

TCU DAILY SKIFF

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1995

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

92ND YEAR, NO. 90

Intercom debates image, tuition hikes



Traci Twardowski, Panhellenic president; Sharon Selby, Student House vice-president; and Christi Campbell, Student House secretary discuss issues at the Intercom meeting Thursday.

Students voice concerns with Board of Trustees

By GINGER RICHARDSON
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Finding ways to improve the university's image while keeping tuition and fees at a reasonable level was the main issue of concern at Thursday's meeting between Intercom and members of the Board of Trustees.

Student leaders and the Trustee/Student Relations Committee also discussed what the financial priorities of the university should be over the course of the next several years.

Louis H. Barnett, a trustee from Fort Worth, proposed increasing tuition to the level of schools such as Tulane or Wake Forest to solve what some trustees and Intercom members considered to be the university's image problem.

"If we want to be perceived as a Tulane or a Wake Forest, or some other schools of that caliber," Barnett said, "should we be priced like a Tulane or Wake Forest?"

Clarence Scharbauer III, a trustee from Midland, Texas, said he opposed increasing TCU's tuition substantially because there were other ways to improve the university's image.

"I have a daughter here and would rather not see tuition increase to that extent," Scharbauer said. "I think if we market ourselves as being as good as Tulane, Vanderbilt or Wake Forest and then say, 'Oh, by the way, we're also \$10,000 to \$15,000 cheaper than those schools,' that will be a draw to students."

Intercom members also asked the trustees to consider allocating funds for additional faculty, greater handicap accessibility, residence hall renovations and increased scholarships — all of which would help improve TCU's image, they said.

"The main thing we are concerned about is image," said Scott Wheatley, a junior political science major and student body president. "TCU has a story to tell, and I think we need to be more proactive in telling that story."

Campus diversity and improving the technological services available at the university were also discussed.

Elaine Willey, a junior political science major and chairwoman of the Honors Cabinet, said the university could maintain its academic competitiveness if the trustees allocated funds to hire additional faculty.

see Trustees, page 2

Forum addresses diversity at TCU

Multicultural, homosexual issues discussed; affirmative action debated

By DAVID JIMENEZ
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Cultural diversity was the topic of Thursday's Frog Forum in the Student Center Lounge.

Chris Montez, president of the Organization of Latin American Students, and Joel Plaag, TCU Triangle president, gave opening speeches on the importance of diversity at TCU.

Montez, a sophomore philosophy and math double major, said diversity is inclusive.

TCU tends to be generally exclusive and students need to become unified, he said.

"We need to make a community together," Montez said. "It is something students need to want."

It is a social duty of TCU to have a diverse university, he said. Montez said Hispanics constituted 40 percent of the country's population and only 3.5 percent of the population at TCU.

"Demographics of United States should be a guideline to demographics at TCU," he said.

Montez also said there were 198 minorities employed by TCU. More than half those employees work in "service positions" and only nine are administrators, he said.

Montez said TCU had made a goal to have a minority student population of 20 percent by 2000.

However, he said that number needed to be more because minorities don't have the access to college that most others have.

"More minorities are in the poverty level and have this unequal playing field," he said.

Senior neuroscience major Matt Flaherty said requiring a certain minority population influences affirmative action.

"When we talk about having 20 to 30 percent minority population, that influences affirmative action," Flaherty said. "The numbers are too small and you have to implement affirmative action, and that is not justified," he said.

Anthony Johnson, a sophomore premajor and multicultural coordinator for the Programming Council, said affirmative action is needed to make up for historical discrimination of minorities.

"In a perfect world," he said, "there would be no need for affirmative action. Affirmative action is a way to equalize things."

Plaag, a junior music education major, said the forum was important for issues which need to be openly discussed.

"People need to see other's views," he said. "We need to try and look through the other person's eyes."

Plaag's speech, "Diversity Means Strength," focused on homosexuals being the "invisible minority."

"Gay people look like everyone else," he said. "There is no characteristic behavior that gays have."

Thirty people attended Thursday's forum which was sponsored by University Relations.

Adjunct English instructor dies

By CHRISTI GIFFORD
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Glenn E. Martin, an adjunct instructor in English and Ph.D. graduate of TCU, died Tuesday of a heart attack, according to Biggers Funeral Home.

An official death certificate was not available at press time.

"He had a weak heart," said Neil Daniel, a professor of English and chairman of the department.

Jim Corder, a professor of English and a member of Martin's doctoral dissertation approval committee, said he worked closely with Martin.

Corder said he enjoyed spending time with Martin. "I was shocked and startled to hear about his death," Corder said.

Daniel said Martin was teaching a class last fall and missed one class due to a heart attack. Martin returned to class the next week, Daniel said.

Martin received his doctorate from TCU in 1991.

Daniel said Martin wrote his dissertation on the metaphors of science writers.

"He had a wonderful wit," he said. "Martin was quite a story teller."

Martin taught freshman and sophomore composition part time as a graduate assistant. After he

received his degree from TCU, he taught off and on.

Martin lived in Fort Worth his entire life, according to the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. He graduated from Lake Worth High School and received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas at Arlington. Martin owned Editorial and Literary Services Co., according to the *Star-Telegram*, and taught at Tarrant County Junior College.

Daniel said Martin worked as a writing consultant and part time as a manuscript editor for Harcourt Brace.

Corder said the adjunct instructor also worked as a freelance editor.

Former student given last wish: diploma

By CINDY GARCIA
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Linda Moore, an associate professor of social work and director of TCU's social work program, walked into the cold, white hospital room, leaned over her former student, took his hand and told him that TCU had decided to grant him his dying wish.

He was going to receive his college diploma. A tear slid down Jonathan Carter's face. Struggling, the former TCU student said, "Mom will be very happy."

Those were Carter's last words. Forty-five minutes later, he went into a coma. The next day, February 4, 1995, the 33-year-old died.

Carter, who was supposed to have graduated in May 1986, did not receive his diploma because he was having financial problems which prevented him from paying his TCU bill, said Wilma Carter, his mother.

Moore said Jonathan was a good student. "He made an extremely high score on the LSAT, but was never able to attend law school because he had no transcript," Moore said.

Carter's mother said he didn't let his lack of a diploma slow him down. After graduation, he went to work for a law firm in Washington, D.C. as a legal assistant.

After working at the law firm, Carter went on to work for Rep. Ron de Lugo, a nonvoting delegate

representing the Virgin Islands. Carter worked for de Lugo until 1991, when Carter was diagnosed with AIDS.

Carter then came back to Texas to work for the Texas Alcohol Beverage Control Board in Austin as a liaison between the board and the state, Mrs. Carter said.

"Carter never lost his job or a friend," she said. But in 1994, under the recommendation of his doctor, he did take a leave of absence.

Moore said Carter loved TCU, and came back to his alma mater during his leave of absence from work to speak to classes about how he contracted his

see Wish, page 6

TCU gets piece of Mars after trade with collector

By MICHA CORTESE
TCU DAILY SKIFF

There are only eight of what are believed to be Martian meteorites, called "Snicks," and the TCU Geology department has gotten a slice of the action.

Nowell Donovan, professor of geology and chairman of the department, said this recently traded piece of Mars was found in Nigeria and is different

than all other known meteorites.

It is a young 1.3 billion years old, compared to most meteorites which are 4.5 billion to 4.6 billion years old, he said.

Donovan said it had isotope ratios similar to Mars. That is why geologists believe the meteorite came from that planet, he said.

The department has a good collection of meteorites that were given to the university by Oscar Monnig, who

started his collection in the 1920s, he said.

The department traded a piece of its collection for the slice of Mars, which is worth \$2,500, with collector David New, Donovan said.

"Trading with other collectors adds to the diversity of our collection," he said. "We have about 20 rare meteorites now."

TCU's slice of the Mars meteorite, known as Achondrite Shergottite,

along with other meteorites, are important research tools, Donovan said.

He said the Mars meteorite is believed to have come from asteroids colliding with each other and, as a result, hitting Mars at a very low angle.

Pieces of Mars then broke off of the surface of the planet and entered the earth's gravity field, Donovan said.

NEWS DIGEST

Cops charged in dog shooting

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — A judge Thursday denied a motion by defense attorneys to dismiss charges against two Galveston County police officers accused of using a stray dog for target practice.

County Court-at-Law Judge Mary Nell Crapitto refused to drop the case against Bayou Vista officers Greg Trantham and John Overstreet, who face animal cruelty charges for the alleged incident last April.

Trantham, 27, and Overstreet, 32, have said the stray Lhasa apso ran away from them as they tried to take it to an animal shelter.

Baseball team may hit Austin

AUSTIN (AP) — Professional baseball could be in Austin by 1997 under a plan hammered out between city officials and the Triple-A Phoenix Firebirds.

The Austin City Council still must vote, but city and team officials say the terms have been finalized.

"We know what we're doing," said Mike Heitz, Austin's parks director. "We're not negotiating anymore."

Under the plan, the city and the minor-league team would share the costs of an \$18 million stadium to be built on city parkland.

Retrial for "cheerleader mom"

HOUSTON (AP) — The so-called "cheerleader mom" likely will be retried this summer for her part in an alleged murder-for-hire scheme, a Harris County prosecutor says.

A request from lawyers for Wanda Holloway that the case against her be thrown out for lack of evidence was rejected Wednesday by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Prosecutors maintain Ms. Holloway wanted to boost the chances of her daughter making a Channelview cheerleading squad by killing Verna Heath, the mother of her daughter's chief rival.

Mistakes continue at hospitals

BOSTON (AP) — When an award-winning health columnist for the biggest newspaper in New England got breast cancer, she went to one of the best hospitals in the world.

But the *Boston Globe's* Betsy Lehman wound up dead because of a huge mistake at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

The fatal mistake was the latest in a series of blatant medical errors that have hurt the reputation of some of America's best hospitals.

Lehman's heart failed after she was given four times the maximum safe dosage of a highly toxic drug during chemotherapy.

Cheetah finds new zoo home

WASHINGTON (AP) — A cheetah that marks a major step in breeding endangered cats in captivity arrived on Thursday to its new home at the National Zoo.

Jomu, the nearly 2-year-old female cheetah, is the result of an innovative artificial insemination procedure designed by JoGayle Howard, a reproductive physiologist at the zoo.

Under Howard's method, sperm is injected artificially into the uterus of the female cheetah. Jomu, who's mother was captured in the wild, was born in a zoo in Tyler, Texas.

CAMPUSLINES

Campuslines is provided as a service to the TCU community. Announcements of events, public 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.

MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE is seeking an experienced applicant to fill a secretarial position. Call Anthony at 923-0475.

TCU TRIANGLE, the gay, lesbian and bisexual student union, meets at 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information call Priscilla Tate at 921-7160.

COLLEGE REPUBLICAN KICK-OFF BANQUET is at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Student Center Ballroom. Dinner costs \$8 at the door payable by cash, check or meal card. There will be guest speakers. RSVP to Chad Cantella at 923-7217.

WEIGHT WATCHERS AT TCU meets Mondays from noon to 1 p.m. in Pete Wright Room 138. Open meeting for new members or interested parties will be held March 27. The cost is \$80 for each 8 week session. Bring a lunch and enjoy private weigh-ins, lectures and group support. For further information contact Yvonne Mann at 921-7722, ext. 6054 or E-mail Y.Mann@tcu.edu, or Box 32920.

FROG FEST/SIBLINGS WEEK-END will be March 31 to April 2. Registration information has been sent to parents and is available at the Information Desk or the Recreational Sports Office. Deadline for registration is today. For more information call the Rec Sports Office at 921-7945.

BLOOD DRIVE will be from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday in the Student Center Lounge. Sponsored by Carter Blood Center.

PEER COUNSELORS are available for help with study skills, problems, homesickness and other issues. Call the Counseling Center at 921-7863.

HELPING SKILLS WORKSHOP applications are available in the Counseling Center.

JUMPSTART, sponsored by Baptist Student Ministries, meets 7 p.m. Mondays in Student Center 205. Topic is "Who Are You When No One's Looking?"

TCU'S STUDENT FOUNDATION will accept applications through today for the 1995-96 school year. This is a student organization that volunteers in the Admissions, Alumni and Development departments. Applications are available at the Student Center information desk. Call 921-7803.

UNITED ASIAN COMMUNITY meets 5 p.m. Mondays in Student Center 204. Call Dui at 263-6201 or David at 924-3905. All are welcome.

PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA meets 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in Moudy 271S. **HIGH ADVENTURE CLUB** fosters outdoors appreciation. Meetings are 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays in Student Center 222. Attend or call Paul at 926-9510.

The Beaten Path



by P.D. Magnus

There were no free seats on the bus, and Mike was stuck next to a cubist.

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



WEATHER

Today will be partly cloudy with a high in the upper 80s. Tonight's forecast is mostly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms and a low around 65.

Saturday will be mostly cloudy with a high in the upper 70s.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Today	Student Center Lounge 7 p.m., College Republican kickoff banquet, Student Center Ballroom.
Monday	7:30 p.m., Faculty Music Recital, Ed Landreth Auditorium 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Blood Drive, Student Center Lounge noon, Weight Watchers at TCU open meeting, Pete Wright 138 7:30 p.m., TCU Wind Symphony Concert, Ed Landreth Auditorium
Tuesday	6 p.m., Golden Key Honor Society resume workshop 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Blood Drive,
Wednesday	10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Blood Drive, Student Center Lounge noon, University Chapel, Robert Carr Chapel
Friday	Frog Fest, Siblings' Weekend
Saturday	Frog Fest, Siblings' Weekend
Sunday	5 p.m., TCU Triangle meeting

TCU DAILY SKIFF

Since 1902

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 during holidays.

The Skiff is distributed free on campus to students, faculty, staff and visitors.

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PHOTOGRAPHS: Staff photographs are available for purchase by readers of the Skiff. For pricing guidelines, contact the photo desk.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Unsigned editorials (on the opinion page) represent the view of the Skiff editorial board, which is composed of the editor, man-

aging editor, executive editor, assistant managing editor, news editor, campus editor and sports editor. Signed letters and columns represent the opinion of the writers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 500 words.

Letters should be submitted at least two days before publication to the Skiff newsroom, Moudy 291S, to TCU Box 32929, or to fax 921-7133. They must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject any letters for style and taste.

Letters to the editor are also accepted in voice mail form and through the TCU computer system. To leave a voice letter, dial 921-7683. To leave e-mail, send it to the Skiff's TCU vax address, listed below.

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Trustees page 1

"We believe that to maintain the quality of education at TCU, we need to maintain the current student-to-faculty ratio and not start sliding towards larger classes," Willey said.

Both Willey and Wheatley said they were concerned that classes such as the newly instituted freshman seminar were pulling professors away from upper division courses.

"Those classes are certainly engaging and important for freshmen," Wheatley said. "However, we don't want to sacrifice the faculty-to-student ratio in the junior and senior level classes to them."

Members of Intercom also urged the trustees to allocate funds to improve accessibility for the disabled on campus.

Leon Reed Jr., a sophomore political science major and co-president of Students Reaching Out, said increased accessibility for the disabled should be a high priority for trustees, because it was such an emotional issue for students.

Students feel strongly about this issue because a student died of breathing difficulties several hours after suffering a fall from a wheelchair lift in Reed Hall, he said. The perception among students was that faulty equipment caused the fall — although this was never proven, Reed said.

"Whether that perception is true or not, it is a dangerous situation and emotionally charged issue on campus," he said. "Students want the campus to be accessible."

Intercom members also presented a copy of a resolution passed during Monday's House meeting asking that "no new construction be initiated on this campus... until this issue is resolved."

The trustees said the students had made their point and that they would assign high priority to improved accessibility on campus.

Shawn Groves, a junior business major and House treasurer, asked the trustees to fund increased academic scholarships, and called for a halt of depreciation on those scholarships.

Students were concerned that the monetary value of their scholarships didn't increase along with tuition rates, Groves said.

"When a student enters, a dean's scholarship is worth 50 percent of tuition, but by the time a student graduates, it is worth only 38 percent," he said. "As a result, we are losing a lot of valuable juniors and seniors."

Chris Montez, a sophomore pre-major and president of the Organization of Latin American Students, said he was concerned about the continued lack of diversity at TCU, and proposed several solutions to solving the problem including:

- A three-day summer program for minority middle school students to foster an interest in TCU at an early age

- Increased university support of community events in Fort Worth

- More diversity programming

- Better recruitment of top academic minority students

- Increased funding for TCU's Minority Affairs Programming Bud-

get Don Mills, vice chancellor for the Office of Student Affairs, said the university wanted to have 20 percent minority enrollment by the year 2000, and had already taken steps to improve diversity on campus.

"Funds have already been allocated in next year's budget for diversity programming and the programming budget for minority affairs," Mills said.

William L. Adams, chairman of the Trustee/Student Relations Committee, told Intercom members that the board was sympathetic to all of their wishes.

"We would like to do everything that you have asked for," Adams said. "The board agrees with you 100 percent. Unfortunately, we simply do not have the funds to accomplish everything immediately, but we hear your concerns and will assign high priorities to the issues you have presented."

The Board of Trustees meets today at 9 a.m. and will debrief Intercom members later this afternoon.

TRAFFIC TICKETS
defended but only in Fort Worth, Arlington, and elsewhere in Tarrant County. No promises as to results. Any fine and any court costs are not included on fee for legal representation.

JAMES R. MALLORY
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Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

TCU Student Publications is now taking applications for:

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■ SCOTT BARZILLA

Concealed handgun law would only increase bloodshed

Throughout the past week, the Texas Legislature has been debating a concealed handgun bill originally submitted by state Sen. Jerry Patterson, R-Pasadena. The state Senate has already passed it, and the House is expected to do so shortly.

Patterson seemed unable to make up his mind over the particulars of the bill. At first, he submitted that all potential gun owners must first go through a background check for any arrests, and also must go through a firearm safety course.

Patterson then suggested that anyone except those who have been convicted of a crime be allowed to carry concealed handguns. Of course, that supposes that everyone who has been acquitted of a crime was truly innocent.

At present, Texas is one of only seven states not to allow its citizens to carry con-



cealed firearms. It's so surprising to see a state so famous for its cowboy heritage to be one of the few to not allow concealed weapons. This bill, if adopted, will transform Texas into what it used to be. Angry enemies can have shoot-outs at high noon. Hot tempered killers will probably become folk legends.

According to the *Houston Chronicle* and Houston television stations, an angry motorist shot a young female after they had gotten into a fender bender during Spring

Break. She eventually died from the wounds.

It is these types of situations that cry out against a concealed handgun law. No matter how much training a person goes through and how selective the government is in choosing who can have guns, accidents will still happen.

It is impossible for the selection process to be foolproof. Hardened criminals and emotionally unbalanced people will still be able to get guns. In fact, this new law will flood the market with handguns and will make it cheaper for criminals to get guns on the black market.

Some people who are normally good citizens will also do things they don't usually do. Everyone loses their cool at one time or another, so allowing people to conceal a firearm would increase the possibility that

someone will die if a person carrying a concealed handgun goes over the edge.

Allowing citizens to conceal firearms would also put their families in danger. Gun safety courses will help, but there will still be some careless people who will leave their gun where their children can find it. Unarmed burglars could also get their hands on one of these weapons and wreak havoc.

If this measure is passed into law, it may prevent some crimes, but will cause many complications that will cancel out the positive benefits. Many police departments in Texas are opposed to the law, but the Texas Senate ignored their complaints.

Part of Patterson's argument included the U.S. Bill of Rights, particularly the Second Amendment. But Patterson's use of the Bill of Rights to justify a concealed handgun law is misguided and erroneous. The Second

Amendment roughly says that a well-regulated militia is necessary to the security of a free state, so the right to bear arms should not be infringed.

Historical evidence shows that the Framers' purpose was to prevent a standing army, not to arm ordinary citizens. The Second Amendment does not clearly mandate private ownership of guns.

Constitutional liberty should not be considered when discussing a concealed weapons bill. The Constitution does not directly address the issue of private ownership of guns. The issue should be the safety of Texas citizens. Considering the many side effects, the bill will probably put Texans in even more danger if it is adopted.

Scott Barzilla is a junior political science major from Houston.

■ BOB TURNEY

GOP Contract has wrong idea about nutrition

I suppose it would only be fair if I informed the public that I converted to Republicanism while I was in the hospital over Spring Break (yes, I was on drugs, and no, that had absolutely no influence on my decision). What led to this radical step, you ask? Well, Bob, with nothing better to do than watch CNN all day (hey, it was that or finding out whether a bunch of tall, ugly white guys with bad bowl haircuts who go to Duke could win the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament and get the bid), was able to formulate a new opinion on the much-ballyhooed "Contract With America."

At first, I thought the whole thing would be like the balanced budget amendment, which started off as a nifty idea, but turned into political cover for the scum bags in Washington, D.C. because they knew the states would never pass it. It was like asking a 5-year-old, "Would you like us to keep sending you candy, or should we change and make it broccoli? It's up to you, dear." Obviously, you don't have to be a young George Bush to know that the states want the candy to keep coming.

I agree with the Contract on unfunded mandates, though. If the federal government wants a program, then it should pay for it. This would help bring the government back in line with the 10th Amendment — you know, the one with all that jazz about powers not given to the federal government shall be reserved for the states and what not.

In the same vein, I think that block grants to the states are a fine idea. With block grants, less money is eaten up by the eliminated bureaucracy, and more money gets to those for whom the money is intended. Some will argue that only 12 cents of every federal dollar is consumed by bureaucracy, and that with block grants, there is no oversight for how the money is spent. I would say that any money that can be saved and passed along to those who need it is worth the effort.

Plus, we get to fire unnecessary workers from the bloated federal bureaucracy. Such a deal! As for the oversight issue, if states misuse the funds, then they get less. It's that simple. No one would suffer, for the states would have to cough up the money to cover their losses in grants. In practice, however, that would probably never happen, because just the threat of losing federal money brings the states into line, such as tying highway money to raising the drinking age to 21.

Still, parts of the Contract are like leftovers: no one bought them the first time around, so now Mom (played by Newt) has reheated them and is trying to get us to dig in this time. Take school lunches for instance. OK, let's all admit that the vegetables served in public schools are pretty bad, and some of the kids don't eat them, but that doesn't mean that pickle chips and ketchup are appropriate substitutes.

We should at least offer nutrition to children who likely don't get it at home, for whatever reason. While we're on nutrition, how about the free breakfast and lunch programs? These may represent the only shot some kids get at a meal, not to mention a well-balanced one, all day. We have enough problems already in the schools, and we don't need more by having kids hungry all through the school day. They can't all get after-school jobs as lookouts for drug pushers, Newt, and their parents, welfare recipients or not, often can't afford to provide everything they need.

I'm sure that many of you out there disagree with me on this subject, and that I will hear from you, no matter what institution you've been committed to. Look forward to next week, when I, your fearless columnist, show all of the graduates of Southwest High School in Fort Worth how to properly spell "Spring Brake" on their marquee. Tell your friends who are still there, so that they can tune in and learn something, too.

Bob Turney is a junior political science and history double major from Houston.

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE: WOLVES ARE RELEASED BACK INTO THE WILD.



■ EDITORIAL

TRUSTEE MEETING

Student access would promote understanding

When Dan Rather, co-anchor of the "CBS Evening News," visited the university as a Radio-TV-Film Green Honors Professor recently, the *Skiff's* editor asked him this:

"Mr. Rather, every year TCU's Board of Trustees meets behind closed doors to decide the university's policy and vision. Every year the *Skiff* editor asks to attend and cover the meeting. That request is always denied. Because TCU is a private university, the editor can take no legal action. What, Mr. Rather, do you think about that and what would you recommend the *Skiff* do?"

Mr. Rather's eyebrows raised in a smiling expression as the rest of the room erupted in laughter.

"Well," he said, "I certainly wouldn't want to offend any trustees... but as a journalist, then I would always have to be on the side that says let the sun shine in... And so I would recommend to you to keep asking."

Once again, the *Skiff* has asked the Trustee/Student Relations Committee to consider allowing *Skiff* reporters to attend and cover the meetings.

Such a decision by the board would be applauded by prospective students, current students and faculty members and would be recognized nationwide from the pages of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* to Mr. Rather's newscast.

If the board embraced the freedom of information, then it would show America that TCU is truly a student's university where the highest priority and concern are the students' education.

The first step to learning is gaining information. Most students, indeed most student leaders, realize neither the board's main role nor the parameters of its power.

In general, students have little personal contact with trustees, and stereotypes concerning trustees abound. Often, the only information students know about trustees is that one of them occasionally gives the university a large sum of money and that students write a bigger check to the Controller's Office each year because of increased tuition and fees.

Although a brief news conference and a press release containing a few well-composed quotes outline the highlights of each semester's board meeting, those do not provide the dynamic details essential to explaining the board's important decisions. Newspaper coverage of the meeting would provide such details to students.

Closed doors lead to suspicion; open doors lead to understanding.

Deciding to earn a college education is often the most costly, yet necessary, decision of a person's life. In today's competitive world, TCU cannot afford to alienate prospective or current students and their families from any part of the college experience, especially from its cost. Discourse and understanding among students, faculty members, administrators and trustees is essential.

If students can learn firsthand through newspaper coverage about the board meetings, then they can gain a better understanding and appreciation for the trustees. They can also give the trustees a better picture of what the university needs to give students the best possible learning experience.

Only then can all groups of the university, trustees, administrators, faculty members, staff members and students, make TCU the best educational institution it can be.

■ CRYSTAL DECKER

Pressure to marry often frustrating for 'single folk'

I'm not getting married. So stop looking for a ring. Stop asking me if there's "someone special" in my life. And, if you could, please stop parading your own ring in front of my face when you know I've seen it, oh, maybe 63 times.

Not that I'm bitter. Actually, I used to be insecure about this. But with age comes experience, and in the last year I have come to terms with my single status. But culture tends to prevail in Texas, and the status quo goes like this: School, College, Married.

Thank God for the '90s, and for the freedom we have. For most, this pattern is no longer true.

But the schism remains. There is a growing chasm between the single folk and what I used to call "the happy couples."

So, in the spirit of fostering relations between these two groups on campus, let me lend you some happy hints:

Avoid the intense cuddles. I cannot explain how uncomfortable a single person feels when the couples around them start to... well, you know. Romantic concept, terrible idea at the local bar or comedy club. When you hold hands under the table, that's charming. Same for the quick kisses (four seconds and under). Anything else says, "Hey, look at that couple fawning over each other and that very obviously alone single person with them. We love affection. We remember when we last had some. When you sit on each other's lap, we feel left out. So if there's no room, try to be considerate."

We remember his or her name. What selective amnesia is this? Why refer to him as "my fiancée" when I've known her, by her first name, for longer than you have? If you're trying to drive home the reality that you're actually engaged, practice in front of a mirror. But when you constantly refer to your woman/man in that manner, some of us feel you're trying to throw it in our faces. Introductions are excluded from this rule ("This is Dan, my fiancée").

No catch-up games. Single people beware: if your love life isn't as exciting as those of your best friends, do not feel the need to find yourself someone to talk about, too. As strange as it sounds, it's so tempting, and it never ends well. Finding someone to take to parties is one thing; trying to actively create a relationship is another. It never works.

Be a happy bridesmaid. I learned this last summer, when my childhood best friend got married. There is nothing more miserable than feeling left out, especially when culture tells you that marriage signals "growing up." It isn't true. Career, self-reliance, a sense of personal place — these are what signal "growing up." Once I learned this lesson, I found myself smiling at those "happy couples" I used to sneer at. I can actually laugh and hug my friends when they tell me their news, and be happy. I might even be looking forward to a wedding or two in my future.

As for me, I date and I have my career. I'm chasing my future, and that makes me happier than anything else right now. I want to be married one day. Most likely, I'll find him in my industry. I know it'll be romantic and wonderful, and he'll have waited to marry too. We'll have it in common.

Crystal Decker is a senior radio-TV-film major from Carrollton, Texas.



TCU DAILY SKIFF AN ALL-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

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'Tale' star nice, not stereotypical Hollywood brat

By TODD JORGENSEN
TCU DAILY SKIFF

When I sat down at a popular West End restaurant on a recent Saturday night after the Dallas premiere of "Tall Tale" to chat with its star, Nick Stahl, I suspected that he would surely have better things to do than talk to me.

But what I discovered was a friendly, bright and articulate 15-year-old who was more than willing to take time out of his busy schedule to share with me his feelings about his career, movies in general and Paul Bunyan.

Stahl lives full-time in Richardson, Texas, with his mother and two sisters, where he is in ninth grade at a local private school, but he doesn't feel left out of the Hollywood loop. "I end up flying out (to Los Angeles) every

month, and that gets a little tiring," he said. "But I don't think I get any less parts because I live here."

Stahl also said that being a full-time student doesn't compromise his schedule.

"If there's a project that comes along that I feel like I really have to do, then I'll do it at the time," he said. "In fact, most of the things I've done I've been shooting during school."

A local stage actor since age 4, Stahl appeared in two television movies before his feature film debut opposite Mel Gibson in 1993's "The Man Without a Face." He said Gibson helped him to adjust to the rigors of making feature films.

"He was kind of guiding," Stahl said. "He knew it was my first thing to do, so he was very understanding about a lot of things."

Stahl followed "The Man Without a Face" with "Tall Tale," then was part of an ensem-

ble cast in the previously released "Safe Passage" (1994). But which film was his favorite to do?

"I'd have to say 'The Man Without a Face' because it's what kind of opened me up to everything else. I'm proud of all three of them," he said.

In his latest release, "Tall Tale," Stahl encounters some folklore heroes who aid his cause, including giant lumberjack Paul Bunyan.

I took this opportunity to mention the Paul Bunyan museum and amusement park in Brainerd, Minn., the existence of which took Stahl somewhat by surprise. I challenged that, being from the South, he probably didn't know who Paul Bunyan was before starting on "Tall Tale."

"Growing up in school, in my early grades, the teachers told us about him," Stahl said.



Nick Stahl
Special to the Skiff/David Nolen

"But I was surprised at how little people knew about him when I went to California and New York."

Stahl lists John Malkovich, Jack Nicholson, Al Pacino and Susan Sarandon (his co-star in "Safe Passage") among his favorite actors. He says the movies he likes to watch are fresh, innovative and challenging.

Having not chosen his next project yet, Stahl insists that he is concentrating on school. He said he will continue to choose his roles carefully, however.

"I think it's pretty important to choose carefully, because a lasting career I think has to be made by choosing the right movies," he said. "If you just do every movie that you get offered, people are going to get tired of seeing you."

"Tall Tale" opens today at theaters everywhere.



Kathy Bates and Christopher Plummer star in "Dolores Claiborne," a thriller about an unhappy woman implicated in several mysterious deaths.
Photo courtesy of Castle Rock Entertainment

'Tall Tale' short

'Grief' has humor, 'Isaiah' loses

"Tall Tale" (PG)

A resourceful boy gets help from some legendary figures in "Tall Tale," the latest Disney film which opens this weekend.

Set at the turn of the century, the story centers around 11-year-old Daniel Hackett (Nick Stahl), who is trying to protect his ill father (Stephen Lang) and his farm from being taken by evil land developer J.P. Stiles (Scott Glenn).

When almost all hope is lost, Daniel turns to the mythical heroes his father had always told him about, such as Pecos Bill (Patrick Swayze), who is convinced that Daniel is fighting for the right cause and agrees to help.

Shortly thereafter, Pecos Bill enlists the help of some of his legendary friends, including Paul Bunyan (Oliver Platt) and his sidekick, Babe the blue ox, the powerful John Henry (Roger Aaron Brown), and Calamity Jane (Catherine O'Hara).

Together they ward off Stiles' posse sent to claim the land deed from Daniel, along the way learning valuable lessons about the Wild West and the classic American farm.

Most of "Tall Tale" is more pleasing than the average Disney live action effort, but the story itself seems to be empty and pointless, with little redeeming value for kids who watch it.

The story is cheesy, and the tall tale characters who help Daniel seem unnecessary. The friendships he builds with them seem forced, and the audience is never quite able to connect. It seems as though he could have defeated the bad guys just as easily with the police or a band of thugs.

Young Stahl ("The Man Without a Face," "Safe Passage") offers a

strong central performance, and is helped along by an impressive supporting role from Swayze. These two give the film much of its charm. Platt looks goofy in his long Paul Bunyan beard, but blue ox Babe is a sight to behold.

Stiles' character is too evil and not well-rounded, and Glenn plays him without much enthusiasm.

The film is nicely directed by Jeremiah Chechik ("National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," "Benny and Joon"), and marginally entertaining but it can't overcome some predictable plotting and a distinct lack of appeal at the story level.

Grade: C

"Losing Isaiah" (R)

Jessica Lange and Halle Berry fight for custody of Berry's child in "Losing Isaiah," directed by Stephen Gyllenhaal ("Waterland," "A Dangerous Woman").

The story opens with crack-smoking impoverished mother Khaila Richards (Berry), who places her baby Isaiah in a garbage pile while she leaves to get high. By the time Khaila comes to, the baby has been carted off to a hospital, where social worker Margaret Lewin (Lange) becomes enamored with the child and tells her husband (David Strathairn) she wants to adopt him. The adoption goes fine, but a short time later a rehabilitated Khaila resurfaces, claiming that the baby belongs to her. But who should have rightful custody?

The story is one which is certainly prevalent in today's world, but screenwriter Naomi Foner throws in all sorts of contrivances and sappy moments.

I appreciate the good work from Lange, Berry and Strathairn as well as Samuel L. Jackson as Khaila's lawyer, but the plot stalls in too many places.

While "Losing Isaiah" may have the audience emotionally charged, the ending is a real cheat.

Grade: C

"Grief" (NR)

A man tries to cope with loss and

see Todd, page 6

King's latest too dark; 'Major' funny

"Dolores Claiborne" (R)

It's been proven: except for "The Shining" and "The Shawshank Redemption," no filmmaker can do King. But "Dolores Claiborne" comes close.

To derive some sort of coherent story out of a King piece is next to impossible.

He never writes stories that are easily adaptable to screenplays, and because of this, movies "based on" his work are often horrible (two words: The Mangler).

But in this most recent effort, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Taylor Hackford ("An Officer and a Gentleman," "Bound By Honor"), King's work is only slightly altered, and the effect is the same.

"Dolores" is different than the others, because it is not a "horror" movie. Rather, it is a mystery and a family drama.

Dolores (Kathy Bates) is a caregiver

to a very wealthy elderly woman on Little Tall Island, Maine (which, in case you weren't aware, is the state in which most of King's stories take place. It's his trademark). Dorothy's charge, Vera Donovan, falls down a flight of stairs and dies, and Dolores is charged with murder.

This may sound a little harsh, and that the wheels of justice in Little Tall are faster than most, but the truth remains: Dolores' husband, Joe, fell down a well years earlier. Hmmm. Coincidence?

That's what her longtime enemy and obsessed detective John Mackey (Christopher Plummer) wants to disprove. His only desire is to condemn Dolores for her crime of the past by sending her to the chair in the present. Add to the scenario her deeply disturbed, drug-addicted, overtly neurotic (yet successful journalist!) daughter (Jennifer Jason Leigh), and you've got a recipe for discomfort.

I believe that is what's wrong with "Dolores Claiborne." The feelings are too morose, too rough and the issues are so disturbing that even the most jaded audience will cringe.

Kathy Bates turns in a fantastic performance as Dolores. This is not a heroine, or someone you can truly understand or empathize with, but you do. She plays Dolores at four different ages, and her accent is distinct and consistent. As always, she is impressive.

And if you like that thing that Jennifer Jason Leigh does (the mumbling, the twitching, all of that), you won't be disappointed, either. David Strathairn is so sleazy as Dolores' late husband Joe, it's beyond words, and something to behold, if you can stand it.

But for all of this, I can't recommend it. It's too much. I can't put my finger on it, but this film is too dark for its own good. It alienates its audience, makes them run away. Not even King's stories go that far.

Grade: C-

"Major Payne" (PG-13)

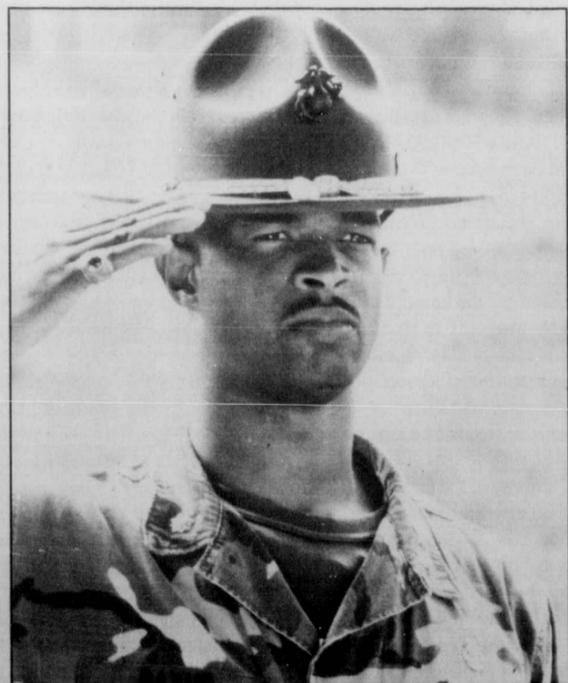
While "Major Payne" might look like a cross between "Billy Madison" and "Heavyweights," I'm going to be brave and take a stand against the other

critics in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. It was funny.

Okay, it was stupid. So was "Pee Wee's Big Adventure," but various audiences got a kick out of it. Sometimes, the right combination of characters and situation equals comedy. If you like the parts, you'll like the whole.

The "parts" of this film consist of: spoofing the military, making fun of private schools, and Damon Wayans with an accent I can't even describe. If these parts are funny to you, you'll like "Major Payne." There really doesn't need to be a whole lot of analysis, except to say they rip off "Apocalypse Now," the kids are cute, and Wayans is hilarious. If you get it, you get it.

Grade: B-



Damon Wayans stars as a career military officer placed in charge of a junior ROTC program in "Major Payne."

IN CURRENT RELEASE

Film	Todd	Crystal
"Bye Bye, Love"	C	B
"Candyman: Farewell to the Flesh"	—	C+
"Exotica"	B+	—
"Hideaway"	D-	C
"Man of the House"	D+	—
"Muriel's Wedding"	B-	A-
"Outbreak"	B-	B+
"Roommates"	C	C+

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Neighbors will be performing at the Rail on Saturday March 25. Show begins at 11 p.m.

Country music star Neal McCoy will be performing April 1 at Six Flags Over Texas. Showtime is at 7 p.m. and a reserved seat is \$4 plus the cost of park admission. Tickets are available at the Six Flags concert box office or through TicketMaster.

Oscar nominated Best Picture Pulp Fiction will be showing at 9 p.m. tonight and Saturday in the Student Center Ballroom. Admission is free with a TCU ID.

Joe Diffy will be performing at 10:30 p.m. tonight at Billy Bob's Texas. Reserved seats are \$14.50 and general admission is \$7.50. Merle Haggard will headline at 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Only \$7.50 general admission seats remain. For more information call the Billy Bob's box office or any Ticketmaster.

Casa Manana theatre is presenting Always... Patsy Cline March 14 through April 2. Ticket prices range from \$18 to \$22. Call 332-CASA for more information.

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Texas tidbits in new TCU Press book

By MICHA CORTESE
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Bits of information such as the first Texas wedding, abandoned Texas slang and old frontier recipes are what you can find in Jerry Flemmons' book, *Texas Siftings: A Bold and Uncommon Celebration of the Lone Star State*.

Flemmons' book was published by the TCU Press.

Flemmons, travel editor for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, will be signing copies of his book from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at the

Stockyards Museum of the Historic Live Stock Exchange.

Texas Siftings is a collection of pieces of antique Texas history mixed with trivia and serious information researched and written by Flemmons for the *Star-Telegram*.

"I sat in the library, downtown and at TCU, and tried to find small pieces (of information) I liked," Flemmons said. "I was looking for things that explained what Texas was like."

Margie Adkins, a TCU professor of art and communication graphics, designed the book cover and pages.

"It was a challenge to design, but interest-

ing," Adkins said. "It's not a standard book because it's broken into recipes and quotes."

The book is inviting and interesting to read, and any designer would enjoy doing it, Adkins said.

The North Fort Worth Historical Society is sponsoring the book signing and refreshments will be served.

Judy Alter, director of the TCU Press, said the book signing is free and open to the public.

"They (the museum) sell other books there, but this is a party for just this book," Alter said.



Photo Courtesy of The Walt Disney Company

Daniel (Nick Stahl), a young boy who tries to save his family and farm, gets help from folklore heroes, such as Pecos Bill (Patrick Swayze) in the new release, "Tall Tale."

POLICE BLOTTER

Campus police reported the following offenses and violations from March 9 to March 23:

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

March 10: A campus police officer was dispatched to meet with a student who said his car had been stolen from the parking lot across from the Winton-Scott Building around 2:22 p.m. The student said he had parked his vehicle in the lot at approximately 11 a.m., but when he returned around 2 p.m., the vehicle was missing.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

March 10: Campus police were dispatched to 2907 Lubbock Drive at 10:07 a.m. to meet with a complainant who said she had seen a person walking behind the house at that address. Officers went into the building and found no one inside, but officers found a window open at the rear of the house. Police notified TCU Physical Services to secure the property.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

March 12: Campus police were dispatched to Amon Carter Stadium around 3 a.m. When police arrived, officers noticed four males on top of the stadium press box. When patrol cars arrived, the four males climbed down and talked with the officers. The four said they were "just looking around." One of the four was a TCU student. The four were told to leave the area for their own safety and complied with the request.

INJURED PERSON OFF CAMPUS

March 18: A campus police officer was driving south on University Drive at 2:54 p.m. when he noticed a vehicle heading north on University on the side of the road. The officer noticed people running back to an injured person who was lying in the middle of the street. The officer was informed that the injured person had fallen out of a truck. An ambulance and the Fort Worth Police Department were called. The injured person was with a crew working on the Sid Richardson Building.

FIRE

March 20: A campus police officer was dispatched to Sadler Hall around 11:55 a.m. in response to reports of a fire in a trash can in the patio area outside Sadler. When the officer arrived, another officer was on the scene and water was being poured on the fire. The plastic bag was removed and taken to the Physical Plant by the officer. The officer said the fire was caused by a unknown person flipping a lit cigarette into the concrete trash container.

BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE

March 21: A student came into the campus police station at 11 a.m. to make a report that several things had been taken from his car on March 11. The student said he went to Brachman Hall around 1 a.m. that morning, but when the student returned at 8 a.m., he found his car unlocked and several things missing. The student told the *Skiff* that one compact disc pullout unit and one pair of prescription eyeglasses were missing.

Compiled by R.BRIAN SASSER.

Todd from page 4

love in "Grief," which kicks off the Inwood Theatre's latest run of mid-night movies this weekend.

Mark (Craig Chester) has lost his gay lover nearly a year ago, and is still trying to cope while working at a fictitious talk show called "The Love Judge." The show's executive producer Jo (cross-dresser Jackie Beat) is leaving, and Mark must deal with problems both at the show and with his potential new boyfriend (Alexis Arquette).

Overall, "Grief" is supposed to be

a comedy, but there aren't enough funny moments to make it worthwhile. Many of the best scenes involve Jo and the talk show, and especially the things that happen in her office.

But writer-director Richard Glatzer too often strays from the comedy into pretentious dialogues on homosexual life in the '90s.

Chester, the film's star, will be on hand to introduce the film at its mid-night shows on Friday and Saturday. **Grade: C+**

tcu daily skiff
opinion
all the verbosity
you'll ever need.

Blood drive comes to TCU

The TCU Student Nurses Association is sponsoring a blood drive in conjunction with the Carter Blood Center next week.

The drive will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Student Center.

Pamela K. Rickard, president of SNA, said the blood supply in the Fort Worth area is very low and encouraged everyone to help by donating blood.

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Bone compound has doctors hopeful

Experimental chemical could revolutionize orthopedic treatment

By PAUL RECER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A chemical compound that looks like toothpaste but hardens into artificial bone within hours is streamlining the treatment of fractured limbs and offers new hope for aged, fragile bones.

The compound, now in experimental trials at 12 American hospitals, is used to hold splintered bones in place, to fill voids caused by osteoporosis and to replace some of the metal plates and screws that have been used to repair shattered hips, wrists and ankles.

"The material acts as an internal cement by holding the fragments in place," said Dr. Jesse B. Jupiter, a hand surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. "It is really very dramatic."

A study to be published Friday found that the compound is virtually identical to natural bone crystals. Once it is placed in the body, the

material hardens within 10 minutes and reaches the compression strength of natural bone within 12 hours.

Within weeks, the study showed, the cement is replaced by real bone.

Because it so closely resembles bone, researchers said, the body does not reject the cement and react as it does to most foreign substances.

Clinical trials in several American hospitals and in Holland, where the compound is in regular use, show the material has allowed patients to discard casts early — or altogether — and to resume walking more quickly and with less pain.

Brent R. Constantz, co-author of the study and president of Norian Corp. of Cupertino, Calif., which developed the material, said orthopedic surgeons in Holland now use the cement to repair fractures of the wrist, hip, and leg and for total joint replacement. The cement also has been used to fill spinal voids caused by osteoporosis, a disorder that embrittles natural bone.

Jupiter said he had tested the material on patients with a type of wrist fracture that is most common among elderly patients with brittle bones.

Traditional treatment often requires an open incision, fitting the bones back together with screws, and then keeping the patient in a cast for six weeks. Even after the cast comes off, patients may have to spend months in rehabilitation.

In clinical studies using the cement, Jupiter said, he has been able to treat such fractures without an incision. Guided by X-ray, the bones are fitted together and then cement is injected through the skin and into the fracture area. The material hardens within 10 minutes, holding the bones together.

"I can then put the patient into a splint for two weeks and that's it," Jupiter said. "This will have a major impact on treatment of this very common fracture."

The doctor said broken hips that were almost impossible to correct

among some older patients in the past are now yielding to the use of the cement.

"In people with osteoporosis, you have to fix the fracture with screws, but the screws won't hold in weak bone," he said. The cement can make the use of the screws unnecessary.

Constantz, co-developer of the cement, said if the studies go well in the United States, his company should receive Food and Drug Administration approval to sell the cement in late 1997. The FDA has already approved experimental use of the cement, based, in part, on studies in Holland.

The cement costs \$750 to \$1,000 per application, but it reduces hospital stays by half, thus saving millions of dollars in medical care costs, said Constantz.

Science, which published the study, is the peer-reviewed journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Wish from page 1

deadly disease.

Carter, a heterosexual, had never done drugs, and had a total of six sexual partners during his lifetime, Moore said.

"Carter was a good kid," Moore said. "He really wasn't that promiscuous. In fact, he had a relatively long

relationship with all of the women with whom he'd had sex, including the TCU girlfriend from whom Jonathan believed he acquired the disease."

The other five women all tested negative for the virus, Moore said. Carter told students, "My mom always told me, 'Don't bring home any babies,' but she never told me I could die from having sex."

Moore said it never occurs to those of Carter's generation that they could die from having sex, and that's the message Carter wanted to get across to TCU students.

"He wanted TCU students to know that AIDS can happen to anyone, and it only takes one time — so they better be careful," Moore said.

During all of this, Carter continued to fight for his diploma, Moore said.

"He knew he was successful without the diploma, especially after *The Austin (American) Statesman* named him as one of the top 10 up-and-coming political figures, but he wanted it to make his mother proud," Moore said.

Larry Calloway, TCU controller, said once the university was notified that Jonathan's condition was terminal, the university granted his dying wish for his diploma.

Wilma Carter will pick up her son's diploma this May at graduation.

Mrs. Carter said she "will do so with pride."

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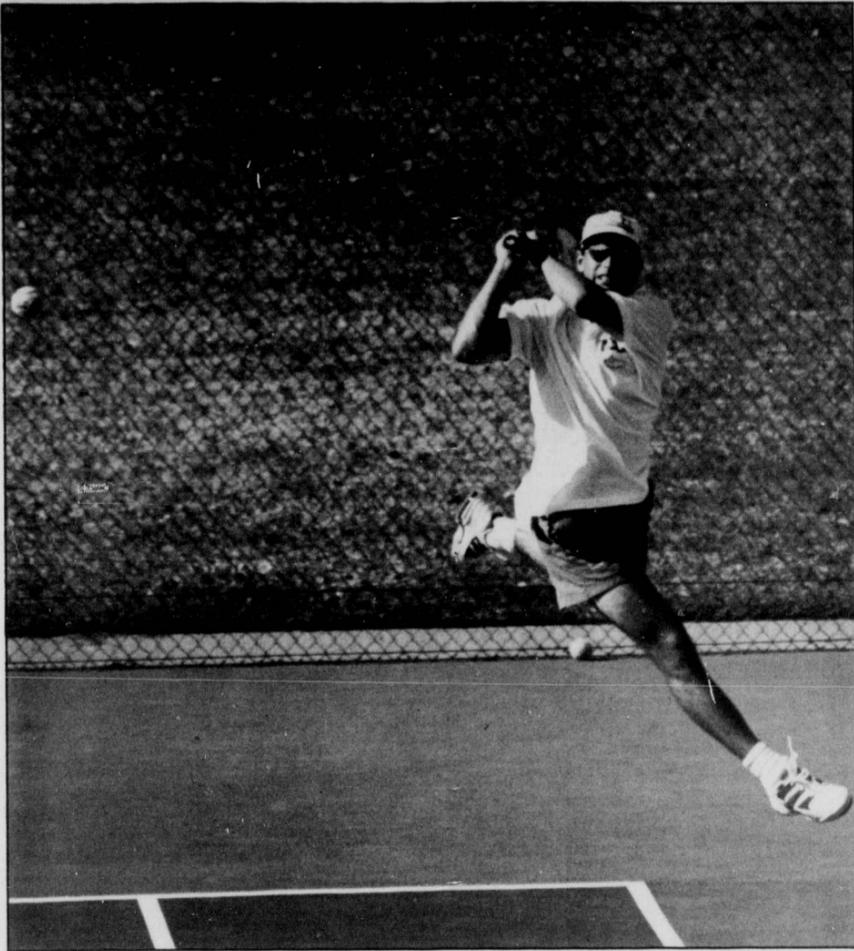
The application deadline for 1995-96 Student Foundation has been extended through Tuesday, March 28. Application and both recommendation forms must be received by 5:00 p.m.

The TCU Foundation is a select group of students dedicated to serving TCU. Members give weekly admissions tours to prospective students, volunteer at alumni events, and participate in annual fund thank-you calling. Membership is limited to one percent of the undergraduate student body.

Applications are available at the Alumni Office and the information desk at the Student Center. Deadline is this Friday, March 24. Applicants must hold a sophomore classification in the fall of 1995 and maintain a 2.5 GPA to be eligible. Interviews will be held April 10-12.

For more information, contact the Alumni Office at 921-7803.

TCU STUDENT FOUNDATION
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Serving the present
Building the future



TCU Daily Skiff/Layne Smith

Horned Frog Stefan Figley returns a shot against Arkansas' Tom Hamilton Thursday. Figley won, 6-2, 6-2, and TCU downed the Razorbacks 6-1.

When summer rolls around, any baseball will satisfy fans

What at first seemed to be a ridiculous concept, may just work out after all.

This may sound absurd to some of you, but I think replacement baseball will catch on if the strike isn't settled by opening day.

I spent my spring break in Port Charlotte, Florida, spring training home of the Texas Rangers, covering the games for WBAP Radio. I have to admit I enjoyed watching the games and I think the rest of the American public will also.

I was skeptical at first as to whether these scrubs could hold my attention for more than an inning or two, but all it took was one game and I was hooked.

To begin with, the games lasted only about two and a half hours, about 40 minutes less than average. Pitchers throw strikes, and hitters swing away. There was no backing off the rubber, or stepping out of the box to adjust the batting gloves after every pitch. In short, the nonsense of a baseball game lasting until 11 p.m. is over.

What also should bring fans out, in Arlington anyway, is a powerful offensive club that should be fun to watch.

The Rangers will feature what is being called the "Mexican League Murder's Row", with Johnny Monnell, Adam Casillas and Tony Chance, the top three batters from below the border last year. These guys can seriously hit and should put up big numbers against the below-average pitching.

The Texas Rangers have taken this replacement thing very seriously, unlike some other teams, and have shown to be heads and shoulders above other replacement teams in terms of talent.

Couple the attraction of the beautiful Ballpark in Arlington and a winning team, and it should be enough to bring out plenty of fans in a week or two. Heck, Metroplex fans, the most fair-weathered, fickle fans in the

nation, even supported boring indoor soccer when they were successful.

Another reason to follow replacement ball is these guys all have down-to-earth, happy-go-lucky attitudes. No egomaniacs here.

What these players lack in talent they more than make up for in terms of hustle and desire. They run out every ground ball, don't talk back to the ump's, and sprint back to the dugout at the end of the inning.

I talked to most of these "New Rangers" and it's wonderfully refreshing to listen to them say, "I'm just happy to be here," or "I just love the game and will do anything I can to play in the bigs."

They don't take a single day for granted because they know any minute they could be behind the wheel driving their eighteen wheeler or flipping burgers at Bill's Diner.

So come opening day, if the strike still isn't settled, go out and catch a few games anyway. Even the ticket prices have even been reduced.

And remember, the best part about going out baseball games is sitting in the bleachers on a warm spring night, eating hot dogs, drinking your favorite beverage and making fun of the right fielder.



JIM LADNER
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Frederick, Hatchell still in hunt

By DOUG TUCKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

tum in recent weeks, partly from the tremendous media exposure he's had as NCAA tournament chairman.

Jon Wefald, president of Kansas State and chairman of the Big 12 search committee, said support is drawn along geographical lines "only to a certain extent."

"All the Texas people — the faculty representatives, the primary women's administrators, the CEOs — have nothing but glowing praise for Steve Hatchell," Wefald said. "And he has a wide breadth of experience."

"But look at all that Bob Frederick has done. He hired great coaches like Roy Williams and Glen Mason and he helped negotiate the NCAA's \$1.75 billion contract.

"Right now, I think it is very close. I don't think anybody's in the lead. If somebody's in the lead, I don't know it. University presidents are very independent people. Nobody's going to tell them how to vote.

"It is my firm belief that the Big 12 CEOs are going into this with an open mind."

Dan Beebe, commissioner of the Ohio Valley Conference, and Patty Viverito, associate commissioner of the Missouri Valley, fell out of the race after all four were interviewed on Wednesday by the search committee.

"It was more a matter of experience," Wefald said. "Both Dan and

Patty are moving up rapidly in the world of intercollegiate athletics administration. All four received very high marks."

The Big 12 will begin play in 1996-97 and, already packing football television contracts exceeding \$100 million, expects to be a super-conference.

It may also be a precursor of things to come as more and more big-time sports schools reorganize within the NCAA and form larger conferences.

The Big 12 will consist of SWC holdovers Texas, Texas Tech, Texas A&M and Baylor along with the current Big Eight schools of Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, Missouri, Iowa State, Kansas State, Kansas and Oklahoma State.

"We've got two candidates with marvelous resumes, with just a multitude of excellent experiences," Wefald said. "Everybody felt very comfortable presenting the Big 12 CEOs with Bob and Steve."

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Beta Upsilon Chi-A	1665
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	1445
Sigma Nu	1182.5
Milton Daniel	907.5
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Kappa Sigma	450
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Women:

Kappa Alpha Theta	1102.5
Chi Omega	715
Eta Iota Sigma	682.5
Delta Delta Delta	430
Zeta Tau Alpha	125
Pi Beta Phi	32.5

SPORTS CALENDAR

For March 24 through Thursday, March 30.

Today:

W. Tennis, Houston (H), 1:30 p.m.,

Baseball, Baylor (A), 7 p.m.

Saturday:

Baseball, Baylor (A) (DH), 1 p.m.,

Track, SMU

Sunday:

M. Tennis, Miami (H), 1 p.m.

Tuesday:

W. Tennis, Texas (H), 1:30 p.m.,

Baseball, Sam Houston (H) (DH), 1 p.m.

Wednesday:

M. Tennis, SMU (H), 3 p.m.

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TCU Daily Skiff - the hometown newspaper

NCAA checking credits

HOUSTON (AP) — The NCAA is looking at correspondence-course credits obtained by athletes at three Southwest Conference schools, the *Houston Chronicle* reported Thursday.

The credits, involving athletes from the universities of Texas, Houston and Texas Tech, came from Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God, a Florida Bible college involved in a basketball scandal at Baylor University.

Officials at the three Texas schools say they have responded to inquiries from the NCAA and believe no impropriety is involved, the newspaper said.

"We don't see any irregularities or collusion or impropriety," Bill Carr, athletic director at the University of Houston, said.

The NCAA, investigating Baylor, found courses offered by the Florida correspondence school were used by junior college athletes trying to meet stiffer NCAA eligibility standards.

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Nursing student shows caring spirit

By **GAYLE GOODMAN**
TCU DAILY SKIFF

The "spirit of nursing" is caring — and senior nursing major Lori Batchelor exemplifies that spirit, said Rojann Alpers, assistant professor of nursing.

Batchelor has been given the TCU "Spirit of Nursing" award, which honors students who perform several community service activities and have a high academic performance.

"She has both and she seemed to be the perfect candidate," Alpers said. "What impresses me most about her is she is a totally committed care giver. I'm also impressed that she can balance all that goes on in her life."

Batchelor, 33, said she is a full-time nursing student, part-time hospital employee, wife and mother.

She said she was surprised to find out she had won the award.

"I didn't know I was being considered," Batchelor said, "but I was very honored to be chosen."

Batchelor said nursing has become a second career for her. She said she came from an artistic family and worked for several years in the

graphic arts field after high school. But when her second son, Brandon, was born, her goals were changed, she said.

Brandon was born with Hirschsprungs Disease, a condition which develops before birth which stops the production of nerve cells in the intestines, she said.

Lacking these cells, she said, her son's body could not eliminate waste. Brandon also had several surgeries which removed two-thirds of his large intestine, she said.

That's when Batchelor had second thoughts about her career goals.

"My husband and I prayed about it a lot," she said. "I think it was God's grace that I do this."

Batchelor will graduate from TCU in May. She plans to go into

intensive care work in a pediatric hospital, she said.

"Kids have very special needs," she said. "I want to work with them and with their families."

Alpers said she believed Batchelor will be an asset to any group she works for.

Batchelor has been a member of the National Student Nurses Association since 1993 and is vice president of the group this year. She and her husband founded the Support Parents of Ostomy Children in 1987. She said "ostomy" children have had surgeries which require opening the body.

She has also started a program, "Best Buddies," through the TCU chapter of SNA. The program is an alliance with mentally challenged people.

Patricia D. Scarse, dean of Harris College of Nursing, said she is impressed with Batchelor's work in the program.

"'Best Buddies' was most exceptional to me because it involved people wanting to go out on a limb and work with mentally challenged people," Scarse said. "Lori is an outstanding person and she is

well-organized."

Alpers said this was the first time the university has given out the "Spirit of Nursing" award. There is also an award given at a national level each year which is sponsored by the U.S. Army and the National Student Nurses Association, she said.

Batchelor has submitted an application for that award as well, Alpers said, along with a letter of recommendation from Patricia D. Scarse, dean of Harris College of Nursing.

The national award will be presented at the annual Student Nurses Association convention in Charlotte on April 6.

"I think she (Batchelor) is very competitive," Alpers said. "Her application is filled with community service and involvement — how much more could someone else do?"

Batchelor said she wanted to win the national award because of her respect for Scarse.

"The dean is a very special lady for me," Batchelor said. "It would be an honor not only to win for myself, but for her and for TCU."



Lori Batchelor

Speaker to discuss effects of democracy

By **JIM LADNER**
TCU DAILY SKIFF

Latin America is changing both economically and politically, but there is disagreement whether these changes are positive or negative, said Henry Dietz, a government professor and specialist on Latin America at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dietz will attempt to shed some light on the truths and misconceptions involving Latin America in a free public lecture titled "Democracy: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly" at 4 p.m. Monday in Dan Rogers Hall Room 264.

Manochehr Dorraj, an assistant professor of political science, said Dietz is one of the leading experts on Latin America.

Dietz said with democracy slowly moving into Latin America,

there are two schools of thought involving possible effects on the region.

"Many think the introduction of a capitalist economy, a freer marketplace, will help these countries grow and prosper," he said. "And there are critics that think a capitalist economy will only intensify the differences between the rich and the poor, and big companies from around the world will take advantage of the labor."

Dietz said he wants to emphasize that neither thought "has a total monopoly on the truth."

"We must look at each individual country and realize that democracy is going to affect them each in different ways," Dietz said.

The event is being sponsored by the TCU lecture fund and the political science department.

Cruelty, filth found amid Japanese cult

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO — Former followers and investigators of the apocalyptic Aum Shinri Kyo cult in Japan and Russia are painting a chilling picture of conditions in its compounds and communes: filthy, bizarre and cruel.

"It appeared that many young people were affected by their preaching, some suffered serious health damage, some came down with severe mental disorders," Russian Counterintelligence Agency spokesman Vladimir Tomarovsky said Thursday in Moscow.

Aum Shinri Kyo, whose name means Sublime Truth, has six centers in Moscow and a branch in the southern city of Vladikavkaz and claims more than 30,000 members in Russia. The group says it has about 10,000 followers in Japan.

Tomarovsky said he had no grounds to suspect the Moscow branch of planning any terrorist activity. But the group faces possible criminal and civil charges of fraud and depriving young people of their rights.

In the days since the cult gained notoriety over suspicions it was behind Monday's Tokyo subway gas attack, escaped former members and their advocates have depicted a life of fear.

Inside the group's commune near Kamikuishiki, about 70 miles west of

Tokyo, some sect members were found smeared with dirt, wandering aimlessly.

In a raid on the commune Wednesday, police and paramedics carried out about 50 people who were apparently too weak, dazed or ill to move. Six were hospitalized, and doctors said they were all suffering from dehydration and malnutrition.

The patients remained uncooperative during their treatment, refusing to speak at all, said Dr. Shigeo Saito of the Yamanashi Red Cross Hospital.

One patient, a woman in her 50s, was comatose and possibly suffering from a drug addiction, Saito said.

A 64-year-old innkeeper, whose two daughters are followers, told the national newspaper *Asahi* that he was kidnapped from his bed and woke up at a Tokyo hospital run by the group. He said he was then taken to the Kamikuishiki commune, and finally escaped five months later.

New arrivals were given intravenous injections in the neck for several weeks as part of "medical treatment," the innkeeper told the newspaper.

Every morning, he was forced to drink several gallons of warm water and then vomit as part of "training," he added. The water came from a hose connected to a plastic container on the wall.

"I told them it was unbearable, but they never stopped," he said.

Welfare reform plan modified by House

By **JENNIFER DIXON**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Republicans changed their welfare reform plan Thursday, responding to complaints that infant formula manufacturers stood to reap a \$1 billion windfall, and that poor children would be left home alone as their mothers worked.

In a series of voice votes, the House approved amendments that would increase funding for child care, require states to hold down the costs of infant formula purchases, and permit some ill and disabled immigrants to continue to receive welfare benefits.

Democrats said the changes, all proposed by Republicans, merely tinkered with a bill that undoes six decades of social policy and shrinks welfare spending by \$66 billion over five years.

Much of the savings comes from denying cash, food stamps and health care to 2.2 million legal immigrants.

Wearing ties and scarves decorated with images of children, Democrats continued to attack the bill as cruel and coldhearted.

In a sharp rebuke Thursday, Rep. Bob Walker, R-Pa., said liberals want to keep the status quo because "they derive much of their political standing and power from their present welfare system."

"What the Democrats are defending with their harsh, unreal and irresponsible talk are programs that are immoral and corrupt," Walker said. "It is immoral to take money from decent,

middle-class Americans who work for everything they have and give it to people who think they are owed money for doing nothing."

Republicans acknowledged that their bill did not set aside enough money to cover the child-care needs of single mothers on welfare, who would be required to work under the measure.

The legislation requires adults to work after two years on welfare, and drops the entire family from cash assistance after five.

Rep. Nancy Johnson, R-Conn., said her amendment would add \$150 million a year to the \$1.94 billion, an amount slightly below current levels already set aside for child care in the legislation.

But Democrats said 300,000 poor children would still be denied child care by 2000, instead of 400,000 under the original plan.

Quoting former Texas Gov. Ann Richards, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said: "You can put lipstick on a sow and call it Monique, but it's still a pig."

The House also agreed to require states to use "cost-containment" measures when purchasing infant formula for the Women, Infants and Children supplemental feeding program.

The legislation had dropped the requirement that states use competitive bidding for formula purchases, which saves \$1 billion a year and allows the program to serve an additional 1.5 million pregnant women, infants and children.

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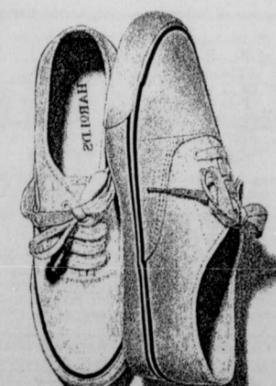


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