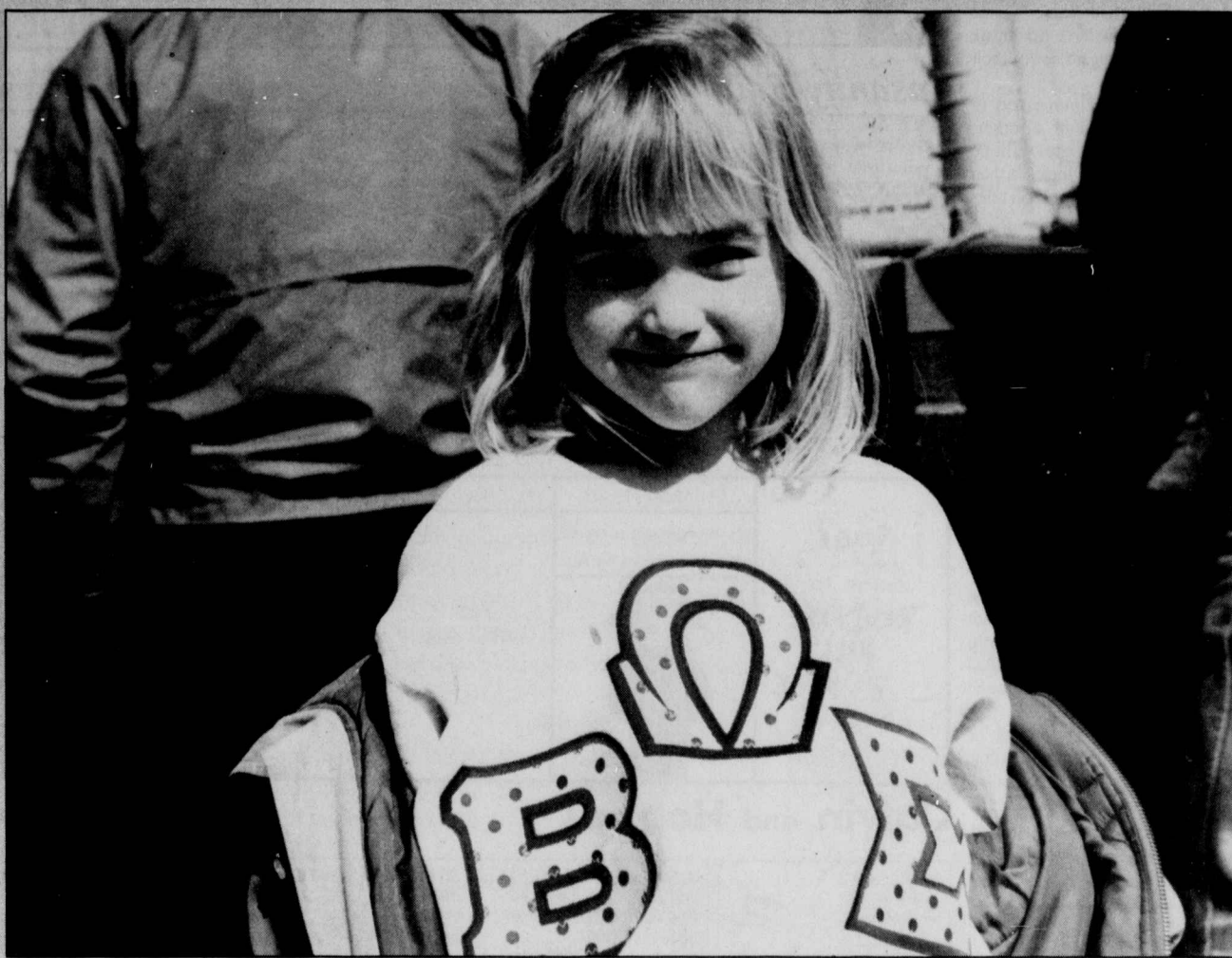


TCU Daily Skiff

Wednesday, February 12, 1992

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

89th Year, No. 70



Kinsey Johns, sister of TCU baseball pitcher Kelly Johns, wears the baseball team's Greek symbols, Beta Omega Sigma, while watching her brother play. The Frogs defeated Tarleton State 8-7. See sports page 4.

TCU Daily Skiff/Kandy Hale

Tax hike likely

Legislators looking for more revenue

By **JIM LUTHER**
Associated Press

While families and investors await word on how big a tax cut they will get from Congress and President Bush, millions should be watching instead to see how much their taxes are going to rise.

Bush's budget, with its proposals for a reduction in capital-gains taxes, an increased exemption for children and a new credit for some home buyers, would be financed in part by tax increases exceeding \$21 billion over the next five years.

Among the targets: State and local government employees; boaters; pay-phone users; securities dealers, and buyers of certain life insurance policies.

A Democratic plan to give a temporary credit of up to \$200 a year to wage-earners would be financed by higher taxes on couples with incomes in the \$200,000-plus range (\$100,000 for singles) and a new surtax on millionaires.

The House Ways and Means Committee will begin deciding Wednesday what kind of tax-cut plan is called for and how it should be financed.

The Democratic-controlled panel is likely to reject Bush's proposal, which the president billed as desirable to boost the economy. But the committee will probably send the president's bill to the full House for a vote, along with a Democratic substitute aimed at pleasing the middle class.

Bush, like Ronald Reagan, relishes a reputation as a tax-cutter flatly opposed to any tax increase. But just as Reagan signed a dozen tax increases in his eight years as president, Bush relented in 1990 and agreed to higher taxes to reduce the budget deficit.

The president's proposal shies away from any general tax increase — but millions would feel the sting anyway. Among the proposals, and their five-year costs:

Two million state and local government employees who have held their jobs since before April 1, 1986, would be required to pay the 1.45 percent tax that finances Medicare hospital insurance. Workers hired since that date already pay the tax. All but about 300,000 of the 2 mil-

lion are already covered by Medicare because of previous employment or their spouse's coverage.

The change, which Congress has repeatedly refused to approve, would cost workers more than \$8 billion, which their employers would match.

An estimated 100,000 operators of diesel-powered recreational boats would begin paying the 20.1-cent-a-gallon tax on diesel fuel. The estimated \$200 million would finance a repeal of the luxury tax on yachts costing more than \$100,000.

The nearly 1,000 credit unions with assets over \$50 million would be subject to income tax for the first time, costing them as much as \$2 billion.

Critics say this would penalize 32 million members of those credit unions. The administration says the change would be fair because large credit unions function like full-service banks, which pay such taxes.

Local calls on coin-operated phones would be subject to the 3 percent telephone tax, costing users about \$500 million.

Many brokers would be required to change their method of valuing securities held for sale to customers, costing the brokers \$4 billion.

Corporations would lose the ability to deduct interest paid on loans secured by the cash value of life insurance on key executives or employees. This would cost businesses at least \$2.5 billion.

Buyers of certain annuity investments would lose a tax advantage unless the policies include a substantial risk of loss if the taxpayer dies prematurely. Without such a risk, interest built up by the investment would be taxed as earned, costing nearly \$2 billion.

The IRS would have 45 days after an excise or employment tax return is filed before any refund begins earning interest; the same rule already applies to income tax returns. The change would cost taxpayers \$1.8 billion in lost interest.

Charities with receipts over \$25,000 a year would have to report to the IRS, and the donor each gift exceeding \$500. The donor would have to list the gift on his or her tax return. This would bring in an extra \$622 million, presumably from people who now cheat on their taxes.

House passes bill for jazz ensemble

By **JOHN GAETZ**
TCU Daily Skiff

During its third meeting of the semester, the Student House of Representatives passed a bill Tuesday to give money to the university's jazz band.

The bill allocates \$1,250 to the university's Jazz Ensemble for a musical festival to be held in March.

Funds for the jazz festival would come out of the Special Projects Fund. Any remaining money will be returned to the House fund, members said.

House members said the bill was important because the festival gives exposure to the university and the jazz ensemble.

"The Jazz Ensemble is a group that really supports our campus," said Jennifer Lovell, a town student representative.

"They play at Homecoming, Parents Weekend and do clinics," she added.

The three-day festival includes a performance by the Air Force Jazz Band, clinics and a performance by jazz musician Leon Breeden.

The Jazz Ensemble, which uses concerts as its only fund raiser, will not charge the \$6 ticket fee to students and faculty.

The bill to fund the jazz festival met with wide approval, moved quickly through discussion and passed by a unanimous vote.

House members decided to vote

next week on a bill designed to fund the renovation of the Programming Council office.

If approved, the bill would give \$2,550 from the Permanent Improvements Fund to improve and renovate the area, said Laura Cummings, chairwoman of the permanent improvements committee.

The office is used by student organizations, residence halls and all of the standing House committees and Programming Council.

The office has not been substantially renovated since it was built in 1981, members said.

In other business, Jacob Kaler, a sophomore biology major, was elected the new House Chaplain.

Before the first bill of the year was

discussed, Ben Walters, student body president, encouraged input from House members that were present at the meeting.

"I think the bill and debate process is a very important one and one that we sometimes don't pay attention to," Walters said.

Walters also read a letter from Julie Parker, Career Week student director, concerning a bill passed last semester to help fund Career Week 1992.

The letter thanked House members and congratulated the student representatives for an effective fall semester.

Walters said the responsibility of being a student representative is an important one.

Publications win second place at awards ceremony

By **LEANNA STALEY**
TCU Daily Skiff

The *TCU Daily Skiff* and *Image* magazine were winners during the Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Award ceremony held Saturday in Houston.

Image magazine won second place for Best All-Around Student Magazine for the second consecutive year.

The *Skiff* won second place in the Best All-Around Non-Daily Student Newspaper.

SPJ defines a daily paper as a newspaper that publishes five issues a week.

Since the *Skiff* prints four issues a week, it is ineligible to compete in the daily category.

The *Skiff* did manage a win in the non-daily category, said Paul LaRocque, *Skiff* adviser.

The publications competed with college papers and magazines from Oklahoma and Texas except for El Paso.

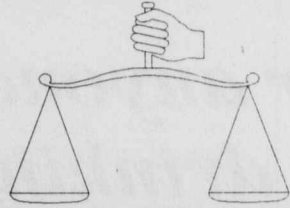
To compete for the awards, newspapers must submit three papers from three different time periods during a semester, LaRocque said.

The *Skiff* entries included a special edition covering a November fatal car accident, an issue covering the Board of Trustees and a paper with an investigative story of the local TCU Theatre.

"The award shows that the *Skiff* goes beyond just covering meetings and happenings on campus," LaRocque said. "The *Skiff* digs out news and puts special effort in pre-

See Award, page 2

Criminal Justice Month



Feb. 12-Defining Crime: Implications for Policy & Theory: Student Center Rooms 207-209 at 7 p.m.

Feb. 13-Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications: Sociology Bldg. at 4 p.m.

Visiting professors to present definitions, implications of crime

By **MEREDITH CAWTHON**
TCU Daily Skiff

A pair of criminologists will debate their definitions of crime tonight.

William J. Chambliss and Travis Hirschi will present their views of what crime is and what can be done about it at "Defining Crime: Implications for Theory and Public Policy," which will begin at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Room 207.

"The debate is an opportunity for students to see and hear famous criminologists that they read and learn about in their courses," said Alexis

Durham, director of the criminal justice program.

Chambliss, from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., has received many awards for his contributions to criminology and criminal justice. In addition to a number of articles, he is the author of five books, including "Crime and the Legal Process," "Organizing Crime" and "On the Take: From Petty Crooks to Presidents."

Hirschi, who taught at the University of Arizona, has also had significant impact on the fields of criminology and criminal justice. He has published articles on topics rang-

ing from white-collar crime to family structure and crime and is well-known for his books "Causes of Delinquency," "Measuring Delinquency" and "A General Theory of Crime."

Both Chambliss and Hirschi have served as president of the American Society for Criminology.

The debate will give students a solid understanding of the crime issue and better prepare them to vote for the politicians that support their views of crime, Durham said.

The two visiting professors will

See Debate, page 2

Investment fund program seeks interns; business students invited to open house

By **SARAH YOEST**
TCU Daily Skiff

Business students interested in administering a \$1.25 million portfolio are invited to attend the Educational Investment Fund open house and reception from 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Tandy Hall Atrium.

"The Educational Investment Fund (EIF) is a totally student-run portfolio," said Chad Martin, public relations director of the William C. Conner Foundation. The foundation provides financing for the EIF.

"The reception will tell students what the EIF is and what it's designed to do," Martin said. Both undergrada-

ate and MBA students are eligible to work with the fund.

The investment fund is formally known as the William C. Conner Foundation. Conner was a member of the university's Board of Trustees from 1962 until his death in January, and donated \$600,000 in Alcon Laboratories stock to the fund. He was a co-founder of Alcon Laboratories.

Students interested in working with the EIF must meet certain requirements, said Stanley Block, faculty advisor for the fund.

"For undergraduates, the student needs to have a number of finance courses, especially Investments and Money and Banking. MBA students

also must have completed the first-year MBA core," Block said.

He said there is no firm grade point average requirement, but students chosen for the program usually have fairly high GPAs.

Students are chosen to work with the EIF through an application and interview process. Business school dean H. Kirk Downey will make the final decision on which students are admitted to the program, Block said.

Working with the fund is a two-semester commitment, Martin said. Any student selected to work with the fund receives six hours of finance

See Fund, page 2

Inside

Smoke and Mirrors

Columnist says Bush's plan for the economy is all talk and no action.

Page 3

Radio Daze

The public is fooled by media and it's time people think twice about what they're being told.

Page 3

Home Run

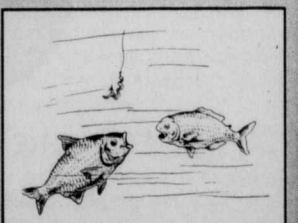
The baseball team evens their record to 3-3 with a win over Tarleton State.

Page 4

Outside

Today's weather will be partly sunny with a high temperature near 55 degrees.

Thursday's weather will be cloudy with a high temperature near 61 degrees.



CAMPUSlines

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.

Alpha Phi Omega will hold an open rush meeting today at 5 p.m., in the Woodson Room of the Student Center. Casual dress. For more information call Amara at 927-0872.

Public debate on "Defining Crime: Implications for Policy and Theory" on today at 7 p.m. in Student Center Rooms 207-209.

Graduate School Preparation Seminar will be led by Green Chair Scholar Travis Hirschi today at 4 p.m. in the sociology building.

Society of Professional Journalists holds its first meeting today at 7 p.m. in Moudy Room 265S. Old and new members welcome.

Faculty Seminar Green Chair Scholar Travis Hirschi will lead a seminar on "Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications" on Thursday at 4 p.m. in the sociology building.

Free KODAK videoconference on cross-cultural photography via satellite may be viewed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday in the TAGER TV/Telecommunications Studio. For additional information, call 921-7632.

Battle of the Bands applications and guidelines are now available in the Student Activities Office. Deadline for applications is March 6, 1992. For more information, call 923-4828.

\$1,500 Scholarship available for an English graduate or undergraduate student who plans formal study in Great Britain in the summer of 1992. For application information call Keith Odom or Neil Daniel at ext. 7240.

Graphics Contest offers a \$100 award for the best logo design for the 1992 Battle of the Bands. Entries are due Feb. 17. Contact the PC Concerts chair at 921-7926.

Mortar Board information sheets are available in Room 101 of Sadler Hall. Application are due Feb. 21. For more information contact Jennifer Burgess at 926-2548.

Interpersonal Growth Group will meet Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the TCU Counseling Center. The group will focus on improving personal relationships and enhancing a positive self-image. Contact John Schuster or Lisa Rollins-Garcia at 921-7863 for a screening interview.

The University Christian Church holds a weekly college fellowship at 7 p.m. every Sunday, and Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday in room 259. For more information call 926-6631.

HELPlines

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

Volunteers are needed to demonstrate pioneer craft skills at a historic log cabin village in Fort Worth. Training is provided.

Volunteers are needed to coordinate and help organize a historical library for a Fort Worth agency. Available from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or on weekends.

Volunteers are needed to call people who have requested assistance through a local agency. Social work skills helpful.

Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver library materials to home bound people and return previously delivered materials to the library. Available from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Must use own vehicle.

Volunteers are needed at a Fort Worth museum to assist with a special hands-on children's "discovery area." Must be available on weekdays and weekends. Training begins in September.

Volunteers are needed to assist with a recycling program on the East Side. Help is needed on Saturday mornings to sort the recyclables and help carry them from cars to the recycling area.

Volunteers are needed at a local hospital information desk to help admit and dismiss patients, deliver mail and flowers to patients' rooms and give directions to visitors. Shifts are available Monday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to conduct tours at a local nature center. Lead groups of children and adults through the area and emphasize the ecology of the area and how each person can help preserve the environment.

Debate/ page 1

also be presenting a Graduate School Seminar.

"Preparing for Graduate School" will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the sociology building. The seminar is not limited to criminal justice and sociology majors, but is open to everyone.

"Many of the issues will apply in other areas," Durham said. "Some decisions students have to think about are the same regardless of their major."

Most people are interested in crime for one reason or another, Durham said. The debate will be interesting because it looks at an issue that is in the papers and on television all the time.

"Most of us have been victimized by crime at one point or another during our lives, so it touches all of us," Durham said.

Fund/ from page 1

credit and can work during the summer, fall or spring terms.

Only 25 schools in the country have programs like the EIF, Block said.

"Our program is the second oldest of its nature in the country," he said. "Other schools like SMU, Notre Dame and Ohio State have modeled their programs after what's been established at TCU."

The fund pays three percent, or \$37,500, of its asset base to the university each year, Martin said. Another three percent goes to the Baylor School of Medicine's Ophthalmology Department in Dallas.

Award/ page 1

sending it."

The *Ranger*, a San Antonio college paper, placed first in the Best All-Around Non-Daily Student Newspaper competition. The *Vista* of the University of Central Oklahoma won third place.

"Image has continually been a strong magazine with attractive and well-written articles," LaRocque said.

Utmost magazine, from the University of Texas at Austin, placed first in the contest. The University of Texas at Arlington's *Prism* magazine placed third.

Both awards reflect the high quality of the university's journalism department, LaRocque said.

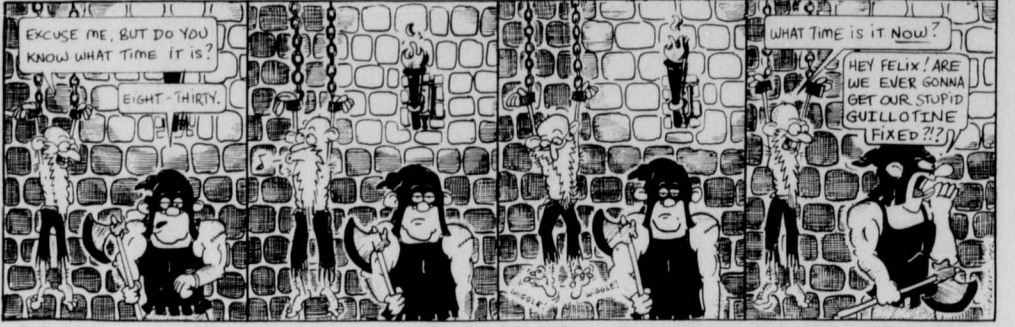
Ye gods & little fishes

by Stev Klinetobe



Insanity Fair

by Joe Barnes



Siege

by Andy Grieser & Kall Loper



Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



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to an **MBA Open House at TCU**

Dates: Saturday, February 15 and Saturday, April 11, 1992
Times: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. / Presentation at 10:30 a.m.
Dress: Casual Place: Tandy Hall, on TCU campus
RSVP: MBA Program office 1-800-828-3764 Local phone number 921-7531
Anyone interested in TCU's MBA Program is welcome to attend.

For anyone who thinks a drinking problem is running out of beer.

How do you know when a friend or relative has an alcohol problem? How do you help? Tune into our 12-part radio series, "Thinking About Drinking," and hear how people gain victory over alcohol problems. How drinking affects your health, relationships, family, school and career. Listen. You might learn some things you'll never hear at a keg party.

THINKING ABOUT DRINKING

Tune In: Monday to Saturday 6:30 pm Daily
KTCU-FM 88.7 Texas Christian University

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Opinion

TCU Daily Skiff

All-American
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Second Mile

Bush health care plan must go farther

President Bush unveiled his anxiously awaited health care reform plan last Thursday in Cleveland. The package represents a strong start for the Bush administration, although it still has several major problems that must be addressed before the American people should accept it.

Bush's plan calls for annual health care vouchers of up to \$1,250 for individuals, \$2,500 for couples, and \$3,750 for families of three or more. The aid is specifically targeted for groups that have been designated as living at or below poverty level as well as the middle class (those who earn less than \$80,000 annually).

The president should be applauded for taking action on an issue that his administration has been so reluctant to embrace in the past. However, the President's plan is weighted heavily in election year promises and contains some rather large holes.

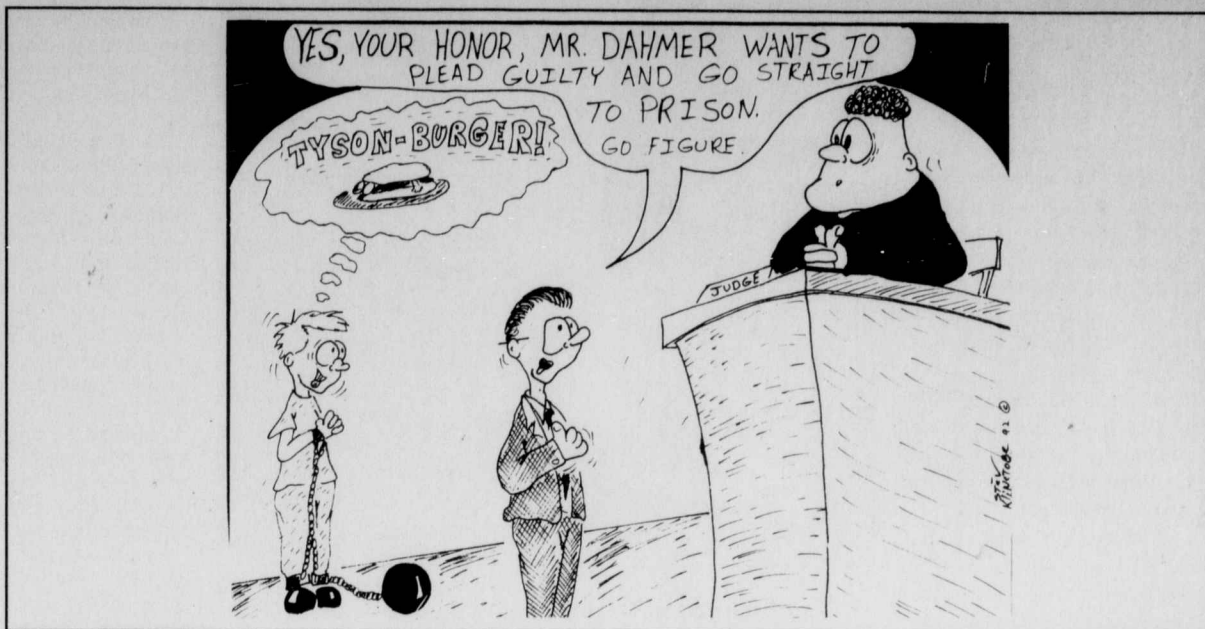
Foremost among these is that Bush's health care plan does nothing to curb the ever-rising cost explosion in the health care industry. Good health care in the United States is quite easy to find — however it is extremely difficult to afford, especially if you don't have any money to begin with.

Also, the president has not explained in great detail how this new health care plan he is proposing will be paid. Speculation is that the rapidly-expanding Medicaid and Medicare spending will be drastically reduced. In our fervor to develop some sort of affordable health care plan, we must not jeopardize the lives of those who need it most.

The president's reluctance to discuss how these new plans will be paid is just one more indication of how prevalent election year politics are in Bush's domestic plan. The Democrats had a plan, so now President Bush must counter with one of his own. Yet, he fails to give any concrete information about who will shoulder the financial burden of his health care package.

The poor and the elderly benefit most from already-established government programs like Medicare and Medicaid. To recklessly cut government appropriations for these programs will only trade one problem for another, and in the end, might compound both. Yes, a national health care plan is needed, and yes, it is something that can be achieved. However, it is vital that both Congress and President Bush look realistically at the options and the effects that each will have — not on the voting Americans, but on the ill Americans.

The president has started the wheels in motion for a more comprehensive program for reform of the health care system. By recognizing the problems we currently face, the administration has taken the first step. Now is the time to go the second mile.



Actions speak louder than words

by
**TOM
IVESTER**
Columnist



Politicians are known for saying one thing and doing another. George Bush is no exception. Many of his proposed programs are in direct conflict with his statements to the American public. Let's take a look at the Presidential proposals.

In his State of the Union address, Mr. Bush said he plans to accelerate spending in select domestic programs. Many of these same programs, just a year before, were targeted for drastic cuts by the Bush administration. For example, the White House has proposed a program to speed up the processing of single-family loans under a federal rural housing program, even though the administration has sought to drastically cut money from this program in recent years. In another case, Bush wants to inject \$3 billion into the economy by accelerating the processing of grants to build waste-treatment facilities. This is in direct contrast to the position Bush took in 1987 when he backed a Reagan administration proposal to phase out the program completely.

Moreover, most of the acceleration of new spending proposed by Bush has already been mandated by Congress and were going to be spent anyway. "To say that he is going to spend money that he has been essentially ordered to do puts a false front on things," said House Budget Committee Chairman Leon Panetta, D-Cal.

What Bush is really doing is playing political games. He is using smoke and mirrors to appease the public while at the same time

shifting blame to other sources. A report last week, issued by the President's Council of Economic Advisers, said "the Federal Reserve is partly to blame for the unexpectedly sluggish economy." And also last week, first lady Barbara Bush said, "the economy will be great" - if only Congress would pass Mr. Bush's economic program.

Bush's economic package also includes a proposal to cut taxes on capital gains. The reasoning behind this is that the tax cut will be offset by the additional taxes paid by an increase in investments. The opponents of this measure call it a tax cut for the rich. A congressional analysis, conducted by the Joint Committee on Taxation, found that nearly 70 percent of the tax break would go to those who make more than \$100,000 a year. Taxpayers with incomes of at least \$200,000 would get an average \$8,478 tax break, while those making between \$30,000 and \$40,000 would only get a \$297 tax break. I don't care what the argument is, that is a tax cut for the rich and our president is trying to give it to them.

The United States Treasury has also stated that cutting the capital gains tax eventually would widen the deficit. That's just grand! Let's give a tax cut to the rich and build up our deficit at the same time. Why don't we offer a tax cut to the middle class or better yet, why don't we keep our current tax structure and designate a specified percentage to reduce our almost \$4 trillion debt.

Bush recently accused congressional Democrats of fostering class warfare when they argue that his proposals favor the rich. "Above all," Bush said, "the most important test of fairness for my plan is that it will work for all Americans." It doesn't sound too fair to those of us who don't earn over \$100,000.

Also, Bush's health care plan seems to contradict itself in many ways. The president has proposed tax breaks to help low-income

and middle-income Americans afford health insurance. He has offered to finance these tax breaks by making drastic cuts in the Medicare program. (The Medicare program is the federal health insurance program for the elderly.) Something about this doesn't make sense to me. Bush plans to help low to middle-income Americans receive affordable health insurance by taking the same thing away from the elderly. It's almost like a shell game.

To top that, Bush has said that to start, health care credits will only be available to people with incomes less than half of the government's official poverty line. For families, that means a total income of less than \$7,000. Smaller credits would be available for people whose incomes range from 50 percent of the poverty level up to the poverty line. That's ridiculous! There's no way anyone would buy that plan.

In another contradictory move, Bush last week signed a new extension of unemployment benefits. Only a few months before, Bush fought hard to curtail unemployment extension. He blocked or vetoed two bills before he finally admitted that America was in a recession. "I wish this meant the president has seen the light," said House Majority Whip David Bonior, D-Mich. "I'm afraid it's just that he's felt the heat."

Bush is reeling. He has suffered and he knows it. He is doing everything possible to get the economy jump-started, even if that means backtracking on his own principles and foregoing the long-term consequences of his action. His very political future is at stake. Actions speak louder than words and I trust the American people to see through the contradictions of George Bush.

● Tom Ivester is a senior Marketing major from Sayre, Oklahoma.

Letters to the editor

Not-so-super Frog

I am writing in reference to an incident that appalled me at the basketball game on February 5. It was sad enough that we lost to a 2-4 SWC team, but I felt that Super Frog was extremely rude during the half-time show.

I am aware that Super Frog's job is to entertain the crowd and to arouse school spirit by acting "wacky," but I think there might be a time to defer his antics. Granted, I am not a die-hard twirling fan, but the young woman who performed at halftime at the Texas Tech game has probably trained and practiced for years. When Super Frog stayed on the court and shot from half-court throughout her performance, he distracted most of the crowd and brought attention to himself.

Don't get me wrong, I'm a big fan of Super Frog and often find myself chuck-

ling at his tomfoolery, but I feel that Super Frog should maintain a lower profile while other performers are showcasing their talents.

Dave Harveson
Senior
Social Work

Verbose

I am writing in response to John T. Harvey's column of Feb. 6, that labels economists "verbose."

Am not.
Margaret A. Ray
Assistant Professor of Economics

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

Time to read between the lines

by
**CARL
KOZLOWSKI**
Columnist



"The world is collapsing around our ears. I turn up the radio. I can't hear it..."

These are the haunting opening lines of the R.E.M. tune, "Radio Song," a song that ironically came out just as the bombs were falling on Iraq about a year ago. The war may be over, but the song still says a lot about our society, and especially our generation.

Everywhere you turn, radios blast, TVs glare, newspapers and magazines call out with the latest shocking headline. But from day to day, week to week, something is happening behind all the noise.

Across the country, we're being told what to think and what to think about, what's hot and what's not, and who the latest newsmakers are. What we're rarely being told is the truth. Instead, the national media is playing with Americans as if their minds were yo-yos to be slung back and forth ideologically. It's something that's got to be noticed, even if it can't be stopped.

One of the most blatant examples of this in recent years occurred during the Persian Gulf "crisis." The media first reported that Iraq had crossed the border as retaliation for Kuwait's taking too much of the oil on lands they were supposed to share production in. But when the U.S. and the United Nations were given enough time and publicity opportunities, those early factual reports were swept away and forgotten.

Instead, a rallying cry was raised, and the world largely joined in. Before we knew it, we were embarked on an Operation, not a war, and the name of the operation could be changed on a moment's notice without a question or complaint from the American

populace.

The president wasn't solely at fault in all this. In fact, he is perhaps the last one to blame in America's biggest brainwashing ever. The problem lies with the press. When you have *Time* and *Newsweek* bearing cheer-leading headlines (with exclamations points, no less) each week, the public is going to respond with a figurative fist in the air and a national "WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!" And when *Newsweek* offered a (geewhilkers, kids!) pullout poster on the weapons of war, it stirred our country's kids into a bigger frenzy than if Topps declared a national giveaway of Stadium Club cards.

But that's all business, right? The networks and CNN pulled in some hefty pocket change when they sold commemorative highlight tapes of Desert Storm battle action at \$19.95 a pop. *Newsweek* also had quite a keen commemorative issue to serve the American public's fond memories of the four-day trouncing. And Americans were happy, 90 percent of us in fact, parading from coast to coast and cheering El Presidente on. The press was just playing along, right? They would be crazy not to take advantage of it, wouldn't they?

Then why are we seeing all the looking-back issues now, the soulful questioning of what did we really win? "What was accomplished?" are the three main words that seem to have replaced "Onward to Victory!" in our nation's press. And the latest polls (you know how accurate THOSE are, don't you?) have shown that President Bush is only liked by 43 percent of Americans now (so you better change your positive outlook on him real quick, before the press asks YOU on the next poll!)

To be fair and stand up for Bush, the press can also create problems for him. Like that big, bad recession, right? Take a look at how that started. The economy can't be perfect all the time, so a couple of bad statistics come out. Maybe it happens two months in a row, but it still wouldn't be too big of a problem

in the big picture of things. But then the press starts saying things like "Could it be a recession?" and "Americans are scared of the 'R word'."

Before you know it, our media is taking polls of what "we" think — "we" being about 1,000 or so of the 250 million Americans across this great land. Have you ever been asked what you think by any of these pollsters? Probably 99.9 percent of us haven't, and yet you can usually find people running around saying "But 57 percent of Americans think so!"

So we have a chunk of Americans in the first poll who think that the recession is a problem. When the next poll is taken, the respondents have not only heard the press say we're in trouble, they also know that 43 percent or 52 percent (or whatever figure applies) of their fellow Americans think so too. And so the second poll's worrywarts rise, and the cycle builds and goes on until there seems to be no hope in sight — which is where we're at right about now.

There would be no recession if people didn't THINK there was one, and if the press hadn't put those thoughts in their minds in the first place. The fact is, people aren't spending money because they are scared and the only way this will ever end is if they stop being frightened and start spending their money.

So the next time you watch the news or read an article somewhere, think twice about what it's really saying. When ABC has its daily "American Agenda," ask yourself why they have the right to set one for us. Or when NBC has its "Eye on America," ask whose eye is doing the looking.

It's time that we think for ourselves, and not just soak in what the big shots in the vast corridors are telling us. It's not time to turn up the radio; it's time to turn it off. It's time to read between the lines.

● Carl Kozlowski is a junior English major from North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Baseball team evens record with victory

By TY BENZ
TCU Daily Skiff

The TCU baseball team escaped with a 8-7 win against the Tarleton State Texans yesterday at the TCU Baseball Diamond to even their record at 3-3.

Sophomore starting pitcher Reid Ryan (1-1) pitched four innings to pick up the win, allowing only an unearned run on two hits while recording one strikeout and walking one batter.

"Reid's slowly getting command of his pitches," said TCU head coach Lance Brown. "In the past, he's thrown well only to lose control of his pitches. Today he hung on and finished well."

Junior designated hitter Joel Dobson started the offense with a bang as he cranked a solo home run to open the bottom of the second inning. When catcher Mark Rudis drove in left fielder Scott Chalk with an RBI double in the same inning, TCU had a 2-0 lead they would never relinquish.

But the inning that put the game away was the sixth as TCU scored six runs, two on Scott Malone's single, as the Frogs sailed out an 8-1 lead.

But the Texans didn't quit and with the help of some shabby Frog fielding, cut the lead to 8-7 on Tony Matta's two-run homer off Frog pitcher Greg Helms.



TCU Daily Skiff/ Aimee Herring

TCU outfielder Scott Chalk scores a run in the Frogs 8-7 victory against Tarleton State.

But junior Kelly Johns came to close the door on TSU in the ninth as he pitched a scoreless inning to earn his first save of the year.

"We were fighting for our lives out there," Brown said. "I'm glad we got a win while getting to play a lot of people. This gives a look at some of the guys before conference play starts this weekend."

Frogs try to stay on track against Billikens

By GREG RIDDLE
TCU Daily Skiff

Will TCU manager Brandon Aldridge finally score?

That may be about the only suspense tonight when the TCU men's basketball team squares off against St. Louis University in the city of The Arch.

The 4-15 Billikens have had their share of headaches this season, and there isn't any relief in sight as the Horned Frogs come to town looking to improve to 18-5 on the season and take one more step towards a possible NCAA Tournament berth come March.

TCU will take a much needed break from the wild and wacky SWC, in which anything and everything can — and usually does happen. Last Wednesday, the Frogs got 31 points from senior center Reggie Smith, but were upset 63-57 by Texas Tech as the rest of the team shot a horrendous 18 percent from the field.

Saturday against the SWC cellar dwellers, Texas A&M, Smith was hampered by foul trouble most of the game and scored just seven points. So, the Frogs blew another one right?

NOT! Forward Allen Tolley scored 17 second half points, including four three-pointers and the backcourt duo of Michael Strickland and Brent Atwater combined for 31 points as the Frogs put another nail in the Aggies coffin, winning 73-54.

"Stick was hot in the first half," said Tolley. "In the second half they went to a box and one and left the wings open. I just started putting up some shots. After I hit a couple, I got a lot of confidence. It just spread to the rest of the team."

TCU's win coupled with Texas' mauling of Houston on Sunday left the Frogs and the Horns tied for the SWC lead with 6-2 records, one game ahead of UH and Rice. With the conference race heating up, the Frogs can't afford a letdown as they travel to St. Louis for this non-conference game. Earlier in the year, UH, who TCU beat by 13 a few weeks ago, routed the Billikens 110-88.

St. Louis is led by senior forward Quitman Dillard, who leads the Billikens in scoring (14 points per game), rebounding (seven boards a game) and steals (23 thefts on the season). Dillard is coming off a 13

point, seven rebound outing in the Billikens 78-74 heartbreaking loss to Alabama-Birmingham on Saturday. The Frogs must also be wary of guard Scott Highmark, who has connected on 40 percent of his three-point attempts this season. Highmark poured in a season high 28 points in the Billikens loss to Houston in January.

"St. Louis will play primarily zone on defense but will switch to a man every now and then to mix things up," said TCU Head Coach Moe Iba. "They have very good athletes, and they will try and run to utilize their speed and quickness. This is a very important game."

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