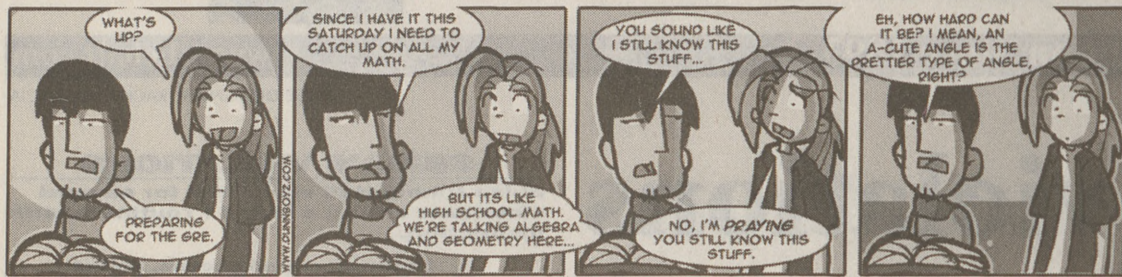


DUNNBOYZ

by Will Lloyd



Veterans

Continued from page 1

standoff that killed 22 people, White House spokeswoman Pamela Stevens said.

Bush also called Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder to urge support of a strong United Nations resolution for a new Iraqi government. Bush urged that the two nations work together to back the new government.

In his speech, Bush singled some of the dead from Iraq for special commendation:

—Capt. Joshua Byers, a West Point man and South Carolina native. "When this son of missionaries was given command of a 120-man combat unit, he wrote to his parents, 'I will give the men everything I have to give,'" Bush said.

—Pfc. Jesse Givens of Springfield, Mo., had written to his wife, Melissa: "Do me a favor after you tuck the children in — give them hugs and kisses from me," the president noted.

—Master Sgt. Kelly Hornbeck of Fort Worth, Texas, wrote his parents saying, "I am not afraid and neither

“When we return to our home stations, we must ensure that we never forget those fallen comrades that deployed with us that will not return to their loved ones.

— Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez
senior military officer at Baghdad's Camp Victory

should either of you be," Bush said.

"Because of their fierce courage, America is safer, two terror regimes are gone forever and more than 50 million souls now live in freedom," Bush said to a warm applause.

Bush's appearance, by dint of tradition and practice, was a generic tribute to people who have fallen

Gas

Continued from page 1

"sweetheart deals," said Arianna Huffington, a Detroit Project representative.

According to the Christian Science Monitor, in an election year, Republicans fear this issue could play into voter decision-making. Democrats hope to sway rising gas prices in their favor while Republicans are battling to keep blame at bay.

"If it makes you feel any better, you're not really spending that much more," Platou said. "It's only about four dollars a week, but it seems like 50. That's still cheaper than the price of a drink at Northgate."

in all U.S. wars past and present, although he particularly cited Iraq. For Kerry, a decorated veteran, it was a day to focus on that conflict of the 1960s and early 70s — one he would ultimately march and speak against.

Bush gave a speech; Kerry said little as he walked somberly along the shiny black granite wall where the names of the more than 58,000 who fell in Vietnam are etched in time and remembrance. He rubbed his thumb over one of the newest names to be added to the memorial.

"So young," the Massachusetts Democrat mused, as he looked at a photograph of William Bronson, who died in 1976 from a seizure caused by a head wound he had received in 1968. Kerry had worked with the Navy to have Bronson's name added to the wall, and he was joined there by Bronson's mother, Barbara, and other family members.

Kerry waited until he got outside the Capital Beltway to resume normal politics, telling an audience in Portsmouth, Va., that Bush "didn't learn the lessons of our generation in Vietnam."

Race

Continued from page 1

diversity without race-based admissions a goal of administration, agreed to the regents' decision.

"I have no problem with the decision," said. "I think the key here that we all have is the goal of increasing diversity. Each institution has to develop its own means to reach that. Merit-based admissions works best for Main Campus, but not the Health Science Center."

Dickey said she does not expect A&M's Main Campus to follow suit but that, "my understanding that health schools around the state are pursuing race-based admissions as well."

Rachel Alderson, a sociology major is enrolled in medical school for the fall.

"I can see why they made that decision," Alderson said. "(Promoting diversity gives you a unique perspective on different groups of people and produces a variety of practicing doctors for people to choose from."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Businesses hope Texans seek refuge in river

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) — Folks in this Central Texas community are hoping for a hot summer that drives Texans to seek refuge in their river recreation businesses, two years after a July Fourth storm and flooding destroyed the summer season.

City and business leaders hope an additional 2 million people will flock to the river banks, where river tubing, a water park and lake are popular summer destinations.

A cool, wet spring has filled Canyon Lake and Edwards Aquifer, offering good conditions for tubing, kayaking and other river activities, the Houston Chronicle reported Monday.

"The water flows are good," said Zero Rivers, owner of Rockin' R River Rides. "It looks like we're going to have a great one."

Texas insurance regulators weigh credit scoring

DALLAS (AP) — Texans with mediocre or worse credit histories are paying more for car and home insurance, even if they have good claims records.

The number of auto insurers relying on "credit scoring" in setting rates has risen to nearly 80 percent of the Texas market, according to a recent survey. A solid majority of home insurers also use the scores when pricing their policies.

Insurance companies say credit scoring is a valuable tool in deciding whom to sell auto and homeowners policies and how much to charge. Consumer groups say it's an unfair practice that disproportionately burdens minorities and the poor.

State insurance regulators are caught in the middle, trying to decide just how much to limit credit scoring as they implement a massive insurance reform law passed last year, The Dallas Morning News reported Monday.

Yale cooperates with Catholic school

By Justin Pope
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thirty-five miles and several degrees of prestige separate Yale University and St. Joseph College, a small, Roman Catholic, predominantly women's school in Hartford, Conn.

But they share at least one thing: thirst. Both campuses consume spring water by the truckload, and when Yale scored a good deal on a delivery contract, St. Joseph piggy-backed on to it.

The arrangement cut St. Joseph's water-cooler bill in half, saving \$2,000.

For years, sometimes decades, colleges have pooled their buying power in areas like insurance and computers. But now, under particular pressure to rein in tuition increases and tighten budgets without cutting from the classroom, many are trying to think creatively about new ways to save on overhead costs.

Experts say that private institutions are mostly leading the way, though schools within a state system often have a lot more in common — computer systems, missions, even trustees — than do the St. Josephs and Yales of the world.

St. Joseph's is looking beyond water bottles, aiming to trim the \$10,000 it spends annually on trash bags, for instance. It's part

of a consortium of independent Connecticut schools exploring buying pools for everything from organic groceries to lawyers.

Similar efforts are under way in other states, where some buying compacts claim to have saved tens of millions of dollars for their members. There's even a soft drink contract shared by several Christian colleges.

"The big schools need my volume to further their savings, and I need the big schools' buying power to get down my costs," said Mike Jednak, St. Joseph's associate vice president for facilities. "Everyone's reading about how the cost of education is just skyrocketing. This is a fantastic way to get our arms around it and save dollars for students."

Connecticut's state university system participates in a number of group buying programs. But public colleges still face hurdles private schools can often ignore — like requirements to solicit bids from minority- and locally owned business — that can make it harder to work with colleges in other states. Each of the Connecticut system's four campuses still buys its own bottled water.

Nationwide, public four-year schools spend an estimated \$40 billion annually on administrative costs — everything from heating oil to office supplies. That comes to about \$7,500 per student, or about a quarter

of the cost of educating each pupil.

States understandably want to minimize those costs, so they often require universities buy off state contracts in order to volume discounts. But experts say that doesn't always produce the best deal.

In Wisconsin, many of the state's independent colleges buy property and casualty insurance through their own consortium, the public University of Wisconsin system with 160,000 students on 26 campuses, on a state policy, which also covers private schools.

Prisons, however, are considered more than schools and are more expensive to run.

Grouping them together, while it increases volume for the policy, amounts to a hidden tax on students to subsidize prisons, says David Olien, the Wisconsin system's senior vice president for administration. He wants Wisconsin to follow Michigan and Iowa in allowing its public colleges to negotiate on their own.

"I believe we could save millions of dollars," he said, more than enough to offset potential extra costs to the prison system.

Wolf Wegenke is president of Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities — the independent consortium — and has also held positions under five governors. He said students envy the public's taxpayer support but not the red tape that comes with it.



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