



Skiff



Of the 10 remaining games on the Horned Frogs' football schedule this season, Saturday's game with Northwestern is one they have been looking forward to for a long time.

page 12

Friday, September 15, 2000

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Fort Worth, Texas

*"We have not lost them. We know exactly where they are.
If you know exactly where something is, then you haven't lost it."*

—Al Meredith, senior minister of Wedgwood Baptist Church

BEYOND THE SADNESS



Hope endures after a year of healing at Wedgwood Baptist

By Matt Stiver
SENIOR REPORTER

A pink cloth banner is draped on the back wall of the Wedgwood Baptist Church sanctuary. Its depiction is simple — one of hope. A small child lifts a cross over his head. He gazes up at the word "Abba" (or Father).

One year ago, several feet in front of this spot, Larry Gene Ashbrook turned his 9mm handgun on himself after fatally shooting seven people and wounding seven more.

For Ashbrook it ended, but for the members present at a Wednesday youth meeting that night and for those absent, the past year has been one of soul-searching and surviving.

Wedgwood Baptist Church senior

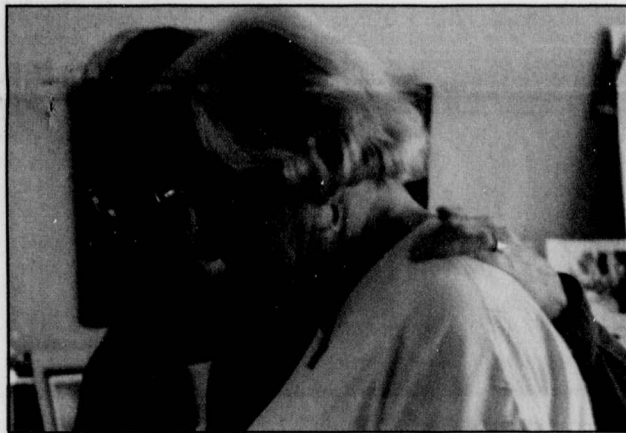
minister Al Meredith said the congregation has worked to move beyond the shooting. They wept, they shared and they healed on the shoulders of one another and their God.

"We were about the Kingdom before the shooting, and we were right back the following Sunday," Meredith said. "We were not going to let the shooting stop us."

The day after the 400 youths had their worship interrupted, Meredith walked past the sanctuary for the first time. Blood stains still marked the walls. Pews still bore the scars of bullets. His emotions were still raw.

"There was a sense of violation," Meredith said. "A sense of sadness

See HOPE, Page 7



David Dunai/CO-PHOTO EDITOR

(Below) Cathy Ellis comforts Lahoma Loar as the two gaze at a photo of Sidney Browning, the children's choir director who was killed. Loar, who considers herself to be the honorary grandmother of the children in the choir, was in the sanctuary the night of the shooting.

(Left) Bill Arey, a Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary student and part-time custodian for the church, flips through a scrapbook of newspaper clippings about the shooting and the aftermath.



Availability of oral contraceptive debated

By Elise Rambaud
STAFF REPORTER

Local women's health professionals are divided on whether or not the pill should be available over-the-counter.

The Food and Drug Administration's 10-year debate over making oral contraceptives over-the-counter resurfaced in June, when the FDA held public meetings to discuss safety and ethical concerns of the pill's availability.

According to Ortho-McNeil Phar-

At least 160 TCU students a month obtain the pill

maceuticals, 40 percent of American women between the ages of 18 and 29 take the pill. But many women's health professionals say over-the-counter access of the medication may do more harm than good.

TCU students get about 10 prescriptions filled daily at the Health Center, pharmacist Tom Peterson said. Those figures suggest at least 160 students a month obtain the pill for both estrogen therapy and con-

traceptive use.

Donna Behl, a nurse practitioner at the Health Center, said women would not know how to use the pill correctly without medical consultation.

Robert Hatcher, a gynecologist and author of "Contraceptive Technology," a book that supports over-the-counter oral contraceptive availability, said an instructional audio tape or video should be available

upon initial purchase of over-the-counter oral contraceptives.

A month's cycle of the pill can be produced for 10 to 20 cents, Hatcher said. If the pill was available over-the-counter, it would be less expensive.

Currently, if a woman's health insurance does not cover prescriptions for the pill, she may pay \$25 to \$35 a month, said Jaitendra Deora, a pharmacy manager for Walgreen

Drug Stores.

"Some women cannot afford the exam or the prescription," said Emily Grieser, sophomore neuroscience major.

To obtain a prescription for the pill, women must get an annual pelvic exam. During these exams, a physician or nurse practitioner may detect early signs of cancer and sexually transmitted diseases. Patients are also given breast exams and

See PILL, Page 4

Argentine governor touts rise in economy

Speech highlights improvements to province

By Yvette Herrera
STAFF REPORTER

Adolfo Rodriguez-Saa, governor of Argentina's San Luis province, spoke Thursday afternoon to students and faculty about economic improvements in San Luis since his government came to power.

"San Luis is the most competitive province in Argentina," he said.

Rodriguez-Saa said not only has San Luis' unemployment rate gone down and exportation increased, but the number of students attending public schools in San Luis has also

almost tripled since 1983.

"When I started as governor in 1983, there were 36,000 students in school," Rodriguez-Saa said. "Today, there are 98,000."

Rodriguez-Saa said San Luis is striving to better educate youths by improving technology in classrooms and providing 100 financial aid grants.

Since 1992, San Luis' budget has more than doubled, which has given Rodriguez-Saa the opportunity to



Yvette Herrera/STAFF REPORTER

Adolfo Rodriguez-Saa, governor of Argentina's San Luis province, speaks Thursday afternoon.

See SPEECH, Page 4

Senate proposes China trade bill

Legislation expected to pass, open normal trade

By Jim Abrams
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Thursday beat back the last proposed amendments to legislation putting normal trade with China on a permanent basis, setting up a vote on the historic bill next Tuesday.

With all obstacles now removed, at least 70 senators are expected to endorse the measure that would open China's markets and give American businesses and farmers the chance to significantly increase their sales.

Sen. William Roth, R-Del., a chief advocate, cited figures estimating that the new relationship would result in \$13 billion in new U.S. exports to China.

Passage of the bill, strongly backed by the

Clinton administration and the business community, is necessary if the United States is to enjoy the lower tariffs and reduced trade barriers China is committed to as part of its accession to the World Trade Organization.

First, the Senate had to clear away 19 amendments offered in the past two weeks, including six on Thursday. China trade supporters had said any amendment would kill the bill's passage this year, because the House wouldn't have time to consider the changes before Congress adjourns next month.

The amendments were offered mainly by critics of China who objected to giving the Beijing government permanent trade status before China improves its human rights, labor and weapons proliferation policies.

Among the amendments considered Thursday

See CHINA, Page 8

pulse

campus lines

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

December 2000 degree candidates should file their Intent to Graduate forms in the office of their academic dean. Each dean's office has a deadline for filing and requires time to process the intent. All names of degree candidates must be submitted to the Registrar by Oct. 6.

Phi Upsilon Omicron will have its first meeting from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Monday in Bass Building, Room 105. The meeting topic will be "Invest in Your Future." Annual \$10 fees are also due at this time. For more information call (817) 257-6752.

TCU Concert Chorale will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at St. Stephens Presbyterian Church.

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 bilingual volunteers. For more information call (817) 737-9990.

Fight Hunger at the Plate will be at 2:05 p.m. Sunday 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 guard against certain types of meningitis. College students, especially freshmen, are encouraged to be vaccinated. The vaccine costs about \$75.

4th International Film Festival will be from Sept. 16 to Oct. 18 at local libraries. The event is sponsored by the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. Participating libraries are: Central Library, 500 W. 3rd St.; East Regional Library, 6301 Bridge St.; and Southwest Regional Library, South Hulen and Briarhaven. Contact libraries for film titles and show times. For more information call (817) 871-7791.

news digest

WORLD

China and Russia object to Clinton's measures taken on the national missile defense system

GENEVA — China urged disarmament negotiators Thursday to consider the "grave consequences" of the United States' plans for a national missile defense system, dismissing President Clinton's deferral of a decision to deploy it.

China and Russia have been leading voices denouncing the idea of a limited U.S. shield against missile attack from countries like Iraq and North Korea. They maintain that it would undermine arms-control and disarmament treaties already in effect, in particular the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty.

Clinton, earlier this month, decided not to authorize the National Missile Defense, leaving the decision to his successor.

The deferral "does not mean at all that the NMD plan has been given up," Chinese Ambassador Hu Xiaodi told delegates at the 66-nation Conference on Disarmament here. He cited "the grave consequences of the development and deployment."

"The U.S. president has instructed the continued development and testing of NMD," he said. "The international community should be clear about this fact."

U.S. diplomats rejected the Chinese comments, suggesting that China and others are using objections to the NMD as a smoke screen to create "utter paralysis," blocking disarmament negotiations.

The United States has been pressing for years for negotiations on a treaty banning the production of "fissile materials" — plutonium and highly enriched uranium — needed to make nuclear weapons. Washington maintains that negotiations on outer space are a nonstarter and are blocking work on the fissile material ban. Western diplomats have suggested that China, with a much smaller nuclear arsenal than Russia or the United States, wants to avoid a ban on fissile materials.

Washington maintains the NMD would be land-based and would have no impact on armaments in space.

The conference, the world's main multilateral disarmament forum, ends its annual session next week.

NATION

DaimlerChrysler Corp. settles dispute with federal safety regulators after two recalls last year

WASHINGTON — DaimlerChrysler Corp. paid federal safety regulators \$400,000 to settle a dispute over whether the automaker delayed two recalls last year. It was one of the largest penalties ever collected by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The dispute involved two recalls. The first, in January 1999, included 700,000 1993-1997 LH

sedans with 3.5-liter engines. The fuel rail that delivers gasoline from the tank to the engine had a seal that could degrade and lead to leaks.

The other recall, in December 1999, involved a clutch line problem on about 9,000 Dodge Ram four-wheel-drive pickups with 8.0-liter engines.

NHTSA determined that DaimlerChrysler had information that the products were defective, but did not announce a recall or report the problems to the agency for a few months, DaimlerChrysler attorney Lewis Goldfarb said Wednesday.

The company admits no wrongdoing even though it agreed to pay the settlement reached on July 19. DaimlerChrysler said no injuries resulted from the defects.

NHTSA also contends that DaimlerChrysler did not provide all the necessary documents while it was investigating the fuel rail case. DaimlerChrysler admits that it did not turn over some documents, but said the information was available in other documents it gave to NHTSA.

Company officials would not say exactly what was in the documents.

STATE

Texas students score lower than national average; more core courses could be required

AUSTIN — Texas students should take more advanced core courses as a way to help raise their college entrance exam scores, representatives from the testing groups told the State Board of Education on Thursday.

Officials from the College Board, which administers the Scholastic Aptitude Test, and the American College Testing, or ACT, program presented findings to the board at its regular bi-monthly meeting.

Texas students overall who took the ACT exam scored below the national average. But those Texans who took a core curriculum consisting of advanced classes scored at or above the national average in all subjects, said Carolyn Kostecky, assistant vice president and regional manager of the ACT's southwest regional office.

Martha Salmon of the College Board also recommended that more advanced courses could help Texas students raise their SAT scores, which lag behind the national average.

Both women said many factors contribute to higher scores, including parental support, student motivation and more time and money spent on counseling students about college.

"The thing we can fix most quickly is what's happening in the schools," Salmon said.

Although Texas scores are below the national average, SAT scores have remained relatively constant and the number of students taking all college entrance exams has risen dramatically.

The average math SAT score for Texas students was 500 this year, compared with 514 nationally.

The average verbal score for Texas students was 493, compared with 505 nationally.

According to the College Board, 52 percent of Texas' 217,977 high school seniors took the exam this past school year. Last year 50 percent of 208,288 seniors took the SAT. Nationally, 44 percent of all high school seniors took the exam this year.

The number of Texans who took the ACT also rose from 65,094 last year to 68,010 this year. ACT composite scores remained at 20.3 out of a possible 36 for the third year in a row. The national average was 21 for the fourth year in a row.

Justice Department charges leader of the Ciudad Juarez drug cartel with 10 murders

EL PASO — The alleged leader of the powerful Ciudad Juarez drug cartel has been charged with killing 10 people, seven of whom were found last year at ranch sites near the Mexican border city, the Justice Department said Thursday.

Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, believed to be in control of virtually all drug trafficking in the Ciudad Juarez and El Paso areas, ordered the killings to silence the victims, Justice Department officials said.

Carrillo Fuentes, who is charged in a 46-count federal indictment that was unsealed Wednesday, has not been arrested. He already was a fugitive from the U.S. government, facing a 1997 indictment charging him with distributing cocaine and marijuana and laundering money.

"Stepping up the pressure definitely affects Vicente Carrillo Fuentes," U.S. Attorney Bill Blagg said. "Eventually, he'll be captured or he'll be killed by his rivals."

In a federal indictment, Carrillo Fuentes is charged with 10 counts of murder in furtherance of a continuing criminal enterprise and nine counts of ordering the intentional killing of individuals to prevent communication of information by them to U.S. law enforcement officers.

Last fall, dozens of FBI agents and Mexican military and federal judicial police began exhuming remains from clandestine graves situated on three ranches after a U.S. government informant told authorities as many as 100 bodies might be found at the sites.

Eventually, the remains of nine individuals were found. Carrillo Fuentes was charged in the murders of the seven who were identified.

Carrillo Fuentes also has been charged with ordering the death of Jose Refugio Rubalcava, the former head of the Juarez State Police, and his two sons. Their bodies were found Nov. 27, 1994, in the trunk of an abandoned vehicle on the Bridge of the Americas.

In addition to the murder charges, Carrillo Fuentes is charged with importing and distributing tons of cocaine and marijuana into the United States since 1985. The indictment is based on evidence from seizures of nearly 43,000 pounds of cocaine and 7,000 pounds of marijuana

TCU DAILY Skiff

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CHILD CARE
Hulen Street Baptist Church childcare needed Sundays 9-12am and 4-7pm. 292-9787 ask for Penny. Wednesdays 5-9:30pm. Music teacher for Parent's Day Out 292-9787 ask for Marlena. Tuesday and Thursday 9-11:30am.
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REMEMBERING

Reminders still strong after tragedy

Anne McEowen walked comfortably through the aisles of the sanctuary at Wedgwood Baptist Church on Thursday afternoon, as if the unimaginable hadn't actually happened there.

McEowen, the church's librarian and a 24-year member, casually pointed to spots where bullet holes used to be, where a pipe bomb exploded and the pew where Larry Gene Ashbrook's body lay after he turned the handgun on himself — minutes after killing seven people at an area-wide youth rally.

staff editorial

One year later, the sanctuary is once again serving its original purpose and the almost 2,000 church members are forging ahead, trying to erase memories of the crazed Ashbrook ambling through the aisles, gun in hand, yet embracing how the incident has drawn them closer together.

Church membership has increased, cosmetic changes to the sanctuary have been completed and, as the church deals with the ongoing media crush on the eve of the massacre's one-year anniversary, a stark reminder of the past has resurfaced.

While rearranging equipment in the sanctuary this week, church members found bullets from Ashbrook's gun still lodged in the altar's stage.

Rather than dwell on the carnage's ghastly aftermath, an unbreakable optimism has managed to prevail at the church.

"Although of course we wish it hadn't happened, we think a lot of good has come from it," McEowen said. "These days nobody wants to miss a service."

What Ashbrook couldn't kill, the church has used to become stronger than ever before. Rather than run from the haunting images of the gunman pacing through the sanctuary, church members have instead redoubled their faith.

"This is our home," McEowen said. "Nothing will make us leave."

Nor should they have to.



Complexity proves creation Genesis is easier to believe than evolution theory

I've been a Christian all my life, so maybe that makes me a little biased about the issue, no matter how objective I try to be. When pondering the question of my existence, I still find that a creationist point of view is the only one that makes any sense to me.

Commentary



JOHN SARGENT

I can understand Genesis 1:1 which states, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth," a little easier than "In the beginning, a big cosmic explosion

threw a mass disarray of unorganized matter throughout the universe, causing collisions that formed the Earth and eight other planets."

Coincidentally, all nine planets have different atmospheres. Some have moons. Others have rings around them. All but one is too hot, too cold or too unbearable for human life, and all revolve around one star out of the billions formed in the explosion.

According to the assumption you have to believe in to support the theory of evolution, somehow an intelligent, non-created piece of matter knew that one of these planets needed to form life-producing soil, plants and trees and produce oxygen, oceans, birds, land animals, sea creatures, and all the organic components. All this so

that billions of years later, it could produce intricate and intelligent beings who travel through space, fly on airplanes, and communicate around the globe with cell phones and e-mail.

I think it takes a lot more faith to believe in evolution than to believe that God simply created man in his own image with the intelligence to invent and utilize anything that he puts his mind to.

Pose these questions to yourself: If an explosion in the universe created us, who then created the universe? Or, who created the matter involved in the explosion?

If God does not exist, are we accountable to the universe? Should we worship nature and follow its commandments?

If it had any, maybe we could.

The truth is, laws are either ordained by God or by man. And, if there is no God, who is man to decide whether murder, stealing, rape, incest or anything else is wrong? Man without God would have no morals. The only way we can have accountability is if there is a God.

The theory of evolution only proves one thing — when man becomes so presumptuous that he believes he can no longer believe in God, he has become foolish.

John Sargent is a freshman computer science major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at (j.w.sargent@student.tcu.edu).

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Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the Skiff, Moudy 291S; mail it to TCU Box 298050; e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu or fax it to 257-7133. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Spears controversy shows value of entertainment Britney's outfit should be seen as capitalist use of gifts, not degradation of women

So the MTV Music Awards came and went last Thursday, came again on Saturday and Sunday and will probably run again until the end of time, knowing the programmers at MTV.

There was nothing life-altering or earth-shattering to report from the event. Some guy, claiming his half-second of fame, ran onto the stage. Rapper Eminem continued his mindless, over-hyped, narcissistic ramblings. Christina Aguilera tried to out-sing Britney Spears and wound up sounding like she hurt her throat in the process. And tons of stars, including the usually exquisite Jennifer Lopez, showed up wearing outfits whose seams screamed as loud as the audience.

Commentary



SHERIANN SPICER

During the ceremony, I waited patiently to see Spears' much-anticipated performance. After watching the performance, I waited for the press to have its field day.

USA Today ran a photograph of Spears' outfit, calling her performance and choice of clothing "controversial." Fox 4 News conducted random interviews with parents on the street who expressed their concern over her clothing, or lack thereof, and who vowed they would not be watching the broadcast with their children — as if anything on MTV comes anywhere near the realm of appropriate family entertainment.

Even the women I work with expressed their distaste for Spears' choice of attire, although most of their disdain centered on the tackiness, rather than the invisibility.

For those of you who didn't see the broadcast, Britney Spears performed, or rather lip-synched, and attempted to dance to her teeny-bopper hit "Oops! ... I Did It Again."

But the interesting thing about the performance wasn't her rendition of the Rolling

Stones hit "Satisfaction," nor was it the comically oversized pinstripe suit she wore. What interested USA Today, Fox 4 News and the women at work was what Spears wore under the suit.

Did I mention that she stripped off the suit at the beginning of her performance to reveal a two-piece sheer body stocking of sorts with sequins strategically placed to look like a bra and underwear?

Before God, her mother, the television-viewing audience and all those screaming fans, Spears gyrated and writhed her seminaked body on stage to the tune of a rather annoying song. How dare she?

But wait. Is this really such a bad thing? Spears is, after all, an 18-year-old woman. She didn't actually copulate on stage and the performance, except for when she stood still on a rotating platform, wasn't the worst of the show. In fact, I would venture to say that Spears isn't the sex-obsessed vixen out to corrupt the nation's youth. And if she is, why is that such a bad thing?

A lot can be learned from Spears, aside from how to make millions despite having no actual singing ability. What the "controversy" around Spears reminds us is that in our society women are still expected to be a certain way, to stay in certain roles.

No one says anything when stars like Mark Wahlberg expose their bulges for Calvin Klein underwear ads. Nor does anyone raise an eyebrow when Flea performs naked on stage with only a guitar to hide the family jewels, or even when Blink-182 donned their birthday suits — all in the name of entertainment.

It is only when a woman becomes comfortable enough to express her semi-nakedness and sexuality that this suddenly becomes a big deal?

Parents express outrage and wonder what is Spears' problem. What they should do, instead, is praise her for showing young girls the beauty of their bodies and the greatness of capitalism.

Capitalism, you ask?

Well, here is a girl who has very little talent. She can't even sing live. Yet, she is financially secure. How is this possible? Spears has found something she can market (her sexuality), and before her resources (her body) begin to deplete (becomes old and not so appealing), she's going to cash in as often as possible.

Isn't that what this country is all about? Britney Spears is not this bad, bad girl society and the media try to paint her as being. Sure, she's talent-less. Sure her voice doesn't stand up next to Aguilera's. And yes, you can't tell her from Jessica Simpson or Mandy Moore. And even though she won't be around in five years, she's raking in the money and the fans right now.

And isn't that what entertainment is all about?

Sheriann R. Spicer is a senior radio-TV-film major from Fort Worth. She can be reached at (sheriannspicer@yahoo.com).

quote unquote

"We were not going to let the shooting stop us."

— **Al Meredith**
senior minister at Wedgwood Baptist Church, on the church's efforts to recover from last year's shooting spree by Larry Gene Ashbrook that left eight people dead and seven injured.

"I feel that a Muslim who does a great deal of charity work because he wants to and makes those around him feel better about themselves has a much better 'chance' of getting into heaven than a Catholic who goes to church out of obligation."

— **Jordan Blum**
sophomore broadcast journalism, on the Vatican's statement that Catholicism is the sole path to salvation.

"It's something I can keep on my body to always remind myself what it stands for ... I'm getting it to remind me to always be what I want to be."

— **Andy Rice**
sophomore marketing major, on getting a tattoo.

"It wasn't as pretty as some people wanted it, but it was a win. I'll take an 'ugly' 31-point win any day."

— **Dennis Franchione**
head football coach, on the Frogs' 41-10 win against Nevada last Saturday.

States, I get excited about things that others wouldn't really think about, like being able to eat breakfast every morning and buying gifts for my friends."

— **Elena Kuvshinova**
junior business major, on her excitement about coming to the United States from Zaporozhye, Ukraine.

Perfect practice makes perfect."

— **Aaron Casey**
junior engineering major and defender on the men's soccer team, on what it will take for the Frogs to win against the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

"Now that I'm in the United

"Practice doesn't make perfect.

PILL

From Page 1

checked for high blood pressure, Behl said.

"Sometimes these mandatory annual exams are the only time that some women will see a doctor," she said.

If the drug could be obtained over-the-counter, many women would not be motivated to get their annual exams, said Mary Beth Walker, director of the Harris School of Nursing Learning Cen-

ter. Though she favors annual exams for women, Walker said getting a prescription for oral contraceptives should not be tied to a Pap smear, one of the specific tests performed during the annual exam.

"A Pap smear tests for cervical cancer," she said. "The pill does not cause cervical cancer."

Jasbir Ahluwalia, a Dallas gynecologist, said without an annual exam, some women may not recognize the slight symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia until they are advanced. Undetected advanced chlamydia

can eventually lead to infertility, he said.

Ahluwalia said a major concern with women having access to the pill without a prescription is that certain women should not take oral contraceptives. Female smokers over the age of 35, women with uncontrolled high blood pressure, diabetes, a history of blood clots or migraines and women with ovarian cysts may be at a greater risk of having a heart attack, stroke or other complications, he said.

"If a woman has a mass on her ovaries, high doses of estrogen

from certain oral contraceptives may be the last thing she needs," Walker said.

Hatcher said the pill is safe.

"If a woman is able to use an estrogen-containing pill, she can use any low-dose pill," he said.

According to a press release from Planned Parenthood, only 13 states have laws requiring health insurers to provide comprehensive coverage of oral contraceptives. Texas is not one of those states.

Elise Rambaud

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SPEECH

From Page 1

build inexpensive housing and provide better health care.

Rodriguez-Saa attributed the economic growth in his province to greater exportations of wheat and grain to the United States and Europe.

"We have increased our exporting level from practically nothing to 4.7 percent with the North American Free Trade Agreement and 17.1 percent with Europe," he said.

Chairman of Spanish and Latin

American studies Lee Daniel said because globalization is the future, Rodriguez-Saa's speech gave students the opportunity to meet a leader from another part of the world.

"There is no distinction between them and us anymore," Daniel said. "We are all Americans."

Larry Adams, associate provost for academic affairs, said Latin America needs ethical leaders who are educated and involved with the community.

"(Rodriguez-Saa) has a clear vision for his state, country and Latin America," Adams said.

Delia Pitts, director of international education, said two San Luis students are currently in the Intensive English Program and intend to continue their studies in the graduate program at TCU. One of the students plans to study Ranch Management at TCU.

Rodriguez-Saa is on a two-week visit to Fort Worth and will meet with 46 business and civic leaders from Argentina. Adams said the visit is sponsored by the government of the State of San Luis and was coordinated by the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs. They will return to Argentina

Saturday.

"(They) have been working on new techniques in economic development and law enforcement," Adams said.

Regan Boxwell, a senior Spanish and English double major, said she was impressed with the governor's speech.

"It's impressive how much he's been able to turn the economy around," Boxwell said. "The rest of Argentina can learn from his example."

Yvette Herrera

yvex@yahoo.com

Boeing jet to be improved in 2003

By Michael J. Martinez

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — Insisting its planes are safe, Boeing said Thursday it won't begin installing new rudder systems on 737 jetliners until 2003 and in the meantime will train pilots how to handle jammed rudders.

The Federal Aviation Administration said Boeing will design new controls for the rudder, the flap on the vertical tail of the aircraft that is suspected in a pair of deadly U.S. air crashes in the past decade.

Boeing said the final plan for the upgrades — which includes installing an additional valve in the rudder system to serve as a backup — won't be finished until 2003.

The 737, the first models of which debuted in the late 1960s, is the world's most popular commercial jet, with 3,740 in service. It will take until 2008 to retrofit every 737 aircraft.

The FAA order came out of a recommendation from a 22-member task

Current planes safe, company insists

force, which included members from Boeing. The National Transportation Safety Board had suggested the changes as part of its lengthy investigations into the two crashes.

"The problems that most concerned the NTSB have already been fixed, and they've been fixed for some time," said Allen Bailey, chief engineer for 737 safety and certification at Boeing. "This new action plan resulted from us sitting back and saying, 'What more could we do?'"

Until the new rudder systems are in place, Boeing will work with airlines on new crew procedures for dealing with jammed 737 rudders, with the procedures to be delivered within the next month, Bailey said.

Boeing will also streamline maintenance procedures on older 737 jets to bring them in line with those for newer Next Generation 737s. The

procedures will be available in early 2001.

Bailey said the 737 remains safe as is, and that the "enhancements" of the rudder system would simply make a good thing better.

Retrofitting the world's 737 fleet could cost \$240 million. Bailey said Boeing has not approached airlines yet about sharing the costs involved, though he said Boeing would take a "leadership role" in paying for it.

Southwest Airlines is one of Boeing's biggest customers and the only major U.S. carrier that uses Boeing jets exclusively. They have a fleet of 333 of the 737s.

"We do not expect any significant impact on our operation in order to complete what is being requested," Southwest Airlines spokeswoman Ginger Hardage said.

Continental Airlines also expected

no problems inspecting or retrofitting the 215 737s that make up 58 percent of its fleet, spokeswoman Julie Gardner said.

Only 43 of American Airlines' 720 airplanes are 737s, said American spokesman John Hotard.

"The bottom line is we certainly do not anticipate any problems in modifying our aircraft when the time comes," he said.

The 737 rudder came under scrutiny after the crash of USAir flight 427 near Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1994 that killed all 132 people aboard and the 1991 crash of United flight 585 that caused 25 fatalities in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The NTSB ordered Boeing to make a number of changes in the 737's rudder. Federal investigators determined the 737's control valve could cause the rudder to jam unexpectedly in the opposite direction from that intended by the pilot, causing the plane to suddenly go out of control.

Oil revenue grows in Mexico

Officials expect \$3.6 billion

By Mark Stevenson

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — It may be hard for Mexican officials to keep a straight face while bemoaning high oil prices, with billions of dollars in extra oil revenue now flowing into government coffers.

Still, high crude prices are hardly an unqualified victory even for an oil-exporter like Mexico. Globalization has bound it to the U.S. economy, and manufactured exports — vulnerable to high fuel prices — are now Mexico's mainstay, not oil.

The government is expected to collect some \$3.6 billion in extra oil revenue this year. How that windfall is spent may well decide whether the price boom ultimately benefits or hurts Mexico, the world's fifth-largest oil producer.

It's a tale about how globalization has put Mexico on the horns of a dilemma: the peso gained in value as oil prices rose, but then lost ground Wednesday as oil hit \$35 per barrel — because markets saw that price as detrimental to Mexico.

Mexico "should be careful, and not be too greedy," said Fausto Alzati, who is coordinating energy affairs for president-elect Vicente Fox.

Fox has sounded even more concerned, saying "prices should not hold back growth, because if this happens, the first to be affected would be Mexico."

Many see the expressions of concern as disingenuous.

"They're play-acting ... laughing all the way to the bank," said Walter Molano, an analyst at BCP Securities in Connecticut who also suggested that "Mexico is lining itself up for a recession, for a pretty severe shock right now."

Still it's a far cry from the 1970s, when Mexican officials saw international economics in Darwinian terms: some countries are fortunate enough to have oil, some aren't. The president at the

time, Jose Lopez Portillo, proudly announced that his main job was to "manage all the wealth."

Fox said this week he wants "a fair price," but has a tough time determining what exactly that would be. His 2001 budget plan is expected to set a projected price of about \$18 per barrel.

But Energy Minister Luis Tellez predicted prices will remain much higher than that for months to come — a situation he blamed on the bargains enjoyed for years by oil-consuming countries.

"Because of the low prices in 1997, 1998 and 1999, there were few investments (in production), so now demand is using up all the capacity," Tellez said, explaining why Mexico can't increase output by a promised 200,000 barrels per day in the short term.

The memories of the lean times — when oil prices dropped below \$10 per barrel, forcing government spending cuts — makes it hard for many here to be too sympathetic about price complaints.

"It's a small little blip of compensation, that's called justice," said Federico Estevez, a political scientist at the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico.

There's a sense of injustice among oil-producing nations being blamed for the problem. Venezuelan Oil Minister Ali Rodriguez noted that "the principal factor that increases (fuel prices) for the man who goes to the gas station to fill his tank, are high taxes."

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, of which Mexico is not a member, estimates that taxes and refining activities contribute to 84 percent of gasoline prices while the price of crude contributes 16 percent.

And international oil prices, in real terms, are nowhere near the levels seen in the 1980s. Taking into account inflation, even at current prices oil remains a bargain, Molano notes.

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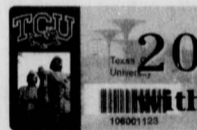
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State urged to review pollution policy

By Natalie Gott
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Saying the state should reward companies and cities that reduce pollution, a coalition of public interest groups on Thursday urged state leaders to consider new options for funding environmental programs.

By adopting the proposals, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission programs could receive an additional \$10 million annually in fees, the groups said.

One proposal calls for lowering the air pollution emissions fee from \$26 a ton to \$20 a ton, but removing the current 4,000-ton cap on pollution emissions fees. Removing the cap would generate between \$8 million to \$12 million a year in additional revenue for TNRCC's air quality protection programs, said Tom Smith, director of the Texas

Proposal includes monetary incentive

office of Public Citizen. The proposals were drawn up after the Texas Center for Policy Studies drafted a report that examines fee structures on air, water and wastewater.

Glenn Shankle, TNRCC deputy director, said the commission is in the process of implementing the federal Clean Water Act, which requires industries to make 90 percent reductions in pollution. With those policies in place, the 4,000-ton cap may no longer be an issue for most industries, he said.

Shankle said since the TNRCC is funded through fees, lowering the fee-per-ton could hinder the state's ability to enforce and regulate pollution laws.

"Lowering that fee will lower our ability to have the resources to

lower pollution," Shankle said.

Smith said the proposal would bring fairness to the pollution fee system by allowing those companies that pollute less to pay fewer fees.

"It reduces the competitive advantage older, dirtier plants enjoy over plants using newer, cleaner sources of energy which have to pay more a ton of air pollution emissions," Smith said.

The group also proposed a new water quality and drinking water fee structure that replaces the current connection fee system with a flat fee of 75 cents a connection. The system is set up in a way now that water connection fees are higher in smaller cities than they are in larger cities, said Dwayne Anderson, program director of the

Texas chapter of Clean Water Action.

The proposal would raise \$2.3 million a year in additional revenue and lower fees for small, rural drinking water systems, Anderson said.

The groups also called for eliminating the cap on waste water treatment inspection fee, which they said would raise an additional \$412,000.

Shankle said the TNRCC is reviewing both the issues related to water.

The Sunset Advisory Commission is set to review the TNRCC on Wednesday. Funding will be one of the items discussed, but some of the programs recommended by the public interest groups might be beyond the scope of the commission, said Joey Longley, director of the Sunset Commission.

Flu vaccine may be restricted because of national shortage

By C.G. Wallace
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY — Health departments across the West say they will limit flu shots to high-risk people and take other steps to cope with an expected shortage of the vaccine this winter.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said this summer that shipments of the vaccine would be delayed and a shortage was possible because manufacturers had difficulty growing a new flu strain.

The CDC will know by the end of the month if there will be a national shortage, spokeswoman Charlis Thompson said. She said the shots that are normally shipped in mid-October will be delayed until November.

Health officials are either giving

the shots only to those at high risk — such as the elderly and chronically ill — or delaying vaccinations until later in the season. Flu season usually peaks in February.

The CDC recommends that people older than 65, those living in nursing homes and those with chronic illnesses get shots first. Priority is also recommended for health care workers, pregnant women in their second and third trimesters and those who have household contact with the chronically ill.

Some health departments are delaying their vaccine season, waiting until the shipments arrive before deciding whether to ration the vaccine.

San Francisco's Department of Health is without its vaccines, while Utah and Wyoming officials have asked that early campaigns for the shots be suspended.

Texas loses federal funds

State penalized for lenient laws toward drunk drivers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Texas leads the nation in alcohol-related traffic deaths and will lose \$96 million in federal highway construction funds over the next two years because state law is not tough enough on drunken drivers, a state official said.

Mark Cross, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation, said federal law requires the state to divert the money from construction to traffic-safety efforts because Texas doesn't ban open containers of alcohol in vehicles or meet federal standards for punishing repeat drunk drivers.

"It's money that we would have used for construction and traffic congestion and mobility" projects, Cross told *The Dallas Morning News* in Thursday's editions.

State Rep. Fred Hill, R-Richardson, who has tried five times to

pass legislation banning open containers in vehicles, said he would try again when the Legislature convenes in January. But it won't be easy to overcome what he called traditional opposition from the liquor industry and from lawyers who defend people charged in drunken driving.

"We have an element in the Legislature that thinks it is an inalienable right of a Texan to drink a beer on the way home from work and throw the empty can in the back of a pickup truck," Hill said. "Every time the Texas Legislature fails to pass this, people die."

Fifteen other states also will lose some of their federal highway construction funds by Oct. 1 under a 1998 federal law that holds back the money unless states ban open containers of alcohol and strongly punish people who are convicted of drunken driving more than once.

Texas will lose the most, however, at \$48 million a year and the federal penalty soon will escalate to \$80 million a year, Hill said. Instead of road construction, the money can still be used for road-safety projects such as widening intersections.

"It doesn't mean the money won't go to the state of Texas," Hill said. "It means that we will be capable of developing the best billboard campaign against drunk driving in the world. But we will not be addressing the problem of getting drunk drivers off the road."

Texas leads the nation in alcohol-related traffic deaths.

In 1999, Texas had 1,734 alcohol-related traffic fatalities, about half of all driving deaths in the state that year, according to figures from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Nationwide, about 38 percent of all traffic deaths are alcohol-related, according to federal figures.

Movie marketing concerns directors

Hollywood warns against crossing censorship line

By Gary Gentile
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Responding to federal criticism, the Directors Guild of America said Thursday that the entertainment industry needs a better self-regulatory system to keep violent and sexually oriented material away from children.

The directors said increased federal scrutiny of movie marketing is welcome — as long as it doesn't cross the line into censorship. "This is not a repudiation of the current system," said director Gary Ross. "It's opening a dialogue. The system needs to be evolving."

A report issued this week by the Federal Trade Commission charged the industry with aggressively marketing violent films, music and video games to young children. The

issue was the subject of congressional hearings, where some entertainment industry representatives defended the way they market their products.

In contrast, the directors' guild called for a self-imposed code of conduct covering the marketing of movies and urged theater owners to forbid the admission of underage children to movies meant for adults.

"We need a new, more detailed ratings system," director Rob Reiner said at the headquarters of the guild, which has about 11,500 members.

However, the directors said the primary responsibility for protecting children lies with parents and that a new ratings system should provide clear, detailed information on the nature of the content. The FTC report called for a similar expansion of movie ratings.

"No filmmaker wants his or her film to be seen by those for whom it was not intended," said a statement released by the DGA's Task Force on Violence and Social Responsibility.

The directors said they have been frustrated by the current ratings system, administered by the Motion Picture Association of America. The "R" rating, which limits admission to those 17 and older or under 17 if accompanied by a parent, is too broad and is sometimes applied to films inappropriate for viewing even by 17-year-olds, the directors said.

The NC-17 rating — long opposed by filmmakers — is an "abject failure," the directors said, because it forces them to cut just enough out of a film to warrant a "hard R rating."

The DGA is at odds with the MPAA, whose president, Jack Valenti, has long defended the 32-year-old movie rating system as adequate. On Capitol Hill this week, Valenti pledged that Hollywood would stop targeting kids with ads for violent, R-rated movies, but balked at suggestions that the rating system should be changed or enhanced.

The directors did not offer any suggestions for a new system.

Condemned inmate asks Justice Dept. for clemency

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — A Hispanic inmate who could become the first person executed by the federal government since 1963 has urged President Clinton to commute his sentence to life in prison because of the "long-standing racial bias" involving capital punishment sentencing.

Lawyers for Juan Raul Garza, sentenced to death in 1993 for three drug-related murders, asked the Justice Department for clemency in light of the department's admission this week that 80 percent of defendants charged with federal crimes punishable by death during the last five years were minorities.

Last month, Clinton delayed Garza's scheduled Aug. 5 execution, setting a new Dec. 12 date and giving the 43-year-old inmate access to the Justice Department's findings as well as the opportunity to apply for clemency.

Garza's lawyers said they were asking for a new sentence "in the face of such profound doubts and uncertainties about the fundamental fairness of the federal death penalty."

Attorney General Janet Reno has said she was dismayed over the racial and geographic disparities but defended the federal capital punishment system's ultimate fairness.

Justice Department spokeswoman Gretchen Michael confirmed that Garza had submitted a new clemency petition late Wednesday. She declined to provide details of the petition.

The department's pardons office will now consider Garza's petition and prepare a recommendation for Clinton.

The execution is the only one on the federal schedule and is set to take place five weeks before the close of Clinton's term.

Massive floods claim nearly 100 lives

By Tini Tran
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HANOI, Vietnam — Unprecedented floods have killed nearly 100 people across Southeast Asia — including a teen-age boy who drowned Thursday in front of the royal palace in Cambodia as hundreds watched from the riverbank.

The floods have forced 600,000 people from their homes in Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos. Rescue workers were distributing drinking water Thursday, and naval boats evacuated people stranded by high water.

At least 89 people have died in Cambodia and eight in Vietnam since the floods began in July, officials said. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said the level of the Mekong River, one of three that meet in Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh, is higher than any time in the past 70 years.

Nou Vibol, 14, was playing with an inner tube with two cousins in the Tonle Sap River in front of the royal palace in Phnom Penh when he was

Homes in Southeast Asia evacuated

flipped out by the turbulent waters as hundreds of people watched from the bank, said a cousin, Nou Chan Pisit.

"He tried to grab me because he could not swim," the cousin said, weeping. "I was trying to grab his hand but had no luck. There were many adults around, but they did not help."

State television in Vietnam showed thousands of houses flooded in Dong Thap and Long An provinces bordering Cambodia after the Mekong overflowed there, turning vast areas of surrounding rice fields into huge lakes.

Soldiers, sailors and other rescuers used boats to pick up stranded villagers from houses built on stilts.

Hun Sen, touring a district about 25 miles from Phnom Penh, warned merchants against profiteering from the floods, saying many businesses have increased the prices of rice and gasoline.

"I have participated to stop the

killing fields, the genocide of Pol Pot ... but it is impossible for me to stop the natural disaster," the Cambodian leader told reporters.

About 600,000 people have lost their homes and farmland to the floods engulfing the region, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said in Geneva.

"Millions of people have been affected by this year's unusually widespread monsoon floods," it said in a statement.

The water level at the meeting point of Mekong, Tonle Sap and the Bassac rivers in Phnom Penh is expected to reach 37 feet on Friday. Officials say Phnom Penh's streets could be flooded if the level reaches 38 feet.

Seija Tyrminoksa, the Cambodia director of the Red Cross and Red Crescent federation, said 500,000 people need emergency assistance such as clothes, food, plastic sheets

and blankets. Another 100,000 people required similar aid in Vietnam, the federation said.

The aid agency appealed for \$1.13 million in international aid, with \$904,000 needed for Cambodia alone.

The United States announced a donation of \$25,000 on Thursday, the U.S. Embassy said.

Heavy rain began in the region in July, 45 days ahead of the normal monsoon. The rainfall continued, swelling the Mekong, which flows from Cambodia to Vietnam to form the Mekong Delta.

In Vietnam's Dong Thap province, more than 110,000 homes have been flooded, said Dang Ngoc Loi, a local official.

He said more than 30 rescue teams are distributing food, noodles, drinking water, clothes and mosquito nets to more than 4,000 families.

Despite the widespread rains, only 2 percent of Vietnam's rice crops were destroyed because of an early harvest.

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“Let us pray that God's spirit will be open to us this weekend. It's not about us, it's about him...how God brought us healing. The media is hounding us. Praise God, I have nothing to hide, I have something to say.”

— Al Meredith, senior minister

Shooting victim, witnesses recall events of tragic night

Church members remain hopeful after slayings

By Sylvia Carrizales
SENIOR REPORTER

Jeff Laster still has a bullet lodged in the lower right side of his back as a daily reminder of the evening he stood face-to-face with gunman Larry Gene Ashbrook, who seconds later would go on a killing spree in the sanctuary of Wedgwood Baptist Church.



Al Meredith, senior minister for the church, leads more than 15,000 people in prayer during the 1999 memorial service at Amon Carter Stadium.

A year after the Wedgwood shootings, in the same building where seven people lost their lives and seven others were wounded during a youth rally, the congregation laughs at the Rev. Al Meredith's jokes and sings along to hymns.

There are no signs in the church of the massacre that occurred just a year ago. The blood-stained carpet was ripped out and replaced, as were the pews where victims were shot to death.

Like the church's physical appearance, the spirit of the Wedgwood Baptist Church seems renewed in the wake of the tragic events of Sept. 15, 1999.

Laster, 35, who returned to his job as facilities manager of the church four months after the shootings, said the tragedy has strengthened the community.

"There is a hope that as bad as it may get, he's going to bring us through it," Laster said.

After the initial shock subsided, people turned to God, said Candace Stockton, a nine-year member of the church and a teacher at Trinity Christian Academy.

"I think that we do grieve in



Patty Cornelius, a Southwest High School graduate, solemnly reads the victims' names while a schoolmate rings a bell at the 1999 memorial service at Amon Carter Stadium.

hope, knowing that we will see those that died again," Stockton said. "God is a god of all comfort."

Chip Gillette, a corporal with the Fort Worth Police Department who lived near the church, was the first one on the scene.

"From the moment I entered

the church to the moment he shot himself in the head, it was like an out of body experience," Gillette said.

But Gillette, whose wife serves as the Rev. Meredith's secretary, said he felt a calling to return to the church the next day.

When he walked down the aisle of the sanctuary, he made a chilling discovery inside of a hymnal on the ground.

"The Lord gave me the impression that there was something there for me," Gillette said. "When I opened the hymnal, there was a bullet in there. It was in the middle of the hymnal and the nose of the bullet rested on the words,

"King of Kings, Lord of Lords and he will reign forever."

Gillette said some positivity can come from the violence if people have a renewed sense of hope and the acknowledgment of a higher being.

"Even though this tragic thing happened, I will use it for good," she said. "It all comes together with a purpose."

Rachel Williams, who started attending the church a week before the shootings, was on her way to the Wednesday evening prayer service when she became confused about the time of the service. She turned around and drove home only to hear about the killings on the news.

"It has bonded the church," Williams said. "When one part of the body suffers, everyone suffers with it. It was tough."

Andrew Desjardins, a 1998 TCU graduate and Wedgwood Baptist Church member, also had plans to attend the prayer service but was late.

"I heard a message on my answering machine from my roommate's mom saying something happened at Wedgwood," Desjardins said. "I was thinking, 'Wow, God was definitely looking over me that day.'"

But it wasn't until he attended a Sunday service at the church after the massacre that the magnitude of the tragedy set in.

"I had to be at church to bring the surreal image to reality," he said. As he watched the television reports, Desjardins learned of the death of 23-year-old Kim Jones, a TCU alumna. Desjardins is now planning to have a memorial tree planted on campus in her memory.

Another church member and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary student, Scott McIntosh said he was too tired to attend the concert and youth rally in the sanctuary and opted to attend the prayer service in the next room.

"We started hearing the shots and we thought it was the construction on the gym," he said. "We saw (one of the shooting victims) and we had a pretty good idea of what was happening."

McIntosh did not have any family members in the building, so he stationed himself across the street at Bruce Shulkey Elementary School and "absorbed it all in." Laster was not fortunate

enough to avoid an encounter with Ashbrook and was the first to approach him as he walked into the south foyer with a cigarette in his mouth.

"He looked like an angry parent," Laster said. "He looked upset, and obviously, he was."

When Laster was eight to 10 feet away from the gun, Ashbrook shot him once in the abdomen and then again in his left arm as he reached up to shield himself. He then turned the gun on a group gathered in the lobby, killing Sydney Browning, children's choir director, instantly.

"I remember when he shot me," Ashbrook said. "I had my back to the group. I could hear their voices as they realized that there was a guy in the church with a gun."

Laster stumbled out of the room and was torn as he decided whether to run into the building to warn the others or to go outside to get help.

"Part of my mind was saying, 'You need to do something' and the other part was talking to me saying, 'You're shot, you need to get help,'" he said.

Laster can remember the panicked voices of his friends as they were fired upon.

"I could hear what was going on with the group because I was standing five feet away from it," Laster said.

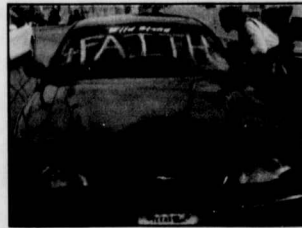
He realized he was injured and could not be of much help to those inside, so he walked out of the church.

"I remember expecting to be shot in the back," Laster said. "It didn't happen."

Once outside, he surveyed his wounds, which had not yet shown signs of blood.

"I lost half of my blood, but I bled internally," he said.

Because Laster was the first to



People throughout Fort Worth offered consolation and encouragement to the congregation in a variety of ways immediately following the tragedy.

be shot, he did not experience the horror of seeing his friends and other church members shot and killed inside the sanctuary.

"Some of the people who are dealing with the emotions are those that were looking at him and seeing him shooting at them," Laster said.

Laster spent two weeks of his month-long stay in the intensive care unit of John Peter Smith Hospital. When he finally decided to return to the church six weeks later, he asked to hear all the details of what happened.

"It helps me to process it," he said. "I didn't want to sit and wonder what happened."

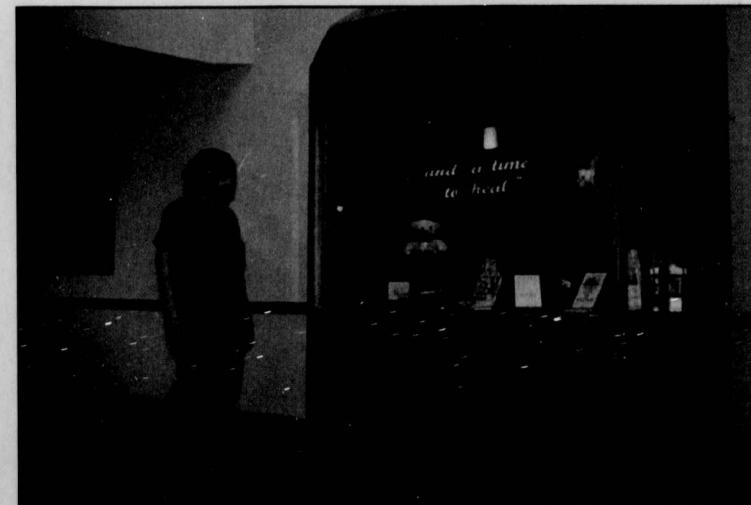
Laster said when he learned from doctors that he almost died, it caught him off guard.

He credits being shot with easing his fears of death.

"I think I do appreciate things a little more," he said. "I don't fear death as much as I used to. Part of it is the reassurance that knowing had I died, I would have stepped into heaven."

Sylvia Carrizales

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Anne McEwen, Wedgwood Baptist Church librarian, walks by a memorial display in the church. The case contains the "Healing Bear," a stuffed bear sent across the nation to victims of violent crime. The bear began circulating after the Oklahoma City bombing.

“We're all just travelers. We're on a journey and u in this place and someda

extraordinary faith



Cathy Ellis, a member of Wedgwood Baptist Church, peers down at binders filled with e-mails and greeting cards offering encouragement to the congregation. Ellis is from the same hometown as victim Sidney Browning. The two families were also neighbors in Fort Worth.

Hope continued from page one

Wedgwood congregation heals in wake of calamity

because of a trauma for people too young for something too hard. And a sense of peace. The following Sunday — with the pews removed and the carpet torn up — there was a sense of this is where God meets us."

Anne McEowen, librarian and a 24-year congregation member, said the shooting united the church. In the midst of tragedy, church members found positives.

"I wouldn't want to say we are glad this happened because we hate it," McEowen said. "But members do talk about it. It lets them talk about God to people."

In the months following the

shooting, Meredith said more than 20,000 letters and 13,000 e-mails of encouragement and support poured into the church.

"We used them as wallpaper," Meredith said. "Every time anyone came in, they would see the letters. They could read the cards and know that people around the world were praying for them. That probably did as much as anything."

Meredith and other church leaders organized counseling sessions, which are still ongoing, to help members deal with the shooting. Both professional counselors and members of the Southwestern Bap-

tist Theological Seminary Marriage and Family Center were available.

"They needed to know God was with them that night, that God was not out to lunch," Meredith said. "In spite of all this, God still loves them."

The victims' families still struggle with the events of Sept. 15, 1999. McEowen said while some remained church members, other families have moved on, unable to cope with the trauma.

Though gone, the families remain close to the congregation, Meredith said.

"We have not lost them," Meredith said. "We know exactly where they are. If you know exactly where something is, then you haven't lost it."

Wedgwood Baptist, just as it did last year, will hold a youth rally Wednesday on national "See You at the Pole" day. Church officials expect a larger turnout than last year.

Jeff Laster, facilities manager, said no new security measures have been added. Police will be present and some of the adults will serve as security for Wednesday's "See you at the Pole" concert. Laster said the same band that performed last year, 40 Days, will return.

"We don't want to be paranoid, we want to be prepared," Laster said.

When the Wedgwood community marks the anniversary of the shooting today, the congregation will be 25 percent larger.

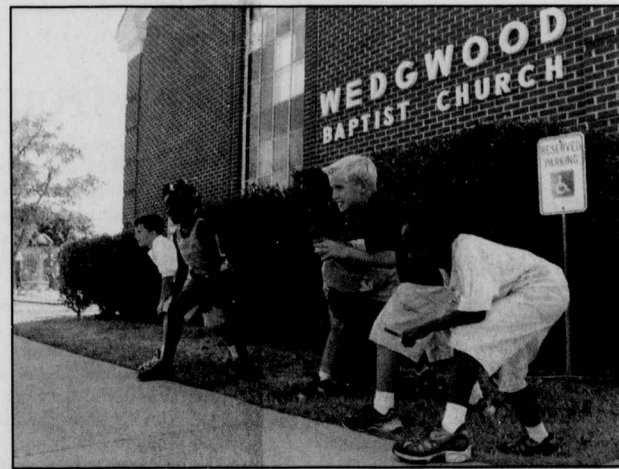
"We are an ordinary people with an extraordinary God who is faithful," Meredith said. "It's not about us. It's about Him."

Matt Stiver

mstiver@student.tcu.edu

(Left) Seven pink roses lie in memory of the shooting victims at the end of a 20-foot stretch of memorials in the foyer of the church. Sue Ulmer, a sister of one church member, puts finishing touches on the display.

(Below) Right to left: Jenkins Estimon, 10; Andrew Tharp, 9; Ryan Hellman, 9; Ketnarly Estimon, 7; and Scott Money, 9, prepare to race across the church parking lot after school Thursday afternoon. The Bruce Shulkey Elementary School students frolic a short distance from where Ashbrook opened fire at an area-wide youth rally in the church's sanctuary.



Wedgwood Memorials

► **Friday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m.** — Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary memorial service in Truett Auditorium.

► **Friday, Sept. 15, 6 to 9 p.m.** — Wedgwood Baptist Church prayer time, open to the public

► **Saturday, Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m.** — Wedgwood Baptist Church memorial service

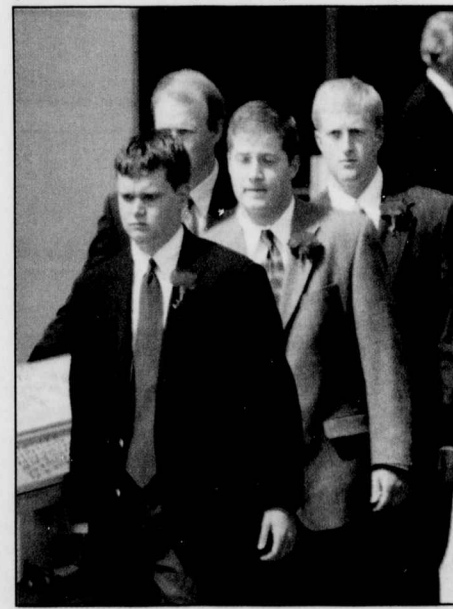
► **Sunday, Sept. 17, 4 p.m.** — "and a time to heal," a documentary on the shooting produced by the Broadcast Communications Group of the North American Mission Board, airs nationwide on ABC affiliate WFAA, Channel 8

► **Wednesday, Sept. 20, 9 p.m.** — Fellowship of Christian Athletes memorial for Kim Jones and viewing of the documentary, "Going Home: The Journey of Kim Jones" in the Justin Athletic Center, TCU campus

“As her earthly parents, we would prefer to have her here, but her heavenly father took her home. We must remember that seven kids gave their lives for what they believe in. We need to realize the urgency to share our hope of Jesus with everyone.”

— Stephanie Jones, mother of Kim Jones

Pallbearers carry the coffin of Kim Jones, a 1998 TCU graduate, the Saturday following the shooting.



Parents hope video about slain daughter will inspire others

By Sylvia Carrizales
SENIOR REPORTER

It was like Kim Jones was here again. Her sweet voice often rose and grew passionate as she preached a message of hope Thursday in the chapel of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Although it was the image of the slain 23-year-old coming through a video screen, it is one way her family hopes to carry on the dream she had to share her faith with the world.

Jones, a 1998 TCU graduate, was one of seven shot and killed in Wedgwood Baptist Church on Sept. 15, 1999 as gunman Larry Gene Ashbrook went on a rampage that concluded when he took his own life.

The audience viewed, "Going Home: The Journey of Kim Jones," a video that



Kim Jones

included a recap of the tragedy by the Rev. Al Meredith, interviews with family and friends and a July 16, 1999 talk that Kim delivered to teens in Saudi Arabia.

Kim's parents, Stephanie and Stan Jones, flew in from their home in Saudi Arabia. Her brother, Tim, a TCU student, also attended the viewing.

Her mother spoke about the last time she saw her daughter, her life with her daughter and how she was changed by the loss.

Stephanie Jones began by saying she was not a professional speaker, just a "mom who lost her daughter."

"As her earthly parents, we would prefer to have her here, but her heavenly father took her home," she said. "We must remember that seven kids gave their lives for what they believe in. We need to realize the urgency to share our hope of Jesus with everyone."

The video began with an excerpt from Kim's 22-minute speech, "The Path of Purpose," with words that were eerily

prophetic.

"We're all just travelers," Jones said.

"We're on a journey and we're headed for home. We are strangers and aliens in this place and someday this body of mine will pass away."

Jones' hall director Kristy Haddick and her friend, D.J. Koutnik talk about how Kim formed a Bible study for the Delta Gamma sorority because her wish was for "all the DG's to know about the Lord."

Shalene Kelly, a junior English major and Delta Gamma member, said Kim spoke passionately about Christianity and how it changed her life.

"Kim was very bold about her faith and because of the whole tragedy, I have a new boldness," Kelly said.

Kelly said she never realized the night they met for Tuesday Bible study would be the last time she saw Kim alive.

"No one is guaranteed a tomorrow," Kelly said. "The thing with Kim is that she knew where she was going — she was going home."

Her mother said the last time she saw Kim was when she was returning home after a summer visit to Saudi Arabia.

"The last time that we hugged and said good-bye, we cried and that was unusual," Jones said. "I think that God was trying to prepare me for her death."

After the video, Jones shared excerpts from her daughter's journal. One entry, six months before her death, was particularly poignant.

"I can't wait until I'm 80, looking back on my life," she wrote. "Will I get married? Will I go to jail for Jesus? My prayer is that I will follow you all the days of my life."

At the time of her death, Kim had just begun her first semester at the seminary and students who had never met her said they were moved by the video.

John Norton, a seminary student who will graduate in May, said he shared Kim's interest in backpacking and regrets not crossing paths with her.

"I'm amazed at the type of person she

was," he said after the viewing. "This was the first time I got a look at her life. It makes me think how many of the people that are out there that could make my life better. It's just too bad that our paths didn't cross."

As Stephanie Jones contemplated the affect the ordeal had on her, she began to cry.

"I've totally changed," she said in between tears. "It makes me realize how fragile life is and how you need to live each moment and appreciate your family and friends."

Kim's brother, Tim, said he would like for others to not let the story of the Wedgwood tragedy and his sister's death bring them down.

"I wanted people to see the love and joy my sister had for the Lord," he said. "I want to challenge people to not let this become another incident that happened in vain."

Sylvia Carrizales
sylviacarrizales@hotmail.com

and we're headed for home. We are strangers and aliens
someday this body of mine will pass away. ☺☺ — Kim Jones, one month before her death

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CHINA

From Page 1

were proposals by Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., requiring an end to deficits with China in cereals and advanced technology trade, and one by Sen. Robert Smith, R-N.H. on the monitoring of Chinese cooperation on POW-MIA issues. All were handily defeated or rejected by voice.

The biggest challenge to an amendment-free bill came Wednesday when the Senate voted 65-32 to defeat a measure offered by Sens. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., and Robert Torricelli, R-N.J., on sanctioning Chinese and other companies trafficking in weapons of mass destruction.

Thompson said Thursday, just one day after that vote, Chinese officials were again warning the United States of the "grave consequences" of building a national missile defense system.

"I find it ironic that, on the eve of our new relationship with China, Beijing is threatening us," Thompson said.

Another note of discord surfaced Thursday when Zeng Jianhui, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of China's National Peoples Congress said in Washington that Taiwan could enter the 135-nation WTO after China as a "separate customs territory of China." The United States says that designation for Taiwan is unacceptable.

More receive diplomas Number of graduates hits record high

By Genaro C. Armas
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — More than 83 percent of Americans age 25 and older graduated from high school, and over 25 percent have at least a college degree — both record highs according to new Census Bureau statistics.

In March 1999, 83.4 percent of Americans 25 and older had high school diplomas, up from 24.5 percent in 1940, the earliest records available, and 77.6 percent in 1990, Census data shows. The percentage of people within the same age group with a bachelor's degree increased to 25.2 percent, from 4.6 percent in 1940 and 21.3 percent 10 years ago.

"Given the very large differences in education between younger and older age groups, the attainment level of the total population will continue to rise for some time as younger, more educated age groups replace older, less educated ones," said Census analyst Eric Newburger.

The statistics are in line with other studies done on the country's educational attainment, education advocates said. But while applauding the improvement, they noted that more work needs to be done in improving education levels for minorities, and especially Hispanics.

By race, 84.3 of whites had a high school degree in 1999, compared with 77 percent of blacks and 56.1 percent of Hispanics;

25.9 percent of whites had at least a bachelor's degree in 1999, compared with 15.4 percent of blacks and 10.9 percent of Hispanics.

The disparity is even more pronounced with foreign-born Hispanics, said Linda Chavez, president of the Center for Equal Opportunity, a Washington-based group that has been critical of current bilingual education programs. Forty-four percent of foreign-born Hispanics graduated from high school last year, compared with over 70 percent of native-born Hispanics.

Chavez said greater emphasis needs to be placed on higher education on young Hispanics born in the country, and "more emphasis on delaying entrance in the job market."

"Hispanics have always had a very high labor force participation," she said. "There are some cultural changes that in the long run need to take place if you are going to have sustained economic progress."

By state, Alaska had the highest percentage of high school graduates among those 25 and over with 92.8 percent, followed by Washington with 91.2 percent, West Virginia with 75.1 percent had the lowest, followed by Mississippi with 78.0 percent.

The District of Columbia had the highest percentage of college graduates with 42.1 percent, while Arkansas had the lowest at 17.3 percent.

Atlantis crew makes space station a home

By Marcia Dunn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Space shuttle Atlantis' astronauts installed one of the most critical parts of the new international space station on Thursday — the toilet. But they saved the first flush for November, for the men who will be moving in.

"That will be something we'll save for later crews, I'm afraid," spaceman Daniel Burbank said with a smile.

In an interview with *The Associated Press*, Burbank said the space station already feels like a home. He and his six crewmates have been

Astronauts install toilet, load supplies

sprucing up the three-room complex and loading it with supplies in preparation for the first full-time crew's arrival in a month and a half.

The only problem was with one of five new batteries plugged in by the crew this week. Russian flight controllers said it did not seem to be charging properly.

The astronauts and cosmonauts have until Sunday to finish putting away the three tons of space station supplies carried up by Atlantis and a Russian cargo ship. They also gave

the station a four-mile boost Thursday.

"It's a little bit like a home, a little bit like a space station and, for now anyway, a little bit like a construction site," Burbank said.

Shuttle commander Terrence Wilcutt said the new living quarters, Zvezda, smelled great when the crew floated inside Tuesday — no mustiness. Although warm at first, the temperature soon fell to about 72 degrees with 50 percent humidity.

As far as noise from fans and other equipment, Wilcutt said he disagreed with those in Washington who consider the space station loud and unsafe. In a report last spring, the General Accounting Office said Russia failed to meet NASA standards for acoustics and protection against space junk.

Zvezda was launched in July after more than two years of delay caused primarily by Russia's economic crisis. The next major milestone for Russia is the liftoff of the space station's first residents on Oct. 30 from Kazakhstan.

Bush refuses to sign pledge from disabilities group

Governor promises \$1 billion over 5 years for disabled

By Jim Vertuno
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Activists for the disabled on Thursday urged Gov. George W. Bush to sign a pledge of strong enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which his father signed into law a decade ago.

About a dozen activists, some with prosthetics and most in wheelchairs, delivered the pledge written by the American Association of People with Disabilities to Bush campaign headquarters.

Bush spokesman Ray Sullivan said the campaign refuses to sign pledges, noting the Republican presidential nominee has promised to spend more than \$1 billion over five years to increase access for the disabled.

"The governor's commitment to the ADA is clear," Sullivan said. "His father signed it into law. He supports improving access and opportunity for disabled citizens."

Carlton said Vice President Al Gore has signed the pledge, which the Gore campaign could not immediately confirm.

The activists were offered a meeting with Bush campaign staff to discuss the issue but some became upset and refused when told news reporters were not allowed into the meeting.

"Do you want to meet with the governor's staff or do you want a press conference?" Sullivan said when the activists protested the exclusion of reporters. After speaking briefly with Sullivan, they left the building.

Bush's plan would spend more for research into independent living, change rental housing rules to allow the disabled to use rental vouchers

toward buying a home, create a \$20 million-matching fund for companies to buy telecommuting equipment for disabled employees and provide help for small companies struggling to comply with the ADA.

As governor, Bush signed a memorandum in support of the ADA earlier this year. In declaring June 11 the Spirit of ADA Torch Relay Day, Bush said, "Texas is committed to full compliance with the ADA, the most comprehensive legislation in the world for people with disabilities."

Gore has proposed a 10-year, \$2.7 billion spending package to bolster programs for the disabled.

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CD review

► Sunna
One Minute Science



Sunna follows the trail of crumbs left by Nine Inch Nails, with the living and dying of the "now we rock, now we're quiet" ethos of afflicted industrial metal. With that as their template, Sunna manages to throw in some other contemporary rock influences during the 49 minutes on the album.

There's nothing wrong with copying somebody, as long as it's done with grace. However, the hodgepodge of influences on "One Minute Science" are strung together like a threadbare quilt, and as a result manage to create an album that isn't compelling or even remotely interesting.

Listening to "One Minute Science" quickly degenerates into a game of "Where did I hear this before?" The foreboding acoustic guitar strumming of "Preoccupation" sounds like the Stooges' "Gimme Danger" without any of the danger. The piercing wails of feedback that function as the backbeat of "Too Much" sounds like R.E.M.'s screaming opus "Leave" played at half-speed.

The feeling of déjà vu isn't restricted merely to the sonic quality of "One Minute Science." Lead singer and multi-instrumentalist Jon Harris goes to the alienation well every chance he gets, but his lyrical bucket has some pretty big holes in it. Seemingly every song chorus on "One Minute Science" consists of nonsensical sentence fragments that the guitars and decks weren't able to drown out. The most memorable is the chorus of "Insanity Pulse," when Harris sings, over and over again, "I wanna know if, I wanna know if."

Granted, this kind of music has never been that concerned with what the singer has to say. Lyrics take a back seat to guttural bass and drums that pump like pistons on an assembly line, and crunchy riffs that buzz around the mix like sparks. Guitarist Ian MacLaren, the most obviously talented member of the band (and thus the least used), provides a few fleeting musical highlights. "O.D." is framed by some subtle wah-wah pedal work that slowly grows into a sizzling riff. "Grape" kicks off with a delicious lick and ends with a beautiful, all too short electric guitar solo that is compensation for the six minutes of musical and lyrical schizophrenia that precede it. But unfortunately for Sunna, it's too little, too late.

— Jack Buillon

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Elton John walks out of sold-out concert; casino considers lawsuit

LISBON, Portugal — Elton John walked out on a sold-out concert just 30 minutes before it was scheduled to start, organizers said.

The singer appeared worried that the theater at the Estoril Casino near Lisbon was half-empty, casino spokesman Nuno Lima de Carvalho said.

"He said he was going out to get some air, but then he jumped into his car and went to the airport to catch his private jet," the spokesman said. "He never said goodbye or anything to anyone."

The spokesman said the audience of 1,250 people, including government ministers and bank presidents, was slow to move from the dining room Wednesday night.

The casino is considering legal action, he said. Tickets for the show cost more than \$200.

Martin, Braxton, Leno to perform for president at benefit gala

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Ricky Martin will be gyrating his hips for President Clinton. Vice President Al Gore and former President Ford will also be on hand for the 14th Carousel of Hope gala Oct. 28 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Singer Toni Braxton will also perform, and Jay Leno will be master of ceremonies.

The benefit raises money for the Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes in Denver and the American Diabetes Foundation.

"We are sure that President Clinton's presence will be inspiring to everyone and the medical profession who are working every day to find a cure for diabetes," said Davis, wife of billionaire Marvin Davis.

The Carousel of Hope has raised nearly \$50 million since 1978.

These stories are from
The Associated Press

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE



Special to the Skiff
(Left) Jim Poulos as Huck Finn and Kevin Haliburton as Jim act out a scene in "Big River, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," which is currently playing at Casa Mañana Theatre. (Above) The Allied Theatre Group (formerly Stage West) presents "Pride's Crossing" with Ashley Wood and Anne-Lynn Kettles.

Story by Reagan Duplisea

Local theater performances offer chance to learn about humanity, tolerance

By Reagan Duplisea

SKIFF STAFF

When the curtains rise onstage in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, there is one role in local theater that needs more attention — the role of the audience member.

Several people involved with theaters in the community said there does not seem to be a great appreciation of live theater, especially among college students.

Heather Humphery, a junior theater major, said ticket prices deter some students from attending performances. She said she takes advantage of discount student tickets and rush tickets that are available at many local theaters.

"A lot of people don't know about student rush tickets," she said.

Rush tickets are discounted tickets sold 30 minutes before a play begins. The Allied Theatre Group (formerly Stage West) offers \$5 student-rush tickets.

Courtney Robinson, a senior theater major, said many people do not attend live theater performances because they do not have the patience to sit through a play.

"Some people's attention spans are so short," Robinson said. "They can't sit through a three-hour Arthur Miller play."

Carrie Messinger, a senior speech communication major, said she appreci-

ates the theater because she was exposed to it while growing up, but she said it is under-appreciated by students and society in general.

"College students are a reflection of modern culture," she said. "We're much more in tune with what movies are out."

Audiences seem to stick with older, more traditional plays and musicals, said Markus Lloyd, a senior theater/TV major. The local theaters react by performing those pieces instead of trying new material.

Lloyd is currently performing in Casa Mañana's "Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

"Theater is a place to connect to the past," Lloyd said. "We see when times were better and we learn from the mistakes of the past."

Robinson said she admires theaters like Circle Theatre, which stages a mix of classic and risqué shows to appeal to different tastes.

According to Circle Theatre's mission statement, it is dedicated to promoting modern-day plays that have been rarely produced.

Several members of the TCU community are involved in these local productions.

Be Boyd, an associate professor of theater, directed Circle Theatre's current production of "The Dead Presidents' Club." Boyd describes the play's plot as "presidents Truman, Nixon, Johnson and Coolidge waiting in a holding pen

to see God at the pearly gates."

In January, Boyd also performed "Fires in the Mirror," a one-woman show at Stage West.

Boyd said it is sometimes difficult to balance teaching with her involvement in local theater, but she said the two complement each other.

"I couldn't teach my students unless I kept my skills up," she said.

Several TCU students are being cast more often in local theaters, Boyd said. Theater majors Lloyd, John Patrick and Ben Thompson are currently performing in "Big River."

"There is nothing like doing live theater," Lloyd said. "I learn more from participating than in class."

Lloyd said he has the opportunity to work with talented directors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and with actors that the theaters draw from New York.

Other than seeing classmates onstage, Robinson said there is a variety of reasons to attend local theater productions.

"It's the only way to glimpse humanity," he said. "It ups your intellectual level 10 notches because you have to actually think and not just be fed a story, like in a movie."

George Brown, an associate professor of theater, said he requires students in his Survey of Theatre Arts class to attend local performances.

"By developing cultural habits now, students really start to broaden their horizons and become open to new experiences," he said.

Boyd said the most important lesson the community can learn by attending live theater is an understanding of others' points of view, tolerance and communication.

She said she encourages those who attend plays to speak with the actors afterward.

"It's a valuable experience to see who they really are," she said. "One of the things actors do is get in the lives of other people and understand what they go through. It makes you a more tolerant individual."

When she performed "Fires in the Mirror," Boyd delivered monologues from members of the various cultures touched by the Crown Heights riots. The 1991 riots occurred in Brook-

lyn when a young Caribbean boy was hit by a Hasidic Jewish motorcade, spawning retaliation from the Caribbean and African American communities.

Andrew Gaupp, director of "Tobacco Road," said audience members do not have to like the characters in the play to learn something from them. "Tobacco Road" is about the decline of a family's morals as they come to the end of their time of sharecropping in the 1930s.

"I hope the audience learns something about prejudice, racism, the mistreatment of women in our society, how people adapt or don't adapt to change and the value of home and family," Gaupp said.

Reagan Duplisea

elsnore_sky@hotmail.com



Photo by Katherine Barr



Photo by Katherine Barr

Sedaris' essays provide some humor, despite life

BOOK review

By Christina Hager

SKIFF STAFF

I pride myself on my unusual memory. I can tell you my favorite lunch in the fifth grade, how I colored my mother's cheeks blue in a portrait when I was seven and exactly what I wore the first day of my freshman year. I can recall conversations overheard by strangers at the supermarket. My memory is for the trivial, the simple and the personal.

I think David Sedaris feels my pain.

Author of "Me Talk Pretty One Day," Sedaris is full of stories of irrelevance to the real world. His 28-chapter book consists of brief and hysterical auto-

biographical essays such as "I'll Eat What He's Wearing" and "Jesus Shaves." Sedaris uses his fairly uneventful life to make bizarre connections and sound advice to the reader.

Upon opening the book, you are addressed by 10-year-old Sedaris, who is undergoing the trials of speech therapy. However, he soon realizes that his lisp has nothing to do with his "lazy tongue," and perhaps something to do with his future social life. On his speech teacher's determination to correct his "problem," he says "did they hope that by eliminating our lips, they might set us on a different path, or were they just trying to prepare us for a future stage and choral career?"

Young Sedaris feigns interest in sports, knowing "you could turn up your nose at the president or Coke or even God, but there were names for boys who didn't like sports." He decides that his lack of correct speech and sports trivia leaves him one alternative — "to take a vow of silence and become a monk." However, his anal-retentive father decides that time would be better spent playing the guitar. Against Sedaris' will, his father signs him up for lessons. Upon seeing his new guitar, Sedaris comments, "he wanted me to jam, so I jammed it in my closet." He plays under the direction of Mr. Mancini, a guitar instructor "who played beautifully but sang 'Light My

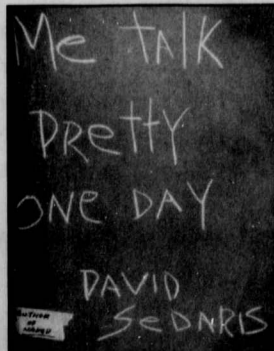
Fire' as if he were a Webelo Scout demanding a match."

The least impressive chapter in Sedaris' novel is the one spent detailing his life as a drugged-out artist. A little morbid and bizarre, although at times mildly entertaining, this small section of the book proves to be the sole reason I would never consider giving it to my mother.

Sedaris is definitely human, complete with imperfections and a unique personality to boot. His newest novel is strange, yet humorous, and easy to read — especially if you need to feel better about yourself.

Christina Hager

ctinasing2000@aol.com



today's menu Sept. 15, 2000

The Main Lunch
French fry bar
Meat lasagna
Lemon dill cod
Carved smoked brisket

Dinner
Beef burgeon
Fried catfish
Oven browned pot roast

Worth Hills Lunch
Chicken stir fry
Cajun cat fish

Dinner
Closed

Eden's Greens Lunch
Grilled tuna
Broccoli and tofu stir fry
Apple glazed carrots
Vegetable rice
Vegetarian black beans

Frogbytes Late Night
Same as The Main

Tomorrow at The Main:
Lunch: Deli bar, Waffle bar.

Dinner: Meatloaf

All meals subject to change

Lex



by Phil Flickinger

Academia Nuts



by John P. Araujo

Off the Mark

by Mark Parisi



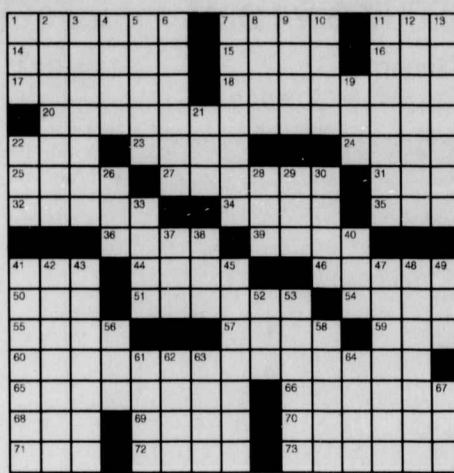
I Need Help

by Vic Lee



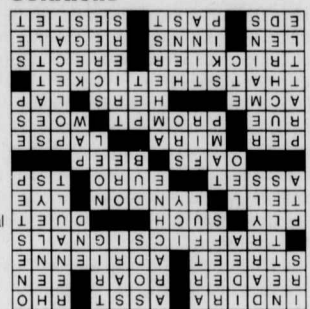
Crossword

- ACROSS**
1 Ms. Gandhi
7 Helper: abbr.
11 Pi follower
14 Audio-books performer
15 Leo's bellow
16 Day's end, in poems
17 Main or Maple
18 Actress Barbeau
20 Stoplights
22 Double over
23 Of this kind
24 Tune for two
25 Archer of note
27 Part of LBJ
31 Caustic solution
32 Selling point
34 Continental money
35 Recipe amt.
36 Klutzes
39 Answering-machine signal
41 According to
44 Actress Sorvino
46 Fall into disuse
50 Be penitent
51 Punctual
54 Sorrows
55 Summit
57 Towel ID
59 Kiddie seat?
60 Way to go!
65 Requiring more skill
66 Puts up
68 Actor Cariou
69 Country hotels
70 Entertain smugly
71 Wynn and McMahon
72 Ago
73 Last six lines of a sonnet
- DOWN**
1 April 15 org.
2 Thorny plants
3 Strawberry and Ponican
4 Thought
5 Coral colonies
6 Cunning
7 Maiden turned into a spider
8 Makes a lawn
9 Rani's garment
10 Math subj.
11 French auto maker
12 Beth and Don
13 Simplest of procedures?
19 Consummation
21 Frigid
22 Sch. grp.
26 Zodiac sign
28 Name
29 Unrefined mineral
30 Christmas carol
33 Pack down
37 Evergreen
38 Letters in theater lobbies
40 Bear hand
41 Chatter
42 Deceived
43 underhandedly
43 Stays
45 Massachusetts college
47 Skunk



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Solutions



- 48 City on Puget Sound
49 Psychic's power
52 Stroke gently
53 Attempters
56 And so forth: abbr.
58 Cliff-base pile of rocks
61 Pass over
62 Louise of "Gilligan's Island"
63 Biddies
64 Beer barrels
67 Confirmed

Purple Poll

Q: Do you think birth control pills should be available over-the-counter?

A: Yes 59 No 41



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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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.



pulse

sidelines

Tiger Woods to sign \$100 million endorsement with Nike

Fresh off his record-breaking summer of golf, Tiger Woods is on the verge of signing a \$100 million endorsement contract with Nike believed to be the richest in sports, according to *The Associated Press*.

Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG, declined to discuss specifics of the deal on Thursday, only to say it was an "outstanding contract."

"We are within days of a signature," he said. "It compensates Tiger not just for what he's done with Nike, but what he has done for golf and sports."

Woods' previous contract with Nike was said to be \$40 million over five years. He was used heavily in their advertisements and established his own line of clothing and shoes.

A source close to the negotiations, speaking on condition of anonymity, described it as the "largest contract in sports marketing history," worth about \$100 million over five years.

"There are so many different revenue streams," the source said. "It's impossible to calculate what the end result will be."

Nike Golf president Bob Wood described the contract as "pretty creative."

"It's not often you get a chance to work with somebody who's the best in the world at what they do," he said. "Working with and being associated with Tiger Woods has created an incredible amount of positive energy about Nike Golf and Nike."

While Wood also declined to discuss contract details, he did say the amount was partly tied to sales.

Woods has represented Nike since turning professional in 1996. In just four years, he has won all four major championships, becoming, at 24, the youngest player to do so. He set the scoring record in each of them, and he has attracted a record number of television viewers just about every week.

After bad showing, Sanders looks forward to Monday Night Football

ASHBURN, Va. — Deion Sanders has a lot to prove Monday night when the Washington Redskins face the Dallas Cowboys.

The star cornerback, who signed with Washington this summer after being released by Dallas in a cost-cutting move, is coming off one of the worst games of his 12-year career.

"For me, it was a bad day," Sanders said Thursday of his performance Sunday in the Redskins' 15-10 loss to Detroit. "For most corners, it was an average day. They just moved the ball with short curls all day, particularly on me. But that will be corrected this week, I assure you of that."

He spent five seasons with the Cowboys.

"I can't say it's just another game, because I have so many wonderful relationships with my past teammates in Dallas," Sanders said.

In 15 Monday night games, he's scored three touchdowns, two on punt returns and the other on an interception. He also has five interceptions and 16 receptions.

"Monday night is always special," Sanders said. "You have the center stage for the whole country to see you do your thing. Since I've been a child I've been in the spotlight, and everyone's been taking shots at me."

Eight-year veteran Kevin Smith released by Dallas Cowboys

IRVING — Dallas cornerback Kevin Smith was released by the Cowboys on Wednesday.

Smith spent the first three weeks of training camp with the Cowboys in Wichita Falls this summer before leaving the team to contemplate his retirement. He was put on the reserve-retired list Aug. 22, before the start of the regular season.

The 8-year veteran had battled injuries for the last few years, including a congenital degenerative disc in his back that plagued him in the Cowboys' last two seasons.

A first-round draft pick in 1992 from Texas A&M, Smith earned three Super Bowl rings playing for Dallas. "He has been such an integral part of the success that we've had here during his career," owner Jerry Jones said of Smith. "It's remarkable how he's battled his injury situation and how he's played."

— These stories are from the Associated Press.

Team faces tough competitors at home

Women's soccer team still seeks improvement

By Doug Sharkey
SKIFF STAFF

The women's soccer team barely had time to catch its breath from last weekend's exhausting road trip before having to once again prepare for the next challengers — the Alabama Crimson Tide and the Oklahoma Sooners.

Assistant coach Blake Amos said both games this weekend have strong chances of being Horned Frog victories, but the team should not take the two teams lightly.

"Both games are winnable games," Amos said. "Neither team is phenomenally better than the teams we've just previously faced, but basically, we need to come out and just play well at home."

The Crimson Tide began their 2000 season with a string of victories, beating Louisiana-Monroe 4-1, Southern Mississippi 3-0 and Jacksonville State 3-1, but they have since lost their last three games by narrow margins to higher-quality teams like the Miami Hurricanes 0-1, Oklahoma State Cowboys 0-1 and Oklahoma 1-2.

Alabama finished 6-14 last season and had depth problems which greatly inhibited the progress of the team, said head coach Don Staley in the team's media guide.

"In looking back at last season, we've pinpointed our major problem, and that was depth," Staley said.

To fix the problem, Staley recruited 13 freshmen, the largest class ever to fill the Crimson Tide roster. Alabama hopes these former prep standouts will offset the loss of last season's key players, which included goalkeeper Rachel Brown, midfielder Laura Reddin and forward Kathleen Foudy.

The Frogs will have their hands full today at home as Alabama, which returns six starters and relies on a strong defensive front, will be looking for a much needed win on the road, Amos said.

"(The Tide's) been on the road for a week now, and they've lost some close games," Amos said. "They're going to try and take their frustration out on us."

On Sunday, the Frogs hit the road to face the surging Sooners at

their new soccer facility in Norman, Okla.

In only his second season as head coach for Oklahoma, Randy Evans has helped the Sooners rebound from a disappointing 4-13-1 finish last season. Oklahoma is now 5-3, and has added speed and strength to the team. Two-time 400-meter dash state champion Jessica Talton and freshman Logan Womack, who is ranked fifth nationally in the 100- and 200-meter dashes, are the key newcomers for Oklahoma.

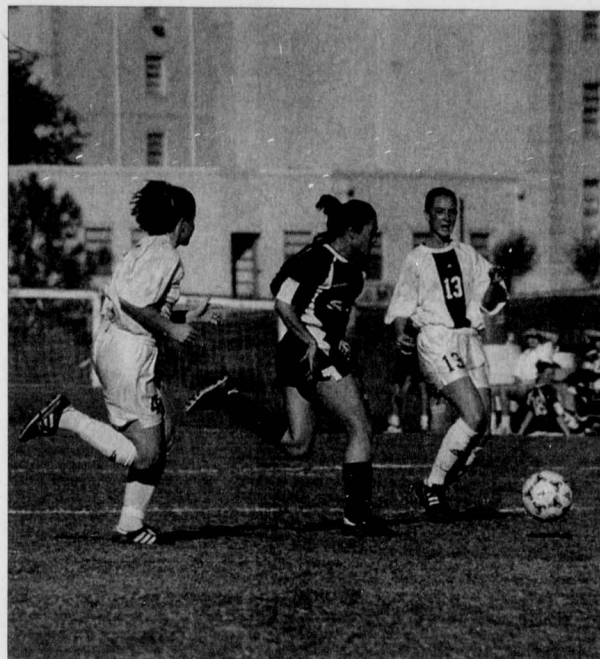
Oklahoma's attack has also received a boost from sophomore forward Heather Martinelli and junior forward Jonette Coquat, the Sooners' leading scorer this year with 29 shots and three goals.

The Frogs do not plan to take the Sooners lightly, Amos said.

"They're a good team and they've had some good results," Amos said. "They beat Alabama (1-0) and played very well against SMU."

Doug Sharkey

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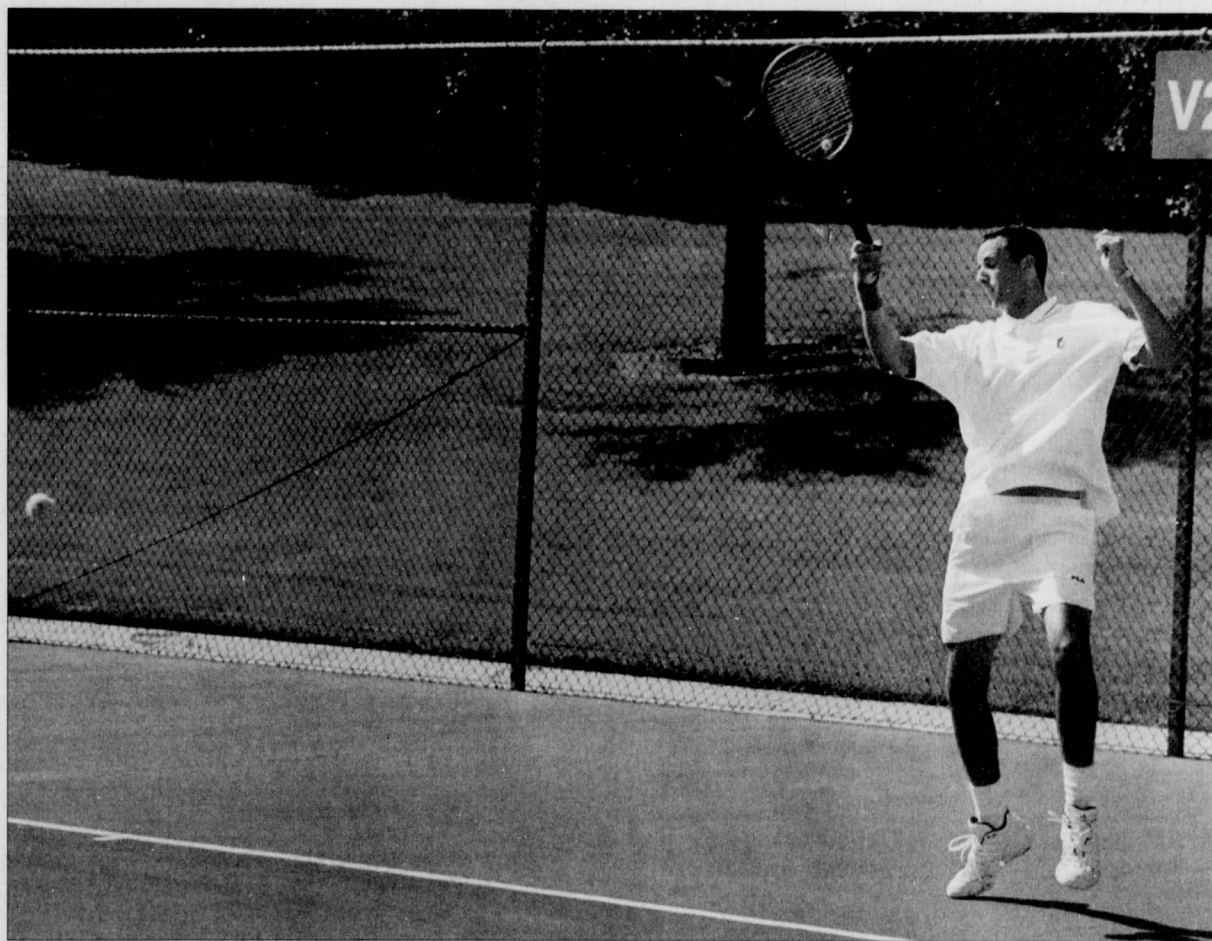


David Dunal/CO-PHOTO EDITOR
Sophomore midfielder Lori Robbins (No. 13) and senior midfielder Jennifer Maunder race for possession of the ball in a game against Southern Methodist last season. The Frogs (4-2-1) play Alabama at 4 p.m. today at the Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium.

ADDING TO HISTORY

"It was a bad deal when Coach Center left for UT, but we've gotten over it, and now we are ready to start a new chapter in men's tennis."

— Esteban Carril, on the addition of new head coach Joey Rive



Skiff File

Senior Trace Fielding works on his forehand during practice last season at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center. Fielding is one of six returning seniors on this year's men's squad. TCU opens the season today at the River Oaks Invitational in Houston.

Men's tennis seeks 11th straight NCAA bid

By Chris Ray
SKIFF STAFF

The TCU men's tennis team, coming off one of its most successful seasons in school history, takes the court to kick off the 2000-01 season today at the River Oaks Invitational in Houston.

Newly arrived head coach Joey Rive takes over for the Frogs after former head coach Michael Center took the head coaching job at the University of Texas at Austin. Rive said he is excited about taking over a solid Frogs team.

Athletics Director Eric Hyman said TCU was elated to get such a talented new coach. "Attracting a national-caliber coach, such as Joey Rive, is a reflection on the respect people in the tennis world have toward the TCU tennis program," Hyman said in press release.

Senior Esteban Carril said the

team will have to adjust to the change, which could be hard at first.

"We, as a team, are glad to have Coach Rive (here)," Carril said. "It was a bad deal when Coach Center left for UT, but we've gotten over it, and now we are ready to start a new chapter in men's tennis."

TCU made the "Great Eight" in the NCAA Championships before being knocked off by the eventual national champions, the Stanford Cardinal. The Frogs bring back a strong core of seniors to the roster including Carril, a two-time All American and last season's Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year. The rest of the seniors consist of Scott Eddins, Trace Fielding, Sebastian Iannariello, Petr Koula and Justin Gagnon.

Rive said the first weekend is a time to determine team weak-

nesses and assess the team's physical condition.

"This begins everything that you work for in the summer," Rive said. "The first match is a way to tell where we are and what we need to get an advantage," Rive said.

Rive said he believes he can take this team back to where it was last year and beyond.

"The experience is there and the team chemistry is there," Rive said. "All (we) have to do is back it up with solid play. These (seniors) know all about each others' games, and they're just like a family."

"That's the main ingredient to a winning team — that closeness of the players."

The Frogs' 2000-01 home schedule includes No. 5 Duke, No. 7 Baylor, No. 9 Virginia Commonwealth, No. 11 Pepper-

dine, No. 13 Southern Methodist, No. 16 Texas, No. 25 South Alabama, No. 36 California and No. 42 Tulane.

The Frogs only ranked opponent away from home will be No. 8-ranked Texas A&M in College Station.

"I think the teams you play reflect the quality of your team," Rive said. "If you play the best, then you become the best."

TCU lost just once last season in matches played at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center, and has strung together 10 straight NCAA appearances.

"TCU has set itself up as a national powerhouse in men's tennis," Rive said. "The record shows that and the schedule also reflects that."

Chris Ray

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Golf team ready for Inverness

By Kelly Morris
SKIFF STAFF

After claiming the Ridges/Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate Invitational title last weekend, men's head golf coach Bill Montigel said the team is already having a better season than last year.

"We didn't win any tournaments last year, but we peaked at the end of the year and ended the season on a positive note by finishing 11th in the 2000 NCAA Men's Championships," Montigel said.

The team's second tournament of the fall season will be the Inverness Intercollegiate Invitational hosted by Toledo on Sept. 18 and 19 in Toledo, Ohio. Four of the 13 teams in attendance are nationally ranked. It is here, Montigel said, that his team will have the opportunity to play on one of the country's best golf courses.

"The Inverness Country Club is regarded as one of the top golf courses in the United States," Montigel said. "If we go to the tournament with the same attitude as we had last week and hit one shot at a time, we will have another great tournament."

The Inverness Country Club has been the site for four U.S. Opens, one U.S. Amateur Open, and two PGA Championships. It will host the U.S. Senior Open in 2003.

On Tuesday, the team played the first round of a three-round qualifier at Mira Vista Country Club to determine the final two spots of the five-man team for the Inverness Tournament. With their third place finishes at the Ridges Intercollegiate, sophomore Adam Rubinson and senior Scott Volpitto automatically qualified for the next two tournaments. After placing 11th, senior Aaron Hickman was exempt from this week's qualifying rounds.

"(With Coach Montigel's selection process), the best players are always going to the tournaments," Hickman said. "It's real fair because the same five guys aren't playing every week. It gives everyone a shot."

Although Volpitto is excited about playing the challenging Inverness Country Club course, he is not letting the course's history affect his preparation.

"This is the first time for all of us to play this course," Volpitto said. "During Sunday's practice round, we will familiarize ourselves with the rough and the bent greens, which are like putting on marble. I can only do my best, but I know if we keep doing what we've been doing, we will do great."

Kelly Morris

k.l.morris@student.tcu.edu

▶ Returning Frogs

Esteban Carril, ranked No. 9 in nation last season; Scott Eddins, No. 91; Antonio Gordon, No. 96; Petr Koula, No. 99; Trace Fielding



TCU vs. NORTHWESTERN



Time: 11 a.m.

Amon Carter Stadium (44,008 capacity), TV: Fox SportsNet (National)
Radio: TCU/ESPN Sports Network, KWRD 94.9 FM

SEEKING VENGEANCE

“He’s got speed, I guess. He’s got a good offensive line in front of him. Is he the best running back we’re going to see? I don’t think so. Do we have to respect him? Yeah.”

— Northwestern defensive end Dwayne Missouri on TCU senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson



David Dunai/CO-PHOTO EDITOR

Former TCU defensive tackle Kyle Williams and senior strong safety Cody Slinkard combine for a sack against North Texas last season as senior defensive end Aaron Schobel looks on. TCU opens their home schedule Saturday against Northwestern in a nationally televised game on FOX SportsNet.

TCU starters

Offense

- WR Tim Maiden, 6'0" 194, SR
 - WR Cedric James, 6'2" 200, SR
 - WR LaTarence Dunbar, 5'11" 187, SO
 - QT Mike Keathley, 6'4" 302, SR
 - QG Victor Payne, 6'1" 300, JR
 - C Jeff Garner, 6'4" 296, SR
 - SG Jeff Millican, 6'5" 300, SR
 - ST David Bobo, 6'5" 293, SR
 - TE B.J. Roberts, 6'3" 252, JR
 - QB Casey Printers, 6'3" 205, SO
 - FB George Layne, 6'0" 253, JR
 - TB LaDainian Tomlinson, 5'11" 220, SR
- (Twelve players are listed because of the variety of offensive sets)

Defense

- DE Chad McCarty, 6'2" 254, JR
- DT Shawn Worthen, 6'2" 302, SR
- NT Stuart Ashley, 6'4" 273, SR
- DE Aaron Schobel, 6'4" 260, SR
- SLB Chad Bayer, 5'11" 229, JR
- MLB Shannon Brazzell, 5'11" 229, SR
- LCB Jason Goss, 5'10" 183, SO
- WS Charlie Owens, 6'0" 191, JR
- FS Curtis Fuller, 5'10" 187, SR
- SS Russell Gary, 5'11" 200, SR
- RCB Greg Walls, 6'1" 187, SR

Special Teams

- P Joey Biasatti 5'11" 192, SO
- K Chris Kaylakie 6'0" 195, SR
- DS Brian Edmondson, 6'0" 219, SR
- H Matt Schobel, 6'5" 259, JR
- PR LaVar Veale, 5'10" 187, SR
- KR Cedric James, 6'2" 200, SR

Frogs set to take on Northwestern

By Danny Horne
SPORTS EDITOR

Of the 10 remaining games on the Horned Frogs' football schedule this season, Saturday's game with Northwestern is one they have been looking forward to for a long time.

Head coach Dennis Franchione said this game is one the team has circled on its calendar.

"We know we didn't play real well against them last season," Franchione said of TCU's 17-7 loss on Sept. 11, 1999. "That doesn't discredit their win, but I just don't think we were well-prepared."

Franchione said being prepared shouldn't be a problem this season.

"They look like they've got a better ball club overall than last year," he said. "One thing that probably won't happen this week is the defensive line taking over like it did last week (against Nevada)."

"The Big Ten typically has big, physical offensive lines, so it should be a game of technique rather than power for our defensive line."

Northwestern is looking for its first

3-0 start since 1962. The Wildcats are coming off convincing victories against Northern Illinois (35-17) and Duke (38-5). Both games were played at Northwestern's home stadium, Ryan Field in Evanston, Ill.

The Wildcats are led offensively by junior tailback Damien Anderson. Last weekend against Duke, Anderson ran for 187 yards on 21 carries and scored two touchdowns.

"They're a little different than last season (on offense)," Franchione said. "Last year they were more of a two-back power offense. This year they are still running the ball well with Anderson, but they're spreading the field more."

Senior middle linebacker Shannon Brazzell said the Frogs' defense should expect to be tested.

"We can't expect to get 15 sacks, and we can't expect to hold them (to 11 yards rushing)," Brazzell said. "We talked about last week's game and what we need to improve. We know we've got to play better this week."

TCU beat Nevada 41-10 last weekend. The Frogs recorded 15 sacks —

12 in the first half. Through three quarters, Nevada had gained just 139 net yards.

Offensively, the Frogs were led by senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson's 176 yards and three touchdowns.

But the passing attack was not as successful. Sophomore quarterback Casey Printers completed only three passes for 53 yards. He also threw two interceptions.

Franchione said he expects more production from Printers.

"Casey knows he didn't have a good game," Franchione said. "Last week was an odd game for him because it almost seemed like he had too much time to throw the ball. He needs to feel more of a pass rush. It's a weird situation, but it's true."

Senior punt returner and reserve free safety LaVar Veale and senior defensive end Aaron Schobel, who both sat out parts of last week's game with minor injuries, are expected to be healthy by game time Saturday.

Danny Horne
bravestcu3116@mindspring.com

KEY matchups



< 41, Shannon Brazzell, LB

vs.

20, Damien Anderson, RB >



The matchup: Shannon Brazzell anchors the middle of the TCU defense that was ranked fifth in the nation last year. Junior tailback Damien Anderson leads the way on the ground for Northwestern with 275 yards and four touchdowns in two games.

The gameplan: TCU will need to stop Anderson before he gets into the open field. Last week, Anderson ran for 187 yards and averaged almost nine yards a carry. If Brazzell and the rest of the defense can get through that big Northwestern offensive line, Anderson could have a long day. If not, 187 yards may not happen, but he could get close.

The stats: Since head coach Dennis Franchione and defensive coordinator Gary Patterson arrived, TCU has held opponents to 100 yards rushing or fewer in 13 of 25 games. The Frogs have allowed just 25 yards a game in the last six games. Northwestern has averaged about 247 yards a game on the ground in two games this season.

The winner: Brazzell and the TCU defense should win this battle. No-body has been able to run successfully on the Frogs' defense in quite a while. Nevada is by no means a good football team, but last weekend's 11 yards on 36 carries was no fluke.

— Danny Horne



David Dunai/CO-PHOTO EDITOR

Senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson attempts to avoid a tackle in the Frogs' 21-0 victory against Southern Methodist last season. Tomlinson ran for 176 yards and three touchdowns in the Frogs' 41-10 win against Nevada last weekend.

theEDGEbox

Staff prediction

TCU 35, Northwestern 17
— Matt Stiver

<p>Rushing offense: Senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson ran for 176 yards and three touchdowns. He can make a major statement about his Heisman Trophy candidacy against a Big Ten team.</p>	<p>Passing offense: Sophomore quarterback Casey Printers must drastically improve on his 53-yard, two-interception performance against Nevada. The Frogs can't afford to disappoint in the passing game again.</p>	<p>Rushing defense: TCU held Nevada to 11 rushing yards. The Wildcats' Damien Anderson, who rushed for 187 yards and two touchdowns against Duke last week, will find the going harder this week.</p>	<p>Passing defense: After recording 15 sacks against a weak Nevada offensive line, TCU won't come close to reaching that number this week. They'll only get five.</p>	<p>Special teams: After entering the season as question marks, LaVar Veale and LaTarence Dunbar each returned a kick for a touchdown and sophomore punter Joey Biasatti averaged 49.5 yards per punt.</p>	<p>Intangibles: Playing in a home opener before a large crowd against their only "name" opponent this year, the Frogs should be ready to play. Head coach Dennis Franchione will make sure of it.</p>
<p>TCU</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>TCU</p>	<p>EVEN</p>	<p>TCU</p>	<p>TCU</p>
<p>Northwestern</p> <p>Rushing offense: Northwestern's offense starts with junior running back Damien Anderson (275 yards, four touchdowns this season). The Wildcats return four starters on the offensive line.</p>	<p>Passing offense: Junior quarterback Zak Kustok threw for 197 yards and two touchdowns last week. Northwestern throws only enough to keep defenses from stacking the line against Anderson.</p>	<p>Rushing defense: The Wildcats held Duke to 44 yards rushing on 32 carries (1.3 yards per rush). But Duke did not have the benefit of five returning offensive linemen or Heisman Trophy candidate LaDainian Tomlinson.</p>	<p>Passing defense: The Wildcats have not allowed a passing touchdown in games against Northern Illinois and Duke. But Northern Illinois did throw for 254 yards (13 yards per completion) against the Northwestern secondary.</p>	<p>Special teams: Northwestern returns senior place kicker Tim Long. Sophomore Louis Ayeni averaged 17.1 yards per kick return last year.</p>	<p>Intangibles: Northwestern players have provided a lot of bulletin board material about TCU and, specifically, Tomlinson during the week. Playing on the road in TCU's home opener, that may not have been the wisest strategy.</p>