

Skiff



Inside

Tickling the ivories at the Walsh Center grand opening.

See Weekend

WEATHER FORECAST

High 90
Low 69

Cloudy, chance of showers



FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

Texas Christian University
96th Year • Number 15

Campus

Police ask for help identifying suspect

The Fort Worth Police Department is looking for help identifying the suspect involved with incidents near Stonegate Villas.

If anyone has information, the Fort Worth Police Department asks students to contact the police department's Berry Street storefront at 923-1720. Callers can leave information on voice mail or ask to talk with an officer. Callers may also contact Detective Don Hamlin directly at 877-8316.

Hamlin said: "We want callers to give us as much information as possible about the suspect. They don't have to give us their name. We just need specific information about the suspect."

Colleges

Weekend work hoped to stop binge drinking

BLACKSBURG, Va. (U-WIRE) — In an attempt to curb student drinking habits, Virginia Tech President Paul Torgersen circulated a memo to all faculty providing guidelines for professors.

Included in the memo, Torgersen recommended that faculty maintain the level of course work throughout weekends in an attempt to prevent weekend alcohol abuse.

"We know that high faculty expectations and students' commitment to academic work are closely tied together," Torgersen said in the Sept. 1 memo. "We need your help in making it clear to students that the abuse of alcohol is not just a rite of passage to be tolerated."

Torgersen wrote that professors should not encourage students' pattern of partying Thursday nights and weekends.

"You can reinforce this message by not granting extensions requested because of excessive drinking and by not changing your class work schedule to accommodate the pattern of Thursday-night partying," Torgersen said. "Please also be cautious about off-hand comments or joking that may communicate that excessive drinking is to be expected or even funny."

Torgersen also said weekend work can help students stay on task.

—The Collegiate Times
Virginia Tech

Graduate turns self in for embezzling funds

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (U-WIRE) — Following a three-week-long police investigation into an alleged embezzlement of University of Virginia Student Council funds, former Council Chief Financial Officer Christopher Butler turned himself into University Police on Wednesday morning.

Butler, who graduated last May, was released on a \$2,500 unsecured bond. He is charged with embezzlement for writing two checks to himself totaling \$364.34.

Two of the checks, one written April 10 for \$184.77 and one written April 24 for \$179.57 were made out to "Christopher Baron."

He told police that "Baron" was his mother's maiden name and a name he was known by at his bank.

Police also charged Butler with an additional misdemeanor charge for writing a similar check to Kroger for \$180.70. Police requested Butler to turn over receipts for the checks, but he was unable to do so.

Council President Howard A. Foad III, Jason Cross, current Council chief financial officer and Student Activities Business Manager Bill Hancher declined to comment.

If convicted, Butler could face from one to 20 years for each count of embezzlement, a felony, and no more than 12 months and/or a \$2,500 fine for the misdemeanor charge.

—Cavalier Daily
University of Virginia

Academic year officially begins Ferrari outlines 10 'emphases'

By Alexis Patterson
SKIFF STAFF

Chancellor Michael Ferrari inaugurated the 126th academic year Thursday with a list of 10 "emphases" for the university's future, among them the need for a new student center and recreational facilities and promised increases in faculty and staff salaries and benefits.

At this symbolic beginning of the school year, Ferrari said, during his 30-minute address to a packed Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium, that he felt TCU will earn more respect as a prominent university in the coming years.

"This is a very special place with an uncommonly bright future," Ferrari said.

His address centered on 10 goals Ferrari said need to be emphasized for the future.

His first goal was to develop a sharpened mission statement.

"A bold vision will lead to the university's increased academic stature and national visibility," Ferrari said.

But a refined mission statement isn't enough, Ferrari said in his address. His second emphasis was on devel-

Please see CONVOCATION, Page 9



Flowers awarded for teaching

By Ernest Jochim
SKIFF STAFF

Ronald B. Flowers, professor of religion and chairman of the religion department, was recognized Thursday with the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching during Fall Convocation.

"I was surprised," Flowers said. "It is a huge honor to receive such an award. The other seven candidates were very well-qualified and distinguished in their fields of study."

"I cannot think of anything that I would rather be doing other than teaching," Flowers said. "TCU is a good school, and I have enjoyed the time that I have spent at the university."

Patrice Wheeler, a former student of Flowers and now a Tarrant County Junior College instructor, wrote the letter recommending Flowers for the award.

"Academically, I strive to provide the quality level of instruction that he always exemplified, and I live by the humanitarian lessons that he taught me," Wheeler wrote. "So it is with patience and understanding that I relate to

the many challenges that my students face."

The Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching is given in alternate years in rotation with the Chancellor's Award for Research and Creative Activity. The Chancellor's Award was created to recognize and honor outstanding and dedicated teaching by faculty members. The goal of the award is to provide encouragement for teaching achievements and to emphasize the significance placed upon superior teaching at the university.

Flowers was presented with a \$20,000 check and a plaque during Convocation.

Candidates are selected by their peers, and their names are forwarded to the dean of that college. Next, those nominees' names are sent to the chancellor, who makes the final decision about the recipient of the award.

Flowers received a Bachelor of Arts from TCU in 1957, a Bachelor of Divinity — now the equivalent of a master's degree — in 1960 from Vanderbilt Divinity School and a Doctor of Philosophy in religion from the

Please see AWARD, Page 9



Jennifer Klein/SKIFF STAFF

Above: Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs William Koehler (right) congratulates Ronald Flowers, chairman of the religion department, on being given the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching at Fall Convocation on Thursday in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. Above left: Another highlight of Convocation was the address by Chancellor Michael Ferrari, who outlined 10 "emphases" as TCU looks toward the future.

Shuttle bus hoped to alleviate problems

◆ **Worth Hills students can't park cars on main campus starting Oct. 1.**

By Talia S. Dancer
STAFF REPORTER

A possible remedy to the frustration of student parking during peak class hours may be around the corner.

Starting Oct. 1, TCU will launch a

shuttle bus system with pick-up stops every 15 minutes. The system is targeted to provide bus transportation for Worth Hills residents from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. In return, Worth Hills residents will not be allowed to use the campus's east-side parking lots during those hours.

"We have been looking for a solution to this problem for some time, and we have considered two or three proposals," said Don Mills, vice

chancellor for student affairs. "We decided last spring, before we made a significant financial commitment, if the shuttle would be used."

He said more registered vehicles this fall was one of the main reasons TCU decided to go ahead and try the shuttle system.

"This just made a difficult problem worse," he said, adding that the only sure test was "just to do it."

Mills said, "We're going to give it

several months, but of course we can terminate the test at any time we feel it isn't working."

The city of Fort Worth is providing two buses for the year to carry out the project. The destination board on the buses will read "Frog Shuttle."

Although it is just a pilot program, necessary changes to expand or meet other needs will be considered.

Steve McGee, chief of Campus Police, said they are still waiting on a

final cost agreement but the amount of the whole operation is expected to be reasonable.

They will run nonstop on a tentative route from Wiggins Hall to the Worth Hills cafeteria, up Stadium Drive to Moncrief Hall, from the Coliseum parking lot to the Student Center, back down Stadium Drive to the corner near the Health Center, over to the Moudy Building, Tandy

Please see SHUTTLE, Page 4

Return of the Jitterbug Swing dancing is experiencing a revival in Fort Worth

By Crissa Renteria
SKIFF STAFF

Strolling through the streets of downtown Fort Worth on a Wednesday night, one will most likely hear tunes reminiscent of the 1940s. The tunes heard are known as swing, an old style of music that is making a major comeback.

Many clubs such as Caravan of Dreams, USA Cafe, 8.0 and the Aardvark are offering swing dancing lessons, and people are lining up. The swing fever started taking off at the beginning of this year and has become more and more popular.

Lisa Hall, director of promotions for Caravan of Dreams, said the club has gotten a great response since they started offering swing dance lessons about a month ago.

"Last Wednesday we had over 400 people in here for the lessons," she said. "We are starting to get a lot of regulars and are excited that things are going so well."

She said people of all ages come in for lessons, and some even dress up in the classic '40s attire.

"Part of the popularity of swing dancing is the upbeat atmosphere and music," Hall said. "When people come in, they are dressed up and ready to have a good time. I think that's what the culture of the '40s was all about."

Hall said if the response keeps up, Caravan will start having dance contests and offering lessons two to three nights a week.

"If we keep getting such a great response, we will definitely expand and include a lot more activities," she said.

Tyson Trice, a freshman advertising/public relations major, said he always has a great time swing dancing.

"It's a lot of fun and really different," he said. "It's like stepping back into history."

"I think it's weird to think that I'm doing something my

Please see SWING, Page 9



Tammy Ibach/SKIFF STAFF

Swingin' to the music at Caravan of Dreams on Wednesday night were Heather Lippincourt, a freshman premajor, and Garth Ramsey, a freshman instrumental performance music major. The dance club offers lessons from 8 to 10 p.m. every Wednesday.

New financial software causes budget problems

SKIFF STAFF

With the implementation of the new financial software system, PeopleSoft, TCU's departmental budget managers have reasons to get both excited and frustrated.

With annual budgets just now getting out, departments have been virtually operating in the dark since the semester began. Problems that have occurred include late paychecks, incorrect paychecks and paychecks sent to the wrong department or address.

PeopleSoft is an administrative software system that runs on client/server technology. It is TCU's solution to the year 2000 problem they would have had with the existing program, Information Associates.

David E. Edmondson, assistant provost for information services and the TCU project manager, said: "Once all functionality is in place, PeopleSoft will allow student registration via the Internet, electronic purchase order generation and much more. Employees

will be able to change benefit and retirement information online, and they'll even be able to query the system to see how these changes will affect their pay.

"The systems are latent with year 2000 problems, and rather than make modifications to the 1982 software, it would be better to spend our money and move to new technology," Edmondson said.

The cost of PeopleSoft is \$1.5 million, which includes upgrading all campus computers as well as the installation and long-term maintenance of the new system.

TCU is targeting June 1999 for the complete removal of the old system mainframe. Edmondson said they chose June because the summer months are slower and they can test the software in a production environment.

"We want to make sure that the software is functioning the way we want it to function and that the staff in the central office — which

Please see BUDGET, Page 10

Pulse

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moody Building South, Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050 or e-mailed to skiffletters@tcu.edu. Deadline for receiving announcements is 2 p.m. the day before they are to run. The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and space available.

TCU CALENDAR HANDBOOKS are available for commuter students at the Student Center Information Desk.

PSI CHI, national psychology honor society, applications are now available in the psychology office in Winton-Scott Hall. All forms are due today.

TCU TRIANGLE will meet 5 p.m. Sunday at the Wesley Center.

SUNDAY MASS sponsored by the Catholic Community will be held 7:30 p.m. Sunday in the Student Center Ballroom.

CHI DELTA MU luncheon and speaker at noon Monday in Student Center Room 205 for students and faculty.

EATING DISORDERS SUPPORT GROUP now forming at the TCU Counseling Center. For an initial screening appointment, call Dorothy M. Barra at 257-7863.

SKEE WEEK CELEBRATION for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority events include "A Sisterly Welcome" at 4 p.m. Sunday in Student Center Room 209; "AKApolo Talent Showcase" at noon Monday in the Student Center Lounge; "My Sisters and My Brothers" at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Student Center Room 209; and "Sisters Getting Their Groove Back" at 7 p.m. Friday on the Student Center steps.

RÉSUMÉ WRITING WORKSHOP at noon Wednesday to give students an overview of the resumé writing process. Sign up at the Student Center Annex or call 257-7860. If fewer than 5 people register, the workshop will be canceled.

TCU LONDON CENTRE general information sessions at 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday in Student Center Rooms 205 and 207, respectively. The sessions will inform any students interested about internships and study abroad at TCU's new international center.

TCU LECTURE SERIES features Dana Nelson from Duke University at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 28 in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center Cox Banquet Room C.

In The News...

World

Gunmen kill 19 near Baja California, witness lives

EL SAUZAL, Mexico — Gunmen apparently sent by a drug lord yanked three families from their beds before dawn Thursday, lined them up against a wall and killed at least 19 men, women and children near a popular Baja California resort.

At least one man was seriously wounded. Police have a witness in protective custody, a 15-year-old girl who hid under a bed during the slaughter. The Associated Press has learned.

The attorney general of Baja California state, Marco Antonio de la Fuente Virrarreal, said the head of one of the households grew marijuana for the Arellano Felix drug-smuggling gang, the government news agency Notimex reported.

He said the man, Fermin Castro, oversaw the Arellano Felix's marijuana plantations nearby. Castro wasn't killed in the attack, but was in very serious condition with a bullet wound to the head, health officials said.

Nation

Federal agencies still open despite budget battles

WASHINGTON — Signaling that Republicans want no part of an election-season government shutdown, the House voted unanimously Thursday to keep federal agencies open next month despite raging budget fights between Congress and President Clinton.

Lawmakers voted 421-0 to let agencies function through Oct. 9 to give Congress and the president more time to complete their budget work. Fiscal year 1999 begins Oct. 1, but so far legislators have sent Clinton just one of the 13 annual spending bills needed for the new year.

The Senate was expected to whisk the stopgap measure to the president's desk as early as Thursday night. The White House said Clinton would sign it.

With Election Day seven weeks off, the vote underlined how eager Republicans are to preclude letting Clinton shift the focus from impeachment talk. Democrats went along after concluding that with the exhaustive media coverage of Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern, a noisy fight on the uncontroversial stopgap bill would have received little attention.

The measure is "straightforward, and doesn't include any extraneous or controversial matters that might result in a government shutdown," said House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bob Livingston, R-La.

Democrats try to delay release of Clinton's taped testimony

WASHINGTON — Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee mounted a final, furious attempt Thursday to delay release of President

Clinton's videotaped grand jury testimony. Republicans demanded an FBI inquiry into an alleged "systematic attempt to intimidate" the panel's chairman and others.

In an atmosphere of steadily deepening partisanship, majority Republicans promised to go ahead with the distribution of Clinton's testimony as early as Friday. Even before the roll was called behind the closed committee doors, TV outlets were making plans for airing a four-hour tape said to contain images of a president who was defiant, angry and evasive by turns as he fielded explicit questions from Kenneth Starr's prosecutors last month.

The committee met as the political fallout continued in the House over publication of an article detailing an extramarital affair by the committee's chairman, Rep. Henry Hyde, more than 30 years ago.

White House chief of staff Erskine Bowles dispatched a letter to Hyde pledging to fire anyone involved in prying into the personal lives of lawmakers. "In addition, we have made clear to persons outside the White House that we will not tolerate such conduct," Bowles said.

Republicans were furious — and Democrats expressed anger as well — over an article about the 74-year-old impeachment panel chairman who enjoys an unusual bipartisan reputation for honesty and integrity.

Toddler who was trapped in tub had leg amputated

CAMDEN, N.J. — A toddler's leg was amputated after her mother apparently collapsed on her and died, trapping the girl in a bathtub for at least a day.

The child, 3-year-old Leslie Laureano, was in stable condition Thursday at Cooper Hospital-University Medical Center. One day earlier, she underwent surgery to remove her leg just below the right knee.

The family's minister found her Sunday in the bathtub with her mother, Maria Carmen Laureano, lying on top of her, police said.

Mrs. Laureano, 41, had a history of medical problems and is believed to have had a seizure, struck her head and fallen on the girl. The child may have been trapped as long as 36 hours, authorities said.

The toddler, who is deaf and learning disabled, was discovered when the minister went to the family's apartment to deliver food. He broke into the apartment after he heard the girl crying, police said.

State

Six charged with killing mentally impaired man

HOUSTON — A \$50,000 life insurance policy was taken out on a mentally retarded, 59-year-old man by the housemates accused of beating him to death, according to a police affidavit.

The policy stipulates extra dividends were to be paid if Louis "Buddy" Musso died as a result of

violent crime, the *Houston Chronicle* reported Thursday. The information was contained in a Sept. 9 Galena Park police search warrant obtained by the newspaper.

Six people remain in custody, charged with capital murder in Musso's kidnapping and slaying. A jogger found Musso's body in the east Houston suburb of Galena Park on Aug. 26, the same day a search by Galena Park police turned up the evidence.

In the Sept. 9 affidavit requesting a warrant to search the home of Suzanne Basso, who was hosting Musso at the house, Assistant Police Chief Robert Pruett said the first search turned up evidence that "led me to believe that Ms. Basso stood to benefit from Mr. Musso's death."

Pruett also noted that he read a will, purportedly signed by Musso, that named Basso his beneficiary. Four other defendants witnessed the will, Pruett told the *Chronicle*.

Charged with capital murder are Basso, 44; her son, James O'Malley Jr., 23; Bernice Ahrens, 54; her son, Craig Ahrens, 25; Ms. Ahrens' daughter, Hope Ahrens, 22, and the daughter's fiancée, Terence Singleton, 26.

Musso, who resided at an assisted living home in Cliffside, N.J., moved to Houston believing he was going to marry Basso, widowed in May 1997. Her husband's death was ruled to be of natural causes, but Houston police have reopened the case.

Also, the *Chronicle* found that Basso never officially divorced James O'Malley Sr., the father of her son.

Presidential shoes reveal feet facts

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. — Abraham Lincoln had big feet, Lyndon Johnson had differently sized shoes for each foot and Bill Clinton wears size 13 blue suede penny loafers.

These facts and more can be learned at the latest traveling exhibition to hoof its way into the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

Some presidential shoes were hard to fill. Lincoln wore massive size 14s, and Johnson was a shoe salesman's nightmare, wearing an 11 on his right foot and an 11 1/2 on his left.

The shoes on display through Nov. 29 are actually replicas of shoes given to presidents by Johnston & Murphy. The Nashville-based shoe company boasts it has shod every president since Millard Fillmore.

"We write them a nice letter extending our offer and telling them our history," the firm's Deanna Grubbs said Wednesday. "They always respond graciously and send us their size. We've never had one refuse."

A second pair of shoes is always made for promotional purposes.

The company recently sent Clinton a pair of blue suede penny loafers — "We knew he loved the blues," Grubbs said.

These stories are from The Associated Press.

TCU DAILY Skiff
Since 1902

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ext. 107.
We're dying for actors! September 24, at 6 p.m. Auditions for Haunted House creatures at Arlington Museum of Art. 201 W. Main St. (817) 275-4600.
If You Like Kids, You'll Love This One! Dynamic 10 year old girl needs experienced caregiver to shuttle her from TCU-area elementary school to home and/or activities in and around southwest Fort Worth. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 3:30-6:30 p.m. Competitive hourly wage plus mileage.

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editorial

BRIGHT IDEAS

Ferrari presents valuable goals for TCU

Upon the conclusion of Chancellor Michael Ferrari's Convocation address Thursday, the applause from the fairly large audience of students, faculty and staff seemed to catch TCU's leader a little off guard, and, perhaps, embarrassed him a little. But the 30-minute, fast-paced speech he gave was well-deserving of such adulation.

Ferrari was going so fast at times that even those taking notes of the speech had trouble keeping up with the multitude of ideas and commitments put forward for TCU's future. And the stink of it is (at least for us usually whiny editorial writers), who could complain with the 10 emphases Ferrari charged the campus with?

The expression of fresh ideas and focus on solutions was a refreshing change from previous "TCU in the future" speeches, where goals were talked of in mostly abstract terms. Instead of audience members questioning, "So where do we go from here?" Convocation audience members were likely saying, "So how do we jump aboard?"

Although a few of the 10 "emphases" were vague, the more refined ones were very encouraging. But a few of the points we'd like to see made:

- To develop a strategic plan for TCU's continuing advancement, Ferrari's second point, the university should widely publicize its goals for future years across campus and in the community. For example, five- and 10-year plans, when finalized, should be openly shared with the entire university community so all people might recognize their role in TCU's development.

- Placing more emphasis on a global approach, his eighth point, often comes down to a matter of money. More study abroad scholarships and financial aid should be made available, and programs, like the TCU London Centre, should be made more affordable. Then more students will be able to have a "meaningful international experience," and study abroad will not seem as much like an elitist idea.

- More alumni involvement, the ninth point, would greatly enhance the university. Many alumni are involved financially, and many more support TCU through athletics, but there are more ways they can make a difference. One good way would be through a mentor program and increased networking, which many departments already have. Students could pair up with alumni working in their chosen field to learn more about it and the corresponding opportunities.

TCU DAILY Skiff

An All-American Newspaper

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Clinton eclipses the real news

"It's the end of the world as we know it..." Michael Stipe sings out on the radio.

The end as we know it may or may not be approaching, but I have serious doubts that we could be aware or recognize it. Many events with possible grave consequences are taking place, but we are not very aware of these happenings concerning the United States or the rest of the world.

Scandals involving President Clinton, Monica Lewinsky and everything that ever occurred between them have occupied the front page of the city newspapers, national news magazines and television news.

With the brief exception of Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa's heroic and successful chase of Babe Ruth and Roger Maris, the main focus of the news media

and the public has been the president's personal life.

Clinton has a professional life as well, one that affects every American directly, and the world indirectly. The focus on his personal life and not the problems of the country and the world disturb me.

Important events, issues and decisions are happening every day. We, the public, as well as the lawmakers in Washington, D.C., have lost our focus on what else is important.

Maybe the end of the world is near.

Many reasons from around the world testify to the fact that all is not well.

The global economy is quickly becoming crippled. Asia, Latin America and Russia are experiencing recessions with their stock markets and currencies plunging. Terrorists are taking action against the United States and the American way of life. Many people lost their lives when U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were bombed last month.

The Congo is in a civil war. Peace talks have failed to stop the fighting, which began about six weeks ago. Its neighboring coun-

try, Rwanda, threatens to send troops to protect its borders.

Nuclear war is still very possible. India and Pakistan, which tested nuclear weapons earlier this summer, have not resolved their conflicts. Neither a nuclear ban treaty nor an end to the nuclear arms race between the two countries has occurred, despite U.S. economic sanctions.

Saddam Hussein is still refusing to allow U.N. representatives to inspect for weapons in Iraq. The United States won the Gulf War, but Hussein is still in power seven years later.

In Kosovo, the Serbian military continues to advance. Thousands of refugees are fleeing their homes to escape annihilation.

This is not pleasant to read or hear about. It is, however, very important to know.

Our neighbors in the world community are facing death and destruction on a grand scale.

The U.S. lawmakers and public are bypassing this information and concentrating on the personal life of Clinton.

The Clinton-Starr saga does deserve attention. Many questions need to be answered by the president, Starr, Lewinsky and the cast

of this drawn-out drama.

Those questions will be answered in due time. The Starr report is on the Internet for the public to read and determine their personal opinions. The House of Representatives and possibly the Senate will determine what action will be taken against the president.

As the personal life of Clinton is being exposed, the economies of Russia, Latin America and East Asia will still be in a recession. The value of their currency will keep falling.

Terrorists will continue planning attacks against the United States and anyone who gets in their way.

Civil war will be waged in the Congo. Refugees will pour out of Kosovo, fleeing for their lives.

India and Pakistan will continue to face off on their nuclear capabilities. Sanctions will continue, damaging the economy both here and there.

It could be the end of the world as we know it. We just aren't paying attention.

Missie Korte is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Des Moines, Iowa.

Commentary



MISSIE KORTE

Diversity not all it's cracked up to be

Rush demographics prove claims of fully integrated campus are exaggerated

It seems that every time I pick up the Skiff, I read an article about how "diverse" and "fully integrated" the TCU campus has become. Well, I just don't think so!

Just to clarify, I'm a member of the Tarrant County Young Republican Party and therefore am a fairly strong conservative.

And to be very honest, I don't see a definitive advantage to cultural diversity in the workplace or schools. Let's say I want to learn about African-American culture or heritage. . . . I'm not going to learn a thing about African-American culture or heritage by sitting next to a black person in my calculus class. Being in class with that individual will not instill any new values in me or even help my cultural awareness for that matter.

So what has compelled me to write an article complaining about a lack of diversity here at TCU?

It's simple. You see, I believe there is a general lack of awareness among much of the student body concerning what diversity is and what it is not. Likewise, I've heard writer after writer attempt to convey similarly distorted

views of integration here on campus.

Now that Rush has ended for girls hopeful to join a sorority, we are provided with a perfect example of just how far short of the mark we are when it comes to diversity. During Panhellenic Rush, I saw only one black person out of the 550 girls who went through Rush. Only one!

Aside from the fact that there are so few blacks at this school, I would venture to say the reason for this small number is due to the similarly small number of blacks active in sororities. Likewise, when we turn to fraternities, we see similar trends. Granted, there are several black fraternal organizations here on campus (four), but the numbers of active participants contrast sharply in comparison with the (yes, I'll say it) white fraternal organizations. Well, then why are so few blacks active in such groups? What can we do to change this, if we want to become the "diverse" and "fully integrated" school we already claim to be?

Perhaps the best solution for all of this is the one that President Clinton, in his infinite wisdom, offered the nation earlier this year. This man is simply amazing. He is a revolutionary. His speech about race relations in America was truly awe-inspiring (mostly because it was

so utterly stupid). I mean, "Racism is bad and we should all learn how to live together . . ." That is pure genius! I never would have thought of that.

You see, nobody knows what to say when it comes to race relations. No one has the right answer. When I called Campus Life to inquire about some of the other demographic facts regarding this semester's Rushees, I found it impossible to get an answer. All administrators and politicians have a tendency to avoid directly answering any question at all. In college, we rarely even ask the questions; rather, we actually just choose to live with ignoring the issue.

Here at TCU there are so many things we can pride ourselves in. We have so much going for us. However, I believe we are trying to celebrate one of our shortcomings here, and by doing so, making ourselves look foolish. Is diversity a necessity in this environment? No, I honestly don't think so.

But if we choose to pride ourselves in our ability to diversify, then by all means, let's actually do it.

Chris M. Popielski is a freshman business and political science major from Arlington.

Letter to the editor

Replacement of Lariats sacrifices TCU traditions

Our first TCU football game at Amon Carter Stadium was missing a strong form of school spirit. I am speaking about how TCU has decided to cancel the Lariat Organization. This group was one of the few standing traditions that TCU students had tried to form. The Lariats stood proudly in the end zone at TCU football games long before I became a student here.

We have abolished a diverse group of gentlemen who were nominated and elected and replaced them with a random selection of TCU students.

These uniformed young men represented our student body in a respectable manner. Now we have scantily dressed, purple-painted Hyperfrogs running around aimlessly in their place. The Lariats stood proudly while they focused on the game. Their replacements took on the unnecessary role of attempting to entertain the crowd by playing a distracting, childish game of leap frog.

Entertainment on the field should be placed in the hands of those who try out for cheerleader or Showgirl.

I am personally disappointed by the banning of the Lariats and the replacement by the Hyperfrogs. Children at the games admired the Lariats and anticipated the occasions when they could catch candy from the gentlemen while in the stands. At the game, and following, I overheard and spoke to many alumni who do not support this hastily made decision.

Fans cannot rely on their team to provide an eventful and worthwhile season. Fans have to be able to hold on to tradition because it is an essential element in a successful football program. Many universities pride themselves on the tradition held by a group of students picked to cheer on the field.

It is my understanding that the purpose of the Hyperfrogs is to keep the morale high in the student section where it has always been. We need to keep the little tradition we have at this university and one that we can be proud of as an organization. We need to bring back the Lariats!

Courtney A. Eldman
senior speech communication major

Police Blotter

Campus Police reported the following activity between Aug. 24 and Sept. 16:

Disorderly Conduct

Sept. 4 — Campus Police responded to a call from Colby Hall about two men yelling at a female resident. A witness said he saw two men grab and argue with the resident. The witness approached them, and both men starting yelling and told him it was none of his business. Both suspects had been dating the resident and wanted to confront her. The resident said the suspects grabbed her and both yelled at her and would not let her into Colby. The resident did not want to press charges.

Sept. 12 — At the end of the OU/TCU football game, a man ran onto the field shouting "OU Sucks." He was asked to leave the field by Campus Police and the Fort Worth Police Department, but he ignored the request and continued to shout "OU Sucks." He was then asked for his TCU ID, but he refused. FWPD assisted and the man produced the ID, which was confiscated and turned over to the dean of students.

Criminal Mischief

Sept. 2 — A cue ball was thrown through a window at the Sigma Chi house in Tomlinson Hall. The student who reported the incident said he was asleep when he heard his window-break. Campus Police checked the Worth Hills area for suspicious activity. They found another broken window in the chapter room of the Lambda Chi house.

Sept. 10 — The Tom Brown Hall fire alarm was pulled by an unknown person.

Sept. 13 — Campus Police found shattered glass at the northwest door of Milton Daniel Hall. Officers took pictures and cleared the scene. They have no suspects.

Theft

Aug. 25 — An unknown person stole a student's property while the student was at the Student Center. The student said he left the property on a table and walked away for a few minutes. When he returned, the property was gone.

Aug. 25 — An employee at Ed Landreth Hall left his office with his door closed but not locked. When he returned he found unknown people had entered his office without consent and stolen property.

Sept. 2 — An unknown person took a printer from the office of the Sigma Kappa house in Francis-Sadler Hall.

Sept. 6 — Campus Police reported a student stealing food from the Worth Hills dining room. They found the doors closed but not latched. No suspects were found.

Sept. 9 — A student reported his gym bag stolen from the Rickel Building. The student played racquetball for about 45 minutes, and when he returned the bag was gone. The student and an officer searched the building and nothing was found.

Harassment

Aug. 26 — Two residents of Sherley Hall reported harassing phone calls. They said the man had called five times and told one of the residents he knew she was alone, a line believed taken from the script of one of the "Scream" movies.

Aug. 30 — A man entered Waits Hall and began knocking on a resident's door. He had sent her several e-mail messages. Campus Police did not get a statement from the resident.

Aug. 30 — A Sherley Hall resident left her dorm to eat, and when she got home she had two harassing voice mail messages. Campus Police told her that she should not erase the messages and that a detective would contact her.

Aug. 31 — A Brite Divinity School employee checked his voice mail and there was a conversation between two unknown people. There were references to sex and some things said in a threatening manner. There was never anything directed toward the employee.

Aug. 31 — A library employee had two voice mail messages talking about sex and containing some threatening phrases. The messages did not have anything personal about the employee. Campus Police believe the unknown caller may be linked to the Brite Divinity report.

Sept. 1 — A resident of Foster Hall reported harassing phone calls. The resident went to an area electronics store for cables for her computer, where a man wanted to come to campus and check her computer to see which cables she needed. The resident gave the suspect her dorm room number and her telephone number. The resident told her resident assistant about the man. The RA did not want the man in the dorm. He had been leaving voice mails for the resident. She called the electronics store and told them she no longer needed their services. The man then called the resident and told her he knew it was she who called but still he wanted to visit.

Hit and Run

Aug. 26 — A student parked his vehicle in the Lubbock/Lowden parking lot. When he returned after class, he found damage to the left rear quarter.

Frat indicted in student's death

By Karen Russo
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — Prosecutors took the extraordinary step Thursday of charging a Massachusetts Institute of Technology fraternity — the organization, not its members — with manslaughter in the case of a student who drank himself to death at a party a year ago.

The case against the MIT chapter of Phi Gamma Delta is believed to be the first in the nation in which a fraternity has been charged with homicide, District Attorney Ralph Martin said.

The fraternity was indicted on charges of manslaughter and hazing in the death of Scott Krueger, an 18-year-old student who fell into a coma last September after a drinking binge at the MIT fraternity he was pledging in Boston's Fenway neighborhood.

No individual fraternity members will face charges, not even those who bought the alcohol.

Manslaughter is punishable by a maximum \$1,000 fine and 20 years in jail, and hazing carries a \$3,000 fine and 1 1/2 years behind bars. Since there is no way to put an organization behind bars, the most the fraternity faces is a fine.

"My office determined that the indictments should be aimed at the fraternity that promoted and orchestrated the activities that ultimately led to Scott Krueger's death, not at the people who were sent on a purchasing errand," Martin said.

Officers at the Phi Gamma Delta national headquarters in Lexington, Ky., were not available for comment, a staffer said.

The fraternity chapter was shut down after Krueger's death. He was found in a coma Sept. 27, 1997 in the basement room where he was living and died two days later. His mother said fraternity members told him he had to drink a certain amount of alcohol before he could leave their party.

In other cases around the country involving fraternity drinking deaths, individuals have been charged with homicide, but the fraternities themselves have usually faced charges involving only alcohol violations.

Krueger's parents, Bob and Darlene Krueger of suburban Buffalo, said the indictment puts the responsibility on those who should pay for their son's death: the organization that sanctioned the partying.

The couple said they may also sue MIT as well as the fraternity. Darlene Krueger accused the school of leading the couple to believe on-campus housing was provided for all freshmen. She said many freshmen end up in fraternities days after their arrival on campus.

"We entrusted MIT with our son, and they failed us miserably," she said.

"If such a death could occur at MIT, it could happen anywhere," said Rosalind Williams, MIT's dean of students and undergraduate education. "Dangerous drinking is a problem that needs to be addressed on many fronts and by all concerned."

MIT recently announced that all freshmen starting in 2001 will be required to live in campus dorms.

In August, a Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge pleaded no contest to purchasing alcohol for underage drinkers and agreed to pay \$22,600 in a plea bargain over the drinking death of a 20-year-old pledge.

After a freshman at Frostburg State University in Cumberland, Md., drank himself to death at a fraternity party, eight people were fined \$1,000 each and placed on five years' probation last November for selling alcohol without a license. Manslaughter and reckless endangerment charges against the eight were dropped.

SHUTTLE

From Page 1

Hall, the Bass Building and the Sid W. Richardson Building, then to Berry Street and back to Worth Hills.

Estimated at 30 minutes, with two buses, the service route will be at each stop about every 15 minutes, Mills

said. The buses will seat about 40 people who can board free of charge without any student identification.

He said, "We were trying to really hit the most problematic times to start out, but everything is still up for discussion."

Mills said that when Chancellor Michael Ferrari heard about the problem, he said, "Let's pay what we have to pay to find a solution."

McGee said the street is still open

to public parking but Worth Hill residents will be fined \$25 for parking in the commuter lots.

Skiff Managing Editor Brenda Schulte contributed to this report.

Do you have some talent you want to show off?

Why not let the families of TCU see it? The 1998 Adventures @ TCU Family Weekend is looking for students with talent to show off during our "Shanghai" Variety Show.

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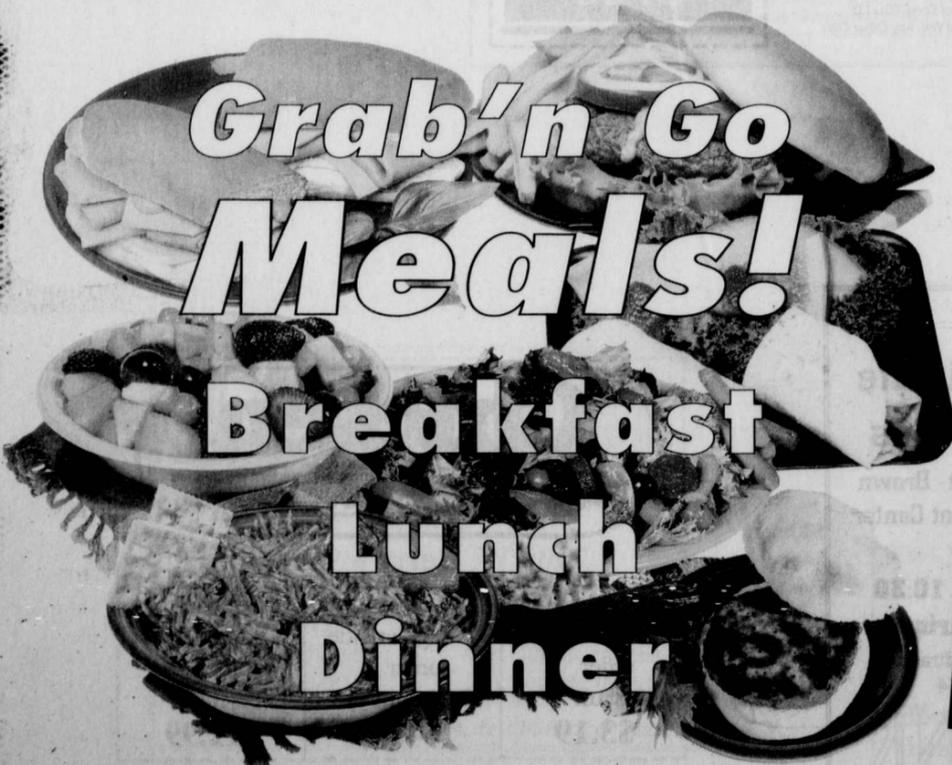
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SWING

From Page 1

grandparents were doing almost 50 years ago," Trice said. The culture of the 1940s made street mobsters, Zoot Suits and Fedoras all symbols of what swing music and the dance represented. Recent movies like "Swing Kids" and "Swingers" depict the dance and music that have become so popular today.

Bands such as Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Squirrel Nut Zippers, Cherry Poppin' Daddies and the Brian Setzer Orchestra, who all performed at the MTV Music Awards, are receiving growing notoriety with their albums. These bands are revitalizing a sound that hasn't been around since World War II.

Ross Heavener, an instructor at Caravan, started swing dancing about five years ago, and said he has had a great time meeting so many new people.

"I have been having a blast here at Caravan and really enjoy all the people who come in," he said. "I have taught for 2 1/2 years, and it seems like swing is gaining popularity because more and more people are showing up."

Some people believe swing dancing is just a fad, but Heavener said he doesn't agree.

"Based on the response we have gotten, I think it's here to stay for a while," he said.

Heavener said there are many types of swing with different degrees of difficulty. East Coast Swing, which is the simplest, has a three-step move almost anyone can master. West Coast Swing, such as the Lindy Hop, is a lot more choreographed and has a five-step move. The Lindy Hop is featured in the popular Gap commercial with music from the Brian

Setzer Orchestra. Heavener and Stephanie Steinsultz, Heavener's partner, said they prefer teaching a modern version of the East Coast Swing which is a lot like the Jitterbug.

"East Coast Swing is the simplest and is open to interpretation," Heavener said. "Stephanie and I like teaching it because we can alter it to make the steps easier or more complicated, depending on the crowd we have."

Caravan of Dreams offers dance lessons Wednesday nights from 8 to 10 p.m. and has a live swing band from 10 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$3 for those under 21 and is free for ages 21 and over.

But clubs aren't the only ones catching the swing fever.

The Fort Worth/Dallas Ballet is featuring a swing style ballet in their upcoming premiere program starting Oct. 3. Their new ballet, "Rite of Swing," will be accompanied by the University of North Texas One O'clock Lab Band.

Lori Soderbergh, marketing director for the FW/D Ballet, said they are trying to reach a broader audience with their new ballet.

"Swing is something that we were really interested in, and our new artistic director, Benjamin Houk, has done an excellent job of putting the program together," she said.

The dancers of the FW/D Ballet will also be performing an excerpt from "Rite of Swing" at the upcoming Blues Festival next weekend, sponsored by The Flying Saucer.

"It's a thrill to be involved in the Blues Festival," Soderbergh said. "The dancers are really excited about starting the new season."

CONVOCATION

From Page 1

oping a "strategic plan" that targets the university's priorities and goals.

The third major issue was an improved working environment for the faculty and staff, including better retirement benefits and enhanced life insurance. Ferrari's fourth emphasis was on the students themselves.

"We are blessed with outstanding students. . . . However, our retention rate is approximately 80 percent. . . . We can and must do better," he said.

Other commitments to improving on-campus student life included a renovated Student Center and an improved Rickel Building.

Ferrari's fifth goal was to increase diversity on campus, and the sixth was on technological advancement for the university. Seventh, Ferrari said he hopes to increase TCU in community involvement.

TCU can help "enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods and cities," Ferrari said.

Eighth, Ferrari said he would like

to examine the possibility of becoming a "global university."

"We should avoid restricting our vision and aspirations to state or national boundaries," he said.

Ninth, Ferrari said TCU should strive to increase alumni involvement. Finally, he said he anticipates strengthening "the celebration of intellectual vitality at TCU." This includes widespread support of campus arts and an expanded lecture series.

Ferrari's speech created a general feeling of enthusiasm for the future.

"The speech was very exciting, and I'm glad Chancellor Ferrari has a direct focus on the future," said Kenny Oubre, a sophomore economics major.

Ann Crassons, a senior international relations and French major, agreed: "This Convocation ceremony made me proud to be a Frog. I'm very excited about the 10 goals he set out as the future of our universi-

ty." The speech made positive impressions on the faculty and staff, too.

"It was a very good speech," said Dave Finn, an assistant professor of marketing. "Ferrari's goals for the university are very clear."

Becky Roach, assistant to the vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the attendance at this Convocation was the highest since former Vice President George Bush addressed TCU in the '80s.

"Chancellor Ferrari spoke to every constituency of the university," she said. "It was very uplifting and challenging for the future."

Ferrari said he was glad to be able to keep the TCU community informed on the future path of the university.

"Convocation was a very happy day," he said. "It always picks up the spirit of the school. I hope the campus has a better sense of direction for the year."

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88, 111 East Third St., Fort Worth, 336-0880. Swing night is every Thursday night with Mr. Fish.

Aardvark, 2505 W. Berry St., Fort Worth, 926-7814. Free swing lessons, 9 p.m. Wednesdays.

Club Clearview's Red Room, 2806 Elm St., Deep Ellum. (214) 939-0077. Every night is swing night.

Jet Lounge, 2813 Commerce St., Dallas. (214) 741-7411. Free swing lessons Wednesday and Saturday nights; beginners' class is at 8 p.m., advanced at 9:30 p.m.

Kemp's at the Hotel Inter-Continental Dallas, 15201 Dallas Parkway. (972) 789-3065. Tuesday night is swing night.

Nana Restaurant and Bar in the Wyndham Anatole Hotel, 27th Floor, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. (214) 748-1200. Cigar swing night every Wednesday and Thursday with Hunter Sullivan.

Red Jacket, 3606 Greenville Ave., Dallas. (214) 823-8333. Free swing lessons Thursday nights, plus Johnny Reno and the Lounge Kings.

Sambuca, 15207 Addison Road, Addison. (972) 385-8455. Swing night, 8 p.m. every Monday.

Sand Castle, 2829 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas. (214) 956-8282. Swing music every night. Free swing lessons at 8 p.m. every Wednesday and 9 p.m. every Friday.

Sons of Hermann Hall, 3414 Elm St., Dallas. (214) 747-4422. Swing lessons Wednesday and Thursday nights, \$5 cover.

The Velvet Hammer, 2826 Elm, Dallas. (214) 742-4267. Swing every Friday and Saturday nights, with free lessons at 8:30 p.m. Cover charge depends on band Friday, \$6 Saturday.

Wreck Room, 3208 W. Seventh St., Fort Worth, 870-4900. Free swing lessons 8:30-10 p.m. Thursdays.

SOURCE: FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Whether it's a trend or here to stay, swing fever has definitely hit the area and shows no signs of slowing down.

AWARD

From Page 1

University of Iowa in 1967. He has been teaching at TCU since 1966 and has been the chairman of the religion department since 1990.



Ronald Flowers, religion dept. chairman

Flowers said he is currently working on a book about Supreme Court decisions regarding conscience defense objectors. He credits his wife, Leah, of 39 years and their three children,

Jennifer Key, Philip and Paul, for their support.

Dean Middleton, assistant professor of religion, said: "Ron was energetic, delightful and extremely quick to help answer any questions that I had when I was deciding upon coming to TCU to teach. He was one of the main reasons that I chose TCU. The students speak very highly of him."

This year's recipient was chosen from among eight other nominees: Rhonda L. Hatcher, associate professor of mathematics, and Kathryn S. McDorman, associate professor of history, both from AddRan College of Arts and

Sciences; William C. Moncrief, professor of marketing, from the M.J. Neeley School of Business; David J. Gouwens, associate professor in Brite Divinity School; Donal Michael Sacken, professor of educational foundations and administration, from the School of Education; Rhonda Keen-Payne, associate professor in the Harris College of Nursing; and Susan Douglas Roberts, assistant professor of ballet and modern dance, and Paul E. King, associate professor of speech communication, from the College of Fine Arts and Communication. All of the nominees received a \$1,000 dollar check and a plaque.

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Mail your recommendations to:
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Drop off your recommendations in the Skiff office:
Moudy Building Room 291S

Wild West returns to Stockyards

◆ Pioneer Days offers non-traditional look at cultural heritage.

By Jaime Walker
SKIFF STAFF

This weekend Fort Worth will celebrate its pioneer beginnings with food, fun and festive entertainment as the 42nd annual Pioneer Days festival gets underway in the Stockyards.

"This year's event has something for everyone," said George Westby, president of the North Fort Worth Business Association, a sponsor of the event. "The festival has really evolved over the years from a big party in the streets to a true celebration of Fort Worth's unique heritage."

This year's festival offers more vendors, activities and events than ever before, including a parade, rodeos, gunfights, numerous artisans and craftsmen and a pioneer village re-enactment.

The Stockyards will host two rodeos, including the Roundup for Autism Celebrity Rodeo. Chuck Norris of "Walker, Texas Ranger," as well as many other television and movie stars, will be featured in the charity event that will take place tonight at Cowtown Coliseum.

The festival offers a wide variety of musical entertainment. Classic rock, country and everything in between will energize the crowd from morning till night. Gary Stewart and Eddy Raven headline this year's event, and many local bands will also appear.

"Street dancing is a quite a common occurrence," Westby said. "With five stages, the music never stops and people just can't help but have a good time."

In addition to the musical acts, groups such as the Comanche Peak Muzzleloaders will recreate pioneer life in the Pioneer Heritage Village. Visitors to the Livestock Exchange Building will be transported back to the 1840s and authentic pioneer life. Crafts such as quilt work and gun-making will be demonstrated.

Other shows such as the Pawnee Bill Wild West Show and the Cowtown Opry will include gunfights and traditional western melodramas.

"This event allows Fort Worth to showcase our beginnings," Pioneer Days Operation Manager Karen Wayne said. "Pioneer Days offers a look at our heritage while providing a good time for all."

This year marks the 42nd anniversary of the festival's connection to the Fort Worth Business Association, the organization that founded the event in the hopes of promoting the history as well as the restoration of the Stockyards district.

Pioneer Days Schedule

TOMORROW		8 p.m.-1 a.m. Scott Hall Gazebo Stage	
99.5 FM The Wolf Concert Stage	6-9 p.m. Kristi Kalyn	9:30-11 p.m. Gary Stewart	Noon-6 p.m. Inka Wayra
	11:30-1 a.m. Morris Price		6-9 p.m. Cowtown Opry
Classic Rock & Roll Stage			9 p.m.-1 a.m. Ashley Allison
6-9 p.m. Siren Disciples			
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Mid-Life Crisis, Bullet Proof Brass			
Top of the Hill Stage			
8 p.m.-1 a.m. Due West			
SATURDAY			
99.5 FM The Wolf Concert Stage			
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Fiddlers Contest			
6-9 p.m. Exit West			
9:30-11 p.m. Eddy Raven			
11:30-1 a.m. Double Barrel			
Classic Rock & Roll Stage			
Noon-2:30 p.m. Sunny Lea			
3-6 p.m. Cover to Cover			
6-9 p.m. Leapin' Lizards			
10 p.m.-1 a.m. Suave			
Top of the Hill Stage			
3-5 p.m. Kelly Ford			
5-8 p.m. Lani Bartley			

"Pioneer Days is our largest fundraiser," Westby said. "Because we don't have a grant to run the organization, we rely on events like this one."

Pioneer Days also funds the John Ed Keeter Memorial Scholarship for high school seniors from the Fort Worth area who have a good academic record and show a great interest in attending college.

"The association takes pride in the education of those who we sponsor," Westby said.

Westby said the program relies heavily on the

use of volunteers.

"My hat goes off to the volunteers," he said. "I pour out my heartfelt thanks for the sacrifices they make. This year, volunteers are running the show. They have done a tremendous job for the festival and the association. Pioneer Days is a labor of love for us. The festival is the cowboy equivalent of Mardi Gras, and we are sure that anyone who comes will enjoy it."

Tickets for Pioneer Days are at the Stockyards information center. Admission is \$5 per person.

'Skee Week' to honor black sorority

By Talia S. Dancer
STAFF REPORTER

The countdown has begun. In just two days, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will be representing 22 years of its existence on TCU campus with Skee Week.

"The purpose of Skee Week is to celebrate and bring recognition to AKA on campus and within the Fort Worth community," said Nicole Edwards, president of AKA. "We want everyone to know we have a significant voice on campus."

The sorority's unofficial call, "Skee Wee," which announces its presence, provided the perfect spin-off to the term Skee Week, she said. "The title brings more questions, we can give more answers and this yields to more recognition of our sorority."

Skee Week, formally known as AKA Week, held from Sunday to Sept. 26, is not an official anniversary or holiday for the sorority, but it holds a mystery for everyone to uncover.

To kick off Skee Week activities, an Information Tea will be at 6 p.m. Sunday in Student Center Room 209. The members of AKA will discuss the organization's history and accomplishments since its

establishment in 1908.

The rest of the week's agenda includes a talent showcase, relationship seminar and a night on the town with AKA members. There will also be a day set aside to make contributions to the Fort Worth Martin Luther King Center.

"A classy and sassy affair," Sept. 26, will finalize Skee Week activities. The doors of the Student Center Ballroom will open at 10:08 p.m. to begin the "Perfect Pearl Party," with featured deejay Rock-T, on-air radio personality for radio station KKDA-FM (104).

The time was decided because of the sorority's founding date. Chanda Brown, public relations chairwoman of AKA, said this observance is open to anyone interested in learning about AKA activities in a "relaxed and fun environment."

"Hopefully, it will help a lot of people realize that there are wonderful opportunities for African-American women on campus to network with the graduate chapter of sorority sisters who are established professionally," Brown said.

She also said the planning for this special week was more than a handful with just a five-member

organization.

Although the TCU chapter of AKA is small in number, these dedicated women are unyielding in one goal: To be widely recognized on the TCU campus.

Representing "black Greeks" on campus is more than a difficult task, Edwards said.

"It is hard to pull minority members from the minority group at TCU," she said. She also said this results in competition between the only two black sororities on campus. At this time, the issue of competition is the least of her worries. Edwards said she is more concerned about having "respectful recognition" for not only her sorority, but for all black Greek organizations on campus.

While the presence of AKA on campus may not be visible to everyone, its national backbone is 20 times greater than the student population at TCU.

This group of black women is supported by a "nucleus" of more than 140,000 women in over 860 chapters. Individually, each chapter works toward a common objective that exemplifies the national purpose of being an "instrument for enriching the social and intel-

lectual aspects of college life by providing mental stimulation through interaction with friends and associates," according to the National AKA Web site.

Through this strong foundation, members of AKA, America's first black Greek sorority, are able to carry out "international initiatives" which are centered on various community service projects.

Jane Hafford, AKA membership chairwoman, said the sorority selects projects that fit national goals. Promoting "entrepreneurial behavior," supporting the black family and increasing the awareness about health care issues defines some of the initiatives. She also added that AKA strives to be "supreme in service to all mankind."

Throughout the year the women of AKA stay busy with various service projects. Last year, they spent time with underprivileged children in the area, talked to high school seniors about college life, helped high school girls coordinate a fashion show at the YMCA and participated in a local health fair.

BUDGET

From Page 1

has to support you when you call and say, 'Hey, how do I do this' — understands the software system," Edmondson said.

Cambridge Technology, an implementation company with 10 to 20 consultants at a time, is helping TCU with the installation of PeopleSoft.

"The project has gone better than I have ever expected it," Edmondson said. "We are meeting our target dates, we are within budget and we are only the second university in the nation that has some functionality operation in all three of the enterprise solutions."

Of the 130 higher education institutions that selected PeopleSoft, TCU is the second school to have some functions operational in all three modules (human resources, financial and student administration), Edmondson said.

PeopleSoft will change all of the business processes at TCU. Things will be done differently to try to be more efficient and effective, Edmondson said.

"It is not perfect," he said. "We have bugs — we'll work those out. It will take us two to three years to get the system stabilized the way we want it."

Larry Markley, director of the Student Center, said he has encountered various dilemmas due to the new PeopleSoft systems.

"I don't know what's going on with the program, really," he said. "All I know is that I do not have my budget so I'm just spending, hoping that I'm not going over with anything that I've been working with."

Markley said trying to get things through in a timely manner seems to be the most challenging problem with the transition.

"It's just silly," he said. "We are spending a lot of time dealing with financial issues we shouldn't have to be dealing with. Our time needs to be spent elsewhere."

Markley must also deal with the Student Government Association's budget. He said his biggest problem right now is they are not getting their bills paid.

"Our monthly requisitions are not getting paid before the deadlines," he said. "The next bill we get on our monthly is charging us a late fee. We are not budgeted to pay late fees. That's the problem."

Richard P. Hoban, assistant controller, said problems like these can be expected when you change from one accounting program to another.

"The entire university community has to become aware and function within these new procedures," he said. "As that happens, we will get much more efficient. There will be fewer and fewer of these isolated incidents where people may not have gotten paid."

The Student Center, as well as many other departments, is operating based on last year's budget. SGA, for example, is trying to keep track of its

spending through a program used in previous years.

"We are running a Quicken program with House and PC and operating with them just exactly the same way we were last year with the same budget numbers as last year," Markley said. "Hopefully, when we get into PeopleSoft, we will be able to transition (Quicken) into the proper numerical system to have it all balanced."

All things considered, Hoban said he is proud of what the implementation team has been able to accomplish thus far.

"From my perspective, I think things have gone really well considering the amount of work that has to be done with the limited amount of resources that we have," Hoban said.

Hoban said it takes time to fit all of the pieces of the financial systems together. They want to be confident about giving the budget managers and departments accurate, timely information about their budgets, he said.

"I know that there are budget managers that may feel frustrated because they don't have their budget information delivered to them in a timely basis compared to what we would have done in normal circumstances in prior years," Hoban said.

He said there is an immense amount of work involved to give budget managers access to this complicated system but even in the short amount of time that has been available since the system was introduced, the work has been completed.

"I think we've done very well and I'm frankly proud of the team that's been able to make this happen," he said.

Hoban said there is definitely a learning curve for the employees training to use the new system.

"Occasionally, there have been spot problems where an invoice maybe didn't get paid on time," he said. "Sometimes departments don't understand the proper process to get invoices over to our department to have them entered into the system."

Hoban said although he has seen incidents of vendors not being paid in a timely manner, any transition of this magnitude will have similar results, and in general, the team has dealt well with the work load.

"I think we're keeping up with the work load," Hoban said. "By far, most of the payments and invoices that we have been presented have been paid in a timely manner."

Although the installation of PeopleSoft is taking its toll on budgets, the software does offer many benefits once installation is complete.

All of the strategic administrative support systems of the university — financial systems, human resources and student administration — will be using PeopleSoft.

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NCAA

Michigan strong safety suspended for actions

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Michigan strong safety Marcus Ray was suspended indefinitely Thursday due to allegations of improper contact with an agent.

Coach Lloyd Carr said the allegations of improper contact with a sports agent in July have been provided to the NCAA.

Michigan is conducting its own investigation, and athletic director Tom Goss said the NCAA isn't conducting one yet. Calls left with NCAA headquarters in Overland Park, Kan., were not immediately returned.

If the NCAA investigates and finds wrongdoing, possible discipline could include forfeiture of this season's first two games — a moot point because the Wolverines are 0-2.

He said the allegations came to light because somebody apparently contacted the NCAA. But neither Carr nor Goss knows who or how it happened.

"I had no inkling of anything like this until I got a call yesterday morning," Carr said.

Ray, a fifth-year senior and one of three captains, started every game in Michigan's undefeated road to a national title last year and in 1996. He also started in both of Michigan's games this year.

Ray was All-Big Ten and second team All-American last season.

In explaining the decision to suspend Ray, Carr said the university spends a great deal of time making sure players know the rules and are warned repeatedly about contacts with agents.

MLB

Cablevision makes offer for Yankees

NEW YORK (AP) — Cablevision might be willing to give George Steinbrenner a hand in running the New York Knicks, Rangers and Yankees if he sells the baseball team to the media and entertainment company, *The New York Times* reported Thursday.

Cablevision has had talks with Steinbrenner since November, when the company offered \$500 million for the Yankees.

Three people involved with the Yankees organization, all of whom spoke to the *Times* on condition of anonymity, said Cablevision revived the negotiations about three weeks ago with the new offer.

Cablevision has said it is not their policy to comment on rumors or speculation, adding in a statement released Tuesday: "We make special note that we have had no discussions to relinquish either the control or management responsibilities of Madison Square Garden and its teams, and we do not expect to have any such discussions in the future."

Executives close to Steinbrenner told the *Times* that under the new proposal, Cablevision, the majority owner of Madison Square Garden, would buy the Yankees for a combination of stock and cash, while retaining Steinbrenner as a general partner of the Yankees with responsibility for running all three of the company's sports teams.

Steinbrenner's associates said they did not have any further information about how the deal would be structured, including the details of Steinbrenner's proposed role.

"They want him to manage the three teams," said one. "He hasn't said 'yes,' and he hasn't said 'no.'"

If Cablevision is successful in acquiring the Yankees, company chairman Charles Dolan would solidify a monopoly on sports cable telecasts in the largest television market in the country. In addition, he would keep the Yankees' cable rights away from competitors when the team's current cable contract with the MSG Network, a Cablevision subsidiary, expires in 2000.

Volleyfrogs hope to end losing streak

By Jan Ove Vadoy
SKIFF STAFF

The Volleyfrogs are returning home for this weekend's TCU Invitational to play in front of a home crowd for the first time this season. They will face Centenary College of Louisiana, the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Louisiana Tech and Idaho State.

The Volleyfrogs' only win this season was in their first match against the University of North Texas, but since then they have recorded six straight losses in two weekend tournaments at New Mexico State and the University of Houston.

Senior setter Annette Kvamme said the team was satisfied with its efforts last weekend against the University of Houston Cougars but felt they were superior to the University of Texas at San Antonio and Stephen F. Austin State and should have come out winning.

"Our practice has been great for three weeks now, but it seems like we can't make everything work right in tournaments," Kvamme said. "We know how good we can be, and we know we are much better than our record says, but we can't take any team lighter because of that."

"When other teams see our record, they might think we'll be easy to beat, and that can be to our advantage. We won't make the same

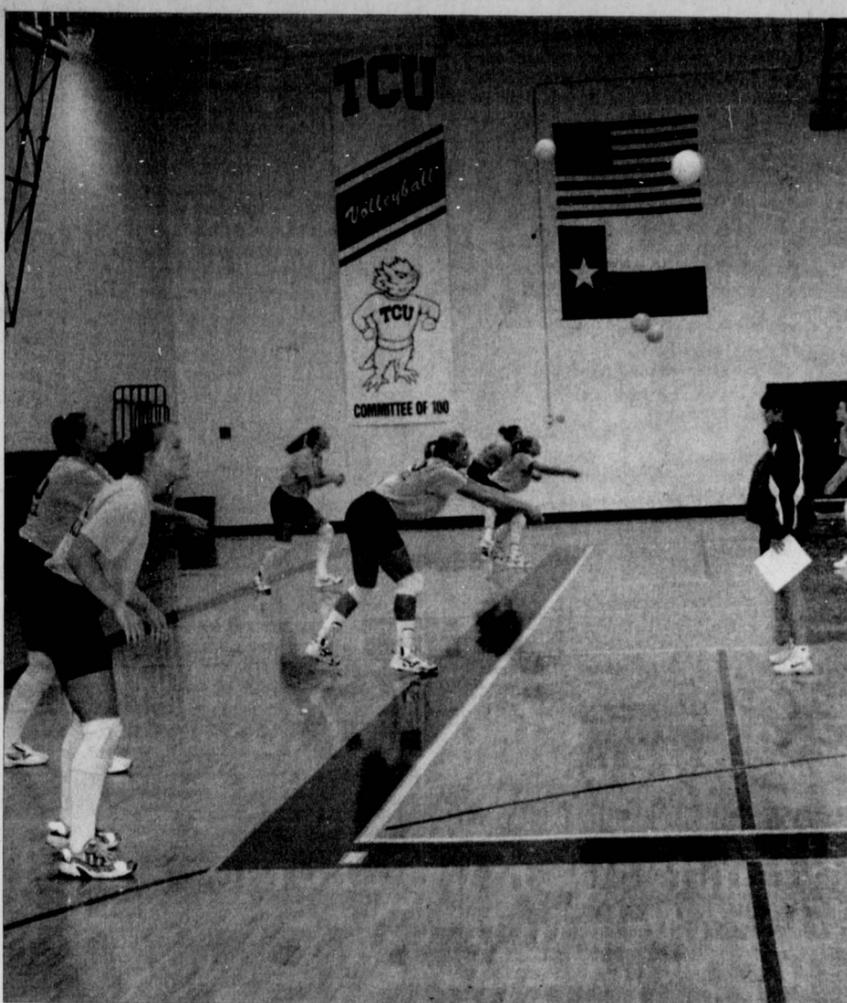
mistake."

For the first time this season, the Volleyfrogs will play on their home court, the Rickel Building, and the players said they are hoping students will come out and get behind the team. Although the seating capacity of the Rickel is limited, it was rarely full last season, and a great deal of the audience came from outside the TCU community.

"To do our best we are really dependent on support from the students," Kvamme said. "We are excited about finally being able to play at home, and we want the place to be packed and loud so that we can go out there and do our very best."

Led by outside hitters Jill Pape and Amy Atamanczuk, the only TCU player to make the All-Tournament team in Houston, the Volleyfrogs will play their first match at 1:30 p.m. Friday against Centenary and their second against Southwestern Louisiana at 8 p.m. Both of the opposing teams have, like TCU, started their season with a losing record, and the matches should be interesting meetings between teams hungry to start winning again.

The Volleyfrogs will play Louisiana Tech at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and will appear in the final game of the tournament against Idaho State at 8 p.m.



The volleyball team, shown here in a recent practice, will host a tournament this weekend. Games will be played Friday and Saturday in the Rickel Building.

Heisman battle is limited

College football's most coveted prize, the Heisman Trophy, was the prize in a battle that took place last weekend in Pasadena, Calif.

Now this may seem like an outlandish statement to make at this point in the season, but all things considered, it really isn't.

Since their first meeting a year ago in Austin, UCLA senior quarterback Cade McNown and Texas senior running back Ricky Williams have solidified themselves as the top candidates for the Heisman. Of course there are some folks in the Bluegrass State who would disagree, saying Kentucky sophomore quarterback Tim Couch is deserving of consideration, and there are probably some Syracuse fans who would say senior quarterback Donovan McNabb should take home the prize.

If everything falls into place for McNown and Williams over the course of the season, Couch and McNabb will only make the race for the Heisman interesting, not competitive. Granted, Couch and McNabb will finish the year with better statistics than McNown, but Couch throws the ball on seemingly every down and McNabb can run with the ball so he can accumulate rushing yards UCLA

wouldn't demand of McNown.

Bar none, Williams is the best running back in college football. What's really scary is the fact he could've gone to the NFL after the '97 season and been one of the top five picks in the draft. Now that he's back for his senior year, giving him the chance to pile up more gaudy rushing stats since he is the only Longhorn with the ability to scare opposing defenses, he'll probably be the top pick in next April's draft.

Williams can run with power and finesse as well as be a threat to receive out of the backfield. He surpassed former Heisman winner Earl Campbell as UT's all-time leading rusher last week against UCLA and has scored nine touchdowns in two games thus far, putting him on track to once again be the nation's leading scorer. If the Longhorns have any hopes of improving last year's dismal 4-7 record, they all sit on the shoulders of Ricky Williams.

McNown and his rifle arm appear to be on a quest to bring the glory back to UCLA football, something that has been absent since the days of Troy Aikman. The Bruins are on an 11-game winning streak dating back to '97 — a season in which they lost their first two games. Included in those 11 games are four wins against teams from the Lone Star State. In those matches, UCLA outscored their opponents by a combined total of 210-67.

Texas has fallen prey to UCLA's high-octane offense twice in those four games, but they're not alone. The Bruins came

back from a 16-point deficit to beat Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl.

In his favor, McNown has a talented, albeit inexperienced, group of receivers and several solid options at running back. UCLA's offensive line is also one of the best in the country, as proved last week against Texas, when it kept Aaron Humphries and Dusty Renfro, along with their big mouths, away from McNown.

Williams is in the enviable position of being the only option on a team with an inexperienced quarterback and porous defense. The defense is so generous at UT that holding UCLA to 49 points was like winning the Big 12 for the Longhorns. They just seemed happy not to lose to UCLA by as much as they did in '97.

Both McNown and Williams will have to contend with opposing defenses, which will have the primary focus of stopping only them. These guys are the two best players in the country, so they'll get their stats and the attention of the Heisman voters.

The real cause for concern, especially for Williams, is if both he and McNown play at the same level all season, which looks as though it's going to happen. If that happens, the voters will probably give the award to the player from the better team.

When it happens, expect no joy in Austin and good times in Westwood.

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

Commentary



TODD J. SHRIBER

Rangers hopeful as ace improves

By Jaime Aron
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON — The Texas Rangers traded for Todd Stottlemyre because they thought he could be their No. 1 starter, a guy who takes the mound in the most important games and thrives on the pressure.

But over his first eight starts, Stottlemyre didn't show it. He was getting hammered, and manager Johnny Oates wasn't sure whether to use him in the opening game of a crucial series against Anaheim.

Oates decided to give it a shot, and he's glad he did. Stottlemyre allowed just one run in eight innings as the Rangers beat the Angels 5-3 Wednesday night to force a tie atop the AL West.

"When you get traded for, there are a lot of expectations, and I'd say that up to this point I probably came up a little short," Stottlemyre said. "But I also know that if you have a good September, everybody forgets about August."

Although Stottlemyre won three of his first four starts for Texas, he gave up a lot of hits, walked more batters than usual and never made it into the seventh inning.

"You have stretches like that," Stottlemyre said. "There's no question I probably had a few starts where I didn't feel 100 percent."

Stottlemyre's first two starts this month showed signs of improvement. He allowed six runs over 15 innings while making his longest back-to-back starts since June.

Those performances made it a little easier for Oates to use Stottlemyre in the opener of the Anaheim series.

"A few days ago we were trying to make a decision on who was going to pitch this game," Oates said. "We decided on Todd and he was very excited that he was going to be the guy. He certainly responded big-time."

The Rangers will need at least one more big game from Stottlemyre: next Monday in Anaheim.



Senior Stacey Sabala practiced her skills last semester. She and her teammates prepare to host a tournament this weekend at the Mary Potishman Lard Tennis Center.

Tennis tournament helps charity

By Rusty Simmons
SKIFF STAFF

In a day and age of sports where all too often money is the main theme of competition, TCU women's tennis head coach Roland Ingram has grasped the concept of how to make sports better by using money to help others rather than for personal gain.

While watching a professional tennis master earlier this year, Ingram saw a feature about an organization named "Fun Stuff Foundation." The piece showed the owner, Andrea Yaeger, former U.S. Open champion, at her ranch in Colorado where she houses children with terminal cancer. Instead of briefly fretting over the sight of hairless children with little hope, Ingram decided to do something to help the situation.

"When I saw the blip, it touched my heart," Ingram said. "I thought that we could help."

This weekend, Ingram and the Lady Frogs tennis team will make Ingram's thought a reality.

Starting today, TCU will host a tournament in which all of the competitor's entry fees will go to the "Fun Stuff Foundation." The entry fees for the 32-player individual singles and doubles tournament (no team scores will be counted) will come from three players from Oklahoma, six from Southern Methodist, eight each from the University of Texas at Arlington and Tulsa, and two from Texas Tech.

"The coaches from the other teams agreed to pay a higher-than-normal entry fee because of the cause," Ingram said.

TCU will also have its share of players in the tournament. While junior Lucie Dvorakova and sophomore Dee Dee Herring will open their season warm-up at the National Clay Court Tournament in Baltimore, Md., next weekend, the other five Lady Frogs will be warming up this weekend in Fort Worth at the Mary Potishman Lard Tennis Center.

Senior Natalie Balafoutis, junior Jessika Kjellgren, senior Rachel Niwa, senior Stacey

Sabala and junior Daria Zoldakova will all get their first action of the season this weekend. Although the bracket was drawn at random, it was designed so no two players from the same school will face each other in the first round. TCU also enters two doubles teams and is still trying out a number of different combinations.

"I want to see the girls compete hard and get better," Ingram said. "We don't have to be the best, we just have to be the best we can be."

Along with his goals for the ladies on the team, Ingram has some goals for TCU tennis in general.

"I'd like to get people out to see the girls," he said. "I want people to get to know the girls, our tennis program and our school."

Bringing people out would also help the main goal of the tournament — to raise money for the "Fun Stuff Foundation." Although admission will still be free to the matches, brochures will be passed out to explain the foundation's purpose and grant opportunities to donate money to its cause.

RUDY

by Aaron Brown **Stick World** by Mark Crittenden



Academia Nuts

by John P. Araujo



i need help

by Vic Lee



off the mark by Mark Parisi



THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS
 1 Bible book
 6 Drain screen
 10 Protective ditch
 14 Seed coverings
 15 Customary time
 16 Napoleon's isle
 17 Take a makeup exam
 18 Chem. chart fig.
 19 Stand on hind legs
 20 Personification of creation
 23 Continental prefix
 24 Rise and fall of ocean
 25 Network of "Nova"
 28 Neighbor of Syr.
 30 Free of charge
 32 78-card deck
 34 Seaport of Okinawa
 36 Australian island: abbr.
 37 Image: pref.
 38 Flower vendor
 40 Magic-lamp owner
 42 Duck and dodge
 43 Harness piece
 45 Quote an example
 46 Winner's token
 47 French student
 49 Supernatural being
 50 Time meas.
 51 Spanish river
 52 Zeno of ___
 55 Relative by marriage
 59 Lucy's husband
 62 Prevaricator
 63 Jackson or Owens
 64 & others
 65 ___ vincit omnia
 66 Came up
 67 Painful cry
 68 Visualizes
 69 Sharpened

DOWN
 1 Injure
 2 Cookie
 3 Sororities
 4 Benefactor Yale
 5 Aftward
 6 Comparative word
 7 Turns around
 8 Rosalind
 9 Russell role
 9 Standing tall
 10 Only just
 11 Spanish cheer
 12 Sheik's garment
 13 Black goo
 21 Plant parts
 22 Anatomical networks
 25 Spendthrift heir
 26 Tuna's cousin
 27 Pelted with rocks
 28 Disgrace
 29 Serving tray
 31 Old man with a scythe
 33 Aussie rock grp.
 35 Solo at the Met
 39 Loafer

By Louise G. White
 St. Petersburg, FL
 9/18/98

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

P	A	T	E	S	T	A	T	E	M	I	C	A		
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purple poll

Q. DO YOU EVER GO SWING DANCING? **A. YES 25 NO 75**

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.

WUZZLES®
 WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

Created by Tom Underwood
 North America Syndicate, 1998

1. GETTING BUSINESS
 2. JUMP

Answers to yesterday's puzzle
 1. Close calls
 2. It's over at last

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Weekend

Volume 1, Issue 3

Friday, September 18, 1998

Musical interludes

The music never ends
at the Walsh Center's
grand opening.

Pages 4 & 5

Also in Weekend:

- "Gomez" **Page 2**
Four Day Weekend **Page 3**
"Rush Hour" **Page 6**
-

TCU DAILY
Skiff

Gomez breaks the British mold

By Derek Roy
SKIFF STAFF

Most of the rock music coming out of the United Kingdom these days all sounds the same. Take the three biggest musical exports — Oasis, Blur and the Verve — and they all have the common influence of the Beatles, some a little more than others. After listening to these different bands, one might begin to believe all British rock is the same.

Editor's choice

That is why it is refreshing to hear a band like Gomez. "Bring It On," Gomez's debut album, is filled with a sound more reminiscent of the Grateful Dead or Creedence Clearwater Revival than many of the band's British contemporaries.

After listening to "Bring It On," you would never guess Gomez is from Sheffield, England. When lead singer Ben Ottewell sings, he sounds like a strange cross between John Fogerty and Eddie Vedder. Underneath Ottewell's voice, Gomez's music is dark and layered with many eclectic sounds. The album is guitar-heavy, employing slide and acoustic guitar to match Ottewell's two-packs-of-Camels-a-day voice.

Their music would best be described as a collage of classic rock, blues, folk and even bluegrass. The great thing about this album is that Gomez takes these many different styles and adds a modern twist.

The album's opener, "Get Miles," has a slow groove built around a repetitive bass line, which sounds like it could be a lost Doors track. The next song, "Whippin' Piccadilly," is the polar opposite of "Get Miles" with its happy melody and upbeat tempo. The track "Here Comes the Breeze" starts off sounding like a ballad by Lynyrd Skynyrd and then, three minutes in, breaks into a bluegrass guitar riff.



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

AMASSED DISTORTIONS. The members of the British band Gomez gather 'round for some trippy fun.

Another great moment is "Tijuana Lady," a slow-going song with Grateful Dead-style lyrics: "Tijuana Lady, where did you go/I've been chasing you in old Mexico."

This album, like many today, is not without its low points, namely "78 Stone Wobble" and

"Get Myself Arrested." The Beck-style raps of "78 Stone Wobble" sound ridiculous and really take away from the true power of the rest of the album.

After "Get Myself Arrested," Gomez comes back with arguably one of the best ballads writ-

ten in years, "Free To Run." The song has all the elements that make Gomez great: slide guitar and Ottewell's soulful growl.

"Bring It On" is a great album, and I would definitely recommend that you check it out.

Grade: B+

CD is for psychos

'Winterland' may contain poetry, but not music

By C.C. Goodman
SKIFF STAFF

I'd be willing to bet Emma Townshend doesn't have many stalkers. After all, her album "Winterland" will scare any male away. Of course, if one is psychotic enough to stalk then maybe one would be psychotic enough to like Townshend's whiny, screechy voice and virtually inaudible piano accompaniment. Remember the sound of nails against a chalk board? Add a little swanky piano and you too can release an album like "Winterland."

Music

Maybe one or two songs like this would be tolerable, but when all 11 songs make for what seems like one endless song, you've got the threat of suicide on your hands. Keep this CD next to your mace for defense purposes.

If Townshend had released "Winterland" as a book of poetry without her singing or that darned piano she would have had something. Emma is

definitely a poet. Her lyrical or poetic sense of style has great promise and spirituality. Lines like, "the girls, the people are outside in the darkness / chanting altogether and screaming / and we're all in here pretending we aren't / something in the air we're breathing" from the song "Five-A-Side Football" has great imagery and provides something meaningful to ponder.

There is unquestionably something artistic about Townshend's self-expression in lyrics like those in "The Ambition of My Heart," "the ambition of my heart / reveals itself to be / a desire to spend some time / in your arms / The ambition of my head know itself to be / a driven thing / why so fierce sorcerer? / A walking thing, a traveling thing / The ambition of my heart / knows itself to be / destined to live its life out / waiting for me." She is a poet, but not a musician.

It really is amazing how every song on the album sounds the same. All 11 songs were written by Townshend, with the exception of track 1 titled "Better Than Music" in which lyrics are bor-

rowed from Emily Dickinson. Townshend, with her shrillish singing and almost melodic musical accompaniment, sounds as if she's trying desperately to imitate Tori Amos or Fiona Apple and she fails terribly.

A piano and a unique singing style don't add up to talent. Both Tori and Fiona have more to their music than their voice, poetic lyrics and a piano. They have a unique quality that changes from song to song and produces a wide range of emotional experience through changing musical style.

Townshend's musical style never changes. Listening to "Winterland" is like listening to a cat sing in only three high pitched notes, trying hopelessly to make it music. No emotion through music can be brought into "Winterland" and I did not find myself astounded by her voice.

But my biggest question is how Emma Townshend got a record deal? And if she got one, can I have one? So, if you get the idea that I don't like "Winterland," then you're right. **Grade: F**

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Design Editor:	Gretchen Crabb
Production Manager:	Tom Urphart
Production Coordinator:	Anne Drabicky
Reviewers:	Derek Roy, Danielle Daniel, C.C. Goodman, Lety Laurel, Shannon Johnson, Justin Roche
Production Artists:	Matt Jones, Josh King, Jill Taylor

Typewriter tales

Four Day Weekend encourages audience participation in comedy routine

By Derek Roy
SKIFF STAFF

As an audience, we are usually passive observers to different forms of entertainment. We sit with our eyes glazed over because it's rare that we get the chance to actively participate. Can you remember the last time your favorite television character asked you for advice? Have you ever become the star of the show when you were sitting in the crowd?

Club

If you want do something a little more than sitting and watching, I suggest you catch the comedy of Four Day Weekend at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in the Four Day Weekend Theater upstairs in Caravan of Dreams.

Four Day Weekend is an improvisational comedy troupe whose performances are driven by the audience. The crowd determines the

direction the show will take. A cast member may pause in mid-sentence and wait for the audience to yell out a phrase, name or place that will direct the rest of that particular scene. The group will also take an unsuspecting member of the crowd, bring them up on stage and make them a part of the sketch.

I was a little skeptical. I expected the comedy to be sloppy and unorganized, like a Saturday Night Live skit gone horribly wrong, but that's not the case. In a matter of moments, the troupe quickly concocted a hilariously funny, and coherent, sketch. Four Day Weekend will have you laughing hours after the show is over.

The troupe consists of five members. Three of them, Frank Ford, Troy Grant and David Wilk, are the main performers, who perform the sketches and scenes. David Ahearn is the troupe's master of ceremonies. Ahearn sets up the next skit or fills the time between sketches with a little stand-up comedy. Then there's the musical director, Paul Slavens, who, aside

from providing the music for the show, will occasionally get out from behind the keyboard to do stand-up, thus freeing the show of dead time.

The show was filled with many different sketches and routines, but the troupe always had the participation of the audience. At one point, Ahearn came out with the Friday edition of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and asked the crowd for a page number. He then would read a headline from the page and the rest of Four Day Weekend would quickly create a scene based on the chosen headline. This was hysterical because they managed to actually make the business section of the newspaper funny.

One of my favorite sketches was what they called "A Day in the Life." In this particular routine, the cast asked the audience for a day of their life when something funny or weird happened. One lady shouted out, "How about the day I got my hair stuck in a typewriter?" The cast loved the suggestion and proceeded to query the lady on the facts and details of the

incident. After the information had been compiled, the cast performed "The Day I Got My Hair Stuck in a Typewriter," complete with big wigs and fake breasts, making this lady's unfortunate incident funny.

The final skit of the night was riotous. The troupe took the oft-told tale of Jack and Jill and first did it normally, with the usual Four Day Weekend twist. Then the cast asked the audience for a country name, film genre and a particular style of music.

The troupe first did a Russian version of Jack and Jill, then a Western version, and finally a German techno rap version of the scene, and you haven't really experienced Jack and Jill until you see the children's nursery rhyme done as German techno rap.

I highly recommend you go see Four Day Weekend perform. They'll make you laugh all the way home from the theater. Tickets for the show are \$10, and you must be 18 or older to enter. For reservations contact the Four Day Weekend box office at 266-4329.

Damon's latest movie is sure bet

By Justin Roche
SKIFF STAFF

Whether it be hitting the slot machines in Las Vegas, looking in your mailbox for anything resembling a letter or trying to find something other than chicken fingers in The Main, taking a gamble is a part of life we've all come to accept. You win some, you lose some. So when a sure bet comes along, it's wise to make the most of it.

Film

I'm not a bookie, though, I'm a critic, so the only inside tip I can give you is this: Go see "Rounders."

Mike McDermott (Matt Damon) is an ace (if you'll excuse the pun) card player who gives up his high-stakes lifestyle as a "rounder" after losing the biggest game of his life. Trying to turn his life around, he gets a job and makes a promise to his girlfriend, Jo (Gretchen Mol), vowing never to return to the card-laying world.

The release of Mike's long-time friend and poker buddy, Worm (Edward Norton), from prison, however, changes all that. After Mike goes to pick up his old friend, his cravings for the exciting realm of poker resurface and the two go looking for a game.

Mike stays out all night, only to come home to a disapproving Jo.



NIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE. Edward Norton, Matt Damon and John Turturro ante up in the gambling drama "Rounders."

Receiving the ultimatum of giving up cards or losing his girlfriend, Mike has little time to decide as Worm tells him about some gambling debts that have piled up while he was in prison. If he doesn't get \$15,000 dollars in five days, Worm will find out how the term "deadline" got its name.

Coming home to discover Jo has moved out, Mike decides to go back on his promise to himself and use his skills to help get the money. As they

move from game to game, the two begin raking in the dough using all the tricks they've learned over the years. But some sore losers leave the duo bloody and broke, with only a few hours to pay off the debt.

Without any other options, Mike goes for broke: a winner-take-all game of poker with the man they owe money to. Playing for his life, Mike has to beat the very man who took all his money and caused him to give up cards in the first place.

In this film various poker houses, shady lighting and an atmosphere of tension mixed with excitement combine to give you the complete image of the hidden rounder's world. Great use of poker jargon also helps place the card game into an amazing light that you never would have expected.

Matt Damon not only turns in a fantastic performance but also provides a narrative that leads you step by step through how the game of poker is played by experts, with intri-

cate details you never thought possible but will find fascinating.

Along with this insight comes a plot that's refreshing and interesting and believable characters who make you feel like you're actually sitting in on one of their poker games. Although a movie about gambling, "Rounders" isn't a long shot. In fact, it's an ace in the hole. If you don't believe me, then call my bluff and see it for yourself. I'll bet you an order of chicken fingers that it pays

SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

What Music May Play

Story by Lety Laurel

Photos by Brad Simmons

It is a delicate combination of the old and new. From the copper-clad roof to the traditional TCU yellow buff brick, the Mary D. and F. Howard Walsh Center for Performing Arts celebrates TCU's history and accents it with a modern twist. It is with this combination that the Walsh Center will make its debut to the Fort Worth and TCU communities this weekend with festivities to begin the first full season.

Performances will begin Saturday with stage and television actor Barry Corbin's one-man show, "Charlie Goodnight's Last Night," in the Spencer and Marlene Hays Theatre and will end Monday with an invitation-only "Steinway Night" featuring TCU faculty piano artists. But it is the free open house on Sunday that will showcase each individual Walsh Performance Center venue with five 10-minute-long student music and theatrical performances.

The Walsh Center houses a 325-seat recital hall, a 220-seat studio theater, a scene shop, an instrumental rehearsal hall, a choral rehearsal hall and a piano wing.

Last fall, Robert Garwell, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communications, began working with the theater and music departments to schedule the open house to give people a chance to see the \$12 million facility in action.

"We were trying to figure out a unique, different way to get people to experience it, to let people see how it functions, to hear it and to see just how magnificent a facility it is," Garwell said.

Between 4 and 5:30 p.m. Sunday, musicians and actors will present five programs as the audience rotates between the Hays Theatre, the Pepsico Recital Hall, the Choral Rehearsal Room and the Broyles/Breedon Instrumental Rehearsal Room.

The TCU Wind Symphony will perform "Cowtown, U.S.A." in the rehearsal room named after the 1948 piece's composer, TCU alumnus Leon Breedon.

Other performances include "15-Minute Hamlet," a

comical, shortened version of the Shakespearean play, Latin American music directed by assistant professor of music Germán Gutiérrez and choral performances. A student marimba ensemble will also perform in the lobby.

"We want to show off the Walsh Center for the Performing Arts while in actual performance venues," Garwell said. "It is the opportunity to travel from room to room, to familiarize people and give people an opportunity to get a feel for everything."

Since the opening of the Walsh Center in March, few students have visited the building, said Sandra Record, communications specialist for the Office of Communications.

"The idea is that even on campus there are a lot of people that haven't been in the building yet," she said. "This is a good opportunity to see things in action."

Record said she hoped students show their support for the new center by attending the open house. She also asks that people from the community attend the activities to show their support for the university.

"Anyone on campus who has either not been to the building yet or has not had the opportunity to go — this is just a really good opportunity for them because there are lots of students participating, which is all the more reason to go," she said. "I'm really hoping for a big turnout from the community who may not have had a chance to see it yet."

Garwell said he wanted everyone to experience the various theater designs and acoustics with the opportunity to see and hear their differences.

"I'm not sure I've ever seen this anywhere, and that's why it's going to be fun," Garwell said.

Mary D. Walsh said she plans to attend the weekend celebration and is looking forward to the performances.

"I think (the open house) is good because people would really like to see it, and I think Barry Corbin is going to be wonderful," she said.

F. Howard Walsh, an alumnus from the class of 1933, and his wife, Mary, donated the money to build the center after former Chancellor William Tucker approached him. The Walshes agreed the center would be a good investment and decided to give a contribution. F. Howard Walsh died before the center's completion.

"We thought the kids needed a place to practice in," Mary Walsh said. "I thought it was a good idea."

Pat Hollenbeck, Mary Walsh's secretary, said the family has always had a strong tie with TCU.

"They are both very generous people," she said. "TCU is something they've always been strongly associated with."

Garwell said the Walsh Center's modifications present new challenges for all performing arts.

"The Walsh Center meets the needs that existed in music and theater areas that were not being met," Garwell said. "The center provided two very big things: It gave music students an opportunity to perform in a hall that is

much more intimate (than Ed Landreth), and it gave theater students the Hays Theatre with a thrust stage and new challenges in acting, designing shows, lighting and costuming shows."

The thrust stage gives a three-dimensional feel to the performance, which allows the audience to sit only six feet from the stage, Garwell said.

Construction began in 1995 on the Walsh Center under Hardy Holzman and was overseen by Fort Worth's Thomas Construction Co. and Fort Worth's Thomas Construction Co. and Fort Worth's Thomas Construction Co. and Fort Worth's Thomas Construction Co.

tion of Ed Landreth Hall in 1949. Acoustics consultants Jaffe Holden Scarbrough

Norwalk, Conn., and Fisher/Dachs Architects in New York contributed to the Walsh Center's design and acoustics consultants at the same time.

"When we selected Holzman, we selected a firm that was experienced in theater and acoustics consultants at the same time. We wanted to know all the special details of the facility."

Although the Bass Performance Hall and the Walsh Center are two different facilities, both have their own unique characteristics.

"They are two different facilities, but they share the same intent to have the best theater and the best acoustics possible," Garwell said.

The grand opening events will not only provide an opportunity for people to visit the Walsh Center, but also to get students and professors accustomed to the new facility, Garwell said.

For Mary Walsh, the events will provide an opportunity of a different nature.

"I think it will be another opportunity for the community to see how good work take shape and see how her work is something that is very important to the community at TCU, important to the students and important to the community," Garwell said. "This is just another sign of the university's commitment to share with everyone and TCU in general is a good fortune."

Tickets for "Charlie Goodnight's Last Night" are available by calling 257-7626.

They are two different facilities, but their intent is the same — the intent to have the best theater one could have and the best acoustics possible. — Robert Garwell, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communications

Play

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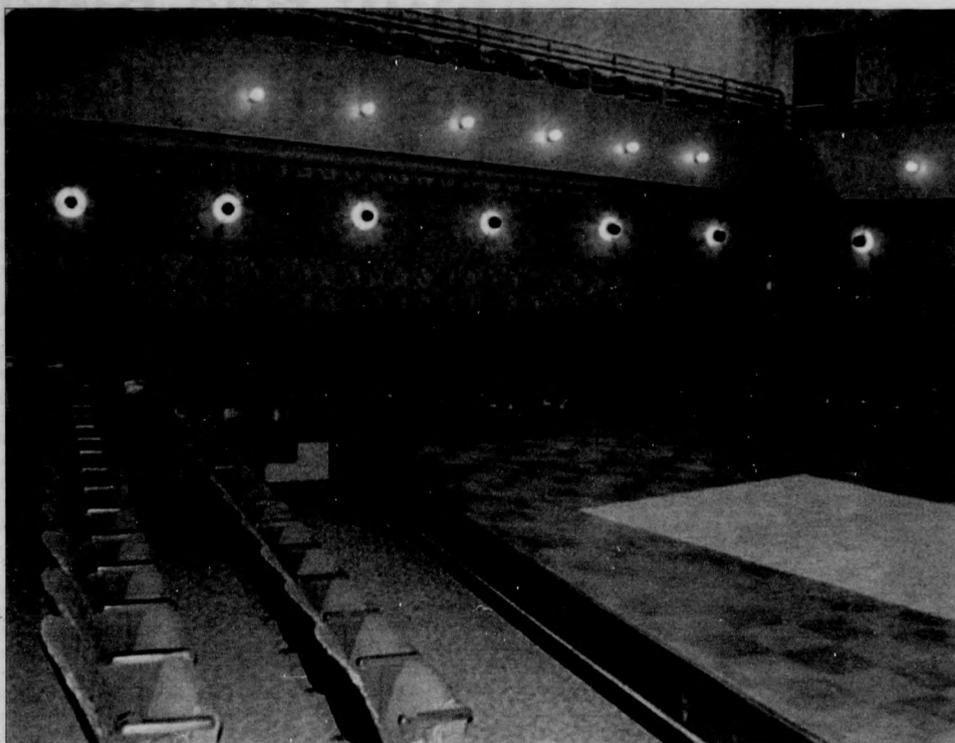
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The Hays Theatre (left) and
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IS THIS OZ, DOROTHY? Meryl Streep and William Hurt experience the joys and pains of parenthood in "One True Thing."

SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Family ties bind in 'One True Thing'

By Lindsay Williams
SKIFF STAFF

So do you think you know your family really well? Think again. "One True Thing" will make you wonder about those deep, dark secrets you may be missing out on.

Film

George and Kate Gulden (William Hurt and Meryl Streep) live in a quaint little town in Canada and have two kids, Ellen and Brian (Renee Zellweger and Tom Everett Scott). The year is 1987 and everything is going great for Ellen, who just graduated from Harvard and works as a reporter for a prominent New York magazine. Her job is her life until her mom pops into the picture. Ellen returns home for her dad's birthday to find out her mom is sick with cancer. And everyone except Ellen and Kate thinks it would be a good idea for Ellen to forget about her work and stay home to play nurse.

Slowly but surely, Ellen finds out what it means to be a mother and what secrets her parents are keeping from her. Her mother drives her crazy, in the way that only mothers can, with all sorts of planned activities that make Ellen feel like a child again.

Until then, Ellen has always looked to her dad for advice and guidance but soon discovers her father is not as perfect as she thought. George, well-played by Hurt, is a college literature professor that spends a little too much time out of class with his female students. His ego about his work is bigger than the house they live in, and he is not expecting anyone to shoot it down.

Ellen is still at home as Christmas and New Year's pass, and she is making no progress with her job or her relationship with her parents. Like most people our age, she has to learn to face her parents on an adult level. But underneath all the activities Ellen is dragged through day after day, she uncovers the strong, wise side of her mom that she never knew. After all the tears, anger and resentment have been let out into the open, there is one last question Ellen and her father must have the answer to.

This cast is very well put together, and the

ensemble makes this tear-jerker one of a kind. Zellweger returns after a short absence as a perfectionist writer who constantly looks to her dad for approval. She leaps into her first adult role from her characters in "Jerry Maguire" and "Empire Records." No other actress would have been better for this role, because not only is Zellweger jumping into adult roles but also so is her character in "One True Thing."

Meryl Streep plays her role flawlessly and brings tears to the audience's eyes constantly. One of her best roles, in "Kramer vs Kramer," pales in comparison to her performance in this movie. Streep portrays a character who really loves her kids and her husband, and even though she is ill, she cannot just get rid of her husband, because that is Kate's life. In order to hide the tears and pain, Kate just grins and bears it for as long as she can.

William Hurt plays George in a moving performance that hasn't been seen since "The Big Chill." His character is so versatile, you don't know whether to love or hate him, and neither does Ellen. A small appearance is made by Tom Everett Scott ("That Thing You Do") as the son who tries to stray from the family tradition of Harvard and skips out on an education to do what he loves. Throughout the movie, Scott's character, Brian, is the only thing that remains constant and keeps the family balanced.

Director Carl Franklin's other projects include the strong ensemble crime drama "One False Move" and the weaker ensemble crime drama "Devil in a Blue Dress." His interest in this movie stemmed from wanting to know his parents better and look at them as individuals with talents and wisdom, instead of the people who pay for their food and clothes. This movie will change the way you look at others' marriages and maybe your own.

The most important lesson to learn from this film is you can't judge a book by its cover. "One True Thing" digs deep into mother-daughter relationships, very much like "Terms of Endearment" did in 1983. Here's hoping all you daughters reading this review can gain some insight into the subject after watching "One True Thing."

Do not waste any time, run to the nearest theater and take two hours out of your day to enjoy this emotional roller coaster. **Grade: A-**

'Rush Hour' provides unoriginal police action

By Justin Roche
SKIFF STAFF

Ladies and gentlemen, it's official: The well has run dry.

Film

Gone are the days of adventure movies without predictable plots, stereotypical characters and scenes. Nowadays, it seems Hollywood is into the recycling program, going on the assumption that if it worked before, why not again? The latest carbon copy of every action film ever made is "Rush Hour," a movie that fits right into the mold rather than breaking it.

In this most recent use of the

"odd couple cop team works together to foil a mastermind's evil plans by using their fists and glib quips" idea, Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker are paired up to entertain us with their acrobatics as well as their anecdotes. The most mismatched couple since Jessica and Roger Rabbit, Chan and Tucker are typecast into roles that have existed for longer than I can remember.

Chan plays Inspector Lee, a top-notch Chinese policeman who can fly through the air, kick 17 people, flip end over end and land with a smile on his face and his hair still in place. Lee is called to America to help find the kidnapped daughter of the Chinese consulate, who is being held hostage by your typical

maniacal villain. When Lee arrives, he is paired up with Detective James Carter (Tucker), an arrogant Los Angeles Police Department officer with a mouth like Wal-Mart; it never closes.

As you may have guessed, the two match as well as my grandpa's socks, which does provide for some humorous moments. However, we've all seen this idea of mismatched partners before. It's a gimmick that reaches from "Men in Black" to any one of the seemingly endless "Police Academy" movies. "Rush Hour" adds nothing new to this over-used "polar opposite partner" genre, and I can't blame it for that, for there really can't be much more for Hollywood to do with it.

Taking that into account, shouldn't they try something else instead of using the same themes over and over? There is absolutely nothing in this movie that is original. It is simply a compilation of bits and pieces of other police action films.

Take some "Lethal Weapon," add a dash of "Beverly Hills Cop," mix in a little "The Naked Gun," and you've got your stereotypical cop action movie.

This one comes complete with an awesome car chase, a pool hall fight scene, gorgeous explosions and more kicking than a World Cup soccer match between Brazil and France.

It's not that I haven't enjoyed the typical action movie, but you can

only watch an egotistical, loud-mouth cop who gets teamed up with a fancy kicking partner use their reckless, yet effective, methods to get the job done for so long. Yes, the fight scenes are cool, and once in a while Tucker says something funny, but it's essentially no different than the cop films we've all seen.

If you want some cheap laughs due to Tucker's motor mouth or want to see some of Chan's fancy footwork, then by all means go see "Rush Hour." But don't expect to see anything new, and certainly don't expect to see me. I'm just not into the trash created by the Hollywood recycling program. **Grade: C-**

TCU Bookstore book of the week

By Danielle Daniel

SKIFF STAFF

Surprisingly, "The Professor and the Madman" works. Simon Winchester's new novel tells the scandalous story of an asylum-bound sex addict and the immaculate birth of the 12-volume "Oxford English Dictionary."

Even more, this eccentric, fact-based tale lends itself to a unique perspective on the behind-the-scenes compilation of the massive OED and gives insight into its most dedicated, yet unstable, contributor: W.C. Minor, a Civil War surgeon and convicted murderer.

Winchester, a self-proclaimed writer and adventurer — with *Vanity Fair*, *Condé Nast Traveler* and *National Geographic* articles to his credit — tells about the odd life of Minor, who detailed and dissected an estimated 10,000 words for the famous dictionary.

His portrayal is at times striking, particularly when Minor is forced to brand a deserter's face during the Civil War. It is this act that pushes Minor to insanity, even though he had exhibited symptoms of paranoia and lascivious desire as a teen-ager. Still, these complexities in his character probably won't hold your attention. Though Winchester makes many attempts to pull the reader in with either tragedy or subtle humor, he never makes a strong-enough case.

Winchester doesn't illuminate Minor's personality in "The Professor and the Madman"; instead he sticks to just the events of Minor's life. Unfortunately, such a fact-driven portrayal fails to give the character much dimension. Seldom does Winchester reveal Minor's point of view or the perplexing thoughts and emotions driving him to continue piecing together the English language until his death at age 77 in 1915.

Winchester seems to shrink from dialogue, focusing primarily on a third-person narrative. In the case of an intriguing character like Minor, this is a disappointment. Yet Winchester's keen use of narration lends itself to the chapters focusing on the OED's history.

The truly engrossing chapters of the novel are the ones where Winchester dips into the English language and considers the feat of telling the "life-story" of every word, past and present.

Winchester writes that the OED "is a book that inspires

real and lasting affection: It is an awe-inspiring work, the most important book of reference ever made, and, given the unending importance of the English language, probably the most important that is ever likely to be."

Winchester, switching emphasis back and forth between Minor and the OED, touches on the etymologies of words (beginning each chapter, in fact) and admires such significant figures as Samuel Johnson and the lesser-known James Murray, editor of the first edition of the OED. The result is an appreciation and respect for the OED as well as the complex English language.

Murray receives particular focus because he is the link between Minor and the OED. When Murray embarked on the eventual 70-year project of creating the dictionary, he enlisted the help of volunteers to read and document word usage.

Minor was placed in an asylum for murdering a man he believed was trying to attack him. In the subsequent trial, lawyers proved Minor had a history of insanity and belonged in an asylum for the remainder of his life.

Minor learned of Murray's project from a magazine advertisement he read in the institution and was instantly drawn to it. At the time, the state of Minor's mental health was unknown to Murray, but the pair eventually became a team of sorts because of Minor's thorough documentation. After 20 years of correspondence, Murray felt compelled to meet such a dedicated scholar. He never expected to find Minor in an asylum, but Minor and Murray's love of language established their unlikely friendship.

Toward the end of the novel, Winchester thoughtfully depicts these two men as sharing a love for the English language that extends beyond the walls of an asylum and a lifetime of tedious work. Ultimately, the novel testifies to the drive of individuals such as Murray and Minor who have preserved the diversity of the English language.

"The Professor and the Madman" is original and often stimulating, though it will probably leave you wanting more depth, not only in Minor's character but also in the history of the English language. But the novel is short, fun and easy to read, which is probably what Winchester had in mind — to only whet the



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SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Calendar & Events

Calendar

Subject to change

Friday, Sept. 18

Stage West: "Master Class," 8 p.m.

FWSO: 8 p.m.

Casa Theatre: "Forever Plaid," 8 p.m.

FWT: "Sylvia," 8:15 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19

Stage West: "Master Class," 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

FWSO: 8 p.m.

FWT: "Sylvia," 8:15 p.m.

Casa Theatre: "Forever Plaid," 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 20

Stage West: "Master Class," 7:30 p.m.

FWSO: 2 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

Bass Hall: Cliburn Concert, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 24

Stage West: "Master Class," 7:30 p.m.

FWSPops (Gershwin), 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25

Stage West: "Master Class," 8 p.m.

FWSPops (Gershwin), 8 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

FW Blues Festival

Saturday, Sept. 26

Stage West: "Master Class," 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

FWSPops (Gershwin), 8 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

FW Blues Festival

Sunday, Sept. 27

FWSPops (Gershwin), 2 p.m.

Hip Pocket: "Inky Pod," 8:15 p.m.

FW Blues Festival

Key

FWT= Fort Worth Theatre

FWO= Fort Worth Opera

FWSO= Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

Events

Four ballets premiere

Fort Worth Dallas Ballet opens its season at the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall with four premieres from October 2-4.

Ranging from classic to contemporary, the program starts with "Swan Lake," Act II, showing the pristine beauty and emotion ballet is known for. Lila York's pounding "Rapture" and George Balanchine's energetic "Tarentella" combine both classical ballet and modern dance. Benjamin Houk's "Rite of Spring" will close and be accompanied by the North Texas One O'Clock Lab Band. Songs such as "Sing, Sing, Sing" and "Opus One" are included in this upbeat tribute.

Fort Worth Dallas Ballet's first program runs at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are half price the day of the show at the box office with a valid student ID (\$22-\$42) or call 1-800-654-9545 for tickets.

Runners have the opportunity to test their skills in the DASH FOR THE TIMBER 5K ROAD RACE on Saturday, September 26.

The Amon Carter Museum and The Health and Fitness Connection host the eighth annual race. The race runs through Fort Worth's Cultural District and draws a competitive field of 1,000 runners. Overall trophies and other prizes will be given to the winners of all of the 18 categories. All participants receive a DASH 5K T-shirt. Refreshments and music will add a festive atmosphere to the Museum's plaza.

The registration fee for the DASH 5K is \$12 through Sept. 17, and \$15 for late registration. Call The Health and Fitness Connection at (817) 346-6161.

The USA Film Festival proudly presents An Evening Honoring Sir Derek Jacobi on Sept. 26.

The program pays tribute to the internationally-acclaimed film, television and theatre artist. It will include a discussion with Sir Derek and the regional premiere of his new film, "Love is the Devil," co-starring Deniel Craig and Tilda Swinton.

The USA Film Festival is one of the nation's foremost cultural organizations dedicated to the recognition of excellence in the film and video arts.

An Evening Honoring Sir Derek Jacobi will be held at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26 at the GCC North Park I & II Theatres. Tickets are available (\$10 and \$35) at 214-821-FILM.

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15-Minute Hamlet in the *Hays Theatre*

The TCU Wind Symphony, conducted by Greg Clemons
The TCU Choirs, conducted by Ronald Shirey

&

The TCU Marimba Ensemble

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