Interim Chier
Austin schools pick A.C. Gonzalez Jr.

Metro ${ }^{\text {- B1 }}$

Bladeless Runner
Lawn mower racer eyes the finish line, not the grass LIFE \& Arts \& E1


Jardine's Sold
Buda salsa company
to get a new owner
geta new

## Austin American-Statesman

## New bids sought on airport contracts

City manager wants more competition to run shops; move comes after flap over firm's criminal record Br Debile Hiott

Saying he was not satisfied the
city had done its best to promote city had done its best to promote
competition, City Manager Jesus competition, City Manager Jesus
Garza said Monday the city will
start over in its quest to award consartor over in its duest to award con-
tracts for news and gift concestracts for news and gift conces-
sions at the new airport. The decision to throw out pro-
posals follows weeks of controversy over city aviation staff's selection of Paradies Shops Inc. to receive one of the two multimil-
lion-dollar concessions contracts Paradies was convicted in 1994 on 83 counts of mail fraud related to a bribery scheme in Atlanta. Board and some City Council members first learned about the conviction from the Austin Amer-ican- tatatesman. The revelation
cast shadows on the process, and some appointed and elected officials complained that city aviation
staff should have informed them staff should have informed them
about Paradies' past problems. about Paradies' past problems. sion (to rebid), but there obvious-
ly are issues with how this played ly are issues with how this played
out," Garza said. Garza said the decision to seek new proposals would not delay the
opening of Austin-Bergstrom Inopening of Austin-Bergstrom In-
ternational Airport, scheduled for late April 1999.
He said he asked that the pro-
posals be reissued for posals be reissued for two reasons: to give potential concessionaires
more information and to broaden competition. "I started going through and asking questions about how the proposals were put together," He said he was not satisfied the city had done its best to get the best deals.
Monday were Monday were pleased the con-
tracts would be reissued, saying they had lost some confidence in
the city's selection process after the city'ons about Paradies Shops See New, A7
Chile summit to renew push for free trade

## By Susan Ferriss

## 硅

SANTIAGO, Chile - In the shadow of the snow-capped Andes, is preparing to host President city ton and 33 other leaders in an unusual event: the second Summit of era. among leaders as they ready for negotiations Saturday and Sunday on hemispheric strategies for
fighting poverty boosting educafighting poverty, boosting educa-
tion, stemming the flow of drugs and quickening the spread of democracy and free trade in the But undercutting that optimism are reminders that not all residents of the hemisphere joyfully embrace free trade or think that
democracy has lived up to its promise. Clinton, for example, arrives in Chile for the summit after Congress refused to renew his so-
called fast-track authority to negotiate trade agreements that Congress could not amend.
Regardless, summit par are expected to push ahead with a lofty goal they set at the first such See Free, A4


UT's new president, Larry Faulkner, right, feasts on chili- ner is lunching with students Eric Opiela, front, and Kurt Satcheese dogs and other delights at Kinsolving cafeteria. Faulk- telmeyer and Xerses Sidhwa on his right. Story, B1.


## Megabank mergers: convenient or costly?

Consumer groups What it predict higher fees; banking industry sees more services

means The deal Ives NationsBank and Bank of America customers fiee
access to nearly access to nearly
15,000 automated.teller machines in 22 states and
Washington, D.C. Wank fees I Bank fees
might go up. - Some job cuts will be cut and some branches
will be closed - Consumers with deposits at both
Nationssank and NationsBank and
Bank of America may find they need to move money if the merger means
they exceed the maximum for insurance coverage.
The Federal De The Federal Deposit Insurance
Corp. insures accounts for up
$\$ 100,000$. M More senices
will be available to will be available to
PC customers PC customers.
Only larger, financiallystorg ininti-
tutions can afford to invest in the lat est technologk.
■ Business cus Business cus-
tomers should extomers should ex
pect a wider array of banking prod utcs. The merged institution will be
able to work more able to work more
easily with companais that do ubsi-
ness across state lines.
 Bill Ratiliff: Attached measure to budget to stop invest-
ment in offen sive lyrics.
 industry argues it limits free speech

By A. Phimps Brooks
When state Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, quietly attached a measur to the budget outlawing the use of state money for investment in "gangsta rap"
and other music with offensive lyrics,

## 'Gangsta rap' investment ban narrowed

Despite budget measure's tighter focus, music
he aimed to send the music industry a
billion-dollar message. ued Monday, that message was devaued significantly in a move that sur-
prised Ratliff and others. State lawyers defending the measure against a court challenge from the
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { get measure does not affect an esti- } & \text { taching them to the state budget as rid } \\ \text { mated } \$ \text { billion in investments by vir- } & \text { ers. Sch riders apply only to money } \\ \text { tually all state agencies and pension } & \text { appropriated by the Legislature for the }\end{array}$ tually all state agencies and pension appropriated by the Legislature for the
funds. Instead, the lawyers said, it applies "We are arguing that the Legislature only to two pension funds, the Teacher did not create general law, but simply Retirement System and the Employees
Retirement Systed a very limited restriction on
pow two agencies can invest appropriRetirement system, the state lawyers how two agencies can invest appropri-
said. Their argument is based on the Texas
Constitution, which prohibits tors from making general laws by at
ated funds, said Ron Dusek, a
spokesman for Attorney General Dan See State, Back page

Ex-mobster warns athletes about gambling

 Michael Franzese, a convicted mobster, talk
dents Monday about the evils of gambing



Bill Saum of the NCAA, left, and Tom French, an FBI speaking to University of Texas athletes at a gammbling agent, right, joined ex-mobster Michael Franzese in awareness seminar on Monday.


State narrows focus of investment ban

Continued from A1 Morales, whose office is defending the measure. A surprised Ratliff said he will ake what he can get.
"If that is the best the (attorney general) can do, I will live with it," Ratliff said.
The new i
The new interpretation of the hearing in a lawsuit challenging the ban - the first prohibition of he Recording Indus
ation of Americicaand pension fund beneficiaries are challenging Rat-
liff's ban, which is scheduled to liff's ban, which is scheduled to
take effect Sept. 1. They have asked a state judge to dismiss the case without a trial, on the grounds th
tutional.
When asked to respond to the attorney general's argument, indus try lawyer Peter Kennedy said, "If timpact on my clients."
But he added, "It would still have an effect, and "
State District Judge Scott McCown heard arguments on the motion for summary judgmen the matter in a few weeks. matter in a few weeks
But the legal positions staked
out at Monday's hearing almost certainly will quell the furor that year ago. Initially, the reach a year ago. Initially, the reach of
Ratliff's rider seemed enormous, covering virtually all state agencies, pension and investment funds, which have an estimated
market value of over $\$ 100$ billion. For monthis, officials adminis tering those funds have debated how Ratliff's rider would affect heir investments. The consensus billion in investments would be fected. (By comparison, the teach er and employee pension systems received \$1.5 bilion in the 1998-99 budget, although only a
used for investments.)
At the State Board of education board members worried about its enect on the \$16.6 billion Perma-

The Senate passed the controversial measure a year ago, but it was presumed dead after a House committee threw it out. Ratliff quietly resurrected it by attaching it to the 1998-99 budget.
discuss the Ratliff rider at its meeting next month.
"I am pretty surprised," said Fort member Richard Neill of al's interpretation of the gener 'This is the first I've heard of it be He said he is disappointed with the turn of events.
"I fully supported Sen. Ratliffs bill, getting rid of raunchy lyrics to do - help kids get a better education," Neill said.
The Senate passed the cont versial measure a year ago, but it was presumed dead after a House hairman threw it out. Ratliff, Senate Finance Committee quiet y resurrected it by attaching it to he 1998-99 budget.
The rider targets companies promote violence, denigration of women, illegal drug use, crimina treet gang activity and
acts including pedophilia.
Music industry officials have argued that it infringes on free speech and is written so broadily less mainstream recording artists,
It would apply equally to profane It would apply equally to profane rap act 2 Live Crew and to Bob Marley's "I Shot the Sheriff," the Mindustry argued.

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