emphasis.

Life could go on without the labels, insults

It looks like Gov. Perry is kicking off 2003 by securing his position as a finalist for the Most Unstatesmanlike Conduct Award.

Having neglected the network news for the past few days, I'm not sure how widely covered this minor incident was, so here's the skinny. In an interview with *The Dallas Morning News*, Perry, in an effort to communicate how serious he is about coping with the state's budget gap, said, among other things, "I don't want to become Mississippi."

Understandably unwilling to ignore the tacky insult, Mississippi's top statesmen fired off a letter, tactfully but coolly expressing their disappointment and hurt feelings, further suggesting that perhaps certain states should put their own affairs in order before starting with the snide comments.

Incredibly unprofessional behavior aside, I don't think Perry has any particular dislike for the Magnolia State. To use "Mississippi" as a synonym for "place that sucks" is common enough to be considered idiom.

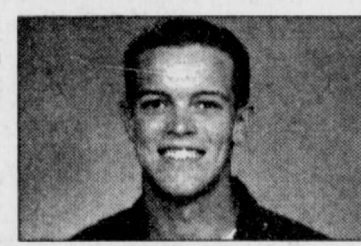
I think he committed the same misstep as Sen. Trent Lott in December and made an off-the-cuff remark without considering the feelings or sensibilities of others. It is curious,

however, that such men find success in the world of politics, where one's primary job is to massage and cajole the sensibilities of others.

Trivial though it may be, the governor's faux pas gives me occasion to revisit one of my favorite topics. There are many things that conspire to keep humanity mired in violence and backwardness. Even with our vast intelligence, deft manipulation of technology and consciousness, the stark reality that we're just intelligent animals is unavoidable. Our base, cellular-level imperatives to conquer and copulate show themselves in everything we do.

Our highest aspiration as a species is simple: to exist constructively with peace and dignity. I believe our primary obstacle is people's compulsive need to identify with a particular group. Call it tribalism, side-taking, whatever. The drive to personally conceive oneself as a part of a group is inescapable.

There is no group or distinction so trivial that people won't intensely engage in competition to establish its primacy. Even the most temporary, arbitrary designations lead people to malevolence. From childhood, I remember fierce competition and nastiness arising among the random



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Our highest aspiration as a species is simple: to exist constructively with peace and dignity. I believe our primary obstacle is people's compulsive need to identify with a particular group.

groups we'd be divided into during weeklong church retreats, though these groups were products of the purest chance and were to be forever dis-

solved at week's end.

Equally arbitrary and meaningless, though often more dangerous and destructive, is our gut-level urge to identify with a particular political subdivision, be it a nation, state, municipality or even neighborhood. In all of these possible instances, the value and importance of a greater good or community are disregarded the moment people place deep personal value on their petty distinctions as Texans, Lubbockites, Americans, Republicans, whatever. These classifications do have meaning and worth, but only of the most temporary, trivial sort.

Growing up in the Metroplex, I was always struck by the intensity of inter-city rivalry, considering the towns all gelled into a unified blob of housing divisions and strip malls. The police cars are the only indication of uniqueness among them. Taco Bells and Best Buys look the same in Plano as in Carrollton. It underscored for me the deeply rooted nature of people to be part of something in opposition to something else.

But not until coming to Texas Tech did I learn my most remarkable lesson in exclusion and absurdity. Apparently, lacking a meaningful and natural social structure, the university

provides students the opportunity to affiliate with artificial social groups, affording students the chance for social interaction in a sort of simulation of friendship and unity.

The students pay "dues," a sort of "friend-tax," and the university provides the warm bodies and amiable settings to make it seem as if one is engaged in a social life. The absurdity is that to make this pretend-social system work depends just as much on hostility to those outside the mock group as on unity among those within it. Though these clearly are anomalies of human society, these groups serve well as icons of the human need to join and exclude.

Kurt Vonnegut, a most sympathetic observer of humanity, wrote of the meaning of life, "We're here to help each other get through this thing, whatever it is."

For simplicity and basic appeal to human decency, I don't know a better creed. It doesn't address whom we're to help or for what reason, just that we are.

I think in our age as scary and disillusioned as an own, it would be nice for everyone to dispense with us-and-them hatred and realize that, across all nations and groups, we're all just trying to get through this thing.

Modern day 'War Prayer' a lesson to be learned

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, is one of the best-known authors in American literature. Twain's masterpiece works include such staples of American literature as "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "The Prince and the Pauper," a few of his lesser-known works are "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court" and "Life on the Mississippi."

In addition to these remarkable novels, Twain also wrote a short story/poem entitled "The War Prayer." Twain decided that because of its content, the material should not be published. Twain's decision was upheld until 1923 when it was finally put into print by his literary executor.

"The War Prayer" is a piece of literature that could easily be construed as un-patriotic because of its defiant statement against war. The war Twain was writing about was the Philippine-American war of the first decade of the twentieth century.

"The War Prayer" begins with the written images of a time period in which there was a great nationalistic pride in America. The opening

paragraph is a description of people cheering on the streets for the men about to leave for war, with children playing with their toy pistols as the brave men marched on toward battle.

Before the troops leave, the men, women and children who had been cheering so loudly for war were assembled in church on the Sunday morning before the battalions would leave for the front.

The congregation sat together on that Sunday morning with the volunteers of war sitting "proud and happy." The rows of war-ready citizens were as one, as the long prayer of the Mass is celebrated. The language of the minister was described as "moving and beautiful," as the congregation prayed the hand of the almighty would make the men "strong and confident" and able to "crush the foe."

While the minister was in the middle of his sermon, there was a disturbance from the doorway. "An aged stranger entered" who was described as having long white hair and an unnaturally pale, almost ghastly face. The congregation followed him with their eyes as the stranger made his way to the alter



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The congregation does not realize its faults, nor does it become enlightened by the white-haired man's words.

where he moved the minister to the side.

The stranger, with a voice as deep and strong as his eyes were solemn, announced to the congregation that he had "come from the Throne" and was in their presence to bear a message from Almighty God. In a tone reminiscent of the fire-and-brimstone speeches of Jonathan Edwards, the white haired stranger explained

to the congregation that God's ears have heard the prayers of not one but two, with only one being uttered.

The stranger explains that the consequence of their prayers is a curse upon their neighbors, while it is a blessing upon them. "Ignorantly and unthinkingly," the congregation had prayed that God grant them victory. The prayer for victory, however, has many "unmentioned results which follow victory."

The white-haired stranger began his new sermon with a new prayer, a prayer that was unspoken before, but understood by those who had spoken in unison only minutes prior. "O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds, ... help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the shrieks of their wounded, ... and help us to blight their lives."

The sermon concludes with the white-haired stranger asking if the congregation still desires for the prayer to come true and then announces to the pews full of people that "the messenger of the Most High waits."

The congregation does not realize its faults, nor does it become enlightened by the white-haired man's

words. Instead, they simply dismiss the man as a lunatic "because there was no sense in what he said."

While this short story was written almost a century ago, the message behind it is as poignant today as it was when Twain finished writing it. After watching the State of the Union address last week, I found that the last sentence in President Bush's speech was very similar to the sermon given by the minister in Twain's "War Prayer." Bush, in conclusion of his speech, prayed, "May God continue to bless the United States of America."

However, only minutes earlier, Bush clearly expressed the fact that the nation of the United States "will fight with the full force and might of the United States military—and ... will prevail."

Our modern day "War Prayer" does not have a minister standing in front of a congregation ready for war, but rather a president praying for victory, standing in front of a nation. However, this time the audience is a nation that must realize the answer to the white-haired stranger's question is not dismissal of his words, but the realization that there should be prayers for peace, not war.

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Cause

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

age. Ron Dittmore, the shuttle program manager, said Monday that photos showed the piece of insulation was about 16-by-6-by-20 inches in size and weighed about 2.67 pounds, and could have smashed into the thermal tiles on the underside of the left wing area.

Analyses were performed for different scenarios, including different weights for the debris and the possibility of tile damage over an area of about 7 inches by 32 inches, NASA said.

The engineering report cited by Readdy indicated "the potential for a large damage area to the tile." But it went on to note that the damage should be limited to the coating on the tiles and have no effect on the mission.

"These thermal analyses indicate possible localized structural damage but no burn-through and no safety-of-flight issue," the report concluded.

"We were in complete concurrence," Michael Kostelnik, a NASA spaceflight office deputy, said at a news conference Monday with Readdy.

Readdy said he also was part of the discussions held throughout the flight on the matter.

"The best and brightest engineers we have who helped design and build this system looked carefully at all the analysis," he said.

Contenders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Megan Brock and Sara Floerke will be campaigning for the external vice president slot.

SGA President Kelli Stumbo said she is glad a lot of students are running for the top spots.

"I think it shows more students are taking an interest," she said. "By signing up, they want to take a more active role. And that is what we want."

Election Commission adviser Bill Brannan said 13 is a good, large number of candidates.

"That is a large number for only three positions," he said.

The next stage in the process is a candidate seminar that all contenders must attend at 7 p.m. either today or Wednesday in the Senate Room of the Student Union building.

The seminar's purpose is to familiarize the candidates with the structure and procedures of the SGA and the Election Code.

Brannan said it is an informative seminar that will help each candidate.

"The real important thing is they will draw for position on the ballot," he said. "We also talk about rules and answer questions that they might have."

Brannan said students will be disqualified if they do not attend one of the two sessions.

However, if the candidate has a valid reason he or she cannot attend,

a delegate can be sent in his or her place.

Important dates for candidates are: Feb. 15, the only day candidates can get their posters approved; Feb. 18, the day of the executive candidate forum; and Feb. 25-26, the election days.

Candidates will be limited to a certain dollar amount to personally contribute to their own campaign. Those running for the executive branches will be allowed a \$200 limit, candidates for senator at large will be allowed a \$150 limit, while students running for senator seats are allowed a \$75 limit.

"That's all the money they can spend," Brannan said. "We do that to make it as fair as possible."

Stumbo said the SGA is in the process of trying to get more students to vote.

Last year, only 2,617 voted, a number she said is way too small.

"A lot of students are very passive in a sense," she said. "There are students who don't want to get up and do it. That is one of the things we are trying to correct. We want them to stop complaining and actually do something about it."

Brown said he would like to see a major increase in voter turnout.

"I vote every year," he said. "And I vote for the right person. However, my vote never wins because they do not have the capacity of friends that the winner has."

Brannan is looking forward to Election Day.

"It will be a good race," he said.

Memorial

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

J. Ross Lacy, the Saddle Tramp in charge of fund-raising and projects, said wrapping Will Rogers in black is how the Saddle Tramps show their respect.

"We decided to do it Sunday night so it would be visible to all the students and faculty to remind them that we need to pray for (the astronauts) and their families," Lacy said.

First Vice-President of the Saddle Tramps Zeb Wright said the tradition has been in place since the organization began in 1948.

"This is an organization based on over 66 years of pride, work, spirit, leadership and sacrifice," Wright said.

He said the Will Rogers statue is an ideal place for the university organization to recognize the tragedy.

"Will Rogers depicts what we as Saddle Tramps want to be," he said.

The Saddle Tramps do not use tape or glue when wrapping the statue.

"It normally takes four to six hours," Wright said.

Search

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ording to the newsletter

New presidents were appointed in 2002 at the University of Texas A&M and at its Health Sciences Center. The University of Texas has a new president, as does Southwest Texas University. A new president was appointed in August 2002 at A&M Kingsville. In September, the University of North Texas also appointed a new president.

Black said the number of universities that have recently hired new presidents would not affect the difficulty of the search.

"There is constantly a large number of universities looking for a president at one time," he said. "The pool stays about the same."

Black said the Board and the committee will receive input from anyone willing to give it.

"We want to cast our net as broad

as it can be," he said.

Smith told the faculty senate at its meeting Jan. 15 that he did not have someone selected for the job but is convinced Tech has an incredible product to sell.

As stated in the Board of Regents Rules, last updated May 2001, presidents are appointed by the chancellor, who must notify the board before making his final selection.

Black explained that the committee will advise the chancellor by offering him finalists, but the chancellor is the person who actually selects the president.

The president is the chief officer of a specific institution, who reports directly to the chancellor without fixed term.

Newby said the process usually takes six months, and there is a chance the search may not discover a candidate that interests the committee. The Regents Rules set a job description, which will be formalized by the search advisory committee.

TUESDAY		FEBRUARY 4				
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT PBS Lubbock	KCBD NBC Lubbock	KLBK CBS Lubbock	KUPT UPN Lubbock	KAMC ABC Lubbock	KJTV FOX Lubbock
7:00	Body Elec. Callow	Today Show	News	Tarzan Digimon	Good Morning America	K. Copeland Sherlock
8:00	Berenstein Barney	Arthur	Early Show	Recess Lightyear	News	Paid Program
9:00	Dragon Tales	Today Show	Montel Williams	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	TBA
10:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	People's Court	View	John Walsh
11:00	Mr. Rogers Teletubbies	Hynd Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program	Access Port Charles	Other Half
12:00	Motowheel One Stroke	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live
1:00	Health Diary Dragon Tales	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jerry Jones	One Life To Live	Caroline Rhea
2:00	Zoom Betw./Lions	In/Edition	Guiding Light	Paid Program	General Hospital	Divorce Court
3:00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Mauri Povich	Change/Heart Blind Date	Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown
4:00	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Life Moments	Street Smart	Home Impr. Millionaire	News & More
5:00	Liberty Nightly Bus	News NBC News	Judge Judy World Justice	Weekend Link	News ABC News	Simpsons That '70's
6:00	NewsHour	News W/Forune	CBS News	Pyramid Extra	News E.T.	Friends Raymond
7:00	NOVA	Fear Factor PG	JAG	Buffy	8/Weekend Acco/gim	American Idol
8:00	NOVA	Fraser PG A.U.S.A. PG	Guardian PG	Abby Cadabby	Life/Bonnie One on One	24
9:00	NOVA	Kingspin TV14	Judging Amy	Dharma/Greg Dharma/Greg	NYPD Blue TV14	News
10:00	Nightly Bus. Destinies	News Tonight Show	News David Letterman	King/Hill Voyager	News Nightline	Sinfeld Fraiser
11:00	NOVA	Coran	Letterman	Extra	MASH Access	Raymond Shoot Me
12:00	O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn	Paid Program	Paid Program	Jimmy Kimmel	King/Hill Paid Program

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Bouncing back biggest test for Raiders

By Jason Lenz/Staff Reporter

After a weekend filled with tailgating, lawn chairs, hot dogs and baseball, the Texas Tech Red Raiders will be back in action again today with a 3 p.m. game at Dan Law Field versus the West Texas A&M Buffaloes.

In the opening series against New Mexico, the Raiders took the first two games Friday and Saturday by the counts of 4-2 and 10-1, respectively, but lost the third Sunday 9-6. Coming off the loss will be a test for the team and may indicate precisely how good the squad is, head coach Larry Hays said.

"That's the mark of whether you're going to be a good team or not; if you can bounce back," he said.

Following Sunday's loss to New Mexico, junior starting pitcher Steve Gooch, who threw a complete game with nine strikeouts in the season opener, said it was important for the Raiders to move on and not let the loss be a distraction.

"This is a team that doesn't get bothered by anything like that," Gooch said. "You just go out there and play every day as if it's a new day ... nobody even thinks about this day anymore. It's over, and New Mexico's on their way home."

Playing the first series has only whetted the players' collective appetite for competition, Gooch said.

"We're just ready to play again," he said. "Everybody doesn't want to just practice. We want to be out here playing real games. So it's going to be exciting."

Gooch said he noticed some bright spots during the campaign against New Mexico.

"It just seems like everybody's getting the nerves out of them," he said. "People are more relaxed, and our hitters are starting to hit the ball, like Evan Shahak (Sunday...)."

In Tech's loss to New Mexico, junior designated hitter Shahak went 3-4 with two home runs, including a three-run shot in the bottom of the ninth. Shahak observed bright spots as well.

"We have a great defense," he said. "They're great up the middle. We have great starting pitchers, and we can swing it. We've been able to produce runs."

If Tech can put together the aspects of hitting, defense and pitching, Shahak said it could be scary for Tech's opponents.

"The fact that we had at least one thing go right in each of the three games actually makes me kind of excited because we'll be able to put all of them together for the next few games," he said. "And hopefully, we will go on a streak and keep everything together."

Tech players said they do not know much about West Texas A&M, but Hays said he anticipates a good fight since the Buffaloes had a good season last year. Regardless, Hays said his squad is too inexperienced to coast through any games.

"We've got too many new guys on the team," he said. "We're not taking anybody lightly." Gooch echoed his coach's sentiment.

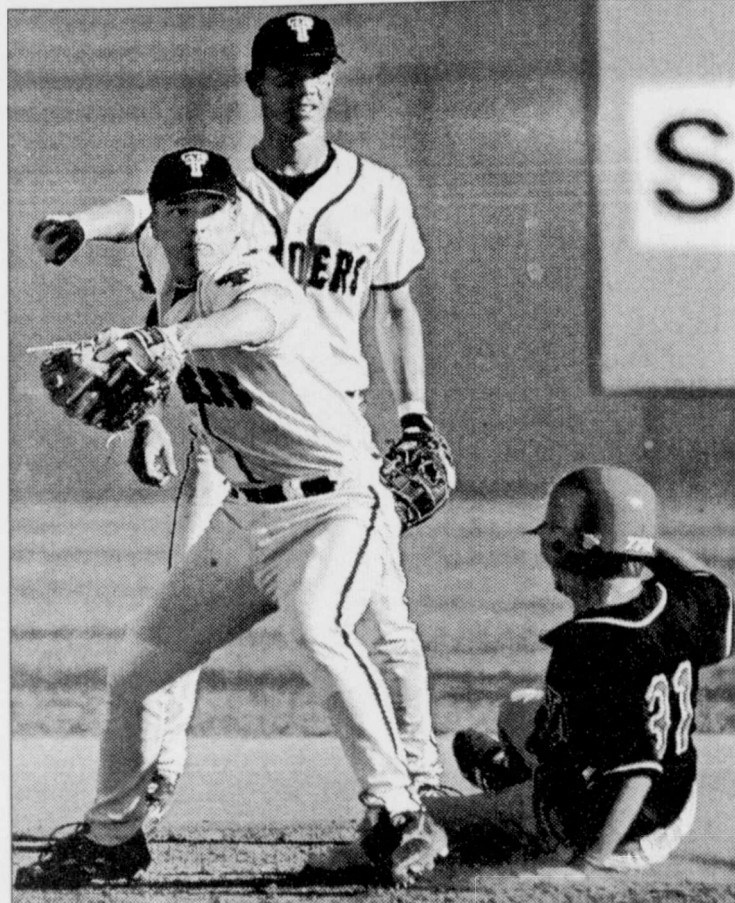
"That's the rules of baseball," he said. "You never underestimate your opponent ... you can't worry about what their record is, what their stats are or anything like that because on any given day ... you can still get beat."

Therefore, Gooch said the Raiders are coming out ready to play, as though it were the most important game of their lives.

"We'll come out (today) concentrated, as if we're in the World Series," he said.

Shahak said that would be Tech's attitude regardless of the opponent.

"I know we're going to be fired up," he said.



SECOND BASEMAN JOSH Haney turns a double play with shortstop T.J. Bruce looking on. Tech takes on West Texas A&M at 3 p.m. today at Dan Law Field.

CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
1 Splits roughly
5 Waffle topper
10 Turner of heads?
14 Sandwich cookie
15 Sphere of action
16 English river
17 Liquid meal
19 Damon or Dillon
20 Guarantee
21 Connubial
23 Raised banks along canals
26 Related on mother's side
27 Holding cells
30 Sommeier
33 Between jobs
34 Singer Martina
35 Guy's date
36 Mauna _____ volcano
37 Recent electees
38 Was introduced to

DOWN
1 Mirage, Luxor, et al
2 Qualified
4 Kitchen gadget
7 Air current
8 Keenly perceptive
9 Blood group
11 Scrapper
12 Treats badly
13 Peak
14 Driver's perch
15 City north of Brussels
16 Azure and ultramarine
18 Bohemian
19 Droops
20 Marsh plant
21 Zap with light

By Jim Page
New York, NY
2/4/03

Monday's Puzzle Solved

6 Cen. units
7 Early car
8 E pluribus
9 Dad
10 Thin layers
11 Incarnation of Vishnu
12 Write a score
13 Buck's horn
14 Cinnabar and galea
15 Marsh grasses
16 Arizona pol
17 Deli hero
18 Fishing lure
19 Clare of "Bleak House"
20 Quaysy
21 Certain monastery
22 Coal holders
23 Rossini opera, in Egitto
24 Carnation spot
25 Wharton School deg.
26 North Pole toiler
27 Vietnamese New Year
41 Pins for slots
42 Court divider
43 Stimulation
44 Secret plotters
45 Gum arabic tree
46 Mace source
47 Liability
50 Bel _____ cheese
52 Wanes
53 Govern
55 Blood fluids
56 Dines
57 Eyelid woe
60 Cow's regurgitated chew
61 Suds container

Track and field runs away with gold medals

Texas Tech's indoor track and field team competed in the Red Raider Classic this weekend in the Athletic Training Center.

The entire squad picked up a grand total of 13 gold medals and finished in the top two spots in four events: the men's pole vault, the men's 800-meter run, the men's high jump and

the women's mile run.

In the 800-meter run, Jonathan Johnson's finish of 1:49.94 made him the second Red Raider to earn an NCAA provisional qualifying time. He was followed closely by Kyle Atwood, who finished at 1:53.39

In the women's pole vault, Dana

Rosenblatt broke her own school record with a height of 11 feet, 10 inches.

In the men's pole vault, Bobby Most, who had a height of 17 feet, finished first with Jared Thornhill and Ken Wilson close behind.

In the high jump, Mike Beasley and Chad Pharis finished first and second, respectively.

In the women's mile run, Brionne Yosten, who had two first-place finishes on the day, set a new personal record. Tracie Akerheim came in second behind Yosten.

Tech will be back in action again Saturday when the Raiders host the Red Raider Invitational.

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800?

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James yet to file appeal for reinstatement

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James has yet to appeal his banishment from playing high school basketball, keeping the 18-year-old superstar off the court.

James had been expected to appeal the decision Monday, but Ohio High School Athletic Association spokesman Bob Goldring said the organization did not hear from him or his lawyer by late afternoon.

"Everything is status quo," Goldring said. "We have not heard anything about an appeal or any legal action."

James' attorney, Fred Nance, did not return phone messages.

James, regarded as the nation's top player and the next No. 1 NBA draft pick, was ruled ineligible on Friday by the OHSAA for accepting two free sports jerseys worth a combined \$845 from a clothing store.

As of late Monday afternoon, Nance had not filed for a temporary restraining order with Summit County Common Pleas Court, which would block the order so James could continue playing.

If James plans to appeal the decision by the OHSAA, he must do so to the agency in writing. The appeal would be heard by a state panel on Feb. 13 in Columbus.

James sat out the first game of his career Sunday, and his Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary teammates barely won without him, beating Canton McKinley 63-62.

Afterward, University of Akron police and James' own security personnel kept reporters away from him. He agreed to an exclusive interview with former NFL star Deion Sanders for CBS News' "The Early Show."

In the interview, scheduled to air Tuesday morning, James expresses remorse for accepting the trendy retro jerseys.

"If I had known I was violating anything, I would've never done it," James told Sanders. "I would've never jeopardized my eligibility. I would've never jeopardized my team."

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Tennis opens season 1-1

The Texas Tech men's tennis team left Houston with a 1-1 record. The Red Raiders opened the season with a lost 4-3 to the Rice Owls on Sunday.

Tech split singles matches with the Owls, as Red Raiders Esat Tanik, Devin Wakeford and Michael Innerbner won their singles matches. Tanik defeated Rice's Tony Haerle 6-4, 6-4; Wakeford beat Matthias Mathaes 4-6, 7-6, 6-3; and Innerbner defeated Vuk Rajevac 6-2, 2-6, 6-3.

The other three Tech singles players, Diederik de Groot, Alfonso Perez and Johnathan John, lost their singles matches.

In the doubles department, Tech lost all three matches.

Coming into the tournament, Rice was ranked No. 36 in the nation and Tech was ranked No. 56 in the nation.

Monday against Lamar, the Raiders bounced back with a fury, winning all six singles matches and not losing a single set in any of them. The doubles portion of the match was not played because Tech already claimed the victory 6-0.

The Raiders will play Abilene Christian University at 1 p.m. Feb. 11 at the McLeod Tennis Center.

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