WEATHER

TODAY: High - 92 / Low - 69 TOMORROW: High - 94 / Low - 69

TUESDAY JULY 30, 2002

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Housing, dining costs due Students voice views with tuition, fees Aug. 16

By Kell Johnson STAFF WRITER

In addition to paying 100 percent of tuition and fees, Texas Tech students this fall must also pay 100 percent of their housing and dining costs by Aug. 16.

Failure to meet the deadline could result in canceled enrollment and a loss of services.

dent business services and housing and dining, the fall billing term will be the first time Tech has charged students' housing and dining as well as tuition on a single bill, said Becky Hyde, director of student both students and parents to see all

business services.

"It was decided to charge the students all on one bill for their convenience. Rather than students writing two separate checks, they can now write only one and are able to see all fees that they are charged with," she said.

Hyde said the new billing plan is an added service to the students.

Previously, the housing and din-In a joint decision between stu- ing fees were not accessible to the students. Now that the fees are all on one bill, students can see where their money goes and how much is allocated to certain things.

The centralized billing allows

fees and service charges and how much they are paying when they receive the tuition, fees and housing and dining bill.

"I think it will benefit the students because we offer enough payment options as well as the new billing that shows all fees," Hyde said. "We are open to suggestions, and we're trying to make our office more accessible to stu-

Tech students must pay 100 percent of tuition and fees by Aug. 16 or they will be canceled from enrollment. Those who require a

see BILL, page 5

on bus passes, routes

By Keli Johnson STAFF WRITER

Many Texas Tech students will be affected this fall by the minimization of off-campus bus service and the implementation of \$50 bus passes.

Because of a lack of funds for off-campus routes, Tech enlisted the aid of apartment complexes situated along the Red Raider Express routes to provide the nearly \$500,000 in funding in return for the free advertising they receive because of their location on the

Although the complexes said they could not afford the expense, they agreed the best option was to sell students a pass for admittance onto the bus.

Some students are frustrated not only because of the new fee, but also because of the diminished service in the fall.

The collective decision was

made by the Student Government Association, Citibus and apartment complexes to sell \$50 passes to students who use off-campus bus routes. The complexes do have the option to pick up a portion or all of the \$50 expense.

Reagan Riley, a junior early childhood development major from Odessa, said she chose Indiana Village apartments because of the convenience of being located on the bus route.

'That has a lot to do with why I live here. But because the pass is \$50 and the service will be minimized, I will probably buy a parking permit on campus," she said. "The parking is already ridiculous, and now it will increase significantly. I just hope everything works out."

Riley said she would rather park on campus and trek to class than wait on the bus if the service is less convenient

see ROUTES, page 5



CRAIG SWANSON/The University Daily

Jennifer Avery (left), a senior early childhood development major from San Antonio, and Kellie Ohara (right), a senior education major from Arlington, present their work in art class Monday in the architecture building. The assignment in their class, "Visual Art, Children and Artistic Development," was to visually communicate and interpret a children's book by Vivian Paley.

Tech bonfire policies being revised, pit complete in Aug.

By APRIL TAMPLEN STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech policies are being revised for the annual homecoming bonfire in light of recent regulations concerning bonfire construction at Texas A&M Uni-

Jana Vise, homecoming coordinating committee staff adviser for Tech, said the Lubbock Fire Marshall will be involved with the building of the bonfire on homecoming night Oct. 18.

"There is a bonfire handbook with a list of rules and regulations regarding the bonfire," she said. "We will follow these rules and regulations."

According to the Associated Press, on Thursday the A&M engineering board voted a licensed professional engineer must de-

sign and oversee any bonfire for the Aggies. The decision results from the bonfire collapse that killed 12 students and injured 27 others on Nov. 19, 1999 in College Station.

Vise said the Fire Marshall will decide how big the height of the bonfire will be and will provide general supervision for the construction of the fire.

"The burning can only be done when the wind condition is favorable," she said. "Under the Texas Natural Resource guidelines, the lumber used in the bonfire must be approved before it can be burnt. Treated lumber cannot be used."

The Saddle Tramps will collect the wood and do most of the building for the bonfire under the supervision of the Marshall. Construction can only be started three days

see BONFIRE, page 5

Tech anticipates large freshman class

STAFF WRITER

This fall Texas Tech University will have the largest freshman class of the last few years, said Jim Burkhalter, associate vice president for student affairs.

"It will be interesting to see what over the enrollment (figures) will be this fall," he said. "Because we have people coming out of our ears."

The new student numbers are expected to be up 300 to 400 students from Fall 2001 enrollment, Burkhalter said. Unlike previous years, the university is still receiving applications from prospective stu-

Even with the transition of Doak Residence Hall to an all-male freshman hall, shortage of housing is a continuous concern because of the unexpected large numbers, Burkhalter said.

"This hasn't been a typical summer," he said. "Normally applications and cancellations would have taken care of this. But we just continue to get more and more people.'

The solution has been for uni-

setting up guest apartments and has increased the workload car-

study lounges.

"(Fresh-It will be interesting men) are coming in to see what counter and enrollment (figures) applying for housing at will be this fall. orientation," he said. "We al-Because we have ways get a little bit of people coming out of that. But we haven't has out ears." as many cancella Jim Burkhalter tions that ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT

so it is kind of squeezing us from

Megan O'Brien, director of new student orientation, said the cap for students admitted to orientation had to be lifted.

nor-

mally get,

both ends."

tries to keep the numbers between terWells in the next few years.

versity officials to draft a plan lim- 500 and 550, but this year 560 stuiting the number of single rooms, dents have attended, she said. This

> ried by faculty and students overseeing the orientations.

Burkhalter said he hopes the cancellations during the first few days of classes will help ease the strain.

Usually we have about 150to200 people who don't cancel and then just don't show up," he said.

Tech is making plans to accommodate expected future growth.

"We have been in the process during this last year of developing a master plan," Burkhalter said. "For example, there will be more apartment For the summer, the university and suite-style housing near Carpen-

Train derails in Maryland leaving dozens injured

KENSINGTON, Md. (AP) -An Amtrak train carrying about 200 people derailed near Washington on Monday, injuring dozens. There were no immediate reports of fatalities.

Montgomery County fire spokesman Oscar Garcia said about 60 patients were awaiting transfer to hospitals and at least six people with what he called "traumatic" injuries.

The train was the Capitol Limited en route from Chicago to Washington. The accident happened about 1:55 p.m. near Connecticut Avenue, a major through street, authorities said.

The train, using doubledecker "Superliner" passenger cars, left Chicago at 7 p.m. Sunday with about 190 passengers and a crew of 12, Amtrak spokeswoman Karina Van Veen said.

It had two engines and 13 passenger cars, and preliminary reports indicated that 11 cars derailed, an Amtrak statement said.

were sent to the scene. Scores of rescuers helped evacuate passengers.

Television footage showed a row of double-decker cars lying on their sides, between the tracks and trees along the route.

Montgomery County police spokeswoman Lucille Bower told Baltimore television station WJZ-TV that "it is possible there are passengers pinned inside."

'It is our understanding at this point that there have not been fatalities," Bower said.

A woman identified only as Paula told WJZ that she was heading from Chicago to Washington with her 13year-old daughter. They both escaped unharmed.

'The way our car fell, we were on the bottom. So, we had to climb out . onto the top, which was the side of the train, and onto a ladder."

In 1996, the Capitol Limited and a Maryland commuter train collided in nearby Silver Spring, killing all three crew members and eight passengers on commuter train.



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Tech Notes is a service provided to Texas Tech students by the Student Government Association and The University Daily. To have your student organization event listed, please call 742-3631 or email UD@ttu.edu.

Corrections

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HSC granted seven-year accreditation

By Kristen Gilbreth STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine was recently granted a full seven-year accreditation by the Joint Commission Accreditation on Healthcare Organizations.

In January the School of Medicine filed a 1,100-page self-evaluation to the commission. A fivemember team then visited the HSC in March to verify the report and make recommendations. In June accreditation was approved for the full seven years, said Tim Hayes, special projects coordinator for the School of Medicine.

This accreditation is very important," said Hayes, who handled the paperwork involved with the process. "Every medical school in and education the HSC provides.

the U.S. and Canada, in order to receive federal funding, must receive an accreditation."

Becky Jones, director of performance improvement for the School of Medicine, said one of the national "hot beds" the commission checks is in the area of appropriate pain management for patients.

"Apparently a lot of (medical programs) are getting hit on that," she said. "But since we had our international pain institute, we had a lot of resources for that. That says a lot for us that we were really proactive. A lot of other organizations have not really lived up to the standard and have received recommendations for improvements."

Jones said acquiring the accreditation was hard work, which says a lot about the quality of care

half in preparation by forming a task force in the School of Medicine with representatives from all departments," Jones said. "This assures ourselves and the public that we live up to a code of nationally recognized standards of care."

Hayes said about 95 percent of programs receive re-accreditation, but not all of those are granted the full seven years. Recommendations are given to each program on areas for improvement.

"There are always issues that schools have to address after the accreditation, and there is progress that is made," he said. "We are going to start working on those issues, just as we have every year after the commission, there are more than accreditation process.

Hayes said most of the issues are related to continued improvement

"We spent the last year and a in the education and curriculum programs.

Dr. Terry McMahon, associate dean for education programs, said he is pleased with the decision.

'It is our third year in a row," he said. "They were very complimentary of our deans, student facilities, faculty chairs and the Office of Faculty Development.'

Jones said the HSC mission involves continuous improvement, excellence in medical education and quality patient care.

"Our clinics serve those purposes, and this is one indication that we are fulfilling our mission,"

According to the Web site of the 17,000 accredited health care organizations in the United States.

Bush criticizes Senate welfare bill for not including tougher work requirements

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) -President Bush insisted Monday that welfare recipients put in a 40hour work week and said a Senate bill requiring less is riddled with "so many exceptions, so many loopholes" that it would reverse six years of welfare progress.

Bush leveled his assault on the Democrat-written legislation while on a \$1.2 million fund-raising hop to South Carolina for the state's Republican gubernatorial candidate, Mark Sanford.

He faulted legislation passed last month by Democrats, who control the Senate Finance Committee, because it does not include the stiffer work requirements he seeks, would not produce as much money as he wants for programs promoting marriage and would increase funds to help working welfare parents pay for child care.

"They're saying we got to spend a bunch more money in order to make us feel better and to make things work better. We don't need that." he said.

The landmark 1996 welfare overhaul law expires Sept. 30 and the House has already passed a reauthorization in tune with what Bush wants - most notably by re-

work 40 hours per week to continue ence at Charleston's West Ashley receiving government checks. The 1996 law requires 30 hours of work each week.

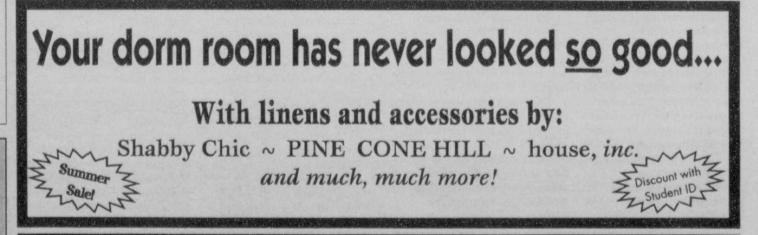
The Senate is looking at a different version, written by Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., that toughens the current work requirement but allows more flexibility in counting education and training as work.

There are so many exceptions, so many loopholes, so many ways out of holding people to high standards that fewer people would actually be moving from welfare to quiring most welfare recipients to work," Bush told an invited audi-

High School.

One proposed "loophole" he criticized would let states permit their welfare recipients to count college classes toward their work requirements. It was an amendment successfully attached to the Senate bill by a member of his own party - Republican Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine.

"Under the way they're kind of writing it right now out of the Senate Finance Committee, some people could spend their entire five years - there's a five-year work requirement - on welfare going to



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PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday July 30, 2002

Israeli strike reveals flaw in Bush doctrine

ast week, the Israeli military used a bomb Ifrom an F-16 to kill a highranking member of Hamas. The evidence against him was strong, and most people would agree this man deserved to die. He planned suicide bombings that killed dozens of innocent

But that bomb didn't kill just him. Fourteen civilians were killed in the explosion, including eight children. The Israeli Prime Minister said he regrets the loss of life, but he's calling this "one of the most successful operations in history.'

This recent spate of suicide bombings has encouraged sympathy for Israel.

Israel wants us to see the moral equivalence here. They're just an honest democracy fighting against terrorism. Hamas is just like al-Qaida, and this man was equivalent to Osama bin Laden.

We're fighting a war against terrorism, but does anybody really know what that means? A terrorist is a person who kills innocent people for political purposes.

When a suicide bomber kills 14 people in a shopping mall, that's terrorism.

But when a bomb from an F-16 kills 14 people in an apartment complex, that's "collateral damage." And whatever you call it, those children are still dead.

Collateral damage implies an accident, but Israel chose that target on purpose. They dropped military ordinance in a residential area. They used an F-16 to kill one man. It's like swatting a fly with a sledgehammer.

On Sept. 11, President George W. Bush declared war on terrorism, but you can't drop



Michael Duff michaelduff@michaelduff.net

bombs on an abstract concept. I believe history will regard this as a bad choice of words.

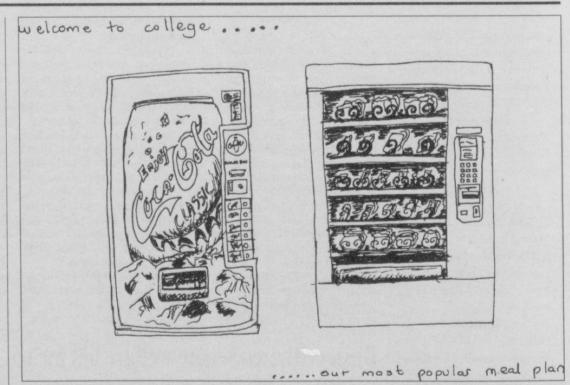
The phrase, "war on terrorism" sounds black and white, but the reality occurs in shades of gray. I think Bush made a mistake, casting this wide net with the war on terrorism. I think we should have confined our efforts, and our rhetoric, to the al-Qaida organization. This sloppy wording has cost us credibility and made us look foolish in the eyes of the world.

The term is so vague we're caught between dogmatism and hypocrisy. If we enforce the Bush doctrine literally, we'll have to declare war on Palestine and Saudi Arabia. And if we let them slide, we'll look weak.

We're holding Israel to a double standard. We can occupy Afghanistan in our hunt for bin Laden, but when they roll tanks into Palestine, we ask them to pull back.

We condemn bin Laden as a criminal, but we treat Arafat like a legitimate world leader. Now Israel has forced our hand, blurring the lines between military and civilian

There are no easy answers here. It's easy to condemn Israel from our armchairs in the U.S., but put yourself in their shoes. You're a military commander in Afghanistan. You've got bin Laden in your sights, but he's surrounded by civilians. Would you pull the trigger?



Lips' summer release refreshing

don't like the summer time all that much. Sure it's an aesthetically pleasing time of the year, and yes, all the ladyfolk are out in their least covering attire. But I mean seriously - its damn hot and my chubbiness and I don't mix well with heat. No-I'm perfectly happy inside, sipping on a cold alcoholic beverage and enjoying the air conditioning on its most artic setting.

It's for this reason that I can't fully appreciate summer albums. They don't really speak to me in the same way they apparently speak to those of you out there who just can't wait to get half naked and jump into a body of water. The kinds of summer music I like are those albums that acknowledge the season but at a safe distance.

Yoshimi Battles The Pink Robots is a CD title that doesn't exactly scream, "summer CD." Given a preliminary listen, however, it becomes quite obvious that the Flaming Lips' new release is going to be the album that



Rocky Ramirez

ramirez rocky@hotmail.com '02 — well, at least for those of us who want to enjoy the summer from indoors.

This is an album that will unfold itself into different layers with every listen. Each track is full of innovative atmospheres and futuristic compositions. The track that sets the tone for the CD is "One More Robot/Sympathy 3000-21." Lead singer Wayne Coyne rides the razor's edge between sorrow and hope as he sings, "one more robot learns to be / something more than a machine/ when it tries the way it does/ makes it seem like it can love."

Yoshimi presents itself as the warm side of post-rock. It seems like the emerging trend in postrock is to focus on texture. The epitomizes the endless summer of Flaming Lips' push the low end to the frontlines and let the guitars pick up the slack - making the texture of the album absolutely warm and fuzzy.

At this point you should be asking yourself, "wait a damn minute!' is this the same Flaming Lips that had that stupid song, 'She Don't Use Jelly?'

Sadly, I have to nod my head in the affirmative. But don't judge a band by its early commercial success. This is a smart group, putting out smart albums. One might hear the wry delivery of the vocals on Yoshimi and think the songwriting is childlike but they would be missing the point. Like a Wes Anderson film, childlike characters (or songwriting) translate into innocence, and innocence is the best way to sell hope these days.

One way or another Yoshimi will put you into a world where love and hope are still very much alive despite all the technological monsters out there. Be it this world or a futuristic one, the fact is this is a great CD, whether you're sitting half naked by the pool or hiding your pale ass indoors.

Voice your opinion at ud@ttu.edu

THE UNIVERSITY DAILY EDITORIAL BOARD Melissa Guest, Editor Matt Muench, Managing Editor Craig Swanson, Photography Editor

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爾 BILL

from page 1

payment plan must make arrangements with student business services before the due date.

Hyde said in addition to the payment option emergency enrollment loans also are available through the Offices of Student Business Services and Student Financial Aid.

The emergency enrollment loan is offered to all students regardless of qualifications. The loan defers payment for 90 days for a \$25 service charge. After the initial period, students will be charged with interest, Hyde said.

The payment plan allows stu-

dents to pay 50 percent of tuition ready filled out an application for on Aug. 16, 25 percent on Oct. 1, and the final 25 percent on Nov. 1. Like the loan, a \$25 service charge is applied to account for the extra time and service that payment plan requires, Hyde said. The payment plan was implemented last spring to aid enrollment problems. Dropping students who have not paid opens up classes to students who could not otherwise register for them.

Glenna Reeves, a clerical specialist in the financial aid office, said the amount of loans will remain basically the same despite the payment plan change.

"The tuition must be paid by the first day, but we can't release the money until after the first day of classes, so many students have al-

the emergency enrollment loan," she said. "I anticipate a lot more students requesting that loan because there is no interest if it is paid in the first 90 days."

Hyde said this fall there are no penalty late fees for missing the Aug. 16 deadline. Once the student pays, he or she can reregister for classes that are still available.

"We've had a lot of positive feedback from students who were able to enroll in previously closed classes that students did not pay for or decided to drop," Hyde said. "The payment plan allows us to plan better for classes for both students and professors because we have more information about enrollment."

CRAIG SWANSON/The University Daily Above is the mold of Raider Red at the newly constructed bonfire located between Urbanovsky Park and the United Spirit Arena. The bonfire is

scheduled to occur Oct. 18 during homecoming weekend.

FOR QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

E-MAIL THE UD AT UD@TTU.EDU

國 ROUTES

from page 1

Other Tech students said they feel the current bus service is inadequate and any change will not be worthwhile to use.

Kelli Parsons, a junior psychology major from Artesia, N.M., said she also is a resident of Indiana Village because the fact it is on the bus route appealed to her.

"When I got the apartment here, I got it because it was on the bus route. It was one of the main reasons I chose this complex," she said.

Now, Parsons said she prefers to park on campus in the event that she

needs to stay on campus late at night when there is no bus service. She said the campus already has a parking problem, and a significant increase of students seeking commuter spots will cause more problems

Some students who utilize Red Raider Express regularly said they are facing a financial problem because of the new policy. Lindsay Olibas, a senior philosophy and English major from Pecos, said she thinks it is ridiculous the university cannot afford to pay for off-campus routes.

They keep charging students for every little fee. When you think about it, \$500,000 is not a lot of money for a changing apartment complexes school like Tech. If they have so much now that we most likely will not be growth, where is the incoming money

going to?" she said. "Tech shouldn't spend so much money on athletics, and should concentrate more on academics and things that are necessary, like bus routes."

Olibas said parking on campus is too much of a hassle, but she will not pay the \$50 for the bus pass.

The main reason we chose Branchwater Villas is that it is located on the bus route and we can get right onto campus. With rent increasing every year, it would be a nice gesture for the apartment to help out with the pass fees," she said. "We will probably consider using the bus system.'

麗 BONFIRE

from page 1

prior to when the bonfire will be lit.

Vise said the Saddle Tramps are required to submit a detailed plan to Michael Shonrock, vice president of student affairs, which must include a list of materials that will be used.

Steven Stoltz, president of Saddle Tramps, said he is glad Tech has not had any bonfire-related accidents.

"We are working with a homecoming committee and the fire marshall to put the rules and regulations in print," he said. "We have a bonfire site now that is permanent; that will make things a lot safer."

Vise said students cannot smoke cigarettes, have alcoholic beverages and participate in horseplay near the bonfire, which will be held Oct. 18.

Tech also has constructed a bonfire pit, located between Urbanovsky Park and the United Spirit Arena.

Mike Ellicott, vice chancellor of facilities planning and construction, said the pit should be completed in

'The pit is surrounded by a brick and stone wall with Raider Red sketched on the wall," he said.

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Public hearing concerning Tech Parkway scheduled for tonight at United Spirit Arena

By APRIL TAMPLEN STAFF WRITER

A public hearing on the Texas Tech Parkway, a planned alternate route through campus, will be held at 6:30 p.m. today in the City Bank Conference room of the United Spirit Arena.

Max Hinojosa, vice president for operations at Tech, said Tech officials will answer questions regarding the route, parking and construction.

Mike Ellicott, vice chancellor of operations for Tech, said the \$9.2 million project will extend from the intersection of 19th Street and Indiana Avenue to the intersection of Quaker Avenue and Erskine Street. It is targeted for completion in October 2003.

get through campus," he said.

The Tech Parkway also will affect the parking lot of the University Medical Center.

Ellicott said the parkway will improve traffic conditions and pedestrian safety at the UMC, Health Sciences Center and the United Spirit Arena

"The Tech Parkway supports the Master Plan for Texas Tech, which considers today's growth

"Student growth requires additional facilities and accessibility along with optimizing safety between hicles and pedestrians."

Ellicott said the federal government has provided 80 percent of the funds to pay for the parkway. Those funds came from federal and gasoline taxes. The remaining 20 percent will come from the

"It will be another main way to Texas Tech University System, he

Jim Johnson, vice president of hospital services at the UMC, said the center is going to contribute \$600,000 towards the construction

"The street from Indiana (Avenue) to our parking area dead ends on Knoxville Avenue, so we need another entrance to the facility," he said. "UMC will expand 10th Street to Memphis Avenue as and tomorrow's concerns," he said. part of the project. We felt since

that was our entrance made just for the UMC, we are going to contribute to this extension.'

Johnson said the parkway will benefit the UMC by adding better access to the hospital.

"Indiana Avenue is going away, but actually I think this will be better for us (UMC) because the Marsha Sharp Freeway will handle more traffic," he said. "This parkway will make patients access the facility easier.'

Hinojosa said the route will help transfer students from the new Tech Golf Course and connect the proposed Marsha Sharp Freeway the campus.

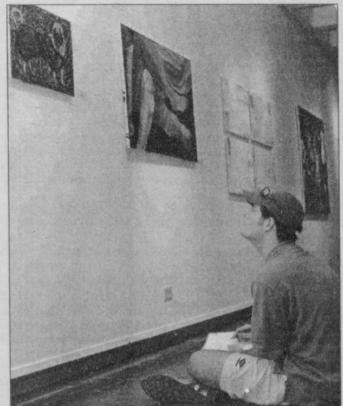
"We are looking to build a bridge to go over the Marsha Sharp Freeway," he said.

The parkway will help visitors get onto the Tech campus from the Loop and the airport, Hinojosa

Additionally, The Marsha Sharp Freeway will run along the Tech campus from east to west, Hinojosa said.

Ellicott said the parkway and the Marsha Sharp Freeway will route a significant part of the traffic that currently goes through the campus on Indiana and Flint Avenues.

ART GAZING



CRAIG SWANSON/The University Daily Chris Caceras, a senior electrical engineering major from Abilene, critiques a piece of art in the gallery of the art building Monday

Shortage forces some states to relax immunization rules for students

afternoon as part of an art appreciation class he is taking.

least four states are relaxing student immunization standards at the start of the school year because of lingering shortages in vaccines for many common childhood diseases.

The Centers for Disease Control notified doctors in a July 11 bulletin that shortages were over for two vaccines, one for measles, mumps and rubella and another for diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.

But parts of the country still lack sufficient supplies. New Jersey, Indiana, Minnesota and Nebraska are among the states that will allow students with

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - At incomplete immunizations to enroll in school this fall.

'Physicians and patients are going to have some catching up to do," said Buddy Ferguson, spokesman at Minnesota Department of Health.

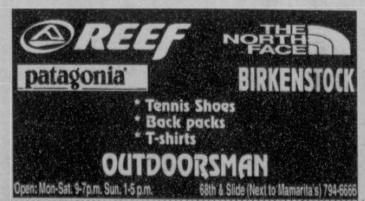
The shortage for the MMR and DTP vaccines was caused by several factors, including a dwindling number of suppliers, manufacturing changes and equipment modifications that caused some production facilities to shut down longer than expected.

Indiana health officials last week pushed back a fall deadline, requiring students to be fully immunized by Jan. 31. Minnesota waived its tetanus/diptheria shot for junior high and high school students until next fall.

"Although they do have enough vaccine now, obviously they're going to go have to go back and immunize people who haven't had their booster," Ferguson said.

The New Jersey Health Department will allow students who aren't immunized to begin school as long as the child has a doctor's note indicating they are still trying to get the vaccine.





Sales tax holiday begins Friday, concludes Sunday

head back to school, it's almost time She said the idea is to help parents for what's becoming another tradition: Texas' sales tax holiday weekend.

On Friday through Sunday, most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 are tax-free. For every \$100 spent on qualifying items, shoppers save about \$8.

Now in its fourth year, the tax holiday weekend continues to grow in popularity.

"People stop me and say thank you," Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander says.

Rylander estimates Texans will save about \$42 million next weekend - \$33.2 million in state sales tax

DALIAS (AP) — As kids prepare to and \$8.8 million in local sales tax. "make their dollars go farther as they shop for a new school year."

While the break benefits parents putting together their kids' fall wardrobes, it really warms the hearts of Texas retailers, who are preparing for the rush.

At the Prime Outlets and adjacent Tanger Outlet Center in San Marcos, managers expect a swarm of 300,000.

"It's as busy Christmastime," said Ted Omohundro, a senior general manager at Prime Outlets.

"Every year it gets better and

better," added Nancy Braun, Tanger's general manager.

Many stores in the San Marcos outlet centers will extend their hours. Old Navy will be open 72 hours -- from midnight Thursday to midnight Sunday.

General Manager Cheryl Espinoza said she's looking forward to the fast pace and the crazy hours. "This is the time we in retail live

At VF Factory Outlet, which sells everything from jeans to lingerie, cashiers will ring up sales nonstop from 7 a.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Sunday. Manager Tim Hawkins said 10 people will be added to the staff of 45.

and trying in some respects, but at tax off." the same time, if you're in retail for a profession, that's what you look forward to," Hawkins said.

At Luskey's Western Wear in Odessa, assistant manager Susan Munoz expects a stream of students seeking jeans and boots.

Everybody gets excited because its back to school and there's no tax. I guess it helps out," she said.

Since Cyndi Hutchings will be busy helping others at Luskey's all weekend, she already has earmarked some shoes and clothing for her 8-year-old son. "His stuff got put back," she said. "It's pretty help-five or six days.

"I mean it's hard and it's tiring ful, you know, when they cut that

The list of tax-exempt items remains the same as in previous years. It excludes non-clothing items like handbags, wallets, jewelry, accessories, backpacks and school supplies.

While the weekend break does shave the tax off such items diapers, uniforms and tuxedos, Rylander said she will try in the next legislative session to expand the list to include backpacks, school supplies, baby car seats, bicycle helmets and other safety gear. She also would like to see it lengthened to

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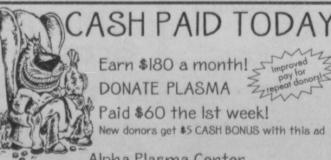
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Senate approves \$2.5 million grant for Tech wind science research

By APRIL TAMPLEN STAFF WRITER

The United States Senate Appropriations Committee has approved \$2.5 million for the 2003 fiscal year to the Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center to research property protection projects.

Kishor Mehta, director of the center, said the Senate Committee approved Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's request for the money to go to Tech and fund research on tornadoes and hurricanes. The request first went through the Senate and next will go to the House of Representa-

it will go to the president (George W. Bush) so he can sign the budget," Mehta said.

The Wind Science and Engineering Research Center has received the \$2.5 million grant for the past four years.

Mehta said the grant money is important because it funds research on the effects of windstorms in the United States.

"We use this money in conducting research on tornado and hurricane winds and damage," he said. "We research how to build shelter, the debris and even the economics of the damage."

the Wind Science and Engineer-"If the request makes it ing Research Center is observing

through the House and is passed, high winds on the outside field in a windstorm." sites.

> "We test damage on our field sites in measurements of 25 to 30 mph winds," he said. "We see how the wind affects the buildings. Our data we analyze is used for national standards.'

Along with the field sites, the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center uses a wind tunnel to test buildings at winds that are more than 90 mph.

Mehta said the wind tunnel is based on model scales of buildings and tests for wind pressure.

We use the wind tunnel to test winds that are rare to us. Mehta said the specialty of such as hurricanes," he said. "Our ultimate goal is to reduce the loss and damage that occurs

Richard Peterson, chairman of the Tech Department of Geosciences said after Lubbock was hit by a deadly tornado May 11. 1970. Tech scientists created a laboratory to study the effects of tornadic winds on structures.

Peterson said the tornado simulator was built on the field site, which is west of the Tech Health Sciences Center on Fourth Street. The total cost was \$60,000, which was mostly provided in funds from the Senate and the House of Representa-

"It is largely funded by these federal grants. The wind sciences receive widespread recognition from around the country be-

cause of our research," he said.

Chad Morris, associate director for the Wind Sciences and Engineering Research Center, said the funds Tech receives from the government enhance its ability to conduct the wind research.

"For Tech alone, it would be impossible to do research without the help of federal funds," he said. "Tech is constantly being asked to do research on building codes across the state, especially for the Gulf Coast region of the United States.'

Mehta said the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center will know if they receive the grant for the 2003 fiscal year in September when the Senate and House adjourn.

Federal court rules state can bar Boy Scouts from charity list

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) -Connecticut did not violate the rights of the Boy Scouts when it dropped the group from a list of charities that state employees contribute to through a payroll deduction plan, a federal judge

A state panel removed the Boy Scouts from the list in 2000, after a state human rights commission found that including the organization violates state antidiscrimination laws because of the scouts' ban on gay troop

The Irving, Texas-based Boy Scouts and a Connecticut scouting council filed a discrimination that exclusion from the list violated the group's First Amendment rights.

In a decision dated July 22, U.S. District Judge Warren Eginton ruled in favor of the

decision," state Comptroller Nancy Wyman said Monday. "It just basically states that the state of Connecticut does not, and cannot by law, do business with organizations that discriminate."

The Connecticut State Employee Campaign Committee the organization's attorney in hires the United Way to collect employee payroll deductions. In ately returned Monday.

lawsuit against the state, arguing 1999, state employees directly contributed \$9,950 to the Boy Scouts, which also received a portion of \$200,000 that was not designated for any one charity.

> Gay rights groups welcomed Eginton's ruling.

The ruling makes clear that "I am gratified by the court's while the Boy Scouts may be allowed to discriminate, they are not entitled to any special privileges from the state," said Karen Loewy, an attorney with the Gay & Lesbian Advocates and & De-

Calls to the Boy Scouts and Connecticut were not immedi-

Okla. bridge hit by towboat reopens ahead of schedule

-A river bridge that was hit by a towboat and collapsed, plunging 14 people to their deaths, reopened Monday ahead of schedule as the victims were remembered with a moment of silence.

A color guard lowered the U.S. and Oklahoma flags to halfstaff during the moment of silence, then raised them to fullstaff as state officials and others looked on during a ceremony.

'We still think of them," said Gary Ridley, director of the state Department of Transportation. "We think of them every day."

A state work vehicle was the first to cross the bridge, followed by a van carrying dignitaries, including Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin. The vehicles broke through a banner of white butcher paper decorated with the Interstate 40 shield.

A black Ford Mustang was the first vehicle to cross as the bridge opened to regular traffic, with the driver waving a baseball cap through the sunroof as he passed. He was followed by a honking church van from Hot Springs, Ark., and a tractortrailer driven by a man with one thumb in the air.

The opening of eastbound and westbound lanes restored some normalcy to the lives of residents in Webbers Falls, the small town that suffered through the tragedy.

Ten cars and trucks plunged

into the muddy Arkansas River the morning of May 26 after a towboat pushing two barges slammed into the bridge along Interstate 40, collapsing a 500-foot section.

Since then, as many as 20,000 cars and trucks have been rerouted each day through Webbers Falls and other nearby towns as construction crews worked around the clock to repair the collapsed span.

The roadway is reopening 10 days ahead of the Aug. 8 deadline set by the project's contractor. Fort Worth, Texas-based Gilbert Central Corp. Gilbert will earn \$1.5 million in bonuses for completing the project early.

At \$27.5 million, the Interstate 40 bridge cost twice as much to repair as expected.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation said the price rose because of the cost of shoring up the damaged structure and maintaining detour routes. The agency said it has spent almost \$10 million on repairs to alternate routes.

The increased traffic did not mean more customers for businesses in Webbers Falls, Mayor Jewell Horne said.

She said most motorists were afraid to lose more time and were in a hurry to get off two-lane detour routes.

"I know for June we lost several thousand dollars and it looks like July's going to be off some," said Butch Cox, owner of Charlie's Fried Chicken, one of Webbers Falls' three restaurants.

