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Putnam family files lawsuit against owners of boat

By Jason Lenz/Managing Editor

The family of Laura Putnam, a graduate of Texas Tech killed in a boating accident May 26, has filed a lawsuit against the owners of the boat allegedly involved in the incident.

Judd and Betty Putnam, the parents of Laura Putnam, filed a petition in the 131st District Court of Bexar County. According to the petition, on May 26 around 2:30 a.m. in the Horseshoe Bay portion of Lake LBJ, a motorboat with its navigational lights functional and operating and with Laura Putnam, her fiancé Justin Moore and Jerry Neil Cypert on board was struck by another boat.

The impact knocked Laura Putnam into the water, where she drowned despite search efforts. The drivers of the offending

boat fled the scene of the accident.

The boat allegedly involved in the incident was discovered several weeks after the accident. The petition names the boat's owner, Berkley Dawson, and his brother Vincent Dawson as defendants.

Berkley Dawson kept the boat at he and his brother's house in a "gated and secured subdivision of Horseshoe Bay." The Dawsons also own Bud Co. in San Antonio.

Public Information Officer for Texas Parks and Wildlife Kristen Everett said Thursday the Department of Public Safety's crime lab in



Putnam

Austin has not issued a final decision on the boat's identification.

"Preliminary tests indicate that it is likely the boat, but there has not been a final confirmation," she said.

The Dawson brothers' attorney, Bob Newman, said his clients have no reason to believe their boat was not the boat involved in the accident. According to a previous press release from Texas Parks and Wildlife, Berkley Dawson's boat was found with a damaged propeller that may have resulted from the accident.

Additionally, the petition states as fact that Berkley Dawson's boat was involved in the accident, although the authorities are still awaiting final confirmation.

According to the petition, there was a

party at the Dawson's house the evening of May 25. The defendants are described in the petition as having been negligent in "making the boat available to people not known to be qualified or in a condition of sobriety."

Newman said his clients were asleep at the time of the accident.

Frank Branson, attorney for the Putnam family, said the Dawson brothers were responsible for the operation of their boat.

"It was in their control and possession at the time of the party that evening, and it was in their control and possession after the accident," he said.

There is little room for arguing the negli-

PUTNAM continued on page 2

RAIDER ROUNDUP



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

TEXAS TECH VOLLEYBALL players Nina Miller (left) and Angela Mooney (right) sit in a circle with participants in this week's volleyball camp at the United Spirit Arena to discuss rules of the game Monday.

Dennehy told former coach of earlier thefts

FORT WORTH (AP) — A missing Baylor University basketball player who has been the object of a search for almost four weeks had complained to a coach before his disappearance that he had twice been victimized by thefts.

Patrick Dennehy's summer league coach says the center complained of cash having been taken from his apartment and the theft of his car

stereo. The player told assistant coach Rodney Belcher of the thefts, said Nelson Washington of Redwood City, Calif., who coached the Bay Area Ballers, Dennehy's Amateur Athletic Union team.

"He said Pat had said he was having problems," Washington

DENNEHY continued on page 7

House heads to another redistricting battle

By Kelley Shannon/Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) — Only a week after the start of the special legislative session, Republicans are pushing ahead with a plan to redraw congressional boundaries and boost their party's numbers in Washington.

The measure was headed to the full House on Monday where the fight is almost certain to get nasty.

When Republicans tried to push congressional redistricting toward a House vote during the spring regular session, 51 Democrats fled to Ardmore, Okla., to block a quorum and halt debate, killing the bill.

That tactic isn't expected this time.

"I don't have a problem with doing it, but I think that many of my colleagues have already put their careers at risk in the last walk-out," said Rep. Jose Menendez, D-San Antonio.

The outnumbered Democrats have vowed to do their best to wage a fight, but they won't say exactly how.

The GOP is gunning for a grip on the 32-member Texas delegation in Congress. Democrats currently hold a 17-15 advantage, but Republicans — urged on by U.S. House

Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land — say existing congressional boundaries don't allow for the election of Congress members who reflect the state's increasingly GOP voting patterns.

"We just want lines that are more fair than they are now," said state Rep. Mike Krusee, an Austin-area Republican on the House Redistricting Committee.

Democrats don't want to change the existing district lines.

In a mostly party line vote, the committee approved a congressional

REDISTRICTING continued on page 6

Funding cut to impact Tech Jumpstart program

By Heather Jones/Staff Reporter

AmeriCorps, a national network of service organizations, has announced a 60 percent reduction in its funding. One of the programs that will take serious cuts is Jumpstart; the largest part-time AmeriCorps program that helps economically disadvantaged children with language and literacy.

Because of this the Texas Tech chapter of Jumpstart is in danger of being cut.

"Congress is requiring this to hap-

pen," said Dawn Burke, program coordinator for Jumpstart at Tech.

AmeriCorps gives its volunteers awards based on their time of service. Burke said that before this AmeriCorps would hire the college students and would then raise the money for the awards, but now Congress wants AmeriCorps to have the money in the bank when the students are hired.

"They want AmeriCorps to do this for one year and then they will have a new accounting system next year," Burke said.

According to a press release, the number of volunteers they have will be reduced from 67,000 to 28,000.

The press release also stated that, due to AmeriCorps funding decisions, Jumpstart will not be able to support two thirds of its college students who deliver proven, measurable impact to children, and thousands of children will go without services.

"We really need the President to stand up for this," Burke said.

FUNDING continued on page 2

Putnam

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gence of the person or persons who were operating the boat when the accident occurred, Branson said.

"I don't think there's any question that the operators of the boat were negligent and fled the scene," he said.

Wrongful death is the accusation, Branson said. He also said there is no predetermined amount of money being sought.

"It's whatever amount the jury sees fit," he said. "We are not seeking a specific amount."

The Putnam family is also seeking compensation for the pain and suffering Laura Putnam likely en-

dured prior to her drowning as well as her funeral and burial expenses, according to the petition.

Newman said the primary concern for the Dawson brothers is to find the person or persons who were operating the boat at the time of the accident.

"We are totally focused on working with and assisting law enforcement personnel," he said. "We want this solved. The Putnam's want this solved. There's nothing more I can say."

The Dawson brothers instructed Newman to focus on the investigation, Newman said.

"My charge from my clients is to assist law enforcement in any way possible," he said.

Funding

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For AmeriCorps to get through the next year, it needs Congress and the President to sign a supplement of \$200 million.

During the 2002-2003 school year the Tech chapter of Jumpstart engaged 40 college students who, according to Burke, got paid through a work-study program and after 300 hours were given awards.

"This was the first chapter in Texas, it has made such a huge difference in the children's lives," she said. "We put college kids to work, used work-study money, and now all of that is at risk if we don't get our funding."

BJ Potts, director of Erskine Early Learning Center, a partner with the Jumpstart program at Tech, said this would be a big loss for the children.

"They are able to give them extra one-on-one attention that we can not always provide," Potts said.

Many people all over the United States are asking President George W. Bush and Congress to provide additional funding for AmeriCorps.

In a letter to President Bush the United States Senate requested a federal appropriation of \$200 million for AmeriCorps.

The letter states that in the President's 2002 State of the Union address, he called for every American to dedicate 4,000 hours to community service throughout their lives.

The letter, signed by 48 senators, said that the efforts to encourage more Americans to enter public service should be supported, not opposed.

For Ashley Pettit, a junior history and anthropology major from Guthrie, and a volunteer for Jumpstart, the cuts in funding will not only impact the children but it will also impact the college students, such as herself, who are volunteers with the program.

"These kids are expecting us to be there everyday. The one-on-one attention they need is being taken away," said Pettit. "The core members receive financial aid and educational awards through this program and if those are taken away, many of us could have financial problems."



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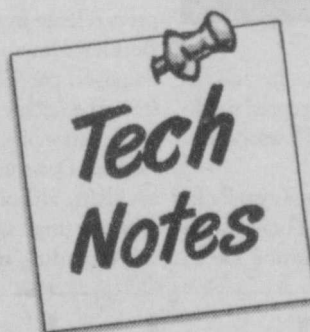
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The city of Lubbock has announced the creation of a mosquito hotline. Anyone wishing to request spraying in his or her neighborhood can call (806) 775-3110.

Student organizations still seek-

ing a cubicle in the Student Union building for the fall of 2003 may still have their applications evaluated on a space-available basis. Applications were due July 1, but anyone still wanting to apply can find the form online at www.uc.ttu.edu/officespace or pick up a hard copy at the main office in the Student Union building.

The band Fleetwood Mac has announced a concert stop in Lubbock Aug. 7. Tickets are on sale now at Select-a-Seat in the Memphis Place Mall, Ralph's Records and Tapes, Dollar Western Wear, the Student Union building, by phone at (806) 770-2000 or online at www.selectaseatlubbock.com.

Country music star Toby Keith, along with special guests Blake Shelton and Junior Brown, will be in concert Aug. 21 at the United Spirit Arena, with tickets going on sale Saturday at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$45.50 plus an additional \$4 service charge. Tickets are available at Select-a-Seat outlets including the Student Union building.

The Museum of Texas Tech is offering a Bedtime at the Museum series for children between the ages of 6 and 10. "Bedtime Under the Stars" is July 17 and Aug. 7; "Bedtime with the Icons" is July 24 and Aug. 14, and "Una hora con iconos" in Spanish is July 31 and Aug. 21.

Check out the Music Online section for
concert and album reviews.

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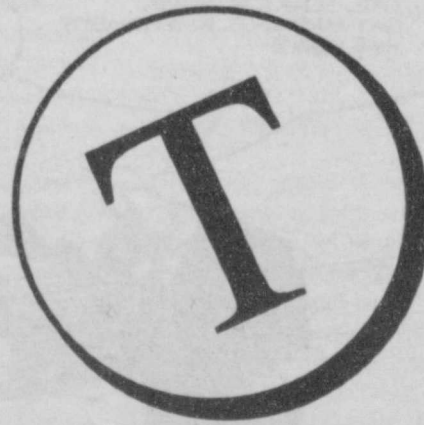
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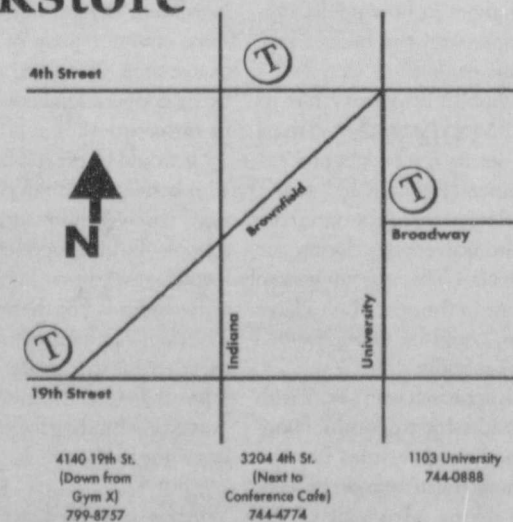
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Universities should cooperate to ease state budget shortfalls

Every two years the budget for Texas is set in Austin, and every budget represents a battle for funding for each public university. The various schools compete for funding from the state and often raw political power makes a big difference.

We know our public universities are strongly competitive on the gridiron. Nothing delights a Red Raider, or a Longhorn like a victory over the Aggies, and the Aggies sure love to return the favor. These rivalries are a big part of attending a public university in Texas.

There's nothing wrong with competition between the public universities as long as it brings out the best in our schools. The outstanding University of Texas School of Law sets a standard that other law schools use as a measuring stick. The same goes for outstanding medical programs at Texas Tech, and programs at Texas A&M, the University of Houston and other public universities. Competition has historically benefited our public universities.

As long as each school improved there was no problem with the mad dash for money from the state budget. But this year the playing field changed in Austin. The new folks in charge are no longer friends of public universities. This has created a different atmosphere when it comes to lobbying for funding and could require changes in how public universities approach the budget process. Let me explain.

Every public university has its own priorities and seeks to fund these priorities during the budget process. The competition has led to an adversarial relationship between the state public universities during the budget process. This system worked for everyone in the past when a large budget pie could be easily divided among the schools.

But this approach won't work with the new leadership in Austin. Funding for public universities has few friends among the new power brokers. They are taking advantage of the competition among the public universities for funding and are punishing the schools that are politically



William Mattiford

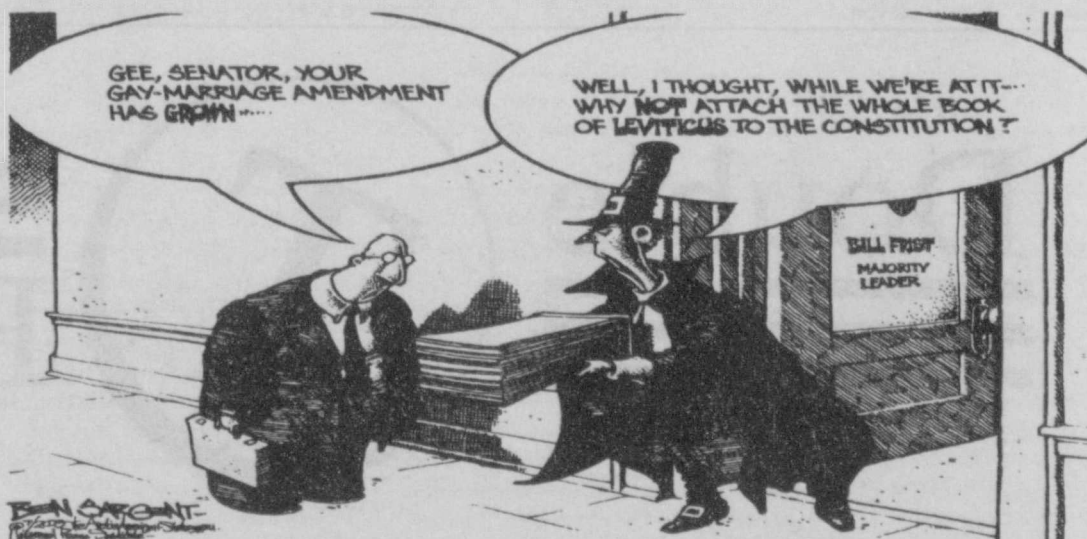
weaker, while bigger schools gain nothing. This is classic "divide and conquer", and as long as each school carries only its own agenda to Austin it will continue to work to the advantage of enemies of public universities.

For example, Tech recently lost \$7 million of state funding for research when Governor Rick Perry vetoed the funding. Clearly this funding was well justified and passed through committee unanimously. But Texas Tech doesn't have the political power of bigger schools and the "everyone is one their own" attitude of the public universities cost Tech in this case. But every public university received less funding during this session, and this hurt everyone.

So what should the public universities do? Clearly leaders must understand that a new approach must be considered. Public universities have to work together during the budget process. The leaders of the schools should meet before the next legislative session and agree upon some common areas of concern for that session. Changing times require better cooperation between the public universities.

It would be great if our governor, who benefited from a public education, showed more support for our schools, but he represents the new leaders in Austin. Funding public universities is not their top priority. The public universities need to work together for the greater good of our schools before the new leaders in Austin cut funding for public universities any further.

William is a graduate student at Texas Tech and is originally from Killeen. Send comments to wamattifordjr@yahoo.com.



We have fought a war based on deception

GUEST COLUMN

By Mark Czygan/The South End

(U-WIRE) DETROIT — The war is over. The tyrant has been defeated. George W. Bush delivered his victory speech aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln and now people are displaying their snappy little patriotic bumper stickers on their vehicles in a mighty declaration of their loyalty to their leader.

And why not? After all, he did save them from Saddam Hussein's vile arsenal of weapons of mass destruction.

Yet nearly two months after the last bomb blast fell silent over Baghdad, the coalition of the willing hasn't found any credible evidence of the existence of these weapons in Iraq. Although it may still be too early to draw conclusions, it does appear that the American people have been duped.

Lying to the American public regarding issues of National Security is certainly an impeachable offense, but taking such extreme measures as invading another nation under false grounds is, to my mind, a crime against humanity.

John W. Dean, former counsel to the president of the United States under the Nixon Administration, said that under no circumstances should a president distort facts. But it seems that is exactly what Bush and his cabinet will ultimately do if this does indeed prove to be true.

And now, with the mainstream media turning a blind eye, it seems

that this potential fabrication has not tarnished Bush's credibility rating in the slightest. According to a recent poll conducted by the Washington Post, two-thirds of Americans believe that the war was justified, even if the WMD are never found. This general attitude may have been spawned from fear and ignorance of the Middle East — an unfortunate byproduct of the post 9-11 era.

But to prove whether or not Bush had lied about these weapons is, in my opinion, missing the point. Since September of last year the Bush Administration has used the WMD card to scare the Americans into believing that Iraq posed a credible threat to their security.

The notion that Iraq's alleged WMD program was ever a threat to the United States was never backed up with any substantial evidence. The Bush Administration never presented (or even claimed to have) intelligence that would suggest Iraq had ICBMs, which, should Saddam Hussein be foolish enough to instigate an attack against the United States, would be necessary to deliver chemical and biological munitions to American soil.

A prewar assessment of Iraq's weapons capability, conducted by Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine, suggested that the only missiles in Iraq's inventory prior to the American invasion were short-ranged, battlefield rockets (such as the Al-Samoud 2 and the Russian-built Scud).

And with the help of the network media's newfound, non-critical ap-

proach to news reporting, the Bush Administration was able to use Iraq's alleged WMD program to sway the American public into supporting Bush's imperialistic endeavors in the Middle East.

This is not to say that Saddam Hussein at one time didn't have a chemical weapons program, as it is widely known that he had used these weapons against Iran and his own people during the 1980s. But to think Hussein had an elaborate weapons program that he intended to use against the American people is absurd.

The claim that Hussein's regime had ties to the terrorist group Al Qaeda, which was one of Bush's first failed attempts to make a case for war, was also never supported with evidence. A report conducted by the U.N. special committee on terrorism on June 26 further confirmed this assertion.

"Nothing has come to our notice that would indicate links between Iraq and Al Qaeda," said Michael Chandler, the chief investigator for the U.N. terrorism committee.

So what were Bush's motives for such an extreme act as war? There is no doubt that Saddam Hussein was a truly evil dictator who exercised repression against his people to the fullest extent imaginable. But there are dozens of dictators around the world who share in Hussein's brutality. What makes Iraq so special?

Although we may never know the answer to this question, I can't help but think it involves oil drums.

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"Blonde" battles "Terminator" for holiday weekend

FILM REVIEW



James Eppler

jeppler@hotmail.com

The onslaught of movie sequels continued over the holiday weekend with a blatant attempt by studios to split the market. On one hand, we had the action-packed, testosterone-fueled "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines."

On the other, there was the pink-laced and cutesy "Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde." When the dust settled, "T-3" had terminated "Blonde" earning \$72 million over the long holiday weekend with "Blonde" earning a comparably meager, although still respectable \$39 million. The following re-caps may help explain the difference.

Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde"

Reese Witherspoon is back as Elle Woods, the idealistic and perky blonde who made it into Harvard Law School in "Legally Blonde." This sequel finds Elle on a mission to take on Capitol Hill with hopes of changing policy on using animals as test subjects for cosmetics com-

panies. Elle manages to secure a position on a congresswoman's staff and soon learns how the political games are played.

How does she learn? From a doorman at her hotel (Bob Newhart) who, of course, knows everything about D.C. because of what he overhears. Elle still brandishes her dog, Bruiser, wherever she struts, and manages to sway a hard-nosed committee member because they were in the same sorority. Elle's quest for animal rights also forces her to call in the big guns - her former sorority sisters.

Whereas the original film sparked a moderate amount of charm, this sequel is far north of gratuitous. Too much pink and too much blonde.

The main problem with the film is that I never knew whether the movie wanted me to take it seriously or not. At one point, interns in congress are performing a dance like a cheerleading squad, and there are bits about animal homosexuality, but then there are scenes where Elle delivers passionate (albeit horribly cheesy) speeches about animal rights.

The movie, like Elle, has an overly idealistic idea of Congress and politics, so much so that the movie as a whole comes off as ridiculous.

To the movie's credit, there were sparse scenes that made me laugh, and Witherspoon is an undeniable talent, even when her character is about as pleasant as nails on a chalkboard.

But for me, a little ditz goes a long, long way.

EPPLER'S RATING: ★ 1/2

"Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines"

Director James Cameron started something interesting in 1984 with "The Terminator," a unique sci-fi that raised interesting ideas about time travel and destiny. Cameron bettered himself in 1991 with "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" in which he broke new ground in the realm of special effects and action. But Cameron opted not to carry on the series with this third installment and was replaced by Jonathan Mostow ("U-571").

For that matter, original cast members Linda Hamilton and Edward Furlong are also absent. But Arnold Schwarzenegger, the key cast member, is back as the machine sent from the future to help John Connor, now played by Nick Stahl. It seems that in the future, Connor got hold of the Terminator and reprogrammed him to go back in time and protect his former self.

The Terminator finds Connor and has some bad news. It turns out that Judgment Day was not prevented in the last movie - only postponed. And by the way, it's today in three hours.

If that wasn't bad enough, there's a newly improved machine from the future after Connor again. She is a T-X, or a Terminatrix,

played by Kristanna Loken, who is after not only Connor, but all of his future associates.

This is a good addition to the "Terminator" series and follows the second film logically, even though the movie has its flaws. Like the first two films, it combines heavy doses of action with the occasional funny dialogue. And yes, the screenwriters made sure to give the Terminator a new catch-phrase.

It's one of the better summer movies we have seen thus far, and action fans will have a blast watch-

ing Ah-nuld smash through buildings and blow things up. "Terminator" fans will leave pleased while craving a "Terminator 4."

EPPLER'S RATING: ★★★ 1/2

★★★★★ - Flawless

★★★★ - Excellent

★★★ - Good

★★ - Mediocre

★ - Awful

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U.S. military advisers in Liberia to evaluate possible troop deployment

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — A team of U.S. military experts arrived in Liberia on Monday to assess whether to deploy troops as part of an intervention force that would restore order to a nation torn by civil war.

A blue and white wide-bodied helicopter swept in over Monrovia's Atlantic coastline to alight on a helipad within the heavily-guarded walls of the U.S. embassy compound.

About a dozen soldiers in combat garb jumped out to be met by staffers from the U.S. embassy in Liberia.

Navy Capt. Roger Coldiron, leader of the 32-person team, told reporters that his mission is to "assess the security environment" in the country as well as study the humanitarian needs of its 3 million people — suffering greatly from more than a decade of civil strife.

"There is a security component," Coldiron added. "We want to be sure that whomever comes in is safe on the ground."

A decision on whether U.S.

soldiers will join an intervention force shouldn't be expected Monday, U.S. Ambassador John W. Blaney told reporters. Coldiron said the mission would take as long as needed before making any recommendation.

Liberian President Charles Taylor, beset by rebels and indicted by a U.N.-backed war crimes court in Sierra Leone, said Sunday he would step down and take exile in Nigeria, but urged the United States to send peacekeepers to ensure an orderly transition.

Taylor gave no timeframe for when he would quit power and he did not specify whether the deployment of a peacekeeping force was a condition for his departure.

President Bush heads to Africa Monday for visits to five nations.

Leaders from the United Nations and Europe have increased pressure on Bush to send U.S. troops to enforce an oft-violated cease-fire between forces loyal to Taylor and rebels fighting for three years to oust him. West African nations have offered 3,000 troops and have suggested that the

United States contribute another 2,000.

With his capital Monrovia surrounded by rebels, Taylor is under intense international pressure to step down. Bush said Saturday he would "not take 'no' for an answer."

The Bush administration also showed little enthusiasm for Taylor's acceptance of Nigeria's asylum offer.

White House spokesman Jimmy Orr said: "What the president has said is Mr. Taylor needs to leave and leave soon. He needs to leave so peace can be restored."

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo met Taylor at Monrovia's airport to offer him asylum.

"I thank my big brother for coming," Taylor said. "He has extended an invitation and we have accepted an invitation."

Taylor said, "it is not unreasonable to request that there be an orderly exit from power." He said U.S. participation in an international peacekeeping force planned for Liberia was "crucial in every way."

Both Taylor and Obasanjo

would not say when the Liberian president would step down, but Obasanjo said "we believe that it will not take place in the near future."

Both warned that too hasty a departure could spark new fighting in the West African nation, where hundreds were killed in a failed rebel push into the capital last month.

"We believe the exit should not take place in confusion ... in a way that will lead to more bloodshed," Obasanjo said. "We believe the transition should be orderly and peaceful." He said the peacekeepers' deployment should take place "in a very, very short time."

Obasanjo, whose nation led a peacekeeping contingent that helped Liberia's 1989-96 civil war that led to Taylor's election the following year, said "international support" was required for a Liberian peacekeeping mission.

Rebel officials said they had no confidence Taylor would follow through and leave Liberia.

"I hope this time around Mr. Taylor will act on his words," said

one of the rebel leaders, Kabineh Ja'neh in Accra, Ghana. "Far too often he has failed to honor what he says. We don't trust him. Not at all."

The visit by Obasanjo to bring the asylum offer in person underlined the urgency of international appeals for the Liberian leader to leave.

Taylor, who is facing a war crimes indictment issued June 4 by a Sierra Leone court, has said Liberia will not know peace until the charges against him are lifted.

Nigeria has no law allowing Taylor to be extradited to the Sierra Leone court for war crimes trial, U.N. officials say.

Taylor has been accused of supporting the brutal Revolutionary United Front rebels, whose trademark atrocity was amputating the arms and facial features of their civilian victims with machetes.

Bush is scheduled to land Tuesday in Senegal, one largely peaceful West African nation that hasn't seen the ill effects of years of warring by Taylor.

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Redistricting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

map Saturday proposed by Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington. The plan, which builds on one previously offered by Republican Rep. Phil King of Weatherford, could send 21 Republicans from Texas to Congress.

Grusendorf said his plan is a fair one. He said it will allow for effective rural representation and im-

prove on a previous Republican map by ensuring minority communities in Waco are not divided.

Most Democrats on the committee, though, criticized the plan, saying it will eliminate rural and minority representation across Texas.

Rep. Richard Raymond, D-Laredo, has accused Republican lawmakers of trying to create "political ghettos" where minorities have no voice.

Any redistricting plan must get approval from the U.S. Department

of Justice that it is fair to minorities under the federal Voting Rights Act. New congressional lines also would be challenged in court.

The House Calendars Committee on Sunday set House floor debate on the bill Monday. Calendars Chair Beverly Woolley, a Houston Republican, said she expects a tense atmosphere.

"Judging by the committee hearings, I'm sure there will be lots of objections," Woolley said. "But I believe we've got a map that does represent the population of the state."

Raymond continuously has argued with Republicans on the redistricting committee and repeatedly suggested Chairman Joe Crabb, R-Atascocita, has discriminated against Hispanics during the process.

Raymond questioned whether public hearings provided sufficient access for Spanish speakers. He criticized Crabb for asking a Hispanic Korean War veteran who was testifying to provide his Social Security number. Raymond said that was inappropriate.

Most Democrats want to keep the existing congressional map drawn by a three-judge federal panel in 2001.

"The community of color is very well represented by the current members of Congress," said Rep. Pete Gallego, D-Alpine. "Redistricting is not the right thing to do at this point in time."



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Dennehy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* in Monday's editions. "Pat had talked to him and said that someone had gotten in his car and taken his ste-

reo and that some money had been stolen out of his apartment."

He said Belcher told him of Dennehy's complaints during a mid-June phone conversation after Dennehy disappeared.

The 6-foot-10 junior has not been spotted since he was reported missing

last month and his sport utility vehicle was found abandoned without its license plates in Virginia.

Investigators have called Dennehy's roommate Carlton Dotson, a former Baylor basketball player, a "person of interest" in the case. A search warrant affidavit says

an unidentified informant in Delaware alleged Dotson shot Dennehy in the head after the two argued while shooting guns on property outside Waco.

But Dotson's attorney says it's all speculation and friends of both young men say the two bought guns

because they feared their lives were in danger.

Washington said he was unaware that Dennehy was missing until Dennehy's stepfather, Brian Brabazon, asked him in mid-June whether he had seen or spoken to the player recently.

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NOW LEASING for August. Adorable 3 bedroom home. 3 full baths. Corner lot. All wood floors. Appliances. Near 33rd and Indiana. Lots of parking. \$900 +. See Jan at 4211 34th (afternoons). 795-2011.

NOW LEASING for July 21st. Near Tech; 3-2 brick home. 2200 block of 26th. Appliances. 2 LA's. \$755 +. For appointment see Jan at 4211 34th (afternoons). 795-2011.

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Former Lady Raider superstar signs on as assistant



CRAIG SWANSON/Staff Photographer

KRISTA KIRKLAND-GERLICH, a member of the 1993 Lady Raider national championship team, speaks to local media about joining the team once again as an assistant coach.

Kirkland-Gerlich in Tech's record books

Scoring: 9th (1,324)
 3-pointers made: 3rd (220)
 3-pointers attempted: 3rd (528)
 3-point percentage: 3rd (.417)
 Assists: 2nd (553)

By David Wiechmann/Editor

Some have said being a Lady Raider stays with you forever, even upon leaving the nationally renowned program. But sometimes they come back.

Lady Raider fans will be glad to know that Krista Kirkland-Gerlich is returning to Lubbock to be an assistant coach at Texas Tech.

Kirkland-Gerlich played a major role in Tech's 1993 national championship and has her name near the top of the record books in a number of categories.

The former Lady Raider star said she is looking forward to the opportunity to coach Lady Raiders now.

"I'm very excited about coming back," she said. "I'm still pinching myself to make sure I'm awake. This really is a dream come true. I've waited 10 years for this. So, I'm very excited to be a part of the program again."

Hall of Fame coach Marsha Sharp said it was not a hard decision choosing Kirkland-Gerlich to replace Lance White on the coaching staff. White took an assistant job at Florida State.

"We looked at a lot of applicants," she said. "When you have an opportunity to put someone in your pro-

gram that you have as much respect for as we do for Krista. And the things that she's already done for Lady Raider basketball; it was really an easy move for me."

Much like Sharp, who said it was an easy decision, Kirkland-Gerlich said once the job was offered she could not have said, "No."

"It was a no brainer," she said. "Bryan, my husband, has been wonderful about this. He had an awesome job in Hereford, and for him to step back and say, 'let's go do it' says a lot for him. He's my biggest fan and my biggest supporter right now."

Bryan resigned his high school coaching position so they could pack up and head to the hub city. Sharp said the willingness of Krista's husband to resign shows the commitment they have to each other and signifies great leadership. Krista left coaching for a while to start a family, and the tight family ties fit right in to the Lady Raider program.

"The fact that she was able to step back from (coaching) and put her family first and having those two children are all qualities that I have a lot of respect for her in," Sharp said.

Kirkland-Gerlich will spend a lot of time with the players during individual workouts and in the locker room. She will also help out with the

academic aspect of the Lady Raider program. Sharp said she believes Kirkland-Gerlich will be a valuable asset in that position because of her experience as a player at Tech. Sharp also said she could be great for recruiting aomng visiting families and spreading the good news about the Lady Raider program.

The Sheryl Swoopes/Krista Kirkland tandem dominated opponents during the national championship campaign of 1993, and Sharp said both of them brought different strengths to the court. It is Kirkland-Gerlich's strengths that will make her a good coach at Tech.

"Certainly she was a huge part of our national championship," Sharp said. "What Sheryl Swoopes gave us in a physical aspect, I think Krista gave us from a mentality and leadership perspective. To have those transferring to our program now is something I'm real excited about."

The Southwest Conference leader in 3-point shots made and attempted said she can hardly wait to get back on the floor to possibly coach this program to the top again.

"I'm just excited that I can be a part of that," Kirkland-Gerlich said. "And I hope that I can help in any way possible to help take us back to the national championship."

Lakers' star Kobe Bryant arrested for sexual assault

VAIL, Colo. (AP) — Prosecutors met with sheriff's officials Monday to discuss whether to file charges against Kobe Bryant, who is accused of sexually assaulting a woman at a

hotel near Vail.

In a brief statement, District Attorney Mark Hurlbert said only that the talks were intended to figure out the next move. He declined

further comment

The 24-year-old Los Angeles Lakers' star surrendered to authorities Friday and was released after posting a \$25,000 bond, the Eagle County sheriff's office said. Bryant's lawyer says her client is innocent.

An arrest warrant was issued for Bryant after a woman accused him of sexual misconduct on June 30 in a hotel in the Edwards area, outside Vail, authorities said. The woman was not identified.

No other details were released and the case has been sealed by a judge. Attempts to reach Bryant for comment were not successful and his whereabouts were not immediately known.

Bryant's attorney said he was in Colorado for surgery on his right knee at Vail's Steadman Hawkins Clinic.

"Mr. Bryant is innocent and expects to be completely exonerated," Denver attorney Pamela Mackey said in a statement.

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