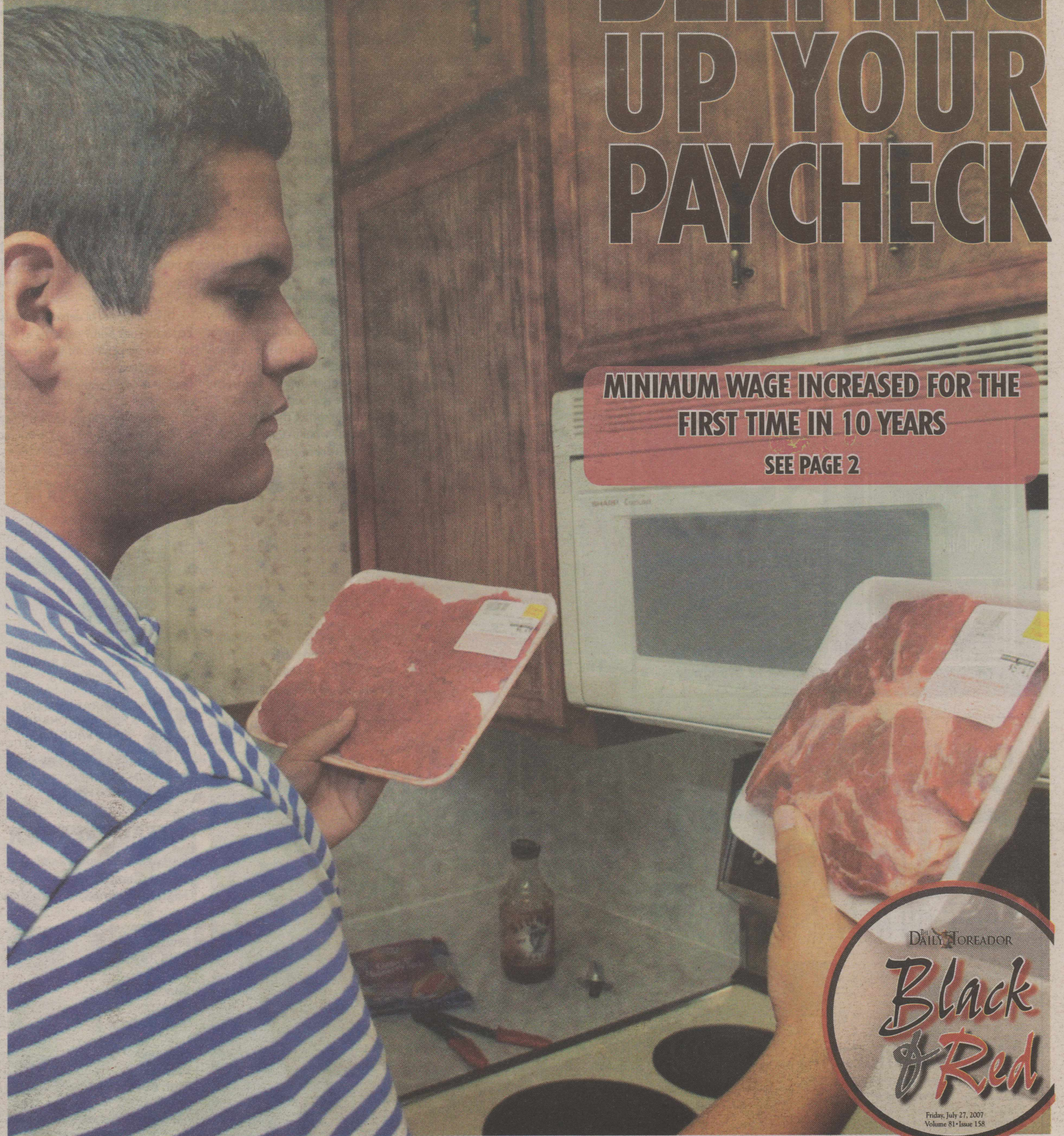


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BEEFING UP YOUR PAYCHECK

**MINIMUM WAGE INCREASED FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN 10 YEARS**

SEE PAGE 2



DAILY FOREADOR
**Black
& Red**
Friday, July 27, 2007
Volume 81 • Issue 158

Student workers at Tech minimally affected by minimum wage increase

By **GLENYS BOLLS**
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. federal minimum wage officially increased 70 cents to \$5.85 per hour Tuesday, the first step in a three-part plan to raise the minimum wage by more than \$2 in two years.

Before the increase, the federal minimum wage had been \$5.15 per hour since 1997.

"We actually don't have that many student workers that just get

minimum wage," said Nedra Goodrich, Federal Work Study Program coordinator. "The majority of departments are paying \$6 an hour. I think the increase for next July will affect more people than for this year."

The increase came as a result of a spending bill that President George W. Bush signed into law May 25. The law will increase the minimum wage to \$6.55 per hour on July 24, 2008 and \$7.25 per hour on July 24, 2009.

"There is an impact," said Dave Gruver, manager in the personnel department. "If a student is working 20 hours a week at minimum wage, there's a difference in pay of \$14 a week. Some departments that don't have many student workers won't

have a large impact. But for rec sports, the library, housing and dining services — departments that have a lot of student employees — there will be a significant impact for those departments."

There are a few exceptions to the Fair Labor Standards Act, which established the minimum wage. According to the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division Web site, <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/flsa>, workers younger than 20 may legally be paid \$4.25 per hour for the first 90 consecutive calendar days of their employment. Other such exceptions apply to tipped workers, people with disabilities and full-time students.

The Full-Time Student Program — which applies to full-time students employed in retail, service, agriculture, or at a college or university — allows employers to pay students not less than 85 percent of the federal minimum wage if the employer

obtains a certificate from the Department of Labor. That is \$4.97 per hour at the current minimum wage rate.

"We don't play that game," Gruver said. "We don't do that here. I've been here 11 years, and we never — we will never — try and do that. We want students paid at least the federal minimum wage. Students have got to work where they can make the most money. Why work on campus for a sub-minimum wage when you could work across the street and get paid more? Even if we did want to do that — which we don't — the labor supply in Lubbock wouldn't allow it."

Because most departments do pay more than minimum wage, Gruver said, there could be less of an impact. For a student who was paid \$5.50 an hour, the department would only have to raise the student's pay by 35 cents an hour rather than the full 70 cents, which would cut the department's potential impact in half.

"There's more cost to the departments," Gruver said. "It goes up by 70 cents if the students are working at minimum wage, but most are making above that, so there's not a complete impact."

To recover the costs, Goodrich said it is possible that the university could raise tuition or fees, but it is more likely that departments will lean toward hiring students in the Federal Work Study Program. In this program, the departments cover only a portion of the students' pay, the rest of which is paid by the federal government.

"The majority of departments use Federal Work Study students so they only pay 25 percent of the student's salary anyway," Goodrich said. "I'm hoping it won't really have much of an impact."

Another option the departments

WAGE continued on page 5

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RUNDOWN

1. **MINIMUM WAGE INCREASED BY 70 CENTS**
SEE PAGE 2

2. **LIBRARY OFFERS NEW 3-D ANIMATION-STUDIO**
SEE PAGE 3

3. **TRANSFORMERS: THE XBOX 360 GAME REVIEW**
SEE PAGE 6

4. **VICK ARRAIGNED ON DOG FIGHTING CHARGE**
SEE PAGE 8

5. **DALLAS COWBOYS SIGN SPENCER**
SEE PAGE 8

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Library opens 3-D animation studio

By GLENYS BOLLS
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's University Library has opened a new 3-D animation lab for students and faculty.

The lab features eight dual-platform Apple high-performance computers and new modular furnishings. Jeff Whitley, director of the University Library, said collaboration between students is the overall goal.

"The library as it's traditionally known — as a place to locate books only — is gone," Whitley said. "The new university academic library is a hub for technology and for vast resources being brought to the user via the Internet and computer technology. It's about electronic resources increasing."

The 3-D lab contains some of the most widely recognized and utilized 3-D software in the industry, Whitley said. The computers have Vue Infinite for designing landscapes and animals, Poser for the human figure, and 3-D Studio Max which is used mostly in designing 3-D video games.

"I think it's pretty cool," said Brian Morris, a junior electronic media and communications major from Lubbock and student assistant in the library. "It's great that they've gone out and gotten all this software that can be utilized by various departments. It's not limited to just one or two."

Whitley said Library Dean Donald Dyal was one of the first people at Tech to envision a library filled with technological innovations.

"Since the dean landed, he's been determined to transform the library into a technology-based center for students who want to access the latest software and equipment," Whitley said. "He said we need to put the

latest equipment in the hands of the students, and he began to think about doing this."

As beneficial as the software is, the advanced level of it can be daunting, Morris said.

"Some of it is kind of intimidating to learn how to use," Morris said. "After a while you kind of figure it out, though, and then you can do so much with it."

The 3-D animation studio gives students opportunities they would not have through classes, Whitley said.

"If you're thinking about the film industry, these animation studios don't necessarily hire individuals with credentials," Whitley said. "It's less about a degree and more about skills, so we're opening this to the students. It's putting their fees to a good use. You have a very real possibility to make yourself employable to an animation house. What a great opportunity to have this software."

In addition to the film and gaming industries, 3-D animation can be used in highly specialized fields like science, engineering and medicine, Whitley said.

"If you're in medical school and you're studying the body, how would you do it? You could actually dissect one, you could look in books, but it would be better to have a life-size or larger 3-D model," Whitley said. "You could look at the surfaces, enter into the valves, the chambers of the heart."

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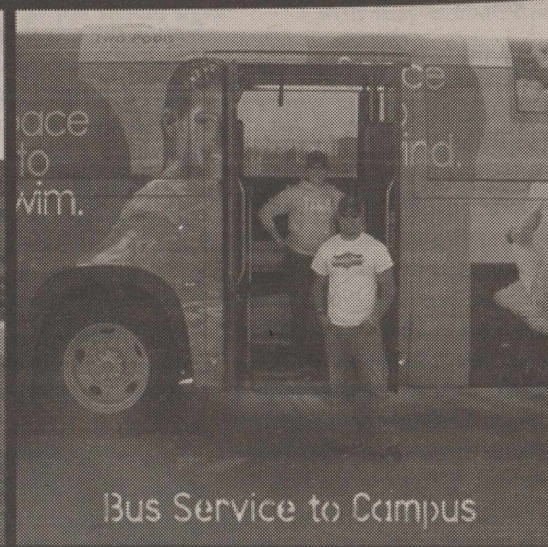
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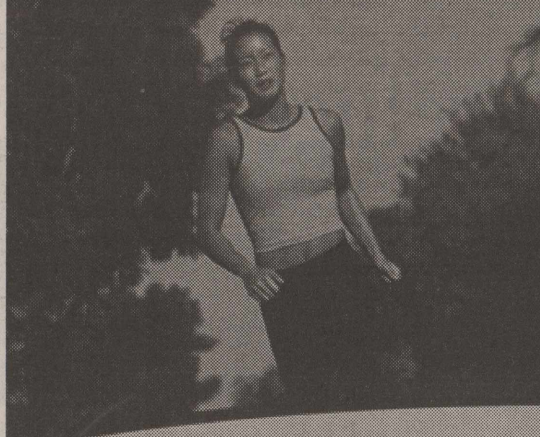
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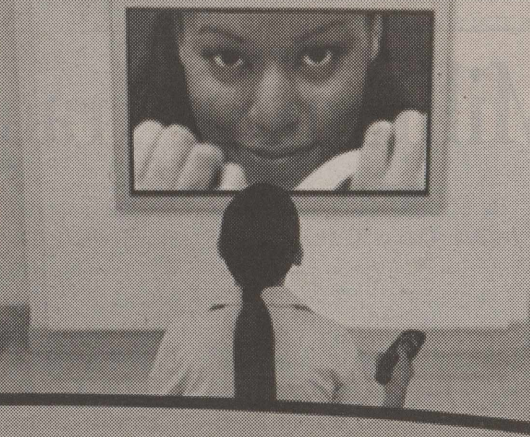


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Personality lost in presidential campaigns

By ED BILLER

DAILY COLLEGIAN (PENN STATE)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa.—It is high time politicians were held to a higher social standard.

Despite all of their talk about the war in Iraq and economic revitalization, presidential primary election front-runners are omitting one vital element from their campaigns — personality.

Consider Sept. 26, 1960, the first televised debate. Mass. Sen. John Kennedy and Vice President Richard Nixon argued over domestic issues, both making valid points. Radio listeners called Nixon the winner, but television viewers picked Kennedy.

That decision was based on Kennedy's healthy glow — he had been campaigning in California while Nixon had spent the previous two weeks in the hospital. Kennedy persevered through charisma.

In recent elections, however, charisma has been far from voters' minds. Sorting through the implications of moderate conservatism or a staunch liberalism makes a person's head spin. The logical step is to equate likability to reliability, a process already in motion.

The 2004 presidential election pitted George Bush, R-Texas, against John Kerry, D-Mass. Some may blame Kerry's loss that year on the "Bible Belt" or controversy surrounding Kerry's military record. I blame his stiff-as-a-board social demeanor.

First, no state is predetermined red or blue. Second, a Silver Star, Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts are not indicative of a dishonorable Navy career. But Kerry rarely appeared excited at campaign stops. He was no fun. Young voters, Kerry's supposed ace-in-the-hole, had every reason NOT to vote for Bush, and Kerry still lost.

But the president played the 2004 election to a tee. His answers to war and poverty questions were roundabout, but he was dependable for joviality, joking with reporters and supporters at appearances. He looked at everything wide-eyed.

Four candidates stand poised to win "swing" hearts this year: Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., Barack Obama, D-Ill., Fred Thompson, R-Tenn. and Rudy Giuliani, R-N.Y. So where is that "win-you-over" swagger?

Hillary Clinton leads off. At a Democratic fundraiser before the 1996 presidential election, then-First Lady Clinton said "give Bill a second term, and Al Gore and I will be turned loose to do what we really want to do." They had a rough four years.

Mr. "I invented the Internet" opted to sit this one out, thank goodness, but charmer Bill Clinton is along for

the ride.

In Barack Obama's 1995 memoir, *Dreams from My Father*, he talked, perhaps a bit too much, about his troubles as a teen.

"Pot had helped, and booze; maybe a little blow when you could afford it," said Obama. Goodbye conservative vote. Hello stoners-who-don't-vote vote. But watch Obama's speech as keynote speaker at the 2004 Democratic National Convention. He flickers with the fire of a revolutionary.

Fred Dalton Thompson entered the presidential race over Fourth of July weekend and already leads Rudy Giuliani in the Republican primaries. Why such popularity so fast? Nine years as a state senator? Nah. Five years on Law & Order.

Giuliani earned star-power as mayor of New York City. He said in February: "I hate to toot my own horn but that's what

I'm good at. I'm good at taking problems that have hung around for a long time with nobody doing anything about it." Pick one or the other, Giuliani. Voters hate a flip-flopper.

Finally, John McCain sunk his own ship last October. When asked about the prospect of Democrats taking back the Senate, he responded, "I think I'd just commit suicide." It is a testament to the Arizona Republican's resolve that he did not off himself after that very thing happened. But nobody likes a sore loser.

Start demanding a little more grace and civility from your representatives, America. Expect a little showmanship.

Politicians should consider affability a part of domestic policy. They need to show the general public that they are approachable and human, especially in foreign policy. If Americans can not stomach you, I doubt you will be a hit with the United Nations.

Millions of Iraq's refugees go unnoticed, unwanted

By SOUSAN HAMMAD

THE DAILY COUGAR (U. HOUSTON)

(U-WIRE) HOUSTON — For more than 27 years, Iraqis have been living in a country of incessant wars — from the Iran-Iraq war in 1980-88, followed by the Gulf War in 1991, to the 'War on Terror' that began in 2003 and continues today.

Each month there are an estimated 60,000 Iraqis who flee the country.

The 2 million that have fled Iraq are the lucky ones, having already been accepted into neighboring countries, such as Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon. The unlucky Iraqis are those stranded at borders living in

unbearable conditions, such as tents with no electricity.

According to the United Nations' Assistance Mission to Iraq, at least 47 percent of the Iraqis whom are stranded at borders have no access to official food distribution channels.

So what is delaying the U.N. from acting upon the crisis?

James Zogby, head of the Arab-American Institute, blames the crisis of Iraqi refugees on the Bush Administration.

"The tie-up is Homeland Security and vetting," Zogby said. "They're arguing that (Iraqis) working for the U.S. is one thing, trusting them over here is another."

The largest Iraqi refugee commu-

nity is in Syria, with more than 1.2 million residing mainly in Damascus.

"They're arguing that working for the U.S. is one thing, trusting them over here is another."

— JAMES ZOGBY

HEAD OF THE ARAB-AMERICAN INSTITUTE

Amman, Jordan, holds a total of

500,000 refugees who mostly come from Iraq's working class. Iraqis fleeing to Lebanon are likely to be jailed; only 20,000 have been accepted.

None of these three countries are party to the 1951 U.N. Refugee Convention, which stipulates the rights of refugees and the legal obligations states hold on the matter of refugees.

All three countries have strained relations with Iraqi communities because of this.

The occupation of Iraq, however, was not the making of Syria, Lebanon or Jordan, but of the U.S. If anyone should deal with the crisis, it must be our responsibility.

Perhaps, as Zogby implied, the

U.S. is not ready to have more Arabs living among them.

In February, the Bush Administration announced that up to 7,000 Iraqi refugees would be allowed to enter the country this year. Of the 7,000 that applied, many of them worked with the U.S. military or American companies. But the State Department revealed how many Iraqi refugees were allowed into the U.S. during the month of May. That count stands at precisely one. In April, the U.S. again admitted only a single Iraqi refugee.

When you have a president who constantly preaches of democracy and liberation, the least he can do is find a home for the people whose homes he destroyed.

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Transformers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

game series, in the sense that every time your character does something negative, police and special government agents show up and open fire on you; which can be a big distraction if you try to use an object like a civilian car as a weapon. A ton of bonus video clips and challenge modes can be unlocked for further game play by performing stunts, like speeding up as fast as you can, transforming at top speed and then trying not to skid into a building. For the fans of the original series from the 80's, the game features Frank Welker and Peter Cullen, the original voices of Megatron and Optimus Prime, with short clips from the original television series.

The downside to Transformers? The game is very short: four chapters for the Autobot campaign and four chapters for the Decepticon game.



It's a good thing they added all of the bonus content to unlock. Many of the missions are time based, and restricted to a mission area — which makes it hard to fully enjoy the huge environment the creators provided you with. What is the point of having the ability to destroy every building in your path while completing the mission if you are trapped in a small area and restricted by a time limit?

The game also noticeably lacks a peer-versus-peer mode so that players can have more varied games like a slayer game or capture the flag. With most games having the ability to go to Xbox live so you can play against other people, this game could have been greatly redeemed if it had given the user this feature.

The game is fun if you wish to rent it for a weekend, but not worth the \$59.99 to buy. If you really have the nostalgic need to watch clips from the original series, just buy the DVD.

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Campaign

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

whole city a black eye," he said.

Moses re-iterated that the campaign will not take shape within a matter of months.

"(The campaign) probably won't be a 1, 2, or 3 year thing," he said. "We're going to have to get this ingrained into freshman's minds."

Moses said singing the fight song the right way should be a part of changing school spirit.

"You're not representing yourself, you're representing your team, your school, so you should show respect and honor for all of them," he said.

He said the seniors and juniors will not abide by the campaign rules simply because they have been cheering the same way their whole

college careers.

Mason Shaw, a senior advertising major, said he loves the intensity of the crowd and yelling at the other team.

"I wish they wouldn't pound (the campaign) into the freshman like that because it is a tradition I think," he said. "(The campaign) will roll right off my back (during the games)."

► daniel.ybarra@ttu.edu

Wage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

could use to reduce costs is to decrease the number of hours students could work.

"If you don't have the budget money for it, adjust the hours offered to students to work," Gruver said. "If they can work two hours less and get the same amount of money they had been getting, that's just two hours they have free to do something else and they wouldn't really see

a difference in their pay."

In fact, a student working 18 hours a week at \$5.85 an hour would earn \$105.30 a week whereas a student working 20 hours a week at



\$5.15 an hour would earn \$103 a week.

"I'm excited about the increase," said Ashley Jones, a sophomore electronic media and communications major from Acworth, Ga. and student assistant in the University Library. "I haven't heard about any plans to reduce our hours. I don't think it will really have much of an impact right now. I think the big impact will come when it gets up to like \$7 an hour."

► glenys.bolls@ttu.edu

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Daina Babin
Junior
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XBOX 360 GAME REVIEW: TRANSFORMERS

Less than meets the eye

By **SIMON PONDER**
ONLINE EDITOR

To destroy the earth or to save it is the plot line to Activision's new movie tie-in game Transformers for the Xbox 360. The game allows you to play in campaign mode as an Autobot trying to save humanity or

as a Decepticon out to enslave and destroy as much as possible.

The game features the skills of each character in vehicular mode and transformed mode with a variety of hand-to-hand combat tactics. Weapons are at your disposal with an environment that can be completely destroyed and used against your

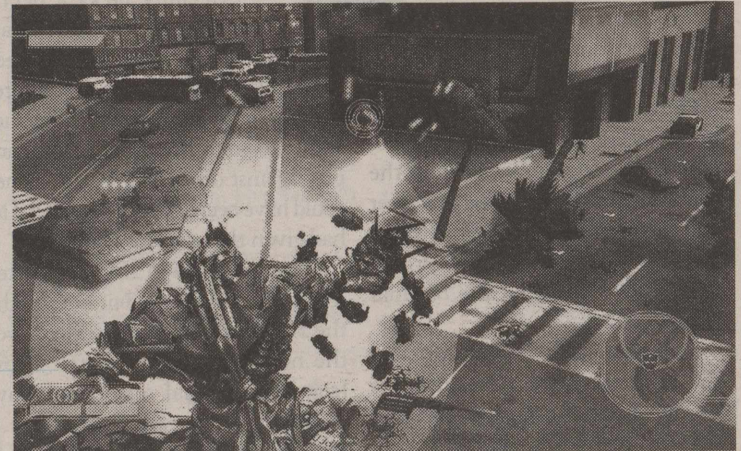


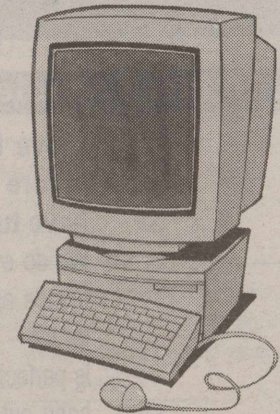
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enemies to complete your mission objective. For instance in one mission, Autobot drones rip street lamps out of the ground and hit you with them

like baseball bats. The game is also very similar to the Grand Theft Auto

TRANSFORMERS continued on page 5

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Cowboys sign Spencer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys signed top draft pick Anthony Spencer to a \$9 million, five-year deal Thursday and were hopeful of having the linebacker in training camp by the afternoon.

Spencer, the 26th pick in the draft, will get \$6 million guaranteed. He missed the start of camp Wednesday and the first workout Thursday morning. He was waiting out negotiations in Dallas, so there was a good chance he could arrive in San Antonio in time for an afternoon session.

Spencer was a defensive end at Purdue, posting 10 1/2 sacks as a senior and 21 in his four-year career. The Cowboys will be moving him to outside linebacker to rush the quarterback on the side opposite DeMarcus Ware. Ware successfully made the switch from college end to linebacker two years ago.

Spencer is expected to open the season backing up veteran Greg Ellis, provided Ellis recovers from a torn Achilles' tendon that ended his season in November. Dallas' pass rush dropped off drastically after Ellis was hurt, and the Cowboys' record slipped, too.

Ellis tried practicing Wednesday, but felt pain right away and stopped. An MRI showed no damage, only bursitis, and the team plans to bring him along slowly. Without him or Spencer, the Cowboys had been using rookie free agent Alex Odomes with the first team.

Vick: not guilty to dogfighting charges

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Michael Vick pleaded not guilty Thursday to federal dogfighting charges and was released without bond until a Nov. 26 trial.

The Atlanta Falcons quarterback and three others entered their pleas in U.S. District Court to conspiracy charges involving competitive dogfighting, procuring and training pit bulls for fighting, and conducting the enterprise across state lines. Federal prosecutors say the operation — known as Bad Newz Kennels — was run on Vick's property in Surry County.

Among the conditions set for all the defendants is that they surrender

their passports, that they not travel outside their immediate area without court approval, and that they do not sell or possess any dog. In addition, Vick was ordered to surrender any animal breeder or kennel license.

Vick arrived at the courthouse at 3 p.m. in a black sport utility vehicle and was booed by a crowd of hundreds as he emerged. Wearing a dark suit and blue shirt, the quarterback looked straight ahead as he walked up the ramp to the courthouse. He did not respond to reporters.

The allegations detailed in a graphic, 18-page indictment sparked protests by animal rights groups at the headquarters of the NFL and the

Falcons. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has barred Vick from training camp while the league investigates.

Falcons owner Arthur Blank said the team wanted to suspend Vick for four games, the maximum penalty a team can assess a player, but the NFL asked him to wait. Instead, Blank has told the player to concentrate on his legal problems, not football.

Thursday, the Falcons opened their first camp under coach Bobby Petrino.

The case began April 25 when investigators conducting a drug search at the home found 66 dogs, including 55 pit bulls, and equipment typically used in dogfighting.

General faces demotion in death of Pat Tillman

WASHINGTON (AP) — Army Secretary Peter Geren is expected to recommend that a retired three-star general be demoted for his role in providing misleading information about the death of Army Ranger Pat Tillman, military officials say, in what would be a stinging and rare rebuke.

Lt. Gen. Philip Kensinger, who headed Army special operations, is

one of six high-ranking Army officers expected to get official reprimands for making critical errors in reporting the circumstances of Tillman's friendly-fire shooting in Afghanistan in April 2004.

The officials requested anonymity because the punishments under consideration by Geren have not been made public. The Army said that no final decisions have been made, and

that once they are and the Tillman family and Congress have been notified, there will be an announcement sometime next week.

Geren also is considering issuing a letter of censure to Kensinger, who is receiving the harshest punishment of those involved in what has become a three-year controversy that triggered more than half a dozen investigations.

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Tech athletics announces sportsmanship, spirit campaign

By ALEX YBARRA
STAFF WRITER

On November 3, 2001, when Texas Tech defeated the Texas A&M 12-0 and tore down the goal post, fans thrust the goal post into the stands near the Aggie faithful, where several fights broke out.

In the eyes of opponents, that day gave Tech a reputation of intimidation which has not let up. Not many students currently attend Tech that were a part of the football game against Texas A&M.

Tech athletics hopes to tweak that image by adding sportsmanship and spirit.

Honor, Respect, Pride, and Tradition are the four words that represent the new Red Raider Power Campaign.

Tech athletics announced the Raider Power Spirit and Sportsmanship Campaign Wednesday during a press conference at Jones AT&T Stadium.

The campaign is an attempt to bolster school spirit and inform students about sportsmanship and it's reflection on Tech and the City of Lubbock.

Tech Athletic Director Gerald

Myers said he knows the campaign will not go into full effect until several years from now.

"It is a campaign that is going to be a lasting process and not just a few months at the beginning of the school year," he said. "We think it will take two or three years to see the results and see our fans respond to this campaign."

Myers said he would like to see the intensity factor stay the same, but instead of negative acts, include more positive ones.

"We want the Aggies, the Longhorns and all the rest to dread coming here and play, and we don't want to lose that, and that is where it gets tricky," he said.

Myers clarified that the campaign is not complaining about fans but rather enforcing the right way to cheer.

"We're not trying to shame our fans to stop doing something," he said. "We want to appeal to our fans to do it with class, to eliminate profanity directed at the other team for example, throwing objects on the football or basketball court."

Myers alluded to treating the officials in a different manner.

"Even treating officials with

respect, that's going to be tough," he said.

Myers said the revised version of the school fight song needs to be eliminated and hopes to accomplish that in the future.

"I don't know how some of our fans butcher our fight song and insert profanity into our fight song," he said. "We don't need that. We don't need that at all."

Student Government Association President Mason Moses said the goal post fiasco in 2001 gave Tech more than just a bad image.

"That event gave not just Tech students a black eye, not just the university a black eye, it gave the

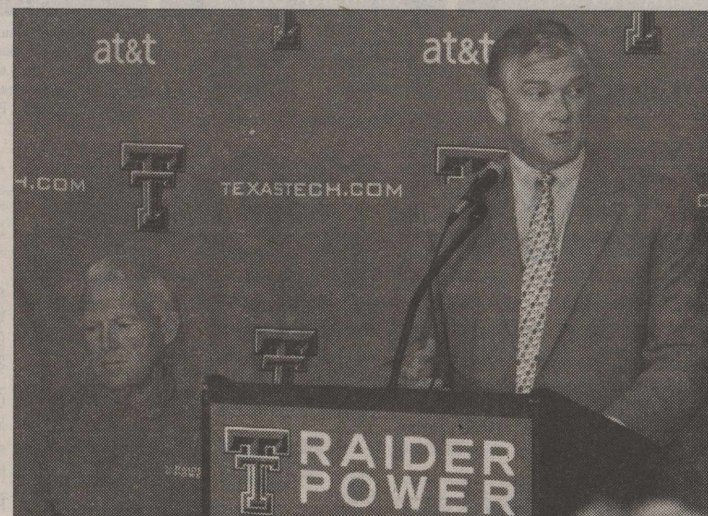


PHOTO BY WALTER ROSADO/The Daily Toreador

Mayor David Miller speaks during a press conference that launched the Raider Power Sportsmanship Camp at Jones AT&T Stadium Thursday.

CAMPAIGN continued on page 5

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