# Professor seeks self among people and Hebrew texts

By LISA YONCO TCU Daily Skiff

Toni Craven is on a quest to find her true self.

Craven is a professor of Hebrew scripture at Brite Divinty School. She came to Brite in 1980 after having taught for two years at Marquette University.

On March 28, the TCU Board of Trustees confirmed the Brite Divinty School Board of Trustees recommendation to promote Craven to full professor of Hebrew scripture.

In 1971 she received her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland. In 1974 she received her master's degree from Andover Newton Theological School. She received her doctorate in Old Testament from Vanderbilt

Craven has been active in the Catholic Biblical Association, Society of Biblical Literature, Southwest Regional Concerns on Women's Studies in Religion and the Southwest Council on the Study of Religion.

Craven has participated in community service activities, given lectures and special classes and published three books on translating the Hebrew scripture.

With all of those things going on in her life, Craven said it is easier for her to mark the important milestones in her

life by people instead of dates.
"I think I associate things with people who have been terribly formative for me," she said.

In her brightly lit and perfectly organized office hang three photographs. The photos, she said, were of the three most influential people in her life: Phyllis Trible, Walter Harrelson and M. Jack Snuggs.

Trible is a Baldwin professor of Hebrew and cognate languages at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She directed Craven's master thesis at Andover Newton Theological School.

"To her I owe coming to understand what the Hebrew Bible is all about," she said. "It (meeting her) literally changed the direction of my life.

Harrelson is a distinguished professor of Hebrew Bible at Vanderbilt University. He directed Craven doctoral dissertation.

Craven and Harrelson are working on a book about interpreting the language and meaning of the Hebrew Bible.

Suggs was dean of Brite Divinty School from 1976 until 1989.

"I actually count him as having a great hand in forming what I think about educating students for the ministry," she said. "He taught me what dedication is all about.'

The other influences in Craven's life, in an ongoing way, are her students, she said.

"When you to teach at a graduate level there is a real give and take," she "Sometimes I think I learn as much from them as they learn from me. I couldn't do what I do without

Craven is a tall woman, who stands with her head held high.

"What matters most to me is finding

See Quest, page 5



Toni Craven



Judd Cox stands in front of the Phi Gamma Delta house, which is decorated for the 10th Annual Fiji Islander Party.

# Committee hears King Day ideas

By LEANNA STALEY TCU Daily Skiff

The first of three meetings to hear ideas on how to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday was held Wednesday in the House of Student Representatives chambers.

Nine students and one professor gave presentations to the ninemember committee created by Chancellor William Tucker to study the merits of having a TCU holiday honoring King.

Having the holiday officially recognized by the university would reach the most people, said Laura Whitworth, senior social work major.

"If you have just a convocation, that's selective," Whitworth said. "Only the faculty and students can really go."

Freshman political science major Joseph Cottrell referred to benefits the university would receive by honoring the holiday in his presentation.

"TCU could really use this to promote several different things: multiculturalism, in terms of bringing students in and recruiting black faculty and minority faculty and

campus unity," Cottrell said.

Myra Alsup, freshman nursing major, stressed other reasons TCU should recognize the day.

"I think TCU needs this holiday because I think they need to make some sort of a symbol to the students saying, 'Hey, we care about each of our cultures'," she said.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day has been a federally recognized holiday for five years.

"Where has TCU been for five years?," Alsup said. "Maybe there wasn't enough minority students to even raise the question. Maybe they were intimidated. It makes you question TCU."

Alsup pointed to the university calendar in her presentation noting that on January 10, 1991, the calendar printed the phrase, "talk with a person of a different race." The calendar did not print information about Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Other universities and colleges in Texas recognize the holiday, including SMU and Tarrant County Junior College.

"The precedent has been set that Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday be recognized as a holiday," said Tito Garcia, sophomore political science major and the 1991-1992 president of Black Student Caucus.

"There is no precedent that we get off for President's Day," Garcia said. Since social work class 4843, "Community Intervention," took on supporting a resolution to hold Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday, issues have surrounded the idea.

But Letecia Smith, sophomore English major, said that overall the issue

See MLK, page 4

#### Kurdish student gets word of family's escape

By KENDRICK BLACKWOOD TCU Daily Skiff

When junior computer science major Aras Taha finally made his way home from the computer lab April 16, he found a note waiting for him.

His mother had called. The last time Taha had heard her voice was on Jan. 15, three

hours before the Allies invaded his home country of Iraq. The number she had left was

to an Iranian phone and Taha breathlessly dialed it. The voice on the other end was weak but reassuring. His family was safe at the

home of one of his uncles in Taha's mother told him his

entire family, which consisted of about 30 aunts, uncles, cousins, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews, had made the trip out of Iraq intact.

Taha and his family are Kurdish, an ethnic group that has been taking extreme amounts of punishment from the Saddam Hussein-led government since the Allied cease fire.

The systematic destruction of the Kurds in northern Iraq has brought words like genocide to American headlines, and caused thousands to abandon their

homes in search of refuge in Iran or Turkey, two neighboring countries with large Kurdish

Though Taha is not sure of the exact circumstances, his family joined the exodus.

The story of the journey was like something out of an adventure movie, Taha said.

Indeed, the seven-day trip through the mountains of northern Iraq as told by Taha had all the makings of a great cinematic

Since the second week of the Allied attack, Taha's hometown of Arbela had been "in a complete state of chaos." There was no water, electricity or medical facilities in the city. Looting and crime were rampant.

Contrary to Allied reports, the northern cities of Arbela, Mosul and Kirkuk had been "very badly hit by the Allies

His family left in the middle of the night with only the

clothes they were wearing. They headed in the direction of the Iranian border, traveling

by horseback and on foot through severe mountain weather. They tried to enter Iran directly, but found close to a mil-

lion people amassed at the border. Few were being allowed to

Instead, his family made its way to the Turkish border.

They successfully entered the country and were able to enter Iran from there. The children were sick with

severe diarrhea, and all were worn and tired. But they were safe and warm again.

The only truly dark spot on the journey had been the drowning of one of their bodyguards. They were crossing an icy river, swollen with melted snow. The bodyguard had swum across several times caring different supplies, but the strain of the journey and the cold current proved too much for him

After Taha's mother told him her story, she asked how his semester was going, Taha said.

"To hell with semester," Taha

said. "I was just about to jump on a plane. Thanks to some calming ad-

vice from friends, the next day found Taha not on a plane to Iran but in a classroom taking an exam.

He decided to give his family a chance to rest and himself a chance to finish the semester.

"Right now I'm waiting and seeing," Taha said.

He is not sure exactly where

See Taha, page 4

# Decorations to send message about abuse

By RACHEL BROWN Special to the Skiff

TCU R.O.A.D. Workers will end the semester with one more reminder about responsible drinking and

Group members will decorate the display case in the Student Center Lobby with beach balls and other summertime items to serve as the background for a theme of safety during vacation, said Wendy Moore,

president of R.O.A.D. Workers. "We'd just like to get that last message out to them (the student body)," Moore said.

Moore said the decorations will go

up May 2 and 3. R.O.A.D. Workers decided to do the display project instead of hanging banners throughout the Student Center and residence halls, because they

notice of something new rather than ordinary posters and signs, she said. "They're pretty poster-blind by now," she said. "This is a small, subtle message."

thought students would take more

Moore said summer presents the same problems spring break did: drunken driving accidents, people

See Abuse, page 2

### Inside

Columnists look back and contemplate the 1990-91 school year.

Page 3

#### Outside

Today's weather will be cloudy with a chance for thunderstorms and a high temperature of 82 degrees.

Friday's weather will be cloudy with a high temperature of 82 degrees.

# **Gate extends Student Center hours**

#### Tuesdays and Wednesdays become prime study nights

By JON MARTZ TCU Daily Skiff

Students have been making use of the extended hours in the Student Center, a member of the House of Student Representatives said.

The extended hours have been made possible by the security gate that went into operation on Feb. 11 in the Student Center, said Colleen Grogan, Waits Hall representative and a member of the House's Perma-

nent Improvements committee. The extended hours are on Sundays through Thursdays. Sundays have averaged 75 people a night making use of the extended hours, with 85 on Mondays, 102 on Tuesdays, 107 on Wednesdays and 44 on Thursdays, Grogan said.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays are consistently the busiest nights for the

Student Center, Grogan said. The largest one-night turnout was 136 on Wednesday night, she said. The Student Center gate has al-

lowed students access to the lounge, Reading Room and Pizza Hut until midnight instead of the regular closing time of 10 p.m., Grogan said.

The gate also has allowed the Student Center to be used for many other events, she said.

"When they showed the movie 'Grease' in The Pit, they were able to keep The Pit open without having to worry about the rest of the Student tives, Grogan said.

Center," Grogan said. "Also, on holidays more food

places can be kept open for students without having to have people at the information desk to keep an eye on things," she said.

Pizza Hut will remain open until midnight on Sunday through Thursday for the rest of the semester, a

spokeswoman for Marriott said. When asked if the restaurant will be open next semester, the spokeswoman said the decision will not be

made until next semester.

The total cost of the gate was \$3,435, which was provided by the Permanent Improvements Fund from the House of Student Representa-

#### **CAMPUS**lines

**CAMPUSlines** is provided as a service to the TCU community. Announcements of events, meetings and other general campus information should be brought by the Skiff office, Moudy 291S or sent to TCU Box 32929. The Skiff reserves the right to edit for style and taste.

Co-dependents Anonymous meets at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday in Student Center Room 202. For more information call University Ministries, 921-7830

Undergraduate projects will be presented at noon Friday in Winton-Scott Room 436. The presentation is sponsored by the TCU Research Fund Lectureship Series.

Biology seminar entitled "An Unusual Example of Southeastern Old Field Succession: In Search of the Wiley Hypothesis" will be by John E. Pinder of the Savannah River Laboratory in Aiken, S.C. The seminar will run from noon to 1 p.m. Friday in Sid Richardson Lecture Hall 4.

Scarborough Faire tickets are available for \$8.95 each at the Information Desk in the Student Center. The fair is open from April 27 through June 16.

Advanced sculpture class will show original works in the Mary Couts-Burnett Library lobby. The exhibit will run from April 19 through May 11.

Town Students can see copies of bills from the House of Student Representatives in the Extended Education Office at Sadler Hall Room 212.

Adult Children of Alcoholics is an educational support group which will address the negative consequences of being raised by an alcoholic parent. If interested, please contact Larry Withers at the Counseling Center, 921-7863.

Summer Youth Employment is availiable for TCU offices and departments through the Upward Bound Program. On the job training will begin July 22 and will run through Aug. 16. For more information call the Upward Bound office at 921-7946.

#### **HELP**lines

The Volunteer Center, a service of the United Way, needs volunteers. Call the Volunteer Center at 860-1613 for information about the following or other opportunities.

Information desk volunteers are needed to provide general formation to visitors to a special Soviet Space exhibit. Good communication skills and ability to get long with all types of people are needed. Daytime, evening, weekday and weekend shifts will be available during the six-month exhibit.

Volunteers are needed to provide friendship and be and be a role model for troubled teens. Join with them in recreational activities or crafts, but most importantly - be their friend.

Volunteers are needed on weekday mornings from 7:15 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. to interact with children and their parents, who are staying at a temporary family shelter. Help reinforce appropriate parenting skills in an informal setting. Be able to assist the parent, but allow the parent to be the main care-

Volunteers ages 17 and older are needed to supervise a group of children ages 6 to 10 in activities at a local community center. Available between 3 and 6 p.m. Monday through

Volunteers are needed to serve as court-appointed guar-dians for elderly who need assistance with their personal and/or financial affairs. Training begins in May.

Volunteers are needed to answer phone calls from children who are staying home alone after school. Training provided.

Volunteers are needed to help welcome visitors to the "Soviet Space" program at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Hours are flexible. For more information, call (817) 347-4090.

#### Troupe to perform modern dance steps in Ballet Building

By MICHELLE KING Special to the Skiff

TCU will host the Utah Repertory Dance Company for two performances 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the TCU Ballet Building.

The modern dance concerts are open to the public. General admission is \$6 for students and \$3 for senior citizens.

The performances will include works by Merce Cunningham, Jose Limon, Margaret Jenkins, Lar Lubovitch, Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, and Peter Sparling.

Utah Repertory, established in 1966, performs more than 200 master works ranging from the early 20th century to contemporary dances.

Dancers and choreographers trained in the Utah company have continued careers with the Martha Graham Company, Netherlands Dance Theatre, Alvin Ailey, Twyla Tharp and the National Endowment for the Arts.

New Century Danscene sponsors the tour and is funded by a grant from the Bass Foundation through the Arts Council for Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

For more information about the concert or Utah Repertory Dance classes, call Susan Douglas Roberts of the TCU dance department at 921-7615.

#### Abuse/ page 1

driving without seat belts and intoxicated people who will not give up their car keys. The difference between the two vacation times is that the summer parties are not concentrated into one week like spring break events are, she said.

But even though there is not a traditional week of celebration, summer has other hazards that arise when using alcohol, Moore said. The higher rates of travel, trips to the beach and Fourth of July parties increase the risk that people will be involved in accidents if they drink excessively or drink and drive, she said.

Moore urged all students to remember those from the TCU community who have been injured or killed in alcohol-related accidents.

"We're not trying to use scare tactics or anything like that," she said. "Just keep it in mind."

# ISA officers installed at reception

By MARTHA HERNANDEZ

The International Student Association will host a reception at 5 p.m. today to honor graduating international students and to install the newly elected 1991-92 officers.

The graduating seniors include: Rosa Acha, a graduate speech pathology major from Peru; Jorn Folmer, a graduate business administration major from Germany; Marina Frederik, a senior astronomy and physics major from Indonesia; Sheng-Wen Hwang, a senior math major from Taiwan; Marcus Obeng, a senior chemistry major from Ghana; Ellen Oliveira, a graduate piano performance major from Brazil; and Lawrence Reyes, a senior advertising/public relations major from Puerto Rico, said Al Mladenka, director of international student

"It's going to be an informal affair," said Kaushika Kansara, a junior marketing major and current president of ISA. "The seniors present will be introduced and they will each tell about their plans after graduation.

"It's also a chance for the ISA members to get together one last time before finals and the end of school," she said. "Many international students return to their native countries for the summer."

The reception will also serve as the time newly elected ISA officers will be inducted into their new positions by the outgoing officers, Kansara

Each new officer will be congratulated and introduced to the crowd by their predecessor, she said.

The 1991-92 ISA officers include: president, Isabel Casas-I-Klett; vicepresident, Dietmar Kruse; secretary, Nancy Ellen Maxey; ISA Week chairmen, Tom and Sebastiano Leoni; publicity chairwomen, Julie Gentry and Jodi Crappell; treasurer, Ingrid Roa; social chairwoman, Vercommittee, Shayna Feldman and Oriana Mourides, Kansara said.

The cultural service committee is a new office added to the association, said Casas-I-Klett, a sophomore advertising/public relations major

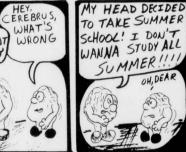
from Spain. "We plan on having different cultural activities each week, such as eating dinner at restaurants which represent the different countries ISA members come from," said Feldman, a junior social work major from

Casas-I-Klett said her goals for the upcoming academic year are to make the campus more aware of ISA events and cultural issues around the

"The new officers and I want to work together with the TCU campus in promoting cultural unity and providing a better understanding of other cultures which we are unaccustomed to," she said.

#### ECHO **ECHO**









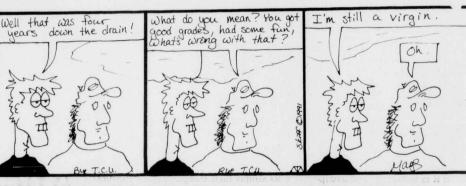
by Stev KlineToBe

#### Weezie

CONSTANT

SNUGGY

by Tom Maglisceau



#### Calvin and Hobbes

NON CAN BE OH JEAH S. METT I'M FORMING MY OWN CLUB, HA! YOUR SORRY BY GOLLY, I CLUB WON'T WONT STAND "CLUB CHOMDER HEAD," BECAUSE FOR THIS AND IT'S GOING TO BE A LOT HAVE A COOL ACRONYM FOR NSUBORDINATION YOU ARE HEREBY I QUIT! THIS ONE!





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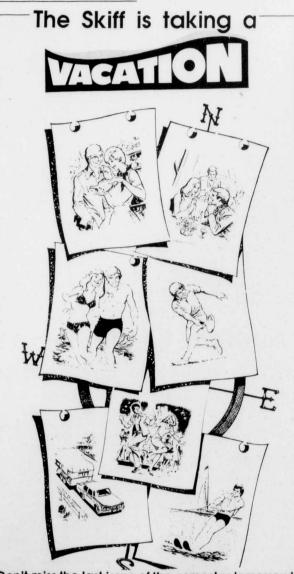
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# Opinion

TCU Daily Skiff

All-American newspaper

Associated Collegiate Press

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# Learning

### Education plan a step in right direction

President Bush's new education plan is a step in the right direction for American schools, but there is still a long way to go. Bush's plan to "reinvent" schools and the education system is a bit short on substance, but long on muchneeded vision.

The plan, which includes proposals for the emphasis on new voluntary national exams for students, competence-based pay for teachers and increased community involvement, really proposes nothing as new or revolutionary as Bush claims, yet it is important as it shows federal support and organization of older local ideas.

Finally the nations' governors have some substantial federal backing to begin improving schools.

The plan, however, is just a beginning. It touches really only peripheral issues and should be used only as a general outline, not a specific solution, to address education in America.

It is hoped neither Bush nor America will forget the true amount of work that needs to be done.

# Death Row

#### Sentences shouldn't be commuted to life

Last week in Austin, Governor Ann Richards vowed not to commute the sentences of Texas death row inmates to life-in-prison. Although she is against capital punishments, Richards understands the major problems in commuting senteces. She should be applauded for her concern for the protection of society.

Regardless of individual positions on capital punishment, we must all agree it is senseless and irresponsible to simply turn dangerous, unreformed people back out onto the streets. This only serves to underscore the major problem. Prison overcrowding has reached dangerous levels in the last decade. As the number of prisoners increases, society is forced to either build more prisons or wind up releasing dangerous criminals.

More and more death row inmates are seeing their sentences commuted to life imprisonment. The downside to this, however, is that under our penal system, life imprisonment is rarely for life.

America must find another way of dealing with crime. Some say more prisons need to be built while others believe we need to concentrate on crime

But both require money. Regardless of the route chosen, it has become apparent that the American citizen will have to dig deeper - in terms of both ingenuity and pocketbooks.

## Letter to the Editor

#### Misconception

#### Portrayal

How does Stuart Minnis know that Christ was not fair-skinned and blue-eyed as many Jews are? It will be the depth of character that Kevin Costner brings to the role of Christ, not the color of his eyes, that will determine the success of his

While it is advantageous to cast the correct ethnic or racial actors to particular roles, it is also biased to limit their talent to only such roles that correspond to his/ her physical or cultural characteristics. With Stuart's standards, the world would have missed Yul Brenner in the "King and I", Vivian Leigh as Scarlet O'Hara and, more currently, Jonathon Pryce in "Miss

Aimee Herring Sophomore Nutrition major

I write in response to Traci Dickenson's Letter to the Editor in Wednesday's edition of the Skiff. Her obvious misinformation regarding Islam makes me wonder if she has ever studied it, or any other religion other than Christianity. If she had, she would have learned that Muslims worship Allah, God — the same God that Christians worship.

The main difference between Islam and Christianity lies in the belief in Jesus as the Christ: although this belief is fundamental to Christianity, Muslims do not accept Jesus as the Savoir of humanity. They do, however, regard Jesus as a prophet, as they do Adam, Abraham, David and Muhammed.

Perhaps Ms. Dickenson should register for RELI 1503, Religion in Human Experience. The class would help her to correct such a blatant misconception. Judith Allen

Religion Studies

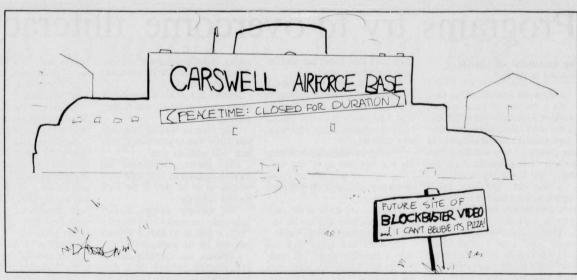
## Letter policy

The TCU Daily Skiff is produced by the students of Texas Christian University, sponsored by the journalism department and published Tuesday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters except during finals week and holidays.

Unsigned editorials represent the views of the Skiff editorial board. Signed letters and columns represent the opinion of the writers.

The Skiff is a member of the Associated Press.

The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be typed, doublespaced, 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.



# Hey there, baby, what's your sign?

By ABIGAIL DALBEY



They are overused, frequently plagiarized and usually far beyond any realm of possibility, yet they are men's most frequently used weapons against women. They are lines. A line is defined as a

seemingly complimentary comment said to bring about whatever response someone wants. A line may be delivered at any time, any place and by anyone.

A woman is never safe from lines unless she lives in a convent. Husbands, boyfriends, salesmen and congressmen alike all use lines. The only thing that differs is the intent.

It is the intent that is used to group lines into various categories. Here are some of the most common categories of lines, listed in no particular order:

Blanket Lines are usually delivered by husbands, boyfriends and sometimes even fathers. Blanket lines are broad compliments far beyond feasibility that are usually said with some sort of sincerity in mind.

"Sure, Paulina is pretty, but to me you are much more beautiful than any model," your man might say.

OK, so you might not totally believe him, but when delivered with the right tone of voice and a starry-eyed smile many women would find this line believable. Of all lines blanket lines are the most whole-hearted.

Corny Lines are usually yelled by people you do not know. As the name implies, these lines are generally silly sayings that could be delivered by a burn on the street or a man over 40 yelling fom his Mercedes SL.

"Can I get some fries with that shake?" he might yell. The intent is usually to get you to look and, as crazy as it may seem, many who deliver these lines enjoy the obscene gestures they often get in response to their jeers.

The Fishing Line is used mostly by salesmen or politicians or any others of that sort. As the name implies these lines seek to hook you. Generally any man who wants you to believe something is in your best interest will use this type of line on you.

"A pretty redhead like you sitting in a convertible like that would attract all of the men," a car salesman might say.

Sure, you may be a pretty redhead, but the

man doesn't care what you'll look like - he wants to sell the car.

College Lines are delivered by boys who usually have some sexual goal in mind. The goal could be long- or short-term. The most effective lines in this category, however, are those propelled by long-term goals.

"I love you" is probably the most common and overused in this class. Other lines usually refer to the girl's appearance.

"I'm nervous because I have never been out with a girl as gorgeous as you before, your man might say to you, as if gasping for

Some men go for the more subtle line. "You have such a great personality," he

might say as he moves in for the kill. The subtlety here is in the fact that he is complimenting your personality and not your body. Attractive girls should be most cautious in the presence of a man dealing these types of lines. You are usually the ones to appreciate a guy not looking at only your body. Watch his actions following the line.

There are countless types of lines. The key is to not be gullible. Use your head, women. Actions speak louder than words when it comes to men. Remember this.

#### Another year of gone

By JOHN HARTIG and RICH ROGERS



Another year of your college career has come and gone. Later in your lifetime, will remember the 1990-91 school year? Will you want to? Because this column

keeps a Greek focus, we must start with rush. We've always dreaded it, but somehow liked it at the same time (sort of). Seeing all of your friends again is exciting, and this year's rush results were encouraging for the most part.

As usual, Greek parties coincided with each round of tests. Seldom does any student make it through a semester without having at least three tests in one week. History repeated itself as each professor assumed his students were only enrolled in his class.

Football season was fun until November, but isn't that the way it always is? This year the students started to get behind the Frogs, until injuries and a lack of size and depth caused the Frogs' downfall. Next year looks promising. Maybe fans will be in for more excitement then.

Parent's Weekend came along in mid-October. If you are a freshman, it was exciting to see the folks again, show off the school and introduce your new friends to mom and dad. If you are an older student, well, it was all right. They have already met your friends, so you have to be creative in planning something new and interesting.

Homecoming was the most hectic time of the school year again, and in keeping with tradition, coincided with all those secondround tests. The All-Campus Party could have been held in the Reading Room, due to another all-campus party that night. The parade enjoyed slightly better attendance, causing us to wonder why we spend weeks working on a float. Anyone?

Persian Gulf tensions were rising while the Bush administration pondered troop escalation and proper U.S. policy. Meanwhile, at TCU, a new student administration took the baton in the Student House, but more on Ernie's army later.

The Order of Omega Christmas Tree lighting was a great success, built on the foundation of an impressive school tradition. High involvement, both Greek and independent, meant many children got the presents they wanted for Christmas. Everyone involved benefited, and the holiday spirit crept into our otherwise busy lives.

Gulf War became reality, and all students turned their eyes to Saddam's Iraq. Journalism hit a new high and low with fantastic day-to-day coverage and the inevitable sensationalism. In just weeks, what some said would be a five-year repeat of Vietnam was at an end.

Frog Follies became more of the spring spectacle it was supposed to become. The shows contained new depth, even after being put together only a month past Christmas

Tuition increased.

Thanks to the House for the gate in the Student Center. As far as the president is concerned, we have limited information about what he has planned and accomplished. We will miss Jeanie. Although she could be rude, most rude people are well-liked. They express what we all think, but are afraid to actually say.

"Well, the names have all changed since you've been around, but the dreams are the same and they've turned around." Welcome

# Two sides of 'American Psycho'

By CARL KOZLOWSKI



Have you ever been so angry you could kill someone? Almost everyone is prone to anger at some time in their lives. But the vast majority hold it in somehow, and avoid succumbing to the ulti-

mate deed of anger: murder. What restrains them is a combination of morals, ethics and the law. But what would happen if all of those things were stripped away, even if only inside your own mind?

Patrick Bateman is a 26-year-old man who has wiped his mind clean of all those things. He is a Wall Street stockbroker by day, and a man with no conscience who prowls the streets by night, in search of his next kill. Everyone who runs in his rich circle of friends thinks he's a real charmer. After all, he says all the politically correct things, and wears all the right designer clothes.

But they really don't know the man who walks down New York City streets and thinks of every single black person as a crack dealer, and virtually every woman as a sex object to be played with, tortured and ultimately killed.

Patrick Bateman is a fictional character,

the subject of a new book, "American Psycho," that is stirring up the biggest media firestorm concerning American fiction in decades. Its writer is Bret Easton Ellis of "Less Than Zero" fame, and this time he has extended his vision from the twisted lives of America's high school and college rich kids to the twisted minds of the 1980s greed mentality and its simmering undercurrents of sexism, racism and homophobia. It is a sick and disturbing book in many ways, and a profoundly moving, hilarious satire of rich America in others. Many of our nation's leaders — even in the press and liberal groups like the National Organization of Women - don't want you to read it. The question that must be raised is if Ellis has gone too far in his depictions of torturous murders. Has freedom of speech finally gone

The answer is a mixed one. But book reviewers from coast to coast, and media analysts in magazines like Newsweek, have missed the boat on this one.

Ellis is not trying to describe torture for pages at a time for America's enjoyment. The descriptions are sickening to the core, violent beyond anything you could ever imagine happening in the real world.

But the fact is that American psychos do exist. Both Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" and the film "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" were influenced by a real serial murderer, Ed Gein. And one of last year's most acclaimed films, "Henry:Portrait of a Serial Killer," was inspired by drifter Henry Lee Lucas, who has confessed to hundreds of murders across America.

Ellis is trying to show that maybe not all killers are poor drifters without societal advantages. He is exaggerating the superwealthy male class's feelings of superiority over women, minorities and the homeless by taking their mental attitudes to their physical extreme. And, in a counterpoint to the brutalizing mayhem within a good chunk of the book, he provides a fascinating, sad portrait of a mind that's slipping away, of a man who only occasionally realizes he has slipped out of this world and any sense of morality.

I am not telling people to read this book. It is nightmarish at times, and groups like NOW may have a justified cause in decrying its violence against women. At times, I threw down the book and felt that it was too much to continue. Eventually, I saw the trouble spots coming and read around them. "American Psycho" is almost like two books anyway — one, a virtual manual of torture; the other, a highly valid work and a modernfiction masterpiece. Look beyond the excerpts and quotes pulled out of context. These two sides of the book reflect the two sides of a man like Patrick Bateman, and the other side that lurks somewhere, deep within

# **Features**

# Programs try to overcome illiteracy with encouragement

By SHANNON KELLEHER

Amy never learned how to read. As a daughter of Texas migrant workers, Amy spent most of her days in the fields rather than in the classroom. Feeling ashamed and afraid of her illiteracy, Amy withdrew from society, fearing someone might discover her devastating secret.

A year and a half later, Amy's fears have been laid to rest. She can now read because someone took the time to teach her.

"One in five Americans is illiterate," said Jesse C. Cummings, program director for education for Fort Worth Independent School District, "But that's just a rough estimate. It's really hard to get exact figures.

Carmelita Shepelwich, who worked with Amy through the Tarrant Literacy Association, Inc., an all-volunteer organization at Travis Avenue Baptist Church, said the reason for the lack of precise figures is because people are scared to come forward and ask for help.

"They feel so ashamed," said Shepelwich, who is also the political science secretary at TCU. "They think since they didn't learn before,

they can't learn now." Carolyn Rowell, the university ministries administrative assistant at TCU and Tarrant literacy volunteer, said tutors must encourage people learning to read to change their negative mind-set.

"You have to encourage these people that they can do it," she said. 'And when you give them the confidence they need, their whole demeanor changes.

Incentives are given to the nonreader to tell them they can be successful at reading, Rowell said.

"After the first lesson, they can read a one-page story," she said. "When they finish each book, they get a diploma. This type of encouragement method is the core of our program.

The Tarrant Literacy Association, Inc. operates under the Laubach system. It is used to teach individuals to read in 300 languages in more than 150 countries. The slogan for the program is, "Each one, Teach one."

Shepelwich said although Amy's progress had been slow, the Laubach system had produced favorable

"As Amy got better in her writing

'Amy can now read and her daughter is making straight A's.

Rowell said it was important for parents to know how to read so their children will.

'The value of teaching parents is that if they want to learn to read, their kids will want to also."

Shari Barnes, employment and training manager at TCU, said TCU wanted to do its part in the fight against illiteracy. 'We strongly support literacy

training for our work force," she said. 'TCU's goal is to have a literacy program for its employees."

Currently, the university has no such program, although the it does have programs teaching English as a second language. TCU also does not administer literacy tests to potential employees.

"It is very dangerous legally to pass out a literacy test," Barnes said. 'To deny a person on the basis of his/ her ability to read could open doors to potential litigation.

If the program is extablished next semester, the program would be called Adult Basic Education instead of literacy training.

"This helps them come forward,"

say, 'I'm illiterate', but it's eaiser to say, 'I need help with some basic adult education.

Barnes said the university needs 20 people to enroll in the program in order to get state and federal funding.

Cummings said 60 percent of the money for Adult Education programs like literacy come from the federal government. The other 40 percent comes from the state. He also said the \$118,000 of Aid to Families with Dependent Children money is earmarked specifically for adult education programs.

Barnes said if the program works out, the university will give training to the "extended TCU family" also. Cummings said it was a "positive

'They realized some of their employees might need to be upgraded so they came to us," he said. "Now it's a matter of getting things coordinated."

He said UTA already has a literacy program and it is receiving a high level of support.

Debbie Dolezalek, UTA training coordinator and employee assistant coordinator, said the literacy program has been very effective.

esteem, morale and in productivity," Dolezalek said. "Since September, when the program first began, two people have obtained GEDs and one person went back to high school thanks to the help he received in

Currently, the UTA program has 20 people enrolled. The money to run the program comes from state and federal funding.

Dolezalek said a lot of benefits will come from the learning how to

"I'm hoping in the long run this will make them more safe," she said. "With reading, comes safety, They'll be able to read instructions and know what something says.

The UTA literacy program has people of every age.

'You are never to old to learn how to read," Dolezalek said.

Barnes said the proposed literacy program at TCU is a good opportunity for anyone concerned with illiter-

acy to help.
"College makes us focus on our own needs," she said. "This is a chance to give something back to the community

Mike Melon, who graduated from

TCU last May with degrees in both French and history, is doing his part to combat illiteracy.

Every Tuesday for two hours, Melon helps people with poor reading skills or poor general academic skills at the Fort Worth Public Library downtown.

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He finds it rewarding.

"Getting involved is important to me," said Melon, who is now lorking as an auditor for a CPC firm in Fort Worth. "The simple fact is that we need to change this problem. If people can't read, that a societal problem. Regardless of whose fault it is, these people that can't read need to be brought into the realm of literacy.'

Melon said if people wanted to help they need to prioritize it: "If you are concerned about it, go out and make the effort."

Anyone interested in volunteering to be a part of the program this fall can call Shari Barnes at 921-7095. To volunteer for the Tarrant Literacy organization call 923-4242, there will be a May workshop for interested volunteers. There is a \$15 fee for the books used to teach.

## Taha/ from page 1

his family is since his uncle has moved recently

"Where ever they are, I'm sure they're much safer than in Iraq," Taha said.

Before hearing about his family's latest adventure, Taha had been optimistic about his country's future.

He thought the crisis would end sooner or later, he said.

"Probably sooner, I don't believe in later," Taha said. "It is like a cloud that will go by.'

"Now I begin to believe that it's a big mess," he said. He holds President Bush and

Saddam Hussein equally responsible for what has happened to his family, he said.

It is Hussein's army that is attacking the Kurds, but Bush is not free of responsibility, Taha

Although Bush did not exactly state that he would protect the Kurds, he did call for them to overthrow the government, he

"They (the Kurds) took off expecting to be taken care of," he said. Instead, they were stopped at the border and forced to fend

Also, the Pentagon claimed to have destroyed the Iraqi military, Taha said. Maybe the Allies did cripple Hussein's army in comparison to the Allied forces but not compared to thousands of civilians, he said.

Taha said he didn't know exactly what he wanted the United States to do about the current situation, but he would like Bush's assurance that things will change. It was uncertainty that caused

the people to panic, he said. For Taha, uncertainty has be-

come a way of life. Taha came to TCU on a presidential scholarship issued by

Saddam Hussein at a time when Iraq was still at war with Iran.

When he flew out of Baghdad on April 8, 1988, the Iranians were bombing the city. He was lucky his plane was allowed to take off and luckier still to be leaving his war-torn country behind. Taha was Fort Worthbound.

The war with Iran ended in August 1988. Although he was not there to share in the celebration, Taha was well aware of the

Traci Campbell

&

Jack Raskopf

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effect it was having on his country.

"It was a booming era," Taha said. "I was encouraged to get the studies done quickly, so I could go back and build up the country.

In the spring of 1989, Taha began his studies in computer science. He wanted to make computers more accessible to the people of his country, perhaps establishing a national standard

for Iraq. But Taha's situation was soon to change and his dreams along

The booming era ended when the Iraqi army invade Kuwait.

This sparked international outrage and the freezing of both Iraqi and Kuwaiti funds in August

The economic sanctions might have been an annoyance to Hussein, but to Taha they were a catastrophe.

His scholarship, which covered tuition, books and a healthy allowance, was cut off.

Taha did his best to economize. He got a job on campus and was lucky enough to find an

66W herever they are, I'm sure they're much safer than in Iraq."

> ARAS TAHA, Kurdish student

uncle in Germany to support him for a while

Taha did his best not to get distracted from his classes, but he admitted it was hard to keep from watching the news of the

When the war ended, Taha was ready to go back to his country to help make sure the tragedies that occurred would not happen again, he said.

But the war was followed by civil unrest and now the country he wanted so much to help may not want him.

He is sure about his credentials, he said. An American education is well respected in Iraq,

What he is unsure about is his standing in society, he said.

"I'm not certain about discri-mination," Taha said. "That uncertainty is not panicking me yet. My priority is at the moment to take care of my studies at

Taha then hopes to return to Iraq, either directly or through Iran, he said.

The strength of that conviction rests on the activity in the Middle East, Taha said.

"I have this special definition for human beings," he said. "We are the only creatures that can create chaos out of order, create order out of chaos.

The phone call from his

mother came on the last day of the Islamic month of Ramadan, a holy month of fasting and prayer.

"I felt like I got some answer from Him (Allah), a gift of Ramadan," Taha said.

And his mother wasn't the only person he talked to across the sea. He also spoke with his nephew Mahamad. Mahamad was born three days after Taha left

## MLK/ from page 1

for TCU is one of image.

"It's not a monetary issue," Smith said. "It's not an issue of missing classes. Superficially, it is a issue of image

"TCU will be considered a racist institution if this holiday is not had,' she said. "All we want is Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday to be recognized as an official holiday on this campus.'

"That will communicate to African-Americans especially that TCU is in fact trying for diversity and multiculturalism and the edification of other cultures other than Anglo-Americans," she said.

The final decision regarding the holiday will be made by Chancellor

"I think all of the committee members would like to get a recommendation to the chancellor by the end of the year," said William Koehler, vice chancellor for academic affairs and chair of the committee.

Koehler said he hopes the committee can make a recommendation by the end of the year. He could not say whether there will be enough time for the chancellor to make the decision.

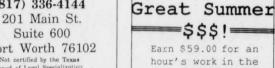
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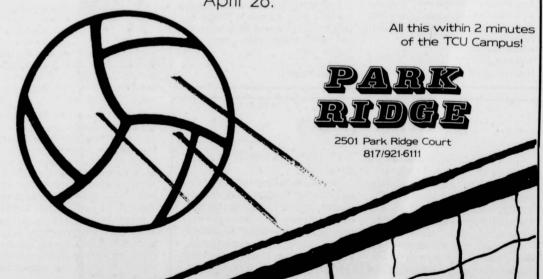
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# **Sports**



Russians are coming

The Horned Frog men's soccer team will host the visiting Moscow Energy Institution team this afternoon at 5:30 p.m. at the TCU soccer field.

# TCU Showgirl finds courage to go to pros

By AUBREY ABBOTT Special to the Skiff

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Thousands of fans sit restlessly in their seats at Reunion Arena as M.C. Hammer blares from the sound system and 14 young women come running onto the basketball court dancing to the beat. They are the Dallas Maverick Dancers.

For most young girls, dancing for the Dallas Mavericks in front of thousands of people is something they'll only dream about, but to Staci Stephens it's just doing what she loves - dancing.

Stephens, 21, is a senior elementary education major from Dallas. She started ballet when she was 4, tap and jazz at 7 and baton twirling at 10. She became a Maverick Dancer when she was 21.

During high school, Stephens danced with the Buster Cooper School of Dance in Dallas. She was on the W.T. White High School cross country and swimming teams. During her freshman and sophomore years, she twirled baton and in her junior year she tried out for the drill team.

"I tried out for cheerleading too, but couldn't do both (cheerleading and drill team), and I had to decide," Stephens

She made the drill team her junior year, which consisted of 30 to 60 girls, and hasn't looked back.

During the fall of her senior year in high school, Stephens went with several friends to a TCU football game where

she first saw the TCU Showgirls. "I saw the Showgirls and said that's what I want to be," Stephens said.

So on a Saturday morning in April, Stephens and her mother drove to Fort Worth so she could try out for the Showgirls.

"There were about 50 or 60 other people trying out," Stephens said. "And I remember thinking, 'There are so many people here.' I was so nervous."

The anxiety was similar to what Stephens would experience later when she tried out for the Maverick Dancers, but she had to overcome it first to be a TCU Showgirl.

Only 20 people would make the team after everyone learned and performed a two-minute dance routine. Donna Mastandrea, the Showgirls choreographer, taught the routine and later announced the new Showgirls.

"She called my name, and I was so excited and my mom started crying," Stephens said. "We didn't really think I'd make it because we didn't know what to expect."

In early August, Stephens returned to TCU to participate in sorority rush and Showgirls practice and to get ready for

"I'd go to Showgirls from nine until four, come home, get 30 minutes to get ready and then go to rush," Stephens said. "It was good though because I got to meet so many people — all the girls in the Greek, the girls in the TCU band and the Showgirls.'

"I think I've met my best friends in Showgirls," Stephens said. "It's like a family. You're really close because you're together everyday.'

After her freshman year, Stephens had to try out again each year for the Showgirls. "It gets a little easier because Donna knows you, she knows what you're like, and she knows what to expect," Stephens said.

Besides being in Showgirls and being a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, Stephens also has to meet work requirements for her major, elementary education.

Stephens teaches reading at Paschal High School as a part of her student teaching requirement for TCU, and she hopes to continue teaching high school when she graduates in May.

Stephens is also the choreographer for the Aledo High School drill team.

"Eventually, I hope to find a high school teaching job in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and I want to have my own drill team," Stephens said.

During the summer, Stephens spends her time teaching at drill team camps for Matandrea who owns the Marching Auxiliary of Texas.

"Staci is one of the best instructors and dancers on the staff," Matandrea said. "She is a wonderful person who is always up and fun to be around.'

Those are just some of the qualities that have made her captain of the TCU Showgirls for the last two years. "Staci's leadership qualities are really

strong," Mastandrea said. "She is very diplomatic, very fair, but forceful, and the girls respect her.'

Stephens said being captain has added a lot of responsibilities.

"A lot of times I get really stressed out, but what kept me sane was the fact that I had a great co-captain and the girls on the team would offer to do things," Stephens said.

"Each person on Showgirls does her part to make our name well-known and bigger," Stephens said. "In the past three years we've become more wellknown by doing Frog Follies and having our name in the freshman booklet."

But the reason Stephens loves Showgirls so much is because she loves to dance. It was the same reason she finally got up enough courage to try out for the Dallas Maverick Dancers.

Stephens learned about the Dallas Maverick Dancers through friends from North Texas who were on the team last year when it started.

"They said you really need to try out, and I said, 'Oh no, I'm not going to do it, I'm too scared,'" Stephens

Tryouts were in August, and all summer Stephens went back and forth trying to decide if she had enough

Finally, on a Saturday in August, Stephens walked into Union Station at 8 a.m. to try out with approximately 300 other dancers.

"I was really scared when I went," Stephens said. "I walked in and there were tons and tons of girls. I'd never seen so many girls."

Only 16 dancers would make the team, and within the next two hours the dancers would be cut from 300 to 100.

"Some of the girls that try out are just there," Stephens said. "They've got beautiful faces and they can't dance a step or they're beautiful dancers and they're overweight. There's a lot of things that are taken into consideration.

That afternoon the dancers repeated the routine they had learned in the morning plus added another 30 seconds into the routine.

The group was then cut down to 30 dancers who were told to come back the next day for more dance routines and an interview. Stephens was one of

"I was biting my nails and everything. I was so nervous."

At 9 a.m. on Sunday morning, Stephens had her interview with the Mavericks marketing staff and the choreographers.

"Remember in 'Flashdance' where they have the table of about 10 peo-ple," Stephens said. "That's what it was like, and then there was me in a little bitty chair."

In the afternoon the dancers had "solos" in which they did a minute and 30 second routine with another 30 seconds of their own choreography. At 4:30 p.m. they announced who made the final 20.

"My number was in it, and I was

crying because I never thought in a million years I would make it," Ste-

But as it turned out that was not the final cut. For the next eight weeks the dancers met on Wednesday nights for

their final training.
"They would watch you and see how well you picked up routines, how well your attitude was and how your weight fluctuated," Stephens said.

Then the last week of training the dancers performed on the court at Reunion Arena in front of the Mavericks marketing staff.

"It was kind of scary," Stephens said. "I was sweating and going, 'Maybe this is not what I want to do,' and then I thought 'Well, yeah it is,' because I love the feeling I got when I was out there on the court."

Stephens didn't find out if she had made the final 16 until the Mavericks staff called her at home.

"I drove back home, and as soon as I walked in the door, the phone rang,' Stephens said. "I didn't know if I should answer it or not. I was so nervous.

The phone call was from Joyce Pennington, founder of the Dallas Maverick

"She said 'You made it," Stephens said. "'I can't believe it."

The Dallas Maverick Dancers will perform at 17 home games this year between the first and second quarter, the third and fourth quarter, and all the time outs in the fourth quarter.

"I think we're up and coming," Stephens said. "We've had a real positive crowd response."

Stephens said she has really learned a lot from dancing for the Mavericks.

"I've learned a lot more about basketball and the dance world," Stephens said. "I know I want to try out next year. That's how much I enjoy it."

# Quest/ from page 1

out who God is, and who we are called to be individually and com-munally for God," she said. "That is the question that motivates most everything I do, who I am individually

and who I am in the community. Craven speaks in a soothing almost timid voice, as if she is sharing a secret with you. She leans toward you, making the world seem to shrink

and encompass only you and her.
"She is living out of that deep response of life," said Father Charlie
Calabrese, TCU minister to the Catholic students. "She is on a personal quest of finding out who she is

and being true to herself."

Calabrese said he met Craven in 1984 while he was living at St. Andrew's Church rectory.

"There was a sister who was in charge of religious education named Sister Peggy Hill, and she told me about this neat faculty member named Toni Craven," Calabrese said.

Calabrese was working with the Rev. John Butler, university minister, to organize a Lenten series brown bag lunches on the Fridays during Lent, he said.

"In talking to him (Butler), it sounded like Toni Craven would be a neat person to do the first one," Calabrese said.

After Hill described Craven to him, he recognized her walking up the stairs to Brite, he said.

"I yelled out, 'Hey, are you Toni Craven?' and she said, 'Yes,' and I said, 'Wait a minute.'" he said.

Calabrese said he introduced himself to her, and she invited him to her office. After they had talked for a while, she agreed to do the first session, he said.

Craven lives what she teaches, Calabrese said.

"As scholarly as she is, she is able to say things in such a clear and simple fashion that she seems to naturally draw people into her understanding of the Hebrew scriptures," he said. "When she makes a presentation it is not an academic thing out there. As she is explaining it she is able to touch the human experience

Sometimes I think I learn as much from them as they learn from me."

> **TONI CRAVEN** religion professor

of the students so they are engaged. "It isn't a lesson in intellectual concepts that have to be regurgitated on an exam, it's a spiritual experi-

ence for the class and her." Craven and Calabrese both said they share a special friendship.
"She helped me to open up to a

deeper understanding of women's spirituality and faith," he said. "She has helped me to broaden and deepen my own spirituality as she shared hers with me."

Craven treasures her friendship with Calabrese, she said. He is a very special person, she siad.

Craven and Calabrese were once more than just friends, they were both partial owners of George, a mal-

tese dog. Calabrese gave Craven his half of the ownership, which Craven said she thought was a "truly priceless

"He (George) is a dog who really lives in the present moment," she

said. "Dogs don't think about what they are going to do 20 minutes from now. They only think about what they are doing right now. I like that. He reminds me to stay in the present."

Craven said when she walks George, he often sees things she does

"He sees students who are sad, and I can walk right past them, and he'll just look up at them and wait until they stop and pet him and he'll snuggle," she said.

Craven said she sometimes needs to be reminded to focus on the present and not always look to the

"I don't think that way," she said, "I see myself here today."

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