

High 96
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Skiff

Start your weekend on a high note. From blazing bassoons to groovy guitars, TCU students have found outlets to express their musical creativity. Check out today's weekend section for more. See insert.



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Future full of 'rising aspirations'

Ferrari sets goals, rewards educators at Convocation

By Lori Eshelman
STAFF REPORTER

Increasing TCU's academic prominence among private universities in America was the theme of Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari's state of the university address at Thursday's annual Fall Convocation.

"(This is) a year to be marked by rising academic aspirations for what our university can become," Ferrari said to a full audience of faculty, staff, students and community members seated in Ed Landreth Auditorium.

Ferrari said the general perception of TCU's academic reputation is not as high as it should be, given



Hughes

the strengths of the faculty and academic programs. He said he expects the year-long study by the Commission on the Future of TCU to examine TCU's capacity for greater academic distinction.

Ferrari also said he will continue to address a number of needs and priorities — such as diversity, technology and global education — that were presented in last year's speech.

In addition to Ferrari's state of the university address, two awards were presented to faculty and staff members.

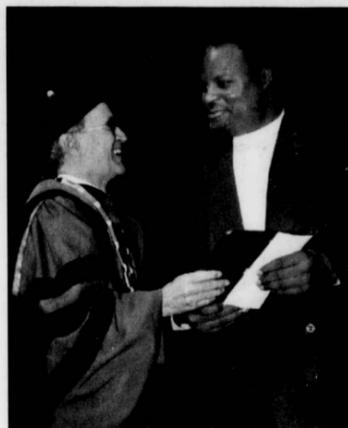
The inaugural Wassenich Award

for Mentoring in the TCU Community was awarded to Darron Turner, director of minority affairs and commuter students. Ferrari said Turner received the \$3,000 award for his clear and constant commitment to students.

"I have the best job in the world — I get to work with students," Turner said. "(Receiving the award) is such an honor because there are so many people who do so many things for the students at TCU."

Linda K. Hughes, a professor of English, received the Chancellor's

See CONVOCATION, Page 8



David Dunai/PHOTO EDITOR
Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari awards Darron Turner, director of minority affairs and commuter students, a check for \$2,000. During the annual Fall Convocation Thursday, Ferrari named Turner as the recipient of the inaugural Wassenich Award for Mentoring in the TCU Community.

Pulse BRIEFS

COLLEGE

U. Texas fraternity settles hazing suit for \$1.65 million

AUSTIN, Texas (U-WIRE) — The University of Texas-Austin Omicron chapter of the Kappa Alpha fraternity brought an end to a year of hazing litigation when it settled out-of-court Wednesday for \$1.65 million with Tim Hesselsweet, who accused the organization of mental and physical abuse during hazing.

In addition to the monetary damages, the fraternity agreed to several policy concessions which Hesselsweet's attorney, Bill Whitehurst, said will help to check hazing in the future.

"There have been lawsuits before, and none of them have brought about a difference," Whitehurst said. "The difference in this case is that here we have a fraternity that is willing to make a change. We're hoping that will spread to other fraternities."

If not, the system is going to die from within."

Hesselsweet, a UT sophomore, filed the suit against the fraternity, the UT chapter, its president and three "rush captains" in February 1998.

The UT chapter of the fraternity agreed to settle after the third day in court.

Attorneys for the fraternity and the fraternity president named in the suit were not available for comment Wednesday.

Hesselsweet said he was glad the case was over.

—Daily Texan University of Texas-Austin

Inside

CRACKED WAC

Within two weeks, we will know for sure whether or not TCU will make its best conference move to date. Over the past five years, TCU has fallen out of a crumbled Southwestern Conference and joined a feeble Western Athletic Conference. Now they may have the opportunity to add to a flourishing Conference USA.

Editorial, page 3.

NET TRANSFER



Veteran transfers will lead both the TCU men's soccer team as well as the University of Wisconsin Badgers in tonight's match up at the Rocky Rococo University of Wisconsin Soccer Classic.

Sports, page 11.



David Dunai/PHOTO EDITOR

TCU has been working closely with the Berry Street Initiative, a community-based action group, to revitalize the corridor that runs south of the campus. University officials say although they will not lead the revitalization effort, they will continue to be active participants.

Vacancies on Berry Street spur new efforts

University continues to buy property along corridor

By Alan Nelson
STAFF REPORTER

Recent business closures along Berry Street have again prompted efforts to improve the area from Interstate 35 to University Drive. Working closely with the Berry

Board of Trustees has authorized TCU to purchase property along Berry as long as it can be used for university expansion," said Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs. "This park creates a better entrance into the campus area."

The former Colonial Cafeteria at the intersection of Berry and Sandage has also been purchased by the university. The cafeteria, which closed last year after several decades in business, is currently being remodeled and modernized. Mills said the university has not decided a permanent use for the building, but there is a short-term use for the property.

"The former cafeteria will be used right now as 'surge space,' to house staff displaced by renovation," Mills said.

Mills, who has represented TCU in the efforts to clean up Berry Street, said university officials realized several years ago that the future of Berry also affected the "gateway" to the university.

See BERRY, Page 4



Street Initiative, a task force of community members, TCU is doing its part to revitalize the street, and visible changes are occurring as a result of the joint effort.

Over the past two months, the university has built a small park at the northeast corner of Berry and University, in the former Tom Thumb parking lot. TCU officials said the park represents an appropriate use of property by TCU to enhance the appearance of this "gateway" to the university.

Revitalization Efforts

Over the last few months, some visible changes occurred as a result of a joint effort between TCU and the

Berry Street Initiative. These changes include:

- The acquisition of the former Colonial Cafeteria at the intersection of Berry Street and Sandage Avenue.
- The acquisition of the former Bank of America building, located just west of Boston Market on Berry Street.
- The building of a small park at the northeast corner of Berry Street and University Avenue.

NEW MECHANICS Engineering chairman leads department amid changes

By Tealy Dippel
STAFF REPORTER

Walt Williamson was recently named chairman of the engineering department and is the latest addition to a department that is undergoing several academic changes.

Williamson came to TCU from Sandia Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., where he worked for 25 years. He said the opportunity to strengthen the engineering department was an incentive for coming here.

"It was an opportunity to come to a university that had interest in growing in the engineering department," Williamson said. "That was

really my motivation."

Williamson said Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari's recent statement announcing the split of the AddRan College of Arts and Sciences into the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science and Engineering puts the engineering department and the university in a good position to grow.

"I think having engineering in the name is certainly good for the engineering department," Williamson said. "Rather than simply being a part of arts and sciences is certainly good when you're talking to par-

See CHAIRMAN, Page 4



David Dunai/PHOTO EDITOR

Walt Williamson, who was recently named chairman of the engineering department, discusses his plans for the program. The university's recent plan to form the College of Science and Engineering was Williamson's main motivation for joining the TCU faculty, he says.

Ferrari's role in WAC discussed in Senate

By Matt Stiver
STAFF REPORTER

Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari will not continue as chair of the Presidents of the Western Athletic Conference, he told Faculty Senate members at their first meeting of the fall semester.

FACULTY SENATE

"What I wanted to do for my colleague presidents is to make sure that I created some distance between TCU and the work of the WAC," Ferrari said.

Ferrari said he had a conversation with Conference USA officials about the options of the university.

"So there would be no question raised

about a potential conflict of interest, I think it is incumbent upon a leader of a group like that to say, 'Hey look, we are having a conversation.'

"It may not lead to anything. We might still be a member of the WAC. But while we are having that conversation, how can I be chair of the WAC and represent its interests and also (TCU's) interests?"

In addition to Ferrari's Conference USA update, members of the senate heard a new proposal and reports on several other issues:

■ The only new proposal was put forth by Andy Fort, an associate professor of religion. Fort proposed to change the name of the freshman seminars to "first-year" seminars.

Fort said the proposal was designed to raise the issue of gender inclusiveness.

"It's such a small thing, people have said

See SENATE, Page 4

Pulse

CAMPUS LINES

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.

■ Mary Couts Burnett Library walk-in sessions for general orientation will be held from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, and from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday. Individual or group sessions for orientation or assistance with a research paper or project can be made by appointment. For more information, call 257-7117.

■ Student Development Services All-Student Tailgate Party will be at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Worth Hills green, across from the Rickel Building. It will take place before the Arizona home football game. There will be free food and a live band. For more information, call Vicky Guest at 257-7855.

■ Catholic Community Sunday mass will be at 10 a.m. Sunday this week in the Student Center Ballroom because of the 7 p.m. football game. For more information, call Charlie Calabrese at 257-7830.

■ Student Development Services Commuter Student Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the lobbies of Moudy Building South, Reed Hall and Tandy Hall. For more information, call 257-7855.

■ Universities Ministries will have a Uniting Campus Ministries meeting at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Center, Room 111. For more information, call 257-7830.

■ The TCU Allies will meet at 9 p.m. Monday in the Student Center lounge. For more information, call Heather Patriacca at 257-7017.

■ Frog Links will meet at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday in Sid W. Richardson Building, Lecture Hall 4. For more information, call the Admissions Office at 257-7490.

■ International Student Association will meet 5 p.m. every Thursday in the Student Center, Room 222. For more information, call Alonso Sanchez at 257-3532.

■ Image magazine, the official student magazine, is searching for people eager to have their written works printed. Short stories, in-depth articles and photographs are welcome. For more information, call Jason Crane at 257-7429.

TCU DAILY Skiff

Since 1902

The TCU Daily Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the journalism department. It operates under the policies of the Student Publications Committee, composed of representatives from the student body, staff, faculty and administration. The Skiff is published Tuesday through Friday during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays. The Skiff is a member of The Associated Press.

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News

ROUNDUP

World

Israel, Palestine deadlock as Albright steps in to mediate West Bank agreement

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt — A negotiating deadlock Thursday forced Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to mediate details of a teetering West Bank agreement between Israel and the Palestinians rather than risk a major diplomatic setback.

The sticking point was a dispute over how many Palestinian prisoners Israel would release as a goodwill gesture to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Some are in jail for terrorist acts.

After conferring in Alexandria with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, no stranger to the mediator's role, Albright telephoned Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and met with Arafat. "We hope very much they will come to a conclusion as soon as possible," she said.

Until now, Albright had held back, operating on the assumption the most successful agreements are the product of direct negotiations between the parties with minimal outside intervention.

The two sides already have agreed to a new timetable for an Israeli troop pullback from an additional 11 percent of the West Bank in three stages, starting this month and ending Jan. 20.

They also set a new deadline of September 2000 for a permanent peace accord on final status issues such as the fate of Palestinian refugees, Palestinian statehood and the future of Jewish settlements. A final agreement would be completed within a year of the start of the talks.

Israeli negotiators were hard-pressed to meet the Palestinian demands for the release of 400 prisoners since Israel refuses to free any prisoner convicted of murdering an Israeli. Instead, the Israelis have offered to free 356 prisoners.

Albright has given no indication of how she might come down on the prisoners or other issues.

Muslim-Christian rivalry in Indonesian province leaves eight dead, others wounded

AMBON, Indonesia — Eight people were killed and several others were wounded Wednesday in two clashes between hundreds of Muslims and Christians in the Indonesian province of Maluku, police and witnesses said.

Unlike the violence in East Timor and several other restive parts of Indonesia, the fighting in Maluku's capital of Ambon, about 14,000 miles east of Jakarta, is based on religious rivalry rather than separatist demands.

Wednesday's clashes occurred in Laha, an area adjacent to Patimura airport in Ambon and on Saparua Island, just south of the capital.

Witnesses said the violence in Laha started when Muslim gangs attacked a Christian neighborhood.

Lt. Col. Gufron, the police chief in Ambon, said four people were killed in the Laha clash. Gufron, like many Indonesians, uses only one name.

In Saparua, clashes between people from the Christian village of Porto and the Muslim village of Kulur left four dead and at least four others wounded, Gufron said.

Nation

Army demotes retired general who admitted to having sex with wives of four subordinates

WASHINGTON — The Army's civilian chief has decided to demote a retired general who admitted having sex with the wives of four subordinates and was court-martialed in March, The Associated Press was told today.

The decision by Army Secretary Louis Caldera, to be publicly announced Thursday, means a loss of retirement pay for David Hale, who was a two-star major general when he retired last year. A knowledgeable source who spoke on condition of anonymity said Caldera would reduce Hale to brigadier general, a one-star rank.

Details on the financial loss to Hale were not immediately available. As a major general he would receive \$6,250 a month in retirement pay. Hale was reprimanded and fined after the court-martial in March, but he escaped a possible 11-year term in a military prison.

In July, Caldera announced he was convening a special panel to review Hale's case and determine at what rank Hale last served satisfactorily.

Hale was the highest-ranking Army officer to face court-martial since 1952. His case led to allegations that the Pentagon had a double standard for dealing with sexual misconduct when it came to officers.

Hale was allowed to retire with honor last year despite claims of improprieties he committed while he was a top NATO commander in southern Europe. The resulting furor led the Pentagon to change its rules to bar top officers from retiring while facing allegations of wrongdoing.

The Army also decided to take the highly unusual step of court-martialing Hale even though he was already retired.

Hale was convicted of seven counts of conduct unbecoming an officer, and one count of lying to investigators. He was ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and forfeit \$12,000 of his \$75,744 annual pension for one year.

Clinton legal expense trust solicits Monica Lewinsky's father for money

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's defense fund has played on the sentiments of many a Democratic sympathizer in an attempt to cover the Clinton family's legal bills, but at least one prospective donor was left cold: Monica Lewinsky's father.

Bernard Lewinsky, a Beverly Hills doctor who has contributed to the Democratic Party over the years, recently received a request from the Clinton Legal Expense Trust asking for help in paying off the \$10.5 million in legal expenses of Clinton and

his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Lewinsky wrote "Return to sender" on the envelope, scrawling underneath, "You must be morons to send me this letter!" according to a Lewinsky family friend who asked not to be identified.

The fund mails its donation requests to lists of people recommended by a direct mail group, he said.

It's possible the same group is working with the Democratic National Committee.

Less than a month ago, Lewinsky's friend said, the DNC sent the father of the former White House intern a photograph of the Clintons with a fund-raising plea and the message, "Thank you for your understanding during the last year."

State

Cuban defector fulfills dream by working out with Houston Rockets' coaching staff

HOUSTON — A 26-year-old Cuban defector is getting a chance to fulfill his dream to play in the NBA after defecting from his country during the Tournament of the Americas in Puerto Rico last July.

Lazaro Borrell, a 6-foot-8, 230-pound forward, worked out with members of the Houston Rockets' coaching staff Wednesday, Houston television station KRIV reported.

The Rockets reportedly are one of four NBA teams that have expressed an interest in Borrell. The others are the New Jersey Nets, Portland Trail Blazers and Miami Heat.

Borrell, who does not speak English, played for the Cuban national team for nine years. He said through a translator he has no regrets about leaving Cuba.

"They are calling me a traitor, but there comes a time in one's life where one hopes to change the destiny of their life," he said. "I feel sorry for my family and hopefully I can someday get my family out."

Police consider charges against 15-year-old girl who left baby for dead in trash bin

HOUSTON — Police are considering charges against a 15-year-old suspected of giving birth at school to a baby later found dead in a trash bin, officials said.

The girl, whose name was withheld by the Houston Independent School District, arrived at an area hospital complaining of stomach pains around 4 p.m. Wednesday. Doctors called police when they discovered the girl actually had given birth. Later Wednesday night, they found the dead baby inside a trash bin at Scarborough High School.

It's thought that the girl gave birth in school, though it's unclear what led officers to the bin. An autopsy will help determine whether the teen might face charges.

The infant was almost full-term, officials said. The teen remained at Ben Taub Hospital on Thursday morning.

These stories are from The Associated Press.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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STAFF editorial

Cracked WAC

Joining C-USA progressive move

Within two weeks, we will know for sure whether or not TCU will make its best conference move to date.

Over the past five years, TCU has fallen out of a crumbled Southwestern Conference and joined a feeble Western Athletic Conference. Now they may have the opportunity to add to a flourishing Conference USA.

C-USA is made up of the athletic teams from Alabama-Birmingham, Cincinnati, DePaul, Houston, Louisville, Marquette, Memphis, North Carolina-Charlotte, Saint Louis, South Florida, Southern Mississippi and Tulane. Army and East Carolina joined C-USA to play football alone.

The conference spans 13 states, but more importantly, encompasses 12 major media markets. C-USA and Fox Sports Net have reached a five-year deal, in which Fox features a C-USA game of the week every weekend of the football season.

As a member of the Bowl Championship Series, C-USA is guaranteed access to a BCS bowl if one of its teams' final national ranking is No. 6 or better.

In four seasons of basketball, C-USA has sent 25 men's and 17 women's teams to post-season tournaments.

C-USA is one of the seven equity conferences that has direct representation in the NCAA governance structure.

C-USA commissioner Mark Slive has been given full authority to explore expansion possibilities for the next two weeks. If, as speculated, TCU is granted an invitation to join C-USA, the Frogs' athletics will have the opportunity to get one step closer to Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari's mission statement: "To be a prominent private university recognized for our global perspective."

Editorial policy: The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. Unsigned editorials represent the view of the TCU Daily Skiff editorial board. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the Skiff, Moudy 2915, mail it to TCU Box 298050, fax it to 257-7133 or e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu. They must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Aaron Brown/SKIFF STAFF

Media missing the real story

The stories are becoming too commonplace. A mentally deranged day trader goes on a tirade and murders his wife and family before shooting his co-workers. A massive earthquake in Turkey claims thousands of lives and leaves even more buried alive. A plane crash in Argentina kills 69 people ... and the list goes on.

Commentary



KEVIN DUNLEAVY

How real is this to everybody? Now hold on, I'm not going to launch into the proverbial Skiff columnist diatribe of "we all live in the TCU bubble and don't care about anything," but I'm asking instead for us to think about the reality of these worldwide occurrences and how they affect our society. Does what we see in the daily newspaper have any bearing in our personal lives? (Assuming, of course, that we see something other than the grocery store tabloid headlines that scream, "Elvis returning to establish

Millennial Kingdom.") Do we realize these stories aren't merely printed words on a page or does our momentary sympathy for the plight of others fade gently away as we flip over to "Garfield"? We have become rapidly desensitized to events outside of our personal tangible worlds and this is because very little surprises us anymore. These "far away" happenings are so detached from us, we don't get the truth of what actually happened. Watching *Platoon* and actually being in the Vietnam War definitely share similarities, yet are at the same time farther apart than I could ever comprehend.

Sadly, the media all too often have the tendency to bludgeon us with a barrage of sensational stories coupled with flashy 30-second sound bytes that propagate our apathy instead of awakening our empathy. What happens in Turkey once the cameras are gone and reporters have moved on to stories about George W. Bush Jr. allegedly inhaling glue fumes 50 years ago during an intense kindergarten assignment?

Somewhere, halfway around the world, people are desperately sweep-

ing together the remaining fragments of their lives while news anchors utter clever axioms such as, "Clean up begins after (insert disaster here) has shattered the lives of the people in (insert place here), leaving (death/destruction/chaos) in its wake. But in other news, people aren't wearing enough hats ..." The sadness and despair are the harsh realities we don't often see, but so desperately need to see because they are real even if they don't directly impact us.

Storms ravaging the nation receive names to personalize them, but the end result is short of laughable. I await the day I hear Tom Brokaw talking about how Heatwave Frank and Partly Cloudy Day Larry are making the average lives difficult for Americans across the country.

On a lighter note, if we're going to give personalities to the fickleness of Mother Nature, let's at least assign some nicknames worthy of the true temperance of these storms. I mean, "Dennis" and "Emily" just won't cut it. They sound like an amiable friend you just happened to miss seeing at the bar but somebody else informs you, "Oh by the way, Dennis

dropped by earlier to say hello, leaving 50 people dead and thousands others without homes or electricity." We need names that strike fear into the hearts of people, like Hurricane Brunhilda or Hurricane Thor.

On the other hand, there's also a fine line of sensationalism between replacing the cutesy names with the aforementioned cooler ones, but I'm not really sure what it is. Hey, I'm only a writer. I don't have all the answers, just most of them.

Likewise, the media inevitably trivializes its news by jumping from story to story, gently numbing our lives to the point where disasters and tragedies become no more different or interesting than last night's Yankees score. We should all work on developing a reality perspective and understand that these stories are real life, that we are all just a news feature away from similar circumstances in our own worlds.

But then again, perhaps I'm just a little jealous. I am, after all, still waiting for Hurricane Kevin.

Kevin Dunleavy is a junior advertising and public relations major from Spring, Texas.

LETTER to the editor

TCU students should live up to Horned Frog ideology

"Be proud to be a Horned Frog." We have all said it. And we all mean it. We have a lot in which to take pride — in academics, in athletics, in student organizations and in our campus. Mostly, though, I have encouraged people to be proud of our school because of the quality of the people who go to school here.

But occasionally student behavior embarrasses us all. On Tuesday of this week the lead headline of the SMU student newspaper was about a fight and verbal harassment of SMU students by some TCU students last Saturday night. Police reports from SMU arrived at TCU shortly thereafter. It is hard to be proud of that. We have read reports in the *Skiff* about student arrests and other forms of misbehavior. These do not, nor should they, engender pride.

When you become a TCU student, your actions reflect on every member of this community. We

may wish this were not so, but it is. At SMU some TCU students have created an image about TCU that now all of us share. We should be sharing the image everywhere of what is right about TCU students: the image of those who contribute thousands of hours of community service, those who attain significant academic achievements, those who work to pay the tuition bill, those who mentor new students, those who commit untold hours to making TCU a better place, and those who put their considerable talents on display for the community to appreciate and enjoy.

TCU is a place that stresses our commitment to one another. It is a place where we should all celebrate successes. It should not be a place where the actions of a few embarrass others. Frankly, this student body deserves better than that. Our expectations of each other should be higher than that.

Don Mills
Vice Chancellor
for Student Affairs

Television in the eye of the beholder

With the new fall TV schedule announced and gearing up to launch, a lot of questions come to mind for college students. One such question is: How much time should I waste this semester watching television?

Giving up television, though, is hard for a society that has been suckled by it — whether it be dismal reality we're watching or far-fetched fantasy. Who knew the antique road show on PBS would take off like it did? Then again, who knew the biggest television controversy of the summer would be over delaying the air date of the season finale of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" due to the excessive depiction of school violence? Are these ideas warping our mind, distracting us from our productive lives and turning our minds into gelatin?

A new study recently reported that even educational programming is harmful for the development of kids' minds more than we ever realized. I would disagree, though, saying that my little sisters (who are TV addicts) know more about the real world because they've watched a lot of television. They fell in love with Eric of "The Little Mermaid," and

they cried for Simba's dad when he was betrayed by his brother.

These situations reinforce social priorities in our minds and keep our minds stimulated about what we would do if we were to face those circumstances. Sure, they may get better grades if they spent the time learning their multiplication tables instead of memorizing Pokémon, but what good is the ability to solve a Rubik's cube when you can't even make someone laugh at a party?

But television shows can sometimes act more as an escape rather than selected reflection of the more interesting tidbits of life that we should learn from. In the same way, they can shape a vision of life around those who stay in their homes, they can also shape an unattainable state of existence. Can you honestly say that over the past six years of your life (the average duration of a television show) that you have stayed with the same group of people? Tight television casts give us reliable friends every week that we know will entertain us or that we care about when problems arise — something that is hard to find in real life. They rarely forsake us.

In the course of human events, we will all be hurt, betrayed, loved, belittled, conquered, humored and obsessed over. The difference with television is that we can walk away.

Television takes on different roles for different people. For some, it is something to talk about at

the water cooler in the morning; for others, it is the replacement of a best friend who will always be interesting enough to stick with. Whether through tears of laughter or tears of pain, they will be there for a while. Still others look to it for a panacea from their own life's troubles or depression.

For everyone, though, I would argue that television has influence on our lives in more ways than we can imagine. People watch "Will & Grace" because it's funny, yet they are probably becoming more tolerant of homosexuals. They watch "NYPD Blue" because it's dramatic or action-filled, yet they become more sympathetic to law enforcement.

Influence of television is sometimes intrusive, yet sometimes vital to our development. With the influx of ideas and characters in our minds, we have escaped the farm-and-hunt mentality and turned instead to seek out our passions that may have been exposed to us during a 30-minute segment.

So if you feel like television makes you happy, watch it, but don't just watch it because there's nothing else on. One of the hardest lessons for a new college student to learn is how to juggle his or her schedule. Are work, school and friends more important than finding out if Ross and Rachel are going to stay married? That depends on you.

Jeremy Hoekstra is a junior computer science and math major from Burleson, Texas.

Commentary



JEREMY HOEKSTRA

Messages of hope missing when women excluded from ministry

Doesn't it seem peculiar that there are so few women serving as leaders in the ministry? It appears that many faithful servants of the church are being unnecessarily excluded. What a waste of talent!

For the first time in centuries, women in the Church of England are being ordained as pastors, or "vicars." Anglicans used to be part of the Roman

Commentary



DAVID BECKER

Catholic Church, but Henry VIII wanted to get a divorce 500 years ago, and the Vatican refused his request. Henry split off from the Catholic Church and made himself head of the Church of England. Sadly, the split continues today.

Bringing women into church leadership has caused an uproar among the male vicars, and many left the church. With the Vatican's blessing, the Roman Catholic Church welcomed a reunion with the disgruntled vicars. Many of the clerics became Catholics again with their spouses and families. So much for celibacy!

In the United States, members of the Anglican Church are

Episcopalians. In July 1974, 11 women were ordained as priests. Until that time, it was against church law, although the decree was subsequently changed. Episcopal women have met a high standard as capable leaders of congregations across America.

The patriarchal leadership of the church will not give up. Four Episcopal dioceses in the United States, including Fort Worth, will not ordain women as priests. The 50 churches in Fort Worth, Denton, Arlington and Wichita Falls have no women in leadership positions. The bishop of the diocese, the Right Reverend Jack Iker, will not hear of it. Right here in the buckle of the

Bible belt rules a man who has let time pass him by.

There are many reasons why women should be leaders in the church. Women are human beings and must be regarded with much respect. The knowledge and understanding women bring to ministry is invaluable, and a woman's experience is important to the ministry of the church. In pastoral care, perhaps it is best for a woman to minister to another woman.

What about preaching? Should women preach? Yes, of course. Some of the most powerful voices in the pulpit are feminine. Christians miss positive and provocative messages of hope when women are

excluded from preaching.

Fundamentalists believe women should have no right to have authority in the pulpit. Such an exclusion in the 20th century is shortsighted and thoughtless. The church should allow no one to silence responsible persons from preaching the gospel.

Of course there are many other success stories where women have dynamic ministries. There should never be a defensive effort to rationalize a place for a woman's ministry. Members of the Christian community should recognize that women have as equal and substantive a mission in the world as men do.

It is not just the Episcopal church that discourages women. Many

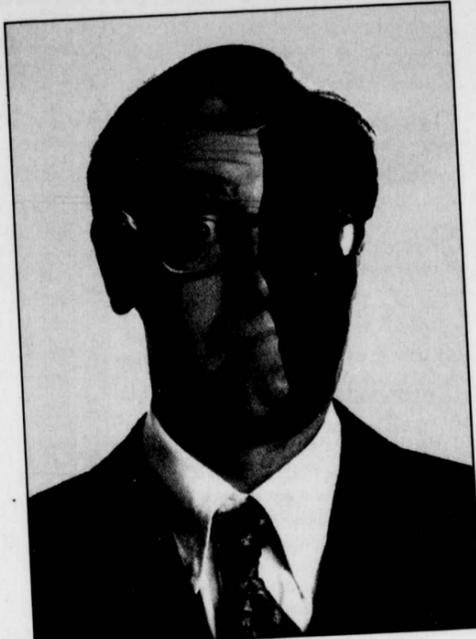
denominations and individual congregations put the kibosh on the careers of promising women in the ministry. This impediment happens when a congregation undermines the authority of a female pastor. On other occasions, congregations simply will not take a woman's work seriously.

There is much work to be done in God's kingdom. Wouldn't it be exciting to see the church take the leadership role in championing the equality of women by setting a better example?

David Becker is a graduate student at Brite Divinity School from Pueblo, Colo.

THE POWER of PURPLE

A MYSTERIOUS "POWER OF PURPLE" OVERTAKES THE TCU CAMPUS



By David O'Brien
TCU Daily Whiff

TCU Senior Donald Liebermeyer still thinks he scored a touchdown in the Main last week.

"One minute, I was ordering

"One minute, I was ordering the special ..."

the special," said Liebermeyer, sipping a cappuccino, his face painted half-purple on this Sunday morning. "The next minute, it became a football, and I was in a TCU football game. I can't explain it."

Liebermeyer rushed for 156 yards through the Student Center, taking out various students and stiff-arming Student Center Director Larry Markley among others.

"Since June, we've had 62, uh, excited diners," Markley said, admitting that he was the lead blocker for one student who ran an amazing double reverse with a slice of pizza. "What can I say? It's contagious."

"It's contagious."

Indeed, TCU police, calling it the "Power of Purple," say the phenomena began around the TCU area last December after the Horned Frogs stomped the USC Trojans 28-19 in the Norwest Sun Bowl. Pandemonium has since spread across all of the campus.

Attending church at UCC last Sunday, 92-year-old Myra Eggleston surprised her congregation by yelling "Go Frogs! ... Beat

Arizona!" in between stanzas of Amazing Grace. Later, she tackled the pastor after he dropped a communion wafer. "My vision's not what it used to be," Eggleston said. "It looked like a loose ball to me."

In Reed Hall, English Prof. Bob Frye insisted that all students be required to take a newly created course called "Riff Ram Bah Zoo," an introductory class that explores the inner workings of the TCU Fight Song. Said Frye, "If these kids don't know the Frog's fight song, how are they ever going to make it in the real world?"

And finally, in Sadler Hall, Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari held an emergency "town hall" meeting to help faculty, staff and students better understand how to deal with the Power of Purple that threatens to consume the TCU community.

"It's not often that a force hits the University family as hard as this TCU purple thing has," said Ferrari,

looking at his watch so as not to miss kickoff. "The best thing you can do as Horned Frogs is simply to get to the games early. Arriving late to a football game can do irreparable damage to students, as well as to faculty and staff."

"We have to ask ourselves ...

What's really important here? And I think the answer for all of us has to be Horned Frog Football."

Mascot makeover?

By Samuel Baugh
TCU Daily Whiff

TCU'S MASCOT has been working out.

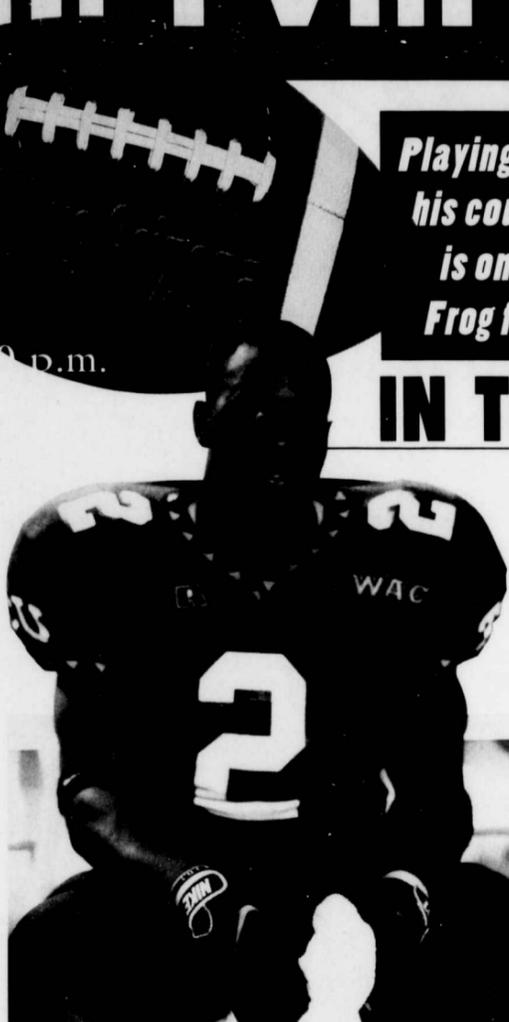
In fact, when Super Frog makes his debut at the home opener against Arizona, fans will hardly recognize him, said TCU's Dale Young '66, the mascot's agent.

"He was hurt by the comments that he was looking too much like a Barney character," Young said. "He said people wanted him tougher, more powerful, like our football team. We agreed."

Sources also disclosed that TCU's top Frog had begun to wrinkle—and smell—having gone 20 years without a real bath.

A top-secret group of personal trainers and image consultants have worked since June with the silent one, fortifying his diet with extra red ants and surgically implanting ice packs and a head fan to keep the more vigorous Frog cool during games.

"The word is that Super Frog looks more like the Frog you see on the team helmets now," Young said. "I guess that since our teams are getting better, Super Frog decided to get in shape, too."



Playing for keeps and for his cousin, Reggie Hunt is one big reason why Frog football remains

IN THE HUNT

er are my best friends," he said. "We struggled money-wise, but as far as love, we had plenty." His mother called him Einstein for the grades he brought home. But his sprinter legs soon surpassed his racing mind; he began running 100- and 200-meter races in junior high when the phone rang one night, too late for anything but bad news.

Chicago Bears rookie Fred Washington—Hunt's cousin, role model and surrogate father—had been killed in an automobile accident. For Hunt, that brought back memories of a cousin 10 years his senior, quiet, resident coach for a ragtag team of teenagers who played street football at Hunt's grandmother's home during the holidays.

"He was my inspiration," Hunt said, who switched from track to football after Washington's death. "I felt like I was next, and I was the only one who could take his place."

Hunt became a dynamo for Denison High School on both sides of the ball. His senior year, he was courted by Notre Dame, Michigan, Florida State, Nebraska. He chose TCU, just like his cousin did.

It figures that during WAC Media Day in late July that Hunt would be named the top preseason defensive player. Hunt appreciates the honor, but the inspiration for his game can be found on his arm, in black letters, a tattoo across the width of his bicep: *FEW*. And then below it: *1967-1990*.

From Hunt's perspective, he's just following in those unfinished footsteps.

That journey in mind, Reggie Hunt isn't just hungry for Sunday's game against Arizona to begin.

He's starving. ■

REGGIE HUNT is hungry.

The heart and soul of TCU's defense, he taps his washboard stomach for good measure, a worn black workout glove covering his clenched fist.

No doubt, the taste of TCU football is in the air; on this day, Hunt sits just a few paces from the house Davey O'Brien '39, Jim Swink '57 and Bob Lilly '61 built—Amon Carter Stadium—whose future suddenly looks as bright as its gloried past. The campus expectation following the Frogs' stunning 28-19 upset over USC in the Norwest Sun Bowl is palatable. And the thought is more than an appetizer on the tip of Hunt's tongue.

"We've got another bowl game to go to," the senior safety begins, quietly, articulately. "We've got to play Fresno State for the conference championship."

And there's that little season opener against Arizona. On a Sunday. In front of a national television audience. For an hour each day, Hunt has been picking apart Wildcat films, studying his own footage, too. "I want to see the mistakes I made, and what I can do to get better."

Yet, as much as Hunt's dark eyes ravenously look toward this fall's weekend specials—bone-crushing tackles smothered in purple jerseys—something far more meaningful caused him to come to the college football dinner table in the first place.

Turn the game clock back eight

His mother called him Einstein.

years, Hunt was 13, growing up in Denison with his younger brother Aaron (now a defensive end at Texas Tech) in a single-parent household. "My mom and my broth-

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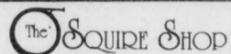
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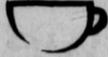
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Bluebonnet Circle

Bush refuses to answer questions about drugs

Presidential candidate dodges journalists' inquiries; Barbara Bush says issue should not be of concern

By Margery Beck
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa — Read his lips: no more questions about drugs.

Republican presidential front-runner George W. Bush is sticking to his pledge not to answer any more questions concerning past drug use.

During a campaign stop Tuesday night in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the Texas governor doggedly rebuffed one reporter's repeated attempts to ask if he thinks his image is being redefined by the drug issue.

"I'm not going to talk about it anymore," he repeated, clearly agitated. "I think it's time somebody stood up and said we're going to cleanse the system of rumors and gossip and innuendo."

When asked what he thinks of his public image — sans any reference to the drug speculation — Bush said, "I think I'm doing pretty well."

Barbara Bush says she and her husband never asked their eldest son if he has used cocaine. "We had no need to," she said.

In an interview with a Manchester, N.H., television station, the former first lady said it was "fair" for the news media to question her son about possible illegal drug use years ago, but she said he was right to refuse to go into details.

"I am proud of the stand he has taken," she said. "The time has come to say, 'Enough.' Judge a man by what he has done."

It is irrelevant whether a presidential candidate ever used drugs, Mrs. Bush said, suggesting that the news media concentrate less on personal matters.

"Twenty-five, 30 years ago? I don't think it matters," Mrs. Bush

said. "That's ridiculous. ... Let's ask candidates about what they have done" in public policy, pointing to her son's record as Texas governor.

Bush also addressed questions about his stance on campaign finance reform. With his campaign coffers set to top \$50 million by the end of September, Bush said he would like to see the individual donation limit of \$1,000 raised "to make it easier for candidates to raise money."

He added that campaign regulations should ban corporate contributions when shareholders and union members have no voice in where the donation goes.

While campaigning earlier Tuesday in Omaha, Neb., Bush touted plans to follow through with last year's congressional call to transform the federally funded Head Start child development program into a preschool reading program.

"Head Start has done a good job in providing health needs," the Texas governor said at Our Lady of Guadalupe-St. Agnes Mission School. "I believe it ought to include an education program as well."

Head Start is a national program that provides development services for low-income, preschool children aged 3 to 5. Funding is provided through the federal Health and Human Services Department's Administration for Children and Families.

Bush plans to disclose his plans for Head Start on Thursday at a stop in Los Angeles.

Bush's emphasis on education and his call to keep the U.S. Department of Education — under fire from a number of conservative Republicans — may sound like the battle cry of a Democrat.

But those policies would be cogs of a larger education plan that includes local control for schools and school vouchers allowing public school students to transfer to private schools — ideas that help define Bush as a Republican.

The presidential hopeful who went to college at Yale and Harvard said his job as president will be to "set a tone" for a heightened emphasis on education.

"I believe every child can read," Bush said. "And I believe that ought to become the whole mentality of our education programs, and that we ought to expect the very best for everybody."

While Bush would not stop talking about education, he averted questions about the size of his growing campaign war chest.

"I know there are some who are talking about my capacity to raise money, particularly some of my opponents," he said. "I would suggest that if you ask them, they would like to trade places."

Bush attended a \$1,000-per-person fund-raiser Tuesday at a private home in Omaha. The event was expected to raise \$250,000.

Bush also met privately with a group of Hispanic business leaders at the school.

At a tour of ConAgra Inc.'s headquarters in downtown Omaha, Bush stressed the need to establish trade with China and increase support of the North America Free Trade Agreement to boost a struggling farm economy. He said Congress needs to match temporary worker permits for immigrants with job demand and availability.

"If you can make 50 cents in Mexico and \$50 in Nebraska, you're coming," Bush said of the influx of Hispanic immigrants to the state.

CONVOCATION

From Page 1

Award for Distinguished Research and Creative Activity in the amount of \$20,000 for her work in Victorian literature.

"I'm so honored, considering this company," Hughes said. "I want to thank the institution for this recognition of humanities research."

Many faculty members and stu-

dents said they were pleased with the award presentations and supportive of Ferrari's high aspirations for the university.

Carlo Capua, a senior marketing major, said the presentation of an award like the Wassenich Award is long overdue at TCU because there are so many faculty and staff members who serve as

mentors to students.

"It's fantastic that TCU is finally recognizing mentors," he said. "And Turner really deserved it."

Capua also said he is optimistic about the future of TCU under Ferrari's leadership. He foresees the next decade to be an era of growth and change for TCU, he said.

Police BLOTTER

Campus Police reported the following offenses between Aug. 24 and Tuesday.

Harassment

Aug. 31, 12:20 a.m. — A female resident of Sherley Hall called TCU police after an unidentified male walked into her residence hall and her room four times within a week without permission. The resident had given the suspect her room number. The suspect made comments about the resident's physical appearance to her roommate and asked her for the resident's phone number. The roommate did not comply and said the suspect seemed like he had been drinking.

Aug. 30, 3:05 p.m. — A Beckham-Shelburne Hall resident received a harassing phone call from an unknown male who made suggestive and inappropriate remarks. The resident hung up and called TCU Police.

Aug. 30, 3:15 p.m. — A female resident in Waits Hall received a harassing phone call from an unknown male who made suggestive and inappropriate remarks. The resident hung up and called TCU Police.

Aug. 27, 3:41 p.m. — A Sherley Hall resident alerted TCU Police after receiving harassing instant messages on her computer. On Aug. 25, she was sent a message from someone saying he knew what classes she was taking, that he met her at Freshman orientation, that he lived in Moncrief and that she should call him "JH." On Aug. 26, the suspect sent her another message telling her he wanted to meet her for lunch. She agreed, but only if it was with other friends. The suspect never showed up at lunch, but sent her a message the next day, saying he saw her while she was eating lunch, described her outfit, what she ate and told her his description and class schedule.

Aug. 30, 31 — Two female freshmen received phone calls from a male claiming to be a graduate

student in the psychology department. The male asked the girls to participate in a survey he was conducting, claiming he got their names off of a list of people with high IQs.

The male asked them about their "dark side," inquiring how they would react in hypothetical situations and focusing on homicide and other violent acts. The girls answered his questions and were promised large amounts of money for their time. The caller told them the checks would arrive by mail.

One girl reported the caller after she asked a psychology professor about the survey, and he said there was no such survey. The psychology department affirms there is no such survey, and the name the man gave to the two girls is not present on the graduate student roster. The man also gave the girls a phone number to call with a kind of pass code. Police called the number and found it was invalid.

Hit and Run

Aug. 30, 2 p.m. — A witness called the TCU Police to report a Chevy pickup truck that had hit a parked vehicle in the Moody Building parking lot and then left the scene. The witness was able to give the truck's license plate number and a description of the truck. TCU Police left a note on the parked car, telling the owner to contact the police station.

Aug. 25, 2:25 p.m. — Sometime between 7 p.m. Aug. 23 and 1 p.m. Aug. 25, an unknown vehicle hit a resident's car in the parking lot in front of Wiggins Hall. A minor dent was found in the left rear wheel well with white paint on it.

Theft

Aug. 24, 3:15 p.m. — A fanny pack containing a wallet, a Swiss Army knife, other personal possessions, and a set of keys to a university van were reported stolen from an office in the Rickel Building. The owner of the items left them in his cubicle and went to workout in the gym at 2:15 p.m. When he returned at 3:15 p.m., he found the items missing. After searching, he called TCU Police. The victim's boss had left at 2:45 p.m., and did not lock the office door.

—Compiled by Justin Roche

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Teen sentenced to 24 years in Israeli prison

By Jack Katznel
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEL AVIV, Israel — Samuel Sheinbein was silent on the subject for two years. On Thursday, he spoke only a single word.

"Yes," said the stone-faced Maryland teen-ager when an Israeli judge asked him whether he strangled an acquaintance with a rope in a middle-class suburb of Washington, D.C., then cut up the body with an electric saw and burned the parts.

Under a plea bargain that infuriated U.S. prosecutors, Sheinbein, 19, is to be sentenced to 24 years in an Israeli prison for the 1997 killing. He will probably be paroled after 14 years, counting the two years he has already spent in Israeli custody. He could have received a much tougher sentence if he were convicted as an adult in the United States.

Sheinbein fled to Israel shortly after the killing of Alfredo Tello Jr. in September 1997 and successfully fought extradition.

The case sharply strained relations between Israel and the United States.

On Thursday, standing handcuffed between two policemen, Sheinbein stared straight ahead as the verdict was read out, ignoring the camera crews that packed the Tel Aviv District Court just as he had ignored questions shouted at him as he came in.

Cameras are a rarity in Israeli courts — reserved only for high profile cases, including Nazi war crimes trials and the trial of the assassin of Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin. Their presence on Thursday suggested that the court was determined to show the Americans that justice was seen to be done.

Although he has picked up some basic Hebrew, Sheinbein listened to an interpreter translate the proceedings into English. When asked by Judge Uri Goren if he had strangled Tello and cut up and burned his body, Sheinbein answered "ken," the Hebrew word for yes.

The sentence will not be handed down until Oct. 11, after a social worker has submitted a report on Sheinbein. The report is required because Sheinbein was 17 — a minor — at the time of the killing.

The judge still has considerable discretion and could impose a longer or shorter sentence than proposed in the plea bargain. However, a life term is unlikely. No one who committed a crime as a minor has ever been jailed for life in Israel.

After Tello's slaying, Sheinbein escaped to Israel, claiming Israeli citizenship on the grounds that his father was born in Israel. His friend Aaron Needle, also charged in the crime, committed suicide in a Maryland jail.

The Israeli prosecution rejected Sheinbein's citizenship claim and moved to comply with a request from the United States for Sheinbein's extradition. But Sheinbein's lawyer, David Libai, took the issue to Israel's Supreme Court, which ruled that under existing Israeli law Sheinbein could not be extradited.

The judges criticized the law, and it has since been amended, but

it was too late to affect the Sheinbein case.

The Hispanic community in Maryland was outraged by the killing and by Israel's refusal to extradite Sheinbein. Some members of Congress threatened to cut aid to Israel unless he was sent back.

In court Thursday, Libai said he would not claim that Sheinbein acted in self-defense, as the defendant's father had done in his testimony to a grand jury in Maryland. Sol Sheinbein had said Tello tried to rob Needle and pulled a gun on him.

The man who would have had jurisdiction to prosecute Sheinbein in Maryland, Douglas Gansler, said Thursday it was "a miscarriage of justice" that Sheinbein was tried in Israel.

Gansler, state's attorney in Montgomery County, Md., said the Tello family, with whom he spoke last week, was "resigned, frustrated."

Gansler, who has said Sheinbein committed a "thrill kill," said the state would continue to seek to try him once he is free at the age of 33.

"Were Samuel Sheinbein to attempt to return to the United States or any Interpol country he would be arrested," Gansler said.

However, prosecutors doubted Sheinbein would leave Israel.

"Sol Sheinbein is an attorney, he has a business that he runs in Israel," said Maryland prosecutor Jim Trusty. He said the family has the financial resources to help keep the younger Sheinbein from facing American justice "for many years."

Gene makes mice smarter

Breakthrough points way to possibly creating smarter children, treating Alzheimer's and stroke patients

By Jeff Barnard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scientists have genetically engineered smarter mice, pointing the way to a brave new world in which parents could — in theory, at least — create baby Einsteins.

The breakthrough could also lead someday to drugs for treating Alzheimer's and stroke.

By inserting an extra gene, researchers produced a strain of mice that excelled in a range of tasks, such as recognizing a Lego piece they had encountered before, learning the location of a hidden underwater platform and recognizing signs that they were about to receive a mild shock.

The mice — nicknamed "Doogie" after the boy genius in the TV show "Doogie Howser, M.D." — carried their enhanced intelligence into adulthood, when learning ability and memory naturally taper off, and passed it on to their offspring.

"This points to the possibility that enhancement of learning and memory or even IQ is feasible through genetic means, through genetic engineering," said Joe Z. Tsien, the professor of molecular biology at Princeton University who led the research team.

The findings were published in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

"To jump from this very elegant molecular work in a mouse model to humans is a very, very big jump," said Dr. Robert Malenka, a psychiatrist and behavioral sciences specialist at Stanford University School of Medicine. "Nevertheless, it is a jump we can make and will make eventually.

When we jump to humans, it will probably be a lot more complicated."

The improved learning and memory came from increased production of a brain protein called NR2B. The research indicates that a common mechanism lies at the root of all learning, and identifies NR2B as a key player, Tsien said.

The work could lead to a drug to treat memory disorders, such as Alzheimer's, by increasing NR2B levels, Tsien said. Production of NR2B normally decreases with age, corresponding to the loss of memory and learning ability commonly experienced by older people, he said.

Drug companies are already looking into the manipulation of NR2B levels to treat strokes, according to Dr. Ron McKay of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

The prospect of genetically engineering smarter babies raises big ethical questions.

"What we are looking at is the baby steps toward a world in which we can design our descendants," said Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. "I don't think that is necessarily bad. Finding ways to repair autism or mental retardation associated with Down syndrome or Alzheimer's or other disabling neurological diseases is a very good thing."

But just as parents strive to improve their children by sending them to better schools or giving them piano lessons, some will want to create smart children by

way of genetical engineering, Caplan said. As in other areas of life, the rich would have an advantage.

"We already have a brain gap in this society when some children go to kindergartens that cost \$15,000 a year and other children go to kindergartens that don't have adequate plumbing," he said.

Using a tiny glass needle, the scientists injected a gene carrying a blueprint for NR2B into the nucleus of a fertilized mouse egg, then implanted the resulting embryo into the uterus of a mother mouse.

Mice born with the extra gene made more NR2B than usual in their brains.

That boosted mental abilities by enhancing the function of brain-cell switches called NMDA receptors.

The results confirm the idea, proposed in 1949, that these switches play a key role in learning.

The NMDA switches require two signals to open, which fits in with the idea that learning involves associating pairs of events or facts, like a tone and an electrical shock. Boosting levels of NR2B kept the switches open longer than usual.

"If you associated food with a bell, a voice with a face, a face with a name, these are all associative learning in humans," Tsien said. "To associate those things you require some kind of cellular machinery."

It is so nice to convince ourselves that we are working in the right machinery."



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Community fears fire will torch stream of tourism

California town prepares for a wildfire that could devastate it, firefighters set controlled fires to contain blaze

By Anthony Breznican
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FAWNSKIN, Calif. — More than a century has passed since this tiny mountain community stopped mining for gold and started mining tourist dollars. Now locals fear a wildfire could reduce it to cinders.

"We're just waiting for three blasts from the fire department siren. That's the signal to run," said Paul Wentz, 78, who lives in the log cabin that was originally built in 1890 to serve as the Fawnskin post office.

Flashing a jack-o'-lantern grin, Wentz said he expects he and his cabin will remain standing for some time to come.

"But I made a list of things I need just in case," he said Wednesday.

Less than two miles away, the

60,100-acre Willow fire inched closer to the San Bernardino Mountain town as erratic winds carried it from tree to tree over steep cliffs peppered with granite boulders.

Firefighters ordered selected forests torched in an attempt to create buffer zones for homes threatened by the largest of the West's wildfires.

"We're going to try to beat it at its own game," said Kathy Saindon, spokeswoman for the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

Thursday, U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Kristel Johnson said the controlled fires were successful.

Firefighters also were helped by light winds, higher humidity and lower temperatures.

The Willow fire, which has

been burning since Saturday from the Mojave Desert into the mountains 90 miles east of Los Angeles, is one of a half-dozen major fires in California.

Another six wildfires were burning in Montana, Utah and Idaho, where a 35,118-acre grass blaze was contained Wednesday night several miles from the Snake River community of Glens Ferry.

The Willow blaze, started by an illegal campfire, was 35 percent contained Thursday. Twelve desert homes in Apple Valley were destroyed during the initial stages of the fire.

In Fawnskin, where 380 people live year-round, resident Ron Shanahan, 44, stood outside the Gold Pan restaurant watching smoke rise dramatically over a ridge two miles away.

"I think it could take out half of this town," he said, gesturing to the small wooden shops and cabins lining the edge of Big Bear Lake. "We're not sure whether we should start packing yet. I mean, how can you even start to pack up 30 years of your life?"

On Wednesday, giant pine trees exploded in flames a few miles from Green Valley Lake, a resort hamlet at the 8,000-foot level not far from Lake Arrowhead and Big Bear.

Most of the residents scrambled to pack their belongings or volunteered to help fight the blaze.

"The worst part is that everybody is so tired," said fire Capt. Rick Mull, rubbing bloodshot eyes. "But everyone in the town is coming together to help us

and help each other."

The bed-and-breakfast, camping and boating resort has about 350 full-time residents and many were staying despite a voluntary evacuation alert.

Rather than running, talk among locals centered on the fire's impact on tourism over the Labor Day weekend. The final weekend of summer usually brings 500 people to Green Valley Lake.

"I don't know if the fire is going to get up here, but I'm getting calls from people who want to cancel their vacation," said Ted Fogel, who works at a cabin rental firm.

Down in Lucerne Valley, fire blackened Barbara Jo Jones' 35 acres of remote desert land at the foot of the San Bernardino Mountains, but her home, goats

and iguana were saved by firefighters on Tuesday.

"They are our heroes," she said. "I don't think I've ever had a hero before. We gave them coffee; they gave us our property."

Southern California firefighters also had their hands full in the San Gabriel Mountains, where a blaze on 7,000 acres of Angeles National Forest was 35 percent contained today.

And in Riverside County, the 3,300-acre Mixing fire was completely surrounded Wednesday night, with control expected Sunday.

Northern California firefighters struggled with clusters of fires that have burned over thousands of acres in the Shasta-Trinity area and Plumas National Forest.

Pair accused of falsifying documents for immigrants

Border agent, teacher indicted after allowing illegal aliens

By Madeline Baro Diaz
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BROWNSVILLE, Texas — A Border Patrol agent and a school teacher have been accused of providing illegal documents to immigrants so they could remain in the United States.

Roberto D. Longoria, a supervisory Border Patrol agent in Harlingen, and Carlos Villareal, a notary public and teacher in the Los Fresnos school district, were arrested Thursday.

A Brownsville federal grand jury indicted them on one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States, 10 counts of bribery of a public official, five counts of making a false entry in a document and 11 counts of making a false document.

They face fines of up to

\$250,000 on each count, plus up to five years in prison on each count of the conspiracy and falsifying of documents charges and up to 15 years in prison on each of the other counts.

The indictment came after a 20-month investigation that involved the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General, the U.S. Border Patrol and the FBI.

"We're aware of the indictment and the arrests, and we're cooperating with the Office of the Inspector General in the investiga-

tion," Border Patrol McAllen Sector spokeswoman Letty Garza said.

"Because we are public servants, we should set an example and naturally we're disappointed in the outcome," she said.

According to the indictment: Longoria, a Border Patrol agent since 1980, and Villareal engaged in a scheme from July 1997 to October 1997 where "immigration consultant" Frutoso Villareal, not related to Carlos Villareal, sent illegal immigrants to Longoria.

Longoria would process the

immigrants by giving them fake Voluntary Departure documents and Notice to Appear documents.

The documents allowed the immigrants to remain in the United States. Longoria would then release the immigrants to Frutoso Villareal.

Longoria was paid for each immigrant he processed and covered up by submitting false reports to the Border Patrol.

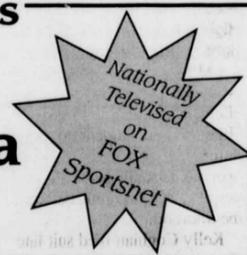
Frutoso Villareal was not named in the indictment but was convicted

earlier of transferring a false identification document and bribery of a public official. He will be sentenced Oct. 1 in U.S. District Judge Hilda Tagle's court in Brownsville.

Longoria is the second Rio Grande Valley border agent to be arrested on federal charges in as many years. Last year, Jose Luis Espericueta, a former detention officer for the Border Patrol in Brownsville, was sentenced to 37 months in prison for transporting illegal immigrants.



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Pulse SIDELINES

CAMPUS C-USA, TCU open discussions to find 'good fit'

TCU is in the exploratory stage of discussions with Conference USA concerning their option to join the league, athletic director Eric Hyman said.

"We have not received an invitation nor have we made a formal application," Hyman said. "We want to find out if it is a good fit."

Hyman said he thinks the discussions should last approximately two weeks.

Western Athletic Conference Commissioner Karl Benson confirmed in a television report from KRIV in Houston Wednesday that an official conversation between TCU and C-USA took place. However, Benson said he is not part of the discussions.

Concerning all the pros and cons of leaving the WAC, Benson said it is too early to discuss.

"To talk about all the 'what-ifs' is a waste of time," Benson said.

Hyman said there is no definite blueprint for these type of discussions.

C-USA commissioner Mike Slive is in charge of exploring the possibilities of expanding the conference.

Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari could not be reached for comment.

FOOTBALL High school student sues for right to pray before game

(AP) — A Houston attorney is seeking a court order to allow a 17-year-old Santa Fe High School student to pray before her school's season-opening football game Friday, despite a federal ruling banning the tradition.

Kelly Coghlan filed suit late Thursday in U.S. District Judge Sam Kent's court, requesting a temporary restraining order against the Santa Fe Independent School District on behalf of senior Marian Lynn Ward and her parents, Bob and Marjorie Ward.

"We are asking for a preliminary and permanent injunction so that this student will be able to exercise her First Amendment, constitutional rights," Coghlan said. "We filed this suit to allow a girl to ask God to bless her school and to be able to do so without apology or shame or government retribution against her."

Santa Fe is at the center of a national debate over school-sanctioned prayer. Schools across Texas ended prayers before football games after the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in February that sporting events are not serious enough to warrant organized prayer.

Coghlan said Thursday that Miss Ward, whose father is a Baptist pastor, had not indicated whether she would pray before Santa Fe's 7:30 p.m. opener against Crosby.

Coghlan said the judge and the school district's attorney, Lisa Brown, were reviewing the lawsuit Thursday night. Kent did not schedule a hearing, Coghlan said.

BASEBALL Ripken reaches 400 homers, pushes 3,000 hits

(AP) — Cal Ripken hit his 400th career home run Thursday night, joining an exclusive circle of 29 sluggers.

As Ripken rounded the bases, the scoreboard scrolled a list of all his home runs. He was greeted warmly by his teammates in the dugout, then came out and tipped his batting helmet to the standing crowd.

The crowd remained on their feet as the Devil Rays made a pitching change. Ripken used the delay to wave again to the appreciative crowd.

The shot, estimated at 372 feet, was his 16th homer of the season and first since July 25. He spent a month on the disabled list with nerve irritation in his lower back before being activated Wednesday.

Volley Frogs sweep season opener

By Paul Frelend
SKIFF STAFF

For most freshmen, playing the first game of their collegiate career would be nerve-racking enough and starting that game would only intensify the pressure.

But freshman outside hitter Steph Watson can now say she knows all about that pressure, and she learned about it in front of her home town fans in Denton.

"I was kind of nervous, like most freshmen are their first game," Watson said. "When we got here, though, I wasn't as nervous as I thought I'd be."

"I knew I'd have a lot of support and I was excited about all the people seeing me play. I'd say there were maybe 20 or 30 people I knew in the stands."

Head coach Sandy Troutd said she was aware of Watson's added pressure.

"We knew that it would be hard on her," Troutd said. "It's hard to go back to your own town and play match number one."

"We talked to her on Monday about it and she told us that she'd be ready to go."

Watson's 10 kills the Volley Frogs' led to a three-game, 15-7, 15-7, 15-4 sweep over the

University of North Texas Eagles Wednesday night.

At the beginning of each game, the Volley Frogs got off to quick starts and they never looked back. TCU finished off the Eagles with solid performances at the end of each game.

In front of a crowd of more than 200 people at the North Texas' Snake Pit, the Volley Frogs took advantage of numerous net violations, hitting errors and timing errors by the Eagles' offense and converted their opportunities into valuable points. Throughout the match, the Volley Frogs were diving for balls and making digs that lesser teams would simply have let hit the floor.

In the second game, sophomore setter Lindsay Hayes took over, serving up an ace to put TCU up 6-1 and a key ace block that pulled the Volley Frogs out of constant sideouts at 7-2. She also proved to be a force in the third game, serving up another ace and teaming with sophomore middle blocker Jennifer Sebastian on ace blocks that put TCU up 3-0 and that closed out the match at 15-4.

Senior co-captain outside hitter Jill Pape and sophomore middle blocker Allison Lynch complimented Watson's play with seven kills of

their own.

"I really didn't know I would be such a big part of our offense tonight," Watson said. "I am willing to step up and accept that role, though."

Senior middle blocker Jessica Rangel led the defensive effort with 12 defensive digs. Hayes paced the Volley Frogs with 30 set assists and senior co-captain defensive specialist Stacy Olson served up three service aces.

Despite the 10 kills by North Texas player Jessica Folmar Brown, TCU finished off the Eagles in one hour and 20 minutes. The Volley Frogs accomplished this win without the help of junior outside hitter Amy Atamanczuk.

"Amy sprained her MCL (medial collateral ligament) in practice," head coach Sandy Troutd said. "We expect her to be out for another week. It's a grade one injury, but anytime one of my players is out for more than 20 minutes, I'm concerned. She's one of our best blockers and we look forward to having her back."

As is the case with most games in the early part of the season, TCU approached the match not knowing much about their opponent, choosing instead to focus on the play on their side of the net.

"It's the first game of the season so we didn't know a whole lot about their strategy," Watson said. "North Texas' team is almost completely new this year so it was hard to tell what they would do. We just worked on our part of the game for most of our practices."

Troutd attributed part of the Volley Frogs' success to an improvement in a number of basic areas.

"During the last couple of practices — in fact during all of the spring and fall practices — we really focused on our ball control, our serving and our blocking," Troutd said. "Of all of the areas we have improved in, those areas are the most radically improved that can be noted."

Watson said the team's state of mind was evident on the court.

"We knew that we could come out here and win tonight," Watson said. "If our passing is on then our offense is on, so we should be able to run with a lot of people this year."

The Volley Frogs' next matches will be at the Oregon State Volleyball showcase against NCAA Tournament qualifier Northern Iowa, host school Oregon State, Portland State and Big 12 mainstay Missouri.

Net transfer Competing squads to introduce veteran students as forwards

By James Zwilling
SKIFF STAFF

Veteran transfers will lead both the TCU men's soccer team as well as the University of Wisconsin Badgers in tonight's match up at the Rocky Rococo University of Wisconsin Soccer Classic.

The Badgers will introduce Mount Ida Junior College transfer Narciso Fernandes as a forward.

Fernandes, who transferred as a junior, scored 52 goals and tallied 27 assists in his two seasons with Mount Ida.

"He has speed and he is a team player," Wisconsin head coach Kalekeni Mtalika Banda said. "That is what we are looking for."

Fernandes brings with him an abundance of honors accumulated since he relocated to the United States in 1997. Those honors include All-state selection as a senior in high school, second-team NSCAA all-America selection in 1997, and two-time first-team all New England and Region 21 selections.

He also led Mount Ida to back-to-back Region 21 and Northeast district titles in 1997 and 1998.

Wisconsin coaches are confident about Fernandes' ability.

"He's a star," Banda said. "Even at his size (6 feet, 3 inches) he can play the ball with his feet."

Fernandes received his first assist of the year in a season-opening 1-4 defeat Wednesday, in Evansville, Ind. Fernandes will not be the only transfer forward taking the field this weekend in hopes of securing goals

for his team.

Leading the Horned Frogs, in what coaches say is potentially their best season ever, is forward transfer Matt Groves.

Groves, a junior transfer from Coastal Carolina University, has already impressed his coaches.

"Matt has been a real nice addition to our program," head coach David Rubinson said. "He has the ability to create all kinds of trouble for the opposition."

Groves joins TCU after playing in 30 games, 24 of which he started at

forward for the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers.

In his two seasons at Coastal Carolina, Groves accumulated three goals and five

assists, while taking 40 shots at the goal.

In 1998, Groves' goals and assists helped him to gain confidence on the field. He contributed as his team finished with a seven-win season.

"He's a pretty hard-nosed player," Rubinson said. "He will help (the team) improve, and he will make us a little better."

Groves has already begun showing signs of talent. He made the first goal of the season for the Horned Frogs in a scrimmage game against the University of Incarnate Word on Sunday.

The Horned Frogs will play in the Rocky Rococo University of Wisconsin Classic tonight at 7 p.m. and face off against University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at noon Sunday.



Freshman midfielder Nick Browne brings the ball upfield in TCU's scrimmage versus Incarnate Word. The Horned Frogs will play in the Rocky Rococo University of Wisconsin Classic tonight at 7 p.m.

Former detective keeps order on green gridiron

Yale travels country with athletes to act as mentor, peacekeeper

By Victor Drabicky
SKIFF STAFF

He's been everywhere from Utah to Florida and done everything from arresting murderers to making drug busts.

But as coordinator of security for the TCU sports program, Detective J. J. Yale isn't making too many arrests anymore.

Yale has become somewhat of a legend around campus, because he has worked security for TCU athletics since 1968. Yale also worked as a homicide, sexual assault, robbery and narcotics detective for the Fort Worth police for 17 years.

While Yale was working for the Fort Worth Police Department, he accepted the job of coordinator of security for all TCU athletics, a position he has held for 15 years.

As head of security, Yale — along with retired Fort Worth Police Officer John Carter, TCU Police Chief Steve McGee and TCU Police Assistant Chief J. C. Williams — travels to all of the team's away games, a tradition that started with ex-football coach Pat Sullivan.

"Sullivan always wanted us to

travel with the team," Yale said. "Before (Sullivan's tenure), we didn't travel too much."

Over the years, Yale has gotten to travel all over the United States. But, Yale is quick to remind everyone that the trips are for business, not pleasure.

"I don't get too much free time," said Yale. "Usually, I stay up late at the hotels to help the kids out if they need anything, and just try to keep an eye on things. If the kids just need someone to talk to, they know I'm there."

Even when he's not on official TCU duty, Yale acts as a mediator between officials and players should a situation arise. Yale's presence was felt this summer when basketball player Lee Nailon and football player LaDainian Tomlinson had a run in with the police.

"I tell the kids how to respect an officer when they talk to one," Yale said. "I believe that their respect for the officers helped out in an intense situation this past summer."

But Yale and the rest of the officers that travel with the football team do more than just keep an eye on things,



Detective J.J. Yale and retired Fort Worth Police Officer John Carter pose during the Sun Bowl against USC in El Paso last December.

"I act as a liaison between the team and the local officers," Yale said.

Yale, a commissioned Texas police officer, said if a problem occurs, he relays the message to one of the officers on duty. However, if Yale senses a breach of peace, he can make arrests.

"My jurisdiction actually ends off

campus," Yale said. "But I can assist other officers if they may need it."

Even though he can make arrests, Yale said that a majority of the time it isn't necessary.

"Most of the time, people get in trouble for either throwing stuff on the field, or cursing at the other team," Yale said. "When that does happen, they get to listen to the rest

of the game from a radio in the parking lot."

When asked about this football season, Yale isn't making any predictions.

However, this season Yale will get a chance to broaden his spectrum as the team travels to Hawaii. But like his trips to Florida and Utah, this trip will be strictly business.

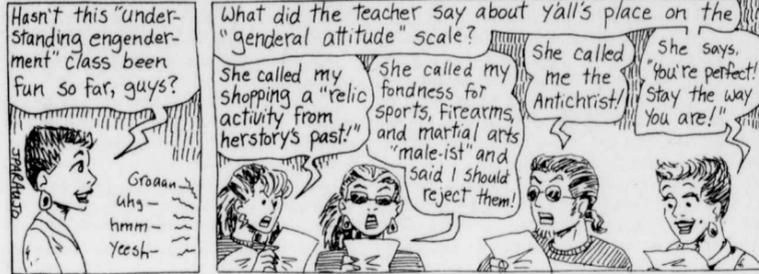
RUDY

BY AARON BROWN



Academia Nuts

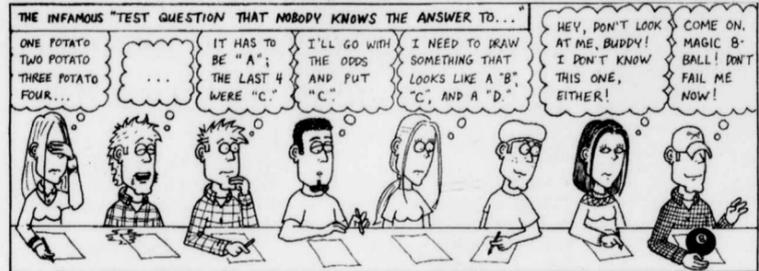
by John P. Araujo



e-mail: AcademiaNt@aol.com

Lex

by Phil Flickinger



e-mail: lexcartoon@yahoo.com

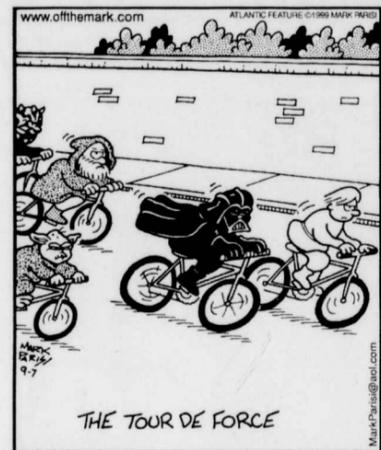
Chaos

by Brian Shustler

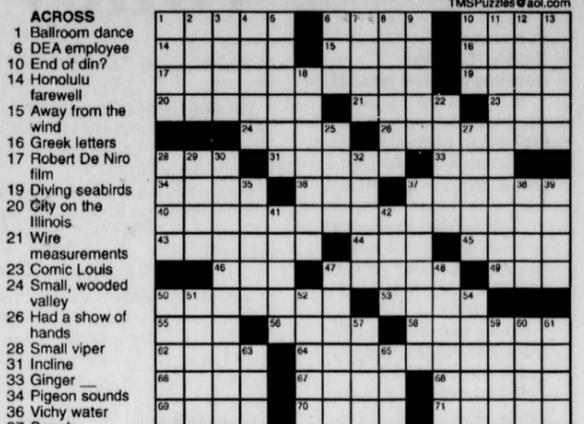


off the mark

by Mark Parisi



THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



By James E. Buell Fort Washington, MD 9/3/99

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ballroom dance
 - 6 DEA employee
 - 10 End of din?
 - 14 Honolulu farewell
 - 15 Away from the wind
 - 16 Greek letters
 - 17 Robert De Niro film
 - 19 Diving seabirds
 - 20 City on the Illinois
 - 21 Wire measurements
 - 23 Comic Louis
 - 24 Small, wooded valley
 - 26 Had a show of hands
 - 28 Small viper
 - 31 Incline
 - 33 Ginger
 - 34 Pigeon sounds
 - 36 Vichy water
 - 37 Scowls
 - 40 Reliable protector
 - 43 Trample
 - 44 Otto I's realm
 - 45 Finished
 - 46 Grande
 - 47 Passing away
 - 49 June honoree
 - 50 Gandhi's title
 - 53 Scottish Highlander
 - 55 In the past
 - 56 Of sound mind
 - 58 Theatrical works
 - 62 Social organization
 - 64 Overwhelming, advancing force
 - 66 Fuel-line element
 - 67 Woodwind
 - 68 Conference site of 1945
 - 69 Had debts
 - 70 Take a breather
 - 71 Suppress: sl.
- DOWN**
- 1 Distort
 - 2 Botanical wings
 - 3 Company emblem
 - 4 Baseball's hot corner
 - 5 Clowns
 - 6 Apprehend
 - 7 Grad
 - 8 Experience again
 - 9 Chamber instrument
 - 10 Period of note
 - 11 Thor, e.g.
 - 12 Asian metropolis
 - 13 Ruhr Valley city
 - 18 16th-century warship
 - 22 Old hat
 - 25 Bread buy
 - 27 African antelope
 - 28 Makes a move
 - 29 Lamplack
 - 30 Human dynamo
 - 32 Too forward
 - 35 Brown tint
 - 37 Marine pineapple?
 - 38 Sicilian peak
 - 39 Lean-to
 - 41 Alex Haley book
 - 42 H.S. math course
 - 47 Vienna's river
 - 48 Mulligan and Adams
 - 50 Camacho's nickname
 - 51 Luminous
 - 52 Military officer
 - 54 Hawaiian island
 - 57 Self-images
 - 59 Beer ingredient
 - 60 Mobile starter?
 - 61 Musial or Mikita
 - 63 Garden plot
 - 65 Retrieve



PURPLE poll



Q. ARE YOU PLANNING ON GOING TO THE FIRST FOOTBALL GAME ON SUNDAY AGAINST ARIZONA? **A.** YES 76 NO 24

Data collected from an informal poll conducted in TCU's Main Cafeteria. This poll is not a scientific sampling and should not be regarded as representative of campus public opinion.

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'99 Fall Football Preview

**Complete
depth chart**

pages 4 & 5

**Indepth WAC
preview**

page 7

**Panel
predictions**

page 8

FACTORY BALL

TO HONOR THE GREAT
TRADITION OF FOOTBALL
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON

1999

Home	Visitor	Date	Time
UW vs. Oklahoma		September 7, 1999	12:00
UW vs. UT-Delaware		October 12, 1999	8:00
UW vs. LSU		November 2, 1999	12:00
UW vs. Iowa		November 8, 1999	12:00
UW vs. USC		November 21, 1999	12:00
UW vs. Ohio State		November 28, 1999	12:00
UW vs. Stanford		December 5, 1999	12:00
UW vs. Washington		December 12, 1999	12:00

Quarterbacks on the ball for fall

Starting quarterback steps up to challenge, freshman backup is recognized

By Matt Welnick
STAFF REPORTER

TCU quarterback Patrick Batteaux enters his second and final season at the helm of the offense with full confidence, which is something that could not be said at this time last year.

"I'm a lot more confident this year," Batteaux said. "I have a one-year experience with this offense and I feel more comfortable at being quarterback."

Batteaux was the team's leading wide receiver during the 1997 season and made the move to quarterback when coach Dennis Franchione implanted his option offense.

Now, he's riding the high of leading TCU to a Sun Bowl win over Southern California last January. Batteaux enters his second campaign ready to accept the challenge of taking the Frogs to another bowl game. His first test will come on Sunday when the nationally ranked Arizona Wildcats come to town.

The Frogs lacked the passing game last season that Franchione wanted to balance out the number of passing plays versus running plays. TCU ran the ball almost three times as many plays as they passed the ball.

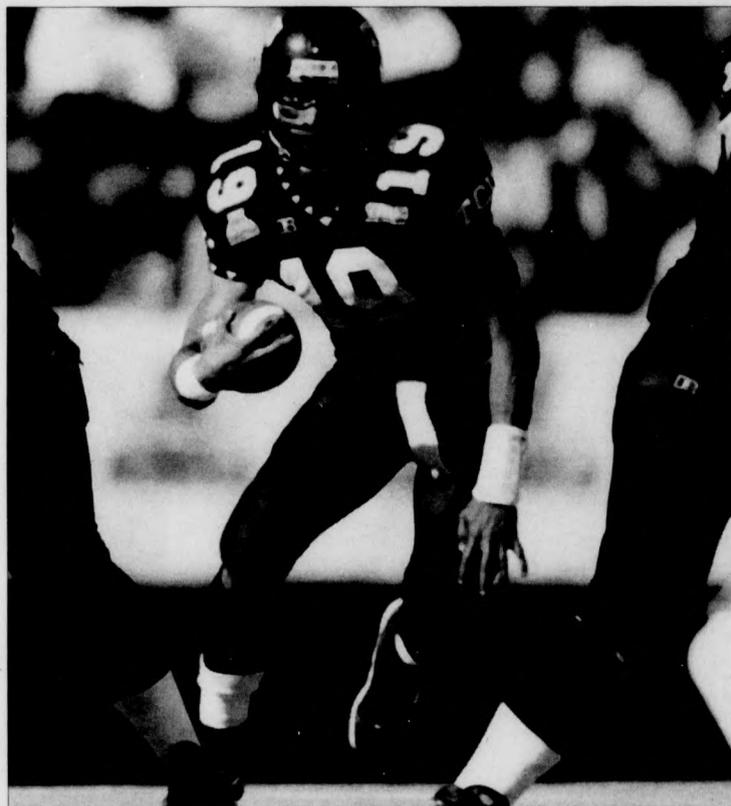
Franchione said his goal is still to get to the 50-50 mark and he also said Batteaux has shown improvement in his passing game. The senior spent time this summer working on his mechanics and throwing to his receivers.

Offensive coordinator Dan Dodd said Batteaux made a commitment after spring practice to make himself a better player.

"Pat just made the decision that he was going to improve and in the summertime he was just really diligent about going and grabbing a receiver and throwing a lot," Dodd said.

Franchione has also seen other improvements in Batteaux's game that come with having a year of quarterbacking experience. But the big change is confidence.

"Pat's a very motivated young man and he



Senior quarterback Patrick Batteaux is in his second year of running the Frog offense.

wants to do well, he's very prideful," Franchione said. "He doesn't have to have someone right behind pushing him."

That someone is quarterback Casey Printers, who won the backup job during two-days this summer. Printers figures in to be a

contender for the starting job, along with red-shirt freshman Sean Stilley, when Batteaux graduates after this season.

Franchione has already seen Printers, a freshman from DeSoto High School, improve dramatically, and he is impressed with how much Printers has picked up during practice.

"Casey is a very talented young man and it's amazing how well he has learned in such a short amount of time," Franchione said.

The amount of the offense that Printers has learned is probably more than Batteaux had learned last year at this time, Franchione said.

"That's not sounding critical of Pat, but it's more of a credit to Casey," Franchione said. "I haven't seen many freshmen who can do that."

Printers said he chose TCU because he likes the offense and its versatility.

"It gives me a total opportunity to express what I can do," Printers said.

Both Franchione and Batteaux are impressed with his ability to throw the ball and his ability to pick up the fast-paced college game.

Printers said the change from high school football to Division I football is the biggest transition he's ever made. During his senior year at DeSoto, Printers threw for 1,826 yards and 14 touchdowns.

"The game is much faster, the defenses are more complicated and they are better athletes all around," Printers said. "I have to step my game up a big notch to be able to continue in college football."

"Casey Printers is a tremendous athlete and a great thrower," Dodd said. "He can flat out throw."

Both Franchione and Dodd agree that Printers will improve more as he gets repetitions in practice.

"He is a work in progress right now, he is very talented and he has a chance to be a great quarterback, especially in this offense," Franchione said.

More than returning players needed

Offense needs to step up for return to bowl

By Matt Welnick
STAFF REPORTER

When coach Dennis Franchione took control of the Frogs last season, he brought with him the high scoring, versatile multiple-I offense from New Mexico. It was an offense that was supposed to produce 30 points a game.

But the Frogs only scored 30 points or more last season three times. They averaged 20 points a game, a mere five points more than TCU averaged in its 1-10 season two years ago.

TCU averaged 97 yards passing a game and only two of their 28 touch-

downs came through the air. The lack of a passing game allowed opponents to stack the line with defenders to stop the run.

Despite this, the Frogs had the eighth best rushing game in the country, and they went on to win seven games, including a bowl win over Southern California in January.

The Frogs return six starters on offense, including second team all-Western Athletic Conference offensive tackle Michael Keathley, and several top offensive producers, including tailback LaDainian Tomlinson, receiver Mike Scarborough and quarterback Patrick Batteaux.

However, TCU lost their top player, tailback Basil Mitchell, the Sun Bowl's offensive Most Valuable Player. Mitchell rushed for 1,111 yards and scored six touchdowns to end up at fourth place on TCU's all-time rushing list.

Last season, the Frogs had two top quality running backs in Mitchell and Tomlinson, but this season Tomlinson will have to carry the rushing game by himself.

"We're certainly going to give LaDainian the opportunity to get some rest during the ball game, but he'll probably carry a bigger workload than he did in a two-back system," offensive coordinator Dan Dodd said.

Tomlinson, who was also voted to the second team all-WAC team last season, said while he's excited to be in the spotlight, he's going to miss Mitchell's leadership and guidance.

"It's a moment I've been waiting for, and I've been working hard to be the number one tailback," Tomlinson said. "But in a way I miss Basil. I learned a lot from him while playing with him; he taught me a lot of things when I was young."

Returning along with Tomlinson is

an offensive line that is bigger and more experienced this season.

"We're encouraged by the fact that they gained a great amount of strength in the off season program," Dodd said. "We feel like now we can compete from a strength standpoint."

Keathley anchors a line that keeps four of its five starting linemen. Tackle David Bobo, guard Jeff Millican and center Jeff Garner all return to give Tomlinson and Batteaux the protection needed to put points on the board. Tight end B.J. Roberts joins the line as a blocker and pass catch threat.

Franchione said he still plans to reach a level where the Frogs are passing the ball as much as they are running it. He said he is pleased with Batteaux's improvement in the passing game.

"I think we are going to be able to get closer to that kind of team," Franchione said. "I don't know if

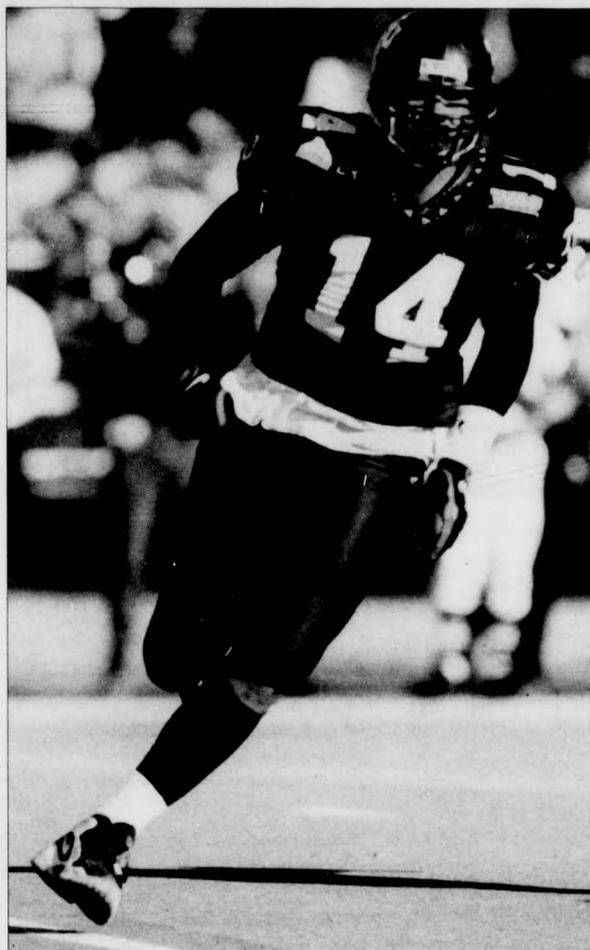
we'll reach that goal yet this year."

On the receiving end of those passes, Scarborough returns as the team's leading receiver after catching 19 passes for 223 yards last season. Joining him will be Tim Maiden and Cedric James, a deep threat who averaged 12.8 yards per catch last season.

Batteaux returns to lead the Frogs this season and with a year of quarterback experience under his belt, he said he is ready for the challenge of stepping his game up another level.

He took the first step this summer when he concentrated on improving his mechanics and working on his timing with his receivers.

If the Frogs want to return to a bowl game this year, the offense will have to answer the challenge of scoring more than 20 points per game. With experience and improvements all around, the Frogs are more than equipped to meet that challenge, but only time will tell.Z



Junior defensive end Aaron Schobel is nine and a half sacks away from being TCU's all-time leader. Courtesy photo

Defense must click

Team's experience gives hope of filling big shoes

By Todd J. Shriber
STAFF REPORTER

Unconventional is a word most applicable in the realm of TCU football, mainly to the offense.

The most popular offense isn't the option going these days unless you call Lincoln, Neb., home, but the Horned Frog defense is unconventional in its own right.

A four-two defensive alignment isn't the most widely used formation in college football, but it seems to be a formula for success for the Horned Frogs. An obvious strength of TCU's defense this year will be experience and more familiarity with defensive coordinator Gary Patterson's system.

In 1998, the Frogs ranked eighth in the WAC in rushing defense, 10th in passing defense and seventh in total defense. However, all those numbers stand a great chance of improving this year with some of the biggest contributors from last year's squad back again in 1999.

There are some big shoes to fill though. TCU's leading tackler of a year ago, Joe Phipps, graduated. Phipps was the WAC's second-leading tackler in '98 while garnering First-Team All-WAC honors.

He has spent this summer trying to catch on with the Dallas Cowboys and whoever takes his place will feel like he's trying to fit into a pair of boots worn by an elephant. Sophomore Chad Bayer and junior Terrance Maiden appear to be the

most likely candidates for that less-than-enviable task.

The great names in football lore have always said games are won and lost down in the trenches. If that's the case, the Frogs will be in pretty good shape this year. The defensive line returns three of four starters from last year and promises to be revamped this year.

Junior defensive end Aaron Schobel was a second-team All-WAC pick last year by the coaches and is quickly rocketing up the leaderboard for career sacks at TCU. Schobel has notched 14.5 sacks in two years and needs only nine more to become the career leader.

The two tackles, senior J.W. Wilson and junior Shawn Worthen, are looking primed for another great season. Wilson led the team in '98 with 12 tackles for losses while netting honorable mention All-WAC honors.

Worthen is quickly developing into one of the league's better defensive tackles as he possesses a rare combination of speed and size that could allow him to be a potentially dominating player at the line of scrimmage.

Worthen said this year's defense will be better than last year's.

"We'll be more improved this year because of experience and some good days in the weight room," he said. "We want to be more balanced this year. That's our ultimate goal."

Worthen also said the squad is stressing the importance of teamwork for this year's defense.

"We need to work together," he said. "We know one area of the defense can't do it all. We need to work together as a team. To get the defense clicking together is the most important thing in the world."

The Frogs' secondary could be the best part of this year's defense with the marquee name being senior Reggie Hunt. Hunt emerged as a bona fide All-American candidate in '99 after a spectacular campaign in '98. He took a liking to the three safety system employed in Patterson's defensive scheme while earning second-team all-league honors.

Hard-hitting senior Curtis Fuller is back at free safety and could contend for all-conference honors. Juniors Russel Gary and LaVar Veale will split time at the remaining safety spot.

Out on the islands at cornerback will be junior Greg Walls and freshman Jason Goss. Walls has the experience, but Goss is an intriguing prospect.

He came to TCU as a wide receiver, but has since moved to cornerback and head coach Dennis Franchione likes what he sees.

"Jason is a unique, special young man, he seems to like playing on the island," he said. "I have no trouble sleeping at night knowing that Jason's at corner."

Trio of safeties provides added flexibility

Led by All-American candidate Reggie Hunt, this group of Horned Frog safeties has the potential to be one of the best the school has seen in recent years.

The interesting thing about this group is that they could also be referred to as a "trio." In case you didn't notice last year, the new coaching now uses one less linebacker and one more safety in defensive coordinator Gary Patterson's scheme.

Most teams will bring in an extra defensive back in nickel packages or even two extras in a dime package, but that only happens when the defense knows the offense will be throwing.

TCU plays three safeties all the time which allows for some flexibility against both the run and the pass. And it's a system that has won favor with its participants, having been called "fun to play in" by junior Russell Gary.

Safeties bolster effective defense

By Todd J. Shriber
STAFF REPORTER

Quarterbacks of the defense. It's not an oxymoron, but rather how TCU defensive coordinator and safeties coach describes the role of the three safeties in the Horned Frog defense.

The safeties could be the brightest spot on TCU's defense this year. The trio already features one of WAC's biggest names in senior Reggie Hunt. Hunt will team with senior Curtis Fuller and juniors Russell Gary and LaVar Veale to round out the safety corps.

Hunt is a candidate for significant postseason accolades this year. Some publications predict he will add WAC Defensive Player of the Year and All-American to an already impressive list of honors.

Patterson said Hunt isn't resting on his laurels though.

"Reggie did a great job this summer in terms of getting stronger and faster," Patterson said. "He wants to help the team win games."

That's a common theme among the safeties, Patterson said.

"They have to be able to make the other players around them better and take command of the defense."

Gary said the camaraderie and the experience of the safeties will make for a good mix.

"We played together a lot last year, and we're trying to get better as a group this year," Gary said. "We had to talk with each other a lot last year to understand the scheme, and it was tough for me playing strong safety but we play in a fun scheme."

Gary made a huge play in the Iowa State game, blocking a field goal that was returned for a touchdown.

Another advantage this group of safeties has heading into the season is continuity in terms of coaches. This is the first time in several years that Horned Frog air guards will have the same coach two years in a row.

"We've got experience under our

belts with the system, and this is the first time we've had the same coach two years in a row," Hunt said.

The potential is there for this group of TCU safeties to be a dominant group; Hunt is one of the best in the nation. Gary has a knack for being around the ball and Veale will provide depth to an already solid group.

Consistency appears to be critical for this group though. Last year, the secondary was hard to figure out. It had a share of good games, such as limiting Fresno State's air attack from doing damage, but got torched by Colorado State and Tulsa.

It might be a bit premature to label this group as heir-apparents to schools like Florida State and Nebraska who are literally safety factories, but Gary isn't shy about what this group can accomplish.

"I think we can reach that kind of level this year," he said. "We just need to work hard every day, do our jobs and our assignments and we'll see."



Fuller



Hunt



Gary

tcu vs arizona

'99 Fall Football Preview

TCU Depth Chart

OFFENSE

WR 1 Tim Maiden, 6-0, 193, Jr-2L
 81 Daniel Belcha, 6-3, 191, SO-TR
 WR 13 Cedric James, 6-2, 200, Jr-2L
 85 Kevin Brown, 5-10, 176, Fr-RS
 WR 87 Mike Scarborough, 6-1, 198, Sr-1L
 83 Terran Williams, 5-10, 160, Fr-RS
 WR 7 Matt Schobel, 6-5, 233, So-TR
 10 Kevin Colon, 6-2, 197, Sr-2L
 OT 52 Michael Keathley, 6-4, 295, Jr-2L
 70 J.T. Aughinbaugh, 6-6, 301, Fr-RS
 OG 78 Victor Payne, 6-1, 294, So-1L
 52 Shane Ladewig, 6-3, 282, Jr-2L
 C 69 Jeff Garner, 6-5, 297, Jr-1L
 63 Brady Barrick, 6-5, 319, Jr-RS
 OG 72 Jeff Millican, 6-6, 296, Jr-2L
 68 Josh Harbuck, 6-6, 316, Fr-RS
 OT 61 David Bobo, 6-5, 291, Jr-2L
 73 Jamal Powell, 6-3, 306, Fr-RS
 TE 91 B.J. Roberts, 6-3, 249, SO-1L
 88 Marcus Shaw, 6-3, 255, Jr-RS
 QB 19 Patrick Batteaux, 6-1, 204, Sr-3L
 1 Casey Printers, 6-3, 190, Fr-HS
 FB 38 George Layne, 5-11, 236, So-1L
 31 Chad Purcell, 6-0, 230, Jr-TR
 TB 5 LaDainian Tomlinson, 5-11, 217, Jr-2L
 23 Charles Jones, 5-9, 202, Jr-2L

DEFENSE

DE 90 Doug Shanks, 6-4, 245, Sr-1L
 92 Chad McCarty, 6-2, 247, So-1L
 DT 95 Shawn Worthen, 6-1, 290, Jr-2L
 97 Stuart Ashley, 6-4, 270, Jr-2L
 NT 75 J.W. Wilson, 6-3, 276, Sr-3L
 89 Kyle Williams, 6-4, 269, Sr-3L
 DE 14 Aaron Schobel, 6-4, 244, Jr-2L
 55 London Dunlap, 6-4, 239, Sr-2L
 SLB 48 Chad Bayer, 5-11, 222, So-SQ
 59 Terrance Maiden, 6-1, 220, Jr-2L
 MLB 41 Shannon Brazzell, 5-11, 228, Jr-2L
 49 John Turntine, 6-2, 235, Fr-RS
 SS 33 Russell Gary, 5-10, 198, Jr-2L
 29 Cody Slinkard, 5-11, 209, Jr-2L
 WS 2 Reggie Hunt, 6-0, 210, Sr-3L
 17 Charlie Owens, 6-0, 180, So-1L
 FS 18 Curtis Fuller, 5-10, 191, Jr-1L
 11 LaVar Veale, 5-10, 189, Jr-2L
 CB 39 Jason Goss, 5-10, 183, Fr-RS
 27 Kendrick Patterson, 5-11, 177, Jr-2L
 CB 20 Greg Walls, 6-1, 184, Jr-2L
 30 Bo Springfield, 5-10, 182, Fr-RS

SPECIALISTS

PK 80 Chris Kaylakie, 6-0, 192, Jr-1L
 P 12 Royce Huffman, 6-0, 200, Sr-3L
 DS 58 Brian Edmondson, 5-11, 212, Jr-2L
 H 4 Jeff Dover, 6-2, 200, Sr-3L

COACHES

head coach Dennis Franchione, 2nd season
 off. coord. Dan Dodd, 2nd season
 def. coord. Gary Patterson, 2nd season

Arizona Depth Chart

OFFENSE

WR 13 Brad Brennan, 5-11, 178, Sr-3L
 25 Malosi Leonard, 6-2, 215, So-1L
 LT 77 Makoa Freitas, 6-4, 301, So-1L
 71 Marques McFadden, 6-4, 303, Jr-1L
 LG 66 Steven Grace, 6-3, 286, So-1L
 71 Kevin Barry, 6-4, 336, Jr-JC
 C 70 Bruce Wiggins, 6-3, 280, Jr-2L
 66 Steven Grace, 6-2, 286, So-1L
 RG 71 Marques McFadden, 6-4, 303, Jr-1L
 60 Aaron Higginbotham, 6-5, 286, Fr-RS
 RT 67 Manuia Savea, 6-2, 297, Sr-1L
 71 Marques McFadden, 6-4, 303, Jr-1L
 TE 90 Brandon Manumaleuna, 6-2, 288, Jr-2L
 89 James Hugo, 6-6, 250, Fr-RS
 QB 12 Keith Smith, 5-11, 198, Sr-3L
 or 16 Ortege Jenkins, 6-2, 216, Jr-2L
 WR 08 Dennis Northcutt, 5-11, 178, Sr-3L
 21 Bobby Wade, 5-11, 180, Fr-HS
 RB 30 Trung Candidate, 5-11, 203, Sr-3L
 20 Leo Mills, 5-11, 207, Fr-RS
 RB 34 Jim Wendler, 222, Sr-2L
 91 Eli Wnek, 6-3, 240, So-1L

DEFENSE

DE 55 Mike Robertson, 6-3, 235, Jr-1L
 87 Idris Haroon, 6-2, 265, Jr-2L
 DT 56 Keoni Fraser, 6-1, 282, So-1L
 93 Young Thompson, 6-2, 300, Fr-RS
 DT 97 J.J. Joppru, 6-6, 274, Sr-1L
 94 James Lewis, 6-5, 275, Sr-2L
 DE 99 Joe Tafoya, 6-4, 255, Jr-2L
 54 Alex Luna, 6-0, 222, So-1L
 OLB 31 DaShon Polk, 6-2, 231, Sr-3L
 46 Stafford Glover, 6-0, 236, Sr-2L
 ILB 40 Marcus Bell, 6-2, 237, Sr-3L
 52 Adrian Koch, 5-9, 216, Jr-2L
 ILB 06 Scooter Sprotte, 5-11, 220, Sr-3L
 45 Antonio Pierce, 6-1, 230, Jr-RS
 CB 05 Kelvin Hunter, 5-9, 170, Sr-3L
 28 Chidi Daniels, 5-9, 165, Fr-RS
 SS 24 Greg Payne Jr., 5-10, 190, Sr-1L
 35 Zaharius Johnson, 5-11, 188, So-JC
 FS 01 Rafell Jones, 5-10, 199, Sr-3L
 47 Jarvie Worcester, 6-1, 204, Fr-RS
 CB 22 Leland Gayles, 5-10, 178, Sr-2L
 04 Anthony Banks, 5-11, 160, So-JC

SPECIALISTS

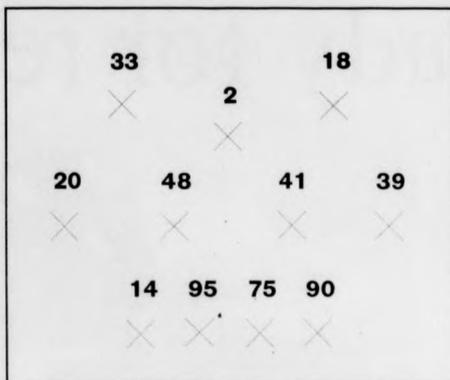
PK 39 Mark McDonald, 6-2, 208, Sr-3L
 P 04 Chris Polio, 6-3, 195, So-RS
 DS 64 Nate Campbell, 6-1, 208, Jr-1L
 H 04 Chris Polio, 6-3, 195, So-RS

COACHES

head caoch Dick Tomey, 13th season
 off. coord. Dino Babers, 2nd season
 def. coord. Rich Ellerson, 3rd season

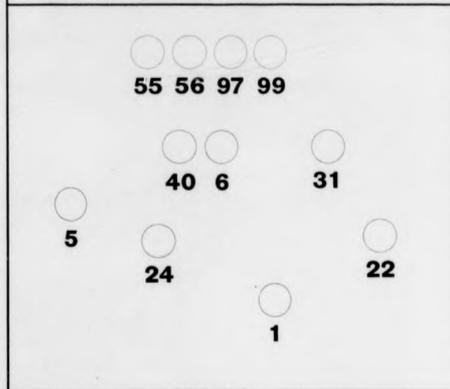
TCU Defense

- 14 Aaron Schobel
- 95 Shawn Worthen
- 75 J.W. Wilson
- 90 Doug Shanks
- 39 Jason Goss
- 41 Shannon Brazzell
- 48 Chad Bayer
- 20 Greg Walls
- 2 Reggie Hunt
- 33 Russell Gary
- 18 Curtis Fuller



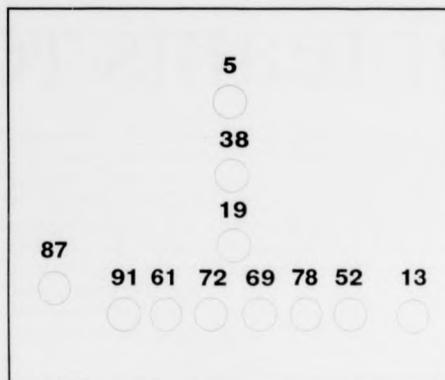
Arizona Defense

- 55 Mike Robertson
- 56 Keoni Fraser
- 97 J.J. Jopru
- 99 Joe Tafoya
- 40 Marcus Bell
- 6 Scooter Sprotte
- 31 DaShon Polk
- 5 Kelvin Hunter
- 22 Leland Gayles
- 24 Greg Payne Jr.
- 1 Rafell Jones



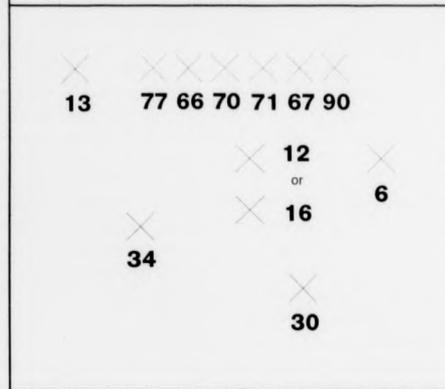
TCU Offense

- 13 Cedric James
- 52 Michael Keathley
- 78 Victor Payne
- 69 Jeff Garner
- 72 Jeff Millican
- 61 David Bobo
- 91 B.J. Roberts
- 87 Mike Scarborough
- 19 Patrick Batteaux
- 38 George Layne
- 5 LaDainian Tomlinson



Arizona Offense

- 13 Brad Brennan
- 77 Makoa Freitas
- 66 Steven Grace
- 70 Bruce Wiggins
- 71 Marques McFadden
- 67 Manuia Savea
- 90 Brandon Manumaleuna
- 6 Dennis Northcutt
- 12 Keith Smith or
- 16 Ortege Jenkins
- 34 Jim Wendler
- 30 Trung Canidate



Edge Box

TCU
by Joel Anderson

Passing Offense: Penn State was successful on a lot of screen passes to its running backs against the Wildcats. Look for coach Dennis Franchione to take advantage of tailback LaDainian Tomlinson's open-field talents with similar play calling. But don't look for Patrick Batteaux to test Arizona's talented secondary downfield too much. His greatest asset is still his scrambling ability.
Edge: Arizona.

Passing Defense: Arizona attempted 35 passes because it was behind for all but three minutes of last week's game. With rotating quarterbacks Keith Smith and Ortege Jenkins, the capability for an explosive air game is there. TCU boasts a strong defensive backfield, anchored by standout safety Reggie Hunt. They won't lose many battles this season, but Arizona has enough firepower to test the Frogs.
Edge: Even.

Rushing Offense: Tomlinson and Batteaux will make things tough on the poor-tackling Wildcats. Penn State shredded Arizona for 262 yards on the ground, at six yards a clip. Preseason All-America Wildcat line-backer Marcus Bell looked particularly out-of-place. TCU's backfield talent and powerful offensive line could make things tough on Arizona.
Edge: TCU.

Rushing Defense: TCU grounded several strong running teams last year, but Arizona is unlike any team the Frogs have faced recently. Arizona tailback Trung Canidate averaged 7.3 yards per carry in 1998, but was held to 37 yards by Penn State's stifling defense. Canidate will be looking for redemption, and *voila*, here comes the Frogs.
Edge: Arizona.

Special Teams: Arizona missed two key field goals last week; TCU kicker Chris Kaylakie is one of the nation's best. If the game happens to be close, the strength of the Frogs' kicking game will make all the difference.
Edge: TCU.

Intangibles: Both teams came into this season with high expectations, but Arizona's dreams of a national championship have already been crushed. The Wildcats need to prove they weren't just the result of a hype machine, and TCU needs to prove they aren't hype either. If TCU is within striking distance in the fourth quarter, look for the upset. Otherwise, Arizona has the most to prove and could win this one going away.
Edge: TCU.

Prediction:
Arizona by 17

Arizona
by Todd J. Shriver

Passing Defense: The Wildcats took a major hit when cornerback Chris McAlister graduated, but all of the most prominent figures in the secondary are seniors so they've got experience on their side. TCU's passing game is unproven and could have a tough go of things against this group.
Edge: Arizona.

Passing Offense: Arizona throws teams for a loop by rotating quarterbacks Ortege Jenkins and Keith Smith, but this is a strong TCU secondary they'll be facing. Dennis Northcutt is one of the nation's best wide receivers, and the 'Cats feature a mammoth offensive line to protect both quarterbacks.
Edge: Even.

Rushing Defense: Marcus Bell is one of the PAC-10's best linebackers and this Arizona defense was once again being hailed as another in a long line of the "Desert Swarm" defense until Penn State got after them. The 'Cats will have to tackle better if they hope to stifle TCU's physical running game.
Edge: TCU.

Rushing Offense: Anytime you've got a guy named Trung "Heisman" Canidate on your team, you know big things are going to happen. Canidate is the real deal although he didn't show it against Penn State. Look for the Horned Frogs to incur the wrath of angry Canidate and a bigger, more angry Arizona line. And look out for fullback Kelvin Eafon.
Edge: Arizona.

Special Teams: This is an area of concern for Arizona. McCalister will be sorely missed returning kicks, but Northcutt was one of the conference's best punt returners in 1998. The kicking game is really shaky, with a new punter this year and a place-kicker who made less than half of his field goals last year.
Edge: TCU.

Intangibles: Arizona has got to be demoralized after finding Happy Valley not so happy. The 'Cats were expected to contend for the national title in '99, but now they must focus on the task at hand. Normal logic would say Arizona is going to take out its frustrations on TCU, but it is college football and anything is possible. Look for Arizona to roll if they score first.
Edge: TCU.

Prediction:
Arizona by 23

Special teams ready for returns

Players confident despite ranking 73rd in nation

By Joel Anderson
STAFF REPORTER

In 1992, there wasn't a George Bush running for the Oval Office. One was already there.

TCU was then a member of the Southwest Conference, while the Western Athletic Conference was league with teams only in the western region of the United States. Virtually no one in Fort Worth, or the rest of Texas, cared about a league with teams in the Pacific and Mountain time zones.

That was also the last time, 77 games ago, that the Horned Frogs had a player return a kickoff for a touchdown.

On that fateful Sept. 26, Derrick Cullors returned the ball 97 yards against cross-town rival Southern Methodist in the Frogs' 21-9 loss.

Current kickoff returner Mike Scarborough was then a sophomore in high school at

Fort Bend (Texas) Elkins, located in the Houston suburb of Sugarland.

"Man, that's a long time ago," said an astonished Scarborough. "It's about time. I mean, a new millennium is coming."

Senior safety Reggie Hunt, who was then a freshman at Denison (Texas) High School, agreed with his teammate.

"For real," Hunt said quizzically. "Well, the next one's going to be in 1999. We work on returns and special teams everyday, so I don't think there's a reason why we shouldn't return one for a touchdown this year."

Special teams coach Mark Tommerdahl said he believes this group of returners have the ability to do just that.

"They're great athletes, and they're pretty diverse," Tommerdahl said. "Scarborough's kind of a tough old kid, Reggie's real fluid and Cedric (James) is just real good speed."

Hunt has been returning kickoffs since his freshman year, and averaged 17.5 yards per return last season.

Scarborough and James will assist on kickoff return

duties, but neither returned a kickoff last season.

Last year, junior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson handled 17 of TCU's 27 returns, for an average of 22.5 yards each attempt. His longest was 47 yards against Air Force.

But Tomlinson has been moved off the kickoff return unit this season, in response to an increased workload at tailback after the Frogs' 1998 leading rusher Basil Mitchell exhausted his eligibility.

While no Horned Frog returners ranked among the top five returners in the conference, and as a unit ranked 73rd in the country (19.7 yards each return), Scarborough is still confident in their ability to put six points on the board.

"We want to have the best returners out there possible," Scarborough said. "I always think I can (return a kickoff for a touchdown). It seems like I have a special spark. Some people are in the right place at the right time, and sometimes it seems like when I'm on kickoff returns, I'm in the right place at the right time."



SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Senior kicker Chris Kaylakie connects on one of his 15 field goals last season.

Kicking, returning key to Frog victory

Coaches realize games' most important 'third'

By Joel Anderson
STAFF REPORTER

It took only one week of college football to give credence to the old coaches' adage that special teams is one very important third of the game.

The University of Texas' 23-20 loss to North Carolina State Saturday featured three blocked punts by the Wolfpack, contributing to 16 N.C. State points.

Certainly TCU special teams coach Mark Tommerdahl quaked in his cross-trainers at the thought of the same thing happening during TCU's Sunday season opener against an Arizona squad that blocked eight punts in 1998.

Just a little bit nervous, eh?

"We are not changing anything because of what we saw in the Texas game," Tommerdahl said. "But we are truly facing one of the best block teams in the nation.

We've been preparing hard throughout the course of summer (training) camp for that.

"You always hold your breath, though. We are seeing some people on the other side of the ball that base their reputation on blocking kicks. We told our kids to prepare for some of the best in the country, and that's legit."

To give you an idea of how hard it is to block punts, TCU last blocked a punt on October 31, 1992. That's 72 long games ago.

But TCU's last experience with getting the ball rejected by guys in the other jersey happened just last year against SMU. Just six games ago.

Special teams coaches around the country also cringed at the efforts of Arizona kicker Mark McDonald, who missed two key field goals in the Wildcats' 41-7 drubbing at the hands of No. 2-ranked Penn State on Saturday. McDonald's first miss came with Arizona down just 7-0 in the first quarter.

For TCU kicker Chris Kaylakie there are not that many misses to speak of.

Kaylakie was voted onto the All-WAC team last season, more than adequately replacing former All-American Michael

Reeder. Kaylakie connected on 75 percent of his field goal attempts, and missed only one extra-point attempt all season.

Kaylakie's career long 50-yard field goal in the fourth quarter against Vanderbilt, sent the game into overtime. TCU later won the game 19-16 in double overtime.

"He's worked very hard this summer," Tommerdahl said. "We're cautiously optimistic that he'll have another good fall."

Kaylakie said although he feels a little bit of pressure to repeat last year's impressive performance, he believes a follow-up performance is definitely possible.

"There's always pressure, but I'm doing the same thing over and over," Kaylakie said. "We've got the same unit, and I'm confident in (holder) Jeff Dover."

Senior punter Royce Huffman bolsters that special teams unit. Huffman reported to summer practices almost two weeks late because he was spending his days in the Houston Astros' minor league baseball system. But Tommerdahl said Royce, who averaged 46 yards a punt over the final five games of last season, is rounding into old form.

"He's had a good 10 days of camp," Tommerdahl said. "He brings an awful lot

of game savvy, and that obviously helps his cause."

Junior Cedric James, and seniors Reggie Hunt and Mike Scarborough will handle kickoff returning duties. Huffman and junior LaVar Veale will be responsible for punt returns.

"We've got a good combination of returners right there," Tommerdahl said.

Kaylakie said he expects special teams to be the determining factor in the Horned Frogs matchup against the Wildcats.

"There is no extra pressure, but special teams is going to play the biggest role in the game," Kaylakie said. "This game (Arizona) is going to be a four quarter game, and what happens on special teams is going to dictate whoever wins the game."

If that is the case, then TCU should be favored in most, if not all of its games this season. *The Sporting News* college football preview ranked TCU's special teams unit as the best in the conference.

Besides, Kaylakie doesn't worry about special teams nightmares too much. In fact, he's got the script all planned out in case the Frogs need his late-game heroics.

"It's just like practice," Kaylakie said. "I'll drill it everytime."

Frogs have chance to dominate smaller WAC

By Joel Anderson
STAFF REPORTER

The new, but not improved Western Athletic Conference has seen some tough days. The defection of eight schools, including most of its charter members and most recognizable programs, have left the league with an unwieldy geographic setup. Teams from Texas to Hawaii are coming together for this final season of the '90s in an effort to earn some respectability.

Not only has the makeup of the league changed, but the offensive philosophies have changed. Whereas the WAC used to be known for high-powered passing offenses, the path to the league title is paved between the offensive tackles.

TCU, Fresno State, SMU and Rice — not coincidentally the conference's four strongest teams — are boasting ground-bound offensive units.

There's not much separation between the league's top teams, but someone has to come out on top.

It says here the champs will come from Fort Worth.

■ 1st place: TCU Horned Frogs

■ 2nd place: Fresno State Bulldogs

Bulldogs head coach Pat Hill has spent the previous two seasons grooming his pups to be the big dogs of the WAC.

With the "kennel" losing half of its canines, the Bulldogs will no longer play the role of mutts.

Two solid years of recruiting and steady on-field improvement have culminated into what should be Fresno State's finest team in several years.

Offense

Senior quarterback Billy Volek returns as the WAC's preseason offensive player of the year, and he hopes to build on last season's coming-out party. Volek's passing efficiency rating led the conference, and he tossed only three interceptions. But the youth of the offensive line should hinder Volek early in the season. Promising sophomore tailback Paris Gaines will take over for last season's WAC Pacific Division offensive player of the year Jaime Kimbrough.

Defense

The defensive line is full of talented athletes, but the loss of second team all-WAC lineman Jerry Lemon could hurt. The linebackers are guided by 5-foot-7, 200-pound playmaker Tim Skipper. Skipper led the team with 108 tackles last season, but his diminutive frame will require Justin Johnson and Tyrell Grayson to help pick up the slack. They should be up to the challenge. Cornerback Payton Williams is one of the conference's best.

Schedule

Mark October 2 down on your cal-

endar. The battle of the 'Dogs and the Frogs could determine the conference winner. Fresno State is aiming to avenge their 21-10 loss to TCU last season. But they must get through road contests against Oregon State, UCLA and Nevada in consecutive weeks before they host the Frogs.

■ 3rd place: SMU Mustangs



Mustangs

In the span of a decade, SMU has transformed from Southwest Conference pat-

ties into WAC contenders. SMU has only two winning seasons and 27 victories in 100 games in the '90s. They're looking for their third winning campaign in 1999.

Head coach Mike Cavan thinks this team can win the WAC championship and with an improved offense it could happen.

Offense

Sophomore quarterback Josh McCown takes over the job full-time, but his completion rate of 47 percent must improve if SMU is to find the offensive balance it is seeking. The loss of leading receiver Albert Johnson shouldn't make the transition any easier. A strong offensive line unit will pave the way for explosive senior tailback Rodnick Phillips, who was the first SMU tailback to rush for more than 1,000 yards since 1985.

Defense

SMU finished 1998 as the country's 14th-ranked defensive unit. The Mustang faithful are expecting big things of Jason Simonton, racked up 131 tackles in 1998, but the development of gifted sophomore linebackers Kevin Aldridge and Vic Vioria could lessen Simonton's load. The secondary lost two cornerbacks to the NFL, and only one of those spots appear to be solidified heading into the season.

Schedule

The Mustangs will find out just how much they have improved when they open the season with nationally-ranked Arkansas on Sept. 4. Last year the Razorbacks dealt SMU a 44-17 loss. SMU gets the luxury of WAC contenders Fresno State and Rice at the Cotton Bowl.

■ 4th place: Rice Owls



Owls

Rice has come extremely close to bowl games and league championships in the WAC's three years

of existence. Without the talent or facilities of most conference contenders, Rice manages to win with the coaching of Ken Hatfield and the tough-to-defend spread option offense.

But key losses on both sides of the ball will probably ground the Owls' postseason hopes this year.

Offense

These birds don't particularly like the air. The Owls treat the forward

pass like an allergy. Last season Rice attempted only 103 passes for 61 yards per game. Senior quarterback Chad Richardson completed only 37 percent of his passes, but is the catalyst for Rice's powerful rushing attack. The Owls rushed for 2,829 yards in 1998, while losing only 14 fumbles. But the loss of running back Michael Perry, who led the team in all-purpose yards for four consecutive years, will be a huge blow. Sophomore fullback Jamie Tyler and junior halfback Anthony Griffin hope to fill the void.

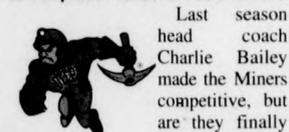
Defense

Only three starters return from a defense that wasn't all that good anyway. The Owls gave up 382 yards per game last year, and don't generate enough offense (318 yards per game) to offset that massive chunk of yardage. Only one full-time starter returns in the front seven, but the secondary has plenty of veterans. Safety Travis Ortega is one of the WAC's best at his position.

Schedule

Rice suffered an embarrassing 20-17 loss to San Jose State in 1998. They must face the Spartans one week after coming back from the long trip to Hawaii. After that they must face WAC contenders TCU, SMU and Fresno State in consecutive weeks. Don't forget about their early season visit to Ann Arbor, Mich., to face preseason top-10 Michigan. Ouch.

■ 5th place: Texas-El Paso Miners



Miners

Last season head coach Charlie Bailey made the Miners competitive, but are they finally competitors? They'll get the chance to find out in 1999 with six of the toughest road games in the country. UTEP had the opportunity to win all but two games last year and is looking forward to their first winning season since 1988.

Offense

Most competitive teams have stability at the game's most important position—quarterback. The Miners don't. Junior Rocky Perez is penciled in as the starter, but offensive coordinator Gary Nord is installing an offense more suited to athletic senior transfer Jay Stuckey's talents. The running game is set with 5-foot-11, 238 pound tailback Paul Smith. Some are touting him as an All-America candidate.

Defense

The Miners have the best pair of defensive ends in the conference. Brian Young and Leif Larsen are a formidable duo, and they are backed up by powerful, run-stuffing linebackers. The secondary will depend upon the experience of safeties A.J. Sheppard and Eric Gibson, while the two new cornerbacks get their feet wet.

Schedule

If coach Bailey wants a winner, he'd better ease up on the scheduling. Road games with Oregon, Kansas State, Fresno State, Rice and TCU make for an imposing lineup. The Miners also travel to Hawaii on Oct. 2 and follow with a home game against SMU.



Tulsa

■ 6th place: Tulsa Golden Hurricane

Golden Hurricane

Hurricane

A game a

season does not

make, but

the

Tulsa's 35-0 upset thrashing of Wyoming in the 1998 season finale has given the Golden Hurricane faithful hope for the new season.

After finishing 4-7 last year, Tulsa is another WAC program looking for a long overdue winning season. It's been since 1991 for the Golden Hurricane.

Offense

Tulsa must replace one of its most productive quarterbacks ever, its leading receiver in 1998 and two game-breaking tailbacks. Michael Wall takes over at quarterback, and he's been a part-time starter in the last two seasons. He's tall and athletic — never a bad combination. Tulsa lost both of its starting tackles, but the interior of the line looks to be good. Wide receiver Damon Savage gives Tulsa an all-conference caliber weapon, and tailback John Mosley rushed for 201 against Wyoming, en route to averaging 6.4 yards per carry as a junior.

Defense

Head coach Dave Rader is touting his defensive backfield as one of his best in his 12 years at Tulsa. Three of four starters return for this unit, anchored by cornerback Todd Franz. Tulsa finished 1998 as the nation's 92nd ranked rushing defense. Too bad they only return one starter along the defensive line.

Schedule

Road games against Oklahoma State, who Tulsa upset 35-20 last year, and Texas A&M could cause big problems for the Golden Hurricane's weak run defense. But they get the benefit of hosting Rice, Fresno State and SMU.



Spartans

■ 7th place: San Jose State Spartans

Spartans

Spartans

The Spartan faithful are looking forward to their first winning season since 1992. Don't bet on it. An extremely difficult schedule, combined with inexperience and a lack of talent on the offensive and defensive fronts, could make for another long season.

Offense

Senior quarterback Chris Kasteler finished second in conference quarterback efficiency rankings. The three wide receiver sets should give

Kasteler plenty of targets and unclog things for 5-foot-6, 180-pound tailback Deonce Whitaker. Only one offensive lineman received any significant playing time last season, meaning hard times are in store for Kasteler and Whitaker.

Defense

As weak as the secondary is, the defensive line is worse. No starters return in the secondary, and the rushing defense ranked 111th out of 112 teams last year. There is depth at linebacker, but they won't get much help if the defensive line can't keep offensive linemen off of them. With the Spartans pick your pleasure: 10 yards and a cloud of vapor or bombs away!

Schedule

Brutal. Whoever crafted this schedule for the Spartans should be indicted for attempted murder. Road games with Louisiana State, Colorado, Stanford, TCU, Rice and Fresno State guarantee San Jose State of another losing campaign.



Rainbows

■ 8th place: Hawaii Rainbows

Head coach June Jones led the big leagues (the NFL) for the littlest of leagues. Not only is he coaching in a conference that might have the lifespan of a fruit fly, but he's inheriting a team in the middle of an NCAA-leading 18-game losing streak. A new offensive philosophy could energize the Rainbows, but don't look for too many victories (if any) this season.

Offense

For Jones' newly installed run-and-shoot to work, completions are necessary. Senior quarterback Dan Robinson completed only 46 percent of his passes. He also tossed 12 interceptions, with only 11 touchdowns. There is not that much depth at receiver, or for that fact, running back. With the transfer of versatile tailback Charles Tharp, the Rainbows leading returning rusher notched only 162 yards last season. Although four full-time starters return on the line, Robinson may still need his running shoes. The line gave up 31 sacks last season, including a game in which he was hit 25 times.

Defense

Hawaii is home to one of the nation's worst pass defenses, finishing 107 out of 112 teams last year. Junior college transfers are being counted on to solidify the secondary. Linebackers Jeff Ulbrich and Matt Paul are the strongest parts of a weak defense. Ulbrich must recover from a knee injury, though.

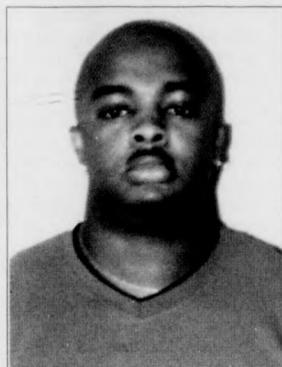
Schedule

The Rainbows don't get away from the island much because of its status as a prime road trip. Most teams even get to enjoy their vacations during games against the Rainbows. Of their 12 games, only three are on the road. Their best chance for victory is a Sept. 11 game against Eastern Illinois.

Panel Predictions

Skiff sports reporters share their views of upcoming Horned Frog football season

Joel Anderson



Offensive Impact Patrick Batteaux
Defensive Impact Reggie Hunt
Special Teams Impact Chris Kaylakie
Newcomer Casey Printers
Most Underrated Curtis Fuller
Biggest Shoes to Fill Joseph Phipps
Important Game Rice
WAC Champion TCU
National Champion Florida State
Heisman Trophy Peter Warrick

Gibbs Colgin



Offensive Impact LaDainian Tomlinson
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Special Teams Impact Joey Biasatti
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Heisman Trophy Lavar Arrington

Chris Harrison



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Todd J. Shriber



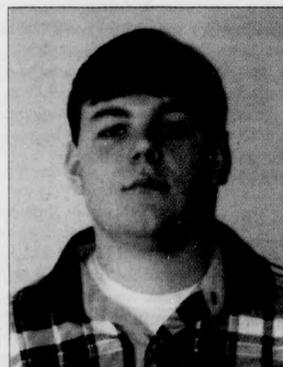
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National Champion Florida
Heisman Trophy Peter Warrick

Rusty Simmons



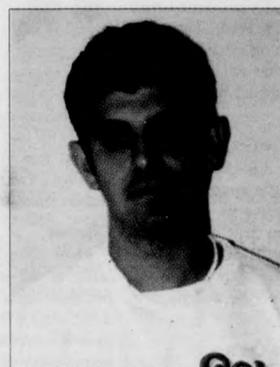
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Heisman Trophy Ron Dayne

Matt Stiver



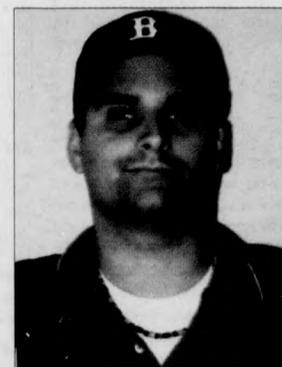
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Most Underrated Offensive Line
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Important Game Southern Methodist
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National Champion Florida State
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Omar Villafranca



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Matt Welnack



Offensive Impact LaDainian Tomlinson
Defensive Impact Shannon Brazzell
Special Teams Impact Chris Kaylakie
Newcomer Bruce Galbert
Most Underrated Terrance Maiden
Biggest Shoes to Fill Joseph Phipps
Important Game Southern Methodist
WAC Champion Fresno State
National Champion Florida
Heisman Trophy Jamal Lewis

friday, september 3, 1999

weekend

issue 1
volume 2

Inside

Thinking of shopping online, imagine a world when nobody had ever heard of eBay or Amazon.com. Yes, my little neophytes, there was once such a time.

Page 2

Someone once said there are no more original stories left to be told, and that even Shakespeare borrowed for his masterpieces. While that may be true, Raymond E. Feist has woven together a treasure of his own.

Page 3

Music is a language, one that speaks to people while also being the voice to express themselves.

Page 4



The new album, "Bliss," by Dallas-based band Buck Jones is simply that: bliss.

Page 6



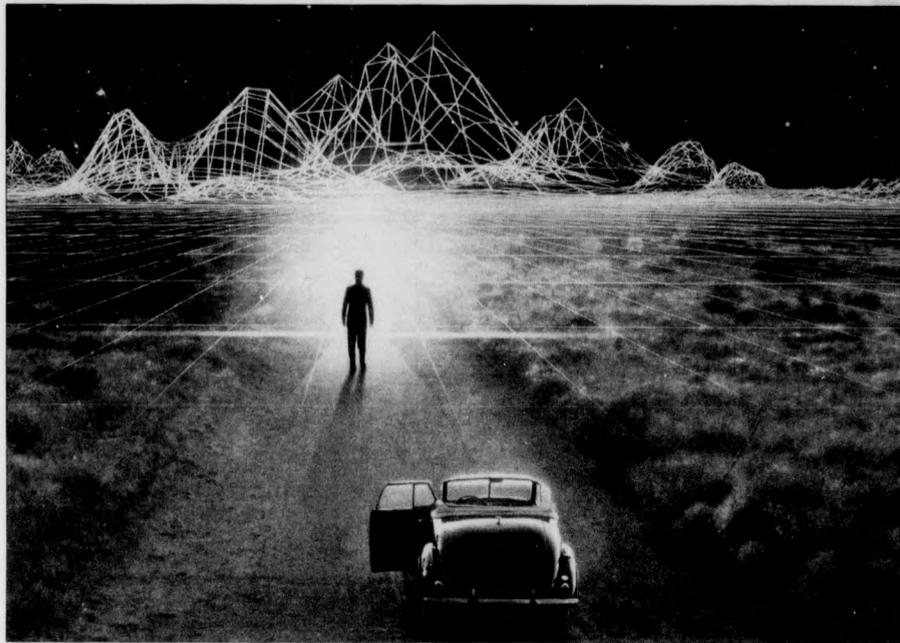
Impress your date, your roommates or your friends with a homecooked chicken (or vegetarian) enchilada meal. Whether you're going out to the movies or curling up in front of the television, we have you covered. Our new dinner and a movie page provides you with a game plan for Friday night.

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TCU DAILY
Skiff



David Dunai/PHOTO EDITOR



Columbia Pictures/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Movies such as "The Thirteenth Floor," above, a sci-fi thriller that plays upon the idea of a computer-simulated world where people only think they are real, demonstrate the possibilities computer technology creates.

Weaving a bigger Web

Advances in technology advance communication

By Guy Bickers
SKIFF STAFF

Another summer has come and gone and school's back with a vengeance. And so am I, your cheerful guide to all electronic things. (Well, almost everything. Get your minds out of the gutter!)

I thought it might be nice to start off the new year with a look back at how things have evolved in the information world in all my years at TCU. Quite a bit has changed, so much so that some of our newest readers may go from nostalgia to confusion. But never fear — I'm here to help.

When I started at TCU, being on the cutting edge meant you had a brand-new, state of the art Pentium 90 or 133 with a 28.8 modem, 32 megabyte of RAM and possibly even a monstrously fast network card.

Try doing anything with that now and you'll probably end up crying about the Web instead of shopping on it.

Thinking of shopping online, imagine a world when nobody had ever heard of eBay or Amazon.com. Yes, my little neophytes, there was once such a time. You used to have to actually call J. Crew to order some new chinos. Starbucks Coffee didn't have a Web site; neither did Toys 'R Us. The Web was seen as a massive void of scientific correspondence, hackers and pornography.

Now using the Web (actually a small part of the larger Internet, but I digress) is as easy as plugging a new card into your computer,

plugging it into a phone or data jack and giving someone your credit card number. In return for that tiny effort, you are rewarded with research information, virtual malls that don't have a "no shoes, no shirt, no service" policy, and ... pornography. (Some things will never change.)

Anyone remember the good old days of BBS? Those who do, smile widely and consider yourself a true geek. (I certainly am one myself.) For those who don't recall this term, it stands for Bulletin Board

“Thinking of shopping online, imagine a world when nobody had ever heard of eBay or Amazon.com. Yes, my little neophytes, there was once such a time.”

Service. These services were basically Web pages you dialed into directly over the phone, computer to computer, sending data as fast as your 14.4 modem could go. If you wanted to go to a different page you had to hang up and dial a new number. And forget about visiting a site in Thailand; only Bill Gates could afford that.

As I sit here and write this, I am also staring at the computer next to me searching for information from SETI, or the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. Every

day these computers download a bit of information, scan it and send it back to NASA automatically. This program would have been impossible when I enrolled in college.

Even those who don't use the Web much must admit that revolutionary changes have occurred in the way the world works in the last few years. Company offices in Japan, England and South Africa can tap into the same database in Jakarta with a click or two of a mouse. TCU students can enroll, drop out or rearrange their schedules without leaving their room while talking to Mom and Dad in Oahu. Cellular phones and Palm Pilots link up to wireless satellite networks to get financial data in real-time. And boyfriends can talk to their girlfriends over the Web and avoid long-distance bills. All this in just the last four years, most in just the last two.

Amazingly, this continual advancement has served to bring people together. For all the fear of cyber-stalkers and evildoers online, most of you reading this probably have a friend you met on AOL or ICQ and have never seen what they look like, let alone met them in person. Ideas flow, revolts begin and losses are mourned in an purely electronic world. One that mirrors more and more our own everyday. For better or worse, the Web has changed our lives forever. There's something for everyone out there, so find your place in the Web and have a ball.

See ya there.

TCU movie channel

Friday, Sept. 3

2 p.m. Celebrity
5 p.m. Go
8 p.m. Rosewood
11 p.m. Analyze This

Tuesday, Sept. 7

2 p.m. Ed TV
5 p.m. Braveheart
8 p.m. Analyze This
11 p.m. Cruel Intentions

Saturday, Sept. 4

2 p.m. Ed TV
5 p.m. Mulan
8 p.m. Cruel Intentions
11 p.m. Basketball

Wednesday, Sept. 8

2 p.m. St. Elmo's Fire
5 p.m. Six Days, Seven Nights
8 p.m. Go
11 p.m. Higher Learning

Sunday, Sept. 5

2 p.m. Celebrity
5 p.m. Hoosiers
8 p.m. Metro
11 p.m. Rosewood

Thursday, Sept. 9

2 p.m. Hoosiers
5 p.m. Rosewood
8 p.m. Braveheart
11 p.m. Go

Monday, Sept. 6

2 p.m. Higher Learning
5 p.m. Analyze This
8 p.m. Celebrity
11 p.m. Basketball

Friday, Sept. 10

2 p.m. Basketball
5 p.m. Higher Learning
8 p.m. Celebrity
11 p.m. Hoosiers

— Compiled by David Reese

Movies appearing on the TCU Movie Channel for the first time will have a short review. During weeks when there is nothing new playing, there will be no reviews.

New this week:

Analyze This — A mobster (Robert DeNiro) seeks help from a psychiatrist (Billy Crystal) for his aggressive behavior. The two are a comedic pair; also starring Lisa Kudrow.

Basketball — Two goofy friends come up with an idea of combining the game of baseball and basketball. It is a mindless film with many laughs; also starring Jenny McCarthy.

Braveheart — The 1995 Best Picture, directed by and starring Mel Gibson, tells the epic of William Wallace and the crusade for the Scottish people.

Celebrity — A Woody Allen film about the lives of celebrities, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Kenneth Branagh.

Cruel Intentions — Based on Dangerous Liaisons, the story of two wealthy step-siblings (Sarah Michelle Gellar and Ryan Phillippe) making a bet that Phillippe can't seduce the headmaster's virginal daughter (Reese Witherspoon).

Ed TV — What would you do if there was a camera filming your life 24 hours a day? See how Ed (Matthew McConaughey) handles

his new-found fame.

Go — A crazy bunch of young adults split up to form four different storylines. Within one very strange night they experience murder, car chases and ecstasy. Starring Katie Holmes, Omar Epps and Jay Mohr.

Higher Learning — An urban college campus is taken over by racial violence and discrimination. A professor (Laurence Fishburne) tries to help correct those problems.

Hoosiers — Basketball is played in this small Indiana town. The players and the coach (Gene Hackman) will learn a lot of life lessons along the way.

Metro — A regular cop story with action and suspense starring Eddie Murphy. The trolley and the hills of San Francisco add to the high speed chases.

Mulan — A Disney animated film about a young girl who disguises herself as a boy so her aging father doesn't have to go to war.

Six Days, Seven Nights — A photographer (Anne Heche) and her fiancé (David Schwimmer) take a vacation until Heche's job calls and she must return to the mainland. The pilot of the plane (Harrison Ford) and Heche are in a plane crash and they must find their way back to their loved ones.

St. Elmo's Fire — A bunch of twenty something friends including Demi Moore, Rob Lowe and Emilio Estevez are trying to figure out the meaning of their lives.

TCU DAILY	Editor in Chief	Jeff Meddaugh
	Managing Editor	Joaquin Herrera
Skiff	Weekend Editor	Pam Woodhead
	Design Editor	Matt Jones
	Co-Photo Editor	David Dunai
	Production Manager	Jeanne Cain Pressler
	Production Coordinator	Gretchen Crabb

Reviewers Guy Bickers, Laura Cruzada, Janeen King, Courtney Kirkpatrick, Kristina Iodice, David Reese

On the cover: Jason Gaede, a sophomore finance major, practices playing his guitar in his dorm room.

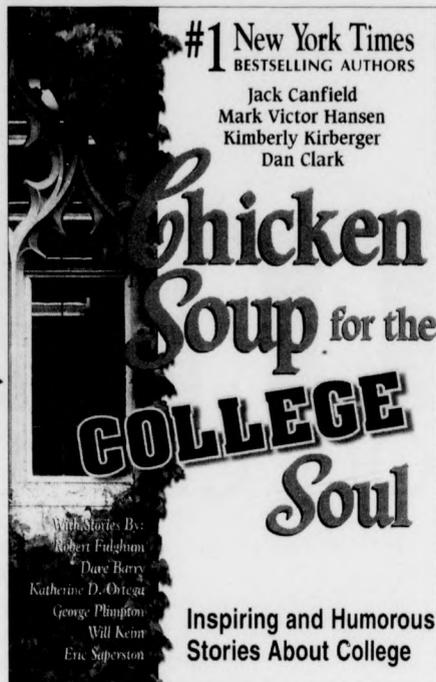
While reading through the stories in "Chicken Soup for the College Soul" a flash of inspiration induced me to keep a tally of which stories I did and did not like. Faithfully reproduced, here is that tally:

Liked:
59%

No reaction:
18%

Did not like:
23%

Compiled by
Pam Woodhead



'Chicken Soup' not a cure for all illnesses

By Pam Woodhead
WEEKEND EDITOR

After the first two or three stories in this collection, I had decided I hated the book. In retrospect, it was probably just because it was a beautiful Saturday, and I yearned to be doing something else. But by some miracle, I realized I was being unfair in my overall impression of the book, so I decided to keep a chart detailing which stories I liked, which stories inspired absolutely no emotion and which stories I did not like.

In all fairness, I must say that I did indeed enjoy more than half of the stories in the book. There were many stories, however, that either failed to keep my attention or that I simply could not tolerate. Since it would take the rest of the Weekend section to describe all the tales in the book, I have chosen only a few. So that we end on a positive note, I will begin with the stories that were dissatisfying, to say the least. Warning: If you enjoy this style of book, skip now to the end of the review. However, if like myself, you are not overly sentimental, read on!

Top on the list of stories I disliked has to be "The Long Road Home" by Lia Gay. Perhaps some could relate to this melodramatic tale of woe, but I found it egocentric and whiny. The author tries too hard to seem mature, when in fact she is merely revealing her convictions that the world revolves around her and life will never change. Grow up, honey.

Next on the list of my least favorites was "A Dad Says Good-bye" by Joseph Danziger. For one thing, his daughter is going to college, not dying. And the drivel about standing next to his wife's hospital

bed and holding his one-day-old baby is so generic that I actually flipped to the bibliography to make sure he actually did have a daughter.

On a slightly less negative note, there were many stories that were so obviously designed to make the reader cry and long for home, that they lost my attention before the second paragraph. Examples of this include just about every story in the "Acts of Kindness" section.

Thankfully, the majority of the stories were enjoyable. My favorites are Melanie Fester's "Deck the Halls" and "Shoes in the Shower" by Lia Gay and Rebecca Hart. "Deck the Halls" is a beautiful tale of how, with a little creativity, you can bring to college the things that were special to you at home. The author is a great fan of Christmas, and being away from home at this time made her sad until she took matters into her own hands; not only did she recapture the glow of her own homestyle Christmas, she brought cheer to many of her fellow dormmates. "Shoes in the Shower" is also a good tale of adjusting to college. Unlike many, this "getting used to it" tale is not dramatic or sappy; on the contrary, it is funny and very realistic.

These two stories are wonderful examples of what college life is really like. Freshmen, especially girls, will likely find themselves presently experiencing the emotions in this novel, and upperclassmen will recall their own early days at TCU.

I found "Chicken Soup for the College Soul" to be a variety-pack of personal tales. At different times, it made me laugh, cry and sigh with boredom ... an impressive span for a single book.

A 'Feist-y' fantasy epic

Series creates new world for sci-fi lovers

By Kristina Iodice
SKIFF STAFF

Someone once said there are no more original stories left to be told, and that even Shakespeare borrowed for his masterpieces. While that may be true, Raymond E. Feist has woven together a treasure of his own.

Author of many books, including the Empire series, "Magician: Apprentice" is the first installation in the popular and extensive Riftwar Saga. The novel is a melding of fantasy and science fiction worlds. Although it is a pretty hefty book (485 pages on top of all the "mandatory" reading assignments might seem like overkill), it makes for fast reading.

What makes this book so unique is the way Feist combines science fiction ideas with mythic fantasy. Concepts such as parallel worlds and foreign cultures with strange new materials seem like parts of a sci-fi thriller. Then comes the magic: a pet dragon, traditional broadsword fighting, dukes, a kingdom and of course, a beautiful princess with whom all the young men are heads over heels in love. And don't forget the dwarves and elf-folk, since they are important, too.

It is possible to break the story into a few separate parts, but the way Feist fits all the pieces into a

coherent and amazing tale makes him an epic storyteller. In one way, the novel deals with the coming of age of an orphan named Pug, who falls in love with Duke Borric's daughter. He is called to be the apprentice of Kulgan, the master magician in the Duchy of Crydee. After saving the princess from marauding trolls, he wins a title and the heart of the princess.

It sounds like a typical rags to riches story, but Feist doesn't

of Midkemia, have opened a door in the fabric of space-time. These beings are alien in every way.

The novel focuses on Pug, and the extraordinary events that mark the beginning of Feist's Riftwar Saga. Feist draws the reader into the story. The reading is a trifle slow at the beginning, as Feist is laying the groundwork for character development. But after the preliminary chapters, the novel moves incredibly fast. The book ends and the reader is literally left dangling, wondering about all the characters they have met on the journey toward the capital of the kingdom. Fortunately, there is a sequel - in fact, there are several.

The characters alone are reason enough to read "Magician: Apprentice." Each of the main characters seems to have a whole story all of his or her own; Pug is unsure of his beginnings and even more uncertain about his destiny, the entire royal Con Doin family is in peril because of the strange invaders as well as civil strife. Even Martin Longbow, simply the chief tracker for the duchy, is mysterious with his own tale to share.

All told, "Magician: Apprentice" is an epic tale. It is science fiction. It is fantasy. It is a first taste of Feist's astounding talent with words. This is one series that is meant to be read cover to cover starting with book one. It is worth the time and money to read, even if you have four essays, three labs, two plays, and a partridge in a pear tree to worry about.

“ This is one series that is meant to be read cover to cover starting with book one. It is worth the time and money to read, even if you have four essays, three labs, two plays, and a partridge in a pear tree to worry about. ”

write anything typical, according to his following of fans. Pug is unusual in that he is the keeper of a very powerful and very strange magic, a magic that no one in the kingdom has ever seen. It is Pug's odd brand of magic that will be the key to the fate of two parallel worlds. Dark beings, soon to be called Tsurani by the inhabitants

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music

on campus

By Justin
STAFF REPORT



"Music is the universal language of mankind."

This colorfully embroidered message hangs on the office wall of Dr. Kenneth Raessler, director of the school of music. However, the truth of this statement is not confined to his office; it can be felt throughout the TCU community.

Music is a language, one that speaks to people while also being the voice to express themselves. Many students use music to bring peace, joy or meaning to their lives and are finding different ways to do it.

TCU has attracted many students who hope to utilize their musical skills in the school's music program and more are coming, Raessler said.

"In the last 10 years we've almost doubled in enrollment," Raessler said. "We're now up to about 225 students in the music program."

Kim Stanton, a sophomore music education major, said she came to TCU because of its music reputation, but the program has provided even more than she expected.

"I heard it was a good program," she said. "The music department is like a family. We stick together and help each other out. It provides a lot of opportunities, like meeting people and taking trips."

Getting involved in the music pro-

gram is one way many students fuel their love for music and need to express it.

The program has 17 different ensembles, one of which all music majors and minors must participate in each semester. However, whether it be marching band, the chapel choir or the wind symphony, these ensembles are not limited to people in the music department.

"(The ensembles) are open to any student in the university," Raessler said. "Not everyone has to be a music major."

While there is an audition process for these ensembles, Raessler said most students with a slight music background would be able to participate in some capacity. A large number of students in these ensembles are actually non-music majors or not on a music scholarship, Raessler said.

"Those students play because they love to," Raessler said. "They'd have to enjoy it to accomplish all that they have."

Last spring the TCU Community Band afforded students the opportunity to dust off their old instruments and get involved musically.

Fred Velez, the interim director of bands, said the band was formed in order to give students, faculty and Fort Worth residents the chance to play an instrument purely for their enjoyment.

commonly misheard song lyrics

Song: You May Be Right
Artist: Billy Joel

The real lyrics: You may be right, I may be crazy/But it just be a lunatic you're lookin for...

Misheard as: You made the rice, I made the gravy/But it just may be some tuna fish you're lookin for...

Song: Bad Medicine
Artist: Bon Jovi

The real lyrics: Your love is like Bad Medicine
Misheard as: Your love is like bad venison

Song: Purple Haze
Artist: Jimi Hendrix

The real lyrics: 'Scuse me, while I kiss the sky
Misheard as: 'Scuse me, while I kiss this guy.

Song: Friends in Low Places
Artist: Garth Brooks

The real lyrics: I'm not big on social graces/Think I'll slip on down to the oasis

Misheard as: I'm not big on harsh abrasives/Think I'll slip on down to the horse races

Song: Tubthumping
Artist: Chumbawamba

The real lyrics: I get knocked down, but I get up again/You're never gonna keep me down.

Misheard as: I get a dog, but he shut-up again/He's never gonna keep his frown.

Song: Pour Some Sugar on Me

Artist: Def Leppard

The real lyrics: Pour some sugar on me
Misheard as: Four star super dog meat

Song: My Heart Goes On
Artist: Celine Dion

The real lyrics: And I believe that the heart does go on.

Misheard as: And I believe that the hot dogs go on.

Song: C

Artist: C
The real lyrics: the best don't ask question learned
Misheard as: best of t life/It's question

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By Justin Roche
STAFF REPORTER

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"We try to have fun," Velez said. "It's an opportunity for people to try new things and have a good time."

The band had 20 students out of 55 members, some of which already knew how to play an instrument but decided to become more proficient in another.

John Pasquale, a senior music education major, participated in the band and said the relaxed attitude and excitement made it more enjoyable for students.

"There isn't any stress, and it's a fun way to play," Pasquale said.

Toni Parker, administrative assistant to the band director, also played in the band and said she was happy to see so many students pursuing their love for music.

"A significant number of people in the band were not music majors," she said. "They just love music and don't want to stop playing."

Parker said she receives numerous phone calls every day from people in the community who miss playing music and want to get involved somehow. Parker said she is glad to see that students in the community band are not wasting their musical opportunities.

"I think it would be wonderful if people would take advantage of what they have here and now instead of being down the road somewhere and saying, 'Man, I wish I could have done that again,'" she said.

The TCU Community Band will start back up Sept. 17, and Velez said it's open to anyone who wants to pursue their love of music in a fun setting.

"We try to have fun, and it's not anything stressful. We try to place music that they enjoy, that challenges them and that they can enjoy pulling out their instruments and playing," he said.

Some students pursue their affection for music outside of the TCU music program, playing on their own, with friends or even forming bands.

John Price, a junior criminal justice major, joined with two of his TCU friends and another from Houston to form "John Price and the Wrong Way Band," whose sound Price describes as "rock 'n' roll with a country influence."

The three from TCU started the band in January and have been gaining recognition ever since, playing at local

clubs, TCU events, clubs in Austin and at other college campuses.

However, even though the band's growth has resulted in more responsibility and is both physically and mentally taxing, Price said his love for music is what gets him through.

"The playing aspect of music is the reward," he said. "It's about one-sixteenth of our work. It's stressful, but it's like living a dream."

"It is the most exciting thing in the world, realizing that people are listening to you sing on the radio or came to see you play," he said.

Price said the band worked very hard over the summer, playing four gigs a week, but

now school provides a reason to take it slow and really learn what's going on.

"Some guys just jump right in and start a band," he said. "It's nice to have a toddler period where we're learning to walk in this business."

While some TCU students like Price seek to use their musical talents in a professional setting, others use it as a release and for more personal reasons.

Brian Coughlin, a junior studio art major, said playing his guitar helps him combat stress and is one of his favorite ways to spend his leisure time.

"Music is a release for me," he said. "Some people play video games, some play sports. It's a big release and any opportunity to do that more is something I'd like to take advantage of."

"If there's a break in my schedule, (playing my guitar) is usually one of the first things I do," he said.

With the aid of his guitar and voice, Coughlin helps lead worship songs at Campus Crusade for Christ meetings, something he said is very special to him.

"I think it's an honor to lead people in worship," he said. "I enjoy it very much and it also helps me to become a better player."

Many students are finding more ways to express themselves musically and explore the many aspects of their passion.

In a country that celebrates freedom of speech, these students have discovered they have many different venues in which to speak the language which they love: The universal language of music.

Musical interests

An informal poll of 100 students entering the Student Center revealed that TCU students have a wide variety of music interests. Students like to listen to everything from classical to alternative to R&B. More unusual preferences include African music and ska, although alternative was clearly king.

African	1
Alternative	21
Classical	5
Country	11
Dance	10
Everything	5
Latin	2
Oldies	1
R&B/Rap	16
Religious	3
Rock	13
Ska	10
Soft Rock	2

Song: Good Riddance

Artist: Greenday

The real lyrics: So make the best of this test and don't ask why/It's not a question but a lesson learned in time

Misheard as: So make the best of the desert known as life/It's not a lesson but a question asked in mime.

Song: Give Peace a Chance

Artist: John Lennon

The real lyrics: All we are saying, is give peace a chance

Misheard as: Oh, we are sailing, yes, give Jesus pants

Song: Crash

Artist: Dave Matthews Band

The real lyrics: Love like candy to my soul/Sweet you rock and sweet you roll

Misheard as: Love like candy to my soul/Sweet Chewbacca, sweet Han Solo

Song: Can't Touch This

Artist: MC Hammer

The real lyrics: Can't touch this.

Misheard as: Kentucky.

Song: Little Pink Houses

Artist: John Cougar Mellencamp

The real lyrics: And he looks at her and says Darlin', I remember when you could stop a clock

Misheard as: And he looks at her and says Darlin', I remember when you cooked sauerkraut

Song: Wrapped Around Your Finger

Artist: Police

The real lyrics: I'll be wrapped around your finger

Misheard as: I'll eat rats around your femur

Song: Red, Red Wine

Artist: UB40

The real lyrics: Red red wine, stay close to me

Misheard as: Red red wine, steak lobster meat

Blissful mix of music lends rock new flavor

By David Reese
SKIFF STAFF

The new album, "Bliss," by Dallas-based band, Buck Jones, is simply that: bliss.

The alternative pop sound of this band took this reviewer by surprise. I am an R&B listener, and I actually liked this blend of rock, pop and even some techno. The vocals by married couple, Gabrielle and Burette Douglas, and the addition of Cody Lee on drums and Tommy Meador on guitar provide a listener's delight.

Buck Jones, who I'm sure most of the world hasn't even heard of, is actually not a new kid on this Metroplex block. Their first album, "Shoegazer," was self-released in 1995 to major critical acclaim. Gabrielle Douglas, lead vocals and bass, is a reminder of great women rockers like Shirley Manson of Garbage and Liz Phair. Douglas' voice holds a sensual beauty with a dash of melancholy. This year, Douglas was voted the Best Female Vocalist by both the FW Weekly and the Dallas Observer.

The married duo wrote most of the album but drummer Cody Lee adds his views in songs like "Wash" and "Breathing In." In my opinion, the best song on the album is "Falling Down," written by Gabrielle Douglas. The song has

great lyrics; it speaks of a relationship in turmoil almost at the breaking point.

"Bliss" is a compilation that builds your spirits. When you're at the lowest of your lows, you can listen to Buck Jones and realize that the band has faced similar situations.

During August and September, Buck Jones has been the opening act for the Goo Goo Dolls and Sugar Ray package. This is a concert I wouldn't want to miss.

Buck Jones is just an all-around good rock-and-roll band. This dynamic group adds all types of sounds to its music to give it a new flavor that isn't heard by many rock bands today. The only gripe I have about this blissful album is that most of the songs sound similar. This is not uncommon when looking at other artists. When there is a particular sound an artist is trying to create on album it is usually repeated throughout the entire project. Artists such as Alanis Morissette and Sarah McLachlan are infamous for this.

The best thing about Buck Jones, in my opinion, is that they have a fresh sound with a seemingly fresh attitude. This has come as a joyful idea since many rock bands of the late '90s have lacked the skill of just wanting to play their instruments and sing their songs to an audience.



One Ton Records/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Dallas-based band Buck Jones, above, blends the sounds of rock, pop and techno to create a fresh new sound.

billboard #1 Songs

Billboard 200 — Backstreet Boys, "Millennium"; Classical — Andrea Bocelli, "Aria, The Opera Album"; Country — Shania Twain, "Come on Over"; Jazz — Diana Krall, "When I Look In Your Eyes"; R&B — Mary J. Blige, "Mary"

Freestylers don't rock hard, they just rip off

By Janeen King
SKIFF STAFF

They claim to "rock hard," but the Freestylers fall short of accomplishing this task. But before I get into the reasons why you should not buy this CD, let me give you some of my credentials.

I listen to everything from Zap Mama to Marilyn Manson, Sting to Wally Pleasant. I enjoy dance music, including the Chemical Brothers and The Crystal Method. I've fought my way out of the mosh pit at the Tripping Daisy concert and declined the one for Rancid at Lollapalooza. I have some favorite country songs, but I won't admit to that just yet.

My favorite local bands are the Toadies, the Old 97s and the Rev. Horton Heat. These bands are played each week during the modern rock hours on KTCU-FM (88.7), where I have been a DJ for more than two years. As you can tell, my music range is very diverse and extremely broad.

Now back to the Freestylers. Their album title is "We Rock Hard," but they hardly come close to doing so. They don't rock and they aren't original. The dance/rap/hip-hop sounds that emit from this CD are unorganized, rip-off versions of Lo Fidelity All-stars. The Freestylers bring such refreshing lyrics as, "Make money money, make money money" and "Ahh yeah ..." to this collaboration, making it a little more rudimentary. I waited for them to bust out with,

"Wave your hands in the air. Wave 'em like you just don't care," but I suppose they will save that for their second album.

The band must be so self-conscious that you will forget who you are listening to, they say in every other song, "Freestyle! Freestylers!" I wasn't surprised to see the band did not include a list of lyrics in their CD case. The limited amount of words used in their songs are repeated over and over ... and over again.

Their song, "Spaced Invader," is seven minutes too long and is over-sampled. Five minutes into the song the music stops and you think you've been spared, but it starts up again and the redundant music continues for a few more minutes. "Here We Go" and "Drop the Bomb" are the only two tracks that I actually listened to and enjoyed.

Definition of Sound joins the group to help them with the song "Here We Go." Without their efforts, I seriously doubt this song would have quite hit the mark of good dance music. "Drop the Bomb" is also a good dance track adding a little bit of randomness to this otherwise bland dance album. The other tracks aren't even worth mentioning.

If I weren't forced to listen to this CD, I would have tossed it after the first five minutes. The Freestylers aren't too free with the style they use. Their lyrics are ripped off from others and aren't developed into good songs with any meaning. It's a lot of noise



Mammoth Records/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Freestylers, above, have released a new album, "We Rock Hard." The album features dance, hip-hop and rap selections.

and sounds complete with overdone sampling. If you have a computer with Midi outputs and a synthesizer, you can produce the same type of music within a few minutes.

I do not recommend buying this CD if you like dance music; you will find yourself trying to sell it to one of those "buy-sell-trade" CD places. This group was meant to play in the background of a party where people are

all talking over the music. If that is what you plan on using this CD for, by all means, spend the \$16.99. But in case you want to get a cool dance album that your friends will dance to and that will "rock hard," this unfortunately isn't the one. You can listen to them for free during the modern rock hours on KTCU. So my advice: Don't waste your money ... or your time.

dinner and a movie . . .

going out: The Sixth Sense

By Laura Cruzada
SKIFF STAFF

From the previews shown of this movie, the first thought I had was that it was going to be unbelievably predictable and not scary at all. First of all, it stars Bruce Willis, "Mr. Action Hero," and I could have sworn I'd seen this little boy before.

I was so wrong. This movie is as unpredictable as an erratic child with attention deficit disorder and even scarier than "Scream." "The Sixth Sense" is one



Hollywood Pictures/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Bruce Willis, right, stars as Dr. Malcolm Crowe, a child psychologist hired to try to help young Cole Seare (Haley Joel Osment), left.

of the best movies I have ever seen (which includes "Braveheart" and "The Fugitive").

You learn from the previews that the sixth sense is a special power possessed by a young boy named Cole Seare. The mysterious gift (or burden, as the boy feels) allows him to see dead people. Bruce Willis plays Dr. Malcolm Crowe, the psychologist hired to figure out what is wrong with Cole.

At first, my skepticism did not permit me to actually be scared of the dead people Cole sees. But I found myself jumping out of my seat and clinging to whatever was closest to me. Every once in awhile you could hear the whole theater gasp or shudder, startled by scenes that make "I Know What You Did Last Summer" look like a comedy.

The whole time, I was just waiting for something scary to happen, then I realized that it wasn't just a regular horror movie. It was complicated and interesting. I watched it twice and tried to catch everything I thought I had missed.

The movie contains humor, suspense and heart-warming scenes that save it from being categorized in the horror movie genre. It is the type of movie that while you're watching it, you think about what you will be thinking about when you get home.

The scary scenes make the movie good, but what makes it a "you-should-watch-the-movie" movie is that you leave the movie scared in a good way. By that I mean the surprising and easing twist at the end makes the whole movie worth it. You'll be glad you got scared.

The actors' performances are convincing, and you will experience a sense of catharsis more than once. You would never have thought Bruce Willis could act as the city's leading child psychologist, but he does a great job showing his sympathetic and sensitive side. This movie is definitely a step up from "The Blair Witch Project," which was very disappointing. I found I believed in ghosts more after watching "The Sixth Sense" than I did after "The Blair Witch Project."

staying in: GO

By Courtney Kirkpatrick
SKIFF STAFF

Director Doug Liman's films seem to have a running theme: Young L.A. dwellers go out on the town, get into trouble, have a few laughs and someone takes a road trip to Las Vegas. As easy as it is to compare Liman's latest movie, "Go," (released Aug. 24 on video) to his cult-hit, "Swingers," his new movie holds its own as a separate, creative piece. Although the formula seems the same, it explores different aspects of L.A.'s crazy night-life. And there's no swing dancing.

"Go" opens with shaky club scene shots that later dominate much of the plot. The movie then cuts to the seemingly mundane life of Ronna (Sarah Polley), a grocery store clerk on the verge of eviction. Jumping at the chance to score a little rent money and move up the drug-dealing food chain, she bypasses her usual supplier Simon (Desmond Askew) — who is away in Vegas for the weekend — and scores 20 hits of X for Adam and Zack (Jay Mohr and Scott Wolf), who are on their way to A Mary Xmas rave.

The film follows the events of Ronna's night of double-crossing, clubbing and close calls, then it rewinds and shows the same events but through the eyes of Simon, out of town, but deep into his own problems, and Adam and Zack who are on the other end of the drug deal gone wrong and at the mercy of a strange cop and his quirky wife.

"Go" is as witty, intelligent and never slows as it follows the night-lives of young nobodies in a town of stars. Polley is dead-on as Ronna, so desperate for cash that she sells wanna-be club kids over-the-counter allergy

medication in the guise of X. And the talented ensemble cast includes Dawson's Creek's Katie Holmes as Ronna's loyal friend Claire, Timothy Olyphant ("Scream 2") as a suitably creepy but appealing drug dealer, and Taye Diggs ("How Stella Got Her Groove Back") and Breckin Meyer ("Clueless") as Simon's road-trip companions.

Although the film's choppy style is awkward at times, the end brings all the pieces of the story together and wraps it up tightly. "Go" is bright, funny and has a perfect soundtrack including Fat Boy Slim and No Doubt. It's definitely not "Swingers," but it isn't at all as disappointing as Liman's latest effort.



Columbia Pictures/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Two days and one crazy Christmas Eve forever change the lives of, from left to right, club kids Ronna (Sarah Polley), Adam (Scott Wolf), Zack (Jay Mohr) and Claire (Katie Holmes).

dinner:

Chicken Enchiladas

Ingredients:

- 1/2 lb. skinless, boneless chicken breast, cooked and shredded
- 1 medium onion, chopped (about 1/2 cup)
- 4 oz. Monterey Jack cheese, shredded (about 1 cup), divided
- 1, 10-oz. can enchilada sauce (hot or mild, to taste)
- 1/2 cup water
- 8, 6-inch corn tortillas

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, combine the chicken, onion and half of the shredded cheese. Set the mixture aside.

2. In a skillet, combine the enchilada sauce and water, and heat the sauce until boiling. Place a tortilla into the sauce. When the tortilla is limp, remove it onto a platter, letting the excess sauce drain back into the skillet. Spoon a generous 1/4 cup of chicken-cheese filling across the diameter of the tortilla. Roll up the tortilla, and set it seam side down in a baking pan or shallow casserole dish. Repeat this procedure with the remaining tortillas, one by one, arranging them in a pan in a single layer.

3. Pour the remaining sauce over the rolled tortillas, sprinkling the remaining cheese over them, cover the pan or casserole with foil, and bake the enchiladas in a preheated oven at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Remove the foil, and bake the enchiladas for another 5 minutes or until they are heated through and lightly browned.

(Recipe comes from: "Jane Brody's Good Food Book," Penguin Books: 1985, p. 419)

Tips:

For a vegetarian version, substitute an 8 oz. can of black beans and a small can (if you like) of green chilies for the chicken. Corn is also good mixed with the beans and chilies.

Adding half a cup of sour cream to the chicken (or bean) mix really makes it taste good.

Try using pepper jack cheese (jalapeño peppers in Monterey Jack cheese).

I usually have to cook it a little longer than what the recipe calls for. Try cooking just under 20 minutes with foil, and about 10 without foil. Be sure to check it though, in case your oven works better.

One final tip: One can of enchilada sauce is not enough. Buy two, even if you don't end up using all of the sauce. You can always add an extra tortilla or two just with cheese in them.

eight days in September

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Meyerson Symphony Center showcases pops legend Marvin Hamlisch and Dallas Symphony Orchestra for the 1999-2000 JCPenny Superpops season, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Bedford Blues Festival in Bedford, Texas, featuring Chaka Kahn, The Bluesbreakers and more, 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.</p> <p>"Bride of Frankenstein — The Musical" comes to Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Circle Theatre is running "Inside Bonnie Parker", 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Meyerson Symphony Center showcases pops legend Marvin Hamlisch and Dallas Symphony Orchestra for the 1999-2000 JCPenny Superpops season, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Bedford Blues Festival in Bedford, Texas, featuring Chaka Kahn, The Bluesbreakers and more, 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.</p> <p>"Bride of Frankenstein — The Musical" comes to Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Circle Theatre is running "Inside Bonnie Parker", 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Bedford Blues Festival in Bedford, Texas, featuring Chaka Kahn, The Bluesbreakers and more, 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.</p> <p>"Bride of Frankenstein — The Musical" comes to Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 7 p.m.</p>		<p>Use your hard-earned half-dollar. Head on out to the Wedgewood 4 Theatre on Granbury Road for their weekly Tuesday special — every movie is \$5.50. Call 292-5529 for movie times and listings.</p>	<p>Iron Maiden comes to the Bronco Bowl, sponsored by Sony Music Entertainment Inc.</p>	<p>"Bride of Frankenstein — The Musical" comes to Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 8 p.m.</p>	<p>"Bride of Frankenstein — The Musical" comes to Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Circle Theatre is running "Inside Bonnie Parker", 8 p.m.</p> <p>New movies are opening again. This week's choices are: Kevin Bacon's most recent movie, "Stir of Echoes;" Patricia Arquette and Gabriel Byrne in "Stigmata," and "Love Stinks" starring French Stewart.</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

events

Around Town

Contemporary Dance/Fort Worth will open in its 10th season

Dance lovers of Fort Worth can enjoy their Labor Day weekend at *The Dallas Morning News* Dance Festival, watching Contemporary Dance/Fort Worth start the company's 10th performance season. The dancers will perform numbers choreographed by Gus Solomons Jr., an internationally-renowned choreographer and performer.

CD/FW will perform for free at the festival at 8:15 p.m. Friday and Sunday at The Annette Strauss Artist Square in the Dallas Arts District. The audience is invited to bring blankets and their own picnic dinners.

AMC Theaters to show classic movies on the big screen

AMC Glen Lakes Theatres will show the haunting classic, "Laufa" (1944), at 7:30 p.m. Monday, as part of its First Monday Classics program. This tale of a strange and haunting obsession is 88 minutes long and not rated. The film is being presented by the USA Film Festival and AMC Theatres in a combined effort to preserve the experience of watching classics on the big screen.

General admission tickets are \$7, or \$6 for USA Film Festival members.

Fort Worth historical poetry contest offered to all ages

The Fort Worth Jam Historical Poetry Contest will kick off this September.

Participants may range from age 13 to 113 to express poetically Fort Worth's history. The participants have to follow a few simple rules: poem readings must be only 3 minutes, and subject matter must involve some person or part of the history of Fort Worth. There is no limit on the number of submissions.

Only one poem from each contestant, however, can be a finalist. Participants must put their name and mailing address or phone number on the back of poems or on a separate piece of paper. Also, please indicate whether you are a teen or an adult.

Only 10 finalists will be chosen and will read their poem Sept. 18 at the Circle Theater after the performance of "Inside Bonnie Parker."

Early retirement

All Ty Beanie Babies to be cleared from shelves by year's end

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — The maker of Beanie Babies says it will "retire" all the cute, cuddly creatures by the end of the year, causing kids to sigh and collectors to buy like crazy.

Is this the end of one of the hottest toy crazes of the decade? Or just a marketing ploy to revive interest in the plush, pellet-filled animal toys, the way comic books kill off their superheroes, then bring them back?

The company, Ty Inc., wasn't doing much to clear up the confusion.

An enigmatic posting Tuesday on the Ty Web site listed soon-to-be-released Beanie Babies, then said: "VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE: On December 31, 1999-11:59 p.m. (CST) All Beanies will be retired ... including the above!"

Company spokeswoman Anne Nickels declined Wednesday to say why the company made the decision — or whether Ty would be making a n y new



Beanie Babies after the first of the year. Company founder Ty Warner was unavailable for comment, she said.

Whatever the motivation behind the message, it certainly sparked interest. At the Beanie Baby auction site Collectingnation.com, the number of bids shot up 75 percent Wednesday. The Beanie bear "Germania" was selling for \$175, up from \$150 a week ago.

"Ty Warner is a very smart man. He knows how to create a product. He knows how to create demand," said Leonard Tannenbaum, president of the Connecticut-based site.

Since Ty began selling the toys in 1993, the privately owned company has distributed more than 100 characters, from dinosaurs and teddy bears to birds and zoo animals. The company's revenue was estimated at just \$1.7 million in 1995 but had ballooned to \$674 million by last year, according to NPD Group Inc., a market research firm.

Discontinued — or retired — models have been the hottest sellers, leading some toy industry experts to believe that Ty Inc. is simply trying to rekindle interest in the newer — and perhaps oversupplied — toys.

"Beanie Babies right now are really being bought now by the pure collector, whereas they were the rage a year ago," said Jim Silver, publisher of *The Toy Book*, a New York-based trade publication. "I would find it shocking that they would retire while still making millions and millions of dollars."

Beanies initially became popular because their price of only \$4 to \$5 was

affordable for most children. Later, they became valuable collectibles for adults who could sell a single toy for as much as \$1,000.

The lengths people have gone to get Beanie Babies are legendary.

A former bank president and his wife were charged in Wisconsin earlier this year with embezzling millions of dollars — a good chunk of it used to buy Beanie Babies. In Salinas, Calif., a woman admitted using stolen credit card numbers to feed her habit of buying Beanie Babies.

Last year, people lined up to hand over their firearms in a Guns for Beanie Babies promotion sponsored by the Kankakee, Ill., police department.

For a while, the Customs Service, acting on a request from Ty, limited travelers entering the country to one Beanie Baby per family. The limit was later raised to 30.

Shirley Lin, manager of a Chicago Hallmark store that sells Beanie Babies, said she had been trying to reach her Ty sale representative for hours Wednesday.

"I want to ask if he's going to retire or have a new line," she said, chuckling.

Anne Friedlander, an 8-year-old from Buckley, Mich., said she hopes the company doesn't really intend to stop making the toys. She has little interest in the increasing value of the 123 Beanie Babies she keeps in a doll house — many of them gifts from her grandparents.

"I don't really want to sell them," Anne said. "I want to play with them."

While the confusion reigns, there could be a sign from the company in the name of one of the company's soon-to-be released bears.

The bear is called "The End."