

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

TCU DAILY SKIFF

In its 100th year of service to Texas Christian University • Vol. 99 • Issue 103 • Fort Worth, Texas • www.skiff.tcu.edu



Today's News

STATE NEWS

DALLAS — Thousands of parishioners at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in East Dallas have turned to their beloved pastor in times of tribulation over the last 13 years.

The Pulse on Page 2

DALLAS — A mild case of the flu has delayed a journey for Egyptian conjoined twins who are coming to Dallas so doctors can determine whether they can be separated.

The Pulse on Page 2

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — The government went too far in trying to ban computer simulations and other fool-the-eye depictions of teen-agers or children having sex, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

News Digest on Page 4

OnCampus

Campus safety procedures followed with tornado threats

Hall directors and resident assistants shuffled students into secure locations at about 6 p.m. Tuesday as tornadic thunderstorms rolled through the area, said TCU Police Sgt. Ramiro Abad.

Residence hall employees followed university procedures and moved residents to first-floor locations and basements when tornado sirens sounded to alert Tarrant County of a tornado warning, he said.

Moncrief Hall Director Kyle Sherer said his residence hall was notified by TCU Police of the warning and proceeded to direct students to the first-floor bathrooms and laundry rooms. Some students were also directed to the basement of Milton-Daniel Residence Hall, Sherer said.

"TCU Police called us and told us there was a warning and that we needed to get our students secure," he said. "We took a foghorn and went through the wings," he said. "The RAs went through and knocked on the doors and then we just directed everyone downstairs."

Robert Livingston, a sophomore e-business major and Milton-Daniel resident, said he was one of the students sent to the basement for safety.

"(Residents) were more bored than anything," he said. "They wanted to get back to their rooms."

Livingston said he and the other residents were not scared. Sherer said Moncrief residents remained in secure locations for about four or five minutes, until TCU Police notified them that they were safe.

Police said no damage or injuries were reported on campus Tuesday night. Classes resumed as scheduled.

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theWeather

THURSDAY

High: 81; Low: 64; Partly Cloudy

FRIDAY

High: 81; Low: 56; Isolated Thunderstorms

LookingBack

1790 — Benjamin Franklin dies at the age of 84. Franklin, a scientist, printer and statesman invented the lightning rod, bifocal eyeglasses and helped found the University of Pennsylvania.

1970 — Apollo 13 returns safely to the Earth after suffering a severe malfunction on its journey to the moon.

Tornadoes blast Fort Worth, Arlington

BY ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Tornadoes and strong storms slammed into parts of North Texas Tuesday night, demolishing homes, ripping the roof from a church and snarling air and ground traffic.

Roofs were ripped off houses and businesses, debris covered yards, telephone poles slanted downward, and power was out in some areas.

Ten children in daycare at Handley United Methodist Church in Fort Worth got a scare when the storm hit. They crouched in the hallway of

the administrative building, and no one was injured.

But the tornado left a gaping hole in the high, peaking roof of the 1961 church, leaving the sanctuary visible from the outside. As word spread of the damage, about 50 members gathered to nail plywood boards over holes where stained glass windows had been and put plastic tarp over naked patches on the roof.

Pat Svacina, spokesman for the city of Fort Worth, said a few people were transported to the hospital, but no life-threatening injuries were reported.

He said damage was reported in

three areas of the city. Eighteen to 20 mobile homes were damaged in a mobile home park in south Fort Worth and at least six houses were damaged in another area.

Svacina said 25 vehicles were involved in a chain reaction accident on West Freeway where high water was reported.

Fort Worth Police Department spokesman Duane Paul said police blocked several roads due to concerns of gas leaks. He said there were few injuries because many people in the area weren't home during the storm.

Tornadoes also flattened some

homes in a subdivision in Arlington, as well as some buildings near a power plant in Arlington.

Arlington police Sgt. James Hawthorne said police were checking for damage. He said there were no reports of injuries.

"I know that we had officers say there were tornadoes down, debris flying," he said.

Hawthorne said he didn't know how much damage might have occurred.

Two tornadoes touched down briefly in Johnson County, but no damage was reported, said Sheriff Bob Alford. The storm, marked by intense

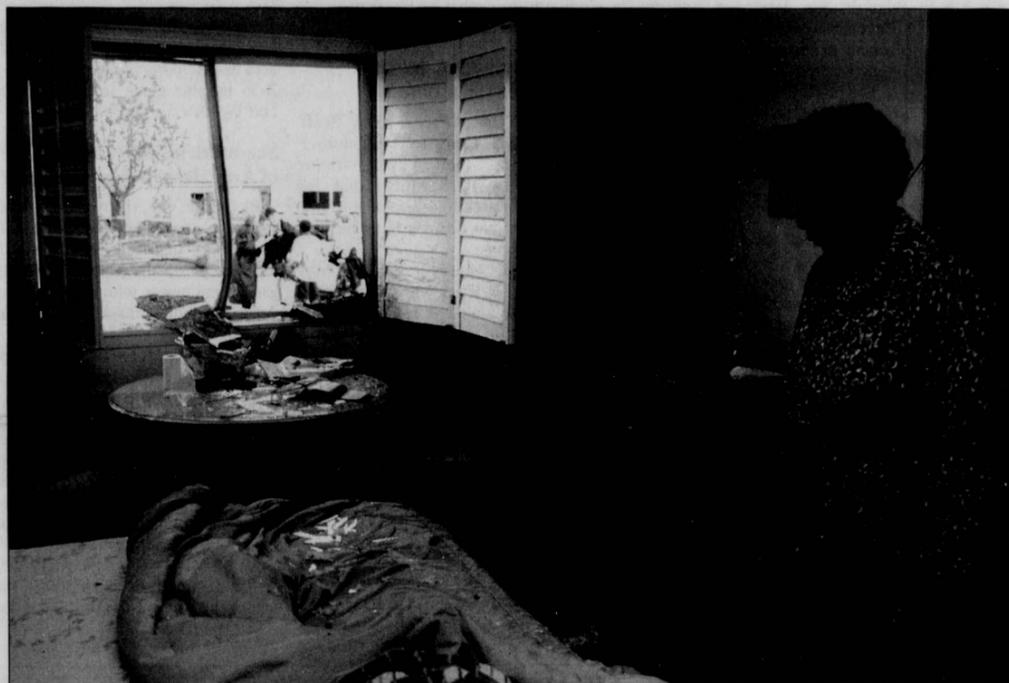
hail and rain, was moving toward the town of Cleburne, where officers were urging residents to take cover, he said.

DFW airport spokesman Ken Capps said the airport halted incoming and outgoing flights for about 45 minutes, and people working in two business towers at the airport were moved downstairs as a precaution. Passengers in all four terminals were safe, he said.

No estimates for the cost of the damage were available Tuesday night.

The storms began to develop late in the afternoon south of Fort Worth and took aim on the metropolitan area during the rush hour.

BUILDINGS FALL, LIVES SPARED



Eliza Cook, 77, stands amongst the aftermath of a tornado that ripped through a room in her house Tuesday. Cook said she jumped on her bed and covered herself with the comforter when she realized the tornado was coming. She endured minor injuries.

Southeast Fort Worth residents shaken, but thankful to be alive

BY BRANDON ORTIZ
Staff Reporter

The sheet metal roof of James Wilborn's bait and tackle shop is gone. The air conditioner that once stood atop the building lays in the swampy field behind the bait shop. Glass is shattered and the heavy door is unhinged.

Wilborn, 59, began cleaning up the mess left by Tuesday's tornado as blackish-green clouds moved away in the distance.

Wilborn and a co-worker loaded fishing poles into a truck at his damaged store on 2631 E. Loop 820 near Ramey Avenue in southeast Fort Worth. They were a few of the thousands who survived the tornado that swept through the surrounding area late Tuesday afternoon.

Fort Worth police said three people were

injured with minor cuts and bruises. Though the roofs of houses were ripped off and large signs were uprooted, police said no one died.

Wilborn and two co-workers were boxing worms when they heard a loud noise. James Foreman, who works for Wilborn, tried to look outside.

He couldn't open the door.

"It felt like a vacuum," said Foreman, 29. Then it happened.

"There was brick falling everywhere," Wilborn said. "I tell you what, you talk about praying and begging, that's exactly what I was doing. I kept looking up and seeing parts of the roof and big bricks fly by."

Wilborn and Foreman and his girlfriend hid in the back corner of the building for the remainder of the storm.

Less than 20 yards from where they huddled together and prayed for their lives, the tornado knocked over a concrete building.

"God was looking out for us," Wilborn said.

The storms left a swath of destruction in the Fort Worth neighborhood. Parts of roofs laid in the streets. Trees and power lines slouched over. The living rooms of homes were caved in.

Hundreds of people stood in the streets with blank stares. Some cried. A family hugged in their front yard.

A woman runs past the house.

"I've got to find my mom," she says.

Another woman, 77-year old Eliza Cook, stands outside of the home she has owned since 1957 on the corner of Ramey, her eyes red.

Inside, broken glass and the shredded foam padding of her sofas blanket the carpet. A relative tries in vain to sweep glass off a couch with a pillow. The sun shines into her bathroom through the hole the tornado left in her roof.

When she realized the tornado was coming, Cook said she jumped on top of her bed and covered herself with the comforter. It is covered in glass but she only

(More on TORNADO, page 6)

Rah Digga spreads the message

Performer among features at Culture Shock

BY ALISHA WASSENAAR
Staff Reporter

RollingStone compares her to Queen Latifah and says she's a twist on the traditional bad girl. Blaze Magazine called her the, "Emancipation Proclamator."

TCU students will be able to form their own opinion about Rah Digga when she performs 11 a.m. today at Culture Shock 2002 in the Student Center Lounge.

According to her official biography, Rah Digga, the only female member of Busta Rhymes' Flipmode Squad, travels across the country rapping and speaking about issues that affect minorities.

Pepe Cisneros, chairman of the Student Government Association Multicultural Committee, said Culture Shock was created to give minority students an open forum for expression.

"I chose (Rah Digga) because she's not only a good female rapper and performer, but she's also a multicultural speaker," Cisneros said.

Each minority organization will have a chance to come to the stage, state their values and perform a skit to show what their organization stands for, Cisneros said.

Rishad Gandhi, president of Students for Asian-Indian Cultural Awareness, said that in

(More on CULTURE SHOCK, page 7)

Event Information

Who: Rah Digga
What: Culture Shock 2002
When: 11 a.m.
Where: Student Center Lounge

Chinese Student Organization aims to promote diversity

Group hopes to increase numbers after fall 2001 start

BY KELLY MARIA HOWARD
Staff Reporter

Members of the Chinese Student Organization are working to promote diversity through opportunities, cultural exchange and friendship between Chinese students and students of other cultures, said Karen Li, a senior nutrition major.

The group was created in fall 2001 and are hoping to increase their numbers, she said.

"I thought that it would benefit TCU and its students to have a more diverse community, as CSO provides an opportunity for TCU students to learn more about the Chinese culture," Li said. "After I shared the idea with a few Chinese friends here, they all thought it was a good idea and believed there was a need here."

Li said she got the idea from friends who go to the University of Texas at Arlington where Chinese students have cultural student organizations and activities that they can participate in. She said 25 students signed up for membership in CSO last semester.

Mike Xu, CSO sponsor, said the organization

(More on DIVERSITY, page 8)

Improvements suggested during Constituency Day

SGA gains student feedback from on-campus residents

BY ALISHA WASSENAAR
Staff Reporter

After serving 185 pizzas at different residence halls across campus, and giving students index cards to write their ideas for the Student Government Association on them, Matt Freedman said he felt confident that Constituency Day was a success.

Freedman, chairman of the Residential Concerns Committee, said he listened to students complain about parking, request

better food in The Main and ask for a new Student Center Monday night.

"I thought it went really well," Freedman said. "I have about 1,000 index cards with ideas on them."

In order to lure students, Freedman used pizza. Nine hundred dollars worth of pizza, according to the SGA budget.

"What SGA heard back from the students was worth \$900," Freedman said.

Freedman said he heard good, constructive criticism along with requests that are common among students such as better parking and serving better food on campus.

"We found that students want

more programming," Freedman said. "Things like FrogStock and having more events like Constituency Day where students can have a place to mingle."

Jeremy Sims, a junior mechanical engineering major, said he believes SGA has done a lot of great things in the past, but would like to see better parking.

"I understand that SGA has a big influence, but not enough influence to get things changed if the administration doesn't want to do the same things," said Sims.

SGA advisor Larry Markley said in order to make big changes, SGA needs more money.

"We need to pass a fee in-

crease and that has not been successful in the past because students don't understand where their money would be going," Markley said.

Sims said that if he knew where his money was going and it was going towards a project he wanted completed, he would support an increase in student fees.

Sara Donaldson, former vice-president of the House of Representatives, said communication between students and SGA is difficult.

"It's a matter of finding middle ground where SGA and students can communicate," Donaldson said. "It's not difficult finding out what students want, it's difficult reaching them."

THE PULSE

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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.

• **Mildred!** is a workshop production of a new musical based on "Mildred Pierce" by James M. Cain, with book and lyrics by Richard J. Allen and music by Tim Georgeff. Performances are 8 p.m. April 17 and 22-24 (Mondays through Wednesdays) at Stage West. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call (817) 706-6909.

• **University chapel service** will be noon today at Robert Carr Chapel. Chris Stillwell, University Ministries intern, will give the message.

• **Culture Shock**, sponsored by Programming Council, will be 11 a.m. today in the Student Center Lounge. Rah Digga, a member of Busta Rhymes' Flipmode squad will perform.

• **The Center for Teaching Excellence** presents a Conversation on Teaching led by Claire Sanders 3:30 p.m. today in Student Center, Room 203. Sanders will speak about "Re-evaluating the Act of Teaching." For more information call (817) 257-7103.

• **Helping Skill Workshop** will be 2 to 4 p.m. April 19 and April 26 in the Counseling Center. The workshop is sponsored by Mental Health Services. To register, call Megan Botte at (817) 257-8611 or e-mail (m.r.botte@student.tcu.edu).

• **Department of art & art history and M.J. Neeley School of Business** are sponsoring a workshop for students, artists, gallery and small business owners to help them gain control over their business destiny. The event is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. April 20 in Moudy Building North, Room 141. Cost is \$15, including lunch. For reservations and information, contact Lynda Lesher at (817) 257-7643.

• **The TCU Showgirls dance team** will hold auditions for the 2002-03 team 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 27 in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Prep classes are offered 7 to 8 p.m. every Wednesday in April in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, which include technique instruction and a dance combination for \$5 a class. Contact the director Jamie Drake Stephens at (J.Stephens2@tcu.edu) for more information.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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

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

On-campus distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$0.50 and are available at the Skiff office.

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Campus/State Roundup

Weather blamed for lack of poppies in El Paso

EL PASO (AP) — A cold winter and dry weather are being blamed for the absence of an El Paso trademark — the yellow and orange poppies that bloom in spring on the east side of the Franklin Mountains.

"A lot of people have made the annual pilgrimage, and when they get here they say, 'Where are the poppies?'" said Brenda Tisdale, curator of the National Border Patrol Museum, located on the mountains' eastern flank.

Along the "poppy trail" at El Paso's Wilderness Park Museum, not a single poppy was visible over the weekend. Bright pink, red, orange and yellow flowers were found, but they are on cactus blooms.

Year-to-date precipitation in the area is 1.22 inches, compared to the average of 1.28 inches. There has been no precipitation in April.

Conjoined twins may be separated in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — A mild case of the flu has delayed a journey for Egyptian conjoined twins who are coming to Dallas so doctors can determine whether they can be separated.

The boys, joined at the tops of the heads, were scheduled to come to Dallas late this month. But their doctors in Cairo say they would prefer not to put them on a plane until they're feeling better.

Mohamed and Ahmed Ibrahim are now scheduled to leave for Texas on May 11.

The boys were born June 2 by Caesarean section to the wife of a laborer in the southern Egyptian town of Qus. Once they arrive in Dallas, they will undergo several days of evaluation.

The World Craniofacial Foundation, a nonprofit foundation based in Dallas, is paying for the twins' trip and organizing the doctors volunteering to work with them, said foundation director Sue Blackwood.

Even though the twins could live as they are, Genecov said, their quality of life clearly would be highly impaired.

If doctors determine that the risk is

so high that both may die, they will skip the surgery and return them to Egypt. A decision has not been made on whether the surgery will take place if it means death for one but success for the other.

Area priest reassigned for not following rules

DALLAS (AP) — Thousands of parishioners at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in East Dallas have turned to their beloved pastor in times of tribulation over the last 13 years.

More than 2,000 of the Rev. Stephen Bierschenk's flock rallied to his support during a candlelight vigil Monday night as he faced reassignment for not performing the required criminal background checks on church workers.

Bierschenk is the second area priest reassigned this month for not conducting criminal background checks as required under strict rules adopted after a sex scandal in the Dallas Diocese five years ago. The Rev. Efrén Ortega, a priest for 12 years at St. James Catholic Church, was sent to another Dallas parish earlier this month.

Houston mother learns of soldier son's death

HOUSTON (AP) — Army Staff Sgt. Brian T. Craig told his mother during a phone call from Afghanistan on Saturday that he wouldn't be coming home on the date he mentioned in a letter he had just sent home.

"He said whatever date he had written in his letter was not going to be a good date," Craig's mother, Barbara, said Tuesday after learning her son had died along with three other U.S. soldiers when a rocket they were working on exploded in Afghanistan.

Military officials delivered news of Craig's death to his parents' Houston home Monday afternoon. It was much different news than what Barbara Craig still expects to read in the letter her son sent, which hadn't yet arrived at the family's home Tuesday.

The 27-year-old died while handling large caliber rockets which had

been confiscated from former Taliban ammunition dumps. A fifth soldier suffered injuries that were not life-threatening.

First phase of Convention Center renovation done

FORT WORTH (AP) — The 33-year-old Fort Worth Convention Center is preparing to show off its \$44 million facelift and additions.

The convention center now has 150,000 square feet of exhibit space, 33,000 square feet of meeting room space and a new ballroom with the recent completion of the first phase of a five-year project.

"For the first time in many years, we'll have the tools to attract more convention and tourism business," Mayor Kenneth Barr said Tuesday.

The bigger and better center in the state's sixth-largest city opens to the public Sunday afternoon with fireworks and high school band performances.

As part of the "Expect Big Things" campaign promoting the improved center, officials filled the exhibit hall with a Fort Worth fire truck, Bell helicopter and race cars from the Texas Motor Speedway.

They also brought in three long-horns from the Fort Worth Stockyards herd and a 70-by-17-foot section of a B-36 bomber made in the 1950s at Fort Worth's Air Force Plant 4.

School deals with issue of American Indian mascots

EUGENE, Ore. (U-WIRE) — University of Oregon law school students are gaining support to keep the Athletic Department from scheduling games and events with schools using American Indian images or names as team mascots.

Within the next two weeks the law school plans formally to propose a resolution, sponsored by the school's Sports and Entertainment Law Forum, to the administration and the Athletic Department. In order to submit the complete resolution, supporters must gather signatures from at least 50 percent of the law school student body.

As of Monday approximately 220 law students, out of about 500 in the school, had signed the petition in favor of the resolution.

The resolution would not affect the University's regular season schedule directly because no team in the Pac-10 Conference uses American Indian symbols for team mascots; however, proponents of the resolution said by adopting it, the university will be taking a public stance on the issue.

Business major launches Internet bookstore

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. (U-WIRE) — Students may think twice about where they're going to purchase their next set of textbooks once they discover a new Web site for used books.

For his senior project, business senior Peter Keller recently launched (universityunion.com), a free online book exchange tailored for California Poly State University and Cuesta students with the aim of giving them the best deals on textbooks.

Keller said he created the site because he wanted an alternative to Aida's University Book Exchange and El Corral Bookstore, the two biggest college textbook stores in San Luis Obispo.

The site's primary emphasis is on textbooks, and includes an ads page, a housing page and a chat room, he said.

There are more than 140 books listed on the site covering a variety of majors. Students must fill out a form before getting their books posted for sale, Keller said. The form consists of the textbook's title, author, condition, major, course number, price and the school where it was used.

The site has been operational for three weeks and has already had around 1,300 visitors.

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The Skiff View

OUTREACH

Event proves that numbers count

Every year it happens. Some Student Government Association official or campus club president blames the failure of another event on one thing: apathy.

But at best it's a misjudgment, and when you really look at the issue, you can see it's simply not true.

With more than 200 organizations on campus, most students are involved in something at TCU, and many pour themselves into those one or two things they're doing. At times, almost to a fault.

In talking about this week's Culture Shock 2002, Cristina Ramos, treasurer of Sigma Lambda Alpha, said organizations often become too involved with themselves.

Could it be that the reason no one shows up to the event in the lounge with the guy speaking on "the need for involvement in organizations" is because people are on their way to their next group meeting or club event?

But Culture Shock organizers seem to be doing it right.

Bringing different minority groups together in one event brings the strength of each organization. Hopefully it will be enough to turn a few heads. After all, combining groups provides a larger audience, and a larger audience means a greater outreach to the university as a whole.

It's a proven fact: People follow people, and numbers draw numbers. With more people at an event, students walking by will wonder what's happening.

So will this combination work? Maybe it will. Maybe we will see people flocking to the events. But if not, don't blame it on the students.

After all, they're on their way to their next meeting.

The Other View

Opinions from around the country

In yet another move to appease the far right members of his party, President Bush last week made a vocal plea to senators to ban any further funding for cloning research.

The president's comments put him at odds with, among others, 40 Nobel Prize winners whose letter in support of the research was released yesterday by the American Society for Cell Biology.

The opposing sides on the debate have spoken out recently in an effort to influence the Senate as it prepares to vote in the coming weeks on what sort of ban to impose on the cloning of human embryos.

President Bush, not surprisingly, has aligned himself with social and religious conservatives who hope to ban all human cloning for any purpose.

The Nobelists, and members of this editorial board as well, support a ban on reproductive cloning to produce human babies but would allow cloning of embryonic cell clusters for research and therapeutic purposes.

The crux of the debate centers around whether very early embryos are human life that should not be destroyed, or primitive clusters of cells that have not yet developed human attributes and are therefore fit subjects for research on therapies that could benefit all of humanity.

The president argued that cloning, even for research purposes, is wrong because it involves the creation of embryos that are then destroyed to derive stem cells for potential treatments. Anything less than a total ban on cloning would be unethical. Bush also maintained that it would be difficult to enforce a ban on reproductive cloning while allowing research cloning, and he called the presumed benefits of research cloning "highly speculative."

But we believe the 40 Nobel laureates have a more realistic appreciation of the science. They argued that a ban on research and therapeutic cloning "would impede progress on some of the most debilitating diseases known to man."

What was most disturbing about Bush's remarks was their black-and-white, even apocalyptic tone. It was unfair and irresponsible for him to imply that those who wish to pursue therapeutic cloning that could benefit millions are traveling "without an ethical compass into a world we could live to regret." The real regret would come if we fail to pursue some of the most promising medical research spawned by modern biotechnology.

This editorial comes from The Lantern at Ohio State University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

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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.

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Opposition to same-sex marriage restricts freedom

It may come as a bit of a surprise to know that actually no rights are guaranteed all of the time.

The government's "police power" allows it to invariably limit some rights in favor of things like societal order, government interests or in order to protect rights placed in higher value. But the government always has to show significant justification for the use of police power.

The question of justification is something the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was constantly at a loss to find when it questioned the government's reasoning for school segregation and it is something that continues to elude gay rights groups striving to secure the legalization of same-sex marriages.

Much like segregation, the resistance to same-sex marriages seems to be little more than a sign of the bigotry and prejudice of the time. So it came as no surprise to anyone who knows anything about anything when in 1996 Hawaii's highest state court ruled the state had failed to present compelling public reason for prohibiting same-sex marriages. This ruling took on a national scope because Article IV, Section I of the U.S. Constitution stipulates that "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other court."

What this essentially meant is

that if Hawaii legalized same sex-marriages, couples from South Dakota or New Jersey could fly to Hawaii to become married and then come back home and enjoy all the legal benefits of marriage like tax benefits, adoption rights, health care coverage or inheritance.

To cut this inevitability, the House of Representatives passed the Defense of Marriage Act, which would allow states to ignore the sanctioned same-sex marriages of other states.

The rationale, flimsy as it may be, has always been that marriage is an institution between man and a woman. But that definition is one lent from Judeo-Christian values. Once the religious argument is separated from the non-religious one there isn't (as the state of Hawaii found) significant justification that the concept of marriage can't be broadened to encompass a joining of two people.

The question then becomes should the government be allowed to discriminate against people based on values that derive from religious grounds? If precedent is to be any guide the answer would seem to be "no."

The contention here is not that people of various faiths aren't entitled to what they feel their religion tells them to believe about homosexuality, but that those religious objections can't be applied to the actions of a secular government. Within the frame work of a secular government, policies derived from religious values can't be allowed to impress themselves upon government actions because it not only violates the set precedent of the separation of church and state but

also enters precarious territory whereby government can be held within the grip of various religious extremism. If the last months have shown us anything, it's how important it is to have a government that operates independently of specific religious purposes.

No one is attempting to force Catholic or Muslim or Protestant faiths to marry same-sex couples if it is against their specific religious beliefs. They should never be forced to do anything like that. The request here is simply for the government to allow for a legal contract to be established.

The title of the aforementioned marriage act really gives itself away. The word "defense" implies that if homosexuals are allowed to marry it will somehow destroy the institution for the rest of the heterosexual population. But a sacrament that should be as strong as marriage has to survive based on the emotional commitment of its individual members, not the exclusivity of the titles under which they come together.

This discrimination carries with it the same thing that the discrimination of segregation did and leaves the supporters asking the same question: If it doesn't imply inequality then what can it mean?

Imagine spending your whole life being told that you will never be allowed to marry the person you love. What could be more essential and more ingrained in a scheme of liberty, freedom and equality than the right to love and marry whomever you choose?

Tim Draggia is a junior political science major from Lubbock. He can be contacted at t.c.draggia@student.tcu.edu.

COMMENTARY



Tim Draggia

Corporate radio forces bands to conform sound

I quit.

Listening to corporate radio, that is. Bands such as Default and Puddle of Mudd, who essentially aren't doing anything out of the ordinary, are currently in heavy rotation on radio stations across the country. Though undeniably talented musicians, these bands have reached stardom not because of innovation, but because of their ability to produce a product which record companies foresee as profitable. The end result then, is that radio listeners get to hear a big pile of homogenized garbage.

In the 1960s, artists were constantly coming upon new styles and approaches for their music, and some of the most influential American bands came into existence during this time. Clearly, some record companies made huge profits off of the music of the '60s, but these profits were a result of bands who gained popularity by breaking boundaries and transforming the way people thought about music and about the world.

Millions of people worldwide mourned the death of former Beatle George Harrison, an artist who maintained his integrity throughout his musical career. The Beatles obtained their status as pillars of the musical community not by having a couple of mediocre hits, but by creating musical masterpieces which transformed constantly, leaving listeners unsure of what to expect.

One must wonder if any of the music celebrities of today will be mourned as many of the icons of the '60s have been mourned following their deaths in previous years. Will the nation be shocked and sorrowed in years to come when the singer for Nickelback passes on? In fact, does anyone even know the name of the singer, other than as the long-haired guy with the cheesy goatee?

The homogenization of popular music has created a system with little room for innovators to break into the mainstream. Certainly there are more genres of music than existed in the '60s, but we barely hear any variety from the genres which are prevalent.

Sure it is great to see listeners open to such a diverse range of music, but this leads to them only hearing the music they are spoon fed by the record companies and corporate radio stations, which is overall a very poor selection of innovative music. It seems we have been forced to substitute quality music for music that simply rakes in the most money.

Those of you who are fans of artists who do not fit the mold of mainstream music are likely very aware of the tendency of a company to pick up an artist in hopes that they will be the "next big thing," and then drop the artist from the record label after it turns out they don't have the potential for national stardom the company once thought.

A good example of this is local band Sugarbomb, who was signed to RCA after only a few years of playing locally, only to be dropped by the label after only moderate success in the national market. Because of incidents such as this, bands are forced to either conform to making what the music corporate record companies want, or to exist in obscurity as an artist who challenges the norms of mainstream music.

Unfortunately, obscurity doesn't pay the bills, so incredibly talented artists who are unwilling to conform are left to pinch pennies and try to continue to make music and work a job that does pay their expenses.

As long as we continue to support the homogenization of radio, independent musicians who challenge the mainstream will never have a chance to be heard by a large audience of people.

It seems aspiring musicians would be better off in business school than in a garage band.



Jeff Dennis

COMMENTARY

Loving one's self not a bad thing; Being in love with one's self causes problems

Do you love yourself? Yes dear readers, it is a trick question. It is one that I myself am often incapable of answering.

However, recent observations of the world around me made me conjure up a picture of what the world would be like if people truly loved themselves.

The stone that most people trip on after they embark upon this journey of life is often the very first stone on the pathway: loving oneself. It is often confused for being in love with oneself. But, in fact, upon closer examination they look nothing alike except for a resemblance in syntax.

"What is wrong with being in love with yourself?" Everything. Being in love with oneself leads to self-worship, a dangerous characteristic often found in cahoots with selfishness, indulgence, obsession, greed and dishonesty. Sometimes we are so dishonest that we even lie to ourselves and are unable to view our world and our tiny place in it objectively. I see so much evidence of this

when I see people craving to "improve their looks" with plastic surgery, or ravaging their bodies to get thin (because it's "in") or pumping up with steroids (because it's "in"). But this love of oneself transcends the individual and takes on forms such as world dominance and imperialism because we love ourselves so much, we feel that everyone else in the world (despite their cultures and traditions) should be like us.

Some use means such as terrorism to establish this dominance. Others use embargoes on food, medicine and trade, to impose their love of themselves on others. However the same culprit is at the root... being in love with oneself. It's ironic how quickly we can point it out in enemies we do not like or view as foes.

Being in love with ourselves is killing us, one way or the other. Even as we continue to live this lie and seek to satisfy our indulgent cravings, we still at some

point must face the undeniable truth of who we are and take a deep long look at ourselves. And how awful we look.

We still aren't thin enough; we still aren't strong enough; we still aren't as beautiful enough, rich enough, powerful enough, dominant enough.

Then we stand there holding on to the meaningless bits of matter that we

misnamed "the important things in our lives," recognizing for the first time that we had it wrong the entire time.

As Shakespeare once said, "This above all: To thine own self be true."

But where can honesty and love truly meet and coalesce? The answer is when we truly love ourselves.

Please join again tomorrow for part two of this commentary.

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

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National/International Roundup

Two more bodies, cockpit voice recorder retrieved

KIMHAE, South Korea (AP) — Rescue workers assisted by sniffer dogs recovered two bodies and a cockpit voice recorder Tuesday from the mangled wreckage of a Chinese airliner that slammed into a fog-cloaked mountain in southern South Korea with 166 people on board.

The discovery of the two bodies pushed the death toll to 122 in Monday's crash of an Air China Boeing 737-200 near Busan, South Korea's second largest city. Thirty-eight people survived and six others were listed as missing, police said.

The death toll could rise because many of the survivors were in serious or critical condition, they said.

Flight CA129 from Beijing was approaching Busan's Kimhae Airport in heavy rain and fog when it hit the 1,000-foot, forest-covered mountain on Monday.

The jet shattered and caught fire on impact, leaving a trail of fallen trees 30 yards wide and 100 yards long.

The Chinese pilot — Wu Xing Lu — survived but was in serious condition and has not spoken to crash investigators, police said. South Korean television showed the pilot lying on a hospital bed, his lips bruised and partly covered with clotted blood. Doctors said that he was suffering from minor brain hemorrhage.

Vatican calls on American cardinals for discussion

ROME (AP) — The Vatican said Tuesday it was summoning American cardinals to discuss "guidelines meant to restore security and serenity to the families" of victims of sex abuse by priests and to restore "trust to the clergy."

In a brief statement, the Vatican said all 13 American cardinals have been asked to the unprecedented meetings. It was not clear how many would attend.

The April 23-24 talks will "examine problems created in the church in the United States by scandals connected to pedophilia and to indicate guidelines meant to restore security and serenity to the families and trust to the clergy and the faithful."

The Vatican said the cardinals would meet with the heads of the Vatican departments, called "congregations," responsible for doctrine, for the clergy and for bishops. All three congregations are themselves headed by cardinals.

The meeting also appears aimed at countering criticism that Pope John Paul II and the Vatican have been slow to respond to a scandal with global implications.

Beer tax cut opposed by anti-alcohol groups

WASHINGTON (AP) — Cutting the tax on beer in half could leave Americans with a "\$1.7 billion hangover" in trying to replenish lost federal funds, opponents of a bill being considered in Congress said Tuesday.

Millie I. Webb, president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, said a reduction in the tax of \$18 per barrel — that's about 33 cents per six-pack — would also have "dire and deadly consequences for adults and youth with respect to drunk driving, underage drinking and alcohol problems in general."

Rep. Phil English, R-Pa., introduced the measure last year. "It's an unfair tax that targets lower- to middle-class Americans," said Jennifer Hall, his spokeswoman. She said that two-thirds of the beer consumed in the country is bought by people earning less than \$45,000 per year.

The bill's opponents, speaking at a Capitol Hill news conference Tuesday, said the last beer tax increase in 1991 was in part responsible for saving the lives of more than 600 minors every year.

Sign of terrorist attacks, involvements unveiled

BERLIN (AP) — German prosecutors on Tuesday questioned and then released a man detained in connection with a truck explosion that killed 15 people at a Tunisian synagogue and said indications of a terrorist attack were growing, just as a group linked to Osama bin Laden claimed responsibility.

U.S. authorities were investigating the claim, a government official in Washington said. If verified, it would make the blast at the Ghirba synagogue on the resort island of Djerba the first terrorist attack by bin Laden's al Qaeda network since the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

German officials took a suspect into custody Monday in the city of Duisburg after receiving a tip from Tunisian authorities that the suspected attacker, identified by Tunisian officials as the driver of the gas-laden truck, had spoken by phone with the suspect hours before the blast last Thursday.

But authorities freed the unidentified suspect after questioning and gave no indication of the man's role, if any, in the case.

Supreme Court strikes two provision of pornography act

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government went too far in trying to ban computer simulations and other fool-the-eye depictions of teen-agers or children having sex, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

Youthful sexuality is an old theme in art, from Shakespeare to Academy Award-winning movies, the court found in striking down key provisions of a 1996 child pornography law on free speech grounds.

The law would call into question legitimate educational, scientific or artistic depictions of youthful sex, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote for a 6-3 majority.

The court invalidated two provisions of the Child Pornography Prevention Act as overly broad and unconstitutional. Free speech advocates and pornographers had challenged the law's ban on material that "appears to be" a child in a sexually explicit situation or that is advertised to convey the impression that someone under 18 is involved.

Longest-surviving recipient of artificial heart goes home

CENTRAL CITY, Ky. (AP) — The longest-surviving recipient of a self-contained artificial heart returned home Tuesday seven months after his operation, waving to well-wishers as he rode a waiting fire truck through town.

"It's good to be home," 71-year-old Tom Christerson said after the caravan of dozens of vehicles finally pulled up to his house.

He was given a plastic-and-titanium AbioCor heart at Jewish Hospital in Louisville on Sept. 13. Christerson, the second recipient of the device, was released from the hospital March 20 and had been living at a hotel one block away.

After the news conference, the retired tire dealer and his wife drove to their home in Central City, a town of 6,000 people about 125 miles southwest of Louisville. Christerson sat in the passenger seat of the minivan, which was fitted with an electrical outlet so he could recharge the heart on the road.

When he got to Central City, Christerson was helped up the four steps onto the fire truck, the ride fulfilling a wish he had expressed weeks ago.

Photographer sentenced for invasion of privacy

CINCINNATI (AP) — A commercial photographer was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison Tuesday for taking pictures of corpses posed with various objects in the county morgue.

Judge Norbert Nadel also sentenced former Hamilton County Deputy Coroner Dr. Jonathan Tobias to five months in prison and 250 hours of community service for letting Thomas Condon photograph the bodies.

The judge called the pictures "the worst form of invasion of privacy." Condon has said he was attempting an artistic portrayal of life and death.

Prosecutors said Condon posed bodies with sheet music, a key, an apple and other objects. A jury in October convicted Condon, 29, and Tobias, 31, of abuse of a corpse.

Twelfth drug tunnel found underneath Mexican border

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — An 85-foot drug tunnel that was strung with bare light bulbs and ended near a parking lot used by Customs Service employees was discovered underneath the Mexican border.

The tunnel, found on Monday, is the 12th discovered in Nogales since 1995, and the second in the border city to run directly beneath the international boundary.

No drugs were found inside the tunnel, which was reinforced with two-by-fours, Customs spokesman Roger Maier said.

Investigators believe smugglers punched a hole through the asphalt and would pass narcotics up into a waiting vehicle, then seal the hole with an asphalt plug.

Avocado growers working on national ad campaign

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — Got guacamole?

Avocado growers say the right national ad campaign could do for their crop what the "Got Milk?" slogan did for the dairy industry.

Avocado growers will vote this summer on whether to tax themselves to raise up to \$14 million a year for research and promotion. About 6,000 growers and importers

will be eligible to vote. The plan would establish a mandatory fee of 2 1/2 cents per pound to pay for the campaign. The U.S. Department of Agriculture would assemble a national board to set policy for the effort.

California growers produce 90 percent of the nation's avocado crop. Although the California Avocado Commission and grower groups have long been involved in a variety of promotional campaigns, the federal program seeks to broaden those efforts.

Police chief pleads for his job after denial of term

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police Chief Bernard Parks pleaded his case for reappointment before the City Council on Tuesday, a week after being denied another term by the Los Angeles Police Commission.

Parks told the council he wanted the city to hear his vision of the Police Department, to give the "true facts of my record" and to shine "a clear light on the process that I've gone through regarding reappointment."

Parks defended his accomplishments after the civilian Police Commission voted 4-1 to deny him a second and final five-year term. The commission said the department was "in crisis" because of low morale, understaffing and rising crime.

The City Council can override the commission but would have to act by the end of this week. The decision to let Parks speak did not obligate the council to take further action.

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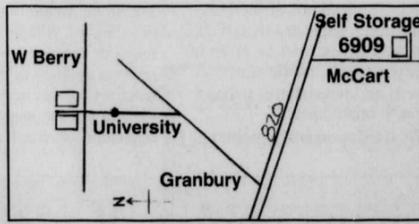
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The Sideline

Houston Texans look to sign Fresno State QB

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans are taking all the suspense out of Saturday's NFL draft.

They are close to signing Fresno State quarterback David Carr, their announced No. 1 pick, to a seven-year contract that would pay him \$60 million if he reaches all incentives, a source told The Associated Press Tuesday.

The NFL is looking at the contract, the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Carr would earn \$45 million as a base salary over the seven years and that could increase to \$60 million if he meets all incentives. Carr would be paid \$16 million in the first three years of the deal, the most in NFL history for a rookie in the first three years of a contract.

Jury to decide playing status of Stoudamire

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A grand jury will decide whether Portland Trail Blazers point guard Damon Stoudamire should be charged with felony drug possession.

Stoudamire was investigated by Lake Oswego police, who on Friday forwarded their case to the Clackamas County District Attorney's office, prosecutor's spokesman Dave Paul said Tuesday.

Coach Maurice Cheeks has said that Stoudamire might not play in Wednesday night's regular season-ending home game against Houston, but the coach added that other starters might be held out because the Blazers can't advance their playoff position.

Stoudamire would not be suspended by the NBA unless he is convicted of a crime or enters a guilty plea.

Irvin takes job as Arena Football announcer

IRVING (AP) — Former Dallas Cowboys star Michael Irvin is back on Jerry Jones' payroll, only this time it's as a television analyst for Dallas' new Arena Football League team.

Irvin, who is trying to start a second career in broadcasting, will be teamed with Brad Sham, the radio voice of the Cowboys for 23 seasons, for the Desperados games aired locally.

Irvin's broadcasting career was supposed to start with Fox Sports Net after he retired two years ago, but legal problems prompted the cable network to drop him. They've given him another chance this week as a fill-in on "The Best Damn Sports Show Period."

Robinson on injured list due to back problems

SAN ANTONIO — San Antonio Spurs center David Robinson was placed on the injured list Tuesday with a lower back strain.

The Spurs activated center Amal McCaskill to take Robinson's place on the roster for Tuesday night's game against Phoenix.

Robinson hurt his back in the first half of Friday's victory in Detroit, but stayed in the game to finish with 10 points and 10 rebounds in 31 minutes. He did not play in San Antonio's win in Memphis on Sunday.

Jones says right knee doesn't feel bad

CINCINNATI — Ken Griffey Jr. took batting practice Tuesday for the first time since partially tearing the patella tendon in his right knee.

"I'm just trying to stay sharp hitting-wise," Griffey said. "It didn't feel bad."

Griffey was injured in a rundown between third and home April 7 against Montreal, and had to be helped from the field.

"It was one of those freaky things," Griffey said. "I planted my heel, went to turn and had my knee bent."

Griffey said he heard his knee pop. Team doctors said along with the partial tear, Griffey sustained a dislocated kneecap, which usually doesn't need surgery.

Griffey is rehabbing under strict supervision. The initial diagnosis said he could return in 3-to-6 weeks and, as far as he is concerned, nothing has happened to further delay his return.

Griffey said he wore a knee brace for five days, but has abandoned that.

Back to the beginning

Globetrotting Rubio comes full circle to Texas

BY QUINTE BOYD
Skiff Staff

The journey of TCU men's tennis assistant coach Ricardo Rubio has taken him all over the world. He's seen several continents, played against some of the best in tennis and gained recognition in his sport.

However, regardless of his accolades, he could think of no better place to be than Fort Worth.

In his first year as assistant coach for the Frogs, Rubio is making the most of his opportunity to help the school that gave him a chance.

"I just want to give something back," Rubio said. "TCU gave me a chance to learn and to play the game I love, and I want to give something back. I'm back where I started, and it's awesome to be here."

Rubio's journey to the Metroplex began in his hometown of Cadiz, Spain.

He started playing tennis at age six and soon traveled to nearby Barcelona for more intensive training.

At the age of 14, Rubio came to

the United States to play at Don Newcombe's Tennis Ranch in San Antonio. Rubio said he felt a bit of culture shock when he first saw Texas.

"It was a huge change to see another culture," Rubio said. "I couldn't speak English at first, so it was like being thrown into another world. Fortunately, everyone welcomed me with open arms."

While attending Newcombe's Tennis Ranch, Rubio attended New Braunfels High School, where he was a four-year letterwinner in tennis. Rubio kept his schedule busy as he progressed throughout high school.

"In the morning, I'd go to school. Then, around 2:30 until 5:30, we would practice tennis," Rubio said. "We would get an hour for dinner, then we would have to study our

schoolwork. At 10, we had to be back in our rooms, and at 11, it was lights out. Being in a system like this taught me discipline and organization."

After graduating from New Braunfels in 1989, Rubio thought about playing professionally, but decided to get his degree and better his game. One recruiting trip made his decision easier.

"I came (to TCU) on a recruiting visit that summer, right after the team went to the Final Four," Rubio said. "Once I saw the team, the coaching staff, and the campus, I knew I didn't want to go anywhere else. I didn't even visit my second choice (Texas Tech)."

In the beginning of his freshman year, Rubio was one of three players fighting to play at six singles. During one match, former head coach Bernard "Tut" Bartzten allowed Rubio to play at the six spot.

"Coach Bartzten gave me one chance, and that was all it took," Rubio said.

Rubio went on to win the Southwest Conference Freshman of the Year award in 1989 after posting a 27-12 record at six singles. Rubio went on to win three individual conference championships as a four-year letter winner.

He posted a 115-49 record in his four years with the Frogs.

"Ricardo was a very solid player," Bartzten said. "You could always count on him to play at or above his best. He was so consistent in his play that everyone wanted to practice with him. As a person, also, he hasn't changed at all. He can be serious, but never too serious."

After his senior year, at the age of 22, Rubio decided to play professionally on the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Tour.

Rubio played in several satellite and challenger tournaments from 1993 until 1997. During his stint on the ATP Tour, Rubio reached a high ranking of 383rd in singles play and 252nd in doubles play.

While on the tour, Rubio took on some of the world's best, including Italy's Davide Sanguinetti and Russia's Andrei Pavel. One of Rubio's biggest victories came over 1998 French Open champion and fellow countryman Carlos Moya.

"There is always strong competition when two Spanish players take on each other," Rubio said. "Off the court and after the match, we're all very good friends. On the court, though, you don't know them."

However, the expenses of the tour were becoming too much, and Rubio decided to finish what he had started. He came back to TCU in 1997 to finish his degree.

"Once you start something, you finish it, and I knew I had something left undone," Rubio said. "I would have come back and gotten my degree no matter how I did on tour."

Rubio graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in French and a minor in sociology. He was then hired as a tennis instructor at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center, a position he held for three years, before taking the job as assistant men's tennis coach.

"I wanted to be a good teacher and communicator," Rubio said. "I took

the job because I believe that I can make a difference in college players. I want to help them to develop their games and themselves."

Head coach Joey Rive sees the potential that Rubio has to be a great coach.

"I've been very fortunate to work with (Rubio)," Rive said. "He's doing such a great job with recruiting and teaching. I couldn't ask for anything else."

Rubio admits that before he coaches a team of his own, he still has a few things to learn.

"It's important to learn what it takes to be a college coach," Rubio said. "You have to make tough decisions and come up with solutions for any problems. Fortunately, I have a great teacher and mentor in Coach Rive."

Rubio has learned many lessons from his journey from Spain and around the world, and admits that his personal philosophies have taken him a long way.

"Discipline takes you a long way," Rubio said. "I'm proof that hard work pays off in the end."

The Rubio File

Date Hired: July 21, 2001
Date of Birth: July 3, 1971
Hometown: Cadiz, Spain
Education: B.A. TCU, 1993

Professionally experience: Rubio competed in the ATP tour from 1993-1998. His highest singles ranking was No. 383 and his highest doubles ranking was No. 252



Molly Beerman/SKIFF STAFF
TCU men's assistant coach Ricardo Rubio helps others work on their tennis game. Rubio was a four-year letter award winner for the Horned Frogs when he played 1989-1993.

Rangers under the rug after Seattle sweep

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Alex Rodriguez could barely be heard in the somber Texas clubhouse. The repeated questions about the Rangers' struggles are numbing, and even harder to answer.

"It's obviously as frustrating as it looks. It's kind of a rhetorical question," Rodriguez said. "We will keep our heads up and keep playing. We haven't played 15 games yet."

But they are already back in last place in the AL West. After being swept in a four-game series by Seattle, Texas was 3-10 and 7 1/2 games behind the Mariners going into Tuesday night's game at Anaheim.

Texas is struggling even though new general manager John Hart revamped the roster, bringing back two-time AL MVP Juan Gonzalez and adding No. 1 starter Chan Ho Park and 10 other pitchers. All of Hart's dealing pushed the Texas payroll to \$105.3 million, third-highest in the majors.

So far, the Rangers are not getting a good return on their investment.

Gonzalez (torn muscle fiber in right hand) and Park (strained right hamstring) are on the disabled list along with three key relievers, and the Rangers are off to their worst start since 1987. Even worse than last year when they finished last in the AL West for the second year in a row.

"It's hard not to be concerned. You don't want to drop too far in the standings," said first baseman Rafael Palmeiro. "You want to stay within reach. Right now, it's getting to the point where we are getting out of reach."

Gabe Kapler describes the first two weeks of the season as "gut-wrenching." Frank Catalanotto admits it's "a little disheartening."

The series against the Mariners, A-Rod's former team and the defending AL West champs who finished 43 games ahead of Texas last season, was the most discouraging.

"We're just going to have to bounce back from this and hopefully we can forget about this series," Catalanotto said. "Hopefully, someone else can knock them off."

Manager Jerry Narron, who took over when Johnny Oates resigned under pressure after last year's 11-17 start, is frustrated but doesn't expect a repeat of last season.

"I believe in these guys and there's a belief in the clubhouse we can turn this thing around," Narron said.

"It's not the first 13 games that are going to kill us. It's how we deal with it and if we can right the ship," Rogers said. "We don't expect to play this way and do this poorly all year long."

Rangers relievers gave up 19 runs in 17 innings against Seattle. The bullpen — filled with newcomers

Former Aggie inks extension with 'Boys

BY JAIME ARON
Associated Press

IRVING — Jerry Jones has run the Dallas Cowboys with the philosophy that linebackers are like tires, needing to be rotated every so often.

By signing Dat Nguyen to a \$13 million, six-year contract Tuesday, Jones has completely changed his thinking.

Nguyen, who received a \$2 million bonus and a \$1 million salary this season, will start in the middle of Dallas' most expensive linebacker corps.

He'll be flanked by Kevin Hardy, who signed Sunday for a \$1.5 million bonus and \$1 million salary, and Dexter Coakley, who received a \$25 million, six-year deal last March.

Before Coakley was re-signed, the Cowboys had lost 13 lineback-

ers as free agents, the most at any position, including Randall Godfrey, Ken Norton Jr., Darrin Smith, Robert Jones and Godfrey Pyles.

Nguyen, a third-round pick in 1999 after a standout career at Texas A&M, was thought by some to be too small to excel in the NFL. Injuries limited him in 2000, his first year as a starter, but he played all 16 games last season and recorded 172 tackles, the second-most in team history.

"When I came out of college, I was a question mark," said Nguyen, the son of Vietnamese immigrants. "They took a gamble on me. Now I want to be a part of something special here."

Jones' commitment to linebackers is part of an emphasis on defense this offseason.

The Cowboys have also signed defensive tackle La'Roi Glover and cornerback Bryant Westbrook. The only offensive free agent signed was Jeff Robinson, a backup tight end whose

primary job will be deep snapper.

The goal for the new-look defense is to produce more turnovers and sacks. Nguyen already has a reputation for coming up with big plays, and he expects his new teammates to help him come up with more.

"We're going to have mismatch somewhere down the line," he said. "They're not going to be able to block a linebacker all day."

Nguyen, a restricted free agent, had received a \$1.2 million qualifying offer, which meant Dallas could match any offer sheet or receive a first-round pick as compensation. He'll count only \$1.3 million against the salary cap under his new deal.

His salary jumps to \$1,625,000 next season, but doesn't have another big jump until reaching \$3 million in 2007.

"It's a very solid six-year contract," Cowboys vice president Stephen Jones said. "It makes a lot of sense for us."

Basketball stands as topic of Mariucci, Owens truce

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Just when Steve Mariucci's relationship with Terrell Owens starts improving, something else pops up. This time, it's basketball.

The San Francisco 49ers' coach and their All-Pro receiver, who have clashed publicly and repeatedly over the past two seasons, made progress toward a truce in their uneasy relationship during a lengthy meeting in Atlanta last week.

"We talked about a lot of things about the past and a lot of things about the future," Mariucci said Tuesday. "It was a good conversation between player and coach. We had a chance to sit down and talk about everything we wanted to talk about."

Of course, that was before Owens announced his plans to join the United States Basketball League's Adirondack Wildcats some time after the 49ers' minicamp next weekend.

Owens, who played basketball at Tennessee-Chattanooga, has long fancied becoming a two-sport star, even though the 49ers aren't certain

how his lucrative San Francisco contract would be affected if Owens gets injured while hooping it up.

The 49ers' brass, deep in preparations for the draft, chose to focus on the positives from Mariucci's three-hour breakfast meeting at an airport hotel last Tuesday with Owens and his agent, David Joseph.

"I think it's a good step," Mariucci said. "It put things in a good perspective for everybody."

Ever since Mariucci suspended Owens for one game in September 2000 because of two outlandish touchdown celebrations in Dallas, their relationship has deteriorated.

Owens is an avid recreational basketball player, and he played in a summer pro league with Kansas City tight end Tony Gonzalez last summer. In fact, after his meeting with Mariucci last week, Owens — a 6-foot-3 shooting guard — headed off to a pickup game.

Now Owens, in the midst of a seven-year, \$34.5 million contract with the 49ers, plans to become the latest superstar athlete to join the USBL.

www.skiff.tcu.edu

Spacewalkers wrap up work on mission

Installation of station's new 44-foot girder completed Tuesday

BY MARCIA DUNN
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA's most experienced spacewalker and his rookie partner wrapped up work on the international space station's new 44-foot girder Tuesday and hung powerful floodlights outside the orbiting outpost.

It was the fourth and final spacewalk for the visiting astronauts of space shuttle Atlantis, who are due to leave Wednesday.

"Sure beats the dollar an hour I used to get for balling hay," said Jerry Ross, an Indiana farmboy making his ninth spacewalk.

Ross and Lee Morin ventured out

for the second time in four days. As they worked 240 miles up, Morin jokingly asked Ross whether they should be paid for four days, considering they were going to be experiencing four sunrises during their six hours outside.

"We couldn't pay them enough money for what we're getting to do," Ross replied.

Ross is flying for the seventh time in space, a world record, and may not get an eighth because of all the other astronauts in line. His nine spacewalks, totaling 58 hours, are a U.S. record.

The 54-year-old retired Air Force colonel savored the sights as he toiled outside, including a thunderstorm over the Pacific, the moon over the Atlantic and the space station he started building in 1998 on the first assembly mission.

"This is what I call a room with a view," he said.

As the 6 1/2-hour spacewalk

came to an end, Ross received warm congratulations from his crewmates.

"Colonel Jerry Ross, on behalf of your nine crew members up here and the whole team on the ground and every little boy or girl that has ever wanted to spacewalk or ever worked on spacewalking suits or tools or procedures, congratulations on your record-setting ninth spacewalk. Great job. Great inspiration," said shuttle astronaut Steven Smith, in second place at NASA with seven spacewalks.

Replied Ross: "It's an honor to serve the country this way."

Ross and Morin — nicknamed the Silver Team by their crewmates because they are both grandfathers — installed a pair of 40-watt halogen lights on the space station.

The spacewalkers attached a 14-foot guide rail and smaller handholds to the girder and put shock absorbers on the railcar that rides a track on the beam. They also set up a radiation monitor outside the space station and tried to test a gas-sniffing gauge but it malfunctioned.

The framework will extend more than 350 feet by 2004 as more girders are added to the one delivered last week by Atlantis.

Ross and Morin, along with fellow spacewalkers Smith and Rex Walheim, spent more than 28 hours outside during their weeklong station visit. Almost all their work was with the \$790 million girder and railcar.

"It's mission accomplished," said Dina Barclay, the lead spacewalk officer in Mission Control.

"We couldn't pay them enough money for what we're getting to do."

— Jerry Ross

Fort Hood soldier charged with murder

Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — A 21-year-old soldier from Addison was formally charged Tuesday in the death of a newlywed rap musician as well as attacks on three other people, Army officials said.

Spc. Christopher M. Reyes, assigned to Fort Hood, was being held at Bell County Confinement Facility while awaiting trial by military court martial, according to an Army statement.

Reyes is accused of killing 20-year-old rapper Eric DeSean Davis, a father of three, outside his home in Killeen on April 1, and of attempted murder for trying to kill a Fort Hood soldier and his wife at their residence later that evening.

Reyes is also accused of raping and sodomizing a female soldier Jan. 9 in her barracks at Fort Hood.

Agents with the Army Criminal Investigation Command said they linked Reyes to the rape while investigating the shootings.

Police told the Austin American-Statesman that Davis was killed after three intoxicated Fort Hood soldiers in a vehicle started talking to him in his neighborhood. Detectives said they are not sure whether there was an argument, but they said Reyes shot Davis in an arm and the bullet traveled to his chest. Investigators said Davis didn't know any of the soldiers.

Davis' first CD, called "Playa's Dynasty" will be released in June. Reyes entered the Army in February 1999. He has been assigned at Fort Hood since November 2001.

Messages left with an Army official were not immediately returned Tuesday evening.

Bush pushes for rights of violent crime victims

BY SANDRA SOBIERAJ
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Victims of violent crime, too often an afterthought in the courts, deserve a constitutional amendment guaranteeing their rights, President Bush said Tuesday.

"The protection of victims' rights is one of those rare instances when amending the Constitution is the right thing to do," he said, endorsing a proposal introduced Monday in the Senate by Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and Jon Kyl, R-Ariz.

If approved by a two-thirds majority of the House and Senate, and then ratified by at least 38 of the 50 states, the amendment would declare:

"The rights of victims of violent crime, being capable of protection

without denying the constitutional rights of those accused of victimizing them, are hereby established and shall not be denied by any state or the United States."

It would require that victims be notified of public court proceedings, allow victims to testify in sentencing and parole hearings about their experiences, and require courts to consider claims of restitution for victims.

In 2000, Americans were victimized in more than 6 million violent crimes. "Behind each of these numbers is a terrible trauma, a story of suffering and a story of lost security. Yet the needs of victims are often an afterthought in our criminal justice system," Bush said at the Justice Department.

The proposed amendment would not allow for new criminal

trials or specific claims for damages. And courts would have the ability to restrict victims' rights if they substantially conflicted with public safety or the administration of justice.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a similar proposal last year but threats of a filibuster kept the full Senate from voting on it.

Opponents, led by Democrat Patrick Leahy, now chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, argued that a federal statute would be the proper place to address victims' rights, not the Constitution.

Kyl said Tuesday that a constitutional amendment is called for because state courts — governed by state laws, not federal statute — are where most criminal cases are resolved.

CULTURE SHOCK

From page 1

the past programming has reflected an Anglo viewpoint and has left out minority organizations in the past.

"Last year, there was not anything like Culture Shock," Gandhi said. "But now, I believe TCU is trying to become more diverse and aware of minorities on campus through their mission statement and the Multicultural Committee."

Victor Payne, president of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., said he is looking forward to a great show and hopes something positive will come out of the event.

"I think it is safe to say that people come to TCU, get in their groups, and then rarely venture out of their comfort zones," Payne said.

Cristina Ramos, treasurer of Sigma Lambda Alpha, said organizations often become too involved with themselves.

"We want to make the campus more aware of diversity issues," Ramos said. "The TCU community is not completely ignorant, but relations between the minority organizations and the rest of the campus could be improved."

Prateeshka Singh, a freshman international finance and Spanish major, was recently elected as president of SAICA for fall 2002. Her goal is to include all students in SAICA, regardless of ethnicity.

"A lot of American students just don't know about the minority organizations," Singh said. "They think that minority groups are only for minorities, but that's not true. They are open to everyone and that is one mis-

conception we want to clear up at Culture Shock."

Kellen Correia, president of the Inclusiveness Task Force, which oversees the 12 minority organizations on campus and encourages them to work together, has been working on Culture Shock with Cisneros.

"The first goal of ITF is to work with minority student organizations to enhance efforts and to embrace inclusiveness within the organizations and activities," Correia said. "We want to get to the point that if one minority organization has an event, we want the other minority organizations to get involved and support them so they will have more impact on the TCU community."

Alisha Wassenaar
a.a.wassenaar@student.tcu.edu

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DIVERSITY

From page 1

is a good opportunity for students of all backgrounds to learn more about a culture other than their own, but will also serve to help Chinese students feel part of the community.

"I am very glad for the establishment of the organization — it provides a good opportunity for Chinese students to communicate with all students and faculty, and to learn more about American people and culture," said Xu, who is also an assistant professor of Chinese studies. "On the other hand, I hope it can help to increase the understanding of Chinese people and culture with various activities and participation."

Xu said the organization will celebrate special Chinese festivals, hold study groups and provide volunteer work to the TCU community as determined by the members.

Li said there will be sports activities, gatherings and fund raising events. She said some of the gatherings may include movie nights, karaoke and picnics.

"We hope to cooperate with different student organizations at TCU," Li said. "It will definitely help us to promote cultural exchange and to make friends with different backgrounds."

Li said some of the objectives of the organization are to promote friendship with other cultural groups, help new and current Chinese students to adapt to the way of life in the United States while preserving their Chinese heritage and to assist and aid students in times of need.

CSO doesn't have a regular meeting time this semester but if a meeting comes up they will post a message on TCU Announce, Li said.

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U.S. offers Lindh lawyers al Qaeda interviews

BY LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Lawyers for John Walker Lindh should be given 13 summaries of interviews with al Qaeda and Taliban detainees, but the material should not be made public, prosecutors said Tuesday.

The summaries are unclassified but must be closely guarded to prevent terrorists from learning about the government's anti-terror investigation, prosecutors in the case of the American-born Taliban militiaman said.

In a written motion, they asked U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III for an order preventing public dissemination of the reports, which prosecutors want to provide with sensitive information deleted.

The interviews were conducted with suspected operatives captured in Afghanistan and Pakistan and detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Lindh is charged with conspiring to murder U.S. nationals; providing support and services to foreign terrorist organizations, including al Qaeda; and using firearms and destructive devices during crimes of violence. Three of the 10 charges carry maximum life sentences; the other seven have prison terms of up to 90 years.

"The identities of the detainees, as well as the questions asked and techniques employed in the interviews, are highly sensitive and confidential," the government motion said.

Detainees may reveal information leading to identification and apprehension of terror suspects and prevention of terrorism, the filing added.

A similar order to protect sensitive unclassified material was issued in the 1999 trial of defendants in the bombings of two

U.S. embassies in Africa. In February, a judge hearing the case of Zacarias Moussaoui, charged as an accomplice in the Sept. 11 attacks, issued a similar order.

The government's proposal would allow Lindh's lawyers to share the reports with experts holding security clearances but could not be shown to potential witnesses without the court's permission.

The information deleted includes names of interviewing agents, file numbers, references to fellow detainees and names of individuals with no involvement in the Lindh case. Also left out were accounts of photo identification

sessions not involving Lindh. Meanwhile, a filing by Moussaoui's lawyer showed that the French citizen is reading his lawyer's legal briefs carefully.

Defense attorney Frank Dunham Jr. told U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema he was withdrawing an allegation that a jail deputy insisted on reading Moussaoui's legal papers.

The allegation was not in a draft memorandum provided to Moussaoui for review, but was in papers filed with the court. The mistake "was called to counsel's attention by Mr. Moussaoui when he saw a copy of what had actually been filed," Dunham said.

"The identities of the detainees, as well as the questions asked and techniques employed in the interviews, are highly sensitive and confidential."

— Government motion

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FoodStuff

THE MAIN

Today's menu

LUNCH

- Cheese tortellini/angel hair pasta
- Chicken Alfredo
- Salisbury steak
- Mushroom and asparagus strudel
- Parsley boiled potato
- Glazed carrots
- Curly fries
- Roast turkey with gravy
- Dressing
- Sweet cornbread

DINNER

- Rotini/vermeccelli
- Chicken pesto
- Chicken rotini pesto casserette
- Southern meatloaf
- Cuban roasted vegetable mojo
- Twice baked potatoes
- Green beans
- Steamed veggie blend
- Chicken wings
- Rotisserie chicken
- Mashed potatoes
- Sweet cornbread

Tomorrow's menu

LUNCH

- Penne/fettuccine pasta
- Sauté veggies
- Garlic bread
- Blackened chicken breast
- Eggplant parmesan
- Rice pilaf
- Buttered cauliflower
- Steamed mixed veggies
- Hot crisp
- Onion rings
- Buffalo wings
- Carved beef ribs
- Oven roasted potatoes
- Sweet cornbread

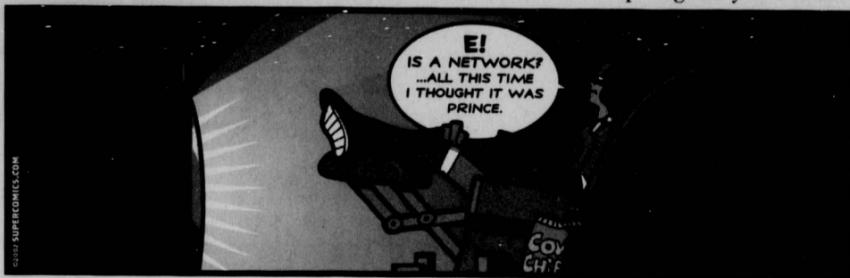
DINNER

- Bow tie/linguine
- Tortellini casserette
- Sauté veggies
- Taste of Pakistan
- Chicken Jalfarezi
- Vegetable Biryani
- Chole
- Bhindi Subji
- Rice pudding
- Popcorn chicken
- Smoked brisket of beef
- Sweet cornbread

Today's Funnies

Captain Ribman

Sprengelmeyer & Davis



Lex

Phil Flickinger



Lewis

Thomas & Peter Madey



PurplePoll



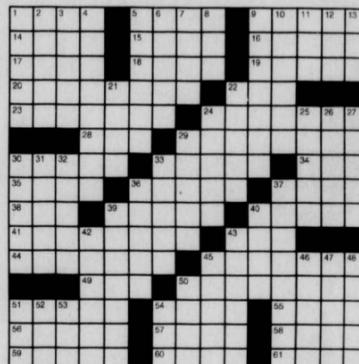
Q: Are you going to Culture Shock?

A: YES 13 NO 87

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 Daytime TV choice
 - 5 Enormous
 - 9 Shake up
 - 14 Pelt
 - 15 Sidle
 - 16 Family car
 - 17 Stow pot
 - 18 Command to Fido
 - 19 Great quantities
 - 20 Response to a stimulus
 - 22 Pizza order
 - 23 Dons to test fit
 - 24 Mailing charge
 - 28 Summer cooler
 - 29 Water tanks
 - 30 Leg bone
 - 33 Consecrate
 - 34 Hood's heater
 - 35 Ellipsoid
 - 36 Cease-fire
 - 37 Unadulterated
 - 38 Coral island classic
 - 39 Alan Ladd classic
 - 40 Senses
 - 41 Changing with the times
 - 43 Bounder
 - 44 Indulgent
 - 45 Hates
 - 49 Aspin or Brown
 - 50 Sting victim
 - 51 Young wolf commander
 - 54 Blackthorn
 - 55 Record for later viewing
 - 56 Relating to the ear
 - 57 Tropical nut tree
 - 58 Ripened
 - 59 Steel plow pioneer
 - 60 Caterwaul
 - 61 Dregs



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04/17/02

Tuesday's Solutions

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 7 Peruse | 42 Porch-roof support | 48 Germs |
| 8 Biblical pronoun | 43 Breakfast pick | 50 Medicinal plant |
| 9 Helps out | 45 Whimsically comical | 51 Gum lump |
| 10 Take out | 46 Enact | 52 Shade |
| 11 ETO | 47 Plains dwelling | 53 Before, before |
| 12 Post-graduate pursuit | | 54 Wild blue yonder |
| 13 Nav. rank | | |
| 14 Russian autocatal | | |
| 15 Gang of good guys | | |
| 16 Element | | |
| 17 Bicker | | |
| 18 Knot on a tree | | |
| 19 Senator Kefauver | | |
| 20 Held fast | | |
| 21 point (center of activity) | | |
| 22 Sidestep | | |
| 23 Yucatec, e.g. | | |
| 24 Arctic goose | | |
| 25 Dilutes | | |
| 26 Statue's base | | |
| 27 Spire holder | | |
| 28 Kismet | | |

NEXT STAGE

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<p>ALANIS morissette</p> <p>with special guest RYAN</p> <p>ON SALE NOW!</p> <p>MAY 16 • 8PM</p>	<p>BONNIE RAITT</p> <p>SILVER LINING TOUR</p> <p>ON SALE NOW!</p> <p>MAY 29 • 8PM</p>	<p>DOOBIE BROTHERS</p> <p>ON SALE APRIL 20 10AM!</p> <p>JUNE 6 • 8PM</p>
<p>Lyle Lovett</p> <p>ON SALE SATURDAY 2PM</p> <p>JUNE 13 • 8PM</p>	<p>trisha yearwood</p> <p>insideout tour</p> <p>ON SALE APRIL 27 10AM</p> <p>FRIDAY, JUNE 21 • 8PM</p>	<p>Jewel</p> <p>this way tour '02</p> <p>ON SALE FRIDAY, APRIL 19 10AM</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 19 • 8PM</p>

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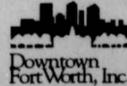
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Saturday:
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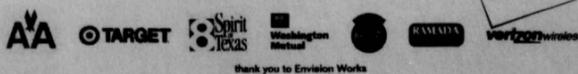
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After the rain



Scattered glass. Parts of roofs in the street. Trees and power lines lean to their side.

Tornadic thunderstorms rolled through southeast Fort Worth Tuesday, leaving behind chaos and destruction.

Photos by David Dunai

Above: Rufus and Dianne Watters sit outside their home which was just destroyed by a tornado that leveled several houses in their southeastern Fort Worth neighborhood.

Left: Jan Darwin, a KRLD news reporter and TCU graduate, comforts a girl who is looking for her grandmother.

Below Left: Benne Pellum, a school teacher from Fort Worth, was inside a fast food restaurant when the tornado hit, damaging her vehicle.

Below Right: Firefighters examine the remains of a house on Ramey Avenue in southeast Fort Worth.

“You could see it forming. I was trying to shut the door, but I couldn’t. We were afraid for our lives.”

Tommy Dao
owner of Fast N Go



Below: Damage on Ramey Avenue.

