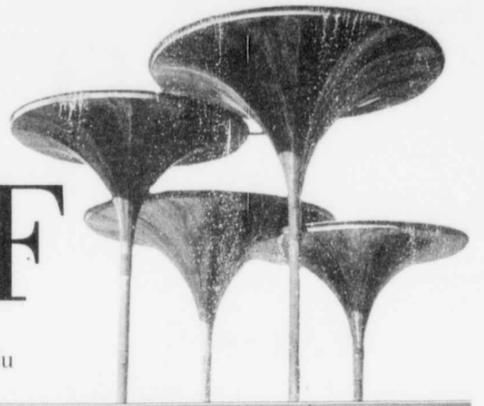


Tuesday, December 2, 2003

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Today's News

STATE NEWS

FORT WORTH — A tuition incentive program that forgives college loans for those who maintain high enough grades is unfair because it benefits those enrolled at private institutions which do not contribute to the plan, some students say.

News Digest on page 4

HOUSTON — Lawmakers who tinker with the state's penal code unintentionally could cause future prison overcrowding, a state senator and some legal experts worry.

News Digest on page 4

On Campus

Pastor aims to condemn Shepard with statue

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — A pastor who wants to erect a monument condemning Matthew Shepard, a college student brutally murdered because he was gay, is prompting First Amendment debates among Pennsylvania State University students and faculty.

Kansas Rev. Fred Phelps wants the display to read: "Matthew Shepard entered hell Oct. 12, 1998, at age 21 in defiance of God's warning: 'Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind; it is abomination.' Leviticus 18:22."

Shepard died five days after being beaten into a coma.

Phelps says he wants the \$15,000 display at a publicly owned park in Casper, Wyo., Shepard's hometown, because it is the town where Shepard learned that it is "OK to be gay."

Clay Calvert, Penn State associate professor of communications and law, says that while the First Amendment guarantees Phelps' right to voice offensive beliefs, it does not give him the right to place an offensive monument on public property.

However, Phelps is using a 2002 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision to back his plan.

— Daily Collegian

Clarification

KTCU 88.7 FM should have been included on the sports page in Wednesday's edition.

Inside Skiff

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The Weather

TODAY

High: 59; Low: 48; Mostly cloudy

WEDNESDAY

High: 58; Low: 41; Showers

THURSDAY

High: 57; Low: 37; Partly cloudy

Looking Back

1823 — During his annual address to Congress, President James Monroe proclaims a new U.S. foreign policy initiative that becomes known as the "Monroe Doctrine." The Monroe Doctrine forbade European interference in the American hemisphere.

FULL HOUSE



By Halasz/Staff Photographer

A full student section was one of the reasons Daniel-Meyer Coliseum hosted 7,267 fans for Monday night's Kansas game.

Fans go all out for Kansas game

BY MATT POTTER
Staff Reporter

Daniel-Meyer Coliseum exceeded capacity Monday night with 7,267 TCU students, alumni, national press and former NBA stars who were eager to watch the matchup between the Frogs and No. 1-ranked Kansas.

Much of Monday's crowd was made up of students and alumni. The student section, which stretched from the floor to the top of the coliseum, was a roaring sea of purple.

Geoff Godley, a senior history major, said he could feel the excitement and electricity inside Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

"I got here with a

group of 10 people at around 6:30 p.m.," Godley said. "We're bringing the best in the nation to our house, and it's a great way to start the season."

Tom Bonjour, who graduated TCU in 1972, said he hadn't seen a crowd like Monday night's since TCU was in the Southwest Conference where it played teams such as Arkansas and Texas.

"We ought to pack the stands every day," Bonjour said. "Win or lose, this is terrific for the program. Being on TV against the No. 1 team in the nation should excite Fort Worth to come to the games."

(more on KANSAS, page 2)



Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor

John Whitten, a freshman marketing major, cheers on the TCU Horned Frogs from the student section as TCU hosted No. 1-ranked Kansas Monday night.

Frogs to play in Fort Worth Bowl

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

FORT WORTH — TCU is staying home to play its bowl game.

The 19th-ranked Horned Frogs (11-1), who turned down an invitation from the GMAC Bowl because it conflicts with final exams at the school, accepted an invitation Monday night to play in the inaugural Fort Worth Bowl against an undetermined opponent.

Before losing 40-28 at Southern Mississippi on Nov. 20, TCU was undefeated and eighth in the Bowl Championship Series rankings.

TCU athletic director Eric Hyman said that about three weeks before the Southern Miss game, the school's provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, William Koehler, had approached him and said the team couldn't play a bowl during exams.

Hyman said he expressed

those concerns to Conference USA commissioner Britton Banowsky, who then told bowl officials about the potential conflict.

Two of the five bowls with C-USA ties, New Orleans (Dec. 16) and GMAC (Dec. 18), fell during TCU's exams from Dec. 15-19.

Despite its preference, TCU was formally invited to the GMAC Bowl on Saturday night after winning its regular season finale 20-13 at SMU.

Hyman declined the offer the next day.

"It was probably the toughest five days in my professional career," Hyman said. "Our athletes were in harm's way and caught in the politics that were going on."

Hyman said Banowsky and Koehler even discussed the matter with GMAC officials during a conference call Friday.

(more on BOWL, page 2)

New class to study international cuisine

Course to focus on culture in Spain, France

BY MONIQUE BHIMANI
Staff Reporter

Imagine a class that takes place in various markets throughout France and Spain, in which students are required to sample local cuisine.

"Each (country) is unique and each culture has a different food relationship," said Lyn Dart, assistant nutrition professor. "(Food is) like a celebration of what they do."

The class is one of the new programs being added to the two dozen courses TCU's study abroad program will offer this summer.

Dart said those interested in her nutrition study abroad course have to have an interest in culture, food and diversity. She said many students have expressed interest in the program, including those who are not nutrition majors.

"I really want to make this (available) for any student,"

Dart said. "They don't have to have the skills, just the desire to do it. There's something here for everybody."

Stephanie Loken, a senior food management major, said one reason she wants to participate in the study abroad program is that she has always wanted to go to Europe.

"I love food, and I love cooking," Loken said. "You really have to have a passion for food. I would recommend it to others as long as they don't take my spot."

Loken said she had the option to take business classes in London for her minor but she thought the nutrition class in France and Spain sounds more interesting.

"Dr. Dart is an amazing professor," Loken said. "It's going to be an amazing experience."

Luis Canales, director of international education the study abroad program, has close to 40 faculty members teaching in the summer, and their recruitment efforts are unmatched.

Last month, the Institute of

(more on ABROAD, page 2)

Chi Alpha praises God with dance

President of ministry invites all to worship

CATHERINE PILLSBURY
Staff Reporter

Valena Brown, a senior modern dance major, said she has been rebuilding a dance ministry through Chi Alpha as a way to worship God in a new way.

"I started dancing at church as a way of praise," she said. "That's how God led me to it."

Because there have been so many dancers in Chi Alpha, Brown said the group does not use typical dance or music but a combination of lyrical, modern and hip hop, all to upbeat gospel music.

"My ultimate desire for the ministry is to see us perform for any event that the body of Christ wants us to perform for."

— Valena Brown
senior modern dance major

Lobel, a senior social work major, said the previous dance opportunity in Chi Alpha was not as prevalent as it is now.

"Everyone involved in it is very passionate about doing it for God," said Lobel, Chi Alpha

(more on DANCE, page 2)

Lighting up



Kristin Liccardone/Staff Photographer

Journeyman electrician Johnny James strings lights on the Christmas tree in front of Sadler Hall Monday afternoon.

THE PULSE

www.skiff.tcu.edu

Campus Lines

Your bulletin board for campus events

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.

■ **A faculty piano recital** featuring Harold Martina on piano will be held at 7:30 p.m. today in Ed Landreth Auditorium. For more information, call (817) 257-7602.

■ **The TCU Chamber Music concert** will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the PepsiCo Recital Hall. Curt Thompson will direct. For more information, call (817) 257-7602.

■ **Order of Omega's Holiday Tree lighting** will take place at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday on the front lawn of Sadler Hall. Gifts will be collected for underprivileged children and loaded onto trucks for transport to Bank One locations. To find out more about how to help, call (817) 257-7281.

■ **Summer 2004 Study Abroad Programs** are now enrolling. Come by Sadler Hall, Room 16 to pick up a permit number and pay a \$500 deposit. Contact t.williams@tcu.edu for more information.

■ **The Center for Writing** is located on the top floor of the Rickel Academic Wing of the University Recreation Center, across from Moncrief Hall. Students who want to discuss some of their writing can stop by the Center for Writing or call (817) 257-7221 for an appointment.

■ **TCU Community Band** is looking for musicians. The ensemble meets from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays in the band hall of Walsh Center for the Performing Arts. It is open to faculty, staff and student musicians. Contact Duane Niles at d.niles@tcu.edu or (817) 257-6702 for more information.

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 Journalism Dept. Chairman Tommy Thomson

DANCE

From page 1

"They all respect her and love her," Lobel said. "Her heart is really in it."

Though Chi Alpha is associated with Assembly of God, anyone can dance for Praise Dancers, including men.

"There are no lines drawn when we get together," Brown said. "Everyone is just there to worship God."

Kyle Bartee, a junior religion major, said he has watched the group grow. Bartee said his schedule was too full to join the group this semester, but he would like to dance with them next semester.

Rachel Ramsey, a sophomore psychology major and dancer in the ministry, said it is not all for entertainment value; it is just a different way of worshiping.

"The purpose is to serve God and dance for that," she said.

Brown said though they are still in the process of building a firm ministry, they have performed for Chi Alpha services and Prime Time Praise.

Brown's goal for the dance ministry is to perform for others, especially other congregations.

"My ultimate desire for the ministry is to see us perform for any event that the body of Christ wants us to perform for," she said.

Catherine Pillsbury
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ABROAD

From page 1

International Education ranked TCU seventh in the percentage of undergraduates studying abroad among doctoral institutions. TCU ranked 13th for the actual number of students studying abroad. Canales said he attributes the hard work of the faculty and staff with the program's high national ranking.

"(The faculty) put together close to 24 study abroad programs each summer and spend countless hours recruiting students," Canales said. "Without their dedication and hard work, study abroad would not be what it is at TCU."

Monique Bhimani
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BOWL

From page 1

a day before the invitation was extended. TCU officials offered a compromise, saying it would come to Mobile, Ala., the day before the game, but bowl officials wanted them there Dec. 13.

"It was an institutional decision, and I supported the decision," Hyman said. "There was no maneuvering. This was not Eric Hyman or (coach) Gary Patterson trying to get out of the game. It was a pure academic issue."

GMAC got the second pick from C-USA. League champion Southern Mississippi is going to the Liberty Bowl.

KANSAS

From page 1

At halftime, TCU was down 39-38 in the game. Less than a minute into the second half, TCU gave the fans something to cheer for when it took the lead at 41-39.

Students and alumni were not the only fans on-hand to watch the game. Dallas Mavericks Assistant Coach Donn Nelson was also in attendance, as well as former NBA star Danny Manning, who was working as an assistant coach for Kansas.

The game was nationally televised on ESPN 2 and all the major media stations — ABC, NBC, CBS and Fox Sports — were at the game.

Tim George, director of sports marketing, said the demand from students who wanted to be at the game was so high that TCU officials released additional reserved tickets to TCU students for \$5.

"Over 300 tickets were sold (Monday)," George said. "Not to mention all the tickets that students picked up before the UTA

game (Nov. 22)."

Ticket scalpers were also trying to earn money off the TCU-Kansas matchup by offering tickets at an inflated price. Three scalpers were lined up on West Cantey Street offering tickets to fans passing by.

Freshman sociology major Brent Dore said he thought Kansas coming to Fort Worth helps establish TCU's program.

"Since we're playing the No. 1 team in the country, the fans are going to come out and show their loyalty and school spirit," Dore said. "As long as we're competitive, then students and other fans will start showing up for more games."

The excitement of a nationally televised basketball game coupled with the success of the football program may put TCU athletics in the national spotlight and put more students in the stands.

"I'm a senior, and I've never seen anything like this at a basketball game before," Godley said. "This is amazing."

Matt Potter
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After TCU turned them down, GMAC officials considered going outside C-USA before Louisville was invited and accepted to play No. 14 Miami of Ohio of the Mid-American Conference. The Frogs could have been left without a bowl game had the GMAC taken a team from outside C-USA.

As for TCU's opponent in the Fort Worth Bowl, the Big 12 won't be able to provide a team for the game if the league gets two teams in the BCS as expected. Air Force, Boise State and

Connecticut are possible non-Big 12 teams.

Patterson said he is excited about playing in the Fort Worth Bowl, and looked forward to playing another game at home.

"It's special to be part of the place that has helped us get where we're at," the coach said. "Our group is a humble group. There is no such thing as a bad bowl game."

TCU will make its record sixth straight bowl appearance. The Frogs played in the first two bowls in Mobile, Ala., in 1999 and 2000 when the game didn't conflict with exams.

Shoppers focus on bargains

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
 Associated Press

The Thanksgiving weekend gave the nation's retailers a solid start to the holiday season, although consumers remained focused on bargains even as the economy improves.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and other discounters attracted crowds of shoppers with specials on TVs, DVD players and toys and had the strongest sales. Department stores and mall-based clothing retailers were discounting less than they did last year, and their business was uneven.

"Sales appear to be better than last year, but the consumer is still value-oriented," and looking for big bargains, said Walter Loeb, who runs his own New York-based retail consulting firm.

A dozen people were standing in line Sunday outside a Best Buy in Dunwoody, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta, waiting for doors to open at 10 a.m. Charles and Susan Lynch were typical of many shoppers, willing to spend but hoping to get a good deal.

"I was unemployed this time last year so my economic situation

has greatly improved," said Charles Lynch. He said the couple was looking for a home theater system.

Vanessa Gonzalez walked out of a Wal-Mart store in Miami on Saturday afternoon after buying an HP Pavilion desktop computer with a 17-inch monitor for \$498.

"At that price, I couldn't resist," she said. She was planning to surprise her two teenagers with the computer.

Michael P. Niemira, a retail analyst at The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., said the weekend "was pretty good, but it wasn't spectacular." He described business as stronger for discounters than it was for department stores and apparel merchants.

Ellen Tolley, a spokeswoman at the Washington-based National Retail Federation, noted that "it looks like (store) traffic was about the same as last year, possibly a little better than last year."

"It was as good as we had hoped for," she said.

Although the economy is recovering and consumer confidence is on the rise, a shopper's own job security is often the greatest factor in how much he or she spends.

Total retail sales for Friday were up 4.8 percent to \$7.2 billion from the Friday after Thanksgiving a year ago, after posting a 6.8 percent gain last year over 2001 results, according to ShopperTrak, which tallies sales at 30,000 retail outlets.

For Friday and Saturday combined, total sales were up 5.4 percent, totaling \$12.4 billion, ShopperTrak said Monday.

Niemira said he still forecasts a sales gain of 4.5 percent for the November-December period, the best performance since 1999, when sales rose 5.4 percent. He based the estimate on sales from stores open at least a year, considered the best indicator of a retailer's health. Last holiday season's results were unchanged from 2001.

While the Thanksgiving weekend starts the shopping spree, it no longer is the busiest period of the season. The busiest day over the past few years has been the Saturday before Christmas.

The weekend's business is also not a gauge of how the rest of the season will fare. Last year, stores enjoyed a robust Thanksgiving weekend, but sales then began to deteriorate.

Program to offer four-year degree

BY KYLE WITTENBRAKER
 Staff Reporter

Avery Kibbe will be one of the first students to graduate from TCU with a bachelor of science in ranch management.

TCU has decided to allow students to major in ranch management, which will allow Kibbe to graduate with the degree at the end of next year. He completed the certification program last year, but under the old rules, his hours did not count toward a degree plan, he said.

Bryan Vassuer, director of the Institute of Ranch Management, said a ranch management major will be offered in addition to the one-year ranch management certification program. The program and the major consist of 12 courses that

take nine months to complete.

Ranch Management courses combine in-class instruction with field trips to ranches. Courses cover everything from care of livestock to ranch business practices.

Ranch management classes will count as science hours, and the degree will be a bachelor of science in ranch management, Kibbe said.

James Link, director of the ranch management program, said offering the degree will help retain students.

"The main thing is every year we had students working on a four-year degree that had to go somewhere besides TCU to get it," Link said.

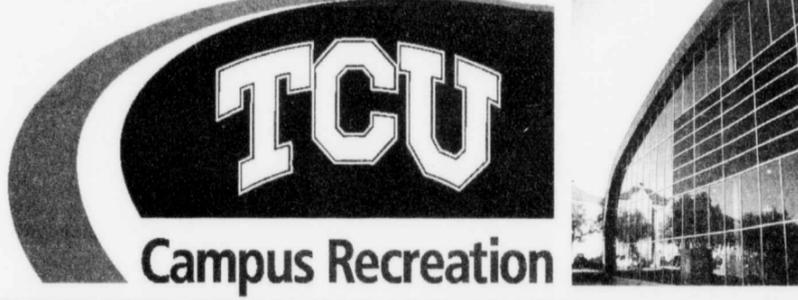
Students who plan to major in ranch management will declare

themselves pre-ranch management majors through the College of Science and Engineering their freshman year, Vassuer said. The students will then take university core classes during their freshman and sophomore years before applying to the program and interviewing with faculty before their junior year, he said.

A conditional acceptance will be granted to students, and they will then take courses toward a minor in business, Horn said. During their senior year, students take regular ranch management courses. The major will be offered beginning in Fall 2004.

Transfer students will be considered for the major on an individual basis, Vassuer said.

Kyle Wittenbraker
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TCU Campus Recreation

www.CampusRec.TCU.edu

Wednesday, Dec. 10 is the last day for regular hours at the Rec Center

Study days, finals week and holiday hours are available on the website or Member Services desk

IM Soccer Championships next week!
 Tuesday, Dec. 9 beginning at 7:00pm at the IM field complex

Friday, Dec. 12 is the last day of Rippit aerobic classes for the fall semester

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:30		Pilates		Pilates Cycle		
Noon	Deep Water Strength, Faculty/Staff Only	Yoga Butt & Thigh-30 min	Deep Water Strength, Faculty/Staff Only	Pilates	Deep Water Cycle	
4:00		Boot Camp	Cycle Power Yoga	Boot Camp		
5:00	Abs - 20min	Abs-20min	Abs-20min	Abs-20min		
5:30	Yogailates Aerosculpt, Open to All	Deep Water Cycle Pilates	Cardio Combo	Just Step Deep Water Beg. Yoga		
6:30	Cycle			Yogafusion		
7:30				Cycle		
8:00		Pilates				
8:30	Kickboxing		Kickboxing			

SEND HOME IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL PROGRAMS

OPINION

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The Skiff View BREAKS

Students need more time to rest

It is something that all college students don't mind writing down in their jam-packed day planners.

Winter break.

It's a time to put classes behind us and focus on the good things in life: Sleep, holidays, sleep, family, no homework and did we mention sleep?

However, what used to be four or five weeks worth of academic detox is now cramming as much rest and recuperation as possible into only three weeks.

Simply put, it begins too late and is too short. The last day of finals is Dec. 19. Southern Methodist's last exam is Dec. 12, as are the final exams of many other universities. The university might have had solid reasoning behind its decision to make the break so short, such as making sure the May mini-semester begins on time or giving more time over the summer to help students recuperate.

Honestly, one extra week added onto more than three months does not make that big a difference. The time would be better spent on a longer Thanksgiving break or a break in April before finals. Having a longer winter break is still the best solution to solving many problems students face.

Because of the shorter break, students have a harder time getting seasonal jobs. International students and other students who live far away sometimes don't go home because it would only be a few days before they had to return. Student athletes who have to play during the holiday get almost no time with their families.

Even the football team has been impacted by the shorter break. Our finals week schedule is the reason why the team didn't accept a bid from the GMAC Bowl. That bowl offered the best opponent out of all the bowls TCU could have gone to and the best national exposure, but game day falls on the Thursday of finals week.

It's tough getting out so late. Until finals are completed, how can anyone even begin to tackle their gift lists, let alone obtain seasonal employment or visit family?

The Other View

Opinions from around the country

New cell phone law will not ensure better plans

The long-awaited federal regulation allowing consumers to switch cell phone providers but keep the same phone number finally took effect on Monday. While the law is still in its infancy, the concept of number portability has been a long time coming.

In the wireless industry's 20-year history, cell phone companies have fought with the Federal Communications Commission over number portability because it would increase competition. Before the law was passed, companies could basically hold a phone number hostage. This forced customers to stay with their original provider or face the aggravation of switching providers and phone numbers. The headaches associated with changing a number were minimal for some, but for others, especially those who relied on cell phones for business purposes, changing providers was not a possibility. To those people, a new phone number would mean reprinting business cards, notifying all colleagues and customers of the switch and could also mean a loss of business if someone was unaware of the switch.

For approximately 154 million cell phone users nationwide, the new law will force wireless providers to offer better plans, lower prices and more flexible

contracts. As a result, the FCC is expecting 21 percent of cell phone users to switch providers within the next year as a result of the new law.

While the new law may seem like the best thing to happen to cell phones since the invention of camera phones, there are some underlying issues many consumers may not recognize. Many may switch companies because another company has a better deal. However, the new plan could be more costly in the end. Most providers require customers to sign a contract when they begin using the company's service. These contracts can range anywhere from a month to five years. Canceling a contract with some companies can cost more than a person would save with the switch. The cost of a new phone is also a factor. The wireless industry has collectively agreed that allowing customers to keep the same phone would be too difficult and costly, therefore every time someone switches providers, they must also switch phones.

In the end, having the ability to switch cell phone providers may be a convenience, but it is not a guaranteed way to save money.

This is a Staff Editorial from The Lantern at Ohio State University. This editorial was distributed by U-Wire.

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



Proper steps should be taken to control spam

In the early days of Internet use, the words "you've got mail" made my heart flutter with the anticipation of a good e-mail. A joke from a friend, an interesting article from relatives or perhaps some juicy gossip. A number of gems could be waiting in my inbox.

COMMENTARY



Jessica Sanders

But these days, checking my e-mail fills me with dread. Each morning, I am greeted with mortgage offers, printer ink promotions and ads to enlarge a body part I don't have. I guess the honeymoon is over.

I never open the junk e-mails, partly out of fear that I'll get some sort of virus and partly because they are taking up too much room. Whether or not the product is of any use to me, I am not going to look at it if it shows up unwanted in my e-mail account. I sometimes wonder if there is a guy in a little room making up these weird ads and

sending them to unsuspecting people like me. I really hope he doesn't get paid on commission because it seems that the rest of America doesn't like spam either.

Congress is considering a bill that would allow the Federal Trade Commission to put limitations on

"I sometimes wonder if there is a guy in a little room making up these weird ads and sending them to unsuspecting people like me."

bulk e-mailers, making it more difficult to obtain addresses and practice sneaky tricks such as disguising the sender's name. It sure would make my morning a little sunnier if I didn't have to delete so much junk.

However, some believe that such legislation is pointless and impossible. The Internet is international, and it would be difficult to get other countries to comply with U.S. law. Also, the Internet is a pretty

vast place, virtually speaking. Dave Edmondson, assistant provost for information services, said Internet-savvy crooks are always coming up with new ways to avoid detection, and it would be impossible to catch and fine all violators.

However, any improvement that government restrictions may bring would be worth it, Edmondson said. TCU is currently able to block only about 40 percent of spam, so TCU students should see a considerable difference if the legislation is passed, he said.

True, we will never be able to totally eliminate spam ... or bad drivers or shoplifters, for that matter. That doesn't mean that steps can't be taken to lessen the irritation to e-mail users. The new legislation offers hope to those who have fallen out of love with e-mail. Perhaps, with the help of the FTC, my relationship with my inbox can be saved.

Co-News Editor Jessica Sanders is a senior news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio. She can be reached at j.sanders@tcu.edu.

Nudity does not have to be associated with sexuality

On Nov. 5, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm signed Public Act 192 of 2003, which amends several sections of a 1978 act to "prohibit the dissemination, exhibiting or displaying of certain sexually explicit matter to minors."

COMMENTARY

Joy Schaefer

PA 192 states that store managers must conceal the lower two-thirds of an item's cover or put it in a restricted "adults only" part of a store if it contains "sexually explicit matter."

According to this act, sexually explicit matter includes "a picture, photograph, drawing, sculpture, motion picture film, or similar visual representation that depicts nudity, sexual excitement, erotic fondling, sexual intercourse, or sadomasochistic abuse, or a book, magazine, or pamphlet that contains such a visual representation." The act fails to include exceptions for art, comic books or literature. In failing to narrowly define "nudity," this legislation perpetuates the Puritan ethic that the nude human body is inherently evil, which in turn results in children who are ashamed of themselves physically and sexually.

As human beings, we are born nude. We also propagate our race while nude. The nude human body, therefore, should not be linked with sadomasochism, rather it should be exalted as natural and beautiful. American leaders should consider the Western European approach to sexual issues. European culture does not associate nudity with sadomasochism — on the contrary, most Europeans do not directly relate the naked body to sexual intercourse. Many Europeans view nudity as a natural state of being and sex as a natural act.

In many cities throughout Europe, such as Paris and Amsterdam, sex shops and prostitution are abundant, but rape does not occur as often in

these places as it does in the United States. According to a U.N. survey of crime trends covering 1998 — 2000, the U.S. had more than twice the occurrence of reported rapes than any European nation. During this period, 1.4 of every 10,000 people in France and one of every 10,000 people in the Netherlands reported they were raped.

In the U.S., however, 3.2 of every 10,000 people reported they were raped. These statistics may imply America's culture of censorship only serves to heighten the occurrence of sexual criminal acts.

An amendment to change the focus from content to cover was defeated. Under the act, a book of Auguste Rodin's sculptures that does display nudity on the cover must be placed in an "adults only" section of a store or must be two-thirds covered. PA 192 not only creates ridiculous situations such as this, but also infringes on the rights to property, freedom of expression and a free marketplace. Under PA 192, anyone who decides to "sell, lend, give, exhibit, [or] show" a minor sexually explicit matter or let a minor examine the material, can be punished by imprisonment for not more than 2 years and/or a fine of up to \$10,000.

A store owner or manager who allows minors access to sexually explicit matter is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 93 days in prison and/or a fine of up to \$5,000. PA 192 infringes on the right to free expression, a right which includes the unhindered selling of materials such as art, literature and pornography. While the act's purpose is to protect children, its inclusive language only serves to deny people the right to display, sell and view what they choose.

Joy Schaefer is a columnist for the Aquinas Times at Aquinas College. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

GOP against equal rights

Compassionate conservatism is the new buzzword surrounding the Republican Party. It has been designed to help those who have felt "left out" by the Republicans feel warm and fuzzy.

COMMENTARY

Julia McCleary

According to George Bush's official re-election Web site, "In a compassionate society, people respect one another and take responsibility for the decisions they make in life." However, in this presidency, actions speak louder than words. George W. Bush and the Republican Party have made exclusion a social priority.

The Iowa Democratic Party Platform supports legislation that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identification and supports domestic partnership legislation. On the Republican side, Bush has repeatedly made statements condemning lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered lifestyles. He has abolished the White House liaison to the gay and lesbian community established by President Clinton. He has publicly stated he would veto any law that abolished criminalization of private homosexual sex. If that is not enough, he opposes any legislation that would extend hate-crime legislation and employment discrimination to gays.

The Republican Party has come to be known as the "White Boys' Club." This nickname has been backed up by incident after incident. At the NAACP Conference in 2000, soon-to-be President Bush admitted, "The party of Lincoln has not always carried the mantle of Lincoln." Bush was preaching he was a "different kind of Republican," while just a few months earlier he gave a speech at controversial Bob Jones University. For more than 70 years, the university has promoted its values of "separate but equal" racism.

It has been said that women's rights are human rights. This administration does not seem to know this. In 2002, women's rights were on the line. The Bush administration proposed eliminating birth control coverage for federal employees and their dependents, while also trying to cut funding for the Maternal and Child Health programs. In addition, a commission to study Title IX was created to analyze the program. The commission proposed changes that would drastically lower the chances of girls competing in college-level sports. After overwhelming support for Title IX, the Bush administration backed down from changes to the law.

The Bush administration has made no secret of its exclusionary politics. Americans have suffered from his "abstinence only" view of sex education, cutting funding to HIV/AIDS programs and discouraging the use of condoms and birth control. The right-wing views of this administration are hurting everyone in the country who is not a white, heterosexual man, while the Democratic Party has fought to keep rights equal for all.

Julia McCleary is a columnist for the Iowa State Daily at Iowa State

NEWS DIGEST

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National/State Roundup

UTA students angry over incentive loans

FORT WORTH (AP) — A tuition incentive program that forgives college loans for those who maintain high enough grades is unfair because it benefits those enrolled at private institutions which do not contribute to the plan, some students say.

The students at Texas public universities are angry that part of their tuition will go toward the no-interest loan program. Although any state resident attending a public or private university or community college in Texas is eligible, only students at public universities are scheduled to help defray costs, with part of their tuition added to the fund.

"I like the concept, but I don't like the way they are paying for it — it's not just," said Bryan Shaner, a 21-year-old senior majoring in accounting and a member of the University of Texas at Arlington's Student Congress.

The B-On-Time loan program will receive 5 percent of the recently instituted tuition increases at public universities as well as 5 percent of any future increases, officials say. The interest-free program, to begin in January, will forgive debt for students graduating in four years with a B average.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will manage the program. It will start with about \$20 million that came from refinancing bonds, said Lois Hollis, assistant commissioner

for student services. She said no money dispersed in the first two years will come from public university students' tuition.

Meanwhile, members of an interim legislative committee plan to study the law and review its funding.

Future prison crowding worries state senator

HOUSTON (AP) — Lawmakers who tinker with the state's penal code unintentionally could cause future prison overcrowding, a state senator and some legal experts worry.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, who served as the chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee and rewrote the code in 1993, said lawmakers' good intentions could have unintended consequences. He said each time the code is altered, interpretation becomes more difficult.

"The idea of a penal code is to have broad categories and leave it to prosecutors," Williamson County District Attorney John Bradley said. "You can't come up with a list of all the dumb things people do."

The code was rewritten in 1993 based on an American Law Institute model. When the rewrite occurred the state's guidelines had been amended so many times they were unmanageable. Since that time, the amendments have begun once again, Whitmire said.

"There are literally hundreds of bills passed which reach into the penal code of 1993," he said.

West Texas soldier dies in a mortar attack

EL PASO (AP) — A West Texas soldier who died in a mortar attack in Iraq had planned to return to his West Texas home and pursue a law enforcement career, his widow says.

The last time Army Sgt. Ariel Rico communicated with his wife Jessica was by e-mail. She said she still can't believe her husband won't be coming home to her and the couple's 7-year-old daughter, Jadelyn, in March with the rest of his unit.

"I just pray for other people, that (the soldiers) all come home safely," Jessica Rico told the Clarksville, Tenn. *Leaf-Chronicle* in Monday's editions.

She said she hopes her husband, a 1996 Del Valle High School graduate, will be buried at Fort Bliss National Cemetery in their hometown.

Rico, who was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, based in Fort Campbell, Ky., died Friday from injuries sustained when four mortar shells pounded the division's base in Mosul, Iraq.

Richard Lucero of Mesa, Ariz., said he grew up with the soldier and his older brother by five years. Staff Sgt. Jose "Bobby" Rico, in the Lower Valley.

"He was in every sport you can think of, a great athlete just like his brother. He was always

following in Jose's footsteps," Lucero told the El Paso Times. "After Jose went into the Army, Ariel followed him."

Ariel Rico was the third El Paso native known to have been killed in Iraq since the war began.

Jessica Rico and her husband were high school sweethearts who had been married six years.

In his last e-mail, she said, he had just mastered using a chat room to communicate.

"He was saying that he really missed us," she said.

Arson of Hindu homes under investigation

HOUSTON (AP) — Almost a dozen fires have destroyed homes of Hindus and others, with a two-county task force investigating the suspected arson spree and members of the religious community nervous about future attacks.

Federal, county and city investigators are reviewing evidence in the blazes that have occurred over the past six months.

The fact that victims have included Hindus suggests that the community is being targeted, said Natubhai Patel, a leading member of a Hindu temple.

"We don't know really who would be behind it," he told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's editions. "It's anybody's guess."

Patel and other members of the Hindu community believe the victims of all 11 fires under investigation by the task force were Hindus.

"People are concerned and we would like to have the responsible leaders look into this," Patel, a member of the Shree Swaminarayan Temple, said on Sunday.

Sudhan Patel, no relation to Natubhai, was the latest victim. His house burned to the ground Friday. One of Patel's neighbors, who spoke on condition of anonymity because she feared retaliation by the arsonist, said her back yard was doused with a flammable liquid and set ablaze about two months ago.

The woman, who is acquainted with six other Hindu victims, said there is deep concern among members of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad Temple, which she attends.

"We are scared," she said. "We cannot sleep."

Investigators from the Houston Fire Department, Fort Bend County, Harris County and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives have released a composite drawing of a man seen near several of the fires who is sought for questioning.

Homeland Security cuts registration program

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Department of Homeland Security is ending a program begun after the Sept. 11 terror attacks that required tens of thousands of mostly Middle Eastern men and boys to register with the government, officials said Monday.

Asa Hutchinson, the undersecretary for border and transportation security, said the department would focus more on individuals instead of "broad categories" of people. He said the program could be used again if there was another terrorist attack linked to a foreign country.

Hutchinson said the decision to "terminate" the program, which administration officials had hinted at last week, was not influenced by the harsh criticism by advocacy groups for people targeted and civil rights organizations.

The National Security Entry Exit Registration System, or NSEERS, required men and boys from 25 countries to be fingerprinted, photographed and interviewed at U.S. immigration offices. About 83,500 people complied and some were deported, usually for overstaying visas.

The program was targeted at men and boys from countries in the Middle East and other areas with an active al-Qaida presence, and intended to help assure the government that no known terrorists were in this country.

But the program prompted angry protests, with critics saying it unfairly targeted innocent people.

The government is expected to start a new program Jan. 5 that will digitally photograph and fingerprint millions of people who visit the United States each year on tourist, business and student visas.



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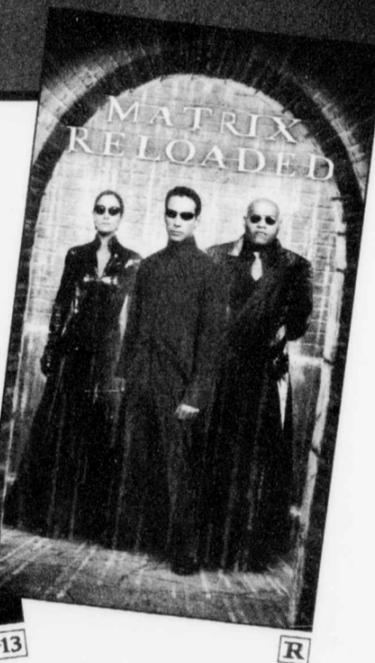
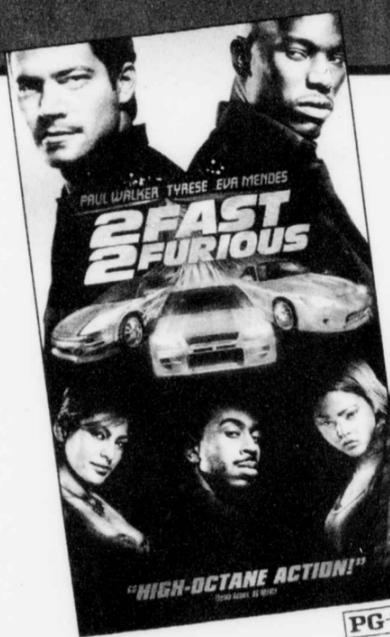
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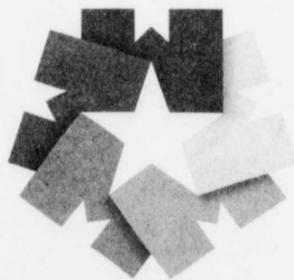
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Colorado Supreme Court strikes down GOP's mid-decade redistricting plan

BY STEVEN K. PAULSON
Associated Press

DENVER — Accusing the Republicans of overreaching, the Colorado Supreme Court threw out a GOP state redistricting plan Monday in favor of a congressional map that gives the Democrats a better shot at retaking the narrowly divided U.S. House.

The high court ruled 5-2 that passage of the GOP plan violated a section of the Colorado Constitution that says the state's congressional map can be redrawn only once per decade.

The fight in Colorado is not over: The GOP plan is also being challenged in federal court.

And with a Texas redistricting plan similarly tied up in court, the U.S. Supreme Court may end

up deciding how often states can redraw their congressional maps. The Texas case is set to go to trial Dec. 11 in Austin.

Colorado's seven congressional districts now revert to boundaries drawn up by a judge last year.

The judge acted after state lawmakers failed to agree. But earlier this year, the Republicans pushed a new map through the Legislature. The issue before the high court was whether that map was illegal.

Colorado's constitution calls for redistricting only once a decade — after each census and before the next general election — and Democrats contended that task was completed by the judge. But Republicans said the judge's map was temporary and the law requires redistricting to

be done by the Legislature.

The court rejected that argument, saying: "Because the General Assembly failed to redistrict during this constitutional window, it relinquished its authority to redistrict until after the 2010 census. There is no language empowering the General Assembly to redistrict more frequently or at any other time."

The court also chastised legislators for claiming they should be able to redraw the maps "two, or even 10 times in a single decade," when federal law calls for redistricting only once.

Colorado Attorney General Ken Salazar, a Democrat who challenged the GOP map, pleaded

with Republicans to let Monday's decision stand so candidates can get on with their campaigns. But there seemed little chance of that happening.

"It's far from over. There's still a federal case to play out," said Carl Forti, spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Colorado House Speaker Lola Spradley, a Republican, said: "In order to protect this Legislature's rights, as well as those of other state legislatures around the country, we will now proceed to the federal courts."

Republicans now hold five of Colorado's seven congressional seats, but the judge's map bolsters Democrats' changes in two of those districts.

Disney's nephew resigns from company's board

BY GARY GENTILE
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A key ally joined Roy E. Disney in resigning from the Walt Disney Co. board Monday, becoming the second vocal opponent of chairman and chief executive Michael Eisner to quit in two days.

Stanley Gold issued a long rebuke to Eisner and the Disney board Monday, seconding complaints made Sunday by Roy Disney and further criticizing the board as a rubber stamp to senior management.

Gold also repeated Disney's calls for Eisner to resign.

"It is clear to me that this board is unwilling to tackle the difficult issues I believe this company continues to face," Gold wrote. Among the problems, he said, were "the cannibalization of certain company icons for short-term gain, the enormous

loss of creative talent over the last years, the absence of succession planning and the lack of strategic focus."

Gold's resignation comes as Disney's board begins two days of meetings in New York.

Gold played a key role along with Roy Disney in 1984 to save the company from a takeover attempt and install Eisner as chairman. He heads Shamrock Holdings, which manages Roy Disney's investments.

Gold's role has been diminished over the past two years as he has become more of a critic of Eisner's performance.

Disney, 73, is the last family member active in the company, founded in 1923 by his uncle Walt and his father, Roy O. Disney, who was the business manager. He also is quitting as chairman of the company's animation division.

Disney has called for Eisner's

resignation in the past, but the idea was rejected by the board. On Sunday, he sent a three-page letter to Eisner that criticized the chairman's leadership over the past seven years, according to The Wall Street Journal, which first reported the story.

"It is my sincere belief that it is you that should be leaving and not me," Disney told Eisner in the letter.

He accused Eisner of "muzzling" his voice on the board.

"Michael, I believe your conduct has resulted from my clear and unambiguous statements to you and the Board of Directors that after 19 years at the helm, you are no longer the best person to run the Walt Disney Company," Disney wrote.

His departure may have been a pre-emptive move, because the company said he is older than the mandated retirement age of 72.

The board's presiding director, former Sen. George Mitchell, said in a statement Sunday he regretted Disney's actions and confirmed the governance and nominating committee recently informed Disney that the age-limit rule, instituted last year, should apply to him.

A call to Roy Disney on Sunday was not immediately returned. A message also was left for Eisner.

Eisner has taken heat for what critics see as micromanaging leadership style. Detractors also accuse him of presiding over a "brain drain" that saw top executives leave the company over the past 10 years, including former studio chief Jeffrey Katzenberg, Steven Bollenbach, who now heads the Hilton Corp., and most recently Paul Pressler, who left last year to head Gap Inc.

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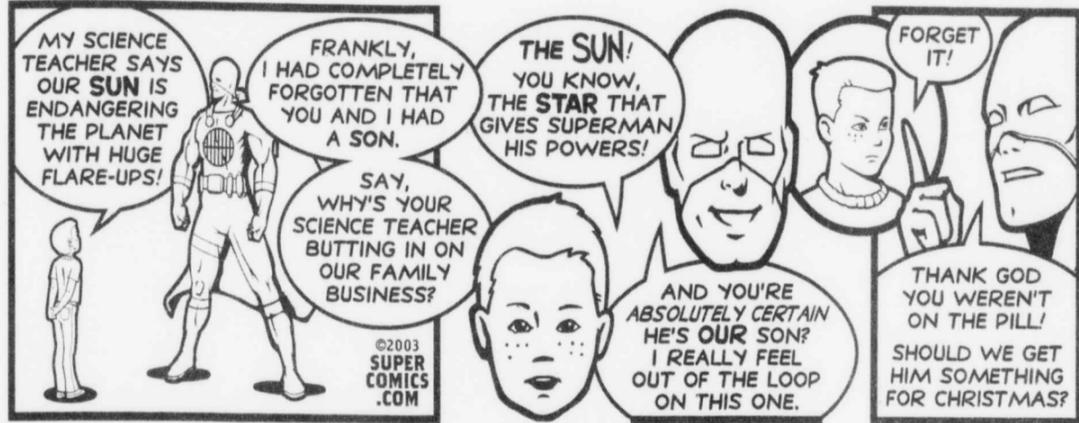
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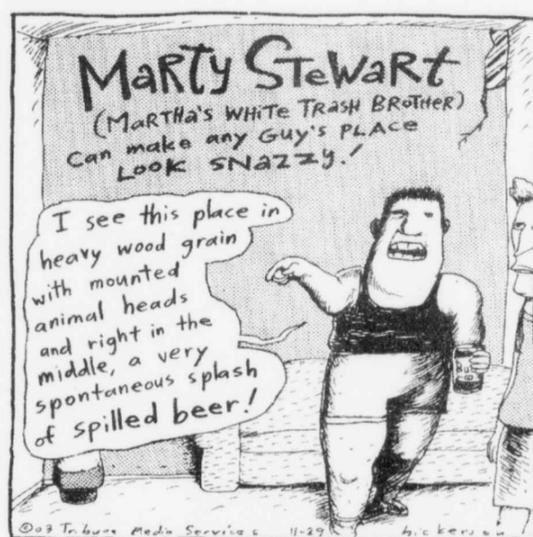


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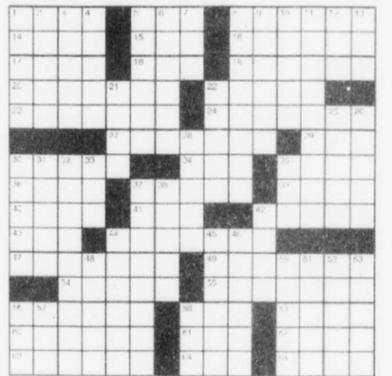


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 - Cherubic or seraphic
 - Michaelmas daisy
 - Examine part by part
 - Swerving
 - More impudent
 - Our sun
 - Company emblems
 - Crone
 - Cher's Sonny
 - Gray or Moran
 - Bonny Goodman's music
 - Emily Penruin
 - French cleric
 - Write
 - Map in a map
 - Evergreen
 - Trinidad music
 - Intense gazers
 - Verbatim
 - Dog's lead
 - Spring (from)
 - Thickheaded
 - Battering device
 - Skating surface
 - Fuse cut
 - Wind dir.
 - Jamaican citrus fruit
 - Most uncommon
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 - Most meager
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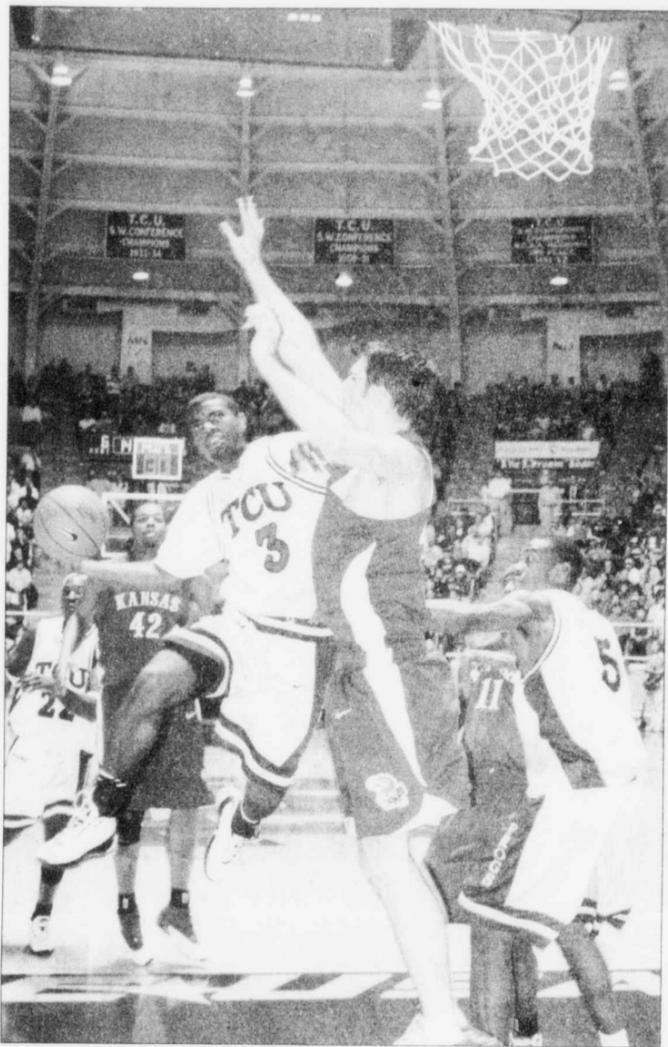
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Junior guard Cory Santee goes up for a lay up in the first half of the TCU versus Kansas game Monday night.

Frogs fall to Kansas, host first-ever No. 1-ranked team

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Keith Langford scored 24 points on 9-of-10 shooting in his homecoming and sparked the game-deciding run in the second half to lead No. 1 Kansas to an 85-66 victory over TCU on Monday night.

The Jayhawks (3-0), who became the No. 1 team in The Associated Press' poll earlier in the day with a jump from sixth — the biggest to the top in the poll in almost 40 years — led for good after Langford's short jumper in traffic with 17:33 left broke a 43-all tie.

Langford, a junior, played at North Crowley High in Fort Worth, and was recruited to Kansas by Neil Dougherty, the former Jayhawks assistant who is TCU's second-year coach.

TCU (1-2) had its only lead after Corey Santee's 3-pointer in the first minute of the second half made it 41-39. The Horned Frogs, hosting a No. 1 team for the first time ever, haven't beaten a Top 10 team since a win over No. 10 Arkansas in 1990.

During a 19-8 run over an eight-minute span in the second half, Langford had 11 points and two assists — one on a horrible shot that J.R. Giddens grabbed off the rim and slammed back home.

By time Langford had a rebound and putback to end the decisive spurt with about 10 minutes left, Kansas had a 60-49 lead.

Jeff Hawkins added 19 points for the Jayhawks, including consecutive 3-pointers that pushed the lead to 71-55.

Santee led TCU with 19 points, while Nucleus Smith had 13.

Langford played just six minutes in the first half because of two early fouls, but made all three of his shots for seven points while Kansas built a 21-11 lead.

His 3-pointer was the first basket of the game, and after his steal and layup, the Jayhawks led 10-4. Another layup gave Kansas its largest lead just before he got his second foul and sat the final 12 minutes of the half.

TCU managed to get to 39-38 by halftime when Chudi Chinweze grabbed Santee's missed 3-pointer, then turned and shot just before the buzzer sounded.

The Jayhawks, playing their first game since starting guard Michael Lee broke his right collarbone in practice Friday, had 13 turnovers in the first half.

Kansas then turned the ball

over on its first two possessions of the second half, Langford stepping on the baseline and David Padgett traveling. But when Langford took an inbound pass and was fouled hard, he made both free throws to start the game-turning spurt.

Kansas took advantage of

losses by the top four teams last week to move to No. 1. The Jayhawks' only game last week was an 81-74 win over then-No. 3 Michigan State.

The Jayhawks are No. 1 for the first time since a four-week stretch during the 2001-02 season.



Kansas forward Bryant Nash dribbles past sophomore forward Chudi Chinweze Monday night in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Iron Skillet Game • November 29, 2003 • TCU 20 • SMU 13

Frogs happy to squeak by SMU

BY CARLOS ALVARADO
Commentary

Winless teams need a few things to finally win a game.

Saturday in Dallas, TCU gave the Mustangs the one thing that can carry a team to victory: hope.

The Frogs, coming off a devastating loss to Southern Mississippi, and the Mustangs, winless on the year, wanted nothing more than a win to put a positive spin on their respective seasons.

The Mustangs were able to use that hope, along with TCU's mistakes, to hang around and make a game of what many had thought was going to be a blowout of a hated rival. It took a final defensive stand and two late penalties to finally squash SMU's dreams.

The 20-13 win was far from impressive as the Frogs are now 19th in both *The Associated Press* and *Coaches'* polls. The Frogs stayed put in the AP poll with the victory, but they dropped two spots in the *Coaches'* poll.

Head coach Gary Patterson was not surprised that the game was tougher than many had expected.

"That's what you get when you play rivals; they get up for the game," Patterson said. "Every time we play this game, there has only been one blowout."

The blowout Patterson is referring to came in the 2000 season when the Frogs beat the Mustangs 62-7 in Dallas.

Despite only winning by seven points this season, Patterson said the Frogs are

happy to walk away with the win and understands how difficult it was for TCU to get up for the game.

"It was a big let-down last week," Patterson said. "We found a way to get it done."

As tough as the win was, the Frogs managed to put two players into the record books Saturday afternoon. Junior wide receiver Reggie Harrell broke the single season receiving yards record and Robert Merrill broke Lonta Hobbs' single season rushing yards record for a freshman, which was set last season.

Aside from the victory and the two fallen records, the talk after the game was focused on TCU's bowl destination. After much controversy, the Frogs will be playing in the Fort Worth Bowl on Dec. 23.

Patterson made it known the Frogs' opponent in the GMAC bowl, 17th-ranked Miami (Ohio), is not the reason the Frogs had reservations to play in the game in Mobile, Ala.

"We're not scared to play Miami (Ohio)," Patterson said. "We wouldn't walk away from anybody."

Due to a conflict with final exams, TCU officially declined an invitation Monday to play in the GMAC Bowl. The school maintains that its decision to turn down a matchup with Miami is due in large part to the effect the game would have on the players' academics.

"I don't feel like we have to apologize to anybody," Patterson said. "We do what we think is the best thing for our program."

Frogs lack intensity in last game of season

QUARTERBACK: C+

Brandon Hassell did not seem to have any lasting effects from last week's turnover-plagued performance. His numbers were pedestrian (18-26, 180 yds, 1 INT) and were not indicative of his play. He made many big plays with his feet including a big touchdown run in the first half on a draw and escaped pressure numerous times. An ill-advised interception at TCU's end of the field led to a SMU touchdown, and he could not get the team into the end zone enough times to put SMU away early.

RUNNING BACKS: B+

The trio of Robert Merrill, Lonta Hobbs and Kenny Hayter had a fine day. Merrill was able to put the game away with a touchdown run midway through the fourth quarter and secure a spot in the record books by breaking the freshman rushing record for yards in a season.

WIDE RECEIVERS: B-

This unit has gone from afterthought/liability to the team's primary focus. It was able to deliver and made several key catches on the day. The wide receivers block better on running plays than almost any group in the country. Reggie Harrell had a 98-yard day and used it to set TCU's single season receiving yards record.

OFFENSIVE LINE: B-

The group took advantage of the smaller SMU line and pushed it around for most of the day. The linemen are at their best when they can run over people, but lately they have been asked to do some things they are not entirely used to. Their pass blocking skills have been put to the test and they are average at best.

Making the Grade



Football players Andrew Calovich, Chris Wingate and Stanley Moss hold up the Iron Skillet after TCU defeated SMU 20-13 for the Iron Skillet Saturday at Gerald J. Ford Stadium in Dallas.

DEFENSIVE LINE: B+

Chad Pugh was the force behind a fine defensive line performance. The push and intensity of the line was not in question. The Mustangs' traditional running game floundered as SMU gained most of its rushing yards on a couple of big plays. The front four was able to put adequate pressure on the quarterback, including a sack on SMU's last drive that ended SMU's hopes.

LINEBACKERS: B

They continue to do well against the run, plugging holes and stopping runs in the backfield. Josh Goolsby and Martin Patterson chased down every play and were always around the ball. Their blitzes were largely ineffective, but it allowed others to break free and get pressure.

SECONDARY: A-

The unit did not give up many big plays and was able to contain the SMU passing game. A big SMU play early in the fourth quarter was a result of a missed tackle. The coverage was tight and consistent for most of the game. Brandon Williams was able to break loose to put pressure on the quarterback, and Elvis Gallegos played well in extensive action.

SPECIAL TEAMS: C

Nick Browne was awarded All-American honors and promptly missed two of his three field goals on the day. The field goals were long and not easy by any means. The Frogs kept kick returner Jason Rutledge in check but were unable to let punt returner Cory Rogers make a difference in the game.

OVERALL: B-

The Frogs' lack of intensity allowed the Mustangs to hang around. Hope was the last thing the Frogs could have given SMU, but luckily it was not enough to let the Mustangs prevail. The offense has lost its direction. Favoring a spread look, the team is unable to consistently move the ball, and many of its drives have bogged down due to that fact that TCU is trying to do too many things. The Frogs are best when they run first and allow their receivers to take advantage of one-on-one coverage from play action passing. The defense was all over the field, swarming to the ball and putting big hits and making big plays when it needed to.

Compiled by Carlos Alvarado