

Inflation worries

A new Federal Reserve report finds consumers are paying more for everything from gasoline to groceries. **Business E-1**



While you were sleeping

A free local hot line can help you Friday to interpret your dreams. **Scene D-1**

Waiting for the call

OSU's Sam Mayes will join other Cowboy prospects hoping their names are called during the NFL draft. **Sports B-1**

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Bodies found in Iraqi river

Discovery confirms taking of hostages, Talabani says



By **ALEXANDRA ZAVIS**
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq's interim president announced Wednesday the recovery of more than 50 bodies from the Tigris River, saying the grisly discovery was proof of claims that dozens were abducted from an area south of the capital despite a fruitless search by Iraqi forces. Northwest of Baghdad, witnesses said

19 bullet-riddled bodies were found slumped against a bloodstained wall in a soccer stadium in Haditha.

The discoveries came as insurgents unleashed a string of attacks that killed at least nine Iraqis and wounded 21. They included four suicide car bombs — one of which targeted interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's convoy — and a roadside explosion in the capital, police

said. Allawi escaped unharmed, they said.

Another blast sent smoke billowing over Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone, home to the Iraqi government and foreign embassies. It was not clear what caused that explosion.

Interim President Jalal Talabani did

SEE **IRAQ A-4**



KHALID MOHAMMED / Associated Press

A U.S. soldier passes by destroyed Army vehicles after a car bomb exploded near a U.S. convoy in an area of western Baghdad, Iraq, where the Abu Ghraib prison is located. No casualties were reported.



ANDREW MEDICHINI / Associated Press

Pope Benedict XVI greets the crowd gathered in front of his private home in Rome on Wednesday. The pontiff, former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany, exited the Vatican City for a quick visit to his apartment home in Rome.

Pope stresses interfaith unity

► Benedict XVI says he will try to improve the ecumenical cause.

By **TONY CZUZKA**
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Charting a papacy in the tradition of his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI pledged Wednesday to work for unity among Christians and to seek "an open and sincere dialogue" with other faiths.

In his first Mass as pontiff, Benedict invoked the words of John Paul II — "Be not afraid" — a message designed to show he is intent on following the groundbreaking path of the late pope.

The German-born pontiff also stressed that he would draw on the work of the Second Vatican



OSSEVATORE ROMANO / Associated Press

Pope Benedict XVI greets children outside his former home.

SEE **POPE A-6**

Council, the 1962-65 meeting that modernized the church, an issue important to liberals who are wary of Benedict from his time as Roman Catholicism's doctrinal enforcer.

As the world's 1.1 billion Catholics got the first hints of where the papacy is headed, followers of other religions weighed its meaning for interfaith relations. By and large, reactions were hopeful and expectant.

"I think he has been very open, so I have no worries about the ecumenical route," said British Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. "It will continue. No doubt at all."

Benedict, the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, said his primary task would be to try to

voters of Oklahoma was that I would not lose touch with their everyday needs and concerns," the freshman Republican wrote.

"One of the ways I promised to stay in touch was to continue seeing patients in my medical practice on a not-for-profit basis, just as I had done when I represented Oklahoma's 2nd congressional district from

1995-2001."

In his two-page letter, Coburn covers the same arguments he has addressed in press interviews since the Senate Ethics Committee rejected his bid to remain a practicing physician.

He explains that he faced a

SEE **COBURN A-3**



U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn

Panel has questions on audit

► Lawmakers ask state auditors about their findings related to Office of Juvenile Affairs' handling of contracts with youth services agencies.

By **BARBARA HOBEROCK**
World Capitol Bureau

OKLAHOMA CITY — A joint legislative panel on Wednesday questioned state auditors about the conclusions in a critical examination of how the Office of Juvenile Affairs handled \$1.1 million in contracts with youth service agencies.

State Auditor and Inspector Jeff McMahan's audit said the OJA does not monitor the contracts, which forced auditors to question the entire \$20 million allocated to youth service agencies.

Members of the House and Senate budget subcommittees that oversee the Office of Juvenile Affairs met to hear from auditors. At least one more meeting is planned to hear from Office of

SEE **AUDIT A-6**



Sen. Judy Eason McIntyre

She asked auditors why they didn't focus more on the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

Illegal immigrant arrested

► She had been featured in a recent newspaper story.

By **GINNIE GRAHAM**
AND **JIM MYERS**
World Staff Writers

An illegal immigrant who, in a Tulsa World story, encouraged other undocumented workers to pay taxes has been arrested by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Gloria Rubio, a stay-at-home mother of three children, was taken into custody at her home Tuesday night. Her youngest child, a 3-year-old daughter, is an American citizen.

Her husband is also an illegal immigrant and offered to go in her place, but the federal agents chose to arrest his wife. He said the agents would not

SEE **ALIEN A-6**

Coburn makes case for keeping medical practice

► In an open letter to Oklahomans, he explains why he's fighting an ethics committee ruling.

By **JIM MYERS**
World Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn released an open letter Wednesday to Oklahomans explaining his decision to

challenge an ethics committee's ruling telling him to shut down his medical practice in Muskogee by Sept. 30.

"When I announced my candidacy to the U.S. Senate, one of the promises I made to the

WEATHER

High 85 / Low 55
Partly cloudy, slight chance of storms

A-18



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