I FEEL OKAY TELLING

FEEL YOU'RE SOMEON

YOU THIS 'CUL I

I CANTRUST.

THE SOUND EFFECTS WE COULD SEE

. SO, IQUESS A GOOD

ROSES ARE RED

I WILL PAY YOU!

WAIT A MINUTE, FOLKS ...

YIOLETS ARE BLUE

IF YOU GO OUT W/ ME

NIGHT KISS IS OUT

OF THE QUESTION

The Battalion LASSIFIED ADS

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Station, TX 77845. EOE/M/F/HV.
Subjects needed for group study. Subject will be required to attend two to four hours. Payment is \$5. per hour. Subjects are chosen for two or more sessions. For more information call Franziska 846-0468 (leave name and phone number on answering machine) or stop by at Psychological Department room 217.

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information, call Fabiana at 846-1331.



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If you did not pre-order a 1991-92 Campus Directory, a limited number of copies are now on sale for \$3, plus tax, in room 230 Reed McDonald Building between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone (409) 845-2611

(the story so far . . .)

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YOU MEAN YOU'RE

MY HEART

GOES OUT

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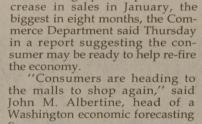
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WASHINGTON (AP) - Re-

tailers rang up a 0.6 percent in-

'I think this says we have reached the bottom in consumer sentiment and spending, and tious optimism to the new reports. things should begin to move up slowly," agreed economist Cynthia Latta of DRI-McGraw-Hill, a Lexington, Mass. forecasting ser-

A second report, from the Labor Department, showed that new claims for unemployment insur-

spreading disease and gobbling crops.

ance posted their second straight decline in the week ending Feb. 1, falling 13,000 to 437,000.

Consumers boost economy

Retailers realize 0.6 percent sales increase, economists say

David Jones, an economist with Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., a New York securities dealer, said the jobless claims report is 'among the more sensitive indicators of where the economy is going. It is a hint of better news.

The Bush administration, which has watched the president's approval ratings plummet with each new gloomy report on the economy, also reacted with cau-

Labor Secretary Lynn Martin said the jobless report could be 'an early signal that the economy and the labor market are posed for improvement" and that the retail sales advance may be providing "additional confirmation that the worst is behind us."

"It is not time for firework she said, "but these are positi signs.

TOOPS, LOOKS LIKE WE ACIDE TUNED INTO AN INDEPENDEN STATION ON TCA CABLE FROM

Some analysts said the bett than-expected reports could! duce chances the Federal Resen will further ease credit to ensu the economic revival.

Susan Phillips, one of two n Fed governors, repeated assi ances of other top Fed offici that the central bank is prepar to move further if econo growth and measures of o sumer confidence do not impro

But she told a group of bank ing executives in Washington Thursday that positive signals the economy now outweigh negative ones and that this w helping to lay the groundwor for sustained economic expan

New device needs no cats; Ratapult trap launches rats

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The rat sniffs up to the narrow metal box, senses food and warmth, and strolls through the narrow entrance. But before its mouth can water, it trips an infrared light.

The rodent has just experienced the Ratapult, a trap that flings the critters up to 50 feet into a cage or bucket.

For centuries rats have skittered their way over land and sea,

Allen Gross, the Ratapult inventor, wants to send them flying. "It's so fast you don't really see it. It's just a blur," said Ann Koenig, an Oakland businesswoman who helped Gross develop a

manufacturing and marketing plan.

The Ratapult sounds like a "Saturday Night Live" sketch, but backers say it's seriously intended for use at farms, warehouses or

The device, not yet available in stores, will retail for \$350 to \$450. Gross said he built his first trap two years ago and tested it in a friend's warehouse, where it launched 70 rats in two days.

The vaulting vermin lands in a bucket or cage, dazed but otherwise unharmed, where he can be turned over to authorities or released in the wild, he said.
"I didn't want the (rodents) squashed or turned into meatloaf,"

said Gross, 40. Anyone who has trouble visualizing - or believing - the sce-

nario, might want to check out the promotional video. Although the trap sends rodents flying with a startling snap, Gross and Koenig insist the Ratapult is humane. Mice and rats launched during a series of test flights were a little shaken up but otherwise unharmed, they said.

Not surprisingly, animal rights activists are disturbed. "It sounds medieval and it just sounds cruel," said Lynn Spivak, a spokeswoman for the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. "It would certainly cause a certain amount of trauma to the animal to get flung though the air and

flopped into a bucket. But Gross said the catapult is a critical part of the trap. Unlike other rodent traps, the Ratapult resets itself, remaining free of human scent and the smell of death.

Delegation ranks low in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Texas congressional delegation ranked among the worst in Congress last year in supporting environmental issues, the League of Conservation Voters said Thursday. Six congressmen earned scores of 0 for their positions of

issues related to energy, glob warming, natural resources pollution, human health and population growth.

The league, the non-partisal political arm of the national environmental movement, ha published its scorecard ever year since 1970.

Earning the goose eggs were Reps. Jim Chapman, D-Sulphu Springs; Ralph Hall, D-Rockwall and Republicans Joe Barton Ennis, Jack Fields of Houston Larry Combest of Lubbock and

Dick Armey of Lewisville. The scorecard examined 13 decisions each congressman had to make last year environmental issues and 1 decisions each senator had to make. The decisions included votes, sponsorship of legislation

and advocacy letters. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, earned a 40 percent rating, while Republican Sen. Phil Gramm scored a 20, giving Texas a 3 percent senate average.

riday, Fe

by thomas des

Happy Valentine's

by GREGORY GOWA The tabl exas A&M me for th onths. The Aggi hite Colise ng a 12-gan ast December

> A&M hea as worried ame rolled o ggies had l t in the gan TSU fresh of Barone's co is 17 points "I didn't

> > uzzer went

ies to 4-16 t

doubting it v hree-pointer shots, and the "I was just to tick. I was and it go fr A&M gua Aggies with Chuck Hend

A&M, while Haralson both TSU guard ers with 25 po Haralson erned with th