

Skiff



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Can college students afford their futures?
page 14

WEATHER FORECAST

High 80s
Low 60's
scattered showers
chance of t-storms



FRIDAY
OCTOBER 25, 1996

Texas Christian University
94th Year • Number 35

Nation

Woman leaves secret millions to hospitals

LOS ANGELES— (AP) Agnes Plumb lived quietly in a modest ranch house behind a white picket fence, keeping a secret that wouldn't come until a year after her death at 88: She had a \$107 million fortune, nearly all of which she willed to four medical institutions.

Last week it was disclosed that Plumb donated a total of \$90 million to the Crippled Children's Society, Orthopaedic Hospital, the UCLA School of Medicine and the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. She also gave \$8 million to four couples, all of them dear friends.

Trans World Airlines loses top executives

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Three months after an explosion destroyed a TWA jetliner, on a day the airline posted a quarterly loss linked to the crash, Trans World Airlines Inc.'s chief executive announced his resignation.

Jeffrey H. Erickson, the airline's president, said he will step down in January.

Earlier in the day, TWA posted a \$14.3 million loss for the third quarter, a period that included the July 17 crash of Flight 800, which killed all 230 people aboard.

Commuter plane makes emergency landing

BIG SPRING (AP) — An American Eagle commuter plane with 30 people aboard made a safe emergency landing Thursday after the crew smelled smoke in the cockpit, a company spokesman said.

The ATR-72 twin turboprop carrying Flight 3677 was bound from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport to Midland International. It landed at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark in Big Spring around 3:30 p.m. about 35 miles from its destination, said spokesman Tim Kincaid.

The Fort Worth-based airline suspects the air conditioning system may have been at fault.

Local

Dole to hold rally in Dallas

Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole will stop in Dallas on a one-day Texas campaign swing today.

Dole will speak at Moody Coliseum, on the Southern Methodist University campus. The coliseum is located at 6024 Airline Road.

Doors will open at 10:45 a.m. The rally is scheduled to begin at noon.

Student help needed to create altar

Scholars from the Universidad Veracruzana in Xalapa, Veracruz, and indigenous people from the Northern Veracruz state need volunteers to help build and decorate an authentic Altar of the Dead Oct. 28 through Oct. 29 in the Student Center lounge.

The altar needs to be ready for its formal opening at noon Wednesday with a photography exhibit and public round-table discussion, said Mercedes Olivera, an instructor in mass communications.

Construction will take place through 9 p.m. on both days. The Altar of the Dead will be built in the Otomi tradition and will help celebrate the Day of the Dead, a national holiday in Mexico.

Inside

• **TCU alumni kicks off Homecoming with the annual awards banquet.** page 5

• **Movie and theater reviews.** page 15

• **Why are Texas high school football coaches making 75 percent more than teachers?** page 17

Center set to open

By Mike Roberts and Neelima Atturu
SKIFF STAFF

After approximately eight months of construction, the Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center is ready just in time for Homecoming weekend.

The dedication and official opening of the center will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Located just east of Amon G. Carter Stadium, the center is named for Kelly, a 1950 TCU graduate, a Fort Worth lawyer and a member of the Board of Trustees.

Chancellor William E. Tucker

will lead the half-hour dedication. The TCU Strolling Strings, directed by German Gutierrez will perform.

Other TCU alumni who will speak at the event include: Kenneth Barr, mayor of Fort Worth and a 1964 graduate; John V. Roach, chairman of the TCU Board of Trustees chairman and a 1961 graduate; and William W. Harrell, national alumni board chairman and a 1968 graduate.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson, a close friend of Kelly's, was scheduled to speak but had to cancel because her mother became ill, event organizers said.

The center will provide TCU alumni their own place on campus, said Roby Key, an assistant vice chancellor for university advancement.

"This will be a place for weekly meetings or other events that used to be held off-campus," he said.

Key said the \$6 million center was funded by donations from 32 different donors.

Key said the alumni center was named for Kelly because of two contributions from The Burnett Foundation and the Sid W.

Please see ALUMNI, Page 11



Rebecca Newitt/SKIFF STAFF



Members of the Delta Gamma sorority and the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity work on "pumping" their Homecoming float in front of the Phi Kap house.

Council suggests adding chapters

By Amanda Bronstad
SKIFF STAFF

The Student Organization Committee voted Wednesday to recommend that fraternity expansion at TCU be approved.

The decision to add two fraternities to TCU's Greek system now lies with Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Don Mills and other administration officials who will be affected by the decision, said Ken Lawrence, chairman of the Student Organization Committee and an associate pro

Please see FRAT, Page 2

Superfrog mascot works to create enthusiasm for TCU in community

By Matt Pearce
SKIFF STAFF

Who is Superfrog?

The mascot, created in 1979 by then-TCU Athletics Promotion Director John Grace, is a symbol of sportsmanship and friendship in the TCU community, said John Finke, assistant director of marketing promotions for TCU athletics.

"He is school spirit," Finke said. "If you talk to any of the characters, past or present, they'll say they're booming with enthusiasm and bleeding purple and white."

Finke said Superfrog's real identity cannot be revealed.

A TCU student, who said he is "a good friend of Superfrog" said revealing the names of the students who perform the role would take away the magic and mystique of the mascot.

"He doesn't want people to say, 'Hey, I know you,' because everybody knows him," the friend said. "He's Superfrog."

The friend said Superfrog has deep devotion to TCU and the community.

"He's a wonderful character," he said. "He loves kids, he loves adults, he loves sporting events and, above all, he loves Texas Christian University."

Superfrog can be seen at home basket-

ball games, all football games, various other sporting events, pep rallies and other TCU functions.

Finke said he's been handling Superfrog's promotions for the past three or four months, and he is impressed by the mascot's popularity.

"I've had oodles of calls asking Superfrog to appear at birthday parties and even renewals of wedding vows," Finke said.

He said Superfrog's originality rouses interest in fans at other schools when he goes to away football games.

Please see SUPERFROG, Page 5



Special to the Skiff

Students remember Youngs

By Rob Sherwin
SKIFF STAFF

A memorial service for Tiffany Youngs, a TCU student who was killed in an Oct. 14 car accident, was held at 4 p.m. Thursday in Robert Carr Chapel.

Friends, faculty members and her Alpha Chi Omega sorority sisters gathered to remember the senior speech communication and political science major who died when the car she was riding in struck a telephone pole and flipped over.

The service was led by the Rev. John Butler, university minister. The service also featured speeches from one fellow student and two faculty members, who all spoke of Youngs' bubbly, energetic personality and strong-willed determination.

As the service concluded, Butler led a group of friends in passing out red carnations, which



Anne Dreblicky/SKIFF STAFF

Please see MEMORIAL, Page 5

Changes should ease elections, officers say

Rob Sherwin
SKIFF STAFF

With campaigns for student body officer elections scheduled to begin Tuesday night, officers of the TCU House of Student Representatives say they have taken the necessary measures to ensure a smooth campaign.

The House has been working since late September to iron out any potential kinks in the election process. Several interpretation questions regarding the House's Election Code arose during the special election for House vice president in September.

After the election, several candidates accused each other of dirty campaigning, and vice presidential candidate Mark Irish filed charges against election winner Kevin Nicoletti for exceeding the \$40 campaign spending limit.

Nicoletti was cleared of any wrongdoing in a unanimous decision by the Elections Appeals Board, but several House members

acknowledged there were ambiguities in the Election Code.

Since then, the House unanimously passed two bills amending the code.

The first bill, passed on Oct. 15, amended a section of the code that referred to campaigning before the formal campaign period. The second bill, passed on Tuesday, amended the section that referred to the deadline for reporting campaign violations.

Theresa Hill, chairwoman of the Elections and Regulations Committee, said she thinks the amendments will be effective, but she wants to avoid making the code too rigid.

"We don't want to make the document a strict binding thing that we have to make 55 amendments to in the future," she said. "We want to make it more clear but still flexible and able to work with future generations past us."

Please see HOUSE, Page 2

Pulse
CAMPUS LINES

THE TCU CATHOLIC COMMUNITY will hold a retreat for alumni and current students today and Saturday. Those interested can sign up in the University Ministries office, Student Center Room 139.

A **TCU QUILT RAFFLE** is being held as a fund raiser for scholarships. Tickets are \$1 each and are available in the University Ministries office. The drawing will be held at the Homecoming game. For more information call Carolyn at 921-7830 or Mary at 921-7221

THE AMERICAN IRONHORSE MOTORCYCLE COMPANY is sponsoring a logo contest that is open to all students. Entries should include the name American Ironhorse Motorcycle Company and should be original. Cash prizes will be awarded, and a list of winners and prize recipients will be available after Feb. 15, 1997. All entries must be postmarked by midnight Dec. 15. For more

Pulse
POLICE BLOTTER

Campus Police reported the following offenses and violations from Oct. 21 to Oct. 24:

Theft

Oct. 21: A student reported a French violin estimated to be worth about \$10,000 stolen from the Suzuki music room in Ed Landreth Hall at 11 a.m. A TCU maintenance worker reported a newspaper stuck in between the lock and the door. The student had last seen the violin the night before as she practiced on it until midnight.

Harassment

Oct. 24: A Milton Daniel resident reported receiving a phone call from a man who said he had heard that the resident's girlfriend was a "whore" while he was in jail. The caller left a name that the resident's girlfriend did not recognize. The resident was informed that he could contact the phone company to put a tracer on his phone.

Hit and run

Oct. 21: A student told an officer at the Dpe J. Kelly Alumni Center that she was hit by a sports car with a black and white top on Stadium Drive at about 9 a.m. The student said she broke the driver's side mirror on the car when it hit her right thigh, but was unable to get a license plate number off of the car. The student said she did not need an ambulance.

Suspicious person

Oct. 21: A student was walking to her dorm from the Student Center when a middle-aged white male in a four-door light blue car approached her and whistled. He then made a profane threat to the student.

Compiled by Kimberly Wilson.

FRAT

From Page 1

fessor of religion. Rick Barnes, director of student organization services, will discuss the Student Organization Committee's approval with Mills. Barnes said although no final decision has been made, the Student Organization Committee's approval will affect the outcome of the decision.

"That will carry solid weight in the decision-making process," he said. "It will help matters move forward."

Barnes said the committee approved fraternity expansion because of student interest in new chapters.

Jeff Crane, a junior marketing

major who is leading a group of 50 men who want to form a fraternity, said he is excited about the committee's approval.

"We're excited that the committee is seeing this as a step TCU needs to go, and we're confident the administration will work with us," Crane said.

He said he hopes the administration will make a final decision by the end of the semester.

Barnes said TCU will review information about the 56 national fraternities not represented at TCU. From there, the process of selecting two fraternities to TCU's Greek system will begin.

HOUSE

From Page 1

House President Sharon Selby said it would not be feasible to pass an amendment for every question that could arise.

"There are always going to be candidates who test the limits, and that's part of the whole campaign process," she said. "And so you can't create bills and resolutions for every instance that might develop. All you can do is make sure you're as prepared as possible and that you watch everything closely."

The Elections and Regulations Committee has been reviewing the code at its weekly meetings and issued a statement Tuesday to "clarify its position on issues raised in recent weeks."

Hill said the statement should help improve communication between

candidates and the House.

"If there is a grievance in the election, then the people in charge of the election should be made aware of it," she said. "We can't see everything, so we just want problems to be brought to the committee."

She said members of her committee will wear buttons during the campaign to identify themselves as election officials. Hill said this will make it easier for candidates and students to report any instances of wrongdoing.

House Parliamentarian Will Pryor said the changes will result in a smoother election.

"I think we addressed a lot of the problems that came up, but I think a lot of the problems were so specific, that it would be hard to take care of," he said.

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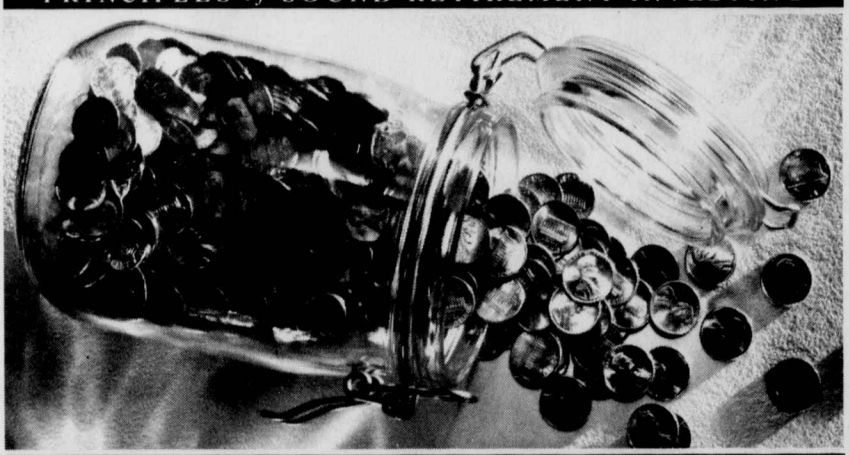
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EDITORIAL

REVISING THE ELECTION CODE

Steps are helpful, but problems still exist

After a thoroughly embarrassing incident where the validity of the vice presidential special election was in doubt, the House of Student Representatives is taking steps to revise the TCU Election Code.

Some of the measures are positive steps that needed to be taken. Sub-chairpersons have been named in the Elections and Regulations Committee. That way, if the chairperson is not available, grievances and possible problems can be addressed immediately.

Another good idea is that committee members will wear identifying buttons during campaigning and voting weeks. House Elections and Regulations Committee Chairwoman Theresa Hill said this measure would improve accessibility to the committee, so that the House is made aware of problems before they get out of control.

Despite these good ideas, though, the House is not taking the proper approach to fixing the Election Code. Hill said, "we don't

want to make the document a strict binding thing that we have to make 55 amendments to in the future."

Certainly, the House should not amend the Code very often. But the Code *does* need to be strict and binding. If it is not, candidates may try to get around the code. If the code is not explicit about exactly what is and isn't allowed, how will the committee or the House at large decide whether a violation occurred?

The problem is that under the current code, House politicians decide what does and does not constitute a violation and can revise the code at will. Imagine if the Federal Election Commission was composed of congressional representatives and White House officials. As in sport, rules can't be made and judged by the players involved.

The House should consider establishing an independent body to revise the Election Code and act as a hearing body for potential violations. For House members to fulfill those roles is a dangerous conflict of interest.

Who really gives a Spam?

Raging on the underbelly of our great society is a brutal war, an inhumane battle of good versus evil.

Do I speak of race wars? Gang violence? Political reform?

No.

I speak, of course, of the Great Spam Debate.

We are all familiar with Spam — the canned mystery meat which has been served with macaroni, hamburger and beer for generations.

But unless you're a newspaper columnist, you haven't had the time to become familiar with the worldwide Internet Spam Debate.

Located on the Net at <http://members.tripod.com/~zol/spam.html>, the Great Spam Debate questions the importance of the Hormel bestseller.

This is the honest truth.

While dipping a hunk o' Spam in ketchup for breakfast, we've all wondered aloud, "What the heck is

this stuff made of?"

According to the label on the can, the ingredients are pork, ham, salt, water, sugar and sodium nitrate.

Naturally, because you don't really want to know, you don't think twice about Spam's ingredients. But some people *deeply* yearn to know whether Spam is good or bad.

To answer this burning question, The Great Spam Debate offers a forum for the Spam-concerned public to share thoughts about the mystery meat. Several Spam experts and Net surfers have taken this opportunity to share their opinions on the matter.

"I feel that Spam symbolizes the presence of a higher power and transcends normal nutritional values," an Internet surfer known as Strider said.

Whether or not Spam symbolizes the existence of God is a very personal call. Net surfer Ben Harnett said that we should examine the very existence of Spam.

"What is Spam?" Harnett said. "Dare not ask such a foul question! We must look into the issue much deeper — toward more relevant thinking. Why does Spam exist at all?"

Introduced in the 1920s as

"Hormel Spiced Meat," Spam did OK on the market until 1937. It was in that fateful year that Hormel renamed the food "Pig By-Products and Horse Feet."

I am kidding, of course. It was renamed "Spam," though some argue that "Pig By-Products" is more applicable. Since that time, Spam has become one of the best-selling "meats" in the world.

But sales records aside, is Spam good or bad? Surfer T-Dog thinks Spam is bad. Very bad.

"Spam is the root of all evil," he said. "Spam is bad, man. Bad."

Some Spam debaters don't agree. They said Spam is indeed good.

"Spell Spam backwards. Maps! Now, pair that with the key that used to come on the can, and you've got the directions to goodness," said a surfer, the Great Spam Diety.

Only through study and deep meditation can the answer be found.

But perhaps Internet Spam debaters Bryce and Lesley summed the debate up best when they said:

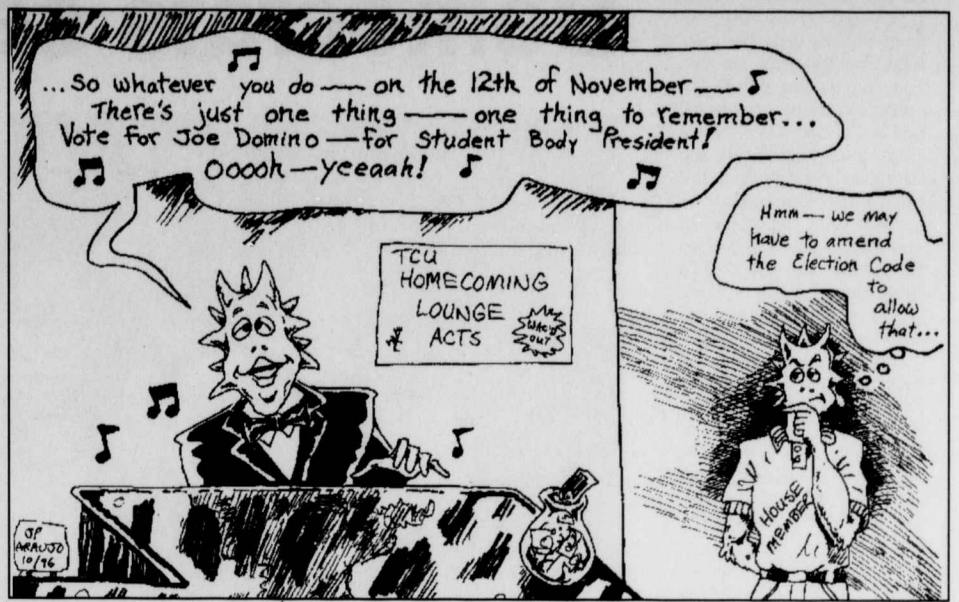
"Frankly my dear, I don't give a Spam."

Andy Summa is a junior news-editorial major from Alvin.

COMMENTARY



ANDY SUMMA



J.P. Araujo SKIFF STAFF

Defining the Catholic vote

Support of swing group critical to election outcome

As the election rapidly approaches, a phrase you're likely to hear often is "the Catholic vote." The bare-bones definition of this term is self-explanatory: It is the voting pattern of Catholics. However, it's much more than that.

Something that needs to be said here is what the Catholic vote is not. It is not an official endorsement of one candidate over another by the bishops or priests. The church does not publicly endorse candidates.

How important is the Catholic vote? Traditionally, Catholics have voted Democratic, but in 1994 the Catholic vote went to Republicans when they won control of Congress for the first time in four decades. With 1994 in mind, keeping a finger on the pulse of the Catholic vote is vital for any candidate. The problem is identifying the "typical" Catholic.

Why is this a problem? There are an estimated 60 million Catholics in the United States, and they exist in just about all categories. Catholics come in all shapes, sizes, beliefs, attitudes and intensity of devotion.

Catholics are all over the political spectrum, from the loony left to the radical right. With all this variance, it's no wonder pinning down the Catholic vote is extremely difficult.

So what's a candidate to do? It's helpful to learn the church's stance on various issues. That can be found by researching both the catechism of the Catholic Church and a selection of Catholic newspapers. The technologically-hip can join Catholic chat rooms all over the Internet.

Something a candidate must also grasp is how a Catholic's vote is directly related to how devoted he or she is to the faith. Most devout Catholics tend to vote for their favorite candidate regardless of the political party. Affluent Catholics generally vote Republican. Non-practicing Catholics and those whom I call "Catholic In Name Only" tend to vote Democratic. Devout Catholics are the open group, and candidates will thus aim for them.

The following is a very general profile of devout Catholics: They tend to go along with the church on issues. They will be against abortion in most, if not all, cases. They will be in favor of showing gays compassion and understanding but will stop short of accepting the gay lifestyle and gay marriages. They will be aware of government actions that affect the church. They will be aware of media attitudes and viewpoints

toward the church, especially if they are hostile.

They will be aware of the environment in which their children grow up and will take steps to guide their children safely through life. They will be very involved in their children's education. They will be against the abuse and exploitation — especially through pornography — of women and children. They will look at a candidate's voting record rather than listen to the candidate's words.

How badly a candidate wants to win an election is tied to how far he or she will go to please devout Catholics. A candidate must determine his or her level of desire to run a platform favorable to these swing voters. Is the candidate willing to research the above suggested sources and try to represent those views? If the candidate is Catholic, does he or she want to publicly affirm his or her devoutness or hide it? Can a candidate risk offending the Catholic voters and still win an election? Only the candidate can answer the first two questions. The answer to the last question is yes, but it's a risky move.

To win the Catholic vote is to win the election. 1994 proved it.

John Araujo is a senior general studies major from Fort Worth. His e-mail address is jparaujo27@aol.com.

Letters to the Editor

Apologizing for the Family Weekend comedian

In response to Pete Radovich's letter in the *Skiff* ("Vulgar comedian shouldn't have been here," Oct. 17), an apology to both him and all Family Weekend participants is definitely in order. I totally agree that much of the material used by Wanda Sykes-Hall was inappropriate for the situation and the entire Family Weekend Committee recognizes that.

However, much of what Sykes-Hall said was out of our hands, for several reasons. We informed Sykes-Hall on several occasions of the type of show we were putting on and reminded her several times about the audience we had. When she delivered her material, she was totally aware that the topics of her routine would be risque.

Then one wonders: If we knew the type of material she had was offensive in any way, why did we select her? That's where the problem lies. We hadn't

the faintest clue about the direction her routine would go. During the selection process of comedian-emcees for the Variety Show, we had only three- to five-minute segments of their televised routines to look at.

Due to financial limitations, Sykes-Hall was the "best" choice out of the comedians who fit into our budget. After assurance from her agent that her act was for all audiences and would fit into a family-oriented program, we felt confident that she would be an excellent choice. Obviously, from Radovich's response, our choice turned out to be not so ideal. We, the committee, realize this. We realized it the night of the show.

We had entrusted Sykes-Hall with our show and she stepped over the line several times. All we can do now is make sure she is never rehired for Family Weekend and that, when I fill out an evaluation on

Please see LETTERS, Page 6

Murder trial was vacation paid for by the federal government

A couple of weeks ago, I was a witness in a Washington murder trial. Sort of.

Let me explain.

As part of my semester as a TCU intern in D.C., I

not only learned about our illustrious government and how it works, but I also learned

too much about stab-bings, subway muggings, drug dealings and 16-year-old murderers.

My murder trial adventure began last fall when my roommate Christy and I were almost mugged coming off the subway. We were crossing the street to our apartment when we realized a teenager was slowly approaching us. There had already been sever-

al muggings in the area, and it was obvious what was about to happen.

It was also obvious to the kid that we knew what was happening, and we weren't about to let it happen.

The kid ran off. We immediately told the apartment security guards there was a suspicious-looking guy outside and, minutes later, a 40-year-old father of three was found stabbed to death where we had been. No one was in the area except for us, the teenager and the victim walking a minute behind us.

We wrote our testimony down for police and heard nothing more about the incident. Then, a couple of Mondays ago, I got a phone call from a paralegal in D.C. I was told that travel arrangements were being made to fly me to Washington that Wednesday morning.

Great — that left me plenty of time to notify my professors, the *Skiff* staff and my parents (which would not be a pretty sight).

"Mom, Dad, remember that close-

call mugging that I barely told you about because I knew you would come straight to D.C. and take me home? Well, I have to fly to D.C. and testify in a murder trial. Talk to you later."

My parents freaked! My dad seriously suggested just telling the attorney I couldn't go because I had to work at the *Skiff*. Sure, Dad — let's just stop the wheels of justice for the TCU newspaper. I tried to explain calmly that when you are subpoenaed you have no choice but to go or go straight to jail. I still don't know if he ever quite got it.

So Christy and I hopped aboard our prepaid flight and headed to D.C.

First, we spent three hours waiting in the lobby to talk to the prosecuting attorney. After we finally got in to see her, we spent a maximum of 10 minutes in her office. She told us there was a good chance that we wouldn't be testifying because of legal problems with the defendant's taped confession. We were told to

come back at 10:30 a.m. the next day to go over our testimony. As we were leaving, she said, "Oh, by the way, the judge moved the trial from Thursday to Friday, so you'll definitely be here at least until Friday."

Well, isn't that special. Next comes the part where I almost went stark raving mad about our wonderful government bureaucracy. Christy and I walked to four different buildings to get our food allowance and daily pay. We signed so many damn sheets of paper, I thought I was going to run out of ink.

Certain species of animals have completely evolved in less time than it took government employees to process everything. But we got our money, checked into our \$129-a-night hotel (paid for with your tax dollars) and headed to Georgetown for dinner (ditto).

The next day we got up and took another government-financed cab ride to the attorney's office. Again, we waited two hours for about a 20-

minute meeting. We were told the defendant was probably now going to plead guilty of manslaughter in exchange for a lighter sentence. We most likely wouldn't set foot inside the courthouse except to pick up our daily \$68 check.

We were told to go sightseeing and have a great time, all on the government's tab. That was fine with me. Although I was put out about having to miss three days of school and work, I was getting an extremely-needed paid vacation.

We called the attorney Friday morning and were told that the teenager had just pleaded guilty to manslaughter as a juvenile instead of being tried as an adult. In other words, he will probably spend a couple of years in a youth detention center and, after he turns 18, he'll spend a few more years in an adult prison and be released.

The attorney told us this happened all the time. She said that just a week before, several witnesses were flown

in from all over the country, and the same thing happened. The defendant plea-bargained and the witnesses were sent back home after a three-day vacation and no trial. We flew home Friday night, having accomplished absolutely nothing except shopping, sightseeing and taking cute, touristy pictures.

I never realized how unorganized and blatantly wasteful our judicial system is until this adventure. I've always heard how terrible the system is, but now I know firsthand. We got a paid vacation with transportation, food, hotel and an extra \$40 a day all included.

When you think about the money we spend on each criminal in the prison system, don't forget the expenses for all the witnesses who were flown in for a trial that probably never happened.

Skiff editor-in-chief Natalie Gardner is a senior advertising/public relations major from Benton, Ark.

COMMENTARY



NATALIE GARDNER

Perot says he's in for long haul

WASHINGTON (AP) — Suddenly handed the campaign spotlight, Ross Perot on Thursday rejected Bob Dole's entreaty to quit the presidential race and said he was in "to the bitter end." Republicans and Democrats alike labeled Dole's move a desperate gambit.

Perot told reporters he would not discuss details of his Wednesday meeting with Dole campaign manager Scott Reed, calling the session "weird and totally inconsequential."

Perot, in Washington for a National Press Club speech, delivered a scathing indictment of President Clinton's ethics and said Dole and the Republicans also had abused the campaign finance system and traded favors for contributions.

Dole authorized Reed's overture to Perot after a week of internal campaign debate over whether there was any way to shake Clinton's lead in national and critical state polls. But the GOP nominee was described by aides as furious that word had leaked of what was supposed to be a secret mission.

Clinton says he has the answers

LAKE CHARLES, La. (AP) — Shadowboxing in the South, President Clinton said Thursday his differences with Bob Dole don't involve labels or "who's good or bad," but what's right and wrong for America.

Clinton said his record proves he has the right answers.

"Even though our friends on the other side don't like to admit it, we are better off than we were four years ago," Clinton said in Birmingham, Ala., a state with a Republican pattern in presidential politics.

He drew a crowd that overflowed the sunny quadrangle at Birmingham-Southern College. "Maybe Alabama is going to come along with me," he said as he surveyed the turnout.

Presidential fruit in Washington

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and Bob Dole faced off in another arena Thursday, their likenesses staring each other down within pumpkins.

Pumpkins? Yes, in an unusual art exhibit — "Pumpkins and Politics" — on display in Union Station this week. It actually contains more than a hundred pumpkins carved with subjects ranging from the Lincoln Memorial to Mount Rushmore to Michelangelo's "David."

Unfortunately, most of this art is perishable. But some of it is preserved — such as the freeze-dried grand prize winners from the Pumpkin Masters, the company sponsoring the annual contest.

"If we can do this," said company founder John Bardeen, "the average person can carve an easy one. There's amazing things you can do with the right tools."

Citizens less hostile towards government

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans are feeling less hostile toward government and their own members of Congress since Republicans won control of the House and Senate by exploiting anti-Washington sentiment, a poll suggests.

That development hasn't clearly benefited one party over the other in congressional races, the Pew Research Center survey found.

Among likely voters, 48 percent said they intended to vote for Democratic congressional candidates and 44 percent favored Republicans.

But when asked which party should control Congress if Clinton wins, 46 percent said Republicans and 42 percent said Democrats.

None of that ambiguity was found in the presidential race. Clinton led Dole 50-28 among likely voters, with 6 percent backing Ross Perot. Other polls have found a wider gap between Dole and Clinton.

Democrats seek Hispanic support



Juanita Jimenez, Melody Rodriguez and Elizabeth Almendez (left to right), all 10-year-old fifth graders from Worth Heights Elementary School, watch performers at a Democratic Party rally at Fort Worth's Town Center Mall. Several prominent Democrats were present as part of the Texas Democratic Victory Bus Tour.

By Angela Seutter
SKIFF STAFF

The Texas Democratic Victory Bus, which tries to encourage Hispanics to vote this fall, staged a rally Thursday that may not gain the party a single vote.

The audience for the rally, held at the Town Center Mall in Fort Worth, was composed mostly of fifth grade students from Worth Heights Elementary School, along with a handful of supporters and a few mall shoppers.

Rep. Martin Frost (Dallas), congressional candidate Hugh Parmer and state Sen. Eddie Lucio spoke at the rally, along with other prominent Hispanic officials.

Frost, who had just returned from a fund-raising dinner in Washington with President Clinton Wednesday, said the Hispanic community is active and can help Democrats win the White House.

Frost said Hispanics have voted overwhelmingly for the Democratic ticket in the past and must unite for the November election.

Parmer, the Democratic candidate for the 12th congressional district, said he decided to join the bus tour because of the importance of voting.

"It's very important to encourage everybody to get out and vote and this bus tour is aimed at encouraging the Hispanics to get out and vote," Parmer said.

He said the push behind the bus tour is a desire to elect Hispanic officials all over the state, and the tour will visit all parts of the state to let Hispanics know their votes are important.

Lucio, one of the lead organizers of the bus tour, said the goal is to join all Democrats in the state of Texas to re-elect Clinton and Vice President Al Gore.

"We wanted to be a part of a move-

ment across Texas that would join hands with Hispanic Americans, Hispanic elected officials and party loyalists from across the state that would encourage and motivate people to get out and vote," Lucio said.

He said the tour is also raising support for Victor Morales in his race against incumbent Republican Sen. Phil Gramm.

Lucio said issues such as education, health care and employment are being addressed on the tour.

"We wanted to promote certain issues that we in the Hispanic community are interested in and have been for many years and don't want those issues to be thrown on the wayside under a Republican administration," Lucio said.

Ken Mireles, the director of Hispanic outreach for the National Democratic Campaign, said it's important to get out the Hispanic vote in Texas.

"The Hispanics are a key constituency of the Democratic party and what we are doing here is trying to get them excited about the president, about everybody on the ticket and get them out to vote," Mireles said.

Mireles said Hispanic outreach efforts are being employed in Texas because polls show that Clinton is running almost even with Republican Bob Dole in the state.

Marisa Ybarra, the bus coordinator for the Texas Victory Democrats, said the turnout at the Fort Worth rally was small because it was planned at the last minute.

She said since the bus was stopping in Dallas, the group was able to fit Fort Worth in its schedule.

The bus tour started Monday morning in Brownsville and will end today in San Antonio. It will be the longest get-out-the-vote-tour in the United States, covering over 2,000 miles.

Former mayors battling to represent Fort Worth

Granger knows responsibilities of political jobs

By Kimberly Wilson
SKIFF STAFF

Kay Granger knows the job is a lot of responsibility, but she said she's running for the open 12th district congressional seat with a mission to tackle the federal government.

She said her responsibility is not strictly to residents of Fort Worth or the state.

Granger, 53, said she realizes she has a responsibility to women in general.

Granger said she knew that being the first female mayor of Fort Worth put extra weight on her shoulders.

"I took it very seriously that I was the first," she said. "I learned a lot while I was mayor."

She said that during her term, Fort Worth was hit by cuts in federal defense spending, which cost jobs in the area. Granger said she and her colleagues "found a formula that works."

Granger said the problems she encountered as mayor, especially with defense downsizing, caused her to be frustrated with the federal government.

"I became a strong advocate of local control," she said.

Granger said she wants to concentrate on education reform if she is elected to Congress. It's an issue



Kay Granger
Republican

It's a fact	
THE 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	
Total Population	565,988
Voting Age Population	412,521
Demographics	74 percent white 8 percent African-American 16 percent Hispanic
Per capita income	\$27,366
1992 Presidential Vote	Bill Clinton (D) — 38 percent George Bush (R) — 35 percent Ross Perot (I) — 28 percent
1988 Presidential Vote	George Bush (R) — 56 percent Michael Dukakis (D) — 44 percent
Demographics data from 1990 U.S. Census	

Source: The Almanac of American Politics of 1998

that will affect young people in college, she said.

"We're moving into a high-tech age and many people don't know the basics to deal with that technology," she said.

Granger also supports welfare reform and term limits for members of Congress.

She is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth and earned a bachelor's degree in English and home economics from Texas Wesleyan University.

Before she was elected mayor, Granger worked as a high school journalism teacher and newspaper adviser. Granger, who owns her own insurance agency, served on the Fort Worth Zoning Commission for eight years.

The November issue of *Glamour* magazine touts Granger as one of 11 women who could change the country. Granger said that's why being a female leader brings a lot of responsibility.

When she was growing up, people thought women could only enter

four careers, she said. Young girls grew up expecting to be teachers, nurses, secretaries or homemakers.

Granger said being one of the first women in politics and being highlighted as a woman leader is a "huge responsibility and also a huge honor." Everyone observes how well female leaders perform in their jobs, so it's important that the leaders do their best, Granger said.

Sophomore political science major Kary Johnson has worked for Granger's campaign since September. As a high school senior, Johnson interned in Granger's office.

"I had the opportunity to work with her when she was mayor and I got to know her as a person and as a politician," Johnson said. "Through the experience I realized that she is very intelligent and truly cares about the people she is serving."

For the past six years, Democrat Pete Geren has served the 12th district. Geren is retiring at the end of this term. Granger won this year's Republican primary with 68 percent of the vote.

Parmer wants to go to Washington to 'protect Americans from Newt'

By Ellena Fortner
SKIFF STAFF

Hugh Parmer does not believe in free samples or at least not for politicians.

Parmer, running for Pete Geren's soon-to-be-vacated U.S. House seat as the Democratic nominee, said, "Politicians should not be bought by political action committees but Congress won't represent the average person until the amount of money being spent on campaigns is reduced. I plan to work to reform campaigns."

Parmer, 57, has been mayor of Fort Worth, a member of the Texas Legislature and president pro tempore of the state senate. He is married and has one son and one daughter.

Parmer said he is running for the 12th district seat to protect people from the "evil" Congress led by Republican House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

"I am going to Washington to protect the American people from Newt, who has made major efforts to reduce Medicare, student loans and to provide tax cuts for the wealthy," Parmer said. "I am going to work against this evil."

Part of the problem with the current Congress is a result of the amount of money spent on campaigns, Parmer said.

"There is a basic problem with

accepting money from PACs," he said. "I want to create a small, brave band of Democrats and Republicans to help reform finance, like a bill to limit contributions to \$500 and to force allowing advertisements on television for free."

Last year a Clean Congress Act was proposed, but Palmer said it was given little more than lukewarm lip service.

Parmer said in a statement that he would like to propose a new law which would prohibit representatives from giving or receiving campaign contributions within a 100-mile radius of Washington while Congress is in session.

"Both parties are guilty of handing out PAC checks in the Capitol Building itself," Parmer said. "I will work to stop it."

At the beginning of the race, Parmer offered his opponent, Kay Granger, a challenge to run without PAC money, but she declined.

"Obviously, one reason was because she has half a million dollars in PAC money which is more than I spent on my entire campaign," Parmer said. "But I wanted us to be an example of what people can do without PAC money."

Although Parmer collected about \$33,000 in campaign contributions under \$200, he said he did accept some money from PACs.

"I have some money from progressive groups like environmental groups, teachers groups and labor unions but it is less than one-fourth of my budget," he said. "I have no corporate PAC money."

These groups represent the concerns of citizens in the 12th district, he said.



Hugh Parmer
Democrat

House control teeters with 12th district seat, analysts say

By Angela Seutter
SKIFF STAFF

The race between Republican Kay Granger and Democratic Hugh Parmer for the 12th congressional district will carry a lot of weight come election time, analysts said.

Pete Geren, the retiring 12th district Democratic representative, said the race is an important one because the area has historically been a swing district.

"The district is usually split one-

third Democrat, one-third Republican and one-third swing," Geren said.

Geren said this election is also important since his retirement has left the seat open.

"There are six open seats for Congress in Texas this election, which is unprecedented," he said. "Open seats don't come along often so they are a rare occurrence and receive more attention."

Ralph Carter, an associate professor of political science and chairman

of the department, said since there is no incumbent for the seat, it could be easily won by either candidate.

"Every open seat election in the country has an added national significance because we could see control of the House of Representatives changing hands," Carter said.

Norma Wright, campaign manager for Democratic candidate Hugh Parmer, said the race between Granger and Parmer is one of eight key elections that will decide control of the House of

Representatives.

"This race could absolutely decide who has control of Congress," Wright said.

Wade Griffin, Granger's deputy campaign director, said the two candidates are what makes the race vital.

"The emphasis on the race is key because Kay Granger is so dynamic and people want to see her in public office," Griffin said.

Griffin said the race has a high profile because both candidates have

served as mayor of Fort Worth. Geren said the public should be interested in the race because they are electing a congressional leader on a number of levels.

"They have a community voice in Washington that represents their interests in Fort Worth," Geren said.

Griffin said he is confident Granger will win the race because she has a stronger political background than Parmer.

Wright said she expects a close battle through the entire campaign.

Weekend begins early for alumni

Annual Awards Dinner recognizes eight recipients for contributions

By Kelly Melhart and Mike Roberts
SKIFF STAFF

Although Homecoming doesn't officially start until today, TCU alumni kicked off their reunion and Homecoming weekend Thursday with the 1996 Annual Alumni Awards Dinner.

Many TCU alumni attended the awards dinner at the River Crest Country Club at which eight awards were presented.

The first award presented, the Distinguished Alumnus Award, was presented to Dan T. Jenkins, a 1953 graduate.

Jenkins joked that donations were not what earned him the award.

"I'm truly happy about this award and I'm happy that I'm one of the guys that got this that didn't give the school \$10 million," he said.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is given to an alumnus or alumna whose career has brought prominence upon himself or herself and TCU. Jenkins has published several books and magazine articles, including some about TCU.

Three of his novels, "Semi-Tough," "Dead Solid Perfect" and "Baja Oklahoma," have been made into motion pictures.

Robert J. Wright, a 1950 graduate, was given the Valuable Alumnus Award.

"Bob honors the past, but is not mesmerized by it," Chancellor William E. Tucker said. "Instead he leans into the future. He wins the blue ribbon as an initiator and TCU is the beneficiary."

Wright is the nephew of Pete Wright, a 1910 TCU graduate and the 1959 recipient of the same award. An office building on campus is named for Pete Wright.

The Valuable Alumnus Award is given to an alumnus or an alumna who has given continued outstanding service to the university or Alumni Association.

Paul F. Boller, a professor emeritus of history, received the Honorary Alumnus Award.

Tucker said, "Boller writes to be read. Paul claimed TCU years ago. Today we claim him."

Boller said, "The thing that has impressed me is the high quality of the teaching that is going on at TCU. I think TCU is an A-1 place to be associated with."

The Honorary Alumnus Award is given to someone who is not a TCU graduate but who the university thinks deserves recognition and honor.

The Royal Purple award is given to Fort Worth citizens for extraordinary service and support of TCU. This year's recipients were R.

Denny and Carol Jacobsen Alexander.

The Alexanders said TCU has played an important role in their lives.

"Preparing for this evening gave Carol and me an opportunity to reminisce about the importance of our connections to TCU over the years," R. Denny Alexander said.

Former TCU football player Lyle V. Blackwood took home the Frog O' Fame award. The award is given to the alumnus or alumna who has achieved recognition through his or her athletic career.

Blackwood said he considered playing football for several schools but chose TCU.

"It is the concern and investment in other people's lives that is important for a winning team," he said. "It was that concern that won me over to TCU."

Blackwood accepted the award on behalf of all the people who have gone to TCU, the coaches, the faculty and his younger brother Mike, who died of brain cancer last year.

The Alumni Service Award was won by Stephen P. and Peggy Yochem Allison. The award is given to the alumnus or alumna who has given continued and outstanding service to the Alumni Association.

"It has been an honor, a privilege and a source of great joy that we have been able to represent TCU over the past years," Peggy Allison said. "If our efforts have been beneficial to TCU, they pale in comparison to what we have gained in return."

Jennifer L. Duncan won the Distinguished Student Award. The award is given to a junior or senior student who has distinguished himself or herself as an undergraduate in both academics and service to TCU.

Duncan is now enrolled at Baylor University pursuing both an MBA and law degree.

The President's Service Award is given biannually to a past president of the Alumni Association. Bridget Guthrie Thomas was the 1996 recipient.

"I've seen a lot of neat things happen at TCU over the past 10 years," she said. "The changes taking place on campus are exciting for all the new kids."

William W. Harrell, president of the TCU Alumni Association and a 1968 graduate served as master of ceremonies for the awards dinner.

Harrell said the recipients have helped shape TCU into the institution that it is today.

Tucker presented recipients with their awards.

SUPERFROG

From Page 1

"He's extremely unique," Finke said. "The curiosity factor increases his awareness."

Superfrog's friend said the mascot just wants to cheer people up and often acts silly just to make people laugh.

"On many ways, he's on a 4- or 5-year-old level," the friend said. "He likes to surprise people."

Superfrog himself would not grant a formal interview but answered several written questions.

He said his role at TCU is the same as his role in life, "to carry my excitement of TCU to others."

"Whether it's by dancing, playing, wrestling, cooking or just hang-

ing out, I'll do it," Superfrog wrote. "I think TCU is the place, and I love being here."

He said while he loves TCU and everyone who shows enthusiasm for it, he has particular fondness for children.

"My most treasured memories are those of happy little children coming up to give me a hug or pet me," Superfrog wrote. "The kids' faces are pure joy, and those are precious."

Superfrog wrote that one of his favorite memories was a young girl in a TCU cheerleader outfit who gave him a huge hug and said she loved him.

MEMORIAL

From Page 1

is the flower of Alpha Chi Omega.

"Tiffany relished in the process of being, but stayed focused on her vision of what was yet to be," Butler said during the service. "She was a gift, for which thanksgiving was the most apt response."

Emily Bell, a junior psychology major, said the service showed Youngs in an accurate light.

"It captured her true essence," she said. "Her personality showed through. It really showed the way she was."

Jason Smuland, a freshman business major, said the service

was touching and uplifting.

"Although I never knew her, it sounded as if she truly was an angel," Smuland said, referring to the song "Angels Among Us," by Alabama, which was played at the service's conclusion.

Youngs was also a member of Sigma Pi Chi, the speech communication honor society. She was elected as president of the society shortly before she died.

Youngs graduated in 1994 from Memorial High School in Edmond, Okla. She was 20.

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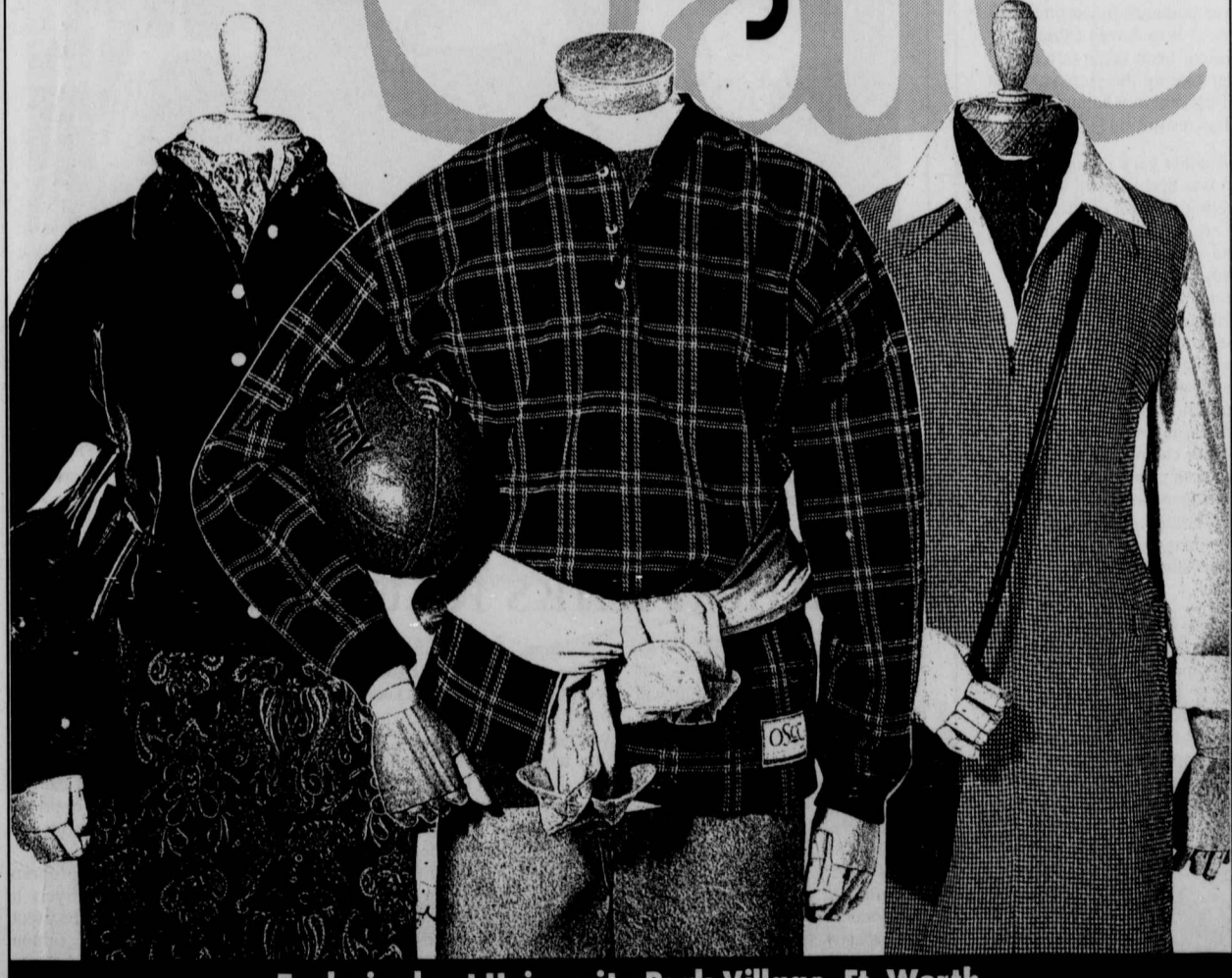
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Turn back clocks Saturday

By Rob Sherwin
SKIFF STAFF

For the second time this year, it's time for Americans to manipulate the forces of nature and change the time on their clocks.

Daylight-saving time will end at 3 a.m. Sunday, when people will frantically search their memories for the saying that will help them remember which direction to move the hour hand: "Spring forward, fall back."

While most clocks will be set back one hour, others will be set ahead and still others will be forgotten entirely.

It could be a sad day for most Americans. According to a survey by Hilton Hotels published in the June 1986 issue of *Fortune* magazine, the average American is more than twice as likely to prefer daylight-saving time to standard time (65.7 percent vs. 27.8 percent).

Although daylight-saving time was adopted by Great Britain during World War I, it did not become law in the United States until 1967, when the Uniform Time Act was passed by Congress.

Prior to that, there were many arguments in favor of the new time system. According to the March 1981 issue of *History Today* magazine, a 1908 British report on the issue suggested six areas of benefit.

Don't Forget
IT'S TIME!



REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK ONE
HOUR THIS SATURDAY

Some of the supporting arguments included having more hours of daylight for recreation and leisure, benefiting the general health and welfare of the country and reducing the "industrial, commercial and domestic expenditure on artificial light."

The Uniform Time Act said that all states, Washington, D.C. and all U.S. possessions were to observe daylight-saving time beginning at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in April and ending at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in October.

However, any state could, by law, exempt themselves from the time change. Arizona, Hawaii,

Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and parts of Indiana stay on standard time all year.

In an attempt to conserve energy, Congress put most of the country on year-round daylight-saving time during a two year period that spanned from January 1974 through October 1975. Congress did not renew the temporary legislation, however, and the nation reverted back to the April through October system of daylight-saving time.

In July 1986, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill that moved the start of daylight-saving time to the first Sunday in April.

The Department of Transportation, which oversees the act, said at the time that moving up the starting date would have considerable effects on traffic safety. Because Americans would have longer periods of daylight in which to drive, the department estimated the change would save more than \$28 million in traffic accident costs and would prevent 1,500 injuries and 20 deaths each year.

Farmers argued against the change and have historically been against the act since the early 1900s. They contend that more hours of daylight in the evenings keep them in the fields past their traditional supper time.

Library supporters to sell books donated by collector

Patricio Crooker
SKIFF STAFF

Approximately 10,000 books will be on sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the Mary Coats Burnett Library loading dock, located at 2913 W. Lowden Street.

The sale is sponsored by the Friends of the TCU Library and will benefit the organization for future projects related to the library, library staffers said.

Dennis Gibbons, coordinator for collection development at the library, said the books to be sold came from the private collection of Eugene Webb, a retired General Dynamics engineer.

Webb died last spring, and his private collection, called the Sagamore Hill Library was donated to TCU. Webb had built the library in his back yard.

"He had this personal book collection that he actually incorporated as a

non-profit corporation called Sagamore Hill Library," Gibbons said.

Gibbons said TCU already had many of the books from the collection, which is why they will be sold.

"We went through the books, and we picked up the ones we wanted to add to the TCU library," Gibbons said.

He said the American West is the general focus of the collection, though Webb's books cover many topics.

"I am talking about history, travel, literature and a lot of western novels," Gibbons said. "A lot of books about American Indians and the American West."

But he also said there are some books on economics, sociology, general fiction and even children's books.

Gibbons said that Webb, who acquired most of his collection during the 1970s, never opened the Sagamore Hill Library to the public.

"He had built a very nice building in his back yard," he said. "He built it with insulation systems."

Gibbons said the prices for the books will range from \$1 to \$5 for hard-cover books and around 50 cents for paperbacks. Gibbons said magazines would be priced starting at 25 cents.

Gibbons said nothing will cost more than \$5.

He said there might be a separate table with special books from the collection.

"Large books, which we call coffee table books, will sell for \$2 to \$5 a piece," he said.

Barbara M. Standlee, who works in the library's administrative office, said Friends of the TCU Library is a nonprofit organization that has been at TCU for 24 years and has 160 members. The organization is led by a board of directors, which makes spending decisions.

Modern rock program will rule KTCU's all-weekend broadcast

By Kelly Melhart
SKIFF STAFF

KTCU-FM 88.7 will start broadcasting its weekend overnight modern rock music program tonight for the first time in the station's history.

Richard Durrett, KTCU program director, said, "It does a lot for the station, a lot for the students and a lot for the university. By the time people were done going out, we were done broadcasting. Not anymore."

Brennan Barlow, modern rock music director, said, "We're really excited. It's something we've wanted to do for a long time."

Barlow, a senior radio-TV-film major, said KTCU couldn't previously broadcast overnight because the station did not have a back-up transmitter.

"If the transmitter were to overload, and we did not have a backup, the station would be off the air indefinitely," he said.

Barlow said KTCU acquired a back-up transmitter last year.

"Once we got the back-up I really started pushing for the overnight," he said. "It's what our listeners wanted."

By broadcasting overnight, the station not only pleases listeners, but

also gives students an opportunity to work for the station, he said.

Durrett said overnight broadcasting on the weekend was one of the goals station employees set at the beginning of the year.

The station wouldn't have been able to broadcast overnight if enough students weren't willing to disk jockey though the weekend nights, he said.

Durrett said going overnight provides more practice for students and gives them a chance to produce a professional program.

"We did a good job of recruiting this semester," he said. "We got a lot of new freshmen and a lot of new people. It let our goal become a reality."

John Lamberth, a senior radio-TV-film major, is one of the four rotating overnight disc jockeys.

"I've been messing around with radio and audio stuff since I was 5," he said. "There's just something about playing music and pressing buttons."

FW Weekly crowned KTCU "Best Rock Radio Station" recently, providing another challenge for the station to meet. *FW Weekly* said the station

successfully blends modern rock and college radio.

"If you want to hear what's up in music months before the commercial stations get around to it, but not hear it over and over, this is the place," wrote *FW Weekly*.

Durrett said, "It helps us compete a little bit better. We're the best in Fort Worth, now's our chance to be the best in Dallas."

Barlow said he hopes the overnight broadcasting will help raise the station's ratings.

"We don't rely on ratings, but we like to think what we do is worthwhile," he said.

He said he hopes to see the station eventually broadcast overnight every night.

"If this goes well it'll set the standard," Barlow said. "I don't want to stop at just this, but we have to do this first. We have to take small steps."

KTCU will air the modern rock program from 8 p.m. tonight until 6 a.m. Sunday.

Durrett said the modern rock format includes new releases from up-and-coming bands and songs from older bands that are not normally heard on the radio.

LETTERS

From Page 3

her, both she and her agent are aware of her mistakes.

Family Weekend (and Programming Council in general) take a chance anytime we hire a performer for any event. After viewing and screening videos and tapes from these performers, all we can do is trust that the agents and their constituents will reinforce our trust with quality performances. In that sense, Sykes-Hall's improper topics were not our fault.

Nevertheless, we put on the event and we take the responsibility. So it is with saying this that I would like to apologize, on behalf of Family Weekend and Programming Council, to Radovich, his family and any others who were bothered or offended by Sykes-Hall's comments. In the future, we will make greater attempts to screen our performers in order to prevent any embarrassment and improper material.

Ben Roman
Family Weekend Chairman

Column praising bar was inappropriate

I am very concerned about something that appeared in the Oct. 16 *Skiff*. On the front page were two lead articles about students involved in alcohol-related incidents. One was a campus leader and speech communication major, and one was a student athlete ("Student charged in friend's death," and "Player arrested on DWI charge"). Both situations are great tragedies, one leading to loss of life, and the other leading to loss of hope.

Jodie Vonderhaar's column "Bar booms Thursday nights" appeared on page 3 of the same edition. She examines the "stupid things people do in life," and sings the praises of the tradition of drinking and brawling at a local bar on Thursday nights.

At the very least, it is highly distasteful to include a column like this in the same edition as headlining the death of a well-respected student. Secondly, it implies that she advocates underage drinking. I seriously doubt that only seniors indulge themselves in the Thursday night "party house" of which Vonderhaar speaks.

According to the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 29.5 percent of Texans age 18 to 24 have experienced at least one problem associated with alcohol use. Over 1,100 people were killed in the state because of alcohol-related accidents last year. It is a very serious problem and must not be minimized as something students do to "hit on the opposite sex."

The editorial board needs to take decisive action and refuse to print such material, or at least have the decency not to print it on the same day as a campus tragedy. Surely Vonderhaar can provide a commentary on something more interesting and appropriate.

Shelley A. Friend
Instructor,
speech communication

Pro-choice doesn't equal pro-abortion

For the past few months of my life at TCU, I have found myself stewing over the "commentaries" by Brian Wilson. I sat quietly through bigoted columns against homosexual marriages, and I silently gnashed my teeth at a spray of other equally narrow-minded articles. However, after "Going to the Polls" (Oct. 22) by Wilson, I can no longer contain my own commentary.

As a pro-choice, liberal Christian-American, I think it is high time conservatives such as Wilson were set straight on a few issues. First off, pro-choice does not equal pro-abortion. I do not support a great many forms of abortion. I support the right to choose. Put away rabid fanaticism and look at the issue in perspective.

If abortion were, for example, made legal only in cases of rape, it would then be necessary for a rape victim to prove that she had been raped. Considering the state of the American justice system today, the woman's child would be two years old by the time the court reached a decision.

As far as the issue of homosexual marriage — which was discussed earlier this year by Wilson — is concerned, I think the religious right and the Christian Coalition need to re-examine their policies. The last time I checked — and I read the Bible regularly — Christianity was primarily based on New Testament scriptures.

Now to my understanding, the New Testament — which is indeed based on the teachings of Christ — states that not only should we not judge anyone unless we are personally free of sin, we should also love our neighbor as ourselves. With at least 10 percent of America being homosexual, I hate to break it to Wilson, but homosexuals are everyone's neighbors. If you call yourself a Christian, then, by all means, act like it for a change. In a hate-filled world, we should cherish love no matter where it comes from.

During this election year, I do agree that everyone should vote regardless of their qualms

about the candidates. Voting is our right and everyone should take advantage of it. Besides, even if the religious right gets out on Nov. 5, I'm not worried about the results. Contrary to Wilson's belief, the "moral majority" happens to be neither.

Lara Blackwood
freshman religion major

Resolution will deter secondhand smoke

In regards to Wednesday's article about the passing of resolution 96-19, which states that the House of Student Representatives will support the prohibition of smoking in academic buildings, I wanted to clear up a few things.

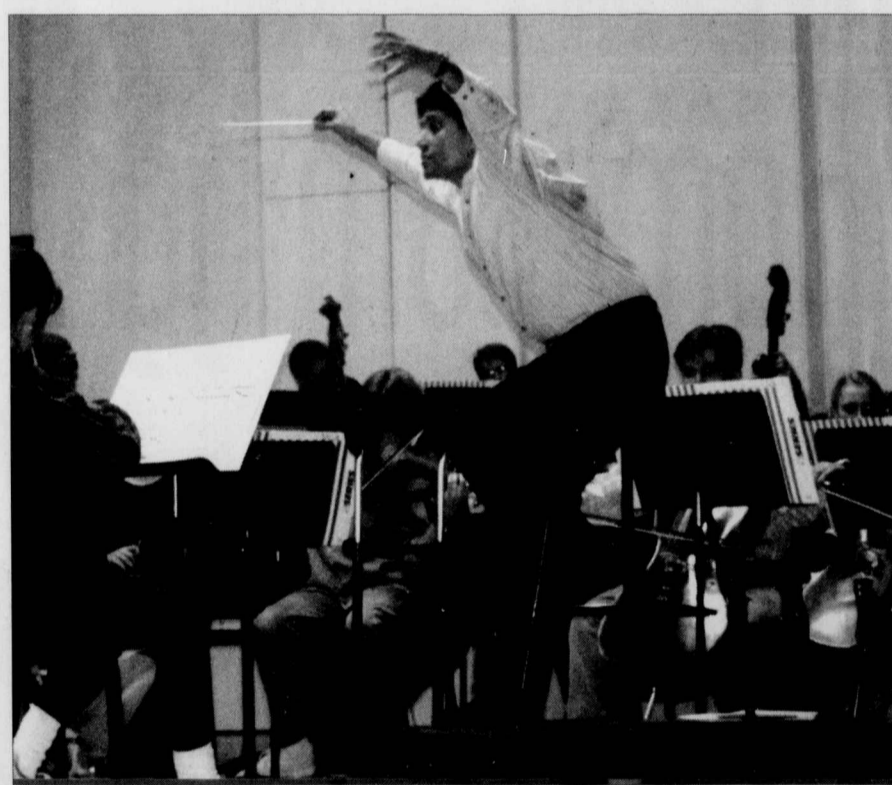
First of all, the resolution was not meant to be a direct attack on professors. Unfortunately, many have interpreted it that way. But since a number of people, including Vice President Kevin Nicoletti, think that it is "unfair to professors," I feel one point should be recognized.

Since the professors to who this resolution is "unfair" are in a minority, what about the other non-smoking professors in the majority? Isn't it unfair to those professors who are allergic to or are bothered by secondhand smoke? Why haven't their opinions been taken into consideration by the vice president and the others who are opposed to this resolution?

Another very important point that was discussed in Tuesday's meeting was not mentioned in the article. Not only is secondhand smoke bothersome and annoying, it is extremely dangerous. Up to 50,000 non-smokers die each year from diseases induced by involuntary smoking. There are 4,000 chemicals contained in secondhand smoke, such as formaldehyde, cyanide and arsenic. Fifty of these chemicals have been proven to cause cancer. Secondhand smoke is more concentrated, and therefore more dangerous, than the smoke inhaled directly by a smoker.

These are only a few of the proven facts about the dangers of secondhand smoke that I felt were worth mentioning. I hope that I have explained the real reason behind the resolution, and I hope that students, faculty and staff of TCU, including the professors, will agree that the prohibition of smoking in academic buildings is a necessity.

Andrea Denney
junior elementary education
major



TCU's new orchestra director German Gutierrez directs the orchestra in practice Thursday afternoon in Ed Landreth Auditorium.

Reunion links future with past

By Angela Soutter
SKIFF STAFF

The TCU Honors Program will hold a reunion and symposium tonight designed to help students and alumni keep in touch with other alumni and the Honors Program.

Kathryne McDorman, director of the Honors Program and a professor of history, said there have been celebrations at Homecoming for the Honors Program before, but this year they will incorporate something new into the program.

"This is the first time we have tried to set up a formal reunion linking the Honors symposium and

the alumni," McDorman said.

The symposium will include a reception and panel discussion with four past Honors Program members who will give evaluations of what they have done since they left TCU and how the Honors Program helped prepare them.

Pete Larson, a '76 honors graduate and member of the panel, said the symposium will give members of the panel a chance to take time to look at their existence since leaving TCU and reflect on how they have used their education in their lives.

"It will give us a chance to see people thoughtfully set things out," Larson said.

He said the opportunity to speak with other former honors students about their lives will be the most interesting aspect.

The symposium also gives current honors students the chance to see where their education can go, be challenged in how to approach their education, ask questions and make connections.

McDorman said the program tried to send letters and flyers to everyone to help promote the event.

She expects a modest turnout with around 50 people, but she hopes, more importantly, the reunion will increase interest in future activities.



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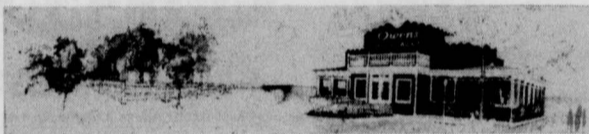


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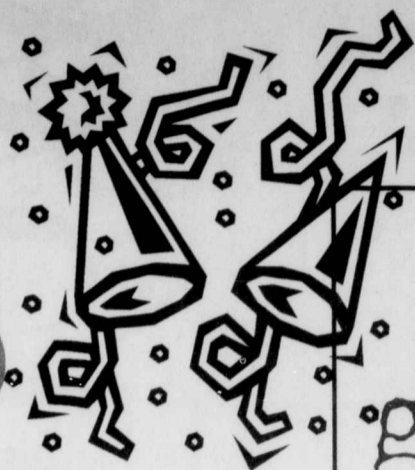
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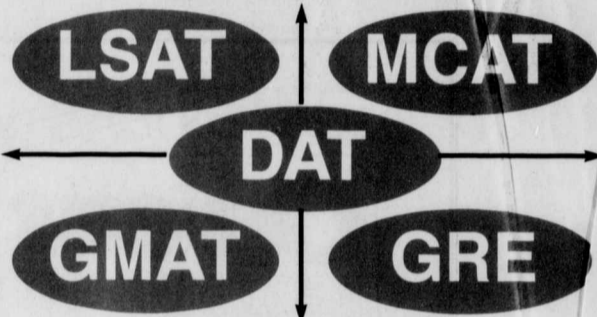
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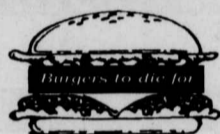
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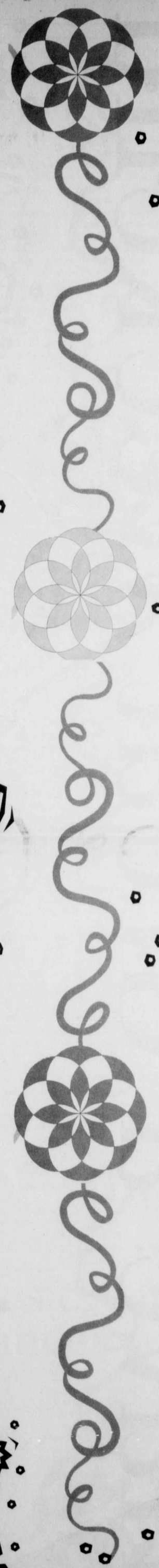
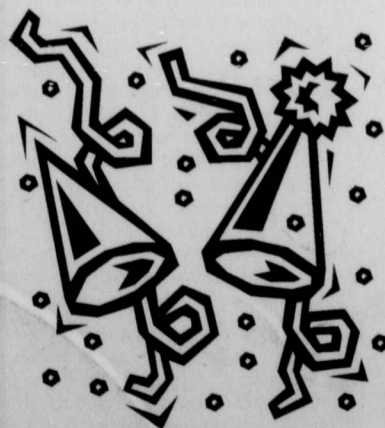


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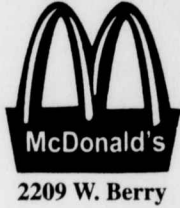
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Local restaurants are good, cheap

By Mike Roberts
SKIFF STAFF

Greasy burgers, crusty chicken sandwiches, cold fries and 20-minute late pizza deliveries are foods common to many former and current TCU students.

But the Fort Worth area has plenty of other kinds of food besides the kinds normally consumed by stressed, hurried college students.

The Blue Mesa restaurant, located at 1600 S. University Drive, is a chef-driven, moderately-priced, casual dining establishment.

The Blue Mesa is not quite a Mexican restaurant and not quite a seafood place, though both are available.

Dennis McFarlin, Blue Mesa general manager, said he would classify Blue Mesa as Southwestern if he had to, though he doesn't think the restaurant has an exact category.

"There's always something new to eat," he said.

The restaurant has a selection of red meats, chicken, soups and pasta. There is always a new lunch special between \$5 and \$7. The chefs have two dozen types of chile

peppers and high-quality meats to work with, McFarlin said.

"We are on the verge of becoming a great Fort Worth restaurant," he said.

Right down the road at 1712 S. University Drive is Hoffbrau Steaks, called an "old Texas country roadhouse."

The restaurant's secrets to success are the roadhouse image and its quality steaks, said Chuck Moorhead, Hoffbrau general manager.

Omar Elizade, a student who frequents Hoffbrau, said he enjoys the restaurant.

"It has great ambiance and a real friendly atmosphere," said Elizade, a sophomore diplomatic relations major.

The "old Texas country roadhouse" atmosphere comes from the building and its decorations, from the wooden structure, the neon lights and the personalized license plates that line the wall.

"Basically it's a cleaned-up dive," Moorhead said. "We serve cold beer and hot steaks."

Black Angus choice-cut steak is the feature item at the restaurant,

but the menu doesn't end there. Chicken and salads are available for health-conscious customers, Moorhead said.

Pocketbooks also won't suffer greatly at Hoffbrau. A typical meal runs a customer about \$20.

At 3009 S. University Drive is a "neat hamburger joint" called Jon's Grille. Across from the campus, Jon's is easily recognized on the outside by its maroon awning. The interior of the restaurant houses its big burgers, cheese fries and graffiti-covered walls.

"The graffiti on the wall wasn't planned, that just sort of happened," owner Jon Meyerson said.

Meyerson said he opened the restaurant eight years ago, thinking a burger place could make it through an ever-changing economy. He said he's been right so far and business is still picking up.

"I just put a new parking lot in back and a back-door entrance," Meyerson said. "If I'd known it would help this much, I'd have put them in when I bought the place."

Jon's is an old-fashioned type restaurant with well-trained employees and is a good value,

Meyerson said.

"You could feed a family of four here for about \$20," Meyerson said.

At 1507 S. University Drive is Ol' South Pancake House. Ol' South is open 24-hours a day everyday.

Many TCU students spend late nights studying there, said Peggy Markum, Ol' South's general manager.

Markum said some know Ol' South for its German pancakes and family dining. TCU students also quickly recognize waitress Pauline Berg, also known as "The Beaver Lady."

Customers can get an interesting floor show from Berg while they eat, Markum said.

"The Beaver Lady" sings "I'm a Little Teapot" and her signature ballad "The Beaver Song," Markum said. In her spare time, Berg waits on tables, Markum said.

Ol' South retains a sense of Southern hospitality, she said.

"We're a neighborhood restaurant in a bustling city," Markum said.

Chi-Os to raise money for charities

By Amanda Bronstad
SKIFF STAFF

The coming of cold weather and the end of Fall Break brings one more reminder that Christmas is just around the corner.

Christmas time usually means shopping for many.

The Chi Omega Carousel, an annual four-day shopping extravaganza benefiting many philanthropies, will be from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Will Rogers Memorial Center's East Texas and Central rooms.

Kerry Casper, a senior speech pathology major and a Chi Omega member, said the market items, which include jewelry, clothing, food baskets and crafts, make perfect Christmas gifts.

"They're not stores you see in the mall," Casper said. "But the prices seem reasonable. My mom goes and shops a lot because they have so much catalog-type things."

Catherine Macomber, a spokesperson for the event, said more than 80 merchants have been invited to the 11-year-old gift market.

Natalie Bywaters, president of TCU's chapter of Chi Omega, said about 40 Chi Omega students will volunteer at the weekend event to help collect money, work at tables

and keep lines orderly.

Andrea Heyde, a senior speech communications major and Chi Omega member, said she is volunteering at the market for the first time tonight.

"I know it's for a good cause," she said. "I signed up just to see what goes on."

Heyde said she is looking for an activity in which she can participate when she graduates, but said she might also do some shopping after her volunteer work.

"I think it's a good time to have it," she said. "Lots of people plan to shop before the crowds come. It's not the mall crowd either."

Macomber said the Chi Omega Carousel benefits many philanthropies, including the Dental Clinic at the Child Studies Center of Fort Worth, the Women's Center of Tarrant County, Inc. and Child Advocates of Fort Worth.

She said Chi Omega Community Charities, a non-profit organization for Chi Omega alumnae, has donated more than \$200,000 to the Dental Clinic since 1986.

Bywaters said the TCU chapter of Chi Omega assists in this donation by volunteering their time at the Chi Omega Carousel.

Tickets to the gift market are \$5. Discount coupons are available in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Official challenged Kennedy on Cuba

By Jon Marcus
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — At the height of the Cuban missile crisis, one of President John F. Kennedy's top military commanders warned him that failing to invade the island would be like backing down to Hitler's initial demands in Europe.

"This is almost as bad as the appeasement at Munich," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Curtis LeMay told Kennedy on Oct. 19, 1962, according to newly declassified White House tape recordings released Thursday.

LeMay's comment "was an amazing thing to say to any president, but it was a particularly amazing thing to say to this president," said Sheldon Stern, historian at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, where the tape recordings were released. "It's a deep personal insult."

Kennedy's father, Joseph P. Kennedy, served as U.S. ambassador to Britain at the time of the

1938 Munich conference, where the British and French agreed to let Nazi Germany take land from Czechoslovakia in exchange for a short-lived promise of peace. The elder Kennedy's support of appeasement later was strongly criticized and may have cost him any hope of running for national office.

LeMay, like other military leaders, advocated immediate military intervention to destroy the Soviet missiles and unfinished silos that had been detected by aerial reconnaissance in Cuba. He said blockading ships bound for Cuba, as other presidential advisers urged, would lead to war anyway.

President Kennedy, who privately called LeMay "field marshal," did not respond to the remark and the meeting went on to cover other military and diplomatic issues.

The National Archives released 15 hours of tapes from the Kennedy White House, covering meetings that took place during the

decision-making phase of the crisis 34 years ago this week at the climax of the Cold War. Authorities deleted 27 minutes they said covered intelligence sources or methods that still are being used. An additional 211 hours of tapes from the Kennedy White House remain secret.

Much of the material has already been recounted in the writings of participants, and summaries of the meetings were released in 1992.

"What you're getting is the interaction between the principals," said Stephanie Fawcett, the National Archives' senior foreign policy archivist. "You are literally a fly on the wall" in the White House.

Several of Kennedy's advisers, foremost among them Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, urged an attack.

The tapes indicate that President Kennedy initially appeared to agree that he would be forced to

resort to military action. But they also show that U.S. intelligence had vastly underestimated what is now known to have been the strength of Soviet forces in Cuba.

The Americans believed there were no more than 1,500 to 3,000 Soviet troops, while documents released after the fall of the Soviet Union showed there actually were 42,000, and they were armed with tactical nuclear weapons.

Kennedy felt painted into a corner by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's offer to remove the Cuban missiles if the United States removed its Jupiter nuclear missiles from Turkey. The president said Khrushchev's offer, which he ultimately accepted, was so reasonable that it would turn world public opinion to the Soviet side.

"If we don't take it we're going to be blamed and if we do take it we're going to be blamed," Kennedy said.

ALUMNI

From Page 1

Richardson Foundation. He said each contributed \$1.75 million and asked that the center be named for Kelly.

The Sid W. Richardson Foundation, founded in 1947, and the Burnett Foundation, established in 1978, are independent foundations that support various causes in Texas. The Burnett Foundation limits its support to Fort Worth organizations.

Doug White, an assistant vice chancellor for university advancement in charge of major gifts, said the foundations are two of the largest in Fort Worth.

"They have a long history of support to the university," he said. "They've been involved in other major building projects at TCU."

Key said each person for whom a room in the center is named will cut a ribbon in a ceremony at the room. The rooms are named for people who donated a certain amount of money, Key said. The rooms include board rooms, meeting rooms, a banquet hall, a dining room, a lobby and a library.

According to a press release from the Office of Communications, gifts of \$250,000 or more were made by John L. and Maurine Cox; John and Jane Chilton Justin, classes of '41 and '43 respectively; the William A. & Elizabeth B. Moncrief Foundation; and Clarence and Kerry Wallace Scharbauer, both of the class of '73.

The release also said various supporters bought about 1,700 engraved bricks for \$100 each. The bricks were laid in the lower terrace of the center.

Hal Roach, executive director of the TCU Frog Club, which will be located in the center, said the meeting rooms and board rooms will allow alumni relations groups to keep their business in one location.

He said the center's smaller details, such as the inclusion of a catering room, would allow lunch meetings to take place without having to break and reconvene.

Ann Loudon, an assistant to the vice chancellor for university advancement and one of the members of the design team for the center, said ideas for TCU's alumni center were taken from the top four alumni centers in the country: the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, the University of Kansas in Lawrence, the University of Missouri in Columbia

and the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"We took the best of their ideas and added some features," Loudon said. "It's really a nice flow to the way our building is structured."

She said some of the special additions of the center make it stand out more than the centers they visited.

"The views from our building are more spectacular," Loudon said. "The other places all had land-locked views. Here, each view is different."

She said the three entrances of the center are an unusual aspect of the building because each opens toward a different part of campus. For instance, the vista from the outdoor plaza opens toward Daniel Meyer Coliseum.

Black and white photographs of places and events associated with TCU adorn the walls of Ray Gallery. A collection of horned frog art in glass cases highlight either side of the hallway.

University photographs from TCU archives, an idea borrowed from KU, was done on a much larger scale, Loudon said.

The idea for the central information desk came from the Air Force Academy, Loudon said.

Loudon said TCU added a dining room that seats 14 people.

Another unique touch for the center is that rooms are named for people, Loudon said. She said no other center TCU officials visited had this.

The Loudon Alumni Director's Office is named in honor of Loudon by her husband, Malcolm, a '67 graduate and trustee member.

Although the center is mainly for alumni use, it is also a starting place for visitors, Roach said.

In addition, the center houses the Frog Club office, the Annual Fund Director's office, the Alumni Director's office and the Student Foundation office.

"This is something that's been needed on campus for years," Roach said.

Roach said the center will not be available for the public to rent.

Tours of the center will be given before the ceremony from 9 to 10 a.m. and after the ceremony from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Members of the alumni association of the Board of Trustees will conduct the tours.



Emma Jackson, a member of facility services, cleans the windows of the Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center Thursday afternoon. The alumni center will be dedicated at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Company announces creation of genetic breast cancer test

By Lauren Neergaard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Even as evidence of discrimination based on individuals' genetic makeups arises, a company announced Thursday that it soon will sell the most comprehensive genetic test yet to predict breast cancer.

The \$2,400 test is the latest entry in a race to bring to consumers the rapid discoveries of disease-causing genes, even though patients are struggling with the ramifications of learning they have such genes when there's little they can do about it.

A study published in Friday's edition of the journal Science found that some 47 percent of people who were asked on health insurance applications about genetic diseases were subsequently rejected for coverage.

"This is what genetics is all about right now, this contrast between rapid and exciting scientific advances that carry enormous promise to alleviate suffering... and yet the potential for this information to be used in

ways that injure people," warned Dr. Francis Collins, chief of the federal Human Genome Project. Collins is a critic of selling gene tests before doctors understand them better.

The Human Genome Project, the government's massive effort to identify the body's 80,000 to 100,000 genes, is trying to bridge that gap, spending \$8 million next year alone to study the ethical and social implications of genetics research.

Scientists already have found genes that, when mutated, can cause everything from cancer to Alzheimer's disease. And some laboratories are quietly offering tests to indicate whether now-healthy Americans could get those killer illnesses decades into the future.

The government has not yet decided whether or how to regulate such tests. A task force funded by Collins' genome program now is writing recommendations that could help decide the question by spring, as well as push for federal legislation to forbid genetic discrimination by insurance companies.

The market isn't waiting.

Rally, post-game fun to boost spirit

By Erik McKenzie
SKIFF STAFF

"Riff Ram," TCU's oldest cheer will be just one of the exciting moments planned for today's pep rally.

The rally for TCU's Homecoming football game against Brigham Young University will be held at 7:30 p.m. today in front of Frog Fountain after the Homecoming parade.

Erica Lewels, the Homecoming activities chairwoman, said students can expect a fun time at the pep rally.

Cheerleaders and the TCU Showgirls will lead cheers as the Horned Frog Band plays fight songs and the TCU alma mater.

Candidates for Homecoming queen and king will also be introduced to students, Lewels said. The queen and king will be crowned during halftime of Saturday's football game.

Susan Williams, the pep rally sub-chairwoman, said organizers are working hard this year to get people excited about the rally.

"We're trying to get students much more involved, and we hope people will get real excited and psyched about it," Williams said.

She said Dale Young, a TCU graduate and director of career services for the School of Education, will lead the cheers in today's pep rally. Williams described Young as the most spirited man at TCU.

Williams said organizers will try a new cheer this year.

"After the rally, cheerleaders will grab hands and start running around the circular drive," she said.

She called it a snake dance and said she hopes students will have fun by joining the chain.

Williams said she expects the pep rally to last about 30 minutes and said students will be invited to attend a free laser show and video dance party at about 8 p.m. in the Student Center ballroom. Machines will shoot laser beams and several video screens will play different music videos.

She said it will be a dance club atmosphere and that free turkey legs and drinks will be available for students.

"We really want more people to get more spirited and excited and to be a part of TCU," Williams said.

Homecoming events will continue Saturday evening after the football game.

Lewels said the Programming Council will sponsor "Saturday Night on the Town," which will provide students and alumni with fun activities after the game.

She said \$10 tickets for the evening are good for admission to the Cenikor Haunted House, Tandy Ice Rink and either admission to Billy Bob's Texas or Hangman's House of Horrors.

Buses will take anyone who bought tickets to all locations. They will leave the Student Center at 8 p.m. and run about every 30 minutes through 2 a.m.

She said the tickets to all of the attractions, except for admission to Billy Bob's Texas, can also be used later. Students can also buy tickets to individual attractions at \$5 a piece.

Tickets are available at the Student Center information desk.

Credit card glamour hides debt trap

By Rob Sherwin
SKIFF STAFF

They come in all different shapes, forms and colors, but the message on the envelope usually reads the same: "Call now to receive your pre-approved credit card."

In fact, after a student's first semester at college, he or she will have received at least one offer for a pre-approved credit card, said Bettye Banks, vice president of education for the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Dallas.

"The idea of getting what you want when you want it, whether you have the money or not, is very seductive," Banks said. "Credit card issuers know that and take advantage of it."

The Problem

Janet L. Yellen, a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, said in a July Senate hearing, "The industry's total increase in credit card loans has come about with the growing popularity of cards, supported by their aggressive marketing by some banks. Such competitive zeal all too often attracts weak or otherwise marginal borrowers."

Yellen said an increasing concern was the higher number of people with large credit card debt declaring bankruptcy without any previous record of missed or delinquent payments.

To understand why credit card debt is so serious, however, it is important to understand the philosophy of the credit card lenders.

Banks borrow money from the government at five percent, but the average interest rate on a credit card is 17.54 percent. The considerable difference between these two numbers, known as the "spread," is what makes the credit card business so profitable.

With yearly fees becoming less common, card lenders' profits are becoming more dependent on money generated from interest rates.

Lenders' strategies

An October 1996 issue of *Time* magazine said, "To remain profitable, lenders want card holders to pile up big debts. Consumers who pay off their balances each month are known in the industry's distorted parlance as 'deadbeats' because they avoid steep interest charges."

Because banks want borrowers to accumulate debt, they will entice them to spend with ploys such as increased spending limits and "teaser rates." A teaser rate is an unusually low interest rate that will increase after three months to a year. An August 1996 issue of *Money* magazine estimated that over two-thirds of the 2.7 billion card offers mailed each year tout teaser rates.

Such tactics seem to be working. A *Money* magazine article said the average American carries a balance of \$1,900. The article said bankruptcy filings were likely to top one million for the first time ever, and 90 percent were a result of credit card debt.

Banks said, however, that delinquency rates among college students are generally no worse than the rates of adults. She said student tendencies to follow their parents' spending habits are the culprit.

"Students do what their parents do," she said. "Kids tend to manage money the way they have been taught. If the parents manage money well, then kids manage money well."

Banks said when students see their parents spend extravagantly, they tend to do the same. This desire to "party-hardy," Banks said, causes students to pile up large debts.

"Some kids might be out at dinner, and say, 'Hey, I'll pick up the bill,



William Thomas Burdette SKIFF STAFF

because they see their parents do that."

The Solutions

Although credit card debt is an increasing problem, Banks said there are a number of methods students can use to reach a zero balance.

Banks's best advice involves prioritizing each amount of debt.

"It's what I call 'targeted pay,'" she said. "You need to get rid of small, \$50 to \$100 accounts — pay them off. Try to get those paid off in three to six months."

"Then take that money, and try to

apply it towards the high balances. The further you bring that balance down, and the faster you bring it down, the less interest you pay over time."

Banks stressed the importance of shopping around for the best deals when students choose a credit card.

"Look for no annual fees, and especially those with low introductory rates. You get debt paid off quickly that way."

She warned students, however, to be wary of teaser rates. She said many times a low introductory rate will jump to a ridiculous regular rate,

sometimes in excess of 30 percent.

"Try to get one that does not have an interest rate that exceeds 14 percent or so," she said.

An article in the September 1996 issue of *Money* magazine also offered tips for selecting a credit card. It said customers who carry a balance should choose a card with the lowest interest rate, regardless of its annual fee.

The article says that while some people with "pristine credit histories" may qualify for rates as low as 8.25 percent, most customers should "shoot for a rate of 12 per-

cent to 14 percent."

For people who intend to pay off a balance soon, the article suggests they transfer their balance to a teaser-rate card, and pay off as much debt as possible before the teaser expires. At that point, the customer should transfer any remaining balance to a card with a permanent low rate.

For the 36 percent of customers who pay off their charges each month in full, the article says to ignore any interest rates, and choose a no-fee card that offers attractive rebates, such as airline miles or free gasoline.

Aid eases student headaches

Timing essential to smooth financial aid process, TCU official says

By Elena Fortner
SKIFF STAFF

A colossal tuition fee plus a dorm bill plus pesky living expenses equals a major financial headache for most students.

Michael Scott, director of financial aid and the student scholarship office, said scholarships, grants and loans act as the great equalizer among college students.

"We have hundreds and hundreds of grants and scholarships available," Scott said. "All students have to do is fill out a financial aid form, and we will automatically find out which ones they are qualified to receive."

But the rest of the financial aid process is not that simple, Scott said.

"We are working on simplifying financial aid procedure," Scott said. "Especially this last year with the federal shutdown, matters got very backed up. We are still processing loans from students."

Christie Smith, a sophomore business major, is still waiting for her loans to be finalized.

"I turned in the paperwork in August, and I am waiting to hear if my loans are going to be deferred or subsidized," she said.

A smooth process

The key to a smooth financial aid

process is timing, Scott said.

"We guarantee funding until May 1," Scott said. "At that point we have to stop and see how much money we have spent, but even if we have spent more than our budget, your funding is guaranteed through May 1."

TCU cannot take any steps until the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid is processed.

"It is very important to get this in early," Scott said. "It is best to have it in by March. That way we have two months for mess-ups, incorrect information and other problems to be fixed."

Even if exact figures for taxes or other information are not available, the form should still be turned into the government with estimates, he said.

"The federal government is checking to make sure you are eligible for aid," Scott said. "They look to see if you are a student, a U.S. citizen and if you are an 18-year-old male, registered for the draft. After they allow us to pull the information into the school, we can make changes in seconds."

Government loans

After the scholarships and grants are dispersed, most students turn to loans.

For Tim Dunbar, a junior marketing major, loans were the only pos-

sible source of aid.

"I was extremely happy to get the loans because without them I could not attend this school," he said. "They were my only option."

The most common type of student loan is the Federal Stafford Loan, which may or may not be subsidized by the federal government. With a subsidized loan, interest on the borrowed funds is paid by the federal government. Students are responsible for interest on unsubsidized loans.

The government decides whether a student receives a subsidized loan by examining the student's FAFSA to determine financial need.

"The federal government not only looks at need but whether the student has the need met by any other form of scholarship," Scott said. "So, if you have lots of need and a huge grant, you are not going to be listed as a student in need."

The amount of money students can receive in Stafford loans varies depending on what rank the students hold and whether they are dependent upon their parents or guardians.

Dependent students can receive up to \$2,625 their freshman year, \$3,500 their sophomore year, \$5,500 their junior year and senior year and \$8,500 a year for graduate work. If students are independent, they receive \$4,000 their freshman and sophomore year, \$5,000 their

junior and senior year and \$10,000 a year for graduate work.

Last year, TCU distributed 2,000 subsidized Stafford loans and 13,000 unsubsidized Stafford loans.

Other loan options

If further funds are required, students have different loan options, Scott said.

"It is not difficult at all to get a student loan," Scott said. "The Texas Guarantee Agency for Student Loans is going to check and make sure the need is not met by any other form of aid and that the student is not in default on another loan."

Other loans include the Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students, which has a variable interest rate that cannot exceed 9 percent, and the College Access Loan, which has a 9 percent rate.

Most student loans allow a deferment period, where students have six to nine months after graduation to begin repaying loans.

Rodney Austin, a freshman pre-major, said the deferment is a saving grace to him.

"I have a six-month time period before I have to start paying back the loan," Austin said. "That way I can start finding a job and get something that can start bringing in money."

Please see LOANS, Page 13

Cents and Sensibility		
Terms	Federal Perkins	Federal Stafford
Lender	TCU Financial Aid Office	Your chosen lender
Maximum loan per year	\$3,000 for undergrad \$5,000 for grad	Dependent or Independent • \$2,625 year one • \$3,500 year two • \$5,500 years three to five • \$8,500 a year for graduate or professional school Independent only • \$4,000 years one and two • \$5,000 years three to five • \$10,000 graduate and professional
Interest rate	5 percent	• 7 percent Periods before Jan. 1, 1981 • 9 percent Jan. 1, 1981 to Sept. 12, 1983 • 8 percent Sept. 13, 1983 to June 30, 1988 • 8 1/10 percent July 1, 1988 to Sept. 30, 1992 • Variable Effective on or after Sept. 1, 1992 Rate caps • 9 percent Sept. 1, 1992 to June 30, 1994 • 8.25 percent Effective July 1, 1994
Maximum Aggregate (including Undergraduate and graduate school)	\$15,000 Undergraduate \$30,000 Graduate/Prof	Dependent or Independent • \$23,000 undergraduate • \$65,000 Graduate/Prof Independent only • \$23,000 Undergraduate • \$73,000 Graduate
Interest accrues	No	Subsidized Unsubsidized • during school No Yes • during grace period No Yes • during deferment No Yes
Length of grace period	nine months	six or nine months
Are deferments available	Yes	Yes
Minimum payments (check with FAO for Perkins/HPSU)	\$120 per quarter	\$50 per month
Maximum loan repayment	10 years	10 years
Prepayment penalty	None	None
Allowable cancellations period	• Death • Total & permanent disability	• Death • Total & permanent disability
Is this a need-based loan?	Yes	Subsidized Unsubsidized Yes No

SOURCE: BANK ONE

College grads sick with concern over health insurance

By Amanda Bronstad
SKIFF STAFF

Students are notorious for getting sick.

But when they graduate, they may not be able to afford getting sick anymore.

Health insurance first becomes a concern for students when they graduate, and consequently, they often become ineligible for their parent's health insurance, said Carolyn Ulrickson, director of TCU's Career Services.

For the first time, students must include health care costs in their personal budgets.

Melinda Williams, a 1995 TCU graduate with a bachelor's degree in psychology, said she never thought about health insurance until she grad-

uated in December.

"Someone fresh out of college isn't going to give a hoot about health insurance," Williams said. "I didn't care enough about it. I'm just now understanding health insurance and why I really do need it."

Misty Hanson, who graduated from TCU in May 1995 with a degree in biology and religion, said she doesn't have any insurance and has not had any since she graduated.

She said even though she doesn't have insurance, she has been to the hospital a couple of times and the hospital has paid the bill.

"Medical bills are amazingly high, but they always end up getting paid somehow," Hanson said.

She said Harris-Methodist offers a plan whereby the hospital will pay for

part of the bill.

"Hospitals are set up to pay some of it because they know they won't get all the money," she said.

Start planning early

Ulrickson said seniors should check whether their parents' insurance covers them before they graduate.

If not, the question arises: How does one obtain health insurance and still afford food?

Kim Carlisle, an assistant to State Farm Insurance agent Jim Pannel, said the best option for graduates is to obtain health insurance through their employer.

"You get more coverage," Carlisle said, "and employers are always able to offer a group plan."

Ulrickson said health insurance plans through employers differ in price and co-payment plans. Williams said students should look for health insurance with a low deductible and a high percentage of coverage for medical needs.

She said the insurance offered through her employer, Dallas County Mental Health Mental Retardation, pays 90 percent of general health bills with a \$150 deductible.

A drawback to employers' group insurance plans is that the insured may only visit the physicians and hospitals covered by the plan, said Jim Helvey, owner of Helvey Insurance, an agency for providers such as Blue Cross Blue Shield and Golden Rule.

But Williams said most employer packages offer several hospital and

physician options and may cover visits outside the insurance plan at a lower percentage.

Unemployment coverage

Most graduates who are considering individual plans do so because they do not have a job yet. But for the unemployed graduate, individual health insurance plans may be too expensive, Williams said.

She said she did not have health insurance when she was between jobs.

"Looking back, I really should have been scared not having insurance because anything could happen," she said. "I was lucky."

Students who are covered by the TCU insurance plan may have extra time to find a job before worrying about health coverage.

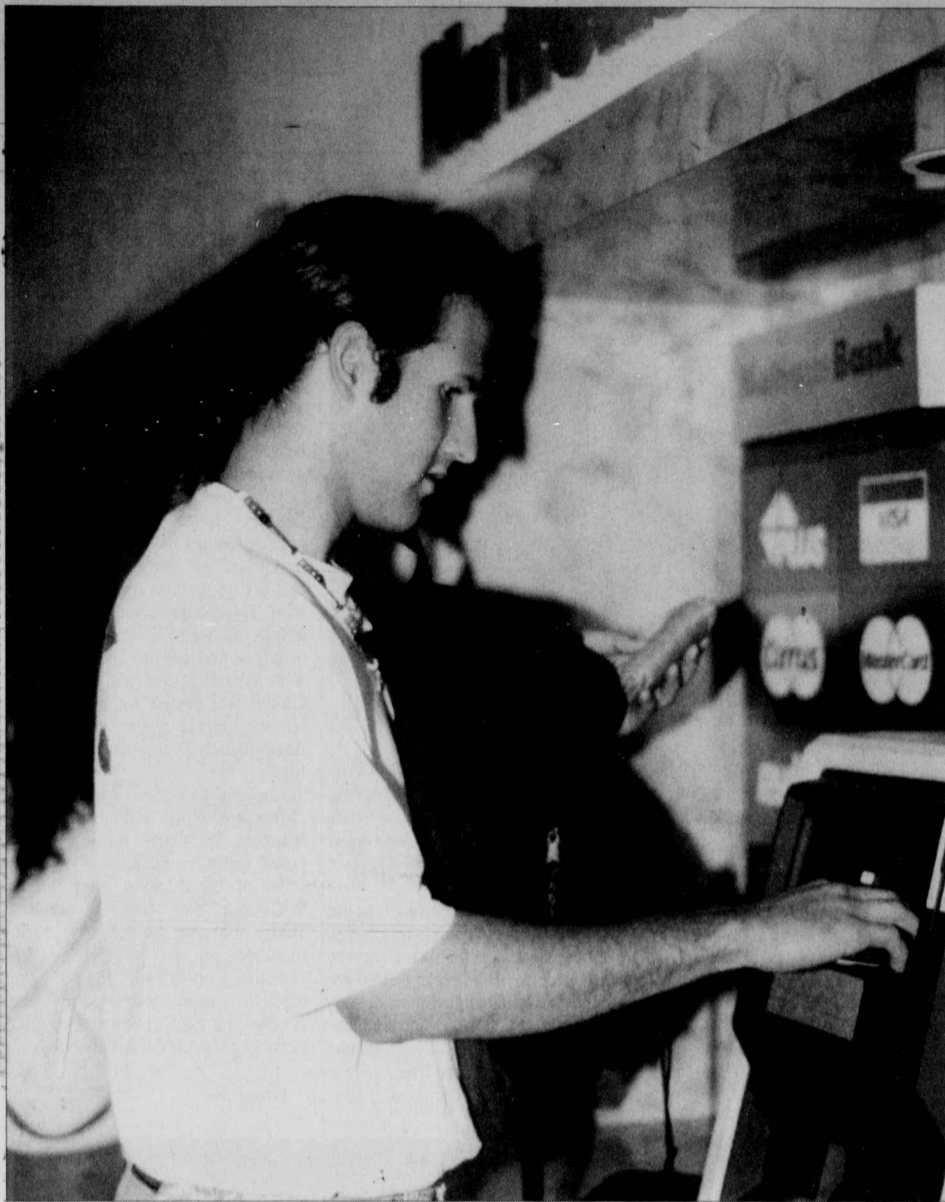
TCU health insurance continues to cover a May graduate until Aug. 21, said Marilyn Hallam, assistant to the director of the Health Center.

But Hallam said many students do not exercise this option because the insurance plan, offered through an individual provider, is expensive.

"If you don't have another recourse, it's your only option," she said. "And it automatically kicks in after you pay your premium."

Another option is to obtain health insurance through a federal program called COBRA, Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act.

The program is activated by a non-dependent's birth date, and students must notify their employers within 60 days of their birthdays to obtain coverage.



William Thomas Burdette SKIFF STAFF

Saving now can help students in the long run

By Kelly Melhart
SKIFF STAFF

"The best advice I ever gave you girls is to invest your money now," a father once told his daughters. "It'll pay off in the long run."

The advice holds true for all students.

Stephen Pfeffer, a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch, said it is difficult for students to invest now because they typically don't have much extra cash.

But Larry Lockwood, C.R. Williams professor of financial services at TCU, said saving is a habit students should be getting into now.

Lockwood said it is not necessary for students to invest a large sum of money. Instead, he said they can invest a fixed percentage of their monthly income in various programs.

"It's very surprising for people to see that the earlier they begin saving, how easily the money compounds over time," he said.

Edward McNertney, associate professor of economics and chairman of the department, said there are several forms of savings plans, including savings accounts, mutual funds, certificate of deposit and Individual Retirement Accounts.

McNertney said the type of plan a person should choose depends on their needs.

Money in a savings account will earn lower interest rates, but is easier to access, he said. Money invested in mutual funds and CDs will earn more interest, but penalties may be assessed if money is withdrawn before a set time period has passed.

"If you start saving now, the money will build up and in 30 or 40 years, you'll have some real funds," McNertney said. "If you wait until you're 50 to start, you're not going to have a lot of retirement money."

Tracey Williams, a personal banker for Bank One, said, "Opening a savings account is a very good idea. Most people think you have to have a lot of money to start investing. That's not true. You can begin saving with as little as \$25 a month."

Lockwood recommended investing in mutual funds, which are pools of money invested into different markets, like gold, stocks and real estate.

"Savings accounts don't give you the interest rate someone that young should be satisfied with in a long term investment," he said. "Mutual funds are a well-diversified type of investment. It'll accumulate and it'll get you in a very good habit of saving money."

Lockwood said savings accounts earn an interest rate between 3 and 6 percent, and mutual funds usually return about 12 percent.

Lockwood also suggested investing in a market index fund.

When you buy into a market index fund, you buy into the entire stock market, he said. Last year market index funds earned about 35 percent, but the average return is about 12 percent.

It's not necessary to invest through a broker, Lockwood said, because most funds have toll-free numbers that anyone can call for information. Pfeffer suggested students begin a systematic savings program.

"Find out how much you can afford to put away on a regular basis and stick

to it," he said.

Pfeffer said if students invest more than they can afford, they won't stick with the program and will end up living beyond their means.

Williams said, "People in general aren't saving as much and that includes students. It's never too early to start saving. The earlier you invest, the less you have to invest overall."

She said savings plans are adjusted to fit investors' personal goals. She suggested reviewing the investment plan every couple of years to keep the plan current with needs.

"As your life changes, your savings needs are going to change," she said. "What is the right choice today isn't necessarily the right choice a couple of years from now."

"Learn from your parents, but don't be limited by what your parents say."

One thing all students can do to help themselves financially is to put themselves on a budget.

Williams said the guidelines for a good budget begin with dividing a student's monthly paycheck into three sections: 30 percent for rent, 10 percent for monthly payments, and the rest for utilities, food, clothing and investments.

"If more than 40 percent of your monthly pay check is going toward your bills, you're either living beyond your means or you're not getting paid enough," she said.

Lockwood said it takes a lot of discipline to budget.

He said, "Being able to sacrifice now for something later is the wise thing to do — that doesn't mean it's going to be easy."

LOANS

From Page 12

The lending process

All loans go through a process of at least four steps, Scott said.

After the paperwork is given to the financial aid office, a TCU employee checks forms for mistakes and incomplete

information before sending the paperwork onto the Texas Guarantee Agency or another guarantee agency if the student is from another state.

"The guarantee promises to pay the bank if the student defaults and to go after the students themselves," Scott said.

"They also check to make sure the student is not in default on another loan or exceeding loan limits."

Next, the paperwork is sent to the private lender with a copy of the certification of guarantee, and the bank sends it through its own approval process.

"This would not take long if it was only one student. We could probably turn it around in a week," he said. "We receive over 3,000 applications in essentially a three-month time span. It takes a bit longer to get them through."

After a student receives a loan, he or

she needs to keep records of the transaction.

A Bank One statement said, "It is the responsibility of the student to understand the terms of each loan, and students are responsible for maintaining files concerning each loan and loan transaction."

1996 TCU HOMECOMING

- TONIGHT! -

PARADE

PEP RALLY

WILD VIDEO DANCE PARTY

**THE FUN STARTS AT 6:30 P.M.
SO DON'T MISS THE ACTION!**

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CENIKOR HAUNTED HOUSE

HANGMAN'S HOUSE OF HORRORS

BILLY BOB'S

**BUSES LEAVE FROM THE STUDENT CENTER!
GET TICKETS NOW AT THE INFO DESK**



Theatre

"Laughter on the 23rd Floor" by Neil Simon, now through Nov. 14 at the Stage West Theatre. Call 784-9378 for show times and ticket prices.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," now through Sunday at Will Rogers Auditorium. Tickets range from \$15 to \$40. Call 332-2272 for showtimes.

The Off-Broadway musical revue "Forever Plaid," now through Dec. 29 at Casa's Theatre on the Square. Tickets are \$16 and \$20. Call 332-2272 for showtimes.

Live music

"Tropix," 9 p.m. tonight at 8.0 in Fort Worth. No cover charge.

"Mingo Fishtrap," 9 p.m. tonight at 8.0 in Dallas. For information, call (214)969-9321.

"Dishwalla," "Refreshments" and "Chalk Farm," 8 p.m. Saturday at Deep Ellum Live.

Ellen Ritscher, a professor of Harp at the University of North Texas, 3 p.m. Saturday at the Dallas Museum of Art.

Michelle Soberg, 7 p.m. Sunday at the Flying Saucer.

"Jason and the Scorchers," 9 p.m. Thursday at the Hard Rock Cafe. Call (214)855-0007 for more information.

Lectures

Jim Johnson, Texas A&M's Floral Design School director, 2 p.m. Saturday in Leonhardt Lecture Hall at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

Nancy E. Edwards, 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Kimbell Art Museum.

John T. Carpenter, the catalogue editor and author of "Japan's Golden Age: Momoyama," will be speaking on the "Courtly Tradition in Momoyama Painting, Poetry, and Calligraphy," 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the Dallas Museum of Art in the Horchow Auditorium.

Lecture: Rebecca A. T. Stevens, a consulting curator for the Textile Museum in Washington D.C., will give a slide lecture, 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Irving Art Center. A reception will follow.

'Collins' entertains despite holes

By Mitch Youngblood
SKIFF STAFF

The truest credit to writer-director Neil Jordan's immense talent is how he has made a movie about a terrorist so appealing.

"Michael Collins" is the true story of how the Irish rose up against British rule after 700 years and established the divided country of Ireland we know today. This struggle for independence was led by Michael Collins, and Neil Jordan has made a considerable retelling of Collins' life and death.

The film begins with the 1916 Easter uprising, a battle between Irish patriots and the British Army that led to dozens of deaths. This failure to achieve independence was led by Eamon De Valera, leader of the Irish nationalists, and Michael Collins. De Valera thought that talk could persuade the British to give Ireland to the Irish, but Collins felt that only violence could end British rule.

To that end, Collins devised guerrilla tactics that have been a model for every terrorist in the world since. Unable to cope with this new type of warfare, the British were soundly defeated. A peace treaty was written and praise was heaped upon Collins, but the treaty caused a rift among the Irish. In an attempt to rectify the situation, Collins was killed in an



Photo courtesy of Geffen Pictures

(From left) Alan Rickman, Liam Neeson and Aidan Quinn fight to free Ireland in the movie "Michael Collins."

ambush.

Jordan's last film, "Interview with the Vampire," was told with a flair for operatic grandeur, whereas "Michael Collins" is more like a lyrical ballad to a great man. Liam Neeson creates a towering impression as Collins and appears to have a great deal of fun with the role. Aidan Quinn

("Stakeout") is equally impressive as Collins' friend and partner Harry Boland.

Jordan regular, Stephen Rea, plays informant Ned Broy with nervous energy, and Charles Dance makes a brief but memorable turn as a monstrosous British officer obsessed with catching Collins.

Where the film goes wrong is in the love story. Julia Roberts, miscast as ever, starts with a palpable Irish accent but abandons it completely after her second scene. She and Collins are not a good match, and the idea that a renegade like him would fall for a mouse like her is odd to say the least.

Alan Rickman ("Die Hard") also

seems out of place as De Valera. He was Collins' mentor and friend until the peace treaty process began, but we never understand why Collins would look up to this man. Nor do we understand why De Valera got so angry at Collins for failing at something which he, De Valera, knew was impossible to accomplish.

By over-analyzing "Michael Collins," holes in logic begin to appear. Collins has two stages in the movie: all for himself and his men and all for Ireland regardless of his men. The change in moods here is so abrupt that we never really have time to adjust and are just dragged along with the rest of the cast. Apparently, Collins was always for Ireland only, but we are not aware of that until three-quarters of the way through the film.

Looking past these gaping holes, "Michael Collins" is knockout entertainment. The Gaelic music by composer Elliot Goldenthal is nothing short of breathtaking, and Sinead O'Connor even sings a number. While not quite the definitive documentary on its subject matter, "Michael Collins" will bring to light, albeit in a romanticized portrait, the actions of a man whose memory has been all but erased from textbooks.

Grade: B+

OTF's just like 311

By William Thomas Burdette
SKIFF STAFF

When I first heard OTF, rather than thinking of those three letters, it was three numbers that popped into my head: Three, one and one. If you like 311 then you will probably dig the funky sounds of OTF. And if you like The Dave Matthews Band, and you have tickets to see them on Saturday, then you will get to hear OTF for yourself when they warm up the Starplex Blockbuster Stage.

Although these former University of North Texas guys have played at Starplex before, this is the first time that it is for a halfway talented act.

As for their album, "Get Up," some of the songs are good, some are horrible and many sound exactly the same. "Good Samaritan" has an interesting sound that is sort of reminiscent of a white guy doing a Seal cover. Though it's not a bad song, perhaps the most valuable thing about it is that it proves the band has some versatility and is not locked into that "I wanna be just like 311" mentality.

Another highlight of the album is "River Bed" maybe because of its juxtaposition among all the other fast-paced funk, or maybe because the lyrics are among the few on the album that don't make me want to turn it off.

However, the title track is horrible. I actually laughed at this song. Not because it was funny but because it was a pathetic attempt at creating some sort of rap/funk/fusion song.

The lyrics make this particular single a sure candidate for the Vanilla Ice Award for the Dumbest Lyrics. Don't believe me? Judge for yourself: Get up/get down/get some bootie/Get up/get down/say yeah yeah yeah/Get up/get down/sing all night long. Not exactly poetic. I kept expecting them to sing, "light up the stage and wax a chump like a candle" next. If this song was an attempt at humor (and believe me, that thought crossed my mind more than once) then it was a damn good one.

The lyrics on "Don't Know" are almost worse. The song sounds like the impromptu attempt at rapping that we all do when we are trying to be funny at a party and people just laugh out of kindness. It's not that they don't make sense. Michael Stipe and Phish have both proved that making sense has little to do with good lyrics. The bottom line is that the lyrics shouldn't distract one's attention from the music and here they clearly do just that.

Don't get me wrong. It is obvious that this is a very talented group of musicians, but their lyrics are so juvenile and hackneyed that it overshadows their musical talent.



Jonathan Fisher is an incredible bassist. He proves on this album that he can get in a slow groove or he can rip it up, Flea (of the Red Hot Chili Peppers) style. Dave Randolph has a good voice for the type of music they play, and the band's three-part harmonies in "Know You" are well done. His guitar playing is more than competent, although in many of the songs, it seems like he's playing the same riff just a bit faster or in another key.

The two percussionists Russ Swift and Travis Knepper do more than keep a steady beat. They add plenty of drive and funk without being too loud or intrusive.

OTF is more than a cheap imitation of 311 but how much more is still to be determined. If you want to find out for yourself, check them out Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Starplex with the Dave Matthews Band. Or if you want to see them for less than \$20, catch their Nov. 9 show at The Pour House.

Festival celebrates Texas pride, beers

What do you get when you add up a parking lot full of beer made in Texas, live music and lots of people?

A good time. And that's exactly what I had at the Texas Brewers' Festival Oct. 19.

Who would have thought a drab parking lot in Sundance Square could be so easily transformed into a block party for the Metroplex? When I first heard about the festival, I thought, "This should be interesting, a parking lot full of people who have been drinking beer all day." I obviously didn't realize what the festival was all about.

It was more than a beer-drinking body, more than an excuse to grab a drink during the day. It was a celebration of something Texans love to celebrate, something made in Texas, specifically, beer.

If there's one thing I've discovered since living in Texas, it is that Texans take great pride in Texas things. The festival capitalized on this idea and created a great time for everyone involved.

And why shouldn't it capitalize on Texas pride? In an environment like the festival, everybody wins.

The breweries and brew pubs invited got to showcase their beer and the people who went got to try over 50 different varieties of Texas beer. It was easy to enjoy yourself because the festival was so user-friendly. It was as simple as following the signs and standing in the lines.

A huge banner saying, "Start Here" was draped across a corner of the parking lot. The people who worked at the "Start Here" tables asked you a very simple question, "How much beer do you think you can drink from now until the festival is over?" You answered, bought that many tokens and were on your own to get a taste of Texas.

Some people found a type of beer they liked and stuck to it, drinking cup after cup of their favorite. Others were more adventurous and sampled many of the different flavors.

I am not a flavored beer-drinker, but I decided to be daring and tried honey-flavored beer. Unfortunately, I did not get a chance to taste the blueberry- or raspberry-flavored beer.

I have to say that my favorite beer at the festival was the "Cowboy Beer." I can't decide if that's because I really liked the way it tasted or because I really



liked the name. There's just something about drinking "Cowboy Beer" in Texas.

Live music added to the festival. Groups of people sat around huge circular tables laughing, listening to the sounds of Citizen Lane, Drama Tiki and Brad Thompson, while, of course, drinking beer.

When a band left the stage, pre-recorded music blared over the speaker system. Space was cleared in front of the stage so those who wanted to dance could and people did.

A father and daughter danced next to a group of college girls who danced in a circle. Then they danced next to a couple, and the whole group was singing along with a Jimmy Buffett tune.

I'd say a good time was had by all, if the smiles on the faces and the buzz of animated conversation was any indication. It was hard not to get involved in the atmosphere of the event.

The festival slogan was "Celebrating Home and Home Brew" and everyone certainly did.

Kelly Melhart is a senior news-editorial major from Fort Worth.

COMMENTARY



KELLY MELHART

'Laughter' cast talented, brings dialogue to stage

Vibrant performances, inventive set mark season opener

By Melissa Guthrie
SKIFF STAFF

The first play of Stage West's 1997 season, "Laughter On The 23rd Floor," lives up to its name.

Although some of the jokes may be lost on audience members who are less familiar with the 1950s, the play still has enough amusing dialogue to keep viewers chuckling during the performance. "Laughter" has a talented cast and a wonderfully inventive set.

The play revolves around writing sessions for a 1950's comedy show and follows the evolution of the show over time.

At the beginning of the play, the show, starring Max Prince, is the most popular show on television. Unfortunately for the writers and the star, the show's ratings begin to wane because of the public's desire for a different kind of comedy. The play deals with the show's slow and painful downfall.

The talented cast of "Laughter" vibrantly brings to life Neil Simon's dialogue. The actors include Jackie Cabe, Donald Jordan, Brad McBride, Erin McGrann, Toby Morton, John Puddington, Jerry Russell and Cliff C. Sharpless.

The performances of Jordan, Russell and Sharpless are the stand-outs of the play.

Viewers of "Laughter" are given the pleasure of seeing Russell, the artistic director of Stage West, in the role of Lucas. He portrays the amused observer and narrator of the play. During much of the play he stands on the edge of the stage, smiling at the antics of the rest of the comedy writers, but he also actively participates in many of the scenes.

Russell has been in several plays around the Metroplex. He has performed for Shakespeare in the Park, Casa Manana and Fort Worth Theatre.

Jordan plays the character of Max. Max is the star of the comedy show and is viewed as a funny person, but according to Lucas, he cannot string four intelligible words together or stop coughing. Max is addicted to both alcohol and tranquilizers. Jordan deals with the complexity of Max's character amazingly well. He is able to portray effectively Max's loud and outwardly optimistic exterior as well as his depressed interior.

Jordan has performed in theaters around the country as well as in theaters around the Metroplex. Some of his performances include Thurston et al in "Greater Tuna" and Mr. Large in "Out at Sea."

Sharpless portrays Val, a Russian whose constant mispronunciation of the English language is the focus of many jokes. Val, however, gets the last

laugh. Sharpless takes Simon's lines and runs with them. He loses none of Val's comic quality.

Sharpless has performed in plays around the state of Texas. He has performed at Theatre Arlington, Austin 5th Street Theatre and Zachary Scott Theatre.

Along with the talented actors and well-written script, the set of "Laughter" adds unique pieces to keep the audience interested. Part of the set includes a window and a wall that are rolled on and off during various scenes and a simple box is painted to represent the New York City skyline in a humorous fashion.

The only problem some viewers may have with the play could result from a lack of historical knowledge about the 1950s. The play takes place in 1953 during the era of Joseph McCarthy. Although some of the jokes may not make sense to a younger audience, the play contains enough timeless comic dialogue to keep the audience entertained.

Stage West's production of "Laughter On The 23rd Floor" is well-acted and contains interesting set choices. These qualities, combined with Neil Simon's witty script, result in a funny and enjoyable night at the theater.

"Laughter" runs through Nov. 16 at Stage West, 3055 S. University Dr.

Pulse

PEOPLE

Grammer leaves Betty Ford Clinic

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kelsey Grammer has checked out of the Betty Ford Clinic for substance abuse after a month's stay.

Grammer, 40, left the clinic on Monday and was to return to the set of "Frasier" today, said Kim Conant, a spokeswoman for the show.

Production of the NBC series had been on hiatus since Grammer voluntarily entered the clinic after flipping his Dodge Viper near his Los Angeles area home on Sept. 21.

He suffered a minor head cut in the crash. Grammer was charged with misdemeanor driving with an expired license, which carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine. No arraignment date has been set.

He originally was arrested for investigation of driving under the influence, but prosecutors said they lacked evidence to support the charge.

Lee drops film over nude, sex scene

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Simulated sex scenes proved too sizzling for Pamela Anderson Lee.

The "Baywatch" star backed out of a film commitment because a movie company refused to rewrite nude and sex scenes, her lawyer Ronald Beck told a judge Wednesday.

Lee is asking a judge dismiss a \$5 million lawsuit that claims she reneged on an agreement to star in "Hello, She Lied." The judge did not immediately rule.

In the suit filed last year, The Private Movie Co. argued that Lee saw the final script and made a verbal commitment in 1994 to do the film.

But Beck said the actress never signed a contract because the final script contained "simulated sex scenes and all the things she didn't want to do."

Singer battles sickle cell anemia

NEW YORK (AP) — T-Boz is smiling through her pain.

The 26-year-old vocalist for the chart-topping group TLC says a battle with sickle cell anemia frequently keeps her in "excruciating pain."

The genetic illness has forced her to "fake and smile when I wasn't happy, to sing when I didn't feel like it, to do stuff... just to please my fans," she says in an interview taped for the syndicated TV show "American Journal."

T-Boz, whose real name is Tionne Watkins, was recently named spokeswoman for the national Sickle Cell Association. The singer says she hopes to send a message that the illness can be overcome.

"My attitude is like, 'OK, you're going to have to just face what you got,'" she says. "Now suck it up and try to make the best of it."

Skynyrd drummer thanks rescuers

McCOMB, Miss. (AP) — Lynyrd Skynyrd drummer Artimus Pyle traded his sticks for a telephone to thank the family that arrived on the scene of the rock band's plane crash 19 years ago and helped rescue him.

Monday marked the anniversary of the Oct. 21, 1977, crash in southwest Mississippi.

Johnny Mote's family helped rescue Pyle and 19 other survivors of the crash that killed six people, including lead singer Ronnie Van Zant and guitarist Steve Gaines.

The group was going to a concert in Baton Rouge, La., when the plane crashed.

Pyle this week called the *Enterprise-Journal*, the newspaper in McComb, to say thanks to the people who helped get victims to hospitals.

Pyle, who lives in St. Augustine Beach, Fla., said it was a deep sense of gratitude that prompted his phone calls.

"I was laying out on the beach looking up at the sky, and I said, 'Doggone it, I would love to tell them we're still alive and well and we really do appreciate what they did for us,'" Pyle said.



Patrick Van Horn (left), Vince Vaughn, Jon Favreau, Ron Livingston and Alex Desert celebrate the nightlife in the new movie "Swingers."

Humor makes film swing

Linguistic charms, nightlife scene create good movie

By Mitch Youngblood
SKIFF STAFF

With an opening montage of nightclubs along the Los Angeles party circuit, "Swingers" makes it clear that nightlife is what the next film from Miramax is all about.

So intent is "Swingers" on presenting a humorous, yet often embarrassing, exposé on the Los Angeles partygoers that it manages to coast as far as it does on the likability of the actors alone. We actually feel the pain of the lead characters, and we understand that they are really just searching for themselves in lower Hollywood.

Rather than ape Quentin Tarantino, a la "Two Days in the Valley," "Swingers" creates its own linguistic charms, only some of which will briefly throw audiences. The word "baby" means "an attractive woman," "money" describes a "hip and happening man" and "digs" speaks for itself. You will catch

on to these phrases quickly, especially since you will lose count of how many times you hear them.

"Swingers" is largely an autobiographical take on writer-producer-star Jon Favreau's first years in Hollywood. His presentation of how things look as opposed to how they really are is frequently funny, but he refuses to give any of the lead characters any self-respect.

His character is the focus of the story, and is only allowed to be depressed and resigned to the fact that his life may never improve.

Mike left his true love back in New York when he moved to Los Angeles. He then tried to make it big in Hollywood, but he and others like him are left to low-paying jobs and auditions with no call-backs in order to pay their bills. Their only solace is on the back-alley party scene where they drink hard and try harder to pick up women.

Mike's friends are from all walks

of life. Trent, played by Vince Vaughn, is the cocky, self-assured leader of the pack who tries to hit every party in Los Angeles in one night. Charles, played by Alex Desert, is the hanger-on who only cares for the parties. Ron Livingston as Rob, and Patrick Van Horn as Sue, round out the group.

For an independent feature with practically no budget, by industry standards "Swingers" is brilliantly directed by Doug Liman, who pays hilarious homage to Tarantino's "Reservoir Dogs" and Martin Scorsese's "Goodfellas." Liman and producer Nicole Shay LaLoggia managed to shoot on location at each of the clubs into which the actors venture.

"Swingers" is an excellent showcase for club-hopping and a '90s retro-swing movement but not anything substantial or life-affirming. As a night on the town, "Swingers" is simply a matter of taste.

Grade: B-

Goldberg a hit in new comedy

By Andy Summa
SKIFF STAFF

A few years ago, a series of "Calvin and Hobbes" comic strips featured a duplicator that Calvin invented. Calvin used this "machine" to create duplicates of himself so he wouldn't have to go to school — his duplicates would go to school for him.

Soon, however, Calvin felt the ramifications of his duplication scheme. His duplicates were getting in trouble at school, but Calvin was the one getting blamed.

"The Associate" works on the same principle. Fed up with male chauvinism, a talented woman financial analyst duplicates herself as a male super financial genius but faces consequences she didn't anticipate.

Laurel Ayres (Whoopi Goldberg) is a gifted financial analyst but isn't climbing the corporate ladder as quickly as her less-deserving male counterparts. So she develops a plan to grab her rightful share of the corporate pie.

She fabricates a partnership with a high-powered financial whiz, Robert S. Cutty. He isn't real, though; only a product of Ayres' imagination.

He is merely a duplication of Ayres' financial abilities and talents. Ayres uses Cutty as a springboard to present her ideas to the same clients who wouldn't give her the time of day before her partnership with Cutty.

Though the ideas are actually Ayres', it is Cutty who is given all the credit. The media dubs Cutty the new Wall Street wizard, and Robert S. Cutty is a household name within weeks. Clients fall over themselves to work with his brilliance.

Soon, however, the Cutty duplication scheme gets too big for Ayres to handle.

Clients, SEC agents and the media demand to meet Cutty or else. Problem: Cutty doesn't exist. Desperate, Ayres takes her plan a step further: She pretends to be Cutty.

Goldberg's Cutty is an Oscar-worthy makeup job. The first time Cutty makes an appearance, the



Academy Award winner Whoopi Goldberg stars as Wall Street whiz Laurel Ayres in the new movie "The Associate."

viewer almost forgets to pay attention to the rest of the movie. Prosthetic make-up artist Greg Cannom (1992, 1993 Oscar winner) does a great job transforming a young, energetic Whoopi into an old, heavyset white man. It's hilarious.

Goldberg, who won an Oscar in 1990 for "Ghost," is fantastic. Following two really bad movies ("Bogus" and "Eddie"), "The Associate" is her vehicle back to respectability. She is one of the most charismatic actors in the business, and this movie showcases her talents without relying too heavily on them.

Though the movie has its fair share of troubles (the first 15 minutes aren't interesting at all), direc-

tor Donald Petrie ("Grumpy Old Men") utilizes Whoopi's abilities without exploiting them. With a strong supporting cast, Petrie gives us a fresh, funny movie. And, surprisingly, he avoids many of the clichés that is expected of such comedies.

Dianne Wiest, a two-time Academy Award winner, plays Sally, Ayres' loyal secretary. She's soft-spoken but has some of the best lines in the movie. Tim Daly ("Wings") also delivers, playing a yuppie corporate slime.

"The Associate" isn't an earth-changing movie. But it is a good, lighthearted comedy that doesn't pull any punches. Calvin would be proud.

Grade: B

Trekkies beam up to Border's

By Kirk Shinkle
SKIFF STAFF

Every Wednesday night a small group of brave men and women gather in a corner of Border's Books and Music to boldly go where no one has gone before or at least to discuss the journey in minute detail.

They are the members of the Star Trek Discussion Group, a group of hard-core Trekkies dedicated to the preservation of all things related to science fiction.

The group focuses on all aspects of sci-fi television and literature, including the original "Star Trek" episodes, the newer series "The Next Generation," "Star Trek Voyager" and "Deep Space Nine" and other sci-fi series like the "X-Files" and "Babylon Five."

The group, which celebrated its first anniversary this month, has roughly 15 members of all ages, ranging from a 15-year-old student to a 63-year-old retiree.

Group founder Dawn Love, 27, who spent her last vacation labeling her vast collection of "Star Trek" tapes, said the group's diversity is a product of a shared outlook on life.

"We see a positive future for humanity," she said.

Between discussions of "Trek" trivia, gossip and William Shatner's most recent exploits, group members expound on why "Star Trek," and science fiction in general, keep many people so heavily interested.

Lou Bradley, a group member, said the attention to details in sci-fi programming is the key.

"If you put 5,000 Trekkies in a room and someone says something wrong, watch out because we'll catch it," she said.

Gene Trussell, another group member, said the innovative tech-

nology on the shows and the high-caliber acting peaks his interest.

Robert Trepagnier, a group member, said "Star Trek" became popular early because of the space race, but keeps its edge because of the constant addition of new series characters and the "Star Trek" movie series that began in the 1980s.

Mike Ryan, a club member, said his love of Star Trek was cultivated early.

"My first shirt was a Captain Kirk shirt," Ryan said. "I wore it five days a week."

Ryan later admitted his motivation is now due more to testosterone than family ties saying, "I just watch for the miniskirts."

Trussell also said the group provides social interaction for like-minded Trekkies.

"We don't just talk about 'Star Trek,' it's really just a chance to get together with other people," he said.

In addition to constant discussion and viewing of Trek-related material, the group has turned its collective talents to writing a script for an episode of one of the "Star Trek" series currently in production.

Love said, "We're sending a script to Paramount. They'll pay \$1,000 if they like the idea."

When asked about the negative image of the stereotypical Spock-ear wearing, Mr. Scott-worshipping Trekkies, most group members simply smiled.

Love said, "We have lives, but we are freaks in the good sense. We're what happens when you sit your kid in front of the TV for eight hours a day."

The Star Trek Discussion Group meets at 7 p.m. every Wednesday in the video department of Border's Books and Music, 4613 S. Hulen Street.

'Joseph' amazing

Play combines lights, loincloth to earn ovation

By Sylvia Carrizales
and Lety Laurel
SKIFF STAFF

From the overture to the megamix finale, the characters of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" keep the beat moving with music ranging from classical to rock 'n' roll, calypso to rap and country.

Nearly flawless, "Joseph" is a Biblical story retold in a modern, hip way. Employing different genres of music and using appearances by go-go dancers and a famous Pharaoh "king," who comes complete with blue suede shoes and a sequined loincloth, "Joseph" rocks the house.

Although "Joseph" may be directed toward younger generations, it was the elder members of the audience who jumped to their feet for a standing ovation at the finale.

Broadway at its best, the play is a captivating combination of lights, dry ice and stage sets that appear to come straight from a Las Vegas casino. The costumes are clever, each assuming a theme and taking it to the extreme — perhaps going overboard in certain scenes.

When the Pharaoh's mistresses come out scantily clad with only coins placed in strategic places and Joseph is fondled by females throughout the course of the production, you are reminded of a bar room striptease act.

With the children's choir sitting only a few feet away, you get the impulse to run and cover their young eyes. Most of "Joseph" is exaggeration mixed within humorous satire, yet how appropriate some of it is should be questioned.

The plot of "Joseph" would be considered heartbreaking under normal circumstances. But this production is anything but normal.

Joseph, the favored of Jacob's twelve sons, is given a coat of every imaginable hue. The coat, along with Joseph's dreams that foreshadow his future as a king, provoke the brothers into a jealous rage, and they sell Joseph to some passing Ishmaelites.

Talking camels and Egyptian cheerleaders help the production along and Joseph's plight soon becomes a road of unexpected twists and turns that eventually leave him as Egypt's new pharaoh.

It takes more than a little loincloth for Brian Lane Green, on his first tour in the role of Joseph, to capture the audience's attention. With just



the right amount of emotion and humor in his resonant voice, he defines Joseph's character through conceit, humility and forgiveness.

Singing the first note of the production, Jodie Langel as the narrator gives a strong performance as she leads the audience through the story of "Joseph" with her clear soprano.

It is the 11 brothers, however, that steal the show. With their deep jealousy, the brothers provide the true, although warped, comic relief.

Hylan Scott's voice drips with sarcasm in his role as Reuben as he pretends to mourn the "death" of Joseph in the country-western rendition of "One More Angel in Heaven." Charles Gray as Judah leads the audience in toe-tapping as he comes to the defense of the accused thief Benjamin in "Benjamin's Calypso."

And who could forget the spectacular, Elvis-impersonating Jeffrey Scott Watkins in his role as the Pharaoh? Complete with twitching upper lip and rotating hips, Watkins is definitely a bonus.

Another highlight of the Fort Worth production is the appearance of two local children's choirs from Meadowbrook Methodist Church and Morningside Middle School. Singing and dancing throughout each performance, the children add to the musical an innocence and energy which only young voices can provide.

If you have never been to a Broadway production, "Joseph" will set your expectations high. And to all the old pros of Broadway, don't miss out on this one. It will definitely replace your old favorite.

"Joseph" is currently playing at the Will Rogers Auditorium in Fort Worth and will run through Oct. 27. Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$40 and are available by calling (817) 332-CASA or any TicketMaster outlet.

**Yankees 1,
Braves 0**

ATLANTA (AP) — The New York Yankees might miss this ballpark more than the Atlanta Braves.

Andy Pettitte outpitched John Smoltz in a classic duel, and the Yankees moved within one win of the World Series championship by hanging on for a 1-0 victory over Atlanta in Game 5 Thursday night.

In the last game ever to be played at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, the Yankees finished this postseason 8-0 on the road. They did it by working around a leadoff double in the ninth inning by Chipper Jones. Pettitte got one out and John Wetteland got the last two, the final one a fly ball that gimpy right fielder Paul O'Neill caught on the move with runners at first and third.

Now, they'll return to Yankee Stadium — where they're just 2-4 this October — with a chance to clinch their record 23rd title.

Game 6 will be Saturday night, with Jimmy Key starting against Greg Maddux. The final game at this park turned out to be anything except the kind of slugfest that earned this place its reputation as The Launching Pad. Instead, the House that Hank Built — Hank Aaron that is — went out with a whimper, with a total of only nine hits.

Morrison prepares for comeback in Japan

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A bloody gash could stop Tommy Morrison's comeback fight, but the HIV-infected heavyweight appeared confident Thursday as he announced his return to the ring for a bout in Japan.

Morrison will test his powerful left hook on the undercard of the George Foreman-Crawford Grimsley bout Nov. 3. His opponent is expected to be Anthony Cooks, a little-known boxer from Oklahoma.

A contract provision calls for the fight to end if Morrison suffers any uncontrollable bleeding. The chances are slim, he said.

"I've been cut four times in 50 professional fights," Morrison said. "I'm not exactly a bleeder." As far as stopping the fight, he said, "it has to be a decision by the referee."

Morrison's lawyer said the outcome will be determined by the scorecards if a referee halts the match because of bleeding by either fighter.

The 27-year-old boxer, whose voice brimmed with emotion eight months ago when he told reporters he had tested positive for HIV, did not waiver Thursday in saying his comeback is solely to raise money for children with AIDS.

"I'm doing it strictly for the foundation," he said. "I made a lot of promises to these kids."

Cycling star has lesions removed

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Cycling star Lance Armstrong, who announced two weeks ago that he is battling testicular cancer, has undergone successful surgery to remove two small cancerous lesions on his brain, according to his agent.

The lesions were discovered during tests performed last week in Austin, Texas, said Armstrong's agent Bill Stapleton.

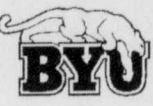

"This is a normal progression for testicular cancer," Stapleton said, following Thursday's surgery. "It goes from the testes to the abdomen, to the lungs, then to the brain. It's still testicular cancer, even though it's located in other places."

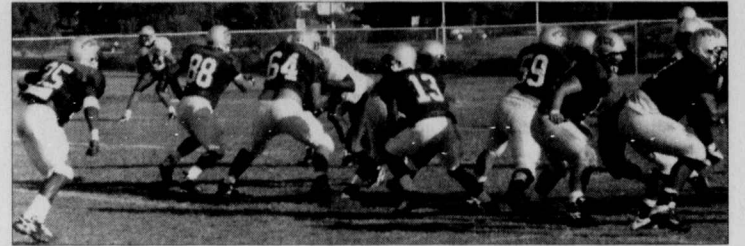
Armstrong, the country's top road racing cyclist, announced on Oct. 8 that he had undergone surgery to have a cancerous testicle removed.

"We did have good news," Stapleton said. "When they did the CAT-Scan and found the lesions in the brain, the cancer found in the lungs was already smaller. So he is responding to the treatment so far."

After a week of chemotherapy treatment, Armstrong will return home to Austin for two weeks of recovery. He will then repeat this three-week cycle three times beginning with a return to Indianapolis on Nov. 18.

Frogs host No. 15-ranked BYU

THE SKIFF SPORTS EDGE BOX		
TCU	VS.	BYU
<p>Passing offense: QB Fred Taylor must be looking over his shoulder constantly; despite no turnovers, he was pulled in favor of Jeff Dover in the fourth quarter of TCU's 21-7 loss at Utah. Things should be looking up, though. BYU's pass defense is not as strong as the Utes, and WRs Jason Tucker and John Washington are both healthy.</p>		<p>Passing defense: The Cougars are fairly generous in the air, giving up an average of 220.3 yards passing per game (fifth in the WAC). LB Shay Muirbrook leads the team with two interceptions and seven sacks. The Cougars have recorded 20 sacks in eight games. BYU's smallest starting defensive lineman is 6-foot 6-inch, 275-pound DE Daren Yancey.</p>
<p>Passing defense: TCU ranks third in the WAC against the pass (153.2 yards per game), but the Frogs have yet to see an aerial attack like BYU's. The Frogs have only four interceptions this year and that must increase if TCU is to have any shot at a win. SS Chris Staten leads the team in tackles (55), and DE Matt Harper has recorded a team-leading 2.5 sacks.</p>		<p>Passing offense: QB Steve Sarkisian is No. 2 in the nation in passing efficiency (179.33 rating) and No. 3 in total offense (333.4 yards per game) and has thrown 23 TD passes in eight games. He has weapons, too; TE Itula Mili and WRs K.O. Kealaluhi and Kaipo McGuire rank in the Top 15 in the WAC in receiving yards per game. TE Chad Lewis has 3 TD catches.</p>
<p>Rushing offense: An on-again, off-again unit suddenly came to life against Utah. RBs Sterling Boyd (19 carries for 97 yards) and Basil Mitchell (32-78) helped TCU control the clock, a must for the Frogs to keep Sarkisian and the BYU offense off the field. FB Koi Woods is limited by injuries to a few practices a week, but continues to play in pain.</p>		<p>Rushing defense: The Cougars are third in the WAC, allowing an average of 140.3 yards per game on the ground but only 3.7 per carry. Muirbrook, a Butkus Award candidate, leads the squad in tackles this season. BYU is fourth in the WAC in scoring defense (20.9 ppg) and has held four opponents under 20 points this year.</p>
<p>Rushing defense: The return of senior NT Bernard Oldham seemed to bolster the defensive line, which, except for a couple of big plays, kept Utah's highly-touted running game in check. LB Jay Davern ranks second on the team in tackles (54). DT Michael Janak (sprained knee) is probable.</p>		<p>Rushing offense: RB Brian McKenzie doesn't get many carries in BYU's pass-first-ask-questions-later offense (82 in eight games), but he makes the most of them, averaging 4.9 yards per rush. FB Mark Atuaia is primarily a blocker, but can be sneaky coming out of the backfield as a receiver.</p>
<p>Special teams: PK Michael Reeder must rebound from an 0-3 outing against Utah; TCU will need any points they can get to keep up with BYU. The pressure is also on P Royce Huffman to not allow the Cougars good field position.</p>	<p>EVEN</p>	<p>Special teams: Punt returner James Dye is second in the nation, averaging 20 yards per return, and is a breakaway threat; he took one 79 yards for a TD against Utah State, and had a 71-yarder called back by a penalty against Arizona State.</p>
<p>Intangibles: TCU is hungry after losing to Utah in a game the Frogs feel they should have won. A large Homecoming crowd should bolster them as well. Forecasts call for thunderstorms, which could help slow the Cougars' air attack.</p>		<p>Intangibles: The Cougars, coming off a 55-30 thrashing of Tulsa, suffered their only loss this season at No. 23 Washington, 29-17. They are on course for a Nov. 23 season-finale against Utah for the WAC title.</p>



The TCU offensive line, shown here in practice, controlled the line of scrimmage last week in the Horned Frogs' 21-7 loss to Utah, TCU head coach Pat Sullivan said. As a result, TCU was able to maintain possession for over 40 minutes.

Cougars bring high-powered offense to Homecoming game

By Ernie Moran
SKIFF STAFF

Homecoming. Decorations, the big dance, the crowning of the queen and an easy win at the football game.

Somebody at the TCU Homecoming Committee must never have heard of such a concept because, for the TCU football team, this year's Homecoming game will be anything but easy.

The Horned Frogs (2-4, 1-2 in the Western Athletic Conference) host the No. 15-ranked Brigham Young University Cougars (7-1, 3-0) at 2:05 p.m. Saturday at Amos Carter Stadium. The Cougars are a 15½-point favorite.

"BYU is the best team we will have played so far," said TCU head coach Pat Sullivan.

Any talk of the Cougars begins on offense, and that all starts at quarterback. Senior Steve Sarkisian follows a long line of talented signal-callers at BYU, and he has managed to uphold the tradition. This year, he ranks second in the nation in passing efficiency (179.33), having completed 179 of 263 passes (68 percent), averaging 343 yards passing per game and thrown 23 passes and only seven interceptions.

But Sarkisian is not the sole reason the Cougars rank fourth in the nation in total offense (505.6 yards per game). Tight ends Chad Lewis (6-6, 250) and Itula Mili (6-4, 260) are among the best in the nation. Lewis is a Fred Biletnikoff Award candidate, and Mili is 10th in the WAC in receiving yards per game.

"Their tight ends are exceptionally outstanding players," Sullivan said. "We've played against an awful lot of outstanding tight ends. But when you have the size and the speed, and put all of it together . . ."

"Both of those guys will play on Sunday one day, and that's a luxury to have on a football team. When you've got two quality

tight ends, it puts pressure on the other defense."

Sarkisian also has targets in wide receivers Kaipo McGuire (six consecutive games with a touchdown catch) and K.O. Kealaluhi (seventh in the WAC in receiving yards per game).

Up front, the Cougars' smallest offensive lineman is 6-foot 7-inch freshman left tackle John Tait, who weighs in at 285 pounds. "Their offensive front is good," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said the Cougars success stems not from trickery or clever strategy but basic execution.

"BYU doesn't do an awful lot of things offensively," Sullivan said. "They just do them well. They've got a great scheme against the man-to-man stuff, but it all starts with the experience they have. Most of those guys have been around and playing."

TCU will counter with junior Fred Taylor making his third consecutive start at quarterback after replacing redshirt freshman Jeff Dover. Taylor was pulled in favor of Dover in the fourth quarter Saturday against the University of Utah.

But the Frogs accomplished the three main goals Sullivan was looking for. Big plays eventually cost them in a 21-7 loss.

"I thought our football team did everything to win the football game," Sullivan said. "We played awfully well on both sides. We created some turnovers and didn't turn the football over. We kept the ball for 40 minutes."

The Frogs will have to be wary even when Sarkisian is on the sidelines. BYU punt returner James Dye is second in the nation, averaging 20 yards on 13 returns this year. He ran one back 79 yards for a touchdown against Utah State University earlier this season.

"What we've got to do is get some of our people to make some big plays," Sullivan said.

Reeder's career a movie

Former soccer player becomes an All-American kicker

By Gregor Esch
SKIFF STAFF

Michael Reeder decided to give football one shot and now that shot is heard around the nation.

Reeder, a junior, is playing a sport he once considered an afterthought, but now considers in his forethoughts, and like many of his kicks, he is quite "good" at it.

Former walk-on turned first-team All-American place kicker is a path to success usually reserved for the movies, but fortunately for the Frogs, Reeder's story didn't have to come from a Hollywood script.

Reeder's kicking prowess was exhibited on a different athletic field at Sulphur High School in Sulphur, La., earlier in his career. Reeder was an All-American soccer player and established a state mark for goals scored in a season.

Reeder was also an outstanding baseball player for four years, but he met his fate of playing college football by chance.

"I played only soccer and baseball in high school initially and really dreamed of playing baseball one day," he said. "Football was not a major consideration for me, but when our football coach in the spring of my freshman year asked members of the soccer team to come and kick field goals, I thought I'd give it a shot."

Having posted impressive statistics in all three sports in high school, Reeder anticipated receiving scholarship offers in any of the three sports. The offers didn't come. Reeder then decided to walk-on as a kicker at TCU. He was familiar with the university because his father and great-grandfather are alumni.

Reeder, however, wondered if TCU was the right place for him after realizing he would be in competition with eight other walk-ons.

"The outlook was so discouraging that I began to look at schools closer to home," he said. "I decided to stick with it and try again in the spring and if it didn't work out, I would try to make the baseball team as a walk-on the next year."

"Obviously, I caught the eye of some coaches."

TCU head coach Pat Sullivan said: "We didn't know much about Mike, but you could tell with his work ethic he was going to be successful at something. We're just glad his success has been as our place kicker."

"I like to call him our security blanket because Mike is always there to put points on the board when we need him."

Reeder, 21, won the job as the Frogs' placekicker at the beginning of the 1994 season. Reeder responded to the challenge by converting 11 of 15 field goals as a freshman and earning a scholarship at the end of the season. Reeder said he wasn't surprised by the scholarship because that had always been his goal.

The native of Sulphur didn't rest on his laurels after receiving the scholarship as Reeder followed that with a magical 1995 season. Reeder was successful on an unbelievable 23 of 25 field goal attempts on his way to earning first team All-American honors from the Associated Press. He also was the recipient of the 1995 Lou Groza National Placekicker Award.

Reeder has already missed more than twice as many field goal attempts this season but has showed he has not lost his touch either. He booted a school-record 57-yarder through the uprights Oct. 12 against the University of Texas-El Paso. Reeder calls the accomplishment the greatest moment of his career.

He has been perfect for his career by making all 60 PATs.

"It is a tremendous success story

and should be an inspiration to all of our players," Sullivan said.

Reeder is his own toughest critic. He said he stands alone in deep contemplation after missing a kick. Reeder said he needs to get away from people for fear he might direct his anger at others instead of himself. Reeder's intensity is something that teammates admire.

"It's a pleasure to watch someone work to improve himself as much as Mike does," Frog deep snapper Ashby Porter said. "Mike doesn't let failures linger in his mind. He's always ready to go on the next kick."

In his typical humble fashion, Reeder said his teammates deserve most of the credit for his success.

"I have the best deep snapper (Porter) and holder (Todd Stanford) that you could ask for," he said. "Without those guys doing their jobs, there is no ball to kick."

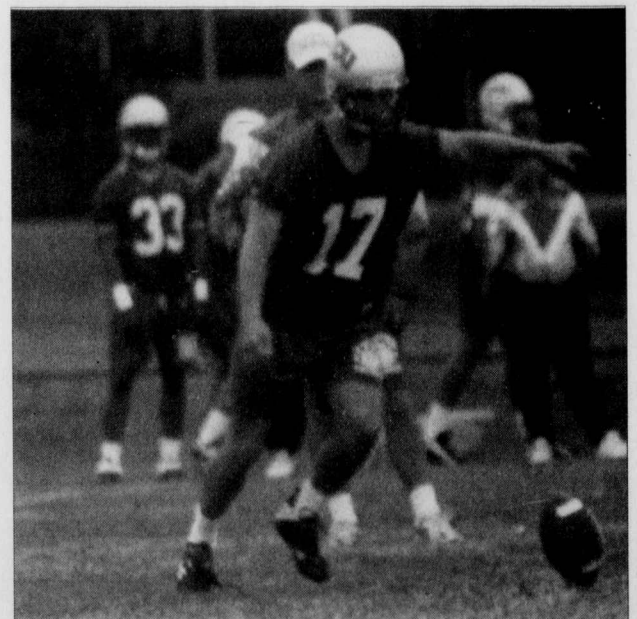
The business major also excels in the classroom with a 3.8 grade point average. Reeder's academic excellence has earned him second-team academic All-American honors. He will graduate in May and plans to attend graduate school next year. Reeder said playing in the National Football League is the farthest thing from his mind right now.

Teammates on offense say they feel guilty when they stall and Reeder is forced to try a long field goal, which has happened often this season.

"We feel guilty for having him do all the work, but it is nice to be stalled at the 35-yard-line and know that there's a good chance that he will put points on the board," said TCU tailback John Williams.

Reeder said the accolades are nice, but his role shouldn't be overrated.

"I help the team win," he said. "I'm no more important than the guys on the scout team. We're all in it together, win or lose."



TCU junior place kicker Michael Reeder, a walk-on three years ago, has turned into arguably the best kicker in the nation. Reeder, the 1995 Lou Groza National Place Kicker Award winner, was an All-America selection last season and a preseason All-American this year.

Reeder's Career Stats					
YEAR	FG	PCT.	LONG	PAT	POINTS
1994	11-15	.733	47	32-32	65
1995	23-25	.920	47	20-20	89
1996	6-11	.545	57	8-8	26
TOTAL	40-51	.784	57	60-60	180

Note: The 57-yard field goal on Oct. 12 against Texas-El Paso is a school record.

Chicago favored in East

The NBA's Eastern Conference shouldn't be nearly as competitive as the West. It shouldn't be hard to tell contenders from pretenders.

Atlantic Division
New York Knicks The Knicks were very active this off-season. They traded for forward Larry

Johnson and added Allan Houston and Chris Childs through free agency. They also add three talented rookies in the draft.

This makes the Knicks younger. Johnson and Houston also bring more offensive punch to the table, so opposing defenses can't focus only on Patrick Ewing anymore. The Knicks are poised to make a couple more good bids at a title before Ewing retires.

Orlando Magic The Magic suffered the loss of Shaquille O'Neal. Teams, however, shouldn't look past Orlando. Anfernee Hardaway heads a lineup that can still compete.

In order for the Magic to advance in the playoffs, though, they must find a center. Nick Anderson and Dennis Scott must step up their games to make up for the production they lost when O'Neal defected.

Washington Bullets The Bullets managed to keep Juwon Howard in the craziest story of the off-season. They also added guard Rod Strickland to an already dangerous starting five.

Chris Webber must stay healthy for the Bullets to make the playoffs. Harvey Grant and Tracy Murray must produce off the bench, or the starters will wear down the stretch.

Miami Heat The Heat are a different team than they were before last season. Losing out on Howard hurts, but this team still added talent in forwards P.J. Brown and Dan Majerle.

The Heat have a good starting five with Alonzo Mourning leading the way, but they need to find some depth in order to compete with the elite teams.

Central Division
Chicago Bulls The Chicago Bulls remain roughly the same. Chicago is still tough enough to win, but will see some problems with New York and others.

The key has always been to keep Dennis Rodman subdued long enough to win a title. It worked last year, but this year is a new season. Stay tuned.

Indiana Pacers The Pacers remain intact, but duped Denver into giving them Jalen Rose, Reggie Williams and 10th pick in the draft for Mark Jackson and Ricky Pierce.

Rose makes the Pacers more dangerous, but he is still relatively unproven. The Pacers used the pick to draft Eric Dampier, a physical center, to back up Rik Smits.

Atlanta Hawks The Hawks were one of the biggest winners this off-season. They got free-agent shot-blocker Dikembe Mutombo. They traded Grant Long and Stacey Augmon to Detroit for future picks.

The Hawks are still a small forward away from challenging Chicago and New York. Mutombo and Mookie Blaylock make the Hawks one of the best defensive teams in the league. Lenny Wilkins always has his team ready.

Detroit Pistons The Pistons made it to the playoffs last year but lost Allan Houston to free agency. Stacey Augmon and Kenny Smith must fill the void. Grant Long and rookie Jerome Williams should bolster a front line that still lacks a true center.

If Grant Hill continues to improve, this team will be dangerous. Augmon and Long add defense but need to find the shooting touch to support Hill.

Scott Barzilla is senior political science major from Houston.



SCOTT BARZILLA

TCU playoff chances dealt blow



Patricio Crocker SKIFF STAFF

Tulsa senior defender Cindy Fox (left) tries to send a crossing pass as TCU freshman defender Andrea Smith (right) closes in during the Lady Frogs 3-0 loss Thursday at the TCU soccer field. The loss drops TCU to 7-9, 2-3 in the Western Athletic Conference. TCU hosts Southern Methodist University in a game the Lady Frogs must win to make it to the WAC Tournament.

Women's soccer team loses game to Tulsa, 3-0

By Patricio Crocker SKIFF STAFF

University of Tulsa freshman midfielder Kaci Epp scored in the first 10 minutes and again in the 35th minute to lead Tulsa to a 3-0 Western Athletic Conference victory over the TCU women's soccer team Thursday at the TCU soccer field.

The loss hurt the Lady Frogs' chances at a berth in the WAC Tournament. With a 2-3 record in the WAC, the Lady Frogs need a win in their final WAC game to make it to the WAC Tournament in November. TCU's next game is at 3 p.m. Sunday at the TCU soccer field against Southern Methodist University.

Tulsa sophomore midfielder Paige Mayer added the third goal early in the second half.

The Lady Frogs had only four shots on goal, and freshman goalkeeper Courtney Petrie had five

saves. Tulsa head coach Amy Edwards said the outcome was great for the Hurricanes considering they had lost two conference games.

"We won, and this is the third win in a row," Edwards said.

Edwards said it was a very physical game and that both teams played well, each having many chances.

"It was a hard, tough game," she said. "It's always a big battle between Tulsa and TCU."

TCU head coach David Rubinson said his team needs to limit its mistakes and have more ball possession.

"The team lost its shape at times, and we gave balls away," Rubinson said.

He said the third goal at the beginning of the second half was critical, but the team was determined.

"The good thing is that we didn't quit after that," Rubinson said. "The last 25 minutes we had chances to score."

Women's Soccer						
OVERALL			WAC			
W	L	T	W	L	T	GF GA STREAK
7	9	0	2	3	0	39 41 L2

SKIFF SPORTS

WAC's wide-open offenses living up to reputation so far

By John Mossman ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Western Athletic Conference's reputation for wide-open offenses seems secure.

Slightly past the midway point of the season, the WAC has six teams ranked among the top 19 in the country in total offense. The University of Wyoming is second in the nation, averaging 523 yards per game, and Brigham Young University is fourth at 506.

Wyoming is the nation's No. 1 passing team, averaging 375 yards, and BYU is third at 357.

The U.S. Air Force Academy stands second nationally in rushing at 346 yards per game, and resurgent Rice University, which has rushed for 481 and 440 yards the last two games, is No. 6 at 274.

San Diego State University is second in scoring at 46.4 points.

Wyoming quarterback Josh Wallwork is No. 1 nationally in total offense at 362 yards per game. BYU's Steve Sarkisian, San Diego State's Billy Blanton and Wallwork rank second, third and sixth, respectively, in passing efficiency. Wyoming's Marcus Harris is second in receptions per game (8.5).

"There is more offense this season compared to last season," SDSU coach Ted Tollner said. "The reason is, a year ago we were playing with younger, less established quarterbacks. This year, a lot of those same quarterbacks are back. Along with the people around them, it makes for more explosive and productive offenses."

Another factor, Tollner said, is the WAC's overall philosophy.

"The WAC in general believes in wide-open schemes offensively," he said. "We're not a two-tight end, two-back, pound-the-ball-in-there type of offensive personality in our conference. Even when you get to the Air Forces and the option approach, it's still a wide-open philosophy."

That philosophy should be apparent on Saturday in Fort Collins,

when San Diego State (4-1 overall, 2-0 in the WAC's Pacific Division) battles Colorado State University (4-4, 3-1).

SDSU aims for its fifth straight WAC road victory — and for revenge. The Aztecs had a shot at the WAC title last year but lost to CSU 24-13 in the regular-season finale, sending the Rams to their second straight Holiday Bowl.

"I don't know if it's revenge as much as it is respect," Tollner said. "We went down to the wire with them last year and we didn't get it done. You gain a respect for someone who can win back-to-back championships and be in the Holiday Bowl."

"If you want to get to that level, you have to beat those kinds of teams. Right now, in our opinion, Colorado State is the defending champion and they're still in the race, and that's the team you have to beat."

Aztec running back George Jones returned from a four-game NCAA suspension and rushed for 187 yards and five touchdowns in a 48-42 win last week over the University of New Mexico. Moses Moreno completed 19 of 23 passes for 359 yards and two TDs in leading the Rams over San Jose State 36-13.

University of Tulsa coach Dave Rader is getting a rude welcome to the WAC. His team bowed to BYU 55-30 last week and faces the University of Utah this week.

Utah beat TCU 21-7 last week as 275-pound Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala ran for 182 yards, including breakaway scoring runs of 70 and 52 yards in the second half. The Utes have won six straight games since a season-opening loss to Utah State.

"Now this is a fine football team," Rader said of the Utes. "They have an intense and aggressive defense with quite a few bullets on offense. They seem to do many things and do them quite well."

Tulsa might be without quarterback John Fitzgerald, who was injured in the second quarter of the BYU game.

Frogs in Action

TODAY

- MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING VARSITY-ALUMNI MEET (10 a.m., Rickel Building)
- MEN'S SOCCER VS. SAN JOSE STATE (4 p.m., TCU soccer field)

SATURDAY

- FOOTBALL VS. BRIGHAM YOUNG (2:05 p.m., Amon Carter Stadium)
- Women's volleyball at Rice (7:30 p.m., Houston)

SUNDAY

- MEN'S SOCCER VS. FRESNO STATE (1 p.m., TCU soccer field)
- WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. SMU (3 p.m., TCU soccer field)
- Men's Golf at Rolex Match Play Tournament (Palm Springs, Calif.)

Home events in CAPS
* Denotes WAC game

Survey shows teachers earn less than football coaches by 75 percent

By Linda Leavell ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Head football coaches at high schools in Texas' top two levels earn about \$54,000 a year, nearly 75 percent more than the average teacher pay of \$31,000.

A survey by The Associated Press found that nearly 80 percent of the coaches make more than the best-paid teacher in their districts. Those educators earn about \$44,000, many of whom are department heads with master's degrees and at least 30 years' experience.

It's not just the top coaches, paid up to \$83,000, who make more than teachers. Even the lowest-paid coach is paid more than the typical teacher.

Some of the best-compensated coaches also are among the most successful: Stephenville's Art Briles, Temple's Bob McQueen, Converse Judson's D.W. Rutledge, La Marque's Alan Weddell and A&M Consolidated's Ross Rogers.

Those five coaches, all among the dozen best paid and earning at least \$67,000 a year, have been to 11 title games in the past five years, winning eight.

Coaches make case for pay

Coaches attribute their higher pay to several factors: the extended work year, long hours at practice and games, extra duties as athletic directors and the pressure to succeed in football-obsessed Texas.

"People see you on Friday night at the football game and they think that must be a nice job," said The Woodlands coach Weldon Willig, whose \$72,544 salary ranks seventh. "They aren't there with you on Sunday afternoons and nights."

The AP study is based on 1995-96 salary information from the 238 school districts representing 428 schools that played Class 5A or 4A varsity football. Those schools made up 44 percent of the 976 that played 11-man football last year, but their athletes comprised more than half of the state's varsity football players.

The information was requested under the Texas Public Information Act.

The highest-paid coach was Briles, who made \$82,658 in 1995-96 after winning Class 4A championships the two preceding years. He earned more than 2½ times what Stephenville paid an average teacher: \$30,390. He made \$41,962 more than the highest-paid teacher in his district.

The lowest-paid coach was 4A Dallas Wilson's Damon Miller, who moved to Dallas Skyline this year. His \$34,474 salary was still \$1,981 more than the average \$32,493 Dallas teacher's salary.

The statewide averages are not inflated by just a few high-earning coaches. The typical coach makes \$54,239. Half make more and half make less.

High expectations for success
Coaches say fans expect them to

win to keep their jobs — and big wages can be a reward for success.

"It's a shame that coaches are not hired and fired (based) on something other than their won-loss record," said Eddie Joseph, executive director of the Texas High School Coaches Association. "A guy may be a fine teacher... and a great role model, and if he doesn't win enough ballgames, he has to find another place to put his suitcase down."

Teachers weren't surprised to hear that coaches make more money.

"There's no question that football is king in Texas," said Richard Kouri, president of the Texas State Teachers Association. "That's always been true in Texas high schools as well as colleges and professionally."

"We ought to place a higher value on a good pre-K teacher than a good head football coach," Kouri said. "But that's not the way society thinks or operates and it's not the way the schools operate. My problem is not so much that a coach can make \$83,000 but that a teacher can't."

Teacher supports coaches

The highest-paid teacher in Texas — a 28-year Junior ROTC instructor — made \$63,086. Joe Pedigo, who worked year-round in the North Forest Independent School District in Houston, retired in July.

Joseph said a \$54,000 salary for coaches is "not a great deal of money" when accounting for the number of hours coaches work.

"I guess it is a lot of money for teachers, but it's not a lot of money in the business world," Joseph said.

Coaches work an average of 216 days a year; teachers work 184 days. Some coaches said they work at least 80 hours a week during football season.

Many head football coaches are also athletic directors or coordinators, meaning they have administrative responsibilities for other sports.

Teachers work overtime, too

Teachers also put in long hours. In addition to grading homework, lunchroom duty and parent conferences, they sponsor clubs, contests and dances. Classroom teachers, on average, spend 56 hours a week on the job, not including meetings, Kouri said.

"It's something all the time," said Joanne Bowers, Plainview High School's science department coordinator. "It's some committee meeting, it's some kind of faculty meeting, it's some responsibility you have in addition to your classroom."

"Sometimes you find you're meeting yourself at the door."

Coaches in 4A and 5A programs who also are athletic directors generally don't teach classes. Elsewhere, it varies by campus. The Texas Education Agency defines a classroom teacher as one who spends four hours in a classroom daily.

Benefits and perks included

The AP asked for all taxpayer-funded compensation, including

allowances for cars, travel and other perks.

Any compensation from sources other than the district — for example, from radio or TV shows, country club memberships or dealership-sponsored automobiles — must be spelled out in the coach's contract, said UIL spokesman Peter Contreras.

University Interscholastic League rules prohibit coaches from accepting gifts valued at more than \$300 per year from booster clubs, parents or others. Coaches may not receive bonuses or portions of gate receipts.

Still, the athletic pay scale puts coaches above the typical Texan, particularly if there is another breadwinner in the family. The typical Texas household of four people had estimated earnings of \$32,039 in 1995, according to the Census Bureau.

The average wage for a federal, state or local government employee was \$25,774 in 1995, so both coaches and teachers do better than the typical Texan on the public payroll, according to the state comptroller's office.

Teachers and coaches also share an interest in children and the chance to influence their lives. But coaches say they have more obligations and endure far more public scrutiny: The results of their week's work are printed in newspapers and discussed throughout town.

"Coaches certainly have many more responsibilities from what the classroom teacher has," said Kelly Reeves, a former science teacher and coach who is now the Round Rock schools athletic director. "And I speak from experience on both ends. I was a classroom teacher for 10 years. Usually the people who want to compare the salaries are the teachers when they want a pay raise."

Coaches have little job security

Coaches also say they can be booted for a poor season while teachers will return even if their students struggle.

"I would say we have no job security," said Bryan coach Marty Criswell, No. 5 on the money list at \$74,625. "I've been fired before. I understand that goes with it."

"The expectations are so much higher for excellence that, yeah, it might be nice to make those dollars, but you're not going to make them long if you don't perform like people expect you to," Criswell said.

Others said they're just paid the going rate.

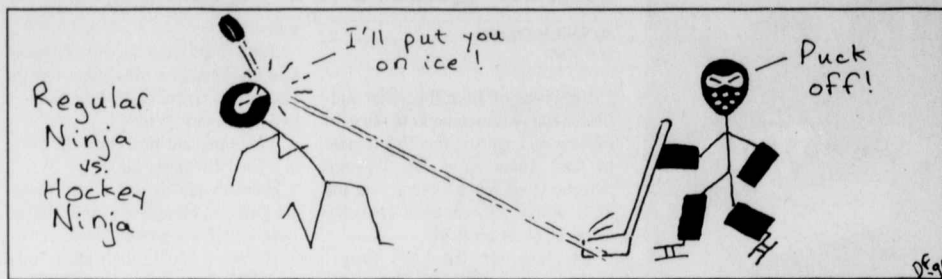
The top-paid coach, Briles, said he started out with a much more modest salary when he arrived at Stephenville in 1988 and that he has never asked for a raise.

"I honestly find it hard to believe I'm the highest-paid coach in the state," Briles said. "After I started as low as I did — which was low — and we started producing, then we began looking around at some other salaries in the state. Stephenville just decided to match some of the salaries that were going around."

Ninja Verses

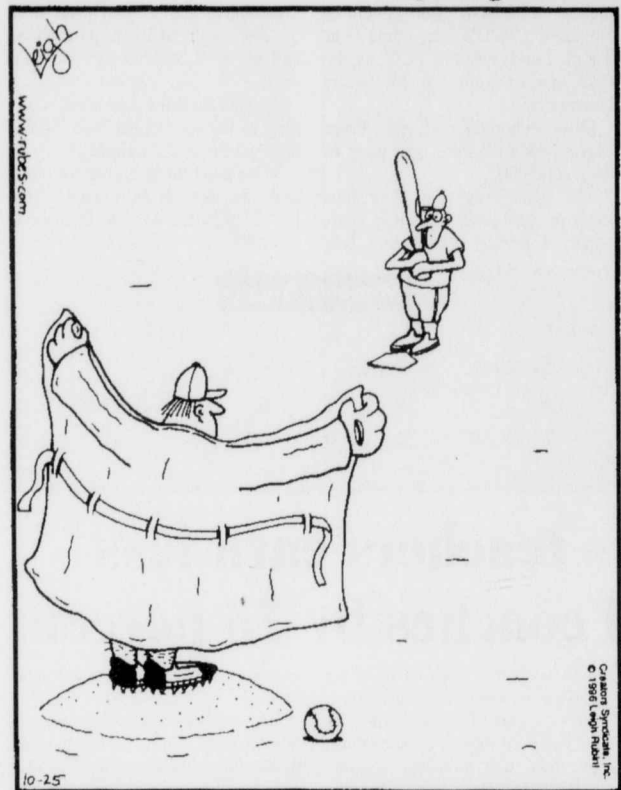
by Don Frederic THATCH

by Jeff Shesol



RUBES™

By Leigh Rubin



It came as a complete surprise to the batter that this was to be an exhibition game.

Purple Poll

Q. ARE YOU GOING TO THE PEP RALLY?
A. YES NO WHAT RALLY?
 52 36 12

Data collected from an informal poll conducted in TCU's Main Cafeteria. This poll is not a scientific sampling and should not be regarded as representative of campus public opinion.

Cool Site of the Day

WWW.CS.INDIANA.EDU/HYPLAN/DMIGUSE/OJ.HTML
DIMITRI'S O.J. SIMPSON TRIAL CENTER

Includes important information about Simpson's wrongful death civil suit. The site purports to have the largest collection of pictures of trial evidence on the web.

Answers to Last Issue's Puzzle

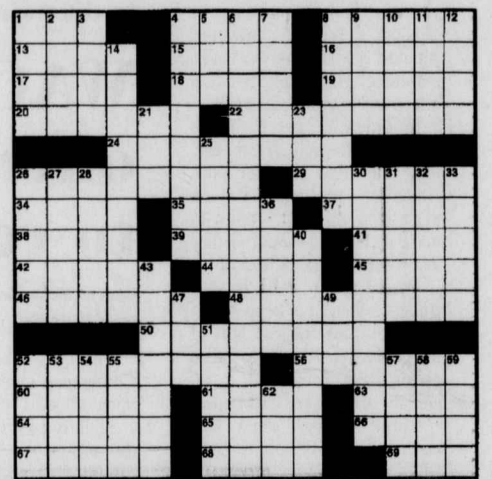
DISH ARCH BOONE
 ERIE BELA RACES
 NOTA THERMOSTAT
 TAUT EAMON
 IMPELLER STRUMS
 ROILED FASEL
 TOPHAT RAN DELE
 UNIONED RETIRED
 PIES RAE LEASES
 ACRES UNBELT
 CESSNA FANMOTOR
 APRIL REMO
 ANTIFREEZE CRAQ
 CORFU ALAN ASHE
 GRASS MDCG PEAT

Newsday Crossword

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | 56 PBS show | 7 Maine senator | 33 City north of Cologne |
| 1 Bouncer | 60 Budget rival | 8 Fluid diffusion | 36 Top-drawer operators |
| 4 Affirmative action agcy. | 61 Latin verb | 9 Jacuzzi | 40 Able on stage |
| 8 1970 World's Fair site | 63 Actress Judith | 10 Jessye Norman role | 43 Brook Benton 1962 tune |
| 13 Finished | 64 Blood part | 11 Street border, in Soho | 47 Competent, slangily |
| 15 Melville novel | 65 Hollow | 12 Away from the wind | 49 Filippo Lippi |
| 16 Song and dance | 66 Give over | 14 TV | 51 Ho preceder |
| 17 Word from the boss | 67 It'll take you for a ride | 21 Spasm | 52 Deep cut |
| 18 Yen | 68 Sooner city | 23 Video outlet | 53 Sub in a tub |
| 19 Familia member | 69 Paper feature | 25 Mediterranean republic | 54 Tootsie actress |
| 20 Heathcliff creator | | 26 Nile dam | 55 Australian runners |
| 22 Western name | | 27 Proclamation | 57 Peeper part |
| 24 Black and white | | 28 wave | 58 Comic Foxx |
| 26 Overlord | | 30 14 Down | 59 Gakes a gander at |
| 29 Spirited, to Solti | | 31 acid | 62 He defeated Spinks |
| 34 Employ rope | | 32 Five, to Felipe | |
| 35 Romeo | | | |
| 37 Big trucks | | | |
| 38 Walk in water | | | |
| 39 Saxophonist | | | |
| Sonny | | | |
| 41 Cotton cleaners | | | |
| 42 On the ocean | | | |
| 44 On the ocean | | | |
| 45 Long ago | | | |
| 46 Dame Melba | | | |
| 48 Hudson's ship | | | |
| 50 Pamphlets, tickets, etc. | | | |
| 52 Gung-ho type | | | |

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by Dean Niles Edited by Stanley Newman



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