

Inside

Frogs defeat Air Force 114-87 in home game Thursday night.

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FRIDAY

exas Christian University 96th Year • Number 59 www.skiff.tcu.edu/skiff

JANUARY 22, 1999

Campus

Acclaimed organist to perform tonight David Higgs, a leading con-cert organist, will perform a recital at 7:30 p.m. in Ed Landreth Auditorium.

Stephan's Cathedral in Vienna and Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City.

Higgs has traveled to festivals around the country and has been described by *The New York Times* as "one of the brighters, most receiving." htest, most promising concert organists to ha cared on the America

appeared on the American music scene in years."

The concert is free and open to the public.

Colleges

Administrators protest

vatican's proposal NEW YORK (AP) — A pro-posal that would have Catholic universities in the United States ere to Vatican regulations ald be detrimental to the lity of education, two promit Catholic educators say.

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Pi Kappa Alpha fa

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Pulse Student attacks addressed

\$10,000 reward offered in local rape cases

By Pam Woodhead

TCU and the Fort Worth Police Department posted a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and indictment of the serial rapist who has attacked three TCU students during the last year, officials announced at a town hall meeting Thursday.

The heightened concerns — and the hefty reward — increase commitments by TCU and the city toward solving the string of sexual assaults that most recently included an attack on a TCU student early Sunday morning at the Westcliff

Manor Apartments.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said campus and city police are working together to re student safety and prevent any future attacks

'I want you to know that TCU is committed to working with the Fort Worth Police Department to provide as safe an environment as possible for our students, both on and off the campus," Mills said.

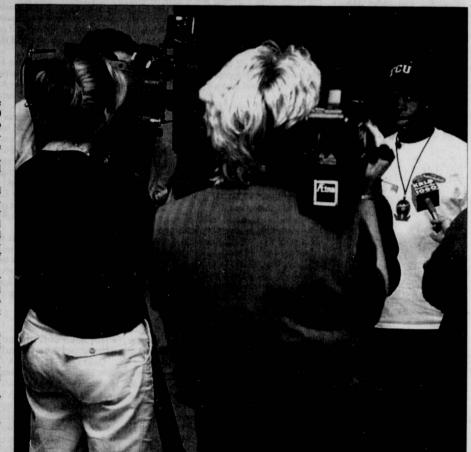
J.C. Williams, assistant chief of TCU police, said the Froggie Five-O service has been expanded to include escorts to residences several blocks off campus. Campus police are also employing additional officers on an overtime basis to increase police presence on cam-

Free Rape Aggression Defense classes will also be offered, Williams said.

Diane Mayfield, coordinator of research and training with the Tarrant County Women's Center, offered some advice to young women on how to fend off an

"I want to communicate that anything anyone does to survive a dangerous situation is the best thing you can do at the time," she said. 'Just trust your instincts.'

Fort Worth officer Matt Welch Please see TOWN HALL Page 8



Above: Leon Reed, a senior political science major, speaks to local media Thursday after the town hall meeting in the Student Center.

Right: A discarded sign stands against a Westcliff apartment, one of several being left empty by female residents after a recent attack at the



Attacks frighten female residents of Westcliff complex

By Jeff Meddaugh MANAGING EDITOR

Some female residents at Westcliff Manor Apartments are scrambling even breaking their lease agreements - to move away from where they say the most recent sexual assault is too close for comfort.

It's the second time a suspect, who police believe to be the same man connected to three rapes last spring, has attacked a female TCU student at the complex just south of campus. Early Sunday morning, a 20-year-old woman was raped after she was awakened by the suspect who used a flashlight and a pillow to shield his identity.

Several female residents said Wednesday they're frightened and will leave the complex - some immediately - for their own safety.

"If he's been watching (the victim), he's probably been watching us," said Molly Crigger, a junior fashion merchandise major, who plans to move from her apartment this weekend.

Crigger said the apartment's management company has agreed to relax the nine-month lease she and her roommate signed last spring.

"We had to hound them pretty hard," she said. "They probably let us because we're so close to the (crime)

Dorothy Carr, a middle-age female resident, said she recently moved to Westcliff Manor from another area apartment complex to get away from the site of a similar

"As a woman ... I think it's horrible," Carr said. "But I think it'd be almost anywhere you go."

Linda, an apartment manager for Westcliff Manor, said the complex's management company is working with Fort Worth Police Department officers to handle security concerns. She refused to comment further.

The day after the attack, managers distributed fliers to residents, warn-Please see COMPLEX, Page 7

Clarks persevered to create Add-Ran

It was a time when buffalo herds abounded, when Indian raids were common and when western and much of eastern Texas was still untrodden prairie land. When TCU first opened its doors as the Add-Ran Male and Female College at Thorp Spring in 1873, the Civil past and the battles for Texas' freedom at the Alamo, Goliad and San Jacinto in 1836 were not-so-distant

Addison and Randolph Clark cofounded the Add-Ran College to spread their understanding of the Christian church in a liberal learn-



ing environment. Named after Addison's first born, Adran, who had died, the name was comprised of the first syllables of each brothers' names. When the school opened on its first Monday of 1873, there were only 13 students of various ages and educational levels present. Gradually the numbers grew as the school gained prominence and popularity.

establish a school for the betterment of society.

"The university was founded to provide leaders to the common good," Tucker said. "Men and women attended to gain leadership in society. As decades passed, variations on the theme developed Various programs have combined to form what we already have."

Joan Swaim, a TCU alumna from the class of 1966 and author of the book Walking TCU, said the Clark brothers chose the Thorp Spring location for their school to get the students away from the evils of a large city.

"The Clarks moved to Thorp

atmosphere of the time," she said. The railroad was coming and they considered that evil. They thought Christian education was the means

to enlightenment." In a time when women were not allowed to vote, Tucker said the Clark brothers were several step ahead when they created the coeducational university.

"The brothers Clark wanted to start a school to provide an education in liberal learning under the auspices under Christ's influence, he said. "The most distinct thing is that it was an open school to females and males. It was very different because females were not

Tucker said the brothers wanted to Spring to get them out of the social only admissible but were welcomed."

To compensate for the potential impropriety of a co-educational school, rules and expectations of the students were harsh. Tucker said. One example was stated in some of the first course catalogues.

"All students, who are boarders here, are forbidden to engage in written correspondence with anyone but their parents and their town folks at home, except by special consent of the President. It is presumed that parents will appreciate the importance of this rule without an argument in its behalf.'

Please see HISTORY, Page7

Good sports

New intramural council responds to student needs

Last semester's intramural sports participation more than doubled that of the previous fall semester, thanks to a revamped program and a new marketing

The intramural sports calendar is one of many new marketing tools that have led to an increase in the intramural program's popularity, said Lance Steffen,

director of intramural sports.
"We recognized a need to reach the user-friendly guide because they weren't aware of what we had to offer or what steps they had to take to register.'

Steffen said that more than 5,000 copies of the intramural sports calendar were distributed in residence halls dur-ing the first two weeks of school. He said he wanted every student to have the new calendar, which provides a step-by-step breakdown of the program d the revised registration process. In addition, new equipment was purchased and a committee of representatives from each residence hall was formed to increase awareness of the intramural program.

"We put the student program back into the hands of the students," Steffen said.

"We're a group of people catering to the needs of a much larger group."

Steffen said a new Intramural Council grouped 11 students and one faculty member to be the governing body of the

Keri McNew, a sophomore biology major and a member of the council, said the council evaluates participants' complaints and suggestions

"We look at problems and decide if rules should be changed," she said. We're basically the thinking team."

Steffen said a staff of eight students was selected to represent the intramural program around campus and to supervise all of the games.

"The intramural staff is responsible for things like checking equipment in and out and making sure the referees are at the games on time," he said.

Steffen said he encourages students with concerns to bring them to the intra-

"We have an open-door policy," he said. "We want students to stop in and let us know what sport they would like

Several other changes were made to

ase see INTRAMURALS, Page 6

Participation Comparison Fall 1997 and Fall 1998 Fall 1997 Participants 565 Participants 1305 tions 7136 ations 3448

ed as the number of that participate in any

Pulse

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moudy Building South, Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050 or e-mailed to 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.

Today is the last day to drop a class for 100 percent reimburse-

Graduating Seniors can still purchase a brick and become part of the Senior Appreciation Program. Call 257-5423 for more informa-

Applications for Student House of Representatives University Relations Chair are available in the House office. They are due midnight Tuesday. Interviews will be conducted Wednesday and Thursday. Call 257-7924 for more information.

An organ recital featuring guest artist David Higgs will be held 7:30 p.m. today in Ed Landreth Auditorium. The performance is free.

Faculty art exhibition will be held in the Moudy exhibition hall

TCU students are invited to enter their work in the 1999 Creative Writing Contests. Nearly \$3,000 will be awarded to students for essays, fiction and poetry. Rules and entry forms are available from the English department, Reed 314 or in the Writing Center, Rickel 100. The deadline for entries is Feb. 19.

May degree candidates should file their intent to graduate forms promptly in the offices of their academic dean. Each academic dean's office has a deadline for filing and requires time to process the intent. All names of degree candidates must be submitted to the Registrar by February 22, 1999. Information concerning important dates can be found on the TCU Web page.

Mortar Board Honor Society applications are now available for third-year students. Applications, which are due Feb. 15, can be picked up in the Student Development Services office, Student Center 139.

Glacier National Park in Montana is hiring college students for summer jobs. Call (602) 207-2620 for more information.



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News ROUNDUP

World

Military plane crashes, killing 28 people MANAGUA, Nicaragua

military plane delivering supplies to bases on the Atlantic coast crashed Thursday, killing all 28 people aboard, the military reported.

The Antonov AN-26 plane was heading from Managua, the capital, to the port city of Bluefields 180 miles to the east. Nine soldiers, 15 civilians and four crew members were on the flight, the Army reported.

The civilians were relatives of soldiers stationed at the bases.

The cause of the crash was not known. The plane was found 10 miles south of Bluefields, said army spokesman Captain Milton Sandoval.

The plane was still burning when rescue crews arrived and there were no survivors, he said. Air Force helicopters and Navy boats were sent to the area to recover the bodies

A witness from El Danto, 20 miles south of Bluefields, saw the plane crash about 8 a.m. an hour after it took off, local media reported

Nation

Racial prejudice motivates more than half of hate crimes

WASHINGTON — Racial prejudice motivated more than half the 8,049 hate crimes reported to the FBI in 1997, the bureau reported Thursday.

As in 1996, racial prejudice was the most common motivation for hate crimes, accounting in 1997 for 4,710 incidents.

In order of magnitude, other reported motiva-tions were 1,385 incidents attributed to prejudice about religion, 1,102 sexual orientation, 836 ethnic or national origin, 12 to disability and four to multiple prejudices, the FBI said.

The 1997 data is from 11,211 law enforcement agencies in 48 states and the District of Columbia,

representing 83 percent of the population.
In 1996, there were 8,759 hate crime incidents, of which 5,396 were racially motivated. But the 1996 data came from 11,354 law enforcement agencies in 49 states and the District of Columbia, representing 84 percent of the population.

There were several hundred more incidents in 1996 than 1997, but there were more than 100 more police agencies reporting in the earlier

Because the number of agencies reporting varies under the voluntary system established by the Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990, officials caution against drawing conclusions about trends in hate crime volumes between years. They say

the figures provide a rough picture of the general nature of hate crimes.

Coast Guard task force to examine East Coast deaths WASHINGTON — Prompted by what it labeled "an unprecedented number of deaths," the Coast Guard announced Thursday it was forming a task force to examine a recent spate of fishing boat deaths and losses off the East Coast.

The task force will be led by the Coast Guard and include fishing vessel experts, other federal agencies and members of the commercial fishing

Its goal will be to identify any common causes and to examine issues such as crew qualification, training and the performance of safety equipment. Task members, who hope to complete their work by March, will also aim to provide quick feedback to the industry to see where

prevention efforts may be refocused.

Meanwhile, the Coast Guard is talking with the fishing industry to prevent capsizing caused by improperly loaded boats, prevent flooding caused by overlooked maintenance of the hull and related equipment, and ensure that lifesaving equipment is operable and that crews are trained in the use of it.

"We don't know that any of these are causal in any of these cases, but the likelihood is there, so we want to make sure they look at these things," said Lt. Cmdr. Gwen Keenan, a spokeswoman at Coast Guard headquarters.

On Dec. 28, the Predator was lost off Ocean City, Md., killing one and leaving a survivor. On

Jan. 6, the Beth Dee Bob was lost off Manasquan Inlet, N.J., killing two and leaving two missing.
On Jan. 8, the Cape Fear was lost off New Bedford, Mass., killing one and leaving one missing and three survivors.

On Sunday, the 65-foot Ellie B. struck a jetty in Manasquan, N.J., when its skipper fell asleep at the wheel. Three crew members jumped over-

board and were rescued.
On Monday, the Adriatic was lost off Barnegat Light, N.J., leaving four missing and presumed drowned. The search for those crew members was suspended Thursday afternoon.

Keenan said the Coast Guard hopes to have the task force operating within a week.

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Pilot uses cell phone

after emergency landing

LAREDO, Texas — A Continental Express pilot had to borrow a passenger's cellular phone to contact his home base following an emergency landing this week in South Texas.

Continental Express Flight 3667 was only 28 minutes into its Houston-to-Laredo flight Monday night when a troublesome fuel gauge forced an emergency detour to an airstrip in Palacios, near Corpus Christi.

Karla Villalon, a spokeswoman for the

Houston-based carrier, said the pilots had radio contact with their operations control center. However, company policy requires them to find a phone in the event of an emergency landing and check in with the chief pilots office.

But once off the plane, the flight crew found only a radio and a broken telephone at the airstrip. The pilot and co-pilot left the plane for an hour in search of a phone. They finally returned and asked one of the passengers for a cellular phone.

In the meantime, the 25 passengers were forced to sit and wait and wonder what was going on.

"If somebody was old or sick or injured what are we supposed to do, call an ambulance for them with smoke signals?" passenger Bob Lewandowski told the Laredo Morning Times in

Eventually, a larger Continental Airlines plane from Houston arrived and flew the passengers on to Laredo. They arrived at 10 p.m. — three hours

Fence separating black and white graves torn down

JASPER, Texas - An iron fence that separated black and white graves for more than than 160

years has been taken down in Jasper.

"For many of us, this fence has been a symbol of segregation in our community," Father Ron Forsage of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church said in prayer Wednesday as volunteers and city employees tore down the rusting fence.

"Give us the power and strength through this rotten and broken fence to repair the fences in our own

About 75 people — blacks and whites — sang in celebration of the fence's removal. There were also tears. It had stood since the cemetery opened in

The fence's removal came just days before the trial for the first of three white men charged in the June 7 dragging death of James Byrd Jr., a black

"I wish my mother was here to see this," said Faye White, a black Jasper resident, as she hugged several friends after the ceremony.

Byrd's slaying thrust Jasper into the national spotlight. The 49-year-old was chained to the back of a pickup and dragged to his death along back-

Three men, 31-year-old Russell Brewer, of Sulphur Springs and Jasper residents John William King, 24, and Shawn Berry, 23, have been charged with capital murder in what prose-

The last challenge

of a socially

conscious society?

cutors say was a racially motivated crime.

King goes on trial Monday.

After Byrd's death, city leaders and clergy formed the Mayor's Task Force 2000 to help bridge racial divides. The iron fence in the ceme tery, they decided, was a highly visible symbol and should come down.

These stories are from the Associated Press.



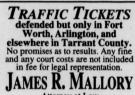
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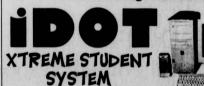
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editorial

TALKIN' TRASH

Your mother doesn't work here

Ahh ... lunchtime.

The Reed-Sadler Mall fills up with students out to enjoy the sunshine and The Main's newest concoction.

But students wandering into the mall may not find the pic-

turesque scene they expect. Sure, they'll find plenty of happy students frolicking in the sunlight, but they may also become witness to a darker side of student behavior: Students refusing to take a few

moments to clean up after themselves. For some reason, styrofoam containers, newspapers and cigarette butts never quite make it to one of the eight trash cans or three ashtrays which encircle the mall area. What do these students who leave the trash lying around think will happen to their litter? It won't walk itself to the trashcan, much to the dismay of the army of university employees

enlisted to keep this place spic 'n span. While TCU students may be totally oblivious to the fact that we are trashing our campus, our laziness reflects badly on the university as a whole. Ask prospective students or visiting alumni and they will tell you this is not the picture they see on admissions brochures or in TCU Magazine.

TCU devotes much effort to the upkeep of campus grounds. It must be frustrating for those TCU groundskeepers and maintenance workers who have to clean up after us like our parents did when we were children.

Students have the tendency to gripe about how to make TCU better. We should all know by now that Marriott won't be ousted just because we're sick of the food. Extra parking spaces are not going to magically appear. And whether we like it or not, tuition will probably continue to increase.

But doing something as simple as picking up trash — even someone else's — is one way to improve this university.

Your dorm rooms, your apartments or your homes can be your own private landfills. But you share the TCU campus with approximately 7,400 students. Don't think that someone else is going to want to wallow in your waste.

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Fast-paced society places stress on mental health

→ This is, and has always been, a tough, competitive world in which to live. But I must also say this

believe it's the truth. I think humans, their effort to paced, inforsociety, may in some ways be outsmarting themselves

And in doing so, they may also cripple a small sector of our American society.

Clinical depression is at a steady level in American society. Statistics at healthtouch.com show that in this year alone, over 10 percent of the our population will need medical interention because of some form of clinical depression. These numbers are consistent with every previous year of

Among college students, I'm guessing the percentages are probably higher. I personally was exposed to five cases of clinical depression in this last semester, some of whom are my own friends.

In fact, I have to make a difficult confession. Last month, I had a terrible case of the blues as well. Not just a downer, but a full-blown case of depression. And, as most people realize, the feelings associated with depression are merciless. Isolation. Paranoia. Horrid mood swings. I couldn't sleep, nor could I concen-

As difficult as it is to talk about, I share this with you because I was lucky. My case was temporary, lasting about six weeks maximum. Many people need medical attention and require six to 18 months for recovery.

Once again, statistics show a 10 percent effect of depression on our population for the past 10 years. Simple math suggests that either everyone has been affected once, or it is a recurrence among a smaller section of our population. My feeling is that recurrence is probably linked to those people who have trouble coping with today's hurried environment.

Depression, obviously, is not a new occurrence. So why examine it now? Why focus on the more recent statis-The problem may increase as more people experience difficulties in coping with our new society. This is what we must examine.

Have you ever stopped to think just for a moment, what a fast paced world we've lived in during the 1990s? Updates on robotics, computers and such things are incredible. Almost daily we hear about new technological concepts that aid such marvels as sheep cloning, satellites feeds and cell phones.

For these reasons, I envy people who grasp technology so easily. I also admit that technology scares the heck out of me, mainly because it doesn't come naturally to me.

Don't get me wrong. I think technology is a wonderful thing. I work at an on-campus computer lab and, consequently, I experience exactly what these wonderful machines can do for our world. But I'm one of the ones who foster a fear that a technological world might swallow me up, much like a person who cannot read.

an artist. Writing and philosophy are my greatest assets, but how much will they be needed in the 21st century? Though I didn't know it at the time, this was the fear that was at the root of my depression.

Now, I'm not saying that everyone who is clinically depressed is living in fear of technology. I'm merely suggesting that technology is a symbol of sometimes overwhelming world that produces consistent forms of clinical depression in our society. Whatever the cause, we need to find a solution.

Meanwhile, knowing technology and understanding technology are two different things. Those who are technologically sound have nothing to fear, but what are they going to do with those of us who may or may not be able to keep up? All I ask is that they slow down, be patient, and wait for the rest of us. After all, our mental health and our survival might very well depend on it.

Tim Skaggs is a senior speech communication major from Fort Worth.

American policy toward Iraq unwise, dangerous

TIM

ateline 1991: The new Evil Empire is drives Iraqi forces from Kuwait, paralyzing its dictator's ability to rule.

Dateline 1999: President Clinton brings other people to their knees as Iraq continues to peeve the rest of the

Where did we go wrong in this brief span of time?

The entire affair of Iraq raising hell in the Middle East, especially during times when the commander in chief of his main rival's army is most vulnerable, has

HASTY changed from "Wag the 'and "Conspiracy Theory" to a marathon of Old Navy Performance Fleece commercials. I can't see how we let the problem exist in the first place.

HERNDON

OK, Saddam Hussein is a bad guy. The oil on the black market. brought to its knees as President Bush thought of him dropping a ton of anthrax virus on America like he was just lobbing a snowball scares me to death. But the way we're asserting our right to dodge in this giant snowball fight is about as effective as Henry Hyde is funny. Now we're just making Saddam even angrier.

We've tried a few ideas that initially seem viable. Our oil embargo, in a perfect world, not only diminishes Saddam's funds but also incites his people to revolt against him. But Iraqi news is run by the government, so what-Hussein says is news is what the Iraqis consider true.

If Iraq was an open democracy like America, Saddam would have been thrown out of office faster than you can say "retreat" in Arabic. His troops had even started surrendering to CNN cameramen. However, as he is the bigwig for life and the center of their press system, he can simply blame America for his starving population while he continues to sell

UNSCOM was an even better idea. Force to attack rebels in his country. It reminds me of what we tried doing to Germany after World War I, and we all know how that ended up. Historical perspective aside, UNSCOM may have turned up possible weapons sites, but it took covert tactics to even figure out where to start looking. We caused very little damage compared to what we were supposed

The security team, originally a noble crusade for global safety, became a UN-sponsored spy mission against Iraq. After all, the UN counts on American support, so why refuse it the opportunity to place a few bugs while they're down there?

We then proceeded to attack Iraq at its most holy time of the year (comparable to bombing us on Super Bowl Sunday), and gave Iraq the excuse to never allow weapons inspection teams inside its borders again. So much for

These tactics leave us with an irate dictator him to limit his military and even forbid him who may or may not have weapons that make World War II look like a school yard dodge ball game; a starving nation of people ready to rip anything red, white and blue to pieces; and an aggressor whose people question the timing of attacks ... What to do, what to do ...

For one, we can no longer try to bring Iraq to bay by ourselves. Britain may have helped us in our last effort, and the entire world stood behind America during Desert Storm, but for now the world is more divided than Burt and Loni.

We can't do things that cause a country with hundreds of nuclear weapons to recall its diplomats and pull away from disarmament talks. Russia's government is shakier than a ferret on three cups of coffee. We cannot allow critical relations with one country to fail because of the aggressions of another. Even though we seem to have taken the Iraqi affair into our own hands, we can still try to find a solution the rest of the world can agree on.

We also need to stop vacillating between punishing Saddam and removing him. Punishment is the best way to go: Hussein mustn't be allowed to possess a Nerf gun, let alone weapons of mass destruction. We can try to remove him from power like a modern Castro (in other words, with extreme prejudice). The success of that attempt would be scarier than the failure. His seconds-in-command are described as Hitler-like, except they want to slaughter Americans.

Most importantly, we have to find a way to punish him without punishing the people of Iraq for the mistakes on both sides of the picture. Limiting his ability to rule without creating a new Somalia will benefit both sides immensely. I don't see the sense in physically punishing millions for the idiocy of one nut, but hey ... that's just me.

Herndon Hasty is a freshman business major from Overland Park, Kan.

Longer holiday break may have made motivation wane

weeks of the fall semester, a month-long Christmas vacation looked really appealing. I was ecstatic to be able to sleep for more than six hours a night, eat home-

cooked food and do my laundry without forking out \$1.50 for every load. I never thought I'd admit it, that but month-long gift turned into a lump of coal.



Sure, while I was skiing down the sparkling white slopes, hiking up snowy mountains under the moonlight and wrestling with the polar bears, TCU was far from my mind. But on Tuesday, reality set in and it was painful. I wasn't just worrying about trivial things such as how late to sleep in and which movies to rent. Instead, I had to concern myself with the important things like a full class ad, a job and budgeting time for fun, yet time-consuming extra-curric-ular activities. As much as I loved every single second of the 29 days I spent at home, I feel like I've dug myself into a hole. The long break probably didn't do

whose breaks were cut short due to their responsibilities. However, for me, the break seemed to do more harm than good. After two weeks, you begin to notice that it's hard to resist Mom's

poured out on you during Christmas.

harm to everybody. I'm sure lots of

people were able to curl up with a good book or see old friends. It was

also beneficial to RAs, Skiff staff

members, athletes and other students

body is calling out for a trip to the Rickel. You also become sick of your parents. This can be a large problem if you're from out of state and get three months worth of love

end up shoveling snow from the driveway one too many times and see your fair share of negative temperatures. Of course, there is also the depression caused by the separation of your school romance. They say that absence makes the heart grow fonder, but let's face it, a month is too long to leave your true love.

Some of my reasons may seem ations caused by this vacation. For starters, all the best summer jobs begin the first of May. We finish finals in mid-May. If you don't have a sympathetic employer, then chances are you will miss out on the top jobs. dling your thumbs in January could be better spent earning more money in the summertime. Of course, none of that applies to those who live in the area and have a steady job, or have one waiting at home.

Another drawback to the month of play is more evident to the staff members of TCU. While students are off enjoying their holiday fun, some TCU workers are wondering where they are going to get their paychecks for the month. At the end of last semester, for example, I spoke with some Marriott workers who were out of work for the whole month.

Now it looks like the most chal-

lenging problem to deal with is the lack of motivation. Some students may be feeling very refreshed, but I, on the other hand, am really struggling to focus on school. I was on such a roll last semester. Where has all the motivation gone?

I just hope that my ideas of backcking across Scotland disappear long enough to survive the semester. I know it does not look promising when I've only gone to class for a few days and am already making decisions for spring break. Heck, I've only got 50 days left to plan!

Stacy Stuart is a sophomore radio-TV-film major from Palmer, Alaska.

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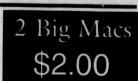




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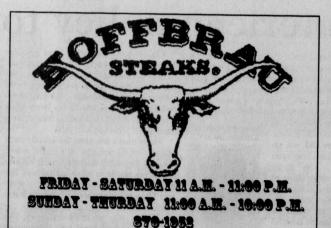
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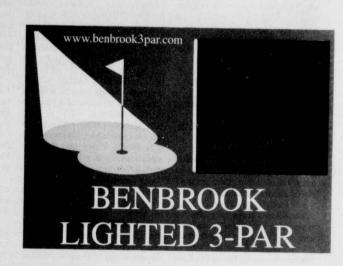
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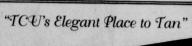
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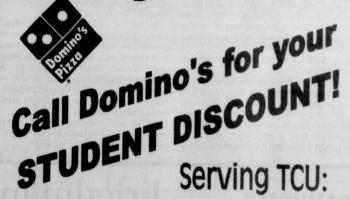
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The Main clause

TCU and Marriott face students' demands and the bottom line

By Almée Courtice

It has happened to every student at

It's lunch time. You drag your feet through the Main in search of something to eat. As your stomach growls, you mutter something under your breath about the lack of appetizing

Once you decide to settle for a chicken sandwich, french fries, a salad and a Coke you reluctantly hand over your ID card and watch about \$7 disappear from your bal-

You wonder, "Why does the food cost so much? Where does my money go?"

Sodexho-Marriott Corporation is responsible for dining services at TCU. Marriott's first contract with TCU dates back to 1980. Since then, TCU has continually renewed its contract with Marriott, which merged last year with a French food service company called Sodexho to form Sodexho-Marriott.

Roger Fisher, director of residential services, said the current contract expires in four years. Fisher said the contract can be renewed at any time. But he said that currently there is not a need to.

"Right now we don't see a need to extend (the contract)," he said.

Under the general terms of the Sodexho-Marriott is required to provide food, service and personnel. In turn, TCU is required to provide space, facilities and equipment. The university is also responsible for the maintenance and renovation of facilities, Fisher said.

The contract also requires Marriott to provide some type of food service even when a majority of students are not on campus. Fisher said Marriott loses money during Spring Break and

"During Spring Break, Marriott will lose their shirts, but we need to have some sort of food service here when there are any students, faculty

David Ripple, director of food ser-

vices for Marriott, said a lot of the dining facilities would be open for a shorter period of time if the contract

did not force them to stay open.

"A lot of times it is very slow," he "We probably would not be open Saturdays if the contract did not require us to. But pricing pays for the slow times.

Greg Henry, a senior marketing major, said he wishes Marriott would lower its prices.
"The food has not gotten any bet-

ter," he said. "It's overpriced. I think they should stop charging so much." Fisher also said prices are estab-

lished with TCU's approval. "Marriott has to prove three times year what the market value (of each item) is," he said. "Prices don't increase every year, but this year they

have increased by 13 percent.' Students notice what they are paying for their food because of the nature of the meal plans at TCU. While students at some universities are simply allocated a certain number of meals per week, TCU meal plans function as declining balance accounts. When a student makes a purchase at any dining facility on campus the total cost is subtracted from the student's balance. All students who live on campus, which is about 2,400, are required to purchase the \$400 meal plan.

In addition, 2,000 students who live off-campus have also purchased a meal plan. Fisher said the \$400 minimum amount was established to provide Marriott with a base from which to determine its earnings.

He also said that when money is spent, it is divided between TCU and Marriott.

Don Mills, vice chancellor of student affairs, said that in general, for every dollar spent, Marriott receives 88 percent and TCU receives 12 per-

Fisher said most of the dining facilities don't generate much profit. He said 90 percent of business is done between The Main and Eden's

even, and catering breaks even at

Texas Women's University, which has about 6,000 students, also has a contract with Sodexho-Marriott. Kerry Mirza, food services director at TWU, said the spilt differs between universities. She said the university's rebate, the portion of the money spent which the university receives, depends on the types of meal plans offered by universities. She also said that in most cases, Marriott receives more than the college or university.

"(The rebate) is based on what the university needs as a return on the meal plan," she said. "They have to cover costs."

Fisher said it is difficult to make comparisons between different contracts because each university's meal plan system works differently.

Beth Lewis, food service adminis-trator at TWU, said the university offers different types of meal plans and the university's rebate differs on each plan. TWU's plan, which is the most similar to TCU's, is a declining balance plan of \$920 per semester She said the university receives 30 percent of money spent from this plan and Marriott receives the rest.

"Up front it appears that Marriott makes a bulk of the money, but because it is responsible for all consumables and labor, it has a huge

'It gives (the university) the incentive to manage as efficiently as possible in order to make a profit and reinvest in our facilities," Lewis said.

Universities are also finding they can make a profit, although not a substantial one, with popular fast-food franchises on campus

Lewis also said the university receives money from branded concepts, which are franchises such as Taco Bell and Pizza Hut which are located on campus. While the food is identical to what is served at regular franchises, Sodexho Marriott still oversees the operations of these facil-

She said the university's new

among TWU students. Chick-Fil-A receives 10 percent of the revenue, the university receives 14 percent and Marriott receives the additional 76 percent, she said.

Prairie View A&M, which has a contract with Marriott, also has several branded concepts on campus. The university's assistant director of dining services said it costs more money to run its Taco Bell and Kentucky Fried Chicken because they have to buy the same products as their off-campus counterparts.

"Kids demand them now, so we have no choice," he said.

Fisher said he is aware of students' desires to have more branded concepts on campus, but he said Dining Services is waiting the see what the administration decides to do with the Student Center.

"Marriott seems very anxious to get into a major renovation program," he said. "We are waiting to see what the plans will be. The Building and

Grounds Committee of the Board of Trustees gave the university permission to bring a consultant to decide what to do with the Student Center. Marriott wants to be a part of it."

Fisher said they are considering expanding the Pizza Hut facility and adding more snack-bar style items.

"We want to make it a more modern food-service facility," he said. "And perhaps keep it open 24 hours, so that the Main would not have to stay open as long as it is now.'

Fisher also said it would not be impossible for students to use their ID cards at nearby restaurants, but it would require a major re-negotiation of the current contract.

Mills said no major changes will be made with TCU's dining services until more definite decisions have been made regarding the Student Center. Despite the various complaints of students, Mills said Marriott is a good fit because it can meet a variety of the university's

"We are very content with Marriott because they are very willing to serve us under difficult circumstances. Our kitchen is over 60 years old. We are asking Marriott to keep up with demand in a less than modern way. We need a state-of-the art facility," he

Chancellor Ferrari also said he has been pleased with Marriott so far.

"I have met with several of the members of the Marriott management team here and with senior officers of the company elsewhere," he

"I have been assured that Marriott wants to do everything possible to satisfy the needs of students and others at TCU - short term and long term - and I have no reason to question their commitment."

He also said the Marriott management at TCU is eager to get suggestions from students on ways to continue to improve quality and service.

Students have to wait until fall to swipe their cards off campus

By Aimée Courtice

Students starved for relief from on-campus food may soon be able to satisfy their appetites by using ID cards at off-campus establishments, but the change will not take place before this fall.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the administration is looking into ways to employ the use of ID cards at local restaurants, but he doesn't expect that anything will be finalized this semester.

We'll be working on it all semester but our target has always been next year," he said.

Mills said the logistics of off-campus ID use are complicated and a lot of details still need to be worked out. 'We have talked to three merchants on an informal

basis, and all three, in principal, said they wanted to participate," he said. "But they want to know what their

Mills said he could not say which three businesses have expressed interest.

Roger Fisher, director of Residential Services, said because of the university's contract with Marriott, it would have to be decided how an off-campus account would work.

"We would need to figure out what kind of contract would the university have to enter into," he said. "Is (the ID card) going to work as a debit card or as a credit card? If it is a debit card, what will that do to

Under TCU's current contract with Marriott, the \$400 minimum amount for students who live on campus was set up so that TCU could provide Marriott with basis for approximating how much it would make from each student.

Fisher also said that off-campus ID card use would quire the installation of phone lines and card readers. But Fisher also said there have not been any formal discussions between administrators and Marriott

regarding off-campus ID card use. 'It's not a high-profile issue," he said. "That's not to

say it is not important, but we've got thousands of other things to take care of first."

So far, the only formal action taken was by the House of Student Representatives. Last fall, the House passed a resolution encouraging the administration to look into off-campus use of ID cards. Jared Pope, chairof the House's Technology Advancement Committee, said he hopes that students will be able to use their ID cards off campus by this fall. He also said initial off-campus card use will be restricted to only two or three restaurants.

"If we start with too many places, and there are problems, it will be harder to fix," he said. "We want to start slowly and see how it goes."



Ben Alexander, a junior advertising/public relations major and Ben Wilkinson, a junior business/pre-mad major, see what it's like to be a part of Marriott during Student Government Association's elections last fall.

INTRAMURALS

From Page 1

the program as well, including pay increases and special training for referees. Three new intramural champion T-shirts were created to avoid giving multiple winners duplicate shirts, he said.

Steffen said an ongoing point system was established as a competition between teams to win trophies at the end of each year.

McNew said the point system is a good way to get more people involved with the intramural

program.
"A lot of the fraternities and sororities entered

because they're all so competitive," she said.

Steffen said the changes in the intramural program have received a positive response from students. He said he attributes the program's success to his well-trained staff and energetic

"We've been fortunate to have students that are excited and willing to participate," he said. "We had increases that you rarely see, and I'm

confident that it's going to get even better."

Registration for the 5-on-5 basketball tournament ends Jan. 27 and the deadline to register for the chess tournament is Jan. 29.

Friedman's legacy lives at tennis center

By Pam Woodhead STAFF REPORTER

In honor of the man who gave so much to the TCU tennis program, the Mary Potishman Lard Tennis Center has been renamed the Bayard Friedman Tennis

Shortly after Friedman's death in October, the TCU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename the center after the former chairman of the board.

Sara Bartzen, associate director of the Tennis Center, said Friedman played a vital role in the development and growth of the TCU tennis pro-

"He took (the program) from zero to something like third ranked," she said.

As the executor of the Mary Potishman Lard trust, Friedman donated the Tennis Center to TCU in 1976. At the time, it consisted of 16 outdoor courts. Five climatecontrolled indoor courts were added in 1980. Six of the outdoor courts have seating for 13,050 fans of TCU men's and women's tennis

Friedman's gift came with a few stip lations, the most important being that the

ennis center always be open to the public, Bartzen said.

"He wanted anyone to be able to play," she said.

center charge only a nominal fee to anyone who wished to play. The outdoor courts, which may be reserved up to a week in advance, cost an hourly rate of \$3 per person during the day and \$3.50 at night. The indoor courts may be rented for an hourly rate of \$22

per court. Also among Friedman's stipulations was that the tennis center be open every day of the year, except for certain holidays, Bartzen said. The center is closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

"The other university holidays, that eryone else has off, we have to work," Bartzen said.

Friedman also opposed any attempt at commercialization of the tennis center. Rather than banners and advertisements, he wanted the beautiful gardens around the Friedman also stipulated that the center to stand as a memorial to his family, Bartzen said.

The WAC cham-66Tt is very fitting that pionship was the only time a Wilson Lthe tennis center be banner has been named for him because it was very much a part of Center," she said. Tut Bartzen, his life." director of the tennis

> Sara Bartzen, associate director of the Tennis center

the year. In addition to hosting the WAC championship for men's tennis in 1997 and women's tennis in 1998, the tennis center has also hosted such tournaments as the Rolex Region Six Championship, the NCAA Regional Championship and the Southwest Conference Championship, he said.

center, said the Bayard Friedman

Tennis Center hosts

a variety of tourna-

ments throughout

Bartzen said the center will also be named the recipient of the 1998 USTA facility award for its activities, services, and complex. The presentation of the award is expected to be made during half-time of the TCU basketball game on Feb. 11, she said.

Of all the things Friedman contributed to the Mary Potishman Lard Tennis Center, the most important was his time, Bartzen said.

"He played here three times a week," she said. "It's very fitting that the tennis center be named for him because it

was so much a part of his life. 'He was just a wonderful man," she

Cornelia Friedman, Friedman's wife, also expressed her happiness over the renaming of the tennis center in her husband's memory.

"I think it's wonderful and very appropriate," she said. "I know he would've been so pleased, and I don't think Mary [Potishman Lard] would

"He loved it. It was one of his favorite places."

COMPLEX

From Page 1

ing them about the attack and offering safety tips to remember at home and

while driving and walking.

Many residents said they've heard others talk about or plan to move from the

complex in response to the Sunday attack.

The victim and her two roommates also TCU students — are also leaving Westcliff Manor.

"I can only say what everyone else has said: Be cautious, and be protected," one roommate said, while hurriedly packing her belongings into her vehicle.

TCU and police officials have been giving the same advice since last spring, when the string of sexual assaults in the TCU area began. Police have a vague description of the suspect, who has dressed in black, worn a black ski mask and covered his hands in the attacks.

J.A. Jenson, the FWPD courtesy officer who lives at Westcliff Manor and was the first to respond to the victim's call early Sunday morning, said the suspect may make the victim wait until after he has left to call police.

The victim was home alone when she was attacked, he said.

"Every lead that the department has, they are following up on," Jenson said.

Following the attack, officers scoured the area for anyone walking or driving in the area. No one suspicious was

Westcliff Manor managers, who were very upset" by news of the attack, plan to bulk up security and may hire additional officers to increase its presence, Jenson said.

He added that Westcliff may be considering closing off one of two front entrances and adding a key access-only gate in the rear of the complex.

According to residents, boosting security has been a major concern since the first attack at the apartment complex in April, when a woman was assaulted outside her apartment after she gathered personal belongings from her car. The woman escaped unharmed.

"I don't know what (Westcliff) is doing for security," said Kelly Newmon, a resident and junior elementary educa-tion major. "Some of the locks on the doors and windows we added."

Newmon said when she and her roommate, Alyshia Neil, a junior deaf education major, recently moved into their apartment, they added a chain lock to their front and back doors and "thumb

lock" devices to their windows. It was further security for themselves and their apartment, located near the site of the first attack

"(The assault) was on our minds," Newmon said. "I don't know if we would've done it otherwise."

The roommates said they are taking well-lighted paths and every precaution possible.

"I couldn't stay here by myself at night," Neil said. In light of any concerns about resident safety, Jenson said the apartment complex was not negligent about its

security leading up to the attacks.

Westcliff Manor will hold a crime watch meeting and discussion about personal protection and security within the next few days, Jenson said. And he hopes the meeting will be well-attended especially by female residents who are students.

After last spring's attack, apartment managers held a meeting for all residents, but only a handful of students showed up.

"I think they take their security for granted," Jenson said. "We want to dis-



Kelly Newmon, a junior elementary education major, shows a chain lock she installed after moving into Westcliff Manor Apartments. She hasn't seen much of a security presence at the complex, she said.

Safety precautions

- 1. Be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- 2. Walk in pairs or call a campus police escort, ext. 7777.
- 3. If walking at night is necessary, walk in well-lighted areas.
- 4. Keep doors and windows locked, blinds closed and curtains drawn.
- 5. Leave an outside light on overnight.
- 6. Notify police of any suspicious people or harassing phone calls.

HISTORY

From Page1

Swaim said the rules were created according to the social dictates

"Boys and girls couldn't hold hands and couldn't associate with each other," she said. "The girls were fewer than the males and lived with a wife of one of the Clark brothers. It was very strict, yet I think they had fun."

According to the book, "History of Texas Christian University," written in 1947 by former chancellor Colby D. Hall, one girl was reprimanded by the faculty for walking across the campus with a boy. After the girl explained that the boy was her brother, the faculty told her that other students wouldn't know about the relationship and that she "must avoid the appearance of evil."

Tucker said the first students were given books of expectations they must follow to attend the school.

"If a boy was sitting in a chair and got up, it was unacceptable for a girl to sit in that chair immediately because the heat from his body could then be felt by the

girl," he said.
"Strict rules were enforced. The whole culture was different. There was a rigid approach to college; a

rigidity that we now find laugh-able for good reason," he said.

In the following years, Add-Ran College struggled to stay open after financial strains forced many

other schools in the nation to close.

college there which 66Tt was just a little were many on frontier,' Tucker "Many colleges were started but not sustained."

Tucker said the school would not have survived without the help of the Clark

women, Hetty DeSpain Clark and Sallie McQuigg Clark. "Addison and Randolph strug-

- William E. Tucker,

into the school and had to finally "It was just a little struggling rely on the property of their bllege of ______wives," Tucker said. "There needs to be another statue

gled and put all their resources

Lstruggling college of which there were many on the frontier."

former chancellor

students paid \$50, a rate that

Clark women. They were just as involved as bands."

to honor the

Tuition rates were too low to provide a good source

Zandt Jarvis, donated much of their time and money to keep the income for the school, according college alive. to Hall. For the first nine months By the end of the 19th century,

Christian University.

changed the name to Add-Ran

J.J. Jarvis, was created to take

charge of the school. According to

Hall, Jarvis and his wife, Ida Van

the school was moved to Waco,

A board of trustees, headed by

dropped to \$40 by 1876. Students which had several railroad outlets of the Intermediate school paid and allowed more students to \$40 and Primary school tuition was only \$20. The brothers began attend the college. Two years later, the school that began with just seeking financial assistance from \$9,000 and sat surrounded by the community members.

In 1889, the brothers finally grassy plains to avoid the evils of a city became Texas Christian turned the school over to the University located in the heart of Christian Churches of Texas, who

Waco, Texas Without the perseverance of the Clark brothers, TCU would have ended with the crumbled ruins of the Add-Ran College in Thorp Spring, Swaim said.

'The brothers and their wives made a great sacrifice financially and emotionally for this school, Swaim said. "They gave it a good start, otherwise we wouldn't be



Application

Image

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		Expected date of graduation	
Position(s) desired (in order of	preference)		
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List courses already taken that			
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If you have any questions, call 921-7428.

TOWNHALL

From Page 1

said any off-campus TCU student can request a security survey of his or her residence. Security surveys include inspection of lighting, shrubbery and locks, as well as a discussion of psychological safety tips. There is no charge for the survey, Welch

Although officials were unable to discuss the details of the case, Fort Worth Police Det. Don Hanlon said they believe the rapist is entering the residences in a burglary style. They also believe the suspect is the same man involved in sexual assaults last year.

Hanlon said he feels sure the rapist will be caught

"One thing I do want to say is that we have developed evidence that we are confident will catch this individual," he said.

After the three sexual assaults that occurred between Jan. 4 and April 22, 1998, police formulated a written description of the suspect based on information from victims and witnesses.

In light of the most recent attacks, students are once again worried about their Rene Jacobs, a senior marketing major,

said she continues to feel concerned about

"I have a night class, and I worry about

walking out to my car," she said. "I don't see

a lot of heightened security."

Leon Reed, a senior political science major, expressed concern about the treat-ment of black male students following the sexual assaults of last year, especially with a broad suspect description.

"I don't want people thinking ... there goes 'the rapist," he said. "It's not a com-

Reed said he was stopped last spring at an area gas station by a Fort Worth police officer after he left the Student Center. Reed said the officer asked him, "Have you raped anyone lately?" and told him he was the

"spitting image" of the suspect.

"I didn't appreciate it," Reed said.
At Thursday's meeting, Reed asked if TCU would provide legal counsel to defend the rights of black male students who say have felt harrassed by police officers.

Mills recommended concerned students speak to the attorney retained by the House of Student Representatives for free legal

TCU does not become either your protector or someone who is investigating you," Mills said. "We won't interfere with the police investigation."

While students expressed their concerns

over various aspects of the assaults, staff

Roger Fisher, director of Residential Services, said he thinks campus security is working well, and the real challenge is edu-

cating students about personal safety.
"I think our challenge - residential services' and the RAs' - is to keep student vareness up," he said.

Williams denied rumors that an attack had occurred on campus

"We have not had a student injured or assaulted on campus, especially in the last couple of days," he said.

Plau Your

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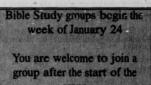
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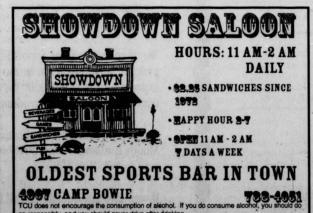
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1999

must live without Jordan

ial

way.

John Daly, the pro golfer in Barkley's group at the pro-am, was on a telephone conference call from Tamarisk back to PGA West, the host course for this year's Hope.

Daly, asked if Barkley had in fact signed, at first said he didn't know, then said Barkley was right there.

"Hey, Charles, did you sign a contract?" Daly asked.

After getting a reply, Daly said, "He sure did."

San Antonio adding Kerr, Kersey, Elie SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The frontcourt duo of David Robinson and Tim Duncan got some help from other well-known NBA players — and a shot at the NBA title — on Thursday

pavid Robinson said he ed that the addition of and Elie would propel Spurs to the champi-

an Antonio needs more con-istency in its outside shoot-ng, particularly in light of ajuries the last two seasons to prward Sean Elliott. Elliott will be back this sea-on after missing the second-alf of last season with a left undriceps tendon injury. Popovich said Thursday was a "great day" for the lours.

We like what's happened said. "We like the makeu the team. But it's going t e a while to blend the

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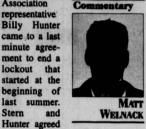
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and the rights to drustlipe Lopez.

Spurs might ops to de a Virnay Del Nagrot to play for as failleanting the lockent terming the lockent terming the lockent termine.

The National Basketball Association is on its way down, and the worst thing (for the NBA) is nobody cares.

January, NBA David Stern and Commissioner NBA Players



on the eve of the drop-dead date the deadline Stern set to cancel the While this was big news on all the

Stern

couldn't care less what the NBA was doing. And I know there are plenty of other sports fans that share my sentiment. In fact, I was looking forward to Stern canning the 1999

The kicker to this whole situation, though, is the retirement of Chicago Bulls superstar Michael Jordan. Jordan decided to hang up his Nikes for the last time and pursue other interests such as his golf game and possibly a career in business.

The NBA now faces the arduous and uphill battle of rebuilding a league that is tarnished in the eyes of the fans. Player-fan relationships and player-owner relationships are now strained. Even though it was the owners who locked out the players, it is the players who are going to suffer the abuse night in and night out on the court.

Of course, the players aren't sports channels, I was content exactly helping their own cause. watching my cartoons that day. I One player was quoted as saying

that they would have to go out and do things that they don't particularly like doing, such as signing autographs. I'm sure those owners just love signing those multi-million

I plan on watching opening night just to see what the fans have in store for the players, then I'm going to switch back to college basketball, where the real action is this year.

Teams will play a 50-game season starting Feb. 5. Without Jordan. While I am tired of seeing the Bulls win every championship they can get their rich hands on, it was fun watching Jordan make his own highlight film every night.

It will be interesting to see how the NBA will try to replace Jordan. I've heard of rumors that Philadelphia's Allen Iverson will try to take the throne as king of the basketball world. While Iverson may have one-tenth the skills that No. 23 does on the court, he just doesn't

never heard of Jordan getting arrest-ed for drugs or guns or asking his coach to make him captain of the

Maybe the NBA will try to make Los Angeles Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal the next ambassador of the NBA. The guy is 7-1, 300 pounds and he can dunk with the power of a grizzly bear. Why that impresses everybody, I don't know. If I was that big, wouldn't I be expected to do that? What will impress me is when he finally commits himself to basketball and starts learning another shot, something like a free throw or a jumper. O'Neal is just too oneonal on the court to be considered in the same league as

The list goes on. Everybody from Laker guard Kobe Bryant to college phenom Steve Francis have been mentioned as heirs to the throne that Air himself built, but I just don't see anybody stepping up to fill the hole Jordan left behind.

Jordan is a unique person in a unique situation. Not too many athletes get to leave their sport at the top of their game. Not too many players can — not with the money and the success involved. But Jordan has done it all. He has accomplished all he can on the court; the only thing left for him now is the Hall of

Jordan is the only real winner here. The NBA loses it's icon; the Bulls lose their leader; but more importantly the fans lose the chance to see Jordan perform his magic with the basketball night in and night out. Granted, the NBA will become more competitive without Mike, but there are pretty big shoes to fill out there.

Matt Welnack is a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio.

Frogs ground Falcons, get easy WAC win

TCU dished out more than the Falcons could handle Thursday night, as the Frogs routed Air Force 114-87 at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

After jumping out to an impressive first half lead, the Frogs seemed a little sloppy in the second half. TCU turned the ball over 27 times.

"I just thought we were out of the game in the second half," head coach Billy Tubbs said. "I wasn't happy with the game.'

The Frogs struggled defensively despite forcing 36 Air Force turnovers, At times the Frogs look like they were taking a beating on the inside game. Shannon Long was clotheslined in the second half, almost sparking a TCU retaliate." Senior.

"We wanted to retaliate," senior center Lee Nailon said. "But it's bas-

ketball, and it happens."
The Frogs (15-3, 3-1) jumped out to a 7-0 run in the first three minutes of play. Sophomore guard Ryan Carroll was six of eight from the field cashing in 15 first half points. The six-foot-four forward finished the night with 25 points and 10 boards.

"I think we pressed well in the first half," Carroll said. "We just need to keep up the intensity in the second half."

TCU continued to run over the Falcons, stretching its lead to 21 after sophomore guard Vladimir Jaksic hit a three with 8:08 remaining in the first half. The Frogs would end the half leading 53-32.

"It was a wild game to say the least," Tubbs said. "We went out of what we were supposed to be doing. We got a little too cute."

conference victory. The Frogs, coming off a nail-biting win against Colorado State last Saturday, exceeded 100 points for the second time this

"I'm getting tired of these close games," Carroll said. "It felt good to blow somebody out."

Nailon led the Frogs offensive attack in the second half. The senior had another double-double night, tallying 26 points and 11 boards. Thirteen of those points came from the line.

"I knew they were trying to get me out of the game." Nailon said. "I just kept my head in and we had a good

Both Long and junior forward Marquise Gainous also had big

nights, picking up 16 points each.

The Falcons were dry from the field, only hitting nine of 32 in the first half.

"We got to make shots," Air Force head coach Reggie Minton said. "But they have a great team." Air Force dropped to 8-7 and will

travel to Southern Methodist on Saturday. Last night's game was the Falcon's first of a two-game road TCU concludes their homestand on Saturday when Nevada-Las Vegas

comes to town. The Rebels feature one of the toughest team's in the league. Tubbs said tonight's game was good preparation for Saturday's "They (UNLV) bring a lot of tal-

ent," Tubbs said. "It's going to be a tough game."

Tip-off at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.





The Air Force Falcons came to **Daniel-Meyer Collseum Thursday** night and played a physical game with the Frogs (above), but they weren't able to stop TCU's offense led by senior center Lee Nailon (left). TCU defeated Air Force 114-87 in the Frogs' first **Western Athletic Conference** home game. They play their next home game at 7:05 p.m. Saturday against Nevada-Las Vegas before hitting the road again next week.

Strong strokes Teams remain confident after loss

By Rusty Simmons

Rather than the popular sports phrase, 'a game of inches,' swimming proved to be a game of milliseconds for the TCU swimming team over the holiday break.

The final relay in the three-team TCU Speedo Swim Classic proved to be the deciding event of the meet. After grabbing a small lead on the first day of competition, the Horned Frogs watched their lead slowly dwindle in the final day. Four milliseconds before junior Adrian Velasquez touched the wall to-end the 200-yard freestyle relay, North Carolina State's anchor finished the comeback for the Wolfpack and solidified the 232-233

"It was tough to watch, because you feel so helpless," sophomore Michael Wills said. "It will make for a better meet next year."

Even with this in mind, Wills did not wait

until next year to have a good meet. He won the 100-yard back stroke and was part of the two top finishing TCU relays, the 200-yard medley relay and the 400-yard medley relay.

"The 200-yard medley relay is a tough event," sophomore Mike O'Connor said. They have to be so precise and work so well

The other components of the precision relay are senior Jason Flint, junior Brent Hendrix,

continuing his dominance in the 200-yard breast stroke, and winning the 100-yard breast

"He's such a team leader," Wills said. "He's a guy you count on to win, because he hates to

Velasquez added a first place score in the 50-yard free style, but even with the Horned Frogs' six first place finishes, N.C. State out-

"We got back from Hawaii a day before the meet," O'Connor said. "I think we beat them 80 or 90-percent of the time if we're rested."

The women's half of the squad endured a similar fate as meet hosts. Just nine points separated the Frogs from top finisher N.C.

Despite four first-place finishes by freshman Jamie MacCurdy, three by sophomore Sarah Shepard, and two by both freshman Marisa Schenke and senior Maggie Topolski, TCU could not hold off N.C. State. The Horned Frogs were able to wrap up a second place finish over Northeast Louisiana and North Texas.

North Texas.

The men's TCU squad will be pitted against nationally ranked Tennessee this weekend while the ladies take on North Texas, but neither squad's confidence is altered after the tough holiday action.

"No matter what our ranking is, you don't swim on paper," O'Connor said. "We go into every meet with confidence that we can win."

Rodman not revealing plans for next season

By Greg Beacham

SALT LAKE CITY - Dennis Rodman has played a mercenary killer in the movies and a rebounding machine for three NBA teams. Now, he's just playing coy.

Rodman's agent, Dwight Manley, said

Thursday that the mercurial star won't sign with any club before next week. Instead, he will appear on "The Tonight Show" in Los Angeles on Friday, where he is expected to hint at which teams he would be interested in joining.

So goes the latest chapter in the flamboyant So goes the latest chapter in the flamboyant forward's week of confusion, which has included his retirement on Tuesday, a return to the game on Wednesday and a declaration on his

website that he wouldn't mind even playing Manley was in Salt Lake on Thursday for a press conference with another of his players, press conference with another of his players, former Rodman wrestling opponent, Karl Malone. But Manley kept one ear on the Mailman's words and another on his constantly ringing cell phone, fielding what he said were inquiries from teams about Rodman's services.

"I've been getting a ton of calls," Manley said, though he declined to name specific teams.

Though Manley wouldn't confirm it, Rodman seems to be waiting to see which teams strike out in the free agent market. The 37-year-old would then be a prized commodity

for a number of contenders looking to add the final piece to their rosters

Manley flew to Toronto late Thursday to discuss a contract for another client, Doug breakfast meeting in Canada, the agent said h would return to Los Angeles and speak with Rodman after he appeared on "The Tonight

"I was learning things about the situation from reading the papers this morning," said Manley, who said he last spoke with Rodman on Wednesday.

It has been rumored since last season that Rodman would be interested in joining the Lakers, and living in Los Angeles would obvi-

But the Lakers say they aren't interested, and the Knicks general manager Emie Grunfeld said Thursday that any talk of Rodman coming to New York was "wild rumors."

Manley indicated that interest in Rodman likely will only increase after Thursday's free agent-signing derby calms down. The Bulls may even want Rodman back in Chicago, but their status as a non-contender makes it unlikely.

even want Rodman back in Chicago, but their status as a non-contender makes it unlikely.

"I've been reviewing my options," Rodman wrote in his website message, "and those options still include playing in the NBA this season with a contender. Chicago, New York and L.A. are all cities I'd like to play in. Playing overseas could be pretty cool, too."





by Aaron Brown Chaos



by John P. Araujo

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an undeclared

graduate!

by Brian Shuster

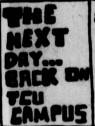


Academia Nuts



M.S. Wants to know each of our majors. Sunther sis in Physical Edu-cation, Nerwin is in Computer science, Sally is in criminal Justice, and English and

Texas Critter University by Jamie Elizabeth Brinkman









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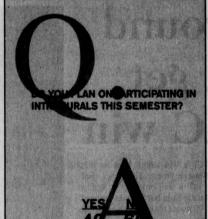


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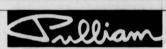
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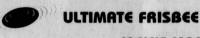
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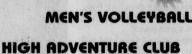
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Weekend

Volume 1, Issue 13

Friday, January 22, 1999

AMONG US

Erin Brinkman arcues the influence of science fiction on popular culture Pages 4 & 5.

Also in Weekend:

Crash Bandicoot Warped Page 2

Varsity Blues

Page 6

Skiff

New naughty dog pushes limits

By Guy Bickers

Naughty Dog has done it again!

That's pretty much all you need to know about the third offering from this new software giant. "Crash 3: Warped," the third in the immensely popular Crash Bandicoot series of PlayStation platform games, sets new highs in gameplay while pushing Sony's console to its limits. Before we launch into the new stuff, however, a brief history of the series is required.

Game

"Crash Bandicoot," the first game from Naughty Dog, hit the PlayStation three years ago. It was different from the other platformers of the day because it used 3D graphics to enhance its 2D gameplay. It looked pretty and played great.

"Crash Bandicoot 2" came out a year later with few changes. Instead of a linear system, which forced you to play the levels in order, it introduced a hub system thereby allowing some choices in how you played the game.

"Crash 3" blows the other two out of the water. There are now racing-style elements added. (These were introduced via the amusing commercials you either loved or hated last fall.) There are levels including scuba gear, airplanes, baby tigers, motorcycles and lots of other stuff. Crash dives, rides and runs alongside another new addition: his sister Coco. She actually does most of the rac-

ing thus leaving her brother to take care of the really dirty work.

The story involves the bad guy, Dr. Neo Cortex, returning to threaten the world again, this time aided by an evil mask. Gameplay is the typical run-jump-land-on-stuff action we're used to, with the added flair of Crash's trademark spin. However, players now have the option of gaining new moves (the belly flop is hilarious) as the game progresses.

"So, how does it play?" you ask.

Incredibly! This incarnation includes analog support as well as support for the Dual-Shock controller. Moving is simple and the controls are as intuitive as possible. The only other game on the PlayStation with this level of control is "Castlevania: Symphony of the Night."

"OK, now it probably looks horrible since the PlayStation is almost five years old."

Wrong! This is possibly the best-looking game on the system. There are thousands of vibrant colors and all of the environments look beautiful. It may not be realistic, but Crash looks nothing like a bandicoot either.

"Sound?"

Good. Not wonderful, but not exactly bad. Only the bad guys seem to have voices, and they are well done, but the repetitiveness of the stock sounds (trotting, spinning, breaking boxes) gets old pretty quickly. I play with my PlayStation hooked into a Dolby Digital sound system and "Crash 3" does little for it. However, it won't have your neighbors banging on your dorm wall shouting at



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

DAYS OF THUNDER. "Crash Bandicoot: Warped" is the latest PlayStation game to feature the mascot.

you to turn it down.

"Will it challenge me at all, or is it harder for me to avoid turtles chasing me?"

Sadly, this is one place "Crash 3" is a bit lacking. You run through levels collecting colored gems to unlock bosses. This is not hard. One of my friends beat the entire game in a single day. To combat this, Naughty Dog has added some extras after you blast Cortex into the great beyond. First, you have the option of running through a time trial version of each level, getting extras each time you beat the clock. In addition, if you break

every box on a level you get a colored gem. This is hard — very hard — but ultimately rewarding.

"Why should I buy this then, if it isn't going to challenge me?"

Because its FUN! Most people liked "The Rock" for its brainless suspension of disbelief. "Crash 3" is like that, but without the 80 gallons of blood, guns, or Michael Biehn playing another SEAL getting waxed. OK, maybe they aren't the same, but it's a great ride. This is one I won't be selling back for a long, long time. Grade: B+

Do ya wanna be Willis for a day?

By Mitch Youngblood

Fans of violence-heavy Hollywood flicks like "Die Hard" and "Commando" worship the ground walked on by 1980s icons such as Bruce Willis and Arnold Schwarzenegger, and may have often wondered what it would be like to actually spend a day at the office wasting bad guys with reckless abandon.

Game

Wonder no longer.

Thanks be to Activision for releasing "Apocalypse" for the Sony PlayStation. When you look past the gloss and pretty explosions, it's basically a standard arcade-style shooter in which you blast everything in sight to complete each board. What sets it apart from the rest, however, is that you get to play as Bruce Willis, complete with voice and mannerisms. The thought of smoking a really ugly bad guy with a mean looking flame thrower just gives me goose bumps. Knowing that I'll here one of Willis' trademark witty quips after killing said villain just adds a warm and fuzzy feeling to the game.

ing to the game.

Willis lent both his voice and likeness to the game, and it feels really cool to be saving the world in Willis' boots while firing off quips faster than you can pull the trigger. One thing "Apocalypse" never lets you forget for a second is that Willis is kicking butt with one wicked looking gun after another and an appro-

priate one-liner for every situation.

The trouble is that, after awhile, it gets sort of annoying to have Willis keep repeating the same quips over and over while you try not to get your head blown off by a random grenade or torn off by an evil zombie. By the 80th time he shouted, "Strap one on, it's time to jam," I wanted to reach in the game and strangle him until his head popped off. You have the option to turn off his voice, but by the time it gets really grating you'll be practically through the game.

"Apocalypse" is nothing, if not exciting. You play as Bruce... er, Trey Kincaid, a nanophysicist with a mean temper and a way with guns, who makes a major breakthrough in the field just as science is outlawed. Apparently a mysterious and highly influential figure calling himself the "Reverend" has taken control of the United States and outlawed science, thereby making it easier to control the masses. This new twist on the centuries old debate of science versus religion is a really neat idea to back up the non-stop mayhem.

The Reverend isn't content to just kick back and rule, he wants to destroy everything. Using Kincaid's discovery, the Reverend creates his own four Horsemen of the Apocalypse and unleashes them on the world. Since you don't hold the patent on this technology (thereby not getting any royalties) Bruce, er, Trey breaks out of prison and starts some royal butt kicking.

Between each level you get treated to a gorgeous cinematic sequence that gives you a reason to get through each level, even the most insanely difficult ones like the White House board. It took me a day and a half to get through that one level because the sheer volumes of villains and weaponry aimed at me smeared me across the White House lawn more times than I care to admit. And why are the head bosses so blasted difficult? The Beast has something like four or five different health bars, and the third person perspective kept rotating so much I got dizzy.

At times, "Apocalypse" feels like you're playing in a Michael Bay film because the sound is deafening, the explosions are incessant, the soundtrack is deafening and Willis never shuts up. But if you're looking for an afternoon or three to kill some time with a genuine no-brainer, then "Apocalypse" is the way to go. The voice acting is terrific, even if Willis grates after board six or so, and the cameo by goth-rocker Poe is pretty cool. The cinematic featuring her is more of a rock video than a transition between levels, and the technique is effective.

"Apocalypse" sounds great, looks great, and plays great, but it is definitely for people who are in the mood for a 'kill everything' style of game. The controls are unique: the left control pad is for the directions you move in, the right four buttons are for the directions you shoot in. It takes some getting used to, but "Apocalypse" is cool enough to play for the sheer adrenaline rush. Grade: A-

Skiff

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Punk album gets groans of boredom

By Derek Roy

"Act Your Age," the latest release by the Southern California punk band HomeGrown, is full of loud power chords, fast-paced tempos, back beat drumming and everything else that has graced every punk rock record since the dawn of time. The band lacks any distinguishing features that would set them apart from any other California punk band.

Music

ely

n't

HomeGrown basically sounds like a slightly younger version of Green Day or the Descendants. The band experiments with the occasional ska guitar riff but mainly sticks with playing a brand of caffeine-filled punk rock. Even though the band member's average age is 22, they sound like they are still stuck in high school. HomeGrown is nothing more than the opening slot on next year's Vans Warped

HomeGrown's vocal responsibilities are shared by bassist Adam Lohrbach and guitarist John E. Trash. Trash's voice is very nasal and in-your-face for most of the album, while Lohrbach's voice is slightly higher and a little easier to bear. Lohrbach definitely outshines Trash throughout the album due to the fact Lohrbach can write clever and somewhat intelligent lyrics (for punk rock, that is). Trash has a tendency to write angst-ridden songs about every girl that ever hurt him, which gets old really fast because all of his songs sound the same.

Rounding up this punk rock quartet is Bob Herco on drums and Ian Cone on lead guitar. Herco plays drums exactly like every

other punk rock drummer, and there is nothing special about what he does behind the drum kit. However, Cone's guitar skills are impressive, and compared to most punk rockers, he could be considered a musi-

HomeGrown's story, much like its sound, is nothing original. The band met while still in high school and just started playing together school was HomeGrown, at that point, spent most of its time practicing in a garage. In 1995, after being featured on a punk compilation, HomeGrown recorded its debut album, "That's Business." The small success of that record gave the band the opportunity to open for some ska/punk bands such as Sublime, Save Ferris and Blink

In 1996 the band was back in the studio to record the extended play single, "Wusappaning?!," which help them land a spot on the Operation Ivy tribute as well as a place on the movie soundtrack for "Half Baked." Then the band was signed to Outpost Records and began recording its major label debut, "Act Your Age."

"Act Your Age" begins with the Green Day sound-alike, "Nowhere Slow," a track that sets the stage for the rest of this average album. The song's upbeat tempo and loud guitars are nothing new, but there is a charm to Lohrbach's teenagesounding voice.

One of HomeGrown's strong points is its good sense of humor. The song "She's Anti" is a hilarious tale of high school murder that sounds like the making of an afterschool special. Trash delivers the funny lyrics, "With an AK in her right hand/ she shot the cheerleading squad and ran."

The ska-like guitar riffs of



'HOME' BOYS. HomeGrown members (from left) John E. Trash, Ian Cone, Bob Herco and Adam

'Surfer Girl" sound way too much like the ska pop band, No Doubt (which is never a good thing). The song relays the story of a girl who left Lohrbach at the altar to catch a 10-wave down in Mexico

While there maybe some high points throughout "Act Your Age," most of it is the same old stuff. When HomeGrown is at its best it possesses a cleverness that has been displayed by only a handful of bands. All "Act Your Age" makes me want to do is go and listen to all the original punk rock bands that made this kind of music before it was popular or profitable to do so.

'Fear of Pop' is full of surprises but lacking in music

By Trisha Pickard

Some music just escapes categorization. That's OK. Not everything in life fits nicely into a neat little package. The debut effort of "Fear of Pop, Volume I," fits into the no-category category (if that makes any sense at all). This album is just like a circus, there is so much going on that you never know what freaky things you are going to see or hear next. By the time it's over, you have no idea what hit you.

Music

Ben Folds (of Ben Folds Five) and Caleb Southern comprise the production and recording team for this album, which is the product of their first session back in the studio since their 1996 effort "Whatever and Ever Amen" (which continues to be a huge hit for Ben Folds Five).

While this CD is a definite adventure, it really can't even be considered music. All of the songs, instruments, singing, and other noises can be credited to Folds with only a few minor exceptions. Ben Folds' signature style of witty lyrics and jazzy piano can be slightly detected in some of these songs (and I use the term "song" loosely), but if one were ignorant of his role with this album, these clues would be so extremely subtle that they would go unnoticed.

The title track has a good techno-style beat complicated by other eerie, unidentifiable noises and periodically screeching "Fear of pop!" For a few seconds throughout the song, Folds successfully dupes his listeners into believing that this album isn't too freakish and weird. There are moments when "Fear of Pop" resembles the music of the mellow alterna-rapper Beck, but these redeeming moments are too sparse to make the song great.

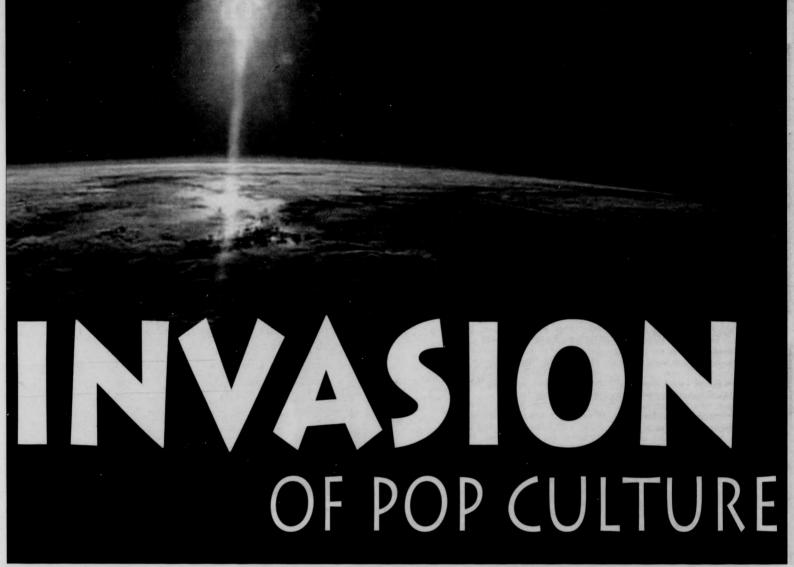
"In Love," track five, is one of the best because it is so funny. William Shatner plays the starring role of the unrequited lover and his soliloquy set to catchy music with Folds reflectively singing backup provides some very cynical, yet comical and entertaining insights into the mystery of falling in and out of love. This track could actually be considered music- and would probably be really good music- if Folds would sing the majority of the time and cut Shatner's part down to a maximum

"Interlude," track six, concretely supports my theory that "Fear of is completely lacking of music. "Interlude" is only about 20 seconds long and is comprised entirely of old-time opera music and a man's monotone voice counting out dance steps repetitively like this: "One two three/ Two two three/ Three two three" and so on. This song is weird to say the least.

It is impossible to say for sure which song is the most disturbing on "Fear of Pop," but my money is on "Rubber Sled," track nine. I can't even begin to understand what is going on in this song. I did catch that it is the story of a guy who goes to a junkyard and leaves with a rubber sled (if that isn't enough to make a good song, I don't know what is). There are so many different sounds I can't identify, but I can safely say that this is the first time I have ever heard a barking soul singer, and I'm crossing my fingers that it will be the last because I have never been so annoyed.

One of the worst parts of "Fear of Pop" is the final song, "Still in Love," because Shatner plays his second and most obnoxious role on the album. This song is horrible. The pretty and sane violin music in the background betrays any expectations of the listener as Shatner begins to speak: "I could've/ I might've/ I thought/ What do I know." He keeps talking in this manner without ever forming a complete thought throughout the whole song. Horrible.

After listening to this album, I just couldn't help but wonder what Folds and Southern were smoking when they recorded it. Grade: D+



merican popular culture has always been fluid, and over the years science fiction a genre that was once one of the least popular - has risen to the top of the mix. For example, "Independence Day" was the top-grossing movie of 1996, earning \$306 million, but in 1976 no science fiction movies ranked in the top five.

In 1977 there was only one sci-fi movie in the top five, and that one was "Star Wars," the top-grossing movie of all time before "Titanic" took the crown last year. This shows though sci-fi wasn't as prevalent in pop culture in the '70s, the genre has always appealed to the public. This growth of sci-fi means there is now room for the contemplation of the many different aspects of sci-fi and how those aspects relate to the society of today.

A working definition of science fiction can be a story that uses today's science and technology as a basis for what we could have in the future. Because this definition is so broad, the sci-fi genre includes several traditional elements that can be combined: space ships, computers, robots and androids and, most importantly, the alien. The aliens in science fiction are numerous and can be broken down into five general categories, each with its own place in the genre - hostile, benevolent, interfering, humanoid and friendly.

The human desire for entertainment is a big part of pop culture, and many people find such entertainment in science fiction. Part of this entertainment is emotional release - when viewing a movie, laughter, tears, anger and fear

are important. These emotions help people escape from daily life without consequences. The emotional experience is controlled - it exists for a limited time and occurs in a safe place.

The hostile alien is one of the most popular and is seen in many sci-fi movies, such as "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" and "The Fifth Element." in which evil aliens attempt to take over the world or destroy it. "Independence Day" is one of the best examples - the nations of Earth have to band together to defeat technologically superior beings trying to use up the planet's resources.

The hostile alien often represents things people don't want to represent about themselves. They illustrate humans' bad points and then are easy hate. According to John

Huntington's essay, "The Social Dynamics of the Friendly Alien," when people give hostile aliens qualities they want to deny in themselves, it's easy to attack it without reservations. It's then okay to be happy when the hostile aliens are dead. Audiences cheered when the gluttonous, environhostile mentally aliens "Independence Day" exploded in their Inter disk-like space ships.

In a world where political correct- as cl ness is prevalent, hostile aliens are can' something safe to hate. Hating humans have is now considered discrimination. Without the Soviets or the Nazis, omn screen writers must look to the skies with for a new universal bad guy that will to w allow all humans to unite against a In th common foe. The way the nations in Gen "Independence Day" united against (Patr

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TWO THUMBS UP. Two astronauts (played by Alexander Baluey, left, and Jon Favreau) try and destroy a deadly comet which is threatening the earth in "Deep Impact." The film from DreamWorks Pictures and Paramount Pictures was the first major hit of last summer. proving that despite a lame story and cardboard characters. the public will go for most sci-fi flicks. The public enjoys many types of films, but sci-fi seems to be the most popular following the success of "Star Wars."

the aliens, was similar to movies like "The Rocketeer," in which the United States and its allies united against the Nazis.

Different from the hostile alien, the benevolent alien reflects humans' need for God. This type of alien is superior, but has the best interests of humans at heart. The benevolent alien appears god-like, such as the alien in "Contact." This alien, in the guise of Ellie's (Jodie Foster) dead father, tells her they contacted humans to let the species know they were not alone.

These aliens are able to take care of humans because they are so technologically superior and highly evolved. The world today is uncertain, and many people hope there is someone out there who knows what is best for them. People long for something to be in awe of, and benevolent aliens can fill that position, at least for occasional two-hour increments. In his essay "Aliens in the Supermarket," George Guffey said the people who seek out this type of story "yearn for salvation in an age dominated by science and technology."

Another superior being, the interfering alien, is one of the least common in science fiction. "Star Trek"'s Q (John example. in DeLancie) is a perfect Interfering aliens must be superior because life-changing interference (such as changing the course of human history) can't be accomplished if the alien doesn't have omnipotence, superior intelligence and/or advanced technology. Q was an Nazis, omnipotent being who could do anything with a mere thought. He used his powers to wreak havoc on the Starship Enterprise. gainst a In the first episode of "Star Trek: The Next ations in Generation," Q put Captain Picard against (Patrick Stewart) on trial for the sins of the

entire human race.

The staple of the interfering alien is that it believes it knows what is best for the human race, but instead of offering its insights as an option (like the benevolent alien), the interfering alien tries to force its will on humans. This kind of alien is god-like in power, but not in understanding, tolerance, benevolence or sensitivity. They are examples of what could happen if a flawed human was given the powers of a god. Humans are selfish, and it would be scary if one man or woman had the ability to determine all of our lives.

Real life examples of this are nations, like the United States, that started off as colonies of another nation and rebelled so they could run things the

way they wanted to. Perhaps today, Third World feel countries like the crew of Enterprise when the United States swoops in, like Q, to take their country, transform it into a democracy thereby making things "betfor Who's to say our better isn't their worst nightmare? When heroes in stories defeat the interfering alien, peo-

ple's fear of not

being in control are conquered.

The humanoid alien is the first type that is not superior to humans. They almost shouldn't be called aliens at all - they aren't very strange, different or foreign. They are pretty much like humans: bipedal, two arms, two legs, etc. They just aren't products of Earth. Some look just like humans (a la Princess Leia, Han Solo and Luke Skywalker from "Star Wars"), but most have distinguishing characteristics like many "Star Trek" aliens (the Trill have spots, Vulcans have pointed ears and Klingons have ridges on their foreheads).

This type of alien is someone sci-fi viewers can identify with. Humanoids have basically the same needs as humans.

and, therefore, the same problems. If

the hero is a big blob, like Jabba the Hut in "Return of the Jedi," the viewer would have a hard time sympathizing. sci-fi. In humanoids, along with the humans, are the heroes, heroines and main characters. They are friends - neither inferior nor superior - even if that friendship lasts only as long as the movie, TV show or book.

> The final type of alien, the friendly alien, is inferior to humans. It is the child of the universe, and the best example is E.T. from the movie, "E.T. the Extra Terrestrial," in which the characters find and help the young alien.

> The friendly alien represents human's need to nurture - it relates to

humans like a child, or even a pet. As a race, humans are more independent, focusing more on careers instead of raising a family. Some people remember the "good old days" when mothers stayed home with fondness, showing that somewhere underneath an independent exterior, today's people crave nurturing and have a need to nurture others.

In science fiction, humans get involved with friendly aliens, take them under their wing and help them. According to Huntington, this type of story shows humans have hearts after all and that we can overcome our differences to help each

Since the gradual increase of sci-fi into pop culture, aliens have become more visible in society than ever before. They are seen in movies, on TV and on T-shirts; read about in magazines; and some people even talk about them with friends in person or on the Internet. Since the alien is more important to our culture, it is important that humans examine the five varieties to understand why these aliens exist in minds and stories.

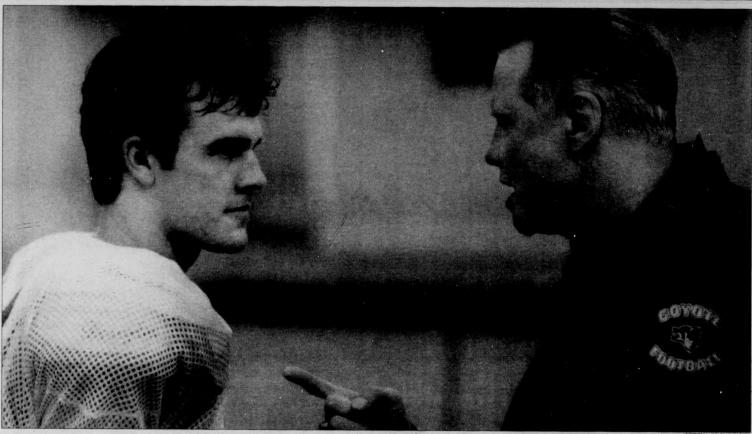
By looking at the five types, it becomes clear that they are needed to provide an emotional experience in sci-fi viewers be it an experience of hate, love, fear of control, identification or nurturing. And because these are the emotions people have chosen to invent aliens to inspire, it is obvious these are the needs today's society is not meeting, and pop culture in the form of science fiction - is striving to fulfill

STORY BY ERIN BRINKMAN **OPINION EDITOR**

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PULL MY FINGER. James Van Der Beek (left) confronts his redneck coach in "Varsity Blues."

SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

'Varsity' tackles Texas football issues

By Lindsay Williams

I not only had the privilege of seeing "Varsity Blues," but I was also able to interview the cast and director of this football flick.



Film

You've probably seen "Rudy," the story of the world of college football, and "Necessary Roughness," the story of the transitions of an awful college football team from worst to better. But for the first time, the story of what Texas high school football is like is being told.

As a Texas native, I know high school football is competitive. But in Texas, it's war. The cast and crew traveled to a small city outside Austin to film this movie, and they were very surprised at the way of life. Cast members had to adapt to their competitive environment by attending training camp like every football player. James Van Der Beek gained a whopping 15 pounds of muscle for his role as quarterback.

In the small city of West Canaan, TX, the West Canaan Coyotes control the social and athletic world, and quarterback Lance Harbor (Paul Walker) is king. A billboard is erected in his honor. He is worshipped by all the teenage girls in the city, and his girlfriend is the head cheerleader.

For Lance, life is good until a leg injury puts him on the sideline. During the start of a play, his right-hand man, Billy Bob, passes out— too many head injuries and beers— and Lance is tackled.

The torch is then passed to Jonathan Moxon (Van Der Beek). Although he is loved by his teammates, his coach feels otherwise, constantly bosses Moxon around and hates the fact that Moxon questions his plays.

The only reason Moxon stays on the team is because his father once was on the West Canaan football team also.

Another character is Moxon's girlfriend, Jules (Amy Smart), who is terrified that all of this publicity will go to his head.

So Moxon has pressure from his parents, his girlfriend, his coach, his friends and, worst of all, he must follow in Lance Harbor's footsteps. But he accepts the job gracefully and manages to take the team to victory several times.



SPECIAL TO THE SKI

JON VOIGHT.

Viewers know James Van Der Beek from "Dawson's Creek," in which he plays a high school intellectual and sometimes romantic movie buff. I was kind of worried about Van Der Beek's ability to believeably pull off a macho quarterback. But he performed the part very nicely, and his Texas accent was impressive, too.

In my interview, he said he liked the atmosphere in Texas and had a lot of fun playing his character. For future roles, he said he was willing to try new things, including playing struggling characters who undergo transitions in their life.

The only job he wasn't willing



JAMES VAN DER BEEK.

to tackle was a role in a horror flick like his "Dawson" co-stars. Unfortunately, like his Dawson character, Van Der Beek is not much of a talker and did not say

much about the movie.

Paul Walker, who plays Lance Harbor, has co-starred in movies like "Pleasantville" and "Meet the Deedles." The tall California blond acts much like his characters— goofy, yet sweet. He said he also had a blast playing football. Like his character in "Pleasantville," his role in "Varsity Blues" was about a boy who matures after learning the important lessons of life.

Tweeder is played by Scott Caan, son of actor James Caan. Caan debuts in his first studio film after starring in several independent movies. And he provides most of the comic relief on and off the camera.

Last, but not least, is Coach Bud Kilmer, played by legendary actor Jon Voight ("Heat," "The Rainmaker"). Kilmer, a redneck and racist coach, turns life into hell for all of his players, but has led his men to several state championships throughout his 25-year career, "A football coach is such an important leader in a young boy's life," Van Der Beek said. But Voight's character shows that this leadership can only go so far until his followers stop following.

I was very impressed with this Texas tale of football because it didn't focus on only one character or even the team, but on the whole town as well. It was realistic in showing the struggles of high school kids— not just when it came to football, but with drinking, smoking, sex and parents. No matter what other criticism you hear about "Varsity Blues," it's very funny, dramatic, and would most likely appeal to young adults only. It doesn't matter whether you're a sports fan or not; it's worth your time and money. Grade: B+

hin Red Line' is just some nice scenery

I don't know what movie other film critics saw, but why publications like Time, Newsweek Entertainment Weekly are hailing 'The Thin Red Line" as one of the best films of 1998 is beyond me. Certainly it's one of the most pretentious, but it's far from one of the best. Granted the very nature of criticism is the voicing of an opinion, but this flick is a waste of three good hours of anyone's life.

Film

It's a waste of time, that is, unless you're looking for a documentary on wildlife and various types of plants and trees. The cinematography is the lone area where "The Thin Red Line" excels because writer-director Terence Malick, who hasn't made a film since 1978's "Days of Heaven," tries hard to contrast the serenity of nature to the brutality of war. A noble goal, but Malick drowns in his own self-rightness and takes everyone with him.

The film is set during the 1943 invasion of Guadalcanal by American forces. The island is of supreme tactical advantage to the Japanese, and they are heavily entrenched in the many hills and valleys. There are four or five stories being told (I honestly lost count because there are so many voiceovers) with the main focus being on Pvt. Witt (Jim Caviezel) who goes AWOL, his Sgt. Capt. James "Bugger" Staros (Elias Koteas) and their Lt. Cmdr. Colonel Gordon Tall (Nick Nolte). Another soldier, Pvt. Bell (Ben Chaplin) just wants to survive this mess and get home to his wife, and 1st Sgt. Edward Welsh (Sean Penn) waxes philosophically about the madness of war.

And that philosophy is what will wear you down after about an hour. For that first hour, I was completely enraptured by the beauty of Malick's lens. His cinematography is gorgeous, and his battle sequences have a ferocity to rival those in "Saving Private Ryan," but his storytelling



needs some serious work.

We get occasional flashbacks to Bell's time with his wife, thereby establishing him as the lone character with motivation. But the catch to his character is that his goal is taken away from him in the final half-hour of the film when she files for divorce. "The Thin Red Line" thus winds up being a three-hour exercise in static character development because no one changes.

I gave up trying to figure out what Witt was supposed to get out of the war, be it respect for life or how to be a good soldier. Staros always cares for his men and cares for them even more when he gets sent home after taking a village with his unit. What did he learn? I haven't a clue.

And don't go into this expecting the big name stars to rescue the film from its director. John Travolta appears for about three minutes at the beginning as a ship's captain then isn't seen again. George Clooney shows up for two minutes at the tail end of the film to deliver a monologue to the men. Very little star power is emitted by any of the lesser known actors because they are given so little to work with and so little

Malick is, in my mind, the reason for what is so wrong with this film. A friend once told me there are no bad directors, only bad writers. If that's true then Malick the director should have fired Malick the writer at the get go. All of the voice-overs sound exactly alike, even the woman's, because Malick's prose is so static and boring. During one flashback, we see Bell and his wife together and hear Chaplin say, "We. We together. We together, apart." What in the name of the Almighty does that mean?

Maybe I didn't get it since I am neither a philosophy nor an English major. What I am is a radio-TV-film major and thus I can accurately claim to know a little bit about what makes a film worth of my student

discount. "The Thin Red Line" is nothing more than a thick black ripoff that wasted my morning and put me in a really foul mood. Decent acting rarely saves overly pretentious film making, and this flick is no exception. How those high-minded critics at large publications can call this melodramatic waste of celluloid excellent is so far beyond me I can't even see it.

You've been warned. "The Thin Red Line" is a waste of time, but with lovely cinematography that you could see on a nature documentary on the Discovery Channel any day of the week. Not only would it save you money but you'd get the same effect in fewer than three hours. Here's a personal note to Hollywood: Just because a person doesn't make a film for 20 years does not automatically qualify that person for genius stature. "The Thin Red Line" may have started as noble, but the final result is nothing more than a vanity project gone mad. Grade: D



WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE. John Cusack (top) shows courage under fire and takes orders from Nick Nolte (above) in "The Thin

hope is

By Marianne M. Graham

After seeing "At First Sight," one realizes that in the words of a wise blind woman, Helen Keller, "The best

Film

and most beautiful things of the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."

"At First Sight" is not a fast-paced thriller, or even a romantic comedy, but it is a provocative venture into the obstacles life often presents. This film, based upon a true account by

neuropsychiatrist Oliver Sacks, won't be nominated for Best Picture, but it will be enjoyed by those who take the time to go and see it.

In a day and age when we are often presented with tightly packaged multi-million dollar movies, one may be disappointed with the realistic portrayal of a blind man falling in love with a sighted woman. This simple story unfolds very methodically, as director Irwin Winkler moves through the two hours and 20 minutes of film.

Amy Benic (Mira Sorvino) is a talented architect caught in a web of career stresses and a loss of direction. She resolves to take a weekend retreat to a spa on the Hudson River. It's here where she meets Virgil Adamson (Val

Virgil, a masseur renowned for his skill, charm and wit, has learned to capitalize on his blindness and use it as a source of creativity. As a longtime resident of the town, he finds the support and assistance he needs in his fellow citizens and his sister Jennie (Kelly McGillis). By all accounts, Virgil lives a fairly comfortable and fulfilling life, but meeting Amy changes all this.

Virgil finds a new confidence with Amy's companionship. Amy finds a new way to experience the world around her. She is fascinated with the vivid portraits painted by the palette of Virgil's enhanced sense of sound and feeling. Things she never seemed to notice, such as the rain, begin to entice her, as if she were a child seeing the world all for the first time. Virgil sees Amy better than any sighted man ever has and she finds herself escaping New York City to spend time with him.

During one of her visits, Amy stumbles upon an article highlighting a surgeon who supposedly could heal the blind. Excited by the opportunity that Virgil may be able to join her sighted world, Amy eagerly begins to look further into this doctor's claims and eventually persuades Virgil to meet the doctor. Virgil is apprehensive; his sister Jennie is avidly against the hope she feels threatens Virgil's acceptance of being blind. Virgil decides to go through with the surgery despite Jennie's reservations.

The surgery is a success by all medical definitions. The consequences of the medical miracle, however, present a variety of discoveries, obstacles, disappointments and triumphs. But ultimately, it is Virgil's own acceptance that bring peace to his life again. Grade: B+

TCU Bookstore book of the week

By Kristina lodice

Flawlessly weaving together the story of a family dealing with the wealth, power, corruption and struggles that result from owning a massive tract of land, "A Thousand Acres" grasps the interest of the reader and refuses to release it.

The novel is an investigation into the human heart, looking at the lives of the Cook family and at their land, the almost mythic amount of a thousand acres. Jane Smiley has written an exceptional story about a family and their trials in a rural American heartland community.

"A Thousand Acres" is the story of the Cook family as it breaks apart, and the human cost involved when trying to conquer the land. It is a moving and compelling novel that includes such diverse topics as family dysfunction and farming as practiced on large industrial

The novel and the story is divided into six books (and a brief but important epilogue), braiding the lives of Larry Cook, Rose, Pete, Ty, and especially Ginny (who acts as the narrator) into words. In the beginning, the family appears close-knit, with each member having a place and unique characteristics. The reader learns of the history of the Cook family and how they came to own a thousand acres of some of the best farm land in the state.

As the novel continues, however, not even the massive acreage is enough to stay the hand of tragedy. Ginny and Rose are close sisters, and Tv and Pete are their husbands, respectively. Larry Cook is the overbearing father, the owner and the manager of the vast family property. He decides to form a corporation, with his daughters owning shares in order to lower inheritance taxes when he dies. This idea, starting as an insignificant seed that everyone in their hometown of Cabot laughs at, initiates a chain of events that will tear the Cook family apart and will result in the loss of their land and the comfort they sometimes find in each other.

The manner in which Smiley guides the reader through the destruction of the Cook family is exceptionally well written. When the relationships in "A Thousand Acres" begin to unravel, the reader mentally begs Smiley for a situation that will reverse the negative spiraling of events. Larry is giving up his past when he signs over his

farm, but he still wants to maintain rigid control over Rose, Ginny and the futures of their families. After the legalities are approved and completed, Larry degenerates mentally and even Rose's and Ginny's problems are magnified. Ginny, in a burst of insight common in Smiley's writing, fears what the arrangement will do to her family.

The land is what ties and binds the families together. It held them together during the depression and during times of prosperity, yet now it is wrenching them apart. Each family that farms (and the truth still stands for today's farming communities) deals with every situation in an unique way. The Cook daughters dream of things being different, especially when their father starts acting oddly.

Ginny always looks at other families and other lives rather hopelessly; "that was what was to be envied ... the uniqueness of each family's fate, of each family's, each couple's, freedom to make or find something apart from the others." The Cook family lacks that freedom; it was buried in the land when the first Cooks bought and tilled it, and it was stolen and then locked away by Larry Cook.

Readers will devour "A Thousand Acres." The characters are touching and realistic, but more so because of the encompassing truths presented in the Cook's life story that apply to the human heart as well as to a farmer's soul. Any reader, even if not familiar with rural life, will enjoy the novel immensely.

Smiley powerfully conveys with stunning insight the symbiotic relationships between a farmer and his land, including those between family members. She takes the endless horizon as glimpsed from a car speeding through America's heartland and gives it depth, a history and a personality.

"A Thousand Acres" is a story about carrying buried secrets and burdens, and learning to live life day by day. In hindsight, the novel is sprinkled with lessons that can apply to all readers, usually concerning some difficult issues like accomplishments when tied to forgiving the unforgivable. "A Thousand Acres" is the marvelous and captivating story of America and the existential horrors that inevitably emerge into the light as the rock of family solidarity slowly disintegrates and eventually is shattered. Grade: A

Calendar & Events

Calendar

Friday, Jan. 22

Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 8 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 23

Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 8 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 3 & 8 p.m. Fine Arts Chamber Players, FREE concert, 3 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 24

Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 2 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 7 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 25

Curt Thompson violin recital — TCU Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 29

Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 8 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 8 p.m. Tripping Daisy concert at the Aardvark, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 30

TCU Graduate Dance Concert: University Theatre, 8 p.m. Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me

Kate," 8 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The
Murders in the Rue Morgue,"

8 p.m.
Stage West: "Medea," 3 & 8 p.m.

Tripping Daisy concert at the Aardvark, 3 & 8 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 31

TCU Graduate Dance Concert: University Theatre, 2 p.m. Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 2 p.m.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 7 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 7:30 p.m.



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

THIS AIN'T NO FRATERNITY PARTY. (From left) Dawn Swearinger, Chuck Huber, Laurie Vlasich and Deborah Kirby perform the Greek tragedy, "Medea."

Thursday, Feb. 4

Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me Kate," 8 p.m. Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra:

Superstar Pops Series, 8 p.m. Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Stage West: "Medea," 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5

Contemporary Dance Fort Worth: Sean Curran, 8 p.m. Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me

Kate," 8 p.m.
Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The
Murders in the Rue Morgue,"

8 p.m.
Stage West: "Medea," 8 p.m.
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra:

Superstar Pops Series, 8 p.m.

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Saturday, Feb. 6 Main Street Theatre: "Kiss Me

Kate," 8 p.m. Stage West: "Medea," 3 & 8 p.m. Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra: Superstar Pops Series, 8 p.m. Pocket Sandwich Theatre: "The

Murders in the Rue Morgue," 8 p.m.

Events

Stage West brings new approach to "Medea"

Stage West and Moonwater Theatre Company combine forces to produce Moonwater's new adaptation of Euripides' Greek classic "Medea." Moonwater Theatre Company, formally associated with the improvisational group Fuzzy Logic, approach the classic formality of "Medea" with the improvisational rehearsal techniques used in Fuzzy Logic along with a great deal of respect for the power of the original text.

The play's fierce passion makes it stand out even among the large-scale emotions and issues of Greek drama. The Greek play is the story of the original myth, a sorceress in love whose revenge violates society's strongest bans and destroys the political structure of the state.

All performances of "Medea" are at Stage West. Performances are 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Student Rush Tickets, available 30 minutes prior to the curtain, are \$5. Other tickets are \$7-\$9 with student ID. For more information, call 784-

Music and dance combine for dramatic performance

The Fine Arts Chamber Players present the Dallas Bach Society and New York Baroque Dance Company in a free performance at 3 p.m. Saturday. The program will include chamber music by Bach, Mozart and Handel with costumed dancers.

"Music from the 18th century is dominated by a spirit of drama and theatrical movement," said Rogene Russell, Artistic Director of the Fine Arts Chamber Players, in a press release. "The pairing of music and dance in this concert will provide our audience with a visual translation of the style, detail and dramatic element intended by the composers."

The concert will be held at the Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood. Admission is free. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. for the 3 p.m. concert. For more information, call (214) 520-2219.

Internet Site of the Week www.darkhorizons.com

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