



TCU DAILY SKIFF

Serving Texas Christian University since 1902

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Employee wages debated by task force, Chancellor Boschini

Staff members are looking for ways to battle problems in the university's wage system.

By Marco Lopez
Staff Reporter

Many university staff members have to work two jobs to meet their basic needs, staff members say.

Gerardo Ramirez, who has worked as a groundskeeper for 10 years, said there are many employees struggling just to survive.

"I've had two jobs since I started

here, and I can make you a list of all the people that work two jobs to be able to make it," Ramirez said. "I hope they do something. It's hard."

A group of 16 staff members are trying to do something. They are working to design a five-year plan to solve problems in the university's wage system and improve employees' benefits, said Carol Campbell, vice chancellor for finance and administration.

"I think the need has been

recognized in multiple areas," Campbell said. "Compensation is and has been a long-standing issue of discussion at the Staff Assembly, the Budget Advisory Committee, again, a number of places."

Staff members from areas such as the Physical Plant, student affairs, extended education, the library and advancement, among others, are meeting biweekly as part of the Staff Compensation Task Force to recommend changes to the compensation system.

Under former Chancellor Michael Ferrari, entering hourly employees went from earning \$5.73 to \$8 over a period of five years. In response to a request from the Staff Assembly, Chancellor Victor Boschini created a representative staff task force in the fall to set priorities for solving the different compensation issues.

Tara Pope, a task force member, said currently more than 250 employees earn less than \$20,000 a year. "While progress has been made,

some housekeepers, administrative assistants, groundskeepers and others cannot live on TCU wages and must have second jobs and or receive some kind of government assistance," Pope said. Campbell said compensation is a major issue because administrators have to use limited resources to accomplish many things. Compensation pays for salaries, raises and the Tuition Assistance Program, as well as health and retirement benefits. University

officials also try to reduce wage compression, a problem created when newly-hired employees earn nearly as much money as their senior co-workers and supervisors.

Ruben Ayala, a painter who has worked for 15 years at the Physical Plant, said he thinks he has not received fair raises compared with other employees.

"I've worked here for 15 years, and other employees who have

(More on WAGES, page 2)

A ticket to raising funds

When not fighting crime, university police writing citations

If students updated their parking permits, the number of parking citations would be reduced significantly.

By Erin Baethge
Staff Reporter

Call it a bull market for traffic citations.

The university is on pace to levy more parking fines than last fiscal year — when students, faculty and staff forked over more than \$370,000 for TCU citations — and has already collected \$351,207 since June 1, said Cheryl Wilson, the university controller.

The university uses the funds to help support general university activities.

The TCU Police Department employs 22 licensed officers and 10 security guards who — when they're not solving crimes or trying to prevent them — sweep the campus for parking offenders. An administrative assistant maintains a database and even compiles a "Most Wanted List" of students who have received multiple tickets since the start of the academic year.

And the only thing stopping police from writing more tickets is a lack of officers.

"We constantly have vacancies because officers leave for higher salaries at bigger departments," said J.C. Williams, assistant chief of police.

Every nine-hour shift has at least four scheduled officers, but the department would like to have five officers on every shift, Williams said.

"More tickets are given during the 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. shift because there are more officers," officer Ervey Garcia said. "The officers at night can't write tickets because they are more concerned about security."

As of March 31, the TCU Police Department had issued 9,682 tickets since Aug. 1.

Ben Dalton, a sophomore political science and criminal justice major, said the officers give too many tickets, which has a negative impact on the university.

"It alienates the students and makes

(More on TICKETS, page 2)

Texas Christian University Police Department
TRAFFIC CITATION

No. _____ Date 4-23-04 Time 11:21

Location 78

Violator Name Superfrog

Address _____

State _____ DL/ID# _____

Vehicle Permit # dm

Color Blue Make _____

Model Coupe

State Texas Year 2003 VIN _____

VIOLATION

01	NO STUDENT PARKING PERMIT	100.00
02	EXPIRED PARKING PERMIT	100.00
03	PARKING IN PROHIBITED AREA	100.00
04	PAID PARKING PERMIT	100.00
05	NO STUDENT PARKING PERMIT	100.00
06	EXPIRED PARKING PERMIT	100.00
07	PARKING IN PROHIBITED AREA	100.00
08	PAID PARKING PERMIT	100.00
09	NO STUDENT PARKING PERMIT	100.00
10	EXPIRED PARKING PERMIT	100.00
11	PARKING IN PROHIBITED AREA	100.00
12	PAID PARKING PERMIT	50.00
13	NO STUDENT PARKING PERMIT	40.00
14	EXPIRED PARKING PERMIT	40.00
15	PARKING IN PROHIBITED AREA	40.00
16	PAID PARKING PERMIT	50.00
17	OTHER (INDICATE CODE)	50.00

* fine reduced to \$20 if parking permit purchased on school days of citation issue date.

REMARKS:

Greeks raise money and give time to good causes

More than \$121,000 and 25,000 hours of community service were donated to charities by Greek organizations in 2003.

By Stacey Grant
Skiff Reporter

Fraternity and sorority members may have to work extra hard this year if they hope to surpass the successes of 2003's philanthropic events.

According to the directors of service for the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council, more than \$121,000 was donated to various charities through philanthropies in 2003.

Tiffany Abbott, director of fraternity and sorority affairs, said each

fraternity and sorority is required to do philanthropies by its national chapter, but that is not the only motivation.

"Many students participate because it's a chance to give service to a wonderful cause and have fun with their organization at the same time," she said.

Spencer Blevens, IFC director of service, said TCU fraternities donated more than \$44,000 to different charities last year.

Blevens, a sophomore advertising/public relations major, said Pi Kappa Phi raised the most money

(More on GREEK, page 2)

Christianity feels rift over homosexuality

Homosexuality has stirred debate in many denominations.

By Elizabeth Bassett
Staff Reporter

The controversy surrounding gays and lesbians and their role in Christianity was highlighted this spring at TCU.

Brite Divinity School was the center of focus when an openly gay administrator, who is also a Christian Church minister, said a church official discriminated against him because of his sexuality.

TCU is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and even though this denomination has a reputation of being nontraditional and accepting, this spring has proved that even a progressive religion has to grapple with new trends.

A rift in the Christian Church was exposed: Many in the church support gays in all their roles, including serving as ministers, but on the other

hand, only one of about 30 Christian Church regions will ordain a gay ordination candidate.

The Christian Church is not the only denomination struggling to define the roles of homosexuals.

The Episcopal Church is also caught in a controversy. Gene Robinson was consecrated as the first openly gay bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Church in fall 2003, and ever since, the Anglican church has been passionately debating whether this is in line with church policy.

The Roman Catholic Church holds that although being homosexual is not a sin, gay sex is. The Catechism, or official doctrine of the church, says that homosexual acts are against natural law and cannot be approved under any circumstances.

But the church adds that homosexuals should be accepted with respect

(More on RELIGION, page 8)

Learning lessons to last a lifetime

Growth in life shouldn't stop with successes, says a 46-year-old junior interior design major.

By Amy Bowman
Staff Reporter

If wisdom is knowing that you don't know, then Debra Benditz Morgan is very wise indeed. Never mind that she can't figure out what she wants to be when she grows up.

"The more I know the more I want to know and realize how little I actually know," Morgan said.

She's a junior interior design major, but she's also 46, a successful (and once not-so-successful) businesswoman from Houston who is taking some time off to do the marriage thing.

Morgan picked TCU specifically because of class size and an incredible staff to explore her love of all aspects of design as well as art history.

It was while studying art his-

tory that she found she could not ignore her love for design, losing herself time and again in design projects.

"It is important to listen to the still, small voice we all have and let it be a guide," she said.

In Morgan's case, that voice has led her down several paths.

"Sadly, many of us do things for others and in the long run end up miserable," she said.

Morgan has been fortunate in fun and profitable work environments throughout her life. First and before college the first time around, there was the job in the golf shop.

Then, shortly after, Morgan went to work for her father selling pipe and decided at the age of 26 to start her own company.

With the success of her business in the oil field tubing industry, Morgan was named one of the Top 10 working women in America by Glamour magazine. Her keen business sense has also been

featured in articles for the Houston Chronicle, USA Today, American Metal Market, Family Business and Nations Business.

A couple of years later she decided to sell her business, took time off and found a love in culinary school. After graduation she teamed up with a Certified Master Chef and started a culinary consulting firm.

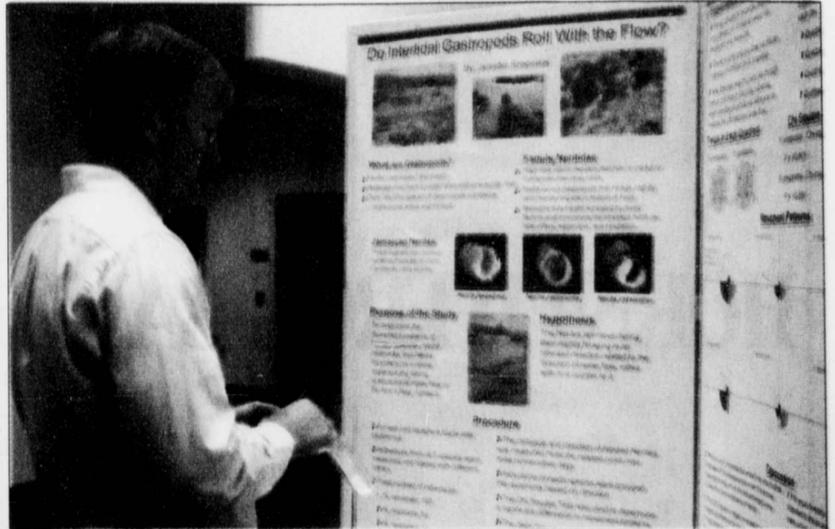
Then came the decision to sell out once again and come back to school to study art history.

Because of the excellent program at TCU, Morgan made the move to Fort Worth where she also discovered her love for design in home and work environments. "I don't ever see myself retiring and just traveling or volunteering," she said.

Morgan does, however, feel traveling can be an important entity for people to experience.

(More on MORGAN, page 2)

Reading between the lines



Math professor George Gilbert grabs a quick lunch and a look at the College of Science and Engineering Student Research Symposium Thursday in the Tucker Technology Center. The two-day event will end with final judging of the projects, free food, live music and an award ceremony today.

Sarah Chacko/Photo Editor

THE PULSE

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Friday, April 23, 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.

■ **Want to have input** in choosing the activities and bands during Howdy Week? Do you want to be actively involved in the biggest week of activities at TCU? The Programming Council Howdy Week Project Director is looking for people who are interested in helping and serving on a panel to organize Howdy Week. E-mail j.l.stecklein@tcu.edu for more information.

■ **A six-hour defensive driving course** under the curriculum of National Safety Council is being offered from 1-7 p.m. April 29 and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 1. On completion of the course, you are eligible for a 10 percent reduction on your liability insurance for three years. It is not for ticket dismissal. To register, call Hao Tran at (817) 257-7778.

■ **Applications are now being evaluated** for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The camp is by invitation only. Men and women ages 10-19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan and Vince Carter. Camp locations include the following states: California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873.

■ **Can't pass the MOS TEST?** Help is here. Take MOS exam prep courses. Classes are held six times a week at convenient hours. Sign up at the Neeley Certification Office in Dan Rogers Hall, Room 138, or call Leigh at (817) 257-5220 for details.

WAGES

From page 1

been here for two years are making as much as I am," Ayala said. "Sometimes I've even had to train them how to paint, and they are making as much as I do."

John Weis, vice chancellor for human resources, said that in the past 10 years, administrators have tried to tackle problems in the wage system on a case-by-case basis.

"We haven't taken care of everything that we need to take care of in compensation," Weis said. "The interest is in putting together a plan that looks realistically at what we can do over the next five years for staff compensation." Pope said insurance costs are hitting employees' pockets very hard.

"The act of purchasing family health insurance shaves off \$2.28 per hour, reducing an \$8 an hour employee to \$5.72 an hour," Pope said. In 1999, insurance costs repre-

sented 1.2 percent of the annual budget, Campbell said. In 2005, insurance would represent 3.2 percent of the budget, she said.

Campbell and Weis said administrators are considering joining with 27 other schools to create an insurance corporation that would reduce increasing health-care costs for employees.

Boschini said administrators should have looked at that option sooner.

"This is something that should have been done 10 years ago," Boschini told faculty senators April 8. "I just think it would have been a good idea for all of the private schools in Texas to do this years ago, as I believe it might have saved all of us some money along the way."

Campbell said administrators are trying to deal with the increased cost of benefits, such as health insurance and the Tuition Assistance Program. She said benefits have had a double-digit increase in the current annual budget. Without

joining the corporation, TCU employees' insurance premiums would increase 14 percent to 20 percent, Weis said. If TCU joins, employees' premiums would go up about 6 percent, he said.

Last semester, administrators approved changes to the Tuition Assistance Program to help reduce the cost of benefits granted. Weis said despite efforts to reduce expenses, the cost of employees' benefits will increase about \$2 million next school year.

Weis said the task force is studying the wage system and analyzing several compensation philosophies that could be adopted, such as the living wage, a philosophy that would pay each employee enough to support a family of four.

Pope, a horticultural assistant, said she would like the task force to examine TCU's salaries in light of the mission statement. "I support a wage philosophy that recognizes we are all members of the

TCU community and should be aware that currently some members are not earning enough to live on," Pope said. "I think reconsidering our wage philosophy is necessary in aligning our mission statement and our budget."

David Grebel, director of Extended Education, said employees want opportunities to advance both within salary ranks and in terms of job opportunities on campus.

Weisq said administrators have not been successful in their battle to solve the problems because of insufficient funds. He said a comprehensive plan has to be developed to address the issues. Campbell said the task force should be done with its work by mid-fall 2004, because that is when administrators start developing the annual budget for the 2006-2007 school year. She said university officials will pay close attention to the task force's recommendations.

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TICKETS

From page 1

them not like the officers as much," said Dalton, who has received three tickets since his freshman year. "I think the fines are ridiculously high. Once I got a \$100 ticket for parking in a fire lane for one minute while I went to call a friend on the outside dorm phone."

If students updated their parking permits, which cost \$75 a year, then the number of parking violations would be significantly reduced because, according to police records, the most frequent violation is not having a current parking permit.

Records show 2,881 tickets have been issued for this violation, which carries a \$75 fine, from Aug. 1 to March 31, compared with 3,331 tickets issued for this violation during the same period last year.

The second-most recorded violation is parking in a space the permit doesn't allow, with 1,499

violations, followed closely by parking in a numbered reserved space, with 1,166 violations.

DeAnn Jones, administrative assistant at the police station, keeps track of the parking citations every month. A few names begin to stand out after she enters their information many times, she said.

Many repeat offenders are placed on the "Most Wanted List," a list of students who have received three or more tickets since the start of the academic year.

No. 1 on the list is a student with 44 tickets since August, according to Police Department records.

The Police Department refused to release the student's name or the type of vehicle the student drives.

The next "most wanted" student has received 32 tickets since August.

The police officers do not know if a student has paid a parking fine because payment is handled by financial services, Jones said.

"Many students believe that if they pay all their parking fines and don't have a balance, then the officers won't write them tickets," Jones said. "They will say, 'But I'm really good at paying my tickets so why I am getting another one?'"

Garcia said he hasn't noticed a change in the number of students who disobey parking rules and receive tickets in his 22 years at this university.

The fines, which can range from \$50 to \$100, have not led to a decrease in the number of parking tickets issued, Garcia said.

Edward Green, a junior finance major, said the fines are a deterrent to some students, but don't affect others.

"It all depends on your financial situation," said Green, who has not received any parking tickets at TCU. "You always have that percentage of repeat offenders that don't care. I'm not sure if they have a lot of money or if they just don't care."

If a police officer suspects he or she is writing a ticket for a car belonging to a repeat offender, then the officer will call the police dispatcher to verify how many tickets the student has, Garcia said.

"If time permits, their car will be booted at that time," he said.

Anyone can be towed or booted if parked illegally, but the general standard is to boot or tow students who have three or more citations in the academic year, Garcia said.

For this academic year, 681 students have three or more parking violations, according to TCU police records. Fifty-three cars have been booted, and four cars have been towed since August.

"It's not effective," Jones said of the booting and towing of cars. "The department has only 12 boots and doesn't have the time to use them all the time."

Jones said the officers wish the parking fines would be a deterrent to students to stop parking illegally.

"We don't want to be known as a university that tows everybody off," Jones said. "Frankly, that's bad PR."

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GREEK

From page 1

overall with about \$12,500. Sigma Chi came in second with a total of \$6,000, and Sigma Phi Epsilon raised \$5,200 for the third highest.

Pi Kap President Charlie Stephan, a sophomore advertising/public relations major, said he thinks they were able to raise so much money because the members are very interested in service.

"We have members who join our fraternity specifically because they are so committed to service," Stephan said. "It's a big goal we have every year."

Stephan said the amount of money raised is not a contest among chapters, but rather an opportunity to raise money for great causes.

"It's all a matter of focus," Stephan said. "If philanthropy is a big focus in your organization, then you're going to raise more money for charity."

Pi Kap's main philanthropy is Push America, which helps people with physical and mental disabilities. The fraternity also donates money to the TCU KinderFrogs School, the preschool on campus for children with Down syndrome.

Blevens said philanthropies are a great way of giving back to the community.

"Philanthropy is one of the things Greek organizations were founded on, and we take pride in giving back to the community," Blevens said.

Delta Gamma President Laura Elliott, a sophomore nursing major, said it's important to participate in philanthropies because it shows people that there's more to being Greek than just parties and social events.

MORGAN

From page 1

"Embrace the differences in other cultures and appreciate all that we have here, but realize when traveling, it is not the only way," she said. "Try new things and don't get stuck in a rut."

That happened when she participated in the TCU in Scotland program.

"I loved the study abroad experience ... the way the classes are presented and the planning and work to pull it off," she said.

And she had an impact on the students with her.

"She really inspired me to immerse myself in all of the wonderful things that a new culture has to offer," said Kathryn Murphy, a senior art history major and a friend of Morgan's.

Morgan doesn't preach when giving advice, she only shares her experiences and if they are able to help someone, so be it, she said.

"We all learn from the hand we are dealt," Morgan said.

Murphy appreciated that, Morgan said.

"I learned so much from Debra on the TCU in Scotland trip because she brought a lifetime of knowledge and experience that she shared with the rest of us," Murphy said.

Morgan says she's learned several important experiences from life: Don't take yourself

"Philanthropies are what sororities were based off of in the beginning," Elliott said. "We weren't founded on parties, we were founded on service."

Every fall, DG hosts Anchorsplash, an event where fraternities compete and raise money for charity. Elliott said. DG's main philanthropy is Service for Sight, in which sorority members read stories to blind people on a weekly basis.

Elliott said what she loves about philanthropic service is the unity it provides to her sorority.

"I love how it unites all sororities," Elliott said. "All Delta Gammas do Anchorsplash and Service for Sight. It gives us a common bond."

In addition to the money donated in 2003, more than 25,000 hours of community service were completed by Greek organizations.

Emily Hollenbeck, Panhellenic director of service, said Greek sororities raised \$77,300 for various charities and participated in more than 9,300 hours of community service.

Hollenbeck, a junior communication studies major, said Alpha Chi Omega raised the most money, which was used to help fight domestic violence. The sorority's 2003 annual fashion show raised more than \$21,000, which is slightly less than this year's total of \$25,000.

In 2003, TCU's Greek organizations raised money and provided service for such causes in 2003 as the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Children's Miracle Network, Tarrant County Food Bank, Toys for Tots, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and Big Brother of Fort Worth.

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too seriously and be flexible. There are lessons even in failure. She started a second business in the late 80s in New Orleans but could only keep it running for a year.

"It would have been a mistake if I had not learned anything from it," she said. "Most importantly, if we don't try, we don't get anywhere."

Morgan says she's enjoyed all stages of her life, including the current marriage stage. She decided being supportive was important, so she put her degree on hold and moved to Indianapolis to be with her husband Paul while he is on an out-of-state assignment.

"Marriage stretches people," she said. "It is easy to be selfish and self centered. A successful marriage requires a commitment, patience, understanding and communication."

Paul said he was attracted to Morgan because of her honesty and her intuitive way of looking into someone's heart.

"She has a way of talking to you but not at you," Paul said. "She has an easy way of seeing your problems and helping you in anyway she can."

Paul said Debra has an immense dedication to anything she commits herself to.

"Her dedication and belief in God has molded her into the woman she is," he said.

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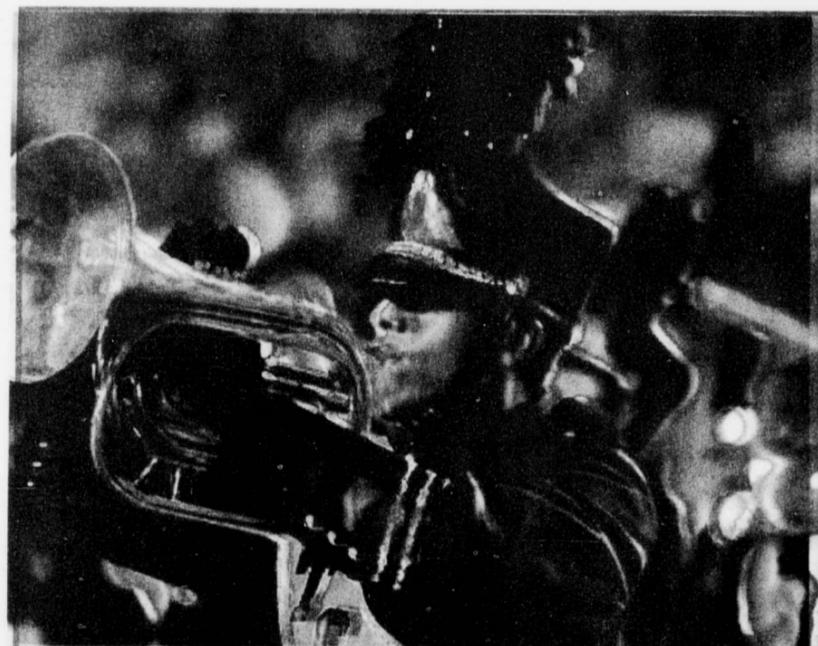
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The Skiff View

The best of times, the worst of times

The end of semester prompts yays and nays

- Cheers:** To our wonderful readers who pick up the Skiff every day.
- Jeers:** To classes we fall asleep in on a regular basis.
- Cheers:** To the end of classes we fall asleep in on a regular basis.
- Jeers:** To long, boring graduation ceremonies.
- Cheers:** To our editor in chief making several critical assertions in his final column that we recommend every Bush-supporter read.
- Jeers:** To all of our senior friends graduating.
- Cheers:** To professors who make finals optional.
- Jeers:** To still not being able to register for needed classes.
- Cheers:** To being so close to the end of college.
- Jeers:** To being so far away from the end of college.
- Cheers:** To our administration for vowing not to censor the Skiff.
- Jeers:** To Baylor University's administration, which censored the school's paper.
- Cheers:** To finally graduating (some of us).
- Jeers:** To having to find a job.
- Cheers:** To getting to enjoy TCU for five full years.
- Jeers:** To never writing another story for the Skiff.
- Cheers:** To the Lady Frogs basketball team for making it to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth time.
- Jeers:** To poor attendance at athletic events.
- Cheers:** Finally sticking with one major for more than a year.
- Jeers:** To having many worthless text-books the bookstore won't buy back.
- Cheers:** To getting a social life back.
- Jeers:** To friends going home for the summer.
- Cheers:** To our columnists who keep the opinion page interesting.
- Jeers:** To still having no plans to start a softball team.

Your View

Letters to the Editor

Evaluate all sides of issues

I wish to respond to Ezra Hood's column that ran earlier this week by defending the truth and morality and by being 100 percent biased . . . I mean honest.

First, the failed economy under our commander in chief equals 1,800,000 job losses. Pretty big number isn't it? But don't worry, we created somewhere around 700,000 new jobs. We'll my math is fuzzy, but I'm not quite sure that's growth. Let's see, 1.8 million jobs lost, less than three-fourths of a million jobs regained. Here's a quick lesson in U.S. government and the economy. More taxes means that the government has more money. Pretty simple concept to grab hold of, right? That money goes to job creation, helping the poor and homeless and paying of a debt that increases by the second more than many make in a year.

Laissez faire you say? I don't think so! You see laissez faire is a tried and failed policy. Remember September 1929? When the stock market and the whole economy thing went down a bit — underestimation . . . yeah. So if you like laissez faire, I guess you don't mind Microsoft having a monopoly on the operating system "industry." There's no such thing as laissez faire anymore, the government is in everything economic you can think of, and that's a good thing, people. Yeah, good idea Ezra lets kick the government out of education so that Texas can sink lower and lower with respect to other states — 23rd in 2004, as opposed to 14th in 2002.

Part two, capital punishment. This one's fun, especially in Texas. In 2002, Texas executed 33 people, you know who was the second closest? Oklahoma with seven. I'll let that sink in for a second . . . 26 more people were killed in Texas by the government than the second highest in Oklahoma. Of 3,557 people under sentence of death in 2002, 51 were women. All these minor statistics are from the Bureau of Justice, by the way.

But as this was supposed to be a direct attack on Ezra, I'll try to keep it that way. I believe a main point was the "activist judges." He said that a lot, the "activist judges" are "writing laws" and "that's what we have legislatures for." Kinda like those "activist judges" who said that a small group of black kids could go to school in Little Rock because it was their constitutional right.

These judges are interpreting the law, not making new ones. When there are landmark cases, they are supplements to the Constitution itself. Just because something isn't quite as convenient as we'd like it, doesn't mean we have to throw it out, and that is why the Constitution is in place — to make sure that what we want is right as well as popular.

Bottom line is this: Be true to your beliefs, don't hide from having a view, just don't say you're being fair and equal when you have no intention of doing so. Think about issues, don't run away from them, right or wrong. I know it's in you all, if I can get my roommate to listen to Al Franken, by God, anything is possible.

—Jason Ratigan, freshman history major

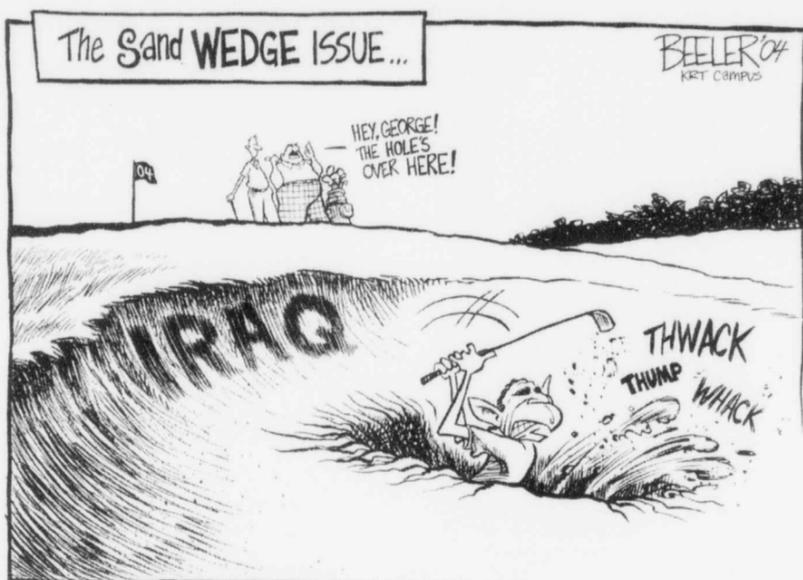
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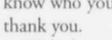


A last chance to impart politics

Skiff staff senior pool/bw
Brandon Ortiz

It is a custom here at the Skiff for graduating editors to write a column thanking everyone who has helped them and impart some words of wisdom to the young'uns. There are so many people for me to thank that I'm not going to list them all — I'm too afraid of leaving somebody out. But you know who you are, and I sincerely thank you.

COMMENTARY



Brandon Ortiz

With that out of the way, I will now devote the rest of this space to explaining why George W. Bush is quite possibly the worst president in American history.

Conservatives often wonder why liberals hate Bush so viscerally. I wonder how any rational person could not hate Bush. The hardest part about making the case for Bush's incompetence in limited space is choosing what arguments to leave out. (His rank dishonesty is fodder for another column.)

This president has an uncanny gift for being monumentally — and arrogantly — wrong on nearly every issue. The old cliché that even a broken clock is right twice a day doesn't hold true for this president.

I'm not going to beat you over the head with the same-old Democratic charges (which are true) of how Bush has: Squandered the largest surplus in history and pursued a fiscally irresponsible

economic policy; wasted the enormous good will this nation received after 9/11, spit on our allies and misled — some would say lied — to the nation so he could take us to war with a country that was not an immediate threat; exploited a national tragedy for his personal political gain; broken his promise and under-funded his own signature education initiative; attempted to privatize Medicare — which, along with Social Security, is responsible for keeping millions of senior citizens out of poverty — with Trojan horse "reform;" raided the Social Security and Medicare trust funds to pay for tax cuts for the ultra wealthy that failed to create a single job (Bush will be the only president since Herbert Hoover to preside over net job loss); turned over the Environmental Protection Agency to the polluters and is gutting clean air laws; ignored the Constitution and eroded our civil liberties through the Patriot Act; supported taking away overtime pay from an estimated eight million workers — including police, firemen and first responders — before recently backtracking under political pressure.

The list goes on and on. Most of you have heard these arguments before, and if you're not already swayed by them, then I doubt I'll change your mind by repeating them.

I'm also not going to point out a few things you may not know:

- At a time of (unnecessary) war, when soldiers are fighting bravely without the manpower they need (because this president

thinks coalition-building is a sign of weakness), the president has proposed what is essentially a cut in health care spending for veterans and eliminating 540 full-time jobs in the Veterans Benefits Administration, which handles disability and pension claims from former soldiers.

What a great way to reward those who were willing to die for our country — make them pay more for health care and undermine the agency that handles their pension claims. How patriotic.

- Chemical plants and nuclear plants are the most dangerous targets for terrorist attack. The EPA has identified more than 100 chemical facilities where an attack could kill more than one million people.

Let me repeat that: One million people could die if terrorists were to attack one of these chemical plants.

So it seems only logical for the government to impose strict regulations on the chemical industry and take steps to protect chemical plants. But the chemical lobby doesn't think so — so neither does Bush and the GOP.

Bush — our patriotic "war president" — will do whatever it takes to win the war on terror — as long as it doesn't inconvenience Big Business.

Oops, I'm out of space. But this is only the tip of the iceberg.

I'm not sure if the nation could survive another four years of Bush.

Editor in Chief Brandon Ortiz is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at b.p.ortiz@tcu.edu.

People have right to consume as they wish

Obesity is the biggest killer in America. In response, schools are now banning the sale of "junk food" and providing balanced meals. What about the rest of the country?

COMMENTARY



Brian Chatman

Why don't we ban the possession and consumption of "junk food" in the United States? Of course, what is "junk food"? Sure

fudge and cake fit the description but what about chicken? Almost all food can be bad for you when your diet is unbalanced. Where do we draw the line? If we decide and ban the sale of "junk food," how do we stop Granny in her kitchen from making "gateway" sweets? One day you eat Granny's chocolate chip cookies and the next thing you know it's her chocolate eclairs. The only way to solve this problem is to build more prisons, up police funding for a special task force and arrest everyone that qualifies as obese.

I think we can all agree this is going overboard. The costs would be astronomical and it would abridge our perceived right to choose what we consume. Harmful or not, our right to choose

what goes into our bodies is more important than stopping people from eating "bad" foods for legitimate or recreational purposes. All we can do is educate and inform the public, then leave them to make their own decisions.

So if we have a right to decide what we take into our bodies, why do drug laws exist? There are "good" drugs and "bad" drugs. All drugs are potentially dangerous regardless of their legal status, yet we spend billions on control of a select few and still can't solve the problem. Thousands of users are in prisons, but others are still free. Even if we could stop the sale of drugs, what about Granny and her pot greenhouse/meth-lab?

It is hard to take drug laws seriously when a story about the latest bust is followed by yet another commercial saying "drink beer and women will find you irresistible." The line between what is a "good" or "bad" drug is blurred when tobacco is the second leading cause of death and is still legal while marijuana is not.

The only way to justify drug laws would be if violent crime occurred every time someone took them. Five college students getting stoned and searching for Jerry Garcia's soul in a lava lamp is not a danger to the public. I suggest

we make more stringent penalties for public intoxication and driving while intoxicated, then eliminate drug laws. We should then tax these drugs heavily along with increases on cigarette and alcohol taxes, then use that and what we save from eliminating drug enforcement programs, to fund better drug education and rehabilitation programs.

Before everyone has the collective reaction of "Drugs are evil and liberals just want to everyone to do drugs," remember that I am not saying drugs are good. I personally don't even understand why someone would drink, let alone do any other drug. What I want is a respect for an individual's right to choose what they do with their bodies and punish them only when they harm others. Drug enforcement takes police manpower away from more serious crimes. People are going to do "bad" things, whether it's eating cookies with a green elf on the package, or dropping acid then chasing that little green elf around their kitchen. All we can, and should do is educate the people and leave them to decide what is right on their own.

Brian Chatman is a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at b.e.chatman@tcu.edu.

Bush ties seem a bit fishy

Last Thursday, the State Department quietly urged all nonessential U.S. diplomats and private U.S. citizens to leave Saudi Arabia. Senior officials stated that there was "recent and credible information indicating that extremists are planning further attacks against U.S. and Western interests."

Now, regardless of whether or not you trust the Bush administration, you have to admit that something smells fishy about this sudden evacuation. In Fallujah, four American citizens were brutally murdered, and we had to restrain ourselves from nuking the entire city. But now, in Saudi Arabia, in response to an "elevated threat," we're just pulling out?

As it stands, the United States is pretty chummy with Saudi Arabia. A few weeks ago, Condoleezza Rice mentioned that Saudi Arabia was "fully on board" in the war on terror.

I think that's kind of interesting, considering that 15 Saudi Arabian hijackers were "on board" the jets that toppled the Twin Towers and crashed into the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. I'm not trying to say Saudis are terrorists. However, a poll taken in October 2001 of educated Saudis in Saudi Arabia between the ages of 25 and 41 found that 95 percent of those polled "had sympathy for the cause of . . . Osama bin Laden." Neil Macfarquhar, a reporter for the New York Times, notes that "admiration of bin Laden is evident even among those who dislike his austere Islamic vision." In January 2002, Riyadh confirmed that 100 of the 158 alleged al Qaeda prisoners in Guantanamo Bay were Saudis.

Fun fact: The Saudi monarchy, at best, parallels the level of oppression seen in the Taliban. No free speech, press or assembly. No political parties. No dissent. No women's rights. We're talking religious fundamentalism, secret police, public executions, torture rooms, the works. It is, in every sense of the phrase, a totalitarian monarchy.

I want to slap President Bush every time he says terrorists "hate our freedom." Terrorists hate the United States' long-time alliance with the governments that oppress and kill them. That's why we're evacuating from Saudi Arabia. So, if you aren't already thinking it, I'll just come out and say it: Why are we best buds with Saudi Arabia? Well there's only one person who can answer that.

President Bush's spokespeople are reassuring the public that Bush did not make a deal with Saudi prince Bandar to increase oil production, thereby lowering gas prices before the election, as was claimed in Bob Woodward's book, Plan of Attack. Let's forget the fact that Bush is still talking tea with one of the world's most oppressive supporters of terrorism. There are still plenty of reasons to see Bush is lying.

Bush censored 28 pages of the congressional investigative report on the 9/11 attacks. The 28 pages dealt with Saudi Arabia's connection to the attacks. Days after 9/11, Bush allowed private Saudi jets to pick up 24 members of the bin Laden family and transport them outside the United States. We are still holding children in Guantanamo Bay, but Bush gave bin Laden's family a first class ticket to freedom! George Bush Sr.'s nickname among Saudi royalty is "Bandar Bush," given all the business investments made by the Bushes with the Saudis.

And yet, there are people in this world who believe that Bush is not exploiting his political ties with Riyadh to boost his approval rating near the election. These people are living in complete denial. President Bush is sleeping with the devil, and it's about time he got burned.

Justin Vann is a columnist for The Houston Cougar at the University of Houston. This column was distributed by U-Wire.

NEWS DIGEST

Friday, April 23, 2004

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National/International Roundup

HIV-positive gymnast wins law suit

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Cirque du Soleil agreed Thursday to pay \$600,000 to settle a lawsuit filed by an HIV-positive gymnast who was fired by the Canadian circus last year because it believed he posed a health risk to other performers.

Matthew Cusick, 32, voluntarily disclosed his health status and spent four months training with the circus. He was fired just days before he was to perform in Las Vegas.

"They said I was a hazard not just to other performers, but to the crew and possibly the audience," Cusick said Thursday in a telephone interview. "I think the settlement sends a message to other employers: If you discriminate against people, there's going to be a price to pay."

Cusick filed a complaint in July under the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The Montreal-based circus offered to reinstate him six months later, just hours

after federal labor investigators found reason to believe it engaged in job discrimination. But Cusick refused, saying he could not return to "a company that stood so strongly against me."

Cirque du Soleil spokeswoman Renee-Claude Menard said the company regretted firing Cusick and blamed the decision on ignorance.

"We didn't have all the knowledge on what HIV is and how it's transmitted," Menard said.

Missing freshman discovered dead

WELLESLEY, Mass. (AP) — A Wellesley College freshman missing since Monday was found dead Thursday in a wooded area on the sprawling campus, officials said. They stressed there was no obvious sign of foul play.

KateLynn Palmer, a freshman from California, was last seen Monday afternoon by

one of her roommates, school spokeswoman Mary Ann Hill said. The roommates reported her missing on Wednesday.

The cause of death was not immediately known.

"Our hearts and prayers are with her family and her friends," Hill said. "This is a tragic situation."

There were no obvious signs of trauma to the body, which was discovered behind a dormitory at the elite women's college, investigators said. It was taken to the state medical examiner's office, which will determine the cause of death, a spokesman for the Norfolk district attorney's office said.

"We don't know if it's natural causes or some other cause of death," DA spokesman David Traub said. "The information we've been able to get at the scene has not led us to make a determination there."

Palmer's family in California was notified of her death. Wellesley President

Diana Chapman Walsh also told students and faculty in an e-mail.

Walsh "wanted to make sure that people knew that the initial examination revealed no outward signs of foul play, to allay concerns they might have for their own safety," Hill said.

Wellesley, an elite all-women's school with 2,300 students, is on a 500-acre campus in an affluent suburb west of Boston.

Lone person missing after plane wreck

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Search crews on Thursday located the wreckage of a \$28 million military fighter jet that crashed in the Imperial Valley desert, a Marine spokesman said.

The pilot, the plane's sole occupant, remained unaccounted for and the search was continuing.

Search crews located the F/A-18 Hornet Thursday morning in a remote area

near Glamis, about 160 miles east of San Diego, according to Lt. Kevin Schultz, a spokesman for the Marine air base in Yuma, Ariz. that directed the search.

Marine officials say two F/A-18 Hornets left Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego Wednesday night on a routine training mission to Yuma.

The lead jet lost contact with the other plane shortly after 8 p.m., about 30 miles northeast of the base, said Capt. Patrick Kerr, spokesman for the New Orleans-based Marine Forces Reserve.

The missing plane was part of a reserve squadron based in Fort Worth.

The Marines said an investigation was underway.

Last month, four San Diego-based Marines were killed when their UC-35 jet crashed on approach to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

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Texan to affect local economy

Fort Worth officials say it will be hard to compete with the hotel and convention center in Grapevine.

By K.C. Jones
Skiff Staff

Only a year ago, the Fort Worth Convention Center reopened after spending \$75 million on expansion and renovations. Now Gaylord Entertainment has invested around \$500 million to create The Texan, a unique hotel and convention destination resort in Grapevine.

Michael Woody, director of marketing for the Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau, believes Gaylord Entertainment has put this part of the United States on a different map, one for those who need extensive meeting space and rooms and who usually look toward Chicago or San Diego.

"Because this is a very unique project, we are attracting groups that wouldn't have considered DFW before," Woody said. The new interest has resulted in a July booking by the Gold Wing riders, Honda motorcycle riders who meet annually but have never considered this area before. Now they are bringing 16,000 people to this part of the country, Woody said.

Doug Harman, president and CEO of the Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau, realizes it will be hard to compete with The Texan for large meeting requirements because of the limited availability of hotel space in downtown Fort Worth.

Fort Worth's Convention Center situation is quite different from the private corporate property development because it is a public facility. The rates are set by the city to charge an appropriate rental fee for the space. The limited surrounding hotel space is independently owned from the convention property. The Radisson,

which is planning future renovations, and the Plaza, which has no financing for upgrading, are two of the largest and closest hotels that book for the convention center. The largest first class hotel downtown, The Worthington, offers 500 fully renovated rooms, but they will not book bulk space for the convention center.

"The Gaylord basically gives free convention space because the customers are staying at their property. That is very difficult to compete against," Harman said.

Woody is excited about the Texan because of its uniqueness and Gaylord's concern for the surrounding community.

"When Gaylord was looking for a site in Texas, they wanted a community they could become a part of and had a tie to history," he said.

The people in Grapevine are committed to the historic district and that strong dedication has resulted in a prospering main street, which has been occupied since 1901. It has a small town feel yet offers six winery tasting rooms and a vintage railroad, Woody said.

Both Woody and Harman have positive expectations in regard to the economic impact on Grapevine and Tarrant County. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Input/Output system (RIMS) predicts the increase of revenue for the Metroplex should be \$2.5 billion over the next 15 years due to the ripple effect of a property the size of The Texan.

Harman said he's happy about the opportunity Grapevine has been given, but he doubts Fort Worth will benefit from The Texan because it is a self-contained, full-service destination resort.

"Tarrant County will see a small percent of tax revenue, but the retail profit isn't likely to find its way to Fort Worth. That's the way they designed it," Har-

man said.

The luxury at The Texan is costly however, and business opportunities are bound to recycle back to Fort Worth especially for those paying their own travel bills, he said.

"Educational meetings that bring together educators are many times sensitive to price," Harman said.

The daily rates in Fort Worth will be a cost-effective alternative to the rates and extra fees charged by a large resort, Harman said.

On the other hand, Fort Worth may lose some of the state association convention contracts that tend to rotate around the state. If these organizations choose The Texan for the Metroplex, it will be a while before they return to the area and give Fort Worth another chance, Harman said.

The Texan is patterned after Gaylord's Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. As gigantic as The Texan looks, dominating the Grapevine horizon, it is only one third the size of the Nashville property. Even so, expectations are high for businesses and entrepreneurs in Grapevine that the economic impact caused by Gaylord's involvement in the area will expand over time.

Texas art gallery owner Rob Proehl is filling one of seven unique gift shop locations inside The Texan. Specializing in Texas artists, Rob and his wife Kathy have run their art galleries, called Artiste for about ten years. The Grapevine location is their third store.

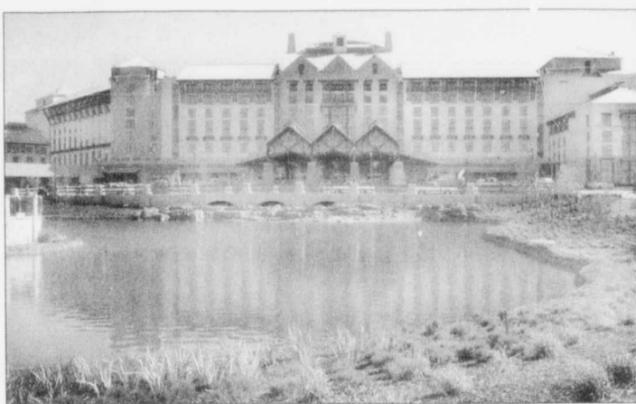
Proehl has previously visited the Nashville Opryland resort, so when he saw the opportunity to occupy a retail space in The Texan, he jumped on board.

"The Gaylord people really know what they are doing," Proehl said. "It is a premiere place for meetings. And given the theme of the hotel and what we do, it's a great fit."

"We think it's a tremendous hotel and convention center. There is nothing like it in Texas," Proehl said.

The Texan opened on April 2 with visits by the mayor of Grapevine, the CEO of Gaylord Entertainment Company and around 10 thousand people who came to see it. The hotel was sold out the entire weekend.

In the shadow of the gigantic resort, the Silver Lake Marina glimmers on the water. Owner Steve Berry is optimistic about the economic impact the newly opened Texan will have on his business. He has invested in extra jet skis, is building a party boat and has pontoon boats ready for the growth expected in rentals. There is a convenience store and a seasonal burger stand, which reopens May 1. Berry is looking to fill many job openings created by the expected increase in tourism.



K.C. Jones/ Staff Photographer

The Texan (pictured above), Grapevine's new hotel and convention center, is expected to attract business from around the nation. Even local artists (left) see retail opportunities inside the Texan's gift shops.

"College students make up most of my staff. The marina is a fun environment to work in and I hope to hire many more students soon," Berry said. He will be employing cashiers, reservationists, gas attendants, and safety orientators, he said.

Having a mammoth first-class resort perched on the adjacent lake-front property has raised the bar for beautifying facades.

Silver Lake Marina redesigned their entrance to dress it up with landscaping and an expensive sign, Berry said.

Workers agreed the expensive upgrade to the entrance is a direct result of trying to keep appearances up as a result of the Gaylord's Texan development.

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Study abroad program offers more than study time away from campus

The life students find while studying abroad varies greatly from life on campus.

By Braden Howell
Skiff Staff

There is life outside the "Bubble." The "Bubble" is actually what students refer to as the "TCU Bubble." One could describe it as the immediate area surrounding campus, but it is not so much a physical place as it is a way of life.

Despite being located in Fort Worth, the "TCU Bubble" is separated from the community by invisible barriers. It mostly houses privileged students who know they are privileged, and whose motto is usually, "You can retake a class, but you can't relive a party."

However, some students choose to experience college life away from campus, and many students who participate in study abroad programs each semester find out that life in a foreign country bears hardly any resemblance to life inside the "TCU Bubble."

With language barriers to cross and different cultures to adapt to, there are many things a student must be prepared to do in order to have an enjoyable study abroad experience. Nevertheless, as junior photography major David Johnson said the most important thing is to leave the TCU style of life behind.

"Come with an open mind," said Johnson, who is studying in Florence. "You will see things Texas doesn't offer, and plus, it really sucks when you're out somewhere and you hear some stuck up American talking about how the USA is so much better."

Living in a different country means adjusting to a different lifestyle, and for almost all students studying abroad, transportation without a car is an entirely new concept.

"Pack your walking shoes because you will walk practically everywhere," Johnson said. "Which is great, because I've lost all the freshman beer

weight I put on."

While walking everywhere is a welcome change, living in a country that has an entirely different language may take a little longer to get used to. Ceci Lang, a junior international marketing and Spanish major studying in Seville, Spain, suggests that even if you are familiar with the language of the country you are living in, you should research some popular phrases of the people before you go.

"I can speak Spanish pretty well because my mom is from Lima, Peru, but there are definitely some things they say that I should

have known before I came," said Lang. "One day I was in a store looking at some clothes and it was really warm, so I just made a comment to one of the ladies and said, 'estoy caliente,' which is supposed to mean 'I'm a little hot.'"

"Little did I know that here, that term means, 'I am horny.' No wonder she looked at me strange," Lang said.

In addition to trying to overcome the language barrier, Johnson said it is a good idea to travel any chance you get, and do things you never thought you could because you will "shock the hell out of yourself."

For some students studying in London, a popular TCU study abroad location where language is hardly a barrier, the opportunity to do something to shock the hell out of them actually came about while they were traveling.

Adam Carson, a junior marketing major studying in London, said he and his friends traveled to Scotland and went to Loch Ness, where they learned a Scottish tradition that requires skinny dipping in the freezing water which, Carson said, is just above the temperature to avoid hypothermia if you jump in and get out and immediately re-clothe. Carson jumped at the chance to "shock the hell out of" himself. Literally.

"Me and this guy from Pennsylvania put down some whiskey and decided we wanted in 'the club' and did it while being photographed by girls that walked down with us," Carson said. "It was a memory for a lifetime because when you go under you're not sure if you're heart is still beating or not. The tour guide and other locals assured us that they had all done it and we were in no danger or I would have never taken the dive."

When not trying to do the outrageous, Carson said study abroad students, especially those who will study in London, need to be careful with their finances. In the current market, he said you get about one British pound for about \$2, so when you have to nearly double the price of everything that is already expensive, it cuts down on your purchases.

Of course, you have hang on to your money in order to spend it, and Johnson said one of the biggest problems in Italy is pick-pockets. He said students who will be going abroad need to know they should not carry all their money around with them at all times, keep all money in their front pockets, and keep all personal items extremely close to their bodies.

And he speaks from experience.

In Florence he was having a conversation with a man he had just met, when all of the sudden the man punched him in the stomach and tried to steal his bracelet. The man was shocked when Johnson retaliated, and after a brief scuffle and plenty of yelling, he said the man finally decided to run off, unsuccessful. Johnson was glowing.

"I was taking out crime in Florence one pick-pocket at a time," Johnson said. Apparently, the people of Venice had yet to hear of

Johnson's crime-stopping ability. Or maybe they just didn't care.

"I was at Carnevale (in Venice) taking pictures, and when I walked out of the square, I noticed my small silver phone was gone," Johnson said. "I really could do nothing but just laugh and say 'shit happens.'"

No matter where a student chooses to study abroad, they will definitely be living in a different culture, and with so many things to be prepared for, and such a different lifestyle to adapt to, Johnson has a short list of do's and don'ts.

"Travel! If you're studying in one city, spend every weekend out of town. Every place has something different to offer," Johnson said. "Don't stay in your flat the whole time, and don't sleep. Get out there and meet people. Community living is new to most Americans, and no, it is not like living in dorms."

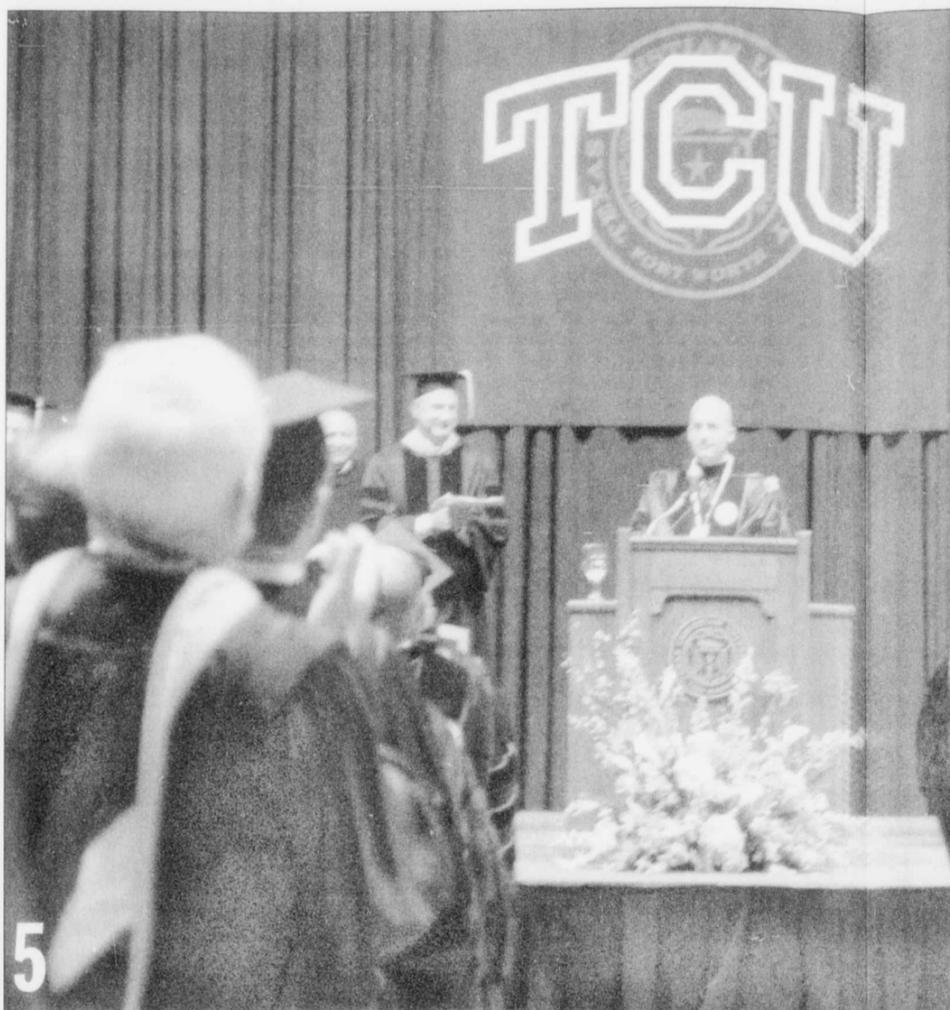
"And most importantly, don't waste all your time being wasted! Europeans don't booze like typical college students, and believe me, site-seeing hung-over is not fun."

Although there is much to take into consideration, study abroad students say that there is no better opportunity to grow as a person, and learn about the world, and yourself. After all, living abroad offers students the many things the "TCU Bubble" does not.

"For any students contemplating studying abroad, all I can say is do it," Lang said. "You definitely go through a little culture shock, but I think it's good to get out of the 'TCU Bubble' and experience something different for a bit. Besides, it makes you realize what little things you take for granted, and that makes your college experience so much better."

For students who choose to study abroad, the college experience would not be complete without a semester away from the "TCU Bubble."

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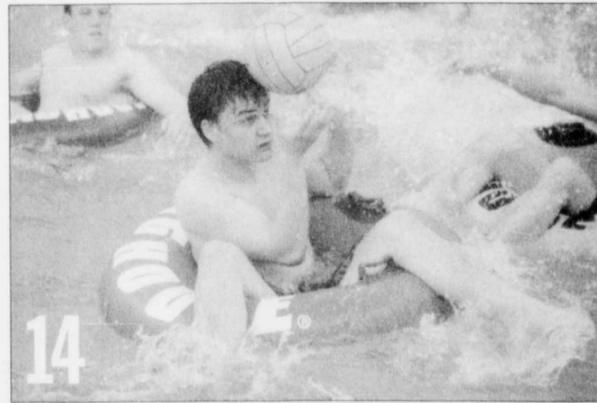
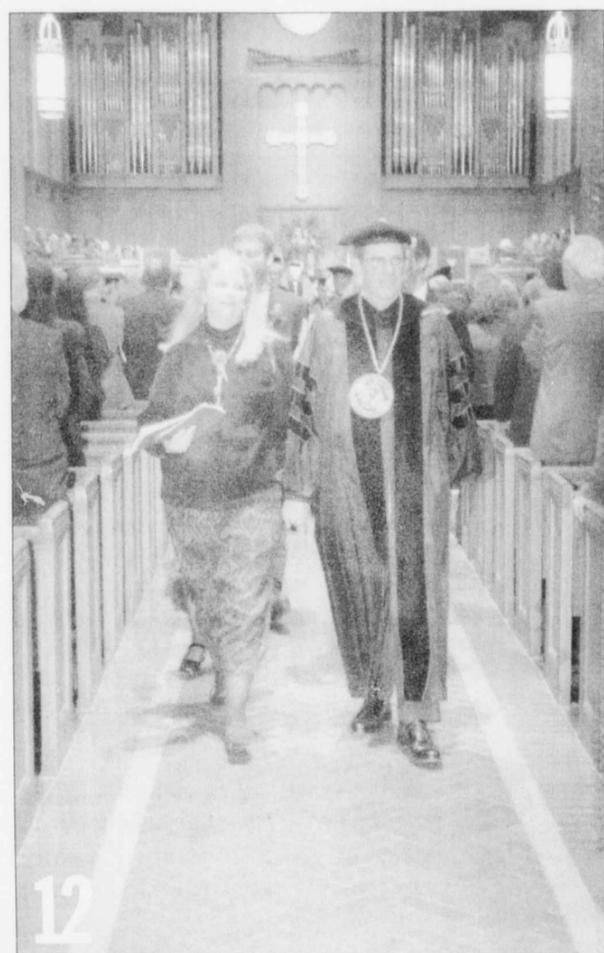
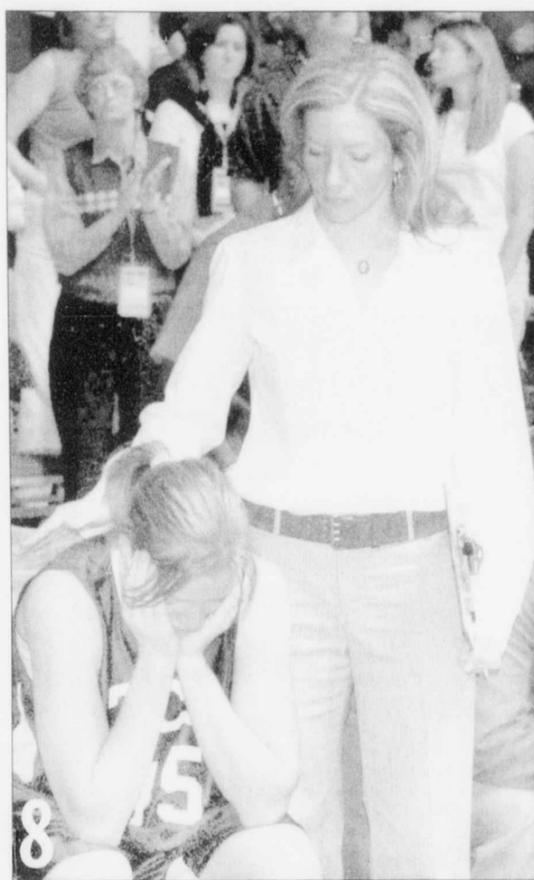


1. (Photo by Ty Halasz) Super Sport, a member of John West's All-American Frisbee Dogs, performed at halftime of the TCU-Charlotte men's basketball game Feb. 26. 2. (Photo by Stephen Spillman) Chancellor Victor Boschini support in the search for her mother at a press conference held at the Fort Worth police station downtown Feb. 4. 4. (Photo by Holly Elder) Students enjoyed wintery fun with real imported snow at the Frog Freeze Fest Jan. 21. 5. Worth Zoo, gets a better view at a Foster Hall social March 1. 7. (Photo by Ty Halasz) Provost William Koehler will leave big shoes to fill when he retires next month. 8. (Photo by Ty Halasz) Assistant Coach Tonya Benton consol March 30 in the Pepsico Recital Hall. 10. (Photo by Ty Halasz) Provost-designate Nowell Donovan, the geology department chairman, speaks as a candidate to an assembly of faculty and staff Feb. 4. 11. (Photo by Raveen Bhasin) lasz) Brite Divinity School President Newell Williams was inaugurated Jan. 22 at University Christian Church. 13. (Photo by Ty Halasz) The Phi Gamma Delta fraternity won this year's Alpha Delta Pi Mocktail Blendoff on Feb. 12.

IN REVIEW

April 23, 2004

7



Chancellor Victor Boschini eyes the ceremonial scepter at his inauguration March 31. 3. (Photo by Sarah Greene) Allen Walker, daughter of former professor Laura Lee Crane, thanked the community and law enforcement officials for their support at the Polar Bear Freeze Fest Jan. 21. 5. (Photo by Toni Sanders) Chancellor Boschini receives a standing ovation from nearly 600 faculty members after his inauguration speech. 6. (Photo by Raven Bhasin) Kanga, a Hyacinth Macaw from the Fort Worth Zoo, visits the campus. 7. (Photo by Raven Bhasin) Kanga, a Hyacinth Macaw from the Fort Worth Zoo, visits the campus. 8. (Photo by Raven Bhasin) Kanga, a Hyacinth Macaw from the Fort Worth Zoo, visits the campus. 9. (Photo by Sarah Chacko) Sir James Galway leads more than 400 flute players in a short exercise during a master class at the Recreation Center Feb. 2. 10. (Photo by Raven Bhasin) Junior political science major Andrew Norman and senior political science major Cole Bryan literally "chill in the pool" at the Frog Polar Bear Freeze Fest at the Recreation Center Feb. 2. 12. (Photo by Ty Hamer) Freshman entrepreneurial management major Colin Hamer takes a pass at a water polo match Feb. 24 in the Recreation Center. 14.

RELIGION

From page 1

and compassion because their sexuality is not chosen and is often a trial. Gays should lead a life of chastity just as other unmarried people should, the Catechism concludes.

The United Methodist Church also affirms the rights and liberties of homosexuals. A practicing, self-avowed homosexual cannot be ordained, though. The General Conference of the United Methodist Church sets forth these standards in the Book of Discipline.

"There's some ambiguity on how things are interpreted, of course," said the Rev. Brian Young at the Wesley Foundation at TCU.

"It's not an easy issue. Even things that seem very clear may not be clear in other people's eyes. The church is struggling, as everyone is, but there's open discussion and dialogue about it."

The church and the people within the church are not of a single mind."

The Southern Baptist Convention, the largest of the Baptist bodies in the United States, holds that marriage was created by God for one man and one woman for life, said Emily Quesenberry with the TCU Baptist Student Ministries.

"Hopefully, every church would be friendly and welcoming and loving," Quesenberry said.

But homosexuality is outside of the realm of God's plan, she said. A homosexual act is a sin just like premarital sex, she said.

Scott Ward, a second-year graduate student of music performance, said, "For every single denomination, there's that many different views on sexuality. I actually admire churches that can make a decision as a denomination. I think denominations are afraid to make a decision because they don't want to alienate someone."

"It's all a matter of interpretation." Freshman music education major Tricia Tedford agreed.

"Every church is different and every person has a different interpretation of the Bible and what's in it," she said.

The problem in almost any religion is that people want to rely on Scripture, said Daryl Schmidt, chairman of the TCU religion department.

"It's not adequate to hide behind Scripture," he said.

The Bible and early Christians were against war and capitalism, he said, and yet these are accepted in our world today.

"There's no such thing as a consistent literalist," Schmidt said.

Culture changes, and the understanding of things also changes, including the understanding of what is set forward in religious doctrines, he said.

Julius Tsai, a TCU religion professor with a specialty in Eastern religions, called the struggle over homosexuality a "grapple with the rhetoric of purity." Christians are not the only ones dealing with such hard questions, he said.

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BASEBALL

From page 10

the team thus far, and it's helping the Frogs keep their focus in light of the upcoming tournament, said senior pitcher Robbie Findlay.

"I think now the team is coming together," Findlay said. "At first we were inconsistent, but now things are panning out nicely. When we go out onto the field we now go out there as a team."

Despite early losses this season, the Frogs have pulled themselves together to rally through the end of their schedule, Schlossnagle said.

"I think we're three or four games off pace of where we ought to be," he said. "We got off to a slow start this season, starting with a 1-4 record but I'm pleased with how things have been going, especially this past week. Hopefully we can pick up the pace here at the end."

This season, every player is doing his part to help, and not letting a single thing go to their head during

the final weeks, players said.

"There's some new guys who are really stepping up this year and making a difference," Findlay said. "We know what's at stake."

As the final weeks of the season bear down, tension and excitement is high.

"I think the team as a whole feels confident and excited about regional tournament," Duran said. "We're anxious."

Important factors such as teamwork and drive have brought together a highly-determined team this season, Findlay said. At each and every practice players are supportive of each other and give it their all, he said.

"Now that the team has really come together, it's a total team effort every time we play," Findlay said. "We're hitting well and the bullpen is strong. I feel this season will turn out well."

The Frogs will begin a three-game series with St. Louis, with the series' opening game at 7 p.m. Friday in Lupton Stadium.

Ryan Claunch
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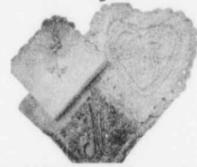
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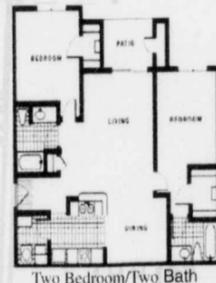
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- Man on Fire-R (fri-sun): 12:45, 4:00, 7:25, 10:35, (mon-thurs): 1:30, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00
- Clifford's Really Big Movie-G (fri-sun): 12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7:05, (mon-thurs): 1:00, 2:55, 4:50, 7:05
- Kill Bill Volume 2-R (fri-sun): 1:25, 4:35, 7:45, 10:40, (mon-thurs): 1:05, 4:05, 7:00, 10:10
- The Punisher-R (fri-thurs): 1:10, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
- Connie and Carla-PG13 (fri-thurs): 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
- ALAMO-PG13 (fri-thurs): 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15, (mon-thurs): 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:15
- Girl Next Door-R (fri-sun): 2:00, 5:00, 10:30, (mon-thurs): 2:00, 5:00, 10:20
- The Whole Ten Yards-PG 13 (fri-thurs): 9:10
- Hellboy-PG 13 (fri-thurs): 7:40
- Ella Enchanted-PG (fri-thurs): 4:40, 10:00
- Johnson Family Vacation-PG13 (fri-thurs): 2:35, 5:10, 7:55, 10:20
- A Walk Tall-PG13 (fri-sun): 3:00, 8:00, (mon-thurs): 2:30, 8:00
- The Prince and Me-R (fri-sun): 12:35, 3:15, 10:20, (mon-thurs): 5:15, 10:20
- Home on the Range-R (fri-sun): 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:35
- The Passion of the Christ-R (fri-thurs): 1:55, 7:10
- The Lady Killers-R (fri-thurs): 9:45

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HYMAN
From page 10

his tone to one of seriousness. "Actually, I think most people in administration guard what they say due to the nature of the position and the information people are after."

Prior to coming to TCU, Hyman was the athletics director at Miami (Ohio), and Garland praised him for his accomplishments at the school.

"He was an outstanding athletics director," Garland said. "He hired great coaches, promoted gender equity, and built strong relationships with the fans and the student athletes. We were very sorry when TCU lured him away."

The Horned Frogs, however, couldn't be happier.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said he admires Hyman's integrity, and that he truly considers the students as student-athletes versus athletes who happen to be students; an idea that Garland seconded, saying Hyman improved student-athlete graduation rates during his tenure at Miami (Ohio).

"The bottom line is Hyman is a quality individual in a field where I do not often see 'quality,'" Boschini said in an e-mail. "He truly sees the

athletic department as part of the university versus the university as part of the athletic department."

Hyman said the athletic department wants to continue to help the university accomplish its goals, but he said the specific accomplishments

"I don't look at the micro, I look at the macro. People feel as if they are making an investment and people are proud of the athletic department. All the wins and losses run together over time."

Eric Hyman
athletics director

are not as important as the overall well being of the athletic department and the university.

"I don't look at the micro, I look at the macro," Hyman said. "People feel they are making an investment and people are proud of the athletic department. All the wins and losses run together over time."

It's developing a relationship with individuals and working together that is the most important."

One of his relationships that will be getting even more attention in the future is with Boschini. Boschini will be taking over the athletic duties of the provost and after June 1, he said Hyman will be reporting only to his office.

Fortunately for the university, the healthy skepticism Hyman has toward the media does not carry over into his view of the future, although he admitted the future will be different from what people have become accustomed to.

"A lot has been accomplished, and we probably won't continue to make the giant strides we did in the past," Hyman said. "Our goal will be to continue to have all our programs competing at the highest level."

Garland, however, is worried about just one thing when it comes to Hyman's ability to keep TCU athletics performing at the highest level.

"We are a little concerned about his cowardly streak," Garland said with a hint of sarcasm masked by honesty. "He did refuse to play us in the GMAC Bowl."

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SCHOBEL
From page 10

would rather keep himself steady." Schobel started out his athletic career as a baseball player and has always been a good athlete, Mary Jane said.

"He always enjoyed football, but by the time he was in junior high he knew he had to play," she said.

It was natural that Schobel went into athletics because he is built for it and a lot of his family members were athletes, Mary Jane said.

"He always excelled and did well," she said. "We're really proud of him."

During high school and college, Aaron, Matt and Schobel had a short chance play football together, Aaron said.

Growing up the cousins "just messed around in the yard," Aaron said.

To prepare for the draft, Schobel has been working out at a training facility in Houston this semester along with other potential draft picks from all over the nation, Mary Jane said. He has also been watching what he is eating, she said.

During Schobel's workout in Houston, Lindsay has been attending

TCU and their son has been with his grandparents, Lindsay said.

"I can't wait for this to be over," she said. "It's been very stressful."

The time in January and February spent in Houston Schobel worked out at least five hours a day, six days a week, he said.

"The hardest part was being away from (Lindsay and Dayne) and trying to go back and forth," Schobel said.

The NFL Combine, where potential draftees go to perform for scouts, was stressful for Schobel, he said.

"It was like a meat market," Schobel said. "They take you height, weight and watch us work out."

The Dallas Cowboys also gave Schobel the chance to work out with the team one weekend this semester. They bring in players from all over the Fort Worth-Dallas area.

"I wasn't there to learn from them, it was more they were learning about me," Schobel said.

When the draft is over the new football players will probably have to go to their respective teams Monday or Tuesday, then stay for three or four weeks for a mini camp.

After watching Aaron and Matt deal with the transition into the NFL, Mary Jane said Lindsay and Schobel will probably rent a townhouse or house when they first move.

"He's lucky to have Aaron and Matt to learn from," Mary Jane said. "He can watch what they did right and wrong."

If Aaron and Schobel have to play against each other Aaron said he doesn't think it would be a big deal, because they play on the same side.

"I would watch from the sideline while he plays," he said.

If Schobel ever had to play against Matt, a tight end, Bo thinks it will be fun and exciting, he said, and he would be happy to see Aaron if their teams ever played against each other.

Dayne, as well as the other grandsons, will probably be pressured to attend TCU when they come of age, Schobel said. Dayne knows the name of football players that hang out with Schobel, he said.

"Dayne has grown up around athletics," she said. "He is good friends with the players and coaches."

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STATS
From page 10

best receiving tight end in the league. He is not prototypical size for tight end, but is a surprisingly good blocker. He does have that University of Miami attitude and cockiness and is considered to be slightly immature.

Skiff Projected draft position: 5, Washington. The Redskins will look to add a play maker on offense, and Winslow is that guy.

Best of the Rest: Ben Troupe, Florida. Ben Watson, Georgia.

Talent Grade: C. After Winslow, Troupe and Watson the talent begins to sag. Winslow and Troupe will go in round one and Watson will go in

the second. The rest will scatter to late first day or second day picks.

Offensive Line

Robert Gallery, Iowa
Height: 6'7" Weight: 323 lbs.

The Iowa left tackle will be the safest pick in the draft. Even safer than Manning, He can anchor an offensive line and was a dominant exterior blocker. The left tackle spot is the most important position on the line (unless you're the Falcons and you have Michael Vick to protect) and Gallery will solidify that spot for any team that drafts him. He is a Jonathan Ogden type with exceptional size and strength.

Skiff Projected draft position: 2, currently held by Oakland but look for Cleveland to try and move up to

the top 5 to try and get him.

Best of the Rest: Shance Andrews, Arkansas. Jake Grove, Virginia Tech.

Talent Grade: B. The offensive line position is solid this year. There are quality linemen that can be picked up at any spot in the first day of the draft.

Defensive Line

Will Smith, Ohio State
Height: 6'2" Weight: 267 lbs.

After seeing the Carolina Panthers come out of no where to the Super Bowl, every one wants to create a defensive line similar to theirs. Smith can be that type of defensive lineman too. He is a dominant pass rusher who was the anchor of the Buckeyes defensive line. He's strong and a very fast end who plays well against the

run. He has the body to continue to grow and become bigger. His team will wish he was 2-4" taller, but production is production.

Skiff Projected draft position: 8, Falcons. The Falcons need to improve the defensive side of the ball and Smith will be a great start.

Best of the Rest: Vince Wilfork, Miami (Fla), Will Smith, Ohio State. Kenechi Udezue, USC.

Talent Grade: B. There is a lot of high end defensive lineman in this draft and an abundance of talent throughout.

Linebacker

D.J. Williams, Miami (Fla)
Height: 6' Weight: 250 lbs.

This year's draft is missing that Brian Urlacher, LaVar Arington type of 6'5", 250 lbs linebacker. But Williams is the safer pick between the two Miami linebackers, the other

being Jonathan Vilma. Williams is a great run stopping linebacker and has good speed for his size. He started off as a fullback before moving to linebacker. He is a natural athlete and will make an impact at the linebacker position.

Skiff Projected draft position: 19, Minnesota. With teams adding more of a defensive attitude, the Vikings will look to add more pressure from the outside.

Best of the Rest: Vilma, Miami (Fla.), Daryl Smith, Georgia Tech. Karlos Dansby, Auburn.

Talent Grade: C-. No real cornerstone linebacker to find, and after the first 5 linebackers are taken it is slim pickens.

Defensive Back

Sean Taylor, Miami (Fla.)
Height: 6'2" Weight: 228 lbs.

When you think of Taylor, think

of Roy Williams or Ed Reed but with coverage ability. Taylor is the best defensive player in this draft and could possibly be one of the top three players in this draft. He has exceptional size at the safety position looking more like a linebacker. Many people have graded Taylor as high as Williams and feel he could be the best safety in the league by half way through his second season.

Skiff Projected draft position: 6, Lions. Lions will take the best player available, and unless the Redskins pick Taylor he'll be a Lion.

Best of the Rest: Chris Gamble, Ohio State. DeAngelo Hall, Virginia Tech.

Talent Grade: B. Taylor, Hall and Gamble are impact corners and can not forget Dunta Robinson from South Carolina. There is solid potential at defensive back through at least the fourth round.

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*Kill Bill Vol 2-R: 12:45, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15	*Kill Bill Vol 2-R: 4:00, 7:15, 10:15
*Man on Fire-R: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00	*Man on Fire-R: 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
The Alamo-PG13: 12:30, 3:10, 7:10, 10:05	Mavericks-G: 8:30
*Punisher-R: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10	The Alamo-PG13: 4:10, 10:05
	*Punisher-R: 5:00, 7:30, 10:10
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*Kill Bill Vol 2-R: 12:45, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15	*Kill Bill Vol 2-R: 4:00, 7:15, 10:15
Mavericks-G: 6:00	*Man on Fire-R: 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
*Man on Fire-R: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00	The Alamo-PG13: 4:10, 7:10, 10:05
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Hyman's approach keeps him out of the limelight — just how he likes it

Low-key athletics director Eric Hyman cautiously stays behind the scenes.

By Braden Howell
Skiff Staff

The world of college athletics is dominated by high-profile coaches and players who are always in the spotlight of the media.

However, sometimes a central figure remains elusive, only appearing every now and then, and never in any depth. In some cases, it could be the fault of a reporter for never fully reporting an issue, but in the case of athletics director Eric Hyman, it has more to do with skepticism.

Hyman acknowledged he can be skeptical of the media and difficult to interview on occasion, depending on the information people are trying to acquire. Regardless, he does not perceive it as a bad thing.

"I'd call it healthy skepticism," Hyman said. "I represent the university, not a person or a sport, and because of that, there are some things I just can't talk about due to university policy.

"People always want to know, for instance, how long a contract is, or what the stipulations in a contract are, and it's policy not to talk about those things and people take it the wrong way."

Hyman has been involved in a number of situations with the media since being named athletics director of TCU in 1997 that force him to practice his policy of healthy skepticism. The most recent situation was in April 2003, involving Hyman's candidacy for the athletics director position at the University of Tennessee and Gary Lundy, a sports-writer for the Knoxville News Sentinel.

Lundy covered the Tennessee athletics director search for the News Sentinel and said Hyman was the only candidate he never talked to.

"I've been in this business for about 25 years, and I believe he is the only athletics director to never return a call," Lundy said. "I put in probably 30 calls to him, and never got a response."

Hyman said he is usually protective when he is unfamiliar with a person, and that in this particular case there

were factual errors in the story, and, having never dealt with Lundy, he was skeptical.

"Until I get to know someone and until I can be confident they will be fair and objective, I am a little guarded," Hyman said.

Almost a year later, Lundy said he has no ill feelings toward Hyman but said he just doesn't understand.

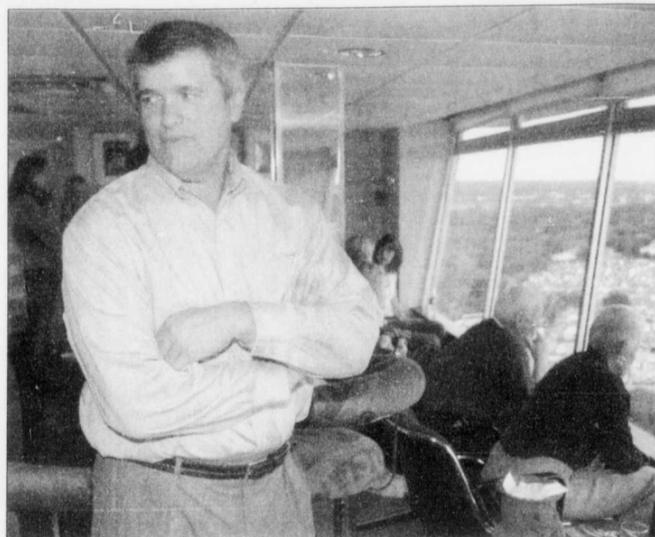
"I'm not losing any sleep over it," Lundy said. "It's his right to not call me back, but if something was wrong with the story then that's all the more reason to call and discuss it."

Although Hyman's skepticism was something new to Lundy, it is something past colleagues of Hyman are well aware of.

"Eric Hyman is skeptical of the media?" Miami (Ohio) University President James Garland asked rhetorically.

"I am stunned Eric is skeptical of the media; he must have acquired that after he went to TCU," Garland said, laying on the sarcasm even thicker, before changing

(More on HYMAN, page 9)



Ty Halasz/Staff Photographer

Greatness has followed athletics director Eric Hyman to Virginia Military Institute, Miami University (Ohio) and now TCU. Hyman recently was named top AD in the D-1 West division by the National Collegiate Director's Association.

Family business

Schobel prepares for long-awaited NFL draft

Bo Schobel is following in his family's footsteps going from a TCU jersey to an NFL one.

By Crystal Forester
Skiff Staff

It may not be easy to follow the path of others, but Bo Schobel takes the next step this weekend.

Schobel, who has two cousins who already play in the National Football League, is expected to be picked No. 2 in the fourth round by the San Diego Chargers, according to ESPN Insider.

His cousins, Aaron, a second round pick by Buffalo in 2001, and Matt, a third round pick by Cincinnati in 2002, putting the Horned Frog jersey aside to don an NFL jersey.

Schobel follows what is becoming a tradition of TCU football players. His father, Bob, was the first in the family to play for the Horned Frogs and graduated in 1972. Aaron was recruited by TCU in 1996. Matt followed his brother in 1998 after a year at Texas A&M. Schobel finally jumped on the bandwagon in 1999, redshirting his freshman year.

"There was no way he would go anywhere else," Bo's mother, Mary Jane, said.

Anticipation and excitement mixed in with a little bit of nervousness is the way Schobel said he is feeling before the draft.

There is no way to tell what round Schobel will be picked in, if he is even picked at all, because of the way the teams change their positions in the draft.

Head football coach Gary Patterson said.

"Half of the battle is getting there," he said. "Over the past 25 years guys you thought would go early, didn't go."

The fact that Aaron and Matt went in high in rounds may be a sign that Schobel will go early, Patterson said.



Stephen Spillman/Photo Editor

Defensive end Bo Schobel looks to join his two cousins at the next level in an NFL uniform.

"It all comes down to who's picking and in what round," he said.

Aaron says he definitely thinks Schobel will be drafted, but still has some things he needs to work on.

"I think he will go anywhere from the second to fourth round," he said. "This is a strong draft and that's working against him."

Schobel predicts he will be picked in the second to third round of the draft.

Besides playing football, Schobel has a wife, Lindsay, and a son, Dayne, 3, and graduated

with a secondary education degree in December.

Schobel and Lindsay are high school sweethearts and were married March 3, 2000.

Lindsay says they are very nervous about the draft and she has not started to look for a job, even though she graduates May 8.

"We have no idea what to expect," she said. "We don't even know where we will be living."

Although everything is up in the air right now Lindsay said she feels pretty sure he will be drafted.

To stay close to their hometown, Columbus, Lindsay said she would like Schobel to be drafted by Dallas.

Schobel doesn't care where he plays professional football as long as he gets to play, he said.

Schobel is an intelligent football player who is big and fast, Patterson said.

"He's played a lot of downs for us," he said. "Only time will tell how he will do in the NFL."

Schobel turned out better numbers for TCU than his cousins did when they played here.

His family and friends consider Schobel to be quiet, laid back and family oriented.

"He comes to work and then goes home to his wife and kid," Patterson said.

Schobel thinks of football as a job, and is a competitive person, Mary Jane said.

"He saw Aaron and Matt make names for themselves and he tries really hard to do the same," she said.

Mary Jane said her son is not a high-profile person.

"He's not a person who yells and screams," she said. "He

(More on SCHOBEL, page 9)

Top players at each position

Quarterback

Ben Roethlisberger, Miami (Ohio)

Height: 6'4" Weight: 241 lbs.

He isn't the "safe pick" Eli Manning is. But Ben "Ohio" (dubbed so, because Roethlisberger is just horrendous to write out) is big enough, strong enough and smart enough to be a franchise quarterback in the NFL. Ben "Ohio" has only been a quarterback for five years and has tremendous upside being as good as he is with so little experience. ESPN's drafter tracker says that Eli will most likely be taken in front of Ben "Ohio," but they feel that Ben "Ohio" will be the better quarterback.

Skiff Projected draft position: 4. Currently the Giants pick, but look for them to try and move up for Manning.

The best of the Rest: Eli Manning, Ole Miss. Philip Rivers, North Carolina State.

Talent Grade: B, after the big three QBs get drafted the talent level begins to drop. J.P. Losman of Tulane will be the next to go, but who is next after that?

Running Back

Steven Jackson, Oregon State

Height: 6'2" Weight: 231 lbs.

Jackson is a power back. Period. End of story. He is very similar to Stephen Davis from the Carolina Panthers. And after running a 4.55 in the 40-yard dash at the combine, Jackson solidified himself as the best running back in the draft. He is a dual-threat back with good hands. Once Jackson gets moving downhill he is a very tough player to bring down. He is the best bet in the draft to jump into an offensive system and carry a full load.

Skiff Projected draft position: 17. Pick is held currently by the Denver Broncos, and after shipping Clinton Portis off to Washington will look to grab another running back to fill the void.

The best of the rest: Kevin Jones, Virginia Tech.

Talent Grade: C+, There is no true franchise running back, and there hasn't been since TCU's own LaDanian Tomlinson was drafted by the Chargers. There is a lot of second-third round talent.

Wide Receiver

Larry Fitzgerald, Pittsburgh

Height: 6'2" Weight: 221 lbs.

If you liked Corey Rogers and Andre Johnson, Fitzgerald is better. Fitzgerald has been called the anti-Owens, as in Terrel Owens, because of his professional attitude to the way he plays. He is a big play receiver, but lacks blazing speed (but he still ran a 4.47 in the 40). Note to the wise though, they said the same thing about Jerry Rice. Fitzgerald can step in and be a top receiver on 80 percent of the teams in the NFL. He is a team player and has outstanding potential.

Skiff Projected draft position: 3, Arizona. Fitzgerald was Denny Green's ball boy when he was coaching Minnesota and would love to take a top receiver to help Josh McNown.

Best of the Rest: Roy Williams, Texas. Mike Williams, USC (if they let him in the draft), Lee Evans, Wisconsin.

Talent Grade: A+, This draft is DEEP at receiver. There are four or five receivers who could potentially go in the first round.

Tight End

Kellen Winslow II, Miami (Fla)

Height: 6'3" Weight: 247 lbs.

Winslow is the son of a former Hall of Fame tight end Kellen Winslow, who is arguably the greatest tight end in NFL history. And the younger Winslow could be better. He is a better version of the Giants Jeremy Shockey and could enter the league as the

(More on STATS, page 9)

Team effort has TCU headed to the top

Coming off a road victory over a ranked opponent, the Horned Frogs have more than Conference USA play on their mind.

By Ryan Claunch
Skiff Staff

Fresh off a win over No. 13 Oklahoma, the TCU baseball team looks to continue its current streak of success throughout the rest of the season.

With its recent bout of success,

the team's energy is high and more determined than ever to keep up the pace.

"This past week we played really well," head coach Jim Schlossnagle said. "Tuesday's win over Oklahoma is definitely a springboard for us as far as the rest of the season goes."

One thing the Frogs are trying to do is to keep their goals firmly planted and to avoid getting ahead of themselves.

"The College World Series is the big picture, and we don't need to look too far ahead. We need to keep our focus more on doing well at the regional tournament and getting to the NCAA Tournament," Schlossnagle said.

Freshman shortstop German Duran believes everything the team has gone through this year only adds to their experience.

"We've done pretty well so far," he said. "We won some tough

games and lost some that we shouldn't have, but we've learned from these as the season has gone along."

Duran believes the continued improvement that comes with each and every game plays a big factor in the team's success.

The strong bond created through determination and teamwork has really shown through for

(More on BASEBALL, page 8)



Stephen Spillman/Staff Photographer

Freshman shortstop German Duran is a force up the middle with his glove and at the top of the lineup with his bat.

Forecast
Today
 High: 80; Low: 65
 Cloudy
Saturday
 High: 73; Low: 58
 Thunderstorms

On This Day
1564 — William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-on-Avon.
1616 — William Shakespeare died at the age of 52 in Stratford-on-Avon.

ETC.

Friday, April 23, 2004



Should Purple Poll be continued?

Yes 87 No 13

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.

Quigmans

by Hickerson



Francine's virtue is saved from a reckless advance with the deployment of her First-Date-Air-Bag.

Quigmans

by Hickerson



"I used to be a model, myself ... I was the 'before' guy."

Today's Horoscope

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To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.
Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 6 — You don't like to be yelled at, but on the other hand, if you can put up with a temperamental person, you could earn a bonus. Make it pay.
Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 7 — You're ready to go, but unfortunately you're slightly inhibited. There's something hanging over your head that must be dealt with. Then, go play.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6 — You're almost ready to begin a new creative endeavor. Your planning isn't quite complete, however. Do the homework.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — For the next several weeks, you'll have plenty of opportunities to get ahead. Commitment and dedication are required. Luckily, you have a lot of both.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 6 — You can count yourself as a winner if you can maintain the status quo. Others pester you to change your ideas, your home decor and everything else. Be open-minded, but maintain your high standards.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — Another person has worked to help you find the right answer. This isn't cheating. It's more like consulting an expert.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 6 — Somebody else is full of arguments about why you can't have whatever it is that you're fixated upon. That's ridiculous, as you know. Be patient.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 — A confidential talk with your partner will be productive. The more issues you resolve, the brighter your future looks.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — An in-

sight from somebody close to home can push you over the top. Increase your efficiency so that you can have more time to play with your family.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — It'll be easier to find what you're looking for over the next few weeks. You've laid the groundwork already. Now, all you have to do is probe a little deeper. Your proboscis is working just fine.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6 — The more you listen, the more the others respect and admire you. Advise them to save their money and pay off all their bills. If you all do that, you'll win big.
Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 7 — You're not quite the same wild and crazy person you were just a few days ago. This doesn't mean that you're out of the competition. Continue to study.

— courtesy of KRT

Today's Crossword

Today's crossword sponsored by

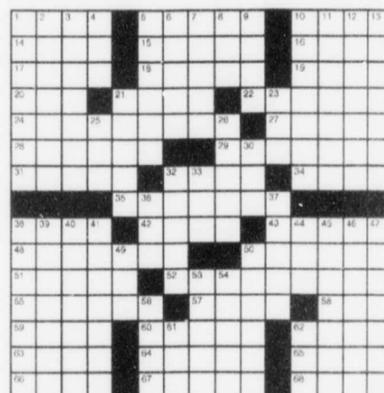


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- ACROSS**
 1 Small salamanders
 5 Uneven hairdos
 10 Ostentatious show
 14 Cylinder diameter
 15 As such
 16 Elliptical track
 17 Very dry, as champagne
 18 Speed checker
 19 Big name in building blocks
 20 Pro (for the time being)
 21 Rescue
 22 Erupted suddenly
 24 In a big hurry
 27 Tendency
 28 Intensify
 29 Emerge in waves
 31 Go in
 32 Coll. common
 34 Luminary
 35 Provide sustenance for
 38 Petty quarrel
 42 Dryer deposit
 43 Entertain
 48 Floor show
 50 Earth pigment
 51 Hit song of 1921, "The Sheik of"
 52 Moving stairway
 55 Caster piece
 57 Added benefit
 58 Took the gold
 59 African succulent
 60 Underway
 62 Magnitude
 63 Stopped
 64 Abrupt increase
 65 Two make two
 66 Notices
 67 Iron
 68 Outdo
- DOWN**
 1 Period of decline
 2 Crew leaders
 3 Satchmo's horn
 4 Solidity
 5 Ankle injury



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Thursday's Solutions



- 6 Lift
 7 Shakespearean forest
 8 Juliette Low's org.
 9 Medieval peasant
 10 North Star
 11 Pig out
 12 Purplish red
 13 Slow-but-sure one
 21 Austere
 23 Brit Co.
 25 Mimic
 26 Characteristic output
 30 Madison Ave.
 32 Rather
 33 Ode on a Grecian
 36 Miss University
 37 Greetings
 38 Egyptian beetles
 39 Monitored ex-con
- 40 Ear shell
 41 Pads
 44 culpa
 45 Disengage
 46 Slumbers
 47 Sincere
 49 Whiskey type
- 53 Reproduce like moss
 54 Stoppages
 56 Grate
 61 Mammalian coat
 62 Let tears fall

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 FOCUS Acoustic Contemporary Praise Wednesday nights in Sanctuary 7-8 p.m.
 Contact Ryan McCarthy Ryanm@christchapelbc.org
McKinney Memorial Bible Church
 4805 Arborlawn (at 3900 block South Hulen, 1 mile south of Bellaire)
 Services: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m., College Crew: 10:30 a.m. in Student Ministries building 4066 Kingsridge. 817-377-4702
www.mckinneychurch.com

Catholic
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New SuperFrog to be announced

Mascot hopefuls can expect a year of parades, pep rallies and football games if chosen to fill SuperFrog's shoes.

By Angelica Rosas
Staff Reporter

One might think a mascot with chiseled abs would have to fight the ladies off with a stick.

But according to some who have stepped in SuperFrog's shoes, it's the kids who attack, and with only a four inch space to see out of, surprise attacks are common.

"It's hard being SuperFrog because fans think you're invincible with all those muscles," said Jeff Tucker, head cheerleader coach. "The kids will come up and hit you

"You become Arnold Schwarzenegger the instant you put this on."

Jeff Tucker

head cheerleader coach



Sarah Chacko/Photo Editor
Lindsey paints a picture with attitude, enthusiasm, pride and spirit as part of her tryout skit Saturday afternoon.

because they think you're real."

Eight students auditioned Saturday to become one of the on-call students who cheer at most athletic events and the chosen students will be announced next week.

SuperFrog is easily the most recognizable reptile on campus and the most important, said Jeff Crane, assistant director of marketing.

Crane also told students to keep the identity of SuperFrog confidential. He said fans should be unaware that different students play SuperFrogs.

Students were instructed to project the image of invincibility while in costume. SuperFrog is known to execute muscle poses on command and give hi-fives to fans, Jeff Tucker, head cheerleader coach said.

Tucker warned of surprise attacks from excited fans. Since the head is attached, Tucker said being SuperFrog can be a painful experience with rough fans.

"You become Arnold Schwarzenegger the instant you put this on," Tucker said. "You want to try to be as upbeat and motivated as possible, you are an ambassador

for our school."

Students who make the cut will attend football games, men and women's basketball games and volleyball matches over the next year. They will also travel to away games and can appear on television if they give a good show on the sidelines, said Tucker.

"SuperFrog is the ultimate representation of TCU," said Michael, a freshman journalism major. "He is one of the most unique mascots in all of college sports."

Angelica Rosas
a.m.rosas@tcu.edu

Press excels after years in city

TCU's press allows for publication of some unique regional and Fort Worth history.

By Sarah Greene
Staff Reporter

Down the hill at the corner of Sandage Avenue and Bowie Street, a little brick building is nestled in the shadows.

The building has no sculptures or Internet cafes, only a sign that reads: TCU Press.

The TCU Press is the smallest in the nation in terms of staff, said Judy Alter, director of the press.

The press has a two-part mission: to increase the existing body of academic works and to bring prestige to the university, Alter said.

With a staff of two permanent employees, Alter and editor Susan Petty, plus Jim Lee, a volunteer acquisitions editor and Matt Kornegay, an intern from TCU, the press manages to publish six to 10 books a year.

It began in 1966 and operated on an informal basis until 1982. Alter has been director since 1987, and under her leadership the press has focused on the history and literature of the American West, Alter said.

It publishes a lot of regional and Fort Worth history, Alter said.

"It's a real contribution the university can make to its community," Alter said.

The press not only contributes to the surrounding area, it provides an alternative to the typical college environment.

"There is an audience that will go to a book signing that will not set foot in a football game," Alter said.

The press also helps students interested in the world of publishing by employing an intern, usually a TCU student, whenever possible. Kornegay, a senior English major, said interning with Alter and Petty has helped him gain real-world experience with uni-

"There is an audience that will go to a book signing that will not set foot in a football game."

Judy Alter

director of the TCU press

versity presses and the publishing industry.

Kornegay was able to follow one manuscript from beginning to end, editing, arranging photos and writing the catalogue copy for the boot jacket, Alter said.

The press publishes the Texas Tradition Series, which are outstanding works by Texan writers that deserve to stay in print, Alter said.

"Big time publishers in New York let works fall out of print when they stop making money, so we keep them in print so a big hunk of Texas literature is not lost," Alter said.

The press also publishes the Chaparral Series, which includes

works of historical fiction based on Texas history for young adults, Petty said.

One book in the Chaparral Series, "Muddy Banks," has sold over 20,000 copies, Alter said.

Books produced by the press have won awards from prestigious organizations such as the Western Writers of America, the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Texas Institute of Letters, Alter said.

The Texas Literary Hall of Fame inaugural event, sponsored by the Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library, will honor two of the press's authors and another will act as the master of ceremonies, Alter said.

When the press receives a manuscript, Alter and Petty do not just sit around and discuss whether or not they like the book. They send it off to an expert in the field of its subject. If they get a good review back, then they present it to the board, Alter said.

The Texas A&M University Press Consortium, which acts as a sales representative and a great marketing tool, distributes the works, Alter said.

Petty said in the future she would like to see the press produce more books.

Alter said she would like to see a larger staff and an endowment, but not too much expansion.

"It's better to be a major press in Texas than to be a small press in the nation," Alter said.

Sarah Greene
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