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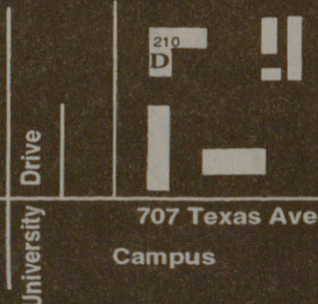
Classes begin May 10

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April 31-May 7
1-5 pm

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Serbs allow Red Cross to visit American POWs

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — The Red Cross was allowed Tuesday to visit three American POWs last seen with bloodied faces on Serbian TV and took letters for their families, while NATO jets pounded Serb forces in Kosovo in a round-the-clock operation. Diplomacy showed little sign of a breakthrough.

In Moscow, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott met Tuesday with Russian officials to determine whether the Russians made progress in brokering a settlement to the five-week-old confrontation.

But former premier Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russia's chief mediator on the Yugoslav crisis, said NATO must halt airstrikes to clear the way for talks, a condition rejected repeatedly by the alliance.

Chernomyrdin said Belgrade would accept an "international presence" in Kosovo with Russia's participation but he acknowledged that such a group, which would be unarmed or only lightly armed, fell far short of what NATO is demanding.

Allied terms include the key demand of international peacekeeping troops in Kosovo, an end to atrocities against ethnic Albanian civilians, autonomy for the majority Albanian province and the return of all refugees.

International Committee of the Red Cross chief Cornelio Sommaruga said a team from his organization, including a doctor, met privately in Belgrade with the U.S. soldiers, captured March 31 in disputed circumstances along the Yu-

goslav-Macedonian border.

Sommaruga saw the three briefly on Monday. The visit Tuesday was the first "official" contact as provided for under the Geneva conventions for prisoners of war.

The ICRC also conducted a second visit with a Yugoslav officer captured by Kosovo Albanian rebels and held at a U.S. military base in Mannheim, Germany.

Sommaruga refused to discuss the American men's conditions — they were paraded before Serb TV with cuts and bruises on their faces after their capture — but said they were examined by a physician and allowed to hand over letters to their families.

Christopher J. Stone, 25, of Smiths Creek, Mich.; Andrew A. Ramirez, 24, of Los Angeles; and Steven M. Gonzales, 21, of Huntsville, Texas, were seized March 31, seven days after NATO launched its bombing campaign.

Chris Bowers of the ICRC said the Red Cross was promised regular access to the prisoners — seen as a possible sign Belgrade was seeking a way out of the crisis and the widespread destruction of bridges, factories, oil depots and other key infrastructure.

In another possible overture, Yugoslav Deputy Premier Vuk Draskovic urged the government Monday to admit it cannot defeat NATO. Draskovic, a former opposition leader with a reputation for maverick stands, said he believed Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic was prepared to accept a U.N. force in Kosovo.

Celebrating spring



Cameron Ogden, son of Kyle Ogden who is a groundskeeper at Texas A&M, celebrates 25¢ sausage dog night sponsored by the sausage. The supply of sausage dogs sold out in 55 minutes.

Girlfriend may have bought guns used in Littleton mass

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Exactly a week after the first shots rang out at Columbine High School, a hush fell over the Denver area Tuesday and church bells tolled 15 times — one for each victim and the two gunmen.

Televisions and radios fell silent for one minute at 11:21 a.m. After the tolling, the bells rang out in joyous tones.

Funerals for three more victims — Matthew Kechter and Kyle Velasquez, both 16, and Corey De-

Pooter, 17 — were held. The Velasquez services drew 800 mourners, including Gov. Bill Owens.

Investigators, meanwhile, questioned Dylan Klebold's 18-year-old girlfriend, who is believed to have bought at least two of the weapons used by Klebold and Eric Harris. Investigators want to know whether she knew how the guns were to be used.

And in Washington, President Clinton announced proposals to tighten federal gun laws. "We don't

have to go through another Littleton if the American people want it badly enough," Clinton said.

Eric Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, committed suicide after bursting into Columbine High with guns and bombs on April 20. They killed 12 fellow students and one teacher. Four guns were found in the school.

Investigators said Robyn K. Anderson bought at least two of the weapons — a rifle and a shotgun — at a Denver-area gun show last fall. Anderson has not been arrested, and

authorities stopped shooting her as a suspect, retained a lawyer and is operating.

Generally, it is illegal to own a gun with the knowledge it will be used in a crime.

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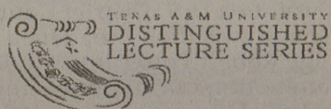
Rudder Auditorium

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Admission is free. Open seating available on a first-come, first-served basis. No tickets are required.

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