

# Skiff



**Inside**  
 "The Boxer" highlights this weekend's movie releases.  
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**WEATHER FORECAST**

High 60s  
 Low 30s  
 Mostly sunny



**FRIDAY**  
 JANUARY 16, 1998

Texas Christian University  
 95th Year • Number 61

**Campus**

**Skiff on the Net, Web editors needed**

The TCU Daily Skiff Web site (<http://www.skiff.tcu.edu/skiff>) will go online for the Spring semester starting this weekend.

New Web editors Scott Russell, Kirk Shinkle and Michael Kruse will take over the updates for the site, which was created last Fall. This week's issues will be uploaded by Sunday evening. Daily updates of the Skiff site are scheduled to start Jan. 27.

Managing a daily Web site is still a new experience for the staff.

"We're looking for one more Web editor," said Tom Urquhart, Student Publications production manager. "We'd like to have enough folks to have a complete rotation for the week, an editor per issue."

The TCU Daily Skiff usually publishes four print issues per week during the Fall and Spring semesters. The TCU Daily Skiff Web site is updated to correspond with the distribution of the print version.

"We hope to be back in the full swing of things within the next few days," Urquhart said. "The learning curve may be steep for some, but fortunately it's also very brief."

Any TCU student interested in applying for a Web editor position at the Skiff may contact Urquhart at ext. 7427

**Nation**

**Museum sues couple who reneged donation**

CHICAGO (AP) — A couple who reneged on a \$5 million pledge to the Museum of Contemporary Art have thrown the institution into a blue period.

And now the museum's directors have made what some say is an unprecedented move — they're suing the promise-breakers.

"It certainly is not a comfortable situation for a museum to be in," said Ed Able, president of the American Association of Museums in Washington, which represents 8,000 institutions.

The dispute between the museum and a board member, real estate developer Paul Oliver-Hoffmann, began in 1990.

Oliver-Hoffmann, then chairman of the MCA's trustees, submitted the first pledge toward constructing a new, \$46 million home for the museum. He signed a letter of intent and agreed to pay the \$5 million by June 30, 1997. He also agreed the commitment would be binding on the couple's estate if the pledge was not completed during their lifetime.

Then the bickering began. Oliver-Hoffmann's wife, Camille, would not give details but said her husband had concerns about how the MCA spent its money.

"There was a lot that happened at that time that we never discussed because we did not want to damage the museum," she said Wednesday. "I have given that museum no thought in seven years. We have never set foot in that museum since Paul resigned in 1991, and it was made abundantly clear to the entire board that my husband was departing."

The MCA sent the couple letters each year asking for the money. The Oliver-Hoffmanns did not reply.

So museum officials sued on Dec. 31, seeking \$5 million, plus interest and legal costs.

The museum still managed to raise \$72 million — \$22 million over its original goal.

But Pritzker said the museum relied on the pledge when it sought money from other contributors, including \$50 million from a group of banks. And, she said, some trustees upped their donations as much as tenfold when they learned of the proposed \$5 million gift.

**By Michael Bryant**  
 MANAGING EDITOR

Three TCU students will replace classes in the Sid W. Richardson Building with research at the real-life classroom of Biosphere 2 when they become the first TCU students to study at the habitat community beginning Tuesday.

Kristi Argenbright, a junior environmental sciences major, Meredith Wallace, a sophomore environmental sciences major, and Tanya Schroeder, a sophomore psychology major, are among the first non-Columbia University students to study at Arizona's Biosphere 2 since Columbia took

## Students travel to Biosphere 2

over management of the facility in 1996.

When the initial three-year deal was established between TCU and Columbia in June 1997, TCU was to begin sending students to Biosphere 2 in the fall of 1998. However, Leo Newland, professor of environmental sciences, said budgetary reasons enabled TCU to send students one semester earlier than expected.

Unlike the teams of scientists who lived in the facility in the early 1990s, the students will be using Biosphere 2 only as a

classroom and research facility, Schroeder said.

The students will mostly use the facility to study geology, biology, economics and the environment. Argenbright said many of the experiments will involve testing carbon dioxide levels alongside scientists from various universities and organizations like NASA.

She said the semester will mostly be spent on pure scientific research to gain "a better understanding of how our environ-

ment works and to study the interrelationships of the earth and the creatures on the earth and how they affect each other."

The semester will also include various field trips to sites like the Grand Canyon, Nogales, Mexico, and the Gulf of California to perform soil research at different and unique locations, Schroeder said.

Newland said only 75 students from across the country will attend this semester's study at Biosphere 2. He said the TCU Biosphere committee only received five to 10 applications for the spring semester, but

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## Coffeehouse crooners



Paul Hill (left) and Jim Newton perform Thursday in the Student Center Lounge. The concert/coffeehouse was sponsored by Uniting Campus Ministries.

## Awards recognize teaching excellence

Three professors honored at commencement

**By Matt Pearce**  
 OPINION EDITOR

For 635 students, fall commencement meant weight off their shoulders and a sense of closure.

For three professors, commencement had a different meaning.

Kathryne McDorman, associate professor of history and director of the honors program; Mike Sacken, professor of education and chairman of the Education Foundations and Administration; and Charles Williams, associate professor of management, received the 1997 Deans' Teaching Awards at the December commencement ceremonies.

The awards, given annually at fall commencement, were presented by William Koehler, vice chancellor for academic affairs. The purpose of the awards is to recognize teaching excellence.

McDorman, who has been at TCU since 1977, said there were several nominees who deserved to win, and she was thrilled to be chosen.

"Truly, I was surprised and delighted," she said. "It's always amazing to win when you're paired with some of those folks."

McDorman said she had done some extensive remodeling in the honors curriculum, a move that paid

off despite controversy.

"It was a very welcoming acclamation for some of the risk-taking I had done," she said. "Whenever you change anything that's worked for several years, you're taking a risk."

In her history classes, McDorman said she tries to bring history to life by comparing past social, political and financial problems to those that exist today.

"I want to get the students as excited about learning the material as I am about teaching it," she said.

Michael McCracken, dean of AddRan College of Arts and Sciences, said McDorman's knowledge and attitude helped her win the award.

"Kathryne is a very enthusiastic instructor," he said. "She conveys that enthusiasm to her students."

Sacken said the award is an affirmation of the commitment he made when he began teaching at TCU in 1992, though he was a little embarrassed to receive it.

"This campus has a lot of good teachers," he said. "It's really weird to be singled out in front of these people."

Sacken said the award doesn't add any pressure, because he already puts the pressure on himself. "I've always felt like in order to

Please see AWARDS, Page 2

## Smooth sensation

Location issue delays smoothie service

**By Almée Courtice**  
 STAFF REPORTER

A smoothie machine requested by the House of Student Representatives last semester has been purchased and currently Dining Services is trying to decide where it will be kept.

The House passed a resolution in November to support Marriott's purchase of the machine, which cost between \$1,400 and \$1,600.

Senior Food Service Director

### House of student representatives

David Ripple said the smoothie machine was intended to be placed in Sub Connection, the dining area in Dan Rogers Hall, but he said this is not an ideal location because it is not open weekends and long lines are created by the lunch-time rush.

He said The Grind, located in Reed Hall, was also considered as a possible location for the machine.

"I sat in on some of the meetings that discussed what to do with some of the changes in the Student Center and we thought that the Grind would be moving," he said. "We did not want to put the (smoothie) machine in there if we were going to have to take it right out again."

Ripple said the cost to install the smoothie machine in The Grind is still being investigated. He said he thinks it might be a good location, but his main goal is to find a place

where long lines and crowding common at other eating areas on campus will not occur at the smoothie machine's location.

"The real hangup is the issue of space," he said.

Ripple also said he did not want to rush into putting the machine in The Grind because he was worried that a crowded, ineffective location might make the entire concept unsuccessful.

The House also passed a bill last December that allocated \$10,695.14 for the purchase of six new laser printers. According to Bill 97-33, four printers will be put in the computer lab in M.J. Neeley School of Business and one inkjet printer will be placed in the Mary Coats Burnett Library and Reading Room computer labs.

While new printers have been installed in the Business School lab, House President Shana Lawlor said the printers were not purchased with the funds allocated by the House last December.

"Money has been set aside (by the House) for new printers but right now, they are just looking for the most efficient and effective place to put them," Lawlor said.

The House also passed a resolution in 1996 supporting the construction of a track around the Worth Hills area. Parliamentarian Chris Brooks said \$100,000 from an outside donor will fund the track. He said the House will not contribute any money to the project.

## Lots of sugar doesn't mean high energy

**By Kelly Melhart**  
 SKIFF STAFF

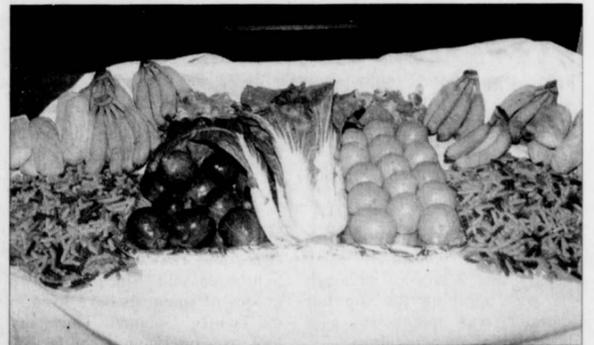
Students who depend on sugary snacks to satisfy them between classes might not be getting the energy boost they are expecting. In fact, in some cases, after an initial high, they may crash to lower energy levels than they had before.

Lacey Osborn, a lecturer for the department of nutrition and dietetics, said simple sugar foods such as chocolates, candy bars, cakes and cookies give the body a rush of energy because it does not take the body any time to break them down.

"It is similar to eating a tablespoon of sugar," she said. "After the initial high, the body's energy level falls down to the same level or even lower."

Evelyn Roberts, an instructor of nutrition and dietetics, said sugary foods are full of empty calories and contain few, if any, nutrients the body needs to function. The result is a tired, listless, sleepy and unalert body.

Osborn said high energy foods like complex carbohydrates and fruit take



Fruits, vegetables and complex carbohydrates are high-energy foods that will sustain the body for long periods of time.

the body longer to break down than sugars. As the complex food is broken down, the body gains energy. Since they take longer to break down, these foods will sustain the body for longer periods of time, she said.

Complex carbohydrates include bread, grains, pastas and potatoes. Nutrient bars are also a high energy food made up of complex carbohydrates, Osborn said.

Roberts said fruit and small packages of pretzels or crackers are great snacks to keep in backpacks for between-class treats.

"It's a good idea and it's so easy to do," she said. "A piece of fruit is good for you, cheaper and easier to eat out of hand."

Osborn warned that eating many high energy foods does not mean an abundance of energy, though it can mean an excess of weight.

"You can gain weight from anything," she said. "If your inputs (what a person eats) are more than your outputs (a person's exercise level) you'll gain weight."



**Health &**

**Fitness**

# Pulse

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moudy Building South Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050, or e-mailed to [skiff@gamma.is.tcu.edu](mailto:skiff@gamma.is.tcu.edu). The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and space available.

**CAREER FAIR** to be held from from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. on Jan. 19-20 at the Infomart, located at 1950 Stemmons Frwy. in Dallas. A list of jobs available can be found at [www.cfcjobs.com](http://www.cfcjobs.com).

**STUDENT AMBASSADORS** will meet at 6 p.m. on Jan. 20 in Sid Richardson Lecture Hall 2.

**STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOP** titled "Getting the Semester Kicked-Off Right" presented by Jeremy Poynter of the Center for Academic Services at 7 p.m. on Jan. 20 in the Rickel building room 106. Call 923-8792 with questions.

**COLLEGE REPUBLICANS** will meet at 6 p.m. on Jan. 21 in the Student Center room 205. Call Shelby at 927-8491 with questions.

**STUDY ABROAD RECEPTION** to be held on from 4 until 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 21 in Student Center room 207. Anyone interested in meeting students, faculty and staff returning from study programs is invited to attend.

**1998 CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST** submissions will be accepted by the English Department until Feb. 6. Rules and entry forms are available in Reed Hall Room 134.

**LEGAL ADVICE HOTLINE** sponsored by Tarrant County Bar Association will be available from 6 until 8 p.m. on Jan. 22. Answers are free. Call 335-1239.

**ODYSSEY HOSPICE** is seeking volunteers to work with terminally ill patients. Hours are flexible. Call 882-8942 for more information.

**TCU DAILY Skiff**  
Since 1902

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## AWARDS

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be a good teacher, you have to be intrinsically motivated," he said. "I've always felt like teaching puts its own pressure on me."

Douglas Simpson, dean of the school of education, said Sacken is lively and engaging with everyone he teaches, ranging from freshmen to graduate students.

"He's really focused on the students," Simpson said. "He's keenly interested in helping them, academically and otherwise."

Williams said he was incredibly thankful to win the award.

"A university teaching award is not something you receive everyday," he said. "Teaching is a very important part of my job, and I was incredibly honored to receive an award for it."

Williams said the recognition he received won't matter that much once he steps into the classroom.

"This is for past accomplishments," he said. "This is a new semester, and I have to prove myself to a whole new set of students."

Williams has taught at TCU since 1991.

Kirk Downey, dean of the M.J. Neeley School of Business, said Williams is deeply respected by those who know him.

"He's well-received by the students and the faculty believe he teaches a rigorous course," Downey said.

Bob Greer, professor of management and member of the committee that nominated Williams, said he effectively draws examples from literature, research and current business practices to make his material come alive in the classroom.

"He's very innovative in what he does," Greer said. "He's been innovative in getting the lesson across on what it means to be a manager."

Nominees for the Deans' Teaching Awards are chosen in individual departments by professors within them. The nominees are then viewed by the faculty committee in each school, which chooses professors for consideration by the Deans' Council. The Council meets with Koehler to decide the three recipients.

# World Report

## Nation

### Ramseys refuse second interview by police

BOULDER, Colo. — The parents of JonBenet Ramsey have refused a request for a second interview with investigators unless they are allowed to review evidence in the case, police said Thursday.

After much wrangling over conditions, John and Patsy Ramsey submitted to separate interviews with police on April 30. The next day, the couple talked to reporters and proclaimed their innocence.

In a statement Thursday, police said they asked for the second interview to clarify previous statements and to ask questions raised by new information.

Police will not honor the Ramseys' request to review evidence because that could "hamper the effectiveness of the investigation."

Police also said the Ramseys' demand to only answer written questions was unacceptable.

"I am disappointed in the position they have taken," said Cmdr. Mark Beckner, the lead investigator. "I expected the Ramseys to agree to another interview because I believe their public and private statements about their desire to do whatever was necessary to help resolve this case."

Calls to Ramsey family spokeswoman Rachelle Zimmer and attorney Hal Haddon were not immediately returned.

Police said they still are waiting to receive clothing they requested from the Ramseys last November. And the family has not told police whether they will be allowed to interview JonBenet's 10-year-old brother, Burke Ramsey.

John Ramsey found his daughter's body Dec. 26, 1996, in the basement of the family home. She had been beaten and strangled and may have been sexually assaulted. No arrests have been made.

### Gingrich meets Hollywood conservatives

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — They may seem as rare as Hollywood musicals, but hundreds of show business conservatives turned out Thursday to hear House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

The Georgia Republican met with a growing organization of Hollywood conservatives, saluting "Ben-Hur" star Charlton Heston and laying out his agenda for the country's future.

He did not speak about any entertainment industry issues.

Gingrich spoke before several hundred members and guests of the Wednesday Morning Club, composed of producers, writers and directors. In addition to Heston, "Who's the Boss" veteran Tony Danza and "Breakdown" actor Kurt Russell attended the breakfast speech.

Gingrich was introduced by Russell, who identified himself as a Libertarian but said he and the Republican speaker have "much common ground between us."

Heston was singled out for his early opposition to efforts to stop the nuclear arms race. Gingrich said the actor, also an advocate for gun rights, has shown leadership for "his citizenship, his involvement" in political causes. "Thank you for all you've done," Gingrich told Heston.

The Wednesday Morning Club aims to "encourage diversity of thought and broaden debate within the entertainment industry," a business that generally supports liberal causes.

## State

### Deceased lifeguard's medals stolen from office

TEXAS CITY, Texas (AP) — A mother whose son died while trying to save three lives has had her son's medals stolen.

The posthumously-awarded medals — the U.S. Coast Guard's Gold Lifesaving Medal and the Carnegie Medal — were taken earlier this week from Brenda Marino's business office. She discovered the burglary early Wednesday.

Thousands of dollars in office equipment and supplies were also stolen, but Marino says only the medals are irreplaceable.

"Out of everything that's missing ... all I want back are those medals," Marino said. "They didn't take away the fact that I lost him, but at least it was something that I could feel proud of. At least it made me feel something inside."

Marino's son, Danny Jenkins, 23, lived in Panama City, Fla. and worked as a lifeguard. Last summer he died while trying to rescue three teens from strong currents in Panama City Beach.

Jenkins pulled two of the swimmers to safety before disappearing and the third was helped by others on the beach, Marino said.

Jenkins' body was later found floating in the water and although he was put on life support systems at the hospital, he never regained consciousness, Marino said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Simpson insists comment in Esquire taken out of context

By Michael Freeman  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — O.J. Simpson said Thursday he was merely speaking hypothetically — "as part of a scenario of things" — when he told *Esquire* magazine that if he had killed his former wife, he would have done it "because I loved her very much."

Simpson, in a rare live broadcast interview, also told ESPN that the quote has been taken out of context.

"But of course they took this one thing out of the middle of there and made it as if it was an independent statement," Simpson said.

Simpson agreed to the interview on the sports cable channel's "Up Close" with no conditions placed on the subject matter.

In a session featuring vigorous exchanges between Simpson and host Chris Myers, Simpson denied he made

"I think in America, normally when people use 'if,' you know it's a hypothetical."

— O.J. Simpson

what many construed as an oblique confession when he told *Esquire*: "Let's say I committed this crime. Even if I did do this, it would have to have been because I loved her very much, right?"

Simpson said he was "certainly not re-examining my position" when he spoke to *Esquire*, adding that he has made the statement many times before when discussing various theories in the case.

"It's curious because many of the very respected journalists in this country have heard me say this as a part of a scenario of things," he said.

He added, "I think in America, normally when people use 'if,' you know it's a hypothetical. We preface things with 'if.'"

In the ESPN interview, which lasted less than an hour with commercial breaks, Simpson repeated his long-standing denial that he killed ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman in 1994.

Simpson was acquitted a year later, but jurors in a civil wrongful death trial last year held him liable for the killings and hit him with \$33.5 million in damages.

Simpson denied Thursday that he has a moral obligation to pay the damages.

"I don't feel I have a moral obligation to pay because morally I did nothing wrong," he said.

Several times Simpson verbally sparred with Myers, showing more emotion than he did in his testimony during the civil trial, when his answers were generally brief and restrained.

"You gotta let me finish," he said at one point. At another, he said, "You guys are so full of beans."

Myers did not ask Simpson about the most damning new piece of evidence at his civil trial: the discovery of photographs showing him wearing the same model shoes that left bloody footprints at the crime scene — shoes Simpson denied ever wearing.

Simpson insisted several times that his life isn't as miserable as the media has

portrayed it, contending that the people he meets are supportive. But at another point, he said, "I feel I got screwed big time in this case."

Asked several times if he believed he was capable of killing, he said he couldn't come close unless his children were being threatened.

Recounting a time when he caught a man who had broken into his house, Simpson said with a laugh, "I saw him and my first thought was to grab something."

Simpson said he did pick up a baseball bat, but only led the man toward the front of the house to arriving security guards.

As for his stated intention to find the real killer or killers, Simpson suggested he has limited resources.

"I can only do what I can do," he said. "It's not like I'm sitting on my butt doing nothing."

## BIOSPHERE

From Page 1

applications should pick up for the fall.

Both Argenbright and Wallace were selected in November by a group of five faculty members, Newland said. An additional student position opened in early January, and Schroeder, although she was applying for the fall semester, was approached with the option of attending now.

"They called me at the last minute and said a couple of students had cancelled," Schroeder said.

After completion of the semester on May 8, the students will receive 16 hours of TCU credit,

although the division of credit hours between different departments is yet to be determined, Newland said.

Biosphere 2 is located around 30 miles northeast of Tucson, Ariz., and first opened in 1991, Schroeder said. Since then, two groups of scientists have lived in the facility. Columbia University took over operation of the facility in 1996 with the intention to turn Biosphere 2 into a research campus for environmental sciences.

Student applications for Biosphere 2 study during the fall semester will be taken soon, Newland said.

# Long-time former sheriff guilty of embezzlement

By Mark Babineck  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUBBOCK, Texas — A former West Texas sheriff pleaded guilty on his birthday Thursday to one count of embezzling more than \$20,000 from his own department in a scheme sniffed out by his successor.

Longtime Nolan County Sheriff Jimmy Allen Blackley, 55, admitted to stealing the money from 1989-95. According to federal sentencing guidelines, he will serve 10-16 months in a federal prison.

Whispers about missing money had circulated around Sweetwater during the 1996 race between Blackley and Donnie Rannefeld, who went on to win. Rannefeld ordered an immediate audit when he took office Jan. 1, 1997. A criminal investigation began three weeks later. "We asked for assistance first from the

Texas Rangers, then from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the FBI," Rannefeld said. "I've only got a staff of 19 here. It's not enough for an investigation like this."

Blackley, who turned 55 Thursday, was indicted on one count of embezzlement from a federal organization. The federal charge arose because some of the money was supplied by the government to pay for Nolan County's housing of federal prisoners.

Blackley was freed on \$5,000 bond. U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings will sentence him this spring.

No one answered the phone at Blackley's home Thursday. Defense attorney Charles Burton's receptionist said he was out of town and unavailable for comment.

Rannefeld said that money and property,

including 25 guns, turned up missing upon his audit. He stressed that he did not make it a campaign issue to unseat Blackley in 1996.

"The citizens made it a campaign issue," Rannefeld said. "Apparently things didn't seem right with normal citizens. Maybe something looked suspicious, I don't know."

Rannefeld, a veteran state trooper before taking office, also said that he didn't think Blackley would have gotten caught if he hadn't been voted out.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Mateja said his office got involved last spring.

"It's a really significant investigation and prosecution," Mateja said, referring to the local interest in the case.

Blackley was sheriff for 13 years. He lost the 1996 election by about 200 votes.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**EMPLOYMENT**

**CAMP OZARK**, Christian Sports and Adventure Camp—seeking qualified counselors to work with boys and girls ages 7-17. Employment terms for all or part of the summer. If remotely interested, come to our TCU informational video presentation

Thursday, January 15, 8:30 PM, Sid Richardson Bldg, Lecture Hall 3. Located in Mount Ida, AR (870) 867-4131. Visit our website at [www.camp-ozark.com](http://www.camp-ozark.com).

**CHILD CARE**

I am a happy 10 yr. old

fourth grader. I am looking for a kid friendly person to pick me up from school (near TCU) in the afternoon at 3:30 and help me with a little homework until my folks get home from work. If you are interested call my Dad at 877-0377 during the day or evenings at 926-8663.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY**—Call now to find out about new, affordable student rates for your wedding photography. 214-207-6262 or 940-380-0408. Advertise in the Skiff today! 921-7426.

? a) Depression is a bunch of symptoms exhibited by weak people.

b) Depression is an unbearable suppression of brain activity that can strike anyone.

**UNTREATED DEPRESSION**

<http://www.save.org>

## editorial

### No CONTEST FOR TCU

The recent incident between Lee Nailon and his girlfriend Marti Bell has caused many people to wonder what really happened in Moncrief Hall on Jan. 6.

Now, thanks to a plea of no contest to the charge of assault with bodily injury, no one will ever really know the specifics — except Nailon, Bell and some supreme being who may be difficult to subpoena.

Such a "solution" seems like a pretty easy way out. Particularly in a domestic violence case. Particularly when the person accused of the crime is a role model to area youth — something quite obvious in the front-page photo of Wednesday's *Skiff*.

The editorial board believes "no contest" shouldn't even be an option, not just in this case, but in all criminal cases. To many, (except apparently men's basketball Head Coach Billy Tubbs and Nailon), this appears to be an easy way to avoid severe punishment and the chance of a guilty verdict.

Although the plea is not an admission of guilt, a decision not to defend one's character appears suspicious.

To some, the final disciplinary decision also looks a little unusual — how many collegiates would have gotten off this easily? Perhaps athletes don't care what people think. They should.

At least for the sake of TCU's reputation, Nailon should have gone through the process, whether guilty or innocent. Billy Tubbs called his plea "taking one for the team," but in terms of public relations (something TCU seems to constantly struggle with when ath-

letics are concerned), TCU "took one" for a top basketball scorer.

It is nice to win, but encouraging someone who is evading a domestic violence charge?

Not that TCU should be blamed entirely for Nailon's choice. It is most upsetting alone that the American judicial system has become so unconcerned with the truth. A plea of no contest becomes a scapegoat for justice. Instead of relying upon a jury of peers to determine the facts of a case, the incident is quickly discarded.

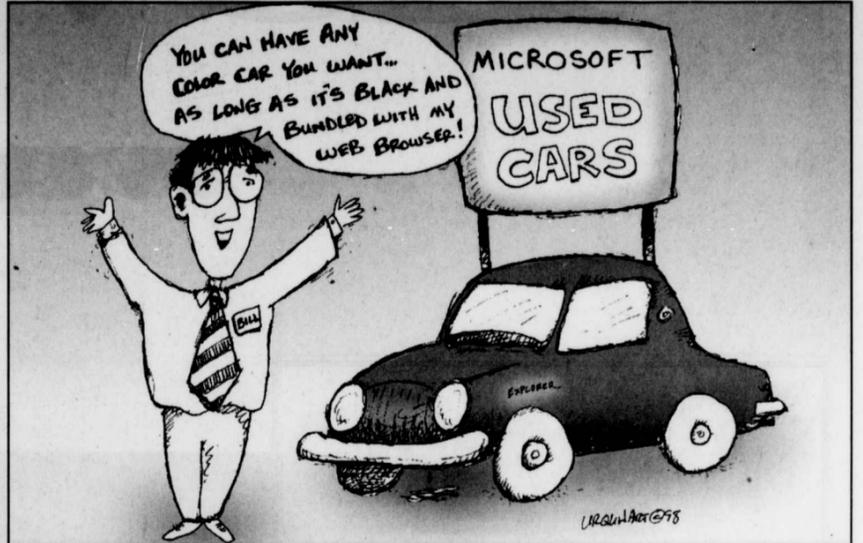
It is especially troubling when this type of plea bargain can be struck when domestic violence is a distinct possibility. Why should a woman report such events if the man accused can get off with only an anger counseling session and probation (a probation that is, in effect, no punishment at all if there is no more

**The university's "solution" allows students to evade the truth.**

wrongdoing)? Pleas of no contest are seemingly becoming more and more popular among famous collegiate athletes charged with crimes, and with the encouragement for such a plea coming from the nation's universities, who can blame the athletes for taking the easy and convenient way out.

We in the journalism business are kind of keen on the truth. Suspicion and evasiveness should be tackled with research and testimony to reveal the truth, especially when the issue deals with morality and the law.

Two different stories emerged out of the incident between Nailon and Bell. Sadly, we'll likely never know which one was the truth.



### High hopes set for new year Wish List '98 includes more construction, less football

What is the best way to spend four hours crammed into a broken airline seat without a CD player or a sedative? Yes, sleep is the option most people would consider, but not me.



STEVE STEWARD

In addition to enjoying the halitosis of my neighbor, I racked my brain for an idea, and I came up with Plan "D," a.k.a. "Wish List '98." So without any further stalling, here is what I would like to see happen in 1998:

1. More construction! There isn't enough of it, because it is still possible to take a direct route to half of my classes. If more construction projects are undertaken, more prospective students will be turned off to coming here and end up at SMU.

2. More athletic scandals! I know it is a little early for the football season, but the rest of you athletes can always go that extra mile and cause a problem. It might merit some deserved attendance at your events if everyone knows a "bad boy" is on your squad.

3. More outlandish cults. This wish may require a celestial event or two, but cults are great fodder

for cartoons, columns and late-night TV hosts. They also tend to prove that Texas and Texans can be just as weird as the folks on that "Left Coast."

4. More IMAX movies featuring Mickey Rourke, Elizabeth Berkeley and Pamela Lee. I don't know why this is a good idea, but I'm sure it would float someone's boat.

5. More MTV specials featuring Marilyn Manson. I'm becoming a firm believer in the philosophy that you can never have too many authorities on the First Amendment, and he seems to have a doctorate in it. I think he wrote his thesis on the section that says, "Inform everyone of your stupid opinions, not because they asked, but because you can."

6. More NFL championships for the San Francisco 49ers. Yeah, I know they lost, but I can still dream, and if I can't dream, then I can be stubborn. And no, the Cowboys aren't going to make it again. Ever.

7. More television coverage of collegiate water polo and swimming. If children start getting excited about aquatic sports, the overall work ethic of America will increase exponentially, because everyone knows that no one works harder than swimmers or polo players, except for maybe Nike employees in Vietnam. I also think it will lead to the eventual demise of football, when the public realizes what a better sport water polo is.

8. Fewer scandals involving Bill Clinton's loose morals. Yes, I know what I said. We don't need any more of these because it only distracts the President from performing his job, and it will be a cold day in the southern hemisphere before we find out the truth about his southern hemisphere. It'll be an even colder day before the public cares.

9. More cable channels. Perhaps I need to be more specific, as this wish can always backfire. Campus Link needs to dispose of the Sci-Fi channel (who watches it, anyway?), and add Comedy Central, FX, ESPN2 and the Cartoon Network. Recycled shows such as Miami Vice, The A-Team and Thundercats will improve the overall mood of the campus, and there are few better ways to spend a Saturday afternoon than immersing one's self in taped coverage of the O.P. Pro, followed by a Dr. Katz cartoon marathon.

10. Finally, more Ninja Verses. So what if most people didn't get any of them! It's people like that who perpetuate The Family Circus and Love Is. . .

If you can do something to make my wishes attainable, please hop to it.

And if you sat next to me on the plane, then you might want to add mouthwash to your wish list.

Steve Steward is a sophomore political science major from Lodi, Calif.

## TCU DAILY Skiff

An All-American Newspaper

EDITORIAL POLICY: Unsigned editorials represent the view of the TCU Daily Skiff editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, campus editor, design editors, entertainment editor, newsroom coordinator, opinion editor and sports editor. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 500 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the Skiff, Moudy 2915, mail it to TCU Box 298050, fax it to 257-7133 or e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu. They must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

NOTE: In addition to being the Skiff production manager, Tom Urquhart is also a part-time student.

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### Women should abandon beauty myths, create own standard of style

I get a lot of sideways glances in the summertime. I get some sneers, some off-color commentary, a few random catcalls and occasionally, just occasionally, by the rarest of women, a sweet look of jealousy. I don't shave my legs.

Actually, it wasn't that hard of a habit to break. Shaving one's legs and under one's arms must be the biggest personal care annoyance ever invented by people (men?) who like their women to look as much like children as possible, thus hopefully getting them to think like children as well.

The custom has traveled centuries near-

ly unquestioned, somehow surviving the banishment of other ambiguous or worthless female health care rituals such as eating arsenic to give the skin an attractive (though deathlike) pallor.

However, the fact that simply shaving is innocuous enough to survive centuries also gives it that insidious authority reserved for the unwritten laws of our society that we obey mindlessly and tolerate no transgression.

Despite popular gut reactions, the shaving of one's body hair is a choice. Even further from the norm, it is a choice which must be considered very carefully, if only because it is a societal law and not a natural one.

Societal laws more often than not work against minorities, as did the ones that

dictated women were inferior and thus should not vote, and the ones that dictated black people were inferior and thus should not drink from the same water

The only way to get them there, and to make everyone equal, is to find everything we view as purposelessly harmful to someone else and stamp it out.

Shaving is just one of these things. Shaving itself shouldn't be stamped out, but the unbending of the requirement that women shave should be. Women already have too many things they think they must change about themselves to be desired.

The shaven, unrealistically thin woman on the magazine cover entices nine-year-olds not only to buy the Slumber Party Shaving Game at Toys 'R' Us, but also to become anorexic. She gives girls not only their eternal idea of what beauty is, but also low self-esteem, because such an ideal is usually impossi-

ble to reach. The standards for female beauty aren't set by females, and as a result are too strict and too high. Males, who seem to set their own beauty standards, give themselves far more leeway.

Males who age grow more distinguished-looking. Women become crones. Women, not men, must spend hours painting their faces. The corset was a style and is coming back into style for women, not men.

Women deserve more beauty choices, and the only way to get them is to make them themselves. Women as a group are far too strong to allow anyone else to set their standards for them. Fat is beautiful. Unmade-up is beautiful. Unshaven is also beautiful.

Julie Finn is a senior English major from Fort Smith, Ark.

#### Commentary



JULIE FINN

**The standards for female beauty aren't set by females and as a result are too strict and too high. Males, who seem to set their own beauty standards, give themselves far more leeway.**

### Holiday commemorates achievements of King; people must continue efforts

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — While I sat listening to my professor go through the syllabus the first day of classes, I was immediately taken when he read us a quote. A short quote — eight words to be exact. Yet these eight words by Miguel de Unamuno y Jugo set my mind blazing full speed ahead: "They may conquer, but they will not convince."

This presents an important ques-

tion: What do these words mean? Simple. Although we might be in a situation in which we are conquered or subjugated, our spirit and vigor cannot be crushed. Perseverance, standing strong against all odds and holding on until the wrong can be righted are all encompassed.

So what? Why is it significant now, if ever?

Monday, we will commemorate the birthday of one of the greatest leaders of our time, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In Unamuno y Jugo's words, I saw the persona of Rev. King, the spirit of the civil rights movement and the nature of the continued struggles of second-class citizens and oppressed people everywhere.

Whether you are talking about Tibetans under Chinese domination,

the Gypsies in former Yugoslavia or the indigenous people of this continent, this continued struggle is momentous.

Although many years have passed, social, economic and political struggles still rage. Why is it after years of domination and intentional disassembling of repressed cultures have we seen the rejuvenation and revival of these societies?

The answer is clear: Justice is an attainable goal. The road ahead might be long and difficult, but the idea that justice one day might come is enough to fuel the passion of those striving for this goal.

These lessons have been taught again and again throughout history, yet we must pay close attention to those occurring in the modern era, for

they reflect where we as a nation and we as a people are heading. It is not so much what divides us but rather what makes us the same. I am sure we have all experienced racism at one time or another, and that common experience should bring us together as a whole.

King did not set out to address racism only against African Americans in America. Instead, he set out to create an atmosphere where race is not an issue. He envisioned a society in which who you are is your defining characteristic.

A society where race, color and creed are nothing more to the next person than the clothing you wear. They are your exterior, your temporary shell until you leave this world.

Skin color is not a means on which

judgment is passed, nor a means by which dominance is established.

Through the efforts of many in our community, we are able to take a day off from school in order to honor this man who has inspired millions. What will your Monday have in store for you? How many will even think about King, what he stood for or his struggles during the civil rights movement?

I don't believe the entire reason for getting this day off is to sit around and think about King and what he stood for.

Rather, it is to think about the difference his actions made in this country and how his efforts and struggles got us travelling down this long, difficult road to justice and liberty for all. Only by continuing and pushing

on through activism and education can we shed light on those who exist in the sunless world of hate and racism.

Have we made progress as a country? Our thoughts might differ, but we agree that our trip down this long and difficult road is not finished.

A utopia is really an impossibility, but justice — through perseverance, hard work and faith that your efforts will help progress — can and will take us leaps and bounds closer to our ultimate goal. So after you get up at noon Monday, remember the day has been set aside to commemorate a great visionary who still needs your help.

Khaled Tahar writes for the Indiana Daily Student at Indiana University. Distributed by University Wire.



KHALED TAHA

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**Best Bets of the Week**  
The Skiff Entertainment staff has chosen a list of cool things to check out this weekend...

**Movie** — "Wag the Dog," starring Robert DeNiro and Dustin Hoffman, R.

**Video Rental** — "Contact," starring Jodie Foster and James Woods, PG.

**TV Show** — "The Simpsons," 7 p.m., Sunday, Fox.

**CD** — "Discoball," David Garza.

**TCU Movie Channel**

(reviews by TCU film critics)

Jan. 17-Jan. 22

Check Listings

"Groundhog Day," B+

"Addicted to Love," D+

"Romie and Michele's...," B-

"My Best Friend's Wedding," B

"Star Trek: Final Contact," B+

"Beverly Hills Cop," B+

"The Net," C-

"Rudy," A

"Cry the Beloved Country," C-

"Stand and Deliver," B+

"That Old Feeling," C-

"Vertigo," A

"Babe," A

"Murder at 1600," D

"The Evening Star," B

**Top Ten Films**

1. "Titanic," \$28.7 million, \$197.9 million, four weeks.
2. "Good Will Hunting," \$10.3 million, \$19 million, six weeks.
3. "As Good As It Gets," \$9 million, \$54 million, three weeks.
4. "Wag the Dog," \$7.8 million, \$9.7 million, three weeks.
5. "Tomorrow Never Dies," \$7.5 million, \$103.4 million, four weeks.
6. "Mousehunt," \$4.6 million, \$45.8 million, four weeks.
7. "Fierstorm," \$3.8 million, \$3.8 million, one week.
8. "Jackie Brown," \$3.7 million, \$33.4 million, three weeks.
9. "Scream 2," \$3.6 million, \$90.8 million, five weeks.
10. "Amistad," \$2.7 million, \$30.8 million, five weeks.

— Associated Press

**Top Ten TV shows**

Listed also is the show's rating

1. "ER," NBC, 21.5.
2. "Seinfeld," NBC, 20.8.
3. "Veronica's Closet," NBC, 16.8.
4. "Touched By An Angel," CBS, 15.8.
5. "Friends," NBC, 15.7.
6. "Dateline," NBC, 15.0.
7. "60 Minutes," CBS, 13.8.
8. "Union Square," NBC, 12.9.
8. "The X Files," FOX, 12.9.
10. "Frasier," NBC, 12.7.

— Associated Press

**KTCU's Top Songs**

Jan. 9-Jan. 16

1. "Discoball," David Garza.
2. "You Can't Live On Mars," Glitterbox.
3. "I'm Ready," Triple Fast Action.
4. "You Shall See," G Love and Special Sauce.
5. "No Danca," Fondly.

— KTCU

**Video Rentals**

1. "Face/Off," (Paramount)
2. "Con Air," (Touchstone)
3. "My Best Friend's Wedding," (Columbia TriStar)
4. "Contact," (Warner)
5. "Men In Black," (Columbia TriStar)
6. "Austin Powers," (New Line)
7. "Spawn," (New Line)
8. "Speed 2: Cruise Control," (Fox)
9. "The Fifth Element," (Columbia TriStar)
10. "Romy & Michele's High School Reunion," (Touchstone)

— Associated Press

**Cool Web Site of the Week**

[delta.is.tcu.edu/~tdtucker/](http://delta.is.tcu.edu/~tdtucker/)  
Mind Operations

After sorting through student web sites linked on the TCU Student Web Page Index, I found what I consider to be the most interesting student web site. Thomas Tucker's humorous and honest approach to some age-old questions is a refreshing change.

— Nathan W. Phelps

# 'Kundun' plot overshadowed by scenery

**Tibetan actors show promise for future roles**



MITCH YOUNGBLOOD

"Kundun" is the latest example of the long, sad history of Hollywood jumping on the most chic bandwagon at the moment.

It now seems everyone, from Richard Gere to Steven I-need-a-hit Seagal, are borderline obsessed with driving the Chinese out of Tibet, home to peace-loving Buddhists.

Last fall's attempt to bring the life of the Dalai Lama, the Buddhist spiritual leader, with the Brad Pitt vehicle "Seven Years in Tibet" felt just as long and didn't explain a thing. "Kundun" falls victim to the same malaise, and I'm tired of it.

This review won't be used as a platform for me to slam Hollywood for ego-fueled film making, but come on. For the love of the public's money, please explain what we are seeing in the next documentary-style film based on the next trend to hit town.

Both "Kundun" and "Seven Years" appear to staunchly believe the average moviegoer to be filled to the brim with knowledge about Tibet's plight and feel the pain of the Dalai Lama during his current exile. But "Kundun" is so condescending at times I almost felt like an idiot because I didn't know anything about Tibet.

Foolish me, I assumed going in to see it that I would learn something from "Kundun" about the mysterious ways of the Tibetans. Yet director Martin Scorsese and screenwriter Melissa Mathison (aka. Mrs. Harrison Ford) casually chronicle the life story of the fourteenth Dalai



Photo by Mario Turali TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Recognized as the 14th reincarnation of the Buddha of compassion, a young boy from rural Tibet (Tulka Jamyang Kunga Tenzin, right) is tutored to fulfill his destiny as the Dalai Lama. The Martin Scorsese movie stars many relatives of the actual Dalai Lama.

Lama from age two until his adult escape to India. For at least the first hour, the story is too casual and moves a hair faster than a lethargic snail on Prozac.

This represents a sad trend in today's top film makers. Steven Spielberg with the mediocre "Amistad," Francis Ford Coppola with anything he's done in the last 10 years, and so on. These people know how to make a good film into a great one, yet none have for a long time.

Scorsese is deservedly renowned for his visual style, and "Kundun" has some of the most breathtaking, and frightening, visuals I've ever seen. But what makes no sense are the constant symbolism-drenched visions of the Dalai Lama.

No explanation is given to what we are seeing, so you just have to go with it. After an hour or two, you kind of figure it out, but if you're like me you'll have stopped caring by then and more than likely be asleep.

**Film**

**Kundun**

Directed by Martin Scorsese  
Starring Tenzin Thuthob Tsarong and Gyurme Tethong

To make "Kundun" as real as possible (it doesn't work), Scorsese cast real Tibetan non-actors in every speaking role. For the most part, the acting is terrific. Tenzin Thuthob

Tsarong plays the Dalai Lama as an adult and makes his convictions and belief of nonviolence accurate. The three children who play the Dalai Lama are also very gifted.

But the character who makes the most fearsome impression is the leader of the Chinese Communist forces, referred to here simply as Chairman Mao. Robert Lin plays Mao as an effete snob, but it's genuinely scary when he tells the Dalai Lama to his face that religion is a "disease," and Buddhists are foremost among those who need to be "cured."

The mayhem the Chinese inflicted upon the Tibetans during the invasion and their subsequent occupation belongs in Scorsese's R-rated films, not in PG-13 fare like

this. His handling of it is only in brief flashes, but those clips are absolutely terrifying.

Yet Scorsese proves with "Kundun" that while his intentions may be good, his talents lay in the city - not in far away lands like Tibet. And Mathison needs to learn how to write a strong script before she hacks out another sorry one like "Kundun."

Noble intentions will only fly so far on their own. Sooner or later you have to give people a reason to follow those intentions with action. And "Kundun" is far removed from the most inspiring films on celluloid.

**Grade: C-**  
Mitch Youngblood is a junior radio-TV-film major from Dallas.

# 'Fallen' falls short

Excessive religious symbolism overshadows storyline



ANDY SUMMA

Religious and mystical details can be great cinematic supplements. When used appropriately, they can enhance or highlight important points of a movie, lending them deeper levels of meaning.

However, when religious and mystical nuances are used poorly the end result is often a cinematic sin: a movie mess.

"Fallen," starring Denzel Washington, is a prime example of religious symbolism gone bad. Used as subtly as jackhammers, the movie's overzealous religious themes undermine their very intent: to spook with demons and to awe with angels incarnate. In fact, such attention is given to biblical allusion, the plot suffers.

Had such ideas and ideologies been used more conservatively, (and plot advancement used more liberally), "Fallen" could have been a devilishly haunting film. Most of the ingredients are there. Instead, the movie just seems lost in the proverbial desert. This is a shame, because its premise has such delicious promise.

"Fallen" does, however, have a consistently eerie ambiance that almost makes up for the movie's inadequacies. Using unique camera angles and a detached voice-over, director Gregory Hoblit creates a chilly environment for the characters.

Also starring John Goodman ("Barton Fink") and Donald Sutherland ("JFK"), "Fallen" essentially chronicles the secretive



Photo by Nicola Goode WARNER BROS.

Denzel Washington stars in Warner Bros.' new thriller, "Fallen," a look at the supernatural battle between good and evil. Directed by Gregory Hoblit.

clash of good and evil in today's society (a la "Buffy the Vampire Slayer").

With such dynamically enthralling subject matter, the film is able to dabble in cinematic witchcraft and — occasionally — is genuinely entertaining. Washington, especially, is as strong as ever. He is cool as ice and gives credibility to some of the cheesier scenes.

**Film**

**Fallen**

Directed by Gregory Hoblit  
Starring Denzel Washington, John Goodman and Donald Sutherland and Embeth Davidtz

Taking cues from "Slayer" and "Seven," Hoblit showcases impressive cinematic abilities. He confidently melds off-kilter film stocks, quirky scene setups and strong acting into a relatively captivating movie. There are slow points, but that's not all Hoblit's fault.

Nicholas Kazan ("Reversal of Fortune"), the film's screenwriter, also shoulders the blame for this

frustratingly hollow ode to heaven and hell.

Highly-decorated homicide detective John Hobbes (Washington) has apprehended a wicked serial killer, Edgar Reese (Elias Koteas), and watches him die in the electric chair. Soon, however, Hobbes is confronted with a new series of killings - one which mirrors Reese's demented style.

So, together with his partner (Goodman) and his lieutenant (Sutherland), Hobbes attempts to figure out whether these killings are the work of a copycat killer or something dreadfully evil.

From here, about 30 minutes into the film, the actors begrudgingly sit and wait for evil to strike. In between ominous biblical references, mysterious chants and painfully boring chases, the movie freefalls toward Hades.

A maliciously satisfying ending is the only thing that saves "Fallen" from the fire and brimstone it so blatantly mocked.

**Grade: C-**

Andy Summa is a senior news-editorial major from Alvin, Texas.

## TCU Bookstore book of the month

John Grisham is a master of literary litigious sensationalism. Using a simplistic (efficient?) writing style, Grisham is able to romanticize and humanize a profession that's not necessarily known for its romance or humanity.

More importantly, Grisham's books are always worthwhile page-turners. Grisham is no William Faulkner, but he doesn't need to be: His books are meant to entertain, not intellectualize.

His latest lawyer drama, "The Partner," is no exception. Though it tentatively dabbles in satire and political innuendo, "The Partner" is relatively shallow. With Grisham, however, shallow doesn't necessarily mean bad. In fact, that is where Grisham's strength lies: simplicity.

Grisham's eighth literary statute is a well-written action thriller, sans action. More reliant on pace, character development and cerebral leaps of faith, "The Partner" is different from past Grisham fare — there's not much action.

Patrick Lanigan, a young, well-paid lawyer in a thriving Mississippi law firm, is Grisham's protagonist. Lanigan, however, does something a bit controversial: He steals 90 million dollars from his powerful law firm. So, accordingly, he flees to a Brazilian jungle and hides.

But Grisham doesn't chronicle this heist or his chase. Instead, he starts his novel four years later — when Lanigan is found and brought back to America.

Grisham gives us background via flashback and monologue, but the focus of the story is

squarely on Lanigan's present problems, namely surviving torture sessions and courtroom threats. Lanigan is, after all, the most despised white-collar criminal in the country. Plus, he stands trial for the murder of a young man.

The bulk of the novel shows how Lanigan handles his ruthless enemies with foresight and careful planning. These aren't usually staples of a suspense novel, but Grisham plays his cards patiently and has a great poker face. He doesn't tip his hand too quickly, and divulges information at his own pace.

But this leaves little room for action — a pillar of every other Grisham book. Thus, character development is tantamount to the story's advancement.

**Book**

**The Partner**

by John Grisham  
Dell Publishing

Character intimacy — both figuratively and literally — is a problem, however. We never really get to know Patrick or his world. We see him in his world, but Grisham never allows us to see things from Lanigan's point of view.

The book's ending is contrived and cheapening, but "The Partner" is a satisfying read. At 468 pages, it should supply readers with diverting lunch-time reading. Readers just won't remember it at dinner. That's probably OK with Grisham anyway.

Andy Summa is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Alvin, Texas.

**Pulse**

**Don't save your money for a 'Rain'-y day**

**Acting of Freeman, Slater falls short in yet another natural disaster movie**



**Film Review**  
LINDSAY WILLIAMS

You can definitely expect the movie theater to be flooded with people for "Hard Rain." Just don't expect it to be inundated with a lot of praise. In yet another natural disaster movie, Christian Slater, Morgan Freeman and Minnie Driver try to survive one of the worst floods ever. This flood causes the population to search for a safe haven from the rain. More importantly, however, the money located in the local banks also has to be transported — and who else to do it but Slater, who plays Tom. Jim (Freeman), an experienced (and soon to be retired) thief, hopes to intercept the money and dump it into his "retirement fund." The sheriff (Randy Quaid) is given the responsibility of clearing the town and manages to devise his own twisted plan at

the same time. Karen (Driver) pops in as a local who tries to help protect Tom — and the money. These events leads to a game of hide and seek in waist-deep water.

Director Mikael Salomon has a history of action films (the director of photography in "Backdraft" and "The Abyss."). But this effort hardly compares to his previous work because of its lack of emotion and suspense.

At many times, the film moves slowly and is very predictable. The flood scenes, however, are impressive and realistic, most of them computer-generated.

**Film**  
**Hard Rain**  
Directed by Mikael Salomon  
Starring Christian Slater and Morgan Freeman

The rain is the most interesting part of the film - the same, old, boring plot makes sure of that. It has all the combined cliches of the other natural disaster movies that have come



Photo by Richard Foreman PARAMOUNT PICTURES  
Tom (Christian Slater, left) and Jim (Morgan Freeman, right) hide behind gravestones to avoid the sheriff's searchlight in the high-action crime thriller "Hard Rain."

to theatres the last few years. After his incredible role in "Broken Arrow," Slater tries to play the same part in this very different movie. Although this will be his last film for a while (Slater was sentenced to six months in jail), he didn't leave with a bang.

Freeman's work in "Kiss the Girls" was powerful, but this role

pales in comparison. He takes a different road by playing the villain. Even while he's playing the bad guy, though, you expect him to come up with some words of wisdom — those aren't found here.

Actress Minnie Driver takes a step down with her role, as well — playing a boring, small-town local. But she does manage to have hilarious

one-liners. In fact, her humor is the only positive thing about the movie. The rain and flooding are very realistic, but I would not suggest running to the theater. Just walk.  
**Grade: D+**

Lindsay Williams is a freshman broadcast journalism major from Dallas.

- Top Singles**
1. "Truly Madly Deeply," Savage Garden (Columbia)
  2. "How Do I Live," Leann Rimes (Curb) (Platinum)
  3. "Together Again," Janet (Virgin)
  4. "It's All About the Benjamins — Been Around the World," Puff Daddy & The Family (Bad Boy) (Platinum)
  5. "Candle in the Wind 1997 — Something About the Way You Look Tonight," Elton John (Rocket) (Platinum)
  6. "My Body," LSG (EastWest) (Platinum)
  7. "Tubthumping," Chumbawamba (Republic)
  8. "Show Me Love," Robyn (RCA) (Gold)
  9. "Nice & Slow," Usher (LaFace)
  10. "You Make Me Wanna..." Usher (LaFace) (Platinum)

- Top Albums**
1. "Titanic" Soundtrack, (Sony Classical) (Gold)
  2. "Let's Talk About Love," Celine Dion (550 Music)
  3. "Tubthumper," Chumbawamba (Republic) (Platinum)
  4. "My Way," Usher (LaFace) (Platinum)
  5. "Sevens," Garth Brooks (Capitol Nashville) (Platinum)
  6. "Harlem World," Mase (Arista) (Platinum)
  7. "Backstreet," Backstreet Boys (Jive) (Platinum)
  8. "Yourself Or Someone Like You," Matchbox 20 (Lava-Atlantic) (Platinum)
  9. "You Light Up My Life — Inspirational Songs," Leann Rimes (Curb) (Platinum)
  10. "No Way Out," Puff Daddy & The Family (Bad Boy-Arista) (Platinum)

- Video Sales**
1. "Men In Black," (Columbia TriStar)
  2. "My Best Friend's Wedding," (Columbia TriStar)
  3. "The Lost World: Jurassic Park," (Universal)
  4. "Scream," (Dimension)
  5. "George of the Jungle," (Disney)
  6. "Hanson: Tulsa, Tokyo and the Middle of Nowhere," (PolyGram)
  7. "Star Trek: First Contact," (Paramount)
  8. "Star Wars Trilogy — Special Edition," (Fox)
  9. "Air Bud," (Disney)
  10. "Rage Against the Machine," (Epic)

- Mass Market Paperbacks**
1. "The Partner" by John Grisham (Dell/Island)
  2. "Homet's Nest" by Patricia Cornwell (Berkley)
  3. "'M' Is for Malice" by Sue Grafton (Fawcett Crest)
  4. "Tom Clancy's Power Plays: Politika" by Tom Clancy and Martin Greenberg (Berkley)
  5. "Sea Swept" by Nora Roberts (Jove)
  6. "The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks
  7. "Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution" by Robert C. Atkins (Avon)
  8. "Total Control" by David Baldacci (Warner Vision)
  9. "Kill and Tell" by Linda Howard (Pocket)
  10. "Airframe" by Michael Crichton (Ballantine)

- Trade Paperbacks**
1. "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff..." by Richard Carlson (Hyperion)
  2. "Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul" by Canfield, Hansen and Kirberger (HCI)
  3. "Under the Tuscan Sun" by Frances Mayes (Broadway)
  4. "The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1998" by Robert Famighetti (World Almanac Books)
  5. "The Dark Tower IV: Wizard and Glass" by Stephen King (Plume)
  6. "The Simpsons: A Complete Guide to Our Favorite Family" by Matt Groening (HarperPerennial)
  7. "James Cameron's Titanic" by Ed Marsh (HarperPerennial)
  8. "Undaunted Courage" by Stephen E. Ambrose (S&S/Touchstone)
  9. "Petals on the River" by Kathleen E. Woogiwiss (Avon)
  10. "The Color of Water" by James McBride (Riverhead)

— Associated Press

**Day-Lewis, Watson convincing in IRA drama**

**But "Boxer" disappointing, unexceptional**

**Film Review**  
MITCH YOUNGBLOOD

"The Boxer" could have been a contender. But IRA drama out in the first round is its lack of consistency, both in the ring and out of it. Depending on how you look at it, there is either too much sympathy for the IRA and its fight against the British, or not enough.

The film's pedigree is unchallenged. Daniel Day-Lewis, director Jim Sheridan and writer Terry George, the trio responsible for "In the Name of the Father" and "My Left Foot," are renowned for their quality movies.

"The Boxer," however, is a disappointment. It's an outright letdown to see talent like this make a film as



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF  
After 14 years in prison, Danny Flynn (Daniel Day-Lewis) returns to the violent streets of Belfast and to his former sweetheart, Maggie (Emily Watson), who's now the wife of another prisoner with a teenage son.

pedantic as this. "The Boxer" focuses on recent IRA parolee Danny Flynn (Day-Lewis) and his subsequent return home. In his 14-year absence, the love of his life, Maggie (Emily Watson), has married his best friend,

who is now in prison, and his hometown is dominated by two very disparate IRA leaders.

Kindly Joe (Brian Cox), also Maggie's father, wants peace with the British but fiery Harry (Gerard McSorley) would rather bomb all of

Ireland than give in to the British. Rather than settle scores with violence on the streets, Danny opens a neighborhood gym with his alcoholic friend Ike (Ken Stott) to teach kids how to box and improve their physical appearances.

When the British make a donation to the gym because of its espousal of nonsecular cooperation, Harry goes ape.

**Film**  
**The Boxer**  
Directed by Jim Sheridan  
Starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Emily Watson

Maybe it's just because I haven't seen the sun since Christmas, but the overcast and generally dreary atmosphere of "The Boxer" gets to be a little much at times.

The war-torn neighborhoods of Belfast are relentlessly depressing, especially when the film's message is taken into account; that the Protestants and Catholics have almost forgotten why they are fighting, but still want to kill one another.

Day-Lewis is convincing playing anyone, be it a cheery fop in "A Room with a View" or a romantic lead in "Last of the Mohicans." Danny is uncommunicative for the majority of the film because of his long imprisonment, but Day-Lewis conveys emotional outbursts with his eyes so well Danny's strength belongs to his silences.

Watson is another actor who can sum up her entire character in a glance, and her Maggie is a very strong love interest. Watson broke on to the scene last year with her Oscar-nominated role in "Breaking the Waves," and "The Boxer" is proof she'll go far.

But everyone in front of the camera is let down by everyone behind it. Sheridan (who shot the scenes set in Maggie's house in the home next door to the one he grew up in) should have made a much better film.

That isn't exactly a harsh-sounding criticism, but after watching this insanely average flick it becomes very hard to slam or praise it.  
**Grade: C**

Mitch Youngblood is a junior radio-tv-film major from Dallas.

*The good, the bad and the ugly 1997 films*

Last year, 'Boogie' boogied, 'Point' missed and 'Cat' died

**Film Review**  
ANDY SUMMA

The past year was an interesting one for cinema — pornography was cool, aliens were contacted and audiences screamed again. Here are some highlights — and lowlights — of 1997.

**Best Movies**

1. "Boogie Nights" — A dynamically dazzling movie, "Nights" is a funkadelic masterpiece. At once tantalizing and sincere, the film portrays human nature at its wide-lapelled worst and best.

2. "Contact" — It is a wonderfully poetic and surreally satisfying movie. This Robert Zemeckis film borders on being a cinematically numinous experience.

3. "Titanic" — The most anticipated movie of 1997 is also one of its best. Director James Cameron does a marvelous job melding history, romance and action into one fantastic epic.

4. "Donnie Brasco" — Rarely does a gangster flick have the emotion or resonance of "Brasco." Al Pacino and Johnny Depp are superb in this surprisingly subtle movie.

5. "As Good as It Gets" — Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt and Greg

Kinnear form the best-developed acting triad of the year. Often hilarious, "Good" is a custom-made hotrod for the legendary Nicholson. He's finally cool again.

**Worst Movies**

1. "Switchback" — A horrible trainwreck of a movie, the film should give wannabe screenwriters hope. If *this* crap can make it to the big screen...

2. "The Saint" — Garbled and misdirected, this film brings to mind only one adjective: "stink-o-rama."

3. "That Darn Cat!" — A cat detective? Ugh.

4. "Doubleteam" — Dennis Rodman and Jean Claude Van Damme? Ugh, ugh.

5. "Dante's Peak" — Disaster movies work only when subplots are interesting. This film didn't even have subplots.

**Most Overrated**

1. "I Know What You Did Last Summer" — Boring, predictable, and devoid of originality, "Summer" is a tired cliché of a movie.

2. "Kiss the Girls" — Morgan Freeman is great (as usual), but the serial killer shtick has been refired too often.

3. "Grosse Pointe Blank" — It has an intriguing premise and good acting, but "Blank" is a directionless mess. It misses the mark completely.

**Most Underrated**

1. "The Game" — A taut whodunit mystery/action flick, the film has a jarring climax — one so unique that it left many viewers angry (because they fell for it).

2. "U-Turn" — Ravaged by the critics, Oliver Stone's latest movie is delicious (if not wacky) fun. Irreverent and devilishly entertaining, Stone's cinematic abilities have never been stronger.

3. "The House of Yes" — This indie hit showcases one of year's most dynamic performances. Parker Posey is sublime as an incestuous Jackie-O obsessive.

Andy Summa is a senior news-editorial major from Alvin, Texas.

1997 films boasted bona fide hits, and 'Flubber'-esque flubs

**Film Review**  
MITCH YOUNGBLOOD

Hollywood filled the plates of 1997 moviegoers with an eclectic mix of delicacies, fast food, and slop unfit for farm animals. Listed below are my picks for all things movie-oriented from 1997:

**Best Movies**

1. "Contact" — An extraordinary film giving voice to both sides of the religion vs. science debate, and proving how close in spirit they really are. Best special effects of the year.

2. "Face/Off" — John Woo

purists recognize it as a compilation of the best elements of his masterful Hong Kong films. But the Americanized version was still 1997's most mind-blowing gun-fest.

3. "Wag the Dog" — It's the sharpest, funniest and most incisive comedy all year. It brilliantly parodies the political world — from Washington, D.C. to voter I.Q.s.

4. "L.A. Confidential" — Deserves comparison to "Chinatown." The ending is a cop-out, but with such atmosphere, who cares?

5. "For Rosanna" — The year's most romantic — and morbid — film does what "Titanic" doesn't: Gives us a sense of doom from the

start, but allows us to care about the characters.

**Worst Movies**

1. "Austin Powers" — Mike Myers should die for this. "Titanic" was boring for three hours, but at least it wasn't insulting.

2. "Batman & Robin" — Proof Warner Bros. can't make a good superhero movie anymore.

3. "Speed 2" — Jan De Bont should also die for this shipwreck. Ms. Bullock wasn't the only one demanding a refund.

4. "The Postman" — A three hour ego-tripping dead letter from Kevin Costner to Kevin Costner. Jokes about "going postal" can only take you so far.

5. Kid films. "Mr. Magoo,"

"Flubber," "Home Alone 3" any-one?

**Most Overrated**

1. "Chasing Amy" — It confirmed Kevin Smith can write brilliant dialogue — but also that he can't direct. The film had great performances, but the movie's message reversal at the end was puzzling.

2. "Men In Black" — It had its moments (who didn't die laughing at the dog sequence?), but was nowhere near as sharp as it could have been.

3. "Titanic" — \$200 million worth of eye candy. I need a reason to waste three hours, and this overhyped, overpraised odyssey of bad writing and acting didn't give me a one.

**Most Underrated**

1. "The Conspiracy Theory" — The script has its cliches and plot holes, but Mel Gibson is strong. He is at his best when he's unhinged, and "Theory" gives him an open showcase.

2. "Grosse Pointe Blank" — A wickedly funny satire of both '80s and '90s sensibilities, but not condescending to either.

3. "Alien Resurrection" — Ultra-surreal for a sci-fi flick, but the action scenes are top-notch. Sigourney Weaver somehow manages to keep playing the same character differently.

Mitch Youngblood is a junior radio-tv-film major from Dallas.

# Walking the wire of life



Members of the TCU High Adventure Club: Far Above: Jeremy Brown Above: (left to right) George Harris, Melanie Riemer, Rebecca Coulborn and Jeremy Brown

## Group activities abound for High Adventure Club

By Rhonda Dickens  
SKIFF STAFF

Fort Worth may not provide many mountains to climb or caves to explore, but that does not stop the members of one TCU club from seeking adventure.

The High Adventure Club meets every Tuesday in the Student Center, but the adventures take place beyond the TCU campus.

President Melanie Riemer, a senior social work major, said meetings are short but allow the group to plan excursions on weekends and some holidays.

The adventurers took a trip about every other weekend during the fall semester and expect to take an equal number of trips this semester, Riemer said.

The group has traveled to the Ouachita River in Arkansas, Enchanted Rock near Austin and Colorado Bend State Park in central Texas.

Riemer said the group has gone caving, climbing and canoeing in past trips. She said the changing interests of the individuals determine the club's activities.

Riemer said the club has 65 to 70 members, although seven members compose the core of the group.

Members are mostly freshmen and sophomores who want to meet people and get involved, Riemer said.

"We attract all kinds of people," she said.

About 20 students travel on the club's weekend outings, which Riemer said is a good number for travel even though there are many more members in the club.

"That's a pretty comfortable number for us," she said.

Vice President Matt Truitt, a junior studio art major, said small

groups are best because it allows for more social interaction among the adventurers.

"When you're out camping you're kind of stuck together," Truitt said. "It's kind of a bond I guess."

The high adventurers seek outdoor fun, relaxation and a social outlet, Riemer said. Sometimes they try new activities.

"Since we have all the equipment," she said, "they can experiment in different types of things without investing in equipment."

Truitt said the available equipment is one of the best reasons to be a part of the club.

"It's probably the most affordable way to get out and do some of this stuff," Truitt said.

Truitt said one of his favorite adventure experiences was his trip to Enchanted Rock, which provided a good combination of hiking, climbing and camping.

"Melanie and I try to get a variety of things in on our trips," Truitt said.

When the weather grows too cold for camping, the high adventurers head indoors to play ultimate paintball or to go to an indoor climbing facility.

Riemer said the club takes an Easter trip nearly every year and usually takes a canoeing or rafting trip when the weather grows warmer.

"The rest is just kind of up in the air," Riemer said.

The Recreational Sports Department provides money for the club, but members are asked to contribute \$30 for their first semester and \$20 for additional semesters, Truitt said. Members may be asked to pay a slightly higher fee this semester to help with the entire recreational sports program.

## Cold remedies linked to defects

By Joe Ruff  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA, Neb. — A key ingredient in cough syrups and tablets such as Robitussin, Nyquil and Tylenol Cold caused severe defects in chicken embryos and should be avoided by pregnant women, researchers warned Thursday.

However, other studies have shown no link between dextromethorphan and birth defects in humans, and experts said more study is needed.

"I think it would take a lot more than chicken embryos to get me concerned," said Dick Leavitt, director of science information at the March of Dimes.

Dextromethorphan is in a wide variety of over-the-counter cold and flu medications, including Tylenol Cold, Tylenol Flu, Vicks Dayquil, Robitussin Maximum Strength, Sudafed Severe Cold Formula, Nyquil and Dimetapp DM.

The study, published in January's issue of the journal *Pediatric Research*, used more than 3,000 chicken embryos to see how they were affected by three classes of drugs called NMDA receptor blockers. All three classes generally caused defects, but dextromethorphan was one of the worst.

"I would be telling my children don't take it, the defects are so severe," said the leader of the study, Thomas H. Rosenquist, a biologist and chairman of the University of Nebraska Medical Center's cell biology and anatomy department.

Dextromethorphan stops coughing by blocking a receptor of the central nervous system. However, in embryos it knocked out the receptor, causing the

defects, Rosenquist said.

Alcohol, already known to cause birth defects, does much the same thing, said Dan Monaghan, a pharmacologist who also worked on the study.

"It's a lot like telling women not to drink alcohol. It stops this kind of receptor," he said.

Ron Schmidt, a spokesman for McNeil Consumer Products Co., the maker of Tylenol cold medication, noted the medication has a warning label urging pregnant women to consult their doctor before using it.

While Rosenquist said early embryos of chickens are good indicators of what happens in early development of human embryos, the March of Dimes' Leavitt said more studies have to be done on mammals.

In the study, researchers gave three different levels of dextromethorphan to 467 chicken embryos developed to the equivalent of three to four weeks of a human embryo.

Of those, 21 percent died and 8 percent of the survivors developed some kind of defect, including no brain, spina bifida and cleft palate.

In a control group of nearly 700 embryos, only 1.5 percent died and 1 percent developed defects.

Of 104 embryos that survived and received a dose of dextromethorphan estimated at what would reach a human embryo if a pregnant woman used one recommended dose of cough medicine, 7 percent developed defects.

"There was no level at which there was never a defect," Rosenquist said. "We feel that a single dose is capable of causing a birth defect and that ultimately it could be the cause of a woman to have a miscarriage."

## College News Digest

### Clean air infractions lead to fine

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — The University of Notre Dame will pay a \$250,000 penalty for violations of the Clean Air Act that occurred two years ago, the Environmental Protection Agency announced yesterday.

The agreement pertains to the EPA's January 1996 citation of Notre Dame's on-campus power plant, which operated three boilers that failed a series of emissions tests conducted from 1991 to 1995. The agency also deemed sulfur dioxide emissions to be excessive.

Notre Dame took steps to correct the problems, announcing in September 1996 that the plant's boilers and its sulfur dioxide emissions once again met EPA standards.

"These are not ongoing or continual violations," said Dennis Moore, director of Notre Dame Public Relations and Information.

"The EPA would not have let us operate the plant if any violations were still being committed. It's been fine since (September) 1996 when they finished making the changes (to the plant's boilers)," he said.

—The Observer  
University of Notre Dame

### Arizona athletes violate textbook policy

TUCSON, Ariz. — Twelve University of Arizona student-athletes received textbooks in violation of NCAA rules last year, infractions that could have been avoided if the university's policies had been properly monitored, according to a report released last week.

A five-month investigation by Tucson attorney Cary Sandman revealed that nine student-athletes were given textbooks listed as "optional" by their professors, and three others received textbooks not related to their classes during the 1996-97 academic year — both NCAA violations.

Of the three students who received books not related to their course work, two obtained books totaling more than \$200 and gave them to other people. The third student received \$204.45 worth of non-related textbooks.

The books were purchased with University of Arizona Athletic Department book vouchers, which will no longer be used in order to prevent future violations. The vouchers were given to athletes when they added a class after the beginning of the semester and needed to get a book after the initial distribution period.

At the start of each school term, books are distributed to each eligible student-athlete based on their official class schedule. A student must be on an athletic scholarship to be eligible.

According to Sandman's report, Ruben Berry, coordinator of the Athletic Department book loan program, and his staff failed to ensure that NCAA rules and University of Arizona policies were properly followed.

"The book loan coordinator and his staff stated that they did not understand, that under NCAA rules, 'optional' course-related books were not to be distributed to student athletes," Sandman's report states.

—Arizona Daily Wildcat  
University of Arizona

### Yale appeals \$12.2 million decision

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Yale University's School of Medicine is filing a motion to appeal on the recent court case involving a female intern who was infected with the HIV virus, according to Yale legal counsel William Doyle.

Michael Koskoff, attorney for the intern, said he does not anticipate that the appellate court, consisting of a panel of judges, will overturn the decision.

"I don't think they have very much of a chance of winning on appeal," Koskoff said. "The appeal only can be granted if a mistake was made in the lower court. The appellate court cannot simply reverse a jury's decision."

The intern contracted the HIV virus in August of 1988 while performing an arterial line insertion on an AIDS patient at Yale-New Haven Hospital. On Dec. 18, 1997, a New Haven Superior Court jury awarded her \$12.2 million.

—Yale Daily News  
Yale University  
COMPILED BY UNIVERSITY WIRE

## Glenn returns to space at 76

### NASA grants veteran astronaut's wish for another mission

By Katherine Rizzo  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Thirty-six years after he made history as the first American to orbit the Earth, Sen. John Glenn is being granted an aged astronaut's fondest wish: one more blastoff and fiery ride to where "the view is tremendous."

In October he'll become the oldest man in space.

NASA officials have decided to grant the 76-year-old Ohio senator and former Marine pilot's longstanding request, convinced by his arguments that he's the right test subject for research into the aging process. NASA called a news conference for Friday to make it official.

His flight aboard the shuttle *Discovery* in October will come more than three decades after his four hour, 56 minute, three-orbit ride aboard the cramped *Friendship 7* capsule on Feb. 20, 1962.

The flight allowed the United States to instantly catch up to the Soviets in the space race and turned Glenn into a worldwide symbol of American know-how and courage.

"People were standing on the streets in Tokyo, all over the world, awaiting his safe return and listening to the operation as it took place," said Chris Kraft, flight director for the early flights.

Glenn himself talked about how "the view is tremendous" and exulted about the "beautiful blue" horizon during his ride. As his capsule sped back down into the Earth's atmosphere in a cascade of sparks and fire, he remarked, "Boy, that was a real

fireball of a ride."

Now he is ready for his next chance for a longer ride, which he has been continually pushing for.

"I'm ready when they say 'go,'" he said.

A hero of the book and movie "The Right Stuff," Glenn was elected to the Senate in 1974 after a successful business career, but is retiring from Congress at the end of 1998.

As news of the NASA decision leaked out, Glenn wasn't confirming

"I'm ready to go when they say 'go.'"

— John Glenn  
astronaut

anything. But he smiled as he said, "I look forward to discussing this in the future."

Glenn, who will turn 77 in July, has said he has no qualms about putting his body through stresses that might accelerate the aging process. He has stayed fit.

He will fly on a 10-day research mission aboard *Discovery*, tentatively scheduled to lift off Oct. 8.

Scott Carpenter, 72, who did the famous "God speed, John Glenn" countdown in 1962, said he was thrilled for the man who preceded him in orbit by a mere three months.

"I think it's great. I envy the spot," said Carpenter, who, like Glenn one of the select Mercury 7 astronauts,

and the second American to orbit Earth.

Apollo 11's Buzz Aldrin, who turns 68 next week and was the second man to walk on the moon, also said it's a great idea for NASA to send Glenn back into space.

"John is a wonderful candidate because he has a high visibility, he's in great shape and he was the first American in orbit," said Aldrin.

Glenn exercises daily, lifts weights, pilots his own plane and even set a 1996 speed record in his twin-engine Beechcraft Baron.

In making his case to NASA that he would be a good subject for experimentation, Glenn argued that his superb condition, baseline information gathered during his first space training and records from subsequent yearly physicals provide a unique starting point for a study of osteoporosis and changes in the body's immune system during aging.

Glenn doesn't consider himself a civilian, but his return to active space duty marks a change in the policy NASA established after the 1986 Challenger explosion killed teacher Christa McAuliffe.

Pat Dasch, executive director of the National Space Society, said the way NASA handles the Glenn announcement will be closely watched.

"They wouldn't just be giving a reflight to one space hero. If they seem to be opening the floodgates to non-current astronauts, then what?" she said. "What about Barbara Morgan, the teacher-in-space in waiting? Does this mean she gets an opportunity?"

## Clinton to meet with Middle East leaders: no peace expected

By Nasser Shiyokhi  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEBRON, West Bank — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accused Israel of trying to evade its promise to cede more West Bank land and warned Thursday that violence could erupt in "the whole region."

With both sides entrenched in widely divergent positions, prospects for a breakthrough in talks next week, with President Clinton seemed dim.

Reflecting the tensions, several dozen Israeli and Palestinian troops trained assault rifles on one another in a 20-minute standoff in the Gaza Strip, and Israeli troops shot at a Palestinian taxi, wounding a passenger in the leg.

Clinton is scheduled to meet separately in Washington with Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for talks seen as critical to the future of the peace process. Renewed violence is feared if they fail.

Israeli security officials believe the Palestinians have hoarded weapons and conducted assault training in preparation for a possible violent conflict, the Maariv daily said Thursday. The Israeli army has carried out its own exercises under the code name "Indian Summer," it said.

The Israeli Cabinet hardened its positions this week, ahead of the Clinton-Netanyahu summit. The ministers said Israel would only hand over West Bank land if the

Palestinians meet a 12-page list of demands, most dealing with security.

They also decided that in a final peace accord, Israel must retain vast areas of the West Bank — land the Palestinians want for their own state.

In a statement Thursday, Netanyahu called the decisions "important and very balanced."

On Thursday, the Palestinians accused Netanyahu, reluctant heir to the peace accords, of seeking a pretext to evade ceding land.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat called Israel's list of alleged Palestinian violations "a document of ... many distortions and half truths."

The Palestinians insist Israel must carry out the three troop pullbacks Netanyahu promised in a U.S.-bro-

kered agreement signed a year ago.

The sides disagree considerably on how much land those pullouts should cover.

The Palestinians, who now control about 27 percent of the West Bank — areas including most of its Arab population — say Israel can keep no more than 9 percent after the three pullouts.

Netanyahu wants to combine the three pullouts into one — and his Cabinet is considering proposals that would leave Israel in control of at least half the West Bank.

Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said Thursday that the Palestinians expect Israel to define the scope of the second pullback during the Washington summit and to guarantee that a third will take

place before the end of June.

"That Mr. Netanyahu can't wiggle out of," Shaath said.

Netanyahu has said he is no longer bound by the withdrawal timetable because the Palestinians have not fulfilled their promise to crack down on Islamic militants.

Maariv said Netanyahu planned to propose a single pullback of 9 percent to 12 percent of the West Bank land. If the Palestinians insist on an additional withdrawal, each pullback will be smaller in size, Maariv said.

Arafat, meanwhile, hinted at new clashes, saying that all Palestinian options remained open. Asked Thursday to explain further, Arafat said, "I am worried about the whole region."

The growing tensions were

reflected in a confrontation Thursday in the Gaza Strip city of Khan Yunis.

About 400 Palestinian protesters blocked a main thoroughfare, leaving several Israeli cars stuck on the road. Dozens of Israeli soldiers, apparently fearing the vehicles would become an easy target for attack, took up positions with their rifles trained on the demonstrators.

Palestinian policemen then arrived, aiming their rifles at the Israeli troops.

One Palestinian officer, dressed in a green beret and white-and-black keffiyeh headdress, held his AK-47 rifle chest-high, aimed at an Israeli soldier at point blank range.

The two sides lowered their weapons after about 20 minutes.

# Women's hoops wins at home

## Frogs move to 3-2 in WAC

By Meredith Webb  
SKIFF STAFF

The struggling San Diego State University Aztecs stepped into Horned Frog territory hoping for a win, but the women's basketball team waltzed out of Daniel-Meyer Coliseum with a 83-68 victory.

"I told them at halftime that we won the first half because we shot it well," head coach Mike Petersen said, "but if we were going to win the game we were going to have to compete better."

"Regardless of whether that San Diego State team is struggling right now or not, they have kids on that team that have been to the tournament, and they have a lot of kids on that team who have played in a lot of big games."

The Frogs' defensive scheme to begin the game was man-to-man coverage, but the Aztecs were able to break through. They adjusted quickly though, switching to zone coverage, which allowed them to better defend their basket.

Another aspect of their game that worked well for the Frogs was their shooting. In the first half alone the Lady Frogs were 8 of 10 in three-point land.

"We have good shooters," Petersen said. "You shoot 8-10 from three you're going to be in the game. It's pretty hard not to be."

The hot-handed three point shooters for the evening were senior Buffy Ferguson who went 3-4, and the Sutton duo, Amy and Jill, who had a combined total of 5-6. Amy was 2-3 and Jill was on the money with 3-3.

"One really good shooter who has just struggled this year is Buff (Buffy Ferguson), who shot over 40 from the field for three last year," Petersen said. "I was really glad to see her get on track."

In the second half of the contest, the Lady Frogs struggled a bit with their shooting game, but their level of play did not lessen.

"We never let up," Ferguson said. "Even in the second half when our shooting let up, we still played hard."

Late in the half the Frogs got on a roll with five quick scores.

A crowd-pleasing play in that scoring frenzy came when Jill Sutton made a nice penetration in the middle and then dished the ball to freshman center Karen Clayton who went up for an easy two points.

Tonight also marked Clayton's return to the starting lineup since the battle against Arkansas State very early in the season.

That same scoring frenzy sent the Aztecs, who had been playing pressure defense all night, to the benches for two time outs in less than three minutes.

"Coach told us that they were going to play pressure defense," Jill Sutton said. "We were ready for it."

**"We never let up. Even in the second half when our shooting let up, we still played hard."**

— Buffy Ferguson, senior forward

"We didn't make personnel mistakes, like flying out at a kid that wants to drive it, or playing off the kid that wants to shoot it," Petersen said.

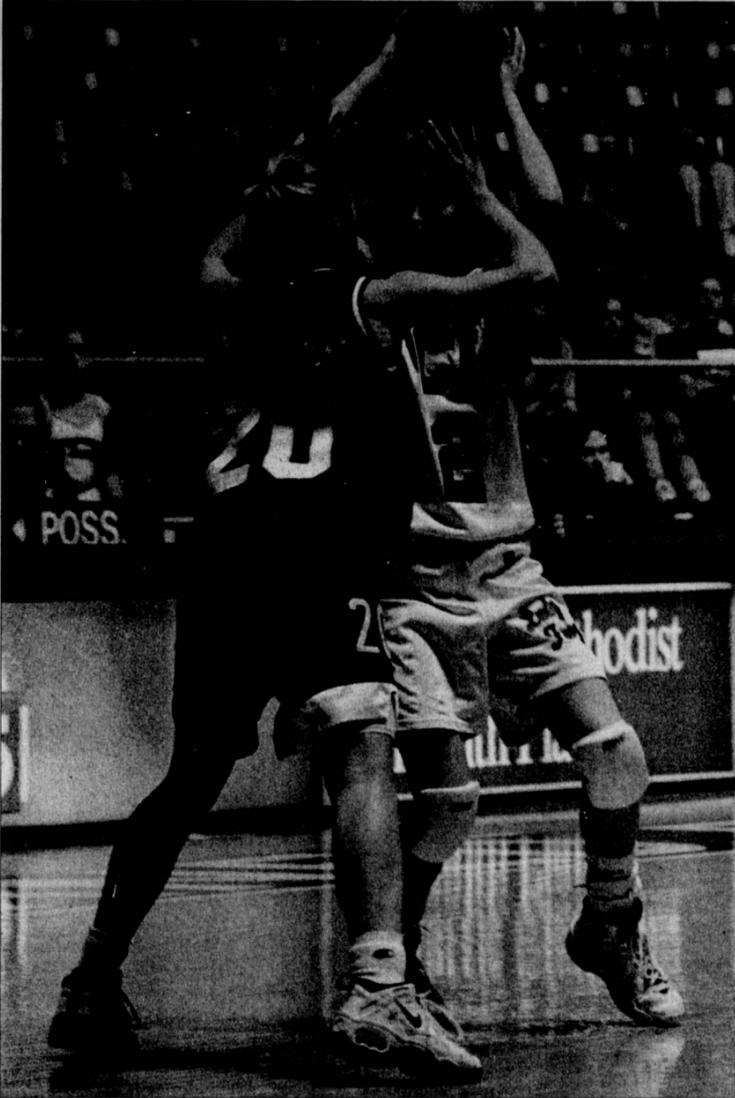
Junior forward Misty Meadows once again made her presence known on the inside as she pulled down ten boards. She entered the game with an average of 8.3 rebounds per game.

The Frogs had five players in double figures. Jill Sutton led with 17, Amy Sutton had 16, Clayton had 14, Meadows had 13 and Garcia had 10.

The team had a field goal percentage of 59 percent and a 70 percent three point average, while it held the Aztecs to 44 percent from the field and 28 percent from behind the arc.

This victory was critical for the Frogs, because they need the confidence of a big win as they face off with the University of Hawai'i at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Saturday.

"It's just what we needed going into the game against Hawai'i," Sutton said. "It puts us in a better position."



Freshman guard Jill Sutton looks to pass to an open teammate in Saturday night's home-court win over San Diego State University.

### Campus

#### Home sports this weekend

Women's basketball at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Saturday at 7:00 p.m. versus Hawai'i.

Women's aquatics at noon Saturday at the Rickel pool.

### Baseball

#### Council may change playoff format

PHOENIX — If baseball owners approve an altered playoff format suggested by their executive council, teams with the best records can be sure of home-field advantage in the first two rounds this year.

The council resolved Wednesday to give division champions with the best regular-season records the home-field advantage.

Until now, teams have been designated before the season to have the home-field advantage in the early rounds.

No opposition appears to exist to the resolution, which must be approved by all owners. The next meeting is March 17-19 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

—Associated Press

### Football

#### BYU player faces shoplifting charge

OREM, Utah — Brigham Young University running back Jaron Dabney has been accused of shoplifting, according to Orem police.

The Cougar freshman from Sealy, Texas, was cited for a Class B misdemeanor Tuesday. An \$80 designer shirt allegedly was taken Monday night from the ZCMI department store at University Mall.

BYU coach LaVell Edwards said the incident would be handled by the University's Honor Code office, as is customary.

Dabney led the Western Athletic Conference in kickoff returns last season. He also returned punts and played at receiver and running back for BYU, earning conference freshman of the year honors.

Police Lt. Doug Edwards said the shoplifting suspect was accosted by two ZCMI employees as he left the store at closing time Monday night. When he was asked to come back into the store, he fled.

"I understand a planner was left behind that may have led to his identification," said Edwards.

Police contacted Dabney on Tuesday, based upon the information in the planner. Dabney then went to police headquarters, where he was issued a citation.

A court date has been set for March.

—Associated Press

### Hockey

#### Stars player injured; out four weeks

DALLAS — Dallas Stars defenseman Richard Matvichuk received a major knee injury during the game against the St. Louis Blues Wednesday night and will be out for at least four weeks.

The Stars also announced Thursday that they have assigned two players to the Michigan K-Wings, their minor league affiliate.

Matvichuk suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament when the Blues' Kelly Chase checked him in the third period of the game. The Stars won the game 2-1 in overtime.

After surgery and about four weeks of rehabilitation, doctors will evaluate his knee again to determine whether more surgery is necessary.

Also on Thursday, Stars General Manager Bob Gainey sent forwards Juha Lind and Jamie Wright to the team's International Hockey League affiliate in Michigan.

Lind, 23, made his third appearance with the Stars this year. He was scoreless in 17 games. Wright, 21, played four games with Dallas this season and scored his first NHL goal Jan. 9 against the Detroit Red Wings.

—Associated Press

## Early wish list for '98 athletic season

Just because the holiday season and gift giving are behind us does not mean that compiling wish lists for the new year is a pointless task. As always, the perfect place to start making wish lists is in the world of sports.

First and foremost, I don't believe I am being bold when I say all of Fort Worth wants to see the TCU men's basketball team playing in March.

After being robbed of the privilege last year by a mindless tournament selection committee that saw fit to invite Texas, Wisconsin and Purdue, whom TCU beat by 28, ahead of the Horned Frogs even though the Men in WAC had more wins than all three of those schools, head coach Billy Tubbs has his team primed for its first appearance at the big dance since 1986-87.

Also on the collegiate level, it would be refreshing to see more superstar underclassmen athletes stay in school and declare themselves eligible for the draft in their respective sport after graduating.

Although college football fans will never get to see Washington State quarterback Ryan Leaf or Michigan's Heisman trophy winner Charles Woodson play on Saturdays again, they will get to see the nation's highest rated quarterback back for his senior season in UCLA's Cade McNown and the nation's leading rusher, Ricky Williams, back in Austin.

Moving to pro sports, now that the PGA has played its first tournament of the year and Tiger Woods, in his second full season tour, didn't win it, maybe all the media hype surrounding Tiger will die so that he can just play golf. I know, wishful thinking.

Staying on the links, wouldn't it be nice to see Greg Norman win all four rounds at the Masters and see John Daly continue his comeback from an alcohol problem?

On to the hardwood, where I have many wishes for 1998. The first of these is to see anybody but the Chicago Bulls win the championship. If anyone else feels the same way, may I suggest becoming a Lakers fan?

Justice must be served in the Latrell Sprewell case. Fortunately or unfortunately, the NBA's version of Mike Tyson might get to play again this season as a free agent.

A wish for all you Mavericks fans: that Stars and new Rangers owner Tom Hicks buys the Mavericks as he is rumored to be about to do. It's painfully obvious that Ross Perot Jr. and Don Nelson have no idea what they're doing when it comes to running one of the NBA's most downtrodden franchises.

Jerry Jones hiring a coach that has NFL experience to coach the Cowboys would be nice, too. Let's be frank. The Super Bowl victory under former coach Barry Switzer had everything to do with the team's talent and nothing to do with Switzer's coaching ability or lack thereof.

It looks as though Jones got the hint because the list of rumored candidates for the job include former 49ers coach George Seifert and offensive coordinators Jon Gruden of the Eagles and Gary Kubiak of the Broncos.

And with baseball season starting soon, more student support for Horned Frog baseball would be great. There really is no better way to spend your time in the afternoon during the spring.

So when you ditch class, instead of wasting away in bed, head out to the TCU Diamond to catch what is rumored to be one of TCU's best teams in a long time.

Todd J. Shriber is a broadcast journalism major from Laguna Niguel, Calif.

## Frogs face rivals away

By Wendy Bogema  
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's basketball team takes their 2-0 WAC record on the road this weekend to face Pacific Division rivals San Diego State and Hawai'i.

TCU is tied for first place in the Pacific Division after the Owls beat San Jose State Thursday night. This will be the first WAC road trip this season, and the longest one they will face this year as they travel to play San Diego State on Saturday and Hawai'i on Monday.

The Frogs have won their first two Pacific Division games in a decisive manner. They defeated Fresno State 91-76 Jan. 8th and San Jose State 104-65 Jan. 10th. Both games were at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

The Frogs were sluggish in the first halves of both games, but had stellar second halves outscoring their opponents 107-63.

The team will be without their leading scorer, junior center Lee Nailon, for the San Diego State game as he faces a one-game suspension.

Head coach Billy Tubbs said without Nailon everyone on the team will have to step up their game against San Diego State. He said San Diego State is a good team on the inside, but

that their primary focus is at the guard position.

He said he didn't think San Diego State would change their normal game plan in order to exploit the absence of Nailon.

Senior James Penny will be the starter in place of Nailon which moves junior transfer Scott Gradney into the sixth man spot and Ryan Carroll will be the first substitute at the guard position.

The Aztecs bring a 7-6 overall and 1-1 WAC record into Saturday's game against the Frogs, and they are fresh off a 81-72 upset win over then No. 21 ranked Hawai'i in San Diego last Saturday.

The players ranked first and second in the WAC in steals will meet in this game. The Frog's senior guard Mike Jones is ranked No. 1, and the Aztecs junior guard Matt Watts is ranked No. 2. Watts also ranks ninth in the WAC in assists, Jones is ranked fourth.

Without Nailon the Frogs lose some of the height and muscle in their lineup, so in the inside game they will look to Penny, senior Dennis Davis and Gradney to pace the team.

Davis had outstanding defensive performances against Fresno State and San Jose State with 15 rebounds

in each game and is ranked third in the WAC in that category.

Tubbs said the Frogs will stick to their usual game plan, but will obviously have to make adjustments with Davis, Penny and Gradney.

Like the Aztecs, the 24th-ranked Rainbows also focus on their outside game, utilizing the skills of senior leaders Anthony Carter and Alike Smith.

Although all four of the Horned Frog losses came against ranked or undefeated teams, Tubbs said the Frogs will enter the game with as much confidence as they enter every game.

"When you play good teams it becomes a close game," Tubbs said. "But we have a realistic chance of winning the game."

The Aztecs have a 4-3 record this season on their home court and the Rainbows have a 11-1 record on their home court this season, their one loss coming to Arkansas State on Dec. 14th.

Tubbs said that while the team will be traveling to some nice areas of the country, this isn't a pleasure trip but one in which the focus has to be on winning basketball games.



Senior guard Mike Jones considers taking a shot against a San Jose State defender in last Saturday's basketball game.

**Ultrafrog**

by Jeremy Roman



**RUBES™**

by Leigh Rubin



**Liberty Meadows**

by Frank Cho



**Mother Goose and Grimm**

by Mike Peters



**off the mark**

by Mark Parisi



**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS  
 1 Spinner on the "Enterprise"  
 5 First family of Ferrara  
 9 Heroic Horatio  
 14 Actor Eppe  
 15 Enticement  
 18 Key... FL  
 17 Red followers  
 20 Language suffix  
 21 Part in a play  
 22 Indian  
 23 Zoroastrian  
 25 Black goo  
 26 Gladiators' 56  
 27 Comparative phrase  
 28 Cause bodily injury  
 30 Native  
 32 Actress Ryan  
 33 Church calendar  
 34 Jumps aboard  
 36 Wedding vow  
 39 White followers  
 42 Morse symbol  
 43 Artist of the dollar bill  
 44 Ye... Shoppe  
 45 Old French coin  
 47 Contemporary Irish singer  
 48 God of war  
 49 "I Remember Mama," son  
 51 Colorado hrs.  
 52 French friend  
 53 Moon of Jupiter  
 55 AM-PM connection  
 58 Interdiction  
 61 Blue followers  
 64 Japanese poem  
 65 Zeno of...  
 66 Millennia  
 67 Korbut et al.  
 68 Foot: pref.  
 69 Macbeth's dagger

DOWN  
 1 Nincompoop  
 2 Singer Ed  
 3 Red followers  
 4 Avant-garde  
 5 Spanish river  
 6 Mort, the comic  
 7 White followers  
 8 Sched. abbr.  
 9 Seaweed  
 10 Metcal of "Roseanne"  
 11 Blue followers  
 12 Well-plumed bird  
 13 Roundup finale  
 18 Slip up  
 19 Printer resolution: abbr.  
 24 Wildly out of control  
 26 Sacristy  
 28 Foundry form  
 29 Piece of Puccini  
 30 Drink voucher  
 31 Rascals  
 32 L-P connection  
 35 Eight: pref.  
 37 Miami's county  
 51 Bub  
 52 Santa... winds

By Phillip J. Anderson  
 Portland, Oregon

Thursday's Puzzle solved.

WOES	UFOS	LAPAZ
ARTE	PLEA	ERASE
CATCH	FORTY	WINKS
ONATOT	REALIST	PRIMARY
STANS	LIP	RECAP
ARLO	ALS	LENORE
FALLS	FAST	SLEEP
ELAYER	IRS	AUTO
SAYER	ANO	AIRES
	RANDON	
UPDRAFT	PRIVATE	
GOOUTLIKE	ALIGHT	
HOUSE	CERN	SEEN
SHRED	SYST	AREA

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**purple poll**

**TCU** **Q** HOW MANY SOFT DRINKS DO YOU DRINK PER DAY? **A.** 0-1 2-3 4 or more  
 56 30 14

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.

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