



The TCU FrogHorn will be in the "Krewes of Selene: Goddess of the Moon" night parade in Slidell, La., on Wednesday.

Art, page 8

HOW DO WE REALLY FEEL?

insensitivity ignorance joking racism insensitivity ignorance joking racism insensitivity ignorance joking racism

Black History Month misunderstood, some say

By Tara Pope
COPY DESK CHIEF

"I'm going to KFC."
"Well, I play football with a black guy."
"I have relatives in Jasper."
These statements were made by white TCU students when asked how they were going to celebrate Black History Month.

Michael Katovich, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice, said it is hard to say whether those comments reflect any deep-seated hostility toward blacks or whether they reflect ignorance and insensitivity.

"Our pop culture still has racist and sexist strands," Katovich said. "Although we don't publicly acknowledge ourselves as racists and sexists, we still have that kind of humor that makes for racism and sexism. I still think it represents a minority of students on campus. I think most students are not overtly racist."

Stephanie Corso, a freshman business major, said the student comments on celebrating Black History Month were surprising to her.

"We are supposed to be learning to be diverse," she said.

The purpose of Black History Month is to teach people about the accomplishments of black Americans. On Feb. 19, 1926, Carter G. Woodson established "Negro History Week", which later became Black History Month. Woodson was a high school teacher who saw black history was not being taught. February was picked because it contains the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

Several students said, to them, Black History Month means hearing Martin Luther King Jr.'s speeches and learning about important historical figures.

But while the original intent of Black History Month was to educate, Black History Month now seems to raise issues related to racial equality.

Jennifer Zwahr-Castro, a lecturer in the psychology department, said while Black History Month is intended to be a time of learning about black accomplishments, one problem is that Black History Month is perceived to be a celebration not for all people but for the black community.

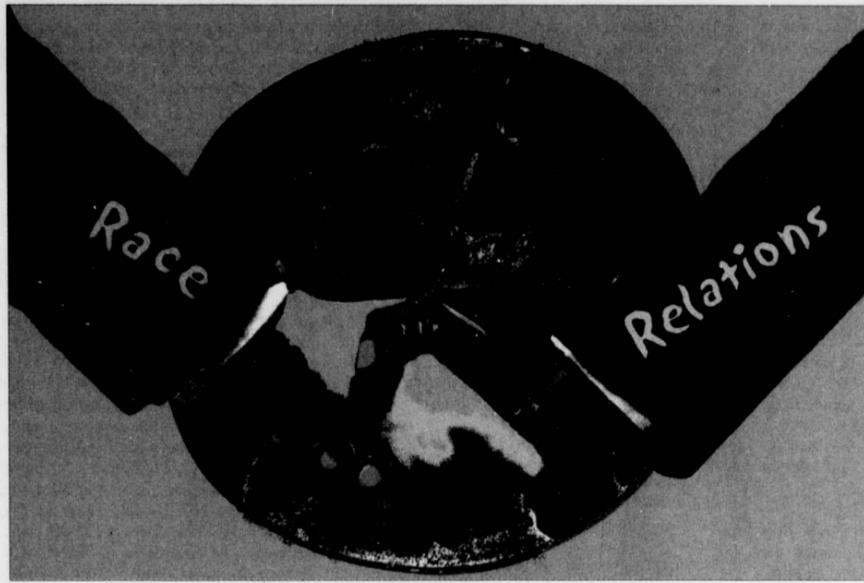
"The black community probably knows more about black history, and the people that need to be educated miss it," she said.

Mark Dowling, a junior advertising/public relations major, said he thought Black History Month was about black people celebrating their heritage.

Brad Wolfe, a sophomore business major, said he agrees with Black History Month in that it tries to raise awareness.

"But I do disagree with Black History Month in that it keeps racial differences," Wolfe said.

See MONTH, Page 6



insensitivity ignorance joking racism

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series of articles that will focus on Black History Month and its meaning to students. The majority of the first installment presents the perspective of white students and faculty. The next installment of the series will focus on the perspective of black students and faculty. Our intent is to explore this issue in an open forum in order to encourage dialogue on the issue.

This is what they said

"Although we don't publicly acknowledge ourselves as racists and sexists, we still have that kind of humor that makes for racism and sexism."

-MICHAEL KATOVICH, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice

"I'm going to KFC."

-ANONYMOUS

"I have relatives in Jasper."

-ANONYMOUS

"But how can we create an egalitarian society if we don't understand the historical process of how these groups have struggled for recognition of their equality?"

-CHRIS OHAN, lecturer of history

"We are supposed to be learning to be diverse," she said.

-STEPHANIE CORSO, freshman business major

"Historically, deprived people have employed a policy of making fun of the rich and powerful, and this is accepted," he said. "But the rich and powerful are considered derogatory and self-serving if they make fun of those who have been deprived."

-MARK GILDERHUS, professor of history

Acts of racism, ignorance not far from university

By Rusty Simmons
STAFF REPORTER

Twelve current and former employees of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store in Atlanta, Ga., charged the restaurant chain with discrimination, and the plaintiffs have now added a companion case alleging violations of the wage and hours laws.

Five blacks claim they were discriminated against at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Daytona Beach, Fla., and they are now pursuing a lawsuit against the entire 21-hotel chain.

But acts of racism and discrimination do not just happen in other parts of the country. Earlier this month, several white TCU students celebrated their fourth annual Martin Luther King Jr. birthday party.

The group dressed in baggy jeans, wore T-shirts with the words "talk to the hand" on them and were adorned in shower caps with condoms tucked underneath. They proceeded to watch "Menace II Society" and ate fried chicken and watermelon.

Members of this group said they do not understand why people observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day but not Presidents Day or other days set aside to celebrate historic white people.

The American Civil Liberties Union has been fighting to stop racist instances when they turn into violence but does not seek legislation against bigoted beliefs, said Christopher Anders, ACLU legislative counsel.

"The ACLU has a long record of support for strong protection of both freedom of speech and civil rights," Anders said. "Rather than diminishing individual rights, it is our belief that vigilant protection of free speech has historically opened the doors to effective advocacy for expanded civil rights protection."

Mark Gilderhus, professor of history, said racist actions and beliefs often feed out of a lack of confidence.

"People do these racist acts out of insecurity, because of the advances (blacks) have made," he said. "This should be a time to celebrate the advances."

More than 30 years ago, on the last day of his life, King asked for the "freedom, quality and fundamental fairness" promised by the Constitution, but John White, spokesman for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said blacks are still searching for it.

Gilderhus said while blacks have made some advances, the United States is far from egalitarian.

"Now blacks can vote, and it is illegal to discriminate in a public facility," he said. "But to think there is not racism is to be disillusioned."

Gilderhus, who is a member of the Organization of American Historians, knows about the current racism in America firsthand. The group was supposed to meet at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis at the end of February, but the meeting site was

See RACISM, Page 6

Search nears end

Committee to make recommendation on AddRan dean

By Laura Head
OPINION EDITOR

The AddRan dean search committee is expected to give its recommendation Monday for the first dean of the new AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The finalists are Alan Shepard, chairman of the English department and an associate professor of English, and Mary Volcansek, director of graduate programs in political science and a professor in the political science department at Florida International University in Miami.

Jean Giles-Sims, a professor of sociology and a member of the dean search committee, said the recommendation will describe the strengths and weaknesses of the acceptable candidate or candidates before being submit-

ted to Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs William Koehler. The committee may recommend one or both of the candidates to Koehler. Chancellor Michael Ferrari will then decide whom to appoint as the new dean.

Giles-Sims said Shepard met with students on Monday to allow them the chance to give input on the decision. Volcansek met with students Thursday.

"We want anyone who is going to be a dean to be very good in terms of being responsive to students' needs," Giles-Sims said. "We think that's very important."

Shepard came to TCU in 1990 as an assistant professor of English after earning his

See DEANS, Page 6



Shepard
associate professor of English and chairman of English department



Volcansek
director of graduate programs in political science and political science professor Florida International University

TASTE OF CULTURES

ISA program to feature food, activities to raise awareness

By Kasey Feldman
STAFF REPORTER

Students can see a salsa performance on Monday, attend a multi-cultural chapel service and a Japanese movie Wednesday, eat German food Thursday and see models in traditional African clothes Saturday.

These and other events are part of International Student Association's International Week program.

Carolina Racines, ISA communications chairwoman and a junior marketing major, said the purpose of international Week is to expose TCU students to the different cultures represented by

international students at TCU.

Tomomi Nakata, ISA campus interaction chairwoman and a senior psychology major, said the week's events cost about \$6,000, with most of the money coming from ISA funds and international student services. The rest will come from Programming Council and sponsors.

Chancellor Michael Ferrari will speak at the opening ceremony on Monday. The ceremony will consist of a salsa performance and a traditional Japanese opening ceremony, which involves the opening of a large golden ball filled with confetti and ribbons.

For Tuesday, ISA has planned a cultural exhibit, including a kite festival where students can make and fly kites decorated with cultural images. There will also be a silent auction.

LeeAnn Mutchler, ISA vice president and a sophomore Spanish and international communications major, said students can find good deals at the auction.

"A lot of the time the items go for really cheap because there's nobody that shows up to bid on them, and they are beautiful artifacts," Mutchler said. "They are hand-crafted items from foreign

See WEEK, Page 4

Performance to benefit Women's Shelter

By Omar Villafranca
STAFF REPORTER

The TCU theater, dance and art departments are working together to host a "brown bag" performance benefiting the Women's Shelter, a place of refuge for women in abusive relationships.

The benefit will take place at noon Monday in the Ballet and Modern Dance Building, Studio B. The event will feature several two to six minute dances choreographed and performed by students, an art exhibit by TCU artists and a play by the TCU Assault Prevention Theatre. Those attending are encouraged to bring their own brown bag lunch to the event.

The purpose of the Assault Prevention Theatre is to educate people about abusive relationships and

how to recognize them. Actors in the play will stay in character after the play to answer questions posed by the audience.

Kelly Connelly, a senior ballet and modern dance major, said the brown bag events sponsored every semester by the dance department. She said she hopes the first-time event featuring dance, art and theater will expose some of the other talents on campus.

"We want to present the arts on campus to the rest of the community and the rest of TCU," Connelly said. "I hope it becomes an event that will last after I graduate."

Connelly, who is also the president of Chi Tau Epsilon, the dance honor society, said students in some of the departments did not feel a bond within the College of Fine Arts.

"The students in several of the departments feel that their isn't enough of a community," Connelly said. "We feel the need to be more unified."

Meredith Mangum, a senior theater major, said she is helping put the event together and hopes the performance helps build a good repertoire between the departments.

"Our overall goal is an attempt at a collaboration within the College of Fine Arts," Mangum said.

Admission for the event is free, but the departments are asking for cash donations, women's and children's clothes, women's toiletries or non-perishable foods to give to the Women's Shelter.

Omar Villafranca
ovillafranca@delta.is.tcu.edu



The TCU theater, dance and art departments are in the process of putting together a brown bag performance that will benefit the Women's Shelter.

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 available space.

■ **TCU in London summer abroad program students-** there will be an important informational meeting 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Faculty Center in Reed Hall, Room 214. Please make every effort to attend.

■ **Volunteers** (students, faculty and staff) are needed to join the Meals on Wheels delivery team. Meals are delivered to homebound elderly each Thursday morning between 10 and 11:30 a.m. For more information, call Bea Nealy at 257-7830.

■ **Dave Kuhne will conduct a grammar, spelling, and punctuation review** 3 p.m. Tuesday in the Rickel, Room 100 for journalism students planning to take the GSP in March. All students must pass the GSP exam before officially being journalism majors or minors.

■ **Experience India**, a charity luncheon, will be from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday 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.

■ **For fans of music and fun:** Tap Dogs tickets are on sale for their Tuesday performance at Bass Hall. The group is a renowned Australian male dance troop, and tickets are available at the discounted price of \$20 each in the Programming Council office. Contact Amanda Knecht in the PC office for more information.

■ **Programming Council's Homecoming committee** will be accepting applications for sub-chairs. Leaders are needed for the following committees: decorations, entertainment, fashion show, publicity, parade/rally, carnival and Frog Follies. Application are available Monday to March 3 in the PC office. Applications are due by 5 p.m. March 3. Please remember to sign up for an interview time. For more information, contact Chelsea Hudson at 257-4356.

■ **Fall 2000 juniors:** Air Force ROTC is now beginning its STAR (Students To Attend ROTC) search for the Fall 2000 semester. Under the STAR program, you can join the Air Force ROTC program and be commissioned as an Air Force officer in just 2 short years. For more information, call Capt. Aleman at 257-7461.

TCU DAILY Skiff

Since 1902

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SAICA event to benefit charity

Indian culture, food, fashion will be highlight of annual banquet, show

By Kasey Feldman
STAFF REPORTER

From leprosy missions and orphanages to beautiful traditional clothing and spicy foods, "Experience India" will give students a taste of Indian culture, said religion professor Andrew Fort, who will speak at the event.

Experience India, a banquet sponsored by Students for Asian-Indian Cultural Awareness, will be from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday in the Student Center Ballroom to promote awareness of Indian culture and raise money for Missionaries of Charity, a Catholic order founded by Mother Theresa to serve the poor.

Trupti Desai, president of SAICA and a junior biology major, said the luncheon will be catered by Maharaja Indian Restaurant and will feature Indian dance performances, speakers and a fashion show with students modeling traditional Indian clothing.

Desai said \$6.50 from each \$10 ticket will go to the Missionaries of Charity. SAICA has raised nearly \$45,000 for the charity in the past seven years, she said.

In 1997, Fort delivered a check from SAICA to the Missionaries of Charity on his trip to Calcutta, India. He will talk about that trip at the luncheon.

Fort said the Missionaries of Charity is most famous for assisting the dying.

"It's like a hospice allowing people to feel comfortable at the end of their lives and feel loved by God," he said.

Tahira Hussain, a freshman pre-major and member of SAICA, said the leprosy missions are one of the most important works of the Missionaries of Charity.

"In India, health care and nutrition are not as good as they are here," Hussain said. "It's a developing country

so there is more poverty. People still have diseases like leprosy and rickets. With leprosy, there is a lot of social stigma, so people will not get help. They need money for treatment and a place they can go without being ostracized."

Hussain said the banquet will mainly focus on lighter aspects of Indian culture, such as exotic foods and beautiful clothing. Traditional Indian clothing is typically made of silk or cotton material in bright, deep colors, and some have heavy embroidery in gold or silver thread, she said.

Desai said local Indian dance schools, groups from the University of Texas at Arlington and students from the International Student Association will also be included in the performances and fashion show.

Kasey Feldman
kfeld@aol.com

Who: Students for Asian-Indian Cultural Awareness

What: Experience India: Sharing a World of Culture

Where: Brown Lupton Student Center Ballroom

When: noon to 3 p.m. Saturday

Why: To promote awareness of Indian Culture and to raise money for Missionaries of Charity

Cost: \$10 for students and children, \$12 for adults; tickets can be purchased in the Student Center at the SAICA table between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. today. Meal cards will be accepted.

NEWS ROUNDUP

NATION

Clinton administration extends Medicaid to cover HIV-positive patients in Maine

WASHINGTON — In an experiment that could significantly expand federal benefits to patients with the AIDS virus, the Clinton administration is allowing Maine to provide Medicaid payments to people who are HIV-positive but do not yet have AIDS.

Previously, patients could not qualify until they had full-blown AIDS.

Health Secretary Donna Shalala said Thursday that Maine would be the first state to offer such a plan, "which can give more people living with HIV access to promising therapies." Several other states are looking at offering a similar plan, officials said.

"Better research, prevention and treatment is helping people with this disease live longer, healthier lives, even as we continue our search for a cure," said Shalala at a conference on black people with AIDS.

Recent studies have shown that the early use of AIDS-fighting drugs can slow the disease and increase life expectancy. However,

many people with HIV generally do not qualify for Medicaid, which provides health insurance to low-income Americans, until they have symptoms and are considered disabled.

Without the plan, "the Medicaid program was in the untenable position of having to wait until someone grew so sick with AIDS that they became disabled" before treatment and drugs could be made available, said Francis Finnegan, Maine's Medicaid director.

The state's five-year demonstration project begins in September. To be eligible, a participant must be HIV-positive and have an income of less than about \$25,000, which is three times the federal poverty level.

Before the plan, only children, pregnant women and the elderly or disabled with incomes below the poverty level were eligible for assistance.

The benefit package will include drug therapy, office visits, lab services, case management, hospitalizations, mental health and substance abuse services.

STATE

Beets executed by injection after Bush rejects claim she killed husband in self-defense

HUNTSVILLE — A 62-year-old woman was executed by injection Thursday after Gov. George W. Bush rejected her claim that she killed her fifth husband in self-defense and deserved a reprieve.

Betty Lou Beets became the fourth woman to be executed in the United States since the Supreme Court in 1976 allowed the death penalty to resume. She was the second woman executed in Texas since the Civil War.

She gave no final statement as she lay strapped to the death chamber gurney. She made no eye contact with the victim's family, but smiled at her attorney and a spiritual adviser watching through a window at her side. She continued smiling as she slipped into unconsciousness and was pronounced dead at 6:18 p.m.

Death penalty opponents and domestic violence organizations had urged Bush to grant Beets a 30-day delay, arguing it would be consistent with his description of himself as a "compassionate conservative" in his presidential campaign. The delay was Bush's only option, since the state parole board did not recommend that her sentence be commuted to life in prison.

During his 5 1/2 years as governor, 120 convicted killers have been executed in Texas. He has spared one condemned inmate.

"After careful review of the evidence of the case, I concur with the jury that Betty Lou Beets is guilty of this murder," Bush said in a written statement after returning to Texas from California.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

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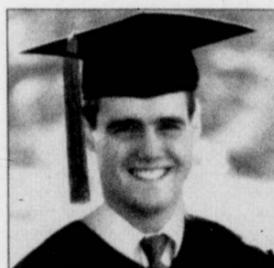
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STAFF editorial

HARMFUL HUMOR

Insensitivity is nothing to joke about

It's a weekly tradition. One of our two opinion editors comes up with a topic for "Students Speak Out," and a copy editor intrepidly braves The Main at dinnertime with a tape recorder and digital camera.

The question, along with the answers and mugs of the six students who were randomly selected, appears on the next day's opinion page. The process is pretty routine, but the survey conducted last week caught our attention.

When asked how they were going to observe Black History Month, three students said: "I'm going to KFC," "Well, I play football with a black guy" and "I have relatives in Jasper."

Michael Katovich, associate professor of sociology and criminal justice, said the comments probably reflect the students' ignorance and insensitivity. But when it comes down to it, these students rarely, if ever, own up to their remarks.

While it's easy to dismiss these students' comments as harmless jokes, the fact is that it reveals an insensitivity and ignorance that, if left unchecked, manifests itself into razor-sharp epithets, hostility and sometimes, violence.

But unfortunately, people say these "funny" things, their friends laugh and life goes on. They are confident that their sense of humor is shared by everyone. Well, it's not.

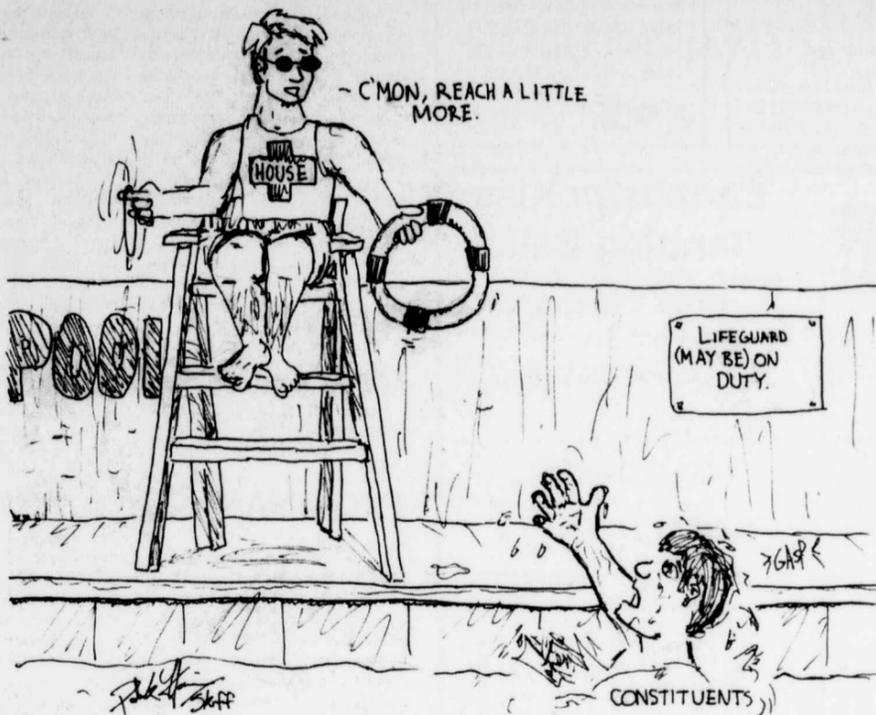
As journalism students we are adamantly in favor of freedom of speech and the First Amendment. We all would like to live in a world where anything is acceptable to say. But because of the history of injustice in this country, that world doesn't exist.

There is a right place and a right time to say things, and these students have obviously picked the wrong place and the wrong time to say this.

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 291S; mail it to TCU Box 298050; e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu or fax it to 257-7133. Letters 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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Patrick Harris/SKIFF STAFF

OPEC impacts U. S. pocketbooks

Did you hear the faint sounds of laughter the last time you were at the gas pump?

No, it wasn't your imagination.

You heard the chuckles from far-off countries. It was coming from places like Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Kuwait. So what's the joke you ask? Well, the joke's on you and every other American consumer who is paying through the nose for our most precious resource — oil.

Oh yes! They were laughing, all right. They were probably in tears after watching a parade of gargantuan SUV's pull up to the pump to guzzle down gasoline. And without a doubt they were rolling on the floor when millions of Americans received their astronomical heating oil bills and truck drivers began protesting high prices.

American society as we know it is dependent on abundant and cheap oil.

This country is the world's biggest oil consumer. We must have it in order to live our extravagant and wasteful lifestyle. We have to have gasoline for our daily commute from our comfortable suburban home. And many of those same suburban homes require heating oil to keep their hundreds of square feet at a reasonable temperature. In other words, we are at the mercy of oil-producing countries.

These countries are part of an organization called OPEC — the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Back in March 1999 they agreed to boost sagging prices by cutting back the flow of oil by 5 million barrels a day. So, with less oil being supplied the demand became greater and prices soared. Simple high-school economics and nowhere was the demand greater than in the good 'ol USA.

The repercussions of this agreement soon hit the American consumer where it hurts the worst — in the pocketbook. The price of natural gas went up 30 percent in two years, gasoline prices are at a nine-year high and home heating oil went up 133 percent in a five-week period. Frustration and des-

peration have already begun to rear their ugly heads. Truck drivers recently went to Washington D.C. to protest high gasoline prices and urge President Clinton to do something. A local television station has gone so far as to set up a gas hotline number where people can call to report where they found cheap gas in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. The lowest prices found each day are broadcast on the evening news.

But, not to worry, OPEC members are now choking back their last guffaws and wiping their eyes. It was a damn good joke but now it's back to business. The agreement reached last March expires next month and, more than likely, OPEC will raise output beginning April 1. Oil producers are already busy discussing how many extra barrels to release and when. However, the process won't be that easy. Iran, Kuwait, Libya and Algeria would prefer to keep the markets as high as possible and would be in favor of extending produc-

tion cuts while other members favor easing the restrictions.

This situation will not become the great oil crisis of the 21st century. Prices will eventually go

back down to reasonable levels and Americans will continue to guzzle the world's oil at an alarming rate. We'll sell even more SUVs to fill with gallons

of gas and build hundreds of more homes in the suburbs to heat. Americans have simply not realized that oil is a precious natural resource that we'll run out of one day. We're ignorant of this fact. We're downright gullible. We'll ignore this universal truth until our cars sit unused in the driveway and our homes become chilly in the winter.

Eventually, the joke will be on us yet again.

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

Commentary



SARAH MULLEN-MARTINEZ

LETTER to the editor

Productive Internet uses have priority over recreational Internet use, staff member says

In the recurring Skiff coverage of the Napster blockage, there seems to be a common theme. In the Tuesday article and Wednesday editorial, there are lines such as "Students pay for TCU Internet access, so they should be able to access what they want."

Students pay for an education at TCU. Internet access is part of the TCU facilities, just like the TCU buildings are part of the facilities. Saying that students pay for Internet access and should be able to use it how they please is akin to demanding to host a party in one of the Sid Richardson lecture halls.

The total amount of information Napster was sending and receiving was more than double all other uses combined. That means that all TCU web browsing, e-mail, IRC and regular file transmissions equaled less than half of what Napster was using. All that traffic was slowing the network down dramatically.

Everyone is welcome to use TCU's Internet connection however they like, but it is important to remember that TCU relies heavily on the Internet to conduct classes and business. When recreational uses interrupt and impede productive uses, the recreational uses will need to cease.

Steve Levering
Users Services

QUOTE unquote

Quote/Unquote is a collection of quotes found in the Skiff during the past week.

"The whole game started off rocky. Then it looked like we'd come back, but they just started hitting the ball."

— Walter Olmstead, freshman first baseman, on the baseball team's third loss in a row to Baylor

"If people are still confused about who their representatives are and what we do, that is a problem we need to work on. It is a trial-and-error process to find what works."

— Sara Donaldson, House of Student Representatives vice president, on the impression among students that House does not communicate

"Students need to know that I don't want to block this site from them. It is just my job to make sure we effectively use our resources. I can think of a better way to use campus resources than to trade MP3s back and forth."

— David Edmondson, assistant provost for Information Services, on the decision to prohibit the use of Napster.com

"I can understand why Information Services put a block on Napster. To me, it's still frustrating that a 10-year-old can look at pornography over the Internet, but I can't listen to music."

— Neilson Arbour, sophomore finance major, on the decision to prohibit the use of Napster.com

"The one thing that is great about the Pong Jam is that this is not stuffy academic poetry reading where everybody golf claps at the end. This is poetry about students' lives. It's like a conversation with someone in their dorm room, only with meter and rhythm."

— Cathy Gabor, an English graduate student and co-organizer of the second semi-annual Pong Jam, on Thursday's event

Avoid e-mail victimization

Forwarding, improper format causes reader frustration

Of the amount of love expressed by the three main types of mail — voice, snail and electronic — people tend to, unknowingly, abuse their loving powers with e-mail.

For those of you who still lag behind us in Cro-Magnon lick-the-stamp-times, e-mail is the greatest thing since the formation of the modern United States Postal Service delivery system.

It's quick, cheap and for the most part, user friendly. No embarrassing yourself by standing outside your mailbox forlornly wondering, "How come she hasn't mailed me back yet?" The great networking abilities of cyberspace serve as a wired pony express moving at speeds that would cause our eyeballs to slam the back of our cranium if proper safety precautions were not taken.

Now, with that understanding of e-mail, you wonder, "How is this e-mail thing abused? You can't process it." Not that way, silly. E-mail is abused by the force-fed over-dosing of forwards. At first, since forwards count as e-mail, a person gets their hopes up. Then they come crashing down, eliciting such responses as, "Here we go again," "Damn, I hate forwards," or none at all because the unwanted e-mail now lays electronically crumpled, deleted and never read past the first two lines.

Forwards have varied topics, such as the following:

Bill Gates, the government, or some gigantic clothing corporation is giving away something. Bill Gates is giving away free copies of Windows 22,363 A.D.; Uncle Sam wants to bestow you some free cash, and

(insert your favorite clothing manufacturer) just feels like presenting you with a gift certificate for the latest pair of styling tube socks. Well, instantly delete this from your inbox because they already have your money safely deposited in their bank accounts. But Uncle Sam will only give you money back on your taxes.

Little Timmy, who lives in Gondawalland is deprived of Happy Meals and would appreciate it if you donated a few dollars toward his Happy Meal Fund. These little tikes do not exist. Let your compassion do better things than make your friends make the extra effort of deleting one extra e-mail.

Pass this on or you A) won't get rich and own a 40-foot yacht; B) will always have bad luck; C) will become impotent; D) anything and everything else.

As far as surveys go, think about it. What does that say about you if you need to tell people about yourself through an extremely tiresome survey that contains no value whatsoever? If your e-mail buddies don't know your name, then you need to e-mail them more often.

Now, you may get something worthy of forwarding. If it's got charm, charisma, humor and you've never seen it before in your life, by all means send it on. But first do not "forward as attachment" or send it with the hideous ">>>>" signs. Always forward as in-line text and clean the e-mail up. Spit pol-

ish if you need to. Just don't send a cluttered, unreadable e-mail.

Also, protect your friends if you're mass e-mailing something by doing something called "Bcc," or blind carbon copy. This prevents people from hitting the reply all button and annoying everyone on your mailing list. I've met some evil people out there who collect e-mail addresses from mass forwards and then spam the collected e-mail addresses to death, filling up their inboxes with unnecessary garbage.

Just say no. Just tell your 21st century digital brain not to hit the forward button with-

out at least first thinking about the contents of the forward. Yes, going cold turkey to giving up an impulse like that may seem a little daunting at first.

This miracle cure for forwarding will help you maintain contact. And you can tell your e-mail buddies all about the conversations you've had with the little people who come to you when it's 3:32 a.m. and you're studying for a test that will take place in five hours. Send them your electronic love.

It could very well make their day when they hear about your conversations with little people.

Patrick Harris is a freshman graphic design major from Houston. He can be reached at (pharris@delta.tcu.edu).



Aaron Brown/SKIFF STAFF

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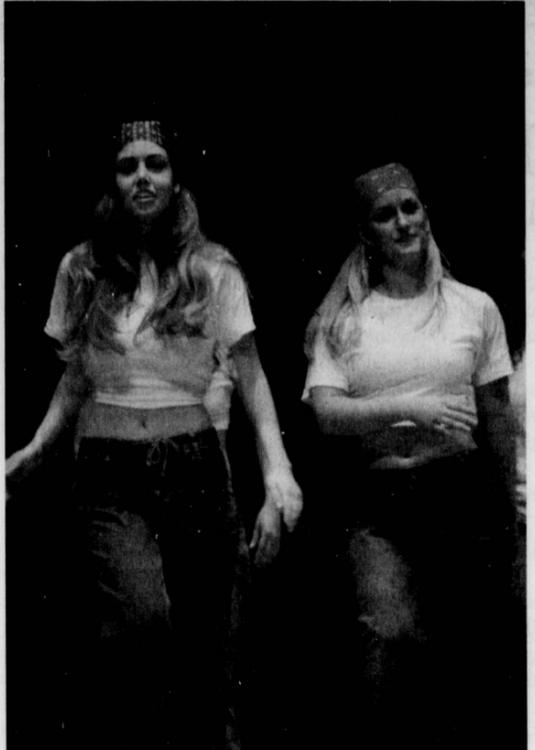
WEEK
 From Page 1
 countries, and you can't buy that quality here."
 Wednesday is "scream night," an event modeled after a popular Japanese television show. Nakata said participants will stand on the roof of the Student Center and yell.
 Nakata said anyone can participate as long as they do not say anything profane. Participants must sign up by 2 p.m. Friday at the ISA table in the Student Center because there will be a mandatory safety orientation before students can go on the roof.
 Mutchler said Thursday's event, Taste of the World, has been the most popular International Week event in the past.
 "It's free food and it's really good," she said. "There's baklava and tamales and just really tasty food."
 Friday there is a karaoke competition. Nakata said this event is new this year. Last year there was in-

FROGMAN
 From Page 8
 came to this year's Homecoming football game and saw the FrogHorn, she thought it would be a good idea to have the horn in the parade.
 Hunter said she asked around to find out how she could get the device in the parade. Hunter said convincing the proper people to get permission was not very hard.
 "(Vaughn) has been wonderful," Hunter said. "TCU has been very cooperative, and Eric Hyman has

strumental music, but no singing, she said.
 The last event is a banquet with a talent and fashion show. Students will be modeling traditional clothes from around the world, Nakata said.
 Students for Asian-Indian Cultural Awareness is having a similar banquet and fashion show Saturday, one week before the International Week banquet. Mutchler said she does not expect the SAICA banquet to hurt attendance at International Week events.
 "The more people expose themselves to something outside the realm of what they know, it becomes a learning experience, and they don't want to stop learning," she said. "International culture is a really fascinating subject because it's so overwhelming. You can't just stop at Indian culture. You'll want to go on to Japanese culture and Latin culture."

Kasey Feldman
 KLFeld@AOL.com
Omar Villafranca
 ovillafranca@delta.is.tcu.edu
 been wonderful."
 Hunter said the FrogHorn will be part of a parade that will be more than a mile long and will follow a route that is 4.3 miles in length. Hunter said the "Krewe of Selene: Goddess of the Moon" parade mainly attracts a family-oriented crowd. Hunter said parade participants will throw out about \$212,550 worth of beads into the crowd.
 "I will be throwing purple beads," Vaughn said with a grin.

Steppin' Up



Kappa Alpha Theta sorority members perform at First Steps on Wednesday night, a step show sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

POLICE BLOTTER
 Campus Police reported the following offenses between Feb. 18 and Thursday.
Burglary
 Feb. 23, 8:44 p.m. — Four male suspects, driving a light blue old-model Oldsmobile, were seen breaking into automobile windows

in the Bowie/Greene parking lot at 8:40 p.m. Wednesday.
 The suspects broke into a male student's red Ford Blazer. They stole over 50 compact discs and damaged the dashboard.
Theft
 Feb. 23, 11:33 a.m. — Monday afternoon \$76 in cash was stolen from an office in the Bass Building. A female student raised the money to give to Robbyn Kindle, who is in need of a liver and small bowel transplant.
 The student left for lunch and then class, but she locked the door both times. There were no signs of forced entry.
Property damage
 Feb. 18, 3:18 a.m. — A TCU police officer noticed the control arm from the Bowie/Greene parking lot had been broken. No suspects were in the area at the time.
 Compiled by staff reporter Rusty Simmons

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Swim teams expect success at WAC championships

By Chris Gibson
STAFF REPORTER

For the first time since 1997, the men's and women's swim teams will compete for the Western Athletic Conference title together.

The 2000 WAC Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships will be held this weekend at the Palo Alto College Natatorium in San Antonio.

Along with TCU, the women's championship will consist of Fresno State, Hawaii, Rice, San Jose State and Southern Methodist. The Mustangs were last year's team champion, winning the meet by more than 400 points over second-place Brigham Young. TCU placed ninth, but head coach

Richard Sybesma says the women are confident going into the meet.

"This is the meet of the year for us and we are really looking forward to swimming well," Sybesma said. "SMU has a really dominant team again this year, but we set our goals on finishing in the top three and if everyone swims their best, we can do that."

Sophomore Jamie MacCurdy leads the way for the Horned Frogs. MacCurdy holds two WAC top times this sea-

son and is ranked No. 13 in the nation in the 400-meter individual medley. MacCurdy is coming off an illness that caused her to miss a few weeks but said she is ready for the meet.

"For us to have a chance to win, some people are going to have to swim their lifetime best time ... The week off has given us a great chance to rest. If we swim the way we can, I think we can finish in the top two."

—Aaron Ewert,
freshman swim team member

happy to just swim well, and I hope that (the illness) doesn't affect me too much."

The men's field contains just three teams this season: Hawaii, SMU and TCU. SMU is the defending WAC champion but the men hope that they can challenge them for the top spot this year.

Leading the way for the men are junior Ryan Mammarella, sophomore Scott Adkins and freshman Aaron Ewert. Ewert says that while their season record may not show it, they have been swimming well but that they are going to have to be at the top of their game this weekend.

"For us to have a chance to win, some people are going to have to swim their lifetime best time," Ewert said. "Everyone has been training pretty hard, and the week off

has given us a great chance to rest. If we swim the way we can, I think we can finish in the top two."

Four individual champions from 1999 return to defend their WAC titles: Hawaii's Nick Folker in the 50-yard freestyle (19.91), SMU's Bart Wickard in the 400-yard individual medley (3:50.90), Steve Barnes in the 1650-yard freestyle (15:24.77) and Brandon Jernigan in the 100-yard butterfly (48.50).

Folker recorded an NCAA automatic qualifying time in the 100 free early in the season, while several WAC swimmers have posted provisional qualifying marks for the NCAA national meet. The Frogs feel that they have as good as chance as any to win the meet.

"We are pretty balanced as a team," Sybesma said. "We're going in a little weak in the sprint events but that really doesn't hurt us that much. If we swim well there is no reason why we shouldn't challenge for the win."

After a few diving events on Thursday, the meet continues today with the 200-yard freestyle relay, the 500-yard freestyle, the 200-yard individual medley, the 50-yard freestyle and the 400-yard individual medley relay for both the men and women. The women will also compete in 3-meter diving. Finals will be held on Saturday.

Chris Gibson
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Track team looks to bring home title

By Chris Gibson
STAFF REPORTER

The 2000 Western Athletic Conference Men's and Women's Indoor Track & Field Championships will be held this weekend at the University of Houston's Yeoman Field House.

TCU's men's and women's teams will be competing against Fresno State, Rice, Southern Methodist, Texas El Paso and Tulsa.

The TCU men finished second at last year's meet behind Brigham Young, but coaches and runners say that they are not going to be satisfied unless they come home with the title.

"Winning the WAC Championship has been one of our goals since the beginning of the year," head coach Monte Stratton said. "I think everyone makes that goal at the beginning of the year, but we have an excellent chance. We're coming off our best meet to date (Tyson Invitational) and everyone is really running well. It would be good for us to come home with the win."

This season's TCU squad is trying to do something no other Horned Frog track and field team has done: win a conference title. But TCU junior sprinter Kim Collins said the team is motivated about that chance.

"Everyone is really excited about the meet," he said. "I think it is really the first time that TCU has gone into the meet with a good chance to win, and we would like to be the team that does that."

And while the excitement of the WAC meet has the team talking about championships, Collins said they can't think about it too much.

"We don't want to get ahead of ourselves thinking about winning," he said. "We just need to concentrate on each event and make sure we run well. Winning the WAC has been one of our team goals all season, but if we are going to accomplish that we need to take it race by race."

The Frogs come into the WAC Championship meet ranked ninth in the nation in the Trackwire 25 national poll. Stratton said that, as in previous years, their strongest events are the sprints, but they are also strong in the relays and field events.

"We've got four or five guys who can really run, so we have a great shot in the 60-meter and the 200-meter," Stratton said. "But we also have a great high jumper, long jumper and triple jumper so don't count us out in the field events."

TCU favorites include last year's 5,000 meter champion senior David Lagat, Collins and junior Darvis Patton in the 60-meter, Patton again in the 200-meter, junior Roy Williams in the 400-meter and the 1600-meter relay team. All have already attained automatic qualifying times for the NCAA Championships in March.

Collins is unbeaten in this year's indoor season in the 60-meter, and his victory at the Tyson Invitational in early February earned him WAC athlete of the week honors.

Stratton said that while the WAC meet is one of the most important of the year, his team is still looking at the big picture which is qualifying people to compete in the NCAA Nationals.

"This is an important meet for us, and we look forward to running well," he said. "But in track the WAC Champi-



Sophomore Jason Howard clears the high-jump bar in practice. The Frogs will go to Houston to compete in the Western Athletic Conference championships.

onship meet is really just another meet where we can qualify people for nationals. We've already had seven athletes qualify, and we are looking for two or three more this week."

One of those athletes is senior sprinter Dywana Crudup. Crudup is the Frog's lone female athlete who has already qualified for the national meet. Her time of

54.32 seconds in the 400-meter at the Tyson Invitational not only qualified her for nationals, but also broke the previous school record, which she also held.

Stratton said the women's team is struggling through some injuries right now, and winning will be tough. But he said he hopes that the distance runners, led by sophomore Gladys Keitany and

Crudup, can pull the women through. Stratton also said they are looking forward to getting everyone healthy for the upcoming outdoor season.

The WAC Championships continue in Houston through Saturday.

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PULSE SIDELINES

CAMPUS

Assistant women's coach becomes grandfather

The TCU women's basketball team may have a new fan in the stands Sunday night.

Assistant women's basketball coach Larry Tidwell became a grandfather Wednesday night, and Mike Tidwell, Larry's son, said his newborn daughter may be in attendance when the Frogs face Southern Methodist Sunday night.

"We've got purple flowers and pennants up everywhere," he said. "We're ready for our baby to be a Frog fan."

Mike and Michele Tidwell named their six-pound, six-ounce daughter, Ryan Michele, after Nolan Ryan, the Hall-of-Fame pitcher, Mike said.

NATION

Mavericks activate Pack after missing 28 games

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks activated Robert Pack, who had missed the last 28 games because of a sprained right ankle, in time for Thursday night's game against Utah.

Pack, who began the season as the starting point guard, averaged 12.4 points and seven assists in 16 games. He also missed eight games in November and December with a strained groin.

Frogs look to avenge loss

By Danny Horne
STAFF REPORTER

Since 1991, the Lady Frogs basketball team has lost 18 straight games to Southern Methodist, but at this point in the season, it is not about streaks for TCU.

"We have to throw all that away and put it behind us," senior guard Diamond Jackson said. "The team is playing for the here and now, not for a streak. We are focusing on our game going into the tournament."

The Lady Frogs (15-12, 6-6 Western Athletic Conference) take a three-game winning streak into Sunday's afternoon matchup with SMU who has won 14 of their last 15. TCU entered the Jan. 29 meeting against SMU, an 82-63 Lady Frogs loss, having lost four of six games.

"There is no doubt that we are playing better basketball right now than we were then," Jackson said. "We have been adjusting to a new system all season, but I think we all feel more comfortable with everything. We seem to be more confident with our roles and where to be."

In the first meeting, SMU broke open a one-point half-time lead during a seven-minute spurt at the start of the second half in which TCU was outscored 20-6. SMU junior guard D-dra Rucker and senior forward Karlin Kennedy combined to score 47 points and pulled down 14 rebounds.

"We must force Rucker on the perimeter and make her work off the dribble," TCU head coach Jeff Mittie said. "With Kennedy we look to limit her open looks because she has a variety of ways to score."

TCU sophomore guard Tricia Payne said they have a good idea as to what Rucker and Kennedy will do, it is just a matter of stopping them.

"We have been playing better defensively lately because we are feeling more comfortable," Payne said. "So if we can keep an eye on (Rucker and Kennedy) and recognize where they will be on the court, that should help us control them."

Not many have done a good job this season at stopping Rucker and Kennedy who both average 15.4 points a game. That is good enough for third overall in WAC scoring.

SMU head coach Rhonda Rompola said junior guard Anika Calvert and senior guard Nici Johnson will need to play strong because they do not want to rely completely on Rucker and Kennedy. Calvert has been good for 9.7 points a game this season while Johnson has averaged 9.3.

The Lady Frogs shot just 29 percent against SMU in the first game including 25 percent in the second half. The Lady Mustangs come in Sunday with the second-best defense in the WAC — allowing just 60 points a game.

"We will need to handle their pressure better especially from the guards," Mittie said. "They forced us into a lot of tough shots before, so we have to make sure we get better shots."

Jackson said that rebounding is always an important part of the Lady Frogs' game.

"If we can control the boards, we will be able to get into our transition game easier, which should

create some better looks for us," Jackson said.

Payne said a win against SMU (17-6, 10-1 WAC) would be the biggest boost for the team's confidence going into the WAC Tournament.

"SMU is the number one team in the conference right now, so beating them would give us great momentum," Payne said. "We are playing with a lot of confidence right now anyway, but a win on Sunday would be huge."

At tip-off on Sunday, the Lady Frogs will have gone a week without playing a game, but Mittie said the lay-off should have no major effects.

"If anything it could help because it gives us a chance to get some players rested," Mittie said. "The players responded well from the long lay-off during Christmas, so I do not expect anything to be different."

Jackson added that the week off has given the team good time to concentrate on just SMU.

The final home game of the season for the Lady Frogs is scheduled to be shown on Fox Sports Net which Payne said might cause some extra nervousness.

"I think it will be more exciting than anything," Payne said. "It will give people a chance to see who we are. Right now TCU is relatively unknown. If we can go out and beat SMU on (television), people will have to take notice."

The game is set to tip off on Sunday at 3 p.m. at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Danny Horne
bravestcu3116@mindspring.com

New umpire union will replace MLUA

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Richie Phillips and the Major League Umpires Association struck out in their final legal appeal Thursday, clearing the way for the new union to start negotiations with owners.

The National Labor Relations Board certified the results of a November election that kicked out the MLUA and replaced it with a new union, to be called the World Umpires Association.

The new union intends to take a less confrontational approach than Phillips, whose failed resignation strategy last summer cost 22 umpires their jobs.

"We're looking forward to moving ahead with baseball and starting a new relationship, and trying to get all umpires to come together," said AL umpire John Hirschbeck, a leader of the new union.

About 50 of the 71 major league umpires have joined the new union, according to its lawyer, Joel Smith. The new union will meet Sunday in Phoenix to elect officers and a negotiating committee.

Hirschbeck and Smith, who is expected to head negotiations, will have to deal with the plight of the 22 umpires who lost their jobs, a group that includes many of Phillips' staunchest supporters and some of baseball's best-known umpires, such as Richie Garcia and Terry Tata. The new union wants to get as many as possible re-hired.

"We've attempted to talk with the 22, just as recently as two weeks ago," Hirschbeck said. "Some were responsive to talking

with us, many were not."

The labor board's ruling came as the MLUA's grievance to regain the jobs of the 22 resumed in Philadelphia before arbitrator Alan Symonette. Under federal labor law, the old union will remain in charge of the grievance.

It's unclear when negotiations will start to replace the labor contract that expired Dec. 31.

Owners want to merge the umpires from both leagues into one staff and make other changes as part of the elimination of American and National league presidents and offices.

"I think that there's a lot for both sides to look at," Smith said. "What is important here is that the relationship be discussed thoroughly and worked through. If that takes time, it takes time."

Phillips was backed by many NL umpires, and the insurgents had the support of most AL umpires. When he became the MLUA head in 1978, rookie umpers made \$17,500 and the most senior veterans got \$40,000. Last season, they made \$95,000 to \$282,500.

"I think that over his 21 years, he did a lot of good for umpires," Hirschbeck said, "but there's a large group of us that thinks it's time to move in a new direction with baseball."

Concerned that Sandy Alderson, the new executive director of baseball operations in the commissioner's office, would push for change during the negotiations, Phillips called for a mass resignation plan last July, hoping to force an early start to labor talks.

TELL me about it

BY CAROLYN HAX

Being designated driver isn't all that bad; engagement your responsibility

Carolyn:
I'm a senior in college, and my friends and I enjoy going out to bars. I always make sure we use a designated driver. Usually, this is not a problem, but I have one friend who absolutely refuses to ever serve as the DD. She is too selfish to give up one night of drinking to fulfill her duty as a responsible friend. To make it even worse, I know she has driven drunk on more than one occasion. As a result, I often wind up as the DD even though I'd rather not do it every time. Any suggestions on how to convince her that it's only fair that we all share in the responsibility?
—The Sober One

Say, "It's only fair that we all share the responsibility."
Oh, wait — that works only with decent people or people who are not alcoholics.
Two pieces of advice: First, if your getting stuck as the designated driver is the worst-case scenario here, enjoy it. At least everybody's still breathing. Second, if this woman ever does agree to be designated driver, the correct response is, "Thank you, but I'd rather wheel myself home in a shopping cart." She's made her priorities pretty clear, and they are:
1. alcohol
1. herself full of alcohol
You don't want her driving. You are all in college, and some alcohol-

related immaturity is to be expected — but hers is over the line. You're either enabling an alcoholic or wasting your time on a lout.
Dear Carolyn:
My serious girlfriend lives in New York. We were friends for several years before dating, including a year living in the same city. We spend most weekends together now. Do you think it is imperative that we live in the same city while dating for a time before we make engagement and marriage plans?
—Washington

stuck with judgment.
Clearly your judgment becomes more accurate the more time you spend together — but guide your life by that truth alone, and you'll be gumming your wedding cake. At some point a guy's got to say, I know what I need to know.
So, do you?
This one's up to you. You do have marriage on the brain, in which case, engagement would be a much more appealing excuse to relocate than "I need to inspect you up close." Just don't plan the wedding long-distance.
Write to "Tell Me About It" at (tellme@washpost.com). (c) 2000, Washington Post Writers Group

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
1 "Mass in B Minor" composer
5 Inventor Nikola
10 Big ___ theory
14 Christiania today
15 Self-evident truth
16 All over again
17 Start of Evan Esar quote
20 Me in Marseilles
21 Alternatives
22 Eloquent speech
23 Misprint
25 Thanksgiving guest of honor?
27 Outstanding!
28 Part 2 of quote
31 Part 3 of quote
34 Cacophony
35 Greek letters
37 Small boy
38 Explanations
42 Holds in high regard
44 Bitter vetch
45 Headline maker
47 Ross or Bering
48 Part 4 of quote
50 Part 5 of quote
55 Southern constellation
57 French friend
58 Carolina river
59 Cliquis
62 Marie Saint
64 Compete in a 10K
65 End of quote
68 Give off
69 Expands one's staff
70 Yawn
71 Scions
72 Capture
73 Quick kiss

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA
2/25/00

TODAY'S menu

- MAIN Lunch**
Black History lunch
Smothered chicken quarters
Home-fried chicken
Macaroni & cheese
Red beans
Brown rice
- Dinner**
Beef lasagna
Chicken jambalaya
Deli bar

WORTH HILLS

- Lunch**
Gazpacho jazz salad
Hot ham & cheese sandwich
Lemon-dill cod
- Dinner**
closed

EDEN'S GREENS

- Lunch**
Beef stroganoff
Eggplant parmesan

FROGBYTES

- closed

Rudy

by Aaron Brown



Lex

by Phil Flickinger



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Thursday's Puzzle Solved

C	H	A	S	M	T	B	A	R	A	D	I	T			
R	U	P	E	E	O	L	L	A	N	E	N	E			
O	S	I	E	R	R	O	A	R	I	V	A	N			
C	H	A	N	G	E	S	O	N	E	S	M	I	N	D	
E	X	O	D	S	C	A	L	E	S						
D	E	P	A	R	T	S	T	A							
E	T	A	L	R	E	N	O	P	E	S	C	I			
A	U	T	O	M	A	T	E	D	T	E	L	L	E	R	
N	I	S	E	I	T	H	A	I	A	I	D	A			
A	B	E	D	A	M	P	E	N							
A	V	I	A	T	E	A	R	A	L						
D	I	S	T	A	N	T	R	E	L	A	T	I	V	E	
E	V	E	L	G	A	G	A	R	A	D	A	R			
L	T	R	A	A	L	U	M	M	I	L	L	S			
A	D	E	S	L	E	E	S	S	L	E	E	T			

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PURPLE poll

Q. DID YOU ATTEND ANY BLACK HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES?

A. YES 32 NO 68

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.

YOUR HOMETEAM

YOUR HOMETEAM

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CD reviews

THE CURE "Bloodflowers"

The much anticipated new release and rumored farewell album from The Cure, "Bloodflowers," shows that even if everything falls apart, you can always count on them to produce the great songs they always have. The Cure did not deviate too much from the shimmering style that they are known for with "Bloodflowers." Each track has been well developed as The Cure focus in on beautiful, delicate instrument arrangements to create mini song-epics. From the nostalgic, floating quality of "Out of This World" to the mild urgency of "Maybe Someday," this album is pleasing for all listeners and fans.

RANKING: ★★★★★



INCUBUS "Make Yourself"

Nevermind the startling name, this band is on to something. Incubus' first single, "Pardon Me" from their latest release is already causing waves as it hit radio stations. It even made its way on the list of MTV's Total Request Live; yes, that place where all "great" musicians make their big appearances. I was tempted to write them off as another Limp Bizkit spawn or maybe a 311 wannabe, but it seems as if Incubus has taken the better elements of each band and incorporated them into their own sound. The album starts heavy, but mellows out to include some pop elements and even a jazzy instrumental interlude. Vocalist Brandon Boyd writes with clarity and even imparts wisdom to the listener. "Make Yourself" is definitely worth a spin.

RANKING: ★★★★★

—Angie Chang



Kenny Vaughn, TCU's FrogMan and keeper of the FrogHorn, will accompany the large purple noisemaker to Slidell, La., on Wednesday for the "Krewe of Selene: Goddess of the Moon" night parade. The parade is part of Mardi Gras festivities.

Hello Mardi Gras

TCU FrogHorn, FrogMan take trip to Louisiana to participate in annual parade

By Omar Villafranca
STAFF REPORTER

TCU students skipping classes to attend Mardi Gras might see a familiar sight in one of the night parades.

The TCU FrogHorn will be in the "Krewe of Selene: Goddess of the Moon" night parade in Slidell, La., on Wednesday.

Kenny Vaughn, TCU's FrogMan and keeper of the FrogHorn, will accompany the large purple noisemaker on the trip. Vaughn said he is excited about taking the FrogHorn and participating in the festivities.

"It's great for TCU," Vaughn said. "It's an opportunity to get our word out to millions of people who will see (the parade) in person and on TV."

The FrogHorn was a gift from the Burlington Northern Railroad in 1994. Since then, the FrogHorn has been at every TCU football game and other numerous sporting events.

Eric Hyman, TCU's athletics director, said he is excited about the idea of the FrogHorn going to the parade to expose others to TCU.

"It's a great idea," Hyman said. "What (Vaughn) has done has brought goodwill, and he is constantly putting a positive message out."

Tara Ingram Hunter, a 1989 TCU alumna, had the idea of bringing the FrogHorn to the parade. Hunter is chairwoman of the "Krewe of Selene: Goddess of the Moon" parade. She said when she

See FROGMAN, Page 4

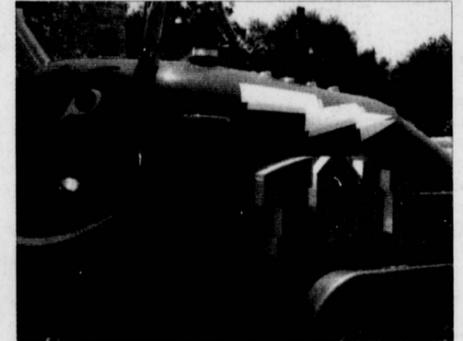


EXHIBIT review

Exhibit mixes absurdity with brilliance Bruce Conner combines religious and contemporary images

Bruce Conner's bizarre creations purposefully blur the boundary between the ridiculous and profound in life. Perhaps, it is this indistinctness that left me both intrigued and confused by the artistic pieces in his latest exhibit at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

"2000 BC: The Bruce Conner Story Part II" is intended to introduce us to the wide array of mediums the artist utilized from 1954 to the present to explore spirituality in a technological age. Often, Conner examines this theme by mixing religious and contemporary images and by creating abstract prints of heavenly bodies.

Conner also explores the role of the artist by attempting to remove his identity from several works. In the series of surreal paintings called the "Dennis Hopper One Man Show," the artist assumes the name of his actor friend to hide his identity. In another instance, the artist reproduces a paint-by-number kit illustration of Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" to strip his work of originality.

Again, Conner dances around boundaries, refusing to define the role of the artist. In fact, he contradictorily validates his artistic identity by marking otherwise blank pages with thumb and handprints.

Conner's physical presence can also be seen in the life-size, shadowy figure in "Sound of Two Hand Angel." Each room of the exhibit offers unusual visuals to stimulate the mind and occasionally prompt the viewer to wonder what on earth Conner was thinking while in the creative process. I thought of Conner's unique genius while examining his inkblot paintings. Resembling Rorschach tests, some of his more recent images appear like strings of elaborate, black insects with dainty antennae and feelers. In his older inkblot visuals of the mid-70s, the black ink crowds the white space, creating a more abstract image.

The sheer mystery behind some of Conner's visuals is what is so appealing and provocative about this exhibit. One room features a series of 13 framed, white canvases. Called "Touch/Do Not Touch," this simple presentation shows one plexiglass-covered canvas with the word, "Touch," written, while the remaining 12 uncovered canvases state, "Do Not Touch." Is this display silly or innovative I wondered.

Conner's most visually stunning pieces are perhaps his collection of photograms of a white silhouette angel against a black background. Conner has transformed himself

into an image of pure light to represent the spiritual body, bringing to mind the Shroud of Turin, the burial cloth into which Christ's body has presumably been burned.

Another group of religious images is the "Christ Series," which oddly combines traditional images of Christ's life with mechanical ele-

ments. The most controversial of these paper collages is the "Deus Ex Machina" because it depicts God as the creator of humans that are moving toward dangerous technological advances. In this scene, God's large hand creeps in from the borders of the page to press a start

button on Christ's back. At the same time, Christ reaches forward for the button that will set of a nuclear bomb. Of course, this work criticizes humankind's dependence on technology, but the stop button that God's hand does not reach for also carries religious implications. Just when I thought I had seen the strangest artistic creations, I entered the last room of the exhibit, filled with these hanging compilations of apparent junk. At this point, the boundary between the absurd and brilliant was most difficult for me to comprehend.

Nonetheless, Conner's work fascinated me to the end, and I couldn't resist turning over the images in my mind as I drove back to campus.

Danielle Daniel
ddaniel@delta.tcu.edu



"Psychedelicatessen" by Bruce Conner, Collection Fred and Winter Hoffman, Santa Monica, Calif.



"Sultcase" by Bruce Conner, Collection San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, Calif.

Dance show attempts to appeal to various audiences

From chain saws to scaffolding, 'Tap Dogs' showcases dance in new way

By Alisha Brown
SKIFF STAFF

It takes real men to dress in construction gear and dance, but "Tap Dogs" delivers. The performance by six men from Australia, the United States, England and Canada, has an international reputation for high energy.

"Tap Dogs" is being presented by Fort Worth's Casa Mañana Theatre at the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall Feb. 29 - March 5 as part of the 1999-2000 "Broadway at the Bass" season.

The Indianapolis Star said the program is masculine in nature and appeals to audiences that would not normally attend a dance show.

Dancers use all types of construction materials in the 29-segment performance — from chain saws to scaffolding — to present the musical and rhythmic side of an industrial site.

The Los Angeles Times wrote, "At one point the dancers become a literal tap-engine: chugging forward silhouetted in billows of smoke."

In another segment a dancer is raised on ropes and suspended from the ceiling to deliver an upside-down solo on a metal sheet — a feat most hard-hat wearers most likely would not attempt.

In the "Grinder" chain saws send sparks pulsating to the choreography for an in sync feel of man and machine.

"It's an amazing achievement: celebrating male energy and muscle power with enough intensity to hook a mass audience and yet staying thoughtful and pertinent," the Los Angeles Times reported.

Australian choreographer Dein Perry began tapping at age 4 and then at 17 earned his union papers to do industrial work until he could break into show business. Six years later in Sydney he played Andy Lee in "42nd Street" and continued to appear in shows such as "Man of La Mancha," "My Fair Lady" and "Rasputin."

Perry desired to bring more contemporary music to the stage and put together this 90-minute dance and

musical show that has been performed around the world — from London to L.A. — based on his upbringing in Newcastle, Australia as an industrial mechanic. "Tap Dogs," still wear Blundstone Boots, Australia's authentic work boot — a trend picked up by celebrities such as Cindy Crawford, Helen Hunt and Michael Jackson dancers.

Tickets are on sale at TicketMaster at 817-467-ARTS or 214-631-ARTS and at the Casa Mañana Theatre box office or Bass Performance Hall for \$24-\$59. TCU Programming Council is also selling tickets for \$20 to the Feb. 29 performance at their office in Reed Hall.

