

TCU Daily Skiff

Friday, February 15, 1991

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

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Wedding and education are put on hold as duty calls

By MEREDITH FANE
TCU Daily Skiff

The war in the Middle East has forced Bryan King, a private first class in the Marine reserves and former senior and political science major, to put his college education on hold.

He packed his bags and is waiting for a call that may or may not come — a call to active duty in the Marines.

King always has wanted a career in the military, but he wanted to earn a college degree before entering the service. Last summer, before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, he enlisted in the Marine Reserves, King

said.

He was training at the San Diego Military Corps Recruit Department's summer boot camp when Saddam Hussein marched his troops across the Kuwaiti border.

King felt he could not register in classes at TCU this year because of the impending possibility of being called to active duty, he said.

"Everyone that is on reserve status is on call," King said. "They told our unit, the 14th Marines Reserve Unit, not to unpack our bags, and they gave us a list of things to have ready."

"I can't tell you if I will be called because I really don't know," King

said. "But if I am called, I will replace reservists in bases in the United States who have already been called to active duty. I won't be sent to the front lines of the Persian Gulf immediately."

In a combat situation, King would perform as a field artillery radar control operator, responsible for detecting and tracking large artillery such as howitzers and "big rockets," he said.

"Being on call is kind of like being a fireman . . . I'm waiting for the bell to ring," King said. "If there is a fire, there will be despair. It's better if there is no fire, but you've still done your job."

"I want to go," he said. "I'm moti-

vated. However, I'm scared about not coming back because I have a lot going for me here."

King is engaged to be married in June of 1992 to Kelly Pratt, a sophomore social work major.

"Bryan and I have been dealing with this since it started," Pratt said. "This is what he wants. I don't want him to go, but I support him. He has to do what he has to do."

King and Pratt have not made any plans to pre-empt or postpone their wedding, King said.

"I believe that Saddam Hussein



See King, page 2 Bryan King

Jackson's lecture is postponed

By AMY BULMER
TCU Daily Skiff

Jesse Jackson Jr.'s speech at TCU was cancelled Thursday night because of a flight delay in Champaign, Ill.

Jackson's flight from Illinois was delayed by snow, and when he missed a connecting flight in St. Louis, it was determined he would not reach Dallas/Fort Worth Airport until 8:22 p.m.

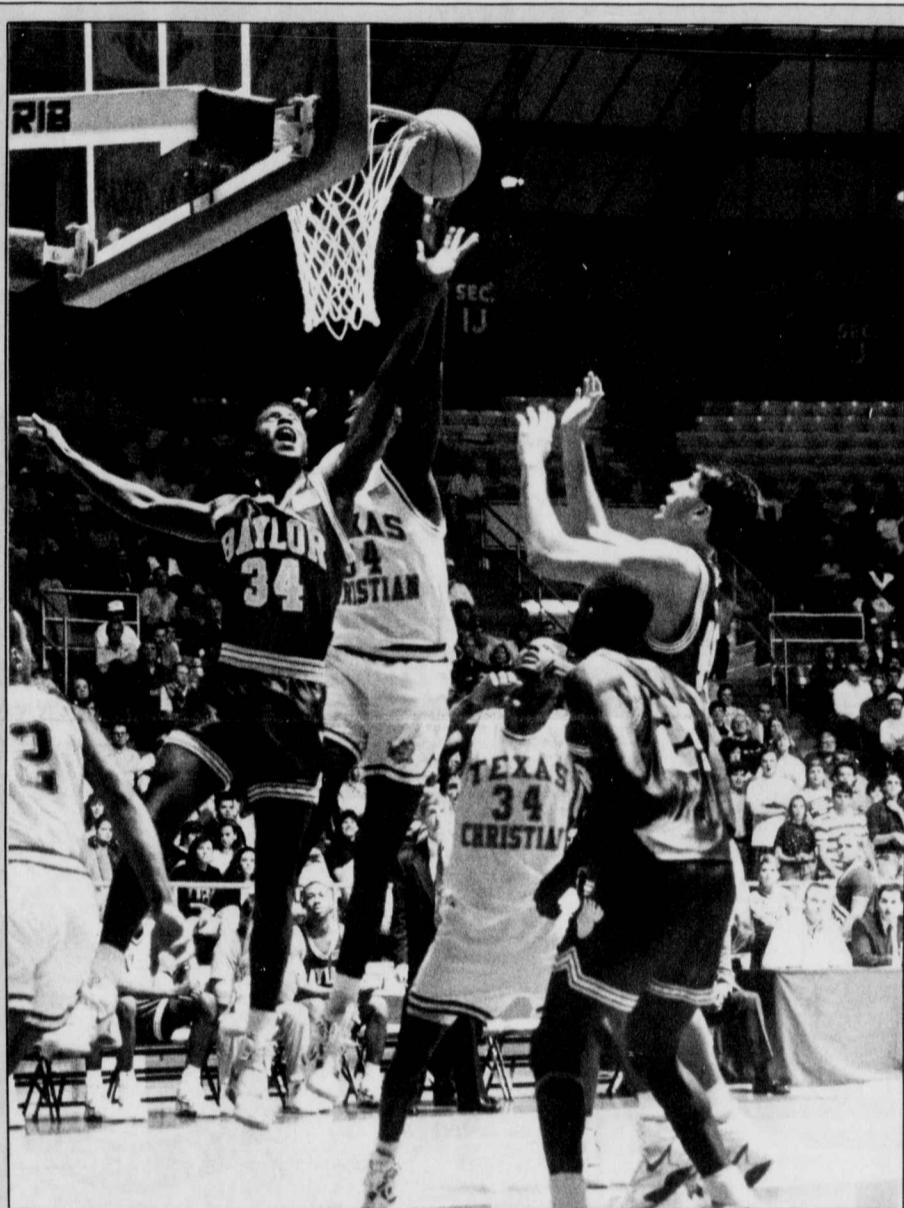
"We would've held the program at 9 p.m., but the audience would have had to sit two hours," said Jay Warren, chairman of the Forums Committee, which was to have sponsored Jackson's speech. "Also, there were about 100 middle school students who couldn't stay out that late."

All tickets for Jackson's speech will be refunded at the Student Center Information Desk, Warren said. The Forums Committee plans to reschedule the speech, he said, and the rescheduled date will be announced when it is determined.

"We'll contact his agent tomorrow and try to reschedule for sometime this month since it's Black History Month," Warren said. "We will have to work hard to reserve the ballroom again, and we might have to find a different location. We'll do what we can to get him here in February."

Action was taken to reschedule the event for tonight, but that was not compatible with Jackson's schedule, he said.

Because the cancellation was sudden, the university had little time to make an announcement, Warren said, so many from surrounding areas arrived at TCU ready for the speech.



TCU Daily Skiff/Trip Meade

Reggie Smith tips in a rebound over Baylor's Anthony Lewis (34) at Wednesday's game.

Pilots pound Iraqi targets

WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

By NEIL MacFARQUHAR
Associated Press

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia — From the Kuwait coast to central Iraq, U.S. and allied pilots pounded away at fresh targets Thursday, unimpeded by the international furor over the Baghdad bunker tragedy.

The U.S. command, in response to the death of hundreds of civilians in Wednesday's Baghdad bombing, said it was looking for new ways to limit such casualties.

The air war appeared to have made major progress. The command said one-third of Iraq's tanks and artillery in the battle zone have now been destroyed.

Strategists are believed shooting for 50-percent destruction before ordering the ground assault. The commander of British forces in the Persian Gulf, Lt. Gen. Sir Peter de la Billiere, told reporters Thursday there are already "proposed dates" for the offensive.

A fourth U.S. aircraft carrier, the USS America, has moved into the Persian Gulf, joining the Ranger, the Midway and the Theodore Roosevelt, a Pentagon source confirmed Thursday. The America had been in the Red Sea. Planes from the warships are expected to fly cover over allied troops in a ground assault.

Palestine Liberation Organization head Yasser Arafat visited the site

and pledged solidarity with Iraq. "I'm truly astonished at what has happened," he told reporters. "It has exceeded completely the mandate of the United Nations. It is a crime."

But the U.S. Air Force suffered a loss as well Thursday. The two crewmen of an EF-111 were killed when their plane went down in northern Saudi Arabia, apparently after being damaged in combat.

Two Iraqi Scud missiles fell on the isolated town of Hafr el-Batin, demolishing an auto-repair shop and house, and slightly injuring four Saudi civilians. Allied officers said the missiles apparently broke up in flight.

Body after body was pulled in grisly procession from the rubble of the underground structure bombed by U.S. warplanes early Wednesday, while it was crowded with civilians seeking refuge from air attacks.

The Iraqis said it was only a civilian bomb shelter. But U.S. officials said they had indisputable evidence, from radio intercepts, reconnaissance photos and other sources, that the concrete facility was being used as a military command-and-control center. They said they were unaware it harbored any civilians.

Outside specialists said they believed it might actually have been a two-level, dual-use bunker.

The death toll remained uncertain, in part because workers still had not reached all areas of the shattered structure.

Civil defense officials estimated more than 500 died, mostly women and children. A mortuary director said 288 bodies had been removed, including 91 children, CNN's Peter Arnett reported.

Study abroad

Enrollment rises despite war fears

By MICHELLE KING
Special to the Skiff

Despite the war in the Middle East and the threat of terrorism, enrollment in TCU's study abroad programs continues to rise.

Mary Alice Oatman, administrative activities coordinator for Extended Education, said there had been "no drop from fear of war or terrorism." It will be up to the dean to continue or cancel the program, she said.

Applications continued after Jan. 14 — enrollment increased from 12 to 22 people for TCU at Oxford, Oatman said. The beginning air fare war will definitely help with the increase of program interest, she said.

Overall, the enrollment is still lagging in comparison to previous years, said Roberta Corder, an academic counselor with the Center for Academic Services.

"Summer applications are down at this point," said Corder. Corder said she had not heard of any concern from students already overseas.

"From what I've heard, everything is just fine," she said.

She said she thinks there is more resistance from parents than from students.

The study program planned for the South Pacific is a safer place to study and that program has lowered its

rates, Oatman said.

Many students who withdraw from the program can be assured of full refunds, excluding processing fees from departments. If the university cancels the entire program because of the war, all students will receive 100 percent refunds, she said.

Oatman said summer programs that might be affected by the war include those at Oxford, the South Pacific, Germany, Europe and Mexico.

Larry Adams, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, said he doesn't see much change in the future of the study abroad program.

"We're anticipating that those programs will go on as normal," Adams said. "We will be monitoring the situation and gathering information to keep us informed."

The university watches state department travel advisories, and keeps tabs on the situation through the administration of Regents College, he said.

Six TCU students left for Regents College on Jan. 25 as scheduled and their program is running smoothly, he said.

The deadline for registering for the summer study abroad program is mid-April at the Extended Education office.

Inside

Frog fight
Frogs get ready to battle No. 3 Razorbacks.
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Out of sight
Columnist notes Reagan's absence from the limelight.
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Jazz time
German band stops at TCU.
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Outside

Today's weather will be mostly sunny and cool with a high temperature of 52 degrees.

Saturday's weather will be partly sunny and warmer with a high temperature of 62 degrees.



TCJC prohibits pro-peace fliers

By JAMIE McILVAIN
TCU Daily Skiff

Student members of the Texas Peace Coalition have been prohibited from distributing fliers at Tarrant County Junior College, south campus, said Chad Percy, a freshman radio-TV-communications major at TCJC and a coalition member.

The American Civil Liberties Union says it believes the students' rights are being violated.

"We definitely plan to pursue this issue if the college administration doesn't back off," said Karen Walters, president of the Fort Worth ACLU. "But we think that once the officials talk to their lawyers, the ad-

ministration will change their policy."

Donald Jackson, a professor of political science at TCU and an ACLU lawyer, has agreed to meet with TCJC officials if necessary, Walters said.

Coalition members claim the director of student activities at TCJC had approved the distribution of the fliers, but then a dean called members into his office and told them it was against TCJC policy.

"We had already discussed it with the student activities director, and he approved it," Percy said. "Basically the dean is trying to keep us from passing out anything controversial."

The students were prohibited from

distributing the fliers because violent incidents have occurred, said Mitch McEwing, dean of student development services at TCJC, south campus.

"Whenever incidents of disruption have occurred, we do have to amend how we do things," McEwing said. "I suggested to the students that they organize a debate or something where a broad spectrum of ideas could be given and put into an arena where those ideas could be appreciated and valued."

McEwing declined to relate examples of incidents, but Percy said Peace Coalition members have been

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Students may form peace group

By JAMIE McILVAIN
TCU Daily Skiff

Metropex college students are gathering in hopes of forming a coalition peace group.

Peace groups from several campuses will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 27 at the University of Texas at Arlington student center, said Karen Krueger, external vice president of the Progressive Students Union at UTA.

"We are getting together with other student organizations in the North East Texas area to see about possibly forming a coalition against

the war," Krueger said.

At the coalition's first meeting, representatives from peace groups at Southern Methodist University, University of North Texas, Richland Community College and Cedar Creek Community College attended, said Eric Almendral, founder of the union at UTA.

Students who have expressed interest in joining the proposed Peace and Social Justice committee of TCU will be notified of the meeting in case a member might want to go, said Collette Connelly-Castillo, committee

facilitator.

Planning a Middle East crisis forum, tentatively scheduled for March 6 at UTA, will be discussed at the coalition meeting, Krueger said.

Coalition members say they want more emphasis on debate than protest.

"At least among the college students in the peace movement," Almendral said, "there is a move away from protest and toward forums, debates, speakers and things like that. We want to get over the Vietnam stigma."

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CAMPUSlines

Ballet and Modern Dance department will present a brown bag performance at noon Monday in the Student Center Ballroom. Admission is free.

Golden Key Honor Society will hold its first meeting of the semester at 5 p.m. Sunday in Student Center Rooms 205-206.

"Fisheries and Fishing in Lake Manzalah, Egypt" will be the topic of a lecture by visiting professor Chehab Hosny of the department of Oceanography at the University of Alexandria in Egypt from noon to 1 p.m. today in Sid Richardson Building Lecture Hall 4.

TCJC/ from page 1

spit on by other TCJC students. "Support the Troops. Resist the War," was written on the flyers, with the date, time, and place of the rally and a quote by Thomas Jefferson, Percy said. Texas Peace Coalition members may distribute materials at meetings, but may not distribute materials in public, McEwing said.

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Jim Lollar
Attorney
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King/ from page 1

should be stopped — period," King said. "I'm sorry civilians have to pay for his mistakes. It's a touchy situation. Bush has handled it well." "Don't not support the troops," he said. "Viet Nam is not going to happen again. Servicemen won't take criticism well. I couldn't handle going to war and coming back and having a hippie spit in my face... he

wouldn't spit again." "War is not pretty," he said. "In order to save our freedom, lives are going to be lost. To get the freedom we've got, a lot of lives were lost in the civil war and revolution." "I think that this will be over in a few months," he said. "But something worth having is worth working for."



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	4:15 p.m.*		4:15 p.m.*		
5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.		
6:15 p.m.	6:15 p.m.	6:15 p.m.	6:15 p.m.		6:15 p.m.
8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.		

*STRETCH AND TONE All others are aerobics.

Opinion

TCU Daily Skiff

All-American
newspaper

Associated Collegiate Press

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Letters to the Editor

Art and critics

On Feb. 15, 1913, an art exhibit premiered featuring Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, Henri Matisse, Vincent van Gogh and Paul Cezanne. The critics tore it apart. They called Matisse a sexual pervert, van Gogh a schizophrenic psychotic, Cezanne a shabby French bum. Picasso and Braque's works elicited much laughter; the room where their works were shown was dubbed a "chamber of horrors."

Today we hold Picasso, Braque (and many others) in the highest regard. Matisse is noted for his beautiful, simplistic figures done at death's door when he did not even have the strength to get out of bed. Consider Jazz, the album cover for Wynton Marsalis' "The Majesty of the Blues." Today this is revered by art critics everywhere. Picasso, Braque, van Gogh, Cezanne are no different. These artists (as well as others) were ridiculed in their time, but they aren't now. What about the artists of today that are causing so much controversy like Andres Serrano (*Piss Christ*), Robert Mapplethorpe and Joel Peter-Witkin? How will we regard them in 100 years?

We attack this art, this art that aspires to seriousness, and yet we do nothing about TV advertising.

"Science is meant to reassure, art is meant to disturb." —Georges Braque
 "What is inside oneself 'will out'; for me, for instance, it is a relief to paint a picture and without it I should be much more miserable than I am." —Vincent van Gogh

"A painter paints to unload himself of feelings and vision." —Pablo Picasso
 "If it's art, it's art; if it's not, who cares?" —Pablo Picasso

"In talking to Congressmen it seemed ironic that by attempting to purify minority art, the kind that aspires to seriousness, we will leave the field more thoroughly cleared for the non-governmentally funded mass junk — the videos, movies, and girlie magazines and yes, a lot of TV advertising on which this country veritably floats. Of course, nobody is going to attempt to purify low art, no doubt for the democratic reason that no politician is crazy enough to mess with the real high-stench garbage that amuses most voters." —Arthur Miller (1991)

Chrissy Green
 Sophomore
 Studio art

Conformist thought

After reading the Feb. 13 article about the Housing Office drafting a new sign policy and also the *Skiff's* response, I felt compelled to write.

When I first visited TCU during my senior year in high school, I talked with various students about the concerns of the campus population. I was told there wasn't much dissent on campus, TCU just has a pretty-laid back student body. Which for the overwhelming majority, has proven to be true.

People not from TCU but from Fort Worth that I talked to while visiting stereotyped the students as narrow-minded rich kids. Perhaps it is the fault of the admittance staff for accidentally letting in a few people with liberal opinions, or, more generally, opinions that differ from those of the administration.

Because instead of encouraging students to express their opinions freely, which would aid intellectual inquiry and discussion, the administration wishes only for people to express their opinions in a "positive manner." The fact that a student on this campus might actually have negative feelings toward world events must be simply abhorrent to the Housing Office.

The fact that the "Housing Handbook" states you can't drape things out your window because they could fall or get in someone's way, but has made an excep-

tion for U.S. flags; that lights cannot be placed in windows because they are a fire hazards, but an exception has been made for Homecoming and Christmas lights; and that a sign that can be read from the street cannot be placed in the window, with an exception being made for "welcome home" signs show that these rules are not really created for the safety of the students, but instead as an aid to the administration in promoting conformist thought.

A big question is, when did the TCU administration decide that peace is not a "positive" thing. It is sad that, because our country is at war, a student cannot hang a flag in their window and have it represent peace. Peace is such a hard thing to achieve; a student obviously cannot achieve it by simply hanging a sign in their window. By the fact that students doing so has caused so much turmoil is proof of that. The least our students should be allowed to have is peace of mind by expressing their opinions freely.

Kristina Starke
 Freshman
 Political Science

Protest harmful

Let me first say I believe protesters have every right to voice their opinion, but I am enraged by the attention-seeking, self-righteous ones who hide behind the troops to do so.

I agree with Hertzog to an extent. You cannot support the troops and protest the war. Like it or not the troops are there, fighting and unfortunately, dying. Any form of protest is harmful to their morale and drive. This, of course, affects their performance and, in turn, their lives. Protest hurts. They need to see our support, to know they won't be sentenced to a life as an outcast by heartless and unfeeling protestors as were our brave soldiers in Vietnam. I am not saying you do not have the right to protest, please do so, but don't hide behind our soldiers to do it.

One thing I keep hearing is that President Bush is being inconsistent. Why did he not send troops into places like Tiananmen Square or Lithuania? If you would do your research before you open your mouth, you would know why. I can't believe these are even being compared. These were not acts of a dictator marching into another country to take it over with plans to take over another and possibly another.

Yes, innocent people were killed, and I am sorry, but these people were rising up against their own, established government. In each case, it was a poorly planned and poorly organized war, started by the people and stopped or hindered by the government that saw them as a threat.

We obviously cannot assist in an overthrow of an established government without repercussions from the United Nations and probably the rest of the world. Although we may not agree with the method, we cannot enforce our policy or beliefs on another country because they chose not to allow an overthrow of their government.

If we marched into Tiananmen Square, helped the young protesters overthrow the present government and established one according to our beliefs, would this make us any better than Saddam? We would be, in essence, doing the same thing; overthrowing a government to replace it with our own. Everyone seems to be forgetting we are not alone. The United Nations has approved every step. Cuellar himself went to Baghdad and spoke with Hussein without the slightest hint of a peaceful solution. Every day, other countries are sending more money and more troops as they are seeing what a threat Saddam is to the world. If you cannot see through the clouds, please, express your opinion, but don't insult the integrity of our nation by using our beloved soldiers as a tool for your need to be heard.

Cara Hughes
 Sophomore
 Nursing



Ego trips could be costly to Bush

By ANDY BLACK
 Columnist



I saw him for a short time last week. As president, the handsome Californian was always on the screen, offering assuring words, smiling prettily, and avoiding questions. But now, even on his 80th birthday, Ronald Reagan is relatively invisible.

In this time of intense discussion and emotion, isn't it interesting that the Great Communicator is silent? The reason lies not in any new unimportance but with his successor, the Kennebunkport Commander. George Bush has demanded Ronald Reagan have a low profile. The reasons why offer insight on our current president.

George Bush wants to be seen as a man who accomplished things by himself. He did not want to be boosted into office on anyone's coattails. During the 1988 campaign, Bush allowed Reagan the traditional national convention speech. The next morning, the outgoing president was pushed out of town quietly. In an almost costly decree of personal ego, Bush declined Reagan's help in California, a very important and contested state.

Losing your balance with self-help

By SCOTT WALLACE
 Columnist

Self-esteem. It's a subject that is everywhere today. It fills shelves in bookstores, seats in seminars and time on talk shows. It comes into our homes through the movie star declaring to the world how he or she has it all together, and through the magazine articles focusing on you — how to become everything you can be, do everything you can do and have all you can have.

The entire idea of the self has gotten a little out of hand.

Balance, it seems, should be important in life. A nation tries to balance its priorities between domestic and foreign issues.

If these things are true, it stands to reason there should be a balance within a person's life between how much he or she thinks of him or herself and others.

Self-esteem is a tough issue for a lot of people. Some have been burned so badly or ignored by others for so long that they feel like a nothing. Take a lawyer's son who grows up thinking he is a zero because neither his grades nor ambitions fall in line with what his self-made father demands of him. Maybe the son is more gifted at coaching kids than corporate law. Does this make him a person of less value?

Media guilty of sensationalism

By JONANNA WIDNER
 Columnist

America is in a great deal of trouble. There is the savings and loan crisis. The spiraling condition of the education system. Heightened racism. The environment, economy, and, of course, the war. The need to address these issues is urgent; they require the immediate attention of both the government and the American people.

Yet, with all the peril these problems promise for the country, they have been increasingly ignored and, embarrassingly, the media has a great deal to do with it. Our very own Channel Four News, for instance, has chosen to focus its "in-depth, investigative" talents on such vital issues as the phone sex business and personal want ads. The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* frequently runs sensationalistic stories about sex, drugs or gore (or some combination thereof) as lead stories, complete with huge, obnoxious headlines, leaving the important news for the second or third page.

Bush's selection of his own vice president showed the same desire to be seen as the sole winner, not as a partner. A George Bush and Robert Dole victory would have been partially attributed to Dole's strong backing, just as Dukakis and Bentsen's vote totals were undoubtedly influenced by Bentsen's public approval.

By picking Dan Quayle, Bush assured himself that all pro-Bush votes were just that, votes for George Bush. Almost nobody wanted Quayle but not Bush. Again, Bush put himself at risk to satisfy his quest to kill the image of wimpiness. If he had lost because he picked Quayle, it would have been an unnecessary mistake.

Reagan's silence now makes sense. George Bush wants to lead the nation through troubled waters by himself. But what if a tense nation could be soothed by a few words from the Great Communicator? Perhaps we would benefit from hearing the opinions of Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan.

The Soviets and Iranians each propose a settlement to the United States-Iraq war. Saddam Hussein has accepted letters and envoys of both solution-seeking delegations. Maybe Hussein would accept a third party, make a few minor demands, save face and agree to leave Kuwait.

Bush will not even consider an end to this conflict that could credit someone else. He wants history to say the George made Sad-

dam leave. The "ejection" of Iraq from Kuwait is what we're fighting for, I think. Perhaps we are flying away from a quick end that would save lives, reduce costs, achieve our goals and leave us in an acceptable political situation. We will be liked less if we do the whole job ourselves. But only that will satisfy Bush.

George Bush's "new world order" is one administered by us — politely in most times, assertively in others. Someday other nations will tire of it. And this will hurt us. A Europe that is learning to yield sovereignty could frown on public self-bolstering missions. Japan may be turned off and stop the ever-important commercial access talks. Soviet-American arms reduction progress could slow down if every milestone must be hailed as an individual Bush victory, and not a team success.

If United States-Canada-Mexico trade negotiations falter because we are perceived as arrogant rather than cooperative, our nation loses.

George Bush can be an amazing coalition builder. The unexpected cohesion of the anti-Iraqi embargo and war is solely his credit. This is a tight line he is walking. To look like a strong and independent president not needing anyone's help, he risks success. Congress, our allies and any potential friends want a position of equality, not subservience.

Take a girl whose parents always told her how pretty she was. But, when she looks at how many times she's been asked out, she concludes she must be hideously ugly. But is she really? And does her worth come from how many dates she has?

I don't think so. The greatest need most people have isn't to accomplish or be popular. It runs much deeper; it is to be loved.

But, what is love? It is reasonable to assume if a person is to love him or herself — and thus be able to love another then one must know what love is.

I once received a letter from a friend of mine in seminary who knew of my great struggle to find some sort of reason to accept myself when often my logic is my greatest adversary. Self-esteem may come easily to some but others need to be able to prove their own worth to themselves.

Basically his entire definition was a Biblical passage on love. Love, as he wrote, is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud. It is never selfish or rude.

Love, he continued, doesn't demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly notice when others do it wrong. It isn't glad with injustice, but rejoices when truth wins out.

Many of the problems in America revolve around this kind of love — or rather, the lack of it. Good and evil tend to have a chain reaction. If a man never gives a son his confidence, the son may spend his entire life at the office trying to earn it and thus neglect his own child who grows up on drugs because no one in his life cares enough to be there for him.

But many find self-esteem tough. Perhaps it is the actor whose security fluctuates from employment to unemployment. Perhaps it is a successful pro-athlete who doesn't know what to do when his knees give way. Perhaps it is a brilliant student whose grades couldn't quite get him or her into Harvard.

At any rate, it's really hard to love someone else if you can't love yourself. It's also hard if you love yourself too much. People need other people. If not for emotional support when the world turns hostile, at least for producing the bread that winds up on the dinner table.

The best marriages — the ones where the couple is crazy about each other well into their 80s — are based upon need. That is, the need to meet another's need unselfishly and generously, not to mention faithfully.

But with such emphasis on the self today, one question still remains: can one truly find one's self by being preoccupied with it?

And really, the savings and loan crisis is much too complicated to think about. We'd just as soon read about something less complex, like Madonna's latest hair color. Knowing this, the media finds it easier to sell a newspaper that reads "Drugged sex fiend arrested for jaywalking" than one that reads "Congress Lowers Education Budget." Thus, we suddenly find ourselves mired knee-deep in the deluge of non-news and tabloid journalism.

Politicians are all too aware of this mental-ity, and manipulate it to the extreme. Most Americans find out what little they know about their candidates through 30 second TV ads and sound bites. Of an entire 45 minute speech, the average person will hear, at best, one or two minutes of it on the news. Joe Blow may not know President Bush's stand on apartheid, but he damn sure knows Bush's stance on broccoli.

The frightening thing is that we as a nation are too lazy to educate ourselves about the things that are important to us, our children, our families and our world. The media and the politicians are merely giving us what we want. Sooner or later, our self-inflicted ignorance is going to catch up to us. The savings and loan crisis will start costing your average Joe big bucks in tax dollars. The toxins being poured into the air will cause our children to cough. Maybe then we'll demand more facts, and be less tolerant of pandering, *National Enquirer* type "journalism." Or maybe we'll just shrug, and say "I didn't know."

Concert to pay tribute to Bernstein

By STEPHANIE RADWAY
Special to the Skiff

The TCU Wind Ensemble's first spring concert, to be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium, will pay tribute to American composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein.

The ensemble will open with "Profanation," Bernstein, who died in October, composed primarily for orchestra, but he approved a "Profanation" transcript for wind instruments. Oboist Ashley Lewis and English horn player Amy Olgetree, both juniors, perform solos in the piece.

Robert Blanton, director of TCU bands, will conduct the ensemble. Blanton said it was unusual for the ensemble to wait until late February

to have its first concert. In past years, the group has performed in early February at music educators' conventions, but this spring it will not, he said.

"This is one of the best wind ensembles we've ever had, and because we're better prepared, we'll sound better than we ever have on a first concert," Blanton said.

The concert will not be all Bernstein. The program also includes selections from four other composers. "Shakata" by Dana Wilson is a "jazz influenced, contemporary rhythmic piece," Blanton said. The piece incorporates speaking parts and features senior flutist Hollie Grosklos and graduate student saxophonist Adam Lara.

The performance of Ingolf Dahl's

"Pastoral Nocturne" from "Sinfonietta" will feature solos from seniors Pam Becker and Laura Valenzuela on clarinet and bass clarinet, sophomore Wendy Anderson on french horn and Lara on saxophone.

Senior trumpeter Tony Yarbrough will play solos in "Colonial Song" by Percy Aldridge Grainger and Sergei Prokofieff's "March," Opus 99.

"Because the program is so varied, almost every section gets a chance to be featured, and the audience will be able to find something it likes," Blanton said.

Blanton said the ensemble will perform the program again when it tours area schools this spring.

The concert will be open to the public. Admission is free.

German jazz band to perform

By COTY LONG
TCU Daily Skiff

MERZ-Jazz, an East-German quartet basing its music on the art and poetry of Kurt Schwitters, will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 17 in Ed Landreth Auditorium as a part of its first tour of the United States and Canada.

The performance is open to the public at no charge. Further information is available at (817) 921-7810.

The Fort Worth performance at TCU is sponsored by Curt Wilson, director of the jazz studies department and Al Madenka, director of International Student Affairs.

The performers set Schwitters' poems and texts to music with electronic instruments. The performance will be an opportunity

to hear East-German jazz and expand global perception as well, Wilson said.

Tightened airline regulations brought about by the Persian Gulf War forced the group to tour without their own instruments. The electronic music department, headed by Gerald Gabel, will provide instruments for the Fort Worth performance.

MERZ-Jazz premiered in 1987 at a jazz festival in East Berlin and went on to perform for student and cabaret audiences. The group has performed extensively in East Berlin.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall the group has launched wider performance tours. The four-week tour of North America includes seven U.S. cities in Illinois, Iowa and California. The tour also includes locations in Montreal, Ot-


tawa and Ontario.

The MERZ-Jazz performers include Hans-Joachim Frank, formerly with the Brecht-Theater Berlin Ensemble; Jorg Huke, a member of the group "Fun Horns"; Hannes Zerbe, composer of film tracks, radio ad theater music; and guitarist Charlie Eitner.

The MERZ-Jazz performers take their name from Kurt "MERZ" Schwitters, a pioneer in modern art forms of assemblage and collage. Schwitters adopted MERZ as part of his own name after it appeared in one of his assemblages, cut from the printed phrase Kommerz Und Privatbank. Schwitters was also a sculptor and improvisational performer who was banned by the Nazi regime. Schwitters died in exile in England in 1948.

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TCU Daily Skiff/ John Gaetz
A bed-sheet valentine flies in the breeze near Shirley Hall on Thursday afternoon.

Showtime

Alpha Psi Omegas present plays to fund scholarship

By LEIANN SIMPSON
TCU Daily Skiff

Alpha Psi Omega will present two student productions Feb. 14 through 16 as part of the fraternity's New Play Search.

This is the first semester of the Play Search which was designed to raise funds for an Alpha Psi Omega scholarship.

"Profits from ticket sales all go into an annual scholarship fund for theater majors," said Anna Denney, a member of Alpha Psi Omega. "The amount of the scholarship depends on the amount of money raised," she said.

"Members of the honorary theater fraternity vote on the two best plays submitted by students," Denney said. "The students get their play pro-

duced, and the money the play makes goes into the scholarship fund."

Denney said that because this is the Play Search's first semester, the fraternity had few plays to choose from. The fraternity is hoping for a better response next semester, she said.

The two pieces chosen this semester are "Dolphins and Other Defenseless Creatures," written by Jennifer Thomas, a Fort Worth playwright, and "Sculpting," written by Shannon Slaton, a sophomore English major.

"Dolphins" is the story of a dysfunctional family and a young girl's attempt to make a difference in life," Thomas said. "She is able to do this by overcoming her family's lack of individuality and making something of herself."

"Sculpting" is an experimental piece attempting to show people what happens to them as they grow into their own individuality. Life's events shape our lives the way humans shape clay," Slaton said.

Slaton also had a play produced at the University Theater last semester called "A View Through the Slice of the Eye." "Dolphins" is Thomas' first attempt at getting a piece produced.

The plays will be presented at the University Theater Feb. 14 through 16 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for TCU students and faculty, and \$4 for the public. Tickets can be purchased at the University Theater Box Office, Ed Landreth Hall. Box Office hours are Monday through Friday 1 to 5 p.m.

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TCU Cadet Profile



Leigh Kyle

AGE: 21

HOME: Gambrills, MD

CLASSIFICATION: Senior, nursing major

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society, TCU scholar for two semesters, Dean's Honor List for four semesters, Daughters of American Colonists Award, Military History Award, leaders award for coordination of regimental ball.

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Splash the Horns

The TCU men's swimming and diving team battles the nationally-ranked Texas Longhorns tonight in Austin beginning at 7 p.m.



Sports



Second Service

The women's tennis team hosts Ole Miss today at 1:30 p.m. and UT-San Antonio Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The men play SMU Saturday at 1 p.m.

The last time TCU plays in Barnhill Arena means Moe Iba and the Frogs will bid the Arkansas fans



TCU Daily Skiff/ Trip Meade

TCU head coach Moe Iba (above) has not won in Barnhill Arena where his Saturday counterpart, Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson (right), has won 24 straight SWC games. The Frogs and the No. 3 Razorbacks tipoff for the last time in Fayetteville Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

Adieu

By JEFF LEA
TCU Daily Skiff

SWC schools are saying goodbye to Barnhill Arena and the Arkansas Razorbacks, and TCU will bid Fayetteville and the No. 3 Razorbacks adieu Saturday.

But rarely does an opponent have a chance to survive in Barnhill, known for great Razorback basketball and rowdy Hog fans. The Hogs have only lost one game at home this year, to No. 1 UNLV Sunday. Their only other defeat was to Arizona.

The Hogs are undefeated in the SWC this year and have won 24 straight against conference foes in Barnhill. SMU was the last team to beat the Razorbacks at home, 80-77, in 1987. TCU recorded its last victory there during the 1986 season, beating the Razorbacks, 80-77.

Their impressive home-winning streak and national rankings aren't the only intimidating things TCU will face Saturday. Hog fans have their own formula for intimidating Arkansas opponents as well.

"They have one of the best teams in the nation," said TCU head coach Moe Iba. "Arkansas' team is the intimidating factor, not the gym."

But the fact that TCU must face one of the conference's roughest crowds can be a major factor in itself.

"You can't really hear anything out on the floor, especially when they're getting dunks and three-pointers," said Kelvin Crawford, an Arkansas native. "It's hard for the team to comprehend anything from the sidelines."

"It's difficult to play up there," said Reggie Smith, who will be making his third trip to Barnhill. "It's kind of crazy up there. They have a little ring there and they pack in all those people and they get to yelling. The refs get scared and they start calling crazy calls."

But Smith, who scored 18 points in a 93-73 loss to Arkansas in Fort Worth Jan. 15, said TCU



TCU Daily Skiff/ Jim Winn

shouldn't be counted out just yet.

The Frogs are coming off one of their most critical losses of the season in overtime against Baylor Wednesday night, 77-75. That loss cluttered TCU's post-season chances as well as their shot at finishing third in the SWC and avoiding Arkansas until the SWC tournament championship game.

"It was a tough loss," said Albert Thomas, who finished with 15 points and three rebounds.

The Frogs didn't make the big plays when they needed to and lost a five-point overtime lead. Another mediocre free-throw shooting night for TCU kept Baylor in the lead most of the game. The loss was reminiscent of the Jan. 23 overtime loss in Houston, 91-88, in which the Frogs made 20 of 40 free throws and were lucky to even get to overtime.

But don't count the Frogs out just yet, Smith said.

"I'm not counting us out now," Smith said.

Frogs in hunt for SWC indoor title

By LUKE BALLOUN
TCU Daily Skiff

TCU's track teams will compete in the SWC Indoor Track and Field Championships today and Saturday at Will Rogers Coliseum, and if all goes well, the Horned Frogs could be setting themselves up for their highest national ranking ever.

Track coach John McKenzie said this year's squad has the potential to be the best in recent years because of their talent in certain events.

TCU's highest ranking has been third in the nation in 1988.

"Our philosophy is to focus on the national outlook," McKenzie said. "The SWC championships help our individual performers progress in the national spotlight."

A major strength for the Frogs

is the shotput, where Jordan Reynolds is currently leading the nation.

Reynolds has won the last two competitions he has been in and has broken his own school record this year.

Since TCU's squad is relatively smaller than other larger schools, such as Texas A&M's, it is forced to focus on fewer events and press harder for national attention.

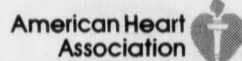
McKenzie said that the SWC indoor championships will be a springboard for the outdoor national meets, which TCU specializes in.

"Indoor meets are generally geared toward shorter sprinters," McKenzie said. "Since our sprinters are taller, we tend to do better in the outdoor meets."

"We just have to be patient and not get too anxious," McKenzie said.

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Improving scores daily lifts Lady Frogs to fourth

By JEFF SWAIN
Special to the Skiff

Led by sophomore Barbara Plant's three consistent rounds, the TCU women's golf team finished the Chris Johnson-Arizona Invitational tournament in a fourth place tie with Texas Wednesday.

Arizona won the tournament with an 883, followed by UCLA who was two strokes behind. Further back

were Arizona State at 903 and TCU and Texas tied at 916.

Plant finished the tournament 16th with a 76-75-76—227. Two strokes behind was sophomore Jane Kragh's 75-79-75—229.

Kragh said one advantage the Lady Frogs enjoyed in the tournament was that each team member had played the course before.

"You feel more comfortable out there," she said. "You know you can

score well on the course."

Junior Tricia Allen came back from a terrible first round to finish third among TCU golfers with an 84-75-73—232. Senior Kelly Paul placed fourth among the Lady Frogs with a 79-77-78—234, followed by junior Annette Kealoha's 78-82-79—239.

Paul said she was happy with the team's performance as well as her own.

"At least I played consistently," she said. "But I didn't hit the ball very well the last two days."

The Frogs shot an opening-round 308 and improved to 306 in the second round and 302 in the final round. Plant said the team's daily improvement showed that their collective game was coming together.

"All of us had good rounds, but a few bad holes each day hurt us," Kragh said.

SWC Women's Basketball

	Conf.	All
Arkansas	11-1	20-3
Texas	10-2	16-6
Texas Tech	9-3	18-5
Houston	7-4	15-7
Texas A&M	6-6	11-11
SMU	3-8	8-14
Baylor	2-9	9-12
TCU	2-9	5-17
Rice	1-10	7-14

SWC Men's Basketball

	Conf.	All
Arkansas	11-0	24-2
Texas	11-1	17-5
TCU	6-5	15-7
Houston	6-5	14-8
SMU	6-6	11-12
Rice	4-7	10-12
Texas Tech	4-8	8-17
Baylor	3-9	10-11
Texas A&M	1-11	6-17

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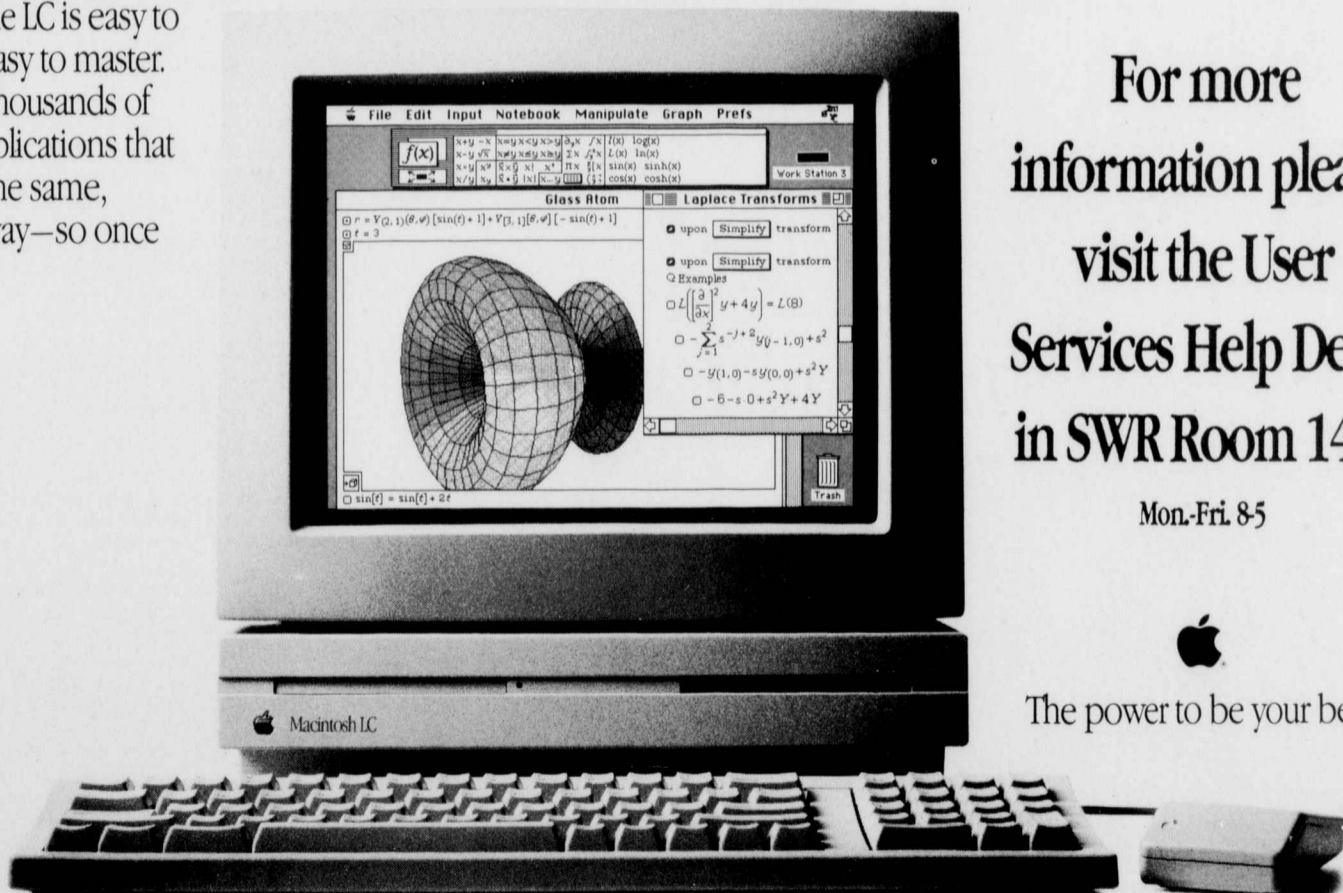
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Show Time

Friday

★ Circle Theatre presents Reggie Oliver's new British comedy "Imaginary Lines." Performances are tonight and tomorrow night at 8:15. Tickets are \$10 and \$12. Call 921-3040 for more information.

★ Get out your road map to see Lost Tribe at Arlington's The British Club tonight at 8:30. Call 277-4029 for more information.

★ The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra will perform with pianist and conductor Peter Nero tonight and tomorrow night as part of the symphony's Pop Series. The concerts start at 8 p.m. in the Tarrant County Convention Center Theatre. Tickets range from \$12 to \$22. Call 921-2676 for more information.

★ Billy Bob's Texas will host Johnny Cash tonight at 10:30. General admission is \$5. Call 624-7117 for more information.

★ Gallop to the Cowtown Coliseum for free team roping tonight at 8, Saturday morning at 10 and Sunday afternoon at 2. Call 625-1025 for more information.

★ Stage West will perform the original stage version of "Driving Miss Daisy" tonight at 8:15 and Saturday at 4:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and \$14. Call 784-9378 for more information.

★ The world-famous Rancho La Brea Ice Age fossils are touring the country in a traveling exhibition, "Treasures of the Tar Pits." The fossils are on display through April 28 at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, and admission is \$3. Call 732-1631 for more information.

★ Go to TCU's Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium tonight for a free wind ensemble recital. Call 921-7810 for more information.

Saturday

★ The contemporary folk band Lost Tribe will play in the Winter Park Festival of Acoustic Music at Hockaday Private School Saturday in Dallas. Lost Tribe will perform at 2:15 p.m. Admission is \$3. Call (214) 363-6311 for more information.

★ You'll get a chance to scoot your boots to the music of Travis Tritt Saturday night at Billy Bob's Texas. The show starts at 10:30 and general admission is \$6.50. Call 624-7117 for more information.

★ The Optimist Club of South Side Fort Worth will present a gun show at the Will Rogers Memorial Center Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 870-8150 for admission.

Sunday

★ Billy Bob's Texas will host Joe Diffy Sunday night at 10:30. General admission is \$5. Call 624-7117 for more information.

★ Lost Tribe will play at La Madeline French Bakery and Cafe Sunday at 5 p.m. Admission is free. Call 732-4655 for more information.

Box Office

★ Go to the Metroplex Arena tonight for the Special Valentine's Event: Linda Ronstadt in a concert of traditional Mexican song featuring Los Comperos de Naticanos. The doors open at 7:30.

★ Roll out the red one for the Inspiral Carpets, who'll play at Trees Saturday night. Doors open at 9 p.m.

★ Somethin' fishy is going down at Trees next week. Hot Tuna will play Monday night at 9.

★ Blow over to Trees to see the Trashcan Sinatras play Tuesday night at 9.

★ The Video Bar will host the Falling Joys Wednesday night at 8:30.

★ Get smart and go see Information Society play at Deep Ellum Live Wednesday night at 8.

★ Dave Mason will play Thursday night at 8 at Deep Ellum Live.

★ Try out The Samples at the Video Bar, Wednesday, Feb. 27. Doors open at 8:30 p.m.

★ Brighten up your day with Living Colour, who'll play with King's X, Saturday, March 9, at the Bronco Bowl Auditorium. Show time is 8 p.m.

★ The Metroplex Arena will host the Cocteau Twins Friday, March 15. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

★ Sting, with Concrete Blonde, will play Tuesday, March 26, at Reunion Arena. The show starts at 8 p.m.

★ Michael W. Smith will play with DC Talk Friday, March 29, at Reunion Arena. The concert starts at 8 p.m.

Tickets available at all Rainbow-TicketMaster and TicketQuik locations, including Sears, Sound Warehouse and select 7-Eleven stores.

Cowabunga, dude!

Ninja Turtles come out of shells with race to big screen

By SARA LEEMAN
TCU Daily Skiff

Making the big leap from comic books to the silver screen, those "heroes in the half-shell" are cowabunga-ing all the way to the bank.

The who?, you say. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles — four smart-mouthed, pizza-guzzling reptile masters of the martial arts (not to mention scholars in the art of 'surfspeak') — are the stars of the blockbuster live-action feature-film, "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," now available on home video.

Though some may panic at the thought of two hours of noise and head-bashing, the movie is merely harmless, sometimes enjoyable junk. In fact, the Ninja blows much more to do with ballet than with mayhem.

There is something disarmingly wacky about a foursome of warrior turtles named after Renaissance artists (Leonardo, Donatello, Michaelangelo and Raphael) that answer to a Japanese sensei, Splinter, who happens to be a rat.

Supposedly mutated by radioactive goop and raised by Splinter, whose gentleness and wisdom conjures up visions of Luke Skywalker's Yoda, the Turtles are on their latest mission to rid the steamy New York streets of a gang called the Foot Clan. A bunch of brainwashed, teenage throwaways, the Foot Clan is trained in martial arts by a frightening Darth Vader-inspired ninja called The Shredder.

Though Splinter's abduction by The Shredder provides the film with whatever poignancy it can muster, that development also retards the action for a long stretch, with the Turtles moping around far too passively for superheroes.

A bit too much time is also devoted to the bizarre romance of unbelievably hip TV newswoman Judith Hoag and her more-than-off-the-wall vigilante (Elias Koteas). It would have been much funnier had Hoag been a stereotypically vapid blonde anchorwoman reduced to rags by the antics of the tough-shelled quartet. And, given the Turtles' crush on her, it seems odd that they never became jealous of her strange attraction to Koteas.

The martial arts scenes, deftly choreographed by stunt coordinator Pat Johnson, are amusingly outlandish, with the screen populated by hordes of attackers that the nonchalant, graceful turtles have little trouble vanquishing.

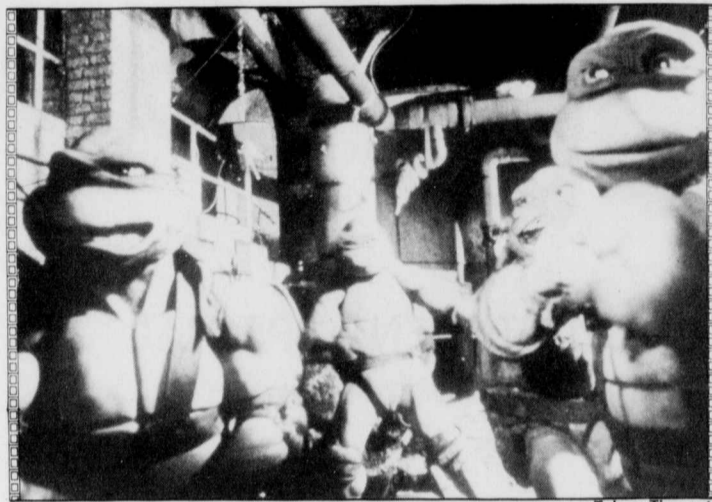
Turtlemaniacs may be surprised to find their herpetological heroes portrayed by actors in high-tech turtle costumes, yet will not be able to resist the charm in their large, fully expressive eyes and faces and their goofy, supple teenage mannerisms.

Jim Henson's Creature Shop is responsible for devising these marvelous renditions of the title characters, complete with computerized masks and facial expressions that change by remote control.

The rest of the film, however, is familiar: the jokes are campy, the ninja feats are daring if a little silly (such as one floor move referred to as "The California Roll" — otherwise known as a type of sushi) and the Turtles still squabble over practically everything.

These unlikely heroes made their professional debut seven years ago in a black-and-white comic book drawn by Peter Laird, now 36, and Kevin Eastman, 27.

Laird had been scraping out a living drawing vegetables for the gardening page of a newspaper when the editor of a local comic magazine



Tokyo Timeout

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles move from comic books and animation to reel-life appearances. Check 'em out at your local video store.

suggested that he collaborate with Eastman, an amateur cartoonist who was working as a short-order cook.

One night in 1983 — and neither can remember why — inspiration struck. Eastman drew a humanized turtle wearing a ninja mask and carrying a katana blade. The idea of the stereotypically sluggish turtle as a swift and wily ninja cracked them up.

By the end of the evening, the artists had created four tortoises. Eastman quickly christened them the Ninja Turtles, but then, in an absurd combination of two of the most popular themes of comic books at the time, Laird lengthened the name to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. That night's work made them millionaires.

And the Mutant Turtle money master behind the film is Hong Kong film producer Raymond Chow, 62. Known for his string of awesomely cheap, highly profitable action pic-

tures, Chow has now worked a slight variation on this genre to produce "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

So what if he has abandoned stars like Bruce Lee and other human bone crunchers for the wildly popular reptilian renegades?

Since opening in late March of 1990, it has already become the highest-grossing independent film in history, and home-video sales will certainly add to the profits. In its first three weeks at U.S. theaters, the film hauled in some \$90 million.

Chow, who founded his Golden Harvest Studios twenty years ago, gambled \$14 million on the Ninja Turtle movie, twenty times more than the tab for some of his kung fu flicks, but there is little doubt he's glad he shelled out.

And take heart, Turtle fans — the spring of 1991 will see the return of the Ninja Turtles in a \$20 million-plus sequel. Cowabunga, indeed.

Inspirational Carpets merit red carpet treatment

By KIRA BOYD
Special to the Skiff



REVIEWS

The Inspiral Carpets are a British musical group that flew in amid the Manchester Invasion of last summer. Their U.S. debut "Life" proves to

be an enjoyable representation of the retro-'60s sound done the '90s way.

Although the Inspirals are from the hotbed of warehouse parties, their music is not brainless dance beats. The tone to their music is lively, while the lyrics are more mental. You may catch yourself singing along only to stop and ponder, "What the heck does he mean?"

The album, as a whole, is one that when you first hear it, two songs will immediately attract you, but the rest of it won't really take root. But this album does grow on you, and that's always the best kind.

"This Is How It Feels" can be heard on KDGE 94.5 FM (The Edge) and may be the worst single on the album. Its tone is more blatantly depressing than any of the other tracks, so don't let this song fool you into thinking that all the Inspirals' music is about suicidal housewives.

"Directing Traffic," on the other hand,



Mute Records

The British band Inspiral Carpets, known for its funky organ sound and mooring fans, will play in Dallas' Trees Saturday night.

is also played on The Edge and gives a more accurate feeling about the Inspirals' true sound.

The band's trademark sound is an organ frenzy layered on a non-electronic background—if you can imagine that. Sometimes this organ sound is slow and melodic, but other times it's reminiscent of swarming insects. When it's fast-paced, it moves like a psychedelic dance

party.

"Sackville" has stronger drumbeats and demonstrates the Inspirals' ability to use force in music while delivering cynical and worldly insight on inevitable situations.

The two most upbeat songs on the album are "Real Thing" and "Beside Me," which, ironically, are both about annoying companions. "Real Thing" is satirical

while "Beside Me" comes right out and says, "I'm moving on 'cause you always say too much." I can identify with that.

The single that started it all for the Inspirals was "Move." The organ isn't as prevalent in this song, but the melody tends to stay with you. Perhaps it was the wonderful flow of "Move" that led to the band's signing with Mute Records, a small independent British label that's also home to Depeche Mode and Erasure.

The Inspirals don't expect to be an overnight success, but they are committed and they have a business sense that many young artists don't have.

The group still has its personal label, Cow, based in Manchester, where they sell trademark Cow T-shirts that have inspired fans to moo at the Inspirals' shows. Their performances present a confidence gained from playing for appreciative crowds in Britain, where fans ritually moo as if on a dairy farm.

"They still wear leather trousers here (in the U.S.), so they might not understand (the mooing)," said Martyn Walsh, bass player for the Inspirals.

But if we don't understand this concert behavior, perhaps it's because the Inspiral Carpets still wear chili-bowl haircuts.

The Inspiral Carpets will play Saturday night at 9 at Trees in Dallas. Tickets will be sold at the door. Don't be surprised if they start off the show mooing.

'Once Around' needs no second look

By DAVE ANDRIESEN
TCU Daily Skiff



FILMS

Lasse Hallstrom's 1987 film "My Life as a Dog" was a breakthrough international film. It was sad, touching and humorous, even beyond

the obvious irony of a film about a dog being directed by a guy named Lasse. Because of Hallstrom's success and obvious talent, he got the chance to make an American debut with the opening of last week's "Once Around."

"Once Around," much like "My Life as a Dog," is a poignant and realistic film with little to say, but which conveys its story and characters with flair. It is the story of a young, heartbroken woman

(Holly Hunter), part of a close but sheltering family, who meets and falls in love with an eccentric man whom her family can't understand (Richard Dreyfuss).

Dreyfuss' character is the kind of guy all of us have come across at one time or another. He is like the rich uncle who always has to have his way, constantly yapping and trying to control every situation. But he sweeps the emotionally hungry Hunter off her feet while on a trip to an exotic tropical locale.

When they return to Hunter's native Boston, we begin to see that the fairytale courtship may be a bit more complicated than expected. Dreyfuss' loud and wild demeanor doesn't sit well with Hunter's close-knit and settled family, bringing her into conflict with them.

But the family manages to accept him somewhat, although the tension is still there. The climactic element involving this too-good-to-be-true character is not

what we expect it to be; it's much deeper, but I won't ruin it for you.

This movie flies on the wings of Hallstrom's obvious, yet endearing, directorial influence and fine performances from some of our country's finest actors. Dreyfuss gives the most pleasing performance of his career in what must have been a difficult part to keep up. His chemistry with Hunter, established in last year's "Always," shines here as well, although a good job by Hunter is practically ruined by an overkilled Bostonian accent.

The highlight of the performances, though, comes from veteran actor Danny Aiello as Hunter's father. The part seems to have been written for him, capitalizing on the warmth, tenderness and nurturing which he exudes. It is an absolute delight to see him used so well. Fine support work also comes from Gena Rowlands as Aiello's wife and Laura San Giacomo as Hunter's newlywed sister.

Once Around

Studio: Universal Pictures
Director: Lasse Hallstrom
Starring: Holly Hunter, Richard Dreyfuss, Danny Aiello

Makin' the grade: B

Some say "Once Around" is superficial and somewhat shallow, but it is also a touching and harmless story. It is open-minded, life-affirming and enjoyable and it gets a hearty recommendation from me. Score it a B