

Wednesday, January 30, 2002

TCU DAILY SKIFF

In its 100th year of service to Texas Christian University • Vol. 99 • Issue 64 • Fort Worth, Texas • www.skiff.tcu.edu

Today's News

STATE NEWS

MONTAGUE, Texas — Authorities launched a nationwide manhunt Tuesday for two convicted murderers and two others awaiting trial on capital murder charges who fled the Montague County Jail by overpowering two female guards.

The Pulse on Page 2

AUSTIN — The Mardi Gras parade has been canceled after police refused to allow the event to take place at night because of concerns about violence at last year's celebration.

The Pulse on Page 2

OnCampus

Study shows liberalism rising among freshman

LOS ANGELES (U-WIRE) — The age of mass anti-war protests and bra-burning demonstrations may be over, but freshman liberalism is at its all-time high in three decades, according to the fall 2001 freshman survey report released Monday.

The survey, which includes responses from 411,970 entering freshmen from 704 colleges and universities, found that 29.9 percent of college freshmen label themselves "liberal" or "far left" while 20.7 percent of students consider themselves "conservative" or "far right."

The percentages of "liberals" on campus are substantially lower than the 40.9 percent of students who viewed themselves as liberals in 1971, according to the survey released by the Higher Education Research Institute at University of California-Los Angeles' Graduate School of Education and Information Studies and the American Council on Education.

Education professor and founding director of the survey, Alexander Astin, said the influx of corruption in contemporary politics connects students today with those from the '70s and has contributed to liberal tendencies.

"Politics are so dismal, and students are growing very cynical," Astin said.

Though students do not identify themselves as "liberals" as much as they did since 1971, Astin said, their views on controversial issues are far more to the left than before.

"The far right has successfully attacked the word 'liberal,'" Astin said, pointing to the 1988 election where Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis did not defend himself when his opponent, Republican candidate George Bush Sr., called him a liberal.

"The word fell out of favor and most young people are less likely to use it," Astin said.

—Daily Bruin

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the Weather

THURSDAY

High: 53; Low: 29; Showers in the morning

FRIDAY

High: 52; Low: 29; Sunny

Looking Back

1835 — In the House chamber of the U.S. Capitol, President Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, survives the first attempt against the life of a U.S. president.

1948 — Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the political and spiritual leader of the Indian independence movement, is assassinated in New Delhi by a Hindu fanatic.

1972 — In Londonderry, Northern Ireland, 13 unarmed civil rights demonstrators are shot dead by British Army paratroopers in an event that becomes known as "Bloody Sunday."

CUE ignites faculty, department criticism

Time requested to reach CUE faculty consensus

BY BRANDON ORTIZ

Staff Reporter

Requests for more time to hammer out a consensus over controversial elements of the proposed Common Undergraduate Experience will likely be made in today's Faculty Assembly, professors said.

Plans call for the CUE, a major overhaul of the core curriculum that has been in the works for over a year, to be approved by faculty by April, but many professors said the core is being rushed.

"This process is going too far, too fast," said religion professor Claudia Camp, who was the principle author of an e-mail signed by 15 professors in the religion, philosophy and English departments Jan. 18 that criticized the CUE as "marginalizing" the humanities.

"I hope we stop and say we need another year to chew on this," Camp said.

Faculty will discuss the CUE at 3:30 p.m. today in Moody Building North, room 141, in a closed meeting.

(More on CONSENSUS, page 6)

What is the Common Undergraduate Experience (or CUE)?

The proposed CUE would replace the University Curriculum Requirements. Unlike the UCR, the CUE is not discipline-oriented. Students are not required to take a certain number of hours in any specific discipline, such as religion or math. Instead, courses are meant to satisfy certain outcomes outlined in the CUE.

How does this directly affect current students?

The plan is to implement the CUE in the 2003-2004 school year for incoming freshman, meaning current students will not take any CUE courses.

What's the fuss all about?

Many professors are worried the humanities will not have much of a place in the CUE. They fear the CUE will lead TCU away from being a liberal arts school. Crafters of the CUE say it does not reduce the role of the humanities, and could actually expand it. Others want to see more writing courses in the CUE, which currently requires three hours. The UCR required 12 (six writing workshop and six writing emphasis). Supporters say writing will be an emphasis in the post-CUE requirements at the college or departmental level. They also say writing will be a core component of most CUE classes. Other professors feel some of the outcomes are vaguely worded or are hard to measure.

Faculty members meet today to debate core

BY BRANDON ORTIZ

Staff Reporter

Debate over the controversial Common Undergraduate Experience will move from the Internet into an open forum when faculty meet today to discuss the proposed core curriculum.

The CUE, a major overhaul of the core curriculum that has been in progress for more than a year, will be discussed at 3 p.m. today in Moody Building North Room 141 in a Faculty Assembly. The document has been met by a firestorm of criticism from professors in the humanities through e-mails to faculty, which has triggered rebuttals and similar response from other departments.

Debate over the CUE is centered around a number of issues. Some faculty feel the CUE's reduction in writing course requirements, from six hours to three, is disturbing. Others say the humanities is under-represented.

Unlike the University Curriculum Requirements, a discipline-oriented core currently in place, the CUE is

(More on DEBATE, page 6)

Information commons opens in library



Students work at computers in the library information commons Tuesday. The library was remodeled over the winter break.

David Dunai/STAFF REPORTER

COLLEEN CASEY

Staff Reporter

Students are reacting positively to the newly opened Information Commons in the Mary Couts Burnett Library, said Kim Weber, manager of User Services.

The Information Commons is the combination of the User Services computer help desk, the library reference desk and the computer lab assistance desk. "We are providing a combination of services including extended hours of operation that have been needed for some time," Weber said.

The total cost of the project is over \$250,000,

however, more than \$160,000 of the funding is from Telecommunications Infrastructure Grants from the state, said James Lutz, assistant university librarian for university services, in a TCU Daily Skiff article on Oct. 17. The remaining funds came from the Information Services and library budgets and the university, he said. The hours of operation for the computer help desk support have been extended to 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, she said.

Although definite numbers aren't available yet, Weber said more students are utilizing the

Information Commons to its fullest potential by taking advantage of available services until early morning hours.

"We hope to provide services at the hours that students most need assistance," Weber said.

Kerry Bouchard, assistant university librarian for automated services, said the Information Commons will help students get assistance quicker.

"Someone could get a computer support problem answered at 8 p.m. instead of having to wait until 8 a.m.," Bouchard said.

(More on COMMONS, page 6)

Hanna awarded grant

Money to double size of catalyst research

BY LAURA MCFARLAND

Staff reporter

Tracy Hanna, an assistant professor of chemistry, will double the size of her research effort over the next five years with a \$465,000 grant she received from the National Science Foundation, Hanna said.

Hanna said she received a 2001 National Science Foundation CAREER Award after she submitted a proposal describing her work at TCU. The foundation annually funds the projects of new professors in their first five years of teaching, Hanna said.

"It's the sort of award that they want to give to people who care about teaching and research," Hanna said.

After being reviewed by university professors across the nation, Hanna was ranked in the top 25 percent of chemistry department applicants, said Michael Clarke, the foundation's program director of inorganic, bioinorganic and organometallic chemistry.

"She was among the lucky few whose scientific and educational areas were so meritorious that we decided we would give her money," Clarke said.

When Robert Neilson, chemistry

(More on GRANT, page 6)

Bush pledges victory over terrorism, urges country to stay patient in time of recession

BY RON FOURNIER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Tuesday night that tens of thousands of terrorists still threaten America — "ticking time bombs, set to go off" — and unveiled his plans to hunt them across the globe. He pledged a battle of equal vigor to revive the nation's ailing economy.

"We will prevail in war, and we will defeat this recession," Bush said. In his first State of the Union address to Congress and the nation, the president fleshed out his vision for the war on terrorism beyond Afghanistan — to a dozen countries that he said harbor terrorists and "an axis of evil" of three more that seek weapons of mass destruction.

He urged Congress to pass his tax-cutting economic package and challenged Americans to commit two years or 4,000 hours to community service in an effort to tap the surge in patriotism since the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We can overcome evil with greater

good," the president said.

Amid extraordinary security, leaders of the congressional, judicial and executive branches gathered beneath the same Capitol dome that officials believe was targeted during the attacks on Washington and New York.

Dick Cheney, who has spent many nights in undisclosed locations because of security precautions, took the vice president's traditional place on the rostrum behind the president during the speech.

In the gallery, first lady Laura Bush was joined by several guests in her VIP box high above the well of the House, including interim Afghan leader Hamid Karzai and firefighters, soldiers and other citizen-heroes whose stories helped buy a weary nation.

"The men and women of our armed forces have delivered a message to every enemy of the United States," Bush said. "You will not escape the justice of this nation."

Outlining his post-Afghanistan bat-

tles, the president vowed to unearth "a terrorist underworld" of training camps in at least a dozen countries, including the Philippines, Bosnia and Somalia. He said nations will be given a chance to wipe out terrorists themselves, and the United States is willing to assist their efforts.

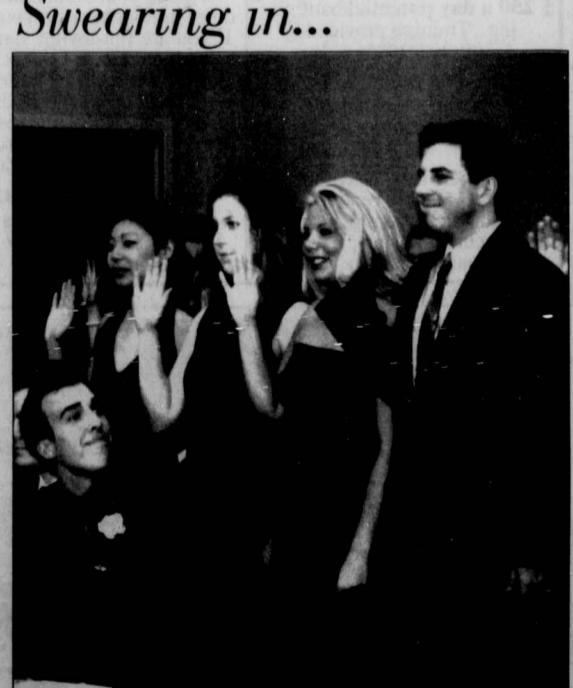
But, he warned: "If they do not act, America will."

In his strongest terms yet, Bush called North Korea, Iraq and Iran part of an "axis of evil," warning that their pursuit of weapons of mass destruction pose a "grave and growing danger" and will not be tolerated.

"I will not wait on events, while dangers gather. I will not stand by, as peril draws closer and closer," Bush said.

The nation's 43rd president addressed Americans with a degree of national unity conferred on no other chief executive since Franklin D. Roosevelt. In polls, more than 80 percent of Americans say they approve of his performance.

Swearing in...



Tuesday evening, the new members of the Student Government Association, were inducted. The House of Student Representatives officers, and the Programming Council officers, are being sworn into their new positions.

THE PULSE

www.skiff.tcu.edu

CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

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

• **The Writing Center** has moved to the Student Center basement. Drop in or call (817)257-7221 for an appointment.

• **KinoMonda film series** will present "Amores Perros" 7 p.m. today in Sid W. Richardson Building, Lecture Hall 1. For more information call (817) 257-7292.

• **Writing for an American Audience** workshop will take place 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday in Student Center, Room 204. The workshop will consider the expectations, requirements and strategies for developing effective papers in various disciplines. International students learning to write papers for an American academic audience are particularly invited. Register at the Writing Center in the Student Center basement.

• **RTVF film series** will present "The Miracle Worker" 7 p.m. Thursday in Moody Building South, Room 164. The 1962 film stars Annie Sullivan, Patty Duke and Anne Bancroft.

• **The TCU Graduate Student Council** invites all graduate students to an informational meeting 5 p.m. Monday in Reed Hall, Room 312. Contact Lisa A. Cooper at (l.a.cooper@student.tcu.edu) with any questions.

• **The TCU Symphony Orchestra** will perform a concerto concert 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. For more information call (817)257-7602.

• **"In a New York Minute"** art show will run through Feb. 8 in the Student Center.

• **Insights—faculty artists exhibit** will run through Feb. 14 in the Moody Building North foyer. The exhibit will feature the newest works of TCU faculty artists.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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

Circulation: 4,600
Subscriptions: Call 257-6274. Rates are \$30 per semester.
Mailing address: Box 298050, Fort Worth, Texas 76129
Location: Moody Building South, Room 291, 2805 S. University Drive Fort Worth, TX 76109

On-campus distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$5.00 and are available at the *Skiff* office. Copyright: All rights for the entire contents of this newspaper shall be the property of The *TCU Daily Skiff*. No part thereof may be reproduced or aired without prior consent of the Student Publications Director. The *Skiff* does not publish Tuesday through Friday during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays. The *Skiff* is a member of The Associated Press.

Main number (817) 257-7428
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Advertising/Classified (817) 257-7426
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NYU requests name protection in public lawsuit

NEW YORK (U-WIRE) — Lawyers for New York University filed a motion earlier this month requesting that the University's name be stricken from public legal documents naming it in a \$20 million sex assault lawsuit, court records showed.

NYU's attorneys filed a motion two weeks ago arguing that the University should be referred to as "Anonymous" in all public court documents to shield it from negative publicity surrounding the suit, according to the motion.

The motion stated that because a judge allowed the plaintiff, a female student who was sexually assaulted in a dormitory bathroom, to proceed anonymously for privacy reasons, the University should be able to do so as well.

If a judge grants NYU's motion, all public court records will refer to the lawsuit as "Anonymous v. Anonymous."

Hearing-impaired college students file lawsuit

BERKELEY, Calif. (U-WIRE) — Several hearing-impaired University of California-Berkeley and University of California-Davis students have filed a lawsuit against the University of California system, saying they have not been provided adequate services.

The university has denied the allegations included in the lawsuit filed earlier this month. UC maintains it is in full compliance with state regulations.

"We are very proud of the panoply of services the university offers to all of its disabled students," said Jeff Blair, UC's attorney.

UC Berkeley student Lexin Ka said the university's policies for its Disabled Students' Program are "unfair and unnecessary," pointing out during testimony that interpreters for hearing-impaired students would leave if they were more than ten minutes late to class.

Disabled students are required to explain why they are late to or absent from a class. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit say that rule is "burdensome" and "intrusive."

But Blair said he does not believe

"there is any merit" to the plaintiffs' argument.

Instead, the lawyers for the plaintiffs are "interested in their own personal wealth" and have refused to work alongside the university in improving its policies, Blair said.

Guy Wallace, attorney for the plaintiffs, said the university has done "little or nothing" to address the complaints.

Wallace also said the university has tried to recruit other disabled students to speak in favor of university policies.

The case, which will be tried in June, already has been drawing much attention from disabled students on campus.

Nationwide manhunt begins for Texas prison escapees

MONTAGUE, Texas (AP) — Authorities launched a nationwide manhunt Tuesday for two convicted murderers and two others awaiting trial on capital murder charges who fled the Montague County Jail by overpowering two female guards.

Two of the escapees were serving life sentences for the 1996 murder of a 16-year-old Oklahoma cheerleader. The other man and woman were arrested in November and charged with two counts of capital murder in the deaths of an elderly Montague County couple on whose land they had been living.

The escapees were identified as Curtis Allen Gambill of Terrell, Okla.; Joshua Luke Bagwell of Waurika, Okla.; Chrystal Gale Soto, 22, of Bowie, Texas; and Charles William Jordan, 30, of Bowie.

District Attorney Tim Cole said the escape plan began unfolding Monday night when a female jailer opened the cell holding Gambill and Jordan to retrieve a cleaning bucket and they attacked her with a knife.

The inmates then forced her and another female jailer to release Bagwell and Soto. The four inmates put the jailers in a confined area, walked out the back door and stole a jailer's Geo Chevrolet Tracker using her keys.

The women, who were not hurt, ran out and alerted deputies.

Roadblocks were set up on Texas 59

in between Montague and Bowie about 10 miles to the southwest. Authorities from several neighboring communities and counties, the FBI, Texas Rangers and Department of Public Safety were aiding in the search from the air and across the rolling ranchland of far North Texas.

Gambill and Bagwell both were described as 5-foot-8, 160 pounds with blond hair. Gambill has green eyes; Bagwell, hazel eyes. Soto is 5-foot-4, 155 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. Jordan is 6-foot, 165 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes.

The getaway car was described as a silver 2001 Geo Chevrolet Tracker with a black top, bearing a Texas license plate of 5MB D88.

Hutchins woman to face five years to life in prison

DALLAS (AP) — A jury began deciding Tuesday on the punishment for a woman who pleaded guilty to confining her severely malnourished 8-year-old daughter in a filthy closet in their mobile home.

Barbara Atkinson of Hutchins, who pleaded guilty last week to a charge of bodily injury to a child, faces five years to life in prison.

Closing arguments wrapped up Tuesday morning in the punishment phase of the trial of Atkinson, 30. She and her former husband, Kenneth, were arrested last June after the girl, who weighed 25 pounds at 8 years old, was discovered near death.

"We have seen evil like we never knew that evil existed. This is evil," prosecutor Susan Hawk said, pointing at Atkinson. Hawk asked for a life sentence and described the girl's nightmarish conditions.

"She laid there naked in her own feces, in her own urine, praying someone might open the door," Hawk said.

Defense attorney Brad Lollar said the defendant herself suffered a traumatic childhood. He said the first three years of Atkinson's life she was neglected by her birth mother, a prostitute and drug addict, then placed with an adoptive home, where she did not feel loved.

"The person who did this has to have something mentally wrong with them," Lollar said. "She is a victimizer and a victim."

Kenneth Atkinson, 34, is awaiting a new trial date after a judge agreed to a request for a separate trial last week. He is charged with serious bodily injury to a child and aggravated sexual assault of a child.

The East Texas couple that originally tried to adopt the child at birth is now her foster family and is attempting to gain permanent custody. Bill and Sabrina Kavanaugh say the child has gained weight, enrolled in kindergarten and is doing well in their care.

Austin Mardi Gras parade canceled due to violence

AUSTIN (AP) — The Mardi Gras parade has been canceled after police refused to allow the event take place at night because of concerns about violence at last year's celebration.

Police in riot gear had to push hundreds of people off Austin's famous Sixth Street last year when the crowd became unruly. Rioters threw beer bottles and rocks at police.

Thirty-five people were arrested and one man was stabbed several times in the back. Wild crowds and fights also marred the 2000 Mardi Gras weekend.

"This is not based on what happened on September 11. But there is some consideration for last year, because the thing just kind of blew up in our face, as it did there the year before," Cmdr. Harold Piatt of the Austin Police Department told the Austin American-Statesman for its Tuesday editions.

Organizers were told of the police decision about a month ago, said Bob Woody, president of the East Sixth Street Merchants Association.

"Some people will probably be upset about the parade, but I'm not," he said, adding he understood the police department concerns.

"Last year, things escalated into a problem on Sixth Street, and with that in mind, we need to let a period of time, we need to let a period of time go by so we can heal the wounds," he said.

This would have been the fourth year for the parade. Other events, such as concerts and a parade for children, were not scheduled. Without the parade, it was too hard to promote the other festivities, Woody said.

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OPINION

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The Skiff View REFOCUS

Core discussions need student input

Today TCU faculty meet in an open forum to discuss the proposed core curriculum.

Today an already heated debate will be moved from e-mail and watercooler talk to person-to-person, voice-to-voice.

Today is the beginning of what's sure to be a heated discussion.

Why? Because it's all about bruised egos and misdirected goals.

But the real effect of the new core will reach far beyond departmental pride and turf wars. It will reach the very people TCU should be the most interested in. Religion Professor Claudia Camp's e-mail to the faculty criticizing the proposed curriculum raises some good points, but does it in a way that focuses solely on the academia viewpoint, only mentioning students six times in the entire writing.

During the redrafting process, TCU must remember that its focus and means of instruction will have a great impact on the type of students it attracts. While it may be beneficial to push something new through the system for publicity and the much-desired opportunity to be first, it will kill TCU in the long run if the interests of individual departments outweigh the interests of the students and TCU as a whole.

Camp is right in saying the administration needs to slow down the redrafting process and carefully examine all the options. But instead of simply looking to the needs of departments classified as humanities and social sciences, faculty and administration should look to the interests of the ones who have the most at stake in the reshaping of the requirements - the students.

The Other View

Opinions from around the country

The events of Sept. 11 spawned many a political debate, one of the more recent ones being whether illegal immigrants should be granted driver's licenses. Allowing illegal immigrants to get driver's licenses is a good idea, as the ones obtaining the licenses would be the ones who are already contributing positively to our society, despite their illegal status.

Citing examples of Sept. 11 hijackers, critics of granting illegal immigrants driver's licenses suggest that having licenses will make it easier for dangerous aliens to fit into our culture and damage it. Linda Lewis, president of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, told The Associated Press that having a license "allows you to immerse yourself in society."

"There are loopholes in the law that allow those who are here to do harm to work their way into the system," she said.

What Lewis and those who hold similar viewpoints fail to recognize is that licenses can often be obtained through illegal means. Even so, these critics are discussing this as a safety issue when it is actually more a matter of national well-being.

Colorado recently introduced a bill that would allow illegal immi-

grants to obtain licenses by using their federal taxpayer identification numbers instead of social security numbers, which, as illegal aliens, the applicants would not have.

Colorado officials acknowledge that making it legal for hard-working illegal aliens to receive licenses does not endorse illegal immigration to the United States, but rather provides a logical solution to an often ignored problem.

Under these systems, illegal immigrants should only be allowed to get licenses if they have proof of insurance. If they have insurance, they are surely holding down a job to pay for insurance and thus are not a drain on our economy. Why not allow people who are going to drive anyway do it legally and under insurance that not only helps them but also taxpayers?

Granting illegal immigrants licenses will do nothing to compromise national security. Illegal immigrants should not be in this country, but they are here regardless. Allowing them to get driver's licenses is a step toward making these individuals contributors to our country instead of the parasites they are often viewed as being.

This editorial comes from the Technician at North Carolina State University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

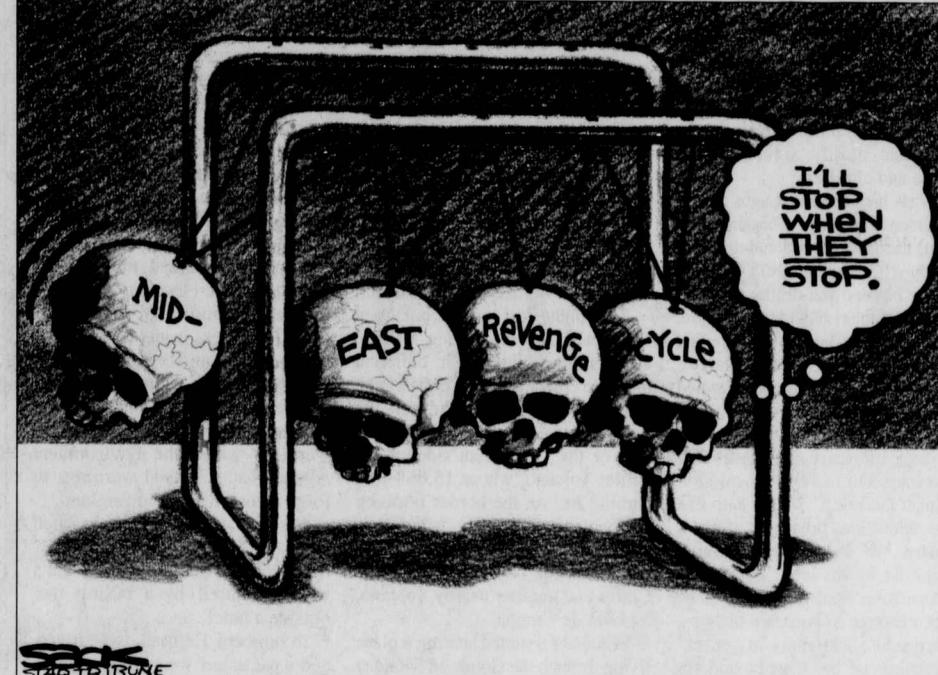
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Letters to the editor: The *Skiff* welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the *Skiff*, Moody 2915; mail it to TCU Box 298050; e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu or fax it to 257-7133. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The *Skiff* reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Plagiarism after graduation: Consequences not adequate

Plagiarism is one of the hottest issues facing the academic community. Almost every syllabus and every university's code of conduct contain stipulations regarding plagiarism and the punishment for plagiarizing.

The consequences can range from failing a paper or exam to expulsion from school. However, it seems only students receive harsh punishment for this dubious deed.

Recently, accomplished historian Stephen Ambrose's writing has come under the scrutiny of the plagiarism police.

In his most recent work, "The Wild Blue," Ambrose has been accused of copying sentences and passages almost verbatim from another work on World War II aviators by historian Thomas Childers. The irony of the situation is that Childers himself discovered the error while reading "The Wild Blue."

After the first accusation, passages in at least four other Ambrose books were found to have been lifted from previous works

by other authors. So, obviously this wasn't just a one-time mistake for Ambrose.

Ambrose asserts that he footnoted all of his sources but in the heat of the moment he may have forgotten to use quotation marks. Unfortunately for him, this excuse tends to wear thin after several instances of the same error.

Strangely, the passages that Ambrose plagiarized aren't mere statements of fact, but elegantly written bits of prose that describe small events and feelings.

It seems they were lifted more for their stylistic merit than for their fact-based foundation.

The biggest problem with this whole affair is the total lack of punishment that Ambrose is facing. Aside from losing face and a promise to fix the passages in new additions, Ambrose will see very little consequence for his actions.

Plagiarism of this magnitude at most universities could result in outcomes of varying degrees.

An instructor could give an oral reprimand, fail the student for the assignment or class or, in the worst case, the instructor could refer the student to an Office of Ju-

dicial Affairs for review. Judicial Affairs could then clear the student or punish him with probation, suspension or expulsion.

A student accused of plagiarism is afforded the right to have his or her case reviewed by the Academic Integrity Council who will determine the degree of the infraction and help decide what sort of action is necessary.

The idea is that plagiarism at the university level is viewed as a much more serious affair than it is in the real world.

Ambrose may have lost some face but he is so well respected that his career will hardly be tarnished. In fact, few people will even pay notice to his mistakes. Someone who plagiarizes at an earlier stage may have his or her academic career ruined.

Plagiarism should be taken much more seriously outside of academics. If plagiarism on Ambrose's level could be taken so lightly then it may help tarnish the academic freedom that is held dear by all.

Greg Smith is an editorialist for the Daily Forty-Niner at California State University-Long Beach. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

Demand to control life useless

As we begin a new year and a new semester, we often make so-called "resolutions" that more than often serve to resolve nothing. In fact, these resolutions only create more problems as we find ourselves caught up in a frustration-filled battle to gain control over our lives.

Why are we so preoccupied with control? We can reference the events of Sept. 11 as a tragic reminder that real and true control over all aspects of our lives is something that is impossible. In many ways, it is futile to even attempt to achieve such a complete command of the varied facets of our lives.

Many see control as a means to achieving the end product of happiness. But there is much more to happiness than a sense of power over predictability. This approach to happiness can often lead one to forget about the interests of others around you. Even more importantly, those we love get caught up in our selfish cycle of manipulation as well. In this way, this search for power only hurts us in the long run.

If you are struggling with control issues you may want to consider the following. Maybe the only thing that we do control is our reactions to the uncontrollable situations we find ourselves in on a daily basis.

In a world where our lives are continuously becoming interdependent with the lives of others around us, compromise needs to be given greater consideration over control.

You won't necessarily be the "loser" if you don't have your way all the time. In fact, understanding the illusion of control will help you gain a more realistic perspective on life and ultimately get you on the right track for having a more successful school year.

Samuel Rose is a social work major from the West Indies Cayman Islands. He can be contacted at s.j.rose@student.tcu.edu.

Thoughts on 'thinking outside the box'

Random musings from Dave Matthews to homophobia

First off, let me say something to all you people out there who listen to Dave Matthews Band because you believe it says something about your great musical taste and how unique and different you are.

Oh well, you're not. You're just like every other college student.

I mean, with respect to Dave, he's a good artist and "Stay" along with "Crush" have found permanent

spots on my mp3 play list. But Dave Matthews CD's and posters are about as ubiquitous in college as empty tequila bottles in a frat house. Own up to the fact that it's popular entertainment the exact same way that 'N Sync and Limp Cope are. You want to be arty or hip, pick up Radiohead's "Amnesiac" or the new Spiritualized or Alicia Keys CD's.

Now before too many people accuse me of advocating pretentious music that sucks, I'd like to mention that I reject the modernist and post-modernist notions that it's up to the audience, not the artist, to derive meaning from art. Of course art can mean different things to different people, but Radiohead's "Kid A" and "Amne-

sia" were filled to the brim with the exact kind of pretentious ambiguity that has the people who loved "Magnolia" claiming the two albums as genius.

I think Leo Tolstoy put it best when he said, "To say that a work of art is good, but incomprehensible to the majority of men, is the same as saying of some kind of food that it is very good but that most people can't eat it."

If I hear one more business management major in khaki pants and those nondescript brown boots, and the navy brass button blazers talk about "thinking outside the box" I may puke. Guys, you are the box, and if you have to resort to a clichéd phrases like "think outside the box" to com-

"If I hear one more business management major in khaki pants and those nondescript brown boots, and the navy brass button blazers talk about 'thinking outside the box' I may puke."

municate a desire to approach things from a non-conventional perspective then that should be your first hint.

Has anyone else noticed that the most homophobic people tend to be the least likely to ever be hit on by any gay person? Whenever I overhear some overweight, acne ridden, bigot with an asym-

metrical face going on about how "no queers better try to touch me" I can't help but think about how that's really the last thing he'll need to worry about.

I'm sure that mentioning this will plunge me into the lower depths of geekdom in some of your minds, but the new Star Trek series "Enterprise" launched this season. I think a lot of its success will depend on exactly how much that naked blue thing in the commercials is actually in the show.

At one point in my life I was tricked into sitting in a booth for a local community theater at a "trekkie" convention. After watching the people there for about fifteen minutes, it became extremely clear to me that I don't like anything that much. Now maybe that makes me the truly sad one because I don't have any real passions in life, but then again I'm not the 35-year-old virgin living out of my parents basement with rubber Vulcan ears glued to the sides of my head introducing myself as Supreme Commander Larry Milton.

I guess you could say the importance of having passion is relative to what the passion is about.

Tim Draggga is a junior political science major from Lubbock. Tim's column can be seen every Wednesday and he can be contacted at t.c.draggga@student.tcu.edu.



Illustration by Nick McPherson

NEWS DIGEST

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National/International Roundup

ACLU files suit for removal of religious signs in La.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday demanding the removal of signs outside a southeastern Louisiana town that proclaim: "Jesus is Lord over Franklinton."

ACLU officials said public money was used to put up the signs on state roads, violating the constitutional separation of church and state.

"Can you imagine the hostility that Jews, Muslims, members of other minority faiths and non-believers must feel when living in or passing through that community?" asked Linton Carney, who first saw the signs in July while driving through Franklinton, 55 miles north of New Orleans. He said he has no religious affiliation.

The suit names the town, its mayor and surrounding Washington Parish as defendants.

"Public officials in that parish know the law. Unfortunately, they decided to engage in endorsement of religion," said Joe Cook, executive director of the ACLU of Louisiana.

Franklin Mayor Earle Brown said the town had nothing to do with the signs and has told the ACLU so.

"We have no knowledge of who put them up," said Brown, adding that they appeared a couple of years ago.

Last week, ACLU officials threatened to sue the mayor of Inglis, Fla., unless she removes her proclamation banning Satan within the town limits from posts at the town's entrances.

The mayor, a devout Christian, wrote the proclamation on Halloween night. It was typed on town stationery and affixed with the town seal.

National disaster declared in Nigeria, 600 dead.

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria's president declared a national disaster on Tuesday after a series of explosions at an army weapons depot in Lagos left at least 600 dead, most of them women and children who drowned in a canal while trying to run away.

In a radio broadcast, President Olusegun Obasanjo said "over 600 bodies had been recovered," includ-

ing many from the Oke Afa canal in the northern Isolo neighborhood of this city of 12 million. He said the dead were mostly women, young people and children.

"What happened in Lagos was a monumental tragedy," Obasanjo said, calling the deaths a "national disaster."

Lagos Governor Bola Ahmed Tinubu blamed the deaths on military negligence, radio stations said.

Hundreds of bodies were pulled out of the canal in Nigeria's largest city Monday after victims drowned Sunday night while trying to flee the explosions.

"Ikeja mortuary is filled; they have started to use other local government facilities," Tinubu said in a state television broadcast. "It's a disaster. We did not anticipate it would rise to this level."

Pope John Paul II sent a condolence message to Nigerian bishops, assuring his "closeness in prayer" for victims of the tragedy and for the rescue workers.

Army spokesman Col. Felix Chukwumah said the explosions began when a fire spread to the depot, which is surrounded by crowded slums and working-class neighborhoods. The blasts propelled shrapnel and shock waves for miles, shattering windows six miles away at the international airport and sending residents fleeing in panic.

Many victims apparently didn't realize how deep the water was and drowned when they ran and drove vehicles into the Oke Afa drainage canal, witnesses said.

Ecuadorian airliner crashes, 92 on board

IPIALES, Colombia (AP) — Search teams found the wreckage of an Ecuadorian airliner that crashed with 92 people on board near a volcano straddling the Colombia-Ecuador border, an Ecuadorian official said.

It would take rescue workers at least two hours to reach the remote site of the crash near Chiles Volcano near the Ecuadorian border, Minister of Government Marcelo Merlo told reporters in Ecuador's capital, Quito.

Merlo did not say whether there were any survivors. There was no

immediate confirmation of the find from Colombian officials.

The TAME airlines Boeing 727-100 from Quito vanished Monday morning over the Andes as it flew through foggy weather. It looped over the Colombian town of Ipiales on its final approach to its destination — the tiny airport in nearby Tulcan.

The flight lost radio contact at 10:23 a.m. It was carrying 83 passengers, including seven children, and nine crew members, TAME said.

It was not clear whether the wreckage was found on the Ecuadorian or the Colombian side of the Chiles Volcano, whose 15,668-foot summit lies on the border between the two nations.

Rescue teams from both nations were focusing on the region of the Chiles and another nearby volcano, Nevado de Cumbal.

Witnesses reported hearing a plane flying through the clouds on Monday and then an explosion in the area.

After stopping in Tulcan, the flight was to have continued to Cali, Colombia's third-largest city. At the city's airport, distressed relatives awaited news of their loved ones.

Three rescue planes and a helicopter combed the area near Ipiales until nightfall Monday but could find no traces of a crash.

Clouds persisted Tuesday and delayed the resumption of the search. At midmorning, a search flight took off from Ecuador, entering Colombia as the crew peered through breaking clouds. In Cumbal, firefighters drove up a misty road into the mountains to try to locate the crash.

A spokeswoman for the Colombian air force, Maj. Angela Rodriguez, said Colombian authorities ruled out a possible guerrilla attack.

Gales over Europe kill 16, leave many without power

LONDON (AP) — Powerful gales battered northern Europe, killing at least 16 people as the wind ripped roofs off houses, disrupted traffic and shipping and left thousands of homes without power Tuesday.

Winds gusting at up to 120 miles an hour tore through Britain and Ireland on Monday before heading

across Scandinavia, Germany, Poland and Russia overnight, meteorologists reported.

In Britain, seven people died in gales that centered on northern England and Scotland. Scottish Hydroelectric said 8,000 homes remained without electricity Tuesday.

Engineers worked through the night to restore electricity to tens of thousands of homes after high winds damaged bridges, caused numerous road accidents and brought the area's rail network to a virtual standstill.

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency issued 12 flood warnings while the Environment Agency had 23 flood warnings in force across Wales and England.

In Scotland, two people died when the wind overturned tractor-trailers, and a man was killed and a woman injured by a falling tree outside a hotel.

In northern England, two drivers and a passenger were killed in three accidents in which trucks were blown over or off the road. A woman was killed by a piece of stone carving that fell from a church in York.

World Trade Center survivor released from hospital

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman who was severely burned at the World Trade Center was released from the hospital Tuesday after four months of treatment, saying "I want to get back to the way I was."

Her face bandaged, Elaine Duch, 49, told reporters at Weill Cornell Hospital's Burn Center that she was on the 88th floor of one of the twin towers on Sept. 11 when she was injured. Rescuers helped guide her down.

"I thank God that I'm here today," said Duch, who was wearing an FDNY baseball cap. "Because when I got hurt on 88, I said, 'God save me,' and he did."

Duch's burns were severe enough that she was given last rites before she was rushed to the hospital. Her glasses shattered from the heat.

"I don't know if I was on fire," she said.

Paul Adams, an emergency medical technician who helped rescue Duch, visited her in the hospital every Sunday.

Expert picked to guide Enron

BY KRISTEN HAYS

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Enron Corp.'s board on Tuesday selected a reorganization expert to guide it through the largest bankruptcy in history and a slew of criminal and congressional investigations into the company's collapse.

Stephen Cooper, managing principal of the New York-based reorganization adviser Zolfo Cooper, was named interim chief executive and chief restructuring officer.

The selection came less than a week after the resignation of Kenneth Lay as chairman and chief executive. A search for a new chairman continues, the company said.

Also Tuesday, the board announced the resignation of Lawrence G. Whalley as president and chief operating officer. Whalley will accept a position with UBS Warburg, the Swiss bank that acquired Enron's cornerstone trading operation earlier this month, as agreed by the two parties.

Enron said Cooper would be joined by a team of Zolfo Cooper professionals who will help with the company's Chapter 11 restructuring effort.

Zolfo Cooper's long list of past

clients include instant film maker Polaroid Corp., Hawaiian retailer Liberty House and Spokane, Wash.-based Pegasus Gold Corp.

Enron's board and the creditors' committee in the company's bankruptcy reviewed candidates last week.

The company also said that Jeff McMahon has been promoted from chief financial officer to succeed Whalley as president and COO. Treasurer Ray Bowen was named vice president and chief financial officer. Both, as members of the Office of the Chief Executive, will fill out Enron's top management team.

Cooper said the team will immediately start working with Enron's current management and the creditors' committee on the company's efforts to emerge from bankruptcy.

"Our focus is on the future of Enron," Cooper said in a statement. "We will work closely with the board of directors, management and the creditors' committee to develop a reorganization plan to maximize value for the company's stakeholders."

Todd Zywicki, a bankruptcy law professor at George Mason University, said Cooper's selection appeared to be a small step toward bringing in an outsider unhampered by ties to Enron.

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TECHNOLOGY

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Instant Communication

Many college students are using their computers instead of phones and face-to-face interaction to communicate with friends and family near and far.

BY SARAH KREBS
Skiff Staff

One hundred years ago people communicated through mail, telegraph or newspaper. Keeping in touch with friends or relatives hundreds of miles away was a difficult and slow process. The thought of talking directly to someone half-way around the world was inconceivable.

Now a person in Moscow can communicate instantly with someone in Japan or Australia. The information revolution affected the world of communication and the people that use this new technology to communicate.

Julia Jones, a freshman premajor, said she knows the value of the Internet. Having lived in England, Switzerland, the Ukraine and now the United States, Jones said she has friends all over Europe that she keeps in touch with via the Internet.

"I talk to my friends and family online because it is fast and cheap," Jones said. "I can send my family e-mail and put pictures with it and it is much easier."

Keith Whitworth, a sociology faculty member, said Internet usage is becoming an increasing trend among college students.

According to a study by *Greenfield Online* (July 1999), 84 percent of all college students use the Internet. Out of that, 71 percent surf the net more than once daily, over 50 percent surf the net from their dorm room, 40 percent of college students maintain a personal Web page, 61 percent visit entertainment sites, 18 percent visit travel sites and 84 percent plan to purchase a compact disc online.

Jones said another benefit of online communication is anonymity and students are more likely to converse with the opposite sex over the Internet because of it.

"When I call a guy, I can't speak," she said. "I start to forget my English and mix in Russian words and the guy probably thinks I'm retarded."

"On (instant messenger), he cannot see or hear me and that makes me totally relaxed. I can have music on or I can have people there with me which also helps. Writing is also more focused than jumping from one thought to another on the phone."

However, Amy Dullning, a freshman radio-TV-film major, said not physically seeing the other person can also be a drawback because it is hard to interpret their feelings.

"On the phone you can hear their happiness, sadness or anger, but on IM you can't," Dullning said.

Since communicating on the computer produces an introverted environment, social skills start to decay, said Amy Faulk, a senior marketing major.

"You don't interact physically with others and you can't respond very well," Faulk said. "It is really hard to tell if they are telling you their inner feelings or if they are just joking around."

Whitworth said college students are very vulnerable to Internet addiction because of the available Internet access and the expectation of computer use. He said college students will also often deny problematic behaviors and have trouble with their sense of control when using the computer. To some, the Internet is their social outlet. They are part of Web-communities that can become their family.

"It doesn't really stop social skills because you are still communicating with other people," said Bee J. Tapley, a sophomore religion major. "You may not be in the same room, but you are still communicating with your friends and talking to them."

When it comes to degrading social interaction, Dullning said she agrees.

"People are on (the Internet) way too much and because people always seem to talk either online or through e-mail, it is almost like we don't have as many social skills," she said.

Whitworth said data does not indicate the Internet degrades their social skills. Students can be part of Web-communities that can become their family, he said.

"I think that social skills will still be developed by interaction in everyday lives," said Michelle Barnett, a freshman English major. "Although the Internet can be impersonal, it does make it easier to interact with someone that you don't know that well. It serves as an ice breaker. People from different places interact despite distances."

Whitworth said when people are online they can talk, exchange ideas and even assume personas of our own creation. They can create Cyber-communities and develop a new identity through the Cyber-community. In these communities, people are unsure of their footing, inventing themselves as they go along.

Jones said people online can pretend to be anything they want.

"I was talking to this Italian guy who seemed pretty nice," Jones said. "He wrote me poetry and sent roses and his picture for my birthday. We decided to meet in Switzerland and he was nice, but overbearing and then started getting crazy. It was the biggest mistake I ever made."

Whitworth said according to a survey done in 2001, 37 percent of Korean women arranged a face-to-face meeting with a "friend" from the Internet and 23 percent of Canadians, 16 percent of Americans and 14 percent of Dutch arrange such meetings.

Another habitually visited Internet forum is the chatroom.

Erin Sullivan, a freshman biology major, said her favorite chatroom is a bingo chatroom that she wandered into after looking at a "Jeopardy" Web site.

"You can go in and play bingo while chatting with people on the side," Sullivan said. "I mostly talk to the people that I know. We talk about their kids, if they have them, or their classes, if they are a student."

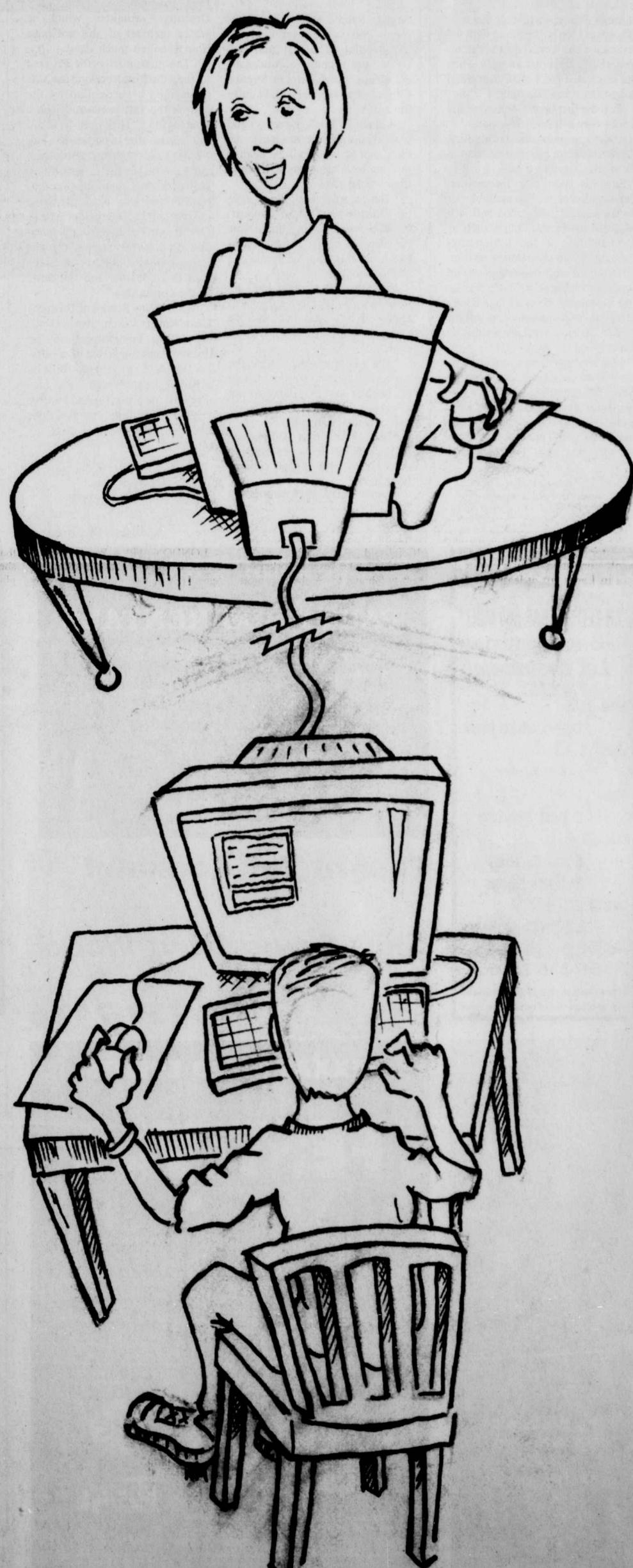
Whitworth said the survey also reported women feel vulnerable in chatrooms. Sullivan said she liked the bingo site because the people in the chatroom are single females and she does not feel vulnerable.

"I tried other chatrooms, but I didn't like them," Sullivan said. "You don't know who is on and you don't know if there is a freak there. You can't tell too much information about yourself because you don't know what they will do with it."

In chatrooms, trust or distrust issues occur frequently.

"It depends on the chatroom," Sullivan said. "If you are in a closed chatroom with your friends, then there is trust. Otherwise I prefer using IM to get to know people. It's hard to get to know someone without all of the other people knowing too much."

Of course, the traditional face-to-face human interaction still has its charms. "A personal relationship is still better than the Internet because of voice inflections and expressions," Sullivan said. "Online you can say something and it is taken fourteen different ways."



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Illustration by Nick McPherson/ SKIFF STAFF

FROM PAGE 1 | NATIONAL | www.skiff.tcu.edu

Supreme Court to hear student record case

WASHINGTON (U-WIRE)—The Supreme Court announced last week it will decide the reach of federal legislation that protects student records. The Court will hear a case involving a Gonzaga University graduate who wants to sue the school for disclosing a rape complaint to a teacher certification board.

Ru Paster, a 1994 Gonzaga graduate who was denied teacher certification in Washington state, hopes to sue his school for violating the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which prohibits universities from releasing personal information about students unless they are found guilty of a violent or sexual crime.

No charges were ever filed against Paster, who denies allegations made against him that were later withdrawn. Several college employees reported that a female student said that Paster had raped her, but the female student has denied those claims in a videotaped deposition.

Roberta S. League, the certification expert at Gonzaga's School of Education alerted the certification board of the charges and refused to submit a statement of good character for Paster. Such a statement is required for a teacher certification.

Paster's defense attorney, Laurie H. Siddoway, said in an interview that this is an important case for college students to be aware of because they may not be sure that federal law protects their student records.

The lawyers for Gonzaga are contending that students should not have the right to bring their college or university to court. They hope to avoid a flood of litigation.

Siddoway plans to argue against the prosecution's claim, citing the small number of cases students have brought against FERPA since its creation in 1974. Siddoway sees this case as an opportunity for the

Supreme Court to determine how far civil rights legislation can go.

"The case going to the Supreme Court is a pure legal question," Siddoway said, "but that is why my client's case is most troubling. The information was passed third- or fourth-hand, and it was incorrect."

What complicates this case further, Siddoway said, is that students often want their school to pass information along. The Court will determine how much information can be given without violating FERPA.

The case will be tried as Gonzaga University and Roberta S. League v. John Doe.

COMMONS

From page 1

Jenny Sien, a sophomore business major, said she was pleased with the assistance she received from the Information Commons Monday when she requested her e-mail forwarded to another e-mail account.

"It's the first time I've used it and it was very helpful," Sien said.

Efforts to make the Information Commons more efficient are also in the works, Bouchard said.

Surveys about the Information Commons desk will be available for students and faculty soon and will ask students to rate things such as the usability of the Information Commons Web site, Bouchard said.

Bouchard said the surveys are an important element to the Information Commons because it's determined to help students and inform them of what's available in the library.

"We can help them get their computer account set up to get on the Web," Bouchard said. "But we can also help direct them to the most useful resources once they get there and to people who can help them use what they find," Bouchard said.

Colleen Casey
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CONSENSUS

From page 1

Faculty Senate will review comments and suggestions made in the assembly Thursday and will try to "put together a consensus document," said Carolyn Spence Cagle, chairwoman of Faculty Senate.

William H. Koehler, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said he would not be against pushing back approval if it would improve the CUE.

"That is something I will take up," Koehler said. "I am supportive of everyone having ample time to study the CUE. (But) I would like to see this resolved by the end of the school year."

Even though Koehler said he would ideally like to see the CUE approved by April, it wouldn't harm the university to wait a year.

"Many people would argue the curriculum is good so why change it," Koehler said. "(A delay is) not a setback. I would rather wait to have a better proposal."

Many faculty have complained tight deadlines have not allowed the CUE to have enough campus wide input.

In an e-mail Jan. 24 responding

to concerns that the CUE marginalized the humanities and was created with little faculty input, Phil Hartman said the UCR Drafting Committee, which he was a member of, did not have time to solicit much input.

"The charge from the Provost to the (drafting) committee was to develop a curriculum by the end of the fall semester," Hartman wrote. "This time-line did not allow for systematic and widespread communication once we began the task at hand. However, the committee, (committee chairman Richard) Enos in particular, interacted extensively with faculty from a number of departments and colleges ... in an honest attempt to represent their desires and concerns to the committee."

M.J. Neeley School of Business Dean Robert Lusch, also a member of the committee, said the deadline was tough, but necessary.

"We had a real ambitious schedule," Lusch said. "But faculty will meet forever and forever without a deadline. It was a tight deadline, but we had to have one."

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DEBATE

From page 1

outcomes based. Some faculty said the outcomes in certain rubrics are either vague, unachievable or unmeasurable.

Members from the English department questioned the elimination of some writing requirements in the CUE in an e-mail to all faculty. English professor Sharon Harris, who distributed the letter from English department faculty, said students need classes that concentrate specifically on writing.

"It is like anything else, we have requirements in science and math because we feel they need a concentrated effort in those areas," Harris said. "I think six hours (as required in the UCR) is really a minimum."

Some members of the UCR Drafting Committee, which built upon the work of four previous committees to create the CUE, said no one intended to de-emphasize writing.

"The intention was to have a heavy requirement of writing across the core," said Richard Allen, an associate radio-TV-film professor and member of the committee.

Other professors also criticized

the core.

Religion professor Claudia Camp, the principle author of an e-mail from 15 professors criticizing the CUE, said CUE marginalizes the humanities. The CUE does not have explicit requirements for literature, religion or critical inquiry.

In an e-mailed rebuttal to Camp's letter Thursday, Phil Hartman, a biology professor and member of the drafting committee, said more opportunities exist for the humanities in the core. He said the UCR only requires a minimum of three hours in the humanities with the religion requirement. He said literature courses are often avoided by students and most critical inquiry classes are not in the humanities.

"It wouldn't satisfy the critical inquiry element of ethics," he said. Language outlining outcomes for fine arts has also been criticized.

In an e-mail to all faculty, 22 professors from the College of Fine Arts voiced concerns over language in fine arts requirements and the "lamentable marginalization of the liberal arts." "Some of the goals were ambiguous," said Babette Bohn, an associate professor of art and art history who distributed the e-mail. "That is probably the least of our issues."

A catalyst is a substance that makes a chemical reaction happen more quickly without being changed itself, Hanna said. Catalysts researching can be very beneficial to industrial processes by making them faster and eliminating pollution, she said.

"We know what we want the catalyst to do," Hanna said. "Using the information we have, we design what we think it should be."

Since this field of study is still small, there are not many people doing this research, she said.

"That means I'm likely to make new discoveries and it's likely to be very useful," Hanna said.

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But Camp said the outcomes outlined in the CUE squeeze the humanities out.

"Things are not written in humanities point of view," Camp said. "We are mentioned in a very narrow box. It is extraordinarily limiting. It is constructed with criteria we would not write."

Religion professor Jack Hill said the outcomes under the Ethical Thought and Actions rubric were more suitable for a professional ethics class, such as business ethics or bio-ethics. While those classes are important, Hill said, they do not lay the foundation for critical self examination needed in an ethics course.

"It wouldn't satisfy the critical inquiry element of ethics," he said.

Language outlining outcomes for fine arts has also been criticized.

In an e-mail to all faculty, 22 professors from the College of Fine Arts voiced concerns over language in fine arts requirements and the "lamentable marginalization of the liberal arts." "Some of the goals were ambiguous," said Babette Bohn, an associate professor of art and art history who distributed the e-mail. "That is probably the least of our issues."

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FoodStuff

Today's menu

THE MAIN**LUNCH**

Rigatoni/fettuccine
Chicken marsala
Smothered pork chops
Broccoli and rice casserole
Roasted new potatoes
Steamed zucchini
Vegetable blend
Carved turkey with gravy
Mashed potatoes
Steamed cabbage
Corn bread
Curly Fries
Chef choice salad

DINNER

Rigatoni/fettuccine
Vegetable saute
Chicken alfredo
Chicken marengo
Black bean quesadilla
Popcorn chicken
Carved brisket
Wild rice
Squash medley
Vegetable blend
Chef choice salad

Tomorrow's menu

LUNCH

Rotini/bowties pasta
Chicken and black beans
Spinach tortilla casserole
Candied sweet potatoes
Hot wings
Spanish rice
Peas and mushrooms
Vegetable blend
Carved ham
Corn bread
Chef choice salad

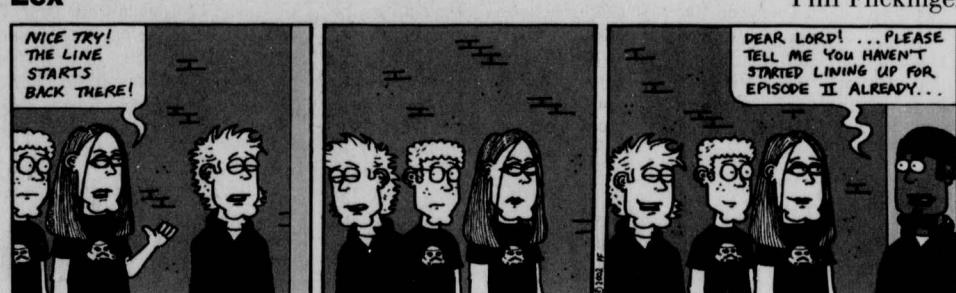
DINNER

Chinese New Year

Today's Funnies

Captain Ribman

Sprengelmeyer & Davis

Lex

Phil Flickinger
Lewis

Thomas & Peter Maday

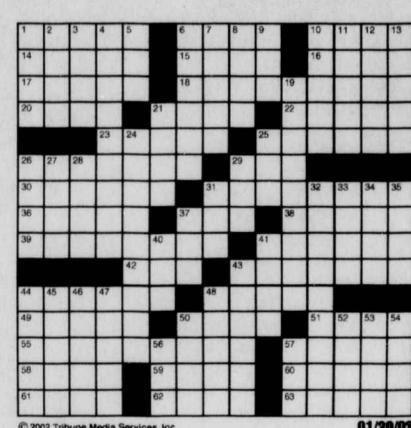

PurplePoll

Q: Do you think the UCR system needs to be changed?

A: YES NO
44 56

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.

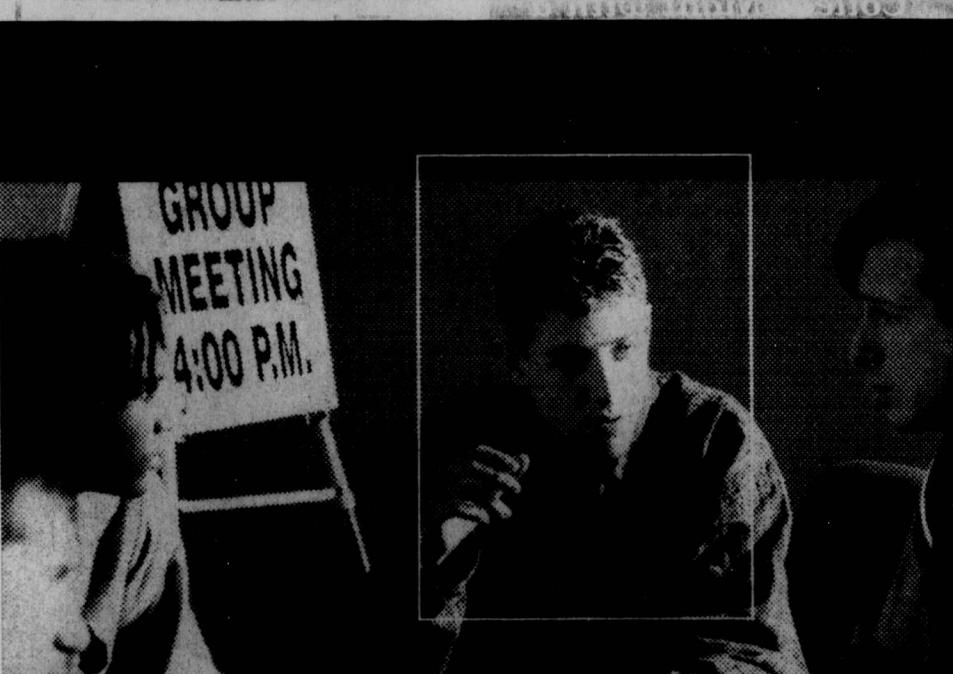
Today's Crossword



Tuesday's Solutions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21				22			
23	24								25			
26	27	28							29			
30								31		32	33	34
35								36		37	38	
39								40		41		
42								43				
44	45	46	47					48				
49					50				51	52	53	54
55					56				57			
58					59				60			
61					62				63			

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The Sideline

Reserves selected for NBA All-Star games

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Pierce of the Boston Celtics and Dirk Nowitzki of the Dallas Mavericks were among seven reserves picked Tuesday for their first NBA All-Star games.

Jermaine O'Neal of Indiana and Shareef Abdur-Rahim of Atlanta joined Pierce as first-time picks on the East team, and will be joined by veterans Alonzo Mourning (Miami), Ray Allen (Milwaukee), Jason Kidd (New Jersey) and Tracy McGrady (Orlando).

Steve Nash (Dallas), Wally Szczerbiak (Minnesota), Peja Stojakovic (Sacramento) and Nowitzki were first-time picks on the West team. The other West reserves are Karl Malone (Utah), Gary Payton (Seattle) and Chris Webber (Sacramento).

Reserves were selected in a vote by NBA coaches, who could not vote for their own players, while fans voted on the starters for the Feb. 10 game at Philadelphia.

The East starters are Michael Jordan (Washington), Vince Carter (Toronto), Antoine Walker (Boston), Allen Iverson (Philadelphia) and Dikembe Mutombo (Philadelphia).

Starting for the West are Shaquille O'Neal (Los Angeles Lakers), Kobe Bryant (Lakers), Tim Duncan (San Antonio), Steve Francis (Houston) and Kevin Garnett (Minnesota). Francis also is a first-time All-Star.

Malone is a 14-time All-Star, Payton an eight-time pick and Mourning a seventh-time selection. Kidd earned his fifth All-Star berth, Webber was selected for the fourth time, Allen for the third and McGrady for the second.

A record five All-Stars were born outside the United States: Duncan (U.S. Virgin Islands), Mutombo (Congo), Nash (Canada), Nowitzki (Germany) and Stojakovic (Yugoslavia). Nash is the first Canadian All-Star.

U.S. national soccer team to prepare for World Cup

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The U.S. Soccer Federation confirmed Tuesday that the national team will play exhibition games at Italy, Germany and Ireland in preparation for the World Cup.

The three games had previously been announced by the European teams, but the USSF had said they weren't finalized.

The Americans play Italy at Catania on Feb. 13, Germany at Rostock on March 27 and Ireland at Dublin on April 17.

The game against Ireland will be televised by ESPN2. There will be no live U.S. coverage of the game against Germany, which will be televised by ESPN on tape delay that night. Television plans for the game at Italy have not been finalized.

Street will not be able to defend super-G title

Picabo Street is the old-timer on the 22-member U.S. alpine ski team announced Monday for the Salt Lake City Olympics, but she almost certainly will not get to defend her super-G title.

The 30-year-old Street will compete in the downhill. In the super giant slalom, better known as the super-G, U.S. coaches have decided to go with four women who have far better World Cup results than Street in that event this winter.

Street can't be ruled out of the super-G because official entries aren't submitted until the night before the race. Still, the downhill on Feb. 11 — the second alpine event of the Olympics — is expected to be her only competition in Salt Lake City.

"(Street) has a gold medal opportunity in the downhill," U.S. team spokesman Tom Kelly said. "We do not anticipate her as a starter in the super-G."

Tyson denied boxing license to fight Lewis

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson was knocked out of a rich fight against Lennox Lewis in this gambling capital when he was denied a license Tuesday after a somewhat contentious hearing.

The Nevada State Athletic Commission voted 4-1 against giving Tyson a license for an April 6 fight against heavyweight champion Lewis, saying Tyson could not control his emotions.

Tyson left the hearing minutes before the vote, and his advisers said they weren't sure about the fight.

Men's tennis to host cross town rival SMU

BY QUINTEN BOYD

Staff Reporter

Too much has changed over the course of a year to call today's men's tennis match between old rivals TCU and Southern Methodist "unfinished business." In fact, head coach Joey Rive sees this year as a new beginning, rather than a re-building year.

"There's almost a total change for our team from last year," Rive said. "We have freshmen that are just starting out and witnessing the TCU-SMU rivalry for the first time. It's almost like starting a brand new rivalry."

The No. 19 ranked Frogs will open their spring dual-match season today against the Mustangs at 1 p.m. at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center. Today's match will mark the first of two meetings this season with the Mustangs. The second match will take place on April

10 in Dallas.

The Mustangs, ranked No. 9 in the nation, are currently 1-0 in the spring season, winning their dual meet with the University of Hawaii-Pacific, 5-2, on Jan. 11.

Last year's meeting ended with the No. 8 Mustangs upsetting the No. 4 ranked Frogs, 4-3. After that match, the two teams advanced to the Final Four of the NCAA Tennis Championships in Athens, Ga.

However both teams were eliminated before they could meet in the finals. The Frogs fell to Tennessee, 4-0, while the Mustangs were defeated by eventual champion Georgia, 4-0. Since the NCAA Championships last spring, the teams have lost a combined 10 seniors, with the Frogs losing eight players from last year's No. 5 ranked team, the third highest final ranking for the team in

school history. Those players included All-Americans Esteban Carril, Jimmy Haney and Trace Fielding.

The teams have more similarities between them than previously believed. Both

"There's almost a total change for our team from last year. We have freshmen that are just starting out and witnessing the TCU-SMU rivalry for the first time. It's almost like starting a brand new rivalry."

— Joey Rive

teams advanced to the Final Four last year, are nationally ranked, and have players ranked in the top 100 by the Inter-collegiate Tennis Association (ITA).

The Frogs' Toni Gordon is ranked No. 71 in singles action, while the Mustangs' Krystian Pfeiffer is ranked No. 82.

The Frogs have been practicing since the break, even using

their Christmas break to work on

their game.

"Some of the guys didn't get to practice as much as they would have liked to over the break, since the weather didn't cooperate in a lot of places, but I think they're all in good playing shape," Rive said.

Rive's idea of a "brand new rivalry" has even reached some of the team members as well.

"Everyone wants to play at a high level for this match," freshman Chris Brandi said. "It's a big rivalry. We all want to beat SMU."

Rive said today's match is important for preparation for the rest

of the season.

"The match isn't quite make or break, but we would love to start the season strong," Rive said. "A good performance will give us a good feeling on where we are."

Rive also said he feels that his team will play at a high level because the opponents are the rival Mustangs.

"Every time that TCU plays SMU in anything, it's a big match," Rive said. "The guys are psyched up for the match. They want to play hard and repay them for last year's loss."

With the second match looming over the horizon later in the season, things between the Frogs and the Mustangs may soon become "unfinished business."

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Frogs drop game in familiar style

BY RAM LUTHRA

Sports Editor

The men's basketball team has been doomed all season long with games where it struggles early in the contest and then tries desperately to make a late-game come-back without a presence of a solidified game.

That was what happened again to the Frogs Tuesday night as TCU (11-11, 1-7 Conference USA) lost to Alabama-Birmingham (10-11, 3-5 C-USA), 77-71, in front of 3,581 fans at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

"We failed in the first half to gain control of the game," head coach Billy Tubbs said. "We had opportunities, but we were still in the game."

"We have a problem, we always have to come from so far back and we make a run."

UAB had as much as a 14-point lead in the game before TCU came back in the second half to tie the score at 65-65 with a 4:29 left in the game behind the effort of junior-transfer guard Junior Blount.

Blount tried to single-handedly keep TCU in the game. He

scored 31 points in the game and 11 in a row for TCU, including a four-point play with 7:11 to play in the game.

The Frogs ended the game by scoring only six points in the final four minutes of the contest. Tubbs said he felt the team took ill-advised shots down the stretch.

"We got a little impatient (scoring) at the end of the game, but we caught back up in the game by

not being patient," Tubbs said.

Tubbs was disappointed at the team's effort at the free throw line where TCU made only 17 of 31 from the charity stripe.

"We can't make any free throws," Tubbs said after the game. "(Jamal Brown) goes 1 for 6 from the free throw line and he is one of our best shooters."

UAB senior Will Campbell exploited the Frogs' lack of interior defense scoring a game-high 30 points and grabbing 19 rebounds in 37 minutes of action.

"I knew (Campbell) was a good player coming in and he was very impressive against us," Tubbs said. "He was the only guy doing anything in the game as both teams were struggling. He was the man out there, he was the man playing with a bunch of children."

Tubbs also was disappointed with the team's lack of physical play from the inside game.

"Physically it was another typical Conference USA game," Tubbs said. "People can't run in C-USA because they are too busy knocking each other down. If every man was for himself, just hammer. That was to their advantage because physically they are stronger than us."

"It is not a very fun game when you can't make shots especially inside. Basically, they could score inside around the basket and we could not," Tubbs said. "We didn't have any inside game period."

The game made startling similarities to the Frogs' games against Louisville, Houston and Tulane where TCU had to come back from double-digit deficits in the second half to win the game.

TOP FROG

Guard Junior Blount

Statistics

Junior Blount went 9-20

scoring 31 points in the

Frogs' 77-71 loss to UAB.

Blount scored 11 straight points for the Frogs in the second half. Blount also

had four steals and one assist in the contest. Blount

played 35 minutes.



David Dunai/STAFF REPORTER

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Junior guard Junior Blount drives past a UAB defender Tuesday night at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Blount scored a game-high 31 points and recorded four steals in the Frogs' 77-71 loss to the Blazers.

Expos and Twins still considered for contraction

MLB considering contraction before 2002 season

BY RONALD BLUM

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Baseball management, its plans for contraction all but over, told the players' association that Montreal and Minnesota were the only teams under consideration for elimination before opening day.

Owners voted on Nov. 6 to eliminate two teams, but did not identify them. But contraction has been on hold since Nov. 16, when a Minnesota judge issued an injunction that forces the Twins to honor their 2002 lease at the Metrodome.

Management negotiators Rob Manfred and Paul Beeston told the players' association last week that if owners succeeded in their plan to eliminate teams for this season, the Twins and Expos were the only candidates, two people familiar with

the talks said Monday on the condition of anonymity.

Commissioner Bud Selig has refused to rule out folding franchises for the 2002 season and maintains that no teams officially have been picked for folding.

Manfred and union head Donald Fehr refused comment. Selig and Beeston did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

Lawyers for the Twins and Selig have asked the Minnesota Supreme Court to lift the injunction, but the high court won't decide until Friday at the earliest whether to take the case. Even if the Supreme Court accepts an appeal, it's unlikely to issue a decision on the injunction before Feb. 14, the first day teams can start spring training workouts.

Selig has maintained that contraction is theoretically possible any time before the major league season opener, when Cleveland plays at Anaheim on March 31. If contraction doesn't take place this winter, owners may pick other teams to eliminate for 2003.

The union has filed a grievance, arguing the decision to eliminate teams violated the labor contract that expired Nov. 7, but remains in force. The sides met Monday with arbitrator Shyam Das and agreed that the hearing, which recessed last week, will resume with sessions in New York on Feb. 5 and 6.

"We are confident that baseball will be back in Montreal in 2002 and I just want to express my sincere appreciation for our fans' patience and support during what has been a very trying off-season."

— David Samson

The Expos became the last team to release their schedule, and said Monday they will install a new playing surface at Olympic Stadium before the April 2 opener against Florida.

"We are confident that baseball will be back in Montreal in 2002

and I just want to express my sincere appreciation for our fans' patience and support during what has been a very trying off-season," Expos executive vice president David Samson said.

Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief legal officer, said the release of Montreal's schedule was "of no significance" in the contraction process.

Montreal faces a staff turnover in the next few weeks. Expos owner Jeffrey Loria is negotiating a \$15 million purchase of the Marlins from John Henry.

"I'm hopeful we'll have papers to sign within 48 hours," DuPuy said.

Henry heads a group that already has been given approval to buy the Boston Red Sox for \$660 million.

Once Loria reaches an agreement to buy the Marlins, he is expected to sell the Expos' franchise back to the other 29 teams for \$120 million.

Loria is expected to take many top Expos officials with him to Florida, including Samson, interim general manager Larry Beinfest and manager Jeff Torborg.

The commissioner's office will

then appoint a chief executive officer to run the Expos this season. Either the commissioner's office or the new CEO will hire a general manager and possibly a manager.

Montreal drew just 619,451 fans to Olympic Stadium last season, an average of 7,648 per home game, by far the lowest in the major leagues. Florida was 29th at 1.26 million, an average of 15,765.

The Expos had operating revenue of \$34.2 million, last among the 30 major league teams. Minnesota was 29th at \$56.3 million.

Montreal will start selling season tickets this week, and individual game tickets will go on sale March 1.

Also, a state task force in Minnesota voted 16-1 to recommend that the 2002 Legislature vote on two new stadiums for baseball and football that would be built with public help.

The task force steered clear of recommending a level of public assistance or what funding options should be considered first. It expects team owners, private investors and local governments to bear much of the cost.