

Skiff



Inside

Editorial cartoonist J.P. Araujo makes his holiday predictions. See page 3

WEATHER FORECAST

High 60s
Low 38
Mostly sunny



THURSDAY
DECEMBER 5, 1996

Texas Christian University
94th Year • Number 54

World

Boutros-Ghali suspends his U.N. candidacy

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Faced with unrelenting U.S. opposition, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali suspended his candidacy for a second term Wednesday, opening the way for new nominees for the top U.N. post.

Boutros-Ghali emphasized he still remains an official candidate, however, and supporters were said to be urging the Egyptian diplomat to stay in the race. The United States cast the lone veto against him in a first-round vote in the 15-member Security Council on Nov. 19.

Nation

Judge delays ruling on gay marriage

HONOLULU (AP) — A day after issuing the first ruling in American history that allows gay marriages, a judge put the effects of his decision on hold while the state appeals to Hawaii's Supreme Court.

The stay will remain in effect until a ruling by the state's highest court, which ruled in 1993 that Hawaii's ban is unconstitutional unless the state could show a compelling government interest in preventing gay marriages.

Circuit Judge Kevin Chang agreed there would be confusion if gay couples got married and then the high court overturned his ruling.

1996 could be record year for rain

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — There was no truly drenching hurricane across the Northeast this year, and no El Nino effect. It just rained on and off and on again through spring, summer and fall.

And yet, with a few weeks to go, 1996 is lining up as the wettest year in the 12-state region since record-keeping started in 1894.

Although snow fell often last winter, the only really big blip on the weather chart was the second week of January, when the Blizzard of '96 dropped 1/2 feet to 3 feet of snow. It was blamed for more than 100 deaths.

Gramm to lead Medicare subcommittee

WASHINGTON (AP) — They locked horns over reform of the nation's health care system. Now the White House and Texas Republican Sen. Phil Gramm have a chance to tackle policy differences in a related arena: Medicare.

On Wednesday, Gramm was named chairman of the Senate Finance Committee's Medicare subcommittee. The panel will play a pivotal role in reshaping the nation's health care program for the elderly.

Gramm, who in 1993 helped detail the Clinton administration's massive plan to reform health care, has said Medicare would be his next big area of interest.

State

Former Dallas officer charged with robbery

SEVEN POINTS (AP) — A former Dallas Police officer was arrested Wednesday on charges of robbing the First National Bank in this rural East Texas town.

Navarro County sheriff's deputies arrested 29-year-old Troy Simpson near Corsicana, about 22 miles southwest of the bank, shortly after the early morning robbery.

Inside

• State universities join forces to lobby the legislature for \$925 million to increase the number of degrees awarded in Texas. page 4

• With Jerry and Barry, the Cowboys should have seen Leon Lett's suspension coming, columnist Scott Barzilla says. page 5

Building cleared after gas scare

By Angela Seutter
SKIFF STAFF

The collapse of a man and a strange smell led to the evacuation of the Ballet and Modern Dance Building Wednesday afternoon, officials said.

Campus Police, the Fort Worth Fire Department and Lone Star Gas were all called to the building to investigate for a possible gas leak after Stephen Birdcreek, a TCU electrician, was found in a disoriented state.

Birdcreek was taken by ambulance to Harris Methodist Hospital. A nursing supervisor at Harris Methodist Hospital said Birdcreek had been taken to the emergency room and was in fair condition.

Nancy Carter, administrative assistant for the ballet and modern dance department, said Birdcreek was doing some electrical work in one of the offices when he laid on the floor.

She said when he stood up he was disoriented and could not tell anyone

what was wrong with him.

"The faculty member who found Birdcreek also smelled something very pungent," Carter said.

Carter said the building was evacuated as a precautionary measure.

Breck Harris, a spokesman for Lone Star Gas, said he and another technician responded to the call of a possible gas leak and arrived at the same time as the fire department.

He said both the Lone Star technician and the firefighters checked the

building for a leak.

"There was no sign of a natural gas leak inside or outside the building," Harris said.

He said they checked for the possible gas leaks by smelling around the building.

Harris said they also tested for gas with electrical equipment that can detect the presence of natural gas. They tested near where Birdcreek was drilling and around the inside and outside of the building.

Campus Police Sgt. John Pacheco said there were a couple of ideas as to what could have caused the smell, but nothing was found. He said fumes from cleaning chemicals were a possible cause.

Ronald Newman, a mechanical manager at the physical plant, said the plant officials contacted doctors at Harris Methodist and learned Birdcreek was doing well and had no problems, although tests were being conducted.



Visiting fourth- and fifth-grade students from Como Elementary rub the nose of the horned frog statue for good luck Wednesday morning outside the Reed-Sadler Mall. The students visited TCU to get a taste of college life.

Voices few at NCAA forum

By Rob Sherwin
SKIFF STAFF

Four students and over 25 faculty and staff members voiced their concerns and asked questions about TCU athletic programs Wednesday at an open forum held by the university.

The forum was an attempt to gather input from members of the campus community for an internal study that TCU is conducting on its athletic department.

TCU must conduct the self study as part of a mandatory certification process required by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Participants' questions were addressed by Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs and chairman of the self study steering committee, as well as the chairpersons of the four self study subcommittees.

Several attendees voiced their concern that different sports are given too much attention and thus

Please see NCAA, Page 2

TCU to add at least two fraternities

Inter-Fraternity Council, students expressed interest to expand system, Mills says

By Amanda Bronstad
SKIFF STAFF

As many as two fraternities will be invited to join the TCU Greek community, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills said Wednesday.

Mills said he and other administrators involved in deciding fraternity expansion favored adding fraternities for two reasons.

"One was the fact that IFC itself made the request to expand the system," he said. "The other was that

more than 100 students indicated they want to be in the Greek system but not in the existing fraternities."

The administration's decision follows the approval of the Student Organization Committee and the Inter-Fraternity Council to add fraternities to TCU's campus, a move that has not been made since the 1950s when most of TCU's fraternities were established.

Mills said the administration will appoint a committee of students,

alumni advisers and members of the Student Organization Committee to choose one or two fraternities.

In the first elimination process, he said, the new committee will evaluate each fraternity's financial strength, reputation, number of local alumni, variety of programming and number of national chapters.

The second elimination process will be based on each fraternity's presentation at the TCU campus, he said.

"We're looking for fraternities that

have been successful on campuses like TCU and that offer a different kind of programming than the ones on campus," he said.

Brent Teague, a senior chemistry major, said he is coordinating 40 men who think Alpha Tau Omega will fulfill their needs as well as the needs of the administration.

"We're very diverse," he said. "Twenty percent of our members are minorities. Not many minorities are involved in the Greek system."

Jeff Crane, a junior business major and a leader of another special interest group, said his loosely organized group of 65 has affiliated itself with Pi Kappa Phi.

He said the fraternity will be different from existing fraternities because it will be actively involved in campus activities.

"We want the advantages of a fraternity but we don't want Pi Kappa Phi to be the center of our lives," Crane said.

Final jazz concert to be held tonight

By Kelly Meihart
SKIFF STAFF

The last chance to experience the music of the TCU Jazz ensembles for the fall semester will beat 7:30 tonight, in Ed Landreth Auditorium.

The Monday-Wednesday-Friday Band and the Tuesday-Thursday Band will be joined by the Purple, White, and Blues Vocal Jazz Ensemble and special guest performers, the TCU Trombone Choir.

Wilson said the entire concert will last about two hours.

The Tuesday-Thursday band will begin the concert by playing five of their best pieces from their repertoire of the entire semester, said Curt Wilson, director of the jazz bands.

"This is the best Tuesday-Thursday Band we've had at TCU,"

Wilson said. "It's the largest and the best quality."

The band performed "Sho' Nuff!," "Night Train," "Mambo De Memo," "Satin Doll," "Starscape" and other big hits at the Thursday, Nov. 21 "Beat SMU Concert."

The concert was intended to help raise school spirit for the TCU versus Southern Methodist University game the same evening.

One of the selections, "Mambo De Memo," is an authentic Caribbean mambo featuring various latin rhythm sections.

James Smith, a junior music education major and a trumpet player for the band, said the piece is his favorite.

"It's a true Caribbean mambo," he said. "Most of the mambos bands

Please see JAZZ, Page 2



Members of the saxophone section of the TCU Monday-Wednesday-Friday Jazz Ensemble breathe new life into an old Elvis Costello song.

Indy winner praises track

By Amanda Bronstad
SKIFF STAFF

The opening of the Texas Motor Speedway will not only boost the economy but will add to the number of activities available for Metroplex residents, said three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Johnny Rutherford Wednesday.

Rutherford was the guest speaker for the third and final Executive Breakfast offered by the Charles Tandy American Enterprise Center at TCU.

His speech, "Racing in Fort Worth," came after an announcement Tuesday that the 150,061-seat speedway, located north of Fort Worth off Interstate 30, has regained its original name.

The mile-and-a-half track changed its name to Texas International Raceway on Sept. 11 after owners of a quarter-mile track in Alvin claimed the name Texas Motor Speedway.

"Racing in the Midwest is a way of life," Rutherford said. "It's big. It's a different world. We're getting ready to launch into that era here in Fort Worth/Dallas with the

Please see BREAKFAST, Page 2

Pulse

CAMPUS LINES

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION will hold its final meeting and a Christmas party at 5 p.m. today in Student Center Room 222.

TEXAS COLLEGE DEMOCRATS will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Student Center Room 203. Call Sondra Haltom at 921-7927 for more information.

MARY COUTS BURNETT LIBRARY will extend its hours to 7:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and noon to midnight Sunday.

LEADERSHIP LONDON will hold an informational meeting at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in Student Center Room 203. For more information call Chuck Williams at 921-7216.

THE STUDENT CENTER will expand its hours from midnight to 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. These extended hours will be established on a trial basis through the fall semester of 1996.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS GROUP is now forming at the TCU Counseling Center. Call Dorothy M. Barra at 921-7863 for initial screening.

MASSAGES are being offered to students, faculty and staff 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Friday. The cost is \$10 for 15 minutes. Call 921-7945 to make an appointment.

NCAA

From Page 1

receive a majority of the university's financial resources.

"It seems like if we concentrated our money on smaller sports, we could be more effective," said Todd Watson, a sophomore business major.

Watson said money would be better spent on smaller sports, in which TCU would be more likely to excel.

Andrew Fort, an associate professor of religion, said he was concerned that the university's official position on the four football players indicted on second-degree felony assault charges in May has had a harmful effect on TCU's overall reputation.

"We realize there are legal issues here, and yet in some ways athletes are not treated like everyone else," he said. "It looks like TCU is protecting them. That's how it looks from off campus."

Mills said he didn't think the behavior of students was "in the purview of the self study committee," but that it was in the purview of the committee to make sure the behavior of student athletes is consistent with regular students.

Jeff Crane, a junior marketing major, said there needed to be better communication between the athletic program and the campus community.

Crane said, however, that the forum was a good "first step" in better informing the student body about athletics.

Mills said he was pleased with the outcome of the forum.

"It was good in the sense that we know where people's issues are and what people's concerns are and where they want to be sure we take a look," he said. "I think that was very positive."

Crane said he wasn't surprised that student turnout for the forum was low, but said he wished more students would have attended.

"I think a lot of the students may be up in arms about things that go on in the athletic department sometimes and, in order to obtain information, you should come to things like this," he said.

Mills said the self study steering committee would hold another forum in the spring semester. He also said the committee was considering meeting with student groups such as Intercom to gather more student input.

BREAKFAST

From Page 1

new racetrack. It's something that's going to take this area by storm."

Texas Motor Speedway is the second largest racetrack in the United States, second only to Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The racetrack is scheduled to open April 5 and 6 with NASCAR's Busch Grand National and Winston Cup series.

"The economic impact of it in this area will be something to behold," he said. "It's going to be a whole city in itself."

But events at the racetrack will not be limited to racing days.

Rutherford, who has been in the victory circle at every major race-track in the country, said he plans to fulfill his dream of starting the Johnny Rutherford Driving School at the racetrack.

The program, he said, will teach people how to drive more effectively and confidently.

Among lighthearted jokes and personal stories, Rutherford's speech flip-flopped between Texas Motor Speedway and his experience as a race car driver.

"People ask me all the time, 'What's it like to drive one of those race cars 200 miles per hour?'" he said. "My standard answer is, 'First, you've got to really want to.'"

Rutherford started his career in 1959, one year after he began racing at the old dirt Devil's Bowl Speedway in Dallas.

He then moved to the Midwest and raced in the Indianapolis 500 for the first time in 1963, where he met his wife, Betty.

"In my final phase, I pushed out. I dropped my helmet in the seat of the race car, looked up, and she was standing at the fence," he said. "I winked and she winked back. That was the first part of May. We were engaged the first of June and married on July 7. So, I'm used to setting track records."

The Indianapolis 500 has recently set up the Indianapolis Racing League, which is designed to allow more race car drivers the chance to race by placing the competition on the drivers instead of on the price of the vehicles, Rutherford said.

He said the benefits of this program will be seen at Texas Motor Speedway when it opens.

JAZZ

From Page 1

play aren't traditional like this one is."

"Starscape" is also the favorite piece of Paul Russell, a freshman music education major and a trombone player in the ensemble.

"It's a really different jazz piece," he said. "It has a '70s funk kind of feel. It's something people wouldn't normally expect when they come to a jazz concert."

Before the intermission, the vocal jazz ensemble will perform "I Can Fly," "Embrace You" and "Invitation."

The vocal ensemble will be joined by a small combo instead of an entire band.

Following the intermission, the band will perform "A Salute to Elvis Costello," "Tico Tico," Duke Ellington's "Isfahan," "Runferyerlife," "If I Should Lose

You," "Send in the Clowns," featuring the TCU Trombone Choir, "Dear Old Stockholm" and "The Fly By Knights."

Chris Staine, a senior psychology major and the lead trumpet in the band, said "A Salute to Elvis Costello" is his favorite piece because of the rhythm section.

"I think the rhythm section epitomizes how the tune should feel," he said. "It creates the atmosphere of the tune."

Staine said although the concert is a big one for the ensemble, it is only a small piece of the overall picture.

"The band is at a real strong point," he said. "The concert is a nice stepping stone."

Wilson said, "Jazz is America's first original art form, it's Americas' classical music."

AIDS quilt in library commemorates victims

By Patricia Crooker
SKIFF STAFF

In order to increase campus awareness about AIDS, an AIDS quilt exhibition in the hall of Mary Coutts Burnett Library displays the names of people who have died from AIDS.

Sponsored by the Programming Council, Campus Life and with the help of The NAMES Project, the two panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt are displayed with facts and statistics about the disease and the human immunodeficiency virus.

"The Fine Arts Committee of PC felt it would be important to bring the quilt here," said Glory Robinson, program adviser for Campus Life.

Robinson said the quilts were not made by local residents but came from people in Washington and San Francisco, where the quilt has also been displayed.

"The quilt increases the awareness about the epidemic," she said.

She said AIDS quilts have come annually to TCU for several years. They are able to be displayed at TCU with the help of the local branch of The NAMES Project.

Last year, the visiting AIDS quilt was displayed in the Student Center,

outside of the ballroom.

Robinson said the location of the quilt changed to the library this year because not enough people walked by it to take an interest in it.

"There wasn't enough traffic for the quilt to get exposure," she said.

She said the library has been a good place to display the quilt.

"This year we've had an excellent response by the students," Robinson said. "Several students have even come in and told me they've looked at it."

According to a brochure from The NAMES Project in Fort Worth, the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt has become an international organization and is a recognizable symbol in the fight against AIDS.

Three goals of the quilt are: to increase public awareness of the AIDS epidemic and HIV prevention; to offer a creative way to send the message to people whose lives have been affected by the virus; to preserve the memory of those who died from the disease; and to raise funds to help people who are afflicted with AIDS or HIV and their loved ones.

The exhibition will run through Friday.

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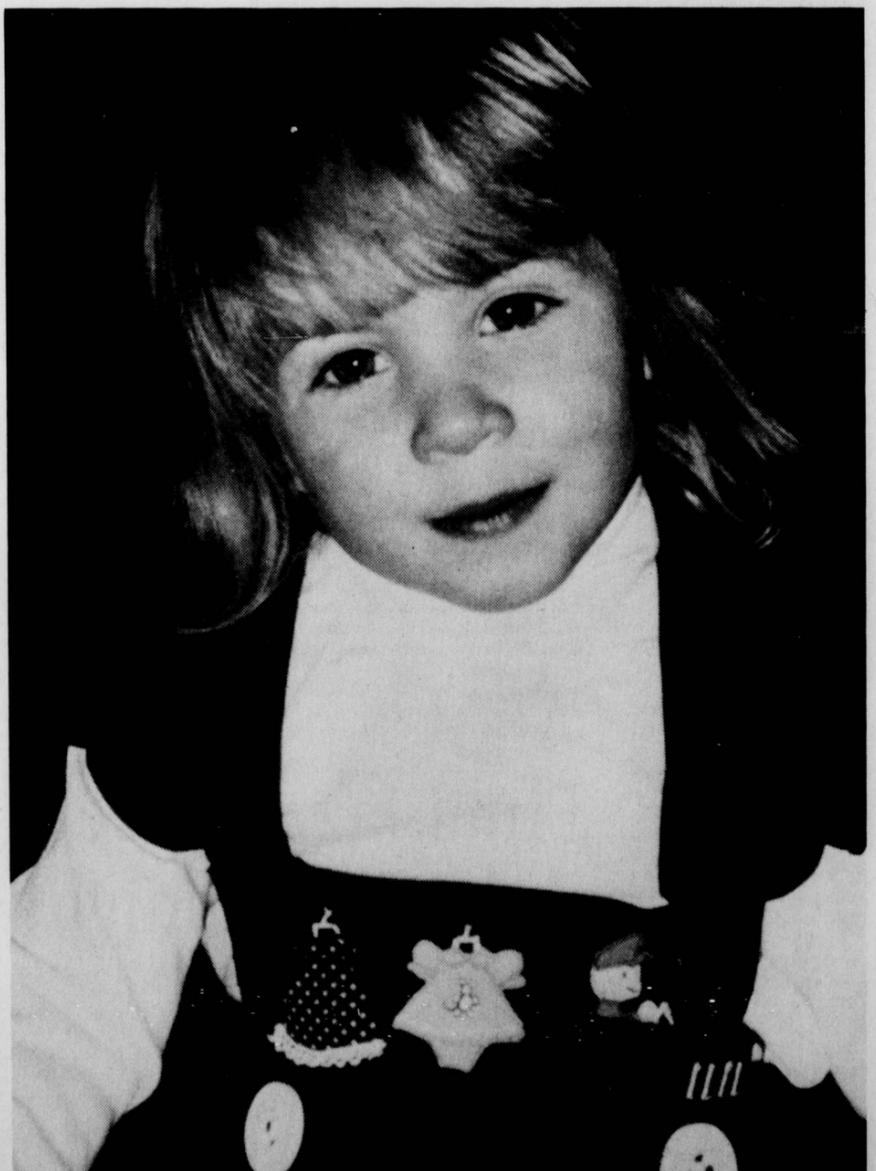
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EDITORIAL

To the Extremes

Serbian event proves importance of a free press

For all the complaints often lodged about the American news media — sensationalism, liberal and/or conservative bias, scandal mongering — recent events in the former Yugoslavia should cause Americans to be grateful for freedom of the press.

The administration of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic forced two radio stations off the air Tuesday, squelching their reports on anti-government protestors in Belgrade. One, Serbia's largest independent station, was completely shut down. Another station had its transmissions jammed.

Protesters (and political parties who oppose Milosevic) claim the president stole Nov. 17 local elections by ordering a Serbian court to

overrule those election results. Now, with the press stifled, Milosevic may be able to crush protesters without average Serbians knowing it.

The American news media, with their constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, certainly have deficiencies, like sensationalism. These are things all journalists should strive to avoid.

But consider what happens when, at the other extreme, the press is not free. Government is not accountable to anyone, least of all citizens. Authorities can arbitrarily shut down media outlets, choking off the free flow of information.

In a technologically driven world, there is perhaps no greater form of oppression.

Common sense suggestions for dealing with finals stress

Including today, there are only five days of classes left — definitely a reason to celebrate, but only for a few hours if you're lucky. Along with the end of the semester comes the inevitable week of final exams. And unless you're one of those rare students who prepares for exams when you're supposed to, you have some catching up to do.

This year, as in years past, there will be more nervous breakdowns, more phone calls to suicide hotlines, more hair-pulling and more I'm-not-gonna-make-it-through-this-week comments across the nation by college students than any other time of the year.

So here you are, back on campus after Thanksgiving break, preparing for finals as the rest of the world prepares for the Christmas season which most students can't even afford to take the time to anticipate. Here you are piecing together class notes that have been scattered since midterms and hoping to have enough information written down to study for the exam. You certainly don't have the time to read all the assigned readings now. Here

you are rushing to call classmates and friends for those notes from early October that you missed. Whoops.

'Tis the season when someone begins to gripe and tell you how no one has as bad of an exam schedule as he or she. Then someone will come along and join the conversation saying something like, "Please. I have two exams Monday and my three hardest Friday." Everyone looks at that poor cursed individual who will actually be here until either Friday night or, oh no, Saturday! And the conversation ends as everyone scatters home to brush the dust off their books.

But never fear! I have some ideas on how to deal with the stress finals cause and how to prepare for it. After all, it's too late to go back and do everything you should have done, so now you must deal with the present situation.

•Start by separating all of your subjects into piles.
•Go through your notebooks and textbooks and organize either by topics or, if possible, by dates (if you remembered to date your notes).

•It's a good idea to set up a meeting with a teacher if he or she has not given a study guide for the final. This way it's clear that you are at least interested in your grade, even if he or she does not let you in on what the test will

cover.
•Become best friends with that person you sit by that always makes A's. Call that person everyday and set up times to study together. Hey, teaching you will actually help him or her study.

•Remember to get enough sleep and eat well. You're not going to remember what you've studied if you forgo either of these and, besides, you're more susceptible to getting sick when you're tired, hungry and stressed. Who wants to be sick for Christmas?

•Try not to worry about a grade too much. A decent GPA is definitely good, but no businessperson will ask you in an interview, "So, how did you do in calculus in college?"

•Take at least a little time out to either take a walk, exercise or make Christmas cookies so you can clear your mind and think about something other than finals for a half hour.
•Remember that you've almost made it. Soon you'll be home for Christmas with time to enjoy shopping or time to watch football, and finals will be a distant memory.

I hope some of this will help those of you who need it. Good luck everyone, even though most of us know luck has nothing to do with good grades.

Andee Moore is a junior advertising/public relations major from Austin.

COMMENTARY



ANDEE MOORE



Predictions of Holiday News Events:

Madonna's baby beats up Michael Jackson's baby.
Bob Dole and Al Gore hold a debate, and both fall asleep.
To soothe its battered image, Texaco hires Mark Furman. Chaos ensues.
Feeling that Howard Stern is getting too soft and mellow, David Brinkley is hired to replace him.

THE SKIFF EDITORIAL CARTOONIST KISSES A GIRL ON THE CHEEK AND IS PROMPTLY THROWN OUT BY TCU FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

Skiff editor Ryan Rusak signs on as editor of Mother Jones on the same day that Skiff columnist Kevin Arceneaux signs on to write for the National Review.

"Chester Drawers" of the Wickes Furniture radio ads is seen dating the "Oooh-Aaah" lady from the Mattress Giant radios ads. Chester's boss disapproves.
IN A MOVE TO STUDY THE BEST MEANS OF HANDLING THE SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATIONS, THE ARMY BRASS DECIDES THAT IT WANTS "TO SLEEP ON IT". MORE ALLEGATIONS ARISE.

President Clinton helps ignite the "Elmer Fudd" hat fashion rage. Elvis is seen dressed as an elf (making him what, Elfis?), helping Santa at the North Pole.



Merry Christmas!



J.P. Araujo SKIFF STAFF

Racism abounds

Texaco leaders' comments not unique

Sometimes I think when it comes to understanding between blacks and whites, there is a divide the size of the Grand Canyon. And recent events in the news have solidified my belief.

There it was on tape: Top Texaco executives at a board meeting conspiring to destroy evidence sought in a civil case that alleged prejudice in hiring practices. The executives were even caught using racial slurs.

As Joe Feagin, a University of Florida sociology professor, lamented, the most "chilling aspect" of the entire incident was not so much that it happened, but nobody at the meeting "spoke out against" it.

I must admit, I'm not surprised that it happened. Saddened, but not surprised. With so many examples of racism, bigotry and prejudice we have seen recently, one more example certainly isn't shocking.

We heard Mark Fuhrman not only making racist remarks that were recorded on tape, but bragging about beating blacks to "a pulp," as well. We saw images of Rodney King being beaten by a swarm of police officers with clubs, though he had stopped resisting long before they stopped beating. We learned of Avis Rent-A-Car locations refusing to service black customers for no reason. The list continues.

In all these occasions people knew what was going on and did nothing to stop it. Yet, I don't see why we, especially whites, are so amazed. I can't tell you how many times I have been in a room of white people — maybe a small party, family get-together or work group — where racial slurs were used, degrading comments were made and stereotypes were flaunted and generalized to those "different from us."

Would those things have been said in my presence had I been black? Maybe, but certainly not to the



extent that I witnessed. Moreover, how often did I or others speak up? I'm ashamed to tell you not as often as it should have been. Sure, maybe I would change the subject, leave the room, simply say nothing or actually speak out on some occasions. And the same is true for most white people. Yet every time we don't speak out, we might as well be involved.

So with the little incidents of racism tolerated among whites, it follows that the big incidents go unchecked. And the sad thing is we won't even face the music.

Since the Texaco incident happened, I've seen a very apathetic response from most white. Sure they think it is horrible, but Texaco said it was sorry and settled the \$520 million lawsuit by handing \$176.1 million. Let's go back to normal.

Hello? We still have a problem here. Specifically, is Texaco going to do anything to really fix its hiring practices and strive to diversify the board room? And generally, are white people ever going to wake up and realize racism is alive and well?

There might not be any more segregated water fountains and restaurants, but there are still prejudice and bigotry in the hearts of men. As the dominant culture, it is our responsibility to fix what we have screwed up. Maybe my grandfather, my

father and I didn't own slaves, but it is our role to help correct that and the 100 years of blatant discrimination that followed.

We can't just say, "OK, discrimination is bad, don't do it," and then go back to life as if everything were fixed and we were absolved. Admitting discrimination and racism are wrong is only the first small step. We must forge a bridge over the divide and actively try to help those who still suffer from the longstanding effects past discrimination has wrought over their lives.

As President Lyndon B. Johnson noted, if you chain a man for 400 years and then take the chains off, you can't expect him to start running.

I'm not saying blacks and other minorities are incapable of succeeding. What I am saying is there are still obstacles that make it much harder for minorities. Many whites may have not put those obstacles there, but the apathetic, don't-blame-me attitude most white have keeps them there.

Imagine if one person in that Texaco board room had said something... It starts with each of us speaking up.

Kevin Arceneaux is a senior political science major from Fort Worth.

Contrary to popular belief, Greeks don't get preferential treatment

Εἰ Ἕλληνας οὐκ εἶ, ἐνεργῆς οὐκ εἶ. It's been many years since I studied Greek, and I'm sure the above is full of grammatical sins. (Take note, Brite scholars.) But, loosely translated, it means, "If you're not Greek, you're not involved."

That seems to be an ongoing impression among many at TCU. The assumption is that only Greek students are involved in campus life and do anything worthwhile. Unquestionably, TCU has a very active enclave of fraternities and sororities, and they do get a lot of attention. Way too much attention, say many independents. The university seems to bend over backwards to accommodate the Greeks. Hasn't TCU given them their "own" campus and dining hall in Worth Hills? It reeks of

an exclusive caste system. Over the long haul, Greeks vs. independents has easily been the most divisive issue among TCU students. I understand the conflict. The small private university of my undergraduate years also had a prominent Greek system. I hated it, swearing never to rush or pledge. Fraternities and sororities were just too elitist for my taste.

I was an editor on the student newspaper and never passed on an opportunity to slam the Greeks. I worked with others to pressure the Inter-Fraternity Council to admit independents into the IFC-organized intramural league. We formed flagball and softball teams just for the opportunity to defeat and humble Greeks. We called independent teams the "Nads." The name didn't mean anything. But it did draw student attention away from Phil Fraternity and Susie Sorority when we shouted, "Go Nads! Go Nads!"

Obviously, I was such a single-minded Greek-hater, I had no perspective at all. Now older (if not wiser), I see things I did-

n't see at 19 or 20. Fraternities and sororities, for all their faults, fill a positive role in campus life. My own college days were pervaded by post-Watergate and post-Vietnam cynicism — what President Jimmy Carter, in a memorable speech, called a "national malaise." The passion and social activism of the '60s and early '70s had largely burned itself out, and we were all left fairly jaded.

As a result, not many students got involved. Not many participated in student government or voted in student elections (or, for that matter, in state and federal elections). Not many volunteered to help feed the poor, house the homeless or get young kids off the mean streets. Except for the Greeks. They did all those things. Continued to do them, I should say, for they had been doing such for many years.

Today, as was the case with me, TCU students have no realistic idea of what fraternities and sororities do. Face it, we pay little attention to Greeks until they've been busted for some infraction. And there's an inflated view of how much influence and

favor they have. TCU doesn't have an unusually large number of Greeks for a private university. It's about average — one-third or so of the student body. (At Southern Methodist University, it's close to half.)

And though Worth Hills is perceived as "the Greek campus" and the dining hall there is commonly called "the Greek," two of its seven dorms are open to all students, as is the dining hall. In fact, there's a whole history behind Greek organizations at TCU that most students are unaware of — a history that doesn't support the notion that Greeks get "most favored" status.

Though the university is approaching its 125th year, Greeks have been permitted on campus for little more than 40 years. Even when they did come in 1954-55, most students didn't welcome them. Bitter debate and open protest raged across campus for months. An effigy labeled "Democracy at TCU" was hung from a tree near old Clark Hall (now Sadler Hall).

The opening of campus to Greeks included no provision for special chapter houses

or residence halls. On-campus space was limited, and there was simply no place to put them until TCU acquired the Worth Hills campus in 1960. Not until 1965, more than a decade after the first fraternity and sorority chapters were organized, did Greek residence hall appear. The upshot is: The Greeks are concentrated in Worth Hills not because of favoritism but because fraternities and sororities were banned at TCU for 83 years.

So Greek life doesn't interest you? No problem. There are about 160 other student organizations from which to choose. And if you can't find something you like, you can always start your own. Contact Rick Barnes, director of student organizations, (ext. 7926). And remember our cheer: "Go Nads!"

Dennis Alexander works in the Communications and Public Affairs department. This is the last in a series of biweekly columns written by Alexander about preconceived notions of life at TCU.

GUEST COLUMN



DENNIS ALEXANDER

Student tackles acting career with part in TV movie

By Paul Corliss
SKIFF STAFF

Twenty-one-year-old Matt Hawrylak is a business management major at TCU, but he may have found his true calling on the big screen as he pursues a career in movie acting.

"It's something I've always wanted to do," Hawrylak said of acting. "I've been lucky enough to run into some opportunities that have let me begin to establish myself as a serious actor."

Hawrylak, a native of Fort Worth, was a beneficiary of circumstance last year when a made-for-television movie was being filmed at his friend Mike Micallef's ranch in Alpine. He had a small, non-speaking part in "Deadman's Walk," a prequel to the popular "Lonesome Dove" mini-series.

"My biggest break has been the friendship of the Micallef family," Hawrylak said. "The Micallef ranch has been used for movies and a Brooks and Dunn music video, plus Mike's sister, Amanda, is a casting agent."

Last Saturday Hawrylak shot his first speaking scene in another movie for Turner Network Television, a cable channel. The movie, directed

by John Milius and titled "The Roughriders," x By speaking in the film, which is a story about Theodore Roosevelt's Roughriders in the Spanish-American War, Hawrylak now is eligible to receive his card into the Screen Actors' Guild.

In Hawrylak's scene in the movie, he is robbed at gunpoint in a carriage held up by Brad Johnson and notable western actor Buck Johnson.

"I didn't have any lines in the script, but Brad Johnson asked me questions during the filming of the scene where I improvised with answers," Hawrylak said. "He did it as a favor to me, because once I spoke I'd receive my SAG card."

Now that Hawrylak has his SAG card, acting opportunities should be easier for him to come by.

Hawrylak said his acting career definitely leaves him strained for time, which makes it difficult to keep up academically at TCU.

"The three-minute stagecoach scene in 'The Roughriders' took 12 hours to film," Hawrylak said. "The next day I had to fly back home and get ready for my classes on Monday."

At TCU, Hawrylak chose to continue his business major rather than switch to an acting-related major

because he said he wants to have something to rely on in case his acting career isn't successful.

Hawrylak, who describes himself as an avid hunter and outdoorsman, became friends with Brad Johnson while pheasant hunting on the ranch with him.

Before he returned to TCU, Hawrylak asked Johnson if he could do anything to return the favor of helping transform Hawrylak's part into a speaking role. Johnson said he wanted to hunt for mule deer.

"Mike (Micallef) and I guided him on a hunt of the ranch," Hawrylak said. "At first it didn't look like Brad would get a deer, but we got all the ranch hands to search for a deer and we found a trophy-sized one right before dark that Brad shot."

"Sometimes I don't see Matt for weeks at a time," said junior Lon Loveless, one of Hawrylak's fraternity brothers. "But I guess his crazy schedule is what makes him such an interesting guy."

Loveless, who roomed with Hawrylak during their first two years at TCU, said, "Matt's just a likeable person. I've known Matt for six years and he always seems to be able to talk his way into getting what he wants."



Matt Hawrylak (far right), a Fort Worth native and business major, earned his Screen Actors' Guild card after landing a small speaking role in a Turner Network Television movie, "The Roughriders."

Universities put aside rivalries to request \$925 million

By Renae Merle
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Maroon Aggies, burnt orange Longhorns and Red Raiders, along with other Texas colleges and universities, have set aside the rivalries that have often dominated their relationships.

Well, in one arena anyway: getting money from the state legislature.

Instead of lobbying separately, and sometimes at cross-purposes, the

institutions have banded together as the Texas Higher Education Coalition to ask the 1997 Legislature for a \$925 million raise to fund their "Back to Basics" plan, which ultimately strives to increase the number of degrees awarded in Texas by 15,200 per year.

"We felt we could be successful if we had a common focus," said University of Texas System Chancellor William Cunningham.

The proposal, which would be

implemented over four years, is almost 25 percent more than the \$3.4 billion the schools were given in the 1996-1997 biennium.

Those are lofty goals considering that the portion of the state budget dedicated to higher education has steadily decreased for more than 20 years.

Higher education funding is projected to make up only 15.5 percent of the state's budget in 1997 com-

pared to 55.77 percent in 1970. The amount of funding has leveled off at about \$3 billion since 1994.

The coalition hopes that by presenting a united front it will stem the tide.

One of the coalition's major goals is to reach the national average in the number of bachelor degrees awarded. To do so, members of the coalition say, the schools need an estimated \$530 million more to fit more fresh-

man and sophomores into classes with tenured faculty and to intervene with freshmen at risk of dropping out.

Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, chairman of the Senate Higher Education Committee, said he hopes the Legislature will be able to address the coalition's issues and fund the major ones. He said the united approach could prove valuable.

It's a "refreshing change. Sometimes they worked against each

other," Bivins said. "When you have all of higher education working together it makes it easier for legislators, so you don't have to choose. Here you have everybody speaking with one voice, which is going to give them visibility and credibility."

Texas A&M System Chancellor Barry Thompson said recent studies have shown that as the population of the state continues to grow, it will become more uneducated.

Investigators name Algerians as prime bombing suspects

By Elaine Ganley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS — Clue by clue, a shadowy network of Algerian militants emerged Wednesday as the prime suspect in a deadly Paris subway bombing.

A gas canister. Black powder. Nails to cut flesh. All were hallmarks of a wave of bombings last year claimed by Algeria's Armed Islamic Group. All were present at the scene of Tuesday's attack, which killed two people and seriously wounded 35.

The black powder mix was the same. So was the timing and the target: evening rush hour on a train line shuttling thousands of suburbanites to and from Paris.

And, investigators said, despite

dozens of arrests and 14 months of peace, an Algerian thought to be a ringleader of the 1995 bombing wave remains at large.

There has been no claim of responsibility for the bombing at the Port Royal station. But the evidence in hand forced investigators to focus on the theory that a network of Algerian radicals, thought to be all but decimated, had been reborn.

The bombing shares "great similarities" with those of the summer of 1995, when eight people were killed and 160 were wounded, Premier Alain Juppe told lawmakers.

Killed in Tuesday's attack were Lucien Devambeze, a 41-year-old Frenchman, and an unidentified

Canadian woman, French radio reported.

Rabah Kebir of the Islamic Salvation Front — Algeria's banned opposition movement — condemned the bombing Wednesday night, saying it "doesn't serve the Algerian cause."

But judicial sources said the black powder that filled a gas canister contained the same explosive mix as that used in the 1995 attacks.

The canister, hidden in a bag packed with nails, was tucked under a seat in the fourth car of the train. It exploded as the doors shut before departure.

The Port Royal station is just two stops up the line from the site of the July 1995 bombing at St. Michel, the

first and most deadly in the wave of attacks that put France on edge for months.

"We're scared because we know there's danger, here or in the Metro (the subway)," said Dominique Chapuis. "I take the Metro every day and who knows what can happen."

Juppe tried to allay fears.

"All means," the premier told lawmakers, will be used to capture the criminals and protect the population from "the blackmail of fear and violence."

Hundreds of police and soldiers armed with assault rifles were deployed in airports, train stations, subways and high-risk areas from Paris to Marseille.

France closed some border crossings with Belgium, Germany and Luxembourg, and said it was temporarily suspending its participation in the accords that opened borders across much of Europe.

Investigators, who kept the Port Royal station sealed Wednesday, were examining all hypotheses, including Basque, Corsican and Moroccan connections. More than 30 Moroccans are to go on trial Monday for trying to destabilize the North African monarchy.

But Algerian Islamic militants, who claimed responsibility for the 1995 bombings as well as the deadly Christmas 1994 hijacking of an Air France flight, quickly surfaced as the

prime suspects.

"Numerous alerts were brought to the attention of specialized services in the past few months," the daily *Le Monde* quoted an unidentified official as saying.

In an internal memo, France's counterespionage agency signaled that an Algerian Islamist living in Afghanistan was preparing in September to leave that country to "commit an attack against French interests," *Le Monde* reported, quoting the memo.

The secret service also warned that four members of an Islamic group had entered France to set off a bomb in a Paris restaurant at the end of November, *Le Monde* said.

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Pace favored to win Lombardi Award

HOUSTON (AP) — Last year, Orlando Pace became the first sophomore to win the Lombardi Award as the nation's top college lineman, and he's favored to become the first two-time winner of the award Thursday night.

"It means a lot because it would be making history and anytime you have a chance to make history it's gratifying," said Pace, an Ohio State University tackle.

The other finalists for the 27th annual award are Arizona State University tackle Juan Roque, University of Nebraska defensive end Jared Tomich and Virginia Tech defensive end Cornell Brown.

Pace has even been mentioned as a Heisman Trophy candidate.

"That's definitely a longshot," Pace said. "I'm happy to be mentioned in the Heisman race if it goes to the best player, we'll have to wait and see. But it's hard to judge the best player."

Baseball deal hits snags

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball's proposed labor deal hit a pair of snags involving bonus money and free agent rules, causing a delay Wednesday of a ratification vote.

Lawyers worked day and night to try to resolve problems in two areas: a \$2.5 million dispute in 1996 postseason bonus money; and deadline dates for 14 players who will gain free agent rights when the agreement is ratified.

"We're hoping to wrap it up tomorrow," said New York Yankees pitcher David Cone, the AL player representative. "We hope to find a way to resolve things amicably."

Union head Donald Fehr said he expected a ratification vote Thursday at the players' annual executive board meeting in Dorado, Puerto Rico.

However, he said, "We still have a lot of stuff to cover."

NASCAR owner, Honda dealer indicted

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Rick Hendrick, whose cars have won the last two NASCAR Winston Cup championships, was indicted Wednesday on federal charges of conspiring to bribe Honda executives to get more Honda cars and dealerships.

Hendrick is one of the nation's largest auto retailers.

Hendrick Motorsports fields three NASCAR teams, which have won more than 60 races since 1984.

Hendrick was indicted by a grand jury in Asheville on 13 counts of money laundering, one count of conspiracy and one count of mail fraud. Hendrick, also was charged with one count of conspiracy.

Davis a longshot despite solid year

By Chuck Schoffner
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMES, Iowa — Last year, Troy Davis became the first 2,000-yard rusher not to win the Heisman Trophy. Now that he has put up another 2,000-yard year, will the Iowa State University junior be denied again?

Probably. University of Florida quarterback Danny Wuerffel remains the favorite for the award given to the player voted the best in college football. He plays the glamour position for one of the sport's glamour programs.

Davis plays for a team that was 2-9 and has no tradition of success. That's the biggest factor working against Davis, and he thinks it's unfair.

"I feel I should win it," Davis said Wednesday. "Because I'm doing something that nobody ever did in college football. They should look at it as that, not as a team not winning. If they go for individual stats, I should win it."

Davis is the first major college player to rush for 2,000 yards twice. He became the fifth player in the 2,000-yard club when he ran for 2,010 a year ago to lead the nation. The others, Barry Sanders, Marcus Allen, Mike Rozier and Rashaan Salaam, all won the Heisman. Davis finished fifth in the voting last year that gave the award to Ohio State University running back Eddie George.

This year, Davis ran for 2,185 yards to lead the nation again and scored 21 touchdowns. He topped 200 yards five times and his low for the season was 130 yards against Texas A&M University.

"I think he's got a great chance," Iowa State coach Dan McCarney said. "I really do. Because of what he's done back to back. It's supposed to be

for the season, but how can you ignore what he's done two seasons back to back?"

Davis has been told he's a finalist, meaning he and McCarney will be in New York for the Dec. 14 presentation. Wuerffel also has been invited.

"Anything is possible," Davis said. "If I win it, I'll be the happiest person around."

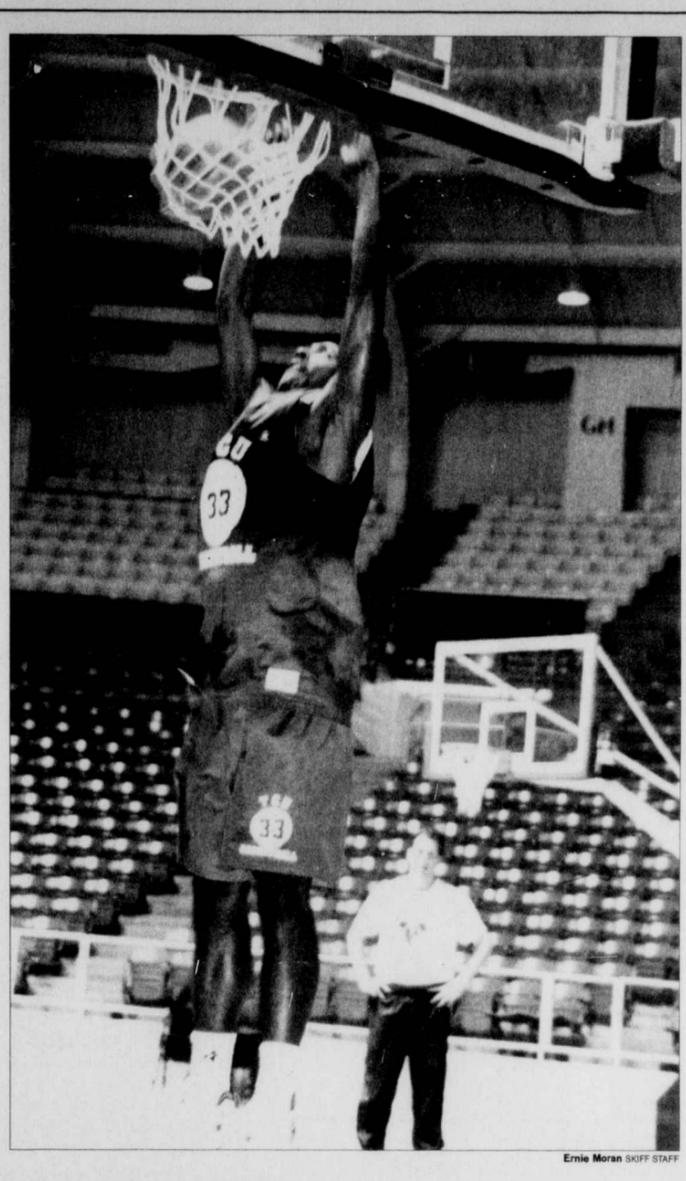
And if he doesn't? At one point, Davis said he would be so frustrated that if he did return for his senior year — and he hasn't decided if he will — he wouldn't even want to be considered for the Heisman.

"I'd probably tell all of them I don't want to be nominated for the Heisman if I have to do what I did this year," he said. "I'd say just forget it. I don't want to go to all."

Later, Davis backed off slightly, saying he would go to the ceremony, "but I wouldn't want to be out there." "I know they're probably going to try the same thing," he said. "If we do have a losing season next year, they're going to say he's on a losing team again. That's why I hesitate if I really want to go or not. But I would go there."

Davis already has been denied one major award. The Doak Walker Award, given to the nation's best running back, went to Texas Tech University's Byron Hunsford, who finished second to Davis in rushing. That award is presented in Dallas, and Davis felt the fact Hunsford played in Texas weighed in his favor.

"They consider him one of the best running backs, but everybody knows who is the best running back," Davis said. "That's their pick against our pick. He's got it. I've got nothing else to say about that award."



TCU sophomore center Damion Walker finishes a two-handed dunk during men's basketball practice earlier this season. The Horned Frogs (4-1), who finished fifth at the Big Island Invitational in Hilo, Hawaii, last weekend, will kick off a four-game homestand when they host Louisiana Tech University at 7:05 p.m. Saturday at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Ernie Moran SKIFF STAFF

Cowboys should have seen suspension coming

As every football fan now knows, Leon Lett was suspended for at least a year by the NFL this week because he tested positive in a mandatory drug test. Of course, this isn't the first infraction by a member of "America's Team," and unfortunately, it probably won't be the last.

Since 1994, the Cowboys have had a bevy of problems with drugs and alcohol. Erik Williams was arrested for drunken driving; Clayton Holmes tested positive for drugs twice; Shante Carver tested positive last season; Michael Irvin was the topic of news this summer and ended up getting probation; and now Lett has failed another drug test.

COMMENTARY



SCOTT BARZILLA

It might be unfair to assume that the Cowboys have the biggest drug problem in the league, because it's impossible to tell how many players on other teams get away with it. But Dallas certainly has been caught more often than any other team in the league.

Clearly, the locus of responsibility lies first with the individual. Leon Lett has a problem, and he shouldn't be allowed to play again until his problem is solved. The league wants to avoid a public relations disaster like baseball had with Steve Howe (eight strikes and you're out).

Somehow, reality has left Lett somewhere. How could he expect to get away with such behavior when he is tested 10 times a month?

Unfortunately, in this case, Lett can't take all of the blame.

If this were a case where he was the only Cowboy to get caught, then he should be the only one taking responsibility. But he is just a face in a crowd of Cowboys who has had

problems with drugs and the law.

Instead of taking responsibility for a rancid problem, Cowboys' owner Jerry Jones has actually exacerbated the problem by pushing for autonomy in the NFL's drug policy. He wants each team to be responsible for its own drug trafficking. With his track record, it's not hard to tell which side he will fall on when a key player has a drug problem.

We're talking about a guy who was willing to bend the NFL's marketing rules and salary cap rules to the limit to field a better team. Could he be trusted to tell the truth if he had the power to suppress evidence of a drug problem for the sake of winning?

For now, Jones and Cowboys head coach Barry Switzer are saying all the right things. They have given their support to Lett and his family for what must be a difficult time. They are not talking about winning or losing, but the health and well-being of Leon Lett.

Unfortunately, their track record indicates that they are a couple of individuals who are willing to do anything to win. They are willing to go out and recruit players who might have unsavory reputations if they have the talent needed to get them to the Super Bowl.

Switzer has a long history of loose discipline, highlighted by Brian Bosworth's bouts with steroids at the University of Oklahoma. If you add that incident with the many incidents that occurred later at the Oklahoma and have occurred since he has been at Dallas, then it seems only fair to question his ability to command the discipline and respect of his team.

For Jones' part, all of these players were drafted or acquired by him. As the owner and general manager, he is ultimately responsible for the quality of human beings that he acquires to play for his football team.

For everyone at Valley Ranch, it's

time to take a long look in the mirror and evaluate the situation. Through their leniency and overwhelming desire to win, are they creating an atmosphere where players are more susceptible to crime and drugs?

Maybe they aren't using their best judgement when acquiring and drafting players. Certainly with Lett they should learn that talented players can win you ball games, but how long can you count on them when they have problems with drugs or the law?

Leon Lett may not actually be a bad person, but reports of his problems with drugs date back to his college days, according to numerous media sources, including ESPN. I hope he can overcome this problem. However, this certainly begs the question: Shouldn't the Cowboys have seen this coming?

Scott Barzilla is a senior political science major from Houston.

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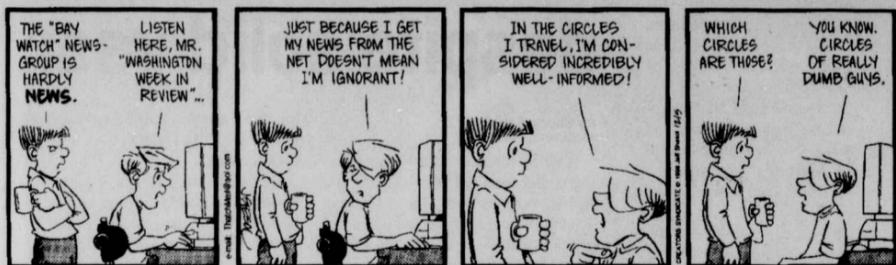
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Newsday Crossword

END OVER END by Patrick Jordan
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

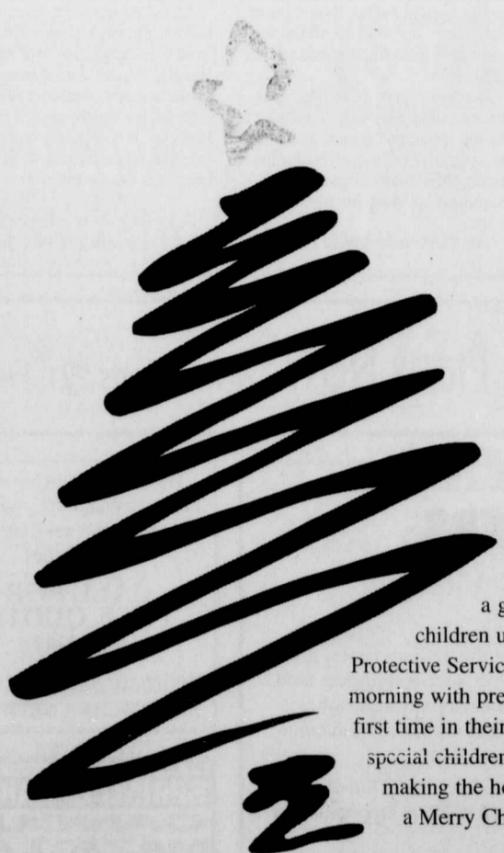
- 1 Mountain predator
- 5 Hikers' stop
- 9 Witty remarks
- 14 *Clueless* catchphrase
- 15 From a distance
- 16 Hilo greeting
- 17 Laugh uncontrollably
- 20 UN Day month
- 21 Vandenberg, e.g.: Abbr.
- 22 Sweetened coolers
- 23 Indian noble
- 26 Madame de ... the crack of dawn
- 29 Ramshackle
- 34 Pen name
- 35 Mets' stadium
- 36 Angelic glows
- 37 Supreme Court justice
- 39 Clothes, casually
- 41 Romance-cover model
- 42 Rams' mates
- 43 Chi. summer setting
- 44 Geraldine's portrayer
- 47 *Vogue* rival
- 48 Telegram periods
- 49 Run in the laundry
- 50 Wile E.'s supplier
- 54 Overy
- 55 Exist
- 56 Fruit-filled treats
- 62 Actress Berry
- 63 Cable channel
- 64 Buffalo's canal
- 65 Came to a close

DOWN

- 1 Hole goal
- 2 Bob Hope tour grp.
- 3 1/1000 inch
- 4 Not sinking
- 5 "Buy Me Love"
- 6 Sternward
- 7 Gandhi's title
- 8 Like some housing
- 9 ... alai
- 10 Literary lioness
- 11 Convinced
- 12 You, to Quakers
- 13 Impudence
- 18 Potsdam pronoun
- 19 Cain's brother
- 23 Transfer, in a way
- 24 Situated at the top
- 25 Actor Derek
- 26 Litigant
- 27 Some jets
- 29 However, in verse
- 30 Payable
- 31 Fortuneteller
- 32 Walk like a duck
- 33 Made a comfy home
- 35 Dupes
- 36 Bite playfully
- 39 Low cards
- 40 Barnyard brooder
- 42 Take up, as a cause
- 45 ...bitty
- 48 Ransacked
- 47 TV news time
- 49 Fam. member
- 50 Tummy trouble
- 51 Martial-arts star Jackie
- 52 Canasta combo
- 53 Perry's creator
- 56 Part of A.D.
- 57 Mr. Skelton
- 58 LP abbr.
- 59 Mesozoic, e.g.
- 60 Basketball hoop
- 61 "Get the picture?"

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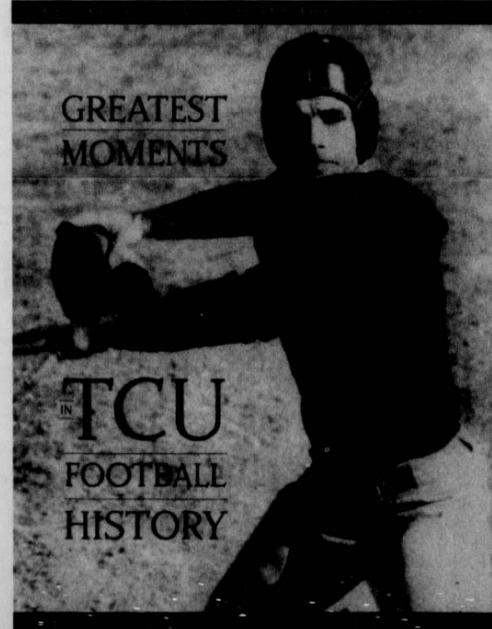
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