



Skiff



When the men's basketball team meets the San Jose State Spartans today in the first round of the Western Athletic Conference tournament, the Frogs will be playing for more than the right to advance to another day.
Sports, page 8

High gas prices impact students

Increase causes financial strain to slim pocketbooks

By Natascha Terc
STAFF REPORTER

Students like senior Letryce Henry are reaching deeper into their pockets to keep their cars gassed up as oil prices continue to rise.

"Gas prices are ridiculous," said Henry, a radio-TV-film major. "You can't get half a tank for \$5 anymore."

The increase in price stems from the reduction of the crude oil supply by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and several other countries

last March, said John Cook, petroleum division director, in his statement before the U.S. Senate in February. The prices are expected to increase through July, when they will peak and then begin to decline.

Henry said she is angry because she needs more money for gas now, and she has less for leisure spending.

"The extra money I have for partying with I now have to use toward gas," she said.

Unleaded gasoline prices for the Dal-

las/Fort Worth area that were less than \$1 until March 1999 are now around \$1.46.

James Gifford, a sophomore business major, said he just pays the higher gas prices because there is nothing he can do about it.

"I live on campus, but I drive 30 minutes to work," Gifford said. "I drive a big truck, and it's costing me \$30 for less than a full tank."

Gas Prices

Average Annual Retail Premium Gasoline Prices since January

- 1996 — \$1.38
- 1997 — \$1.38
- 1998 — \$1.22
- 1999 — \$1.32
- 2000 — \$1.52

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

See GAS, Page 6



Jimmy Nam/SKIFF STAFF

Gasoline prices in the United States are on the rise after a reduction of crude oil supply last March.

PULSE BRIEFS

MIT professor says students tampered with grades

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — A grade-tampering scandal in Cell Biology was revealed by Professor Harvey F. Lodish of the biology department last Thursday. Lodish announced to his course that unidentified students had broken into the course grader's secure computer system and had lowered the grades of about 20 students while raising the grades of two others.

Although Lodish and co-instructor Professor Peter K. Sorger refused to comment further on the matter and did not reveal the names of suspected students, they did say that deans had identified the two students whose grades were raised and that disciplinary actions would be taken.

Lodish "pleaded for anybody who was responsible for this transgression or who knew who was to go talk to him at his office after class," said Vinod Rao, a student in the course. "He made it clear that the responsible parties would be punished either way but suggested that a confession would be considered when determining the punishment."

TAs for the course, who also refused to comment on the incident, re-collected course exams to re-enter scores into a new computer system.

The changes were apparently discovered when a few TAs began comparing hard copies of exams to the scores on their computer and found that some of the scores had been altered.

The computer system, according to Lodish, is "secure," so course instructors are attempting to determine who had access to the computer's password.

"MIT disciplinary actions are confidential," Dean of Students Rosalind H. Williams said. The identities of the students involved, therefore, will not likely be disclosed.

—The Tech
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

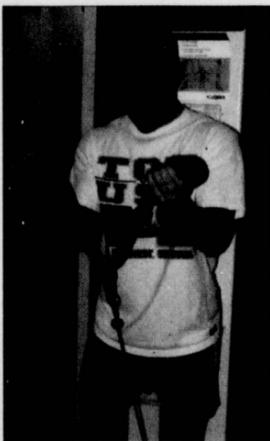
BEACH BOUND



Sarah Kirschberg/PHOTO EDITOR

(ABOVE) Leanne Parsons (left), a freshman radio-TV-film major, Katy Jo Reinmiller, a freshman premajor, and Kelly Moreland, a freshman elementary education major, study outside Sherley Hall Wednesday. Many students are preparing for Spring Break by tanning this week before heading off to the beach.

(RIGHT) Chad Peters, a sophomore business major, works out in the Rickel Building Wednesday. Peters, who is traveling to Myrtle Beach, S.C., for Spring Break, said he was working out to prepare for the week-long vacation.



Students work out, tan before break begins

By Kathryn Garcia
STAFF REPORTER

With a couple of days left until Spring Break, some students have spent the past week at the Rickel Building and at tanning salons to prepare for the week-long vacation.

Susan O'Dell, a bed cleaner at Planet Beach Tanning Salon said her business experienced at least a 50 percent increase in customers before Spring Break.

"A lot of students come right before Spring Break so they can look good in their bathing suits on the beach," O'Dell said.

Lauren McDonald, a freshman premajor, said she has been preparing for her trip to Panama City, Fla., for two weeks.

"I've been hitting the tanning salons," McDonald said. "I don't want to go to the beach and scare people with my white body."

However, McDonald said her friends have been taking a different approach on preparing for Panama City.

"My friends have been working out constantly at the Rickel and watching what they eat for the past few weeks," she said.

See BREAK, Page 6

Students, staff offer tips for safe Spring Break

By Courtney Roach
STAFF REPORTER

The thought of heading off to Spring Break usually provokes daydreams of sunny days on the beach, skiing down a mountain or exploring big cities.

What some students do not think about, however, are the unforeseen dangers such as alcohol poisoning, sunburns, falling asleep at the wheel or even getting arrested.

John Pomykal, a sophomore finance major, said he just got out of trouble with the law and is not looking for more during his trip to Panama City, Fla.

"Honestly, my biggest safety

concern is getting thrown in jail," Pomykal said.

Angela Taylor, the director of the Alcohol and Drug Education Center, said Spring Break is a vulnerable time for some students because all they are thinking about is partying. She said many people prey on Spring Breakers who are only at the destination for a week or less.

"My top four safety concerns for Spring Break would be binge drinking, driving drunk, unprotected sex and predatory drugs like Rohypnol and GHB," Taylor said.

Taylor said she understands a lot of people are going to drink

over Spring Break, so she recommended they commit themselves to a plan, such as six drinks a day.

Carolyn Barton, a freshman English and business major, said she and four friends are heading to Port Aransas to lie on the beach.

"My biggest concern, really, is the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission because I don't want anyone to get into trouble," Barton said.

Taylor cited a study from *Rolling Stone* magazine last year regarding underage drinking and disorderly conduct fines in South Padre Island.

See SAFETY, Page 6

'Studio 13' premieres before full house

RTVF department rolls out red carpet for soap's student actors, directors

By Rusty Simmons
STAFF REPORTER

Amy Lagat, a sophomore Latin American studies major, tentatively stepped over the red carpet leading to the Moudy Building South, dodged a couple of cameras and entered through a different door.

Then, as she entered the green room, Lagat stopped for a glass of punch and a Butterfinger.

Almost 100 students noticed the grand entrance setup on Wednesday before packing into the 82-seat auditorium to view the first of a 10-episode, student-produced soap opera, "Studio 13." Those involved

with the production of "Studio 13" said they wished the ambiance surrounding the premiere would continue for the remaining episodes.

"We really think it is a big deal," said Courtney Robinson, who plays Lynda North in "Studio 13." "Hopefully, the red carpet and everything made the audience think the same thing."

Although audience members said it was impossible to miss the majestic entrance, they mentioned some of the on-screen occurrences even more. Regan Vermillion, a junior history major, said he usually doesn't watch soap operas.

"It was a lot better than I expected," he said. "I liked the humorous parts. I would watch more soaps if they included a more humorous side."

Richard Allen, faculty adviser for "Studio 13" and a writer for the CBS soap opera, "As the World Turns," said humor helps to keep the audience in support of the characters.

"The audience's laughing reactions showed they liked the characters," he said. "It also shows a lot of the writing class' slant on the

See SOAP, Page 6



Sarah Kirschberg/PHOTO EDITOR

The cast of "Studio 13" makes its entrance across a red carpet for the premiere of the new student soap opera.

Inside

TIME'S UP

One week ago today, we gave a current events quiz on local and national news. Here, at last, are the answers to last Thursday's news quiz.

Editorial, page 3

WILD ANIMALS

"Big Bears, Big Cats ...Predators 2" is a walk-through exhibit where visitors will learn about the adaptations that allow predators to locate, kill and eat their prey.

Arts & Entertainment, page 5

PULSE

CAMPUS LINES

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moudy Building South, Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050 or e-mailed to skiffletters@tcu.edu. Deadline for receiving announcements is 2 p.m. the day before they are to run. The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and available space.

■ **The Society of Physics Students** will meet at 2:30 p.m. today in Sid W. Richardson Building, Room 324.

■ **Apply now for the 2000 Environmental Journalism Academy** which will be June 27 to July 2 in the Washington, D.C., area. Deadline is April 22. For more information, call 1-202-234-5993 or e-mail (eja@envirocitizen.org).

■ **The M.J. Neeley School of Business** will not accept any change-of-major forms declaring business as your major between Friday and April 10.

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

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

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

■ **Disciple Student Fellowship** will meet at 5:30 p.m. today at University Christian Church.

■ **Kaleidoscope Circus tickets** are available at the Student Center Information Desk for \$19.95. The event is 7:30 p.m. today.

■ **Minority Leadership Banquet tickets** are on sale for \$15 until March 20 in the Student Center. No tickets will be 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.

Correction

In Wednesday's Page 3 staff editorial, Mary Volcansek was mistakenly identified as the only permanent female dean at TCU. However, Rhonda Keen-Payne is currently the dean of the Harris College of Nursing.

TCU DAILY Skiff

Since 1902
The TCU Daily Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the journalism department. It operates under the policies of the Student Publications Committee, composed of representatives from the student body, staff, faculty and administration. The Skiff is published Tuesday through Friday during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays. The Skiff is a member of the Associated Press.

Circulation: 4,600
Subscriptions: Call 257-6274. Rates are \$30 per semester.

Mailing address: Box 298050, Fort Worth, Texas 76129.
Location: Moudy Building South Room 291
2805 S. University Drive Fort Worth, TX 76109
On-campus distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus, limit one per person. For additional copies contact the Skiff office.
Copyright: All rights for the entire contents of this newspaper shall be the property of The TCU Daily Skiff. No part thereof may be reproduced or aired without prior consent of the Student Publications Director. The Skiff does not assume liability for any products and services advertised herein. The Skiff's liability for misprints due to our error is limited to the cost of the advertising.

Main number: (817) 257-7428
Fax: 257-7133
Advertising/Classified: 257-7426
Business Manager: 257-6274
Student Publications Director: 257-6556
E-mail: skiffletters@tcu.edu
Web site: http://www.skiff.tcu.edu

NEWS

ROUNDUP

WORLD

Boat smashes apart in heavy surf; 10 illegal migrants killed, dozens missing

ISABELA, Puerto Rico — A wooden boat jammed with illegal migrants from the Dominican Republic smashed apart in heavy surf within sight of Puerto Rico Wednesday, killing at least 10 people and leaving dozens missing.

An estimated 70 people on the boat undertook the voyage just as thousands of other Dominicans before them, attempting the dangerous 75-mile crossing in hopes of higher wages and better lives. But survivor Laura Pichardo Garcia said the sea on Wednesday was too rough.

"When we reached the coast, a wave came over us and swept the boat around after one of the women fell into the water," said Pichardo, who was in U.S. Border Patrol custody. Shoes, purses and boat debris littered the beach.

Survivors told authorities that the crew had dropped anchor to rescue the woman when the waves dashed it apart.

U.S. Coast Guard and police helicopters searched for victims in the swift Atlantic Ocean currents off the northwest town of Isabela. Ten bodies were recovered, said Ivan Ortiz, spokesman for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

As many as 27 of the people on the boat made it to shore and were taken into custody, according to police and the U.S. Border Patrol. An unknown number of passengers disappeared in the coastal brush and hills.

Pichardo, 28, said the migrants had paid a total of \$12,000 — about \$170 per person — to be smuggled across the perilous Mona Passage that separates their land from Puerto Rico.

Joe Flores, assistant chief of the U.S. Border Patrol station in nearby Aguadilla, cited an unconfirmed report from a helicopter crew that at least 20 bodies were floating offshore. A U.S. Coast Guard spokesman said later Wednesday that Coast Guard aircraft hadn't been able to find them.

"It's a small area and the water is pristine. Some of the aircraft would have seen it by now," said Coast Guard Lt. Johnny Gonzalez.

"If we can confirm the information from the helicopters, we could be speaking about 20 or more bodies," Border Patrol Chief Carlos Marrero said.

NATION

Two black students are released after being arrested by off-duty police officers in Denny's

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Two black Notre Dame students arrested by off-duty police officers working security at a local Denny's said Wednesday the incident was racially motivated

and they were manhandled by the cops.

Tiffany Johnson said an officer used pepper spray on her while she was handcuffed in the back of a closed squad car, and April Allen said a third woman arrested had her nose bloodied when an officer slammed the woman's head into a trunk.

The freshmen were arrested along with two other friends early Feb. 27 by two Roseland police officers over a sign that had been knocked off the restaurant wall.

Denny's officials, stung by a series of incidents with minority customers, said Wednesday they had fired the officers for acting without involving the restaurant's management.

Denny's paid \$45.7 million in 1994 to settle a discrimination suit by black customers.

"We weren't doing anything," Allen said. "What they did was not logical, so you have to think (race) was a factor."

Allen, Johnson and seven friends were waiting for a table early Feb. 27 at the Denny's restaurant about a mile from campus when Johnson said she tried to re-attach a sign that had fallen off the wall. Johnson said after she hit the sign twice to make its adhesive stick, the two officers began questioning the group.

The officers cited the four students for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, and three were released on \$100 bond. But Johnson was cited for a felony and was held overnight at the county jail.

St. Joseph County Prosecutor Chris Toth said a videotape shows the students were not the aggressors in the incident. He elected not to press charges against the four students and will ask the court to expunge their arrest records.

Roseland police Chief Larry Miller said the small department outside of South Bend does not have a policy regulating officers' conduct on off-duty assignments. The incident will be reviewed by the town council.

The university said it planned to speak with local authorities and Denny's management to ensure the incident didn't happen again.

"We all know this is more than an isolated incident," said the Rev. Mark Poorman, vice president of student affairs.

Four people are killed after man opens fire on firefighters responding to call in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Firefighters responding to a house fire Wednesday were ambushed by an off-duty Memphis firefighter who stepped out of the garage and began shooting, authorities said. Two firefighters and a sheriff's deputy were killed, and a woman was found dead in the garage.

The suspected gunman, Fred Williams, was wounded and was undergoing surgery, Police Director Walter E. Crews said. A bystander also was wounded, but not seriously.

Williams had just returned to work as a firefighter this week after an extended leave on disability, Crews said.

"We don't expect this. We're here to fight fires. You want to say it's part of the job, but it's not,"

Memphis Fire Chief H.J. Pickett said.

Williams did not live in the house, and his relationship to the woman found dead in the garage was unclear, Crews said. Authorities also were uncertain how the woman was killed and whether the fire was set to cover up her death.

Firefighters were called to the home just before 1 p.m. When they arrived, witnesses said, a man came out of the garage firing a shotgun and shouting. "Get away! Get away!"

Firefighters Lt. Javier Lerma and Pvt. William Blakemore were killed. Sheriff's Deputy Rupert Peete was shot in his patrol car as he responded to the report of the shooting, authorities said. His car crashed through a fence and ended up next to the house.

Memphis police officers then arrived and tried to get the gunman to put down his weapon. When he refused, "one of our officers got into a gun battle and the suspect was shot," Crews said.

The shootings occurred in a prosperous neighborhood of mostly one-story brick houses and well-kept yards at the edge of the city.

Before firefighters arrived, neighbors reported seeing smoke coming from the house and alerted the suspect, but he said everything was fine, according to authorities. Soon after, deputies and firefighters arrived and were ambushed.

STATE

14-year-old dies after being pressed to the floor for 12 minutes by psychiatric workers

SAN ANTONIO — For the second time in less than a month, a child has died at a mental hospital in San Antonio after being restrained by psychiatric workers.

Willie Wright, 14, died Saturday after three workers at Southwest Mental Health Center who were trying to calm him pressed him to the floor for about 12 minutes, officials said.

Wright was born autistic and mentally disabled and had been in and out of the private, non-profit hospital eight or nine times since age 4.

The Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office is awaiting results of toxicology tests before ruling on the cause of death.

Emergency medical workers rushed Wright to University Hospital, about two blocks away, after he abruptly stopped moving and stopped breathing, according to Fred Hines, president of the mental hospital.

Wright was declared dead at University Hospital.

In another case, medical investigators ruled Tuesday that 9-year-old Randy Steele, who died Feb. 7 after being restrained at Laurel Ridge Hospital, suffered a natural death.

Steele stopped breathing and was taken to a medical hospital, where he died the day after the episode.

Medical examiners said he had an unusually enlarged heart for a 9-year-old and that he suffered a heart attack.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

CLASSIFIEDS

CHILD CARE

Nanny positions- P/T and F/T \$7-\$12/hr. Child care experience necessary- own transportation, non-smokers, references, perfect for students. Call (817) 358-4676 or (972) 713-0338.

RETAIL

Six women needed for flower business. Part-time flexible schedule offered. Make \$700-\$800/week. Call Rebecca at (817) 924-5846. Full or part-time help needed at Parkhill Cleaners. Will work around class schedule. Call (817) 924-9274.

Full and part-time positions available for customer service coordinators at Gold Waves Salon. Great attitude, people skills and cashier skills needed. Call (817) 731-8888 or fax (817) 731-8866.

PUBLISHER

Fort Worth publisher needs a part-time administrative and advertising assistant. Flexible hours offered. Stop by Cowboy Publishing Group 2112 Montgomery for an application.

TUTORING

The Princeton Review wants instructors! If you have great

SAT, GRE, LSAT, GMAT or MCAT scores, like money, & want to have more fun than you think you really deserve, call (817) 735-8555 or email info.ftworth.review.com for more information.

Tutoring available for economics, statistics & finance. Call (817) 920-1738 for more information.

MODELS

Models wanted for local hair salon window display. Professional hair, make-up and photographer. Pays \$50. Please send your picture to 2014 Sandra Lane. Grand Prairie, TX 75052 or call (972) 336-0005 for more information.

PROMOTER needs models and talent. Call 429-3116 for more information.

LESSONS

Beginner Guitar Lessons. home.flash.net/~guitarbob Call (817) 926-1876 for more information.

TYPING

TERM PAPERS & APPLICATIONS typed FAST. Just off campus near Jons Grille. M-F, 9-5 Accuracy Plus, Call 926-4969. Visa/MasterCard.

ROMANCE

singlesfinder.com
WWW.TEXASMATCH.COM

FUNDRAISING

Student Organization Fundraising. The original CIS student organization fundraiser is back! Student organizations from your school have earned \$1,000-\$2,000 with our easy three hour fundraising event. Now it's your turn! Call (888) 923-3238, or visit www.cisfundraising.com

MISC.

BEWARE
WWW.SECRETSOCIETIES.ORG

skiff classifieds

(817) 924-1426

Call us for information on advertising today!

The Skiff Classifieds...
A selling experience you can't afford to miss!

PREGNANT? NEED HELP?
• Free pregnancy tests.
• Results while you wait.
• No appointment necessary.
• Confidential.
924-9110

FORT WORTH CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER
3502 Bluebonnet Circle • TCU Area

TRAFFIC TICKETS
defended in Fort Worth, Arlington, and elsewhere in Tarrant County only.
No promises as to results. Fines and court costs are additional.
JAMES R. MALLORY
Attorney at Law
3024 Sandage Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76109-1793
(817) 924-3236
Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Attention ALL CAMPUS GROUPS
Need to earn \$1,000-\$2,000 for a student organization? CIS, the original fundraiser since 1995, has the solution with an easy three-hour fundraising event.
Accept No Imitations.
Dates are filling quickly! Contact us for immediate results at (888) 698-1858 or apply on-line at fundraisingsolutions.net

NOW
IS A GREAT TIME TO INCREASE YOUR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY.
American Heart Association

"Meet the honky-tonking, punk-rocking Grandson of a legend"
Rolling Stone
hank III
risin' outlaw
performing **LIVE!**
Friday **march 10**
southern junction
10:30pm
WHEREHOUSE
CUBB

You can miss a class.
 You can miss a midterm.
 But you never ever have
 to miss Buffy.

Check
 out our special
 offer at NeedaTV.com

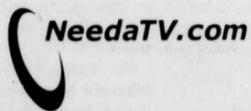


It pauses live TV and records your favorite shows digitally, automatically, without videotape, every time they're on.

Philips introduces TiVo™, the world's first Personal TV Service. And it's changing television forever. How? Well, let's say you're chilling to the game and suddenly the parental units call. Panic attack? Not with TiVo. It lets you pause the live broadcast until you're off the phone. And all those shows you miss because you're pulling all nighters? Problem solved. Tell TiVo what show you like just once, and from then on it'll find and digitally record future episodes automatically. In fact, over time TiVo learns what you like and finds more of it. It's time you experienced TiVo for yourself (available only on the Philips Personal TV Recorder). You'll never look at TV the same way again.

TiVo. You run the show.™

VISIT www.needatv.com/college OR CALL 1-888-999*7331.



Quantum QuickView Hard drive

PHILIPS

TOP 10 lists

Top 10

1. Santana: Supernatural
2. Dr. Dre: Dr. Dre — 2001
3. Christina Aguilera: Christina Aguilera
4. Kid Rock: Devil Without a Cause
5. Eiffel 65: Europop
6. Macy Gray: On How Life Is
7. Celine Dion: All The Way ... A Decade of Songs
8. Dixie Chicks: Fly
9. Various Artists: Grammy Nominees 2000
10. DMX: ... And Then There Was X

Top 10 R&B/Hip-Hop

1. Dr. Dre: Dr. Dre — 2001
2. DMX: ... And Then There Was X
3. D'Angelo: Voodoo
4. Sisqo: Unleash The Dragon
5. Jagged Edge: J.E. Heartbreak
6. Jay-Z: Vol. 3 ... Life And Times of S. Carter
7. Snoop Dogg & Tha Eastsidaz: Snoop Dogg Presents Tha Eastsidaz
8. The Lox: We are the Streets
9. Macy Gray: On How Life Is
10. Trick Daddy: Book of Thugs: Chapter A. K., Verse 47

Top 10 Country

1. Dixie Chicks: Fly
2. Faith Hill: Breathe
3. Shania Twain: Come On Over
4. Lonestar: Lonely Grill
5. Dixie Chicks: Wide Open Spaces
6. Tim McGraw: A Place in the Sun
7. SheDaisy: The Whole Shebang
8. Mark Wills: Permanently
9. Jo Dee Messina: I'm Alright
10. Alan Jackson: Under the Influence

Courtesy Billboard Magazine

CELEBRITY birthdays

Queen Latifah is among the performers planning to appear at Equality Rocks, a concert to benefit gay and lesbian concerns. The April 29 concert is scheduled at the 50,000-seat RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. The rapper-actress, who was born Dana Owens, said she picked Latifah from a book of Muslim names when she was 8. She won a Grammy for her song "U.N.I.T.Y." Her acting roles include the TV sitcom "Living Single" and the films "The Bone Collector," "Sphere" and "Set It Off." Latifah, who was born on March 18, 1970, is the author of "Ladies First: Revelations from a Strong Woman."

Celebrity birthdays March 12-18:

- March 12: Singer Al Jarreau is 60. Singer-actress Liza Minnelli is 54. Singer James Taylor is 52. Musician Steve Harris of Iron Maiden is 43. Actor Courtney B. Vance is 40. Musician Graham Coxon of Blur is 31.
- March 13: Singer Neil Sedaka is 61. Actor William H. Macy is 50. Comedian Robin Duke is 46. Actress Dana Delaney ("China Beach") is 44. Musician Adam Clayton of U2 is 40. Rapper Khujo of Goodie Mob is 28. Actor Danny Masterson is 24.
- March 14: Actor Michael Caine is 67. Producer Quincy Jones is 67. Comedian-actor Billy Crystal is 52. Singer-musician Taylor Hanson of Hanson is 17.
- March 15: Actor Judd Hirsch is 65. Singer Mike Love of the Beach Boys is 59. Singer Terence Trent D'Arby is 38. Singer Bret Michaels of Poison is 37. Musician Mark Hoppus of Blink 182 is 28.
- March 16: Comedian Jerry Lewis is 74. Actor Erik Estrada is 51. Actress Kate Nelligan is 49. Musician-singer Nancy Wilson of Heart is 46. Rapper Flavor Flav of Public Enemy is 41.
- March 17: Musician Paul Kantner of Jefferson Airplane/Jefferson Starship is 59. Singer John Sebastian of the Lovin' Spoonful is 56. Actor Patrick Duffy is 51. Actor Kurt Russell is 49. Actor Gary Sinise is 45. Actress Vicki Lewis ("NewsRadio") is 40. Actor Rob Lowe ("The West Wing") is 36. Singer Billy Corgan of Smashing Pumpkins is 33.
- March 18: Actor Peter Graves is 74. Country singer Charley Pride is 62. Singer Wilson Pickett is 59. Singer-actress Vanessa L. Williams is 37. Musician Jerry Cantrell of Alice in Chains is 34. Rapper-actress Queen Latifah is 30. Singer Devin Lima of LFO is 23.

From the Associated Press



'Big Bears, Big Cats...Predators 2,' a walk-through exhibit of more than 100 mounted and preserved specimens of predatory birds and mammals, will be on display at The Dallas Museum of Natural History through May 21.

Hall of Fame recognizes sidemen

Elvis' guitarist honored during NY ceremony

By Mary Campbell
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — After 15 years, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame honored musicians who stood to the side of the stage, just out of the spotlight.

One year after creating some controversy by inducting Bruce Springsteen without his legendary backups, the E Street Band, the Hall of Fame started a category for sidemen with an initial five inductees.

The salute, which some consid-

ered overdue, was responsible for some of the most touching moments of Monday night's ceremony at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

A smiling Scotty Moore, guitarist on early Elvis Presley records, said the hall might have to expand because of the many deserving musicians.

"They were the essential glue that held rock 'n' roll records together," said composer Mike Stoller, who inducted the sidemen.

Besides Moore, the five initial honorees included Earl Palmer, who drummed on "Blueberry Hill" and "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'"; Hal Blaine, the most recorded drummer on the West Coast and a fixture at Phil Spector sessions; saxophonist King Curtis,

heard on the Coasters' "Yakety Yak"; and the late bassist James Jamerson, considered Motown's secret weapon.

Shortly before Jamerson died, his widow, Annie, walked in on him listening to many of the old Motown records. She knew something was wrong because he didn't usually do that.

"He said, 'I did it, I did it,'" she said. "I had a feeling he was thinking, 'That really was me playing bass on all those hits.' I had a feeling he thought he would be forgotten."

Looking up from the podium, she said, "The entire music community remembers what you did."

None of Curtis' family members could be located, so Atlantic

Records co-founder Ahmet Ertegun accepted the award in the saxophonist's name.

"King Curtis was like an angel descended upon us at Atlantic and we would not have been the same without him," Ertegun said. "He was a man I truly loved. All the people I knew who were close to him are also gone."

Palmer thanked the Hall of Fame for recognizing that no singer was complete without a band. He accepted the award "for the other guys who are worthy but didn't live long enough to be here."

The night's six main inductees were Eric Clapton, James Taylor, Bonnie Raitt, Earth, Wind & Fire, the Lovin' Spoonful and the Moonglows.

'Mars' special effects are out of this world

Starring Gary Sinise and Kim Delaney, movie is full of effects that make it a worthwhile venture

By Matt Crenson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

If the space program had kept to the ambitious pace of the Apollo years, astronauts would almost certainly be to Mars by now, treading lightly on the brick-red soil and beaming home pictures from the final frontier.

But alas. For the time being, we'll have to settle for "Mission to Mars," which is to "2001: A Space Odyssey" what today's humdrum space shuttle missions are to the heroic moon shots of yore.

It is 2020. Gary Sinise plays Jim McConnell, a grizzled NASA veteran who loses his place in the mission rotation when his wife and crew partner

— played in flashbacks by Kim Delaney of "NYPD Blue" — dies of some horrible and unspecified disease. McConnell stands by gallantly as his best buddies embark on humanity's first mission to Mars.

Sure enough, something goes horribly wrong. With nothing but a fuzzy transmission from the accident's sole survivor to go on, McConnell and three crewmates volunteer for a daring rescue mission. Accompanying our damaged hero are mission specialist Phil Ohlmyer (Jerry O'Connell), and yet another husband-and-wife team composed of Woody Blake (Tim Robbins) and Terri Fisher (Connie Nielsen).

Not to give it all away, but the plot is embarrassingly derivative of "2001." Mysterious object left by aliens leads humans to higher plane of existence.

Where "2001" had spare, utilitarian dialogue, "Mission to Mars" has stilted chatter that grates all the more when delivered by such accomplished performers as Sinise, Robbins and Don Cheadle, who plays the lone survivor of the ill-fated first mission.

Just try not to listen, because the one place where "Mission to Mars" approaches its predecessor's greatness makes the whole thing worthwhile. Every scene has a stunning visual beauty that gets the heart beating faster and conjures up the rare thrill of ven-

ture into the unknown.

Word is that NASA was very helpful in the project, and no wonder — it is practically an advertisement for human space travel. But in a way, "Mission to Mars" does a disservice to space exploration by giving us the impression that it is all about us.

It isn't. There are no canals on Mars, no mysterious face peering out at us from the planet's surface, probably no living organisms and certainly none bigger than a bacterium. There is nothing for us there but a barren, dead planet waiting to be explored.

Isn't that enough? Produced by Tom Jacobson and released by Touchstone Pictures, "Mission to Mars" is rated PG.

EXHIBIT review

Wild Animals

Exhibit features rare mammals, birds

By Kristina Iodice
SKIFF STAFF

The Dallas Museum of Natural History's new exhibit has visual, hands-on activities, computer-interactive elements and more than 100 mounted and preserved specimens of predatory birds and mammals from the museum's collection.

"Big Bears, Big Cats...Predators 2" is a walk-through exhibit where visitors will learn about the adaptations that allow predators to locate, kill and eat their prey.

A section about humans examines how people developed tools and weapons to compensate for their lack of claws. The wolf is the center of this display because it is used to trace human predation and the move toward commercial hunting throughout history.

One of the displays is a special kind of trap, triggered like a mouse trap but used to shoot cyanide bullets into a wolf or coyote.

Of course, there are other interesting predators on display. Part of the exhibit is even living: lizards, tarantulas and some poisonous spiders.

There is even a glow-in-the-dark Emperor Scorpion. The black lights in the tank make the scorpion glow pale green because of a secreted chemical.

A special case full of carnivorous plants is also included in the display. The Venus Flytrap is the most widely known predatory plant, but others include pitcher plants and butterworts.

Most of the plant predators work the same way, and it is amazing to think that a plant is able to catch a fly with little trouble. Not only can they catch swift insects, but the plants can differentiate between a clump of dirt and food.

However, the main attraction of "Big Bears, Big Cats...Predators 2" is the extensive collection of mounted animals on display.

Among the animals on display are some of the most dangerous predators known, including bears and all of the world's big cats. There are also many other seldom-seen and interesting predators, like the Malaysian

biturong and the African aardwolf, who eats 200,000 termites in one night.

There is even a Jaguarundi, also known as an otter-cat, on display. The odd-looking predator is a member of the cat family. It once ranged from Texas and Arizona to Argentina. The Jaguarundi is one of the rarest mammals in Texas, and there have been no verified sightings for several years.

Many of the specimens are from the personal collection of the late Herbert Klein who collected a large number of mounted animal trophies.

Klein, a Dallas oil man, big game hunter and conservationist, donated more than 400 specimens to the Dallas Museum of Natural History to encourage "an appreciation and understanding of the animals that inhabit the earth." Many of the Klein specimens are more than 40 years old and have not been shown to the public in years.

The mounted bird predators were originally part of the "Birds of Texas" exhibit that opened in the 1960s. Many of the specimens have been in storage since the 1990s or earlier.

Other elements in the exhibit include video footage of predators in action and activity centers where visitors can experience predator adaptations in areas of vision, hearing, smell and jaw strength. There are touchable skull models and fur samples, even some prehistoric predator history.

"Big Bears, Big Cats...Predators 2" runs through May 21 and is sponsored by Microsoft Corporation - PSS Central Region, Las Colinas.

The Dallas Museum of Natural History, funded in part by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

For more information or volunteering opportunities, call the museum at (214) 421-3466, ext. 200, or visit the museum's Web site at (www.dallasdino.org).

Kristina Iodice
kiodice@delta.is.tcu.edu

TCU MOVIE channel guide

- Friday, March 10
 - 2 p.m. The Doors
 - 5 p.m. Jerry Maguire
 - 8 p.m. Little Women
 - 11 p.m. Clueless
- Saturday, March 11
 - 2 p.m. National Lampoon's European Vacation
 - 5 p.m. Patch Adams
 - 8 p.m. Notting Hill
 - 11 p.m. The Matrix
- Sunday, March 12
 - 2 p.m. Independence Day
 - 5 p.m. Top Gun
 - 8 p.m. Rambo: First Blood Part II
 - 11 p.m. Apollo 13
- Monday, March 13
 - 2 p.m. Patch Adams
 - 5 p.m. National Lampoon's European Vacation
 - 8 p.m. The Doors
 - 11 p.m. What About Bob?
- Tuesday, March 14
 - 2 p.m. Little Women
 - 5 p.m. Apollo 13
 - 8 p.m. Patriot Games
 - 11 p.m. Independence Day
- Wednesday, March 15
 - 2 p.m. Rambo: First Blood Part II
 - 5 p.m. The Doors
 - 8 p.m. First Knight
 - 11 p.m. Top Gun
- Thursday, March 16
 - 2 p.m. National Lampoon's European Vacation
 - 5 p.m. Notting Hill
 - 8 p.m. The Wizard of Oz
 - 11 p.m. The Matrix

HELP me, Harlan!

By Harlan Cohen

Cyber sex a symptom of deeper problems; Internet porn not a threat to relationship

Dear Harlan:
My boyfriend likes to cyber with women and does not tell them he has a girlfriend. Since I found out he cybers, we argue more, and he does not have sex as much with me.

We have been together for two years. I feel like he's in love with the PC more than with me. He thinks women's needs are not as great as men's, and I should wait until he wants me — not I want him. Tell me what I should do because I can't get anywhere with him.

Cyber stress

Dear Cyber Stress,
He seems to be way too in-

olved in his cyber relationships. When it takes away from your private life, it's time to take away the PC. He sounds like he's searching for something he needs to find in your relationship.

Cyber sex isn't a harmless play toy. The fantasy is based close to reality. It's not like he's going to get emotionally involved with a centerfold. But when it comes to cyber sex with a real person, there are real dangers that can spill over into real life.

Based on your letter, his ferocious cyber sex seems to be only a symptom of something much deeper. If you're getting hurt, and he won't get off the computer, think about getting out.

Dear Harlan:
My boyfriend of one year enjoys looking at porn on the Internet. When I told him it upset me and made me feel uncomfortable, he basically ignored me.

He blew me off and told me to stop worrying and nagging at him, and he wasn't going to stop looking at porn because he has been since he was 13 years old.

Should I worry or just ignore it and accept it?

Upset about porn

Dear Upset:
THE RULE: When your boyfriend's appreciation of porn

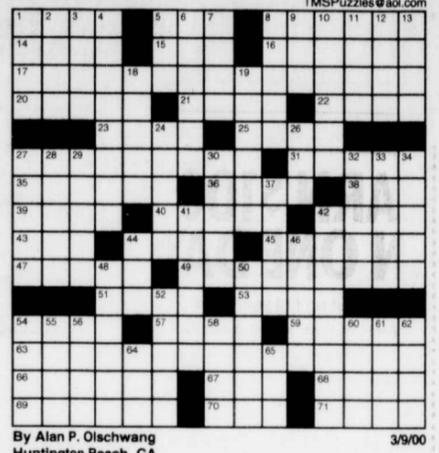
takes away from the intimacy you share as a couple, it's a problem that needs to be addressed. Otherwise, let it go.

A lot of very happily married men enjoy looking at naked strangers. Men are highly visual when it comes to sex, and seeing dozens of naked women can be very stimulating. Be comfortable with yourself, and let this fuel his fire of desire.

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
1 Identical
5 Printers' measures
8 Oyster creations
14 Univ. course
15 Come to regret
16 Necessitate
17 Start of Mark Twain quote
20 Actress
21 Thorndike
22 Big rig
23 Small vipers
24 Iranian currency
25 Troubles
27 Part 2 of quote
31 Tablelands
35 Without delay!
36 Algerian port
38 Part of AT&T
39 Holm and Hunter
40 Captive of Paris
42 Lucy's husband
43 Somme summer
44 A Turner
45 Scottish language
47 Grasslike plant
49 Part 3 of quote
51 Amo, ..., amat...
53 On the sheltered side
54 Open position
57 Amorphous mass
59 Golfers' rides
63 End of quote
66 Fall bloomers
67 ...-de-France
68 Kett of the comics
69 Native New Zealanders
70 Stirling negative
71 Profound



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

3/9/00

TODAY'S menu

THE MAIN

Lunch
Corny dogs
Pasta bar
Pizza bar
Dinner
Pepper steak
Fried chicken
Chef choice special

WORTH HILLS

Lunch
French dip croissant
Selona shakers
Manicotti
Dinner
"St. Patty's Day Special"
Corned beef brisket
Fish and chips

EDEN'S GREENS

Lunch
Linguine with clam sauce
Chef choice special

FROGBYTES

Omelet bar (late night)

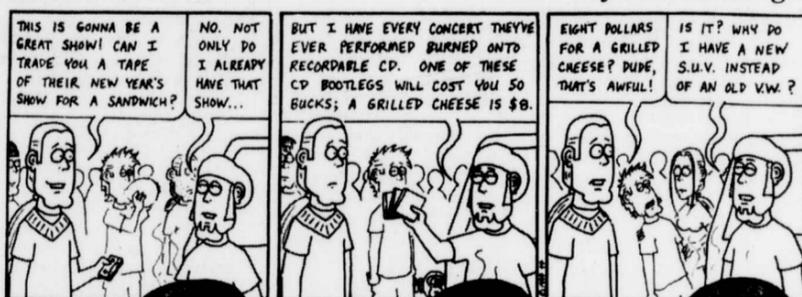
Rudy

by Aaron Brown



Lex

by Phil Flickinger



Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

©2000 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

6 Breakfast cereal
7 Ballesteros of golf
8 Jeopardy
9 Pic blowup
10 Relaxed
11 Charlie Brown's exclamation
12 Flaccid
13 Stone and Stallone
18 George who was Mary Ann Evans
19 Political refugee
24 Island farewell
26 K-O connection
27 Secret observers
28 Shipping container
29 Sharpened
30 Ryan with the most no-hitters
32 Inscribed pillar
33 Norse gods
34 Pizza piece
37 Anaheim player
41 Isolate
42 Thwarted
44 Moon vehicle's letters
46 Betel palm
48 Collect
50 ...rasa
52 Chasm
54 Did the crawl
55 Writer Alther
56 Director Preminger
58 Member of 33D
60 Ceremony
61 Lug
62 Cinch
64 Med. picture
65 Average grade

PURPLE poll

Q. ARE YOU GOING TO A BEACH FOR SPRING BREAK?
A. YES 34 NO 62 MAYBE 4

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

LONGHORN SALOON

CLUB SCREW

121 W. CHANGE THE BACKYARDS
626-1161

High Energy Dance

COLLEGE NIGHT THURSDAY 25¢ BEER ALL NIGHT 50¢ WELL DRINKS

DISCOUNT WITH TCU ID

18 AND UP ALWAYS WELCOME

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

Xtreme science

grand canyon
sea of cortex
sonoran desert
bio2 laboratory

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S
BIO SPHERE 2 CENTER

Enroll Now!

A total immersion experience
Environmental science in Arizona - 16 Ivy League credits
Earth Semester/Universe Semester: September-December 2000
www.bio2.edu / 800-992-4603
email - arizona@bio2.edu

Visit us on the web
www.skiff.tcu.edu/advertising

2000 WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

March 9-11 ■ Sellsand Arena ■ Fresno, California

Tulsa (#1)	Game 1 - 12:00 p.m. Thursday
Rice (#8)	
Texas Christian (#4)	
San Jose State (#5)	Game 2 - 2:30 p.m. Thursday
Southern Methodist (#3)	
Hawaii (#6)	Game 3 - 6:00 p.m. Thursday
Fresno State (#2)	
UT-El Paso (#7)	Game 4 - 8:30 p.m. Thursday



WAC Champion

* seed in parentheses

TEAM breakdown

A quick look at the teams playing in the 2000 Western Athletic Conference tournament

Tulsa
The Golden Hurricane, the WAC's only ranked team, enter the tournament playing only for a higher seed in the NCAA Tournament. Their balance and unselfishness makes them unguardable.

Fresno State
The Bulldogs enter the tourney with the most to gain. They win the WAC and make the NCAA Tournament. They beat Tulsa twice this year, and the tournament is on their home floor.

SMU
Mustangs
Coming off their best season in years, the Mustangs also entertain NCAA dreams. They enter the tournament having lost games to TCU and Tulsa.

TCU
Horned Frogs
TCU needs at least one win to secure an NIT bid. Which team will show up in Fresno: the balanced and explosive one that beat SMU in Dallas or the one that laid down in front of Tulsa?

San Jose State
Spartans
TCU head coach Billy Tubbs called the 4-5 matchup the toughest and said it is tougher because the Spartans lost twice to the Frogs during the regular season. San Jose State has the best chance for an upset.

Hawaii
Rainbows
Hawaii is 1-7 away from the islands this year. Had the tourney been at home, they would have a better chance. The Rainbows lost to SMU twice this season, by 16 in Dallas.

UT-El Paso
Miners
But the Miners will draw Fresno State (who beat them twice) in the first round on the Bulldogs' home floor.

Rice
Owls
The Owls will open the tournament against Tulsa. In a 75-33 loss to the Hurricane on Feb. 14, the Owls had more turnovers (39) than points (33).

- | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1
Tulsa
Golden Hurricane | 2
Fresno State
Bulldogs | 3
Southern Methodist
Mustangs | 4
Texas Christian
Horned Frogs | 5
San Jose State
Spartans | 6
Hawaii
Rainbows | 7
UT-El Paso
Miners | 8
Rice
Owls |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|

PULSE SIDELINES

NBA transplant recipient Elliott plans Tuesday return
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Kidney transplant recipient Sean Elliott is targeting Tuesday as the date for his return to the NBA.

The San Antonio Spurs face Atlanta in the Alamodome that night, the team's first home game after a three-game road trip.

Elliott, 32, who underwent transplant surgery Aug. 16, wants to make his unprecedented return at home so his family, friends and kidney doctors can be there with him.

"I won't have it any other way," he said recently.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said after practice Wednesday that it's possible Elliott could play against Atlanta, although no definite decision has been made.

Elliott's return to the NBA would mark the first time a professional athlete has returned to his or her sport after a kidney transplant.

Initially, Elliott had hoped to return by midseason, but a flu-like illness in December and difficulties returning to playing condition delayed his comeback.

Elbow injury could end season for Braves' pitcher
KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Atlanta right-hander John Smoltz will have surgery on his right elbow and is expected to miss the entire season.

The Braves said Wednesday that Smoltz tore the medial collateral ligament in his right elbow and will have surgery on March 23.

Smoltz had pain in the elbow in his only spring outing, on March 5, when he allowed three runs and five hits in one and two-thirds innings.

He was on the disabled list twice last season with a strained right elbow. He finished 11-8 with a 3.19 ERA in 29 starts.

Frogs need to stay focused to advance

When the men's basketball team meets the San Jose State Spartans today in the first round of the Western Athletic Conference tournament, the Frogs will be playing for more than the right to advance to another day.

TCU goes into the tournament with a .17-13 record and hopes of making it to postseason play, whether it be the NCAA Tournament or the National Invitation Tournament. As it stands now, the chances of the Frogs catching March Madness are slim to none. With a convincing showing this weekend though, TCU may receive its second-straight invite to the NIT.

Players and coaches are still optimistic that they can reach the NCAA tournament, which is a good sign that they have not given up on the season. However, considering the team's performance this season, an NIT bid

would be a good way to cap off the season. But the road to the postseason will be a tough one.

The fourth-seed Frogs play the fifth-seed Spartans, a team that TCU has swept this season. Head coach Billy Tubbs said he does not look forward to playing a 4-5 seed game, especially when he has beaten the other team twice. The Frogs need to stay focused and not let the Spartans sneak up on them.

San Jose State (15-14, 6-8 WAC) possesses a strong defense and a solid rebounding game. The Spartans lead the WAC in points allowed with 58.9 per game, and opposing teams only shoot 39.3 percent from the field. One of the key matchups for the Frogs will be senior forward Marquise Gainous and Spartans' junior forward Darnell Williams. Williams leads the Spartans in rebounding with 8.6 rebounds per game.

TCU is playing its best basketball right now. With an emotional win over Southern Methodist and a rout against Rice, the Frogs come into the tournament with high hopes and the performance to back it. The Frogs should have no problem putting away the Spartans. The TCU defense, with its high-pressure, high-intensity full-

court press, will force San Jose State to take poor shots and turn the ball over. The Spartans are the WAC's second-lowest scoring team, averaging only 59.5 points per game.

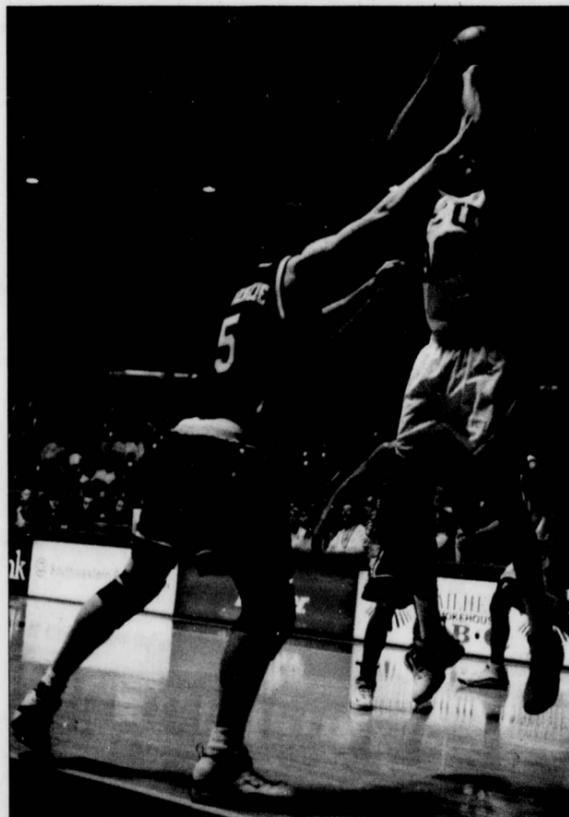
The Frogs will face Tulsa, the tournament's No. 1 seed, in the second round assuming the Golden Hurricane defeats last-seed Rice. TCU has not beaten Tulsa (27-3, 12-2 WAC) this season. If the Frogs want to make a convincing case to the NCAA Selection Committee, TCU needs to win the WAC tournament. Even then, the Frogs' future is uncertain. Right now, the favorites out of the WAC to go to the Big Dance are Fresno State and Tulsa.

As long as players and coaches focus on one game at a time and continue to play solid basketball, the NCAA Tournament is not out of reach. To finish the season playing in the NIT, however, would be an excellent way to end an average season.

Sports Editor Matt Welnick is a junior news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio. He can be reached at (mgwelnick@delta.is.tcu.edu).



MATT WELNICK



Senior forward Marquise Gainous shoots a turnaround jump shot while being fouled during a 85-62 victory over Rice Friday. Gainous and the Frogs open the WAC tournament at 4:30 p.m. today against San Jose State in Fresno, Calif.

Mavericks release Rodman from contract

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Team no longer willing to accommodate Rodman

Dennis Rodman needed less than a month to wear out his welcome in Dallas.

The Mavericks gave up on their biggest drawing card Wednesday, releasing him hours after he lashed out against owner-in-waiting Mark Cuban.

This could be the end of the line for the most-pierced, most-tattooed player in league history, albeit one who won seven rebounding titles and played for five championship teams.

He's 38 and may not find another team willing to hire him. If one did sign him now, he would not be eligible for the playoffs.

Dallas was willing to suffer his off-court antics as a tradeoff for his production on the court and his box-office attraction. He didn't sign until he was convinced no contenders were interested.

The Mavericks, who announced the move on their Web site, said they would have no comment until a Thursday morning shootaround.

There also was no immediate comment from Rodman. His Los Angeles-based publicist was preparing a response.

The 29-day stint in Dallas is the

shortest of Rodman's career. He lasted 48 days with the Los Angeles Lakers last season.

The Mavericks were 4-9 with him in the lineup, although one of the victories came in a game he missed because of a suspension. Rodman also was ejected twice and fined \$13,500.

Rodman had only been on a losing team once before in his 14-year career. Still, as a Dallas native he should've known what he was getting into with a team that hasn't had a winning season since 1989-90 — so long ago that Rodman didn't have any tattoos then.

His frustrations boiled over Tuesday night following a fifth straight loss. Rodman slammed Cuban, even though the boss had jeopardized his bid to buy the team by buddying up to the league's biggest thorn.

Cuban had personally wooed Rodman and gave him permission to skip practices and show up late for games. The soon-to-be owner even became Rodman's landlord, letting him live in a guest house until the league ended that deal.

"Mark Cuban wants to win, but he's an owner, not a player," Rodman said following a 101-86 loss in Seattle. "He doesn't need to be

hanging around the players like he's a coach or something. That's like Jerry Jones, and it's dumb. That's why the Cowboys went down. He needs to be the owner, step back and put people in who can get this team in the right direction."

Rodman also suggested that Dallas needs "a backup center, a starting center, a true power forward, a couple of guards."

"Above all, we need some more veterans to come in here and provide some leadership," he said. "If we don't get that, then this team is always going to be on the bottom."

The Mavericks play Minnesota at home tonight. Attendance surely won't be as high as it had been with Rodman wearing No. 70.