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THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

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TUESDAY
July 31, 2001

VOLUME 76
ISSUE 157
universitydaily.net

Students may have trouble getting into basketball games

Fast-selling seats could pose a problem; SGA President working for a solution.

By MATT MUENCH
STAFF WRITER

Some Texas Tech students who paid for tickets to men's basketball games next season may be left sitting by a television or radio instead of viewing the game up close at the

United Spirit Arena.

Combined with the fact that the arena is close to selling out every contest in Tech coach Bob Knight's debut season and due to the numerous all-sport and basketball packages sold to students, enough seats for students may not be available, said John Steinmetz, president of the Student Government Association.

But that is a problem Steinmetz said he hopes he can fix.

"We are working hard right now and we do not want to take anything away from the students," Steinmetz said. "We don't want to take what is

not ours but we want to be proactive and find the best arrangement for the students."

Michael Shonrock, vice president for Student Affairs, said he has no doubt there will be a large turnout of students, especially early on.

"We will have a darn good turnout," Shonrock said. "And I think that is wonderful for Texas Tech."

As of Monday, approximately 12,500 all-sport packages and 300 all-basketball packages had been sold, Steinmetz said.

That means about 12,800 students have access to every men and

women's basketball game.

The problem: The student section at the arena only sits 3,600 students.

Problem two: More packages can still be sold.

Not to mention, the student seat total decreases after the 160 seats that are in the Tech student section reserved for spirit organizations and the pep band are made unavailable.

Also, Tech athletes in the past had free admission to any sporting event. Steinmetz said he cannot let that happen this year.

"When it is crunch for seats like that we won't let that happen," he



said. "We have to watch our seats." And with the possibility that the arena will be sold out for the season before the first tip off Nov. 16, Steinmetz said there probably will be

see **TICKETS**, page 2

Perry coming to Lubbock

Texas governor scheduled to sign Medicaid bill at UMC

By MELISSA GUEST
STAFF WRITER

Governor Rick Perry was scheduled to sign two Medicaid reform Monday morning at University Medical Center.

The initiatives, authored by state representative Carl Isett, will improve the quality of healthcare while cutting costs.

"They are unique in that they control costs without cutting services," Isett said.

Medicaid costs, Isett said, are the fastest single-growing component of the budget.

Under House Bill 3038, the Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) program, which pays private health insurance premiums for employed Medicaid recipients, will provide incentives for employers.

Employers who use the plan can claim a \$2,000 tax credit per employee enrolled in the program. The program will save the state approxi-

mately \$4.2 million per year in state Medicaid funds.

Isett said the new bill will double the savings to the state and lessen the increasing number of uninsured Texans.

Furthermore, any cost incurred by the employees is reimbursed to them by the state.

"The beauty of the bill is you can insure the entire family for less than the cost of the Medicaid eligible child," he said. "What we'll have is more people insured for less money."

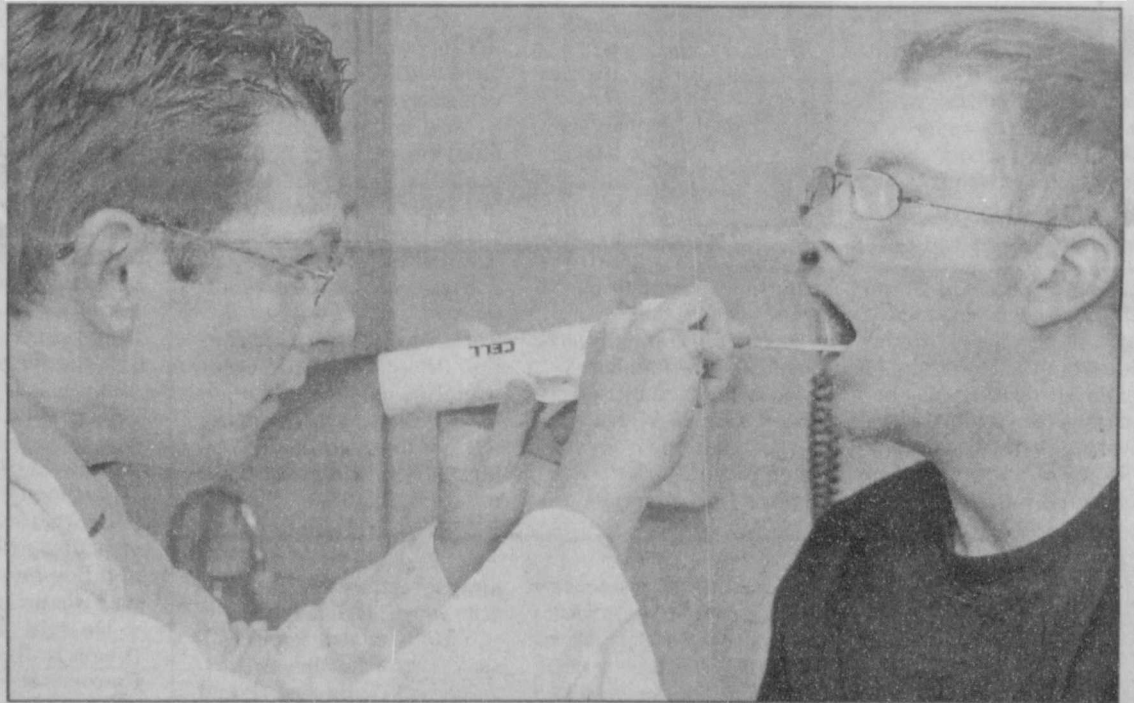
In addition, the bill addresses concerns from those afraid of losing their benefits if they take a job. Under the bill, participants would be eased into private care.

"It's a nice transition into self-sufficiency rather than government subsidy," Isett said.

The second bill, Senate Bill 908, directs the Health and Human Sciences Commission to expand PACE,

see **PERRY**, page 2

Say ahh



Craig Swanson/THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

C.W. Porter, an accounting major from Midland, gets checked out by Dr. Chris Witherspoon of Student Health Services on Monday at Thompson Hall. The department exclusively serves Texas Tech students.

United Blood Services offers last chance to donate before summer's end

By MATT MUENCH
STAFF WRITER

For the final time this summer eligible blood donors will have the chance to donate blood and save lives from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Wednesday at the southeast entrance of the Mass Communications building.

At the same time, donors can win prizes for donating.

Lauren Stith, United Blood Services community relations representative, said she hopes to pull in Tech students because it is the last drive until Sept. 12.

"It is real close to finals so this drive will most likely be the last one

until fall," she said. "We will really get started when the fall semester comes."

This year's theme is, "We Draw Blood. You Draw for Prizes."

Stith said the theme's purpose is to make it visible for students to donate their blood.

She has advertised around campus and had KTXT 88.1-FM, Tech's radio station, make an announcement on the airwaves.

"It is a difficult time of year because there are not many students," Stith said. "But any numbers are better than no numbers."

Many of the prizes that can be won are from Ralph's Record Store,

Jazz Bar and Grill, Schlotsky's, Hastings, Paddle Tramps and the Cotton Kings.

Stith said she thinks the top prize is a \$20 gift certificate to Jazz.

Donors will donate blood and draw their prize from a hat, Stith said.

"(Prizes) might encourage people to come out if they are not comfortable about giving blood," she said.

Hospital Services Executive Director Stan King said area hospitals are in critical need of 0-positive and 0-negative blood.

However King said if a person wants to donate, it does not matter the type.

"We need all blood types," King

said. "There is nowhere else to get blood and the only place to get it is if people donate. It can't be manufactured."

King said students should donate blood because it probably has helped someone they know.

"Basically someone that you know has used blood in the past few years," he said. "And if you don't donate you may need it and it might not be there. So I say drive careful if you don't donate."

King said the procedure has no dangers.

All kits are new and all needles are sterile.

He said people weighing more

than 110-lbs are eligible to donate.

Stith said people with small veins might be more difficult to use as donors. But he said in most cases there no problems.

Stith said students are usually skeptical when first asked to donate, but after they realize what they are doing they pull through.

"You have to emphasize to the students the positive thing that are doing," Stith said.

"They are saving lives and when you put that in perspective it gets to their heart strings."

The last blood drive at Tech was in June and was hosted by KTXT. Stith said 50 people donated.

Tech program offers relief for addicts

BY TIFFANY E. KINGSTON
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's Center for the Study of Addiction offers itself as a resource for struggling addicts.

With another generation of freshmen and transfer students on the verge of making Tech their new home, CSA Coordinator Vincent Sanchez said he wants Tech students to know his staff is here to help those willing to ask for it.

"It's not going to work unless they want help," he said.

According to the 2001 outline of the center by Director Carl Andersen, the primary focus of the center is to create a comprehensive education, support and services network for students struggling with the difficulties of being recovering alcoholics and addicts.

As a result of the programs the cen-

ter offers and the dedication of its staff, the center is setting a national standard for higher education assistance to recovering student addicts and to students who grew up in families impacted by addictions, the outline said.

The walls of the office at the center are adorned with newspaper articles from around the country, detailing the extensive work and programs administered by the CSA.

Some of the programs offered include: Alcoholics Anonymous, Eating Disorders Support Group, Gamblers Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Women Who Love Too Much and Sexual Abuse Survivors.

Most of the support groups meet at the Serenity Center, located south of Drane Hall's west entrance.

Mandy Baker, a senior family studies major from Snyder, is a student assistant for the center and said another focus for the program is to keep recov-

ering addicts in school. The center offers scholarships to recovering addicts of their program. Sanchez said the center has \$1 million in endowed scholarships.

Currently, 35 Tech students are using scholarships from the center to assist in funding their education, Baker said.

She said because a lot of addicts don't ask for help until they are out of their 20s, many participants in recovery are non-traditional students.

"Once we have the groups," she said, "we help students network and put them in contact with recovering addicts in their age group with similar experiences."

The center is open to the Lubbock community, therefore there are people from many different backgrounds who seek help from our services, she said.

Average weekly attendance at

these combined support group meetings exceeds 400 students, according to the center outline.

Ages for recovering addicts at the CSA, Baker said, range from teenagers to senior citizens.

Also, according to the outline, students who have a history in Alcoholics Anonymous say that the campus groups are the most powerful they have ever attended.

In the past couple of years, after increasing media attention, students coming to the center with eating disorders have increased, Sanchez said.

"We're here," he said, "and a lot of people don't know we exist."

Sanchez said the hardest part about recovery is making the phone call to ask for help. However, he said he encourages addicts to come and learn about the resources the center can offer.

"You're not alone," he said. "There

are people with the same issues."

Most addicts experimented with their vice before they began college, he said. It is usually during the newfound freedom of college life that students become addicts.

According to the National Institute for Drug Abuse documented in the center outline, the average relapse rate for adolescents and young adults in recovery is 90 to 95 percent. The center boasts a 5 percent relapse rate among recovering students.

According to the outline, an average of almost two Tech students each week enters the recovery stages as a result of the center's assistance.

Most of the support groups are closed meetings, but open to any recovering addict who is curious or wants to participate, Sanchez said.

The center is located in Human Sciences 172 and can be reached at 742-2891.

Biology professor dies in Virginia

BY MATT MUENCH
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech's Charlie Werth, an associate professor of biological science, died this weekend in Virginia.

Werth was a faculty member at Tech for 14 years.

He was born in Seoul, Korea, and was raised in Falls Church, Va.

Werth received his bachelor's degree in science and his master's degree in education from the University of Virginia. He received his doctorate degree in science at the University of Miami at Ohio.

No services were planned as of Monday afternoon, but



Werth

there will be one within the next two weeks in Alexandria, Va., a representative

professor of biological science, said he will be greatly missed. "He was a dear colleague and a wonderful scientist," Held said. "He was motivated extremely by curiosity."

Held said Werth had a fascination of ferns and was probably one of the world's best experts on them.

"He loved ferns," Held said. "Every scientist has its fetishes and ferns was his. That was his passion."

Held said he will remember him through his wide-eyed wonder about the world.

"He was an inspiring teacher that was beloved by his students," Held said. "I will miss him greatly."

from the department of biological sciences said.

A service in Lubbock will be scheduled in September.

He is survived by two sisters, Lennice Werth and Marice Werth, and his brother Robert Werth.

Lewis Held, associate pro-

the most enthusiastic Tech fans at Rowdy Raider Rallies.

Steinmetz also serves as a chairman for the Athletic Facility Advisory Committee. He said the committee can review anything to do with the Spirit Arena

The second thing Steinmetz is looking into is trying to negotiate with the athletic department to get 1,000 more seats.

"That will be huge," he said of adding more student seats.

Steinmetz met with Knight

"We have to make it that the students want to go."

Michael Shonrock
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

and said the new coach supported his plan of obtaining more seats for students.

Steinmetz said Knight also had an idea, which is to hold 700 hundred tickets for students every game. Students can begin purchasing their seats 48 hours before tip-off.

Steinmetz also plans to hold 54 seats to the most spirited organization on campus. Winners of the seats will be awarded to

twice a year.

But taking action through that is the last thing he will do, Steinmetz said.

"Right now we have a lot of time," Steinmetz said. "We just want to look for the best and most fair way."

Shonrock said the most important thing is that the students come first.

"We have to make it that the students want to go," he said.

Jesse Jackson urges law group to follow rules, pursue justice

DALLAS (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson urged members of the National Bar Association's Judicial Council on Monday to remember to follow not only the law but to pursue justice.

"There's sometimes a confusion about who is the preacher and who is the judge," Jackson told about 150 people at the convention.

The difference, he said, is that ministers do not have the power of the law.

Jackson told the group of judges that it sometimes isn't enough to follow the law, reminding them there was a time when slavery was legal.

He said the American Dream is like one big tent. For everyone to attain it, the law must be there to help. For instance, he said, what made Martin Luther King Jr. special wasn't his eloquence — many preachers had that — it was that he helped change the law.

Judge Sylvia James of Inkster, Mich., the chairman of the Judicial Council, said the National Bar Association represents about 16,000 black lawyers and judges.

The Judicial Council, an autonomous division of the association, represents about 1,600 black judges.

"It's been a struggle about dreamers and dream busters," Jackson said. "The American struggle is a struggle to have a tent that covers all and leaves no one behind."

He said the next hurdle is getting access to capital.

"You could conceivably be out of slavery, out of segregation, have the right to vote, and starve," Jackson said.

For example, he said, too few blacks own buildings in large downtown metropolitan areas.

Jackson said that while intelligence, hard work and effort matters, access matters more.

"What makes judges profound is not to give blacks a break," he said. "We don't want a break, we want an even playing field."

Jackson also told the audience that blacks should no longer support someone just because he or she is black.

"We can no longer go on the judgment 'because he's

of color,'" Jackson said. "Does he make sense?"

Dallas County Judge Keith Anderson said afterward he was still thinking about the speech. "Some of it I agreed with, some of it I didn't," he said.

Anderson said that he was surprised that Jackson was asked to speak since he is a minister. Anderson said he'd expected a judge.

James said Jackson was asked to speak to the judges because he is well-informed.

"He's an inspiration," James said.

H.T. Lockard, a retired judge from Memphis, Tenn., said the speech was right on target.

"To me he tied in his admonition to us as judges — don't stop as judges where the law stops but take it over and beyond that to do justice," Lockard said.

Memphis Municipal Court Judge Earnestine Dorse said, "Rev. Jackson's speech is always appropriate because he always challenges you to think outside the box."

The National Bar Association's conference was held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Dallas.

TICKETS

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no overflow area.

Shonrock said the decision is up to the SGA and Steinmetz. However, Shonrock said he favors a first-come-first-serve plan.

Shonrock worked on his doctorate degree at Kansas and said it was a great event to wait outside for hours for tickets to athletic events.

"Coach (Roy) Williams bought us pizza and I see coach Knight doing something like that," Shonrock said. "It was a great event. I waited 12 hours once to see Kentucky."

Steinmetz has two plans he is working on to remedy the pending problem.

One, Steinmetz will take a college tour of the top basketball programs around the country and see how they handle the situation at their arenas. He said an athletic ticketing office official will accompany him.

PERRY

from page 1

a program of all-inclusive care for the elderly.

A major problem for the elderly is that they receive such fragmented care, Isett said.

The PACE model seeks to correct this and provide pre-

vention care in addition to lower rates for Medicaid and Medicare.

"I'm excited about PACE because it combines better quality care for our medically frail seniors and does so in a way that makes good financial sense," Isett said in a written statement.

Isett said the governor's of-

fice has expressed interest in both bills.

"I am delighted the governor wholeheartedly supports these bills and I appreciate his leadership in wanting to provide high quality medical care while we work to control rapidly increasing costs," he said.

The governor could not be reached for comment.

Philanthropy aims to keep U.S. tradition

■ **The program is encouraging volunteerism and the impulse to give.**

By MELISSA GUEST
STAFF WRITER

Volunteering is more than picking up trash or feeding the hungry; for Sonja Ralston it is a path to lifelong education and American history.

Ralston, a senior theater and Spanish major from Sentennial, Colo., attended a summer institute on philanthropy and voluntary service earlier this month.

Ralston was among 38 students chosen for the program, which was conducted by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

The program, the only one of its kind, focuses on volunteerism and philanthropy as a way of life in a continuing American tradition.

"The impulse to give is rooted in human nature and is affected by everything around us. Compassion is a basic human impulse," Ralston said.

The six-week residential program offers two academic classes, internship experience and guest speakers in areas such as non-profit management and philanthropy and voluntary service.

Ralston said she is interested in working in arts management upon graduation and learned a great deal about managing a non-profit organization through her internship at the Indianapolis Museum of Arts.

"It was a unique opportunity to get real experience in that field," she said. "It's hard to come by on your own."

The program is aimed at providing resources and education to students interested in possibly making a career out of volunteer work, said Leslie Lenkowsky, director of the institute and professor of philanthropic studies and public policy at Indiana University.

"We wanted to create a summer institute for students to get practical experience with internships and to understand how philanthropy fits into society by giving them exposure to national figures in philanthropy," he said. "We want to help them become lifelong active citizens instead of active citizens just on their campuses."

Lenkowsky said the institute also teaches students about the history of voluntary service in the United States.

"The tradition of volunteering in American life is an important tradition," Lenkowsky

said. "In many ways we have benefited from those traditions ever since."

Ralston said she learned that voluntary service is important to American society and it also is distinctive of American society.

"This culture of giving and voluntary associations is uniquely American," she said. "If there even is a volunteer sector in other countries, it is not nearly as large as in the United States. In this country, we take care of ourselves and each other."

The institute focuses on young people, namely undergraduate students, because of a large contention that recent generations are not interested in volunteer service or philanthropy, Lenkowsky said. Since the institute's inception three years ago, attendance has tripled, he said.

"Many people are becoming

worried that the individualism in our society is tripping over the willingness to help other people," Lenkowsky said. "They have been concerned that younger people starting with the baby boomers are not as supportive of our traditions as the older people were and in the long run could have a detrimental effect on society."

The solution, however, is not complicated, Lenkowsky said.

"It's like making your bed; it's a habit," he said. "You make it a habit by doing it everyday and after a while you begin to see the positive effects it has. I think philanthropy is the act of the giving of time or money — to help someone else; it's as simple as that."

These positive effects, he said, will hopefully spread beyond the institution and back into college campuses across

the country. This is accomplished by encouraging students at the institute to become leaders on their campus.

"I'm sure on every college campus they talk about problems with apathy among students. These are the students who are not apathetic," he said. "What we hope to do is not only to encourage their activity but to bring other students along with them."

Ralston said she has discovered not only the benefits of giving for society, but also the benefits to herself.

"No matter how much we try to ignore it, we are all inter-related and as citizens and human beings we really do have a duty and responsibility to give to communities," she said. "Whether it's by giving money to a cultural organization or feeding the homeless, that's what really builds a community."

IRS to hire 600 agents for crime help

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service hopes to hire 600 special agents nationwide, adding to its crime division that investigates felonies such as fraud and money laundering.

Agents who work for the IRS' criminal investigation division don't routinely do audits or check tax returns; they carry a gun and a badge to track criminals and investigate financial crimes.

They are similar to other federal agents in the FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration or Secret Service.

"We're not just calculator-carrying accountants anymore," said Special Agent Linda Graziani, the public information officer for the IRS' San Antonio district. "Now we're gun-carrying accountants."

The IRS is looking to fill the positions with people now employed in

other professions.

It's an idea that has always appealed to Michael Fernault, who is on track to earn a master's degree in accounting from the University of Texas. The job awaiting him when he graduates in May goes beyond balancing books and conducting audits.

He spent five years in the military before enrolling at UT and he has always been interested in law enforcement. He was considering a career as a federal agent when he found out about the IRS' student trainee program.

"I had no interest in, say, being a police officer," Fernault told the *San Antonio Express-News*. "I knew I wanted to work on the federal side in white-collar crimes."

After graduation, Fernault will join other IRS recruits at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in

Glynco, Ga., spending six months learning investigative techniques and operational procedures.

The IRS has been recruiting at job fairs and schools.

To become a special agent with the IRS, an applicant needs a bachelor's degree with at least 15 semester hours of accounting and nine hours in a related subject.

Besides the education requirement, potential agents must be U.S. citizens younger than 37. They must pass written exams and physical ability tests. They are also subjected to an extensive background check, including tests for drug use and a tax audit.

Once training is over, graduates are fully licensed as agents. They are posted to an IRS field office, and work with other agents on criminal investigations.

Jury indicts mother who faces capital murder for kids' deaths

HOUSTON (AP) — A Harris County grand jury Monday indicted on capital murder charges the mother accused of drowning her five children.

The grand jury indicted Andrea Pia Yates on one count of capital murder for the deaths of Noah, 7, and John, 5.

The *Houston Chronicle* reported the grand jury also indicted Yates for the death of her 6-month-old daughter, Mary. The second indictment, however, had not surfaced late Monday in the Harris County

District Clerk's office.

Clerk spokesman Fred King said the second count may be a direct indictment, which means it will not be made public until after Yates, 37, is charged and rebooked. King said police would have to rebook Yates on the additional charge for Mary's death before it becomes public record.

Yates has been in the Harris County Jail since police were called to her Houston home June 20. When police arrived they found John, Paul, 3; Luke, 2; and Mary still wet under a sheet on a bed. Noah was found in the bathtub.

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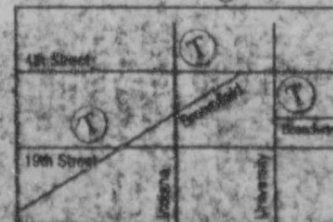
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OPINIONS & IDEAS

[COLUMN]

With love comes questions, emotions

If you listen to contemporary music you will see a trend. A love theme seems to be in full effect. Songs range from Jessica Simpson's "Irresistible" to Jennifer Lopez's "Real." They speak of the good and bad aspects of love. So, as Celine Dion would say, "Let's Talk About Love."



Damion Davis

Some people call love a many splendored thing. Others say when you are in love you are deaf, dumb and blind. I would call it both.

Most people are not totally sure what attracts them to the people they are in love with. Some say it just happens.

Have you ever heard the question, "What attracted you to me in the first place?" Most of the time we can come up with an answer, but the more we

think about it the more likely we are to change our answer. For some it can be as simple as the color of another person's eyes; for others it's personality traits that draws them to the other person.

How we fall in love makes no difference. What we do while we are in the relationship is what counts.

Love conquers all. This is one notion that doesn't have a color barrier or pre-requisite that we have to follow. It just happens. And, when it does, - and it's real - then we know it and enjoy it while it lasts.

What feeling can make you as happy as being in love? There are no similar feelings that I'm aware of. I see it as an outlet that brings out the best in people.

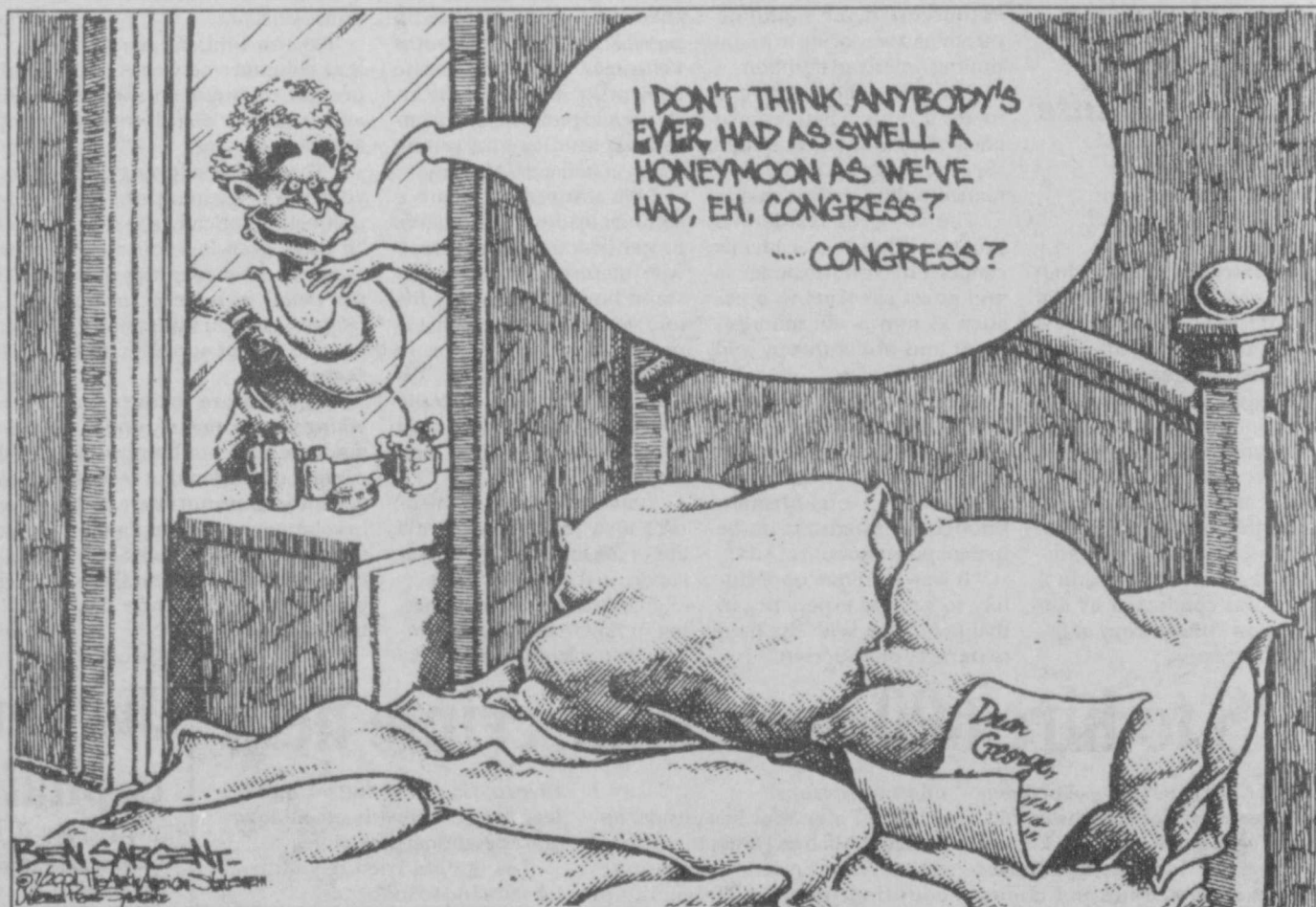
How we fall in love makes no difference. What we do while we are in the relationship is what counts.

Sometimes I notice that people get into relationships for the wrong reasons. One reason is peer pressure. Our friends are one of the most important things in our lives. We count on them for everything - from advice to just having someone there to help in our daily obstacles. And, even if it does not work, sometimes we stay with that person because our friends tell us that it is for the best.

Another reason is for the kids. I agree that having both parents in their life makes them more well-rounded people, but I don't agree that just because you have children you should stay together. If the love is not there for that person, then staying together for your children will do more harm than good. To want an argument everyday, or to see the pain in mom or dad's face because they are unhappy will produce pictures the family will remember forever.

Love is for the long haul. It can make or break you. It can even change your life forever. And when you find the person, no matter what first attracted you, and no matter what racial background they are, you will know. And, as Alicia Keys says, you also will be "Falling."

Damion Davis is a freshman communications major from Lubbock. He can be e-mailed at three5@hotmail.com.



[COLUMN]

Summer excursions evoke patriotism

This summer I had the opportunity to see some of the things that show America at its finest. During my summer vacation I headed north to the breadbasket of the United States. In the course of my trip I saw two places that



Katie Harris

spoke to me about our country. Two places that made me remember what America promises to offer.

On my first stop I visited the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument in Kearney, Neb. You may miss Kearney on a map, but you sure can't miss the arch.

The archway is built over Interstate 80 and is, well, eye catching.

The inside of the arch, however, is even more interesting than the location. The archway takes visitors through interactive exhibits that tell the history of the Platte River Road.

The Platte River Road once served as the link between the East and the West. The exhibits tell the story of the progression of transportation and communication in

America. From wagon trails to railroads, and finally to automobiles, the exhibits show visitors how Americans expanded their frontier and the reasons they did it.

The archway shows how communication in the United States evolved from the Pony Express and the telegraph into the today's fiber optic network.

The archway illustrates advancements in transportation and communication, but it also gives visitors the same adventurous feeling those early pioneers had themselves. The archway describes Americans as pioneers, from the first brave trailblazers to the interstate travelers of today. Pioneers that crave freedom like they crave the open road.

In some cases, Americans are given new situations they must pioneer that arise from tragic circumstances. My second stop was a little further south in Oklahoma at the Oklahoma City National Memorial Center.

The Memorial Center sits on the site of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The Memorial Center is a tribute to those who died, but also celebrates America coming together after such a devastating event. The Memorial Center allows visitors to relive that fateful April day and hear stories from survivors, rescuers, investigators and others involved.

By looking at photos, items from the bombing and actual destruction from the bomb, visitors can understand the magnitude the event had on those it directly affected.

The whole exhibit not only remembers those killed, but also commends a city that came together for the sake of others. The exhibit shows that in the wake of destruction the best of America shines through.

Today, the sacrifices past Americans made are often forgotten. But when America faces its most difficult challenges the spirit of help and courage are reborn. We can only hope that we will keep remembering the sacrifices others made in order for America to be great. Both of these places are wonderful displays of the American spirit.

Though America sometimes seems anything but great, all you need to do is look back at the many things that have shaped our country.

Both of these places remind you that we must remember the events of America's to better appreciate the great country we live in today.

Katie Harris is a sophomore English major from Lubbock. She can be e-mailed at raiderx81@cs.com.

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Interns given bad rap by recent events

WASHINGTON (AP) — Outside the nation's capital, the words "Washington intern" bring to mind the smiling faces of two young women: Chandra Levy and Monica Lewinsky.

Their images obscure the fact that the city teems with an estimated 20,000 young people who come to Washington each year to learn about government and share corridors with the powerful.

The cases of Levy, the missing intern who told relatives she had an affair with Rep. Gary Condit, D-Calif., and Lewinsky, who had trysts with President Clinton, have highlighted this little-known subculture.

Access is part of the allure for these teen-agers and 20-somethings.

"The prime minister of Israel, Ariel Sharon, was in the office for dessert and chats with Mr. Gephardt. Is that not the coolest thing ever?" Adelle La Rue, a congressional intern this spring for House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, wrote in a journal, which was an internship requirement. "Really, this is why I love my job. I get to meet the coolest people ever."

Interns are Washington's worker bees.

They toil long hours — most without pay — on Capitol Hill, as well as at associations, nonprofit groups, federal agencies, such as the U.S. Bureau of Prisons where Levy worked, and the White House, where Lewinsky met Clinton when she delivered pizza to the president.

They make phone calls to constituents, take notes at congressional hearings and write summaries for the boss. They set up meeting rooms, run errands to the Library of Congress, handle mail, feed the paper shredder, design projects for increasing voter registration, design Web pages and give tours of the Capitol.

The majority of interns earn nothing at all or receive just \$100 to \$200 a week. A few receive the equivalent of tuition for a college term plus reimbursements for housing and transportation expenses.

After hours, they hit city nightspots.

"I had a terrific weekend," Johnathan Edward Luckey, an intern last summer for Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald, D-Calif., wrote in his journal. "About 20 of us went out to a few clubs near our apartments. There we danced to some salsa and hip-hop music."

Some of the weekday perks: touring embassies and the Supreme Court, hearing breakfast lectures by political leaders, shaking hands with the president.

The access can be intoxicating, said Nancy Snow, a political analyst at the University of California-Los Angeles.

"It's very seductive on the one

hand and very exciting and titillating," Snow said.

Perceptions about Washington interns differ in and outside the city, said Brad Fitch, director of the Congressional Management Foundation. The organization recently updated its intern guidebook with sections on personal safety and sexual harassment.

"Outside of Washington people are not going to have a positive view of Washington internships and that's a little sad," Fitch said.

"But people inside the Beltway know ... they not only provide an invaluable source of labor, but they bring a spirit of enthusiasm and of wonder to what we do here. It reminds all of us old cynics of the excitement when we first got involved in public service."

Those who run internship programs say Levy and Lewinsky were atypical.

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Vet school show to premiere in August

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Want to see a dog undergo cataract surgery? A mare giving birth? A goat being de-horned?

These medical procedures and more will be featured on the new Animal Planet show "Vet School Confidential," a 13-part television series filmed at Michigan State University.

The weekly, half-hour series is scheduled to begin airing Aug. 7 on the cable channel.

Each episode features an actual case at Michigan State's Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

In the first show, fourth-year student Jake Langendorfer takes a 10-year-old Pomeranian from his

crying owner, promising to take care of the dog during knee surgery.

"She's upset, and that makes me nervous," Langendorfer, now a practicing veterinarian in Rose City, confides to the camera.

Langendorfer is quizzed extensively during the intricate surgery, which is a success. As he returns the Pomeranian to his overjoyed owner, he gives the owner a lecture about improving the dog's nutrition, suggesting more carrots in his diet.

The crowd at a recent sneak preview roared when the owner promptly fed her dog some fast food on the way home.

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Soap genre throwing plot twists to ebb tide of low ratings

NEW YORK (AP) — Babies are born, disappear and come back a couple of years later as troubled teenagers. A Latino fashion designer is introduced into an all-white cast. A doll becomes human.

These recent plot twists on network soap operas were designed specifically to expand an audience that gets older and smaller every year.

A report out this summer provides fresh evidence of how steep the challenge is for an industry older than television itself. Not only have ratings declined — 28 percent for the most popular soap, "The Young and the Restless," since 1994 — but so has the soaps' ability to deliver the young female viewers whom advertisers seek.

Over the last 10 years, the median age for viewers of daytime dramas has gone up an average of 7 years, according to the advertising agency MindShare. The median age of those who watch "All My Children" and "One Life to Live" was 36 in 1991-92. Now it's 45.

Advertisers used to consider soaps a reliable way to reach young women, and cheaper than prime-time.

"I don't know if it's a dying genre, but it doesn't bode well for advertising dollars flowing into the marketplace," said Steve Calandra, senior managing director of MindShare.

With more young women working, and ones at home having more choices about what to watch, there are fewer people available for soaps.

The industry also hasn't recovered from the O.J. Simpson trials during the mid-1990s. The trials pre-empted soaps for months, and many viewers either lost interest or became hooked on real-life dramas.

"How do you get that next generation?" asks Lucy Johnson, president of daytime TV at CBS. "That's all we've talked about for 20 years."

There are experiments taking place across the soap spectrum.

Taking note of census figures showing a burgeoning Hispanic population, and the popularity of telenovelas among Spanish-speaking viewers, CBS has begun Spanish-language translations of "The Bold and the Beautiful." It also introduced the character of Antonio Dominguez, the Latino fashion designer.

ABC has also tried using the structure of telenovelas on the show "Port Charles." In contrast to American soaps, where different story lines weave in and out and can take years to finish, telenovela stories begin and end over the course of two months.

"What we've heard over the years is, 'I just don't have the time to invest in another daytime show. I'm afraid I'm going to get hooked and have to watch the show for three years,'" said Felicia Behr, senior vice president for daytime programming at ABC.

Many shows, including NBC's "Days of Our Lives," have emphasized story lines with troubled teens in an effort to entice young viewers, even if those characters have mysteriously aged a decade in a year or two. That's especially true in the summer, when school's out.

NBC's "Passions" is designed exclusively for young people. It frequently repeats plot points, to the point of annoyance for those who watch regularly, because NBC doesn't want casual viewers to get lost, said Carolyn Hinsey, executive editor of *Soap Opera Digest*.

"The perception that it takes five days a week and one hour a day to stay committed and get the total experience I think scares people away," said Sheraton Kalouria, NBC daytime president.

Some of the wilder plots on "Passions," with the lifelike doll and a bride killed by a poisoned ring, should resonate with viewers of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," he said. NBC also sent teen-aged characters on a Puerto Rican trip reminiscent of "Temptation Island."

The median age of "Passions" viewers is 36, the youngest of the 10 network soap operas, MindShare said.

In recent months, Susan Lucci's character on "All My Children" has been reacting to the news that her daughter is a lesbian. Behr said ABC executives didn't do that specifically to reach out to a homosexual audience, but it has helped.

Networks have to tread carefully not to upset older audiences of long-running shows. "The Guiding Light" on CBS, for instance, began on radio in 1937.

In an industry that often recycles creative talent, some producers and writers may just have gotten lazy.

"I think they take the audience for granted a little," said Stephanie Sloane, editor of *Soap Opera Digest*. "Some shows expect the audience to stay with you no matter what you put on the air."

None of the networks have any new soaps in development. There were 11 soaps on the air 10 years ago, one more than there are now. Some experts predict further contraction in the next few years.

"It will be survival of the fittest," Johnson said, "the way it's never been in this industry before."

After a period of trend-hopping, where some soaps tried to squeeze in outrageous topics as a way of emulating talk shows, Johnson believes daytime dramas are getting back to their tug-at-your-heartstrings roots. People don't want to see their lives reflected back at them — they want to see their dreams, she said.

"We can't keep blaming O.J. anymore," she said. "It's a few years back now."



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Kids' network to make records

NEW YORK (AP) — Nickelodeon is getting into the record business. The kids channel is partnering with Jive Records — home of such teen pop sensations as 'N Sync and Britney Spears — to create Nick Records.

"Music plays a vibrant part in the lives of our audience," said Albie Hecht, president of Nickelodeon's film and entertainment departments. "We are excited to launch a record label that will once again put Nickelodeon in the leadership position in entertainment for kids and tweens."

Cross-promotion will be a key theme for Nick Records; one of its artists, Nick Cannon, will star in his own series for the Nickelodeon network this fall, and recently was featured on the cable network in a concert special. Nickelodeon is also sponsoring the current tour of Aaron Carter, a Jive Records artist.

In addition, Carter will also appear on the first release from Nick Records, the soundtrack to the Paramount Pictures/Nickelodeon Movies film "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius." The soundtrack will be released Nov. 6.

Nickelodeon is not the first children's entertainment company to start a record company. Disney already has its own label, Walt Disney Records, with teen artists such as singer Myra.

The Disney Channel, however, is ending its video and concert specials.

'Boys speedy at camp

Despite the absence of past talent, the Dallas Cowboys may have one of their fastest teams in decades.

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys certainly won't have their best team this season. They may, however, have their fastest.

In filling their roster with rookies and castoffs, the Cowboys placed an emphasis on speed and came up with plenty.

"I don't know if we're talented right now, but we're fast," coach Dave Campo said.

"The thing that speed gives you is that you don't have to do everything exactly right every time. That's exciting for us."

Dallas has 25 players who have run the 40-yard dash in less than 4.5 seconds. Eight guys did it in under 4.3, including starting receivers Joey Galloway (4.15, on grass) and Raghieb Ismail (4.24, after knee surgery) and Pro Bowl linebacker Dex-

ter Coakley (4.28).

The most eye-popping figure was the 4.12 by receiver Damon Dunn, which tied the team record. However, Dunn's bid to make the team has been slowed by a knee injury that'll keep him out for about a month.

Fellow speedsters competing for receiving jobs include Bashir Yamini, a former track star at Iowa who was timed at 4.23, and Chris Brazzell, a two-year veteran who came into camp at 4.28. However, Brazzell strained a hamstring Sunday, but Cowboys' trainers say he shouldn't miss much time.

Fast receivers are a must this season because Dallas hopes to throw deep a lot to take advantage of quarterback Tony Banks' strong arm.

"I think it's a perfect fit," Banks said. "It's not necessarily just getting to the long ball, they're also good after they catch it. That's something I look forward to seeing. Get them on the turf and they'll be even faster."

Running back John Avery, a former first-round pick by Miami, has shown incredible speed out of the backfield and on kick returns.

He was timed at 4.27.

Rookie quarterback Quincy Carter didn't make the 4.3 club, but the ex-Georgia Bulldog has shown fleet feet and some great moves in the first few days of camp.

On defense, the top speedster is Dell Bates, who earned his way to training camp by running a 4.2.

The likely trio starting linebackers — Coakley, Darren Hambrick and Dat Nguyen — all run 4.6 or less. Ditto for defensive end Ebenezer Ekuban.

"I think our linebacker corps right now is probably as fast as we've had, and I'd have to say our secondary is pretty fast too," Campo said.

Campo said he realizes the only way speed matters is if it gets players into the end zone, or if it helps one of the players stop a member of the other team from doing so.

"We're fast, but we've still got to produce," he said. "If you told me would you like to have a bunch of guys who can run or eight Pro Bowl players, I'd take the Pro Bowl players because experience matters. But speed makes up for some of those deficiencies."

SBC All-Star football game to showcase Texas' talent

FORT WORTH (AP) — If Sid Resendes' football career ends on Tuesday night, that's OK.

He's won a Class A state championship, earned All-State honors at running back and played in postseason all-star games in Australia and Hawaii. It's more than he could have ever expected, considering that his Texas Panhandle town of Stratford isn't exactly a hotbed of football talent.

"In my town, most guys play high school football and that's it," Resendes said. "If Tuesday is it, then it's been a great ride."

Resendes will be one of 70 high school standouts from across the state selected to play in the Southwestern Bell All-Star football game. The game is the highlight of the 69th annual Texas High School Coaches Association coachingschool.

It's also probably one of the last gridiron highlights for players like Resendes, who received a few scholarship offers from small colleges around Texas but decided to walk on at Baylor this fall.

"I've always set my goals pretty

high," said Resendes, who will attend Baylor on a full academic scholarship to study medicine. "I just want to play Division I football. If I can't do that or if it gets in the way of academics, then I'll just move on to the next stage of my life."

Resendes will rotate at fullback for the South All-Stars on Tuesday, but he'll mostly take a backseat to his bigger, faster, Division I college-bound colleagues during the game.

"To be honest, we've got some defensive linemen with more speed than Sid," said North All-Star coach Joe Martin of Garland. "Sid's a great kid and a hard worker, but sometimes it's initially hard for a Class A player to play at this kind of level."

But Resendes, who rushed for 2,919 yards during his splendid senior season, said he's fared well during practices.

"It's only common sense that there's been a difference in size and speed from Class 1A to 5A players," he said. "It was a little intimidating at first, but it's been fun since I got over that. I've been able to find holes everywhere."

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Irvin pleads innocent to drug charges

DENTON (AP) — Former Dallas Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin entered an innocent plea Monday for a felony charge of possessing less than a gram of cocaine that resulted in his arrest almost a year ago.

If convicted on the felony possession charge, Irvin could face six months to two years in jail and up to a \$10,000 fine.

"I don't know anything about it," Irvin said outside the courthouse.

Attorney Peter Ginsberg said

after the brief court appearance that his office is conducting its own investigation of the charges and will give the results to the judge. He said he hopes the case will not go to trial.

The charge stems from Irvin's Aug. 9 arrest at a North Dallas apartment where law officers said they found marijuana and ecstasy pills. Less than two months earlier, Irvin had completed probation on a no-contest plea to felony cocaine possession.

Irvin was not charged after the arrest. He was indicted 10 months later.

Ginsberg said Irvin was arrested on one charge and is being prosecuted on another charge. He said he also was concerned about the delay in the indictment.

"I'm deeply disturbed by the way Michael has been treated by law enforcement. There's definitely something wrong with the charges," Ginsberg said.

Assistant District Attorney Lee Ann Breeding has said her office didn't receive the case until February, and further investigation and additional laboratory testing took several additional months. She also said a key Plano officer involved in the investigation was injured in a motorcycle accident in March and wasn't available until June.

The case evolved after officers with the Collin-Denton County Drug Task Force, of

which the FBI is a part, attempted to arrest Rhonda Adaham on a federal warrant at her apartment.

Adaham was not there, but her sister, Nelly Adaham, and Irvin were found and arrested. Nelly Adaham was indicted also on the same charge as Irvin, but Rhonda Adaham was not indicted.

"Michael is trying to move into the next stage of his life after football," Ginsberg said Monday. "This has been dev-

astating to him emotionally."

Ginsberg also said that Irvin was looking at the possibility of a career in broadcasting and has been spending time with his wife and children.

Irvin, who retired in July 2000 and was hired for Fox Sports Net's Sunday pregame show, insisted he was in the wrong place at the wrong time and the drugs were not his. A few weeks later, Fox announced that Irvin would not be an analyst for the network.

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Astro playoff hopes rest with young guns

HOUSTON (AP) — It's getting hotter in the NL Central and the Houston Astros are watching their young starters for signs of sweat.

Can Roy Oswalt and Tim Lincecum, rushed to the major leagues to replace faltering veterans, hold up to the furnace-like pressure of the pennant chase with the Cubs and Cardinals?

Can Wade Miller continue his season-long cool and show the youngsters how to stay focused and pitch beyond their experience level?

It won't take long to find out.

The Astros begin a six-game homestand Tuesday, 4 1/2 games behind the Cubs and general manager Gerry Hunsicker expects the best from his youthful starters.

He's also working the phones, trying to add pitching help before Tuesday's trade deadline.

The Astros have been looking for

a starting pitcher to help with the playoff push. Pittsburgh's Jason Schmidt, one of the pitchers that interested the Astros, was traded to the San Francisco Giants Monday.

If trades don't materialize, Hunsicker thinks his young pitchers already have shown improvement.

"The pressure gets turned up later in the season and we'll see how they handle it," Hunsicker said. "They've gotten a lot of experience already."

"Even Redding, who probably got rushed quicker than any of them, I think he's handled adversity up here so far real well and hopefully he'll learn from that."

The Astros have been forced to infuse their promising young pitchers into the starting rotation because of injuries and ineffective performances by veterans. Redding started the season at Double-A Round Rock.

Redding dropped to 3-1 this sea-

son after taking the loss on Wednesday. Despite his early success, Redding has failed to get past the seventh inning in any of his starts.

"I don't think I was rushed physically," Redding said. "With the skills I have I felt I could pitch at this level. As for the mental aspect you can only learn when you are in those situations and talk to others who have been in that situation."

"There's no better guys to help you than those who have been at the highest level."

The Astros are 9-10 following the All-Star break and coming off a series loss (3-2) to the last place Pittsburgh Pirates. They begin the homestand Tuesday with three-game series against the New York Mets and Montreal Expos.

Astros manager Larry Dierker is hoping his young starters can hold on down the stretch.

Rockets increase Olajuwon's offer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets have increased their offer to center Hakeem Olajuwon to include a third guaranteed year and an added \$2 million in salary, Houston radio station KILT reported Monday.

That would make the Rockets' offer a three-year deal worth at least \$10 million, the station said.

The Rockets declined comment.

Olajuwon, whose entire pro career has been with the Rockets, played out the final year of his contract with Houston that paid him \$16.5 million last. He said early last season he would retire but later changed his mind.

The Rockets want to re-sign Olajuwon but the future Hall of Famer takes up more than \$24 million on the Rockets' salary cap space.

Olajuwon, the top overall pick in the 1984 draft, was the league's Most Valuable Player in 1994. He became the only player to win honors as MVP, Defensive Player of the Year and MVP of the championship finals.

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