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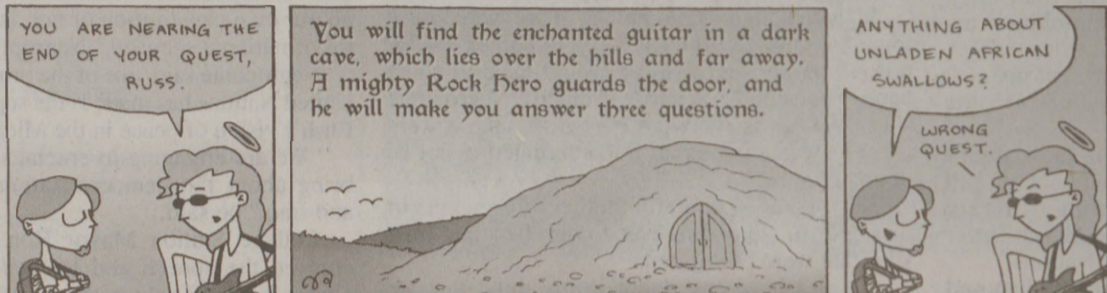
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**Negroponte**

Continued from page 1

"I'm very concerned about world affairs, and I feel that the U.N. is playing a very important role in the world as we see it today," Silvia said. "I think this speech was a very significant event."

Negroponte said the United Nations is pursuing the war against terror, supporting peacekeeping operations in Africa, contributing to the World Food Program, mounting an HIV/AIDS initiative worldwide and curbing the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Negroponte said he thinks Japan should be added to the U.N. Security Council, because it pays so much of the United Nation's budget, but does not have a voice on the Security Council.

"The Security Council is an institution that reflects the realities of 1945, but there has been pressure over the past 15 to 20 years so that it better reflects the reality of today," he said.

**Primary**

Continued from page 1

Democratic District 25 rather than risk staying in his old district, which Republicans redrew to include more Republican-leaning voters. In Texas, congressional candidates don't have to live in the district they represent.

Right up to election day, Doggett and his primary opponent, former state judge Leticia Hinojosa, kept up their intensive battle on the airwaves and the campaign trail.

Doggett had to make himself known in the majority-Latino district, which stretches 350 miles from Austin to Brownsville. Hinojosa, meanwhile, promoted herself as the hometown candidate from Hidalgo County.

Hinojosa said voters were turned off by the choppy Spanish Doggett speaks in one of his TV ads.

"People are concerned about that," Hinojosa said. "You can't always have an interpreter around, and they want to be able to go up and tell you their problems."

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Negroponte said he was pleased with Afghanistan's adoption of the transitional administrative law on March 8, which will act as its constitution until it drafts one itself.

"I think it incorporates many important principles of democracy," Negroponte said. "I think the adoption of this transitional law was a step in the right direction."

Graduate student Jackie Mather worked with Negroponte last summer when she was employed at the United Nations, and said she enjoyed the speech and that he touched on all the key current issues.

"It doesn't matter who he meets or from what country they are from, he automatically makes them feel at ease," Mather said.

Negroponte said the United Nations is taking steps to ensure peace and democracy worldwide.

"We are making progress," Negroponte said, "not always newspaper progress, perhaps, but history book progress, the kind of progress you don't recycle, but you keep on your shelf."

Doggett poured in from national groups of union members, car dealers and teachers in the final days of the race. Doggett has collected more than \$2.5 million so far for his campaign.

Doggett said he felt good about the endorsements he got from political leaders in the Rio Grande Valley and said Hinojosa's support in her home community was lacking.

"If she were as strong as she pretends to be she would be talking about her accomplishments rather than slinging mud at me," Doggett said.

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**Correction**

A page 11 opinion column in Monday, March 8, 2004 issue incorrectly stated the poultry science program had closed. It should have said the Dairy Science Center had closed.

**Bush**

Continued from page 1

Show and Rodeo information booklets.

"President Bush is a down-to-earth gentleman who mixes well with Texas cattlemen," Biser said.

Despite Secret Service warnings, people pressed against security rails for a chance to shake Bush's hand.

At one point, seeing a particular Ford F-250 that he liked, Bush opened the door and dove behind the wheel to pose for pictures.

Despite strict security, some visitors said they are looking forward to the campaign trail.

"I've never had the chance to shake a president's hand," said Sara Bazan, owner of the RB Ranch in Dilley, Texas. "I was so excited."

**Constitution**

Continued from page 1

enormous influence on the U.S.-backed political process in political arena once dominated by Sunnis but now controlled by a Shiite majority and a large Kurdish community.

Monday's ceremony, held at the marble-and-glass Convention Center, a huge building inside the "Green Zone" complex housing the headquarters of the U.S.-led coalition, kicked off with a recital of carefully chosen Quranic verses that urged Muslims to set aside their differences.

Later, children dressed in Arab, Assyrian and Kurdish costumes performed patriotic songs.

"The Executioner is great. Festivities will begin, we'll wear colorful clothes now. The sadness is behind us," went a song that alluded to Saddam rule. The performance drew warm applause from roughly 200 guests, including L. Paul Bremer, chief U.S. administrator in Iraq.

Of the council's 25 members, 21 were present. Those absent were represented by deputies. Led by current council president Mohammed al-Ulloum, the members called forward one at a time to sign the document, which is on an antique wooden desk used by Iraq's first monarch, King Faisal I.