

Looking for a win

The Lady Frogs will try to get their first Conference USA victory of the season tonight against East Carolina.

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Volunteering is time well spent. Page 3

Driving an SUV does not mean you support terrorists, despised what a recent ad campaign suggests. Page 3

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Friday, January 24, 2003

IronMail trial seeks to eliminate spam

BY SARAH CHACKO
Staff Reporter

University officials say if the new pilot project to eliminate unwanted e-mails is successful by the end of its 30-day trial period, TCU's e-mail system will be set to automatically block spam.

Assistant Provost for Information Services David Edmondson said the new IronMail program from CipherTrust, a com-

pany that specializes in identifying and eliminating spam, began its trial Jan. 10 and will be completed by mid-February.

"The pilot project is to help students recognize what will eventually be blocked spam."

— David Edmondson

assistant provost for Information Services

According to the initial proposal by Information Services, the current e-mail system processes an average of 91,000 messages a day for students, faculty and staff. Many studies estimate spam to account for up to 50 percent of all e-mail

traffic, according to the proposal.

Edmondson said the 40 percent to 60 percent of spam that constantly weighs down the system is limiting TCU's computing resources. TCU needs to conserve its money and resources to provide access and security to the TCU community, and the elimination of spam may help that, he said.

Edmondson said a basic set of anti-spam rules has been programmed into the system that assigns a kind of value to certain tagged words. If an e-mail's value goes above a certain limit, the e-mail is labeled spam, he said.

"The list of words we flag is dynamically changing," Edmondson said. "We're constantly adding and subtracting words."

IronMail has the options of letting all mail in, tagging the mail with the "Possible Spam" label or blocking spam entirely, according to the proposal.

"The pilot project is to help students recognize what will eventually be blocked spam," Edmondson said.

However, Loni Reynolds, a senior Spanish major, said the new

(More on SPAM, page 2)

Man confesses to firing on U.S. civilians

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY — A Kuwaiti civil servant confessed to opening fire on two Americans in Kuwait, killing one and wounding the other, and authorities have found the weapon he used, the Interior Ministry said Thursday.

A Kuwaiti security officer said the suspect, Sami al-Mutairi, 25, was not working alone. And the Interior Ministry, in its statement, said he acknowledged following the ideals of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terror network.

Al-Mutairi was arrested at the border with Saudi Arabia as he tried to flee and was extradited to Kuwait, the ministry said. His weapon and some ammunition was found at his workplace, according to the statement. It did not say where he worked.

The ministry statement said al-Mutairi became a suspect "in

"The war on terrorism just got a little personal today, that's all."

— David Caraway
shooting survivor

the first hours after the crime was committed."

The security officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said al-Mutairi was arrested by Saudi border guards Wednesday. The official said he was a Kuwaiti civil servant and the prime suspect, but that he "had partners, maybe two."

The official Saudi Press Agency had said border guards arrested the suspect early Wednesday and "the initial investigation revealed that he was the assailant who fired on the American citizens."

Earlier Thursday, U.S. Embassy spokesman John Moran said the United States hoped investigators would quickly determine whether the assailants "have ties to any larger organization. We call on the government to do everything in its power to protect our citizens from terrorist attack and to prevent any further tragedies."

The shooting was the first assault on U.S. civilians in Kuwait and the third on Americans since October in the oil-rich emirate, where pro-American sentiment

(More on CONFESSES, page 2)



Ty Halasz/Photo editor

Education exchange

Participation in program offers students, faculty cultural opportunities

BY LAUREN HANVEY
Staff Reporter

When Tine Kofoed and Trine Boding performed "The Itsy Bitsy Spider," they played to a captive audience.

Toddlers at the Rise School watched with fascination as Kofoed and Boding crouched in front of them and turned their grown-up hands into imaginary spiders.

Kofoed and Boding are students from Denmark who came to work with the School of Education as part of an exchange program through the European Teacher Education Network.

TCU joined the network in fall 2001 to extend international opportunities for students and faculty, said Samuel Deitz, dean of the School of Education. He said part of TCU's mission is to foster a global community and that being a part of the network helps achieve that.

"I think students come back much more thoughtful about how education works and what it takes to educate a student," he said.

The network began in Europe about 14 years ago as a way for education students and faculty to better understand different languages and cultures by studying abroad, said Jay Thompson, treasurer of the network and a professor at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. TCU is one of four American universities to have membership in the network, Thompson said.

Since joining the network, TCU has sent one student

and one teacher abroad and received three students from Denmark, said C. Dale Young, career planning and placement director. TCU has also hosted one teacher from Holland, he said.

Juliana Heflin, a senior education major, studied in Denmark last semester as a part of an exchange program.

"It was an amazing adventure to go around on my own and to conquer the unknown and explore new places," Heflin said.

Ranae Stetson, an associate professor of education, said she traveled to Holland to teach other educators how to use technology with young children.

"It's an awesome experience ... a wonderful professional growth opportunity," Stetson said.

(More on TEACHER, page 2)

"Both students and faculty have developed greater cultural understandings and appreciation resulting from the friendships that have been created."

— Jay Thompson

European Teacher Education Network treasurer



Photo editor/Ty Halasz

(Top) Exchange students Trine Boding and Tine Kofoed do "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" with children at TCU's Rise School. (Above) Boding embraces a Rise School toddler.

Taking shape



Ty Halasz/Photo editor

The Steve and Sarah Smith Entrepreneurial Hall takes shape with less than three months until its dedication in April.

De facto segregation rising in public schools

Court rulings caused diversity to wane, study says

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — As minority populations in America's public schools continue to climb, schools across the country are becoming increasingly segregated, according to a report released on Thursday by Harvard University's Civil Rights Project.

According to the report released to coincide with Martin Luther King Jr. Day, 44 percent of high schools have almost entirely black student populations, and only 14 percent of white students attend schools with significant minority numbers.

The authors said this "resegregation" is a grave threat to the nation's school systems at a time when 40 percent of all public school students are minorities. In highly multiracial areas such as the South and the West, that percentage increases to nearly half of all students.

"Public school enrollment in the year 2000 was more non-white than it has ever been, and black students are more segregated than they have been in the past 30 years," said Erica Frankenberg, one of the study's authors.

The study found that desegregation reached its peak in the late 1980s and has since rapidly retreated.

Currently, one-sixth of the country's black students are educated in

schools that are almost completely non-white. In the Northeast and Midwest, the proportion rises to one-fourth of all black students. These schools, which the report calls "apartheid schools," often suffer from poverty, limited resources and a variety of social and health problems.

"What students need to realize is that they are living through a period like the end of the Reconstruction when rights of minorities in the country are being interpreted away by our courts," Harvard Professor

of Education and Social Policy Gary A. Orfield wrote in an e-mail, "and in which the country is moving toward greater inequality and more reinforcement of social and economic privilege."

Orfield and the report's other authors blame the problem chiefly on three Supreme Court decisions in the early 1990s that lowered the standards for what is necessary to be considered a desegregated school. Since that time, lower courts have found that school districts throughout the nation have met the new standard.

When desegregation laws were passed in the 1960s, school districts were forced to bus children from one part of the district to another to maintain a satisfactory level of integration in each school. The high court rulings in the early '90s mean that schools no longer need to bus children.

Although busing was met with fierce opposition in some cities, Frankenberg said that on the whole

(More on SCHOOLS, page 2)

"The white neighborhood was taken away from the school, so the black population got bigger."

— Erica Frankenberg
study's author

THE PULSE

www.skiff.tcu.edu

CampusLines

Your bulletin board
for campus events

• **The William L. Adams Center for Writing and the Intensive English Program** will host an open house from 3 to 5 p.m. today on the second floor of the University Recreation Center. For more information, contact Bob Vann at (817) 257-7221.

• **The Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization** will have an informational meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday in Dan Rogers Hall, Room 234. Mr. Minor will be the guest speaker. Everyone is welcome to come. For more information, contact Jason Ruth.

• **University Recreation Center tours** will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (817) 257-7529.

• **May 2003 Degree Candidates** should file their Intent to Graduate forms in the office of their academic dean. Each dean's office has a deadline for filing and requires time to process the intent. All degree candidate names must be submitted to the Registrar by Feb. 14. For more information, check the graduation Web site.

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be placed in 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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Journalism Department Chairman Tommy Thomson

TEACHER

From page 1

Kofoed and Boding said they are studying to be social educators in Denmark and want to work with Down syndrome children. The biggest difference they noted between education for children with Down syndrome in Denmark and the United States is that school for the children does not begin until they are 7 years old in Denmark but starts at 18 months here, Boding said.

She said she hopes to gain many new ideas from working with the Rise School and that she wants to offer some ideas to the teachers here too.

Young said four students are scheduled to go to Denmark in April to student teach.

Kelly Moreland, a senior early childhood education major, said she doesn't know much about what her teaching experience will be like, so she is preparing for this trip by student teaching in Fort Worth.

"Since this will be the first group to ever go to Denmark to student teach, I am sure there are going to be a few little glitches here and there," Moreland said. "Just being in the classroom all day with the same group of children is helping me feel more comfortable in the teaching position and giving me the confidence that I need to go to a foreign country."

This February, five education faculty members will travel to The

Netherlands to share their teaching techniques at an annual network meeting, Young said. Deitz said he hopes to increase student exchanges as a result of the meeting.

Thompson said belonging to the network will offer TCU an opportunity that will have a dramatic impact on students and faculty.

"(The network) has opened up Europe for students and faculty members for exchanges, research and collaboration that is essential in the world we live in today," Thompson said. "Both students and faculty have developed greater cultural understandings and appreciation resulting from the friendships that have been created."

Lauren Hanvey
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CONFESSES

From page 1

is usually strong and where thousands of U.S. troops are assembling ahead of a possible war on Iraq.

In Tuesday's attack, a gunman hiding behind a hedge ambushed the sport utility vehicle carrying two civilian contractors working for the U.S. military. The attack took place at a stoplight about 3 miles from the U.S. military's Camp Doha, which is 10 miles west of Kuwait City.

The survivor, David Caraway, was in stable condition Thursday at al-Razi hospital in Kuwait City. His co-worker Michael Rene Pouliot, 46, was killed.

Caraway, interviewed from his hospital bed Thursday on the ABC television show "Good Morning America," extended condolences to Pouliot's family. He said he remembered little beyond a barrage of machine-gun fire coming from behind bushes along the road.

"Couldn't see anything, anyone. They hit us with the first volley," he said.

Caraway said the road was not

one he and Pouliot usually used.

"These are the risks, you know, you take when you come over here," he said. "The war on terrorism just got a little personal today, that's all."

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack.

The U.S. Embassy said it was urging Americans to be alert to their surroundings. About 8,000 American civilians live in Kuwait, in addition to 17,000 personnel stationed at the main U.S. military base here and thousands of other troops who come for regular exercises.

SCHOOLS

From page 1

these policies worked and gained public support. "You do see some black parents that have had to shoulder the burden of desegregation, but you also see a growing acceptance of desegregated schools in the public opinion," she said.

Frankenberg said she has experienced the phenomenon she and her colleagues call resegregation. She

attended a public high school in an Alabama school district where a desegregation court order was lifted. In her senior year, the district drew the boundary lines that determine where students went to high school.

"The white neighborhood was taken away from the school, so the black population got bigger," she said.

The report found that Latinos suffer the most of any minority, as they are the most segregated group and also maintain the highest levels of

linguistic separation and dropout rates.

At the other end of the spectrum, Asians are the most integrated of all minority groups and enjoy the least amount of linguistic separation. The report did not distinguish between different Asian nationalities, but it found that, as a whole, the college graduation rate for Asians is nearly double the national average, and four-times greater than the college graduation rate for blacks.

SPAM

From page 1

program doesn't get rid of the problem.

"What's the point of telling me it's spam if there's nothing I can do about it?" Reynolds said.

Reynolds said she does not use her TCU account as her primary e-mail account, but she is still bombarded with spam. While the new system labels the unwanted e-mails, and some wanted ones, as spam, it does not help block it, Reynolds said.

Edmondson said one possible downside is that students won't even know an e-mail existed if it's been blocked. He said the success of the pilot project will be determined by student feedback.

"So far, there has been 99.99

percent positive feedback," he said.

There have been requests for more or less restriction on what is being labeled spam, Edmondson said. However, what's considered spam by one person may not be considered spam by another, he said.

"We're trying to assess e-mail and determine what is useful to you and what is not useful to you," Edmondson said.

Edmondson said students should use separate e-mail accounts for more personal mail that may be rejected as spam. Using TCU e-mail accounts at online sites is an easy way to attract spam, he said.

The network is shared by the entire TCU community, Edmondson said.

Senior political science major Laura Hunter said she has three separate e-mail accounts; work, school and personal. Hunter said because she monitors what mail goes where, spam hasn't been a big problem in her TCU account.

"I personally think the TCU e-mails, like the weekly announcements, are the most annoying spam I get," Hunter said.

Edmondson said he will meet with seven committees, including the Technology Steering Committee and the Chancellor's Cabinet, during the first week of February to discuss the program. He said the IronMail program may allow students more personal control over filter options in future, but that's still a way off.

Sarah Chacko
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Scientists still refuse interview

Arms inspections continue, even in universities

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi scientists have so far refused to submit to private interviews with U.N. arms inspectors despite government attempts to encourage them to do so under an agreement with the United Nations, a senior Iraqi official said Thursday.

Lt. Gen. Hossam Mohammed Amin, chief liaison with the U.N. weapons monitors, also said the chief U.N. inspectors "exaggerated" differences between them and the Iraqi government in talks last Sunday and Monday.

The inspectors believe scientists with possible leads to any work on forbidden weapons will be less candid in interviews if government officials listen in. In a 10-point agreement emerging from the recent two days of talks, the Iraqis committed to urging potential witnesses be interviewed privately.

However, Amin said a half dozen scientists had so far refused to meet with inspectors without a government official present.

"As we promised, that we shall encourage the scientists to make interviews, we did our best to push the scientists," Amin told a news conference. "But they refused to make such interviews without the presence of (government) officials."

Chief weapons inspectors Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei will file a progress report with the U.N. Security Council next Monday on Baghdad's cooperation with their mission to certify that Iraq is free of banned weapons.

Amin said he doesn't expect that report to be "white" — that is, totally favorable to Iraq — but at least "gray."

"I hope he will not put emphasis on disagreement points," he said of Blix.

The Iraqi, head of the National Monitoring Directorate, which works with the U.N. inspectors, noted that Blix said after Monday's talks that outstanding issues included Iraq's reluctance to allow reconnaissance overflights by American U-2 aircraft to assist the U.N. inspectors' hunt for any chemical, biological or nuclear weapons programs.

"He accused us of putting unnecessary conditions and so forth, which is inaccurate," Amin said.

All Iraq wants, he said, are "safeguards" — which he did not specify — "to secure our right to defend our sky and our ground." He noted that Iraqi air defenses repeatedly clash with U.S. and British warplanes patrolling the U.S.-declared "no-fly zones" in southern and northern Iraq. The U-2 overflights would "complicate the air defense project," he said.

The inspectors, meanwhile, continued their daily hunt for banned weapons Thursday, revisiting the chemical and explosives company QaQa, a site 16 miles south of Baghdad that has been inspected frequently.

They also dropped in at the medical and science colleges of Baghdad's al-Mustansiriyah University and a fiberglass tubing factory south of the capital, according to the Information Ministry.

"As we promised, that we shall encourage the scientists to make interviews, we did our best to push the scientists."

— Hossam Mohammed Amin
chief liaison with U.N. inspectors

The inspectors returned to Iraq in November armed with a stringent U.N. Security Council resolution empowering them to look

anywhere in Iraq for evidence of weapons of mass destruction. Baghdad denies it possesses any.

Faced with U.S. threats to disarm President Saddam Hussein's regime by force if it doesn't surrender its weapons, Iraq pledged Monday to the U.N. chief inspectors that it would do more to facilitate the work of the inspectors.

Iraq's government-controlled media have been criticizing the inspectors for weeks ever since Saddam accused them in a Jan. 6 speech of spying.

However, the level of opposition to the inspectors appeared to rise Wednesday — only two days after the promise of greater cooperation.

After a U.N. inspection team paid an unannounced visit Wednesday to the Baghdad Technology Institute, several dozen students carrying T-squares and hastily scribbled protest signs poured out in protest.

The inspectors have made at least a dozen visits to colleges in Baghdad and elsewhere in Iraq since November without any such protests. It is assumed the Wednesday protest was state-sanctioned because unauthorized public demonstrations are unheard of in Iraq.

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The Skiff View

PRIORITIES

Communication tops our goals for SGA

It's the start of a new semester, and with that comes new leaders and representatives in the Student Government Association. Many students remember the neon flyers that advertised the SGA candidates; now those chosen by our votes are setting their goals for the semester.

But how do these objectives compare with the expectations of students?

Here is a list of what we hope SGA will accomplish.

Two things mentioned time and again are communication and representation. Both our staff and SGA representatives agree that SGA needs to be more accessible to both students and faculty. SGA president Brad Thompson said SGA has updated its Web site and plans to use TCU Announce and the my.tcu.edu portal to communicate its goals. We suggest that this increased communication include explanations for the actions they take. For example, if the honor code SGA talked about last semester were to pass, they should explain the reasons we need it and if that is what the student body wants.

We believe SGA should encourage a sense of community on campus by supporting our athletics and fine arts departments. With the exception of football games, there is generally a low turn out at sporting events. Theater productions face similarly low attendance.

A particularly important concern we have is how SGA manages its funds. After all, SGA was created to be a voice for the student body and should serve students accordingly. This budget information should be widely available to students, and not hidden in the depths of a file cabinet. With the SGA fees we pay, all students have the right to know where our money is going.

We wish the best of luck to SGA in achieving these goals.

QuoteUnquote

Quotes we ran that made you think ... or laugh

"Maybe, just maybe, it might be time for the American public to start throwing money at something important on a larger scale. Or maybe, just maybe, it might be time to cast me as the next bachelor."
— John-Mark Day

"Get the policeman a hobby so they won't give so many tickets, maybe bird-watching or checkers."
— Jason Myers, a junior advertising/public relations major, on what he'd like SGA to accomplish this semester

"The new chancellor should be able to add something to the university that distinguishes him from the previous chancellors, like Dr. Ferrari's open communication on campus with the students."
— Emily Chung, a senior international marketing major, on the chancellor search

"As my mother used to say, 'A new broom sweeps clean.'"
— Marcia Reeves, an administrative assistant in Sadler Hall, on the new routine for campus housekeepers

"The best strategy is terrorist intervention — stopping it from happening. Whatever it takes to determine who these individuals are should be done."
— C. Thomas Caskey, CEO and president of Cogene BioTech Ventures, Ltd. and speaker for the Charles Tandy Executive Speakers Series

"I don't think it's in anyway possible that any person or fan can put any more pressure on us to perform than we do ourselves."
— Head Men's Basketball Coach Neil Dougherty, after the team's first conference win against Tulane

Martin Luther King "stood up for what was right. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't have my rights. I wouldn't have my freedom."
— Destinee Osby, a choir member

"Yes, secondhand smoke can be harmful, but the leading cause of lung cancer in this country is not passing by the smoking section at Red Lobster."
— Katherine Ortega Courtney

HELP WANTED

The Skiff opinion page is now hiring columnists. Students must have excellent writings skills and be self-motivated, reliable and open to criticism. Previous journalism or Skiff experience is preferred, but not required. Students of any political persuasion or background will be considered. To apply, contact Opinion Editors Brandon Ortiz and Julie Ann Matonis at (skiffletters@tcu.edu).

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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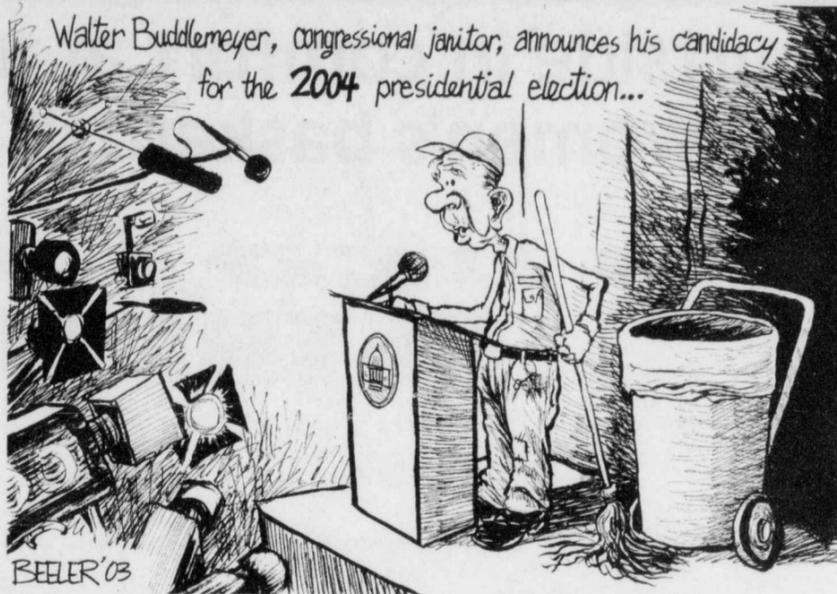
WriteUs

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. 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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Ad wrongly accuses SUVs

Gas-guzzlers do not support terrorism

Since the start of winter semester, my schedule has been busy. Yet even I was surprised when I was told I helped hijack an airplane and blow up a nightclub. Although I'm still not sure of when I did this, I somehow managed to fit it all in and still get my homework done.

Seriously, I didn't hijack or blow up anything. But I did go to the gas station to fill up my Jeep. And according to a new ad campaign from the Detroit Project, that was enough for me to be considered a supporter of terror.

The Detroit Project is co-founded by syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington, who got the idea to run the ad campaign from the Bush administration's anti-drug ads, which link buying drugs to supporting terrorism. But instead of targeting drug users, her ads skewer sport utility vehicles and their owners.

Huffington argues that gas-guzzlers make us too dependent on foreign oil from the Middle East.

In one of the ads, a man fills up his SUV's gas tank while a young girl narrates, "This is George. This is the gas that George bought for his SUV." After she describes how oil executives sell gas to Middle Eastern countries, she ends by saying,

"And these are the terrorists who get the money from these countries every time George fills up his SUV." Armed terrorists training to kill us suddenly appear on the television screen.

The other ad features "talking heads" who say things about their love of SUVs like "I helped hijack an airplane. I helped blow up a nightclub. So what if it gets 11 miles to the gallon?" and "I helped our enemies develop weapons of mass destruction."

Although these ads were supposed to air in Detroit, three major stations refused to show them — and for good reason.

By trying to simultaneously mock the flawed anti-drug ads and champion higher fuel-efficiency standards, the Detroit Project only sullies its own argument while looking stupid.

And that's a shame, because fuel-efficiency is a worthy topic for debate. Because our dependence on the Middle East for oil leads us to trade with repressive nations like Saudi Arabia, our ability to genuinely preach democracy to the Middle East is compromised. On this point, Huffington is right.

But many other parts of her argument are faulty. Her biggest flaw is that her ads only specifically condemn SUVs. Her Web site (www.detroitproject.com) claims that this is because they are not necessities. But who is she to say? We live in Michigan, the land of potholes. I know of potholes around my area that could swallow up Ms. Huffington's puny Toyota Prius (the

gas/electric hybrid car she drives and cherishes). Because an SUV is not so low to the ground, this becomes a smaller problem. The four-wheel drive offers better traction on Michigan's slippery winter roads.

As long as automobiles run on gas, their owners are also supposedly guilty of supporting terror to some degree. In fact, it's plausible that a car owner who drives more often consumes more fuel than someone who drives an SUV less frequently.

So unless you ride your bike to work or school, you too are supposedly holding hands and skipping along into the sunset with Osama.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out why these commercials only blame SUVs. In order to make her message more palatable, it is my guess that the Detroit Project singled out SUVs and their owners because they are frequently targets of stereotypes tainted with class envy.

Even though many SUV owners are just middle-class folks, the image of the arrogant, tail-gating yuppie conjures up loathing among a significant number of Americans.

Critics meanwhile should continue to encourage Americans to make socially responsible choices when purchasing a vehicle. But anyone, including Ms. Huffington, who suggests we transfer some of the responsibility for 9-11 to a trendy scapegoat should think twice before doing so.

Eric Czarnik is a columnist for The South End at Wayne State University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

Schedule time to help others out

When I took a group of my sorority sisters to Cook Children's Medical Center to make Christmas ornaments with the patients for a couple of hours, many of the women were apprehensive about the children's reaction and acceptance.

But when they met the children, I saw their apprehension fade away. I watched two students lose track of time as they talked to a teenage patient. As we were leaving the hospital the two students said they were going back to the hospital because they had to see their new friend again.

After just one experience, many of those students are now volunteering on a weekly basis. Even though they needed some initial encouragement, they decided it was worth giving up a few hours a week. Now, I know you are busy and it is easy to get caught up in the daily grind of college life. Reading assignments, appointments with professors, group projects, meetings and financial concerns are just a few of the things that consume a student's life.

Sure, students have some free time, but the extra moments are many times used for squeezing in a daily run, maintaining relationships and, of course, attending social engagements. But even then, most of us still find time to sit on the couch, chat on the phone and watch those addicting reality shows. Obviously, your ultimate responsibility while in

college is to earn your bachelor's degree. However, students also have a responsibility to volunteer and give to others. Regardless of full day-planners, students should make an effort and a commitment to reach out to those less fortunate than themselves. An afternoon or morning spent concerned with someone else's problems is one way students can contribute right now.

Volunteering is something all college students should incorporate into their lifestyle. It is time to accept that with privilege comes responsibility. Instead of taking educational opportunities, good fortune and your lucky place in life for granted, why not give back to the community?

My sociology class last semester focused on the different aspects of social problems, and students expressed the helplessness they felt when they discovered the amount of poverty and despair some Americans face. After a series of class discussions, students decided that although they could not solve all of the world's problems, helping people in little ways can make a difference. Volunteering at the homeless shelter or the hospital once a week or even once a semester makes someone else's life a little easier.

If you are a student who has a job and really do not have extra time, a simple "Hi, how are you?" to the housekeeper cleaning your dorm or a friendly wave to the man or woman who cares for the manicured lawns at TCU will let the person on the other end know that you care. It is about treating others the way you want to be treated. You never know when you will be the

one needing help.

For those students who use spare time to study and participate in other activities, volunteering is something to investigate. As a volunteer, students not only have the opportunity to improve someone's situation. They have the potential to change their own life as well. Leaving the TCU scene for a few hours a week gives a student's mind a rest from college worries and can make an upcoming paper due date seem less life-threatening.

Although it takes some effort, it's not difficult to find a place or opportunity to volunteer. The Tarrant Area Food Bank, schools near campus, Cook Children's Medical Center and the Presbyterian Night Shelter are just a few places that need volunteers. University Ministries is also a place to learn about volunteer opportunities.

The student determines the amount of dedication. Volunteering can be as simple as organizing a canned food drive on your residence hall floor or getting a group of your friends together to go to the homeless shelter and make sandwiches for an hour one morning. While this may not see like much, it means someone who might have been hungry now gets to eat.

The late Norman Vincent Peale, a minister and inspirational writer, said it best: "I have more fun and enjoy more financial success when I stop trying to get what I want and help others get what they want."

Emily Turner is a junior news/editorial journalism major from Coppell. She can be reached at (e.l.turner@tcu.edu).

YourView

Letters to the Editor

The Skiff's editors' latest parody was taken too far

I was disturbed by the front page of the latest issue of *The Skiff*. I was quickly assured that it was just the face of one of our professors placed on someone else's topless body. I didn't find that reassuring. However, I did hope that perhaps this professor was not a real professor at TCU. But when I found out she was a prominent faculty member, I knew someone needed to say something.

I was featured on the front page of the last *Skiff*. I thought it was funny. My roommate, Andrea, who was also the opponent I lost to in the student body elections last fall, and I got a kick out of reading the story of me overthrowing the student body government in a rage against losing to her. It was quality entertainment in our house. So, I'm not exactly a sworn protester of *The Skiff*.

But the face of a member of our community on a topless body, printed and distributed around campus, not to mention what was written about her, is completely unacceptable and altogether embarrassing. There is a major difference between disgusting humor and degrading one of our faculty members. The fact that someone on our campus thinks it is acceptable and even funny, signals something very wrong to me. Even if one person was responsible for it, do we as students want that kind of stuff littered around our campus, speaking for who we are as a university?

— Katie Gordon
senior electrical engineering major

React

Have something to say about this letter? Then write a letter to the editor. Letters can be e-mailed to (skiffletters@tcu.edu) and must comply with our letters policy to be considered for publication.

The Other View

Opinions from around the country

Barbie's new message not helping today's children

Just when we thought Barbie couldn't be more of a thorn in the side of enlightened feminism, she's become an official telemarketer to prepubescent girls.

According to Reuters.com, UVOX Networks and Mattel, the doll's maker, introduced the Barbie Call Time Program on Monday. For \$1.99 a call, parents can arrange for Barbie to telephone their child and deliver pre-recorded or personalized encouragement and advice "by inviting them into Barbie's world."

For more than 50 years, that blasted busy piece of plastic has aided in fostering unhealthy expectations of the female body in the minds of young women.

If Mattel must sell blonde baloney, please — leave it on the shelf.

Amber Bryant is a columnist for The Sidelines at Middle Tennessee State University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

It's nice to know we still have our old friends

Friendship is different in college. We don't choose from a minuscule pool. We don't adhere to curfews and other restrictions. We don't separate our academic and personal lives.

Above all, we don't share our grades.

We are told that our friends — those smiling, sweater-clad, backpack-wielding figures — are not our friends at all. They are the competition. As our classmates they can, with an increase in GPA, instantly ruin our lives.

But it's still nice to have friends who knew you in glasses, braces and the band uniform that made you look like an eggplant.

Especially now that they're not the competition.

Julie Park is a columnist for The Daily Princeton at Princeton University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

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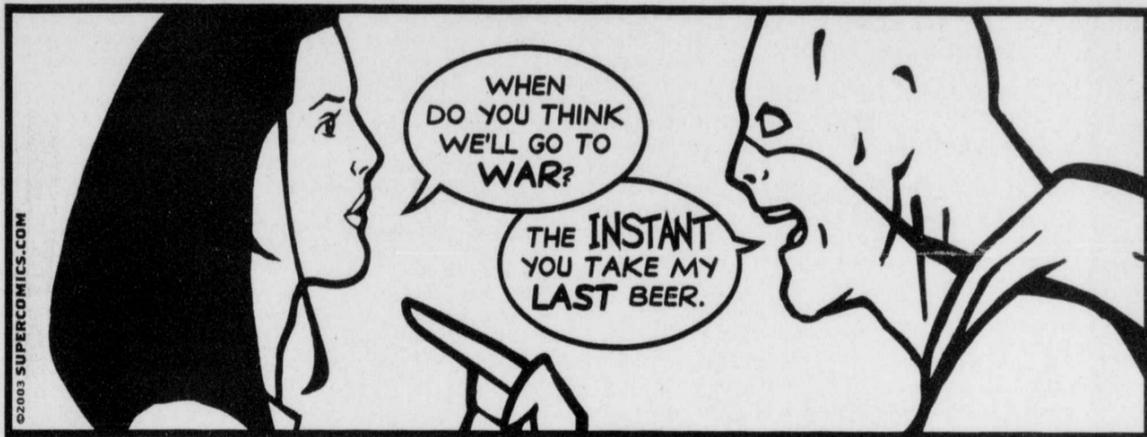
ETC.

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Today's Funnies

Captain RibMan in Call To Arms!

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



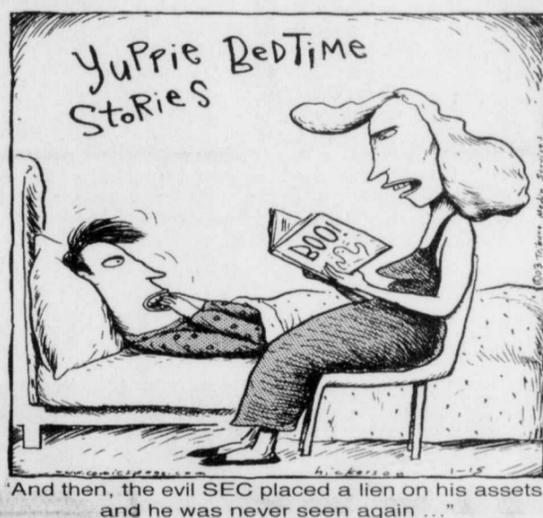
Dithered Twits

by Stan Waling



Quigmans

by Hickerson



PurplePoll

Q: Are you going to watch the Superbowl?

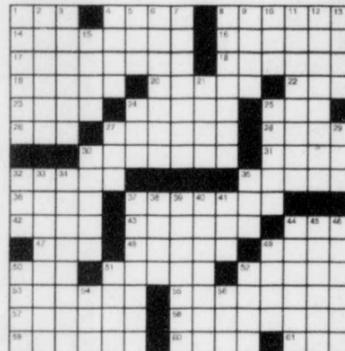
A: YES 59 NO 41

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

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 6th sense
 - 4 Where the heart is
 - 8 Go abroad
 - 14 Spectator
 - 16 Sister of Venus
 - 17 Outer chamber
 - 18 Intense animosity
 - 19 Hoggins
 - 20 Breakneck
 - 22 Attempt
 - 23 Tread
 - 24 Skintint
 - 25 Trucker's truck
 - 26 Lendable organ?
 - 27 Famed Hollywood boulevard
 - 28 Elcher's medium
 - 30 Lumberjacks
 - 31 Hang around
 - 32 Lamb piece
 - 35 Burstyn of 'The Exorcist'
 - 38 Dog breed
 - 37 To start with
 - 42 Ruth or Zaharias
 - 43 Half a round trip
 - 44 Entile
 - 47 Clever critter
 - 48 Gadabout
 - 49 Medal of Honor recipient
 - 50 Fedora, e.g.
 - 51 Wish granter
 - 52 Ricochet
 - 53 Herschel's planet
 - 55 Informers
 - 57 Wine and dine
 - 58 Trans-Atlantic transportation
 - 59 High-pitched
 - 60 Parts parts
 - 61 Inc. in Ipswich
- DOWN
- 1 Tick away
 - 2 Moonlight
 - 3 Boy wizard
 - 4 Harry
 - 4 That woman's
 - 5 Gold in Madrid
 - 6 Anchoring alternative
 - 7 As a group
 - 8 Promotional tops
 - 9 Peruse
 - 10 Buchwald or Garfunkel
 - 11 Upright
 - 12 Supply the vigor
 - 13 Gentewoman
 - 15 Castle area
 - 21 Equal
 - 24 Slangy
 - 25 physiognomy
 - 25 Come from behind
 - 27 Cover crop
 - 29 Cub Scout subdivision
 - 30 Rubber base
 - 32 Recode
 - 33 Mariner
 - 34 Deliberate subversion
 - 35 Tarzan Ron
 - 37 Anticipate
 - 38 Aware of
 - 39 Updated manuscript, e.g.
 - 40 Honey
 - 41 Pipe buildup
 - 44 Not guilty plea
 - 45 Tarzan Ron
 - 45 Ordered about
 - 49 Ant's home
 - 50 William of 'Body Heat'
 - 51 Boardwalk bird
 - 52 Boston orchestra
 - 54 Arrest
 - 56 Assn.



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Bible Church

Christ Chapel Bible Church
3740 Birchman Ave. 817-731-4329
Sunday worship services: 9:45am, 5:00pm. College Impact 11:15am in the "Big White bullet"
FOCUS Acoustic Contemporary Praise Wednesday nights in Sanctuary 7-8pm Contact Ryan McCarthy Ryanm@christchapelbc.org
McKinney Memorial Bible Church
Sunday services at 9:00, 10:15, and 11:30 AM; College Crew at 10:15 AM in the SMB
817-377-4702 x233 See www.mckinneychurch.com for directions.

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Rev. Dottie Cook
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Worship at 10:50. Close to TCU: 3200 Bigblade Rd. Call (817) 926-5281 or www.shcc.ws (map).

Church of Christ

Altamesa Church of Christ
4600 Altamesa 294-1260. 1.5 miles south of Hulen mall at Hulen and Altamesa. 9-45 college class. 11:00 worship. College Minister Mark. Small groups 6:00 PM. www.altamesa.org
First Congregational United Church of Christ
4201 Trail Lake Dr. 817-923-2990
Contemporary worship: Jesus, Justice and Joy 9:30. Traditional worship: 11:00 inclusive, welcoming, warm, heart, mind, spirit, listening, praying, searching.

Catholic

St. Andrews Catholic Church
3717 Stadium Dr. (817) 927-5382
Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:30 pm. Sunday 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm, 5:30 pm. Daily Mass 8:00 am. sachurch@standrews.org www.standrewc.org Franciscan Friars T.O.R.

Episcopal

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Lutheran

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1800 W. Freeway (Summit and I-30) Traditional Service 8:00, 10:50am. Contemp. 11:00am. 9:30am Bible study. Wednesday Night Fellowship w/ \$1 meal - 8:00pm. Questions, Need ride? Contact Peter 817-810-9352. peter.couser@stplcfw.org

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The Sideline

Women's team to finish regular season Fri., Sat.

The women's swimming team will have its final two meets of the regular season this weekend.

The Frogs will face off against Houston 7 p.m. today on the Southern Methodist campus and will battle Rice at Grapevine High School 4 p.m. Saturday.

TCU's only loss this season was its first match against SMU. Since that loss, the Frogs have won 11 straight.

It will be the last regular season meets for seniors Melissa Powell, Katie Schell, Kate Swearingen and Andrea Stevens.

Assistant women's swimming coach Lena Darnell said she hopes many students will come to the players' final matches at TCU.

"They'll swim better with the support," she said.

Move over Shaq: Ming to start in All-Star game

NEW YORK (AP) — Yao Ming will be the starting center for the Western Conference at the NBA All-Star game after defeating Shaquille O'Neal by almost a quarter-million votes in final fan balloting totals released Thursday.

In the closest races, Kevin Garnett of Minnesota edged Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas for the last starting spot among Western Conference forwards. Garnett received 1,086,780 votes — 7,355 more than Nowitzki.

The game is Feb. 9 in Atlanta. Yao, the 7-foot-6 Houston Rockets player from China, will become the first rookie to start in the All-Star game since Grant Hill in 1995. The rest of the West's starters are Garnett, Tim Duncan of San Antonio, Steve Francis of Houston and Kobe Bryant of the Lakers.

The Eastern Conference starters are Iverson and Orlando's Tracy McGrady, Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal and Toronto's Vince Carter at forward, and Ben Wallace of Detroit at center.

Though more seats are filled, Bailey admits progress still needs to be made.

Denton Ryan QB named player of the year

BRYAN (AP) — Quarterback James Battle of Denton Ryan was named Thursday as Offensive Player of the Year for the 52nd Annual Collin Street Bakery/Texas Sports Writers Association's Class 4A All-State Football Team.

The 6-foot-2, 195-pound Battle completed 192 of 313 passes for 2,989 yards with 31 TDs. Battle, who has verbally committed to TCU, added 196 carries for 872 yards rushing with 19 TDs in leading Ryan to the Division II state championship.

Stadium security super tight for big game Sunday

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The armored military trucks and camouflaged soldiers are gone. This Super Bowl looks more like a football game than the military staging ground it resembled last year.

Of course, the NFL still is watching very, very closely.

A high-tech surveillance system — the league's version of Big Brother — is keeping track of every corner of the Super Bowl stadium. It's part of an intensive, less intrusive effort to ensure safety at Sunday's game between the Oakland Raiders and Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"Security is at exactly the same level as it was last year," NFL vice president for security Milt Ahlerich said.

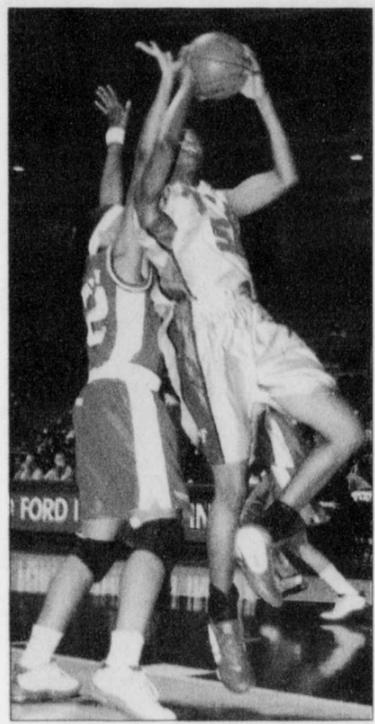
Thus far, it's just not as easy to tell.

Last year, the Super Bowl was played only five months after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and securing America's biggest single-day sporting event was the key story of the week.

The federal government designated the game a National Special Security Event, a status normally reserved for presidential and papal visits. The Secret Service coordinated security.

This year, those measures aren't being taken, mainly because the Office of Homeland Security has so much confidence in local authorities' ability to handle the game, Ahlerich said.

Lady Frogs look to end losing streak



Sophomore forward Sandora Irvin goes up and over an SMU defender. The team plays at 7 p.m. tonight in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Coach blames inconsistent play, turnovers for start

BY DREW IRWIN
Skiff Staff

The women's basketball team did not lose in its first three Conference USA games last season.

But this season is a different story.

Three games into this season's conference play, the team has yet to win a game.

Head coach Jeff Mittie said for the Lady Frogs (7-9, 0-3) to turn the season around, they need a more consistent offense. He said if TCU can create more turnovers, it can do a better job offensively.

"I think we need to simplify some things," Mittie said. "I think, now, less is more. We've always worked hard to understand the other team, but I think we just need to understand ourselves. It's strange to do that in January, but that's where we are. We need to find our identity if we're going to succeed."

The Lady Frogs will have a chance to grab their first C-USA win at 7 p.m. today against East Carolina (8-7, 0-2) at home, where they have won six of their eight games this season. TCU is 0-7 on the road this year.

"This group has high expectations for themselves," Mittie said. "When you don't have expected success, there is always disappointment."

The Lady Frogs led for more than half the game against Cincinnati Friday, but the Bearcats took control of the game in the second half and never looked back.

"We played a good game against Cincinnati," Mittie said. "They just made a few more good plays than we did."

Mittie attributes the poor start to the team's tough schedule. TCU has played several nationally ranked teams.

"We've lost games because we've played some good teams," he said. "When you're on the road against a quality opponent, it's not easy to win."

Despite the Lady Frogs' record, sophomore forward Sandora Irvin currently leads C-USA in rebounding and blocked shots. Junior forward Tiffany Evans is shooting 45 percent from 3-point range.

Senior guard Tricia Payne, who tied a career high for 3-pointers with five against Cincinnati, said the tough start is starting to sink in.

"As a leader, it makes you question how good you are," she said. "But (the captains) are doing a good job. Leadership isn't the problem; we just need to be more consistent."

The Lady Frogs currently have a negative turnover margin and are shooting 38.8 percent

from the field, 12th in C-USA.

"For our team, defense has triggered offense," Mittie said. "The lack of turnovers is affecting our shooting percentage, and we've struggled."

Mittie said the team is focused on getting better and playing its best.

"I've seen a lot of disappointment," he said. "But there is never as much bounce in a team after a loss. This team is digging deep, and focusing one game at a time."

Tonight's game will be the Lady Frogs' first at home in four games.

Drew Irwin
d.ira@tcu.edu

Women's basketball

TCU vs. East Carolina
7 p.m., Daniel-Meyer Coliseum

Radio: KTCU 88.7 FM

TV: None

Records: 7-9 (0-3); East Carolina 8-7 (0-2)

About the game: The Lady Frogs open their home Conference USA schedule tonight against the Pirates. TCU is looking for its first conference win of the season against East Carolina. TCU beat East Carolina last season 58-42 Jan. 27 in Greenville, N.C. This is a must win game for the Lady Frogs, who are trying to end their four-game losing streak that has left the Lady Frogs winless in conference play. Six of TCU's seven wins this season have come at home.

Floor seating boosts student attendance, some say

BY JESSICA SANDERS
Staff Reporter

Attendance at basketball games is improving since floor seats were made available to students this season, said Ross Bailey, assistant director of athletics.

Though more seats are filled, Bailey admits progress still needs to be made.

"We have a ways to go yet to where our people learn how to really cheer (and) be rabid basketball fans," Bailey said. "We are learning to be better fans."

Bailey said two sections behind the bench and about 60 seats behind the basket are designated as student seating.

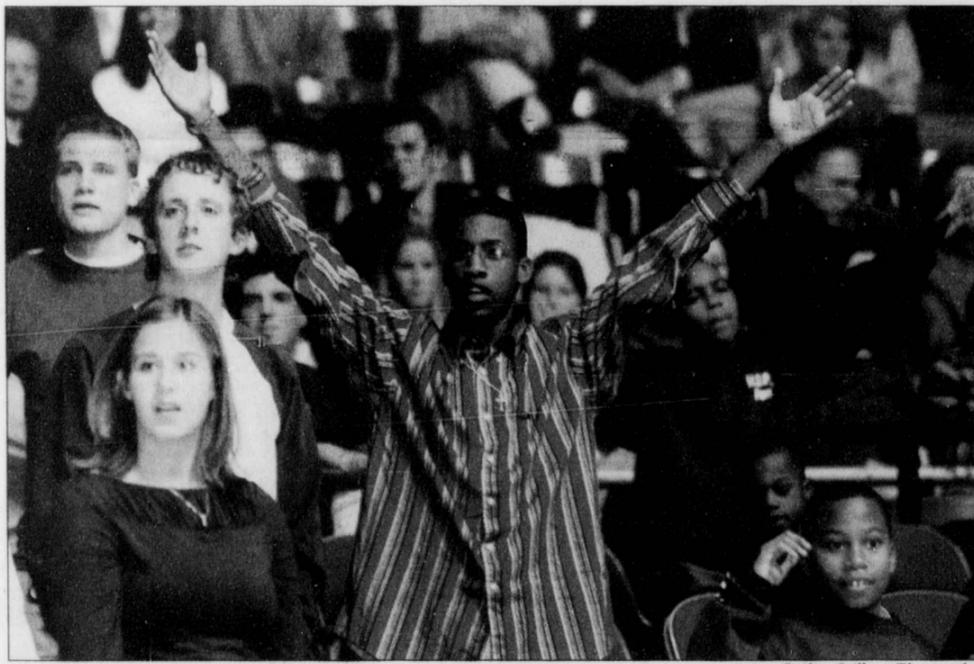
"Obviously, students are filling the seats that have been made available to them," Bailey said.

Brandi Giles, a sophomore deaf education major, said the new seating allows the students to interact more with the players.

"It's more inviting and more personal," Giles said.

The athletic department approached the Student Government Association last semester with the idea to open up floor seats for students, said SGA Vice President Andrea Reed.

Reed said she has received a lot of positive feedback from students.



Freshman Ryan Thomas joins his fellow fans in showing his frustration for the referee's calls Wednesday night in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Matt Snow, a senior management major, said he enjoys being closer to the court and cheering for the team.

"I feel more part of the game and a bigger part in helping the team," Snow said. "The atmos-

phere is better but I think there can still be a lot of improvement."

But Snow said more student support is needed.

"I believe we need to instill more pride in our teams,"

Snow said. "The students don't have any pride for their teams and we can make a difference by just showing up to the games."

Tim George, director of marketing for athletics, said

through seven games this season, the men's basketball team has averaged 4,882 fans at its home games. In seven games last season, the team averaged 3,569 fans, which is more than a 26 percent in-

crease from last season, George said.

In order to open the floor seats to students, about 100 season ticket holders had to be relocated, Bailey said.

"The majority of ticket holders were in favor of increased student participation," he said.

Bailey said the ticket holders were allowed to choose where they were relocated. Paying fans have had varying opinions on the new seating.

Season ticket holder Gayle Campbell said she liked having students on the floor.

However, some fans say it is not right to give beneficial seating to students.

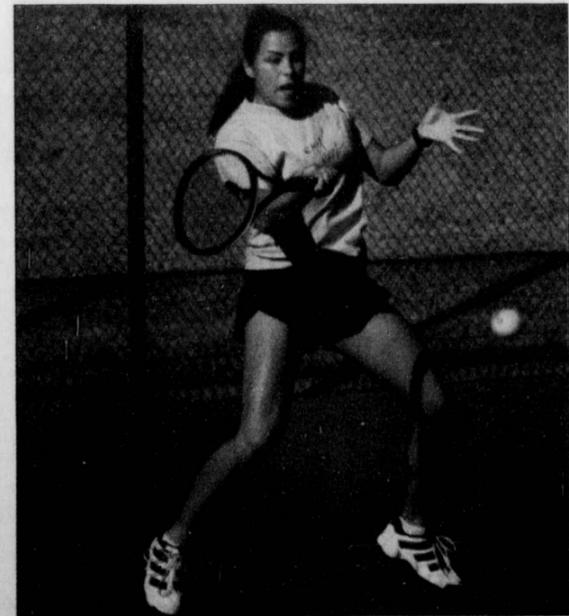
"It doesn't seem fair," season ticket holder Brad Ebeling said. "The (student) seats don't seem to be filled."

Snow said TCU should have promotions such as free pizza and cheap hot dogs to increase attendance, like other schools do.

In the home game against Tulane Wednesday, the floor seats were mostly filled with students, but more than 20 of the student designated seats were filled by the H.O.P.E. Town children who performed "The Star Spangled Banner."

Jessica Sanders
j.d.sanders@tcu.edu

Tennis season begins with new coach, basic approach



Senior Brenna Shackelford returns a serve during practice last spring.

BY OLGA BOGRAD
Skiff Staff

The men's and women's tennis teams will both start team match play today. The men will play against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi this morning, and both teams will face off against Saint Louis this afternoon at Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center.

"When you've got to compete, sometimes you think too much and make the game a little too complicated."

— Dave Borelli

head women's tennis coach

Head coach Dave Borelli said he is excited about the matchup not only because it is the first team game of the season, but because the game will mark his first coaching season since 1988.

"We had tournaments in the fall and now we have dual meets," Borelli said. "Now it's team versus team. It's a situation where we take each match individually and try to get better and better so that by the end of the season, I really anticipate we will be in the NCAA and Regionals and playing our best tennis by May."

Borelli said in preparation for to-

day's match, the women's team has dedicated much of its time to the basics of the game, such as playing more sets, and has an advantage with its new players.

"I've been trying to make it a bit simpler by playing more sets, more basics, competing more," he said. "I think when I came in, I was

thinking too much about doing this and that and what I basically did was to focus on fundamentals and make things a little simpler, concentrating on our abilities and not trying to change too much, work with the strengths that we have.

"The main focus now in the season is that things should always be simple. We don't think too much. When you've got to compete, sometimes you think too much and make the game a little too complicated."

Junior Paty Aburto, TCU's first seed, said she was looking forward to the first-ever matchup with Saint

Louis.

"I'm excited because I don't know the team at all," Aburto said. "I think we are practicing so hard. I'm kind of nervous and I think the rest of the team is as well."

Head men's tennis coach Joey Rivé said the team is ready and confident coming into the match.

"I feel excited," Rivé said. "I think we're ready to get the season started. (Assistant coach Cory Hubbard) and I are anxious to see how the team looks, how the pairings in doubles are going to shape out and how maybe we can throw two of our new guys into the mix, how they respond. I think our team is pretty confident about the new season so we are just anxious to get started."

He said the main focus of the men's team this season has been conditioning and strengthening the level of doubles' play.

"I think this is part of the process of getting our team settled into what we're going to expect as the season progresses," Rivé said.

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