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Bush warns Iraq may retaliate in U.S.

By Scott Lindlaw/Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — President Bush, linking war in Iraq to his global anti-terrorism campaign, warned Monday that Saddam Hussein or his terrorist allies may try to strike America in retaliation for the U.S.-led fighting.

"The dying regime in Iraq may try to bring terror to our shores," the president said in a speech to several hundred Coast Guard personnel. Bush also said terrorist networks may consider the war an opportunity to strike America.

"They are wrong," he said. "We are meet-

ing the threats and acting to prevent the dangers."

For months Bush has sought to link Hussein's regime with al-Qaida and other terrorist organizations, despite widespread skepticism from critics who question the administration's evidence. The national threat level was raised to code orange, the second-highest level, earlier this month, just before Bush ordered the attack on Iraq, because U.S. intelligence warned of war-related attacks in the United States.

Wearing a U.S. Coast Guard jacket, Bush countered suggestions that U.S. forces are meeting more resistance than he had expected.

"Many dangers lie ahead, but day by day we are moving closer to Baghdad," the president said. "Day by day, we are moving closer to victory."

Democrats, aware of Bush's high approval ratings on the Iraq conflict, questioned the president's homeland security policies but not his war plans.

Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin, top Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, said in a statement that Bush had failed to give the Coast Guard \$1 billion it sought to secure ports this year. He also said the president requested no money for a U.S. Customs program designed to secure cargo containers.

Critics followed Bush to Philadelphia. Scores of anti-war protesters greeted him as he arrived at the port of Philadelphia, their most dramatic props being replicas of oil derricks spewing blood.

Others held signs that read, "Create a U.S. peace department," "Let the rich fight the war" and "Mind your global manners."

Bush highlighted his request for more money for wartime domestic security by focusing on the accomplishments of the Coast Guard, now on its highest alert since World War II.

As part of his \$74.7 billion war budget, Bush has asked lawmakers to approve about

\$4.2 billion for the new Department of Homeland Security and other domestic security programs.

Nearly half the \$4.2 billion would be earmarked for equipment, training, and other security programs by state and local governments. The department would get \$1.5 billion for its own programs.

The Coast Guard, which is now part of that new department, is playing an active role in the war in Iraq, helping secure the port at Umm Qasr. A Coast Guard cutter and helicopter escorted the British ship with the first

THREATS continued on page 3

Residents question fire safety standards

By Joey Kirk/Staff Reporter

A question about fire safety arose in the minds of Bledsoe residents after a long ordeal during the waking hours of Saturday morning: Why does our residence hall not have sprinklers?

Walter James, fire marshal for Texas Tech, answered the inquiry as simply as possible:

"Right now, there are not enough funds in the Housing and Dining budget to get them installed," he said.

The question started to circulate at about 1:40 a.m. Saturday, when several Bledsoe residents woke up and hurried out to the sound of fire alarms filling the cold night's air.

Garrett Nelson, Deputy Fire Marshal for the Lubbock Fire Department, said they arrived approximately three to five minutes after the call.

"We arrived on the scene and called for two additional alarms to ensure we had enough back up," he said. "This was just a precautionary step to help us with the size of Bledsoe and the sign of smoke in and around the building."

Students and friends surrounded the exterior of the building, waiting for word from firefighters to allow them to go back to their rooms. But the call did not come until several hours later. James said an investigation had to be performed, as well as

clearing the building of carbon monoxide and smoke.

Landry Scott, a freshman business major from Celina and a resident of Bledsoe hall, said he was lucky to have a friend close by that he could stay with during the ordeal.

"It is sad that one person's mistake put all of us out of our rooms for the night," he said. "But I have a friend that lives in Sneed, and he let me and some friends stay the night."

Firefighters had no problem entering the building, Nelson said.

"They were able to go straight up to the room with no time constraint," he said. "An extinguisher was used by a resident assistant, but the fire was not fully smothered."

Burning clothing and other possessions could be seen outside the student's third floor window on the north wing of Bledsoe, where the firefighters had thrown the destroyed material out of the room. James said the fire started in the closet of a third floor room because of carelessness.

"It had started when a student was cooking microwaveable popcorn in his microwave and left it going without supervision," James said. "The resident came back and noticed it had caught fire and threw it into his closet where the fire started."

SAFETY continued on page 3

Committee approves bill for student regent

By Rachel LaFerne/Associate News Editor

The higher education subcommittee of the Texas Senate passed Senate bill 111 in a 3-0 vote at a public meeting Monday, which could place a student on the University of Texas System Board of Regents.

The bill will go to the senate education committee to be considered at a later date, according to state General Counsel Graham Kever.

A similar initiative has been the goal of the 2002-2003 Student Government Association, which had been working with UT Student Government to pass a bill that would put a student regent not only on the UT Board of Regents, but on Texas Tech's as well, SGA President Kelli Stumbo said.

In a meeting conducted by the UT system, other public university systems were invited to discuss issues concerning the systems, and among these issues was the establishment of a student regent on the boards of regents for all Texas public universities.

A bill including all public universities' establishments of a student regent was not filed in time for this year's legislative session, Director of Governmental Relations Isaac Albarado said.

The draft of a bill that would include all public universities did not have the support it needed in order to file it with the Senate.

Albarado said UT had been working on a bill for a student regent for a long time, but other schools were hesitant to support a bill with UT leading the helm.

Although the Senate bill 111, which was approved in subcommittee, only includes the UT system, Albarado said it is not too late to get Tech on the bill as an amendment.

"More amendments can be tackled on throughout the process," he said.

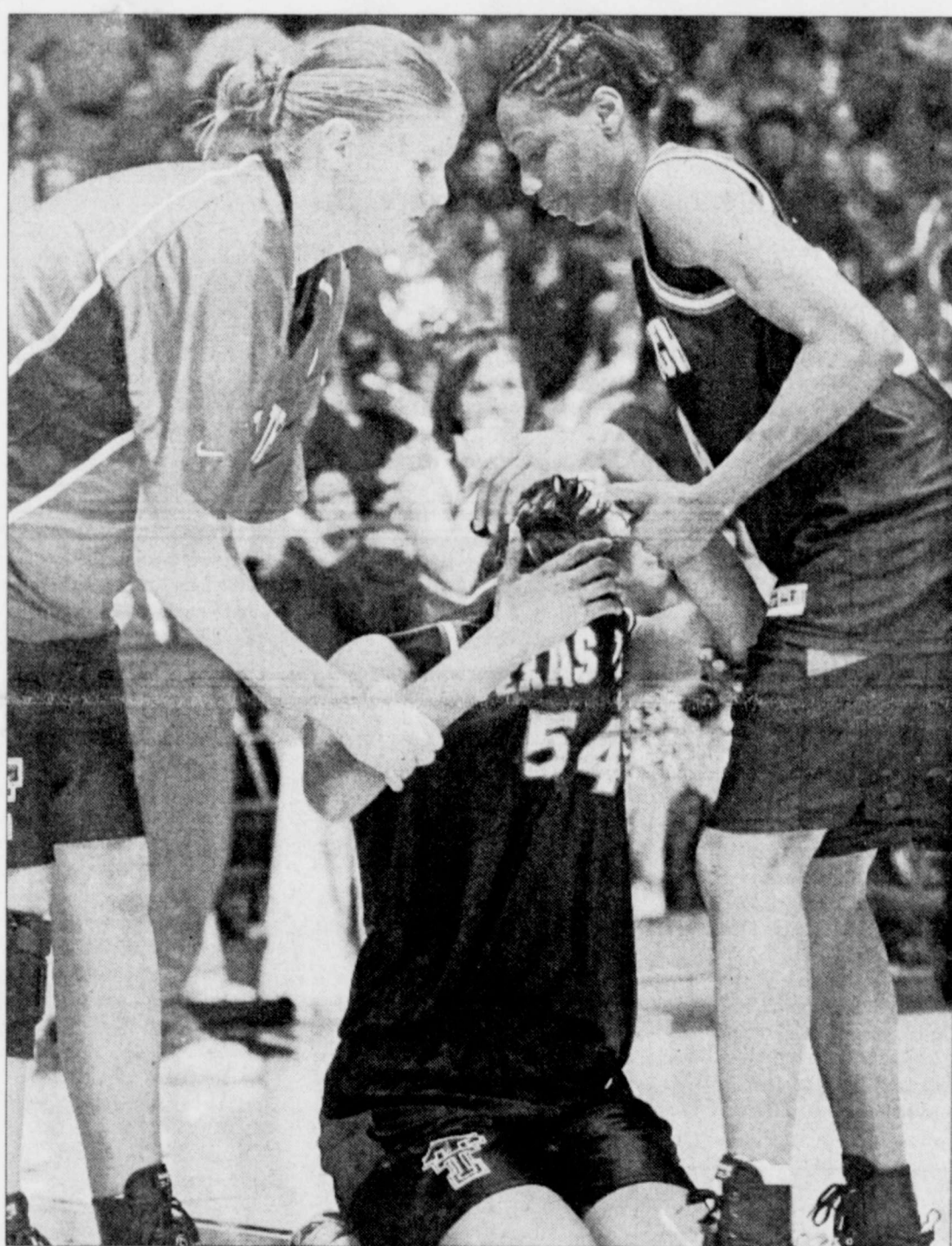
Stumbo and Internal Vice President Jeremy Brown travel to Austin today to lobby against deregulation of tuition and will be addressing the establishment of a student regent with senators and representatives affiliated with Tech.

"Right now our focus is on deregulation, but if deregulation is passed, getting a student regent on the Board will be very important," Brown said.

Regent Dave Lopez said the process of getting a bill passed to establish a student regent is lengthy, and in the meantime, the Board of Regents is working to establish a student advisor.

APPROVAL continued on page 3

Tech takes FINAL FALL



DAVID JOHNSON/Staff Photographer

TEXAS TECH FORWARD Plenette Pierson, middle, covers her face and cries after the Lady Raiders lose to Duke 57-51 Monday night in the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament in Albuquerque, N.M. Jamie Nagle, left, and Jamerta Clark, right, console her.

Season ends as Lady Raiders are edged by Duke 57-51

By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

ALBUQUERQUE — Atlanta did not call Texas Tech's number this time around. Ten years removed from their last Final Four appearance, coincidentally in Atlanta, the Lady Raiders missed their shot at returning to the Peach State and the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament after No. 1 seed Duke edged No. 2 seed Tech 57-51 at The Pit in Albuquerque, N.M.

As the final buzzer sounded, Tech forward Plenette Pierson dropped to her knees and covered her face. Her collegiate career is in books. She finished with 17 points and 17 rebounds.

But don't blame her, Tech coach Marsha Sharp said.

"She took the challenge and was triple teamed most of the night," she said. "She still tried to make plays and give us enough point production to give us a chance to win."

Who's to blame? Sharp did not point fingers at anyone, but she was disappointed at wing players Jia Perkins and Natalie Ritchie, who finished a combined 3-of-17 from the floor with only seven points.

"We haven't got enough point production from wing players to give us a chance to win," Sharp said. "Again tonight, our wing players were 3-of-17, and that just, in a game at this level, won't make it happen. I'm disappointed in the way we contributed there."

LOSS continued on page 8

Students air concerns about war at debate

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

After the anti-war demonstration frenzy that has seized the world recently, several resident assistants provided a different way to talk about the Iraq situation. They held a good old-fashioned debate.

Delano Palmer, a resident assistant, was in charge of the debate, which enticed students with free pizza, a lottery and the chance to voice opinions in a rational environment.

"It's real," the junior architecture major from Houston said of the war. "Every generation has events that affect their lives permanently, and this is one of those things."

The debate provided a structured opportunity for students to talk about what they think, and to listen to opposing opinions, he said. He encouraged participants to keep

an open mind and listen to the other side, even if they did not agree.

"All over campus you see lots of chalk talk, and all sorts of voiced opinions on the war," he said.

Since Tech students are obviously thinking about and discussing the war, the debate was a good way to gather everyone together, those in favor of it, those against it and those who have not made up their minds.

Keith Purdue, who belonged to the conservative majority in the region, said he is for the war and the actions President Bush is taking in the Middle East.

"If you're willing to fight for your own freedom, then you should be willing to fight for somebody else's freedom," the sophomore political science major from Houston said.

He supports a pre-emptive strike.

DEBATE continued on page 2

SILENT PROTEST



JENNA HANSEN/Staff Photographer

ALEXIS MALDONADO, A freshman broadcast journalism major from Tyler, reads one of the protest messages written in chalk on the sidewalk by the Mass Communications building Monday afternoon. Similar messages were displayed throughout campus at various locations.

MUENCH NAMED
2003-2004
UD EDITOR
NEWS, PAGE 2

CRITIC SAYS 'BASIC'
A MAZE WITH
NO EXIT
LIFE & LEISURE, PAGE 6



RED RAIDERS GEAR
UP FOR NEXT
SEASON
SPORTS, PAGE 8



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Muench named 2003-2004 editor of The University Daily

By Angela Timmons/Staff Reporter

The University Daily looks forward to the next academic year with the appointment of Courtney Muench as 2003-2004 editor in chief.

The Student Media Committee made the decision Monday night after interviewing Muench and David Wiechmann, the other candidate.

Susan Peterson, director of Student Media, said the decision was a tough one to make because both Muench and David Wiechmann were qualified.

"We're so lucky to have two such qualified candidates," Peterson said. "It was a win-win situation; they're both highly qualified and excellent journalists."

The position of editor in chief is an important one for The UD and the campus, Peterson said.

"The editor has the ability to go in and make the paper how they want," she said. "They can make a new face for The UD that they want to show the campus."

Muench has worked as a reporter for La Ventana, co-editor of Amigos! freshman directory, editor of the Student Services Guide, and a reporter, copy editor

and news editor of The UD, and is the current managing editor of The UD. She said the decision could have gone either way.

"David was a really good competitor," she said. "It was a 50-50 shot. I look forward to working with David next year; he has a lot of great ideas."

Muench said her job starts today.

"I can't wait to start," she said. "I'm looking forward to a fun, exciting year to help us thrive in our careers after this."

Although her decision to apply was recent, Muench said, she has been ready all year.

"I'm ready for this challenge," she said. "It's not going to be easy, but it will make me a better person and make the staff better prepared for life outside of college."

Muench said she hopes to change some structural aspects of the newspaper next year, such as adding more editorials, cartoons, a comic strip and more graphics, as well as change the look of the opinion page. More than anything, though, Muench wants to focus on people.

"I want to see the staff stay this time," she said. "It's unfortunate we had to lose

way more people than we should have this year. I hope through training, motivation and enthusiasm, we can improve. It really should be a fun place to work where we can enjoy learning journalism, photography, whatever you want."

Muench's next step is choosing an editorial staff, she said, and then next year's reporters.

Wiechmann, who has worked as a section editor and reporter for La Ventana and a sports reporter and associate news editor for The UD, and is currently serving as the sports editor for The UD. He said he tried to present his vision and passion as best as he could and still wants great things for the paper.

"I just want it to continue down the road of greatness and bring a new enthusiasm to motivate everyone," he said. "We should raise the bar every day to make it hard to compete with The UD. I think it can be one of the best and most sought after university papers in the nation."

Wiechmann said he would love to be sports editor again next year and would entertain the idea of managing editor, as well as applying again for editor.



JAMIE TOMÁS AGUILAR/Staff Photographer

THE 2003-2004 EDITOR of The UD, Courtney Muench, is congratulated by Student Media Committee ex-officio member Garrett McKinnon after the committee selected next year's editor Monday in the Llano Estacado Room of the Student Union building.



Striking musicians reach tentative deal

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Symphony musicians began voting Monday on whether to accept a tentative deal to end their three-week strike and return to the Jones Hall stage.

The proposed contract was hammered out in round-the-clock talks starting Saturday morning and ending Sunday evening, Houston Symphony Society spokesman Art Kent said. The talks were mediated by prominent Houston developer Ed Wulfe, who was drafted by Mayor Lee Brown last week to help end the walkout.

The ballot box was to remain open for 24 hours, meaning the society won't know until Tuesday morning whether the strike is over.

The 97-member orchestra had been playing without a contract since Oct. 5. The society had called for salary cuts because it is nearing a \$6 million debt ceiling imposed by major charitable foundations that back it.

Players had resisted, saying the society needed to focus on improving the breadth of its fund-raising rather than drop musicians' pay lower than their peers in like-sized and smaller cities.

The sides hit an impasse March 7 when the society imposed its final offer, which included pay cuts, then rejected musicians' counter-offer with their own pay reductions. Musicians went on strike two days later.

The Rundown



Relatives may testify for sniper sentencing

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — Relatives of victims will be allowed to testify in the penalty phase if sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo is convicted of the killing of an FBI analyst, a judge ruled Monday.

Defense lawyers had argued that such testimony would be irrelevant under Virginia's death penalty law, which instructs a jury to consider limited factors in determining whether a defendant should be sentenced to death.

But Circuit Judge Jane Marum Roush ruled that both state law and court precedent allow the testimony during a sentencing phase.

Malvo faces trial in Roush's court in the Oct. 14 killing of FBI analyst Linda Franklin, who was shot outside a Home Depot store in Falls Church. Roush said relatives of other sniper victims can testify as well but said she will determine at a later date which ones.

Malvo and John Allen Muhammad have been accused of shooting a total of 19 people, killing 13 and wounding six, in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Prosecutors have said Malvo made multiple confessions to pulling the trigger in some of the shootings.

Roush also ruled against a defense motion seeking to overturn Virginia's juvenile death penalty law.



Israel accepts Bush's Middle East peace plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel accepts President Bush's approach to peacemaking with the Palestinians, Israel's foreign minister told the president Monday, but negotiations "won't be able to go forward" until terror attacks stop.

Silvan Shalom said he told the president at a half-hour meeting, also attended by National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, that "we were adopting the view of President Bush."

The Bush administration is preparing to officially announce the road map to a settlement that it worked out jointly with the European Union, the United Nations and Russia.

Confirmation of Mahmoud Abbas as the Palestinian prime minister is expected to set off the new drive by the administration for an accord, with its key element the establishment of a Palestinian state by the end of 2005.

Shalom told reporters that Israel would be able to work with the Palestinians if Abbas "takes the right action" to end violence. Unless terror attacks on Israel end, he said, "we won't be able to go forward and make progress."

Shalom recommended Abbas act in his first two months "or he won't be able to do anything."

In a speech to the 44th annual meeting of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the leading pro-Israel lobby group, Rice called on all Arab governments to recognize Israel's right to exist and said democratic reforms within the Palestinian Authority were "extremely important."

U.S. forces attacked in Afghanistan

BAGRAM, Afghanistan (AP) — Rebels fired more than a dozen rockets and mortar shells at U.S. military positions in eastern Afghanistan, prompting an air bombing that left at least two attackers dead, a U.S. Army spokesman said Monday.

No U.S. soldiers were injured, Col. Roger King told reporters at Bagram Air Base, the headquarters of the U.S.-led coalition north of

Kabul. The attacks on Sunday came a day after an ambush in southern Helmand province killed two U.S. servicemen, the first American combat deaths in Afghanistan since December.

Rebel activity has increased since the start of the war in Iraq, and posters supposedly written by the Taliban's elusive leader Mullah Mohammed Omar recently have appeared in east-

ern Afghanistan renewing the call for a holy war against U.S. troops and Afghans working with them.

About a dozen 82 mm mortar rounds were fired at a U.S. base near the town of Shkin, in the eastern Paktika province, King said. Soldiers spotted three vehicles leaving the area and called in air support from a Marine AV-8 Harrier jet and two Apache helicopter gunships.

Debate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

because waiting for Saddam Hussein to strike would have caused more harm than good, he said. He has already used chemical weapons on the Iraqi Kurds, who belong to a different branch of Islam, as well as on citizens of other countries in the region.

"The way he's fighting the war now proves to me that when he's desperate, he'll do anything," Purdue said.

For Purdue, the debate was familiar territory, and he enjoyed the atmosphere and discussion.

"This is going to be fun," he said. "I'm kind of tired of the minority getting the voice on campus."

Suspicion Hussein has weapons of mass destruction is not enough for John Philippi, a junior psychology major from Houston, who remained unconvinced by the pro-war rhetoric.

He is concerned about the Iraqi people who will die who have not done anything wrong, other than being born in Iraq.

"Two wrongs don't make a right," he said.

LyAnna Johnson, a junior political science major from Odessa, said she is in support of the current situation.

"I'm a big warmonger," she said. "Those who oppose this war desire a world without conflict, not a world with justice and humanity."

Joe Biles, a sophomore history and political science major from Mineral Wells, argued Bush was within his bounds to take the action he did and did not violate any rules. Under Congress' first Iraq resolution several months ago, Bush had the power to declare war without returning to ask for permission.

He said while he supported the war and Bush's actions, he does not entirely agree with how Bush informed the world of his intentions.

"I don't think Bush should have said we were going to use pre-emption," he said, adding to make such a statement appears belligerent to other nations.

Many people, however, do not support pre-emption at all. Niel Erickson, a junior psychology major from Allen, said pre-emptive attacks injure the possibility of future diplomacy.

He is not convinced about the danger of Hussein either. While he said everyone would agree Hussein is not a good person, there are many

people in similar positions the United States is not doing anything about.

"What about all the rest of the dictators in the world?" he said. "Who says it's the U.S.'s right to jump over the U.N. and make its own world policy?"

Morgan Fairweather, a junior chemical engineering major from Amarillo, agreed with Erickson, saying pre-emption gives other countries the gateway to the same thing.

"By setting a pre-emptive precedent, that seals our fate in a way, because the United States is the world leader," he said.

Erickson advocated waiting for something to happen, despite the negative aspects of that plan.

"It's a dangerous game, but if you go about it any other way, you look like a bully, and it allows other countries to do that, too," he said.

Many people brought up the oil argument as well, saying they did not support going to war for oil. Biles said, however, the United States is not going to war for oil. Germany, Russia and France are all involved for oil, but America does not have a stake in the Iraqi oil market.

"If we want oil, all we have to do is get rid of the U.N. sanctions, which those countries want us to do, and let the oil flow," he said.

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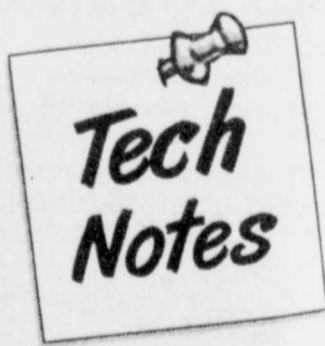


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All students with a valid Tech ID can ride all Citibus routes in the city of Lubbock beginning today.

The Student Union food court is moving to facilitate construction. Alternative dining venues will be available in the Student Union Ballroom, including hot food and grab-and-go items. The same payment options will be accepted.

Cardinal Key is now accepting applications until Wednesday in Room 228 of the Student Union building.

Zeta Phi Gamma invites students to attend "Pandemonium," a fundraiser from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday at Conference Café, located at 3616 4th St. The event will feature dance and hip-hop music, and cover will be \$5. For more information, call Nerissa at (806) 797-3963.

The Lubbock Chapter of the Black Alumni will host a Scholarship Golf Classic on April 11 at the Elm Grove Golf Course. For more information or to register, contact Doris Henderson at (806) 742-8671 or doris.henderson@ttu.edu.



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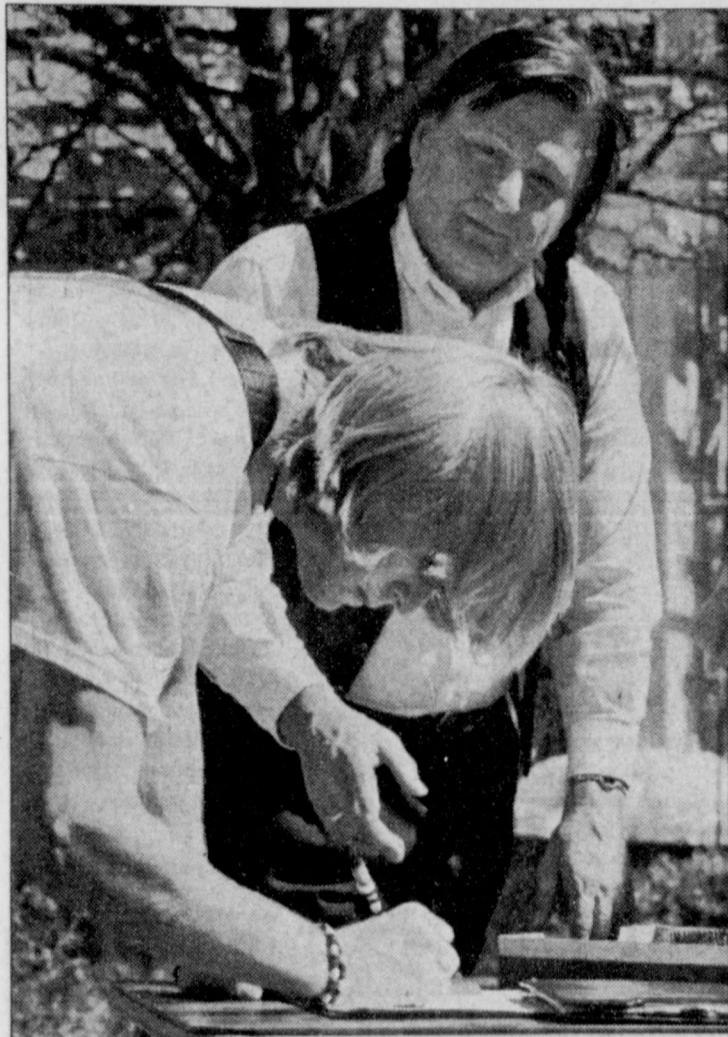


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Congressional candidate visits Tech campus



ANDREW WEATHERL/Staff Photographer
TYLER FERGUSON, A sophomore marketing major from Dallas, signs a petition for Congressional hopeful Roger Quannah Settler in the free speech area Monday.

By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

Congressional hopeful Roger Quannah Settler smelled money in Lubbock's 30 mile-per-hour winds Monday.

"It would prove to be cost-effective," he said of using federal tax abatements to create viable farm mill farms in the area, one of the many changes he would like to make if elected.

Settler, a publisher in Austin, braved the wind gusts to collect signatures to be on the May 3 ballot for the U.S. Representative seat for District 19, currently held by Larry Combust. He will be in Lubbock today, and possibly Wednesday as well.

He is not taking the traditional road to Washington, however. Settler, an independent, is one of the few non-Republicans running, but he said it is important to him to not be affiliated with a party because many voters do not support one party wholeheartedly. "There are Republican issues, there are Democratic issues, there are Green issues," he said. "An independent has the ability to express."

Settler is a Texas Tech graduate and spent eight terms as a student senator in the Student Government Association. He finds it appropriate, he said, that he returned to the free speech area to campaign, as he helped create the bill originally.

Settler is proud of his Tech ties, he said, and would like to focus his atten-

tion as the representative for the district on improving the university.

He said he thinks there should be a student on the Board of Regents and would like to propose legislation that would require a student be on the board for all public institutions.

"I feel students have been ignored and should be recognized in that way," he said, adding that placing a student on the board will add a fresh perspective on how things are done.

He is against raising tuition to cover the budget shortfall, he said. Too often the tuition hikes are on the backs of students, which hurts many students and families.

"It's hard enough for students to go to school now," Settler said. "You raise tuition and many folks are going to get knocked out."

He also plans to continue Combust's tradition of getting grant money for Tech professors, he said, and work to improve the university as a whole, something his Tech background will help him with.

"Without it, you get perspective, but it isn't a pro-Tech, pro-Lubbock perspective," he said.

Settler wants to focus on agriculture, but he takes a different angle than many candidates. He said large producers are getting too many subsidies, while small farms are put out of business.

Stimulating the economy and encouraging more business will be a primary concentration for Settler if he is elected.

"The business leaders hate to hear me say this, but the Lubbock economy is a depressive economy ..."

— ROGER QUANNAH SETTLER
CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE AND TEXAS TECH GRADUATE

"I picked up the paper yesterday and noticed 200 bankruptcies, which is unnatural for a city of this size."

Affordable housing, with rent controls if need be, also sits near the top of his list of priorities. He is concerned about the North Overton project, he said, because he is not sure there are people to rent the units being built. This issue is something he thinks the federal government should be in-

involved in. "The federal government has a lot of ability through grants and unfounded mandates to influence state programs, yet a lot of that influence is negative," he said.

Settler, who is a Nez Perce Indian, has a wide range of American Indian issues that he will be working on as well, including environmental concerns and more sovereignty for tribes.

He would like to see President Bush be more aggressive about environmental regulations and said he plans to focus heavily on those in Congress, especially dealing with water and renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

"We have spent more money on a few bombers and battleships than it would take to kick start an entire solar energy system," he said. "One of the reasons I'm running is to give these perspectives a voice, because some of the other candidates give them less focus than they should."

Laura Gentry, a friend of Settler's, joined him in soliciting signatures. She said he is a good candidate because of his extensive political background, his familiarity with the region and his ability to connect with common people.

"Roger is probably one of the most informed people on such a variety of issues that I've ever met," she said. "He knows Texas, he knows Lubbock. And you know you're going to get somebody that will be approachable."

Threats

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

humanitarian aid shipment into the Iraqi port.

In his address, Bush focused on the goal of liberating Iraq — making relatively little mention of Hussein's alleged weapons of mass destruction, the initial reasoning for invading the Persian Gulf country.

"Our victory will mean an end of a tyrant who rules by fear and torture," he said.

Hundreds of enlisted Coast Guard personnel and officers stood on the water's edge waiting for Bush on a cold, breezy spring day.

The White House chose as a backdrop the Coast Guard cutter Tate, used mainly to aid navigation in the region by laying buoys.

Speaking to the Iraqi people, Bush said, "We are coming with a mighty force to end the reign of your oppressor. We are coming to bring food and medicine and a better life. We are coming and we will not stop and we will not relent until your country is free."

Bush received a briefing from top Coast Guard officials charged with protecting the East Coast and points beyond.

Among those in the room were Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thomas H. Collins and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, former Pennsylvania governor.

Before leaving for Philadelphia, Bush met with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Myers' top deputy, Marine Gen. Pete Pace, and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Send story ideas and events to ud@ttu.edu.

Approval

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sory committee to get student feedback.

"I think we can accomplish what students desire through the mechanism we're acquiring right now," he said.

Senate bill 111 provides for the chancellor of the UT system to establish a uniform application to be used by each university to solicit applicants for the student regent position. The student governments of each university will then solicit the

applicants and send the applications to a student advisory council.

The council will select five applicants to be sent to the chancellor. The chancellor will then select two or more applicants to be sent to the governor, who will choose the regent.

The student regent would have the same powers, duties and voting privileges as the other Board members.

The bill was filed Nov. 14, 2002 by Senator Gonzalo Barrientos (D-Austin), who could not be reached as of press time.

Safety

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

An estimated \$15,000 of damage was assumed after the investigation, Nelson said.

"As of right now, we do not know who will cover the damages, but I have to say that without the smoke detectors and a working alarm system, it could have been worse than it was," he said.

The evacuation time and procedure of the students within the dormitory was not what officials had hoped for, James said.

"The residents were slow in evacuation because they may have thought it was a drill, but in a situation like this, the resident assistants did a very good job in providing safety to the students," he said.

The residence halls lacking protection from fire are involved in a four-to-five-year plan to provide the fire sprinklers, James said.

Among the dorms included with Bledsoe in the proposal are Sneed, Wall/Gates, Hulén/Clement and the Gaston complexes. James said by state

order, they were required to supply the taller residence halls like Chitwood/Weymouth with in-place sprinklers.

"We are trying to install sprinklers in at least one residence hall per summer to fix the problem."

Sprinklers are important in helping control fires in large buildings, Nelson said, but are not the primary source for extinguishing the blaze.

"In the history of our country, there are few fires that were not handled by sprinklers," he said.

The University Daily

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EVOLUTION

8-9 PM

KEXX
Lubbock '88, '1 PM

Indie on the Rocks

9-11 pm
host: DJ Camel

Electric Kool-aid

11-1 am
hosts: Mercy & Space Man

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

By Norma Steinberg San Francisco, CA 4/1/03

ACROSS

- Vehicle on the links
- At the home of Stingers
- Poems of adoration
- Scop comet
- Out of bed
- SAT section
- Napoleon's 1814 address
- Boss!
- Today
- Market
- Court
- Young new
- Two weeks from today
- Uru neighbor
- Ying goat
- Tidy any loose ends
- Browned in butter
- Grazing place
- Talons
- Courtesy of "Friends"
- Turner or Mack
- Month's forecast
- MA follower
- the ramparts...
- De-soap
- Treats on the 20th
- "My Dinner with"
- Garden worker
- Writer
- Vonnegut composer
- Used a keyboard
- Classic Jag
- Free (of)
- Rent-sign abbr.
- Dampens
- Cuts, as grass
- Songwriters' org.
- Actor Finnes
- Warily
- Light starter?
- Like nostalgic fashions
- Immigrants' subj.
- Whami
- Fire
- Impair steadily
- Wino
- Donkey's bray
- Amtrak and B&O
- Himalayan state
- Toxin starter?
- Stable bedding
- Bob of the PGA
- Boats like Noah's
- Porch on a bicycle
- Rhythm
- Weapons
- Likely
- Neither partner

MONDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED

HOGS FANON OPTS
ELAN ELENA GRIP
NING TOTEM LEMA
NONGREATSHAKES
ASSET ITE GAP
RUNOFFTHEMILL
ABS IOWA PIETA
SETS DELOS ANON
CERTS SARA TNT
ABOUTAVERAGE
PEN ARI AVAST
GARDENVARIVEST
DEW DONAIR CROP
EAD UNSET TIRE
NONE RATTY SEB

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GUEST COLUMNS: The UD accepts submissions of unsolicited guest columns. While we cannot acknowledge receipt of all columns, the authors of those selected for publication will be notified. Guest columns should be no longer than 750 words in length and on a topic of relevance to the university community.

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Campus architecture takes lapse in '50s

Last week, my colleague Jason Rhode shared some rather biting commentary on certain architectural anomalies that grace our campus. His focus on the old English/Philosophy building touched only the tip of the enormous iceberg of failure and regret that's been our campus design for the past 50 years.

Depending on who you ask, our campus is either the nicest in the nation or the ugliest in the world. Such extremity of opinion is possible because, depending on where you're standing, both are true.

Our location in West Texas doesn't offer much by way of natural beauty, so the responsibility falls on man to create a demonstrably pleasant human environment. When we pull this off, the result is impressive. When we don't, it's well, depressive.

Consider the original campus: administration, engineering and science. Standing before the Administration building as it nears its 80th birthday, the beauty and detail present in every aspect of its design is striking. Following

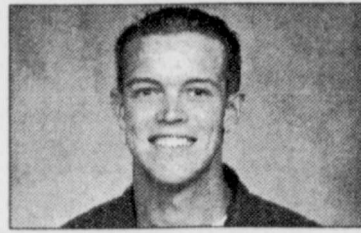
time-honored design principles, it rises up from the desert floor as a shrine to civilization, man's noble imprint in a hostile wasteland.

It manages to do what mankind's creations ought to: It enhances its surroundings. The building reflects the optimism of the society that spawned it. It was to be a seat of learning and progress, and was designed accordingly.

By and large this holds true for all of the original campus. Even down to the residence halls, it's clear that whoever conceived each of these buildings cared about how they would look and how it would feel to live and work in them.

With the conspicuous exception of that hulking monstrosity lurking in its northwest corner, the engineering key looks like a place a reasonably sane person would want to spend his or her time. In fact, if you could strip away everything built since WWII, we'd have a campus entirely worthy of our admiration.

Something awful happened to our national psyche after WWII that I



Brian Carpenter
ilovedyourcolumn@hotmail.com

think is reflected in just about everything we've built since 1950. I'm not an architect or a sociologist, so it's difficult and risky for me to theorize on shifts in our collective psychosocial character and its architectural manifestations, but I'll try anyway.

Comparing the old campus to the newer campus, it would seem as though a deep and pervasive apathy had infected our society. You can almost smell the sense of malaise and doom upon entering the library, the Jerry S. Rawls Business Administration building, and, ironically, the Architecture building.

It would be easy to blame the architects for such malignant disgraces as our library, but many people had to see

his plans and sign off on them before the God-forsaken laughingstock could be constructed.

What could have been going on such that not one single person would hold up the process by asking, "Why, again, must our library be so damned ugly?" How do you possibly convince so many people that an enormous radiator covered with terra cotta honeycomb is just what this campus needs?

As for the BA, where to start? From its windowless classrooms to its chintzy plasti-wood corridors, you'd think crushing students' souls was an integral part of a business education.

As if learning about debits and credits weren't tedious enough, students must do it in as Kafkaesque an environment as possible. Just walking past the looming megalith in its windswept, unshaded lawn, you can feel your serotonin levels taking a nose-dive.

Ditto the Architecture building.

What happened? Something must have snapped for there to be such a violent swing from our former grandeur to our newer architectural nihilism. It's

especially baffling when you consider the society that built the library was much more prosperous than the one responsible for the Administration building. It's as if our wealth and power carried with them a sort of existential pointlessness that's revealed in our buildings.

Fortunately, it appears that we may be pulling out of our 50-year funk. I take heart not because our new campus projects (Student Union building, English/Philosophy) look nice and well designed, but because it's clear the people in charge of their design care about how they look. That seems to be key. I can't even begin to presume that the people who drew up the College of Business Administration genuinely cared about the final product.

I imagine they were trying to make a masturbatory, radical statement for the delight of the ridiculous academic modernist architect community. I hope that day is past and architecture can be restored to more than a silly contest to see who can design the ugliest building.

Advantage of college-aged metabolism increases appetite

Mark Twain once said, "The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like and do what you'd rather not."

However, as college students, we are in the prime of our lives and we choose to eat whatever we want, drink anything that even resembles an alcoholic beverage and then go to class, which we probably would rather not.

Obviously, most of us have a different take on life than Twain, but as our older friends and family will happily remind us, our metabolism is quickly becoming a thing of the past. Even now when I reach for that second Twinkie, all I can think about is the way I become winded while making my way to the third floor of the English building.

In almost all aspects of life, I consider myself a very cautious person. I hardly ever take a big risk and I seemingly overanalyze everything. With that in mind, knowing that I have put some thought into this matter, I say

until we are handed that paper diploma and the tassel is turned, we need to consume as much food as we possibly can. From this moment on, every time I step my foot into one of the dormitory cafeterias, I am going to act like I haven't eaten in days.

Just in case you're wondering, I will be the individual who has chosen to disregard the use of eating utensils and am seemingly imitating Chip and Dale as I make damn sure my meal plan is the greatest investment of my life. Lunch lady Doris, you better preheat the oven because I have every intention of creating a school-wide food shortage.

I know what you're thinking. If everyone would take my advice to indulge their every gastronomical fantasy, Texas Tech would no longer be the home of the Red Raiders but of the overweight Refriger-Raiders.

I think my response to that can best be answered through the words of Sir Mix-A-Lot: "I am tired of magazines saying that flat butts are the thing



Christopher Sokol
chrissokol@hotmail.com

... so baby shake that healthy butt."

And if baby's got back, guys believe me, those beer guts and man breasts that you've got are not only soon going to be acceptable but very appealing.

Now that the social standards have been thrown out the window along with all of our dumbbells, Thigh Masters, workout videos and healthy food, it only seems appropriate to point out the massive appeal of local eateries we can now freely enjoy.

In every developed nation throughout the world there are millions of fast food restaurants, which are

no doubt quick, easy and relatively inexpensive. While this is true, if you've ever tried to live solely on fast food, you quickly realize man needs more than just greasy burgers and super-sized drinks.

That's where mom-and-pop restaurants come into play. The appeal of these nonchain restaurants is in the home-cooked taste of the food and the ever-appealing facet that you are not having your order taken by a gigantic clown face.

As much as calling your parents for extra money is a part of college, so is the experience of hanging out with your friends at one of the many college restaurants. The University of Texas has a number of these hole-in-the-wall restaurants on Sixth Street, Texas A&M has Freebirds, and here at Tech, while there are a number of incredible places to dine, no other place satisfies our tortilla-throwing mentality like Rosa's.

In case you've never been to Rosa's Tortilla Factory, it just happens to be

one of the tastiest Mexican restaurants this side of the border.

So now that I have dissuaded your weight-gain inhibitions and have pointed out the fact that there are numerous places to help you pack on the girth, there should be nothing stopping us from lowering Lubbock's altitude to well below sea level.

Once again taking advice from an individual far more intelligent than any of us, I quote Miss Piggy when she said, "Never eat more than you can lift." With that in mind, go forth and enjoy the metabolism while you still have it.

While I would love to go on and on about the advantages to being a plus-size man or woman, I should probably get over to the hospital. It seems my advice, along with lunch lady Doris' tasty steak fingers has made it necessary to get my stomach pumped. However, even as I struggle to break the elastic on my sweat pants so they will fit, I have no regrets. Well, no regrets at least until I lose my metabolism.

Students should take active role to create more accepting environment

We are living in special times — a new information age in which higher education represents the key to the future. Never before has knowledge and the acquisition of knowledge been more important, both to individuals and society.

In spite of this, however, college enrollment in Texas as a percentage of the population has decreased during the past decade. Why? No doubt there are many economic and social factors driving this decrease.

One of the most significant is the fact that the largest population growth is among minorities who historically have been underrepresented on college campuses, including Texas Tech. It is absolutely essential we recognize the seriousness of this trend and work

to correct it. In order to serve the state and its citizens, we must create and maintain the kind of educational environment that prepares our graduates to enter adult life in a world that is culturally, ethnically and socially diverse.

We have talked a great deal about our emphasis on diversity at Tech, but it is obvious we are not keeping pace with our progressive rhetoric. If anything, there appears to be a growing intolerance among students who, for the most part, are indifferent to racial and cultural sensitivities.

The result has been a creation of an unwelcoming climate for minorities on the Tech campus. What I would like to see is a recognition of our failures of the past and a commit-

Guest Column

Donald Haragan
Interim President

ment to the creation of an atmosphere in which minorities do not have to choose between the dominant culture of the academic community and their own. A transformation that will lead not to a loss of identity among minority groups, but one that will create space for all individuals to maintain their cultural identities while participating fully in the life of the institution.

Most minority students today are the first in their families to access higher education. As a consequence, they are not knowledgeable of university life and the rules of campus cul-

ture. They often feel alienated and unconnected with few contacts and mentors to provide guidance.

While they cannot change the fact that in ways they are different, they can, with our help, learn how to be different and feel comfortable about it. The real culprit is ignorance, and it is the elimination of ignorance that education is about. Perhaps all of us should be exposed to courses, workshops and conferences designed specifically to enhance the appreciation of our own culture and our understanding of other cultures in the campus community. One such conference was held recently on our own campus.

Each had an opportunity to attend educational and entertaining events to celebrate African-American His-

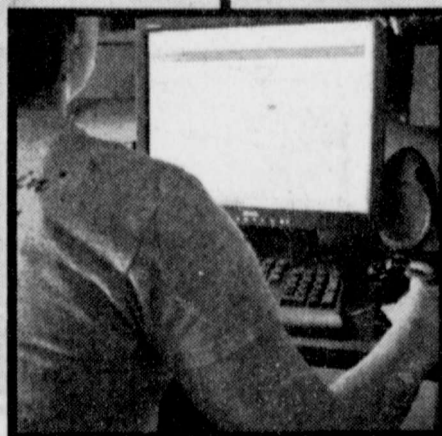
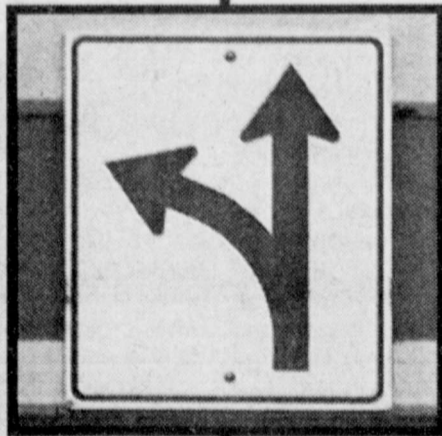
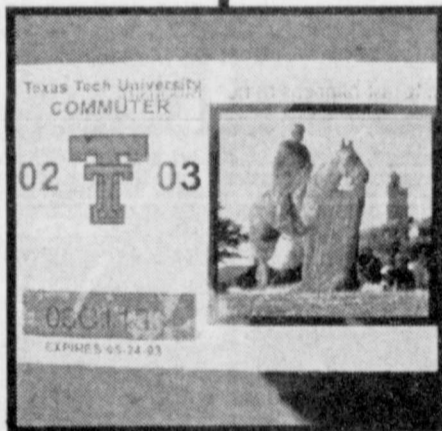
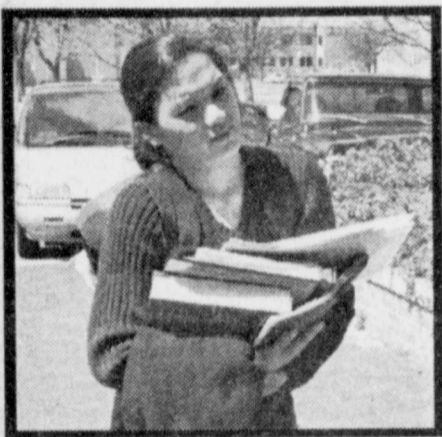
tory Month every day during February. Yet turnout for the events was disappointingly low.

What a shame to pass up an opportunity to learn in such a way that would bring us closer together as a community that recognizes and appreciates that diversity can make us stronger.

There is no better environment than a university campus for the transformation that needs to take place. I ask those of you among the faculty, student body and staff who support our diversity commitment to help me make a difference. My vision is a truly inclusive academic climate that will promote and celebrate diversity and allow each of us to become the very best we can be.



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Operation supports troops in Persian Gulf

By Harvey A. Mireles/
Staff Reporter

Three Texas Tech students have joined together to help support the U.S. military.

Alpha Phi sorority members Crystal Holifield, Tamara Pierce and Lauren Taylor started Operation: Appreciation in order to gather items including food, personal hygiene items and recreational items.

All proceeds donated will be packaged and distributed to soldiers fighting abroad.

Taylor, a senior public relations major from Buda, said the drive is all about supporting the men and women in the Persian Gulf.

"They provide the blanket of freedom we sleep under each night," she said. "We're doing something small and making a difference."

Taylor said the event was started last year when her best friend was deployed to Afghanistan.

"It's too close to home to not do anything," she said. "Last year it was just me; now we have local schools with kids writing letters, and we've gone around Greek Circle. It's been bigger and better, and community broad."

The response to the effort has been incredible, Taylor said.

"The key to remember is that it is not about us," she said. "It's about something bigger and for a greater cause. It's my way of thanking people that are doing something that's immeasurable to me."

Many late nights have gone into

putting the project together, but Taylor said she does not care about the amount of time put in.

"Families have been turned upside down," she said. "I just think about those families who are experiencing something we can never imagine."

Crystal Holifield, a sophomore in-

This has molded our country into what it is today. It makes me think about how good people can be.

—CRYSTAL HOLIFIELD
SOPHOMORE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
MAJOR

ternational business major from Arlington, is working as managing coordinator for the operation.

Holifield said she has a personal tie to the war. Her mother, Sandra Newman, was deployed to the war in January leaving behind her and her 9-year-old sister.

"It's scary," she said. "Unless someone else has a single parent in the war, they have no idea how hard it is to go through."

She said Operation: Appreciation is the least she can do to help.

"I felt like my mom needed our support," she said. "I've gotten letters from her, and I can't even imagine

what she must be going through. She's a strong woman."

Holifield said she hopes the item drive will show the country and the troops they are behind their efforts 100 percent.

"This has molded our country into what it is today," she said. "It makes me think about how good people can be, like when I was given a \$50 check to help toward sending the stuff off and I cried. It just makes me so thankful."

Tamara Pierce, a senior public relations major from Gladewater, has been working on the public relations and marketing for the drive.

Though many of the items are coming from the Tech Alpha Phi chapter, Pierce said many other organizations have volunteered to help the cause.

"I've talked with Cooper Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary, and they are writing little messages and letters that will be sent off to the troops along with the stuff we've donated," she said. "McDougal Properties are putting a donation bucket at most of their places, and Caviness Advertising and Public Relations Inc. is also helping out."

Pierce said her boyfriend, David Rose, is fighting in the war in Iraq.

"It's just been an overwhelming experience," she said. "There is a sense of communication. He's there and this is one way I can do my part."

She said everyone she has approached about the idea has given her 100 percent support.

"I didn't expect it to be this big, but I'm really excited about it," she



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer
TAMARA PIERCE (LEFT), a senior public relations major from Gladewater, and Lauren Taylor, a senior public relations major from Buda, separate and prepare items collected by their sorority for the military troops in the Gulf on Saturday afternoon at their Alpha Phi sorority house on Greek Circle.

"You don't really want to expect the outcome when you start something like this, but everyone has been wanting to do their part. No doors have been closed in our face."

The concept of the drive should not be taken as a self-righteous one, Pierce said.

"It's not just one person," she said.

"We're not just doing this pro-Greek. We don't even care if we are mentioned, just as long as the troops benefit from it."

Items needed include things for personal needs, entertainment and letters and cards of support, Pierce said.

"It's kind of sad, but we've received letters saying they need toiletry items,

flyswatters and sunscreen, to name a few," she said. "At the lodge we've been getting a lot of what we need, everything from Nerf footballs to tampons."

Anyone wanting to donate or help with Operation: Appreciation can contact Tamara Pierce at tubeachbaby@aol.com.

TUESDAY		APRIL 1					
STAT. CHAN. AFFIL. CITY	KTXT PBS Lubbock	KCBD NBC Lubbock	KLBK CBS Lubbock	KUPT UPN Lubbock	KAMC ABC Lubbock	KJTV FOX Lubbock	
7:00	Body Elec. Callou	Today Show	News	Tarzan Digimon	Good Morning America	K. Copeland Sherlock	
8:00	Berenstein Barney		Early Show	Recess Lightyear		Paid Program	
9:00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Life Moments	Judge Mathis Kelly	Regis & Kelly	Family Feud Family Feud	
10:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	People's Court	View	John Walsh	
11:00	Mr. Rogers Television	Hiway Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program Paid Program	Access Port Charles	Other Half Joe Brown	
12:00	Motorweek One Stroke	News Days of Our	News Beautiful	Jerry Springer	All My Children	Good Day Live	
1:00	Health Diary Dragon Tales	Lives Passions	As the World Turns	Jenny Jones	One Life To Live	Caroline Rhea	
2:00	Zoom Behz/Lions	In/Edison	Guiding Light	Paid Program Cross Over	General Hospital	Divorce Court	
3:00	R. Rainbow Clifford	Oprah Winfrey	Maury Povich	Change/Heart Blind Date	Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown	
4:00	Liberty Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Weakest Link Weakest Link	News ABC News E.T.	Friends Simpson's Raymond	
5:00	News NBC News	News W/Fortune	News Millionaire	Pyramid Extra	News E.T.	Friends Simpson's Raymond	
6:00	NOVA	J Stoooges	JAG 'PG 75th Aniv.	Buffy	Tim Allen Presents	American Idol 'G	
7:00	Alan Alda	Fraser 'PG R.U.S.A. 'PG	Guardian	Girlfriends Health	Accol'gim Love @ Home	24 'TV14	
8:00	God Squad	Dateline	Judging Amy	Dharma/Greg Dharma/Greg	Family	News	
9:00	Nightly Bus. Destinies	News Tonight News	News David	King/Hill Voyager	News Nightline	Seinfeld Frasier	
10:00	Raidernet	Conan	Letterman Craig	Extra	MASH Access	Raymond Shoot Me	
11:00		O'Brien	Kilborn	Paid Program Paid Program	Jimmy Kimmel	That '70's Paid Program	
12:00							

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'Basic' develops maze with no exit

What starts out as an interesting mystery soon turns into a hopeless mind game in "Basic." It's a film that gets so consumed with fooling the audience that it disregards sense, reason and even the plot.

At the film's opening, Lt. Julia Osborne (Connie Nielsen) is investigating the disappearance of a group of soldiers during a training exercise. But her investigation is not going well because she is not taken seriously by the soldier in custody.

Tom Hardy (John Travolta) is a rogue DEA agent who has been brought in from the outside to help investigate the incident. It seems Sgt. Nathan West (Samuel L. Jackson) took a small group of soldiers into the Panama jungle for a training exercise. But he and all but two of his men did not return. One of the two soldiers who returned is in custody, and the other is in the hospital dying.

Each of the survivors gives contradictory accounts of what happened in the jungle, but we are not necessarily inclined to believe either one. A bulk of the movie is told in flashbacks as these soldiers change their stories, and we wonder just how much closer we are getting to the truth.

Let me assure you: You can take notes or plot a graph or do anything you like to try to keep up with the narrative. But "Basic" takes pleasure in building up theories in viewers and then throwing in a twist that forces them to start over again. This would be fine, except for the fact that it doesn't play fair with the audience in the end.

In the last 10 minutes of the film, the script throws in every twist-trick in the book to baffle audiences and only makes us realize that we never stood a chance of figuring it out.

I was so confused by the resolution, that I had the meaning of the ending misread. When it was explained to me, it still didn't make much sense. The more I thought about it, the more I realized that watching the movie again would do no good because the logic behind the whole movie goes out the window in the film's climax.

I challenge anyone to explain it to me. Feel free to send me your E-mails.

All of this said, up until the last 10 minutes or so, I did enjoy "Basic." There are scenes that work extremely well as Travolta and Nielsen investi-

FILM REVIEW



James Eppler
jeppler@hotmail.com

But "Basic" takes pleasure in building up theories in viewers and then throwing in a twist that forces them to start over again.

gate and interrogate the witnesses. Supporting performances from the likes of Giovanni Ribisi, Taye Diggs (who's in everything these days), and Harry Connick Jr. are all excellent.

In fact, one of the things I enjoyed most about "Basic" was the performance by John Travolta. (Wow, there's something I thought I would never say again). Travolta has a great time playing the hard-nosed and cool-headed tough guy here, and he's quite fun to watch.

I also enjoyed Nielsen, who proves she can hold her own when sharing the screen with Travolta.

It's just a shame that such an enjoyable movie should choose to cheat the audience by playing silly games.

If director John McTiernan ("Die Hard") had made the decision to edit out the last 10 minutes, he would have had a much stronger film. It would have been fun to just have that ending as an extra on a DVD.

But he didn't, and the film as a whole greatly suffers for it.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★★1/2

- ★★★★★ - Flawless
- ★★★★ - Excellent
- ★★★ - Good
- ★★ - Mediocre
- ★ - Awful

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Augusta membership not biggest fish to fry

For years, Augusta National Golf Club has served as the most prestigious golf course in the nation. It is the birthplace of American golf. Bobby Jones, the game's first legend and dominant force, founded it in 1933, and its reputation is just now being questioned. Its very existence is threatened.

The threat is discrimination. Martha Burk, head of the National Council of Women's Organizations, is fighting to put an end to the all-male status of the club. It has almost a year. People have pushed for Tiger Woods to boycott The Masters because he's part of a minority that receives discrimination at some clubs as well.

Black has nothing to do with female, plus Tiger is the greatest player in the game. He's not going to skip out on a major. He has this thing called a goal to achieve. He wants to surpass Jack Nicklaus for most career major titles.

To add more water to Burk's fire, Woods could become the first player to win The Masters three years in a row. Two weeks ago, Tiger blew the competition away at the Bay Hill Invitational, while blowing his lunch between shots behind the bushes. If yacking in the woods won't keep him away, an adamant protestor won't keep him from hacking it for Amen Corner.

Women have fought for things they believe in and have received a number of them deservedly. It is an outrage that women could not vote until 1920, but there are some things women just don't need.

Access to Augusta is one of them.

As recently as last week, Burk began pushing for a different type of access. She asked permission to protest Augusta's stance on female members at The Masters. She wanted 24 protestors at the gate and 200 more across the street from the hallowed links. Her request was

SPORTS COLUMN



David Wiechmann
wreckem_d_marx@hotmail.com

denied, and Burk is now threatening a lawsuit.

Augusta is more than just a golf course, though. It is "the" golf course. It should be respected for what it is, a masterpiece in golf course construction and the brainchild of golf's first legend.

Women can play but only as guests, and there are a number of strings that need pulling to get this. So women are not completely shut out, and women can be spectators

at The Masters.

But why does this argument of discrimination come up now? Why didn't women push for admittance to Augusta a long time ago?

There are some things that just don't need to be changed, and Augusta is one. It's not broke so don't fix it. It has gotten to the point that advertisers are threatening to pull out of The Masters.

Before Burk makes another push and writes another letter to Augusta Club President Hootie Johnson, she should examine some places men may want into.

Hooters: Maybe there is a young man wanting to work his way through college as a waiter. He likes the atmosphere and the clientele of Hooters. He has experience and people skills, but he lacks a few essential parts.

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choice.

The women's Body Works on 82nd Street: Discrimination is present in Lubbock. If Bob is looking to workout, he better find someplace other than this location. He's not allowed.

Women's weight centers: Men have weight problems, too.

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Red Raiders begin quest for NIT title tonight

When the terms March Madness run through the minds of diehard basketball fans, most think of the NCAA Tournament. However, the Texas Tech men's basketball team has different thoughts. Forget the Big Dance; they have a shot at the National Invitational Tournament crown.

It begins at 8:30 p.m. today when the Red Raiders (21-12) face St. Johns in the semifinals of the NIT at Madi-

son Square Garden. The other two teams playing are the winners and Georgetown. The winners play for the championship at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Tech enters the contest with three consecutive home wins under its belt. The Red Storm (19-13) are no different.

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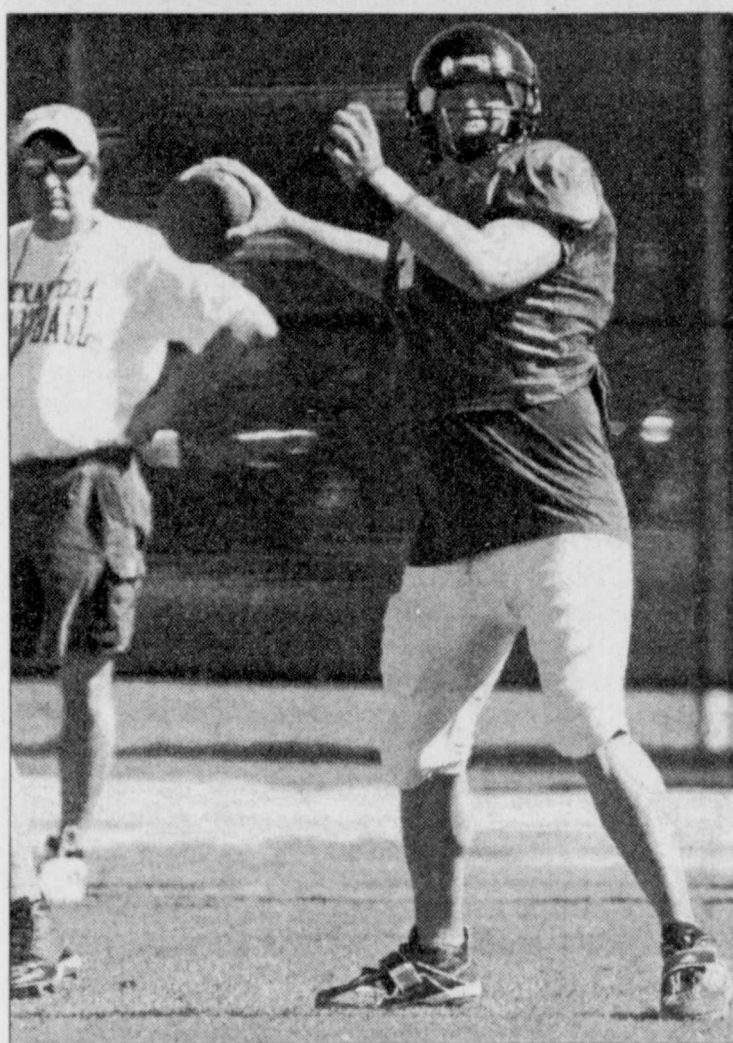
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Red Raiders begin 2003 preparations



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer
TEXAS TECH QUARTERBACK B.J. Symons goes through passing drills during the Raiders' spring practice Monday afternoon at the football practice fields.

By Kyle Clark/Staff Reporter

Although it will be months before the Texas Tech Red Raiders take to the field at Jones SBC Stadium against SMU, the formative days of the 2003 Tech football season have begun at spring practice.

The Raiders started spring practice Wednesday in preparation for next season.

Although Tech returns a team with many experienced players from last season, it is the newest chapter in the book of a career backup that may be the most important to Tech's season.

With Big 12 all-time leading passer Kliff Kingsbury gone from last year's team, all eyes have turned to senior B.J. Symons, who had been Kingsbury's backup for the last three years.

After practice Monday, Symons said it was a great feeling to finally be the quarterback of Tech's No. 1 offensive group.

"I spent three years backing up Kliff," Symons said. "I enjoyed getting to watch him play, but it feels good to be the starter. I'd be lying if I said it didn't."

Symons also said spending his first three years behind Kingsbury makes being the starting quarterback all the more special.

"I had to sit and watch for three years," Symons said. "You realize

that not everyone is going to start three or four years in college. I had to work hard for my chance, and now I have one year. I want to make the best of it."

The remainder of Tech's offense comprises 10 players with starting experience.

With a returning group that led the conference in receiving yards last season, Symons said things would be easier for him next season.

"That's one of the main things that's going to make my job easier," Symons said. "I have 10 guys that have all been starters. I'm ready to lead them, and their experience will help me."

On the other side of the ball for Tech, another new name is sweeping the field.

New defensive coordinator Lyle Setencich has taken over the reins of the Tech defense and has begun putting in his own system and schemes.

Setencich said everything the defense has worked on in the first four practices is new to the Tech players.

"Everything we're doing is relatively new to them," Setencich said. "We haven't worked on anything yet that they did last year, and we probably won't until Friday."

Although Setencich said he hasn't liked everything he's seen from the Tech defense thus far, he said he is pleased with a number of players who have shown potential in learning and executing the new defense.

"They're showing signs they can learn the system and be effective," he

Smith said he could tell Setencich is a great defensive coordinator who runs an aggressive defense.

"It's been great to see coach Setencich out there," Smith said. "You can tell he knows the game. The things he's taught us. We're fortunate to have him."

Smith is the oldest member of the linebacker corps and said he is up to the challenge of leading the group that was hit by the loss of the team's leading tackler Lawrence Flurgence.

"I've know these guys really well," Smith said. "You learn their personalities and know what they can do. I'm looking forward to leading them, telling them the things I've learned and the things I've done, good and bad."

Tech culminates spring practices in the annual Red-Black game April 19.

Symons said the Red-Black game should be great for the fans, but for him, it is every practice that means the most.

"I'm just looking forward to every practice," Symons said. "Getting to be with everybody and getting my timing down with the receivers."

Tech continues practices leading up to the Red-Black game at 3 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and at 10 a.m. every Saturday. Practices are open to the public.

Raiders to take on Aggies

By Kyle Clark/Staff Reporter

The beginning of the end of the season begins this weekend for the Texas Tech women's tennis team, and the team knows there is little time to improve its conference record.

The Raiders play the first of its three remaining conference matches at 6 p.m. Friday against Texas A&M in College Station.

With so few conference matches left, the team said now is the time to win in order to get a higher seed in the Big 12 Conference Tournament. Senior Beverly Dawson, who was frustrated with her teammates after the team's 5-2 loss to Nebraska on Sunday, said the team has a chance to prove itself against A&M and in two following conference matches.

"We have some big matches coming up," she said. "If we can win some of those, we can help our seeding in the Big 12 Tournament. That way, we can get out of the first round."

Dawson said A&M has been hit by injuries and the chance remains for Tech to get a win.

"A&M has a lot of injuries," she said. "If we can jump on them, then by all means we have a chance to win."

No member of the Tech team said they doubt the team's ability to beat the Aggies.

Junior Kendall Brooks said after the loss to Nebraska, Tech can beat any team on its schedule and just has to rise to the occasion.

"I think we can play with any of these teams," she said. "We just have

to be ready and have some other players step up. Maybe we can beat a team that's not expecting us to beat them."

Head coach Sandy Collins also said all the team can do is go on with its season optimistically.

"Those two matches were winnable matches, but we didn't win," she said. "It's just like Kendall said, maybe we can beat a team that's not expecting it. All you can do is stay focused on the next match."

Collins also said A&M is a team that is definitely beatable, and a win for Tech would depend on how the Raiders mentally come to play.

Although Tech remains optimistic that it can beat A&M, there is one X factor that Dawson said A&M has in its favor and Tech would need some outside support with.

"At A&M at 6 o'clock is going to be tough," she said. "They usually have 200 or 300 fans there. We need some tennis junkies to go with us. So if there's any tennis junkies, we can use some help."

After playing A&M on Friday evening Tech will travel to Houston to face the Houston Cougars at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Brooks said the trip to play a good Houston team the morning after facing a tough A&M team will be a daunting task, but the Raiders can let themselves go with nothing to fear in the two matches.

"We play at night at A&M and then play the next morning in Houston. That's tough, but we just need to really dig in," she said. "We have nothing to lose now."

Loss

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, it was not only Perkins and Ritchie who made mistakes.

Tech (29-6) had its opportunities late in the game when the score was tied 51-51 with 2:08 to a ticket to Atlanta. Then things went wrong for the Lady Raiders.

During the next six possessions, in order, Tech had an offensive foul, a travel, two missed free throws, a blocked shot, a travel and finally a missed shot in the lane.

Tech guard Erin Grant called Monday the worst experience in the world and said Tech did not

make the plays during those final two minutes that were the difference in the game.

"We just didn't have any good looks," she said. "We didn't put the ball in the hole like they did at the end of the game, and that's what I think made the difference."

One of the key plays was a block by Duke forward Iciss Tillis of a Pierson shot with 30 seconds to play and Tech down three points.

"(Pierson) spun, and when she spun into the lane, I just came across, and when (the ball) was leaving (her hand), I just barely tipped it with three fingers," Tillis said.

Here is Pierson's description of the play.

"She got up and got the ball that I

thought I was going to make," she said. "I just think that's the turning point of the game."

Duke (35-1) did just that, led by All-American Alana Beard's 28 points. Tech controlled her early, but Beard was too much for the Lady Raiders. Sharp said Beard is the type of player that takes teams to the Final Four. She ended up scoring 10 of Duke's last 15 points.

Grant agreed with Sharp. "She's aggressive and she's going to put her team on her back," she said. "You know, and take them wherever they need to go."

Tech had its opportunities slip away early in the game just like it did late. The Blue Devils opened the contest in a scoring drought by hitting one

of its first 11 shots the first 10 minutes of the game. Much to their pleasure, Tech was in a scoreless streak of its own, as it could only build a 7-point lead during that time.

"We tried to make big plays, and you have to give Duke a lot of credit," Sharp said. "They made big plays when they had to."

Duke fought through the slow start and came back to score the final nine points of the half to take a 26-21 low-scoring halftime lead.

"We dug in, played awesome defense," Beard said. "And that is what it takes."

Duke will now face Tennessee on April 6 in the Georgia Dome for the right to play in the national championship.

NCAA loss sparks violence on Michigan State campus

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP)—Michigan State University students and local authorities said Monday they are disappointed about weekend disturbances after the Spartans' appearances in the NCAA Tournament, but said the events were smaller than riots in 1999.

After trying to improve the relationship between the university and the community in the four years since the riots, police and students said they're discouraged there are still disturbances at Michigan State.

"It's frustrating to know that there's nothing more you can do other than ask them not to," said Misty Staunton, a 23-year-old senior from El Paso, Texas.

Eighteen people were arrested Friday night after students and fans took to the streets to celebrate Michigan State's victory over

Maryland to advance to the NCAA Tournament's Elite Eight, East Lansing Police Lt. Kevin Daley said Monday.

A woman was in critical condition at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing on Monday after she fell from a balcony near campus Friday night, said East Lansing Police Chief Louis Muhn.

On Sunday night, seven people were arrested when about 2,000 people gathered near campus after the Spartans lost 85-76 to Texas, Daley said. Six of the seven were identified as university students and the group included six men and two women, he said.

During the disturbance, four cars were overturned, several small fires were set in bushes and Dumpsters, and vending machines were damaged, Daley said. Officers also set off tear gas to break up a crowd earlier in the night and a bus stop was damaged by revelers, he said.

Sunday night's disturbances caused about \$40,000 in damage to univer-

sity property, Michigan State police Chief Jim Dunlap said.

University officials are researching their policies for students arrested for disorderly conduct and other violent behavior, spokesman Terry Denbow said.

"This will not be tolerated," he said. After the Spartans' 1999 tournament loss to Duke, police made 132 arrests that included 71 Michigan State students. Rioting caused more than \$250,000 in damage to the city and campus.

The university created a policy after that riot allowing officials to punish students for crimes committed off campus. Punishments could include suspension and expulsion.

Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunning III expects to receive police reports on the weekend arrests later this week. He said his office will ask a judge to use a new state law approved after the 1999 riots that bans students from any public college in Michigan

for up to two years.

Dunning said it's important to enforce the rules for a new population of students who weren't in East Lansing in 1999.

"I wouldn't be surprised if these are students who weren't here the last time," he said. "We have to teach it all over again."

The chiefs of the East Lansing and Michigan State police departments said patrolling the campus and local neighborhoods Sunday night cost each of them \$15,000 in overtime for the 200 officers on duty.

"I'm disgusted with this type of behavior," Muhn said.

The university is offering rewards of up to \$2,500 for the arrest and conviction of people who participated in the weekend disturbances, Dunlap said. The university also was setting up a Web site and toll-free telephone number to report information, he said.

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