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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 3, 2012

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech's Raider Red Moves to Final Four in National Mascot Voting Contest

The top four mascots head into final weeks of voting.

[Editor's Note: Raider Red is available for "interviews" and appearances to promote the voting. Please contact Bruce Bills to schedule.]

Raider Red, Texas Tech University's costumed public relations mascot has made it to the final four of the Capital One 2012 Mascot Challenge. Red took second place out of 16 mascots in regular season voting to contend for the most votes nationwide. The playoffs are a single-elimination vote with two rounds remaining.

Week two of the playoffs finds Red competing against the University of Miami's Sebastian the Ibis. The other final four matchup is Colorado State University's Cam the Ram vs. the University of South Carolina's Cocky the Gamecock, who took first place in the regular season voting. Red's only regular-season loss came in week one against the University of Delaware's YoUDee, who was eliminated in the last round.

"Since the final four and final rounds come during academic finals and graduation weeks, we need everyone -- students, staff, alumni and community members to vote as many times as they can, all week long," said Stephanie Rhode, director for Texas Tech's spirit squads. "And we need all of those folks who do vote, to encourage everyone they know to vote as well."

The Capital One National Mascot of the Year is determined by Internet voting. Fans can vote unlimited times at capitalonebowl.com/vote. Twitter voters must use the hashtag #CapitalOneRaiderRed.

"Raider Red -- and his student counterparts -- do so much for Texas Tech, the Lubbock community and the Texas Tech fan base," Rhode said. "Everyone who votes is absolutely welcome and encouraged to share the voting link on their personal Facebook pages and retweet each other's tweets."

Fans also can follow Raider Red on [Facebook.com/TTURaiderRed](https://www.facebook.com/TTURaiderRed) and Twitter @TTURaiderRed.

The mascot with the most votes at the end of the championship round will be the Capital One National Mascot of the Year and will be announced during the 2013 Capital One Bowl on Jan. 1, 2013. The winner will be awarded a \$20,000 scholarship to help fund its school's mascot program. Each of the 2012 participants also will receive \$5,000 for their university mascot program.

The original 16 contestants were selected by a panel of judges from Capital One from among the mascot entries received from all eligible NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision schools.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Stephanie Rhode, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433 or stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu. To schedule Raider Red for an interview, contact Bruce Bills, cheer coach, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433 or bruce.bills@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 3, 2012

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Hosts Migrant Farmworkers Panel

- WHAT:** The Multicultural Advocates from Texas Tech University Student Housing hosts the Migrant Farmworkers Panel for the Texas Tech community.
- WHEN:** 7 p.m. Monday (Dec. 3)
- WHERE:** Boston Hall's Multipurpose Room, 18th St. and Boston Ave.
- EVENT:** The Migrant Farmworkers Panel will feature five experts who will discuss the injustices perpetuated against the migrant farmworker community in Texas.

Experts include Francisco Cerda, Texas's state monitor advocate for seasonal and migrant farmworkers, who will discuss the Texas policies in relation to migrant farmworkers; Robert Forbis and Alejandro Tirado, Texas Tech political science professors who will discuss the economic and environmental injustices perpetuated against migrant farmworkers; Miguel Levario, Texas Tech history professor, who will contextualize this topic within other important Texas events; and Taiya Jones, policy council community representative for Western Region of Teaching and Mentoring Communities (a Migrant Head Start Program).

The speakers will discuss why this issue matters also what students can do to help correct these injustices. This program will encourage students to critically analyze the policies of the state in which they live.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Kendra Tillberry, graduate assistant for multicultural advocates and Boston Hall, University Student Housing, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-4546, or kendra.tillberry@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 3, 2012

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

**Texas Tech, Syracuse U. Find 'Gold Standard' Moms Best
at Transmitting Political Ideologies**

When it comes to transmitting political ideologies, warm moms who give their children lots of love and lots of rules serve as the best conduits, according to recent research co-authored by a Texas Tech University political scientist.

The world of politics has known for years that parents serve as the primary transmitters of political values, said Gregg Murray, an assistant professor of Political Science at Texas Tech and co-author of *Parenting Styles, Socialization and the Transmission of Political Ideology and Partisanship*. However, the transmission is hardly perfect, and political scientists want to know why some children retained less of their parents' political beliefs than others.

The research was published Monday (Dec. 3) in the peer-reviewed journal, *Politics & Policy*.

"This study began when I was at the College at Brockport, State University of New York with my colleague and co-author, Matthew Mulvaney," Murray said. "Matt is a developmental psychologist interested in parent-child interactions and how they affect child outcomes. I'm a political scientist working on understanding political beliefs and behaviors. Our interests intersect in that we were both interested in looking at what it was that could help explain some of the variation in how important political values such as ideology and partisanship are transmitted. There's a lot of research showing that our parents have the largest effect by far on our political beliefs, but much of this research also shows our agreement in these beliefs with our parents is far from perfect. Our part of the argument is some parents interact with their children differently than others."

Mulvaney, an associate professor of child and family studies at Syracuse University, said very little psychologically oriented research exists about how parenting affects a child's political compass, so the two combined expertise to come up with a study that could gauge the effect of parenting style on the political affiliations of offspring.

"I tried to help think about how psychologists conceptualize variations in parenting and add this to Gregg's expertise in political attitudes," Mulvaney said. "Gregg, of course, has a lot of behavioral/psychological background and perspective and I was interested in how parenting affected the development of values. We were both new faculty looking to start a research program and this was one part of that."

In the study, the two identify three distinct styles of parenting. Authoritative parents, considered the parenting "gold standard," are warm and loving to their children, yet offer them many rules by which to live. Authoritarian parents are colder emotionally to their children but are disciplinarians when it comes to following the rules. Permissive parents give



their children a warm, loving environment, but don't depend on many rules to guide their children.

About 160 college students were surveyed by questionnaires asking them about political values, partisanship and political issue positions on topics such as abortion, gun control and environmental issues. These students also were asked about their childhood experiences with their parents, how they grew up and how they were treated by parents.

These students' mothers then were called and asked the same questions in a telephone interview. As the two looked at the data, they found authoritative "gold standard" parents the best transmitters of political ideologies. Authoritarian disciplinarians weren't as successful at transmitting their political beliefs, and the more permissive a parent behaved, the less likely the child was to pick up on that parent's political ideologies.

"The most important thing we learn, in my view, is that parenting matters a lot more than previous research would suggest," Mulvaney said. "This highlights the importance of how parents interact with children that determines how children's attitudes get formed- either in congruence with parents' ideals or not."

Murray admits the sample was small and came from nationally unrepresentative, similar backgrounds. But while more research needs to be done with larger groups and both parents to confirm the findings, the results do show that different parenting styles do affect how a child's political belief system is impacted by his or her parents.

"At least for political science, what this research does is clarify why transmission of political values isn't always clean," he said. "We focus a lot of attention on how our parents' partisanship affects our partisanship, but not everyone agrees with their parents' partisanship. This helped us understand why parental transmission of political values is not straightforward.

"Some parents are more likeable than others. Some kids want to follow their parents some want to get away from their parents. So, there's an aspect of common sense involved here. I do think it needs to be looked at much more broadly."

CONTACT: Gregg Murray, assistant professor of political science, Department of Political Science, (806) 742-3121, or g.murray@ttu.edu; Matthew Mulvaney, associate professor of child and family studies, Syracuse University, (315) 443-5654 or mmulvane@syr.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 4, 2012

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Chess Player Earns International Master Status

Texas Tech University student Faik Aleskerov won first place in the master section of the California Class Championship in Santa Clara over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Aleskerov is a member of the Texas Tech Chess A-team, the reigning intercollegiate national champion team.

“It feels amazing,” Aleskerov said. “I believed in myself and knew I needed to concentrate and play all my games for one result: to win.”

Aleskerov topped two-dozen competitors, including top-seeded, six-time U.S. Champion Walter Browne, whom Aleskerov beat in the next-to-last round.

The tournament victory fulfills Aleskerov’s final requirement for the title of International Master, which will be officially confirmed in January at the next meeting of the World Chess Federation (FIDE). Aleskerov says he now has his sights set on achieving Grandmaster status, the highest in chess.

“Our chess program is headed in the right direction,” Aleskerov said. “With all this support I don’t think it will take me long to become a Grandmaster.”

Aleskerov is a graduate student in Texas Tech’s Rawls College of Business. He has been playing chess for 21 years.

For more information on this story or the Texas Tech University Chess Program, contact Al Lawrence at al.lawrence@ttu.com or call 742-7742.

CONTACT: Al Lawrence, Texas Tech University Chess Program (806) 742-7742, or al.lawrence@ttu.edu.



Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 5, 2012

CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu
(806) 742-0057

Chancellor to Announce Distinguished Teaching, Research Awards

WHAT: Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards Announcement

WHEN: 10:30 a.m., Dec. 7 (Fri.)

WHERE: McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center, 17th Street and University Avenue

Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance will announce the winners of the 2012 Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards.

Award recipients include faculty and staff from Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Angelo State University.

The Chancellor's Council raises funds for student scholarships and recruitment, faculty awards and support, and various other programs of excellence.

CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, director of communications, Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, or robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu.

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 7, 2012

CONTACT: Megan Shudde, m.shudde@ttu.edu
(806) 834-2236

Raiders Rojos Alumni Honor Chancellor Hance

WHAT: Raiders Rojos National Alumni Chapter honors Chancellor Kent Hance

WHEN: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Tuesday (Dec. 11)

WHERE: Kent Hance Chapel, 17th Street and Akron

EVENT: The Raiders Rojos Alumni Chapter is honoring Chancellor Kent Hance for his commitment to promoting diversity at Texas Tech University.

Chancellor Hance graduated from Texas Tech in 1965 with a degree in business administration. Before becoming chancellor in 2006, Hance was a partner at an Austin law firm, was a Texas state senator and was elected to the 19th Congressional District.

A reception will follow the presentation at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center. RSVP by Dec. 7 to Janie Ramirez, janie.ramirez@ttu.edu.

The Raiders Rojos National Alumni Chapter seeks to promote the retention and graduation attainment of Hispanic students within the Texas Tech University System by providing a strong support system that includes, but is not limited to, scholarship, mentoring and networking opportunities.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Janie Ramirez, programs director, Raiders Rojos national alumni chapter, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 459 or janie.ramirez@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 7, 2012

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Law School Team Takes Top Two Spot at Regional Competition The duo advances to the national final in February.

A Texas Tech University School of Law duo recently won the regional competition of the ABA Law Student Division Negotiation Competition, hosted by Tulane University School of Law. The competition simulates legal negotiations in which teams seek the best outcome for their respective clients.

The winning team of third-year student Jessica Haseltine from Abilene and second-year Sara Norman from Midland were fresh off their second-place finish at the National Entertainment Law Negotiation Competition in October. Texas Tech Law emerged from the preliminary rounds as the top seed out of 24 teams, and then received unanimous number one rankings from all final-round judges. The team is coached by Professors Wendy Adele Humphrey ('01) and Nancy Soonpaa.

"I am very proud of the team's dedication leading up to the competition, as well as the way they represented Tech Law at the regional competition," Humphrey said.

The team now advances to the national finals, which will take place during the ABA Midyear meeting in Dallas on Feb. 8-9, 2013.

The February competition will bring together the top 24 negotiation teams from around the country to negotiate problems related to small business ventures.

"Due to Hurricane Sandy, the release date for the national problems was delayed until Jan. 21, so we will have only two and a half weeks to prepare for the competition," Humphrey said.

"Luckily, both Jessica and Sara have a passion for negotiating and will dive into the problems on day one. Getting ready for a negotiation competition requires a ton of work, from researching the legal and factual issues to doing practice rounds every day."

Norman said the great thing about the negotiation competition is that it provides law student advocates with practical, real-world negotiating skills.

"Texas Tech Law is known around the nation for having stellar negotiation teams, and Jessica and I hope to bring home yet another national championship," she said.

More information about Texas Tech University School of Law may be found at www.law.ttu.edu.

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Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

Contact: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, (806) 742-2136, or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Friday, Dec. 7, 2012

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, dailey.fuller@ttu.edu

Chancellor's Council Announces Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards

Fifteen faculty members from throughout the Texas Tech University System were honored.

Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance announced today (Dec. 7) the recipients of the most prestigious honors awarded to faculty members from throughout the system.

The 12th annual Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards were presented to seven faculty members from Texas Tech University, six faculty members from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) and two faculty members from Angelo State University.

“Our professors and researchers are world-renowned experts in their fields, and their unrivaled dedication exemplifies the wealth of talent present throughout the system,” Hance said. “These individuals’ outstanding accomplishments continue to drive our institutions forward, and I am pleased to recognize such deserving faculty members.”

The Distinguished Research Awards went to the following individuals:

- **Noureddine Abidi, Ph.D.**

Noureddine Abidi is an associate professor in the Department of Plant & Soil Sciences and head of biopolymer research at the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute at Texas Tech University. His research evaluates and modifies biopolymers and cotton fibers to advance the quality of cotton and its functionalities. Joining Texas Tech in 1999, Abidi has received more than \$3.8 million in external research grants and secured one patent and four invention disclosures. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Morocco and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Montpellier II in France.

- **Carol Boswell, Ed.D., RN, CNE, ANEF**

Carol Boswell is a professor in the TTUHSC School of Nursing at Odessa and has been instrumental in advancing the school since joining the faculty in 1999. She has earned national and international recognition for her presentations on health literacy, evidence-based practice and nursing education issues. An experienced clinician, Boswell also serves as director of the Permian General Hospital Board, co-director of the Center of Excellence in Evidence-Based Practice, and is the James A. “Buddy” Davidson Charitable Foundation Endowed Chair for Evidence-Based Practice. She received her bachelor's degree in nursing from TTUHSC and her Doctor of Education from Texas Tech University.



• **Qing Cao, Ph.D.**

Qing Cao is the Jerry Rawls Endowed Professor of Management Information Systems and assistant director of the Center for Internet Buyer Behavior in the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University. Cao's research focuses on information outsources, information security, and social media and business performance. He has published more than 42 research papers in prominent business journals, 18 of which were published or accepted for publication in the last three years. Cao holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Shanghai JiaoTong University, a master's degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin System and a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska.

• **Russell James, Ph.D., J.D., CFP®**

Russell James is an associate professor in the Department of Personal Financial Planning at Texas Tech University where he serves as the director of Graduate Studies in Charitable Planning and is the CH Foundation Chair in Personal Financial Planning. An internationally known expert sought out by major media outlets such as CNN, The New York Times and USA Today, his research is cutting-edge and focuses on uncovering practical and neurocognitive methods to encourage generosity and satisfaction in financial decision-making. James has published more than 100 refereed publications and served as an adviser to top government officials in South Korea regarding legislation and policy planning. He holds a law degree from the University of Missouri School of Law and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

• **Mansoo Ko, Ph.D.**

Mansoo Ko is an assistant professor of physical therapy in the Department of Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences at Angelo State University. Honored for his progressive research, Ko works to develop innovative rehabilitation strategies for the functional improvement of adults with neurological deficits due to strokes, traumatic brain injury, diabetes and Parkinson's Disease and was instrumental in establishing the Gross Motor Control/Motion Analysis laboratory, a research facility stocked with state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment. Securing more than \$200,000 in grants, Ko has furthered his research efforts by collaborating with several Tier I research universities in Texas. He received his bachelor's degree in physical therapy from the Daegu University in South Korea and completed his Ph.D. in the rehabilitation science program at the University of Florida.

• **Lorenz Lutherer, M.D., Ph.D.**

Lorenz Lutherer joined the TTUHSC faculty in 1972 and serves as executive director of the Clinical Research Institute, providing guidance to clinical research investigators through each phase of the research process. He has conducted extensive basic and clinical science research and has obtained grant funding to support other investigators as well. Lutherer has developed and implemented several educational programs and is well-versed in federal and institutional policies. He is a member of the American Physiological Society, the Society of Clinical Research Professionals, and Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians and Investigators. Lutherer received his doctoral degree in physiology from the University of Florida College of Medicine and his medical degree from TTUHSC.



• **Douglas Stocco, Ph.D.**

Douglas Stocco is TTUHSC's executive vice president of research, a professor and interim chair of the Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry and serves as the dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. This year's recipient of The Society for the Study of Reproduction's Carl G. Hartman Award, Stocco is a world-renowned expert in the field of reproductive biology who has been funded by the National Institutes of Health since 1984 and published more than 200 peer-reviewed original scientific articles, book chapters and review articles throughout his research career. The Dean's Faculty Excellence in Research Award in the School of Medicine was renamed the Douglas M. Stocco Scholarship/Research Award in his honor. Stocco received his Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from the University of Toronto.

• **James Yang, Ph.D.**

James Yang is an assistant professor and director of Human-Centric Design Research Lab in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Texas Tech University. Joining Texas Tech in 2008, Yang's research involves human modeling and simulation, ergonomics and bioengineering to develop computer human models that assess products and human performance by replacing traditional physical prototypes to improve efficiencies. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Jilin University in China and his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards went to the following individuals:

• **Lee Cohen, Ph.D.**

Lee Cohen is a professor and chairman of the Department of Psychology at Texas Tech University. Joining the faculty in 2000, he has been instrumental in enhancing curriculum and training programs for psychology students at all levels, specifically elevating Texas Tech's doctoral program in clinical psychology as a national model. Recognized nationally for teaching excellence, Cohen was elected as a Fellow to the prestigious American Psychological Association and has received nearly \$2 million in grants throughout his career. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of California, San Diego and holds a master's and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University.

• **Donna Davis, Ph.D.**

Donna Davis is an associate professor in the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University where she holds the Georgie G. Snyder Professorship in marketing. An executive member of the Teaching Academy at Texas Tech, Davis' devotion to teaching excellence is exemplified in her innovative methods and through her efforts that established the Global Supply Chain Management program to better train students in this critical and high-demand area of business. She earned her master's degree in business administration and Ph.D. in marketing from the University of Tennessee.

• **Michael Dixon, Ph.D.**

Michael Dixon is an assistant professor of biology in the College of Arts and Sciences and curator of the Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians at Angelo State University.



Dedicated to advancing knowledge, Dixon's inventive teaching methods reach beyond textbooks and incorporate techniques such as studying abroad in Costa Rica or conceiving educational card games. He studied biology at Miami University in Ohio and the University of Miami in Florida. Dixon earned a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Texas.

• **Dorothy "Dottie" Durband, Ph.D., AFC**

Dorothy Durband is a professor in the Department of Personal Financial Planning at Texas Tech University where she has been a member of the faculty since 2000. Durband also is the founding chair of the Department of Community, Family, and Addiction Services and director of Red to Black[®], an outreach program that offers financial coaching services to Texas Tech students. Established by Durband, the unique program was the first of its kind in Texas and is recognized as the model for universities across the nation. She holds a bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University, a master's degree from Texas Women's University and a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech University.

• **James Hutson, Ph.D.**

James Hutson serves as TTUHSC's associate vice president for research and is a professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry. A member of the graduate faculty since 1976, he serves on the Educational Operations Committee that assists in the oversight of the first-year curriculum for medical students. Among numerous accomplishments, he established the Iles Elementary School Mentoring Program (2002 – 2010) to foster life-long relationships between medical students and disadvantaged children in the Lubbock area and has been awarded "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" by the Student Senate of the School of Medicine seven times and the John A. Buesseler Memorial teaching award twice throughout his career. Hutson received his bachelor's degree from Peru State College and his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska.

• **Paul Lockman, Ph.D.**

Paul Lockman is the associate dean for Outcomes Assessment and Simulation and an associate professor in the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy at Amarillo. A 2007 recipient of the prestigious American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Innovations in Teaching award, Lockman actively teaches pharmacology, toxicology and anatomy. He is the author of more than 60 scientific manuscripts and has also received more than \$2.5 million in research funding from the Department of Defense, National Institutes of Health and private drug companies. Lockman earned his bachelor's degree in nursing from West Texas A&M University and received his Ph.D. from TTUHSC.

• **Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D., MT (ASCP)**

Lori Rice-Spearman serves as assistant dean and program director for the TTUHSC School of Allied Health Sciences and is a professor in the Department of Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care. A faculty member and student mentor for more than 20 years, Rice-Spearman is a member of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and serves as laboratory consultant for the Student Health Services, successfully driving the office to achieve exemplary certification from the Commission on Laboratory



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Accreditation. She received her master's degree and Ph.D. from Texas Tech University.

Each winner receives a commemorative medallion and a \$5,000 award. The Chancellor's Council raises funds for student scholarships and recruitment, faculty awards and support, and various other programs of excellence.

CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 10, 2012

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Raider Red Makes Final Round in National Mascot Voting Contest Red faces off with No. 1 seed from South Carolina.

[Editor's Note: Raider Red is available for "interviews" and appearances to promote the voting. Please contact Bruce Bills to schedule.]

When the dust and gun smoke settled at 11 a.m. today (Dec. 10), Raider Red, Texas Tech University's costumed mascot, was still standing – with his guns up – to make it to the final round in the Capital One 2012 Mascot Challenge.

Red took second place out of 16 mascots in regular-season voting to contend for the most votes nationwide and will now face the first-place Cocker the Gamecock from the University of South Carolina, who was undefeated in regular-season voting.

The mascot with the most votes at the end of the championship round will be the Capital One National Mascot of the Year and will be announced during the 2013 Capital One Bowl on Jan. 1, 2013. The winner will be awarded a \$20,000 scholarship to help fund its school's mascot program. Each of the 2012 participants also will receive \$5,000 for their university mascot program.

Raider Red's only regular-season loss came in week one against the University of Delaware's YoUDee, who was eliminated in the quarter-finals.

"First, we want to thank everyone who has voted; the individuals, groups, and the media for helping us get the word out," said Stephanie Rhode, director for Texas Tech's spirit squads. "Since the final round comes during academic finals and graduation week, we need everyone – students, staff, alumni and community members to continue to vote as many times as they can, all week long. We will have voting power hours each night, but fans must vote any time they have free time."

The Capital One National Mascot of the Year is determined by Internet voting. Fans can vote unlimited times at capitalonebowl.com/vote. Twitter voters must use the hashtag #CapitalOneRaiderRed.

Fans also can follow Raider Red on [Facebook.com/TTURaiderRed](https://www.facebook.com/TTURaiderRed) and Twitter @TTURaiderRed.

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The original 16 contestants were selected by a panel of judges from Capital One from among the mascot entries received from all eligible NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision schools.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Stephanie Rhode, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433 or stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu. To schedule Raider Red for an interview, contact Bruce Bills, cheer coach, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433 or bruce.bills@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 10, 2012

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Announces December Commencement Schedule

- WHAT:** More than 2,600 students will graduate during the 2012 December commencement activities.
- WHEN:** Friday (Dec. 14): **3 p.m.** College of Arts & Sciences
7 p.m. Graduate School
- Saturday (Dec. 15) **9 a.m.** College of Media & Communication,
College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural
Resources, College of Visual & Performing Arts,
Rawls College of Business, Honors College
1:30 p.m. Whitacre College of Engineering,
College of Education, College of Architecture,
College of Human Sciences and University
Programs
5:00 p.m. School of Law Hooding Ceremony
- WHERE:** All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena at 18th Street and Indiana Avenue, with the exception of the School of Law Hooding Ceremony, which will take place in the Lanier Auditorium at the Law School, 1802 Hartford Ave.
- EVENT:** Ceremonies can be viewed online at commencement.ttu.edu/livestream.

For more about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Peggy Flores, commencement coordinator, Texas Tech University Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, (806) 742-7742 or peggy.flores@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 10, 2012

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Researchers Find High Estrogen-Mimicking Chemical Concentrations in Dog Training Batons Concentrations of BPA less in common dog toys.

Sometimes orange, sometimes white, dog trainers often use plastic fetching batons called bumpers to teach dogs how to retrieve. But researchers at Texas Tech University have discovered that the dogs also may fetch a mouthful of potentially dangerous chemicals at the same time.

Researchers also found these chemicals, though at significantly lower concentrations, in a multitude of plastic chew toys purchased from a pet store.

The research was conducted by Kimberly Wooten, a master's student using the project as her thesis, and Phil Smith, an associate professor of terrestrial ecotoxicology at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health at Texas Tech. Though unpublished, Wooten presented the results at the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry conference held in California.

"I raise and train Labrador retrievers and hunt with them as well," Smith said, explaining what inspired him and Wooten to conduct the experiments. "In the process of training a lab, you do a lot of work with these plastic bumpers. I have a lot of bumpers in my garage, and they spend a lot of time in the mouths of my retrievers. Well, lots of attention has been given to chemicals in plastics lately regarding their effects on humans. Since we all care about our dogs, and we want them to be as healthy and smart and well-behaved as possible, we decided to look into this."

Wooten and Smith said they predicted the possibility that the bumpers could leach phthalates and bisphenol A (BPA), which are used to give elasticity to plastic and vinyl and are known endocrine disruptors that mimic estrogen or act as anti-androgens and could lead to negative health effects. However, both said the findings have created more questions than answers because hardly any data exists on long-term effects of these chemicals on man's best friend.

"The whole end goal was to answer the questions, 'What does this mean for my pet? Is this a concern for our health?'" Wooten said. "We don't have a good answer yet because there's no good data to compare to our findings."

To test for the chemicals, Wooten and Smith created simulated dog saliva, then simulated chewing by squeezing the bumpers and dog toys with stainless steel salad tongs.

Some bumpers and toys were weathered outside as well to see if older toys gave off more chemicals, Smith said.

“We found that the aging or weathering the toys increased concentrations of BPA and phthalates,” Smith said. “The toys had lower concentrations of phthalates than the bumpers, so that’s good news. But they also had some other chemicals that mimicked estrogen. We need to find out what those are.”

Wooten said BPA and phthalates can have effects on developing fetuses and can have a lifelong effect on offspring on lab animals. Some studies on humans conclude that BPA poses no health risks while others cite a number of adverse effects. Because of this, the U.S. government banned the use of BPA in baby bottles in 2012.

Wooten said questions still remain also as to how much of a dose a dog may get from playing with the bumpers, since it was difficult to say how much of these chemicals may actually leach out into a dog’s mouth.

“The interaction of pet health and environmental chemicals is understudied,” Wooten said. “What may be a safe dose for one species isn’t always a good measure for another species. But the amount of BPA and phthalates we found from the bumpers would be considered on the high end of what you might find in children’s toys.”

CONTACT: Phil Smith, associate professor of terrestrial ecotoxicology, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, Texas Tech University, (806) 885-4567, or phil.smith@tiehh.ttu.edu; Kimberly Wooten, master’s student, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, (810) 599-0963 or kimberly.wooten@tiehh.ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 12, 2012

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Announces December Commencement

More than 2,600 students will graduate Friday and Saturday (Dec. 14-15) during five Texas Tech University ceremonies held at the United Spirit Arena.

Commencement exercises for the College of Arts & Sciences begin at 3 p.m. Friday. The Graduate School will follow with its ceremony at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, the College of Media & Communication, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, College of Visual & Performing Arts, Rawls College of Business and Honors College will begin their ceremony at 9 a.m. The Whitacre College of Engineering, College of Education, College of Architecture, College of Human Sciences and University Programs will begin commencement exercises at 1:30 p.m. The School of Law will hold its hooding ceremony at 5 p.m.

All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena at 18th Street and Indiana Avenue, with the exception of the School of Law, which will take place in the Lanier Auditorium at the law school, 1802 Hartford Ave.

United States Secretary of Navy Ray Mabus will speak at Friday's ceremonies. Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance will speak at Saturday's undergraduate ceremonies. Mary Alice McLarty, president of the American Association for Justice and Texas Tech School of Law alumna, will speak at the School of Law Hooding Ceremony.

Ceremonies can be viewed online at www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream.

Honored students

Outstanding students, selected based on all-around achievement, will carry banners representing their respective colleges.

The following students are banner bearers: Holly Marie Harrison, an agricultural communications major from Texico, N.M., College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources; Justin Kyle Bell, an architecture major from Austin, College of Architecture; Valerie Samantha Brooker, a biology major from Montreal, Canada, College of Arts & Sciences; Alexander Thomas Fabry, a finance major from Austin, Rawls College of Business; Erin Elizabeth Wright, a multidisciplinary studies major from Katy, College of Education; Ryan Michael Brown, an electrical engineering major from Grand Prairie,

Whitacre College of Engineering; Wendee Christine Langdon, an animal sciences doctoral student from San Antonio, Graduate School; Caitlin M. Mongrain, a classics major from Guthrie, Honors College; Kelly D. Butler, a music major from Georgetown, Honors College; Austin Miles Felding a mechanical engineering major from Austin, Honors College; Olivia Diane Segulja, an early childhood major from Midland, College of Human Sciences; Kelsey Whitlock, an advertising major from Mount Vernon, College of Media & Communication; Melinda Stuart, a university studies major from Lubbock, University Programs; and Amy Elizabeth Jenkins, a music major from Houston, College of Visual & Performing Arts.

The highest ranking December graduates for each college include:

- College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources: Holly Marie Harrison, an agricultural communications major from Texico, N.M.
- College of Architecture: Justin Kyle Bell, an architecture major from Austin
- College of Arts & Sciences: Destiny Naomi Berzruczyk, an English major from Missouri Valley, Iowa; Cassandra Irene Coronado, a sociology major from Kerrville; Derek Scott Crider, an exercise and sport sciences major from Garland; Mamie Gao, a biology major from Vancouver, Canada; Ashlee Kay Hemphill, an exercise and sports sciences major from Amarillo; Mackenzie Leigh Hughes, a psychology major from Corpus Christi; Caitlin Monroe Mongrain, a classics major from Guthrie; Christina Posadas, a psychology major from Sundown; and Whitley McCall Yi, a microbiology major from Lubbock
- Rawls College of Business: Kristen Julie Hudspeth, an accounting major from Carrollton; Jennifer Nicole Regan, an accounting major from Garland; Alexander Thomas Fabry, a finance major from Austin; and Stephen Gean McAdams, a management information systems major from Webb City, Mo.
- College of Education: Erin Elizabeth Wright, a multidisciplinary studies major from Katy
- Whitacre College of Engineering: Ryan Michael Brown, an electrical engineering major from Grand Prairie; Tiago Barbieri Couto Jabur, an industrial engineering major from Porto Alegre, Brazil; Dakota Le McDonald, a civil engineering major from Amarillo; and Earnest O'Neil Tarrell, a civil engineering major from Odessa
- Honors College: Christine Marie Upton, an environment and humanities major from Lubbock
- College of Human Sciences: Dawn Marie Abbot, a human development and family studies major from Whitehouse; Meagan Lee Blair, a human development and family studies major from Pharr; Rachel Rene Burden, an early childhood major from Lubbock; Sara Elizabeth Moffett, an early childhood major from Houston; Kaitlyn Michelle Pinkerton, an early childhood major from Midland and Olivia Diane Segulja, an early childhood major from Midland



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

- College of Media & Communication: Kelsey Whitlock, an advertising major from Mount Vernon
- University Programs: Melinda Stuart, a university studies major from Lubbock
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Amy Elizabeth Jenkins, a music major from Houston

Additional Information

Receptions for each college will be held immediately following the ceremonies. Receptions will be located as follows:

- College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources: atrium area, Animal Science Building
- College of Architecture: Student Gallery ground level, College of Architecture
- College of Arts & Sciences: foyer area in front of room 104, Holden Hall
- Rawls College of Business: McCoy Atrium, Rawls College of Business
- College of Education: second-floor foyer, Education Building
- School of Engineering: Livermore Center
- College of Human Sciences: El Centro, Human Sciences Building
- College of Media & Communication: third-floor student lounge, Media & Communication Building
- University Programs: Matador Room, Student Union Building
 - Wind Energy: University College Building
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Foyer, Maedgen Theatre

Jones AT&T stadium will be open for graduates to take photos with family members and friends Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Graduates may enter through the top of home tunnel

on the southwest side by Gate 1. Graduates and their visitors will be able to park in the C1 lot west of the stadium.

For more information about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit
<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

**CONTACT: Peggy Flores, commencement coordinator, Texas Tech University
Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, (806) 742-7742
or peggy.flores@ttu.edu.**



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 13, 2012

CONTACT: Jaryn Jones, jaryn.jones@ttu.edu
806-742-0057

Texas Tech Receives \$12 Million Gift to Support Students

Officials from the Texas Tech University System and J.T. and Margaret Talkington Foundation Board announced today a \$12 million gift that will establish the J.T. and Margaret Talkington Graduate Fellowship Endowment.

The gift will fund approximately 135 graduate fellows per year and is eligible for state matching funds by the Texas Research Incentive Program, which could double the gift's impact for Texas Tech. In honor of this gift, the facilities committee of the Board of Regents approved renaming the new Boston Avenue Residence Hall as the J.T. and Margaret Talkington Hall.

Norton Baker, president of the J.T. and Margaret Talkington Foundation Board, said the endowment was provided to help attract top students and increase student enrollment.

"J.T. and Margaret Talkington loved Texas Tech University and its students," Baker said. "We knew they would be proud to be a part of this project that will attract students from all over the United States. We are confident that the impact of the Talkington Foundation gift will help Texas Tech and Lubbock grow significantly, and we are delighted that the Talkington name will be prominently displayed on the new state-of-the-art residence hall."

More than 5,000 graduate students are enrolled at Texas Tech, contributing to various research projects essential to the university's progress to Tier One status. Furthermore, these students have an annual economic impact of more than \$232 million on the Lubbock economy.

Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, said he believes this endowment will have an impact on Texas Tech.

"Graduate students are a key factor in our success as we move toward the goal of becoming a nationally competitive research university," Hance said. "We are grateful to the Talkington Foundation Board for their generosity, and I am pleased that the new residence hall will honor J.T. and Margaret's investment in Texas Tech."

The J.T. and Margaret Talkington Foundation was established in 1997 to honor the history of the couple's philanthropy and dedication to the city of Lubbock.

Office of Communications and Marketing

CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057 or robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 14, 2012

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Research: Reaction to Mosaic Screens Differ with Ties to Teams Sports broadcasting's latest technology shows divided results.

Beginning Saturday (Dec. 15) there is a college football bowl game nearly every day or night until the Jan. 7 championship game – 35 of them in all – with broadcast advertising dollars and audience reach attached to them. With so many games and viewing choices, how do the networks keep fans engaged?

A Texas Tech University researcher has studied how one particularly novel broadcast technology addresses that challenge, and whether or not it works.

Glenn Cummins, an assistant professor in the College of Media and Communication looked at a method that showed the game using a mosaic format, where multiple camera angles were shown simultaneously.

His findings, “Can Visual Complexity Impact Appreciation of Mediated Sports? Team Identification and Viewer Response to a Complex Presentation of College Football,” were published in the *International Journal of Sport Communication*. His research team also included Ed Youngblood and Mike Milford, both of Auburn University.

“Networks use a variety of production techniques to sustain interest in a sports broadcast,” Cummins said. “These mosaic formats are becoming increasingly common for hard-core sports fans. For example, NFL’s GameMix channel lets football fanatics monitor eight games at once.”

The study tested how this visually complex format impacted the viewing experience for viewers who were die-hard fans of one of the teams depicted as well as those who didn’t have any ties to the team.

“To do this, we collected data both here at Texas Tech as well as at Auburn University,” Cummins said. “Students at both schools watched either a traditional game broadcast or the mosaic-style broadcast and rated how much they enjoyed the experience.”

Cummins found that for viewers without ties to the teams, the visually complex mosaic format actually led to a more positive viewing experience compared to a traditional broadcast. But for viewers with strong ties to teams, the mosaic format was greatly disliked.

“All this speaks to networks’ growing desire to cater to different segments of the viewing audience and provide a viewing experience custom tailored to sports fans of all types,” Cummins said. “We’re seeing more and more of this technology in living rooms, and I think broadcasters are recognizing these changes in the viewing experience, and trying to come up with ways to capitalize on them.”

Using technological embellishments over a broadcast is useful for networks because there are so many things they can’t control. What they can control are the technological bells and whistles they put on top of a broadcast.

“If you think about any sport – football, baseball, gymnastics – there’s an awful lot of down time that has to be filled between events. So what broadcasters can do is find different things to fill in those lulls between actual moments of game competition,” he said.

Cummins said, looking at the history of sports broadcasting, there have been changes over time. Many people talked about how television changed sports; how sports changed television – the symbiotic relationship between television and sports. This is something that has had a lot of attention in scholarly literature for the past few decades.

“As viewers, we’ve become so accustomed to the first-down line, so accustomed to the game clock, and these other features that we see on sports, we can’t remember sports without these things,” Cummins said. “A few years from now it’s going to be the same thing – we can’t remember watching sports without these unique perspectives of game play.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Glenn Cummins, assistant professor, College of Mass Communications, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-3117, or glenn.cummins@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 14, 2012

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Hurricane Research Team Wraps Up Historic Season, Prepares for Next

Lessons learned in 2012 and equipment upgrades for 2013.

It's the off-season for researchers at the Texas Tech University Wind Science and Engineering Research Center (WiSE). The team is now busy installing upgrades to its arsenal of StickNet probes, and reflecting on an historic Atlantic hurricane season.

Rich Krupar, a doctoral student, has just concluded his second season as student field coordinator with the Texas Tech University Hurricane Research Team (TTUHRT), and given the improvements to its equipment, he is especially looking forward to next year. Krupar is at the forefront of hurricane research, which is not bad for a guy from Ohio.

It was as an undergrad at Valparaiso University that Krupar visited New Orleans with his track and field team in 2005. Together, they volunteered for cleanup following Hurricane Katrina, and witnessed the many lives shattered by the deadliest and most destructive Atlantic hurricane on record.

Seven years later, Krupar returned to the region during the first of two TTUHRT deployments for the 2012 season. This time, it was not for cleanup, but to gather data as Hurricane Isaac made landfall. The team utilized probes with both real-time telemetry, and those without.

"Our real-time observations were displayed on the big screen at the Mississippi Emergency Management Association (MEMA) state emergency operations center located at the Air National Guard Army Reserve Base in Gulfport, Miss.," Krupar said. "The data was utilized to brief MEMA, army, police and even Governor Phil Bryant, all of whom were present through the event. It was great exposure, getting Texas Tech's data to the people making the tough decisions."

TTUHRT is dedicated to mitigating the effects of landfalling hurricanes on life and property. It is part of a quest for hurricane preparedness that residents of the Gulf Coast are accustomed to. Such was not the case two months later, when the team was deployed to intercept the 18th named storm of the season, as it ravaged the northeastern United States.

“Sandy was predicted well in advance by numerical model guidance, however there was uncertainty as to when and where it would make landfall,” Krupar said. “We wanted to obtain meaningful observations that would experience onshore flow along the coast to supplement our growing database, so we had to get the StickNets down as fast as we could, in as many strategic places as possible.”

The team’s primary objectives were to observe the wind maximum at landfall and the influence of the vertical wind profile on the surface wind field. It was a rigorous work schedule as they placed the probes up and down the Eastern Seaboard, while circumnavigating the traffic and the chaos of residential evacuations.

“They were concerned about one probe in particular, and they weighed their decision very heavily,” said John Schroeder, director of the Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center. “What put it into perspective was when you considered the surroundings. If that StickNet is lost, so are all the homes around it.”

These probes all featured the real-time communications, which allowed data to be transmitted back to Lubbock via cellular network. From safety, the team watched the numbers come in, and they held their breath as data from StickNet 0101A failed to update. The only way to confirm the probe’s demise was to return to the site after the storm passed and investigate post-storm aerial photography. Krupar said it was the first probe lost due to storm inundation.

“I vividly remember us discussing over and over, the risk versus the reward. And we look back at the photos and wonder what we could have done better,” Krupar said. “The data received on the server was archived and so we now have a pretty good idea what was going on with the probe just before it failed.”

At 1,100 miles in diameter, Superstorm Sandy became the largest Atlantic hurricane on record, resulting in more than 250 deaths and up to \$70 billion in damaged homes and infrastructure.

“There have been comparisons to the Perfect Storm (1991) which formed in part from Hurricane Grace, but Sandy made landfall in the Mid-Atlantic, while Grace scraped the New England area,” Krupar said. “Each storm is unique in its own way. I don’t know if in our lifetime we’ll ever see this happen again.”

A data summary of the 2012 deployments is now available at the [TTUHRT web site](#).

Among the improvements currently underway for the 2013 season, real-time communications for all StickNet probes. The team encourages the public to follow them on [Facebook](#) for updates from the field.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

CONTACT: John Schroeder, professor of Atmospheric Sciences and director of Wind Science and Engineering Research Center (WiSE), Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5678 or john.schroeder@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 17, 2012

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Board of Regents Approve Proposals for New Degree Programs

The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents on Friday (Dec. 14) approved two new proposed degree programs: a Master of Science in Professional Science in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; and a Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The degree programs still must be certified by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and acknowledged by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools before they can be offered.

"The master's degree could begin as early as the fall of 2013, and the bachelor's degree could take a bit longer," said Texas Tech Provost Bob Smith. "We are excited about both degrees, because they embody three common elements: interdisciplinary curricula, emphases on areas important in future job growth, and critical focus on workplace needs in background and skills."

The professional science degree qualifies students for employment in the public or private sector. It offers two tracks: environmental sustainability (taught through the Department Biological Sciences) and Natural Resource Management (offered in the Department of Natural Resources Management).

According to Mark Wallace, chair of the Department of Natural Resources Management, the degree will add important graduate studies options.

"The two departments likely to be most affected are Natural Resources Management and Plant and Soil Science," he said. "This distance-based approach with a strong internship component will provide professionals in the natural resources and ecology arena in Texas and the region a unique graduate program opportunity to further their education."

The target audience is people with a bachelor's degree of some kind in biology/natural resources, who are already employed in an agency somewhere. The degree will enhance their career and promotion paths. Students need a Bachelor of Science degree to apply.

The global studies degree will prepare students for careers in diplomatic service, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and agencies involved in foreign

-more-

policy. It is an interdisciplinary major that emphasizes social, economic, historical and cultural aspects of world affairs.

Development of this program is supported by the university's Office of International Affairs and the Department of Political Science.

"Information gathered on other programs shows rising demand for such a degree," said John Barkdull, associate professor, undergraduate director and global studies adviser for political science. "This degree puts Texas Tech on par with peer institutions in the state, in the region and nationally. In addition, it would contribute to important Texas Tech strategic goals: championing global engagement, educating a diverse and globally competitive workforce, and enhancing the cultural and economic development of the state, nation and world."

Tibor Nagy, vice provost for International Affairs, also is excited about the possibilities this degree could offer Texas Tech students. Nagy served as ambassador to Guinea and Ethiopia before joining the university.

"When I studied at Texas Tech as an undergraduate there was no such program to prepare me for the diplomatic service; I had to gain supplemental knowledge on my own after graduating," he said. "If I were a student today wanting to pursue a career in diplomacy, I would enthusiastically sign up for this program."

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



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 18, 2012

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
(806) 742-3990, ext. 249

Texas Tech Law Ranks in Top Hispanic Institutions for Third Year

For the third consecutive year, the Texas Tech University School of Law ranks as one of the top law schools for Hispanics, according to The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine.

Tied at 22 with Boston University School of Law, Texas Tech has 27 Hispanic students, meaning that 14 percent of the 197 Hispanic students who attained a doctor of jurisprudence in Texas earned it from Texas Tech Law during the 2011 survey period, according to the report.

"We are honored to be recognized as a top law school for Hispanic students," said Texas Tech Law Dean Darby Dickerson. "The School of Law is dedicated to diversifying the legal community and fostering a student body reflective of shifting demographic trends within our state and the nation."

Each year, The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine reports on law schools conferring the most degrees on Hispanics. The information is based on National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The report this year highlights the top 25 schools.

Find more information about Texas Tech University School of Law at www.law.ttu.edu.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

Contact: Cory Chandler, communications coordinator, Texas Tech School of Law,
(806) 742-3990 ext. 249, or cory.chandler@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 18, 2012

CONTACT: Norman Martin, norman.martin@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2808

Texas Tech Ag Economics Team Unveils New Analysis Tool for Cattle Producers Producers have a new tool to evaluate business decisions.

During the past three years, an impressive problem-solving computer program called the Stocker Cattle Analysis Tool slowly evolved in the academic recesses of several agricultural economists' offices across the nation. Now, it's ready to roll out the gate at no cost to cattle producers.

"In a straightforward way, producers now have a new, visually compelling tool to use in analyzing their business options," said Thomas Knight, an internationally recognized agriculture risk management expert and Horn Professor with Texas Tech's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma generate roughly 3 million stocker cattle annually. Stocker cattle also are produced throughout the Southeastern United States. Stocker cattle are generally considered young, lightweight animals that are pastured on winter wheat or other cool season annual forages to increase their weight by 300 or more pounds before they are placed in feedlots for final finishing.

"Developed in a partnership between Texas Tech University, Mississippi State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture-Risk Management Agency, the decision tool is specifically designed to assist stocker cattle producers in evaluating a wide range of production, insurance and marketing decisions on their cattle," Knight said.

Producers who produce both cattle and wheat for grain also can evaluate a similar set of decisions regarding their wheat production.

Among the decisions the online tool can be used to evaluate are profitability and risk for different types and weights of cattle; wheat production versus graze out; and purchase of alternative wheat insurance products including: yield protection, revenue protection, and revenue protection with harvest price exclusion.

Other options include the purchase of Livestock Risk Protection on stocker cattle; and choice among farm program options. Pricing options for both stocker cattle and wheat include cash pricing, forward contracting, or futures hedging.

Knight said that up to five alternatives can be considered and compared in a single analysis. Results for each alternative analyzed can be displayed both graphically and in

Office of Communications and Marketing

tabular format, Knight said. In addition, inputs and results summaries for all alternatives can be printed for reference in decision making or for comparison with future analysis conducted with the decision tool, he said.

“The decision environment confronted by agricultural producers is complex,” said Knight, Texas Tech’s Emabeth Thompson Professor of Risk Management. “This decision aid is structured to cut through some of that complexity and help stocker cattle producers make better informed decisions that consider both profitability and risk exposure. By making this comprehensive tool available, we hope to save producers time and assist them in achieving their business goals.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Thomas Knight, professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, (806) 742-1921 or tom.knight@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 19, 2012

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Professor Joins Obama, Bernanke and Boehner on List of Power 20

A professor of personal financial planning at Texas Tech University was named to the InvestmentNews Power 20 list of men and women who will play a key role in shaping the financial advisory industry in 2013.

InvestmentNews noted research published by Michael Finke in 2012 that estimated the impact of proposed fiduciary legislation on the brokerage industry as the “paper heard ‘round the advisory world.” The paper, published in the *Journal of Financial Planning*, investigated the behavior of brokers within states that had a stricter fiduciary standard and concluded that legislation requiring a fiduciary standard wouldn’t have an adverse effect on brokers’ ability to serve customers. The industry had argued that a stricter fiduciary standard would harm consumers by limiting the availability of advising services.

“Part of our goal as the largest academic program in financial planning is to advance the concept of advising services as a profession,” Finke said. “Through our research on a number of topics, we’ve been able to improve the base of knowledge within the financial planning industry. We hope to have an even greater impact on the profession in 2013.”

Finke also will be the keynote speaker at the National Association of Professional Financial Advisors conference in 2013. NAPFA is the country’s leading professional association of fee-only financial advisors.

Other members of the 2013 InvestmentNews Power 20 include others involved in the debate over fiduciary legislation of financial advisors such as U.S. Senator-elect Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass), Securities and Exchange Commission chairman Elisse Walter, Labor Secretary Phyllis Borzi, and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority CEO Richard Ketchum.

View the complete list [here](#).

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

**CONTACT: Michael Finke, professor, Department of Personal Financial Planning,
College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5050 or
michael.finke@ttu.edu.**

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 20, 2012

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu
806-742-2136

Texas Tech University Joins National Moment of Silence

WHAT: Ringing of the Bells

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. Friday (Dec. 21)

WHERE: Bell Tower, east wing of the Administration Building (media are invited to set up in Memorial Circle)

EVENT: In response to Connecticut Gov. Daniel Malloy's request for a national moment of silence, Texas Gov. Rick Perry has asked the state to join him in recognizing and reflecting on the 26 victims of last week's school shootings in Newtown, Conn. The university bells will ring 26 times, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Friday.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Chris Cook, managing director, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or chris.cook@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 20, 2012

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
(806) 742-3990 ext. 249

Texas Tech Law School Anniversary Receives Congressional Recognition Neugebauer enters recognition into Congressional Record.

U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, entered official recognition of the Texas Tech University School of Law's 45th anniversary into the Congressional Record of the 112th Congress.

Speaking Dec. 17 on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, Neugebauer congratulated faculty, staff, students and alumni on the milestone achievement.

"Texas Tech Law has grown tremendously since its founding in 1967, but it has remained true to its core principles," he said. "Although today's incoming classes are nearly three times as large as the first class, they maintain a focus on practical instruction to prepare students for professional success."

In his remarks, Neugebauer noted Texas Tech Law's nationally recognized programs as well as alumni who have consistently high rates of employment and bar passage. He said Dean Darby Dickerson is leading Texas Tech into the 21st century with an ambitious strategic plan that will allow generations of law students to flourish.

Dickerson thanked Neugebauer for his praise of Texas Tech Law's success.

"We are honored by Congressman Neugebauer's recognition of our anniversary," Dickerson said. "Congressman Neugebauer has been a strong advocate of Tech Law and our faculty, staff, students and alumni greatly appreciate this official celebration of our achievement in the Congressional Record."

More information about Texas Tech University School of Law may be found at www.law.ttu.edu.

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Contact: Cory Chandler, communications coordinator, Texas Tech School of Law,
(806) 742-3990 ext. 249, or cory.chandler@ttu.edu.



News Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 4 P.M. CT

DATE: Dec. 21, 2012

CONTACT: Chris Cook, chris.cook@ttu.edu, (806) 742-2136

Nancy Sharp, Lubbock ISD Communications Director, (806) 786-1363

Texas Tech University, LISD, Community Partners Receive Dept. of Ed Grant East Lubbock to benefit from Promise Neighborhood grants

Today, the U.S. Department of Education announced \$60 million in 2012 Promise Neighborhoods grants. As one of seven implementation grantees, East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood consortium will receive \$24.5 million over the next five years. East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood is a collaboration of the Lubbock Independent School District, Texas Tech University, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and multiple community partners – Covenant Health System, South Plains Food Bank, United Supermarkets and United Way of Lubbock.

“Moving ahead in this increasingly competitive global economy, all Americans must come together to maximize the potential of our greatest resource, our people, our children,” said Scott Ridley, dean of the Texas Tech College of Education and author of the grant. “We at Texas Tech University are humbled and grateful for this opportunity to join with our community to do this essential and grassroots work.”

The grant provides wrap-around services to support and improve student learning and leverages social services and community resources in an aligned way in order to break the cycle of poverty.

Additional information about the grant and what it will mean to the Lubbock community over the next five years will be forthcoming in the next several weeks. A formal press announcement and gathering will be scheduled following the holiday break.

The U.S. Department of Education release can be found at [Promise Neighborhood Grants](#).