



Skiff



Only rarely does an art exhibition cover a large fraction of history, consist of quality and demonstrate the power, opulence and grandeur of the family who collected it.

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Fort Worth, Texas

www.skiff.tcu.edu

98th Year, Number 7

FACILITY FACELIFT

Old deans' offices remodeled, new offices created

By Tyson Trice
STAFF REPORTER

About \$440,000 was used to create two new deans' offices and renovate to existing ones, said Larry Garrison, assistant director of facilities planning.

"Nearly all the deans' offices have had something done this summer," Garrison said. "Each needed a freshening up and a new look to start the school year."

The College of Communication now has a new office on the second floor of Moudy Building South and the College of Science and Engineering has a new office on the fifth floor of Sid W. Richardson Building. The new offices required some structural changes, but Garrison said the

buildings didn't lose any classroom space.

"We didn't lose anything over the shift of carving out spaces," Garrison said. "We just had to move some things."

Garrison said he expects almost all renovations to be finished before Oct. 1. Moves and renovations have been difficult for the deans and their staffs, especially their administrative assistants, he said.

"I think it takes a lot of patience for the new deans and the deans' staff," Garrison said. "I could go through all of the administrative assistants. They are the ones that had the most patience to get through all of the changes."

Elisie Berry, administrative assis-

tant to the dean of the College of Fine Arts, said the transition has been challenging.

"You can't get very organized when you know (the furniture) won't be permanent," Berry said.

Mary L. Volcansek, the new dean of Add Ran College of Humanities and Social Sciences, still hasn't completely moved into her new office in Reed Hall. She is still waiting for new carpet and furniture. Most of her office belongings, especially books, are in boxes in an office across the hall.

Volcansek said she and her new staff shared the office with Mike McCracken and his staff before he

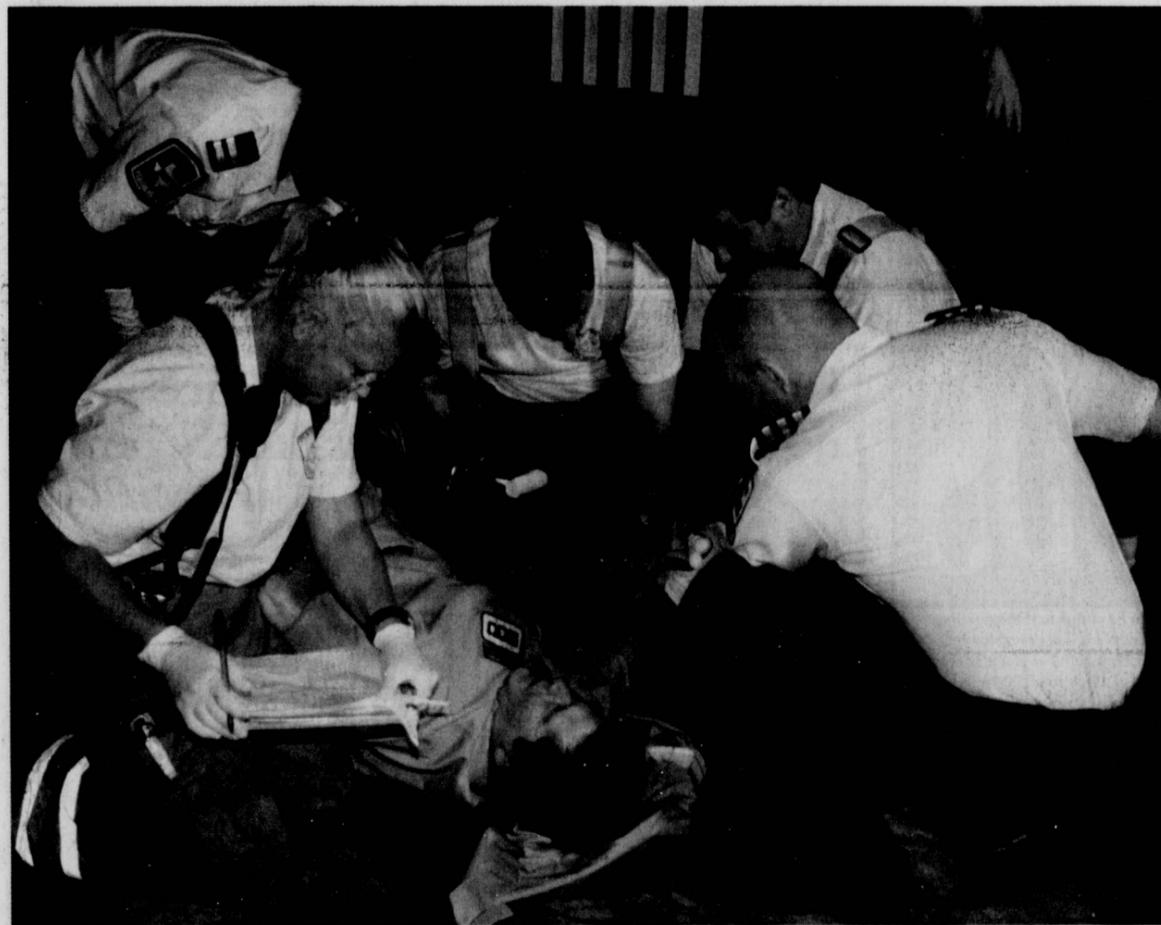
See DEAN, Page 4



Dean of Add Ran College of Humanities and Social Sciences Mary L. Volcansek still hasn't finished unpacking because of the delays in the renovation of her future office in Reed Hall.

Tyson Trice/STAFF REPORTER

Accident lands faculty member in hospital



Medics treat Ila Graves, a 57-year-old supervisor for facility services, who suffered a shattered wrist and a broken leg after falling from a ledge. Graves was taking the garbage out when the accident occurred around 11:30 p.m. Wednesday in the faculty parking lot between the Bass Building and Tandy Hall.

David Dunal/CO-PHOTO EDITOR

Graves breaks wrist, left leg; will take 6 to 8 weeks to heal

By Matt Jones
STAFF REPORTER

A supervisor for facility services is in fair condition at Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital after shattering her wrist and breaking her leg Wednesday night, hospital spokesperson Laura Van Hoosier said.

Ila Graves, 57, said she fell in the faculty parking lot between the Bass Building and Tandy Hall around 11:30 p.m. while helping a co-worker dump trash. She said the fall shattered the bones in her right wrist and also cracked a left leg bone below the knee.

"I was starting to turn around to step away from the ledge when I lost my footing," Graves said. "It was slick and I just couldn't catch myself."

Graves said she blames no one for her injury.

"It was a freak accident and could have happened to anyone," she said.

Mary Lucio, the co-worker who was with Graves when she fell, said employees always work in pairs when taking out the trash or lifting heavy objects.

"I told her not to go," Lucio said. "But, she is our supervisor and wanted to help me."

Lucio said Graves' work crew has

been working harder lately in order to fill vacancies on their team.

"We usually have a man to do the job," Lucio said. "But we are short-handed, and we still need to get the same amount of work done."

Shelton Riley, assistant director of facility services, said he is constantly reminding his crews about safety on the job.

"The last thing we want is for someone to get hurt like this," Riley said. "We tell them to be careful and to look out for each other as much as possible."

Glen Payton, assistant director of safety at TCU, said any work-related injury is covered by TCU's business-insurance plan. Employees are required to fill out a personal injury report before receiving health care coverage or compensation for missed work. Payton said TCU's workers' compensation policy is regulated by state laws and covers any staff, faculty or student worker.

Payton said TCU uses a modified duty agreement when allowing an employee to return to work, which informs a worker's supervisor of any physical restrictions issued by the treating physician.

"The last thing we want is for someone to get hurt like this. We tell them to be careful and to look out for each other as much as possible."

Shelton Riley,
assistant director of
facility services

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pulse

briefs

Bush proposes \$7 billion increase in grants college

AUSTIN (U-WIRE) —

On the eve of his 101st visit to schools during his campaign, Gov. George W. Bush stepped up his education reform plan Wednesday in New Hampshire by proposing approximately \$7 billion in new funding for college students.

Bush pushed his education reform message by focusing on the issue during speeches for the third time this week. In addition, he visited two high schools in Ohio and Kentucky Thursday.

The Republican presidential candidate proposed increasing the amount of Pell Grants, establishing a \$1.5 billion "College Challenge" grant and giving complete tax exemptions to all qualified prepaid and tuition savings plans.

Brite Divinity housing to open behind schedule in 2001

Internet, cable services raise price of apartments

By Yvette Herrera
STAFF REPORTER

Construction on new housing for Brite Divinity students, expected to have been completed in 12 to 18 months after a groundbreaking ceremony February 1999, will now open in January.

Construction workers Troy Hill and Melvin Fowler said their first deadline of Aug. 15 on Leibrock Village has now been moved to Dec. 1.

But Stan Hagadone, director of admissions at the Brite Divinity School, said there was never a set deadline with contractors and architects.

"When we originally started this, (an August deadline) was our hope," he said. "As with any part of construction, we expected delays with the city and permits, but we knew Brite students would move in by Spring 2001."

He said a formal dedication ceremony with donors and trustees will be held Nov. 16.

Brite students who live on campus currently reside in three separate complexes — the Princeton Houses located on Princeton Street, Bellaire North near the football stadium and the Quads by the TCU Bookstore.

Approximately 40 percent of Brite graduate students live on campus, and some have families. Leibrock Village, located between McCart and Sandage avenues, can hold singles, couples and families with no more than two children. Playgrounds will also be part of the new addition for families with small children.

An increase in price will go into effect because of new services, such as Internet and cable connections, being added.

Hagadone said prices for the cur-

rent apartments range from \$200 to \$430. At Leibrock there are 56 one- and two-bedroom apartments. A one-bedroom apartment will cost \$450, while a two-bedroom apartment will cost \$560.

"They all come with fully equipped kitchens and access to TCU's cable, phone and Internet connections," Hagadone said.

Leibrock Village will provide a place where all Brite students living on campus can study, eat and watch television together.

"Part of seminary education is building community," Hagadone said.

The two three-story buildings and the one two-story building in the center of the development are for Brite students. The other apartments are for TCU's graduate students.

Yvette Herrera
yvehex@yahoo.com

On the air



Kelli Edwards, a sophomore radio-TV-film major, receives on-air training for KTCU-FM on Thursday afternoon.

Tyson Trice/STAFF REPORTER

pulse

campus lines

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

► **The math department** will be holding special workshops to answer questions about the TI-83, TI-85 and TI-86 calculators. The TI-83 workshop will be from 3 to 4 p.m. today in Winton-Scott Hall, Room 145. The TI-85 and TI-86 workshop will be from 4 to 5 p.m. today in Winton-Scott Hall, Room 145. Videotapes are available for viewing in the math lab for students who cannot attend. Students need to bring their calculators, link cables and manuals to the workshop.

► **The Women's Shelter** will have volunteer training from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 11, 14, 18 and 21 at the Arlington Human Services Building, Conference Room A. Potential volunteers must complete an application and interview prior to the training session. Interview dates are Aug. 21 to Sept. 6. Applications are available online at (www.womensshelter.org) or by calling (817) 548-0583.

► **The American Cancer Society** is looking for volunteers. Volunteers are matched with specific jobs depending upon their skills, interests and time availability. The greatest need in Tarrant County is for cancer survivors and minority (bilingual) volunteers. For more information call (817) 737-9990.

► **Fight Hunger at the Plate** will be at 2:05 p.m. Sept. 17 at the Texas Rangers vs. Kansas City Royals game at The Ballpark in Arlington. Lower home run porch tickets are \$17.50 and upper reserved seats are \$10. Fifty percent of each ticket sold will benefit the North Texas and Tarrant Area Food Banks. To order tickets call (817) 273-5137 and reference account number 21153.

► **The Health Center** wants to inform students about the meningococcal vaccine (Menomune) available Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Health Center. This vaccine can help against certain types of meningitis. College students, especially freshmen, are encouraged to be vaccinated. The approximate cost of the vaccine is \$75.

► **4th International Film Festival** will be Sept. 16 to Oct. 18 at local libraries. The event is sponsored by the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. For more information call (817) 871-7791. All times and dates subject to change.

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.
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news digest

WORLD

OPEC considers increasing oil production, exercising price band if costs continue to rise

BRASILIA, Brazil — Venezuela and other OPEC nations are ready to increase oil production by 500,000 barrels per day if by mid-September prices continue above \$28 per barrel, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said Thursday.

"If during a period of 20 days prices keep above \$28, we will act firmly to increase production as internally agreed by OPEC," the Venezuelan leader told reporters.

Venezuela has proposed OPEC members to stick to an oil-price band between \$22 to \$28, the organization approved in a meeting last March. The self-imposed price band system requires the cartel to add an extra 500,000 barrels of oil to the market if prices stay above \$28 a barrel for more than 20 consecutive days. However, the last time prices surpassed that ceiling, OPEC ignored the band system.

OPEC said the value of its basket of seven crude oils averaged \$31.37 per barrel Tuesday. By some counts, if prices remain at current levels or higher, that period would be reached Sept. 10, the day OPEC oil ministers are scheduled to hold a regular meeting in Vienna to decide whether to increase production.

Soaring crude oil prices this month have increased pressure on the group to increase output for the third time this year. OPEC increased output in March and in June by a total of 2.4 million barrels a day.

Chavez said that most OPEC members had reconfirmed adherence to the band mechanism as a result of a visit he paid early this month to OPEC members, including Iraq. He invited chiefs of state for a summit of the oil cartel's 40th anniversary in Caracas in late September.

"The Caracas meeting will certainly strengthen that (price band) position," he said. "We need a balance on prices and market. We don't want prices shooting up from \$10 to \$40 overnight, but we neither want a price collapse to \$8 per barrel."

NATION

Statistical evidence remains contradictory concerning decline of teenage drug use

WASHINGTON — Teen-agers are continuing to shun illegal drugs, with reported use falling for a second year in a row, government officials said Thursday.

Though more young adults are reporting drug use, federal health officials and interest groups said a survey shows that anti-drug messages are nipping lifelong abuse in the bud.

"It's going to go down again for sure next year," Barry McCaffrey, President Clinton's drug policy

adviser, said of teen drug use. "These prevention and education programs are working."

The National Household Survey on Drug Abuse was released by McCaffrey and Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala.

In the survey, 9 percent of 12-to-17-year-olds questioned said they had used an illegal drug such as marijuana or heroin within the previous month. That is down from 9.9 percent who said they did so in 1998; and the 11.4 percent that did so in 1997.

However, at the news conference Shalala repeatedly stressed a deep downward trend from 1997 through 1999, billing it as "a statistically significant decline."

Use among young adults, 18-to-25-year-olds, continued its steady rise, according to the household survey of 67,000 people ages 12 and up.

"None of us can afford to let down our guard in the fight against drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse, especially when it comes to our children," Clinton said in a statement. He urged Congress to fund his administration's substance abuse and treatment programs when it returns next week.

According to the survey, illicit drug use among 18-to-25-year-olds climbed from 14.7 percent in 1997 to 18.8 percent last year.

STATE

Argument lingers about whether lowering blood-alcohol limit leads to more arrests

AUSTIN — Arrests of drunken drivers jumped by 14 percent in the first nine months after Texas lowered the legal blood-alcohol level to 0.08 percent, according to figures from the Texas Department of Public Safety.

"The feeling in the field and here at DPS is that the 0.08 is leading to more arrests," said DPS spokesman Tom Vinger. "It's definitely given law enforcement a tool to get more drunks off the roadway."

Troopers made 22,032 arrests from Sept. 1, the day the law went into effect, through May, according to the latest figures available. That's an increase of 2,766 arrests over the 19,266 made from September 1998 to May 1999.

The figures do not show how many of those arrested took breath tests to measure blood-alcohol levels or how many of them fell between 0.08 percent and the previous threshold of 0.10 percent. The numbers also do not reflect arrests made by law enforcement agencies other than the DPS.

Texas became the 17th state to adopt the 0.08 blood-alcohol standard when lawmakers approved it in May 1999. The new law qualified Texas for federal grants under an incentive program Congress implemented to get lower blood-alcohol limits established across the country.

Some, however, question whether the arrest figures are linked to the lower limit.

Arrests still are determined by the officers who pull over drivers and conduct field sobriety tests, such as reciting the alphabet or walking a straight line. Breath tests are administered only after someone has been arrested under the suspicion of driving while intoxicated. A person's behavior and driving ability is likely to have as much to do with an arrest as a breath test.

"The law doesn't change anything that an officer does at the scene," said Richard Alpert, chief of misdemeanors for the Tarrant County district attorney's office. His office deals with 6,000 DWI cases every year, more than three times as many cases as any other infraction.

Cash America mandates disarming locks for gun sales; receives positive political feedback

HOUSTON — A major pawnbroker announced Thursday it will provide gun-disabling locks with all firearms it sells, a move state Sen. Rodney Ellis hopes the Legislature will follow next year by mandating the devices for all gun owners.

Fort Worth-based Cash America International estimates it will invest between \$150,000 and \$200,000 on trigger and cable locks for guns sold through its 420 outlets nationwide.

The pawnbroker operates 145 Texas stores, including 45 in and around Houston.

"Texas is a gun-loving state. There's no question about it," said Ellis, a Houston Democrat who supports tighter gun controls. "We have a strong tradition of sportsmanship, or recreational gun use, and of self-defense. All are legitimate uses for guns."

"But, there is a dark underbelly to our love for guns."

Ellis, joined by Houston Police Chief Clarence Bradford and Cash America executives in a sweltering news conference on the steps of City Hall, then rattled off several tragic gun-related statistics.

The group focused on youth violence, accidental shootings, crimes of passion and suicides, phenomena they believe locks can reduce.

"Trigger locks always have been inexpensive," Bradford said. "Now, thanks to this particular strategy ... trigger locks will be free on guns distributed through Cash America."

Bradford noted that many new guns automatically come with trigger locks that immobilize the firing mechanism or cable locks that otherwise disable the firearm. He applauded any efforts that add the devices to used guns.

"As one of the largest players in the (pawn shop) industry, we elected to make this move," said Bill White, a Cash America senior vice president. "We hope ... we will make other second-hand dealers aware of this issue and encourage them to follow suit."

The effort coincides with Gov. George W. Bush's five-year, \$5 million state initiative to distribute an estimated 500,000 free gun locks.

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EMPLOYMENT

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Student wanted for part-time cook. Experience preferred. Good pay. Flexible hours. Call Tou for info at (817) 927-5070.

CAMPAIGN

\$7-9 an hour. Walk for Congressman Martin Frost (D) Mon-Sat, 4:30-8 p.m. Contact Sondra Haltom (817) 277-8111 schaltom@aol.com.
 Paid for by Martin Frost Campaigns.

CHILD CARE

Babysitter needed for one toddler. Once a weekend and one day per week. Call after 5p.m. 926-7968.

Part-time baby-sitter needed. Tuesday-Thursday 2-6 p.m. 1-1/2 year old, 3-1/2 year old. For more information call (817) 738-6346.

Flexible Work Schedule. Family in west Fort Worth needs responsible college girl to pick up children at 3:00 p.m. from school near TCU, assist with homework, help with dinner, and do some light housekeeping.

No weekends. Successful candidate will love children, have own car, be punctual and dependable, and exercise good judgment. Salary is open and will be commensurate with experience and willingness to take on additional duties. Fax resume to (817) 926-2568 and call for information at (817) 926-4969.

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church (very close to TCU) is seeking child care givers for children, birth through older elementary. Sunday mornings, some Sunday nights, Tuesday nights, some Wednesday nights, Thursday nights. Flexible self-scheduling, \$7 per hour. Call (817) 927-8411.

OFFICE WORK

PART-TIME ASSISTANT needed to work several afternoons each week in the office of a downtown corporate attorney. Knowledge of MSWord is required (test administered), along with good interpersonal skills. This position involves word-processing, filing, answering the telephone, and other tasks. Appearance and dress should be appropriate for a downtown office. Interested persons should email a resume to parfwlaw@email.msn.com or fax it to (817) 348-8804.

Higgins and Associates law firm is hiring for the position of runner. Must have reliable transportation. Call (817) 924-9000 to set up an interview.

HELP WANTED PART-TIME LOCATED NEAR TCU. Light office duties (filing and light typing

must be computer literate). Run errands- need dependable car. Flexible hours but prefer afternoons. 12:30/1:00 to 4:30/5:00 p.m. Hourly wage plus mileage. Fax or mail resume to: 921-0166 Applicant, PO Box 11739, Ft. Worth, TX 76110.

ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

Interested in coaching in the future? TCU Women's Basketball is looking for a manager. Includes travel with team and film work. If interested, call Coach Lonnette Hall at (817) 257-5468.

WANTED

Young, healthy non-smoking women needed for egg donation program. Excellent compensation for time. Call 540-1157.

INTERNSHIP

PAID INTERNSHIP Local trade assn. has immediate opening for p/t media/public relations intern. Interest in PR, computer knowledge, office/ phone skills required. Flexible scheduling. Some travel possible during summer. Paid internship. Fax resume/cover letter to 633-6129. attn: PR Intern.

Office Intern for Architectural Firm. Office Computer Drafting Skills required. 20 hrs./wk., flexible. Call 737-9513 for more info.

Former Owner of Campus Tans + now Manager of "Palm Beach Tans"



Gale Brawley former owner of Campus Tans + is back at her same location 2709 W. Berry (just two blocks from the TCU campus) as manager of "Palm Beach Tans," the tanning superstore. I am very proud to be manager of "Palm Beach Tans" for many reasons. The company is 1st class in every area and run very professionally. We have only the best state of the art equipment at all "20 locations" and growing. No Contracts-NO Contracts Ever!! When you become a member at any "Palm Beach Tan" location you are able to tan at all 20 stores. We are proud and excited to offer you the worlds first UV Free tanning booth. The "Mystic Tan." The Mystic Tan sprays a UV free tan on you in only seconds. We also have 10 minute and 20

minute beds, standup beds, Genesis 2 facial beds, and Super Beds. We carry only the finest tanning products, "Australian Gold" which gives you the healthiest skin possible, while giving you the darkest tan possible. We are open 7 days a week, Monday through Friday 6:00 AM to midnight, Saturday and Sunday 8a.m.-12 midnight. Students, Faculty and Staff I invite you to stop by "Palm Beach Tan" at 2709 W. Berry (Next to Domino's Pizza) and pick up your coupon for 1 month unlimited tanning for just \$19.99. You can also visit us at 4960 Overton Ridge Blvd. behind the Hulen Mall. After nearly 11 years of serving this community and TCU, I am still very excited to give you the best service possible with a great staff to assist me.

WARNING SIGNS

Be aware of prevention programs

It's something that no one wants to think about, or really deal with.

On Aug. 28, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville associate professor John Locke and graduate student James Easton Kelly were found dead in Locke's office after an apparent murder-suicide. It was only after the deaths that students began to question TCU's preparedness in case of a suicide on campus.

**staff
editorial**

Preparation is the key to handling any situation. Being able to catch suicidal warning signs — such as withdrawal, recklessness and alcohol and drug abuse — and knowing what to do if a person exhibits these signs are the first steps in preventing a suicide from happening.

Last May, the university held a two-day outreach program which was attended by 57 faculty and staff members. The program, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, looks at assessing risk factors and referring help for the suicidal. Programs like this should be continued and need to be attended by more faculty and staff so they can look for warning signs and help students find the counseling they need.

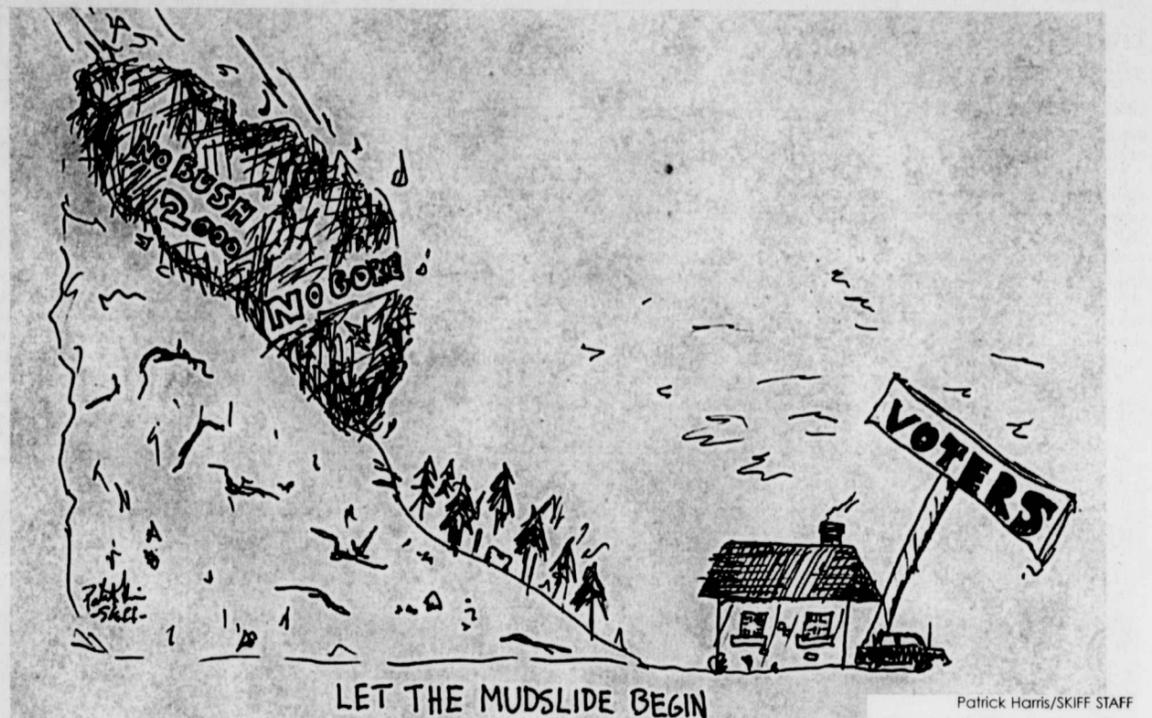
Besides being prepared, faculty, staff and students need to be aware of facilities on campus they can go to when they need counseling. Monica Kintigh, a licensed professional counselor for the TCU Counseling Center, said the counseling center is prepared to help students deal with the pressures of school and social life. The problem is that some students don't know where on campus to turn to when they do need advice. TCU needs to publicize what programs are available to students, faculty and staff so that help can be administered to those who need it.

The university needs to be prepared just in case the unthinkable does happen. After all, we don't want to be prepared after it's too late.

Editorial policy: The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. Unsigned editorials represent the view of the TCU Daily Skiff editorial board. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the Skiff, Moudy 2915; mail it to TCU Box 298050; 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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Torch pranks disrespectful Olympics should not be disgraced by protests

An Australian teenager was arrested Aug. 24, after attempting to douse the Olympic torch with a fire extinguisher.

The incident marks the second time a torch bearer has been attacked this summer; the first attack took place in July when a 19-year-old man jumped from the crowd, grabbed the torch and began running in the opposite direction.

Charges have not been filed in either incident, which Sydney 2000 organizers are calling simple pranks. According to the New South Wales state police, the flame was not extinguished in either incident.

What's with these crazy Australians? Americans may set off a bomb in the middle of the Olympics, but we would never try to extinguish the flame.

Imagine if you were the person who extinguished the Olympic flame, the torch that will light the cauldron during the Sept. 15 opening ceremonies in Sydney. How could you live with yourself? Can you imagine the response from your family and friends?

Since the first Olympic ceremony in Athens, the Olympics have become a symbol of world unity. Trying to interrupt the flame's cross-country voyage with a prank is not only disrespectful to the organizers of Sydney 2000 and all citizens of the world but also to the sanctity of the games themselves.

But what if these young men's actions weren't pranks as the Olympic Committee quickly announced following each incident?

Major news sources reported that the incidents may not have been simple pranks, but instead protests. If this is the case, it is nothing new to the Olympics. Even Jesse Owens' monumental Olympic performance in Nazi Germany is considered a protest.

Unfortunately, neither of the would-be torch vandals are revealing too much about their motive for the attacks.

Could it be like the corruption that has occurred on our own soil with Olympic officials in Salt Lake City? Maybe the Olympics aren't quite as unifying as they used to be. Or maybe these young men are just upset that the Olympics aren't starting until the middle of September (I must admit, I considered putting out the flame myself when I found out that Australia would be holding the Olympics in September).

Regardless of what their issues with the Olympic organizers may have been, did they

have the right to disgrace the torch?

Some would argue that no, they could have protested in other fashions. Still others will argue that by stealing or extinguishing the torch they were doing what they could to uphold the true meaning of what the Olympics have come to symbolize.

The modern-day Olympic Games have become somewhat bittersweet as we approach the first Games of this century.

They are bitter in the respect that everybody knows that the festivities will grab the entire world's attention for the weeks of the Games. Therefore, anybody with political agendas or possibly violent ideas, as seen with the Atlanta bombing, sees a window of opportunity. However, there is the sweetness that comes with seeing the world's best athletes competing together for that gold medal.

When it comes down to it, the political agendas of committees or teenagers no longer matter but instead the athleticism of the Olympians.

Despite the misguided protests by many different groups and individuals over the years, the Olympics truly do represent all of the great things that this world has accomplished.

James Zwilling is a sophomore news-editorial major from Phoenix, Ariz. He can be reached at (james_zwilling@usa.net).

Commentary



**JAMES
ZWILLING**

Reality shows set wrong example of behavior 'Survivor' and 'Big Brother' highlight liars and schemers in quest for victory

The best thing I can say about a winner being named on "Survivor" is that the show is finally over.

Unfortunately, the bane commonly known as reality television seems to have caught on. With the amazing success of "Survivor," one network after another has started to launch new shows pitting people against each other to win a coveted prize. CBS already has plans for a "Survivor II" in the works but, instead of a deserted island, the contestants are off to the wilderness of Australia.

The network is also currently airing an

annoying knockoff of "Survivor" called "Big Brother." This show combines the premise of "Survivor" with that of the popular MTV show "The Real World."

Ten strangers are placed in a house for three months without any contact from the outside world, each nursing the hope that they will be the winner who walks away with \$500,000.

In a house where cameras far outnumber people, the show prides itself on giving the contestants absolutely no privacy as they eat, fight and systematically pick each other off. The setting and the rules may be slightly different, but the basic premise remains the same: By setting groups of people in isolation with the sole goal of competing against each, it is possible to reveal the scheming and malicious qualities in each individual person's character.

Correct me if I'm totally off base, but

for some reason, these shows bring to mind another story of survival at any cost. Perhaps you've heard of it: Lord of the Flies. Only nobody has died and Richard was the only one walking around in the nude.

What these shows are essentially doing is creating people we love to hate. It is the nice, honest people who get left behind. The more devious the player, the better chance of their eventual triumph. And the worst part is, the public loves it. Millions of people tune in every week to watch these contestants lie and betray the people around them in the quest for large amounts of money and to be named winner of the game.

The most vivid example of the harm these competitions do was shown on the final night of "Survivor." When it came time for former tribe members to speak to the two finalists, their bitterness and anger

could be seen clearly on their faces. However, no one expressed his or her anger quite like Sue in her final, disgusting speech directed at Kelly. As Sue put it, if she passed Kelly and saw that she was dying of thirst, she would enjoy leaving her to die and be vulture food. I just love good sportsmanship.

I challenge people to find good qualities in these shows. When all the names are read and only one person remains, nothing has really been gained. The losers are disillusioned and just a little bit more cynical about the world, and the winner walks away with the loot, even though his only accomplishments are that he made alliances with the right people and he did the best job of being bad.

The premise of these shows could have been highly beneficial to our awareness of the problems our culture faces. But no one saw the actions taken by these people as

conduct that should be rebuked. Instead of acknowledging the sickening behavior these contestants displayed, as a reality check and a stepping stone toward becoming better people, we rooted for our favorite offender and made bets on who the lucky delinquent would be. Ultimately, all I want to know is when it will end. I am extremely tired of turning on the television and seeing that our society has begun to embrace people for behaving their worst.

It seems highly hypocritical for individuals to complain about the fictional violence that supposedly corrupts the people of this country, and yet celebrate shows that teach people to deceive others to get what they want.

Laura McFarland is a freshman journalism major from Houston. She can be reached at (l.d.mcfarland@student.tcu.edu).

Commentary



**LAURA
MCFARLAND**

Person's life is too short, precious to be taken for granted

It appears that the violence that we witnessed last school year in junior high schools and high schools has migrated to colleges. The University of Arkansas at Fayetteville was the scene of an apparent murder-suicide earlier this week. A teacher and graduate student were found dead on the first day of classes at the university.

Last year and this summer, when

school shootings were sweeping the country like wildfire, no one thought it could happen at their school until it actually did. Like the old saying goes, if it could happen there, it could happen anywhere.

About three years ago, TCU students got a rude-awakening when a man was roaming the TCU community sexually assaulting female TCU students who lived off campus.

A lot of people think because they're on campus in the TCU

bubble, they're exempt from crime, but that ain't necessarily so.

What makes you exempt from any of the crimes occurring here, there or anywhere else in Fort Worth or the rest of the country? Nothing. Any given student or teacher could snap and, instantly, TCU would turn into the mirror image of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Oh, but for the grace of God it hasn't happened at TCU.

I don't know who killed whom at Fayetteville. I'm not even going to speculate. I don't even know why one of them killed the other and finally himself. But allow me impart

these few words to you. There is nothing that serious in life that should make you want to kill someone. It's not worth it. Life is too short and too precious. I know this might sound cliché, but it's true.

This is a great school and provides a great education, but your pocketbook isn't the only way you pay. Every year students go crazy over grades and classes. It is not a simple question of which class or which professor to take. They know that college is serious. Success in college almost guarantees your success in the real world. Plus, \$399 per semester hour adds up to too

much money for college not to be taken seriously. And most of us don't have a penny to waste.

My freshman year I was stressed out during finals and couldn't even eat or hold down food. I was so happy to earn a 2.9 GPA that year. I could have slapped somebody and felt no remorse.

If college gets too expensive or too stressful, take a break. If you go crazy and kill someone, or even worse, yourself, guess what? Texas Christian University will still be here. You see, it survived the fire back in 1910 and has since survived all of changes the community has

taken it through. Trust me. TCU will be here. But the question is, if you kill someone or yourself, will you? Don't get me wrong. Yes, school is serious and should be taken as such, but don't let it control your life and potentially ruin it. I've seriously thought about killing myself several times, but you and I both have too much to live for; for reasons that have absolutely nothing to do with TCU.

Yonina Robinson is a senior broadcast journalism major from Mobile, Ala. She can be reached at (dovelove79@hotmail.com).

Commentary



**YONINA
ROBINSON**

Shark attack kills Florida man swimming in inlet off Gulf coast

Investigators say water safe for vacationers; incident was isolated

By Vickie Chachere
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PETE BEACH, Fla. — A day after a swimmer was fatally attacked by a shark in an inlet off the Gulf of Mexico, holiday vacationers wading in nearby waters kept the dangers in mind. "Nobody knows if it's going to happen again," said Jack Walachowski of Chicago. "I'll still swim, but maybe not out so far." A shark expert who helped investigators looking into the attack tried to soothe some fears, saying it was an isolated incident that shouldn't deter Labor Day beach-goers from entering the water. "Folks shouldn't be terrified," said George Burgess, director of the

International Shark Attack File at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville. Sharks typically avoid humans, he said, but in rare instances they can mistake them for their usual prey, such as sea turtles and porpoises. "It underscores the fact that the sea is basically a wilderness," Burgess said. Thadeus Kubinski, a 69-year-old retiree, was swimming with his wife Wednesday when he was attacked in 5-foot-deep waters off their dock in Boca Ciega Bay, an inlet off the Gulf of Mexico near Tampa. Anna Kubinski saw her husband struggling with the shark and saw the shark's dorsal fin, she told family members and investigators. She got out of the water and ran for help. Kubinski suffered massive chest wounds and died almost immediately.

Burgess, who assisted in the investigation, said the splashing likely attracted a shark feeding nearby. The murky waterway is home to schools of mullet and other fish, and the attack happened about 4 p.m., a time when sharks are actively hunting, he said. Burgess said the shark was likely a bull shark 8 or 9 feet long and weighing more than 400 pounds. A tooth recovered from Kubinski's body was compared to other bull sharks to determine the size. The death was Florida's first fatal shark attack since Nov. 21, 1998, when a 9-year-old boy was killed near Melbourne on the Atlantic coast. There have been five fatal attacks over the past 25 years, Burgess said. Twenty-two people have been attacked by sharks in Florida so far this year, compared to 25 during 1999.

INJURY

From Page 1

Riley said he anticipates that Graves will be out of work for six to eight weeks. "She's the type that as soon as the doctor says she can come back, she will." Even with shortages in her team, Graves said she still enjoys her job and working with her co-workers.

"I've got a great crew over there," she said. "They work well and work hard together." Graves said she has enjoyed her 13 years with TCU. In fact, Graves said she will celebrate her 14th year with the university on Saturday. "It's going to be a while, but I'm looking forward to going back."

Matt Jones
matthewsjones@hotmail.com

DEAN

From Page 1

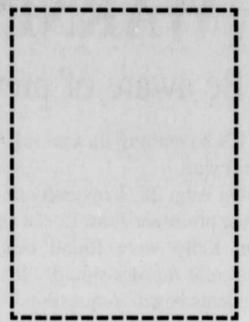
moved into his new office and assumed the position of dean of the College of Science and Engineering. "For a week I had the student assistant desk," Volcansek said. "One afternoon everyone had gone to lunch, and an orientation student came and asked me where a certain building was." Volcansek said the incident

was amusing because she didn't know where many of the buildings were herself. "The nice thing about not having an office was that I could go and meet with the chairs of each department," Volcansek said. "It's nice to see where the departments are located and where the facilities are and see how their departments work."

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Eleanor Burkett	Lindsey Imel	Susannah Shotwell
Courtney Carol	Elizabeth Johnson	Emily Stancel
Terrell Carter	Marlowe Martinez	Sarah Steele
Lauren Cates	Leslie Mattingly	Emily Turner
Rylie Charles	Jill Meninger	Lesley Verna
Julia Cook	Lacy Merritt	Ashley Waldrom
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Frogs possible replacement in Classic

By Matt Stiver
SKIFF STAFF

Georgia Tech's loss could soon become TCU's gain.

Wednesday's announcement that Georgia Tech would not reschedule the Black Coaches Association Classic, which was canceled Aug. 27 because of a lightning storm, left both Virginia Tech and the BCA scrambling for an opponent to fill the schedule.

That scramble has left both considering TCU.

TCU, which doesn't have a ranked opponent on its schedule, could have

BCA officials seek opponent for No. 10 Virginia Tech

a date with No. 10 Virginia Tech on Dec. 1 in Blacksburg, Va. The game will be broadcast nationally on ESPN.

Mike Flanigan, director of operations for the Gavelle Group, which organizes the BCA Classic, said TCU is currently on a list of six "quality opponents" under consideration. A final announcement will come tomorrow, he said.

Athletics Director Eric Hyman said TCU would gladly accept an invitation to participate in the Classic.

"You can't put a dollar figure on the exposure for this program, TCU or the city of Fort Worth," Hyman said.

"If it were to come to fruition, we would be on national television against a premier opponent in a great time slot with no competition. It will be huge."

TCU head football coach Dennis Franchione said he had little difficulty convincing his players to participate in the Classic.

"It was pretty much unanimous," Franchione said.

"I told the team I wasn't going to make the decision and our administration would not make the decision. It would be up to them, and they want to play this game."

If selected, TCU would receive a minimum of \$600,000 plus a portion of gate receipts.

A TCU-Virginia Tech matchup could potentially affect voting for the Heisman Trophy. Both Virginia

Tech's sophomore quarterback Michael Vick and TCU's senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson will enter the season listed by many publications as candidates for the award.

The announcement comes at a time when Hyman said TCU is finding scheduling football opponents increasingly harder.

"In the last five years, TCU has moved from the Southwest Conference to the 16-team Western Athletic Conference to the eight-team WAC

and to Conference USA next year," Hyman said. "Scheduling opponents has become a nightmare."

Hyman said TCU's struggle to find non-conference opponents stems from back-to-back bowl championship seasons.

"There was a time everybody wanted TCU to be their homecoming opponent," Hyman said. "That's not the case anymore. This is a tremendous reflection on coach Franchione and the football program."

Matt Stiver

mstiver@student.tcu.edu

pulse sidelines

Schobel named to Bronko Nagurski Award watch list

TCU senior defensive end Aaron Schobel was one of 36 players named to the 2000 Bronko Nagurski Award watch list Thursday.

Schobel recorded 10 sacks last season en route to setting a TCU career record at 24.5 overall. He was one of the 18 finalists for the Nagurski Trophy last season.

The Nagurski Trophy is awarded to the nation's defensive player of the year.

The Horned Frog football team will face only two of the players named to the watch list in the regular season. Fresno State senior linebacker Tim Skipper and Rice senior safety Travis Ortega were the only other players to represent the Western Athletic Conference.

Tomlinson comes in sixth in ESPN.com weekly Heisman poll

The first edition of the ESPN.com weekly Heisman Trophy poll was released Thursday with TCU senior running back LaDainian Tomlinson coming in sixth place.

The poll, as voted on by ESPN analysts and writers, will track the top contenders for the Heisman throughout the season.

Purdue senior quarterback Drew Brees is the early season front runner having received five first place votes and 42.5 points overall. Tomlinson did not receive a first place vote and had only 10 points.

Virginia Tech quarterback Michael Vick, Florida State quarterback Chris Weinke, Georgia quarterback Quincy Carter and Alabama wide receiver Freddie Milons rounded out the top five.

WAC preview

The Skiff counts down the Western Athletic Conference football teams for the upcoming 2000 season. Our No. 1 pick will appear in the Sept. 7 football preview issue.

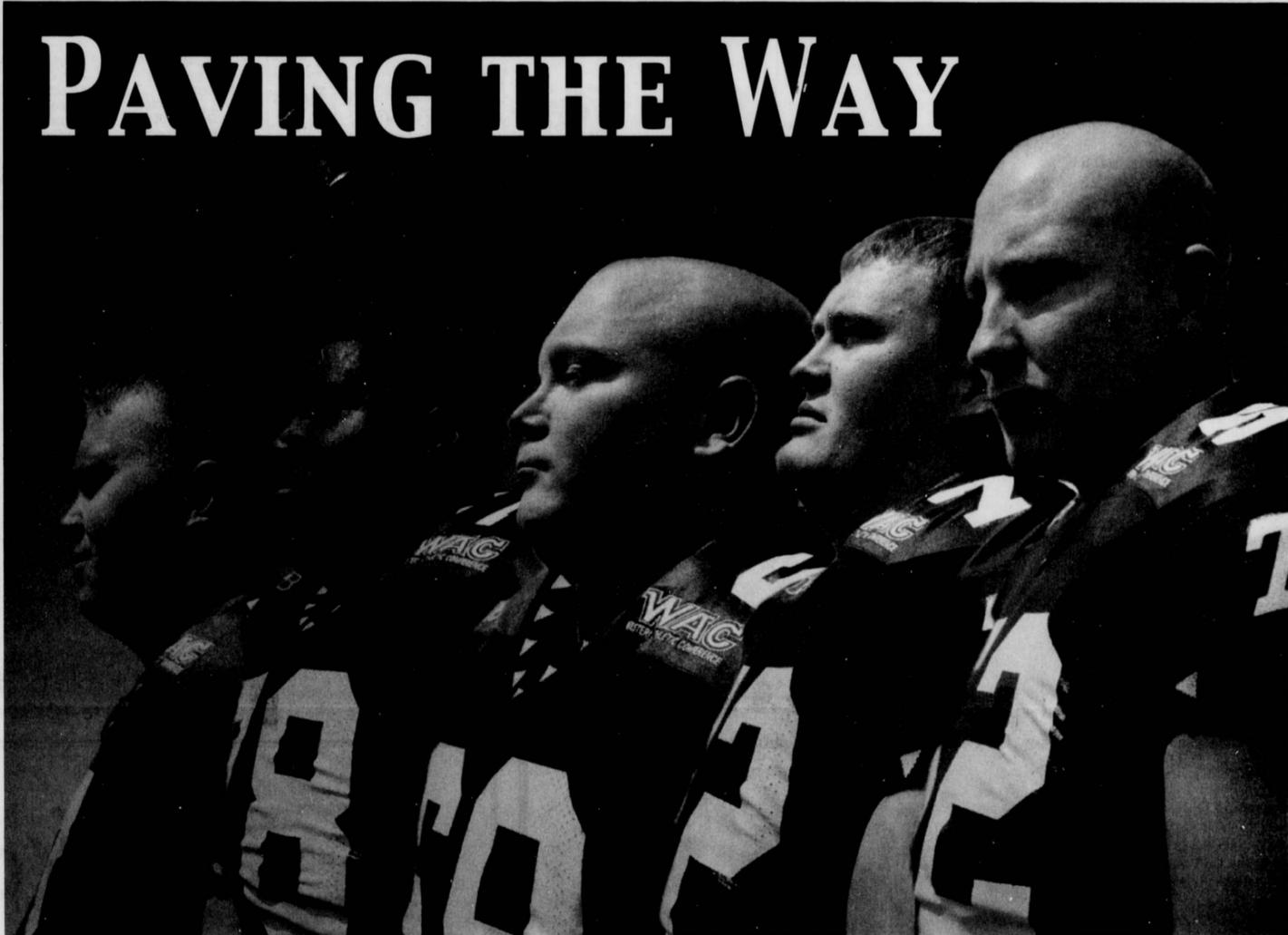
3 Hawaii Warriors

Location: Honolulu, Hawaii
Enrollment: 17,353 (public)
Home Field: Aloha Bowl (artificial turf) 50,000

Player to Watch: Junior wide receiver Craig Stutzmann. Hawaii will pass and pass and pass more. Stutzmann (68 receptions, 658 yards, 8 touchdowns) started all 12 games last season and will be Hawaii's first option. All quarterbacks, especially young ones, need a security blanket. Stutzmann is that blanket.

Fourth and Long: Head coach June Jones turned a 0-12 team into Western Athletic Conference co-champions and bowl winners last year. Expectations will run higher this year, despite the loss of quarterback Dan Robinson (3,853 yards, 28 touchdowns). Jones will likely turn over the keys for Hawaii's run-and-shoot offense to sophomore Mike Harrison. The Warriors, no longer the Rainbow Warriors, feel they have a legitimate shot to not only share the WAC crown, but also win it outright. Hawaii will play nine of its 12 games at home. Two of the three road games, however, come against TCU and Fresno State — the only two teams standing between Hawaii and the WAC championship.

PAVING THE WAY



From left to right: David Bobo, Victor Payne, Jeff Garner, Jeff Millican and Mike Keathley.

Photo illustration by Matt Welneck

Offensive line clears way for Tomlinson by working together

By Matt Welneck
SKIFF STAFF

The highlights are numerous. Senior running back LaDainian Tomlinson in the open field, faking to his left, cutting to his right and with an explosion of speed, he beats the opposing secondary for one of many long yardage touchdowns. But what you don't see is the dirty work up front that put Tomlinson in that position.

After Tomlinson recorded his NCAA-record 406 rushing yards against UT-El Paso last season, the first thing he did was hug his offensive line. It is these guys, the "Big Uglies," that paved the way for Tomlinson to become the nation's rushing leader last season and a Heisman Trophy candidate this year. But what sets this season's of-

fensive line apart from others is the fact that all five starters are returning and they have already been playing together for much of their collegiate careers.

"That's a big plus," head coach Dennis Franchione said. "It's always a slow development period. Offensive linemen don't always just happen when they are freshmen. These guys have a lot of seasoning and a lot of starts behind them."

They also have Tomlinson, who thanks his offensive line after almost every game.

"I figured he would say it once, but he says it nearly every time," senior tackle Mike Keathley said. "It just feels good knowing that he recognizes us, because he knows what's going on. For him to say it

out loud and in public to the people who see the game but don't know what is happening is a good feeling."

The same five starters return with another honor on the horizon — a Heisman Trophy.

"To tell you the truth, I haven't really thought about it," Keathley said. "I'm sure it would be a goal, but we don't think about that. He definitely deserves to be mentioned like that, though."

Senior tackle David Bobo said the play of the offensive line is as important as Tomlinson's performance.

"I think he needs for us to do really well for him to have a chance,"

See LINE, Page 7



Skiff file

TCU offensive linemen Mike Keathley and Victor Payne celebrate a Horned Frog touchdown last season against North Texas. Anchored by four seniors and one junior, TCU's veteran line looks to open up more holes for Heisman candidate running back LaDainian Tomlinson.

Volley Frogs open season this weekend

Team will rely on veterans, newcomers this year

By Colleen Casey
SKIFF STAFF

Preview

Despite the loss of Stacy Olson, Jill Pape and Jessica Rangel, TCU's volleyball team is prepared to show what they are capable of at the Miami JustBalls.com Tournament on Sept. 1 through 2.

Head volleyball coach Sandy Troutd said the squad is looking forward to surprising people this weekend and taking the little steps that will result in major strides toward raising their quality of play.

"We're strong underdogs, but that's a good thing," Troutd said. "Our advantage is that people really don't know how good we are."

The determinant of how good the

team will play can be based on the strong leaders and the team's good chemistry since the beginning, Troutd said.

Seniors Amy Atamanczuk and Bethany Toce have proven their leadership, especially to a talented group of five newcomers.

"These two girls have really stepped up and I believe the whole team is looking better than ever because of it," assistant coach Barbara Kovacs said.

Troutd said freshman outside hitter Brooke Worthington has given TCU something to be excited about. Worthington is considered the strongest

freshman signed, Troutd said.

Although Troutd will put any player in the game she feels deserves playing time, the starting lineup for the upcoming tournament will be made primarily of six of the nine veterans.

Hayes will assume the starting setter position along with freshman defensive specialist Tori Barlow. Both Atamanczuk and sophomore Jennifer Cuca will be hitting outside of junior middle blockers Allison Lynch and Jennifer Sebastian.

Troutd said she has tried to put together a more disciplined middle and right side compared to last

year's squad.

She added that the JustBalls.com Tournament will refine the player's basic skills such as making the offense click and elevating the level of defensive aggression, along with preparing for Western Athletic Conference play.

"We're going to try to be disciplined and try to get the other teams to play at our pace," Kovacs said.

Although it's too early to tell much from practices, Troutd said the team could finish with the best conference record in school history. She said the team has responded well to game-like scenarios in prac-

tice while preparing for the upcoming tournament play.

Face-off

Kovacs said TCU's level of play against the University of Miami, Ohio is a match of discipline vs. athleticism. TCU will also face Tennessee's dominant hitters. In response to the many minor injuries the starting players have been facing, it's just a matter of getting everyone to put it all together, Kovacs said. The team does not have much experience against Miami, the University of Tennessee or the University of Denver, yet this can serve as an opportunity for getting comfortable in game-like situations.

Colleen Casey

c.m.casey@student.tcu.edu

today's menu

September 1, 2000

The Main

Lunch

Cyberwraps
Chicken breast Florentine
Parmesan over fried fish
Honey and pineapple
chicken

Dinner

Cajun cod
Chicken Creole
Manicotti
Barbecue brisket
Smoked sausage

Worth Hills

Lunch

Gyros

Dinner

closed

Eden's Greens

Lunch

Penne pasta with sauce
Grilled salmon filets
Steamed asparagus
Fresh carrots in orange
sauce

Lemon rice

Frogbytes

Same as The Main

Tomorrow at the Main:

Lunch: Deli bar, Waffle bar,
Veggie quiche

Dinner: Italian sausage with
onion and peppers, Beef and
bean burritos, Herbed pasta

All menus subject to change

Lex

by Phil Flickinger



Academia Nuts

by John P. Araujo



Off the Mark

by Mark Parisi



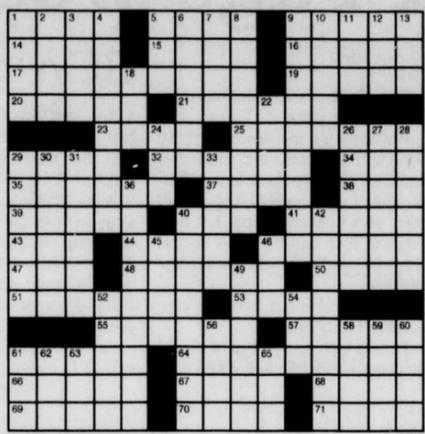
I Need Help

by Vic Lee



Crossword

- ACROSS
- Broad valley
 - Concerning
 - Embarrass
 - "The Virginian" author Wister
 - Hook's end
 - Yogi of the Yankees
 - Brightened by tapers
 - Flamboyant tie
 - Former capital of Japan
 - Fluffy dessert
 - Pilot starter?
 - University in Deland, FL
 - Substantial chunk
 - Tailor's measurement
 - Historic time
 - High-bar exercise
 - German river
 - Touch lightly
 - Pinnacles
 - Walston of "My Favorite Martian"
 - Peachy keen!
 - Carnival city, casually
 - Appearance
 - Verbalizer
 - Clemente
 - Gets out of line
 - Kennedy and Williams
 - Lasts
 - Very unusual
 - Standing by
 - Muse of poetry
 - Stage edge
 - Manicurist's tools
 - Lordly
 - British princess
 - Kin of etc.
 - Foolish folk
 - Wise guy
 - Alone



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9/1/00

- DOWN
- Wharf
 - On vacation
 - Jokester Jay
 - Sofa flanker
 - Justice Fortas
 - P. Chase

Solutions

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Purple Poll

Q: Are you leaving town for Labor Day weekend?



A: Yes 48 No 52

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.

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LINE

From Page 5

Bobo said. "We just need to keep a good work habit and study our film." As with the rest of the team, the offensive line has gotten stronger. Franchione said the linemen are bench pressing an average of 485 pounds. He said the offensive line is good, but they can always get better. "I don't think they have reached their potential yet," Franchione said. "They can get better and I think they know that, and they know that I expect them to get better. They are going to have to go out there and improve on their technique."

Bobo, who led the team with 197 knockdowns last season and was a first-team All-Western Athletic Conference selection, said the offensive line shares a special bond.

"We can just say one word and we know what each one is thinking," he said. "There is respect amongst us all. We pretty much control ourselves."

Bobo and Keathley make up one of the top pairs of tackles in the nation, but the rest of the line, including senior center Jeff Garner, senior guard Jeff Millican and junior guard Victor Payne play an integral role in the success of the offense. Sophomore quarterback Casey Printers usually can rely on the experience of his linemen during critical moments of the game.

"It is a big positive for Casey," Bobo said. "It gives Casey more confidence and time to throw the ball. Our experience factors in more mentally for him."

In the past three seasons, the strong point of the Frogs' offense has been the running game. Although their names do not make it into the box scores, the linemen know that whatever success Tomlinson has,



Skiff file

Members of the TCU offensive line (seated) take a breather during a game last season. Seniors David Bobo, Mike Keathley and Jeff Millican have all been selected as preseason all-Western Athletic Conference honorees.

The lineup

Name	Height	Weight	Hometown
David Bobo	6'5"	291	Odessa
Jeff Garner	6'4"	296	Decatur
Mike Keathley	6'4"	300	Glen Rose
Jeff Millican	6'5"	295	Panhandle
Victor Payne	6'1"	308	Jasper

they have played a part in getting him there.

"It's nice knowing that (Tomlinson) has got the gifts and he credits us," Bobo said. "Anytime I see his name, I know I have helped."

When Tomlinson received a plaque from the NCAA for his rushing title, he turned around and presented it to the offensive line and let them hang it up in their meeting room.

"After the sixth or seventh game last season, we started thinking about the title and how we wanted to get it

for him," Keathley said. "I just can't believe he let us hang (the plaque) up in our room."

Last season, Tomlinson took the offensive line out for dinner — buffet, of course — but Bobo said he doesn't know what to expect if Tomlinson should win the Heisman.

"There's really no price on that," he said. "Just knowing that I helped him get there would be enough."

Matt Welack
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American spending is up, savings rate decreases

Era of big government here to stay; studies show bipartisan consensus in White House and Republican Congress

By John Cunniff
AP BUSINESS ANALYST

NEW YORK - There are some major differences between the type of splurge spending that ordinary Americans have been indulging in and that for which their government has become famous.

In extreme cases Americans say they know what they're doing and even parade their self-indulgence in the form of McMansions, three cars in the driveway and quick trips to Europe islands.

Why not, they say. We earn our money. We have good jobs, lots of confidence, a soaring stock portfolio and a line of credit. We mind our business, pay taxes, give to the poor and accept life's risks, knowing that the good times might not last forever.

By contrast, the elected and would-be elected officials of government boast of thrift, parade budget surpluses, talk about tax cuts, take credit for good times, promise nirvana and scold voters for profligacy.

The behavior transcends political parties, as Stephen Moore and Stephen Slavinski show in a study of

spending behavior since the Republican "Contract With America" blueprint was unfurled in 1995.

That plan called for the death or reduction of more than 200 federal programs. But, say Moore and Slavinski, many of the dead not only live but live well on bloated budgets.

One reason for the new spending, say these scholars of the Cato Institute, a Libertarian think tank, is the unwillingness or inability of Congress to eliminate virtually any government program.

Overall, they say, federal expenditures for 95 of the largest living dead programs have risen a total of 13 percent since 1994. They include three cabinet agencies: Education, Energy and Commerce.

So much, they say, for one of the postwar era's most vigorous efforts to cut government involvement, and which actually succeeded for a while before succumbing again to the temptation to spend.

Last year, the Moore-Slavinski reports states, the inflation-adjusted increase in domestic spending was the largest in over 20 years, leaving Uncle Sam to spend \$50,000-plus each

second this year. There are painfully ironic aspects to all this. The private-sector savings rate fell this summer to its lowest ever — actually below zero, meaning spending was supported by borrowing.

Savings, according to traditional thinking, are basic to continued growth, being the investment capital the economy needs to expand. Otherwise, the funds must be borrowed from abroad.

Relying on foreign investments, which is why so many economists are worried about the foreign trade imbalance, runs an obvious risk. Foreigners may withdraw money from the U.S. economy at any time.

Nonetheless, a major theme of political races large and small and regardless of party is what government can do for you, which suggests even more ideas on how to spend even more.

Could Moore and Slavinski be correct in their conclusion?

It seems clear, they say, "that there is now a bipartisan consensus in the Clinton White House and the Republican Congress that the era of big government is here to stay."

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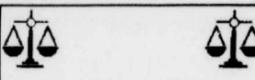
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CD review



► Eve 6
Horrorscope

Eve 6 are like the protagonists of their own songs. They desperately want you to like them. The opening song on their new album "Horrorscope" almost convinces the listener that this could be a possibility.

The first 30 seconds of "Rescue" are a joyous shot of '70s rock: all synthesizers and screaming.

But just as fast as they go glam, they turn around and head right back to the warm bosom of bland modern rock the second Valley Boy lead singer Max Collins opens his mouth.

"I wanna ditch the logical," Collins announces during the string-soaked "Here's to the Night." He manages to generate more than his share of eyebrow-raising clunker song lyrics — such as "like Jessica Rabbit she collects bad habits" and "we're out of here like Vladimir." Could this be a Nabokov reference? Doubtful. They may be precocious, but Eve 6 is a lot less smart than they let on.

"Horrorscope" is a producer's album — which in this case is not a very good thing. The 12 tracks on the album veer gracelessly from tough-guy power-chord punk to over-produced New Wave. The former sounds too uninspired; the latter just seems like over-compensation for the weak musicianship of the band. The synth effects are the musical equivalent of adding mayonnaise to a plain ham sandwich — it might taste a little different than before, but it's not filet mignon.

Every song on "Horrorscope" is basically the same. Guy has a girlfriend who causes him grief, but she'd better stick around because the sex is good. All the while guitars mucking around in mid-tempo bring the background noise.

All 12 tracks have single potential, but judging by the state of modern-rock radio, this should be taken as a warning, not an invitation.

"This is the last song I'll send your way," Collins bellows amid the drone of grumbling guitars and laser beams on "Amphetamines." The line is delivered with a customary ironic smirk. But when you consider the average shelf life of a modern rock band and the overall flatness of "Horrorscope," this might be a very dire prediction instead.

— Jack Bullion

MOVIE review

►Croupier

When you find yourself in a small theater, with less-than comfortable seats and a tiny screen, what you're probably watching is an independent film. But "Croupier," a British movie originally released in 1997, is worth forgoing all the comforts normally afforded to big-budget Hollywood blockbusters.

Clive Owen plays Jack Manfred, an aspiring but broke writer in need of a job and a steady paycheck. But when his dad lands him a position as a dealer (or "croupier" as the Brits say) in a small-time casino, he is initially reluctant. It seems that Jack has worked in this field before, and while his skill as a croupier is among the best, writing remains his top priority.

Nevertheless, Jack re-enters the gambling world and gradually begins breaking all the rules, including discussing a robbery with one of his gamblers (or "punters"). But "Croupier" is more than just a well-told tale of a thrilling heist. Working in the casino creates new excitement in Jack's life, spurring his writing and changing his world forever.

This is a smart, well-made film that distinguishes itself from the rest of the hackneyed summer movie crowd. Not only does it explore the relationship between dealer and gambler and between writer and subject, but it still manages to maintain the strength of the plot. Although it does drag at parts, "Croupier" is definitely the best movie I've seen in months. Check it out soon, because there's no telling how long this independent release will last. Not rated, with language, mild violence and nudity. Showing in Ft. Worth exclusively at Hulen 10.

— Josh McDonald

EXHIBIT review

LEGACY UNVEILED: STROGANOFF

Kimbell hosts art works of Russian noble family

By Michael Davis
STAFF REPORTER

Only rarely does an art exhibition cover a large fraction of history, consist of quality and demonstrate the power, opulence and grandeur of the family who collected it. "Stroganoff: The Palace and Collections of a Russian Noble Family" is such an exhibit.

"It's not a single piece (that makes the exhibit special), but the quality of the whole collection," said Baroness Helene de Ludinghausen, a Stroganoff descendant, during the taped tour at the Kimbell Art Museum.

The collection doesn't focus on a specific time period, but instead contains more than 230 works collected by the Stroganoffs from the late 1500s through the early 1900s. The exhibit will be on display through Oct. 1.

Timothy Potts, director of the Kimbell, said the Stroganoff collections were dispersed in 1917 after the Bolshevik Revolution.

"This exhibition brings them together for the first time in over 70 years and recreates the grandeur that was synonymous with the name Stroganoff," he said.

As visitors enter the exhibit, they are confronted with portraits of Catherine the Great and Peter the Great, founder of St. Petersburg, Russia. Close ties to these Russian rulers enabled Alexander Stroganoff and others in his family to not only amass a great fortune, but also large amounts of art. The Stroganoffs were incredibly wealthy from their exploits in Siberia and eventually supplied 20 percent of all the taxes in Russia. A Russian proverb says, "Richer than the Stroganoffs you'll never be."

One example of the beneficial relationship between the czars and the Stroganoffs is illustrated by the magnificent 12-foot-long scroll written in Cyrillic text and decorated in crimson taffeta and gold brocade. The "Charter of Czars Ivan Alexeievich and Peter Alexeievich to Grigory D. Stroganoff" enumerates the land grants, mineral rights and privileges bestowed on the Stroganoffs by the Imperial family.

Religious themes permeate

much of the exhibit. There is a beautiful collection of icons from Stroganoff churches that help explain complex theological ideas.

Stroganoff women served as an integral part in the creation of many of the exhibit's religious shrouds. They directed and sewed several on display at the Kimbell, and lent their own particular style to the art.

One of the most striking examples of the Stroganoff family's dedication to art is exhibited by the "Malachite Coupe." The radiant green bowl-shaped stone is supported by three bronze-gilded women and stands several feet high. This is the first time it has left Russia since it was created in 1810.

The stone work exhibited by artists employed at Stroganoff stone-cutting facilities shows incredible skill and talent, although some pieces may not be too striking in appearance. Some of the most interesting but subdued examples of exquisite stoneworking are the vodka cups and tray. Their paper-thin edges testify to the expertise of Stroganoff's artisans.

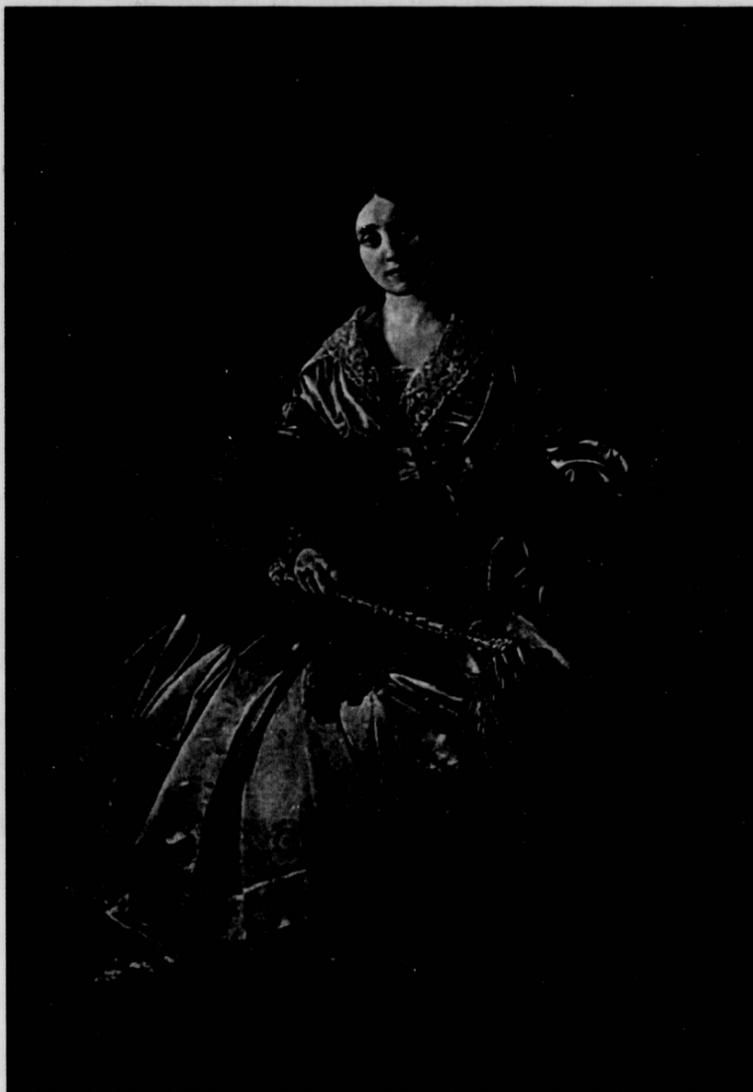
One unimposing but historical sketch by Andrei Voronikhin shows a sketch of a monument to commemorate the 1812 victory of the Russian army over Napoleon. Although never realized, the drawing exemplifies how intertwined the Stroganoffs were in Russia's history and politics.

As you exit, the extraordinary "Portrait of Her Highness Elizabetha Saltykova" bids you farewell, and you hear Ludinghausen with her husky voice say, "It is my hope that a new generation will take up the task of preserving the beauty of the past in a way that speaks clearly to the present and the future."

The Stroganoff exhibit is organized by the State Russian Museum, the State Hermitage Museum and the Portland Art Museum in Oregon.

Fort Worth and Portland are the only American venues to host this exhibition, which will travel to Paris before completing its international tour at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg.

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Special to the Skiff
(Above) The Portrait of Her Highness Elizabetha Saltykova is one of the main attractions in the Kimbell Art Museum's "Stroganoff: The Palace and Collections of a Russian Noble Family" exhibition, which will be displayed through Oct. 1.



(Left) Also on display is the Malachite Coupe, a green bowl-shaped stone supported by three bronze-gilded women, which stands several feet high. This is the first time it has left Russia since it was created in 1810.

BOOK review

Convicts scheme to make millions a novel idea

Grisham's new book introduces audiences to yet another captivating thriller

By Christina Hager
SKIFF STAFF

"The Brethren" is the newest novel by the national best-selling author John Grisham.

The book narrates two seemingly unrelated plots. The first is that of the "Brethren," a group of three ex-judges who live and work together in the federal prison called Trumble. The three are from different backgrounds and are all indicted for different crimes.

The first, Hatlee Beech, a former federal judge, was convicted of drunken driving and the involuntary manslaughter of two college students. Joe Roy Spicer, the least educated of the three,

met his downfall when he was caught skimming profits from local Shiner bingo games. Lastly, there is Finn Yarber, a former California Supreme Court justice convicted of tax evasion.

To the warden, guard and fellow inmates, the judges are respected and left to their privacy. Once a week, they hold an informal, yet very serious court where affairs between prisoners are settled. The Brethren is the law of the land — appeals are not allowed.

However, when the doors to the prison law library close, the Brethren have something other than the law on their minds. They are working on a letter-writing

extortion scheme designed to make them millionaires by the time they leave the prison.

The second plot of the book chronicles Congressman Aaron Lakeneed, who is on a crusade to win the presidential race based on one platform: increasing national defense. Backed by top-secret support and a never-ending supply of funds from the CIA, this is one race Lakeneed is guaranteed to win.

Grisham's book moves at a fast pace, but unlike many other lawyer-written books, it does not lose you in the author's attempt to illustrate his overwhelming knowledge of the subject at hand.

His latest piece is free

from the usual trial fever and novice-lawyer-who-somehow-saves-the-day bravado he has become known for. Instead, the book depicts several realistic political and social ideas. Grisham also takes a more international perspective in his novel, letting the plot flow onto different continents.

This is Grisham's most mature book, written with a different tone from his former bestsellers. Filled with intrigue, suspense and political concepts, this is Grisham's best bedtime story and a necessary read for any Grisham fan.

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