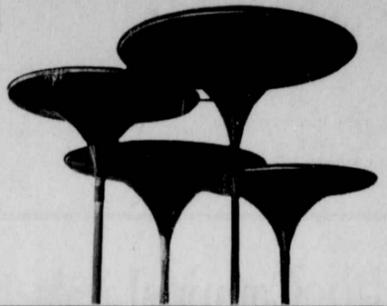


Tuesday, February 12, 2002

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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## Today's News

### STATE NEWS

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Morales said Monday opponent Tony Sanchez should have known about drug money laundering at his Laredo savings and loan in the 1980s.

News Digest on Page 2

### NATIONAL NEWS

A survey of teen-agers found that drug use remained steady last year with one glaring exception — a rise in the use of Ecstasy — an anti-drug organization said Monday.

News Digest on Page 4

Notes and transcripts of phone calls Henry Kissinger made in the White House will be opened, giving the public its first look at records that President Nixon's baritone-voiced foreign affairs advisor has carefully guarded for three decades.

News Digest on Page 4

## OnCampus

### PC information meeting tonight

Programming Council will host a meeting at 7:30 tonight in the Student Center lounge entitled Community Council.

Anyone interested in helping PC organize events such as concerts, homecoming, or SuperFrog's birthday is invited, said Glenn Pfenninger, director of recruitment and retention of PC.

"We need more student input. Our focus is that it's students' money, therefore students should have say in how it's spent," said Pfenninger.

Stephanie Zimmer, vice-president of PC, said there is a budget of \$140,000 for the 2002 fiscal year.

Meetings will be held in the Student Center lounge every other Tuesday for the remainder of the semester.

— Alisha Wassenaar

### Students defend affirmative action

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (U-WIRE) — Activists reiterated their commitment to achieving their goals "By Any Means Necessary" at the Second National Conference of the New Civil Rights Movement this past weekend.

University of Tennessee student Dumaka Shabazz said to loud applause, "either you're with us or you're with the re-segregationists. Either you're for racism, injustice and inequality, or you're for justice and equality — which is affirmative action," he said.

— Michigan Daily

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## theWeather

### TUESDAY

High: 55; Low: 29; Sunny

### WEDNESDAY

High: 54; Low: 32; Partly cloudy

## LookingBack

**1937-** After a difficult forty-four-day sit-down strike at the Fisher Body plant in Flint, Michigan, General Motors President Alfred P. Sloan signed the first union contract in the history of the U.S. automobile industry.

**1945-** A week of intensive bargaining by the leaders of the three major Allied powers ends in Yalta, a Soviet resort town on the Black Sea.

**1999-** The five-week impeachment trial of Bill Clinton ended with the Senate voting to acquit the president on both articles of impeachment: perjury and obstruction of justice.

## Undergraduate aid affected by tuition increase

BY DAVID REESE  
Staff Reporter

Next year's \$2.2 million financial aid increase by the Board of Trustees' will be spread among athletes, undergraduate and graduate students, said Michael Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid.

Scott said he expects financial aid for undergraduates next year to be increased by 8.7 percent, or about \$1.5 million. This amount will equal the Board's recent decision to increase tuition for the 2002-03 academic year from \$420 hour to \$455 an hour or \$15,000 to \$16,300 on the flat rate fee. Scott said the undergraduate financial aid budget was \$13.8 million during this past year and expects the increase to equal \$15 million.

The remainder of the \$2.2 million will be dispersed between athletes and graduate students, he said.

Scott said the money is to be distributed through scholarships and grants. This amount does not include loans and is strictly based on award-based gifts, which means aid that students will not have to pay the money back.

"Financial aid is based on need, which is determined by the difference between family contribution and cost of attending the university," Scott said.

He said if a student's family contribution is the same as the year before and the cost of university increases, the student will receive an increase appropriate to his or her need.

Sandra Tobias, associate director of scholarships and student financial aid, said there is no exact way to tell how the increase in financial aid will affect each individual student at this point in the semester. Financial aid was unable to provide any exact numbers of how individual students will be affected in 2001-02.

Scott said that the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is currently working on individual award amounts.

According to the Academic Scholarships, Financial Aid and Tuition and Costs pamphlet distributed by the admissions office, such scholarships and grants include the TCU Grant, Chancellor Scholarship and dozens more.

Scott said the office of Scholarships and Stu-

dent Financial Aid can ask for an increase of financial aid in incremental amounts above the increase they will already receive.

He said, this past year, his office asked for additional incremental increases in scholarships for music and community scholars.

Dean of Admissions Ray Brown said admissions will discuss the increases in financial aid with prospective students but the reality is that people are not typically concerned with their financial aid until they are accepted.

"The overall sticker price is what they look at initially," Brown said.

David Reese  
d.r.reese@student.tcu.edu

## Student soap opera to debut soon



Marisol Magana, a senior radio-TV-film major, and director Terry Smith work on a take during the production of "Almost Legal" Thursday in Studio B in Moudy South.

Show could be broadcast nationwide

BY DAVID DUNAI  
Staff Reporter

Some TCU students' homework may reach 5 million students on 600 college campuses in the radio-TV-film department's production of the soap opera "Almost Legal," said Aubrey Monk, a senior radio-TV-film major and casting director.

The department started the production of "Almost Legal" Wednesday, the series that will be broadcast on college cable-access stations nationwide, said Kelly McKenzie, who is directing certain episodes of the series.

McKenzie, a senior radio-TV-film major, said participating in the production is not just a great experience, but the possibility of national exposure also makes it a great résumé piece.

The Burly Bear network, owned by Lorne Michaels, producer of "Saturday Night Live," bought the rights to the soap opera for \$6,000 earlier this semester along with the rights to "Studio 13," a previous depart-

(More on ALMOST LEGAL, page 6)

## Speaker stresses importance of communications

BY SAM EATON  
Staff Reporter

Communication between management and employees is important to business success, said Robert Herchert, chairman and CEO of Freese and Nichols, Inc., at the keynote luncheon for the Corporate Communication Workshop Friday at TCU.

In his address, Herchert outlined the keys to successful communication and then shared some secrets of his success at engineering consulting firm Freese and Nichols. The firm's been in business since 1894 and was recently named the second best consulting company to work for in the nation.

"We really believe in this concept of trying to be the employer of choice in our industry," Herchert said. "That makes a big difference in the way we're able to recruit and retain employees."

The luncheon was the finale of the two-day workshop that focused on corporate communication.

Gay Wakefield, director the Center for Professional Communication, said this year's theme of communication in challenging times is always useful, not only in this time of national tragedy and economic downturn, but any time in business.

"The topics that were covered at this conference are applicable no matter what the situation," Wakefield said. "We gave some extra hints for

*"We really believe in this concept of trying to be the employer of choice in our industry. That makes a big difference in the way we're able to recruit and retain employees."*

— Robert Herchert

(More on COMMUNICATION, page 6)

## Men snowboarders complete United States medals sweep in the Olympics

BY EDDIE PELLIS  
Associated Press

PARK CITY, Utah — Gold, silver, bronze. Red, white and blue.

Snowboarders Ross Powers, Danny Kass and J.J. Thomas rendered those colors interchangeable and indivisible Monday, giving the United States its first medals sweep in the Winter Olympics in 46 years.

With chants of "USA, USA, USA" coming from the crowd of 30,000, the three Americans made history on the halfpipe, soaring into the sunshine for an unforgettable Olympic moment.

They catapulted their Gen X sport out of the fringe and into the spotlight — and put America alone on the medals stand.

"I couldn't ask for anything more," said Powers, who turned 23 on Sunday. "It's the best birthday present ever. These guys beside me is also huge. Today was just the perfect day."

Flying 10 and 15 feet above the hollowed-out snow chute, the Americans won all three medals in a Winter event for the first time since the 1956 Cortina Games, when the U.S. men's figure skating team did it.

It was only the second Winter Games sweep ever for the United States, and it was topped by Powers, who adds gold to the bronze medal he won in Nagano four years ago.

The sweep bumped the United States up to six medals in these Olympics, including the halfpipe gold won Sunday by Kelly Clark, who was on hand to watch her countrymen sweep. Before the games, the Americans said they hoped to win a total of 20 medals.

On Monday, it was a rare sweep in front



USA's Kelly Clark acknowledges the crowd after being presented with the gold medal for women's snowboarding halfpipe Sunday in Salt Lake City, Utah. Clark won the first gold medal of the Winter Olympics for the United States in the event. Clark later watched her countrymen sweep the event on Monday.

of frenzied, flag-waving fans.

It was the biggest crowd any of these athletes had performed for, a turnout boosted when high winds postponed the women's downhill event and sent thousands down the mountain to check out the halfpipe.

And really, there was no better place to be on this day.

After all, where else would fans have taken in the sight of Finnish star snowboarder Heikki Sorsa, who used an entire can of hairspray to spike his hair and give himself a foot-high mohawk?

How about a rock band playing during intermission?

Or the way the winners celebrated, signing the bare breasts of an avid fan? (Thomas took care of the left, and Powers did the right).

Olympic victories are supposed to put athletes on Wheaties boxes, but maybe not this time.

"I'm going to be on the Count Chocula box!" Kass yelled. "Count Chocula!"

That's snowboarding — X-treme, X-citing, X-hilarating, and something America and the world will see much more of in the wake of this unprecedented success.

(More on OLYMPICS, page 8)

# 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 Moudy Building South, Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050 or e-mailed to (skiffletters@tcu.edu). Deadline for receiving announcements is 2 p.m. the day before they are to run. The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and space available.

• **The Brown-Lupton Health Center's** new Web site is now available. Information about professional staff, services available, hours of operation, immunization requirements and other pertinent facts can be found at (<http://healthcenter.tcu.edu>) or go to the TCU homepage, click on STUDENTS, More, and Health Center.

• **TCU Jazz Ensemble** will perform 7:30 p.m. today in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 with a TCU ID and \$10 for general admission. For more information call (817)257-7602.

• **TCU London Centre** information sessions for students interested in fall or spring study in London will be held 4 p.m. today and Wednesday in Student Center, Room 204. Applications for Fall 2002 are due on March 15. Applications are available in the Office of International Education, Sadler Hall, Room 16. For more information visit the Web site at ([www.ied.tcu.edu/london/index.htm](http://www.ied.tcu.edu/london/index.htm)) or contact Susan Layne, TCU London Center coordinator at (s.layne@tcu.edu).

• **"Eating Disorder Awareness Today"** will be hosted by TCU Mental Health Services 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Center lounge. The information session and panel discussion is designed to increase awareness of eating disorders on our campus.

• **All English majors** and minors who wish to apply for membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, are invited to pick up applications from the English department office in Reed Hall, Room 314. The deadline is Feb. 15.

• **Mortar Board Senior Honor Society** applications are now available to third year students (Class of 2003). Applications can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. this week in the Main or in the Student Center, Room 220. Mortar Board is an honor society for college seniors that is based on leadership, scholarship and service.

• **MBA Information Session** will take place from 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 23 in Tandy Hall. The session will provide information about the TCU MBA Program, an evening-only program that can be completed in 28 months. For more information go to ([www.mba.tcu.edu/visit/openhouse.htm](http://www.mba.tcu.edu/visit/openhouse.htm)) or call (817)257-7531.

## Campus/State Roundup

### Sanchez connected to drug money laundering

(AP) —Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Morales said Monday opponent Tony Sanchez should have known about drug money laundering at his Laredo savings and loan in the 1980s. "Let me be clear: I do not allege that Mr. Sanchez knew that Mexican drug money was being laundered through his business. But I absolutely do believe that he should have known," Morales said.

Morales, who has pledged he won't run a negative primary campaign against Sanchez, said Sanchez's business background should be scrutinized, including his management of the failed Tesoro Savings and Loan.

Sanchez should explain how \$25 million in drug cartel money was laundered through the thrift over 17 months in 1983 and 1984 and why Tesoro officials wired \$8 million of that money to an account in Panama as federal agents were about to freeze those assets, Morales said.

At the time, Sanchez was chairman and majority shareholder at Tesoro.

At a rally in Austin later Monday, Sanchez said Morales is wrong and doesn't know the facts.

"These are desperate acts of a desperate man," Sanchez said. "The polls are showing that he's plummeting and that we're going to be victorious and I

think these are very desperate acts. I feel sorry for him because he's falling apart."

Last year, Sanchez commented on the Tesoro probe involving two depositors and said neither he nor any officer of the institution was accused of wrongdoing and that they were exonerated by three federal agencies and a federal judge.

Now that he has raised questions about Sanchez's savings and loan, Morales may face more questions about his dealings with private attorneys in the state's \$17.3 billion tobacco settlement, reached when he was attorney general.

State and federal investigators have been looking into contracts with private lawyers hired to pursue the case, including a friend of Morales who tried to claim up to \$500 million despite complaints from the other attorneys that he did little or no work.

The Democratic primary is March 12. Sanchez and Morales along with Bill Lyon and John WorldPeace are in the race.

The winner faces Republican Gov. Rick Perry in the November general election. Perry is unopposed in his party.

### Supreme Court denies stay for Tigua Indian casino

WASHINGTON(AP)—The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday refused to grant a stay that would have allowed

the Tigua Indians to continue operating their Speaking Rock Casino as they appeal lower court rulings that will require it to close.

Without explanation, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy handed down the refusal.

The Tiguas have been fighting Texas Attorney General John Cornyn who filed a lawsuit against the casino in 1999 claiming it violates state law. A federal district court and the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with the attorney general and the Tiguas are still appealing those rulings.

The casino, which pulls in about \$60 million each year and is the main source of income for a tribe that lived in poverty less than 10 years ago, also employs about 800 people who aren't tribal members.

The tribe had argued that closing the casino before the appeals process is finished would create economic hardship for the tribe and the local economy.

The appeals court ruling that the casino is illegal has been sent to the federal district court in El Paso where it must be processed before it becomes official, which could take a few days.

### MIT's graduate school applications up 10 percent

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (U-WIRE) — Applications for admission to Massa-

chusetts Institute of Technology's graduate programs are up by more than 800, or about 10 percent, this year, as many college graduates face a crippled job market due to the weak economy.

According to Associate Director of Admissions Elizabeth S. Johnson, 11,617 graduate applications have been entered thus far into the MIT admissions office database for matriculation in the 2002-03 school year. This number does not include applicants to the Sloan School of Management or master's of science in engineering (MEng) applicants from within MIT.

Last year the admissions office recorded a total of 10,798 applications, excluding applicants to the Sloan School and internal MEng applicants.

Departments "may still be accepting qualified applicants," Johnson said, noting the numbers were not final. "We're definitely up, but we'll be up even more when the dust settles."

Many feel application numbers are up this year for graduate programs mainly due to the faltering economy.

"I think [the high number of applications] is probably related to the economy being down," Johnson said.

Another possible explanation for the increase in applicants this year may be it was easier to turn in application materials. This was the first year applicants were allowed to apply for most of MIT's graduate programs online.

## PoliceBlotter

Compiled by Anthony Kirchner, Staff Reporter

### Criminal Mischief

**Sherley Hall**  
Feb. 5 - Two students came back to their room to discover someone broke one of the windows in the room. An officer checked and no one had entered the room through the window.

### Burglary of Vehicles

**Ranch Management Parking Lot**  
Feb. 5 - Complainant's vehicle had the back window of the softop unzipped. The radio was missing from the dash and the console was open.

### Worth Hills Parking Lot

Feb. 5 - Complainant noticed that his vehicle's right rear window was broken. Stereo, sound equipment and other property were removed from the vehicle.

### Ranch Management Parking Lot

Feb. 6 - Complainant returned to the vehicle to discover the stereo was stolen, door trim damaged and dash console pried off.

### Freshman Parking Lot

Feb. 8 - Complainant returned to his

vehicle to discover it was broken into and his CD player was removed.

### Thefts

**Sherley Hall**  
Feb. 4 - A bicycle was reported stolen from the bike rack on the north side of Sherley Hall after the owner noticed it was missing. The bicycle had been secured with a lock and chain, which had been cut.

### Clark Hall

Feb. 5 - A bicycle was reported

stolen from the bike rack on the west side of Clark Hall.

### Ed Landreth Hall

Feb. 6 - A backpack was reported missing after the owner left the bag on the first floor of Ed Landreth Hall and returned 15 minutes later to find it missing.

### Moudy Building

Feb. 7 - Two laptops were reported missing. One has been missing since the summer and the other for the past few weeks.

## 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.

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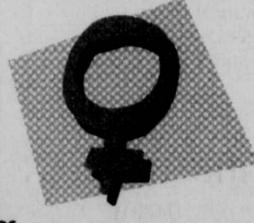
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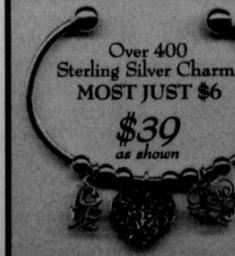
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## The Skiff View

### SEX ED

Week's events need reexamination

Sex. It is a common topic for many college students.

This week students nationwide will have the opportunity to learn about safe sex during Sexual Responsibility Week, where college students educate each other about sex. It would seem that this week is more of a joke.

One part of the festivities is a contest in which contestants guess how many condoms are in a jar. How does counting condoms promote sexual responsibility?

In fact Hyperfrogs, the student organization sponsoring Sexual Responsibility Week, is not even allowed to pass out condoms. Hyperfrogs officers say in previous years condoms were distributed, but it is no longer an option. They say because a bad batch of condoms were distributed in the past it is a liability issue for them to pass out the protection items.

Organizers of Sexual Responsibility Week also want to promote abstinence as part of sexual responsibility, which is fine, but providing protection for those who are sexually active would do more to help prevent sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

Students who choose to be abstinent are not the ones who are likely to receive benefits from Sexual Responsibility Week and are not likely to jump to the front of the line to pick up information on the topic.

Students who are sexually active are probably not getting a lot out of this. Sure there are pamphlets with all kinds of great information on sex related topics that read, "Women and STDs," "How to use a condom" and "Sex under the influence." Yet how many students are willing to walk up to a table in the Student Center and pick up one of the pamphlets?

## The Other View

Opinions from around the country

What does the separation of church and state mean? In 1954, Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, D-Texas, pushed an amendment through both houses of Congress that stated "all groups with a nonprofit, tax-exempt status are prohibited from endorsing or opposing candidates." This amendment was to include churches and other places of worship. Because churches obey this law, they receive a tax break.

This seems like a good deal. Not only do these churches remain removed from political matters, but they also receive tax-exempt status. Nevertheless, several people are pushing to amend this law. Many others who are in support of this change say it is not the job of the IRS to be the "speech police"; allowing these worship centers to speak their mind is only a matter of free speech. This is not a matter of free speech. This is a matter of politics, which is completely different.

Those in favor of allowing political campaigning inside the church are those in politics, not those who have nothing to lose if the law remains the same. In actuality, are those running for office really losing or gaining much by having the church rally behind them? No. All they are gaining is an insignificant number of votes. In return for a

church leader supporting a candidate, do these churches want to give up their tax-exempt status? Probably not. The church and other worship centers cannot have it both ways. If the church wanted to support a candidate, it would have to give up its tax-exempt status.

Rev. Ed Young has said, "The religious entities of America need to keep their prophetic voice, and you lose that if you send money to politicians or openly support them during an election." There is a reason that people attend church — to hear the word of their god and to worship, not to be taught that Candidate X is whom you should vote for. This law is saying that they are not allowed to endorse a candidate inside the church if they want to receive a tax break.

Barry Lynn, the executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, makes another valid point: "If we change it, we're going to see politicians running around seeking support of churches and hoping that they can curry favor with those churches promising them money and favors." There is a time and place for politics. The church is not one of them.

*This editorial comes from The Daily Iowan. This column was distributed by U-Wire.*

### 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 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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Being a community is more than just working or living in the same general area. It is about coming together to support one another.

Student Government Association recently sent out a mass e-mail to all faculty, staff and students encouraging everyone to support our athletic teams. It was a small way to make a bigger statement.

That e-mail was not just limited to supporting our athletic teams, it was about supporting one another. We have a campus full of potential.

There are people at TCU who are incredible athletes, thinkers, artists, dancers and actors. We as students are at the beginning of realizing who we are and where our potential can take us.

SGA received several e-mails concerning the message that was sent out. Most of the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, yet there were three e-mails that really got me thinking.

They came from three dancers here at TCU. All three e-mails started out the same way. Each one said, "It is great that we want to increase student participation at the games, but when was the last time students came out to support the arts?"

We can't ask for support if we don't give it! Read all the flyers on this campus. They all say the same thing ... "Come support us and join our team!"

Yet so often we become immune to the cries for involvement around us.

*"Our students and our generation are not apathetic, we are just not aware."*

Don't become blind to the opportunities around you. Where else will you have the chance to listen to some of the greatest thinkers of our time. When you read a flyer about a great speaker, broaden your horizons and make the time to listen. When you have the opportunity to see beautiful dancers perform original work, seize it. You will not regret it.

College is about becoming the person you will be the rest of your life. The habits you form today could possibly be the habits you will carry throughout your lifetime. Our students and our generation are not apathetic, we are just not aware. Wake up and try something new.

Whatever you spend your time doing, take a break and venture out and explore something different. You will not regret it.

You may realize it is not your thing, but what if you discover something within yourself that you thought never existed. Imagine the possibilities.

Someday we will be away from TCU and miss it dearly, because our community fosters incredible opportunities.

Life has a price and it is expensive. Right here, right now, we have the chance to receive great gifts without the great costs.

Moments dance all around you, start dancing and make a memory you won't forget.

*Chelsea Hudson is a junior political science major from Plano. She can be contacted at (c.n.hudson@student.tcu.edu).*

## Budget should reflect war based on intelligence, not war based on weapons

Bush announced his budget for 2003 this past week. He asked for a lot of money, including increased spending on defense (which should come as no surprise) and decreased spending on everything else.

So what, specifically, was increased in defense? Military personnel, operation and management, procurement (which is the purchase of weapons), research, development, testing and evaluation all had their budgets increased. The proposed 2003 budget would increase a total of \$48 billion to the Pentagon. Bush also wants to continue to increase spending each year, hitting a maximum in 2007 of \$451 billion. This is a lot of money. In fact, that 2007 number of \$451 billion is just shy of Reagan's 1985 budget adjusted for inflation of \$451.8 billion.

So Bush wants to spend \$451 billion on the military. Why should that come as any surprise, and why should that bother us? One must keep in mind the \$451.8 billion spent by Reagan was in the middle of the Cold War. But, if we are entering a new cold war against terrorism, shouldn't we also need to spend seemingly outrageous amounts of money?

Well, no. This war on terrorism is supposed to be our "shadow war." It is supposed to be a war won by in-

telligence, not bigger bombs. We were bested by a small group of people with box cutters. The next move by al Qaeda will not be a frontal assault. (A frontal assault will not likely be any move by a terrorist organization ever.) Developing three new fighter planes is therefore unnecessary.

So why does this shadow war, an unorthodox war, require so much orthodox military hardware? One of the main arguments for buying new planes is the average age of the F-15s in use is more than 15 years. That means on average the last plane purchased was bought back when Reagan had the biggest defense budget. These planes still work though, don't they? Although money should be spent on maintenance of weapons, buying planes and ships might not be the best way to spend.

This still does not really explain why we aren't spending more money on intelligence. The CIA's budget could certainly be increased. With a stronger CIA, we might be able to find out about future terrorist attacks before the planes crash.

In any case, how is this all being funded? The accusation is that the military spending is being paid for by taking money from Medicare and Medicaid. The argument is that the White House wants to cover up money shortages by dipping into Social Security and Medicare surpluses. That sounds pretty insidious

and somewhat disturbing, doesn't it?

Well, the budgets for Medicare and Medicaid aren't really cut. Medicare is going to get an additional \$6 billion and Medicaid is going to get an additional \$15 billion more than they got the past year. Social Security is getting almost \$20 billion more. So nothing is really being cut here. Rather, they are just getting a smaller "raise" than they would otherwise get. This is apparently what having your budget cut means.

The budget this year stresses national security. I don't think that comes as a surprise to any of you. National security is important, but perhaps we are buying the wrong toys for this conflict. We are being told this is a war dependent on intelligence, but instead of buying spies, we are buying jets.

So the Social Security and Medicare rumor is just a half truth. They have been budgeted less, but they still are getting more money than last year.

Finally, we should all keep in mind this budget won't stand anyway. It has to be argued over for a couple of months before it is ready to go. I guess there's a reason the budget for 2003 comes out in February 2002.

*Tony Gallagher is a columnist for the Daily Illini at the University of Illinois. This column was distributed by U-Wire.*

## More food choices are needed on campus

What do TCU students seem to complain about more than all other complaints combined? Food.

While this generally concerns on-campus residents more than commuter students, all students are affected by Dining Services.

COMMENTARY



Sandy Stafford

The first food complaint somehow regards pricing. Many residence hall inhabitants dislike TCU's policy of mandatory meal plans for residents. Some students cannot spend their required amount for each semester and feel that they have wasted money while others must deal with the hassle of adding additional money at the ID Card Center.

One solution would be to offer students in residence halls the opportunity to determine their meal plan totals individually as commuter students do. Although this method would be slightly more inconvenient for TCU, it would be much more beneficial for many currently disgruntled students.

Additionally, pricing varies widely among TCU's various eateries.

Prices at the Sub Connection are more reasonable than are those at Deco Deli, for example. That hardly seems fair for students who do not have business classes and have no reason to be near the Sub Connection.

Another common food-related complaint is about selection.

During the week, students have more choices because more dining locations are open, and Dining Services offers foods ranging from salad to popcorn chicken to the Mongolian Wok.

However, weekend selection is, at best, mundane. The Main seems to offer the same unappealing foods from Friday through Sunday evenings.

Even during the week, The Main offers less variety than it has in the past. For example, students had more options before "International and Co." transformed itself into "Pasta Rette."

While Dining Services has made some attempts to improve with choices such as the new refrigerator case in Frog Bytes and the Mongolian Wok, TCU still lacks somewhat in both variety and value in its dining selections.

Those who head Dining Services need to take a step back and consider whether they would enjoy basically the same meals each week and whether they feel paying \$7.77 for a salad and a small Coke is really a good deal.

*Sandy Stafford is a sophomore theatre/RTVF major from Nederland. She can be contacted at (s.a.stafford@student.tcu.edu).*

## Your View

Letters to the Editor

### Styrofoam saves time, destroys environment

"To go please," I hear a guy say to one of the ladies serving the food in the cafeteria. Later, I see this same person sitting in the cafeteria having lunch. Students claim Styrofoam saves time, but then they have time to sit in the cafeteria for 20 minutes. Our negligence is destroying the environment and putting many species in danger. Animals accidentally feed on Styrofoam and other plastics instead of the food they need and thousands die as a result. We need to pay more attention to what we consume since our trash doesn't disappear when we throw it in the trash can. So next time you go to the cafeteria ask for a plate, otherwise you are contributing to the problem of water pollution that kills thousands of turtles each year.

—Laura Vaillard  
sophomore pre-major

# NEWS DIGEST

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## National/International Roundup

### Children from multi-parent family moved to foster care

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A man and four women who shared a home and 13 children in an upscale San Francisco suburb face charges in the death of a toddler and the alleged mistreatment of their other children.

Winifred Wright, 45; Carol Bremner, 44; Mary Campbell, 37; Deirdre Wilson, 37, and Kali Polk-Matthews, 20, were arrested Friday for the November death of a 19-month-old baby. They were being held without bail Monday awaiting arraignment.

DNA tests confirmed that Wright fathered all 13 children, said Marin County Sheriff's Detective Fred Marziano.

"We don't know exactly what their affiliation is together other than they are cohabiting and producing children," Marziano said.

The 12 other children, ranging in age from eight months to 16 years, were found malnourished at the Marinwood home, just north of San Francisco, officials said. A majority of them suffered from rickets, a softening of bones caused by lack of vitamin D or calcium, Marziano said.

Wright, Bremner, Campbell and Wilson each face one count of second-degree murder and multiple counts of involuntary manslaughter and child endangerment. Polk-Matthews faces one count of involuntary manslaughter and one count of child endangerment, Marziano said.

Police began investigating the family in November after four women took a baby to Kaiser Hospital in San Rafael, where he died from "severe malnutrition and neglect," according to the sheriff's department.

The other children were removed from the group's house and placed in emergency foster care.

### Kissinger's transcripts of Nixon calls released

WASHINGTON (AP) — Notes and transcripts of phone calls Henry Kissinger made in the White House will be opened, giving the public its first look at records that President Nixon's baritone-voiced foreign affairs adviser has carefully guarded for three decades.

"To look at these transcripts is to be in the room when he's conducting all his telephone diplomacy — the secret opening to China, the secret trips to Paris on the Vietnam War negotiations, his backstage leaks to the press — you name it," said researcher Thomas Blanton.

Kissinger routinely had his secretaries tape the calls or listen and take shorthand on what was said, then type summaries, sometimes verbatim transcripts, of the conversations.

On Monday, the National Archives received copies of more than 20,000 pages of records detailing the phone conversations Kissinger had from 1969 to 1973 when he was Nixon's top foreign policy adviser.

"It will take up to a year to do a careful, page by page review of the documents before they can be opened to the public," said Karl Weissenbach, director of the Nixon Presidential Materials Project at the archives.

Late last year, Kissinger agreed to release 10,000 pages of notes and transcripts of phone calls made from 1973 to 1977, when he was secretary of state. Those records are still under review and have not yet been made available to the public.

Kissinger has long considered the transcripts to be his personal property. He justified his decision to restrict access to them by saying much of the information could be found in other documents already

open to the public.

He twice refused to let the National Archives inspect them to determine if they were government records.

### Ecstasy usage statistics continue to rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — A survey of teen-agers found that drug use remained steady last year with one glaring exception — a rise in use of Ecstasy — an anti-drug organization said Monday.

The Partnership For a Drug-Free America said teen Ecstasy use rose 20 percent last year and has increased 71 percent since 1999.

The group, a coalition of communications professionals, unveiled an advertising campaign to warn teens and parents of the dangers of drug use. Many of the ads feature the parents of Danielle Heird, a 21-year-old Las Vegas woman who died after taking Ecstasy in 2000.

John Walters, who directs the White House drug policy office, said anti-drug officials are trying to counter an impression among teens that Ecstasy is harmless. Ecstasy is believed to cause brain damage.

Ecstasy is a synthetic drug considered part hallucinogen and part amphetamine. It became popular over the past decade at dance parties known as raves.

But Stephen J. Pasierb, president of the Partnership, said Ecstasy appears to be expanding beyond clubs.

"Ecstasy has moved out of the rave scene and into the mainstream," he said.

The survey of 6,937 teen-agers found that 12 percent of 12-to-18 year olds had used Ecstasy at some point in their lives. That compares with 10 percent in 2000. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 1.8 percentage points. Marijuana remains the most popular drug among teens, with 41 percent having tried it. Inhalants, such as glue, were used by 18 percent, methamphetamines were used by 11 percent, cocaine or crack by 9 percent and heroin by 4 percent.

Use of both alcohol and tobacco had declined. Fifty-three percent of teens reported using alcohol over the past year, down from 58 percent in 2000. For tobacco, 28 percent reported smoking cigarettes over the previous 30 days, compared with 34 percent in the 2000 survey.

### Robbers seize \$6.5 million from British security van

LONDON (AP) — Robbers held up a security van at Heathrow Airport on Monday and escaped with \$6.5 million in American currency that had just arrived from Bahrain, police said.

Police said the driver of the van was attacked by at least two men at the airport's Terminal 4 at about 6:30 a.m. The robbers forced him to the ground and bound his wrists before transferring the cash, which had just arrived on British Airways Flight 124, into another van.

The second van was later found abandoned and burned nearby, with no trace of the cash or the suspects. Police said they were seeking two males in connection with the robbery.

The guard suffered shock and wrist injuries. Police said the man did not report seeing firearms during the robbery.

In 1983, robbers posing as security guards stole 26 million pounds (\$37 million at today's rates) worth of gold bullion from a warehouse at Heathrow. The men were later arrested, but most of the gold was never recovered.

### Iranians angered by Bush's comments

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Angered

by the United States' labeling of Iran as part of an "axis of evil," hundreds of thousands of Iranians chanted "Death to America" on Monday during demonstrations to mark the 23rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

The gathering was much larger than last year's commemorations as Iranians used the occasion to show their anger with President Bush's condemnation of their country in his State of the Union address. Many Iranians who said they rarely join such celebrations spoke of taking to the streets to show solidarity.

Men, women and children poured into Tehran's Freedom Square carrying anti-U.S. banners and burning effigies of Uncle Sam.

"This year, despite insults to the great Iranian nation and the trumped-up charges against it, the Iranian nation has commemorated the anniversary of its revolt on a greater scale than before," President Mohammad Khatami said.

State television reported that millions of people took part in rallies in all major Iranian cities.

Khatami said the United States should understand the message of Iran's revolution: Independence, freedom and an Islamic Republic.

His speech was repeatedly interrupted by chants of "Death to America!" — a phrase dating to the days of the 1979 revolution that lost its edge in recent years as the idea of a gradual rapprochement with the United States gained a following among Khatami's reform-minded supporters.

Early in the U.S. war on terrorism, American officials spoke of better cooperation with Iran after it tacitly approved their campaign to topple the Taliban rulers of Afghanistan. But recently, U.S. officials have accused Tehran of trying to undermine Afghanistan's new government and of smuggling weapons to the Palestinians. Iran denies the charges.

Last month, President Bush said in his State of the Union address that Iran was part of an "axis of evil" — along with Iraq and North Korea — because it seeks weapons of mass destruction, an allegation that Iran denies.

### Arafat letter could involve crackdown on terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — A message from Yasser Arafat to Secretary of State Colin Powell that is still being analyzed is raising hopes that the Palestinian leader will take a more aggressive stand on terror attacks on Israel.

Diplomatic sources said the letter, sent last week through the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, contained promises by Arafat that he would take steps against Palestinians involved in an unsuccessful attempt to smuggle 50 tons of weapons from Iran.

A senior U.S. official told reporters the Palestinian leader did not repeat his frequent denial that the Palestinian Authority arranged for the shipment.

The official, speaking only on condition of anonymity, said Arafat offered assurance there would be no recurrence of the smuggling episode.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher disclosed receipt of the letter at a briefing Monday. While declining to reveal the contents — or to say if Arafat had responded to Powell's demand that he acknowledge responsibility for the smuggling attempt — Boucher said, "We did find it to be a positive letter, and we now look for action along the lines that he indicated in his letter."

The spokesman reiterated the U.S. allegation that "Palestinian Authority people were definitely involved."

## Israel fires another airstrike on Palestinian offices

### Conflict heightens with launch of longer-range rockets

BY GREG MYRE

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel unleashed another airstrike on Palestinian offices in Gaza City on Monday, while the defense minister declared that Palestinian militants had raised the stakes in the Mideast conflict by firing new, longer-range rockets.

The Islamic movement Hamas sent a pair of Qassam-2 rockets into southern Israel on Sunday, digging large craters in two farm fields. Israel viewed it as a serious military escalation, because rockets launched from the West Bank and Gaza could reach some Israeli cities.

In response, Israeli warplanes fired six missiles Monday into the walled Saraya security compound in downtown Gaza City, setting buildings ablaze and sending black smoke into the sky.

More than 30 people were injured, most of them lightly, including George Kochanec, a photographer for Denver's Rocky Mountain News. He was treated for a hand injury.

The attack came at a time of changeover between morning and afternoon shifts at nearby schools. The streets were crowded with youngsters, who raced away from the explosions, some screaming in panic.

Hundreds of Palestinians ran to the compound, demanding that suspected Islamic militants jailed there be released. Some threw stones at officers,

who fired in the air to keep back the crowd. Palestinian police said all detainees were moved to another prison shortly after the Israeli attack.

In the West Bank city of Hebron on Monday, about 300 people stormed a prison and released 17 prisoners as security guards stood aside. One of the prisoners was Islamic Jihad activist Ayub Sidr. Palestinians said he was once the target of an Israeli assassination attempt.

Israel warplanes blasted a separate Gaza City security compound Sunday night near the offices of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Speaking about the rocket attack, Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said it represented "a new level of threat."

"You try to deal with it in all sorts of ways — by intelligence, by prevention and by struggling against those places where you suspect and discover that there are factories or workshops for manufacturing those rockets," Ben-Eliezer said.

Arafat, who has been restricted to the West Bank town of Ramallah by Israeli forces for the past two months, denounced the airstrikes and called for international intervention. That oft-stated plea has brought many foreign diplomatic delegations, but no international peacekeepers.

"These attacks prove that (Israel's) government is not interested in quiet and stability," said Palestinian parliament speaker Ahmed Qureia. "It should be clear there is no military solution to the conflict."

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon met senior Cabinet ministers and security officials Sunday, and Israeli media reports suggested the army might reoccupy Palestinian areas close to Israel for an extended

period to push rockets out of range.

However, Israel has so far refrained from taking over Palestinian cities and towns for extended periods.

Such action would make troops vulnerable to attacks by Palestinians.

Israel and the United States have been pressing Arafat to clamp down on militants, including the Al Aqsa Brigades, which is part of Arafat's Fatah movement.

In a leaflet distributed Monday, the group issued a seemingly contradictory statement that said the movement had "decided to dismantle" in line with a decision made by Arafat and the Fatah leadership.

However, no such decision has been announced by Fatah leaders, who could not immediately be reached for comment. The leaflet also strongly suggested that the group's attacks would continue.

"This does not mean in any way that our resistance to the occupation will halt. It will continue in all of Palestine as long as the aggressive Zionist campaign against our people continues," the Al Aqsa Brigades statement read.

Palestinian security sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said police prevented a suicide attack Monday when they arrested a militant from the Islamic Jihad movement as he was on his way from the West Bank town of Tulkarem to carry out a bombing in Israel.

Security sources also said that the Palestinians arrested four Hamas men several days ago in Gaza. The detainees included Adnan Ghoul, regarded as one of the top figures in the group's military wing, which has carried out multiple suicide bombings in Israel.

## U.S. troops find remains of CIA-led missile strike in Afghanistan

BY JONATHAN EWING

Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — U.S. troops have found the site of a missile strike by a CIA-operated Predator drone and collected forensic evidence to determine who was killed, American officials said Monday.

They believe the dead may be al-Qaeda members, but local authorities say the victims were Afghan civilians.

The Pentagon defended the Feb. 4 Hellfire missile strike, with its chief spokesman for the Afghan war saying that those killed "were not innocents."

"We do not know who were the individuals at the strike site," Rear Adm. John Stufflebeem said Monday in Washington. "The indications were there, that there was something untoward that we needed to make go away."

When asked if U.S. officials would be able to identify Sept. 11 terror suspect Osama bin Laden's remains from DNA, Stufflebeem said: "I can't even verify that we have bin Laden DNA to compare it to, at this point. But I can substantiate that we are trying to gather DNA for identification purposes."

Meanwhile, the Afghan Red Crescent Society graduated its first class of women health care volunteers Monday, a major step in a country where a quarter of all children die before age 5 and where educating women was banned under the Taliban.

The 59 graduates in the 10-day course are all teachers who are expected to go back to their villages or

neighborhoods and instruct other women about such health care basics as the necessity of childhood vaccines and how to treat diarrhea, a leading killer of Afghan children.

Also Monday, a Pentagon spokeswoman said U.S. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld has asked for an investigation into allegations that Afghans mistakenly taken prisoner by U.S. military forces in a raid last month were beaten and mistreated.

Victoria Clarke said the military "has nothing to indicate that anything like that happened," but is looking into it nonetheless in the wake of newspaper reports.

The U.S. military is investigating the Jan. 23 raid in the village of Khas Uruzgan, north of Kandahar, in which 19 people were killed. U.S. commanders acknowledged last week that they mistakenly took 27 prisoners in the raid, believing they were al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters.

The 27 were released last week. Several contended in reports in The New York Times and The Washington Post that they were beaten and kept in a cage with wooden bars during their detention in Kandahar.

Clarke said the U.S. team at the site of the Feb. 4 missile strike recovered "small pieces of bone and human flesh," as well as some documents, a number of small weapons and some ammunition. The materials were removed for analysis, she said. "The materials will be sent back for further analysis," she said.

Asked about reports from the

scene that those who were killed were peasants gathering scrap metal, Stufflebeem said: "These were not peasant people up there farming."

He declined to specify what was occurring to arouse suspicion.

The women who graduated Monday from the Afghan Red Crescent Society's course — 32 in the capital of Kabul and 27 in the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif — will join 10,000 male volunteers already working in the country.

Except for one class of 25 women taught in secret under the Taliban, the society had not been allowed to train women in Afghanistan since the Taliban took power in 1996. The teacher of that class was arrested by the Taliban and threatened with prison for educating women, said Grethe Osterm of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

In other developments: — Prime Minister Hamid Karzai reopened the Afghan Embassy in the United Arab Emirates on Monday, raising Afghanistan's flag in a hotel in the capital, Abu Dhabi, in the presence of Emirates Foreign Ministry officials. The Emirates was one of only three countries to have diplomatic relations with the Taliban.

— German Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping headed for Kabul on Monday to visit German troops taking part in the Afghan protection force and inspect an air base along the way that the Germans are setting up in neighboring Uzbekistan

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# CULTURE

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## Mardi Gras Madness



Photo Illustration by Eric Elton/SKIFF STAFF

**MEREDITH SMITH**  
Skiff Staff

Mardi Gras in New Orleans is often thought of as a place for drinking and partying. However, the history and meaning behind Mardi Gras is sometimes forgotten in all the festivities.

Mardi Gras celebrations in New Orleans date back to the 17th century, when the city was founded by Jean Baptiste LeMoyne and Pierre LeMoyne, according to InsideNewOrleans.com. The explorers brought the tradition over from France where it had been celebrated since the Middle Ages.

In the 1840s, there was so much disorder associated with Mardi Gras that the celebration was almost banned completely.

Mardi Gras was saved by a group, "The Mystick Krewe of Comus." The members held the first New Orleans

Carnival parade on the evening of Mardi Gras in 1857. Since then, other "krewes" groups who either start a new parade or put a float in an existing parade, have sprung up and the tradition has been carried on.

For most people, the Mardi Gras experience is fun and something they never forget. It is an exciting time for both residents of New Orleans and tourists from all over the country, said Brad Thompson, a sophomore radio-TV-film major from New Orleans.

"The weeks before Mardi Gras and that day are total insanity," Thompson said.

Brooks Zitzmann, a junior nursing and biology major who lives in New Orleans, said the daytime parades are more family-oriented than the nighttime parades.

"There are two completely different atmospheres between the day and night parades," she said. "The nighttime parades are generally more rowdy than the daytime parades."

Zitzmann said flashing occurs often at night parades and is now illegal. However, police have a hard time enforcing the rule, she said.

Among the floats and marching bands in the parades, celebrities can also be found in the streets during Mardi Gras. Britney Spears was in a parade two years ago, and Whoopi Goldberg has also been spotted taking in the sights, Zitzmann said.

During Mardi Gras, shops open that carry only goods that are useful during the parties and parades. For example, Mardi Gras World carries everything a person might need to celebrate, from beads to masks, Thompson said.

Not everyone enjoys Mardi Gras though, both Thompson and Zitzmann said.

Melissa Nabors, a junior political science major, said, "I had to throw my shoes away after walking down Bourbon Street. There was more alcohol on the street than was being consumed."

The locals do not go to the nightly parades and parties very much, Zitzmann said. "A lot of people just go on vacation during Mardi Gras," said Thompson.

After Mardi Gras is over, the clean-up takes over the streets.

"One of the ways to count how many people were at the celebration is to measure the trash," said Allison Russell, a sophomore graphic design major from New Orleans.

However like it or not, Thompson said a visit to New Orleans during Mardi Gras is a must.

"Do it one time before you die, and if you survive, don't ever do it again," he said.

Meredith Smith  
m.s.smith@student.tcu.edu

### You don't have to go to New Orleans to celebrate Mardi Gras...

**Mardi Gras 2002 Sixth annual fundraiser for Meals on Wheels, Inc.**

Free food from more than 20 local restaurants and food/beverage vendors. Live and silent auction, handwriting analysis, live music and dancing, caricature artists and more. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. \$30-35. (817) 336-0912.

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**Porche's Creole & Cajun Cafe**

2513 N. Main St., Fort Worth  
(817) 626-9700

## Mardi Gras more than a party Religious traditions important to TCU students

**MEREDITH SMITH**  
Skiff Staff

Wednesday morning, when Mardi Gras is over and the tourists are packing up to go home, many Catholics in New Orleans are getting ready to attend mass to celebrate Ash Wednesday and begin Lent.

Mardi Gras, which means "Fat Tuesday" in French, began in the Middle Ages as a time to celebrate before the beginning of Lent, which is a period of purification and repentance. The festivities are traditionally called Carnival, said Nadia Lahutsky, a religion professor.

The big day is actually a month of parties and parades. The last day is Mardi Gras, when Catholics are expected to eat all meat products, including butter, milk, eggs and lard, giving Fat Tuesday its meaning, said Lahutsky. This practice makes for a lot of food that must be eaten before midnight, which marks the beginning of Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

"If you're getting ready for a long period of abstinence you want to have a big blowout," Lahutsky said.

Lahutsky also said the consumption of beer and wine was not just to have a good time during the Middle Ages. "Drinking water was unsafe, especially in urban areas, so the people drank alcohol instead," she said.

Over time, the religious and social meanings behind the Mardi Gras tradition have gotten lost for visitors to New Orleans and those outside the Catholic faith, said Brooks Zitzmann, a junior nursing and biology major from the Big Easy. Now tourists come to the city mostly to experience French culture and have a good time.

"Tourists are the crazy people who are there to party," Zitzmann said.

However, the religious significance of Mardi Gras is still discussed in the Catholic church, she said.

"Every year, there are people handing out fliers and pictures of Jesus on the streets," Zitzmann said. "It's kind of depressing to see those handouts getting stepped on in the street."

Lahutsky said tourists do not realize the meaning of Mardi Gras because they are waking up and getting out of town while the Catholic community attends Ash Wednesday Mass.

Father Charles Calabrese of TCU Catholic Community explained that Lent is also a time to teach new members about the Catholic faith. Ash Wednesday is a time to begin thinking about repentance, Calabrese said.

Lahutsky said Lent is also a time of fasting. During the weeks leading up to Easter Sunday, Catholics abstain from eating several types of food, as well as cooking with fat products, Lahutsky said.

"Catholics may also only eat one meal a day during Lent," Lahutsky said.

Zitzmann said visitors and tourists who come to New Orleans to celebrate Mardi Gras should try to remember that there is a religious purpose behind the parties, parades and general merrymaking.

"New Orleans has capitalized on Mardi Gras, making it nothing but one big, month-long party," Zitzmann said.

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Photo by KRT Campus

# Wildfire threatens Marine Corps base

BY CHELSEA CARTER  
Associated Press

FALLBROOK, Calif. — A wildfire that doubled in size overnight moved onto a Marine Corps base Monday after burning dozens of homes and injuring 11 people in a wealthy enclave north of San Diego.

The wind was calmer Monday than the day before, but there was a threat of an ocean breeze.

The fire had grown to 4,000 acres Monday as it moved northward toward Camp Pendleton, where base fire crews were ready to take it on.

"It's a huge base," said a spokesman, Lt. Greg Scott. "It's like a town, so we've got to be prepared."

No structures or people were threatened on the 125,000-acre base but the blaze had burned an area of dry brush and rugged hills on its eastern end, Scott said.

The base is home to more than 30,000 Marines.

The fire was reported Sunday about 60 miles north of San Diego. Residents led horses away and others fled with virtually nothing as flames raced through a hilly area of

ranches, avocado groves and homes valued at up to \$1 million.

About 40 structures were burned, most of them homes, said Capt. Rick Mann of the North County Fire District.

He said an ocean breeze was expected to kick up late in the day, which could change the direction of the fire's movement.

The blaze was only 5 percent contained by Monday morning. More than 700 firefighters were on the line. The cause of the blaze was unknown.

Eleven people were taken to hospitals, including six who suffered smoke inhalation and hypothermia when they jumped into a swimming pool to escape the flames, Mann said.

Ten of the injured were treated and released.

Pete Jespersen grabbed an American flag and held it up to his face as he ran through heavy smoke to escape his in-laws' home.

"I tried to save the house, but it was no use," said Jespersen, who sprayed water on the structure. Soot covered his face and arms.

About 100 people were displaced by the fire, including some evacuated from an officers' housing area at the Naval Weapons Station in Fallbrook.

The fire came within 500 yards of the housing, spokesman Gregg Smith said. Ammunition and other weapons stored on the base are protected inside structures that can withstand fire, said Smith.

A school was opened as a shelter but most fire victims sought refuge overnight in private homes.

The blaze was driven by Santa Ana wind that gusted up to 60 mph. Gusts whipped to 100 mph in other parts of Southern California during the weekend. The wind overturned tractor-trailer rigs, downed power lines and knocked over a tree Saturday that killed a tennis player in Simi Valley.

*The fire had grown to 4,000 acres Monday as it moved northward toward Camp Pendleton, where the base fire crews were ready to take it on.*

# Frenchman may have terrorists ties

Man said he made three trips to training camps

BY PIERRE-ANTOINE SOUCHARD  
Associated Press

PARIS — A man in French custody has told investigators he crossed paths in Afghanistan with Sept. 11 suspect Zacarias Moussaoui, so-called shoe bomber Richard C. Reid and convicted terrorist Ahmed Ressaym, officials said Monday.

Yacine Akhnoche, 27, a Frenchman of Algerian origin, has apparently talked freely to investigators about his past ties with Islamic militants like Moussaoui, the only person charged in connection with the Sept. 11 terror attacks, according to judicial officials and anti-terrorism investigators who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Akhnoche and two others arrested Feb. 4 around Paris were placed under investigation on Friday and suspected of a logistical role in a foiled plot to bomb a cathedral in Strasbourg, France during millennium celebrations.

Akhnoche made three trips to training camps in Afghanistan —

in 1997, 1998 and 2000, investigators said. There, in 2000, he allegedly met Moussaoui, a Frenchman charged in the United States with aiding the Sept. 11 hijackers. He also met Reid, the so-called shoe bomber arrested after allegedly trying to ignite explosives in his sneakers on a Paris-Miami flight.

Also, on a trip to Afghanistan in 1998, Akhnoche met Ahmed Ressaym, the Algerian convicted in the millennium bombing plot in the United States, the officials said.

"He talked a lot," said one investigating magistrate. "Akhnoche confirmed a certain number of things that we already knew, or supposed," he said, adding that Reid told American investigators that he never went to Afghanistan, just to Pakistan.

Akhnoche also implicated a man known as Abu Doha, jailed in Britain, in the Strasbourg Cathedral plot.

The plot was foiled after German police discovered video footage of the cathedral and marketplace during a raid on an apartment. Four people were arrested in Frankfurt, and other suspects were arrested in France, Spain and Belgium.

Abu Doha, also known as Amar Makhlouf, is a London-based Algerian wanted by U.S. officials in

connection with the plot to blow up the Los Angeles airport during millennium celebrations. Makhlouf, who is awaiting extradition, has been portrayed in a U.S. grand jury indictment as a key figure in Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network who ran an Algerian terrorism cell.

Akhnoche claimed that Abu Doha steered young Islamic militants toward Afghanistan's training camps, the judicial officials said.

Akhnoche has also provided information on Abu Zubaydah, top military operations chief in al-Qaeda, as well as information on a man identified as Abu Jafar. It was unclear whether he is the same man as Abu Jafar al-Jaziri, an al-Qaeda finance and logistics chief who was apparently killed in bombing raids by the U.S.-led coalition.

In addition, Akhnoche provided names of people in France linked to the assassination of Afghan resistance leader Ahmed Shah Massoud just days before the Sept. 11 attacks, investigators said.

Two men were placed under investigation in Paris in mid-January on suspicion of providing support to the assassins, who posed as journalists, and it was not immediately clear whether the names matched.

## COMMUNICATION

From page 1

those who were facing particularly heavy challenges."

The conference hosted 104 attendees, including four TCU students and business professionals from Fort Worth and around Texas.

Kelly Cervino, a product marketing manager for Allied Electronics in Fort Worth, attended the workshop and said it provided a variety of useful information.

"We can use a lot of the skills we learned about working in teams under stress," Cervino said. "This can be helpful in managing the people we have working for us and learning how to communicate with them better."

David Mitchell, a student in the MBA program, said the skills he learned would help him in his business career.

"We can take some of the tools they gave us and use them when we get out," Mitchell said. "The final speech was helpful as far as getting employees involved and keeping their work experience enjoyable."

Another MBA student, Benjamin Adams, said he learned important skills about assessing business culture.

"There were some opportunities to assess culture inside of companies," Adams said. "Not only to use internally, but externally when you're trying to size up a company that you want to go to work for."

Sam Eaton  
s.m.eaton@student.tcu.edu

## ALMOST LEGAL

From page 1

ment project done in 2000, said Richard Allen, a radio-TV-film associate professor who is supervising the production.

He said the radio-TV-film department has been producing soap operas since 1995. The department schedules a production every two to three years because of the high educational value of the project, he said.

Allen said he is not concerned if 100 million people see the show or just 10, because his main interest in the production is to create a professional environment and to provide a professional experience for students.

McKenzie said she appreciates the opportunity. "I am still learning, but my work will be seen professionally, because of the seriousness of a

production that is aimed for national exposure," McKenzie said.

There are eight classes from the radio-TV-film and theater departments that are involved in the production, Allen said.

The production has 20 primary crew members including six directors, who rotate with each episode, and 26 primary cast members besides extras, McKenzie said.

The difference between "Almost Legal" and earlier productions is that it was purchased in advance, said Roger Cooper, chairman of the radio-TV-film department.

"The involvement of the Burly Bear network helped us to launch a production that is far above anything we have ever done," Cooper said.

The cost of the production is not covered only by Burly Bear, Cooper said. TCU and the radio-TV-film department provide the equipment and the facilities for both production and post-pro-

duction, he said.

"TCU or the (radio-TV-film) department does not make a profit out of the show, that would be like selling people's homework," Allen said.

The plot of the show takes place somewhere in the Northeast and deals with teenage girls from an all-girls private school hanging out with fraternity men from college, McKenzie said. Such scenarios inspired the title "Almost Legal," she said.

"It is basically about sex, drugs and Pop (music)," McKenzie said.

There are 10 half-hour episodes scheduled to be produced during the semester, one every week, McKenzie said. The first episode will premiere Feb. 27 in Moudy Building South, room 164.

David Dunai  
d.r.dunai@student.tcu.edu



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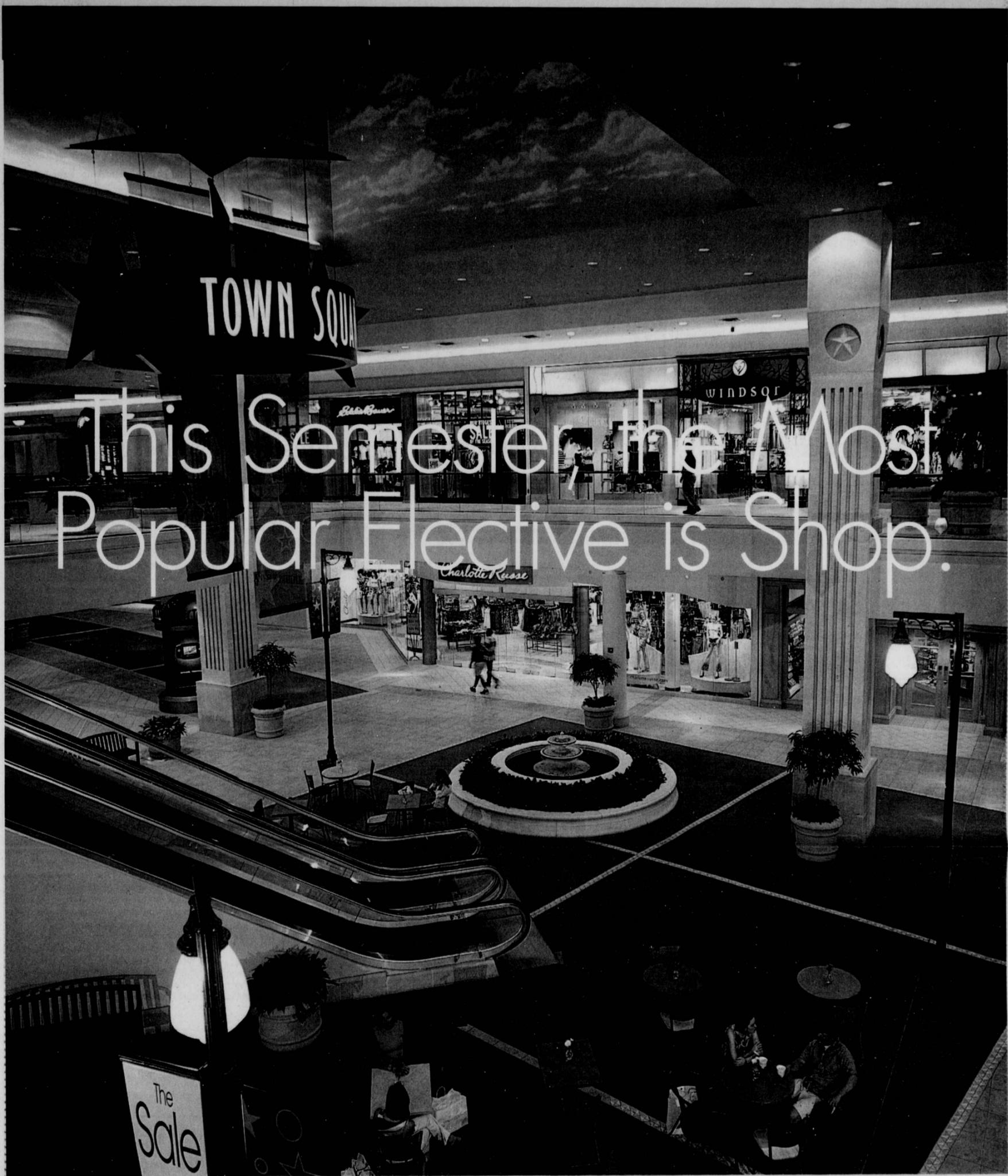
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# FBI issues warning of immediate terrorist plot

BY JOHN SOLOMON  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI issued an extraordinary terrorist alert Monday night, asking law enforcement and the American public to be on the lookout for a Yemeni man and several associates who might be plotting a terrorist attack as early as Tuesday.

The FBI scrambled to put the warning out after information emerged that one or more people were involved. Officials said the intelligence, while deemed credible, was not specific about possible targets.

The alert identified one possible attacker as Fawaz Yahya al-Rabeei, a Yemeni national born in Saudi Arabia in 1979. It listed about a dozen associates of al-Rabeei, most from Saudi Arabia and Yemen. One associate was listed as possibly coming from Tunisia.

The bureau at mid-evening posted the alert on its public Web site, www.fbi.gov, to help Americans identify the possible perpetrators. The Associated Press obtained the initial alert from government sources.

"Recent information indicates a planned attack may occur in the United States or against U.S. interests on or around Feb. 12, 2002. One or more operatives may be involved in the attack," the alert to 18,000 law enforcement agencies said.

The alert asked police "to stop and detain" any of the named individuals in alert and that all "should be considered extremely dangerous."

Although the alert was issued on the fourth night of the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, officials said there was no intelligence suggesting the games were a possible target. Instead, they urged that all locations in the United States and abroad with Americans to be on guard.

Law enforcement officials said there was no evidence that al-Rabeei had entered the United States. The alert did not say whether the attack was planned by or involved Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

Law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the alert was prompted by recent information from interviews of detainees in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where several al Qaeda operatives are being held.

Officials said the information was specific enough to be deemed credible but had come in so recently that it could not be corroborated yet. The warning was nonetheless issued out of an abundance of caution and because Tuesday was near, they said.

# OLYMPICS

From page 1

"It's a fun sport," Powers said. "It's people listening to music, having a fun time, going for it. Everyone's friends."

Powers set the winning mark of 46.1 early. He was the fourth rider to hit the snow in the finals, and his very first push above the rim of the pipe was stunning — his body flying 15 feet in the air, parallel to the ground, with the sun overhead making for a picturesque silhouette.

"Probably the highest airs I've ever done in my life," he said.

Further down the chute, he made two full revolutions, once while doing a somersault in the air. He did tricks with names like "mute grab," "stalefish" and "switch McTwist," each one more daring than the next and all with landings as smooth as the shiny ice on the sides of the pipe.

It came after a harrowing fall in his first qualifying run. That could have made him nervous, but he recovered, made a great

second run to advance to the finals and then went on the ride of his life for the gold.

Kass, the 19-year-old future of the sport, had two chances to top Powers.

Listening to a compilation of music through his earphones while he went down the chute — Metallica, AC/DC, Black Sabbath — Kass was incredible in his own way. But his corkscrew turn and his famed "Kasserole spin" — two upside-down twists while grabbing the board — weren't enough to win gold. He scored a 42.5, and it was still a great day.

"Getting a medal is just downright radical," he said.

The 20-year-old Thomas won the bronze on his second ride with an equally impressive run, pulling a 2 1/2-revolution spin and soaring almost as high as Powers.

"I just had fun on that second run," he said. "I watched these guys do it and I just followed up. It's not about me. It's about Ross. Ross is the man."

Sixth-place finisher Tommy Czeschin was the only American left out of the party. His first run put him in third place, but af-

ter Thomas overtook him, Czeschin needed to go higher. He thought he did, but when his score was posted, he looked on in disbelief, and the crowd booted.

But really, it was hard to call any American a loser on this day.

Snowboarding is a distinctly American sport, created on a lark by a man in Michigan, Sherman Poppen, who in 1965 braced a pair of skis together and tied them with a rope so he could give his daughters something to do during the winter.

He called the contraption a Snurfer, combining the words snow and surfer. A few years later, entrepreneur Jake Burton Carpenter improved the snowboard and started the wave that continues to this day.

When the International Olympic Committee added snowboarding in 1998, many questioned whether the so-called "lifestyle sport" belonged in the Olympics.

Carpenter was one of the skeptics, but he couldn't deny the magic of this moment.

"This is a whole new level," he said. "You wouldn't get riding like that if this was a cutthroat sport. They were out there pulling for each other."

Indeed, the runners-up were happy for Powers, a "veteran" of the sport compared to Kass and Thomas, if only because he has previous Olympic experience.

He's also an X-Games veteran, although his greatest success in those games came back in 1998, when he won two golds at the competition that used to be considered the pinnacle of this sport.

Until now. "I'm sure after this, the public will see how far snowboarding has come," Thomas said. "They'll see the time we had today. And they'll see this is one of the funnest sports in the world."

*"It's a fun sport. It's people listening to music, having a fun time, going for it. Everyone's having fun."*

— Ross Powers

# Prosecutors reject notion of immunity to former Enron chairman Kenneth Lay

BY MARCY GORDON  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On Tuesday, former Enron chairman Kenneth Lay will become the sixth person to cite the Fifth Amendment and decline to testify in Congress inquiry. For now, lawmakers reject the idea of offering immunity from prosecution to get them talking.

"I do not support immunity," Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., who is heading one of Congress' investigations, said Monday. "I think it jeopardizes the potential criminal prosecution."

Immunity "is not even on our radar screen" declared Ken Johnson, spokesman for Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., whose House Energy and Commerce Committee also is investigating. "Too many people got burned ... for us to be offering immunity to anyone."

Prosecutors pursuing convictions of people with congressional immunity must prove their case is not derived from the public testimony. They also must show that witnesses or jurors had no knowledge of the testimony.

Last week brought the spectacle of grim-faced Enron officials standing before a congressional hearing with their right hands raised, swearing to tell the truth, then saying they were invoking their right against self-incrimination and refusing to answer questions. It recalled the televised drama of Lt. Col. Oliver North and Iran-Contra in the late 1980s.

Convictions against North and National Security Adviser John Poindexter were set aside by courts concerned that the criminal cases had been impermissibly tainted by testimony the men gave Congress under grants of immunity.

"Iran-Contra's a case study in failure," Dorgan said in a telephone interview.

Lawmakers don't want a repeat of that in the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. history, which brought losses to millions of investors big and small, and stripped thousands of current and former Enron employees of the bulk of their retirement savings in accounts loaded with Enron stock. The members of Congress

stress that in pursuing their inquiry, they don't want to interfere with the Justice Department's criminal investigation of Enron and its longtime auditor, the Arthur Andersen accounting firm.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is pursuing a civil inquiry into Enron and Andersen, which has acknowledged massive destruction by its employees of Enron-related documents.

And overhanging the Enron case is the fact that senators and House members of both parties received at least \$700,000 in campaign donations from the politically active company.

The political sensitivity was highlighted by a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll out Monday showing four in five people think Congress should investigate the ties the Bush White House had with Enron executives.

People are about evenly split on whether the White House is trying to cover up its contacts with Enron or cooperate as much as possible.

So with five key Enron officials — including Lay and former chief financial officer Andrew Fastow — and one Andersen auditor refusing to answer questions, and no immunity on the table, how will Congress be able to unravel the case?

Fastow ran Enron's web of thousands of partnerships, used to keep some \$500 million in debt off the company's books and hidden from investors and federal securities regulators. He collected at least \$30 million for his efforts, and other Enron officials also reaped millions from the partnerships.

"We're going to get to the bottom of this pretty quickly," Tauzin promised Sunday.

He and others say they already have strong evidence of illegal activity surrounding the failure of the energy-trading company.

Filling the gap of the Enron officials' silence are boxes of documents subpoenaed by congressional investigators and interviews with lower-level Enron employees.

"There's more than one way to skin a cat," said Johnson, the Tauzin spokesman. "We are pursuing other leads."

# Bush presents health care agenda and raises money for McCallum

BY SONYA ROSS  
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — President Bush, back on the campaign money trail, pulled together elements of his health care agenda and presented it Monday as a plan to keep America "on the cutting edge of medicine."

Bush explained his proposals to students and faculty at the Medical College of Wisconsin before an evening of political fund raising.

The president's appearances were expected to raise at least \$1 million for Gov. Scott McCallum. About 200 people paid up to \$10,000 each for a photo session with the president behind closed doors while about 800 attended the \$1,000 per-plate dinner.

"It's amazing what standing next to somebody with a 90 percent approval rating will do for you," McCallum said.

Aides hoped the president could give a much-needed boost to McCallum, a long-time lieutenant governor who took office in February 2001 but has yet to feel the strong popularity enjoyed by his predecessor, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson.

In addition, McCallum is feeling heat from the state's municipal leaders for his plan to phase out Wisconsin's shared revenue program by 2004, in order to counter a projected \$1.1 billion budget shortfall.

Bush defended McCallum's budget decisions, saying the governor was simply trying to avoid raising taxes.

"He's handled it the way you would want any leader to handle it: To stand up and make tough decisions, and not duck 'em," the president said. "You've got a steady man here. A

good man, a solid man who deserves four more years in office."

It was Bush's second fund-raising appearance in less than a week. He helped raise \$1.5 million last week at receptions for New York Gov. George Pataki.

Wisconsin was one of a handful of states too close to call into the wee hours of election night 2000, and ultimately went to Vice President Al Gore by a margin of 6,000 votes. Bush has visited the state four times as president.

He went out of his way to praise Thompson, who is said to be a bit dissatisfied in Washington. "You may be in Wisconsin, but you've got to keep your address where it is right now. I'm counting on you," Bush said.

For his part, Thompson said: "These days, my home is in Virginia, my office is in D.C., but my heart will always be here, my friends."

Bush promoted a series of health care initiatives that were previously announced as part of his 2003 budget proposal, such as tax-free "medical savings accounts and \$89 billion in tax credits for making private

health insurance more affordable," and called on Congress to approve Medicare prescription drug coverage. Partisan disputes have stalled the measure since last year.

The president said he is close to an agreement with Congress on patients rights legislation "that protects all patients, not just a fortunate few," and decried the litigious nature of the current health insurance system.

*"It's amazing what standing next to someone with a 90 percent approval rating will do for you."*

— Gov. Scott McCallum

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## FoodStuff

THE MAIN

Today's menu

**LUNCH**  
Fettucini/bowties pasta  
Stromboli  
Chicken alfredo  
Beef stroganoff  
Buttered egg noodles  
Cabbage  
Onion rings  
Popcorn chicken  
Rotisserie chicken  
Rice pilaf  
Sautéed squash

**DINNER**

Mardi Gras pasta  
Crawfish etouffe  
Creole eggplant  
Popcorn chicken po boy  
Carved Cajun pork loin  
Cajun red beans and rice  
Mustard greens  
Hominy

Tomorrow's menu

**LUNCH**

Angel hair/rigatoni  
Southwestern lasagna  
Rotisserie chicken  
Vegetable parmesan  
Steamed peas and onions  
Curly fries  
Smoked pork ribs  
Roasted potatoes  
Asparagus tips

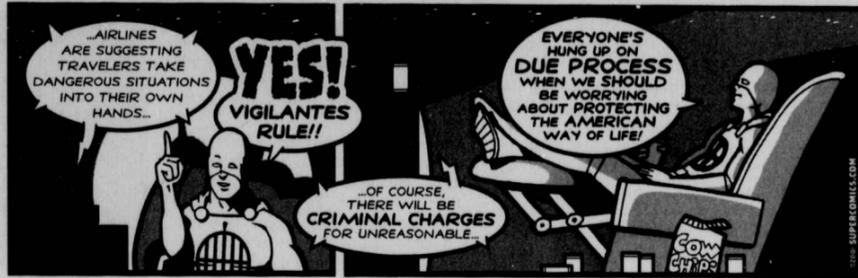
**DINNER**

Pasta du jour  
Casserettes  
Fajita sauté chicken and beef  
Cheese enchiladas  
Refried beans  
Teriyaki grilled beef strips  
Onion rings  
Rotisserie chicken  
Lyonnaise potatoes  
Steamed vegetable blend

## Today's Funnies

### Captain Ribman

Sprengelmeyer & Davistr



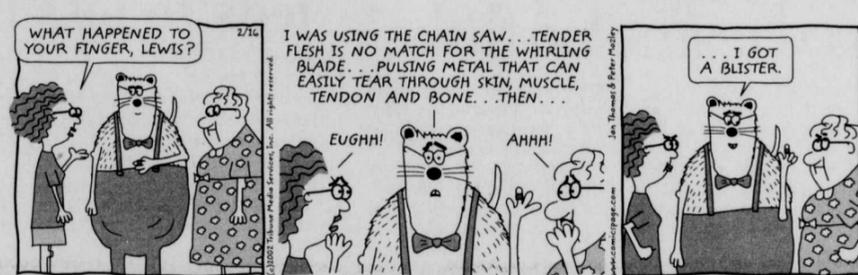
### Lex

Phil Flickinger



### Lewis

Thomas & Peter Madey



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Q: Are you giving something up for Lent?

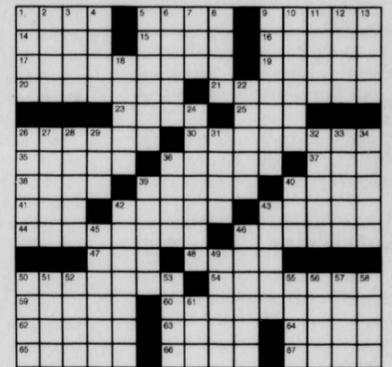
A: **YES** 30 **NO** 70

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

ACROSS

- 1 Sunday seats
- 5 Fixed charges
- 9 Mower's cut
- 14 Perfect prose?
- 15 Reckless
- 16 Fairy
- 17 Italian appetizer
- 19 Loafer
- 20 Exhausting routine
- 21 Skeans and dirks
- 23 Bath powder
- 25 Skier Tommy
- 26 School papers
- 30 Failing to mention
- 35 Enthusiastic reviews
- 36 Extends across
- 37 ... gloom of night
- 38 Ladd or Greenspan
- 39 Authorization
- 40 Dancer Kelly
- 41 DC VIP
- 42 Verandah
- 43 Broad comedy
- 44 Frenzy
- 46 More rapid
- 47 Likely
- 48 Sproe
- 50 Satellite of Saturn
- 54 Flat highland
- 59 Nimble
- 60 Wet noodles
- 62 Hershey
- 63 Corn servings
- 64 12/24 and 12/31
- 65 Equals
- 66 Obligation
- 67 Color changer



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## Friday's Solutions

- 10 Small manufactured item
- 11 Wheels' connector
- 12 Layer
- 13 Towel word
- 18 Noggins
- 22 Essential acid
- 24 Imbitor
- 26 Rubbish
- 27 Bill ... and the Comets
- 28 Cowgirl Dale
- 29 Follows
- 31 Pound to a pulp
- 32 Motionless
- 33 Time being
- 34 Garson of "Goodbye, Mr. Chips"
- 36 Bombay wrap
- 39 Classifies
- 40 Heating fuel
- 42 Jalapenos
- 43 Deadly
- 45 Elizabeth or James
- 46 Low-key
- 49 '60s illusory visual style
- 50 Find fault
- 51 Chills and lever
- 52 Calcium oxide
- 53 Was in debt
- 55 Even
- 56 Covetousness
- 57 "A Death in the Family" author
- 58 U.S. Cold War rival
- 61 Seine's water

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## The Sideline

### Shoemaker named C-USA Pitcher of the Week

Junior pitcher Kyle Shoemaker was named Conference USA Pitcher of the Week Monday by the conference office for his six-inning, two-hit pitching performance against No. 9-ranked University of Texas this past weekend.

Shoemaker, from Edmond, Okla., allowed only four balls out of the infield and recording the rest in flyouts. He is surrendering a .105 batting average against opponents.

The conference honor was the first-ever for the Horned Frog baseball team by C-USA.

### Texas Motor Speedway will not bid for Tyson fight

FORT WORTH (AP) — Texas Motor Speedway officials decided against bidding for Mike Tyson's heavyweight title fight against Lennox Lewis.

"Mike Tyson makes this fight undesirable for us," TMS general manager Eddie Gossage said Monday. "We've wound up where I expected it all along. We cannot sell our values. Texas Motor Speedway is a clean-cut, family-oriented venue."

Gossage confirmed last week that the track had been in discussions with Tyson advisor Shelly Finkel and Gary Shaw of Main Events, which promotes Lewis. He said he faxed a letter to both on Monday with his decision.

"I'm disappointed. It would have been a terrific venue," Shaw said. "They've chosen not to affiliate with Mike Tyson, not to not affiliate with boxing."

Finkel didn't immediately return a phone message.

Tyson and Lewis were scheduled to fight April 6 in Las Vegas. But then came a melee at a news conference in New York on Jan. 22, followed by the Nevada State Athletic Commission's rejection of Tyson's license application a week later.

Shaw said that four to five states, including Texas, still "have a sincere interest" in the fight. Shaw said that he had already received a call Monday from another "huge venue in Texas" about the fight.

The Houston Astrodome, the Alamodome in San Antonio and the new American Airlines Center in Dallas would be the most likely options. Shaw refused to say to whom else he had spoken in Texas or to what other states he was referring.

Gossage said he had been told by Finkel and Shaw that the fight was Texas Motor Speedway's if he wanted it. He said the fight would have been a big moneymaker and would have drawn 20,000-65,000 spectators depending on seating configuration.

### Duke maintains No. 1 basketball ranking

NEW YORK (AP) — Duke, Kansas and Maryland were the top three teams in the AP college basketball poll Monday, the fourth straight week they have held those spots.

Duke (22-1) was a unanimous No. 1 for the fourth straight week and the ninth time this season. The Blue Devils, who beat Florida State — the only team to beat them this season — and Georgia Tech last week, received all 71 first-place votes from the national media panel.

Kansas (21-2) beat Kansas State and Texas Tech to hold on to second, while No. 3 Maryland (19-3) beat North Carolina in its only game last week.

Duke is at Maryland on Sunday in a rematch of the Blue Devils' 99-78 victory in January. Fourteen ranked teams lost a total of 17 games last week, the sixth consecutive week at least 14 members of the Top 25 lost at least once.

This week's newcomers were Pittsburgh, Indiana and North Carolina State, while Missouri, Syracuse and Texas Tech dropped out.

## Horned Frogs aim high in game against UAB

BY RAM LUTHRA  
Sports Editor

It has been more than a month since the men's basketball team has scored 100 points in a game. The last time that happened they lost the game, but junior forward Bingo Merriex said he wants to return to that scoring-form in the Frogs' last five games of the season.

For Merriex and the Frogs to reach the 100-point mark in their next outing they will have to score points against an Alabama-Birmingham team which man-handled the Frogs interior game in a 77-71 loss to the Blazers Jan. 29.

TCU (13-12, 3-8 C-USA) will get a chance to reach that century-mark in scoring and get a bit of revenge against UAB (11-12, 4-6 C-USA) 7:05 p.m. tonight at Bartow Arena.

"We need to score points to win," Merriex said. "I feel pretty good because we will have a little momentum going against UAB. I think we will have a lot of confidence as a team and we will play even better than we did when we played UAB here at home earlier."

TCU is fresh off a 87-69 win over Houston (12-11, 5-5 C-USA) on Saturday. The win marked the second consecutive conference victory.

"I think the big thing for us (against Houston) was defense and rebounding," Merriex said. "I think we rebounded the best we have in conference (play). That helped us win the game."

Head coach Billy Tubbs said he wants to try to get the offense moving early in the UAB game.

"We have to do something to get the game up and down the court," Tubbs said. "We don't have a great pressing team but we need to use that defense to score some points. That is the key for our offense."

Tubbs said wins will come if his ballclub can control the rebounding edge. Against Houston, the Frogs out-rebounded the Cougars by a double-digit margin. TCU also had an edge on the offensive boards (23-12).

In the loss against UAB, the Frogs were out-rebounded 52-45. Blazer center Will Campbell recorded a double-double (30 points and 19 rebounds) against a vulnerable Horned Frog interior defense.

Senior Marlon Dumont, who defended Campbell in the contest, could not get anything going on the offensive end. Dumont scored one point and grabbed two rebounds against the over-powering Campbell.

"The whole deal in this conference is that if you rebound, then you will be in good shape," Tubbs said. "In the first game (against UAB) we did not grab those rebounds, but we have been better on the glass lately."

Tubbs said junior center Rebel Paulk must have an impact to slow down the Blazers' big men. Although he finished with only two points, Paulk was a presence on the defensive end against Houston. Paulk had four assists, three rebounds and two blocked shots against the Cougars.

"I thought Rebel played well in the game," Tubbs said. "He gave a little spark, when he came in we were down. The key to the game was the run right before he before entered the game."

Tubbs said the remainder of the road games are critical in order to get into the conference tournament in Cincinnati March 6-9.

"I feel that every game left out there is a winnable game," Tubbs said. "They are all going to be tough, but realistically we can win all of them, but the road games are vital for us. It will come down to who makes baskets and gets rebounds."

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Redshirt-freshman Corey Valsin scores over Houston defenders Saturday night. Valsin ended with 11 points and five rebounds in the Frogs 87-69 win.

## Brown: Early season wins against ranked teams 'no fluke'

BY COLLEEN CASEY  
Staff Reporter

Despite beating No. 9 University of Texas and No. 16 Baylor at the Astros College Classic, head coach Lance Brown said it's too early to tell how well his team will do this season.

"What allowed us to win was great plays and everyone contributing," Brown said. "But if we play bad this week, we're

back at ground level."

The Frogs are set to play Texas-Arlington at 2 p.m. Tuesday at UTA.

Brown said the team will try to play like they played at the Classic and work toward getting into a rhythm this early in the season.

"We really won't know how the season will turn out until after about 10 to 15 games,"

Brown said. "We're not going to go psycho preparing for UTA. We're focusing on doing the things we can do to win."

Junior left fielder Terry Trofholz said he hopes the players can maintain their level of play in a different atmosphere other than Enron Field, where the Classic was played.

"We weren't really surprised how hard we played because it was easy to get fired-up to play at Enron," Trofholz said. "Hopefully we can keep up the intensity, good pitching and solid defense."

The Frogs opened their season with a loss to Texas Tech on Thursday that kicked off the Classic. Brown said his team had a great chance to win the Texas Tech game but their strike-outs didn't allow them to.

However, Brown said the team has been playing relaxed, yet hard.

"I didn't see too much difference from how they played in work-outs and how they played in the games, that's good," Brown said. "They're really a loose group of people."

Brown said the Frogs played well Friday and Saturday when they beat Texas 8-1 and Baylor 6-5.

Junior third baseman Mike Settle said the young team wasn't surprised it was able to mesh together well and win.

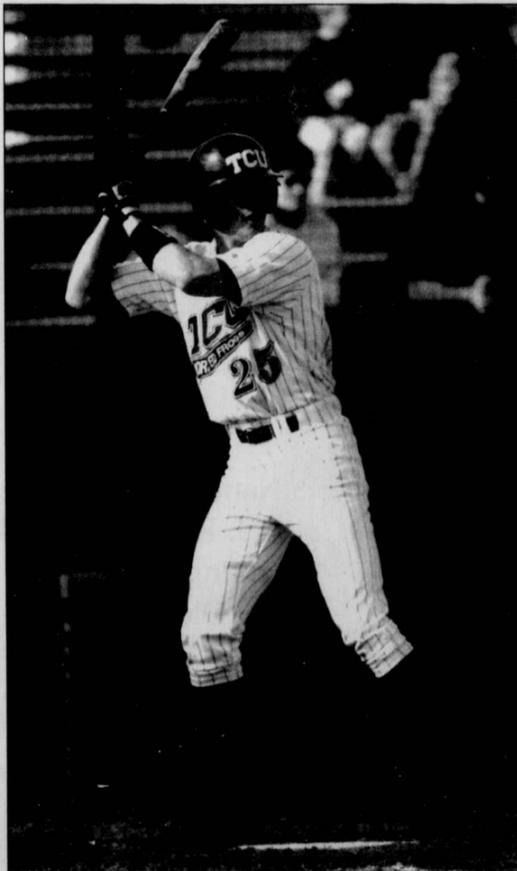
"We had solid defense and our pitchers worked as hard as they possibly could," Settle said.

Although the Frogs were ranked seventh in pre-season Conference USA polls, Settle said the team wants to prove that ranking was wrong.

Brown said he hopes that the team is good enough to play good baseball everyday.

"The way we played is no fluke," Brown said. "Good baseball wins."

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Junior outfielder Terry Trofholz takes a pitch in a game last season. Trofholz paced the Frogs this past weekend in wins over No. 9-ranked Texas and No. 16-ranked Baylor at the Astros College Classic at Enron Field in Houston.

## Frogs 'soft' playing leads to loss in overtime

BY NATHAN LOEWEN  
Assistant Sports Editor

Sunday the No. 24-ranked Horned Frogs played a way they have not played all season long.

Head coach Jeff Mittie said TCU (18-5, 8-2 Conference USA) played "soft" in its 63-59 overtime loss to Tulane (17-9 and 5-6 C-USA) at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

"We were soft today," said Mittie. "We weren't being real strong."

Mittie said the Frogs just did not want to win as much as Tulane wanted it.

"Tulane made some plays today," said Mittie. "They really wanted it and got after us both defensively and on the glass. If you look at the (box score), it's hard to believe that we had a chance to win."

The Frogs could not get anything going offensively early in the game. TCU did not score until the 13:48 mark in the first half. Despite the shooting struggles

in the first half, TCU led at half-time 22-21 while shooting 9 of 29 from the field in the first half.

"We have had a couple of slow starts lately," said Mittie.

The second half saw seven ties, eight lead changes and the margin between the two teams was no more than six points.

The Frogs were out-rebounded 49-32 by Tulane. Mittie said it is tough to win when you are out rebounded by a double-digit margin.

"We were slow on the ball all day and they out rebounded us," said Mittie.

TCU played from behind most of the second half. Trailing by two points with 51 seconds left sophomore forward Tiffany Evans hit the game-tying shot. The Frogs had a chance to win after getting the ball back from a held ball call with 31.4 seconds left.

"We wanted to go one shot," said Mittie. "We didn't want to give Tulane a chance to shoot."

Freshman All-America candidate Sandora Irvin missed the jumper from the left block.

"We executed everything we wanted except make the shot," said Mittie.

The Frogs struggled to make shots in the extra period. TCU 13-9 in overtime.

"We were in too much of a hurry today," said Evans. "We didn't slow things down when we should have."

Senior post player Kati Safaritova had a game-high 12 points for the Frogs in the loss.

Mittie wanted to play with more immediacy in the game.

"I wish we would have played with a sense of urgency today. Maybe we would have won," said Mittie.

This is the Frogs' first loss at home in conference play. Despite the loss the Frogs are still atop C-USA standings.

The Frogs hit the road to face Memphis 7 p.m. Friday and Saint Louis 2 p.m. Sunday.

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Sophomore forward Tiffany Evans fights for the ball against the defenders in the 63-59 overtime loss to Tulane Sunday. TCU's, ranked No. 24, head coach Jeff Mittie said his team played "soft" in the loss.

## Men's, women's track teams fly into first at meet

BY DANNY GILLHAM  
Skiff Staff

With two weeks to go before the Conference USA Championships, the TCU track and field team had its final tune-up at the Houston Indoor Invitational. With the men's and women's teams finishing first and third and the meets respectively, the Flyin' Frogs look to be hitting their peak at just the right time, said head coach Monte Stratton.

"I would say we are almost where we need to be with two weeks to go until the conference meet," Stratton said. "We are relatively healthy, we had good solid performances by both teams. I'd say we are in good position if nothing breaks, rips or tears in the

next couple of weeks to go into conference and give our best shot."

On the men's side, the Frogs appear to be the favorite. Currently ranked No. 10 in the nation, the team beat conference foes Houston and Southern Mississippi by 49 and 57 points at the Houston meet.

The Frogs have continued to place high in all their meets, and continue to have team members set NCAA provisional marks. Stratton said that the male sprinters did very well without junior Demario Wesley, who did not compete to nurse a sore hip flexor.

Seniors Eliud Njubi and Herbert Mwangi looked impressive in distance running, and the long jump and triple jump also have had pretty solid

performances, Stratton said.

Junior Brandal Lawrence, who was last week's C-USA track and field co-male athlete of the week, said the team is poised for major success in two weeks. Lawrence attributes hard work for the success so far.

"We are peaking at the right time with conference coming up in two weeks," Lawrence said. "It's all falling into place."

The women also look ready to make an impact at the championships, after finishing third at the Houston Invitational. Stratton was pleased with how the women did in Houston.

"I thought the women's sprinters outdid themselves," said Stratton. "We did not take (junior) Monica Twum,

and the other sprinters really stepped up and looked pretty good. I was also pleased with the 800-meter runners."

Junior Tiffany Starts, who set a personal best in the 60-meter dash, said she feels a good season is ahead for the Lady Frogs.

"I think we are doing good right now," Starts said. "Everybody is starting to bring their times down, and that's going to make or break us."

After not being able to practice every day last week due to inclement weather, the weather forecast has the team anxious to get in a good week's work.

"We hope that we have five full days of sun so we can get a hard week of work and then back off next week," Stratton said.

He added that in Texas there is no guarantee on the condition of the weather. Lawrence said if the weather stays warm the Frogs will definitely take advantage of their practice time.

Another advantage to the two weeks preparation is the time allowed for injuries to heal. With a few athletes sitting out the past meet, Stratton said he feels the team is going to be back to full strength.

"Wesley is back to full speed and Twum got some rest," Stratton said. "We are hopefully going to (Bloomington, Ind.) with all our guns loaded."

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