

## Tourney bound

The men's tennis team leaves today for the C-USA tournament.

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Sickness should be counted as an excused absence. Page 3

The fight for equal pay for women isn't over, so get involved. Page 3

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

100 years of service to Texas Christian University

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Tuesday, April 15, 2003

## Trustees OK debt policy, dining facility survey

### Meeting marks Ferrari's final time with board

BY JACQUE NGUYEN  
Staff Reporter

The spring Board of Trustees meeting Friday was a bittersweet moment for Chancellor Michael Ferrari. His 15th and final TCU board meeting signified that his five-year tenure is coming to a close.

Ferrari offered a personal statement of appreciation for the board's support during his administration.

"We appreciate so much your support over the past five years and we look forward to a continuing relationship with TCU in the coming

years," Ferrari said. "Jan and I have had the opportunity to spend time with Victor Boschini and we are confident that the university will be in good hands as you and he chart the continuing advancement of TCU."

In his final report to the board, Ferrari said it was good to be able to report that freshman applications are at an all-time high with another record number of applications at 7,565 for fall 2003.

Laura Miller, chairwoman of the Student Relations Committee, said that in his report, Ferrari assured the board about the university's ongoing review of the Emergency Preparedness Plan's procedures and policies in times of war.

She said Ferrari updated the board on the impact of the state's current budget discussions on the Tuition

Equalization Grant (TEG) program, a need-based program that grants qualified students up to \$3,500 if they choose to attend a private Texas college or university.

Larry Lauer, vice chancellor for marketing and communication, said the program is expected to be cut anywhere from 12.5 percent to 20 percent. He said the cut will significantly impact the 1,533 students who receive approximately \$4.1 million in TEG grants from the state.

But overall, Ferrari said, the university is doing financially well.

"The financial health of the university is very good, especially when considering the severe stresses being felt at many public and private institutions in the nation," Ferrari said.

Carol Campbell, vice chancellor of finance and business, said a long-

term debt policy was passed to set guidelines for an acceptable amount of debt.

Miller said TCU has very little debt relative to other universities of its size.

"For an organization the size of TCU, there is an appropriate level of debt because of improvements like the rec. center and residential halls," Miller said.

Miller said the university has raised \$20 million this fiscal year, which is below the goal but is expected because of the extreme challenges in the economy.

Ferrari also said the board approved a study plan for a new stand-alone dining facility.

Don Mills, vice chancellor of student affairs, said the Student Center has a centralized food service and is

driven by this service. He said this is a strategy to start moving on renovations to the Student Center.

"If (TCU) can get a free-standing food service, we can renovate the Student Center," Mills said. "It would immediately free up about 20,000 square-feet for space for student activities and services."

Mills said \$200,000 is an estimate of what would be needed to pay for working with consultants and experts on this proposed renovation.

Miller said plans for a groundbreaking of a basketball practice facility for the men's and women's teams is set for early this summer. She said funds for the facility are more than \$4.3 million, approaching the goal of \$5 million.

Miller said resolutions were passed honoring Earle B. Barnes, an

emeritus trustee who passed away March 20, Kenneth Barr for his service as mayor of Fort Worth and Duane Cummins for his service as interim president of Brite Divinity School.

Miller said the board elected Spencer Hayes of Nashville, Tenn., who has served on the board since 1987, to emeritus trustee. Mary Ralph Lowe, CEO of Maralo, an oil and gas company and benefactor of the Erma and Ralph Lowe Chair of Texas History at TCU, was elected to a four-year term as trustee. Eleven trustees were re-elected for another four-year term, including Chairman of the Board John Roach and Secretary of the Board Jean Walbridge.

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## Tikrit falls with light resistance

BY DAVID ESPO  
Associated Press

Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit fell Monday with unexpectedly light resistance, the last Iraqi city to succumb to overpowering U.S.-led ground and air forces. A senior Pentagon general said "major combat engagements" probably are over in the 26-day-old war.

As fighting wound down, Pentagon officials disclosed plans to pull two aircraft carriers from the Persian Gulf. At the same time, Iraqi power brokers looked ahead to discussions on a postwar government at a U.S.-arranged meeting set for Tuesday.

"I would anticipate that the major combat engagements are over," Maj. Gen. Stanley McChrystal told reporters at the Pentagon. Tikrit fell with no sign of the ferocious last stand by Saddam loyalists that some military planners had feared.

Secretary of State Colin Powell hinted at economic or diplomatic sanctions against Syria, saying the government is developing a weapons of mass destruction program and helping Iraqis flee the dying regime. Syrian officials denied the charges.

Looting eased in Baghdad after days of plundering at government buildings, hospitals and an antiquities museum, and group of religious and civil opposition leaders met in the capital to plan efforts at renewing power, water, security and other vital services.

American forces found prodigious amounts of Iraqi weaponry, French-made missiles and Russian



Spc. Shoshana Johnson, 30, of El Paso, is escorted to a C-130 transport en route to Kuwait Sunday. Johnson and six other American prisoners were found alive and well Sunday after their captors fled from U.S. Marines advancing towards Tikrit.

anti-tank rocket launchers among them. And Army troops discovered thousands of microfilm cartridges and hundreds of paper files inside a Baath Party enclave as the dead regime began yielding its secrets.

In Tikrit, about 90 miles north of Baghdad, "There was less resistance than we anticipated," Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks told reporters, as American ground troops moved into the city after days of punishing

airstrikes. American forces captured a key Tigris River bridge in the heart of town and seized the presidential

(More on TIKRIT, page 2)

## Granger speaks on life in politics

BY BRENT YARINA  
Staff Reporter

It was not until a liquid waste disposal plant was to be constructed in her backyard that the first republican woman elected to Congress from Texas decided to enter the field of politics.

Congresswoman Kay Granger, who served as a city council member and the mayor of Fort Worth, told 40 students at the College of Republicans meeting Monday night the story of her transition from a teacher and a small-business owner to a distinguished politician.

"I never started out to be in politics," Granger said. "It was never in my game plan."

However, she said, she realized a future in politics was inevitable after she successfully led a campaign against the construction of

the disposal plant in her backyard. Granger said she earned respect for her work in preventing the plant's construction and she also gained a lot of confidence.

She said following her first experience in politics, which consisted of two terms as a Fort Worth City Council member, she then decided to run for the mayor of Fort Worth.

"As the mayor, you have to learn on the job," Granger said. "There's no class to take to learn how to be mayor. I spent 15 hours a day working."

Despite the long hours Granger endured as the mayor, she said, the position's experiences prepared her to become a member of Congress.

Granger also answered student questions about situations she has

(More on GRANGER, page 2)

## Health Center ranks with nation's top



Brown-Lupton Student Health Center officials say the center is in prime condition.

BY EMILY BAKER  
Staff Reporter

Though many university health centers do not make the grade in quality health care, according to a study done by *The Wall Street Journal*, TCU's Health Center is in prime condition, said Marilyn Hallam, assistant to the director of the

Health Center.

The main problems for universities pointed out in the study are that health centers have typically not been remodeled or updated in decades, the medical staff are not board certified and hours are not convenient for students. But Hallam, assistant to the director of the

(More on HEALTH, page 2)

## City proposes adding tow zones on east campus



Fort Worth City Councilwoman Wendy Davis discusses with local residents Monday night the possibility of tow trucks being licensed to tow cars around TCU's east campus without needing police tickets.

### Plan also includes restricting parking on resident streets

BY SARAH KREBS  
Staff Reporter

The City of Fort Worth Transportation and Public Works Department proposed Monday night that the city restrict parking on residential streets and add tow zones around TCU's east campus.

City Councilwoman Wendy Davis and the Transportation and Public

Works Department met with area residents at St. Stephens Presbyterian Church to discuss the plan, which would go into effect by August if it is approved by the city council within the next month and a half.

Joe Ternus, assistant director of the Transportation and Public Works Department, said he wanted to focus on having a fire truck or car being able to pass on the street without a problem.

"We are trying to keep the character of these streets, and because they are narrow, we need to protect the citizens and keep the streets open," Ternus said. "We think there is not enough

(More on PARKING, page 2)

### The Weather

**TUESDAY**  
High: 79; Low: 63; Cloudy/Wind

**WEDNESDAY**  
High: 82; Low: 53;  
a.m. Clouds/p.m. Sun

**THURSDAY**  
High: 78; Low: 60;  
Partly Cloudy

### Looking Back

**1865** — President Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, died from an assassin's bullet. He was shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington the night before.

**1912** — The British ocean liner Titanic sunk into the North Atlantic Ocean about 400 miles south of Newfoundland, Canada. The massive ship, which carried 2,200 passengers and crew, had struck an iceberg 2 1/2 hours before.

### Watch For

Need some decorating tips? Check out Thursday's Features page for some ideas.

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# THE PULSE

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## CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

■ **Community Council**, sponsored by Programming Council, will have a meeting at 8 p.m. today in the Student Center, Room 222. For more information, contact Brad Thompson.

■ **African Heritage Organization** will have a meeting at 7 p.m. today in the Student Center, Room 211. For more information, contact Rahwa Neguse.

■ **Philosophy Club** presents "The Human-Animal Continuum," a lecture by Carol Thompson, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. today in Reed Hall, Room 117.

■ **Trumpet Ensemble**, with director Jon Burgess, will be at 7:30 p.m. today in PepsiCo Recital Hall. For more information, call (817) 257-7602.

■ **KinoMondo Film Series** presents "El Callejon de Los Milagros" (Mexico) at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Sid Richardson, Lecture Hall 1. For more information, call (817) 257-7292.

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](mailto: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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## PARKING

From page 1

respect for parking signs and, that if we add the tow away zones, people won't do it more than once."

The city proposed that it installs signs preventing parking within 30 feet of intersections, that it installs tow away signs and that there be no parking on the west side of streets that run north to south and no parking on the north side of streets that run east to west.

Davis said the repercussions now are not enough to thwart the problem and that the best way the city can react is to add the tow away signs. She said she was working with the police and courts to find a way to legally allow tow companies to tow cars without having the police give a ticket first.

"If they have a violation on TCU they pay \$75, but they pay \$12 to the city and they can get dozens of tickets," Davis said. "TCU won't release transcripts or let the student enroll if they have too many tickets."

Members of the University Place Homeowner's Association, the Frisco Heights Neighborhood Association and the Paschal Neighborhood Association also discussed other short-term plans to lessen the congested street problem.

Mark Scott, who lives on West

Cantey Street, said he knows that TCU has gotten rid of three major parking areas without adding more accommodations for the students, but that something needs to change to improve the situation.

"I had my driveway blocked four times last year and called the police and they took an hour and a half to get here, and by that time the students were gone," he said.

Larry Falcone, who lives on Cockrell Avenue, said he thinks that higher ticket prices, cars being towed away and maybe even using a car boot would be the best action.

"I wouldn't live in the TCU area if I didn't like TCU and I have nothing against the students, but something needs to be done about parking," Falcone said.

Melissa Moyer, a senior biology major, said she understands the residents are concerned but that TCU does not provide enough spaces.

"It sucks, but what else are you supposed to do if you can't find a place to park?" Moyer said. "They also took away about 150 spaces to build a new building."

Moyer said if the proposition is in place next fall it will anger TCU students and might contribute to students leaving TCU.

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## GRANGER

From page 1

had to deal with as a congresswoman, especially with her increased responsibilities pertaining to homeland security and the war.

"Republicans aren't more for this war than democrats," she said. "No one was ever for this war. No one wanted a war. Republicans simply trust executives that there is a big enough threat to have a war."

Granger said her decision to run for Congress was not official until the Republican Party was elected to a majority of the seats in the House.

"The democrats were spending too much money, creating a large deficit," she said. "I liked the republican theory of being determined to meet a balanced budget."

Granger said with the Republican Party now representing the majority, she predicts America will have a balanced budget by 2010.

Jenny Stutheit, president of the College of Republicans, said Granger was invited to speak at TCU because she represents republican values and can promote the political party's ideals to the university's students.

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Emily Turner/Photographer  
 Congresswoman Kay Granger talks to students Monday night in the Student Center about her duties in Washington, D.C. and her experiences in politics. Granger also discussed her roles and responsibilities during her term as Fort Worth mayor.

## HEALTH

From page 1

lam said these were never problems at TCU. "Many of the shortfalls cited in the study aren't relevant to us," Hallam said. The problems cited in the study have been taken care of before they became problems, Hallam said.

Hallam said the Health Center was remodeled a year and a half ago. She said all three doctors are board certified, the center's nurse practitioner is certified in her area of specialty (women's health) and the physicians' assistant is also board certified.

Schools with "most impressive" ratings like Harvard University have a practitioner on-site 24 hours a day while a previously high-rated school like the University of California in Berkeley is losing 26 full-time positions in its health center due to budget cuts. Poorly-rated schools like Sarah Lawrence College have no doctors and never more than two nurse practitioners.

The annual operating cost for the Health Center is just less than \$600,000, said Provost and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Don Mills.

Hallam said there are no planned staff or budget cuts for the Health Center and that their hours of 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. are sufficient to care for students.

Sophomore political science and broadcast journalism major Blake Williams said he feels hours could be longer to be more accommodating but that it has run smoothly when he has gone.

"People don't always get sick during working hours," Williams said. "If they were open a little longer, it would be more accessible to more people."

Senior interior design major Tracy Null said the Health Center operations are smooth and efficient.

"They seem to get people through pretty

quickly," Null said. "It only gets backed up during flu season and during the afternoon. But if you go in the morning, you'll be OK."

Hallam said the average time spent in the waiting room is 20 minutes. With the exception of women's health appointments, students are seen in the order in which they came to the Health Center. The center tried to schedule appointments with students years ago, but that did not work well, Hallam said.

"Students, being students, wouldn't show up for their appointments," Hallam said. "They would get busy or forget and not show up."

The Health Center requires that all students taking nine or more hours have health insurance, Hallam said. That encourages students to see the doctor when they need to because they know the cost will be covered, Hallam said.

The Health Center also has a good relationship with specialists, hospitals and outpatient facilities in the area, Hallam said. That makes getting special appointments or X-rays for students quick and easy, Hallam said.

Null said she once needed an X-ray and that the Health Center set everything up for her at an out-patient facility.

"The Health Center gave me all the information and the location and told me exactly what I needed to do and were very helpful," Null said.

But senior interior design major Nancy Hogan said she will not return to the center because once she was put on the wrong medication until she got her blood test results.

"They never called me, so my mom called," Hogan said. "They wouldn't give the results to her, so I had to go down there for the test results. Then they gave me steroids, which scares me."

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## TIKRIT

From page 1

palace without a fight as they rolled past abandoned Iraqi military equipment.

They set up checkpoints to keep prominent regime figures from leaving, and a line of armored vehicles was parked in front of a bazaar inside the city.

"We have had engagements, and we have defeated the enemy in every one of those engagements," said Capt. Frank Thorp, a spokesman at U.S. Central Command.

The operation inside Tikrit, Brooks added, "is really the only significant combat action that occurred within the last 24 hours." McChrystal told reporters, "I think we will move into a phase where it (combat) is smaller, albeit sharp fights."

With Saddam and his two sons dead or in hiding, his regime gone and his armed forces routed, U.S. commanders took steps to reduce American firepower in the war zone.

A U.S. defense official said two of five aircraft carrier battlegroups in the region would soon be leaving, the USS Kitty Hawk returning to its base in Japan and the USS Constellation to San Diego. Each carrier has about 80 warplanes, including F/A-18 and F-14 strike aircraft as well as surveillance and other support craft.

The Air Force already has sent four B-2 stealth bombers home.

In a reminder of lingering hazards, two soldiers with the Army's V Corps were killed and two wounded when a grenade exploded accidentally at a checkpoint south of Baghdad and a third soldier was killed and another wounded in an accidental shooting near Baghdad International Airport, Central Command said.

With fighting on the wane, troops continued their search for remaining POWs as well as evidence of weapons of mass destruction.

Maj. Trey Cate, a spokesman for the 101st Airborne Division, said tests were planned on 11 shipping containers found buried near Karbala with lab equipment inside.

A team of experts from the CIA and Defense Intelligence Agency also has arrived in the Persian Gulf region to search for clues to the whereabouts of Capt. Scott Speicher, a Navy pilot shot down during the 1991 Gulf War, officials said.

U.S. official said an Iraqi nuclear scientist, Jaffar al-Jaffer, had surrendered to authorities in an unidentified Middle Eastern country in recent days and was being interviewed by Americans.

On Saturday, Saddam's top science adviser, Lt. Gen. Amer al-Saadi surrendered to U.S. forces.

In Washington, Powell became the latest senior administration official to accuse Syria of harboring former members of Iraq's regime and of maintaining a chemical weapons program.

"Of course, we will examine possible measures of a diplomatic, economic or other nature as we move forward," Powell told reporters.

Fayssal Mekdad, Syria's deputy ambassador to the United Nations, denied it. "There is no cooperation. We have no chemical weapons," he said.

In London, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Syrian President Bashar Assad had personally assured him that his government "would interdict anybody" crossing the border from Iraq. "And I believe they are doing that," Blair told the House of Commons.

More and more, efforts were turning to building a postwar Iraq. Officials made preparations for a meeting Tuesday in the southern city of Ur, said to be the birthplace of the biblical patriarch Abraham.

There, Iraqis from inside and outside the country will begin discussions on the shape of a future government.

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**Easter Sunrise Service**  
 6:30 a.m. on April 20, 2003  
 on the lawn of Sadler Hall  
 "A tradition spanning more than three decades."  
 A worship service led by TCU students and a presentation by the Sunrise Players  
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# OPINION

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## The Skiff View

### DECISIONS

Lawmakers shouldn't overlook the TEG

Tuition Equalization Grant. Know what that is? Maybe not. Only about 20 percent of TCU students receive the TEG. But if Texas lawmakers have their way, even fewer students may be receiving it. The TEG is a need-based program that grants qualified students up to \$3,500 if they choose to attend a private Texas college or university. The program is expected to be cut anywhere from 12.5 percent to 20 percent. The cut will significantly impact the 1,533 students who receive about \$4.1 million in TEG grants from the state. Lawmakers need to remember what it was like for them when they were applying for college and the fears they had of leaving home. They also need to remember their parents, some of whom probably worried about how they were going to pay for college. They need to realize that there are still people that need all the help they can get. We realize money is tight right now in the Texas government. We realize this because money is tight for us, the Texas public. But everyone deserves a chance for a good education. In the mean time, there is something you can do: Write your representative. TCU has already asked parents of students receiving the TEG to do it, but students should write as well. We are always talking about the student apathy on campus. From political issues to university discussions, students tend to remain in their own little world rather than taking action. Well, this is the perfect time. It's quick, it's easy. Take up a pen and let lawmakers know that there are other things that can be done; other things that can be cut.

## YourView

Letters to the Editor

### Professor Fry remembered as supportive teacher

Thank you for your article on Bob Fry. He is truly a great professor and his retirement is a loss to TCU. I had Dr. Fry for my freshman honors English course in 1992. I will never forget attending fall convocation that year — about three weeks into the course — and seeing him receive the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching. I couldn't believe that as a freshman I was learning from one of the best professors on campus. Under his direction, I saw my writing improve and I was encouraged by the personal attention he gave. He recommended that I submit one of my papers to the annual writing contest, and he also nominated me to be a tutor for the

Writing Center. Thus, through my one class with Dr. Fry, I won a writing contest, found a campus job for several years and nurtured an interest in reading and writing that has continued well beyond my graduation.

When I came back to TCU as an employee in 2000, I ran into Dr. Fry and I was pleased to see that he still remembered me. More astonishing, he remembered my hometown and the name and topic of my paper that won the writing contest. I'm afraid to say that I don't remember many of the books that we read in that class, but I will always remember the kindness, supportiveness and inspiration of Dr. Bob Fry.

— Tracy Rundstrom Williams, class of 1996, study abroad coordinator

## The Other View

### Firing photojournalist was right decision for Times

With more than 2,000 journalists in the Middle East covering Operation Iraqi Freedom, issues of journalistic integrity — fairness, accuracy and truth — are more pertinent now than ever. One photographer, however, has shown that the quest to get the best story or photograph often causes otherwise ethical people to make career-damaging decisions. On March 31, the *Los Angeles Times* published a front-page photo of a British soldier pointing a gun toward Iraqi citizens and ordering them to take cover from possible Iraqi gunfire. After publication, editors noticed that several people in the background of the photograph appeared twice. The photographer, Brian Walski, was contacted, and he confirmed that

he had merged two photos taken seconds apart in order to achieve better composition. Walski, who had worked for the *Times* since 1998, was immediately fired for violating an internal policy that forbids altering the content of news photographs.

The pressure on journalists, particularly photographers, is extremely intense in a time of war. Images carry much more power than words, and it's the images that people will remember for generations to come. With this in mind, *Los Angeles Times* officials took the right action by firing Walski. He not only altered an image of a historical event, but he also violated the very principles journalists uphold — principles from which photographers are not exempt.

This is a staff editorial from *The Lariat* at Baylor University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

## TCU DAILY SKIFF

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## WriteUs

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## Sickness is excusable

Being ill should be counted as an excused absence

Sickness happens. As my doctor likes to remind me, college is a germ place. High traffic areas can spread disease, but illness especially abounds in college residence halls, where countless students share the same bathroom and put their grimy hands on the same door-knobs, time after time.

In elementary, middle and high school, sickness was easy. Your mom took your temperature, made vegetable soup and called the school secretary, who then marked you off with an excused absence. No harm done and you could relax on the couch and wait to feel better.

In college, our mothers have disappeared, but more than that, so have unexcused absences. In professors' eyes, generally every absence is equal, whether it is an emergency appendectomy, an alarm failure or just a plain old skip.

And rightly so. Were your elementary teachers the final say on attendance? Of course not. The

process went through the administration. However, at TCU, there are no "excused absences." Well, not exactly.

There is the University Excused Absence, the Grand Poobah that will get you out of anything. This is the golden hall pass, issued directly by Campus Life.

I got a University Excused Absence once — rare because I am not an athlete. It was my freshman year and I was excused from my Friday 2 p.m. International Politics class to attend the University Leadership Retreat. Technically, the buses didn't leave until 3:15, but the instructions specified that they wanted us to have time to pack and get ready for the overnight trip.

I didn't use it. I had a midterm in the class the next Monday, and well, I was a freshman.

But part of my class attendance did stem from the idea that it was silly that I should get excused from a brief 50 minute class to pack. First of all, it does not take me 50 minutes to pack for an overnight trip; secondly, what was prevented me from packing earlier?

What I did that Friday was simply trek back to Colby and pick up a sleeping bag and backpack, making it back to the Stu-

dent Center in time. If I had been a commuter, of course, I might not have made it home, but I could have stuck my bags in the trunk of my car.

Anyway, I wished that absence could have carried over to finals week my senior year, as I came down with the stomach flu and

couldn't make it out of bed. I wanted to study more than I ever have in my entire life, and I simply did not have the strength. My doctor forbade contagious-me from coming into contact with people, and sent me to bed.

How simple would it have been if I could have turned in a doctor's note to Campus Life, and they could have notified my professors? How silly was it that I could be officially excused for packing, and not for puking?

In the end, I had to turn to my professors, begging for mercy, trying to make phone calls when I could hardly have a coherent conversation. They were helpful and let me make up my finals later in the week with a proctor.

Being sick is an accident, something one cannot control. Fortunately, my professors understood this. Campus Life does not.

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

## Fight for equal pay not over

More needs to be done to make sure wage gap decreases

Protests these days are seemingly a dime a dozen; putting issues with Iraq aside for a moment, it's worth remembering that there are other wars left to fight, wars far closer to home. Today the battle for equal pay for equal work comes to the front lines. Women's organizations around the nation are asking members to protest gender discrimination in the workplace by wearing red as a symbol of the wage gap between men and women.

As the most recent statistics indicate, women earn just 76 cents for every dollar men make. This gap means that a woman would have to work three more months at a given job just to keep up with her male counterparts. Census results indicate that this gap broadens for women of color, with black women earning 66 cents and Hispanic women 54 cents to the

dollar. Coupled with the widely noted glass ceiling on advancement for women, the wage gap constitutes a social ill as devastating as it is pervasive.

There remains, despite the above statistics, a sense among most people that the working status of women is constantly improving. While comparing the woes of past centuries to current conditions may yield what looks like impressive

progress, the reality is much worse. As the National Organization for Women notes, the wage gap has narrowed by a "snail-like increase of less than a cent per year since the Equal Pay Act was passed in 1963, when women were paid 59 cents compared to a man's dollar in wages." If we fail to improve the current trend, women won't achieve equality until the year 2042.

This injustice hits even closer to home, impacting institutions of higher education since advanced degrees do little to bridge the

wage gap. While the majority of bachelor's degrees in America go to women, those with a college education earn just 72 percent of what similarly educated men make. Since the student body is predominantly made up of women, our campus in particular ought to be alarmed.

So, you happen to notice a larger than normal number of concerned citizens dressed in red today, don't dismiss it as mere fashion phenomenon. Carefully consider the issue of wage discrimination, its impact on the nation and on TCU. Maybe

even strike up a conversation with someone dressed in red. Hopefully, much like a touch of color brings excitement to an otherwise drab wardrobe, the effort for equal pay will draw concern to an otherwise apathetic campus.

Josh McDonald is a senior English and philosophy major from Garland. He can be reached at (j.r.mcdonald@tcu.edu).

## Rational thought still popular on campus

TCU has shown that its campus is truly home to sound, rational thought. This was best exemplified two weeks ago when the university hosted a lecture from University of Texas at Austin journalism professor Robert Jensen. While some believe that an event attended by fewer people than a Friday morning lecture class is front-page material, certainly the majority of people at TCU regarded it as a ridiculous event.

Jensen's message on April 2 was that our government is deceiving us. While this notion is nothing new to most people, he was specifically speaking of the idea that the Bush administration is hiding the real reason for the war with Iraq. Instead of Operation Iraqi Freedom, he said the war should be "an operation for trying to get long-term control of the oil out of the Middle East." Jensen is not alone, as his opinion was joined by a handful of TCU students who still do not care how many Iraqis are killed by Saddam Hussein or how many threats the United States receives from Iraq.

The American Petroleum Institute says that the Persian Gulf supplies nearly 14 percent of oil imports to the United States, with Iraq contributing to just 3 percent. Forty percent of our oil is domestic, while the other 46 percent comes from more than 40 countries, all of which are vying to supply the United States with oil. With so little coming from Iraq alone, it does not seem to be much in the interest of the United States to go to war with Iraq solely because it is a major source of petroleum.

Secretary of State Colin Powell has said that Iraq's oil will be held "in trust for the Iraqi people" in the event of any invasion. He says it should remain a steady source of income for the Iraqi people. While Saddam had commanded his army to destroy Iraq's oil wells, the United States still protects and secures the wells. It is important to remember that oil sales will allow Iraq to flourish and prosper as a society in the future.

Without Saddam in control, a pro-U.S., democratic Iraqi government would, indeed, allow the United States to obtain more oil at a lower price. The fact that the United States will benefit in some way is not a secret, but this must be put into perspective. It is pertinent to remember the thousands of innocent citizens who have been tortured and killed by Saddam and his family.

How is U.S. involvement in protecting the citizens of other countries so different than other situations in the 1990s? Where were the radical claims and anti-war demonstrations when President Clinton got the U.S. military involved in the affairs of Kosovo and Somalia? U.S. national security was not even an issue during that time. If the Clinton administration can go into another country and protect those citizens against genocide and torture, why can't President Bush? Why must outrageous claims be made against this administration?

Americans have the right to say what they want about our government, and Robert Jensen is no exception. It is not our right to have to listen. The faculty and students at TCU have shown that they overwhelmingly favor the policies of President Bush by choosing not to attend this lecture and the several other liberal rallies that were so poorly attended this semester.

We must not forget how we were so blatantly lied to by our last president, and we should appreciate the fact that we now have such an honorable administration.

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

# NEWS DIGEST

Your place for the news and world events | Compiled from wire reports | [www.skiff.tcu.edu](http://www.skiff.tcu.edu)

## National/International Roundup

### Chinese president expresses concern about SARS disease

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese President Hu Jintao said Monday he was "very worried" about a deadly respiratory illness that apparently originated in his country, breaking a public silence that led to allegations China was not taking the disease seriously enough.

Prime Minister Wen Jiabao added that the situation was grave and demanded tough measures to fight severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, which has infected 1,300 people in China and 3,000 people worldwide.

The comments by Hu and Wen appeared to be part of a shift in strategy by China's government, which repeatedly stressed that the illness was under control even as the death toll rose. The worldwide toll climbed to 144 Monday after four more deaths were reported in China and seven were reported in Hong Kong.

On Monday, state television showed Hu visiting hospitals in the hard-hit southern province of Guangdong, where SARS is believed to have started.

"Since the discovery of the SARS cases, I feel very worried. I feel anxious for the masses," Hu was shown telling medical workers.

### Prime minister of Australia to meet with Bush at ranch

WASHINGTON (AP) — Australian Prime Minister John Howard, a strong backer of the U.S.-led war in Iraq, will meet with President Bush at his Texas ranch May 2-3.

Howard got the coveted invitation after maintaining firm support for Bush, despite opposition to the war in his country. It came one day after the White House canceled a planned May 5 visit to Ottawa with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who had declined to back the war.

Howard renewed his support for Bush and the war Monday, saying it was the only way to oust the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"The whole idea that you could bring about regime change, the whole idea that you could provide the hope and the opportunity for the people of Iraq that has been provided without taking the action that was taken, is ludicrous," Howard said in a radio interview.

His remarks came a day after tens of thousands of peace protesters marched through several Australian cities.

Australia has sent 2,000 troops, including mine-clearance divers, air force pilots and special forces commandos, to help in the war effort.

### Five students killed in fire near Ohio State University

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Authorities were investigating reports that a fight broke out before a house fire near Ohio State University killed five students and injured three others.

The fire started early Sunday at a three-story home as a student's 21st birthday party was breaking up. That student was among the dead. Arson and homicide investigators were at the student-rented house.

"The cause has been ruled suspicious," Fire Department spokeswoman Kelly McGuire said.

Investigators expected to know by late Monday whether the fire was arson or accidental, Sgt. Brent Mull said.

Party guest Richie Delmont, an Ohio State junior, said an argument began when another guest tried to lift a refrigerator on a dare and one of the residents told him to stop. Delmont said the confrontation did not get physical.

About 80 people were at the party, Columbus police Sgt. Dana Norman said. At about 2 a.m., someone smelled natural gas. Roughly two hours later, the fire started with 10 to 20 people inside the house, Norman said. It appeared some had been sleeping when the fire broke out.

## Bush considers action on Syria

### Accusations include weapons, harboring Iraqis

BY SCOTT LINDLAW  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration said Monday it will consider diplomatic, economic and other steps against Syria because of concerns that Damascus is harboring fleeing Iraqi leaders and has tested chemical weapons.

President Bush and his top officials would not say whether they are considering military action against Iraq's neighbor.

"We believe in light of this new environment, they should review their actions and their behavior," said Secretary of State Colin Powell. He said other nations in the Middle East might want to review past behavior as well, now that Saddam Hussein's government has collapsed.

"With respect to Syria, of course we will examine possible measures of a diplomatic, economic or other nature as we move forward," Powell said.

The secretary said he had no specifics on which Iraqi leaders allegedly have fled to Syria. "I can't quantify how many might be slip-

ping across the border," he said.

Talking to reporters at the State Department, Powell said, "These are the kinds of individuals who should not be allowed to find safe haven in Syria. And this is a point we have made to the Syrians directly."

"We're told the border is closed, but as you know, it's a rather porous border," he said.

"We have a new situation in the region, and we hope that all nations in the region review their past practices and behavior," he said.

At the White House, presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer said the administration had "various bits of information" indicating Iraqi leaders have taken refuge in Syria, but he refused to elaborate or say who the leaders were. He rejected Syria's denials of having a chemical weapons program. "It is well corroborated" that Syria has such a program, Fleischer said.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Syria has conducted a chemical weapons test in the past year or so.

Earlier, President Bush stopped short of threatening war against

Syria, though he warned the country not to take in Iraqi leaders. He too charged that Syria has chemical weapons.

"They just need to cooperate," Bush said Sunday.

Fleischer would not rule out military action against Syria, but emphasized that it is U.S. policy never to do so.

"We always leave options on tables, but our course of action with Syria is focused on reminding Syria

that this is a good time for them to re-examine their support of terrorism, and a good place to begin is with their harboring of these Iraqi leaders who have fled to Syria, who should be allowed to find safe haven there."

Syria flatly denied the accusations.

"Of course Syria has no chemical weapons," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Bouthayna Shaaban told Lebanon's Al-Hayat-LBC satellite channel late Sunday.

Syria has also denied that any members of the Iraqi leadership had fled to Damascus and said it has closed its border with Iraq.

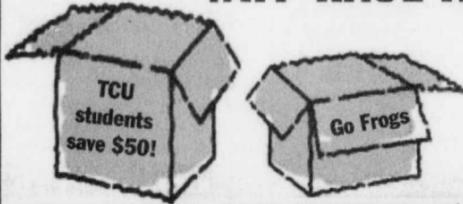
*"We believe in light of this new environment, they should review their actions and their behavior."*

— Colin Powell  
Secretary of State

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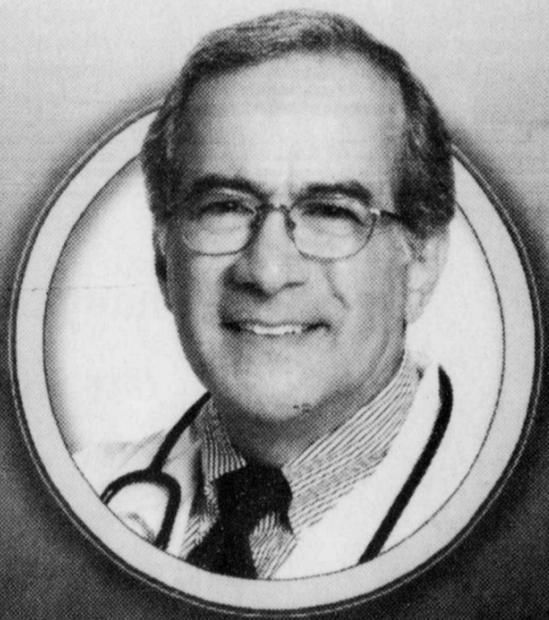
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## Today's Funnies

Paul

by Billy O'Keefe



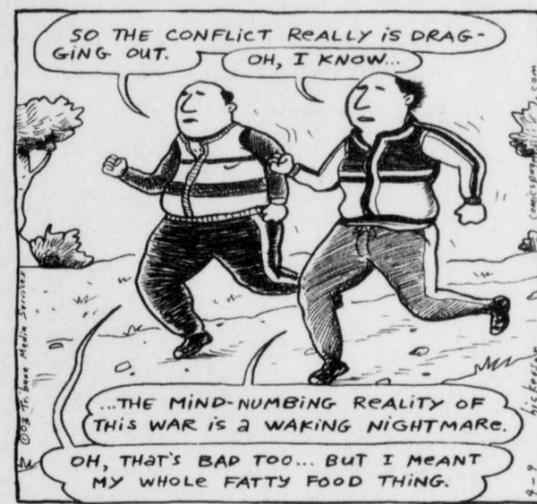
Dithered Twits

by Stan Waling



Quigmans

by Hickerson



## PurplePoll



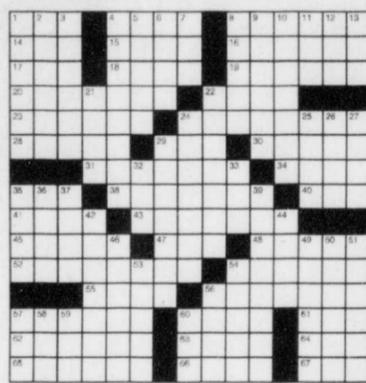
Q: Have you been to the Health Center this semester?

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
- Doc's org.
  - Vow
  - Elklike person
  - Wager
  - Entreaty
  - Longshoreman, at times
  - Occupied a chair
  - Sassy
  - Pieroc
  - Mythical horned beast
  - Tide type
  - Disavow
  - Fine leather
  - Hang in loose folds
  - Fam. member
  - Rub out
  - Understanding between nations
  - Connections
  - Kind
  - Bars
  - Journalist
  - Hentoff
  - Wander about
  - Muddles
  - Grinding tooth
  - Flock leader
  - Union branch
  - Western Hemisphere
  - On fire
  - Sacred image
  - Christmaside burner
  - Order of business
  - Theater box
  - Anger
  - Makes merry
  - Particular periods
  - Fire
  - Red tablewine
  - Golf standards
  - Advanced in years



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### Friday's Solutions

- |                            |                       |                    |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 6 Gull relative            | 44 Lone               | 53 Seaside         |
| 7 Derby or Homburg         | 46 Conundrum          | 54 Boring tool     |
| 8 More crafty              | 49 Parti-colored cat  | 56 Exercise system |
| 9 Scented hair dressing    | 50 Without principles | 57 Circle segment  |
| 10 Harmonious relationship | 51 Map key            | 58 Solidly         |
| 11 Actress Lupino          |                       | 59 Marie Saint     |
| 12 Aviv-Jaffa              |                       | 60 Track circuit   |
| 13 Bard's before           |                       |                    |
| 21 Cod or Hatteras         |                       |                    |
| 22 Quack medicine          |                       |                    |
| 24 Movie houses            |                       |                    |
| 25 Conceited               |                       |                    |
| 26 On the bounding main    |                       |                    |
| 27 Snug retreat            |                       |                    |
| 29 More than two           |                       |                    |
| 32 Actor Hunter            |                       |                    |
| 33 Printer's measures      |                       |                    |
| 35 'My Friend'             |                       |                    |
| 36 Weaver's machine        |                       |                    |
| 37 Leafy vegetable         |                       |                    |
| 39 Altruistic              |                       |                    |
| 42 Seafarer                |                       |                    |

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## SideLine

### Coach Franchione's two daughters arrested

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M football coach Dennis Franchione's two daughters were arrested early Sunday at a College Station bar.

Elizabeth "Libby" Ann Franchione, 17, was charged with resisting arrest and making alcohol available to another minor. Ashley Renee Franchione, 23, was arrested for interfering with the duties of a police officer.

Police alleged Ashley Renee Franchione grabbed the arm of an officer in protest of her sister's arrest.

The younger girl posted \$6,500 bond Sunday. Her older sister posted \$3,000 bond.

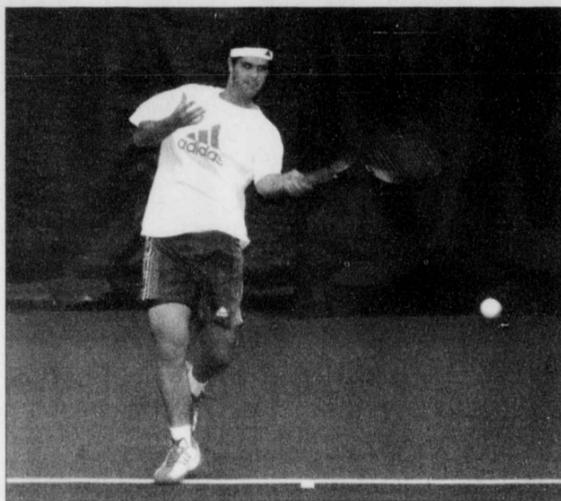
### Women's tennis team to defend title against Tulane

The 55th-ranked TCU women's tennis team earned its second win at the Conference USA Championship with a 4-0 semifinal victory against sixth-seed Louisville Monday. The Horned Frogs will defend their 2002 title as they take on top-seeded and 28th-ranked Tulane Tuesday in the championship match.

Junior Paty Aburto and senior Rosa Perez, the 59th-ranked duo, handed Marie Louise Frolich-Hansen and Kelly Taylor an 8-2 loss. Sophomore Karla Mancinas paired with freshman Gloriann Lopez to defeat Paige Eber and Jasmin Singh, 8-2.

TCU clinched the match with a 6-3, 6-1 victory by Perez over Taylor at No. 2. The Frogs also claimed singles victories from Lopez and Mancinas.

— courtesy of [www.gofrogs.com](http://www.gofrogs.com)



### Men's tennis team heads for C-USA tournament

Senior Toni Gordon practiced with the rest of his team Monday at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center. The Frogs will leave today to compete in the Conference USA tournament in Waukesha, Wis. No. 32 TCU received the No. 2 seed, only behind first-seeded No. 19 Tulane.

The Frogs will have a bye in the first round of play, which begins Wednesday.

TCU will take on the winner of the East Carolina/Alabama Birmingham match at 9 a.m. Thursday.

TCU is 13-7 overall and undefeated in C-USA action at 3-0. TCU is coming off a 6-1 win over Southern Methodist Saturday.

— courtesy of [www.gofrogs.com](http://www.gofrogs.com)

## Williams leaves Kan.

### Coach rejects offer, will return to North Carolina

BY DOUG TUCKER

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Roy Williams told the Kansas Jayhawks he is leaving to coach North Carolina, his beloved alma mater, according to players who attended a meeting with him Monday.

The decision comes three years after Williams rejected an offer to take over the Tar Heels' storied basketball program, where he learned his craft as an assistant under Dean Smith.

"It's sad for the program and the players who are here," said Jeff Boschee, who graduated from Kansas last year. "It's tough for them."

Williams' return to Chapel Hill, N.C., ends his 15-year tenure at a program he helped turn into one of the nation's most successful.

The fastest coach in NCAA Division I history to win 400 games, Williams (418-101) won nine conference championships at Kansas and took the Jayhawks to the past 14 NCAA tournaments, including title games this season and in 1991.

Not all the Jayhawks in the half-hour meeting at Allen Fieldhouse were sad after hearing the news. Wayne Simien, who dislocated his shoulder in January and later had season-ending surgery, appeared angry.

"I gave my right arm for him, literally," said Simien, wearing a sling.

Stephen Vinson, a freshman walk-on, added: "I'm sure you can imagine it was not a good time in there."

Williams emerged teary-eyed from the meeting and refused to reveal his decision. Instead, he planned an evening news conference, although he did not say whether it would be held in Lawrence or Chapel Hill.

North Carolina said it would hold a news conference at the men's basketball practice gym, although the topic wasn't disclosed. Kansas chancellor Robert Hemenway said a statement from the school would be released during North Carolina's news conference.

A private jet awaited at Lawrence's municipal airport with a flight plan for Chapel Hill, said Lloyd Hetrick, of Hetrick Aviation Services.

"This is personal fellas. There is something I want to say," a choked-up Williams told reporters after the team meeting. "This has been a special place. I really appreciate the way you have treated me."

Williams lost last week to Syracuse in the national championship game and angrily refused to answer questions about the North Carolina job after the game.

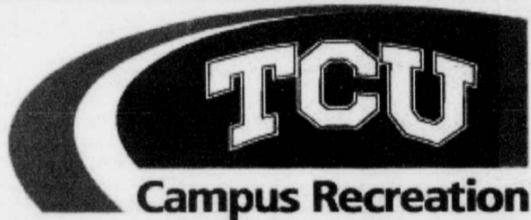
The Tar Heels are seeking to replace Matt Doherty, who resigned shortly before the Final Four.

*"It's sad for the program and the players who are here. It's tough for them."*

— Jeff Boschee  
Kansas graduate

### ThisWeekinSports

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Baseball				vs. ECU 6:30 p.m.	vs. ECU 3:30 p.m.	vs. ECU 1 p.m.	
Track					TCU Invitational		
Golf Men's and Women's							C-USA Championships Lake Junta, Fla.
Tennis	Women's C-USA Championship in New Orleans	Men's C-USA Championship in Waukesha, Wis.					



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