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Au Courant

the trend



Photo by Donna Lemons

Get to know TCU's 'senior' senior

Big moment put off for 50 years

By Gary Hicks

How many members of this year's freshman class anticipate graduating in the year 2038? This being 54 years in the future, the answer is probably not many.

One might easily come to the conclusion that anyone who takes 54 years to obtain a bachelor's degree must be a charter member of the space cadet league.

This deduction, however, couldn't be further from the truth when the student in question is 71-year-old Deborah Cox.

Cox, who will graduate this December, began her college career at TCU in 1930. "I spent only one semester here," Cox said. "The Depression is probably what kept me from continuing. There were a lot of students at that time who couldn't continue for financial reasons." Cox said that she is impressed with the amount of financial aid now available to TCU students.

As one might suspect, TCU has undergone a great amount of change since the 1930s. "The campus was smaller and much quieter. Stadium Drive was a dirt road and there weren't nearly as many buildings," Cox said.

Despite these physical changes, Cox said she finds that the TCU students of the 1980s are really not that much different from her classmates of the 1930s. "When I was a freshman," Cox said, "I wasn't too worried about grades. Most beginning students are probably like this, but they change with age and experience."

After leaving TCU, Cox attended several area colleges, each for a short period of time, before settling down to raise a family. "At the time, I really had no conception of how to get a job," Cox said. "I didn't know how to ask for one. Women today have so many more choices than they did in the '30s."

Cox didn't return to TCU until 1960, and it wasn't as a student. She was hired as a clerical assistant at the TCU library. In 1969, Cox left TCU and went to work for the Kimbell Museum library, where she remained until her retirement in 1978.

"When I retired from work, I seriously considered everything that was open to me. I had already done volunteer work, and I didn't want to just play bridge or make the luncheon circuit," Cox said. "I knew that going back to school was what I really wanted to do."

Cox comes from a family serious about education. "My mother returned to TCU to take courses when she was in her 60s," Cox said.

Cox will receive a degree in general studies with an art emphasis. Although she expressed a great love for learning, Cox said she is ready to graduate. "I'm really ready to finish. I'm tired of the pressure of writing papers and taking exams," Cox said. Since returning to school in 1978, Cox has made almost straight As. "I made one B once," Cox said. "The professor told me it was a B plus. I wondered why he couldn't have made it an A minus."

One might expect the presence of an older student in a classroom to draw some curious reactions from the younger students. "If they have a problem with my age, it's their problem, not mine," Cox said. "I have always worked well with young people." Cox added that she finds it easy to strike up friendships with students 50 years her junior.

Cox said that she believes that younger students can learn from her experiences. "Professors have indicated that they enjoyed having people of different ages in their classes," Cox said.

Besides feeling that students can learn things from her, Cox said she learns many

new things from the younger students. "I'm very interested in young people," Cox said, "particularly in the way that they talk and dress."

Cox said that her family and friends have been very supportive of her returning to college. "They have given me all the support in the world."

Unlike most TCU students, Cox said her degree will not serve as a stepping stone to some future career. "The degree is for my own personal pleasure. The more you know, the better you can relate to the rest of the world," Cox said. "You just feel more alive."

Cox has made plans to return to TCU for

spring commencement. Many students take part in this ceremony to please mom and dad who are sitting in the audience. Cox has a somewhat different audience to please. "Walking across the stage isn't important to me, but I'm doing it for the grandchildren," Cox said.

To all the other senior citizens who spend their time in rocking chairs, Cox has a clear message. "Get up and get out. I have a friend who said she couldn't come back to school because she would miss her afternoon naps," Cox said. "I know that I won't pass this way again, and I want to get as much out of it as I can."



Deborah Cox takes time out to read a book in the Moudy Building atrium.

Photos by Donna Lemons



The front steps of Reed Hall had not yet been constructed when Deborah Cox first came to TCU.



Comedienne Jo Anne Worley spoke to an audience of theater and music majors. Photo by Allen Crowley

Comedienne shares tricks of her trade

By Gary Hicks

It was as if 1960s television was suddenly being broadcast to the TCU campus. Comedienne Jo Anne Worley, best known for her role in the '60s comedy "Laugh In," visited TCU last Wednesday.

The comedienne was up to her regular antics when she spoke to an audience of theater and music majors in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium.

"You can ask me anything you want, except my age," Worley said as she began the question and answer session.

Worley was in Fort Worth to perform in the opera "Die Fledermaus," to be presented by the Fort Worth Opera Association. She said that it was her first time to perform opera, and expressed some hesitation on her part to do so. "When I started in theater I didn't think that I would ever do opera, so this has been the impossible dream for me," Wor-

ley said. "I always thought opera was boring and dull. I thought that those who went to operas were really snooty. This was due to my ignorance about it. Opera is really exciting and fun."

Worley told the students in the audience wishing to enter show business to become proficient in acting, singing and dancing. This word of advice came from her own personal experiences. "I had no formal voice training," Worley said. "While I was growing up I was discouraged from singing because I was so loud. When I was cast for a singing role it was because I was funny, not because of my voice."

In concluding her visit, Worley told the students that suffering through minor roles and summer stock was part of show business. "You're going to have to pay the dues sooner or later," Worley said. "You might as well get them out of the way in the beginning."

Tan centers offer winter glow

By Bill Brownlee

Have you ever noticed a fellow student gradually becoming tan in the middle of winter?

Chances are, the student goes to an indoor tanning center. Several centers in the area offer the opportunity to tan year-round.

Tanning at the centers is costly and has been criticized as being unhealthy.

Two tanning methods are available, each employing different types of ultraviolet rays.

The first method, UVB, offers distinct advantages over the other method, but also has its drawbacks.

The system is quick and comfortable. A person with an average complexion stands for about one minute in a tanning booth during the first visit while a person with a deep tan would remain in the booth for a maximum of 15 minutes.

Since no heat is created, the user rarely experiences discomfort.

The UVB system is also less expensive than its counterpart.

The major problem with the UVB system concerns the health of the user. If not controlled and used judiciously, UVB can burn skin that is exposed for too long periods of time, and has been said to cause subsequent problems such as skin cancer.

It is similar to being exposed to a high-intensity sun.

The other tanning method, UVA, is said to be a healthier method than UVB. This system is activated by a small dose of UVB, but most of the tanning is done by UVA rays.

In the UVA system, the user lies in shells, also called "tanning beds," which resemble coffins. The average treatment is approximately 30 minutes.

This system creates heat, however, so many tanning beds feature fans and stereos for the comfort of the occupant.

The cost of obtaining an indoor tan sometimes rivals the cost of an airplane ticket to the beach.

The Original Suntan Salon, located on Berry Street near TCU, is the cheapest of Fort Worth's tanning centers. It employs the UVB system, but provides a skin analysis for new customers to ensure they get a safe dosage of the UVB rays. They also suggest the use of a moisturizer, as the system can dry skin.

A single visit can cost \$4 while 25 visits over a 6-month period is \$50. The salon also offers several discounts.

About 50 TCU students are customers of the salon, and some claim that it is a good place for socializing.

A Tan For All Seasons, which will open a new store near Hulen Mall, is currently offering a discount for TCU students. Ten visits using their UVA system costs \$50.

TanAmerica, another popular tanning spot for TCU students, charges \$8.50 for a single visit and \$370 for a one-year membership. It also has discounts on its basic rates.

Mike Dilbeck, a junior finance major, is a customer at TanAmerica.

Dilbeck said that while some of his friends

went to Padre Island over spring break, he stayed in Fort Worth and visited TanAmerica regularly. When his friends returned, Dilbeck said that he had a darker tan than did his friends.

Peppi Knox, a freshman speech communication major, also goes to TanAmerica. A redhead, Knox says she dislikes having pale skin.

"I think that people with tans look healthier," she said.

Tanning centers are an effective way to obtain a dark tan. But when choosing a center, the prospective customer should be careful not to get burned—physically or financially.



Original Suntan Salon customer Suzanne Davis stands in one of the tanning booths. Photo by Donna Lemons

New album leads Devo to success

By Todd Camp

The spud boys are at it again. After almost a two year wait, the boys who brought the musical world "Whip It" have released a new album. Those "boys" are collectively known as Devo.

Devo's latest LP, titled *Shout*, represents something new for the spudboys in that they did everything themselves. Devo produced, wrote, mixed, performed and even did the cover art for the new album. This new freedom has finally allowed the group to do the kind of thing they've wanted to do for a long time.

When Devo came out of Akron in 1975, they caught the public's attention with their quirky rendition of the Rolling Stones' hit, "Satisfaction" and their offbeat anthem "Jocko Homo." They offered the world a new sound. Their first LP, *Are We Not Men? We Are Devo!*, had fantastic record sales. The group's fans screamed for more. When the second album, *Duty Now for the Future*, was released, sales went down and the critics panned it. But the group didn't let that get them down. They soon released *Freedom of Choice*, which yielded Devo their biggest hit ever, "Whip It," and put Akron's finest back into the public eye.

Next came the album *New Traditionalists* and hit songs like "Through Being Cool," "Beautiful World" and "Working in a Coalmine." The group's last album, *Oh, No! It's Devo!*, though popular with such songs as "Peek-a-boo" and "That's Good," did not do as well as expected.

Shout seems like a promising record. With its booming anthem-like title track and catchy dance tunes like "The Fourth Dimension," "Jurisdiction of Love" and "C'mon," record sales should improve if the band gets airplay.

The first single from the album, a Devo remake of the old Jimi Hendrix tune "Are You Experienced?" is due to be released sometime around the video's completion date.

The original lyrics that Devo is noted for are still present in the new record's collection of ditties.

"I watched as her finger drew a perfect line in space. I watched as she walked on through, into another place. She parted with convention, now she is living in the fourth dimension, without me," sings Jerry Casale, the band's bass player in the song "The Fourth



Dimension."

Devo's unique costuming is also present on the new album. When the band started with yellow, baggy, plastic suits, they were instantly marked as originals in the field of costume rock. *Freedom of Choice* saw the birth of the "energy dome" red flowerpot hats. *New Trads* gave the spuds the opportunity to wear plastic pomp style hairpieces appropriately called "Devo-doo." The last album gave the unique spud ring collars, which some people said resembled toilet seats.

— at hand —

Monday

Mike Helme will play a concert on the er-hu, a Chinese instrument, at a **Brown Bag Series** event at 11:30 a.m. in the Student Center Gallery. At noon, PDQ Bach, under the direction of Arden Hopkin, will perform "The Shepherdess and the Chimney Sweep." Both performances are free and are open to the public. Guests are invited to bring a sack lunch, drinks will be provided.

"Improving the Purchase Function" is

the topic of a lecture to be given by Gene Magad from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center. The lecture is part of the Topics in Business series. More information is available by calling 921-7134.

Tuesday

"The Art of Successful Persuasion" is the topic of a lecture by Cornell University professor Earl Brooks to be held at 8:30 a.m. in the Student Center. The lecture is part of the Topics in Business series. More information is available by calling 921-7134.

— within reach —

Monday

The **Fort Worth Concert Band** will perform its second concert of the season at 8:15 p.m. in Orchestra Hall, 4401 Trail Lake Drive. Conductor Robert Taylor leads the Concert Band in a program of classic works for band, including Bach's "Fantasia in G Minor," Persichetti's "Symphony No. 6 for Band," and Holst's "Second Suite in F." The band is currently in its third season of performances and has grown from a variable group of 30 to 40 players into an ensemble of 60 musicians. Admission to the concert is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens. For further information call 429-5544.

Friday

Jazz artist Maynard Ferguson will perform

at Fort Worth's **Caravan of Dreams** at 9:45 and 11:30 p.m. The performance will be repeated Saturday, Nov. 24. Ferguson has been referred to as provocative, ingenious, sophisticated, offensive, powerful, shocking, colossal, fantastic and nothing short of crazy. First playing with Boyd Raeburn, Jimmy Dorsey and Sam Kenton through the '40s and early '50s, Ferguson formed his own band in 1954. Information concerning the performance is available at 877-3000.

Bread and Circus Theater presents **Wonderful to be Wicked** at Upstairs at the White Elephant. The play takes place in a Wild West settlement called One Horse Town. The theater's audience is invited to become involved in a sing-a-long prior to the show. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Information is available at 624-9712.

Shout has something new to offer. The boys now sport Chinese-American friendship suits which look somewhat like pajamas.

Devo plans to film a new video of their latest album in Dallas this January. The success of the band's previous video works, "The Men Who Make the Music," a collection of short video clips and live performances filmed in the group's early days, and "We're All Devo," a collection of all the band's videos from "Jocko Homo" to "Doctor Detroit," should make the new cassette in high demand when it's released.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS FROM FRIENDS TO FRIENDS.

"Are you OK to drive?"
"What's a few beers?"

"Did you have too much to drink?"
"I'm perfectly fine."

"Are you in any shape to drive?"
"I've never felt better."

"I think you've had a few too many."
"You kiddin, I can drive
with my eyes closed."

"You've had too much to drink,
let me drive."

"Nobody drives my car but me."

"Are you OK to drive?"
"What's a few beers?"

**DRINKING AND DRIVING
CAN KILL A FRIENDSHIP.**

U.S. Department of Transportation 

— Au Courant —

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