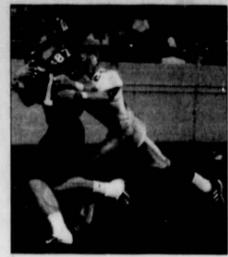




Skiff



TCU scored 14 points within two minutes to give the Horned Frogs a 21-10 lead going into halftime against the Tulsa Golden Hurricane Saturday, en route to a 56-17 victory. page 6

Fort Worth, Texas

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Pulse BRIEFS

CAMPUS

New Frog Calls available at Information Desk

The 1999-2000 edition of Frog Calls is now available at the information desk of the Student Center. Students, faculty and staff may pick up the directory at their convenience. Any questions should be referred to the Information Desk at 257-7927.

Students approve changes to SGA constitution

After Thursday's referendum closed at 5 p.m., members of the Elections and Regulations Committee tallied 306 votes and found the proposal passed 298 to 8.

Bill 99-16, a proposal to change parts of the Student Government Association constitution, including the refinement of the duties of the House of Student Representatives, was debated and passed in the House Sept. 28.

SGA President Ben Alexander said he thinks the referendum's passage will set the stage for SGA to have a successful year.

"It will give officers the opportunity to do great things since some of their roles are redefined," he said.

House to debate Golden Key Club funding bill today

Golden Key Club's bill requesting funding for an on-campus reception will be debated and voted on during the House of Student Representative's regular meeting at 5 p.m. today in Student Center, Room 222.

Bill 99-18 requests \$465 from the House special projects fund.

Golden Key is a national honor society that recognizes juniors and seniors with a 3.5 grade point average or higher.

Job Fair to be held today at Arlington Convention Center

The semi-annual MAC3 Job Fair will be held from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. today at the Arlington Convention Center, which is located across from The Ballpark in Arlington.

Although there is no registration fee, it will cost \$4 to park. Students are asked to dress in suits and bring their résumés.

The MAC3 is the largest Dallas-Fort Worth area job fair for college-educated workers. Between 200 and 250 employers who are looking only for college graduates are expected to attend the fair.

Non-seniors may attend to determine what qualities employers are currently seeking and what internships are available. A list of employers attending can be found on the Internet at (<http://placement.sosu/Mac3.htm>).

Area stores benefit from Family Weekend as parents, students prove they're good for business



A student and her mother look at merchandise at the TCU bookstore during Family Weekend.

Parents' visits yield profits

By Alan Melson
STAFF REPORTER

Sales and customer traffic for TCU-area businesses during Family Weekend were generally higher than last year, local merchants said Monday.

Several store managers said the 6 p.m. kickoff of the TCU football game may have helped spur that increase because it gave shoppers more time during the day.

Lisa Lewis, manager of the TCU Bookstore, said Family Weekend always brings more customers through the store.

"It is always a plus because the parents are here," she said. "This year the fact that it was an evening game also helped."

Lewis said the bookstore's biggest-selling products were TCU clothing and gift items, but the forecast of cold weather also added to that total.

"Because of the cold front coming in, a lot of people wanted to be prepared for that, so we sold more jackets and sweatshirts," she said.

Other area businesses noticed a difference as well. Troy Smith, store director at the Albertson's on South University Drive, said his sales were up \$20,000 from a normal weekend, significantly higher than last year's Family Weekend.

"We had 400 to 500 more customers come into the store this past weekend than on a normal weekend," Smith said. "Sales were up

this year, in part due to our new 'TCU Center,' where we have TCU shirts, hats, flags and things like that. The TCU Bookstore has a little bit better quality stuff, but their prices are generally double or triple what ours are."

"We sold a ton of TCU stuff this weekend, mainly to parents buying stuff for themselves. With the football team doing so well, people want more TCU items," he said.

Smith said grocery sales were also higher than normal. "A lot of parents came in and bought large quantities of groceries for the kids ... it's like they come in town and re-stock their

See WEEKEND, Page 4

House to address visitation

Proposal suggests dorms remain open 24 hours on Fridays, Saturdays

By Tealy Dippel
STAFF REPORTER

Residence hall visitation hours will be extended from 10 to 2 a.m. on weekdays and to 24-hour visitation on Fridays, Saturdays and nights before university-recognized holidays if a proposal submitted by the Student Concerns Committee of the House of Student Representatives is approved.

Marcus Kain, chairman of the Student Concerns Committee, will meet with Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, Thursday to discuss the proposal.

Kain said he began thinking of the idea after he and two other TCU students attended the National Association of Campus Activities conference in Washington D.C. this summer. Kain and his committee members have researched 30 other private universities around the country, 18 of which have 24-hour visitation policies, he said.

Kain said the students he has talked with would like to see extended visitation hours, and over one-fourth of the comment cards received in September addressed visitation.

"We want to make TCU a better residential community," he said.

Carlo Capua, chairman of the Permanent Improvements Committee and a resident adviser for Milton Daniel Hall, said the campus might want to re-evaluate its visitation policy, but changes would be required.

"If the hours were changed, there would be changes for resident assistants, TCU police, and it would place more responsibility in the

hands of the residents," he said. An increase in visitation hours would also mean more security and expenses, which Kain said he will discuss with members of the TCU administration. The proposal suggests having a night watchman during weekday hours and midnight to 8 a.m. during the weekend.

Another option suggests placing a student in each of the housing offices during both weekday and weekend hours. People visiting would be required to present a TCU ID card and sign in and out of the building. Those visiting from outside the TCU community would be required to present a driver's license.

Chelsea Hudson, a freshman pre-law and political science major and a hall representative for Colby Hall, said she likes the idea of changing visitation hours.

"I think it sounds like a good plan, and I think my constituents would approve of it," she said.

The proposal also suggests creating roommate contracts, in which students fill out a form with their roommates concerning quiet hours, noise and visitation hours.

"Other universities such as Wake Forest University have roommate contracts to help facilitate with communication," Kain said. "It helps solve problems with adequate living environments for both people and their neighbors."

Greg Skasko, chairman of the Residential Concerns Committee, which is working in conjunction with Kain's committee, said there is an

See VISITATION, Page 5

Program counting losses after Angelou cancellation

Some Honors Council members say they're angry they weren't consulted about her appearance

By Lori Eshelman
STAFF REPORTER

Almost two weeks after the cancellation of Maya Angelou's performance at TCU, the Honors Program is still counting its losses, and some Honors Council members said they are angry because they were not consulted about the decision to invite Angelou.

Angelou canceled her appearance because her brother — who died last weekend — was gravely ill, said Eric Wold, Angelou's representative from the Washington Speakers Bureau.

Kathryne McDorman, Honors Program director, said although the

Honors Program was refunded the entire speaker's fee, which was between \$25,000 and \$35,000, it still lost an estimated \$30,000 by Angelou's last-minute cancellation. The exact total will not be known until all the bills are received in about a month, she said.

The main expense came from the people who worked overtime, but things such as publicity and equipment rental for Daniel-Meyer Coliseum also contributed to the loss, McDorman said.

"We were certainly left holding the bag," she said.

Neither Angelou nor her represen-

tatives have contacted TCU since the initial call announcing the cancellation, McDorman said.

"I don't think they want to talk about it," she said. "They've probably found themselves in this situation too many times."

Charles Becker, an associate professor of economics and chairman of the Honors Council, said McDorman failed to follow proper procedure when she decided to book Angelou, who has a reputation of canceling her engagements.

"I was never consulted on Maya Angelou at any stage of the process," he said. "Neither was the Honors

Council."

Becker said it was possible that McDorman may have consulted individual members of the council, but she did not present the idea to the council as a whole.

"I was never even told she was under consideration," he said. "Had I been, more would have been done to look into her background."

Roger Pfaffenberger, chairman of the Faculty Senate and a member of the Honors Council, said he does not recall McDorman discussing the potential invitation with the council, and to the best of his knowledge, there was not any research done on

Angelou's problems in fulfilling obligations.

"Given the statistics of her proclivity for deciding at the last moment she is not coming to the engagement, I would have questioned whether this is the kind of person we should invite," he said.

Pfaffenberger said he knew Angelou had about a '50 percent appearance rate.

"That is why it's important for a director or council to use their advisory board — to prevent this type of thing from happening," he said.

See ANGELOU, Page 4

Speaker to address conflict resolution

Putnam leading speaker in field

By Stephen Suffron
STAFF REPORTER

Removing cumbersome procedures and buried malice to solve disputes within an organization efficiently will be the subject of conflict management expert Linda Putnam's lecture at 4 p.m. today in Moudy Building North, Room 141.

Putnam, who is president-elect of the International Communication Association, comes to TCU as part of the visiting Green Honors Professors program that originated in 1969. There will be a reception following the lecture, and Putnam will remain on campus until Wednesday.

William G. Powers, chairman of the speech communication department, said Putnam is the leading scholar

See SCHOLAR, Page 5

Who: Linda Putnam, president-elect of the International Communication Association

What: The Green Honors Professors program, "Organizational Dispute Resolution: New Developments and Challenges"

When: 4 p.m. Tuesday
Where: Moudy Building North, Room 141

Cost: Free

At the ballot box



Sophomores Rebel Paulk and Molly Hayes vote Thursday during the Student Government Association referendum.

DIRTY MONEY

Army ROTC picks up trash at stadium after home games to help raise funds

By Matt Wehnack
STAFF REPORTER

Braving the wind and the rain, Army ROTC member Logan Grover strapped on his old leaky gas-powered blower after Saturday's football game and started to sweep the upper deck of Amon Carter Stadium.

The sound of those blowers echoed in the stadium hours after the game ended and the 27,957 fans filed out to enjoy their Saturday evening.

Grover, a senior criminal justice and physics major, and about 30 other ROTC members stay after each game to clean up trash as the

program's only fund-raiser for the academic year.

The ROTC program earns \$1,500 a home game to clean up the stadium. The money goes toward paying for training costs and social events, such as Military Ball and Dining-In.

"They are doing an excellent job," master sergeant Leonard Cousins said. "The cadets are very motivated. It's a very 'sacrificing' job to come up on the weekend to clean the stadium."

Grover said cleaning the stadium is a dirty job, but somebody has to

See ROTC, Page 5

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.

■ TCU Student Foundation will be accepting membership applications until Friday. 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.

■ Yearbook will be taking pictures for the 1999-2000 issue from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. today, Thursday and Friday in the Student Center Lounge. For more information, call 257-7606.

■ RTVF Thursday Film Series will present "Shane" (1953) at 7 p.m. Thursday in Moudy Building South, Room 164.

■ A reception and information session for students planning to study abroad next semester will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday in Student Center, Room 216.

■ TCU Toastmasters will meet at noon Tuesday in Student Center, Room 211. For more information, e-mail (r.elleven@tcu.edu) or go to (<http://gamma.is.tcu.edu/~relleven/tm.html>).

■ Flu vaccinations will be given from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays in the Brown-Lupton Health Center. The cost is \$10.

■ Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Moudy Building South, Room 271. For more information please call Dr. Newsom at 257-6552.

■ Campus Crusade for Christ will be selling raffle tickets as part of their yearly fundraiser today and Thursday in the Student Center. Tickets are \$1. Prizes include a mini stereo, dinner for 2 at Red, Hot & Blue, and a \$50 gift certificate for Harold's.

News

ROUNDUP

World

Pakistani troops withdraw from Indian border, Britain suspends Pakistan representation

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistani army troops begin pulling back from the Indian border Monday, almost a week after the military took over Pakistan's government and four months after a bitter border dispute threatened to erupt into full-fledged war.

Gen. Pervaiz Musharraf, who overthrew the democratically elected government of Nawaz Sharif, said the redeployment was a peaceful gesture toward India. But India responded coolly, saying it had no military significance.

In London, meanwhile, Commonwealth foreign ministers suspended Pakistan from councils of the association of Britain and its former colonies. The decision Monday by the eight ministers was the first formal step toward suspending Pakistan from Commonwealth membership; under the group's rules, only the heads of state can do that.

The foreign ministers called on the military regime in Islamabad to set "without delay" a time-frame for restoring democracy.

Pakistan army spokesman Col. Saulat Raza said the withdrawal was only along the 460-mile-long international border, and did not apply to the cease-fire line in Kashmir, a territory split between the rival nuclear nations. India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir.

In New Delhi, India's army commander, Gen. V.P. Malik, said the Pakistani pullback had little military significance and said his forces would not immediately respond.

Washington welcomed the pullback. U.S. Ambassador William Milam called it "a gesture of faith," adding that the coup had not worsened the regional situation.

International peacekeepers continue onto final unsecured East Timor territory

DILI, East Timor — International peacekeepers said Monday they plan to move into the last unsecured part of East Timor — a small, isolated enclave where human rights abuses have been reported.

Elsewhere, officials in Indonesia predicted that the country's highest legislative body will formally accept East Timor's independence referendum when it votes this week.

In East Timor, peacekeepers were responding to concerns about the enclave, called Oecussi. Peacekeeping forces will be moving in to provide security there, Col. Mark Kelly said, chief of staff of the Australian-led multinational force.

But he did not say how soon the move would come. He implied that it might not happen until the peacekeeping force — now 7,000 strong — reaches its full complement of about 8,000 troops.

On Sunday, a top commander of East Timor's pro-independence Falintil rebels said Indonesian troops and their militia allies have killed 50 people and raped many women in the enclave. In his statement, Taur Matan Ruak urged the peacekeeping mission, called Interfet, to move into the region quickly.

Oecussi, a small enclave on the northern coast of neighboring Indonesian-held West Timor, is connected to the rest of East Timor only by a 50-mile stretch of road through West Timor. Its 50,000 people have largely stayed out of the guerrilla war between Indonesia and the Falintil insurgents, who have been waging a guerrilla war since Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese colony in 1975.

Nation

Percentage of poor may rise if poverty line income is changed to \$19,500

WASHINGTON — The Census Bureau is studying ways to redefine poverty, a move that could potentially send millions of families below the new poverty line.

The analysis was prompted by a report earlier this year by the National Academy of Sciences, Edward Welniak said, chief of income and poverty statistics at the bureau. Welniak said the goal is to improve the measure of poverty, which was established decades ago.

In addition to redefining the poverty threshold itself, which could increase the number of people considered poor, the bureau has also studied for several years whether to include all or part of non-cash benefits as income for the poor, a change that could reduce the number in poverty. Among the non-cash benefits studied were housing assistance and food stamps.

The *New York Times* reported today that under a new poverty formula being considered, for a family of four to be considered above the poverty line, their annual income would have to be \$19,500 a year, instead of the current \$16,600 per year.

That change would make 46 million Americans, 17 percent of the population, poor. Last month, only 12.7 percent were considered poor, the lowest level in almost a decade.

The current poverty formula was created during President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration and has not changed since 1965 except for inflation adjustments. The new poverty measure is an attempt to determine what poor people spend on food, clothing, housing and extras, *The Times* said.

Murder and robbery rates in nation's capital drop again for seventh straight year in 1998

WASHINGTON — Murder and robbery rates dropped to the lowest levels in three decades in 1998 as serious reported crimes declined for the seventh straight year, but officials and experts warn against complacency.

The overall violent crime rate — 566 murders, rapes, robberies and assaults per 100,000 residents — dropped to its lowest level since 556 in 1985, just before an epidemic of crack cocaine emerged

to send it soaring.

The report also showed the use of guns in homicides and robberies is decreasing, and one of the most terrifying crimes that rose with the crack epidemic dropped below half of all slayings for only the second time during the 1990s.

Attorney General Janet Reno said that as a Florida prosecutor, she saw constituents lose interest in crime issues after rates fell for several years.

During 1998, the violent crimes of murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault and the far more numerous property crimes — burglary, auto theft and larceny-theft — all dropped in number and rate.

State

Cellular companies unite to donate phone service for victims of domestic violence

FORT WORTH, Texas — Kimberly Rachel, who was in an abusive relationship for nine years, said a wireless telephone may have been more useful than a court order in helping protect her from domestic violence.

Rachel, who plans on becoming a lawyer, made her remarks at the Crime Prevention Resource Center where three major wireless carriers put aside their competitive differences and announced the donation of 100 phones and airtime to 12 domestic violence agencies in Tarrant, Dallas and Denton counties.

The joint donation by PrimeCo, AT&T Wireless Services and Southwestern Bell Wireless comes as the companies recognize National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The phones, which will go to victims and caseworkers, are pre-programmed to dial 911 or other emergency services. Some of the phones also come with airtime allowing regular phone calls.

The announcement in Fort Worth is part of the national Call to Protect campaign, whose members include several wireless carriers, as well as Motorola Inc., which provides many of the phones, and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The campaign's goal is to provide 11,000 phones, many of them donated and refurbished, to combat domestic violence.

Leader in medical and civil rights community found shot to death in clinic on Sunday

DALLAS — A doctor and civil rights advocate found slain in his clinic had worked tirelessly to improve community health care, friends and associates said.

Police are pursuing several leads in the fatal shooting of Edward James Mason, 76. He was found slumped at his desk Sunday morning by a prospective employee.

Mason was taken to Baylor University Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead of multiple gunshot wounds. Police said he had planned to leave his office early Sunday to attend a birthday party for his 2-year-old son. The doctor usually worked seven days a week.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

TCU DAILY Skiff

Since 1902

Circulation: 4,600
 Subscriptions: Call 257-7000, extension 6274. Rates are \$30 per semester.
 Mailing address: Box 298050, Fort Worth, Texas 76129.
 Location: Moudy Building South Room 291
 2805 S. University Drive Fort Worth, TX 76109
 On-campus distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus, limit one per person. For additional copies contact the Skiff office.

Main number: (817) 257-7428
 Fax: 257-7133
 Advertising/Classified: 257-7426
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STAFF editorial

CHEERS & JEERS

Just a few rants and raves

Contrary to popular belief, *Skiff* staff members do get out once in awhile. And when we do, we see little things that merit our commentary. Or maybe we just feel like putting our two cents in.

Cheers — to the 306 students who voted in the Student Government Association referendum Thursday.

Jeers — to the some 6,500 other students who didn't vote.

Cheers — four words: Frog Calls is in!

Jeers — to the people who monitor parking lots during football games. The monitors admitted vehicles without the appropriate parking sticker into the Worth Hills lot, and then proceeded to charge Worth Hills residents when they had to park in other lots because their lot was full.

Cheers — to Programming Council for a successful Family Weekend and for bringing Goo Goo Dolls to campus during Homecoming Week.

Jeers — to people who don't remove their parking stickers from previous years. That's why razors were invented!

Cheers — to the Horned Frog football team for winning Saturday's game against the University of Tulsa.

Jeers — to an employee in the eatery formerly known as Pizza Hut who mocked students who missed Sunday's midnight closing time by just a few seconds.

Cheers — to the other employees who allowed the same students to enter and to pay for their midnight snacks. It's called customer service.

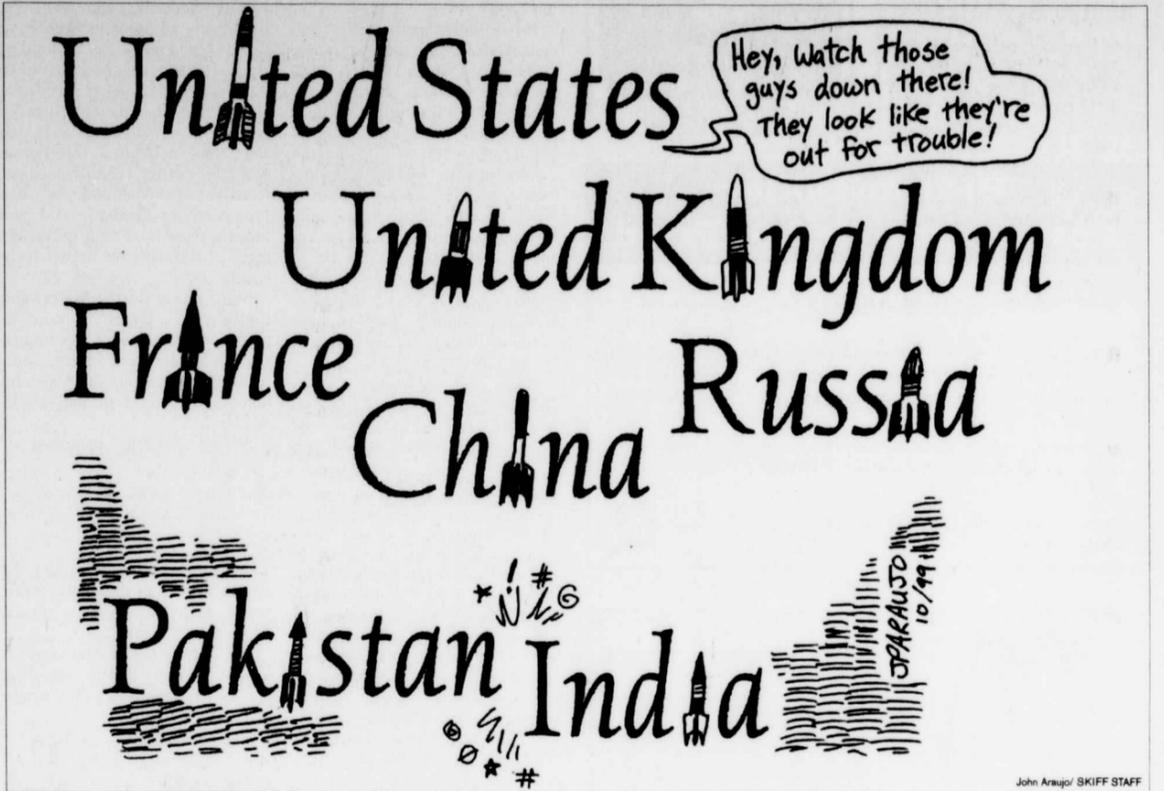
Here's to hoping the powers that be continue the good things and fix the bad.

Cheers.

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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John Araujo/ SKIFF STAFF

Drinking is not parents' problem

University policy to notify parents of minors' actions needs examination

The meaning of "A&M" in Texas A&M University's name could now stand for "Alcohol & Mommy." After all, the two now seem to go hand in hand.

A & M administrators changed their policy last month on underage alcohol consumption. Now parents will be notified when their underage son or daughter is caught on campus with alcohol.

Congress modified the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act in October 1998, which allowed — but did not mandate — universities to notify parents of minors who receive alcohol violations.

But TCU has been doing this for years, said Angie Taylor, director of the alcohol and drug education center.

"It's part of our contractual relationship with the student," she said. "Because TCU is a private school,

we were in a position to (notify parents.)"

Taylor said that on their first violation, students can work off a fine through community service, and parents will not be notified unless the violation is accompanied by an extreme situation such as a fight. On the second and third violations, a copy of a letter notifying

the student of the consequences is sent to his or her parents.

"What we hope happens is the parent has a dialogue with the student, and the parents become more involved in issues in the student's life," Taylor said. "Usually that catches their attention."

But even if the letter does pique the interests of the parents, about 30 percent of the student body is not from Texas. What steps can these parents take to ensure their son or daughter is drinking responsibly? Most likely, parents are too busy to fly in town to teach their son or daughter a drinking lesson. And a phone call or an e-mail can only

provide so much guidance before the student deletes the message and returns to life as usual.

In college, students learn not only the theories of physics, but also the rules of adulthood. So it's not exactly helping students grow up when university officials run to Mommy and Daddy to tell on Junior about what he did last

weekend. And it doesn't teach Junior to take responsibility for his actions when Mommy and Daddy rush in to rescue him from his "problem."

Granted, alcohol abuse is a serious problem that merits guidance from others. But notifying parents upon the student's second violation is not enough opportunity to let the student try to solve his or her own issues independent of parental interference.

The second violation should be the point at which the student must both pay a fine and perform community service. TCU should increase the weight of the punishment more grad-

ually than the rate its current policy allows. As it stands now, the policy involves parents too soon to allow the student to learn the lesson himself.

TCU's new mission statement says the university's mission is "to educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community." Surely in TCU's attempt to prepare students to be "responsible citizens," students could be given a chance to accept responsibility for their own actions.

As other colleges face this same problem, TCU administrators should re-examine this policy. College students — who at 18 are legal adults — should be treated accordingly.

There's no doubt that parents should take an active role in the education of their son or daughter. But the university should give the student more of a chance to learn from personal mistakes before parents are brought into the situation.

Opinion Editor Laura Head is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Shreveport, La. She can be reached at (lhead@delta.is.tcu.edu).

Commentary



LAURA HEAD

"Surely in TCU's attempt to prepare students to be 'responsible citizens,' students could be given a chance to accept responsibility for their own actions."

Road trips fuel friendship

Water-skiing in October seemed like a good idea at the time. Of course, I was eating a nice hot lunch while the sun shone in the windows of The Main. This is what college is all about, so what could be more fun than a road trip to Oklahoma and a day on the lake?

So that is how I found myself strapping on a life jacket in the middle of Lake Murray. Had I been thinking, the icicles hanging off the ends of my life jacket would have been some sort of warning, but my mind had been on Fall Break since Labor Day. I stood on the edge of the boat, took a deep breath, and plunged in.

The water was cold. Really cold. Not Texas "It's-only-70-degrees-so-I'd-better-wear-a-sweatshirt" cold but cold, like having brain freeze all over your body.

There's something about cold water that increases the size of the competition gland in a guy's brain. Add other guys and two girls in a speedboat, and you can almost see the competition gland swelling.

So when somebody brought up the idea of "tube wars" — a battle between two inner-tube riders to see who can stay on the longest — I needed only a small amount of convincing.

Sure, I was finally dry after my first icy plunge. Sure, the sun was going down and the water was getting even colder. Sure, Leonardo

DiCaprio's frozen body from "Titanic" had just drifted by. It didn't matter. All that mattered was one thing: becoming king of tube wars.

The stage was set for our epic battle. It didn't matter that this guy was a good friend and fraternity brother of mine. In the water we were mortal enemies. This was no longer a simple little competition between buddies. Oh no, we had crossed the line. This was right up there with good vs. evil, freedom vs. bondage and TCU vs. SMU; one of those momentous, defining events in a person's life.

We jumped in the lake (dodging the ice-fishing Eskimos) and took our respective inner tubes. With a signal to the driver, we were off.

Something happened to me as the battle began. I was no longer John Mark, calm and cool journalist. I was now the new and improved Aqua-JM, a mythic superhero capable of overcoming an inner tube enemy by sheer force of will alone. He was my archenemy Water-Rat-Rav, a tuber so malicious that I was the only this standing between him and world destruction.

Evil as he was, I found myself actually feeling sorry for him. "Poor, soggy WRR," I thought. "He has no idea how superior I am. Maybe I should take it a little easy on him. After all, he's pretty slow and ..."

WHAM! I'd been hit from the side! That water rodent hit me when I wasn't looking. He was too weak, though. It was going to take more than a little hit to bring me down.

He must have sensed that, because this time he pulled our tubes together and started climbing on me. Was there no end to this

treachery? Now he was all the way off of his tube and hanging precariously off mine.

All loyalty was off. If he was going to play dirty, so was I. I took advantage of his precarious position and, bracing myself, threw hard to the right, giving my former friend a face-full of cold Lake Murray water. Victory! He was off. The world, for the time being, was safe.

Not for long, though. The rat wanted another round. Fine, I thought, if he wanted that kind of punishment.

Again, he jumped onto my tube. I threw again, but this time he was ready. Hanging on to my life jacket, he wouldn't be thrown off. This was getting intense — I could feel myself slipping. He was just too much for me this time. With a sudden, painful flip, I lost control, sending us both skidding across the water and reeling into the cold, dark deep. The world was over. I had failed.

When we surfaced, much to my surprise, the Earth was still standing. I had lost, but it wasn't the end of society as we know it. Rather than battling it out on inner tubes, we were congratulating each other through chattering teeth on a great run.

I guess the adrenaline rush of flipping across icy water had put things into perspective, and we were friends again. And I have a feeling it is experiences like water-skiing that will keep us friends for a long time.

As long as he remembers that Superman's alter ego was a journalist, too.

John-Mark Day is a freshman religion major from St. Joseph, Mo. He can be reached at (jmday2@delta.is.tcu.edu).

LETTERS to the editor

America has unique culture, rich history all its own

In his column, "Down With McDomination: French stand up to American Imperialism," Matthew Colglazier makes a number of assertions that I can only disagree with. He claims, "In America we have already watered down our culture, and now we have only the rest of the world to infect."

May I ask for an actual example? Our American culture may not be the "refined taste" of the English or French that Colglazier desires, but why should it? American culture has its own life and history, developed from the infancy of the colonies to the present day. We are a culture of rebellion and individuality, competition and striving to be the very best.

Secondly, Colglazier claims that "all Americans have to offer to other countries are poorly-made cars and Quarter Pounders." Is he ignoring advanced medical products, computer technology, airplanes and grain?

"These places (the American suburb) will also commercialize and become overrun with chain stores, strip malls and McDonalds." I suspect that this is what Colglazier believes will occur in Millau, France, as well, with the opening of a McDonald's. There is a theory that every major country in the world has adopted, including France: capitalism.

If the consumer won't buy, the producer won't produce. It's the

most basic principle of modern economics, and it even holds true for McDonald's in France. Yes, it is that easy.

Finally, I call on Colglazier to stop his attack on American culture. Be proud to be an American — I promise you, it's not a bad thing!

*J. Austin Hancock
junior advertising/public relations major*

BSM's choice to host speaker last week shows lack of ethics

I am surprised and horrified by the letters some Baptist students sent in response to the article concerning the Baptist Student Ministry-sponsored event on National Coming Out Day.

I agree that Baptist students had the right to promote their lecture featuring someone who challenged the validity of the event organized ON THE SAME DAY by the TCU Triangle. However, that is not the point. It goes beyond what you can do or what you cannot do. It is about what you should or should not do.

That is a basic principle that some call ETHICS. I believe what happened that day was the equivalent of having a white supremacy rally during Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Theoretically and legally, the white supremacist group would have the right to do so. Would it be appropriate, though?

Let's be honest here and admit that what happened that day was a sad demonstration of prejudice

and ignorance. That the event was held on a college campus, a place that is expected to promote intellectual growth, makes it all the more upsetting. Instead of attacking each other, how about spending some time getting to know your brothers and sisters? Gay, straight, black, white, Christian, Jewish, atheist: We are all people and probably have more in common than we realize.

*Marcos Balter M. Da Silva
senior music theory/music composition major*

New Main hours make finding seats, healthy food difficult

I would like to express my concern with the new hours offered by The Main and the new Pizza Hut/Stems and Staples area.

While the area itself is quite nice and new, especially with the new computer terminals, it does not help solve the problem of finding a seat during rush hours.

Also, because of the new hours The Main is open, it is impossible to find a hot meal on campus after 8 p.m. Most days I do not have time to eat until after that time, and I feel I am not alone in this.

I strongly urge the powers that be in the dining services to reconsider the change in hours that The Main is open. Smoothies, candy bars and beef jerky are not enough to fill someone up when they have late-night hunger.

*Trey Johnson
junior music education major*

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WEEKEND

From Page 1

kid's cabinets. The cold weather probably played a part in that, too."

Hulen Mall experienced a general increase in foot traffic and sales. Janie Spina, Hulen Mall marketing manager, said the mall always does a little extra to make parents feel welcome while they are in town.

"We always try to welcome TCU people during Family Weekend each year," Spina said. "We put up purple balloon arches and welcome signs, and a lot of the merchants try to do window displays with TCU or purple-colored merchandise. Parents have said they like the fact that we recognize that they are here."

Spina said clothing stores in particular see an increase in sales.

"Stores like Abercrombie and Fitch and American Eagle

Outfitters that are popular anyway tend to do very well during Family Weekend," she said. "We have a lot of students who have come in and put items on hold at some of the stores, and then have their parents come in and purchase them when they are here."

Visitors to local restaurants also said they noticed a difference. Melanie Lewter, chairwoman of Family Weekend for Programming Council, said she faced a three-hour wait on Friday night at Razzoo's on Bryant-Irvin Road.

Managers at Boston Market and Einstein Bros. Bagels, two restaurants located adjacent to campus, said their sales were approximately \$500 higher on Saturday and Sunday than on a normal weekend.

Lanny Lancarte, president of

long-time Fort Worth institution Joe T. Garcia's, said the traditional fraternity and sorority brunches held there on Saturday brought a lot of extra traffic into his restaurant.

"They started at 11 a.m. and went all the way up to game time," Lancarte said. "That made the difference for us."

Another event which brought additional people to the TCU area this weekend was the annual Christian Youth Fellowship Day, sponsored by TCU Admissions and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Matthew Rosine, a Brite Divinity School student and minister to youth at University Christian Church, said about 900 youth from all over the Southwest came to TCU for the weekend.

"The students come to campus

for a dance at the church on Saturday afternoon, and then they went to the TCU football game on Saturday night," Rosine said. "Different groups of them went out to eat before the game at restaurants around here, and some went to Hulen Mall. Some of them even spent the night at local hotels. It was a sizable group of folks that came in and had a good time."

Smith said that based on the increase in sales this year, Albertson's would probably offer some kind of discount during next year's Family Weekend for TCU students and parents. Lewis said the TCU Bookstore would also continue to expand its selection of TCU-related merchandise.

Alan Nelson
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ANGELOU

From Page 1

Provost William Koehler said McDorman consulted him about her decision to invite Angelou, and both agreed she would be a good person to bring to campus because she was so well-known. He said he was not aware of any history Angelou had of canceling performances and did not do any investigation into the matter prior to approving McDorman's decision.

McDorman said there was no preliminary research done before Angelou was scheduled. Honors staff members decided to bring

Angelou after they consulted the ad hoc committee that brought last year's Fogelson speaker, Lamar Alexander, she said.

The committee is composed of honors alumni, honors students, faculty and members of the Board of Trustees.

McDorman said she never actually talked to Angelou, and all communication was handled strictly through her agents.

"I was warned she was very particular about arrangements and could be difficult to deal with,"

she said. "And we twisted ourselves into a pretzel trying to accommodate her. (Angelou) is very removed from the direct effects of this. She doesn't comprehend how devastating this is to people."

Becker said because there was no consultation process, those who made the decision are responsible.

"McDorman made the decision for better, or in this case, for worse, and she must accept the responsibility," he said.

But Koehler said the Fogelson Honors Forum is separate from the Honors Council, so the procedures of the Honors Council did not apply in this situation.

"This is a new program," he said. "Last year was the first year, and we're probably still feeling our way along in terms of procedures. But there will probably be a process of consulting in the future."

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**Police
 BLOTTER**

Campus Police reported the following offenses between Oct. 2 and Wednesday.

Alcohol and Drug Violations

Oct. 2, 12:02 a.m. — Two officers were dispatched to the Tom Brown/Pete Wright Residential Community in reference to a smoke alarm.

When they approached the room where smoke was detected, a large fan was found blowing into the doorway, and there was an odor of marijuana.

A smaller fan was also found blowing toward an open window.

The suspect entered the room and stated two of his friends were in the room smoking cigarettes before he got there.

Officers asked for the suspect's ID and driver's license and escorted him to his car to obtain them. The suspect gave permission for his car to be searched and two fake out-of-state IDs were found.

Upon searching the room, officers found some green stems, a few seeds and empty

beer cans in the trash can. The suspect was under 21 years of age. The suspect refused to take a drug test and denied smoking marijuana.

The hall director and residential assistant were notified, and all evidence was taken to the police station.

Oct. 8, 1:33 a.m. — A man was charged with driving while intoxicated after his vehicle spun out of control and hit the TCU sign on Stadium Drive. An officer went to the scene and saw the man trying to push his car back onto the road.

The officer smelled alcohol on the suspect's breath, noticed he was unable to stand unsupported and asked if he had been drinking. The suspect admitted he had been.

Fort Worth Police Department was called, and the man was taken to Tarrant County Jail.

Oct. 9, 1:43 a.m. — A student yelled obscenities and made gestures to a patrolling officer and ordered the officer to "get over here."

When the officer arrived, the suspect's friends said the suspect had been drinking. The suspect was issued an alcohol violation.

Oct. 9, 5:50 p.m. — Two suspects were found in the Amon Carter Stadium parking lot obstructing visiting football team mem-

bers from boarding their bus. Officers noticed one suspect had bloodshot eyes and difficulty standing on his own. The other had alcohol on his breath and beer in his vehicle.

The first suspect resisted giving police his name and gave the name of a fictional character after threats of being jailed. The first suspect was placed under arrest for public intoxication.

Burglary and Theft

Oct. 4, 3:06 p.m. — A stereo was taken from a student's jeep between the hours of midnight and 10:30 a.m. that day.

The dashboard had been partly removed, and wires were exposed.

Oct. 11, 3:25 p.m. — A case containing drumsticks, mallets and sheet music were taken from the bed of a student's truck while he was attending band practice.

The truck was parked behind Amon Carter Stadium. The case was stolen between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Oct. 6, 3:26 p.m. — A Fort Worth-Mid Cities discount book was taken from the office at the Student Center Information Desk. The book was used as a display model and was noticed missing Sept. 27.

Compiled by Justin Roache

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VISITATION

From Page 1

overall support for new visitation hours, but students will be able to voice their opinions in a student petition which is currently being distributed to hall representatives.

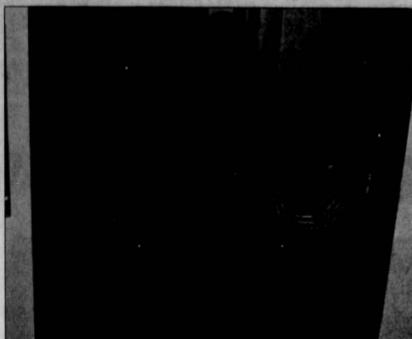
"Whatever students feel is best is what we want to try, and we want to do it within reason of the administration's views," he said.

Sara Donaldson, chairwoman of the Academic Affairs Committee and a university tour guide, said she

thinks visitation hours is definitely an issue to examine.

"It's one of the questions parents on the tour ask about," she said. "It's a concern of theirs when their students are coming through. But we don't have to be like everyone else. It's up to our students and administration."

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Josh Rodriguez/SKIFF STAFF
Students who live on campus have traditionally had to abide by a visitation policy that restricted the hours during which students can be visited by members of the opposite sex.

SCHOLAR

From Page 1

in the field of conflict management. Putnam said the content of her speech titled "Organizational Dispute Resolution: New Developments and Challenges" will focus on bringing together two ends of the spectrum concerning conflict resolution within organizations, formal systems of disputes or hidden conflict.

Each creates its own problems, she said.

"You're trying to pull (the disputes) from the crevices," she said. "But you don't want it so formal that they have a whole set of procedures so that it's almost legal-like."

Putnam has served as a visiting scholar at Harvard University and Stanford University. She is currently a speech communication professor at Texas A & M University. She used to be chairwoman of that department.

Putnam also serves on an interdisciplinary committee that is currently trying to resolve a dispute concerning Edward's Aquifer, an underground water source that spreads across seven counties in Texas. The aquifer is the primary water source for San Antonio, recreation complexes in New Braunfels and farmers in Uvalde and Medina

counties.

She said the conflict centers around a Texas law that designates underground water as private property, so therefore free from government regulation.

"If I'm going to tell you that, on your land, you can't dig this well and use this much water because it's a body of water a lot of people use, you're going to find that naturally offensive," she said.

Putnam said it is important to move away from the natural assumption that the only possible outcomes of a conflict are "win, lose or split the difference," and an outside option can often be found that is the most productive.

Powers said he hopes to make Putnam available for one-on-one conferences with students during open office hours in the speech communication lobby at 10 a.m. today and Wednesday.

Powers said hosting Putnam is a privilege.

"The exciting thing is that she is on the cutting edge of the changes in how we manage conflict in the modern world," he said.

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ROTC

From Page 1

do it.

"It is mostly just gross. People don't think that others have to pick it up," Grover said.

Stadium clean-up is a two-step process. First, the cadets pick up large pieces of trash. Then, they put on the blowers to sweep the small trash into piles. The whole process takes between four and five hours, Grover said.

Chris Foster, a senior pre-med major, said being with friends makes the whole ordeal a little easier.

"Granted, there are better things we would rather do on our Saturday night," Foster said. "But you're with people that are your friends, so it's really not that bad."

Foster said the fund-raiser is not mandatory, but since it is the only one for the year, they encourage the entire 60-member battalion to participate.

Grover said weather can affect how long they have to stay to finish the job. When Saturday's cold front moved in, it brought along with it rain and wind which makes the job harder.

Grover said the cadets will have to return later this week to finish the job. Grover said although they

sometimes go back three or four times a week, they do not get paid extra for it.

Letha Young, a sophomore marketing major, said cleaning the stadium is difficult, and people need to be more respectful of what they leave behind.

During the 1996 season, the clean-up duties were shared by both Army and Air Force ROTC. But, the next season, the Army ROTC received the contract for clean-up and Air Force ROTC now takes care of the usher duties, which entail showing fans to their seats and answering any questions.

Kevin O'Connell, the associate director of athletics, said the ROTC was paid \$700 for a pre-season clean-up in addition to the game duties. O'Connell said local high schools used to do the clean-up, but they decided to bring it back to TCU. The contract is renewed annually, O'Connell said.

Cousins said one of the reasons ROTC got the contract is because they can offer more personnel to get the job done faster.

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Football team hauls Hurricane, 56-17

Horned Frogs explode for 992 yards, 98 points in two games

By Matt Weinack
STAFF REPORTER

TCU scored 14 points within two minutes to give the Horned Frogs a 21-10 lead going into halftime against the Tulsa Golden Hurricane Saturday, en route to a 56-17 victory.

TCU scored 35 points in the third quarter to put the game away, and the rushing game accumulated 356 yards and five touchdowns.

"Tulsa did a good job controlling the ball against us last year," head coach Dennis Franchione said. "I really thought (Saturday) would be another close game. But, in the third quarter, we were able to put the game away."

Junior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson, the nation's leading rusher, scored a career-high four touchdowns, including an 80-yarder in the second quarter to give the Frogs the lead for good.

"Playing at home the last two weeks has helped us a lot," Tomlinson said. "On my 80-yard run, (Printers) gave me a good pitch, my (offensive) line and fullback gave me great blocks and I was able to hit the seam."

The Frogs have enjoyed an offensive explosion in the past two games, scoring 98 points and racking up 992 total yards in offense.

"Our offense is getting closer to the way we want it to look," Franchione said. "We ran only 21 plays in the first half, so it was nice to be able to score 21 points. This offense is getting to where teams have to worry about both the run and the pass."

Both quarterbacks, freshman Casey Printers and senior Patrick Batteaux, threw touchdown passes to senior receiver Mike Scarborough. Printers was five of seven passing for 94 yards, and Batteaux's one pass

was the touchdown throw for 15 yards. Scarborough's two touchdowns were his only catches of the day.

"(Printers) is getting more and more confidence, and he has a good understanding of the offense," Franchione said. "He gets to go out and make practical application every Saturday. I can't reach into my pocket and hand him experience."

But the game belonged to the ground crew. Tomlinson rushed for 178 yards, and as a team, the Frogs gained 356 yards on the ground. Batteaux added 77 rushing yards and scored a touchdown at the end of the second quarter to give TCU a 21-10 lead. A total of 10 TCU players rushed with the ball Saturday.

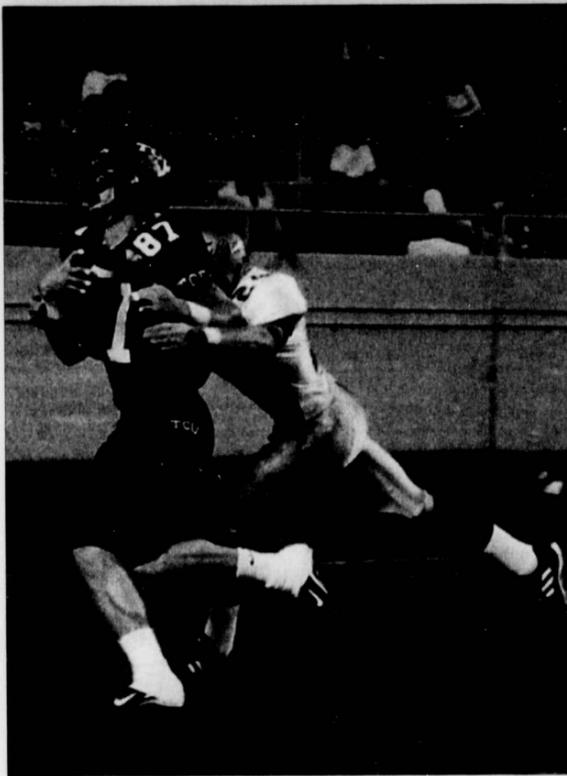
Sophomore receiver LaTarence Dunbar rushed for 45 yards on quick handoffs and reverses. Dunbar also caught two passes for 28 yards and scored a touchdown on a blocked punt by junior linebacker Chad Bayer.

For the fifth consecutive game, TCU scored on the first drive of the game. Tomlinson capped off a 10-play, 80-yard drive with a one-yard leap to tie the game in the first quarter.

Tomlinson won the Western Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Week award for the second week in a row for his performance against Tulsa. He has rushed for 523 yards and seven touchdowns in his career against Tulsa.

The Frogs improved their record to 3-3 overall and 2-1 in the WAC. TCU will travel to Houston this week to play Rice at 2 p.m. Saturday. The Owls are in first place in the WAC with a 3-0 conference record.

Matt Weinack
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Senior wide receiver Mike Scarborough catches a 50-yard touchdown pass from freshman quarterback Casey Printers in TCU's 56-17 pounding of Tulsa Saturday at Amon Carter Stadium. Scarborough only caught two passes, but on both receptions, he found his way into the end zone.

Offensive explosion

After scoring 19 points against Fresno State in the Western Athletic Conference opener, the Horned Frogs' offense has been credited for 98 points in the past two games. Here is a look at some combined statistics from those games:

- 98 combined points
- 774 total rushing yards
- 992 total yards
- 9 rushing touchdowns
- 4 passing touchdowns
- 7.9 yards a play
- 46 first downs

TCU defense, offense come together for win over Tulsa

By Todd J. Shriber
STAFF REPORTER

Both the defense and the offense came together Saturday to lead the Horned Frogs to a 56-17 win over Tulsa.

Things got off to a bumpy start for TCU as Tulsa had its way with the Horned Frog defense on its first drive of the game. The Golden Hurricane marched 83 yards in 16 plays, eating up almost eight minutes of clock, on their way to an early 7-0 lead.

The touchdown came at a price for Tulsa though. Starting quarterback Michael Wall, who was five-of-five passing on Tulsa's first drive, left the game before the touchdown after injuring his knee. TCU safety Reggie Hunt hit Wall after a passing play broke down, forcing Wall to scramble for a critical first down.

Freshman Josh Blankenship took over for the Golden Hurricane after the Wall injury, and it was downhill from there. He was able to guide his team to the game's first score but had a rough time the rest of the night.

Tulsa gained 99 yards of total offense in the first quarter but finished with only 216 for the game. It would seem TCU's defense made all the right adjustments, but coach Dennis Franchione said that wasn't the case.

"I don't know how many adjustments Gary (Patterson, TCU defensive coordinator) made," Franchione said. "We needed to just come out and see what they'd do. They really had us reeling on that first drive by making some good first drive calls, but once Gary got a feel for what they were doing, we were all right. I'm sure playing against a freshman quarterback

helped, too."

The TCU rush defense proved why it's ranked the best in Western Athletic Conference by limiting Tulsa to 103 yards on 44 carries. In comparison, TCU's offense piled up 356 yards in the same amount of carries.

A big reason for Tulsa's inability to mount any kind of ground attack was the presence of TCU junior defensive tackle Shawn Worthen. Worthen's night was accentuated in the second quarter when he broke into Tulsa's backfield and leveled D.J. Barnett with a punishing blow for a four-yard loss.

Worthen said the Horned Frog defense has been playing better as of late.

"We've been doing a good job of getting to the ball," Worthen said. "All the guys on the front four (the defensive line) have been doing their 1/11th. Now we've got to prepare for the option against Rice."

TCU also was equally effective against the pass, limiting the Golden Hurricane to 113 yards passing on the night. Blankenship seemed to be throwing under heavy pressure all night long, and it showed as he threw two interceptions. Linebacker Shannon Brazzell got his hands on the first Frog interception at the Tulsa 15 and brought it back to the seven-yard line. The Horned Frogs would score two plays later for 21-10 heading into halftime.

Hunt offered a metaphor for the TCU defense that Tulsa would probably agree with.

"We (the defense) were like piranhas in the water out there tonight," Hunt said.

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Cross Country Standings

Individual and team standings for the women's cross country team at the University of Arkansas Chile Pepper Cross Country Festival held last weekend in Fayetteville, Ark. and the Southwest Texas Invitational for the men's cross country team, also held this weekend, in San Marcos, Texas.

Women's Race (5,000 meters)

Team Standings (points)

1. Arkansas (20)
2. Wisconsin (51)
3. Rice (155)
4. Wichita State (184)
5. TCU (189)

Individual Standings (school, times)

1. Amy Yoder (Arkansas, 17:01)
2. Lilli Kleinmann (Arkansas, 17:10)
3. Jessica Dailey (Arkansas, 17:14)
4. Erica Palmer (Wisconsin, 17:20)
5. Tracey Robertson (Arkansas, 17:29)

Men's Race (8,000 meters)

Team Standings (points)

1. TCU (39)
2. Southwest Texas (52)
3. Southern Methodist (54)
4. North Texas (65)
5. Prairie View A&M (147)

Individual Standings (school, times)

1. David Lagat (TCU, 24:35)
2. Paul Njachi (North Texas, 24:40)
3. Adrian Martinez (TCU, 25:35)
4. Sebastian Villalva (independent, 26:10)
5. Ben Dawson (independent, 26:15)

Men finish first, women fifth in cross country meets

By Steven Baker
STAFF REPORTER

The men's and women's cross country teams kept pace with the competition at two separate competitions over the weekend.

Senior David Lagat dashed to his fourth victory Friday in the 8,000-meter race at the Southwest Texas State Invitational in San Marcos, as he led the men to their second first place finish of the year. The women traveled to the University of Arkansas Chile Pepper Cross Country Festival, where they picked up a fifth place finish Saturday in a field of 22 teams in the 5,000-meter race.

Head cross country coach Dan Waters said both teams will be physically and mentally prepared for the Western Athletic Conference Championships in two weeks.

"We are in really good shape," he said. "All we need to do is improve our speed and it will come together a little better for us."

After having their worst showing of the year — placing eighth at the Texas A&M Invitational — the men rebounded in their last race before the WAC Championships.

Senior Jared Pope said the men and women splitting up this week helped the men because it gave them a chance to bond as a team.

"I think the team is really starting to

peak," he said. "Once conference comes around, we are really going to be on the same page and running fast. But when it starts hurting in the middle part of race, we'll have to pull from deep down inside. The difference between a good runner and an average runner is the good runner runs faster when it hurts."

Pope was the fourth best TCU runner, finishing the course in 15th at 27:19. After Lagat placed first with a time of 24:35, two other TCU runners finished in the top 10: senior Adrian Martinez in third at 25:35 and junior Ryan Womack in eighth at 26:29.

Waters said getting back the No. 2 runner (Adrian Martinez was out with an injury last week) helped get the men's team back on track.

"David ran an outstanding race," he said. "And Adrian is running better than he ever has here at TCU. Womack is coming into that third spot that we need right now on the team. These three guys are in great physical shape right now."

The women ran into some difficult competition against the 22 teams there, but they were still able to find their way toward the front of the pack.

Arkansas won the team race with five runners finishing in the top ten. Sophomore

Glady's Keitany was the only TCU woman to finish the 5-kilometer race in the top 10 — in 10th place with a time of 18:01.

Keitany said she was not expecting the girls from Arkansas to be so tough because she had ran and competed well with them before.

"I need to be more positive this year," she said. "It is going to be tougher this year because we have a lot more good teams in our conference. Being fifth out of those 22 teams is good. So, we should place really good in the conference race."

Sophomore Georgeanne Biancardi said this race should be a confidence builder for the women after racing well against top teams such as Arkansas, Iowa and Wisconsin.

"We have been getting better each meet," she said. "Everyone is getting in better shape."

Other TCU women finishers were sophomore Katie Singleton in 13th at 18:07 and senior Alison Harvey in 65th at 19:34.

The men's and women's teams will race again in two weeks in the WAC Championships in Fresno, Calif.

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Senior Adrian Martinez widens the gap between himself and the fourth-place finisher at the Southwest Texas Invitational Friday. Martinez's third-place finish helped the Frogs win the top spot in the meet.

Baseball gains interleague play, loses mystery of final games

It was only a matter of time. Bud Selig and company screwed around with baseball, and now we have a post-season void of justice and void of the mystery that has always been unique to baseball in October.

I didn't bristle too hard when the baseball higher-ups decided to adopt a system that would give a second-place team a chance at the World Championship. I mean, at least they're still ahead of other sports that go through months and months of regular season play and don't even eliminate half of the league.

But I was overcome with a sense of foreboding when baseball trampled on sacred ground in 1997 with the advent of interleague play. It was only a matter of time.

And this year, these words will be uttered during the World Series: "When these teams met in the regular season ..."

The World Series has become the NBA Finals.

The one thing that always made baseball's post-season head and shoulders above all other sports' was that it consisted only of champions, and it culminated in a battle between teams that had never met before on a diamond.

Now, with all four teams being from the East division, not only is there a fair chance that a second-place team will win the World Series for the second time in three years, it is an absolute certainty that they will have met before during the season.

This should not be. Although I'm sure the Braves will eventually put the Mets away, they already proved themselves the superior team over a grueling 162-game schedule — 6 1/2 games superior.

The Yankees also look like they will

ultimately go back to the Series. They had to stave off one of the few teams, the Red Sox, that gave them trouble during the regular season in order to do it — and their ancient, bitter rivals, no less.

What is the point of beating a team over 162 games when you have to turn around and do it all over again?

The Braves were in a similar situation in 1997. They had beaten the Marlins by comfortable margin in the regular season, but they struggled against them head-to-head. They lost in six games.

The reason the baseball season isn't some sort of round-robin tournament is that whatever advantages a team might have in head-to-head matches should be canceled out by the long season and the rest of the competition. The best teams should rise to the top, and these teams are the ones who get to play for the ultimate championship. The ones who fall short are — or at least should be — out of luck.

I actually like the Red Sox — a heck of a lot more than the Yankees, in fact. But I find myself unable to root for them with

any passion, because my sense of justice says the Yankees shouldn't even have to bother with them.

People say that the wild card enhances pennant races. In some years, that's true, but most years it waters them down. Many times, what would normally be an intense pennant chase is reduced to ho-hum level, because both teams know they're going to the play-offs regardless.

Think about this year, for example. Assuming the Diamondbacks would be in the West in a two-division format, the N.L. West race would have been an epic battle with the 96-win Reds finishing fourth, behind the Braves (103 wins), Diamondbacks (100) and the Astros (97). The A.L. West would have been the same; the Mets would have won the N.L. East by a comfortable margin, but the A.L. East would have been an intense three-team race between the Yankees, Indians and Red Sox.

It would be nice to see how the Indians would respond to some competition in their division, for a change.

As bad as the wild card is, interleague play is worse ninefold.

It's bad enough to have to sit through those mid-season exhibitions. Now they will serve as the basis for commentary for how the two World Series teams stack up.

The best thing about the World Series has always been that the only history the two teams ever had with each other was other World Series. Before free agency brought so much player movement, that was all the history most of the players had against each other.

Now the last trace of that mystery is gone.

Baseball lost its virginity to marketing schemes and the almighty dollar long, long ago. But now, with interleague play, it has become an ugly prostitute.

But it still has a long way to go before it's as bad as the NBA.

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STEVEN SUFFRON

First victory over SMU places Frogs at No. 1



Junior Doak VanEnk plays keep-away from two Southern Methodist defenders Sunday at the TCU Soccer Complex. VanEnk scored the only goal of the game to lead the Frogs to their first ever win over No. 22 SMU.

By James Zwilling
SKIFF STAFF

It took 30 games, but this weekend, for the first time in school history, the TCU men's soccer team defeated Southern Methodist University.

The Frogs beat the No. 22 nationally ranked SMU Mustangs, 1-0, Sunday at the TCU Soccer Complex in their sixth-straight win.

Head coach David Rubinson said his team was ready to challenge SMU.

"It has been a long time coming, and it is well-deserved," he said.

Assistant coach Blake Amos agreed.

"Our boys felt like it was time to win," he said.

The victory extends the Horned Frogs' record to 3-0 in Western Athletic Conference play and 8-3-1 overall.

Rubinson, although excited about the winning streak, remains cautious when it comes to confidence.

"The minute we think we're good, we're in trouble," Rubinson said.

Rubinson said he believes the loss to St. Mary's (Texas) early in the season humbled any overconfidence the team may have encountered.

"The best thing that happened this season was our loss to St. Mary's," Rubinson said. "It reminded us that we can be beat."

The Horned Frogs entered their third WAC game ranked No. 5 in the Midwest Region.

The first half of the game remained scoreless after the two teams exchanged only eight shots combined. The lone score of the game came 67 minutes into play when TCU junior midfielder Doak VanEnk scored from 15 yards out off an assist from sophomore midfielder Nick Baker.

Amos said he was impressed with Baker and VanEnk's performances.

"Nick and Doak are two of the most skilled players I have worked with," Amos said. "They have phenomenal ability and they are phenomenal players."

VanEnk's abilities also impressed Rubinson.

"It's wonderful when our first guy off the bench is at that caliber," Rubinson said.

Amos said the defense was really the key to winning the game.

"The key was remaining strong defensively after the goal," he said. "We never gave them anything."

Junior goal keeper Ian Keate recorded three saves on the day, leading the Horned Frogs to their

1-0 victory. The Horned Frogs claimed first place in the WAC after defeating SMU, and they remain No. 5 in the Midwest Region.

Rubinson said the team's success probably comes as a surprise to the competition.

"It's always surprising to the other teams when we win because we have been the doormat for years," Rubinson said.

Rubinson said his team has nothing to hide.

"We don't have any real magic or any real secrets, but we do have something to prove," he said. "I guarantee that every time we step out onto that field we are the underdog."

Rubinson said he believes the key to the team's success is the quality of the players.

"There is leadership all over the place," he said. "I've said it before and I'll continue to say it, whether we win again or not, this is still the best group of players we have ever had."

The Horned Frogs head to Springfield, Mo., Friday to play Drury in their fourth WAC match of the season, and then on to Tulsa, Okla., Sunday to face Tulsa.

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Fans' feelings mixed in Harding's return

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Tonya Harding's debut in a pro figure skating competition failed to pack them in at the Huntington Civic Arena on Monday night.

Empty seats outnumbered spectators in the 5,780-seat arena for the first night of the Pro Figure Skating Championships.

Some fans came from as far away as Japan, and there were more than 50 media credential requests from as far as Germany.

Yet no fans who were asked were willing to admit that they came specifically for Harding, who was implicated in the 1994 knee-whack on rival Nancy Kerrigan and subsequently banned from amateur skating.

"It's the scandal revisited," said Carol Delancey of Huntington. "I don't think skating needs all that. Her reputation detracts from the overall picture."

Her friend, Kim Copley, disagreed.

"I'm not sure if she adds anything, but I want to see her just to say I saw Tonya Harding," Copley said. "I don't think she detracts from anything."

Not that fans wanted someone to plan a revenge attack on Harding, who was competing for the first time since the 1994 Lillehammer Games.

"I just hope everyone here is very gracious to her," said Roy Hall of Huntington. "I'd like to see her do well, and I'd like to see everybody here accept her. We're happy that she's here."

Phyllis Retliff, of Greenup, Ky., wasn't optimistic for a resounding welcome.

"I just hope they don't boo her," Retliff said. "I think she'll get mediocre applause at best."

Harding was scheduled to compete against Surya Bonaly, Tonia Kwiatkowski, Elizabeth Manley and Rory Burghart. The women's competition was last in on the schedule behind the men, dance and pairs skating.



Freshman forward Nicole Carman plays a ball up the sidelines in the Frogs' match Oct. 15 against San Jose State. TCU split two games this weekend. The Frogs will play Southern Methodist at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the TCU Soccer Complex.

Women's soccer defeats San Jose, falls to Fresno

By Victor Drabicky
STAFF REPORTER

The TCU women's soccer team split two Western Athletic Conference games in California last weekend.

The Horned Frogs beat San Jose State 4-1 on Friday before losing to Fresno State 3-1 on Sunday.

Head coach David Rubinson said a below-par performance contributed to Sunday's loss.

"We played lethargically against Fresno State," Rubinson said. "We didn't have the fight in us that we needed to win."

After scoring first, TCU was unable to stop Fresno State's Jill Pearson who scored three straight goals for the Bulldogs.

Sophomore goal keeper Keith-Ann Wagner said Sunday's loss was frustrating.

"We never could get organized," Wagner said. "We had a chance to be tied for first in the WAC. We just never really clicked."

Freshman defender Brenda

DeRose said the players' heads were not in the game.

"We had a mental breakdown," DeRose said. "Friday, we played for each other. Sunday, we played against each other."

On Friday, the Horned Frogs managed to keep 50 percent of their shots on goal en route to a 4-1 victory over San Jose State. In comparison, SJS managed one shot on goal out of 17 shots.

Rubinson said freshman midfielder Lori Robbins' goal early in the game helped lead the Frogs to victory.

"We got started early," Rubinson said. "We moved Lori into a forward position, and she used her technical skill to put one in the back of the net at a time when we were struggling to find a pulse."

Rubinson said San Jose State's game-tying goal just before the half was characteristic of TCU's recent problems.

"We have been giving up soft goals," Rubinson said. "In the past,

giving up easy goals has been a big problem for us."

The second half brought about a barrage of scoring by TCU.

Sophomore forward Crystal Pratz and junior midfielder Jennifer Maunder scored for the Frogs in addition to Robbins' second goal of the game.

Wagner said the Horned Frogs played well in the second half of Friday's game.

"Everything just started to go right for us," Wagner said. "It turned out to be a fun game for us."

DeRose said the Horned Frogs benefited from their hard work.

"Our first goal had a domino effect," DeRose said. "The goals just kept coming in the second half."

The Horned Frogs will return to WAC play when they host SMU at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the TCU Soccer Complex.

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