

The presidential campaign will tell which candidate has what it takes to back up the hype



After Sunday's loss, the Lady Frogs look forward to another chance in the NCAA Tournament



# TCU DAILY SKIFF

Serving Texas Christian University since 1902

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## SGA to debate loan for student-run TV station

The CEO club is seeking approval of a loan to create a station to air student programming, news, movies and local events.

By Kristy Gubstead, Erin Baethge and Drew Irwin  
Staff Reporters

The House of Student Representatives will discuss whether to lend nearly \$40,000 — the largest loan in its history

— to an entrepreneurial club that wants to start a student-run television station to broadcast on TCU cable.

The CEO Entrepreneurial Club, which is requesting the loan, would air CEO TV on channel 47 and hire 14 students for paid jobs in areas such as programming, advertising and marketing.

The Student Government Association

will debate the request at 5 p.m. today in the Student Center, Room 222.

The \$37,545 loan would be paid back to SGA at \$700 a month beginning in September 2004. Payments would continue for 60 months and total \$42,000, meaning the club would pay about \$4,500 in interest. If the CEO club fails to pay back the loan, then SGA would re-

cover CEO TV's assets, which would include the station equipment and subscription rights.

SGA President Jay Zeidman said that the money would come out of the \$120,000 reserve budget — unspent funds from previous budgets — and not take money away from student organizations.

"Our whole goal for this program is to

unite the entire university," said Jason Ruth, president of the CEO club.

A divided Finance Committee voted 4-4 — with chairman David Watson breaking the tie — on Feb. 27 to approve the bill for a House vote. Watson plans on motioning to table the bill to allow for

(More on LOAN, page 2)

## It's not about the bike

Fraternity members trek across country for the disabled



Journey of Hope bikers Ryan Motola, a senior finance major, Blaine Kauk, a sophomore business major, Andrew Hepworth, a sophomore political science, and Cole Bryan, a senior political science major, will ride from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., this summer.

Ty Halasz/Staff Photographer

Four students will ride from coast to coast this summer partly in thanks to the Student Government Association's passing of a \$4,000 grant.

By Sarah Greene  
Staff Reporter

Sophomore Blaine Kauk was out for a bike ride one day when he overlooked a stop sign.

A police car driving down the road pulled him over. The officer said he nearly hit Kauk and then wrote him a ticket.

"I almost laughed at him as he jotted down trek for the make of my vehicle and then asked why I did not have my driver's license while I was biking," said Kauk, a finance and management major.

Kauk went to court over the issue and paid nearly \$100 in fines, but has managed to erase the violation from his driving record.

That afternoon is just one of the

(More on GRANT, page 2)

### QUICK FACTS

#### Push America and Journey of Hope

- To find out more information about Push America and the Journey of Hope, visit [www.pushamerica.org](http://www.pushamerica.org). The TCU participants can be reached for questions and donations by e-mail at [b.w.kauk@tcu.edu](mailto:b.w.kauk@tcu.edu) or [a.t.hepworth@tcu.edu](mailto:a.t.hepworth@tcu.edu).
- The southern route will travel through Las Vegas, Phoenix, Dallas and Atlanta, totaling 3,885 miles.
- The northern route will travel through Salt Lake City, Denver, Chicago and Washington, D.C., totaling 4,000 miles.

## Ex-Speaker answers Democrats' questions

Members of Young Democrats asked former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives about the upcoming presidential election.

By Elizabeth Bassett  
Staff Reporter

Former Speaker of the House of Representatives Jim Wright told students the fundamental difference between Democrats and Republicans is how they make opportunities, especially economic opportunities, available to Americans.

Wright spoke Monday night at a Young Democrats meeting. He answered questions from students about the upcoming presidential election and issues that will determine the outcome.

Democrats believe in giving everyone a chance to live an aristocratic life, Wright said. Fifty-one people attended the meeting and ate pizza while listening to Wright.

Upward mobility and opportunities for everyone is what America has stood for from the beginning, Wright said, and the founding fathers "set out to universalize the aristocracy."

The availability of opportunity was one of Wright's main topics of the night. He said there are three main areas where the American people need open opportunities: health care for the elderly, education for school-aged children, and jobs for those who need employment.

As far as the 2004 election is concerned, Wright said, "I think we have a good strong fighting chance."

He said he believed Massachusetts senator John Kerry could carry the Democratic Party to the White House and that North Carolina senator John Edwards would be a good pick for vice president.

"I like John Edwards. I think he's one of the most attractive young personalities on the scene," Wright said.

(More on WRIGHT, page 5)

## Faculty to assess student effort

Administrators hope to get a better view of the school through a survey that sees how faculty members are helping students get involved both academically and socially.

By Marco Lopez  
Staff Reporter

Faculty members' opinions about academics will be weighed against what students think about their college experience to know how challenging classes are, administrators said.

All faculty members will be asked to participate in a Web-based version of a national survey that measures what teachers expect from students in class among other things, said Melissa Canady, director of assessment.

Beginning this week, the assessment department, which evaluates the effectiveness of academic programs, will send an e-mail to approximately 670 faculty members asking them to respond to the Faculty Survey of

Student Engagement, Canady said.

Angela Taylor, associate dean of student development, said the FSSE results will be compared to the information received from the ongoing College Report, a survey for freshmen and seniors that began Feb. 26.

For instance, Taylor said if faculty members respond that students have worked harder than usual to pass a class and students respond they never worked hard, that difference lets faculty know that changes could be made.

"It lets faculty know that standards or expectations could be increased to challenge students more," Taylor said. "Or the faculty expectation could be right on, and that still is great information because it lets faculty know that what they are doing is on target."

(More on SURVEY, page 2)

## Ground work



Felipe Juarez of Arlington Pavers removes bricks for the Senior Appreciation Program Monday afternoon in front of the Mary Coats Burnett Library. Seniors purchased the bricks to leave their legacy behind after graduation.

Sarah Greene/Staff Photographer

## Professors celebrate return of department's journal

The English department threw a party for the comeback of its nationally circulated publication, Composition Studies.

By Erica Parker  
Staff Reporter

Forget about grading essays and writing novels, English professors jumped into the party scene last week, eating strawberries and sipping sparkling punch as they celebrated the homecoming of the English department's journal and its new editorial leadership.

"I'm delighted it's back home," said Gary Tate, founder of the original journal, Freshman English News, which is now called Composition Studies.

He and his wife Priscilla gave a brief speech at the gathering on Friday afternoon.

The nationally circulated journal was founded in 1972 to teach freshmen how to write and aid freshman composition professors, Tate said. The first issue included articles about the training of

teacher assistants, the use of writing labs, establishing standards in composition and the use of media.

"It enhances the status of the program as a whole and provides support for graduate students," said Austin Lingerfelt, undergraduate assistant and senior English major. Lingerfelt produced and designed the journal's Web site.

The journal moved to DePaul University in 1997 when editor Christina Murphy needed a break. It returned to TCU in June 2003 under the editorial direction of English professors Ann George and Carrie S. Leverenz.

The first issue was published toward the end of the fall semester and the department wanted to celebrate after the first publication was mailed out.

Forty graduate students, English faculty and staff were invited to the celebration at 2 p.m. in the Student Center.

(More on JOURNAL, page 2)

# THE PULSE

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Tuesday, March 9, 2004

## 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.

■ **The TCU London Centre applications** for fall 2004 study are due Monday. Applications are available in Sadler Hall, Room 16, or by calling (817) 257-7120.

■ **Student teacher applications** for fall 2004 are now available on the TCU Web site. The application deadline is Friday.

■ **Did you attend Howdy Week last year?** Do you think you can do better? Programming Council is now accepting applications for this year's Howdy Week project director. Pick up an application at the Student Center Information Desk or go online to [www.pc.tcu.edu](http://www.pc.tcu.edu). The deadline is Friday.

■ **Alpha Phi Omega** is sponsoring a blood drive. You can donate blood from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today, Wednesday and Thursday in the Student Center. All participants will receive a free T-shirt.

■ **The TCU in Florence fall 2004 program** is now accepting applications. Courses include Italian language (all levels), art history, political science and history (all taught in English). The application deadline is Wednesday. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.led.tcu.edu/florence/florence.html](http://www.led.tcu.edu/florence/florence.html).

■ **Check out the photo exhibit** called "Game Face: What Does a Female Athlete Look Like?" in honor of Women's history month. It will be on display until March 24 on the second floor in Justin Athletic Center. This is sponsored by GOalition!, TCU Women's Athletics and Women's Resource Center.

## LOAN

From page 1

more discussion.

"One side will be asking, 'Why hold onto this money if it's just sitting around?'" Zeidman said. "Another side will be asking, 'What will you do if an organization needs money next semester and there isn't any to give because it all went to CEO TV?'"

The bill requires CEO TV to give SGA up to five hours of air time per week and up to 20 advertising slots per day. It also requires the station to allow an SGA adviser and faculty members from the radio-TV-film and journalism departments to sit on its board of directors.

No journalism faculty will advise CEO TV because the department does not have the time or resources to help the station, said Tommy Thomason, the journalism department chairman. He said the primary educational goals of the station — to give students business experience — weren't the same as the department's objective of teaching journalism.

"We welcome them — the more, the merrier," he said. "But we have our own projects going and can barely get things covered."

Some SGA members said the journalism department's decision not to participate in the project could influence the likelihood of the bill's passage.

"It could have a huge impact on it," Zeidman said.

A Finance Committee member who opposed the bill said the lack of a journalism department adviser could jeopardize the bill's support.

"When you have a faculty member on the board, it shows the journalism department's support," said Matt Jacobson, a sophomore accounting and finance major.

Watson said the requirement was made to encourage participation from journalism and radio-TV-film students. He said if the journalism department isn't inter-

ested, then it shouldn't be an issue.

Jacobson said he opposed the bill because its cost would benefit too few students. He also said CEO TV is too similar to journalism's newscast class, which will cost the department \$50,000.

"When I found out about the class, that's when I decided it wasn't worth it to pass the bill," Jacobson said.

But CEO club members say the station will provide entertainment and news for all students and deliver educational opportunities for students in advertising/public relations, marketing and radio-TV-film, among others.

"This is an opportunity to get hands-on experience while still in college," said Mike Hennig, a member of the CEO club.

Ruth said he wanted to start the station because there is nothing on

"One side will be asking, 'Why hold onto this money if it's just sitting around?'"

Jay Zeidman

SGA President

campus that continuously shows off TCU talent. He would like to have student programming, ballet, dance, theater, sports, slide shows for art and anything else that will show off the student talent. It also hopes to show movies.

"Anything students want to show off, we can figure out a way to show it," Ruth said.

Ruth said the station would also air weather, sports, news updates and stock information. It will stream the information in live from a video feed in New York, provided by the Inlighten System, which will keep all the information up to date.

Approximately \$20,000 of the loan would go toward the purchase of the system, a computer that schedules shows, creates advertise-

## QUICK FACTS

### SGA bill

- CEO TV would air on TCU channel 47.
- It would air announcements, upcoming events, news, stock quotes, sports, weather, movies and TCU programming.
- SGA will debate whether to loan the CEO Club \$37,545.
- The payment plan would be \$700 per month for 60 consecutive months, totaling \$42,000.
- If CEO TV should fail, SGA would recover all its assets.
- CEO TV would provide SGA up to five hours of air time per week and up to 20 advertising slots per day.
- One faculty member from the Journalism and RTVF departments would sit on the CEO TV board of directors, along with an SGA adviser.

ments and streams in news information.

The remainder of the loan would pay for a new computer, a DVD changer, three digital cameras, a video switcher, a printer, office furniture, a phone system and rent for office space. Club members aren't sure where they will get office space yet.

CEO TV would be a business, not a non-profit organization. Any money left after reimbursing SGA would be invested back into the company, Ruth said.

"The whole idea is for students to get practical business experience," Ruth said.

CEO TV would be the second business started by the CEO club. The first is the newspaper WHAT'SUPTCU!

It will cost about \$2,000 a month to run the station, said Corey Eickenloff, the club's chief financial officer. Most of that money will go toward programming costs and movie royalties.

If it receives the loan today, the station should be working the week before school begins this August. Ruth said it will take three months to receive the machines they need to order. Once the machines arrive, they will start doing trial runs over the summer and training students to run the station.

If the club does not receive the

loan, Ruth said he might help fund the station himself. It could also look to local businesses for funding.

Radio-TV-film and journalism faculty members did not feel threatened by the proposed station.

Journalism's newscast class will function like a real news station. It will produce a 30-minute newscast that will run on city cable.

"What they're doing is not what we're doing at all," said John Miller, the journalism department's professional in residence. "We're teaching a course on how to teach students how to run a news department, so I don't think it will in any way compete with what we're doing."

Miller said he would be open to running the newscasts on CEO TV.

Richard Allen, chairman of the radio-TV-film department, said the station would be a good outlet for RTVF majors.

Ruth said he wants to work with radio-TV-film and journalism students for programming.

"We're not trying to work against the journalism department in any shape or form. We want to work with them," Ruth said.

*Editor in Chief Brandon Ortiz and News Editor Aaron Kokoruz contributed to this report.*

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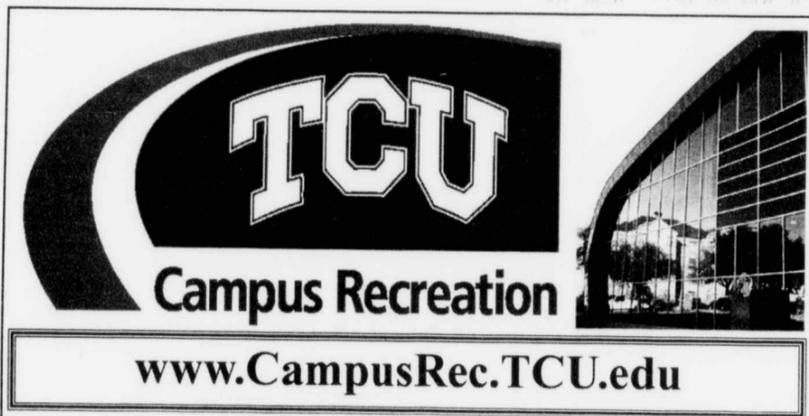
# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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**TCU Campus Recreation**

[www.CampusRec.TCU.edu](http://www.CampusRec.TCU.edu)

## INTRAMURAL SPORTS

**BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Women's Championship	6 p.m.
Co-Rec Championship	7 p.m.
Men's Rec Championship	8 p.m.
Men's Championship	9 p.m.

**CONGRATULATIONS TCU RUGBY CLUB!!!**  
**TRU DIVISION III CHAMPIONS!**  
The TCU Rugby Team defeated Midwestern State 39 - 10 to bring home 1st place.  
**HUG A RUGGER TODAY!**

**University Recreation Center Spring Break Hours**  
(Friday, March 12 - Sunday, March 21)

**GENERAL FACILITY HOURS:**

Fri. March 12:	6:00am - 9:00pm
Sat. March 13:	9:00am - 6:00pm
Sun. March 14:	10:00am - 6:00pm
Mon. March 15 - Fri. 19:	6:00am - 9:00pm
Sun. March 21:	10:00am - 6:00pm

**CLIMBING WALL:**

Friday, March 12:	12:00pm - 2:00pm and 4:00pm - 8:00pm
Sat. March 13:	10:00am - 3:00pm
Sun. March 14:	12:00pm - 4:00pm
Mon. March 15 - Fri. 19:	12:00pm - 4:00pm
Sat. March 20:	10:00am - 3:00pm
Sun. March 21:	12:00pm - 4:00pm

**POOL:**

Friday, March 12:	7:30am - 2:00pm and 5:30pm - 8:00pm
Saturday, March 13:	10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday, March 14:	1:00pm - 5:00pm
Mon., March 15 - Fri. March 19:	7:30am - 2:00pm and 5:30pm - 8:00pm
Saturday, March 20:	10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday, March 21:	1:00pm - 5:00pm

## JOURNAL

From page 1

English Professor Ann George said the journal highlights the writing program and aids the graduate program.

"It's a great opportunity to bring back the rhetoric," George said. "Students get to practice editing, gain connections with well-known scholars, and have a stronger sense of how manuscripts work."

Lingerfelt said working with the journal will allow him to be

mentored by two professors in the graduate program who will teach him how to work and write within the rhetoric and composition field.

He said the department will gain national prominence within other English departments.

"Students who graduate from a more prestigious program get better jobs," George said. "Better students apply to better programs, so the level of student work improves."

Students will gain experience with editing, budgeting money, managing time, supervising other

students and reading manuscripts, George said.

"Composition Studies serves as a resource for scholars within this field, and when they view the Web site or read the journal, they will take notice of the university," Lingerfelt said. "Composition Studies is a high-quality publication, and that reflects back upon the English department and the university as a whole."

The journal can be accessed at [www.compositionstudies.tcu.edu](http://www.compositionstudies.tcu.edu).

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## GRANT

From page 1

many that Kauk and his friends Cole Bryan, a senior political science major; Ryan Motola, a senior accounting and finance major; and Andrew Hepworth, a sophomore political science major, have devoted to training for Journey of Hope.

Journey of Hope is a cross-country bike ride that begins in San Francisco and ends in Washington D.C., covering about 4,000 miles over 64 days.

Push America, the non-profit organization of Pi Kappa Phi, sponsors the event in order to raise funds and help people with disabilities.

The House of Student Representatives passed a bill last week that allocated \$4,000 for the riders. Each participant has committed himself to raising a minimum of \$5,000, but the quartet has set a goal of \$7,000 apiece.

"The SGA grant of \$1,000 went a long way in helping me meet my goal," Bryan said.

SGA also provided funds to last summer's riders. "We are very appreciative of what SGA has done to help us," Motola said.

"During the ride our main focus is spreading our mission statement: Building ethical leaders of tomorrow by serving people with disabilities today," Hepworth said.

Push America selects 70 applicants from Pi Kappa Phi chapters across the country. The participants are divided into two groups, both depart June 13 and arrive Aug. 15, Motola said.

One group rides the north route and the other rides the south route, which passes through the Fort Worth-Dallas area, Kauk said. Although participation

is restricted to members of the Pi Kappa fraternity, the quartet stressed that the Journey of Hope should not be considered just another fraternity event.

"When I am riding, I am representing the TCU campus as a college student serving people with disabilities," Hepworth said.

Each day the riders get up around 6 a.m., ride an average of 70 miles, take a shower, meet with the media and then participate in the real purpose of the trip: friendship visits, Bryan said.

Friendship visits give the riders time to interact with volunteers and people with disabilities, Hepworth said.

Visit activities range anywhere from wheelchair basketball to helping in schools for children with special needs, Bryan said.

Each of this summer's participants has his own method of training, but fund raising takes up a lot of their time.

Last year, Journey of Hope raised a record amount of more than \$400,000, which was donated to different facilities across the country, fraternity members said. Before the race, the riders turn in their total amount raised to Push America, which then takes the money and disperses it to organizations throughout the country through grants and projects, Motola said.

The quartet also hopes to hold a bike-a-thon at the end of March in the Student Center. They plan to set up a stationary bike and a table, taking turns riding, answering questions and accepting donations in an effort to raise funds and awareness, Motola said.

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## SURVEY

From page 1

Brad Lucas, an English professor, said he will participate in the survey as soon as he gets it.

Peter Worthing, Chinese history professor, said the survey is important because the school needs to know what's going on in the classrooms.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said the FSSE is one more tool to analyze TCU.

"This survey will be another vehicle for us to understand the needs of our faculty," Boschini said. "It will also help our faculty see how their concerns

compare to those of faculty members at schools all across the nation."

According to the survey's Web site, 147 colleges and universities across the country participated in the pilot survey in 2003.

Canady said this is the first time TCU faculty will participate in the FSSE. The survey costs \$1,500.

All faculty members who participate will enter a drawing for a \$250 American Express gift card. Deadline for completing the survey is May 15.

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## The Skiff View

### Let the campaign name calling begin

Candidates' differences should sway unsure voters

Let the mud slinging begin. Oh, wait. It's already started. The presidential election has begun, nearly six months earlier than the traditional Labor Day kick off after the nominating conventions. Quite predictably, both candidates have not hesitated to rip each other to shreds. Bush and his surrogates are painting Sen. John Kerry as a Massachusetts liberal who wants to raise taxes, is weak on defense and flip flops his positions. The Kerry camp charges that Bush has bumbled the war on terrorism and misled the nation on the Iraq war, the No Child Left Behind Act and the Medicare drug plan. Pretty stiff claims, and the barbs will only get thrown harder in what may prove to be the nastiest election in modern history. The president plans an advertising onslaught in key swing states, and Kerry hopes to raise enough money to counter the attack. For those with only a passing interest in politics, it will be hard to watch. It's not hard to imagine people getting so fed up with the attacks that they tune out the election. Students should resist that temptation. These are two different candidates with sharply contrasting views and most people already know where they stand. The candidates' differences will become apparent — if they aren't already — in the debates, campaign events, advertising spots and media coverage in the coming months. A recent poll by USA Today shows that more than 80 percent of Americans already know who they are going to vote for in November. If you're one of these people, don't forget to vote. And if you're unsure, pay attention; it's going to be a bumpy ride.

## Your View

Letters to the Editor

### We should strive for the ideal

In March 4th's publication, Ryann Acton of West Virginia University's article, titled "Sex education must be Realistic, Comprehensive, not Idealistic," states that abstinence from sex as the best way to avoid sexually transmitted diseases "does not seem obvious at all." Of course abstinence is the best way to avoid contracting a sexually transmitted disease, just like not having sex is the best way to avoid pregnancy and not taking your tests is the best way to avoid a passing grade. Acton states in his own article that "our society is conducive to kids growing up too fast." But this wasn't always the case. There was a point in time when the majority of kids grew up "just right." So what has changed? Culture. Culture (with a capital "C") is the accepted behavioral norms and paradigms of a society. Culture is not an entity of its own, but what society shapes it to be. As members of a society we decide what is an accepted behavioral norm and paradigm, and when enough people agree it becomes the Culture.

In other words, we have created the social world we live in. The reason why Ryann says, "It is easier to convince someone to practice safe sex than not have sex at all," is because that "someone" has been influenced by a culture that advocates sexual unrestraint, in contrast to a culture that advocates celibacy, in which the statement would be false notion. Ryann attacks President Bush's pro-abstinence approach as being "idealistic." Whether he realizes it or not, that's a compliment, not an insult. Don't forget that by its nature the ideal is attainable. If it weren't attainable, then it couldn't be the ideal — it would be the impossible. The ideal is the top of the spectrum; the highest rung on the ladder, if you will. President Bush is trying to change an accepted norm of behavior and paradigm — he's trying to change the Culture. He is encouraging Americans to continue climbing the ladder, though it may be easier to stay where we're at or even descend. He wants us to attain the ideal, which is what we wanted in the first place. — Daniel A. Nash is a junior religion major

## HELP WANTED!

The TCU Daily Skiff needs local artists to contribute to the opinion page.

- Draw something mocking the school's lack of parking, or sketch something thoughtfully recognizing a public figure's efforts.
- All cartoonists who are published in the Skiff receive about \$5.
- All interested parties should contact Skiffletters@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 291S; 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.

STAFF TRIBUNE  
SSK



## Bush is Britney Spears of politics

### Americans are getting tired of the hype

"Sunrise, sunrise, looks like morning in your eyes" is the opening line of Norah Jones' new single and of her new album "Feels Like Home," which has dominated the world album charts.

In the United States, Norah Jones has held the No. 1 and No. 24 spots in the Billboard top 100, and is No. 1 in many countries around the world. In Ireland, Jones' sophomore album is No. 1 and her first album is ranked No. 2. She walked away with an armload of Grammys and continues to earn praise from numerous critics.

She did so all without the help of a multimillion-dollar promotional campaign. She didn't appear on Rolling Stone covering bare breasts with her arms, nor did she perform live and have a "wardrobe malfunction." Her concerts are simple: Norah, her band and her piano. The venue can put away the fog machine, the colorful light/laser display. There is no reason to fear the venue burning down because she doesn't even use

fire or any other explosions. Her music may not appeal to all, and it may not even be great music, but it is honest. She is having fun, entertaining herself and allowing us to go along for the ride. While Britney Spears, Alicia Keys and others have blitzed us with bright lights, sexy bodies and million-dollar promotional campaigns, in an attempt to woo us into buying their albums, we have not responded to them as we have to Norah Jones.

"The people will speak in November. The Billboard charts, the Presidential race, it will all reflect what we wish to be: No. 1."

It is her honesty that is selling albums. The people who buy her albums and attend her concerts are hoping to be a part of that honesty, because honesty is a rare commodity these days. At home, we deal with a president who is gearing up for a re-election campaign, and while he has every right to spend all the money he has raised (well more than \$100 million) to assure he has four more years at the helm,

he leaves many yearning for something a little more honest. He selfishly uses Sept. 11 as his call to arms. We are expected to relive that tragic day and assume that it was Bush who has kept us safe all these years, but when it comes down to an investigation of how the current administration could have prevented it or handled the aftermath, he runs away. Bush proclaims himself a war president, yet he started all the wars we are in now, and it is admittedly on faulty intelligence that U.S. citizens are shedding their blood on foreign soil to overthrow a man his father hated more than we do. As November inches closer, will honesty prevail as it did with Norah Jones? Is John Kerry the right choice for this country? Is he our Norah Jones? Is George Bush the over-hyped recording artist that we have tired of because we want something more honest? The people will speak in November. The Billboard charts, the Presidential race, it will all reflect what we wish to be: No. 1.

*Carlos Alvarado is a senior education major from Weslaco. He can be reached at c.a.alvarado@tcu.edu.*

## Sending jobs overseas is hurting the U.S.

In the 1990s, Americans saw some of the greatest economic prosperity in U.S. history. The influx of new computer and communication technology, combined with the pro-growth economic policies of former President Clinton, created more than 22 million domestic jobs. The nation experienced record job expansion, stable growth in the stock market and the first budget surplus in decades.

Unfortunately, those times of prosperity have changed, partly due to the enormous amount of outsourcing of domestic jobs overseas. Nearly three million jobs have been lost since President George W. Bush took office. Many of the jobs that have disappeared are manufacturing jobs throughout the Midwest and in the heartland, where corporate fat cats seek to increase the size of their wallets by shipping good-paying industrial jobs to nations where they can hire cheap labor and avoid environmental regulations. Many of these corporate executives are some of the largest contributors to both the Republican Party and Bush's re-election campaign. Thus, it is no surprise that N. Gregory Mankiw, chairman of Bush's council of economic advisers, said in a recent economic report that outsourcing was good for the American economy.

Mankiw and Bush are out of touch with American workers, especially those who have lost their jobs due to outsourcing. Many of the types of jobs economists hoped would replace the disappearing domestic manufacturing jobs are being shipped overseas. This poses a serious threat to long-term economic growth in the United States. The combination of manufacturing and service-related jobs being outsourced and sent overseas is having a devastating impact on the U.S. economy. For instance, citizens in Ohio have lost 192,000 jobs since Bush took office. Nearly one-fourth of those were due to outsourcing. When a person loses a job, their ability to purchase goods and services is diminished substantially, which reduces total demand in the economy. Furthermore, without incomes, citizens pay less taxes, causing a reduction in the tax base needed to fund various government programs and services. The loss of more than three million jobs, combined with Bush's irresponsible tax cuts that disproportionately benefit the wealthy, has created a record budget deficit. It is no surprise that the loss of American jobs, many due to outsourcing, is wreaking

havoc on our economy and way of life. Without any real protections and laws preventing jobs from being outsourced overseas, corporate executives have no reason to keep jobs here in America. If they can make huge profits at the expense of dedicated employees and workers, they will more than likely take advantage of the cheap labor and educated workforces abroad. The American worker can take steps necessary to preventing the rise of outsourcing. For starters, workers must not shy away from organizing unions to create substantial collective bargaining powers that will give them a voice with their employers. Workers must also vote for officials who will look out for them and their jobs and not protect the corporate executives who dig deep into their pockets to fund the campaigns of Bush and his friends. Having elected officials on the side of ordinary Americans who work hard and play by the rules is perhaps one of the best assets a factory worker or engineer can have in preventing his job from going overseas. Until Americans wake up and understand the threat that outsourcing has on their livelihood, and until they take action to prevent the hemorrhaging of domestic jobs overseas, this unfortunate trend will continue.

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

## Top kids are 'left behind'

Despite a certain law's name that speaks to the contrary, children are being left behind. Across the country, pressure to achieve standardized test scores required by the No Child Left Behind Act — with practically no federal aid to do so — are forcing schools to cut important programs.

In Mountain Grove, Mo., all programs for gifted students were cut so schools could appease state and federal mandates. The budgets that go toward furthering the educations of our brightest futures have indeed become emaciated. Michigan's gifted budget used to be \$4 million per year; it has now shrunk to a mere \$250,000. State budget restrictions have no doubt contributed to this decline. But with the emphasis No Child Left Behind places on testing, it's no surprise that schools have had to pool resources from other areas just to accommodate test-centered preparation and studies.

And No Child Left Behind, while good in its intentions, says nothing about gifted children or programs. There is no reward for gifted students' high scores on those standardized math and reading tests. But the Mountain Grove students really lost when principal Bridget Williams said they don't deserve specially tailored classes in the first place. "They lost the title," Williams said in The New York Times. As someone who spent her elementary and middle school years in gifted programs, I can confidently say that they are nothing if not vital to the students in them. And my title? You mean, "geek?"

Gifted students in "normal" classes get bored. It's not a matter of arrogance or prestige; they're just not on the same plane as their classmates. In specialized classes, the kids that were doodling in their notebooks because they already knew how to write paragraphs or do long division would get lessons more suited to their abilities.

Gifted programs offer dozens of studies to intrigue students. There are academic games that educate children about linguistics, math and past presidents, as well as independent study projects that help students focus their time and energy on a specific research topic. This specialization is not a far cry from special education classes, though no one is cutting that funding.

Instead, these students are being punished for being smart. "These are the kids who are either going to turn out to be nuclear scientists or the Unabomber," gifted education teacher Carolyn Groves said in The New York Times. "It all depends on which way they're led."

They should be led, and educators should want to lead them. The capabilities of these children are exactly what No Child Left Behind intends to emulate. But, instead of being encouraged, their intelligence is being stifled.

Federal mandates such as this, when asking so much of the teachers responsible, need to give schools more money to make them happen. Otherwise, the children that are left behind will be precisely the ones we want in front.

*Courtney Balestier is a columnist for The Daily Athenaeum at West Virginia University. This column was distributed by U-Wire.*

## QUICK FACTS

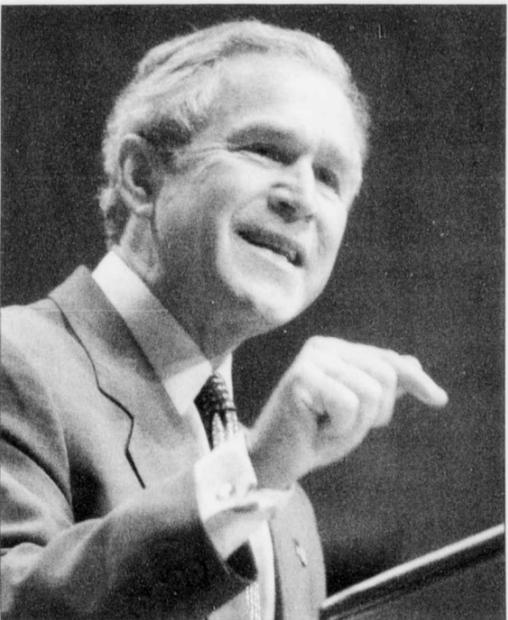


### Election update

The latest news from the campaign trail

**Bush, Kerry criticize one another on issue of defense spending**  
 DALLAS (AP) — President Bush on Monday accused John Kerry of having proposed “deeply irresponsible” cuts in intelligence spending just two years after the first attack on the World Trade Center, part of a re-election effort to depict his Democratic rival as weak on national security and the war against terrorism.

Bush, during a fund-raiser in Dallas, called attention to a 1995 bill that Kerry sponsored to trim intelligence spending by \$1.5 billion



— KRT Campus  
 President Bush speaks at an event on the first anniversary of the Department of Homeland Security on Tuesday.

over five years. The cut was part of what Kerry called a “budget-buster bill” to strip \$90 billion from the budget and end 40 programs that he said were “pointless, wasteful, antiquated or just plain silly.”

Kerry’s proposal, following the collapse of the Soviet Union and calling for a peace dividend after decades of spending to thwart the Cold War opponent, never came up for a vote.

“This bill was so deeply irresponsible that it didn’t have a single co-sponsor in the United States Senate,” Bush said.

Kerry spokesman Chad Clanton said the senator’s bill was about opposing “business as usual in our intelligence community” and that he has supported \$200 billion in intelligence funding over the past seven years — a 50 percent increase since 1996.

“He voted against a proposed billion-dollar bloat in the intelligence budget because it was essentially a slush fund for defense contractors,” Clanton said. “Unlike George Bush, John Kerry does not and will not support every special spending project supported by Halliburton and other defense contractors.”

Republicans hope to raise doubts about Kerry’s ability to fight and win the war against terror, suggesting that his rhetoric does not match his 19-year record in the Senate. Bush also criticized Kerry for indicating he was uncomfortable “using the word ‘war’ to describe the struggle we’re in.”

To fend off such criticism, Kerry has relied in large part on his decorated Navy service in Vietnam.

On Sunday, Kerry accused Bush of “stonewalling” separate inquiries into the events leading up to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, as well as into the intelligence that suggested Saddam Hussein was hiding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. The Bush campaign contends the president is cooperating with investigators.

**Opinion polls name Edwards favored vice presidential nominee**  
 WASHINGTON (AP) — If Democratic voters had their say, John Edwards would be the choice as John Kerry’s running mate, according to a poll released Monday.

Edwards, the North Carolina senator who dropped out of the presidential race last week, was the choice of 30 percent of voters who are Democrats or lean Democratic, according to a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll.

Almost a dozen prominent Democrats were mentioned by poll respondents, but they drew support in the low single digits.

In a matchup of the presidential candidates, Kerry and President Bush were about even, Kerry at 47 percent and Bush at 45 percent with independent candidate Ralph Nader at 5 percent among registered voters. Kerry was slightly ahead 50-45 percent when only he and Bush were included in the question.

Bush’s job approval in the poll was 49 percent with 48 percent disapproving.

The poll of 1,005 adults, including 892 registered voters, was conducted March 5-7 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points, 4 percentage points for results with registered voters.

## Polling areas to allow provisional voting

AUSTIN (AP) — Provisional voting will be available for the first time to Texas voters in the state’s primary today.

Among those who may cast a provisional ballot are voters whose names do not appear on the voter registration roll when they arrive at the polls. The ballot is not counted until the voter’s eligibility is verified after the election.

Provisional voting is a requirement of the federal Help America Vote Act. Provisional voting replaces “challenge” voting in Texas, in which a voter filled out an affidavit and questionable ballots were counted right away. The voter registrar would then check the voter’s status.

Texas Secretary of State Geoff Connor said his agency has been working to educate local election officials about the new system.

“While the vast majority of voters in Texas will not be affected by provisional voting,”

Connor said, “it’s important that everyone understands the potential impact of provisional votes in elections with close margins of victory.”

Voters can cast a provisional ballot in a number of circumstances. For instance, those who claim to be registered voters but whose names do not appear on the voter registration list are eligible as are first-time voters who are designated on the voter list but who are not able to produce required identification at the polling place.

A voter who is registered but who tries to vote in a different precinct also can cast a provisional ballot.

Provisional ballots are not counted until the voter registrar and local ballot board verifies a voter’s eligibility. The affidavit a provisional voter must sign also acts as a voter registration application, ensuring the voter is registered for future elections.

### QUICK FACTS

#### Polling places

##### Precinct 1081 Zip code 76109

**Republican:** Tanglewood Elementary School  
 3060 Overton Park Drive W

**Democratic:** University Baptist Church  
 2720 Wabash Ave.

##### Precinct 1095 Zip code 76110

**Republican:** Lily B. Clayton Elementary School  
 2000 Park Place Ave.

**Democratic:** Lily B. Clayton Elementary School  
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##### Precinct 1298 Zip code 76110

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Tuesday, March 9, 2004

## Iraqi leaders sign charter

By Hamza Hendawi  
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — For an hour anyway, Iraqi leaders put aside their disagreements during the signing of a landmark interim constitution Monday, heaping praise on the U.S.-backed document amid patriotic songs and Quranic verses urging unity. But sectarian differences resurfaced as soon as the event ended.

The Shiites' most influential cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, issued a religious edict saying he had reservations about the interim constitution and that it will gain legitimacy only when adopted by an elected assembly.

His supporters on Iraq's Governing Council pledged to try to amend parts of the charter, saying

they effectively give minority Kurds and Sunni Muslims a veto over a permanent constitution due to be drafted and put to a referendum next year.

"This law places obstacles in the path of reaching a permanent constitution for the country that maintains its unity, the rights of its sons of all sects and ethnic backgrounds," al-Sistani said.

President Bush praised the 22-page document, saying in a statement that its adoption was a "historic milestone in the Iraqi people's long journey from tyranny and violence to liberty and peace."

Still, al-Sistani's edict and the Shiite Muslim council members' comments somewhat devalued the historic significance of the signing of a charter that promises to compensate Iraqis for years of

oppression under Saddam Hussein, safeguard the freedoms and human rights of their ethnic and religious groups and lay down the foundations for a genuine democracy.

Bahr al-Ulloum's fellow Shiites on the U.S.-appointed council said that, for the sake of national unity and to keep the political process moving forward, they would sign the document despite their reservations. They said they intended to resume negotiations over those clauses and amend them in an annex likely to be agreed in April or May.

The annex will decide the shape of the Iraqi government that will take over from U.S.-led occupation authorities June 30. Iraq's permanent constitution will be drafted by a legislature elected by Jan. 31, 2005.

## WRIGHT

From page 1

When students asked about hot political issues, Wright was specific in his criticisms of the current administration. Wright said that the issue of gay marriage is being used as a "weapon of mass distraction" by the Bush administration. By getting people to focus on the possibility of a constitutional amendment, the Republicans can keep the public's attention from the economy or the war in Iraq.

"We have gone out on our own too much — it's a macho thing," he said of America's unilateral decision about the war in Iraq.

Nancy Stevens, who is running for state representative in District 97, said Wright covered all the main issues that will affect the election. She agreed that the economy will probably be the main focus and that more opportunities will help the present state of affairs.

Andrew Hepworth, a sophomore political science major, said the economy is an important thing to consider. He said Bush's present plan is not working, and Wright's focus on the economy was appropriate. "He's a straight shooter and doesn't dance around the issue," Hepworth said. "He'll tell you what the issue is and how it needs to be dealt with."

Elizabeth Bassett  
e.a.bassett@tcu.edu



Stephen Spillman/Staff Photographer  
Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Jim Wright tells students Monday night what issues he thinks will affect this year's presidential campaign.

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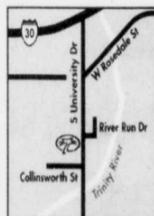
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3/13/04	↕	Closed	9:30 am to 6:30 pm	↕	Closed	↕	Noon to 4:00 pm	↕	↕	↕
3/14/04	↕		8:00 am to 6:30 pm	↕	↕	↕	11:00 am to 3:00 pm	↕	↕	↕
3/15/04	↕	Closed	9:30 am to 6:30 pm	↕	Closed	↕	Noon to 4:00 pm	↕	↕	↕
3/16/04	Closed	11:00 am to 7:00 pm	9:30 am to Midnight	Closed	2:00 pm to 12:00 am	Closed	Noon to 4:00 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed

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Purple Poll

Did you go to the championship game Sunday?

Yes 3 No 97

6 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.

# ETC.

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Forecast

Today  
High: 69; Low: 38  
Sunny and windy

Wednesday  
High: 66; Low: 45  
Sunny

On This Day

1997 — Christopher Wallace, a.k.a. Biggie Smalls, a.k.a. the Notorious B.I.G., was shot to death at a stoplight in Los Angeles. Ironically, Wallace's new album, "Life After Death," was scheduled to be released a few weeks after his death.

## Quigmans

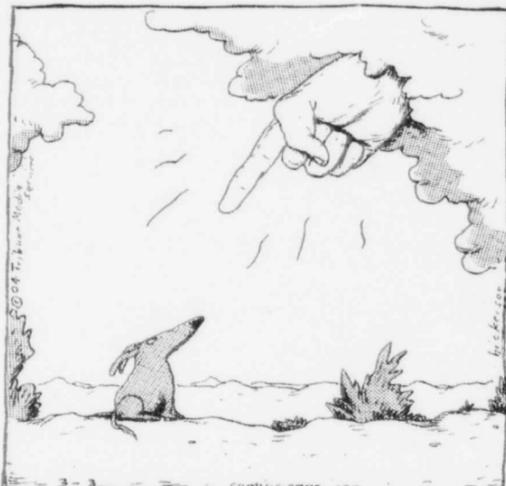
by Stan Wahling



Latest Olympic Event: Freestyle Conclusion Jumping

## Quigmans

by Stan Wahling



"I proclaim you 'Man's Best Friend!' This entitles you to sleep in a box and eat meat by-products!"

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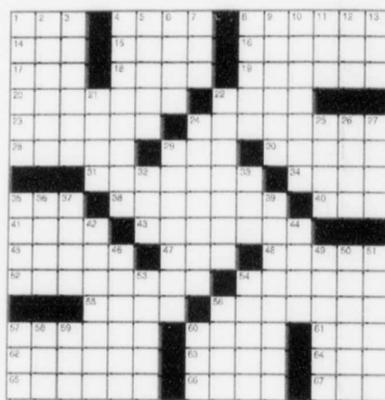
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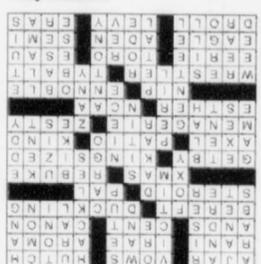
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- ACROSS
- Tenn. neighbor
  - Life stories, briefly
  - Disfigure
  - Ford fuel
  - Sound reflection
  - Deserved
  - Blockhead
  - Becomes faint
  - Procreates
  - African flies
  - Web location
  - Intense fear
  - Retreated
  - Fur merchant
  - John Jacob
  - John's brother
  - Early years
  - Bad mark
  - Collect ore
  - Writer Deighton
  - Used a grain cutter
  - Negative vote
  - Discard family
  - Perennially wandering
  - Battlefield doc
  - as-Saiaam
  - Hot sauce
  - Follow church members
  - Fearless
  - Knotted
  - Soda water
  - Huns' leader
  - Recine lazily
  - Alphabet end
  - Policeman's badge
  - Mobile starter?
  - Anger
  - Hudson and
  - Watery part of milk
  - Hammer type
  - Double curve



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### Friday's Solutions



- DOWN
- Christie of mysteries
  - Rodeo ropes
  - State with assurance
  - Decubitus ulcers
  - More slippery

- Resistance units
- Distress signal
- Minus figure
- Hearty and natural
- Liberty
- Single unit
- Primary color
- AMA members
- Walked heavily
- Comparable
- Skilled laborer
- Spoil
- Sicilian volcano
- Unlocked, as a cipher
- Part of an hr.
- Tycoon Turner
- Ewe's youngster
- Always
- Protruding knob
- Reject as invalid
- More humorous
- Golfer's vehicle
- Unlocked, as a cipher
- On the cool side
- Acquitted ax-murderer
- Borden
- Looks of contempt
- Concurs
- Enjoys a novel
- Greek letter
- Aretha Franklin's genre
- Bat wood
- Definite article
- Can material
- Ford du... WI

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**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** Today is a 7 — If you develop your creative talents, you'll save a lot of money. That's such a good motivator that you won't mind if the job is sometimes annoying.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** Today is a 7 — Be willing to listen to a suggestion that at first seems outrageous. A person with a different perspective can help you see outside the box.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** Today is a 7 — Finish fixing up your place so that you can entertain. A romantic evening for two tomorrow night would be perfect.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** Today is a 6 — A surprising development makes it much easier to get something that you want. A loved one could do something unexpected and very nice. Don't assume the worst.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Today is a 7 — Something at home that you'd just as soon get rid of is quite valuable. If it isn't yet, you can make it that way with just a little more work. This could be the answer to a prayer.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Today is a 7 — You may surprise yourself with the results you produce now. It may even feel as if there's somebody helping you achieve your goals. And if you're a spiritual person, you probably can guess who.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** Today is a 7 — Private transactions lead to a prize or get you directions to a hidden treasure. You have a lot of contacts, so

check around and let them know what you need. **Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Today is a 5 — It's OK to lean on your friends every once in a while. They all lean on you. You'd like to look like you never need any comforting, but that's no fun. **Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Today is a 7 — Finish a project for somebody else, just because you said you would. Don't even think about what you'll get for it. A smile is a great reward.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Today is a 7 — Make a contact with someone whom a friend told you about. Your follow-through will make a great impression, and that's money in the bank.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** Today is a 7 — An older person can teach you a lot about money and quality. You often have to pay more for the best, but not if you know where, and how, to look.

— Courtesy of KRT

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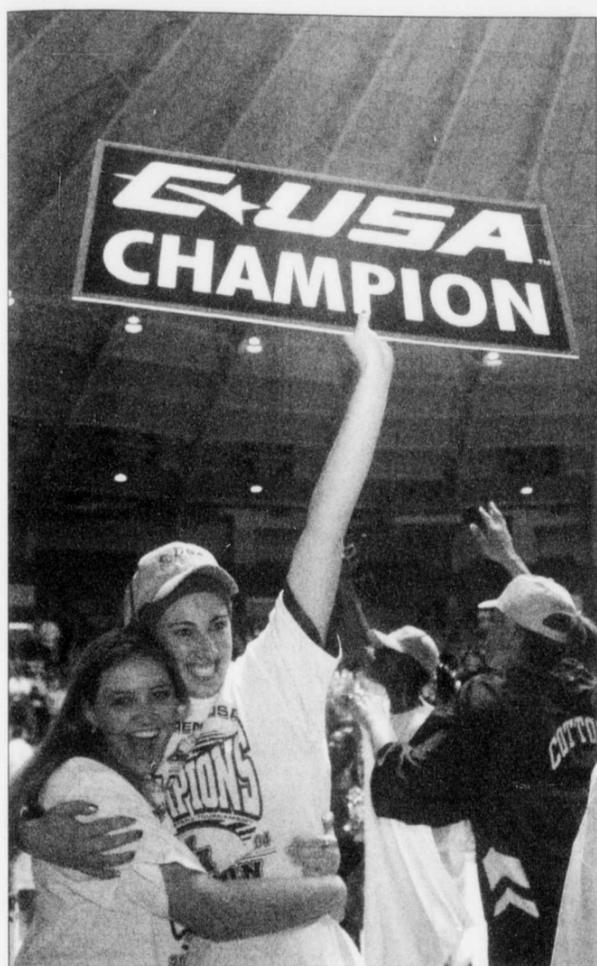
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Ty Halasz/Staff Photographer  
Houston center Emily Fryters celebrates the Cougars' C-USA championship by parading the champion sign around Daniel-Meyer Coliseum on Sunday.

## Owens attempts to nullify trade

Ravens' officials are certain Owens will play for them this season.

By David Ginsburg  
Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — Terrell Owens skipped a physical with the Baltimore Ravens on Monday, then reasserted his intention not to play for the team.

While the Ravens waited for an arbitrator to rule on the star receiver's bid to void his trade from San Francisco, Owens issued a statement saying he won't suit up for Baltimore.

"So that there is no misunderstanding, regardless of what happens with the grievance, under the present circumstances I do not see myself playing for the Ravens," Owens said. "I can assure everyone that I will continue to keep fighting for my right to play for the team of my choice even after the grievance. At the end of this process, I simply want to be able to exercise my right to play for a team of my choosing under a deal that is fair to me and my family."

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"This is a matter between the league and the union right now," Ravens spokesman Chad Steele said. "We can't do anything until we hear back on the ruling."

The Ravens expect the matter to be cleared up by Friday and are certain Owens will play for them this season. They said they are willing to rework the deal to bring his salary in line with top receivers in the league.

But Owens wants a contract with the team of his choosing, and believes the Ravens were out of line in making the trade.

Owens was denied free-agent status last month after he missed a deadline to void the final three seasons of his contract. His agent, David Joseph, filed a grievance with the NFL Management Council through the NFL Players Association.

Gene Upshaw, executive director of the players association, has asked the league to overturn the trade and have Owens' contract voided so he can be declared a free agent. That could mean millions to Owens, who is due to make \$17.7 million in base salary over the next three seasons, including \$5.3 million next year.

Upshaw sent the case to Stephen Burbank, an arbitrator in charge of settling disputes regarding the NFL's collective bargaining agreement, NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said.

"First and foremost, I believe that I properly voided the remaining years on my contract. However, as a possible resolution to this dispute, I agreed to try and work out a new deal with a team of my choice that would be backed up by a trade with the 49ers," Owens said. "I was promised that

no trade would be made until I completed such a deal. Unfortunately, all of the teams did not adhere to this agreement and we now have an even bigger mess."

The Ravens obtained the four-time Pro Bowl receiver from the 49ers last Thursday for a second-round draft pick. Owens said he would not report to Baltimore, insisting that if given the choice, he would rather play for the Philadelphia Eagles.

After Owens did not show up for Monday's physical, the Ravens, who have the option of waiving the physical, postponed the examination pending confirmation of the trade.

The Eagles reportedly agreed to a contract with Owens that included a signing bonus worth about \$10 million. But the 49ers were not interested in Philadelphia's offer for Owens: a fifth-round pick and wide receiver James Thrash.

## QUICK FACTS

## Weekend sports followup

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(W) Basketball	Friday	Charlotte	TCU 89, Char 73
Baseball	Friday	St. Johns	TCU 13, SJU 9
(M) Basketball	Saturday	UAB	UAB 87, TCU 62
(W) Basketball	Saturday	Louisville	TCU 69, UL 59
Baseball	Saturday	St. Johns	TCU 3, SJU 2
Baseball	Sunday	Texas-Arlington	UTA 8, TCU 7
(M) Tennis	Sunday	ASU Shootout	TCU 4, Washington 2
(W) Basketball	Sunday	Houston	U of H 86, TCU 75

## Weekend Highlight

• The Lady Frogs had a great weekend in the Conference USA Tournament, defeating Charlotte and Louisville en route to making the championship game. On Sunday though, they ran into a hot Houston team for a third time this season. The Lady Cougars, led by senior sensation Chandi Jones and her 36 points, defeated the Lady Frogs 86-75 to win the postseason conference tournament.

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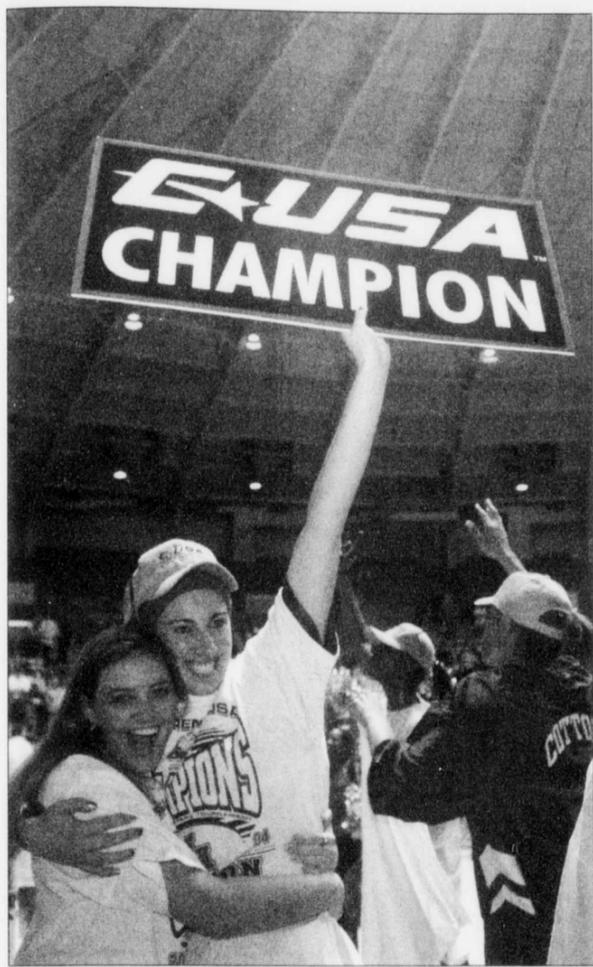
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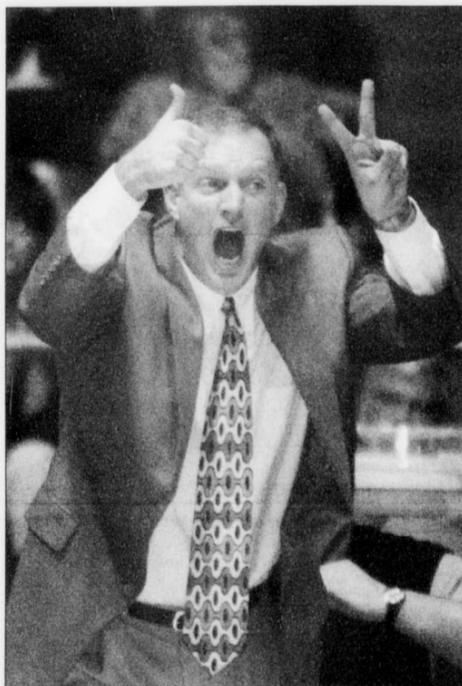
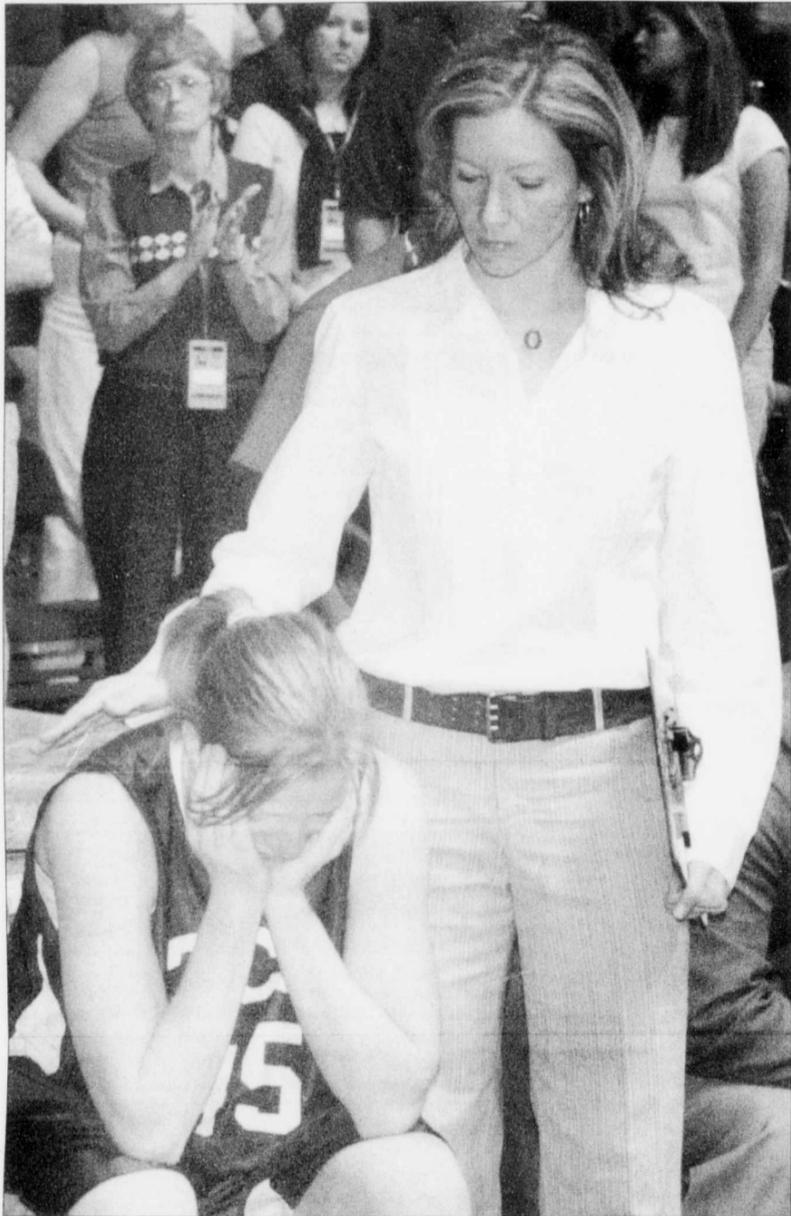
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## DETHRONED



(Left) Assistant coach Tonya Benton consoles senior forward Tracy Wynn after losing to Houston 86-75 in the championship game of the C-USA Women's Basketball Tournament. (Top Right) Senior Amy Pack and junior Niki Newton look on in dismay as the Cougars score the final points in Sunday's championship. (Bottom Right) Head coach Jeff Mittie barks play calls to the Lady Frogs in the closing minutes of the game.

Ty Halasz/Staff Photographer

## Irvin, Shaw disappointed but ready to go dancing

The Lady Frogs are looking forward to receiving the program's highest seed ever in the NCAA Tournament.

By Brent Yarina  
Sports Editor

Sandora Irvin's tearful postgame press conference at the championship game of the Conference USA Tournament summed it all up.

The Lady Frogs were sad. They were frustrated. And, worst of all, they were coming off their second loss to rival Houston in a little over a week.

"I don't like losing," the junior forward said. "We just have to get past it. It really hurts."

It hurts because a week and a half ago, the Lady Frogs controlled their own destiny in conference. With a victory in their season finale against the Lady Cougars, they had the chance to win at least a share of the regular season conference championship before heading home for the postseason tournament.

Fast forward to the present and thanks to Houston and senior guard Chandi Jones, the Lady Frogs missed out on celebrating either championship.

Instead, they watched court-side as the Lady Cougars celebrated both.

Senior guard Ebony Shaw said this recent celebration was a lot harder to watch.

"It was messed up watching them cut down the net on our home court," Shaw said. "That was tough to see."

Irvin said losing the championship game frustrates her because she wanted another ring, her third in three years.

Head coach Jeff Mittie said the team still has a good chance to get that coveted ring.

"We'll be all right," Mittie said. "There's a chance for this to be the best seed we've ever had . . . maybe a five or a six [in the NCAA Tournament]."

Mittie said with a favorable seed his team could finally advance past the second round because they wouldn't have to draw Connecticut or another dominating No. 1 seed in the tournament's second round. And after that, he said anything can happen.

He said the No. 5 or No. 6 seed is just his prediction and that it's up to the selection committee now.

"We know our name is coming up on Selection Sunday," he said. "There are always some surprises, but we're deserving of the best seed in school history. I'll find out where we are seeded at the same time as you all do. Last year, I just did a good job faking that smile and acting happy with our position, knowing we had Connecticut if we won our first round game."

Shaw agreed with Mittie that the team's successful season should be rewarded with the program's best seed ever.

"Hopefully, we'll get a top seed," she said. "We want to go to the Final Four and get a ring that way."

Mittie tried his best to make light of the ringless press conference.

"They like jewelry," he said. "My wife is the same way."

The Lady Frogs, however, seem to want this fourth ring more than any of the previous ones.

And chances are, if and when that ring is won, the tears running down Irvin's face this time will be soaked up by a Final Four T-shirt and a net hanging around her neck.

Brent Yarina  
b.j.yarina@tcu.edu

### QUICK FACTS

#### Top Frog

##### Sandora Irvin, No. 50

Quarterfinals vs. Charlotte: 26 points, 14 rebounds, eight blocks, two assists

• Irvin dominated the game on both ends of the court against the 49ers. The junior forward was only two blocks away from a triple-double. She deflected or swatted nearly every Charlotte shot attempt down low in the key. On the offensive end, Irvin was on fire, connecting on 8-of-12 field goal attempts and all 10 of her free-throws. Irvin also provided the Lady Frogs' offense with many second chance opportunities, pulling down six offensive boards.

Semifinals vs. Louisville: 20 points, 11 rebounds, one block, one assist

• After a very slow start in the first half, mainly due to Kim Ortega's hot 3-point shooting, Irvin came to play in the game's final 20 minutes, scoring 14 of her 20 points after halftime. Irvin admitted she was frustrated with her limited touches in the first half and that she was determined to take over the show in the second half. She did just that, countering every Cardinal run with a big bucket or rebound. For a second straight game, Irvin was a force on the offensive glass, grabbing five offensive rebounds.

Finals vs. Houston: 20 points, 16 rebounds, two blocks, five assists

• Irvin came to play in the season's biggest game against the Lady Cougars. Hoping to prevent a Houston 3-game sweep of the Lady Frogs this season, Irvin played a great all-around game. She battled down low against Sancho Lyttle, a Second Team All C-USA member, and got her to foul out late in the second half. She struggled a little bit with her shooting stroke Sunday, but more than made up for it with her 16 rebounds, including seven offensive boards. Foul trouble

forced Irvin to the bench in the second half and that played a significant role in the unsuccessful comeback attempt.

Conference USA Tournament game average: 22 ppg, 13.7 rpg, 3.7 bpg, 2.7 apg



### Making the Grade

#### Starters

##### Sandora Irvin: A

Game average: 22 ppg, 13.7 rpg, 3.7 bpg, 2.7 apg, 1.3 spg

Nobody wanted the championship ring more than Sandora and she proved that every minute of every game. If it weren't for the Lady Frogs running into Chandi Jones and Houston in the championship game, the TCU leader would have been the consensus pick for Tournament MVP. Instead Irvin had to settle with Tournament First Team honors. In all three contests, Irvin proved she is one of the best talents in the conference and with her drive to win, teams in the NCAA Tournament better look out because Irvin wants a ring.

##### Natasha Lacy: A-

Game average: 7.3 ppg, 6.7 rpg, 8.3 apg, 1.7 spg

Lacy didn't play like a freshman in her first C-USA Tournament. In a conference featuring Louisville's Sara Nord, one of the most talented freshman point guards in the nation, Lacy proved her game isn't too far behind the Cardinals standout. In fact, against Nord and Louisville Saturday night, Lacy recorded a 5-to-1 assist to turnover ratio. Lacy's great play, including two games of 10 assists, earned her a spot on the Tournament's First Team. The only knock against Lacy during this tournament was her poor free-throw shooting. Over the three games, she hit on only 6-of-16 attempts for a 38 percent clip. None were more damaging than the five missed attempts Sunday against Houston.

##### Kim Ortega: A-

Game average: 10.7 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 2 apg, 1.3 spg

When Ortega wasn't hitting from downtown, she was probably hitting the floor going after a loose ball. The senior guard played every play like it was her last. Her great hustle may have resulted in a few painful floor burns but they were worth it. The highlight of Ortega's tournament was without a doubt her double-double performance against Louisville. Ortega got the team off to a hot start against the Cardinals, hitting on four of her first five 3-pointers. Although she cooled off in the second half, Ortega finished the night with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

##### Ebony Shaw: B-

Game average: 9 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 1 apg, 0.7 spg

Foul trouble plagued the senior guard in each of the three games. Shaw also suffered through some shooting woes over the weekend, connecting on only 10-of-28 field goal attempts. Still, Shaw provided a veteran presence for the Lady Frogs. It was her work-horse mentality on the defensive end that made her so valuable. Against Louisville, she had to fight her way through screen after screen every possession. She never got frustrated and was able to shut down Louisville's Sara Nord. Then against Houston, Shaw drew the daunting task of containing Chandi Jones. Jones may have scored a tournament-high 36 points, but that wasn't Shaw's fault.

##### Tracy Wynn: C+

Game average: 5 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 0.7 apg

Wynn saved her best game for the biggest contest of the weekend against Houston. In the championship game, Wynn was one point and three rebounds from a double-double. Her great play inside and outside was a much needed spark against the Lady Cougars. In the tournament's first two games, though, Wynn didn't bring too much to the table. Saturday night against Louisville, in fact, Wynn had only two points on 0-of-5 shooting. Wynn knows her role on this team and she never got away from it.

##### Sixth man

##### Adrienne Ross: B+

Game average: 9 ppg, 3 rpg, 2.7 apg, 2.7 spg

Ross did a great job off the bench in all three games. She brought a ton of energy to the court and provided the team with a spark whenever she was in. Although Ross doesn't look as comfortable running the offense as Lacy, she proved she's worthy of receiving more minutes. Ross's great ability to penetrate the defense added a different element to the Lady Frogs' offense. The freshman point guard scored in double figures twice and constantly made a statement on defense. Her combination of quick hands and feet accounted for nearly three steals a game.

##### Bench

##### Tiffany Evans, Amy Pack, Ashley Davis, Niki Newton: C

Game average: 14.7 ppg, 6 rpg, 1.7 apg

With the exception of Evans's 16 point performance in the first game against Charlotte and Pack's 12 points against Louisville, the bench wasn't too effective. The flu had Evans out of the middle game against Louisville and then not feeling 100 percent against Houston. She still contributed versus the Lady Cougars, making six key free-throws. Davis finished the tournament 0-of-5 from the field. All five of her attempts came from beyond the 3-point arc. Newton saw her only action against Charlotte, where she played four minutes.