

# Skiff



**Cheers**  
TCU freshman Kelli McGonagill will compete in the final round of the Dallas Cowboy cheerleader competition. See Page 8.



**FM burnout**  
The Metroplex radio fare is repetitive and lackluster. See Page 2.

## Mondale asks for support

By Mia Grigsby  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

Before he spoke to an audience of about 200 in front of the Fort Worth Stockyards building Thursday, presidential candidate Walter Mondale was introduced to two TCU students and an alumnus by TCU history professor Ben Proctor.

Proctor, who is also a precinct chairman for the Democratic party, introduced party front-runner Mondale to Sara Smith, president of the House of Student Representatives, Eddie Weller, past president of the House and Charles Kolbe, chairman of the TCU chapter of the Young Democrats.

Smith said that Mondale shook her hand and asked for her help and also commented, "Well, we've got all the politicians out here today."

Smith said that Mondale did not appear to be fatigued, but added that Proctor, who had spoken with Mondale Wednesday night, said that Mondale had mentioned that he was tired.

The former vice-president has been campaigning in Texas in preparation for the May 5 caucus which will choose 169 delegates to the Democratic National Convention. Before speaking in Fort Worth, Mondale had spent the morning with a group of fifth graders in Saginaw, Texas.

In his Fort Worth speech, Mondale emphasized his opposition to President Ronald Reagan's suggestion to eliminate the deductibility of interest on homeowner's mortgages. "It's a new idea, but it's a lousy idea," he said.

Mondale said that most homeowners have average incomes. "The one thing that helps them in the tax laws is the deductibility of that home mortgage interest rate. If it weren't for that, hundreds of thousands of Americans would lose their homes."

The former Minnesota senator also pointed out inconsistencies in the statements of Democratic presidential candidate Gary Hart.

Mondale said that, while in Texas, Hart will voice his opposition to the windfall profits tax. "If that tax hadn't passed, a quarter of a trillion dollars would have been transferred from average Americans here to big oil companies," said Mondale, who added that Hart didn't campaign on that issue while in New England, and that while Hart was in New York, "he said he wanted to slap a hundred percent tax on old oil."

Mondale also attacked Hart for voting against funding for strategic petroleum reserves on two occasions in 1981, although "here in Texas Mr. Hart will tell you he's a big fan of strategic petroleum reserves."

Other inconsistencies in Hart's campaign statements, said Mondale, include Hart's earlier support of the grain embargo. Mondale said that while his opponent is in Texas, "Mr. Hart will tell you that we must never use food as a weapon."

Mondale said that he was in support of Gov. Mark White's educational policies and intended to improve the nation's school system.

When asked if he had any comments for TCU students, Mondale, a graduate from the University of Minnesota Law School said, "On the issues of education, student assistance, no one has spent the years I've spent in those fields. I'm going to be a very strong pro-education president. I'm going to make it possible for the kids of families from average incomes to get on to college with loans and grants. It's a good investment."

Mondale also attacked Reagan for his fiscal policies. "He thinks we're some kind of jungle where just the richest prosper." He said that, with Reagan's tax cuts, those who make more than \$200,000 a year get \$60,000 in tax cuts over three years. To those who made \$30,000 or less a year, said Mondale, "all taxes considered, your taxes went up."

## TCU's campus crime rate down

By Stephanie Cherry  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

Students at TCU run a lower risk of becoming another criminal statistic. The total number of reported criminal incidents on the TCU campus from January to present is at a five-year low.

TCU Police Chief Oscar Stewart said there have been fewer total crime incidents on campus during the past four months than at any other time during the last five years.

Stewart said that although the overall crime rate is down, there is still an excessive number of thefts and trespassers on campus this semester and that he expects the number of incidents to increase throughout the next two weeks.

According to police files, there were 47 reports of theft this semester, 24 reports of suspicious persons and criminal trespassing and six burglaries.

Stewart said that the majority of thefts were committed by students. "Most of these thefts have been from dorms or offices," said Stewart. He also said that a large number of automobile accessories were stolen, and that the majority of these thefts were of hubcaps that were not locked or marked.

According to the Penal Code, a trespasser is a person who enters or remains on property or in a building of another person without the effective consent of the owner or with the knowledge that entry would be forbidden. The primary reason for the large number of trespassers is that TCU has a wide open campus, which allows easy access for people with no TCU affiliation, said Stewart.

There were also several flashers on campus this semester, Stewart said. "Even during the coldest spells, January and February of this year, we had an excessive number of flashers," he said.

However, none of the flashers were caught. Stewart attributes this to the fact that most of this activity took place during the busiest times of day during class changes, and the persons

responsible were able to blend in with the crowd. Stewart also said that "most persons don't take time to get an adequate description."

No flashers have been reported on campus since warmer weather has arrived.

The present low level of criminal activity is attributed to several factors. "The best preventive efforts have been made in the marking and securing of high-risk type articles due to efforts by different personnel on campus," said Stewart.

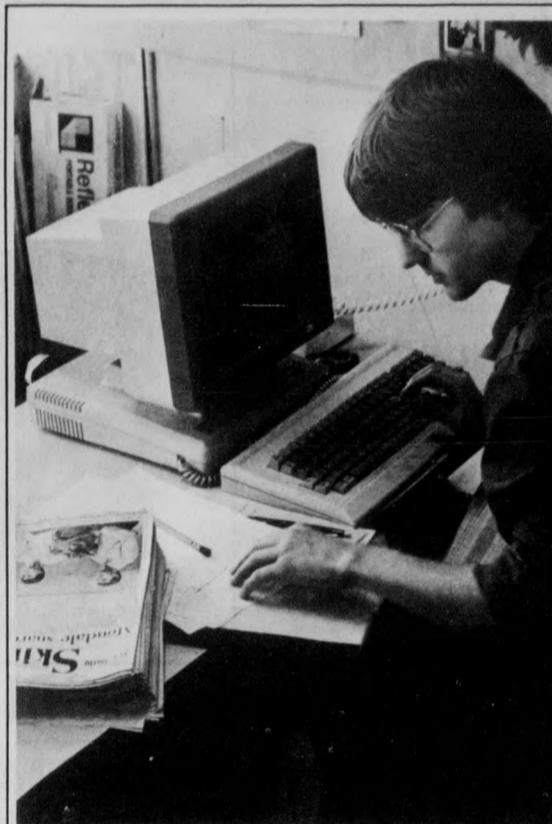
Director of Business Services Edd Bivin has been urging TCU personnel to mark university property with the TCU number. Bivin, who deals with insurance of the university property, has a limited amount of funds with which to replace stolen articles. Because the fund is limited, he urges personnel to mark property so that it is not easily disposed of and to discourage the theft entirely.

The Secretary Pyramid Alert Program has also aided the campus police in the apprehension of criminals, Stewart said. In the program, there is a key worker in all the major departments on campus who contacts the police station and other key workers when something has happened within that building.

By giving the police and the other workers a description, they are able to keep watch for that suspect. Therefore, if another key worker identifies the person, that worker can then contact the police to tell them where the suspect is located at that moment.

Stewart said that the quality of officers on the police force has also aided the fight against crime. "We're fortunate at the moment that the officers we have are the best and the most knowledgeable and concerned force in six years," said Stewart.

In addition to the efforts of the officers, Stewart said that students must also work to prevent crime, and urges them, as well as other TCU personnel, to secure automobiles and rooms. "Without real awareness of the campus community, the incidents will increase," said Stewart.



**SKIFF SURVEYOR:** Mike Sessums, a Skiff reporter, helped prepare the computer program that tabulated the readership survey.

## Skiff readership rates paper credibility, quality

By Megan O'Neill  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

The "preliminary findings" of a readership study rating the TCU Daily Skiff show that on a scale of 1 to 5, students rate the overall quality and credibility of the Skiff as a 3.5 and a 3.3, respectively, a slightly above average rating.

Students expressed high interest in campus, national and entertainment news and a desire to see more local and Greek news. Students gave a lower rating of 2.8 to Au Courant, however, with a little less than one-third of the 77 evaluated respondents never reading the Monday edition of the Skiff. This is the second semester of publication for Au Courant, which replaced etCetera.

"I anticipated most people would be crazy about Au Courant, but I was surprised to learn people didn't read it," said Marian Wynne Haber, director of student publications for the past year.

Haber prepared the questions for the readership survey after gathering suggestions from TCU Daily Skiff editor Susan Shields and journalism professors Anantha Babbili and Gerald Grotta.

Originally, Haber planned to interview 420 of the 6,402 full- and part-time TCU students by assigning the 21 members of her reporting class to make 20 calls. Randomly starting with the seventh name from a list of student names from the registrar's office, Haber selected every 15th one until she reached a total of 420 names. However, due to disconnected numbers, unanswered calls and refusals to comment, Haber received only 240 responses.

"I would have preferred a larger sample," Haber said, "but I still think we'll learn something."

The survey asked readers to rate the quality and credibility of the Skiff, as well as rating subjects of interest to them. Additionally, the questionnaire offered respondents the opportunity to suggest added features or improvements in the paper.

"The editors won't follow the suggestions word-for-word," Haber said, but will "use them as a guide in making editorial decisions."

Besides wanting more campus news and personality profiles, respondents suggested such diverse features as an advice column, a column written by the chancellor, a trivia section, job listings and even a column on bass fishing.

Laura Chatham, newly-elected editor of the Skiff for the fall 1984 semester, said she plans to cover more local events in the paper. "I'd like to expand campus news," Chatham said, "and cover more academics, more activities that organizations take part in and more Greek news."

She added, however, that the front page of the paper will continue to run wire stories.

Haber said she would like to see shorter stories printed. "My suggestion is to capsule the both the national and international news," she said.

Haber added that if she held the position of editor, she would want more personal interaction between the editors and the readers.

"I'd like to have a readership coffee with readers twice a year," she said. "The Skiff needs to hear from everybody for it to be a representative newspaper."

## Faulkner's nephew recalls legend of uncle

By Andrew M. Kinney  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

Novelist William Faulkner was a man who rarely smiled, didn't like many people and was "mad as hell all the time," said his nephew, Jim Faulkner, Wednesday night's Cecil B. and Mary Beth Williams Memorial lecturer.

Faulkner and Jo Marshall, an English professor and Faulkner specialist, presented a slide show on the works of the writer. During the presentation, the novelist's nephew added personal insights about the author while Marshall related Faulkner's work.

Their address, "Knowing William Faulkner," delivered to approximately 75 people in the Student Center Ballroom, was presented in conjunction with Creative Writing Week.

Faulkner, said his nephew, took the advice of a colleague—to write about what he knew best—after his first novels met little success. This colleague told Faulkner he was just a country boy who knew about nothing except his hometown of Oxford, Miss. As a result of this

advice, Faulkner's novels dealt with places or people he had encountered in what was then Yoknapatawpha County, Miss.

"Faulkner discovered that his own little postage stamp of native soil was worth writing about and that he would never live long enough to exhaust it," said Marshall.

Faulkner's novel, "Sartoris" was his first attempt at writing about his own soil. The main character in "Sartoris," Marshall said, was based on the life of William Faulkner's grandfather.

Faulkner's brother, John, wrote a book, "My Brother Bill, an Affectionate Reminiscence," shortly after the author's death. On the last page, John Faulkner described what he saw as he sat on the courthouse step and watched his brother's body being brought around the square in Oxford.

"Everywhere I look there is Bill and his stories. Oxford, Lafayette County and Yoknapatawpha. Bill is dead. He has stepped into an eternal tomorrow. Bill can never leave Yoknapatawpha County," he said.



Jim Faulkner and Jo Marshall

## At home and around the World

### ■Texas

#### Sisters charged in plot to kill husbands

GARLAND, Texas (AP)—Two sisters have been charged with criminal solicitation of capital murder after they allegedly tried to hire a man to kill their spouses in order to collect on insurance policies, authorities say.

Dorothy "Dee" Scrivano, 53, and LaWayne "Lee" Bancker, 45, were charged Wednesday and are jailed on \$25,000 bond each. They could face up to life in prison.

The two were arrested in a K Mart parking lot in this Dallas suburb Tuesday when they gave an undercover police agent the first installment on a \$15,000 murder contract, police said.

The sisters apparently wanted to collect on their husbands' life insurance policies, said police Sgt. Dan Asbill. "The women wanted their husbands killed as soon as possible," Asbill said. "They didn't care how."

The women's husbands were bewildered when told of the alleged plot.

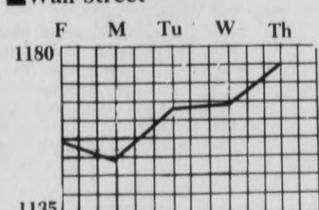
"I'm dumbfounded," said Frank Scrivano, 56, a mortgage company employee who was in Houston on business.

"I don't know why she would do that. We've had a few arguments, but nothing that would lead to this," he said. "She (Mrs. Bancker) wanted a divorce from her husband and she probably influenced her."

Mrs. Bancker's husband, Adrian, said, "It must have been the insurance money."

"I can't understand what's going on," he said. "I thought my wife still loved me. I asked her to come back to me."

### ■Wall Street



Dow Jones closed at 1175.25 up 11.73

### ■Texas

#### Braniff auctions off leftovers

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP)—Pilot Bob Gould was there for "nostalgia." Businessman Larry French was there for a bargain. They both found what they were looking for.

The remnants of old Braniff International, once the nation's eighth-largest airline, went on the auction block Wednesday in a giant "bankruptcy sale." On the block was \$1 million worth of desks, expensive living room furniture, golf clubs, lawn mowers, beds, construction equipment and anything else that the reorganized Braniff Inc. decided it didn't want.

Braniff collapsed under a \$1 billion debt in 1982 and reorganized in federal bankruptcy court as a leaner, smaller carrier that began operations March 1. "There are going to be some real bargains," said Larry Upshaw, a spokesman for the auctioneers.

"We will sell everything no matter what the bid. We'll be satisfied if we get half of the \$1 million," Upshaw said.

### ■Weather

Today's weather is expected to be mostly cloudy with a high in the upper 80s, winds of 25-30 mph and a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms.



**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

You've got to vote twice to make it nice.  
 -Jesse Jackson, in reference to the Texas caucus system

# OPINION

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

My mind's made up. Don't confuse me with the facts.  
 -Anonymous

**CAMPUS**



By Stan Wonn

**Turning the dial becomes dismal chore**

Heard any good Kajagoogoo lately? If the answer is yes, you're one of the few who know what it is—a British pop music group. (Actually, Kajagoogoo has had one hit single, "Too Shy.")

But you'd never know it, given the repetitive, mundane fare we get on most radio stations these days.

Another example: During the past week, I borrowed a King Crimson album, *Discipline*, from a friend in the dorm. Having never heard King Crimson before, I was interested.

As it turned out, the album was far from any Top 40 drivel. It was strange listening—the words avant-garde come to mind to describe it. I guarantee you'll never hear music like it on any Top 40 station—King Crimson is not danceable music. But it's good.

Tuning around the FM dial these days is a depressing experience, especially in the case of rock stations. We have one Metroplex station that rarely plays anything not in the Top 40, and plays those songs five times a day (or so it seems). Sorry, but "Footloose" gets old after the 83rd hearing. (Is it just me, or do all of Kenny Loggins' songs sound the same?) You can be sure, however, that the station will quit playing it when it drops out of the Top 40.

Other stations in the Metroplex aren't much better. One has what are probably the most inane morning disc jockeys I've ever heard, but at least the music is a little better—not so many movie commercials disguised as songs. Two others tend toward the heavy metal and album-oriented rock side of the music spectrum, if you like that sort of stuff.

Don't get me wrong—I don't hate popular music. But I think it's terrible that talented groups like U2 get squeezed out of air time, to be replaced by Survivor or some other mediocre, sound-alike band. The group ABC doesn't sell half the records Duran Duran does, but they're far more talented.

To me, the epitome of bad rock music came when Steve Miller's "Abracadabra" came out a few years back. With lyrics like, "Abra-abra-cadabra/I wanna reach out an' grab ya," you have to wonder.

I think the problem now lies in the fact that we let record companies, radio stations and popular magazines—not to mention MTV—tell us what to listen to and what to buy.

Sure, there's plenty of good music out there. But there's also a lot of junk. It's up to you, of course, to decide just what is junk and what is good.

As I finished this column, I tuned around the FM dial again. It was 2:30 a.m., and the music was pretty good—even on that Top 40 station. Maybe that's the time I need to be listening. Hmm...

**LITES**

**KELSO, Wash. (AP)**—Can Green Stamps be far behind?

Police in this southwest Washington town of 11,000 plan to give out jewelry, calculators, dry-cleaning service, gasoline, even restaurant meals and hamburgers, to encourage good drivers.

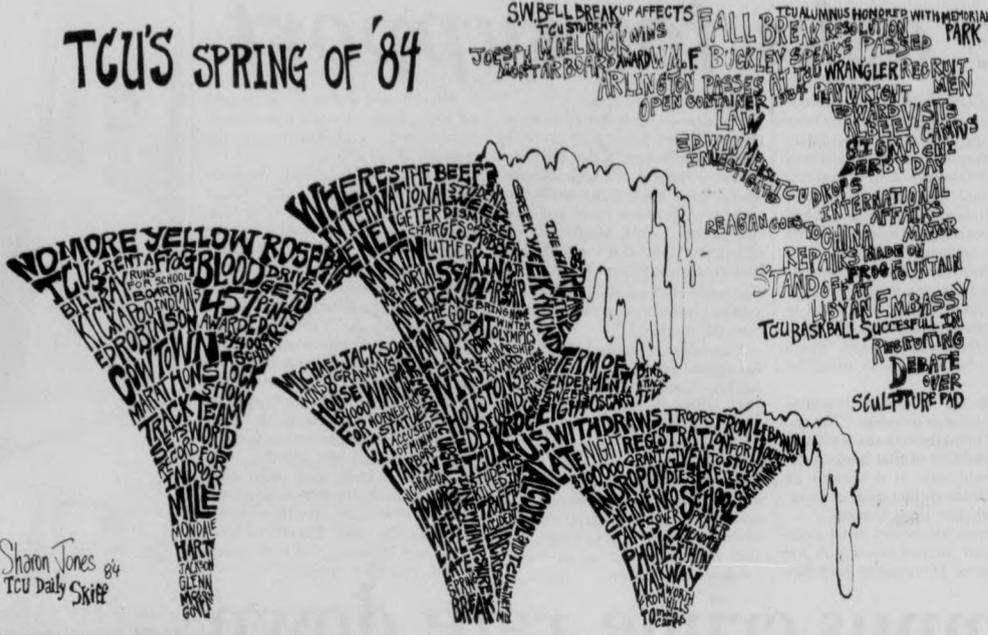
It's all part of Safe Driving Month, which begins in May.

The gifts will go to law-abiding motorists and bicycle riders lucky enough to be pulled over by a black-and-white.

In addition, "If we find the person we have stopped is wearing a seat belt or has a youngster in a child safety seat, that individual will get an additional gift," said Sgt. Mel Ambrose.

Businesses donated 300 gifts for the campaign.

"We know we can't honor everyone who deserves a pat on the back," Ambrose added. "But we want them to know we are aware of them and are grateful for their contribution to traffic safety."



Sharon Jones via TCU Daily Skiff

**EDITORIAL**

**Events easy to forget in changing world**

A semester, although only four months long, sometimes seems like an eternity.

Events concerning both TCU and the world come and go, usually receiving little more than a moment's notice or remembrance. That which commands headline attention one day, is pushed aside the next.

It is often easy to forget those happenings, happy or sad, that punctuate life both on campus and off. So has it been this semester.

Senseless acts of death and destruction appeared on the international stage. The fighting in Lebanon raged on amidst the pullout of U.S. Marines. Conflict and the threats of death squads surrounded a United States-sponsored election in El Salvador. The war between Iran and Iraq continues, with the "religious" leader Ayatollah Khomeini sending children to fight. Soviet leader Yuri Andropov's death left Konstantin Chernenko in command. And despite the new leadership, the fear of nuclear war is still a constant in today's society.

Some stars rose, others fell on the national front. Among the shooting stars was Sen. Gary Hart. After capturing the public's attention following an upset victory in the New Hampshire primary, Hart seemed well on his way toward winning the Democratic presidential nomination. The youthful Hart, who reminded many voters of John Kennedy, provided serious competition to front-runner Walter Mondale in the early days of the race.

This has been a bright time for the stars of Hollywood as well. *Terms of Endearment*, Oscar winner for

best picture, and Michael Jackson, winner of eight Grammy awards, seemed the two names on everyone's lips. Jackson's *Thriller* album has sold more copies than any other album in history.

The Space Shuttle Challenger demonstrated once again the ability of the human race to truly reach the stars. Challenger successfully repaired an orbiting satellite while in space.

Back on earth, we witnessed various state and local happenings. Dallas billionaire H. Ross Perot led the fight to reform the Texas educational system. He pushed for longer school days, less athletics and more community involvement in the schools.

Two Death Row inmates were executed in the state. One, James David Autry, was denied his request to have the execution televised.

In a happier event, Braniff Airways played the part of the phoenix and emerged from the ashes after being grounded for 22 months following bankruptcy. Braniff, once the nation's eighth-largest airline, took to the skies again, its debts forgiven.

Here at TCU, there were also high and low moments. The TCU track team's world-record breaking performance in the 1,600-meter indoor relay was certainly a high point. Car accidents involving TCU students were certainly the low.

We at the *Skiff* experienced the theft of all the day's papers one morning and being called communists the next.

All in all, it has been an interesting semester. But then, so will be next semester and all those to follow.

**BLOOM COUNTY**

by Berke Breathed



**LETTERS**

**Credit due**

In regard to the article pertaining to the TCU Aerobics Training program, I would like to state that the style and format in which the article was "written" did not give full credit to the aerobic program, or, for that matter, the athletes and coaching staff involved.

In the near future, I hope that more adequate and proper coverage will be given to this new training program in the fall semester.

-Cynthia L. Derks

Junior, Health Education/Physical Education

**TCU Daily Skiff**

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**WIRE**

**Slow economy viewed in positive light**

By Chet Currier

NEW YORK (AP)—Strong new evidence of a slowing economy is expected in the next few days.

When the government issues its report Monday on the index of leading economic indicators for March, analysts say, the figure is likely to show a significant drop.

The forecasting firm of Evans Economics projects a 0.8 percent decline, with the chance that it could be as large as 1.5 percent.

At the investment firm of A.G. Becker Paribas, economist Richard Hoye sees a drop of between 0.4 percent and 1 percent, with 0.7 percent the most probable reading.

The index, calculated by the Commerce Department, is designed to detect future economic trends by measuring early warning signals in such things as building permits, prices of certain raw materials, business formations and even stock prices.

Because private economists have access to these figures as well, they can estimate in advance what the government report will look like.

The index is not infallible, most experts agree. It can give errant signals at times and, like many other official gauges of the economy, it is subject to revision later on when more complete data are in.

But at the moment, a good many observers believe a dropoff in business activity is indeed at hand—and none too soon, they say. As Evans Economics puts it, "Last year the economy went on a binge. We are now paying for that binge in the form of higher inflation and higher interest rates."

Jack Lavery, economist at Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, observes that "continued strong gains in overall business activity would add to the nervousness in the financial markets, since upward pressure on both interest rates and inflation would intensify."

"Conversely, if the economy is in a 'transition' phase, moving from a period of rapid growth to a more moderate pace of expansion, a subsequent easing in credit conditions could materialize."

Lavery argues that there already is evidence in hand that this transition is taking place—including recent declines in retail sales and a downward turn in measure of consumer confidence.

In the view of Lavery and others, all this means that there could be quite a dynamic change in the picture presented by the economy for the second quarter of the year compared to the first quarter.

The gross national product, according to the latest figures, grew at a powerful 8.3 percent annual rate, after adjustment for inflation, in the first quarter.

As long as a slowdown doesn't open the doors to a new recession, most economists agree it would be a favorable turn of events, putting the economy at a pace that can be sustained over time without causing a lot of adverse side effects. It presumably could encourage the Federal Reserve to loosen up on its credit policy.

Currier is an AP business writer

**TODAY IN HISTORY**

Today is Friday, April 27, the 118th day of 1984. There are 248 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 27, 1822, the 18th president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio.

On this date: In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was killed by natives in the Philippines.

In 1791, the inventor of the telegraph, Samuel Morse, was born in Charlestown, Mass.

In 1875, Archbishop John McCloskey of New York was installed as the first American cardinal.

In 1937, the first Social Security payment was made.

In 1965, broadcast journalist Edward R. Murrow died in Pawling, N.Y., at the age of 57.

And in 1973, FBI Director L. Patrick Gray resigned amid the Watergate scandal.

Ten years ago: Secretary of State Henry Kissinger left for the Middle East to try to persuade Libya and Israel to separate their forces on the Golan Heights.

Five years ago: Five dissidents were released from Soviet prisons and flown to New York in exchange for two Soviet spies sentenced to 50-year prison terms in the U.S.

## Around Campus

### Last day for publication

Today is the last issue of the *TCU Daily Skiff* for the 1983-84 academic year. The *Skiff* staff wishes you a happy and productive summer.

### Program to be offered

The TCU political science department will offer a program involving pre-convention seminars, on-going analysis and campaign training workshops during the Democratic National Convention July 13-20, in San Francisco, Calif. Students may receive one hour of credit through the program which is offered in conjunction with the Washington Center and San Francisco State University. For information contact Eugene Alpert, TCU professor of political science. Deadline is May 11.

### Faculty member to give recital

Music faculty member Morris Moore will give a saxophone recital Saturday, April 28, at 8 p.m. in Ed Landreth Auditorium. Admission is free.

### Film to be shown

"War Games" will be shown in the Student Center Ballroom today at 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and midnight and Sunday, April 29, at 3 and 8 p.m. Admission to both shows is 75 cents.

### Art critic to rate student art

Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* art critic Dave Hickey will give a critique of the juried student art show Monday, April 30, at noon in the Student Center Gallery. The student art show includes paintings, sculpture, ceramics and works on graphic and paper design. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

### Symphony to perform

The University Symphony and Musica Nova will perform the last TCU Concert Hour of the semester Monday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in Ed Landreth Auditorium. The program includes a piece written by TCU graduate student Kevin Isaacs. Admission is free.

### Soccer team to play

The TCU soccer team will play Southwestern Texas State University Saturday, April 28, at 3 p.m. on the soccer field. Admission is free.

### Placement center to hold workshop

The Career Planning and Placement center will hold a resume workshop Tuesday, April 1, at 11 a.m. in Student Center Room 218.



INSTANT ART: David Walker, whose work is hanging in the juried student show at the Brown Lupton Gallery, prepares for the Mayfest art show. PHILLIP MOSIER/TCU Daily Skiff

## China extends friendly welcome to Reagan

PEKING (AP) — President Reagan, who for years was an outspoken critic of Communist China, received a warm welcome on his arrival in Peking Thursday and was told by China's president that there is hope the "two great nations" can solve the problems between them.

After reviewing goose-stepping Red Army troops and smiling as a group of children chanted "Welcome, warm welcome" at an arrival ceremony, Reagan went directly into a meeting with President Li Xiannian in the Great Hall of the People.

Reagan's spokesman, Larry Speakes, said the meeting marked "an excellent beginning" for the American leader's visit here and quoted Reagan as telling the Chinese president, "The differences between our

two countries amount to very little, compared to areas of agreement."

Speakes added that the Taiwan issue, a longtime thorn in the side of U.S.-Chinese relations and a point the Chinese rarely miss an opportunity to raise, did not come up during the 35-minute opening discussion. China opposes continued U.S. ties with Taiwan and U.S. arms sales to the Taiwan government.

In his first public statement after his arrival, Reagan said he came to China "representing the sincere desire of the American people to be good neighbors to the Chinese people."

"There are differences between us that should not be glossed over nor denied," Reagan acknowledged. But he added that "thanks to the hard work and determination of farsighted

leaders of both our countries during the last 12 years, our future is bright with potential."

In his remarks, in a toast at a banquet given by President Li in his honor at the Great Hall, Reagan noted he was the first American president to visit China since normal diplomatic relations were established in 1979.

Departing from the text of his toast, Reagan issued a public invitation to Li to visit the United States, an invitation officials said had been issued and accepted privately earlier in the day. No date has been set for the trip.

"Whether in commerce, the arts, science, or industry, our citizens are establishing personal bonds of trust and friendship that mirror the good will found at the highest levels," Reagan said.

"This healthy intercourse is encouraged because our countries, our people as a whole, have determined that what we have in common—what we can accomplish and build together—is vastly more significant than those things that separate us," he added.

He said that "even greater progress can be made if our future efforts are based on . . . mutual respect and mutual benefit . . . even while recognizing that we do not totally agree on some things which we believe important."

President Li told Reagan at the start of their meeting that he wanted to express his "warm welcome to you and Mrs. Reagan and all your friends from the United States."

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REPUTATION ON.**



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# Texas woman sentenced to die for brutal slaying

HOUSTON (AP)—Convicted pickax killer Karla Faye Tucker, sentenced to die for hacking to death a Houston man last year, becomes the only woman among 178 convicted murderers on Texas' Death Row.

A jury of eight women and four men took nearly three hours Wednesday before deciding the 24-year-old Houston woman should be executed by lethal injection for the June 13 slaying of Jerry Lynn Dean. The same jury last week found her guilty of capital murder.

Tucker, who took the stand Tuesday and described a life of constant drug use that began at age 8, showed little emotion as the formal death sentence was read by state District Judge Patricia Lykos.

No woman has been executed in Texas in more than a half century.

Her attorney, Mack Arnold, said although Tucker had expected the decision, she was upset.

"She thanked us for trying. She asked if she could hug us and said she appreciated our help," Arnold said after meeting privately with his client. "It was a sad moment."

Tucker, who switched from marijuana to heroin at age 10, toured with the Allman Brothers Band, a rock group, at 13, married at 17 and turned prostitute to support her drug habit. She was accused of hitting Dean 21 times with a 3-foot-long pickax.

"I'm never pleased in having anyone sentenced to death but she is a violent person who committed as violent acts as anyone ever could have

committed," Prosecutor Joe Magliolo said.

Besides having the distinction of being the lone female on Texas' Death Row, statistics indicate she is one of only 13 women nationwide to be awaiting execution.

Jury foreman C.M. Anderson, the only juror to have any comment, would say only that the decision was a difficult one.

"Absolutely, that goes without question," he said. The jury had two choices—life in prison or death.

Arnold said jurors, in a brief conversation with attorneys, told him they had looked for reasons to vote against the death penalty but could find none.

By state law, the capital murder conviction and subsequent death

sentence automatically will be appealed.

Arnold had attempted to convince the jury that Tucker should be given a life prison term because she would not be a threat if kept in a drug-free environment.

Magliolo argued she had a history of violence and was not likely to change her violent personality.

He also warned jurors in final arguments that if she were not sentenced to death, it would be a "license" to kill for "all those other dopers out there" who never would have to worry about the death penalty for murder.

A defense psychologist testified that drugs had placed the woman in a "temporary state of psychosis" when she and a companion, Danny Garrett, entered Dean's apartment to steal

motorcycle parts, discovered Dean was asleep and then beat and axed him to death.

A woman in the room with Dean, Deborah Thornton, also was hacked to death.

But a prosecution psychiatrist said he found Tucker had no evidence of mental illness, despite the long years of drug use.

Garrett faces trial beginning next week on murder charges in the case. Attorneys said they would decide later whether Tucker also should be tried for the Thornton slaying.

Tucker, in nearly five hours on the stand Tuesday, said the Dean slaying was triggered by her hate for him after he destroyed the only photos she had of her mother, who died a few years ago. Dean was married to a longtime

friend of the defendant, Shawn Jackson Dean.

Key evidence in the case was a tape recording on which Tucker bragged about how she hacked Dean and Thornton to death and had an orgasm with each stroke of the ax. On the stand, she denied getting sexual satisfaction and said the statements were made merely to impress her friends.

But she said she was sorry for the killings and no punishment could be enough for her.

Magliolo asked if that meant she was favoring her own death sentence. "I've thought about that," she said. "I don't know what I'm asking."

Tucker said gurgling sounds from Dean's body drove her to keep swinging the ax into Dean after Garrett beat Dean with a hammer.

## Cause of David Kennedy's death still unknown, testing continues

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Doctors are analyzing tissue and body fluid to find out what killed 28-year-old David Anthony Kennedy, whose erratic life and battle with drugs in the 16 years since he watched his father assassinated on television had long troubled America's most famous family.

Rick Black, investigator for the Palm Beach County medical examiner, commented on the death following an autopsy Wednesday.

"Drugs, I would say, are a strong possibility," Black said. "With the types of problems he's had, I guess that's not surprising."

Kennedy, the fourth child of Ethel Kennedy and the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was found by a hotel secretary on the floor between two beds in his suite at the posh Brazilian Court Hotel.

His body was to be flown Thursday to Virginia, site of his family's Hickory Hill estate, said a spokesman for the Quattlebaum-Holleman-Burse Funeral Home in West Palm Beach.

He and his brother Douglas, who had left the hotel the day before, had checked in last week to visit their grandmother, 93-year-old Rose Kennedy, at the family's mansion several miles away.

"This is a very difficult time for all the members of our family, including David's mother, Ethel, and his brothers and sisters who tried so hard to help him in recent years," said David's uncle, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

"All of us loved him very much," the senator said. "With trust in God, we all pray that David has finally found the peace that he did not find in life."

No drugs or drug paraphernalia were found in the room, where a hotel secretary found the body, and there were no signs of violence or foul play, said Police Chief Joe Terlizze.

"There were no pills found in the stomach. And there was no real aroma of alcohol but that is something that will have to await the results of the tests," Black said.

Palm Beach Police Sgt. Henry Marchman said it will be several days before chemical test results pinpoint the cause of death.

"We've pretty well ruled out the possibility of a suicide. That just wasn't in his profile. Homicide is always in the back of your mind when something like this happens, but we're leaning toward a natural or accidental cause," Black said.

A Harvard University dropout,

Kennedy had an apartment in Boston and had worked as an intern at *Atlantic Monthly* magazine for five months in 1982 and 1983.

Miles Smith, a friend in Sacramento, Calif., where Kennedy had pleaded guilty in 1980 to drunken driving while undergoing his second round of drug treatment, said Kennedy "seemed like he finally had a hold on himself" when he visited six weeks ago on a skiing vacation.

Kennedy's problems with drugs came to light in 1979 when he reported being robbed of \$30 in a seedy Harlem hotel where police said he had gone to buy narcotics. He was

hospitalized with a heart infection often associated with drug abuse.

Friends and biographers said Kennedy had been troubled since age 12 when, on the night of June 5, 1968, he sat alone in a California hotel room and watched on television as his father, a Democratic presidential candidate, was killed by an assassin after beating Sen. Eugene McCarthy in the California primary. His uncle, President John F. Kennedy, had been assassinated five years earlier.

"David died right along with his father," said Larry Newman, a long-time neighbor of the Kennedy's in Hyannisport, Mass.

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## Programming Council plans pre-study events

By Amy Stepp  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

TCU's Programming Council has a full slate of activities to keep students busy until study days.

The movie *War Games* will be shown in the Student Center Friday, April 27, at 5 p.m., 8 p.m., and midnight and Sunday, April 29, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The annual talent show sponsored by the Concert Attractions Committee of Programming Council will be held Saturday, April 28, at the Stagedoor in the basement of the Student Center at 7 p.m. Six acts are scheduled to perform: Rocky Albrecht; Amber Wilder; Cecil Jones and Bill Greene; Jim St. Louis and Rene Ozuna; Adam Lara and Lisa Ingle; and Todd Weiler.

Contestants will be judged according to originality, stage presence and range of talent. Prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be awarded to first, second and third places, respectively. The judges are two TCU staff members and a TCU student.

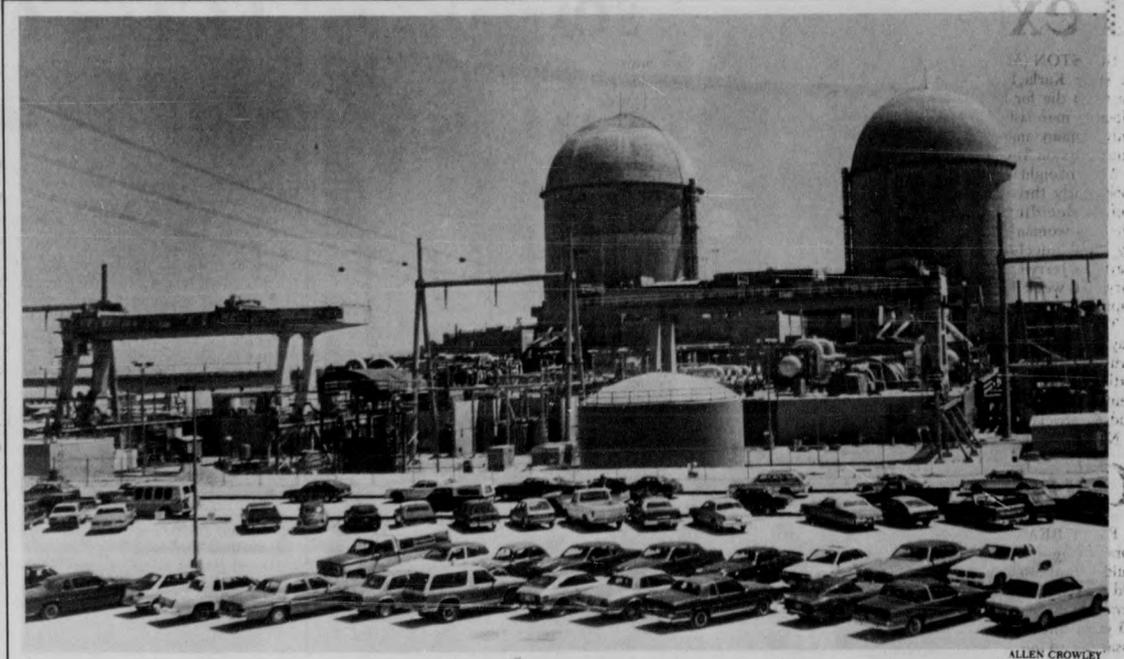
Concert Attractions chairman Terri Truly said, "We're hoping for a good turnout. Probably somewhere between 50 and 75 people, which will pack the Stagedoor."

On Tuesday there will be an outdoor concert given by James Hersch in Reed-Sadler Mall between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Free watermelon will be served. Concert Attractions, Colby Hall and Milton Daniel are sponsoring a "May Day Fun in the Sun" party in front of the Student Center and Frog Fountain. Freebies will be distributed, and a band, "Girls, Girls, Girls," will perform.

There will also be a best legs contest for men and a best tan contest for women with prizes to be awarded.

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, there will be a Dance Film Festival showing two feature-length films, *Blood Wedding* and *Shall We Dance*, and three shorts—*Ballet Adagio*, *Springnight* and *Junction*. The event, sponsored by the Performing Arts Committee of Programming Council, will be held in the Moudy Building Room 141N. Tickets will be sold Monday, April 30, and the day of the festival at the information desk, Reed-Sadler Mall (if good weather) or outside of the Student Cafeteria and at the door for \$1 per person.

The week will culminate with the Student Leadership Reception on Wednesday, May 2, in Reed-Sadler Mall at 4 p.m.



POWER PEAKS: Students from the Nuclear Dilemma class visited the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant recently. The field trip was another course eye-opener for the students.

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## Alumni events for whole family

By Helena Foret  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

TCU's Alumni Association will sponsor the fourth annual "Frog Day Afternoon" Saturday, April 28, beginning at 11 a.m. with a tour of TCU's athletic facilities.

"The program is for TCU alumni, their families and friends of TCU," said Devonna Tinney, associate director of TCU's Alumni Association.

Following the tour, there will be a barbecue at 11:30 a.m. in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum for \$5. After the barbecue, head football Coach Jim Wacker will address the group.

Athletic workshops will follow the barbecue. "The assistant football

coaches will take the kids to Amon Carter Stadium, where they will conduct workshops. The coaches and football players will conduct football workshops, and the cheerleaders will conduct a cheerleading workshop," Tinney said. She added that boys and girls are allowed to participate in either session.

"The parents really get a kick out of watching their kids being coached by TCU coaches and football players. Also, to see the kids' expressions when they get to play in the stadium is rewarding," Tinney said.

Following the workshop, the annual Spring Games, in which the TCU football team scrimmages against itself, will begin. "The team is

divided into two teams. One wears purple and one wears white. They play against each other," she said. The price is \$1 for those who attend the barbecue, and \$2 for those who do not.

Tinney said the main purpose of "Frog Day Afternoon" is to support TCU athletics and to give publicity to TCU. She said the Alumni Association mailed 15,000 brochures and placed an advertisement in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

"The wonderful thing about 'Frog Day Afternoon' is that it includes the whole family. These kids will remember this event and TCU when they grow up and begin to think about college," Tinney said.

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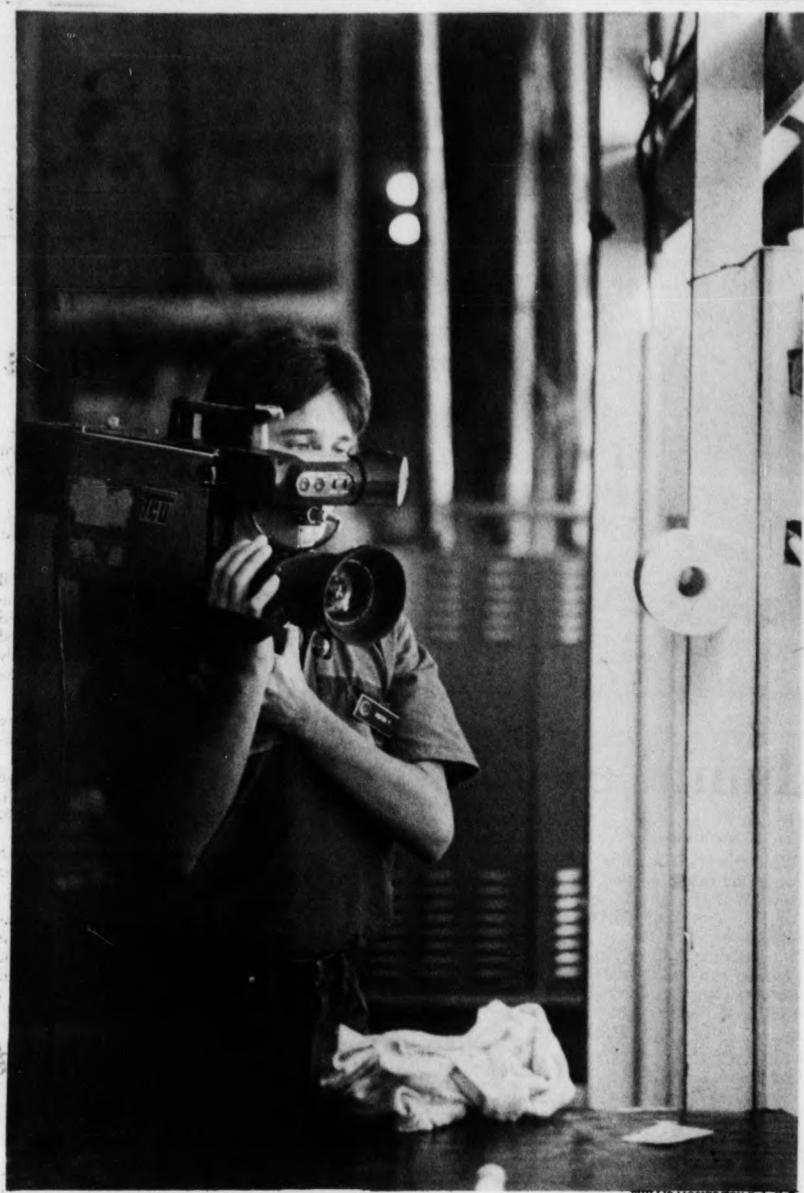
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PHILLIP MOSIER/TCU Daily Skiff  
**PICTURE THIS:** Ron Calvert, a junior radio-TV-film major, shot a video Thursday of the General Motors plant in Arlington that will air on Channel 11.

# TCU's CORES program studies abuse of children

By Jodee Leitner  
 Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

In both Tarrant and Travis counties, the same proportion of families break up within one year after a report of child sexual abuse, according to a recently released study by TCU's Center for Organizational Research and Evaluation Studies (CORES).

The two-year study, based on 123 confirmed child sexual abuse cases reported in Tarrant and Travis counties from January through June of 1982, was developed by Kathryn Dolan in cooperation with the Texas Department of Human Resources.

The purpose of the study, which was made possible through a \$25,000 grant from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health in Austin, was to evaluate the effectiveness of the newly initiated Special Investigative Services Project.

Under this project, which was begun in 1981 by the Tarrant County district attorney and Tarrant County Child Protective Services (an arm of the DHR), special police-trained investigators were hired to investigate and review all child abuse cases reported in Tarrant County to determine those in which criminal prosecution might be appropriate.

In addition, they were to make recommendations for probation, incarceration, treatment or other prosecutorial alternatives and to act as liaisons for all police departments in the county.

Prior to the inception of the project, the number of child abuse cases reviewed by the district attorney was less than five per month, with only two to three cases actually filed. Within the first four months of the project, the number of cases reviewed increased to approximately 50 per month, with about 20 cases filed.

"There are a lot of things that are against the law in this country and there's not enough legal manpower to deal with all of them," Dolan said. The hired investigators provide that manpower.

The investigative services project is based on what Dolan calls an authoritative intervention model. Agencies, backed by the legal system, have the effective leverage they need to force perpetrators into treatment and keep them there.

Dolan said before she began the study, she thought about comparing cases before and after the implementation of the project. However, due to the low reporting rate prior to 1981 and the poorer quality of past data, she instead decided to select another county that was similar to Tarrant in population characteristics. She chose Travis County.

Data for the study, which includes a one-year follow-up of treatment and legal outcomes, was collected from a variety of sources, including DHR case file records, case workers, therapists and district attorney and county court records.

In addition, interviews were conducted with staff personnel of social service, treatment and legal agencies to determine how they viewed the child abuse system in their county.

"I designed it (the study) as a pilot project. I wanted to throw the widest possible net and actually see what kind of data I could get, what was feasible," Dolan said.

*"There are a lot of things that are against the law in this country and there's not enough legal manpower to deal with all of them."*

-KATHRYN DOLAN

- Among her findings:
- the average age of victims in both counties is 9½.
  - the average age of perpetrators in both counties is 34.
  - the average age of victims in both counties is 9½.
  - the average age of perpetrators in both counties is 34.
  - 85 percent of the victims were female
  - 90 percent of the perpetrators were male.
  - most perpetrators were either the victim's father or stepfather.
  - most perpetrators are employed full-time.
  - 12 percent of the perpetrators in both counties had known previous records of child sexual abuse.
  - in Travis County more referrals came to DHR from other social service agencies, while in Tarrant County more referrals came from police and medical sources.
  - in both counties approximately one-fourth of the children are removed from the home and most remain in foster placements one year after the report.

Dolan found that in many of these families there is an extremely rigid sex role separation which creates a power imbalance. On the one hand is a high-powered male and on the other a passive and dependent female.

According to an executive summary report on the study, these families exhibited "disturbances in their efficiency in handling everyday problems, emotional stability, expression of feelings and high degrees of unresolvable conflict."

In addition, she said there is often a "pseudo maturity" in sexually abused children. They look and act older than they are. "Probably the single most diagnostic characteristic of a sexually abused child is acting out sexual behavior," Dolan said.

Moreover, in sexually abusive families there is frequently a role reversal. "You often find this in alcoholic families as well. Children take on adult roles and responsibilities in the family and adults take on children roles."

Dolan found that Travis County patterns of abuse were more often multiple incidents that occurred on a regular basis, while in Tarrant County the reports indicated few incidents that occurred irregularly.

Also, more people received treatment for a longer period of time in Travis County during the time of the study—approximately 60 percent compared to 40 percent in Tarrant County.

Dolan said small sample sizes, however, prevented her from determining whether criminal charges against perpetrators improve treatment outcomes for the families.

Forty-five percent of perpetrators had criminal charges filed in Tarrant County compared to 30 percent in Travis. Dolan said the majority of cases are plea-bargained to probated

sentences with court-ordered treatment.

She said there are many limitations in the legal system which prevent these cases from being successfully prosecuted, including the lack of credibility of child witnesses and the difficulty in obtaining evidence.

However, this may be changing due to state legislation passed last year which made it legal to use videotaped interviews of children as evidence in criminal proceedings. The children can be questioned in an environment comfortable for them and can use dolls to show what happened to them.

Dolan said she believes the most important finding of the study, however, is that there was no significant difference in the number of families who break up, despite the increased criminal prosecution in Tarrant County.

"That's an important question because the goal of Child Protective Services is to rehabilitate families, to keep them together," she said.

Overall, Dolan found that there was a higher level of intervention in Tarrant County, due in part to a stronger prosecutorial climate and a higher level of inter-agency cooperation.

"The way child abuse cases go through the legal system is a very complex process because of the multiple agencies that are involved, who often work at odds against each other," she said.

"The main reason so many cases fall through the cracks in a lot of counties is because one agency can only do this part and then it has to refer it to another agency."

Fortunately, she said the problems of inter-agency hostility have largely been eliminated in Tarrant County. "The level of cooperation and communication between law enforcement and social services is extraordinarily good here."

Dolan proposed a number of recommendations in her report, including strong inter-agency cooperation; specialized training of social workers, therapists, police and prosecutors; an aggressive policy of criminal prosecution; court-ordered treatment of offenders; incarceration of offenders who have previous records of family violence or who are assessed as fixated; education of teachers and day-care personnel; and an aggressive community education program for children's awareness.

Dolan, who is now employed at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, said she has disseminated the executive summary report to various social service agencies and plans to publish her findings in professional journals and to conduct some workshops on child abuse intervention at TCOM.

She said she hopes her study will make people more aware of what's going on in Tarrant County. "I would hope that it will open their minds up to the importance of increased cooperation among agencies."

The TCU research center concentrates its research efforts toward "the role of the human component in work productivity, the improvement of health care, delivery systems and the study of social change."

CORES carries out research in the social sciences and performs survey evaluations and organizational assessments.

## M. J. Neeley School of Business offers Japan, Hong Kong summer seminar

By Andreas Rossbach  
 Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

The phenomenal success of Japanese and Asian business has prompted the M. J. Neeley School of Business to offer students an educational seminar in the Orient.

The three-week seminar will take place in Hong Kong and Tokyo from July 12 to Aug. 3.

Robert W. Boatler, professor of business, organized the seminar and will accompany the group. He said that this program is an addition to the business school's summer term in Germany and that the idea is to give participants a first-hand impression of management, production, finance and marketing in Asia.

"It can give you an exposure, and hopefully this will open people to their own interpretation of what's useful to bring back. It helps you to understand yourself, to see that your way is not the only way," said Boatler.

The interest in Japan stems from the country's current growth and success, which can be attributed, among other factors, to a bottom-to-top decision-making process, a paternalistic system and the determination to sus-

tain national independence with economic strength, Boatler said.

"The Japanese end up being able to promote a high degree of corporate loyalty," said Boatler. "They are business warriors for national independence."

The stop in Hong Kong is designed to give students an impression of China, another area with tremendous growth potential. Hong Kong is also interesting enough in itself as financial and production center, Boatler said.

There are no "recipes" to bring home, he said, just ideas of how to adapt things here to a changing world.

The participants share Boatler's view that the program acquaints them with an important market. John Mitrokokostas, an MBA student, said that his main objective is to better understand the economies of the two places.

Gretchen Koop, a management major, said that she has a keen interest in international business and that she will also participate in the business school's summer term in Germany.

"Germany may be even more interesting (than Asia), because their

women are more respected in business," said Koop.

Mitrokokostas takes his interest in international business even further. "I would like to set up a pizza franchise here (in the United States), establish the brand name and then export the idea to Asia," he said.

Both Koop and Mitrokokostas will be traveling to Asia for the first time. However, neither foresees experiencing a culture shock.

"It will be more of looking-in-from-the-outside situation. Everybody will know that we are foreigners, and I expect this to make things easier," said Mitrokokostas. However, he is "petrified at the idea of having to eat with chopsticks."

Most participants will go well-prepared. The business school has a course that examines cultural and business topics from different angles. Lectures alternate with guest speakers, a concept that Mitrokokostas said is very helpful.

The seminar has places for 20 people and is two-thirds full now. "It is going to be very exciting," said Koop. "Unfortunately, a lot of people do not realize how easy it is to go."

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# Sports

TCU DAILY SKIFF, Friday, April 27, 1984/7

## Curren advances in WCT after 5-set win

DALLAS (AP)—Kevin Curren sank into a chair after his five-set, three-hour, 29-minute win over Mark Dickson Wednesday.

"I don't know if that was worth \$5,000," said Curren, who had just raised his minimum paycheck in the Buick World Championships of Tennis finals by that amount with a 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 win.

In the second match, eighth-seeded Vitas Gerulaitis also overcame a two-set deficit, defeating Dallas native Bill Scanlon 2-6, 5-7, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, 6-2. Gerulaitis will face top-seeded John McEnroe in a quarterfinal match today.

Curren's come-from-behind win guaranteed him at least a \$10,000 prize as he moved into a quarterfinal match against third-seed Johan Kriek on Friday. Dickson, who held a two-set advantage before losing, collected \$5,000.

The match seemed to turn on a fourth-set point, after which Dickson lost five game points including two on double faults. Curren won the game to go up 3-2, then took six of the next nine games as Dickson seemed to falter.

"I guess that was the turn of the momentum," said Curren, 26. "After

that I began to dictate the points."

Curren, who said he could not recall winning a match after being down two sets, became only the fourth player in WCT finals history to do so.

The first thing that Dickson, 24, was asked after the match was, "What happened?"

"I was hoping someone could tell me," said Dickson, who came into the finals tournament as the lowest-seed in the 12-man field. "I think I played as well as I can, but Curren really picked up his play in the last three sets."

Dickson said the fourth-set game which seemed so critical to the turnaround was not the difference.

"Even if I had won that game, he was just picking up his play so much. When he gets on, it's really hard to get him off his game," Dickson said.

Curren complained after the match that Dickson's long pauses between serves were distracting.

"He's got 30 seconds to serve and he almost has it down to a rhythm where he takes 25 or 26," said Curren. "A lot of players are pretty upset about it. I wouldn't be surprised if there's a rule change because of it."

## Laxmen prepare to host lacrosse championships

By Andrew M. Kinney  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

TCU will host the 1984 Southwest Lacrosse Association Championships Saturday and Sunday.

The semifinal game between TCU and Sam Houston State University will begin at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Forest Park. The winner of that game will face Texas Tech University Sunday at noon at Forest Park. The Red Raiders gained a spot in the championship game when Tulane University forfeited its game, previously scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

TCU earned a spot in the championships by finishing second in the Western Division of the SWLA. Texas Tech finished in first place with an undefeated record. Sam Houston finished first in the Eastern Division edging Tulane by one game.

Tulane was forced to forfeit its semifinal contest because of a conflict

with final exams. League officials considered inviting the University of Texas in Tulane's place but decided that would not be fair to the other teams in the Western Division.

According to TCU defenseman Woody Zajic, the team is happy to be playing at home. "We really don't get enough fans out to make it a real 'home field advantage' but it's nice to be familiar with the surroundings. We don't have to drive a long way, then get out of our cars in a strange place."

Player-coaches Gary Neft and Pat McGinley hope that nice weather and exciting action will draw more fans than previous games. "We can use all the fan support we can get. We'd like to win the league championship in front of as many TCU students as possible," said McGinley.

Both games will be played at the field adjacent to the Fort Worth Zoo.

## Lambda Chis take softball championship

By Earnest L. Perry  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

Winning pitcher Dave Dods hit a two-run homer in the top of the sixth inning to lead Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity to a 13-5 victory over Kappa Sigma fraternity for the all-school intramural softball championship, Wednesday, at the TCU intramural fields.

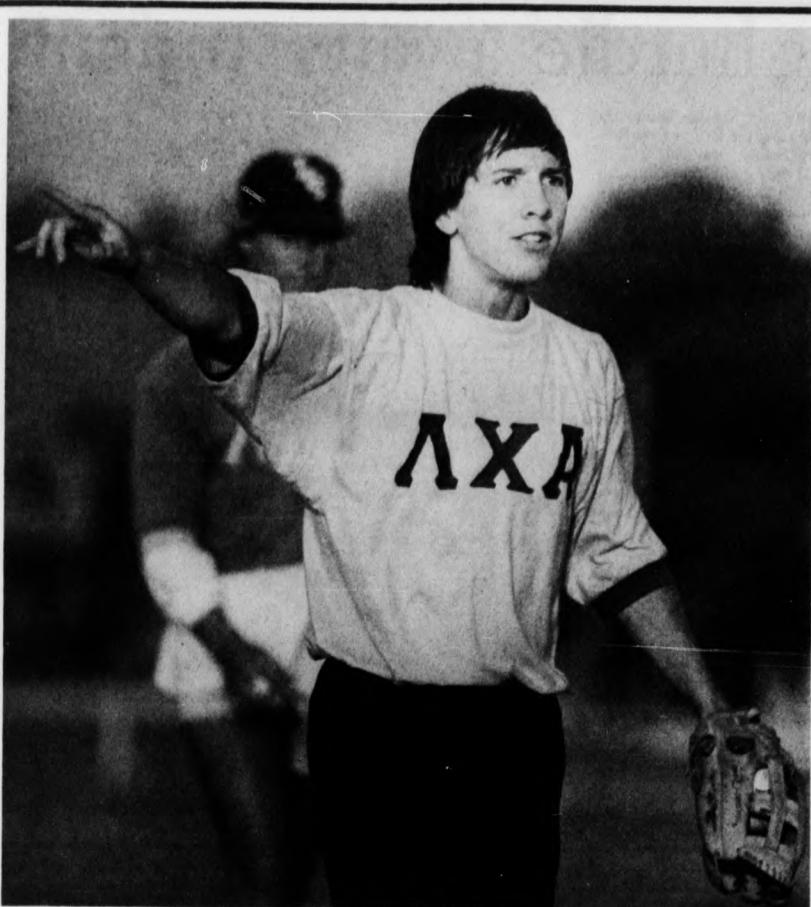
The consolation game between the Argonauts and the Polar Bears was not held, so the Argonauts took the independent league championship, because they had the best record in the regular season.

The Kappa Sigs finished ahead of Lambda Chi Alpha in the regular season, but could not beat them in the championship game. The Sigma Chis and the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity took third and fourth place, respectively, in the Greek league.

These four teams were chosen to play in the championship tournament because they had the best records in their division during the regular season.

The Lambda Chis made made it to the final game by defeating the Argonauts. The Kappa Sigs advanced to the championship by beating the Polar Bears.

Another two-run homer was hit by Jeff Lucich as the Lambda Chis went up 11-0 before the Kappa Sigs scored their first two runs in the fifth inning.



PLAYER DISCONTENT: TCU freshman Bob Schindler of Lambda Chi Alpha disputes a call with the umpire (top) after he attempted a force out at second base (above), during the championship intramural softball game Wednesday against Kappa Sigma.

PHILLIP MOSIER/TCU Daily Skiff

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# Last Cowboy cheerleading hurdle awaits student

By W. Robert Padgett  
Staff writer of the TCU Daily Skiff

Sunday, to most people, means a day of rest and relaxation—watching the game on television while sipping a cold drink and eating a snack, putting around the yard, catching up on homework, or a combination of all three.

However, if Kelli McGonagill gets her wish, Sunday, at least for a couple of hours in the afternoon, will mean performing in front of thousands of people.

McGonagill, a TCU freshman, wants to be a cheerleader. Not just your average cheerleader, mind you, but a Dallas Cowboys cheerleader. If the events over the past few weeks are any indication, she may obtain her desired status of leading the crowd on when the Cowboys play in Irving's Texas Stadium.

Being a Dallas Cowboys cheerleader is a very high priority for McGonagill right now. She's made it past the preliminary and semifinal competition, where a group of 1,500 was whittled down by the judges to 72.

However, it was never any kind of childhood fantasy to become a member of the most renowned set of cheerleaders in the world for McGonagill. In fact, it was just recently that she ever thought about it.

"I heard an ad on the radio and thought, 'Why not?', and decided to try for it," said McGonagill, a modern dance major from Lindale, Texas.

If she is selected to the Cowboy cheerleaders, her duties will not be limited to dancing and yelling in Texas Stadium on Sundays and Monday nights. Along with the popular team-support on game day, the cheerleaders also do service projects for various philanthropies.

"They (cheerleaders) do the two things I like to do most—dancing and helping unfortunate people," McGonagill said.

TCU could have a clan of Cowboy cheerleaders next season. Sophomore Lisa Bradley and junior Lisa Northrop are also vying for a cheerleading spot.

The first thing McGonagill had to do on her road to possible cheerleading fame was to persuade the judges to let her audition.

"I had to send in a resume and picture, and waited to see if I got invited to the preliminary," she said. "I anxiously ran to my mailbox everyday and then I got my letter."

The next step was to go to Texas Stadium (to the Stadium Club) and display her dancing skills in front of a panel of judges. The judges—Suzanne Mitchell (vice president and director of the Dallas Cowboys

Cheerleaders); disc jockey Mike Donahue; Shannon Baker Werthman, a former Cowboy cheerleader; Texie Waterman, Texas Stadium general manager; Bert Rose and Dallas attorney W.W. Mitchell—examined the applicants' dance style and flexibility, while the hopefuls free-style danced in groups of four. McGonagill said that she could not prepare for the first audition because the judges would not tell the women what song they would be dancing to.

"You don't know what they're going to play or what you're going to do," she said. "They turn on the music and you just dance."

Women vying for the title of a Dallas Cowboy cheerleader are not solely from the Lone Star state. McGonagill said that during the prelims, she met quite a few people from out of the state, and out of this geographic region.

"The girl on my left was from Kentucky," she said, "and the girl on my right was from Massachusetts."

After making the preliminary cut, McGonagill had to go back to Texas Stadium for another audition, much the same as the first one. This time, in groups of six, the 200 remaining women danced to a routine in front of the judges, and then were taught and had to perform a jazz routine and a kick routine.

"The jazz was to show our rhythm and the kick to show flexibility, mainly," she said.

A few days after the semifinals and McGonagill had reached another plateau. She was one of the 72 applicants picked to go on to the final round, where next season's squad will be selected.

Trying out for a Cowboy cheerleader does not involve just dancing in front of judges. For the first portion of the final round, McGonagill had to sit through a one-hour interview with Mitchell and write a composition in which one of the requirements was to answer the question: "If you were marooned on a desert island, what three books and three people would be with you?"

On Saturday, May 5, McGonagill, and the other remaining women, will again go to Texas Stadium. McGonagill will deliver a three-minute routine mostly to the song, "Far From Over," from the *Staying Alive* soundtrack.

McGonagill said that in the event she does not make the final cut it will be a letdown, but her efforts during the past few weeks will not have been wasted.

"I wouldn't have been (disappointed at not being selected) at the beginning because I didn't know how much work I'd put into it," she said. "But it will be a big disappointment now."



ON THE WAY UP: TCU freshman Kelli McGonagill Thursday demonstrates a maneuver for the Cowboys cheerleading finals.

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