



# Skiff



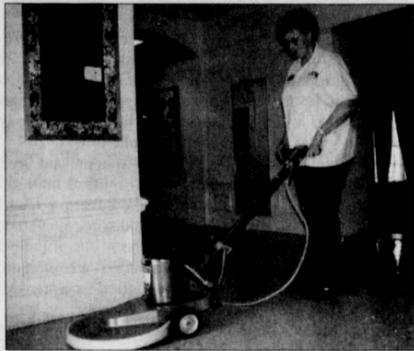
For the second consecutive game, the Lady Horned Frogs basketball team faces off against a team it has not beaten since 1991.

Sports, page 7

## Assembly to work toward increasing staff wages

### Current wages put some staff members below poverty line

Jennifer Klein/  
SKIFF STAFF  
Gail Truitt, a TCU residential housekeeper, said she would like to see better compensation for all of the work the housekeepers do.



By Priya Abraham  
STAFF REPORTER

Between taking out the trash and cleaning the showers, residential housekeepers like Sonia Gallegos struggle to live on their salaries.

"I usually collect the cans that are here for recycling, and I sell them for extra money," she said.

Gallegos, a single mother of three, works a 40-hour week and claims welfare. From \$418 every two weeks, she pays utilities and baby-sitting fees for her 2-year-old daughter. Gallegos said

she limits grocery spending to \$60 and saves any extra for emergencies.

This spring, the TCU Staff Assembly is working toward increasing the salaries of non-exempt staff members, employees who are paid hourly and are eligible for overtime pay. Chairwoman Mary Lane said during the recession in the early 1990s, people could be hired at low salaries. Adjustments were not made in following years, however, and current salaries are not competitive with the market, she said.

At TCU, the entry-level salary in the lowest pay grade for regular employees is \$5.73 an hour, amounting to \$11,915 a year before taxes. According to the *Federal Register*, for a family of four the poverty line falls at \$16,700 a year.

However, John Weis, director of Human Resources, said poverty line figures are misleading.

"There are situations where (staff members) may work at TCU at that rate, but they have spouses working, or they have another job themselves," he said.

Weis said Human Resources officials have no way of knowing if staff members' salaries are their sole or supplemental incomes.

"You can see how many people like to work here," Lane said. "They want to work here — they just can't afford it."

Gail Truitt, a residential housekeeper, said she would like to see better compensation for the work housekeepers do.

See STAFF, Page 4

## PULSE

BRIEFS

### COLLEGE

#### Iowa students get crack at grading their professors

IOWA CITY, Iowa (U-WIRE) — Seventy-seven University of Iowa students have voiced their opinions on their professors to the Internet community through an online service introduced last November.

By logging onto (<http://www.wegrade.com/ui>), any UI student can register a professor and make comments on her or his teaching style.

"I saw a need for students to share ideas," said Lupe Brown, the developer of the site and a Michigan State University graduate student.

Brown is in the process of setting up similar sites for the other Big Ten universities. At Michigan State, where the site was introduced in October, there have been as many as 1,700 hits per day.

The statements made by students are not verified before they are published on the Web. Any profanity, racial slurs or multiple submissions by a single student are deleted from the site, Brown said.

"This is totally built on student honesty," he said. "As an education major, I understand that the more honesty you allow students, the more they'll be honest in their dealings with you."

The UI Student Government is in the process of making course evaluations accessible online. The system differs from ([wegrade.com/ui](http://wegrade.com/ui)) because it doesn't assign professors specific grades.

—The Daily Iowan  
University of Iowa

### Inside



No dusty chalkboards. No squeaky and uncomfortable desks. No paper shuffling and whispering from your fellow classmates. Welcome to the virtual classroom.

Issues, page 5.

### WWW...WHAT?

TCU's new Web site features all of the new additions promised. But it is much harder to navigate, and it is not aesthetically pleasing.

Editorial, page 3.

## Berry Street gets \$2.2 million grant



Berry Street will be undergoing changes as a result of \$2.2 million in grants from the Capital Improvement Program and federal funds.



### Money will help make area more accessible to pedestrian traffic

By Natascha Terc  
STAFF REPORTER

During his 52 years as a businessman on Berry Street, Marvin Schuster, 78, has witnessed the street's many changes.

"Believe it or not, I remember when Berry Street was just two lanes," said Schuster. "It was called the Miracle Mile."

Schuster will again witness changes along Berry Street because of a \$2.2 million grant.

Linda Clark, chairwoman of the Berry Street Initiative and a 1968 TCU alumna, said \$1.5 million came from the 1998 Capital Improvement Program bond election. With the support of Congresswoman Kay Granger, \$700,000 in federal funds has also been granted to the Berry Street project.

#### Plans for 2000

1. Phase II—preliminary engineering and design of first project (will take about 90 days)
2. Painting Berry Street mural will begin in early Spring 2000
3. Berry Street Initiative will participate in the Fort Worth "Clean Cities Clean-up" for the fourth consecutive year
4. Fourth annual "Bringin' Back Berry Street" event will most likely feature a dance festival in Spring or Fall of 2000
5. Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at Travis Avenue Baptist Church's south building

See BERRY, Page 4

## Task force examines graduate programs

### Committee hopes stipends will attract top grad students

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles profiling the 21 task forces that make up the Commission on the Future of TCU.

By Reagan Duplisea  
STAFF REPORTER

TCU needs to increase graduate student stipends to attract top candidates to the university's small programs, said Ray Drenner, a professor of biology and member of the Graduate Education Task Force.

"The stipends themselves in some areas are not keeping up

with the institution's cost," Drenner said. "Some are a thousand dollars less, and some are thousands of dollars less (than other institutions)."

Stipends, including a monetary award and tuition hours, are awarded by each department. A graduate student's stipend in the art and art history department is about \$6,000 per year and a stipend in the English department is \$9,150 per year. A chemistry department stipend is \$13,750 per

year at TCU but \$15,559 per year at Tulane University.

Task force members said they realize how important graduate programs are to undergraduates and to the university itself.

Karyn Purvis, a graduate student in the child development laboratories in the psychology department and task force member, said graduate students help in the department's undergraduate research laboratories.

"Having the graduate students

helps us empower our labs," Purvis said. "This helps undergraduates get research onto their résumés."

Alan Shepard, chairman of the English department and faculty facilitator of the task force, said the task force is not aiming to give the administration a specific blueprint on what should be done in the graduate studies program.

"About half the people on the committee are not experts in the graduate education subject,"

Shepard said. "Our aim is to think philosophically about what's going well, what's not going well and what we can do."

Drenner said the task force has been trying to get an overall grasp on graduate study programs at TCU by asking for letters and receiving presentations by department chairpersons.

Mark Thistlethwaite, the Kimbell chair of the art history department, said he gave a presentation to the task force on his department's new master's degree

See COMMISSION, Page 4

## Dead days a priority for SGA

By Jaime Walker  
STAFF REPORTER

Complaints from students and faculty members regarding the final exams schedule has led several Student Government Association officers to keep the issue on their list of priorities.

Brian Casebolt, chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee, said his committee will be exploring the issues surrounding the timing of finals. Although he said the committee has not yet met this semester, the finals schedule will be discussed at its first meeting.

"The finals plans are of utmost importance and a top priority for Academic Affairs," he said. "Because it is a top priority for students, it is a top priority for us, too ... I want the committee to take ownership of the work we do. They need to believe in what we want to do."

Sara Donaldson, current House vice president and former Academic Affairs chairwoman, said more than 800 out of 1,000 students polled via e-mail during Spring 1999 supported a revised finals schedule. The revision called for an additional dead day

in the middle of the finals week, she said.

"A lot of people said they had three (exams) right in a row," Donaldson said. "They didn't have a chance to breathe."

Because she received such a large amount of student support for the revision, Donaldson said she presented it to members of the Faculty Senate, who said they would support it.

However, during a forum Donaldson coordinated in Fall 1999, some faculty members and

See FINALS, Page 4

### Sharing the experience



Reuben Reynoso, (left) a junior business major, Carrie Messinger, (middle) a speech communication major, and Avril Westerman, (right) a junior finance major, are all fall 1999 TCU London Centre students. They met with Chancellor Ferrari yesterday to discuss their experiences and issues with the program.

## 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.

■ **Photographs and drawings** by Richard Kelly, one of the pioneers in architectural lighting design, are in the Student Center 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Friday.

■ **Everyone is invited** to attend the screening of "Incident at Oglala: The Leonard Peltier Story," 7 p.m. today in Moudy Building South, Room 156.

■ **Having trouble with your exams**, textbook assignments, note-taking or time-management? The Center for Academic Services is offering a study skill's workshop 7 p.m. Monday.

■ **Why just read about the political conventions** or watch them on television this summer when you can be there yourself, intern with a political organization or a news medium, and earn three hours of senior-level TCU credit? If you are interested in interning two weeks at either the Republican or Democratic conventions, e-mail Tommy Thomason at (t.thomason.tcu.edu).

■ **Catholic Community** will have mass at 5 p.m. followed by a meal at 5:30 p.m. today in the Reed Hall Faculty Center.

■ **Wesley Foundation** will meet for fellowship and a meal at 5:30 p.m. today in the Wesley Building located at 2750 W. Lowden.

■ **Disciple Student Fellowship** will meet at 5:30 p.m. today at University Christian Church for fellowship and a meal.

■ **Experience India**, a charity luncheon, will be from noon to 3 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Student Center Ballroom. The luncheon is \$10 for students and \$12 for non-students. Meal cards are accepted. This event is sponsored by Students for Asian Indian Cultural Awareness and the International Student Association. For more information, contact Trupti at 428-0754.

■ **Students are invited to enter their work** in the year 2000 Creative Writing Contests. Nearly \$3,000 will be awarded to TCU students for essays, fiction and poetry. Rules and entry forms are available in the English department, Reed Hall 314, or in the Writing Center, Rickel Building 100. Deadline for entries is Feb. 11.

## TCU DAILY Skiff

Since 1902

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

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

### WORLD

#### Mauritanian authorities deny arrests of Islamic militants with suspected links to bin Laden

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania — A government spokesman denied Wednesday that Mauritanian authorities have arrested four Islamic militants suspected of having links to millionaire fugitive Osama bin Laden.

In the first official comment since Tuesday's report of the arrests, Communications Minister Rachid Ould Saleh blamed Western media for stirring up a sensational story.

"According to official information, there have been no arrests," he told reporters.

Security officials said Tuesday the arrests were part of a probe into allegations that a Mauritanian, Mohamedou Ould Slahi, plotted bomb attacks against the United States. They did not say who was arrested or when.

Slahi was arrested in Mauritania last week. He had been living in Canada but left there in part because of an investigation into an alleged bomb plot against targets in the United States. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service has said. U.S. authorities say that plot was linked to bin Laden.

No specific evidence has been released linking bin Laden to the newly alleged bombing plot. U.S. officials also accuse bin Laden, a Saudi believed to be living in Afghanistan, of planning the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Those attacks killed 224 people, including 12 Americans.

#### Germany's Christian Democrat party receives new details in campaign account scandal

BERLIN — Germany's Christian Democrats said they received new details Wednesday from an adviser to former Chancellor Helmut Kohl about secret campaign accounts at the center of a spiraling scandal.

The Christian Democrats' tax adviser Horst Weyrauch, considered a key figure in the scandal, was quizzed for more than six hours by party officials in Bonn, said the party's general manager, Willi Hausmann.

He said Weyrauch was "extraordinarily cooperative" and provided "substantial new knowledge" in the discussion Wednesday. Details of the meeting would be made public after the information was verified and party leadership informed, he said.

With Kohl refusing to talk about where the money came from, party leaders had threatened Weyrauch with legal action if he didn't help with unraveling the millions in covert accounts.

In an interview to be published today in Die Welt, the ex-chancellor admitted to knowledge of secret donations beyond the \$1 million he had previously discussed. In the interview, Kohl said he

already knew several years ago about a \$50,000 donation that current party chairman Wolfgang Schauble received in 1994.

Weyrauch has said the secret accounts stretch back to 1971, the year he started working for the party and before Kohl took over as party leader.

Weyrauch told ARD television that "something new" was revealed to the party Wednesday, without being more specific.

The party said late Wednesday that leaders were to hold a special meeting Friday in Bonn to discuss Weyrauch's statement.

### NATION

#### Trial begins for four New York policemen accused of killing an unarmed black man

ALBANY, N.Y. — Four white New York City policemen accused of killing an unarmed black man when they unleashed a 41-shot barrage with no warning and kept firing as the victim was down on the ground, prosecutors said Wednesday as the officers' murder trial opened.

"They never called out commands like 'Stop, police!' or 'Don't move!'" before gunning down Amadou Diallo in an apartment house vestibule in the Bronx, prosecutor Eric Warner told a jury of four blacks and eight whites.

The officers — Sean Carroll, Edward McMellon, Kenneth Boss and Richard Murphy — "acted recklessly and with depraved indifference to Amadou Diallo's life," Warner said. "For that, they are guilty of murder."

The defense in the racially charged case disputed the prosecution's claim that the shots came without warning.

The defense attorneys said the officers were forced to make a split-second decision using rapid-fire weapons. And they portrayed Diallo's Soundview neighborhood in the Bronx as one of the city's most dangerous sections.

Diallo, a 22-year-old street vendor from West Africa, was shot 19 times a year ago by members of an elite street-crime unit looking for violent criminals. The officers said they thought he was holding a gun; it turned out to be a wallet.

"The officers identified themselves with their shields out, as they are trained to," defense attorney Bennett Epstein said. "Mr. Diallo doesn't listen to their orders to stop, which they are trained to give."

By the time Diallo turned around, "he had taken them into the no-man's land that is every police officer's nightmare," Epstein said. Carroll, after realizing the mistake, tried to resuscitate Diallo, saying, "Don't die, please don't die," the attorney said.

"This is a case about five good men," Epstein said. "One of them was Mr. Diallo."

Carroll, 36, McMellon, 27, Boss, 28, and Murphy, 27, face 25 years to life in prison if convicted.

The shooting touched off protests alleging widespread brutality against minorities. The trial was moved 150 miles north to Albany after the judge ruled that the officers couldn't get a fair trial in the Bronx.

#### Officials refuse to comment about report that states Seton Hall fire was deliberately set

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. — Officials refused to comment Wednesday on a published report that a deadly dormitory fire at Seton Hall University was deliberately set.

The Star-Ledger of Newark quoted unidentified law enforcement sources in a report Wednesday saying that investigators believed the fire was not an accident and that at least four suspects had been identified.

Three 18-year-old students died in the Jan. 19 blaze. No charges have been filed.

University spokeswoman Lisa Grider referred all questions about the report to the Essex County prosecutor's office. Executive Assistant Prosecutor Charlotte Smith said her office would not comment on it.

The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has not reached a conclusion about the fire's cause, Special Agent Joseph G. Green said Wednesday.

"It's too early to tell," he said.

The university held a news conference Wednesday to announce it will be installing sprinkler systems immediately in its two dormitories that lack them. One is Boland Hall, where the fire broke out.

The newspaper said investigators believe the fire, which injured more than 60 students, may have resulted from a feud between a group of students and some non-students who were in the building the night of the blaze. It said they had not concluded whether the third-floor lounge fire was started as a prank or an attempt to harm someone.

A student resident adviser had asked three visitors to leave Boland Hall less than an hour before the fire broke out. Investigators said they believe one of the three remained in the building, located on the campus of the 9,200-student Roman Catholic university.

### STATE

#### Commission reviewing A&M bonfire collapse says interview phases will begin soon

COLLEGE STATION — The commission reviewing the fatal collapse of the Texas A&M bonfire on Wednesday said the interview phase of their investigation was to begin soon.

Consultants hired by the commission to review the thousands of documents and photographs pertaining to the case have nearly finished their work on that phase, the commission said.

The consultants have prepared preliminary interview lists and are expected to begin scheduling voluntary interviews of students, faculty, staff and emergency workers involved with the incident, the commission said in a statement. No firm date was given.

The Nov. 18 collapse of the nearly 60-foot tall log structure killed 12 people and injured 27.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

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**BERRY**

From Page 1

Granger said she was proud to secure the grant because urban revitalization is critical.

"This project will bring neighborhoods together by making the parks, churches and shopping areas more accessible to pedestrian traffic," she said.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the city of Fort Worth has asked TCU to participate in the planning process.

"TCU influences a lot of what goes on with its students and faculty," Mills said. "With that many people, there is tremendous economic opportunity, and it is in the property owner's and TCU's best interest to participate."

Mills said the first renovations will most likely be street repairs, the installation of common lighting, signs and a median to fix

up the public area.

Clark said community leaders and Initiative staff will meet over the next few weeks and will select a project on which to spend the funds.

"We do know that \$300,000 of the grant will be spent for the design consultants at the Goodman Corporation," she said.

Clark said the Phase I design plans will be presented to the Fort Worth City Council this month for approval.

Schuster, founder of Marvin Electronics and owner of various properties on Berry Street, said although his business is now on Hulen Street, he still drives down Berry Street two or three times a week to see what changes are being made.

"Last week, I got through repairing all the trim on the front of Record Town," Schuster said. "We believe in keeping up our properties."

- 1999 Accomplishments**
1. Hired design consultants from Goodman Corp.
  2. Held workshop in May with community and Goodman Corp. staff
  3. Workshop with Fort Worth Independent School District students that identified concerns and familiarized them with the program
  4. Secured \$4,000 grant from the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County for a mural on the south wall of the Berry Street Theater (corner of Hemphill and Berry)
  5. Received a \$500 grant from Best Buy Co. for the mural
  6. Berry Street Initiative received an award from the League of Women Voters
  7. Capps Park identified as location for TCU professor Chris Powell's sculpture "To be with me"
  8. Berry Street Initiative hosted dedication of the sculpture in October
  9. Design concept for Phase I completed and ready for presentation to City Council in early 2000
- Source: Linda Clark

Natascha Terc  
natascha@nemerterc.com

**STAFF**

From Page 1

"It is physical labor," she said. "Unless you've never left here with your back aching and your feet on fire and your arms aching because you've been lifting trash, you don't know what it's like."

Truitt, who's worked at TCU for almost nine years, said after taxes, medical insurance, social security payments and bills, she has \$200 a month left for groceries and living expenses.

Truitt said raises have been small for housekeepers, with around a 25-cent increase to the hourly wage.

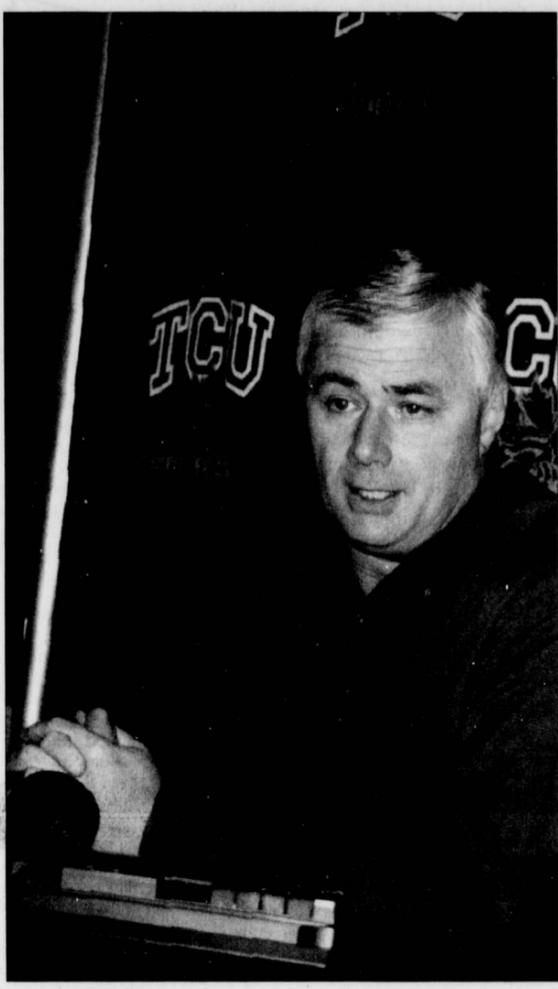
"Some days (housekeepers) get real disgusted," she said. "They can't see the light at the end of the tunnel."

Weis said starting salaries of employees at businesses such as Tarrant County College, the Fort Worth Independent School District, Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital and the Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas ranged from \$6.75 to \$8.80 as of September 1999.

Last year, retirement benefits increased from 6.5 to 8.5 percent of base pay for non-exempt staff. Salaries also went up \$600 across the board. However, it is still difficult to hire and retain workers, Weis said.

**Man with a plan**

Head football coach Dennis Franchione answers questions about TCU football signees Wednesday. TCU signed 18 high school players, including National Top 100 running back Tyson Thompson, on National Letter of Intent day.



Matt Stiver/  
ASST. CAMPUS EDITOR

"There's a buyer's market now for employees," Weis said. "People will look and see where they'll make higher salaries."

Barbara Hancock, a housekeeping supervisor for Residential Services, said job benefits are good but employees should be compensated for unused sick leave.

"It would cut down on absenteeism if they paid even half of it back," she said.

Gallegos said life has improved since she quit her second job and went on welfare.

"I didn't have any time for my baby," she said. "She was 1, and I was thinking, 'Oh god, I'm missing her.'"

Gallegos said she didn't want people to pity her though.

"Even if I don't have any money left, I've paid all the bills," she said. "I'm happy."

Priya Abraham  
pmabraham@delta.is.tcu.edu

**FINALS**

From Page 1

students expressed concerns about the plan.

SGA President Ben Jenkins said faculty members said the proposed plan would not be in the best interest of the university because it would cut one class day from the academic calendar.

"The faculty has a legitimate concern," he said. "We want to have more conversations with them

before we make any proposals."

The Executive Board is composed of the leaders of all House of Student Representatives committees. Everything considered by the House goes before the Executive Board.

Jenkins said the House would support a revision to the finals schedule but wants to be cautious because changes would have a profound impact on the university system.

"We want to do the big things right the first time," he said. "We

don't want to be hasty and wrong."

Students in favor of the plan said it would decrease stress around finals, benefiting both faculty members and students.

"Faculty always have to deal with rescheduling senior finals, and this would make things so much easier," said Debra Noll, a senior Spanish major. "Changes would be great for us, too, because finals would be spread out."

The Academic Affairs Committee meetings, along with the meetings of all other House committees, are open to the student body. Casebolt said all students are welcome to attend and discuss relevant issues. Anyone interested in participating in House committees can contact the SGA Office at 257-7924.

Managing editor Kristen Naquin contributed to this report.

Jaime Walker  
jwalker@delta.is.tcu.edu

**COMMISSION**

From Page 1

program. One of his main concerns is stipends, he said.

"One of the major issues is the

increase in funding to attract students and support them while they're here, especially with research projects," Thistlethwaite said. "We're a small program. We've been able to fund students so far."

Drenner said the task force's challenge to look at all the graduate programs on campus has not been easy, but he has found serving on the task force a rewarding experience.

"I've been here 22 years, and

Reagan Duplisea  
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## Personal instruction vs. education online

### Online courses viable, convenient alternative to traditional classrooms

No dusty chalkboards. No squeaky and uncomfortable desks. No paper shuffling and whispering from your fellow classmates. Welcome to the virtual classroom, part of the online world of education.

Online education is growing by leaps and bounds. A report released in December by the National Center for Education Statistics showed that in 1998, 44 percent of higher-education institutions offered distance-education courses. This is up from 33 percent in 1995.

This trend is not going unnoticed by the U.S. government. Also in December, President Clinton signed an appropriations bill that doubled funds for the Education Department's Learning Anytime Anywhere program. Almost \$24 million will be earmarked for the program during the 2000 fiscal year.

Strong support from the government is evidence of the growing acceptance of distance learning and, particularly, online education. Courses online are not some passing fad. Rather, they have become an accepted and viable alternative to the traditional classroom setting.

The many advantages of online education have helped to fuel the virtual classroom revolution. Some of the country's most prestigious universities are considering getting into the game, including Brown University and Williams College.

Almost half of American colleges and universities are experimenting with online education formats, and many other schools will begin to do so in the coming years.

Public universities are especially interested in developing new distance learning programs. The report from the National Center for Education Statistics showed that in 1997, 79 percent of public four-year institutions and 72 percent of public two-year institutions offered distance-education courses.

In the private sector, 22 percent of private four-year institutions and 6 percent of private two-year institutions had some type of distance-learning program in place.

An explosion of online course opportunities will inevitably lead to more competition as discriminating students pick and choose the best program for them. This increase in competition will help better the quality of online education. Colleges and universities will have to provide an exceptional learning environment and keep up with new technological trends in order to retain students.

The students who reap the most benefits from online education are adults and other non-traditional students. These students rarely have schedules that allow them to take traditional college courses on campus. Online education provides opportunities that would not otherwise be available to them.

Full-time workers, stay-at-home parents, senior citizens and others can start earning degree credits by logging on to classes during their lunch hour or at home in the evenings.

But convenience is only one advantage. New online education courses have become so intellectually stimulating, they rival practically any traditional classroom. Online courses provide interaction between many geographically separated students from a variety of backgrounds. An amazing amount of diversity and different opinions are possible in such a setting. Also, the text dialogue required in classroom "chat" formats challenges students to express themselves more clearly using the written word.

Opponents of online education contend that students do not receive the full college experience in the virtual classroom because of the lack of unity and school spirit. An article in the Jan. 24 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* discussed this very issue.

Several online campuses are considering composing fight songs, adopting mascots, offering university memorabilia and even sponsoring video-game tournaments in an effort to increase enthusiasm among students.

However, the many non-traditional students who make up the online education population will probably not miss these aspects of a traditional campus. This crowd is much more concerned with getting an education and finding better job opportunities than developing school spirit.

Online education opponents also point out the high costs associated with the virtual classroom. The creation of a program, along with the hardware and software needed to run it, all take time and money to develop.

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#### Commentary



SARAH MULLEN MARTINEZ

Photo illustration by Craig Graue/WEB EDITOR

### Computers, Internet cannot replace professors, classroom education

Our age of convenience has many advantages. Communication has been made easier, news gathering has been made mindless and entertainment has become so diversified that we can pick programs on whims. With the advent of the computer, every way to reach others and knowledge has quickened. The real question we face now is has this quickening given students an advantage or disadvantage?

Many students would argue that the Internet has revolutionized education. I, however, have not seen such improvements nor their immediate effects. The quickening of our technology, while making things like registration and application easier, has not greatly added to the transfer of knowledge from a professor or text to the student.

With this new technology we have seen the growing popularity of online learning, or the online classroom. All I've seen of this is in Microsoft commercials, where the real work behind the dazzling effects of technology on the classroom is edited out. The danger of online learning is its lack of a real professor. In essence, the computer screen itself, which can't usually talk, has replaced the professor as a tool for the transfer of text into the mind of the student.

#### Commentary



MATT COLGLAZIER

However, even this definition is flawed. Professors are not just tools to transfer knowledge, but human touchstones of this knowledge. Professors are the human embodiment of what the material means. What the material communicates by itself can be seen in the career of this one person who strives to communicate not only the material, but also the importance of the material. Learning is one thing, but learning with purpose should be our goal.

In seeking to replace the professor, we are treading on very dangerous ground. The computer, a soulless machine, may provide many conveniences but can never replace the nuance and subtlety of a human being. We learn these things to bring us closer to human truth. Our classes and education aren't simply weapons with which we arm ourselves in order to conquer the world. Our real charge as students is to understand the world and, perhaps, through criticism and analysis, to change it.

These breakthroughs cannot be made through a computer screen. The convenience of a computer is meant to enhance a learning environment, not replace it. Although it seems very tempting to learn online, we must look at our education as not a matter of convenience but rather a privilege. We must honor this privilege through making a connection to our professors and to the texts we read.

When we invited the computer into the classroom, the whole dynamic of the relationship between a student and information changed. The positives are worth being discussed, however.

Many advancements in technology have found a settled home both inside and outside the classroom. These advancements, such as e-mail, Web sites and video conferences, are changing the way professors connect with students. By using these technologies, professors and students can strengthen the bond which starts in the classroom with real experience. The technology does not replace this bond, but rather enhances it.

There are other factors involved in earning credit for courses over the Internet.

For a number of years, the Internet has been used as a tool for cheating by many students. Papers posted on Web sites are difficult for teachers to track down. There are also many different forms of summaries which are available at any hour to peruse. There are even services at some schools where students are paid to post the notes they take in class on the Internet so those who missed the class can receive the lesson.

If you can cheat in real classes using the Internet, it's only logical that students will try to seek credit the easy way.

The goal is twofold. First, we should attempt to learn with a purpose, and then we should try to use the Internet to supplement in-class learning instead of trying to replace it. Technology is wonderful, as long as we still control it. Our trust must remain in the flesh-and-blood professors, and not the metal-and-wire computer processors.

Matthew S. Colglazier is a freshman news-editorial journalism and English major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at (mscolglazier@delta.is.tcu.edu).

## Online classes offer flexibility, new way to learn

By Yonina Robinson  
STAFF REPORTER

He wakes up and grabs a Coke and a slice of pizza. While still in his underwear, he flips a switch on his computer. Class has started.

While some students are finding their bedroom more convenient than classrooms, many students and professors are questioning the value of obtaining an education online.

Many students and professors said online classes will allow for increased flexibility and convenience among student schedules.

"You'll be able to take classes anytime and anywhere," said David Edmondson, assistant provost for information services.

Edmondson said that is only one of the benefits to taking online classes. He added another

### Some students worry about decreased interaction with professors

benefit is distance learning, allowing students to enroll and take TCU summer courses from anywhere in the world.

Other students said they are concerned about time constraints, discipline and the loss of personal instruction associated with classroom courses.

Ann Munson, a junior geology major who took her first class online last semester, said there are many conveniences to taking courses online. However, Munson said there can be downfalls to the program.

"You have to be careful because if you don't structure time for your assignments, you can wind up struggling to get them all done

at the end of the semester," Munson said.

Edmondson said despite the loss of classroom interaction, students will still be able to e-mail professors as well as work online in chat rooms.

"It doesn't mean you can't ever meet the professor or that the professor won't offer anything in addition to the online classes," Edmondson said. TCU has offered online classes since Summer 1999.

"E-college provided the technical side of the classes, and TCU

professors provide the content for the classes," said Kirk Downey, assistant provost and executive director of TCUglobalcenter at Alliance.

Downey said online classes cover a variety of classes throughout the university. For example, some of the classes this semester are classes in theater, nursing, geology, marketing, education, speech communication and political science.

Edmondson also said the online program should allow students to

be more flexible with their degree.

Art Busbey, an associate professor of geology and an online instructor for an introductory-level geology course, said he was pleased with the outcome of the program. He said a few things still need to be ironed out, but the class went well for the most part.

He said the grades of the 20 students were fairly good. His method of evaluation was four essay tests administered on specific days. The students had one hour to finish the exam and could start anytime during the 24-hour period. But they only had 60 minutes to complete the exam.

He said about seven of the students actually came to meet with

him during the semester.

George Brown, an associate professor of theater, said online courses give students flexibility and more choices about course selection and schedule.

"Sometimes students need to work," Brown said. "Many don't have time in their schedules for that one extra afternoon course."

Brown also said the program has many possibilities but is still in the experimental stages.

"They need educational designers to help decide which classes are the best suited for online education."

Staff reporter Jill McNeal contributed to this report.

Yonina Robinson  
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## ONLINE

From Page 5

But as the technology improves and becomes more prevalent the costs will surely go down for both universities and students. The money spent on the initial development of online classes will eventually pay off for all those involved and provide an innovative learning environment befitting the 21st century.

The Internet has become a household word and will continue to play more of a role in our daily lives. Already, millions of people have discovered the unbelievable wealth of information in cyberspace. Online education provides information via the Internet and a forum in which to ask questions and discuss subjects.

The interactive aspects of online classes lead to a more stimulating independent learning experience and make it possible for students to feel like they're in a classroom without actually being on a campus. The virtual classroom may never supplant the real classroom, complete with fidgeting students and the buzz of the overhead projector. But it will continue to grow and offer a completely unique, convenient and technology-savvy learning environment.

*Sarah Mullen Martinez is a senior advertising/public relations major from Fort Worth. She can be reached at (sarah92978@aol.com).*

# McCain riding high as campaign continues

## Despite loss in New Hampshire, Bradley remains hopeful as he prepares for California

By Walter R. Meers  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. John McCain took his battle for the Republican presidential nomination to South Carolina Wednesday, telling supporters he was "still high" from his startling landslide over George W. Bush in New Hampshire.

"I know it's going to get more intense now," McCain said on NBC's "Today." "We've interfered with the coronation."

Bush admitted he was taken by surprise, too. "I think everybody was," he said on his flight to South Carolina, where he debuted a new, more conservative speech tailored for the state's voters.

Vice President Al Gore, who edged Bill Bradley to win the Democratic primary, canceled a campaign stop in New York this morning to fly to Washington, planning to cast a Senate vote to break an expected tie on an abortion amendment. Bradley has repeatedly attacked Gore by questioning his commitment to protecting abortion rights.

Republicans recruited enough votes from within their ranks to pass the amendment with plans to

sidetrack it later. The amendment passed, leaving nothing for Gore to do. The amendment would require people found to have violated laws protecting abortion clinics to pay their fines or judgments, even if they are bankrupt.

Gore claimed to have dealt "a devastating blow" to his challenger

in New Hampshire. "I know it's going to get more intense now. We've interfered with the coronation."

—Sen. John McCain

"The warmups are over, the national campaign has begun," Bradley said as he campaigned in Hartford, Conn., en route to New York, a key state. He stopped to encourage striking workers at a nursing home, picking up a megaphone and telling them, "I'm with you all the way."

The struggle for the next round of delegates began Tuesday night even before all of New Hampshire's votes had been counted, as candidates deployed south and west for the primaries ahead.

At a morning rally in Spartanburg, S.C., McCain told supporters, "We're still high from that incredible victory last night." He said he got calls from "old friends whom I haven't heard from in a while."

Bush's first stop in South Carolina was Bob Jones University,

controversial for its ban on interracial dating, where he took a noticeably more conservative tone. He promised to restore "the highest standards of honor to the highest office in the land" and "set a new tone" for America.

Exit polls suggested Bush's efforts to present himself as the most electable Republican didn't help in New Hampshire. Asked who was more likely to beat a Democrat this fall, voters were divided between McCain and Bush.

Exit polls also found that McCain won not only among New Hampshire's many independents but also among registered Republicans. His military experience and call for campaign finance

reform resonated. Sixty-three percent of Republican voters said McCain says what he really believes, not just what people want to hear. Just 31 percent said the same of Bush.

Democrats get a five-week pause in primary voting, but not in campaigning. Gore heads for crucial California later today; Bradley is due Thursday. California is the biggest of the 14 state prizes at stake in the Super Bowl of the primary campaign March 7. Both also were campaigning in New York, which votes the same day, on their way west.

On the Republican side, Delaware is next on Feb. 8. Bush is campaigning there, although briefly. McCain is not. Steve Forbes, a fading third in New Hampshire, is competing in Delaware, too.

Conservative Alan Keyes ran fourth in New Hampshire; Gary Bauer, who finished last, went home to consider his next step, which may be withdrawal.

With 100 percent of precincts reporting, McCain got 115,545 votes or 49 percent; Bush had 71,121 votes or 30 percent; Forbes,

29,615 votes or 13 percent; Keyes, 15,170 votes or 6 percent; and Bauer, 1,671 votes or 1 percent.

An AP analysis showed McCain won 10 out of the total 17 delegates at stake Tuesday. Bush won five and Forbes two.

On the Democratic side, Gore had 76,527 votes or 50 percent, and Bradley had 70,295 votes or 46 percent. Gore won 13 of the 22 delegates at stake Tuesday and Bradley won nine, the AP analysis showed.

Gore took a solid majority of the many voters who feel good about the economy and their own finances. Gore also took twice as many votes from union households as Bradley. And two in three Democrats said he had a better chance of winning in the fall than Bradley, exit polls of voters found.

"We have made a remarkable turnaround but there is still a tough fight ahead," Bradley told supporters in Manchester, N.H. "We're smarter and better prepared and we're ready to continue the fight."

At his Manchester victory rally, Gore said, "This Tennessee is in the end zone and it feels great, and let me tell you, we have just begun to fight."

## Sanctions delay Austria's approval of new government

By Robert H. Reid  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

VIENNA, Austria — Facing European sanctions and worldwide scorn, Austria's president on Wednesday delayed approving a new government that includes Joerg Haider's rightists until leaders of the coalition pledge to respect democratic values.

The outrage over the coalition between Haider's Freedom Party and the center-right Austrian People's Party was debated in world capitals and spilled into the streets of this stately, baroque city.

More than 10,000 people rallied Wednesday night in front of the People's Party headquarters to protest the coalition deal.

"Prove yourself to be a patriot. No alliance with right-wing radicalism."

—Andre Heller  
theater producer

Nevertheless, the executive committee of Schuessel's party adopted the coalition pact in a session that ended shortly after midnight.

President Thomas Klestil's office said Haider and Schuessel would meet with the chief of state Thursday to sign a "declaration of values of European democracy." The new government was expected to be approved shortly thereafter.

Klestil's declaration was designed to spare the country political and diplomatic isolation within a European Union whose other members doubt Haider's commitment to liberal democratic values.

In an interview to be published Thursday, Klestil told the magazine News that he fears Austria will suffer "international damage" if a government including Haider's Freedom Party takes power.

Haider won international notoriety about 10 years ago by praising Adolf Hitler's "orderly" employment policies and lauding veterans of the murderous Waffen SS as "men of honor." He has also spoken out against the EU's expansion and has predicted the new government will impose a nearly complete ban on immigration.

Haider has sought repeatedly to distance himself from previous statements. He told reporters this week that the Freedom Party has no sympathy for the Nazis, adding they were responsible for the "greatest crimes of the 20th century."

The 50-year-old lawyer has gone on the attack. It's not his party that is undemocratic, he alleges, but the European Union, which is ignoring the wishes of Austria's voters in threatening sanctions if his party shares government power.

Haider and other party officials have also attacked the traditional parties: the conservative People's Party and the Social Democrats, who had governed Austria since the end of World War II.

Assurances by Haider and Schuessel that their new government would respect democratic values did little to quiet the furor that swept through Israel and Europe.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak called Haider "dangerous" to democracy and recalled his

ambassador from Vienna "for an unlimited period."

Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Guterres said any coalition with Haider would bring diplomatic isolation for Austria. Norway issued a similar warning Wednesday. Belgian Foreign Minister Louis Michel urged his countrymen to cancel ski holidays in Austria in protest.

And in Poland, Haider opponents rallied in front of the Austrian Embassy in Warsaw. Earlier in the day, the Austrian Consulate in the southern Polish city of Krakow was pelted with eggs.

When asked how the Clinton administration viewed the situation, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said, "We share their (Europeans') concerns. We'll be watching, and we'll take appropriate steps." Albright spoke in Zagreb, Croatia, where she had stopped on her way home from talks in Moscow.

With an agreement between Haider and Schuessel in place, attention has shifted to President Klestil. Although his post is largely ceremonial, the president must swear in a new government.

Neither party leader has confirmed the makeup of the new Cabinet. The Austria Press Agency, however, said the Cabinet would be split evenly between the two parties, with Schuessel as chancellor and a Freedom Party member as vice chancellor.

The Interior Ministry would go to a member of the People's Party, the agency said. The Interior Ministry is responsible for immigration policies and overseeing the police — high priorities for the Freedom Party, which wants to restrict immigration and has a tough image.

## Security threat faces Internet

### Hackers able to access credit cards, personal information

By Ted Bridis  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The nation's top computer experts warned Internet users Wednesday about a serious new security threat that allows hackers to launch malicious programs on a victim's computer or capture information a person volunteers on a Web site, such as credit card numbers.

The threat, dubbed "cross-site scripting," involves dangerous computer code that can be hidden within innocuous-looking links to popular Internet sites. The links can be e-mailed to victims or published to online discussion groups and Web pages.

The vulnerability was unusual because it is not limited to software

from any particular company. Any Web browser on any computer visiting a complex Web site is at risk.

No one apparently has been victimized yet. But the risks were described as potentially so serious and affected such a breadth of even the largest, most successful Web sites that the industry's leading security group said nothing consumers can do will completely protect them.

Only a massive effort by Web site designers can eliminate the threat, according to the CERT Coordination Center of Carnegie Mellon University and others. Software engineers at CERT issued the warning Wednesday together with the FBI and the Defense Department.

The problem, discovered weeks ago but publicly disclosed Wednesday, occurs when complex Internet sites fail to verify that hidden software code sent from a consumer's browser is safe.

Experts looking at how often such filtering occurred found that Internet sites failing to perform that important safety check were "the rule rather than the exception," said Scott Culp, the top security program manager at Microsoft.

"Any information that I type into a form, what pages I visit on that site, anything that happens in that session can be sent to a third-party, and it can be done transparently," Culp warned. He added: "You do have to click on a link or follow a link in order for this to happen."

## Madonna debuts new version of Don McLean's 'American Pie'

By Larry McShane  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Bye-bye, Miss American Pie. Hello, Madonna.

The Material Girl released her version of the 1971 classic "American Pie" to radio stations on Tuesday, a truncated take on Don McLean's 8 1/2-minute rock 'n' roll homage to Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper.

The song's debut came before the anniversary of "the day the music died": Feb. 3, 1959, when a plane carrying the three young rock stars went down in an Iowa cornfield.

Madonna's remake times out at under five minutes, a considerable cut from the original. And don't worry if you don't remember all the words: The Material Girl has trimmed some

of the verses.

That's blasphemy to a generation that grew up singing along with McLean's hodgepodge of images and scenes, lines such as:

"The jester sang for the King and Queen

"In a coat he borrowed from James Dean

"And a voice that came from you and me."

Madonna's version strays far afield from McLean's simple arrangement. There's an electronic dance beat, and distant background vocals from actor Rupert Everett.

There is also "an explosion of interest" from adult contemporary and Top 40 radio stations, which have jumped to add the song to their playlists, said Heidi Ellen Robinson,

spokesman for Madonna's label, Maverick.

The song is from the soundtrack to Madonna's latest movie, "The Next Best Thing," which co-stars Everett. The movie opens March 3, while the soundtrack (in perfect marketing style) arrives in stores Feb. 22.

The 1971 McLean classic was recently ranked as the 19th best rock song ever by VH1.

The Madonna version didn't receive such a ringing endorsement from *Newsday* writer Isaac Guzman, who described it as "an almost syrupy, slick take" on the original.

The radio release was the first chance for the public to hear the new version. Madonna was originally scheduled to perform the song at the Super Bowl but pulled out.

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## Rodman latest in line of Mavericks' failures

There's not much the Dallas Mavericks can do to further embarrass themselves. They lose more than Wile E. Coyote. Most of their draft picks end up as the world's tallest doormen. They once traded away the NBA's best all-around point guard, the Phoenix Suns' Jason Kidd and veteran Jim Jackson, because of

### Smart Bombs



JOEL ANDERSON

a rumored love triangle involving R&B chanteuse Toni Braxton that devolved into on and off-court bickering between the teammates. (Then again, if you're fighting over something, Braxton is certainly a worthy cause.) They hired, and still employ the antidote of all NBA franchises aspiring for success, head coach and general manager Don Nelson. In short, the Mavericks are to winning what Adam Sandler is to great acting. So, when new Mavericks owner Mark Cuban lustily speaks of adding the traveling freak show that is Dennis Rodman, I can't understand what all the fuss is about. Rodman, who has yet to sign with

the Mavericks because he's not quite gotten cross-dressing and boozing out of his system, could be in a uniform as soon as next week. You may wonder why the Mavericks of all teams have a shot at signing Rodman, who owns five NBA championship rings and several rebounding titles. It's because nobody else wants him. His act wore thin with teammates, coaches and team executives in his last NBA merry-go-round with the Los Angeles Lakers. Rodman shows up to practice when the spirit so moves him, disappears intermittently for one of his famed Las Vegas getaways and sometimes removes his sneakers on

the bench. The Mavericks have already agreed to allow Rodman to appear 25 minutes later for games than the rest of the team. If he doesn't want to go to a pre-game shootaround, he doesn't have to. During practices focusing on offense, Rodman can spend the afternoon on the exercise bike. Sheesh. Are they also supplying him with thong underwear? Rodman's skill as a basketball player is much too overrated to make these sort of demands. He's no longer the defensive force he was in his youth. With the Lakers he averaged less than two points a game, and averaging 14 boards a game isn't really that big a deal if that's all you

do besides rack up technicals. In all seriousness, if the Mavericks really want to put on a show, they should sign that dancing monkey in the E\*trade commercial. Saying the Mavericks lose credibility with the fans by signing Rodman, assumes that they have credibility. Here's a news flash: They don't. I once promised I would never mention John Rucker again, but then MLB commissioner Bud Selig went ahead and suspended Rucker for the first month of the season, fined him \$20,000 and ordered him to undergo sensitivity training. Do you think the Detroit Tigers would have suspended Ty Cobb? Do you think the Yankees would have

suspended Babe Ruth? For being red-necks? Rucker has hurt no one but himself. What kind of person did we expect Rucker to be? After trading insults with New York Mets fans that would have made Lil' Kim blush, did we really expect him to come across like Gandhi? Therein lies the problem. When we look to make heroes out of guys just because they can run a 4.4, hit a curve ball or knock down a 20-foot jumper, then we'll always wind up disappointed. Joel Anderson is a news-editorial journalism major from Missouri City, Texas. He can be reached at (janderson@delta.is.tcu.edu).

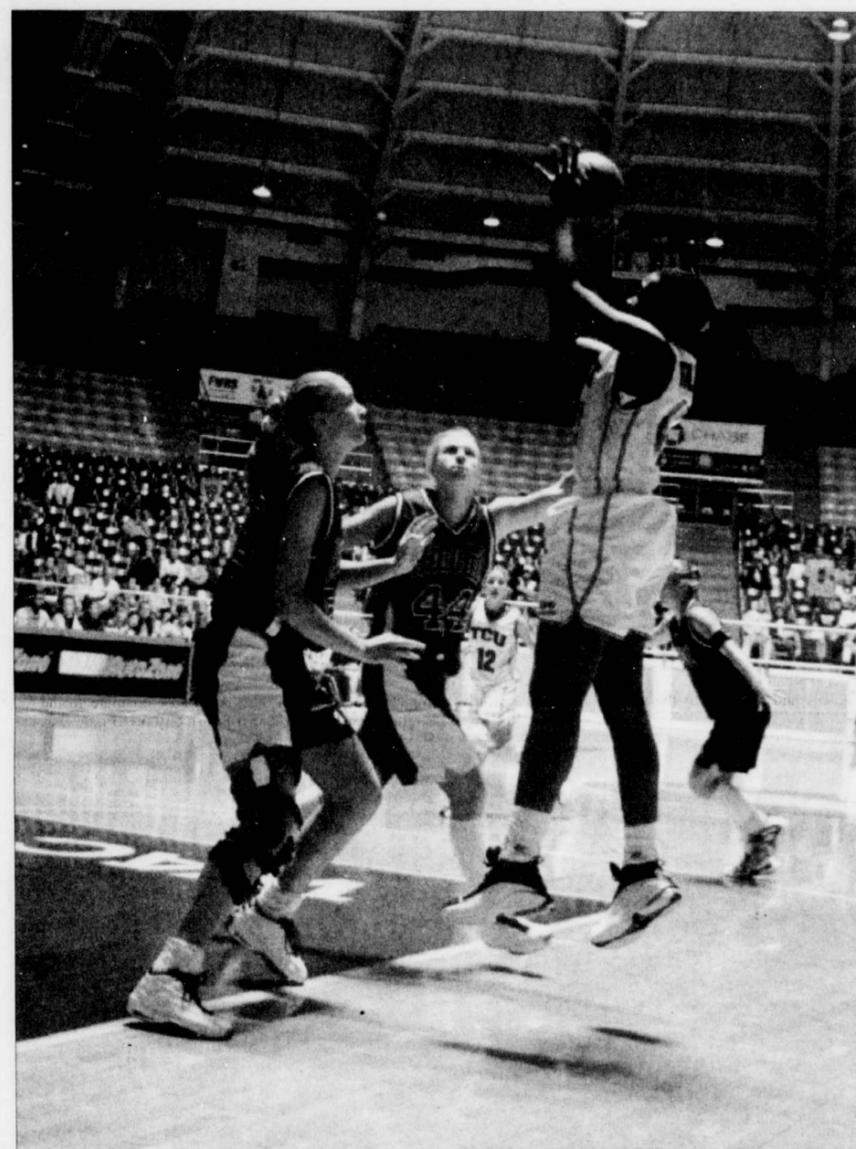
## Lady Frogs attempt to break 17-game losing streak against Rice

By Danny Horne  
STAFF REPORTER

For the second consecutive game, the Lady Horned Frogs basketball team faces off against a team it has not beaten since 1991. Last Saturday it was Southern Methodist and a 17-game losing streak. Tonight at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum against Rice, TCU looks to end another 17-game losing streak dating back to Jan. 19, 1991. "We have not paid much attention to the streak against Rice," junior guard Jill Sutton said. "We just have to play a consistent 40 minutes of basketball. We had (Rice) down at halftime last year, but they came back to beat us because we let up. It was the same against SMU last Saturday." The Lady Frogs (11-10, 2-4 Western Athletic Conference) are coming off an 82-63 loss at SMU, in which they shot 29 percent for the game. Over the last seven games, the Lady Frogs' offense has averaged 65 points a game. TCU is 2-5 in that span and is 2-8 for the season in games when they score under 70 points. "We have had some droughts offensively this season," head coach Jeff Mittie said. "We are looking to get to the free-throw line more and try some different sets to create more looks at the basket. The shots should start falling for us." Mittie said he is glad to get back home to play in front of the home crowd. "We've played our last three

games on the road, and we have not played in front of our own fans since school started up," Mittie said. "Our team is looking forward to being at home again." The Lady Owls (11-6, 3-2 WAC) enter tonight's contest on a three-game winning streak. Senior guard Jenny Cafferty was just named WAC Player of the Week on Monday after hitting 13 three-pointers in two games last week. "Rice is one of the more athletic teams in the conference, and Cafferty is a big part of that," Mittie said. "But we cannot just focus on Cafferty because they are a strong team." Senior guard Marla Brumfield and senior forward Kirra Jordan both average 13 points a game. Senior guard Kim Smallwood has averaged 10 points in five WAC games. "We feel like we can beat them on the inside," freshman center Kim Walter said. "(Junior center) Karen (Clayton) and I should be able to overpower them because we feel we are stronger and more physical." The Lady Owls defense has given up an average of 58 points all season. Mittie said the Lady Frogs will rely heavily on the inside game of Walter and Clayton because of the perimeter pressure the Lady Owls defense applies. "(Clayton) and I know we can play effectively on the inside if the outside shooting is not hitting that night," Walter said. The Lady Frogs will continue to

use Jill Sutton in extended minutes while junior guard Amy Sutton remains sidelined with a fractured right fibula. "Extended playing time is not an issue," Jill Sutton said. "At this point in conference, every team experiences some fatigue. It all depends on how well-conditioned you are as a team, and we feel we are prepared." Mittie said the inside play of Walter and Clayton has opened up the perimeter shot for Jill Sutton, junior guard Diamond Jackson and sophomore guard Tricia Payne. He said they have to be able to hit the open shots. Jackson was three of 15 from the field and zero for eight from the three-point range. "(Our shooters) are a very confident group," Jill Sutton said. "We know that if someone struggles, they will bounce back strong." The Lady Frogs find themselves a half-game ahead of Fresno State (8-11, 1-4 WAC) in the standings for the final spot in the conference tournament. TCU plays the next two games at home, but the Lady Frogs do not feel they are in a must-win situation, Jill Sutton said. "We need these games, but we feel we control our own destiny," Jill Sutton said. "If we take care of our business, we will not have to worry about how other teams are playing." Danny Horne  
bravestcu3116@mindspring.com



Freshman center Kim Walter shoots over two Hawaii defenders in a 70-62 loss on Jan. 15 at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. The Frogs take on the Rice Owls tonight at 7 p.m.

## 18 players sign intent letter, including 'Tiger' Thompson

By Matt Stiver  
ASSISTANT CAMPUS EDITOR

The tiger's roar will be heard in Fort Worth after all. Irving High School running back Tyson "Tiger" Thompson, a *Parade Magazine* first-team All-American, was one of 18 football players who signed a letter of intent Wednesday to play football for TCU. Thompson, ranked by many sources — including the *Dallas Morning News* and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* — as one of the top 100 recruits in the nation, orally committed to TCU on Dec. 5, 1999. Speculation around whether Thompson would defect from TCU increased after he made an official trip to the University of Arkansas three weeks ago. TCU head football coach Dennis Franchione said Thompson possesses many of the same skills as TCU tailback LaDainian Tomlinson. Tomlinson led the nation in rushing in 1999 and rushed for an NCAA Division I record 406 yards on Nov. 20 against Texas-El Paso. "LT is a little bit of an exception. He has size, speed, power and he can break tackles," Franchione said. "When I watch (Thompson's) films, he's very comparable." Franchione said TCU's offensive philosophy helped sway Thompson's decision. "Tailbacks can look at TCU and say, 'I'm going to get my touches and yards. I will have a chance to show what I can do,'" Franchione said. Thompson rushed for 2,933 yards on 418 carries (an average more than 7 yards per carry) and 32 touchdowns his senior year. In

1998, he set a Texas Class 5A single-game rushing record with 526 yards on 31 attempts and seven touchdowns against Hurst L.D. Bell. Of the 18 recruits, eight were ranked in the Texas Top 100 by at least one news organization. Franchione said TCU's back-to-back bowl victories and 1999 Western Athletic Conference championship have boosted recruiting efforts. "It has gotten easier for (high-profile) kids to say, 'I'm going to TCU,'" Franchione said. "We certainly have bumped our recruiting up a notch." Thompson and Carrollton Newman Smith High School defensive tackle Brandon Johnson were national 100 selections. Johnson, ranked the No. 20 defensive tackle in the nation, racked up 58 tackles and three sacks his senior year. Franchione said Johnson has the ability to play for the Frogs his freshman year. Franchione said the Frogs focused their recruiting efforts on defensive linemen, safeties and "big receivers." In addition to Johnson, TCU picked up four defensive linemen, four safeties and two receivers taller than 6-foot-3. Three or four recruits have yet to become eligible academically, Franchione said. For freshmen to compete or practice in Division I football, they must achieve certain scores on the SAT or ACT and have a corresponding grade point average. Franchione said the players "have a little work left to do." Matt Stiver  
mstiver@delta.is.tcu.edu

### Newly signed Frogs

Name	Position
Kenny Boyd	RB
Zach Bray	OL
DeMarcus Carroll	DL
Darrell Catlin	DE
Anthony Gilliam	WR
Marvin Godbolt	DB
Reggie Harrell	WR
Brandon Hassell	QB
Brandon Johnson	DT
Chase Johnson	OL
Cody McCarty	QB
Zack Moore	QB
Chris Peoples	DB
Derrick Pope	DB
Reuben Randle	WR
DeWaylynn Ross	D
Stephen Simmons	DT
Tyson Thompson	RB

## Frogs swim toward WAC title

By Chris Gibson  
STAFF REPORTER

The TCU men's and women's swimming and diving teams continue their push toward a Western Athletic Conference title Friday and Saturday night at the Rickel Building. The men take to the water 7 p.m. Friday against the top-ranked team in the nation, the University of Texas at Austin. The women take on Fresno State in a WAC meet 7 p.m. Saturday. The Longhorns are coming off a weekend where they defeated both the No. 3 ranked Arizona Wildcats and the No. 11 ranked Arizona State Sun Devils. "We've really got our hands full with Texas," head coach Richard Sybesma said. "They are swimming really well right now, so we will try and emphasize racing on an individual level. We have some guys that can really battle, and I think that if we look at the meet race by race instead of trying to win it as a whole, we will have much more success." Junior Ryan Mammarella took the victory in the 500-yard freestyle during this past weekend's meet against Southern Methodist University, while Horned Frog sophomores Josh Pipes and Jeff Parkinson both swam to second place finishes in the 100-yard fly and the 100-yard freestyle. "(Mammarella, Pipes and Parkinson) will need to swim well to win, but what we are really interested in is preparing our-

selves for the WAC Championship meet," Sybesma said. "Swimming against a team like Texas gives us a great opportunity to do that." Mammarella said he and his teammates are in the part of their season where they begin to taper off their workouts and rest their legs for the WAC meet. "Decreasing the intensity of our workouts really helps," he said. "We get to work on faster movements such as starts and turns. We ultimately want to be at our peak once the (WAC) championship meet comes around." The women are coming off a week where they lost to SMU. SMU came into the meet ranked No. 9 in the nation, but Sybesma said he hopes it's a different story this weekend against the Fresno State squad. "We are really looking forward to challenging Fresno State as a team," he said. "Since this is a WAC school, we intend to give it everything we've got." Jamie MacCurdy will miss this week due to illness. MacCurdy is currently ranked No. 17 in the nation in the 400 individual medley. "Everyone needs to have a great meet to make up for her absence," Sybesma said. "Jamie is really disappointed that she can't swim, but she will be there cheering everyone else on." Chris Gibson  
cjgibson@delta.is.tcu.edu

## HELP me, Harlan!

### Boyfriend should dump 'loser' girl, move on with life

BY HARLAN COHEN

Dear Harlan,  
My girlfriend and I have been dating for just over two years. I'm 22 and have a great full-time job that allows for me to go to college full time.

My girlfriend is 19 and can't seem to find a job she can handle. She tried college for a couple semesters, but got kicked out for bad grades.

I am a very motivated individual and have clear goals for my future. To say my girlfriend is not driven is an understatement. When she was booted out of her dorm, she had to move back in with her parents in a nearby town. Disagreements between her parents and I have caused many

problems in our relationship. I love her very much, and I'm afraid I pity her too much to evaluate our relationship clearly. I hate to say this, but I think she may be a "loser."

Worn Thin

Dear Worn Thin:

You might like helping her with her problems, but she needs to first help herself. After two years she's not going to change and you're not going to change her.

It's not my place to tell you what to do, but if you stay with her much longer, this will be the woman who mothers your children and sets lifelong examples.

Dear Harlan,  
I've been dating this guy for 18 months. We are completely inseparable, but I've been lying to him about my age.

I told him I was 17 when we met, but really I was 16. Now, my birthday is in two months and I'm supposed to be 19, but will only be 18. He is 20, and I'm so scared that he'll leave me. I haven't told him because I didn't want to lose him.

Could you please help me? If I lose him I will not be whole. Scared of losing him

Dear Scared:

Wouldn't that be so cool if he was really 16, but he told you he was 20?

The age difference isn't the problem. It's the fact that you need to lie to be comfortable with this guy.

You need to come clean and tell this guy the truth. Be happy to be you and don't let your whole existence weigh on this guy.

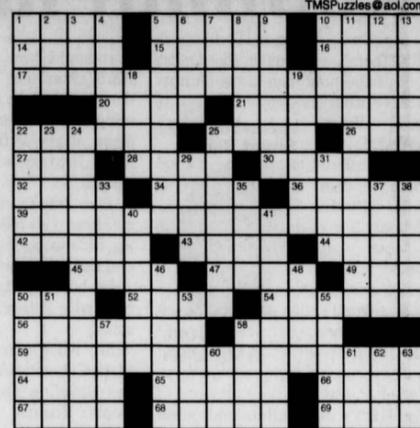
Take things slowly and always know there are many guys who will like you at 18, 19 and beyond.

Harlan is not a licensed psychologist, therapist or physician, but he is a licensed driver. Write Harlan at (harlan@helpmeharlan.com). All letters submitted become the property of the column. This column is distributed by U-WIRE.

## THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**  
1 Desiccated  
5 Loses weight  
10 Staunch  
14 Farm tower  
15 Eagle's nest  
16 Like a dipstick  
17 Remains silent  
20 Interruptions of continuity  
21 Fearless  
22 Lead source  
25 Lenient  
26 Pipe fork?  
27 Bullring cheer  
28 Sprinkle with powder  
30 Break down  
32 Wander about  
34 In \_\_\_ of  
36 Bellyache  
39 Remains cool  
42 Archipelago member  
43 Run off at the mouth  
44 Copycat  
45 Warm up  
47 God of love  
49 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"  
50 Wonderment  
52 Cut  
54 Sowed  
56 Goblet  
58 Takes a bead on  
59 Remains enthusiastic  
64 Mineral deposits  
65 Lonette or Maria  
66 First-rate  
67 Auto pioneer  
68 In the lead  
69 Hankerings



By James E. Buell  
Fort Washington, MD

2/3/00

### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

D I D I N E S T S A F A R  
A G O N E L L I E Z U N I  
M O S C O W M U L E T Z O D  
P R E A C H E R D A Z Z L E  
S T A R S H I P Y E S  
E O N A R S O L E A N  
F L U E N T J A Y J A V A  
T I T L E M I R D A V I S  
S O C K L A G F O R E S T  
R E P E L C U T L E A  
S S A T A I L O R E D  
P A C M A N E N C L O S E S  
A N K A T O M C O L L I N S  
S T E M O M A H A E M I T  
M O R E S E N A T S I D S

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- 10 Led Zeppelin concert movie, "The \_\_\_ Remains the Same"  
11 Loath to speak  
12 Extract with a solvent  
13 No way!  
18 Smooth before painting  
19 Power failure  
22 Russian writer Maxim  
23 Athol Fugard play, "A Lesson from \_\_\_"  
24 Sensible  
25 Trend upward  
29 Evidoings  
31 Shirley MacLaine movie, "\_\_\_ la Douce"  
33 Fencer's foil  
35 Manipulator  
37 Irritate  
38 Slipped up  
40 Balance  
41 Bilateral

- 46 City on Puget Sound  
48 Trailer truck, briefly  
50 Sneeze sound and around  
51 Spin around  
53 Peasant girl  
55 School paper?  
57 Fewer  
58 Toward open waters  
60 Just get by  
61 Bandy or Howard  
62 Sothorn or Jillian  
63 Positive reply

## TODAY'S menu

### THE MAIN Lunch

- Turkey parmesan
  - Custom salads
  - Cajun spiced chicken
  - Bagel
- Dinner
- Turkey tetrazzini
  - Swedish meatballs
  - Cajun spiced chicken
  - Nacho bar

### WORTH HILLS Lunch

- Chicken pot pie
- Philly cheesesteak
- Selona shakers

- Dinner
- Spaghetti with assorted sauces
  - Chicken & broccoli stir fry
  - Selona shakers

### EDEN'S GREENS Lunch

- Sesame chicken
- Lemon dill cod

### FROGBYTES

- Custom omelette bar (late night)

## Rudy



by Aaron Brown

## Lex



by Phil Flickinger

www.L-E-X.com

## PURPLE poll

Q. DO YOU LIKE TCU'S NEW WEB SITE?  
A. YES 55 NO 30  
HAVEN'T SEEN 15

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

LONGHORN SALOON

# FRIDAY

NO COVER WITH TCU ID

\$1 LONGNECKS

\$1 SHOTS

121 W. EXCHANGE IN THE STOCKYARDS

626-1161

## COLLEGE NIGHT THURSDAY

25¢ BEER ALL NIGHT 50¢ WELL DRINKS

DISCOUNT WITH TCU ID

18 AND UP ALWAYS WELCOME

TCU does not encourage the consumption of alcohol. If you do consume alcohol, you should do so responsibly and you should never drive after drinking.

# TCU vs Rice

Show your Greek pride!

Show your Horned Frog spirit!

Earn points for your fraternity or sorority!

Get to the game tonight!

7 p.m. • Daniel-Meyer Coliseum

For tickets call: 817-257-FROG • www.gofrogs.com

## THE POWER OF PURPLE

www.tcu.edu/skiff