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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 5, 2011
CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Chess Team Earns Four National Titles at PanAm Intercollegiate Championships
Knight Raiders to compete in Final Four in April.

Texas Tech University has made it into the Final Four, in what some call the World Series of College Chess. The Knight Raiders are among 30 of the best teams from across the United States and the Americas who traveled in December to Milwaukee, Wis., for the 2010 Pan American Intercollegiate Chess Championships. Other teams include Yale, Stanford and the University of Chicago.

This is the second year that Texas Tech has sent a Division I team to compete, and the Knight Raiders made it to the Final Four both times. The A team is now qualified for one of four slots to play in the President's Cup. Grand Master (GM) Davorin Kuljasevic, GM Andre Diamant, GM Anatoly Bykhovsky and International Master Istvan Sipos will face the University of Texas at Dallas, the University of Texas at Brownsville, and the University of Maryland at Baltimore County.

Diamant also tied with GM Erenburg (UMBC) for best individual performance title on board 2. Bykhovsky received the best individual performance title on board 3.

The Knight Raiders B team tied for first place with Miami-Dade College in the Division II Championship. Its accomplishment is especially remarkable considering Chase Watters, Josh Osbourn, Brian Cassidy, Rebecca Lelko and John Flores entered the competition as a Division III team.

Maraani Kamphorst Diamant, Ananya Roy, Zach Haskin and Brett James also earned first place honors. Their C Team tied with Yale in the Division IV Championship.

In the past two years, Texas Tech has won nine national titles, two state titles and one regional title.

The President's Cup is scheduled to take place April 2-3 in Washington, D.C.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 7, 2011
CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Alumna Elected President of Science and Engineering Honor Society

Sigma Xi has announced Texas Tech University alumna Kelly Sullivan as the next president of the international science and engineering honor society. She was elected president of the 125-year-old society at Sigma Xi's annual meeting in Raleigh, N.C.

Sullivan earned her doctorate in physical chemistry from Texas Tech in 1994 and currently works for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) as director of institutional partnerships.

With nearly 50,000 members in 100 countries, Sigma Xi associate members are invited to join only after showing potential in scientific research. Full membership is granted to those who have demonstrated noteworthy scientific achievements.

Sullivan's research, prior to joining PNNL, focused on the electronic structure and stability of small molecules, and ions of atmospheric and mass spectrometric interest. More recently, she played a key role in the Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable at the National Academies, leading efforts in STEM education.

Sigma Xi membership has included renowned scientists Albert Einstein and Linus Pauling, DNA discoverers Francis Crick and James Watson, physicists Enrico Fermi and Richard Feynman and geneticist Barbara McClintock, along with more than 200 other Nobel laureates.

Sullivan's term as president-elect will begin July 1. She will become president on July 1, 2012.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 10, 2011
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Texas Tech Hosts World Food Prize Laureate
Plant and Soil Science Department inaugurates lecture series with global food expert.

With a clear focus on world hunger issues, an internationally recognized plant breeder from Purdue University will highlight the latest installment of the Texas Tech Department of Plant and Soil Science's newly launched Distinguished Lecture Series.

Gebisa Ejeta, a distinguished professor with Purdue's Department of Agronomy, will speak on "Feeding More with Less: Humanity's Grand Challenge of the 21st Century" at 3 p.m. Jan. 31 in the Matador Room of the Texas Tech Student Union Building. The talk is free and open to the public.

In 2009 Ejeta received the World Food Prize, an honor that is considered by many to be the Nobel Prize of agriculture. He won the prize for his research, which led to increased availability of sorghum in Africa. Sorghum is one of the world's top cereal grains. His research led to the development of sorghum varieties that can stand up to drought and parasitic weeds, which are two of the most harmful environmental stresses on the grain. Sorghum is the major food source for nearly 500 million people in Africa.

Raised in west-central Ethiopia, Ejeta received his bachelor's degree in plant sciences from Alemaya College. His master's and doctorate degrees in plant breeding and genetics are from Purdue University. Before joining the faculty, he worked with the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics and conducted seminal sorghum research in Sudan for five years.

"Bringing high profile speakers like this is an exciting development that improves the quality of our graduate education," said Cody Zilverberg, president of Texas Tech's Plant and Soil Science Graduate Council. The distinguished lecture series is made possible by funding support from the J.A. Love Endowment in the Department of Plant and Soil Science.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 11, 2011
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(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Parents Association Opens San Antonio Chapter

WHAT: Tech Parents holds kickoff event for its new chapter.

WHEN: 7-9 p.m. Friday (Jan. 14)

WHERE: BIGZ Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604 W., San Antonio (north side of Loop 1604 between Huebner Road and Bitters Road)

EVENT: A new chapter of the Texas Tech Parents Association (Tech Parents) will begin in San Antonio in 2011. Tech Parents provides opportunities for parents and family members to network with one another, stay aware of university happenings and get involved locally.

Local chapters hold recurring meetings and gatherings to keep their members informed of local events that pertain to Texas Tech and to connect people and support the university's students.

All parents and family members of Texas Tech students are invited to attend the free kickoff event. Guy Bailey, Texas Tech University President, will attend. To RSVP contact Anne Tiller at fourtillers@aol.com.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 11, 2011
CONTACT: Jaryn Jones, jaryn.jones@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Student Awarded DEIS Graduate Fellowship

Texas Tech University graduate student George Laity was recently awarded a $5,000 fellowship from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE) Dielectrics and Electrical Insulation Society (DEIS).

The fellowship is awarded to IEEE DEIS members pursuing graduate research in the area of insulating materials, breakdown, charge transport, electrostatic phenomena, high voltage effects or related subjects. Laity is one of only five doctoral students worldwide who received the award and a portion of the scholarship goes toward travel to an international IEEE conference.

"I am extremely fortunate to be a graduate student at the Texas Tech Center for Pulsed Power and Power Electronics and to be among many of the world's leading scientists in pulsed power and pulsed plasma physics," Laity said.

Laity's project aims to create an environment which allows for accurate measurement of vacuum ultraviolet light. Because this light is naturally produced by electrons during breakdown caused by applying a large power voltage, it is difficult to measure.

The IEEE DEIS is interested in this type of phenomena because the "breakdown" of electrons is often undesirable and lowers the efficiency of electrical equipment. Laity said he hopes his research will allow for a good understanding of the function of this process and eventually help develop new technologies in the aerospace community.

Laity has been successful throughout his educational career and previously received a fellowship from NASA and the Texas Space Grant Consortium. He was also the first Texas Tech student to receive a fellowship form the Directed Energy Professional Society and Air Force High Energy Laser Joint Technology Office.

Laity, whose grandfather was both a NASA engineer and Navy veteran, said his long-term career goal is to secure a research position in the aerospace community.

"This is especially important to me as a United States citizen because the shortage of qualified engineers and scientists able to access sensitive material is a great concern in the defense sector," he said.

For more information visit http://p3e.ttu.edu.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

CONTACT: George Laity, Doctoral Research Student, Center for Pulsed Power and Power Electronics (P^3E), Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, (817) 602-5289 or george.laity@ttu.edu.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 12, 2011
CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
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First Baby Boomers Enter Retirement Age

The first baby boomers will turn 65 in 2011. It is an age synonymous with retirement, but is this generation truly ready to leave the workforce?

"Baby boomer" is the name given to the generation born in a "baby boom" following World War II, between 1946 and 1964. There are about 78 million in all, which is 26 percent of the population. Those turning 65 this year will be eligible for Medicare, and full retirement in 2012.

"It is never too late to make changes," said Deena Katz, associate professor of Personal Financial Planning (PFP) at Texas Tech University. She points out, though, that this generation has several disadvantages over their parents, who got by without credit and had resources they could tap into.

Today, the boomers' primary fear is outliving their retirement; though one source of income they cannot outlive is their Social Security. However, it was never designed to be the sole support of older people.

"Social Security came into play in the 1930s, when the life expectancy was about 65.2 years. So they (the government) did not expect people to use Social Security," Katz said. "This generation may actually live longer in retirement than they did in working. Thirty years in retirement… Social Security was never meant for that."

How much Social Security a senior receives varies greatly depending on when they begin accepting their check.

"Many fear if they don't start right away at age 62, they may never receive it, but the best thing to do is to maximize your Social Security benefit and wait until you are 70," said PFP instructor Robert Barnhill. "If you do take it early, you have 12 months to change your mind. You can pay it back and wait."

Financial planners agree that a Social Security check should only make up about a third of a retiree's income and should be supplemented with contributions made to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and a 401(k).

-more-

"A generation ago, people had defined benefit pension plans, but they became expensive to maintain so corporations changed with the culture," associate professor Russell James explained. "People do not spend their whole career with one company. So employers put some money into an account, where employees can do what they want with it. Investment performance becomes much more of an issue."

"I don't think we are going to be retiring at a conventional time. It is not because we can't, but because we don't want to," said Katz, a young boomer herself. "Those of us who can adjust to the technological shift may remain in the workplace, while others may find themselves staying busy by doing what they enjoy."

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 12, 2011
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Texas Tech Researchers Discover 'Great-Grandmother' of Crocodiles

In the tropical rainforests of West Texas, which looked more like Costa Rica some 225 million years before cattle ranches and cotton fields would dot the landscape, it hunted by chasing and wrapping its tooth-filled jaws around its prey.

Modern man probably wouldn't recognize its body, which was built more for land speed than aquatic surprise, said Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech. That is, until we saw the eyes and unmistakable head of possibly the oldest crocodile ancestor found to date.

The fossil was discovered on a ranch and prepared by Doug Cunningham, fossil preparator at the Museum of Texas Tech University. Chatterjee said he has yet to name the animal, and it probably won't debut in scientific literature for another two years.

Thanks to a new CT scanner at Texas Tech's Department of Petroleum Engineering, he was able to look inside the skull of this animal to study the brain case and sinus cavities.

"This is a brand new animal and possibly the great-grandmother of all crocodiles," he said. "It was still walking. These early crocodiles look like your typical terrestrial animals. An intact skull is very rare to find. One of the exciting things is we were able to see inside its brain case with the CT scan. We can see the brain evolved very slowly."

Shameem Siddiqui, the Kerr-McGee Professor of Petroleum Engineering, collaborated with Chatterjee on the project. He said his CT scanner usually is used to study fluid flow through different types of rocks. However, it also can serve as a tool for imaging fossilized bones, and Siddiqui paired with Chatterjee this fall to learn more about the crocodile.

"When we scanned one of the samples with bones encrusted in the rock, we were able to find some hidden pieces of the crocodile," Siddiqui said. "That was exciting. When we did the 3-D imaging of the skull, it was equally as exciting. Already, Sankar and I have been talking about using the CT scanner to measure bone density of more recent crocodiles and compare the data with bone densities of this ancient crocodile."

The newly discovered crocodile ancestor came on the scene about the same time as dinosaurs began evolving, Chatterjee said. The animal's hind limbs, hip girdle and tail clearly suggest this was a land animal. Bones show the animal was adapted to walking or

running. In modern aquatic crocodiles, the legs are small, and the tail creates the forward thrust by undulation it needs to move quickly in the water.

The strong similarity lies in the ankle joint and braincase, he said.

"It has lots of sinuses in the braincase like those of modern crocs," Chatterjee said. "These sinuses may be linked to their vocalization. Unlike most reptiles, crocs are very vocal and hear well. We described a similar animal from China that gives us some idea about the way this animal lived.

"Leaving land for the water was probably the smartest thing crocodiles and alligators did. That way, they didn't encounter the dinosaurs like other animals did."

Watch the interviews here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxnYZoFPb8o.

CONTACT: Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech, (806) 787-4332, or sankar.chatterjee@ttu.edu; **Shameem Siddiqui, Kerr-McGee Professor of Petroleum Engineering, Department of Petroleum Engineering, Texas Tech University,** (806) 742-3573 or shameem.siddiqui@ttu.edu.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 13, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech to Host 27th Annual Conference on Advancement of Women in Higher Education

Texas Tech University is set to host the 27th Annual All-University Conference on the Advancement of Women in Higher Education Feb. 3-4 in the Student Union Building (SUB) at Texas Tech.

The Conference titled, "Innovative Voices: Initiatives, Projects and Practices for Empowerment and Gender Equality," is part of a two-day celebration sponsored by the Women's Studies Program at Texas Tech. The event will include papers and panel discussions concerning women's gender and identity issues.

Traveling feminist organizer Shelby Knox will serve on a keynote panel titled, "Forth Wave: (Active)ism in Her(story)," at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 4 in the Matador Room of the SUB.

Knox is best known for her documentary film "The Education of Shelby Knox." It is Knox's activist efforts, which she has maintained since graduating from the University of Texas at Austin, that bring her back to Lubbock.

A New York City resident, Knox is currently writing a book about the "forth wave" of feminist activism. She also travels across the country speaking about age-appropriate comprehensive sex education, gay rights and the next generation of feminism. Knox has testified before Congress on abstinence funding in an effort to highlight sexual health awareness.

Knox has appeared on "Today," "Good Morning America" and "Dr. Phil" to discuss sex education and youth activism. She also has published articles for internet and print media outlets such as: Jezebel, Feministe, RH Reality Check, the Huffington Post, Glamour, Bust, and Seventeen as well as her own blog "The Ms. Education of Shelby Knox."

Feb. 3:

- A pre-conference screening of the documentary film, "The Education of Shelby Knox" will begin at 7 p.m. Feb. 3 in the Firehouse Theatre at the Louise H. Underwood Center for the Arts located at 511 Ave. K.
- A panel discussion will follow with members from the film.

Feb. 4

- Registration and a welcome address begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Matador Room.
- Academic paper and panel sessions will run from 9:00 a.m.-4: 00 p.m. with concurrent one-hour sessions.
- "Voices of Feminism," a performance organized by Women's Studies Affiliated Faculty Member Sara Peso White, will begin at 5 p.m. in the Matador Room. The performance will reflect on writings by women that address issues of concern for all.
- "Forth Wave: (Active)ism in Her(story)," featuring keynote speaker Knox will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Matador Room.

Tickets for the Feb. 3 film viewing are $13 for general admission and can be purchased through Select-A-Seat by calling (806) 770-2000 or on the Web at http://www.selectaseatlubbock.com. Student tickets are available for Texas Tech students with a valid ID at the Escondido Theatre box office in the SUB for $8. All prices include a $3 Select-A-Seat service charge.

All campus events are free and open to the public and will be held on the second floor of the SUB with registration and a welcome address beginning at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 4 in the Matador Room. Academic paper and panel sessions will run from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Feb. 4 with concurrent one-hour sessions.

Pre-registration is available on the Women's Studies website. Registration is not required to attend the keynote panel. Proof of attendance will be provided at the registration desk for students needing to attend the conference or a single panel session for course credit.

Visitors without a Texas Tech parking sticker can find parking information by entering from the Broadway entrance to the campus. The traffic kiosk attendant will give directions to the SUB and nearest visitor parking location.

The Women's Studies Program is a part of the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement. For more information and the complete conference program schedule, visit http://www.depts.ttu.edu/wstudies/AWHE.php.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at http://www.media.ttu.edu/.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 13, 2011
CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Behavior Change Slow or Impossible if Process is too Difficult

Texas Tech professor, nation's expert on Social Validity, says interventions or processes must have buy-in from consumer to be effective.

With statistics showing that somewhere around 30 percent of people who make New Year's resolutions will ditch them by the end of January, it may seem the odds are against long-term behavior change. But common sense and the concept of social validity dictate that the process for change must be one the participant accepts willingly and that the procedure for behavior change be simple, said a Texas Tech University education professor.

Stacy Carter, an assistant professor in the College of Education's Special Education Program, is the author of several research articles on social validity and a recently published a book, The Social Validity Manual. This is the only book ever published on the topic of social validity, which has relevance for several fields of study including psychology, education, social work and health services.

"The traditional way of looking at a behavior change is seeing how effective a treatment is," Carter said. "Researchers spend a lot of time looking at statistical validity and reliability of the treatments they develop. Social validity is a much more practical look that researchers sometimes ignore."

Carter said researchers may develop a treatment that has very high statistical validity and is very reliable, but if it is too difficult or time consuming, then consumers won't use it or practitioners won't use it in their everyday practice. If it's something that is going to cause them a lot of effort, or is difficult to implement, then they probably are not going to use it for long.

To measure social validity, the behavior must be observable and measurable. "The goal is to make people happier with the treatments they are receiving," Carter said. "If you're happier with what you're doing and it's effective in all these different ways, then you're more likely to use it and everyone's going to be happier – the person who has to implement it, the practitioner, the person receiving the treatment."

Carter offered this example. "What you see a lot in school settings would be off-task behavior – students not working on what they're supposed to be working on. A typical intervention for that might be something like a token economy – where they get rewards

or points for staying on task. That would be something that a teacher could do very easily. They could keep track or even have the student learn to keep track themselves. Also to have their peers monitor them as well." For the arrangement to work, the teacher, student and student's peers would all have to have buy-in to the system.

Carter also is working as a consultant with a group of researchers from three German universities. Researchers from Goethe University, the German Institute for International Research and the Sigmund Freud Institute provided support for Carter to travel to Frankfurt in November. He made a presentation and collaborated with researchers who wish to incorporate his "Distributive Model of Social Validity" into their research studies. These German researchers focus on longitudinal research projects within educational settings and hope to improve their social validation procedures.

The Social Validity Manual has been awarded the College of Education Faculty Book Award and currently is nominated for the President's Faculty Book Award university-wide.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
806-742-2136

School of Music to Present Big 12 Trombone Conference

WHAT: The Texas Tech University School of Music will present the eighth annual Big 12 Trombone Conference.

WHEN: Jan. 14-16

WHERE: Texas Tech University Music Building at 18th Street and Boston Avenue.

EVENT: The event will feature an opening concert at 7:30 p.m. Jan.14 in the Hemmle Recital Hall.

Featured performer, John Fedchock, will perform at 3 p.m. Jan. 15 in the Hemmle Recital Hall. He will be accompanied by Texas Tech Jazz Ensemble 1 under the direction of Texas Tech Director of Jazz Studies Stephen Jones.

The conference also will feature a faculty concert at 7:30 p.m. Jan.15 in the Hemmle Recital Hall. Both of the concerts on Jan. 15th will be ticketed events. The event also will showcase two brass chamber ensembles and solo performances by Texas Tech trombone professors.

Finalists for the Big 12 Tenor and Bass Trombone Competitions will perform at noon Jan. 16.

General admission for the conference is $40. Tickets for the individual concerts are $10 for general admission, $5 for students and group discounts for conference admission are available. Tickets and more information on the concert are available at http://www.big12tromboneconference.com.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Parents Association Opens North Houston Chapter

WHAT: Tech Parents holds kickoff event for its new chapter.

WHEN: 6:30-8:30 p.m. (Jan. 22)

WHERE: Main Event (The Woodlands), 19441 Interstate 45 South, Shenandoah, TX

EVENT: A new chapter of the Texas Tech Parents Association (Tech Parents) will begin in Houston in 2011. Tech Parents provides opportunities for parents and family members to network with one another, stay aware of university happenings and get involved locally.

Local chapters hold recurring meetings and gatherings to keep their members informed of local events that pertain to Texas Tech and to connect people and support the university's students.

All parents and family members of Texas Tech students are invited to attend the free kickoff event. To RSVP contact chapter president, Karen Graham at kgraham22@comcast.net

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

CONTACT: Ken Gassiot, associate director, Parent and Family Relations, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3630 or ken.gassiot@ttu.edu.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Allison Ralston, allison.ralston@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Experts Available to Speak on Healthy Weight Week

As Healthy Weight Week kicks off in the United States, Texas Tech University experts are available to speak on ways to achieve and maintain a healthy weight and lifestyle.

Jamie Cooper, assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition, Hospitality and Retailing, studies patterns of body weight and body composition change, hunger and satiety hormones, energy metabolism, and nutrition and exercise interventions. She can speak to easy alternatives to keep in mind when making food choices and the importance of establishing a schedule for eating, working out and making healthy living a priority. **Cooper can be contacted at (806) 742-3068 or at jamie.a.cooper@ttu.edu.**

Leslie Eyerly, fitness and wellness coordinator at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreational Center, is available to speak to the importance of getting enough sleep and scheduling a time in a person's daily routine to work out. She also stresses to make realistic, attainable and healthy weight goals. **Eyerly can be contacted at (806) 742-3351 or at leslie.eyerly@ttu.edu**.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Jaryn Jones, jaryn.jones@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech University Hosts Off-Campus Housing Fair

Texas Tech Student Government Association, University Student Housing, Student Legal Services and Center for Campus Life will sponsor an Off-Campus Housing Fair to offer students "a safe environment to ask questions without the pressure to sign a lease."

The fair will take place from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Jan. 18 in the Red Raider Ballroom of the Student Union Building.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to visit representatives from several off-campus housing properties. Representatives will offer information about their properties and will be available to answer questions throughout the fair.

The fair will feature free giveaways and a drawing for prizes every 30 minutes. Attendants are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to gain useful information without contacting each property individually.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

CONTACT: Sean Duggan, managing director, University Student Housing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2542 or s.duggan@ttu.edu.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Jaryn Jones, jaryn.jones@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Follow Texas Tech Architecture Students on a Journey through India

Students enrolled in Texas Tech University's Honors 3301 fall seminar class recently concluded their semester with a two-week study tour of historical India.

Texas Tech is partnered with the Rai Foundation which hosts participating universities as they learn about Indian culture. The study of selected buildings and sites in India provides students with an introductory understanding and appreciation of the country.

Visit http://ttuindia2010.blogspot.com/ to follow the journey through India from the students' perspectives.

Professor Joe Aranha said students are able to learn about other societies and nations by studying the ideas and symbolisms expressed in their architecture.

"This Honors Seminar about Indian architecture expands the student's knowledge of architecture as a product of human imagination and thought," Aranha said. "At the same time, students are introduced to the cultural, multi-ethnic and religious diversity of India."

There are no prerequisites for the course. However, preference is given to junior and senior students.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech School of Music to Perform "Godspell"

A Winter Dinner Theatre production of the Broadway musical, "Godspell," will be presented by the Texas Tech Music Theatre at 7 p.m. Jan. 21-22 at the Lubbockview Christian Church (3301 34th St.).

A hit in the 1970s, "Godspell" is enjoying a revival today in an updated version. Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy a dinner while watching a performance from Broadway-bound performers. The "Godspell" performance will be under the stage direction of Christopher Bailey and the music direction of Deborah Gelber, both graduate students.

"Godspell" embraces the 21st century in this new production of one of the longest-running and most beloved off-Broadway musicals. The performance uses improvisation and contemporary themes to illustrate the parables and bring these lessons to life through the tradition of musical theatre.

The score, by Academy and Grammy Award winner and six-time Tony Award nominee, Stephen Schwartz (Wicked, Pippin), features recognizable songs that have become staples of both the American musical theatre and popular culture.

Based on the Gospel of St. Matthew, "Godspell" was originally a senior thesis directing project for Carnegie Mellon University Master of Fine Arts Candidate John-Michael Tebelak. Like the book, the "Godspell" performance exclaims a message of tolerance, kindness and hope.

"Godspell" opened off-Broadway at the Cherry Lane Theatre on May 13, 1971, when it received rave reviews from critics. After five years of sold-out audiences, "Godspell" made its Broadway debut on June 22, 1976, at the Broadhurst Theatre.

Critics commended the show for being equally as exciting on Broadway as it was at Cherry Lane. The show would later move to the Plymouth and the Ambassador before closing on Sept. 4, 1977, after 527 performances. In all, the musical achieved more than 2,600 performances both on Broadway and off.

Among the cast are graduate and undergraduate students: Travis Burge, Nicole Casteel, Esteban Castillo, Andy Christopher, Jamy Gillespie, Layne Kight, Ann Marie Nichols, Nathan Rhoden and Lindsay Swartwood.

Tickets are $25 for general admission and $15 for students. A discount of $2 per ticket is also available for groups of 15 or more. All tickets are available through Select-A-Seat by calling (806) 770-2000. Prices do not include a $3.25 Select-A-Seat service charge.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at http://www.media.ttu.edu/.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 14, 2011
CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Museum Celebrates 75 Years of Lubbock Lake Landmark, Largest Hunter-Gatherer Site in the New World

To celebrate 75 years of discovery, organizers at the Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark will host several events each month during 2011.

A unit of the Museum of Texas Tech University, the Lubbock Lake Landmark is an archaeological and natural history preserve at the northern edge of the city of Lubbock. The Landmark contains evidence of almost 12,000 years of occupation by ancient people on the Southern High Plains, said Eileen Johnson, director of the landmark.

"For thousands of years, people on the Southern High Plains used the water resources in the draw until those resources went dry in the early 1930s," Johnson said. "Years of sediment covered the traces of human activity until 1936, when the city of Lubbock dredged the meander in an effort to revitalize the underground springs. And that led to the discovery of the largest, most complex and longest continuously inhabited hunter-gatherer site in the New World.

"The Lubbock Lake Landmark exhibits a virtually complete cultural sequence from the Clovis Period to historic times," she said. "The periods are easily distinguished due to the separation of sediment layers containing cultural material by sterile layers where sediment lacks artifacts."

Each layer represents a different time period, water regime, suite of plants and animals, group of peoples, and climate and environment covering the past 12,000 years of history and prehistory.

The first explorations of the site were conducted in 1939 by the West Texas Museum (now the Museum of Texas Tech University). By the late 1940s, several Folsom Period (10,800-10,300 years ago) bison kills were discovered. In a location of an ancient bison kill from a then unidentified Paleoindian group, charred bison bones produced the first-ever radiocarbon date (currently the most accurate form of dating) for Paleoindian material (9,800 years old).

The Lubbock Lake Landmark currently serves as a field laboratory for geology, soils, and radiocarbon dating studies, as well as being an active archaeological and natural history preserve.

All events will be held at the Landmark, located on Landmark Drive at North Loop 289 and U.S. 84. Events include:

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday (Jan. 22). Pleistocene: An Ancient Ecosystem focusing on animals. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … The Pleistocene – 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday (Jan. 23). Presentation on discovery and introduction to archaeology and research on the plains. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 19. Paleoindians: First Peoples focusing on the hunter/gatherers of the area. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Paleoindians – 2 to 4 p.m. Feb. 20. Presentation on ancient Paleoindian territories and landscapes. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 19. Natural Environment. Focusing on the natural environment and environmental awareness. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Our Environmental Issues – 2 to 4 p.m. March 20 Presentation on organic and heirloom gardening and landscaping with native plants. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 16. Creepy Crawlers: The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly. Focusing on insects, spiders and snakes of the landmark. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Creepy Crawlers – 2 to 4 p.m. April 17. Presentation on entomology and herpetology. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 21. Winged Residents. Focusing on skimmers, tree-dwellers, nesting birds, bats and predators. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Winged Residents – 2 to 4 p.m. May 22. Presentation on damsel flies and dragonflies. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 18. Natives: Native Plants and Wildflowers. Focusing on the medicinal and edible plants. Participants will create nature journals. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Medicinal and Edible Plants – 2 to 4 p.m. June 19. Presentation on the role of plants on the Plains. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 16. Archaeology in Action. Focusing on archaeology at the landmark and includes a tour of the research lab and excavation site. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Archaeology – 2 to 4 p.m. July 17. Presentation on the public's perception of archaeology. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 20. Middle Archaic – Another Climate Change. Focuses on the Archaic period and how animals and plants survived the climate changes. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … The Middle Archaic Traditional Cooking – 2 to 4 p.m. Aug. 21. Presentation on Middle Archaic climate change, traditional cooking methods and the features of the fire hearth. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 17. Pastores & Ciboleros. Focusing on Hispanic shepherding traditions. Also features a night hike starting at dusk during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … The Pastores – 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 18. Presentation on the Hispanic shepherding traditions. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 15 and 16. Fall Fest 2011. Focusing on buffalo soldiers, Native American and Mexican traditions and cultures, storytelling workshops and demonstration. Also features a night hike on Saturday during Landmark After Dark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 19. Settlement, 19th Century. Focuses on George W. Singer, trails and oral histories. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Oral Histories – 2 to 4 p.m. Nov. 20. Presentations on the art of oral history. For young adults to adults.

- Life on the Plains Series – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 17. Finale. Focusing on history in the making, modern archaeology and the future of the Lubbock Lake Landmark. Family day for all ages with hands-on activities.

- Discover … Continues – 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 18. Presentation on the preserve, land management and research. For young adults to adults.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 18, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Panhellenic Council Holds Sorority Information Session

WHAT: Panhellenic Sorority Spring Recruitment Information Session

WHEN: 7 p.m. Jan. 27

WHERE: Escondido Theater, Student Union Basement

EVENT: The Texas Tech Panhellenic Council will hold a presentation and discussion on information pertaining to spring sorority recruitment. Women interested in joining a panhellenic sorority in the spring are recommended to attend the session.

The presentation will include how the panhellenic community functions, the academic, leadership and social benefits of being in a sorority and the differences between spring and fall recruitment.

There is no registration or fees for the information session or spring recruitment.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 18, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech University Celtic Ensemble Presents
"Céili in the Snow: An Irish House-Party"

The Texas Tech University Celtic Ensemble will present the concert, "Céili in the Snow: An Irish House-Party," at 7 p.m. Jan. 30 in the Talkington Great Hall at the Legacy Event Center (14th Street and Avenue O).

Singers and players will perform dances, songs, listening pieces and tunes associated with the Celtic experience played globally for many centuries.

Students, families and seniors are welcome to attend free of charge to enjoy solo and figure dances, instrumental music and guest appearances by the Texas Tech Irish Set-Dancers and the Caprock Border Morris Dancers.

In the *Gaeltachtai* (Irish-speaking communities) of Ireland's West, certain houses became known as "céili (KAY-lee) houses." These were places where songs, tunes, musicians, dancers, poets and players could find a warm welcome and an appreciative response in the shared community performance of the house party.

In such a home, the door was left unlocked because a musician was certain he or she would be welcomed upon entering the kitchen. Inside these kitchens the stories, songs, tunes and dances centered around a fire that was never allowed to burn out. The "céili houses" facilitated the oral culture that helped the Irish survive colonization, famine and exile.

In this program, the Texas Tech Celtic Ensemble will take attendees into a similar Irish mid-winter, huddled around a turf fire in a circle of poetry, song, dance and story, "driving the cold winter away."

The ensemble is composed of singers, instrumentalists and dancers specializing in group performance of the traditional dance music and songs of the seven Celtic nations: Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall, Galicia and the Isle of Man.

The ensemble learns and plays its repertoire by ear, combining instruments such as the timber flute, tin whistle, fiddles, mandola, guitar, harp, banjo, percussion, accordion, double-bass, brass, percussion and wind instruments with dancing and solo and choral song. Songs are played in Irish and Scots Gaelic, Gwerz, French, Welsh and English.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at http://www.media.ttu.edu/.

CONTACT: Liza Muse, senior specialist, School of Music, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2270, or liza.muse@ttu.edu

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 20, 2011
CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Wanted: Middle School Math and Science Teachers to earn FREE Master's Degree
Texas Tech pilot program aims to improve math and science instruction in Texas.

Texas Tech University is looking for a few good men – or women – as long as they are middle school math and science teachers, with a desire to earn a Master of Science degree – for free.

The Middle School Math and Science (MS^2): Understanding by Design program was funded in December 2008 by a $3 million grant from the Greater Texas Foundation (GTF). Two cohorts of students, totaling 52 from around the state, are enrolled in the three-year program after which each will have earned a Master of Science degree in multidisciplinary science.

The program will accept applications through March for its third cohort of students, which will begin coursework in the fall. The plan calls for teachers to enroll in pairs of one math and one science teacher.

According to David Lamp, a Texas Tech physics professor, and also the co-director of MS^2, the grant provides up to 100 participating teachers with a laptop computer, tuition and fees, and housing during their face-to-face summer coursework. In-service teachers participating in the program take one course at a distance each semester and are required to attend two on-campus courses in Lubbock the first summer session of each year.

The collaboration between the Colleges of Education and Arts & Sciences is designed to cultivate more highly qualified teachers who will in turn teach math and science more effectively in Texas middle schools. The course of study also emphasizes the integration of math and science instruction and improvement of teaching methods.

Even though the final cohort funded by the GTF grant is being recruited, Lamp and his co-director Becky Ortiz insist the program will continue.

Ortiz, also an assistant professor in the College of Education, said one of the stipulations of the Greater Texas Foundation is the continuation and self-sustainability of the program.

"They understand the importance and the urgency, if you look at state scores and the continued emphasis on assessment and state testing – it's imperative that we improve the

knowledge of all of our teachers with ongoing education," Ortiz said. "The trick now is to find the continuing funding. We have to get really creative. The GTF is very interested in this becoming a national model of a way to increase the knowledge of our current teachers and in turn increase the knowledge of our students – to open those doors – so they can do things like engineering, and compete globally.

"We do have guaranteed funding for this third cohort – so if there are teachers out there even thinking about getting into this program, now is the time."

Ortiz said they are very much looking at results in the classrooms.

"We are looking at comparison groups between teachers who are in this program and those who aren't, and looking at what is going on in the classroom in relationship to their students' scores," she said. "We are using this as a research-based model to show the correlation between better-prepared teachers, integration, and students holding on better to concepts and information."

For application information or other questions, contact Ortiz at (806) 742-1997 ext. 299 or at rebecca.ortiz@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 20, 2011
CONTACT: Jaryn Jones, jaryn.jones@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Team Wins National Retirement Challenge

A team of Texas Tech University Personal Financial Planning (PFP) students recently won the nationwide iOMe Challenge 2010.

The team of graduate students received a cash award of $10,000, and its faculty advisor, Michael Finke, received $2,000. The winners also were invited to Washington, D.C., to present their essay and video to members of Congress and other national policy-makers.

This year's contest asked participants to write a 10,000-word essay that demonstrates and supports three significant differences that will exist in our economy 40 years from now, if the U.S. personal saving rate is sustained at 6 percent rather than the rate that has prevailed over the past decade. Texas Tech's essay focused on improving retirement savings rates among younger generations by simplifying investment choices, improving disclosure and modifying employer incentives.

The contest also required participants to produce a short video that examines issues related to retirement policy. Texas Tech's video featured PFP associate professor Bill Gustafson and Gordon Hampton, director of professional alliances for Texas Tech's PFP program. Gustafson portrayed a struggling retiree with a broken-down pickup and living in a shack, while Hampton portrayed Rich Uncle Pennybags, the top-hat-wearing icon from the game of Monopoly. The video illustrated the consequences of low retirement savings and aims to help young people visualize the tradeoff from the choices they make today.

Team members include Ben Cummings, Chris Browning, Shaun Pfeiffer and Tom O'Malley.

Visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02vC1iS3Eyo&feature=player_embedded to watch the winning video.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: January 20, 2011
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Senator Hutchison to Speak at May Hooding Ceremony for Texas Tech School of Law

Texas Tech University School of Law has announced that United States Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) will be the speaker at the May 2011 Hooding Ceremony.

The ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. May 14 at the United Spirit Arena, located at 1701 Indiana Ave. in Lubbock.

Hutchison was elected to the United States Senate in 1993 in a special election, making her the first – and, to date, the only – woman elected to represent Texas in the Senate. One year later she was re-elected to a full six-year term. In 2000, she received more votes for her re-election to a second full term than any other statewide candidate had ever received. In 2006, she was again re-elected by an overwhelming margin.

The senator lives in Dallas with her husband, Ray, and their two children, Bailey and Houston.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 21, 2011
CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
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Former Astronaut to Lead Whitacre College of Engineering to New Heights

New engineering dean aims to make Texas Tech a top research facility.

When he arrived at Texas Tech University, there were two things that Al Sacco Jr. said impressed him greatly: the overwhelming support and generosity of the alumni, and the university's forward thinking.

As the new dean of the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering, Sacco firmly believes that Texas Tech's cutting-edge research in photonics, nanotechnology and wind engineering has the potential to change the world as we know it, but only if Texas Tech continues to push the envelope.

"Texas Tech University is competing for the best and brightest," Sacco said. "We must make Lubbock attractive not only to prospective students, but graduates and job-seekers interested in growing their career."

The challenge begins, he said, in transforming Texas Tech into a community of scholars, not just a group of individuals, and delivering inspiration to generations to come.

"Our world is technology driven, but fewer students are becoming involved in math and science," Sacco said. "China and India are quickly catching up – and in some cases surpassing us – and developing technologies that can impact our economic future as well as our freedoms."

Sacco said this problem could be addressed through community outreach and hopes his experience as a NASA astronaut might grab prospective students' attention.

A chemical engineer by trade, it was his research with zeolite crystal growth (ZCG) that landed Sacco a seat on the Space Shuttle Columbia in 1995. A zeolite crystal's three-dimensional structure acts as a sieve to selectively filter certain chemicals (molecules) in applications such as chemical and petroleum processing. A larger crystal would allow researchers to better understand how these crystals form and grow and define its structure, while improving storage and efficiency. The challenge, however, was growing that larger crystal.

-more-

"The Earth's gravity plays a role in the crystal's formation and growth. Like the formation of snow flakes here on earth, where the unique shapes are controlled by environmental conditions and the snow flake's falling rate. In a similar manner, gravity can impacts the structure and shape of many crystals," Sacco said. "However, ZCG in a microgravity environment allow the crystal to grow larger, with less distortion."

Sacco's work in the pressurized Spacelab module of Columbia proved successful, with crystals growing up to 50 times larger than ever before. That technology now is being applied to continuing ZCG research on Earth. The result may improve the efficiency of many electronics, including the handheld devices so many have come to rely on.

Understanding and utilizing the existing resources is Sacco's passion. He envisions a world that can virtually sustain itself and cited an example of street lights powered not by electricity, but by nutrients hidden in the soil beneath it. He said that kind of research comes from a mutual effort between physical and biological systems, and communication between the two is key.

"Tier One means working together and striving for what comes next," Sacco said. "My goal is to build a better line of communication between all Texas Tech colleges, not just engineering, and with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, as well."

His method of operation includes getting to know the people who surround him and gaining their trust.

"We will continue to move forward as long as we allow people to excel at what they do best. We must understand their strengths, and develop their goals and aspirations in a positive way," Sacco said. "That takes time."

Soon, that research will take place in a new building. Sacco will oversee renovations to the building currently occupied by the College of Mass Communications. Renovations and new equipment are necessary, at an estimated cost of $35-$40 million.

"My goal is to make Texas Tech University the top research facility in Texas and beyond" he said.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 20, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Museum Celebrates 75 Years of Lubbock Lake Landmark, Largest Hunter-Gatherer Site in the New World

WHAT: To celebrate 75 years of discovery, organizers at the Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark will host the first event in a monthly, year-long series.

WHEN: Saturday and Sunday (Jan. 22-23)

WHERE: Lubbock Lake Landmark, located on Landmark Drive at North Loop 289 and U.S. 84.

EVENT: The Life on the Plains Series will kick off this weekend's events from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday (Jan. 22).

A family day for all ages, the topic of this series will be Pleistocene: An Ancient Ecosystem focusing on animals. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in some hands-on activities.

Young adults to adults are invited to "Discover … The Plesitocene" from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday (Jan. 23).

The event will include a presentation on discovery and introduction to archaeology and research on the Plains.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 21, 2010
CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Wine Expert: Neolithic Community Had Highly Developed Winemaking Operation

The rise of the Mesopotamian city-state of Uruk was still a good 500 to 700 years away. However, inside a remote cave in what would become Armenia, a small group of people stomped grapes in what was recently described as the oldest-known winemaking operation.

Stefan K. Estreicher, Horn Professor of Physics and author of "Wine: From Neolithic Times to the 21st Century," said the recent discovery of the 6,100-year-old facility shows the community had a highly advanced, if not arduous, method for making wine, and that wine probably played an important role in their lives.

"The interesting thing is that this is a very ancient site in a small settlement during a time when there are no cities," Estreicher said. "I assume there were only a few hundred people living there. But they really had a very sophisticated setup to make wine. This setup was used only once a year. That's quite remarkable. They spent a lot of time and effort for something they used so little, so that indicates how important wine was to them."

The discovery of the Areni-1 site was made by archaeologists at University of California at Los Angeles and Irish and Armenian scientists. Tucked in a cave complex near Armenia's southern border, radio carbon dating confirms that the site dates to 4100 B.C. *The Journal of Archaeological Science* recently published the findings.

Inside the cave, scientists found a fermenting vat, storage jars and a rudimentary press, along with grape seeds, stems and a cup fashioned from animal horn. Chemical analysis of wine residue in the jars showed presence of malvidin, a chemical that gives red grapes their color.

The very first winemakers probably used baskets to stomp the grapes and extract the juices, Estreicher said. At the Areni-1 site, winemakers had constructed several small platforms of compressed clay with raised edges.

It appears that workers would stomp grapes on the clay platforms and allow juices to flow directly into jars buried in the ground to prevent cracking during fermentation from carbon dioxide buildup, he said. Later, ancient Romans would also bury their wine containers, called dolia, to prevent the clay from cracking.

The method is reminiscent of the modern lagar, still used in the Upper Douro Valley of Spain and Portugal to make the best ports, he said, and the Areni-1 site could be labeled a "proto-lagar."

Though the Egyptians drew images of workers in lagars, the oldest surviving ancient lagar was built about 3,000 years ago by Phoenicians in southern Spain, he said.

The Armenian cave find is at least a thousand years younger than the oldest archeological evidence of winemaking – the Neolithic site at Hajji Firuz Tepe of northwestern Iran. However, the 7,000-7,400-year-old site does not contain winemaking equipment, only grape pips and jars containing evidence of wine residues.

At both the Hajji Firuz Tepe and Areni-1 sites, the wine was made with cultivated grapes known as Vitis vinifera vinifera, and not with its wild ancestor Vitis vinifera sylvestris.

"Neolithic times are the end of the Stone Age," he said. "People stopped being hunter-gatherers, established permanent settlements, domesticated animals and cultivated wild plants. In the case of wild grapes, the farmers selected the few hermaphroditic plants from the wild male and female plants because they produce more fruit and larger berries. These cultivated wild hermaphrodites are what evolved into Vitis vinifera vinifera, which we use today."

Estreicher said his love of winemaking began after tasting a 1949 Richebourg when he was a graduate student in Switzerland. His book grew from years of notes and a short magazine column explaining the history of wine. He plans to publish a second edition soon.

"If you are a theoretical physicist, I think you need to have a good hobby," he joked. "The history of wine is a very nice hobby to have. It's also a very interesting one. It's one way to look at Western Civilization, and I've always been interested in history. You find links to your past."

To see segments of Estreicher's interview, visit
www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2y2CohvFSY

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 24, 2011
CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Researchers Warn of Tularemia in Area Feral Hogs

After finding evidence in feral hogs of the bacteria that causes tularemia, researchers at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech University are warning hunters and ranchers to use caution when handling wild game.

Steve Presley, a zoonotic disease researcher at TIEHH, leads a team of researchers that tested about 130 feral hogs from Crosby, Bell and Coryell counties. Of the animals tested, 50 percent of the Crosby County pigs and 15 percent of the central Texas pigs showed evidence of current or past infection with Francisella tularensis.

"We have found high levels of antibodies in these pigs that show they have been infected with Francisella tularensis and found that some of these pigs were actively infected with it," Presley said. "The bacteria are constantly present in animals in this area and the feral hog population, but normally it's only a small number of cases. This is a huge number of infected animals."

Tularemia is a serious infectious disease caused by the bacteria Francisella tularensis, he said. Commonly known as rabbit fever, it can be carried by rodents and wild game animals as well as mosquitoes, deer flies and ticks.

Most human infections become apparent after three to five days, and signs include fever, lethargy, anorexia and signs of septicemia. Lesions can form on the skin where infections start. It also can enter the body if infected body fluids come in contact with the eyes, nose or mouth. In some cases, the bacteria become easily airborne and can be inhaled.

However, Presley's team of scientists has yet to determine which subspecies of bacteria is infecting the hogs. One subspecies, called Type B, can cause disease in wildlife domestic animals and people, but poses a less serious health threat to humans.

Type A can be lethal to humans and is considered a viable bioweapons agent by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Presley and Brad Dabbert, associate chairman of Texas Tech's Department of Natural Resources Management, discovered the bacteria while looking for brucellosis, another highly contagious disease caused by bacteria that infects humans when they ingest unsterilized milk or meat from infected animals or come in close contact with their secretions.

Though the team found no evidence of Brucella, Dabbert said he was surprised to find evidence of Francisella tularemia.

"Traditionally, it's a rabbit disease, but it does get reported in birds and other mammals," Dabbert said. "Since hogs can range over large areas, it's certainly possible that they can transport this stuff. That's kind of the critical issue now. The other thing we're trying to do is look for it in other animals now to more accurately answer that question."

Approximately 126 human cases of tularemia are reported each year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. From 2000 to 2008, only eight cases of tularemia were reported in Texas.

Regardless of the type of bacteria, Presley urged caution to anyone who may come in contact with wild animals, especially those who might hunt or eat wild hogs.

"If you are handling or cleaning or eating wild game, particularly hogs, deer or rabbits, you should be wearing rubber gloves and eye protection when you're dressing wild game," he said. "The bacteria can enter any sort of small cut or hangnail. During this time of year, it might not be as big of an issue, but you should check yourself for ticks, wear tick repellent and avoid biting flies, including mosquitoes."

Presley also recommended making sure game meats are thoroughly cooked before eating them. Homeowners and lawn care professionals should look for wild rabbit nests hidden in tall grasses prior to mowing.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 25, 2010
CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Law Professor Elected to Most Prominent Legal Association

A Texas Tech University School of Law professor has been elected into the most prestigious professional organization in the legal profession, the American Law Institute (ALI).

Gerry W. Beyer, the Governor Preston E. Smith Regents Professor of Law specializing in estate planning, joins seven other Texas Tech law professors including Interim Dean Susan Fortney, Dean Emeritus Walter Huffman, Marilyn Phelan, William Casto, Jennifer Bard, Brian Shannon and Bryan Camp as elected members of ALI.

"Professor Beyer is one of those exceptional professors who excels across the three areas of teaching, scholarship and service," Fortney said. "We are thrilled that he now joins the other Texas Tech University law professors who are distinguished members of ALI."

In December Beyer received the 2010 Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest teaching award at Texas Tech. In addition, his "Wills, Estates, and Trusts Prof Blog" was selected by ABAJournal.com readers as their favorite in the 2010 ABA Journal Blawg 100 Law Prof Plus category.

Beyer received his J.D., summa cum laude, from Ohio State University and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. After practicing law in Columbus, Ohio, he received his LL.M. and J.S.D. degrees from the University of Illinois. Both his master's thesis and doctoral dissertation topics involved estate planning issues.

Joining the faculty of the Texas Tech School of Law in June 2005 as the Governor Preston E. Smith Regents Professor of Law, Beyer previously taught at the St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio and has served as a visiting professor at several other law schools including Boston College, Southern Methodist University, the University of New Mexico, Santa Clara University and LaTrobe University in Melbourne, Australia.

Beyer is a frequent contributor to both scholarly and practice-orientated publications and has authored and co-authored numerous books and articles focusing on various aspects of estate planning. He is an academic fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC) and maintains membership in numerous organizations including the American Bar Foundation, the Texas Bar Foundation and the College of the State Bar of Texas.

He serves as a member of the Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Council of State Bar of Texas, president of the South Plains Trust & Estate Council, member of the advisory board for 2nd Chance for Pets, secretary of the State Laws Committee of ACTEC, Recent Developments Coordinator of the Legal Education Committee of ACTEC and has served as the editor of the Keeping Current column of Probate & Property magazine since 1992.

ALI's membership is selected from judges, lawyers and law teachers in the United States and many foreign countries on the basis of professional achievement and demonstrated interest in improving the law. The 4,300 members of ALI draft, discuss, revise, and publish restatements of the law, model statutes, and principles of law that are enormously influential in the courts and legislatures, as well as in legal scholarship and education. ALI has long been influential internationally and, in recent years, more of its work has become international in scope.

ALI was founded in 1923 by a group of prominent American judges, lawyers and law teachers to address the uncertainty and complexity of early 20th-century American law. Since that time ALI has devoted itself to improving the law and the administration of justice in a scholarly and scientific manner.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 26, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
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Campus Life Presents Risk Management Series for Greek Students

Each semester a presentation of proactive measures is given to the Greek community.

The Center for Campus Life is set to hold its biannual Clay R. Warren Memorial Risk Management Speaker Series for Greek students at 6 p.m. for males and 8 p.m. for females on Jan. 31. The presentation will be at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theatre.

Lori Hart Ebert, campuspeak.com presenter, is the keynote speaker and will discuss, "Making Greek Great." Ebert specializes in talks pertaining to alcohol and drugs, fraternity and sorority life, gender communication, leadership and relationships.

Megan Robare, unit coordinator for Campus Life, said the information presented focuses on risk management within the Greek community and preventative steps to a healthier and safer environment. She also said the 2011 spring semester presentation will take a new direction in the way the information will be given.

"This year is different. We have decided to have males go first, and then the females will follow. The topics are not different in the sessions, but topics are approached differently, such as alcohol and eating disorders," Robare said.

Not only has Campus Life divided the time slots, but it has also widened its audience.

"We surveyed Greek leaders, who we only presented to in the past, and we found some information that was taken back to fraternities or sororities was lost in translation," Robare said. "So, we thought it would be a good idea to open up the talk to the entire Greek community."

Christina Stromberg, Panhellenic president, said she thinks the new specifications will open the eyes of students who may be overlooking certain issues.

"I think the changes will make a greater impact because it makes students more aware of these issues than in the past. Bringing light to specific issues to more students can only help those struggling but don't realize it yet," she said.

The risk management series is in memory of Clay R. Warren, a Texas Tech freshman who died from injuries he suffered in an automobile wreck while returning home from a fraternity event in 2002.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 27, 2011
CONTACT: Kate Lepard, Katherine.lepard@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech University School of Music and Manhattan Concert Productions Present "From Lubbock to Carnegie Hall"

The Texas Tech University School of Music and Manhattan Concert Productions will present a Finals Competition Concert at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31 in Talkington Hall at the Legacy Event Center (14th Street and Avenue O).

This performance competition will feature eight student musicians who were selected as finalists from approximately 500 other music students from Texas Tech.

In mid-December, 14 semi-finalists were selected by the School of Music faculty. On Jan. 17 these semi-finalists appeared before a panel of judges in Hemmle Recital Hall to present their musical talents and compete for a chance to be one of the eight finalists to perform Jan. 31.

Demonstrating the quality and depth of student talent, the eight finalists represent strings, voice, keyboard, and the combined areas of wind, brass and percussion – the major performance areas of the School of Music.

Competition winners will receive an all-expense paid trip to New York City where they will present a recital in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. The Texas Tech showcase recital is scheduled for Saturday April 16, in the afternoon.

Texas Tech is the first in a series of universities who will receive a recital for its students at Carnegie Hall. This performance will be produced and underwritten as outreach by Manhattan Concert Productions.

Dr. Craig Arnold, artistic director and general manager of Manhattan Concert Productions, will be present for the Finals Competition Concert.

There is no admission charge for the concert, but complimentary tickets are required due to limited seating. Tickets are available in the School of Music Office (M101), by calling (806) 742-2295 or by e-mailing Janeen.gilliam@ttu.edu.

The eight finalists are:

- Elizabeth Hott, soprano and senior vocal performance major from Los Lunas, N.M.; instructor, Kathy J. McNeil
- Ashley Prewett, baritone and pursuing a master's in vocal performance from Dora, N.M.; instructor, Karl Dent

- Ovidiu Manolache, double bass and pursuing a doctorate in musical arts from Radauti, Romania; instructor, Mark Morton
- Brady Meyer, sophomore cello performance major from Houston; instructor, Jeffrey Lastrapes
- William Waterman, tuba and pursuing a master's in tuba performance, from Leavenworth, Kan.; instructor, Kevin Wass
- Meg Griffith, flute and pursuing a doctorate in flute performance, from Dallas; instructor, Lisa Garner Santa
- James McDonald, percussion and pursuing a doctorate in percussion performance from Fort Worth; instructors, Lisa Rogers and Alan Shinn
- Ji Yang, piano and pursuing a doctorate in piano performance, from Gwangju, South Korea; instructor, Lora Deahl

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 27, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Wind and Engineering Speaker Series Hosts Canada Professor

WHAT: The McDonald-Mehta Lecture Series

WHEN: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Wed. (Feb. 2)

WHERE: Room 217 Electrical Engineering Building, Tech Texas campus

EVENT: Texas Tech University's Wind Science and Engineering Research Center (WISE) will host Gregory Kopp, professor and Canada research chair in wind engineering at the University of Western Ontario.

Kopp's lecture "Wind Effects on Houses: Recent Research at the 'Three Little Pigs' Project," will focus on how wind storms damage houses and what engineers can do to stop it. In particular, discussion will be about cost effective solutions resulting from wind tunnel and full-scale tests of houses.

A graduate of the University of Toronto, University of Manitoba, and McMaster University, Kopp earned a bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree in mechanical engineering from each respectively. He was recently announced as the president-elect of the American Association for Wind Engineering.

A reception will immediately follow the seminar. For more information visit http://www.depts.ttu.edu/weweb/mmls/2011/MMLecture_Feb11.pdf.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 27, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech to Host World Food Laureate

WHAT: Department of Plant and Soil Science's Distinguished Lecture Series

WHEN: 3 p.m. Monday (Jan. 31)

WHERE: Matador Room, Student Union Building, Tech Texas campus

EVENT: Texas Tech will host Gebisa Ejeta, a professor of Purdue University's Department of Agronomy, for the presentation, "Feeding More with Less: Humanity's Grand Challenge of the 21st Century."

In 2009, Ejeta received the World Food Prize, an international award recognizing individuals who advance human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. He won the prize for his research, which led to increased availability of sorghum in Africa. Sorghum is one of the world's top cereal grains.

Ejeta was raised in west-central Ethipoia and earned his bachelor's in plant sciences from Alemaya College, a town in east-central Ethiopia. He went on to earn his master's and doctoral degree in plant breeding and genetics from Purdue University.

The lecture will be the inaugural event for the series and is free and open to the public.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Jan. 28, 2011
CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
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Black History Month Opening Ceremony Honors World Champion Boxers

WHAT: Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's Black Faculty and Staff Association hold the 10th Annual Black History Month Opening Ceremony and Scholarship Event.

WHEN: 4:30 p.m. (banquet), 7:30 p.m. (concert) Feb. 4

WHERE: Texas Tech School of Law Forum (banquet), 1802 Hartford Ave.
International Cultural Center (concert), 601 Indiana Ave.

EVENT: To kick-off Black History Month, Texas Tech will host a banquet honoring Orlin and Terry Norris, Lubbock native World Champion boxers. Special guest Carl "Ironfist" Davis, United States Boxing Organization Cruiserweight Champion, is the keynote speaker.

Tickets for the banquet are $10 per person and $5 for students with a valid Texas Tech or high school ID. Seating is limited and reservations are required in advance by contacting Aretha Marbley at aretha.marbley@ttu.edu or 742-1997 ext. 268 by 5 p.m. Feb. 2.

The concert following the banquet will host Latice Crawford, Sunday Best Artist, and local performers The King Sisters and Pervis Evans. Monalisa Brown, TV personality from Flavor of Love, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Tickets for the concert are $20 per person and $10 for students with a Texas Tech or high school ID, plus a service charge. Purchase tickets through Select-A-Seat locations or call (806)-770-200. A portion of the proceeds will be used for the Black Faculty and Staff Scholarship.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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