| OODBAL DOLIY |
| :---: |
| SEF PAGE 6 |

## (INBRIEF)

STATE
Border residents worry aboutviolencespillingover HOUSTON (AP) - Deadly gun
bartle in wow Mexican border cties last week left heir sister comminities
in the Rio Grande Valley hoping hat heb bural crass border vidence plaguing Nuevo Laredo for years had not spread downstream permanenty. Five people died in ferce f frefighs between suspected Guif Cartel gum-
men and Mexican moops and federal
 Those cities sit ustacaross the Rio Grande from lucrative havens for soc-alled Winter Texans, seting the multi-iblilion dollar duyg trade on a collision course with a growing tour ism industry.
NATION
Veterans linked to killings in the U.S.
NEW YORK (AP) - At least 121 Irqa and Affhanistan war veterans have
commited a kiling or been charged in one in ince United Sotesester recuming from combat, The New York Times repored Sundy:
The newspape said it also logeged 349 homicidsesinvolvingalal acivedury
milimrar personnel and new veremns in thery six yearsons since military action began in Afghanistan, and hater lraq. That represens a an 99 percent increase over he previous six-year period, he newpapper said.

## WORLD

Iran to provide answers on nuclear questions VIENNA, Austia (AP) - Iran's
ceader agreed to nswerall remaining questions about their conntry past nur learacivivies widhinfour weds in taks his spokewwoman aid Sunday The spokeswoman also siid national Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed EBaradei received new inomation on Iran's "new generation of cencifiuges" -apioinit as sthe agency is indereloping the technology, which could be used in a weapons program.

## DEATH TOLL

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| :---: |
|  |  |

## Today

SUNNY
HIGH 55
LOW 26

[^0]
## Bush: Iran threatens world security

## By ANNE GEARAN Assocaried PRess

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) - President Bush said Sunday that Iran is threat-
ening the security of the world ening the security of the worla,
and thaa the United States and Arab allies must join together to confront the danger "before it's too late," Bush said lran funds terrorist extremists, undermines stability
in Lebanon, sends arms to the
hardline Taliban regime, intimidates withheld civil liberties, Bush said legitimate criticisms." its neighbors with alarming rhetoric governments will never build trust by Bush's speech, reprising the call $\begin{aligned} & \text { cratic reforms among Arab nations. } \\ & \text { He urged the Arab leaders to show }\end{aligned}$ and defies the United Nations by harassing or imprisoning candidates for democracy in the Middle East support for the fragile Iraqi governrefusing to be open about its nuclear and protesters. But his rebuke was that he made in his second inaugural ment, open their societies and proprogram.
"Iran is the world's leading state
general, and he did not single out "Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terror," Bush said in a
speech about democracy that he speech about democracy that he "You cannot expect people to eight-day Mideast trip, which began believe in the promise of a better with a renewed push for an Israeli- fully when they are jailed for peacePalestinian peaceus pact - an anccord Bush said. "And you cannot stand said whose. "time has come." up a modern, confident nation when
Chiding US. Chiding U.S. allies who have you do not allow people to voice their
address, was delivered in one of the vide backing, and possible funding, address, was delivered in one of the vide backing, and possible funding,
few countries in the region - the to help make an Israeli-Palestinian few countries in the region - the to help make an
Emirates - where democracy has agreement stick. Emirates - where democracy has agreement stick.
not been a vital issuie. In other "Leaders on both sides still have ot been a vital issuie. In other "Leaders on both sides still have
ountries in the region, especially many tough decisions ahead, and Egypt, the fight between democracy they will need to back these decisions activists and autocratic governments with real commitments," Bush said, has been much more pointed and "but the time has come for a holy ntroversial.
The president lauded some demo

## COMMENCE CAMPAIGNING 㖣

Lubbock area Democrats kick off 2008 election season, consider potential candidates

## $\underset{\substack{\text { By MAGGIE KIELY } \\ \text { Star Write }}}{ }$

ocal Democrats̀ came together to support candidates in the state-wide campaign kick off Friday evening. Among the guests at the campaign kick off were representatives of the Texas Tech Student Democrats.
Joshua Nuñez, a senior bio-chemistry and math major from Levelland, said he organized the democratic student group because there was not one at the time and he wanted to make sure Democratic students could have a part in the political process.
art in the political process.
"It's our responsibility not only as students
in civic life," he said. "I think we here Precinct 3.
at Texas Tech, especially the Democratic Miller said being a successful leader is a group, want to feel like we're contributing matter of wrong and right, and he would our part to the entire process. We want to refuse to take "a penny more than that job feel like we are a part of the change." pays when I start in office."
Jordan Nightingale, a member of Tech Gutierrez said he would like to see state Student Democrats and a graduate stu- employees receive a salary raise and "marched dent from Port Neches, said the campaign in the streets of Austin demanding state embut also as normal citizens to be involved Flores for Lubbock County commissioner,
 OOE HEFLIN OF the Texas House of Representatives talks for County Chair over Precinct 28 during the democratic campaign kickoff.


PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toread IGNACIO LOPEZ, a senior political science major from Midland
shakes hands with democratic candidate Baltasar Cruz, who is running for Justice on the Texas Supreme Court, Friday evening running for Justice on the Texas Supre
at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Towers.


PHOTO BY COLEMAN MOREFIELD/The Daily Toreador AMY MORALES, A senior policitcal science and his-
ory major from El Paso and a member of the Texas Tech Student Democrats, listens to Charles Dunn, who is running for Lubbock democratic chair.

## Experts analyze U.S. economy's ability to survive strains

## By IEANNIN AVERS <br> I JEANNINE AVERS AP Economics WRIter

WASHINGTON (AP) - The unemployment rate leaps to a two-year high, record numbers of people are forced from their homes and Wall Street nose-dives again. Such is th fallout from a housing melddown that thre
to slingshot the country into a recession. The big economic question these days the strains or collapse under them.
The odds have grown that the economy will slip into a recession. At the beginning of last year, many economists put that chance at less than 1 -in- - ; now an increasing number says it
has climbed to around $50-50$. Goldman Sachs, the biggest investment bank on Wall Street eve
$\begin{aligned} & \text { the biggest investment bank on Wall Street even Much hope rides on the Fed. By drop- Trying to put the fragile economy back } \\ & \text { thinks a recession is inevitable this year. } \\ & \text { ping rates, it can act quickly - faster than on firm footing is the biggest challenge for }\end{aligned}$

Bernanke since taking over the Fed nearly two Hopeful it can be avoided, President Bush Congress or the White House could agree on Bernanke since taking over the Fed nearly two
and the Democrat-controlled Congress are and deliver an economic boost luding possible tax rebates. Federal Reserve forecasting a recession"" is not currently Chairman Ben Bernanke pledged to lower week. "We are forecasting sinanke said last terest rates as needed. The idea is to induce people to boost pending, especially on big-ticket items such as homes and cars, and revitalize economic activity.

## "The recession gorilla is there. The ques-

 ion is can the Federal Reserve do enough avert a recession?" asked Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight. "We think the odds are close to 50 percent that there bout it",Much hope rides on the Fed By drent
years ago. His job requires a deft reading of the
economy's vital signs and keen insights into economy's vital signs and keen insights into
what makes people and businesses tick. It is their behavior that shapes the economy. And it is in turbulent times that the Fed chief needs to bolster public and investor confidence.
Still, Wall Street is on edge. The Dow Jones Still, Wall Street is on edge. The Dow Jones
industrials plunged nearly 250 points on Friday. industrials plunged nearly 250 points on Friday.
Also, consumer confidence tumbled in early Also, cons
January.
Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services, puts the odds of a recession as high as 40 percent. "There are a lot of headwinds and the economy probably has enough momentum to get through, but when
things get rough, there are a lot of ways things things get rough, there are a lot of ways things

ECONOMY continued on page 5

## Students learn importance of risk management




Iraqi Shiite, Sunni politicians join to criticize Kurdish authorities over oil

BAGHDAD (AP) - Iraqi law
makers across a wide political makers across a wide political spec-
trum chastised what they claim is trum chastised what they claim is
overreaching by the Kurdish north, issuing a declaration Sunday opposing the self-ruled region's foreign oil deals and its ambitions in the disputed city of Kirkuk. The declaration avoided men-
tioning the Kurdish government by name, but could create a new source of tension between Sunni Arab, Shiite and Kurdish groups, especially because a major Shiite party is now
lobbying for the creation in southern Iraq of a self-ruled region modeled
Ine after the Kurdish one. There must be a formula for maintaining the unity of Iraq and
the distribution of its wealth," said secular lawmaker Osama al-Nijifi reading from the declaration at news conference. "Oil and gas are a national wealth and we are concerned about those who want to go it alone when it
deals," he said.
deals," he said.
The Kurds are a key group within the governing coalition and have
been Washington's most reliable allies in Iraq. Since the oustet of
Saddam Hussein they have forged a Saddam Hussen they have forged a
close relationship with the majority But recent assertive acts by the Kurds, such as the refusal to fly the Iraqi national flag in the region, have irritated the Shiite-dominated government in Baghdad along with
NOW OPFN

There must be a formula for maintaining the unity of Iraq and the distribution of its

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { wealth. } \\
& \text { - OSAMA AL-NIIFI } \\
& \text { SECULAR LAWMAKER }
\end{aligned}
$$

A resolution of the Kirkuk
reached by the end of 2007 with Ints on whether it its inhabitruled by Baghda it should temain Kurdistan. The deadline has been extended by six months, with vote now expected before the end
of June of June.
Saleh al-Mutlaq, leader of parliament's second largest Sunni
 Kurdish claim to the city, 180 miles north of Baghdad.
nce the declaration did not mean the creation of an ethnic Arab
alliance opposed to Iraq's Kurdish alliance opposed to Iraq's Kurdish minority. "We are working for the
nity of the country and that takes precedence over anything else," he said.
The oth tion is oil.
With a proposed national nd gas law bogoged down in dis pute between the Kurds and the government over who has the final say in managing oil and gas fields, the Kurds have signed 15 produc tion-sharing contracts with 20 international oil companies, most of them obscure.
Those contracts are considered
illegal by the Iraqi Oil Ministry Illegal by the Iraqi Oil Ministry
which has threatened to exclude and blacklist particicipating international oil companies from future opportunities in other parts of Iraq. The ministry has said it would stop all crude exports to South
Korea if that nation proceeds with Korea if that nation proceeds with
deal last November between a stateowned consortium and the Kurdish government.
A spokesman for the Kurdish region, Jamal Abdullah, said Sun-
day the contracts are day the contracts are legal and that
no one has the authority to annut them. "We are going forward to develop this sector to serve our people, and anyone who has any complaint anyone who has any complaint
should file it to the federal court,"
he told The Associated Press.
and the effects they could have, and about the dangers involved with risky ke care of one another." behaviors is vital from a health and welliness standpoint. "lt's something that we definitely need to be aware of and try to prevent
as much as possible," he said. "Fspe as much as possible," he said. "Espe-
cially when you talk about safety, there is no higher priority"" Although it is hard to evaluate how successful the seminars have been
thus far. Mark Warren said he has little thus far, Mark Warren said he has little doubt the retreats have positively
impacted attendees because they are impacted attendees because they are
required to fill out "solid" risk manage required to fill out "solid" risk manage-
ment plans for their organizations for the upcoming semester, which is the first step toward taking action. least causes them not to experience
any kind of accident," Mark Warren any kind of accident," Mark Warren said. Planning for safety greatly can
reduce the risks inherent in many student activities, Freada Warren said. If safety is accounted for in the initial stages of planning for an event, the risk factor is diminished greatly. "It occurred to us that students consequences for their actions that consequences for their actions that planning things," she said. "We don't want to take the fun away. We just want it to be a safer environment." matthew. $m$ scgowan envettu.edu.
Repairs to Blackwater vehicles could complicate Baghdad shooting inquiry

U.S. military investigators iniinvolved" and the Iraqi government concluded the govern-
The repairs essentially destroved evidence that Justice Department investigators hoped to examine in a criminal case that has drawn worldwide attention. The Sept. 16 shooting has strained U.S. relations with the Iraqi government, which wants Blackwater expelled from the
country. It also has become a fash country. It also has become a flash
point in the debate over whether contractors are immune from legal
con consequences for their actions in a
war zone.
Blackwater's four armored vehicles were repaired or repainted within days of the shooting, and before $F$ FBI teams went to Baghdad to
collect evidence, people close to th collect evidence, people close to the
case said. The work included repair to a damaged radiator that Blackwa ter says is cenitral to its defense. The damage and subsequent repairs were described to The As sociated Press by five people familiar with the case who discussed it in separate interviews over the past
month. All spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case.

Second body found in search for 4 kids thrown from bridge
"More TV s per seating capacity"
than any restaurant in Lubbock"
Happy Hour Mon-Fr:
\$1 Drafts 3-7
Late Night Happy Hour
$\$ 5.99$ Lundh Specials: Mon-This 8pm-Close
\$1.25 Dratts

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) - A
second body was recovered Sunday second body was recovered Sunday
in the search for four children allegin the search for four children alleg-
edly thrown from a coastal bridge by their father, the sheriff said. The body was found by a search team near where a duck hunter found the body of an infant about five miles west of the bridge in a marshy area on
Saturday, saidMobile County sheriffs Sgt. Jerry Taylor.
Sgt. Jerry Taylor.
The search for the children ranging in age from a few months to 3 years - began Tuesday near the mouth of Mobile Bay after
prosecutors said the father, prosecutors said the father, Lam
Luong, confessed. Luong, confessed.
The children's
The children's mother, 23 .
year-old Kieu Phan, had gone with

## vong torg. "The

 "The inevitable nightmare ing. have feared has now been conffirmed," Mobile County Sheriff Sanifmed, aid Saturday. "We bel Sam Cochran now, that the father of these children threw these children off the Dauphin Island bridge." technology saw imaces Friday that rechnology saw images Friday thatthey believed were three bodies, but they believed were three bodies, but
the currents were so strong the divers were unable to get to the location. Divers re-entered the water Saturday and worked until darkness forced
them out of the water without them out of the water without finding
the other three bodies. Authorities the other three bodies. Authorities
expanded the search zone westward toward Pascagoula, Miss., believing
that the strong currents may have
moved the bodies in that direction. Aaron Women's Clinic
License\#7305

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Under New Ownership 5501 slide Road 687-3833

## Baghdad gallery owner wages personal war for artists

rights, the Hewar art gallery should
be a casualty of war.
$\qquad$ painting or sculpture being sold.
The gallery's cafe The gallery's cafe - once a noisy
meeting ground for Baghdad's intelligentsia - now sees just a few hardy regulars, The owner's balance sheet shows losses of up to $\$ 400$ a month -a
sum considered a good monthly sum considered a good monthly
wage.
On the plus side: three sheep that

Anbar province to the west. They during the years of fighting and grazed on weeds and hedges outside
the gallery in north Baghdad's Wathe gallery in north B
ziriyah neighborhood. zutivah neighborhood. something keeps Qassim Sut something keeps Qassim good.
It's part stubbornness, part nostalgia and a dash of belief that, just maybe, better times are ahead - the
same recipe that kept a handful same recipe that kept a handful
of other cultural guardians, such perhaps the best
crossroads in Ira
upheaval. Now, with violence on the wane became the main salon for debates the city's struggling artist community looks for signs that their patrons by the regime. could someday return and the dis-
cussions in assions in the coffee houses could rather than the their latest works Sabti's gallery is a bellwes. Sabti's gallery is a bellwether.
The Hewar, or Dialogue,
the sectarian bloodletting. Sabti estimates at least 70 per cent of Iraq's art re out of Iraq - intellectual "My gallery, like Baghdad, is under siege," said the silver-haired Sabti, a Sunni Arab married to Shiite. He still walks with a limp from childhood polio. But Sabti, 54, has not stopped organizing exhibitions - 29 in all
since 2003. "The Iraqis kept comsince 2003. "The Iraqis kept com
ing but none can afford to buy art,"

Sabti arranges for financial support to artists from an association of painters he runs, and some of the artists who exhibit at Hewar have
taken advances against the future sale of their work. Dozens of pieces sale of their work. Dozens of pieces
are stored in back rooms under a layer of dust - like the rows of empty chairs in the gallery's top floor where young people occasionally take music and painting classes
funded by a private U.S.-based funded by a private U.S.-based

Sicilian businessmen defying the Mafia in rebellion shaking Cosa

PALERMO, Sicily (AP) - When
it it came down to business, Cosa Nostra Mack from defeas, but this time it is up Maurizio De Luicia, who has investigated
could always $\begin{array}{ll}\text { could always count on fear. } & \text { against something entirely new: a Web }\end{array}$ No more.
In a rebellion shaking the Sicilian
Mafia to its centuries-ld roots, businesses are joining forces in refusing to submit todemands for protection money called "pizo." And theyre getting away with it,
And threatening to sap an already weakened crime syndicate of one of its steadiest
sources of revenue. Iran

CONTINUED FROM PAGE land where Palestinians and Israelis live together in peace.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ specifically mention the Islamic radi-
cal group Hamas, which cal group Hamas, which has gained
control of the Gaza Strip. "The dignity and sovereignty that is your right is within your reach,"
Bush said t in a Bush said in a direct appeal to the On Iran, Bush is privately trying to allay the concerns of Persian Gulf
allies nervous about Iran's military allies nervous about lran's military
might and spreading influence. Gulf allies are jittery after the Jan. 6 confrontation between U.S. and Iranian naval vessels off their shores, but seek
assurance that Bush doesn't want war. Any attack on Iran could bring retali Any attack on Iran could bring retali-
ation against military bases on Arab
back from defea, but this time it is up Maurizio De Lucicia, who has investigated
against something entirely new: a Web extortion cases for years. "If it works, we against something entirely new: a Web extortion cases for years. "If it works, we
site where businessmen are finding safety will have a great advantage in the fight will have a great adva
against the Mafa." against the Mana.
These latest gains build on other suc-
cesses in the fight to break Cosa Nostra's cesses in the fight to break Cosa Nostra's stranglehold on Sicily. In the last two
decades, the syndicate has been hatere decades, the syndicate has been battered
bytestimony from turncoats, who helped by testimony from turncoats, who helped
send hundreds of mobsters to prison in send hundreds of mobsters to prison in
the late 1980, and a fierce state crackthe late 1980 s, and a ferce state crack-
down a decade later after bombs killed
two Palermo anti-Mafia prosecutors. The number of rebels on the Web
site is still tiny compared to Palermo's
brings together businesses in the Sicilian ite is still tiny compared to Palermo's capital that are resisting extortion.
busineseses overall, but their movement The campaig was lunched in 2004 The campaign was launched in 2004
has helped overall, but chip away at movement Mafia's by a group of youths thinking of openhas heped to chip away at the Mana's by a group of youths thinking of open-
psychological hold on Sicilians - long
ing a pub. They started off by plastering conditioned to believe that defiance Palermo with antiti-pizo fliers, reading
would bring ruin or a death sentence. "An ENTRE would bring ruin or a death sentence. "An ENTIRE PEOPLE WHO PAYS And any consistent crumbling of that THE PIZZOIS A PEOPLE WITHOUT culture of fear could ultimately lead to DIGNITY," and eventually brought
Cosa Nostra's undoing.
their campaign online where it struck a The businesses are openly defying the their campaign onine where it struck Mafia by signing on to a Web site called
the hotel is a kilometer long from the hotel is a kilometer long from
end to end and has a 1.3 kilometer
white sand beach - every grain of end to end and has a 1.3 kilometer
white sand beach - every grain of white sand beach - every grain of
it imported from Algeria, according to Steven Pike,' a spokesman at the U.S. Embassy here.

Half the audience was dressed in western attire and the other half
in Arabic clothes - white robes in Arabic clothes - white robes
and headdresses for men and black and headdresses for men and black
abayas, many with jeweled edges, for women. In renewing his "Freedom Agenda" - Bush's grand ambition to seed democracy around the globe - the president declared: We know from experience that
democracy is the only system of government that yields lasting peace and stability." peace and stability."
Yet he was speaking about democracy in a deeply undemocratic country, the Emirates, where an elite of royal rulers makes virtually
all the decisions.
$O \mathcal{N}$ E PERFECT LOVE.


ONE PERFECT RING.
$\mathcal{A}$ ring of beauty and elegance with the power to express feelings no words can describe. Oour perfect ring awaits


"I'm not sure our fathers would approve of this little arrangement.
GOP needs John McCain

## By NATHAN DIXON


(U-WIRE) BLOOMINGTON considering myself slightly left Democratic Party, I have been much more engrossed by the race
for the Republican presidential nomination.
In a race still lacking a clear
fontrunner, I have often wondere frontrunner, I have often wondered
if there was a candidate up to the task of saving the party after it had

- McCain was one of the few Republican critics to speak out about the current administration when it mattered.
ailed at all the important task continued to catch my eye. his reputation as a to me goes back man, as well as a feeling that he wa ina primary in 2000 . The man was in my opinion, quite frank about the on the Republican Party. If blaming qualify you ""sbors doesht ance," I'm not sure what does blican critics to speak few Re he current administration when it of the Bush tax cuts because he wa keptical about whether spending spending not reduced, it was in
 across the board, He was even is a real threat
perfect. In my more nostalgic moments, I wish I could root for
the John McCain of 2000 . In an the John McCain of 2000. In an tion, the "Straight Talk Express" groups he previously offended.
He spoke to many radical evangelical moralist groups and offered them his sympathy. He never re-
ally got the Bush administration ally got the Bush administration
to clearly define what torture is and isn't, making it impossible to ban. He's even become a believer
in voodoo economics by subscrib. ing to the (incorrect) notion that Bush's tax cuts actually raised
more revenue. $I$ am also not thrilled about his foreign policy. 1 am glad he called
for more troops in Iraq initially. After all, while I was against the hardly seems like the time to mas-
sively increase our troop presenc He is certainly less apocalyptic to my dismay, the compliments McCain offers "America's Mayor"
lead me to wonder if Giuliani is McCain's likely choice for vice This is not an endorsement of McCain for president. When the
general election comes around, it's more than likely I will send my liberal vote toward the Demo-
crats. This is, however, an affirmation that the man deserved to represents the individualistic and and that he deserves the Repubthe United States.



## Catch the bouquet, assure happiness


 when you men are happy beity. The flowers then landed in my hands,
to my mother's chagrin. However, my sisters soon grew
out of her silly independent phase and fecided to pursue the true road
to happiness by getting married to a handsome young man. At the
reception, I was not of the correct

Harvard leads tuition remedy By J.T. MUNCH
The Lantern (Ohio State
(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - The price to attend
college is higher today than ever before. In the past decade, tuition
has iisen by at least 5 percent a year - a rate almost twice that of inflation. A recent decision by Harvard spective. Harvard announced that families with incomes of less than
$\$ 180,000$ will pay no more than 10 percent of their annual income on stituted a policy allowing families with incomes of less than $\$ 60,000$
to pay nothi to pay nothing to attend. we're talking about. Connected to and influential people, the school is one of the most respected in

Harvard is making changes like this,
it seems pretty clear that there exists a problem with the affordability of college.
Many such as this aren't more cory policies tuition can be reduced at a place such at schools across the country? The answer is found in endowment funds. sive, multi- billion dollard have masfunds that can be uedrawnent lower tuition costs Unfortunately many schools do not have this luxury at least not to the same degree. In a recent New York Times interview,
William Durden, the president Dickinson College, was very honest about the difficulties many schools willtace. Durden noted that "a lot of o do things that we just can't do."
Assuming Durden is

## Dinilitioreador

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## Vote in this weel's online poll.

Who do you think is the strongest Republican presidential candidate? www.dailytoreador.com
 ty of other schools, both public schools avoid the problem a few In an acceptable response. (uitions to become more afford- negatively affected by the curren and with recession looming, it college tuition situation and if保 change. With that in mind, it's have to be made with oices will ap to Congress to fix the problem budgeting in the near future but rising college tuition. Congress there can be no mistake: Making
nust ensure that additional fund- college more affordable needs to be ing is allocated to higher education a top priority in America.

Economy
continued from page 1

CONTINUED FROM PA ould go wrong," Cheney said. The fear is that people will clamp will put a lid on hiring and capital into a tailspin. secutive quarters - six straight mon

- when the economy shrinks. The National Bureau of Econo for dating recessions, uses a more

BAGHDAD (AP) - Iraq's parliaallowing lowerranking former mem bers of Saddam Hussein's Baath party to reclaim government jobs, the first major piece of U.S.-backed legislation it has adopted.
Traveling in Manama, Bahrain, President Bush hailed the law as "an
important step toward reconciliaimportant step toward reconcilia-
tion." "It's an important sign that the leaders of that country understand that they must work together to meet the aspira tions of the Iraqi people," he said. The seismic piece of legislation States since November 2006 and represented the first legislative payoff for Bush's decision to deploy 30,000 additional troops to the country to quell violence. In announcing the troop buildup more than a year ago, Bush sadidit would
investment, sending the economy By one rough rule of thumb, a recession occurs when there are two conResearch, the recognized arbiters

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inoluding
A. Jaffe and Martin Flyer

- Officially ligensed texas tech jewelry -

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Lawmakers agree to bill reinstating ex-supporters of Saddam
complicated formula. It takes into ac- and will be weak in the first part of
count such things as employment and 2008. Consumers, whose spending is
income growth. By that measure, the indispensable to a healthy economy,
last recession was in 2001, starting in are expected to have tightened their
March and ending in November.
belts. March and ending in November.
Tax rebates aimed at stimulatin Tax rebates aimed at stimulatin the economy were part of Bush's $\$ 1.35$
trillion in tax cuts in 2001 . They were trillion in tax cuts in 2001. They were
credited with helping to make the ecession short and mild.
The current housing slump, made worse by a credit crunch, is weighin eavily on economic activity. Upcoming reports are expected to
how the economy grew at a feeble ace of just 1.5 percent at leess pace of just 1.5 percent or less in
the final three months of last year

High energy prices, weaker home values that make people feel less ealthy, and a deteriorating jobs marlet all figure into more caution on the part of consumers. 5 percent in Dent rate jumped ercent, fanning recession fears 4.7 percent, fanning recession fears. Ic October 2001, during a time of massive layoffs in the travel industry after the Sept. 11 attacks
ing space" to begin tackling legislation unni Arabs as well as Kurds.
Other benchmarks languish, $\begin{gathered}\text { Bremer's Coalition Provisional } \\ \text { Authority order No }\end{gathered}$ hough, including legislation to divvy 2003, had effectivelystripped key govap the country's vast oil wealth, con- ernment ministries, the military and the Sunni Arabs and a bill spelling out of cumulative experience. the Sunni Arabs and a bill spelling out of cumulative experience.
The order also was blamed for fuelIt was not immediately clear how ing the Sunni-dominated insurgency many former Baathists would benefit that took root in the late summer of Accountriew legislation, titled the 2003 , under the leadership of ousted Accountability and Justice law. But Sunni Baathists who sought venreconciliation process.
Before the party was outlawed - $\quad$ American tormentors.
The e feadership cadres drew prithe first official act of L. Paul Bremer's marily from the Sunni Muslim com-
Coalition Provisional Authority - its. munity, reflecting Saddam's sectarian Coalition Provisional Authority - its. munity, reflecting Saddam's sectarian
membership was estimated bat between base - a minority in Iraq. Because 2 million and 6 million. $\quad$ advancement in government and The strict implementation of so- professional circles during the Sadcalled de-Baathification rules meant dam era depended on Baath Party that many senior bureaucrats who membershíp, majority Shiites also sity departments and state companies mank-and-file.


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## ANGEL FIRE

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Police: Suspect in slain N.C. Marine case spotted in Louisiana and may be headed to Texas

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. (AP) been sent to the state medical

- The key suspect in the brutal examiner's office in Chapel Hill slaying of a 20 -year-old pregnant for a formal identification. Marine was spotted in Louisiana and could be headed into Texas, authorities said Sunday. Laurean was seen getting ond Laurean was seen getting on or
off a Greyhound bus in Shreveport, La., Saturday night, said Shreveport police Chief Henry Whitehorn Sr. "We're working with the U.S Marshal's Service and other law
enforcement agencies trying to enforcement agencies trying to
locate him," Whitehorn told The Associated Press. "We don't know if he is still in the area. We believe it may have just been a pass through. We received information he may be headed into Texas." On Saturday, authorities said
they recovered what they believe to be the burnt remains of Marine Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach and her unborn child from a fire pit in Laurean's backyard, where they suspect he burned and buried her body. Those remains have
Judge accused of sexual harassment breaks public silence

HOUSTON (AP)-A federal
written response to questions subsuspension and has been reassigned from Galveston to Houston while the Justice Department investigates a sexual harassment laws against him, citing federa complaint told a newspaper he
struggled with alcohol abuse after his first wife's death. U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent broke nearly a four-mont two sides to this one, and I will public silence in a seven-page appropriate time," Kent told the frustrating for me, my family and
my staff not to be able to speak in
my defense." my defense."
Kent, 58 , returned to the Kent, 58 , returned to the
bench last week in Houston and bench last week in Houston and
was met by protesters supporting was met by protesters supporting
Cathy McBroom, who has accused Kent of repeatedly harassing
her over four years. McBroom her over four years. McBroom
has declined to comment, but has declined to comment, but
people close to her have told the
newspaper that the harassment newspaper that the harassment
culminated in March when Kent
allegedly pulled up her blouse and
bra and tried to escalate contact allegedly pulled up her blouse an
bra and tried to escalate contact
until they were interrupted.


THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams


## Dáliluoreador

 Do you get up with the chickens?Imagine being done with your work day before your classes even begin.
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## WASHINGTON BOROUGH, N.J. (AP) - Two weeks after a Florida man found a rare pearl in his

Laurean will be located," Brow said, adding that the evidence in the case "leads us to believe that he would be a dangerous and vio
person if put in a corner." person if put in a corner."
Brown said the FBI, Brown said the FBI, federal
Marshals, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the North Carolina State Bureau of
Investigation are hunting for LauInvestigation are hunting for Lau-
rean. Sheriff's investigators at the rean. Sheriff's investigators at the
scene are spending much of their scene are spending much of their
time on developing evidence in the time on developing evid
investigation, he said.
investigation, he said.
"While finding him is a main concern, the major concern is that we continue the investigation to clearly find the truth in what hap pened," he said.
Authorities on Saturday is-
sued an arrest warrant on murder sued an arrest warrant on murder
charges for Laurean, 21 , of the Las charges for Laurean, 21 , of the Las
Vegas area. They believe he fled Jegas area. They believe he fled day after leaving behind a note in which he admitted to burying her body, but said Lauterbach cut her body, but said Lauterbach cut her
own throat in a suicide. -

ODDBAIL DAIIY
Pa. man apologizes for vulgarity on parking ticket check

DOYLESTOWN, Pa. (AP)
-A man who wrote a vulgar mes. - A man who wrote a vulgar mes-
sage on the memo line of a check sage on the memo line of a check
he used to pay a $\$ 5$ parking ticket has apologized in writing, leading police to drop a disorderly conduct charge against him. Clerks were offended by the message, and the disorderly conduct
charge was filed because the com charge was filed because the com-
ment was obscene, police Chief
Columbus Zoo pays breeder $\$ 35,000$ to keep large python

- Fluffy, a 24 -foot python billed as the largest snake in captivity, is staying put to lure visitors into th
Columbus Zoo and Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.
The zoo paid $\$ 35,000$ to The zoo paid $\$ 35,000$ to the
snake's breeder in Oklahoma to snake's breeder in Oklahoma to
keep the reticulated python on permanent display. While on loan last year, the python helped draw 1.53 million visitors, just under million set in 2006 , said Pet 1.5 million set in 2006 , said Pete Fing
erhut, the zoo's associate directo Fluffy is about as long as a mov
ing van and thick as a telephone
Long Island doctor
(AP) - An obstetrician saved his
wife and six children from a fire that ravaged their home, delivered
a baby while the house was still smoldering and then got cited with building violations.

Oklahoma City who raised the python from a hatchling, initially resisted the zoo's purchase offer but said he's happy with the out-
"I really love that snake; I think it's a special animal," he said. "It's so big and tame and wonderful.
But I han But have to deal with the realities of life like everyone else. I like to got a great phey, and know she' The Columbus Zoo doesn't animals very often, said Executive Director Jerry Borin. Its animals generally come as exchanges from oans or donations, he said Fluffy is on display in a 25 foot enclosure with a pool and a few plants, where he eats two
10 -pound rabbits a week. In the wild, pythons native to Asia eat whatever they can catch, starting with mice and lizards when they're small and graduating to pigs and goats. There are a few reports of uman victims.
The largest known reticulated python, named for the cross-hatch.
ing patterns on their skin, was 32 feet, $91 / 2$ inches when killed in 1912 in Indonesia.

James Donnelly said.
"He was contrite enough to offer
anymore and so ca
obscene, he said. bscene, he said. about what he did and will pay the parking fine and court costs. "This is not my normal nature and admittedly was a temporary lapse of judgment on my part, vion,", Binner wrote in his letter of tion," Binner wrote in his letter of the people who were insulted by
," he said. The lawyer for David Binner, 45 said his client would have prevaile if he went through a trial. "The F -word isn't what it used to 'attorney Keith Williams said. It sets building violations after home burns
"was just my day." The 37 -year-old awoke around 3 a.m. to the screech of a smoke detector and the sight of flames inching up an outside wall of his
Long Island home. He got his family to safety, then was paged and went to a hospital to deliver an infart
around 6 am .
The fire $b$
The fire brought scrutiny from building inspectors, who cited plumbing plans and living in the plumbing plans and living in the
house without a certificate of oc cupancy. Weiss said the family had hired a lawyer to get one.

NJ man finds pearl in plate of fried oysters
eating fried oysters.
Mike McHenry thought he had
of steamed clams while dining in chomped down on a piece of shell South Florida Wednesday night and instead spit Russo's owner, Rick Giacobbe the first time in his 33 years in the the first time in his 33 years in the found a pearl in an order of oysters He said the guy he orders seafood from is flummoxed, too.
"He said maybe once in a couple of years his girls will find something and it's steeny tiny thing," Giacobbe said. "This
lybean." While Brock's purple pearl may
worth thousands, it appear be worth thousands,
McHenry isn't so lucky. McHenry isn't so lucky. Greg Fliegauf, who manage Fliegauf Jewelers for his uncle thinks the pearl isn't worth much
because it's mishhapen and has some discoloration. "It's a souvenir I lll pu
maybe," McHenry said.


## La VIDA

## Dance company graces the South Plains

## Staff Writer

The Paul Taylor Dance Company put Texas Tech's dance department
on its toes, literally, offering classes in on its toes, literally, offering classes in
modern dance and then performing modern dance and then performing
Friday and Saturday in the Studen Union Building Allen Theatre. The dance company arrived at Tech Thursday, offering open master classes in which company members
cher ore the past four years.
Genevieve Durham, the head in the park. taught Taylor's movement at levels of the positive impact of having master "Its not easy here," he said. "The taught Taylor's movement at levels the positive impact of having master schedule is as hard as can be and the
ranging from beginner to advanced, classes like this available to students level of intensity is very high, but ranging from beginner to advanced, classes like this available to students
and performed six modern dance of intensity is very high, but
it's so worth it because of the spirit pieces Friday and Saturday evening in the Allen Theatre.

## Dance students were excited to have the opportunity to work with

 have the opportunity to work withprofessional modern dancers. A.J. Warren; a senior dance
major from Casper, Wyo., said she major from Casper, Wyo., said she
was thrilled when she found out the dance company was visiting the university company was visisiting the
ul "I felt extremely privileged to
be able to take class and experience be able to take class and experience
a professional company," Warren

## said. Having an interest in modern dance, Warren said she took full

 advantage of the master classes.Sapped of star glitz amid Hollywood writers strike, Golden Globes to quietly announce winners


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## Tech football sets goals, begins offseason



Tech men's track filled with youth, confidence

## By BRAD DUFF <br> By Brad duff Staff Writer

Despite their youth, the ath-
letes of the men's track team aim letes of the men's track team aim to cause some noise in the
Conference this season. Conference this season.
The Texas Tech track enters the season with 38 un-
derclassmen on a squad of 53 . Returning senior Shawon Harris, one of five seniors on the team,
says youth is not going to be a says youth
problem. "A lot of our (younger) guys
have already been to the hig meets have already been to the big meets
before," Harris said. "They'll go in and be shell shocked at first, but it will settle down with them. Harris' accolades include three All-American honors, five all-
conference titles, and he is the conference titles, and he is the
current school record holder in current school record holder in
the 55 M and 60 M hurdles. After Harris suffered an injury in the 2007 season, Tech track coach Wes Kittley redshirted Harris,
giving him an additional year of giving him an additional year of
eligibility.
"I'm a little anxious to get "I'm a little anxious to get
started," Harris said. "The main started," Harris said. "The main
thing is we're just going to try and stay healthy."
Now the self-proclaimed "old Now the self-proclaimed "old
man" of the team, Harris said he
 warming up," he said. "You have to warm up right. Also, keeping
that positive attitude because that positive attitude because
you're going to have those days you're going to have those days
where you don't feel good, but ¢ On both sides, we can win the Big 12 Indoor and Outdoor Championshipy,
 TEXAS TECH
HURDLER
ou have to go out there." Hurdler Zach Plinario said he
enjors being an underclassmen enjoys being an underclassmen
on the team. on the team. "We got to learn from all the veterans last year. It's always interesting."
Plinario sai
youth on the team will not have any negative effects this season. "They have us ranked real anything about our freshman because they don't take them into
account." account."
The vet The veterans have set an
example to follow, Plinario said, both in the classroom and on the track.
"We look
"We look up to them a lot because they've been to nationals," he said. "Shawon (Harris) pulled through on a lot of events for us.
He's not just a really good runner, He's not just a really good runner,
he makes his grades." he makes his grades.
Kittley said he plans to work the men in slowly for the early meets this season. "I might limit them to one
or two things whereas, with or two things whereas, with the women's team, I'm going to turn
them loose," he said. them loose," he said. Plinario said he believes the
men have enough talent to win men have enough talent to win "On both sides, we can win he Big 12 Indoor and Outdoor Championship," he said. "We can
go with every single team," go with every single team." indoor track season Friday in the Texas Tech Invitational. b brad.duff@ttu.edu

Laurence leads Missouri to 97-84 win over No. 12 UT COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - A Damion James led Texas (13-3) Missouri to remain within $40-38$ at succession of narrow losses to top with 27 points, while A.J. Abrams had halftime. succession of narrow losses to top
teams from the Big 10, Southeast- 21 pand D.J. Augustin 17 while A.J. Abrams had halftime.
Missouri opened a 10 -point lead ern Conference and other power The starting guards for Texas had with a $14-2$ run to start the second leagues had some Missouri fans uncharacteristically poor shooting half. The lead grew to as many as 16 wondering whether the Tigers games. Abrams finished 3 -off 11 from points, with Texas getting no closer would have been better served with 3 -point range, while Augustin - the than six points in the second half. a bunch of early season patsies. preseason choice as Big 12 player of Reserve forward Marshall Brown After Saturday's convincing the year - was just 6 -ff 16 from the added 14 points for Missouri, DeMarre
97.84 victory over No. 12 Texas in the Big 12 opener for both teass, free and made just two of his seven Carrol had 12 and Leo Lyons 10 . Both Brown and Horton are na-
consider that theory all but teams, free throws.
"We just Texans, with Horto came out flat,
"Abrams first win over Texas
in 10 tries dating to in 10 tries dating to final season as coach of the Tigers. "We weren't in awe," Missour coach Mike Anderson said. "Our nonconference schedule prepped
us a lot better this year." us a lot better this year.'
Among Missovi's
Among Missouri's out-of-con-
ference opponents were Maryland Ierence opponents were Maryland Arkanssas, Illinois and Mississippi State. Of that group, the Tigers beat only Maryland and Purdue. Reserve guard Keon Lawrence scored a season-high 18 points to lead six players in double figures
for Missouri (11-5) Starting for Missouri (11-5). Starting guards
Jason Horton and Stefhon Hannah both had season highs - 16 for both had season highs -
Horton and 15 for Hannah. growing up in Dallas
and Brown hailing from

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warmer weather but your swim suit is looking a litle shabby and your fil flops are out warmer weather but your swim suiti is looking a little shabby and your fip flops are out of tread? Well. Spring Break is coming up quicker than you think and you're gonna
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OSU's victory over Texas Tech denies Knight 900th win

STILLWATER, OKla. (AP) - It
took Bob K Kight 42 seasons to
the brink of to 90 wins. Oklahom State's
Obi Muonelo needed less than 2 min the brink of 900 wins. Oklahoma 2
Obi Muonelo needed less than 2
utes to call off the celebration. utes to call off the celebration.
Muonelo hit ofurstraigts-3-pointers
in 995 -second stretch, and Oklahoma State throttled down in the second hin with a $74-55$ defeas of Texas Tech on Saturday.
"It was Bob we shut that down," Muonelo said. "We didn't let him get that." Muonelo, who had a season-high 21
points, broke open a close game midway through the second half when he hit
two 3 s from the left side and then two more from the top of the key. Fresh-
man James Anderson drained a 3 from the right side, and that drew a timeout from Knight, Division I basketball's
winningest coach. Muonelo flapped his arms to encour age Oklahoma State's largest home
crowd of the season, while Knight slowly entered his
opposite sideline. "Before the game, that's all we were
talking about in the locker room. Bobby Knigh's a great coach, but we were just talking about how we didn't want him to just come in here and get his 900 th
win and then have a celebration on our win and then have acce "We
court," Muonelo said. "We can'tle that court,"Muonelo said. "We."
happen in Gallagher-lba."


Knight's next chance at No. 900
comes Wednesday night, when the Red Raiders host No. 11 Texas A\&M.
"Idon't think, unless (Duke) Coa


Cashing the boards and avoiding the cky-tack fouls that sent Texas Tech to he line 16 times in the opening half. And then Muonelo got hot. 11 of Big 12 regular season play last eason after leg surgery hit his first five 3-pointers and seven of his first eight hots. He hit eight 3 -pointers in a loss Nebraska last season.
"He's a guy that can score and he's apable of getting on a roll," Sutton said. "I'm not sure he'll do that many night, where he hits four in that amount of
time, but he can score the basketball." me, but he can score the basketball.
He got a standing ovation from th He got a standing ovation from the
crowd he was replaced in the final minutes with Oklahoma State leading by 21 . One game after drawing his first technical foul in over a year, Knight sat calmly on the Red Raiders' bench
for most of the game. for most of the game. "Sit down! Shut
He drew an early up!'" chant from the crowd as he spoke to an official after Tech's John Roberson undercut Anderson, the Cowboys' leading scorer, on a fast-break chance less than 3 minutes into the game.
He watched in disgust as Tech He watched in disgust as Tech
let the shot clock expire shortly after " his timeout, and walked to halfcourt to shake the Sutton's hand after the

Cowboys LB Ellis voted AP Comeback Player of Year
NEW YORK (AP) - Players He did it so well that Ellis drew ing off a major injury and in the of 50 media members who regularly midst of a position change rarely cover the league. In a season marked make an impact cover the league. In a season marked
by strong comebacks, Ellis beat New Greg Ellis made a major im- England wide receiver Randy Moss, at outside linebacker and on Pittsburgh quarterback Ben RoethSaturday was voted The Associ- lisberger, selected on seven.
ated Press 2007 NFL Comeback
Ellis is the first Cowboy and Ellis is the first Cowboy and
ated Press 2007 NFL Comeback the first linebacker to win
Player of the Year. Player of the Year.
Ellis went from tor in Dallas to a dominator in
his new position after spending mo fensive end. He had
$121 / 2$ sacks, forming a dynamic pass-rushing
force with All-Pro line- backer get any award on a national level force with All-Pro
DeMarcus Ware. "Ir's been great," Ellis said. "I Pasqualoni, says the respect of thank God for blessing me, let- the game is one of the reasons a good support group, starting he's right.
from the doctors. We have good
people here the we have good "So once you've got the respect done a good job working me back will, at doing something - whether into it. They've been telling me it's for your efforts on coming back
'You're fine, you're fine' It was just getting the confidence to get whatever it is - it's a great award out there and do it.

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