

Partly cloudy
58° / 36°

Happy b-day

Metalsmithing program celebrates 30th year. Arts page 2

A TASTE OF THE WORLD

World Echoes hosts Cooking and Tasting Around the World. Life page 4



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NT hosts Sun Belt Conference volleyball tournament

By Shawn Edwards
Intern

The 2007 Sun Belt Conference volleyball tournament is set to begin Thursday in Denton at the Mean Green Volleyball Center.

NT finished off its regular season with three straight wins over conference foes Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana-Monroe and Denver. With a 13-5 record in conference play and a 22-12 overall record, the Mean Green took first place in the Sun Belt Conference Western Division. NT will enter the tournament

as the fourth seed facing fifth seed New Orleans in the first game of the tournament at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

UNO, who missed sharing first place with NT because of a 0-3 loss to Arkansas State Sunday, split with the Mean Green during the regular season. The Privateers knocked NT out in the first round of the conference tournament in 2004.

"As long as we can come together and play as a team we can win," said sophomore middle blocker Catherine Coffey. "We just have to come

ready to play."

The favorite going into the tournament will be No. 1 seed Middle Tennessee (14-3) (23-7). The Blue Raiders share the Sun Belt Eastern Division title with both Western Kentucky and Florida International who all finished 14-3 in conference play.

Western Kentucky holds the second seed lead by sophomore Megan Argabright and holds a share of their seventh consecutive Sun Belt Eastern Division Championship. The Lady Toppers will face off against the Denver Pioneers

who defeated WKU 3-1 in the last match up between the two teams.

The Golden Panthers of Florida International come in as the No. 3 seed. After a poor season last year, FIU turned things around with the help of freshmen Yarimar Rosa and Keila Oliveira. The Golden Panthers will face the sixth seed Arkansas State Lady Indians who are coming off a 3-0 win against UNO.

Another team that has made their way out of the Eastern Division is Florida Atlantic. This will be its first appearance in the tournament after joining the league just this year.

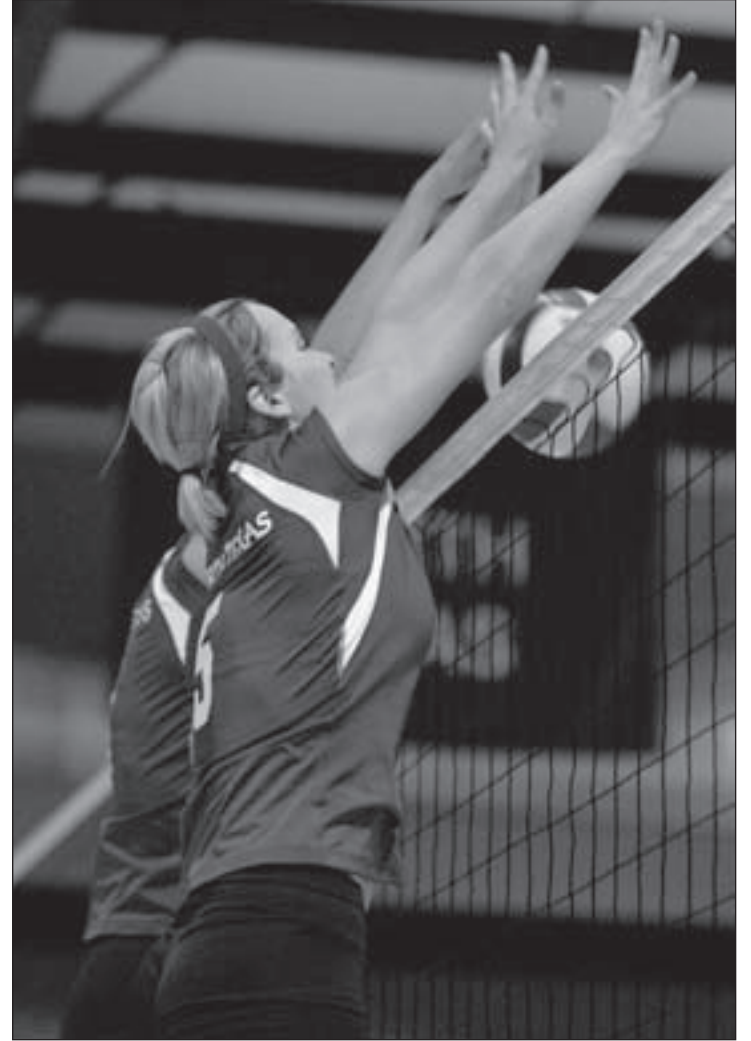
Seventh year head coach Cassie Headrick recently became the first NT coach to win 100 matches and is set on a Mean Green championship this weekend.

"We are gonna come out and play," Headrick said. "I think the sky is the limit. It is just a matter of us playing our hardest every game."

Senior outside hitter Tara Hooser said having the tournament held here at NT is a huge advantage for the Mean Green.

"We are playing so well in here, so that helps us out a lot," Hooser said. "The record we have at home is really good and I think a lot of teams are struggling in here, so I think

See *Team* on page 8



Michael Clements / NT Daily

Jessica Hulsebosch, Spring junior, looks on as Katie Ruiz, Plano sophomore, begins a play during the Mean Green's 3-1 victory against conference rival Denver on Saturday at the Mean Green Volleyball Center.

Making amends



Mackenzie Rollins / NT Daily

A sign saying "Come tell Christians why they should go to hell" was held by Andy White and other members of the Village Church Tuesday on the NT campus. Their purpose was not to judge or preach at students passing by, but rather to apologize for the way Christians often misrepresent Christ and the Gospel message. White stood with the sign as a way for students to come forward and talk of their hurts and troubles by Christians. More members of the Village Church will be at NT from 1 to 5 p.m. today at the University Union to repeat this opportunity.

Clark Hall to undergo changes

Renovations to begin in summer 2007

By Hailey Persinger
Intern

Clark Hall has been budgeted to continue renovations that began earlier this year in an effort to bring the building up-to-date, according to the university's 2007 budget.

Last summer's renovations to the west wing brought new showers, room flooring, lighting and hallway carpets. The plan for next summer is to complete the rest of the building in the same ways.

Elisabeth Warren, director of housing, said though the changes will not be drastic, they will cost a good amount of money.

"The students don't generally notice when something changes, but a lot of money will be spent on updating things," Warren said.

The renovations will cost

about \$400,000, and funding will come from student room revenues, said Duane Roberts, associate director of housing.

Roberts said when a student pays for room and board, part of the money is put into a reserve. From that account comes the funding for any necessary renovations within the dorms and around the campus.

"I know [the changes] will be noticeable in my room," said Bethany Harding, junior and peer adviser at Clark Hall. "It's not that [the current rooms] are that bad, but I've seen the rooms that have been renovated and they're really nice."

The changes to the building will not inconvenience students since they are set to begin around May 15, just after students leave and the dorm closes, Roberts said. Summer session housing will not be affected by the changes since other dorms will be open, and the 2007 fall semester will run

normally.

Clark Hall should be ready to welcome back students around Aug. 10, Roberts said.

"Not completing the project is not an option," Roberts said. "We will have 400 students living here, and we don't want to lose them."

Roberts also said the renovations will be completed as early in the summer as possible, and if there is more time, there are plans for the exterior of the building.

"If we can, we'll try to clean the whole exterior and add a new seal for the mortar just to clean it up a little," Roberts said.

Clark Hall isn't the only dorm to be budgeted for renovations, however.

"Bruce Hall and Kerr Hall will be undergoing more exterior changes, and the energy management of the entire campus is another issue that has been addressed in the budget and will be approached next summer," Roberts said.

Program explores pros, cons of interracial relationships

By Stanley Tollett
Contributing Writer

Arlene Rivero, Kaufman graduate student, said she knows how difficult interracial relationships can be.

During a previous relationship, she said she found herself becoming increasingly annoyed at her then boyfriend's comments about other races. Even though they weren't about her race, the comments still disturbed her.

One day, in an attempt to demonstrate just how the comments made her feel, Rivero said she began tapping with her finger on her boyfriend's computer screen, a tremendous slight among computer lovers. Upon seeing his reaction, she said that is how she felt every time he made an insensitive comment. The comments stopped.

Some more serious problems associated with interracial dating are not so easily solved. It was with these in mind that Rivero chose to hold a program to help others that may be experiencing similar issues.

"Consider This ... Interracial Relationships" was held Tuesday in University Union 409 as part of the Center for Counseling and Testing Services' monthly outreach programs for students.

The center intended the program to inform students about

some of the history behind the controversy surrounding interracial relationships as well as to provide a forum for discussion about students' own concerns.

"The purpose of the program is to help people who are in interracial relationships understand the uniqueness of their situation, and so that they don't feel like they are the only ones that have to experience those unique situations," Rivero said. "Also, to facilitate discussions and increase awareness."

About 23 students and faculty members of various racial backgrounds took part in the program, which had the largest attendance of any of the center's monthly outreach programs.

Rivero said she decided to cover this particular topic while researching ways to help minority students with problems they may encounter.

"Younger generations are growing up in different times, becoming more open-minded," said Ryan Voth, Rhome senior. "They [interracial couples] are getting more exposure in the media."

Voth said she believes that by only dating among one's own race, people may be preventing themselves from experiencing someone great just because they are of a different race.

"They are just limiting their options for happiness," Voth

said.

At the program, Rivero described the historical causes for interracial prejudices. Rivero said the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1967 that laws against miscegenation, which refers to mixing races, were unconstitutional.

Rivero said there are conflicts unique to people that are involved in interracial relationships, such as family disapproval, incongruence with societal values and the need to understand biracial offspring.

Attendees were then asked to share some of their own personal experiences.

"Why do people care about other people's relationships?" said Yi Jun Zhang, China sophomore. "I think there is something wrong with their mind [if they do]."

Others shared personal experiences of prejudices they encountered from friends, family and others while in an interracial relationship.

During the program, Rivero said some of the benefits of interracial relationships include the lack of limitations on potential partners, the promotion of ethnic awareness and the fun that can be had in exploring different cultures and customs.

Joseph Oguntodu, Grand Prairie senior, said he attended

See *Students* on page 8

SGA extends parking petition, hopes to revert to old policy

By Jodie Hansen
Contributing Writer

The Student Government Association formed a petition earlier this semester to convince the parking garage across from the University Union to revert back to the 30-minute parking policy.

Bryan Acree, Eagle's Nest director, said a concerned student at an Eagle's Nest meeting brought up the issue about the parking garage changing its 30-minute parking policy. According to the SGA, the parking garage now requires that a validation be attained from the University Union Information Desk in order to receive free 30-minute parking.

SGA President Alan Ross said in the past, parking for less than 30 minutes was free, and

no one had to get anything validated. Ross said the point of the petition is to "help sway the parking garage" to revert back to the more convenient policy.

"We want to make them [the personnel in charge of the garage] believe that it is really a student concern," Ross said.

Once the petitions have been signed by several students, the SGA will write a formal proposal to inform the parking garage that the students are unhappy with the policy, said Acree.

"The signatures are a way of backing up the petition," Acree said. "The more signatures we have, the stronger the argument."

It is not too late for students to go and sign a petition. Ross said the deadline for signatures

was supposed to be Tuesday. However, he said the SGA would still accept signatures during the next couple of days.

Petition forms can be printed off of the SGA Web site, www.unt.edu/sga, or obtained in the SGA office, located in the University Union 216B, he said.

"The parking garage didn't inform the students that they were going to change [their policy]," said SGA Vice President Sasha Moreno. "We can only hope that they will listen to what we have to say."

Moreno said the outcome of the petitions will hopefully be known by the end of the semester.

Ross said the SGA is an organization that speaks "on behalf of the students to make sure their concerns are heard."

Life on the Road

Musicians talk about touring.
Tomorrow in Arts



ARTS

Jimmy Alford
Arts Editor
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Nine Dollar Word: Keeping it in the family



Katherine Frye / NT Daily

By Amanda McCormick
Contributing Writer

The walls are lined with old record covers. The smell of incense fills the air, and the sound of smooth jazz plays in the background.

Brothers John and Daniel Forrester, one half of a Denton based, self-proclaimed "jam band," Nine Dollar Word, sit smoking Camels in their living room. Taking turns flicking their cigarettes in the ashtray on the table, they talked about their mom, Pamela Forrester, the band's keyboardist.

"She's an amazing woman," John said. "She's an artist and a musician. All the while being a mom, and she inspects oil rigs full time."

The interview was also shy one other member, bassist Brandon Arthur. He's a Denton High School student and son of a local musician, Robert Arthur.

"He's [Robert Arthur] the lead guitarist in a country blues band that I play with sometimes," Daniel said. "And he told us his son played bass and he's great, especially for being so young."

Arthur is the youngest band member. Daniel is 19 and is a student at North Central Texas College in Corinth with hopes of soon enrolling in the jazz studies program at NT. John is 22 and is currently working full-time as

waiter at Good Eats. The band as Nine Dollar Word is a newborn. So far, they've only had two shows at J & J's Pizza, but the Forrester brothers said they've been playing instruments since they could walk and talk.

"I think I was like 6 when I got my first drum set," John said. "One of those little kid types made of plastic. You know, the ones made to annoy your parents."

Years later, the brothers got more serious about music, thanks to their mom. Daniel said he started playing guitar well when he was 12 by listening to Nirvana, Jimi Hendrix and the Doors and learning to play the chords by ear. They said they now do covers of the classic rock artists but have a style all their own.

"I started recording myself when I was like in middle school and early high school and laying down tracks with a mixer," Daniel said. "I wrote some pretty crazy stuff. Some of it we even use now."

Daniel and John both credit musical festivals like Austin City Limits and Bonaroo in Tennessee for inspiring them to form a band and start performing.

"After seeing bands play their hearts out, I was just so addicted

to the fact that I wanted to perform," John said. "The energy between the band and the audience is unexplainable."

The band members said they try to practice at least a couple hours a day, while juggling school and work. They said they're hyper critical of themselves so that they will keep getting better.

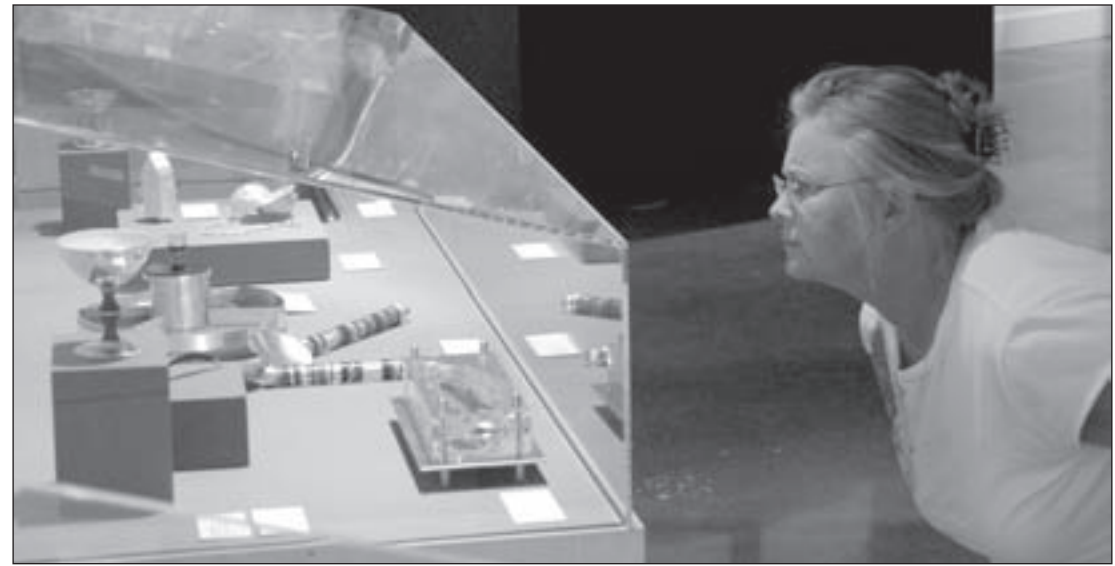
"We record ourselves and watch it later to critique it," John said. "Because we never stop learning and there's always going to be someone out there better than you."

They have a show Saturday at J & J's Pizza on Oak Street. They said they plan to play a two-hour set of covers from the Beatles' *Abbey Road* album and their original tracks.

"We just really love upbeat stuff," John said. "We don't really have a certain type of music. We are mix of all kinds. We want everyone to be on their feet and dancing around and have a good time. There's just not enough happy music around."

To listen to their music, see some original graphics the band and friends have designed and to keep up with events, visit www.myspace.com/ninedollarword.

Metalsmithing program honors 30th anniversary



Kevin Nichols / NT Daily

Dianna Fuller, Rainbow resident, observes artwork by Parker Brown and Janice Dane Tuesday afternoon at the NT artspace FW gallery located in the Center for Biohealth at the NT Health Science Center.

Exhibit, dinner commemorate program at NT

By Nancy Thai
Contributing Writer

The first anniversary is traditionally marked with the gift of paper. The second is cotton. The fifth anniversary is wood and the 30th is celebrated with the gift of pearls.

The NT School of Visual Arts is celebrating their 30th anniversary with metal instead.

An exhibition titled "Polished: Three Decades of Metal at the University of North Texas" showcased Thursday at NT artspace FW, a gallery at the NT Health Science Center and will continue to showcase through Dec. 23.

The exhibition will feature jewelry, sculpture, wall-based works and functional objects of past and present students of the metalsmithing and jewelry program at NT during the 30-year span.

To begin the celebration of

the 30th year anniversary for the program, there will be an opening reception fund-raiser tonight. A silent auction and a raffle event will also take place.

"It's a small event where people would be able to win nice items when bidding for items," said Diane Block, manager of the artspace.

Tickets are available for the event and are priced \$30 per person or \$50 for two. Raffle tickets are priced the same as well.

There are 30 pieces of work, mostly jewelry, which have been donated for the silent auction by artists in the exhibition. The Greater Denton Arts Council on behalf of NT School of Visual Arts sponsored the raffle. Prizes include Harlan W. Butt's of the metalsmithing and jewelry faculty work "Earth Beneath Our Feet, Texas Horizon #1," a silver and enamel incense burner valued at \$6,000.

"A sampling of people from over the years, as far back as the 1970s, of both graduate and undergraduate level, will be

showcased in the exhibition," Butt said.

Proceeds of the night will benefit the program and will be geared toward scholarships.

NT has "never done anything with the program where [the program] tries to reach back 30 years" said Block, who is excited to see what the students are doing for the program.

This exhibition took a year of planning, with a committee working on the exhibition, which included Butt, Block and Peggy Howell, a former staff member of the advancement of visual arts program who retired but is helping out for the exhibition, Butt said.

Thomas S. Byrne Inc., a general contracting agency, made a donation to cover the expenses of remodeling the area in the center for the exhibition. John Oliva, the president of the company was hired on to remodel the space.

"They were a major contributor to the project," Butt said.

The exhibition display will be free to the public, from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

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Graduate cuts her own path

By Amanda McCormick
Contributing Writer

Shavings of copper adorn a table in a high-ceilinged studio. Stefanie Ramsey, 25-year-old NT graduate student, is cutting away at a plate. She is a printmaker.

Ramsey grew up and went to DeSoto High School in DeSoto, where she said her art teacher, Chuck Singleton, introduced printmaking in a primitive form to the class.

"We also did a workshop with Lida Ridgway (esteemed printmaker) at Cedar Valley College, from there I knew I wanted to make prints," Ramsey said.

After graduating high school in 2000, she said she attended Utah State University and studied under Koichi Yamamoto to get her bachelor's degree in studio art with an emphasis in printmaking. After her college graduation in 2004, she took some time away from school. She came to NT in fall 2005 and became the president of P.A.N.T.S., the Printmaking Associate of North Texas Students in the spring of that year.

Ramsey said she works in copper plate intaglio, in etchings. She said she leaves the plates in the acid for longer than normal so they take on uncontrolled effects and find their own way of working themselves.

"I seem to work in a view of internal site of the human body in decaying form," Ramsey said. "I came to this idea when I found out I had cancer in 2003. It was early stages so I'm clear now for a year and a half, but I came to better understand myself."

She said she continued working, using the work as an outlet.

"I began to see how we work not much different from what we fear," Ramsey said. "Somehow this gave me a peace of mind, and I buried myself in my work."

She exhibits and sells her work all over the United States. NT also hold sales of her prints, as well as other artists. At a print sale in Hickory Hall on Nov. 4, she said she sold older works for less than she thought they were worth because "you have to know who you're selling to in order to take the cut to support your habit in art."

Students showed up for the sale. One student, junior Jeff Johnson said he was intrigued by the work.

"Stefanie's stuff said so much," Johnson said. "Even the simplest of lines were alive. I wanted to buy all of it."

Ramsey said P.A.N.T.S. is planning on having another sale in December before Christmas break. It's tentative, but for more information visit www.art.unt.edu for upcoming events.

Cruise sped away from hotel before wedding

ROME (AP) — Tom Cruise made his first public appearance since arriving in Rome to get married, speeding away in a van from a luxury hotel Tuesday.

Cruise sat in the back of one of two dark vans with tinted windows that left the Hassler hotel, surrounded by dozens of fans holding photos and cameras in hopes of getting a glimpse of the American actor before his weekend marriage to Katie Holmes.

Cruise landed in Rome on Monday on a private jet from Los Angeles together with some 10 people, including his mother and his three children. He is said to be staying at the Hassler, located at the top of the Spanish Steps.

Airport officials said Holmes was also in Rome, but it wasn't immediately clear if the actress was staying in the same hotel.

The couple are set to marry at an undisclosed Italian location on Saturday. Speculation on the location has focused on Odescalchi Castle on Lake Bracciano, near the capital.

Earlier, as bodyguards stood at the ready and barriers were being set up in front of the hotel, the fans mingled with photographers and TV crews, waiting with their cameras.

Cruise and Holmes were first photographed together in Rome in April 2005. Two months later, the "Mission: Impossible" star announced he had proposed to Holmes atop the Eiffel Tower.

He has two children, 13-year-old Isabella and 11-year-old Connor, from his former marriage to Nicole Kidman.

Justin Ross Band tours with help

Military affiliates fund tour, album release

By Lauren Sanderson
Contributing Writer

The acoustic sound of the Justin Ross Band will be heard on college campuses throughout the United States next fall.

Justin Ross and Todd Carroll are the musical talent behind the band that consists of only an acoustic guitar and drums.

Ross is from the Metroplex and has recently signed with Paragon Media and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service for the release of his solo album, *Seventy-Five*. Ross said plans for a tour are in the making for the band to play at college campuses and surrounding military bases for the 2007-2008 school year.

The Dallas-based Paragon Media is a military broker that handles the media and promo events for the military, said Sean Brown, president and CEO.

"We signed him about eight months ago after discovering Justin Ross at a local gig," Brown said. "This is our first time to work with a world-class artist, and it is the largest budget we have had."

The Justin Ross Band went on tour this year for the AAFES and Paragon, traveling up and down the Southeast coast playing for military bases.



Seventy-Five

"With the tour we have sold about 1,700 CDs," Ross said.

Paragon worked with Royalty Productions from Dallas for the production of the album.

The album is a collaboration of songs written by Ross.

"I named the CD *Seventy-Five* because of all the amazing people that I met while traveling 75 on the tour and wanted to dedicate the CD to them," Ross said.

Ross said a lot of inspiration for writing his songs comes from stories that he has heard and from personal experiences. "Lead Me Down," is one of Ross' favorite songs on the album because he said it was dedicated to his father.

"I love this CD," Brown said. "I haven't played this CD for one person that hasn't fallen in love with it."

Brown said Ross has real star potential and is one of the most genuine artists that he has worked with.

Coming from a family of musicians, Ross has been playing the guitar since he was 6 years old.



Courtesy / Justin Ross

Justin Ross

"I grew up with musicians," Ross said. "My mother was a country singer, and my dad was a blues player. I've always played music and when I turned 20, I decided that this was going to be my career."

For the last five years, Ross said he has dedicated his life to playing music and at one point was playing seven days a week.

"My music is everything to me," Ross said. "It is my bread and butter and all I know now."

Ross met drummer Todd Carroll when they were in a rock band together called Socoe. "The first time Ross and I played music together, I felt the magic right then and there," Carroll said.

Ross added Carroll to his acoustic performances forming the Justin Ross Band.

Ross said the sound of the band ranges from rock to bluegrass.

"I don't want anyone to categorize us as a certain genre," Ross said. "We just play what feels comfortable."

Carroll said it has been a big adjustment going from rock to acoustic.

"I've had to make many changes and to try to make my sound more upbeat," Carroll said.

Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Austin and Dallas are just a few cities in Texas that the Justin Ross Band has performed in. The tour next fall is expected to add a lot more venues.

Ross said they are trying to get some gigs in Denton right now and hopes to play here for the college tour.

"I will probably perform until I fall over dead because this is the music that I love and write," Ross said.

To buy Justin Ross' album, *Seventy-Five* and to learn of upcoming shows for the band, visit www.myspace.com/justinrossband.

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LIFE

Tony Gutierrez
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Cooking fair brings flavor, culture

By Rana Rizvi
Contributing Writer

Flavorful smells of savory foods wafted from sizzling pots and hung in the air at Cooking and Tasting from Around the World Tuesday in Chilton Hall.

World Echoes organized the event as the first in a series of events during International Education Week, which will be held Nov. 13-17.

Participants representing nine different countries showed off their culture by cooking a customary dish, ranging from

appetizers to desserts. The cooks welcomed and supervised helpers to make teams of five and guided them in each step of the recipe.

The event aimed to teach the people helping the cooks how to make the recipes themselves once they were in their own kitchen, said Brasov, Romania, graduate student Carmen Banea, president of World Echoes. Contributing countries included India, China, Turkey, Mexico, Bolivia, Egypt, Taiwan, Romania and Iran.

Jodi Duryea of the School of Merchandising and Hospitality

Management and general manager at the Gateway Center spoke about food sanitation before the event.

"I'm really glad to be a part of this," Duryea said. "It's very exciting to see all the different cultures from all around the world coming together to cook."

The cooks stood by as their accomplices chopped and diced fresh vegetables and whisked away at aromatic mixtures. Several participants chose to make desserts.

Banea decided to make a Romanian fruit tart.

"This recipe has been in my

family for the last three generations," Banea said. "I chose to make it because I wanted to show people that there are a variety of sweet dishes when you glimpse into another culture."

Nursal Ekici represented Turkey and chose to make Baklava, layered squares with a filling of nuts and honey.

"I love different kinds of foods and learning about culture, and this event seemed like all of it put together," said Laura Anderson, Houston sophomore, who assisted Ekici with the Baklava.

The participants had two and a half hours to teach their assistants the recipe and several contributors taught their helpers the history behind their foods.

"I chose to make vegetable Biryani because it is a royal dish that has been around for centuries," said Vinita Hajeri, Bombay, India, graduate student. "I believe food is the flavor of life that we have to share and this dish was a good reflection of India."

Other entrees included empanada de queso, fried cheese stuffed pastry, from Bolivia; a three-spice chicken from Taiwan made using Chinese basil leaves, sesame oil, soy oil and rice liquor; Kung-Pao chicken with peanuts, bell peppers and potatoes from China; chilaquiles, fried tortilla chips with shredded chicken from Mexico; kebabs, succulent beef skewers and macaroni with beshemel, a sauce made from butter, milk, flour and eggs from Egypt; and fesenjoon, a sweet and sour rich dish with a pomegranate side made in walnut oil, from Iran.

The event ended in a buffet of all the traditional foods the cooks had labored over. The International Studies and Programs, Turkish Student Association, Eagle's Nest and the School of Merchandising and Hospitality Management all co-sponsored the event.



Liliana Castillo / NT Daily

Samer Hassan, Cairo, Egypt, doctoral student, and Julie Gracela, Fort Worth junior make Macaroni Bashmel Tuesday night at the Cooking and Tasting from Around the World International Cooking workshop in Chilton Hall Cooking Lab 322.

"I think it's great that we all have a chance to learn a part of other countries, and food is

"I'm really glad to be a part of this. It's very exciting to see all the different cultures from all around the world coming together to cook."

- Jodi Duryea

definitely a big part of culture," said Olga Grieco, director of the International Welcome Center.

Former President Bill Clinton

proclaimed International Education Week as a week to be aware of global exchange throughout the United States, she said.

"It's to teach people about various aspects of culture," Grieco said.

International Education Week will present the Japanese Fall Festival from 3 to 5 p.m. today at the Kendall Hall Gardens, and the World Cultures Tour from 5 to 7 p.m. today in Kerr Hall Cafeteria.

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LOOK-A-LIKE OF THE WEEK



Garland freshman Jason Cavnar



Sean Astin

By Victoria Smithee
Intern

How often do people say you look like Sean Astin?

"Usually, it's over the summer at my work over the past two years. Every time I see my buddies from work, they're like 'Samwise!'"

Do you think you look like him?

"Sometimes I see the resemblance. I guess it's more of a joke."

What is your favorite movie with him in it?

"With him, 'Rudy'. I like those movies,

the motivational ones. I call them feel-good movies."

Was Sean Astin your favorite Goonie?

"Yeah he was, just because the asthma thing was hilarious."

Who will be the next president?

"I think Jon Stewart."

Who will win "Dancing with the Stars" - Emmitt Smith or Mario Lopez?

"I think Mario, just because he's Latino; he can get that hip moving."

What is your favorite video game?

"Right now, 'Gears of War' on Xbox 360."

Cell phone drive helps incoming TAMS students

By Marla Last
Staff Writer

Boxes found at various locations on campus will soon be home to used cell phones with the help of NT students, faculty members and staff.

Student leaders in the Residential Computer Consulting organization in the Texas Academy of Math and Science program will host the drive that is open to the entire campus.

"We are hoping to raise money for a computer that will go to a underprivileged student entering the program," said Roy Zumwalt, TAMS network administrator.

Any cell phone can be dropped in the box and donated, but Zumwalt suggests removing the information card and deleting and personal information or messages off of the phone including anything possibly typed on the cell phone while surfing the Internet.

"Our goal is to make between \$1,200-1,500 to purchases at least two desktops," he said.

Zumwalt said once the goal is met, the cell phone drive may continue to reach a higher goal, but that he would "play it by ear."

Dripping Springs TAMS senior Robert Mitchell Burke, TAMS residential computer consulting vice president of events, will empty the boxes and send the contents to the company americancellphonedrive.org, weekly. Zumwalt said the phones go to South America to help those who cannot afford them.

Zumwalt said his goal is to have his residential computer consultants actually build the computers that will be donated to save money and so the students

get hands-on experience.

"I was the guy everyone came to for help in my computer science class in high school," Burke said. "If I didn't know an answer, I'd look it up."

Burke said he has had a lot of experience building computers and looks forward to helping

with this project as well.

Boxes are located at Research Park in the Computing and Information Technology Center and the engineering building. Zumwalt said he hopes to place boxes in the University Union and all the residence halls as well.

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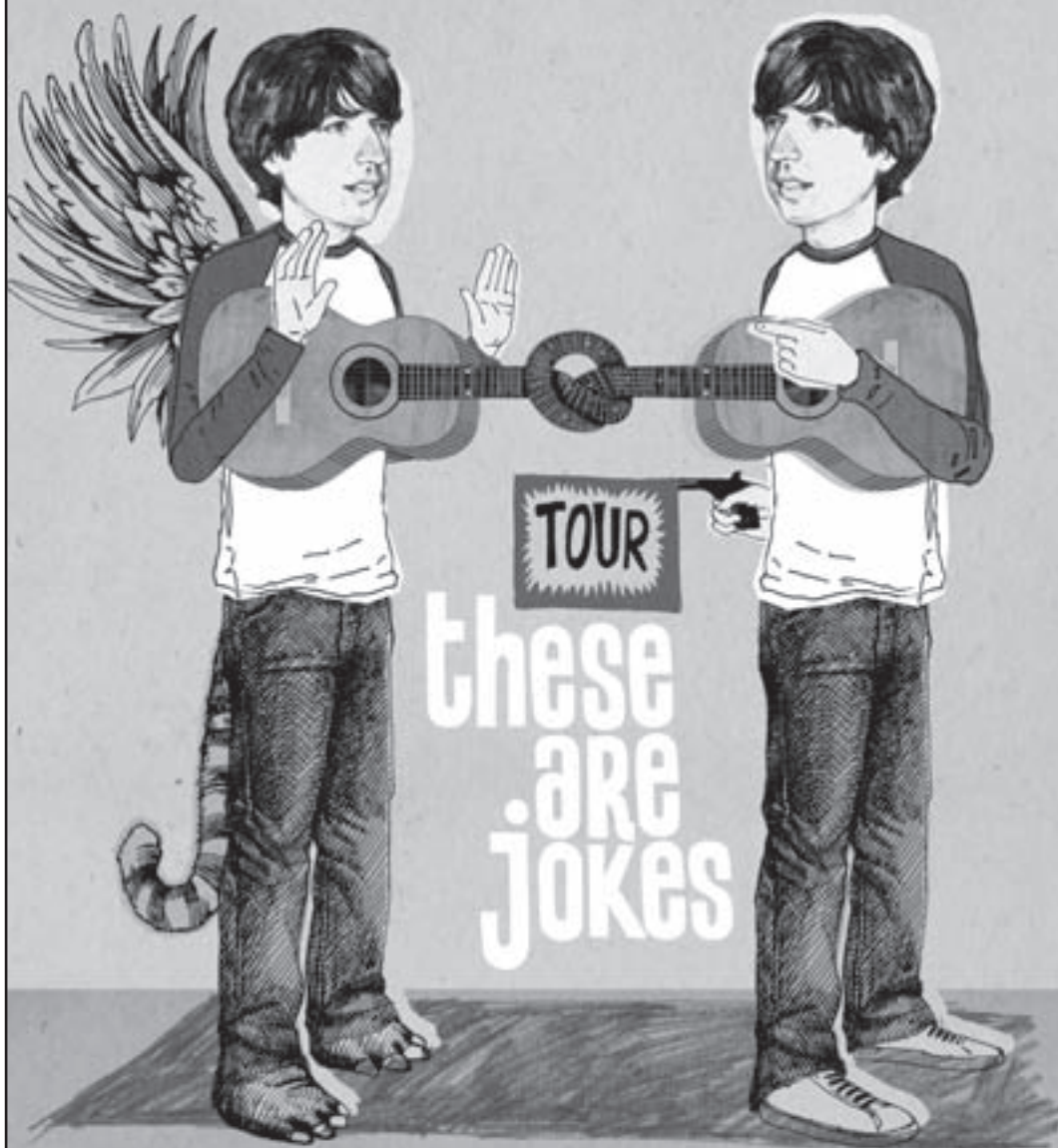
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Basketball recap
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SPO RTS



Mike Neglia
Sports Editor
Sports@ntdaily.com

Freshman breaks school record at meet

By Rebecca Evans
Contributing Writer

The NT swimming and diving team won one event at the meet against SMU Friday. Freshman Alicia Hale placed first in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:31.32, breaking the current school record.

"I did really good in my 1,000,

but I did really bad in my last two events," Hale said. "We expected that. I took it a little faster than I should have."

Junior Hannah Bakke expressed optimism about the team's results and said she expected members from the team to keep breaking records in the upcoming season.

"I thought we were going to get



Anthony Davila / NT Daily

NT sophomore freestyle swimmer Megan Gerstenberger dives into her lane in the 500-yard freestyle Friday evening. The Mean Green lost to the seventh ranked Southern Methodist University Mustangs 193-137.

killed by them, but we weren't killed as bad as I thought we would be," Bakke said. "It's good to swim against the best in the country so you can see what they are and how you can prepare against them."

SMU is currently ranked seventh in the country.

The team placed second in seven of the remaining 15 events, including a second place performance by Gwen Rourke, Flower Mound senior, in the 200-yard freestyle. She finished with a time

of 1:59.0, and was closely followed by freshman Emily Floyd who had a time of 2:01.9.

"It was not our best performance, but it was a very solid performance," said head coach Joe Dykstra. "We did two weeks of really intense training leading up to that SMU meet so the girls were really fatigued and not capable of swimming at their best, yet there were no excuses."

Dykstra said the team's greatest challenge was blending the new

athletes into the team, as well as dealing with being shorthanded at the meet.

The team has nine freshmen and two transfer students this semester, bringing the team to a total of 32 athletes. Two girls were unable to compete at Friday's meet.

According to Dykstra, junior Katie Lowry has been unable to compete this season because of an injury. Also absent from the tournament was Bakke, who currently

holds the record for the 100-yard breaststroke.

Despite the team's recent challenges, it's still optimistic about the rest of the season.

"This program has limitless potential," Dykstra said. "We have this great facility and the great support from the athletic department and the administration from the university as a whole."

The team's next meet is Friday against San Diego State and Centenary.

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VIEWS

Gabriel Monte
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Editorial

Policy addresses illegal immigration

Farmers Branch became the first city to fight illegal immigration Monday. Amid a divided crowd, resolutions against the renting of apartment complexes to illegal immigrants and enrolling the city's finest to a federal program focusing on alien criminals passed 6-0 at the Farmer's Branch City Council meeting.

At first glance, the Daily staff thought the resolutions oppressive. Denying people's right to live sounds harsh. But further review of the resolutions make it hard to side against them. They address a reality of illegal immigration: America is just too soft on illegal immigrants. In the gubernatorial race, both Chris Bell and Kinky Friedman addressed illegal immigration with practical solutions by making it hard for them to work in Texas.

Farmers Branch has taken a brave step by making it hard for them to find a place to live. Farmers Branch is not the only city to attempt this. According to the Houston Chronicle, Hazelton, Pa., passed an ordinance similar to the Farmers Branch resolution fining apartment companies that rent to illegal immigrants. A Federal judge has placed a temporary restraining order after the American Civil Liberties Union and other civil rights group filed lawsuits against the city.

Yes, the resolutions are harsh. But millions of people go through the process of immigrating to the United States legally. They spend hours in line at the U.S. consulate in their countries desperately clinging to a chance to immigrate to the country.

But one resolution the city passed does seem a bit extreme. A resolution that makes English the city's official language also passed. The resolution mandates all city business be done in English. The city of Farmers Branch is a mix of all kinds of languages: Thai, Korean, Vietnamese and Spanish. Conducting city business in English only alienates all those groups. English is already the official language of the U.S., the city of Farmers Branch doesn't need to remind their constituents of that. Not all immigrants are as familiar with English. Not even native speakers can understand English used by the government. Local governments should include all members in their community

To read the resolutions visit <http://www.ci.farmers-branch.tx.us/>

Reinventing image takes time, work

Around the mid-1800s a form of entertainment called minstrelsy or the minstrel show that ridiculed blacks became popular as it reinforced the ideals of racial superiority. In the shows, blacks were shown, among other things, as lazy and immoral, characterized by continuous singing and dancing, according to an article in U.S. News & World Report.

Cutto2006-Awhite male paints his skin dark brown, puts on ill-fitting clothes and acts in a way that depicts the negative stereotypes of blacks.

This is Halloween. I heard about the incident at the University of Texas in which a student posted photos on Facebook.com of himself in a "nig costume" (a comment by one of his friends at Texas A&M), and was compelled to say something. But what can I say?

There are so many things at play in this one event, not to mention the fact that things like this have happened before at other southern universities in the past few years. And with the recent surfacing of the video on Youtube of students at Texas A&M in a "two-minute production" (that depicted a mock master-slave scene complete with shoe polish blackface, abanana and simulated sexual abuse" as reported by the San Antonio Express-News, it is very apparent that ignorance and racism are still pulsing through the veins of America.

Now, if I am to be completely honest, I cannot place all of the blame on the student at UT. After all, are these not the images that see on MTV and BET? The glamorization of gangsters and thugs and the portrayal of these images as being synonymous with "blackness" saturate pop culture. And the extremely sad part is, that some blacks buy into the image as well.

I know some blacks who grew up in the suburbs, the children of college graduates, but decide to imitate what they see on television.



Jeremy Johnson

"Gansta rap does not just influence the black middle class teen, it consumes them," Kheven Lee LaGrone states in an article in The Journal of African American Men.

There needs to be a complete overhaul of the black image, and it must start with us not allowing the stereotypes to be accepted or perpetuated.

Ignorance of history however, in no way, is an excuse for the type of things that have been occurring at these schools. Of all places, things of this nature are taking place at our institutions of higher learning, where liberalism and diversity are supposed to abound.

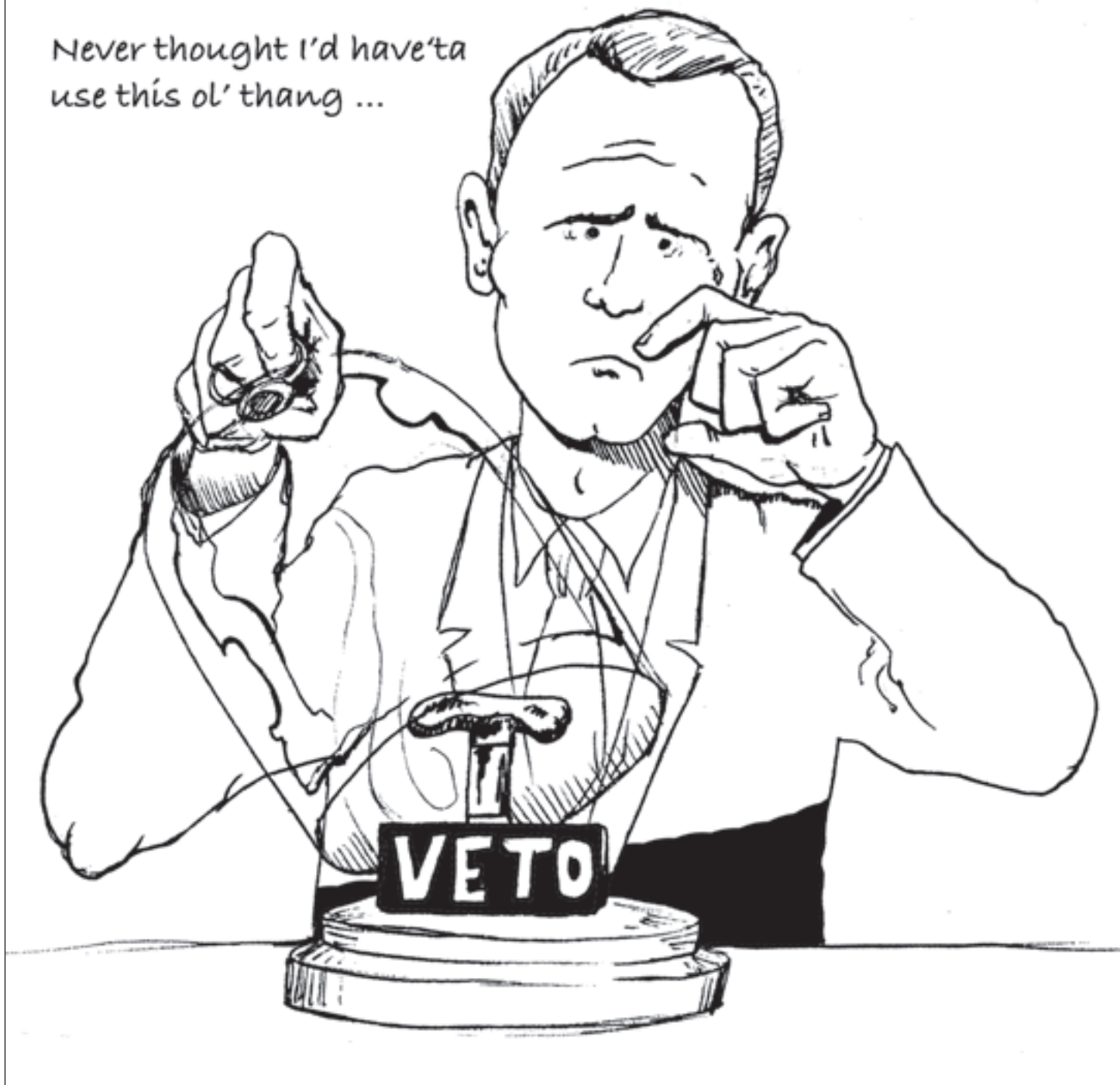
Maybe we should present black history as valid U.S. history: an integral piece of America, and not side notes that explain what blacks were doing at the time of major events in the country. If we erase the notion of it being solely black history, then people who are not black will have less of an excuse to exempt themselves.

The damage done by slavery and oppression cannot reverse itself in the equal amount of time.

Think about athlete that it is injured. In less than a fraction of a second, a ligament is torn or strained. Rehabilitation, on the other hand, takes months.

Blackface will always be offensive. There is simply too much history not to evoke emotion. I think that healing will come through time and effort. But the important component, which people tend to downplay, will be time.

Never thought I'd have'ta use this ol' thang ...



Editorial Cartoon by Bryan Kelly / NT Daily

No turkey for schools' Thanksgiving lunches

WASHINGTON (AP)—Schools that get turkey from the Agriculture Department are having to turn elsewhere this year for Thanksgiving lunches for students. There's not enough for the lunch program that feeds 29 million kids.

The problem is not a shortage of birds. They're just too skinny. An unusually hot summer resulted in smaller turkeys. That means supplies are tight, which means prices are a bit higher. "Even though we've put out word we want to buy turkey, they're not selling it to USDA," said Billy Cox, spokesman for the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Supermarkets generally get first dibs on turkey and other commodities. When there is a surplus or prices are low enough, the Agriculture Department buys some and passes it along to

government-subsidized food programs, like school lunches.

While the department is not providing turkey, schools aren't necessarily going without. "We didn't change the menu," said Shirley Cox, food and nutrition director for Texarkana, Ark., public schools. "We just went ahead and bought turkey for 3,500 to 4,000 meals."

When Texarkana schools serve the Thanksgiving meal this Friday, lunch trays will

have turkey, Southern-style cornmeal dressing with giblet gravy, green peas, candied sweet potatoes and cranberry sauce, and small cups of holiday ice cream.

The Agriculture Department's commodity program gives food to schools; the amount is based on how many free and reduced-price lunches a school serves.

The National Turkey Federation said there is plenty of turkey available for the nation's Thanksgiving.

"We do hope everybody will have the opportunity to have turkey at the table," said Sherrie Rosenblatt, spokeswoman for the federation. "Even with markets tight this year, I'm sure there are other ways in which food banks or feeding programs are finding ways to provide."

SHOCK TALK

Democrats to bring change to Congress

Last Tuesday, all 435 members in the U.S. House of Representatives and 33 members out of 100 in the U.S. Senate were up for re-election. The results of this midterm election were striking.

The Republicans have retained the majority of both chambers since 1994 and since 2000 have also controlled the executive branch with George W. Bush as president of the United States. On Tuesday, however, our democracy, in which we vote for our elected officials in Congress every two years, dramatically shifted. Within several hours, the whole landscape of Washington D.C., and our country changed.

The Republicans lost their majority of the U.S. House and by the end of last week two Republican incumbent U.S. senators in Montana and Virginia conceded their races to Democrats thus ensuring a Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate as well. The American public adamantly rejected the status quo of the 14-year majorities of the Republican Party, which has failed on nearly every issue facing our country.

Some of you might be wondering what this sudden shift in the American political landscape means. The majority gains in

the U.S. House and Senate by the Democratic Party was a direct rejection of President Bush and his failed policies of the Iraq War.

Leading up to the election, the Republican Party and President Bush campaigned against the Democrats by using fear tactics so familiar to the Republicans as they effectively used them for votes during 2002 midterm elections and 2004 presidential election. These ridiculous fear tactics and crass attacks included linking Democrats to terrorists and claiming Democrats don't support our brave troops who sacrifice their lives to our country. Those tactics and attacks the Republicans so effectively used in past election cycles became so ludicrous they backfired in the 2006 midterm elections and fortunately voters didn't fall for them.

The voting public finally focused on the real issues at hand, including the most pressing issue facing our country right now: the Iraq war. Also, the voting public expressed an extreme distaste for corrupt, inept and failed policies of the Republican led Congress of the past 14 years that has in effect played politics and has gotten absolutely nothing accomplished.

It was clear early on election



Omar Farid

night the extent of the distaste for the Republican Party when many Republican incumbents began losing their seats to Democrats. The Democrats gained 29 seats (they needed 15 to become the majority), with not one Democrat losing their seat, thus ensuring the time for change so urgently needed in our government at this current moment. Democrats won seats not even thought to be in play in this midterm election but the animosity toward the failed policies of the Republican Party was in full force last Tuesday.

Most analysts of elections termed the phrase election "wave" and certainly that "wave" was in hurricane force against the Republican Party and President Bush last Tuesday. The democratic ideal our country was founded on was powerful and prevalent on election night more than it's been anytime in the past six years. In the days leading up to the elec-

tion, Republicans refused to accept the overwhelming notion for a time a change and were caught by surprise at the anger at their Party and the President Bush.

The Democratic Party has effectively brought their message to the American people as demonstrated by the midterm elections by offering a plan in Iraq other than "Stay the Course" - which for those of you who might not pay attention to the news is absolutely not working and was totally rejected by the American people last Tuesday; enacting the 9/11 Commission recommendations which the Republican-led Congress refused to enact; repealing the tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans; making health care more affordable for all Americans; cutting interest rates for college tuition; expanding stem-cell research and raising the minimum wage.

Once the new 110th Congress is sworn in on January 3, 2007, with Democratic majorities in both houses, expect positive change for once from our elected officials in Washington D.C., since a new direction for America is on its way.

Omar Farid is a Sugar Land International Studies freshman. He may be reached at obf0001@unt.edu.

NT Daily Editorial Board

Every week, the *NT Daily* editors meet to discuss the editorial topics and stances.

The Editorial Board includes: James O'Brien, Pamela Bond, Bryan Shettig, Tony Gutierrez, Jimmy Alford, Michael Neglia, Mary Pharris, Liliana Castillo and Gabriel Monte.

WANT TO BE HEARD?

The *NT Daily* is proud to present a variety of ideas and opinions from readers in its Views section. As such, we would like to hear from as many NT students and readers as possible.

We invite students of all creeds and backgrounds to write about whichever issue excites them, whether concerning politics, local is-

suues, ethical questions, philosophy, sports and, of course, anything exciting or controversial.

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To inquire about column ideas, submit columns or letters to the editor, send an e-mail to ntdailyviews@yahoo.com. Please include your hometown, classification and major.

Note to Our Readers

The *NT Daily* does not necessarily endorse, promote or agree with the viewpoints of the columnists on this page.

The content of the columns is strictly the opinion of the writers and in no way reflects the belief of the *NT Daily*.

Students share relationship stories

Continued from page 1

the program because he is supporter of interracial dating and also taking a class in a related subject.

"I support interracial dating, but the problem I've experienced is that there are still stigmas," Oguntodu said. "Families will

sometimes ostracize you for being in an interracial relationship."

Oguntodu said these stigmas result from longstanding racial conflicts that have yet to resolve themselves.

Students seeking to learn more about interracial relationships can contact the NT counseling center at 940-565-2741.

Team enters tourney ranked as fourth seed

Continued from page 1

that it is huge that we are in here this year."

The winner between NT and UNO will go on to face the winner of MT and FAU at 5 p.m. Friday. The championship match will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Headrick said although NT has been playing well, any team has a chance this weekend.

"There are some very, very good teams here," Headrick said. "I think any team that puts together three really good days has the possibility to win it and I think there are a couple of teams that can do that."

Lawmaker questions decision to privatize some CPS operations

AUSTIN (AP) - Citing the death of a 16-month-old foster child, the state senator who spearheaded reforms to Texas' Child Protective Services agency questioned Tuesday the Legislature's decision to let private groups manage foster children's cases.

Sen. Jane Nelson said the Labor Day death of Christian Nieto suggests the state should tread carefully as it prepares to give private entities responsibilities usually handled by state caseworkers.

"We're not privatizing the printing of telephone books here," said Nelson, a Republican from the Dallas suburb of Flower Mound who chairs the Senate's health and human services committee. "We're talking about children, and we can't make mistakes."

Christian died of head injuries in Corsicana after being placed in five different foster homes in seven months by Mesa Family Services, a private foster company that had been cited by the state for many safety violations, according to an investigation by The Dallas Morning

News.

His foster mother has been charged with capital murder but maintains her innocence and says he was already hurt when he arrived at her home five days before he died. The Associated Press could not reach Mesa's co-founders for comment. One of the men, Artie Hilliard of Mullin, declined to discuss the case when contacted by the newspaper.

The state has revoked Mesa's license, and its foster homes are being supervised by another child placement agency, said Carey Cockerell, commissioner of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. He said the department is examining what it has done in the past and what it could do in the future to prevent similar tragedies.

"I gotta tell you I've been thinking about what could I have done - is there anything that we could have put in the legislation that would have prevented this from happening," Nelson said at a committee hearing on the implementation of the reform law. "Did we err in allowing

privatization?"

While private entities like Mesa already recruit and manage about 80 percent of Texas foster homes, state employees have traditionally been responsible for tasks such as developing case plans for children or conducting family visits. However, last year's landmark reform law directed the Department of Family and Protective Services to hand over those responsibilities to the private groups over a five-year period.

Supporters of outsourcing say the person charged with taking care of the children should have the authority to make decisions about their lives. But critics fear private companies will base those decisions more on their financial concerns than on what's best for the children they serve.

Nelson opposed the case management privatization during the last legislative session but ultimately agreed to let it go forward during negotiations with House leaders. She was the only senator present for most of Tuesday's hearing.

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Sudoku requires no calculation or arithmetic skills. It is essentially a game of placing numbers in squares, using very simple rules of logic and deduction.

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

	3	2	8					6
9		7	3		4			
	1			5	2	8		7
	4	6		1		5		
	9						7	
		1		9		3	2	
8		5	7	2			1	
			5		3	2		8
4				6	7	9		

3	8	6	1	7	2	9	5	4
9	1	5	4	6	3	8	2	7
7	2	4	5	9	8	3	6	1
5	4	1	7	3	6	2	9	8
2	6	9	8	1	4	7	3	5
8	3	7	9	2	5	1	4	6
1	9	2	6	4	7	5	8	3
4	5	3	2	8	1	6	7	9
6	7	8	3	5	9	4	1	2

11 / 14 ANSWERS