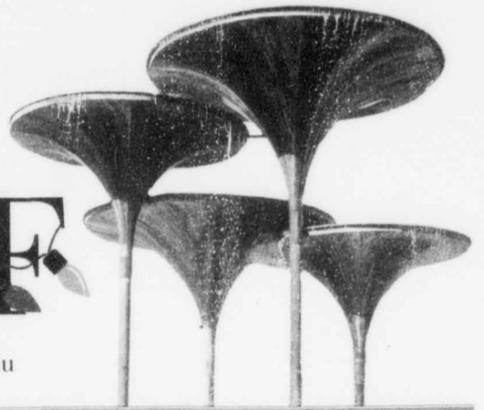


Friday, December 5, 2003

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

Serving Texas Christian University since 1902 • Vol. 101 • Issue 55 • Fort Worth, Texas • www.skiff.tcu.edu



## Today's News

### STATE/NATIONAL NEWS

**ABILENE** — Democratic U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm has filed to run for re-election in his current West Texas district, which would change drastically if the Legislature's redistricting plan is approved.

News Digest on page 4

**FORT WORTH** — A 13-year-old boy accused of giving a female classmate an unwanted hickey is one public apology away from getting his assault case dismissed.

News Digest on page 4

**CARSON, Calif.** — A cameraman inside a Goodyear blimp was injured when the airship came loose from its moorings, drifted into a parked truck and nose-dived into a fertilizer pile beside a plant nursery.

News Digest on page 4

## OnCampus

### Professors use site to test for plagiarism

**TAMPA, Fla.** — University of South Florida students should beware that any paper they submit may be tested for plagiarism with a Web site that is being offered to USF's faculty and staff.

At the beginning of this semester, faculty and staff were able to request to subscribe to an e-mail account at Turnitin.com. The Web site allows professors to cross-check students' papers against databases to identify plagiarism.

USF is not the only school in the state that is licensing Turnitin.com. The University of Florida, Florida State University and University of Central Florida are also using the site to deter students from cheating and plagiarizing.

Susan MacManus, a USF political science professor, said students don't understand that purchasing papers online or not citing information correctly in a term paper is not only unethical but is intellectual theft.

"The average student does not know the extreme consequences of plagiarism at a university," MacManus said. "I, along with other professors, see a lot of downloaded stuff in papers, and I am just sick and tired of it."

— The Oracle

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## TheWeather

### TODAY

High: 53; Low: 29; Sunny

### SATURDAY

High: 52; Low: 34; Sunny

### SUNDAY

High: 66; Low: 50; Sunny and windy

## LookingBack

**1933** — The 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, repealing the 18th Amendment and bringing an end to the era of national prohibition of alcohol in America. Utah became the 36th state to ratify the amendment, achieving the requisite three-fourths majority of states' approval.

# Journalism dept. loses full accreditation

BY CRYSTAL FORESTER  
Staff Reporter

TCU's journalism department needs to hire more minorities and solve budget problems before it can receive full accreditation, said Tommy Thomason, department chair.

The department received provisional accreditation after a recent visit by a site team from

the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

This is the first time the department has not been fully accredited since 1967, Thomason said.

The two problem areas the site team found were budget and diversity. Before the department can receive full reaccreditation, the issues must be addressed,

Thomason said.

"This department has grown significantly over the last decade, and the budget has just not kept up," said Thomason, a journalism professor.

Meetings are being held this week with the provost, College of Communication Dean William Slater and Thomason to look at what the university can do to

address the budget and diversity issue, Thomason said.

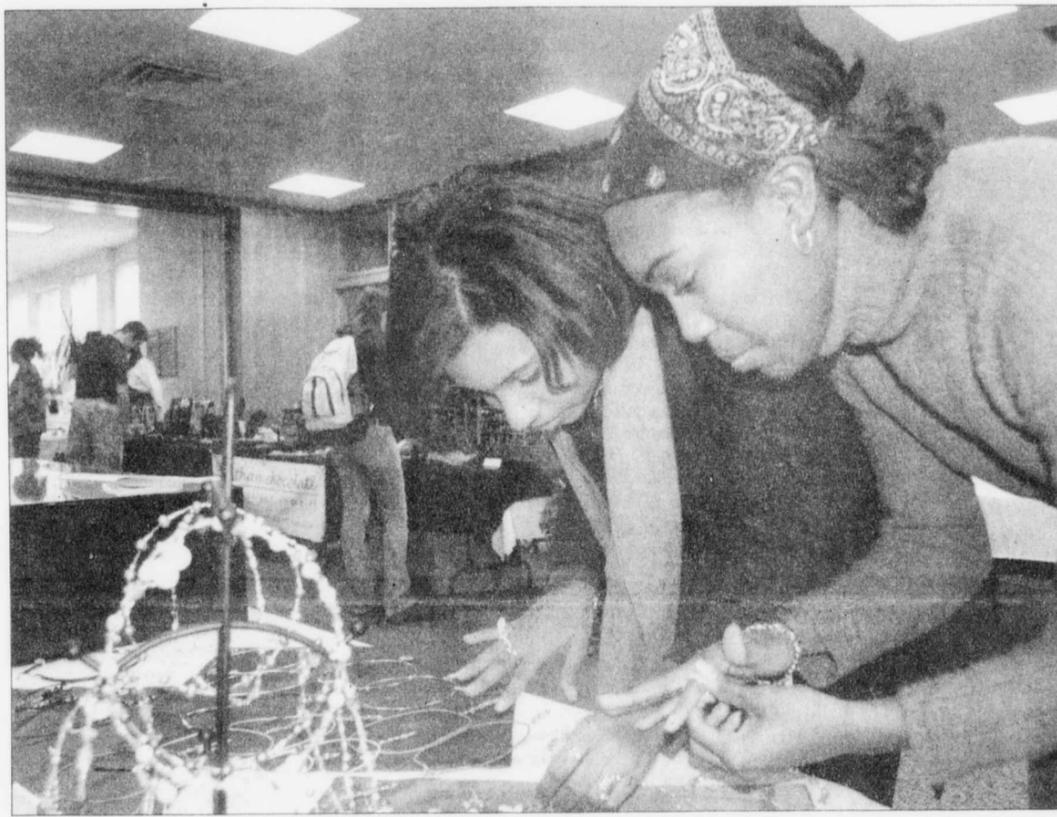
The journalism department will have a chance to send a report to the accrediting council about how it plans to take care of the problems in March and again in May, Thomason said. If the accrediting council accepts the proposal, the department would be fully re-accredited. If it does not accept

the proposal, then the department will have until May 2005 to fix the problem, he said.

The two issues that were brought up by the site team were outside the department's control, Thomason said. The accreditation team had only good things to say about the faculty and curriculum,

(more on JOURNALISM, page 2)

## JUST BROWSING



Sophomore history major Portia Barker and junior advertising and public relations major Veronica Shields look at some of the interesting jewelry in the Student Center Lounge Thursday afternoon. Today will be the last day of the craft show.

Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor

## Students develop new sorority

BY ROXANNA LATIFI  
Skiff Staff

A new voice is being heard on campus, and it's Chi Upsilon Sigma, the most recent addition to TCU's Greek community.

Eugenia Redondo, a junior radio-TV-film major, researched for one month before deciding to bring CUS to the university.

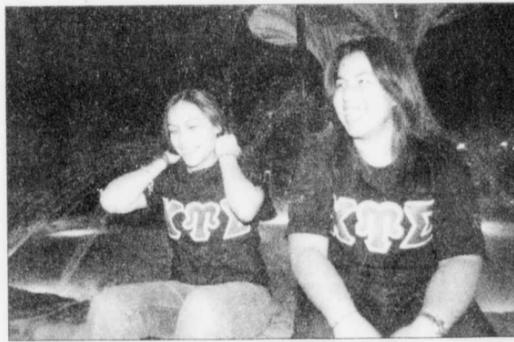
"I wanted to bring something different to campus to avoid the stereotypical view of Latinos, and I knew I could do that through CUS,"

Redondo said.

Chapters have been established in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, Texas and Connecticut. Chi Upsilon Sigma is the first National Latin Sorority on campus.

Chi Upsilon Sigma stands for 'Corazones Unidos Siempre' or 'Hearts United Always.' CUS, established in 1980, is one of the oldest Latin sororities in the nation and currently has about 500 members. The TCU chapter

(more on SORORITY, page 2)

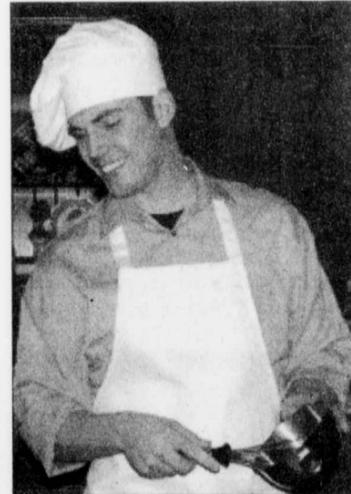


Junior radio-TV-film major Eugenia Redondo and junior marketing management major Lisa Cano, the only two members of Chi Upsilon Sigma, are looking for more members to join the Latin sorority.

Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor

## Student debuts 'Cooking in College' DVD

BY KRISTI WALKER  
Staff Reporter



Senior marketing major Taylor Kelly prepares a chicken parmesan dish, which is one of nine recipes in his new DVD, "Cooking in College."

Special to the Skiff

Cooking gourmet meals while at school is not something at the top of most college students' lists of things to do. However, Taylor Kelly, a senior marketing major at TCU, says cooking is a top priority.

Kelly said this is because he, along with business partner and longtime friend, David Spina, have created a 50-minute cooking DVD called "Cooking in College," which is geared toward preparing cheap, quick and easy meals.

The video demonstrates how to cook American, Italian and Mexican dishes for \$5 or less per serving, Kelly said. The recipes are a collection of family and popular recipes that take five to 10 minutes of preparation plus cooking time, he said.

Kelly said the idea came about when he and Spina realized how little college students know about cooking. Kelly said they decided to create a video geared toward college students who are living on a budget and want to

eat healthy meals. The idea for the nine-meal DVD developed from there, he said.

"We wanted to do something our generation would like," Kelly said. "That is why we did it on a DVD with music, instead of a cookbook."

Kelly said he cooked little and went out to eat more at the start of his college days. The unhealthy and expensive lifestyle helped turn him on to the idea of cooking healthy meals for himself, Kelly said.

"I cooked grilled chicken, macaroni and cheese, hot dogs and the 'necessities' at first, and I ate out a lot," Kelly said. "Then, I realized that I couldn't afford to eat out at restaurants all the time."

Kelly said it is simple cooking for those who do not know how to cook. He said he, himself, did not learn to cook until recently.

"When I grew up, Thanksgiving involved my mom and sisters cooking while my dad and I watched football," Kelly said.

Although Kelly admits he occasionally helped in the kitchen with Thanksgiving

(more on COOKING, page 7)

## MBA program gains strength

BY JOHN ASHLEY MENZIES  
Staff Reporter

A more selective approach to accepting students and a stronger group of students to choose from have helped propel the growth of the graduate program at the M.J. Neeley School of Business, said Peggy Conway, director of MBA admissions.

According to a Neeley school report prepared by Dean Robert Lusch, full-time MBA students have improved their Graduate Management Admission Test scores over the past six years as enrollment in the graduate programs has increased. The GMAT is a standardized test designed to test a student's ability to succeed in an MBA program.

"The GMAT is only one part of the story, though," Conway said. "Students are also coming in with more experience. So we are being selective with a stronger base."

According to Lusch's report, GMAT scores for full-time MBA students have increased about 70 to 80 points from 545 in fall 1997 to 605 in fall 2003. Scores got as high as 615 in fall 2002. Conway said the GMAT gives people a quick sense

(more on MBA, page 2)

## Local residents satisfied

BECKY BRANDENBUR  
Staff Reporter

Neighbors say that, lately, TCU has transformed its image from block bully to team player.

Two years ago, TCU butted heads with Bluebonnet Hills neighbors over the construction of the Lupton Baseball Stadium and the bright stadium lighting they were forced to face each evening — game or no game — and that they weren't consulted in the planning.

This past summer neighbors protested when TCU did not include them in plans to rezone a large portion of the neighborhood bordering the southern and eastern edges of the university.

Concessions were made after several meetings with the neighborhood associations. The agreements led to rezoning the 60 acres between Cantey Street and Berry Street for high intensity use, allowing buildings up to 60-foot tall unlimited residential units per acre with commercial spaces. The area north of Cantey was rezoned for low intensity uses, allowing buildings up

(more on RESIDENTS, page 2)

# 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.

■ **TCU Craft Fair** will end today. Students can buy Christmas ornaments, jewelry, candles and other various items at the fair, which is in the Student Center Lounge.

■ **TCU Opera Studio** presents "A Night of Opera Scenes," with Richard Estes directing, accompanied by Mark Metcalf on piano, at 7:30 p.m. today in the PepsiCo Recital Hall. For more information call (817) 257-7602.

■ **TCU Women's Basketball** will play Arkansas at 7 p.m. Saturday in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. For more information call (817) 257-7967.

■ **20:24 Bible Study** meets at 6:15 p.m. Sundays in Sid Richardson Lecture Hall 1.

■ **The inaugural Fort Worth Bowl** will be played at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 23 in Amon Carter Stadium. Boise State accepted a conditional bid Tuesday to play in the bowl.

■ **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 DAILY SKIFF

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

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## JOURNALISM

From page 1

he said.

Journalism professor Doug Newsom said she thought the accreditation team was fair and honest with its review.

"The good thing is that the things they found wrong, we (faculty members) can't do anything about," she said.

Although the accreditation team said the budget was not adequate for the number of students and faculty the department has, the team did not state how much more money was needed, Thomason said.

"There is no magic formula that says if you have this number of faculty and this number of students, then your budget needs to be X amount," he said.

Drake University's journalism program is comparable to TCU's, and its budget is three times the size, Newsom said.

"My overall sense of our budget is that it needs to triple," she said.

As for the diversity issue, the site team told the department that if Earnest Perry, a black professor, was still on the faculty, then the department would have received full accreditation, Thomason said.

"He resigned in May, which was really too late for us to make an all-out concerted effort to find another minority faculty member to take his place," he said.

The university made several attempts to keep Perry at TCU but could not give him a lighter teaching load and the

doctorate students needed to help him with his research, Thomason said.

Perry was replaced by Beverly Horvit, a white assistant professor, who taught at the University of Texas at Arlington before coming to TCU.

In 1992, the site team found the department did not meet the requirements for diversity but still gave the department full accreditation, Thomason said.

"Back then diversity was not the 800-pound gorilla that it is now," he said.

Assistant journalism professor John Tisdale said the accreditation team had a narrow definition of what minority representation is.

"The definition is evolving. I don't think it should be so limited," Tisdale said. "We need to find creative ways to attract nonwhites, both students and faculty, to TCU."

Senior broadcast journalism major Jacque Nguyen said diversity is an important issue at TCU and therefore should be an issue in the department.

"Being a minority student myself, it helps to see a diverse group of students, as well as teachers," Nguyen said.

Newsom said there is huge competition all over the United States for journalism faculty members and an even bigger demand for minorities.

"There are even fewer minorities with Ph.D.s and experience," she said. "You can't deal with what we do without experience."

Crystal Forester  
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## RESIDENTS

From page 1

to three stories in height, 40 to 60 residential units per acre and ground level parking.

When residents complained about street parking problems, the Fort Worth Police Department took notice. After evaluating emergency vehicle access in the surrounding neighborhood streets, the Traffic Division added no parking signs for limited periods to one side of most of the streets surrounding the campus at the beginning of the fall semester.

TCU announced plans to break ground in the spring on a massive parking garage and residential and commercial development to relieve parking and near-campus housing needs. The mixed-use structure will be bordered by Berry Street, Greene Avenue, Bowie Street and Waits Avenue. Plans show ground level businesses fronting Berry Street, Greene Avenue and Waits Avenue.

In fiscal year 1998, the university purchased \$22,203,456 worth of mostly commercial properties in the surrounding neighborhood.

Each year since, TCU has added properties outside the borders of campus — a combined certified value of \$74,596,772, according to the Tarrant Appraisal District database. In fiscal year 2003, an addition of \$6,226,380 worth of property was added to the university-included commercial properties along Berry Street and McCart Avenue, multi-family residences on Kent Drive and Bellaire Drive North, and the single resident units of Bellaire House Condominiums.

Blum Johnson, president of the Bluebonnet Hills Neighborhood Association and a 1983 graduate of TCU, said the university has come

a long way in its relationship with neighbors.

"The zoning change forced us to work together. We've come to an understanding on what we could all live with and what's most important," Johnson said.

Keri Ryan, president of Bluebonnet Place Neighborhood Association, said she has always received good responses in dealing with TCU about neighborhood issues.

Ryan said they are very supportive of TCU's mixed-use development project and the emphasis on a pedestrian atmosphere.

"TCU has always been willing to listen and work us," Ryan said. "We have many students living in our neighborhood and there have been occasional problems with parties and trash. But, we have not had Bluebonnet Hill's lighting problems or the parking problems that Frisco Heights has had."

Marsh Cowdin, president of Frisco Heights Neighborhood Association, said signage has helped relieve some of the street parking and security issues.

"We gave a little, they gave a little," Cowdin said.

The Cowdins have lived in the 2900 block of Merida Street since 1965.

"I'm not out to get anybody, I just want to live in my neighborhood peacefully," she said.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the neighborhood surrounding the campus is one of TCU's enduring strengths and that the associations are committed to both high quality neighborhoods and a high quality university.

"Our working together ensures, I think, that all of us will be able to meet our objectives," Mills said.

Becky Brandenburg  
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## MBA

From page 1

of how a school stacks up with other schools.

"We give students the option of telling us what other graduate schools they are applying to," Conway said. "We are seeing a lot of students also applying to UT and Rice. In the mid-'90s, you didn't see that."

Conway said the university hopes to build graduate programs through other schools on campus as well, not just the business school and that it has done a lot to increase its reputation.

Neeley's graduate enrollment is just under 375 and has grown by nearly 50 students since the fall of 1996, according to the report.

Conway said the graduate

programs available are:

- The full-time MBA program.
- The professional MBA program offered at night to people who work during the day.
- The executive MBA program, which will groom people already in executive positions.

Tim Neuman, director of the executive MBA program, said the increase was driven by the current business climate.

"During economic downturns, people will turn to MBA programs, hoping when they come out business will be better, and when another downturn comes they can get through it," Neuman said.

The executive MBA program is a non-traditional setting with 42 students enrolled, Neuman said. The students average 41 years old and 18 years of work experience,

he said.

"It's great because they're already successful before they enter the program," Neuman said.

People use the ratio between the number of graduate students and number of undergraduate students to compare universities, Conway said. TCU is roughly 15 percent smaller in its graduate programs than other top universities, and it is something TCU is working to improve.

Conway said the MBA programs should continue to grow, but the business school will be careful with its growth. They will look for quality applicants rather than just letting people in to have number, she said.

"TCU is not about high volume," Conway said.

John Ashley Menzies  
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## SORORITY

From page 1

currently has two members.

Redondo did not join any of the previously established sororities on campus.

"I didn't feel that I was going to be able to really relate to any of the other sororities already on campus. I needed something different, something I wanted to associated myself with," she said.

Lisa Cano, TCU's CUS president, said she felt that going Greek was something she wanted to do but felt the options at TCU were not right for her.

"I seriously started off not wanting to go Greek but I think it was more of a matter of finding my place, and the options here on campus were not the ones I saw myself in," said Cano, a junior management

marketing major. "I knew I

wanted to be Greek but I just didn't want to limit myself to the ones here at TCU."

Cano is a strong believer in educating women, and was the deciding factor for bringing CUS to TCU. When bringing a new Greek organization to TCU, Redondo and Cano said TCU supported them every step of the way.

"Anything we needed, they (TCU faculty) were there to help us out with," said Redondo.

Redondo said to be national, the organization must have at least five chapters outside of the state it was founded in and be recognized under an umbrella organization, such as the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations.

Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs Tiffany Abbott said she believes having a nationally recognized Latina sorority on campus is important, because it gives female

students another opportunity in which to explore a fraternal experience.

"I know TCU has been positively affected with Chi Upsilon Sigma sorority," she said. "Many women have expressed interest in their organization, which is a positive sign of increasing the amount of women in the sorority."

Cano said that because she and Redondo are juniors and the sorority was just established last spring, CUS will take its time to perfect its TCU chapter.

"We hope to have our chapter grow and co-program with the other organizations on campus," Cano said. "Because we are already juniors we hope to lay a strong foundation for the girls who will follow after us."

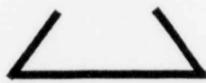
Rosanna Latifi  
 rlatifi@tcu.edu

Thank you TCU  
 and Order of Omega



Thanks  
 to your  
 support,  
 The Spirit of  
 Christmas is a  
 great success!

Thousands of children  
 under the care of Child  
 Protective Services will  
 awaken on Christmas  
 morning with presents under  
 the tree for the first time in their  
 lives. On behalf of these special  
 children, we want to thank you for  
 making the holidays magical and wish  
 you a Merry Christmas and Happy New  
 Year!



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# OPINION

Your place for the opinions that shape your world | www.skiff.tcu.edu

## The Skiff View

### THE END

Don't forget to give us some feedback

Today is the last issue of the TCU *Daily Skiff* for the 2003 fall semester.

For the current staff, today signifies the end of long days in front of computer screens typing up stories or making that picture or headline look just right on the page. It's the end of countless meetings to decide what you will read every day. And the *Skiff* editorial staff, reporters, copy editors, designers and production staff have enjoyed every minute of it. Well maybe not every minute, but we've enjoyed giving you 55 issues to read.

We just ask one thing. We need feedback. Good or bad. That means when you read that column that makes you laugh until your side hurts or read a profile or news story that you like, tell us. We can't grow as a paper if you don't tell us what is working and what is not. Submit a letter to the editor. We thank you for those who have sent positive words our way. Too often we seem to hear the bad more than the good. And when you put as much time and effort into a product as we do, all of the bad can ruin your motivation.

You need to remember that the *Skiff* is a journalist major's laboratory. We're going to make mistakes, and since the *Skiff* is seen all across campus, the work that we do always faces the most scrutiny. People make mistakes every day, but those mistakes don't often get read or seen by lots of people.

Everyone functions better with a pat on the back or some positive words. The same goes for the *Skiff* staff. So when you pick up the *Skiff* next semester, don't forget how much hard work and dedication goes into it.

## World safer from telemarketers

They're coming for you. Just when you thought it was safe to eat dinner ... the phone rings. You answer, expecting a friendly chat. But the voice on the other end is no friend; it is cold, impersonal, and hoping to interest you in a chameleon phone that sings "Karma Chameleon" when it rings. That's right, you've been struck by a telemarketer. Along with spam, road rage and "Friends" spin-offs, telemarketers are one of the banes of modern existence. They call just as you are getting into the shower, walking out the door or watching a very scary movie. So you get an unlisted number and caller ID, but somehow they always find you. You can't escape.

But lately you may have noticed your phone isn't ringing as much as usual. No, you don't need to switch deodorants ... It's probably thanks to the "do not call" list.

Wonder of wonders, the Federal Trade Commission may have won the battle to make the world safe from phone solicitors.

You may have heard of the FTC's "do not call" list for people that have requested not to be called by telemarketers.

If your name is on this magic list, telemarketers are restricted from calling you. To add your name to the list, visit the FTC's Web site at ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)).

For those who enjoy torture and prefer not to put their names on the list, there are new restrictions on the calls telemarketers can make.

Telemarketers must call only between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m., register their company and name on caller ID and identify their company along with its name and address.

So while phone-owners everywhere are rejoicing, what happens to the poor telemarketer? Well, the FCC cannot restrict calls from charitable organizations, police organizations and insurance companies, so there are still ways for them to harass and be harassed.

So it would seem that the people of the world are at least on the right path to blissful freedom from unwanted calls. But in case a few calls fall through the cracks ... remember, if anyone offers you a chameleon phone, just hang up.

*Jessica Sanders is a senior news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio. She can be reached at [j.d.sanders@tcu.edu](mailto:j.d.sanders@tcu.edu).*

### EDITORIAL BOARD

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### EDITORIAL POLICIES

**Editorial policy:** The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. Unsigned editorials represent the view of the TCU *Daily Skiff* editorial board. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

**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](mailto: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.

## New state law puts children in harm's way

I hate needles. I cringe every time I think about going to the doctor's office to get a shot in the arm or somewhere even less fun.



Laura McFarland

Even knowing how much I hated getting shots, my mom always dragged me to the doctor's office to get vaccinated. This was partly out of love because she wanted me to stay healthy, and partly because these shots were mandated by law before it was possible to enter the education system.

For years, millions of parents and reluctant children have been going through the immunization process. Only children with religious or medical reasons could be exempted from getting immunizations before they entered public or private child care facilities, elementary or secondary schools and universities.

Now, under a state law that went into effect Sept. 1, parents can have their children exempted from immunizations required by the state for "reasons of conscience."

Ridiculous as it sounds, now, "I don't like needles," can actually be considered a good reason to avoid getting these shots, Texas Department of Health press officer Doug McBride said.

Hopefully no parent would be thoughtless enough to leave a child vulnerable to disease for such a reason, but with the law worded as it is, the Texas Health Department would have to accept this absurd reason as valid.

It appears lawmakers tried to cover themselves by including in the section a line that says students who use this reason can be removed from school "in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health." But all that leads to is a number of children missing school because they weren't protected in the first place.

The state health department has already received about 1,800 requests for the form needed to apply for a "reasons of conscience" exemption, McBride said. That's a significant number when you consider those requests represent 2,900 children who will not be vaccinated against easily preventable dis-

eases, like measles, mumps, whooping cough and chicken pox.

There have already been 3,286 cases of vaccine-preventable diseases in Texas this year. With an increasing number of children not vaccinated, there is a greater risk that these numbers will go up.

Adding the "reasons of conscience" exemption to state law is a gross misjudgment on our lawmakers' parts and represents a step back in medicine. Diseases that were, for all intents and purposes, mostly beaten are being afforded a comeback.

It's irresponsible to have this law offer no definition for "reasons of conscience" other than that it includes religious reasons, which were already part of the document.

It looks like it is going to take more children getting sick to prove this was a bad decision, but waiting for that kind of proof is taking too much of a risk with their health and safety.

*Managing editor Laura McFarland is a senior news-editorial journalism and English major from Houston. She can be reached at [L.d.mcfarland@tcu.edu](mailto:L.d.mcfarland@tcu.edu).*

## Don't forget about the band

With all the publicity surrounding a ground-breaking 11-1 football season, certain communities within TCU have



Melissa Christensen

received deserved attention: the football players, coaches, fans, alumni. One group, however, has been ignored

despite their noticeably loud presence throughout the season.

The TCU Marching Band is an energetic group of 190 students deserving recognition. Director of bands Bobby Francis said band members rehearse as a group an average of six hours a week and attend about a dozen university events in the fall semester. For a mere half hour of credit, band members are at all home football games, university and city parades and marching competition exhibitions.

Oh, yeah, and the big one, of course: the bowl game.

While most of us have plans to travel home right after finals, the TCU Marching Band will remain on campus until Dec. 23 rehearsing for their last seasonal performance. Their winter break starts on Christmas Eve, leaving those who live out of state a small travel window to open presents Christmas morning.

Some of these students are required to be a part of the marching band to meet their music scholarship requirements, and those requirements include attending the bowl game. But, according to Francis, at least half the members are not on music scholarship, making their enormous time commitment to the program entirely voluntary.

One of these students is trombonist Justin Jordan, a junior biology major with medical school aspirations. His full-time class schedule is demanding, plus he works part time at a local doctor's office. Still, every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday he is in place for roll call at marching rehearsal. He is also at the practice field four hours before every home game for a short rehearsal, then performs from the pregame parade to the playing of the alma mater at the end of the game.

"It's good camaraderie being around people who all love music as much as I do," Jordan said. "And, it's great way to show my pride for TCU."

And do they ever show their pride. Any fan who has sat near the band at a football game knows how loud and proud the band can. They chant, curse bad calls, cheer good plays and provide a peppy soundtrack for the game.

At the Plains Capital Fort Worth Bowl, the TCU Marching Band will take the field at halftime for their last performance of the season. For those of you who will be there to cheer on the Horned Frogs, remember the band members are also hard-working Frogs who deserve your cheers.

*Melissa Christensen is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Grand Island, Neb. She can be reached at [m.s.christensen@tcu.edu](mailto:m.s.christensen@tcu.edu).*



## Student gives earned advice

They say college is about education, a time to learn the skills it takes to get along in life.

As I look back at the last four years, I have to say I disagree. College is the time to test those skills we learned as we grew up.

Before I stepped out on my own, I thought I had a pretty normal upbringing.

My parents taught me the things everybody else's parents taught them. But I was surprised to learn there were 18-year-olds who didn't know not to put foil in the microwave, not to spend more money than they had and not to wash white T-shirts with red towels.

As I leave college and enter that "real world," I have no reservations. I've had some great advice and examples along the way and quite a few people who have helped to make me the person I am:

- The most important thing my parents taught me was to never accept b.s. from anybody — especially myself.
- My grandpa once taught me

that it doesn't matter if I work my hind-end off if I'm not happy. He taught me to always do my best but never to sacrifice my happiness.

• My best friend, Jennifer McConnell, taught me how to stick by a friend. Though she sometimes had perfect reason to, she never once said, "I told you so." We've known each other for 10 years now, and through all the messes adolescence invites, she was the strong one who never judged me, never laughed at me and always stood by me.

• There have been several people who have nurtured my love of journalism and taught me how to be better writer and reporter. I guess I should blame them for sending me to a life on the dark side — the life a newspaper reporter. Some of the great teachers I've had include Mr. Singleton, who first introduced me to journalism; Mr. Briggs; Bob Templeton, my mentor; Phil Record and Robert Bohler, who put me through j-school "boot camp" and helped me live through it. My former editor, Meta Minton, took a chance on a shy high school kid and gave me a job at Midland's newspaper.

• I'd also like to thank Evan

for putting up with me and Summer, Kristi and Brian for always being honest with me.

• And most importantly, I've had the perfect role model who is patient, supportive, caring and understanding. His name is Jesus, and even though He commands the universe, He cares enough about my stupid little human problems to always stick by me.

In only 15 days, I'll fulfill a life goal: graduating from college. I still have several life goals left to complete, like riding in a fighter plane, visiting Australia, interviewing Willie Nelson, going on a shopping spree and having dinner with Matt Damon and Tom Cruise. Clearly, the most important of those life goals will be accomplished Dec. 20. I've been working toward that goal for 19 years now. Granted, it will probably take me even longer to complete some of my less serious life goals, but the last 19 years prove I can actually accomplish something if I just stick with it.

In the meantime, cue the hat toss. I'm going to make it after all.

*Emily Baker is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Midland. She can be reached at [e.k.baker@tcu.edu](mailto:e.k.baker@tcu.edu).*

# NEWS DIGEST

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## National/State Roundup

### Stenholm to run again despite redistricting

ABILENE (AP) — Democratic U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm has filed to run for re-election in his current West Texas district, which would change drastically if the Legislature's redistricting plan is approved.

"Until the courts give final approval to those (new) districts, they simply don't exist," he said in a statement after filing for his District 17 seat in Abilene on Wednesday.

The Republican-dominated Legislature passed a redistricting map in October that places Abilene in District 19, which is now represented by Republican Randy Neugebauer of Lubbock. The redistricting plan has yet to be approved by the Justice Department, and Democrats have challenged it in federal court. The trial begins in Austin on Dec. 11.

Stenholm said he doesn't think the courts will approve the new map, meaning his district would be intact for the March 9 primary elections.

Under the proposed redistricting plan, District 17 would be anchored by Midland-Odessa. Republican Mike Conaway of Midland, who barely lost the District 19 seat to Neugebauer earlier this year, has said he would run in the new district that is expected to be primarily Republican.

The regular filing period for congressional candidates began Wednesday and continues until

January 2, but it can be extended until Jan. 16 if the new maps are approved.

Candidates have the option to refile in another district if the maps are approved.

The Texas secretary of state office has told county officials statewide to prepare for elections using either map.

### Boy accused after giving female classmate hickey

FORT WORTH (AP) — A 13-year-old boy accused of giving a female classmate an unwanted hickey is one public apology away from getting his assault case dismissed.

The boy's mother called the girl's father last weekend to see whether the two families could settle the matter. A citation for assault by contact carries a fine of almost \$300 if the Richland Hills boy is convicted in municipal court.

Both families agreed the punishment was too harsh, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported in Thursday editions. The girl's father, Steven Marcuse, said he would drop the charge if the boy wrote an apology and said he was sorry in front of the class.

"Children need to be taught," he said. "They don't need to be issued a citation and made a criminal and dragged through court."

The boy is accused of giving the girl a hickey in a Richland Middle School hallway in September. Their names are not being used because of their ages.

The boy said Wednesday he

planned to read the letter of apology that he has given to the girl in front of the class Thursday. The boy said he has learned his lesson.

"Don't mess with anybody if they don't want you to mess with them, and don't touch anybody inappropriately," he said.

If the charges are not dropped by Dec. 11, the boy is to meet with a prosecutor for Richland Hills to try to reach an agreement before the matter could proceed to trial.

His mother, Patricia Singh, said the apology has caused her son to mature.

"He took charge for what he did," she said. "He did not respect someone else's space, whether forcibly or not."

### Sexual assault charges dropped against cadet

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Prosecutors have dropped sexual assault charges against an Air Force Academy cadet who had been accused of raping a drunken woman in the back of a pickup truck over the summer.

Senior Philip D. Hawkins, 22, of Kerville, Texas, was given two years' unsupervised probation Wednesday after pleading guilty to lying to police, a misdemeanor. He must also serve 100 hours of community service and cannot consume alcohol or visit bars.

Prosecutors agreed to the plea deal after further investigation and because the woman, 25, did not want the case to go forward, Deputy District Attorney Diana May said.

"Everybody understood that this was not a sex offense, and he was not a sexual perpetrator," said Hawkins' attorney, Ann Kaufman.

Hawkins was accused of assaulting the woman in a friend's truck after the two met at a nightclub July 19. The woman said she remembered little about the encounter before waking up in a hospital, where she was taken for a rape exam and treated for alcohol poisoning.

An emergency room physician said the woman showed no signs of physical trauma associated with sexual assault.

Hawkins at first told police he didn't know the woman and had sought help for her when she became sick. He later said the two had consensual sex.

Kaufman said will fighting to prevent Hawkins from being discharged from the academy.

### Cameraman injured in airborne blimp accident

CARSON, Calif. (AP) — A cameraman inside a Goodyear blimp was injured when the airship came loose from its moorings, drifted into a parked truck and nose-dived into a fertilizer pile beside a plant nursery.

The cameraman had a knee injury and was taken to a hospital, said Sgt. Paul Rice of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. No one else aboard the 192-foot-long Spirit of America was injured.

The accident, shortly before 10 p.m. Wednesday, caused a large tear in the front of the blimp

and knocked out its gondola's front window, said sheriff's Sgt. John Hocking.

The blimp had nearly landed but "the ground crew wasn't able to secure it on the first approach," Rice said. "The plan was to circle around again, but there was not enough power for liftoff, so it got away from the ground crew."

The blimp ended up about 300 yards from its landing site.

Goodyear spokeswoman Jennifer Arnold said the blimp was returning from shooting a video of the Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles during an NBA game.

The company was investigating the accident and cooperating with authorities, she said.

"We're thankful there were no serious injuries," Arnold said.

The Spirit of America has been operating for about a year and is Goodyear's newest blimp. Goodyear operates two other blimps in the United States.

### Donation pot thief hit by car during getaway

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Call it a case of bad karma.

A man who stole a Salvation Army donation pot outside a drug store was hit by a car as he tried to run away, police said.

Edward Sanders, 40, grabbed the pot Tuesday and pulled it away after a short struggle with volunteer Patricia Parra, a 60-year-old woman who suffers from cerebral palsy, said South Tucson police Sgt. Dan Snyder.

As Sanders started to run

away, he was struck by a Honda sedan and police captured him.

The red pot and the \$53.97 inside were returned to the Salvation Army, Snyder said.

"I think God has a poetic sense of justice," he said.

Sanders, treated at University Medical Center, was arrested on suspicion of robbery and criminal damage.

### President Bush to lift tariffs on foreign steel

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush likely will lift steep tariffs he imposed on foreign steel 20 months ago but soften the blow on the domestic steel industry by announcing new measures designed to protect against unfair foreign competition, congressional and steel industry officials say.

The White House asked key lawmakers on the steel issue to return to Washington on Thursday, and a formal White House announcement was expected to come after they had been briefed.

White House officials refused to discuss details of the president's decision, but congressional and steel industry officials, who spoke Wednesday on condition of anonymity, said they expected Bush to remove the tariffs in order to avoid the imposition of retaliatory tariffs on a wide range of American products.

The 15-nation European Union has vowed to retaliate against \$2.2 billion of American products by mid-December unless the United States removes the steel tariffs, which were ruled illegal by the World Trade Organization.

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## MISSY ELLIOTT

BY LARA HENDRICKSON  
Features Editor

Whether you like her or not, you've got to admit: Missy Elliott has guts.

Elliott's latest CD, "This is Not A Test," is just as boldly musical as her previous albums, if not more so. The newly slimmed down Elliott took it upon herself to become even more provocative as she pushes the boundary between comfort and uncomfortable.

As an R&B writer, producer and arranger in the 1990's, Elliott was involved in over 20 No.-1 hits for artists such as Aaliyah, Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey. Her first album, Supa Dupa Fly, released in 1997, immediately went to the top of the charts, with collaborations with artists such as Lil' Kim and Busta Rhymes. In 1999, Da Real World paired her with the likes of Eminem, and the album that followed, Miss E "... So Addictive," finally put her on the charts as one of the most influential hip hop artists of her time. In 2002, "Under Construction" solidified her spot in rap history, and "This is Not a Test" will keep her there.

Known not only for her unique rhythmic style, Elliott became known for her eccentric and visually stunning videos. "This is Not a Test" promises more and more of those with songs such as "Pass That Dutch," "Wake Up" and the ballad "I'm Not Perfect." The songs have a different (to say the least) beat and promise loads of energy. Like her other albums, "This is Not a Test" is assuredly of the upbeat variety, and may only want to be played by the light-hearted. And the young-at-heart. And definitely not the faint of heart.

If you qualify, be sure and pick up a copy and dance to it in the privacy of your room only.



## FILM REVIEW: BAD ACTING LEAVES 'TIMELINE' FLAT

BY ANDREW CONCATELLI  
The Daily Campus

Richard Donner's new film "Timeline" is a fun, fast-paced adventure movie, but the phenomenally bad acting ultimately turns it into just another example of a movie that can't live up to the novel on which it was based.

The premise of the film is that a group of young archeology students have to go back in time to rescue their professor, who is stuck in the 14th century after an experiment that went wrong. The students have to find Professor Johnston, played by Billy Connolly, and get back within six hours. Why six hours? Well, that and many other aspects of the technology are conveniently overlooked, but it sure creates some great suspense and gives the whole movie a sense of urgency.

The novelist, Michael Crichton, has seen a few of his books turn into classic movies (most notably "Jurassic Park"), but the problem is that his novels are usually so driven by brainy science talk and intense character development that a two-hour mainstream movie just can't handle all the information. Unfortunately in the case of "Timeline," both aspects are virtually eliminated by the screenplay writers, and we're left with a glossed-over plot about a wormhole that somehow leads to France in the year 1357 and are given a bunch of paper-thin characters we know nothing about. As the supporting characters get picked off one by one (as they often do in Crichton novels), the audience is left wondering, "Which guy was that anyway?"

Crichton is a master of telling stories about what happens when things go wrong, and Donner is no stranger to action movies, having directed the entire "Lethal Weapon" franchise, so there's no shortage of surprises or action. The story itself can be great fun and all of the pieces come together in the satisfying ending, but the big, make that huge, problem in "Timeline" is the acting.

The first wrong turn here may have been casting Paul Walker in any movie where he has to do more

than drive a car and look cool. The star of "The Fast and the Furious" movies plays Chris, the professor's son, and he gives an almost laughable performance. Walker tries to embody a combination of a sensitive guy and a tough action hero, but just as his character has no idea what he's doing in medieval times, Walker looks as though he has no idea what he's doing in a movie with actual dialogue.

Topping Walker's bad performance is Frances O'Connor, as the object of Chris' affection, Kate, who seems to have been brought along to do nothing more than scream, cry and cling to Walker's arm. O'Connor, who over-acts and over-emotes as if she were in some sort of slapstick comedy, seems like she's only pretending to act. The uniquely bizarre performance results in a flat, unlikable character with no depth or function to the plot.

However, this perplexing incident of acting not matching up to the rest of the film could also be the result of the screenplay, which has characters repeat every important piece of information at least twice and gives us an inexplicably evil, rich scientist (played by David Thewlis) who owns the time-travel technology but only wants to use it for his own benefit. The scenes in 1357 are inter-cut with scenes back at the lab, but the unfocused, underdeveloped characters and situations there bring the film's otherwise feisty momentum to a dead stop.

The inevitable love stories try to anchor the plot back in reality, but watching Chris and Kate try to flirt quickly becomes painful. The film's acting and the romantic subplots are both given some much-needed help by Gerard Butler, who plays Chris' friend, the hotshot student Andre Marek. In the most lighthearted scene of a film that usually takes itself all too seriously, Marek's character tries to flirt with a young local woman, but even though they both speak English, he soon learns how useless modern expressions like, "Are you seeing anyone?" are in the days of old.

In an otherwise fun and entertaining film spilling over with action and adventure, it's really a shame that the director settled for the worst acting since "Star Wars: Episode II." Crichton's dense novel and multitude of characters deserved better.



"THIS IS NOT A TEST" IS ASSUREDLY OF THE UPBEAT VARIETY, AND MAY ONLY WANT TO BE PLAYED BY THE LIGHT-HEARTED AND THE YOUNG-AT-HEART. AND DEFINITELY NOT THE FAINT OF HEART.

## HOT

## SPOTS

### Celebrity Cutting

Today  
Will Rogers Memorial Center  
(817) 882-4103 or [Celebritycutting@AOL.com](mailto:Celebritycutting@AOL.com)  
16 national and local celebrities compete and perform for charity. Tracy Byrd and Trick Pony in concert following the competition.  
[www.celebritycutting.org](http://www.celebritycutting.org)

### "Auntee Explains X-Mas"

Today to Jan. 4  
Jubilee Theatre  
(817) 338-4204  
This holiday musical is a great way to add fun to the spirit of the season.  
[www.jubileetheatre.org](http://www.jubileetheatre.org)

### Fort Worth Brahmas vs. Rio Grande Valley

Today  
Fort Worth Convention Center  
(817) 336-4423  
Hockey  
[www.brahmas.com](http://www.brahmas.com)



### The Magnolia at the Modern

Today to Jan. 4  
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth  
(817) 738-9215  
Ongoing series featuring critically acclaimed films.  
Today to Sunday: "The Event"  
Dec. 12 to 14: "The Singing Detective"  
Dec. 19 to 21: "Sylvia"  
[www.themodern.org](http://www.themodern.org)

### "The Nutcracker"

Today to Dec. 21  
Bass Performance Hall  
(817) 212-4280  
Ring in the holiday season with the Texas Ballet Theater's presentation of this Tchaikovsky ballet.  
[www.texasballettheater.org](http://www.texasballettheater.org)

### Blake Shelton in concert

Saturday  
Billy Bob's Texas  
(817) 624-7117  
[www.billybobstexas.com](http://www.billybobstexas.com)

### Fort Worth Brahmas vs. Amarillo

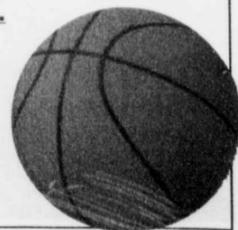
Saturday  
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(817) 336-4423  
Hockey  
[www.brahmas.com](http://www.brahmas.com)

### Christmas in the Stockyards

Saturday  
Historic Stockyards  
(817) 625-9715  
[www.stockyardsstation.com](http://www.stockyardsstation.com)

### TCU Men's Basketball vs. Stephen F. Austin

Monday  
TCU  
Daniel-Meyer Coliseum  
(817) 257-7967  
[www.gofrogs.com](http://www.gofrogs.com)



# Terrorism law weakened

Decision by appeals court strikes down harshest penalty

BY DAVID KRAVETS  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — In a potential blow to the Bush administration's legal strategy in the war on terror, a federal appeals court overturned part of a sweeping law the government has increasingly used to arrest or prosecute suspected terrorists.

The decision Wednesday by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals involves a 1996 terrorism law that outlaws financial assistance or "material support" to organizations classified as terrorist by the State Department.

The San Francisco-based appeals court struck down part of the law, ruling that it is unconstitutional to punish people — sometimes with life in prison — for providing "training" or "personnel" to a terror group.

Increasingly, the charge of choice for prosecutors in the war on terrorism is that someone provided some form of material support to terror groups. The decision Wednesday means that for the first time, part of that strategy has been declared unconstitutional by a federal appeals court.

The ruling also requires the government to prove that defendants knew their activities,

such as donating money to outlawed groups, were actually contributing to acts of terror.

"According to the government's interpretation ... a woman who buys cookies from a bake sale outside of her grocery store to support displaced Kurdish refugees to find new homes could be held liable," Judge Harry Pregerson wrote in the 2-1 decision.

In addition, the court wrote that it is unconstitutional to criminalize donations of personnel or training, which fall under the "material support" section of the law, because that "blurs the line between protected expression and unprotected expression."

The court ruled in a case involving a civil liberties organization's efforts to lobby Congress on behalf of groups on the terrorist watch list. The court ruled that the Humanitarian Law Project could legally lobby Congress and provide other non-financial assistance to the Kurdistan Workers Party in Turkey.

The Bush administration had argued that donating "personnel" on behalf of the Kurdistan Workers Party violated the 1996 law and amounted to aiding terrorism.

The 1996 law has been used to prosecute some high-profile suspects, including accused British arms trafficker Hemant Lakhan, who was arrested in New Jersey and charged in August with providing material support in an alleged missile-smuggling plot.

Another case involved six Americans of Yemeni descent who were convicted under the law of providing "material support" to al Qaeda. Authorities described the six, who lived just blocks

apart in Lackawanna, N.Y., as a sleeper cell awaiting orders from Osama bin Laden's network.

The first of the six, who attended an al Qaeda training camp and met bin Laden shortly before the Sept. 11 terror attacks, received 10 years in prison Wednesday, a sentence Attorney General John Ashcroft said "sends a clear message that the United States will seek strong penalties for those who provide material support to our terrorist enemies."

The Lackawanna case isn't governed by the 9th Circuit. Still, if it survives a Supreme Court appeal, Wednesday's decision in San Francisco may be a blow to Ashcroft's prosecution of that and other cases in the war on terror.

While the court did not strike down the "material support" provision entirely, Georgetown University Law Center professor David Cole said prosecutions under the provision are now suspect.

The decision, Cole said, "declares unconstitutional one of the linchpins of the Ashcroft domestic anti-terrorism strategy." The law in question was adopted by Congress following the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

The Justice Department was not immediately prepared to say how it will respond. The government has weeks to decide whether to appeal before the decision becomes law.

"We are reviewing the decision and will have no further comment at this time," said Charles Miller, a department spokesman.

# Sprung a leak



Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor  
Guy Webb, a worker for Fort Worth Water, supervises as machinery tries to scoop water and mud out of a hole to get to a busted water main at the corner of West Cantey Street and Stadium Drive around 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

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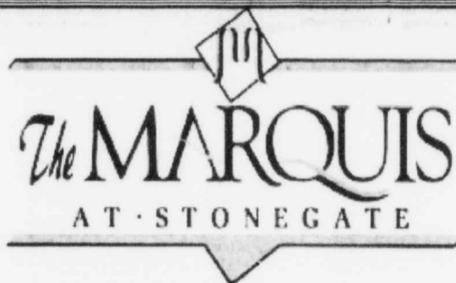
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# Alcohol causes brain atrophy

BY RENEE C. LEE  
Associated Press

DALLAS — Low to moderate alcohol consumption may be associated with brain atrophy in middle-age adults, according to a new study.

The study, to be published Friday in the American Heart Association journal *Stroke*, also found that such alcohol consumption did not lower the risk of a stroke, contradicting findings from previous studies.

"I think this is an interesting study because people talk about the beneficial effects of alcohol intake on cardiovascular disease and they try to extend that to stroke," said the study's lead researcher, Dr. Jingzhong Ding, a research associate at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "Some studies find beneficial effects, but ours didn't."

The effect of brain shrinkage was not evaluated in the study. However, other studies have shown that brain atrophy may be linked to lower cognition and reduced extremity function.

Researchers have known for years that heavy alcohol consumption is a risk factor for both brain atrophy and stroke. But findings have varied on the effects of low to moderate drinking.

This study moves doctors a step closer to understanding what amounts of alcohol are detrimental, said Dr. Edgar J. Kenton III, a professor of clinical neurology at the Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Ding and his colleagues evaluated 1,909 patients, ages 55 and older, to assess the relationship of alcohol intake with brain abnormalities.

The patients, from Forsyth County, N.C., and Jackson, Miss., were participants in a study to investigate the cause and development of atherosclerosis. Researchers used information collected between 1987 and 1989 and conducted follow-up examinations every three years until 1995.

Researchers used magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, to measure brain atrophy in the patients. The study did not detail

exactly how many of those patients showed atrophy.

Also measured were ventricular and sulcal size — void areas of the brain containing only cerebrospinal fluid. Researchers measured dead tissue and changes in the inner matter of the brain known as white matter lesions, both of which increase stroke risk.

The patients consisted of 22 percent white men, 18 percent black men, 29 percent white women and 32 percent black women. They were divided into five groups: non-drinkers, former drinkers, occasional drinkers (less than one drink per week), low drinkers (one to six drinks per week), and moderate drinkers (seven to 14 drinks per week).

The findings showed that both ventricular and sulcal size increased with higher alcohol intake among all participants. Increased ventricular and sulcal size indicates a reduction in brain tissue, or brain atrophy, Ding said. The findings hint that the process might begin earlier in life than previously suggested, he said.

Researchers found no consistent association between low levels of drinking and dead tissue or white matter lesions. They also found no protection from dead tissue associated with occasional or low drinking.

Ding said researchers cannot make a definitive causal link between alcohol intake and brain atrophy because MRI measures were done only once during the study and because they found only a small reduction in the brain.

"We're still not clear about what's the clinical significance," he said. "Further study on low and moderate intake is needed."

Kenton agreed.

"It's one more study that reinforces that there is an effect of alcohol on the brain, and clearly shows brain atrophy," he said.

## COOKING

From page 1

stuffing and setting the table, he said he did not do much in the kitchen growing up in Southlake.

Debbie Kelly, his mother, said she was surprised when her son and his friend presented the video idea to her.

"Like most college students, he realized that it is not as easy when mom isn't cooking homecooked and healthy meals for you," she said.

Now, Taylor Kelly said he is looking toward his May graduation from TCU and is busy with Spina selling the remainder of their 10,000 copies of the video, writing a 100-recipe "Cooking in College" cookbook, planning a second video and trying to land guest appearances on the

"The Tonight Show" or "Oprah."

With 1,500 of the copies sold, Kelly said he plans to use his marketing degree and make "Cooking in College" a full-time job for the first year after graduation.

Kelly said he and Spina have accumulated an \$80,000 debt to family and friend investors as well as credit lines. Half of that money is to be paid back as they sell the tapes, but the remainder will be paid back as soon as possible, he said.

Kelly said he plans to sell to upcoming college freshmen and their parents. He said the goal is to make the video a "must have" for those students leaving the comfort of home cooking for the first time.

Kristi Walker  
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# Linfante still walking the course at age 82

## Golfer remains enamored of playing game after 40 years

BY KELLY MORRIS  
Editor in Chief

ARLINGTON — Eighty-two-year-old Lil Linfante says she isn't a morning person but that doesn't keep her from playing golf.

Almost every Monday, she's up at 5:30 a.m. to play golf. If she has to, she'll play the game on just five hours of sleep.

Linfante doesn't play just one round of golf a week either. She plays two. She's never taken a formal lesson, never takes a practice swing and never even thinks about using a golf cart. She puts her dark blue golf bag on a battery-powered bag transporter that she walks behind instead.

She carries seven clubs, eight if she needs her wedge for the sand traps at Ditto Golf Course in North Arlington.

Her favorite club is the 3-wood, even though she admits her 4-foot-11-inch frame can't hit the ball quite as long as she used to.

"To be her age and her stature, she's an amazing golfer," said Charlie Waters, an assistant golf professional at Lake Arlington and Ditto golf courses. "She's the most energetic person that I ever met."

Linfante, who joined the Arlington Women's Golf Association in 1976, picked up golf on her own in New Jersey in the 1960s. The only thing that keeps her from walking the golf course now is hot weather.

"I've always gone my own way," said Linfante, who is the oldest active golfer still playing 18 holes in the 70-member Arlington league. "I have walked 18 holes since I started playing. I prefer walking and enjoy it. I think it is a shame to see so many young fellows riding in a cart."

While playing golf in New Jersey, Linfante helped start the Flanders Women's Golf Association at the Flanders Valley Golf Course near her house. She also got the nickname "Pipeline Lil" for her straight drives

down the fairway.

"I always hit down the middle and don't get in trouble," said Linfante, whose average score is 110. "When I do, I don't know how to get out of it."

But her 130-yard drives rarely find

*"To be her age and her stature, she's an amazing golfer. She's the most energetic person that I ever met."*

— Charlie Waters  
assistant golf professional

trouble, except maybe at Ditto Golf Course, where Linfante said the terrain is annoying. Every month, the Arlington league alternates between the Ditto and Lake Arlington golf courses.

"Ditto is more hilly and a little more tiresome," she said. "You can get in trouble at any course. But at Ditto you can hit a nice shot right down the middle of the fairway, and it can roll all the way off the fairway to the rough."

Linfante's husband, Ed, 81, calls her his little athlete.

"I can power the ball more than she

can, but I'm not as certain as to where it's going to end up," said her husband, who married Linfante in 1947. "She's not a whiner. She does the best she can."

Ed Linfante said his wife doesn't dwell on a little bad health either. Six years ago, Lil Linfante found out she had diabetes. When doctors told her to lose weight, she did.

"She lost 20 pounds and kept it off," said Bette Steinhibel, Linfante's golfing partner and friend. "Who does that?"

She had cataract surgery on both eyes and had emergency surgery on a detached retina in her right eye.

"I don't feel old at all," Linfante said. "When you're playing golf, everything is left at home. You just go and enjoy yourself. To be out on the golf course in the fresh air, to me, is one of the great things."

Janet Wickstrom, who has been Linfante's friend for more than 20 years, calls her "little Tiger," after Tiger Woods, when she outrives her.

"When she does, she lets us know," said 71-year-old Wickstrom.

On Thursdays, Linfante plays a round of golf at Lake Arlington Golf Course with Wickstrom, Steinhibel and Bette

Ferrero.

Steinhibel said Linfante laughs a lot on the golf course.

"She likes to have fun, and that's one reason she looks so good," said 68-year-old Steinhibel. "You start getting older, and you see Lil, and you say, 'There's hope for me.'"

In 1968, on a vacation in Scottsdale, Ariz. with her husband, Linfante broke 100. At 65, she broke 90. Ed, a clock-maker, made sure she didn't forget it. He made her two trophies — one with a brass plate on it that said, "To my better half for breaking 100 before I did."

"She's young at heart," Ed said. "Many people are surprised to hear she's over 65. That was 17 years ago."

And at 82, Linfante is happy with her own playing style — even if it's different than what the professionals teach younger golfers today.

"I do thank the Lord that I am able to walk down that fairway, whack that ball and enjoy the fresh air and the company of my friends," she said. "What more could I ask?"

Kelly Morris  
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"College is the time to test those skills we learned as we grew up."  
 — Emily Baker, columnist

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Q: Should Purple Poll be continued next semester?

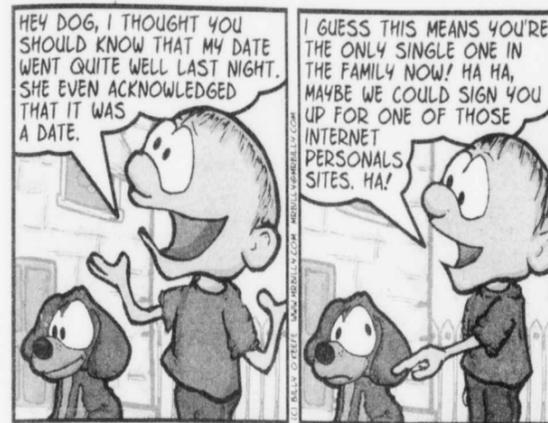


A: YES 98 NO 2

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 Funnies

Paul



Billy O'Keefe



Quigman's

Buddy Hickerson

K Chronicles

Keith Knight



## Today's Crossword

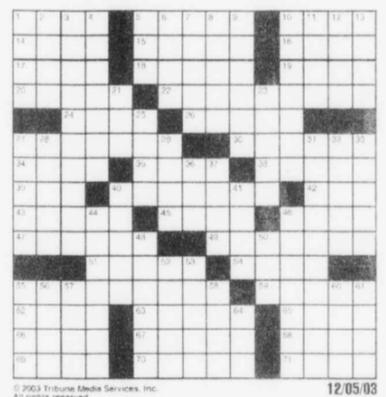
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- ACROSS  
 1 Wrigley Field slugger  
 5 Doldrums  
 10 Lubricates  
 14 Butterfingers' comment  
 15 Painter of water lilies  
 16 Component  
 17 Israeli weapons  
 18 Without vitality  
 19 Family plan  
 20 Of punishment  
 22 Dive type  
 24 Pairs  
 26 Comic Anderson  
 27 Quarantine  
 30 Mii muddles  
 34 Diplomacy  
 35 'Back in black' rock group  
 38 Struggler's sound  
 39 D.C. summer hrs.  
 40 Alternately  
 42 Patriotic grp.  
 43 Polynesian Now Zealander  
 45 Haughty  
 46 Taj Mahal site  
 47 Puppet's lifeline  
 49 Astronomer of Alexandria  
 51 Propelled, as a boat  
 54 Lather  
 55 Carcass  
 59 Coat again  
 62 Autobahn auto  
 63 Bert's Muppet pal  
 65 Cloud number  
 66 Blood formation  
 67 Is affected by  
 68 1982 Disney sci-fi film  
 69 Kans. neighbor  
 70 Watchband  
 71 Maxwell or Lancaster



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Thursday's Solutions

4 and battery  
 5 Autobahn auto  
 6 Unit of bread  
 7 Invalidate  
 8 Anyone home?  
 9 Engraver's tool  
 10 Last longer than  
 11 Calvary letters  
 12 Untruth  
 13 Leave text as is  
 21 Mauna  
 23 Triangle sounds  
 25 Tarry  
 27 News pieces  
 28 Anwar of Egypt  
 29 External prof.  
 31 Ice cream choice  
 32 Neutralize  
 33 Wander away  
 36 Record a voice-over  
 37 Hider's whip  
 40 Twofold  
 41 Jersey team  
 44 1929 Bebe Daniels movie  
 46 Like pasta cooked less  
 48 Sorrows  
 50 Sharing pronoun  
 52 Wading bird  
 53 Eatery  
 55 City on the Brazos River  
 56 Wrestler Hogan  
 57 Teen heartthrob  
 58 monster  
 60 Yucatan years  
 61 Warrior Princess  
 64 Psychic letters

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 McKinney Memorial Bible Church 4805 Arborlawn (at 3900 block South Hulen, 1 mile south of Bellaire) Services: 9:00 & 10:30, College Crew: 10:45am in Student Ministries building 4066 Kingsride. 817 377 4702 www.mckinneychurch.com

**Catholic**  
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## The Sideline

### Football writers give Browne C-USA honors

TCU place kicker Nick Browne has been named the Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Year as selected by the head football coaches and media members in each conference city, the conference office announced today.

Browne, an Academic All-American, was named as the league's Special Teams Player of the Year after breaking the Conference USA record for field goals in a season with a nation-leading 27. He leads the C-USA in scoring with 115 points, just one shy of the league record. Browne was named Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Week a record five times this season and was honored as a first team All-American by the Football Writers Association.

Memphis sophomore RB DeAngelo Williams was named Offensive Player of the Year. In leading the Tigers to their first bowl appearance since 1971, he set a Conference USA single-season record with 10 consecutive 100-yard games. Despite missing the regular season finale with a torn MCL in his left knee, Williams still set a Memphis single season record with 1,430 rushing yards. Williams continues to lead the nation in all-purpose yardage at 192.1 yards per game. In addition to his rushing totals, he has 384 receiving yards and 299 kick return yards for 2,113 total. He also has scored 13 touchdowns.

Defensive honors went to Southern Miss senior LB Rod Davis. A 2002 All-American, Davis returned for his senior season and helped his Golden Eagles team to become the first C-USA team to go undefeated in league play since 1999. He leads Southern Miss and ranks third in the league in tackles with 148 (103 solo). Conference USA's all-time leading tackler, Davis has registered 17 tackles for loss, three sacks and four forced fumbles this season.

True freshman Kevin Kolb of Houston was named the league's Freshman of the Year. Kolb tops all freshman passers in Division I-A in attempts (326), completions (201), passing yards (2,799) and passing touchdowns (23), while throwing just four interceptions all season long. Kolb has also rushed for 339 yards and seven touchdowns while guiding the Cougars to their first bowl game since 1996.

After leading his team to an unbeaten Conference USA season and the school's fourth regular season championship in eight years, Southern Miss head football coach Jeff Bower was named the C-USA Coach of the Year. The dean of Conference USA coaches, Bower led the Golden Eagles to its first C-USA title since 1999. After opening with a 3-3 start that included losses to bowl-bound teams California and Nebraska, USM reeled off six consecutive wins to close the regular season, highlighted by a 40-28 victory over previously unbeaten and then-20th-ranked TCU on November 20.

— courtesy of (www.gofrogs.com)

### Cason twists right knee during regular practice

IRVING (AP) — Dallas running back Aveion Cason twisted his right knee in practice, but coach Bill Parcells said the injury won't affect the Cowboys as they prepare for their game at Philadelphia.

Parcells said Thursday that even before Cason got hurt, he was planning to take Erik Bickerstaff instead against the Eagles on Sunday. The rookie was promoted from the practice squad this week after returner/cornerback Derek Ross was released.

Results from an MRI exam done Thursday on Cason weren't available. He got hurt in practice Wednesday.

## Spotlight on: Erin Irons

## swimmer

BY MATT POTTER  
Staff Reporter

Senior Erin Irons has helped shape the TCU swimming program into a Conference USA powerhouse and plans to help shape the lives of children when she graduates with her master's degree in May 2005.

Irons, 22, is majoring in special education and has set seven school records, posting the fastest times in TCU history in the women's 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter freestyle, 200-meter freestyle, 200-meter medley relay, 400-meter freestyle relay and the 800-meter freestyle relay.

"Erin has been unbelievable for this team," head swimming

coach Richard Sybesma said. "She represents the school well in every way, and she has done volumes for our program."

The oldest of two children, Irons grew up in an athletic family. Her father, Dan, played football for the San Francisco 49ers and the New York Giants, and her mother, Deb, has trained for a marathon and still works out daily. Her younger brother Lee, 18, plays basketball for Oklahoma Baptist University.

"My family is very sports oriented," Irons said. "But I've never been forced to be involved with sports. If I didn't want to do something, I didn't have to."

Irons began swimming at age 8.

She was a standout athlete for

"Erin has been unbelievable for this team. She represents the school well in every way, and she has done volumes for our program."

— Head Swimming Coach  
Richard Sybesma

the Midland High School swim team, earning All-American honors three times and winning Midland's Athlete of the Year in 1999-2000.

As a freshman at TCU, Irons was named the Most Valuable Contributor to the swimming team for the 2000-2001 season. That year, not only did Irons swimming career change, but her life also changed.

She became a Christian. Irons said religion has really helped her with swimming.

"It takes all the stress and pressure away because I know that everything is in God's hands and I trust him with everything he has in store," Irons said.

Swimming and school take up most of Irons' time, but she also stays involved with church and a Bible study.

"Right now, I'm part of a women's Bible study affiliated with Campus Crusade for Christ," she said. "It's had a huge impact on me."

Irons has continued to excel in swimming throughout her sophomore and junior years, and is now the captain of the swim team.

"She's a leader who leads by example and walks the walk in and out of the pool," Sybesma said.

Sophomore teammate Jennifer Antisdale said Irons is a team captain who is very approachable.

"She's friendly, and she's always there to help," Antisdale said. "She knows how to make everyone laugh, and she is always encouraging everyone in practice and in meets."

Both coaches and professors alike have praised Irons' leadership skills.

Mary Patton, an associate professor of early childhood education, said Irons is a quiet leader who has the respect of other students.

"Erin is an outstanding student who is very compassionate," Patton said. "She's extremely well-liked, she knows about team work and she has the respect of all of her classmates."

Sybesma said Irons has helped the program in numerous ways with the leadership and dedication she shows in practice and in meets.

"She's amazing as a person, an athlete and in terms of leadership," Sybesma said. "She does what she needs to do and what she's supposed to do to help this team."

The soft-spoken, well-liked senior plans on teaching for a couple years after earning her master's degree in special education. Irons is taking advantage of TCU's 3-2 program, which allows her to begin working on her master's degree before completing her bachelor's

degree. "I have a passion for children and education, so I think I'm going to teach for a couple years and then I plan on working in special education," Irons said.

Although Irons has seemingly excelled in everything she has done in life, not everything in her life has been perfect. In the third grade, she was diagnosed with dyslexia.

"School has sometimes been a struggle for me," Irons said. "The thing I struggle with most is focusing. When I take tests, I usually have to go into a room by myself or put ear plugs in. Otherwise, I get distracted and can't focus at all."

Irons said she appreciates that TCU has smaller classes and tutors who have helped her adjust to college, especially in her freshman and sophomore years.

Irons still has to fight to focus on occasion, but she has defeated her learning disability, just like all of the C-USA opponents she's faced this year.

Irons said she is sad it's her senior year and her swimming career is almost over but that she is looking forward to having more free time to spend with her friends and family.

"Swimming is a very time-consuming sport, and the one thing that I'm looking forward to is having a little bit more free time," she said.

But don't think just because Irons is about to graduate she's done with athletics. She said she plans on training for a triathlon once she has graduated.

And before that, she has a chance of making it to the 2004 Olympics.

She said her main goal, however, is qualifying for the NCAA Championships in the 50-meter freestyle but that if she did make the Olympic trials, she would definitely pursue it.

"We'll just have to wait and see what happens," Irons said. "If my times are fast enough I could qualify for the trials at any meet, but right now I'm focused on our meet in December."

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Photos by Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor

Senior special education major Erin Irons works towards making her way to the NCAA Championships and continues to set school records in the freestyle as well as the backstroke. Her plans are to graduate in 2005 with a masters of education.

## Shameful C-USA politics open door for move

Look at TCU getting the press now.

Look at those Frogs causing a stir and causing some controversy.

Any publicity is good publicity, right?

**COMMENTARY**  
The radio talk shows and those so-called sports gurus are abuzz about TCU turning down a chance to go to Mobile, Ala.

You know you've caused a stir when turning down the GMAC Bowl gets people talking.

And TCU is playing the academic card. Which is fine. We want to think that our athletics department has TCU's student athletes' academics first and foremost. It makes you feel good about the athletics department. But everyone knows what cards TCU has in its hand.

One card is since TCU's BCS dreams are dead, and the Frogs missed out on the Liberty bowl, why not celebrate the end of the season in Hawaii? That is where TCU wanted to go. They wanted to go spend a few days on the beach and then play a tough Hawaii football team and end a very special season. Not too much to ask for, right?

The other reason is that TCU didn't want to go back to Mobile. And can you blame them? Maybe it makes them look a little arrogant, but TCU has gone twice in the past four years. The Frogs don't want to play their

bowl game this season in a glorified high school stadium again.

So they play the one card that can get them out of Mobile. Finals. It was a good move by TCU athletics director Eric Hyman. But Jerry Silverstein, president of the Mobile Bowl, invited the Frogs anyway.

Chuck Cooperstein of ESPN radio said TCU should have told these people about the conflict during the summer rather than in November.

Is November not enough time for someone to comprehend that a school, its players and fans are not going to come to their bowl game?

If you tell everyone in July, "TCU will not be able to attend the GMAC Mobile Bowl on December 18, because it will conflict with our finals in little less than half a year," do you think anyone will even care? Will the GMAC bowl jump up and say, "Oh no, TCU might not come, we better reschedule?"

No. No one will even blink at such a remark and no one would reschedule anything. TCU was picked to win the conference at that point anyway. Mobile wasn't even a thought for TCU.

That leaves me a little perplexed though.

Now, I'm not one to stir anything up, but was C-USA trying to snub TCU from any possible bowl game, not just Hawaii, by inviting the Frogs to Mobile anyway?

These are grown men. They

wouldn't hold a grudge against TCU, because they might be leaving right? Grown men wouldn't keep 53 deserving athletes on a team that had a special season from finishing their season with a bowl game — would they? Grown men wouldn't do that, right?

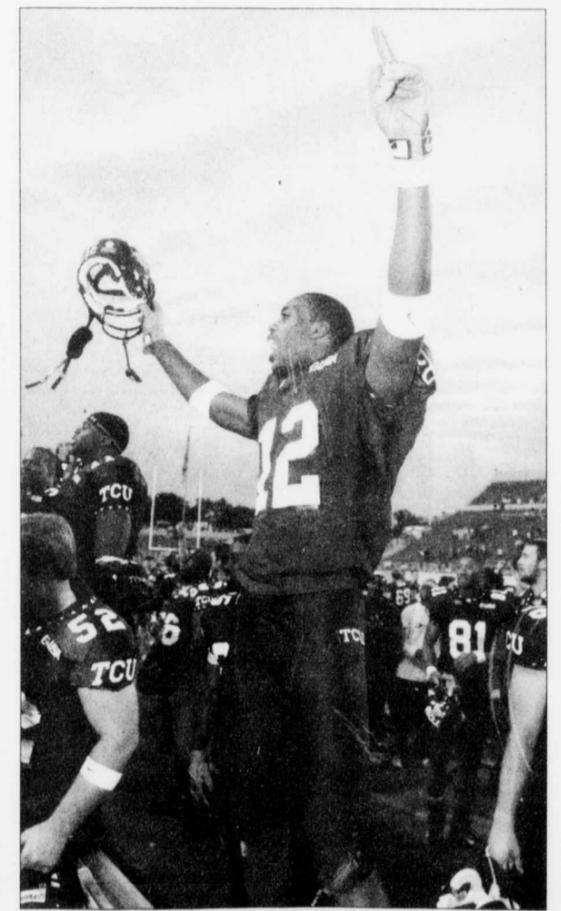
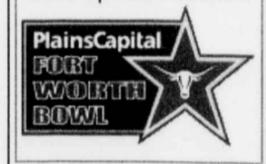
Why else would the Mobile Bowl invite a team they knew would decline but to force them to the back of the line for bowl selections.

C-USA has all but told the Frogs to split.

C-USA is going south. Louisville and Cincinnati leave, and it brings in Tulsa, Southern Methodist and Marshall? The Frogs will do one final lap around C-USA and then bolt if it knows what would be best for them.

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Keep an eye out next week for the Plains Capital Fort Worth Bowl pre-view special section



Ty Holasz/Staff Photographer

Senior wide receiver Bruce Galbert celebrates with his teammates after a win at a home game this season. The Horned Frogs will attend the Fort Worth Bowl Dec. 23 at Amon Carter Stadium.