

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX

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Phi Kap chapter placed on probation for hazing

10 members suspended from fraternity after investigation

TCU continues to cite 1974 privacy amendment

By TROY PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

TCU has taken disciplinary action against the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity for a hazing violation, but the university's interpretation of the Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 prevents it from making the decision public.

Although Phi Kappa Sigma's national office and TCU issued the chapter a three-year probation and suspended 10 members, the university is withholding any details. "The records in terms of the individual or an organization are held confidential according to university policy," said Peggy Barr, vice chancellor for student affairs.

See Act, Page 2

By LEANORA MINAI
Staff Writer

Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity has been placed on probation for three years, and 10 of its members have been suspended from the chapter for hazing by TCU and its national office.

"We're going to take sanctions that are necessary to eliminate hazing in our fraternity, and if it means kicking everybody out we'll do it," said Ron Siggs, national executive director of Phi Kappa Sigma.

When a chapter is put on probation, it is watched by both the national office and the university, said John Laverty, national assistant director of Phi Kappa Sigma. It also must abide

by certain sanctions and programming requirements and not break any rules or further penalties will be imposed, he said.

"We have taken sanctions that we feel are very strong and will make the chapter change its activity, and if they don't change, we'll close their chapter, and it's as simple as that," Siggs said.

When members are suspended, they cannot participate in fraternity activities for one academic year. After that time they can come up for review if they meet certain programming guidelines of the chapter and are in good standing at the university, said Laverty, who has been on campus since Thursday.

Peggy Barr, vice chancellor for academic affairs, made the decision on behalf of the university after receiving a recommendation from the Student Organizations Committee last week, said Andy Fort, SOC chairman.

"My decision was based on my obligation to the students and organization that hazing was going on," Barr said.

She said she would not comment on the details of the Phi Kap hazing incident or the disciplinary action taken by the university because of her adherence to guidelines encompassed by the Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, which says all judicial proceedings are pri-

vate, Barr said. "We don't reveal judicial proceedings to the press," Barr said.

Felix Mira, coordinator of Greek residential life/fraternity adviser, said that although he was bound by confidentiality, he believes that "if the national organization or chapter itself makes a statement, it will help other organizations on campus realize that hazing is a practice of the past."

"It is my opinion that a fuller airing of this incident would contribute to ending hazing," Fort said.

Siggs said in a telephone interview from Pennsylvania that the national office was notified by TCU that a for-

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Vendor proposals: food for thought

By SCOTT HUNT
Staff Writer

The Food Service Selection Committee hopes the old adage about good things coming to those who wait is true.

After a meeting last Wednesday that set the foundation for selecting a vendor, the committee finds itself with not much to do but wait for the proposals to roll in.

At the meeting, the committee set the criteria that will be used to determine the new food service vendor.

Don Mills, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, said the new vendor would be selected on the basis of:

- diversity of menu
- the vendor's marketing plan - "We're trying to get the companies to show if they will provide specials and appeal to students like restaurants do," Mills said.
- the nutrition program
- sanitary and safety programs
- degree of creativity and innovation presented by the corporation - "We want to get a sense of how the company views itself," Mills said.
- the staffing pattern - Mills said this addressed how the proposed vendor would deploy its management and how it would run the campus food service.

- the catering plan
- the prior experience and history of the company - Mills said TCU will consult with previous clients to see why they changed vendors as well as consult with current clients to discover what each vendor does well.

- the strength of the company's ability to meet the TCU community's needs - This will include an "overall feeling" about the individual vendor, Mills said.

- the training and supervision plan of the employees - How the employees will be trained initially and ongoing training will play a role, Mills said. Also, the committee will look to see how the vendor plans to supervise these employees. "Will one guy su-

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Selection to involve committee

By TY WALKER
Staff Writer

Student input should not be excluded from the upcoming food service proposal bidding, said Michael Kerner, at his first meeting as chairman of the food service sub-committee of the Student House of Representatives on Monday.

"I want to make people aware that this committee has a lot to say about food service, and it can help steer the selection committee's proposal choice," Kerner said.

Kerner, a senior political science major who served on the committee last semester, was appointed chairman on February 14, after Michael Whitehurst resigned the position.

Whitehurst will serve on the screening committee that will examine food service proposals from Marriott Food Service and eight other corporations in March.

Kerner, who has previously worked as general manager at a local restaurant, said he joined the sub-committee because he felt he could provide quality input and constructive criticism.

Kerner said a main focus of the food service sub-committee this semester will be the upcoming proposal bids. The committee plans to present student critiques and recommendations to the selection committee, he said.

See Food, Page 2



Charlesanna Langston takes advantage of the break in the rain to go fishing in the Trinity River across from the paddle-boat docks Monday.

TCU Daily Skiff / Julie Barnhouse

Committee backs South African student

By ROBIN NOBLE
Staff Writer

At a time when the TCU community has become divided over the issue of divestment from South Africa, one TCU committee is making a difference in a black South African woman's life.

After more than two years of fundraising efforts, the TCU Black South African Scholarship Committee will give financial aid to Beulah Mathews, a native South African woman, in her quest to become a doctor.

"We wanted to find a response to apartheid that wasn't so controversial," said John Rodenberg, who has

been involved with the committee since it was formed in the fall of 1987.

South African citizens who are "academically capable" of a college education can receive support for their basic educational expenses. The committee will also help with other costs like books, fees and living expenses, Rodenberg said.

The committee, which includes nine members, had raised about \$6,000 when it started looking for possible organizations through which to channel its money into South Africa.

The Open Society Scholars Fund, a New York City-based organization, was chosen, Rodenberg said. OSSF is

an organization that serves as a sort of "middle man" between American universities and black South African students.

"Only 2 percent of the blacks in South Africa go on to higher education because they can't afford the costs," Rodenberg said. "Through OSSF, we can give this money to blacks in South Africa so they can get an education and hopefully make the situation there better."

Matthews eventually wants to work in obstetrics and gynecology after receiving her degree. The committee has provided information that says the ratio of physicians to patients in South Africa for blacks is one to 19,000, while the ratio for whites is one to

330.

Rodenberg said members of the committee feel the money they're sending will not only help with the medical crisis, but also with another crisis: half of all black South African children die before the age of five.

The TCU Black South African Committee raises money through contributions from students, faculty, student organizations and others related to TCU.

"The response hasn't been overwhelming, but many people have been concerned and willing to donate," Rodenberg said. "We've done very well in the past and many of the (TCU) trustees have been very supportive."

Dallas imam speaks at Malcolm X tribute

By JENNIFER DOLT
Staff Writer

Malcolm X was perhaps the most misunderstood African-American leader, said Yahya Abdullah in a tribute to Malcolm X Monday night in the Student Center Woodson Room.

Abdullah is imam, or leader, of Dallas' mosque and a former member of the Nation of Islam, which is a black militant organization associated with Islam.

Abdullah traced the life of Malcolm X and his contributions to the Moslem religion. The tribute was in celebration of Black History Month.

Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little in 1925, is most remembered as a leader of militant civil rights activists in the early 1960s.

"He was their voice of anger, voice of frustration, voice of disgust. He was their African prince," Abdullah said. Malcolm first experienced racial bitterness in the eighth grade when he was one of few African-Americans in his class, Abdullah said.

"He told his English teacher that he wanted to be a lawyer, and his teacher laughed and said, 'Be realis-

tic. Niggers don't be lawyers. They're good with their hands. Why don't you be a carpenter?'" Abdullah said.

Malcolm changed from that moment and became bitter toward European-Americans, Abdullah said.

Malcolm quit school and went to live with his sister in Boston, where he was frequently in trouble with the law, he said.

He was further exposed to criminal life in Detroit, where he was put in prison, he said.

Malcolm became a Moslem in 1952 when he was paroled, and he started to teach as a student minister.

Under the guidance of Nation of Islam leader Elijah Muhammad, Malcolm founded temples in Boston, Philadelphia and New York City and served as a spokesman from a militant perspective, Abdullah said.

Problems started in 1961 when Malcolm lost confidence in Muhammad and the Nation of Islam because of Muhammad's polygamous practices, he said.

In 1963, Malcolm's commitment to the Moslem church was broken after his notorious comment about the assassination of President Kennedy,



Yahya Abdullah

he said.

His comment, "It's like the chickens coming home to roost," was his downfall, Abdullah said.

Muhammad attacked Malcolm publicly, and Malcolm began to receive death threats from members of the Nation of Islam, he said.

Malcolm X was assassinated 24 years ago Tuesday during a rally of his followers in New York.

"I admire Malcolm the most because he was a man with his life on the line, and he didn't run, cry like a baby or crawl on the floor," Abdullah said. "He went on and took the inevitable."

Islam visits Carr Chapel for the day

By JULIA STEWART
Staff Writer

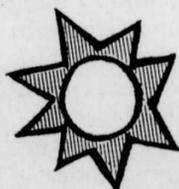
Campus Christian Community is changing its weekly ecumenical chapel service this week to a traditional Moslem service to commemorate Black History Month.

The sermon will be given at noon today in Robert Carr Chapel by Hatim Hamidullah, an Imam from Fort Worth.

Preparations for the service were made by the task force worship committee of Campus Christian Community, said committee chairwoman Carla Jo Bonner.

"We discussed things like if the chapel would need to be moved around. Luckily, the chapel does face east, so we know we won't have to turn our bodies toward Mecca in prayer," Bonner said.

University Minister John Butler said Campus Christian Community tries to include different types of worship in its services each year.

Inside	
Ouch	Food service employee injured Page 2
X misses the spot	Tribute to activist inappropriate Page 3
Stampede	Students rush to Rickel to prepare for spring break Page 4
Outside	
	
Today's weather is mostly clear with highs near 50, lows in the mid 20s and winds from the north at 10-15 mph.	
Thursday's weather will be mostly clear with highs in the upper 50s.	

House vote gives funds for guide

By MELINDA HARTMAN
Staff Writer

The House of Student Representatives passed, without debate, a bill to fund the Frog Finder Publication for fall 1989 with \$1,450.

Frog Finder provides a description of some TCU courses to aid students in selecting their classes.

"This semester it will be mainly focusing on the core and aimed at freshmen and sophomores," said Laura Chance, Frog Finder Ad Hoc Committee chairwoman.

The bill presented last week to provide \$2,000 to purchase a new Super Frog costume will be kept in the Finance Committee for another week to gather more information, said Tom Ivester, treasurer of the House.

The Finance Committee is also holding the bill to give Alpha Epsilon Rho, the national broadcasting fraternity, \$425 to send five members to the national conference in Las Vegas.

CAMPUSlines

Intramural wrestling deadline Friday. Meet will be March 1 and 2. Individuals may register at Recreational Sports, Rickel Building Room 229.

Intramural tennis doubles deadline Friday. Competition will begin March 5. Individuals may register at Recreational Sports, Rickel Building Room 229.

Intramural basketball finals Sunday in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Women's finals at 2 p.m. Coed at 3 p.m. and men's at 4 p.m. Spectators are welcome.

Sports All-Nighter March 3 from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Deadline will beball, kickball and wallyball is Friday. Teams may register at the Recreational Sports Office, Rickel Building, Room 229. Registration for all other events can be done at the All-Nighter.

Tom Brown Condom Committee fourt' sester celebration. For information see Tom Brown Room 217 or call 924-9083.

"Jouons des jeux en Francais" jeux francais aujourd'hui a 19:00 du soir chez MariCarmen Eroles. For information call 92-4462 or 923-7447.

Athletic department is selling used equipment, including football, baseball and some track equipment, at 1 p.m. today through Friday in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

TCU Hunger Week meeting at 3 p.m. on Thursday in Student Center Room 203. For information call 921-7830.

Student Center Music Series presents Chip Christ, playing classical guitar music. Performance at noon on Thursday in the Student Center Lounge.

Major Decisions A workshop series dealing with the major career choice process. Two sections offered: February 27, March 1, 2 at 6:30-8:00 p.m. or March 6, 8, 9 at 3:30 -5:00 p.m.. You must sign up in advance. For information call Center for Academic Services, 921-7456.

OLAS - meeting at 5:15 p.m. on Monday in the Student Center Room 203.

Extras needed for "Post Mortem," a horror comedy. Anyone interested in a minor part should call John Harvey, director, at 926-6530 to set up an appointment.

To announce an upcoming event in CAMPUSlines, send information to TCU P.O. Box 32930 or deliver information to the Skiff office, Moudy Building Room 291S before 1 p.m. Include name and phone number.

Marriott employee fractures ankle

By TY WALKER
Staff Writer

A Marriott Food Service employee fractured her ankle Monday night when she fell from a stool while working in the Student Center Cafeteria.

Vivian Sosa, a cashier, fell on her ankle after the stool she was sitting on broke, said Mark Washburn, manager of the Student Center Cafeteria.

"We don't know why the stool broke; it's less than a year old," Washburn said. "But we'll look into it and make sure it won't happen again."

Washburn said he immediately called 911 and the campus police after Sosa fell, and then notified Charles Peveler, assistant to the director of housing, and Jim Bitenc, the Marriott resident district manager.

"(Sosa's) fractured ankle is the only injury we're aware of at this moment," Washburn said. "At this point we don't know how long she'll be in the hospital."

Sosa was taken by ambulance to St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth. Washburn and Terry Hooten, a service manager for Marriott, accompanied her to the hospital, Washburn said.

Liz Morris, a secretary on the



TCU Daily Skiff / Rob Robbins

Marriott Food Service employee Vivian Sosa is given aid from firefighters and paramedics after being injured Monday night in the Student Center Cafeteria.

orthopedics floor at St. Joseph's Hospital, said Sosa is doing well.

"She's going into surgery tomorrow to correct her fractured ankle," Morris said.

Morris said she didn't know how long Sosa will have to remain in the hospital.

"It's (the accident) a shame," Wash-

burn said. "Everyone feels much sympathy for her. She is a popular employee with students as well as other employees and managers."

Washburn said Marriott will give Sosa time off to recuperate.

Sosa has worked as a cashier at TCU since 1984.

Steve Kintigh, SOC member and director of recreational sports, said Barr clearly explained the policy to the committee.

"I'm just doing as instructed by university policy," Kintigh said. "I'm not in a position to talk about the situation. She (Barr) said she would be happy to consider a recommendation by the SOC to possibly change the policy in regards to organizations."

Kintigh said the situation appears awkward for SOC members because the national organization has already disciplined the fraternity.

"Dr. Barr did explain this policy was in place before she arrived," Kintigh said. "It's not my intent or anyone else's to cover up or bury. I think the SOC will talk about the policy later."

Act/ from Page 1

"In this case, we have chosen to adhere to the Buckley Amendment."

Under the 1974 act, also known as the Buckley Amendment, students' educational, financial, medical and other personal records cannot be released to a third party without written consent of the students or their families. The act does not refer to organizations.

The Buckley Amendment also prohibits public access to judicial proceedings for individuals. The university has also extended protection to official groups and organizations in its policy statement.

Maryben Ramsey, an Austin attor-

ney whose firm represents the Texas Press Association, said organizations do not share the same rights to privacy that individuals do. The Buckley Amendment cannot be interpreted as giving privacy to campus groups, she said.

"Only individuals have rights of privacy - corporations and organizations don't," Ramsey said. "Sweeping it over like that is really improper. A fraternity is not an individual."

"It's their (the university's) prerogative to just say no, but this reasoning (the Buckley Amendment) doesn't stand up," Ramsey said. "Instead of citing what they think is an authority of the law, they should show where it says organizations have a right to privacy. Either they don't know any better, or they hope you'll believe it."

Hazing/ from Page 1

mal complaint had been filed against the Phi Kaps regarding hazing.

"The university is upholding its confidentiality rule not to reveal who made the formal complaint," Laverty said.

John Rice, Interfraternity Council treasurer, said that his understanding is that someone communicated to TCU that hazing had occurred in the chapter.

"From what I understand, somebody wrote a letter or made a phone call to Peggy Barr and the administration and explained in detail what went on and basically annihilated the chapter," he said.

The SOC began investigating the incident about a month ago, Fort said.

"They were hazing. They got caught. There's no debate," Rice said.

"There was mental hazing going on that is contrary to the laws and policies of Phi Kappa Sigma," Siggs said.

Mental hazing is any form of verbal abuse, intimidation or degradation, Laverty said.

According to the University Handbook, "The university defines hazing as any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule."

Ryan Daufenbach, TCU Phi Kap president, would not give any specifics about the hazing or which members were suspended, but he said this is the first time the chapter has been disciplined for hazing.

"The fraternity won't put up with any hazing, so I think the fraternity has taken a turn for the better, and I don't think there's any room in the Greek system for hazing," he said.

One Phi Kap member who wished to remain anonymous said this incident has brought the chapter closer together and has "rid it of the cancer."

Vendor/ from Page 1

pervise 30, or will one guy supervise 10?" Mills said.

- the financial plan of the company
- the cost proposed to students - Mills said the financial plan and the cost to students would be related. "We want to see how they plan to structure finances and see how that will affect the cost of food items to students."

Food/ from Page 1

"We want to go to the selection committee with student guidelines to be taken into consideration," he said. "I've seen decisions made before where students didn't have a voice. Students will have a voice through our committee," he said.

The sub-committee plans to provide a food criteria questionnaire for TCU students sometime next week, Kermer said.

Other objectives for the sub-committee include continuing communication with Marriott Food Service and setting standards for food quality, Kermer said.

The agenda of Monday's meeting entailed complaints, compliments and suggestions about the food service facilities in the four campus cafeterias. Complaints were lodged against food quality, cafeteria congestion and attitudes of some employees

- the quality of service proposed to students - "Are they going to meet the students' needs?" Mills said.

- the vendor's understanding of TCU and the lifestyle of the students - "We want to make sure they don't have a canned program that they use at campus X and campus Y," Mills said.

- an assessment of the vendor's evaluation of TCU's facilities - This would include any changes the vendor would like to make in the facilities, Mills said.

in The Pit.

Larry DeVoto, a new training manager, will be training employees on attitude and customer relations, said Vern Johnson, a visiting Marriott Food Service director from Arizona State University.

Compliments voiced were about the new yogurt machine in the Student Center Cafeteria, the new appearance of The Pit and the employees in the Student Center and Eden's cafeterias.

"The worker attitude in the Main (Student Center Cafeteria) is commendable," said David Hatchell, a sophomore arts and science pre-major. "They're very cheerful," he said.

Suggestions were made about providing water machines like the one in the Student Center Cafeteria for The Pit and Eden's cafeteria.

The food service sub-committee meets bi-weekly at 3:30 p.m. in the Student Center Cafeteria.

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The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 500 words. Letters should be turned in two days before publication. They must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject any unacceptable letters.

Commentary

Our View Saluting Malcolm X was an unwise choice

With a multitude of black leaders and historical figures who deserve honor to choose from, it is disturbing that the organizers of Black History Month at TCU chose to salute Malcolm X. Yahya Abdullah, the Imam (religious leader) of the Moslem Mosque in Dallas, presented a talk titled "A Salute to Malcolm X" Monday in the Woodson Room of the Student Center. He recounted much of Malcolm's life story, which has been distorted in retelling by his admirers and revilers alike. Malcolm's voice helped many blacks to discover pride in themselves. However, the way he did it is not something that can be honored. Malcolm was a street hustler. He sold marijuana, pimped for black prostitutes and was later convicted of a string of burglaries. In prison, he heard the message preached by the Nation of Islam, a black militant organization which allied itself with Islam. He converted, educated himself in the prison library and became one of the leaders of the black militant movement in the early 1960s. He was infamous for his outrageous comments and his preaching of violent methods to black power. As a leader in the Nation of Islam, he preached that the white man was the devil and that blacks should separate from society.

He preached hatred of "whitey" and vigorously attacked college-educated blacks for compromising with white society. He brilliantly used the press to promote his message, feeding reporters such quotes as "If ballots won't work, bullets will." He once said God had answered a prayer when a plane crash in France killed 121 whites from Georgia. Abdullah pointed out that Malcolm changed near the end of his life. When he saw on a pilgrimage to Mecca that true Islamic faith encompasses all races, he realized that the Nation of Islam was not preaching real Islamic principles.

There is no way to judge what Malcolm's life would have been like after his change of attitude, nor is there any way to know whether it would have endured. Malcolm himself said that his life had been only a series of changes.

Abdullah said that Malcolm's preaching of hatred and violence was not his own, but a philosophy he had adopted from Elijah Muhammed, leader of the Nation of Islam. But while we may pity people for being deceived, we should not honor them for it.

Though he may have realized his errors, Malcolm X was a catalyst for violence, rage and the infliction of a lot of pain and hurt. There are other black leaders far more deserving of being honored during the celebration of Black History Month.

Malcolm X was a prominent figure in a pivotal era in black history. Because of this, and because both those who love Malcolm and those who hate him are often mistaken in their images of him, giving a true picture of his life might be a worthwhile subject for Black History Month.

Saluting him, unfortunately, is not.

Taxes, not racism caused Duke's win

By AISHA SALEEM
Columnist



Yes, a former grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan barely beat a homebuilder Saturday. No, it was not another brutal attack against minorities. It was a Louisiana Legislature election, though the way people are acting, it may as well have been the former.

The election has received international attention, and many people have expressed outrage that David Duke could have won a legislative seat.

Even here, students have been talking about the district that elected a former Klan member.

In a nation boasting democracy, any citizen should be able to run for any office. Though many people may not like it, it is a privilege to have such a right, and few countries can truly admit they have it.

The real outrage should be that in almost any suburb in the United States with a small minority population, candidates like Duke have strong chances of winning political seats.

If they really thought about it, most of the people in Metairie, La., probably do not oppose civil rights and equal protection for minorities, though it is possible that they do.

Most of the people in that suburb of New Orleans were probably thinking about something that hit closer to home - property taxes.

To support taxes these days has to be one of the worst campaign strategies anyone could make while running for an office, regardless of whether or not there may be a need for it.

Mondale did it in the presidential race four years ago and lost. Bush opposed a tax increase in the 1988 election and won.

Duke's opponent, John Treen took the chance and lost the race.

Though he showed support for revising the state tax code, the voters equated it with a tax increase.

Few people will support a tax increase if they do not have to do it. Duke gave those Louisiana voters that choice.

If the Louisiana state tax code needs revision, those who oppose it only delay the inevitable. In the process, they make sacrifices that could lead to extremely negative consequences.

Duke said he regrets his involvement in the Ku Klux Klan because people may think he is racially or religiously intolerant. He never denied, however, he is racially prejudiced.

He also did not deny that he may be religiously intolerant. He just regrets it.

Duke did not leave the Klan because he found it socially wrong. He got kicked out.

Duke did not try to enlighten himself after that. Instead, he formed the National Association for the Advancement of White People, a civil rights organization.

He found a need for an organization to protect the rights of the majority group that has determined everyone else's rights in this country for more than 200 years.

In avoiding a tax increase, those Louisiana voters may not have completely thrown their morals out the window.

Treen was a member of the State's Rights Party of Louisiana in the 1950s. He said the group was not formed to be racist, though many members were segregationists. Some choice.



Letters to the Editor

Publish and prosper

Your editorial of Feb. 17 posed a question that has been bandied about among faculty for some time. Notions about the "true purpose" of a university seem to vary in a distressingly awkward way.

The literature promoting Texas Christian University expresses those aspects of the university philosophy which are particularly important to prospective students. It is not surprising many entering students are surprised to discover there are other things in the university philosophy that do not show up in the literature.

It does not mean students have been led to believe something about the university that is, in fact, not true. TCU clearly embodies the "true purpose" of a university.

The institution expects us all (faculty as well as students) to learn as much as we can about as many things as possible during the time we are here. A faculty member who does not continue to learn is regarded in the same way a student is regarded when he/she does not learn.

Knowledge in an individual has a useful half-life of finite length. If it is not nurtured and continuously supplemented, it soon becomes irrelevant, or it is submerged in a sea of new discoveries.

There is only one way to prevent this decay in one's useful knowledge. We cannot conceive of the Ph. D. degree as a certification that one's fund of knowledge is complete. We regard the Ph. D. as a certification of our capacity to benefit from future study without external motivations and without external direction.

If one does not continue to study, that certification is negated, and one loses the primary qualification of faculty tenure.

The two most important things a faculty can do for students is to demonstrate as forcefully as possible that learning is a life-long process and to prepare students for self-directed learning. It is not possible for a faculty member to do these things without demonstrating his or her own capacity for self-directed learning.

Publications are no more than concrete evidence that a faculty member is capable of passing along a learning skill to students. Thus, "research" and publications are as important to students as they are to the university.

Students should understand research and publication are part of what certifies a faculty member's qualifications to appear at the head of a class. The quality of instruction is directly related to the faculty member's research and publication activity.

TCU recognizes this aspect of

faculty certification by rewarding those faculty members who are particularly well-prepared to deliver a quality education to students. The phrase "publish or perish" is used to denigrate the practice of research and publishing.

TCU offers a program of "publish and prosper" which is fully in keeping with the "true purpose" of a university. Without such a reward system, the quality of education at TCU would certainly languish and would eventually disappear.

If you are willing to spend your hard-earned money to see a motion picture simply because its stars or manufacturers have won Academy Awards, you should do the same in selecting your courses, which are much more important to your future. Awards are given movie-makers on the judgment of their peers.

Publications also are given faculty members on the judgment of their peers. It makes no sense to give weight to one of these judgments and to deny the significance of the other.

To deny faculty members an opportunity to research is to deny future generations of students any hope for a quality education.

C. Richard Waits
Professor of Economics
Three other professors signed this letter.

House finances

I am writing to rebut Jerry Madden's Feb. 15 column "Stop Giving Money Out to Everyone," which makes the claim that the Student House of Representatives does just that. Madden said he would like to see the House revise its funding policies to better serve the campus body "as a whole" rather than funding specific student organizations individually.

First, let's set the record straight on the House's recent "give-aways." As Madden should know from former membership, the Army ROTC drill team is a highly visible representative of TCU, appearing in seven parades and color guards last year.

The team was invited for a fifth consecutive year to perform in the Mardi Gras parade and asked the House to provide funds for the purchase of two vital parts of their uniforms. This was a request totaling a whopping \$8 a member.

What he overlooked is the fact the drill team picked up all travel expenses, boarding and food costs for the three-day, 1000-mile trip.

The pre-medical fraternity Alpha Epsilon Delta, also an active organization on campus, simply asked the House to help pay little over one-third of the cost of their 10th anniversary banquet, to which the

House complied, as it probably will in 1999 when this request comes up again.

As for the last of his above mentioned give-aways, the national competition to which the House sent the flag football team was the national championship of intramural flag football. Is this invitation not worthy of funding?

The allotted \$1000 covered the registration fee for the team, which included lodging for the week. We don't make our Horned Frog football players pay for their lodging on road trips, do we?

I don't think the players who might have brought us a national intramural championship should either.

With Madden's appeal for money to be spent on campus improvements, it becomes evident he did not research his topic very thoroughly, for there exists a full House committee called Permanent Improvements designated to that task alone. It is responsible for the recent and continuing improvements on the new mall, to cite the latest project, and the committee has done extensive research into the ramifications of improvements upon the Frog Fountain area as he spoke of; that idea is presently under consideration.

I do agree with him on one point in his column - it would be beneficial for the House to have a written guideline as to what types of funds shall be allocated and what types of organizations shall be eligible to receive them. The House also realized the need for this, and Finance Committee Chairman Tom Ivester is drawing up such guidelines.

The existing unwritten policy, understood by members of the House, is based on precedent requests; the House has seldom payed for travel expenses or food and often rejects requests for boarding expenses on road trips. The practice has been to provide for registration at events which give high exposure to TCU by organizations which represent the school well.

There are very few activities, if any, that benefit the "whole university" as Madden would like to see. A reduction of tuition is the only thing I can think of guaranteed to help every student at this university, for that is the only thing each one of us has in common - the fact that we are in school at TCU.

Even a reduction of tuition would hurt the university somewhere down the line; so I ask Madden what is his suggestion for "an activity that would benefit the whole university?"

I'm sure the House will be eager to fund it when he finds one.

Kent Pendleton
Sophomore
Business

They made peace and left U.S. out

By MARICARMEN EROLES
Columnist



A glimpse of peace was seen in Central America when the five presidents of the region signed a series of accords to hold open elections in Nicaragua and to close contra bases in Honduras.

For almost nine years the contra forces, supported by the United States, have constantly undermined Nicaragua's attempts to bring its economy out of the hole former dictator Anastasio Somoza left it in.

It is not a question anymore of who is in power. It is a question of Nicaraguan people starving and living in subhuman conditions because of the toll the contra war has taken on development programs.

Aides to Costa Rican President Oscar Arias said the presidents agreed to dismantle contra bases in Honduras and to relocate the contras back in Nicaragua because they are convinced Nicaragua's desperate situation will push them to introduce "democratic reform."

Hours after the accord had been signed, Washington policy-makers were still dumbfounded that the people in "those little countries down there" had taken the peace initiative in their own hands without consulting Uncle Sam.

But the contra commanders were quicker to respond. They have dismissed the accords as just another piece of paper whose promises will not be kept by the evil Sandinistas.

Nicaragua wants peace for the region and has repeatedly signed treaties issued by groups like Conatadora and people like Arias. It was the first country to sign the Esquipulas agreements and stop what little support they were offering the guerrillas in El Salvador.

The agreements call for a condemnation of all guerrilla warfare in the region. This would include the contras and the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation.

But the United States has repeatedly undermined the peace process emanating from Central America.

Adolfo Calero, a civilian member of the contra directorate, said the contras will be ready to go back to fighting, but they will not do anything that will give Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega an excuse to go back on his promise.

Fortunately, Nicaragua is not the only country that has taken peace into its own hands. Tuesday, representatives from the FMLN and the political parties of El Salvador met in Mexico to discuss the FMLN's peace proposal.

The plan proposes postponing the March 19 elections until September to allow the Democratic Convergence - a group made up of FMLN-FDR members and people who do not support the moderate-center and extreme-right parties - to organize and modify the election codes to provide a greater democratic environment for the elections.

Countries tend to be accused of not being democratic when they do not allow right-wing parties to participate, but this standard is not applied when the left is the one that is being excluded from the electoral process.

People have not questioned the lack of democracy in countries like El Salvador or Guatemala, but it exists. The fact that these countries hold elections does not give them a democratic character.

This democracy has to come from within the countries themselves, by including all parts of the political spectrum in the electoral process.

Until now, groups to the left of the political spectrum had not been allowed political participation, but El Salvador is always presented as one of the great democratic successes in Central America.

These countries showed by signing the accord in El Salvador they have attained self-determination and might be on their way to democracy.

If Nicaragua's promise and the FMLN's proposal are accepted, there is hope for solving the conflict - there is hope for peace in Central America.

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



Sports

Rickel filled with 'buffs' until break

By **ANGIE COFFMAN**
Sports Columnist

Will the real hard-core fitness buffs please stand up? You know who you are. You brave the winter air without tights. You are Walkman-less. And a brisk jog for you is six times around the Greek backwards. To you the word "Nautilus" conjures up ideas of 98-pound weaklings. Everyone knows real men and women use free weights.

If all this describes you, may you take great comfort in that which is to follow.

I, like many, decided 1989 was the year I would get back into shape - as if it were a matter of choice. This would be the year I'd lose that extra 10 pounds or so I gained my freshman year and kept as a memoir of many midnight munch runs. I'd finally play enough tennis to merit buying that six-digit Prince graphite racket I've been eyeing in Oshman's for the last year or so. The decision was easy. It can be made from any living room in America. But now I was faced with the dilemma of execution.

Being the fitness-conscious yet financially-strapped soul that I am, I ruled out those expensive, and, pardon the sarcasm, "pick-up joint," health clubs. I opted for the good ol' reliable Rickel. Hey, those are my tuition dollars, and I wouldn't want to cause any unnecessary guilt on the part of the university knowing full well I hadn't received just compensation.

So, with gym bag in hand and an undeserved confident feeling of being "smarter than the average bear" (in my best Yogi Bear voice), I hiked over to the Rickel, anxious to get started on the "new" me.

There were people everywhere. People on the rowing machine, people bench-pressing small automobiles, people staring at themselves in the mirror.

It was a madhouse. After spending 30 minutes fishing out my ID for the not-so-interested front-desk worker at the Rickel, I was shocked, appalled even, to learn that the idea I'd been so proud of was shared by every Tom, Dick and Penelope at TCU.

There were people everywhere. People on the rowing machine, people bench-pressing small automobiles, people staring at themselves in the mirror. It was like a ride at Six Flags Over Texas - "If you are not this tall you cannot ride without a parent."

Now I'm not some super-stud when it comes to muscle-tone and physique, but I have done my time on the lifecycle and a sit-up or two. Being a stockholder in the glory days of an old athletic has-been, I take quite seriously the task of conditioning. The aim I found in an informal poll of the masses who have all but taken over the gyms of America is, are you ready for this - spring break.

I know, I know, sports fans, I feel the same way. Just keep taking short breaths, and your pulse will return to normal in a few minutes. As I was saying, spring break. A week filled with people packing into overpriced motel rooms to get a few hours of precious sunlight while consuming excessive amounts of beer.

These folks spend countless hours pushing, stretching, toning, groaning just so they can look good for spring break in that new French-cut bikini they bought purposefully two sizes too small.

I can see you are obviously upset. I've definitely hit a nerve. I, like you, am distressed. First it's our health clubs and jogging tracks. What's next, our intramural horseshoe matches? We were fitness freaks when sweat was called sweat, not perspiration. Get real, we've used more Right Guard than the Dallas Cowboys (especially after last season).

Band with me sports fans. Our dignity, not to mention our flabby guts, are at stake. These are the same folks who rob us light-lunch eaters of all the lettuce in the Main cafeteria and cause the Diet Coke to be eternally lit on all campus coke machines. The call has been sounded. Mark my words, come Friday, March 17, this place will be as deserted as stock in Texas FSLIC's. But I'll be here sports fans, don't you fear. Just in case you feel the urgent need to bench-press the weight of the world, I'll be here. And I'll leave the light on.

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