

## Neighborly concerns

Despite the protest of some neighbors, Fort Worth City Council unanimously passed a zoning change for a new baseball stadium.

See Sports, page 10.

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Fort Worth, Texas

# Greek chapters select council leaders

By Sam Eaton

STAFF REPORTER

Although the fraternities of Interfraternity Council elected two experienced officers for 2002, both the IFC and the sororities of Panhellenic Council will have plenty of fresh faces.

Bryan Perkins, who is serving as the director of public relations, was elected president of IFC, and current Director of Programming and Scholarship Travis Adams has been

named the new treasurer.

All officers elected Wednesday to the Panhellenic Council will be new to their leadership roles.

Krista Bailey was elected 2002 Panhellenic president during elections Monday and Wednesday.

IFC and Panhellenic both conduct their elections in the same way, with each chapter getting one vote. There are 10 fraternities and 10 sororities, with 10 votes counted for each position.

For the first time, Sigma Phi Epsilon voted as a full member of IFC, current IFC President Kyle Gore said.

Sig Eps were given first awarded full membership with IFC last February after being granted their full charter according to a *Skiff* article on Feb. 13, 2001.

Bailey plans to initiate programs that help merge Panhellenic chapters with the black sororities of the National Panhellenic Council, Director

of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs Tom Sullivan said. Bailey, a junior Pi Beta Phi, ran unopposed for the presidency.

Sean Cleland, a Phi Kappa Sigma member, was elected director of service. He said it was important for the men's organization to maintain a good image in the community and on campus.

Cleland said his mother influences

SEE GREEK, PAGE 5

## COLLEGE BRIEFS

### Three Pakistani OU students detained

NORMAN, Okla. (U-WIRE) — A federal law enforcement agency has detained three Pakistani University of Oklahoma students, including the president of the Pakistani Student Association.

Which agency arrested the three was not disclosed, but a source said the students were picked up Thursday because of immigration irregularities.

Electrical engineering junior Mohammad Yaseen Haider, business senior Nabeel Khalid and computer engineering senior Mohammad Imran Shaikh were all roommates at 207-B Wadsack Drive in Kraettli Apartments, an OU complex south of Lindsey Street.

Neighbors saw three law enforcement agents searching the apartment last week for about an hour.

The agents also searched the students' computers.

In September, Haider, president of the Pakistani Student Association, said three men attacked him because he is Arab. Two were OU students, and President David Boren expelled one and brought student-code violation charges against the other.

The FBI would not confirm if it or the Immigration and Naturalization Service were involved in the students' arrests.

"We're not commenting on any aspect of the investigation," said FBI spokesman Gary Johnson.

On Tuesday, Boren released a statement concerning the arrests.

"Details about the facts have not been released to us by law enforcement agencies, so we don't know enough to comment at this time," he said.

"It is important to remember that the vast majority of our international students are outstanding citizens of the university community who have the same concerns and values as Oklahomans and Americans."

Two other men who lived in Kraettli Apartments, University College senior Hussein Al-Attas and Mukkaram Ali have been under arrest since the week after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks because of their friendship with suspected terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui, who is also a former Norman resident.

— Oklahoma Daily

## FRIENDSHIP FEAST



David Dunlap/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Sherley Hall residents gather for an all-hall dinner Wednesday night. Students and faculty dine together on food catered from Boston Market.

## Faculty demand on rise in key areas

By Kristina Iodice  
COPY DESK CHIEF

When a prospective student asks about the student-to-faculty ratio, admissions personnel and TCU literature all say 15-to-1—but that number is an average of the entire university and does not reflect the differences between different schools and departments.

When Ashley Hungerford, a senior radio-TV-film major, first arrived to TCU more than three years ago, she was told the university had

a 14-1 student-to-faculty ratio. She still had trouble getting into the lower-level radio-TV-film classes.

The last time the department added a new faculty member was before department chairman Roger Cooper came to TCU. The only faculty changes in the last decade have been associated with normal turnover, he said.

"We've gone from about 80 to 160 (students) in the last 10 years and through all that time we had no increase in faculty. It really put a lot of

strain on our program," Cooper said.

There are simply too many students and not enough faculty, Hungerford said.

The problem is an example found in many of the schools and departments across campus: the struggle between balancing a growing student population with a limited number of faculty.

Provost William Koehler said about 30 faculty positions have been

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 5

## A&M officials openly denounce plans to build off-campus bonfire

By Brandie Liffick  
THE BATTALION

COLLEGE STATION (U-WIRE) Rumors of a possible off-campus Texas A&M University Bonfire built by residents of Hotard Hall were investigated by the Department of Residence Life, said Ronald Sasse, director of Residence Life.

"We have heard various rumors and went to the hall staff," Sasse said. "They spoke with residents, and came back and told us that there was no such thing going on. We have

to trust what they tell us."

As a result of the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse, which killed 11 students and one former student, Texas A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen announced that Bonfire would be postponed until November 2002.

"My decision is based on the simple truth," Bowen said in a press conference in June 2000. "I will do what is best for the University and its students."

A group composed of both current and former students, Keep The Fire

Burning (KTFB), was formed last fall in response to Bowen's decision. KTFB announced that they were planning an off-campus Bonfire.

University officials, the Student Senate and other student organizations openly denounced the group's intentions.

"The University will do everything in its power to stop students from taking this course of action," said Cynthia Lawson, executive director of University Relations, in a released statement.

## Number of alumni gifts not expected to increase

By Jill Sutton  
STAFF REPORTER

TCU alumni giving has been steadily increasing since 1997, but with the economy down, this year's goal of 32 percent alumni participation might be in jeopardy, said Michelle Amos, director of the Annual Fund.

"We are still waiting to see the numbers and how they were affected, but with the combination of the slowing economy and people giving elsewhere, like the Red Cross, we will have to wait to see in May when we close the books and evaluate the numbers," said Amos.

Amos said the university bud-

geted \$4.4 million in revenue this year from the Annual Fund, and if giving drops significantly, it would have a serious impact on the university budget.

"While we would not be able to fix it for this year, it would change the approach to next year's budgeting process," Amos said. "Since the needs remain the same, the additional monies would have to come from other resources, like student tuition and endowment income."

"In other words, the more alumni give, the less pressure there is on tuition and endowment monies."

Chancellor Michael Ferrari said the university has to evaluate how

long the economic downturn will last before any conclusions are drawn about this year's Annual Fund budget.

"At this point we do not think it will affect the Annual Fund," said Ferrari. "As of right now, it is moving as planned."

Ferrari said TCU is not the only university struggling with these issues. He said many colleges and non-profit organizations across the nation have been faced with these same issues as a result of the sagging economy.

"There is much uncertainty

SEE ALUMNI, PAGE 4

## Muggles & magic

The Harry Potter craze that has swept through America remains strong and has even found a place in the hearts of college students.

See Trends, page 6.

## Election Results

### 2002 IFC Officers

President: Bryan Perkins

Vice President: Mike Cothran

VP of Rush: Austin Dickson

Treasurer: Travis Adams

Dir. of Scholarship: Mickey Rozzell

Dir. of Service: Sean Cleland

Dir. of Public Relations: Matt Singer

Secretary: Scott Jones

### 2002 Panhellenic Officers

President: Krista Bailey

VP of Recruitment: Lisa Andersen

VP of Management: Rebecca Hensley

Director of Finance: Emily Marriott

Director of Marketing: Erin Kems

Dir. of Counselors: Bethany Watson

Director of Internal Relations: Melinda Brown

Director of Service: Ashley Lucas

## Missile defense accord unlikely

By Sandra Sobieraj  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRAWFORD — As talks between President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin shifted to Bush's Texas ranch, White House officials said Wednesday that an accord on anti-missile defenses is not in the cards for this summit.

"Don't look for anything of that nature," White House press secretary Ari Fleischer told reporters on the second day of talks between Bush and Putin.

"This is one stop along the road. We'll make other stops after Crawford but each stop is built on the positive results of the earlier meetings."

On this stop, at the president's rural, 1,600-acre Prairie Chapel Ranch, Bush was focused on building his budding personal relationship with Putin.

After Putin's afternoon arrival, he and his wife were being treated to what one aide called "a finger-lickin' Texas dinner" of guacamole, peppered beef, smoked catfish and pecan pie.

Gray skies threatened to

SEE BUSH, PAGE 7



WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and President George W. Bush walk to a news conference Tuesday.

Chuck Kennedy/KRT

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Look in tomorrow's *Skiff* for a preview to the 2001-02 basketball season. The *Skiff* reviews the mens and womens teams and how they compare to the competition in their first season of Conference USA play.

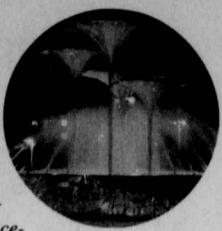
## Trading Places

## Today in history

1937 - Air conditioning was enjoyed in both the House and Senate chambers for the first time as the second session of the 75th U.S. Congress convened.

## 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](mailto: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.



■ **TCU Theatre presents "Love's Labour's Lost"** at 8 p.m. today in the Walsh Center for Performing Arts, Hays Theatre. Additional performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are free to students, adults are \$5 and children and seniors are \$3. For more information call (817) 257-5770.

■ **The Neeley Student Resource Center will hold Advising Workshops** from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. today in DRH 164. Please bring your Academic Summary or a previous degree plan and RSVP online at ([www.neeley.tcu.edu/nsrc](http://www.neeley.tcu.edu/nsrc)).

■ **Public Relations Student Society of America** will meet at 5:30 p.m. today in Moudy Building South room 271. For more information send an e-mail to ([tcuprsssa@hotmail.com](mailto:tcuprsssa@hotmail.com)).

■ **The Radio-TV-Film department** will present "Million Dollar Mermaid" at 7 p.m. today in the Moudy Building South, Room 164. The 1952 film stars Esther Williams, Walter Pidgeon, Victor Mature and choreographer Busby Berkeley. Admissions is free. For more information call (817) 257-7630.

■ **Jeff Guinn, books editor for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram** will be discussing "Harry Potter and Frodo and the Wart" at 3 p.m. Saturday in Mary Couts Burnett Library, Great Reading Room. The presentation is sponsored by Friends of the TCU Library. For more information call (817) 257-7106.

■ **The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth** presents a special Artist-Led Tour of the museum's current special exhibition at 2 p.m. Sunday. Local artist Annette Lawrence will lead a tour of the two-part exhibition Trenton Doyle Hancock: The Life and Death of #1 and WHO. The Modern's Artist-Led Tour provides an opportunity to view art from an artist's unique perspective. Admission is free. Call (817) 738-9215 or visit ([www.themodern.org](http://www.themodern.org)) for more information.

## SKIFF

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## WORLD DIGEST

### Arrest of top Islamic Jihad activist set off protests in Palestine

JERUSALEM — Palestinian police arrested a top Islamic Jihad activist in the West Bank town of Jenin on Wednesday, setting off a violent protest against Yasser Arafat's security force.

The arrest came as Secretary of State Colin Powell scheduled a key Middle East policy speech for next week. An Israeli peace campaigner and a Palestinian spokeswoman said the United States no longer backs Israel's demand for seven days of complete calm before peace talks resume.

Islamic Jihad leaders said Palestinian police pulled Mahmoud Tawalbi off a Jenin street and whisked him to a prison in Nablus, 15 miles to the south. They said Tawalbi, 23, was suspected by Israel of recruiting suicide bombers and sending them into Israel.

About 3,000 Palestinians protesting the arrest surrounded Palestinian Preventive Security headquarters in Jenin, firing guns, throwing grenades and burning cars. A security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that Tawalbi had been arrested.

Suicide bombers from Islamic Jihad and Hamas have killed dozens of Israelis and wounded hundreds in nearly 14 months of fighting.

Israel welcomed the arrest. Raanan Gissin, spokesman for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said it shows the Palestinians "are doing what they are supposed to do." He said Tawalbi had been arrested in the past. "This time I hope they will keep him behind bars," he said.

Israel has been demanding that Arafat order the arrest of militants, and the U.S. State Department has also told Arafat to move against the violent groups.

In Washington, the State Department said Powell would deliver a speech on Middle East policy Monday at the University of Louisville. In a speech to the United Nations on Saturday, President Bush said the goal of U.S. policy is a Palestinian state living in peace next to Israel. In an interview Sunday, Powell referred to Palestine, saying the state-in-making should be called by its proper name.

Palestinians have welcomed the new U.S. initiative, but Israeli officials are skeptical. Sharon has insisted there can be no negotiations until all violence stops. Up to now, the United States has gone along with that.

But that may be changing, said Israeli peace activist Yossi Beilin and Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi, after separate meetings with State Department officials.

They said the seven days of calm Israel requires to precede an agreed-on program for restarting peace talks is no longer a prerequisite, as far as the United States is concerned.

Ashrawi said U.S. officials "knew there wouldn't

be 100 percent quiet, given the fact of the (Israeli) occupation, but there would be an attempt to calm the situation and build confidence."

Beilin told Israel radio that U.S. officials, including Powell, realized the seven-day requirement "is a recipe for never getting to talks."

Israeli officials said they had not been told of a change in the U.S. position. Gissin, Sharon's spokesman, said, "You can't make the rules as you go along."

Two plans are on the table. A cease-fire package negotiated by CIA director George Tenet is supposed to lead to a multistaged process recommended by an international commission headed by former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell, calling for a cooling-off period, confidence-building measures and finally resumption of peace talks.

One of the measures is a freeze on construction in Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Though Israel has accepted the Mitchell plan, it is not eager to implement the freeze. Palestinians insist that stopping settlement growth is a key element in the process.

Israel has insisted on a week with no attacks followed by a six-week cooling-off period, but those time frames do not appear in the documents.

### 8.1-magnitude quake hits thinly populated area of N.W. China

BEIJING — An extremely powerful earthquake shook a thinly populated and mountainous region of northwestern China on Wednesday, Chinese and U.S. government seismologists said. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

The 8.1-magnitude quake, which hit at 5:26 p.m. local time, was centered in the Kunlun mountain area near the border of Qinghai province and the Xinjiang region in China's far northwest, the State Seismology Bureau in Beijing said.

The Xinjiang Seismology Bureau in Urumqi, Xinjiang's capital, confirmed the tremor. Few people live in the rugged region and there were no reports of deaths or injuries, it said.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the quake was centered in an area crowded by mountains. The area hit is about 1,250 miles west of Beijing, the Chinese capital, and about 185 miles from Golmud, a transportation hub in Qinghai province.

Bruce Presgrave, a seismologist at the U.S. Geological Survey's National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo., said that even though the area was remote, a quake of such strength could do some damage.

"It is so big, it could cause landslides in some of the valleys," Presgrave said.

Earthquakes are common in remote regions of China, though an 8.1-magnitude tremor anywhere is considered extremely strong. People in neighboring provinces, including densely populated Sichuan, re-

ported feeling Wednesday's temblor, Xinhua said.

China's two most lethal earthquakes of the past century — in 1920 and 1976 — hit populated areas and killed more than 100,000 people and 240,000 people respectively. The 1920 quake was magnitude 8.6; the 1976 tremor was between 7.8 and 8.2.

Last month, a 6-magnitude quake hit southwestern China's Yunnan province, killing a woman and collapsing more than 3,400 buildings.

### Algerian authorities no longer searching for flood survivors

ALGIERS, Algeria — Abandoning hope of finding more survivors from the floods and mudslides that have killed nearly 600 people, Algerian authorities instead shifted their focus Wednesday to cleaning up debris and mud.

"There is no longer hope of finding survivors," Interior Minister Nouredine Yazid said, even as residents and rescue workers continued digging through mounds of mud on the narrow streets of Algiers.

Grief-stricken family members filed through two makeshift morgues — one for the bodies of men, the other for women — set up on the edge of the capital's El Alia cemetery. Coffins were labeled with the barest of details: "young man," "pregnant woman" or "infant."

Hospital emergency rooms have been overwhelmed by the injured and corridors jammed with people searching for relatives. Funeral services were being held continually at the El Alia cemetery and the capital's other big cemetery, El Kettar.

Residents say they are furious with what they call the government's lax response to the crisis. Local newspapers characterized the mood as tense, particularly in the devastated neighborhood of Bab el Oued, where armed soldiers stood guard and quickly dispersed small groups that gathered for impromptu demonstrations.

"Algiers on High Alert," read Wednesday's front-page headline in the *Liberte* newspaper.

The torrential, 36-hour downpour began Friday, triggering a mudslide that ripped through several of the hilly capital's working-class neighborhoods, collapsing buildings, blocking roads, overturning vehicles and knocking out power.

The mud was 13 feet deep in the worst-hit areas. Thousands of families were forced to leave their homes.

— From The Associated Press

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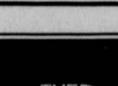
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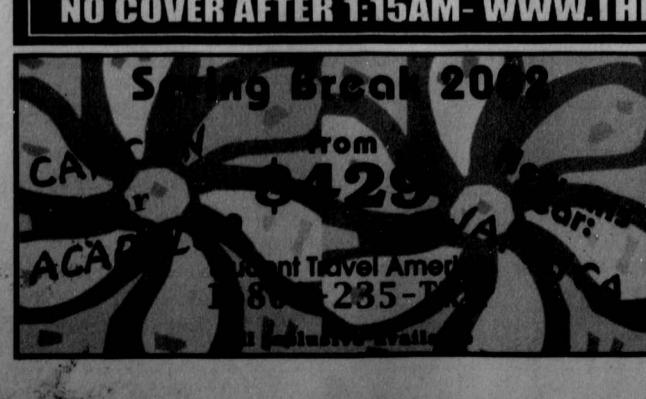
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# OPINION

## Our views

### HELP WANTED

#### More faculty needed for students sake

One of the first lessons they teach in Elementary Statistics is that numbers can lie. TCU's printed student-faculty ratio has been misleading the public for years. The 15-1 ratio looks good on paper, but it represents an average of the university as a whole instead of reflecting true numbers campuswide.

When looking at colleges, students often want a place with a "small school feel." In some majors, TCU doesn't just feel small; it's downright tiny. But generally, as the university has grown, the chances of getting lost in a lecture hall have increased dangerously.

The numbers don't reflect the real need. TCU needs more full-time faculty for certain growing departments. Students will be better served. But the challenge lies in a lack of practical funding.

Chancellor Michael Ferrari has said high-quality institutions want ratios as low as possible, but he also stresses the importance of keeping tuition costs reasonable.

And so the balancing act begins.

Departments are waging war against both an administration who needs to tighten the purse strings and a student population tired of seeing costs rise each year.

Adding faculty takes time, money and facility space, but in some departments there's a dire faculty shortage. TCU must find a practical solution to a problem which has been slowing creeping up on us. We can longer ignore the numbers.

The university could consider limiting undergraduate enrollment, but that action could have a serious impact on the overall budget. Fewer students means less money. Less money means less financial support for faculty salaries and institutional programs.

The TCU Fact Book clearly indicates that some departments and schools have a serious need for additional faculty, especially when the definition behind the numbers is explained.

More accurate ratios would highlight the problems with faculty-to-student ratios in specific areas, but accuracy is not a solution. Money is always tight, but we can't ignore the facts — TCU must hire more faculty.

## Editorial Policies

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

**Letters to the editor:** The *Skiff* welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the *Skiff*, Moody 2915; mail it to TCU Box 29800; e-mail it to [skiffeditors@tcu.edu](mailto:skiffeditors@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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## Your views

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### SGA still an option, even for losing candidates

My name is Chris Mattingly, and I just lost an election. In my eyes, there is no other way to state this fact. I would like to first congratulate all those who ran and those who won for running such wonderful campaigns. I tip my hat to all of you. However, my biggest "thank you" goes out to all of those who voted in the election. Because you voted, you showed that you cared. You have charged the TCU Student Government Association with a huge task of representing your concerns. Your choice to vote has given weight to SGA's claim that it is speaking as the unified voice of the TCU students. This in turn means a more effective voice to the administration on your behalf.

I would like to say that despite my loss, I am looking forward to returning to the House of Student Representatives in some capacity or another. I realize just because we elected a few does not make this an organization of a few. Rather, SGA is an organization that represents many. I encourage you to continually challenge and support those you have elected to be your voice. I also encourage you to become involved with this organization if you are not already. It is important that we continue to listen and gather your ideas. I stick by my commitment to those whom I said I would listen to. If you have any concerns, my door is always open.

— *Chris Mattingly, sophomore business major*

#### Poverty is really a race issue, statistics indicate

In response to "Poverty not financial, but a psychological issue," each generation is led to believe that hard work and ingenuity, nurtured by a primarily capitalist system, are all one needs to move freely in this world. Such concepts only foster our middle-class illusions of grandeur and are our means to dismiss the plight of the truly unfortunate.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's findings for the year 2000, 22.1 percent of blacks and 21.2 percent of Hispanics live in poverty, as compared to 9.5 percent of whites. I provide these statistics only to propose another factor in poverty — oppression due to race. But I would be remiss not to include issues of education, access to resources, economics and, yes, social psychology. When someone claims that poverty is simply a psychological issue, I am only reminded that "the American dream" is alive and well in our misconceptions and our classiest tendencies.

Many of us are here because we made a similar choice: to be poor at a private university instead of being somewhat less poor at a public school. Despite our various financial situations, the majority of TCU students look forward to something that many in this country do not — a time when they will live in some degree of comfort after those very few years that they should spend earning their keep.

— *Kathleen Johnson Winston, Master's of English*



## Don't race to blame administration

**L**ooking at the pictures, I literally became sick to my stomach. I know racism and discrimination are alive and well in this country, but it is often easier to focus on the many positive aspects of race relations and

glaze over the negatives. One quick glance at some photographs from Oct. 25 and 27 Halloween fraternity parties at Auburn University depicting white students in blackface and at least one dressed as a member of the Ku Klux Klan is enough to prove racism is not a myth.

While it is horrifying that these racist actions could take place at an institution of higher learning, we must remember where to place the blame. It is ludicrous to claim that the actions of a few speak for a community of over 22,000 diverse students. Blame the fraternities for allowing such behavior to occur. Don't blame the entire university or the administration.

In the fraternity party photos in ques-

tion, which were posted at a local photography business Web site, members of Auburn's chapter of Beta Theta Pi appear in blackface and Omega Psi Phi Greek letter shirts. The Beta brothers, mocking the oldest of four traditionally black fraternal organization chapters at Auburn, also sport afros and gold jewelry and are seen flashing gang signs.

Pictures from Delta Sigma Phi's party show brothers in costume in equally poor taste. One clearly staged photo displays one brother as a KKK member, one in blackface with a noose around his neck and one touting a shotgun, all standing proudly before a Confederate flag. After the pictures were brought to the attention of the administration, Auburn temporarily suspended both Beta Theta Pi and Delta Sigma Phi last Monday.

The suspension of these two fraternities is to allow time for an investigation of the Halloween parties and subsequent events. Delta Sigma Phi voted last Monday to expel two of its members and temporarily suspend four others. Thursday the brothers at Auburn's Beta Theta Pi voted unanimously to suspend

13 of their members indefinitely.

Both fraternities have taken responsibility for their members' actions to some degree. But one must question if anything would have been done had the fraternities not hired photographers for their parties, producing hard evidence of the improper behavior. The answer is probably no. The fraternities only took action after their chapters were suspended temporarily and the issue entered the national spotlight.

Granted, not every member of the two fraternities is guilty of donning a racist costume. Even so, each member at the parties allowed their fellow fraternity brothers to get away with such disgraceful actions. By not speaking up ahead of time or even at the parties, the two fraternities proved their willingness to tolerate racism.

We cannot say, though, that the university is to blame. A university's administration should assume that its students are responsible adults and hold them to the highest standards of conduct. This is precisely the philosophy Auburn's administration followed. When a small percentage of the

population proved it could not be trusted, the administration stepped in.

Auburn's administration should be applauded for its efforts to rectify this tense situation. The morning of Nov. 5 Omega Psi Phi brothers met with the university's administration. That same morning the vice president for student affairs conducted separate meetings with the school's president, his staff and student leaders. The decision to suspend both fraternities followed immediately. Later that evening a group of administrators met with the school's Black Student Union to explain the recent events.

The administration took immediate action when inappropriate behavior came to light. It should not be blamed for horrible actions that took place among comparatively few students. It is time instead to blame the two fraternities that condoned racist behavior. The national fraternity chapters need to send a clear message by making the temporary suspensions permanent.

*Stephanie Batten is a columnist for the Cavalier Daily at the University of Virginia. This column was distributed by U-Wire.*

## Holiday traditions are worth keeping

**T**here's not a lot of tradition around these parts. Sure, we rub the frog's nose for luck before a test, we light a tree and the front of Sadler Hall at Christmas so bright it can be seen at the North Pole.

Hold on, nope. We don't do that anymore.

Because of the expense to the university, the administration has decided to trim the tree lighting budget, and not just the tree. There is just enough money now to put up and light the tree, and not the rest of Sadler.

OK, so there's a war going on. There are probably more pressing issues to get all bothered about. But this is messing with tradition. Not just tradition, *Christmas* tradition.

Granted, the tree lighting makes it hard for those with offices near the front of Sadler to work.

Granted, the tree lighting has become more about celebrating Order of

So when 2,000 to 3,000 students show up in front of Sadler on Nov. 28 drinking hot chocolate and singing Christmas carols, and Santa drives Chancellor and Mrs. Ferran in, they stand on the steps of Sadler, the countdown reaches one and they throw the switch, not much will happen.

A tree will light up, sure. For students who have attended the tree lighting every year since they've been here it will be grinchingly anti-climatic.

"Is that it? Where are the lights?" "Did they forget to plug something in?"

"Who killed Christmas?"

To be fair the tree lighting is expensive, and Santa is tightening his belt this year. It's a hard tradition to pull off.

Granted, the tree lighting takes two or three days of Physical Plant manpower to pull off.

Granted, the tree lighting makes it hard for those with offices near the front of Sadler to work.

Granted, the tree lighting has become more about celebrating Order of

Omega than about celebrating Christmas (oh wait, that was my problem with the lighting, not the administration's).

But it's Christmas. It's also probably the most popular tradition on campus. Students who show no spirit the rest of the year bleed purple and green around the holidays.

The tree lighting is one of the best-attended tradition events TCU offers, all because of the excitement and spectacle. When those lights go on in front of Sadler, it becomes Christmas. For a place with little snow and a time when visions of dancing sugarplums are replaced by visions of accounting finals, Christmas tradition is important.

The tree lighting is an important way of saying, "Hey, even though this is the most stressful time of the semester for you, cheer up — the holidays are right around the corner. We,

as an administrative body of this fine institution, are behind you. And this is how we show it, by putting up lights in the center of campus. Lots and lots of lights. Not just a tree, mind you."

We're behind you too much to let it slide with just lighting a tree. We're going to blaze up the whole front of Sadler."

And blaze it does, and support they do. Or did, anyway. Now it won't be a blaze as much as a blink.

Things may be tight in Frogtown this year, money may be sparse, but it's sad to see such an important tradition fall by the wayside. So come up with a way to light Sadler and not just the tree. The ability was always there in the past, surely it can be there again.

This may not just be the administration's responsibility. Order of Omega, your name's on this thing. Make it happen. If you have to buy lights at Wal-Mart and string 'em up yourself, make it happen. Somebody, make it happen.

Otherwise, how will Santa know how to find TCU?

*John-Mark Day is a junior religion and news-editorial journalism major from St. Joseph, Mo. He can be contacted at [j.m.day2@student.tcu.edu](mailto:j.m.day2@student.tcu.edu).*

**T**oday, and today only I'm offering a two for one: two issues in one editorial. (This means that you, the reader come out or something.)

**Commentary**

**Tim Draggan**

**U.S. House of**

Representatives was such a bunch of "wimps?" Well the *Washington Post* sure seemed to think so the day House Majority Leader Trent Lott and company closed the House for the first time in history on Oct. 18. I'll take a knee jerk reaction for 800, Alex. Way to stand tall and not let terrorism disrupt the government, guys.

For those of you who find yourselves unaware (I'm sure it happens often) the House of Representatives shut down in the wake of an anthrax letter sent to the office of Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. What adds to their staggering cowardice is

that Daschle himself (you know, the guy whose office the letter was actually sent to) was in the Senate the day after saying that there was no way they'd allow terrorist threats to disrupt senate proceedings.

When we've got soldiers risking their lives on the other side of the globe you'd think the least the House could do is show up for work.

Now I'm not trying to label every action of precaution and prudence as simply folding under pressure. I'm not trying to say that if I can't get a pizza delivered to my door at 11:30 p.m. the terrorists have already won. But when the government, as a direct result of a terrorist threat, allows itself to be bullied around, what else can you call it but surrender?

I'm not saying the House should have been kept in session in the midst of imminent bomb threats, but this was unreasonably cautious to the point of spinelessness. We basically accomplished the senders' mission for them.

And just when it seemed like we were going to get through last month without any elected officials being shot in the face, Israeli Cabinet Minister Rehavam Ze'evi was assassinated by members of the National Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The tourism minister and right wing conservative was killed in an apparent response to the assassination of NFLP leader Saeb Ali Mustafa. After Palestinian officials dragged their feet about taking Mustafa into custody when Israel turned over a list of suspected terrorists that included his name, Israel responded by firing a missile at his house.

Now Ze'evi was a staunch conservative who favored a policy of "transferring" or "relocating" Muslims from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to another country. This doesn't however change the fact that he was an elected official conveying an unpopular message through peaceful means. He wasn't running around shooting people in forehead. He was

the loyal opposition.

The main difference between Ze'evi and Mustafa is one was elected with a specialty for inflammatory rhetoric; the other had a specialty for car bombs.

All this wouldn't have been so tragic if it hadn't happened on the eve of Ariel Sharon lifting sanctions on Palestine in an act of good favor before the beginning of renewed peace talks.

The real irony of the situation is that these people are killing each other for control over some of the worst land on the planet and all because of what basically stems from a semantic debate about how to pray to the same deity. But that kind of silliness is generally what religion tends to do to people — it manufactures differences where there would otherwise be none.

*Tim Draggan is a junior political science major from Lubbock. He can be contacted at [t.c.draggan@student.tcu.edu](mailto:t.c.draggan@student.tcu.edu).*

# Plane shaken by turbulence before

By Jonathan D. Salant  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Safety records show the American Airlines plane that crashed in New York Monday was severely shaken by air turbulence seven years earlier in an episode that injured 47 people.

One possibility safety investigators are considering is that the Airbus A300 broke apart Monday after hitting turbulence from the plane taking off before it at Kennedy International Airport.

An aviation consultant said the plane could have been weakened by the earlier encounter.

"I would expect that the airplane underwent inspection after the turbulence encounter to verify that it hadn't been damaged and any damage that was incurred was fixed," Jim McKenna said.

National Transportation Safety Board investigators are reviewing records and interviewing maintenance employees who worked on the Airbus A300, and are asking questions about the 1994 incident.

"We look at the history of the aircraft and any unusual events it was involved in," board spokesman Keith Holloway said.

American Airlines officials declined comment, citing the NTSB inquiry.

The pilot of American Flight 587 mentioned encountering the wake of another plane, according to cockpit voice recordings. The NTSB said the first plane was a Japan Airlines jetliner that lifted off two minutes and 20 seconds before the American Airbus, 20 seconds longer than guidelines require.

In the earlier incident, 47 passengers and crew members were injured on Nov. 28, 1994, Federal

I would expect that the airplane underwent inspection after the turbulence encounter to verify that it hadn't been damaged and any damage that was incurred was fixed

—Jim McKenna,  
aviation consultant

represents victims of airline accidents. "With any maintenance, there is always the possibility of human error. You would think it's unlikely, but it's still possible."

Still, David Stempel, president of the Air Travelers Association, an advocacy group, said the plane would have been inspected several times since 1994. "The plane probably went through major overhauls since then," Stempel said.

Even if a crack caused by the turbulence initially went undetected, subsequent inspections should have found any problems, said Dean Headley, associate professor of marketing at Wichita State University and co-author of an annual study of airline quality.

"Assuming that all of those inspections were done as they were supposed to be and signed off on, you assume they would find any damage," Headley said.

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# Taliban fighters could be regrouping

By Matt Kelley  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Taliban fighters fleeing northern Afghanistan and heading south may be trying to find refuge in caves held by their home tribes and regroup for more combat, a Pentagon spokesman said Wednesday.

"It would appear to us they are abandoning cities they previously had control over," said Rear Adm. John Stufflebeam. "It's not clear why they're doing that. It may be that they're regrouping."

Stufflebeam told reporters at the Pentagon that southern Afghanistan is home to 23 or more Pashtun tribes, many of which appear to be turning against the Taliban. The militia forces have been fleeing the capital of Kabul and Stufflebeam said there was fighting around the airport in their stronghold of Kandahar.

"There are a number of Pashtun tribes in the south who would appear now to be opposing Taliban. Whether or not they're working in concert, we do not know. Whether or not they are organized to work together, we do not know," he said.

Stufflebeam said that while the U.S.-led war against the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda terrorism network has made tremendous gains in the past few days, it is too

early to declare victory.

"We don't have enough factual information to assume that this war in Afghanistan is about to end," he said. "We still have the job of finding and getting al-Qaeda, we still have the job of finding and getting Taliban leadership."

Earlier, Vice President Dick Cheney said the military defeats inflicted on the Taliban mark a good beginning to the longer-term struggle against terrorism, and jabbed at domestic "handwringers" who recently criticized the war effort.

"If anybody has any questions about whether or not we're determined to carry through ... all they have to do is go to Afghanistan today and interview members of the Taliban — if they can find any," Cheney said in a speech before the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

At the Pentagon, senior defense officials said the sudden shift of fortunes had prompted Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. forces in the war, to prepare a new military plan for tracking down and eliminating leaders of the al-Qaeda and the Taliban regime that supports them.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that in the meantime, limited U.S. bombing will continue targeting pockets of Taliban resistance in areas of the north like

Kunduz, as well as caves and other mountain redoubts in the south where al-Qaeda leaders are believed to be hiding.

The Taliban is "in retreat virtually all over the country," the vice president said, and took the opportunity to mock the pundits in the nation's capital.

"I guess there are a couple of lessons in that for folks, the handwringers who a week or two ago were saying, 'it's not going to work, you're not doing enough, you've been at it for three or four weeks, my gosh, the war is not over yet.'

Despite the advances on the ground, Cheney said the United States will pursue its objectives. These include a desire to "wrap up the al-Qaeda network," dismantle their command and control structure and track down bin Laden, the suspected mastermind behind the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"It is a very good beginning to what's likely to be a long struggle," he said.

Bin Laden's capture would be a singular accomplishment, and American intelligence believes he and Mullah Omar, the Taliban's senior official, are still in a region of Afghanistan not under northern alliance control, according to a U.S. official. This official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the two are believed

to be moving around, but not together. The official said it is viewed as unlikely that bin Laden will try to leave the country because those movements could expose him to capture.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, visiting the site of the World Trade Center in New York, said efforts continue to track down key Taliban rulers.

"Some have been killed, others are hiding and there are no particular reports of senior leadership having been located," Rumsfeld said. His visit was intended to illustrate why the United States is fighting in Afghanistan.

He said U.S. special forces are watching key roads in southern Afghanistan as Taliban militia forces flee southward.

"They have been interdicting the main roads that connect the north to the south to see what's going on and to stop people that they think ought to be stopped," Rumsfeld said during a brief news conference with New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

"We still have a ways to go" in the hunt for the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network, Rumsfeld said. "The Taliban, some pieces of it, are melting into the countryside because they have decided to toss in the towel. In other cases, they may be simply waiting to counterattack at some other time."

Annual Fund marketing strategies include mass mailing, Calling All Frogs phone-a-thon and personal visits.

The Calling All Frogs telemarketing plan contributes 11 percent of the Annual Fund dollars at TCU and direct mailing comprises 8 percent of the Annual Fund dollars, Amos said.

"The face-to-face visits focus more on impacting dollar amounts, while the other two influence more participation from alumni," Amos said.

The majority of annual alumni giving dollars at TCU comes from the older graduating classes, particularly the classes of the 1960s and early 1970s. Participation from classes is more evident in the 1940s, where the class of 1942 had a 62 percent participation rate in 2001, compared to an 11 percent participation rate from the class of 2000.

Jill Sutton  
j.m.sutton@student.tcu.edu

Annual Fund would renew annually, TCU would be among the best in the nation in regards to alumni support," said Amos. "The point is simple: Every gift, every year, does make an impact."

Amos said national reports that

Alumni participation is important because it defines loyalty to our school. It is also a way of showing alumni satisfaction with the education they received while here at school.

—Michelle Amos,  
director of the general fund

ranked TCU in the second tier among universities nationwide, and reported a 28 percent alumni giving rate in the 2002 report. Many TCU alumni said they were encouraged by the report to give back to TCU, Amos said.

Compared to local universities, TCU was behind only Rice in alumni participation according to the 2002 reports.

Rice had an alumni giving rate of 38 percent, while SMU's alumni giving rate was 18 percent, and Baylor's

alumni giving rate was 19 percent.

Amos said corporations look at how many alumni participate before they give money because that shows a good representation of how pleased alumni are with the university.



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**FACULTY**

FROM PAGE 1

added over the past five years.

"We conclude that needs were identified and there has been action taken to meet some of those needs, and the process goes on," he said. "Most faculty will say that they need more colleagues. It's just kind of the way the world works."

Koehler said there is a pressing need for more faculty in key areas, especially since student enrollment has increased significantly over the past five years. Each time the administration thinks something has been achieved in terms of having more faculty per student, enrollment increases and ground is lost, he said. The issue is part of the budget process each year.

Capital support from donations and gifts, finances building improvements. The operating budget is used for many expenses including faculty salaries and additions, said Chancellor Michael Ferrari.

"Every high-quality institution wants to have as low a ratio as possible, but we are still trying to keep tuition reasonable."

Most of the time, a growing number of enrolled students is a positive thing for a university. However, there is a major problem when departments and colleges are struggling to manage the students already enrolled, before new students even arrive.

Mary Volcansek, AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences dean, said at least eight more faculty lines in the college would be needed to take care of the students already enrolled at the university.

"We're talking about faculty we need for the students who are here now," said Tommy Thomason, journalism department chairman.

Cooper said the university encourages departments to keep the number of adjuncts to a minimum and classes can only accommodate a limited number of students, which makes it difficult for students to graduate from the radio-TV-film program in four years.

Administration officials told the department to find a way to fix the problem without adding additional faculty.

Now, students who want to be radio-TV-film majors must formally apply. Three core classes must be completed with at least a 2.5 GPA. A writing sample, academic transcript and letter of application must be reviewed before a student can take additional courses.

However, it will take two or three years before the department sees the effects of the new rules, Cooper said.

Other areas in the College of Communication are also struggling to balance the number of majors with the number of faculty members.

Journalism has been one of the fastest-growing majors at TCU during the past half-decade. During the 1990s there were roughly 300 students and seven and a half full-time faculty for the department, department chairman Tommy Thomason said. Currently, the department has about 460 majors and eight full-time faculty members.

Last year, Thomason researched faculty-student ratios in journalism programs at accredited private universities.

"Of every accredited private university journalism program in the nation, ours has the worst student-to-faculty ratio, at 53 students for every full-time faculty member," he said. "The next-worst ratio was Brigham Young at 39 students per full-time faculty."

Many journalism courses are taught by adjunct faculty members. Adjuncts offer a different perspective, Thomason said, but they don't advise students and are not readily available.

David Whillock, interim dean for the College of Communication, has been asking for additional faculty for the college on a continual basis.

"We cannot continue the quality of education we want by holding onto a ratio of 50 students to one," he said. "We're trying to fulfill every need but we have a finite amount of funding."

Adding new faculty positions, and finding the people to fill them, is the single most important need at TCU, said Mary Volcansek, AddRan dean.

All new faculty positions need to be approved by the Board of Trustees. The search for one new addition can cost around \$2,500 and it is not a one-time purchase, she said.

"It is a real long-term commitment and I think that's why the board is reluctant to add more than a few at a time," Volcansek said.

Last year, she requested seven new faculty members and received three assistant professor lines. Yet because of the flat tuition rate and the additional credit hours that students are likely to take, the new positions will hardly help solve the needs of the college, Volcansek said. Currently, those positions are filled with lecturers and they are in the process of trying to find assistant professors.

"We're the ones who are carrying the bulk of increases in credit hours that the block pricing," she said. "Students are taking more courses and almost all of those fall largely with us."

"Large classes are not by definition bad; it's just that we would like to have more that facilitate discussion, more that facilitate personal attention. When I'm teaching, once a class goes over 35, it might as well be a hundred in terms of what I can and can't do with students," she said.

The near future poses additional problems for AddRan. Volcansek said she plans to request five to seven new faculty lines on the list due in early November. The target for the new core to take effect is the fall 2003 semester and it will make a difference where faculty positions are needed, she said.

When it comes to increasing faculty numbers, it always comes back to an issue of money. Volcansek said there are three ways to generate income for the university: the endowment, philanthropy and enrollment.

The stock market has been down, which affects the endowment directly and also philanthropy because people will not make as many contributions, she said.

"If enrollment stays stable we still have the problem of providing the classes. If we can't count on as much philanthropy and we can't count on the endowment, then there won't be

as much money for new faculty positions," Volcansek said.

The radio-TV-film department is not the only area that began enforcing a set of admission standards. The M.J. Neeley School of Business requires students to apply to the business school January of their sophomore year. It was unreasonable and unfair for business school students to have trouble finding classes, said Charles Williams, associate dean for undergraduate studies.

The new requirements include a formal interview, a test on Microsoft Office skills and a specific cumulative GPA in lower-level business classes. The school also limits enrollment in upper-level courses to business majors.

Williams said the reason behind the decision was that were some upper-level course required for majors have 50, 60 or 70 students enrolled.

"The key is we're committed to small classes and an outstanding business education," he said. "We wanted students in the undergraduate program to get the TCU experience."

In the last seven years the number of majors in the business school has doubled, but the number of faculty has not doubled, Williams said.

"Last year in the business school we were averaging 40 students per class and this fall we are down to 37 students," he said. "It's still much larger than the rest of TCU, but that number is going in the right direction."

He said all three of the business school programs — undergraduate, Master's in Business Administration program and executive education — need to be served, but the undergraduate program is the one with the problem.

However, not all areas of the university are straining to meet student needs. Babette Bohn, art history professor in the art and art history department, said determining faculty needs is more complicated than looking at the number of majors.

Last year, the art history section of the department had 23 majors, 20 minors and also a Masters of Art program taught by four full-time faculty. The art history faculty also

teach courses for other majors within the department.

Bon said the department is not over-staffed. She said she works between 70 and 80 hours each week and one of her classes has 115 students.

She said departments like journalism and radio-TV-film are clearly understaffed, but that doesn't mean the art department has too many faculty. The art history professors teach a variety of classes that non-majors and non-minors take to fulfill certain UCR requirements.

Koehler said each year the administration analyzes each area of the university, looking at credit hours taught be full time and part-time faculty and comparing those numbers to target figures.

"It's not just a matter of the number of faculty and the number of students you really have to get in detail and look at what is being taught by whom," he said. "We don't want, for example, all the full-time faculty to teach juniors, seniors and graduates and all the part-time faculty teaching freshmen and sophomores."

Tenure can contribute to the problem because faculty lines cannot be moved from department to department. Koehler said the hope is that there is enough turnover, either by faculty leaving the university or retiring to maintain a relative balance between students and faculty on campus.

"There is a price to pay for the tenure system, and that is frequently a university cannot adjust quickly enough to changing student enrollment patterns, but we try to do that over a bit more time."

There has also been discussion about putting limiting undergraduate enrollment. If the cap was drastically lower than current enrollment, there would be enough faculty, but no one would support an enrollment cap that would cause a reduction in faculty, Koehler said.

"I think it important to examine the idea of an enrollment cap and try to come to grips with what is the optimum size of the undergraduate enrollment and then try to have an admissions plan so we can always maintain that enrollment," Koehler said.

said. "As long as the enrollment keeps going up, you're always chasing it in terms of staffing."

Koehler said student-to-faculty ratios are often misleading, since the students and faculty are usually not defined. He said he thinks there is a better way to analyze the student experience than using student-to-faculty ratio alone.

"I think what admissions is trying to convey, which is accurate, is that there is more opportunity to contact and be taught by faculty at TCU than there may be at other institutions," Koehler said. "I wouldn't put a lot of faith in whether it is 14.8 or 16.1, not until somebody defines the parameters and the terms."

Ferrari said it is more important to get at the quality of education rather than a number.

"If you only concentrate on driving down the faculty-to-student ratio without looking at anything else, what have you really accomplished anything other being able to say in marketing materials that you have a certain ratio?"

Ferrari said he is waiting to see what comes out of the new core before determining the financial implications in terms of faculty needs.

"The faculty-to-student ratio is an important statistic, but by itself it still doesn't tell you what goes on inside the classroom."

"We're trying to strengthen the university and the quality of the education," Ferrari said. "We're also trying to do a better job of managing our expenses and costs."

Long-term plans change according to finances, and unless there are dramatic economic changes in the next six months or so, which is possible, the goal is stretched out, he said.

"A two- to three-year timeline becomes a three- or five-year goal. We don't abandon the goal, but we're going to have to temper it in some way."

"I want to do everything we can do to ensure a high-quality education. I want to make sure we don't over-promise or under-deliver."

**Kristina Jodice**

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**GREEK**

FROM PAGE 1

his outlook on community service.

"My mom is a special-needs education teacher," Cleland said. "I'd like to get a program where people in the fraternity system can mentor children."

Erin Kerns, junior business

management major, was elected director of marketing for Panhellenic Council. Junior speech communication major Lisa Andersen was elected vice president of recruitment. Both Kerns and Andersen said they wanted to continue sending a Greek CD-ROM out to incoming students.

"I want to continue with the CD

and improve it so it's easier to navigate and more informative so students make educated decisions about whether they want to go Greek," Kerns said.

Kerns said she wanted to have programs that involved both Greeks and non-Greeks on campus.

"I have every confidence in their ability," current Panhellenic presi-

dent Katie Urban said of the new leaders. "They are going to take the organization to great places."

Current IFC President Kyle Gore said the fraternities look forward to celebrating the transition to new leadership at a special dinner Dec. 4.

**Sam Eaton**

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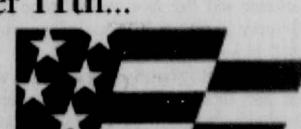
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# TRENDS

Page 6

www.skiff.tcu.edu

Thursday, November 15, 2001

## Crazy over Potter



GRAPHIC BY KRT CAMPUS

## All ages embrace Potter

Wizards. Wands. Muggles. Harry Potter. These words have become household names in a craze that has swept across the country, capturing the imaginations of young and old alike and has also become embedded in the hearts of many TCU students.

The series that J. K. Rowling created in 1997 continues to grow in popularity and draws in more and more readers of all ages everyday. Four books have been released in the series so far: "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," and "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

A number of TCU students have embraced the tales of the young wizard, who faces off against nefarious villains with the help of his friends.

Matthew Flinchum, a sophomore philosophy and political science major, started reading the books when he was a freshman and loves every novel in the series.

"I read the first book in less than a day. I just couldn't put it down," Flinchum said. "J.K. Rowling puts so much depth into the world of Harry Potter that I feel like I am actually there."

Sophomore nursing major Krista Coffey said although she has only read the first book, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," she is hooked and plans to read the others as soon as she gets the money to buy them.

"I've always liked reading and it was nice to be reading something during the semester that wasn't for a class," Coffey said. "It (has) a really good story line, it's easy to read and it (has) good fantasy elements in it that make you forget you're actually at college and need to be studying for an exam."

Coffey said at first she was baffled as to why so many people felt such a passion for books that are aimed mainly at children.

"It is a little strange that so many people from so many countries would be interested in it, but (the books are) really good and unique, so I would guess that's why they're so popular," Coffey said.

Flinchum said Rowling's books are a big draw because they have many elements that appeal to many different audiences.

"'Harry' appeals to children because the book is about a young adolescent," Flinchum said. "Adults like him because they are reminded of how much they longed to be what Harry is, a truly powerful young man who (succeeds) against the odds."

"College students are old enough to feel the adult attraction to Harry Potter, but at the same time young enough to feel the children's pull toward Harry as well."

The effect the series has had on children has been one of the most surprising aspects of the craze surrounding Harry Potter, said senior computer science major Tonya Antle.

"I think part of (the attraction) is people are just amazed that so many kids are wanting to read these books," Antle said. "The last one was over 700 pages and kids don't normally read 700-page books, but they will read these three or four times. It's amazing to see the excitement in kids about reading."

Magic, the series' subject matter, is considered one of the key elements that draw such avid fans from a diverse range of audiences.

Some of the fans of the series who have never read fantasy books prior to the "Harry Potter" titles, like sophomore pre-major Katie Childress, are fascinated by the strange creatures, spells and customs that make up life in the wizard world.

"I think the ideas (Rowling) comes up with for her stories are amazing," Childress said. "Reading about magic is something I wouldn't normally get to do. It's a nice break from textbooks."

Childress said reading the books helps her escape from reality for a while and lets her feel like a kid again. She is anticipating the release of the fifth book to see what happens next.

Harry Potter followers may be disappointed to learn that the publication date for the fifth book is still a mystery. However, fans are becoming more excited by the approaching premier of the first Harry Potter movie.

Tickets for "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," which will open in theaters around the country Friday, quickly sold out because of the availability of advanced tickets online.

Emotions are mixed about the movie as fans worry about how closely it will adhere to the book.

Patrick Harris, a junior e-business major, said he was able to get tickets for this weekend and is excited to see how well it captures the richness of the book on screen.

"There's always a natural preoccupation with how true to the story (the movie will) stay, but from the previews, it looks like things are pretty close," Harris said.

Coffey said she is not concerned about how the book will translate to the screen.

"I would be disappointed if they took something that was so good and made it seem awful or childish, but it's just a movie. I won't be devastated," Coffey said.

The excitement about both the books and the movie continues to grow, spawning new business ventures everyday. Stores' shelves are lined with every item of Harry Potter merchandise imaginable, from calendars to dolls to board games. Even Bertie Bott's Every Flavor Beans, a favorite candy with the young characters in Rowling's books, are now available.

Harry Potter chat rooms and discussion boards bustle with activity each time new rumors are started about the next books or the movie. For those lucky enough to get opening-weekend tickets, at least questions about the latter will soon be solved.

By Laura McFarland

L.D.McFarland@student.tcu.edu

## Library to hold social

By Laura McFarland

KRT STAFF

The Friends of the TCU Library invite all muggles (non-magical people, that is) to a Harry Potter social at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Great Reading Room in the Mary Couts Burnett Library.

Terri Chanlatte, assistant university accountant, said the event will feature a speech by Jeff Guinn, books editor and senior writer at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, about the J.K. Rowling Harry Potter series that has captured the hearts and imaginations of people everywhere.

Guinn said his speech, "Harry Potter and Frodo and the Wart," will be about the similarities between the themes of the Harry Potter books and T. H. White's "The Once and Future King" and J. R. R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings."

"There have been certain themes in literature for young people that have always seemed to have certain appeal," Guinn said. "It's got magic, adventure and a young person having to be the hero, to be brave. These are the kinds of things that always appeal to kids. At certain ages, we faintly believe it's still possible to wave a wand and see something happen."

Harry Potter is such a popular series because it has all of the elements that have caused crazes before, Guinn said.

"There's always a wizard involved. There's good magic and bad magic. Usually the main

character is male, has lost parents and is living with an uncle or step-uncle," Guinn said. "So Rowling has very cleverly plugged right into a story that's worked before and will always work again."

Although the books will be the main focus of the speech, Guinn said he will talk about the upcoming movies, as well.

"I'm always concerned about kids going to see movies based on books they love, because when you read a book and you love it, in your own mind, you have the images exactly the way you like them. The characters look the way you want them to," Guinn said. "When you go see a movie, no matter how good it is, you're seeing the director's vision."

Chanlatte, who organized publicity for the social, said the goal of the event is to increase membership in The Friends of the TCU Library by promoting the group to the TCU community. The Friends are an auxiliary group that provides programs and activities for the Fort Worth Community and the library.

The event will also feature a reading from "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" by retired reference librarian Bill Farrington who will be dressed in a wizard costume.

Chanlatte said Hogwart's refreshments will be available and there will be Harry Potter door prizes including a complete hardback book set, Christmas ornaments and a Harry Potter stocking holder.



*Movieggoers young and old – not to mention Whomping Willow caretakers and booksellers – all are hoping for some magic this holiday season when "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" comes to the silver screen.*

### Dictionary for Muggles (nonmagical people)

- **Avada Kedavra:** Killing curse
- **The Dursleys:** Harry's dim and decidedly Muggle relatives whom he lives with after his parents' deaths
- **Fleurish and Blotts:** Bookshop
- **Gringotts:** Lovable giant; school groundskeeper
- **Harry Potter:** 11-year-old orphan and wizard; the story's hero
- **Hermione Granger, Ron Weasley:** Harry's friends at Hogwarts
- **Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry:** School Harry attends; said to be the world's most prestigious
- **King's Cross Station:** In London, Hogwarts Express leaves from Platform 9 3/4
- **Owls:** Messengers
- **Quidditch:** Most popular sport among wizards; played on broomsticks
- **Voldemort:** Evil wizard who killed Harry's parents; also referred to as You-Know-Who and He Who Must Not Be Named

### Wild about Harry

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling has published four of a planned seven books in the series

Books sold More than 100 million

Translations 47

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**Did you know?**

**Potter in 1990:** A character she invented while riding a train; a novel she wrote as a single welfare mom.

**Potter today:** Four novels, one movie, another in production, T-shirts, video games and other merchandise.

**Hyper-best-sellers:** 100 million books sold in 46 languages.

**Un-American:** She wants to keep Harry out of Hollywood's clutches; 11-year-old Daniel Radcliffe plays the lead in the all-British movie.

**Potter-parazzi:** Filed a complaint against a fast-food marketing tie-in.

**Potter-parazzi:** Filed a complaint against paparazzi pursuing her 5-year-old daughter.

Reuters, Daniel Free Press, The State (Columbia, S.C.), AP, Time, KRT Photo Service © 2001 KRT

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Source: Warner Bros. Pictures, Scholastic Books, AP

Graphic: Pat Graw, TCU University

## Texas man executed after reprieve for murder

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUNTSVILLE — A condemned Texas man temporarily spared from his sentence on Sept. 11 was executed by lethal injection Wednesday night for fatally shooting a man 13 years ago.

Meanwhile, in Georgia, a federal appeals court delayed the execution of a convicted killer by one day while

it considered an appeal.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry had given Jeffrey Tucker a 30-day reprieve, fearing the courts would not be able to respond that day to any last-ditch plea from his attorneys because of the terrorist attacks.

When the reprieve expired, the new execution date was set. Tucker, who never denied his guilt, told prosecutors in a letter he did not welcome

the reprieve and believed death would be a relief.

Tucker was sentenced to die for the 1988 shooting death of Wilton Humphreys, 65, of Granbury. Tucker had responded to a newspaper ad Humphreys placed to sell his truck and the pair had gone out on a test drive.

When arrested for the slaying, Tucker already had been in and out

of Texas prisons three times, with convictions including drug possession, check forgery, theft and assault.

While in prison in 1984, he pleaded guilty to stabbing a cellmate. Less than four years later, he was paroled. He was arrested for the Humphreys killing the next month.

Tucker was the 15th execution in Texas this year and the first of two this week.

## BUSH

FROM PAGE 1

"The current levels of our nuclear forces do not reflect today's strategic realities," he said before leaving for his home in Crawford, Texas.

Putin matched him in a speech later at the Russian Embassy.

"Security is created not by piles of metal or weapons," Putin said. "It is created by political will of people, nation-state and their leaders."

So, the Russian president said, in light of a new and warm U.S.-Russian relationship, Russia can afford to reduce its arsenal to one-third or less.

The United States now has about 7,000 intercontinental-range nuclear warheads and Russia about 5,800.

Still, Putin said, he preferred codifying the reductions in formal agreements. "The world is far from having international relations based solely on trust, unfortunately," he said.

And Russian Foreign Minister

Igor Ivanov said Russia would keep pushing for a formal agreement. "To make it more reliable, we need to put it down in a treaty," he said. "It doesn't mean we distrust anyone. Just the opposite. It would consolidate and boost our relations."

Bush, on the other hand, said he saw no need for "endless hours" of negotiations.

Both leaders signaled their willingness to compromise.

Swinging a deal on anti-missile defenses is likely to be more difficult.

Senior administration officials told *The Associated Press* they did not expect an agreement on missile defenses before the summit talks end Thursday in Texas.

Bush wants to go ahead with a testing program that inevitably will run up against the prohibitions of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty.

Putin, who considers the treaty a cornerstone of arms control, said "the position of Russia remains unchanged."

Even so, there apparently is room for bargaining, if not this week then when Bush goes to Moscow, possibly in January.

"Let's look together at what tests you need," Ivanov said. "If such tests don't violate the treaty, why discard it? We don't think that the ABM treaty is outdated."

If they were at a dead end, Bush likely would assert the right to withdraw from the treaty. But a senior U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the president would not take that final step during the current talks.

Bush hopes to persuade Putin to allow the United States to proceed with research and development of a missile shield without declaring the work a violation of the 1972 pact. In exchange, Bush promised Putin to keep Russia informed of the tests. U.S. officials said the proposal would give both men what they want: Bush could begin developing a missile shield and Putin

could tell his public that he kept the ABM intact.

Finding common ground in other areas, the two leaders formalized a series of agreements to combat bioterrorism, bolster the Russian economy, battle money laundering that finances terrorism and strengthen Russia's ties to NATO — the 19-member military alliance formed to counter Moscow in the Cold War.

Meanwhile, the Council for a Livable World, a private group that advocates arms control, said Bush's decision to reduce the U.S. arsenal was "a good first step that has been a long time in coming."

But, the Council said, there needs to be verification, counting rules and a procedure for dismantling the retired weapons.

"President Bush may be able to see into President Putin's soul, but today's verbal agreement can become tomorrow's misunderstanding," the Council said in a statement.



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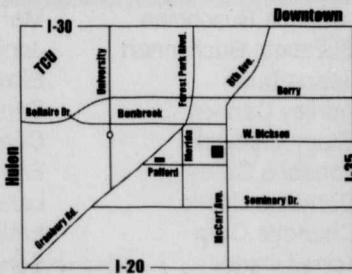
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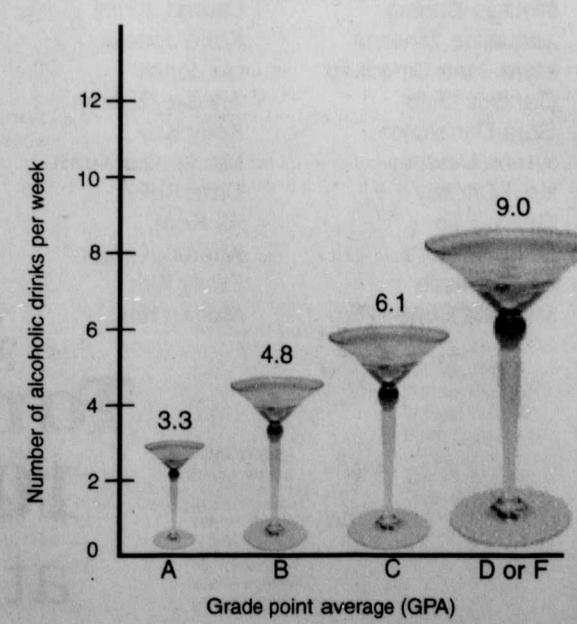


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# SPORTS

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www.skiff.tcu.edu

Thursday, November 15, 2001

## City approves zoning change for baseball stadium

By Jordan Blum  
STAFF REPORTER

Local resident Grayson Harper said he remembers when all that used to be across the street from his house was a golf course.

No highway. No Berry Street.

Now TCU is about to build Charles and Marie Lupton Baseball Stadium across from his home and Harper is one of a group of neighbors who expressed concern to the Fort Worth City Council that the new stadium will invade their privacy and right to peace within their homes.

The council unanimously passed a zoning change at a meeting Tuesday night giving TCU the right to proceed with construction after hearing from a

team of university representatives and several neighborhood residents both for and against the new stadium.

Ross Bailey, associate athletics director for operations and facilities, said the meeting and vote was necessary in order to get permission to put in higher light poles and that with permission granted construction will begin either immediately after Thanksgiving break or during the first week of December.

Bailey said with new development zoning, university officials are able to draw out detailed plans of the stadium down to the landscaping in order to alleviate potential concerns.

"We're not going to put up an eyesore," Bailey said. "(The stadium) is

going to have detailed landscaping and it will be blocked off from the neighborhood with brick and iron fencing."

Bailey said a team led by Willett Stallworth, associate vice chancellor for plant management, made presentations to the council and neighbors to alleviate concerns about lights, traffic and noise.

"Stallworth's group did a lot of studies on light and noise really everyone understand the problems won't be nearly what some people think they will be and to help people realize the stadium isn't just what's best for TCU but for the entire neighborhood," Bailey said.

However, Harper attended the meeting and said it did little to help

him feel better about a new baseball stadium.

"There's not much they could do to appease my concerns unless they decided to make it a park," Harper said. "Out of all places, I think people should have the right to privacy in their own homes away from the bright lights, traffic and sounds a stadium will bring."

"I know the university is doing a good job with landscaping and a state-of-the-art sound system so it won't be too obnoxious," he said. "But a little obnoxious is bad enough."

Harper also said the council got defensive when he pointed out that several of them are TCU alumni.

Kristi Wiseman, aide for Council-

woman Wendy Davis (District 9), said local residents primarily had "what if" concerns about potential concerts and year-round baseball clinics in the stadium and that they just need to be informed to ease their concerns.

"There was a negative vibe that many of the folks on the council bleed purple and some residents were concerned their opinions wouldn't be considered," Wiseman said. "But it's TCU's property and they can do what they want and they bent over backwards to try and appease the neighbors."

Brad Wallace, another local resident, said he is excited about the prospect of being in a neighborhood with a baseball field nearby.

"I think any neighbor has to realize

our property value has been maintained or raised by things the university has done," Wallace said. "I understand the concerns some people have, but I think once the field is built and night games are played, people will understand and see what a great atmosphere it is."

"It may appear a stadium will be detrimental now, but the structure planning is very appealing and the lights will only enhance the view of the university," he said. "Plus, this is only 20 night games maximum we're talking about out of 365 day in a year, so it won't be that big of a deal."

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## Standing on top *Two seniors run toward NCAA Championships*

By Bill Morrison  
SKIFF STAFF

Gladys Keitany knew she had to do well last week.

She had to qualify for the NCAA Championships. She didn't want the South Central Re-

gional Championships to be her last race.

Keitany took third place and qualified for nationals, but barely.

"It was a very close race, five seconds slower and I probably

would not have made it," Keitany said.

Seniors Eliud Njubi and Keitany qualified to go to the NCAA Championships at last Saturday's South Central Regional Championships in College Station on the Texas A&M campus. Keitany and Njubi will go to the NCAA Championships held in South Carolina at Furman University Monday.

Cross country coach Derek Koonts said Keitany and Njubi have been team leaders for the whole year.

"Those two have been running good all year, and it gave the (team) something to cheer for," Koonts said.

Keitany, a fourth year senior, will be going to national meet for the third time. She has qualified every year except her sophomore year.

Keitany has won four events this year, including the Conference USA Cross Country Championships. This was her second straight conference championship. Last year she won the Western Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships.

Led by Keitany, the women's team took fifth place in Saturday's meet. Njubi successfully defended his title as regional champion Saturday, finishing first in the meet for the second year in a row.

"I knew I was going to win," Njubi said.

It was the fifth title that Njubi has won this year, bringing his win total to nine events in two seasons of competition at TCU.

Last year, Njubi finished 28th at nationals and was an All-American.

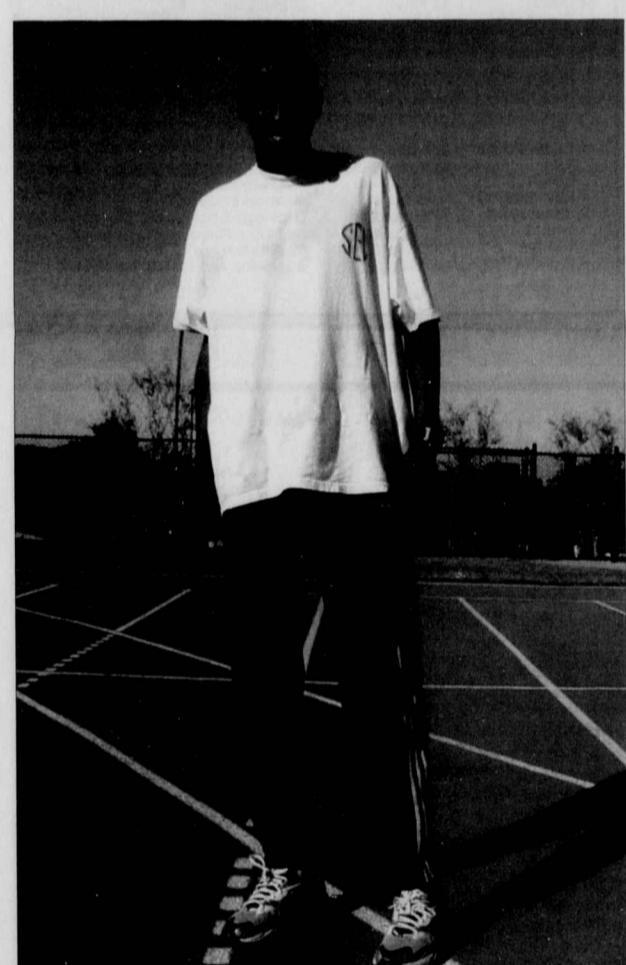
"Almost all conference champions are good," he said. "We expect to have more competition than we had last year."

Last year Keitany placed 40th

at nationals.

"(But) you never can predict what you are going to do, I am just going to try my best," Keitany said. "I am going to take it as any other race. I am not going to stress just because it is nationals, I am just going to run my best."

Bill Morrison  
w.c.morrison@student.tcu.edu



David Dunlap/Senior Photographer  
Senior Gladys Keitany qualified to go to the NCAA Championships, held at Furman University Monday. It is the third time in Keitany's career she has qualified.

Senior Eliud Njubi to go to the NCAA Championships at last Saturday's South Central Regional Championships in College Station. The NCAA Championships are held in South Carolina at Furman University Monday.

## Houston football team still fighting to rule out winless season

By Michael A. Lutz  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Dana Dimel still smiles and goes about business with a spring in his walk.

As the coach, Dimel is trying to set a good example for his University of Houston football team that has lost 13 straight games and is two games away from the first winless season in school history.

He's tried to keep the mood light.

"We've been reflecting on why we are 0-8, I mean, 0-9, I know that we are the 0," Dimel said. "There's probably not a game that you look at and say Houston should have won."

"We were picked ninth in the (Conference-USA) conference. We just didn't win some games that we weren't supposed to win."

Dimel even punished himself with extra running and push-ups the week after he was flagged for running on the field Oct. 20 against Cincinnati.

That didn't help, nor has anything so far in a season that was supposed to be a turnaround. The foreboding questions don't have pleasant answers.

— How long has it been since the Cougars won a game? Oct. 21, 2000,

haven't been able to get a 'W,' cornerback Bachie McGruder said. "Those are the lowest points."

The Cougars started the season with an outstanding cast of receivers and a baseball player turned quarterback, who hadn't played football since high school.

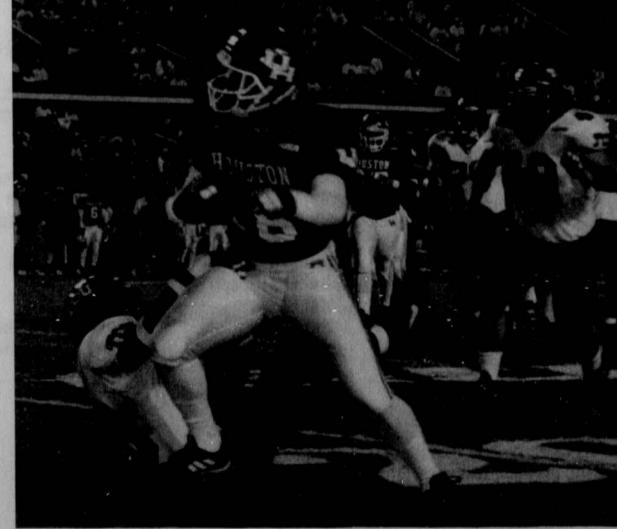
Quarterback Kelly Robertson showed promise but broke a bone in his wrist and missed much of the season.

Houston's most glaring weaknesses have been on defense. The Cougars' defense ranks 111th among 116 NCAA Division I-A teams in scoring defense and 94th in total defense.

If there was one time lower than all the rest, it had to be the Cincinnati game when the Cougars held their only fourth quarter lead of the season with 11:24 to play and then lost their 10th in a row.

"Instead of gaining momentum from that, they got deflated and said: 'We were so close,'" Dimel said. "For the next couple of weeks there was some deflation or our program, but I think we've found a way to play again."

Despite a 34-10 loss to No. 25 Louisville last week, the Cougars



David Dunlap/Senior Photographer  
Houston wide receiver Orlando Inglesias catches a pass against TCU Sept. 29. Inglesias and the Cougars are trying to avoid going winless.

feel they still have some fight left.

"You can't dwell on the past. Everything happens for a reason. Of course we don't know the reason being 0-9," receiver Orlando Inglesias said. "If anybody can

go through this and prevail it's

the University of Houston. We're a young team with a lot of talent. In the near future you'll see a great turnaround in this program."

## Legislators to fight team elimination

By Ronald Blum  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Sen. Paul Wellstone and Rep. John Conyers introduced legislation Wednesday that would rescind baseball's antitrust exemption on issues pertaining to elimination or relocation of teams.

The bills are aimed at pressuring baseball owners into reversing their decision to eliminate two teams before next season, most likely the Minnesota Twins and the Montreal Expos.

Wellstone, a Minnesota Democrat, and Conyers, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, were joined at a news conference in Washington by Reps. Martin Sabo, Betty McCollum and Bill Luther of Minnesota, as well as Rep. Earl Pomeroy, a North Dakota Democrat.

"It's a steep mountain to climb, but we absolutely have to make the effort," Wellstone said.

On Monday, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle asked commissioner Bud Selig to delay any decision on folding teams for at least a year.

"I spoke with Sen. Daschle," Selig said at the Hank Greenberg Sportsmanship Award dinner Tuesday night in New York. "Any conversations I've had with people like that stays between us."

Lawyers for baseball players planned to speak by telephone Wednesday with Shyam Das, baseball's arbitrator, to set a date for their grievance hearing aimed at stopping owners from eliminating teams.

Selig reiterated Tuesday he hopes to complete contraction by Dec. 15. The union contends the move violates its labor contract and that franchises can't be folded without its permission.

Selig acknowledged there was a chance the elimination could be held up by a judge or arbitrator, which could create lame-duck teams.

"That happened to the Braves in 1965 and it's happened to other clubs, but you can't worry about that," he said. "The intention is to get it done."

Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth subpoenaed documents from Selig and the two teams in his state on Tuesday to find out if Florida and Tampa Bay are candidates for elimination.

"The people of Florida are entitled to some straight answers about the future of baseball in Florida," Butterworth said.

The subpoenas require baseball to turn over documents to Butterworth by Dec. 13 — including all studies, research or reports relating to contraction and any documents relating to the Nov. 6 meeting and the contraction vote that day.

Butterworth also wants documents relating to profits or losses by the two Florida teams and major league baseball, as well as the potential economic impact to Miami and the Tampa-St. Petersburg area of losing the teams.

Butterworth thinks owners already might have decided which two teams will be dropped.

"It's not going to be easy for baseball to move out of the state of Florida," Butterworth said. "Why are they always hiding behind closed doors? They act like they are electing a pope."

Florida's Supreme Court ruled in 1994 that baseball's antitrust exemption didn't apply to franchise movement. Minnesota's Supreme Court ruled the opposite way two years ago, saying the exemption protected the Twins and baseball from an investigation by its attorney general.

In Minneapolis, a court hearing on a lawsuit filed against the Twins by the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission was delayed again after a second judge was removed from the case.

Hennepin County District Court Judge Harry Crump is expected to hear the case Thursday. The lawsuit is attempting to force the Twins to play in the Metrodome through the end of their lease in 2002.