



Calallen gymnasts vault to the top

D1



Harry Potter is a hit again

A2

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Corpus Christi Caller-Times

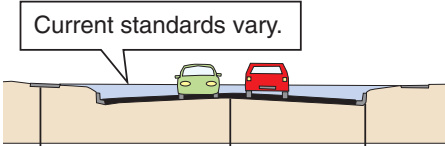
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Tuesday, November 19, 2002, City Edition

Cost to fix city's drainage: \$85 million

City outlines long-term plan; higher property taxes may result



Drainage proposals, Page A8

See how the city's plan would affect drainage

BY NEAL FALGOUT
Caller-Times

Improving the city's drainage system will cost at least \$85 million during the next 11 years, according to a capital improvement plan that

will be presented today to the City Council.

Paying for those improvements will include increased utility rates or increased property taxes, officials said. It also might mean a new storm-water taxing district, a gov-

ernment agency that would have the power to levy taxes on its own behalf and use that money to pay for drainage improvements.

"It's going to hurt no matter which pocket you take it out of," City Councilman Mark Scott said.

"It took a long time for us to get into this mess, and it's going to take a long time to get out."

City officials presented an outline of the drainage plan to the City Council during a special workshop. Please see **STORM WATER/A8**

Water main breaks downtown



David Pellerin/Caller-Times

City workers pump water from a water main break that flooded the street at Shoreline Boulevard and Park Avenue on Monday. They were also replacing part of the 20- to 30-

year-old pipe. The breach was in a pipe that supplies drinking water. An official said there were no traffic problems resulting from the detour some had to take. Story, Page B1

Iraq's firing called hostile

But U.S. says it's not enough to declare war

BY RICHARD W. STEVENSON
AND THOM SHANKER
New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration on Monday warned Iraq it had breached the latest U.N. resolution by firing on U.S. and British warplanes patrolling no-flight zones over Iraq, but it stopped short of casting the violation as sufficient reason to go to war.

Faced Monday with the latest in a recent string of attempts by Iraq to shoot down allied aircraft in the zones, the administration insisted the confrontations violated terms of the resolution, adopted by the Security Council on Nov. 8. The resolution bars "hostile acts" toward any U.N. representative or member state seeking to uphold the world body's efforts to contain Iraqi aggression.

But the administration left its position on the seriousness of the incident deliberately ambiguous, administration and Pentagon officials said. The administration sought both to underscore the seriousness of the threat to U.S. and British pilots, they said, and to reserve the idea that Iraqi attacks on allied warplanes are part of a pattern of intransigence that ultimately could be used to make the case for war.

The administration also appeared to be acknowledging it would be difficult to use confrontations between allied planes and Iraqi forces on the ground in the no-flight zones — the equivalent of a low-level war that has been going for years — as the sole reason for launching new military action against Saddam Hussein. The main goal of the Security Council resolution is to require Saddam to give up any weapons of mass destruction he possesses.

Faced with the near certainty that Russia and some other countries would not agree that Iraq's firing on the patrol planes violated the resolution, administration officials said for the time being they would not bring the issue before the Security Council.

Instead, they said they would remain. Please see **IRAQ/A4**

Quick Read

Sexual assault

The grandfather of an 18-year-old Texas A&M University-Kingsville freshman who reported that she had been sexually assaulted about three weeks ago has joined with Crime Stoppers in offering a reward in the case. Local, Page B3

Owl watcher

Spotting a great horned owl, also known as a "tiger of the air," atop a telephone post in Flour Bluff made the trip worthwhile. Phyllis Yochem's column. Living, Page B7



Yochem

OPINION

It's up to Saddam

With the arrival of the United Nations inspection team in Baghdad, it's up to the Iraqi leader to come clean. Editorials, Page A6

Wide use of wiretaps is given OK

Justice Department has broad powers for prosecuting terrorists, court rules

BY NEIL A. LEWIS
New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — A special federal appeals court ruled on Monday that the Justice Department had broad new powers under the antiterrorism bill enacted last year to use wiretaps obtained for intelligence operations to prosecute terrorists.

The immediate effect of the ruling by the three-member panel is that criminal

prosecutors may now take an active role in deciding how to use wiretaps obtained from a special intelligence court and should have greater access to information obtained from those surveillance operations. For more than 20 years, prosecutors have been prohibited from directing the applications for intelligence wiretaps because the standards of proof are widely believed to be lower than for

Please see **WIRETAPS/A8**



Ashcroft

'This revolutionizes our ability to investigate terrorists and prosecute terrorist acts.'



U.S. officials believe that a recent audio-tape indicates Osama bin Laden, shown in an undated photo, is alive.

U.S. intelligence is sure that bin Laden tape real, recent

The tape contains no clues to his location, health

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The new audio-tape of Osama bin Laden is an authentic, unedited and recent recording of the al-Qaeda leader, U.S. intelligence officials said Monday after completing a technical and linguistic analysis.

The CIA and National Security Agency, which conducted the study, concluded the tape is what it seems: bin Laden himself, reading a statement

that promises new terrorism against the United States.

"It is clear that the tape was made in the last several weeks as well," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

It was the first definitive evidence in almost a year that bin Laden survived the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan in the months after Sept. 11, 2001.

While noting while "it cannot be stat- Please see **BIN LADEN/A4**

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today's INDEX

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