

High 68
Low 53

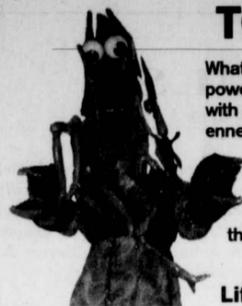
Rain



TOMORROW High 64 Low 48

Skiff

What do justice, faith and power have in common with lewd behavior, drunkenness and gluttony? Only the biggest celebration of the year for those who live in and visit the Crescent City this time of year.



Life, page 10

Fort Worth, Texas

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Police search ends with two arrests

TCU and Fort Worth police departments work together to foil theft

By Rusty Simmons
STAFF REPORTER

Two males were arrested in connection with the theft of a Jeep on campus after eluding Fort Worth and TCU police officers for 5 1/2 hours Wednesday morning.

The chase, leading from the freshman parking lot to a shed behind a house on Boyd Avenue one block north of the lot, started when the two suspects, one 16 and the other 17, were seen by the midnight dispatcher, Archie Evans, at the back

end of a bronze Jeep in the freshman parking lot at 2:58 a.m.

When four TCU police officers arrived at the lot, the suspects ran. Police officers noticed that the side plastic curtain of the Jeep was cut out, and the radio was hanging from the dash by wires, the officers said.

The suspects jumped the pipe fencing around the freshman lot and unsuccessfully tried to get into a white car, driven by a third suspect, that was turning from West Cantey Street onto Boyd.

The suspects ran in between two houses on Boyd and escaped the pursuit of Sgt. Mike Harvey in the backyards. One of the suspects lost his shoes and coat during the chase, Sgt. John Pacheco said.

The suspect driving was chased by Officer Walter McKinney to the Albertson's parking lot, where he got out of the car and was able to get away.

The Fort Worth Police Department crime scene search was called in to get fingerprints from the Jeep

and any blood samples from the scene. Pacheco said the FWPD also added a helicopter and its midnight shift of officers to the search for the suspects.

TCU Police Detective Kelly Ham said about 8:30 a.m., a woman living on Boyd called the FWPD about two males looking around her neighbors' shed. The FWPD called TCU police for assistance, but the FWPD showed up first at the residence and

See ARRESTS, Page 5

What's all the screamin' about?



Jimmy Nam/SKIFF STAFF

Participants in International Week's 'Scream Night' stand near Frog Fountain, and scream back at 15 students screaming from the top of the Student Center Wednesday evening.

PULSE

CAMPUS LINES

Faculty Senate to discuss employee salary differences

The Budget and Finance Committee of the Faculty Senate will recommend that faculty salaries be made competitive when it gives its report at the March senate meeting today.

Michael Sacken, chairman of the committee, said TCU has problems of salary compression, where new faculty members earn more than longer-serving professors. This can cause experienced professors to leave, diluting the quality of programs, he said.

Sacken said of the five recommendations made last year, the one concerning faculty salaries was not addressed by the administration. He said TCU does not do a good job of matching higher salary offers of other institutions to keep professors.

Representatives from Human Resources will also give an informational presentation on Texas affirmative action law and TCU's hiring policy for faculty and staff.

Adding a place to record teaching experience on TCU's standard vita, a form professors use for annual reports and tenure, will also be discussed.

Yale students rally against school's association to FLA

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (U-WIRE) — In one of the largest anti-sweatshop demonstrations to date, about 300 to 400 Yale University students rallied Tuesday to demand that their administration withdraw from the Fair Labor Association and join the Workers Rights Consortium.

Both the FLA and the WRC are organizations designed to monitor overseas sweatshops, but activists said clothing manufacturers have too great an influence on the FLA.

"We think the FLA is a sham," said Yale senior Amanda E. Bell, one of the organizers of Tuesday's rally. "We think it's a public relations ploy by corporations. We would like to see Yale take a moral stand (by withdrawing)."

—Harvard Crimson
Harvard University

POP QUIZ

Knowledge of current events is necessary to maintain intelligent conversations. Test your knowledge.

Editorial, page 3.

FALLEN FROGS

Dallas Baptist used a six-run advantage gained in the first two innings Tuesday to beat TCU 9-6.

Sports, page 6.

AS THE SOAP TURNS



Hilary Morgan/SKIFF STAFF

Kristin Moon and Rebecca Wren, junior radio-TV-film majors, maneuver cords around a camera. Students are producing, writing, directing and acting in TCU's new soap opera, "Studio 13."

RTVF students write, direct, act in weekly soap opera

By Jill McNeal
STAFF REPORTER

Junior radio-TV-film major Stacy Stuart said she never would have guessed that a three-minute soap opera scene would take more than 30 minutes to film.

Students produce, write, direct and act in "Studio 13," TCU's newest weekly soap opera. Shooting will begin on the third episode today, with the first episode premiering at noon Wednesday in Moudy Building South, Room 164.

"First, there's a camera rehearsal, then we do three or four takes of each scene," said Stuart, who wrote dialogue for "Studio 13" in a class last semester and has a major on-screen part in the production taking place this semester. "It depends not only on the actors, but on the camera work and whether or not we have technical difficulties."

Last semester, the Writing for Soap Operas class wrote the show's 10 episodes, each

about 30 minutes. This semester, the Television Production III class is producing the soap opera with actors and actresses from the On-Camera Acting class. The Post-production class will edit each episode, and the Electronic Media Research class will conduct audience surveys.

Richard Allen, the RTVF associate professor who teaches the TV3 class, said the plot of "Studio 13" centers around a Hollywood crowd in its early 20s work-

ing together to produce a show called "Carson's River," a takeoff on the "Dawson's Creek" theme.

"We're trying to model 'Studio 13' after a real network soap opera," he said.

"Studio 13" is the third project of its kind that the RTVF department has attempted. In 1995, the seven episode soap opera, "Close to Home," was produced.

"We had at least 100 peo-

See SOAP, Page 8

Store to donate money to Kindle

Bookstore gives 10% of sales for transplant

By Kathryn Garcia
STAFF REPORTER

The university community has pulled together to help raise money for Robbyn Kindle's surgery, and today the TCU Bookstore will join that fight, said Lissa Lewis, general manager of the bookstore.

Ten percent of all the bookstore's sales today will go to Kindle, a senior nutrition and dietetics major, who is in need of a liver and small bowel transplant.

Lewis, a ranch management graduate, said her goal is to raise between \$1,500 and \$1,600.

She said the fund raiser has been received with enthusiasm.

"We want to do all we can to give to the university and Kindle," Lewis said. "Any step forward is one step closer to the goal. Don the white ribbons and come and shop to help further that mark."

The bookstore will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Kindle has liver disease and needs \$300,000 for an organ transplant, within the next two to four months. She is currently waiting for organs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

TCU students, staff, faculty and members of the Dallas/Fort Worth community have raised several thousand dollars to date.

SGA President Ben Jenkins said they have raised about \$15,000

See KINDLE, Page 4

Lawsuit settlement possible, attorney says

By Omar Villafranca
STAFF REPORTER

A possible settlement in the F. Howard and Mary D. Walsh Center for Performing Arts lawsuit may be reached soon, an attorney for Thomas S. Byrne Inc. said.

Stephen Harrison, an attorney with Harrison, Steck, Hoover and Drake, P.L., the firm representing Byrne Inc., said the litigation between his client and TCU might be over, and a settlement could be reached within the month.

The lawsuit was filed by Byrne Inc. on June 18, 1999, in the 17th District Court of Tarrant County. In the lawsuit, TCU is said to owe Byrne Inc. \$584,807 for additional work done. The lawsuit states TCU has refused to pay, and Byrne Inc. is suing for that amount.

"The problem was related to designs that caused a cost increase, which caused a change in the work," Harrison said. "Byrne had not been compensated."

Harrison said there were mechanical and architectural problems in the

plans. The architectural firm, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Association of New York City, and the engineering firm, Freese and Nichols Inc., were added to the case, Harrison said. He also said a settlement was not guaranteed.

Vick Anderson, the attorney representing Freese and Nichols, said he has not had any official notice that would include his clients in the case.

"Freese and Nichols Inc. has not been served with any papers concerning the lawsuit," Anderson said. "(The other parties involved in the lawsuit) talked about it, but so far, we haven't been served with any papers."

Rick Sorenson, an attorney representing TCU, said the proceedings are progressing, but a settlement still has not been reached.

"I consider (the proceedings) to be promising," Sorenson said. "There is a good chance for progression. If we don't reach a settlement, the litigation will pick up."

Forrest Newlin, chairman of TCU's theater department, said the

See WALSH, Page 5



Hilary Morgan/SKIFF STAFF

Fahad Khan, a junior neuroscience major, kneels on his woven prayer mat. Khan, a Muslim student, prays five times a day.

DEVOUT FAITH

Muslim student maintains beliefs in predominantly Christian setting

By Jill McNeal
STAFF REPORTER

It's 6:30 a.m., and junior Fahad Khan wakes in the darkness to pray. From under some clothing piled in a chair, he takes out his woven prayer mat and lays it, facing northeast toward Mecca, on the floor of his residence hall room.

Following the Qur'an, the Muslim religious text, he does not eat pork or drink alcohol. He prays five times a day and goes to mosque on Friday afternoons.

"Honestly, it's really hard here," said Khan, a neuroscience major. "It's much easier at home, where everything is geared toward being a better Muslim and a better person."

He begins by standing at the bottom end of the mat, reciting passages from the Qur'an in Arabic. He ends by kneeling and asking God for help, safety and forgiveness. The entire ritual takes five to 10 minutes.

"When I'm at school, I tend to do the things my friends are doing," he said. "Sometimes I go downtown to eat or see a movie with my friends when I know I should have been home to pray."

While he and his friends can talk about faith differences on a level of mutual respect, Khan said he did have one bad experience his freshman year.

"This guy confronted me one day in the (residence hall)

See MUSLIM, Page 8

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.

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

■ **TCU London Centre applications** for the Fall 2000 semester are due by March 15. Applications are available in Sadler Hall, Room 16 or by calling 257-7120.

■ **Interviewing skills workshop** will be at 12:30 p.m. today in the Student Center, Room 203. Register at least 24 hours in advance by calling 257-7860 or stopping by Career Services in the Student Center Annex.

■ **Minority Leadership Banquet** tickets are \$15 and on sale until March 20 in the Student Center. No tickets are sold at the door. The banquet will be at 6:30 p.m. April 14 at the Ramada Plaza downtown. For more information, call Student Development Services at 257-7855.

■ **Taste of the World** will be 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. today in the Student Center Lounge. Twenty free dishes will be served.

■ **Tickets for the International Week Banquet** will be on sale in the Student Center Lounge today and Friday. The banquet will be 6 p.m. Saturday in the Student Center Ballroom.

■ **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. Applications are available until Friday in the PC office. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday. Please remember to sign up for an interview time. For more information, contact Chelsea Hudson at 257-4356.

CORRECTION

On three page 7 photos Wednesday, the photographs should have been credited to staff photographer Jennifer Klein.

TCU DAILY
Skiff

Since 1902

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NEWS
ROUNDUP

WORLD

Battle takes office as president of Uruguay, seeks to bring about economic recovery

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay — Jorge Battle was sworn in Wednesday as president of Uruguay, promising cost-cutting and other austerity measures to fight the economic slump bedeviling this small South American country.

Battle (pronounced BA-shay), a 72-year-old lawyer, took the oath of office at a ceremony attended by a half-dozen South American leaders, as supporters of his Colorado Party held flag-waving celebrations in the streets.

"The year ahead is going to be a difficult one ... there are challenges we will meet with success," Battle said in his inaugural address.

He said he would maintain strict monetary and fiscal policies while whittling away at a budget deficit, cutting bureaucracy and holding inflation to single digits. He also repeated pledges to cut \$300 million in public spending.

"Above all, government must reduce expenses," Battle stressed.

The economy is trying to rebound from a slump that saw the unemployment rate top 10 percent. Battle also wants to stimulate foreign investment and boost Uruguayan exports.

Battle takes office in troubling times for this country on South America's Atlantic seaboard. Sandwiched between giants Argentina and Brazil, this country was whipsawed in the late 1990s by economic crises affecting its neighbors.

NATION

Gunman kills two and wounds three in a rage over maintenance in his apartment building

WILKINSBURG, Pa. — A gunman who reportedly flew into a rage over a broken door went on a rampage Wednesday, shooting a maintenance worker at his apartment and customers at two fast-food restaurants before surrendering to police during a hostage standoff. Two people were killed and three critically wounded.

Ronald Taylor, 39, of Wilkesburg, was arrested in an office building after he kept police at bay for about two hours, holding four or five people in wheelchairs hostage at a senior hospice center. During the standoff, more than three-dozen children from a third-floor day-care center in the building were evacuated, along with other workers.

Taylor, who was not immediately charged, was to be arraigned Wednesday night.

Police refused to comment on a motive, but a worker at Taylor's apartment building said the suspected gunman was angry that workers had not repaired his broken apartment door fast enough.

"He said, 'You're all white trash, racist pigs,'"

maintenance worker John DeWitt told The Associated Press.

DeWitt said he left to work on another apartment but later saw one of his colleagues carrying another maintenance worker, who had been shot. DeWitt said he saw Taylor walking toward the restaurants.

The shooting spree began about 11:15 a.m. in this working-class suburb about nine miles east of downtown Pittsburgh. Police, responding to a call at the man's home, followed him to the restaurants and chased him into the office building.

Four people were shot at the Burger King and McDonald's restaurants in the borough of about 21,000 people.

Wilkesburg police Chief Gerald Brewer said two people were dead and three were in critical condition in Pittsburgh area hospitals. At least two of the victims were shot in the head, said doctors at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-Presbyterian.

Police departments, state agencies launch efforts to combat racial profiling in police stops

NEW YORK — As Congress and the states debate how to root out racial profiling, many of the nation's police departments are moving ahead on their own, requiring officers to record the race of all drivers they stop and question.

From Washington state to Oregon to Missouri to Texas, small departments and state agencies are scrutinizing their officers' actions in a first step toward gauging how widespread racial bias among police might be.

While many police see little evidence of racism, they acknowledge the fears.

"We have to deal with perception as much as reality," Michigan State Police Col. Michael Robinson said Wednesday. "If data helps us assure some that we are not engaged in inappropriate behavior — and it gives us information to discuss openly what is occurring out there in the community — then it's appropriate."

Two years ago, many police officials dismissed the worries. Then there were prominent allegations of profiling among the New Jersey State Police and in Florida. A Gallup poll last year found majorities of both whites and blacks convinced it exists. President Clinton required federal law-enforcement agencies to record race and gender in all stops. Now, police officials are moving faster than lawmakers.

A year ago, no agencies were voluntarily monitoring the skin color of those they stopped, said John Crew, who heads the American Civil Liberties Union's racial profiling project. Now, there are well over 100. "We can't keep up."

North Carolina and Connecticut are the only states that require police in their states to keep track of race in their traffic stops. At least 18 other states are considering similar legislation.

State police are already monitoring stops or are taking steps to do so in California, Washington, Ohio, Michigan and Florida. Houston,

St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Jose, San Diego and several other California cities all announced similar plans.

On Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee sent to a floor vote a bill for a federal study of police statistics to investigate racial profiling.

Some officials argue that requiring police to check on race can create more tension in police stops. Arlington, Va., Police Chief Ed Flynn said gathering numbers won't solve the problem.

"If the data somehow statistically proves this is not an issue, this won't stop how people feel," Flynn said. "I think it distracts us. All it does is give us ammunition to throw at each other, and doesn't solve the problem."

Crew expects data on profiling to help expose a problem that many are unwilling to acknowledge.

"It's that we live in a society — and police are part of a society — where there's a lot of unconscious racism," he said. "People aren't even aware they're doing it."

STATE

Death row inmate to be freed after judge rules his imprisonment unconstitutional

HOUSTON — A death row inmate imprisoned for 16 years must be freed within five days because state lawyers missed a deadline in his case, a judge ordered Wednesday.

Calvin Jerold Burdine is being held constitutionally, U.S. District Judge David Hittner wrote in a 16-page ruling.

Burdine, 46, was sent to death row for fatally stabbing his roommate. His conviction was thrown out last year by Hittner because his lawyer allegedly slept through long segments of his 1984 trial.

The judge gave the state 120 days to give Burdine a new trial or set him free. That time ran out in late January.

"Burdine suffers irreparable harm each day that he is imprisoned in violation of the United States Constitution," Hittner wrote.

A CBS television crew was interviewing Burdine on death row as news of Hittner's ruling arrived. Wednesday was "the greatest day of my life," the inmate said.

"I'm gonna get to hug my momma."

Hittner did not grant Burdine's request to prohibit the state from retrying him.

"The retrial itself would not violate Burdine's constitutional rights," Hittner wrote. "The Court refuses to bar the State from retrying Burdine following his release."

In his ruling, Hittner pointed out the state must adhere to the same rules as defendants.

"A similar procedural error by defense counsel in a capital case could result in a defendant's execution," Hittner wrote.

The state appealed to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday to keep Burdine in prison, spokeswoman Heather Browne said.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

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STAFF editorial

POP QUIZ

Get out those No. 2 pencils, Scantrons

Perhaps you're so caught up with studying for midterms that you haven't had a chance to keep up with the news. But more likely, your brains have taken off early for Mardi Gras or Spring Break.

Whatever the reason, knowledge of current events is necessary to maintain intelligent conversations that go beyond, "Hey, what's up, dude?" and, "Dude, let's go get some beer."

Here are some questions taken from recent news events to test your knowledge:

■ The new dean of the M. J. Neeley School of Business is:

- A) Alan Keyes
- B) Robert Lusch
- C) Alan Shepard
- D) Mickey Mouse

■ Which talk show host recently decided to quit after 15 years of airtime?

- A) David Letterman
- B) Arsenio Hall
- C) Kathie Lee Gifford
- D) Oprah Winfrey

■ Dennis Rodman plays basketball for which local team?

- A) Dallas Mavericks
- B) TCU Horned Frogs
- C) Fort Worth Brahmas
- D) Southern Methodist University Mustangs

Don't worry: We'll curve the grades, and we won't keep you after the test for more lectures.

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, Moody 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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Safety of youth in jeopardy

Just when you start to think that the current pattern of school shootings is finally beginning to fade away, another horrendous tragedy occurs that manages to put a new spin on this trend of murders.

Flint, Mich., is the latest city to realize how close to home this problem can hit. This time around, the accused happens to be a 6-year-old first grader. The boy allegedly pulled a gun from his pocket and fired one shot, which hit classmate Kayla Rolland in the neck. She died about half an hour later.

Police officials are currently investigating whether the shooting was intentional or accidental. For the sake of humanity, I can only hope and pray that the latter is the case. However, since it is being reported that the boy and girl had scuffled the day before the tragedy occurred, I am having trouble rationalizing this as simply a slip of the finger. Also, the boy fled to the bathroom immediately after the shooting and attempted to hide the gun in a wastebasket. To me, this at least hints that the boy was well

aware of the consequences of his hurried actions.

The thought of a 6-year-old being capable of such actions sickens me. I don't want to jump to conclusions, but the potential of this being a pre-meditated crime ought to send a shock wave throughout the minds of all Americans. When school shootings first started spreading across the nation, we began to realize that it could happen anywhere. Could anyone actually conceive the possibilities of this occurring in a first-grade classroom?

I know that people will disagree with me, but I feel 6-year-olds are capable of understanding death. When I was 6, I can recall comprehending this concept, and I was fully aware of what was right and wrong. Although my moral code had not yet been fully established, I can remember being able to reason between why I should or shouldn't do particular things. I'm not saying I understood any of the philosophy behind these things, but I was aware of their basic meanings. For this reason, I find it hard to believe that the boy did not at least vaguely grasp the mag-

nitude of his actions. It is this possibility that truly horrifies me.

Now that the event has transpired, we are forced to find a scapegoat in this matter. As usual, parental neglect is a distinct possibility. The boy had been living with his uncle and his frequently absent mother because his father was imprisoned. Or, we can do what's presently popular and just blame the media.

That seems to be the easiest way to go these days. But really, all Americans need to accept their own share of the blame. Currently, the accidental death rate for children is nine times higher than that of the world's other 25 biggest countries combined. Can anyone honestly admit to having attempted to do something to solve this problem? I know I sure can't.

The fact of the matter is that schools just aren't safe. We need to find a way to stop first graders from getting their hands on stolen guns.

Personally, I feel all handguns should be banned. Unfortunately, I am fully aware that this is not going to happen any time in the near future. However, at the very least we can lobby for the installation of mandatory gun safety locks on all guns sold in the United States. We can't just let

things go on the way they are and hope this existing trend just fades over time.... All it takes is one person to create utter chaos and death. Americans must not put a price on the safety of our nation's youth. We can't just let things go on the way they are and hope this existing trend just fades over time. And all schools, no matter public, private or parochial, should be forced to install metal detectors, no matter how safe the school may seem to be. All it takes is one person to create utter chaos and death. Americans must not put a price on the safety of our nation's youth.

The sad thing is this tragedy will probably regress to the back of everyone's minds within the next week.

Jordan Blum is a freshman broadcast journalism major from New Orleans. He can be reached at (jdblum@delta.is.tcu.edu).

Commentary
JORDAN BLUM

Gossip abounds at Fort Worth 76129

Has anyone ever thought that TCU is a little like high school?

"Everyone" from your professors to your friends to people you have never even seen before know what you are up to.

Has anyone ever noticed the speed that gossip travels through the halls of our respected institution? Whatever embarrassing, dumb, ridiculous or libidinous thing you happened to do on Friday night in an off-campus bar immediately becomes entertainment for everyone in your 8 a.m. Monday class.

This is not just a personal problem. It seems that whatever happens in Campus Life on Thursday is common knowledge on Tuesday. This is not just brought about by the excellent reporting of the Skiff. It is one administrator telling a student and that gets the wheels a-churning. I often wonder if there is some sort of system that actually broadcasts your antics across the campus and somehow gives everyone else that attends school here some sort of permission to ask or make fun of you about it.

No matter what the students at this school do in their own time, someone is bound to find out about

it. Sure, it is nice that the school knows a lot about its students (that is what helps make TCU a home away from home), but don't you think that as a 20-year-old you must sometimes take responsibility for yourself? Did you know that if you get in trouble with the Fort Worth police, the report is on the Chancellor's desk first thing the next morning? We aren't even a state school, yet our activities are reported by the police to the school each time we have an encounter. That means that if you get a minor in possession (you minors shouldn't be drinking anyway but...) it is reported to the school before you can even beg your parents for forgiveness?

But it is not just the officials of the university that are wrapped up in this. It is the students as well that carry on this tradition of knowing everyone's business.

We enter college after four years of high school, and we leave much the same way. It is like TCU 76129 around here. I urge you all to please remove yourself from homeroom. We're in "college," closer to the real world than we are to our childhood. Act like adults and encourage the administration to do the same. And if you must comment on something, I hear Brenda, Kelly, Brandon and Steve had a wild weekend. Talk about that.

Kim Hinkle is a senior advertising and public relations major from Overland Park, Kan. She can be reached at (parotthed@aol.com).

Commentary



KIM HINKLE

Bad karma is nothing but a bad invention

Reincarnation makes sense, but tracking system would help avoid awful past lives

The notions of karma and reincarnation are weird concepts to me.

Don't get me wrong: They're both great ideas, and karmic law makes a lot of sense to me. For instance, on Tuesday, I was rude to my mom over the phone. On Wednesday, I locked my keys in the car. Now I know that people who don't believe in karma will say that I am an idiot, and that's why I locked my keys in the car, but I chalk it up to a karmic repercussion.

The idea, however, that one gets infinite chances to find enlightenment is different from the mean-spirited one-chance-to-get-it-right philosophy of the Judeo-Christian traditions I'm used to. Nevertheless, for the sake of open-mindedness, I will explore the ins and outs of reincarnation and

other New Age/Eastern philosophies. Obviously, I don't know much, but I guess it behooves me to think about them a bit.

From what I've heard, karma and reincarnation are intertwined, in that the former determines the state of the latter. For the unenlightened, if you have bad karma, which means you vote Republican and don't ride a bike, then when you die, you are reincarnated as something lowly like a snail. Then, if you aren't a particularly evil snail, you get to move up the ladder. If you're an extra-good snail, you might even jump up a few notches to garbage truck or opinion columnist.

It sounds pretty simple, but I've found a few logistical problems. First of all, how do we know what the top rung of the karmic ladder is, or what the starting point is? The way I understand it, when you reach enlightenment, you get to pull out of the endless cycle of reincarnation. In Herman Hesse's *Siddhartha*, Siddhartha reaches enlightenment while he's still human. By my logic, I figure that the starting and ending points must be human form because

it's conceivable that one could figure everything out in one shot.

On the other hand, Hindus hold cattle in high regard. I'm not ruling out the possibility that cows might be spiritually higher than people, but how many cows think of themselves as ascetics? I've communed telepathically with cows before, and their thoughts more or less follow the same pattern: "Hmm... I hope I don't get eaten today... Sure could use a milking... I wonder if I'll get eaten today." Not once did they think about how the self is nothing, nor were they concerned with the repercussions of eating too much grass.

I think people fear or mock Eastern cosmologies because of Westerners who practice them. I find it easy to roll my eyes at some software engineer from Benicia, Calif., who goes to yoga classes and shies away from me because of my bad aura. However, I think I'd be much more respectful of a real ascetic, assuming he wasn't on Telegraph Avenue bumming for change.

I figure that if my linear, Christian religion is wrong, who cares?

Reincarnation seems to be a "what-me-worry" philosophy anyway. Unless one gets a scorecard for one's past lives, then why should one worry about what's going on with his or her karmic cycle? So what if you spend 85 years as an evil genius only to die and spend the next two days as brine shrimp? Next life, please! Whoever thought up reincarnation should have invented a means of keeping track of past lives. That way people could avoid being wiener dogs or drill team captains more than once.

Not to judge anyone else's religious beliefs, but for me, I'll shoot for just one afterlife. I know cycling through the universe in a myriad of physical manifestations is a lot less stressful than worrying about absolutes such as heaven and hell, but I'll take my chances. I don't care. I've spent the last four years as a parasite. A few more won't hurt.

Steve Steward is a senior political science major from Lodi, Calif., and hopes to be reincarnated as a dinosaur. He can be reached at (haole-dubstyle@hotmail.com).

Commentary



STEVE STEWARD

THANKS & SPANKS

Thanks: To the TCU administration for finally making a concerted effort at diversifying the campus by offering scholarships to students at predominantly minority Tarrant County high schools.

Spanks: To everyone who let Black History Month pass by

without much notice.

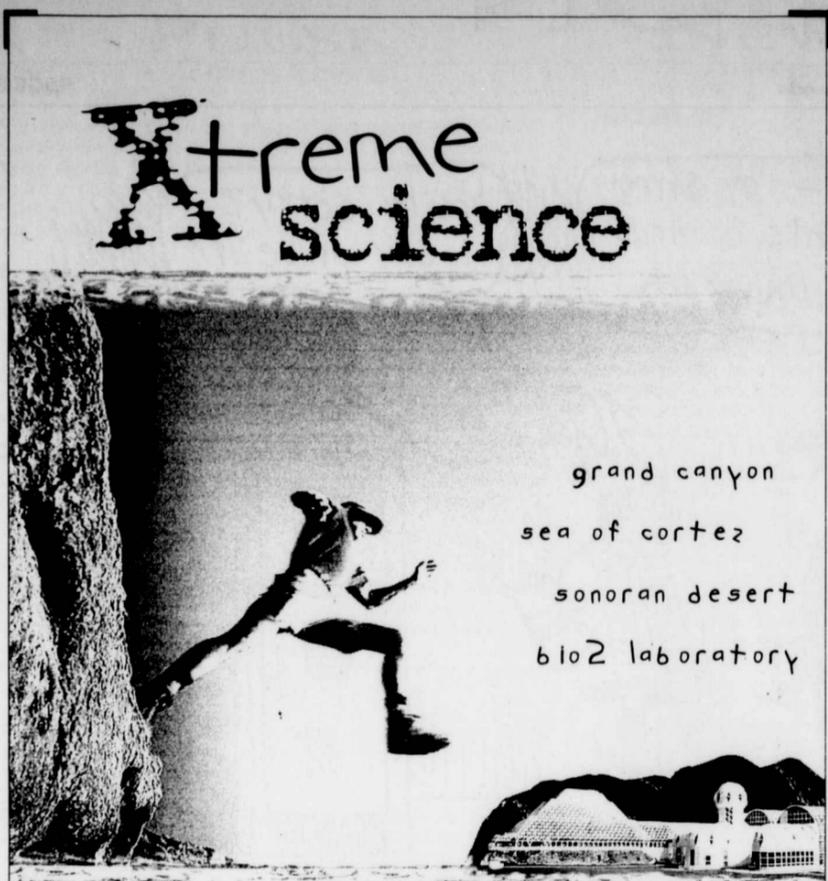
Thanks: To the TCU men's basketball team for defeating the SMU Mustangs on Monday, 86-83. We wonder if SMU guard Jeryl Sasser, who said there was no way TCU could win in Moody Coliseum, has any more predictions. Anything about missing the postseason?

Spanks: To the Skiff for not writing an article on the CrossTalk exhibition that opened Feb. 14. This is a very important competition for all artists here at TCU, and some students even won cash prizes for their artwork. It is a shame that not only does the liberal arts department take a back seat here at TCU but so does the

fine arts department.

Dionne Melton
 senior studio arts major

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KINDLE

From Page 1

\$16,000, and students are still dropping off money every day.

Executive Assistant to the Provost Donna Johnson said about \$95,000 has been raised, of which \$21,000 has been sent to the Nebraska Medical Center.

Kelli Visosky, a freshman fashion promotion major, said she is excited about the bookstore fund raiser and plans to contribute by sending home some items.

"I'm coming today to buy my parents some T-shirts," Visosky said. "I hope they're not mad, but it's for a good cause." Mike Silvey, a junior biology major, said he put off the purchase of medical textbooks until today.

"We're actually reaching out and helping a fellow student," Silvey said. "This university has done so much. It

shows the university cares more about the students than other things."

David Carlisle, a TCU alumnus and member of the Fort Worth community, plans to support Kindle's cause with the purchase of clothes for his toddler.

"(The fund raiser) shows that TCU is still small enough to care about the students," he said. "It's like a family of several thousand."

Richard McReynolds, a senior music composition major and a bookstore employee, said he is proud the bookstore is contributing to the cause.

"(Employees of the bookstore) are always looking for ways to help others," he said. "We offer book signings for the local authors so they can boost their sales, but this is by far the most beneficial and giving thing the bookstore has done."

Kathryn Garcia
annitakathryn@hotmail.com

Bronx officer kills suspect

By Karen Matthews
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Days after a jury acquitted four police officers in the shooting of an unarmed immigrant, police said an officer shot and killed a paroled drug dealer Wednesday in the same Bronx neighborhood.

Chief of Patrol John Scanlon said it was not immediately clear if the officer fired intentionally or if his weapon discharged accidentally during a struggle with the suspect, who had fled from police. The gun appeared to have been fired at close range because blood was found on the officer's gun, he said.

Scanlon said the officer's gun discharged once.

Contributors visited governor's mansion

By Jonathan D. Salant
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Eight fund-raisers who helped George W. Bush amass a record \$70 million for his Republican presidential bid stayed at least one night in the Texas governor's mansion during the past year, records show.

The Bush campaign says the fund-raisers included a cousin, a fellow governor and six friends. It dismissed any suggestion that the Texas governor used overnight stays like President Clinton used the Lincoln Bedroom to reward big Democratic donors in the last election. At the time, Bush's father, former President George Bush, criticized Clinton for the White House sleepovers.

The donors, who included Bush's chief fund-raiser and seven "pioneers" who raised at least \$100,000 each, accounted for a quarter of the 31 overnight visitors that Bush entertained at the Austin, Texas, mansion since Jan. 1, 1999, according to records released at the request of The Associated Press.

"The governor and Mrs. Bush always enjoy having family and long-time friends visit them at their home," campaign spokesman Scott McClellan said, noting most of the eight also had stayed at the mansion prior to 1999 when Bush began his presidential bid.

Charles Lewis, director of the Center for Public Integrity, said there were similarities between

Bush and Clinton.

"It's the same concept. The only difference is one is in Austin and one is in Washington," said Lewis, whose watchdog group first disclosed the Lincoln Bedroom visits in 1996. "The average citizen does not stay overnight in the governor's mansion."

"This basically means that the fat cats that give money to Governor Bush's campaign and help him raise millions of dollars are rewarded with the kinds of perks that virtually no other citizen can enjoy," Lewis said.

Clinton's frequent use of the Lincoln Bedroom to reward big Democratic donors emerged as a key issue in the fund-raising scandal that exploded after his 1996 re-election.

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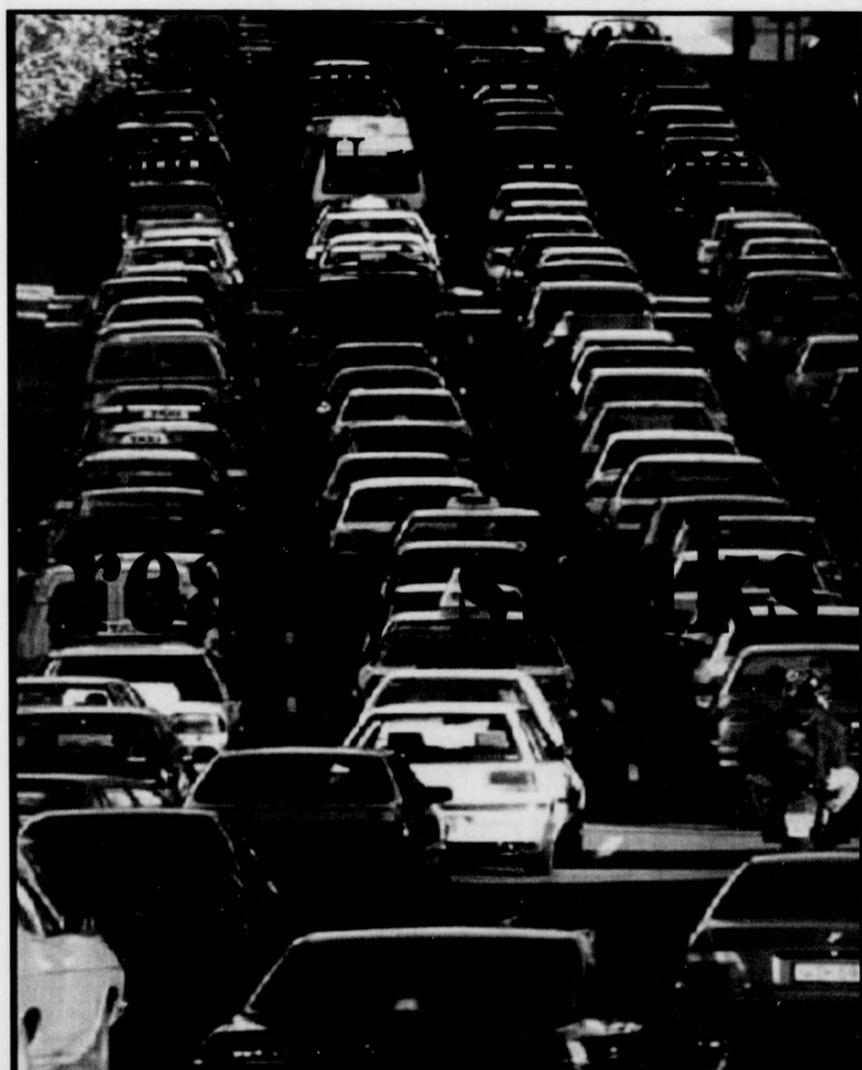
Attention

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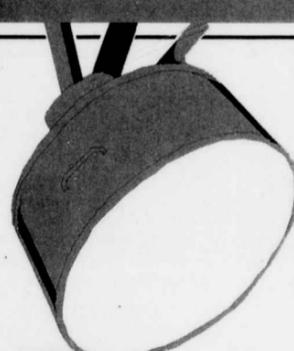
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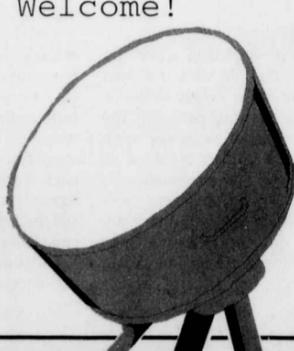
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TCU Programming Council

IN DEEP WATER



Jennifer Klein/SKIFF STAFF
Meredith Huckabee, a senior advertising/public relations major, participates in the Phi Kappa Sigma's dunk tank in front of the Student Center Wednesday. The fraternity's weeklong Greek Games is raising money for the Leukemia Society.

WALSH

From Page 1

Hayes Theatre in the Walsh Center was poorly built. He said he first discovered the problem right before the theatre's first show.

"The problem is that the stage is irregular shaped, which is fine," he said. "The thing is that the balcony has to follow the same lines (as the stage), and it doesn't follow the lines. If it did, you could see the acting."

Newlin said the south and east ends of the balcony do not have a direct view of the stage. The audience members in the rows and seats on the south and east side of the Hayes Theatre have to lean over the balcony to see the action below. Because of the obstructed viewing, the theater, which holds 238 seats, has only 200 seats that have clear viewing, Newlin said.

"I would sue them to redo the theater because you can't see the stage from the balcony," Newlin said.

Omar Villafranca
 ovillafranca@delta.is.tcu.edu

ARRESTS

From Page 1

found the two males sleeping in the shed.

Pacheco said one of the suspects had cuts on his hands, and the other suspect was wearing no shoes or socks.

The case is now completely in the FWPD's hands, but the midnight crew from TCU did a great job, Pacheco said.

"(The midnight crew) busted the burglary before it happened and helped lead to catching the suspects," he said.

Pacheco said if the two suspects in FWPD hands are identified as being at the scene of the crime, they will be charged. The car will also be traced to locate the third suspect involved in the incident, he said.

FWPD Officer Jamie Johnson said detectives interviewed the two suspects Wednesday, and a decision on whether they will be charged will be made today.

Rusty Simmons
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Women's golf team wins Midwest Classic

By Chris Harrison
STAFF REPORTER

The TCU women's golf team won its first event since 1998 as it claimed the 2000 Midwest Classic in Dallas with a three-round total of 936. Senior Angela Stanford, Western Athletic Conference player of the week, shot a final round 76 to shoot a 10-over 226 to win the individual medalist honor.



Stanford

"I think you could compare this win for the team like making a birdie on the first hole," Stanford said. "Once you get that first one, it hopefully, will open up the flood gates. Hopefully, this win we be like the first birdie of the day."

Stanford rallied from sixth place to win her third tournament of the season and her eighth career tournament, both school records. Her 75s in the first two rounds, followed by a final round 76, allowed her to win the individual title.

"This was a great win for me, but more importantly, the team," Stanford said. "We are great players, and we have great talent on this team. I

think just being in the position to win a tournament is really important.

"Having the lead throughout the tournament was good for us as a team. I think we are going to take a lot from that, just being there, grinding it out and learning how to win tournaments."

Stanford said the turning point in the tournament was the second day.

"I think this team decides (its) fate on the second day," Stanford said. "We didn't necessarily play our best golf, but we kept it under control the second day. That second day was what put us in position to win the tournament."

The Horned Frogs' win was the

first for TCU since April 22, 1998, when they won the Western Athletic Conference championship. The win was the 28th team win in school history.

The Horned Frogs, who led throughout the tournament, won the event by six strokes over Missouri (945), Michigan State finished third (945), Nebraska was fourth (948), and Northwestern rounded out as No. 5 (957).

Coach Angie Ravioli-Larkin said she couldn't be happier with her team.

"We have talked about winning a tournament all year long," Ravioli-Larkin said. "It was just a matter of getting the monkey off our back, and

I think everyone knows what that feels like.

"Once you get that first win, every win after that comes a little easier. Going into this tournament, the team had a real determined attitude. They played liked they wanted to win, and they did."

Sophomore Lori Sutherland led the tournament after the second round but shot a final round 87 to finish tied for fifth place, her highest finish as a Horned Frog.

"It was the best finish I have had here at TCU, but it was the worst I have felt about finishing in the top five," Sutherland said.

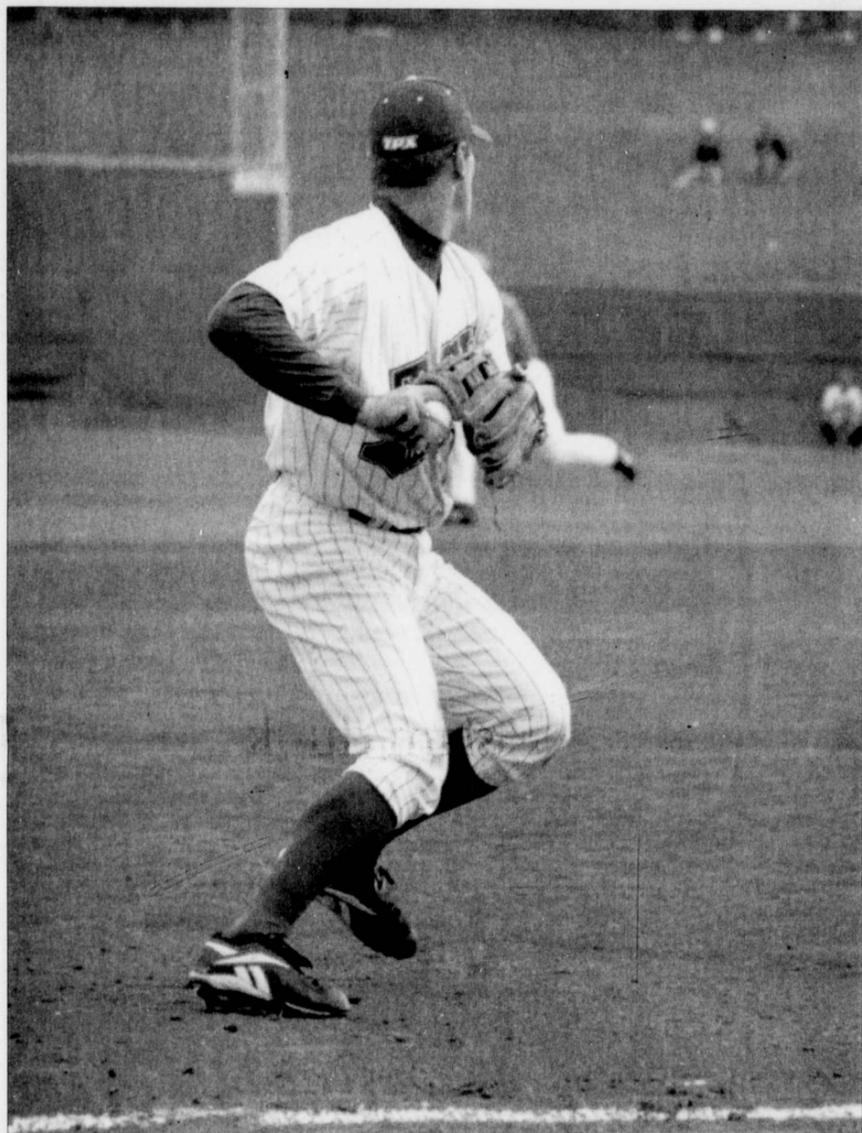
Sutherland shot a 72 and 75 in the

first and second round, putting her atop the leader board. In her final round, she had a double bogey and quadruple bogey to put her eight over par after the first nine.

"I think I just put too much pressure on myself," Sutherland said. "That 87 was the worst round I have had in college. I played great golf the first two days but had a hard time on Sunday."

The TCU women's team is back in action on March 17 through 19 at the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational in Austin.

Chris Harrison
tcuchris@yahoo.com



Hillary Morgan/SKIFF STAFF

Junior third baseman Mickey Scala makes a throw to first base. The Frogs open Western Athletic Conference play Friday against the San Jose State Spartans at 2:35 p.m. at the TCU Baseball Diamond.

Baseball team falls to Dallas Baptist 9-6 at Patriot Field

WAC play begins Friday

By Rusty Simmons
STAFF REPORTER

Dallas Baptist used a six-run advantage gained in the first two innings Tuesday to beat TCU 9-6 at Patriot Field.

Freshman pitcher Mike Srp gave up four runs on five hits in the first inning, his only inning of work. The Patriots added a pair of runs in the second inning off freshman pitcher Chris Ostentowski, who allowed three earned runs over four and 2/3 innings.

Srp said he is adjusting to the difference between high school and college baseball.

"You have to make every pitch perfect (in college)," he said. "In high school, teams maybe had one or two guys that could hit. In college, one through nine can hit."

"Every pitch must count. It's another level in college."

Ostentowski said the college game is not much different than his experiences in high school.

"Overall, it doesn't matter on the pitch, as long as you keep the ball down, you have a better chance of getting the out," he said. "But if you make a mistake in college, you're going to pay for it."

The Frogs got back into the

game in the fourth inning as senior designated hitter/pitcher Shaun Wooley hit his first home run of the season.

Wooley said he is looking for more at bats.

"I always want to play," he said. "I'm not scared of failure. If I fail seven out of ten times, I'm still batting .300."

In an effort to cut into the three-run deficit, TCU loaded the bases in the fifth inning. But junior right

fielder Tom Bates, fighting a muscle strain in his back, lined out to center field to end the inning.

Wooley said the Frogs have struggled to get hits at the right time.

Dallas Baptist (6-6-1) increased its lead to six runs in the sixth inning, scoring three runs on five hits. The Patriots' Cody Sadler's two-run home run highlighted the scoring in the sixth inning.

Ostentowski said the Frogs have the offense to make up for deficits.

"If we're focused, we should be able to come back with the hitters we have," he said.

Although TCU threatened the Dallas Baptist lead again in the seventh inning, scoring three runs on four hits, the Frogs left two

runners on the bases.

Senior third baseman Levi Groomer, batting in the lead-off spot, reached base in all five of his plate appearances. He had three singles and was hit by a pitch twice to extend his streak of reaching base safely to eight plate appearances.

Bates had three hits, Wooley added a pair of hits, and both drove in two runners.

TCU begins Western Athletic Conference play against San Jose State at 2:35 p.m. Friday at the TCU Diamond. The Frogs are 5-12 in non-conference games this season.

Wooley said the Frogs look at WAC play as a new season.

"We just have to wipe the slate clean," he said. "Everyone is 0-0 in conference. Regular season wins help with a regional bid, but winning the conference is an automatic bid. It's time to suck it up, and go for the gusto."

"It's time to suck it up, and go for the gusto."

Staff Reporter Omar Villafranca contributed to this report.

Rusty Simmons
rjsimmons@delta.is.tcu.edu

PULSE SIDELINES

Smith's former girlfriend suing for half his fortune

DALLAS (AP) — A former girlfriend of Emmitt Smith told a judge Wednesday she was legally married to the Dallas Cowboys running back and argued she is entitled to half his fortune.

Hope Wilson and Smith appeared before a family law judge Wednesday in Dallas to discuss issues surrounding child visitation rights for their 1-year-old daughter, Regan.

Wilson's lawyers called for a jury to hear the matter of what they called a marriage and referred to Wilson in court as "Mrs. Smith."

Smith's lawyers objected, and the judge agreed to refer to the two as mother and father in court, for now.

Smith was unavailable for comment. Smith's lawyer, Angeline Bain; Smith's agent, Eugene Parker; and Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple did not return calls seeking comment Wednesday night.

Under Texas law, if Wilson is legally Smith's common law wife, she might be entitled to up to half his fortune.

The 30-year-old Smith finished the 1999 season at Dallas with 1,397 yards — eight shy of the NFC lead and his best since 1995.

Evans fails drug test for third time, blames diet pills

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Josh Evans of the Tennessee Titans was "shocked" to learn he failed an NFL drug test for the third time and plans to appeal his suspension for next season.

The defensive tackle said Wednesday he has been on prescribed medication, including diet pills, and suggested that could account for the positive test.

"I will not allow the game I love to be taken away from me without a fight," Evans said. "I believe that the NFL, after reviewing all the information, will remove my suspension."

A league source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the NFL suspended Evans for the upcoming season for violating the league's substance-abuse policy. Only a successful appeal will keep him from missing the 2000 season.

The NFL does not announce suspensions until the appeal process is complete.

"Please do not judge me on reported information that has violated my promise of confidentiality and the integrity

of the program," Evans said.

Mitchell Frankel, Evans' agent, does not think the suspension will jeopardize his client's future with the team.

"I don't see any reason why he would not be part of the Tennessee Titans organization," Frankel said.

The Titans are prohibited by the league from commenting on suspensions under the substance-abuse policy and refused to discuss Evans on Wednesday.

Evans knew his next positive test would result in such a suspension. When his four-game suspension ended last October, he admitted making a big mistake. The substance involved was never made public.

At the time, Evans called addiction a "disease" but said he was not addicted and that "it's behind me right now."

Even though he did not play until Oct. 10, Evans wound up starting 10 games with 54 tackles and 3 1/2 sacks. He started Tennessee's four playoff games, including the Super Bowl loss to St. Louis. His biggest play came in the AFC title game when he helped sack Jacksonville quarterback Mark Brunell for a safety.

College athletes would not accept bribes if compensated

Here are the real participants in March Madness: Auburn forward Chris Porter, St. John's point guard Erick Barkley, Michigan guard Jamal Crawford, UCLA forward JaRon Rush and his brother Kareem, a forward at Missouri.

As sure as Dennis Rodman is somewhere on the streets, downing hard liquor, adding yet another tattoo to his body after getting tossed from a game the night before, several college basketball stars are inevitably being caught taking money under the table just as the NCAA's tournament kicks off.

From their former summer high school basketball coaches. From agents who've been scouting them since they dunked on a Nerf goal. From assorted boosters and "friends of the program." From whoever is dangling a Benjamin in front of their faces.

All the aforementioned college stars have been suspended for varying lengths of time (some are still on suspension) because of some hand-out that was invariably discovered by

the sniffing dogs working for the NCAA.

I've got to figure that the NCAA has got to be spending some big amounts of cash, somewhere in the hundreds of thousands on up, to bust these paltry transactions.

But why would the NCAA worry about money when it can continue to milk its cash cows? The cows, of course, being the players.

In major college men's basketball and football (usually the only programs that generate revenue for the university), players give up what amounts to nearly 60 hours a week without much compensation.

Eyebrows routinely rise when it is suggested that players aren't sufficiently compensated by the scholarships they receive to represent their university on the field of play.

Let's all agree that college basketball is different from, say, the chess club or intramural water polo. It is during this time of the season when the average player on a Top 25 team travels to places like Ames, Iowa, and Lawrence, Kan., which tends to interrupt things like studying for midterms or working a side job at Burgers and Chinese Food.

Games are held before 20,000 screaming fans, many adorned in replica jerseys bearing the school's colors. Everyone from the hot dog vendor to the athletic director is getting paid off the labor of 19-year-olds plucked from ghettos and

cornfields all across America, and sometimes, Lithuania.

Well, everyone except the 19-year-olds.

CBS shelled out \$6.2 billion for the right to broadcast college basketball, starting in 2003. By any stretch of the imagination, this is a repugnant amount of money, even in the repugnant realm that often ties together sports, money and television.

So where does the money go?

Not to the players, that's for sure. So when these guys make the quantum leap from high school or their freshman year of college to the NBA or NFL, you have to wonder what their incentive to go to college really is.

In fact, perhaps these increasing numbers of early entries are a sort of revolution against a system that benefits only the suits and not the workers. You know, this was part of the logic behind Marxism.

Meanwhile, yet another college star will be sacrificed before the double-chinned NCAA suits whose best interests lie in riding on the backs of teenagers to financial bliss.

And therein lies the real madness of March.

Opinion Editor Joel Anderson is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Missouri City, Texas. He can be reached at (janderson@delta.is.tcu.edu).

Smart Bombs



JOEL ANDERSON

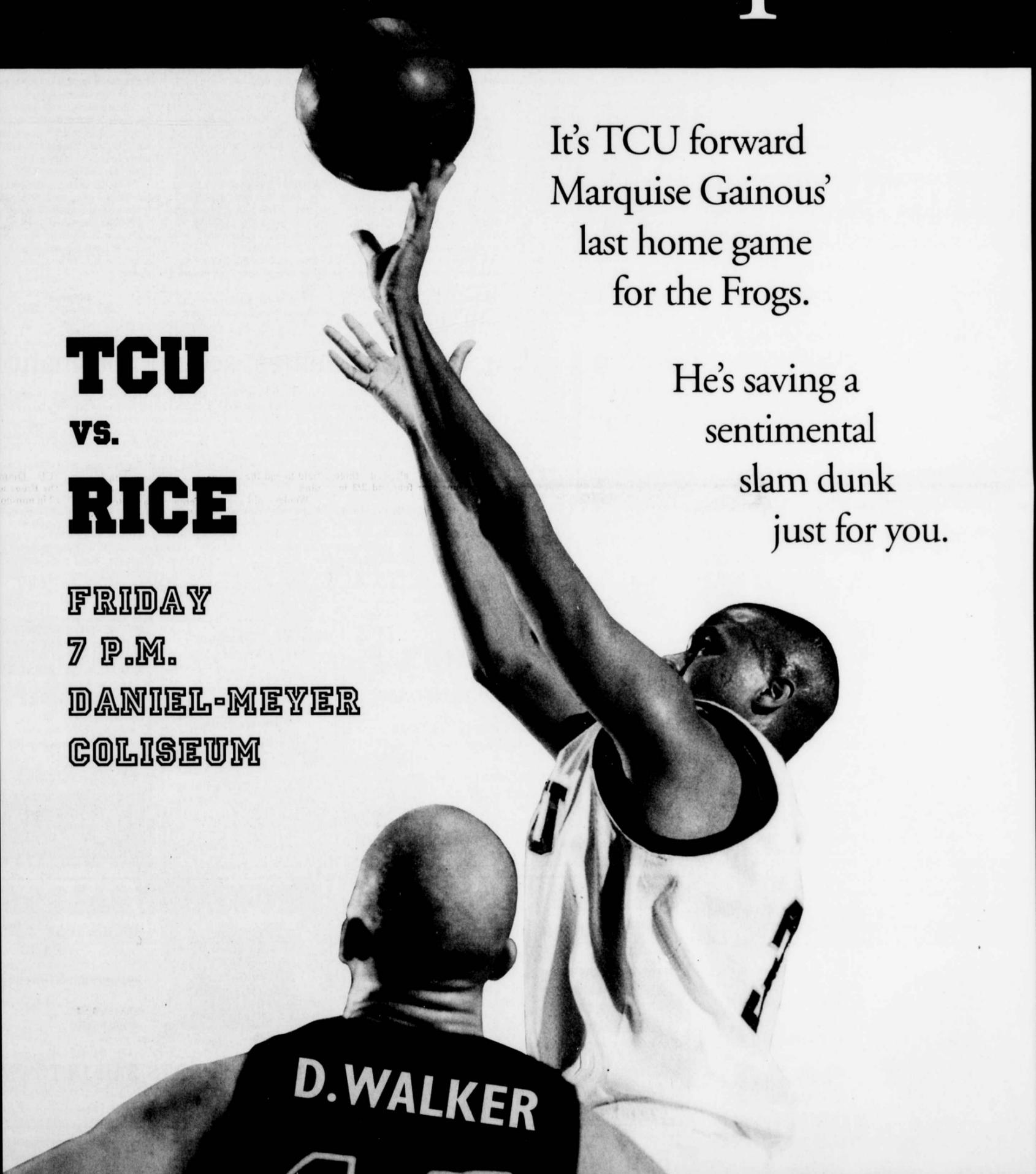
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CBS 106.1 KJBB FM

MUSLIM

From Page 1

bathroom," he said. "He was a hard-core, die-hard Christian, and I respected his faith. He thought I was on the wrong path and that he needed to show me the right way. His point was that I needed to accept Jesus Christ or I would go to hell. He had positioned himself between me and the door, and he wouldn't let me get around him. Finally, one of my friends came looking for me and hit him in the back with the door."

Nathan D. Keller, a junior speech communication major and president of Campus Crusade for Christ, said he believes Christians have to be tolerant of people of other faiths, while still being blunt and speaking the truth.

"There is a spiritual and a non-spiritual level to all interactions between people," Keller said. "I think

you have to meet people where you have commonalities and always be looking for chances to share your faith."

When he first came to TCU, Khan said he was worried the university would be too Christian for him.

"I've really found it to be very liberal," he said. "Christianity doesn't devour the campus."

Vince Scott, also a junior neuroscience major and Khan's roommate, has known Khan since their freshman year at TCU.

"We've been friends for so long, we don't even look at ourselves as different anymore," Scott said.

"We have the same goals, the same major. We both want to go to medical school. Even though I don't associate myself with any faith, I am very interested in learning about different religions."

Khan said he thinks he looks at life a little differently than most TCU students.

"From the Islamic teachings I

grew up with, I wonder how people can yell and cuss and treat their parents badly," he said. "The Qur'an says the gates of Heaven are at the feet of your mother. That's the kind of respect a mother deserves. She gave you life. Also, I would never let my grandmother live in a nursing home. It is tradition for the elderly to live with their families because we have so much respect for the older generations."

Khan said after growing up and living with his parents in Bedford and Colleyville, moving on campus was eye-opening.

"I'm used to all the drinking now," he said. "I only get irritated when the refrigerator gets filled with alcohol, and there's no room for food."

Khan said religion and school conflict most during the observance of the Islamic Holy month Ramadan, when he must fast every day from dawn until dusk. The Islamic calendar is based on the

moon, with the 29- to 30-day fasting period occurring at a different time each year.

"Last year, Ramadan started during dead days and continued through finals," he said. "I would get up and eat a big breakfast before morning prayer and then not eat again until after the sun went down. The purpose is to make you humble and realize there are people in the world who can't have three or four meals a day like we can. It makes you happy and thankful for what God has given you. It is a very holy month."

Khan said he is used to being in the religious minority.

"I wish there were more than just 10 or 12 Muslims on campus," he said. "But then again, I wish the campus (were) more diverse altogether. It's not just living on this campus. It's living in this country."

Jill McNeal
jilmcneal@delta.is.tcu.edu

SOAP

From Page 1

ple at the premier," Allen said. "I know some TCU staff members who came every week just to see if their favorite characters got together. We tried a sitcom a few years later, but the element of humor made it harder for the students working on the show. We came back to a soap, where there's no expected response from the audience."

Cecile White, a sophomore radio-TV-film major who is not involved with the production of "Studio 13," said she is eager to see how the first episode turns out.

"This is something produced by our own students on our own campus, and it doesn't happen every year," she said. "For the students involved, it's a really good thing to

slap on your résumé. You were there doing everything, getting hands-on experience. It's better than an internship because how the show turns out is ultimately your responsibility."

Allen said he is hoping to educate the soap opera's audience as well as its producers.

"The most important thing RTVF students are learning is how to put something together that involves teamwork and putting the project first," he said. "I have graduates that were part of this and now have jobs in L.A. because they already know how to handle the pressure."

With a student production, we are also able to teach the show's audience to take notice of production mechanisms that they may take for granted when they watch network television."

The plot of "Studio 13" will

move along faster than most daytime network soaps since the program will be shown only once a week, Allen said.

"Every week will be a Friday episode," he said.

Each episode will build suspense and end as a cliffhanger, Allen said.

TCU is the only university he knows of that attempts this sort of project within the confines of an academic course, Allen said.

"I know of some schools who have tried something like this, but only on an extracurricular basis," he said. "When I go to conferences and show my colleagues what the students have produced, they are always very impressed."

Stuart said she has enjoyed seeing the project grow from idea into reality.

"Even with hours and hours of production work, it is still a lot of

fun being able to develop a character over an extended period of time," she said. "Hopefully, I will still say the same thing in a month or so."

Allen said "Studio 13" has all the elements needed to grab the college population's interest.

"There's intrigue, attraction and the kinds of situations that face people in their first job out of college," he said. "Students will definitely be able to relate to the characters and their problems."

As for the steamy soap opera love scenes, Allen said "Studio 13" is more about romance than sex.

"No one gets naked," he said. "I can't promise we won't have people in bed, but it won't be gratuitous. The show is sexy, but not sleazy."

Jill McNeal
jilmcneal@delta.is.tcu.edu

Gore poised to sweep primaries, secure nomination

By David Espo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — After a primary drought comes the deluge in the Democratic presidential race, contests in 15 states in which Vice President Al Gore appears poised to score a rout if not a sweep over Bill Bradley and gain a hammerlock on the nomination.

In all, 1,315 delegates are at stake next Tuesday from Maine to California — and American Samoa. That's more than half the total needed to win the nomination at this summer's convention in Los Angeles. One of Bradley's most prominent supporters said Wednesday a withdrawal was possible if the outcome was a bad one.

In a turn of events Wednesday that captured

the dynamic of the race, Gore collected his 36th endorsement from organized labor, the 320,000 member International Union of Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers.

Bradley took solace from a decision by the Teamsters not to endorse either rival. Spokesman Eric Hauser called it a "small but welcome victory for us. They decided not to go with the vice president."

Preparing for a last effort to break through, Bradley also readied new television commercials, including one that said "We have to liberate our government from the encrusted control of special interests."

"Iowa and New Hampshire answered the fundamental questions" about the vice presi-

dent's candidacy in his favor, said Chris Lehane, Gore's spokesman. Following victories in the leadoff caucus and primary states five weeks ago, he added, "we're focused on winning as many delegates as possible as quickly as possible."

The vice president currently has 42 delegates, and Bradley has 27 in the AP tally.

Bradley "knows that it's going to take a miracle for him to win," a Senate supporter, Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, said on Wednesday. He said Bradley had told him earlier in the week he will quit the race if he doesn't do well in next week's primaries. "But I don't want that to turn into a prediction because it's his decision to make," the Nebraska lawmaker added.

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HELP me, Harlan!

By Harlan Cohen

Expensive gift from friend too personal; woman seeks wrong mate

Dear Harlan:

I recently received a rather expensive, but mostly symbolic, gift from a guy I've been friends with for the last four years. He has asked me out several times, but I've always had other plans.

The gift is very pretty, but I don't feel comfortable in accepting it since I think of us as just friends. He gave it to me saying it was because we are friends.

How do I return the gift without hurting his feelings?

I know a real friend would gladly accept such a gift, but I sense that he wants a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship. Got any advice, Harlan?
—Unappreciative recipient

Dear Unappreciative,

Real friends can be completely honest with each other. If you sense that he wants a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship, then tell him what you feel. He might be trying to win over your heart, or he might be trying to let you know he values you as a friend. As a friend, he should want you to be comfortable enough to share your feelings, too.

The only question is if he honestly sees you as a friend or as a friend he wants to date. A friendly conversation will give you all the answers!

Dear Harlan:

I'm a 29-year-old biracial

(black/white) woman who never gets the type of guy I truly find sexy! This, I'm sure, is due to the fact that the "men" in question are between the ages of 18 and 24, with light eyes with long blond hair. I like the heavy metal types.

Am I being unrealistic in wanting someone so different than myself? I can't help whom I find attractive, but I feel I'm only setting myself up to be lonely. Tell me something...
—Heavy Metal, Heavy Heart

Dear Heavy Heart,

You would be surprised how many biracial 29-year-old women seeking light-eyed heavy metal

teen-agers ask me this very same question each week.

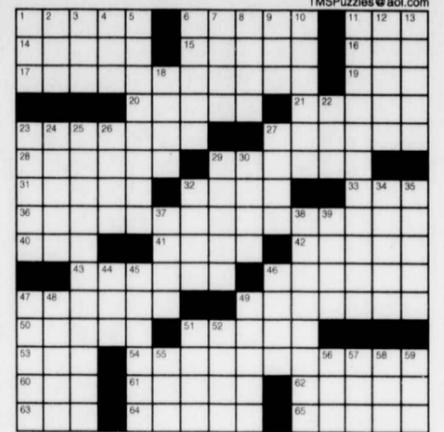
The reality is that you're looking for something you're probably never going to find. You're way too caught up in a fantasy no one can satisfy. But clearly, you're looking way too hard for someone else to make you happy.

Get in touch with yourself, and stop reaching out for someone to live out your '80s fantasy.

Harlan is not a licensed psychologist, therapist or physician, but he is a licensed driver. Write Harlan via e-mail at (harlan@helpmeharlan.com). All letters submitted become the property of the column.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- Puccini opera
 - Cars
 - Iota
 - Diarist Nin
 - Bird that eats feathers
 - DDE
 - "Are You Experienced?" musician
 - Boxer Schmeling
 - Terminal portion of the small intestine
 - Florida city
 - Playful pranks
 - Junkie's fix
 - Stage whispers
 - Server
 - Titled ladies
 - Postal service
 - Edge
 - Tony Soprano of "The Sopranos"
 - Frigid
 - Starter chips
 - Desert destinations
 - Set of bells
 - Companion
 - Galahad's mother
 - Ranges
 - Bo the beautiful
 - Book of maps
 - E-mail period
 - NFL record holder for most rushes in a game
 - Resembling: suff.
 - NY Knick's center Patrick
 - WWII submarine
 - Serving of corn
 - Cranky
 - Paints a word picture



By Edgar Fontaine Dighton, MA

3/2/00

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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- DOWN**
- Mahal
 - Sailors' admin.
 - Uncle
 - One-tenth of MXX
 - Paleness
 - Jane Fonda film, "___ of God"
 - Pakistani tongue
 - Duration
 - Wan Kenobi
 - Group of six
 - Lead singer of The Doors
 - Giraffe kin
 - San Angelo resident
 - Wapiti
 - Exist
 - Mecca pilgrim: var.
 - Jacob's father
 - 39th President
 - Nancy notion?
 - Hawaiian seaport
 - Desires
 - Assistant
 - Lion's do
 - Passive
 - Wet sprays
 - Prey
 - Fallen angel
 - Turn toward
 - Hasten
 - Type of printer
 - Brief test
 - Pooch on "Frasier"
 - Convicted
 - Helmsley
 - Poetic lament
 - Novelist Kingsley
 - Coloration
 - Reverence
 - Sluggers' stat.
 - CD-
 - Golfer
 - Woodsnam
 - Rel. figures

TODAY'S menu

MAIN Lunch

- Pepperoni calzones
- Fajita bar
- Cajun chicken
- Soup in breadbowl

Dinner

- Vegetarian lasagna
- Chicken fried steak
- Cajun chicken
- Nacho bar

WORTH HILLS Lunch

- Philly cheesesteak
- Chicken pot pie
- Macaroni and cheese

Dinner

- Chicken broccoli stir-fry
- Spaghetti with meat/marinara sauces
- Selona shakers

EDEN'S GREENS Lunch

- Sesame chicken
- Tilapia with lemon caper sauce

FROGBYTES

- Omelet bar (late night)

Rudy

by Aaron Brown



Lex

by Phil Flickinger



PURPLE poll

Q. DO YOU THINK YOUR CAR IS SAFE ON CAMPUS?

A. YES 56 NO 20

NO CAR 24

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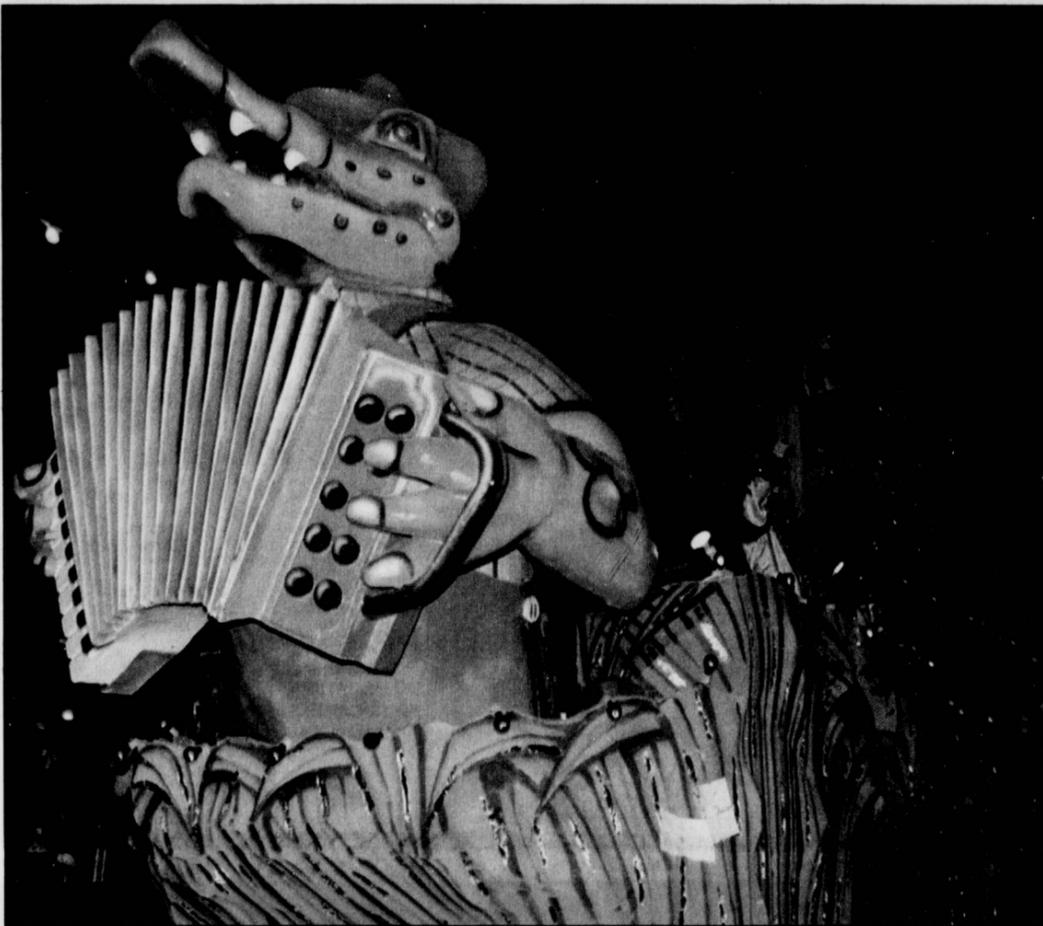
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Mardi Gras



Story by
Carey Hix

Photos by
Patrick Pannett



Students celebrate Fat Tuesday on the famous streets of New Orleans

What do justice, faith and power have in common with lewd behavior, drunkenness and gluttony? Only the biggest celebration of the year for those who live in and visit the Crescent City during the period of time just before Christian Lent.

Historians say the celebration of Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, originated during the second century in Rome to honor Bacchus, the god of wine and fertility, and Venus, the goddess of love and beauty.

The celebration has continued as a last opportunity for Christians to revel in pursuit of pleasure before the fasting period from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Its history in New Orleans began in 1699, when the French explorer Pierre LeMoyne, Sieur d'Iberville and his men camped south of the city on March 3, Mardi Gras Day. d'Iberville named the campsite Pointe du Mardi Gras, and soon after the French began celebrating in the area.

The carnival season officially begins on Jan. 6, the twelfth day after Christmas, with the ball of the Twelfth Night Revelers. The actual day of Mardi Gras occurs on a different date each year, as dictated by the date of Easter on the Christian calendar.

The official colors of Mardi Gras, which represent justice, faith and power, are purple, green and gold, respectively. These colors were chosen by the King of Carnival in 1872.

Mardi Gras features lavish parades sponsored by krewes, masking and parading clubs for which New Orleans is famous.

Some of the krewes have been around for a long time, such as Comus, which was founded in 1856. Comus took its name from the Greek *komos*, meaning revelers.

The king of the Krewe of Rex is always the King of Carnival.

Some krewes such as Barkus, which benefits local animal shelters and national humane societies, are relatively new. In this particular case, the krewe was founded in 1993 and limited its membership to dogs. The headquarters of the krewe is in the area near the "flea market" and the members of the krewe warn that "Cats, while welcome, will not be provided with security." And, "No dogs may be 'in season' and owners are responsible for their own dog's scoop."

The parades this year will take place from Feb. 25 to March 7, Mardi Gras Day.

Many students take off for the weekend to experience the insanity of this huge celebration, collect tons of beads and taste rich king cakes.

Pete Hoffman, a junior e-business and finance major and captain of the men's lacrosse team, said that the celebration is like nothing he's ever experienced before.

"It's the most fun time I've ever had — period," he said. "It's just wild, a non-stop party. I mean everything's going. Bourbon Street's insane, it's wall to wall people."

Through their association with the lacrosse tournament, the men were able to get on a balcony, which Hoffman said is the prime location to enjoy the events.

"If you're down on the street level, you don't really see anything. But if you're above, everybody looks up at you and you're looking at everybody. And you're yelling at people, and people are yelling up at you."

There are some hot spots that are worth visiting, Hoffman said.

Pat O'Brien's, which is on the corner of Bourbon and St. Pe-

ter streets, is a great spot to kick back and enjoy the celebration, he said. It's kitty-corner from the Cat's Meow, where people who don't have the money or connections to get a balcony have a chance to experience Mardi Gras for a limited time from the balcony of the bar.

Although the celebration is notorious for its wild side, there are areas of the city that are very safe and tame.

College students may be more attracted to the party scene on Bourbon Street, but many families bring their children and grandparents to experience the floats, catch beads and other throws and view the elaborate costumes prevalent on Mardi Gras Day.

The rowdiness of the Mardi Gras celebration has been a characteristic of the event since its beginnings in New Orleans. Historians say that Mardi Gras celebrations have featured masked balls and wild street parades since the early 1700s.

As a result of the outrageous behavior of the participants, the celebrations were forbidden in the early 1800s, but the law was ignored and the celebrations continued. In 1817, masks were declared illegal, but they were legalized again in 1826 because the law wasn't enforced.

Since the celebration lasts so long, the parties tend to get rowdier the closer they occur to Mardi Gras Day.

"The last weekend before Fat Tuesday is the craziest," Hoffman said. "It's the most insane weekend almost to the point of being dangerous."

The lacrosse team visited New Orleans during the third weekend of Mardi Gras, and Hoffman said he's glad that they went then instead of the following weekend.

"It is the best balance of having a fabulous, great, exciting, incredible time yet, you know, also not being to the point where it is dangerous," he said.

Visitors to the celebration need to remember to stay within certain areas on Bourbon Street and to avoid pickpockets and other kinds of trouble, Hoffman said.

"There's just places you don't go; you don't wander off the beaten path because bad things could happen," he said.

Tracy Glasheen, a senior accounting and finance major and second captain of the women's lacrosse team, said though she heard rumors of organized crime and people being stalked in the bad areas off Bourbon Street, she wasn't scared.

"I didn't see any conflicts or fights; we were in a huge group so we felt very safe," she said.

She advised people to go in a big group and stay together because it's very easy to get lost and end up on the back streets.

Cameron Ressetar, a junior marketing and finance double major and lacrosse team member, said the best part of going to Mardi Gras was going with the team. He stressed the importance of going with a big group of people in which everyone gets along.

He advised visitors to watch the people around them because Bourbon Street is known for petty thieves.

"Other than that, just kind of lay back, relax and go with the flow," he said. "Things are different down there, the atmosphere is anything goes, just deal with it. Being in the confusion is kind of a different experience. I've never experienced anything that chaotic or wild in my life."

Carnival Basics

■ Mardi Gras always falls on the Tuesday that is 46 days before Easter. It is always the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the start of Lent.

■ Carnival refers to the season of revelry before Mardi Gras. It begins officially on Jan. 6, which is known as Twelfth Night or Kings' Day, so named because it falls 12 days after Christmas on the day the Wise Men are said to have reached Bethlehem.

■ Carnival celebrations fall into two categories: public and private. The private celebrations are balls, held by clubs called krewes. Some krewes let anyone join, while others are exclusive and made up mostly of FONOF (fine old New Orleans families).

■ The first Carnival ball of the season is always the Twelfth Night Ball, held on Jan. 6.

■ Most krewes are named for figures in Greek mythology, like Bacchus for the god of wine or Orpheus for the god of music (no coincidence the latter was co-founded by Harry Connick Jr.).

■ The parade season officially begins on the second Friday before Mardi Gras, although the parade calendar is expanding. At the beginning of the season, parades are held on weekends only, then become more frequent until the week prior to Mardi Gras, when there's at least a parade a day. There are nine parades on Mardi Gras, most notably Rex.

■ Rex (don't say "king of;" it's redundant) — always a prominent New Orleans businessman — is considered the king of Mardi Gras. (You should, therefore, sneer when you hear some Hollywood matinee idol announce to Jay Leno that he will be "king of the Mardi Gras." He won't.)

■ Every parade has a theme, usually borrowed from mythology, history or Hollywood. Most parades have mock royalty, kings and queens and dukes and duchesses, either drawn from the ranks of the krewe's members or celebrities (hence the Jay Leno clown above). All parade riders throw trinkets — beads, doubloons, small toys, candy — from the floats to the crowds. These are called "throws."

■ The colors of Carnival are purple, green and gold, chosen in 1872 by the year's Rex. The 1892 Rex parade gave the official colors meaning: purple for justice, green for faith and gold for power.

■ The one ubiquitous food of the Carnival season is the king cake. Sweet roll-like dough is shaped into a big circle, cooked and brushed with purple, green and gold sugar or icing. Then a plastic baby, representing the Christ child, is tucked inside. Whoever gets the piece of cake containing the baby must, by tradition, provide the next king cake. Nowadays, king cakes come with a variety of fillings from chocolate and pineapple.

source: MardiGras.com

