

FRIDAY

March 23, 2001

Volume 76, Issue 116

Today:
High 72 Low 46

Tomorrow:
High 67
Low 39

Isolated
T-Storms

Stocks Nasdaq S&P 500 Dow Jones
price: 1897.70 1117.58 9389.48
change: +67.47 -4.56 -97.52
Thursday's closing figures

STATE

Two Baylor sluggers cut for skinning cat

WACO (AP) — The Baylor University baseball coach has suspended two players charged with shooting, decapitating and skinning a stray cat.

Head baseball coach Steve Smith announced Thursday the immediate and indefinite suspension of pitcher Derek Brehm and outfielder Clint Bowers.

"After reviewing this matter further, I feel this is the appropriate course of action," Smith said. "What Derek and Clint are charged with is unacceptable conduct for a Baylor baseball player. They are both being held accountable for their behavior."

Smith has asked administrators to include professional counseling as part of any disciplinary action taken by the university against the pair.

The suspension came after animal welfare groups asked the university to expel or suspend the players for abusing the cat.

Brehm and Bowers were arrested March 9 on animal cruelty charges after Waco police found the head of a skinned cat in the back of Bowers' vehicle. The arrest came after officers responded to a report of a gunshot around 4 a.m. near a Taco Cabana restaurant.

NATIONAL

Shooting breaks out in California school

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP) — Two people were shot and seven others were injured Thursday as gunfire erupted at a high school less than three weeks after two students were killed at a nearby school.

An 18-year-old suspect was one of the two with gunshot wounds, police Capt. Bill McClure said. The other victim was believed to be a 16-year-old, but no details were released.

The other victims were students and adults injured by broken glass and by falling, McClure said.

The midday shooting at Granite Hills High School sparked a confusing scene, with officers scrambling across the campus as many of the 2,900 students fled to a nearby park.

What happened wasn't immediately clear: McClure said a school police officer confronted the gunman near the administration building. School district spokesman Jim Esterbrooks said an El Cajon police officer was making a presentation to students when the shooting occurred.

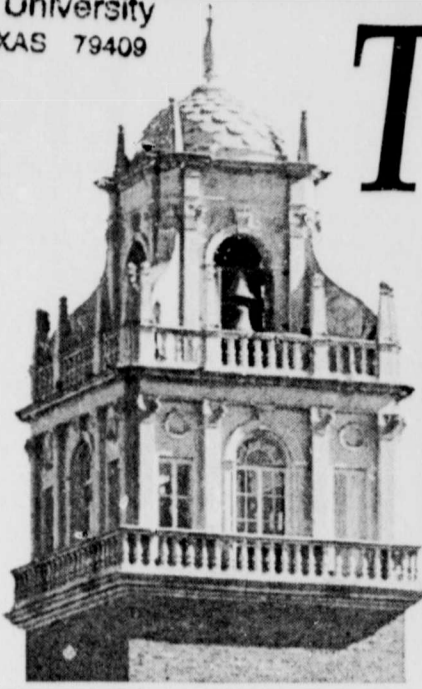
WORLD

Russia plans answer to expulsion decision

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian officials vowed to "adequately respond" to a U.S. decision to expel 50 Russian diplomats, indicating that an equivalent number of American diplomats will soon be ordered to leave Moscow.

"We will easily find" U.S. diplomats to be expelled "in a more painful form to the U.S. than it was in our case," Sergei Ivanov, chief of Russia's influential Security Council, said on Polish state television during a visit to Warsaw.

"We have time to think, to carefully pick from among more than 1,000 U.S. diplomats in Russia, to choose those 46 who are most precious to the Americans," he was quoted as saying through an interpreter.



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INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE



Tech to take on OSU at Dan Law Fieldp.8

Knightmare hardly over

Former Indiana coach should take Tech job today

By Matt Muench
Staff Writer

Texas Tech officials plan to introduce Bob Knight as the 12th Red Raiders men's basketball coach at 6 p.m. today on the United Spirit Arena's main floor.

Chancellor John Montford confirmed Thursday that Knight has been offered the job although he later said the former Indiana coach has not officially accepted the position.

"In my conclusion based on everything I have had in front of me and from information I have in interviews, this hiring by the athletics director (Gerald Myers) and the concurrence of the president is in the best interest of Texas Tech University," he said.

University policy states that Knight cannot be hired until a 10-day posting period is up at 5 p.m. today.

Knight will take the reigns of the men's program from James Dickey, who was fired March 9.

Knight could not be reached for comment.

Montford said he received Tech President David Schmidly's recommendation Thursday, consisting of a comprehensive series of interviews, research and background information about Knight.

Montford said the decision to offer Knight the job was based on Schmidly's recommendation.

Montford also said he had doubts at the start of the interviewing process, but as it went on, he felt more confident about

ANNOUNCEMENT

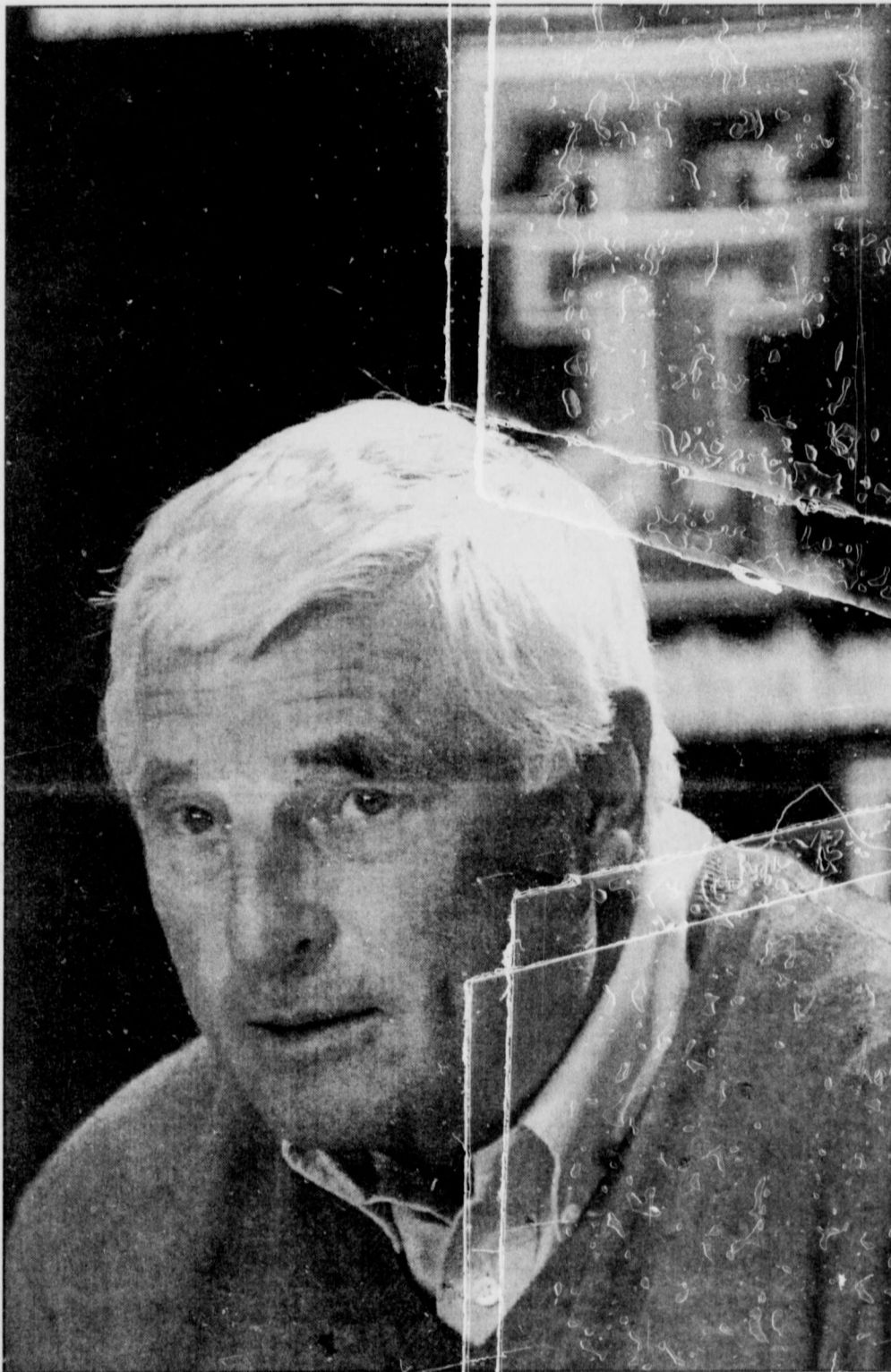
Tech President David Schmidly and Athletic Director Gerald Myers will announce Bob Knight as the next head men's basketball coach.

TIME:

6 p.m. today

LOCATION:

United Spirit Arena, main floor



Bob Knight answers questions at a media event March 15 at United Spirit Arena. The former Indiana basketball coach is expected to be in Lubbock today to formally accept the Texas Tech head men's basketball coaching position.

Tech slow in answering arena's ADA complaint

A Seminole high school student and her parents are objecting to policies at the Tech facility.

By Mara McCoy
Staff Writer

A Texas Tech official said a Seminole teenager's complaint about disabled seating in the United Spirit Arena is not being ignored and a solution to the problem is in the works.

Tech's Associate General Counsel Victor Mellinger said this is the first time a disabled seating issue has been brought to Tech's attention.

"We are trying to address their concerns and are legitimately trying to find an accommodation for them," Mellinger said.

He said he is handling the complaint. Kristin Eady, a 15-year-old freshman at Seminole High School who is confined to a wheelchair because of spina bifida, said she is trying to find a solution.

accommodate them safely."

Eady, who also suffers from vertigo, said she attempted to watch the Carman concert Feb. 19, in the arena and said if she were to use the disabled seating provided on the concourse level, she would become nauseated and dizzy.

Eady said she and her family also went to then President-elect George W. Bush's citywide speech in Midland on Jan. 17. When she attempted to sit closer to the stage to see Bush speak, she said, her request was denied and she ended up waiting in the car with her mother.

"The education she got that day was about discrimination against people with disabilities," said Eady's mother, Kim Scroggins, in the Jan. 31 edition of the *Odessa American*. "She learned about being excluded."

Eady said she received a letter from Bush but said she would still like the chance to meet him. She also said she is angry about what has happened to her.

"It's not fair," she said. "I realize life isn't fair, but this is one thing that could be fair."

Eady said after being denied access to seating twice, she has learned a lesson.

"Before each event, I told my friends that I was going to go. I got really excited, and so did my friends," she said. "I'm not going to say anything until the day after now."

Scroggins said she is disappointed her daughter has to be put through these prob-



Kristin Eady, a Seminole high school student, plays with her dog, Gordy, in her backyard Wednesday afternoon. Eady and her parents are questioning ADA requirements at United Spirit Arena.

lems. "It will always be in the back of her mind," she said. "It's a shame it is this way."

Eady and her family attempted to file a grievance with Tech after the Carman concert. However, despite repeated attempts to learn

see COMPLAINT, page 2

Tech students excited about announcement

By Matt Muench
Staff Writer

The speculation can be thrown out: the word. Bob Knight has been offered the head coaching job of the Red Raider men's basketball team today, and the possible hiring has some Texas Tech students excited.

Student Government Association President-elect John Steinmetz said the transition would help the university gain more national recognition.

"Like all the students I have talked to, I think the Knight deal is great for Texas Tech as a Texas Tech sports," said Steinmetz, a junior major from Fort Worth. "It will be a good thing because it will help Tech get on the map."

Student Mary Thompson said Knight would bring fun and more life to Tech.

"I think it is great," the senior merchandising major from Eula said. "He will bring a lot of money and more excitement here. People that didn't know about Tech, know now."

Students are encouraged to attend today's 6 p.m. press conference at United Spirit Arena where Tech President David Schmidly and Athletic Director Gerald Myers will announce the 12th coach of the Red Raider squad.

Steinmetz said he will attend the session because he is looking forward to what the General will say.

Steinmetz said he is a frequent supporter of both the women's and men's squads and that with Knight in town, it will be easier to support the men.

"It will be a lot more interesting to watch because Knight will be here," he said. "Attendance and wins will go up."

Steinmetz said one of the three principles on his platform is school spirit.

"I hope to get with Coach Knight and get things up to help promote his team and help promote more school spirit," Steinmetz said.

Steinmetz also said he was happy Schmidly made his decision after hearing opinions from the faculty and students.

"I think President Schmidly did a great job by getting feedback from the faculty and the

see REACTION, page 5

Bill seeks to restrict open containers

By Jeff Stoughton
Staff Writer

A bill passed in the Texas House of Representatives Wednesday could make open containers of alcohol illegal in vehicles.

The state of Texas is in violation of federal open alcohol container regulations, which divert 1.5 percent of federal highway funds to highway safety programs in states that do not comply. The figure will increase to 3 percent in October 2002.

The author of House Bill 5, State Rep. Jim Durnam, D-Waco, said the bill would make it illegal to have an open container of alcohol in the passenger area of vehicles, including the driver's area of motor homes.

It is legal under state law to have an open container of alcohol in the passenger area of a vehicle.

Texas Department of Public Safety Lt. Bill

see ALCOHOL, page 5