

Far and away

TCU offers many opportunities for those looking to study abroad.
Page 5



The Frogs beat Oklahoma in extra innings Tuesday giving head coach Lance Brown his 499th career win at TCU. Page 8



College athletes should be paid for the work they do.
Page 3

TCU DAILY SKIFF

100 years of service to Texas Christian University

Vol. 100 • Issue 89 • Fort Worth, Texas

www.skiff.tcu.edu

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

150-500 Iraqis killed at An Najaf

BY DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

American infantry troops fought off a desert attack by Iraqis Tuesday, inflicting heavy casualties in a clash less than 100 miles from Baghdad. British forces battled for control of Basra, a city of 1.3 million sliding toward chaos.

Defense officials said between 150 and 500 Iraqis were killed in the battle near An Najaf, adding there were no immediate reports of American casualties.

Iraqis launched their attack on a day of howling sandstorms — weather bad enough to slow the U.S.-led drive toward the Iraqi capital.

After the sandstorm lifted in Baghdad, coalition aircraft struck the Iraqi state-run television channel, which U.S. military officials

"He's sitting there in his little room thinking he's having a good morning and whap, we're in, whap, we're out."

— Col. Chris Vernon
British Army spokesman

wanted to hit in order to cut communications links between Saddam Hussein and his military and the Iraqi people.

U.S. troops in control of a vast Iraqi air base sealed 36 bunkers, designated as possible hiding places for weapons of mass destruction.

American officials also issued fresh cautions about the possible use of chemical weapons by Iraqi troops, although none has yet been used in the 6-day-old war — or even found by the invading troops.

As the pace of combat quickened, American and British officials sought to prepare the public for something less than a quick campaign, and predicted difficult days to come.

(More on WAR page 2)



Chuck Kennedy/KRT
U.S. President George W. Bush speaks to military officials during a visit to the Pentagon Tuesday. Standing by Bush are Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, left, and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

Dining services raises plan rates

Amount comparable to what students use

BY BILL MORRISON
Staff Reporter

Dining services plans will increase across the board next year, Residential Services officials say, but the fee increases are not that drastic and keep with what a student spends on food.

The minimum dining plan for incoming freshmen is being increased from \$800 to \$1,000 a semester. Also, returning student plans are raising from \$600 to \$750 and from \$400 to \$500 for students in the Tom Brown-Pete Wright Residential Community.

However, Residential Services Director Roger Fisher said although all plans will be increased, the increases seem more than they really are because the way the taxes are collected is changing.

Fisher said in the past, tax was added onto the bill in addition to the cost of the dining plan. For example, Fisher said, if you put \$800 on your card, his office would bill the student for \$866 once tax was included. Now, the \$1,000 will already include the additional tax charge, so the increase will amount to \$134 each semester.

He said students were confused because they saw a tax on their bill and when they bought something from dining services they thought they were taxed again. Now, they will only see tax at the register.

"The taxing has been very confusing to us and very confusing to students," Fisher said. "So now we hold your money like a bank. You will only pay taxes when you purchase something."

Matthew Gamble, a freshman history major, said students eat out a lot and do not need more money to spend on campus. He said if students need more money, they can go to the ID Card Center and add money to their cards.

"I ate out a ton my first semester, so when spring came around I had well (more than) a \$1,000 on my card," Gamble said. "Instead of making everyone pay more up front, just let those who run out of money add it as needed."

Fisher said only 1 percent of the dining plans is not spent. Fisher said the majority of students add money to their plan.

"We're not going out and ripping students off to the tune of thousands and thousands of dollars," Fisher said. "Most of them are spending the money anyway."

Fisher said according to the National Association of Food Services, it takes \$1,500 to \$2,000 to feed a student a semester. Fisher said the increases are consistent with what it takes to feed a student.

"I've been here nine years, and we've raised the rates for living in the residence halls every year for nine years and students haven't squeaked very much," Fisher said. "But in those nine years we've raised food prices twice and it's like, 'Oh my God, what are you doing?' But this isn't much of a raise."

Beginning last year, money left on student plans at the end of the year was kept by the university, Fisher said. He said this is not done to make money, but that it must be done to encourage and ensure that students do eat on campus.

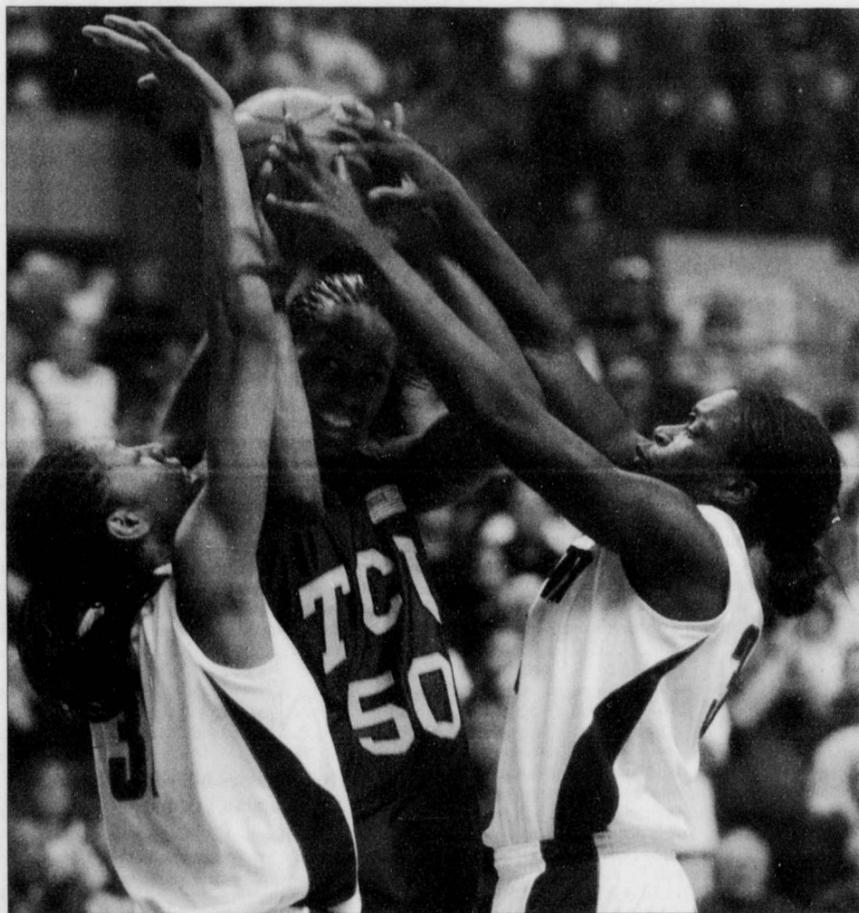
"We have to give our contractor a base to operate from, and we can't do that if we say you don't have to spend anything and you'll get all your money back," Fisher said.

Fisher said unlike other universities' dining plans, Sodexo only gets paid when a student eats there. "A consultant said we should make the students purchase a meal plan and we'll make more money, but that's not the TCU way of doing things," Fisher said. "Here, (Sodexo) only gets paid if you spend it, so they are motivated to provide a better service."

Sue Duncan, a manager of Southern Methodist University's

(More on DINING, page 2)

Well-fought finale



Bob MacDonnell/The Hartford Courant

Sophomore forward Sandora Irvin outmuscles Jessica Moore, left, and Willnett Crockett during the first half of the women's second round NCAA tournament game against UConn at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn.

Lady Frogs stay close, but fall to top-ranked team

BY DONNA TOMMELLE
Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Diana Taurasi scored a career-high 35 points to lead top-seeded Connecticut to an 81-66 win over stubborn TCU on Tuesday night.

The junior guard had 10 points in an 18-2 run to open the second half, erasing a two-point halftime deficit. UConn (33-1) has only trailed three times in the last 87 games and for most of the first half, the

Huskies' home-winning streak of 62 games was in jeopardy.

UConn will play Big East rival Boston College in the East Regional semifinal Sunday in Dayton, Ohio.

Against the ninth-seeded Lady Frogs (20-14), UConn ran into a team just as big and fast. Its problems started in the middle against forward Sandora Irvin, who led

(More on LADY FROGS, page 8)



Ty Halasz/Photo editor

Fort Worth city firemen clear out of the second floor of the Tucker Technology Center after a refrigeration unit that sends freon through pipes overheated, causing it to smoke.

Alarm causes evacuation of Tucker

BY LARA HENDRICKSON
Staff Reporter

Students and professors were evacuated the Tucker Technology Center Monday afternoon and six fire trucks arrived when the fire alarm went off after a classroom experiment went awry.

Captain Robert Webb of the Fort Worth Fire Department said the problem came from a refrigeration unit that sends freon through pipes. The freon cooled, and when it reversed to heat, it was too much for the pipe to handle, he said. The pipe overheated, causing it to smoke, he said.

Webb said it was lucky the smoke did not turn into flames and that the fire trucks were only needed if the incident had turned into a "real emergency."

"You could really call this an experiment gone bad," he said.

Computer science professor Billy Farmer said the smoke was coming from the engineering labs on the second floor.

K. T. Freeman, battalion chief of the Fort Worth Fire Department, said the building was given a sufficient

(More on TUCKER, page 2)

TCU may be home of bowl game

BY BRADEN HOWELL
Staff Reporter

Amon Carter Stadium could become the site of the newest college football bowl game if an NCAA football certification subcommittee approves the postseason game at a meeting next month. Big 12 Commissioner Kevin Weiberg said Tuesday.

Pete Derzis, senior vice president of ESPN Regional, said the idea for the proposed Fort Worth Bowl originated almost two years ago from the members of ESPN Regional as a result of the company's love of Fort Worth and the business it has with TCU.

"We started looking at the geography, downtown, Sundance Square, the stadium, and to us it just seemed like a natural fit," Derzis said.

Derzis said if the game is certified by the NCAA next month, the inaugural game will take place in December 2003 and will feature teams from the Big 12 and Conference USA.

Weiberg said the Big 12 will end its association with one of the eight bowl games the conference has ties to in order to have one of its teams play in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He said quality depth is not an issue in the decision to join the Fort Worth Bowl because the Big 12 conference usually has plenty of bowl eligible teams.

"We like having multiple playing opportunities for the postseason, and we're looking for locations in our geographic area," Weiberg said.

According to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Conference USA Commissioner Britton Banowsky said his conference is interested in a game against a quality opponent that will also help build awareness of the conference in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Derzis said the Fort Worth Bowl would provide immediate benefits for everyone involved, and ESPN Regional has been working on a contract with TCU that would pay the university for the expenses of using the stadium.

"It's another nationally-televised game, and it would provide an obvious economic impact because you would have people in town spending money for a few days," Derzis said. "We're going to create a fun atmosphere for the athletes, plus it gives them another opportunity to participate in the postseason."

Officials from the TCU athletics department said they did not have enough information to comment and would know more about the status of the proposed Fort Worth Bowl next week.

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The Weather

WEDNESDAY

High: 68; Low: 47; Sunny

THURSDAY

High: 74; Low: 52; Partly Cloudy / Wind

FRIDAY

High: 58; Low: 36; a.m. Showers / Wind

Looking Back

1953 — Researcher Dr. Jonas Salk announced he had successfully tested a vaccine against poliomyelitis, the virus that causes the crippling disease of polio.

1997 — Following an anonymous tip, police entered a mansion in Rancho Santa Fe, an exclusive suburb of San Diego, Calif., and discover 39 victims of a mass suicide. It was later revealed that the men and women were members of the "Heaven's Gate" religious cult.

Watch For

Need some good music to listen to? Check out some of our picks on Thursday's Features page.

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THE PULSE

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CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

■ **"To supplement or not to supplement,"** a seminar by nutrition intern Julie Mangelsdorf, will be from noon to 12:45 p.m. today in the University Recreation Center Conference Room. Free samples and free nutrition consultation available. For more information, contact Rachel Julian at (817) 257-7061.

■ **Prime Time Praise** featuring the Word of Truth Gospel Choir and the Soul Steppers, will be at 6:15 p.m. today in the Student Center Lounge. For more information, contact Daron Turner.

■ **Guest Recital** with the Oklahoma University Steel Drum Band will be at 7:30 p.m. today in PepsiCo Recital Hall. For more information, call (817) 257-7292.

■ **The radio-TV-film department** presents "Separate Tables" (1958), starring Burt Lancaster at 7 p.m. Thursday in Moudy Building South, Room 164. For more information, call (817) 257-7630.

■ **Coffee House Night** with Peace Action will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday in the Student Center Lounge. For more information, contact Jeff Brubaker.

■ **Symphony Orchestra Concert** with German Gutierrez conducting, will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. For more information, call (817) 257-7602.

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

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

Circulation: 6,000
 Subscriptions: Call 257-6274. Rates are \$30 per semester.
 Mailing address: Box 298050, Fort Worth, TX 76129
 Location: Moudy Building South, Room 291, 2805 S. University Drive, Ft. Worth, TX 76109
 On-campus distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$50 and are available at the Skiff office.
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 Main number (817) 257-7428
 Fax (817) 257-7133
 Advertising/Classified (817) 257-7426
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 Web site <http://www.skiff.tcu.edu>
 Editor in Chief Jacque Petersell (817) 257-6269
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Smoot: mentoring, connections are keys to success

BY BILL MORRISON
 Staff Reporter

Reaching out and making connections was the main focus of Samantha Smoot's keynote address to attendants of the Women's Community Dinner Tuesday night.

More than 100 people gathered in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors and Center to hear Smoot, a grass roots political activist and executive director of the Texas Freedom Network, speak about how someone can make a difference.

The "Hats of to Women Organizers" dinner started off with attendees decorating plastic hats with paper maché, flowers, ribbons and more.

Once everyone donned their personalized hats, Marcy Paul, director of the Women's Resource Center and Vanessa Nickson, manager of community involvement for Nokia, announced the Nokia Research Awards. The awards were presented

for the third year to three winners: Polly Wright, a senior English and radio-TV-film major; Sarah Lock, a graduate student; and Dawn Elliott, economics professor.

Wright said she was relieved to win.

"I've been so nervous about this, but I'm very grateful that Nokia has chosen to support women and their research," Wright said.

Mandi McReynolds, a senior religion major, said she decided to attend when she heard about the hats, food and great speaker. McReynolds said Smoot offered a glimpse into grass roots organizations.

"Grass roots is the best way to make social change," McReynolds said.

Marchelle Jordan, a senior anthropology and sociology major, said she came because it was an opportunity to learn about women's achievements and how they can be empowering.

Smoot said many women leaders were great because of the connections they made.

"Women took their passion to other people, connect with them, bring them on board, turn around one person, one mind at a time and build something that would make their country, their neighborhood, their state a better place," Smoot said.

Smoot challenged those in attendance to do two things: be mentored and mentor someone. She said regardless of the amount of time you have, continuing to learn and teach through mentoring is important. The connections made are what betters a community, Smoot said.

"It's the connections that we make, sustain and build with each other that sustain our ability to continue to believe that we can make our world a better place," Smoot said.

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Ty Halasz/Photo editor
 Samantha Smoot, executive director of the Texas Freedom Network, discusses mentoring and making connections at the Women's Community Dinner Tuesday night in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni Center.

WAR

From page 1

Still, President Bush forecast victory. "The Iraqi regime will be ended ... and our world will be more secure and peaceful," he said after receiving a war update at the Pentagon.

Saddam saw it differently. State television carried what it described as a message from him to tribal and clan leaders, saying, "Consider this to be the command of faith and jihad and fight them."

If confirmed, the initial reports of fighting near An Najaf would make it the biggest ground clash of the war, as well as the first encounter between advancing American infantry and the Iraqi units guarding the approach to Saddam's seat of power.

A senior military official said the U.S. troops had hunkered down against a sandstorm when Iraqis — either Republican Guard or paramilitary Iraqi troops traveling on foot — opened fire with rocket-propelled grenades.

Some of the 7th Cavalry's equipment was damaged in the attack, the official said.

The unit is part of the Army force driving on Baghdad. Some elements of the force are farther north, near Karbala, with only the Medina armored division of the Republican Guard between them and Baghdad. Muslim clerics in Iran warned against

military threats to shrines in Iraq. An Najaf is the burial place of Imam Ali, son-in-law of the Prophet Mohammed.

Details of the situation inside the southern city of Basra, Iraq's second-largest, also were sketchy. British journalists reported that residents were staging an uprising against pro-Saddam forces and that Iraqi troops were firing mortars at them.

British forces staged a raid on a suburb of the city, captured a senior leader of the ruling Baath party and killed 20 of his bodyguards.

"He's sitting there in his little room thinking he's having a good morning and whap, we're in, whap, we're out," boasted Col. Chris Vernon, a British Army spokesman.

The Iraqis denied all of it. "The situation is stable," Information Minister Mohammed al-Sahhaf said in an interview with Al-Jazeera, an Arab satellite television network.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and others have warned of a possible humanitarian crisis in Basra. The International Red Cross said during the day that it had begun repairs at a war-damaged water-pumping station serving the city.

Annan told Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, the United States is legally responsible for providing humanitarian aid to Iraqis in areas controlled by coalition forces. The United Nations cannot provide humanitarian assistance until security conditions allow the safe return of U.N.

staff, Annan told Rice. White House spokesman Ari Fleischer blamed Saddam for slowing the flow of goods by placing mines near Umm Qasr.

Thus far in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Americans said they had taken nearly 4,000 Iraqi prisoners. There was no accurate death toll among Iraqi troops or civilians.

American losses ran to 20 dead and 14 captured or missing. The remains of the first two to die were flown overnight to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

Twenty British troops had also died, including two killed Monday by friendly fire.

The U.S. Central Command, which oversees the war, announced the capture of an Iraqi military hospital used as a military staging area. Officials said Marines confiscated more than 200 weapons and stockpiles of ammunition and more than 3,000 chemical suits with masks, as well as Iraqi military uniforms. The Marines also found a T-55 tank on the compound.

Secretary of State Colin Powell predicted that the coalition eventually will find weapons of mass destruction, saying "there will come a time, when the enemy has been defeated, to make a more thorough search."

Elements of the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division were about 50 miles from Baghdad and hit Republican Guard units defending the Iraqi capital with an all-night artillery barrage.

TUCKER

From page 1

walk-through before students, and faculty were allowed back in the building.

"They looked through the research lab thoroughly," Freeman said. "There was no reason not to allow students back in the building."

Tyler Smith, a junior engineering major, said he was interrupted by the alarm while working on a project in the building.

"I was in the computer lab when the alarm went off," Smith said. "Everyone left the building right away. It was a little alarming."

Smith also said there was a voiced-alarm sounding in the building that said, "Students evacuate the building," and "Students do not use the elevators."

Freeman said all students in the building learned a lesson regarding the effects of heat, and that the building was only closed for about 20 minutes.

"Probably not long enough for students," Freeman said.

Smith agreed with Freeman, saying he was not anxious to get back to class, but that the speedy re-entrance to the building was probably for the best.

"I really did have a lot of homework to do," Smith said.

Lara Hendrickson
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DINING

From page 1

dining services, said all students living on campus must have a dining program. The meal plans for everyone except seniors are \$1,710 a year, Duncan said. She said their plan is a combination of flex dollars and meals a day.

For students who are not able to spend the money on their card, Flores said they will have a truck sale like they had last year along with special promotions. He said students can also pool their resources and get catered food that ranges from pizza to shrimp scampi.

"Once the (outdoor) pool opens we'll offer catering for pool parties and grill outs," Flores said. "We are also working on doing catering for March Madness like we did for the Super Bowl."

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NewsBriefs

House passes bill restricting campaigning in dorms

The House of Student Representatives passed a bill Tuesday night that restricts student government campaigns in residence halls.

Nick James, chairman of the Elections and Regulations Committee, said the bill was formed because residents complained about the number of campaign posters during the Student Government Association election last semester.

"One of my goals this semester was to get this problem solved," said James, a

sophomore political science major.

Treasurer Chris Mattingly said he was concerned that restrictions on campaigning will make it more difficult for candidates to get to know their constituents.

SGA passed a bill to support TCU joining the Center for Academic Integrity, a national institute to improve ethics on college campuses.

Also, a bill to make the Disordered Eating Network Team an official SGA committee passed unanimously.

— Jessica Sanders

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

ALMOST

TCU puts up a good game against UConn

It's any basketball player's dream — playing the best and beating the best. If the women's basketball team played just 20 minutes in Tuesday's second-round matchup against No. 1-seeded UConn, the Lady Frogs could have fulfilled that dream.

If UConn didn't have Diana Taurasi and her 35 points, TCU could have fulfilled that dream.

Two seasons ago, it was a big deal when TCU played nationally-ranked Tennessee at home.

But two seasons and three NCAA appearances later, the Lady Frogs have played many nationally-ranked opponents. They were even nationally-ranked themselves last season.

TCU kept the UConn game close, closer than what many ever imagined. The Lady Frogs had a halftime lead and led by as much as seven twice in the first half.

After battling back from a bumpy start to their season, the Lady Frogs went on a seven-game winning streak and surprisingly won the C-USA Tournament, making it to the NCAA Tournament.

TCU might have lost Tuesday, but it lost by just 15 points. We consider that a win. TCU continues to make a pretty good name for itself.

An ESPN poll gave TCU a 20 percent chance to beat the Huskies. That's better than nothing. The Lady Frogs aren't national powerhouses like UConn just yet. But they're sure on their way.

If you're going to lose to a team, why not it be the team who grabbed last season's National Championship and might just do it again this year?

Your View

Letters to the Editor

Anti-war protesters need to analyze their motives again

I read in the Skiff about anti-war protesters. Here is what I would like to say to them:

Do you have any idea what the peace you live in right now cost in human lives? Do you know how many people have willingly risked their lives for the safety and freedom of others?

Did you attend religious services this week? There are places in this world where the practice of any religion is strictly forbidden and others where you are "free" to practice only the state religion. I went to my little Baptist church last Sunday with no fear whatsoever of being arrested. I am free to worship God as I see fit, unhindered by any organism of the state. This is also true of those attending the Mosque and the Synagogue down the street. Do you have any idea how precious that is?

Did you wake up this morning with the knowledge that you and everyone of your nationality is on the short list of your country's ruler? Did you wonder if he would find a way to kill you and hundreds like you? Did you fear for your life today? Did you wonder if you or your wife, sister or mother would find themselves in a rape room today? Have you ever wondered that?

Did you come out here today in direct opposition to those in power and ever think it would cost your life? Did you ever once think that President Bush or any of the police would spray chemical agents into the crowd to put down dissension? You have the

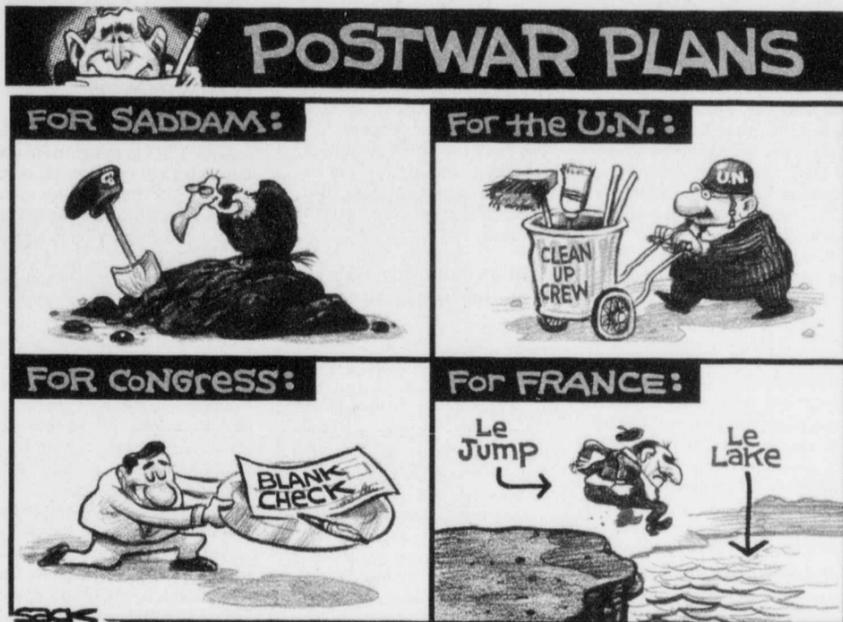
right to stand here and say the stupidest things until you are blue in the face. Do you think Saddam would be so understanding?

You live in a country whose goal it is to ensure your God-given rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. You live in a country determined that you grow up not only safe and secure, but literate and educated and go out of their way to see that those happen. Your country is determined that you have the right you religious freedom, that you can worship whichever god you choose and even say there is no God.

How can you who enjoy these freedoms deny them to others? How can you come out here and say the Iraqis do not have the right to the same kinds of freedoms you take for granted? Freedom only comes with a price. The down payment for the freedom we enjoy was laid down in the Revolutionary War, and the maintenance costs have been paid by the U.S. Armed Forces ever since. They continue to pay for our freedom right now today in Iraq. They are protecting those they love and, while they are at it, those of you who disrespect them from terrorism and a heavily armed psychopathic killer. They are also paying the costs for Iraqi freedom, for those who could not pay it themselves.

So I say to you, go home and say a prayer for the safety and success of the brave men and women defending you right now. And while you're at it, thank God that we have a president who is willing to do the right thing for us and for the oppressed in Iraq.

— Theresa Kenagy, desktop support specialist, Neeley School of Business



Music makes society

Growing up in the Salzman household meant two things. First, politics were to be discussed at length, but argument fostered nothing productive. Second, music was an integral part of daily life.

COMMENTARY
Ryan Salzman

Many a week-end morning has greeted me with rumbling bass from the stereo in the living room. Whether it was Ottmar Liebert, The Beatles or Bob Marley, it did not matter. When I was planning to leave for school in the summer of 1999 it quickly became apparent that my father could have cared less if I had a computer or a car.

He would say, "Do you have a stereo?" I would reply that I had one ready to go and he would quickly follow, "Good. Every time I moved the first thing I would do is set up my stereo and throw on a vinyl." Then I could start to unpack. We must have gone through that routine a half dozen times before school began. Now I find myself getting ready to leave TCU and music has cemented itself in my life as it has in my father's. I try to attend live music as often as possible. Sometimes it is as if the ringing in my ears drowns out the noise of life. It allows the art to linger.

By seeing music as art, I have found satisfaction in many different forms. Eric Clapton, The Roots, Phish, the Eels, Weezer,

such as ours, artists like Eminem, Rage Against the Machine and Bob Marley are necessary to make us realize that there is a peripheral spectrum of reality. This reality exists outside of television and popular culture as a whole. This society has incredible race issues that are far from being resolved.

"Eminem's ability to captivate with his unrelenting talent paired with his message creates a gift that is rare."

All is necessary. In my years of music experience I have never found an artist with as much talent and a socially conscious message as Eminem. Many of you are nodding and many more of you are shaking your head. The great thing is that everyone has a strong opinion of him and his work. Not since Madonna has our culture been so overwhelmed by an artist.

Many people contend that Eminem offers nothing but hate. I say that he is a direct reflection of our society and those who disagree probably have trouble finding any fault with our country or culture. For every verse that is negative (i.e. verbally "murdering" someone) there are two that make a valid point. Most artists make about one valid point an album. In a society that wears blinders

such as ours, artists like Eminem, Rage Against the Machine and Bob Marley are necessary to make us realize that there is a peripheral spectrum of reality. This reality exists outside of television and popular culture as a whole. This society has incredible race issues that are far from being resolved.

This society has poverty and drug problems and obtuse leaders. Eminem comments on all of these aspects of society that we and our leaders prefer to ignore.

Even Willie Nelson recognizes this as true. He says, "Rather than trying to put an end to Eminem or some other rapper, politicians should think about why they are rapping. It's easier to try to censor some kid who is swearing about poverty than it is to stop the poverty."

Eminem's ability to captivate with his unrelenting talent paired with his message creates a gift that is rare. As of now, Eminem is the greatest musical artist of the new millennium.

Music is one of man's greatest creations. It is vital to my life. I only hope more musical artists make the effort to shape society. Musicians have a responsibility to society.

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

College athletes need to be paid

College football has long been the leading contributor of NCAA revenue, helping the governing body to amass some \$331,713,818 in operating revenue for the 2000-2001 fiscal year alone.

COMMENTARY
Will Brown

It is also usually the top donor to the athletic departments of most universities, and keeps many of the non-revenue sports afloat. Schools seem to thrive on the support of various businesses and corporations throughout the community who give millions of dollars to be associated with the program. Everyone who puts their hands out seems to benefit; everyone except the very people who burden the workload. In our capitalist society, it does not matter how hard college football players work; the honest players will never see a dime.

Playing in the NFL is clearly the goal of many college football players. The colleges are just as clearly the minor league for the NFL. The players realize that universities have a monopoly on high-level football for men in their late teens and early 20s and that they have nowhere else to give their service. There must be something done to stop the non-payment and subsequent abuse of socially powerless athletes, and there is little reason why schools can't give players a small monthly stipend of some sort.

Many people defend the universities and the system by pointing out that they are giving these athletes a rare opportunity, a free education, and a foundation for life.

Of course, this is easy for universities because they are dealing out assets they already have in abundance: room, board, books and a spot in the classroom.

College athletes aren't blind to what is going on. They see the full stands, the TV cameras, the souvenirs, the rich alumni and the cash registers. When a player gets caught accepting money or signing early with an agent, or especially leaving school early to turn professional, people are horrified.

Instead, people should realize that the "laws" an athlete may break aren't laws at all. The rules of the NCAA exist only to protect the profit structure of college and professional football. It only makes sense for a football player who had no interest in going to school but to play football to leave at the first chance he gets to begin to make money. Even so, people act as if that person has lost all morals and that his school has done a horrible job.

Such tales are not uncommon. The leading rusher in the PAC-10 during the 2001 season was declared ineligible in early November for violating the NCAA "extra benefits" rule. Running back De-Shawn Foster of UCLA was believed to be driving a sport utility vehicle leased by one of the school's alumni and was put on probation by the school. He expressed his unhappiness with the decision of the NCAA, but nevertheless, was drafted early in the second round of the 2002 Draft and eventually signed a \$5 million

contract with the Carolina Panthers.

In 1997, Penn State's All-American running back Curtis Enis was kicked off the team before its Citrus Bowl appearance for illegally accepting a \$375 suit and a \$75 shirt from an agent to wear at an awards show. How exactly are these players supposed to afford decent clothes if they have to spend all their time on football and not getting a job? Enis ended up the fifth overall selection in the 1998 NFL Draft.

Why cannot athletes be paid some sort of salary? If a big-time bowl game brings in millions of dollars to an athletic department, why cannot the department give each of the players a few grand? The legendary Nebraska coach and current senator, Tom Osborne, said, "We're progressively asking more and more of our players and giving them less and less in return. I hope that if something is done, some compensation could be given to the players."

Something must be done in our institutions to put a stop to the universities who are driven to do whatever it takes to win and make money on the backs of free laborers. Athletes who make a profit for their school should be entitled to receive a small share of the money they work for. Maybe those athletes who struggle to get buy on whatever money they can scrape together can agree.

Will Brown is a junior health fitness major from Waco. He can be reached at (w.f.brown@tcu.edu).

Media face danger in war

Reporters often place themselves in the way of danger to bring a story to the masses. With Wolf Blitzer reporting from Baghdad in 1991 and again in 2003's conflict, Dan

COMMENTARY
Tom Campbell

Rather braving a hurricane to tell America what it was like and Geraldo Rivera reporting from the front lines of the War on Terrorism, once-frightening journalistic pursuits have become routine events for media reporters.

America was reminded how dangerous it can be for newsgatherers when Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was abducted and beheaded in Pakistan and again with the deaths of journalists in the current Iraqi conflict. Even though these and other reporters have taken this higher calling of placing themselves in danger to tell a story, they are still Americans first, and their first job is to serve Americans.

Recently, Huntsville Item reporter and Texas A&M graduate Mark Passwaters witnessed a man assault a police officer and flee the scene. He jumped out of his truck and aided the police in apprehending the suspect.

"The media holds an obligation to the public it serves," Passwaters told The Item. "That doesn't stop at the notepad."

Clearly, some journalists adhere to this higher calling. But some do not.

A 1989 installment of PBS' "Ethics in America," moderated by Harvard University professor Charles Ogletree, posed an ethical dilemma to veteran "60 Minutes" correspondent Mike Wallace and ABC News anchor Peter Jennings. If they were traveling with an enemy army and they learned the army was planning to ambush American forces, would they do anything to warn the American soldiers? Wallace replied that he hopes all journalists "would regard it simply as another story that they are there to cover." Jennings agreed.

Wallace and Jennings believe that their jobs come before their humanity. No journalist should ever make such a poor decision. To choose a story over the lives of humans, especially when you can feasibly prevent the death of not only humans, but fellow Americans, makes you just as guilty as those pulling the trigger.

As a reporter, one is looked upon highly by the public he serves. America brings Wallace and Jennings into its homes to find out what is happening around the world. They are considered leaders in their profession.

War correspondents should be willing to do the same. If they hear about plots to use the feared weapons of mass destruction, they should inform the Pentagon, not just make sure they get a good view for the pictures.

Despite their feelings on the war, reporters should be willing to do what it takes to prevent the loss of life.

Hypothetically, how would Americans feel if Jennings or Wallace had prior knowledge about the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, yet treated them as "simply another story they are there to cover" instead of warning the government and America? Would Americans still be willing to accept them into their homes every night to tell them the news?

They have said they would do as much. Veteran news reporters have a lot to learn from a young A&M graduate.

Tom Campbell is a columnist for The Battalion at Texas A&M University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

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NEWS DIGEST

Your place for the news and world events | Compiled from wire reports | www.skiff.tcu.edu

National/International Roundup

North Korea claims U.S. will attack them after war

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea claimed again Tuesday the United States may attack the communist state after the war in Iraq and spark a "second Iraqi crisis."

North Korea accuses Washington of inciting a dispute over the North's suspected nuclear weapons programs to create an excuse for invasion.

"No one can vouch that the U.S. will not spark the second Iraqi crisis on the Korean Peninsula," North Korea's state-run *Minju Jongsu* newspaper said.

North Korea will "increase its national defense power on its own without the slightest vacillation no matter what others may say," the paper said.

On Monday, Pyongyang said Washington was using the war against Iraq as a test for military action against the North, labeled by President Bush part of an "axis of evil" with Iran and Iraq.

South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun dismissed the allegation as "inaccurate and groundless" and said U.S. officials repeatedly have pledged to resolve the issue peacefully.

Two children, gunmen killed by Israeli forces

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli forces killed two children and two gunmen in the West Bank Tuesday, doctors and media reports said, and three Palestinians were sentenced to multiple life terms by an Israeli military court.

Israeli forces looking for suspected Hamas militants in Bethle-

hem shot two Palestinian gunmen dead after they opened fire on the soldiers from a car, Israel Radio said. Soldiers then opened fire on another car they believed was trying to run them over, killing a 10-year-old girl.

The Israeli military had no immediate comment.

Three wounded people — a father, mother and 15-year-old girl — were brought to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem from Bethlehem, a hospital spokeswoman said.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, a 14-year-old boy was killed and a 12-year-old boy was seriously wounded by gunfire from an Israeli tank, doctors said. The Israeli military said they were shot while climbing on an armored vehicle to steal a machine gun.

Families of POWs speak out about how they are fairing

MISSION (AP) — The footage from Iraq was grainy from blowing sand, but in an instant 19-year-old Joel Hernandez recognized his brother driving the military truck the Mexican television station reported as ambushed.

Within hours Sunday, military and police officers came to the door of his family's small house to confirm the news. Supply Specialist Edgar Hernandez, 21, who is with the 507th Maintenance Company at Fort Bliss, had been taken prisoner of war.

"What are the odds? It's crazy," Joel Hernandez said as he sat in the family living room. "A guy from the (Rio Grande) Valley, has never been out of Texas, goes to war and gets captured."

No one had slept Sunday, he said.

He hadn't been able to focus at his supermarket job Monday, he said, and his boss let him go home.

The room was full of pictures of his brother — looking proud in his uniform, posing with his Fort Bliss division, holding his arm around his sweetheart.

Board recommends NASA re-examine requirements

WASHINGTON (AP) — NASA should re-examine the way it certifies space shuttles as safe to launch because of increasing problems discovered last year that can be blamed on the shuttle fleet's age, the agency's safety panel said Tuesday.

The Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel also criticized NASA for not promising to install mechanisms on the shuttles to help astronauts escape during a disaster, but it concluded that safety for the shuttle program has been a priority that was "first and foremost" at the agency.

The latest report by the panel covered the months immediately preceding the Columbia shuttle accident, so it was not expected to comment on any part of that continuing investigation. The 106-page report noted that it was finished before the Feb. 1 accident and that "no changes have been made to the report as a result of the loss of Columbia."

The panel cited some minor problems during the five shuttle missions in 2002 that it blamed on the fleet's increasing age. It said cracks, leaks and other failures "provide evidence of this degradation and indicate the need for re-evaluation of the certification criteria" for shuttle parts.

Military town remembers dead

BY ESTES THOMPSON
Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. — A flag near the USO in this garrison town fluttered at half staff Tuesday as military officials confirmed that at least nine Marines based at Camp Lejeune have been killed in combat in Iraq.

The Department of Defense said the men were killed in the vicinity of An Nasiriyah, about 230 miles southwest of Baghdad, as Marines poured toward the Iraqi capital.

One base spokeswoman initially reported 10 Lejeune Marines had died in combat, but another later said she could only confirm those deaths announced by the Defense Department. Two other Marines from Camp Lejeune have also died in accidents in Iraq.

As morning came in Jacksonville, a flag in a park near the USO had been lowered to half staff, and the USO's director, Judy Pitchford, tied an enormous yellow bow to a railing outside the building as she opened the center.

Sharea Stone fretted about her husband, who is assigned to field artillery in Iraq. It's the first time Pvt. David Stone, 32, has been deployed in a combat operation.

"When my husband left (in January), I just thought of him being overseas," Stone, 29, said. "I never looked at it as I look at it now."

David Stone's absence now is "stressful, very stressful. I think about him, whether he is OK," she said.

The nine Marines were identified as Lance Cpl. Brian Rory Buesing, 20, of Cedar Key, Fla.; Cpl. Randal



Mike Huttmacher/Wichita Eagle
Patty Trantham, from left, Debbie Seivley-Childers and Joni Routon make yellow ribbons Monday for residents to put up in Valley Center, Kan.

Kent Rosacker, 21, San Diego, Calif.; Sgt. Michael E. Bitz, 31, Ventura, Calif.; Lance Cpl. David K. Fribley, 26, Lee, Fla.; Cpl. Jose A. Garibay, 21, Orange, Calif.; Cpl. Jorge A. Gonzalez, 20, Los Angeles, Calif.; Staff Sgt. Phillip A. Jordan, 42, Brazoria; Lance Cpl. Thomas J. Slocum, age unknown, Adams, Colo.; 2nd Lt. Frederick E. Pokorney Jr., 31, Nye, Nev.

Bitz lived in a Jacksonville trailer park with his wife, Janina, and four children including infant twins. Children's toys — a tricycle and plastic play furniture — rested in the yard.

Marie Heron, Janina Bitz's mother, said her daughter would make a statement about her husband later in the day.

Neighbors at the Pokorney home

said the family had no immediate comment.

Some 17,500 of the 30,000 Marines assigned to Camp Lejeune are overseas.

Flags and signs in their support dot roadsides and businesses all over Jacksonville. A convoy of a dozen or so Marine vehicles, some towing trailers with artillery pieces, rumbled away from the base Tuesday morning over roads that were notably less busy than normal.

Matt Sutton, 35, who was a Marine corporal in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, said the deaths hurt the Jacksonville-Lejeune community.

"I feel for the Marines and for their families," said Sutton, now a service manager at a tire company. "I anticipated casualties. It's not a piece of cake like it was last time."

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FEATURES

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Study abroad options abound for willing students

South America, Europe top list for summer studies

BY REBECCA REYNOLDS
Skiff Staff

The study abroad options available through TCU will allow students to stop watching the Discovery Channel and experience the wonders of the world firsthand.

While many students are aware of the major countries available through TCU's international studies program, most are unaware of just how many travel options there actually are.

The International Education of Students (IES) and the Council on International Education Exchange (CIEE) has programs open to students in more than 35 countries including Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa and Taiwan.

Tracy Williams, coordinator for TCU education abroad, is always one encourage students to take the road less traveled. As a student, she herself studied abroad with the exchange program TCU had set up with Peru. Her face lights up as she speaks of her experience hiking the Andes Mountains in the footsteps of the Incas.

Williams said when traveling in countries unfrequented by tourists, the locals make the trip all the more exciting and adventuresome.

"It's great to be able to really immerse yourself in another culture," she said. "You almost feel like a ground-

breaking anthropologist. The rawness and the beauty of the landscape also add to the excitement."

Additional TCU exchange programs connect with universities in Mexico, Japan, France and London. Summer programs are also available in London, Japan, Scotland, Belize, France, Germany, Mexico, Italy, Spain and Germany.

Williams said that many students are drawn to the European countries for study abroad destinations because they are the most well known. Also, Europe holds a lot of the

history behind our country, she said, and so the fascination grows. To add to the ap-

many see the additional travel options as a selling point, some would rather go to only one country and take it all in.

Brenna Shackelford, a senior neuroscience major, studied in Mexico in summer 2002. She said she took field trips, but the trips never required departure from her country of choice.

"I had lots of opportunities to travel throughout Mexico," she said. "It's location gives you more reason to stay in the country as opposed to Europe where you'd want to travel all over."

Shackelford said one of the reasons for choosing Mexico was the desire to immerse herself in the Spanish language. She said she knew a place like Spain

would give her a break from the Spanish language on the frequent weekend trips to non-Spanish-speaking countries.

"Staying in Mexico the whole time forced me to use and improve my Spanish," she said.

Shackelford also spoke highly of the Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico that TCU has close ties with.

"Like TCU, they take good care of its students and everything is very well

organized," she said. Shackelford found the simplicity of the country very refreshing.

"I loved the experience of being in a less commercialized culture," she said.

Shackelford's experience in Mexico only wet her appetite for more international experiences. She said she is now thinking about attending the brand new program available in Chile.

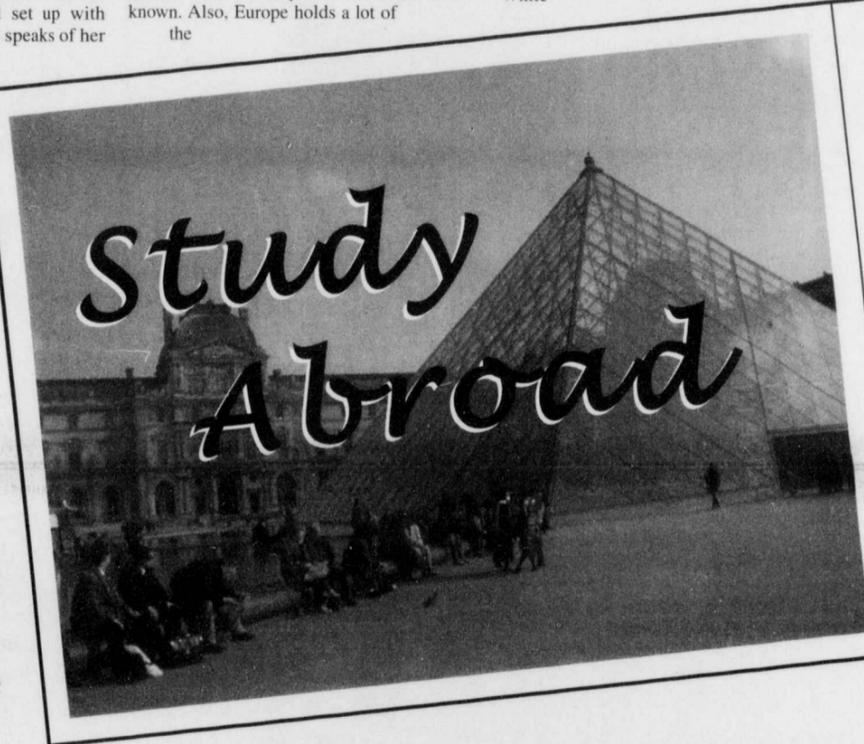
Williams said she encourages students to take advantage of the international and intercultural opportunities available to them during their time at TCU.

Rebecca Reynolds
r.reynolds@tcu.edu



Sydney Opera House

peal, she said these sites offer weekend field trips to countries all over Europe. While



TCU Study Abroad Programs.
Experience the World

Chile program to provide unique experience

BY LINDSEY DINGES
Skiff Staff

For the first time in TCU history, students will be shipped down south to Chile for the new study abroad program at the Universidad de Valparaiso.

According to brochures provided by the International Education Office, the TCU study abroad program covers most of the globe, spanning more than 30 countries. From the beautiful beaches of Costa Rica to the peaks of the Himalayas, TCU students are given the opportunity to broaden their horizons and learn about themselves among different cultures throughout the world. By providing such opportunities, TCU offers students an affordable chance to live in a foreign country, elevate their cultural awareness and integrate with other societies of the world.

Arturo C. Flores, a professor in the Spanish department and founder of the TCU Chile study abroad program, is a native of Chile and said he is excited about the chance to share the culture and beauty of his homeland with TCU students. Chile is recognized for its breath-taking landscape, famous wine gardens and adventurous skiing, Flores said.

"Chile is a beautiful country filled with a diverse culture and one of the fastest growing economies in South America, thus making the experience and opportunities endless for students who desire to visit," Flores said.

Monica Trujillo Clark, a student in the MBA program and native of Chile, agrees that Chile is a country worth experiencing.

"Chile is such a diverse country and has so much to offer," Clark said. "The things to do and the sites to see are unlimited. I think Chile

would be the ideal place to visit for any student interested in studying abroad."

The program runs from May 16 to 21. Flores said the program consists of morning and evening classes — 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m.

"The classes will cover a variety of topics including Chilean culture, civilization and

could never learn in a textbook," Carman said. "Not only was I able to learn more about the language, but about the people as well."

While on their journey in Chile, students will be given opportunities for leisure and adventure during weekend trips included in the program. Flores has planned for the students to travel as a group to the town of La Serena (located on the coast for a stay of three days and two nights), La Ruta del Vino, La Isla Negra and finally a ski trip to El Valle Nevado.

"Each excursion presents its own piece of the Chilean culture to students," Flores said.

La Serena is a colonial town located about 300 miles north of the capital of Santiago. It has become known as a beach resort town and a haven for the wealthy citizens of Chile and Argentina. The town also provides some of the best-preserved examples of Spanish colonial-style architecture in all of Chile and the Plaza de Armas, with its 16th-century cathedral containing the death mask of the Nobel Prize-winning poet, Gabriela Mistral.

La Ruta del Vino is the location of some of the country's finest wineries. Wine tasting is a favorite of tourists and a sure favorite for students wanting to study in Chile. On La Isla Negra, students will be able to see more examples of Chilean architecture and visit the home of the Nobel Prize winning poet, Pablo Neruda.

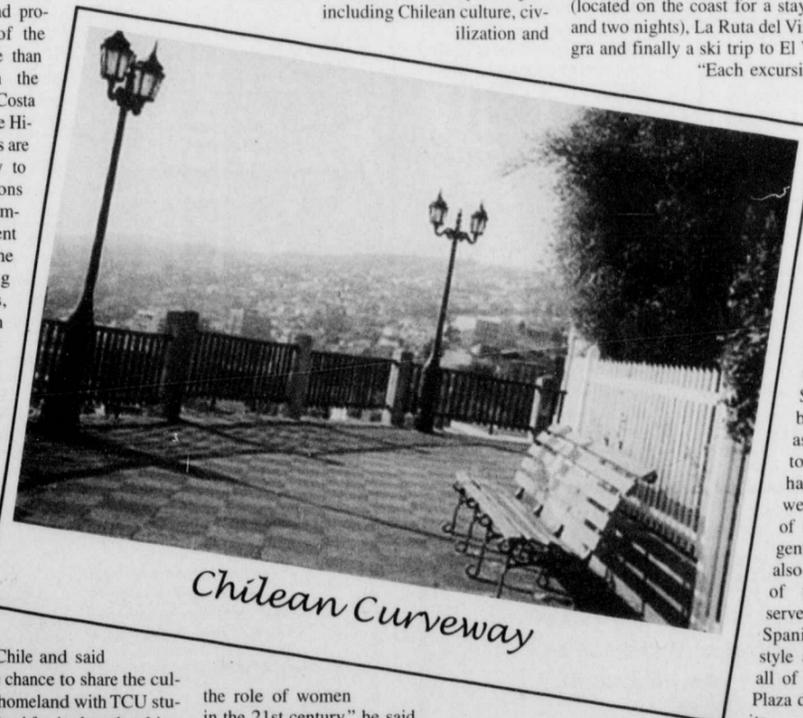
Flores said students interested in studying abroad for the 2003 summer semester can find

out more information at the TCU Office of International Education located in Saddle Hall 16. To be eligible, students must have completed at least two semesters at TCU and demonstrated academic success and motivation. Students are required to meet all pertinent deadlines specific to the Chile program.

Studying in Chile will provide a unique opportunity to improve communication skills in the Spanish language and learn what could never be taught in the United States.

"The only way to truly understand another culture is to immerse yourself into their everyday life," Carman said. "It is a life touching experience that I recommend to all college students and an adventure I will never forget."

Lindsey Dinges
L.dinges@tcu.edu



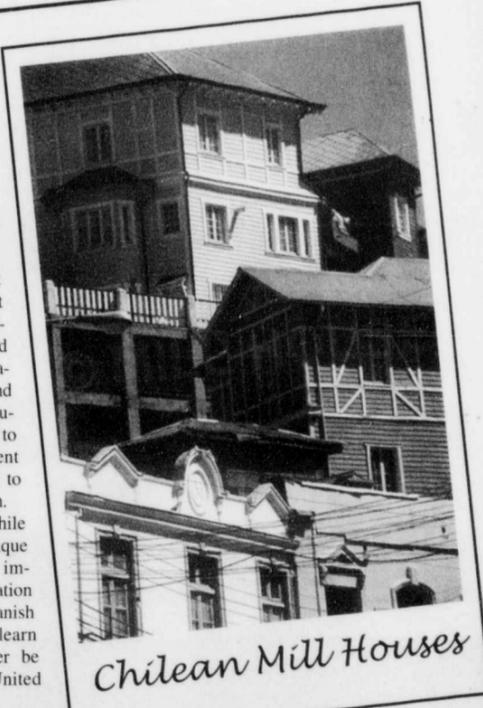
Chilean Curveway

the role of women in the 21st century," he said. Even though a large portion of the day is spent at school, the learning experience extends far beyond the classroom.

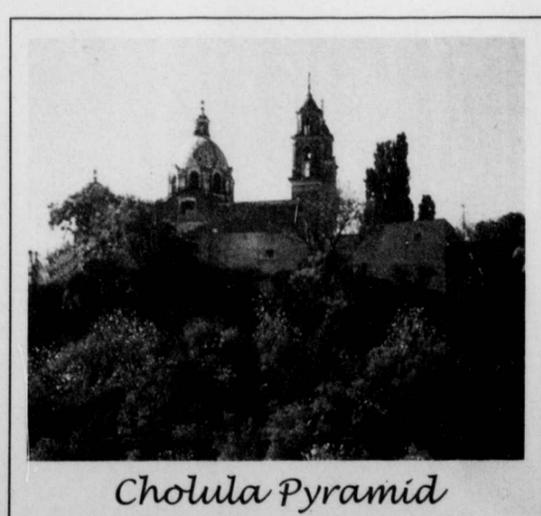
"During the six weeks abroad, they will see all aspects of Chile while visiting various parts of the country and interacting with people from each region within," Flores said. "This allows students to learn first hand of the many facets of the Chilean culture and its diversity."

For example, Nicole Carman, a senior marketing major at TCU, had the chance to study in Sevilla, Spain, in summer 2001.

"By communicating with people in Spain day after day, I was able to obtain something I



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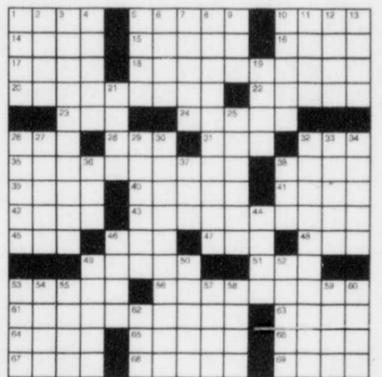
Q: Have you had to add money to your meal card?

A: YES 36 NO 64

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 Scraped (by)
 - 5 Obvious pretense
 - 10 Type of sch.
 - 14 Queen Boleyn
 - 15 George who was Mary
 - 16 Stood
 - 17 Dashed
 - 18 Emissions
 - 20 Marshes
 - 22 Copland ballet
 - 23 Trident-shaped Greek letter
 - 24 Educator
 - 26 Favorite
 - 28 Buddy
 - 31 Food fish
 - 32 Make lace
 - 35 Diversions
 - 38 Ancient Sumerian instrument
 - 39 Spanish bull
 - 40 European capital
 - 41 Summit
 - 42 Somme
 - 43 Transient like vapor
 - 45 Beatty or Buntline
 - 46 Mine find
 - 47 BSA counterpart
 - 48 Axioid
 - 49 Of acreage
 - 51 Distant
 - 53 Put away for a rainy day
 - 56 Tarrying
 - 61 Stargazer
 - 63 Needle case
 - 64 Allied grp.
 - 65 Writer Loos
 - 66 Balford fillers
 - 67 Mature
 - 68 King or Ross formerly
 - 69 Formerly



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Tuesday's Solutions

- 7 Laughing
- 8 Leading the band
- 9 Zeta-theta separator
- 10 Anterior
- 11 Crude cross
- 12 Feudal serf
- 13 Mexican money
- 19 Walked heavily
- 21 Bubble maker
- 25 Flings
- 26 Eucharist plate
- 27 Ham it up
- 29 Current unit
- 30 Ignore
- 32 Keyboard instrument?
- 33 Coliseum center
- 34 Written passages
- 36 Mayday!
- 37 Powerful DC lobby
- 38 Ford du... WI
- 44 Vault
- 46 Dunkable treat
- 49 Symbol of straightness
- 50 Demarcate
- 52 Rugged mountain ridge
- 53 Carried
- 54 Bygone Russian ruler
- 55 Eight. It
- 57 New Jersey team
- 58 Botanist
- 59 Sisters
- 60 Pith
- 62 Apprehend

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SideLine

NFL alters way referees are chosen for playoffs

PHOENIX (AP) — The officiating gaffes in last January's playoffs have produced a dramatic change in NFL policy.

Postseason officials will now come from cohesive crews who spent the season together instead of those who were rated the highest at their positions.

In other words, the difference between a team and a collection of all-stars.

"The commissioner said, 'We can't stay status quo,'" director of officiating Mike Pereira said Tuesday. "One way of doing it is to revamp the evaluation system."

Under the new policy, the eight highest-rated crews will officiate the 11 playoff games, two fewer crews than in the past. The three that are rated at the top will do two games — a wild-card or divisional-round game, plus one of the divisional championship games or the Super Bowl.

The result is that 56 of the 119 officials will work the playoffs instead of 70. "We have always hammered home the importance of being a crew, of teamwork," Pereira said. "But the ultimate reward, the playoffs and Super Bowl, was individual. We think this system reinforces what we want to do."

The change was motivated in large part by commissioner Paul Tagliabue's rare public criticism of the officiating. It came following San Francisco's 39-38 wild-card victory over the New York Giants.

Lady Frogs stay close, but fall to top-ranked team

LADY FROGS

From page 1

TCU with 19 points and nine rebounds.

The school's all-time leader in blocked shots, Irvin dominated inside, putting UConn defenders in foul trouble early. The 6-foot-4 sophomore got solid help on the perimeter as Tricia Payne hit a pair of 3s and Tiffany Evans added another in the first three minutes of the game.

Taurasi brought the defending national champs back with consecutive 3s to tie it at 8, but the Lady Frogs' hustle and size inside kept the Huskies on their heels, and they stretched the lead to seven twice in the half.

With Irvin out late in the half due to foul trouble, UConn found more success inside. The Huskies tied the game at 33 on a layup by Willnett Crockett with 24 seconds before halftime. That lasted just a few seconds as an inside bucket by Tiffany Evans put TCU up 35-33 at the half.

Taurasi took over in the second half as the

CONNECTICUT 81, TCU 66 TCU (20-14)

Evans 3-9 4-4 12, Irvin 4-12 11-12 19, Baldwin 2-9 4-5 8, Shaw 1-3 0-0 2, Payne 4-8 3-4 14, Ortega 0-3 0-0 0, Newton 0-0 0-0 0, Pack 1-1 1-1 3, Gantt 2-9 2-3 6, Wynn 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 18-55 25-29 66.

CONNECTICUT (33-1)

Taurasi 12-17 6-6 35, Turner 2-3 0-0 4, Moore 5-9 2-5 12, Conlon 2-8 0-0 6, Strother 1-7 0-0 3, A.Valley 0-0 0-0 0, Marron 0-0 0-0 0, M.Valley 0-1 0-0 0, Battle 7-15 2-3 16, Crockett 1-6 3-4 5. Totals 30-66 13-18 81.

Halftime—TCU 35-33, 3-Point goals—TCU 5-22 (Payne 3-7, Evans 2-5, Ortega 0-1, Irvin 0-2, Baldwin 0-3, Gantt 0-4), Connecticut 8-23 (Taurasi 5-8, Conlon 2-7, Strother 1-6, Battle 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—TCU 34 (Irvin 9), Connecticut 44 (Battle 11). Assists—TCU 10 (Baldwin 5), Connecticut 16 (Strother 5). Total fouls—TCU 16, Connecticut 21. A—9,181.

—courtesy of Associated Press

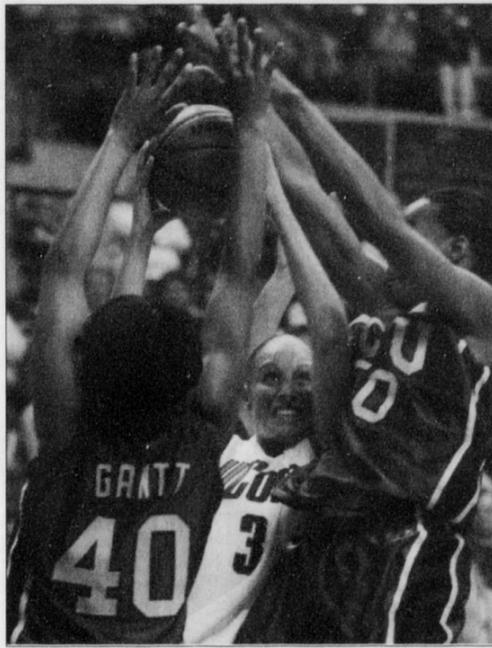
Huskies went on their big run. TCU never recovered and trailed by as many as 19.

But Irvin wouldn't go away. She drew the fourth foul on both Taurasi and center Jessica Moore in the final 10 minutes. With both out, TCU went on an 11-2 run, which included Irvin going 8-of-10 from the foul line.

Taurasi returned in time to hit a 3-pointer with 8:11 left as the Huskies held off the Lady Frogs the rest of the way.

Ashley Battle finished with 16 points and a team-high 11 boards for UConn. Moore had a dozen points and nine boards as UConn outrebounded TCU 44-34.

Payne had 14 points for TCU and Evans added 12. The Lady Frogs failed to advance beyond the second round for the third straight year.



Michael McAndrews/The Hartford Courant
Diana Taurasi attempts a shot between senior forward Grace Grant and sophomore forward Sandora Irvin in the first half of play against the Huskies at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn.

Frogs beat Sooners



Ty Halasz/Photo editor
Senior shortstop Shaff Elkouri cracks out a foul in the top of the seventh inning against Oklahoma Tuesday night at Lupton Stadium. TCU won the contest 4-3.

BY EVAN ERWIN
Skiff Staff

The baseball team showed confidence and composure Tuesday night when it went into the ninth inning down a run to the No. 27 Oklahoma Sooners.

With one out and a runner on second, first baseman Chris Neuman hit the first pitch he was offered, up the middle, scoring pinch runner Jeff Reed. Neuman's RBI tied the score at three and sent the game into extra innings.

TCU's heroics finally came in the 11th inning. With catcher Justin Hatcher on firstbase, first baseman Jared Lundeen, who has been out since Feb. 9 with a broken hand, drove a single into center. An error by OU centerfielder Reggie Willits allowed Hatcher to come all the way around the bases and score the winning run.

"We were in a no-double situation, so I wasn't supposed to dive," Willits said. "It was my job to keep it in front and it kind of skipped to the side. I still got to keep it in front."

Lundeen came to the plate with the intentions to sacrifice Hatcher to second, but he ended up being the hero.

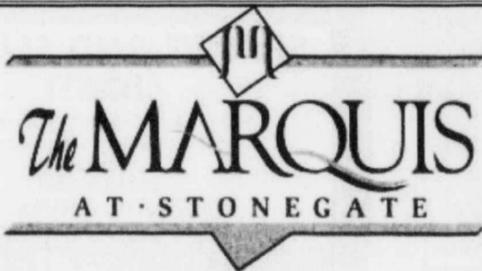
"I came in relaxed, expecting to bunt, but I didn't get the first (pitch) down, so coach took the sign off," Lundeen said. "I guess I just got lucky."

Head coach Lance Brown wasn't able to watch TCU's 17th win of the season, his 499th career win at TCU. Brown got in an argument with firstbase umpire Ken Eldridge in the third inning.

It appeared the argument was settled as Brown was on his way back to the dugout, when Eldridge all of a sudden threw his arm up and gestured toward the clubhouse. After a few more words, Brown took his time going back toward the dugout, even stopping behind the pitchers mound to tie his shoe.

The Frogs play this weekend in a three-game home series against the Houston Cougars.

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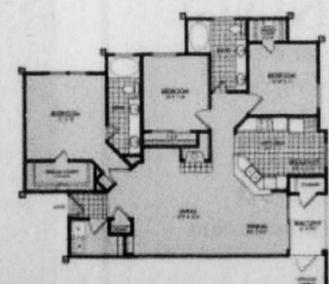
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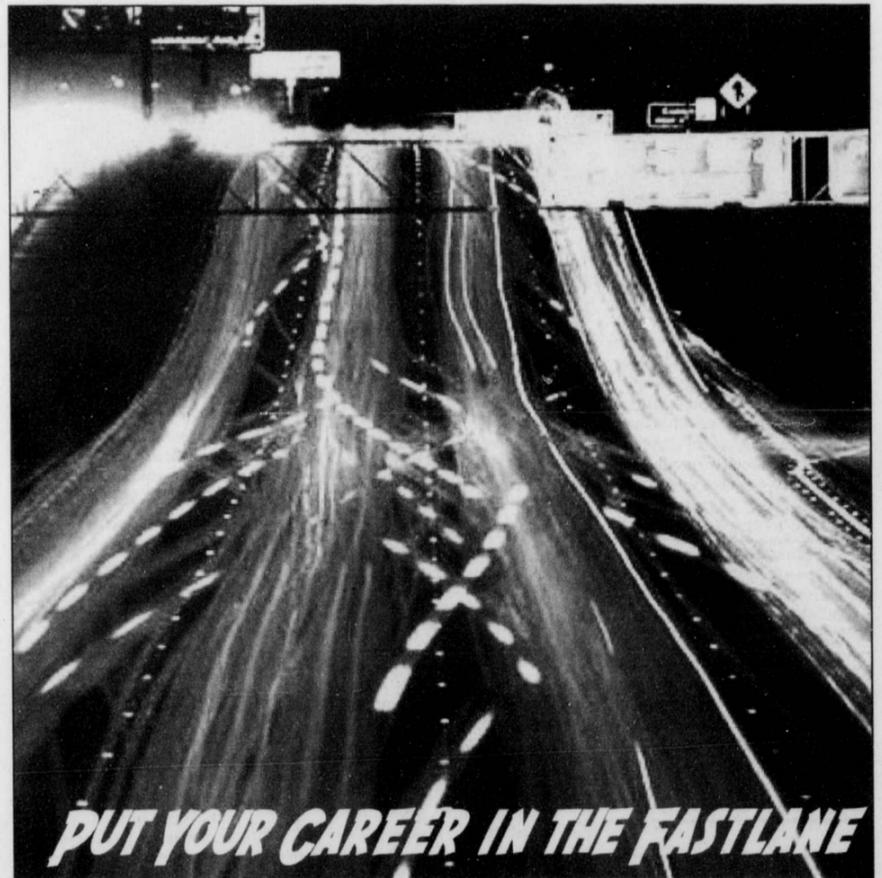
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