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(INSIDE)



WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF  
SEE PAGE 5

(INBRIEF)

STATE

**Union official: Paramedic was following training**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A paramedic was acting according to his training when he moved on to help other victims of a car accident without checking vital signs of a woman who appeared dead but was actually alive, a San Antonio firefighters association official said Wednesday.

Mike Gardner, 35, was transferred to the San Antonio Fire Department's firefighting division and permanently restricted from working as a paramedic in San Antonio this week after not checking the pulse of Erica N. Smith, 23. Smith remained in the car's wreckage with a tarp over her body for more than an hour Dec. 16 before a medical examiner discovered she was still breathing.

NATION

**US to send more Marines to Afghanistan**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon is preparing to send at least 3,000 Marines to Afghanistan in April to bolster efforts to hold off another expected Taliban offensive in the spring, military officials said Wednesday.

The move represents a shift in Pentagon thinking that has been slowly developing after months of repeated insistence that the U.S. was not inclined to fill the need for as many as 7,500 more troops that commanders have asked for there. Instead, Defense Secretary Robert Gates pressed NATO allies to contribute the extra forces.

WORLD

**Israel targets militants as Bush mission begins**

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli military fired at Palestinian militants in Gaza on Wednesday, killing three people, after a rocket hit a house in a battered Israeli border town just as President Bush began his Mideast peace mission.

Palestinians fired at least 13 rockets and mortar shells from Gaza at Israel, and at least eight exploded in Israel, police said. Two hit houses in Sderot, just half a mile from the Gaza border fence, a frequent target of the crude, homemade Gaza projectiles.

DEATH TOLL

**3912**

U.S. Military deaths in Iraq since fighting began

SOURCE: Associated Press, confirmed by the Department of Defense

WEATHER

Today



SUNNY  
HIGH 57  
LOW 28

Friday



SUNNY  
HIGH 60  
LOW 29

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## Bush warns Iran of 'serious consequences'

By **TERENCE HUNT**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM (AP) — President Bush warned Iran of "serious consequences" if it meddles again with U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf, opening a Mideast peace-making mission Wednesday on an ominous note. He told Israel to dismantle unauthorized settlement outposts and demanded that the Palestinians halt rocket attacks from areas controlled by Hamas

Islamic militants.

Bush, on his first visit as president to Israel, acknowledged widespread doubts about whether he can break through decades of distrust to achieve his goal of a major peace agreement by the end of his presidency in January, 2009.

"I'm under no illusions," Bush said at a news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. "It's going to be hard work."

Unpopular at home, Bush got an extremely warm welcome in staunch

ally Israel. With his presidency slipping away and skepticism about the seriousness of his commitment to Mideast peacemaking, Bush hopes an accord would improve a legacy tarnished by an unpopular Iraq war, economic anxieties and other problems.

Already a troubling issue for Bush, Iran jumped back into the spotlight Sunday when Iranian boats harassed and provoked three American Navy ships in the strategic Strait of Hormuz. U.S. officials said Iran threat-

ened to explode the vessels, but the incident ended peacefully.

Bush said "all options are on the table" to protect U.S. ships. He said the Iranian boats "were very provocative and it was a dangerous gesture on their part. ... And they know our position, and that is: There will be serious consequences if they attack our ships, pure and simple. And my advice to them is don't do it."

Bush already was on the defensive about Iran because a new U.S. intelligence report contradicted

White House assertions that Tehran was building a nuclear weapon. The National Intelligence Estimate found Iran halted its program in 2003 under international pressure.

Iran is a particularly sensitive subject here because Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has repeatedly called for Israel's destruction, and Israelis wonder whether Bush has the resolve to deal with Tehran, especially in light of the new

IRAN continued on page 3

## BEAR-LY MISSED

No. 8 Baylor defeats Texas Tech 72-67



PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador

SOPHOMORE FORWARD ASHLEE Roberson tries to pass the ball out of a double team against No. 8 Baylor in a 72-67 loss at the United Spirit Arena Wednesday night.

By **ALEX YBARRA**  
STAFF WRITER

In previous seasons, coach Kim Mulkey's squads have had a star post player waiting to take a big shot down the stretch, but without one this season, the Baylor coach acknowledged that, Wednesday night against Texas Tech, the role players stepped up.

On a night when Baylor's top scorers went a combined 5-for-25, juniors Jessica Morrow and Jhasmin Player scored 19 points each to lead No. 8 Baylor to a 72-67 victory against Texas Tech Wednesday at United Spirit Arena. Baylor senior Angela Tisdale added 12 points, despite missing five of six 3-pointers, and freshman Melissa Jones chipped in 10 points along with nine rebounds.

"Most teams would have gotten beat today," Mulkey said. "When you shoot as poorly as we did from the foul line, and you get out-rebounded as much as we did, and be on the road, I'm not sure many teams would have won today."

Morrow and Player's history as teammates on the AAU team, the Houston Hotshots, before they enrolled at Baylor was the reason the two fed off one another all game.

"We're so used to playing with each other that sometimes I know her tendencies and she knows mine," Player said. They sank 6-of-7 3-pointers and went 12-of-18 from the field combined, ignoring Tech's pressure on defense.

Baylor (13-1, 1-0 in Big 12 Conference play) showed its experience in the Big 12 by putting away the Lady Raiders when the pressure mounted.

BASKETBALL continued on page 12

## Experts expect Lubbock to weather economic downturns

By **MATT MCGOWAN**  
STAFF WRITER

Despite national economic downturns resulting from, among other things, rising energy prices and a mortgage crunch, local experts assert that Lubbock's economic growth remains comparatively healthy and should remain so through 2008.

Because consumer spending comprises 70 percent of the United States' gross domestic product, the amount of money Americans save plays a heavy role in the U.S. economy, said Hayden Blackburn, project specialist at the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance.

Lately, consumers have begun to save more, he said, which is one of many factors leading economists to expect a national recession in the near future, which inevitably will impact Lubbock. Recessions, however, are normal stages of the broader economic cycle, often following unsustainable growth rates.

National economic trends will affect Lubbock's regional economy, Blackburn said, but they often take several months before the effects are palpable to residents in the area.

"You can't hold off a recession too much," he said. "I hate to throw out that 'R' word, but everybody is using it lately, and it's hard to ignore that that is where the country is pretty much headed. That affects Lubbock."

Recent increases in Lubbock's consumer price index are consistent with national averages and trends, which have risen because of growing costs for fuel, health care and food, Blackburn said. The cost of living in Lubbock, however, continues to be one of the lowest in Texas.

Lubbock's low utility prices greatly influence its low cost of living because the utility prices are much lower than those of most other areas, said Chip Gilmour, Lubbock National Bank's



COURTESY PHOTOS

ECONOMY continued on page 2

## Relief fund assists Raiders

By **MAGGIE KIELY**  
STAFF WRITER

Some Texas Tech administrators and parents believe the newly-established Red Raider Relief Fund, established by the Student Government Association and Tech Parents Association, could make it possible for students in a tight place to squeeze their way out.

Kathryn Quilliam, the student ombudsman at Tech, said the relief fund will provide emergency loans to students in need.

Years of trying to create an emergency loan fund proved unsuccessful because of regulations, including how money can be obtained for the fund, Quilliam said.

"I've been ombudsman since June of 2000, and I discovered very quickly that students that nobody else knew what to do with would often be sent to my office," she said, "and the problem is those students were financially destitute."

Eventually, Quilliam, officers from the Student Government Association and the Parents Association collaborated to establish the Red Raider Relief Fund.

Mason Moses, SGA president, said money for the relief fund was raised through Parents Association fundraisers.

The fund currently contains \$5,000, said SGA Press Secretary Lee Bobbitt.

"Basically, there is not a set amount on how much a student will get — whatever amount of money they need," Bobbitt said. "It is determined on a case-by-case basis, and there is a maximum of \$500 per student per year."

Students who do not show signs of financial destitution are unlikely to receive a loan, Moses said.

"If you go in there with an iPhone and you drive like a Range Rover," he said, "obviously you're not in that bad of need."

Although there is potential for students to abuse the fund, Quilliam said she will conduct screening tests and interviews likely showing any falsehood in a student's story.

According to the Red Raider Relief Fund information sheet,

RELIEF FUND continued on page 3

# 9 American soldiers killed in offensive against al-Qaida north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP) — Nine American soldiers were killed in the first two days of a new offensive to root out al-Qaida in Iraq fighters holed up in districts north of the capital, the U.S. military reported Wednesday.

The losses came as many militants fled U.S. and Iraqi forces massing in Diyala, a province of palm and citrus groves that has defied the trend toward lower violence.

The campaign's scope is nationwide but is mainly focused on gaining control of Diyala and its most important city, Baqouba, which al-Qaida has declared the capital of its self-styled Islamic caliphate.

Six soldiers were killed and four were wounded Wednesday in a booby-trapped house in Diyala,

the U.S. command said. It also announced that three U.S. soldiers were killed and two wounded in an attack Tuesday in Salahuddin province, north of Diyala.

The toll marked some of the deadliest days for U.S. forces in Iraq since last fall. For all December, 23 U.S. soldiers died in Iraq.

The blows against U.S. troops came as extremists tried to stay ahead of the military advance. Al-Qaida fighters retreated north from Diyala, presumably to Salahuddin, before the offensive began Tuesday, the top U.S. commander in northern Iraq, Maj. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, told reporters in Baghdad.

"Operational security in Iraq is a problem," he said, noting that the Iraqi army uses unsecured cell

phones and radios. "I'm sure there is active leaking of communication."

Hertling said his troops had killed 20 to 30 insurgents in the first two days of the operation.

Only Baghdad province has been deadlier than Diyala the past two years, according to an Associated Press count.

And while violence has declined over the past six months in Baghdad and many other places in Iraq, much of Diyala has remained a killing field. At least 273 civilians were slain in Diyala last month, compared to 213 in June. Over the same span, monthly civilian deaths in Baghdad dropped from 838 to 182.

The reason for the surge of

bloodshed is that insurgents who were pushed out of the western province of Anbar and out of Baghdad shifted their operations into Diyala, U.S. commanders say.

The tree-lined farm region is more difficult terrain for fighting insurgents than the desert of Anbar, suggesting Diyala may not have seen the last of al-Qaida in Iraq. Compounding the difficulty for the military is the checkerboard pattern of Shiite and Sunni communities adjacent to one another.

The military will need a period of peace and stability to meet its goal of speeding up work on basic services and other civic projects that commanders believe will win more allies for the American effort.

Hertling said there would be

three basic phases to the offensive:

First, U.S. and Iraqi forces will try to clear areas of insurgents. Iraqi police will then move in to establish some law and order. Finally, the "Awakening Groups" or "Concerned Local Citizens" — mostly Sunni fighters who have joined the Americans in battling al-Qaida — will be relied upon to maintain stability after troops move on.

It is these Awakening Groups that are al-Qaida's bulls-eye of the moment. The terror group, perhaps spurred by Osama bin Laden's audio message late last year, has been carrying out suicide strikes on civilians who have sided with the Americans against al-Qaida in Iraq.

There have been other types of attacks as well. Hertling showed a

video taken by a U.S. drone showing militants in Diyala dragging a man from the trunk of a car, throwing him into a ditch and then shooting him.

Asked about the timing of the U.S. operation, Hertling said the answer was simple.

"Why now? Because we can. Baghdad is more secure. Anbar is more secure," he said. "Why now? Because ... the enemy has moved into these (northern) provinces."

Hertling said that in his area of control — Diyala, Salahuddin, Kirkuk and Nineveh provinces — 24,000 American soldiers, 50,000 members of the Iraqi army and 80,000 Iraqi police are taking part in the offensive against al-Qaida in Iraq.

## Economy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

senior vice president for business development.

"You get more bang for your buck in Lubbock," he said.

One of the economic strengths

of Lubbock is

its ability to weather national economic upswings and downturns,

said Rob Allison, assistant city manager

of development services for Lubbock's Business Development

department, because the area

tends to experience relatively moderate shifts between growth

and recession.

"One of the best assets of Lubbock, Texas, is (that) the trend is either way," he said.

"Whether it's the peaks or the valleys, they're not as deep or they're not as tall, generally, as some of the national trends may

experience. Lubbock is a much more stable community. To me that's a benefit."

The growing costs of fuel may not burden Lubbock as severely

as other regions, Allison said, because of its economically insular nature.

Even if fuel costs do impact the region severely, Allison said he believes local residents

will do as they have always

done: adjust.

Despite the increase in the cost of living and the national sub-prime mortgage crunch,

Lubbock's commercial market also is thriving, he said. Also, the value of housing in Lubbock is

exceptional. Although Lubbock home sales currently are low, Al-

lison

suspects they may grow in the next year.

Cabe Fowler, associate executive of the Lubbock Association of Realtors, said he is confident

in Lubbock's housing market, citing that — strictly as a total

— there were less homes on the market at the end of 2007 than there were at the end of 2006.

Looking forward to 2008, the Lubbock housing market will be

favorable in terms of sales and value, Fowler said, as long as

home mortgage rates remain as low as they are.

"The good thing about Lubbock is we've had a steady home-price appreciation," he said. "We

don't have a great jump like in states like Florida, California,

where you see 30- to 50-percent home-price appreciation. Ours is

steady, which makes for a steady housing market as well."

Unemployment figures for Lubbock are the second-best in the state, Gilmour said, another indication of the Hub City's economic health.

Graduating Texas Tech students may look to Lubbock for a home after graduation,

he said, because Lubbock is a great place to start a professional career, especially since local employers

have begun to look more fervently to Tech graduates to fill their ranks.

"As we grow, hopefully we'll attract more and more students to set up their families and careers right here in Lubbock,"

Gilmour said. "That's something I think the city fathers are looking to make happen more so now than in the past."

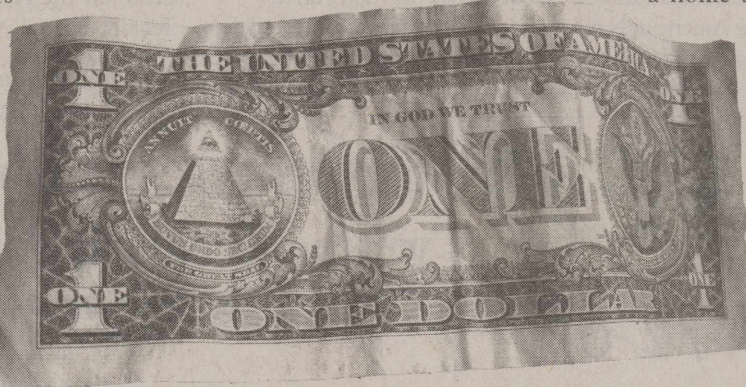
Looking towards 2008, Gilmour said the local economy probably will level out because it is

on the downside of a three-year boom in growth, which is unsustainable. However, the economic

stabilization should be natural and perfectly healthy.

"Actually, there is more good news about Lubbock's economy than there is bad news," he said. "We continue to prosper, and we've taken a look at these figures since 1900. It's just amazing."

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## Bloomberg begins nationwide effort to gauge support

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has quietly been polling and conducting a highly sophisticated voter analysis in all 50 states as he decides

whether to launch an independent presidential bid, associates said Wednesday.

The exhaustive data collection started months ago, and when the review begins shortly, it will provide the data-obsessed billionaire

businessman with the information he will use to decide whether to make a third-party run for the White House.

The scope of the research, details of which were revealed to The Associated Press, demonstrates how seriously Bloomberg is considering running for president

despite his almost-daily denials that he isn't entering the race. The extensive coast-to-coast research

effort shows that Bloomberg is willing to dig deep into his wallet simply to gauge his chances of winning and lining up the proper support network.

"They want a hard-headed sense of their chances," said Doug Schoen, who spearheaded Bloomberg's voter database efforts, known as microtargeting, for his two mayoral campaigns.

Bloomberg's spokesman Stu Loeser declined comment.

Schoen says he is not working for Bloomberg now, but he is part of the mayor's inner circle and makes a convincing and well-researched case in his new book, "Declaring Independence," about how a third-party candidate such as Bloomberg could run for president and upset the election this year.

Schoen was widely recognized for his microtargeting work in

Bloomberg's first campaign. It was considered a groundbreaking concept in 2001 to gather and use information on individual voters, rather than voting blocs, to tailor and tweak the campaign message, advertisements and overall theme.

The Bloomberg database being created nationally would also be used in those same ways if he were to run, Schoen said. But for now, it will serve as the basis of gauging potential support for a bid.

Using the microtargeting model, research firms working for Bloomberg are gathering comprehensive information on voters throughout the country, such as who owns a home, has children in college, where they vacation, type of car or computer and past political support. All the puzzle pieces will then be arranged to create a picture of each individual.

Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt and Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere said Sudan must bear "full responsibility" for the Scandinavian countries' decision to drop their contribution to the peacekeeping force.

"Sudan hinders Norway and Sweden from participating in this very necessary operation," the ministers said.

The troops, 160 from Sweden and 240 from Norway, were supposed to help build infrastructure in an early stage of the operation.

The peacekeeping mission, which began on Jan. 1, already has faced problems in the region. A supply convoy was attacked near the Chad border on Monday. A Sudanese driver was critically injured in the attack, which also destroyed a fuel tanker and damaged an armored personnel carrier.

The U.N. said the attack was carried out by members of the Sudanese armed forces.

## Sweden, Norway drop out of UN peacekeeping force in Darfur

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Sweden and Norway dropped plans Wednesday to send about 400 troops to the U.N. peacekeeping force in Darfur because of opposition from Sudan's government.

The two Scandinavian countries had planned to send a joint engineering unit to the peacekeeping force in the troubled region, but their foreign ministers said in a joint statement that "Sudan's opposition makes it impossible to maintain the offer of a Norwegian-Swedish contribution."

The U.N. mission known as UNAMID is the latest international attempt to quell fighting in the western Sudanese region, where more than 200,000 people have died and 2.5 million were chased from their homes since ethnic African rebels took up arms against the Arab-dominated Sudanese government in 2003, accusing it of discrimination.

For months, Khartoum resisted a U.N. peacekeeping force for Darfur. Under a compromise deal reached earlier this year, the hybrid U.N. and African Union force must be predominantly African.

Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir reiterated warnings in November that he would not allow some European nations to take part in the force. He singled out Scandinavian countries, where some media had reproduced caricatures of Islam's Prophet Muhammad.

"Anyone who spoke blasphemously about the Prophet will not set a foot on Sudanese soil," he said.

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### CORRECTION:

In the story "The DT's Big 12 women's basketball preview" in Wednesday's edition of *The Daily Toreador*, a photo should have identified Dominic Seals. The *Daily Toreador* regrets this mistake.

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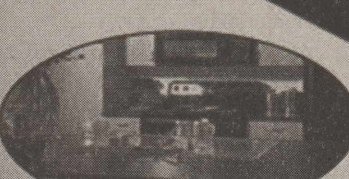


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## Relief Fund

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

students who accept the loan "agree to go for financial counseling with the Red to Black Program and seek any other resource deemed appropriate by the ombudsman," and "any student who falsifies information to obtain funds will be referred to Student Judicial Services."

Students who feel they are in need of an emergency loan first must contact and be evaluated by Quilliam. From there, she will ask for permission to share the information with a Parents Association member and an SGA representative. If all

parties agree on the intent and amount of the loan, the student will receive a check written to the entity they requested assistance for.

According to the information sheet, a student's loan must be paid off at a minimum of \$20 per month with no interest before he or she graduates; the Parents Association will contact students who do not pay back their loans.

Bobbitt said other Tech university programs offer students emergency loans but most take longer to process.

The emergency loan program has tremendous potential for helping students who truly are in need, Quilliam said.

"It's a difference on whether they can stay in school or not," she said. "As ombudsman, that was the thing that surprised me the most is how they are paying for college 100 percent on their own. Students that come to me, they're usually in a pretty desperate place, and, if we can, (we) do something just to get them back so they are operating as they had planned to be operating."

Students who qualify for the emergency loan, which can be applied for beginning today, must be in good academic and disciplinary standing, and they must be enrolled in at least six hours.

► mag8240@hotmail.com

### Red Raider Relief Fund guidelines:

- The loan check is written directly to the entity the student owes.
- If the student owes Tech the money, the fee will be waived.
- Funds are paid directly to an entity to which money is owed rather than to the student. If the entity is Tech, a request will be made to the appropriate person for the fee to be waived.
- One month following the loan request, the ombudsman will contact the student to check on his or her condition.
- A promissory note will be signed by the student promising he or she will pay back the loan before leaving Tech.
- Though the plan can be flexible, the student will be asked to pay \$20/month until the loan amount is paid off.
- Students leaving the university before re-paying the loan will be contacted every six months by the Parents Association.

Information provided by the Office of the Ombudsman at Tech

# Pennsylvania school evacuated after 3 teenage students stabbed

READING, Pa. (AP) — Three students were stabbed Wednesday morning at a junior/senior high school by an angry student who had a canister of propane when confronted by school administrators, school and police officials said.

The student at Antietam Middle-Senior High School in Lower Alsace Township was taken into custody by police after school officials disarmed the boy. Students were evacuated to a district building in a neighboring community.

Principal James Snyder said he and a teacher were responding to a disturbance when they confronted the student, who held them at bay with the canister.

"He was very upset with the school and with all the people who were in the school at that particular time," Snyder said.

When the boy would not surrender, a teacher swatted the student's arm, knocking the canister from his hand, Snyder said.

"We pushed him to the wall

and kept him to a confined area so he wasn't going anywhere," Snyder said. "He wasn't saying anything to us."

A 16-year-old girl was taken to Reading Hospital with cuts to both hands, hospital spokesman William J. Rudolph Jr. said. Doctors also treated a 15-year-old girl with a small wound to her upper back and a 14-year-old boy with a small wound to his upper right arm, he said. All three have been released, Rudolph said.

The Reading bomb squad and numerous police agencies were called to the scene, said state police Lt. Thomas G. McDaniel said. The suspect also had a small

bottle of unidentified liquid, Berks Regional police said.

Ninth-grader Jim Greager, 14, said he was in a hallway when he saw another student running down the hall screaming, "Help! Help! Help!"

Brian Macluskie, 15, also a ninth-grader, said students thought it was a drill when the school was evacuated, "until we saw cop cars out front."

"People were crying; they were scared. Everyone was calling parents on cell phones. Rumors started

flying," Macluskie said.

The school enrolls grades seven through 12 and is located about 60 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

"People were crying; they were scared. Everyone was calling parents on cell phones."

— BRIAN MACLUSKIE  
NINTH-GRADER

## How high can tigers jump? Officials may rethink height requirements for exhibits

(AP) — A tiger lurked in the tall grass at a park in India as gamekeepers tried to shoot it with a dart gun and missed. The animal suddenly sprang from the grass, sailed through the air and took a swipe at a man sitting on an elephant's back.

The man lost three fingers.

"I could never imagine that a tiger could so effortlessly leap from the ground on to an adult elephant's head, which is at least 12 feet above the ground," Vivek Menon, executive director of Wildlife Trust of India, said of the 2004 attack, a video of which has been circulating on YouTube.

That attack — along with other examples of explosive encounters

with tigers — are stoking a debate that began after a 350-pound Siberian tiger climbed over the 12½-foot wall around its pen at the San Francisco Zoo on Christmas Day and mauled three visitors, killing one.

Among the questions experts are now asking: How high can tigers jump? And have zoos and sanctuaries dangerously underestimated tigers?

That is to say: Are the walls high enough?

"We are evaluating that right now," said Vernon Weir, director of the American Sanctuary Association, which has about 35 members, only a few of which have big cats.

The ASA accredits sanctuaries and in the past recommended 12-foot fences.

Similarly, Association of Zoos & Aquariums, which accredits the nation's zoos, may adjust its 16.4-foot wall-height recommendation for tigers once it learns fully what happened in San Francisco, spokesman Steve Feldman said.

In San Francisco, the wall was well below the AZA minimum. But several other major U.S. zoos appear to meet or exceed the standards, with high walls topped in many cases with electrified wire or pronounced overhangs to prevent tigers from pulling themselves up and over the side.

## Iran

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

new intelligence.

Saying he still regarded Iran as a dangerous threat, Bush said, "We'll continue to keep the pressure on the Iranians. And I believe we can solve this problem diplomatically."

After a red-carpet airport arrival in Tel Aviv, Bush flew by helicopter to Jerusalem for talks with Olmert and Israeli President Shimon Peres, who cautioned that peace negotiations "may be slow, but the progress can be sweet."

Olmert said Israel would not accept a peace agreement unless there is a halt to rocket attacks from the Gaza Strip, controlled by Islamic militants dedicated to Israel's destruction. The U.S.

backed Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, wields authority in the West Bank but not in Gaza, meaning the Palestinian population is effectively split between two governing entities.

"There will be no peace unless terror is stopped," Olmert told Bush. "And terror will have to be stopped everywhere. He said that 'Gaza must be part of the package and that as long as there will be terror from Gaza, it will be very, very hard to reach any peaceful understanding between us and the Palestinians.'"

The threat to Israel was underscored Wednesday when Palestinian militants in the Gaza bombarded southern Israel with rocket and mortar fire.

On Thursday, Bush will fly to the West Bank and question Abbas about just that.


"As to the rockets, my first question is going to be to Presi-


dent Abbas, 'What do you intend to do about them?'" Bush said.

"Because ultimately, in order for there to be the existence of a state, there has to be a firm commitment by a Palestinian government to deal with extremists and terrorists who might be willing to use Palestinian territory as a launching pad into Israel."

Stephen Hadley, Bush's national security adviser, sounded pessimistic about Hamas joining the peace process.

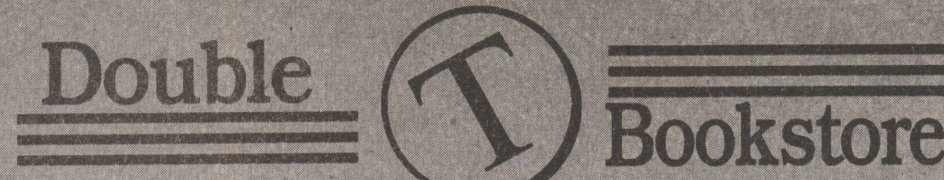
"Nobody, unfortunately, is very optimistic that they will make that choice," Hadley said. "Hamas came to power in election; it will have to submit itself at some point to the people of Gaza in terms of their approval of the job they have done. And at this point, it's a pretty depressing situation in Hamas — in Gaza for all those people who live there."





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# OPINIONS

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THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 2008

## Too early to call yet

By MIKE WACKER  
CORNELL DAILY SUN (CORNELL U.)

(U-WIRE) ITHACA, N.Y. — John Edwards noted that more than 99 percent of people have not yet voted. Lou Dobbs blasted the media and its pundits for extrapolating the fate of the race so far ahead in time. Mitt Romney leads the Republican race by the one statistic that counts.

For the many battles the candidates have fought so far, they still have a large war to wage. Although Iowa and New Hampshire will always hold a special place at the front end of the Presidential primaries, with both contests settled and done, have too many pundits overemphasized the influence of these and other early states?

Many times, both the pundits and polls have proven wrong. Clinton's surprising comeback in New Hampshire completely caught the media off guard. With some polls predicting double-digit leads for Obama, and everybody talking about the disintegration of the Clinton campaign, Obama's victory, the final nail in Clinton's coffin, was inevitable — just as inevitable as Clinton's victory was back in the summer. For Republicans, the biggest flip-flopper has been the voters, who now seem to have a new national favorite every day. Some proclaim Romney's campaign dead after two second-place finishes in Iowa and New Hampshire, but on the same token, McCain, who came out of nowhere to win New Hampshire, had been left for dead when his campaign imploded over the summer.

Perhaps the race may be more complicated than initially thought. After all, only two states and a tiny fraction of voters have participated, yet the media seems to determine an awful lot about the status of the top tier candidates from these preliminary results. In the end, the media does not decide the primaries, and even the voters do not decide it. Ultimately,

delegates elected to each party's nominating convention decide the race. They include a combination of regular delegates elected in the primaries and caucuses and also delegates not tied to any election result, the unpledged delegate for the Republican or the superdelegate for the Democrats.

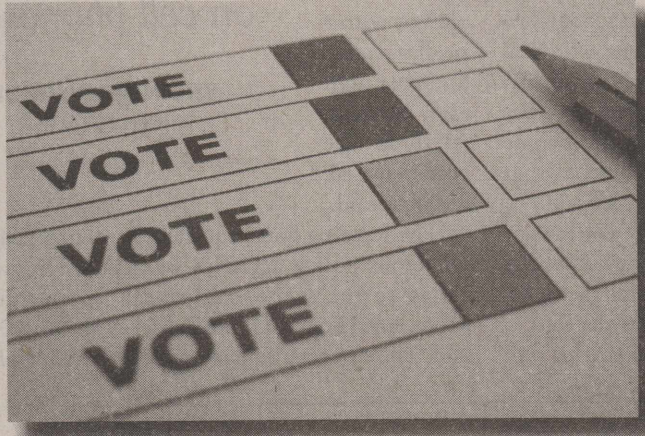
So who is winning the race for delegates? On the Republican side, it actually is Mitt Romney. Even though

commanding lead nationally thanks to the superdelegates. Her decisive edge among the superdelegates additionally points to the strength of her organization, one that no one should ever count out until at least Super Tuesday.

By any count, however, the number of delegates chosen so far proves quite miniscule compared to the total number of delegates elected. For

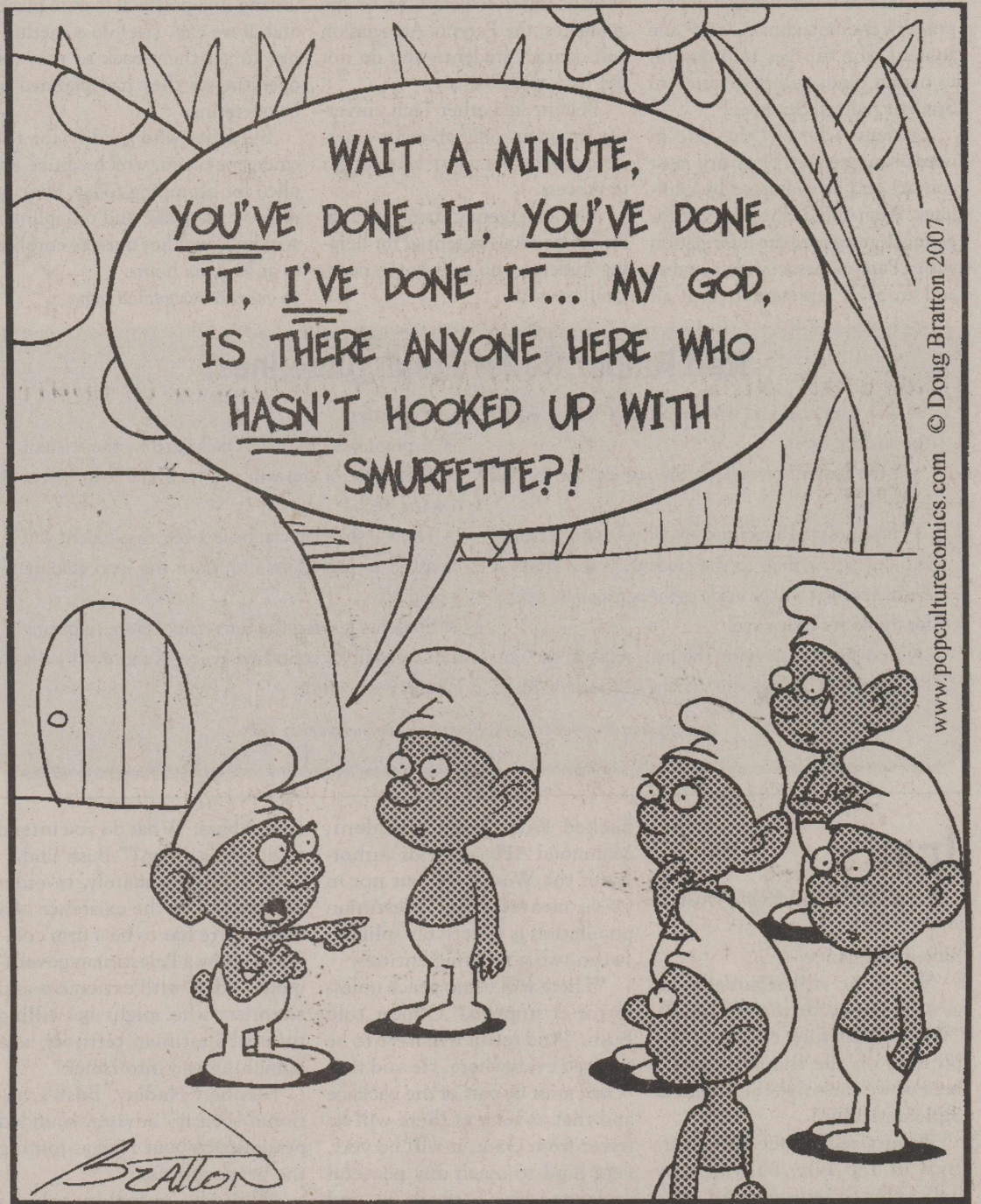
Republicans in particular, any state holding a primary before Super Tuesday on February 5th was stripped of half their delegates, except for Iowa and a few other states whose caucuses are technically non-binding. Thus, even though many have doubted Giuliani's strategy of ignoring the early states for delegate-rich states later in the primary, his strategy probably will work better than most media pundits will expect. For Democrats, Edwards only trails by seven regular delegates overall, a margin which he can quickly make up with a victory in South Carolina, where his odds look much better.

With that said, the delegate count does not account for the campaign's momentum. It does not account for the money and resources the campaigns currently possess. It does not account for the poll numbers in states which have not yet voted. And even though the delegates have the final say on who wins the nomination, the current delegates counts themselves are projection, and CNN and AP differ considerably in their projection for Republicans in the Iowa caucus. So how does one determine who will win? Perhaps one important lesson can be learned from the early states. In New Hampshire, as Obama and Clinton remained neck-and-neck for hours on end, the projections of Clinton's victory did not come until most of the votes had been counted. People had to wait the old-fashioned way in this contest, and they may have to do the same in the national one as well.



he finished second in Iowa and New Hampshire, both times he found himself much closer to the frontrunner than to third place. Add to that his victory in Wyoming, giving him more delegates than McCain received in New Hampshire, and a slight edge in unpledged delegates, and Romney leads the pack with 30 delegates (using CNN's projection), only one less than McCain and Huckabee combined. However, that hardly equates to a mandate for Romney. After all, Giuliani, who led the polls nationally for a sizable portion of the race, has as many delegates as Duncan Hunter, who virtually has no chance of winning.

As for the Democrats, Clinton only trails Obama by one among regular delegates. She received 15 delegates to Obama's 16 and Edwards 14 in Iowa in spite of her third-place finish. And as strange as the esoteric Iowa caucus rules (and math) may seem, at least Obama gained the most delegates when he won; Clinton, despite her stunning comeback in New Hampshire, won as many delegates as Obama. Actually, when New Hampshire's superdelegates are included, Obama actually defeated Clinton in New Hampshire, but Clinton holds a



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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The editorial by Bill Dean, executive Vice President & CEO of the Texas Techs (alumni magazine; vol. 61/no. 1, Jan/Feb 2008) leads me to make some promises to the current students at Texas Tech. He made me aware of the tasteless behavior of students and adult fans at Tech athletic events, and I am grateful he did so. In the first few decades following my graduation from Tech (BSc, '57; MSc '61) the value of my degrees truly increased because of the academic growth and accomplishments of the student body and faculty. I proudly made small contributions to the Alumni Association, to the Tech general fund and to the Chancellor's

scholarship fund drives; I proudly accumulated a few mementos of Tech, and I proudly presented my experience at Tech to hundreds of people across the country in lectures, first in engineering and later to cruise passengers around the world in the area of financial planning. Regrettably, I now realize my association with Tech is no longer a positive in my life. Here is my promise to you, the current students and future alumni of Texas Tech: I will disown my experience, career and degrees from Texas Tech. I will not repeat the contributions listed above. Here are

some things you — the current students of Texas Tech — can do. You can develop respect for yourself and show respect for others, every day and all the time (and, yes, at athletic events). You can live a life where tortilla throwing, profanity, profaning your fight song and not doffing your cap when hearing our national anthem are recognized as tasteless, self-demeaning acts which are no part of you. You can do this, and you can, by example or a word, discourage such behavior in others. You can respect yourself and show respect for others. There is no space for even one disrespectful student or alumni at Tech. If you need clarity on what I mean by respect, please go to see a faculty counselor. When I begin to hear unsolicited comments or see reports of honorable behavior at Texas Tech, I will happily reclaim my alma mater. Respectfully, Jack Beckner, BSc, '57, MSc, '61, PhD, Univ. of Wales, '65  
jbeckner@colorado.net

## Case on lethal injection has facets that require careful investigation

By NICK GREVER  
THE NEWS RECORD (U. CINCINNATI)

(U-WIRE) CINCINNATI — The Supreme Court began hearing arguments Monday regarding the legality of lethal injection. Two Kentucky inmates, Ralph Baze and Clyde Bowling Jr., have claimed that sodium thiopental, the first drug of the traditional three-drug cocktail, does not work in its cur-

rent dosage. Sodium thiopental is supposed to put the inmate to sleep before the other two drugs are administered; however, Baze and Bowling claim it wears off too fast, causing the condemned inmate to feel the effects of the third drug, which induces cardiac arrest.

There are many factors that carry this case beyond the debate over the death penalty, and each and every one must be addressed for an intelligent decision to be made. While this case's facts will surely be debated for a long time (a decision is slated to come by late June), one has to wonder, how will this debate be decided by any method other than semantics? It's not like we can test the drugs on humans to see if a person feels a heart attack, and

animal testing is out the window, due to the obvious animal cruelty arguments.

On the other hand, do Baze and Bowling have any evidence that sodium thiopental does not work effectively? It's not like we can ask those that have gone through the procedure. Baze and Bowling's attorney suggested the use of one drug, a strong barbiturate used on animals, to replace the current three. However, Chief Justice John Roberts said: "It's never been tried on humans. Can we establish it doesn't cause pain?" Roberts' argument is an engaging one. Replacing three drugs with one only opens the court to more appeals by inmates. And while we must ensure the Constitution's statute of no "cruel and unusual" punishment is upheld, on the same token, we must not let the court system become clogged with frivolous lawsuits from inmates wishing to extend their lives by waiting for a court ruling.

The second drug in the cocktail, pancuronium bromide, is meant to paralyze muscles except the heart. This drug would eventually cause death by asphyxiation even if the third drug did not cause a heart attack. But Baze and Bowling state that pancuronium bromide would not allow the inmate to express any pain they felt. This argument, while valid, is a nonfactor. The important issue at hand is whether or not an inmate actually feels pain, not if the drug that is meant to cut muscle response does its job. Of course, the justices themselves simultaneously are the voters and an important factor in this case. The bench is often split along ideological lines, and the death penalty is one of the largest moral debates today. This ethical

split, with several justices prone to swing voting, makes their final decision hard to predict. "We would be amazed, and certainly applaud, if [the Supreme Court] took this opportunity [to ban the death penalty]," said Robert Schultz, field organizer for Amnesty International. "Realistically speaking, I expect a narrow decision. It would be a great pleasure and surprise."

With so many factors affecting this case, a simple decision is not possible. We as a nation cannot jump to a conclusion based solely on emotion. We were built on principles of reason and order, and this case is a test of these principles. It has potential to be highly inflammatory and start many debates. We must rely on our established system and appointed judges to make the informed decision, not the emotionally charged one.

*"We [as a nation] were built on principles of reason and order, and this case is a test of these principles."*

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\*Republican candidates will be the subject of next weeks poll.

## ODDBALL DAILY

### Police convicted of stealing beer from firefighters

WILSON, Kan. (AP) — A small-town police chief has been fired after he was convicted of stealing beer from the fire department's refrigerator.

The city council in Wilson on Monday fired chief Brian Hill, effective Jan. 25. He has the option of a hearing within the next two weeks.

Hill was arrested Aug. 1 after a surveillance tape showed him taking the beer. He was convicted of misdemeanor theft on Dec. 26 and given probation. He had been suspended without pay pending an appeal of the conviction.

Authorities did not disclose how much beer was stolen, or why it was in the fire department. A warrant

put the value of the beer at less than \$1,000.

The two departments share a building, and the door separating the offices usually was unlocked, officials said.

The only person by the name of Brian Hill in the Wilson area has an unlisted phone number, so he could not be reached for comment.

### Judge threatens prosecutor for wearing ascot to court

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A judge is asking a lawyer to tie one on.

Circuit Judge William Sosnay held up court for about three hours Tuesday after a prosecutor showed up wearing a red ascot to court despite a rule requiring lawyers to wear neckties.

Sosnay decided that Warren

Zier's ascot — a silk scarf-like loop of cloth worn at the base of the neck — "borders on contemptuous."

"He has told me that if we're before a jury, he would appear with a tie," the judge said. "Well, why? I think we can draw an obvious implication from that."

Zier said he plans to continue with his practice of rotating his neck wear from a long tie to a bow tie to an ascot.

Zier said he'll just have to wait to find out what happens with the threat of a contempt citation. "I guess we'll deal with that if it gets to that point," Zier said.

### Calf survives trip down flooded Australian river

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A calf was rescued after being carried 40 miles down a raging river during flooding in eastern Australia, officials said Wednesday.

Barney, a young bull, was washed away from a farm in New South Wales state during torrential rains Friday night and was rescued Saturday, Tweed Shire Council General Manager Mike

Rayner said. "It's amazing the beast is alive," Rayner said.

"The water ripped half the road out of one particular cutting the bull calf went through — the velocity would have been enormous," he said.

Council ranger Wayne Haayer, who assisted in the rescue, said he spotted Barney, which he esti-

mated to be two years old, headed for the ocean.

"He was tired, his head was barely above water," Haayer said. "It was sort of swimming, sort of floating."

Barney was identified by his tags and returned to owner Don Baxter.

Baxter could not immediately be reached for comment.

### Idaho man cuts off and microwaves hand

HAYDEN, Idaho (AP) — A man who believed he bore the "mark of the beast" used a circular saw to cut off one hand, then he cooked it in the microwave and called 911, authorities said.

The man, in his mid-20s, was calm when Kootenai County sheriff's deputies arrived Saturday in this northern Idaho town. He was in protective custody in the mental health unit of Kootenai Medical Center.

"It had been somewhat cooked

by the time the deputy arrived," sheriff's Capt. Ben Wolfinger said. "He put a tourniquet on his arm before, so he didn't bleed to death. That kind of mental illness is just sad."

It was not immediately clear whether the man has a history of mental illness. Hospital spokeswoman Lisa Johnson would not say whether an attempt was made to reattach the hand, citing patient confidentiality.

The Book of Revelation in the New Testament contains

a passage in which an angel is quoted as saying: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, he, too, will drink the wine of God's fury."

The book of Matthew also contains the passage: "And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."

Wolfinger said he didn't know which hand was amputated.

## WORLD EVENTS IN BRIEF

### Troops, police patrol border city after drug shootouts

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Heavily armed police and soldiers patrolled the streets of the rough border city of Reynosa on Wednesday, after shootouts with alleged drug gang members in two cities killed five people, including two federal officers.

The bloodshed is evidence that the government has a long road ahead in its efforts to quash organized crime, President Felipe Calderon said.

"These events show us that the battle, as we predicted, would not be easy and that much remains to be done," Calderon said during a

meeting in Mexico City with law enforcement agents from around the country.

The president, who has made public safety his priority since taking office in December 2006, said his administration would fight on "until taking back complete control of public life in the country."

Calderon held a minute of silence for two federal agents killed Tuesday night during a

shootout with suspected traffickers in Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas. The suspects escaped and are still at large.

Authorities did not say to which cartel they allegedly belong.

The attack occurred a day after Mexican federal agents killed three alleged members of the powerful Gulf cartel and captured 10 others in the town of Rio Bravo, across the border from Donna, Texas. Both Reynosa and Rio Bravo are in the northern state of Tamaulipas.

The detained suspects, including two residents of Detroit, and one from Texas, were taken to Mexico City on Tuesday and paraded before the media before being jailed to await trial.

### Official wants immunity before talking about tapes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorneys for Jose Rodriguez told Congress that the former CIA official won't testify about the destruction of CIA videotapes without a promise of immunity, a person close to the tapes inquiry said Wednesday.

Rodriguez, the former head of the CIA's National Clandestine Service, ordered the tapes de-

stroyed in 2005. Rodriguez was scheduled to testify before the House Intelligence Committee at a Jan. 16 hearing.

Defense attorney Robert Bennett told lawmakers, however, that he would not let Rodriguez testify because of the criminal investigation into the case. Without a promise of immunity, anything Rodriguez said at the hearing could

be used against him in court.

The discussions were described to The Associated Press by someone close to the case who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were to be private.

Reached by telephone Wednesday night, Bennett said he would have no public comment on the matter. A spokesman for the committee also declined to comment.

### Supreme Court skeptical of challenge to Indiana law

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court appeared ready Wednesday to uphold the nation's strictest requirement that voters show photo identification before casting a ballot.

The justices are faced with a partisan dispute that echoes the bitterly divided decision that sealed the 2000 presidential election for George W. Bush. Now, as then, the court seemed divided along ideological lines.

Wednesday's arguments were over a challenge to an Indiana law, passed in 2005, that is backed by Republicans as

a prudent way to deter voter fraud. Democrats and civil rights groups oppose the law as unconstitutional and call it a thinly veiled effort to discourage elderly, poor and minority voters — those most likely to lack proper ID and who tend to vote for Democrats.

But Justice Anthony Kennedy, often a key vote on the court, did not sound persuaded that the challengers had made their case.

"You want us to invalidate a statute on the ground that it's a minor inconvenience to a small

percentage of voters?" Kennedy said near the end of the lively session. Kennedy did, however, voice concern over some aspects of obtaining an ID, including the difficulty the poor have in getting the birth certificates that are needed to get photo ID.

More than 20 states require some form of identification at the polls. Courts have upheld voter ID laws in Arizona, Georgia and Michigan, but struck down Missouri's. The Indiana case should be decided by late June, in time for the November elections.

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### Kenya president invites rival to talks after rallies called off

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenya's president on Monday invited his chief rival to his official residence to discuss how to end the country's election standoff, just hours after the opposition called off nationwide rallies amid fears of new bloodshed.

The signs of softening by both sides came after three days of talks with the top U.S. diplomat for Africa. The African Union president, whose trip to Kenya had been delayed repeatedly as the government rejected outside mediation in the disputed vote, was to begin talks in the capital as early as Wednesday.

The U.S. envoy, Jendayi Frazer, said the vote count was rigged, but declined to blame either President Mwai Kibaki or Raila Odinga, the opposition leader.

"Yes, there was rigging," Frazer told The Associated Press. "I mean there were problems with the vote counting process ... both the parties could have rigged."

Kibaki, who was re-elected after

the disputed vote tally, invited Odinga to the State House for a meeting Friday to discuss how to end the political and ethnic turmoil that has already killed some 500 people, according to a statement from the president's press service.

A particularly troubling aspect of the political violence has been its degeneration in some areas into rioting pitting other tribes against Kibaki's Kikuyu, long dominant in Kenya's politics and economy.

Reports of ethnic killings con-

tinued to stream in from the countryside, with an official in neighboring Uganda confirming 30 Kenyan refugees were thrown into the border river by attackers, and were presumed drowned.

Two Ugandan truck drivers carrying the group said they were

stopped Saturday at a roadblock mounted by militiamen who identified the refugees as members of Kibaki's Kikuyu tribe and threw them into the deep, swift-flowing Kipkaren River, said Himbaza Hashaka, a Ugandan border official.

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# Faculty Senate discuss new programs

By LAYLA KHOSHNOUDI  
STAFF WRITER

During this semester's first faculty senate meeting, Texas Tech faculty and administrators discussed the advantages of University Studies, Tech's new interdisciplinary degree program.

At the meeting, Juan Munoz, Tech's vice provost, discussed the new degree plan implemented this semester, which allows students to obtain 18 credit hours from three different colleges. Unlike the existing General Studies degree, this program allows students to pick areas of study from any college they choose.

"The idea is to provide greater

opportunity for undergraduates to pursue academic, intellectual training and curiosity that better complements their already-established professional goals," Munoz said.

Along with the advantages for students looking for an alternative degree, Munoz discussed the potential for the new program to increase student enrollment at Tech.

"The potential enrollment for the degree appears great since existing programs across the country are experiencing increasing enrollment and interest in a Bachelor's of University Studies," he said.

The new program also will aid in transfer student recruitment, which has been a recent high priority

of the Texas legislature, which has dedicated state funds to the matriculation of community college students to four-year institutions, Munoz said.

"I taught at a community college, and many of those students are poorly advised," he said. "This might be a degree that many of them find of interest, because it gives them more flexibly to recover some of the courses that they've taken."

Munoz explained that the University Studies program particularly would benefit three types of students: existing students who elect to change their majors, students in off-campus sites and transfer students.

Munoz used the example of a student who works as a manager at United Supermarket and wants to figure out a way to incorporate marketing, communication and Spanish language to become a better manager.

"That's a very dynamic and professional goal for which we currently may not have a degree that satisfies that kind of very specific, professional interest," he said.

The University Studies degree will cultivate students' education in a way that complements their specific interests, Munoz said.

"Interdisciplinary study prepares people for more complex, nuanced and fluid circumstances, professionally and personally," he said. "The goal of our specific University Studies degree is to equip students with the knowledge, skills and sensitivity to function

effectively in a global society."

Munoz, who will oversee the program, reassured one faculty senate member's concern that the program might cite abuse from the standpoint of Tech athletics.

"I can personally guarantee that I will not participate, allow or endorse any abuse that will demean our school and our standing as faculty and the potential spirit of the students," he said.

William Marcy, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, who holds the first interdisciplinary Ph.D. awarded at Tech, also provided some words of assurance.

"The faculty that participated in setting this thing up were all Horn Professors, so there is going to be a very high degree of surveillance on the quality of the program," Marcy said. "I doubt that athletes transferring in will be advised by Horn Professors into situations that they would not be capable of performing."

The issue of student mental health also was addressed in the meeting.

Eileen Nathan, a psychologist at the Student Counseling Center, spoke at the meeting about a new mental health program called Mental Health EDU.

Mental Health EDU is an online program with several curriculum modules and interactive exercises geared toward teaching faculty members effective ways of approaching and helping students who exhibit signs of mental illness.



PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Treador

JUAN MUNOZ, SPECIAL assistant to the president, spoke during the Faculty Senate meeting Wednesday afternoon in the Senate room of the Student Union Building. He spoke about diversity initiatives on campus and the new Bachelor's of University Studies degree.

Nathan said the program focuses on three scenarios that are common causes for people to contact the counseling center: poor performance in a student, a student expressing concern about another student's problems or receiving a distressing e-mail from a student.

"These scenarios touch on some very typical things that people experience," she said.

Nathan said she believes the program, which she expects to be implemented within the next month, will be very beneficial.

"The people that put this thing together are some of the biggest names in college mental health around the country, so it's a really good program," she said.

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PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Treador

SUSAN MENGEL, ASSOCIATE professor of computer science, asks a question of Juan Munoz, special assistant to the president, during the Faculty Senate meeting Wednesday afternoon in the Senate room of the Student Union Building.

## Richardson drops out of the Democratic presidential race

MERRIMACK, N.H. (AP) — New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson ended his campaign for the presidency Wednesday after twin fourth-place finishes that showed his impressive credentials could not compete with his rivals' star power.

Richardson planned to announce the decision Thursday, according to two people close to the governor with knowledge of the decision. They spoke on a condition of anonymity in advance of the governor's announcement.

Richardson's campaign would not comment on the governor's decision, reached after a meeting with his top advisers Wednesday in New Mexico.

Richardson had one of the most wide-ranging resumes of any candidate ever to run for the presidency, bringing experience from his time in Congress, President Clinton's

Cabinet, in the New Mexico Statehouse as well as his unique role as a freelance diplomat. As a Hispanic, he added to the unprecedented diversity in the Democratic field that also included a black man and a woman.

But Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama dominated the spotlight in the campaign, and Richardson was never able to become a top-tier contender. He accused his rivals of failing to commit to bring troops home from Iraq soon enough.

He portrayed his campaign as a job application for president, and ran clever ads that showed a bored interviewer unimpressed with his dazzling resume. The commercials helped fuel his move to double-digit support in some early state polls, and advisers argued he was poised to move past former vice presidential

nominee John Edwards for the role of third-place challenger.

But he was not able to build the momentum and came in a distant fourth place in Iowa and New Hampshire. Richardson didn't get quite 5 percent in the New Hampshire primary Tuesday and came in with just 2 percent in the Iowa caucus last week.

Edwards congratulated Richardson, saying he had run a good race.

"He was a very good candidate, a serious candidate ... I congratulate

him. He ought to be proud of what he's done," Edwards said in Columbia, S.C. He pledged anew to remain a candidate himself, and said Richardson's decision means Democrats in South Carolina will get to choose on Jan. 26 from three candidates who are running vigorous campaigns.

"What's happened is, over time the race is becoming more focused. I think that's good for democracy. I think this thing's going on for a long time," Edwards said. "I assume the other

two are. I know I am. I'm in it for the long haul."

Richardson was born 60 years ago in Pasadena, Calif., after his American father sent his Mexican mother there to give birth and erase any doubts that his son would be a U.S. citizen. His father was an international banker from Boston, and Richardson spent his childhood in Mexico City before being sent to boarding school in Massachusetts, where he was a standout baseball player.

After graduating from Tufts University in 1971 with a master's degree in international affairs, Richardson worked first as a congressional aide and then for the State Department. He was a staffer for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when he decided to leave Washington in 1978 to launch a political career.

Richardson settled in New Mex-

ico partly because of the state's large Hispanic population, and he won election to the House. Richardson is a master negotiator, and put his diplomatic skills to work to rescue Americans held hostage abroad. He earned a reputation for a mix of patience, toughness and cultural sensitivity that served him well on mercy missions from North Korea to Cuba to Sudan.

President Clinton recruited Richardson to become U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, then secretary of Energy two years later.

He was easily elected to two terms as governor but will be forced from office by term limits in 2010. His closest advisers hope that even if his presidential campaign didn't bring him many votes, it built his reputation so that he'll one day be able to add even more to his resume.

*"He was a very good candidate, a serious candidate ... I congratulate him."*

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## Anchor suspended 2 weeks for 'lynch' comment

HONOLULU (AP) — Golf Channel suspended anchor Kelly Tilghman for two weeks on Wednesday for saying last week that young players who wanted to challenge Tiger Woods should "lynch him in a back alley."

Tilghman was laughing during the exchange Friday with analyst Nick Faldo at the Mercedes-Benz Championship, and Woods' agent at IMG said he didn't think there was any ill intent.

But the comments became prevalent on news shows Wednesday,

and the Rev. Al Sharpton joined the fray by demanding she be fired immediately. Golf Channel didn't know who would replace Tilghman in the booth this week at the Sony Open or next week at the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

"There is simply no place on our network for offensive language like this," Golf Channel said in a statement.

Tilghman became golf's first female anchor last year when the PGA Tour signed a 15-year deal in which Golf Channel broadcasts the

first three events of the year, weekday coverage of all four events, and full coverage of the Fall Series and opposite-field events.

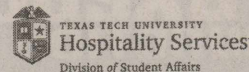
The suspension ends in time for the Buick Invitational on Jan. 24, when Woods will make his 2008 debut.

Faldo and Tilghman were discussing young players who could challenge the world's No. 1 player toward the end of Friday's broadcast at Kapalua when Faldo suggested that "to take Tiger on, maybe they should just gang up for a while."

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# Police say father threw bodies of 4 children off bridge

BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala. (AP) — A man angered after a dispute with his wife confessed to tossing his four young children off a bridge, authorities said Wednesday as they searched murky waters for the bodies.

Lam Luong, 37, who is charged with four counts of capital murder, told authorities Tuesday night that he drove to the Dauphin Island bridge and dropped the children from a span that reaches 80 feet in

places, said Detective Scott Rivera. Luong came to coastal Alabama from Vietnam in 1984 and worked in the commercial fishing industry as a shrimper, Police Chief John Joyner and a relative said. He had argued with his wife, Ngoc Phan, before taking the children, he said.

Missing and presumed dead were 4-month-old Danny Luong; 1-year-old Lindsey Luong; 2-year-old Hannah Luong; and 3-year-old Ryan Phan. Phan is not the man's biological

child, but Luong raised him from infancy, authorities said.

Authorities were searching a 100-square-mile area and waters as deep as 55 feet. The search included divers and cadaver dogs in small boats, as well as three helicopters, Mobile County Sheriff Sam Cochran said.

Joyner said he feared the search of the Intracoastal Waterway below the bridge would be hampered by bad weather and choppy waters.

The bridge extends from the mainland to Dauphin Island, which lies between the waterway and the Gulf of Mexico.

The couple lived with Phan's mother at Bayou La Batre, a fishing village with a large Southeast Asian community. Phan's brother-in-law Kam Phengisomboun, who is from Thailand, said the couple moved back to the area from Hinesville, Ga., only a couple of weeks ago.

They argued Sunday night and

again Monday, he said. Luong left the home with two of the children, then later came back for the other two, he said.

The family initially feared the children had been traded to support a drug habit, Phengisomboun said. Luong had a crack cocaine habit and had spent an insurance settlement from an automobile accident rapidly, he said, and authorities confirmed Luong had a history of drug offenses.

Luong reported the children missing Monday, and told police that a woman who had the children failed to return them, authorities said. Phengisomboun said he was later told by investigators that a witness had seen someone throw a bundle from the bridge and then saw three children in a nearby car.

Phan, 23, was in seclusion Wednesday morning at her mother's brick home, the front porch cluttered with children's shoes.

## Scouts require members to learn how to confront bullies

DALLAS (AP) — As far as the Boy Scouts of America is concerned, knowing how to confront a bully is now as important as mastering a slip knot.

For the first time in the 97-year history of the nation's largest youth organization, newcomers must show they have learned Scout-approved

ways to avoid being pushed around and called names, if they want to advance through the ranks.

Shaken down for your lunch money? Tell the bully how it hurts. Called a crater face? The 2008 Boy Scout Handbook recommends this comeback: "So what if I have a

*"We've always emphasized bullying — how to recognize it, how to prevent it."*

— JIM TERRY  
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OF BOY SCOUTS

face full of zits. What's it to you?" "We've always emphasized bullying — how to recognize it, how to prevent it," said Jim Terry, assistant chief executive of the Boy Scouts. "This is just a reinforcement of those principles."

The Scouts say the move isn't in response to increased bullying in their ranks. But some critics are already picking on the organization for its new curriculum.

"I don't see it as radically changing anything," said John Dandurand, executive director of Creating Caring Communities, a Denver-based non-profit that advises schools on ways to discourage bullying.

"It's just a set of things to memorize," said Dandurand, who as a youth

attained the rank of Eagle Scout. "Those of us who were adept at memorizing got more merit badges."

The 472-page Boy Scouts Handbook devotes a half-page to bullies, and Scouts are required to discuss the material with a troop leader to reach the beginner rank of Tenderfoot.

Terry said the measures help reinforce personal safety lessons the Boy Scouts have taught all along. Bullying has long been the subject of informal troop leader talks, and the Boy Scouts have even published a comic book on the subject.

The handbook also now covers cyberbullying. Aspiring Scouts must demonstrate they know how to show restraint when taunted online.

Terry pointed to the suicide of a 13-year-old Missouri girl who hanged herself in October 2006 after falling victim to an online hoax in which she thought she was corresponding with a boy who didn't really exist.

"That was not a trigger, but it proves we're on the right track," Terry said. "Her death speaks specifically to what we're trying to prevent."

Dorothy Espelage, a professor of educational psychology at the University of Illinois, credited the Boy Scouts for mandating the lessons. But she had hoped the material would also have some advice for Scouts who might sometimes bully others.

# Floodwaters begin receding in Indiana, 3 dead, as windy storms move eastward

MONTICELLO, Ind. (AP) — Troy Nice looked out over the swollen Tippecanoe River and the houses surrounded by its spilled water. He wondered how his own home had fared as the water began its slow retreat on Wednesday.

"I didn't think it would come up like this," said Nice, 39. "I managed to get my guitar, dog, and I got my cell phone charger, and some little things. This is the worst it's ever been."

Nice returned to this stretch of river a day after fleeing the rising water with hundreds of other residents. The Tippecanoe reached record levels along the 20-mile stretch from a storm that dumped as much as 7 inches of rain in parts of northern Indiana.

The National Weather Service estimated that it could be three days before the Tippecanoe retreats within its banks.

Seven deaths in all were blamed on flooding and tornadoes across the Midwest as unseasonable temperatures fueled severe weather on Monday and Tuesday.

Roads were still blocked by water in the Monticello area, said White County emergency management director Gordon Cochran. He had no immediate estimate for how many homes were damaged.

About 200 homes were damaged in nearby Carroll County, according to the estimates of Dave McDowell, the county's emergency management director.

Gov. Mitch Daniels viewed

the flooding from a helicopter Wednesday, stopping in Monticello and talking with local officials in a county government building where there were still cots and blankets used by evacuees the night before.

"We're talking about a big area here, but even a few miles south of here they seem to have escaped significant damage," Daniels said.

Utility workers were trying to repair a leak in a gas main that runs beneath the Tippecanoe River. Some 400 customers in Burnettsville were without service, said Jim Fitzer, spokesman for Northern Indiana Public Service Co.

"We have crews on site monitoring the gas, and there are no dangerous levels of gas in that area," he said.

As remnants of the storm system moved eastward, thunderstorms early Wednesday knocked out electricity to at least 127,000 homes and businesses in western New York. Gusts as high as 85 mph were clocked at the Thousand Islands Bridge in northern New York, the National Weather Service said.

An empty U.S. Airways regional airliner briefly lifted off the ground at the Rochester, N.Y., airport as wind gusted to 75 mph. The 50-passenger aircraft's tail and front landing gear were damaged, airport officials said.

The same system produced wind gusts to 63 mph during the night in Ohio, where at least 50,000 customers were blacked out Wednesday.

## Marine appears in military court in Haditha massacre

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (AP) — A Marine appeared in a military court Wednesday but did not enter a plea on a manslaughter charge for his alleged involvement in the killing of 24 Iraqi men, women and children.

Staff Sgt. Frank Wuterich will appear for another hearing Feb. 25 in a case that has become the biggest U.S. criminal prosecution involving civilian deaths to emerge from the Iraq war.

Wuterich, 27, of Meriden, Conn., is accused of taking part in the massacre after a roadside bomb hit his convoy in Haditha, Iraq, in 2005. Wuterich contends he was

acting under proper rules of engagement when he ordered his men to assault several houses, which they cleared with grenades and gunfire.

He could face up to 160 years in prison if convicted of voluntary manslaughter, aggravated assault, reckless endangerment, dereliction of duty and obstruction of justice.

The charges were filed late last month against Wuterich. More

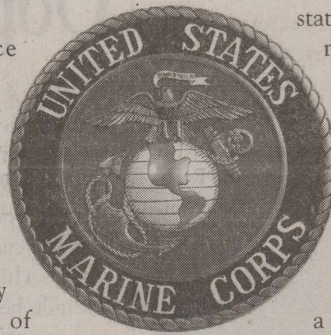
serious charges — unpremeditated murder, as well as charges of soliciting another to commit an offense and making a false official statement — were dismissed by the Marine Corps.

The killings occurred Nov. 19, 2005, in Haditha after a roadside bomb hit a Marine convoy, killing the driver of a Humvee — Lance Cpl. Miguel Terrazas, of El Paso, Texas — and wounding two other Marines.

Wuterich and a squad member, Sgt. Sanick Dela Cruz, allegedly shot five men by a car at the scene.

At his preliminary hearing, Wuterich said that he regretted the loss of civilian life but that he believed he was coming under fire from the homes and was operating within the rules of engagement when he ordered his men into the buildings.

Four enlisted Marines were initially charged with murder in the case, and four officers were charged with failing to investigate the deaths. Charges against several of the men have been dropped, and none will face murder charges.



## Brush fire, fog cause 70-vehicle pileup along Florida interstate

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP) — About 70 vehicles crashed on an interstate blanketed by fog and smoke from a brush fire early Wednesday, killing four people, authorities said.

Nearly 15 miles of Interstate 4 between Tampa and Orlando was closed by several crashes, including the pileup. Aerial footage in the early morning showed the soupy mix of fog and smoke covering the landscape for miles and giving the sky an eerie golden color.

*"Everything came to a halt. You can't see your hand in front of your face."*

— ROBERT ELLISON

The poor visibility forced rescuers to walk along the closed interstate checking individual vehicles for injured motorists, Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Larry Coggins said. The conditions cleared in late morning, showing mangled, charred trucks and cars pinned underneath some tractor-trailers.

Workers were still trying to rescue one man pinned beneath an overturned truck. There is no estimate on when I-4, the main east-west artery for central Florida, will reopen.

Coggins said 38 people were injured, five seriously.

Tractor-trailers overturned on the roadway, including a tanker. At least six of them burned completely.

"Everything came to a halt," Robert Ellison, who was driving east on the highway about 6 a.m., told The Tampa Tribune and WFLA-TV.

"You can't see your hand in front of your face."

One of the first people involved in the accident was a sheriff's deputy, Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd said. The deputy told Judd that conditions on the road worsened suddenly. "It was clear, it was a little foggy, then it was total darkness," Judd recounted the deputy saying.

The sheriff said the deputy was shaken up but helped move people to safety as vehicles continued to crash — the sounds of metal grinding and gnashing in the darkness.

The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the crash and the role of smoke from the fire, which started as a controlled burn and grew out of control.

The fog was a contributing factor to the crashes, Coggins said, but he downplayed the smoke as a cause, saying deputies who were patrolling the area earlier Wednesday morning reported smoke was not an issue.

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# LA VIDA

## 'Call of Duty 4' expands game series' horizons

By NICK GREVER  
THE NEWS RECORD (U. CINCINNATI)

(U-WIRE) CINCINNATI — It's a little less than two weeks after Christmas, and I bet some of us still have gift cards and checks burning holes in our wallets. What better way to spend some of that cash and credit than on one of the holidays' most solid video game releases, "Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare," released on the Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, PC and Nintendo DS.

The "Call of Duty" series is a first-person shooter that has had a long and prestigious career. The three previous releases have focused on World War II and have received many accolades, both from the video game press and the public. But

for the fourth iteration, developer Infinity Ward decided to concentrate on a present day, fictitious scenario revolving around a joint British Special Air Service and United States Marines investigation into a known terrorist with access to Russian nuclear missiles.

While the story is not the most engaging and the characters are not the most fleshed out, there is certainly enough depth and charm to keep you pushing on in the campaign. The story is not entirely one-dimensional. The investigation's target changes mid game and let's just say the good guys don't always win.

One thing that will catch your eye, however, is the stunning graphics the game provides. Weapon

fire, explosions and weather effects all are particularly stunning. In addition, lighting is impeccable. When the searchlight of an enemy helicopter sweeps the field you're in, it looks spot on and adds urgency to the cat-and-mouse game you are playing with the enemy.

Another compelling aspect of the game play is the sheer variety of missions and objectives. Of course, the majority of game time will be in first-person mode, blasting away baddies with a high-powered weapon. But Infinity Ward spices up the game play with small diversions, such as taking control of the cannons of a AC130 gunship and sniping a bad guy from an extremely long distance away, only to have to carry your injured teammate to safety.

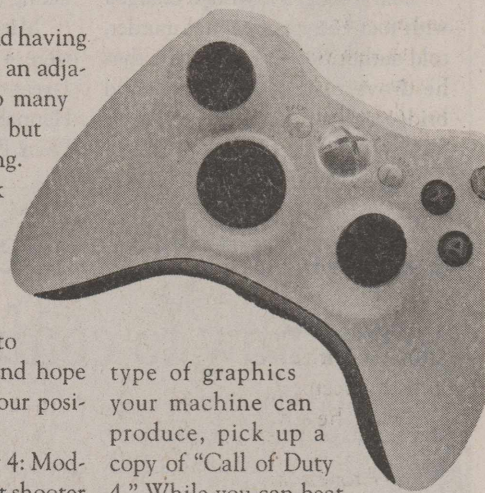
While these small levels are generally short, one-time events, they spice up the experience and make gamers appreciate all facets of war, not just the perspective of the every day grunt.

Of course, interesting level design and great graphics would be worthless without strong AI and a solid control scheme. Thankfully, both deliver. AI of enemies and squad mates alike are keen and sharp. The only complaint I have is that sometimes your buddies will stand right on top of a grenade or strafe right into your line of fire, but not often enough to ruin the overall experience.

The control scheme is intuitive for all aspects of the game and offers a unique "snap" target by quickly

looking down the sights and having your target reticule hop to an adjacent enemy. This leads to many quick kills that take skill, but can be done while moving. The only gripe is the lack of a peek mechanic that would allow me to check around a corner while being behind cover. The only option you have is to creep out behind cover and hope the enemy doesn't have your position covered.

All in all, "Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare" is an excellent shooter with strong mechanics and enough frills to pull it up above many of the other high-profile releases. If you enjoy war games, first-person shooters or just want to see what



type of graphics your machine can produce, pick up a copy of "Call of Duty 4." While you can beat the main campaign in two marathon sittings, the multi-player already has a strong fan base, and will help make the \$60 price tag more reasonable. Semper fi.

## Johnny Cash tribute concert at Folsom State Prison canceled

FOLSOM, Calif. (AP) — A concert marking the 40th anniversary of Johnny Cash's famous concert at Folsom State Prison has been scrapped, with the prison and the promoter blaming each other for the cancellation.

The tribute concert, scheduled for Sunday, was to have been staged in the same prison cafeteria where Cash performed before inmates on Jan. 13, 1968. That breakthrough performance became a popular live album. Prison officials called off the show late Monday, citing

problems over filming rights, media access and security concerns.

Promoter Jonathan Holiff claims the cancellation was just another broken promise by prison officials. "I was in tears when I found out," Holiff said.

The show, which would have been streamed worldwide over the Internet, was to have been underwritten by four nonprofit groups that were to share the venture's profit.

The concert also was to have featured Cash's music and include drummer W.S. "Fluke" Holland, one of his original backup musicians.

The executive director of Prison Fellowship Ministries, which had helped underwrite the event, said Cash fans and the inmates are the losers in this conflict.

## Posh Spice tops Blackwell's worst-dressed list

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A decade after singling out the Spice Girls as fashion atrocities, Mr. Blackwell put just one of them — Victoria "Posh Spice" Beckham — at the top of his 48th annual worst-dressed list.

The acid-tongued critic — who was designing dresses for the rich and famous when he originated the list in 1960 — skewered entertainment's biggest stars in the latest compilation of fashion follies.

Saying it's all in fun to encourage fashion consciousness,

Blackwell heaped venom on Beckham, his No. 1 choice on the list, which was released Tuesday.

"Forget the fashion spice, wearing a skirt would suffice! In one skinny-mini monstrosity after another, pouty Posh can really wreck-em," he said in a statement.

An e-mail message to Beckham's publicist, Cheryl Maisel, wasn't immediately answered.

Blackwell listed the Spice Girls as No. 1 in his 1998 worst-dressed list, deriding the group as "the only spices on the planet that have no taste."

Britney Spears, who has made the list many times before, is missing this year.

"I felt that it was inappropriate at this time to make comment, when her personal life is in such upheaval. I hope 2008 is a better year for her," Blackwell said.

The top 10 roll-call of fashion dishonors also includes:

— No. 2: Amy Winehouse — "Exploding beehives above, tacky polka-dots below, she's part '50s carhop horror."

— No. 3: Mary-Kate Olsen — "She resembles a tattered tooth-

pick — trapped in a hurricane."

— No. 4: Fergie — "Yes, when it comes to couture chaos, guess it's all in a name!"

His top 10 also includes Kelly Clarkson, Eva Green, Avril Lavigne, Jessica Simpson, Lindsay Lohan and Alison Argrum.

He also released a Fabulous Fashion Independents list that includes Reese Witherspoon, Jemima Khan, Beyonce, Angelina Jolie, Helen Mirren, Nicole Kidman, Katie Holmes, Kate Middleton, Katherine Heigl and Cate Blanchett.

## Oops, now police have towed Britney's car away

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It was just another night on the town Monday, and then another headline in the tabloids on Tuesday, for Britney Spears after the pop star had her car towed away and her visit to a high-end hotel triggered a scuffle between a photographer and a security guard.

The scuffle resulted in police being called to the Four Seasons Hotel near Beverly Hills about 90 minutes after they had a private towing company haul Spears' car away. But Officer Karen Smith said the pop star wasn't to blame for the Four Seasons dust-up.

"She was leaving the hotel when one of the paparazzi and a security guard at the hotel had a scuffle," Smith said.

Police took a battery report but the photographer had left the hotel by the time officers arrived and no one was arrested. The hotel's head of security did not respond to a message for comment.

Police said Spears left her 2008 Mercedes-Benz on busy Sunset Boulevard, near the University of California, Los Angeles campus, about 8 p.m. Monday because of a flat tire.

"She left it unattended and it was

blocking traffic, so it was towed," Smith said.

It was unlikely Spears would be ticketed because the car was disabled, but police said she would have to pay a towing and impound fee to get it back. The vehicle was taken to Quicksilver Towing, where an employee who answered the phone Tuesday said he didn't know if it was still there.

"We had several Mercedes towed last night," he said, adding storage charges are \$35.20 a day.

According to the celebrity Web site TMZ.com, Spears caught a ride home from a member of the horde of

paparazzi who follow her everywhere.

The car and hotel incidents were only minor bumps in the road for Spears, who is involved in a bitter, public custody dispute with ex-husband Kevin Federline over the couple's sons, 1-year-old Jayden James and 2-year-old Sean Preston.

Spears was hospitalized last week after an hours-long standoff at her home that was triggered by the custody battle. The next day, a court commissioner gave sole physical and legal custody of the boys to Federline and suspended Spears' visitation rights.

## Woman says thousands spent after Lindsay Lohan chases car

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman who was in the car that Lindsay Lohan chased before being arrested says the incident caused emotional trauma and cost her thousands of dollars in doctors' bills and a well-paying job.

Tracie Rice was in a car driven by Michele Peck, the mother of Lohan's assistant who had recently quit, when Lohan trailed them to the Santa Monica Police Department headquarters during a pre-dawn July chase. Peck told police she was being chased by a sport utility vehicle, and police later

determined Lohan was the driver.

In August, Rice filed a lawsuit against Lohan for emotional distress. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages and payment of medical and other expenses related to emotional distress.

According to papers filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in late December, Rice spent about \$7,000 on medical bills, including a therapist who charges \$175 per visit, and lost her \$60,000 per year job because of the incident.

Rice said she thought she was being carjacked when an SUV, driven by

Lohan, pursued them at high speed, putting her and Peck "at extreme risk of death or injury," until they arrived at the police station and were met by officers with guns drawn.

Calls to Lohan's attorneys after business hours Tuesday were not immediately returned.

Lohan served 84 minutes in jail on Nov. 15 as part of a plea deal on misdemeanor drunken-driving and cocaine possession charges.

Lohan is facing another lawsuit because of an October 2005 accident that injured a busboy, Raymundo Ortega, who is seeking \$200,000 in

damages for negligence from Lohan and The Ivy, the trendy Beverly Hills restaurant where she ate before the June crash.

In September, Ortega's attorney, Robert G. Klein, asked the court to amend the lawsuit to include Lohan's company, Crossheart Productions Inc., because it owns the vehicle she was driving. But in papers filed last month in Los Angeles Superior Court, Klein dropped that part of the lawsuit.

Lohan spent about two months at a drug and alcohol treatment program in Utah last year.

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**ACLU of Texas and The Women's Studies Program at Texas Tech University Present:**

**Embracing Our Neighborhoods: The "War on College Kids" & Fourth Amendment Rights**

In response to local events which the media has termed the "War on College Kids" and to complaints of alleged police misconduct by the "Party Patrol," as well as in recognition that the Citizens of Lubbock neighborhoods may have been victimized by possible noise violations and disruptions caused by late-night parties, the ACLU of Texas and the Women's Studies Program of Texas Tech University will be co-sponsoring a public forum. The goals of this educational panel will be to open dialogue among interested groups, to increase awareness of applicable local laws, and to review the legal protections of the Fourth Amendment for the information of those attending. The sponsors encourage both men and women students, faculty and staff, as well as community members from throughout Lubbock to come to this open event.

Date: January 10, 2008  
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 pm  
Place: Texas Tech University, Human Sciences Room 169  
Moderator: Randy Sanders, Host of Fox Talk in the Morning

**FREE ADMISSION**

Panel Participants will include local Criminal Defense Attorneys and members of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Neighborhood Association Representatives and student representatives have been invited to participate.

For more information about the event, contact Vince Gonzales, President of the Lubbock Chapter of the ACLU, at 214-354-2337, or via e-mail at [dpmitigation@hotmail.com](mailto:dpmitigation@hotmail.com), or Dr. Laura Calkins, Director, Women's Studies, TTU, via email at [laura.calkins@ttu.edu](mailto:laura.calkins@ttu.edu).



# 'Atonement' hits all the Wright marks

By RYAN CHARTRAND  
MUSTANG DAILY (CAL POLY)

(U-WIRE) SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. — If director Joe Wright continues making films as good as "Atonement," the Academy will have to start engraving his name into an Oscar.

Although you may not recognize his name yet, you may remember his critically-acclaimed directorial debut: the 2005 adaptation of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice."

And now with his second film, "Atonement," Wright was honored to not only have the film open the Venice International Film Festival, but then also get seven Golden Globe nominations including Best Picture and Best Director.

Clearly he's done something right.

But "Atonement" isn't all about Wright. After all, it is, like his first film, an adaptation, this time of a novel by Ian McEwan. "Atonement" tells the 1940s story of a young girl named Briony who has an imagination a bit too large for her small brain. Briony, an aspiring writer, accuses her sister's lover (James McAvoy) of a crime he did not commit, yet she thinks she saw him do it. The crime? Raping her friend (not the kind of crime you want to mistakenly accuse someone of committing).

The effect of Briony's oversized imagination? Her sister (Keira Knightley) and McAvoy are separated when he's sent to prison and later sent to kill Germans. The fairytale ending the couple had hoped for is threatened over several years as they wait to be reunited. As Briony grows older and realizes what she has done, she begins seeking atonement for her actions.

And it's finding that atonement, feeling some kind of forgiveness from her sister and ultimately finding whether she can forgive herself, that makes the film so powerful and memorable, despite the depressing turns the story takes.

But Wright didn't only have a grand story of love, forgiveness and separation in his arsenal. As he did in "Pride and Prejudice," Wright used a cast that he knew consisted of extraordinary actors, not extraordinary celebrities.

Although you may not know him yet, McAvoy is one of the most lovable young actors from Scotland who is more versatile than most young American actors. As always, he delivers a strong performance in "Atonement," but it sadly wasn't the kind of role to improve upon his prior brilliant performance in "The Last King of Scotland."

And although Keira Knightley, who plays Briony's sister, is a big-

name celebrity for Wright to use, there's no denying that she's an amazing actress who has been cast endlessly in British films like "Atonement" and continues to inch toward her first Oscar.

Knightley and McAvoy, although not given much time together in the story, develop an immediate chemistry that the audience holds on to the rest of the film (as do the characters themselves once separated).

And as it's becoming a trademark for Wright - he teamed with Dario Marianelli to compose what is by far the best soundtrack of the year (the Golden Globes agree as well). It not only sounds as beautiful and emotional as the cinematography that it's set to, but it actually enhances the storytelling by incorporating sound effects that coincide with the film. And who doesn't love intense strings playing alongside a delicate piano melody?

When all of this comes together — the cast, story and soundtrack — Wright steps in and adds his own flare that makes the story work better than the book ever could.

Using his style of long, extended shots that require an unbelievable amount of preparation and vision, Wright invites the audience into scenes, allowing them to look around and simply explore the whole setting. When the film starts playing around

with the time line like a TiVo remote, it's obvious that each shot was envisioned, shot and edited with precision; otherwise it would have made no sense. Bravo.

But the flow from the first act to the second is a bit awkward, and it takes a running start to get into the second half of the film due to some editing issues. And although the script is daring in the way it plays with the time line throughout the film, the audience is, for the most part, kept onboard.

As lovely as each Golden Globe nomination and subsequent Oscar nominations are and will be for Wright and his cast and crew, it's hard to say whether this young, ambitious director will come away with anything other than a great film.

But it's that ambition, that ability to make fresh, innovative films that are powerful from all angles, that make him vulnerable to losing his touch. Take the young, ambitious directors M. Night Shyamalan, Darren Aronofsky, Kevin Smith, Chris Nolan and Paul Thomas Anderson. Is he to follow the same path, one in which his first few breakout films will remain his best?

And even though "Atonement" was crafted with such care and attention to detail, the Magic 8 Ball still says, "Ask again later."

## Top 5 entertainment list

### Television

1. "NFL Playoff Game 2: Jacksonville at Pittsburgh," NBC.
2. "NFL Playoff Pre-Kick," NBC.
3. "NFL Playoff Bridge," NBC.
4. "AFC Wildcard Post Game," CBS.
5. "Desperate Housewives," ABC.

(From Nielsen Media Research)

### Film

1. "National Treasure: Book of Secrets," Disney.
2. "Juno," Fox Searchlight.
3. "I Am Legend," Warner Bros.
4. "Alvin and the Chipmunks," Fox.
5. "One Missed Call," Warner Bros.

(From Media By Numbers LLC)

### Hot Five

1. "Low," Flo Rida feat. T-Pain. Poe Boy/Atlantic.
2. "No One," Alicia Keys. MBK/J/RMG.
3. "Apologize," Timbaland feat. OneRepublic. Mosley/Blackground/Interscope.
4. "Kiss Kiss," Chris Brown feat. T-Pain. Jive/Zomba.
5. "Crank That (Soula Boy)," Soula Boy, ColliPark/Interscope.

(From Billboard magazine)

### Albums

1. "Growing Pains," Mary J. Blige. Matriarch/Geffen/IGA.
2. "As I Am," Alicia Keys. MBK/J/RMG. (Platinum)
3. "Noel," Josh Groban. 143/Reprise/Warner Bros. (Platinum)
4. "NOW 26." Various artists. EMI/Sony BMG Strategic Marketing. (Platinum)
5. "Exclusive," Chris Brown. Jive/Zomba. (Platinum)

(From Billboard magazine)

### Concert Tours

1. Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band.
2. Van Halen.
3. Danë Cook.
4. Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus, "Best Of Both Worlds."
5. Neil Young.

(From Pollstar)

### Video Sales

1. "Yoga Conditioning for Athletes," Gaia Video.
2. "Sesame Street Presents: Follow That Bird," Warner Home Video.
3. "Frosty the Snowman," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
4. "The Great Waltz," Warner Home Video.
5. "Gordon Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares Volume 1," SPG Video.

(From Billboard magazine)

### Video Rentals

1. "The Simpsons Movie," 20th Century Fox.
2. "The Bourne Ultimatum," Universal Studios Home Video.
3. "Balls of Fury," Universal Studios Home Video.
4. "Stardust," Paramount Home Entertainment.
5. "Superbad," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.

(From Billboard magazine)

### DVD Sales

1. "The Simpsons Movie," 20th Century Fox.
2. "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," Warner Home Video.
3. "The Bourne Ultimatum," Universal Studios Home Video.
4. "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
5. "High School Musical 2," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.

(From Billboard magazine)

# 'Butterfly' flutters onto American screens

By ALICE MACDONALD  
THE TECH (MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Based on a true story, "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" uses some interesting cinematic devices to draw the viewer close and make a strong emotional impact. The film tells the story of Jean-Dominique Bauby (played by Mathieu Amalric), the editor of Elle magazine, who was left nearly completely paralyzed after a stroke. Although he could only blink one eye, he still managed to dictate his memoir (published shortly before his death) on which the film's screenplay is based.

The film may be in French, but very little is lost in translation. Unlike many faster-paced or comedic foreign films, you aren't missing much by reading the subtitles. This is partly because

"The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" is an essentially visual film. Bad screenwriting can yield movies that fall flat - using actor's lines to tell a story rather than showing it with the images on the screen. It is refreshing to see visual capabilities used to stunning effect in this film.

I was skeptical as to how a film could succeed in entertaining when the hero is unable to move except for blinking a single eyelid. How interesting could two hours of a guy in his bed really be? Director Julian Schnabel succeeds by manipulating the point-of-view, flashbacks to Bauby's life before the stroke, and sequences from Bauby's imagination.

The film opens from Bauby's point-of-view as he is just awakening from his coma and realizes his devastating condition. Much of the film is shown from Bauby's perspective, giving the film a

unique feel. The camera is completely still as his paralyzed head would be and we only see what Bauby could see from his limited range of vision. We see him blink, focus on objects, and cry from his perspective as if we were also trapped in an uncooperative body.

Although it is interesting, thankfully the entire film is not shot from this limited perspective. Just when you can't stand this restricted vision any longer, the film cuts to scenes from Bauby's past — including gut-wrenching depictions of Bauby's ailing father, beautifully portrayed by Max von Sydow. There are also several fantasy sequences set to a gorgeous original soundtrack with music by Paul Cantelon. These dreamy interludes are linked with limited scenes showing Bauby in his handicapped state, but the film refuses to linger on his pathetic form too long in order to just make us pity Bauby. When

Bauby's lifeless face is shown, void of life except for his highly animated left eye, the effect is unexpectedly powerful.

Some viewers may find this creative direction gimmicky, and that is fair, but it is still interesting, and the film manages to avoid many of the clichés that can ruin this sort of "man overcoming adversity" film. "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" manages to be at once emotionally powerful and beautiful without falling into melodrama.

Highly acclaimed critically, "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" has been nominated for and won scores of awards including best director at this year's Cannes Film Festival. The film is also nominated for three Golden Globes, including best director and best screenplay - impressive for a small foreign film.

# Latest 'Alien' installment: requiem for a scream

By MARLOW GUM  
THE ORACLE (U. SOUTH FLORIDA)

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. — During the winter break many of us were counting down the days to Dec. 25 and waiting to share that special moment with friends and loved ones. I'm speaking of course about attending the premiere of "Alien vs. Predator: Requiem," the sequel to "Alien vs. Predator" (2004) and the best gift Old Saint Nick delivered to us this Christmas.

"AVP-R," directed by brothers Colin and Greg Strause, takes place directly after "AVP" leaves off with the birth of

a Predator-Alien hybrid known as Predburst. This name is an amalgam of the Predators and the Chestbuster stage of the Alien life cycle. While on board the Predator spacecraft, Predburst causes it to come crashing back to earth. The hybrid — evolved now into Pred-Alien — and the Alien Facehuggers are the only survivors of the hazardous landing.

Pointless teen drama ensues near Gunnison, Colo., which leads to the humans and Aliens eventually crossing paths. This interaction allows the Alien Facehuggers to implant eggs into human hosts around the town, creating a new Alien colony commanded by Pred-Alien.

Meanwhile, a veteran hunter from the Predator home world answers the distress beacon from the crashed spaceship and sets off to extinguish the Alien presence on earth. The Predator finds the wreckage of the spaceship and learns of the unholy matrimony of the rival species. He then decides he must eradicate all evidence of this incident and stop the Aliens from spreading.

What follows can be described as an epic acid-blood soaked, multi-species battle. Fans will enjoy the inclusion of some new Predator weapons and armor improvements. For example, the Predator now uses a whip made

from Alien teeth and the Predator spear.

The "Aliens vs. Predator" crossover franchise by Dark Horse Comics has come a long way. It has transcended comic book pages by exploding into the video game arena and the silver screen over a span of almost 20 years. Many fans believe that "Predator 2" spawned the crossover series when protagonist Lieutenant Mike Harrigan, played by Danny Glover, stepped on board the Predator spacecraft and saw an Alien skull displayed on the wall of Predator hunting trophies.

# Beatles fans will travel to 'Liverpool'

By GRAHAM BECKWITH  
THE LANTERN (OHIO STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ringo Starr's new solo album "Liverpool 8," his first with Capitol Records since 1975, shows that some Beatles fans will probably still buy anything. Any other rocker of similar age and ability to Starr wouldn't be let in the door at Capitol, much less given a worldwide distribution deal for a record.

The fact is, Beatles still sell. Collectibles and vinyl are still overpriced and reissues go like hotcakes — such as the 2007-released reissue of "Help!" the movie, which sold through the roof.

At one time, Starr was the perfect counterbalance to the rest of the Beatles — average drummer, modest ego, good sense of humor and a personality which kept

George Harrison, Paul McCartney and John Lennon together through most of the tumultuous '60s.

That propelled him to have a solo career of his own. Starr has written some decent tunes in his day, including "Octopus's Garden," but he needs help writing and arranging tracks — for "Liverpool 8" he enlisted the help of longtime co-writer and guitarist Dave Stewart.

Like McCartney's latest solo work, Starr's full transition into middle-aged life has forced the singer/drummer to create a bit more introspective lyrics, focusing on past experiences as well as current relationships.

"Liverpool 8," which is also the name of the debut single and lead track of the album, refers to where Starr and his former Beatles' bandmates grew up in Merseyside, England.

# People's Choice Awards ceremony honors winners on location

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The stars of "Grey's Anatomy" and "Pirates of the Caribbean" were among the fan favorites at the 34th annual People's Choice Awards on Tuesday, as CBS scrapped its usual live broadcast of the show in favor of a strike-friendly, pre-taped program.

The two-month-old Writers Guild of America strike has taken a toll on Hollywood's awards season, leading to the cancellation of the Golden Globes and the scaling-down of People's Choice. The fate of other shows, including the Oscars, remains in question.

The People's Choice Awards announced last month that it would replace its traditional live show with "a new format" that had its crews deliver trophies to music, film and television stars on location.

Robin Williams accepted his award for favorite funny male while on tour with the United Service Organizations in Kabul, Afghanistan. Members of Rascal Flatts picked up their prize for favorite group at the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, and Patrick Dempsey found out he was the favorite male TV star while at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

The show couldn't be canceled entirely, host Queen Latifah said Monday.

"The thing about the People's

Choice Awards that's different from everybody else is it's the people's choice," she said. "So as much as we actors and writers and everyone are dealing with the writers strike and supporting the Writers Guild, you can't disrespect the people who keep us working, and that's the people. Ten million people logged on and voted for everyone, so out of

respect for them, we have to" present the awards.

Other winners in categories that spanned from movies to television to music included Johnny Depp of "Pirates" as favorite male movie star, Katherine Heigl of "Grey's" as favorite female TV star, "Dancing With the Stars" as favorite reality show, Ellen

DeGeneres as favorite talk show host and Justin Timberlake as favorite male singer.

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## House postpones Clemens hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress wants to be prepared when Roger Clemens and his former trainer, Brian McNamee, head to Capitol Hill.

The House hearing involving Clemens, McNamee and Andy Pettitte was postponed Wednesday from Jan. 16 until Feb. 13, giving lawmakers more time to gather evidence and to coordinate their investigation with the Justice Department.

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform was to begin meeting with lawyers for the witnesses Thursday.

Plans are still in place for the Jan. 15 hearing before the same committee about the Mitchell Report on baseball's Steroids Era. The witnesses that day will be commissioner Bud Selig, union leader Donald Fehr and

former Senate majority leader George Mitchell, the report's author.

Questioned by federal prosecutors last year, McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone in 1998, 2000 and 2001. Prosecutors had him repeat those charges to Mitchell, and since the report was issued last month, Clemens has repeatedly and vehemently denied the allegations.

A lawyer for McNamee said Wednesday his client wants immunity from the House committee. McNamee likely will meet Thursday with federal prosecutors.

At the end of last week, Congress asked seven-time Cy Young Award winner Clemens, teammate and friend Pettitte and their ex-trainer, McNamee, to testify under oath.

## Tech improving, not where it wants to be heading into Big 12 Conference play

By ADAM COLEMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Texas Tech men's basketball team's three-game winning streak is a sign of its improvement heading into Big 12 Conference play.

The Red Raiders' recent success has them encouraged for the upcoming conference season.

"I think the last two games, even the Stanford game, even though we got beat, we competed against one of the better teams in the country," Tech head coach designate Pat Knight said.

"I think we made some strides the last couple weeks, so we'll see. It's a lot better than what it was. We feel a little bit better about this team than say if you talked to us after Sam Houston or Centenary."

Every Big 12 team has at least eight non-conference wins including Tech at 9-5.

The Big 12 has a history of success in non-conference. In the 2006-07 season, Colorado was the only team that began conference play with a win percentage under .500. In the 2005-06 season, Baylor was the lone team without a .500 record or better heading into conference play.

"Almost every year, I think

everyone has between eight to 11 wins," Knight said. "You know pretty much Kansas or Texas would be undefeated going in. It's nothing different. The difference for us is we're kind of a little behind because you like to get to 10 or 11 wins before. From our standpoint, we're about a game or two behind from that."

With conference play beginning, Tech guard Charlie Burgess said the team feels the players' mentalities have to be consistent to continue to compete this season with other Big 12 teams.

"From what I (saw) last game against UTEP, yeah (we are mentally ready)," Burgess said. "We matured a lot from that last game through the previous eight games we just played."

Younger players on the roster, such as guard John

Roberson and forwards Mike Singletary and D'Wayne Roberts, will receive their first taste of Big 12 action.

Burgess said the younger players will have to involve themselves even more and the entire team has to play well collectively to win conference games.

"Everybody (has) gotta step it up a notch, even the coaching staff," Burgess said. "Everybody (has) just gotta step it up a notch just to give us that extra edge."

Knight said freshmen Roberson, Singletary and Roberts are getting exposed early to the challenge of playing in the Big 12, but the experience ultimately will be beneficial.

"They haven't seen what it's like to play on the road or even playing at home against some of these teams," he said. "I think that when it's all said and done, you're going to look back on your freshman year and be like, 'that was a heck of a freshman year for those three.' They're getting baptized pretty quick here."

In 2006-07, the Red Raiders won nine conference games while ranking No. 7 in scoring offense and defense in the Big 12, but they

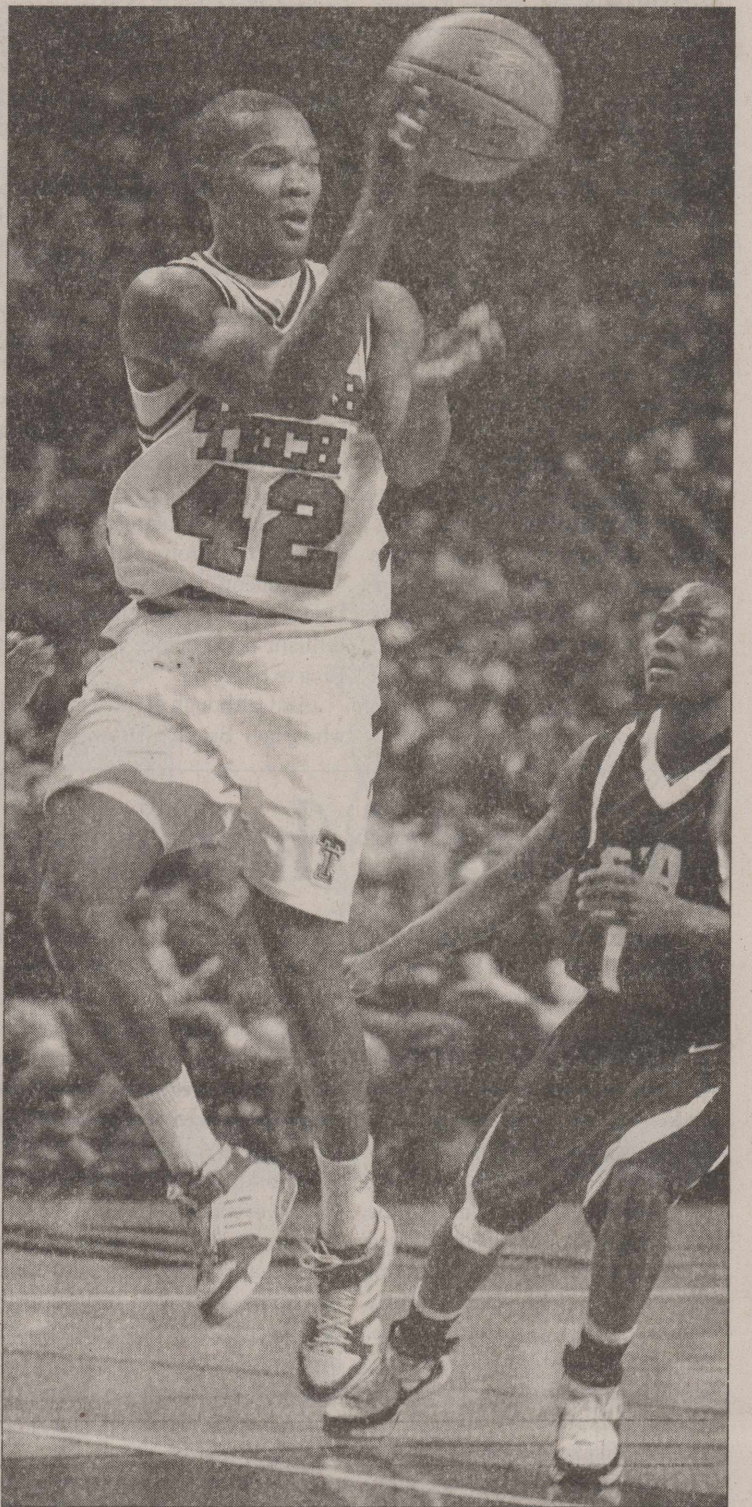


PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador

TEXAS TECH GUARD Charlie Burgess makes a pass in a game earlier this season. Burgess and the Red Raiders are 9-5 heading into Big 12 Conference play. Tech opens the conference season at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Stillwater, Okla. against Oklahoma State.

were not on a winning streak like this one in 2007-08.

Building up momentum with this winning streak before conference play is not a concern for Tech coach Bob Knight, as conference games are on a different level of intensity and require consistent play.

"Momentum is the most over-exaggerated thing there is," Bob Knight said. "Now what has to happen is that these kids have to realize that they beat a good team, how did they beat them, and then the guys that did it have got to do it again. Whether they can or not, that's what I don't know."

Tech will face Oklahoma State at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Stillwater, Okla. The game will be broadcast on CBS.

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## Plaxico advises T.O. not to play on sprained ankle

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Plaxico Burress has become an expert on the playing with a sprained ankle over the past two seasons.

The New York Giants receiver played in 2006 on a gimpy left ankle that had to be surgically repaired after the season, and he's done the same thing on a sprained right one this year.

It's no wonder Burress gladly offered the Cowboys' Terrell Owens some free advice about getting on the field with his sprained ankle Sunday

against the Giants:

"Don't play!" Burress said with a straight face that lasted a couple seconds.

It broke up his news conference Wednesday.

Owens' status has been one of the major topics heading into Sunday's game in Dallas. The 12-year veteran who had 81 catches for 1,355 yards and an NFC-high 15 touchdowns suffered a high left ankle sprain against Carolina on Dec. 22 and has not practiced since.

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STATION	TIME	KTXT 5	KCBD 11	KLBK 13	KMYL 14	KLCW 22	KAMC 28	KJTV 34
CHANN.	AFFIL.	PBS	NBC	CBS	MYN	CW	ABC	FOX
CITY	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK	LUBBOCK
7 AM	Curious	Today Sched-uled: supermodels	The Early Show	Copeland Robinson	(5:00) Daily Buzz	Good Morning America (HD)	J. Hanna	Paid Program
8 AM	Super Why	Niki Taylor and Tyson Beckford discuss 'Make Me a Supermodel' (HD)	The Price Is Right	Divorce	Temptation	The View (HD)	The Morning Show	
9 AM	Sesame Street	Jeopardy!	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Cosby	Tyra Banks Show	
10 AM	Big World	Jeopardy!	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Cosby	Tyra Banks Show	
11 AM	Barney	Jeopardy!	Restless (HD)	Alex	Paid Prog.	Cosby	Tyra Banks Show	
12 PM	Brush	Days of Our Lives	Beautiful	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	One Life to Live	The People's Court	
1 PM	Place	Jeopardy!	As the World	Jerry Springer	Roseanne	One Life to Live	The People's Court	
2 PM	Teletub	Crosswords	Guiding Light	Paid Programs	All of Us	General Hospital	Judge Mathis	
3 PM	Reading	Oprah Winfrey	Brown	Maury	Reba	Montel Williams	Ellen DeGeneres	
4 PM	Cyber	Dr. Phil	Judy	Maury	Steve Wilkos	Rachael Ray	News	
5 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	Access	Standing	News	Raymond	
6 PM	NewsHour	News	News	Law Order (HD)	Queens	News	Family	
7 PM	Old House	Earl (HD)	CSI: NY (HD)	*1/2 "Bad Company" Man joins spy ring.	Smallville	Ugly Betty (HD)	Smart 5th Grade	
8 PM	Lincoln	Apprentice	CSI: Crime "Bull"	Jim (HD)	Bernie	(9:02) Big Shots	News	
9 PM	Soundstage	(9:01) ER (HD)	Without Trace "4G"	King	Wil (HD)	Nightline	Seinfeld	
10 PM	Bus. Rpt	News	News	70s	Wil (HD)	News	Two & 1/2	
11 PM	News	The Tonight Show	(11:35) Late Show	Malcolm	Sex City	Insider	Friends	
12 AM	TV411	Night	Late Late Show	Wife	Sex City	Jimmy Kimmel	Scrubs	
12:30 AM	GED	Last Call	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Frasier	

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ACROSS  
1 Oven pair  
5 Inclination  
9 Celestial transient  
14 Rounds or clips, e.g.  
15 Jamaican fruit export  
16 One-celled organism  
17 Decant  
18 Bank offering  
19 Halos  
20 Start of an Even Esar quip  
28 More stylish  
32 Casa component  
33 Slightest bit  
36 Humdinger  
37 Biblical mount  
38 Part 2 of quip  
42 Hersey's bell town  
43 Go yachting  
44 Santa winds  
45 Comic Foxx  
46 Snitched  
48 NBC classic  
50 Prohibit  
51 River of forgetfulness  
55 End of quip  
60 Delectable  
62 Sagacious  
63 Formerly, formerly  
64 Join  
65 Memorable periods  
66 Nuzzle  
67 Choir voice  
68 Cong. people  
69 Woodlands ruminant

DOWN  
1 Hiclike  
2 Ham it up  
3 Entertain  
4 Bog  
5 Cow's mate  
6 Composer  
7 Jai  
8 Unmarried  
9 Tilts to one side  
10 Leave out  
11 Business reminders  
12 Flow out  
13 Skater  
14 Bablonia  
15 Classic French film, "Pepe"  
22 That girl  
25 Actor Delon  
27 Israeli port  
29 Whatever  
30 Old-time motorcar  
31 Reliance  
32 Knight's address  
33 Ski-slope rides  
34 Shakespearian forest  
35 Pride or sloth, for example  
37 Exclusively  
38 In addition  
40 Switch  
41 Actor Wheaton  
46 Greek letter  
47 Response  
48 Rely  
50 Customer  
52 Pang  
53 Wiesbaden's state  
54 Computer command  
56 Sgt. Snorkel's dog  
57 Emerald Isle  
58 Quickly!  
59 British pianist  
60 Exclamation of disdain  
61 Organic suffix

By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA  
1/10/08

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PESO FELON CASH  
AGAR TLENE ONTO  
LOWERICA SEWOKER  
ETHIBAIT STOLLEN  
TROLL ELF STERE  
TIRO ADIOS SSR  
EPSOMS OLAVS  
SEMICONDUCTOR  
STORE CRAVES  
SST TASTE SEVE  
PARIS DSO SIREN  
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# Michigan QB Mallett leaves, considering Tennessee, others

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Former Texas Class 4A offensive player of the year Ryan Mallett has left the Michigan football program, and the quarterback might be reunited with his offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Tennessee.

"He's on his way home," his father, Jim Mallett, told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "We don't know where he's going to go yet, but we need to do something quick. We're going to visit three, four or five schools."

Mallett, who starred at Texarkana Texas High, may end up with the Volunteers, who are considering hiring former Michigan offensive coordinator Mike DeBord and quarterbacks coach Scott Loeffler.

"If they're hired, that would be a real good possibility," Jim Mallett said. "Ryan really clicked with both coach DeBord and coach Loeffler during the last couple months of the season and during bowl practices, I've never seen Ryan throw the ball or read defenses as well as he did."

The Wolverines also lost another

offensive player when wide receiver Adrian Arrington declared for the NFL draft. He caught 67 passes for 882 yards and eight touchdowns this season.

"Today is a very emotional day for me," Arrington said in a statement released by the school on Wednesday. "As much as I will miss my teammates, friends and Michigan football family, I have always dreamed about playing in the NFL."

"I believe that I am ready to take on this challenge and move on to the next level. Though I will

be catching passes in another city starting next fall, I will always be a Michigan man."

Rich Rodriguez said Tuesday night he did not expect to coach Mallett, Arrington or wide receiver Mario Manningham at Michigan. Rodriguez said Arrington and Manningham would skip their senior seasons.

Manningham might be a first-round pick after catching 72 passes for 1,174 yards and 12 touchdowns and running 19 times for 119 yards and a score this season.

# Texas walk-on Mooney making time with No. 12 Longhorns

AUSTIN (AP) — Lots of college teams have them, walk-on players who earn their uniform and spot on the end bench by being the extra body in practice.

They know how to play, but are usually too short, too lumpy or too slow to compete with elite athletes. They pay for school and slug their way through grueling hours of drills and sprints with the slim hope of playing a few minutes at the end of blowouts.

Ian Mooney is that guy for No. 12 Texas (13-2), only this 6-foot-3 walk-on forward has come up big in the last two games for the Longhorns, earning him playing time nobody would have expected.

"They always told me to be

prepared," said Mooney, who has already graduated and is working on an advanced degree. "You have to be ready because when (coach) calls your number, that may be the only shot you're going to get."

Mooney's big break came Jan. 2 against TCU. Fed up with some of his young scholarship players, coach Rick Barnes played Mooney 14 minutes in a nip-and-tuck game that Texas eventually won 67-59.

Mooney hustled on defense and set several hard screens for the shooters. His only basket of the game was a big one, giving Texas a 33-32 lead late in the first half. He grabbed a key rebound late in the second that helped the Longhorns hold the lead.

A few days later, Mooney played 12 minutes in an 81-62 win over Saint Mary's, a game Texas trailed much of the first half. Barnes put him in early, and Mooney gave the same kind of effort.

At one point against Saint Mary's, Texas standout point guard D.J. Augustin, who scored 30 points, asked Barnes to keep Mooney in the game, which the coach called "the ultimate compliment."

"The thing we've tried to get done with our young players, who obviously are talented, is get them to do the things I do for us. Finally I said, 'Maybe the best way for guys to see it is to watch him

do it,'" Barnes said.

Mooney's minutes have meant less time for frontcourt players Dexter Pittman, Clint Chapman and Alexis Wangmene, but no one resents his new role, Augustin said.

"We're not that kind of team. Mooney is taking advantage of his time," Augustin said. "Ian does everything. He dives on the floor, he sets screens, he gets loose rebounds."

"People think basketball is all about scoring. He headhunts (on screens). Coach Barnes calls him the best screener on the team and I agree. It's good for freshmen to see how hard they have to work," Augustin said.

# Patriots' Brady heads AP NFL All-Pro team

NEW YORK (AP) — LaDainian Tomlinson and Randy Moss were unanimous selections to The Associated Press 2007 NFL All-Pro team on Wednesday. So was Tom Brady — sort of.

The league's Most Valuable Player and Offensive Player of the Year was chosen on each of the ballots from 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. One voter, however, split the vote at quarterback between Brady and Green Bay's Brett Favre.

Still, Brady was a runaway choice at the position, and was joined by four other unbeaten Patriots on the squad: Moss, tackle Matt Light, cornerback Asante Samuel and outside linebacker Mike Vrabel.

All but Moss made the All-Pro team for the first time; Moss was chosen as a Minnesota Viking in 1998, 2000 and 2003.

"Every week, we come in here on Monday and you win and everybody's excited, the plane flights home are great," Brady said, referring to what has been a historic season so far for the 16-0 Patriots. "It's been a lot of fun. To see what we've accomplished thus far is great. At the same time we realize that, as coach put it, there's another mountain to climb."

Easily scaling the All-Pro mountain were Tomlinson for the third time, and Moss. Joining Tomlinson, the league's leading rusher, were fellow Chargers Lorenzo Neal, who clears many of L.T.'s paths from his fullback spot, and cornerback Antonio Cromartie.

Cromartie's breakthrough season

saw him lead the NFL with 10 interceptions.

"I should have had 13," he said. "This year, I think I proved a lot of people wrong, with everybody saying how my knee injury was going to affect me. I mean, I'm two years off of it. My biggest thing was proving everybody wrong."

Also with three players on the team were Dallas and Seattle. The Cowboys had linebacker DeMarcus Ware, tight end Jason Witten and wide receiver Terrell Owens; Ware and Witten were first-timers, Owens also was selected in 2000, '01 and '02 with San Francisco, and 2004 with Philadelphia.

"Any time you can be the best in the entire league, that's always a special moment," said Witten, who had 96 receptions and seven touchdowns this season. "There's a lot of great tight ends out there, so to be on the top of that list is nice."

The Seahawks had tackle Walter Jones, defensive end Patrick Kerney and linebacker Lofa Tatupu. Jones previously made All-Pro in 2001, '04 and '05; the others Seahawks were first-timers.

Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren called Tatupu's three-interception day in a win at Philadelphia on Dec. 2 "one of the great games I've ever seen a linebacker have."

"Everybody has been instrumental in everything that I've been able to do," Tatupu said. "The D-line has been enabling me to get sacks, DBs staying on their guys so we can get back there and get sacks, or getting interceptions."

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PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador

(ABOVE) IN ATTENDANCE AT the women's basketball game against Baylor were the Texas Tech cheerleaders. They led several cheers during the game including the Raider Power chant. (RIGHT) BAYLOR FORWARD Rachel Allison gets a shot blocked by Texas Tech center Erin Myrick in Baylor's 72-67 victory over the Lady Raiders Wednesday at the United Spirit Arena.



PHOTO BY TRENT BARNES/The Daily Toreador

THE COURT JESTERS also were present at the game. Court Jesters are members of The Goin' Band from Raiderland who volunteer to play at home basketball games for the men's and women's teams.

Check out an exclusive slideshow at <http://www.dailytoreador.com>

## Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With 6:40 left in the second half, Tech (12-3, 0-1 in Big 12) trailed 60-49 but scored on five consecutive offensive possessions to come within three points with 3:52 remaining in the game.

Tech committed two costly turnovers on its next possessions forcing the Lady Raiders to intentionally foul, giving the Bears easy points at the free throw line.

"I think you just have to give Baylor credit," Tech coach Kristy

Curry said. "I think you have to give (Tisdale) credit. I think you have to give Player credit, and I think you have to give Morrow credit. Certainly the experience down the stretch they were able to step up and make some big plays."

Tech forward Dominic Seals scored 22 points and pulled down 12 rebounds, and four other players added double digits in scoring.

Curry said she walked away from the loss with nothing but positive feelings, knowing her team did everything in its power to try and upset Baylor going on several runs

when it looked like the Bears would run away with the game.

"You can't coach hustle, and you can't coach desire, and these kids have that," she said. "They're going to make mistakes, but its not going to be because of those three things. They continue to bring a commitment, a desire and a hustle and effort about them."

The first half went well as Tech was able to keep the score close, entering halftime down only 33-29.

The score stayed within two possessions before Baylor went on a 9-3 run following a steal and layup from Player.

Tech was down eight points, but the Lady Raiders surged back off a flurry of big plays made by Erin Myrick, Stanecia Graham and Seals, making the score 23-21.

Baylor would not let the Lady Raiders come any closer though, extending the lead to five points with 3:47 to go after a wide open Jones received a lob pass down low on a backside cut.

The teams traded baskets for the next several possessions, but Tech forward Ashlee Roberson, who was a big presence off the bench, made the score 30-29 when she hit a turnaround layup in the lane.

Seals elevated her play to keep up with the Bears' inside players. She finished the first half leading all scorers with 12 points on 4-of-6 shooting.

Tech's final shooting percentage from behind the 3-point line, 0-for-6 in the first half, was dismal at 25 percent, compared to Baylor's 47 percent.

Tech came out at half and took its first lead of the game, 34-33, when Maria Moore hit a 3-pointer off an in-bounds pass two minutes in.

"We come back out, and we fight, fight, fight right there and get

the lead," Curry said. "I thought we came out and were aggressive after two bad possessions offensively. We wanted to make sure we did a little better job with the little things, step up and make some shots."

Tech trailed by four with 13:15 to go, but Baylor's experience showed when it went on an 8-0 run, highlighted by a 3-pointer, a steal and a baseline jumper from Tisdale on three consecutive plays.

Tech is scheduled to play Missouri at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in Columbia, Mo.

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