

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX

85th Year, No. 67

## Philosophizing out, earning in, survey says

By Suzanne Dean  
Staff Writer

College freshmen across the country are in search of big bucks these days, and TCU's freshmen class is no different.

Students are putting more emphasis on being well off and less on finding a meaningful philosophy of life.

These and many other results came from the American Council on Educa-

tion's survey taken by entering freshmen each year.

TCU students have participated in the survey for the last 17 years, said Don Mills, assistant vice chancellor of Student Affairs and coordinator of TCU's survey.

According to the survey, 72.8 percent of TCU freshmen think being financially well off is an important goal, and 66.4 percent made a decision to go to college was "to make

more money."

Twenty years ago, only 48 percent of entering freshmen felt being well off was an important goal.

Mills said the students' environment at home led to the increase.

"Freshmen in 1978 had parents who graduated from college around '64 or '65," he said. "The parents have done well, and the environment the student lived in was a financially successful environment."

Roger Thomas, assistant professor of psychology, said he feels the emphasis on money increased because of the greater importance of a college degree.

As opposed to the '60s when a high school diploma was sufficient to get a job, today a college degree is a requirement for getting a job and making more money, Thomas said.

As a result, money "takes on more importance," he said.

The survey added the number of TCU freshmen taking the time to consider a meaningful philosophy of life has dropped to 51.6 percent.

Mills said students don't simply disregard a philosophy of life because they are busy in school.

"I don't think people are throwing it away, but they are willing to postpone it," he said.

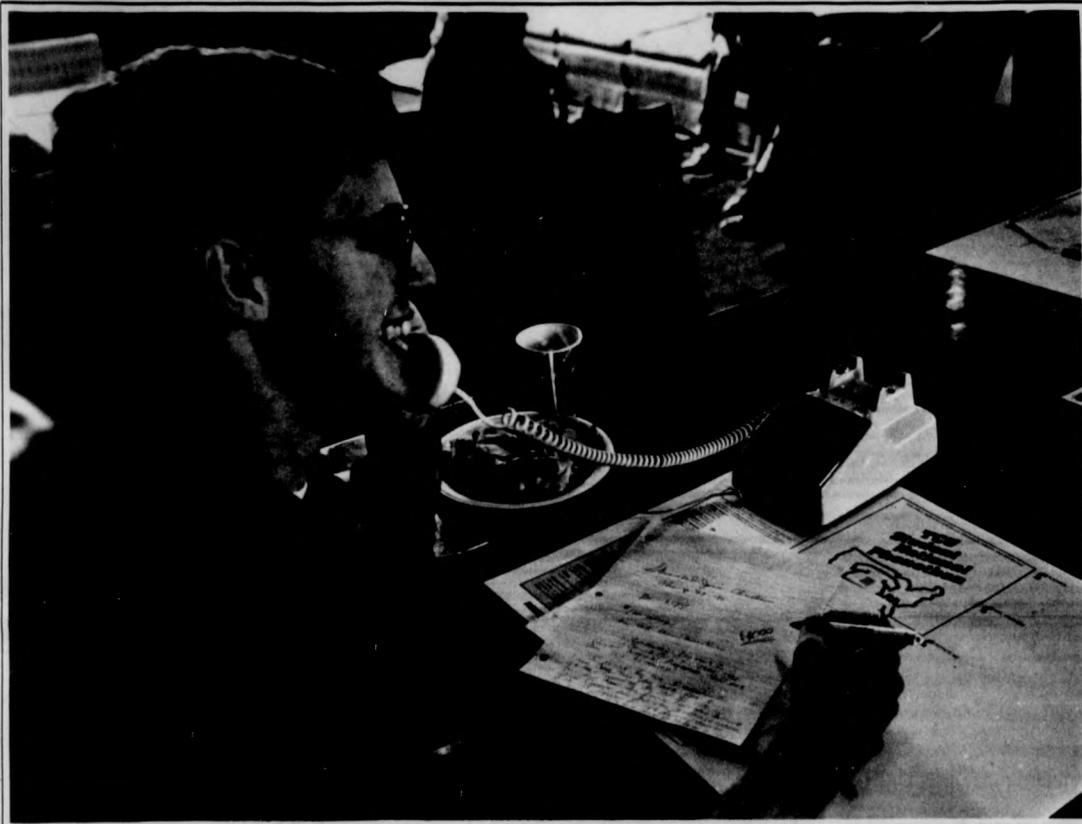
Freshman business major Sheila Strohacker said philosophizing just

isn't that important.

"Right now I'm thinking, 'Am I taking the right classes? Will I get a job when I get out?'" she said.

Mills said the results of the survey at TCU showed little variation from national averages.

"TCU students describe themselves as conservative, but the views they hold on social issues are pretty much middle of the road," he said.



TCU Daily Skiff / Rob Robbins

Cash calls - Chris Sorenson, junior speech/communications major, calls Steve and Janie Christie for the first call of the TCU Student National Phonathon. The Christies pledged \$1,000.

## New firm born on Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) - The securities firm born of Wall Street's latest megamerger has announced what it will call itself: Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc.

Those three names, long familiar to Wall Street and investors in the securities market, suggest the diverse origins of the new company. But they leave a lot out.

Indeed, if the firm had kept the names of its prominent predecessors from just the past two decades, it would be known as something like:

Shearson Hammill Cogan Berlind Weill Levitt Hayden Stone Lehman Kuhn Loeb Loeb Rhoades Hentz Lamson Faulkner Dawkins Sullivan Lerner Rheinholdt Gardner Hornblower Weeks Hemphill Noyes Spencer Trask & Hutton Inc., a majority-owned subsidiary of American Express Co.

In microcosm, that's a chronicle of Wall Street life from the late 1960s to

the late 1980s: Mergers born of trouble, partnerships turned private corporations turned publicly-owned companies, mergers born of deregulation, takeovers born of prosperity and mergers born of trouble once again.

If it was a stable environment you were looking for, you picked the wrong place.

The first stage of this period of upheaval arose from problems of the Street's own making. A booming bull market in the 1960s nearly overwhelmed the capacity of many brokerage firms to handle the order flow.

And as they fought to cope with a paperwork crisis, the stock market turned down in 1969 and 1970, leaving several prominent investment houses on the brink of insolvency.

Some, in fact, went under, while others were rescued in mergers popularly known at the time as "shotgun

weddings."

Even many of the healthiest firms in an industry made up mostly of partnerships decided they couldn't function successfully without an infusion of capital from outside. So in the early 1970s, firms began to transform themselves into corporations and sell shares of themselves to the public.

Congress and regulators in Washington soon added to the tumult with moves to change the rules of the business and open it up to increased competition.

A new wave of mergers followed "May Day," May 1, 1975, when a long-standing schedule of fixed commission rates on securities transactions was abolished.

In time, however, deregulation came to be seen as an opportunity as well as a threat—especially in the eyes of large corporations attracted by the prospects for a business that was now

spoken of as "financial services."

In 1981, which was aptly described by journalist Tim Carrington in his book "The Year They Sold Wall Street," four big-name investment firms merged with or were acquired by outside businesses.

The blue-chip buyers included American Express (Shearson Loeb Rhoades), Prudential Insurance (Bache) and Sears Roebuck (Dean Witter Reynolds). Salomon Brothers in effect incorporated, diversified and went public in a single stroke by merging with Phibro Corp.

As old names disappeared, new ones popped up, attracted by the aura of riches on Wall Street that never quite seems to wear off. At the end of 1970, the New York Stock Exchange had 572 member firms. Seventeen years later, the total was 596.

While the players keep changing, the game goes on.

## Bill to provide minority seats

By MariCarmen Eroles  
Staff Writer

International Student Association, Black Student Caucus and Organization of Latin American Students might get representation in the House of Student Representatives if a bill that will be introduced in today's House meeting is approved.

In the spirit of multicultural awareness and leadership the House is asked to create three voting seats for the term of one year for ISA, BSC and OLAS, according to a draft of the bill.

The seats would be introduced in a trial period for one year, at the end of which the House would take into consideration the relevance of making the seats permanent.

"It is one idea and it might not work, but I'm willing to try," said Chairperson of University Relations Committee Seth Winick, co-signer of the bill.

The seats will be limited to these three groups because they do not have as many avenues of communication as other groups on campus and these three seats will create communication, he said.

"The reason these three groups come to mind is because I believe they do a good job in representing diverse groups in our community," he said.

Recognition by the House would legitimize these organizations as integral parts of the campus, he said.

"The House would benefit from it and the organization would flourish," Winick said.

If the bill is accepted, it will be tabled for a week, he said. The House will then vote on it and it will go into effect, he said.

If at the end of the one-year trial period the House finds the seats have contributed to the community it will approve their permanent representation, he said.

Dean of Students Libby Proffer said the TCU constitution states that representatives to the House are elected based on where they live and if groups came in it would be difficult to draw a line on which groups could not be represented.

Winick said if the seats were to be made permanent, the constitution would have to be changed.

Vice President of the House Kristin Chambers said any changes to the constitution have to be voted on by the student body.

Winick said, "We are not doing this because of an expression of tokenism, but because it will be good for all the community."

It is not enough to recognize a problem exists but goals should be set up to solve that problem, he said.

"It is a controversial bill, but before everyone gets wrapped up in fear they should concentrate on the new lines of communication," he said.

Leena Daniel, president of ISA, See HOUSE, Page 2

## TCU Phonathon seeks \$250,000

By Brooke Rose  
and John Arend  
Staff Writers

The TCU National Phonathon is one of the largest and most successful student-run phonathons in the country, said Chris Sorenson, student chairperson for the phonathon.

"A lot of other schools have alumni do it or pay students," he said.

Hal Roach, senior development associate and director of ADVANCE, an athletic donor recognition organization, said it is good that the student body and alumni talk to each other.

"I think it's important that alumni have contact with current students and talk to them and find out about the student body," he said.

It is also amazing how many students who have worked on the phonathon actually become donors, Roach said.

The phonathon began in 1977 and has successfully reached its goal every year. Roach said this year's phonathon goal is \$250,000 which is \$25,000 more than last year's goal.

The phonathon is part of the annual fund which supplies budget-supporting dollars necessary for many activities in the university, he said.

"We contact all alumni across the country who have not made a gift this fiscal year and ask them to support the fund," Roach said.

The fund, he said, is used to close a gap caused by the annual budget.

"When the budget is set for the university, there is a gap between what tuition, fees and endowment generate, and the annual fund closes that gap," Roach said.

Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Development Paul Hartman gave the goal for the annual fund this year as \$3.2 million.

This year a new incentive has been added to raise the annual fund.

A group of TCU alumni who are also members of the board of trustees initiated a \$500,000 Alumni Trustees Challenge.

Roach said the challenge is a fund-raising drive that will match new and increased alumni gifts to the Annual Fund up to two dollars for every dollar up to \$500,000 contributed this year.

All gifts have to be paid by May 31 in order to qualify for the challenge, he said.

Hartman said the goal of the Alumni Trustees Challenge is to raise money for the financial aid program and to contribute to the university's annual fund.

"The money that is spent supplementing the financial aid program might be otherwise applied to such useful purposes as increasing library holdings or extending library hours," he said.

So far the challenge has raised almost \$340,000, he said. Of that amount, \$41,580 was given by alumni who have never donated to the university before.

Hartman said he feels positive the remaining \$160,000 will be See PHONATHON, Page 2

## TCU opens Black History Month

By Leanora Minai  
Staff Writer

Black History Month began yesterday at TCU when councilwoman representative of district eight in Fort Worth presented a proclamation to 30 students gathered in the Student Center Lounge.

Elena Hicks, president of Black Student Caucus, accepted on behalf of the university the proclamation signed by Mayor Bob Bolen.

Black History Month in the United States has been commemorated in February since 1915 when black historian Carter G. Woodson started Negro History Week. The celebration was extended in 1977 to one

'Black history will gradually become a part of people's everyday life.'

Kim Harris,  
Vice President of Black Student Caucus

month.

"Black History Month did not begin on a slave ship but on the motherland," said Logan Hampton, coordinator of minority affairs.

People should not think of the month as only for black people and try not to confine their efforts and energy to only this month, Hampton said.

Various films on apartheid will be shown on Tuesday and Thursday throughout the month in the Student

Center Lounge.

Today, "Destructive Engagement," about South Africa's aggressive stance against bordering countries will be shown at noon.

Lt. Col. Joseph Blaylock, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc., will speak at 4 p.m. Thursday in Lecture Hall 3 of the Sid Richardson Building.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first black members of the U.S. Air Force.

# TODAYpeople

## TCU roper competes tonight

By Melinda Hartman  
Staff Writer

When he is not in the books, he is in the saddle.

Frank Wolfe III, senior marketing major, is competing in calf roping at the Fort Worth Stock Show tonight.

Wolfe said calf roping is a contact sport like football.

"I'm not crazy enough to be a bull rider and I know too many guys that blow out knees every year steer wrestling," Wolfe said.

At the Fort Worth Stock Show it is possible for one calf roper to win \$10,000, Wolfe said. But it is more likely for someone to win about \$6,000.

Wolfe said one of the reasons he ropes is for the money.

To compete in the Fort Worth Stock Show, you must be a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and be one of the top 200 money winners of the previous year. To qualify for a membership in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, a person must win \$2,500 in a year, Wolfe said.

This is Wolfe's second year to compete at the Fort Worth Stock Show Rodeo.

"Last year I made my rookie mistakes. Now I know what I'm going to do. I've just reached the age where I can mentally handle the pressure," Wolfe said.

At first Wolfe's competitors were resentful of him, Wolfe said. Most of the cowboys rope for a living to feed their families, while Wolfe does it for sport.

"They look at you kind of funny. You have to go out and prove that you can hang with them as well as prove yourself as a person," Wolfe said.

Wolfe said he has reached that point in the last few months.

Wolfe said he is currently practicing five out of seven days at his family's ranch, which is about 20 minutes from here, close to Burleson.

Wolfe said several junior colleges offered him full rodeo scholarships but he wanted to go to TCU.

Wolfe said "I am TCU's rodeo team."

He is the only person who competes in rodeos at TCU.

Wolfe said it is hard to balance school and the rodeo, but when he has to miss class due to traveling his teachers are understanding.

"I get harassed for driving my truck around school," Wolfe said. "But they're just kidding."

The calf ropers compete in two rounds and the finals, Wolfe said.

Wolfe competed in the first round last week scoring no time because his calf did not stay tied for the mandatory six seconds.

"I could come back and win another go round and still come out with \$4000 dollars. I am not out of it at all," Wolfe said.

Calf roping is rated by the amount of time it takes to rope a calf, Wolfe said.

The top eight competitors from each of the two rounds win money, Wolfe said. Then each roper's two times are averaged together and the top ten go to the finals. Then the three scores of the ten ropers are combined and the top eight win money, Wolfe said.

The crowd made him nervous when he first started roping in rodeos, Wolfe said.

"I'm reaching the point now where I could ride out in the middle of Congress on a horse and not think twice about it," Wolfe said.

He said if a roper thinks about any outside factors, like the noise of the crowd, he will make a mistake.

"You have to have nerves of steel and a little ice water in your veins," Wolfe said.

Wolfe will show his horse Jo Jo in the horse show on Wednesday. Between \$500 and \$800 will be awarded.

Last year Jo Jo was awarded the best junior horse in the world, Wolfe said.

"How fast the horse can run. How hard he can stop. How much he listens to his owner and how well he responds to his owner's reactions" are the criteria for a good calf horse, Wolfe said.

"Jo Jo is the biggest gentlest thing you've ever seen. But, when I back in that box, he's like Dr. Jeckyl and Mr.

Hyde. He is like a totally different horse. He turns into a jet engine or something," Wolfe said.

Wolfe has a cut on his stomach from the calf he roped during the first round kicking him.

"These calves are weighing 260 pounds plus. I've never seen a set of calves eat up more cowboys," Wolfe said. "They look like you said something about their mother and they're ready to kick somebody's ass."

Wolfe said he has been roping since sixth grade, but became serious about it his sophomore year in high school.

Wolfe said he went to a roping school when he was 16 years old. The instructor told him he had a lot of talent and he would like to work with him.

Competing in the rodeo is expensive in the beginning because it is hard to win enough to cover travel expenses.

"My dad was all for it because I'm doing what he always wanted to do. It really helps to have that backing," Wolfe said.

Once Wolfe graduates he hopes to work for his dad, who owns a Fort Worth construction and asphalt company, but he will continue to rope in the rodeo, he said.

Wolfe, a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, said several of his friends will be attending the rodeo tonight to watch him get back in the saddle again.



TCU Daily Skiff / Michael Dixon  
Horsing around - Frank Wolfe III, TCU senior, practices his calf roping for the Fort Worth Stock Show

## Dog owes life to student

By Chuck Hendley  
Staff Writer

To Dan and Karen Bierle, Mark Livingston is their dog's best friend.

Actions that Livingston, a junior business major, took on Monday, Nov. 30, saved the life of the Bierle's dog. This prompted the family to write a letter to Dean of Students Libby Proffler, commending Livingston for his "remarkable, caring and selfless attitude" and for being "without regard for personal gain or rewards."

Livingston found the dog that night after hearing a car hit something on Berry Street from his window in the Sigma Chi house, Livingston said. He and two other friends ran outside to find the Bierle's dog, a cocker spaniel mutt named Happy, badly injured and in need of immediate medical attention, he said.

Livingston, along with Scott Collins, a sophomore business major and Holly Haney, a junior interior design major, placed the injured dog on Haney's art portfolio and took the dog to the nearest emergency animal clinic, Livingston said.

"The hospital charged us with \$163 for X-rays and treatment that required the dog to stay overnight, so the next day Collins and I went back and brought the dog back to his (Collins') house," Livingston said.

While the dog was recuperating, Livingston said he began searching for the owners of the dog. After paying for the treatment with his own money, he took care of the dog and named it Yield, since the accident was caused as a result of the dog's failure to yield, Livingston said. The dog was not wearing any tags, so Livingston hung signs describing the dog throughout the surrounding neighborhood and at area grocery stores and malls, he said.

Livingston said he went door to door in the neighborhood where the family of the dog lived, but no one recognized the description of the dog. After keeping the dog for several days at Collins' house, Livingston said he realized that the dog was in need of more medical care which would require a large amount of money. Therefore on a Wednesday night, he and his fraternity brothers threw a party to raise money to treat the dog, Livingston said.

"We took donations at the door, and in one night raised over \$300," Livingston said.

The next morning he took the dog to another doctor and explained what had happened, Livingston said.

"The doctor guaranteed that the cost would not exceed what we had raised, so we left the dog to receive surgery," Livingston said.

The doctors implanted a steel plate into the dog's pelvis on Friday afternoon, Livingston said.

Livingston said he met the owners of the dog when he went back to the clinic the following day.

"He found out from neighbors what clinic I had taken his dog to, and it was there that we ran into each other," Livingston said.

After Bierle met Livingston and found out all that had happened, he said he was very grateful and appreciative of Livingston's actions.

Bierle said, "I am very surprised that he went through all the trouble with our dog, because for all he knew the dog could have been a stray."

"I am very happy to report that my experiences with TCU remain wholly positive," Bierle said.

Livingston said, "I gave him my name and the receipts from the medical bills, and he reimbursed me for the kegs at the party, since that was the only thing the money we raised didn't pay for."

The next week the family invited Livingston over to see that the surgery was successful and that Happy was back to normal, Livingston said.

"It makes you feel good to realize that just doing the normal thing can make such a difference in someone's life," Livingston said.

## Phonothon

Continued from Page 1

Roach said this year's phonothon, which began Sunday, will involve almost 600 students, including about 35 campus organizations.

The phones will be worked from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. through Feb. 25, Sorensen said students are get-

ting more involved than they have in previous years.

"This year we had to add five nights because of an increased demand of groups that want to participate," he said.

He added he feels the increase in participation is due to a highly involved student body.

"TCU is a very involved campus," Sorensen said. "People know the phonothon raises money for important facilities."

Although all time slots have been filled by both large and small organizations, there will usually be a few phones available for individual use, he said.

## House

Continued from Page 1

she said she was happy about the bill because it would enable other students to learn about international students.

Members of the House might not like the bill because change is always disturbing, but it will be good for multicultural awareness on campus, she said.

"I think it (recognition of minority

groups) is a trend and it will die out," she said. "It is a good moment to be excited about it and to have some impact."

She said the bill might have originated by the ISA retreat held Jan. 22 through 24.

Matt Hood, chairperson of the Student Concerns Committee said a re-

solution, signed by eight members of the House, will also be presented in today's meeting to support the ISA. recognize its efforts in the retreat and encourage it to participate.

The resolution is not tied to the bill and it is basically a base with which the House will show its standing in the future, Hood said.

## CAMPUSLINES

National Phonothon

Help Wanted! Come join the fun! Students and organizations are urged to take part in the TCU National Phonothon. The event runs until Feb. 25. For more information call the Office of Development at 921-7800.

Auditions available

Scarborough Faire wants actors,

singers, dancers and musicians when the eighth annual spring-time Renaissance festival opens April 23. To schedule an appointment for an audition, contact Ron Boulden or Kathe Fluitt-Mosley at (214) 937-6130. Group auditions are welcome.

Political presentation

Students interested in ap-

plying for the Campaign '88 programs at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions in Atlanta and New Orleans are invited to attend a video presentation of "From the Floor of the Convention," about three delegates attending the 1984 political convention. The presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 2 p.m. in Sadler 203.



### Correction

Due to an editing error, the Ballet Building was misstated as being

built in 1914 and also in 1970. The Ballet Building was built in 1972. The Skiff regrets this error.

The Rho Epsilon Chapter of Chi Omega would like to congratulate our new initiates. We're proud of you!!!

- Amy Adams
- Kristin Altstaetler
- Erin Barker
- Lezlie Barnson
- Susie Bosley
- Brenda Burns
- Jeanne Carville
- Karen Casper
- Stacy Drescher
- Diana Dresser
- Sarah Eanes
- Elaine Esse
- Melisande Filiatreau
- Shelly Gerard
- Jacqueline Green
- Courtney Haggard
- Kathy Hanes
- Camae Johnson
- Kristin Joseph
- Kris Kiyohiro



Shawna Voorhees

- Jan Klingenberg
- Donya Kuehl
- Carolyn Lamb
- Katherine McDermott
- Angela Montgomery
- Kim Murphy
- Meg Neil
- Melynda Pickren
- Sarah Porter
- Jodie Porterfield
- Paula Price
- Kim Rawlins
- Joanna Russell
- Ellen Schrotke
- Stephanie Smeltzer
- Sarah Smith
- Amy Stevens
- Stacie Summerhill
- Beth Thompson
- Joni Vader

## Party For Everyone at 21 Main

Wednesday, Feb. 3  
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Live Music From  
*My Three Sons*

Sponsored by the TCU Ladies  
Proceeds benefit  
Cooks Children's Hospital



The Ladies of Delta Gamma Proudly Present Their New Initiates

- Kelly Berryman
- Shelley Bradley
- Stephanie Bratz
- Colleen Cowley
- Cheryl Cox
- Amy Defenbaugh
- Carol Devine
- Stephanie Devoe
- Melissa Fitzgerald
- Elizabeth Fleming
- Jonna Garrett
- Dana Hall
- Kinua Hirahara
- Laura Kehler
- Deana Kinammon
- Darla Lane
- Michelle LaVigne
- Cyrena Lawrence
- Kim Livingston
- Sara Luckfield



- Becky Marsh
- Kami McArthur
- Michele Miniatas
- JoEllen Morris
- Penny Nichols
- Sarah Normand
- Laurie Olson
- Nicole Parkhurst
- Allison Parry
- Stephanie Pendley
- Theresa Pfister
- Crysti Sale
- Suzie Sauer
- Stacy Savell
- Rachel Stowe
- Katie Tredennick
- Leslie Tubbs
- Karman Watkins
- Melissa White
- Jerri Wilson

CONGRATULATIONS!  
WE LOVE YOU!

# COMMENTARY

## Abortion's gray areas examined

(Second in a three-part series)

By Michael Hayworth  
Commentary Editor



If a mother has AIDS, should she abort her fetus? What about cases in which a woman is carrying an infant with serious birth defects?

And what if an abortion is necessary to save the life of the mother?

In a column which appeared Thursday, I addressed the primary argument in favor of abortion: the issue of choice and "a woman's right to decide what to do with her body."

Though this is the most common argument in favor of abortion, it is a secondary issue. Before any right of privacy or issue of choice can be considered, we must determine whether a fetus is a human being.

If it is a human being at some stage of maturation, then it has at least one inherent right—the right not to be killed.

If it is a human being, abortion is immoral. It should also be illegal, unless we wish to be a society which condones the killing of innocent humans.

The issue of choice applies only if we can conclusively determine that a fetus is not a human being.

However, there are some arguments which pro-abortionists claim are valid even if a fetus is a human being.

Some of these seem to truly be gray areas. Most, when subjected to reason, are not. Today's column will address the gray areas. Tomorrow's will attempt to show why many of the others are spurious arguments.

Amniocentesis can now ascertain many things about an infant while it is still in the womb, including many major diseases and birth defects.

Accordingly, we see many abortions performed because amniocentesis has determined that the fetus is imperfect. Should we sanction abortion in cases where birth defects are detected?

The cases in such an issue seem to fall into two categories.

First, there are cases such as an infant with Tay-Sachs disease. This severe disease results in improper development of the nervous system. Very early in life, the child enters a state of dementia and progressively deteriorates until death.

Abortion could spare that child the painful death it would otherwise suffer. On the other hand, it would also deprive the child of any sort of life at all.

There is no question that the disease is a tragedy, but on what basis can we say that no life at all is preferable to a life which contains much pain?

Good arguments can be presented on both sides of this gray case, and it would perhaps be better for the law to leave the abortion decision to the parents and their physician.

However, cases such as Tay-Sachs should not be confused with the other category of imperfections, one which results in many more cases of abortion than the first.

This is the category of non-fatal imperfections. Down's Syndrome in-

fants fall into this category, as do infants with physical deformities which do not threaten life and can often be easily corrected.

These infants can lead healthy, productive lives. They can live very happy lives, when given proper care.

Abortions in these cases do not fit the category of abortion for the sake of "mercy." These abortions are simply the disposal of unwanted, imperfect infants who do not fit into a world built for perfect people.

These abortions are wrong. Along with the case of birth-defect infants, pro-abortionists often present the case of a mother with AIDS. Why doom a child to such a life, they ask?

This argument might fit the same category as Tay-Sachs infants, if it did not rest on the mistaken belief that AIDS mothers inevitably give birth to AIDS babies.

According to Pete Rodriguez of the Fort Worth Health Department, there is a 50 percent chance that a mother with AIDS will give birth to a baby with AIDS.

Because the AIDS antibody can be present without the disease actually occurring, even amniocentesis cannot determine whether the child will have the disease. That can only be determined through repeated tests over a period of time after the child has been born.

Remembering that this argument for abortion is presented as valid even if the fetus is a human being (since, if it were not, such arguments would not be necessary), should we allow AIDS mothers to abort, turning the 50 percent chance that a child will have the disease into the certainty of death?

If I were the child, I'd rather live and see what happens.

Finally, we come to the case where abortion is claimed to be necessary to save the life of the mother.

It is interesting to note that Surgeon General Everett C. Koop, one of the nation's most distinguished pediatric surgeons, has called this issue "a smoke screen for abortionists."

In 36 years of surgery, Koop says he has never seen such a life or death case as pro-abortionists often present.

Despite this, there is always the possibility that such a case might occur. In such an instance, it seems to be an issue which should be decided on a case-by-case basis by the parents and their physician.

But this argument is simply an example of the fact that the "tough cases" so often presented as arguments in favor of abortion occur in only a minuscule percentage of abortion cases.

This does not make them invalid issues—they must be addressed. However, it is wrong to allow such issues to cloud the fact that the vast majority of abortions are performed for reasons that simply cannot be substantiated until pro-abortionists provide valid answers to the two questions presented Thursday:

If a fetus does not become a human being at the point of conception, when does it become a human being?

If a fetus does not become a human being at the point of conception, what was it the day before it became a human being?



## Election good for a laugh

By Jerry Madden  
Columnist



Presidential politics is always a funny business. Everyone tries to take it seriously, but it wasn't made to be serious business.

If you happen to be one of those who does try and take the business seriously, you're liable to find it causes a lot more headaches than it's worth.

It's my personal belief whoever designed American political campaigns was the same person who designed "The Original Amateur Hour" or similar shows.

You remember the type. Somebody would get in front of a camera or microphone and perform their heart out thinking they were going to be a star. Meanwhile, the rest of us in the audience would laugh until our gut split because we could see just how bad they really were.

Politics is no different. People running for office try and tell the rest of us how they have all the answers to life's problems, and we just laugh knowing what fools they're making of themselves.

Watching politics makes better entertainment than most Super Bowls, especially the boring Super Bowls of the past few years.

Take, for example, George Bush trying to lose his "wimp" image. First he takes on Dan Rather. Rumor has it he's so confident after that fracas that he's going to step in the ring with Mike Tyson to prove he's not a wimp.

Or what about the idea of having George McGovern, who was creamed by Richard Nixon in the 1972 campaign, make an entry into the race. His only claim to fame is having his name on the back of a "Trivial Pursuit" card. Thinking of him in the race is really funny.

Just thinking about some of these people being president can be riotous. Imagine Gary Hart running our country. He'd be great at "foreign affairs." Need I say anything more?

Or what about Paul Simon? If he wins, invest in bowties. They'll be the fad.

However, in order for him to win he'll have to find a running mate named Garfunkle and hope McGovern doesn't steal the Vietnam-protestor-throwback vote from him.

Personally I believe Pat Robertson would make a wonderful president. He's by far the best so far as security goes.

If we ever found ourselves under nuclear attack all he'd have to do is pray and the missiles, just like hurricanes, would be turned away and fall back on the Soviets. We couldn't be safer.

Jack Kemp would certainly simplify Soviet-U.S. relations if he were president. We wouldn't have any.

Richard Gephardt also might make a nice president, but who could ever take someone with such an apple-pie face seriously?

Just take it all with a grain of salt and a few chuckles.

## Letters to the Editor

### Bad criticism

I have written the following in response to guest columnist John Moore's column, "Schlafly, Weddington give poor performance," which appeared Thursday.

Mr. Moore,

If the ship of debate that Phyllis Schlafly and Sarah Weddington were piloting Tuesday night was lost at sea, yours has surely hit the crags.

It distresses me that you could criticize two very well-educated debaters, one of whom stood before the U.S. Supreme Court, when you do not even bother to get your facts straight.

You suggested, "educating the public was the primary purpose of the debate (and in that case) Sarah Weddington and Phyllis Schlafly failed in their endeavor."

Wrongo.

The purpose of a TCU debate is to arouse student and public interest in the dialogue and topics of debate facing our nation today.

Secondly, neither Weddington nor Schlafly came to educate the public. They came to get you off your duff, so you will start learning for yourself. No one can learn for you.

You have a point that the two debaters left the topic once or twice. The "holier-than-thou" attitude was also notably a bit much.

But John, the debaters neither failed, nor did their audience suffer; more than one thousand TCU students and members of the com-

munity were ecstatic enough to break into applause throughout the debate. Most left the forum realizing the importance of the issue of abortion. It obviously started you thinking, too.

But more to the point of your primary criticism: if you are concerned that the two debaters have wronged TCU, why don't you go to the library, read the Court's ruling, and write letters to the speakers for answers.

But really, John, anyone can complain about things that have gone wrong. If you want to get to the heart of your problem—and make sure you are getting your precious dollar's worth—start attending the TCU PC Forums meetings and start making suggestions for improvement.

Bruce Wirin  
Sophomore/International Relations

### Forget Rockets

My letter to the Skiff is directed to Troy Phillips for his misguided opinions about the Dallas Mavericks and the Houston Rockets. You're right, Troy, about Dallas fans jumping about the superiority of their teams. Our legs are so tired from jumping that Houston fans will have to seriously consider the four-hour drive to Dallas quite often so they can see some real teams.

Getting to the point, though, it's not that Dallas considers itself in The Elite yet, it's just that improving their team record every year by an average of 5 to 7 games, and being the only team to take the World Championship in a season series last year (4-2) is impressive. But I won't deal with the past, unlike the Rockets.

At guard, where the Rockets had to trade for guys just to have NBA-level starters: "Sleepy" Floyd is good, but has been to the All-Star game three straight years? No. Check stats and you'll see that Dallas' backcourt is stronger all around. What's more, Dallas hasn't skipped a beat with Blackman injured. Brad Davis has done an outstanding job of filling in.

The only place the Rockets have an edge is center. But, getting excited over "Joe Barely Cares" is silly. The man has yet to take over the starting job from Jim Peterson because he either doesn't know the offense well enough or he can't play against Mark Aguirre every game. But then, Aguirre will always average more points a game than Carroll gets in playing time. Sam Perkins is regarded as Dallas' best defender and regularly takes on the "McCrays" of the league with success. Finally, if all Houston has are hopes of catching Dallas, then Houston will have to go back to throwing games for draft position.

Brett Paulson  
Junior/Radio-TV-Film

### TCU DAILY SKIFF

The TCU Daily Skiff welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns. The Commentary Page is designed to offer a forum for expression on any issue. All letters and columns submitted must be typed and double spaced. Letters must be signed and no longer than 300 words. Letters and columns must be accompanied by the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or not publish any unacceptable letters or columns.

Unsigned editorials are the views of the Daily Skiff. Signed columns and letters are solely the opinions of the writer.

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### Just the campus underground, Ma'am... By Todd Camp



### BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



# SPORTS

## Once again, 'Super' Bowl disappoints

By John Paschal  
Sports Writer



When General George Armstrong Custer lined up his trusty troops and ran a play-action pass straight at the Sioux Indians at Little Big Horn in 1876, little did he know two things: that the play wouldn't work, and that the subsequent slaughter would be a precursor for many massacres yet to come.

General George and the boys got whupped, head to toe. They became vulture bait. Top soil. Dust in the wind. They would never ride through the wrong valley again. They would never ride through any valley again. This was their destiny. This was their root canal.

This was Custer's Last Stand. And that thing Sunday was the Super Bowl. That's what it's called, anyway. But that upper-case "Super" ought to be arrested for impersonating an accurate adjective. "Jumbo shrimp" is isn't even so paradoxical. "Pretty ugly" is similarly paradoxical, but so utterly precise in this case. That game Sunday: Pretty Ugly.

What was that out there? What's going on? These are supposed to be the two best football teams on Planet Earth, but instead we get Penn State vs. Amherst College. The Romans vs. the Christians, and at their home coliseum. Somebody should've told us that the Denver Broncos were coming to the party as a bullet tray. Nobody invited us to the smorgasbord; we just had to watch the Washington Redskins eat it up.

Well, it's because of the Indians again. Last time they bullied Custer, this time John Elway. The Redskins beheaded and scalped John and his non-supporting cast, 42-10, surveyed the damage and didn't feel real guilty about it. Did the Duke of Wellington apologize after Waterloo? This, too, was carnage.

You don't blame the Redskins. If somebody gives you the cake you take it and eat it too. Mercy has no place here. Somebody cries "Uncle," you say "Remus" and keep twisting his arm off.

No, the Redskins aren't at fault. Neither are the Broncos, really. Who is? Well, who knows? It's just that there seems to be a pattern forming here, one that ain't real pretty. By the time Super Bowl XXX in 1996 arrives, we'll finally have some descriptive symbolism after all. XXX. Triple-X. Must be 17 years or older just to watch the dang thing.

The last five Bloopers Bowls have been won by an aggregate 138 points, or, in other words, to the victors go the spoils and an average of 27.6 points per game more than the losers. That's four touchdowns. That's bad. In fact, in the 22 Bowls to date, just five have had a final point spread of fewer than ten points.

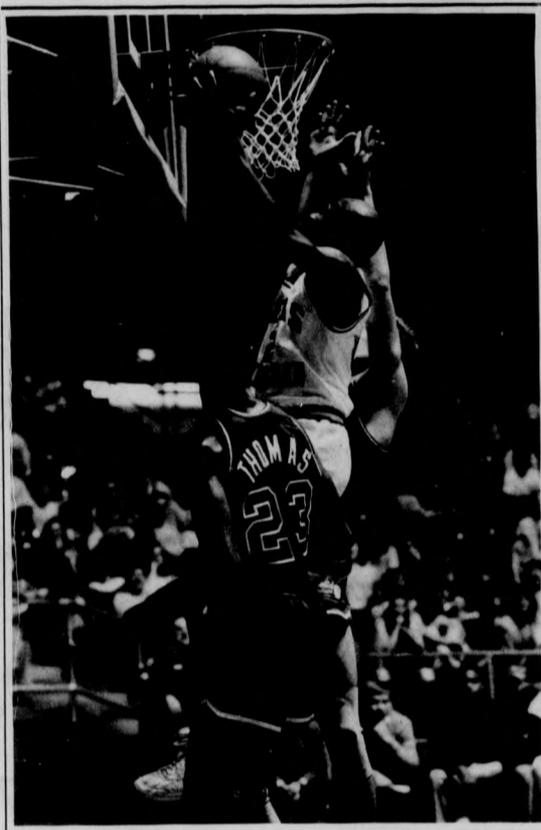
Perhaps Stephen King or somebody is scripting these things. What else could it be? Friday the 13th part seven and Super Bowl part 22, it's all the same. The word is macabre. The game is gross.

Here in America, certain events are held as sacred. Certain baggage is not to be lost. The Iowa Caucuses. The World Series. And, of course, the Big Goober in January. As kids, we looked up to the Super Bowl as our esteemed elder, so big and strong. We grew up wanting to play in the Big Game. Our dream. Every boy scores the winning Super Bowl touchdown sometime or other, in his mind. Swedish kids want Wimbledon. American kids want Super Bowl.

But while Wimbledon serves up fun and frolic, the January jubilee does not. After two weeks of hype, we get three hours of tripe. The American public is metamorphosed into a Cargo Cult, waiting for a shipment that never arrives. We've waited two weeks and then some. It's been seven years since any semblance of a decent Super Bowl came our way -- San Francisco 26, Cincinnati 21 in 1982. This seven-year itch is getting uncomfortable.

It's hard to explain the lopsided lilies. The one team surely ain't that much better than the other. Is it preparation? Luck? Are their planets aligned?

Don't know. What we do know is that lousy promises — perpetuated by the continual and puzzling use of the word Super — are getting old.



TCU Daily Skiff / Rob Robbins

Laying it home - TCU forward Rod Jacques attempts to lay the ball home while SMU's Terry Thomas watches.

## Lady Frogs lose lead and game to SMU, 63-59

By Robin Shermer  
Sports Writer

The TCU women's basketball team watched a seven-point lead fade away to a disappointing 63-59 loss to SMU at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Saturday afternoon.

"I thought we were in control of the game but we quit taking it to them in the end and we quit doing our job," said women's coach Fran Garmon.

The Lady Frogs, who led at halftime 31-28, lost their lead with 3:30 left in the game and were never able to regain the lead from the Mustangs again.

"Any team you can stay ahead for that long, you should be able to beat," Garmon said. "I was really disappointed."

With three minutes left in the game the score was tied at 57, but TCU's Michelle Henry fouled out and SMU went up by two on the free throws. TCU scored only once more as Karen Davis sunk two free throws with 1:05 left on the clock.

SMU got its remaining four points from TCU fouls in the last minute of the game.

Inconsistency was the main problem for the Lady Frogs, Garmon said.

Henry, the starting forward scored one point, while the other starting forward, Valerie Barnett, scored just six points.

"Our inside game is not consistent. We have some girls who can one game score 15 to 20 points and the next game score only five points," Garmon said.

Garmon said SMU is one of the best teams in the Southwest Conference, but TCU had no excuses for losing the game.

"If you can outplay a team for 37 minutes of the game you can outplay for 40 minutes, but we didn't play the last three minutes," Garmon said.

Although the Lady Frogs lost, Garmon said there were some positive points.

Barnett had an excellent game by keeping SMU's Felicia Bluit, who averages over 20 points, to eight points.

SMU has one of the top teams in the nation in steals, Garmon said. Against the Lady Frogs, SMU got only nine steals during the game.

Top players for TCU were Kathleen Olson with 26 points and 10 rebounds and Karen Davis with 10 points and six rebounds.

"This team is 15 to 20 points better than last year's team, but we lack consistency and belief in ourselves," Garmon said.

Garmon said she thought the team had hit a turning point with its win over Houston Jan. 16, but things didn't come together and the Lady Frogs lost to Texas Tech the next

## Losing streak continues

Iba, team frustrated by officials' calls at the end of game

By John Paschal  
Sports Writer

With the SMU Mustangs leading TCU 32-21 at halftime of Saturday's basketball game at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, the home crowd, seeking some semblance of retribution, began shouting in unison toward the SMU student section. "We've got football! We've got football!"

Momentarily stunned, the Mustang backers regrouped and retaliated with an equally pointed barb. "We've got basketball! We've got basketball!"

Just barely. The Mustangs shot but 32.8 percent from the floor and scored 33.5 points below their season average (84.5 points per game), but held on in the closing seconds to nip the Horned Frogs 51-48 before 3,545 in this heated cross-town rivalry.

TCU guard John Lewis, who had 20 points, had a chance to tie the game with one second left, but his hurried three-point shot after an in-bounds pass missed the rim by a foot. Lewis and TCU head coach Moe Iba stormed toward referee Sonny Holmes, claiming foul but to no avail. SMU (17-4, 6-2 in Southwest Conference games), which lost its football program for two years due to repeated NCAA rules infractions, saved its chanting fans from embarrassment. TCU (7-11, 1-6), on the other, took its toughest loss of the year.

"This one hurts bad. I thought we deserved to win it," said TCU freshman center Todd Willis, who, stepping into the forefront since senior Norman Anderson was dismissed

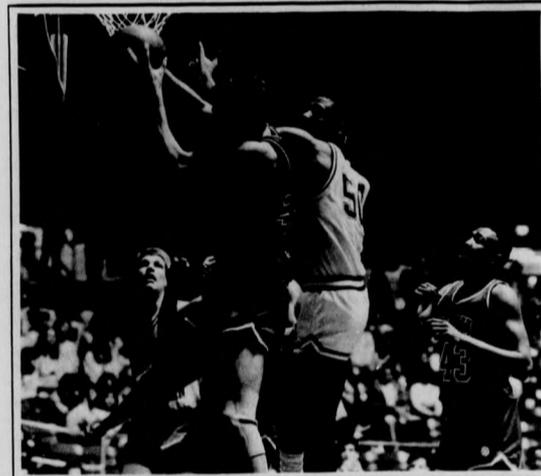
from the team two weeks ago, had career highs in points (12) and in rebounds (10). "We played really well in the second half, and we should've won it. Just one play, and that's the game."

The one play came with 42 seconds left and the teams tied at 48. SMU guard Kato Armstrong drove the lane on a designed play and banked in the shot, despite being fouled by Lewis, and made the free throw to put the Mustangs up by three. Armstrong

could've iced the game with 13 seconds left but missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity, giving TCU its last chance to tie the game. A missed shot by TCU forward Rod Jacques was batted out of bounds with just one second left, leading to Lewis' miss.

"I thought he fouled me. It affected me a whole lot," Lewis said.

TCU plays third-place Texas A&M (12-9, 4-3) Wednesday night at 7:30 in College Station.



TCU Daily Skiff / Rob Robbins

Get that ball! - SMU center Glen Puddy tears the ball away from TCU center Todd Willis during the Mustang's victory Saturday.

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