

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 12, 1999  
97th Year • Number 26

High 83  
Low 60  
Sunny



TCU DAILY

# Skiff

TODAY



After coming off a dismal showing against Fresno State two weeks ago, the offensive line was challenged by head coach Dennis Franchione to perform better.

Page 8

Fort Worth, Texas

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## TCU accepts bid to join C-USA



Head football coach Dennis Franchione answers questions from the media after TCU announced Monday its acceptance to join Conference USA.

### Play to begin in Fall 2001; SMU not extended offer

By Matt Silver  
STAFF REPORTER

The ring of a cell phone shattered the silence Monday afternoon on the second green of the Mira Visa Country Club. TCU Athletic Director Eric Hyman put down his club, picked up his phone and raced back to TCU.

The voice on the other end told him Conference USA Commissioner Mike Slive and the C-USA board had issued TCU an

expansion bid, a bid TCU later accepted.

TCU will participate in the Western Athletic Conference in 2000 and join C-USA beginning in Fall 2001 for all sports. Southern Methodist University was not extended a bid.

Over the past few weeks, concern arose among C-USA basketball schools that expansion was not in the best interests of the conference.

Slive said this was not a problem at the decision-making meeting.

"The vote was unanimous among our members, both those in basketball and football," Slive said. "One option was to do nothing, and that was unacceptable."

Hyman said the announcement caught him off guard. He expected the announcement from the C-USA board meeting in New York City to come down later Monday evening.

"I was out playing golf at the Horned Frog Fundraiser," Hyman said. "To be frank with you, I didn't have my mind on (golf). My first ball I hit into the water. Then I got a call back in the second hole, and I was sort of relieved. We are thrilled to no end."

In addition to adding TCU's entire athletic program, C-USA accepted East Carolina University — currently a participant in football only — for all sports and South Florida. South Florida will not participate in football until

2003. At that time, C-USA will have 11 teams for football and 14 for basketball.

Slive said TCU's recent NCAA berth in men's basketball and the 1998 Sun Bowl victory were large factors.

"I think over the last couple of years, the success of their programs was important to the board."

However, speculation about C-USA expansion before Monday's meeting had both TCU and SMU joining.

Hyman said the news caught him off guard, but TCU and SMU never were a package deal.

"I am shocked and stunned that

See C-USA, Page 5

## Coming Out Day sparks action on campus

### Groups protest timing of 'ex-gay' BSM speaker

By Tealy Dippel  
STAFF REPORTER

The timing of a speaker sponsored by Baptist Student Ministry on National Coming Out Day led some students to rally outside The Main Monday with posters and flyers.

Student members from the Leftist Student Union, TCU Student Allies and the TCU Triangle gathered outside of The Main close to an hour before BSM's meeting to protest Randy Thomas' speech concerning his denouncement of being gay and finding God's love. Thomas is co-director of Living Hope, an Exodus-affiliated ministry in Arlington.

Phil Doan, co-founder of LSU, said members of his group banned together to fight homophobia and heterosexism but said BSM had the right to have a speaker.

"We are just protesting the content," Doan said. One student carried a poster that read, "Don't judge others, and God won't judge you: Luke 6:37."

TCU Triangle President Matt Townsend said Living Hope practices "reparative therapy," a way to free gays from the sin of a homosexual life. He said Thomas' presence was not in line with TCU's step toward diversity. Instead, it is a step backward.

"Reparative therapy is detrimental," Townsend said. "It forces people to hate themselves because (they think) God doesn't love them. They wonder why God created them with homosexual feelings."

Thomas spoke to about 100 students at BSM's regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in the Student Center, Woodson Room.

Toney Upton, director of BSM, said when he initiated the date for Thomas' visit, he was not aware it would be the same day as National Coming Out Day.

"We wanted Randy to share his story and his message to our group," Upton said. "We want to give BSM perspective and insight on how we react and interact with those that disagree with us."

Thomas, an open homosexual until 1992, said he wanted to tell his story about what it's like to be a former homosexual and to talk about his relationship with God.

"I became a Christian in 1992 when I had a spiritual awakening," he said. "If the Lord can create a universe out of nothing, he can certainly tell me what's best for me."

In an article that appeared in a September 1999 Living Hope newsletter, Thomas said an inner pain

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Phil Doan, a junior philosophy major and co-founder of the Leftist Student Union, protests with other student members from the LSU, the TCU Student Allies and the TCU Triangle to share their views on Randy Thomas' speech concerning his denouncement of being gay and finding God's love.

### Being gay at TCU 'not too difficult,' students say

By Steven Baker  
STAFF REPORTER

TCU students, faculty and staff met for a panel discussion as part of National Coming Out Day in the Student Center Lounge Monday.

Roscoe Compton, a sophomore advertising/public relations major and a member of TCU Triangle, a gay and lesbian student organization, said faculty members and students are supportive of gay students.

"At first it was pretty scary being a gay man," he said. "You really don't know how people are going to react until you start talking about it. Most public universities wouldn't be able to have anything like this. TCU is very good about having people here with an open mind — which is a very good thing."

During the panel discussion, Compton proposed questions concerning coming out. The panel was composed of the Rev. Durrell Watkins, of Agape Metropolitan Community Church; Jean Giles-Sims, a professor of sociology; and TCU students Julia Bogart and Matt Townsend.

The meeting was sponsored by Programming Council, the Triangle and Student Allies, a student organization that shows support for gay and lesbian students. Faculty, staff and students were free to ask questions during the panel discussion as well.

Compton said more students attended this year. "The event went better than last year," he said. "I was really excited that it came off as well as it did."

Townsend, president of the Triangle and a junior economics and English major, said since he came out last year, he has not lost any of his friends. Being gay at TCU is not too difficult, he said.

"If there is one message that I would like to get out, it is that being gay at TCU is not a negative experience at all," he said. "I have met more people since I came out than I had beforehand. Once you give your friends and people at TCU the opportunity to accept you for who you are, you are really going to be surprised."

Townsend said TCU students must continue these type of events.

"For the first time ever, people are open to what we have to say," he said. "So if people don't start standing up, talking and spreading information, then we are going to bypass this opportunity. The environment right now is one that is receptive and needs to be taken advantage of."

Bogart, a senior English major, said although the

See COMING OUT, Page 5

## Art to tell story of tenacity

### Female photographer to speak about overcoming stereotypes

By Carey Hix  
STAFF REPORTER

The story of a woman who overcame stereotypes in the business world to become an internationally recognized fashion and portrait photographer will be told Wednesday during a free lecture sponsored by the Women's Resource Center and Canon USA.

"I'm a completely self-trained person, and most of the reason for that is because nobody would hire women as assistants," said Barbara Bordnick, who will address the TCU community at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Moudy Building North, Room 141. "It's an interesting story about a woman in a field that was completely dominated by men because when I started there were no women fashion photogra-

**Who:** Barbara Bordnick, an internationally recognized fashion and portrait photographer  
**What:** A lecture open to the public  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
**Where:** Moudy Building North, Room 141  
**Cost:** Free

phers." Bordnick's work has been featured in several publications, including *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek*, *Vanity Fair* and others. The one-hour lecture will feature slides of her work.

A reception sponsored by the College of Fine Arts and Communication will be held in the TCU Bookstore Café Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m. The reception will

be an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to meet Bordnick and ask questions before the lecture.

Tenacity is also a central theme of Bordnick's lecture, she said.

"Hopefully what people will get (from the lecture) is how to fight for something they really want, and how incredibly important it is to know what you want and then when you know, you just go for it," she said.

After 30 years in the business, Bordnick said the process has not lost its novelty.

"It's still magic how it happens, how you just stand there and an image comes up," she said. "I think that no matter how many years a photographer works, it's still a mir-

See BORDNICK, Page 5



Students grab lunch at the recently opened Student Center eatery which includes Pizza Hut, Pretzel Logic and other vendors. It also features countertop computers that students can use to access the Internet.

## Expanded eatery caters to crowds

### Students pleased by dining options

By Jessica Schambach  
STAFF REPORTER

The refurbished Pizza Hut eatery lessened lines in all dining facilities and brought about positive feedback from students Monday, dining services representatives said.

The eatery — which remains unnamed pending the results of a campus-wide competition to name the facility — includes Pizza Hut, Pretzel Logic, Freshen's yogurt, Stems and Staples, The Grind and a nacho and hot dog stand. It also features countertop computers that students can use to access the Internet.

It will be open from 7 to 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

"We are very pleased," said Ed Lube, food service director. "It has certainly met our expectations. We feel the quality is there. We've heard nothing but positive comments from the students, and that's what it's

See PIZZA, 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.

- Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to the homebound elderly in the TCU/Berry Street area from 10 a.m. to noon Thursdays. For more information, call Bea Nealy at 257-7830.
- TCU College Republicans will meet at 8 p.m. today in the Student Center, Room 205.
- TCU London Centre applications for spring 2000 are due Friday. Applications are available in the International Education Office in Sadler Hall, Room 16.
- Air Force ROTC Detachment 845 will host an open house from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Saturday in the Air Force ROTC building on the corner of Lowden and Parmer streets.
- SHARE! High School Exchange Program needs families to host high school exchange students for the spring semester of the 1999/2000 school year. Families are able to review student applications and select the student they feel will best match their own interests. For more information, call Sharon George at (915) 533-5808 or the Education Resource Development Trust Southwest Regional Office at 1-800-414-3738.
- Organization of Latin American Student will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday in Student Center, Room 202.
- TCU Student Foundation will be accepting membership applications until Oct. 22. Activities include new student recruitment, alumni programming and general university advancement. Applications may be picked up in the Admissions Office or the Office of Alumni Relations and turned in to the Admissions Office. For more information, call the Alumni Office at 257-7803.
- National Security Education Program (NSEP) scholarship for U.S. undergraduates to study abroad during Summer 2000 through Spring 2001 are available. The deadline is Feb. 7, 2000. For applications, call the NSEP office at 1-800-618-NSEP or e-mail (nsep@iie.org).

# News

ROUNDUP

## World

### Mexican president announces disaster relief program after mudslides claim 344 people

TEZIUTLAN, Mexico — The scope of the death and damage caused by last week's mudslides has shocked Mexico and the world. But where they occurred was no surprise: A zoning plan drawn up last year called for removing houses built helterskelter in the ravines of this mountainside city.

There seemed to be no rush. Some of the houses had been in place for decades, and officials lacked the funds or political might to force residents to less perilous locations.

But last week's pounding rains caused huge slabs of hillside to break away, sending avalanches of mud rushing down on houses below.

By Monday, the official death toll stood at 344 across southeastern Mexico, but it was expected to go much higher. Unofficial counts, based on accounts from local officials and witnesses, ran as high as 600.

More than 271,000 were forced from their homes.

On a visit to Teziutlan Monday, President Ernesto Zedillo announced a program to rebuild or repair houses destroyed by the disaster. Under the plan, low-income families who lost their homes were to receive land, \$2,000 worth of construction material and 88 days' worth of wages. Those whose houses were damaged were to receive \$200 to \$600 worth of material, while higher-income families were eligible for subsidized credits.

The flooding and mudslides were caused by more than a week of relentless rain, capped by a tropical depression in the Gulf of Mexico. On Monday, forecasters were still predicting strong storms in nine states.

Washed-out bridges and roads have isolated hundreds of communities, while landslides destroyed or damaged houses in dozens of towns and villages.

The Tabasco state capital, Villahermosa, was so gravely flooded that its streets became canals.

But the deadliest damage was in Teziutlan, where rain fell for 60 hours without a break — and total precipitation equaled 30 inches.

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The government marked the first year of its anti-AIDS campaign last Friday, as a series of high-profile rapes touched off a wave of protest from women's groups and anti-rape activists. A government commission is studying a comprehensive overhaul of sexual violence laws.

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## Nation

### Clinton threatening to veto four spending bills as budget battle nears climax

WASHINGTON — As this year's budget battle nears a climax, President Clinton is threatening to veto four spending bills. He and Congress are at odds over such issues as hiring teachers and police officers and regulating oil and gas companies that use federal lands.

The two sides are separated by about \$10 billion to \$20 billion — about the same magnitude as most end-of-session spending fights since Republicans took over Congress in 1995. Though substantial, the funds at stake amount to about 1 percent of the near \$1.8 trillion federal budget.

This year's tussle, however, is complicated by the GOP's stated refusal to pay for extra spending from the Social Security surplus. For decades, both parties have used that till to find needed billions of dollars.

Having lost their coveted tax cut to a Clinton veto, GOP leaders want to cast themselves as defenders of the huge pension system — and are daring the president to do otherwise.

Clinton wants to be seen as the champion of education and other popular programs, and has begun tweaking Congress for not doing its work. Eleven days into fiscal 2000, he has signed just five of the new year's 13 spending bills.

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### New nerve stimulation treatment could provide relief for victims of depression

WASHINGTON — The former shipbuilder had such severe depression, unrelieved by any of today's therapies, that he had trouble even leaving the house. Then doctors implanted a pacemaker-like device to stimulate a part of his brain thought important for mood — and that very day the man laughed.

Stimulating a nerve that runs from the neck into one of the brain's most mysterious regions appears promising enough at relieving once-untreatable depression that the government has granted permission for a study at 15 U.S. hospitals.

The treatment, called vagus nerve stimulation, involves sending tiny electric shocks into the vagus nerve in the neck which then relays the messages deep into the brain.

Indeed, scientists think stimulating this nerve could have even more far-reaching effects, such as enhancing memory or treating obesity by curbing appetite.

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Mitchell Roslin of Brooklyn's Maimonedes Medical Center calls "one of the information superhighways" between the brain and other organs. It relays messages, such as signals to regulate heartbeat, and sends messages back to the brain, such as when the stomach is full.

## State

### Six college students killed after sleepy driver veers onto highway shoulder

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Had Brandon Michael Kallmeyer dozed off and let his truck slide onto the shoulder almost anywhere else on Farm Road 60, he might have simply awakened and steered back onto the highway.

But police said Kallmeyer, driving back to College Station, after dropping off his girlfriend about 30 miles away, veered around 12:30 a.m. Sunday, just as a group of college students were walking on the shoulder toward a fraternity party.

Six of the students, including four from Baylor University, died after Kallmeyer's truck careened down the shoulder and into a drainage ditch. Two others were injured.

Ariisa Hill and Tara Martin, who had parked down the road and also were walking to the party, said they heard the wreck and tried to help the victims. Five died at the scene, but Martin said she tried to save 18-year-old Baylor student Erika Lanham, who had a faint pulse.

Lanham, of Fort Collins, Colo., died along with fellow Baylor students Emily Hollister, 18, of South Bend, Ind.; Tricia Lynn Calp, 18, of Houston; and Dolan Walter Wostal III, 22, of Alvin. Also killed were William Flores, 22, a student at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos, and A&M student Ted Bruton, 21, of San Angelo.

David Gamradt, 22, and Erik Garza, 20, were taken to St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan. Garza suffered a broken pelvis. Both were released Sunday.

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### Man jailed after allegedly shooting grandson who complained about 'slum house'

FORT WORTH, Texas — A 103-year-old man has been jailed on suspicion of attempted murder after he allegedly shot his grandson, who complained that the World War I veteran was renting him a "rat-infested house."

Ben Collier shot Tyrone Collins, 45, early Sunday after the grandson confronted the elderly man in his bedroom, authorities said. According to a police report, Collins was apparently upset about his living conditions and told his grandfather that he was going to turn him in to authorities for a running a "slum house."

One relative, who reported asking Collins to leave, said Collins replied, "He needs to go live in that rat-infested house that he has me staying in."

Collier told police he'd had enough of his grandson's behavior, got a gun and fired at Collins three or four times, then stood over him and fired twice more before running out of bullets. He was attempting to reload when police arrived.

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**STAFF editorial**

## BAD TIMING

BSM scheduling inappropriate

Monday was the one day of the year proclaimed as National Coming Out Day.

However, it also happened to be the day the Baptist Student Ministry chose to invite Randy Thomas, co-founder of Living Hope Ministries, to speak at the organization's weekly meeting. Living Hope is the Texas contact organization for Exodus International, a group whose mission is to "free" from the homosexual lifestyle vulnerable gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals who are struggling with their sexuality.

Toney Upton, director of BSM, said he scheduled Johnson's appearance long before he realized the significance of Oct. 11. Although Upton said he knew National Coming Out Day was in the general proximity of the day Johnson was scheduled to speak, the presentation was not intended to coincide with the national day of observance.

Perhaps it's just bad timing, but the BSM is funded by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, which is funded by the Southern Baptist Convention. It wasn't long ago that the SBC was in the national spotlight for publishing a prayer guide instructing its members on how to pray for the conversion of Jews during their High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

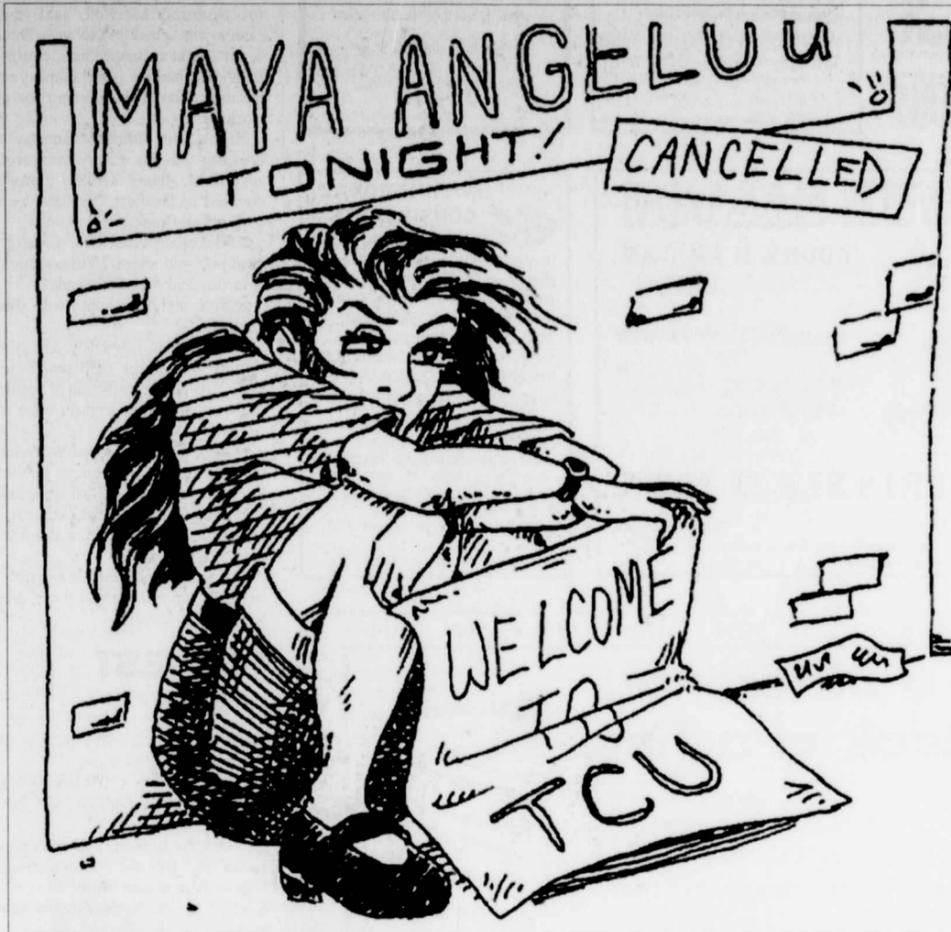
We do not condemn BSM's decision to bring Johnson to campus. In fact, as strong advocates of the First Amendment, we applaud the provision of a forum for differing views.

What is abhorrent, however, is the consistent bad timing and lack of tact on the part of Southern Baptists. The sooner they discard their arrogant views, the sooner we will all be free to learn in an environment open to divergent beliefs and opinions.

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**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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J. P. Araujo/SKIFF STAFF

## Adventurous Columbus no hero

History books need revision to include famed discoverer's brutality

Monday was the observation of Columbus Day, a day commemorating the "discovery" of the Americas.

Only two people are considered worthy of having an American national holiday bearing their names, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr and Christopher Columbus. One was a champion of human rights, the other was a murderer and a thief. One was a soldier for the liberation of people of all races, the other was the founder of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Columbus is commonly perceived as a hero. On the contrary, Columbus would today be jailed

for his actions. As the common child's rhyme says, "In fourteen-hundred-ninety-two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue/ In fourteen-hundred-ninety-three, Columbus stole all he could see."

Columbus was a thief. In order to repay his debt to the Spanish monarchy, he stole gold, land and even people from the island that he had "discovered." Upon his return to Spain, Columbus paraded through the streets of Seville with hundreds of Taino Indians (who are now thought to be extinct) that he had attempted to bring back and sell into slavery.

Unfortunately for Columbus, many of the 1,200 Taino died during the long trip home and were thrown overboard into the Atlantic Ocean. I bet your elementary school history teacher didn't teach you that side of the story.

Your teacher may have told you that Columbus was a visionary who

proved to the world the Earth was round. By the time of Columbus, not only did people know the world was round, but Islamic mathematicians had already calculated the circumference of the Earth. Columbus was no visionary; this idea is a result of a myth perpetuated in the 19th Century in order to glorify Columbus' achievements.

Contrary to what your elementary school teacher may have told you, Columbus was no hero. Yet, to this day we honor his name with a national holiday. When we celebrate Columbus Day we are celebrating a genocide comparable to the Nazi holocaust. When we celebrate Columbus Day we are celebrating the enslavement of an entire race of people, the spread of disease, the thievery of land and wealth and the senseless slaughter of the indigenous people of the Americas.

The Vietnam War was seen by

many as a modern form of imperialism. Although many people believe that imperialism is a thing of the past, American imperialism is still alive and well.

For decades the United States, much like the Spanish monarchy in the time of Columbus, has sent its monetary and military support to nations that have used it to exploit and oppress other peoples. For example, for the last 30 years the United States has supported Indonesia in its attempt to quell uprisings in East Timor.

This type of foreign policy is a testimony to the fact that the imperialism of Columbus is not yet dead, and we should revise our history books so that we do not make the same mistakes again.

Zachary Norris is a senior biology major from Long Beach, Calif. He can be reached at (pookyson@hotmail.com).

**Commentary**



ZACH NORRIS

## Show of character needed

Golden Rule applies to fans at sporting events

Have you ever heard someone say that a person lacks character? Or that they seem to have an abundance of character?

In that regard, I've often heard that character is how you behave when nobody is looking. Sadly though, sometimes a lack of character is displayed in front of many, and by many in a crowd.

As Dallas Cowboys' All-pro receiver Michael Irvin lay on the turf Sunday in Philadelphia, with both his football career and his life in a state of uncertainty, we witnessed another stark reminder of how important it is to protect our attitude and to build our character.

Irvin, an old nemesis of the Philadelphia fans, accidentally slammed his head into the Veterans Stadium turf, and much to my chagrin, Eagles fans cheered shamelessly as he lay motionless on the field. They also cheered as paramedics carted Irvin off on a stretcher.

Say what you will about Irvin, whose not exactly a model of good character, but nobody deserves to be treated in that manner. Sports fans, as a whole, rarely understand this fact.

I wish I could say this type of character lag only happens in

Philadelphia, but I'd be lying. It just rarely happens in that magnitude or to that degree.

On Saturday I attended TCU's football game against San Jose State. LaDainian Tomlinson's 300-yard rushing performance, and the Horned Frogs' 42-0 victory gave TCU fans plenty to cheer about. But something always leaves me distressed when we win the ball game: Someone always takes time to chastise the other team. In Saturday's case, the offenders turned out to be the brass section of the TCU band. The target: San Jose State tight end Sean Brewer.

Brewer's fumble early in the second quarter ended a crucial Spartans drive, and the TCU offense capitalized moments later. Then, with TCU comfortably ahead in the fourth quarter, the TCU student trombone players crudely reminded Brewer of his error again and again.

This should never have happened, and the student trombone section should never have been allowed to continue this verbal abuse. What's more, they, as adults, should have known better than to act in such a moronic fashion.

There is one simple fact that we, as fans, should keep in mind. If our fans treat the opponent in this manner, then it's a good bet that our players have to endure the same tortures away from home. Imagine how Fresno State fans probably acted toward Tomlinson, Casey Printers and the rest of TCU's football team last week when they were the visitors in an

overtime loss.

What would TCU fans have done had they been there? I'm guessing, they'd have reacted with a fit of anger. But the simple fact that we weren't there to protect our team means Fresno State fans would have had free reign to treat our players however they wish. And Hawai'i fans will have the same opportunity.

Do we want to be like that? I'm thinking maybe we should redefine character as "not taking advantage of others, even though we could," and then apply it to sporting events.

The bottom line: Character means choosing not to disgrace others, even when we surely could.

If these offenders realized the actions and behavior of a few affects society as a whole, they'd understand the weight their negative behaviors carry. And maybe they'd stop. Maybe they'd even realize how they look when they behave this way.

Professional basketball player Charles Barkley used to say that he wasn't a role model. Karl Malone countered that everyone is a role model, it's just a matter of whether you choose to be a good role model or a bad one.

After all, I never know who is watching me.

And you never know who might be taking notes of your behavior.

Tim Skaggs is a senior speech communications major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at (Pahprboy@aol.com).

**Commentary**



TIM SKAGGS

### LETTERS to the editor

**Lessons learned from death in drunken driving accident**

I would like all of you to really stop and think about a group of people or friends that mean a lot to you. A group that you're so close to that you're almost like family. You don't have to see them every day, but whenever you get the chance to you feel right at home, and you couldn't imagine even one of you (the group) not being there. That if even one of you were to leave, life just wouldn't be the same.

I have a group like that. I graduated with them, and although we all go to different colleges in Texas, it seems as if most of us find one day of the weekend to hang out and be together. They're like family to me.

But as of Sept. 30, our family will never be the same. I had to lay one of my close friends to rest. I had to say good-bye to a guy who only got to experience this gift called life for 18 years. For those of you who are 18, can you imagine it all ending today? For those of you who are older, look at all the things you would have missed.

I watched guys who are like brothers to me cry, and I watched six of them carry the casket of their best friend to his grave. The face I saw at his viewing burnt an image in my mind (that) I can't escape, because it wasn't the face of my friend. I don't know who it was because it looked nothing like the face of the friend I knew.

I'm writing this letter because when his mom spoke at the funeral, she broke my heart. She told

us how much he loved us all but to learn from his lesson. My friend Billy is dead because he made the choice to get in a car drunk.

For the sake of your friends and your family, never make the same choice he did and never let anyone around you make the same choice as well. Billy's mom told us that if just one of us learned this lesson, it would help her cope with the loss.

You didn't know Billy, but I know you all have close friends and can relate, even though it's something you don't really want to think about. I wouldn't wish these past days on any of you. Hopefully by reading this, you won't ever have to know this experience.

Stephanie Corso  
freshman business major

**Argument against Ventura's stance on religion one-sided**

The article written by Stephen Suffron Oct. 5 was more of a testimonial than an opinion column. Suffron was addressing the statement that Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura made concerning religion and his belief that it was for weak-minded people.

I do not agree with Ventura's statement by any means, but I do believe that he, like anyone else, is entitled to his own opinion. If Ventura thinks that religion is for weak-minded people, then political groups may also be considered for the weak-minded.

A political organization is no different from a religious group. Both are groups that come

together with others to celebrate the things they believe.

Some may be outraged to think that a political organization is on the same level as Christianity, but Christians are only another group of people assembling together. And some may think that Christianity is much more sacred than any other organization, but everyone is not a Christian.

The newspaper is not a place for testimonials. Ventura's statement was not one against Christianity, so there was no need to try and advertise how good Christianity is. Ventura's statement talked about religion in general, not in any way pointing a finger at Christianity.

People shouldn't be appalled that someone else believes in an opinion that is in the minority. It does happen every once in awhile, and someone might even express an opinion that does not agree with your personal views.

As a columnist, Suffron should be able to express his view and also acknowledge that there is another view. Everyone does not live in the TCU bubble that we live in.

All Christianity, all the time, does not happen anywhere, so I hope Suffron does not find it offensive when he has to interview someone that does not believe in God or may not have the same morals as everyone else.

The article addressed a good issue but failed to see — or even acknowledge — that there was more than one side of the issue.

Lauren Morton  
freshman premajor

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**PIZZA**

From Page 1

all about. We are doing it for the students."

David Ripple, general manager for Sodexo Marriott, said the eatery was scheduled to open Oct. 4, but building inspections, equipment difficulties and employee training delayed the opening for a week.

Ripple said although Saturday's opening of the eatery was not advertised, dining services almost doubled its business from last year during Fall Break.

"Typically it's real slow," he said. "But we sold about 250 smoothies Saturday and over 300 Sunday."

Ripple said he is happy with the turnout.

"It's popular, obviously, and it's helping The Main right now," he said. "It's taking traffic out of some of the other places, so that's been a real help."

Dining services representatives are willing to make changes to the eatery depending on what students want, and customer satisfaction surveys will be distributed in about a month, Ripple said.

The smoothies, pretzels, expanded candy bin and computers are the biggest hits, he said.

"It's a big improvement," said Logan Battison, a junior religion and philosophy major. "I'm impressed. There's more variety."

Bryan Hall, a senior management major, said the new eatery cuts down on the crowding at noon.

"I think it's wonderful," he said. "Unfortunately ... I won't have a chance to enjoy it to the fullest, but it's a really good addition to TCU."

Lindsay Johnson, a senior finance and accounting major, said she likes the area better than before, although it is congested.

"There's kind of a lot of stuff in here," she said. "It's such a small area, especially at lunch time."

But Johnson said she will continue to eat at the eatery regardless of the crowd.

Lube said he hopes students are pleased with the eatery, and dining services representatives will do what they can to keep it that way.

"We hope people are happy," he said. "But we want to sustain that beyond the initial week or two. We are here to provide the best possible food service for the students."

Jessica Schambach  
jessbach@juno.com

**New Eating Facilities**

Several additional food vendors are now located in the area formerly occupied by Pizza Hut. The following dining options are now available:

- Pizza Hut
- Pretzel Logic
- Freshen's yogurt
- The Grind
- Stems and Staples
- Nacho & a hot dog stand
- Computers

The area will be open from 7 to 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Source: TCU Dining Services

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**PROTEST**

From Page 1

began early in his life. At age 16, he had his first homosexual experience.

After his mother told him he was an "abomination going to hell," Thomas said he began evaluating what he believed.

"I did not become a Christian to overcome homosexuality," he said. "I became a Christian because Jesus Christ made sense."

Thomas said homosexuality and salvation are tied together.

"I went through a lot of pain not identifying as gay, but I know God loves me," he said. "My journey is to identify as a child of God."

Thomas said those protesting his speech had the right to do so.

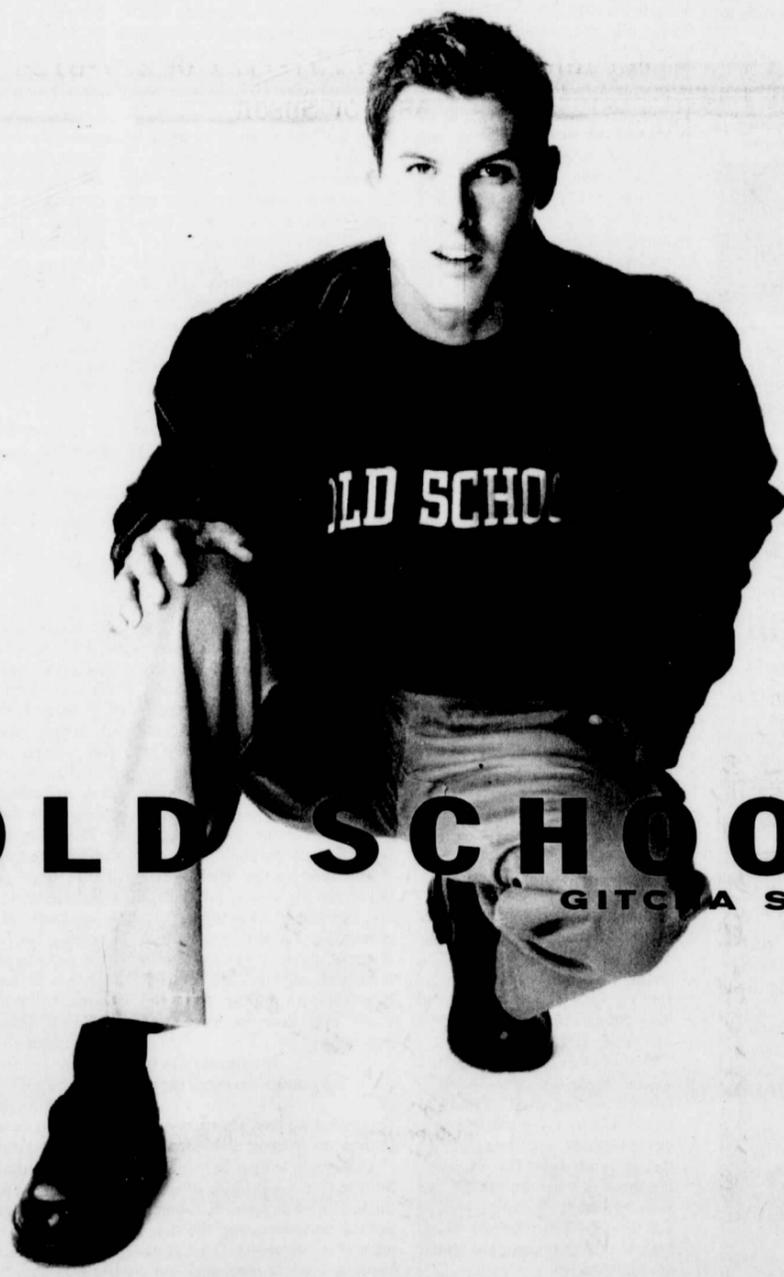
"As Americans, we all have the right to freedom and the pursuit of happiness which I am doing by not being gay," he said.

Doan said gay-rights activists fought for many years to overcome anti-gay discrimination. TCU can play a role in that crusade, he said.

"If TCU wants to be diverse, this is consistent with that," Doan said.

Tealy Dippel  
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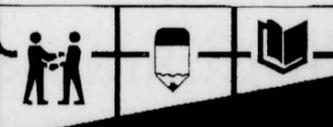
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## COMING OUT

From Page 1

faculty supports gay and lesbian students, the conservatism of some students might scare gay students from coming out.

"There is a sheep kind of thing at TCU," she said. "Everybody has to follow and do what their leaders tell them. So the Greek feeling is pretty much that this is horrible, unchristian and something to be feared."

Heather Patriacca, a sophomore religion major and president of Allies, said she did not stop the first time she walked past a table advertising the Triangle, simply because she was not educated about homosexuality.

"The purpose of this event is to

provide a safe environment for people that are homosexual to come out and be aware that there are organizations on campus that support them," she said.

Patriacca said some people are scared of homosexuality because they don't know what it is.

"Being tall, short, African-American or Hispanic, we are all different in our own ways," she said. "And this is just a group of that. Some students just don't understand that you can be a straight student and support homosexuality."

Steven Baker  
Lastevas@aol.com

## Musical movement



Alfredo Velez, interim director of bands, conducts the TCU Wind Symphony in a recital Monday at the Ed Landreth Hall. The recital featured music by David Gillingham and Duke Ellington.

David Dunai/PHOTO EDITOR

## BORDNICK

From Page 1

acle. The most important thing is that I enjoy what I do."

Marcy Paul, program coordinator of the Women's Resource Center, said the lecture will be relevant to everyone.

"Photography, I think, is an area that reaches everybody, and the reason I say that is because the moment we open our eyes, we see things all around us," she said. "The question is what do we do with that information. I think it's really interesting to look at something and think about why it's there, how it's changed."

## CONFERENCE

From Page 1

SMU is not going to participate in C-USA," Hyman said. "TCU is disappointed. We have a long-standing relationship, and I hope we can maintain our rivalry outside conference."

"TCU is doing what's best for TCU. That always was our approach."

Hyman said he does not know why SMU was not selected.

TCU head football coach Dennis Franchione said he has not been paying close attention to the C-USA talk.

"Since I found out we were talking to C-USA, I have been more worried about third-and-three than who we will play in 2001," he said. "It's exciting."

Franchione also said participating in C-USA, which has a stake in the Bowl Championship Series, will help in recruiting players for his team. Slots in the Sugar Bowl, Orange Bowl and Fiesta Bowl are

selected by BCS. The WAC doesn't have a stake in the BCS.

"I think recruits want to be a part of the BCS, and C-USA has some possibilities there," Franchione said. "It is a conference that is already established. People know about it today a little more."

Chancellor Michael R. Ferrari, who was out of town, said in a prepared statement that the move will benefit TCU on a national level.

"The decision to join C-USA was made after considering the long-term strength and promise of this league at the national level," he stated. "We have stated on numerous occasions TCU's goal of becoming a nationally recognized and respected athletic program at the Division I level. Joining C-USA is consistent with that goal."

Matt Stiver  
mstiver@delta.is.tcu.edu

Bordnick's excellence in her work was key in her being invited to speak at TCU, Paul said.

"I admire her work," she said. "I think she's an incredible artist, and I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to bring her, so students, faculty and staff could meet somebody outside the community and a professional in her field. I think she has a lot to offer in terms of not just photography, but the subjects she chooses and how she looks at the world."

Luther Smith, a professor of art, said he plans to bring his class to the lecture.

"Any time that we have an opportunity for students to see someone who's a professional photographer working in the field, I think it's a great idea for them to take advantage of it," he said. "If you're going to make a living (in photography) you have to figure some sort of way to do it, and she's had lots of publications and has good credentials. So I think it would be really terrific for anybody who's interested in photography to go and see her."

Carey Hix  
careyhix@yahoo.com

## C-USA Timeline

- Feb. 1994 Southwest Conference (SWC) agrees to break up.
- Nov. 1995 Final SWC football game between TCU and Texas A&M University is played at Amon Carter Stadium.
- Fall 1996 TCU joins the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) along with Rice University and Southern Methodist University.
- Fall 1998 Eight WAC schools announce they will leave in Fall 1999. TCU remains in the reduced WAC.
- Aug. 1999 C-USA Commissioner Mike Slive is given permission to study expansion. TCU is rumored to be among those considered to be invited.
- Sept. 11 to 12, 1999 TCU officials meet with C-USA officials in Chicago.
- Late September to early October 1999 TCU officials and C-USA officials have "frequent meetings."
- Oct. 11, 1999 C-USA presidents meet in New York and extend TCU an expansion bid. TCU accepts.

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By Xan Lattimore  
Rosemont, PA

10/12/99

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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**Pulse**  
SIDELINES

**Both TCU golf teams make home in top 25 polls**

The men's and women's golf teams both remained in the second MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings of the season, released Wednesday.

The men's squad dropped one spot from its previous No. 24 ranking, and the women's team fell to the No. 20 position from its September ranking at No. 13.

Despite winning the Dick McGuire Invitational, senior Angela Stanford, dropped five spots to the No. 13 ranking.

**Tomlinson rushes for another weekly WAC honor**

Junior tailback was named Western Athletic Conference Player of the Week for his efforts against San Jose State Saturday.

He ran for 300 yards and two touchdowns in the 42-0 win. Tomlinson averaged 13 yards a carry, including 74 and 89-yard dashes.

The 89-yard run set a new school mark for the longest run, and Tomlinson took over the nation's top spot with his 176.4 yards per game.

**Men's tennis competes in All-American Tournament**

TCU Juniors Scott Eddins and Petr Koula advanced through the pre-qualifying round of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American Championships at the University of Texas at Austin. The two will now compete in the qualifying round October 12-13. If they advance there, they will compete in the first round, beginning Thursday October 14. Junior Esteban Carril, an All-American last year and the No. 5 player in college tennis, qualified automatically.

Eddins defeated Craig Edmondson of Texas 2-6, 7-5, 6-4 to advance. The first set was the only one Eddins surrendered in three matches.

Koula, in his fourth match, sent Danny Westerman of Wisconsin packing in three sets, 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

Juniors Sebastian Innariello and Junior Justin Gagnon were both defeated in the pre-qualifying second round.

**Carril named WAC Player of Month for September**

Junior Esteban Carril was named Western Athletic Conference Player of the month for the month of September. Carril won the River Oaks Championship September 20-21. Carril, an All-American after the 1999 season, was also named WAC Player of Year for 1998 and 1999.

# Weekend wins place men at top spot

## Soccer team leads WAC with 5-3-1 record; ranks fifth in Midwest

By James Zwilling  
SKIFF STAFF

The TCU men's soccer team entered the 1999 season with a 2-22 record in the Western Athletic Conference. Tuesday, they lead the WAC after opening conference play with two wins in three days.

Head coach David Rubinson said he is pleased with his team's performance.

"If you look at our history in the WAC, this is a very nice feeling being 2-0," he said.

The Horned Frogs defeated San Jose State, 3-1, Sunday at the TCU Soccer Complex in their second victory of the weekend following their 2-0 shutout Friday against Fresno State.

The Horned Frogs garnered national attention Monday when NSCAA Midwest Regional rankings placed TCU 5th in the Midwest Region.

TCU entered the SJSU matchup on a three-game winning streak with a record of 5-3-1.

Sophomore midfielder Nick Baker opened scoring for TCU 3:12 into play with a goal off a corner kick by junior defender Michael Martin.

"That first goal of the game was

critical," Rubinson said. "After the goal we let down a little."

Rubinson said the team relied on an organized defense and junior goal keeper Ian Keate to lead the team.

"Ian, without a doubt, continually steps up to the plate and comes up big," he said.

Sophomore midfielder Josh Rife scored his fifth goal of the season 67:47 into the game off an assist from junior forward Aaron Grieshaber, which ended the contest, 2-0.

Rubinson said San Jose's struggle late in the game led to TCU's victory. "San Jose struggled finishing and couldn't hold it together under the gun," he said. "We bent, but we didn't break."

Rubinson said the team recognizes it is at a critical point in the season.

"At this point, we are playing with confidence, heart and intensity," Rubinson said. "The team knows that playing well is their only chance to make it to the NCAA tournament."

The team carried their confidence into Sunday's double-overtime

game against Fresno State.

Junior forward Brad Johnson scored the first goal of the game. Fresno State answered 18 minutes later when Kupono Low scored to tie the game at 1-1.

Baker scored his second goal of the weekend 74:51 into play to put the Horned Frogs in the lead, 2-1.

Fresno State's Low answered with his second goal of the game 78:56 into the matchup again tying the game.

Regulation time ended with the score tied, 2-2.

Neither team managed a goal in the first overtime, but 119:38 into play Rife scored his second game-winning goal of the season of an assist by VanEnk.

Rife leads his team with six goals on the season.

Rubinson believes TCU simply played a better overtime. "We owned more of the midfield and we played better soccer," he said. "We were not willing to lose."

The Horned Frogs will continue WAC play at 2 p.m. Sunday against Southern Methodist University at the TCU Soccer Complex.

SMU, which currently ranks 24th

**NSCAA Midwest Regional Rankings**

1. St. Louis	10-1-1
2. Southwest Missouri State	10-0-1
3. Creighton	6-2-1
3. SMU	8-2-0
5. TCU	7-3-1
6. Missouri-Kansas City	8-2-0
7. Illinois-Chicago	8-3-0
8. Air Force	7-4-1
9. Drury	6-5-1
9. Vanderbilt	6-5-0

Source: NSCAA Oct. 11 rankings

in the nation, ranks directly above TCU in the Midwest Region.

In a prepared statement, Rubinson said he believes his team is on its way to the top 25 in the nation.

"This is the best all-around group of guys we've had," Rubinson said. "They've really come together in the past few seasons to put us where we are now. It's a great change to finally be at the top of the conference instead of the bottom. This team knows what it will take to become a

top-25 program."

Rubinson said he believes the SMU game will be an indicator of the team's abilities.

"We have more quality players, more depth, ability and leadership than ever before," Rubinson said. "But we haven't arrived yet. Next week we play SMU, and we will have a better idea of where we're at."

James Zwilling

jgzwilling@delta.is.tcu.edu

# Women split in WAC opener



John Shaw/SKIFF STAFF

Freshman forward Nicole Carman hurdles a Texas-El Paso defender to win a ball in the Frog's 1-0 loss to the Miners on Friday at the TCU Soccer Complex. A late goal by UTEP's Ja'net Esparza upset the Frogs' chance at winning their opening Western Athletic Conference contest. Sunday, TCU staged off a late Tulsa effort for its first WAC win of the season, 4-3. After jumping off to a 3-0 lead in the first period, the Golden Hurricanes answered with three goals of their own before the end of regulation play. Freshman forward Alecia Greishaber tapped the game-winning goal almost six minutes into the overtime period to assure the victory for the Frogs.

# Irvin expected to play again this year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING, Texas — Wearing a protective collar around his neck, Michael Irvin flew home Monday and will await further examinations to determine the severity of his injury.

Early indications suggest the Dallas Cowboys receiver will recover from a swollen spinal cord and herniated disc and play again this season.

Irvin was injured when he was tackled early in Sunday's 13-10 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles, and now the question is how much time he will miss.

"It's really too hard to tell how long he's going to be out right now," trainer Jim Maurer said. "We're optimistic that Mike will be back this year."

Irvin, who is taking medicine to reduce the swelling, will see a Dallas-area spine specialist Wednesday. An MRI will be taken and compared to one made hours after the injury. How much has changed will determine the next step in his treatment.

Exams Sunday showed swelling in the spinal cord in two places near the base of the skull. Maurer said he doesn't expect the new pictures to show any further damage that may have been obscured by

the initial swelling. "I think they got a pretty good picture of everything he incurred," Maurer said.

The trainer admitted Monday that Irvin lost some feeling immediately after the injury.

"He had some limitations on the field," Maurer said. "He didn't have full motor function and he had pain in his neck."

Irvin was able to move his hands and feet within 15 minutes, much to the relief of his terrified teammates. He was then strapped to a stretcher and taken to the spinal unit at Thomas Jefferson Hospital, where he spent the night.

By Monday morning, Irvin had regained full use of his motor functions — the most encouraging sign yet.

"That's one of the reasons he's being released as early as today," Maurer said.

The 33-year-old has been a leader for Dallas on and off the field since joining the team in 1988. He hasn't missed a game because of injury since 1990, Emmitt Smith's rookie season.

"Michael has been a great player for this organization for a long time," said quarterback Troy Aikman, who has won three Super Bowls with Irvin. "He's made a lot of big plays in a lot of big games."

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## Defense defies SJSU's numbers

By Todd J. Shriber  
STAFF REPORTER

Numbers really don't mean much in the world of college football.

Just ask the TCU defense about its performance against San Jose State Saturday at Amon Carter Stadium.

San Jose State came into the game ranked No. 9 nationally in total offense. The backbone of that offense was supposed to be the passing combination of quarterback Chris Kasteler and receiver Steven Pulley.

TCU's defense headed into the game ranked No. 86 nationally in total defense and No. 105 out of 114 teams in pass defense.

Those numbers seemed to matter little once the game started, as the Horned Frog defense made a performance that surprised even head coach Dennis Franchione.

"I'm a little surprised," Franchione said after the game. "Not at our performance, but that we were able to do it to a team that last week had 500 yards and had been putting up 30 points a game for the last month."

"It was a fantastic game plan that the defensive coaches had. We kept the quarterback off-balance. I don't think he knew where we were coming from when we coming."

It showed in the final statistics that Kasteler was caught off guard by the TCU defense. He finished the day just 16 of 41 with one interception for 166 yards. He had been averaging 251 yards per game

before the game against TCU.

What made things difficult for the Spartans was Kasteler's inability to hook up with Pulley, the Western Athletic Conference's leading receiver coming into the game. Pulley finished the day with just four catches for 46 yards, all of which came in the second half with the game well out of reach.

Junior safety Curtis Fuller said it was part of TCU's game plan not to let Pulley be the game's deciding factor.

"We did some things to slow him down," Fuller said. "We had a great game plan and we wouldn't let Pulley beat us. We shut down the run too. This isn't surprising; we can do this against anybody."

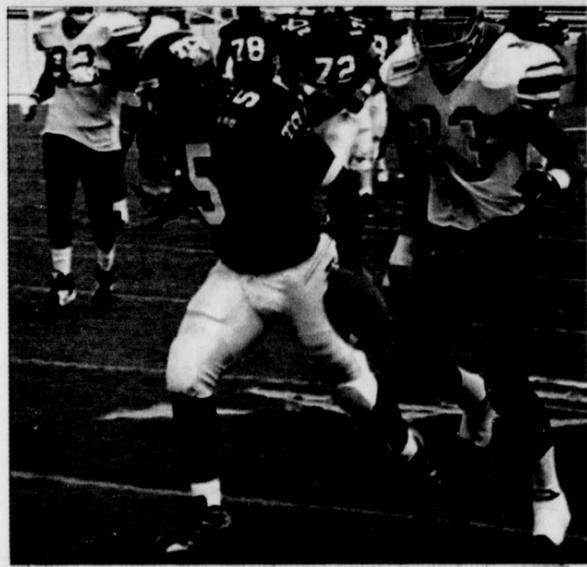
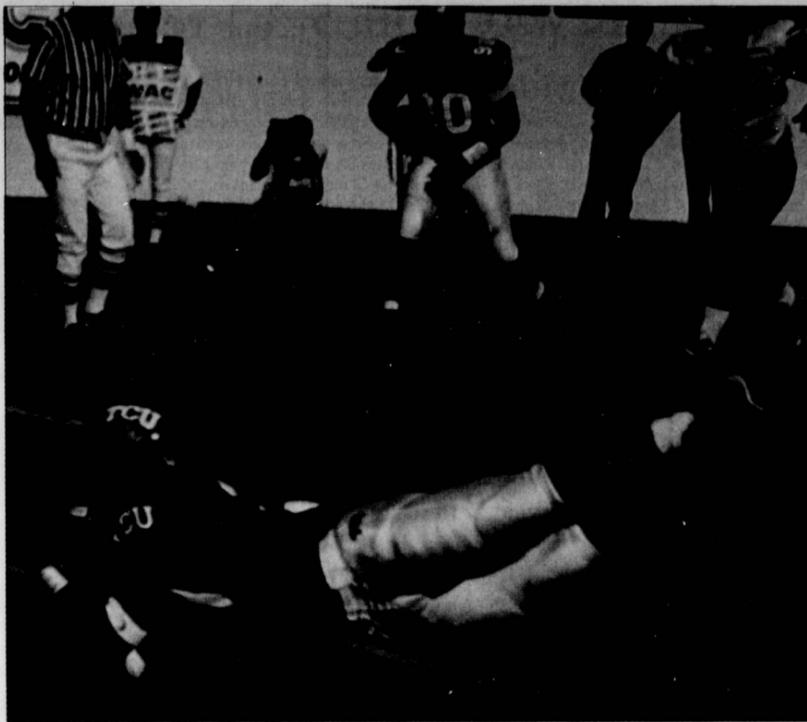
Senior safety Reggie Hunt said the key was the defense's ability to play strong for all four quarters.

"We've got the talent to shut down anybody," Hunt said. "We just talked about putting all four quarters together and we did this time."

The game was expected to be a shoot-out coming in, but that scenario never materialized.

"I probably ticked Gary off a little when I wondered if we could outscore them," Franchione said of TCU defensive coordinator Gary Patterson. "It was an incredible game by the defense."

Todd J. Shriber  
tshriber@hotmail.com



John Shaw/SKIFF STAFF

**Freshman cornerback Jason Goss, above, makes a diving interception in the Frogs' 42-0 beating of San Jose State Saturday at Amon Carter Stadium. Junior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson, left, breaks free from the Spartan defense for some of career-high 300 yards. Tomlinson was named Western Athletic Conference Player of the Week for his play against San Jose State, and he took over the nation's top spot with 176.4 rushing yards per game. The Frogs next against Tulsa at 6:05 p.m. Saturday at Amon Carter Stadium.**

## Offense sets highs in win

By Matt Welack  
STAFF REPORTER

After coming off a dismal showing against Fresno State two weeks ago — when junior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson gained only 49 yards — the offensive line was challenged by head coach Dennis Franchione to perform better.

With the help of the offensive line's blocking, Tomlinson is now the leading rusher in the nation after rushing for 300 yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries. Tomlinson is averaging 176.5 yards per game, which is 14 yards more than Iowa State's Darren Davis.

"Seeing him break downfield and knowing I was a part of that, there's no better feeling (than) when he comes to thank us," junior tackle David Bobo said.

The 42-0 win over San Jose State Saturday was another record-setting day for Tomlinson. His first quarter touchdown run of 89 yards was the longest rushing play in TCU history. Tomlinson's 300-yard effort is a career high and an Amon Carter Stadium record.

"I didn't know that I had that many yards," Tomlinson said. "I felt like I may have had 200. The offensive line did a terrific job of blocking, so did our fullbacks. I felt like I had a lot (of yardage), but I didn't know I had that many."

The offensive line made it easy for him by creating holes big enough to "run a diesel through," Tomlinson said.

"This might be the best

offensive line in TCU history," Tomlinson said. "They really moved a lot of people around today. From there it was all gravy."

A total of 10 TCU players rushed the ball as the Frogs amassed 418 yards on the ground, which is the most during Franchione's tenure. Sophomore fullback George Layne rushed for 49 yards on six carries and scored two touchdowns, the first of his career.

Freshman quarterback Casey Printers completed four of 12 passes for 67 yards and one touchdown. He left the game in the third quarter with an ankle injury. Senior quarterback Patrick Batteaux came in relief, passing for 42 yards and one touchdown on three completions.

"I think we could have thrown the ball more, but we didn't have to," Franchione said.

TCU scored fast and furious — a total of 35 points — in the first half. Four of the Frogs' scoring drives were under 1 1/2 minutes. The 42 points were the most since Franchione took over the team last season, and the victory margin is the largest since TCU joined the Western Athletic Conference in 1996.

"Certainly we scored pretty fast," Franchione said. "An 89-yard run doesn't take much time off the clock. Given my druthers between possession time and points, I'll take the points."

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# SMU in bad shape after C-USA snub

In a long-awaited announcement, TCU officially accepted an invitation to join Conference USA.

But in an unexpected announcement, Southern Methodist University did not receive an invitation to flee from the crumbling Western Athletic Conference.

This news comes somewhat as a surprise because the two schools were the front-runners in Conference USA's expansion plans. Talks with C-USA commissioner Mike Slive began in late August and TCU and SMU were considered to be a package deal for conference expansion.

Going to Conference USA is a good deal for TCU because of the national exposure and quality of athletic programs.

SMU, however, gets the bad end of this situation because they have to remain in the struggling WAC.

Slive said the decision not to invite SMU was a numbers issue because the board of presidents did not want to increase the size of the conference.

SMU athletics director Jim Copeland said SMU is somewhat surprised at being turned down for C-USA and are in the same situation as last year, which is "not that bad."

Copeland said the decision not to invite SMU was more political than it was objective.

"There are so many different ways to look at things," Copeland said. "You've got a number of different things from different angles. I talked to Slive before the press conference. He was hesitant to give reasons."

Whatever Conference USA's reasoning is, it doesn't make sense to invite one and not the other. With the addition of the University of South Florida as a football-

playing school in 2003, the conference will have 11 teams, one short for a championship game.

It would seem logical then to accept SMU as the 12th school which would allow C-USA to have two divisions and have a championship playoff game. Obviously, this would mean increased revenue for all schools involved.

It would also seem logical to keep the TCU-SMU cross-town rivalry intact. Who are the Frogs going to develop a rivalry with, the University of Alabama-Birmingham?

In basketball last season, both the TCU-SMU match-ups were featured on ESPN. This season's football game is on national television. Nothing gets the football players more fired up than playing for the annual Iron Skillet, a trophy given to the winning team.

Both Copeland and TCU head coach Dennis Franchione agree the rivalry should be kept intact. In fact, Franchione thinks the intensity of the rivalry will

increase. Copeland said he will keep TCU on SMU's schedule in the future.

"I have been a part of a rivalry that was not in the same conference," Franchione said. "That is still something that is possible. I think the rivalry will increase. That's a cross-town rival — and that's something that we all need."

According to a prepared statement from the SMU athletics department, the school will continue to develop its athletics program with the WAC, with enthusiasm of course.

It seems, however, that the WAC is heading in a downward spiral. Eight teams bolted last season to form the Mountain West Conference. TCU leaves this season.

WAC senior associate commissioner Jeff Hurd said the WAC might stay at eight teams or look at possibly expanding.

Of course, this comes from the man who in April said losing TCU would severely hurt the standing of WAC.

"There is no question TCU is vital to

the future success of the conference" Hurd said in April. "Without (TCU) it would be a mortal wound to the conference."

Compare that to what Hurd said Monday.

"We don't feel that the loss of one university, no matter who it is, is a death blow by any means," Hurd said. "We still consider ourselves a viable Division I conference and we'll explore what options we have."

The athletics program at TCU is on the rise. With the addition of new athletic facilities, a Sun Bowl win and a new conference to play in, TCU looks to make the fighting Frog a brand name in the national spotlight.

Whether SMU will follow suit, we don't know. Staying in the WAC certainly won't help its chances.

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## Mustangs stamp out TCU's fire

By Paul Freeland  
SKIFF STAFF

It's surprising how much Mustangs and mythological Greek monsters can have in common.

In ancient Greek mythology, the Hydra, a fire-breathing monster, ravaged the countryside and whenever one of its heads were cut off, two heads popped up to take its place. When the Volley Frogs took away one of Southern Methodist's offensive weapons Friday night, two more popped up right where the other left off.

"We were concerned about (junior middle blocker) Melissa Godwin coming into the match," head coach Sandy Trout said. "She had been playing well for them of late. We tried to neutralize her, and we did, but we weren't able to accomplish much else. SMU just served us off the floor tonight."

TCU was able to hold Godwin to only nine kills and six errors on 27 attempts, but Mustang outside hitters Kelly Klecka and Erin Pryor combined for 30-kills to lead SMU past the Volley Frogs 11-15, 6-15, 4-15.

"Our kids were really high emotionally coming into the match," Trout said. "We were able to contain Pryor at the start and she was making some errors. Lisa [Seifert, SMU head coach] pulled her and sat her on the bench so she would calm down. She calmed down but our kids didn't. I thought that Pryor and Klecka played as well as I have ever seen them play."

TCU opened the match on fire, claiming the first five points on hitting and serving errors by SMU. The Mustangs would control play for most of the game, scoring the final six points of the game to take a 1-0 lead.

The second game opened as a mirror image of the first game as SMU jumped out to an early 6-0 lead before the Volley Frogs closed the lead with 6-7. The Mustangs outdistanced TCU from there, closing out the game behind the serving of senior defensive specialist Mariah Ohlsen.

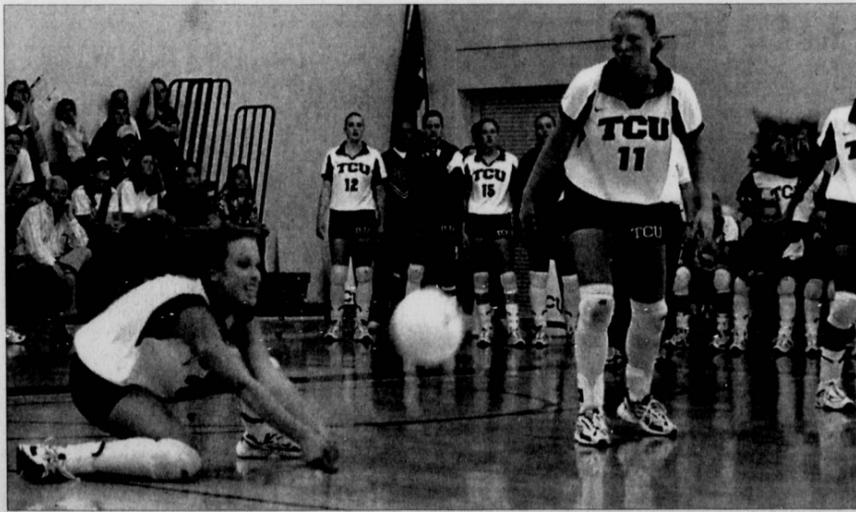
The Mustangs flew out to an 8-1 lead in the third game. The Volley Frogs cut the lead to 3-8 before SMU finished off the match, taking seven of the next

eight points to earn the three game sweep of the Volley Frogs.

TCU was led by sophomore outside hitter Marci King's nine kills while sophomore middle blocker Allison Lynch and freshman outside hitter Stephanie Watson each chipped in seven. Sophomore setter Lindsay Hayes contributed 27 set assists and senior outside hitter Jill Pape and sophomore middle blocker Jennifer Sebastian led the Volley Frogs' blocking effort with five assisted blocks each.

Entering the match, Pape and Pryor were fighting for top honors on the Western Athletic Conference's all-time kills list. Pape came into the contest with 1,512 kills for her career while Pryor had 1,548. With the results of the match in, Pryor sits in eighth place all-time with 1,564 kills while Pape holds ninth place with 1,515 career kills.

High on the Volley Frogs' list of things to work on for the next match is consistency in passing, King said. "We have been working on our passing every day in practice," she said. "It just seems that whenever



John Shaw/SKIFF STAFF

Sophomore Marci King kneels to dig a SMU serve in the Frogs' three-set loss to the Mustangs Friday at the Rickel Center.

we get pressed in a game situation we revert back to our old habits."

Trout agreed with King about the passing problems. "That was probably the worst passing performance that we've had as a program," she said. "We just came in too emotional. This

will not be a recurring theme, though. We will fight back and keep getting better. We just got hammered and sometimes when you get hammered, it's the best thing possible for the program at that time."

After a week of practice, the

Volley Frogs will then spend a weekend on the road, visiting Texas-El Paso (4-12, 2-2 WAC) Saturday and Texas Tech (11-7, 1-5 Big 12) Sunday.

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