

SPORTS

Frogs fall

The baseball team fell to No. 8 Baylor, 10-3, Tuesday in its fifth straight game against a nationally ranked opponent.

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FEATURES

When fall ends, the Drumline season is just getting started. Page 4



OPINION

So critics hate reality TV shows. They really aren't as bad as some think. Page 3

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Hussein mocks ultimatum as troops prepare

BY DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

In an edgy prelude to war, Saddam Hussein mocked an American ultimatum Tuesday to surrender power, and the Bush administration claimed public support from 30 nations for its international coalition supporting Iraq's disarmament.

The streets of Baghdad captured the moment — panic buying by residents bracing for a fearsome U.S.-led attack, side by side with a government-prompted, mass demonstration in support of Saddam.

"This war, in short, is tantamount to genocide," charged Mohammed AlDouri, Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, in one of a string of insults the Iraqi high command hurled at Bush.

It was a day-long act of defiance in the face of an invasion force of more than 250,000 troops ringing Iraq, a nation of more than 23 million that Saddam has ruled brutally for nearly a quarter century.

One day after President Bush set his deadline of 8 p.m. EST Wednesday, troops in the Kuwaiti desert loaded their ammunition and combat gear into fighting vehicles, ready to invade on short notice.

"I think I'd probably have a better chance of being elected pope than we have of Saddam Hussein leaving the country," Capt. Thomas A. Parker said aboard the USS Kitty Hawk — an aircraft carrier preparing to take on a supply of 1,000-pound, satellite-guided bombs from a nearby munitions ship.

"So this is probably going to follow to its logical conclusion."

As the hours dwindled toward Bush's deadline, the White House worked to keep Saddam guessing.

Presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer would not rule out a U.S. attack before Bush's

48-hour clock ran out. "Saddam Hussein has to figure out what this means," he said.

One official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Bush was leaving the door open in case Saddam makes a pre-emptive attack or U.S. intelligence warns that one is likely.

Underscoring what Bush said on Monday night, Fleischer said U.S. troops would enter Iraq, either as an invading force or as part of an unprovoked effort to locate weapons of mass destruction.

At the same time the administration prepared for an invasion, it announced a series

of steps at home to protect against terrorist attacks.

"We know that our interests have been attacked abroad. And we should prepare for potential attacks, either here or abroad at this time," said Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge.

The plan, dubbed "Operation Liberty Shield," heightens security at the nation's borders, airports, seaports and railways, at nuclear and chemical plants, and in elements of the nation's food supply and distribution system. Ridge said governors are being

(More on HUSSEIN, page 2)

Campus eateries receive average score for food safety

University dining scores better than typical cafeteria

BY SARAH CHACKO
Staff Reporter

Movies are easy to rate. They're either thumbs up or thumbs down. But when the Texas Department of Health rates food quality through demerits, what that data means to consumers may not be too clear.

Demerits cover a range of sanitation issues from food temperatures to food handling, according to the health department Web site. The site's demerit chart shows that dirty food tables or counters warrant three demerits, but so does evidence of rodents or insects.

Jason Lamers, the health department planning and communications coordinator, said the system is very difficult for people to understand. It doesn't distinguish the type of establishment, so you may be comparing convenience stores to cafeterias, he said.

"A cafeteria has more food in and out, more people around, more workers and, therefore, more hazards for violations," Lamers said.

According to the Web site, scores only represent a snapshot of the facility at the time the inspector is present. The conditions could be better or worse when an inspector is not present, according to the department site.

Also, cleanliness is not always as it may seem. For instance, last December, La Madeleine French Bakery and Café on Main Street received more demerits than a Taco Bell restaurant on North Main Street.

As with any other restaurant, all of TCU's on-campus eateries have to pass inspection as well. TCU currently has nine on-campus eating establishments, excluding Café à la Cart, eight of which have been inspected. The Main, Edens and Deco Deli share one kitchen, and therefore undergo one inspection, Lamers said. The new NRG eatery in the University Recreation Center has not yet been

inspected since opening.

According to the Fort Worth health department's Web site, many restaurants that students frequent off campus received more demerits on their inspections than did the on-campus eateries. Though there isn't a failing score, state law requires that when total demerits exceed 30, the establishment must initiate immediate corrective action within 48

"You can't risk your reputation in this business."

— Rick Flores

general manager of Sodexo

hours. None of TCU's recent inspections received more than 10 demerits, according to last year's records.

Anthony Palasota, consumer health specialist for the City of Fort Worth, has been inspecting TCU's eateries for a year. He said the scores TCU and other neighboring universities receive are average, but overall, food safety in university cafeterias is above average.

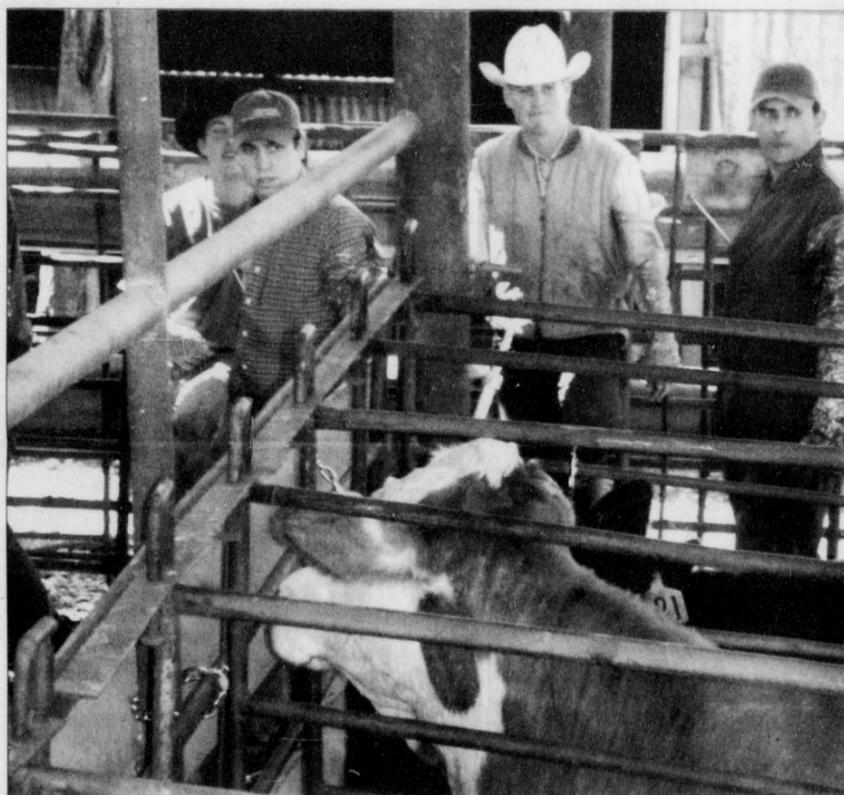
Inspection records for the last year show that TCU's eateries received fewer demerits than Southern Methodist University, the University of North Texas and the University of Texas at Arlington. Demerit value can change based on an inspector's discretion or the types of food items an establishment is handling, Palasota said.

Of the universities listed above, the most common violation was with handwash facilities and the food contact surfaces of equipment and utensils, which both warrant minor demerit value.

Palasota said the oversight, resources, equipment and a trained staff make the difference. Some restaurants are created by owners who just decided to go into the business with limited knowledge in food service and safety, he said.

(More on EATERIES, page 2)

Hands-on learning



Sarah Krebs/Staff reporter

Ranch Management students Neil Shelton, Bill Angell and Michael Farris learn about bovine artificial insemination during a Ranch Management field trip.

Students learn methods to impregnate cows

BY LAUREN HANVEY
Staff Reporter

Although many classes at TCU have hands-on labs, one Ranch Management class goes a step further than most.

Every year, as part of the bovine reproduction class, Jim Link, director of Ranch Management and John Biggs, endowed chairman, takes the students to the Cleburne Livestock Auction to learn how to artificially inseminate cows and test them for pregnancy.

Ron Gill, professor and extension livestock special-

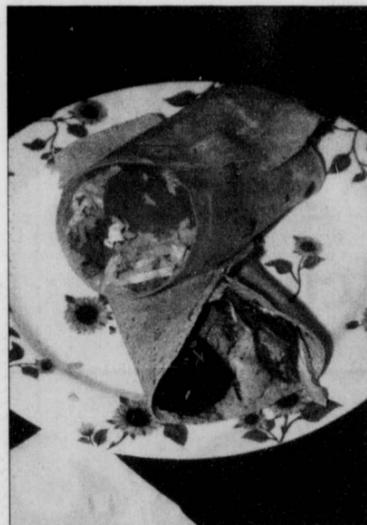
ist for Texas A&M University, helps teach the TCU Ranch Management students these skills.

"If you're going to be in ranching, you need to know how to do (these things)," he said.

He said people who know how to do pregnancy testing and to artificially inseminate cows are more hireable in the ranching business.

Students had three days of instruction from Gill and three TCU Ranch Management teachers. Students had

(More on COWS, page 2)



Ty Halasz/Photo editor

Campus dining options received an average rating for food safety and area cleanliness.

Campus mentors help others learn to cope with loss

BY BILL MORRISON
Staff Reporter

Campus mentors gathered Tuesday afternoon to discuss ways to help people handle grief and loss at a Campus Mentor Brown Bag.

Kay Higgins, director of special programs, said the idea of going to war was not a consideration when the itinerary for campus mentors was set in the fall. Higgins said the purpose of the brown bag is to expand campus mentors' resources for helping people in the community.

"The campus mentors are faculty, staff and students who were identified by students as being natural helpers," Higgins said. "These peo-

ple are already talking to people in the community and we are equipping them with resources to better help."

Speakers, Monica Kintigh, a licensed professional counselor in mental health services; the Rev. Charles Calabrese, the Roman Catholic community mentor; and John Butler, minister to the university, took turns leading the discussion during lunch. Instead of lecturing mentors on how to handle every situation, each person brought up per-

sonal examples of how they dealt with various situations involving grief and loss.

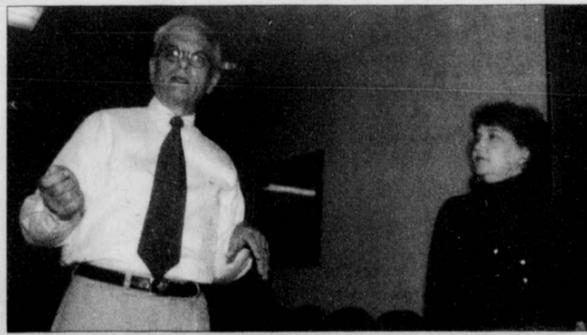
Randi Lewis, a sophomore psychology major and campus mentor, said the open-discussion format was helpful because each person brings a different approach on how to handle a situation. She said college is a time of change, and that it is nice to get input from others.

"The campus mentors are faculty, staff and students who were identified by students as being natural helper."

— Kay Higgins

director of special programs

(More on MENTORS, page 2)



Ty Halasz/Photo editor

John Butler, minister to the university and Monica Kintigh, a licensed professional counselor in Mental Health Services, lead a discussion about grief and loss.

The Weather

WEDNESDAY

High: 69; Low: 49; Partly Cloudy/Wind

THURSDAY

High: 63; Low: 40; Partly Cloudy

FRIDAY

High: 64; Low: 46; Partly Cloudy

Looking Back

1916 — Eight Curtiss "Jenny" planes of the First Aero Squadron take off from Columbus, N.M., in the first combat air mission in U.S. history.

1931 — In an attempt to lift the state out of the hard times of the Great Depression, the Nevada state legislature voted to legalize gambling.

1953 — Filmmaker Cecil B. DeMille won the only Academy Award of his career when "The Greatest Show on Earth" won the Oscar for Best Picture.

Watch For

Need something to do this weekend? Check out our special Entertainment Guide Thursday for some good locations and discounts.

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THE PULSE

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CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

■ **New Music Ensemble** recital featuring Gerald Gabel as director, will be at 7:30 p.m. today in PepsiCo Recital Hall. For more information, call (817) 257-7602.

■ **Carter BloodCare** is hosting a Blood Drive from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and Thursday in the Student Center Ballroom. For more information, call (817) 980-4987.

■ **Pinkbag Lunch Series** presents Majorie Stone, author of "Eve, the Virgin Mary, and Rebel Slaves: Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Challenges to Religious Orthodoxy," at 12:30-1:30 p.m. Thursday in Student Center, Room 207. For more information and to make reservations, call (817) 257-7855.

■ **Criminal Justice Department** presents the Community Corrections Forum from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday in Moudy Building South, room 320. For more information, contact Kelli Stevens at (817) 257-5424.

■ **Radio-TV-Film** presents "The Vikings" (1958), starring Kirk Douglas at 7 p.m. Thursday in Moudy Building South, Room 164. For more information, call (817) 257-6300.

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.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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 Journalism Department Chairman Tommy Thomason

Eatery markings

On-campus eatery	Demerits
TCU	
The Main	10
Pond Street Grill	9
Frog Bytes	3
Jazzman's Cafe	3
Bistro Burnett	3
Sub Connection	0
SMU	
Lee Center	19
Mac's Place	17
Mane Course	7
The Market	6
The Gates	12
UNT	
Avesta	8
Union	9
Maple	4
Clark Hall	10

EATERIES

From page 1

Food managers at university establishments also respond quicker to correct violations and use documentation as a management tool, he said.

Rick Flores, general manager for Sodexo, said in addition to the health department's inspections, Sodexo holds itself to a higher standard implemented by National Sanitation Foundation International. Sodexo maintains a 95 percent minimum for food safety and 90 percent minimum for physical safety, he said. The stringent policy Sodexo

follows is in case something in the food processing system breaks down, Flores said. It can be tracked back to the delivery, where it came from, all the way back to the farmer and packer, he said.

"You can't risk your reputation in this business," Flores said.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 students are served daily on campus, depending on the day of the week, Flores said. Student's likes and dislikes are the biggest challenge, he said.

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HUSSEIN

From page 1

asked to deploy National Guard troops or extra state police to help.

At the State Department, Secretary of State Colin Powell said 30 nations had joined the administration's "coalition of the willing," and that another 15 had quietly pledged support.

But at least two of the 30 nations, Spain and the Netherlands, have explicitly ruled out the use of troops to invade Iraq. Another, Japan, was identified as only a post-conflict

member of the coalition.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said some of the countries "may put troops on the ground" and others may take on roles such as assisting in a defense against the use of chemical and biological weapons. Intelligence reports indicate that Saddam has given his field-level commanders the power to use chemical weapons, without instruction from the leadership, Pentagon officials said Tuesday.

COWS

From page 1

a chance to demonstrate their proficiency March 7 by performing the skills for evaluation by the instructors, Link said.

Josh Bray, a Ranch Management student who works on his family's ranch in Paris, Texas, said he hopes to start doing most of the artificial insemination and pregnancy testing of his family's cows.

He said it gets very expensive to have a professional technician do all the work. Going through this program should improve the number of successful pregnancies he is able to initiate artificially, he said.

"What you hope is that you'll get 60 percent of them bred (with artificial insemination) and then turn (a) bull loose for the rest of them," he said.

Gill said the most important part of the class is learning to palpate, or test the cows for pregnancy. He said having ultrasounds performed on cows costs about six times as much as doing the test by hand.

Cows are usually palpated once a year, he said. If a cow never gets pregnant, a rancher does not want

to keep it because it can waste up to \$400 a year, Gill said.

The benefit of artificial insemination is that a single bull with superior genetics can be used to generate hundreds more offspring than he could naturally, Link said.

"The main thing is to propagate really outstanding genetics over a large number of cows," he said.

One bull with coveted genetics can sell for \$125,000, Link said. That is because ranchers will pay up to \$50 for one small straw containing semen from a superior-quality bull to artificially inseminate a single cow, he said. For this reason, usually only cows with good genetics get artificially inseminated, Link said.

"You take the good of both and make them better," he said.

The teachers said they were pleased with this year's student performance.

"This class has really done a great job," said Jeff Geider, assistant director of Ranch Management and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo professor.

Lauren Hanvey
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SGA to reimburse design students

BY JESSICA SANDERS

Staff Reporter

Student Government Association passed a bill Tuesday night compensating graphic design students for \$600 in costs for a national design convention they previously attended.

The House of Student Representatives was scheduled to vote on the bill Feb. 25, but the meeting was canceled and the vote delayed due to inclement weather.

Design Focus, a student graphic design organization, sent students to the convention without SGA funds because the convention date came up before SGA could vote, said Dana Szucs, a senior graphic design major.

Senior graphic design major Holly Batchelor said the some stu-

dents were not able to attend the convention because the group did not receive the money they were hoping for.

"Personally, how I came up with the money, is I chose not to pay a few of my bills," Batchelor said.

Nick James, chairman of SGA's Elections and Regulations Committee, said if the students already paid for the conference, then SGA does not need to give them the money now.

"I feel like if they really couldn't afford to go without this money, they wouldn't have gone," said James, a sophomore political science major. "Why do we need to give them \$600 to pay a bill that's already been paid?" Szucs said Design Focus did not

know until Monday night that the bill was going through House and so the officers have not discussed if the money will be used to pay for future conferences or to reimburse students.

SGA Chaplain Steven Pivach said graphic design is an expensive and time-consuming major and that the students deserve SGA's monetary support.

"I truly believe that the graphic design department really needs this money," said Pivach, a junior speech communication major. "It is our duty as student government representatives to help out our constituents."

Graphic design conferences are crucial to resume building and provide motivation to students, Batchelor said.

"You get the opportunity to speak one-on-one with professionals that we consider famous," Batchelor said. "It's an experience of a lifetime for a designer."

Jessica Sanders
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STONEGATE VILLAS

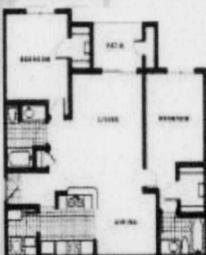
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MENTORS

From page 1

Butler said the most important thing to consider when dealing with someone who is going through grief or loss is that there is no exact pattern to follow. He said it is important to let the person know it is OK to grieve.

"There is no cut and dry solu-

tion for dealing with grief," Butler said. "It is a process. It is important to give permission to one another to make the journey in our own way and in our own time."

Grief is something that everyone has experienced, Kintigh said. She said experiencing grief and loss is not limited to death but includes a variety of situations, such as having an estranged family member or even losing a pet.

When dealing with people who are experiencing grief, people must be sincere in what they say, and must follow through, Kintigh said.

"Loss is something we all experience," Kintigh said. "When helping someone, it's not what you do. It's what you did after you do that."

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Top 10 Trends for Spring at College

- DENIM/SEVEN
- Cargo Pants
- Active Wear/Juicy
- Asian
- Halters
- Crochet
- Pencil Skirts
- Mini Skirts
- Capri Pants
- Retro

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

INS, OUTS

War, Lady Frogs top list for week

Cheers: To free Ben and Jerry's ice cream in The Main Tuesday.

Cheers: To the NCAA for not postponing the tournament games. We need a little normalcy in this uncertain time.

Cheers: For the arrival of spring. The warm weather is nice for once.

Jeers: To Jacques Chirac, not for opposing war, but for taking advantage of every opportunity to put down the United States.

Cheers: To the Lady Frogs as they prepare to play Michigan State Sunday in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Jeers: For still not having a Café à la cart in Moudy. We're still waiting.

Cheers: To members of the armed services preparing to defend the country. Our thoughts are with you and your families.

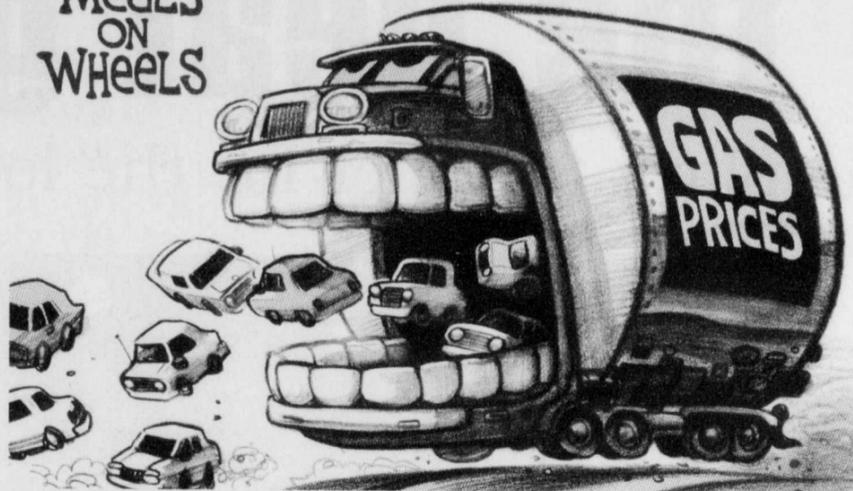
Jeers: To the House of Representatives for approving the change from French fries to freedom fries in the House cafeterias, after the French refused to go along with President Bush.

Jeers: To the Dixie Chicks' Natalie Maines for telling a London audience that the trio is ashamed President Bush is from Texas.

Jeers: To radio stations for boycotting the Dixie Chicks music after they spoke out against the president.

Jeers: To the color-coded warning systems. The colors alone still aren't telling us anything.

Meals
ON
WHEELS



Bush must regard rights

Throughout the history of the United States there has been a steady, progressive move toward liberal social policies that then permeate our society. **COMMENTARY**
Ryan Salzman

During the majority of our nation's first century in existence, slavery was a common accepted practice. By the early 20th century the idea of owning a man was considered nothing less than barbaric. Although, blacks were still considered second class citizens it was admittedly a step up.

Then the civil rights movement brought the idea of equality to a new level by insisting on legislative action and commanding the attention of the country.

Finally, we wrestle with affirmative action in today's society. The progression is obvious.

During each of these major steps there were individuals and administrations who tried to stand in the way. Many times they used the guise of "this is best for America" to fuel their desires. We look at those people and governments now in a shameful manner. No one in mainstream America would hold that Strom Thurmond was acting in a noble manner as he preached racism on the floor of our Capitol building.

This Bush administration will be viewed as the antithesis of progressive thinking. Many years from now we will shake our heads when we say the name George W. Bush.

During the last two years we have witnessed a steady decline in civil and individual rights in this country. The possible ending of Title IX does nothing but undermine the integrity of the Civil Rights Act. Women have fought for the last 100 years for equality and now it is obvious that our current government does not find any value in that struggle. The constant attempts to control what a woman does with her body shows nothing but inconsideration for the intellectual aptitude of more than 50 percent of our population. This is a dark time for women's rights in America.

John Ashcroft just can't find enough toes to step on. He has adamantly insisted on the suspension of civil liberties to preserve the safety of Americans. He will gladly deport anyone regardless of the threats that await them in their home countries. For a man that couldn't even beat a dead man in an election, I would say that he is living up to expectations.

This administration will not go down as ridding the world of evil. Instead it will be considered the purveyor of evil. We take free lunches and health care from children and give welfare to corporations. Airline companies receive bailouts while their former employees receive nothing. Our economy is horrid and our foreign policy is worse. We have a president who won't listen, a vice president whose morals are as good as his heart, a Secretary of Defense who has a bad habit of shooting off his mouth and an inept Congress (both Republicans and Democrats).

It is all okay though. Why, you might ask? Well because "this is best for America."

Ryan Salzman is a senior political science major from Temple. He can be reached at (r.w.salzman@tcu.edu).

Bush's decision hurts U.N.

Now that President Bush has called off diplomacy and given Saddam Hussein and his family a final deadline to leave Iraq or face war, the president has put the final nail in the coffin of the United Nations as a world security force.

The United Nations faced a no-win situation in dealing with U.S. demands: If it did not authorize the use of force to please the United States and Britain, the two countries would attack regardless. And if it did, the Security Council would become nothing more than a "yes-man" for the dominant global power.

Bush has now decided for them: the United Nations will drift into international irrelevance.

The original concept behind the United Nations is simple: the sum is greater than its parts. By forming a democratic coalition of nations to maintain international order instead of relying on nations to independently keep the peace, the United Nations' goal was collective decision-making that would counteract any rogue, imperialist superpowers.

Since its inception by the allied nations during the beginnings of World War II, the

United Nations has been more effective as a worldwide peacemaker than any country, no matter how powerful, could have been on its own. From 1945 until 1996, the United Nations is credited with 172 peaceful settlements including the Iran-Iraq War, El Salvador's Civil War and the removal of Russian troops from Afghanistan. In 2001, the United Nations was commended with the Nobel Peace Prize for its consistently laudable peacekeeping efforts.

Peacekeeping is not the only thing the United Nations does, though. The organization has subdivisions to monitor human rights, international debt and refugees. Other U.N. contributions include clearing activated land mines in countries ravaged by war, providing health care to the populations of less developed nations and providing clean drinking water — more than 1.3 billion people benefited from U.N. water programs during the last decade alone. Global problems of disease, famine or sanitation can be best dealt with by the United Nations because it pools resources from various countries together, rather than letting one country carry the

whole burden. It allows the world to decide together what the most pressing international issues are, and forms task forces to deal with them.

The problem is that countries have to treat the United Nations with respect for it to be effective; and for countries to treat it with respect, it must be effective enough to earn it. Again, it is up to the United States to decide whether a world coalition will remain viable.

Even if the United States and Britain considerably weaken U.N. security by attacking Iraq, the world can at least be assured that the United Nations' humanitarian and relief projects will remain largely unaffected — projects they may need if, say, they're ever faced with an antsy superpower's preemptive war.

While dismantling the government of Iraq and preparing to establish a "democracy" there, Bush must also be thinking of how — or whether — he will help rebuild the trust in international cooperation and peace efforts that is now dead.

This is a staff editorial from the Daily Bruin at the University of California-Los Angeles. This editorial was distributed by U-Wire.

StudentSpeakOut

Opinions from the TCU community

How do you feel about going to war with Iraq without U.N. support?

"I think the United States has taken every measure to avoid war, but Saddam Hussein has made war inevitable."

— Jennifer Thompson, sophomore advertising/public relations major



"It shows that the United Nations is considered unimportant."

— Shelly Ahluwalia, junior finance and accounting major



"No, I don't think that's a wise idea. It'd be creating more problems than you're solving."

— Josiah Miller, senior radio-TV-film major



"I think that our forces have the technology and skills to win a war against Iraq without U.N. support."

— Marcus DeFosset, junior marketing/management major



GUEST COLUMNS

The Skiff welcomes guest columns for publication. Columns must be typed, double-spaced, signed, limited to 500 words and e-mailed to (skiffletters@tcu.edu). Columns must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published. Faculty, staff and students are limited to two guest columns a semester. The Skiff may wish to photograph guest columnists, and reserves the right to edit or reject columns for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Reality TV: Critics hate it, but this viewer's love is real

This is a true story of one stranger (at least a stranger to you) who lives in a house, documents real events in her life in a newspaper column and loves reality TV.

It all began (for me) the summer after my freshman year of high school with "Real World V: Miami." My mom, younger brother and I watched it religiously with a neighbor whose mother had outlawed the show in her home. Fortunately, in our house, the "Real World V" premiere took center stage on the living room television.

"Real World V" was notable for the fact that it was the first installment of the series that had been tweaked by the producers to make it a more interesting version of real life. By bringing a twist — the opportunity for the group to form their own small business — the show had entered into the new generation of reality TV. Shows like "Survivor" and "The Bachelor" have used the same formula engineered in Miami to ride to ratings success, and many others have followed in their footsteps.

Lately, many have criticized reality TV for being contrived, exploitative, demoralizing and stupid. All of the above are, in fact, true in turn. But that should not preclude anyone

from enjoying the second season of "Sorority Life."

The first thing to remember is that "normal" television shows (sitcoms, dramas, etc.) are not real. In fact, many of them are structured to create outlandish plot twists and to feature uniquely one-dimensional characters. Ross, Rachel, Phoebe, Joey, Chandler and Monica have scriptwriters to choose their words and actions; Joe Millionaire and Zora had to improvise.

The two shows may be different in this respect, but the fact remains that they are both composed of people who choose to be filmed for a nationwide broadcast with the purpose of providing entertainment.

Why, therefore, should "Joe Millionaire" be held to a strict standard of reality when we all know that, in real life, Jennifer Aniston would never, ever, date David Schwimmer?

I think of shows like "Are You Hot?" as a different version of football or "Jeopardy," for those who fail at brains or athleticism. Without contrived ways to move a ball around (created, like reality TV, for ratings and public entertainment), how successful would Michael Jordan be?

Of course, many who refuse to make an analogy between "Married by America" and "Wheel of

Fortune" cite the immorality of certain shows as what they find objectionable. And perhaps many of these shows infringe upon the sanctity of marriage. But the truth is, contestants on any marriage-driven show choose to compete.

In America, like it or not, the right to marry is one that any two people of legal age can exercise freely — with whomever they choose. However, if one marries someone of a different race, someone of the same gender or someone they met on television,

dissenters will criticize. But as long as there are 24-hour wedding chapels in Las Vegas, hasty decisions about marriage will be made, with or without reality TV. Whether they will result in a happy marriage or not, well ... this is the land of the free and the home of the brave (at least enough to use television as a medium to find a mate.)

In a time where network TV gets worse and worse, reality TV has become more appealing. Personally, I hope Ryan and Trista do get married and broadcast it in a May sweeps special. And personally, I'll watch it.

Jenny Specht is a senior English and political science major from Fort Worth. She can be reached at (j.l.specht@tcu.edu).

COMMENTARY



Jenny Specht

"I think of shows like 'Are You Hot?' as a different version of football or 'Jeopardy,' for those who fail at brains or athleticism."

FEATURES

Your place for the latest in music | www.skiff.tcu.edu

And the beat goes on

Winterline plays together for the love of the music

BY JESSICA RIDINGS
Skiff Staff

The rhythm from instruments echoes off of nearby residence halls as they can be heard practicing all across campus. They're at every pep rally, football game, Homecoming and Fort Worth Stock Show parade.

You've seen them around campus, and maybe even sat next to them in one of your classes, but if they're not wearing their custom-made black jackets, you probably don't recognize them right away. They're loud and they're rocking. Let's face it, the TCU Drumline is cool.

During the fall season, this 32-member ensemble dedicates more than nine hours of rehearsal time each week. Although the marching band's season ends in the fall, the drummers continue to practice.

While the football team hangs up its helmets and the marching band packs away its uniforms, the Drumline continues to meet to provide the best percussive entertainment. However, this time they do it without the rest of the band. In the spring, high school students, junior college students and TCU students come together to form the TCU Winterline.

Since the 41-member Winterline does not perform with wind instruments, the ensemble must rely on the pit, a section of auxiliary instruments, to provide the harmonic and melodic elements of their tunes. The group works hard to prepare for their three major performances throughout the semester by practicing three hours a week.

All of this hard work and dedication doesn't earn Winterline members three hours of class credit. Drumline and Winterline Director Brian West said students put in the hours of hard work because they want to learn and have fun.

"We're not a TCU course, per se," West said. "The students are not getting credit for this. They do it because they want to do it."

When Kristine Pittman, a freshman music education

major, first heard about Winterline, she was a junior in high school attending a competition at TCU. Once she saw TCU's performance, Pittman said she decided to be a part of Drumline year-round.

"When I auditioned for the school of music, the Drumline director gave me some information about Winterline," Pittman said. "I drove out from Mesquite to Fort Worth every Thursday for rehearsals, and now that I'm at TCU, I just walk across campus for practice every Tuesday night."

Evidently, the word is out. "We had (more than) 50 high school and junior college students show up this year to audition," West said. "This incredibly high interest shows just how much the community enjoys coming together to learn and play music."

Pittman agrees that Winterline has been an educational experience, not only for her, but also for the other members of the ensemble.

"Because the line is open to all high school, junior college and university students, there is a lot of variety in everyone's backgrounds," Pittman said. "The level of experience varies from person to person, depending on how long they've been playing and where they go to school."

Part of this diversity in talent and experience comes from the fact that Winterline is open to TCU students who are new to the world of percussion. In order to gain



The Winterline is a group of high school, junior college and TCU students, who come together to compete with their percussion instruments.

Jessica Ridings/Skiff staff

experience on various instruments, brass and woodwind players are welcome to audition for the group. While these differences in performance level can sometimes be a challenge, they have certainly enhanced the community involvement within the group.

"It's a lot of time, discipline and hard work, but it's worth it," Pittman said. So go ahead and admit it. You're curious about what it's like to hear 11 snare drums, five tenors, five bass

drums, five cymbals and 15 pit members wailing in a gymnasium.

Words couldn't even begin to describe its power. The TCU Winterline is just something you have to experience for yourself. For dates and times of performances, visit the Web site (www.music.tcu.edu/band/winter-drumline.htm).

Jessica Ridings
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A true cymbal player



The cymbal section is an important part of the Winterline. Here the cymbal section is practicing for their upcoming competition.

BY ERICA HOELSCHER
Skiff Staff

Before sophomore Kyle Gummelt started playing the cymbals, he never thought they could pinch his stomach or leave bruises on his hands and chest. Now he plays the cymbals in the TCU Winterline and is experiencing these aches and pains first hand.

Gummelt has always been somewhat of a music man. He has been playing the clarinet in school bands since the sixth grade. Gummelt started playing the trumpet in the spring of 2002, and has recently added the cymbals to his musical repertoire.

He heard about Winterline from a friend. "It's something different to do and it's a new way to meet people," he said.

Brian West, coordinator of percussion, said the TCU Winterline is just like the fall drumline but there is no wind instruments, it is just percussion instruments. The winterline is also different in that the program is open to high school and junior college students, he said.

This is Gummelt's first time to participate in Winterline and he said there are four or five new cymbal players in the group.

Gummelt had never played the cymbals before joining the group, but said his music background helped him learn.

"It's more difficult to memorize the cymbal music because it's not a melody," he said. "But it makes you

a stronger counter."

The five cymbal players in the group are called by their position in line, not their names, he said.

"We don't even go by our names anymore, just the numbers," he said. "I'm No. 2."

He said despite the fact that Winterline takes up at least two hours of his time a week, that it's definitely worthwhile. Group practice sessions are held on Tuesdays and the cymbals section practices on Fridays.

"All the practice will pay off in the end when we have our concert," he said.

Gummelt said the Winterline theme for this year is Latin music. Winterline members are currently rehearsing the song "Oye" by Gloria Estefan and "South of the Border."

"These songs are fun to play and now that I know my music, they are getting easier," he said.

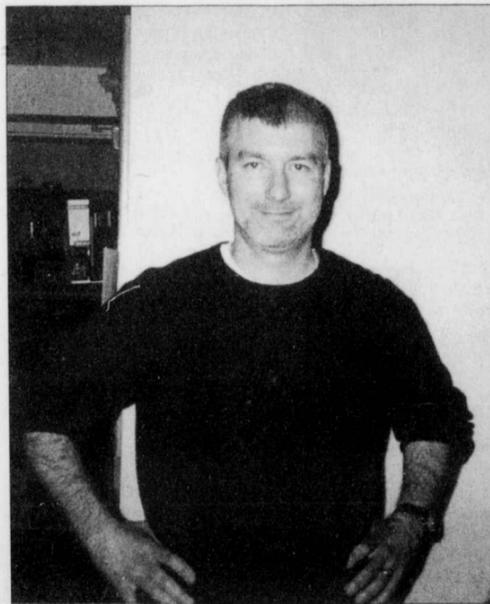
Anyone is welcome to join the TCU Winterline, he said, but it helps to have a background in music.

"You should be able to read music; it would definitely help," Gummelt said.

This year local high school band students are also participating in Winterline.

"It's a good way to show them TCU and our band department," he said.

Erica Hoelscher
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Julie Bandy/Skiff staff

Brian West is the director of the Drumline and Winterline. He is currently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

BY JULIE BANDY
Skiff Staff

If you ask his students, you'll hear that he's a miracle worker. You'll hear that he's the toughest guy around. You might even hear that he will whip you into shape or kick you to the curb.

Regardless of what you hear about him, Brian West is definitely a talented man with a vision — to make the TCU percussion section the very best it can be. As coordinator of percussion at TCU, he instructs the drumline for the marching band in the fall and leads the TCU Winterline in the spring. Since he was quite young, music has played an instrumental part in his life.

"Mother encouraged me to play music and supported me in every aspect of music growing up," West said.

She would provide private lessons, attend every recital he performed in and drive him twice a week from Birmingham, Ala., to Atlanta, Ga., for rehearsals three hours away.

After watching a friend play drumset in the sixth grade beginner band, West knew he wanted to be a percussionist. Since then, he has marched in two drum and bugle corps, earned his music education degree from the University of North Texas and master's degree in performance from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and is currently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

He has a knack for creating drumlines and having them hold their own against veterans with years of ex-

The man behind the music

perience. At Texas A&M University at Commerce, he assembled a line that placed second at its first competition at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, he said. As a graduate student at IUP, he created an indoor drumline that placed seventh at a PASIC contest.

After arriving at TCU in 2000, West created the school's first percussion winterline. In its short existence, he has already seen vast improvements in his students' abilities and techniques.

"The program helps educate more students about marching percussion," he said. "It's a lot of fun and there is plenty to learn."

He said it also brings community members together, which helps recruit new members to the marching band and drumline programs.

West hopes that by teaching local ninth through 12th graders, as well as college students who ordinarily play woodwind or brass instruments, he can change some misconceptions many people have about percussionists.

"These students have to learn how to play more instruments than any other musician, and they have to be able to play many different styles of music," he said. "It takes many hours and years of dedicated study and hard work."

Regardless of the time and commitment he dedicates to his work, West sincerely enjoys what he does. He loves to see his students improve and become better at their craft.

The students are his favorite part of teaching at TCU, he said. Seeing them grow as people, teachers and performers makes the job more than worth it, he said.

Julie Bandy
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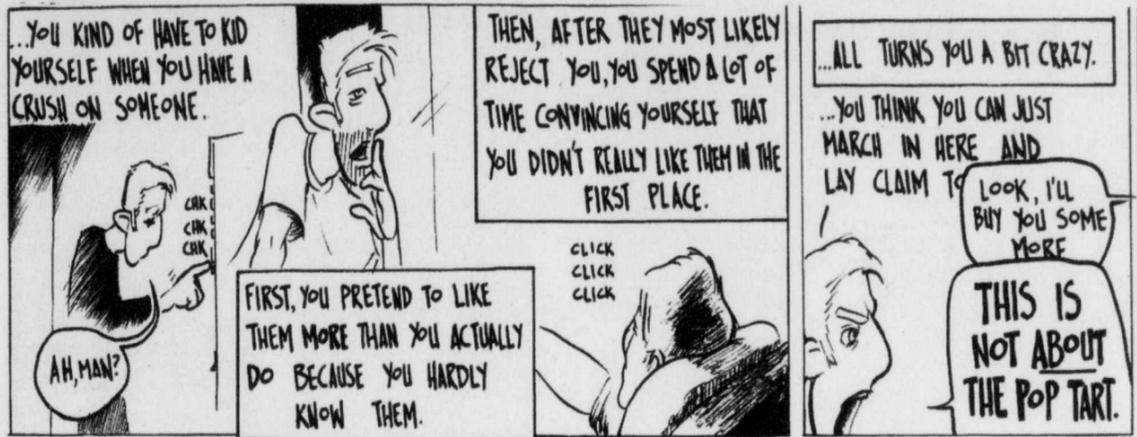
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Today's Funnies

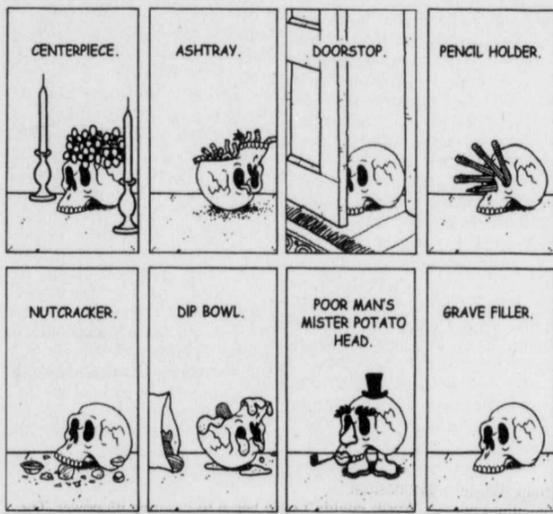
What's It About?

by Jim



The Adventures of Skully

by William Morton



Quigmans

by Hickerson



Bob finally found a gang he wanted to join, but he was a "summer" and couldn't wear the colors.

PurplePoll



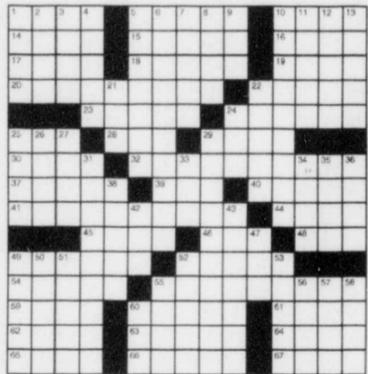
Q: Do you have any friends/family in the military on active duty?

A: YES 43 NO 57

Data collected from an informal poll conducted in TCU's Main Cafeteria. This poll is not a scientific sampling and should not be regarded as representative of campus public opinion.

Today's Crossword

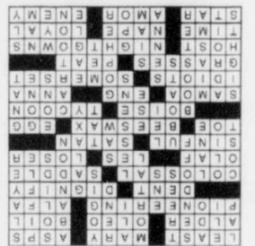
- ACROSS
- 1 Zany
- 5 Ewe's kids
- 10 Slightly wet
- 14 Jai
- 15 Accustom
- 16 Pieces of pevises
- 17 Tabetland
- 18 Farm measurements
- 19 Auctioneer's word
- 20 Outgoing
- 22 Was sore
- 23 Face the day
- 24 Indistinct
- 25 Raises, as stakes
- 28 Picnic spoiler
- 29 Gradual diminution
- 30 D.C. bigwigs
- 32 Rapacity
- 37 Astrological ram
- 39 Apr. collector
- 40 Staircase post
- 41 Sandwich fillers
- 44 Performer's promo
- 45 Afternoon affairs
- 46 Part of TGIF
- 48 Actor Torn
- 49 More wily
- 52 Trap
- 54 Spartan serf
- 55 Medieval musical pieces
- 59 Teheran's place
- 60 Used another match
- 61 Genuine
- 62 Sorvino of "Mighty Aphrodite"
- 63 Atelier stand
- 64 Sea eagle
- 65 Banana wrap
- 66 World-weary
- 67 Frog's cousin



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03/18/03

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The Sideline

Tennis team wins against 53rd-ranked Kansas State

The 36th-ranked women's tennis team earned a 4-3 win over 53rd-ranked Kansas State Tuesday afternoon at the indoor courts of the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center. The win evens the Frogs' record at 5-5, while Kansas State goes to 6-4.

The doubles point was contested as KSU claimed the first win at No. 2, with TCU picking up the 8-5 win at No. 3 by senior Brenna Shackelford and sophomore Ivonne Andrade. Junior Paty Aburto and senior Rosa Perez squeaked out the 9-7 win over Andrea Cooper and Jessica Simosa to give TCU the ever-important doubles point.

Aburto, playing No. 1 singles and ranked 72nd in the most recent ITA poll, made short work of Petra Sedlmajerova, 6-3, 6-0. At No. 2, junior Saber Pierce won her three-set match against Maria Rosenberg in less time than it took Perez to defeat Simosa in two (7-5, 7-6) at No. 3.

— courtesy of
(www.gofrogs.com)

Women's soccer team inks nine players

TCU and head coach David Rubinson have officially announced that nine women's soccer players have signed national letters of intent to play for the Horned Frogs in the 2003 season. The nine players are: Holly Brady, Ashley Fortune, Karissa Hill, Breanne Kaldheim, Angie Nickens, Jennifer Sims, Courtney Smith, Kim Thompson and Jennifer Wehr.

— courtesy of
(www.gofrogs.com)

Frogs lose to No. 8 Baylor

Baylor holds team to only five hits in game

BY EVAN ERWIN
Skiff Staff

The baseball team dropped its second-straight game Tuesday, 10-3, against No. 8 Baylor. TCU's record fell to 13-11.

Baylor was almost too much from the start, as the team jumped to an 8-0 lead. Baylor improved its record to 18-6 for the season.

Sophomore right fielder Jake Duncan had an error in the second inning that allowed the bases to be loaded with two outs for Raider right fielder David Murphy. With an 0-2 count, Murphy saw just what he was looking for when senior pitcher Kyle Shoemaker hung a changeup. Murphy took advantage of the mistake, hitting a double and three runs for his team.

"He had me 0-2, and then hung a change, and the rest is history. I guess," Murphy said. "We just took advantage of their mistakes."

Baylor's freshman pitcher, Mark McCormick, managed to hold the Frogs to only two hits and a single run in six innings.

"Wow!" said head coach Lance Brown of McCormick's performance.

Baylor 10
TCU 3



Senior short-stop Shaff Elkouri tries to make a come back at the plate while the Frogs were down 8-0 in the seventh inning at Lupton Stadium.

Senior second baseman Will Lewis said he was shocked by how well McCormick played.

"I don't think it's possible that McCormick is a freshman," he said.

After McCormick, Baylor's pitching staff didn't fall off much as it allowed TCU only two more hits in the final three innings.

There were a few bright spots for the Frogs in the loss. Lewis was the only TCU player with multiple hits, as he went 2-5, with a homerun and two RBIs. Lewis managed to improve his average to .299.

"We needed to play good baseball. We got ourselves into a hole, and it was just too hard to catch up."

— Lance Brown
head coach

Athletic dept. unveils revamped Web site

Site includes player diaries, gametracker

BY BRADEN HOWELL
Staff Reporter

The most recent unveiling from the athletic department occurred Tuesday, and this time it did not require a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The TCU athletic department, in conjunction with Official College Sports Network, revealed the complete redesign of the university's athletics Web site, GoFrogs.com. The newly revamped site is a fusion of official athletic department information with the latest in digital technology.

Jeff Cravens, president of OCSN, said the company spent four months planning and customizing the new Web site, and that updating is a normal process the company performs with all the university Web sites it runs.

"When we update, we try to react to what the users want and offer more features to fit their needs," Cravens said. "I'm really happy with this one."

One of the new features added to the Web site this spring is the Baseball Gametracker. This feature, accessible through a link on the site, allows a user to follow every baseball game pitch-by-pitch on their computer, and also keeps track of player statistics from each team.

The new Web site will also offer new features such as players' diaries and coach question and answer segments.

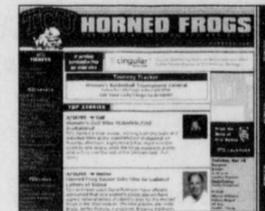
Steve Fink, director of media relations, also said he is pleased with the updated site, and that he hopes fans

will find the site more visually appealing.

"The visual aspect is important to a Web site," Fink said. "This one's easier on the eye and pleasant to look at."

Cravens said the organization of the Web site has also improved. He said the Web site gives users easy access to get whatever information they want about TCU sports.

TCU students, like freshman



business major Jeff Rodgers, said they are pleased with the new design of the Web site.

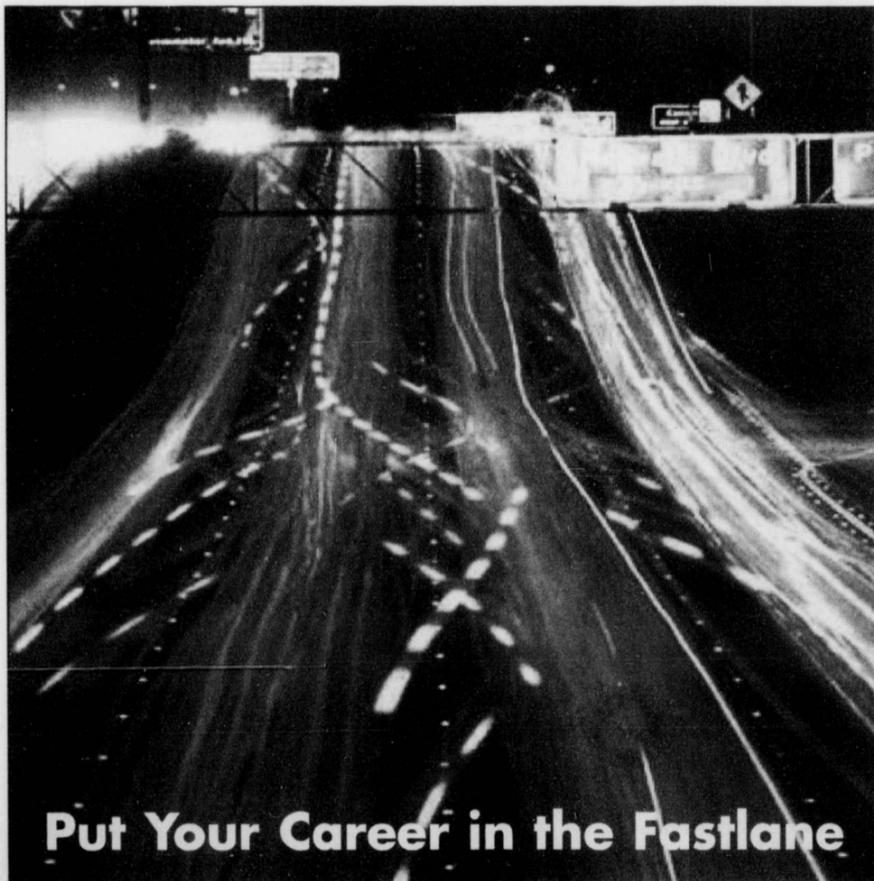
"It's got nice organization," Rodgers said. "I don't always have the attention span to read through long stories, so I like having the top stories right there in front me."

Cravens said he expects the design of the Web site to remain the same for 1 1/2 to two years until it is updated again. He said when it is time to update again, the school will probably have a better idea of what it wants to do, and will want to spend more money to further improve the Web site.

"In a couple years when we do the new site the technology will have advanced even further and this one will probably look outdated," Cravens said.

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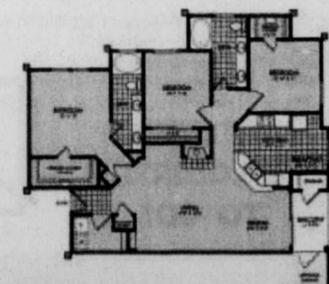
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