

WEATHER

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Students frustrated by Arena ticket troubles

■ **SGA President John Steinmetz investigating new possibilities.**

By MATT MUENCH
STAFF WRITERS

Student Government Association President John Steinmetz said he hopes students will understand the recent problem that has developed regarding student tickets at Texas

Tech basketball games this season. "Students do have a reason to be somewhat concerned," Steinmetz said. "It is going to take a collaboration of SGA and the athletic department to help solve this."

Because of Bob Knight's hiring and the Lady Raider final four frenzy, Tech has sold approximately 12,800 package-based tickets just to students.

But the United Spirit Arena has only 3,600 seats in the student section for the men's basketball games and 2,850 for the women's games.

With a sure possibility of no over-

flow and a complete sellout of the arena for men's basketball games, most students will be left out.

Ryan Peckman, a junior marketing major from Coahoma, has purchased an all-sport package and said it upsets him that his seat at the games is not guaranteed.

"By them selling 13,000 of these passes how does that guarantee me a seat," Peckman said. "It doesn't. And right now it looks like the SGA president and the athletic department is not going to do anything about it."

Joe Jackson, a first-year graduate student from Waco, said he was

stunned to find out that they sold so many tickets to students when there are not enough seats.

"I can't believe they sold extra seats like that," Jackson said. "They shouldn't have done that and students are going to want their money back if they don't get a seat."

Steinmetz said he is looking at two possibilities — a lottery system or a first-come-first-serve basis.

Jackson is in favor of first come first serve because other major schools use that system.

"I think they should do first come first serve," Jackson said. "That is how

they do it at Duke."

Peckman said first come first serve is the fair way to do it.

However, he said if Tech starts to lose as the season progresses, lines will shorten.

Peckman said his main reason to attend games is to watch a winning program.

"People only want to see Bobby Knight," Peckman said. "I want to see Bobby Knight, but I also want to see a winning team."

Steinmetz said the athletic depart-

see **ARENA**, page 2

Taking time to chill



Tech receiver King Scovell and offensive tackle Jason May take time out during Thursday's sprint drills to get a drink of water. The heat-related death of Minnesota Viking All-Pro Korey Stringer on Wednesday has made Tech coaches and players more aware of illness and fatigue brought on by the heat. For related story, see page 7.

Construction will continue to impact campus parking

By MELISSA GUEST
STAFF WRITER

Along with new books, new classes and new clothes, students can expect more than 250 new parking spaces when they return for the fall semester. But as construction begins on the Texas Tech Parkway, nearly 1,000 other spaces may be lost.

Approximately 200 spaces are being created in the C-1 commuter lot, located west of Jones SBC Stadium, and about 75 will be in the Z-1 lot, located south of 8th Street.

Crews are repaving and repainting the stadium spaces so they fit more easily in the lot. Most of the spaces will face east and west, rather than north and south.

Approximately 400 spaces were lost last spring when construction on the stadium began. The changes will leave the campus approximately 125 spaces shorter than before construction began, said Mike Ellicott, vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction.

In addition, construction will begin on a parking garage at the corner of Flint Avenue and 18th Street by early September, Ellicott said.

This summer, crews worked to realign portions of Flint Avenue and 18th Street in preparation of the garage. The streets should be reopened by the time school starts, Ellicott said.

The garage should be finished by next August, he said.

The garage would host more than 750 spaces throughout the four-level structure.

Its completion will alleviate parking problems that may arise from the construction of Texas Tech Parkway, which is set to run from the intersection of 19th Street and Indiana Avenue turning west along the south side of the west commuter lots to Brownfield Highway, across 4th Street and ending up at the intersection of Quaker Avenue and Loop 289, Ellicott said. Construction for the parkway will begin in May 2002 at the earliest, Ellicott said.

"What we want to do is route a lot of traffic that drives through campus on Indiana and Flint onto Texas Tech Parkway," he said. "That will take a lot of through traffic out of campus and make it more pedestrian friendly."

In addition, the parkway will provide easier access to visitors to the university, said Art Glick, assistant to the vice president for operations.

"What that does is let visitors come to university from interstate traffic, the airport and from the loop down into campus," he said. "If you've ever tried to come down Indiana from the north loop to campus, it is tedious, and Quaker is not a whole lot easier. It will provide much better defined access to campus."

However, the parkway will run directly through the university's west commuter lots, eliminating most of the 900 spaces now available, Glick said.

"It's going to wipe it out," Glick said. "For all practical purposes, and particularly during construction, it won't be available anyway."

see **PARKING**, page 2

Schmidly talks about faculty, staff raises

By MELISSA GUEST
STAFF WRITER

Texas Tech President David Schmidly explained budget updates to staff members at their Staff Senate meeting Wednesday.

Departments are struggling to loosen 10 percent of their budget to accommodate for faculty and staff pay raises.

Faculty merit-based raises will be funded from an 8 percent decrease in non-faculty salary accounts. The total faculty increase is approximately \$3.4 million.

The state mandated 4-percent staff raises will cost the university approximately \$1.2 million, to be matched by the state.

Additional stress is put on the state accounts; however, because they are losing 8 percent while trying to generate half of the mandated raise.

One reason for the budget cuts,



Schmidly

Schmidly said, is the lack of growth in the budget resulting from a lack of growth in enrollment. Appropriation funds delivered by the state are based on enrollment figures.

"Part of the reason we have revenue stress is because we haven't grown relative to the rest of the state," he said. "That always creates a situation where it's tougher to balance the books."

Schmidly told the Senate that in order to continue to attract and retain top faculty, the university has to provide raises. Currently, he said, Tech faculty

see **RAISES**, page 2

Tax-free holidays begin today

■ Governor Perry praises holiday for helping shoppers save money.

EL PASO (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry said this weekend's sales tax holiday is a "Texas common-sense tax policy" where shoppers will save an estimated \$40 million.

"Hardworking Texans, in my opinion, deserve this tax break," Perry said Thursday in a stop in El Paso. He was in Midland earlier and will travel to Texarkana, Nacogdoches and

Beaumont on Friday to deliver the same message.

Perry said the amount of savings has from \$32.6 million in 1999, the first year of the holiday, to \$37 million last year.

The holiday lasts from Friday through Sunday and allows shoppers to buy certain clothing and footwear items costing less than \$100 each without paying any tax. Shoppers will save about \$8 on every \$100 they spend.

Enoch Kimmelman, owner of Starr Western Wear where Perry discussed the tax holiday, said his sales increased from the first year to the second year and he expects this year

to be even bigger.

Kimmelman said he also uses the holiday as an opportunity to advertise special offers that aren't part of the sales tax holiday. He said he wasn't sure how his store was picked, but he was glad to see Perry in El Paso.

"The governor coming to El Paso is significant in that we have often felt abandoned being so far out here in West Texas," Kimmelman said.

Cindy Ramos-Davidson, chief executive officer of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, said the tax holiday is important for low-income families who struggle to pay for basic needs.

"Any way that anybody can save money at any time is good, particularly for people with large families," Ramos-Davidson said. "I think they should expand it to other things."

Perry said he believes most Texans would support expanding the items included in the holiday and said he thinks "it's an interesting idea."

"Texans are supporting this legislation with their feet," Perry said. "There are going to be a lot of folks from New Mexico coming across the border and from Mexico ... and Oklahoma and Louisiana and Arkansas."

"I like them to be exposed to a little bit of common-sense Texas tax policy."

■ PARKING

from page 1

Glick said the plan is to construct a park n' ride lot with bus and bicycle access west of the parkway and north of 10th Street.

"Hopefully it's less scary knowing that we are trying to build additional parking to compensate for the loss of those 900 to 1000 spaces," Glick said. "With the construction going on on campus it's going to be bad enough getting around for the next couple years without having to worry about those spaces."

The new lot will be constructed with grant funds, and may be completed in more than one phase.

Ellicott said the project has the first \$990,000 and is still waiting for word on other funds.

"We've passed a couple of the initial hurdles," he said. "We're just waiting for appropriations."

Although a timeline has not been set, Ellicott said the Parkway should not run through the commuter lots until at least the first phase of the new park n' ride is finished. Once construction begins, the parkway would take approximately 12 to 14 months to complete, he said.

■ ARENA

from page 1

ment is leaning toward a lottery procedure that will pick random students to attend each game.

Steinmetz is against that notion and hopes for a first-come first-serve basis.

"I am going to fight for first come first serve," Steinmetz said.

When asked if he would campout, Steinmetz said, "You're darn right."

Steinmetz set dates to visit four major basketball universities to research how they handle similar situations.

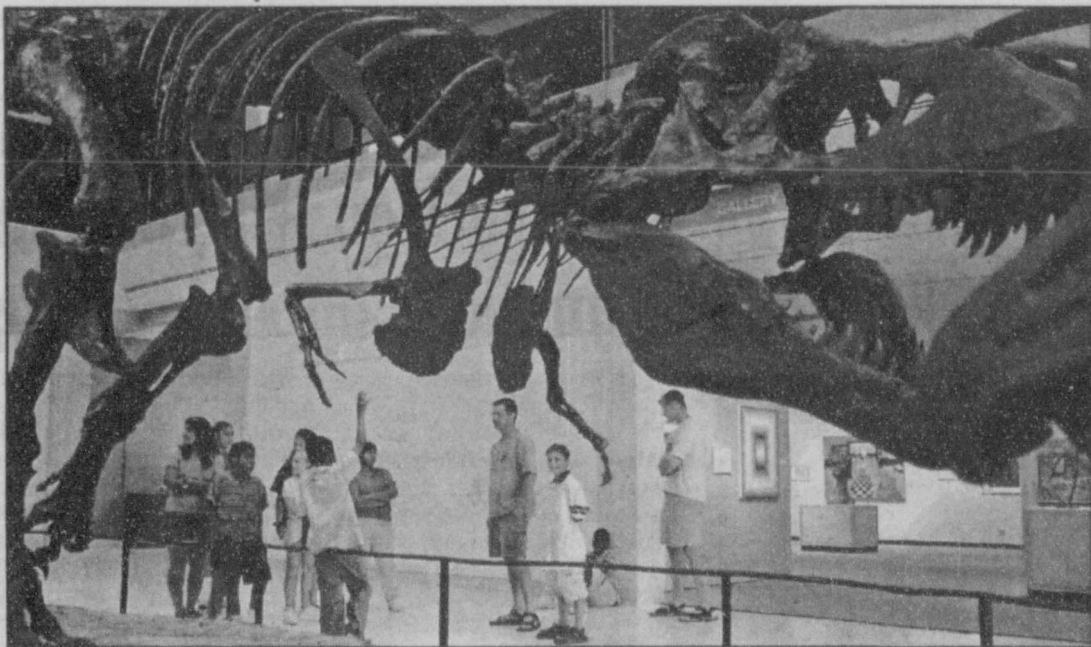
He is hoping Knight's son Tim Knight will accompany him because of his expertise on basketball.

Steinmetz will be going to Duke and North Carolina, two schools who use the first-come-first-serve procedure.

And he is still looking for two universities that use the lottery system.

"We are putting a lot of time and research into this and hopefully we can make a decision within the first couple weeks of school," Steinmetz said.

Skeleton from the past



Craig Swanson/ THE UNIVERSITY DAILY

Jonathan Weinbaum, a paleontology graduate student and lab assistant at the Museum at Texas Tech, answers questions from kids taking a tour from the Buckner alternative school during Dinosaur Week.

■ RAISES

from page 1

salaries are ranked near the bottom for the state and the Big 12 Conference.

"It is virtually impossible to build an institution of national excellence if you don't have quality faculty," he said. "The reason students are here is not to see me. Students show up because they want to learn from new faculty. For these reasons we felt it was absolutely necessary to implement faculty raises."

Schmidly told staff members she appreciated their hard work and willingness to sacrifice.

"I know of all the groups on campus, you all have suffered the most of this," he said. "I wish I didn't have to do what I did, but I think it's the best way to serve the students."

Although all non-faculty salary accounts are being reduced by 8 percent, it is up to the department to determine how their budgets are reduced. Many of the reductions included cuts in printing costs, travel, and equipment. Although some va-

cant positions will not be filled, no one was laid off as a result of the budget cuts, Schmidly said.

Kerry Billingsley, director for the Office of Quality Services, said the staff understands the president's decision and asked him to clarify some confusion on the budget changes.

"My perception of it is — you take that 8 percent, and when pulled together, taken from everybody, you'll have the funds to do it. I think what you find is that everybody takes a hit," Billingsley said.

Billingsley said the staff is pleased with the pay raise.

"Overall, when you talk about the big picture for the staff, it's a good thing and it's painful to make things like that happen and there's varying levels of pain," Billingsley said.

Maurice Welch, Copy Services manager, said one concern she has is coming up with the remaining 2 percent for the staff raises while cutting 8 percent from the same budget.

"It's like tightening the belt, and now you've got to squeeze it one last time," he said.

In addition to the mandated raises,

the state also made provisions for employees entitled to longevity pay. Those entitled will receive an additional \$20 per month for each three years of lifetime service credit.

"I don't think the lights are on yet that \$20 for every five years now being three years means if they were paying \$80 a month it will be \$140," Welch said.

Local accounts, whose funds are provided by student service fees and outside revenue, will be responsible for the entire 4 percent pay increase and the increase in longevity pay mandated by the state.

"Departments that get hit the hardest are the ones where their staff get funded with local money," Welch said.

The statutory increase of 4 percent, or \$100 per month, applies to non-faculty employees who have been continuously employed with the state since Sept. 1, 2000.

In addition, staff who have been employed 12 continuous months as of Sept. 1, 2002 will receive an additional 3 percent increase, or \$65 per month, if the Texas comptroller certifies funds.

The University
DAILY

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Breaking News

Phone: (806) 742-3393

E-mail: UD@ttu.edu

Fax: (806) 742-2434

TechNotes!

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Call: (806) 742-3393

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Raiders Rojos unveil campaign goals

TIFFANY E. KINGSTON
STAFF WRITER

Members of Raiders Rojos National Alumni, a chapter of the Texas Tech Ex-Students Association, unveiled their capital campaign education initiative.

Project GRAD, which stands for Graduation, Retention, Access and Diversity, is designed to solicit funds for the chapter's programs and initial administrative costs.

According to the Raiders Rojos Web site, Project GRAD is an education initiative. The mission of the chapter is to promote greater graduation attainment of Hispanic students from kindergarten through college and beyond. Through specific programs the chapter will address

graduation, retention, access and diversity.

Tech President David Schmidly said he wants to promote an "attitude of gratitude" and encourages the Lubbock community to get involved and support Project GRAD.

"We are grateful for what has been accomplished in only one year," he said, "but we need to do more."

Tech accepted a record 1900 transfer students for the fall semester, Schmidly said. More than 90 percent of the transfer students are African-American. He also said in the past year Tech has hired 75 new faculty members, 19 of which are minorities, which is double the amount of faculty minorities hired in previous years.

"We're doing something

right," he said.

Ysidro Gutierrez, Raiders Rojos National Alumni Association president, said he is excited about the programs the chapter has planned for junior high and high school students.

In September, the chapter will host field trips for local junior high students, to the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center's School of Nursing, in hopes of sparking an interest in a nursing career in some of the young students.

Chapter members also will visit local grade schools to talk one-on-one with Hispanic students. The program is scheduled to begin immediately. Gutierrez said informing the students about college and scholarship information is important.

"We don't want to leave the students guessing," he said.

Schmidly supports the chapter's focus on students.

"What matters most are not just students, but graduating students," he said.

Local businesses and organizations were honored with a framed certificate for making contributions and forging partnerships with Raiders Rojos. Among the honorees were various departments and colleges at Tech. A few honored were the College of Education, the College of Engineering, the College of Arts and Sciences and Upward Bound.

Peggy Johnson, associate dean in the College of Education, said she wants to encourage minority students to take an active interest in a teaching

career.

In addition to the new programs being implemented, Raiders Rojos is sponsoring the Back to School Fiesta on Saturday.

"Raiders Rojos wants to stress the importance of education while incorporating fun," Gutierrez said.

The community is welcome to come enjoy the free food and entertainment, he said.

The fiesta is targeted for students ranging from kindergarten to college. The HSC is co-sponsoring a health fair at the fiesta. Students and their families are encouraged to participate in various health screenings, such as blood pressure checks, cholesterol screenings and information on scheduling immunizations

at Tech's Wellness Center.

The Red Raider fun zone will feature interactive games and will be equipped with inflatable structures, a slide and a bouncing cage.

The fiesta will be located in the parking lot of the Bank of America building on the corner of 19th Street and University Avenue from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by Tech, the Tech Ex-Students Association, the College of Education, Admissions & School Relations, the Texas Tech Association of Parents, as well as other local organizations and businesses.

For more information about Raider Rojos and the fiesta, contact Cultural Diversity Administrator Janie Ramirez at 806-742-8672.

Orders taken for Vatican art tickets

■ *Medieval exhibit will open next June at the Texas Tech Museum*

TIFFANY E. KINGSTON
STAFF WRITER

Medieval art from the Vatican in Italy will be exhibited at the Museum at Texas Tech University next summer.

Reservations for the free tickets to view the exhibit are now being taken at the museum.

Gary Edson, director of the museum said "Traditions and Renewal: Medieval Frescoes from the Vatican Museums" are works of art originally located at the Basilica of St. Agnes fuori le Mura and the Church of St. Nicola in Carcere.

The frescoes were removed from the church walls in the mid-1800s and have been stored at the Vatican ever since, he said.

"Experts at the Vatican did early restoration work on the pieces in 1930-31," Edson said. "The final conservation is being completed now so the frescoes can be displayed as a

group to the public for the very first time in Lubbock."

The frescoes are delicate, less than one-inch thick. Each piece is attached to a solid backing and framed. Edson said the frescoes look much the same today as they did when they were painted.

"A fresco is a wall painting done on wet or fresh plaster," he said. "The images are well preserved, however, the colors used in the frescoes have reacted to the lime in the plaster and over time have become softer."

For an example of a fresco, Edson said, the Tech community can look at the Peter Hurd fresco on the walls of the main office in Holden Hall.

However, he said, acquiring the art from the Vatican is an excellent opportunity for the Tech and Lubbock communities to experience the art without having to travel outside the country.

"Early examples of fresco paintings are not normally available," he said.

Before the art could be released to the museum certain qualifications had to be met, Edson said. The lighting, security, temperature and overall atmosphere of the building had to be assessed.

Tech is the only site for the fresco

exhibition, he said. The pieces of art will be returned to the Vatican after the exhibit.

Edson said the Rev. Malcolm Neyland of the Lubbock Diocese is responsible for soliciting the art from the Vatican.

"Father Neyland has been working on bringing some sort of Vatican Museums exhibit to Lubbock since he first visited the Vatican 13 years ago," Edson said.

The exhibition is free, but tickets are necessary, he said. Requiring tickets will allow adequate time for visitors to view the frescoes. Art lovers can reserve as many tickets for the exhibition as they wish.

"You must know what day and what hour you would like to visit the exhibition," Edson said. "It's a good idea to have a couple of alternative times and dates in mind as well."

Currently, the exhibit will be displayed from June 2 through Sept. 1, 2002. Edson said he is working on getting an extension for the exhibition until Sept. 15, 2002.

He said it is important to make the exhibition available to students at Tech and the extra dates will allow for more time after the summer.

For ticket information call 742-2442.

Democrats push to reward immigrants who pay taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic leaders said Thursday they will push for laws that reward immigrants who have worked and paid taxes, regardless of their legal status.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt laid out what they called their immigration "principles" in a letter to President Bush and Mexico President Vicente Fox.

"We welcome this historic opportunity to recraft our immigration policies in ways that better reflect our core mutual values of family unity, fundamental fairness and economic opportunity," the letter states.

In a news conference, the

Democrats said their broad immigration wish list reflects "American values" because it would allow people who have worked in the country, paid taxes and raised children to become citizens, reunite families and reward those whose work the American economy uses.

But Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., who leads the Immigration Reform Caucus in Congress, dismissed the principles as another form of amnesty for people who have broken immigration law.

"It doesn't appear to be there is anything interesting or new in any of these proposals," Tancredo said. "I'm all for family reunification, especially people here illegally — that is, to have them go back home."

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E-mail: UD@ttu.edu

[EDITORIAL]

Tech officials need to take action now

It was only a matter of time before season ticket syndrome hit the Texas Tech campus. Bob Knight's arrival in March brought national exposure to Tech like never before. But despite the obvious attraction of one of collegiate sports' most recognized figures, it seems Tech officials were all but prepared for the impact the Knight acquisition had on ticket sales for men's basketball games. Tech may have bitten off more than it can chew.

The season is still almost four months from tip off and every seat in the United Spirit Arena will likely be spoken for when the first men's game is played Nov. 16.

As of July 26, more than 12,000 seats have been reserved for men's basketball games with an arena capacity of 15,050.

With only 3,600 student-section seats available, about 12,500 all-sport packages and 300 all-basketball passes have been sold thus far. This shortage of more than 10,000 seats will likely grow during the months leading up to Knight's inaugural campaign at Tech.

The deficit will increase for two reasons. One: Russell Warren, Tech's assistant athletic director for ticket operations, says August is traditionally the biggest month for ticket sales. Two: For the first time this year, all students living in the residence halls were automatically receive all-sports season ticket packages incorporated into their housing and dining fees. The plan is intended to attract students normally not interested in sports to attend the games.

Steinmetz's attempt to find the best remedy for the situation shows his dedication to Tech students; however, the fact that Tech officials are pawning the dilemma on Steinmetz's shoulders makes it extremely clear that the university failed to consider the students' wants when planning to hire Knight.

Tech needs to get its priorities straight and respond in the best interest of the students by taking responsibility for the problem university officials created.

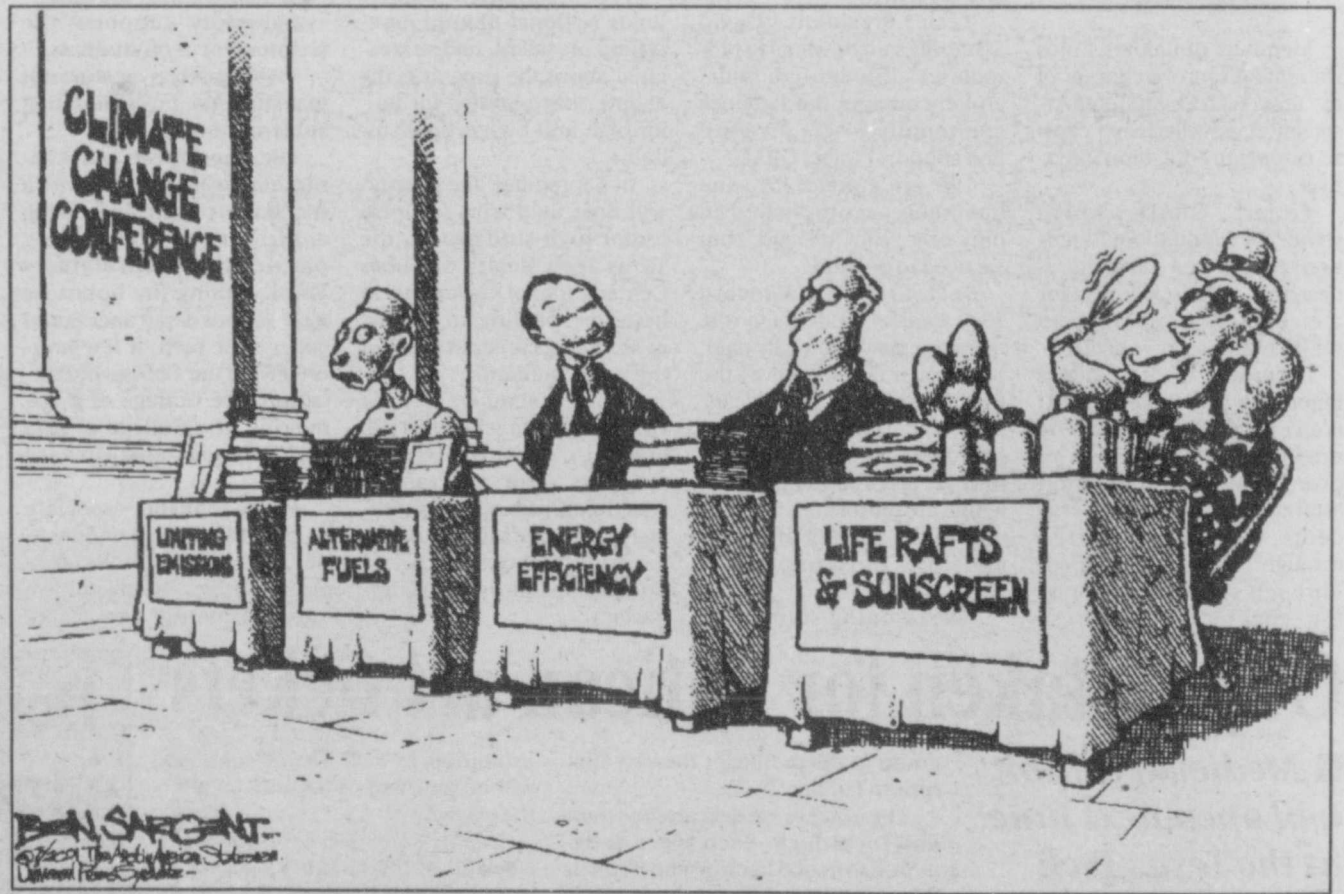
And even if they now admit to the mistakes they have overlooked or ignored, what can they do to improve the situation? Despite the lack of available seats, it is unlikely Tech officials will halt the sales of sports passes to keep the deficit from getting worse.

But the school is ethically required to provide refunds to the thousands of basketball fans that will be unable to attend the basketball games. Tech students bought these passes because they were told it would allow them into every Tech athletic home game. To keep the money for the passes without living up to their side of the agreement is immoral. Therefore, if the school can no longer guarantee that every student who bought an all-sports package will gain entrance to every game, the athletics department should refund at least a portion of the \$88 fee for the all-sports package or \$30 fee for the all-basketball package. Anything less would be theft from students' pockets.

It's not too much to ask or expect adults to clean up their messes, so the leaders of Tech should stand up and do whatever it takes to ensure the satisfaction of its students as only they can. They need to prove their good faith to the students. Otherwise, how can anyone expect students to get excited about Tech's sports teams when they are not able to attend events they have already paid for?

The bottom line is simple — when someone pays for something the person expects to receive satisfaction on the investment.

Regardless if anything can be done about the over-selling of 2001-02 men's basketball tickets, whoever is responsible for distributing the tickets should be held completely liable for unkept promises regarding the business deal and be required to make restitution.



[COLUMN]

How to survive an oversold Spirit Arena

Student Government President John Steinmetz should have gotten out while he could.

The same time he was in a run-off election for president was the same week Bob Knight came into the picture.

He got the job and so did Knight.

Now, thanks to Knight and whoever thought of incorporating sports tickets into students on-campus housing and dining fees, Steinmetz may be in the toughest situation any SGA president at Tech has ever been in.

He has the tough task of pleasing more than 12,000 students that have tickets to men's basketball games next season.

The problem is he only has 3,600 seats for his student body. I advise Steinmetz to change his name and move to Mexico.

Possibilities of getting run over or shot are a lot smaller if you leave the Hub City now. It is clear that he wants to do everything he can for the students. Too bad he can't please everyone.

Steinmetz is looking at either running a lottery or doing a first-come-first-serve system for every game. That doesn't fix the

problem.

He still has only 3,600 seats. Oh yeah, take out 200 of those seats for the Saddle Tramps, Pep Band and opposing team fans. Russell Warren, associate athletic director for ticket operations, said the arena still has 3,000 seats to be sold.

Here is what you do Mr. President. Coach Knight said when he arrived here he would love to see every seat at every game be filled by a student. Well coach, here is your chance to have almost half the arena for students.

But what you have to do is simply write a check, sign your name and purchase the 3,000 remaining seats. Knight's reputation is still dark and that would brighten it up.

However, Steinmetz would have to make sure students continue attend games — even if Tech is back at the bottom of the Big 12 Conference.

So Steinmetz should make a deal with Knight.

If students do not fill the seats, Steinmetz will just have to find a way to pay him back.

Solution No. 2: Close the ticket office, disconnect the phones and put all 3,000 seats on hold for every game remaining.

Forty eight hours before tip off only students can reserve seats in either the original section or the new section. If tickets remain in the added student

section, other fans can buy a ticket 12 hours before tip off.

If my solutions do not work than there may be some riots on Indiana Avenue. And Steinmetz will be in the middle.

It may leave some students asking, "When is the next Saddle Tramps rush?" or, "Is it still too late to try out for band?"

What I would do is pose as an opposing team's fan. Call up and say you are a UT student and you want a ticket.

Students that deserve to be in should get in.

This problem is a good problem. It will be great for the program to see hundreds of students camping out for tickets.

It will be fun and it will add to the game experience. What else would you be doing? Studying?

It is what this university needs.

It is just too bad most of these students are fair-weather fans.

Fifth-year seniors that supported the Dickey days may not have a seat next year while a freshman that just wants to be on ESPN does.

Good luck John. Enjoy the Mexican food and cheap beer.

Matt Muench is a junior journalism major from El Paso. Ticket arrangements can be requested at mamuench@ttacs.ttu.edu.



Matt Muench

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

Two-year schools depended on for next wave of teachers

Faced with teacher shortages and the need to fill 2.7 million new positions by the end of the decade, state officials nationwide are turning to community colleges as a new, untapped training ground.

That often means changing rules that limit teacher preparation to four-year colleges and universities. It also challenges the view that the nation's 1,132 two-year schools are just open-admission, low-cost feeders to more prestigious campuses.

"This is a significant recognition of the important role that community colleges are making in meeting the education needs of our nation," said Katherine Boswell, an expert on community colleges at the Education Commission of the States in Denver. "After 100 years of being in the shadow of four-year institutions, they are being recognized for the important role they play."

In Texas, community colleges now offer teacher-certification courses, once the sole purview of universities.

Other recent examples:

■ Most students attend Nevada's Great Basin College in rural Elko to earn a two-year associate's degree. But in May, the community college granted its first bachelor's of arts degrees in elementary education, a feat that required assent from two state agencies and an accrediting body.

■ At the two-year Rio Salado College in Tempe, Ariz., nearly 100 people signed up for a new online teacher-prep course that starts in August. Until a rule change a few years ago, Arizona's community colleges were barred from providing such training.

■ In Maryland, which expects to be down 10,000 teachers this coming school year, state education officials have approved a new associate of arts in teaching degree that will allow aspiring teachers to attend a community college, and then transfer all credits to any public or private uni-

versity in the state. All they'll need is a 2.75 GPA and to pass the state teacher-certification test.

"We realized we needed to remove barriers," Maryland's Secretary of Higher Education Karen Johnson said of creating a seamless route from community college to university to classroom. "The shortage is so severe."

Hardest hit by the teacher shortage are urban school districts, remote rural areas and fast-growing suburbs. There are various causes: a retiring baby-boom teacher corps, rising high school enrollment and competition from better-paying careers.

Not everyone is comfortable seeing community colleges take on teacher training.

"The tension for my membership is the fact that the public is setting higher and higher expectations for teachers," said David Imig, president of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

He pointed, in particular, to states where community college graduates are guaranteed admission to a university or state college.

"Four-year institutions are saying we have to have some ability to set the standards for people who come to us," Imig said.

Another point of potential friction are the differing expectations of faculty. Four-year schools, unlike community colleges, want their faculties to hold doctorates, do research and get published.

Community colleges say they're meeting the highest standards. At Great Basin College, the tiny new Education Department faculty consists of two people with Ph.D.s, and a third person working toward hers.

"We had to develop a curriculum, and we spent two years meeting with the local school districts and reviewing what we considered model (teacher-college) programs," said Betty Elliott, vice president for academic affairs at Great Basin.

SUV more successful without Geo name

The Tracker sport utility vehicle started life 13 years ago as a Geo model but seems to be enjoying newfound success wearing only the Chevrolet badge.

A major redesign two years ago and a V6 engine, new this year, certainly helped. With calendar year sales of Tracker on a record pace this year, Chevrolet's smallest SUV is showing just how hot the small SUV category is.

According to automotive researcher J.D. Power and Associates of Agoura Hills, Calif., small SUVs account for nearly 1 in 5 new SUV sales, up from 1 in 8 in 1997.

And while new names in the

segment like Ford Escape and Jeep Liberty are attracting attention, Tracker's low starting prices help keep it a contender.

The manufacturer's suggested retail price, including destination, for a base, 2001 two-door convertible Tracker is \$15,885 while a four-door, hardtop model starts at \$16,505.

Chevy dropped the Geo nameplate from the Tracker in the 1998 model year. Geo had tried to differentiate certain vehicles in Chevy showrooms to appeal to more import-oriented buyers.

This year, Chevy added two new, four-door Tracker models: A sporty ZR2 and a high-line LT, which was my

test vehicle. Both come standard with a new V6 that helps give this long-running SUV better performance than ever.

It took a while for Chevy to get this 155-horsepower, 2.5-liter powerplant. It's made by Suzuki in Japan and has, until this model year, been the exclusive V6 in the popular Suzuki Grand Vitara SUV.

There's a close relationship between Suzuki's Vitara models and Chevy's Tracker. The Tracker is a sibling of the Vitara, and Tracker assembly is done at a joint venture General Motors Corp.-Suzuki plant in Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada. GM is Chevy's parent corporation.



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Police locate missing man's body

McALLEN (AP) — The body of a man believed to be the missing father of a 21-month old baby found dead over the weekend in an abandoned car seat has been recovered from a South Texas orchard.

A tip led authorities to the body believed to be that of 20-year-old Geronimo Morales.

He and his daughter, Leslie Ann Morales, were reported missing when they did not show up to a family party on Saturday night.

Border Patrol agents found the girl dead in her car seat on Sunday night at a park near the Rio Grande. Agents said the victim was strapped in the seat and hidden in some brush.

Family and friends gathered around the baby's tiny white cof-

fin at her burial service on Wednesday afternoon. Meanwhile, law officers were recovering her father's body.

Police believe the toddler was alive when she was abandoned, but succumbed to the hot weather.

Police Chief Raul Gonzalez of the La Joya Independent School District said that someone had strangled the 20-year-old air conditioner repairman the night of his disappearance and dumped his body in an orchard north of La Joya.

Mission police said they expected to issue an arrest warrant shortly for a La Joya man, but would not identify him.

"The only thing we can let you know is that there is a hot lead," Gonzalez said.

BIRTHDAY BLOW OUT

MTV celebrates its 20th anniversary with a party full of former favorites and contemporary stars

NEWYORK (AP) — Fame on MTV is usually fleeting: Acts that bask in the network's spotlight typically do so for a few years at best before being relegated to "Behind the Music"-type nostalgia on other networks.

But on Wednesday, as MTV celebrated its 20th anniversary, blasts from the past mingled with current MTV favorites at a star-studded blow-out aired live on the network. The show opened with an appearance by cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-Head and punk band Sum 41.

"It's actually an exciting event," said Slash, former guitarist for the late-'80s rock band Guns n' Roses, one of many at the network's "Live

and Almost Legal" party. "I'm glad to have reached some success in that genre ... it's very cool to have been there."

Many of MTV's current fans can be forgiven if they don't know the network's original faces, including VJs Martha Quinn, JJ Jackson, Nina Blackwood, Mark Goodman and Alan Hunter. After all, one of MTV's most popular artists, Britney Spears, wasn't even born when the network debuted.

Some old faces who appeared Wednesday included Joan Jett, Huey Lewis, Billy Idol, Boy George, Pauly Shore, and Fred Schneider of the B-52s.

"We started off MTV, now we're VH1," said Schneider said.

On the red carpet, faces of MTV's present mingled with those from the past. VJ Dave Holmes got excited as he saw former MTV VJs, including Blackwood and Jesse Camp.

"It's like the MTV geriatrics have shown up," said Dan Cortese, a former MTV personality who has since acted in such shows as Veronica's Closet.

Slash, 36, remembers watching the young network as a teen-ager.

"I remember many hours glued to the television set," he said. "I sort of grew up with it."

That was back when groups like

Duran Duran, George Michael and an emerging singer named Madonna ruled the channel, when MTV's programming focused almost exclusively on music videos, instead of on "Celebrity Deathmatch," "Real World" marathons and gross-out comedy shows.

Most of the acts that rose with MTV have disappeared from its airwaves. Remember Debbie Gibson? New Kids on the Block? Cyndi Lauper?

But some of the faces have managed to stand the test of time. Janet Jackson, who made her MTV debut in the late '80s, still gets airplay.

Jackson was scheduled to be in at-

tendance Wednesday, along with Jane's Addiction, Depeche Mode, Run-DMC, Salt 'n' Pepa, Billy Idol, Aerosmith, Nelly, Blink 182, Mary J. Blige and Sugar Ray.

The night's headliner was supposed to be Mariah Carey, but she dropped out last week after she was hospitalized for a physical and emotional breakdown.

Jenny McCarthy, who appeared on MTV's now defunct "Singled Out" said the network was responsible for her celebrity. But like many before her, her time on MTV was not to last. McCarthy said she missed MTV and hoped she would be on the network again.

Interfaith families running into conflicts

DALLAS — Marzuq Jaami got so upset that he walked out of his sister's funeral. The Muslim man said he could no longer listen to the Christian pastor's sermon.

"Everything was about his way of seeing Jesus," he said. "I have never been so worn down, my spirit broken."

Jaami said he was offended that the pastor saw the funeral as an opportunity to ask people to accept Jesus as their savior.

By the time it was over, the Dallas resident said, a ritual designed to bring comfort only added to his grief.

As the number of interfaith families grows, many are finding that the funerals that bring them together also can pull them apart.

A death can raise unexpected questions and potential conflicts:

How will a Christian pastor handle funeral services knowing that some family and friends are Buddhist or of other faiths? Will a Catholic widow feel left out when her Jewish in-laws sit shiva, the seven-day mourning period? Can an interfaith couple find a cemetery that allows them to be buried side by side and will both spouses be comfortable with that?

Families, funeral directors and religious leaders are struggling to find creative ways to resolve such dilemmas. But the solutions rarely come without adding stress at an already difficult time.

"You can find yourself feeling alienated at the end," said Mary Helene Rosenbaum, director of the Dovetail Institute for Interfaith Family Resources in Boston, Ky. "Until recently, couples haven't dealt with it."

Religious leaders advise people to plan ahead.

"Oftentimes people are concerned, 'Am I doing the right thing by my Jewish husband who died?'" said Rabbi Elias J. Lieberman of Falmouth Jewish Congregation in Cape Cod, Mass. "Knowing what he or she would have wanted goes a

long way to bringing comfort."

The rate of intermarriages and conversions has skyrocketed in recent decades, creating families with members of different faiths, including Christian, Jews, Muslims and many others. Statistics on intermarriage and conversions are hard to come by. A 1990 Jewish Population survey found that 52 percent of Jews married people of other religions, but those numbers have been disputed.

Many interfaith couples have not yet had to deal with the death of a spouse, but some have thought about their own funerals after losing parents.

Rosenbaum said she faced the issue after her mother-in-law died. Rosenbaum is Catholic and her husband, Ned, is an observant Jew. Efforts to compromise left his mother's ceremony so secular that they both felt religiously distanced.

Services like that raise questions about the purpose of a funeral.

"There's the problem with any funeral of: Who's it for?" Rosenbaum said. "Is it for the deceased, or the family that's left behind?"

Clergy say funerals are for both. "It's as much for the family as the person who passed away," said the Rev. Chris Pittman of First United Methodist Church of Dallas. "I think it's twofold, and both things fit together."

But he and others acknowledge that's not always simple.

"It's a tough balance," he said. Funeral directors said the growing number of interfaith families has made funerals more difficult to plan. A typical planning meeting that used to take an hour and a half now runs closer to three hours, said Kelly

Smith, spokesman of the National Funeral Directors Association in Brookfield, Wis.

"It can create stress on the family, especially when they haven't worked out the issues," said Beverly Henley, owner of Forest Lawn Funeral Home at Turtle Creek. "It can become a sticky situation. We suggest they find a happy medium."

About 35 percent of services at the Dallas funeral home involve interfaith families, she said. There are also families with members on opposite ends of the spectrum within the same religion, she said.

"We very often will do a mix" of beliefs, Henley said, including having clergy from different traditions. Details count: Some relatives have removed the kneeler traditionally placed in front of the casket at

Catholic funerals but left the candles at the foot and head of the casket, she said.

Sometimes there is no happy medium.

That was the case at a funeral for an atheist woman whose

grown children were born-again Christians, said the Rev. Douglas Morgan Strong of Community Unitarian Universalist Church in Plano.

Strong, who knew the woman, read the 23rd Psalm from the Old Testament. Her children wanted something from the New Testament.

"They were not terribly pleased with me, but I said, 'I must remind you the funeral was for your atheist mother,'" he said.

Some religious leaders say they make adjustments at funeral services to try to be sensitive to people of other faiths.

"If I read a passage in Hebrew, I will always offer a translation," Rabbi Lieberman said.

Vintage dresses gaining popularity

TYLER — It can make a bride's heart skip a beat or bring tears to her eyes.

Some claim it's the only thing they can see in a room.

But all would agree on one thing: It's the dress and nothing can compare to it.

While some brides choose to go with cutting-edge designs, others decide to step back in time with a vintage bridal gown.

"Some women choose to look for dresses that are modern and new, but then there are those who realize there is another market available in vintage dresses and they are open to that also," said Carlotta Kingry-Miles, who along with her mother, Angeline Kingry, owns Revivals, a shop specializing in vintage and antique clothing and furs.

By including the option of vintage in the search for a wedding gown, Kingry-Miles said, brides open the doors to many different styles that may turn out to be the one for them.

"With vintage gowns you can choose from short, long, high collar, low collar, puffy sleeves, straight sleeves or no sleeves, not to mention vintage dresses just

fit so much better than the ones that are made today," Kingry-Miles said.

"Nowadays, designers make the dresses so that the bride has to go up a size and then take it to a seamstress and have it taken in where it's too big. It's just a lot of hassle where there doesn't have to be any."

Kingry-Miles also pointed out vintage dresses cost much less and hold up better through the years because of the quality with which they were made.

"You can get vintage wedding dresses for around \$100 or \$200 and look beautiful in all of the detailed workmanship rather than paying hundreds or thousands of dollars for a new dress that may not fit right," Kingry-Miles said.

With vintage clothes coming back in style, finding a wedding gown won't be a horrendous undertaking for the bride.

"Vintage gowns are definitely coming into style. There will always be those who have a love for dresses like that and will always want to find one," she added. "The bride wants something unique for herself because it's her day. She finally gets to play the role of princess and she wants to look and feel great."

"I have never been so worn down, my spirit broken."

Marzuq Jaami
MUSLIM DALLAS RESIDENT

'N Sync fans get break in parking costs

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Parking rates for the 'N Sync concert at the new Heinz Field are out of sync with what Pittsburgh Steelers fans will pay to park in lots where the Sports & Exhibition Authority sets rates.

Fans attending the Aug. 18 concert, the first event at the new home of the Steelers, will pay \$15 to park.

Some members of the city-county authority, which oversees the new stadium, wanted to charge just \$10 while others favored charging \$20. Steelers fans will pay \$24 or \$20 at lots closest to the stadium.

Authority board member and state Rep. Ralph Kaiser agreed with the \$15 compromise rate because he said 'N Sync's fans are mostly teenagers making low wages.

"These are people working at Wendy's and McDonald's," said Kaiser, an Allegheny County Democrat. "They're saving their money to go to the concert. I don't want to soak them."

"We'll let the concert promoter do that," quipped Mark Schneider, another board member, referring to 'N Sync ticket prices that range from \$29.50 to \$65.50.

Houston Rocket dream is over

HOUSTON (AP) — He's been perhaps the most enduring success story in the city's sports history. Now Hakeem Olajuwon is gone.

All that remains are memories of an unmatched 20-year college and pro career, and for the Rockets to complete a sign-and-trade deal that would send the future Hall of Famer to the Toronto Raptors for two draft picks.

Olajuwon made it clear Wednesday that he no longer wanted to play

for the Rockets. Owner Les Alexander agreed to sign and trade him to the Raptors for two draft choices.

"It's just one of those situations in life you have to deal with," Rockets guard Cuttino Mobley said Thursday. "Dream did what he thought was best for himself and his family."

"We've got to keep the rest of our team together and stop breaking us up. It's like a marriage. You can't love your wife if you're always leaving."

As Mobley said goodbye, Raptors

forward Brian Skinner, prepared to say hello.

"It's going to be good. I've worked out with him the last couple of years," said Skinner, anticipating his first season with Toronto. "He doesn't try to teach you, but you watch the stuff he goes through and you learn what to do and not do."

"He's one of the greatest centers in the league. You can't help but learn from him," Skinner said.

Olajuwon turned down the Rock-

ets' offer of a guaranteed three-year contract worth \$13 million to accept a three-year deal from the Raptors for \$17 million.

Mobley said fans should not criticize Olajuwon for his move.

"If somebody out there makes a decision, Dream's not going to be mad at them," Mobley said. "So who are you to say you're mad at Dream cause of what he chose? That's the problem with society now people think it should be their way."

Rangers blast Yankees, 12-2

NEWYORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez hit a three-run homer in Texas' six-run third inning against Mike Mussina, and the Rangers won their first series at Yankee Stadium in eight years, beating New York 12-2 Thursday.

Gabe Kapler also hit a three-run shot in the third, Frank Catalanotto and Ricky Ledee added solo homers, and Aaron Myette earned his first career victory for Texas.

Myette (1-1) held New York to two hits. Mussina (11-9) gave up eight runs, nine hits and three homers in four innings.

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NBA veteran joins Dallas Mavericks

DALLAS (AP) — When Danny Manning decided he couldn't beat the Dallas Mavericks, he joined them.

After Manning and the Utah Jazz were upset by the Mavericks in a first-round playoff series this season, he looked at Utah's aging roster and realized his best shot at an NBA championship was on the other sideline.

So, Manning signed with the Mavericks on Thursday, hoping to get closer to the title that has eluded him through five teams and 13 years in the NBA. Terms of the contract were not released.

"I'm very excited about the direction the Mavericks are going in," Manning said. "I felt this organization was on the rise. We can only get better."

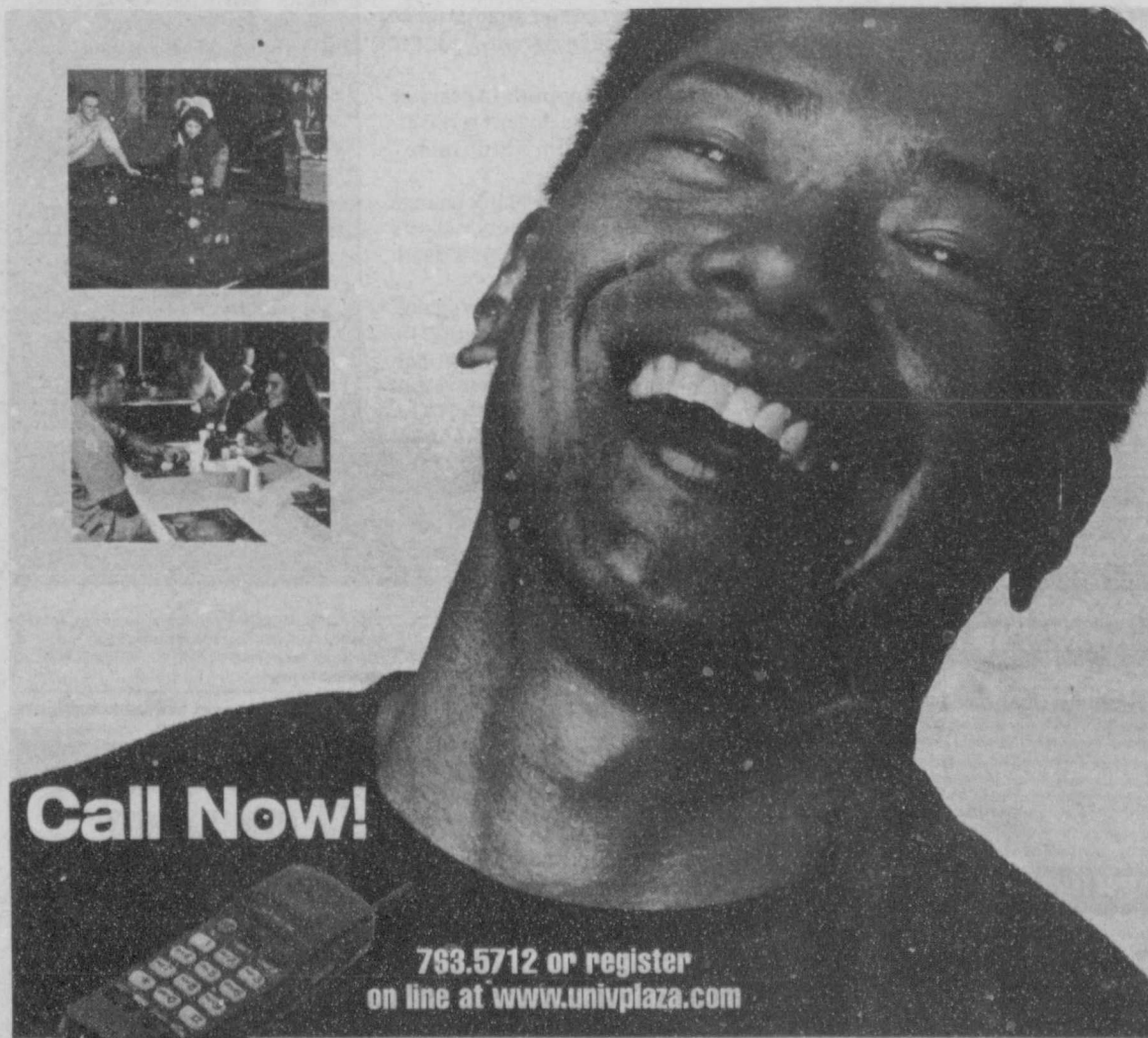
Manning said he was intrigued with playing for owner Mark Cuban and with the potential of the Mavericks, who posted a 53-29 record last season, their best since 1988. After stunning the Jazz by recovering from an 0-2 deficit in the best-of-5 series, Dallas lost to San Antonio in the second round of the playoffs.

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