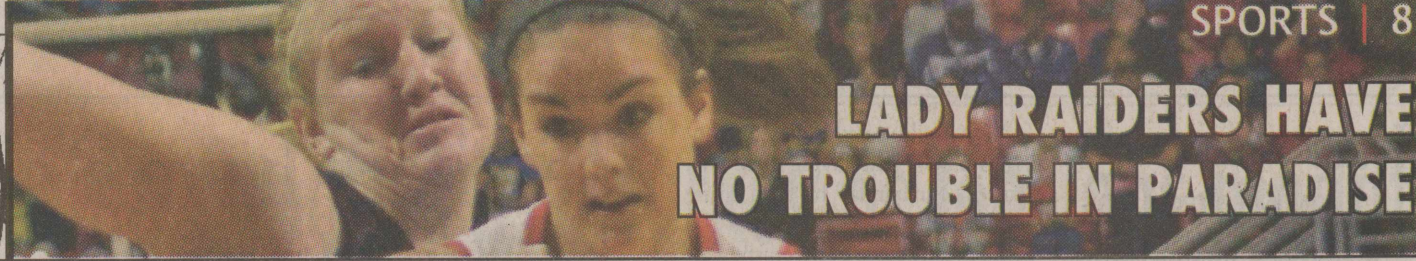


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MONDAY, NOV. 27, 2006
VOLUME 81 ■ ISSUE 62

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(INSIDE)

Knight on track to break record. See how close he is on Page 8.

(INBRIEF)

STATE

Sexual predator statute used by state for 1st time

HOUSTON (AP) — The state's first convicted murderer to be tried under an obscure law designed to identify dangerous sexual predators will face strict treatment guidelines after his release from prison next year.

Wesley Wayne Miller, 44, is nearing the end of a 25-year prison sentence for the 1982 murder of 18-year-old Retha Stratton, who was stabbed 38 times after refusing his sexual advances.

In a recent civil trial under the Sexually Violent Predator Act, a Montgomery County jury decided that Miller fit the profile of someone who probably would commit the same crime again.

NATION

Global warming case confronts high court

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court hears arguments this week in a case that could determine whether the Bush administration must change course in how it deals with the threat of global warming.

A dozen states as well as environmental groups and large cities are trying to convince the court that the Environmental Protection Agency must regulate, as a matter of public health, the amount of carbon dioxide that comes from vehicles.

WORLD

Economist leads banana baron in Ecuador election

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — A leftist nationalist who is friendly with Venezuela's anti-U.S. president held a commanding lead over a Bible-toting banana tycoon in Sunday's runoff presidential election in Ecuador, exit polls showed.

The tall and charismatic Rafael Correa received nearly 57 percent of the vote, compared to 43 percent for Alvaro Noboa, according to an exit poll conducted by CEDATOS-Gallup.

DEATH TOLL

2875

U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



SUNNY
HIGH 70/
LOW 44

Tuesday



SUNNY
HIGH 70/
LOW 42

INSIDE

- Classifieds.....9
- Crossword.....5
- La Vida.....7
- Opinions.....4
- Sports.....8

Impatience with Iraqi government grows

By **BEN FELLER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional leaders displayed eroding patience in the Iraqi government on Sunday, adding pressure on President Bush and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to find a faster path to peace when they meet this week.

"It is not too late. The United States can still extricate itself honorably from an impending disaster in Iraq," Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, a potential presidential contender in 2008, said in urging for a planned withdrawal of U.S. troops.

"If the president fails to build a bipartisan foundation for an exit strategy, America will

pay a high price for this blunder — one that we will have difficulty recovering from in the years ahead," Hagel wrote in Sunday's *Washington Post*.

As the U.S. involvement in Iraq surpassed the length of America's participation in World War II, lawmakers have dwindling confidence in the U.S.-supported Iraqi government. It was the deadliest week of sectarian fighting in Baghdad since the war began in March 2003.

"I think what we've got to do is go around the Maliki government in certain situations," said Republican Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, another possible presidential candidate. "Let's work with other groups, and let's get regional buy-in into this."

Bush, after a NATO summit in Europe, plans to meet with al-Maliki on Wednesday and Thursday in Jordan. That summit, coupled with Vice President's trip to Saudi Arabia on Saturday, is evidence of the administration's stepped-up effort to bring stability to the region.

The host of the meeting, Jordan's King Abdullah, said Sunday the problems in the Middle East go beyond the war in Iraq. He said much of the region soon could become engulfed in violence unless the central issues are addressed quickly.

The king said he was hopeful the leaders will find a way to reduce the level of violence.

"We hope there will be something dra-

matic. The challenges, obviously, in front of both of them are immense," he said.

Iraq's leaders promised Sunday to track down those responsible for the recent attacks, and al-Maliki urged his national unity government of Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds to curb the violence by stopping their public disputes.

The Iraqi prime minister is under pressure from Shiite politicians loyal to the radical anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr who have threatened to boycott parliament and the Cabinet if al-Maliki meets with Bush.

"This is all political posturing. It's all red herring. It's an anti-threat. This is a very stable government," responded Iraq's national security

BUSH continued on page 3

Denzel
WU

Scott, Bruckheimer latest collaboration worth a second ... or third ... or fourth glance

<<See Page 7 for full review

COURTESY PHOTO

HPV-vaccine Gardasil available to students

By **ANNA SCHUMANN**
STAFF WRITER

A new vaccine to prevent human papilloma virus (HPV) and cervical cancer is on the market and available to students covered by several medical insurance plans.

According to its Web site, Gardasil is a vaccine given as three injections over a period of six months. Deb Wambold, spokesperson for Merck, who manufactures Gardasil, said the vaccine is only effective against forms of the HPV virus, not other sexually transmitted diseases, but the vaccine is important.

"HPV can have significant health consequences, as it causes cancer," she said, "making it more severe than other viruses."

She said Gardasil targets four types of the HPV virus. HPV Types 16 and 18 cause 70 percent of cervical cancer cases, and HPV Types 6 and 11 cause 90 percent of genital warts cases.

Wambold said college students are within the age range currently approved to use Gardasil and said she hopes students take advantage of the opportunity.

Women can be exposed to forms of the HPV by having any sexual contact, not strictly intercourse, with a partner who is HPV positive. She said through the company's research, they have found 76 percent of women who have had sexual relations have not been exposed to any form of the virus, so she said there's a good chance many women do not have the virus.

Some women may not necessarily know they have HPV, she said, because sexual partners and women who have the virus may not display signs of the virus. She said in many cases, one's immune system can fight the virus on its own.

Wambold said one of the best aspects of Gardasil is its availability to women who are already sexually

active and those who may already have one form of the virus.

"There's a common misconception that, 'Oh, I have been sexually active, I'm no longer eligible for this' and that's not necessarily the case," she said.

In women who already carry the virus, Wambold said research shows Gardasil is effective at protecting against diseases caused by the other forms of HPV.

Stephanie Meyers, a women's healthcare nurse at Hermann Hospital in Houston and educator at The University of Texas Health Science Center at the Houston School of Nursing, said she has heard only positive things about Gardasil within the medical profession and will recommend its use to her patients.

"It is very useful, it's going to be a good thing for women," she said. "It will be effective in reducing the number of cases of cervical cancer."

For the vaccine to be as effective as it can be, Meyers said two things need to change.

"The problem is going to be changing media perception that Gardasil is a form of STD prevention, not a form of cervical cancer prevention," she said.

Parents of adolescent and teenage girls, Meyers said, have been the only people she has heard who are concerned about the vaccine's purpose.

She said parents have been hesitant to vaccinate their daughters because they do not want to give them incentive to have unprotected sex.

"The focus is cancer prevention, not STD prevention," she said. "That's how medical professionals are trying to push it."

Meyers said she believes the biggest barrier, though, is cost.

"It is a little expensive," she said.

This is a problem Wambold said Merck has been

GARDASIL continued on page 6

Leaders try to halt Iraq's sectarian violence, but it tears apart one city

By **THOMAS WAGNER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Sunni, Shiite and Kurdish leaders called Sunday for an end to Iraq's sectarian conflict and vowed to track down those responsible for the war's deadliest attack.

But as they went on national television to try to keep Iraq from sliding into an all-out civil war, fighting between Iraqi security forces and Sunni Arab insurgents raged for a second day in Baqouba, the capital of Diyala province north of Baghdad.

By the end of the day, the province's latest casualty figures were a microcosm of the brutality in Iraq: 17 insurgents killed, 15 detained, 20 civilians kidnapped and three bodies found. The mayor of a municipality also narrowly escaped an assassination attempt that killed one of his guards and wounded three.

During Saturday's fighting in Baqouba, police killed at least 36 insurgents and wounded dozens after scores of militants armed with assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades attacked government buildings in the city center, police said. The fighting raged for hours in the city, about 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Also Saturday, a U.S. soldier was killed and two were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near their vehicle in Diyala province, the military said.

Officials including Defense Minister Abdul-Qader al-Obaidi and Gen. George Casey, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, decided Saturday to fire Diyala's police commander, saying he was unable to stop infiltration of the force by Sunni insurgents, two Iraqi officials said on condition of anonymity as is often the case in areas subjected to widespread fighting and revenge killings.

One of the main challenges for U.S.-led forces in recruiting and training Iraqi military and police forces is that they are often infiltrated by insurgents who kill and kidnap in disguise.

"We promise the great martyrs that we will chase the killers and criminals, the terrorists, Saddamists and Takfiri (Sunni extremists) for viciously trying to divide you," Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, Sunni Parliament speaker Mahmoud al-Mashhadani and Kurdish President Jalal Talabani said in their joint statement on state-run TV.

IRAQ continued on page 2

Iraq

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In addressing "the great martyrs," they were referring to the 215 people who died when suspected Sunni insurgents attacked Sadr City, the capital's main Shiite district, on Thursday.

Al-Maliki also urged his national unity government of Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds to end their public disputes and curb sectarian violence.

"The crisis is political, and it is the politicians who must try to prevent more violence and bloodletting. The terrorist acts are a reflection of the lack of political accord," al-Maliki said.

He is facing strong criticism from top Shiite and Sunni Arab leaders alike as he prepares for a summit in neighboring Jordan with President Bush on Wednesday and Thursday.

Al-Maliki visited Sadr City on Sunday afternoon and paid condolences to some of the relatives of those killed Thursday in the bombings, but as he drove away at the end of his visit, several teenagers hurled stones at his motorcade, residents said.

The challenges that Bush faces across the region were evident to Jordan's King Abdullah, who said the problems in the Middle East go beyond the war in Iraq and that much of the region soon could become engulfed in violence unless the central issues are addressed quickly.

"We could possibly imagine going into 2007 and having three civil wars on our hands," he said, citing conflicts in Iraq, Lebanon and the decades-long strife between the Palestinians and Israelis.

"Therefore, it is time that we really take a strong step forward as part of the international community and make sure we avert the Middle East from a tremendous crisis that I fear, and I see could possibly happen in 2007," he told ABC's "This Week."

Elsewhere, two U.S. Marines were killed Saturday in Anbar province, the area of western Iraq where many Sunni-insurgent groups are based, raising to at least 2,875 the number of U.S. servicemen who have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003. So far, 56 American service members have died in November.

In Baghdad, the government partially lifted a 24-hour curfew it had imposed in response to the bombing and mortar attack in Sadr City, and some Iraqis went shopping at vegetable and fruit markets after being confined to their homes for two full days.

"The situation is better today because we can finally get out and buy food for the first time in two days," said Hussein Fadel, a Shiite civil servant, as he shopped in Sadr City, where memorial services were still being held for people killed in Thursday's attack. "I hope the city is less tense today."

Retailers have a good start to the holiday season, but will momentum continue?

NEW YORK (AP) — Retailers got what they wanted over the Thanksgiving weekend — a strong start to the 2006 holiday shopping season as consumers crowded stores in search of huge discounts on flat-screen TVs and other hot merchandise.

Stores and malls that opened as early as midnight on Friday drew a bigger-than-expected turnout, and robust sales for the first day of the season offset slower business as the weekend wore on, according to early reports.

The biggest winners appeared to be electronics chains such as Best Buy Co. Inc. and popular-priced department stores including J.C. Penney Co., which pulled in shoppers with good deals. Yet Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which promised the most aggressive discounting ever, was an exception, announcing Saturday that same-store sales for November will be slightly

below its already lackluster forecast. Wal-Mart has struggled for months to appeal to both higher-income shoppers and low-price fans.

The question for the retail industry overall is whether the bargain hunters who raided stores for early bird specials over the weekend will have the same zeal as they shop between now and the end of the season, when the discounts may not be as steep.

"The hysteria has come down a bit, but it was a great start," said Bill Martin, co-founder of ShopperTrak RCT Corp., which tracks total sales at more than 45,000 mall-based retail outlets. But he said the true measure of the season is whether "retailers can sustain the loyalty and excitement" until the end.

Shoppers were clearly looking for as big a discount as possible.

"I started Friday morning at 5 a.m.," said Kim Neuharth, shopping at the Jordan Creek Town Center in West Des Moines, Iowa. "At Kohl's and Target, we

got good deals. I bought my stepdaughter a dress for the prom for like 50 bucks. It was originally something like \$100 at Younkers. It was on sale and I had a coupon for 20 percent off."

Martin expects that total retail sales for the first weekend of the season will be higher than last year, boosted by Friday's better-than-expected business. Total sales rose 6 percent to \$8.96 billion that day, compared to a year earlier, according to ShopperTrak. The company planned to report Saturday's results on Monday.

Retailers' strong performance was a direct result of their aggressive discounting and promotions, designed to get consumers to start shopping early. More stores and malls opened at midnight Friday, and Toys "R" Us Inc. and Sears Holdings Corp.'s Sears stores opened at 5 a.m., an hour earlier than in the past.

Jerry Storch, CEO and chairman of Toys "R" Us, said he was pleased with

results for the weekend, noting that sales were strong across the board. In addition to Mattel Inc.'s Fisher-Price's T.M.X. Elmo, hot toys include Fisher-Price's Kids Tough Digital Camera, and some of the toy retailer's exclusives like V-Tech Holdings Ltd.'s pink Nitro Notebook, a laptop computer.

Gail Lavielle, spokeswoman at Sears Holdings, which also owns Kmart stores, said Sunday the stores were busy through Friday and Saturday. At Sears, flat-screen TVs, digital cameras and Craftsman tools were the hot items. At Kmart, holiday decor including Christmas trees, jewelry and toys were the most popular.

Retailers were optimistic but also a little uneasy going into the season, concerned that economic factors like the slowing housing market might make shoppers more conservative. And many shoppers interviewed during the weekend said they were trying to be budget-conscious.

Tech professor shares love of outdoors, canoeing

By JOSH HULL
STAFF WRITER

Susan Tomlinson said her life philosophy can be summed up in one quotation from "The Wind in the Willows."

"Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing, absolutely nothing, half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats," she said.

Tomlinson, an assistant professor in the Honors College, said her fascination with boats and canoeing stems from a lack of water in her surroundings where she grew up. Sitting barefoot in her office, Tomlinson is surrounded by mementos from her many canoeing expeditions.

A native of Midland, Tomlinson said she spent most of her childhood in Roswell, N.M. Growing up in the wide open spaces of eastern New Mexico was the perfect setting to cultivate her early interest in nature, she said.

"We used to go out and collect

rocks and bugs and things," Tomlinson said. "I spent most of my time outside. We would just hop on our bikes and go."

As director of the natural history and humanities program at Tech, Tomlinson has turned her childhood pastime into a career.

Originally completing her undergraduate degree at Tech in studio art, Tomlinson said the skills of observation she learned while working as an artist are invaluable in her efforts to observe and help others observe the natural world.

Mark McGinley, an associate professor of biology who works with the natural history and humanities program, said Tomlinson's art experience gives her a unique perspective on viewing nature outside of what science can teach.

"She has a weird background in being an art student who went back to get her degree in science," McGinley said. "She has a true interdisciplinary experience and that lets her do things that you couldn't do if you were only an artist or only a scientist."

Tomlinson said after graduating from Tech, she went on to work for several oil companies. During this time she was

mentored by a geologist named Robert C. Thomas who inspired her to return to school and pursue a master's degree in geology.

It was during her time as a graduate student she fell in love with teaching, as well as her future husband, Walt Schaller, who teaches philosophy at Tech, she said.

"I think in the end we teach stuff and we teach facts," Tomlinson said. "On some level, those things are important in terms of general education. But I think also what satisfies me is, if I feel like the student learns something about life, that's what lasts."

After joining the Honors College, Tomlinson said she was given the opportunity to help bring the natural history and humanities program into existence. Though she was not on the original committee that organized the program, she was appointed as the director from the beginning, she said.

Kurt Caswell, an assistant professor in the honors college, said Tomlinson's enthusiasm and approachability were major factors in his decision to join the program at Tech. Her leadership style has

also led Caswell to believe he made the right move, he said.

"She's definitely in control of where we're going and things like that, but her presence of control is muted," Caswell said. "It's an idea that you lead by example, and she definitely does that."

Caswell said her passion for the outdoors also drew him into the program, and he feels Tomlinson has become a good friend through the process.

"We have this competition between us, because we both love camping gear like tents and backpacks and things," he said. "Susan's always trying to 'out gear' me."

Through her relationships with both her colleagues and her students, Tomlinson said she has found exactly what she wants to do with her life. Though she said she may not always be the director, Tomlinson said she intends to always stay close to the natural history and humanities program.

"Some days I think, 'How did this happen?' because this really is the perfect job for me," she said. "Where else could I be?"

► josh.hull@ttu.edu

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The Texas Tech Alumni Association wishes to congratulate our fall class of Official Ring recipients for their commitment toward receiving a degree from Texas Tech University. We wish you the best of success as you "Bear our Banners Far and Wide."

Official Ring Ceremonies for fall recipients will be Nov. 27, 28 and 29, 2006 at the Market Alumni Center.

Monday Nov. 27, 2006 Matthew Aaron Bethany Alley Phillip Anderson Eric Andrews Teresa Arellano Andrew Arnold Aaron Arnold Andrea Bacon Nazia Baig Michelle Bales Anthony Black Christopher Blanton Joshua Blowey Catherine Board Eugenia Britschka Sarah Bullin Ryan Burton Joseluis Calvillo Marybeth Campos Mire Casarez Danielle Charlie Michael Cingrani Kevin Clingan Brent Colman Gabe Costello Kelsey Cotle Sarah Daniel Kyle Doan Clint Donaldson Jack Drakeford Mark Duan Cara Dziuk Christina Eaton Samael Edwards Ryan Edwards Jentry Edwards Lindsay Evans Devlin Flansary Dulce Frausto Tyler Frost Bobbi Gago Anne Galbincea Aaron Gann Cristian Garcia Bradley Garrett Rachael Garrison Jeremy Giles Karissa Gilmore Christopher Goebel Jose Gonzalez Emily Gray Brandon Grubbs Angela Gutierrez Erin Hatlich Laura Hager Melinda Hammons Benjamin Hansen Amber Harris Scott Head Leslie Hernandez John Higgins Matthew Hill Heather Hill Megan Hoeltin David Hoban Kyle Holt Sarah Hossain Alicia Howard Brandon Hughes 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Thousands denounce upcoming papal visit to Turkey as tensions mount

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP)—Tens of thousands of protesters denounced Pope Benedict XVI as an enemy of Islam at a rally Sunday that underlined deep divisions straining Turkey ahead of the pontiff's visit this week.

Officials hoping to promote closer ties with the West urged calm, but Islamic groups wary of Western ways are united in anger over a speech Benedict gave two months ago in which he quoted a medieval text that linked Islam to violence.

Chants of "No to the pope!" rose among nearly 25,000 demonstrators at every mention of his remarks on violence and the Prophet Muhammad. Many protesters wore headbands with anti-pope slogans and waved placards that included a depiction of Benedict as the grim reaper.

The protest, organized by an Islamist political party, was the largest mass gathering so far against

Benedict's four-day visit scheduled to begin Tuesday — his first papal journey to a mostly Muslim nation. The outcry also was designed to rattle Turkey's establishment.

Turkish officials hope to use the visit to promote their ambitions of becoming the first Muslim nation in the European Union and showcase Turkey's secular political system. But Islamic groups, which have been gaining strength, see Benedict as a symbol of Western intolerance and injustices against Muslims.

"The pope is not wanted here," said Kubra Yigitoglu, a 20-year-old protester wearing a head scarf, ankle-length coat and cowboy boots.

Nearby, a large banner was raised amid a sea of red flags of the Saadet, or Felicity, party. It called the Vatican "a source of terror."

Security forces are on full alert for the pope's visit. Nearly 4,000 police,

including units in full riot gear, watched over the protest. Surveillance helicopters buzzed overhead and protesters were frisked before entering the square in a conservative stronghold of Istanbul.

The pope's visit has two distinct — and difficult — objectives: calming Muslim ire and advancing efforts to heal a nearly 1,000-year divide in Christianity between the Vatican and Orthodox churches.

Benedict plans to meet first with political and Muslim religious leaders in the capital, Ankara, including Turkey's president and the Islamic cleric who oversees the country's religious affairs. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is scheduled to attend a NATO meeting in Latvia during the papal visit, but could briefly greet the pontiff at the airport.

The pope then heads to Istanbul — the ancient Byzantine capital of

Constantinople — to be hosted by the spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I.

The pope strongly backs efforts for closer bonds between the two ancient branches of Christianity, which formally split in the 11th century over disputes including papal primacy. But some Orthodox leaders, including Russia's powerful Patriarch Alexy II, are wary of deepening ties too fast.

While in Istanbul, Benedict also plans to visit the famous 17th century Blue Mosque. The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, called it a "sign of respect" toward Muslims.

The mosque is one of the city's major tourist sites and its slender minarets are a prominent landmark in Istanbul's ancient center.

Tradition says it was built to show Islamic architects could rival the

glories of the nearby Hagia Sophia, a church that was converted to a mosque after the city fell to Muslim armies in 1453. It is now a museum.

Benedict may also use his time in Turkey as a forum to demand that Islamic nations offer greater rights and protection to Christian minorities, such as the remnants of the once-thriving Greek Orthodox community in Istanbul.

Turkey's foreign minister, Abdullah Gul, said Benedict's visit could help "remove some misunderstandings" between Christians and Muslims.

"The messages the pope gives here will, of course, be very important," Gul said at a news conference.

But the protesters sent a loud signal that the pope is not welcome until he offers a full apology for his remarks in September, in which he quoted a medieval Christian emperor

characterizing some of Muhammad's teachings as "evil and inhuman."

The Vatican has expressed regret for offending Muslims and sorrow for the violent backlash that included attacks on churches in the Holy Land. The intent of the remarks, the Vatican said, was to draw attention to the incompatibility of faith and violence.

"The pope was disrespectful to us and he needs to apologize," said one banner at the demonstration.

Seafetin Tuleg, 70, wrapped himself in the flag of rally organizers and said Muslims revere the Jewish and Christian prophets, but do not receive the same respect for their own. "We love Moses, Jesus and Muhammad, but the pope doesn't love Muhammad and Islam," he said.

Officially, Turkey is a rigidly secular republic, though around 99 percent of its population is Muslim.

Bush

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

adviser, Mouwafak al-Rubaie. He said he had no doubt the prime minister would meet with Bush in Jordan.

As for Bush, some of the toughest criticism is coming from within his own party.

"We have misunderstood, misread, misplanned and mismanaged our honorable intentions in Iraq with an arrogant self-delusion reminiscent of Vietnam," said Hagel, a combat veteran of that war. "Honorable intentions are not policies and plans."

Sen. Richard Durbin of Illinois, the No. 2 Senate Democrat, called the Iraq the worst U.S. foreign policy decision since Vietnam. He said Democrats do not have a quick answer and any solution must be bipartisan.

"It is time to tell the Iraqis that unless they're willing to disband the militias and the death squads, unless they're willing to stand up and govern their country in a responsible fashion, America is not going to stay

their indefinitely," Durbin said.

That theme — pressuring al-Maliki and his government — seemed to unify Republicans and Democrats.

"I think we're going to have to be very aggressive and specific with him," said Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., the incoming No. 2 GOP leader. "And if he doesn't show real leadership, doesn't try to bring the situation under control — if, in fact, he becomes a part of the problem — we're going to have to make some tough decisions."

Yet Rep. Duncan Hunter, the outgoing chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said the United States will win the conflict in the long run by supporting a free government in Iraq. Before any decisions are made on reducing U.S. troop levels, he said, more U.S.-trained Iraqi battalions should be moved into the heavy-fighting areas of Baghdad.

"Saddle those guys up," Hunter said. "Move them into the fight."

Durbin, Brownback and King Abdullah were on "This Week" on ABC. Lott appeared on "Fox News Sunday" and Hunter on "Meet the Press" on NBC. Al-Rubaie was on CNN's "Late Edition."

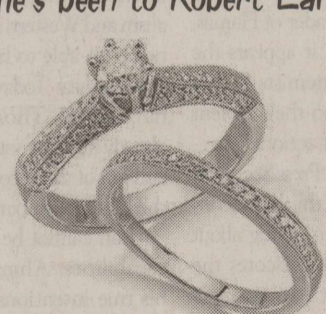
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OPINIONS

PAGE 4
MONDAY, NOV. 27, 2006

Prayer should be a conversation with God

Many Christians don't spend much time with God in prayer. Many were raised only praying before meals or reciting along in church. Most people only pray desperately in times of need. But God is more than that. He's a loving Father who wants an active relationship with us. The best way to further a relationship with God is by direct communication.

The first solution is simply to pray more. But a lot of people don't feel like they are good at prayer. People struggle with this partly because they often speak imbalanced prayers which are only focused on one aspect. ACTS is an acronym guideline that has been very useful for me.

Adoration means to praise God. Our culture is often uncomfortable with this. A good way for many people is through praise songs or reading Psalms.

Confession is admitting any ways you have strayed from God. Then you make a decision to come back and to turn away from the sins. Ask for God's strength to never repeat them.

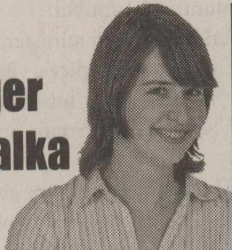
The next part is Thanksgiving. (It's not just for the holiday.) Thanking God for blessings in your life helps you recognize God working in your life. Also, being thankful softens your heart from bitterness, dissatisfaction, and selfishness. "Every good and perfect gift is from above." (James 1:17).

Supplications are your needs and wants. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6). It's important not just to ask God for what you want, but to also keep your focus on God's plan. Don't only pray for sick aunts and homework troubles, but for personal growth. It is good to request guidance, understanding, God's strength, and for God to reveal his plan to you.

Although these are helpful guidelines for balance, I don't want to tell you how to pray. It's a personal conversation between you and God. God really just wants to honestly hear you. It doesn't need to be eloquent or planned. Your prayer life grows with your honesty and frequency.

Communication with God shouldn't be one-sided. It should be a conversation. In fact, God already is speaking to you. You may not be listening. God probably won't speak in a booming movie voice, but often through feelings. "... the Lord was not in the earthquake... the Lord was not in the fire... after the fire [Elijah heard] a still small voice." (1 Kings 19:11-12). He may give you comfort, reassurance, leadings, sudden clarity or understanding. Other times it will be guilt, doubt or suspicion. He also may

Ginger Kapalka



speak through other people, strange coincidences or Bible verses.

God's answer to prayer may not be what you expect. He will say no to some requests. Some times he will tell you to wait. But God loves you and wants to bless you.

When I was a freshman, an older friend prayed with me often. When I came to her for advice, she always turned to God first. I learned that God isn't a last minute resort.

I've felt the need to pray with others the last two years. First, I wanted to help them in the same way I had been helped. At the beginning, it was uncomfortable. I didn't have the right words. I was embarrassed and self-conscious. But I improved by simple practice, by hearing others pray, and by allowing God to give me the words. I continued because I was amazed by the results.

Friends thanked me and told me that was the one thing that calmed them, or gave them comfort in a hard time. I would usually pray for God to comfort them, make his presence known to them, and help to solve their problem. I'd also pray for God to work through both myself and other people to help them. With his guidance and strength, we'd have the patience to solve or avoid problems.

I believe God listens to all prayers, even from those who doubt him. A non-Christian who wants to investigate God could pray for God to make himself visible in life or send someone to help bring understanding. "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7).

I hope you get to spend close time with God. I want to give you this prayer, written by the apostle Paul. "That your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that come through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11).

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Iran's nuclear program not peaceful

Iran has never been a fan of the United States or Israel. The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has been an outspoken opponent of Israel's existence and also is pushing for his country to develop nuclear power. He has made no effort to cover his hatred of anyone that supports Israel. Ahmadinejad has tried to institute policies requiring Jews and Christians to wear identifying marks on their clothing. He has appeared as a keynote speaker at a conference directed entirely at removing Israel entirely and returning it to the Muslims.

Cole Shooter



Now Russia has teamed with Iran in the battle for Iran to gain nuclear power and military credibility. Russia was delivering missile defense and rockets systems to Iran as recently as last Friday, and is helping them out with their "peaceful" nuclear program.

Their idea of peaceful must be different from mine. It's absolutely moronic to encourage nuclear production to a country that has recently hosted a conference called, "The world without Zionism." During this conference Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying, "As the Imam said, Israel must be wiped off the map." By Imam, he is talking about Ayatollah Khomeini, a

leader of Iran. Ahmadinejad has no shortage of public hatred towards Israel and the United States, and Russia is happily playing into their hatred for their own economic gain. Russia and China, close partners with Iran for years, both hold vetoes on the U.N. Security Council and have helped to avoid sanctions against Iran thus far.

The contract for the TOR-M1 air defense systems sold by Russia to Iran was signed at the end of 2005 for \$700 million. Russia upholds its original statement that the missiles only have a range capable of protecting Iranian air space.

Al-Jazeera quoted Ahmadinejad in March of 2006 as saying, "The Islamic umma (community) will not allow its historic enemy to live in its heartland," in a fiery speech that centered on a "historic war between the oppressor and the world of Islam." The word "oppressor" is used,

in this case, by their government to refer to the United States. Amazingly, even with hate-filled speech such as this from the president of their country, the UN Security Council still apparently has no problem allowing Iran to have whichever weapons they wish under the guise of a peaceful energy program.

Israel responded to Ahmadinejad's cries for removing their country from the earth. Spokesman Mark Regev said, "Today, Israelis heard two extremists speak openly about destroying the Jewish state. One was the new president of Iran, and the other was the leader of Hamas, Mahmoud Zahar. "And it appears the problem with these extremists is that they followed through on their violent declarations with violent actions."

Former White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan said, "I think it reconfirms what we have been saying about the regime in Iran. It underscores the concerns we have about Iran's nuclear intentions."

Even a former Iranian foreign minister Ebrahim Yazdi claimed that Ahmadinejad's remarks were unnecessary and were harmful to Iran's place in the international community. "Such comments provoke the international community against us. It's not to Iran's

interests at all. It's harmful to Iran to make such a statement."

With Russia and China behind them, Iran does not feel that they have to care what the international community thinks. Russia and China will defend Iran to the best of their overpowered ability in the United Nations. If the UN were a worthwhile organization, the Islamic Republic of Iran would be heavily sanctioned in order to avoid the deletion of Israel due to religious anger.

Ahmadinejad said to President Bush in a letter written in May of 2006: "Liberalism and Western style democracy have not been able to help realize the ideals of humanity. Today these two concepts have failed. Those with insight can already hear the sounds of the shattering and fall of the ideology and thoughts of the Liberal democratic systems."

Iran cannot be trusted with nuclear capabilities. Ahmadinejad has shown his true intentions repeatedly through his vitriolic outbursts against anyone who disagrees with him, or happens to not be a member of the Islamic faith. Unless they're selling them weapons, of course.

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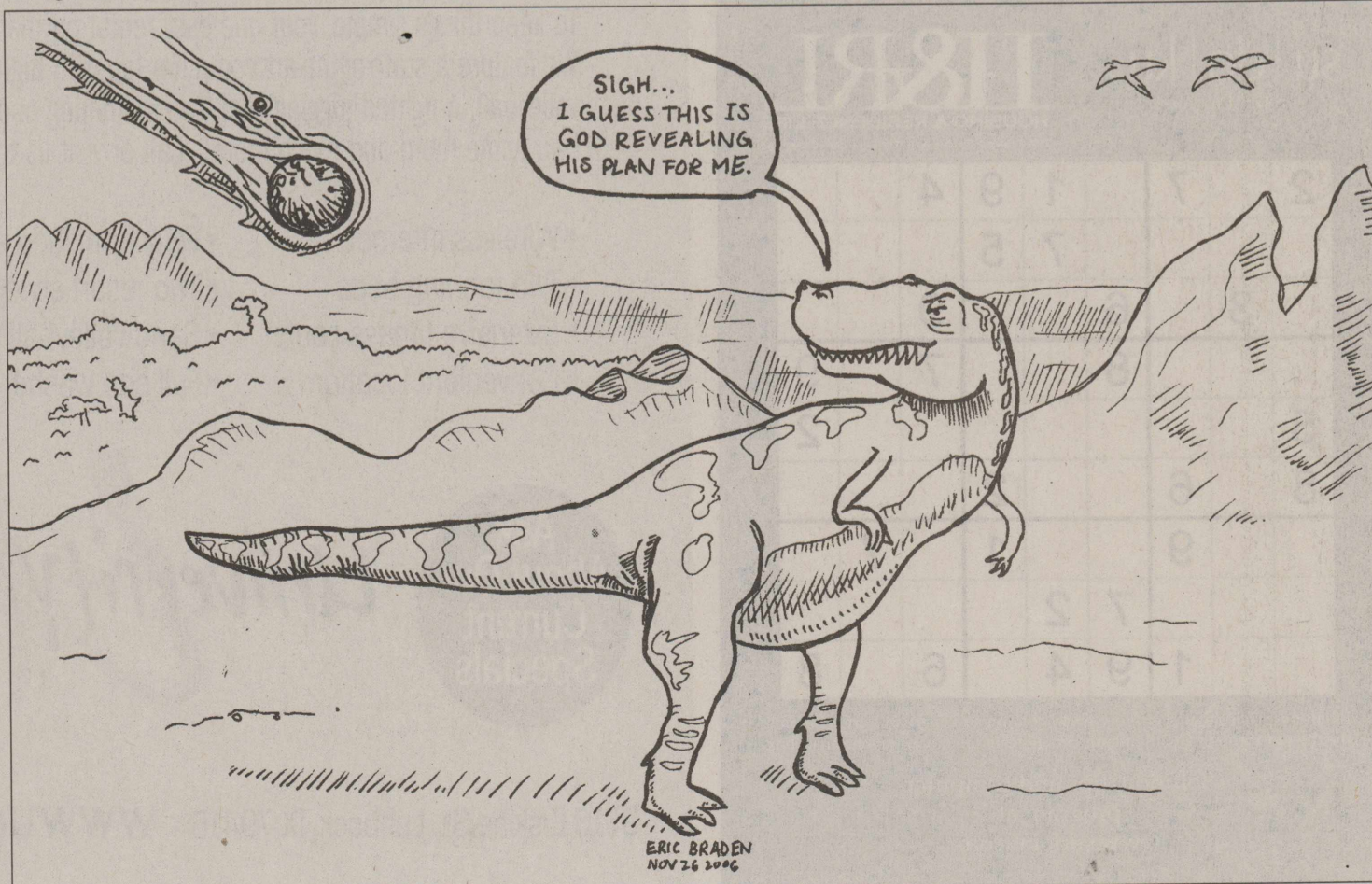
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ERIC BRADEN
NOV 26 2006

Israel, Palestinians agree to cease-fire in Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel and the Palestinians agreed to a cease-fire Saturday to end a five-month Israeli military offensive in the Gaza Strip and the firing of rockets by Palestinian militants into the Jewish state, but early violations by Palestinian militants tempered hopes the accord would help revive long-stalled peace talks.

The Israeli military said early Sunday that it withdrew all its troops from Gaza in the hours before the 6 a.m. cease-fire took effect. But occasional rocket and mortar fire from Gaza continued to strike Israel within the truce's first hour.

"Let's hope that's just the problems of the beginning," Israeli government spokeswoman Miri Eisin said. "But if Israel is attacked, we will respond. If there are Palestinian factions that are not part of the cease-fire, it's hard to see how the cease-fire will hold."

A spokesman for Islamic Jihad, Abu Hamda, said his group fired three rockets into Israel at 8 a.m., two hours after the start of the truce, and denied his group had signed on to the cease-fire agreement.

However, top Islamic Jihad leaders had said they were part of the deal, and the new rocket fire suggested they were not in control of all their cells, clouding prospects for the truce's longevity.

Hamas militants reported on the group's official Web site that they had launched rockets into Israel at 7:30 a.m. and 7:55 a.m., saying they

had not stopped their attacks because some Israeli troops remained inside Gaza. Israel said all its troops had pulled out early Sunday.

A spokesman for the Palestinian government, Ghazi Hamad, said that all armed groups had committed to the agreement, and termed any violations rogue acts.

"There is 100 percent effort to make this work, but there is no guarantee of 100 percent results," Hamad said.

The truce agreement, if it holds, would be a significant achievement for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as he tries to put together a more moderate government to replace the one currently led by Islamic Hamas radicals. Abbas, a moderate from the Fatah Party, hopes a deal with Hamas will persuade the West and Israel to lift crushing economic sanctions against the Palestinians.

The sides announced the cease-fire Saturday after Abbas telephoned Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert late Saturday to tell him he had arrived at an agreement with all Palestinian factions — including those allied with Hamas — to stop all rocket attacks and suicide bombings from Gaza.

Abbas asked that Israel, in turn, stop its military operations in Gaza and withdraw its forces, and Olmert agreed, spokespeople for both leaders said.

Abbas spokesman Nabil Abu Rdenah said from Gaza City that

Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas and the Palestinian factions had agreed to reinstate a truce between Israel and the Palestinians reached in Egypt in February 2005.

Earlier in the day, various militant factions had denied reaching a cease-fire agreement. But after it was officially announced, they acknowledged the accord and said the denials were linked to power struggles among them.

Israeli forces originally entered Gaza in late June in an effort to win the release of a soldier captured in a June 25 cross-border raid by Hamas-linked militants and still in captivity.

But Israel soon widened its operations to target militants who had intensified their near-daily rocket attacks on communities in southern Israel. Despite international criticism over Palestinian civilian deaths, Olmert had pledged earlier this month to continue the offensive until Palestinian rocket attacks from Gaza significantly decreased.

Instead, the rocket fire in November has more than doubled from October.

The capture of Cpl. Gilad Shalit in June and the subsequent Israeli offensive cut short efforts by Olmert and Abbas to restart peace talks that broke down six years ago. A truce could help to create the momentum to get talks moving.

"We welcome the announce-

ment and see this as a positive step forward," White House spokesman Alex Conant said Saturday evening in Washington. "We hope it leads to less violence for the Israeli and Palestinian people."

The violence over the last five months has killed more than 300 Palestinians, mostly militants. Earlier this month, 19 members of an extended family were killed in an artillery attack in the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun, prompting worldwide calls for Israel to end its offensive. Israel expressed regret for the loss of civilian life and blamed the deaths on a technical problem.

Five Israelis have been killed during the offensive — three soldiers in Gaza and two civilians hit by rocket fire in Israel. In addition, two other soldiers were killed during the cross-border raid on June 25.

On Saturday, a rocket hit an unoccupied house in southern Israel, and blasts ripped apart two cars carrying militants in northern Gaza, killing at least one and wounding several passersby. One vehicle was struck by missiles fired from an Israeli aircraft, and the source of the other blast wasn't known.

Three other militants were killed in clashes with Israeli troops elsewhere, including two hit by Israeli fire near the main Gaza-Israel cargo crossing, Palestinian officials and Hamas said. The army said it had no information about fighting at the Karni passage.

Democrats will take on investigations that could bring out partisan divide

WASHINGTON (AP) — The incoming chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee is promising an array of oversight investigations that could provoke sharp disagreement with Republicans and the White House.

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., pledged that Democrats, swept to power in the Nov. 7 elections, would govern "in the middle" next year. But the veteran lawmaker has a reputation as one who has never avoided a fight and he did not back away from that reputation on Sunday.

Among the investigations he said he wants the committee to undertake:

— The new Medicare drug benefit. "There are lots and lots and lots of scandals," he said, without citing specifics.

— Spending on government contractors in Iraq, including Halliburton Co., the Texas-based oil services conglomerate once led by Vice President Dick Cheney.

— An energy task force overseen by Cheney. It "was carefully cooked to provide only participa-

tion by oil companies and energy companies," Dingell said.

— A review of food and drug safety, particularly in the area of nutritional supplements.

Meanwhile, the incoming chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee said his committee would not take on contentious issues, such as extending expiring tax cuts or overhauling Social Security, at the beginning of the year. Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said Democrats do not want a fight with President Bush and want to prove they can govern.

"The first thing we're going to do is try to work together on things we know we can accomplish," Rangel said. "Rather than have the committee against the president, it's not going to happen," Rangel said.

Rep. Barney Frank, set to lead the House Financial Services Committee, said issues such as raising the minimum wage will be popular, even though the idea has been identified with liberals.

"In my own committee, the biggest difference you're going

to see is we're going to return to try to help deal with the housing crisis that blights so many parts of our country socially and economically," said Frank, D-Mass.

Frank, who in 1987 became the first member of Congress to voluntarily make his homosexuality public, also said he wants to modify the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. The current policy prohibits officials from inquiring about the sex lives of service members and requires discharges of those who openly acknowledge being gay.

"One of things I do want to address, yes, is discrimination based on sexual orientation," Frank said.

"In fact, what we have is a shortfall in the military. I think when you have people being fired who can read Arabic and understand Arabic, because of what they do when they're off duty, that that's

a grave error. But that's not what we're going to begin with."

A report in 2005 by the investigative arm of Congress estimated it cost the Pentagon nearly \$200 million to recruit and train replacements for the nearly 9,500 troops that had to leave the military because of the policy. The losses included hundreds of highly skilled troops, including translators, between 1994 through 2003.

Mississippi Sen. Trent Lott, who will become the Senate's second-ranking GOP leader, said Republicans still have enough clout to block legislation "if it's really bad, not in the country's best interest." But he also said he wanted to find areas where the two sides can compromise.

"The people, I think, sent us a message. I think we've got it," Lott said. "We're going to be working hard together."

Friends, family demand answers in NYPD gunfire that killed groom

NEW YORK (AP) — An angry crowd demanded Sunday to know why police officers killed an unarmed man on the day of his wedding, firing dozens of shots that also wounded two of the man's friends. Some called for the ouster of the city's police commissioner.

At a vigil and rally the day after 23-year-old Sean Bell was supposed to have married the mother of his two young children, a crowd led by the Rev. Al Sharpton shouted "No justice, no peace."

At one point, the crowd of a few hundred counted off to 50, the number of rounds fired.

"We cannot allow this to continue to happen," Sharpton said at the gathering outside Mary Immaculate Hospital, where one of the wounded men was in critical condition. "We've got to understand that all of us were in that car."

Some in the crowd called for the ouster of Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly, yelling "Kelly must go."

The police officers' group 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care said it was issuing a vote of no confidence in Kelly over the shooting.

Paul Browne, chief spokesman for the NYPD, said Sunday: "We are continuing to look for additional witnesses to shed light on the incident, and assisting the district attorney's office with its investigation."

The five officers were placed on paid administrative leave pending the investigation, Browne said.

Community leaders planned a rally Dec. 6 at police headquarters.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his aides were in contact with Bell's family and community leaders throughout the weekend. Bloomberg and Kelly also planned to meet

with City Hall leaders Monday.

The shootings occurred at about 4 a.m. Saturday outside the Kalua Cabaret, a strip club where Bell's bachelor party was held. The survivors were Joseph Guzman, 31, who was shot at least 11 times, and Trent Benefield, 23, who was hit three times. Guzman was in critical condition Sunday and Benefield was stable.

Relatives of all three men — many of them stoic, and some crying — attended Sunday's vigil but none spoke publicly.

At a news conference Saturday, Kelly said the department was still piecing together what happened, and that it was too early to say whether the shooting was justified.

The car, driven by Bell, was struck by 21 of the police bullets after the vehicle rammed an undercover officer and hit an unmarked NYPD minivan. Other shots hit nearby homes and shattered windows at a train station, though no one else was injured.

Police thought one of the men in the car might have had a gun but investigators found no weapons. It was unclear what prompted police to open fire, Kelly said.

It was also not clear whether the shooters had identified themselves as police, Kelly said.

Kelly said the confrontation stemmed from an undercover operation inside the strip club in the Jamaica section of Queens. Seven officers in plain clothes were investigating the Kalua Cabaret; five of them were involved in the shooting.

According to Kelly, the groom was involved in a verbal dispute outside the club and one of his friends made a reference to a gun.

An undercover officer walked closely behind Bell and his friends as they headed for their car. As he walked toward the front of the vehicle, the car drove forward — striking the officer and a nearby undercover police vehicle, Kelly said.

Philippians 4:7 ...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
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 14 Sneaky guy
 15 Ostrich or emu, e.g.
 16 Cattle call?
 17 Front of the calf
 18 Ultimate letdown
 20 Obsolete
 22 Harebrained
 23 Slinky material
 24 Link
 26 Levy on investors
 33 Skips over
 34 Wedding token
 35 B-F connection
 36 Speed-of-sound measure
 37 Pursue stealthily
 39 Painter Jan van der
 40 DDE's arena
 41 Play's players
 42 Handsome in Bologna
 43 Make yourself comfortable
 47 Peeves
 48 Part of OED
 49 Toothbrush brand
 52 Ornamental technique
 56 Old-style letter closer
 59 Somali supermodel
 60 Big CA
 61 Christmas in Italia
 62 Spanish bull
 63 Orangutan or gibbon
 64 Chief Lagasse
 65 Publicity stunt

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 1 Lhasa
 2 King of Israel (842-815 B.C.)
 3 Telling away
 4 Out-of-place rock fragment
 5 Serious injury
 6 One of a fairy tale duo
 7 Diminutive ending
 8 Pair of 501's
 9 And so on brand
 10 Meaningful
 11 Bullets, e.g.
 12 Motley horse
 13 Subtly clever
 19 Charged particles
 21 Singer Domino
 24 Lock up
 25 Sty cry
 26 Halls (from)
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 28 Fancy edging
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 38 Clicking sounds
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41 Lightweight rifle
 42 Muffin choice
 44 Tilden of tennis (frigate)
 45 Katmandu man
 46 Philadelphia
 49 Greek peak
 50 Stay on in the army
 51 Bern's river
 52 Man-bird (frigate)
 53 "Typee" sequel
 54 avis
 55 Kentucky fort
 57 "Platoon" setting
 58 Verizon, once

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READY TO GO



STEVE LEWIS/The Daily Toreador

SEAN SMALLWOOD, A freshman business major from Houston, and Sam Krenzer, a freshman finance major from Houston, wait for a cab to take them to the airport Tuesday morning outside Stangel Hall.

In Chicago, a war protester's public, fiery suicide provokes more questions than answers

CHICAGO (AP) — Malachi Ritscher envisioned his death as one full of purpose.

He carefully planned the details, mailed a copy of his apartment key to a friend, created to-do lists for his family. On his Web site, the 52-year-old experimental musician who'd fought with depression even penned his obituary.

At 6:30 a.m. on Nov. 3 — four days before an election caused a seismic shift in Washington politics — Ritscher, a frequent anti-war protester, stood by an off-ramp in downtown Chicago near a statue of a giant flame, set up a video camera, doused himself with gasoline and lit himself on fire.

Aglow for the crush of morning commuters, his flaming body was supposed to be a call to the nation, a symbol of his rage and discontent with the U.S. war in Iraq.

"Here is the statement I want to make: if I am required to pay for your barbaric war, I choose not to live in your world. I refuse to finance the mass murder of innocent civilians, who did nothing to threaten our country," he wrote in his suicide note. "... If one death can atone for anything, in any small way, to say to the world: I apologize for what we have done to you, I am ashamed for the mayhem and turmoil caused by my country."

There was only one problem: No one was listening.

It took five days for the Cook County medical examiner to identify the charred-beyond-recognition corpse. Meanwhile, Ritscher's suicide went largely unnoticed. It wasn't until a reporter for an alternative weekly, the Chicago Reader, pieced the facts together that word began to spread.

Soon, tributes — and questions — poured in to the paper's blogs.

Was this a man consumed by mental illness? Or was Ritscher a martyr driven by rage over what he saw as an unjust war? Was he a

convenient symbol for an anti-war movement or was there more to his message?

"This man killed himself in such a painful way, specifically to get our attention on these things," said Jennifer Diaz, a 28-year-old graduate student who never met him but has been researching his life. Now, she is organizing protests and vigils in his name. "I'm not going to sit by and I can't sit by and let this go unheard."

Mental health experts say virtually no suicides occur without some kind of a diagnosable mental illness. But Ritscher's family disagrees about whether he had severe mental problems.

In a statement, Ritscher's parents and siblings called him an intellectually gifted man who suffered from bouts of depression. They stopped short of saying he'd ever received a clinical diagnosis of mental illness.

"He believed in his actions, however extreme they were," his younger brother, Paul Ritscher, wrote online. "He believed they could help to open eyes, ears and hearts and to show everyone that a single man's actions, by taking such extreme personal responsibility, can perhaps affect change in the world."

His son, who shares the same name as his father, said his father was trying to cope with mental illness. Suicide seemed to be the next step, and the war was a way to give his death meaning.

"He was different people at different instances and so, so erratic. I loved him no doubt, but he was a very lonely and tragic man," said Ritscher, 35, who is estranged from the rest of the family. "The idea of being a martyr I'm sure was attractive. He could literally go out in a blaze of glory."

Born in Dickinson, N.D., with the name Mark David, Ritscher dropped out of high school, married

at 17 and divorced 10 years later. Eventually, he would change his name to match his son's and, coincidentally, a world-famous prophet. At the end, he worked in building maintenance and was a fixture in Chicago's experimental music scene.

He described himself as a renaissance man who'd amassed a collection of more than 2,000 musical recordings from clubs in Chicago. He was a writer, philosopher and photographer. He was an alcoholic who collected fossils, glass eyes, light bulbs and snare drums. He paid \$25 to become an ordained minister with the Missionaries of the New Truth and operated a handful of Web sites protesting the Iraq war.

A member of Mensa who claimed to be able to recite the infinite number Pi to more than 1,000 decimal places, he titled his obituary "Out of Time." Friends, who seemed surprised about his death, found themselves searching for answers. Ritscher's death became even more enigmatic than his life.

Perhaps the most famous self-immolation occurred in 1963, when Buddhist monk Thich Quang Duc burned himself at a Saigon intersection in protest against the south Vietnamese regime. Another activist, Kathy Change, lit fire to herself in 1996 at the University of Pennsylvania to protest the government and the country's economic system.

Ritscher's death brought back memories for Anita King, a 48-year-old artist from West Philadelphia who was Change's best friend.

"I think both of them, they just felt like their death could be the last drop of blood shed," King said. "It was too hard for them. They had too much of a conscious connection to the struggle to go on in their lives."

Bush plans week of high-stakes

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush reaches out to allies this week for help in quelling violence in Iraq and Afghanistan, in a burst of diplomacy from a Baltic summit of NATO partners to Mideast talks with Iraq's prime minister.

Just back from an eight-day trip to Asia, Bush was leaving on Monday on another overseas trip as pressure builds at home for a change in his administration's Iraq strategy amid deepening tensions and violence in that country.

The president stops first in Estonia en route to a NATO summit in neighboring Latvia where a debate over peacekeeping operations in Afghanistan is expected to dominate.

Estonia and Latvia have sent troops to both Iraq and Afghanistan and the U.S. considers the two former Soviet republics important allies.

From Latvia, the president heads to Amman, Jordan, for two days of talks with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. Jordan was deemed a less dangerous setting for the meeting than Baghdad.

White House aides said the meeting, a late addition to Bush's itinerary, was part of the president's process of sounding out various parties as he ponders how to proceed in Iraq.

Iran and Syria are trying to assert influence in stabilizing Iraq without American involvement, and tensions in the region increased further last week with the assassination of a Cabinet member in the U.S.-backed democratic government of Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora — a killing some have blamed on Syria. Also, sectarian attacks in Iraq have surged in recent days.

Jordan's King Abdullah said Sunday that tensions in the Middle East go beyond the war in Iraq and that much of the region soon could be engulfed in violence unless the central issues are addressed quickly.

"We could possibly imagine going into 2007 and having three civil wars on our hands," he said on ABC's "This Week," citing conflicts in Iraq, Lebanon and the decades-long strife between the Palestinians and Israelis.

At the NATO gathering Tuesday and Wednesday in Riga, Latvia, Bush will press for a heavier financial and military commitment from many of the alliance's 26 members and urge an easing of restrictions by individual countries on what their troops can and cannot do, according to administration officials.

The president also will call for inviting major non-NATO members Australia, Japan and South Korea to play a larger role in the alliance's activities.

Widespread public dismay over the war in Iraq helped sweep control of Congress away from Bush's Republicans this month and put Democrats in power. Democrats and some Republicans want Bush to begin withdrawing U.S. troops.

Violence also has flared in Afghanistan as a result of a resurgent Taliban and difficulties by the central government to maintain control, especially in the turbulent south.

The NATO summit will focus heavily on Afghanistan "because NATO is now in charge of security throughout the country" and because the alliance has recently been challenged by the Taliban, said Judy Ansley, director of European affairs at the White House National Security Council.

"The main thing now is to make sure that the alliance remains committed to this mission, which is important not only to Afghanistan but to our security in the West," she said.

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Gardasil

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

working on. She said more than 100 insurance plans cover Gardasil and the company is working to increase that number.

Still, Meyers said she has seen no medical downsides of the use of Gardasil.

She said the marketing of the vaccination is similar to when pap smears, which screen for cervical cancer, were introduced.

"Once we got Pap smears out there, people realized how effective they are," Meyers said.

To market the vaccine, Merck has begun an advertising campaign called "One Less" which features girls and women saying they could be one less woman to get cervical cancer.

Meyers said professionals are trying to focus on getting girls who are 11 years old or 12 years old vaccinated because that is the key age for other vaccines and booster shots.

"I think it's going to be a good thing," Meyers said, "if we can get it out there."

► anna.schumann@ttu.edu

music calendar

Monday
John Sprott and Jesse Ballew — Buffalo Wild Wings — 10 p.m.
Cadillac with Wheels — The Sting — 9 p.m.

Tuesday
John Sprott — Cricket's Bar and Grill — 10 p.m.
Jeremiah and Chad — The Sting — 9 p.m.

Wednesday
Mates of State — Jake's Back Room — 9 p.m.
Spivey — Rocky LaRues — 10 p.m.
Brian McRae — Caprock Cafe — 7 p.m.
Plain Brown Wrapper — Crickets Bar & Grill — 10 p.m.
Beer Belly Bandits — The Sting — 9 p.m.

Thursday
Charlie Shafter Band — The Blue Light — 10 p.m.
Jazz Alley — Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen — 10 p.m.

Friday
Texas Tech Carol of Lights — Tech Campus Memorial Circle — 7 p.m.
Annual Carol Concert — Texas Tech Hemmle Recital Hall — 8 p.m.
Caprocks — Bleachers — 10 p.m.
Colt Compton Music for Life Concert with Icarus Fixed, Crimson Envy, Compton & Hale, King Bearbox, and Waiting to Derail — Jake's Sports Cafe 8:30 p.m.
Reckless Kelly — Wild West — 10 p.m.
Ryan James — The Blue Light — 10 p.m.
Jeff Strahan Band plays Red Dirt Blues — Texas Cafe — 10 p.m.

Saturday
No Justice — Jake's Back Room — 9 p.m.
Spivey — Rocky LaRues — 10 p.m.
Lubbock Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Pops "America Celebrates" with Scott Parkman conducting — FBC Sanctuary — 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Ryan Turner — The Blue Light — 10 p.m.
Caprocks — Bleachers — 10 p.m.
Music for Toys for Tots with Shane Rogers Band, Cellus & The Loose Grip, Waiting To Derail, 800 Mile Monday and Green Tree — Bash Riprocks — 6:30 p.m.
Jeff Strahan Band plays Red Dirt Blues — Texas Cafe — 10 p.m.
—Danielle Novy/La Vida Editor

Worth a second 'Vu'

While "Déjà Vu" doesn't evoke a sense of familiarity from past action/thriller films, it doesn't exactly remind audience members of great science-fiction masterpieces either.

Jeremy Reynolds



543 people.

Director Tony Scott ("Enemy of the State" and "Man on Fire") and producer Jerry Bruckheimer together reshaped the action genre in the 1980s with movies like "Top Gun" and "Beverly Hills Cop II," yet on the pair's fifth collaboration, what once felt like movie magic now feels like cheap parlor tricks.

"Déjà Vu" is entertaining, but it has an ending that is unrealistically predictable and a storyline that is as confusing as something created by David Lynch.

Denzel Washington plays Doug Carlin, an agent for the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Agency.

The film begins with a ferry boat crossing a body of water; the ferry's passenger list is comprised of returning sailors from the Navy, mothers, children and other men and women unfortunate enough to catch a ride on the ship.

Audiences don't have to wait long for the first big explosion; within five minutes, the ferry explodes — killing

catch is that the agents cannot rewind or fast forward the feed. The technicians who run the machine simply watch the footage and change angles as often and as fast as they would like.

Carlin is recruited because although the government can look into the past, the officers in charge of the program still need direction as to where to look; if the moment passes and they don't see who is responsible for the bombing, then the chance is gone.

One of the more unrealistic parts of the film happens to also be one of the most exciting: Carlin has to jump in a Hummer with a video-transmitting device because although the government can watch the past, the signal can weaken at times, especially when they want to monitor someone outside a satellite zone.

In order to boost the signal, Carlin has to follow the killer down the highway in the truck, though Carlin is following the man four days in the future. With the help of a nifty little headset, Carlin is able to see into the past and watch the killer escape. So, in one eye, Carlin is watching the past, which is at night, and in the other eye he is trying to stay focused on his pres-

ent, which is daytime. All the while he must struggle to avoid the cars in front of him. Confused yet?

Indeed, the movie is extremely confusing, but Scott does offer the material in such a way that the audience is walked through the confusing bits very slowly.

The film's concept is creative, and there are moments when Scott's true genius shines through; his directing style remains among the most distinguishable ones in Hollywood.

Washington gives another great performance. I truly believe this film cannot have an off day. In his last half-dozen films, he has stolen the show with his everyman-like characteristics, and his newest effort is no different.

"Déjà Vu" is not as smart as the director and producer would make it out to be, but it is entertaining and the action sequences are trademark Bruckheimer, which means you watch the screen with a smile on your face.

4 out of 6 — GOOD

■ Reynolds is the DT's movie critic. E-mail him at jeremy.reynolds@ttu.edu.

'The Servant' masters an ancient form of theatre

"The Servant of Two Masters," Texas Tech's latest production, which was written by Carlo Goldoni in 1745, brings the classic form of commedia dell'arte to the stage and proves this form of theatre is not bound to a time period.

Commedia dell'arte, which was popular in Italian theatre from the 14th century to 18th century, was traditionally a form of improvisational comedy performed by a company of trained — and often traveling — actors. The scene is immediately set for this type of production in "The Servant of Two Masters" with a traveling wagon taking center stage. The item was utilized thereafter as a platform for much of the action.

The heart of the play centers around Beatrice, whose brother is killed in a sword fight by her lover, Florindo, in the opening scene. When Florindo flees,

Jessica Hendricks



Beatrice follows in her brother's clothing for the purpose of finding her love and settling her brother's accounts to ensure her independence.

Her brother Federigo had been promised in marriage to Clarice, a simple-minded, less-than-innocent young girl whose heart belongs to the posturing Silvio. When her father, Pantalone, hears word of Federigo's death, he promises Clarice to Silvio, a move which places them all in a predicament when Beatrice arrives as Federigo.

Meanwhile, Beatrice is unknowingly

residing in the same inn as her lover Florindo, but the pair are kept apart by a servant, Truffaldino, who has taken on the daunting task of serving these two masters in order to get twice the money and food.

The resulting confusions spark slapstick and physical comedy, keeping the actors moving and the audience laughing. The play involves stock characters, an element in commedia dell'arte in which the characters are stereotypical, embodying one certain characteristic, such as the rascally servant Truffaldino or the posturing coward Silvio.

Truffaldino, played by Antonio Hardy, and the little old man Pantalone, played by Aaron T. McFarland, are particularly delightful. McFarland portrays Pantalone with a mixture of light-footed movement and a hunched-over posture. His look is almost elfish, and his old age is

a constant element of humor. The audience roared at a bout of physical comedy in which Pantalone engages in a cane fight with another old character.

Hardy accomplishes many feats as Truffaldino, both comedic and acrobatic. For him, even simple tasks such as chewing bread or opening a letter become humorously dramatic. He accomplishes a difficult juggling scene in which he must catch plates being thrown at him from two different directions. He is deceitful, yet he keeps the compassion of the audience.

These acting feats are made all the more impressive by the fact that most of the stock characters are wearing masks. Since the audience members cannot see much of their facial expressions, the characters are left with the job of being even more bodily expressive — a task that was readily and easily accomplished

by the actors.

Simple sound effects added to the humor of the play as Silvio made a sliding sword sound with his mouth every time he flashed his sword, or a whistle was used back stage when a character fell down. The timing of these simple but expressive sound effects required careful attention to the action and very effective stage management.

In one word, "The Servant of Two Masters" was fun. It was enjoyed by

spectators of all ages, from small children to adults. The audience was effectively engaged in the production, the plight of the characters and a little piece of history. "The Servant of Two Masters" will continue at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday in Tech's Charles E. Maedgen Jr. Theatre.

■ Hendricks is a senior bilingual education major for Idalou. E-mail her at jessica.l.reaves@ttu.edu.

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8	AM	Dragon Tales			Awsome Adv	Cosby Show		Megan Mullally Show
9	AM	Sesame Street		200 Club	Judge Mathis	Roseanne	Rachael Ray	Martha
10	AM	Calliou	Regis and Kelly	Prix Is Right	Divorce Court	Paid Program	The View (HD)	Tyra Banks
11	AM	Teletubbies	Jeopardy!	Young and the Restless (HD)	Judge Alex	Paid Program	Paid Program	Dr. Keith Ablow
12	PM	Quilt	News	KLBK 13 News	Jerry Springer			Access
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2	PM	Puppy (HD)	The Lions	Inside Edition	Guiding Light	Good	What I Like	Courtney Court
3	PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Judge Joe	Jerry Springer	Reba	Montel Williams	Elian DeGeneres
4	PM	Clifford	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy	Mauri	Bernie Mac	Geraldo	Fox 34 News First @ Four
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6	PM	NewsHour with Jim Lehrer	Wheel (HD)	Millionaire	Extra	King Of	Entertainment	Raymond
7	PM	Antiques Roadshow	Deal or No Deal	How I Met (HD)	Desire "Mending Wall" (HD)	Everybody All of Us (HD)	Wife Swap "Rowland"	Pison Break "The Killing Bar"
8	PM	American Experience "9/11"	Heroes "Six Months Ago"	Two & 1/2 (HD)	Fashion House "The Betrayal"	Griffiths (HD)	The Bachelor: Flame	House
9	PM	Studio 60 Sunset Strip "15-12"	CSI: Miami "Come As You Are"	Jim	Wife and Kids	WI & Grace		Fox 34 News @ Nine
10	PM	Bus Report	News	KLBK 13 News	70s	Sex and City	News	Seinfeld
11	PM	Charlie Rose	(35) Jay Leno Show (HD)	King of Hill	Malcolm	The Nanny	(35) Nightline	Friends
12	AM	Destiny	(35) Late Night (HD)	(35) Craig Ferguson	Backer	Mad About	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Scrubs
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SPORTS

PAGE 8
MONDAY, NOV. 27, 2006

Knight six shy of all-time record

EL PASO (AP) — Bob Knight's 874th career win wasn't pretty but was decisive as Texas Tech beat UTEP 94-77 on Saturday.

The win put Knight within six games of Dean Smith's Division I record of 879 career victories. Knight, who has the most wins of any active coach, is third behind Smith and two wins from tying Kentucky legend Adolph Rupp.

Texas Tech (5-2) endured loud and unrelenting taunting from a bevy of orange-clad Miners fans, but Martin Zeno and Jarrius Jackson played through the noise to combine for 59 points.

Zeno put up a career-high 28 points, scoring the last 11 points for the Red Raiders in the first half. Jackson scored a season-high 31 points, including 19 in the

first half.

Zeno also had eight rebounds, one steal and three assists.

"(Zeno) gave us a real good lift today, and it wasn't just on offense," Jackson said. "It was on the defensive end too. He had a real good game all around today."

Stefon Jackson scored 20 points and Maurice Thomas had a career-high 16 points for UTEP (3-2).

The Miners cut the lead to just seven with 6:15 left, but Texas Tech shot back with a field goal and free throw from Zeno to extend the lead and start the Red Raiders on a 7-0 run.

"The most important part of the game for us was when UTEP got within seven," Knight said. "We've played seven games so far and I think that's the best we've

played under pressure so far."

Texas Tech trailed only once and led by as many as 17 with less than four minutes remaining in the first half.

Still, Knight said the Red Raiders have plenty to work on.

"We've kind of wilted at times when we've had a chance to win," Knight said.

First-year UTEP coach Tony Barbee said the Miners couldn't afford to trail early if they wanted to win. Texas Tech scored the game's first six points and led by 14 at halftime.

"I thought we played a little bit tight to start the game," Barbee said. "We got some good looks and we shot some air balls. In this game we knew we had to get off to a good start."

Pennington, Jets blow by Texans

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — With his team down 9-3 to the New York Jets at halftime, Houston Texans coach Gary Kubiak still believed a road victory was within reach.

Then the third quarter came.

The Jets put up 14 points while holding the Texans scoreless, and never looked back while handing the Texans a 26-11 loss.

"We made some big mistakes in the third quarter that were inexcusable," said Kubiak, whose team fell to 3-8 on the year. "We were going the wrong way trying to hand the ball off. Some alignment things we did didn't make sense."

"That's on us as coaches, and it was the difference in the game. We had a good football game, our defense

played well. We needed a play in the third quarter to make a difference and they made every play and we made absolutely none."

Houston's defense held the Jets to 27 yards rushing and sacked quarterback Chad Pennington once for a 9-yard loss.

But the Jets countered by sacking David Carr four times and holding to the Texans running game to 25 yards. Still, Carr completed 39 of 54 attempts with one interception for 321 yards.

"They tried to take away the running game and they did a good job at it," Carr said. "We tried to take a couple of shots down the field, but they knew exactly what they wanted to give us."

The Texans also arrived just as

Pennington rediscovered some missing chemistry with his receivers.

"We did stop the run, but (Pennington) does a great job of picking you apart if you give him time," Kubiak said. "Without looking at the film, I would think that once again pressure is an issue. When we do pressure people, we play pretty good in the secondary and I'm not sure we did that today."

Pennington had his finest passing day in weeks, throwing for 286 yards and a touchdown.

Pennington also gave the Jets quite a scare. The quarterback had to leave briefly in the third quarter when he was hit by two Texans and left writhing in pain on the Meadowlands turf.

Lady Raiders finish fifth in Hawaii tournament

By **STEPHEN MONAHAN**
SPORTS EDITOR

During its recent trip to Hawaii, the Texas Tech women's basketball team suffered its first loss, but recorded its first upset of a ranked opponent this season.

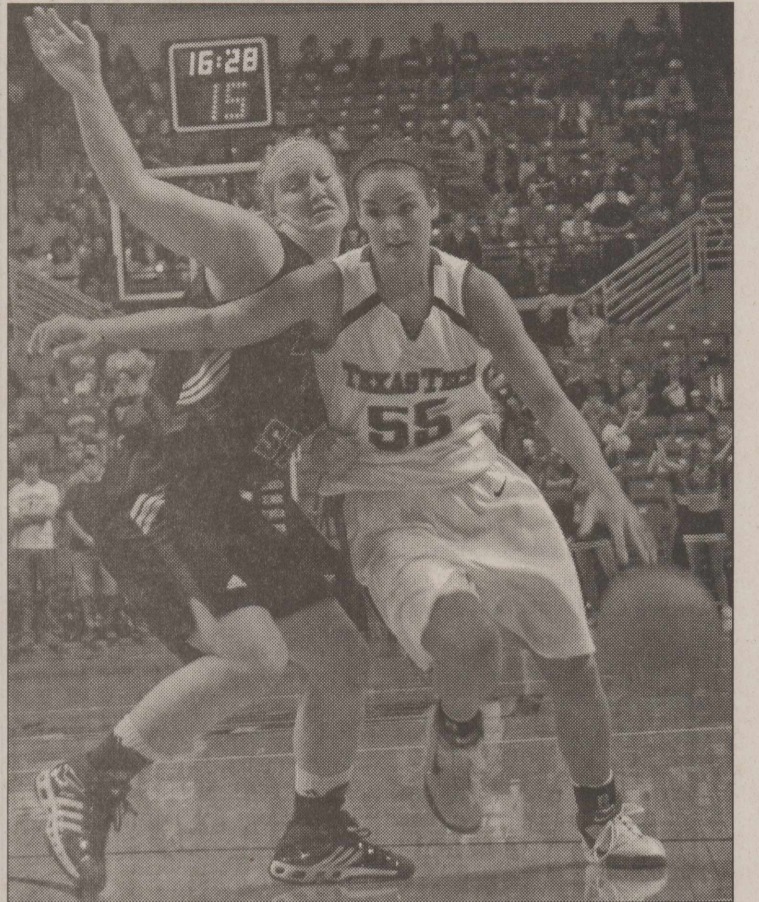
In the fifth-place game of the Hawaiian Airlines Rainbow Wahine Classic Sunday, Lady Raider center Erin Myrick posted her fourth-straight double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds en route to a 75-60 victory over No. 21 UCLA.

Senior forward Alesha Robertson had a team-high 17 points while freshman Jordan Murphree added 14 and senior Chesley Dabbs poured in 12 in Sunday's victory.

In the opening round of the Hawaiian Airlines Rainbow Wahine Classic Friday, the Lady Raiders fell to Hawaii 57-54 behind 27.7 percent shooting from the field — a season low for coach Kristy Curry's squad.

Saturday, Tech rebounded with a 67-53 defeat of Denver in the consolation bracket.

In the two games, Robertson posted 12 points and 13 boards and Myrick added 10 points and 13 rebounds in the loss to Hawaii. Against Denver, Robertson



VANESSA VELA/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH'S ALESHA Robertson dribbles past an opponent during a game earlier this season.

tallied 18 points and Myrick had 16 while both hauled in 11 rebounds apiece.

Next up for the Lady Raiders

will be against Tulane at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the United Spirit Arena.

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Ames wins his first Skins game in playoff

A QUINTA, Calif. (AP) — Stephen Ames took the big bucks in his first Skins game.

Ames rolled in a 3-foot birdie putt on the third playoff hole Sunday for \$270,000 that gave him the championship with a total of \$590,000.

"I forgot about the golf swing and just started playing golf," Ames said. "I made some nice putts and hit some good shots where I made some skins early on."

Five-time champion Fred Couples finished second with \$385,000. John Daly won one skin worth \$25,000 and ruined his chance at the \$270,000 still up for grabs when he drove into a fairway bunker on the third playoff hole.

Fred Funk, who wore a pink skirt

on one hole last year then went on to laugh all the way to the bank with \$925,000 and the title, was shut out in his second trip to the Skins.

Couples and Funk were eliminated on the second playoff hole, when Ames and Daly each had birdies.

Couples, who was making his 13th appearance and is known as "King of the Skins," ran his career earnings in the event to \$3.9 million. Although he didn't win this time, Couples played the best golf of the foursome, with 10 birdies and an eagle over 20 holes.

"Freddie should have won," Daly said. "No offense to Stephen, but Freddie played better than all three of us. Stephen just got it at the right time."

In Skins competition, a player

wants to win the big-money holes as the pot builds up. Ames won the title by taking eight skins and Couples won nine, but for less money.

Although the joking and needling didn't quite measure up to the hoopla over Funk's donning a skirt for the third hole last year when Annika Sorenstam outdrove him, there were a lot of lighter moments.

Funk played a couple of practical jokes, including replacing Daly's ball on the sixth green with a remote-control ball that lurched back and forth, then serving as Daly's caddy on the 11th tee, when he handed him a huge wedge and a child's 9-iron.

"I didn't realize his bag weighed 9,000 pounds," Funk said. Daly shot back, "That's all the cigarettes."

When Ames curled in a 10-foot birdie putt to tie No. 17 after Couples made a birdie from 45 feet, Couples said, tongue in cheek, "I'm so happy for him."

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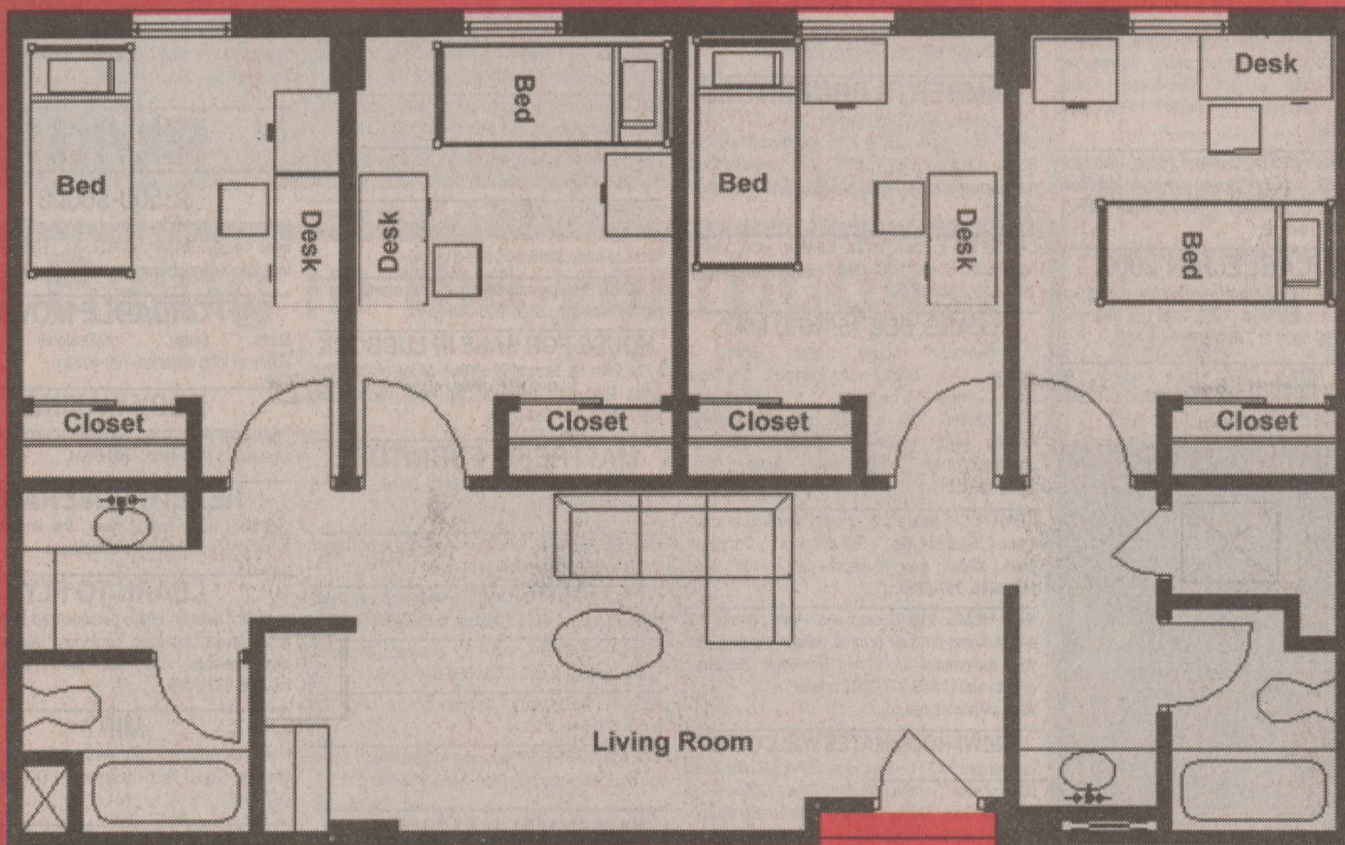
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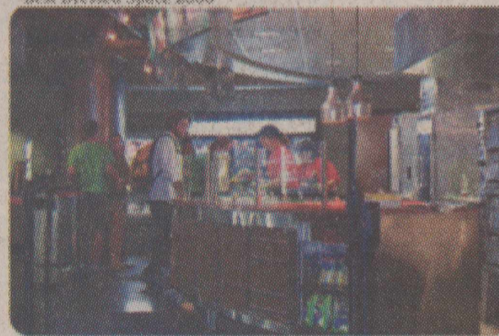


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