

Find the Evidence!

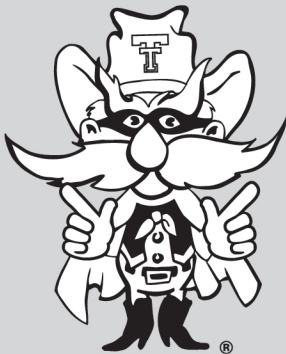
Directions: Read this passage and then answer the questions on the next page.

MASKED RIDER



Wearing black riding clothes, mask, bolero hat and red cape, the Masked Rider, mounted on a black quarter horse, leads the football team onto the field. Early Tech students started the tradition on Sept. 26, 1936, calling them Ghost Riders because no one knew their identity. The rider wearing a scarlet satin cape and mounted on a palomino stallion, would appear mysteriously during home football games, circle the field at breakneck speed, and disappear for the remainder of the game. Years later, George Tate, a member of the class of 1937, owned up to being the first Ghost Rider.

On Jan. 1, 1954, when Tech played in the Gator Bowl, a horse named Blackie was ridden by Texas Tech student Joe Kirk Fulton. Wearing a Levi's red shirt, red and black cape and a black cowboy hat, Fulton led the team onto the field. The Atlanta Constitution described Fulton as "cowboy in a red cape on a charger" and noted that the event was "typically Texas." The dramatic entry by the horse and rider electrified the crowd and the team, which beat Auburn 35-13. Ed Danforth of the Atlanta Constitution wrote: "No team in any bowl game ever made a more sensational entrance." In 1997, Fulton re-enacted the famous first ride before the family day game against Kansas State.



RAIDER RED

In 1971, the Southwest Conference passed a rule that prohibited schools to take live animals to away games unless the team you were playing did not have a problem with it. This sparked an idea for Jim Gaspard. Jim was a member of the Saddle Tramps and created a drawing of Raider Red inspired by the late Dirk West, a Lubbock Cartoonist. Raider Red would serve as an alternative to Texas Tech's Masked Rider. To this day, Raider Red shows up to sporting events and other community activities. You can always see Raider Red shaking hands with the crowds, posing for pictures and dancing!

VICTORY BELLS

The class of 1936 gave the Victory Bells as their gift to Tech. They rang for the first time at the group's graduation. They rang all night until 6:00 a.m. after Tech beat TCU, keeping Lubbock residents awake. Thereafter, the ringing of the bells was limited to 30 minutes after men's and women's athletic victories and special occasions. The Victory Bells – one large and one small, which combine to weigh 1,200 pounds – hang in the east tower of the Administration Building.



SCHOOL SONG

The Matador Song was written by Harry Lemaire and R.C. Marshall. Lemaire was band director at Tech from 1925-34. He composed the music. Marshall, editor of the La Ventana, wrote the words in 1930. The words and title represent Texas Tech's original athletic team's name of Matadors. It is sung at athletic events and occasions such as Graduation.

Find the Evidence!

Directions: 1) Highlight or underline the answer in the passage. 2) Answers must be in complete sentences.

★ In what year did the Masked Rider become a tradition at Texas Tech University?

★ Who was the first Ghost Rider at Tech?

★ Who created Raider Red?

★ Who inspired Raider Red?

★ Why were the Victory Bells limited to only ringing for 30 minutes?

★ How much do the Victory Bells weigh?

★ When do fans, students, faculty, and staff sing the Matador Song?
