

# State Legislature approves tuition hike bill

By Angela Timmons/Staff Reporter

State budget crises are changing the way things are done at Texas universities this year.

The state Senate education committee tuition during the next two years. For example, this fall, tuition should go from \$44 to \$46 per credit hour, and to \$52 in the spring of 2004.

anything to be happy about, students and uni- dents.

versities should be thankful for one thing: that the education committee did not vote for complete deregulation of tuition, Texas Tech Chancellor Dr. David Smith said.

Historically, the Legislature has set the passed a bill Tuesday that will be responsible rates for state university tuition, Smith said, of higher income levels or students of much ... but one that does not give universities full re- until professors and classes are cut." for increasing tuition rates at state universi- and deregulation would have permitted in- lower incomes because the university can af- sponsibility over tuition. ties. The bill calls for a 22 percent increase in dividual university systems' Board of Regents ford to supply financial aid. to set the rates.

Student Government Association President Emeritus Kelli Stumbo said deregulation While increases and budget crises are never would have disproportionately hurt Tech stu-

"The majority of our students are working or middle class, unlike (The University of Texas) or (Texas A&M,)" Stumbo said. "And Tech's resources are much more limited."

Tech's students fall in the middle range, for paying for their education.

the Legislature, which was always a worry,"

Smith said. "That would continue to erode their support for higher education. This doesn't of the things we were saying," Smith said. "We disconnect them from this responsibility."

Smith said Tuesday's bill is good because it Stumbo said UT, for example, has students is a graduated plan and a measured response,

"It's a good compromise," he said.

Smith expressed gratitude for the Student with more students shouldering responsibility Government Association's efforts earlier in the semester, when several SGA members trekked 'This way, this doesn't uncouple us from to Austin to lobby against deregulation with the Legislature.

"They listened to the students and some were concerned with our Legislature not supporting higher education. While cuts are being made, there's only so much you can do

Stumbo commended the tuition increase plan to an extent but called for additional student action.

"I agree it's better than complete deregulation, which was not well thought-out," she

**TUITION** continued on page 3

# U.S. administrator arrives in Baghdad

# **REVIVING IRAQ:** Former U.S. general will restore power, water, security.

By Niko Price/Associated Press

retired U.S. general appointed as Iraq's Bush saying that Syria appears to be postwar administrator arrived in heeding warnings against sheltering Baghdad on Monday, while two more escaped members of Hussein's regime. top members of Saddam Hussein's regime were reported captured.

day that a scientist who claims to have worked in Iraq's chemical weapons program told a U.S. military team that Iraq destroyed and buried chemical weapons and biological warfare equipment only days before the war began Syria, were persuaded to leave that March 20.

Team Alpha said the scientist led Americans to material that proved to be the building blocks of illegal weapons, the Times said.

mander of the Army's 101st Airborne est daughter, Hala, and was deputy Division, said: "Though much work head of Iraq's tribal affairs office. He must still be done to validate the in- was the nine of clubs in the U.S. deck formation MET Alpha has uncovered, of cards. if it proves out it will clearly be one of the major discoveries of this operation, opposition group and will be turned and it may be the major discovery." diate comment.

capital, where coalition-run radio announced an 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

In Texas, President Bush attended Easter services at Fort Hood, joined by two helicopter pilots who were among the seven prisoners of war rescued from Iraq a week ago. The five other former POWs spent the day with their loved ones at Fort Bliss.

Tensions appeared to ease between BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The the United States and Syria, with

U.S. Central Command said forces had captured Abd al-Khaliq Abd al-The New York Times reported Mon- Ghafar, Hussein's scientific research minister, on Saturday. Abd al-Ghafar was the four of hearts in the U.S. military's most-wanted deck of cards.

Hussein's son-in-law and one of Hussein's bodyguards, both hiding in country and surrendered to members Members of Mobile Exploitation of the opposition Iraqi National Congress in Baghdad, according to a spokesman for the group, Haider Ahmed

Jamal Mustafa Abdallah Sultan al-Maj. Gen. David Petraeus, com- Tikriti is married to Saddam's young-

He was being questioned by the

# Masking the



Landing at the Baghdad airport from Kuwait, retired Lt. Gen. Jay Garner said his priority was to restore basic services such as water and electricity as soon as possible.

"What better day in your life can you have than to be able to help somebody else, to help other people, and that is what we intend to do," the 65vear-old Garner said in his first postwar visit to the capital.

normal after days of looting and arson, Marines pulled back Sunday and left the U.S. Army in control of the

over to U.S. officials, Ahmed said. The White House had no imme- Central Command had no information on the surrender.

> Seven of the 55 most-wanted members of Hussein's regime are now in custody, though none from the very top of the list. An eighth figure, Ali Hassan al-Majid - nicknamed "Chemical Ali" for his use of poison gas against the Kurds — is believed to have been killed in an airstrike.

Ahmad Chalabi, leader of the Iraqi National Congress exile group, told the BBC on Monday that Hussein is With Baghdad slowly returning to alive in Iraq and moving from place to place. He said the INC is receiving

IRAQ continued on page 5

ANDREW WEATHERL/Staff Photographer JESSICA MELVIN, FORMER Masked Rider, ties a mask onto Ben Holland, the 2003-2004 Masked Rider, Friday in the Merket Alumni Center.

# Holland takes reins, responsibilites as 2003-2004 Masked Rider

#### By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

he new Masked Rider was introduced Friday at the Merket Alumni Center, and for the first time in four years, the symbolic red cape and black mask will be on the shoulders and face of a man. Ben Holland, a senior animal science major from Texline, accepted the position during the transfer of reins ceremony that also honored outgoing rider lessica Melvin, a graduate student from Pierre, S.D. studying physical therapy.

"I want to thank the committee and the university for giving me this honor to represent Texas Tech University next year," he said. "I am excited to do it. Since the first time I saw the rider I wanted to do it."

During the handing over of cape and mask, Melvin had trouble getting Holland's mask to stay straight. After securing it, she said he would get used

to being comfortable in it.

"Being able to see is the main key," she said.

Holland is hoping he will get used to it in time for his first public appearance on the saddle of Midnight Matador on Saturday at the Science Spectrum.

"I hope I get a little more used to it," he said. "I am sure I will. I just have to find the best way to wear it.'

Holland went through four stages of a selection process that included five other applicants. He said he felt confident he would win because he tried out last year and was an assistant to 2001-02 Masked Rider Katie Carruth. Because he has seen what the rider does up close, it makes him believe he will

MASKED RIDER continued on page 3

# Tech students celebrate holiday at Easter Bash



JEREMY INGLE, A former Tech student from Conroe, juggles during the 17th annual Easter Bash at the Golf Station on Sunday.

#### By Matt Muench/Staff Reporter

Instead of Easter egg hunting or staying home for a traditional Easter dinner with their families, many Texas Tech students and Lubbock citizens were at the Golf Station, at 116th Street and Indiana Avenue, enjoying cold beverages and live entertainment at the 17th annual Easter Bash.

People were a plenty at the event. Dogs were present, tents were staked to the ground, shirts were off and bikinis were on.

"This is a good time," said Russ Dibble, a junior English major from El Paso. "You can't beat this. Good music, beer and women. I can't imagine a better time than this."

But why not go home and spend time with parents?

"They live in Alabama," he said. "That is too far. If they were in El Paso, I probably would have stayed here anyway."

His friend, Keith Cardona, a junior marketing major from El Paso, shared the same thoughts.

"I have heard too many good things about this event," he said. "I did not want to miss it. I usually go home, but this is a good time."

Thousands of people were in attendance during the all-day event that took place on a golf driving range. People threw footballs, played Frisbee or just sat back, relaxed, opened a beer and listened to music.

Lubbock families even got in on the fun. Dustin Hatfield, a Lubbock resident, was in attendance with his wife and three kids, who were all under the age of 12.

It was the first time he had been at the event since he graduated from Tech six years ago.

He said he did not want to stay home for a traditional Easter.

"I want to be under the sun," he said. "We did our Easter thing this morning. I remember how fun this used to be. My kids are enjoying it, and most importantly, we are still spending Easter as a family.'

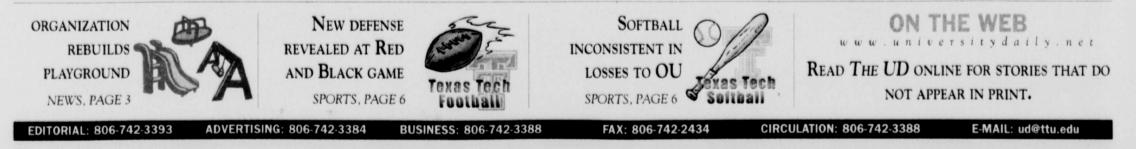
Will Meyer, a senior advertising major

**EASTER** continued on page 3



ON DUTY

THE LUBBOCK FIRE Department was called to campus Monday morning when smoke was reported in the Physics building in a second-floor office. An air handler unit overheated but did not catch on fire. The only damage to the building was the unit's motor.





HOUSTON (AP) - All but nine Texas soldiers survived the Battle of the Texas Revolution fought 167 years ago Monday. None survived longer than Bob Dawson's great-grandfather.

2nd Regiment of Texas Volunteers, recovered from a severe gunshot wound to live until 1911, when he died at 94. ing their daughter Hadley.

"It's almost like I was there with Alphonso Steele on the field that par- session of a sexual nature with the ticular day when I go down there to the 13-year-old," Monroe County Disbattleground," said Dawson, a retired trict Attorney Mark P. Pazuhanich Houston mortgage banker. "San Jacinto said. is one of the most decisive battles of world history. I feel part of it."

The battle lasted just 18 minutes. More than 600 Mexicans lay dead or hearing, quietly answering questions dying; only nine Texans died. Gen. Sam Houston, who himself was wounded in the left ankle, also listed Steele as among the 30 Texans wounded.

member the Alamo! Remember reported. Pazuhanich told the paper Goliad!" as a reminder of the two he would likely seek the death penbloody massacres in the weeks preced- alty against Hixson. ing April 21, 1836, killed 630 Mexican soldiers and captured another 730.

Texas, which then included parts of present-day New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming and Kansas, had declared itself an independent wife, Ellen Bilger, at their Pocono republic on March 2, 1836, and remained that way until its annexation in 1845, clearing the United States' march to the Pacific Ocean.

Lisa Struthers, director of the at the San Jacinto Museum of Histhe Texas side.



# Texans remember Man charged with Beijing mayor fired Battle of San Jacinto killing niece's parents amid SARS criticism

REHRERSBURG, Pa. (AP) - A man accused of kidnapping his 13-San Jacinto, the pivotal moment of year-old niece after killing her parents may have been obsessed with the girl, authorities said.

Robert Lee Hixson, 42, was cap-Alphonso Steele, a then 19-year- tured Sunday after a chase and fourold private in the 6th Company of the hour standoff with police. He is charged with killing his wife's brother and the brother's wife at their Pocono from a Mexican musket and went on Mountains home and then abduct-

"There is some evidence of an ob-

Hixson was arraigned on two counts of criminal homicide. He sat shaking in the chair during the brief from a judge. He was sent to the Monroe County Correctional Facility without bail.

Pazuhanich said sexual assault, kidnapping and burglary charges Houston's force, shouting "Re- would also be filed, the Pocono Record

Myron L. "Butch" Bilger, 40, identified Hixson as the shooter before he died, said Pocono Mountain **Regional Police Detective Harry** Lewis. Hixson shot Bilger and his Lake home Saturday, authorities said. Their 5-year-old daughter ran next door to get help while Hixson drove off with the 13-year-old, police said.

Police issued a statewide Amber Albert and Ethel Herzstein Library Alert for Hadley. The alert led to a tip that Hixson's red pickup truck was tory, confirmed Steele was the last spotted in Berks County, about 90 surviving San Jacinto fighter from miles southwest of the girl's home in Pocono Lakes, police said.



BEIJING (AP) - The mayor of Beijing was fired following the disclosure of a steep increase in SARS cases in China's capital and charges he mishandled the outbreak of the deadly illness, state-run media said Monday.

The dismissal of Mayor Meng Xuenong came shortly after he and China's health minister were removed from key Communist Party posts, and the Health Ministry announced the number of cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome in Beijing had jumped from 37 to 339. The number rose to 448 later Monday, when the ministry also reported seven more deaths nationwide from the disease.

A Beijing city government spokesman, Liu Wei, declined to confirm the firing of the mayor, who was appointed three months ago.

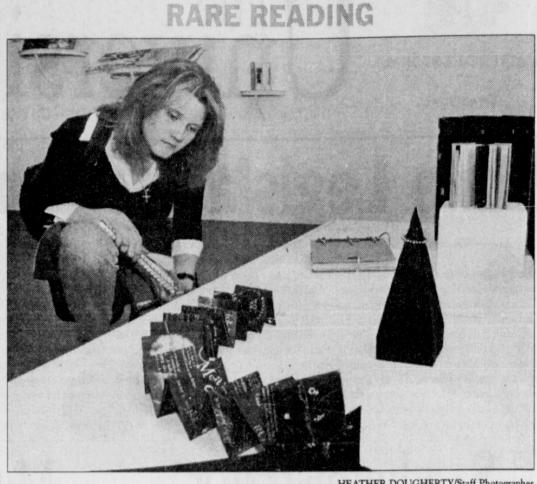
Detailed accounts in state-run newspapers said senior party officials accused Meng of failing to gather information on SARS, track new infections and trace people who might have been exposed.

The flu-like SARS has sickened more than 3,900 people and killed at least 218 others around the world, according to health officials in the affected countries.

The illness has killed at least 94 people and infected more than 1,400 in Hong Kong, while mainland China has reported 86 deaths and more than 1,900 people infected nationwide. Singapore and Canada also have been hard hit by the virus.

Governments in Asia are adopting increasingly drastic efforts to stem the spread of SARS.

China called off its weeklong May Day vacation in hopes of stopping tens of millions of people from traveling and spreading the virus.



HEATHER DOUGHERTY/Staff Photographer

STACI JOHNSTON, A senior art education major from San Antonio, observes a book, which is contained in the pyramid on the right, during The Spines that Bind: A Survey of Contemporary Artist-Made Books. The exhibit is co-curated by Robin Dru Germany, associate professor of art, and is currently on display until May 3 free of charge at the Buddy Holly Center.



The underpass north of the university greenhouse at Main Street and Hartford Avenue will be closed to pedestrian traffic for four weeks while the natural gas line is lowered in preparation for the and faculty are requested to find an alternative route.

The annual TKE Crawfish festival is from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 27 at The Big Backvard at 904 East Broadway. Tickets are on sale for \$20 in the Student Union building foyer and Select-A-Seat locations, and they will cost \$25 at the door. The event will feature free crawfish and parking. For more information, contact Will Turner at (806) 687-2367 or Steve Hozhabri at (806) 744-7913.

Omega Delta Phi is raffling off an autographed 2002-2003 Lady Raider basketball, signed by the team and coach Marsha Sharp. Proceeds will Marsha Sharp Freeway. Students benefit a Special Olympics scholar- Laura at (806) 724-4656.

ship. Tickets cost \$2 each or \$5 for three. Tickets can be purchased from members, or contact Jon Bentancourt at (806) 632-0319 or e-mail jonnoj@hotmail.com. The drawing will be April 30.

Arbor Day begins at 11:30 a.m. Friday in Memorial Circle. The event features hotdogs and hamburgers, a concert and tree planting.

Join Gamma Beta Phi in beautifying Lubbock in project GRIP, Get Ready To Improve and Plant, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 3. The event will feature a picnic, guest speaker and beautification. If your organization is interested in joining the fun and helping out, contact



# Scott Peterson charged in murder of wife, unborn son

Laci Peterson and Conner Peterson, the couple's unborn child.

The charges include the special circumstance that Peterson committed more than one murder, allowing the district attorney to seek the death penalty. Brazelton has not definitively said whether he would do so.

Peterson was arrested Friday be-

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to flee the country and was held in a 6-by-9-foot maximum-security cell in the Stanislaus County jail. He spent the weekend talking to his lawyer and making phone calls, said Kelly Huston, a spokesman for the sheriff's department.

and he had grown a goatee. He had \$10,000 in cash with him in his car, said a law enforcement source who spoke on condition of anonymity. Hours later, investigators learned of the DNA results.

In the jail, Peterson was segregated Peterson, who wore shackles and from other inmates and placed in the a belly chain whenever he was taken jail's maximum security section because from his cell, was "rather quiet" and of the nature of the charges he faces, and because prisoners have made threats against him, Huston said. The inmates "definitely have some unfavorable opinions of him," the sheriff's spokesman said. Peterson has declined all interview requests, authorities said. His attorney, Kirk McAllister, talked with Peterson on Saturday night, but made no public comment on the case. In an interview with Time maga-Investigators had long declined to zine Sunday, Peterson's father, Lee, said "police have just bungled this investigation from day one." "You have a district attorney calling this a slam-dunk before there's even an arraignment," Scott Peterson's mother, Jackie, told the magazine. "I'm feeling like I'm living in Nazi Germany When he was arrested, Peterson's or the Soviet Union."

very courteous" to his jailers, Huston said.

Peterson, 30, has maintained that he had nothing to do with his wife's disappearance, and was fishing in San Francisco Bay when she vanished just before Christmas. She was eight months pregnant at the time. Last week, authorities found the bodies of Laci Peterson and the baby on the shore of the bay.

name Peterson as a suspect, but even before DNA tests identified the bodies, Modesto police arrested Peterson

on Friday near San Diego because they feared he might flee to Mexico, Modesto Police Chief Roy Wasden said



# Tech organization worked to fix playground during break

## By Heidi Toth/Staff Reporter

While many Texas Tech students celebrated Easter by going to church, eating lots of chocolate or drinking the weekend away, a few added another activity to the festivities.

Members of Alpha Phi Omega turned out Friday afternoon to refinish the Child Development Research Center playground, located north of the Human Sciences building.

Eric Larson, a senior management information systems major from Katy and service vice president of the organization, said fixing up the playground was something the service fraternity does annually.

"It's a big involvement with campus," he said. "It's always just been one of our core projects."

The group's commitment does not stop there.

"We are in the works of planning something big for this summer," he said.

Jackie Driskill, assistant director of the center, said students in the fields of human development and family studies, early childhood education, and family and consumer sciences take a course that allows them to observe children, which is why the playground is there.

"The playground is to try and present a model that they can see children using, and maybe, hopefully duplicate in the nation," she said.

APO members have done won-

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said. "The Legislature realized what they

were doing when students showed up

and expressed their opinion. We still

need our students to say they're hurt by

this, especially with limited financial

Smith said while the current plan

for increases over a period of time is

better than deregulation, he would

have preferred to see higher appro-

priations from the Legislature, add-

ing the Senate needs to look at other

"They need to look at other things

ways to generate revenue, such as a

to generate money and not place as

much burden on students," he said. "Of

course, this Senate thing is a measured

Tuition

aid."

tobacco tax.

ders for the playground over the years, she said. Every year they refinish it, and last year, they rebuilt a playhouse that was on the lot. They also put in a garden, which Jeffrey Moravec tended.

"It's just an opportunity for us to help out the school and the people that come here," the graduate student from Georgetown studying electrical engineering and computer science said. "It's a way to help out the community and Tech at the same time."

While everyone else had a brush and was varnishing the wooden playground equipment and storage boxes, Moravec was the odd one out, but he said he volunteered for gardening duty and so far had not regretted it.

"I don't mind gardening," he said with a laugh. "It's pretty fun." Fun was the key word APO mem-

bers were sticking to Friday. Amanda Hussain, a freshman un-

decided major from Houston, said while varnishing was not really her thing, she was enjoying the time outside working with friends, especially knowing she was helping someone else.

"It's kind of nice to have a fun, clean place that looks nice to play in," she said.

Valerie Goulet said by maintaining the playground, they also were keeping it safe for the children who played on it, in addition to being clean and attractive.

"They need service done," the sophomore cell and molecular biology major from Allen said. "It's something we do every spring."

She was having a good time, she said.

"It's fun when you get to work with your friends," Goulet said.

Victoria Miller said despite how dirty she was getting, it was worth it.

"Working on it makes it safer for the kids," the freshman early childhood education major from Austin said. "It makes their whole experience here better."

Mindy Reaves, a freshman prephysical therapy major from Wichita Falls, added that keeping the playground in good condition is beneficial for many people, not just the children playing on it.

"It's on the campus, so if we have something that doesn't look good, that reflects on Tech," she said.

She has done many projects of this nature with APO, and she usually sticks to painting, she said, and lets other people do the building.

"Working with wood is a new thing," Reaves said.

It is a new thing for Sandra Reeve, too, and she was thoroughly enjoying it, the freshman mass communications major from Dallas said.

"I think it's valuable so we make the playground look nice for the kids," she said. "We're trying to do more things

munity, too - a big part." The group only hit one snag during age we have," Smith said. "There is no

"I don't drip," Miller pointed out with a smile. "It's the paint that drips."

## response - all parties aren't going to be happy; but they need to limit the impact on pocketbooks. The Legislature has a responsibility to fund higher edu-

cation, especially with more students, not less." Smith said there is still a bill being worked on in the House higher education committee side of the Senate that would be more of a deregulation plan.

This plan would give university system regents the power to set tuition, with the stipulation of increases in financial aid.

"It's moved into the conference committee to be resolved," Smith said. "There will have to be a lot of compromises.'

Smith said he and other university administrators would be in constant contact with the Legislature concerning the tuition matters.

# Masked Rider CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

have an easy transition.

Alvin Davis, a member of the Masked Rider Committee, said Holland is definitely qualified to be the mascot because of his background.

"He's coming in with experience," he said. "He has a better chance than most people coming into it."

The ceremony featured speakers, including the first public appearance by Student Government Association President Jeremy Brown.

Chancellor Dr. David Smith, Interim President Donald Haragan and Athletics Director Gerald Myers also went to the podium.

"This is the most powerful im-

better moment to see when that horse runs the sideline." Haragan agreed.

"I have seen a lot of Masked Riders," he said. "Certainly it is the greatest tradition in a university, in the nation."

Melvin, who traveled at least 15,000 miles to make public appearances as the rider, compared her experience to the MasterCard commercials.

"In the end, this was all priceless," she said. "The best thing I will remember is showing up and seeing the kids, faces. The year was very exciting for me.'

Melvin, whose family traveled all the way from South Dakota to see the ceremony, was presented with numerous gifts. She also will receive a letter jacket from the athletics department.

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ANDREW WEATHERL/Staff Photographer

SANDRA REEVE, A freshman mass communications major from Dallas, stains wood on the Child Development Resource Center playground during an Alpha Phi Omega service project Friday afternoon. for kids, and they're part of the comits time at the playground. Larson chided Miller for making a mess with

was finishing. the varnish around the storage unit she

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# **Favorite teams** are like family

he team is not a member of my family, an old friend or someone I can confide in. However, if the first baseman allows a grounder to split the wickets, the point guard makes an arrant pass or the quarterback decides to throw into a crowd of defensive backs, it hurts me.

I actually become seriously pained when one of my teams fails to perform to its full potential.

With the NBA and NHL playoffs under way, this time of year is especially hard on fans. My pregame ritual is probably similar to many die-hard fans. It usually consists of slipping on a pair of grotesquely unwashed lucky socks, popping a few Rolaids in preparation for the final few minutes of the game and slipping into my pregame mode.

As my roommate will happily attest to, from the moment the puck is dropped, the first pitch is thrown or the referee throws the ball into the air for the opening tip, my heart beat and concentration are in complete sync with the scoreboard.

While the connection between the team and the fan is very strong, the connection between a fan and his or her favorite player is perhaps unnaturally strong. There is no other that can draw comparisons.

When the paperboy comes around my neighborhood and tosses the paper toward my house, I don't hold my breath until the paper slaps off the door and lands on my doormat. Nor do I perform a good luck jig before a waiter places my dinner before me, just Canada). in case the jig I danced last time made my meal taste any better.

playoffs are now under way and my favorite player on my favorite team is attempting to take his team deeper into the playoffs than ever before. And while the only thing I am getting deep into for the playoffs is a big bag of Doritos, his pain and pleasure during the game is just as intense for me sit- ent? ting on my couch as it is for him on the court.

My favorite player is Steve Nash, and my favorite team is the Dallas Mavericks. As my best friends will point out, we are not the new-age Mavericks fans; we were the kids sitting in the nose more often than not. bleed section when the signing of Shawn Bradley was called the rise player is not a member of my family, of the Mavericks. We are the same fans who will be cheering for the Mays as they make their run this year for the championship. In case you're not a basketball fan, or two. Nash is the point guard for the Mavericks. He is so entertaining to watch dance in and out of defenders, lick his hands as he crosses half court, and laugh as his floppy long hair is pushed to the side that sometimes fans forget he is one of the premier point guards in the league.



**Christopher Sokol** chrissokol@hotmail.com

As a fan, I have based my life around certain sureties. I know I will always be able to trust my family, find peace at my church, and that Steve Nash's kiss-the-glass floater is going to fall more often than not.

Admittedly, I have something of a connection between players and fans man crush on Nash. While it's in a completely fan enthusiast way, it's probably not the healthiest affection.

> I had a feeling that I took my admiration for Nash a little too far when I decided I should grow my hair out like him, and started to find anything Canadian appealing (Nash is from

As strange as it might be to hear one man's die-hard enthusiasm for As I mentioned earlier, the NBA another man, it might be even stranger to discover that many fans feel the same way about their own favorite player. How can it be that the actions of another individual have so much bearing on our lives? If that running-kiss-the-glass floater fails to go in. is my life really going to be any differ-

The obvious answer is no. However, I beg to differ.

As a fan, I have based my life around certain sureties. I know I will always be able to trust my family, find peace at my church, and that Nash's kiss-the-glass floater is going to fall

So maybe my chosen team or an old friend or someone that I can confide in, but it is someone that I can put my faith in to entertain, and maybe every now and then win a game



# War protestors unfairly labeled

T have some issues I'm going to address that many of you may find upsetting, but I want you to know that I am not doing this to piss everyone off. So if you are going to say I'm your "typical liberal media whatever," put the paper down and go back to your hypocrisy and deforestation.

I'm glad our men and women are coming home. That being said, stop calling it a "coalition." It is not, I repeat, it is not a coalition.

It is the British, about 2,000 Australians and us. Three countries, cause the third was an imperial megalomaniac (I'm talking about England, in case you get easily confused by vague historical facts) are the only ones fighting in the socalled "Coalition of the Willing."

All the White House had to do was take a list of all the countries in the world and cross off the "Axis of Evil" and the "Axis of Not-Really-Evil-But-Definitely-Very-Shady." (I'm speaking of Germany, China, Russia and my future retirement country, France.)

Then someone called them up and asked if they opposed a U.S. invasion of Iraq, and if they did, would they be willing to sell out for about \$2 billion in aid money.

In cases of underdeveloped countries (like Macedonia, Ethiopia and the global juggernaut Eritrea) that have yet to discover the telephone or are busy trying to feed their starving populace, I'm sure someone just paragraph one.



imissionts@hatmail.com

me insensitive, realize that most wars in the past saw more people die in an hour than have died in the past three weeks. Our forces moved through Iraq two of which are only around be- like Gen. Sherman did through Geor-

> But what happened to the maniacally vicious regime bent on international death and destruction? What the White House and Pentagon painted as one of the more barbaric armies of Satan turned out to be a bunch of dudes with AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenades

What Fox and CNN touted as apocalyptic chemical and biological agents are turning out to be the same stuff you can get at the Home Depot (if you talk to the right people).

Iraq is smaller than Texas. If Saddam Hussein had enough chemical, biological and nuclear weapons to pose a direct threat to the United States and its allies, he sure did a hell of a job hiding them. Good thing there's no the French Riviera in person, you Easter in Iraq; the egg hunt would have been a bitch in the Hussein house.

If you aren't open-minded about your religious beliefs, please re-read ting down the guns and picking up the

signed for them, because, come on, Do not drag western Christianity into the Middle East. Our goals are supposed to be: No. 1, dispose of tyrant; No. 2, instill "democratic" system; and No. 3, get our people home. There are as many good Muslims as there are good Christians, so it is obscenely narcissistic to think the U.S. rebuilding project should involve preaching the gospel.

a bright white banner with a shiny crimson cross fluttering in the desert wind as the "heathen infidels" flea before his dogmatic glory.

The Rev. Franklin Graham not only calls Islam an "evil religion," but he also calls for heads to be bowed at White House functions, such as Bush's inauguration and special Good Friday services.

It is enough of a constitutional violation that we have the "Faith-Based Initiative" underway using tax payer's money here at home. But I'm afraid that because Bush thinks God made him president (does "divine right of kings" come to anyone's mind?), those poor Iraqis will be subject to Arab-language Bibles with every influenza inoculation.

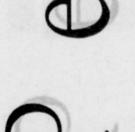
And finally, I'm tired of some people telling other people (like myself), "If you don't like America so much, you should get your tree-hugging ass out of here." Well here's how you reply.

First of all, we aren't quitters. We aren't going to pack our bags and tuck our tails in the middle of building a nation.

Secondly, stop assuming we don't like America. It is because we want to make this country better that we question and critique the current heads of state and their tactics.

Thirdly, I'm sure if you have seen wouldn't mind moving there (if you could afford it.)

So now the real challenge of putpieces of a country in shambles really begins. But don't worry. Soon enough



# University Daily **Editorial Board**

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LETTERS: The UD welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be no longer than 300 words and must include the author's name, signature, phone number, social security number and a description of university affiliation. Letters selected for publication have the right to be edited. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. All letters are subject to verification. Letters can be e-mailed to opinions@universitydaily.net or brought to 211 Student Media.

**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 communit

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And if the team is having an off night, or even an off season, I know there is always going to be another game or another season in which I can slip into my dirty lucky socks and pop a few Rolaids. Because as long as they keep showing up, I too will continue to show up.

what the hell is Eritrea going to do? It's probably too busy looking for itself on the map to care which "coalition" its name gets slapped on.

Stop saying the anti-war advocates are wrong. They aren't. If anything, they were proven more right. Yes, in the scope of our everyday lives, this war was terrible and saddening. But in the scope of wars, this was a cakewalk.

I'm afraid, however, that this request is in vain. Bush already called the war a "crusade," probably imagining If you want to disagree and call himself in shiny armor, riding beneath

newspaper headlines will buckle to the populace's attention (or lack thereof), and what goes on in Iraq will be stuck as a second-teir story on Page 3.

The Dixie Chicks will still have the No. 1 country album on the charts (even if certain radio monopolies refuse to play their songs). And the common American public will return to its usual state of having its proverbial head up its proverbial ... well, you know where I'm going.



5

# Iraq

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

information on Hussein's whereabouts 12 to 24 hours after the fact.

In Baghdad, stores were open and the streets crowded as residents swept up debris.

Trying to head off food shortages, the U.S. military opened a warehouse to U.N. aid shipments and stockpiled flour.

A convoy of food arrived during the weekend for the malnourished animals at the Baghdad Zoo.

U.S. forces are trying to restore order until the interim authority led by Garner can take over.

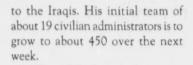
Garner heads the Office of Re-

Wed-Fri 5pm-8pm

> Sat 2-5pm

ON 69TH

construction and Humanitarian Assistance, set up to help rebuild Iraq and eventually turn authority over



"We will be here as long as it takes," Garner said, before adding: "We will leave fairly rapidly."

The retired general will report to Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. forces in Iraq.

In Baghdad, he visited a hospital that was looted after Hussein's fall received an update from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the city's major electrical plant and went to the moat-surrounded Faw Palace, where Franks was to spend the night.

# Easter

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from Waco, said he could not think of a better event at this time of the year.

"If you haven't been to this, come next year," he said. "You get to meet a lot of people. And they are nice people.'

Meyer said he enjoys Easter Bash because the event allows everyone to be more generous and relaxed than usual. He also added that the event is fun.

"Anytime I see someone who money."

LIENDE

needs a cold one, I give it to them, even if I don't know them," he said. "This event is always a good time with generous people."

Easter Bash started in 1986 when a group of men threw a party and 300 people showed up.

Every year, numbers reach at least 7,500 people.

One year, 11,000 people were in attendance.

Tickets for the event cost \$15 at the door and \$3 to bring a vehicle into park.

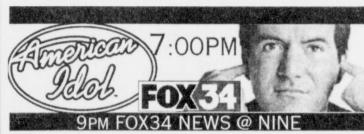
"The price was definitely right," Hatfield said. "It is well worth the

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AFFIL.	PBS	NBC	CBS	UPN	ABC	FOX
CITY	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock	Lubbock
7 :00	Body Elec. Caillou	Today Show	News	Tarzan Digimon	Good Morning	K. Copeland Sherlock
8 :00 :30	Berenstain Barney	и и	Early Show	Recess Lightyear	America	Paid Program Paid Program
9 :00	Dragon Tales Arthur	Today Show	Life Moments	Judge Mathis	Regis & Kelly	Family Feud Family Feud
10:00	Sesame Street	Martha Stewart	Price is Right	People's Court	View	John Waish
11 :00 :30	Mr. Rogers Teletubbies	Hlywd Square Jeopardy	Young & the Restless	Paid Program Paid Program	Access Port Charles	Other Half
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 Betw./Lions	In/Edition	Guiding Light	Paid Program Cross Over	General Hospital	Divorce Court
3 :00	R. Rainbow Cyberchase	Oprah Wintrey	Maury Povich	Change/Heart Blind Date	Wayne Brady	Joe Brown Joe Brown
4 :00 :30	Clifford Arthur	Dr. Phil	Judge Judy Judge Judy	Street Smart Street Smart	Montel Williams	News & More
5 :00	Liberty Nightly Bus.	News NBC News	News CBS News	Weakest Link Weakest Link	News ABC News	King/Hill Simpsons
6 :00	Newshour "	News W/Fortune	News Millionaire	Pyramid Extra	News E.T.	Friends Raymond
7 :00	NOVA	Shoot Me Shoot Me	JAG PG	Buffy	8/Rules Accd'g/Jim	American Idol *G
8 :00 :30	Alan Alda	Frasier *PG Watch/Ellie	Guardian	Platinum	*PG Lost @ Home	24 TV14
9 :00 :30	" Eli Wiesel	Dateline	Judging Amy *PG	Dharma/Greg Dharma/Greg	NYPD Blue "TV14	News
10:00	Nightly Bus. Destinos	News Tonight Show	News David	King/Hill Voyager	News Nightline	Seinfeld Frasier
11 :00 :30	Raidernet	" Conan	Letterman Craig	 Extra	MASH Access	Raymond Shoot Me
12:00		O'Brien Last Call	Kilborn Paid Program	Paid Program Paid Program	Jimmy Kimmel	That 70's Paid Program



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PT NANNY NEEDED. Starting in May, Mon.-Wed. mornings/afternoons. Come to 2514 82nd St, Ste. G for an application,

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The University Daily April 22, 2003

Sports

Sports Editor: David Wiechmann (806) 742-2939 sports@universitydaily.net

# Expectations surface at annual scrimmage

By Kyle Clark/Staff Reporter

Texas Tech quarterback B.J. Symons doesn't care. Well, he doesn't care what people expect of him next season.

Symons stepped into the role of starting quarterback at the Texas Tech Red and Black Game, and after throwing for 218 yards and two touchdowns in 19 completions, the quarterback said he did not care about the expectations building for next season.

to throw for 5,000 yards," he said. "I'm for his second touchdown of the game. focused on winning a Big 12 championship. Whether I throw for 5,000 yards or 2,000 yards, it doesn't matter as long as we win. Wins are the only stats that matter."

opportunity in the No. 1 role after as our leader." backing up Kliff Kingsbury for the previous three seasons. After the game, Symons said the team was his, and said he had been looking forward to it since was at the top of the nation. he first set foot on campus.

"The wait more than anything made me work hard to be successful. So I can prove people wrong."

Tech coach Mike Leach said he did not know how comfortable Symons was, but he thinks Symons functioned well, and that made him happy.

Symons got his first score of the game on a 10-yard touchdown pass to Nehemiah Glover, and later he connected with receiver Carlos Francis on "I don't care if people expect me a fade into the corner of the end zone

> Francis, who finished the game with three catches for 51 yards and a touchdown, said Symons established himself as the man leading the Tech attack.

"He took control of the huddle," Symons will have one season of Francis said. "He's established himself

Francis also bragged about the receiving corps Symons will be throwing to next season and said the group

"With Wes (Welker), Nehemiah "I've been looking forward to this (Glover), Mickey (Peters) and myself,

ever since I came to Tech," he said. we have one of the best receiving corps let all the rabbits out of our hat," he in the nation," he said. "What else can said. "They've made tremendous you ask for? I'd put us up against any- progress. I thought they did well." one in the nation."

> eral defensive units, which were being alternated each series.

> The spring game was organized as an offense-against-defense setup instead of a game between two teams with offensive and defensive players because of a lack of healthy offensive lineman.

On the defensive side of the ball, Tech finished with three sacks, a safety and an interception.

The game was the first in new defensive coordinator Lyle Setencich's defensive system, and players on both sides of the ball said the defense was much more physical.

Leach said Tech tried to not show as much defensively to maintain some secrecy, but said he was pleased with how the defense has developed in the spring.

Tech safety Vincent Meeks was

The starting receiving group fin- in agreement with his head coach ished with 182 yards in the game, on how the defense has developed where the unit saw time against sev- and said things are going smoothly for the defense.

"We've picked it up pretty fast," Meeks said. "They threw it at us quick, but we came together and had some film sessions. We're gonna be more physical and knock a lot of people down all the time."

Meeks and the rest of the No. 1 defense unit did not see much action in the game and only played in a few series. Meeks said he was disappointed to not play more, but said the coaches knew what the starters could do and wanted to see how the backups reacted in a game atmosphere.

Tech finishes spring football today with its last practice of the season at 3 p.m. The Raiders will return to Jones SBC Stadium to play August 30 in the "We went pretty basic so we don't season opener against SMU.

Joel Filani has a pass slip through his fingers with Micah Sweats in coverage during the annual Red and Black Game at Jones SBC Stadium on Saturday. A new starting quarterback and defensive system were revealed at the scrimmage. CRAIG SWANSON/ Staff Photographer

Softball rides roller coaster in losses to Oklahoma

#### By Jason Lenz/Staff Reporter

It was a tough weekend for Lady Raider softball. Coming off two losses at No. 7 ranked Nebraska, the Raiders met another ranked opponent in the Big 12 Conference: No. 5 Oklahoma.

In game one Friday, Texas Tech battled the Sooners, holding on to

fany Harrington in the bottom of Sooners routed Tech 10-0. the second, in which Tech took a 2-0 lead.

Oklahoma scored two runs in its half of the third and rattled off four more in the fifth to clinch the 6-2 win. Game two Saturday was an ena 2-2 tie until the top of the fifth tirely different story. In what was

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert William ACROSS Plays a role Ski lift Wide open 14 \_\_\_a one 15 Olympian Korbut 16 Digestive-system malady Emerald Isle Briny droplet

inning. Tech's runs came off a two- Tech's final home conference game Friday's game was so close. RBI single by senior outfielder Tif- and Senior Appreciation Day, the

> It lasted only five innings, as the Sooners scored runs in all but one inning. Tech's only offensive production was a double by junior third baseman Andrea Joachims in the bottom of the fifth.

Following the game, the Raiders were disappointed in their performance. Harrington said the loss Saturday was hard, especially since



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cited," she said. "We thought we were got to make it through the downs." going to do better (Saturday)."

Marrington said she does not know what broke down in Saturday's contest. "We really don't know what went wrong (Saturday)," she said. "All three aspects of our game were

not working." Joachims said the players simply

did not have their heads in the game. "We weren't in it mentally," she said. "All three aspects of the game weren't there. We've got to put that in the past and look to get a couple nament."

Friday's game proved to the strong opponent like Oklahoma, loachims said.

"Softball is like that," she said. "You "After Friday's game, we were ex- can have ups and downs; you've just

Robles said head coach Bobby Reeves told the players to keep their spirits up and get ready for their next games.

Reeves echoed his players' sentiments and said the explanation for the loss Saturday was fundamentals.

"We didn't pitch well, we didn't play defense well, and we didn't hit the ball well," he said. "Those are the three phases of the game. When that happens, you don't get many games."

Reeves said the team has to change more wins before the Big 12 Tour- e its mindset and look to the future instead of dwelling on a loss.

"The thing about it is you can't Raiders that they could play with a change what happened," he said. "I told them (after the game) that if you don't have a sick-to-your-stomach feel-"(Friday) we showed that we ing right now, something's not right.

# Wildcats trip up baseball in K-State

The Texas Tech Red Raiders (24-18, 6-11 Big 12 play) traveled to Kansas State (12-25, 2-14) during the weekend for a three-game series. After dropping the first two games, Tech rebounded and took game three Sunday.

Tech dominated the Wildcats in game three and was led by senior starting pitcher Dusty Buck, who threw eight innings, struck out a career-high eight batters and gave up only one earned run.

Offensively, Tech was paced by junior first baseman Doug Beck, who went 3-5, and sophomore centerfielder Cody Fuller, who went 2-3 with two RBIs and two runs scored.

The Raiders lost game one Friday 10-8. Tech was paced by junior third baseman Christian h

24 Arduly shy       4       4       4       4       4       4       6       1         25 Substandard       3       1       4       4       4       4       4       4       6       1         36 Muse of astronomy       3       1       4       4       4       4       4       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1       6       1	<ul> <li>Could hang with them, "she said. "We played well; scored a couple of rune arly. We came out (Saturday) thinking we really could beat this team. Maybe it was just the pressure. I don't. Maybe it was just the pressure. I don't. Senior shortstop Kristi Robles said the game of softball can be like a roller coaster from time to time.</li> <li>Senior shortstop Kristi Robles said. "We came of softball can be like a roller. The plays a doubleheader today of the game of softball can be like a roller. The plays a doubleheader today of the game of softball can be like a roller.</li> <li>Senior shortstop Kristi Robles said. "We came of softball can be like a roller." The plays a doubleheader today of the game of softball can be like a roller.</li> <li>The plays a doubleheader today of the seniter. The game start at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Rocky of the seniter.</li> <li>Seniter Light Presents</li> <li>Miller Light Presents</li> <li>Miller Light Presents</li> <li>Crockette</li> </ul>
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