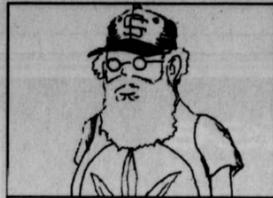


Skiff



Inside

Columnists debate marijuana legalization.

See page 5

WEATHER FORECAST

High 74
Low 48

Mostly cloudy



WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 25, 1998

Texas Christian University
95th Year • Number 82

Campus

Phi Kaps plan to appeal probation

Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity president Brian Bonjour has announced members of the fraternity will appeal the four-year probation they received after an investigation into allegations of hazing and a subsequent Feb. 17 hearing by the Student Organizations Committee.

Bonjour said the fraternity will turn in an appeal of the probation by Friday to Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs.

"We feel we don't have any other choice," Bonjour said. "We don't feel it's essentially feasible for 75 men, ages 18 to 21, to be perfect (without alcohol violations) for four years."

The probation, effective until the end of spring semester in 2002, forbids any alcohol-related university violations by a current member or new member of the Phi Kaps.

It also requires the chapter adviser to meet regularly with university officials or the TCU Interfraternity Council president, and it mandates a reduction of the Phi Kap new-member program from 16 to four weeks.

In addition, all chapter social functions are suspended until the fall of 1999 as part of the probation.

Bonjour said the fraternity does not expect the entire probation to be retracted, but he said several parts of it seem unattainable.

"We understand the reasoning behind the hearing, but we're trying to find a more reasonable settlement," he said. "We kind of feel it's almost as if we have been set up to fail."

The probation followed a committee investigation that found evidence of underage drinking and neighbor complaints of noise and inappropriate behavior at a Jan. 5 off-campus event.

The investigation also noted a consistent 10-year period of Phi Kap problems that included hazing, inadequate academic performance and a questionable new-member program.

Once Mills receives the appeal, a timeline will be established to make a final determination depending on the nature of the appeal.

Theater production opens tonight

The TCU Theater Department and Russian State Theatre Koleso's production of William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" opens tonight at 8 p.m. in the University Theatre.

The production is a collaborative effort between the two acting groups, in which TCU students will play the Montagues and the Russian actors will play the Capulets. Each group will speak in its own language.

The director, Gleb Drosdov, has set the play in the 1940s, at the time of the Cold War. The production coincides with Tandy RetroFest '98, Fort Worth's three-month celebration of the 1940s.

Shows will be at 8 p.m. today through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets for tonight's show are sold out. Tickets for the other shows can be reserved by calling the University Theatre Box Office at 921-7626.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Admission is free for TCU students, faculty and staff.

State

Irving mother released from jail

DALLAS — A Dallas County grand jury declined Tuesday to indict an Irving woman accused in the fire deaths of her two children.

Maria Francis Perez, 28, was released from jail shortly after the grand jury no-bill. She had been held in lieu of \$500,000 bond on two counts of capital murder.

The Oct. 17 fire at killed Hermegildo Noe Perez, 3, and Celica Rosa Maria Francis Perez, 1.

The woman had denied having anything to do with the deaths of the youngsters.



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Insect

INFESTATION

Zoo exhibit features spiders, butterflies and wasps...oh my!

SKIFF STAFF

Perhaps the closest a college student will get to any kind of bug is the unwelcomed roach meandering along a dorm room or apartment floor.

But the Fort Worth Zoo's newest exhibit is a way for typically bug-wary bipeds to learn more about the relatively harmless insect world.

"Incredibugs," which opened Feb. 20 and runs through May 26, offers zoo visitors an in-depth look at the various insects found in backyards, behind couches, in trees and in the desert.

In an attempt to make each visitor feel as small as a bug, a journey through the insect kingdom begins with a short stroll through what appears to be a

scene from "Honey, I Shrank the Kids."

Once inside the exhibit, visitors are greeted by a gargantuan replica of a tarantula, complete with moving parts and lots of body hair.

The exhibit also contains large replicas of other insects such as wasps, caterpillars and butterflies.

Please see BUGS, Page 6

Radio staffer dies

David Counts essential to KTCU

By Jeff Meddaugh
CAMPUS EDITOR

David Counts, an on-call radio announcer at KTCU for 20 years, died of an apparent heart attack Tuesday morning. He was 42.

Counts, who graduated from TCU with a degree in radio broadcasting, had worked for the station since he was a student in 1978.

Counts was

found dead in his bed by his brother, Mike Counts, who received a call from a KTCU coordinator Tuesday after Counts did not show up for his five-hour shift that began at 10 a.m.

When Mike Counts checked on his brother at about 10:15 a.m., he found that David Counts was not breathing. He then called 911.

Emergency services came to the residence and David Counts was later pronounced dead, Mike Counts said.

He said his brother was committed to his job at the radio station.

Please see COUNTS, Page 6



David Counts

House to give \$500 to groups

By Aimée Courtice
STAFF REPORTER

The House of Student Representatives passed two bills Tuesday, one to help a group host a national conference and another to help fund International Week.

House of student representatives

In a 45-4 vote, the House allocated \$500 to the National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association to help the group host its first national conference March 7 at TCU.

According to the bill, the conference will involve students from the communication sciences and disorders program, and other departments such as psychology, social work, nursing and education.

The money will come from the House's Special Projects Fund, which stands at \$3,825.64 after the money is allocated to NSSLHA.

House Treasurer Renee Rabeler said the Finance Committee unanimously recommended that the House provide \$500, the amount originally requested by NSSLHA.

Please see HOUSE, Page 6

Sororities may become more open with rushees

By Kristina Jorgenson
STAFF REPORTER

TCU sororities are considering a recommendation to change the Rush silence period, which mandates that no sorority member may speak to prospective sorority members beyond a "friendly hello" at any time previous to or during Fall Rush.

National Panhellenic Conference, the governing body of 26 national sororities, has recommended that all sororities update their rules to allow members to speak to rushees about their experiences in the Greek system through social events involving two or more sororities.

NPC also suggested that sororities maintain normal social contacts with prospective members in situa-

tions where members already knew the rushees.

Sorority Fall Rush rules currently forbid contact between sorority members and prospective rushees beyond a "hello" from the end of the Fall Rush period to the beginning of the next year's Rush, almost one year later.

The new proposal still would not allow discussions of a specific sorority or conversations about Rush. Members could only speak to rushees about their overall Greek experience.

NPC Chairwoman Lissa Bradford said the recommendations provide for more open contact and would educate more women about the sorority experience.

"If we want young women to be part of our organization, then we

need to be open to them," Bradford said. "Sometimes we get too preoccupied with (the idea of) no one taking unfair advantage of the other sorority."

Kristen Kirst, director of fraternity and sorority affairs, said NPC is establishing recommendations that use common sense when dealing with Rush.

"(NPC) really wanted to say, 'Let's make this make more sense,'" Kirst said. "(They're saying, 'Let's open it up a little more. Let's go beyond this 'friendly hello.' If we weren't in sororities, how would we treat these women? We would encourage them to come to TCU, and we would talk to them about our campus activities.'"

Some sorority members are concerned the recommended process

could unfairly make certain sororities more competitive than others.

Delta Gamma President Natalie Haas, a junior radio-TV-film major, said she has mixed feelings about the proposal.

"It's good for the rushees, but inevitably, there are going to be people who will try to take advantage of (the proposal)," Haas said. "It might produce more competition (between the sororities)."

She said that members could break Rush rules by trying to recruit rushees for their specific sorority when speaking to them.

Since the current TCU Rush rules do not allow sorority members to hold conversations with any rushee, monitoring Rush rules is a fairly basic process — if members talk with rushees, they are clearly break-

ing the rule, Haas said. The new rules allow conversations with rushees, making it impossible to police every conversation.

Haas said the proposal "is going to have to be pretty much on the honor system because there's no way to monitor the rules."

Alpha Chi Omega President Ashley Vaught, a junior Spanish major, said if the proposal is adopted, trust between sororities will be a major factor in its success.

"It puts a lot of trust in the sororities," she said. "We'll have to trust each other a lot. The first year... might be a little crazy."

Vaught said that despite the concerns members have about the proposal, the proposal will benefit rushees.

Please see GREEK, Page 6

Performance by Tucker to end Black History Month

By Selena Hernandez
STAFF REPORTER

As one of its final events celebrating Black History Month, Programming Council will sponsor actor Lewis G. Tucker and his one-man Negro Spirituals Medley at 7 p.m. today in the Student Center Ballroom.

BLACK History Month

Tucker, a 12-year member of the African-American Drama Company of San Francisco, said he has been performing his spirituals show, "Can I Sing for You, Brother?" for eight seasons.

Tucker said spirituals are old slave songs, which include songs such as "Deep River" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

"Spirituals inspire survival," he said. He said his show is a combination of old slave stories he heard as a child with a dash of his personal stretch of imagination.

Tucker said he was "bit by the acting bug" when he was 14 years old, and has continued in the profession ever since.

"(Acting) saved me from myself,"

said Tucker, who has a masters of fine arts and a bachelor of science degree in business. "(Performing) is my way of giving back."

Tucker said he hopes his show enables students to learn from past events and then take that knowledge with them.

Tucker said everyone can benefit from the experiences of another culture, regardless of their history.

Vice President for Programming Carl Long said he is looking forward to Tucker's performance.

"He should be a dynamic speaker," Long said.

Long said he has been pleased by the success of the events that have commemorated black history.

Long said events have focused on various topics, including the contributions African-Americans have made throughout the years.

He said the programs have exposed students to several aspects of life in general.

"TCU (students) should be aware of other cultures on campus," he said.

Amy Paciej, a PC adviser who has helped organize Black History Month events, said she has enjoyed the opportunity to work with different people through the course of the

Please see ACTOR, Page 2

Being a frog is lifelong

Hoban encourages TCU pride of alumni and students alike



Kristi Hoban

HORNED FROG OF THE WEEK

By Katy Graham
STAFF REPORTER

Kristi Hoban just can't get enough of TCU. Hoban, director of alumni relations, has spent literal half her life at TCU.

"I bleed purple," Hoban said. "I love TCU, and I'm proud to be a Horned Frog."

Originally from the small Texas town of Crowell, Hoban said she knew she wanted to come to TCU after her sister had been here as an undergraduate for two years.

"TCU was the only school I even applied to," she said. "I knew the school so well already, and I just wanted to be a part of it."

As an undergraduate, Hoban received a speech pathology degree from TCU in 1975, followed by a master's degree 1 1/2 years later. After working for five years as a speech pathologist at Lake Worth ISD, she returned to TCU and has worked here ever since.

"I always thought I might work at TCU for a year or two, then decide what I was going to do for the rest of my life," Hoban said. "And now I'm in my 17th year here."

Hoban's first job at TCU was in the Admissions office, where she worked for five years. After that, she moved to University Advancement and worked in fund



Philip Hawkins SKIFF STAFF

Kristi Hoban, director of alumni relations, has spent more than half of her lifetime at TCU.

raising for six years.

Bronson Davis, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement, said Hoban has brought a wide perspective to her role in alumni relations.

"Kristi has grown up here, in a sense," Davis said. "She has represented the university in many different ways and understands all the facets of University Advancement and how they work together. She's incredibly valuable and really has a wonderful understanding of TCU and its alumni."

Please see FROG, Page 2

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. The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and space available.

GOLDEN KEY general meeting, open to all members, will be held at noon today in the Student Center room 218.

STUDENT TEACHER APPLICATIONS for Fall 1998 are due today. To apply, go to the Bailey Building room 102 or 304.

HAWKWOOD MEDIEVAL FANTASY FAIRE, a Renaissance style faire held annually in southern Denton County, auditions will be held on site Saturday and Sunday. Performers should prepare a two minute monologue or poem. The faire is scheduled for weekends and Labor Day, Aug. 15 through Sept. 27. For more information, call Entertainment Director Dave Ruffin at (817) 270-2611.

TCU SUMMER PROGRAM IN BUDAPEST still has space available. For information, see the table in the Student Center Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or contact Dr. Dorraj at ext. 6097.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT graduate students are sponsoring a lecture by professor and director of rhetoric and composition at UTA, Lester Faigley. He will present "Visual Rhetoric: Literacy By Design" Monday at 4 p.m. in Reed Hall 103.

ACTOR

From Page 1

month. "I've learned a lot about other cultures," she said.

Paciej said students who work with PC's Multicultural Committee can gain valuable experience.

"It's an opportunity to learn and to be exposed to something that

they wouldn't be otherwise," she said.

The film "Coming to America," starring Eddie Murphy, will close PC's celebration of Black History Month. The movie will be shown at 9 p.m. Friday in the Student Center Ballroom.

FROG

From Page 1

After working in fundraising, Hoban helped start the Donor Relations Office before moving to her current role as Director of Alumni Relations.

"It's an easy job because TCU alumni love TCU," she said. "We've got some really excited alumni, and that's what keeps you going."

Of her 17 years working here, Hoban has been involved with alumni during all but her first two years.

Hoban's main job as director is to oversee the Alumni Relations Program, which has a staff of five.

"We're responsible for the programs that reach out to alumni," Hoban said. "We travel around the country and take TCU to the alumni who can't come here. We try to keep them involved and informed about what's going on at TCU."

Hoban leads in the planning of local events, like Homecoming, for alumni in the area.

"We also start working with current TCU students so they will stay involved with their university," she said. "We want them to know that when they graduate that this is their home."

Jennifer Jones, a 1993 TCU gradu-

ate and University Advancement Officer, said Hoban goes out of her way to help alumni.

"She's awesome in her job because she really cares about the alumni," Jones said. "If someone calls with a request, she'll make sure it's taken care of. She heads up everything and has a ton of energy."

Hoban said although her job involves long hours, nights, weekends and travel, it's almost not like a job.

"The alumni are so excited right now with all the new buildings on campus, the success of the basketball team, the new football coach and the academic success of the students," Hoban said. "It makes it so worthwhile to see the alumni get so excited about things."

Hoban married her husband, Assistant Controller Richard Hoban, while working at TCU nine years ago. Hoban said her husband has worked at TCU almost as long as she has.

"We have a five-year-old son, and I think his first words were 'TCU,' because he's up here all the time," Hoban said. "I have a very understanding husband because he works here too. (TCU's) a way of life for us."

Correction

In a story which appeared in yesterday's *Skiff* about Engineers Week, Bonnie Melhart, associate professor of computer science, was misquoted. The story stated that she said computer science falls under the category of electrical engineering. However, the story should have quoted Melhart as having said, "The Computer Society is part of the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers."

TCU DAILY Skiff
Since 1902

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U.S. to work on Iraq deal

Albright promises to fix problems in U.N. agreement

By Barry Schwelb
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Weapons experts, not diplomats, will take charge of deciding where and when to hunt for hidden Iraqi biological and chemical arms, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told uneasy senators Tuesday.

She promised to work with the U.N. inspections commission to clear up "ambiguities" in the deal U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan struck with President Saddam Hussein and "to close any possible loopholes."

Projecting caution about the accord, the administration said it would insist on a "quick test" of Saddam's promise to expose all sites, some of which have never been opened, to U.N. inspectors.

"We have to be watching very closely," President Clinton said.

Diplomats were added to the U.N. inspection teams for prospective searches of eight of Saddam's six dozen or more palaces, a gesture to the Iraqi president, who had accused Americans on the commission of espionage.

Also, the U.N. special commission is obliged under the agreement "to respect the legiti-

mate concerns of Iraq relating to national security, sovereignty and dignity."

Still, Clinton and his top advisers gave a generally favorable view of the agreement, which defused a crisis with Iraq that could have boiled over into U.S. bombings.

Albright conceded the function of the diplomats was fuzzy, but she gave assurances "the inspectors will decide where to go," and she even implied the United States could pull out of the deal if the diplomats' role was unsatisfactory.

"Diplomats may be acceptable if UNSCOM (the U.N. special commission) is in control. We will clarify, but we will also test."

"Diplomats may be acceptable if UNSCOM (the U.N. special commission) is in control. We will clarify, but we will also test."

— Madeleine Albright
Secretary of State

"We will clarify, but we will also test."

But given the Iraqi president's record, Dodd said, "one can only be doubtful, to put it mildly."

If Saddam defaults on his commitments, Albright said, "we will act forcefully and without delay."

"We will not allow Saddam Hussein to take us from crisis to crisis," she said. "If we have to act militarily, it is my belief we will have much greater international support for having gone this extra mile."

College News Digest

Law schools upset about magazine rankings

PHILADELPHIA — Imagine receiving a letter from the deans of 92 percent of American law schools warning you, a prospective law student, not to read *U.S. News & World Report*.

That scenario became a reality last Thursday, as 93,000 applicants to the nation's law schools received such a letter in their mailboxes, signed by 164 law school deans.

Titled "Law school rankings may be hazardous to your health," the missive is the Association of American Law Schools' latest attack on *U.S. News'* rankings of the nation's top graduate schools. But frustration with the rankings is not confined to law schools.

Even at universities like the University of Pennsylvania, which placed three of its professional schools in the top five nationwide, there was widespread dissatisfaction with the rankings. The latest rankings were released Friday.

"We're doing lots of things right, but the *U.S. News* algorithm may be a bit suspect," said Dwight Jaggard, graduate dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, which ranked 32nd nationwide.

—Daily Pennsylvanian
University of Pennsylvania

Wisconsin sophomore fired for negative comments about job

MADISON, Wis. — Jenni Cole-Opitz learned an important lesson last Wednesday — don't joke with the almighty of Wisconsin politics.

The 19-year-old University of Wisconsin sophomore, a Wisconsin Assembly page for 13 months, was abruptly fired Thursday morning for comments she made to UW's student newspaper, *The Badger Herald*, about working as a "go-fer" to Wisconsin politicians.

In the front page article headlined "Raise the Roof: A look inside the Capitol and how UW students help make it work," Cole-Opitz

spoke about the occasional absurdity of pandering to legislators.

She described a scenario in which Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen wanted a Coke when there was only Pepsi left in the Capitol. Cole-Opitz told *The Herald* she was sent to Walgreen's for the speaker's preferred cola, prompting the comment: "I was just standing there in awe. He's the speaker of the house, not Jesus Christ."

The comment ignited a series of events that left Cole-Opitz without a job, the state Capitol without copies of *The Herald* and a lot of questions about First Amendment rights.

—The Badger Herald
University of Wisconsin

Connecticut professor upset about student evaluations

New London, Conn. — On Jan. 25, Brenda Johnstone, a member of George Willauer's English 203 class at Connecticut College, received a letter from her teacher in response to her "confidential" end-of-course evaluation. Included with the letter was a copy of another student's evaluation form that also voiced negative opinions of Willauer.

Johnstone's evaluation had the standard questions that give students the opportunity to vocalize their opinions of their own class performance as well as a chance to share constructive criticism on the teaching performance of an individual professor.

Willauer stated in the letter to Johnstone that he felt "obligated to write" because "your evaluation of me and the course was anomalous in relation to the others and because of your responsibility on the advisory committee of the English department and the chaplaincy search committee and the crucial judgments to be made therein."

When questioned about the accusations being made against him, Willauer refused to comment.

—The College Voice
Connecticut College

Volunteers from TCU help make a difference

By Mandie Kriemborg
SKIFF STAFF

College students are notorious for having little or no money, but some TCU students have found they still have plenty to give.

money MATTERS

Students have found ways to give back to the community through volunteering at local charities from AIDS outreach programs to programs that feed the hungry.

Jennifer Coggins, a junior English major, helps once or twice a month at Broadway Baptist Church's Agape meal. Coggins works either as a runner who waits tables or as a host who talks with the guests during the Thursday night dinners.

Coggins said the best part of her volunteer work is talking with the guests who often ask about her life and classes. While

Coggins said finding things to talk about can sometimes be difficult and working at the dinners is a "reality check," she said the experiences she has are worth it.

"It's a wonderful experience just being there in the first place," Coggins said.

Tabitha Jones, a sophomore speech pathology major, took on a long-term project when she adopted a little sister through Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Tarrant County.

After an extended screening process, Jones was paired with a girl whose interests matched her own. Jones usually spends time with her little sister at least once a week, and they do anything from swimming in the Rickel to going trip to Six Flags.

"Last year we went shopping for Halloween costumes and then to the craft store to get stuff to add to them," Jones said. "I taught her how to sew in the process."

To Jones, spending time with her little sister is more than a volunteer experience.

"(My little sister), in a big way, is like a (real) little sister. We talk openly about a lot of things. It's more than a volunteer thing, it's a relationship...a friendship," she said.

While students may want to volunteer, many are often unsure of time commitments involved or even where to find charities. Local charities say any kind of help, whether it is financial or personal, and any length of commitment are welcome.

Olivia Eudaly, director of development for the Tarrant Area Food Bank, said students can work sorting or cleaning donated food or doing office work.

Financial contributions, too, can go a long way at the Food Bank. For every dollar donated, the Food Bank can distribute \$20 worth of food.

Kamille Gaunt, administrative assistant

and volunteer coordinator at the Presbyterian Night Shelter, said the shelter can use volunteers in several programs. The Night Shelter, which provides food, shelter and counseling to "people who have nowhere else to go," needs volunteers to make sandwiches, serve meals, pass out toiletry kits or work in children's playrooms.

The shelter also relies solely on donations for toiletries such as soap, Vaseline and baby care products to pass out to people at the shelter.

"Whatever you use getting ready in the morning, the folks that live here need that too," she said.

Gaunt said volunteering and donating doesn't have to be lengthy or costly, because any amount of giving is appreciated.

"We'll just take whatever people are willing to give," Gaunt said.

Opportunities to Give

Local charities to contact:

- AIDS Interfaith Network**
David Huffman 870-4800
- Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Tarrant County**
877-4277
- Broadway Baptist Church Agape Meal**
Claudine Marion 336-5761 ext. 8285
- Habitat for Humanity**
926-9219
- Presbyterian Night Shelter**
Kamille Gaunt 336-1781
- Tarrant Area Food Bank**
Olivia Eudaly 332-9177
- The Women's Shelter**
548-0583

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editorial

MAKE THE GRADE

It's that time of year again — flowers have started to bloom, the sounds of sneezes are filling the air and Texans have begun to realize that winter weather must stop at the Oklahoma border. Yes, it's time again for the semesterly *Skiff* news quiz.

Mark your choices and be sure to check tomorrow's *Skiff* for the correct answers.

1) Biological weapon charges were cleared Monday against two men in Las Vegas, who had been arrested on suspicion of transporting what substance?

- a. Burgers from The Main
- b. Anthrax
- c. Megadeath
- d. Bubonic plague

2) The U.N. Secretary-General struck a deal with Saddam Hussein over the weekend, possibly averting a U.S.-led military strike against Iraq. Who is the Secretary-General?

- a. Miss Hathaway
- b. Cokie Roberts
- c. El Niño
- d. Kofi Annan

3) Who is the former Nobel Prize winner who spoke last week at TCU?

- a. Oscar Arias
- b. Oscar de la Rouch
- c. Mother Teresa
- d. Ernesto Zedillo

4) In what state did over 35 people die as a result of tornadoes Monday?

- a. Oklahoma
- b. Anxiety
- c. Florida

d. Tomorrowland

5) The TCU men's basketball team beat New Mexico on Saturday behind the strong play of junior center Lee Nailon, helping lift Billy Tubbs' team to what spot in the AP poll?

- a. No. 1
- b. No. 15
- c. No. 82
- d. FWPD Case No. 87430984

6) What movie has led in box-office receipts for the past 10 weeks?

- a. "Titanic"
- b. "Titanic"
- c. "Titanic"
- d. "Leprechaun 6"

7) Who was recently named head coach of the Dallas Cowboys?

- a. Pat Sullivan
- b. Charles Barkley
- c. Lou Holtz
- d. Chan Gailey

8) How old is gold medal-winning U.S. figure skater Tara Lipinski?

- a. 24
- b. 18
- c. 15
- d. 10 months

9) Today is:

- a. Ash Wednesday
- b. Your parents' anniversary
- c. Lincoln's birthday
- d. National Bank Teller Awareness Day

10) Who is the mayor of Fort Worth?

- a. Kenneth Starr
- b. Roseanne Barr
- c. Kenneth Barr
- d. Kay Granger

It's time again for the Skiff news quiz.

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.

TCU DAILY Skiff

An All-American Newspaper

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Cartooning is not for wimps

In addition to doing columns, I also grace the opinion page twice a week with editorial cartoons. The reason for this column is to answer a question I am asked frequently about my cartoons: How do I come up with the ideas for my cartoons?

Answering that is not easy, as any cartoonist will tell you. In general, it is part practice and part talent. Those with genuine talent still need the practice, but not as much. Those with less talent than their talented peers can still make up for it.

Often the latter can come up with better ideas than the former because they usually work harder at it. There are times, though, that no amount of practice can take the place of a truly talented individual.

For myself, I would say that I am a little of both. I do have some talent, but I have to practice every day. As well, I work more for the right words for my cartoons than for the right picture.

Great writing can compensate much, much more for bad art than can great art compensate for bad writing. That is why I work harder on the writing for my cartoons. However, in

those rare instances when both the writing and the art are great, it is a magical combination. Then it becomes a piece of work that others talk about and will still remember even though it has been some time since the cartoon appeared.

Coming up with ideas for cartoons, though, can sometimes be a science.

As an editorial cartoonist, I do a lot of reading for news and current events. I have also gotten into the habit of reading the headlines of newspapers and news magazines as I pass them in the bookstore or library.

The best cartoons usually involve combining two news events that are otherwise unrelated. For instance, combining the Dow Jones' wild fluctuations with news reports of "mad cow" disease. In a cartoon, a bull representing Dow Jones could be shown with mad cow disease, thus explaining the wild fluctuations in the stock market.

When the news is slow, I will work with more personal observations about life and/or society. Once in a rare while, I will make a cartoon that is funny for funny's sake.

Also once in a while, my family, who are already accustomed to the logical processes I use to come up with cartoon ideas, will think up an idea that had not occurred to me.

Sometimes when I am close to hitting upon an idea but not quite there, I will bounce the idea off them to see what they can come up with. More often than not, they help me make the

final connection.

Constant practice and constant reading up on current events go a long way toward preventing writing blocks. If a good pattern of practice and reading is kept up, writing blocks will be extremely rare. For those whose patterns are not so good (or lacking), blocks will be more common. For those who are constantly encountering writing blocks, perhaps they should consider another field. Cartooning is not for wimps (it felt good to say that!).

And finally, good cartoonists will usually be the introspective sorts. Translated, it means they live in their own little worlds. If there were majors in cartooning, Introspection 101 would almost certainly be a prerequisite.

Cartooning can be challenging; too many times it can be frustrating. However, these efforts pay off in the rewards: making people laugh. The best thing you can tell a cartoonist is that you laughed so hard at his or her cartoon that you wet your pants.

There is a saying that a picture is worth 1,000 words. As both cartoonist and columnist, I get the best of both worlds. My only question when duty calls for both a column and a cartoon is... do I go for a 2-for-1 deal and do a detailed picture and 1,000 words, or do I go with a simple picture and 500 words?

John P. Araujo is a general studies major from Fort Worth.

Commentary



JOHN ARAUJO

Controlling education

Clinton's plan simply a way to take power from states

President Clinton recently outlined the goals of his administration for 1998 in his State of the Union address. One of his goals that I found particularly interesting was his call for the national testing of our nation's children. I didn't understand this at the time and don't know why this is something the federal government is supposed to do.

Last time I checked, the office of the president belongs to the Executive branch of the government. I always thought this meant the president was supposed to enforce the Constitution and the laws passed by Congress.

Clinton, however, does not have the support of Congress, nor does he even have their approval. In fact, in an article I found at the Pro Con forum website (www.nonline.com) an administration spokesman said, "No Congressional action will stop them from going full-speed ahead with the development of the test and plans to administer them in 1998."

The reason for this from Clinton was, "Every parent has a right to know how their child is doing."

Now, I wonder why it is necessary to go to the federal government to find that out. Why can't parents go to their children's teachers and ask them?

It's because these tests are not really supposed to be gauges of a child's progress. They are a camouflaged effort to take control of the schools' curriculum.

I'm not saying the government has big plans to start brainwashing children. A simple question does come to mind at the mention of such tests, though. How are they going to make an accurate national test for a country

with at least 50 different school systems?

It's simple, they can't. They will have to change the 50 different school curriculums to one. Just for these new tests.

To demonstrate just how varied curriculums can be right now, these are some of the types of math being taught in today's schools: Old Math, New Math, New New Math, Algebra Lite and MTV Math.

As far as reading goes, how is the test going to bridge the differences between children who have been taught intensive, systematic phonics, or whole language or even ebonics?

You are probably saying, "Well, the government can't force the states to change if they don't want to," but that's not true. The government still gives federal money to schools and can put any kind of restrictions on that money it wants to.

And who is going to decide this curriculum?

Right now it is decided through local school boards which, although they are political, are voted on by parents and not subject to the same kind of pressures that might be seen on a national scale.

We don't even know if these tests are going to change with every administration, or if they are going to be run by the government. If so, what kind of effects are party politics going to have in the formation of these tests and curriculums?

Does our school system need change? The answer to that is definitely yes, but are these tests the answer? I don't think so, because they are being implemented too rapidly and with little concern for the people they are going to affect.

There needs to be more time and thought put into the reformation of our school system by everyone involved, and not just the current administration.

Joe Henderson is a senior accounting major from Southlake, Texas.

Commentary



JOE HENDERSON

'Loser pays' rule could end frivolous suits

Maybe Stephen Kessler, the documentary filmmaker who recently tried to sue Michael Crichton and Steven Spielberg, will think twice before filing a questionable lawsuit again.

Kessler's suit, claiming Spielberg and Crichton plagiarized his work in "Twister," has been thrown back in his face. Not only will he not get the \$150 million he's asking for, he now may have to pay \$1.2 million to cover Spielberg's and Crichton's legal fees.

This Hollywood lawsuit is a perfect example of the need for a "loser pays" rule in our legal system. Under "loser pays," the losing party would not only be liable for his or her own fees, but those of the other party as well.

Defendants who successfully defend themselves against frivolous claims would not be financially burdened for pursuing a vigorous defense, and plaintiffs who win would get to keep the full settlement, without having to subtract substantial legal fees.

Commentary



SPENCER BAUM

The adoption of a "loser pays" rule in the United States would provide a much-needed incentive to slow our current lawsuit frenzy. The U.S. liability system costs significantly more than that of any other nation, with little to show for it.

Analysts have estimated the total costs of the U.S. tort system to be as high as 2.2 percent of the gross domestic product, more than twice the average of other industrialized countries.

Here's how it works. I notice that you're doing pretty well for yourself and can afford to shell out a few bucks to stay out of trouble. So I threaten to sue you, regardless of whether I have a case.

Of course, if we ever went to trial, you would win, but you'd lose thousands and thousands of dollars to pay for your lawyers. It's much easier for you to just give me some cash and hope I'll shut up.

There are people who make a living doing just that. The door at the bank closes on their foot, their neighbors' children are too loud, they get in a car wreck — whatever the reason — they threaten to sue and end up with some easy cash.

A "loser pays" system would alleviate this problem by encouraging defendants who believe in their cases to stand up to the lawsuit,

because their legal fees would be covered if they won the suit.

So why don't we have this system? Because a powerful lobby benefits from the existence of frivolous lawsuits — that of the trial lawyers.

The American lawsuit epidemic has made trial lawyers some of the richest professionals in the world. Their most common retort to the "loser pays" solution is that it hurts the little guy who cannot afford bigwig lawyers, as in the case of Kessler vs. Crichton and Spielberg.

This argument, while valid, can easily be accounted for by designing a smart "loser pays" system. States could design their "loser pays" mechanism to apply only to the plaintiff, or to be waived by the judge entirely when appropriate.

Even more effective (and more frightening to trial lawyers), "loser pays" could extend to become "lawyer pays." If losing lawyers had to pay the legal fees for the winning party, they might hesitate before taking on frivolous claims.

No lawyer would have taken on Kessler's case under a "lawyer pays" system. Think about it. Kessler claims Spielberg and Crichton stole his story in "Twister," a movie for which a case could be made that there's no story at all.

Spencer Baum is a senior economics major from Albuquerque, NM.

Letter to the editor

Greeks held to different standard than athletes at TCU

After reading that the Phi Kaps will face a 4-year probation sentence, I began to wonder if the Greek population realized the weight that was being put on their shoulders. It seems that they not only have to carry their own punishment, but the punishment of TCU athletes as well. You didn't think that TCU athletes went unpunished, did you? Oh no, TCU just likes to take their punishments and spread them around so it looks like we punish all of our students for any wrong doings.

It's kind of ironic that the Phi Kaps have been put on a 4-year probation program while TCU athletes go "scot-free" after one-game suspensions and slaps on the wrists. At TCU, our athletes allegedly beat their girlfriends, enemies, and rival students, while TCU officials "turn the other cheek" (which in itself, speaks lowly of coaches and players, as well as TCU).

But it takes a fraternity being reprimanded for the "unthinkable": alcohol violations, hazing, and inappropriate member behavior, to grab the attention of this university. TCU alleges that they have been investigating the Phi Kaps for years, but haven't the TCU athletes been building a record for themselves as well?

What message is Texas Christian University sending to its students and surrounding community? Athletes can get away with murder because they give something back to the school that's tangible—money—while fraternities and sororities give a place where students can find friendship and fellowship, which doesn't produce a profit for TCU. Therefore, TCU is obviously placing one organization over the other in the order of importance.

Could Texas Christian University possibly be saying that with its over \$1 billion endowment that money is all that matters?

Katie A. Montgomery junior radio-TV/film major

MARIJUANA

Should it be legalized?

The Great Debate

Myths present drug in bad light

The issue of marijuana legalization has become a clichéd farce in America. Propaganda on both sides is rampant, fogging the facts and deterring Americans from hearing the real issues.

The supporters of marijuana legalization are portrayed as left-wing liberal outcasts — brain dead, tie-dyed,

marijuana legalization
issues
MICHAEL KRUSE

reeking of patchouli and ranting mystical mumbo-jumbo about the spirituality of the herb.

Those who oppose them are stereotyped as conservative suits — stiff, prejudiced and too closed-minded to experiment with anything (substance or notion) that is not within the realm of society's norms and laws.

It is significant to clear the stale smoke that hovers over this issue. This isn't about whether anyone should smoke pot. That's a personal decision individuals have to make for themselves, similar to deciding whether to drink alcoholic beverages or take Tylenol for headache relief.

This is a decision America must reach a consensus on in order to truly concentrate our combined efforts on effective drug prevention. To do this, we must examine the myths of marijuana and debunk these common lies that corrupt rational debate.

1. Illegality of marijuana prevents people from using it — A study

released by the Texas Hemp Campaign reports that only 4 percent of nonusers surveyed chose not to get high because it's illegal. I interviewed 10 TCU students who have either never smoked pot or who have so infrequently that it wouldn't constitute regular usage. Only two of the 10 said the illegality of marijuana influenced their decision, but even those said that wasn't the only reason preventing them from doing so. The others cited a variety of reasons ranging from moral values to general dislike of being high to lack of availability at TCU.

Nine out of the 10 TCU students I interviewed said that if marijuana were to be legalized, it wouldn't influence them to get high any more frequently.

Another survey sponsored by THC reported that 94 percent of people who have been arrested for marijuana use continue to use it afterward. Illegality isn't effective in prevention or rehabilitation — only in inflicting severe punishment.

2. Marijuana causes crime and violence. — This is almost humorous to anyone ever exposed to a person high on marijuana. Most people can't imagine a stoner getting off the couch to wrestle his stash away from his dog, much less find the energy and motivation to commit a crime.

Former San Jose police chief and current fellow at the Hoover Institute, Joseph McNamera, offers the following insight:

"The myth that government keeps hitting on is that marijuana causes vio-

lent crime. Maybe it does because it is illegal. The reality is that if people switched from alcohol to marijuana, the assault and crime rate would probably drop by half."

3. Marijuana is more harmful than alcohol and tobacco. — A study released in a recent issue of *New Scientist*, a leading English research journal, refuted this claim. It reported that marijuana smoke did not lead to blocked airways or emphysema or impact on lung function, and that it

was less addictive than alcohol or cigarettes. The study also stated that the use of marijuana did not appear to lead to the use of harder drugs, opposing the commonly held assertion that it is a gateway drug.

4. Marijuana is only used by losers. — Pot use is not influenced by income, race, education or occupation. Baby boomer parents continue to use it, public officials get busted for it, sheriffs admit to having tried it and our president has allegedly done something

with it. We are unable to demographically categorize stoners, because they are so prevalent in all groups of our society.

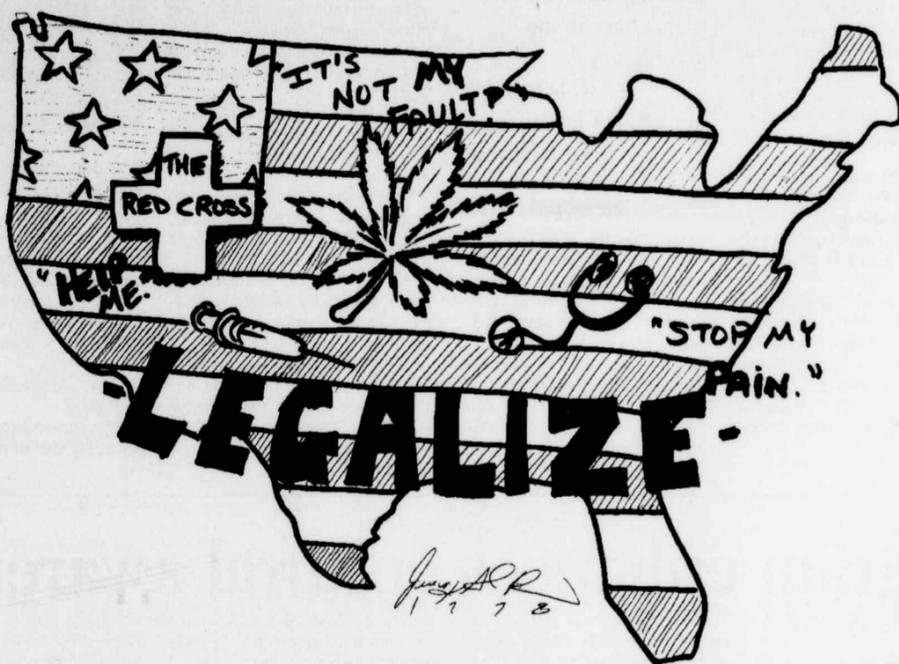
Every 49 seconds someone is arrested in America for marijuana-related "crime." More than 100 million people were arrested on such charges between 1965 and 1995.

What effects does making pot illegal have? How about costly, jammed courts and prisons, widespread defiance and disrespect for the law and loss

of personal freedom? To name a few.

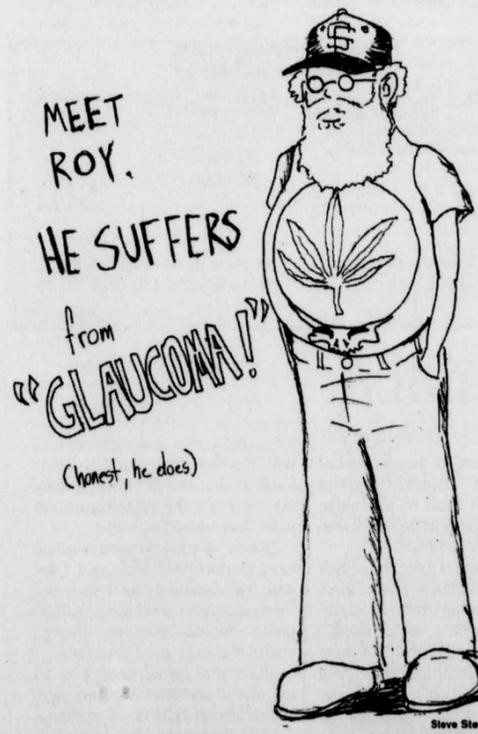
We've legalized alcohol and tobacco. We may not be ready to completely legalize marijuana, the safe alternative. But knowing that it's not as bad as Big Brother says should start decriminalization procedures. Especially after many people argue that Big Brother has smoked it himself.

Michael Kruse is a junior advertising/public relations major from Overland Park, Kan.



Jeremy Roman SKIFF STAFF

Medicinal marijuana legalization has its ups and downs



Steve Steward SKIFF STAFF

Last year, the legions of the National Organization for Repealing of Marijuana Laws (NORML) rejoiced when the California and Arizona state legislatures passed Propositions 215 and 200, respectively. These laws made it legal, with a few stipulations, to use marijuana for medicinal purposes.

Marijuana for medicinal purposes? Yes, my friends, there is such a thing. Apparently, if one suffers from the complications and discomfort associated with HIV, glaucoma and

marijuana legalization
issues
STEVE STEWARD

chemotherapy, smoking marijuana is one of the best ways to ease the pain, because the natural THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) in marijuana has the effect of increasing appetite, reducing blood pressure on the optic nerve and settling one's stomach.

HIV and cancer patients are usually given Marinol, which is essentially a synthetic form of THC, to gain appetite and ease stomach pain, as per the effects of their treatments.

Unfortunately, Marinol has several side effects and it is also expensive. That is one reason doctors cite for the legalization of medicinal bud.

"Steve, um, you're supposed to do the anti-marijuana side of this issue." Yeah, I didn't forget. I'm just about to get to that. Obviously, medicinal marijuana is a good idea. If one is

suffering from glaucoma or the rigors of chemotherapy, and a dimebag is a lot cheaper than a round of Marinol treatment, then it makes sense to go with nature.

Here's my beef. NORML advocates the legalization of medicinal marijuana, but I find it farfetched that NORML only wants a little concession like that.

As far as I understand it, the law in California only provides for the use of the drug in a curative setting, not for its cultivation and sale. I've heard of legal purposes, people who do not fit the legal criteria will still buy it.

There is also another angle to my argument, and it should appeal to said *High Times* subscribers. If marijuana is legalized, and everyone decides to partake, it won't be your hip, not-so-secret secret anymore. 311 will decide to change their name, and none of you will take any pleasure in saying, "Is it 4:20 yet? Hee hee hee."

If everyone is doing it, it won't be cool anymore for those who have been doing it all along. Imagine your disgust when you walk in the mall and find Phred's Toke and Poke right next door to Gadzook's. I can hear it now.

"Look at all these poseurs. They've never even heard of Phish."

And if you think your purchases are expensive now, imagine what will happen if it becomes legal to sell it!

If marijuana is legalized and everyone decides to partake, it won't be your hip, not-so-secret secret anymore.

Not only that, but I can only imagine what my little brother's whiny generation will be like with a legal avenue to marijuana. A nation of lazy whiners with big smiles and slitted-eyes comes to mind. If UCRs and electives are dumb now, wait until you have to take Basement Botany 1113. Never mind the fact that prolific pot use will multiply the amount of country-fried rock bands exponentially.

I'll admit that my arguments against legalized marijuana in any form are personally and culturally motivated, but I stand behind them 100 percent. I fear the day when Cheech and Chong become household names again. I fear the day when Texaco Joan has to check IDs to sell marijuana. I fear those days, because those are the days when our nation will go to, er, pot.

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

What do students think?

Skiff columnist Michael Kruse asked students, both those who have tried marijuana and those who have not, what they think about marijuana use and legalization.

Here are their responses: Micah Sharff, a sophomore, said, "Marijuana breaks down the social barriers and class boundaries that we have."

Omar Villafranca, a sophomore, said, "Maybe we should follow Amsterdam's example and it (marijuana) probably wouldn't be such a problem. I'm not advocating the use or abuse. Maybe there should be a starting age like

(there is with) tobacco and alcohol in the U.S."

Matt Gordon, a junior, said, "How can they justify legalizing alcohol and tobacco without legalizing any other harmful drug?"

"Marijuana is the least addictive and least harmful. Alcoholism isn't exactly a good way to go through life," Gordon said.

Kevin Hunt, a junior, said, "In my opinion, it's no more harmful than cigarettes or alcohol. For recreational use, it should be legal."

"Possibly put some regulation on it like tobacco and alcohol. It's

a victimless crime. Our country was founded on freedom and victimless crimes infringe on that freedom," Hunt said.

Craig Stolzer, a junior, has tried marijuana and said, "Personally I don't think it's that big of a deal. I enjoy the way it makes me feel. It's social and doesn't hurt anyone. The whole thing is blown way out of proportion."

Jonathan Striegler, a junior, said, "I think it's illegal more for socioeconomic reasons than the truth, especially if you analyze it vs. alcohol, everyone's favorite thing."

Marijuana at a glance

- During the time of George Washington, all American farmers were required to grow (and even pay their taxes with) hemp.
- The original drafts of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were written on hemp paper.
- "Hemp is of first necessity to the wealth and protection of the country," — Thomas Jefferson
- Marijuana was made illegal across most of the United States in 1936.
- Hemp's roots can be traced back to 800 B.C. when the Chinese grew it to make paper, cordage, cloth and other common articles.
- In 1937, *Popular Mechanics Magazine* called hemp the "new billion-dollar crop."
- In 1942, the U.S. Department of Agriculture produced a 14-minute film titled "Hemp for Victory," urging patriotic American farmers to grow 350,000 acres of hemp by 1943 to be used for civilian and military shoes, rope, fire hoses and parachute webbing.
- Every 49 seconds, someone is arrested in America for a marijuana-related crime.
- In 1997, 642,000 people were arrested for marijuana-related crimes.
- The Texas Hemp Campaign estimates that it would cost \$500 billion to arrest, prosecute and jail every marijuana user in the country and three times that to build prisons to hold them.
- A World Health Organization report from February 1998 stated, "In developed societies (marijuana) appears to play little role in injuries caused by violence."
- More than 50 percent of adolescents born between 1956 and 1965 admit to having experimented with marijuana.
- President Bill Clinton asked for \$14.6 billion in 1996 for his war on drugs.
- Marijuana has been proven effective in the treatment of epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis, back pain, asthma, arthritis, migraines, emphysema and cystic fibrosis.
- No other medicine compares to marijuana when it comes to the treatment of nausea caused by chemotherapy.
- It is believed that 90 percent of the world's energy needs can be met by using methane and methanol produced from hemp grown as bio-mass.
- The average time served in prison for selling marijuana is four years, compared to just one year for rape or manslaughter.

COMPILED BY MICHAEL KRUSE AND JASON GRANE

Portrait of spring emerges as campus flowers bloom

Landscaping crew performs artistry

By Reagan Dupliss
SKIFF STAFF

It's 7 a.m. on a tranquil Tuesday morning. The campus is covered in fog, which would make a February day more dismal and bleak.

However, at TCU, patches of green, purple, yellow, pink and white break through the fog like a rainbow's rays peek through storm clouds.

Only in Texas would you find green carpets of grass, trees in all their leafy glory and flowers turning their colorful faces to the sun on a "winter" day. Although spring officially begins on March 20, the landscape of the campus declares something different.

From the daffodils bursting through a blanket of decaying leaves to the purple and white pansies that declare their Horned Frog pride, these blossoms owe everything to Robert Sulak, director of landscaping and grounds, and his three-member staff.

Sulak said the reason flowers are always in bloom on campus is because the landscaping staff uses seasonal and perennial flowers to fill the beds, which total 11,000 square feet.

"We use a lot of perennials that bloom throughout the year, such as antique roses, daffodils, chrysanthemums and irises," Sulak said. "These bloom year after year and don't have to be replanted. Each perennial blooms at different times of the year."

Tulips are expected to bloom in three to four weeks, Sulak said.

Major plantings are done twice a year, in the fall and summer, but work on the smaller beds will begin in the middle of March, Sulak said.

"By doing this system we've developed, we can function with a limited amount of manpower," Sulak said.

He works with a crew of three men who help grow, plant and main-

"We keep costs down by growing our own plants here in the greenhouse."

— Robert Sulak
director of landscaping and grounds

tain the landscape.

All plants and flowers used in on-campus landscaping are grown in TCU's two greenhouses, located behind the physical plant. While walking between the rows of ivy-covered tables and tiny rosebushes not even a foot high, Sulak discussed the benefits of growing plants there.

"We keep costs down by growing our own plants here in the green-

house," he said. "We use four to five percent of our total grounds maintenance budget."

There are about "125,000 pots of seasonal color" in the greenhouse, Sulak said.

He said the landscaping is important because it adds to the TCU experience.

"The students, faculty and visitors get a lot of enjoyment out of them," he said. "It adds to the quality of life here and makes for a nice work and living environment."

Luther Smith, professor of art and photography, said he appreciates the foliage on campus.

"I am a landscape photographer, so I have a real interest in any aspect of the outdoors," Smith said. "More and more attention has been given to spacing and colors throughout the years."

Both Smith and Karen Kologe, an assistant professor of French, said they enjoy the flower bed in front of Reed Hall.

"The front of Reed always has something interesting," Kologe said. "Later (this spring) it will have something even more interesting."

Kiesha Shelton, a sophomore social work major, said she has gotten a different perspective of the landscaping because of a class.

"I've noticed my surroundings more because of my Religion and Environmental Ethics class," Shelton said. "The flowers in front of Reed are so pretty. They make me feel at



TCU greenhouse and landscaping supervisor Pat Duran (left) and workers Jose Galleros, Mike Aguilar and Geraldo Ramirez keep TCU grounds covered with flowers and greenery throughout the year.

home."

Concerns over bad weather have some people wondering if the landscape's beauty will last.

"All the flowers have already sprouted and the trees have budded," Smith said. "I hope we don't get a freeze."

Sulak said a freeze will not affect the flowers.

"The current flowers can stand a freeze, like the pansies," Sulak said.

The construction projects around campus have created more projects for the landscapers.

"There is a lot of construction going on and we're having to come back and renovate areas," Sulak said. "It's part of the construction progress and it can't be avoided. We'll repair them as soon as possible, but it depends on the projects themselves and weather conditions."

Sulak said he is working on plans for the landscaping of the Mary D. and F. Howard Walsh Center for Performing Arts. Since there will be a lot of shade, he said he will probably use ground cover or flowering shrubs.

The hard work of Sulak and his crew does not go unnoticed.

"Often we don't think of those people as artists, but that's what they are," Smith said.

Program enhances cultural awareness

By Jason Crane
STAFF REPORTER

Students in the Intensive English Program at TCU know the benefits of learning outside the classroom.

Although these students come to Texas from as far away as Japan or as close as Mexico, they all have one thing in common: they're learning to speak and write English while immersing themselves in American culture.

Conversation Partners, an optional program offered through the IEP Office for the last five years, pairs international students with American students and members of the community who volunteer to talk with their partner for a minimum of one hour a week. Although some partners just sit down and talk, others will eat dinner together or go out for a night on the town.

Catherine Hutcheson, an IEP faculty member who directs the conversation partner program, said the program's goal is to help both conversation partners acquire a taste for each other's culture while also learning a second, third or for some, a fourth language.

Jessica Miller, a freshman pre-major who has taken three years of German and more than three years of French, is a conversation

partner with Andy Chen, an IEP student from Taiwan.

Miller said she thinks it is important to be able to communicate with people, no matter what language they speak.

"Even if I don't know a word of my conversation partner's language, I know they want to learn mine," Miller said. "And if I learn a little in the process, then that's great too."

Miller said being a conversation partner gives her an opportunity to interact with students she would otherwise never know, especially "on TCU's campus, which doesn't have a whole lot of diversity."

She said she enjoys teaching her conversation partner the nuances of American culture, rather than concentrating solely on the English language.

"Some of the things I expect him to know he doesn't and the things I want to tell him about, he already knows," Miller said. "It's quite a learning experience for both of us."

Miller said the experience has taught her not to believe common stereotypes of other cultures.

"I learned things in my religion class which contradict what my conversation partner tells me," Miller said. "When you talk to peo-

ple from another country, it gives you a much different view of them."

Hutcheson said American students often choose a conversation partner who speaks the language they are studying at TCU. She said the IEP students prefer to speak in English, but partners often strike a deal to split the time each language is spoken.

"Students who are taking foreign language courses or are planning to travel to another country can get great benefits from the program," Hutcheson said. "At the same time, some people do it just to meet other people and learn about another part of the world."

Hutcheson also said that some people who live in Fort Worth now but previously lived in another country "adopt" an IEP student every semester.

Arnaud Ottombongo, an IEP student from Nice, France, said he was paired with a conversation partner who is visiting a relative in Paris later this year and is trying to brush up on her French pronunciation. He said they meet twice a week, alternating between French and English.

"We are mostly helping each other with pronunciation and grammar, but we also talk about

differences between France and America," Ottombongo said. "I am definitely learning a lot from her, and I also am preparing her for her trip to France."

Michelle De Roux, an IEP student from Panama, said she and her partner combine English and Spanish during their conversations.

"Sometimes I don't know a word in English so I say it in Spanish, and she understands the word so she teaches me how to say it."

De Roux said she learns more English from her conversation partner than from anyone else because she always speaks Spanish in the Main, at parties and even with her Spanish-speaking friends during English class.

"When we are not doing an activity during class, I almost always talk to my friends in Spanish," De Roux said. "When I talk to my conversation partner, it is easier to speak in English because (otherwise) she may not understand what I am saying."

Students who are interested in having a conversation partner can contact Catherine Hutcheson in the Intensive English Program Office in Rickel, Room 109, or at 921-7485.

HOUSE

From Page 1

"We felt this was a good program," she said. "It will bring great recognition to the speech program and a lot of attention to TCU."

In a 41-4-3 vote, the House passed a bill allocating \$500 to help fund the International Student Association's International Week, March 2-7.

According to Bill 98-6, ISA originally requested \$1,725, but the Finance Committee voted to recommend that the House contribute only \$500.

Rabaler said the Programming Council wanted to give ISA \$1,000, but there is a line item in PC's budget that only allows PC to allocate \$500 to ISA for International Week.

Kim Gonzalez, vice president of ISA, said the money is going to help fund its "Tastes of the World" event, in which ISA offers TCU students

tastes of international recipes.

Rabaler said the Finance Committee agreed to recommend that the \$500 of House funds go to ISA in order to assist PC in its \$1,000 goal.

"Since PC is essentially a part of House, we felt we should help them," she said.

Rabaler also said she thinks something needs to be done with the budgeting process so ISA does not get funding from the House when PC already sets money aside for ISA.

Patricia Endora, president of ISA, said she expected the House to give more money to ISA.

"We budgeted the cost of this year's event based on last year's costs," she said. "We expected more support, but we are happy with the \$500. This year is going to cost more money so we might have to cut back."

House of Reps Votes

Bill 98-5 To fund National Student Speech/Language/Hearing Association members to attend a conference - \$500.
For - 45
Against - 4
Abstain - 0

Members present - 62
Members absent - 22

Bill 98-6 To fund International Week - \$425.
For - 41
Against - 4
Abstain - 3

For more information call the House office at ext. 7924

COMPILED BY AIMEE COURICE

COUNTS

From Page 1

"He was a very hard worker and a straight-forward and honest person very dedicated to his work," Mike Counts said. "This is really a loss."

Mike Counts said he often stayed with his brother, who "seemed normal" when he saw David Counts on Monday night.

Andrew Haskett, KTCU's station manager, said David Counts was a reliable worker who was "tremendously willing" to help train students with radio procedures and equipment. "My recollection of him was that he was a professional announcer and a wonderful resource to train new students," Haskett said of David Counts' long career at KTCU. "He was very helpful to me. Everybody loved working with him."

Haskett said David Counts' "first love" was jazz and big band music, which David reintroduced to the station last semester after they were discontinued a few years ago.

David Counts created a jazz program titled "Digital Domain," which aired on weekdays, and was the technical producer of talk shows and classical music programs, Haskett said.

He said the radio station will continue to play Counts' programs.

Chip Adams, a junior radio-TV-film major who worked often with David Counts, said he was always a friendly face to see.

"Anyone who works at KTCU knew David," Adams said. "I don't

think he ever left. He did just about anything and he was a great guy. We'd sit and talk about jazz for hours."

Constantino Bernardez, KTCU's first full-time station manager who is also an emeritus instructor in radio-TV-film, said he remembers David Counts as an undergraduate student who remained active with the station.

"He was a 'country boy' who caught on to radio production quickly," said Bernardez, who taught David Counts in his second production class. "He was content to stay on campus and work as an announcer for the radio station," even during breaks.

Bernardez said he was "really shocked" to learn of David Counts' death, since he visited with David last week.

"He loved the campus and (also) kept in touch with some of his classmates," he said.

Rosemary Solomons, the classic music coordinator at KTCU, said David Counts was like a fixture at the station.

"He was utterly reliable," Solomons said. "He was so much a part of the radio station. We won't ever forget him."

Funeral arrangements for David Counts are pending, Mike Counts said.

Skiff Staff writer Beth Wilson contributed to this report.

GREEK

From Page 1

She said every sorority "is going to have some shakiness at first, but everyone realizes it is (currently) overwhelming for the rushees.

"It's a good thing for the rushees since they won't feel so isolated right away."

Panhellenic President Megan Masoner, a junior graphic design major, said TCU Panhellenic presented the issue to the sororities during the fall semester but did not pass it at that time because they could not agree on the wording of the changes.

Masoner said chapter representatives from Panhellenic will present

BUGS

From Page 1

Visitors can get a closer look at their favorite creatures through many different interactive learning stations.

One display illustrates the ratio of insects to all other life forms on earth, showing insects clearly outnumber both human and animal populations.

A highlight of the exhibit is an "insect petting zoo."

Don't worry, it is not a large pen of bugs and poisonous arachnids running rampant. Rather, it is merely several species of insects on display for the bravest of visitors to touch.

The Madagascar hissing cockroach, which is almost two inches

long, can be seen up close.

Walt Creamer, a zoo volunteer and bug enthusiast, said often children in Madagascar keep these roaches as pets.

A millipede, catapillars and a tarantula are also available for curious visitors to admire. Creamer said visitors are welcome to touch the creatures on display, but said the millipede should be handled with caution, since it tends to defecate on anyone holding it.

"It's going to be a hard issue," Masoner said. "There's always a period of adapting to something

new."

Bradford said for the recommendation to be effective, sorority members must focus on promoting the overall Greek system rather than their particular sorority.

"If a group cares more about their ability to (individually) pledge these women than doing (Rush) in an ethical way, that's a problem," Bradford said. "The word of these groups is the most important thing we have. If we can't rely on our spirit of integrity, we are not the group we are supposed to be."

Kirst said sororities will have to build up trust in one another and

have confidence that each sorority will conduct Rush for the betterment of the overall Greek system, not only for the improvement of individual sororities.

"Rush, in itself, is always going to be competitive," Kirst said. "But what we're really trying to do is say, 'Sororities are a good thing,' and no matter which one you choose, you're making a good decision."

"It's about trying to support all ten of the sororities we have here and the entire TCU Greek system."

TCU Panhellenic has until mid-spring to adopt the new Rush rules for fall 1998.

The individual pupa are delicately pinned and hung upside-down in a display, where visitors can witness the development of the insects.

Huffman said he monitors which butterflies are ready to come out of the display case to enjoy their average two-week life span in the zoo's garden.

Huffman said people should come see this exhibit so they can understand how insects live and function.

"We like that people come and think they're pretty," he said. "But we'd also like them to know that people who live in a city can grow plants to attract butterflies."

screened enclosure of 10 different North American species of butterflies. These colorful, winged insects flutter among a lush garden of pansies, snapdragons daisies and azeleas.

William E. Huffman, a zoologist and overseer of the garden, said that the next two to three weeks will be an excellent time to visit the garden, because it will be filled with about 1,000 butterflies.

He said the zoo receives the butterflies from butterfly farmers nationwide. The butterflies come to the zoo in the form of a pupa, the embryonic-like stage in the life of the insect.

TCU

Frogs on four-game win streak

The Dallas Baptist Patriots traveled to the TCU Diamond on Monday afternoon to match up against the Frogs in TCU's fourth baseball game in four days. Fresh off a three-game sweep of the University of Illinois Fighting Illini, the Frogs continued their streak by defeating the Patriots 20-13, improving their record to 8-4.

A dominating 14-run rally in the seventh inning brought the Frogs back from a 12-5 deficit as five team errors set the Patriots back.

Senior right fielder Chris Connally and junior first baseman David Wallace each collected three hits and drove in a combined eight runs. Senior second baseman Sam Lunsford and junior center fielder Mike Scarborough also proved to be valuable assets in helping the Frogs overcome the Patriots. Freshman pitcher Chris Frazier earned the win for the Frogs.

Thursday the Frogs play a make-up game against the University of Texas-Arlington in Mineral Wells and then begin a three-game series with Oral Roberts on Friday at the TCU Diamond.

Nation

Dick Enberg receives Hollywood star

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Emmy-winning sportscaster Dick Enberg gave his signature "Oh, my!" as he received the 2,104th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

About 200 people showed up for Tuesday's ceremonies on Hollywood Boulevard including several sports stars, said Ana Martinez-Holler, a spokeswoman for the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

Enberg's children also were on-hand.

Martinez-Holler said he told them: "When you have your own kids, I want you to come here and show your kids my star, and you can tell them that grandpa was a good guy."

Enberg, the play-by-play announcer for NBC in last month's Super Bowl, has earned eight Emmy Awards. During a 30-year radio and TV broadcasting career, he has covered everything from horse racing to the Olympics.

Attending the ceremonies were former UCLA basketball coach John Wooden, former UCLA and NBA star Bill Walton, former USC and Los Angeles Rams quarterback Pat Haden and Ann Meyers, a TV announcer and former UCLA women's basketball star.

NFL

Teams sign and release players

The Green Bay Packers have players coming and going.

On Tuesday, the Packers signed two free agents and one of their own practice players.

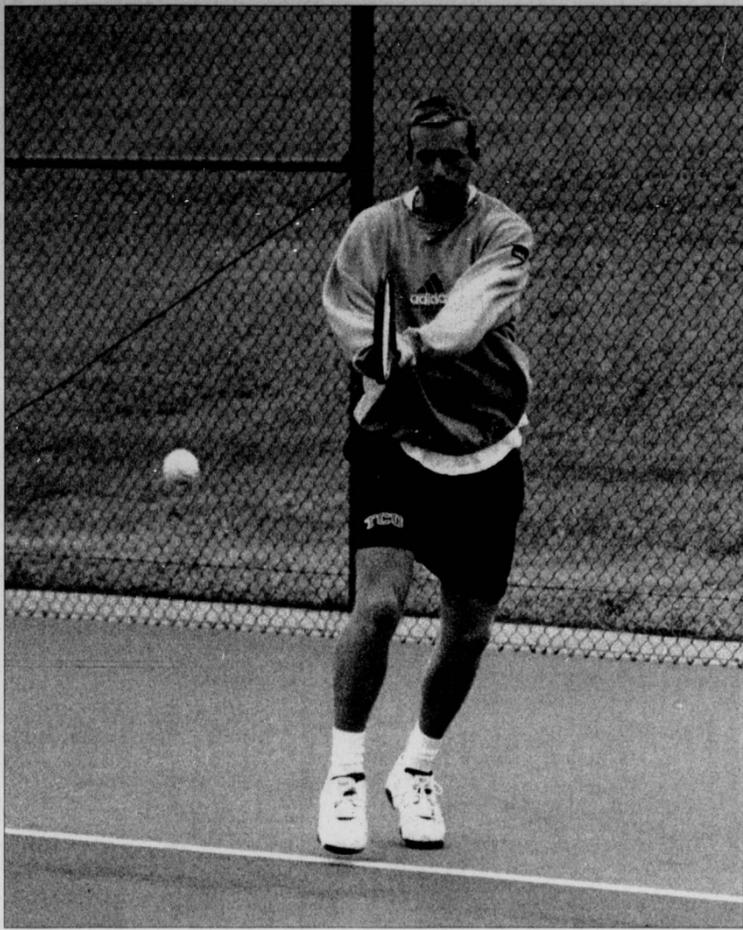
Safety Roger Harper, who spent three seasons with Atlanta and one with Dallas, and line-backer Antonio London, who started six games for Detroit last season, signed with the NFC champions, while tight end Kyle Wachholtz, a practice squad player in '97, also signed with them.

Elsewhere, the Jacksonville Jaguars signed restricted free agent center Quentin Neujahr of the Baltimore Ravens to an offer sheet. Terms were not disclosed. The Ravens have until midnight March 3 to match it. The Jaguars have not re-signed 10-year veteran Dave Widell, an unrestricted free agent.

The Miami Dolphins re-signed receiver Brett Perriman and signed punter Klaus Wilmsmeyer to one-year contracts.

The Dallas Cowboys released backup quarterback Wade Wilson on Tuesday to clear room under the salary cap, but hinted he might be re-signed later. Wilson, 39, still has one season left under his contract.

The New England Patriots have re-signed guard Todd Rucci, a five-year veteran who played every game last season.



Sophomore Matt Bere backhands the tennis ball in a recent practice session.

New Mexico makes excuses for loss to Frogs

It's just amazing what a 31-point loss does to the vocabulary of a college basketball head coach.

I was in Albuquerque watching the men's game Saturday night after the TCU women's basketball team played the Lobos at The Pit.

What I heard from New Mexico head coach Dave Bliss really disturbed me. He sounded very upset after the loss and deemed the contest an "exhibition game." Poor Dave. It's funny how after the 21-point victory his club handed TCU on Jan. 5, Bliss didn't mention any of this after the game. After the most recent loss, he couldn't stop complaining about the unfairness of playing a crossover game that didn't count in the standings this late in the season. Poor Dave.

Dave Bliss wasn't the only one whining. The Lobos sent a New Mexico cable crew out to do the game, so I had to view the game through the eyes and ears of the New Mexico cable network. That meant too many shots of Dave Bliss scratching his head and looking confused. It also meant way too many excuses from the announcers

as to why the Lobos weren't playing very well.

I never heard a mention about how well TCU was defending the New Mexico starters. The graphics shown at halftime told an obvious story of Horned Frog domination, but the cable system turned into a tale of Lobo futility.

TCU shot 62 percent in the first half to New Mexico's 32 percent, yet according to the Lobo announcers, that had nothing to do with the Horned Frog defense. Granted, New Mexico missed some easy opportunities, but TCU's tough man-to-man defense bothered New Mexico's offense.

I understand they have to be a little biased. After all, if this was the Horned Frog network, I would be the first to attempt to solve TCU's problems. However, there comes a time when you must give your opponent a little credit.

With about 10 minutes left, the Lobo announcers looked and sounded extremely bored. I can't blame them. TCU turned the game into a romp and the only question to answer was whether the Frogs could reach 100 points.

I flipped on the radio right after the contest and heard a call-in show about the game. The Lobo fans are brutal. The first caller wanted Dave Bliss to resign after losing to a team that "shouldn't have had a chance to beat New Mexico." That's a truly educated sports fan.

Frogs beat by Hogs
Loss comes despite two singles wins

By Rusty Simmons
SKIFF STAFF

The TCU men's tennis team traveled to Arkansas to face a highly touted Razorback team last weekend. The Arkansas team was coming off a victory over Kansas, one of the nation's top 20 teams, and had only one loss going into the match with the Horned Frogs. TCU fell to Arkansas 5-2.

"As it generally does, the doubles matches were very pivotal in the matches outcome," TCU head coach Tut Bartzan said.

The doubles team of freshmen Esteban Carril and Martin Jirak had the Arkansas' Tim Crichton and Tom Hamilton, the nation's third-ranked doubles team, on the run in their match. Once up by a service break, Carril and Jirak were unable to hold off Crichton and Hamilton's late surge. TCU's Matt Walsh and Trace Fielding also lost to an Arkansas doubles team to lose the matches' doubles point.

"We had a chance to win all three doubles matches as well as the top three singles matches," Bartzan said.

TCU did capture two of the three top singles matches. Carril added another victory to his portfolio by defeating Crichton in three sets. Walsh lost his match in a third set tiebreaker, and Fielding took two sets of tiebreak play to upend Arkansas' Daniel Pahlsson.

"We competed as hard as we could have," Bartzan said. "We just got outplayed at the

bottom three spots."

The bottom three spots were without freshman Scott Eddins, who missed the match due to illness. This forced sophomore Matt Bere into the fifth seed spot and freshman Jaideep Shetty into the singles competition for the first time this spring. Both players who played in new positions lost in straight sets.

One highlight to Eddins' absence was the play of freshman Sebastian Iannariello. He took Eddins' spot in the doubles alongside Shetty. Together they captured TCU's only doubles win. "(Iannariello) played quite well considering it was his first dual match," Bartzan said. "I'm sure he'll get the opportunity to contribute again."

Although Eddins is expected to be back at full strength for TCU's match-up with Baylor on Saturday, Bartzan said he alone will not put TCU over the top.

"Whether you win or lose, you better start thinking about the next match as soon as you finish one," Bartzan said. "We can't dwell on wins or losses; we have to put that all aside."

When Baylor comes to Fort Worth on Saturday, Bartzan said his team better be in the right state of mind because Baylor is playing good tennis right now. Two of Baylor's wins have come over eighth-ranked Texas and a top 25 team in Tulane.

"Playing Baylor gives us an opportunity to play a team that will give us a tough match," Bartzan said.

"Whether you win or lose, you better start thinking about the next match as soon as you finish one."
— Tut Bartzan
men's head tennis coach

New Mexico makes excuses for loss to Frogs

It's shocking to me that after a 12-0 WAC record and a 31-point victory over a top-15 team that TCU is still "a team that shouldn't have had a chance to beat New Mexico." Apparently a No. 15 ranking isn't enough to convince even the Lobo fans that the Frogs deserve a place among college basketball's elite.

Poor Lobos. They came into Daniel-Meyer Coliseum and lost more than an "exhibition game." They may have lost a possible No. 4 or No. 5 seed in the NCAA tournament.

TCU gained an opportunity to grab a No. 4 seed in the NCAAs if the Frogs can get by the remaining regular season opponents and win the WAC Tournament in Las Vegas.

Dave Bliss and New Mexico need to realize that no matter who's on the schedule or when, you have to play the game. It doesn't make a difference if the game counts toward the conference standings. When you are talking about two teams in the national rankings, no game is for "exhibition" only.

I hope TCU takes the remarks of Dave Bliss to heart. The Frogs could meet New Mexico in the second round of the WAC tournament. Poor Dave. I wonder if it would be an "exhibition" game then?

Richard Durrett is a senior radio-TV-film major from Montreal, Canada.

Commentary



RICHARD DURRETT



Julie Redwine SKIFF STAFF

University of New Mexico head basketball coach Dave Bliss coaches his team in what he called an "exhibition game" at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Williams emerges as national track star

By Matt Welneck
SKIFF STAFF

Senior sprinter Syan Williams has always been good; however, having an All-American sprinter in front of you makes it tough to get noticed. But, as senior Percival Spencer's hamstring injury has kept him from competing so far this year, Williams has dashed to the forefront.

"He has really blossomed in his performance and confidence," head coach Monte Stratton said. "He's a national-caliber sprinter with the leading time in the 55-meter dash."

His time of 6.06 seconds in the 55-meter last



Stacy Robertson SKIFF STAFF

Senior Syan Williams broke the school record in the 55-meter dash this year.

weekend in Colorado Springs makes him the fastest collegiate in the country right now. That time set the school record, and Williams says there's more to come.

"I wasn't expecting to run that fast; my main goal was to qualify for nationals," he said. "I still have more left in me, though."

This season, Williams, who is from Kingston, Jamaica, has made a complete turnaround from last season, both physically and mentally. During last year's Christmas holidays, Williams spent the break in Ohio instead of Fort Worth to train for the upcoming season. As a result, his performance condition dropped and he said he didn't feel mentally prepared to compete.

The low point of Williams' season occurred in last year's WAC Championship when he injured his hamstring 25 meters into the 55-meter dash. The injury sidelined him for about five weeks, all but ruining his season.

"I wasn't prepared physically, I wasn't ready (to compete)," Williams said. "Most of it was mental, though. That's why I got hurt."

Stratton asked Williams to stay in Fort Worth this Christmas, and he agreed. Stratton, who describes Williams as dedicated and intense, worked with him intensely throughout the break to prepare him for competition.

"That's the major difference in him being healthy from last year," Stratton said. "It's obviously a plus. It did not take anything away from him being physically sharp."

The results Williams has had in this spring's meets have proven that his hard work is paying off. He has placed first in the 55-meter dash, as well as the 200-meter dash, in nearly every indoor meet this season. He has automatically qualified for nationals in the 55 and provisionally qualified in the 200 with a time of 21.03 seconds.

"Barring any unforeseen circumstances, he should win the national championship," Stratton said.

Williams, who started running when he was about 12 years old, said it was his mother, Millicent Williams, who got him interested in track, and he said he believes he received his talent from her.

"My mother used to run track," Williams said. "She told me she really enjoyed it and that I might too."

While in high school, Williams' relay team made a trip to the United States and won a 100-meter relay. Williams caught the attention of the track coach at Central State University in Ohio, who offered Williams a full scholarship.

He spent two years there before meeting Stratton at the Penn Relays in 1996. After talking to Stratton, Williams decided to transfer to TCU and become part of the Horned Frog track team.

"TCU has a tradition of great sprinters," Williams said. "TCU was the best place for me to come."

Although he has the fastest time in the country going into the conference championships next weekend, Williams doesn't want to predict anything, except that he will put forth his best effort and a positive attitude.

"I'm very confident; my main objective is to go out there and do my best," Williams said. "I know that I can run with anybody in the nation right now. I know I can do well."

Williams, a business management major, said he hopes to run outdoor track professionally once he graduates from college.

In the meantime, though, Williams is looking to make his mark in the TCU record books and help bring the championship home to Fort Worth.

U.S. Olympian defends actions

By R.B. Fallstrom
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — Brett Hull wants confessions.

The St. Louis Blues star says the U.S. players who trashed a suite at the Olympic village should step forward and apologize for a "deplorable" act. Otherwise, he said, all the players are tainted.

"There comes a point in time where you have to stand up and be a man," Hull said. "It's up to the people who did it. . . . to come forward and have respect for the other players and say, 'It was me. I apologize. It was a stupid thing to do.' There's nothing that can be harder, but bigger, to do."

U.S. coach Ron Wilson, who coaches the Washington Capitals, also called for the guilty players to come forward. He then said those players should never again be involved in international play.

"It is an unfortunate incident and I'm embarrassed by it," Wilson told *The Washington Post*. "It is inexcusable what they did. It shows no class at all. Unfortunately, everybody is guilty by association."

Hull was blamed in initial reports, along with teammates Chris Chelios, Gary Suter and Joel Otto. Upon returning from Nagano, Japan, Hull angrily denied it, vouched for his teammates and threatened to sue those "slandering" him.

