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# DAILY TEXAN

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

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## Ryan Grady's trial begins after jury selection

Ryan Grady leaves the Travis County Courthouse after jury selection Monday morning. Grady is facing charges of murder and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for the Oct. 5, 2002, beating death of Johnathan Flobeck, a former UT student.

Joe Buglewicz/  
Daily Texan Staff



### Attorneys present opening statements in first day of trial

By Clay Reddick  
Daily Texan Staff

Ryan Patrick Grady pleaded not guilty to two felony charges Monday in Travis County district court. Grady is accused of assaulting and killing another UT student in an October 2002 altercation outside his apartment near Riverside Drive. Early on the morning of Oct. 5, 19-year-old Johnathan Flobeck and his friends were involved in a confrontation with Grady and his roommate. The

fight ended with Grady hitting Flobeck in the head with The Club, a metal anti-theft steering wheel lock, and then running to call 911 as Flobeck lay dying.

In its opening statements, the prosecution argued Grady and his friend started the fight that ended in Flobeck's death. Grady's attorney, in opening statements, told jurors the 22-year-old had been trying to diffuse the situation, when it got out of hand.

Defense attorney Chris Gunter told jurors Flobeck's group initiated the conflict that night. He said after taunting the occupants of Grady's car, the group walked around the Melrose Apartments complex looking for Grady.

"It shouldn't have been a big deal, but these guys in the street thought it

was," Gunter said.

Gunter said a group of about nine, led by Flobeck, taunted those in the car. Grady wanted to diffuse the situation because he thought Flobeck lived nearby and would probably see him around his apartment in the future.

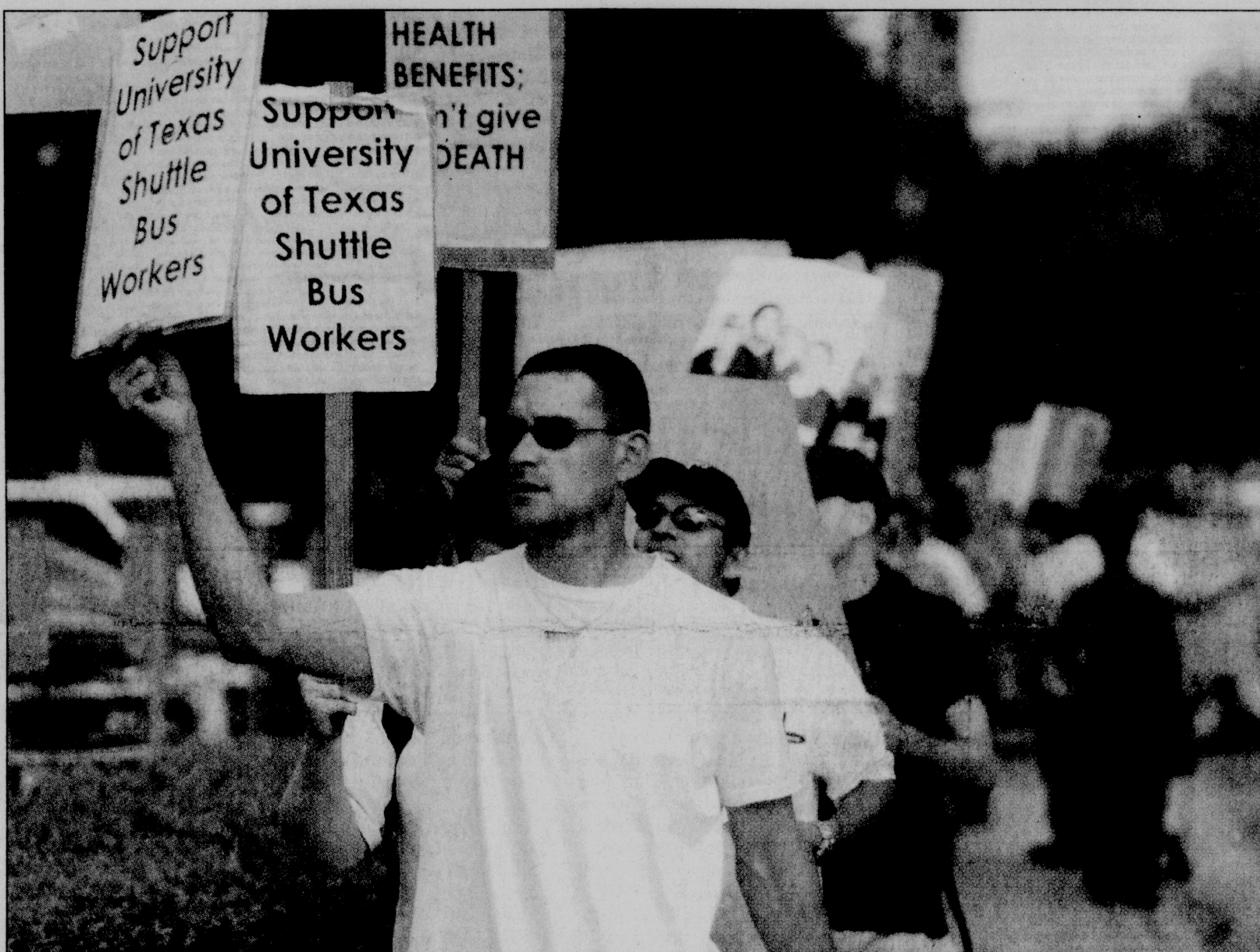
Grady and roommate Jared Espree, an English senior, both probably drunk on Wild Turkey whiskey, brought weapons to the confrontation to protect themselves in case of a fight, Gunter said.

Flobeck and his friends only wanted to fight, Gunter said. Grady hit Flobeck to save his roommate, who Flobeck was pushing to the ground.

"That's all it was — panic," Gunter said.

See GRADY, page 2

## CapMetro extends contract with UT



Ben Sklar/Daily Texan Staff

Daniel Urea, a UT shuttle bus driver for six-and-a-half years, leads a group of bus worker supporters outside of the Capital Metro Board of Directors Meeting on Monday evening. The group marched up and down the city block outside of the Capital Metro Building in East Austin.

### Protesters, student activists push for Capital Metro to terminate contract with ATC/Vancom

By Angela Grant  
Daily Texan Staff

Unified yelling of a coalition of UT students and shuttle workers outside the room seemed to bewil-

der attendees of the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors meeting Monday.

Shuttle workers and activists from Students for a Fair and Safe

Shuttle voiced concerns at the meeting about ATC/Vancom of Texas, Capital Metro's subcontractor operating the UT shuttle system.

"What do we want? A fair contract. When do we want it? Now!"

was the chant that arose from about 20 activists who packed the room, lining the back walls. The chanting stopped as the group

See SHUTTLE, page 7

## UT Watch group calls for System inquiry

### Report says UT System illegally lobbied for deregulation

By Lilly Rockwell and Jonathan York  
Daily Texan Staff

A student activist group is calling for the Texas Ethics Commission and Attorney General Greg Abbott to investigate whether the UT System illegally lobbied state legislators last spring for tuition deregulation.

UT Watch claims in a report released over the weekend that System officials drafted legislation and met with members in a wide campaign to deregulate tuition in the last regular session.

The System, like other state agencies, is prohibited from spending money to influence legislation or using official authority for a political purpose.

Tuition deregulation allowed governing boards at state colleges and universities to set tuition rates without legislative approval. After deregulation, UT-Austin tuition rose by \$720. UT Watch and other student groups protested deregulation because of the potential for sharp increases.

System spokesman Michael Warden said in a press release Monday that UT Watch's allegations "misrepresent activities of the UT System."

The System's efforts on behalf of the tuition deregulation bill included more than 40 meetings and dinners with legislators during a five-month period, according to the report. Warden said these meetings were legal.

"The UT System takes very seriously its responsibility to provide legislators and the public with accurate and candid information, including, of course, our assessment of the impact of proposed legislation," Warden said.

See UT WATCH, page 6

## Plan legalizing video lottery stations at race tracks posed

### Proponents: Idea will create new jobs, help fund schools

By A.J. Bauer  
Daily Texan Staff

Legalizing video lottery terminals at horse racing tracks would cultivate the state's agriculture industry, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said.

Combs testified Monday before the House Select Committee on Public School Finance, which debated a proposal to legalize and tax lottery machines to fund schools.

The plan would funnel at least 38 percent of the machines' income into public education.

Combs said the incorporation of video lottery terminals could create more than 30,000 new jobs in the horse industry alone, by enticing more customers to race tracks.

"In the past, Texas has had very small purses, so it has not attracted the horse industry to stay here," Combs said. "If you actually have a horse racing facility that makes money, they will have a bigger purse."

More prize money for winning horses would expand the Texas horse industry, Combs said.

But representatives of the 600-member Kickapoo tribe, which owns a casino in Eagle Pass, 130 miles southwest of San Antonio, said the proposal would put them out of business.

Kickapoo spokeswoman Gloria Hernandez said the proposal would weaken the casino's appeal, because their clientele comes mainly from San Antonio.

"If the same thing is offered closer to home, you have no reason to travel the 130 miles on a road that is not very attractive," Hernandez said.

Hernandez said the state should limit the number of terminals allowed at racetracks.

This would give the casino a competitive advantage over its would-be competition Retama Park, a racetrack 15 minutes northeast of San Antonio.

Opponents of the plan also claim it is an unstable source of funding, Committee member Rep. Dennis Bonnen, R-Angleton, said he does not want the public to think lottery terminals are a cure for school funding problems.

"I feel we make the mistake of telling our constituents that 'if you do lottery, it's going to pay for education in this state,'" Bonnen said. "That's just not true."

But Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, who introduced the plan, said lottery revenue is only part of the solution.

"This was never meant to be a panacea," Wilson said. "This is not going to be the sole source for education. It's going to help us pay for education."

## Students for Bush rally on West Mall

### Group shows support for president, his re-election, his values

By Daniel K. Lai  
Daily Texan Staff

As the race to the White House intensifies, representatives of the University's Students For Bush organization tried to build momentum for the Bush 2004 re-election campaign Monday by rallying on the West Mall.

Flanked by poster-sized pictures of President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney, Bush-Cheney '04 banners and the president's prerecorded speeches blaring through a PA system, SFB members passed out literature and bumper stickers and tried to get passers-by to register to vote in the November election.

"I believe Bush makes the world a better place," said SFB Chair Leonard Cash, a government senior. "Bush has made our lives safer with his war on terrorism and the creation of Homeland Security."



Chris Nguyen/Daily Texan Staff

Brian Bodine, a government senior, speaks to a sparse crowd on the West Mall at a rally Monday afternoon, denouncing democratic presidential candidate John Kerry and defending the Republican agenda.

Members of SFB spoke on topics they feel may affect voters' decision, including the war in Iraq, health care, the economy, education and the environment. "I think Bush is a very stable leader; under his leadership the economy has grown faster than any other industrialized nation,"

said Mitchell Griffith, a finance and government freshman. "Bush is a stable hand in a world of turmoil."

Matt Stolhandske, co-director of SFB, said Bush deserves to know that there are students in

See BUSH, page 2

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#### Ozomatli review



California genre-blenders Ozomatli put on a fresh show at La Zona Rosa last Thursday. Look inside for the Texans slightly late review.

SEE PAGE 15

#### Weather

High 82 Low 59

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## UNIVERSITY BRIEFS

### University receives honors from AISD program

The University of Texas has been named the Education Partner of the Year for 2004. Austin Partners in Education recognized the University on April 21 for the "impressive" partnership programs it has forged with Austin schools.

"Ever so quietly, a committed University community works tirelessly year after year in concert with us, striving to improve every facet of our school district," said Superintendent Pat Forgione.

The University has dozens of programs that help Austin schoolchildren. About 450 University student teachers grade papers, tutor, teach and work with the Austin Independent School District on a daily basis. Events such as Explore UT, the University's annual open house, encourage young students to come to the University by making them aware of higher education opportunities.

The University also shares its technology resources. Project Utopia allows AISD teachers to use monthly lectures, complete with PowerPoint presentation and lesson plans.

"It is not possible to acknowledge and thank the countless key leaders at UT, who in addition to all of their duties, give countless hours to the Partners program," Forgione said.

— Kristi Hsu

### UT Mock Trial team wins weekend tournament

The undergraduate Mock Trial team won the University's Mock Trial Competition Tournament last weekend, defeating teams from Texas A&M University and Baylor University.

The team, which includes students from different age groups, travels around the United States all year and has previously won awards for Best Attorney and Best Witness in national competition.

Members of the team include government freshman Lee Glahn, English sophomore David Deatherage, government junior Tom Jacob, computer sciences senior Arpan Sura and undeclared sophomores Leila F. Wright and Utsav Mathur.

— Daniel K. Lai

## TURTLE WATCHING



Joe Buglewicz/Daily Texas Staff

Jake Boswell, an Austin resident, plays near the Turtle Pond in Central Campus on Monday morning.

# War a main topic at rally

### BUSH, FROM 1

Austin who appreciate his past four years of leadership.

"Even in the heart of liberal Austin, students will do their best to ensure there will be another four years of honest, conservative leadership in the White House," Stolhandske said.

However, opponents of Bush's policies feel the president is not the best candidate to lead America into the future.

"Bush has made our lives safer with his war on terrorism and the creation of Homeland Security."

Leonard Cash, government senior

Michael Hadin, a member of the International Socialist Organization, said voters "should not just settle" for a candidate when they vote.

"There's no reason for people to think if they want a better

world that they should vote for Bush or Kerry," Hadin said. "Bush is a right-wing president with right-wing policies ranging from his beliefs with abortion to the war in Iraq."

Other opponents feel Bush should not be allowed to continue to categorically defy the United Nations' resolutions.

"President Bush's foreign policy has made America out to be a rogue nation in the eyes of the United Nations as well as cost the lives of hundreds of American soldiers," said University Democrats presidential nominee Jonathan McBride, a linguistics freshman. "Bush has shown the American people that he's not capable of running this country. His economic policy has cost millions of Americans their jobs and livelihood."

McBride also said Bush's Marriage Protection Act denies countless American citizens equal standing under the law.

"He has alienated the left by trying to legislate morality, and he has alienated the right with massive deficit spending. Why anyone is still behind him today is a mystery to me," McBride said.

### THE SKINNY ON VIOLENCE

AMSTERDAM — A Dutch artist has used a flap of her own skin to make a replica pistol to be shown at an Amsterdam art show next month. Joanneke Meester said she made the tiny pistol with a piece of skin — 8 inches long and 1.6 inches high — surgically removed from her abdomen to express her concern about violence in society.



### TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Registration fee bills for the summer session mailed to students.

# campuswatch

*Campus Watch, compiled daily by UT police officer William Pieper, details the crimes and incidents reported to or observed by UT police officers. The following were selected from the previous week.*

### Subjects rearrange plaza patio furniture

Criminal Mischief: Two unknown subjects were reported throwing patio furniture from the Claudia Taylor Johnson plaza into the fountain. The subjects were described as one white male who was between 5-feet-9-inches and 6-feet-1-inches tall and about 160 pounds, wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans and another white male, similarly described, weighing about 175 pounds. Occurred April 20 at 1:55 a.m.

### Staff members argue; one is shoved out of elevator

Assault: Two UT staff members had a verbal altercation in the elevator, which led one staff member to push the other out of the elevator doors opened on the second floor of the Main Building. Occurred April 21 at 6:30 p.m.

### Former RecSports member forges new card

Forgery: A non-UT subject at the Recreational Sports Center, who had an expired Recreational Sports membership card, forged a new membership card to avoid paying the \$140 membership fee. Occurred April 20 at 10:30 a.m.

### Got chalk? Board stolen from classroom

Criminal Mischief: A 12-foot long, 4-foot-wide chalkboard was pulled from the wall in a fourth-floor classroom in College of Business Administration. Repair cost \$100. Occurred between April 22 at 5 p.m. and April 23 at 1:30 a.m.

### Forgetful subject found in restroom

Criminal Trespass: A non-UT subject was reported pulling on occupied stall doors in a first-floor men's restroom in Garrison Hall. During questioning, the non-UT subject stated he had come from a scheduled meeting on campus that ended two hours earlier, but he could not remember who he had met, or where the meeting was held. The subject was issued a written criminal trespass warning. Occurred April 23 at 7 p.m.

### Students stop to smell flowers at Pickle Center

Unauthorized Subject: A UT student, who did not have after-hours authorization, drove past the guard into a restricted area of the Pickle Research Center. The subject gave conflicting stories, then stated to UT Police Department officers that they "went out there to see the wild-flowers." In addition to other police action taken, the subject was referred to the Dean of students. Occurred April 25 at 7 p.m.

— Compiled by Brandi Grissom

# Defense claims Grady panicked

### GRADY, FROM 1

Travis County Assistant District Attorney Gary Cobb said Grady and Espree sought out Flobeck and his friends to start a fight that night, and Grady responded inappropriately.

"You're going to see that the defendant took this Club and swung it like a baseball bat as hard as he could and struck [Flobeck] in the back of the head," Cobb said in his statement. "We'll see about self-defense."

Cobb said he will introduce medical records and photographs showing the severity of Flobeck's injury.

Judge Frank Maloney, a visiting judge substituting for Judge Brenda Kennedy, disallowed cameras from the courtroom and read instructions to a pool of 65 jurors Monday morning. Attorneys whittled the group down to nine women and three men in time for attorneys to give their opening statements in the afternoon.

Both Flobeck's parents, from Bedford, and Grady's father attended the proceedings. After adjournment, Cobb met with members of Flobeck's family.

Grady should testify in his defense some time this week, Gunter said. If convicted, Grady could be sentenced to life in prison.

## STATE & LOCAL BRIEFS

### Citgo announces move south to Houston

TULSA, Okla. — Citgo Petroleum Corp., aided by \$35 million in financial incentives, will move its headquarters to Houston to be closer to its customers and its assets, the company announced Monday.

The move is another blow to Tulsa, which has lost more than 25,000 jobs in the last two years amid layoffs at major employers and a general economic downturn.

Luis Marin, Citgo's president and chief executive, said strategic and operational concerns outweighed the incentives from Texas officials in the decision to take about 700 jobs to the southeast Texas city.

About 300 jobs in research, information technology, pipelines and accounting, will remain in Tulsa, where Citgo has been based since 1983.

### Experts urge cattle ranches to label, track livestock

LUBBOCK — Agriculture experts are encouraging Texas cattle producers not to wait for a federal program to begin labeling and tracking livestock to improve production and assure the quality of beef.

Federal officials have been developing a standardized identification system for more than a year, an effort hastened by the detection of mad cow disease in Washington state in December.

Jason Cleere, a Texas Cooperative Extension beef cattle specialist, said such a system will help producers keep accurate immunization records and chart which cows produce the best offspring.

Livestock operators were expected to get ID numbers assigned to them this summer, but a lack of federal funding has delayed that.

### Ransom Center acquires Stella Adler archive

The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center has acquired the complete archive of Stella Adler, founder of the Stella Adler Conservatory of Acting, the center announced Monday.

Adler's students included an A-list of movie stars, including Marlon Brando, Robert De Niro, Martin Sheen, Harvey Keitel, Melanie Griffith, Warren Beatty and others.

The archive includes correspondence, manuscripts, video and audio tapes and photographs.

Of specific importance to actors, directors and scholars is the collection of Adler's teaching notes and more than 700 hours of audio and visual materials, Ransom Center officials said.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

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 We invite you to discover the extraordinary practice for better health and inner peace. Absolutely free Weekly Falun Gong workshop:  
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## WORLD BRIEFS

### Explosion levels Baghdad building, kills 2 soldiers

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A suspected chemical weapons warehouse exploded in flames Monday moments after U.S. troops broke in to search it, killing two soldiers and wounding five. Jubilant Iraqis swarmed over the Americans' charred Humvees, waving looted machine guns, a bandolier and a helmet.

In Fallujah, U.S. troops came under a heavy insurgent attack a day after U.S. officials decided to extend a cease-fire rather than launch a full-scale offensive on the city. One Marine and eight insurgents were killed.

The U.S. troops met "a real nasty bunch," said Lt. Col. Brennan Byrne, commander of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. But he said the violence would not deter plans to begin joint U.S.-Iraq patrols.

### Israel identifies physician as new Hamas leader

JERUSALEM — Mahmoud Zahar, a 53-year-old Egyptian-trained physician whose son was killed in an Israeli airstrike, was identified by Israel Monday as the new Hamas leader in the Gaza Strip. Israeli officials signaled he won't be targeted for death if the militant group halts suicide attacks.

Hamas, however, refused to reveal the name of its leader for fear he will be assassinated like his two predecessors.

The Palestinian attorney general said he would speed up prosecution of dozens of suspected collaborators with Israel and search for those who helped Israel kill Hamas leader Abdel Aziz Rantisi on April 17. Fifty-three alleged informers are in Palestinian custody awaiting trial.

### Experts to study Mona Lisa's rapid deterioration

PARIS — The Mona Lisa, Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of the unknown woman with the enigmatic smile, is sparking a new kind of mystery: What is causing the Renaissance masterpiece to deteriorate so quickly?

The thin, poplar panel on which the Mona Lisa is painted in oil has changed shape since conservation experts last evaluated it, the Louvre Museum said. Leonardo's masterpiece — now nearly 500 years old — is inspected every one to two years.

The Louvre said the "state of conservation" of the most famous artwork in France's most famous museum "has aroused some worry."

The state-run Center for Research and Restoration of Museums of France will conduct a study to better determine what materials the painting is made of and evaluate its vulnerability to temperature changes.

### North Korea refuses South's offer to send needed relief

DANDONG, China — North Korea balked Monday at opening its heavily armed border to relief trucks from rival South Korea, even as international aid groups sought more help for thousands injured or made homeless by a massive train explosion.

The Red Cross distributed a three-month supply of antibiotics, anesthetics and bandages to North Korean hospitals over the weekend, but "according to the hospitals, they have already used these medical supplies and have requested more," said Niels Juel, an official for the agency who is based in Beijing.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

# Cheney leads attack on Kerry

*VP's challenge may signal White House headed for trouble*

By Ron Fournier  
Associated Press

FULTON, Mo. — Vice President Dick Cheney, stepping forcefully into his role as John Kerry's chief critic, questioned on Monday whether the Democrat is fit to serve as president in a time of war. Democrats said the tactic is a sign of desperation.

"It's time for Dick Cheney to call off the Republican attack dogs," said Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe.

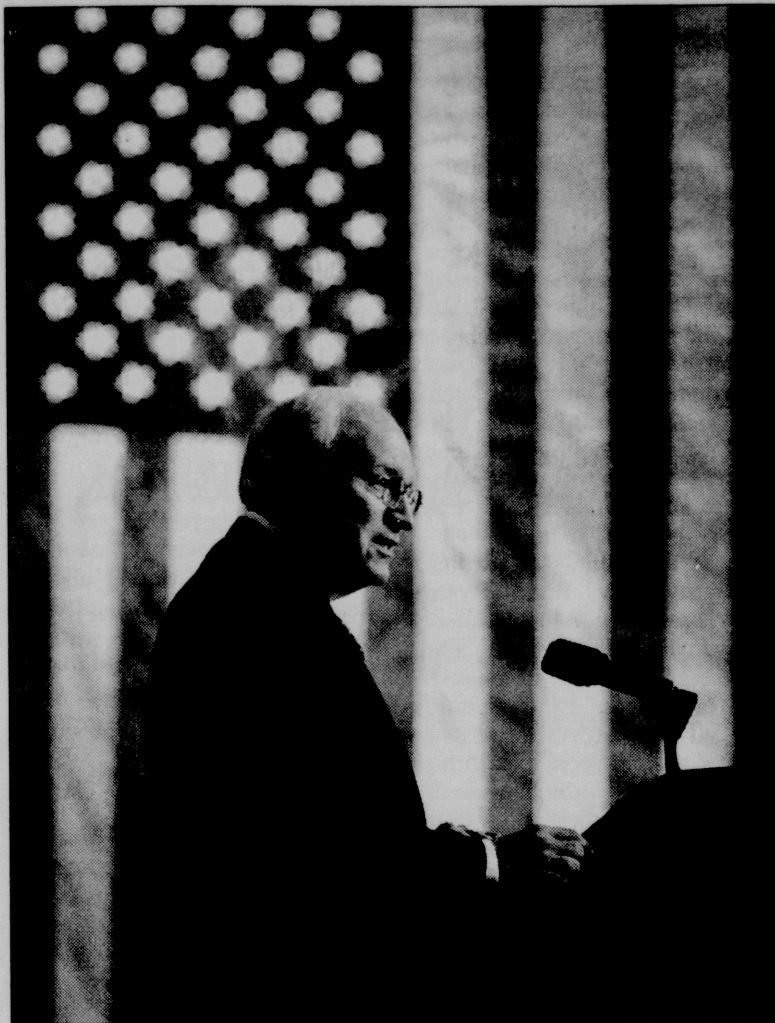
Cheney is the White House's designated attacker — held in reserve for the toughest times and sharpest messages. When the vice president goes negative, it usually means the White House is braced for trouble.

This week is no exception:

- President Bush and Cheney are scheduled to testify jointly Thursday before the Sept. 11 commission investigating whether more could have been done to prevent the worst terrorist strikes on U.S. soil.

- Saturday is the one-year anniversary of the speech Bush delivered aboard an aircraft carrier celebrating the fall of Baghdad. The address, given under a "Mission Accomplished" banner, has become fodder for Democrats who question the war and argue that it's far from over.

- The Supreme Court will consider Tuesday whether Cheney must release internal documents detailing the membership of a task force that met privately to help Bush develop an energy plan.



James A. Finley/Associated Press

Vice President Dick Cheney at the podium while addressing supporters on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., on Monday. Cheney discussed Presidents Bush's war effort before taking aim at John Kerry, the Democratic candidate for president.

In March, amid rumors that he may be bumped from the ticket, Cheney resurfaced from a long stretch outside the public eye to question Kerry's fitness to be president. "The senator from Massachusetts has given us ample doubts about his judgment," Cheney said at the time.

That speech was part of a larger administration effort to under-

mine Kerry as the one-year anniversary of the start of the Iraq war approached — a milestone met with violence and voters' doubts.

Cheney returned to the theme Monday, breaking little new ground while repeating the best lines from his March speech. "The senator from Massachusetts has given us ample grounds to

doubt the judgment and the attitude he brings to bear on vital issues of national security," Cheney said at Westminster College, where Winston Churchill in 1946 warned against the "Iron Curtain" of communism.

He mocked Kerry's habit of producing confusing or contradictory explanations of his own foreign policies, such as when the Democrat said he voted for — and against — an \$87 billion aid package for Iraq and Afghanistan.

Faced with voter unease about Iraq, the White House's offensive also includes a \$10 million television ad campaign accusing Kerry of opposing vital weapons.

The Kerry campaign responded with a fact sheet detailing the vice president's record as defense secretary under Bush's father, including a long list of proposed weapons cuts sought by Cheney. It quotes Cheney seeking defense cuts during the Cold War.

The Bush campaign maintains that Cheney's positions reflected the availability of a "peace dividend" after the Soviet Union collapsed. Kerry says he supported large increases in defense spending and sought only to eliminate unnecessary programs.

Both men are paying the price for positions taken long ago, many predating Bush's relatively brief political career.

While Bush has Cheney, Kerry has no No. 2. Until he selects a running mate, the four-term Massachusetts senator must rely on second-tier surrogates such as McAuliffe.

The quick response from Kerry's camp reflects a concern that voters are beginning to view the Democrat in terms cast by Bush: a flip-flopping, tax-raising opportunist.

## NATION BRIEFS

### Supreme Court justices spar over school prayer

WASHINGTON — Two of the Supreme Court's most conservative members delivered an unusual public rebuke to more liberal justices Monday, accusing them of ducking an important church-state fight over mealtime prayers at a taxpayer-funded military college.

Justice Antonin Scalia, joined by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, said the court should have taken the case to answer for the first time whether its ban on school-sponsored prayer for young children and high schoolers applies to college students as well.

Writing separately, Justice John Paul Stevens countered that the VMI case may be important, but suffers from procedural and other problems. He said Scalia is "quite wrong" in his characterization of why the court rejected the case. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer joined Stevens.

### Treasury gives new \$50 bill, Grant some color

WASHINGTON — Touches of red, blue and yellow are being added to the new \$50 bill, the second of the greenbacks to be colorized as part of an effort to thwart counterfeiters.

The subtle colors, which appear in parts of what was once the cream-colored background on the note, are the most noticeable change on the new \$50, which was unveiled Monday by the Treasury Department's Bureau of Engraving and Printing, makers of the nation's paper currency.

The redesigned \$50 also includes tiny yellow number 50s scattered in the background on the back of the note. That's similar to the new \$20, which has little yellow 20s on the back.

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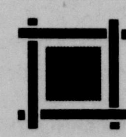
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## VIEWPOINT

# Hitting the polls in 2004

Experts were taken aback by the number of 18-to-24-year olds who showed up at the polls and participated in caucuses in the Democratic primaries. Most notably, turnout in Iowa quadrupled while the youth vote in New Hampshire increased 50 percent compared to 2000.

But the good news doesn't stop there. A Harvard University poll found that 62 percent of college students will "definitely" vote in the upcoming presidential election. If that number holds, it would nearly double the 32 percent turnout of 18-to-24-year-olds in 2000 (54 percent of those over 24-years-old voted in 2000).

All this good news comes as President Bush and Sen. John Kerry are busy finding some way to gain an advantage in a country experts tell us is split 50/50. Since 41 percent of college students identify themselves as independent voters, the youth vote looks increasingly attractive to both campaigns.

Of course, many are skeptical — and for good reason. Participation from 18-to-24-year-olds in presidential elections has declined every year since 1972, the first year 18-to-20-year-olds were given voting rights. Even worse, The National Conference of State Legislatures published a report last year stating eight-in-10 college students knew the cartoon Simpsons resided in Springfield, 64 percent knew Ruben Studdard won "American Idol," but only one in 10 could pick Dennis Hastert's name out of a list as speaker of the House.

Ouch.

But while some pundits like to poke fun at the youth's lack of political knowledge, we're willing to bet that even a large percentage of adults know Ruben Studdard's claim to fame but would struggle when queried on Dennis Hastert's.

The upcoming presidential election provides an opportunity for younger voters to prove that we're engaged and paying attention to what's happening. With both presidential candidates spending time and money to get college students to the polls, college students are getting help in increasing the power of their constituency.

While students hold opposing views on how deal with terrorism, the war in Iraq, the economy and other key issues, showing up to the polls would help empower the younger generation and provide a reason for politicians to pay attention to the issues pertinent to most of young America — such as rising tuition rates, education funding, the environment and the deficit.

If 18-to-24-year-olds can improve their turnout figures in the presidential election, state, city and county politicians will take heed and begin engaging and targeting younger voters as well.

Let's not miss this opportunity.

## GALLERY



## THE FIRING LINE

### What's the difference?

I would like to thank Chad Hanak ("Defining the parties," April 26) for illuminating the differences between the two major parties. Conservatives, according to Hanak, espouse the classical liberal ideals of "freedom of the individual, reason, justice, democracy (sic), a modern, not classical, liberal ideal, and laissez-faire economics." But conservatives "realize" that in order "to prevent disasters such as the Great Depression" (considered by classical liberals at the time to have been caused by government intervention) and to promulgate "compassionate" conservatism, they must expand government. By sharp contrast, "liberals" expand government without any apologies to classical liberal ideals. Wow. That is a big difference.

Sam Huber  
Education senior

### Procreation problems

Stephanie Elliott and Chris Burns both assert in their Monday Firing Lines that the purpose of marriage is procreation. Or at the very least, the "possibility of procreation" should exist for the government to recognize a marriage. What about heterosexual couples where one or both partners are infertile? Should they be granted the right to marry? Even better, should a

man who has willingly had a vasectomy be allowed to marry?

Clearly, in either case, no possibility of procreation exists. If the purpose of marriage is, as Burns puts it, "for the sake of the next generation," infertile couples do not qualify.

Rafael Mittlefehldt  
Journalism senior

### Marriage myths

I'm rather interested in Chris Burns and Stephanie Elliott in their analysis of marriage in general. They claim that marriage is an old and respected institution that serves only future generations. Marriage is a sacred bond that is being defaced by the liberalization of modern culture. Marriage is a cornerstone of society, and gay marriage somehow erodes the basic foundation that this society stands on. Firstly, if I ever get married, it will not be for my kids. Last I checked, marriage is something someone does for himself and his loved one. Most strong marriages I have seen are founded on love between two people, not on the desire to procreate. You become a spouse because you want to spend the rest of your life with your significant other. This is the social and spiritual backbone of marriage, not the simple baby-making instinct. The legal and governmental side of marriage has even less to do with the ephemeral

By Matt Hardigree  
Daily Texan Columnist

Though I am opposed to playing the role of Miss Manners, I feel it my duty, as an influential and respected voice on campus, to assist in herding some of our misplaced sheep back into normal society.

These individuals are the young men who have somehow missed the eye-rolls, the not-so-subtle rejections and the looks of pity when they say or do something utterly unfortunate. You know them, maybe you dated one of them, maybe you actually are one of them. If you're not sure, here are a few signs that you may be "That Guy."

First, there's "That Guy" that uses credit hours instead of actual years at the University when introducing himself. Listen, we all know that you are not a 19-year-old senior, get over yourself. If this is your first year here, you're a freshman, if this is your second year here, you're a sophomore, et cetera. End of story.

Then, there's "That Guy" who talks in detail about all the alcohol he consumed last weekend and how much of a badass he was. "Oh man, I had three shots of tequila, an eighth of vodka, six

sanctity of marriage. This "marriage" is merely a legal obligation to share everything equally with your partner for the rest of your life. Why two people have to be of opposite sex to enter into this contract still seems to escape my understanding. Limiting a person's right to enter into a homosexual legal contract doesn't prevent him from carrying on social, spiritual, or sexual relations with his or her significant other, it just makes doing taxes that much more difficult.

As for the definition of marriage including only a man and a woman being unchangeable and irrevocable simply because you can't change it... Are you kidding? Two hundred years ago "gay" meant happy, Texas meant Mexico, and the swastika was a Finnish peace symbol. We are an intelligent, adaptable, free thinking society. Nothing prevents us from evolving our culture into one that can openly accept the legal or spiritual union of two people of the same sex. Marriage is not written in stone, and the only thing that prevents the change is the stubborn dogma of a stubborn society. Just my two cents

Jonathan Weber  
Mathematics junior

### Think before you write

I'd like to point a few things out to Ms. Ortwerth ("Discriminating obesity," Apr. 27), so her next for-

*That 'Gizzle' thinks that utilizing the -izzle language not only makes him cooler, but actually makes him cultured.*

beers, 300 Jell-o shots ... but only got buzzed." Not only does no one care, but no one is that impressed.

Also, "That Guy" has a bad habit of asking the same stupid questions every time a professor assigns a paper. "Hey Professor Moser, so ... is that eight pages with a cover sheet and a bibliography? Is that supposed to be double-spaced or what? Can I use Courier New or Wingdings?" Welcome to college where 90 percent of your papers are going to be formatted exactly the same way.

You know that band that you like but everyone has heard of? "That Guy" thinks he's the first one to discover it and gets upset when told the contrary. "Check this man, I've got my iPod full of obscure tracks from bands you've never even heard of like Sonic Youth, Pavement, Weezer and OutKast ... What, you've heard of them before? I hate it when everyone copies my tastes."

"That Guy" also brings his lap-

grated, but black and Latino students are just going to be tracked into remedial programs, as they so often are, and white and Asian students are the ones that fill AP and honors classes and are encouraged to go on to college?

We need to change the current property-tax based school funding system, which is a system that leaves schools in poorer neighborhoods in a perpetual state of misery and decay while shiny suburban schools flourish with slick new computer labs and the best teachers money can buy. What is this but educational apartheid? In its place, we need a system that distributes resources fairly and equitably, realizing that some schools may need more than others to provide a good education.

We need to stop relying on testing as an objective, neutral measure of intelligence and ability, because it's none of those things. We need to actively oppose Bush's No Child Left Behind Act (or as it's sometimes known, No Child Left Untested). We need to remember that an education is meant to prepare a student for a lifetime as a citizen, community member and critical thinker, not for a lifetime as a mindless drone in front of a computer, working for some faceless corporation.

Fifty years after Brown, let's not forget that the decision just a landmark in our nation's past — let us remember that we are still grappling with the problem it attempted to address, and also with the aftermath of its failure. And as we sit here, products of school systems that were created partly as a result of Brown, let's remember that its promise was a promise deferred, but one that maybe our generation can fulfill.

Wang is a Plan II and Asian-American studies major.

top to class everyday and does one of the following: Plays solitaire or chats on AIM within full view of the professor and the rest of the class, types when there is obviously nothing to take notes on, keeps the half-naked picture of Carmen Elektra on his desktop for everyone to see when he closes Word, and takes the time to unpack and plug in an actual mouse and mouse pad.

"That Gizzle" thinks that utilizing the -izzle language not only makes him cooler, but actually makes him cultured. "Plizzle my bizzle, retrieve some Mountain Dizzle for my kizzle mizzle, foshizzle." It sounds ridiculous coming from almost anyone, but specifically from "That Guy" in your African literature class.

In addition, you should work hard to make sure you aren't "That Guy" who takes a non-European foreign language like Japanese or Arabic as a way to get girls to date you. If your

this issue makes me realize that a mandated lesson in compassion and education might not be such a bad idea.

Brea Olson  
UT alumnae

### 50,000 other preferences

What is truly disgusting is Katharine Ortwerth's comments in Monday's Firing Line. Are there really people out there that not only lack any sort of compassion and sensitivity but think it's a wise idea to advertise their stupidity? All I can say is that I'd rather hang out with 50,000 obese people than with someone like Ortwerth any day. P.S. I hope you get fat.

Staci Schutze  
Journalism senior

### Israel and independence

I am responding to the Benjamin Douglas' firing line from April 26. It should be noted that before the Independence War, the land of Israel was under British control. Zionists had indeed been trying to make Israel the homeland for the Jewish people, and the British were negotiating with both the Jews and the Arabs. These negotiations occurred in the form of the Peel Commission in 1937 which discussed first, to abolish the British mandate and second, partition the country between the two peoples. Only a

brand of half-rate charm, high school humor and junior high hygiene isn't winning over girls with a similar cultural background, what makes you think that some other culture is suddenly going to be in love with pasty white guys with long hair and every episode of "Sailor Moon" on VCD?

Finally, don't be "That Guy" who uses a hands-free wireless headset to talk on the cell phone. I'm not sure what excuse you're using this week to get away with it, but give it up. It doesn't make you look more successful, because, let's face it, nothing looks more unsuccessful than a guy whose wardrobe is comprised entirely of obsolete SG party T-shirts. And don't tell me you're afraid of getting a brain tumor. If that were the case, why would you keep it so close to your groin?

These are but a few guideposts to help prevent you from veering too far into that mass of socially inept young men who eat at the girls' dorm to meet chicks, or have light-saber battles on the roof of parking garages.

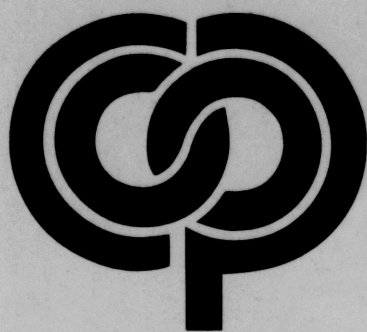
Hardigree is a geography and government junior.

zone between Jaffa and Jerusalem would remain under the British mandate and international supervision. The Jewish state would include the coastal strip stretching from Mount Carmel to south of Be'er Tuvia, as well as the Jezreel Valley and the Galilee. The Arab state was to include the hill regions, Judea and Samaria, and the Negev. While the Jews were willing to work from there, the Arabs rejected the proposal and refused to regard it as a solution.

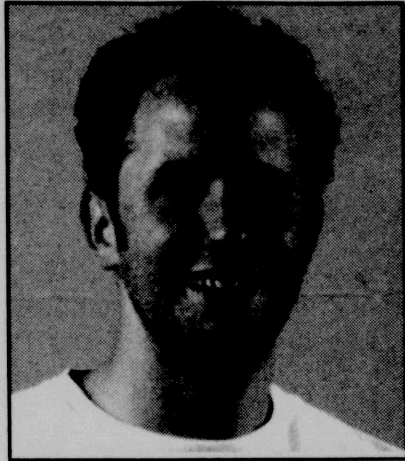
The British government tried again in 1939 to solve the Arab-Jewish conflict, but the Arabs would not comply to their second try either. Finally, in 1947, after the shocking murders of 6 million Jewish people all over Europe during World War II, the United Nations stepped in. Being an organization which strives for peace, the United Nations did their best to accommodate both the Arabs and the Jews. Unfortunately, the Arabs didn't agree and the first large-scale assaults of the Independence War began on January 9, 1948, when approximately 1,000 Arabs attacked Jewish communities in northern Palestine. The UN blamed the Arabs for the violence, and the Arabs took responsibility for starting the war. I hope this has shed some light on the misunderstandings of how the Israel Independence War actually began.

Gabrielle Aronovich





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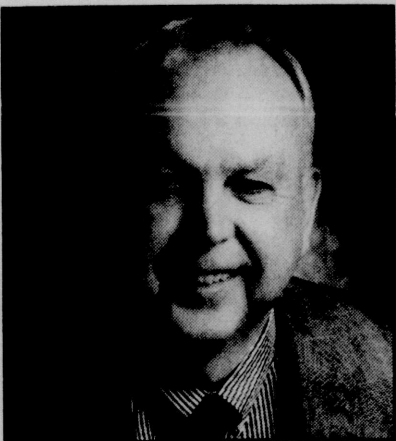
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# Barred IM team alleging bias

Mostly international soccer team claims league discriminated

By Daniel K. Lai  
Daily Texan Staff

A mostly international soccer team alleges discrimination after their dismissal two weeks ago from the University's Intramural Sports League for poor sportsmanship.

The league dismissed the European Student Association's Team Two soccer team from playing in the finals after the team received numerous poor sportsmanship reports from referees. Members of the team are from several countries, including France, Morocco, Kenya and Hungary.

Randall Ford, the RecSports club coordinator, said each team plays three games, and after each game their sportsmanship conduct is rated on a letter system. In their first two games, Ford said the team got a C and a D because

of their alleged poor attitude toward officials.

"The team only received a positive mark after their opponent forfeited in the third game," Ford said. "In the Intramural League, we don't accept poor behavior, and soccer teams have to maintain a B average or will not qualify for the playoffs."

Yoann Hispa, captain for the ESA's team and petroleum engineering graduate student, said he believes his team was given bad marks because of miscommunication between referees and team members.

"American referees aren't used to international teams," Hispa said. "Abroad, international teams talk a lot and keep communication open with the referees. Here, referees assume we shouldn't talk to them."

Hispa said the team irritated referees by talking loudly with each other and with referees during a game.

"At the end of a game, players started feeling that the referees were making biased calls against them, and when they tried to question the referees, our team would receive a bad sportsmanship grade," Hispa said.

Ford said the team's poor grade reflected poor sportsmanship.

"The staff consensus was that the team's behavior when addressing officials was poor," Ford said. "From what I understand from the officials, commu-

nication between the two parties involved the team getting upset and yelling to the point where nothing could be accomplished."

Hispa recalled one instance when a penalty was called on their team. A fellow player and business sophomore, Benoit Defforey, questioned the referee, the referee yelled at him and filed a report claiming he was verbally threatened by Defforey and Hispa.

"The staff consensus was that the team's behavior when addressing officials was poor."

Randall Ford,  
RecSports club coordinator

"After the first game, we wrote a letter of complaint that the referees weren't following the same rules, but nothing was done, and our complaint was dismissed," Hispa said. "The referees believe their point of view is always right."

Hispa said he has played for the ESA soccer team for two years, and this is the first season the majority of players feel they were treated unfairly on the field. "During one game, the referees

didn't do anything when an American team was cussing out [Defforey], who objected to a referee's call," Hispa said.

Gerardo Garcia, another ESA soccer player, said ISL referees have trouble interacting with foreign players.

"Referees in foreign countries let players talk as much as they want as long as they don't insult them. Here, they just don't talk," Garcia said.

But Ford said the problem lies not with the referees, but instead how teams interact with officials.

"Obviously, I feel our officials are not biased toward any international teams. We have many international teams that can keep a B average to make the playoffs," Ford said. "Many of our referees are international students and are just doing a job. They could care less which team wins or loses."

Ford said referees for the ESA games would not be available for comment. He also refused to provide the Texan with reports filed by the referees.

The ESA appealed their removal from the League to the Sports Club Council, but in a 5-to-1 vote, the expulsion was upheld.

"It's just a game," Hispa said. "We didn't hurt anybody. We don't curse at anybody. We just get emotional because we love the game so much, and the decision to kick us out on sportsmanship is wrong."

## GENTLEMEN



Michael Bergman/Daily Texan Staff

Some students work out or listen to music to unwind, but not Bobby Roll and his friends. They play a game of croquet that includes obstacles such as cars, a ramp and a rock wall.

# Attorney general, ethics commission cannot enforce lobbying law

## UT WATCH, FROM 1

Warden also defended the System's practice of preparing legislation during a legislative session.

"State law neither expressly nor implicitly prohibits state institutions from preparing draft legislation or draft legislative language," Warden said.

Even UT Watch admits that the System's actions might be within the bounds of the law.

"It may ultimately not be ille-

gal, but it merits a more in-depth investigation," said Nick Schwellenbach, a member of UT Watch.

Schwellenbach said the activists plan to deliver their report in person to the attorney general's office. Representatives for the attorney general and ethics commission, however, said neither office has authority to enforce laws forbidding the System from lobbying.

"The [law] doesn't provide an

enforcement authority," said Karen Lundquist, the executive director of the ethics commission.

Lundquist said she did not know who would have the power to investigate state agencies who might be violating the law.

UT Watch's claims center on campaign contributions from System officials, meeting schedules, and e-mails from the System and UT-Austin. The report was assembled mostly through three

open records requests filed with the System and UT-Austin last summer.

"We'd like to clarify what happened last spring," Schwellenbach said. "What we are trying to allow people to understand is that this was something initiated by the UT System."

The report profiles a few players, such as the System's vice chancellors for governmental relations; Rep. Geanie Morrison, R-Victoria, who introduced the deregulation bill; and Harrison Keller, a policy analyst for House Speaker Tom Craddick who teaches at the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Vice chancellors for governmental relations communicate regularly with legislators about the impact of proposed legislation on the System. These activities fall within the scope of the law, but some critics complain the vice chancellors overstep their bounds.

One such chancellor, Carlos Martinez, sent several e-mails about tuition deregulation to a policy analyst for the Senate Committee of Education.

The e-mails show he asked that certain material be included in legislation.

Martinez would not comment on the report and referred calls to the System public affairs office.

System officials' only communication with Morrison, chair of

the House Higher Education Committee, was to provide requested information, a spokesman said.

"That was us, generally, contacting them, to see what the impact would be to the System," said Justin Unruh, the spokesman. "We would make the changes [to the bill] that we wanted, then we would meet with them and ask what the impact of those changes would be."

"What we are trying to allow people to understand is that this was something initiated by the UT System."

Nick Schwellenbach,  
UT Watch member

UT Watch called Keller, Craddick's education policy analyst, "UT's direct channel to Tom Craddick," and a major advocate for deregulation within the speaker's office. Craddick's office disputes that point.

Keller and Craddick spokesman Bob Richter said the System already had substantial access to the speaker through his close relationship with Chancellor Mark Yudof. The two met on the day Craddick was

sworn in, Richter said.

Craddick didn't need goading by the System to fight for deregulation, Richter said.

"He felt so strongly that [deregulation] was necessary, and as speaker you can do a lot of things that you can't do as a legislator," Richter said. "He talked about it everywhere he went."

Rather than advocating a stance on deregulation, Keller said, he studied ways to provide financial aid to schools that would be hit by rising tuition. That effort wasn't at the System's request, he said.

"I've never coordinated my work with UT-Austin or UT System," Keller said. "That said, that doesn't mean I don't work with them."

Lobbyists from public interest groups told The Daily Texan in March that System officials also lobbied during the regular session for a new exemption to state open records laws. A System spokesman insisted that the System was only providing information and didn't break that law.

Lobbying by the System is part of how the Capitol works, said Richter, who didn't know it was illegal for the System to lobby.

"If they want something for the University, they come over here, and they lobby the speaker or they lobby members," Richter said.

UCLA Summer Institutes and Special Programs 2004

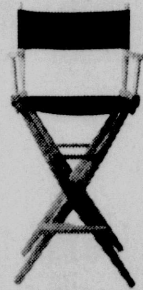
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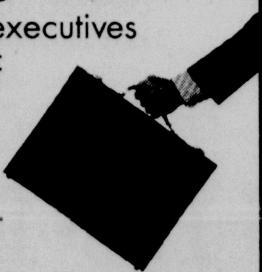
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# Democrats file bills to increase health care

HB 46, 47 would increase funding for CHIP, Medicaid

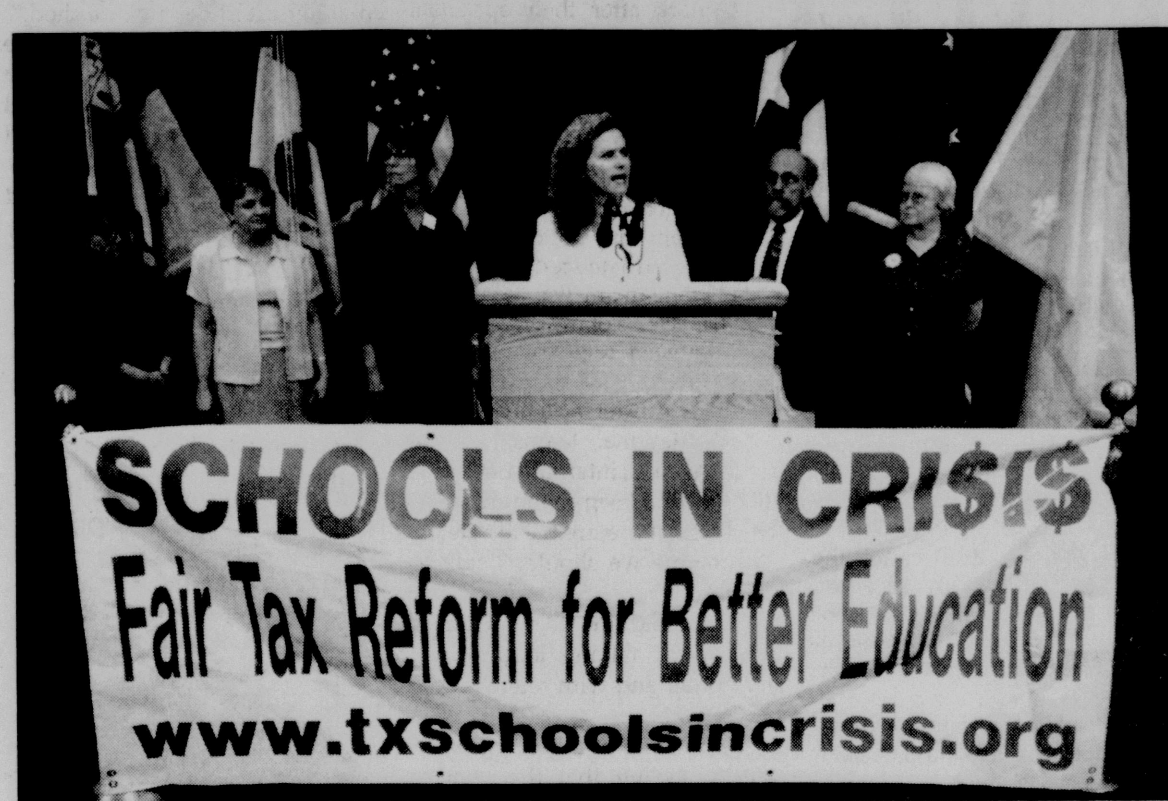
By James Hale  
Daily Texan Staff

Two Democratic state legislators filed bills Monday they hope will restore funding to health-care programs that suffered budget cuts during the regular legislative session. State Representatives Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, and Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, filed House Bills 46 and 47, respectively. The two urged Perry to put the bills, which would increase funding for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, on the agenda for the current special session. The lawmakers called on Perry to make good on a statement he made during the second special session he called to address congressional redistricting in July 2003. Perry, at the time, called on quorum-breaking Democratic legislators who had fled the state, to return so issues including Medicaid and CHIP could be

addressed by the House. "He's the key, because for this legislation to move forward, he needs to put it on call," Coleman said. The governor's office did not return phone calls Monday. Coleman's HB 46 would allocate about \$450 million to boost the budgets of Medicaid and CHIP that were cut during the regular session. HB 47 also aims to restore funding to health-care programs, but it includes a \$1 increase in the cigarette tax. Money from the cigarette tax would further increase the programs' budgets. "CHIP and Medicaid cuts make no sense educationally or economically," Naishtat said. "We must restore the cuts to these critical services immediately." The Harris County Hospital District is facing a \$36 million shortfall, as uninsured Texans go to emergency rooms for treatment instead of receiving care before health problems become critical, said Coleman. Bexar and El Paso counties face similar deficits, and in Lubbock County there has already been a 46-cent tax increase, said Patti

Everitt, executive director of Children's Defense Fund of Texas. "CHIP and Medicaid cuts cost us far more than we save," Coleman said. Advocates of CHIP said cuts to the program are harmful to low- and middle-income families. The asset test, implemented along with budget cuts, disqualifies many families from receiving health coverage. Those that earn more than \$23,505 a year and have a savings account, or own a second car worth more than \$4,650 are not eligible for Medicaid and CHIP, said Everitt. "The asset test is a barrier to employment and a penalty for working families," Everitt said. Everitt said the bills filed by Coleman and Naishtat provide a means to restore health care to children and plan for meeting the state's health and human service needs. Representatives Talmadge Heflin, R-Houston, and Arlene Wohlegemuth, R-Burleson, filed the legislation that resulted in cuts to Medicaid and CHIP. Heflin had no comment on the Democrats' bills, and Wohlegemuth was unavailable at press time Monday.

# Activist groups weigh in on finance reform



Chris Nguyen/Daily Texan Staff  
Donna Howard, chair of the Tax Committee and a member of Common Cause Texas, speaks to supporters and members of the press at the Capitol on Monday morning. Howard, along with other Common Cause Texas and League of Women Voters of Texas, addressed concerns and issues about school finance reform in Texas.

## Organizations support tax options to fix 'Robin Hood' system

By Kristi Hsu  
Daily Texan Staff

The League of Women Voters of Texas and Common Cause Texas jumped into the public school finance fray Monday, throwing their support behind three tax options. Gov. Rick Perry called a special session last Tuesday to fix the state's current school finance system known as "Robin Hood." Perry suggested funding public schools with a "sin tax" on cigarettes and adult entertainment. But the two public interest groups called Perry's plan "unstable" and suggested a split tax roll dividing residential property taxes, business property taxes and business activity taxes and sales and service taxes. Donna Howard, chair of the Common Cause tax committee, said the groups also thought a

state income tax would be a good option, but said legislators had rejected that possibility. "We want the solution that will make residents and business owners happy and adequately funds our education system," said Barbara Hankins, LVW representative. The split tax roll would separate commercial and industrial properties from residential property for school tax purposes. The state would pool the funds from the business properties and redistribute them statewide. Residential taxes would go directly to the local school system. The second proposal would expand taxable items to include services like legal advice and architectural consultation, said Darlene Hicks, LVW president. Both organizations said the business activity tax is the best option. Under the plan, all profit-

making businesses would be taxed at a rate of 2.5 percent, said Mary Mathis, a certified public accountant and member of Common Cause. "Even this flat rate should be able to generate about \$10 billion for the system," Mathis said. But the Texas Association of Business has its own ideas about what is best for the state. TAB opposes the tax because a similar tax plan in Michigan reduced new business developments, said Cathy DeWitt, TAB spokeswoman. Michigan is currently phasing out the tax and will be free of business activity tax by 2010, she said. If the plan passed, Texas would be the only state with a business tax in 2010. "[The business activity tax] is a deterrent to economic development and would drive businesses away from Texas," DeWitt said.

# Contract effective in September

SHUTTLE, FROM 1  
entered the meeting room.

The demonstration came just hours after the Capital Metro board of directors voted 5-to-0 to approve a one-year contract extension with the University for providing shuttle service. The contract extension begins September 2004.

The University contracts with Capital Metro for the shuttle service, and Capital Metro sub-contracts with ATC/Vancom to manage drivers and mechanics to provide bus maintenance.

About 50 percent of ATC/Vancom's drivers and mechanics are members of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1549, which has been negotiating for two years with ATC/Vancom for increased pay and better benefits and working conditions. ATU President Norm Couture, at the meeting, acknowledged the board's April 21 discussion of shuttle driver pay.

"I think, together, we can work this out," Couture said.

SFSS members and shuttle workers have been attempting to get support for the workers' cause from UT students, the University and Capital Metro since January.

Bob Harkins, director of UT parking and transportation services, said the contract extension sets the University's cost for shuttle service at \$35.51 per hour, which is about a 6-percent increase from last year.

The UT student fee committee in September 2003 approved an increase to student fees to cover the increased cost of service, he said.

The number of hours the UT shuttle system will operate during the contract period is not yet finalized because the University is holding public meetings on proposed service changes, Harkins said. The changes include combining certain routes during early mornings, nights and weekends when ridership is low to cut hours that can be used elsewhere, he said.

The Capital Metro board also held a public hearing Monday regarding proposed changes to bus routes, including changes to UT shuttle routes. Many activists commented on the proposed changes. SFSS member Frank Edwards, a sociology and history junior, said he regularly packs into overcrowded shuttles, and he thinks the current service does not meet student needs. "To talk about cutting it further would be to make it more inadequate," Edwards said.

Activists asked Capital Metro to terminate their contract with ATC/Vancom. Before marching into the board room, SFSS members and shuttle workers picketed outside the Capital Metro offices, holding signs with messages like, "ATC: UT wants a divorce."

SFSS member Chris Hamilton, a law student, criticized ATC/Vancom's recent firing of two shuttle drivers for attending an SFSS picnic and investigating group members for calling workers and inviting them to the picnic. "They have insulted our drivers. They have insulted our students," Hamilton said about ATC/Vancom to the board of directors. "And they're giving you a bad reputation."

Capital Metro President and CEO Fred Gilliam said he sees no reason to terminate the contract with ATC/Vancom.

Lee Walker, chairman of the Capital Metro board of directors, said the meeting was exactly what a public hearing should be. "I was impressed by the eloquence of the speakers, by the passion," Walker said. "I thought there were some thoughtful ideas that were put forward."

Capital Metro will request bids for the UT shuttle service this summer. The new contract would take effect May 2005.

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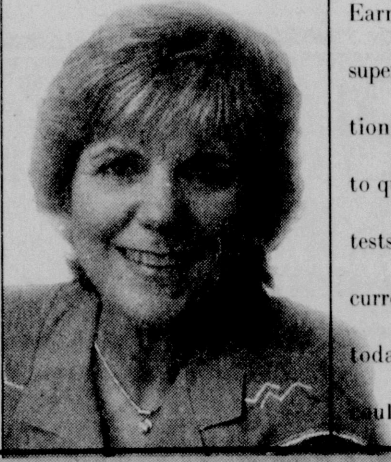
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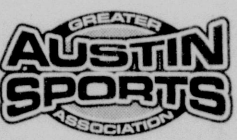
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## DID YOU KNOW?

According the U.S. Census, 31 percent of Austin's population is Latino, and 19 percent of the city's population is 15 years old or younger.

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On this day in 1981, the Now! magazine ceased publication after citing huge losses.

# EMPOWERING LATINAS

Webzine Latinitas provides young women with reading, opportunity

By Dan Kleiner • Daily Texan Staff

As she stood behind her booth at Dia de los Niños, a children's fair at the St. John's Branch Library on Saturday, Marcela Evans praised the motivation and the message of Latinitas, a webzine for Latina girls aged 9-20.

"The best thing about working with Latinitas is that you can really tell how much everyone cares," said Evans, a Latin-American studies senior. "Everyone is very welcoming and warm — it makes us care even more, too."

Evans and a group of volunteers and co-workers gave out prizes to children who came up to their booth and effectively "pinned the book in Maria's hand." Amidst the laughter and occasional cheating of the youthful participants, the band of young women with Latinitas magazine also handed out surveys and took names for their e-mail list, all to better their already highly praised magazine.

Latinitas, which celebrated its 1-year anniversary in January, carries a message of empowerment for Latina girls, not just in Austin, but all over the country.

Upon visits to the Web site, [latinitasmagazine.com](http://latinitasmagazine.com), Latina girls have access to a wide range of columns tailored to helping them understand problems in their daily lives. Additionally, they have the opportunity to read columns by other Latina youth and write their own columns for the Web-based magazine, including book reviews, Web site reviews, personal stories and much more.

"Our Web site really gives something important to Latina girls, because unfortunately there is nothing else like us out there," said Alicia Rascon, co-founder of Latinitas magazine. "There are a lot of important issues facing Latina girls today, and we are

very happy to give them another resource."

The Latino population in Austin makes up about 31 percent of the city's population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Additionally, the 2000 census of the city of Austin put people aged 15 and younger as 19 percent of all residents. With the huge number of Latino people living in Austin, it seems necessary that a periodical be created to serve this community and its youth.

That is just what happened in spring 2002.

Alicia Rascon and Laura Donnelly began the initial phases of what would become Latinitas magazine in a journalism in Latin America class, taught by Professor Rosenthal Alves. Rascon and Donnelly, both journalism graduates from the University, researched the representation of Latina youth in the media and found a dramatic lagging of any kind of representation at all. With this finding, they decided to work on creating a magazine to fill that void and give empowerment to the Latina community through a new online voice.

The webzine became fully operational in January 2003. They started small, focusing on Latina girls ages 9-to-14, and addressed issues of particular importance to the Latina community such as body image and health issues such as diabetes, which disproportionately affects Latina girls.

Although Latinitas magazine addresses serious issues affecting the Latina girls' community, Donnelly said that from the beginning, empowerment through involvement was just as important.

"Our vision was and is a magazine for girls by girls," Donnelly said.

Many organizations speak

about involving their patrons in what they do, but Latinitas magazine has really made their vision come alive. In addition to receiving feedback at events like Dia de los Niños, Latinitas magazine makes a very strong effort to get "their niñas" involved. They hand out surveys and flyers in many schools around Austin and have weekly after-school meetings at Martin Middle School to discuss things in the community and get the kids involved.

"It is really important for us to stay in tune with the community," said Maria Orta, an advertising junior and volunteer with Latinitas. "It lets us know what the girls want in the magazine and helps us do our job better."

In the online magazine, Latina girls will find something different every month. On its one-year anniversary, Latinitas added a teen section that targets girls ages 14 and up, which is now published bi-monthly, switching places with the pre-teen version that targets girls 9-to-14.

Jimena Ruiz, 12, said the online magazine is very interesting and fun, while her friend Samantha Salazar, 11, who just discovered its existence at Dia de los Niños, wants to become involved.

"It looks fun," Salazar said. "I like to write, and maybe I can write for [Latinitas]."

The future for Latinitas has many things in store. Last summer they had a camp at the University along with the Junior League, and this summer will be the same. Additionally, they will have concerts over the summer, including poetry contests and other ways for their readers to show off their talents.

Latinitas also sponsors workshops and focus groups, specifically teen reporter training workshops at Ventaña del Soul, a youth center on Olton Road.



Caroling Lee/Daily Texan Staff

Robin Ewing, graduate journalism student, helps Dianna Lopez, age 8, with a game at the Latinitas booth at St. John's public library Saturday. Latinita is a webzine for young Hispanic girls.

With all of these things going on now and in the future for Latinitas magazine, they still have an even bigger goal in mind: their first print edition. While they do not know when this will be happening, Rascon pointed out that being an online publication does come with certain advantages.

"We've had people from all over the place contact us about Latinitas," Rascon said. "We've gotten praise from teachers all over the country that see our webzine, and some have said they use it in their classes."

However, despite all the praise from "their niñas," teachers, and magazine and newspaper arti-

cles, Rascon highlighted one form of praise that made her feel particularly happy.

"The best praise is from the mothers of our niñas, when they say that they wished there was something like Latinitas for them when they were young. That really makes us feel like we're doing something great," Rascon said.

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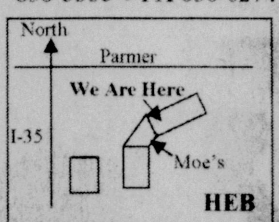
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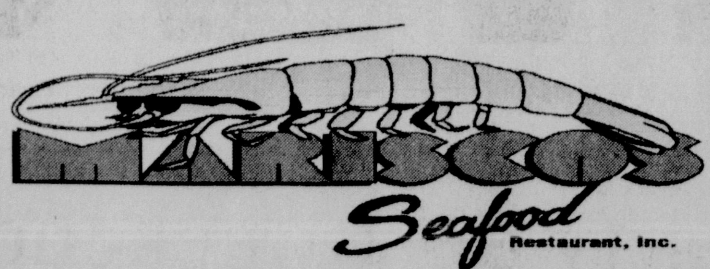
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## MEN'S GOLF TEAM ON TOP OF BIG 12 TOURNEY

After day one of the Big 12 Championship meet, the Texas men's golf team is currently on top of the standings. Senior Jason Hartwick is also sitting in first place in the men's individual Big 12 standings.

## COMING TOMORROW

The Texas Longhorns softball team travels to College Station Wednesday night to face Texas A&M. Get the preview here.

## Singh reins victorious at rain-soaked Houston Open

By Michael Graczyk  
Associated Press

HUMBLE — Vijay Singh shot a 4-under 68 in the final round Monday, holding off Scott Hoch and John Daly for a two-stroke victory in the rain-delayed Houston Open.

Singh finished the four rounds at 11-under 277 for his second victory in Houston, where he won two years ago. It was the 17th tour victory for Singh and second this year. In 11 events in 2004, he's finished in the top 10 six times.

Hoch was second at 9 under after a closing 67. John Huston (71)

was another shot back, followed by Stephen Ames (69) and Dudley Hart (70).

Daly and Hoch started the last round three shots back. Daly got to within one stroke of the lead before fading late. He finished with a 71, leaving him six strokes back for the tournament.

Weather problems interrupted play three consecutive days at the Redstone Golf Club and pushed the tournament into Monday, where third-round play was completed for most of the field earlier in the day.

Singh opened the event with a 74, but his second-round 66

equaled the low round of the tournament. He completed his third round earlier Monday, making an 88-foot chip for eagle at the 12th hole that gave him a 69 and a share of the lead with Huston after 54 holes at 7 under.

Singh began the final round after a short break and birdied two of the first three holes, rolling in a 20-foot putt at No. 1. At the 209-yard par-3 third hole, his tee shot stopped less than 2 1/2 feet from the pin. His putt for birdie gave him the lead outright at 9 under.

With Daly on the opposite end of the course making birdies, Singh had seven consecutive pars before

a birdie at the par-4 No. 11, where he putted in from less than 10 feet. As Hoch closed in, Singh coolly added a 10-foot birdie at No. 15.

Hoch, coming off a tie for seventh last week at the MCI Heritage for his best finish of the year, began the final round three shots back. He birdied his first three holes but didn't get another until No. 12.

Then on the par-5 15th, he got to within one of the lead. His third shot from 79 yards away landed 6 feet from the cup, and he made the putt for birdie to get to 9 under. That was as close as it would get for Hoch, who led this event in 1995 heading into the final day,

blowing a five-shot lead with a final-round 75 and then losing in a playoff to Payne Stewart.

Daly, playing the back nine first, started the final round at 4 under. He had four birdies on his first eight holes, including a 42-footer at No. 17. He made the turn one shot behind Singh and started the front side with four consecutive pars, then bogeyed Nos. 5, 6 and 9 to take him out of the hunt.

Huston started the day by finishing his third round with a 5-under 67 to tie him for the lead with Singh. He birdied No. 1 with a 10-foot putt, then gave the shot back at the second hole when he three-

putted from 33 feet, giving Singh a two-shot advantage. He could never get much going, with birdie attempts at Nos. 16, 17 and 18 all rolling just past the cup.

But his third-place finish after closing with a 71 easily was his best of the year.

Singh won earlier this year at Pebble Beach. He also finished second at the season-opening Mercedes Championships and tied for sixth at the Masters, vaulting him to No. 2 on the PGA money list. The \$900,000 earned in Houston gives him \$2.35 million for the year, trailing Phil Mickelson by about \$130,000.

## From one court to another: Bryant in Eagle on Monday

*Laker star's lawyers challenge Colorado's rape-shield law*

By Jon Sarche  
Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — Kobe Bryant's defense team resumed arguments behind closed doors Monday, challenging Colorado's rape-shield law that generally bars attorneys from bringing up an alleged victim's sexual history.

The last major pretrial disputes in the sexual assault case against the NBA star could be argued this week, potentially paving the way for a trial date to be set.

State District Judge Terry Ruckriegle has indicated he wants to wrap up arguments by Wednesday on two defense motions that experts believe could decide the outcome of the case: the relevancy of the alleged victim's sexual past and whether certain evidence was gathered illegally.

Bryant's lawyers have said the 19-year-old accuser had multiple sexual partners in the days before and soon after her encounter with the Los Angeles Lakers star. They say that could explain injuries found on the woman during a hospital examination.

Such details are generally barred under the state rape-shield law. Judges, however, can hear such testimony in private to determine whether the information is relevant and admissible as evidence.

Bryant, 25, has said he had consensual sex with the woman last summer at the Vail-area resort where she worked. If convicted, he could get four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation.

[Kobe] Bryant, 25, has said he had consensual sex with the woman last summer at the Vail-area resort where she worked. If convicted, he could get four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation.

The NBA star returned to Colorado on Monday for the hearing. His court appearance



comes when his team is in the middle of a playoff series with the Houston Rockets. The Lakers play Houston in Game 5 Wednesday.

Several witnesses, including the woman, already have testified in private during hearings earlier this spring.

The judge reserved Tuesday to resume a closed-door hearing over a defense request to throw out evidence, including Bryant's recorded statement to investigators and a T-shirt stained with the woman's blood.

Depending on progress on those issues, Ruckriegle has said he would hear arguments on several other topics Wednesday, including requests by the alleged victim and prosecutors to have Bryant enter a plea and to set a trial date.

The attorney for the alleged victim asked the judge last month to quickly schedule a trial so she could have an idea of when she can move on with her life.

The request was accompanied by a letter from the woman's mother, who said her daughter is the target of death threats.



Photos by Maria Avila and Chris Pizzello/Associated Press

Top, Kobe Bryant was in Eagle, Colo. on Monday for another court hearing. Above, Bryant sits with new teammates Karl Malone and Gary Payton.

## Nebraska soccer standout fatally shot at party over weekend

*Jenna Cooper was a first-team All Big 12 selection for Huskers*

By The Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — An argument at a party celebrating the end of the spring soccer season led to the shooting death of Nebraska soccer standout Jenna Cooper.

The 21-year-old junior from Louisville, Ky., died Sunday evening at BryanLGH Medical Center West. She had been shot in the throat in the 2 a.m. incident

that left another man wounded.

The bullet was apparently aimed at Nolan Jenkins, 22, of Sidney, who was standing a few feet from Cooper when another party guest allegedly pulled out a .32-caliber handgun and fired at Jenkins from close range, Police Chief Tom Casady said.

Investigators believe a single bullet passed through Jenkins' scalp before exiting and striking Cooper in the throat.

Jenkins was listed in fair condition Monday morning at BryanLGH West.

Lucky Iromuanya, 22, of Lincoln, was arrested on suspi-

cion of first-degree assault, use of a weapon to commit a felony and carrying a concealed weapon.

The Lancaster County Attorney's Office said Iromuanya was scheduled to appear in court Tuesday. He was in custody Monday morning.

"Nolan and one other man and Lucky were exchanging some harsh words," Casady said. "Lucky brandished this handgun, shot Nolan and, in the process, shot her."

In a statement issued by the Nebraska athletic department late Sunday confirming Cooper's death, Nebraska head soccer

coach John Walker said Cooper was a great person, teammate and player.

"It was an absolute pleasure to have her on the team and to know her as a friend and teammate," he said.

Cooper, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, earned first-team all-state honors while playing high school soccer for Sacred Heart Academy of Louisville.

She was a three-year starter for the Cornhuskers and one of the top defenders in the Big 12 Conference. She earned first team, All-Big 12 honors in 2003.

She also helped lead Nebraska to three consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances.

Cooper played with the U.S. Under-20 National Team in 2001 and the U.S. Under-21 National Team in 2002.

James Griesen, a Nebraska vice chancellor for student affairs, said he called Cooper's instructors Sunday night.

"They are all anxious to be helpful in any way they can," he said.

The university provides grief counselors for students through the University Health Center.

Witnesses told police that

about 20 to 30 people attended the Saturday night party. Police said they did not find a link between Iromuanya and either Cooper or Jenkins, but that he had gone to the party with a friend who was invited.

According to police reports, someone had stolen shot glasses from Cooper's house, and Iromuanya became angry after being questioned.

Iromuanya has had no significant history with Lincoln police.

Several witnesses heard the shot or saw the argument, Casady said.



# Sticking around? Parcells building for future

*Dallas coach traded pick Saturday for first-rounder in 2005*

By Stephen Hawkins  
Associated Press

IRVING — Bill Parcells doesn't seem like he's in much of a hurry.

Instead of making moves that could have almost immediate impact, the Dallas Cowboys and their coach appear focused on building for years to come. Certainly longer than the three seasons left on Parcells' contract.

The Cowboys just might have a long-term Bill.

There has always been the perception that Parcells, who came out of retirement in hopes of restoring the Cowboys to glory, might not stay the full four years of his contract.

That idea seemed to have even more credence with the Cowboys' fast-track back to the playoffs last year after three straight 5-11 seasons.

Even with a record of quick turn-arounds, the 62-year-old coach who has been to three Super Bowls had never taken one of his first-year teams to the postseason before last season.

Now with their NFC East rivals active in trying to improve right away, the Cowboys look like they're planning ahead.

With the chance to choose any running back and fill a desperate need with the No. 22 overall pick in the NFL draft, the Cowboys instead traded down. They valued more the extra picks they got, including another No. 1 next year.

"That getting next year's number one was big for us," Parcells said. "That should serve us well."

Much later.

"I think it does point to and should point to that Bill's mentality really is in step with my mentality and what our organization's is," owner Jerry Jones said. "And that is we are looking ahead not just into this season, but we're looking at several seasons here. And he is too."

The Cowboys still got a running back with their first pick, Julius Jones from Notre Dame in the sec-



James D. Smith/Associated Press

Bill Parcells, left, discusses strategy with Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones during the 2004 NFL Draft. Dallas selected running back Julius Jones with its first pick in the draft Saturday.

ond round. Top running back prospects Steven Jackson, Chris Perry and Kevin Jones went in the next nine picks after Buffalo used the pick from Dallas for a quarterback.

Dallas last month acquired quarterback Drew Henson, who hasn't played football since 2000 at Michigan. After pursuing pro baseball, he will have to get back in football shape and probably won't have an impact this season.

So why is Parcells agreeing to all these moves for the future if he doesn't plan to stay past 2006? Is he

positioning himself and the team for a longer stay?

"I'm not saying no as the answer to the question of being here longer," Parcells said.

"I am saying that in my heart, I have to approach this from the long-range view if I'm going to be honest and forthright with the Joneses," he said. "I mean, I have to do what I genuinely think is in the best interest of the Dallas Cowboys franchise."

That sounds more like a general manager.

While Parcells held that role for

the New York Jets, his future in Dallas is as the coach. The Cowboys GM job is taken — by Jerry Jones.

Even though no longer shackled by dead money and with plenty of room under the salary cap, Dallas wasn't very active before the draft.

The Cowboys signed free agent defensive end Marcellus Wiley, an expected upgrade from the departed Ebenezer Ekuban. They also got Keyshawn Johnson, a Parcells favorite, from Tampa Bay for Joey Galloway.

That was pretty much it.

"I think I probably held us back a little," Parcells said. "I certainly don't want to get in an economically prohibitive situation, then you are in jail. That had happened here."

Forget the thought of winning now at any cost, which would be more appropriate for Parcells if he was really planning to get out in a year or two.

The Cowboys overachieved last season, going 10-6 despite an inconsistent offense: an injury plagued line, erratic play from third-year quarterback Quincy Carter and an unproductive run-

ning game.

Another 10-win season will be difficult, especially in the NFC East.

Philadelphia added defensive end Jevon Kearse, Terrell Owens, and huge rookie tackle Shane Andrews. Coach Joe Gibbs is back in Washington, and he has Clinton Portis at running back. And the New York Giants added 10 free agents before getting quarterback Eli Manning, the No. 1 overall pick.

Seems like Big Bill's still got plenty of building to do, and plans to take his time to doing it.

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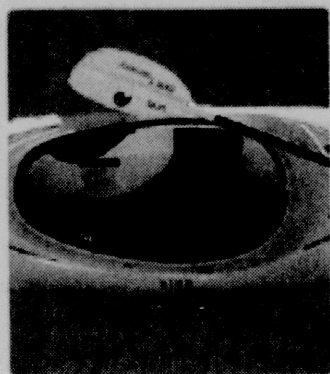
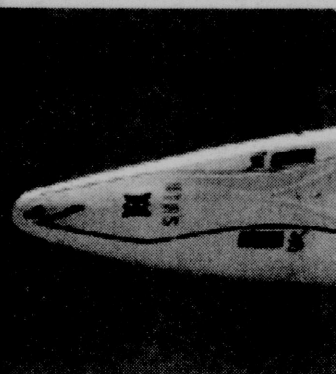
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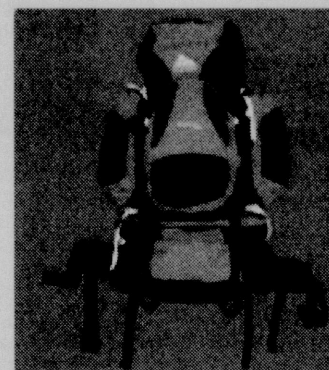
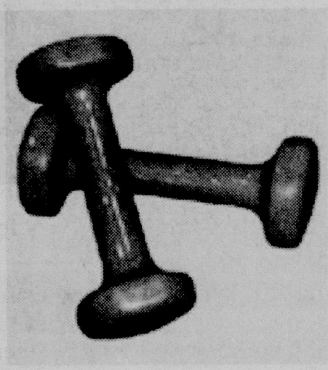
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3 Women

Robert Altman's

VulcanVideo 609 W 29th St

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0316

ACROSS

1 Talk like Jimmy Stewart

6 Minnelli of "Cabaret"

10 Frozen waffle brand

14 Noted Montague

15 First father

16 Potting need

17 Jellied garnish

19 Ditto, with "the"

20 Kingdom's dock?

23 Suffix with musket

24 Tic-tac-toe winner

25 Poet Elinor

27 Invent

30 Enzyme suffix

32 Baseball playoff mo.

33 Mikhail of chess

34 Adage

35 Home of the Blue Devils

36 Municipality's dock?

40 Part of a financial portfolio

41 Yale, for one

42 Q-Tip target

43 Put down, on the street

44 Place where you can get into hot water

45 No less than

49 Looks out for, at a heist

51 Commotion

52 Early Beattie Sutcliffe

53 Country's dock?

58 Diva Gluck

59 Breakfast food chain

60 Back, at the track

61 Depend (on)

62 Barrel of laughs

63 Hosiery hue

64 Breyers competitor

65 Adds (up)

66 Photographer Adams

DOWN

1 Hung loosely

2 More upbeat

3 Fuse unit

4 Small dam

5 Lead-in to motion

6 Traveler's work aid

7 Potato state

8 Billy of "Titanic"

9 From the U.S.

10 Composition with a viewpoint

11 Give 100%

12 Gadget-laden

13 Grand \_\_\_ Opry

21 Ball that may hit an umpire

22 Meadow mother

26 Summer in Suisse

28 Just slightly

29 Indianapolis 500 time

30 Sound of relief

31 Fond of

34 Farm pen

35 Calamitous

36 Nitpicked

37 Socially improper

38 Future aves?

39 Record-setting Ripken

40 Pharmaceutical-safety org.

44 Retired flier

45 Changes to fit

46 "The way things are ..."

47 One of a slapstick trio

48 Prison escape route, maybe

50 Cafeteria carriers

51 Underway

54 "Java" player AI

55 Home to Columbus

56 "Chiquitita" quartet

57 Freshman, usually

58 "You \_\_\_ here"

Puzzle by Ron Sweet

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JOJO SHMOOE AT PLAY

by Joe Shmoe joeshmoe comics@hotmail.com

I've never played darts like this before.

House rules.

You should see how they play pool.

LIVIN ON LUCK

SPRING 2004

UH HUH... I HEARD ABOUT THE HELP YOU GAVE TO CAPRI ON HER PROJECT. GREAT WORK.

I KNOW...

YEP, HE'S MY BLATCH.

WHOA NOW. YOU BEST BE WATCHIN' WHAT YOU CALL QWEN.

CAUSE HE'S TOTALLY MY BLATCH...

CAN I JUST BE MY OWN BLATCH?

I'LL FLIP YA FOR HIM. HEADS OR TAILS?

BADBOY\_ES@HOTMAIL.COM

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ERIK "LOL" STARK

CAUSE for DELAY

BY NICK CHRISTINY

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SATURDAY NIGHT

PARTY!

THE NEXT DAY

YEAH, BUT I TELL YA, BILLY, I'M GOIN' STRAIGHT FROM NOW ON... NO MORE NUTTIN'!

DAMN, STAZZ! YOU GOT KNAKKERED LAST NIGHT!

YOU DO REALIZE THAT'S WHISKEY NOT MILK IN YOUR FROOT LOOPS...

Helpus!

classifieds continued

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Joshua ByGosh

IN ORDER TO PASS THIS DULL BROOM-STICK THROUGH THE CHICKEN IN ONE STROKE- I WILL HAVE TO HAVE COMPLETE FOCUS OF ENERGY-NOTHING CAN DISTRACT ME... PURE CONCENTRATION...

...FOCUS... FOCUS...

HEY CHAIR- PARIS HILTON IS ON TV OVER HERE!! COME QUICK!!

YOU ARE ONE LUCKY CHICKEN...

MATTUOUS by matt douglass mattuous@aol.com

If you jump, you will receive a citation!

Alan was never very good at knowing what to say in situations like these

RETRO TOTHEMONS

I'm not that lonely.

So, I hear you're the loneliest number... why don't we fix that 'right now baby?

By Zach Freeman

ooh! slat down!

WANT FRIES WITH THAT?

HEY GORGEOUS, I THINK YOU FORGOT THIS LABEL APPLY TO THAT SKIRT OF YOURS... AND USE AS DIRECTED...

PICK UP

SUPERMAN VISION

... AND DINT BE SCWARD TO QD.

ANDREA HORACE APPEDEER...

"IN SEARCH OF THE ALBINO SQUIRREL" A PLAY IN THREE ACTS

"DUDE, IT'S THE ALBINO SQUIRREL!"

"NO, DUDE, THAT'S A MOUSE."

"LOOK AT THAT FLUFFY TAIL AND TELL ME THAT BELONGS TO A MOUSE."

"DUDE, YOU HAVE ARGUED YOUR CASE FAIRLY AND I MUST CONCEDE TO YOUR ARGUMENT."

"IT DISAPPEARED!"

"THIS IS THE MYSTERY OF THE ALBINO SQUIRREL."

THE END?

STRIPPY By Ramin Nazer www.strippycomics.com

GIVE BLOOD! SAVE LIVES!

BLOODDRIVES

WAAAAA

K, NOW WHAT?

BLOODDRIVE

Undeclared By the comic baron theukrainian@mail.utexas.edu

JESSE?

YES?

I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS

YOU ARE CONTRACTUALLY OBLIGATED TO BE FUNNY. HOWEVER, RECENT INFRACTIONS HAVE RESULTED IN FINES TO BE PAID IMMEDIATELY. WHAT? LETME SEE THIS.

BUT I DONT HAVE THIS KIND OF CASH.

I HAVE MENTIONED THE LUCKY INDESTRY OF OREGAN DONATION?

HOW MUCH WOULD I HAVE TO GIVE TO BREAK EVEN?

RAMN.

Helping Hand by Chris Copeland

So if I had to have plastic surgery, what would you get for me?

Zugaro, I would get you a second ass crack!

I'm trying to eat!

Actual dinner conversation

Proverbs By Al Sweigart asweigart@mail.utexas.edu

"Laughter is the best medicine."



# SOUND BITES

Detroit Rock City vets The Von Bondies and Southern Cali punks Pulley celebrate new releases in this week's Sound Bites



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

Party-rock? Blues-punk? Garage? "Pawn Shoppe Heart" is The Von Bondies first with Warner Bros.

**THE VON BONDIES** ★★☆☆☆  
ALBUM: "Pawn Shoppe Heart"  
LABEL: Sire

According to Detroit rockers the Dirtbombs, "If there was a 'Detroit Scene,' we'd tell you all about it. However, there's not. It's a nice media delusion, but that's about all it is." That makes it a little bit easier to talk about what can best be described as a fluke, then.

A city that — and I'm pretty sure of this — is so economically depressed that they are converting some inner-city blocks into farmland, is cranking out a slew of platinum-selling acts. Rap artists aside, the White Stripes are ushering in a new era of punk/blues hybrids that are trying their damndest to ride this "media delusion" for all its worth.

This segues nicely into another question about the "Detroit Scene." If all these artists happen to be making a nearly identical form of music without even the most reverent nod to their contemporaries, then how did Jack White end up at the Magic Stick giving Von Bondies frontman Jason Stollsteimer the beating of his life? A beating so severe that even E! makes mention of it on its Web site? Did I forget to say that

this one-sided punching match happened to coincide with the release of the Von Bondies newest record "Pawn Shoppe Heart?"

Publicity stunt conspiracies aside, the White Stripes are largely responsible for bringing the Von Bondies out of the garage. Their 2002 release "Lack of Communication" was produced by Jim Diamond of the Dirtbombs and the above mentioned peppermint-colored pugilist. So after touring relentlessly, Stollsteimer and crew have finally dropped their first major label album.

"Pawn Shoppe Heart" is a collection of songs that goes for the gritty gusto, but largely ends up seeming gutless. It has all the ingredients: the ripped-off blues power chords; the emphatic Stollsteimer on vocals; some flat, punky female back-up; a few surfer-rock grins and the snazzy John Lee Hooker transitions. But all-in-all, whatever grittiness there used to be has been washed away by major-label production values and a definitive lack of musical roots.

Let's put it this way, this record is more radio-friendly than anything the White Stripes will ever produce. You can almost tell that each note was written with an eye on the airwaves.

So when the Von Bondies make their rounds and end up in heavy rotation at the litany of hard-rock radio stations with an "X" in their call letters, here's what to listen for. The first single "C'Mon, C'Mon" is indicative of the sweaty, adrenaline "guitars on overdrive" that Stooges fans will have an easy time placing. "Poison Ivy" is a pure cock rock/punk love child and the more progressive cut "Not that Social" lets Marcie Bolen take over the vocals, in a Karen O-ish taste of the Bondies' version of the recent punk grrrl storm.

A little truth with charity is good for the Von Bondies. Call it party-rock, call it bluesy-punk, or call it garage-based raw, but any band that has the gall to state, "credibility is important to us," has the right to have that assertion challenged. So what would normally have been an easily forgotten blip in the "rock 'n' roll" storybooks deserves a little further scrutiny. The Motor City scene and all.

— Sam Monreal

**PULLEY** ★★☆☆☆  
ALBUM: "Matters"  
LABEL: Fat Wreck Chords

When listening to the latest release from the Southern California punk band Pulley, one thought kept cycling through my mind. Well, a joke rather, stolen from an old Saturday Night Live skit. Here it goes: "Hey Pulley ... 1996 called; it wants its sound back." And that is how best to describe their newest album, the ironically titled "Matters."

Listening to this album will take you back to the days when you pulled on a NOFX T-shirt, shoved your feet into Vans sneakers and grabbed your skateboard for some "shredding" down at the local drainage ditch.

But then you wake up and realize that you've grown up and past that stage of your life ... but here's the sad part: Pulley hasn't. Like the kid perpetually left in the eighth-grade, this Simi Valley foursome has not changed a bit since its 1996 Fat Wreck Chords debut "Esteem Driven Engine."

"Matters" presents us with 12 songs of super-fast drum tempos coupled with booming double bass-pedal fury, crunchy guitars and rumbling bass lines. Singer Scott Radinsky's cynical lyrics are delivered with a machismo that is reminiscent of punk icon Henry Rollins, while also channeling some of the humor of NOFX's Fat Mike.

With songs that often clock in under the two-minute mark, Pulley delivers its songs to the ADD-riddled youth of yesterday with as much fervor as they can muster. Songs such as "Looking



Photo courtesy of Epitaph

SoCal punks Pulley take us back to eighth-grade on "Matters."

Back" and "Poltergeist" utilize guitar riffs popularized by the bands Strung Out and Lagwagon, pairing fast pacing with metal aptitude. The fourth track, "Insects Destroy," is a little slower, featuring a chugging tempo and heavy guitars to pound out its message of disenfranchised youth.

All in all, "Matters" is not a terrible album. It is simply disappointing that this talented band has not changed at all in almost a decade. Their sound has not developed, which is an incredible feat considering the changes the punk genre has undergone since their last release. The band

even inserts a cover of "The Land of the Lost" mid-album, oblivious to the fact that cheesy TV theme-song covers are no longer cool. The days of tough-guy posturing, mosh pits and skateboard pop-punk have given way to more progressive styles, but Pulley unfortunately didn't get the memo.

For those who miss the fast-paced skate-punk of Pennywise, Strung Out and Lagwagon, Pulley's new album might matter to you. For the rest of us, we will file "Matters" on the shelf next to our favorite '90s bands and look for something new.

— Sean Hall

## Ozomatli leaves fans in the red zone

**OZO, FROM 16**

cally, but stylistically? Hell yeah. Whether it was percussionist Justin Poree juggling his shaker off his feet like a soccer ball or the horn section laying down their brass to gyrate in rhythm, everyone was doing something. This and the constant banter between songs (something I'm not a fan of — I'll "spread the love" on my own time, thank you very much) kept the crowd pumped throughout the two-hour and 20-minute set that ended in the traditional percussion conga line throughout the crowd before finishing up by the bar (and the merchandise table — coincidence? ... I think not).

As with almost every band I've seen in Austin since the war in Iraq began, there was the obligatory call for "change, love and peace," but Ozomatli threw out the first "Chappelle's Show" reference ("I'm Rick James, bitch!") I've seen from stage. Bassist Wil-Dog Abers humorously dedicated an early number to "all the 'fresas' in the house," which was received excitedly by every non-Spanish-speaking woman. My bilingual friend let me in on the joke: while "fresa" literally means "strawberry," in barrio slang it

means "snotty woman."

Throughout the urban Latino madness, the band was bathed appropriately in salsa-flavored lights to accompany the roving music that ran the gamut of Tijuana brass and Mariachi wails to straight-up hip-hop and the odd verse of Lionel Richie's "Hello" and Chaka Khan's "Tell Me Something Good."

As engaging as Ozomatli is, they are even harder to follow, constantly switching instruments — Ulises Bella alternated between saxophone, clarinet, guitar and keyboards throughout — and inviting guests from the opening act (Innervision Soul) and an outstanding beat-boxer sometimes caused the numbers to swell to 14. I gave up around the

time a conch shell appeared between the lips of trumpeter and vocalist Asdrú Sierra.

After an hour or so, the jostling for position ended as the club thinned out — as La Zona Rosa is prone to do — and the diverse crowd was largely pleasant aside from the pushy "fresa" or the occasional whiff of body odor that smelled like a Ninfa's waiter. The only lowlights came during a stretch in the middle when the band played a few mediocre songs from their forthcoming album and an ill-timed love song that seemed awkwardly out of place. Other than that, Ozo rocked the house pretty ragged, and with the flux of curious newcomers, they surely made some new fans as well.

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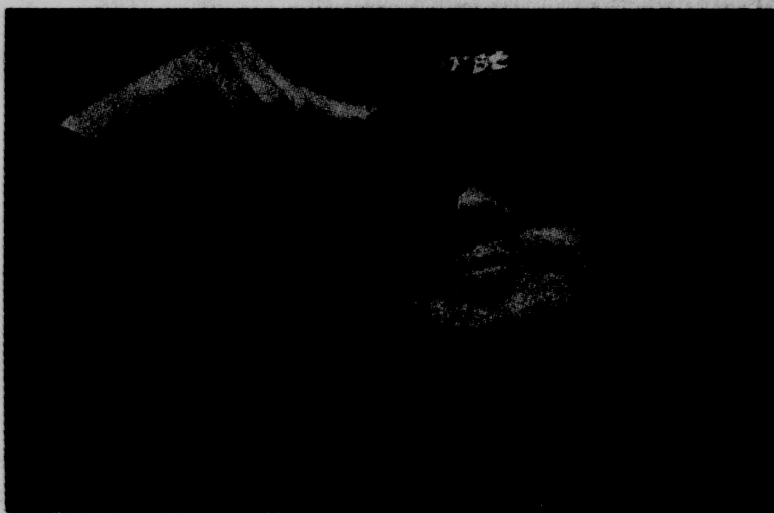


That's right boys and girls, the man who brought us everything from Ziggy Stardust to "I'm Afraid of Americans," the music chameleon David Bowie performs at The Backyard tonight. The Polyphonic Spree open.

*A look back at last Thursday's  
outstanding Ozomatli show at  
La Zona Rosa*



**See OZO, page 15**



— Vickie Ann

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