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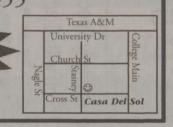
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Friday, April 16, 2004

9:00 pm - 1:00 am Parents' Weekend Aggie Nights

\*Hypnotist Rich Ames in the

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\*Free activities in the MSC Basement:

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Drawing at 12:30 am in MSC Flagroom! 979.845.1515 aggienights.tamu.edu

For special needs, please contact us three days prior to the event at 845-1515.

**DVD Player & Digital Camera!** 

Thursday, April 15, 2004

# Edinburg man killed in Iraq

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) - A 34-year-old Army sergeant who loved spending time with his family and dreamed of settling down in his hometown died Wednesday in Iraq, family members said.

Military officials told the family that Sgt. Christopher Ramirez of the 3rd Infantry Division based in Fort Stewart, Ga., died in an ambush.

"He did not want to be over there," said Cynthia Ramirez, Ramirez's sister-in-law. "He only wanted to be there for his troops, to lead his platoon. He couldn't let his comrades down.'

One of a family of 11 children, Ramirez loved to come home to see all his nieces and nephews.

"He loved spending time with his family, loved being with his brothers and nephews and nieces," Cynthia Ramirez said. "He loved baseball games. When he was home, almost every day we had to do some-thing with him."

After graduating from Pharr High School, Ramirez immediately joined the military. He had more than 12 years of military experience and had served in Kosovo and Desert Storm, according to KRGV-TV.

He was looking forward to ending his military career and joining the U.S. Border Patrol. He had been saving for a plot of land and planned to build his

His term with the Army was up in January, but the Department

of Defense extended his tour. On Christmas Day during his last leave he was told there was an

emergency and he had to return. 'Christmas Day, when he had to go back, he was just quiet. It wasn't like him. It was silence, it was nothing," Cynthia

Ramirez said.

View from the top



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THE BATTAL

Junior finance major Jenica Van Winkle climbs up a 30-foot telephone pole during her venture dynamics class Wednesday afternoon. Students had to climb the

telephone pole, stand on the top without holdings anything and jump forward to try to catch a try hanging six feet away.

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

Wife of kidnapped contractor in Iraq prays for his return

MACON, Miss. (AP) - Kellie Hamill said Wednesday her family is struggling with the silence that has followed the capture of her civilian husband in Iraq, maintaining their courage through prayer and the support of others.

"It's hard, it's really hard," she said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press from her home in Macon. "You want him home. You want to hear from him.

You want to hear him.'

Thomas Hamill, 43, a fuel tanker driver for Halliburton Co. subsidiary Kellogg, Brown & Root, was abducted Friday when gunmen attacked his convoy of fuel trucks.

Now, Hamill's family must deal with reports that four bodies have been found in Iraq, possibly the remains of private contractors who are missing.

Kellie Hamill said she had not seen her husband's picture since the weekend, when the Arabic news network Al-Jazeera aired tapes of the former dairy farmer. In the segment, Hamill's captors threatened to kill him unles troops ended their assault or city of Fallujah.

A deadline imposed by

abductors came and went So with no word of his fate. "It's nerve-racking, not kno what's going on," said Han

mother, Phyllis. Wendy Hall, a Hallibur spokeswoman, said Wednes the company has no new mation regarding the mis workers and whether the

bodies that were reported to Tuesday have been identified some of those workers.

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