

## Child-care woes

Waiting lists at pre-school centers and homes are evaporating, putting providers in the middle of the economic crunch.

Local A-17

## Marquee matchup

A pair of wins Saturday by OU and OSU would set up a highly anticipated Bedlam battle.

Sports B-1

## Faudree's fancies

An internationally acclaimed Tulsa interior designer publishes a book about his forte.

Scene D-1

## Time change



Don't forget to fall back tonight.

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50¢

## \$13 billion pledged for Iraq

▶ The new aid plus the \$20 billion U.S. contribution still falls short of the \$56 billion sought for rebuilding.

By **BARRY SCHWEID**  
Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — Iraq's post-war reconstruction received a boost Friday as nations from Japan to Saudi Arabia pledged \$13 billion in new aid on top of more than \$20 billion from the United States. But the figure fell well short of the estimated \$56 billion needed to rebuild the country, and much

came in the form of loans that could saddle Iraq with new debts.

Secretary of State Colin Powell and U.S. Treasury Secretary John Snow promised to immediately campaign to convert the loans into outright grants.

"The United States will work with other nations to get the level down," Snow said at a news conference, while Powell acknowl-



edged the contributions were solicited so ardently it was not clear how many were in loans and how many grants.

Iraq already has a debt of \$120 billion, with annual servicing charges of \$7 billion to \$8 billion. The Bush administration, mindful

### For more

Three more U.S. troops killed. **A-4**

of the burden, planned all U.S. aid to be in grant form, but Congress is still weighing that approach. Some U.S. lawmakers favor loans based on the prospect that Iraq will be oil-rich in a few years and able to pay its debts with oil revenue.

After the conference closed,

SEE **AID** A-6

## AA, county to meet next week

▶ An American Airlines official says the company is willing to make a commitment to stay in Tulsa.

By **SUSAN HYLTON**  
World Staff Writer

American Airlines will meet with county officials Wednesday to discuss some of the guidelines for the company's voter-approved Vision 2025 funds.

"Hopefully, we'll know about the terms of the contract and get into the details of what's required of us," said Carmine Romano, Tulsa vice president of base maintenance.

County Commissioner Wilbert Collins confirmed Friday that he would be meeting with the airline next week, "just to go over the process and how we propose to issue funds and what we expect out of each recipient prior to funding."

SEE **AIRLINE** A-6



**Carmine Romano**

"That was part of the vision, to keep work in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and not send it to a third-party provider. I think we have a commitment to the public to make sure we hold up that end of the bargain."

## Negative prognosis



STEPHEN PINGRY / Tulsa World

Physicians like Dr. Douglas Moore — already expecting a large increase in their liability insurance — were shocked to see those costs rise by more than 80 percent. Moore noted that while some specialists may be able to limit their practices to less risky procedures, emergency doctors must handle whatever injuries come in the door.

## Insurance hike disturbs doctors

By **NELLIE KELLY**  
World Staff Writer

When Dean Carr received a letter from Physicians Liability Insurance Co. earlier this month, he braced himself for bad news.

But the administrator of Emergency Care Inc. wasn't quite prepared for a whopping 82.8 percent increase for insurance that protects doctors from malpractice lawsuits.

"We knew it was going to be high," Carr said. "We didn't know how high. It was a

shock."

The physicians in the group Carr manages work in the St. Francis Hospital emergency room and at two MedCenter clinics, which handle minor emergencies. Most of them will be paying about \$25,000 a year for coverage, Carr said.

Rumors in the spring of a 60 percent increase had some doctors saying that they might handle less risky procedures because they wouldn't be able to afford such pricey premiums, and that was long before they

found out that the actual increase would be much greater.

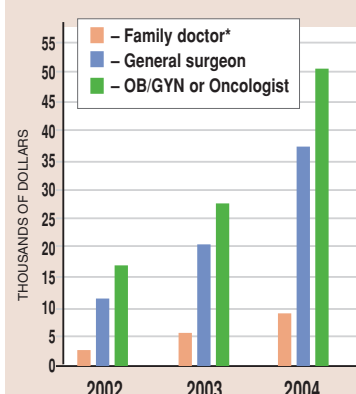
Patients' insurance won't be paying doctors more. Neither will Medicare, which leaves Carr wondering where he'll find money for the new premiums. Many rural doctors have no private-pay patients and rely solely on Medicare from older patients and Medicare from the poor, both with low reimbursement rates.

"We have nowhere to make it

SEE **INSURE** A-3

### Medical liability insurance rates

Increases in Oklahoma, 2002 to 2004



\*Does not deliver babies  
Source: Physicians Liability Insurance Co. Tulsa World



**Insurance Commissioner Carroll Fisher**

OKLAHOMA CITY — Public objection to the installation of a breath analyzer prompted state Insurance Commissioner Carroll Fisher to turn in his state car while he is on probation for a DUI charge, his attorney said Friday.

Fisher had the device that determines whether he has been drinking switched from the state car to his personal vehicle, attorney Irven Box said.

The device is required for Fisher to drive during the 180-day supervised probation that he was handed by a municipal judge earlier this week. The car will not start if he has alcohol on his breath.

"Enough complaints came in that ... the commissioner

SEE **FISHER** A-3

A breath-testing device is required for him to drive during the supervised probation that he was handed by a municipal judge earlier this week. The car will not start if he has alcohol on his breath.

## Finish-line fun awaits runners

▶ The Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary Tour is among the attractions at the Tulsa Run.

By **LISA SMITH**  
World Staff Writer

The Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary Tour kicked off 2003 Tulsa Run activities Friday at Veterans Park.

The tour is a highlight to the Tulsa Run Finish Line Festival at 21st Street and Boulder Avenue on Saturday.

The festival begins at 8 a.m. and runs through noon. In addi-

tion to the Sports Illustrated tour, the free festival will feature games, children's activities, food and beverage vendors, and live entertainment.

Sponsored by the Tulsa World, Bank of Oklahoma and Oneok, the 2003 Tulsa Run features a 15-kilometer and 5-kilometer road race and a Fun Run. All races begin at Third Street and Boulder Avenue and finish at the Finish

Line Festival.

The Sports Illustrated exhibit is in Tulsa as part of a 50-week tour traveling across the country to visit sporting events like the Tulsa Run. It will be open through 5 p.m. today and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Visiting Tulsa with the tour is former Tulsan and Holland Hall graduate Roy S. Johnson. Johnson is assistant managing editor of Sports Illustrated and will speak to the Finish Line Festival crowd at 11:30 a.m.

SEE **RUN** A-7



Tulsa Run participants check in at a table Friday at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Nearby is a sign giving the weather report for Saturday's race.

MICHAEL WYKE / Tulsa World