

FEATURES

Student comedian showcased

As an up-and-coming stand-up comedian, Matthew Crain already has plenty of experience under his belt.

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SPORTS

Frog golfer looks to add to impressive collegiate career. Page 8



OPINION

The Miss America pageant has become so politically correct and boring it's no longer any fun to watch — not that it ever was. Page 3

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Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Faculty, staff, alumni offer criteria for search

Members of the Faculty Senate, Staff Assembly and the National Alumni Association list accessibility and increasing academic excellence among several criteria they would like in a new chancellor.

BY ANTOINETTE VEGA
Staff Reporter

Accessibility to the chancellor, increasing academic excellence and allocating funds were some of the top priorities mentioned in three meetings held by the chancellor search committee with the Faculty Senate, Alumni Board and Staff Assembly.

The three meetings, held Thursday, Friday and Tuesday respectively, allowed members to compile candidate criteria to be used by the search committee.

Maryruth Jones, an administrative assistant for Residential Services, said the next chancellor should be accessible.

"It is important to have a chancellor who is available to listen to students, faculty and staff so that everyone can feel comfortable talking with him," Jones said.

"Meeting with students and responding to their concerns such as Chancellor (Michael) Ferrari has done are ways of showing that accessibility."

Jones' opinion was one of many expressed at the meetings to R. Denny Alexander, the search committee chairman, and Bill Funk, a director for the executive search firm Korn/Ferry International.

Each meeting began with

Alexander and Funk asking three questions to open discussion: what are the challenges a new chancellor will inherit, what type of leader is wanted and what attributes will bring someone to TCU?

More focus is needed on raising the current academic standards by increasing students' workloads, said Bonnie Frederick, director of Spanish and Latin American Studies and a member of the Faculty Senate.

"More should be required from students in the classroom so they can produce at the same levels as students from state schools," she said.

Andy Fort, a professor of religion, said academic excellence can be better achieved by allocating funds for faculty resources.

"More money directed toward the faculty could be used for science technology, increasing the number of faculty and reducing class loads," he said.

A representative in the National Alumni Board and President of the Black Alumni Alliance, Joe Breedlove Jr., said visibility on campus and participation in the community should be a priority of the next chancellor.

"It is important for the new leader to be a tangible person to the student body so a connection is made with the university," he said. "Ferrari was able to make that connection and the same should be expected in the future."

Antoinette Vega
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Denny Alexander, chairman of the chancellor search committee, answered students' questions about what they want in a new chancellor in Monday's House of Student Representatives meeting.

Senate votes to create panel to study 9-11

The creation of an independent commission was approved by the Senate to probe into the events that led to the 9-11 terrorist attack. The Bush administration had initially opposed it but now gives it their full support.

BY CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Tuesday to set up an independent commission with broad powers to investigate the events leading to the Sept. 11 attacks and their aftermath. President Bush again urged Congress to finish work on his proposed homeland security department.

The vote to create the new 10-member commission was 90-8 and came less than a week after the Bush administration dropped its opposition. The measure by Sens. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., and John McCain, R-Ariz., was attached as an amendment to the homeland security bill.

McCain said the commission's work "will tell the American people the truth about how our government was not prepared for the threat of catastrophic terrorism last September."

Earlier, the Senate defeated by 70-28 a measure by Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va.,

(More on BUSH, page 2)

Correction

Dennis Timmons is an investigator for crimes against children with the Tarrant County District Attorney's office, he is not the District Attorney, as he was referred to erroneously in Tuesday's Skiff.

Savannah Koiner was not the daughter of Frank Montgomery. The summary misidentified Montgomery's relationship with the child.

NewsBrief

Pulitzer Prize winner to speak at Ed Landreth Hall Today

The Fogelson Honors Forum will feature guest speaker David McCullough at 8 p.m. today in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium.

McCullough is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning author and biographer. His Pulitzer Prize winning book "Truman" (1992) spent 67 weeks on the *New York Times* best-seller list.

Kathryne McDorman, director of the Honors Program, said McCullough was chosen because he is a gifted writer and has a reputation for providing insight.

In addition to writing, McCullough has narrated numerous television shows that have aired on PBS, been a writer and editor for *Time* magazine and held several teaching positions.

— Bill Morrison

Student input points to accessibility emphasis

At Tuesday's Student Government Association meeting, students expressed their concerns for a greater religious emphasis at TCU and an appreciation for Chancellor Michael Ferrari's contributions to the university.

BY EMILY TURNER
Staff Reporter

When Chris Mattingly lived in Milton Daniel Hall his freshman year, he said he remembers his friend e-mailing Chancellor Michael Ferrari about a water problem he was experiencing in his residence hall room.

"Within three days he had environmental specialists out to Milton to check the water," said Mat-

tingly, a junior international finance and accounting major.

Mattingly and other students said it will be difficult to find a chancellor as accessible to students and as motivated as Ferrari.

More than 50 students from the House of Student Representatives and other walk-ins asked questions and shared their opinions regarding the search for a new chancellor Tuesday night at an open forum hosted by the Student Government Association. A question and answer session was held with search committee chairman R. Denny Alexander and Bill Funk, a committee member and managing director of the education system at Korn/Ferry Interna-

tional, an executive search firm. The university plans to find a new chancellor by the spring.

Brian Casebolt, a senior political science major, said after four years he is convinced TCU is an exceptional school and credits this claim to Ferrari.

"Although it is not Harvard or Yale, TCU is aspiring to do great things," Casebolt said. "We need someone who will have the same excitement as Ferrari."

Although students said they hope to find a successor equal to Ferrari's passion for TCU, some said they also want a chancellor who will focus on emphasizing the foundation of the university. The majority of the students attending

the forum expressed concern for more religious incorporation into their classes and in the campus atmosphere.

Jennifer Scott, a freshman interior design major, said she is concerned with the lack of enrollment of Disciples of Christ students. She said the university should recruit more students of this denomination because the school was founded on the principles of its church.

"I came to TCU thinking that my religion would be prevalent," Scott said. "After I came here I realized that this is not the case."

Mattingly said it is important for the new chancellor to understand the religious foundation of

Tropical storm warning issued as Isidore nears coast

Residents in Louisiana and southeast Texas prepare for dangerous weather as a tropical storm Isidore moves inland. Other parts of the coast are under a hurricane watch.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORANGE — A tropical storm warning was posted Tuesday for Jefferson and Orange counties in far southeast Texas in preparation for Isidore, which was predicted to steam across the Gulf of Mexico toward neighboring Louisiana this week.

Isidore, which last weekend was threatening to become a monstrous hur-

ricane, weakened after spending two days over Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. A high-pressure center over Florida was expected to carry the storm toward the northern gulf coast and away from Texas.

A Louisiana landfall was expected to cause windy and rainy conditions in far southeast Texas, prompting the warning from east of High Island across Sabine Lake to Cameron, La., across the border.

The National Weather Service said warning areas should expect tropical storm conditions increased tides, heavy rains and winds of 40 mph or higher — by tonight.

A hurricane watch was in effect from Cameron east to Pascagoula, Miss.

Officials along Texas' southern coast were expecting high tides caused by Isidore. On South Padre Island, overnight tides drowned an emergency sand wall and sent water rushing onto side streets Tuesday.

"We'll probably have some impact come (today) as Isidore goes north — high tides, high surf and rip currents pretty bad," town Emergency Management Coordinator Clifford Rowell said.

Swells already at 12 feet Tuesday were expected to rise to 14 to 15 feet, pushing huge amounts of water toward the mainland.

The National Weather Service issued flooding alerts from Brownsville about 90 miles north to Baffin Bay, and coastal residents rushed to stock up on supplies.

Meanwhile, Isidore was expected to fan warm winds off the Mexican plateau and over the Valley, bringing a return of hot weather.

Rock the Boat



Photo editor/Sarah McClellan
Kurt South, a member of the Tony Sanchez campaign, plays a guitar and sings to draw people into the Student Center Lounge Tuesday for a voter registration drive organized by the Young Democrats.

The Weather

WEDNESDAY

High: 87; Low: 63; mostly sunny

THURSDAY

High: 90; Low: 60; partly cloudy

FRIDAY

High: 83; Low: 53; partly cloudy

Looking Back

1957 — Under escort from the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, nine black students enter all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Ark.

1897 — William Faulkner is born this day near Oxford, Miss.

1942 — On this day in 1942, British bombers attempt to take out the local headquarters of the German secret state police, the Gestapo, in Norway.

Watch For

In Features Thursday

• Rhett Miller's new album, "The Instigator," tries too hard. And it's too cute.

• Pei Wei Asian Diner offers a higher quality product for fast food in a sit-down atmosphere.

• The title of "Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever" is really only half accurate. While the movie has more than enough bullets, fire and car crashes to justify calling itself "Ballistic," the "Ecks vs. Sever" is a bit of a misnomer.

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THE PULSE

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CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

■ **The TCU London study abroad program for summer 2003** is scheduled to have an informational meeting at 4 p.m. today in Dan Rogers Hall, Room 272. Contact Chuck Williams or Carol Thompson for more information.

■ **The ladies of Delta Sigma Theta** is scheduled to present their annual high school step show from 7:13 to 10:10 p.m. today at Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. The cost is \$5. The show will promote staying in school.

■ **Campus Crusade for Christ** plans to present a Reel Life series at 8 p.m. today in the Pi Phi House. They will watch clips from "10 Things I Hate About You" and discuss how they relate to life, college and God.

■ **The Society of Professional Journalists** will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the Moudy Building South, Room 279. The topic will be "Our Place in the TCU Community." All are welcome to discuss how journalists and the Skiff work at TCU. For more information, call (817) 257-7428.

■ **The Public Relations Student Society of America** is scheduled to meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the Moudy Building South, Room 271.

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.

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More magazine liquor ads read by a young audience

A Georgetown study indicates that magazine ads for liquor are reaching an underage audience more than the adult market.

BY SIOBHAN MCDONOUGH
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America's youth saw far more alcoholic beverage ads in magazines in 2001 than did adults, according to a recent study released Tuesday.

Magazine advertising for beer and alcohol reached youth ages 12 to 20 more effectively in 2001 than it reached adults, according to findings by the Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth at Georgetown University.

Jim O'Hara, the center's executive director, said one of the most important findings was, marketers of beer delivered 45 percent more advertising to youth than to adults in magazines in 2001, and 27 percent more for distilled spirits brands. Wine advertising reached youth 58 percent less.

"You can make your choice to advertise so that it effectively reaches the legal-age population without

overexposing youth to alcohol advertising," O'Hara said.

In Sept. 1999, the Federal Trade Commission issued a report reviewing the alcohol industry's advertising and marketing practices.

The FTC report called on the industry to raise the current standards to reduce underage alcohol ad exposure.

The center has asked the FTC to reopen its inquiry into whether the industry is doing a good job in protecting children from exposure to alcohol advertising.

The center looked at \$320 million worth of alcohol advertising in magazines measured by Mediastream Research Inc. during 2001. The information was compared to other data on how much each magazine was looked at by teenagers or adults.

The Pew Charitable Trusts and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded the research.

Other findings in the report include:

— Marketers of low-alcohol refreshers, such as Smirnoff Ice, delivered 60 percent more advertising to youth than to adults.

— Wine was the second leading alcohol advertising category in magazines.

— Underage youth saw nearly as much advertising as young adults ages 21 to 34. Adults ages 35 and older were a distant third audience.

— The study found that 10 magazines with a youth audience of more than 25 percent accounted for nearly one-third of all alcohol advertising expenditures in measured magazines in 2001. Those magazines include Vibe, Spin, Rolling Stone, Allure, Car and Driver, Maxim, Glamour, Motor Trend, In Style and Sports Illustrated.

— More than half of the money spent on alcohol magazine advertising was in 24 magazines with youth audiences.

"You can make your choice to advertise so that it effectively reaches the legal-age population without overexposing youth...."

— Jim O'Hara

Executive Director

BUSH

From page 1

that would have required Bush to gain additional congressional approval, in three stages over 13 months, as 22 federal agencies are transferred to a new Cabinet-level agency.

Bush told reporters after a Cabinet meeting that "there's still time to get a homeland security bill done, one which will ... give us the tools necessary to protect the homeland."

The idea of the commission gained a boost with last week's reversal by the administration, which had opposed an independent panel but is now endorsing it. The White House objects to some language in the Senate measure, but McCain said a compromise was within reach.

The Senate-created commission's probe would be much broader than a House version limited mainly to post-Sept. 11 intelligence issues. The Senate panel would have authority to look into the roles of law enforcement, commercial aviation, U.S. diplomacy, border control and immigration, in addition to intelligence.

An initial report would be due within six months, with a final report within a year on recommendations to prevent future attacks. The measure authorizes \$3 million to cover the commission's costs.

Opponents of the defeated congressional oversight amendment

said it would unduly delay implementing a homeland security agency urgently needed to protect Americans inside U.S. borders.

"There would be no assurance in the end that anything would be transferred to the new department," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., chief sponsor of the Democratic Homeland Security bill. "It would indefinitely remain a bare-bones department."

Byrd, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and fierce guardian of congressional prerogatives, said Congress will be ceding too much of its oversight power to the president as the department is set up.

"Over the next 13 months, Congress will walk away entirely," Byrd said. As the Senate wrestled with these amendments, negotiations continued behind the scenes to resolve the difficult problem of worker rights within the 170,000-employee Homeland Security Department.

Bush has threatened to veto the Senate Democratic bill because it does not include Bush's demands for greater ability to hire, fire and deploy the workers to meet terrorist threats. Republicans also say the bill would hamper Bush's power to exempt agency workers from union bargaining agreements for reasons of national security.

Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, and Zell Miller, D-Ga., were working to round up votes for their alternative, endorsed by Bush, that makes some

modest concessions to the Democrats on worker rights. Key to the talks were a handful of moderates, including GOP Sen. Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island and Democratic Sens. John Breaux of Louisiana and Ben Nelson of Nebraska.

Bush said he and his staff are "working as hard as we can" to en-

Frito-Lay to switch to corn oil to reduce harmful fat

Frito-Lay's announcement comes three weeks after McDonald's said it would cook french fries in oil with less trans-fat. They are also developing a broccoli-flecked chip.

BY DAVID KOENIG
 Associated Press

PLANO — Frito-Lay is going lite.

Frito-Lay Inc., whose chips are frequently a target for nutritionists, said Tuesday it would eliminate an especially harmful type of fat from its products and offer more reduced-fat snacks.

Fast-food and snack makers have come under increasing pressure to help reverse a trend toward more obesity, especially among American children.

The announcement came three weeks after McDonald's said its fast-food restaurants would cook french fries in oil with less trans-fat.

By early next year, Frito-Lay said it will switch from hydrogenated oils containing trans-fatty acids to corn oil in cooking some of its most popular salty chips such as Doritos, Tostitos and Cheetos.

The company said it also is developing products such as broccoli-flecked chips to appeal to health-conscious consumers.

Abelardo Bru, chief executive of Frito-Lay North America, said Frito-Lay is "working to be part of the solution to the obesity problem." He said sales of healthier snacks are growing 20 percent per year.

Frito-Lay, based in Plano, is a subsidiary of PepsiCo Inc. and accounts for about two-thirds of the Purchase, N.Y.-based parent's profits.

Trans fats are produced through a chemical process in which hydrogen is added to unsaturated fatty acids to create a solid or malleable fat with a longer shelf life. Some research has linked trans fats to a greater risk of heart disease.

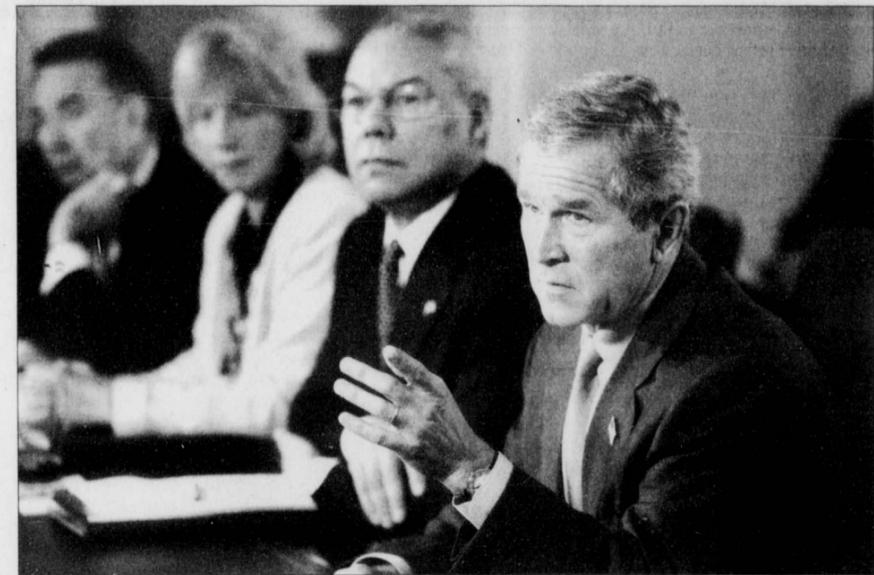
Frito-Lay said it already makes Lay's and Ruffles chips without trans fat.

Frito-Lay has signed up a prominent Dallas health and fitness advocate, Dr. Kenneth Cooper, to help promote its products and advise it on nutrition matters. The company said 10-ounce packages of its reduced-fat Lay's chips will soon feature nutrition tips from Cooper.

Cooper declined to reveal how much Frito-Lay is paying him for consulting and how much it is contributing to his aerobics institute and his syndicated radio show.

said that would also be unacceptable to the president.

Chafee said Monday night that a deal should be struck so that the Senate is not forced to cast a politically partisan vote — possibly a tie broken by Vice President Cheney — on such an important issue.



President George W. Bush, right, talks with reporters as he meets with his cabinet Tuesday. From left are Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, Interior Secretary Gail Norton and Secretary of State Colin Powell. Chuck Kennedy/KRT

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

MONEY

Congress does not need more of it

Congress is planning to give itself a cost-of-living pay raise of \$5,000 this year, despite the dwindling economy and the recession. This would make members' salaries \$155,000; more than three times the median household money income of \$41,994 in 1999, according to the U.S. Census Bureau Web site.

If America's average household can get by on \$41,994, members of Congress can get by on \$150,000.

According to Monday's Fort Worth Star-Telegram, lawmakers cut their pay during the Great Depression and froze it during World War II. Today, however, Congress is not as concerned about the country's economic well-being.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Flower Mound, said in the Star-Telegram he does not oppose the pay raise because "members of the House of Representatives work very hard doing the people's business, getting things done for people and, like everybody else, their families feel a need for a cost-of-living adjustment."

The average household is not getting much of a cost-of-living adjustment right now.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison said in the Star-Telegram she will vote against the pay raise, because she doesn't believe this is the right time or circumstance, and the spokesman for Rep. Ron Paul, R-Surfside Beach, said Paul always votes against pay raises because he thinks Congress spends too much.

The National Taxpayers Union estimated salary growth for domestic private industries in 1990-1999 grew 40 percent, while congressional salaries rose 57 percent.

This is unacceptable in times of economic prosperity, and even more so right now.

The Other View

Opinions from around the country

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Recently, a CIA officer and an FBI agent testified before Congress on how their respective agencies failed repeatedly to pursue two terrorist suspects who would later play major roles in the September 11th attack. However, this was no ordinary testimony. Fearing that their lives would be threatened because of the information they divulged, the two agents spoke about the failures while seated behind a five-foot screen that concealed their identities.

The information revealed was chilling. It showed that two of the most important agencies we rely on to ensure national security are just as tied up in meaningless red tape as the rest of our government.

Moreover, it paints a picture of the extent of complacency that allowed the attacks to take place right under the noses of what are supposed to be the best defense and security agencies in the world.

In January of 2000, Khalid Almi-hdar and Nawaf Alhazmi attended an al Qaeda meeting in Malaysia. They were identified as security threats but were never put on a watch list. Then, in October of the same year, al Qaeda terrorists attacked the USS Cole, and the CIA learned that the organizer of the assault had attended the same meeting as Almi-hdar and Alhazmi in January. Even then, none of the men were placed on a watch list.

According to the agents' testimonies, the CIA told the FBI about the men, but did not disclose any

information about the meeting in Malaysia or why the men were considered dangerous. It was not until late August that the CIA formally "watchlisted" the suspected terrorists, but the FBI would not conduct a search for Almi-hdar because, according to supervisors, they could not "breach the wall separating intelligence matters from criminal investigations."

It was after this rebuff that the testifying FBI agent reportedly sent an e-mail reading in part: "Some-day, someone will die — and wall or not — the public will not understand why we were not more effective and throwing every resource we had at certain problems. Let's hope the National Security Law Unit will stand behind their decisions then, especially because the biggest threat to us now, bin Laden, is getting the most protection."

The fact that these two agents have only recently divulged this information begs the question, what were they waiting for? Why has it taken them more than a year to take them forward? Could it be that their respective agencies traditionally deal very harshly with insiders who speak out against them? Or were they simply unsure of when the right time would be? Either way, one can only hope that it will not take this long to disclose vital information about national security in the future.

This is a staff editorial from The Miami Hurricane at the University of Miami. This editorial was distributed by U-Wire.



Here she is, Miss Mediocre America

Miss America pageant has become so politically correct and boring, it's no longer any fun to watch — not that it ever was.

Since I'm such a fan of beauty pageants, I mean, scholarship programs, I tuned in Saturday evening to watch the annual Miss America pageant. As if the pageant didn't give me plenty of amusement in previous years, I was incredibly entertained with this year's parade of — whatever you want to call them.

In case you missed it, the program has been completely revamped into something that closely resembles a cross between a high school Quiz Bowl competition and a breeding ground for no-talent girls seeking a title that no longer holds any water.

Obviously, ratings have reached an all-time low and producers are desperately seeking something new to spice up the show.

Well, it flopped. For years the program has been fighting the "beauty pageant" image in efforts to project a more politically-correct theme of poise, intellect and talent.

The show started with the announcement of a Top 15 group that competed in formalwear and bathing suits because we all know you can tell a lot about a girl's intellectual capabilities by the bathing suit she chooses.

The group was then narrowed to five ladies who displayed their talent (and I use that term loosely).

So in order to promote the importance of a Miss America with smarts, we got to see more skin and less talent.

And the talent, my God, the talent. Between Miss Alabama singing with a country twang that would embarrass any Southerner to Miss Nevada performing a "dramatic interpretation" of the Matthew Shepard incident, the pool of talent was pretty shallow.

This year, the other contestants were given the opportunity to cast their vote for Miss America. The peer vote was 10 percent of the final score, and it reminded me of class favorite elections in school — nothing more than a popularity contest.

I was pleasantly surprised to see Miss Mississippi make it into the Top 15; but thereafter, it seemed as if the judges were out to name the most facially-challenged as opposed to the girl who would best represent the country in doing whatever Miss Americas do these days.

And the makeup of the Top 5 was so PC, it was sickening.

Just once, I'd like to see a Miss America who isn't a deaf-mute or a girl who's a quarter white, a quarter black, a quarter Asian and a quarter Hispanic. It's become a prerequisite.

If any tactic to do away with the "beauty pageant" label was successful, it was the naming of Miss Illinois as the 2002 Miss America. She's a multi-cultural, marginally-attractive girl who has somewhat of a talent for singing opera (if the ability to sing opera can be considered a talent).

Nonetheless, we're stuck with her for the next year. I suppose we're lucky Miss America fades into the background after her pictures make the front page the day after the pageant.

Suzanne McKay is a columnist for the Daily Mississippian at the University of Mississippi. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

White male's experience not a model for everyone

Students should try to understand other's differences, and attempt to understand what other races are facing. Treating each others as individuals and not stereotypes would promote racial harmony at TCU.

In my last column, I made a statement dealing with racial profiling which I soon came to see was a very uninformed opinion that needed to be addressed. No reader took the opportunity to write me regarding this statement, yet I feel that it is a topic which merits further discussion.

The sentence, in short, stated that racial tensions at TCU are much more relaxed than in other areas of our society. Clearly this is not the first unfounded assumption I have made, but upon seeing the statement myself, I realized what a narrow point of view it represented.

For me, TCU has been a great improvement in terms of racial equality as compared to the area where I grew up. I have come to understand many new cultures and ethnic groups while at TCU, and I have further worked to drop any prejudices which might still linger

in my mind, conscious or unconscious.

I made my biggest mistake by using my experience to generalize that the rest of the student body must find TCU to be just as welcoming in terms of diversity.

As a Caucasian male in the United States, I have rarely been in a group where I was in the numerical minority. I have never experienced a hate crime, been followed around by store clerks because of my race or been questioned by police simply because a suspect for a certain crime was of the same race as myself.

At TCU, we have many students who have had to deal with these problems, and yet there are also many who have not. The difficulty comes when these two groups are unable to understand each other. A person who has never been denied certain rights because of his or her race cannot even begin to understand what that experience is like.

In my own experiences, certain persons occasionally assume me to be slow and un-athletic because, as they say, "white men can't

jump." Yet this is not a persistent problem I have to face, and it rarely bothers me. However, to have strangers constantly asking, "what sport do you play?" simply because of one's race could easily grow old. Students might make this statement as an innocent attempt at making conversation, yet to the person to whom you are speaking, it can easily be construed as an implication that this person would not be at TCU were it not for sports.

If each of us would simply view our fellow student as an individual, and learn about his or her differences by communication, rather

"A person who has never been denied certain rights because of his or her race cannot even begin to understand what that experience is like."

than by assumptions, we come closer to reaching a higher level of racial harmony. Few of us can truly understand "where you came from," or "where you've been,"

but what we can do is work together as TCU students to promote an environment of racial equality.

Call this an overly idealistic view if you like, but we've got to have some goal to work toward or else we'll never get anywhere.

Jeff Dennis is a senior sociology major from Gail. He can be reached at (j.a.dennis@tcu.edu).

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A liberal arts education has the power to be liberating if appreciated fully. A gigantic step that TCU needs to take is greater support of the arts.

We have incredible talent all around us, and we need to make the time to see a play, enjoy a dance performance, see the art displays in the Moody Building North and listen to the TCU symphony.

We could all learn from TCU's most artistically talented. These individuals have discipline for the hours of hard work and energy they exert. Our Ballet Department is one of the top in the country. Many of the students majoring in dance, theater, art and musical performance spend many

hours in class — sometimes between 18 and 20 hours a week.

These students rigorously apply themselves in school by researching the history of their craft and relating it to their own experience. The professors who teach the arts are very demanding and honest, creating pressure to strive for perfection. Many of our students in the arts are double majors.

It is our musicians, artists, dancers and actors that teach us to think about life. TCU reminds us of the importance of diversity. Our students who major in the arts bring us diversity literally and metaphorically. They bring us diversity of thought and expression.

Through plays, dance performances, musical performances and art, we as a community have the opportunity to see the world

through different eyes. The true beauty in diversity is not difference, but appreciation of individuality.

The arts are an important part of a well-rounded human being. But our actions do not match our values. The next time you are wondering what to do one Thursday or Friday night, go to a TCU play or dance performance. Let your mind wander into the bliss of true intellectualism, and who knows — you might just walk away changed.

And perhaps all the student performers who dedicate their time and energy to the arts might be impacted by one more filled seat.

We're always striving to fill the stadium on game day — let's also try to pack Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium come performance day.

Chelsea Hudson is a senior political science major from Plano. She can be reached at c.n.hudson@tcu.edu.

COMMENTARY



Jeff Dennis

COMMENTARY



Chelsea Hudson

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

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National/International Roundup

Gunmen open fire, kill 23, wound 40 at Hindu temple

GANDHINAGAR, India (AP) — Gunmen stormed a popular Hindu temple and opened fire, killing 23 worshippers and wounding 40 on Tuesday in a western Indian state where hundreds were killed in religious rioting this year, authorities said.

Deputy Prime Minister Lal K. Advani, speaking to reporters in New Delhi, described the shooting as a suicide mission.

He said 23 people were dead including six women and four children, and 500 people were evacuated.

Officials were unsure of exactly what was going on inside much of the main Swaminarayan temple, part of an ornate sandstone complex that is enormously popular among Hindus, with thousands of worshippers arriving every day.

"Our first priority is to see that the people who were worshipping inside are brought out safely," Junior Interior Minister I.D. Swamy told Zee News television. "We cannot fire indiscriminately like the terrorists. No one should be hurt in the cross fire, that is very important."

Earlier this year, Gujarat was the scene of religious rioting after a Muslim mob set fire to a train carrying Hindu activists. That attack in February set off a wave of reprisal killings and rioting in which Muslims were the main victims. About 1,000 people were killed, according to government estimates.

Thousands left homeless after Isidore goes out to sea

MERIDA, Mexico (AP) — Tropical Storm Isidore moved over open waters Tuesday and headed toward the U.S. Gulf coast after battering Mexico's Yucatan peninsula with heavy rains and high winds, killing two people and leaving another

300,000 homeless.

AT 11 a.m. EDT, Isidore was 80 miles northwest of Merida on Tuesday with winds of 60 mph.

Hurricane Isidore pounded the Yucatan's ecological reserves and ruins, including the Mayan city of Chichen Itza, late Sunday before being downgraded to a tropical storm. It was unclear what damage the popular tourist spots suffered, as downed power and telephone lines cut off communication to much of the region.

Troops sent to ensure safety of trapped school children

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — The United States dispatched troops to safeguard 100 American schoolchildren trapped in a cut-off, rebel-held Ivory Coast city, a U.S. official said Tuesday after heavy gunfire sounded overnight there as the West African nation's army claimed to have entered the city.

"At the request of the U.S. ambassador to the Ivory Coast, the U.S. European Command is moving forces to assure the safety of American citizens," Lt. Cmdr. Don Sewell, a Pentagon spokesman, said in Washington.

Sewell declined to give further details on any planned operation, including saying whether the evacuation was imminent. He said only that the forces were ready "for any and all contingencies."

Fewer than 200 troops were on their way to the West African nation, ready to help move the children to safety elsewhere in insurrection-torn Ivory Coast, two U.S. defense officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Man pleads guilty to video voyeurism, may face prison

LAKE CHARLES, La. (AP) —

A man who admitted to secretly videotaping women in a restroom at McNeese State University faces up to five years in prison after pleading guilty to video voyeurism.

Derrick T. Charlton, 29, of Beaumont will be sentenced Nov. 20, state District Judge Mike Canaday said Monday. Charlton also could be fined up to \$10,000.

Charlton was arrested by university police on Jan. 10, 2001, after running out of Farrar Hall, where the taping took place, said prosecutor Sharon Darville Wilson.

Wilson said Charlton followed at least two women into a restroom and extended his camera over a stall wall.

Man gets pot instead of biscuits in KFC drive-thru

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — An employee at a fast food place was arrested after a customer at the drive-in window received the wrong side order with his chicken dinner — some pot.

The customer who visited a KFC in this San Francisco suburb Friday got two bags of marijuana, instead of the extra biscuits he had ordered. He gave the pot back to the worker, got his biscuits and called police.

Police arrested Carlos Ayala, 26, at the restaurant. The sheriff's office and the restaurant's management company did not immediately return calls Tuesday seeking further detail.

Deputies said Ayala was carrying a small amount of marijuana, a handgun and about \$500.

Ayala often worked the drive-up window, and authorities say he may have been selling marijuana to customers who used the right secret word as a code.

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'Women Journalists at Ground Zero' details experiences well

An assistant professor is co-author of a new book with interviews of 24 female journalists who covered the Sept. 11 attacks from Ground Zero.

BY CHRISTINA HAGER
Skiff Staff

While most Americans were able to gather with friends, family or co-workers the morning of Sept. 11 and watch the coverage of the attacks on television, journalists were in a unique position. Denied the time to grieve, they darted around their respective cities gathering information about the tragedy.

Even more remarkable are the stories of those journalists who braved the smoke, the danger and, in some cases, the police at Ground Zero. In the book "Women Journalists at Ground Zero," written by Suzanne Huffman, an associate professor of journalism at TCU, and Judith Sylvester, a Huie-Dellmon professor for the Media Leaders Forum at the Manship School of Mass Communication at Louisiana State University, 24 women journalists share their stories about the events that unfolded before them that morning.

The journalists' jobs ranged from working for radio stations, to the *New York Times*, to CNN. However, these journalists, despite where they were in the country, all responded to the tragedy with courage, determination and an unprecedented dedication to their responsibilities as journalists, the book says.

Susan Harrigan, a *Newsday* business reporter, lived only a mile north

of the site of the World Trade Center. When she learned about the attack she immediately called her editors and headed down to the site.

"I figured I was the closest reporter they had," she said in the book. "I had a duty to go."

The only thing Harrigan had with her was a reporter's notebook and two ballpoint pens. But she, like many other journalists, spent the rest of the day determined to get the story.

Huffman said that one of the intentions of this book is to show what it was like to work under these kinds of circumstances, because "with all the technology we have, (that day) the technology failed. They had to work in unprecedented situations to give the general public an idea of what was going on."

While it was an emotional day for all, Rose Arce, a CNN producer and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, was able to focus on her job. She said she remembered having an overwhelming feeling of, "Oh, this is what I do for a living. You do what you do every day, but sometimes you lose touch with what the value of it is or why it is you do it. All I could keep thinking was, 'My God, all these people are listening to me on television, and I'm the only news they have.'"

These reporters, through all of their hard work, still had to face the

emotion and trauma behind the events of the day.

For Miriam Falco, a reporter for CNN, the reality of what happened would hit her late at night.

"Then the tears would well up. I tried not to cry in public. I cried when I was alone. It just erupted sometimes," Falco said in the book. "The families touched me. I lost my camera before I left New York, but I'll never lose those images."

This book does an excellent job of telling their stories and what they were feeling minute by minute, both in professional mode, as well as emotionally.

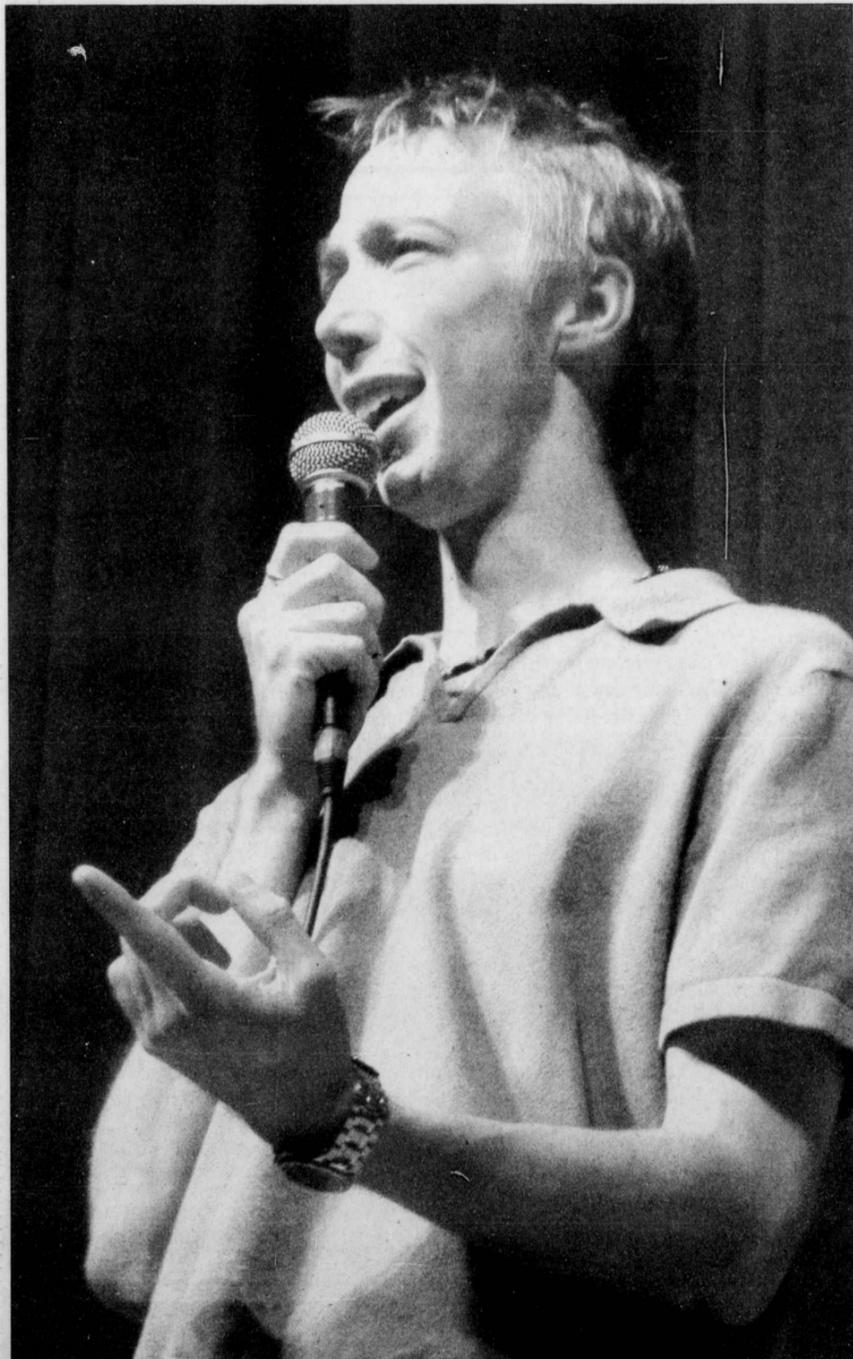
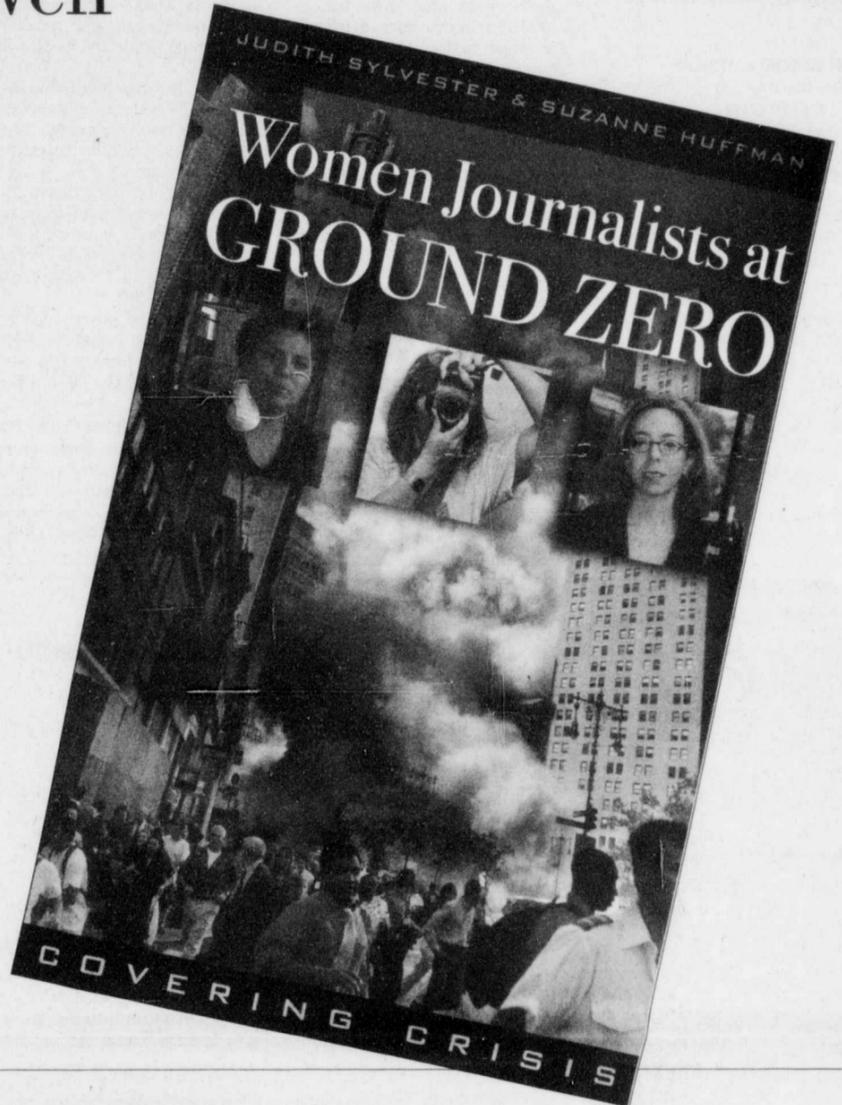
These women are being recognized not for their jobs as women journalists, but for their jobs as journalists, Huffman said. The authors of the book said they did not seek out a woman's perspective. However, both noticed how many women were covering the story. In the past, there were

never this many women journalists involved in a story of this proportion.

Huffman wants readers to see the hard work and everything these women achieved during this time, not as women, but as the steadfast journalists they are.

"A journalist is a journalist. A president is a president," she said. "What we aim to do (with this book) is to show that what they did was a good job."

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Senior history major Matthew Crain performs a stand-up comedy routine and was the MC at the Family Weekend Variety Show. Photo Editor/Sarah McClellan

Student comedian showcased at Family Weekend's Variety show

An up-and-coming stand-up comedian, Matthew Crain already has plenty of experience under his belt.

BY JOEL PETERSEN
Skiff Staff

TCU is home to many students with different talents. There are cheerleaders, badminton players, athletes, Gregorian chanters and now a stand-up comedian.

Matthew Crain, a senior history major from Dallas, is a standup comedian on a mission that began when he started standup at age 18.

"It was always something that I wanted to do, and I got the chance my freshman year of college," Crain said. "It was Open Mic Night at The Club (a Dallas comedy club), and I gave it my best shot. Amazingly enough, I got a really good reaction from the crowds when I tried it that first night."

He performs at an intoxicating rate of 50-60 shows a year and gains experience in the process, Crain said.

"The more experience I get, the less nervous I am when I perform," he said.

Crain performs every Friday at the Back Door, a comedy club in Dallas. His show, which lasts around seven to 10 minutes, is short compared to famous comedians.

"If things aren't going well, then

I try to get off the stage as quickly as possible," he said.

Crain has worked on his act by attending classes at the Improv, a comedy club in Dallas. His act has caught the attention of some impressive names in the talent business.

He made it to the quarterfinals in Ed McMahon's "Next Big Star," a talent show similar to "Star Search." He also placed second in the TCU talent show last year and won first place at a high school competition.

Crain said he usually gets a good reaction from the crowd. Every now and then, he said, people do try to impound his car if he isn't funny.

Recently Crain was featured on KERA, Channel 13, the local PBS affiliate.

"KERA was doing a piece on standup comics," said Crain, the only student featured in the piece. "I was lucky enough to be a part of the piece. Some people saw me in the supermarket, and they said they saw me on the news. It was great to hear that they liked my piece."

Crain writes his own material. He said he tries to "stay away from topics that other comics usually talk about."

"I try to tell people what it's like to be me," he said. "I want them to see life from my perspective."

Crain starts out his act with self-

deprecating jokes, then proceeds to talk about his ex-girlfriend and finishes up his act with what he calls "clever observations."

But above all else, Crain recommends never to steal his jokes because the last person who did now has a broken leg.

"Stealing someone's joke is the cardinal sin in standup comedy," he said. "If I realize I have done that, I'll never tell that joke again, and I'll apologize to the comic."

Crain said he loves the humor of Bill Cosby, along with New Englanders Dennis Miller, Denis Leary and Jon Stewart. He also enjoys the humor in his favorite TV show, "The Simpsons."

"There was so much they (can) get away with being cartoons," he said.

He also enjoys the comedy found in "Scrubs," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" and "The Late Show with David Letterman."

Crain said he hopes his fellow Horned Frogs will come out to one of his shows.

"I think they will like it," he said. "It's clean, and it's fun, and you'll go home with a smile on your face."

Joel Petersen
j.m.petersen3@tcu.edu

"I try to tell people what it's like to be me. I want them to see life from my perspective."

— Matthew Crain
Senior history major

U.S. poverty rate increases for first time in eight years; Bush still optimistic

As the U.S. economy slips into recession and the unemployment rate rises, the number of Americans living in poverty is increasing. In spite of this, President Bush still remains optimistic about the economy.

BY GENARO C. ARMAS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. poverty rate rose for the first time in eight years and household income fell last year, a double dose of bad economic news that coincided with the first recession in a decade, the Census Bureau said Tuesday.

There were 32.9 million Americans living in poverty last year, up from 31.6 million in 2000. The rate of 11.7 percent was up from 11.3 percent the previous year, which was the lowest level since 1974.

The median household income in 2001 declined 2.2 percent to \$42,228, the second straight drop, according to the bureau.

Analysts had predicted that the poverty rate would rise in 2001, as unemployment rose and the economy slipped into recession.

The figures come from a survey of 78,000 households taken in March. Daniel Weinberg, chief of the Census Bureau's economic statistics division, said every region saw a decline in median household income except the Northeast, where it was flat.

Median income refers to the point at which half of households earn more and half earn less.

President Bush, addressing the overall economy, said after a Cabinet meeting Tuesday that he remains optimistic it will improve.

"I'm optimistic about America in general. I mean, the American people are resilient. They're strong. We got the best workers in the world. Inflation's down. Interest rates are low. And so when you combine the productivity of the American people with low interest rates and low inflation, those are the ingredients for growth."

"...when you combine the productivity of the American people with low interest rates and low inflation, those are the ingredients for growth," Bush said. "... But I understand we got a lot of work to do. And we will. We will

continue to work hard to make sure that people can find work."

The poverty threshold differs by the size of the household. The bureau calculated that for a family of four, the level in 2001 was \$18,104, up from \$17,603.

The poverty rate rose for every racial group, while the median income fell.

Blacks had the highest poverty rate — 22.7 percent, up from 22.5 percent — and income fell from \$30,495 to \$29,470, the largest decline in 19 years.

For Caucasians, the poverty rate increased from 7.4 percent to 7.8 percent, while income fell 1.3 percent, to \$46,305.

The poverty rate for Asian-Pacific Islanders rose from 9.9 to 10.2 percent to \$53,635.

Hispanics, which the Census Bureau classifies as an ethnic group rather than a racial category, had a slight decline in poverty — 21.5 percent to 21.4 percent — but income also fell, from \$34,094 to \$33,565.

— President George Bush

Smart identification card program to be tested with several airports' personnel

The government plans to issue enhanced ID cards to transportation workers in a program that may be expanded to "registered travelers." Consumer advocates say allowing billions of passengers to participate could leave the door open for terrorists.

BY LESLIE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The federal government is ready to begin a prototype identification program for transportation workers that also could allow air travelers to pass through security checks quickly.

Transportation Security Administration Chief James Loy said Tuesday that the program would issue identification cards to workers in ports and airports. Loy said the pilot project will begin at Los Angeles International Airport, Philadelphia International Airport and the ports of Long Beach, Calif., and Wilmington, Del.

"We want to establish those prototypes almost immediately," Loy said. Loy said the ID card technology would form the basis for what he

calls a "registered traveler program."

He recently told the Senate Commerce and Transportation Committee that people who register for the program would have to submit to detailed background checks.

"We will know more about them from a security standpoint than anonymous passengers who present themselves to our screeners at the airport," he said.

The program would ease congestion at security checkpoints and reduce security hassles for registered travelers, he said.

"This is great news for passengers," said David Stempler, president of the Air Travelers Association, a passenger advocacy group. "Anything that will speed passengers through airport processing is something that's going to get airline passengers back on the planes again."

But Paul Hudson, executive director of the advocacy group Aviation Consumer Action Project, said Mohammed Atta, the ringleader of the Sept. 11 hijackers, could have become a registered traveler. So could Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber, and Theodore

Kaczynski, the Unabomber.

Hudson said he supports identification cards for transportation workers, who number in the hundreds of thousands, but not travelers, who number in the billions.

"There's really no way to prevent smart terrorists from getting these smart cards if it's opened up to the public," Hudson said. "Identity theft and false IDs are a way of life for almost all smart terrorists and criminals."

Robert Johnson, TSA spokesman, said the ID cards would be used in conjunction with an improved passenger screening system that would flag suspicious people before they get on a plane. The current system, called CAPPS for Computer Assisted Passenger Prescreening System, collects information about passengers' travel history from the airlines.

The program can't get under way until Congress gives the TSA the go-ahead, Johnson said. The Senate Appropriations Committee has held up the program because of concerns that the TSA might choose a technology for the card that's inefficient or too expensive, he said.

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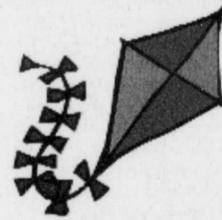
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Good Luck to the 2002 Calling All Frogs team!

The TCU Phonathon is a fund-raising effort to support your university. This year's calling team will raise over \$630,000 for the Annual Fund, which is a budget supporting effort directly impacting student scholarships and financial aid. Let's wish this year's Calling All Frogs team GOOD LUCK!

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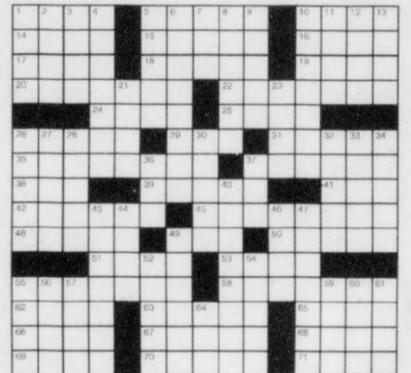
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- ACROSS
- Tibetan monk
 - Trains to box
 - Oppose
 - Former wives
 - Test
 - Fencer's foil
 - ...it the truth?
 - Eagle's nest
 - Legal claim
 - Multiple nouns
 - Takes away
 - Carrier's partner
 - Scraped (by)
 - Digging tool
 - G.A. Nasser's short-lived nation
 - Narrow strips of land
 - Party workers
 - Make certain
 - Formerly
 - Turn back
 - Emulate
 - Muhammad Ali
 - Bank, at times
 - Cherish as sacred
 - Joyless, poetically
 - Picnic pest
 - Jots
 - Shopping complex
 - Division word
 - City near Bath, England
 - More flavorful
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 - Graven image
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09/25/02

Tuesday's Solutions

- DOWN
- Frog head?
 - Angle of a leafstalk
 - List of options
 - Mounted upon
 - Passé
 - Stress
 - Put on TV
 - Corporate shark
 - Smooth and silky
 - 10 Bamboozles
 - Legendary
 - Yard divisions
 - Cravings
 - State firmly
 - Lairs
 - Use boiling water
 - Beeper
 - Make amends
 - Quaking tree
 - Noah's ark measurement
 - Swedish bread?
 - Male and female
 - Behave humanly?
 - Capp and Capore
 - Named
 - Maidens
 - OED part
 - Successful punches
 - Fans
 - Claim
 - Navigational device
 - Designates
 - Manchester man
 - Take the bus
 - PC symbol
 - Conception
 - Means justifiers?
 - Impulsive
 - Exist

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Rubinson emerging as one of nation's best amateur golfers as team heads into season



Adam Rubinson has emerged as one of the best amateur golfers in the country. He is poised to become the No. 1 player in college golf.

BY JAY ZUCKERMAN
Skiff Staff

Most people would think that the son of an Olympic soccer player who coached at the Division I level for 22 years would follow in his father's athletic footsteps.

They have not met Adam Rubinson, a senior golfer at TCU, who choose golf over soccer as a youth because he would rather walk out to the golf clubs than run after the soccer ball.

Adam is the son of David Rubinson, TCU's men's soccer coach since 1981 and women's soccer coach since 1986. He grew up just several miles from the main campus and attended nearby Paschal High School, where he was coached by former TCU basketball player Herb Stephens.

Adam Rubinson received numerous athletic honors at Paschal. He was voted Team MVP in his last three years and received all-state honors his senior season. He did not, however, receive an athletic scholarship offer from the Frogs.

Despite scholarship offers from Stanford and Oklahoma, Adam Rubinson instead chose to walk-on to the TCU golf squad. He grew up around the Frog athletic program and said he loved what TCU had to offer.

Adam Rubinson received an unexpected opportunity from head coach Bill Montigel to start as a true freshman. He averaged a score of 75.50 a round and was TCU's top performer in two events.

"We did not have a very good team, so Adam got to start his freshman year," Montigel said. "He played pretty well at first."

Adam Rubinson requested to be redshirted his next season, recognizing the need to improve his game. He toiled on the links with a strong determination to develop his game further.

"Adam was one of the most committed guys I've ever seen," Montigel said. "He took his swing and started over with it."

Adam Rubinson returned to action for the 2000-2001 season, receiving first team all-Western Athletic Conference honors. He shaved more than two strokes off his average, finishing the season with a 73.21 strokes a round average.

By the end of the 2001-2002 year, Adam Rubinson emerged on to the national scene. He started the season with nine of his first 10 rounds under par. He received All-American and All-Conference USA honors. The season culminated with a second-place finish in the NCAA Championships, just one stroke from first place.

"I just progressed mentally and physically and got a little bit better each year," Adam Rubinson said.

With two freshmen and a transfer

his wing and kind of told them what college golf was going to be all about," Montigel said. "He's been a real leader and guided them in the right direction."

Adam Rubinson has started his final season ablaze by finishing second place in the Sooner Invitational. He has been ranked as high as No. 6 in the *Golfweek*-Titleist Men's individual amateur rankings. He plans to turn professional after the golf season is finished.

Montigel has high expectations for his star golfer.

"I fully expect Adam to be a first team All-American and it wouldn't surprise me if he is college player of the year," Montigel said.

Adam Rubinson is more than just a golfer; he is also a member of the Captain's Table, an organization which listens to the needs and concerns of fellow athletes.

"He's one of the most caring and nicest guys around," Montigel said. "When he leaves here, it is going to be really hard on our program to replace him."

Jay Zuckerman
m.j.zuckerman@tcu.edu

Most recent tournament finishes of Adam Rubinson

Sooner Invitational	Tied — Second: 70-65-7
	1 = 206 (-10)
The Ridges Intercollegiate	Tied — 13th: 77-72-70 = 219 (+3)
NCAA Championships (last spring)	Second: 69-67-72-69 = 277 (-7)

sophomore starting on this year's squad, Adam Rubinson has assumed a leadership role.

"From the very first day, he's kind of taken all of the new guys under

C-USA roundup

Football

C-USA games All games

Team	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	Hm.	Rd.	Ntrl.	Strk.
Southern Miss	1	0	1.000	3	1	.750	3-0	0-1	0-0	L1
Louisville	1	0	1.000	2	2	.500	0-1	2-1	0-0	W1
Cincinnati	1	0	1.000	1	2	.333	1-2	0-0	0-0	L2
East Carolina	1	0	1.000	1	2	.333	1-0	0-2	0-0	W1
Memphis	1	1	.500	2	2	.500	2-0	0-2	0-0	W1
Tulane	1	2	.333	2	2	.500	1-0	1-2	0-0	L2
UAB	0	0	.000	1	3	.250	1-1	0-2	0-0	L2
TCU	0	1	.000	3	1	.750	2-0	1-1	0-0	W3
Houston	0	1	.000	2	2	.500	1-1	1-1	0-0	L1
Army	0	1	.000	0	3	.000	0-2	0-1	0-0	L3

Last Week's Results

at Army 14
Louisville 45

Tulane 10
at Memphis 38

at Cincinnati 19
Ohio State 23

Southern Miss 7
at Alabama 20

North Texas 10
at TCU 16

UAB 0
at Louisiana-Lafayette 34

Houston 11
at Texas 41

Last week's players of the week

Offense — Memphis running back DeAngelo Williams carried the ball 18 times for 166 yards, including an 86-yard touchdown in the Tigers 38-10 victory over Tulane. The true freshman has ran for at least 100 yards in three of his four collegiate games.

Defense — Cincinnati cornerback Blue Adams had six tackles and two interceptions in the Bearcats 23-19 loss to No. 6 Ohio State. Adams now has nine interceptions in 34 games, and seven in his seven career starts.

Special Teams — Louisville punt returner Damien Dorsey set a school record and NCAA season-high with 159 punt return yards in the Cardinals 45-14 victory over Army. His 81-yard return for a touchdown was the 10th longest punt return in Louisville history.



(Above) TCU golfer Adam Rubinson admires a shot at a recent tournament. (Below) Rubinson eyes a chip shot inches from the hole. Rubinson, a fifth-year senior, is the leader of a Frog golf team consisting of one junior, two sophomores and two freshmen. Last spring, Rubinson came in second in the NCAA Championships, finishing one shot out of first place. The Frogs as a team finished 11th.

Rushing record in Smith's sights

Emmitt Smith's former teammates and coach talk about when he'll break Walter Payton's all-time rushing mark and the Cowboys' current struggles.

BY JAIME ARON
Associated Press

IRVING — Michael Irvin believes good friend Emmitt Smith will need just five more games to gain 362 yards and become the NFL's career rushing leader.

"God knows I hope so," said Irvin, who won three Super Bowls in the 1990s playing with Smith and Troy Aikman on the Dallas Cowboys.

"Believe me, he's frustrated. He'll joke about it and say, 'Y'all left me out here like this.' But it's hard to see him that frustrated."

Irvin, Aikman, Daryl Johnston and Jimmy Johnson — all of whom now work for Fox Sports — took part in a conference call with reporters Tuesday to discuss Smith and his pursuit of Walter Payton's rushing record of 16,726 yards.

Smith began this season, his 13th, only 540 yards away. Through three games he has 178, an average of less than 60 a game.

At that rate, it would take him until the 10th game, Nov. 17 at Indianapolis.

But his chase could get a boost because the three games prior to the Indianapolis game are against poor run defenses: at Arizona on Oct. 20, at home against Seattle on Oct. 27 and at Detroit on Nov. 3.

The Seahawks game, the eighth of the season, was Irvin's pick.

"You never can tell for sure when he's going to have a break-out game," Aikman said. "But I guess it looks like the eighth, ninth or 10th game."

Much was made on the call about Smith no longer being surrounded by the caliber of teammates he once had. Johnston specifically noted problems with Smith's blockers, who are trying to learn new blocking schemes, but have hardly practiced as a unit because of injuries.

"I think right now the big question is not when he's going to have the opportunity to break the record, but when the offensive line is going to get healthy and play together," Johnston said.

Johnson also hit on the collaborative effort theme.

"A lot of great players can put up numbers and stats, but in order to have numbers plus winning, you need to have the entire group," he said.

Aikman said he's never paid much attention to records because numbers can be hollow.

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