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Thursday, February 5, 2004

Taxes

Continued from page 3A

Dependent Care credit if they have a record of their child care expenses, Cavanagh said. Students with dependents may claim up to \$3,000 per child," she said.

While there are numerous resources available to citizens if they experience tax confusion, fewer options are available to international students, Cavanagh said.

Erika Sanchez, a Venezuelan graduate student in the civil engineering department, said she is confused by the tax process in the United States.

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"Everything is more difficult for us. I have to talk to someone to help me because I have no idea what to do," Sanchez said. "I may talk to my uncle and see who does his taxes.'

Sanchez said that in her country, taxes are not taken out of people's paychecks.

"I have never dealt with taxes before," Sanchez said. "In Latin American countries, young people don't have to deal with (taxes) until they are finished with school."

Many international students depend on

each other to figure out how to deal. their taxes, Sanchez said.

"Everyone international I know asks someone else who has done it be

she said. International Services helps only for nationals to file for an individual tan identification number for those who

qualify for Social Security. The upside of taxes, Sanchez s the refund.

"I will probably spend it on a ticket country or a vacation. I have been work for a year now, so I have some vacation ing," Sanchez said, "I want to spending good trip and a good time."

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Douglas donates \$1 million to UC- Santa Barbara

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Michael Douglas doesn't believe in that "greed is good" philosophy uttered by his character, Gordon Gekko, in the 1987 film "Wall Street."

Douglas gave \$1 million to the University of California, Santa Barbara, for the school's new Center for Film, Television and New Media. The lobby of the new center will be named in honor of Douglas.

DOUGLAS The 59-year-old actor, who graduated from UCSB in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in dramatic art, said in a statement Monday that he's proud to be associated with the center, which "represents the very best in teaching, research and

public service that a campus can offer." "I have watched UCSB become an international leader in education," Douglas said, "and as an alumnus and benefactor, I have the personal satisfaction of having played a part in that transformation.'

The new center is the first of its kind in the University of California system. It will include a production suite, instructional and research laboratories, a climate-controlled film and television archive and a 325-seat public theater.

Douglas is a member of the advisory board for the center, which will be funded by private donations of about \$10 million.

He won a best-actor Oscar for his role as Gekko in "Wall Street."

Preliminary battery trial for R&B singer Brown postponed

ATLANTA (AP) — A preliminary hearing for singer Bobby Brown, charged with battery after he allegedly hit his wife, singeractress Whitney Houston, has been postponed from Wednesday to May 5, a Fulton County magistrate court clerk said.

Police responded to a call by Houston to the couple's home near Alpharetta in December. She told police Brown had struck her on the left side of her face. Police said Houston had a bruised cheek and a cut inside her upper lip.

Simple battery is punishable by up to a year in jail a \$1,000 fine. Normally on a first offense in domestic vide cases, the charge is dismissed if the defendant under

Houston, 40, and Brown, 35, have been married since They have a 10-year-old daughter, Bobbi Kristina.

Ripa's sister paid \$15 million by surge

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A jury has ordered a Philadelph geon to pay \$15 million to the sister of television talk-show Kelly Ripa for failing to properly repair her broken ankle.

Linda Ripa, 30, was an aspiring model and actress when was nearly killed in a 1999 car accident that fractured pelvis, sternum and ankle and endangered her eightpregnancy.

She claimed in her lawsuit that a surgeon who operated or ankle three days after the crash rushed her into surgery un essarily without telling her of the risks, then improperly se broken bones.

Medical experts testifying for Ripa at trial said the operator her foot permanently deformed, made it difficult to war caused nerve damage that gives her constant pain.

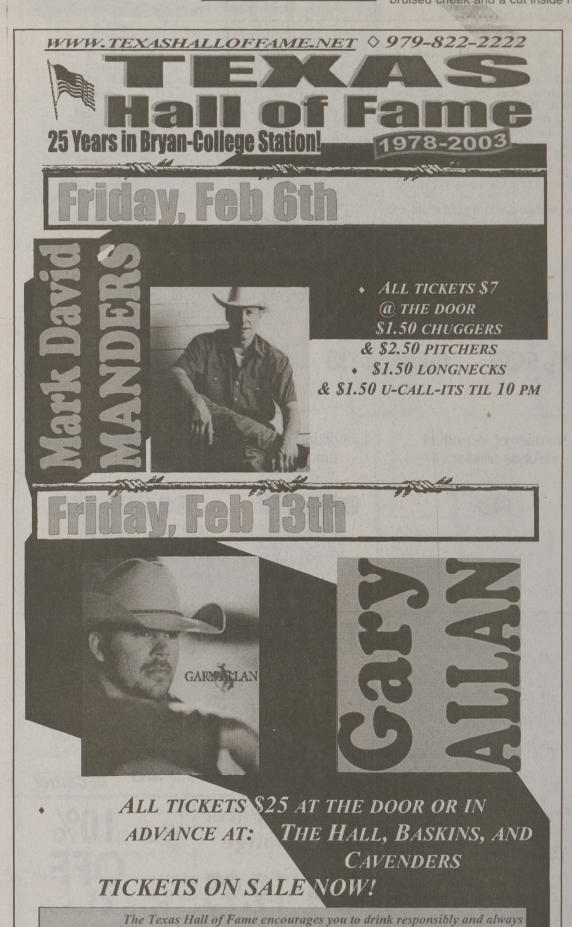
A lawyer for the hospital where the surgery was performed as a surgery was a surgery w called the judgment excessive and said he planned to am Ripa had offered to settle for \$2.4 million, but was turned by the doctor, who said her nerve damage was caused by crash, not the efforts to heal her.

The jury announced its verdict on Friday.

"I'm going to hazard a guess that the plaintiff, and the plain lawyers, in their wildest dreams, did not anticipate this bringing in \$15 million," said David Corujo, a lawyer for France

Ripa's lawyer, Roberta D. Pichini, said the jury's verdici just. She said Ripa lost her ability to work as an actress a because of her pain, could not accept a \$150,000-per-year in work as her sister's personal assistant.

Kelly Ripa, co-host of "Live With Regis & Kelly" and an an in the ABC comedy "Hope & Faith," testified by videotape a two-week trial in Philadelphia's Common Pleas Court.



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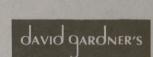
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