



Shark Sinking

Sophomore forward Bingo Merriex scored 22 points as the men's basketball team defeated No. 20 Fresno State Thursday night at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Sports, Page 6

Numbered Days

Two AIDS patients reveal the struggles and triumphs of living with numbered days.

Issues, Page 10

Friday, February 16, 2001

Fort Worth, Texas

Students recover from last Friday's accident

Car damages to be assessed; lawsuit pending

By Alisha Brown
STAFF REPORTER

A week after two students were involved in a car accident near campus, both are tending to wounds, and soon they may be calling their lawyers.

Although both are recovering, their injuries may be more serious than first thought.

The accident happened at about 10:50 a.m. Friday when sophomore e-business major Courtney Wallis was on her way to mail a Valentine's Day package to her parents.

"I had a whole schedule planned for the day," Wallis said, but her plans were canceled soon thereafter.

Wallis was traveling east on W. Devitt Street in her white 1996 Ford Mustang about to turn left onto W. Berry Street.

"There was a group of guys in a car behind

me inching up," she said. "I could have gone plenty of times, but I waited. When I decided to turn it was clear except for a van who put on their blinker to turn right."

She said when she pulled out to turn left, she never saw Michelle Wanta's gold 1996 Nissan Sentra coming right at her.

"I assume she was behind the van, and when they put their blinker on she went around them like we all do," Wallis said.

The police report did not confirm which lane Wanta, a graduate student in English, was traveling in. Wanta said if she recalls correctly, she had been driving in the left lane since the traffic light at University Drive and Berry Street.

Wanta's Sentra broadsided Wallis' Mustang on the driver's side door. According to a police

See ACCIDENT, Page 4



David Dunal/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Graduate student Michelle Wanta's gold 1996 Nissan Sentra remains by the median after being involved in an accident with sophomore e-business major Courtney Wallis. Both women have since recovered from the accident.

Accident victim still in coma

Columbian student in critical condition after car collision Friday

By Ram Luthra
STAFF REPORTER

An international student from Columbia is in critical condition after being injured in a car accident Friday night at the corner of Bryant Irvin Road and Calmont Avenue.

Ana Catalina Calderon, 20, is in a coma in the intensive care unit at Harris Methodist Hospital. She has been unconscious for six days. Hospital officials said she is in critical condition. They didn't release any further information at the request of the family.

Calderon's family members flew in town on Saturday immediately after hearing of the accident.

Her father, Carlos Calderon, said all members of the family are worried about Ana Catalina's condition. He said she suffered multiple fractures in the lower back. The doctors can't determine what will happen to her, he said.

"I don't know what will happen," Carlos Calderon said in Spanish. "It is all in the hands of God."

Carlos Calderon said TCU has been helpful throughout the entire process.

"We have received an enormous amount of support from the university," he said. "Both students and the administration have come to visit her in the hospital."

According to the police report, Ana Catalina Calderon was the passenger in a 1987 blue Toyota car. The driver of the car was Wael Kanan. He was driving south on Bryant Irvin Road and collided with a 1996 silver Chevrolet Tahoe. Kanan was attempting to turn left onto Calmont Avenue. William S. Crawford, 17, was driving the Chevrolet northbound on Bryant Irvin Road. The report cited that Kanan failed to yield while turning left on the corner of Bryant Irvin Road and Calmont Avenue.

See COMA, Page 4

Annual meeting promotes unity

Board, committee members to discuss business, funding

By Jessica Cervantez
STAFF REPORTER

Attendees of the annual Leadership Round Up have the opportunity to reunite and rekindle old friendships Thursday night through Saturday during various social activities and business meetings.

See page 4 for a complete schedule of events.

For the past seven years, a weekend in February has been set aside to encourage interaction

between the members of the Addison and Randolph Clark Board, the Alumni Association Board, The Frog Club Board and 11 reunion committees. The various boards and committees play leadership roles at TCU.

Special Events Coordinator Jenny Cox said the weekend goals include: discussing upcoming business and showing appreciation to the leaders for their hard work.

Cox said each group will break into different committees to discuss specific upcoming events and fundraisers and participate in scheduled activities.

Events kicked-off Thursday with a TCU men's basketball game against Fresno State. Today's events consist of daily meetings followed by dinner with Chancellor Michael Ferrari.

In addition to business, Gary Pat-

See LEADERSHIP, Page 4

Soulful diva



David Dunal/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Dendra Barnett, a guest jazz vocalist, performs "Georgia" with the TCU Jazz Ensemble Wednesday at the second Valentine's Day concert, "Remembering the Big Bands." For a review of the concert, see Features, page 5.

Clinton's last pardon under scrutiny

U.S. Attorney, FBI to search bank, phone records for illegal conduct

By Pat Milton
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — A federal prosecutor has cranked up the heat on former President Clinton, launching a criminal investigation to determine if money played a role in the last-minute pardon of fugitive financier Marc Rich.

U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White, in a brief statement issued Thursday, confirmed her office and the FBI "have opened an investigation to determine whether there have been any violations of federal law" in the pardons of Rich and his partner, Pincus Green. It did not elaborate.

White's probe is expected to exam-

ine bank and telephone records and other documents for evidence of illegal conduct, according to a source with knowledge of the investigation.

"She is trying to determine if there was a transfer of money to buy the pardon," the source told The Associated Press Wednesday, speaking only on condition of anonymity.

The move comes after Senate and House committees launched similar probes of the Rich pardon, one of 141 granted by Clinton on Jan. 20, his final day in office.

White, who was appointed to her post by Clinton in 1993, has said the pardon was granted without consulta-

tion with her office, which indicted Rich in 1983.

Critics have noted that Rich's ex-wife Denise contributed an estimated \$450,000 to the Clinton Presidential Library Fund, more than \$1.1 million to the Democratic Party and at least \$109,000 to Hillary Rodham Clinton's Senate campaign.

According to the source, the White investigation will try to determine if there was any link between the contributions and the Clinton decision. Under the U.S. Constitution, presidents have an absolute right to issue pardons

See PARDON, Page 4

'All we need is love ... or not'

Residence Hall Association to host free Valentine's Ball Saturday in the Student Center

By Chrissy Braden
STAFF REPORTER

Even after red velvet-covered, heart-shaped boxes filled with wrappers of decadent chocolates are thrown away with wilted bouquets of flowers, the air is still filled with celebrations of love.

The Valentine's Ball, "All We Need Is Love... Or Not," hosted by the Residence Hall Association, will be held from 8 to 10 p.m. Saturday in the Student Center Ballroom.

Free food, live music and dancing for singles and couples will be offered at the free event, open to all students.

Terry James, a sophomore political science major and RHA member, said the ball is after Valentine's Day so more people can attend without feeling the pressures of bringing a significant other.

"We want the whole student body to be able to come out and enjoy themselves and have a good time," James said.

Nathan Newquist, a freshman premajor, said he thought the dance would be fun, and he would go if he didn't have to work.

"It's pretty neat because it's not on Valentine's Day," Newquist said. "It will help newer students meet more people on campus."

James said he hopes the ball will help get RHA's gain name recognition on campus.

Jessi Mullins, a sophomore biology major and RHA member, said last year was the first time RHA had the ball. She said about 150 to 200 people attended last year's ball, and even more people are expected to attend this year.

Jenna Spain, a sophomore broadcast journalism major and president of RHA, said the association is given a budget by TCU each semester to spend on various activities.

"RHA gets \$2 for each resident," Spain said. "About \$2,500 of this budget is being spent on the ball."

About 2,670 students live on campus this semester.

Mindy Edwards, the RHA advisor and hall director of Wiggins Hall, said RHA's budget was about \$5,000

See VALENTINE, Page 4

WEATHER TOMORROW

High 55
Low 36

Partly Cloudy



INDEX

CAMPUS LINES	2
COMICS	9
CROSSWORD	9
HOUSE EDITORIAL	3
MENU	9
PURPLE POLL	9
WORLD DIGEST	2

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.

► **Internships Credit Information Sessions** for business students will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday and March 1 in Dan Rogers Hall, Room 166.

► **TCU students interested in entering a creative writing contest** may pick up contest applications and descriptions in Reed Hall, Room 314, and in Rickel Building, Room 100. Twenty-four prizes totaling near \$3,000 will be given to students who write poetry, fiction, drama and essays. The deadline is today.

► **The TCU art and art history department** and the Nancy Quarles Stuck Art History Lecture Fund will present a free lecture at noon Monday in the Moudy Building North, Room 132. The lecture, titled "Rembrandt and the Jews," will be given by Shelley Perlove, professor of art history at the University of Michigan at Dearborn. For more information contact the art department at (817) 257-7643.

► **The Programming Council Multicultural Committee** will host a debate at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Student Center Ballroom. The discussion will be on how the Bush administration will handle topics such as education, abortion, tax reform and affirmative action over the next four years.

► **TCU Career Night**, sponsored by Career Services, will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Center Ballroom. For more information call (817) 257-7860 or go by Career Services.

► **The TCU London Centre** will have information sessions at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Center, Room 203, and at 4 p.m. Thursday in the Student Center, Room 205. Students interested in spending a fall or spring semester at the London Centre are encouraged to attend. Application deadline for fall 2001 is March 15. Applications are available in the International Education Office in Sadler Hall, Room 16.

► **"Experience India,"** a charity luncheon benefiting the victims of the recent earthquakes in India, will be from noon to 3 p.m. March 3 in the Student Center Ballroom. Tickets are \$10 for students and children and \$12 for adults. TCU Student Meal Cards are accepted. Visit (stuwwww.tcu.edu/~mssingh/saica.htm) for more information or call Tahira Hussain at (817) 257-4949.

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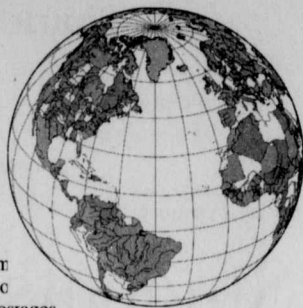
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WORLD DIGEST



Mitsubishi recalls 1.3 million cars worldwide
TOKYO — Scandal-tainted Mitsubishi Motors Corp. announced a worldwide recall of 1.3 million vehicles Thursday, including thousands of cars being recalled for the second time in the United States and Japan.

The \$146 million recall is another serious setback for the Japanese automaker, which acknowledged last summer it had been systematically hiding driver complaints for more than 20 years.

Mitsubishi Motors has been trying to win back customer trust by working with a quality-control team from DaimlerChrysler AG, the German automaker which bought a 34 percent stake in Mitsubishi Motors after the cover-up scandal surfaced.

In the latest recall, Mitsubishi Motors reported to the Japanese government five types of auto defects in 11 models on the domestic market, recalling 401,106 vehicles. The defects include faulty airbags, leaking fuel tanks and smoking turbines.

Mitsubishi Motors President and CEO Takashi Sonobe said recalls on an additional 950,000 vehicles will be announced in the United States soon.

The U.S. recall is for loose parts on a joint in the front suspension that may cause the Mitsubishi Galant, Eclipse, Chrysler Sebring and Dodge Avenger sedans to stall, MMC said.

The sedans were recalled once last summer. In Japan, 232,514 sedans produced from 1992 to 2001 are being recalled for the second time for the same problem.

"It was truly a shoddy setup that deserves criticism," Sonobe said of having to recall the vehicles a second time.

Akira Okamoto, executive officer in charge of quality, said officials checking for defects the first time mistakenly assumed they only arose on the assembly line.

Mitsubishi Motors also recalled 4,452 Fuso AeroStar trucks for the second time for a weak, noisy turbine wing. In the first recall, Mitsubishi Motors found defective computer equipment that also caused turbine damage.

Sonobe — who took over as president after his predecessor resigned to take responsibility for the scandal — said it was still undecided how the automaker will book the costs for the latest recall.

Those costs will come on top of the \$95 million it earmarked for last summer's recall of 620,000 vehicles. Mitsubishi Motors is forecasting a loss of \$1.2 billion for the fiscal year ending next month.

Sonobe said the worldwide recall will likely balloon to more than 1.3 million, affecting cars manufactured in both Japan and Mitsubishi's U.S. plant in Illinois.

Two minor crashes linked to the loose-joint problem have been reported in Japan. The cars

were damaged, but no one was injured. Owners are being notified of the problems by mail and will receive free repairs.

Kidnappers, U.S. companies agree to ransom
QUITO, Ecuador — After shooting a U.S. oil worker five times in the back two weeks ago to pressure his company to pay, a group of kidnapers in Ecuador have agreed to a ransom, the country's military chief said.

News the kidnapers had agreed to an unspecified ransom for the four Americans, a Chilean, an Argentine and a New Zealander they are still holding came hours before a reported deadline to kill another captive.

"The criminal group said it would not execute anyone else, and I understand they have reached some economic arrangement," said Vice Adm. Miguel Saona, head of Ecuador's military Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Saona said he did not know the conditions of the ransom since the negotiations were between the kidnapers and the hostages' companies and embassies.

The body of kidnap victim Ronald Sander, 54, of Sunrise Beach, Mo., was found in the jungle Jan. 31. His body was covered in a white sheet scrawled with the words in Spanish: "I am a gringo. For non-payment of ransom. HP company."

Sander, a technician with Tulsa, Okla.-based Helmerich and Payne Inc., was seized from oil camps in October in the El Coca jungle region, some 150 miles east of Quito. Nine others were seized. Two Frenchmen later escaped.

Unconfirmed media reports here said that the kidnapers had warned they would kill another of the hostages if ransom was not paid by Feb. 15.

The American captives have been identified as David Bradley, of Casper, Wyo., an oil field platform foreman for Helmerich and Payne; and Arnold Alford, Steve Derry and Jason Weber, all employees of the Oregon-based helicopter company Erickson Air-Crane Co., and residents of Gold Hill, Ore.

Sources close to the investigation said the kidnapers had been refusing to budge from an initial demand of \$80 million.

Helmerich and Payne said in a written statement: "Based on recent events, the company has greater optimism regarding the safe return of our co-worker, David Bradley, and the other hostages presently held captive."

Paul Derry, a truck driver and 39-year-old brother of Steve Derry, said from his home in LaGrande, Ore., that he had not heard anything directly from Erickson Air-Crane Co. or any of his family members.

"I think it's great," he said. "You know, it's been

a long time coming." Erickson Air Crane said Wednesday it would not confirm or deny reports until the hostages have been released.

A spokeswoman at the U.S. Embassy similarly declined to confirm or deny the reports.

Authorities believe the kidnapers number about 25 and are members of the same criminal gang that held seven Canadians and an American for ransom for 100 days in late 1999. Alberta-based United Pipeline Systems has never confirmed reports that it paid \$3.5 million for the release of its employees.

Oil industry and military sources have said the kidnapers were believed responsible for deadly dynamite attacks in December against Ecuador's main oil pipeline.

Canadians may not face U.S. death penalty

TORONTO — The Supreme Court ruled Thursday that two Canadians accused of a triple murder in the United States can only be extradited with a guarantee they won't be put to death.

In a 9-0 ruling, Canada's highest court left open the possibility of extradition in cases that could bring the death penalty.

It said the case involving Atif Rafay and Glen Sebastian Burns failed to meet the exceptional circumstances that would allow them to be sent to the United States without a guarantee against their execution.

"Such assurances are constitutionally required in all but exceptional cases," the court ruled in the case now goes to Justice Minister Anne McLellan, who must seek assurances of no death penalty from Washington state before proceeding with the extradition of Rafay and Burns.

Now in their mid-20s, the two are wanted in the slayings of Rafay's father, mother and sister. The family was found beaten to death with a baseball bat in their Bellevue, Wash., home July 12, 1994, when Rafay and Burns were 18.

They were arrested in Vancouver in 1995, and have been in custody there since then.

Thursday's Supreme Court ruling concerned a 1996 decision by former Justice Minister Allan Rock to extradite the pair to the United States without protection from the death penalty.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

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AIDS APATHY

Epidemic still a global concern

We've all heard of them. Some of us may have even encountered them in some way in our years. It's safe to say that if we never had to face HIV or AIDS in any way, we'd all be much better off.

But to show how close to home they can be, the number of HIV and AIDS cases in Tarrant County have doubled in each of the past three years.

Scary? Yes.

Alarming? Yes.

But, Brian Barron, a disease intervention specialist at the Tarrant County Public Health Department, said those numbers could be misleading because it's only recently become law that facilities need to report cases to the county health department. He said the numbers "should start to taper off."

Since when is "they should start to taper off" a sign of improvement when talking about something as serious as HIV and AIDS? Something is seriously skewed by a statement like that when you think about the 2.4 million adults and children in Sub-Saharan Africa who died of AIDS in 2000. In that same year, 3.8 million adults and children in South Africa were infected with the HIV virus.

To put those numbers into perspective, the population of Tarrant County in 1999 was reported by the U.S. Census Bureau at 1,376,555. That number is less than half the number of people who were infected in South Africa by the HIV virus last year.

Granted, we're talking about South Africa which is clearly nowhere near our bubble, but the fact remains that HIV and AIDS are not going anywhere. Numbers are not tapering off.

We shouldn't be misled to believe that things are so right with the world just because numbers "should decrease" in North Central Texas.

Father Charlie Calabrese, TCU Catholic Community priest, said he does not think the campus is aware of the worldwide AIDS epidemic.

"I think people in general might think that AIDS is no longer a threat because people in the United States aren't dying like they were in the early years of the disease," Calabrese said. "When I read Time magazine's feature article on AIDS, I was blown away by the magnitude of the disease in developing countries and by what little resources they have to respond to AIDS."

That's what is happening in places outside our bubble. Does that sound like the numbers are tapering off? Surely not.

We shouldn't act satisfied.

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

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

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Letter to the editor

Valentine's Day editorial offensive, not appropriate in paper

I just wanted to write and say that I'll never hold the Skiff in high regard again because of the offensive Valentine's Day editorial by your managing editor Laura Head.

The editorial was bitter, rude and vulgar. Sure, it was her opinion and she's entitled to it. But she offended me deeply by bashing a simple holiday that ironically is all about love and compassion. There are better ways she could have established her point, and next time I hope she employs them. I, personally, plan on not reading another of her articles.

This is a higher education institution, one where great minds are formed. Do you really want to downgrade our university by printing

this filth? The most offensive line was this:

"This holiday, brought to you by Hallmark and the people who gave us decorated paper to wipe our asses with, is nothing more than a commercialized day of making out."

Are we no better than to print articles by people with mouths in the gutter? Is this the way that Head will write once she is out in the real world? If so, I am sorry for all the people who will be subjected to reading such trash. I do know one thing, I will not be one of them.

A disgruntled ex-Skiff reader,

Sarah Hoban
freshman premajor

Don't judge a book by its cover

Harry Potter books are entertaining for all ages, not just children

As I was walking out of Subway last week, a familiar picture and catchy headline on the front page of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram made me stop in my tracks.



Ward

It was not another story on Bush's tax-cut proposal, nor was it the picture of angry University of North Texas students that made my feet stop and my face light up with joy.

It was Harry Potter, the main character in J.K. Rowling's best-selling books, who captured my attention in the middle of that sidewalk on Berry Street.

"Hit or Myth," read the headline above Chris Vaughn's article about including "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" in the University Interscholastic League's 2001 reading selection for high-school literary criticism contests.

So what would make UIL decide to include this best-selling book in a list next to classics such as John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath," Ernest Hemingway's "A Farewell to Arms" and William Shakespeare's "Othello"? Pure genius.

If somebody was to write down and research every mythi-

cal allusion and deep-hidden symbol and archetype from "The Sorcerer's Stone," he or she would probably have at least a year's worth of work. If somebody was to write a high-school or college-level essay topic about anything in this imaginative story, he or she would have just as much difficulty writing it as if they were working with Gustave Flaubert's "Madame Bovary."

The fact is, people are just confused that there is a book that surpasses the age gap by being attractive to everybody from second grade to retirement age. But that characteristic of the Harry Potter series is its most charming. One of the most annoying questions I get from people when I tell them I am in love with this captivating collection is, "Why are you reading a children's book?"

My reply: "Who told you it was made for children?" Rowling says she did not and does not write these extraordinary stories with any particular audience in mind. And if those critics, who claim it is ridiculous for a college student to read a "children's level" book, disagree with UIL's decision, I say they have not taken the time to read between Rowling's lines (if they have read the lines at all, that is).

My favorite quote in the article was from Fred Tarpley, the contest director and a professor at Texas A&M-Commerce. "I thought, 'Harry Potter is getting

a lot of attention, it has the potential to be a classic, so for once, why don't we choose something not written by a dead person?'" Tarpley said.

Goodness, open-minded people sure make a difference in the world, don't they? We know the Harry Potter books won't instantly become difficult high-school-reading-level classics, but that does not mean they can't be analyzed and appreciated as much as J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye."

Take the time to judge something by its content — not its tendency to sell out within hours to second- and third-grade students. And if you don't want to read the books, then don't.

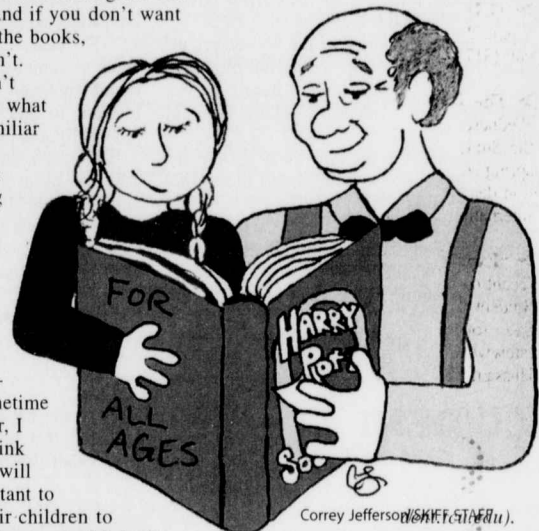
Just don't criticize what is unfamiliar to you.

When Rowling finally releases the fifth book of her seven-book series sometime this year, I don't think parents will be reluctant to take their children to the bookstore. And I don't

think UIL will be reluctant to look at the new book for consideration on the 2002 literary criticism selection list.

So instead of complaining that Rowling will be next to Rudolfo Anaya and Flannery O'Connor on tests this year, we should be celebrating the fact that children and adults alike will have even more pride when they open up a copy of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

Emily Ward is a junior math and news-editorial major from Springtown. She can be reached at (e.e.ward@stu-



Correy Jefferson/SKIFF STAFF

Blockbuster looks to profit from DVD

'Priced-for-rental' benefits video retail stores, not present consumers

It find it very ironic that Blockbuster Video has been heralding their support for DVDs in recent months. On the surface, it seems that Blockbuster is very supportive of this new video format, with all of its stores offering a new "30 DVD rentals over 30 days program."



Davis

Unbeknownst to most consumers, Blockbuster has been secretly trying to persuade motion picture studios into making all future DVD releases "priced-for-rental."

To explain the concept of priced-for-rental videos, consider the following example. Currently, if you went down to your favorite video store and tried to order a VHS copy of your favorite new release, let's say "The Hurricane" in this case, you could expect to pay around \$99 to \$120. Wait a second, that's a ridiculous price to pay for a VHS movie when you can go and buy the DVD (which contains a much more superior version of the film) for around \$20, right?

The reason behind the price difference stems from the mid-

80s when Blockbuster helped to capitalize on a home-video revenue scare that movie studios were facing. At that time, most people rented films because there were not any outlets to buy videos like there are now. The studios were becoming afraid that they would lose money if they allowed new VHS releases to be purchased by video retailers for a relatively small price — thus, a significant price hike occurred.

Since that time, Blockbuster has been reaping the benefits of the VHS priced-for-rental market. However, Blockbuster is starting to catch the wind that times are changing for the home-video market and that DVDs are here to stay. Unlike VHS in the 1980s, consumer studies have shown that more people are currently buying DVDs than renting them. In a resulting panic, Blockbuster is hoping to keep their stranglehold on the video-market arena with a priced-for-rental DVD plan.

While this proposal may significantly benefit Blockbuster, it creates two major consequences elsewhere. First, according to the Consumer Electronics Association, there are nearly 15 million DVD players residing in U.S. homes since its introduction in 1997, which makes DVD players

the fastest selling consumer electronics product ever. Nevertheless, DVD still has a long way to go before it completely saturates the country and replaces VHS. Therefore, if Blockbuster's ideas were to be implemented, the advantage of purchasing new DVD releases as soon as they are released would cease. This advantage currently remains one of the top reasons to adopt DVD technology. If it were taken away it would be harder to have the technology continue to succeed as well as it has done economically.

The second problem is rental pricing centers. Blockbuster has established a deal with movie studios called revenue sharing. For years, revenue sharing has helped Blockbuster run so-called mom-and-pop video stores out of business. Essentially, studios implement revenue sharing with Blockbuster by allowing the company to purchase videos at a very low price. Since Blockbuster is a chain that typically orders a sizable number of videos, the low price allows Blockbuster to further expand that number and, in turn, increase the total rental revenues that studios receive.

Smaller, independent video stores typically are unable to participate in such a program because it is not cost-effective for their means. The current low

price of DVD releases is helping smaller video stores compete with the giant video chains that use revenue sharing, primarily because revenue sharing presently only applies to VHS sales.

On the other hand, if DVDs were priced-for-rental, DVD-revenue sharing would certainly become a big business, and independent video stores would lose what little foothold they have gained.

It is strange to think that independent stores were carrying DVD rentals long before Blockbuster jumped on the bandwagon. In light of this, it would be a despicable move for studios to go along with a company that only recently started helping them out, and leave the true backbone of the DVD movement in the dark.

Through public pressure and common sense, the studios will realize that Blockbuster is only looking out for itself with the rental pricing system. Until that time comes, be sure to laugh when you hear those commercials implying that Blockbuster is "your" DVD source.

Robert Davis is a senior computer science major from Garland. He can be reached at (r.d.davis@student.tcu.edu).

Time to look past superficiality of holidays

Self-serving Valentine's Day candy does not replace true love, healthy relationship

It's two days after Valentine's Day and most of you, coming down off the temporary high you got from the roses, whether they were real or fake, or the candy you got, have realized that your relationship still sucks.



Sargent

And if by chance your relationship is good, it's not because of the gifts you received two days ago or because your significant other faithfully fulfills his or her capitalist moral obligation to spend a few bucks on every recognized holiday.

It all goes back to the cliché, "money can't buy love." And no matter how many times we hear it,

we still fail to let it really sink in.

Although there's nothing wrong with expressing your love or concern for someone through giving, I find it disturbing that too many people think that either giving is limited to what money can buy or that, when we do give, it has to be when society designates for us to.

The latter I find more disturbing for two reasons.

First, the whole idea that, for the most part, we only give to the poor on Christmas and Thanksgiving and then we walk away thinking we deserve the Nobel Peace Prize is so superficial. It's as if either we are so self-centered that we think those who are poverty stricken only need food, water, clothes and shelter twice a year, or we are so egotistical that we think we don't owe them anything so they should be appreciative of anything we do give them. And if

that's the way you feel, you might as well not give at all.

To me, it's that kind of sickly self-serving thinking that leads to millions of deaths from starvation and disease every year.

Secondly, for some reason we think that having a healthy relationship, whether it be between spouses or mates or between children and parents, means that we fulfill all the statusque of society. It's like unspoken Correy Jefferson/SKIFF STAFF dogma. Every Christmas you spoil your children with gifts (that they'll hate and throw in the closet after three weeks) until you go into debt. Every Valentine's Day, depending on the length of your relationship, you come up with something a little more expensive than the last. When your son gets his license, if you have enough money, you get

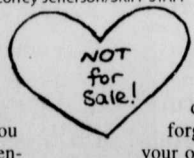
him a sports car (that he'll wreck at least three times). On Easter, if you're religious, you buy some new suit or dress, etc.

Maybe I exaggerated a little bit here and there but hopefully, you get the point I'm trying to make. We live in a materialistic society that compels us to either focus on our own self-gratification or to focus more on impressing those outside our relationships than re-

ally developing the relationships themselves.

So basically what I'm saying is forget about what someone did or didn't get, you and forget about yourself and your own selfish desires sometimes. You'll learn to enjoy life a lot more.

John Sargent is a freshmen computer science major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at



TCU Crime Blotter

Feb. 7 through 14, 2001

TCU Police reported the following offenses between Feb. 7 and Feb. 14, 2001.

Theft

Feb. 7, 5 p.m. — A student reported a bicycle stolen from Clark Hall. The bicycle lock was found cut in half in the bushes near the bike rack. The bicycle estimated to be worth less than \$500.

Feb. 8, 4:35 p.m. — A student reported a vehicle was vandalized between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The car, which was parked in the North parking lot

across from the old funeral home, had the front side drivers window broken. A compact disc player and the remote were stolen. The loss is estimated at \$400.

Feb. 14, 6:53 a.m. — Someone tried to steal a picture out of a conference hall in the Sid W. Richardson Building. The picture was damaged when the suspect tried to remove it by force.

Disorderly Conduct

Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. — A female student reported a male student had exposed himself in the Daniel-

Meyer Coliseum parking lot across the street from the Rickel Building. The complainant was leaving the Rickel as the male student pulled his pants down. The male student was identified in his late teens, mid-20s with short blonde hair. He was wearing a white T-shirt and black shorts.

Assault

Feb. 9, 12:45 a.m. — Two students reported being nearly hit by a water-balloon outside of Clark Hall. The students were walking on the west side of the building.

Property Crime

Feb. 11, 11 p.m. — A gate was damaged in the Winton-Scott Hall parking lot located at 2820 Bowie St. A "No Parking Zone" sign was broken and thrown in the middle of the parking lot. The damages are estimated at \$75.

Feb. 13, 8:40 p.m. — A glass door in Winton-Scott was broken when a male student kicked a "Wet Floor" sign into the door. Damages are estimated at \$200.

This report was compiled by staff reporter Ram Luthra.

LEADERSHIP

From Page 1

In addition to business, Gary Patterson, the new football head coach and the new deans will be introduced. Members are also encouraged to attend the TCU's men's basketball game against Nevada on Saturday. The attendants will also have the opportunity to tour the campus, which includes a look at the new Brite Divinity housing, Cox said.

Cox said the majority of the volunteers attending the event are from Texas, but members from the TCU National Alumni Board are expected from New York City, Atlanta and St. Louis.

"It's impressive to see how many people are willing to give up so much time to their alma mater," Cox said.

Alumni Association President Laura Miller said the goals of the weekend are to educate volunteers on what's happening in the university, plan upcoming events and to have a little fun.

"We look forward to seeing people serve in

other capacities of the university besides the alumni association," Miller said.

Although a couple of hundred people are expected this weekend, participation in the event keeps steady as the years progress, Cox said.

"Maybe the numbers have not increased, but the energy has definitely increased," Cox said. "The alumni are more enthusiastic and give much more time and help than in previous years."

There are several benefits that come out of the program, Cox said.

"The leaders get a good feeling when they come to campus," she said. "They get to experience firsthand what TCU is trying to move forward to and are able to connect to TCU physically and emotionally."

Hal Roach, director of The TCU Frog Club, said this event attracts more members to participate in the club throughout the years. This weekend is just a time to associate with volunteers and visit with old friends and even make new friends, Roach said.

Jessica Cervantez

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Leadership Round Up

Schedule of Events

Today

- 50-Year Reunion Meeting 3 p.m. Kelly Center
- Committee Meetings TBA TBA
- Chancellor's Dinner 6:30 p.m. Colonial Country Club

Saturday

- Continental Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Kelly Center
- Opening Session 9 a.m. Kelly Center
- Dean's Session 10 a.m. Kelly Center
- Board Meetings 10 a.m. TBA
- Tour of Campus 11:40 a.m. Kelly Center
- Patterson Lunch 12:30 p.m. Cox Banquet Hall
- Reunion/Board Meetings 2 p.m. TBA
- TCU vs. Nevada 7 p.m. Daniel-Meyer Coliseum

ACCIDENT

From Page 1

report, the Mustang veered right and stopped facing the oncoming traffic heading north down W. Berry Street.

"It was my fault," Wallis said. "I never saw her until after everything was over."

According to the police report, Wallis failed to yield to the right of way from a private driveway.

After the collision, Wallis' door was crushed in and she was unable to get out. Out of instinct, she said,

she climbed over to the passenger side and jumped out that door to rush to see if the other driver was injured.

"She said she was OK," Wallis said. "I noticed her airbags were out. Thank God that saved her."

From that point on, Wallis' memory is sketchy. Bystanders seated her back in the passenger's seat of her car. Wanta said the TCU Police arrived on the scene first. An ambulance was called for assistance when the Fort Worth Police arrived.

Wallis was thought to have suffered a concussion from hitting her head on the driver's side window.

"I don't remember getting in the ambulance, and I kept coming in and out (of consciousness)," she said.

Medical records attendant Jessie Schmidt said Wallis was admitted to Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital at 11:34 a.m. She was treated for a headache, head injury and a neck sprain and released at 4:20 p.m.

Wallis said the doctors ran a few CAT scans to make sure everything was OK. Nearly a week later, all that is left of the injury is a black eye and a few bruises. She even made her test on Monday.

"I'm just glad that's all I have to show for it," Wallis said.

Wanta said she was treated Saturday for whiplash and leg injuries. She declined to release further statements about the accident pending a law suit.

Both cars were towed, but the damages have not been assessed yet. Wallis said her car was not completely totaled, but Wanta's was worse off. The accident was Wallis' first.

"I always think I'm so careful, but I guess not this time," Wallis said.

Alisha Brown

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PARDON

From Page 1

that are not subject to review by any other government entity. The federal probe would focus instead on possible criminal wrongdoing stemming from the contributions.

In a statement issued through transition office spokeswoman Julia Payne late Wednesday, Clinton again denied any wrongdoing.

"As I have said repeatedly, I made the decision to pardon Marc Rich based on what I thought was the right thing to do," he said. "Any suggestion that improper factors, including fund raising for the (Democratic National Committee) or my library, had anything to do with the decision are absolutely false. I look forward to cooperating with any appropriate inquiry."

White's spokesman, Herb Hadad, said her office would have no comment on the report of an investigation. In Washington, Justice Department spokeswoman Mindy Tucker also had no com-

ment on the report.

Rich, who fled to Switzerland in the 1980s, was wanted by the Justice Department on charges of evading more than \$48 million in taxes, fraud and participating in illegal oil deals with Iran.

In testimony Wednesday before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Justice Department pardon attorney Roger Adams said the White House initially failed to tell him during a midnight phone call that Rich was a fugitive.

"I was not told," Adams said. "I learned that from the FBI."

After discovering that Rich and his indicted partner were fugitives, Adams fired off a fax to the White House summarizing the facts of their criminal case. The White House then asked Adams to fax over the materials that he had gotten from the FBI.

The revelations prompted several Democrats to questions Clinton's decision to later pardon Rich. Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., said the pardon "certainly raises the appearance of impropriety."

VALENTINE

From Page 1

of Wiggins Hall, said RHA's budget was about \$5,000 this semester.

Spain said RHA is composed of four members from each residence hall who try to improve dorm life for students.

The organization discussed plans at its meeting Tuesday to give out snacks during finals week, have a Tan Day on the lawn between Sherley Hall and Colby Hall and a video-rental system in Wiggins.

"The message we're trying to

communicate is that we can do something for everyone," Spain said.

James said he wants people to know RHA is a legitimate organization that can do a lot on campus. He said people should voice their concerns to the association.

"RHA has a lot of potential to be big on this campus," James said. "Students are free and more than welcome to talk to us about issues."

RHA meets at 3:30 p.m. every other Tuesday in the Student Center, Room 207.

Chrissy Braden

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COMA

From Page 1

Kanan, 19, and Ana Catalina Calderon were both immediately transported to the hospital. Kanan has been released from the hospital and could not be reached for comment. Crawford was not injured.

John Singleton, director of International Student Services, couldn't be reached, despite nu-

merous attempts. However, family members confirmed that Singleton has made numerous visits to the hospital and has been very helpful.

Ana Catalina Calderon, in her first semester at TCU, was taking two hours in the Intensive English Program. Her father said she came to TCU to learn English.

Ram Luthra

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"To good friends, great food, and grand openings."

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May you eat well, but pay little.

Bring this coupon to Bennigan's and receive \$5 off your purchase of \$15 or more.

Valid on food and nonalcoholic beverage purchase of \$15 or more only. Not valid on alcoholic beverages or with any other special offer. Tax and tip not included. Limit one coupon per party per visit. Valid only at participating locations. Valid through 5/31/01. PCN Key-51 of \$15

And The Winner is...

The 43rd Grammy Awards, honoring excellence in music, will air live at 7 p.m. Wednesday on Channel 11 (CBS). The award show will feature performances by Christina Aguilera, Destiny's Child, Eminem, Madonna, N'Sync and U2. Below is a sneak preview of the nominations as well as predictions for some of the major awards:

His Prediction

By David Reese
SKIFF STAFF

Nominees for Album of the Year

Beck "Midnite Vultures"
Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Radiohead "Kid A"
Paul Simon "You're the One"
Steely Dan "Two Against Nature"

Should win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Will win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"

One of the most disappointing categories of the evening is leaning towards the foul-mouthed white rapper, Eminem. With one of the most critically and commercially praised albums of the year, Eminem should win this award with his eyes closed.

Nominees for Record of the Year

Destiny's Child "Say My Name"
Macy Gray "I Try"
Madonna "Music"
N'Sync "Bye Bye Bye"
U2 "Beautiful Day"

Should win: Madonna "Music"
Will win: U2 "Beautiful Day"

This category is probably the hardest to predict. All of the tracks are quite deserving. I believe Macy Gray's song is just too old to be remembered. N'Sync had a catchy tune with "Bye Bye Bye," but it is not the type of song that wins record of the year. Destiny's Child had a triumphant year, but the Academy rarely recognizes an R&B group. Both Madonna and U2 are well-liked but U2 has more credibility which will help them garner this award.

Nominees for Best New Artist

Shelby Lynne
Brad Paisley
Papa Roach
Jill Scott
Sisqo

Should win: Jill Scott
Will win: Sisqo

One word: Who? I know this category is for best new artists, but who has ever heard of these people? Although I do not believe he is the best on this list, Sisqo will take home the Grammy for the simple fact that he is the most known artist in the category.

Nominees for Best Pop Album

Don Henley "Inside Job"
Madonna "Music"
N'Sync "No Strings Attached"
Britney Spears "Oops! I Did It Again"
Steely Dan "Two Against Nature"

Should win: Madonna "Music"
Will win: Madonna "Music"

Another hard category to predict. I think Don Henley and Steely Dan will cancel out the old-timer vote unless they rally around one of the nominees. Madonna, N'Sync, and Britney Spears all had popular and well-received albums. My assumption is that the youngsters will cancel each other out, and this award will be Madonna's consolation prize for not winning record of the year.

Nominees for Best Rock Album

Bon Jovi "Crush"
Foo Fighters "There is Nothing Left to Lose"
Matchbox Twenty "Mad Season"
No Doubt "Return to Saturn"
Rage Against the Machine "Battle of Los Angeles"

Should win: Foo Fighters "There is Nothing Left to Lose"
Will win: Matchbox Twenty "Mad Season"

Although these are all great artists, none of their albums are strong rock albums. I think Foo Fighters had the strongest rock album, but the Grammys love Rob Thomas of Matchbox Twenty.

Nominees for Best R&B Album

Boyz II Men "Nathan Michael Shawn Wanya"
Toni Braxton "The Heat"
D'Angelo "Voodoo"
Joe "My Name is Joe"
Jill Scott "Who is Jill Scott? Words & Sounds Vol. 1"
Sisqo "Unleash the Dragon"

Should win: D'Angelo "Voodoo"
Will win: D'Angelo "Voodoo"

This is a great R&B category with all of the key elements. Sisqo and Joe will cancel each other out. Boyz II Men are no longer what they were. Jill Scott could be this year's Lauryn Hill or Erykah Badu, but I highly doubt it. The battle will be between Toni Braxton and D'Angelo with D'Angelo still standing. His album was fresh and, more importantly, overlooked for Album of the Year category which should yield him this prize.

Nominees for Best Rap Album

DMX "... And Then There was X"
Dr. Dre "Dr. Dre — 2001"
Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Jay-Z "Vol. 3 The Life and Times of Shawn S. Carter"
Nelly "Country Grammar"

Should win: Dr. Dre "Dr. Dre — 2001"
Will win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"

A very good variety of popular rap music. The category comes down to two artists: Eminem and Dr. Dre. If Eminem wins, then Dr. Dre will win as well since he is the producer of Eminem's album. This leads me to believe that the award will be given to Eminem because both artists will be rewarded with a Grammy.

Nominees for Best Country Album

Vince Gill "Let's Make Sure We Kiss Goodbye"
Faith Hill "Breathe"
Alan Jackson "Under the Influence"
Lee Ann Womack "I Hope You Dance"
Trisha Yearwood "Real Live Woman"

Should win: Lee Ann Womack "I Hope You Dance"
Will win: Faith Hill "Breathe"

None of these albums are true country albums. Most of them have a pop influence. Womack's album was more inspiring with better writing and producing, but no one can deny that 2000 was the year of Faith Hill. She should be a lock for this award, but stranger things have happened in the past, including the Dixie Chicks winning the category over Shania Twain in 1998.

The best aspect of this year's Grammys is that there is no guarantee of who will win, and there is no one artist dominating all of the categories like Santana's big victory last year with eight or Lauryn Hill's victory two years ago with five. The Grammys are a great place to watch your favorite performers doing what they do best: singing and gloating.

By Emily E. Ward
SKIFF STAFF

Nominees for Album of the Year

Beck "Midnite Vultures"
Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Radiohead "Kid A"
Paul Simon "You're the One"
Steely Dan "Two Against Nature"

Should win: Beck "Midnite Vultures"
Will win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"

The past year in music must have been a little lacking if these are considered some of the best albums of the year. Freedom of speech advocates should be glowing on Grammy night when the quite predictable winner Eminem takes the stage. I would like to see Beck win simply because he has some talent.

Nominees for Record of the Year

Destiny's Child "Say My Name"
Macy Gray "I Try"
Madonna "Music"
N'Sync "Bye Bye Bye"
U2 "Beautiful Day"

Should win: U2 "Beautiful Day"
Will win: Madonna "Music"

Picking Madonna as the winner above U2 is mainly the result of a coin flip, because both artists have equal probabilities of winning the Grammy. Macy Gray's hit is a little too old to get the nod, and if N'Sync wins the award, I think I will have a mild heart attack. As for Destiny's Child, the group is talented and adored enough, but winning just doesn't seem likely for them.

Nominees for Best New Artist

Shelby Lynne
Brad Paisley
Papa Roach
Jill Scott
Sisqo

Should win: Sisqo
Will win: Sisqo

Who are these people? These artists are not new — they are unrecognizable. Sisqo is the only one whose name makes me think of the music industry. It may be a good idea to watch the Grammys just so you can put a face to an unfamiliar name.

Nominees for Best Pop Album

Don Henley "Inside Job"
Madonna "Music"
N'Sync "No Strings Attached"
Britney Spears "Oops! I Did It Again"
Steely Dan "Two Against Nature"

Should win: Madonna "Music"
Will win: Madonna "Music"

Madonna pretty much blows the rest of the nominees in this category out of the water. As much of an Eagle's fan I am, I have to say I was not very impressed with Don Henley's newest album. And as for Steely Dan ... he wasn't even deserving of an award back in the 70s and 80s. Britney Spears and N'Sync may be popular to tons of screaming fans, but popularity should not override depth and talent (two traits Madonna has had

since she was a material girl in the 80s).

Nominees for Best Rock Album

Bon Jovi "Crush"
Foo Fighters "There is Nothing Left to Lose"
Matchbox Twenty "Mad Season"
No Doubt "Return to Saturn"
Rage Against the Machine "Battle of Los Angeles"

Should win: Rage Against the Machine "Battle of Los Angeles"
Will win: Matchbox Twenty "Mad Season"

The Grammy wrangle in this category won't be too bloody since none of the nominations are really worth fighting for. Rage Against the Machine is probably the only group in this category who puts extensive intelligence and meaning into their lyrics, but they are not exactly a Grammy favorite. I have heard many good things about Matchbox Twenty's new album, and next to all the others, the Academy is more likely to lean toward this alternative-style album.

Nominees for Best R&B Album

Boyz II Men "Nathan Michael Shawn Wanya"
Toni Braxton "The Heat"
D'Angelo "Voodoo"
Joe "My Name is Joe"
Jill Scott "Who is Jill Scott? Words & Sounds Vol. 1"
Sisqo "Unleash the Dragon"

Should win: D'Angelo "Voodoo"
Will win: D'Angelo "Voodoo"

Although I am no expert when it comes to the R&B category, I am almost positive D'Angelo will be taking stage as the Grammy winner. The "Boyz" are old men by now, so they are not edgy enough, and Jill Scott is just below the level that she needs to take the prize.

Nominees for Best Rap Album

DMX "... And Then There was X"
Dr. Dre "Dr. Dre - 2001"
Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Jay-Z "Vol. 3 The Life and Times of Shawn S. Carter"
Nelly "Country Grammar"

Should win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"
Will win: Eminem "The Marshall Mathers LP"

If Eminem is predicted to win album of the year, it seems rather likely that he would take another Grammy within album's specific category. Good things have been said about the Dr. Dre album, but it does not stand out enough to be chosen over all the others.

Nominees for Best Country Album

Vince Gill "Let's Make Sure We Kiss Goodbye"
Faith Hill "Breathe"
Alan Jackson "Under the Influence"
Lee Ann Womack "I Hope You Dance"
Trisha Yearwood "Real Live Woman"

Should win: Lee Ann Womack "I Hope You Dance"
Will win: Faith Hill "Breathe"

Alan Jackson's album is the only one in this category that is pure country. Looking at all the others, it's easy to see that our culture is being raided by pop music. Faith Hill, who was the woman of the year in music, will take away the Grammy without a lot of competition. Lee Ann Womack's nomination is well-deserved, but nobody can deny the power of Faith.

The Grammy Awards have disappointed me a number of times in the past four or five years. Like MTV and VH1, the Grammy's seem to prefer quantity over quality. The only way I will be able to enjoy this year's show is if the Academy is at least smart enough to give a Grammy to Bob Dylan for "Things Have Changed," a song that has not only earned an Oscar nomination and Golden Globe trophy, but was created by a man who is a living legend in our time. Until Wednesday, I guess I will just have to cross my fingers and wait.

Review by Melissa Christensen

JI am nostalgic for a time in which I have never lived. The patriotism, the simplicity and the desire to live that I associate with the 1940s were reimagined Wednesday at "Remembering the Big Bands," the 2nd annual Valentine's Day concert presented by the TCU Jazz Ensemble.

a Watching the reactions of the older audience members was the best entertainment I could have asked for on a Valentine's Day celebrated single-style. To my left, a white-haired gentleman unsuccessfully attempted to reign in his body's desire to celebrate the rhythm. Before the first theme of "In the Mood" was finished, he was slapping his thigh and bobbing his head. In front and to the right, a grandmother bounced on her lap a curly-headed toddler who clapped her chubby hands to her own beat. Down the row, a mischievous smile moved across a man's wrinkled face as his wife whispered in his ear and slid her hand into his. It was as if the wrinkled skin was smoothed again, the grays had returned to blondes and browns and the aching joints were once again limber and free.

ZI understood how this transformation had taken place once director Curt Wilson kicked off a medley entitled "Salute to the Bands." Themes familiar even to myself floated throughout Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium, climaxing at an imitated telephone ring followed by several hundred voices shouting in unison, "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

ZI realized these big band tunes were the "Baby One More Time" and "It's Gonna Be Me" of our time. But something tells me the replaying of Britney Spears and N'Sync in 60 years won't evoke the same nostalgia in us as "Little Brown Jug" and "Stardust" evoked in the World War II generation Wednesday.

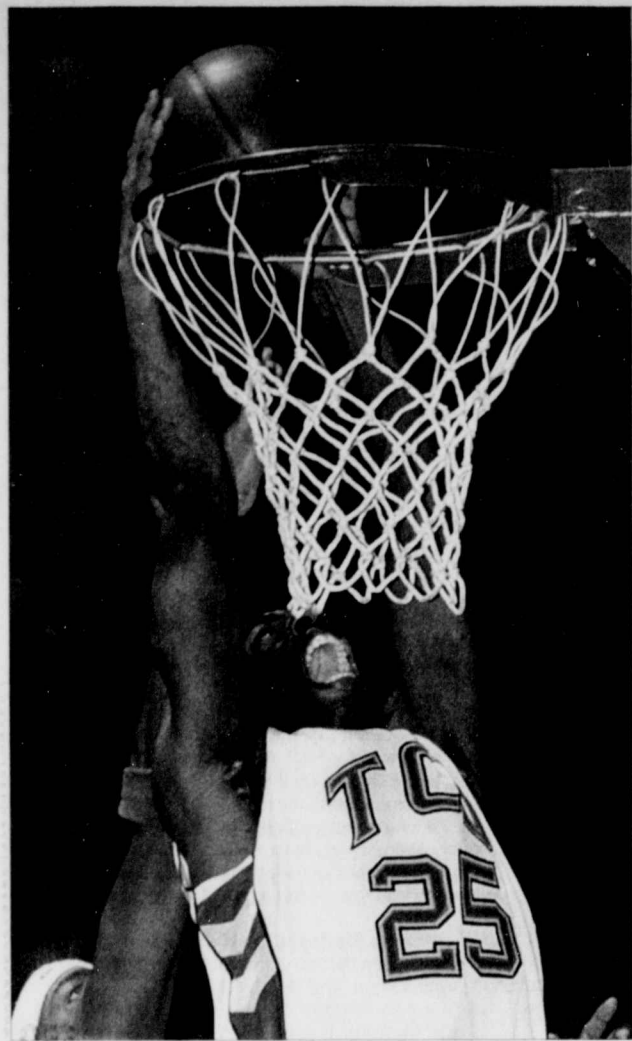
The music of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey and Les Brown proved to me that certain songs possess a timeless character. As two elderly ladies expressed during intermission, it is wonderful that children born in the 1980s can't only play, but also express the same subtle qualities and enjoy making the same music children of the 1920s and 1930s danced to.

The personality of the evening was enhanced by

Wilson's commentary during door prize give-a-ways and a selection played in addition to the printed program. Dendra Barnett, featured jazz vocalist, shined not only with her sequin accents, but through her dazzling smile and infectious love for the music she was helping to create. A few informal trivia questions and "Name-that-Tune" games established intimacy between the ensemble and the audience.

Wilson deserves praise for his creation. More than just a concert, the big band tribute provided a time warp for all audience members. TCU students were privileged to see the years melt away from the faces of their elders, while that older generation was able to see the same joy they experienced brought to a new generation. Wilson taught everybody in attendance that music is the language of time.

Melissa Christensen is a sophomore news editorial journalism major from Grand Island, Neb. She can be reached at mscchristense@student.tcu.edu.



Senior forward Ryan Carroll slam dunks two of his 26 points as the Frogs defeated No. 20 Fresno State, 102-88, Friday night at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Frogs 'shimmy' past Fresno Top Frog

By Matt Stiver
SKIFF STAFF

Shake, rattle and roll. Jerry Lee Lewis could not have done it better himself.

TCU shook free of defenders, rattled the rim with dunks and rolled past No. 20 Fresno State.

With 11:44 to play, sophomore forward Bingo Merriex exemplified TCU's effort. Merriex pulled down a rebound with 11:53 left and threw the ball up to junior Greedy Daniels. When Daniels' pull-up three-pointer rimmed off, Merriex flew in and slammed the ball home. After swinging on the rim, Merriex danced up the floor, his arms and head flailing.

"That's my shimmy dance," Merriex said. "We just went out there and had fun. That's what it's all about."

Head coach Billy Tubbs said the Frogs came out with intensity.

"I thought we could win the game, and our players thought that too," Tubbs said.

Leading by two at halftime, the Frogs used a 15-0 run to turn a seven point lead into a 22-point advantage with 8:04 to play. The Bulldogs would not draw within 18 until Tubbs pulled his starters off the floor. Merriex scored 9 points during the run.

Fresno State coach Jerry Tarkanian said the Bulldogs played their worst game of the season. He said turnovers and poor defensive coverage sapped the Bulldogs of energy.

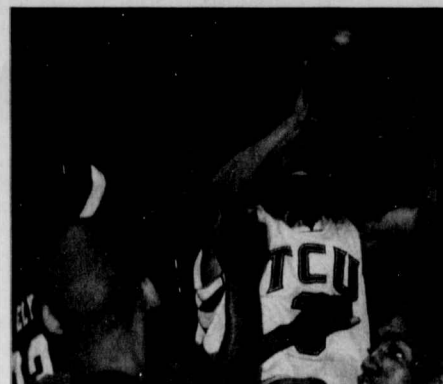
"God, this was a nightmare," Tarkanian said. "I'm embarrassed and hurt inside. You would think a team that accomplished what we've accomplished wouldn't play like this."

Junior Melvin Ely led the Bulldogs with 25 points and nine rebounds. Senior Demeterius Porter scored 24 on eight of 14 shooting.

With senior center Derrick Davenport ineffective in the post for much of the game, Merriex became a consistent force inside, both scoring and rebounding. Merriex finished second on the team in points (22) and rebounds (nine). Senior Ryan Carroll led the Frogs with 26 points and had six steals.

Points: 22
Rebounds: 9
Shooting: 9-of-14
Minutes: 35

Sophomore forward Bingo Merriex scored 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds as TCU defeated No. 20 Fresno State, 102-88. Starting in place of injured forward Myron Anthony, Merriex provided the Frogs with their only consistent post scoring and exemplified the Frogs' intensity with the debut of his "shimmy dance."



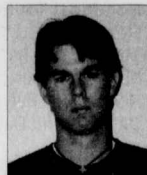
Senior point guard Thomas McTyer avoids a defender as he makes one of his five baskets. McTyer also had seven assists and four steals against Western Athletic Conference-leading Fresno State.

Frogs continue Jekyll and Hyde performances

"The next time we play Rice, we're gonna beat them by 50."

Whether said in jest or in all seriousness. The post-game statements made by junior guard Greedy Daniels signify the season that has been TCU men's basketball. TCU has lost to Rice twice in games that featured a Horned Frog team that played more like the Washington Generals in comparison to the team that showed up Thursday at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

"We've had that problem," Daniels said. "We've played down to the level of the competition. We've not been



HORNE

See HORNE, Page 7

See BBALL, Page 7

STAYING ON TRACK

Lindel Frater takes races in stride as he reaches for life's goals

By Chris Gibson
SKIFF STAFF

Under a blanket of sun, on an unseasonably warm February day, four young men with legs like thoroughbreds and arms of Greek gods crouch side by side awaiting their destination 100-meters away. Forty fingers slightly wet with perspiration from the warm day press into the synthetic surface of the track. Eight spiked shoes dig into the sturdy blocks behind them.

The call is made, "set." The young men rise with the grace of a teenager sneaking in past curfew. Silence. A shot rings out and every

muscle in the runners' bodies pull and push almost in unison.

Heads down, spikes digging into the track below. Each runner aware of his competition but focused on himself.

One runner, almost effortlessly, grabs a slight advantage over the other three. And then, just as fast as it all started, it is over. The runner begins to slow after only 50-meters, barely enough time to get a glimpse of what is possible. On this day, with the finish line in sight, he is happy with what he has accomplished. There will be other days. There will be more important races.

For TCU senior sprinter Lindel Frater, it has always been about the next race. One more chance to prove himself; one more chance at reaching that seemingly unattainable goal.

Turning a hobby to a goal

The four-time All-American from Kingston, Jamaica, has already accomplished more in the athletic arena in his 23 years than most people do in a lifetime. He won the prestigious Carifta Championships, emblematic of the fastest boys sprinter in the Caribbean, at 15. He was an alternate on Jamaica's 4x100-meter Olympic team in Atlanta at 17. A Division II national champion by 19 and a Division I All-American by 21. This past summer, Frater added Olympic semi-finalist to his resume in the 2000 Sydney games. Frater's numbers are gaudy, considering he didn't even start running competitively until middle school.

"I started running when I was

about 13," Frater said. "I had always liked running but had never really done much with it. I really just needed something to do to keep me out of trouble."

That hobby turned into a focal point for the Frater family. Monica Frater, Lindel's mother, remembers when the family made a choice to move from their small country town to Kingston.

"Lindel and his brothers had always enjoyed running," she said. "It was because of the running that I pushed for them to go to school in the city. So we moved, about 120 miles away to Kingston for the exposure."

"I wouldn't say it was easy. I had to change jobs and everyone had to adjust, but I never regretted a moment of it."

Life's little influences

In Kingston, Lindel Frater met high school head coach Stephen Francis.

Lindel Frater said Francis, one of the biggest influences in his life and gave him the tough love and guidance that a young star needs.

"I stopped running track for a year because I wasn't doing that well," Lindel Frater said. "The only reason I went back was because if you ran track, you got lunch for half price, and they would let you into the stadium for free."

"The first day I came back, I asked coach (Francis) if I could get in the (120-meter) race. There was only one lane open, and I had to beg him to get in so he just kind of stuck

me in lane eight. It was the very last, outside lane and I just thought I would run the curve but I ended up winning. Coach didn't believe it so we ran it again, and I won again."

Winning just seemed to come natural for Lindel Frater after that, and so did his relationship with his coach. "I am glad that Lindel had someone like (Francis)," Monica Frater said. "He always pushed, but in a kind way. He got real close to our family, and we established a very good rapport. He was hard on him, but it was good for Lindel."

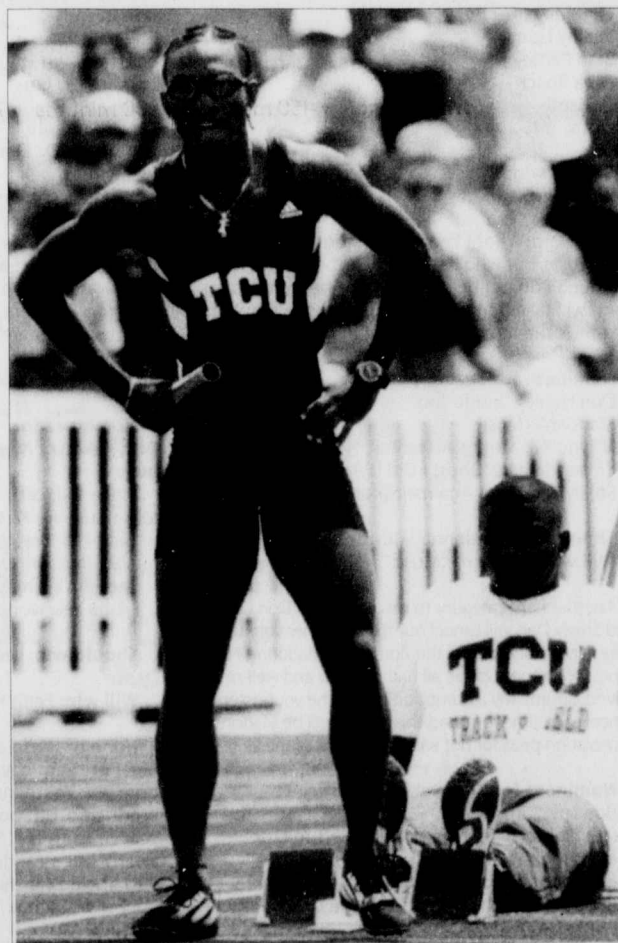
Lindel Frater said his coach was always there for him and guided him on and off the track.

"He was kind of like a father figure to me," Lindel Frater said. "I mean, my dad was always behind me, but I just felt like I could go to (Francis) with anything. His believing in me made a lot of difference. I saw for the first time that if I kept working hard, I could win."

Coming to TCU

Lindel Frater kept working hard and kept winning and eventually began to get noticed by people in the track community, not only in Jamaica but around the world. Competition led Lindel Frater to meets in places like Lisbon, Portugal, where he finished fifth in the 100-meters in the World Junior Championships. Running also brought Lindel Frater to the United States, which eventually led him to Texas and to TCU.

See FRATER, Page 8



Senior sprinter Lindel Frater gets ready to run the first leg of the 4x200 relay. Frater was part of the team that broke TCU's 14-year-old 4x200 relay record at the Penn Relays April 29, 2000.

Sports glance

A look ahead at what's going on in TCU athletics next week.

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	Women at Nevada 9 p.m.	Men vs. Nevada 7 p.m.		Women at Fresno State 4 p.m.		Women at UTEP 8 p.m.	Men at Hawaii 11:05 p.m.
		Women vs. UTEP 11 a.m.					Women vs. BYU 2 p.m.
		vs. Hawaii-Hilo 1:05 p.m.	vs. Hawaii-Hilo 2:05 p.m.	vs. Hawaii-Hilo 2:05 p.m.	vs. Oklahoma 2:05 p.m.	vs. UT-Arlington 2:05 p.m.	
	Men at Taylor Made/Waikola Intercollegiate in Hawaii	Men at Taylor Made/Waikola Intercollegiate in Hawaii					

Frogs focus on last road trip

Women's basketball team looks for possible tourney trip

By Kelly Morris
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

There are still six games left on the TCU women's basketball schedule, but head coach Jeff Mittie can't help but think of the possibility of the Frogs going to their first-ever NCAA tournament.

"It's only natural to think of going to the NCAA tournament," Mittie said. "We're pleased with our start and focus, but we have set both short-term and long-term goals. One reason we have achieved what we have this season is because we've left (our long-term goals) where they need to stay."

But before the Frogs can even think about making it to the post-

season, they will first have to survive a three-game road trip and a Feb. 25 home match up against the Western Athletic Conference's No. 2 team Hawaii.

The Frogs, who have won 11 straight and remain a perfect 10-0 in conference play, begin their road trip today at Nevada (12-11, 5-6 WAC).

Senior guard Amy Porter said she expects the season's final road trip to be a challenge, especially the game against Nevada.

"The games we have coming up will be the toughest three games because they're on the road, and because Nevada, Fresno State and (Texas-El Paso) are all very good teams," Porter said. "We know Nevada will be

fired up to play us because we beat them pretty good the last time we played them. Defense is going to be the key."

In the last meeting between Nevada and TCU, Jan. 12, the Frogs defeated Nevada, 82-66. The Wolf Pack shot just 35.3 percent (12-of-34) from the field in the first half. Despite losing three straight games and falling to fourth in the WAC, the Wolf Pack are 9-2 at home and average 46 percent shooting from the field.

Nevada's lineup features the WAC's second leading scorer and the conference's second best three-point percentage shooter. Sophomore Kate Smith averages 18.8 points a game in 23 games

See WOMEN, Page 7

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HORNE

From Page 6

as excited to play (teams like Rice). That's been the problem.

TCU was certainly excited to play against Fresno State probably because the Frogs are realizing they are fighting for their postseason lives.

In which case, the Horned Frogs dominated a lackluster Fresno team that entered play Thursday at No. 20 in the *Associated Press* top 25. The 102-88 final score was not indicative of how the game was dominated by the Horned Frog defense.

The TCU defensive pressure

forced 30 turnovers, picked up 21 steals and scored 17 points off turnovers, virtually eliminating the possibility of any half-court offense. The Bulldogs managed just three points off only 14 TCU turnovers.

In the Frogs last performance, they lost their own lackluster game to Rice.

Games like that against Fresno are great. Everyone's happy except Jerry Tarkanian who called his team's performance embarrassing and a nightmare that he never would have expected. However, it's going to come time when head coach Billy Tubbs will have to get his team ready to play teams other than Southern

Methodist and Fresno State.

If you do the math, the majority of the Western Athletic Conference is not made up of teams like SMU and Fresno.

After the Frogs win, Tubbs said he's not surprised about how his team seems to take on a Jekyll and Hyde sort of mindset from game to game.

How can he not be surprised, if not fed up?

At 17-8 overall, bad losses to Rice, Tulsa, Butler and College of Charleston are going to keep this year's version of "Billy Ball" out of the NCAA Tournament.

"Fresno State is a different kind of

team," Tubbs said in reference to how his team responds to different levels of competition. "We get in trouble when we play teams who don't think they're good."

I'm confused. Teams who play with no confidence should be road kill.

Good teams run over teams who play like with a lack of confidence. Good teams don't let bad teams dictate the game at home or on the road.

Tubbs continued, "We've struggled in games where our defense couldn't get the game going."

The scores in the games against Rice were 76-72 and 73-66, both in the Owls advantage and both enor-

mous struggles for TCU.

With all that said, Daniels seems to believe the Frogs will beat Rice by 50 the next time the two meet up, possibly in the WAC Tournament.

But before that, TCU has five remaining conference games, three of which are against Nevada, San Jose State and Hawaii. One of two things will happen. TCU will run them over or, like Daniels said, they'll just play down to their level and pick up another three bad losses.

Associate Editor Danny Horne is a senior broadcast journalism major from Carrollton. He can be reached at (d.m.horne@student.tcu.edu).

BBALL

From Page 6

Tubbs said Merriex, who got his second consecutive start, played more minutes than he had scheduled.

Merriex said with senior Myron Anthony out with a sprained ankle, he would have to step up his game.

"Myron's job is to go out and get rebounds, so I knew my team-

mates would be counting on me," Merriex said. "I got pumped up to go out and play aggressively."

Coming off a lackluster loss at Rice, the Frogs responded with their best effort of the season. They out-rebounded the Bulldogs 43-35 and forced 30 turnovers, including 21 steals.

Tubbs said the Bulldogs' open style of play energized the Frogs.

"We're a lot like Fresno: We think we're good," Tubbs said. "So we go out and play. We have

trouble against teams that don't think they're good so they don't play."

Six days removed from scoring 25 second-half points against Rice, TCU led the Bulldogs by as many as 25 points late in the second half.

The Frogs will face Nevada at 7:05 p.m. Saturday at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

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WOMEN

From Page 6

this season, while senior Ashley Bastian has made 44.7 percent (46-of-103) of her shots from behind the arc.

TCU senior guard Jill Sutton leads the league in three-point percentage shooting with 45.5 percent (50-of-110).

Freshman guard Ebony Shaw said winning on the road will give the Frogs a huge advantage in

their game against Hawaii.

"It's very important to get these wins away because it will make it easier to win against Hawaii," Shaw said. "Since we're leading the conference, every team is coming out to beat us. It is fun to be undefeated, but if we can't stay focused, teams will come (from behind) to beat us."

"It's always good to get wins on the road too."

Kelly Morris
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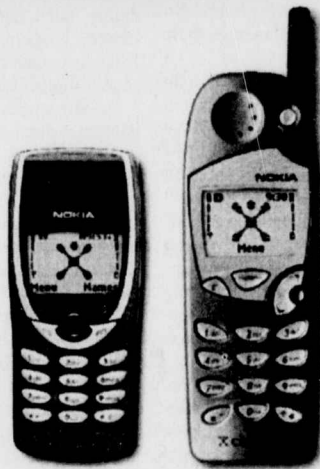
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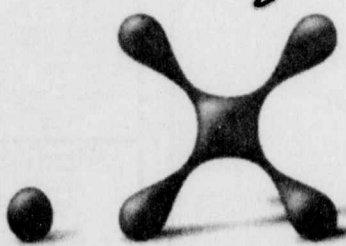
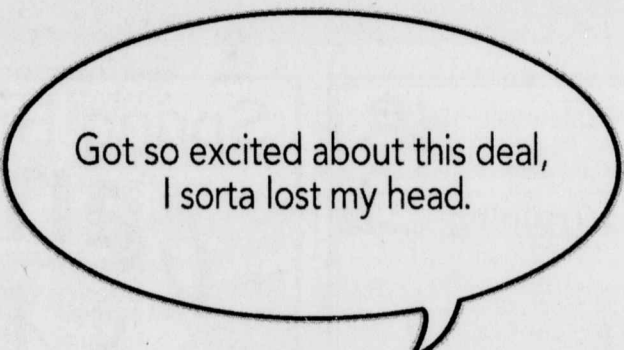
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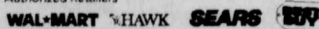
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BUSH

From Page 10

"(AIDS has) become a long-term health maintenance problem, whereas 10 years ago, it was a death sentence," he said.

Donnelly said even though the public's view of AIDS has changed, she is concerned about the changes that the future may bring.

"It's still an epidemic," she said. "It's growing because as more and more people stay alive, it's growing exponentially."

She said funding is still the central issue.

Riddlesperger said the Republican Party, in general, is in favor of more private sector and less government investment in research. However, Donnelly said it will be difficult for Bush to change AIDS funding because he doesn't have a strong mandate.

"He doesn't have enough votes in there to push his agenda," she said.

Jonathan Sampson
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AIDS

From Page 10

The combination of protease inhibitors and other drugs has changed the medical outlook for AIDS because it reduces the number of deaths. The study also said the number of people receiving assistance through Medicaid and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program is limited by public policy.

As numbers in Texas are getting higher, the AIDS problem worldwide is growing even more rapidly.

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS estimates there are 920,000 North Americans living with AIDS, compared to 25.3 million South Africans living with the disease.

In Sub-Saharan Africa where as much as 25 percent of the population is affected by AIDS, 2.4 million people died of AIDS in 2000. During the same year, 3.8 million South African people became infected with the HIV virus.

According to an article in the Feb. 12 issue of *Time* magazine, the word AIDS is often avoided in Sub-Saharan Africa. Death certificates do not list AIDS as the cause of death. Instead pneumonia, diarrhea or tuberculosis are listed because natives associate shame and ignorance with AIDS, which causes families to abandon sick relatives.

The article said many people do not want to know about AIDS despite the pervasiveness of the virus. They continue sexual practices that could lead to even greater rates of infection. Fighting the disease with medicine is often not an option in Africa because of the high costs.

Sejal Patel, a Walgreens pharmacist, said a typical patient with insurance will spend at least \$60 a month for their medications. A patient without insurance could pay as much as \$300 for one drug. Depending on the advancement of the disease, a patient may take a combination of drugs, she said.

"Sixty dollars is real cheap for a person, considering the prices of the drugs," Patel said. "The costs are high because the drugs are made for a small population, and companies still need to make a profit."

In the United States, the AIDS epidemic seems less critical to people who are under the assumption that because there are better medical treatments, the battle has been won, Calabrese said.

"I think people in general might think that AIDS is no longer a threat, because people in the United States aren't dying like they were in the early years of the disease," Calabrese said. "When I read *Time* magazine's feature article on AIDS, I was blown away by the magnitude of the disease in developing countries and by what little resources they have to respond to AIDS."

Even with medical advances, Barron said the risks of contracting HIV and AIDS are still out there, and people should always take precautions.

"The risk is becoming more predominant," Barron said. "Just because we are making advances, doesn't mean there is less of a chance of contracting HIV or AIDS."

Julie Ann Matonis
j.a.matonis@student.tcu.edu

Senior Reporter Melissa DeLoach contributed to this story.

FRATER

From Page 6

"During the Penn Relays in 1994, I met (TCU head coach Monte Stratton)," Lindel Frater said. "He probably doesn't even remember it was me. I was just some young, skinny kid."

"It really meant a lot that he showed interest in me even though I was only running in the prelims."

Stratton tells a different side to that first encounter.

"I became aware of Lindel long before the Penn Relays," Stratton said. "It is hard to overlook someone with the raw ability that he has. I was at (Texas-Arlington) but I continued to keep track of him."

Lindel Frater remembered the initial meeting a few years later when it came time to choose a college. Lindel Frater said he was really looking hard at TCU and Southern California, but when TCU hired Stratton from UTA, his mind was made up.

High school grades and SAT scores would eventually lead Lindel Frater down a different road. With his sights still set on the bright lights of Division I athletics and tradition-rich TCU, Lindel Frater took a detour to Division II Tarleton State. It was there, under head coach Lonnie McMillan that Lindel Frater developed the intense style that he still has to this day.

"The first thing that impressed me about Lindel was his sheer foot speed," McMillan said. "I mean with some people you can notice things they are doing wrong, but with Lindel you would have to video tape it and slow it down to catch anything."

"Lindel always had the natural ability, but I felt that he needed to develop a more combative attitude for college, and I think we were able to accomplish that."

Armed with a new attitude, Lindel Frater dominated in his only season at Tarleton. Lindel Frater was named the top sprinter in Division II and scored 18 of his team's 31 points in the championship meet.

With McMillan's blessing and the grades to back it up, Lindel Frater transferred to TCU in the fall of 1999. From that point on, his career has been nothing but victories and accomplishments with few second and third-place finishes. Lindel Frater has been named to the all-Western Athletic Conference team six times, has been a member of

TCU's record breaking 4x200-meter relay team (breaking a 14-year-old record at the Penn Relays on April 29, 2000) and has won the 100-meter race at the prestigious Texas Relays twice. Last summer Lindel Frater ran both the 100-meter and 4x100-meter races for Jamaica in the Olympics. Lindel Frater said running in the Olympics is one of his most cherished memories.

"Going to the Olympics at such a young age shows me that I have some improvement to do," Frater said. "There are a lot of good runners out there, but I feel like I belong with them. Maybe it wasn't my time to medal yet, but if I keep working hard something good will happen."

Looking to the future

Lindel Frater has already thought out his plans for the future. He said he would like to pursue his track career, hopefully becoming one of the best in the world, returning to the Olympics and eventually making some money so he can take care of his mom.

Lindel Frater said his first priority is academics. He is pursuing a degree in criminal justice, which he said he should finish by the time his track eligibility is up. Lindel Frater even has a few more responsibilities

this year than most. This year his younger brother, Michael, followed in his footsteps and is a freshman sprinter at TCU.

Michael Frater said it's good to have someone like Lindel around, especially for his first year in college.

"(Lindel) is really a hard worker," Michael Frater said. "He showed me that if you work hard and believe in yourself you can do what you want. But he also understands what I'm going through right now and that is a big help."

Through it all, the Junior World Championships, the Division II championships, the Division I championships and the Olympics, Lindel Frater has tried to remain the same.

He is still about the running. The same thing that had him begging Francis to let him in the last lane back in Jamaica. Nothing else. Not the worldwide success. Not the thought of a pro career and not the money that is almost certain to come his way.

As Lindel Frater finished the last 50 meters of the race, he is happy with what he has accomplished. After all, there will be other days, there will be more important races.

Chris Gibson
c.j.gibson@student.tcu.edu

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ABC's popular game show "Wheel of Fortune" will visit campus Feb. 20 to audition TCU students, faculty and staff for the chance to be contestants March 17-18 at show tapings in Dallas. Applications for three separate "mini-show" events will be taken and randomly selected at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. They also will audition for a "best friends" show while on campus....so bring a friend!

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Come hear about the latest research being done by professors and graduate students around the country. Our guest speaker is Dr. David Ben from Cornell University. He will be presenting his paper entitled: *Exotic Becomes Erotic: Explaining the Enigma of Sexual Orientation.*

Other research topics that will be presented include: memory, ethnic/minority studies, and sensation/perception, and social research. On Friday, February 16th, there will be a reception in the Faculty Center located on the second floor of Reed Hall. The convention will take place in the Student Center Ballroom on Saturday, February 17th, beginning at 9 a.m. The cost is \$20 and can be charged to your meal card. Lunch will be served on Saturday, Sign up soon by seeing Tammy in the Psychology office in Winton Scott, Room 239.

Hope to see you there.

Academia Nuts John P. Araujo



e-mail: academianuts@aol.com

Lex



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Phil Flickinger

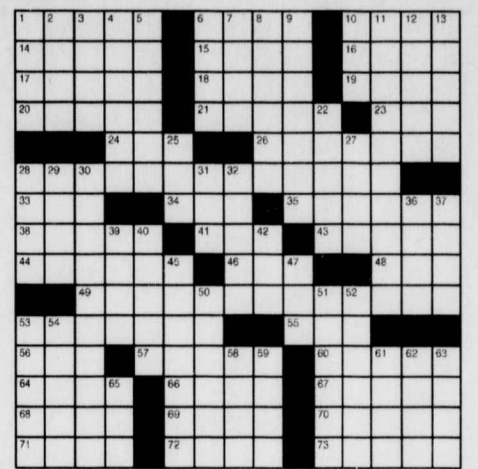
Girls and Sports



Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Painter of ballet dancers
 - Supervisor
 - Squabble
 - Small antelope
 - Touch against
 - Simplicity
 - Nancy of "Pollyanna"
 - Strong cord
 - Suffer
 - heartbreak
 - 12-step program
 - Lager and ale
 - Barbie's beau
 - Team cheer
 - Lacking edges
 - Taking lives violently
 - Male turkey
 - Paulo, Brazil
 - Pacific weather phenomenon
 - Composer Blake
 - Hot-dog holder
 - Greek giant
 - Punctual
 - Sticky stuff
 - "Got a Secret"
 - Hands-free communicators
 - Draw near
 - Highland cap
 - Pirate's drink
 - Losses footing
 - Revise charts
 - "Norma" song
 - Look long and lustily
 - Marry in haste
 - Sell
 - Satellite of Saturn
 - Sedan's river
 - Boundary
 - Bill topper
 - Brew, as tea
- DOWN
- Means of access
 - Perry's creator
 - Lillian or Dorothy
 - On a ship
 - One-name comic
 - Fishhook feature
 - Hautboy



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Yesterday's Solutions

MACS	CLEAR	BERT	47 Make a choice	58 Petition
OLEO	HELLO	ROAR	50 Chess piece	59 Burn a bit
WELL	HEELED	ONTO	51 Islamic women's quarters	61 Wry face
SEEDIER	CASEY		52 Egg dish	62 Church section
BE	PREPARED		53 Hunger for	63 Look furtively
PURR	DINAR	ASH	54 Enticed	65 Curb-side quaff
ERASER	VIIII	COO		
SIT	COHOSTS	CLU		
TEE	ERAT	TETRAS		
OLD	SERAC	HERE		
	SIMPLIFIED			
SITES	CORSICA			
AGRE	DEVASTATED			
REEK	READS	META		
ADES	ULNAE	EDAM		

today's menu Friday 16, 2001

The Main

Lunch
Grilled ham and cheese
Baked fish
Rotisserie chicken

Dinner

Fried catfish
Eggplant parmesan

Worth Hills

Lunch
Lemon dill cod

Dinner

Closed

Eden's Greens

Lunch
Sirloin beef tips with mushroom gravy
Herb baked cod
Curried vegetables
Steamed pasta
Fresh zucchini with garlic and basil

Frogbytes

Same as The Main

Tomorrow at The Main:

Lunch
Breakfast bar

Dinner

TBA

Purple Poll



Q: Are you planning to attend the Valentine's Ball?

A: Yes No Huh?
5 62 33

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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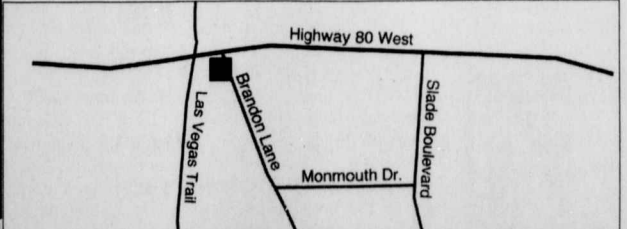
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"I never really bought that my life was over. It's just another factor in life to deal with."

—Eric, AIDS patient

Two AIDS patients reveal the struggles and the triumphs of living with...

By Melissa Christensen
STAFF REPORTER

In 2000 there were 474 HIV cases and 20 AIDS cases reported in Tarrant County. The number of tears, struggles and fears, however, can't be reported through statistics. Two Fort Worth AIDS patients share their struggles, their triumphs and their messages about the disease.

Numbered Days

RUTH

Ruth Jimenez had just signed for a certified letter at the post office on a September afternoon in 1986. Anticipation built as she paused at a railroad crossing. Finally, she ripped open the letter, her eyes focusing solely on two words.

"I started going crazy," she said. "I was crying and screaming, slamming the steering wheel with my hands. To this day, I don't know how I got home."

Just two words changed the entire course of her life. To Jimenez, a nurse who had watched several people die from the mysterious virus, the words "HIV positive" were her death sentence.

The stigma

Jimenez, now 47 and a grandmother, had been tested for the HIV virus following a kidney operation in which she received two units of blood. At that time, Eagle Blood Care hadn't started testing its blood supply for the virus, Jimenez said.

"I was scared to death," she said. "I was a single mom with four kids. I didn't know if I was going to lose my job."

As a nurse at a Fort Worth hospital, Jimenez had experienced the negative attitudes of doctors and nurses towards HIV and AIDS patients. She continued to work there, however, for five years following the diagnosis, telling only the administration, three head nurses and three friends about the virus.

She also decided to break her engagement to the man who would have been her second husband.

"One thing I was sure of was that there was no way I could bear the responsibility and guilt for infecting someone," she said.

Jimenez relocated her family to a small town near Abilene to be closer to her sister in 1989. It was there she said she truly felt the harsh stigmas attached to HIV and AIDS.

First, a minister at the family's first choice in area churches delivered a sermon in which he claimed people with AIDS were deserving of the disease and of the imminent death it brought. Then, the high school for which she served as a licensed practical nurse demoted her to clerical status to limit her contact with students. The demotion eliminated her child care benefits and cut her salary by \$300 a month. The last, more extreme measure Jimenez faced was a bomb threat placed from her town to the Abilene clinic where she was being treated.

She also decided to break her engagement to the man who would have been her second husband.

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Fighting to live

Jimenez was diagnosed with full-blown AIDS in 1994 when her T cell count dropped below 500. By then, she was prone to frequent, lengthy illnesses and was growing weary of the discrimination she faced in west Texas. She decided to quit and move back to Fort Worth. Money problems, however, prevented an immediate move.

"Three of my friends paid my utilities and provided groceries until I could move back home," she said, stopping to catch her breath between bursts of tears. "Good friends are rare in this life."

After having paid off their home loan, her parents took out a mortgage to convert their garage into an apartment for Jimenez and her family.

"I have been so blessed," she said. "I don't think I could make it without that kind of support."

Jimenez said her return home brought about a new focus and purpose to her life. Doctors had told her time was limited, so she started making arrangements.

"Once I had guardianship in place for my children, had my will done and the funeral was in place, I started fighting to live," she said. "I will do what I have to for every extra minute I have to spend with my kids and grandkids."

Jimenez takes 38 pills a day specifically related to the HIV virus and several over-the-counter medications to combat side effects like headache, stomach irritation and diarrhea.

Now collecting disability payments, she focuses her energy on AIDS education and advocacy as secretary of the AIDS Outreach Center Board, chairwoman of the Positive Voices Council and member of the Tarrant County HIV Planning Council.

"My goal is to teach and reach as many people as I can," she said. "A person with HIV may be infected, but friends, family, neighbors and co-workers are all affected by it. They all grieve and hurt, too."

Jimenez stresses that people should treat HIV-infected patients as if they were a member of their own family.

"Don't disrespect; don't be afraid," she said. "Just have a kind heart."

ERIC

Eric (*) is a dancer. He is a graduate of Columbia University and a registered nurse.

Eric

Age: 48
Sex: Male
Race: African-American
HIV-positive diagnosis: 1983
AIDS diagnosis: 1991

He is fluent in English, Spanish and Mandarin. He is also a gay, black male living with AIDS.

"As soon as the HIV tests came out (in 1983), I got tested," he said. "I've been positive from the beginning of the epidemic. I guess I'm a long-term survivor."

After receiving his positive HIV results, Eric became suicidal and depressed.

"It makes you feel like you've got a dirty little secret," he said.

He isolated himself, eliminating intimate relationships from his life for several years, including the relationship with his lover at the time of the diagnosis.

"I had internalized negative attitudes toward myself for

several years before the diagnosis," he said. "Catholicism doesn't exactly roll out the welcome mat for gays."

Eric, now 48, said his comeback included strengthening his faith in God and medically treating his depression. He also said the relatively recent appearance of the virus helped him to move on.

"Nobody knew what it was or how to cure it," he said. "So much was unknown, I just kept living."

Eric said he firmly believes in recent studies that correlate strong faith with resistance to disease.

"I never really bought that my life was over," he said. "A chronic disease can be managed. It's just another factor in life to deal with."

One of those original factors is his status as a black, gay, HIV-infected male nurse in Texas, where Eric said the attitudes tend to be more provincial.

"They allow their ignorance to give them permission to ridicule," he said. "My life is much more important

than their limitations."

Eric said his faith has also helped him to accept the ignorant attitudes with which he is presented.

"We are all sinners," he said. "My sin is no worse than anyone else's."

Back in Texas, a doctor, who Eric now calls a friend, explained the risks associated with certain medicinal reg-

Yvette Herrera/
FEATURES EDITOR
Joanna Holaway,
a freshman
fashion
merchandising
major and
member of
HyperFrogs,
passes out red
ribbons in the
Student Center
Wednesday to
promote AIDS
awareness.



Coming Up

What: AIDS Walk and Fun Run benefitting the AIDS Outreach Center
When: April 1
Where: Trinity Park in Fort Worth
Contact: On campus, Stephanie Clark at (s.n.clark@student.tcu.edu), or at the AIDS Outreach Center, Vanessa Ward at (817) 335-1994, ext. 224.

Texas ranked fourth nationally in AIDS cases

Number of county cases of virus double for third straight year

By Julie Ann Matopis
STAFF REPORTER

The number of HIV and AIDS cases in Tarrant County has doubled for the past three years, but the figures do not necessarily indicate that the disease is on the rise, said Brian Barron, a disease intervention specialist at the Tarrant County Public Health Department.

Barron said because facilities are not required to report HIV or AIDS cases to the County Health Department, a huge influx occurred when it became law in 1999.

In 1998, 104 HIV cases and three AIDS cases were reported to the health department. When reporting became mandatory in 1999, 209 HIV cases and one AIDS case were reported. In 2000, there were 474 HIV cases and 20 AIDS cases reported in Tarrant County.

Barron said he expects the numbers to taper off in the next couple of years.

"Many of the cases reported these

past two years are old cases that are now finally being documented in our database," Barron said.

Barron said for every case reported, approximately 20 more go unidentified, because not all people who are infected are tested and not all high-risk areas are reached.

Since 1982, there have been 1,662 known AIDS-associated deaths in Tarrant County, according to the health department.

Father Charlie Calabrese, the TCU Catholic Community priest, said he does not think the campus is aware of the worldwide AIDS epidemic, but there are ways to increase awareness.

"Knowing someone who has AIDS puts a human face on the disease and opens our eyes to the physical and emotional havoc that the disease causes in a person's life," Calabrese said.

Calabrese works with the AIDS Interfaith Network, which provides support to people in the community with AIDS. Calabrese said there are

numerous volunteer organizations around Tarrant County and the state that assist people living with HIV and AIDS.

On a list of states reporting the highest number of AIDS cases to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Texas is number four. As of June 2000, there were 52,677 reported cases in the state. The highest numbers were reported in New York, California and Florida.

Along with a high number of AIDS cases in the state, a report issued last fall by the University of California in San Francisco questioned the quality of health care for AIDS patients in Texas. According to preliminary findings from the federally-funded study, almost two-thirds of Texas AIDS patients are not getting the drugs they need. The study looked at the number of people that are getting the so-called "drug cocktail."

See AIDS, Page 8

Bush re-establishes White House office concerning AIDS

By Jonathan Sampson
STAFF REPORTER

The Bush administration announced last week it would abolish the White House offices on AIDS and race relations.

Two hours later they refuted the statement, saying it was a misunderstanding.

CNN reported that White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer told reporters the administration will continue to have an Office of National Aids Policy and also name an AIDS coordinator, who will work out of the White House as part of the Domestic Policy Council.

Jim Riddlesperger, professor and chairman of the political science department, said the initial changes were not surprising.

"Every president coming into office is going to reorganize the office of the presidency to make it line up with his own priorities," he said. "I just think they didn't anticipate the intensity of the reaction they were going to get."

Pam Donnelly, associate executive director for the AIDS Outreach Center of Fort Worth, said she is concerned about Bush's stance on AIDS.

"Our very continued existence is dependent upon funding from federal appropriations from (the Department of) Health and Human Services," she said.

Donnelly said the first real opportunity to see how Bush will respond to AIDS policy will be when he presents his recommendations for the 2002 budget. Between 70 and 80 percent of most AIDS agencies' incomes come from federal funding, she said.

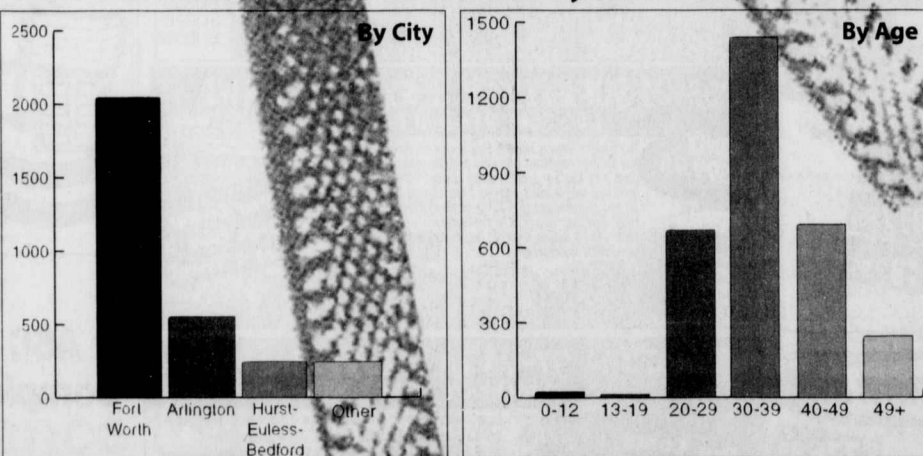
Riddlesperger said AIDS is just one of the second-order issues for the Bush administration.

"I honestly don't think AIDS has been a high priority to (Bush)," he said. "But that doesn't mean he hasn't been sympathetic to it."

The issue is no longer a strong subject politically because the public is not as focused on it as they were in the past, Riddlesperger said.

See BUSH, Page 8

Cumulative AIDS Cases in Tarrant County (Jan. 1982—June 2000)



several years before the diagnosis," he said. "Catholicism doesn't exactly roll out the welcome mat for gays."

Eric, now 48, said his comeback included strengthening his faith in God and medically treating his depression. He also said the relatively recent appearance of the virus helped him to move on.

"Nobody knew what it was or how to cure it," he said. "So much was unknown, I just kept living."

Gotta have faith

Eric's T cell count dropped below 400 in 1991, leading to the diagnosis of AIDS. He attributes his long-term survival to his love for physical activity, adherence to a healthy diet and, most importantly, his faith in the Lord.

"I look at having AIDS as something the father in heaven put in my life as a challenge to mold me into doing his work," he said. "He is in control and I accept my powerlessness."

Eric said he firmly believes in recent studies that correlate strong faith with resistance to disease.

"I never really bought that my life was over," he said. "A chronic disease can be managed. It's just another factor in life to deal with."

One of those original factors is his status as a black, gay, HIV-infected male nurse in Texas, where Eric said the attitudes tend to be more provincial.

"They allow their ignorance to give them permission to ridicule," he said. "My life is much more important

than their limitations."

Eric said his faith has also helped him to accept the ignorant attitudes with which he is presented.

"We are all sinners," he said. "My sin is no worse than anyone else's."

Paging nurse Eric

As a registered nurse, Eric worked in hospitals and clinics in New York City for several years prior to the diagnosis. He said he didn't have to change many of his safety behaviors because he was already trained to use universal precautions.

"My concern was not giving things to patients but more so getting things from patients," he said.

The risk of infections coupled with the stress of bedside nursing led Eric to switch his nursing emphasis to educational and administrative programs in public health. Currently, he collects disability and works part time for an organization dedicated to informing the public on the nature of sexuality. He is using his experience as a nurse and an AIDS patient to compile health and social resources available to HIV patients in a nine-county area.

His nursing experiences, especially those in New York City, made Eric hesitant to use medication to treat the disease. He said the side effects and experimental status of drugs were deterrents.

Back in Texas, a doctor, who Eric now calls a friend, explained the risks associated with certain medicinal reg-

imens and Eric decided to take action.

"I have a cocktail of medications, taking 15 pills a day to interfere with viral replication," he said.

Other than a few slight side effects, Eric said his daily activities have not changed much throughout the course of disease.

"Life is more or less normal," he said.

Numbered days

Eric said he wished people would move past the false confidence that a sexually-transmitted disease won't happen to them.

"It's real important to take more responsibility in the way we manage our romantic lives," he said. "Back then we thought we knew all the diseases and that there was an antibiotic for everything."

Eric encourages prevention and early detection. He suggests being tested and seeking counseling at the first thought that HIV could be an issue.

While he says his days are numbered, Eric knows that death could come in any form.

"I don't feel safe from the virus, but I don't feel safe from many things in life," he said. "I don't think of AIDS as the ultimate determinant of the number of my days."

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