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# The University Daily

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**FRIDAY**  
**March 26, 2004**

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## Saddle Tramp founder Lamb dies at 91



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

**SADDLE TRAMP FOUNDER** Arch Lamb holds his saddle tramp paddle at his Lubbock home last fall. Lamb died Thursday at the age of 91. Lamb founded the Saddle Tramps in 1937.

By Beth Aaron/The University Daily

Arch Lamb, founder of the Saddle Tramps, died at about 1 p.m. Thursday at University Medical Center. Lamb was 91 years old.

J. Ross Lacy, Saddle Tramp president, said Lamb's spirited attitude toward Tech was infectious.

"In the short time I knew Arch I learned more from him my love for Tech traditions," he said. "For every active member of the Saddle Tramps, he was like a father to us."

Lacy, a junior business and finance major from Midland, said though he and his cohorts knew this day would come, he said everyone was hoping it would come later than sooner.

"As a Saddle Tramp he meant the world to me," he said. "He gave me the courage to become president of this organization."

Tyler Key, a freshman philosophy and English major from Dripping Springs, said he is sorry he did not have an opportunity to get to know Lamb well.

"He was probably the most influential man in the organization of spirit organizations," he said. "He was a pretty awesome guy."

Key said Lamb was in love with Texas Tech

and was consistently enthusiastic about anything involved with the university.

"Even though he'd been out of the organization for 60 years," he said, "he was constantly in touch with us."

Lamb established the Saddle Tramps in 1937 with the intentions of bettering the university. Traditions associated with the organization include Carol of Lights.

Lamb told *The University Daily* in March 2003 he had made a living in the dairy industry before sustaining an injury in a milk strike. After the injury Lamb decided to enroll at Tech.

After obtaining a job at Tech, Lamb took a position at a barber shop shining shoes to make ends meet where several patrons insisted Lamb should become a yell leader at the university.

Lamb eventually became a yell leader after being urged to on several occasions.

At the time the Tech student body was on probation for unruly behavior at football games and the Tech administration asked Lamb for his help in quelling the students outbursts.

Lamb eventually started the Saddle Tramps to lead cheering at games. He developed the name of the group from a childhood memory of cowboys who visit farms for a short time,

fix a problem and leave. He believed his Saddle Tramps would stay at Tech a short time, fix problems and move on.

Members of the Saddle Tramps were collectively shocked when they heard of Lamb's death.

Brent Hibbs, a senior landscape architecture major from Belton, said he was close to Lamb and his family.

"I've known Arch since before I was born," he said.

Hibbs said his mother worked for Lamb's wife, and for a time, he and his family moved into the Lamb household.

Lamb was instrumental in programs such as the Masked Rider program and Tech's victory bells tradition, Hibbs said.

"It's a great loss not only for the Saddle Tramps and those who knew him personally," he said. "It's just a great loss for Texas Tech in general."

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made, but Lamb's family is expected to arrive in Lubbock on Friday.

Thursday evening, the Saddle Tramps wrapped Tech's Will Rogers and Soapsuds statue in Memorial Circle in black crepe paper in memorial of Arch Lamb.

## VOICES against VIOLENCE

Tech students rally to end sexual abuse

By Nikki Siegrist and photos by David Johnson and Hutch Stilgenbauer/The University Daily

For Mia Hall, the Take Back the Night rally was a tearful event. "I have been touched by domestic abuse, so it's something near and dear to my heart," the junior political science major from Amarillo said. "I think the event was cool. It raised awareness that this happens in the community a lot more than people think it does, and on campus."

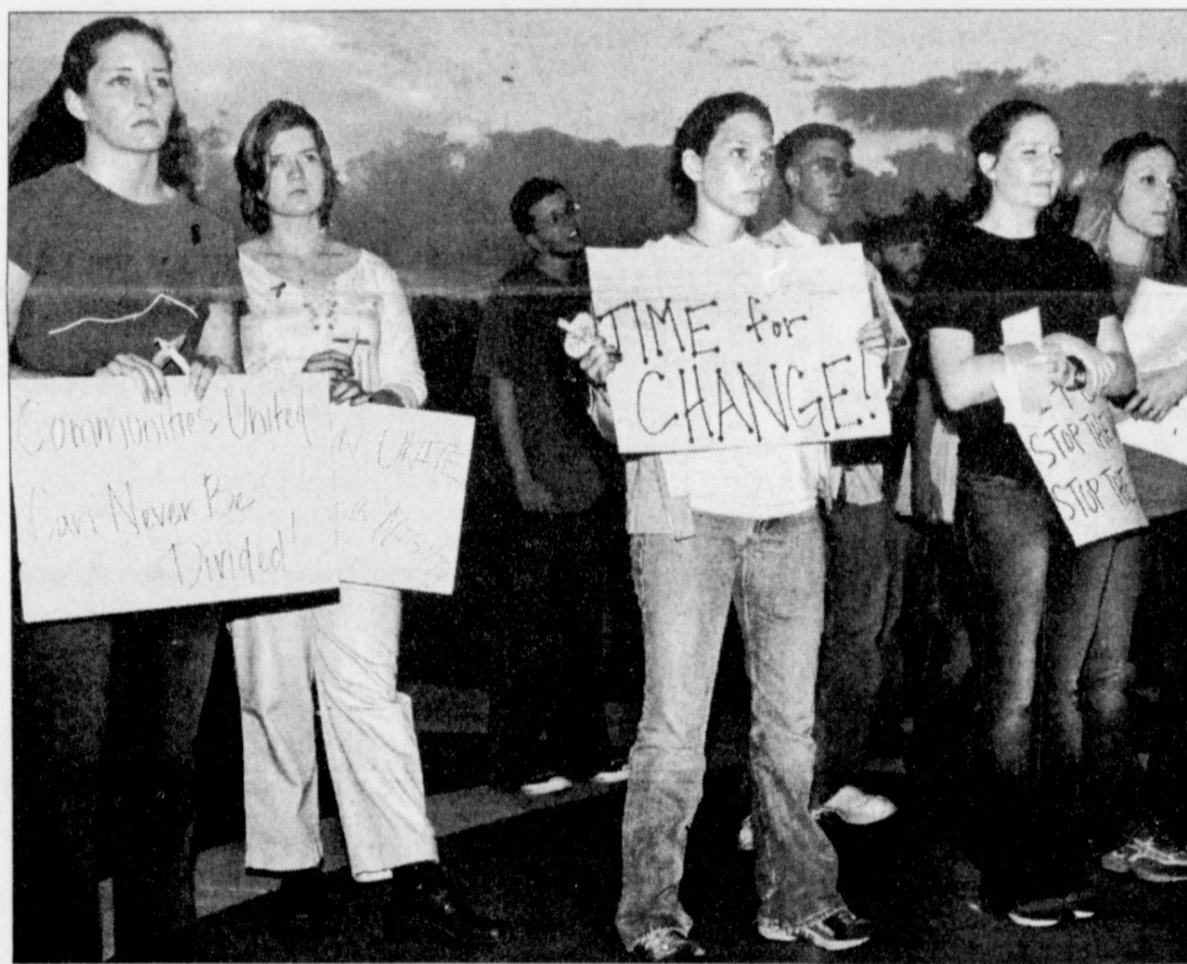
Before the rally, the participants wearing purple ribbons and carrying signs marched from the Student Union to Memorial Circle chanting, "Many people breaking the silence. Demand an end to sexual violence!"

Five hundred luminaries were lit around Memorial Circle in memory of rape survivors and in support of the event.

As supporters entered the circle, Hall read different rape and assault statistics from the rape, abuse and incest national network online.

She said in the United States, 1.3 women are raped every minute. That comes out to 683,280 women every

**RALLY** continued on page 3



ABOVE: TEXAS TECH students rally at the Take Back the Night event in Memorial Circle. BELOW: Tech students march to Memorial Circle from the Student Union. LEFT: Shannon Posern, a political science major from Pasadena, lights a candle in a lumina at a vigil in Memorial Circle.

### Student Affairs

## SGA examines funding for student organizations

By Andrew Bell/The University Daily

Pink Floyd once sang money is the root of all evil. However, many Texas Tech student organizations require money from the Student Government Association to conduct the business and activities of the organizations for the next fiscal year.

Before the deadline for funding in two weeks, the Student Senate discussed this topic and others, at its meeting Thursday night in the Lankford Lab of the Electrical Engineering Building.

Every organization at Tech can receive funds from the SGA. If a senator cannot be contacted, organization leaders are encouraged to visit the SGA office on the third floor of the Student Union.

Currently, 140 organizations are included in the funding bill. Organiza-

**SENATE** continued on page 3



### Student Affairs

## Masked Rider selection process in final stages

By Michael Castellon/The University Daily

The judging phase of the process to determine who will reign next year as Texas Tech's Masked Rider has concluded, and Center for Campus Life officials have begun to narrow the pool of qualifiers.

The Masked Rider, Texas Tech's cloaked and horse-bound symbol of pride and spirit, has been the university's official mascot since 1954, but the tradition of the Masked Rider dates back to the 1930s, when student volunteers would dress in a cape and mask and randomly appear on horseback during home football games.

Masked Rider publicist Heidi Nagy said two finalists were judged Thursday, and if all goes as planned, the candidates will appear before the Masked Rider Committee today. The committee, made of Tech and Wells-Fargo representatives, will make the final cut.

**RIDER** continued on page 3



FILE PHOTO/The University Daily

JESSICA MELVIN, TEXAS Tech's former masked rider, rides atop 'Midnight Matador' during Tech's first home football game of 2003.

## Al-Qaida tape urges Pakistanis to overthrow government

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — A tape purportedly recorded by Ayman al-Zawahiri, the No. 2 figure in the al-Qaida terror group, called Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf a "traitor" Thursday and urged people to overthrow his government.

The pan-Arab satellite channel Al-Jazeera broadcast a seven-minute excerpt from a tape it received Thursday. Its authenticity could not immediately be verified, but the speaker sounded like al-Zawahiri and made refer-

ences to the Islamic holy book, the Quran, which is known to be al-Zawahiri's style.

The speaker also called for a military uprising in Pakistan.

"Musharraf seeks to stab the Islamic resistance in Afghanistan in the back," the speaker said.

"Every Muslim in Pakistan should work hard to get rid of this client government, which will continue to submit to America until it destroys Pakistan."

Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokes-

man Masood Khan said the government has no immediate comment on the purported al-Zawahiri tape. When an al-Zawahiri tape released in September called for Musharraf's overthrow, the government said it would not be deterred in its pursuit of terrorists.

In Washington, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said he heard news reports about the tape and said if it was authentic, the speaker "is clearly an individual who is very high-ranking and is capable of, and has in

the past killed innocent men, women and children. And so one has to recognize that."

The tape comes as Pakistani troops are in the second week of a campaign along the Afghan border in South Waziristan, a longtime hiding place and stronghold of Islamic militants from al-Qaida, Afghanistan's Taliban and their Pakistani supporters.

After Musharraf spoke hopefully of

**TAPE** continued on page 3

RED RAIDER FAREWELL



DAVID JOHNSON/The University Daily

SADDLE TRAMP BRAD Billings, a junior international business and finance major from Seagraves, and former Saddle Tramp Zeb Wright, a senior business management major from Hondo, wrap Will Rogers in memory of Arch Lamb, Saddle Tramp founder, who died Thursday.

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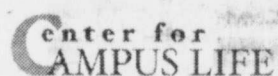
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The Rundown



Woman accused of murder to stand trial

SEYMOUR (AP) — A woman charged with killing her 10-year-old autistic son and staging his death to look like a car accident has been found competent to stand trial.

Melanie Rochelle Dickson, 33, has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity. She is accused of slashing her son's wrists, his Achilles tendons and his throat in a Seymour motel room in 2002.

The next morning, Dickson was found sitting next to her vehicle in a 15-foot ravine. The body of her son, Mitchell, was pinned beneath the wreckage in what authorities believe was a faked accident.

Dickson had identical slash wounds to her son's, including an almost fatal cut on her neck, authorities said. Bloody razor blades lay near the vehicle, and she had one in her purse, authorities said.

Dr. Richard E. Coons, an Austin psychiatrist, testified at a competency hearing Wednesday that Dickson was rational, able to discuss her case with her attorney and understand the charge against her. He said her suicide attempts were triggered by substance abuse and bipolar disorder but that medications stabilize her.

State District Judge David Hajek then ruled that, under state laws, Dickson was competent to stand trial.

The trial is set for April 26 in Fredericksburg, a change of venue from Baylor County, defense attorney Michael Payne said.

Three Cuban refugees rescued off Fla. coast

LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, Fla. (AP) — The Coast Guard and beachgoers pulled three Cubans to safety from the treacherous surf Thursday after they were spotted bobbing offshore on rafts made of lashed-together inner tubes.

As many as five others were missing from a group that left Cuba for the Florida coast about three days earlier, said Deputy Fire Chief Mark Conn.

"The first man rescued said an hour before the rescue, he only knew of three that were alive," Conn said. "At least five had dropped off somewhere."

A Coast Guard diver rescued one of the Cubans, a woman, from a black inner tube connected to three other tubes with white sheets. She was later hoisted into a helicopter. The two other Cubans, both men, were pulled to shore by people on the beach who were among a crowd of about 100 on-lookers.

All three were dehydrated and disoriented from about three days at sea and were taken to the hospital, authorities said.

The Cubans were spotted offshore on two rafts, about a mile apart, amid 6- to 8-foot waves and wind gusts of more than 30 mph.

During the rescue, beachgoers plunged into the water to help one of the Cubans and were joined by a firefighter, according to Jerry McIntee, another firefighter. They battled "an undertow that would pull your clothes off," he said.

Bin Laden's No. 2 man may still be alive

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High gas prices catch attention of campaigns

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's the presidential campaign season, gasoline prices are climbing, and the challenger is demanding that the president get more oil on the market and stop foreign suppliers from "holding our nation and our consumers hostage."

So it went in 2000, with the Republican challenger George W. Bush accusing a Democratic administration of failing Americans by letting prices go so high. Today, not much has changed.

The cost of a gallon of gas has hit record-breaking heights. Prices have entered a political discomfort zone that could become combustible if the summer driving season puts yet more pressure on the expense of getting around.

Already, the debate is forming in the presidential contest, with Democrats in Congress testing themes John Kerry can use against Bush, and Republicans reminding voters Kerry backed a 4.3-cent increase in the gas tax in 1993 and spoke in support of a 50-cent tax increase on a gallon a year later.

"Voters who are concerned about higher gas prices certainly will be troubled by a candidate who has supported an astronomical increase in the price per gallon," Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt said. The 50-cent increase, proposed by another

senator for deficit reduction, did not come to a Senate vote.

This time, prices have climbed on Bush's watch and his words against President Clinton and Al Gore from 2000 hang out there to be used, in turn, against him: "What I think the president ought to do," Bush said then, "is he ought to get on the phone with the OPEC cartel and say, 'We expect you to open your spigots.'"

Kerry is mining a similar vein. He said Bush and Dick Cheney "campaigning promising to make energy a centerpiece of their administration's agenda," only to see record industry profits and prices.

Gas prices are about 8 cents higher than their peak in 2000.

The idea that jawboning OPEC can bring back cheap gas is dismissed by oil analysts as an oversimplification of the reality of the marketplace, where prices are moved by supply, reprocessing and distribution matters too complex to form a campaign sound bite.

Bush spokesman Scott McClellan offered no sense Wednesday that pressure on OPEC is a magic pill, saying blandly, "We continue to engage in ongoing and regular consultations with major producers from around the world."

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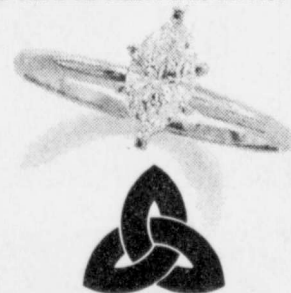


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## Rider

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The process of making it through Masked Rider auditions is notoriously rigorous.

Applicants are required to have comprehensive equestrian skills, be enrolled as a full time student and have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75.

"Applicants are expected to take a test that measures their knowledge of

horses, and they have to make 80 percent or better on that exam to move to the next stage, which involves being judged on horse handling, riding, driving a truck and hitching the trailer," Nagy said.

The Masked Rider's identity will be revealed April 23 at the Transfer of Reigns ceremony at Frasier Pavilion, where 2003-2004 Masked Rider Ben Holland will retire.

The Masked Rider's appearances are no longer limited to just football games.

The Masked Rider and his or her equestrian-companion, Midnight Matador, tour year-round, making public relations appearances throughout Texas.

"We already have 13 to 15 appearance requests for the new rider," Nagy said. "The Masked Rider will appear at schools, parades, rodeos and other functions to promote the university. Football isn't the only thing the Masked Rider has to be at, which is why our rider has got to be a great PR representative of Texas Tech."

## Senate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tions could receive anywhere from \$200 to almost \$1,000. According to the bill, there is still \$34,000 that could be given to organizations for the next fiscal year.

As of press time, the Student Senate was including amendments to the bill for organizations to receive funding.

Also discussed was a campus-wide attendance policy.

Because of the small percentage of Tech students who do well in classes without attending a majority of the course, Craig Campbell wrote a resolution to revise the attendance policy of professors on campus.

"This is for students who don't necessarily learn through classroom methods," the senator for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources said. "They get good grades but don't go to class."

The resolution proposes instructors at Tech clearly state in their syllabi their policy for student absences. When absences affect the standing of an individual in a course, the responsibility is on the professor to report the absences to the dean of the student. However, the instructor does not have the right or responsibility to negatively alter the grade of a student based on attendance, according to the resolution.

Once the dean is informed, he or she can drop the student from the course or suspend the student from the university if the absences result in a failing grade, according to the resolution. After a second, standing vote by the Senate, the resolution passed.

In regard to attendance, the Student Senate also discussed the consequences of student organization representatives who do not attend Student Organization Advisory Congress meetings.

In a prior resolution, the Senate agreed attendance at SOAC meetings should be mandatory. However, the Senate could not decide who should punish the organizations for not attending.

Through Senate Resolution 39.38, the Student Senate would give the responsibility to the SGA Supreme Court, which would have jurisdiction over the registered student organizations that fail to attend the meetings, according to the resolution. The punishment could include suspension of SGA funds for the organization or exclusion from the SGA's university activities. The resolution passed through the Student Senate.

As new senators begin to prepare for their position in the coming months, the Student Senate discussed the removal of a senator. A senator can be called for impeachment by having two unexcused absences, four excused absences or a mixture of both.

According to the resolution, Sen. Nicholas Genzer has two unexcused absences from Student Senate meetings. According to the SGA Code of Conduct, the absences are considered a neglect of duty.

After not showing to the meeting to plead his case, the Student Senate passed the resolution for impeachment.

Any students who have questions or concerns or one who would like more information on the legislation of the Student Senate can contact the SGA office at (806) 742-3631.

## Tape

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

capturing a "high-value target," there was speculation that al-Zawahri might be in the rugged border area where local tribes have more power than the Pakistani federal government.

Pakistan Interior Minister Faisal Saleh Hayyat said Thursday that more than 50 terrorists have been killed in the operation. More than 150 suspects have been captured, said Brig. Mahmood Shah, chief of security in Pakistan's tribal areas.

It was not known when the tape was made, but the speaker appeared to be referring to the conflict in South Waziristan when he said, "I call on the Pakistani army: you, poor army, what a miserable state Musharraf has put you in... Musharraf ruins your natural fences — those tribes on the border — by engaging you in a fight with them. Then he removes your nuclear weapons."

"Will you stay silent until Pakistan is divided again?"

The speaker repeatedly named the Pashtun and Baluch border tribes and urged them to close ranks with the Taliban against the Pakistani army.

## Rally

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

year. One in seven women will be raped by her husband, one in six American women have been the victims of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetimes, and one in eight rape victims were male.

About half of the 50 people in attendance at the event were men.

Hall said she was excited to see such a good turnout.

"It's not what we expected. We wanted it to be a community event, and it is," Hall said. "It was awesome to have everyone come out. It was great."

Karrah Peña also was happy to go to the event. She said she was a sexual assault survivor and was glad to come out and support this group taking a stand against domestic violence.

"I feel proud to be able to come out here and have a chance to say 'No,'" the sophomore

education major from Lufkin said. "It's nice to know there are other people that are letting their voices be heard."

Peña said she was glad to have the university and the community come out to the event and were willing to talk about a situation she said is usually so taboo.

"A lot of people talk about alcohol abuse and drug abuse, and this is just as important," she said. "It's a very personal issue that's not been talked about as much as it should be."

Chuch Innocent also was there supporting the event.

"Sexual assault is not cool," the sophomore English major from Richardson said. "It's a problem around here, and it hits close to home. Several of my friends have been molested or assaulted and rather than react violently, I thought this was better."

At the rally, Cathy Ransom, a writer from Houston who also is a representative of Texas Association of Aggravated Assault told her story.

Seventeen years ago, she was

raped at a fraternity party after one of the "nice guys" drugged her drink and took her to the pool house.

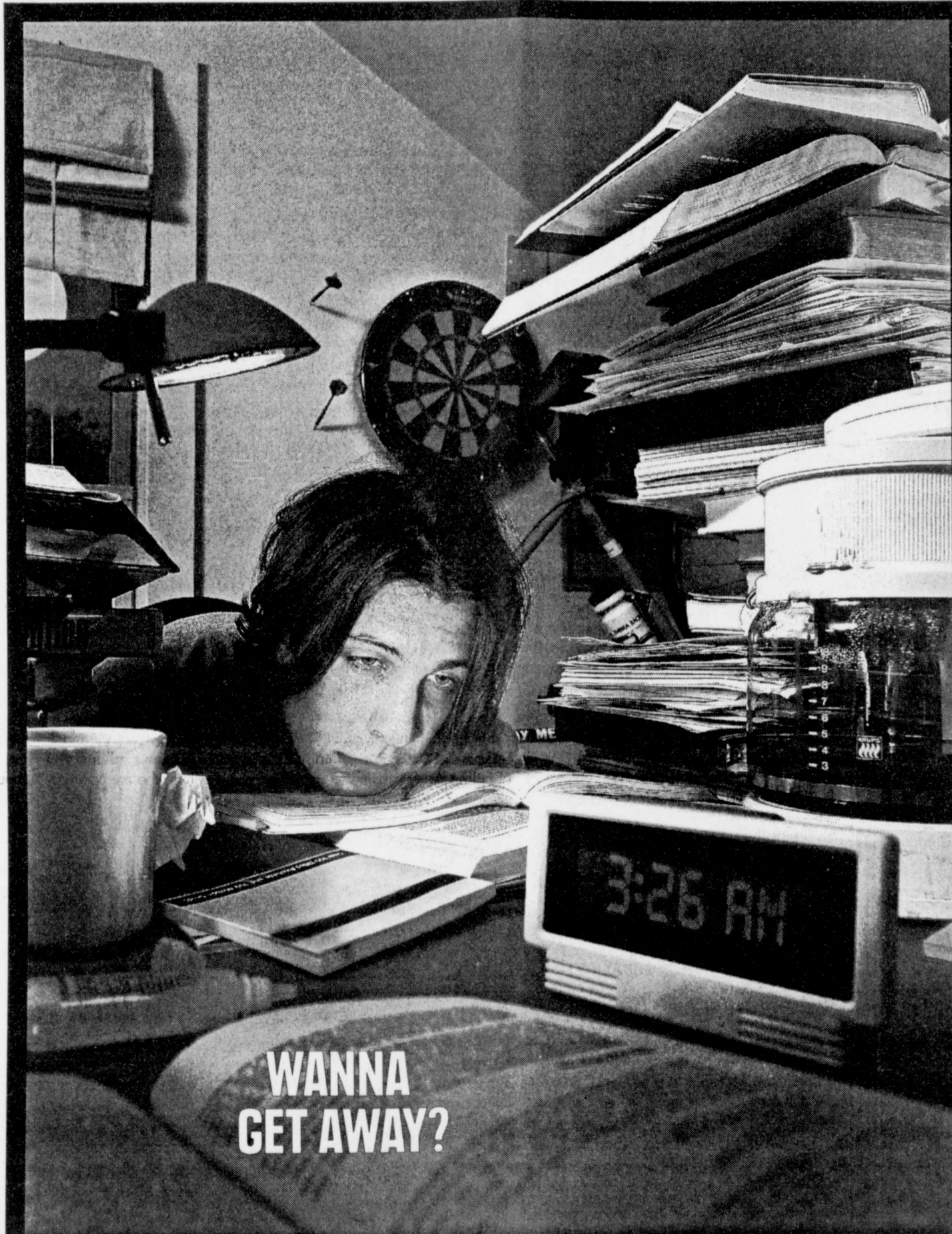
Then he brought back four of his friends.

She said it took her about six years of therapy to begin speaking about her experiences.

"Every step of this journey has been unbelievably difficult," she said. "I didn't have any other choice, and it was absolutely worth it."

She said she was excited to see the number of people turn out for Take Back the Night. She said she hopes everyone involved was educated and touched by the things said at the event.

"This isn't just a women's issue," Ransom said. "Each person will derive something different and everyone's experience is unique, and I hope each one will take something away. I've yet to go and speak somewhere and not lock eyes with someone and help them. There is one special person when I speak that I know I touch in a special way."



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## Just say no to the tanning booth trend

### Don't follow the crowd — Everybody isn't doing it

Once upon a time, fair beauties like myself could be proud of our Casper-esque skin. Long ago, our European counterparts powdered their face with white lead powder. Granted, that wasn't the healthiest thing to do, but clear pasty was the rage.

Things took a turn for the worse, though. Lazy days on the lawn with a parasol and kid gloves disappeared. However, people still held onto that fair-skinned dream. That is until Coco Chanel ruined it with her modern social phenomenon. In the 1920s she decreed tan the new black.

Coco, a fashion icon, was not to be taken lightly, and the fashion industry went from "pale is pretty" to "the tanner the better." The bar was set, and since then fashion savvy people have been laying outside with foil collars, baking in tanning beds and slathering on goop that makes you look more "orange zebra" and less tropical goddess.

I have nothing against playing outside and getting a nice natural tan — or sunburn in my case. I have nothing against those lucky people who are blessed with the ability to bronze beautiful and naturally. I have nothing against those that have the natural advantage of being dark skinned.

I do have quite an aversion for people that are willing to risk their health for their vanity. Why would anyone be willing to give themselves cancer? More importantly, why do people try so hard to be what they are obviously not?

UV rays cause skin cancer. That fact cannot be denied. Large concentrations of UV rays are apt to cause more cancer. Please note that tanning beds do have large concentrations of UV rays. Logically, tanning beds cause more cancer than your normal every-

**Sarah Looten**



day sun exposure.

A study published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute shows that fake 'n bakin' more than once a month can increase your risk of deadly skin cancer by 55 percent. The risk is even greater for those in their 20s. Their risk increases 150 percent as compared to 20-somethings who don't tan.

So why do people voluntarily risk their health for what society says is beautiful? I have no idea. That's why I asked the question. I can only speculate that they perhaps don't realize the risk associated with tanning beds.

But, I have a sad feeling many people do know the risk, but tan anyway. Perhaps they cave under the pressure to fit into what society tells them is "in" or "beautiful." Perhaps they look at their pale selves and think that whiteness is ugliness. Perhaps they do not realize that there are fair skinned role models out there. Perhaps they think that Nicole Kidman and Juliann Moore with their creamy white skin and freckles are just not pretty enough to imitate. Perhaps they walk around campus and see so many tans they can't help but join the club.

I understand tanning has some cosmetic benefits. I will be the first to admit a nice tan is quite slimming. It hides cellulite and evens out skin complexions. Sadly enough for us pale people, a nice tan does look attractive. If tanning made you grow a third arm and gain hundreds of pounds, it would be a lot easier to "just say no."

But there is always tan in a can. True, the results are sometimes disastrous, usually funny and possibly orange. It may take several tries with several brands, but you will eventually find that special skin color-changing lotion that is right for you. Tanning salons are now also offering airbrushed tans: They spray on glimmer and glow so you don't end up with orange palms.

And there is always that other alternative—the classic idea that "pale is pretty." I am here to reassure you. You do not have to tan just because all your friends are. You do not have to tan because all the models in all the magazines have deep and gorgeous tans. You can have fair, pale, pink, white or any other not-dark color of skin and be proud. You can accept your natural skin tone and be happy who you are even if you're pasty.

I won't smoke cancer sticks, and I won't fake 'n bake. You can have your beautiful bronze glow and your sun-kissed cheeks. My name is Sarah Looten and I am pale.

■ Looten is a senior sociology and political science major from Panhandle. E-mail her at sarah.n.looten@ttu.edu.

*I do have quite an aversion for people that are willing to risk their health for their vanity. Why would anyone be willing to give themselves cancer? More importantly, why do people try so hard to be what they are obviously*

*not?*

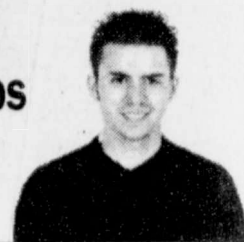
that other alternative—the classic idea that "pale is pretty." I am here to reassure you. You do not have to tan just because all your friends are. You do not have to tan because all the models in all the magazines have deep and gorgeous tans. You can have fair, pale, pink, white or any other not-dark color of skin and be proud. You can accept your natural skin tone and be happy who you are even if you're pasty.

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## Dude, where's my parking spot

**Seth Phillips**



*So, if you thought parking was bad now, just wait. It's going to get worse before it gets better.*

start of the upcoming fall semester.

If you have ever played the game "Musical Chairs," you can appreciate the parking situation facing commuter students every morning — too many cars chasing too few parking spaces.

As a result, Traffic and Parking must routinely oversell permits for the commuter lots. This system works, since, they assume, and rightly so, that college students don't go to class every day. (Who would have thought?) Thanks to our own laziness, we create a parking nightmare every semester in the first two weeks of school that eventually resolves itself after all the syllabi are out and student apathy sets in.

What we face in the fall semester, however, will truly be a nightmare. According to Buddy Knox, director of Traffic and Parking, with the upcoming construction on Indiana, Tech will face the loss of approximately 1,000 parking spaces in the commuter lot near the United Spirit Arena. A slightly larger lot currently under construction just west of University Medical Center will recoup this deficit.

The main problem is not this move. Though it will increase park-and-ride time for many students, these "satellite parking" permits will come at a much cheaper cost to encourage students to park in the new lot. The real issue is the concurrent loss of "free" parking in the median of Brownfield Highway and the Hastings parking lot. These areas will be under construction by the start of the fall semester, thus removing nearly 1,000 parking spots that will not be replaced. There simply isn't room.

So, if you thought parking was bad now, just wait. It's going to get worse before it gets better.

Surprisingly, as you will see, the intention of this column is not to bring charges against our Traffic and Parking personnel. I think they are doing what they can in a bad situation.

I do, however, agree with SGA Graduate Student Sen. John Hanson's resolution on creating adequate parking for each newly constructed building. It is to be proposed at the next Student Senate meeting and cites how the administration is not required by any internal procedures to provide appropriate parking facilities when budgeting for new building proposals.

Currently, if a parking lot is removed to make room for building construction, the university is responsible to replace those spots with another parking lot. However, if a new building is constructed that does not take away current parking space, no additional parking facilities are required, even though they would logically be necessary. It is incomprehensible to propose the construction of an Experimental Sciences building and a Carpenter Wells No. 2 and provide no plans for adequate parking facilities.

Additionally, this resolution calls for a representative of Traffic and Parking to be appointed to the Master Planning Committee for the university to ensure that qualified personnel adequately address parking issues.

Even though this legislation is important, and should be given its due review by the administration, it won't be able to have its full impact by the

There must be a fitting solution. The first would be for the administration to take to heart the spirit of Hanson's resolution and provide plans and funding for parking facilities with every construction endeavor that the university proposes. I would encourage Tech students to contact their senators through the SGA Web site at [www.sga.ttu.edu](http://www.sga.ttu.edu) and voice their support of this legislation. Parking should be in the budget, right up there with water and electric facilities, as an essential element of any building project. Parking doesn't come out of thin air; it has to be strategically planned from blueprint to painting stripes for individual parking spaces.

Secondly, to address the immediate and growing concern this issue elicits for many students, and as I face the pitfalls and perils of commuter parking myself next semester, I propose a partnership to get Tech through these construction years. All parties involved, from administration to SGA to Traffic and Parking should convene a roundtable meeting to look at the issue of contracting parking facilities from the businesses and churches surrounding Tech.

One issue that should be at the forefront of this meeting is to negotiate with the major churches on Broadway to lease from them, or to ask them to start parking programs, to address this immediate concern.

There are several major parking lots in this area that: No. 1 are generally unused from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday and No. 2 are perfectly situated for Park and Ride routing to the heart of Tech campus. A Citibus route could easily be established to go down Broadway to Avenue Q and loop around Memorial Circle.

Mainly, I believe communication is the main issue. We face a problem that does not seem like it is being given its due attention. Maybe a perfect solution exists in the minds of our administrators but no one has told the general population of Tech. Many students will face having their parking spot of the past few years taken away from them in the fall, and we need to start telling students the changes that will be made and where parking will be available. I mean, I want to know where I'm going to park, too.

Basically, the university should look at this issue as soon as possible. If they don't, do you think I could get a reserved spot in the R-7 lot next to the president or chancellor?

■ Phillips is a junior communications studies major from Tyler. E-mail him questions at [seth.i.phillips@ttu.edu](mailto:seth.i.phillips@ttu.edu).

## End the turf battle — Both liberals and conservatives full of contradiction, extremism

By Michael Rossi/Daily Targum

(U-WIRE) NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — President George W. Bush's "you're either with us, or against us" approach to combating global terrorism has apparently taken a firm root in American domestic politics. American voters are increasingly being forced to choose between two ever-growing camps seeking to be as ideologically different from the other as possible.

I'm not even speaking of Democrats and Republicans anymore. I'm speaking of the more activist camps of Liberals and Conservatives, two buzzwords evoking feelings of brotherly comradeship or raw vehemence — depending on which side you're on. Each side is vying for your vote and desperately, desperately wants to convince you they truly represent "mainstream" America. Each side becomes more and more adamant in their views. Then, they begin existing solely to discredit the other side and end up acting like idiots.

Liberals are pro-choice but against the death penalty. Conservatives are pro-life but for the death penalty. Liberals read Al Franken and watch Michael Moore movies to learn about "liars" and "imperialists." Conservatives read Ann Coulter and listen to Rush Limbaugh to learn

about "traitors" and "femi-Nazis." More generally, Conservatives control the radio waves while Liberals own the Internet. Liberals idolize Bill Clinton and demonize Ronald Reagan. Conservatives venerate Reagan and tried to impeach Clinton. Conservatives want a missile shield in Washington, D.C. Liberals sent "human shields" to Baghdad. Conservatives will say the war in Iraq was justified because we removed a modern-day Adolf Hitler and brought freedom and justice to an entire nation. Liberals say this alienated us from nearly all of Western civilization. Liberals will say Bush acted "unilaterally." Conservatives say Bush acted without the French.

Liberals will vote for a "veteran" in 2004 but supported a "draft-dodger" in 1992 and 1996. Conservatives want to halt the rise in fundamentalism around the world but support prayer in American schools. Liberals want to kill Big Tobacco but legalize marijuana. Conservatives say "Buy American!" but send jobs over-

seas. Both sides agree the media is too biased, but while Liberals point the finger at Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Bill O'Reilly and pretty much all of Fox News, Conservatives blame Oprah Winfrey, Dan Rather, Diane Sawyer and all of CNN.

Amid all of this, the remaining members of the free-thinking American community are apparently taking refuge in their partisan-free fallout shelters and sitting dumbfounded at just how black and white the socio-political spectrum has gotten over the last 10 years.

The sad news is it's not going to get better anytime soon. This presidential election is shaping up to be nasty, brutish and long, as the quest to "save America" is pursued by both sides with blind adrenaline. Be prepared to be bombarded with television ads and radio broadcasts extolling the virtues or the crimes of the Bush administration and whether the Democrats will take back America or hijack it.

This attempt to polarize the American voting

public should serve as a wake-up call to the silent majority of centrists and moderates out there who simply want to keep our country safe from terrorists, have affordable health care, have a decent-paying job that's not in danger of being moved to Asia or Mexico and not be taxed into poverty because the government can't handle its money. These should be the focal points — not simply byproducts next to wedge-issues such as gay marriages, Iraq or what the presidential candidates did 30 years ago.

To the Conservatives: We don't need a constitutional amendment prohibiting an apparent civil liberty. Jack marrying Jim is not going to affect my love life. To the Liberals: The war in Iraq is over. Weapons of mass destruction or not, the Iraqi people are better off without Saddam's reign of terror. Get over it. And to both sides: I could care less what they will do in the present and where they hope to lead this country for the next 30 years. If this is an election seeking to "take back America," I, as a centrist, seek to take back America from the activists, pundits, extremists and spin-doctors who have turned intelligent political debate into immature turf-battles and one-sided sound bytes that are repeated ad nauseum.

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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 600 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

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# Finding hope amid the darkness

## Conquering an eating disorder and the underlying problems



ANDREW WEATHERL/Photo Illustration

TECH'S CENTER FOR the Study of Addiction and countless other institutions offer help for people suffering with addictions or eating disorders.

By Beth Aaron/  
The University Daily

(Editor's note: the names of the individuals recovered from eating disorders have been changed.)

Instances of eating disorders in America are rising, and it is impossible to develop a vaccination to prevent them.

Ann Thompson, a nutritional consultant, said eating disorders are not diseases that people can talk themselves out of, or into.

"No one ever starts an eating disorder saying, 'OK, today I'm going to have an eating disorder,'" she said.

Anyone suffering from an eating disorder must seek help to begin recovery; no one can fight them alone.

Thompson said counselors work with patients to combat feelings of worthlessness and to correct distorted thoughts.

"You try to stop the destructive behavior and replace it with one that will be positive so that they can see themselves," she said. "The whole team works on improving self-esteem."

Friends and family also play a vi-

tal role in recovery, Thompson said. Marilyn Massey-Stokes, Texas Tech associate professor of health, exercise and sport sciences, said people should be cautious when confronting a loved one they suspect has an eating disorder.

"The worst thing you could say is, 'would you just eat?'" she said.

According to the National Eating Disorders Web site, anyone wanting to help someone with anorexia or bulimia nervosa or compulsive eating should learn as much as possible about eating disorders and honestly speak about the issue with the specific individual, as well as other important people in the specific individual's life.

The Web site also recommends people wishing to aid friends or family dealing with an eating disorder compliment the person's personality and accomplishments.

Thompson said people with eating disorders are blind to what they have to offer in life. She said they are often organized, diligent and controlled.

"The ones that struggle with eating disorders are normally extremely intelligent, extremely motivated and very high achievers, and they just

can't see all the good that they have," she said.

There is an anonymous recovery support group on Tech's campus open to anyone who needs help staying on a healthy track, Thompson said.

Meetings are held Monday and Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Serenity Center.

For more information about the group, contact the Center for the Study of Addiction at (806) 742-2891.

Kitty Harris is the director of the Center for the Study of Addiction. She said eating disorders run a close second to drug and alcohol addiction, but treatment options are becoming more available.

"Our eating disorder meetings on campus have tripled in the last year," she said. "People are getting more of what they need; meetings are becoming more available."

Thompson said there are quite a few psychologists, psychiatrists and medical doctors working in Lubbock who specialize in eating disorders.

"We've had a lot of people come to Tech for this treatment program," she said. "There is help."

Student Health Services at Thompson Hall also provides help with eating disorders. Thompson said some physicians working for Student Health Services start patients on the proper medication and offer counseling.

The Counseling Center on campus and the psychiatric department at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center also work with people suffering from eating disorders.

With so many efforts to combat eating disorders and the known result of what impact eating disorders have on peoples' lives, it is hard to believe there are efforts made in the opposite direction.

Massey-Stokes said harmful Web sites promoting anorexia and bulimia as a way of life rather than a crippling disorder are frustrating.

"It's very frightening," she said. "It's unfortunate because you're going to have girls in a highly vulner-

able state."

Because there is no Internet regulation, such Web sites are able to give skewed impressions of eating disorders, Massey-Stokes said.

Sue, a junior human development and family studies major, has been in recovery from bulimia for three years. She said she used to visit similar sites.

"When I was really into my disease I used to visit those a lot," she said. "I look back on it now, and it amazes me."

Sue said she saw the sites as an unhealthy means of rationalizing her disorder.

Tina, a junior English major from Clyde, is a recovered anorexic. She said anyone desiring to get help for their addiction should do so as soon as they are ready.

"I kind of realized one day I could do this for the rest of my life," she said, "or I could just stop."

However, Tina said anyone with an eating disorder should not expect recovery to be perfect.

"My recovery wasn't the most graceful one," she said. "It's stabled off for me since then."

### EATING DISORDERS

This is the last of a five-part series on eating disorders.



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Tina said though they are somewhat corny, affirmations really helped her through tough days.

She also worked through her disorder by focusing on her hobbies, especially her artistic tendencies.

"Express yourself more, and don't

feel bad about it," she said. "If you can be happy and proud of who you are, then it can't be a bad thing."

For more information about eating disorders and how to deal with them and other addictions, visit [www.nationaleatingdisorders.org](http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org).

### THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**ACROSS**  
1 Jug handles  
5 Jazz sessions  
9 Bitter  
14 Cut short  
15 Go kerplunk  
16 Pesto or marinara  
17 Energize  
20 Post-workout woes  
21 Grant's foe  
22 Swiss capital  
23 Foursomes  
26 Otherwise  
28 Novelist Jong  
30 Swaggers  
34 Put into service  
37 Steals  
39 Bert's Muppet pal  
40 Land in trouble  
44 Barber's partner in cartoons  
45 Sport of princes  
46 Poetic peeper  
47 Motionless  
49 Blusher  
52 Building additions  
54 Bin's purpose  
58 Way off  
61 Chowd down  
63 Tree trunks  
64 Block any retreat  
68 Produce offspring  
69 Fencing item  
70 Creature comforts  
71 Exhilarate  
72 Short-tailed wildcat  
73 Dates

**DOWN**  
1 Brilliant success  
2 Lewis Carroll heroine  
3 Correct  
4 Domain  
5 Vichy or Ems  
6 North Pole denizen  
7 Hard work  
8 Fling  
9 Tempe sch.

10 Australian capital  
11 Ill-mannered  
12 Cake finisher  
13 Laura of "Jurassic Park"  
18 Old Russian VIP  
19 Slippery critters  
24 Malicious gossip  
25 Reporter's exclusive  
27 Fret and fuss  
29 Find repugnant  
31 "Do \_\_\_" others  
32 Cake layer  
33 Belgrade inhabitant  
34 Exclamations of disgust  
35 Paris part  
36 Sicilian spouter  
38 Goes it alone  
41 Cyberspace  
42 Hammer's target  
43 Racetrack figure

48 Kin group  
50 Mongolian desert  
51 Wears away  
53 Iron alloy  
55 Pond scum  
56 Gaggles members  
57 Snaking curves  
58 French cleric  
59 Roll up  
60 Surface measure  
62 Catch sight of  
65 Pindar piece  
66 Post-Jonson members  
67 Movie critic  
Reed

By Diane C. Baldwin  
Columbia, MD  
3/26/04

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SAHARA MUSIS REB  
ACUMEN ANTI TILL  
LEGALTENDER SLO  
H A L O G E N A K I N  
A B S T E N O R A R C E D  
M E M B E R S S A L S A  
P L A I D W I D E P A T  
L I L T G E O D E S I N E  
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O S H E A C A R P E L E S  
C H A R R A T T A N S  
T I N R U B B E R C H E C K  
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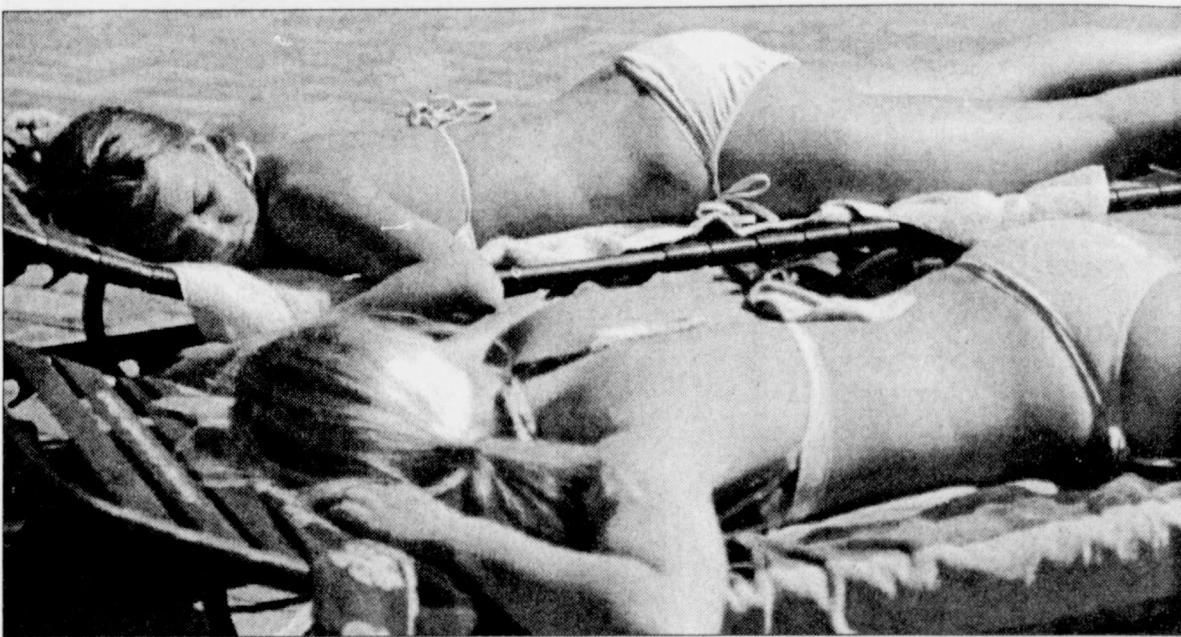
**11:00 a.m. to Noon**  
Sunday Service:  
Lay-led or Guest Speakers  
Children's and teen's Religious Education:  
11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Judaism & Christianity,  
World Religions,  
Science & Reason,  
Peace & Social Justice  
Nursery available 9:45-12:15

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## the DARK SIDE of tanning

Majority of skin damage done during childhood;  
80 percent of skin damage done before age 18



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

SARA PABEN (FRONT), a sophomore early childhood major from El Paso, and Julie Schandua, a sophomore physical therapy major from Fredericksburg, soak up some sun as they tan by the pool at Sterling University apartments Wednesday afternoon.

By Megan LaVoie/The University Daily

The deep bronze hue some students are sporting from their spring break of basking in the sun carries a deeper meaning than just a brown color. Most students know repeated exposure to sunlight can have serious consequences, but what students may not know is those consequences may be darker than previously thought.

Dr. Tommie Farrell, an assistant professor of the Texas Tech medical school and the clerkship director for the family practice department at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, said the majority of skin damage is done when one is a child.

"Studies have shown that if an individual had two bad sunburns when they were young, they have a much higher chance of developing skin cancer as an adult," he said.

According to the American Academy of Dermatology, 80 percent of individuals' skin damage is done before the age of 18.

Farrell said most people do not know they have skin damage until they are middle-aged.

"When you're young you are able to hide skin damage," he said. "It is like cigarette smoking; when you're young the damage doesn't show up, but when you hit 40 you have to start dealing with the different cancers and the effect that years of smoking had on you — skin damage has the same effect."

Juli Benson, health educator with Student Health Services, said it does not take a sunburn to get skin damage.

"Any time the color of your skin changes that is skin damage," she said.

While frequent exposure to sunlight is harmful, some exposure can be good.

"We need the sun for our skin," Farrell said. "Sunlight is used to metabolize the vitamins in our body, especially vitamin D."

According to the AAD, little amounts of sun are required to get the recommended dose of vitamin D.

The common belief is tanning indoors via a sun lamp is safer than tanning outdoors, but Erin Snodgrass, a tanning consultant with Body Bronze tanning salon said that belief is a myth.

"There are certain rays that a tanning bed blocks out, but tanning indoors is not better for you," she said.

According to the Web site cancer.org, the only benefit of tanning indoors is sunlamps do not leave tan lines.

Tanning indoors is similar to tanning outdoors because one's skin is still susceptible to the molecular changes that lead to skin cancer, according to the Web site.

According to the American Cancer Society, Melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer was diagnosed to more than 51,000 Americans in 2001.

Farrell said students can catch signs of skin cancer in its early stages by examining their skin using a method called the ABC's.

Each letter stands for something one should look for when examining skin abnormalities, he said.

"A stands for Asymmetry, B for border, C for color and D for diameter — if they notice any discrepancies, they should visit their doctor," Farrell said.

Wary of increased chances of skin cancer and premature aging some students are turning to the new trend of a spray-on tan.

Snodgrass said some people like mystic tans and self-tanners, but most people are apprehensive because of the orange hue many self-tanners leave you.

"I have done mystic tan and it left me orange," she said. "It wasn't natural looking, and it only lasted for five days."

Farrell said while spray-on tans are a good alternative to tanning in the sun, some people are fooled by the imitation tan.

"People need to remember that sunless tanners do not protect you from the sun," he said. "They are fooled that they are really tan and don't need as much protection from the sun — which is not the case."

If someone has to be in the sun, they should wear a sunscreen, Benson said.

"A little SPF goes a long way," Farrell said. "If someone wears sunscreen every day, their risk of catching skin cancer drops 80 percent."

### WARNING SIGNS

What to look for in skin abnormalities

**A — Asymmetry**  
if it is odd shaped

**B — Border**  
jagged or edgy

**C — Color**  
change in color or multi-colored

**D — Diameter**  
change in size

source: Dr. Tommie Farrell

FRIDAY MARCH 26						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Body Elec. Callou	Today Show	Early Show	K. Copeland Paid Program	Good Morning America	Paid Program Spin City
8:00	Berenstein Barney		Early Show	J. Robison Paid Program	America	Grace/Fire Roseanne
9:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Paid Program	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	Family Feud Family Feud
10:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	Hatchett Hatchett	View	Dharma/Greg Dharma/Greg
11:00	Mister Teletubbies	Hywud Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program	Home Impr. Paid Program	Access Extra
12:00	Workshop Quilt Day	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live
1:00	Sew/Nancy Dragon Tales	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Paid Program	One Life to Live	People's Court
2:00	Zoom Beh/Lions	In/Edition	Guiding Light	Street Smart	General Hospital	Divorce Court
3:00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Winfrey	Mauzy Povich	Ryan Seacrest	Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown
4:00	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	Sabrina That 70's	Montel Williams	News & More
5:00	Liberty Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Pyramid	News ABC News	That 70's Simpsons
6:00	NewsHour	News W/Fortune	NCAA BKB Champ'ship	Access Extra	News E.T.	Friends Raymond
7:00	Wash. Week Wall St. Wk.	Dateline	Game Over	G. Lopez 'PG Mary/Kelly	Playing It Straight	Raymond
8:00	Now w/Bill Moyers		America's Next Top Model	Hope/Faith Life/Bonnie	Wonderfalls	Wonderfalls
9:00	Great Campaign	Crossing Jordan		King/Hill King/Hill	D.A. 'PG	News
10:00	Nightly Bus. Destinos	News Tonight Show		Friends Magnum P.I.	News Nightline	Seinfeld Frasier
11:00	Destinos	Conan	News David	Blind Date	MASH E.T.	Raymond Shoot Me
12:00		O'Brien Last Call	Letterman Craig	Ext. Dating	Jimmy Kimmel	HS Extra Paid Program

SATURDAY MARCH 27						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00	Sagwa	Saturday Today	CBS Sunday Morning	Bob Villa Old House	Lisa/Stitch Fillmore	Cubix Sonic X
8:00	Zoboomatoo Jokers		Dora Blue's Clues	Wild Animals Anim. Rescue	Proud Family	Kirby TMT
9:00	Jay Jay G. Shrieks	M. Stewart Kenny Shark	Chalkzone Little Bill	Wild Moments Jack Hanna	L. McGuire Raven	Sonic X Shaman King
10:00	Dragonfly TV Find	Tutenstein Trade	Praise Today Home Show	Poland Saturn Show	Kim Possible Dino/Thunder	Ult. Muscle Kirby
11:00	Rick Sleaves V. Garden	Endurance Strange Days	Paid Program	WWE Alterburn	Dino/Thunder Inside Stuff	Satum Paid Program
12:00	P. Allen Old House	Scout Paid Program	NCAA Basketball	Movie: 'Theima	Paid Program	Busch 250
1:00	NY Workshop	Golf: Players	Division II	And Louise' Detroit	Colorado @ Detroit	
2:00	Woodwright Antiques	Champ'ship		Pyramid		
3:00	Roadshow Motorweek		Final 4 NCAA	Pyrim' Large		She Spies
4:00	Fine Art Mexico		NCAA Basketball Champ'ship	Hot Ticket Ebert/Roeper	Nabisco Champ'ship	Paid Program Paid Program
5:00	Cooking @ Handym'am	Hywud NBC News		Access Hollywood	ABC News	Becker Shoot Me
6:00	Destinos	News W/Fortune		Extra	News MASH	Friends Raymond
7:00	Lawrence Week	NBC Movie: 'A		Movie: 'Fisher	World Figure	Cops 'PG
8:00	Hot Dog Program	Knights' Tale	Price is Right	King'	Staf'g Champ'ship	AMW 'PG
9:00	Austin City Limits		Century City	X-Files		News Sports OT
10:00	Welcome to the Club	News Saturday	News I Love Lucy	Mutant X	News	Seinfeld MAD TV
11:00	Independent Lens	Night Live 'TV14	I Love Lucy Paid Program	Unexplained Mysteries	E.T. Weekend	Access
12:00		Practice	3rd Rock Paid Program	Outer Limits	Movie: 'Sounder'	Hollywood She Spies

SUNDAY MARCH 28						
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT 5 PBS Lubbock	KCBD 11 NBC Lubbock	KLBK 13 CBS Lubbock	KUPT 22 UPN Lubbock	KAMC 28 ABC Lubbock	KJTV 34 FOX Lubbock
7:00		Sunday Today	Thorberns Hey Arnold	Paid Program Awaken'g	Paid Program In Search	Kids News HS Xtra
8:00	Kids Bookworm	TX Reporter 1st	CBS Sunday Morning	Pet Keeping Paid Program	Feed/Child Prophecy	K. Copeland Eddie Trice
9:00		Methodist Meet the	News Face/Nation	HS Extra Buck McNeely	in Touch	FOX News Sunday
10:00	Destinos	Press Going On	Hour of Power	Beastmaster	Si Se Puede! P. Ford	South Crest Baptist
11:00	Windmill Small Bus.	Que Pasa Public	Glory in Black &	Extra	This Week	Paid Program Paid Program
12:00	Viewpoint Wall Street	Paid Program	White Road to	Movie: 'Cobolanco	Basketball: Dallas @	Nextel Cup: Racing 300
1:00	Rel/Ethics McLoughlin	Players Champ'ship	Final 4 NCAA	Movie: 'Kissing	Orlando	
2:00	Horrto's Drive		Basketball Champ'ship			
3:00	America's First Road			'Place'	Kraft Nabisco	
4:00	Globe Trekker			Stargate	Champ'ship	Movie: 'Contagious
5:00	Texas Talks TX Wildlife	NBC News		Mutant X	ABC News Bob Knight	
6:00	Lawrence Week	Dateline	90 Minutes Exposure	Maximum Exposure	Home Videos 'PG	King/Hill King/Hill
7:00	American Family	American Dreams 'PG	Cold Case 'PG	Movie: 'Dirty	Extreme Makeover: Simpson's 'PG	Simpson's 'PG
8:00	Nature	Law & Order: CI	CBS Movie: 'Jesus'	Rotten Scoundrels	Alias	Malcolm 'PG Arrested
9:00	Masterpiece Theatre	Crossing Jordan		Enterprise	Practice 'PG	News Marsha Sharp
10:00		ews in/Edition	News	Blind Date Marsha Sharp	ABC News Bob Knight	Seinfeld Shoot Me
11:00		Providence	I Love Lucy I Love Lucy	Eye for Eye Paid Program	E.T. Weekend	That 70's Paid Program
12:00		Practice	Paid Program	Andromeda	Paid Program	G. Michaels Paid Program

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EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND 6:30PM  
**FOX 34**  
9pm FOX34 NEWS @ NINE

LADY RAIDER SPORTS  
9:30PM SUNDAY  
**FOX 34**  
9pm FOX34 NEWS @ NINE

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## Raiders open conference play at A&M

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily

Junior Josh Brady hasn't had the opportunity to play in College Station, but he has had the chance.

"I heard it gets pretty crazy down there," the first baseman said.

The Texas Tech baseball team opens Big 12 Conference play at Olsen Field against Texas A&M this weekend. Knowing the tradition and loyalty of Aggie fans, Brady said A&M will have the home field advantage, but the Red Raiders can overcome the heckles of the fans.

"Everybody does (chants) to an extent, I believe," he said. "You just have to block it out and play the game like it needs to be played."

Although A&M is ranked No. 12 in the nation, head coach Larry Hays said Tech will not let that get ahead of it.

"We're not worried. We'll play the game like it's the first weekend of the season," he said. "It's a level of competition we have prepared for."

With the majority of the Raiders

in their first year at Tech, Hays said the crowd may face them, but they have to overcome that aspect.

"Most of our guys are new, and it's their first time to visit A&M," he said. "They have to handle the crowd and deal with the game, just like every other game."

The Aggies (21-5, 1-2 Big 12) are coming into the three-game series after losing to No. 4 Rice, 15-10, Tuesday. Tech is going to College Station with a 16-7 record, before playing any Big 12 games. In this conference, Hays said there is a lot of rivalry, especially between Tech and A&M. It is a matter of deciding what is more important.

"I hope there's the rivalry between these two teams," he said. "I know players do this, but I hope they don't just play harder to beat them because of that. That is very high school-ish."

Senior pitcher Steve Gooch said the rivalry factor extends throughout all sports, but the Raiders have other things on their minds.

"Even from football, basketball to

baseball, school and school fight to win a certain game," he said. "We're not gonna get wrapped up in that. The results mean a whole lot more."

One hindrance Gooch said might get in the way is the fans, which will effect the entire Tech baseball team.

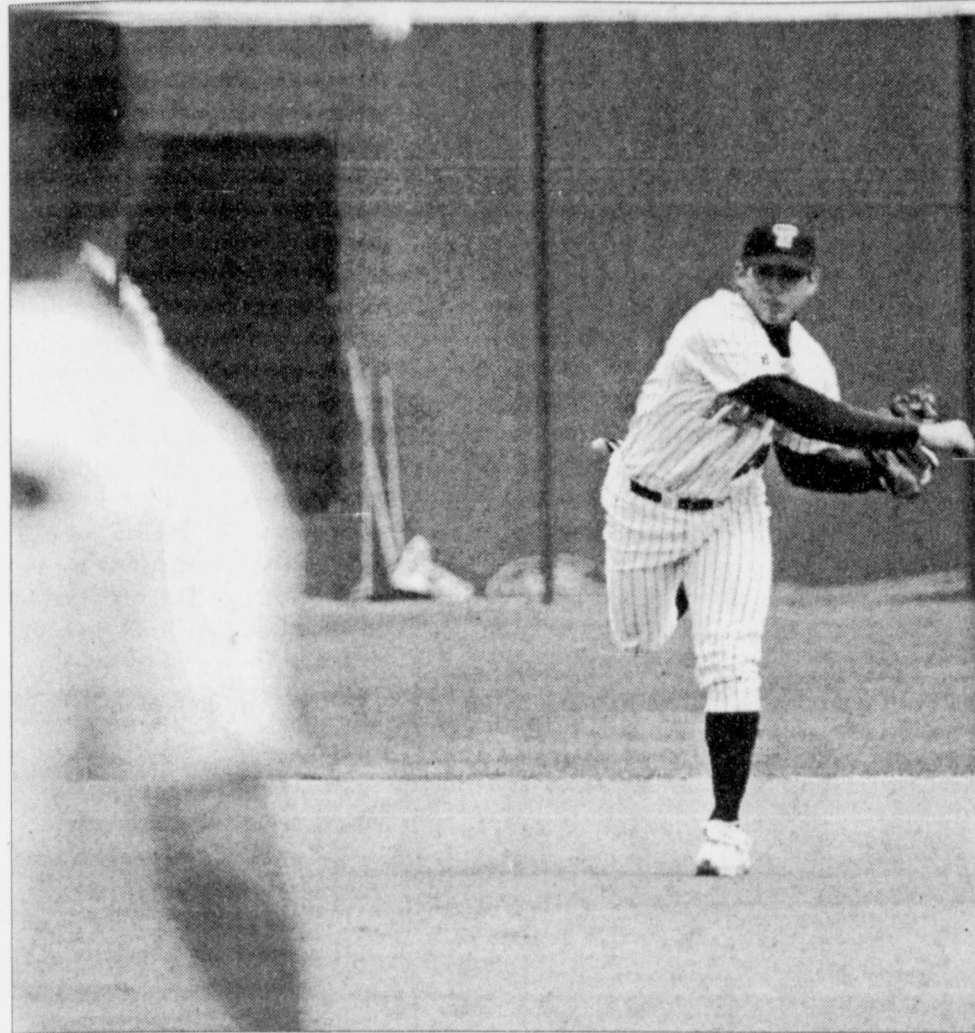
"A lot of guys hadn't experienced Big 12 play and the fans," he said. "I'm waiting to see how they react to the fans, and we have to feed off the intensity they give. It's gonna be interesting."

As of now, Tech is one homerun behind reaching last season's total of 38. An added advantage for the Raiders is behind the swing of junior Madison Edwards, leading the team with a .409 batting average, five homeruns and 24 RBIs.

Gooch said as well as the offense being solid and steady, the pitching has to be as good as it was this past weekend against Clemson.

"We got guys that can hit. We have guys that can pitch," he said. "It's a whole different level now, and we have to keep it going."

The Raiders will begin at 7 p.m. Friday against the Aggies for game one of the series. Game two starts at 1 p.m. Saturday, and the final matchup is at 1 p.m. Sunday in College Station.



SHORTSTOP JOSE DELGADO throws out a runner at first base during Tech's home series against Clemson last weekend. The Red Raiders travel to No. 12 Texas A&M to open Big 12 Conference play for the season. They will return home next weekend to face No. 1 Texas.

JAIME TOMÁS AGUILAR/The University Daily

## Softball's hot bats anxiously await start of conference play



LINC ARMES/The University Daily

SHORTSTOP HEATHER PARKER attempts to tag out a baserunner during the Raiders' home series against Texas State. Tech lost both games of the series. The Raiders begin Big 12 Conference play this weekend by hosting Iowa State. Game one will be a 2 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday at Rocky Johnson Field.

By Joey Kirk/The University Daily

Senior Elyssa Sigala has had things going her way as of late. She said she hopes it stays that way.

After setting the school record for consecutive games with a hit against New Mexico March 19, Sigala was able to shatter it with two extra games, bringing the new record to 19.

"We'll see what happens. I just have to be at the bat on time to be successful," she said. "I trust in my abilities."

Head coach Bobby Reeves believes in the hitter's abilities as well. He said Sigala's senior year is becoming one to remember.

"Last year, she batted about a .240," he said. "It's unbelievable to break that record, especially in a game where it is mostly pitcher dominated."

Sigala is not the only Red Raider making a mark in the 2004 campaign. Junior outfielder Kelly Rhyme is on track to join her teammate, with a current 10 game-hitting streak. Reeves said in college softball, both of these batters are doing things most players do not get to experience.

"In this sport, you get more failure than success," he said. "It shows what kind of team we are, and we play to win."

Tech (16-19) now faces its next challenge

— the Big 12 Conference. The Raiders begin their conference play against Iowa State this weekend at Rocky Johnson Field. Reeves says Tech has a chance to renew its winning ways and start a new season.

"We can turn it around in this second season," he said. "Anything can happen."

When you look on paper, Reeves said, Tech probably wouldn't fare well in half the games left in the season.

"(The other teams in the Big 12) are considered the most athletic teams over us, but that's why you play the game," he said. "Anything can occur when you're trying to hit a round object going 65 miles per hour with another round object. It makes a difference."

One of Tech's pitchers that will throw that ball at the Cyclones is sophomore Erin Crawford. She said she agreed with Reeves that the Raiders still have a chance no matter how down they are in the schedule.

"We're just getting started. I think we're gonna give people a good run," she said. "We'll definitely threaten a lot of people on the field, and we'll

surprise them."

Tech has done that in the past 14 games, earning 11 victories. Earlier in the season, Crawford said it was like a roller coaster, but now it has leveled off, and the only way to go is up.

"Big 12 play is gonna be new to so many people," she said. "It's gonna be good experience for them, but it's not gonna be a roller coaster ride."

Sigala said the uphill battle begins against Iowa State, looking to move up in the rankings as well as in motivation.

"On any given day, a team can beat anybody else. If we play to our ability, we could be No. 3 or even up to No. 1 in the conference. That's exactly how it goes."

With a 7-16 record, Reeves said the Cyclones are the same as any team.

"They can be underestimated," he said. "We don't look to the records in the Big 12. They've struggled, just like us, but that don't mean they won't play."

Tech will host Iowa State in two games. The first will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday and the second is set for 11 a.m. Sunday.

*We're just getting started. I think we're gonna give people a good run.*

— BOBBY REEVES  
Texas Tech Softball Coach

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