

Bomb explodes on TWA jet to Egypt

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—A luggage bomb exploded inside a TWA jetliner bound for Athens Wednesday, hurting an American man, two women and a baby three miles through the Greek skies to their deaths, officials reported.

A little-known Palestinian group claimed responsibility for the bombing, saying it was in retaliation for "American arrogance" in last week's U.S. military clash with Libya.

Seven other people, including four Americans, were injured aboard the Boeing 727, Flight 840 from Rome, which landed safely in Athens 10 minutes later with a gaping hole in its side.

The explosion occurred at floor level in rows 10 or 11 of the passenger cabin, blowing one seat out through the hole as the jet flew at 15,000 feet, TWA President Richard D. Pearson said in New York. A senior Athens airport security official, Panagiotis Christopoulos, had said the blast occurred in the cargo section below the seats.

The airline said 121 people were on board, including 111 passengers, seven crew members and three off-duty crew members. Earlier accounts said 124 were on board. The flight

originated in Los Angeles, stopped in New York and was scheduled to go on to Cairo, Egypt, after leaving Athens.

"There was a big bang and then the man beside me was blown out along with his seat," said Ibrahim al-Nami, 29, a Saudi Arabian passenger who was among the injured. "I felt myself being pulled out too and I hung on to my wife's seat beside me."

Three bodies were found on an unused Greek air force landing strip outside Argos, 120 miles southwest of Athens, Christopoulos said. Police said all four bodies were recovered.

He identified the dead as Alberto Stino, a Colombian-born American;

Dimitra Stylianopoulou, 52, a Greek; her daughter, Maria, 25; and her infant granddaughter. The baby's name and age were not given.

A reporter in Argos, Georgios Seraphim, told The Associated Press that a shepherd saw the bodies tumbling from the sky.

"The villagers found them—the partly dismembered body of an elderly man, a woman and a baby girl, about 18 months old, and a shattered plane seat," Seraphim said. He said "part of a leg" of a fourth person was found.

Christopoulos at one point said another man and another baby were

missing, but those reports turned out to be wrong.

The Palestinian group, Arab Revolutionary Cells, claimed responsibility for the bombing in an anonymous telephone call to a Western news agency in Beirut, Lebanon.

The caller, speaking in Palestinian-accented Arabic, said the Ezzedine Kassam Unit of the Arab Revolutionary Cells planted the bomb aboard the plane in retaliation for last week's U.S. military confrontation with Libya in the Gulf of Sidra.

It was a response "to American imperialist attacks against our Arab na-

tion and the Jamahiriya (Libya)," he said.

He denounced "American arrogance and attempts to dominate our Arab nation," and said his group would stage further attacks against U.S. targets "across the world."

There was no immediate official Libyan comment on the attack. But an employee of the government news agency in Tripoli, Libya, asserted that it had "nothing to do with us."

Ezzedine Kassam led a Palestinian revolution against the British mandate in Palestine in 1936. He was killed by the British.

Illegals arrested

HOUSTON (AP)—A mild Texas winter and Mexico's soured economy contributed to a 40-percent increase in illegal alien arrests along the Texas-Mexico border during the first three months of 1986, U.S. Border Patrol officials said.

The 196,549 illegal immigrants arrested in Texas this year from January through March were 56,916 more than the 139,633 arrested during the same period in 1985, officials said Tuesday.

"I don't know when it's going to slow down, if ever," said Border Patrol spokesman Joe Aubin of the El Paso sector. "Worsening economic conditions in Mexico is the only thing we can attribute it to. People are giving up and coming to the United States to find work."

Victor Villarreal, intelligence officer at the Laredo sector, attributed the heavy migration from Mexico to Texas' mild winter this year and noted that illegal aliens usually cross the most beginning in March.

"We've been just swamped," he said. "Some nights we're at saturation point with arrests."

First-quarter arrest increases were reported Tuesday by intelligence officers at all five border patrol sectors in Texas.

Aubin said the El Paso sector, the state's largest, had 80,055 arrests during the first quarter. That reflects a 49-percent increase over the same period in 1985, he said.

Records for the five Texas sectors show the Border Patrol made 57,149 arrests this January, compared with 35,849 in January 1985.

The total February arrest record was 68,542, up from the 43,779 arrests from last year. In March 1986, there were 70,948 arrests compared with 60,011 in March 1985.

Deputy Chief Jerry Hicks of the McAllen sector said most illegal immigrants are bound for metropolitan cities such as Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, where they can find construction jobs and easily blend into Hispanic neighborhoods.

Charles Elmore, intelligence officer for the Marfa sector, said the increased crossings in his area indicate how badly the illegals want to come to the United States.



Food service forum - Marriott managers Laura Doyle, John Rosenthal, Tom Schumaker and Stan Hudgins listen to comments from students concerning food service during a forum held Wednesday in the Student Center. Nine students attended the forum.

Brachman alters program

By Rusty McCaskey
Staff Writer

The Brachman Living and Learning program is being altered.

Starting next fall TCU academic classes will not be taught in Brachman Hall, and the committee system of the program is being improved to enhance participation.

Also, the mandatory participation rule in Brachman activities for residents will be changed to a volunteer basis.

The new Brachman committee system will be broken down into five committees—academics, social, recreational, emotional and spiritual and career development.

Each committee will consist of the students living on a pre-assigned wing.

"However, people can change committees if they don't like the one they are assigned to," said Norma Schram, Brachman Hall director.

"We feel that the volunteer system will make people want to get involved and improve our GPA," said Mike McDougal, president of the Brachman congress and a sophomore accounting major.

Students living in Brachman this semester were required to take a class in Brachman and work on at least one committee. Students who didn't want to take any of the classes being offered

were required to work on at least two committees.

"This year classes taught in Brachman have had the average enrollment of three Brachman students per class offered," said Roberta Pritchard, a Brachman professor and associate director of pre-major advising. "This is one of the reasons classes will not be taught in Brachman next year."

"The fact that people were not taking classes offered at Brachman meant that they were getting involved in our committee system," Schram said.

McDougal said he feels Brachman is changing, so changes should be made in its program.

"Whereas last year Brachman had a fairly even balance from freshmen to seniors, this year we are about 70 percent freshmen," he said.

"We had a lack of recruiting last year," McDougal said. "Brachman had a lot of empty rooms that TCU housing filled with freshmen."

"We want Brachman to fill up their dormitory, but any vacancies could be filled with incoming freshmen," said Kay Higgins, associate director of residential living.

"Brachman stresses involvement. A lot of freshmen were placed here and they got involved in the program. I think that they were not prepared to

have the discipline to carry a balance of social activities and academics in this environment," said Lawrence Haber, a junior psychology major and vice president of the Brachman congress.

Brachman had the lowest GPA on campus last semester. McDougal said he feels low grades and lack of participation in the academic program Brachman offers led to this change.

"I think that the change will work out better for everyone," Haber said. "It will give the students a chance to get more involved, and since the program is going to be on a volunteer basis for participation, it will give the students the choice to say 'I can't. I have got to study.'"

"Most people are misinformed about Brachman," said Ann Wilson, a senior broadcast journalism major who is also a vice president of the Brachman congress. "People hear rumors that everyone in Brachman is weird, but they don't realize everything we do."

"Brachman is more than a place to live," Wilson said. "We stress a family type of atmosphere where people can get involved in social, recreational and leadership programs."

The Brachman congress' goal is to fill the hall with people who want to live there.

State eases private school rules

DALLAS (AP)—New church and private school regulations criticized as infringements on religious freedoms will be relaxed, the State Board of Education chairman said.

Jon Brumley said Tuesday the relaxed rules were initiated by Jack Strong, chairman of the board's Committee on Students, after several board members met separately with church school organization leaders to try to find a more acceptable alternative.

The regulations approved by the board last month would have required teachers to have degrees from accredited schools and teach certain basic classes.

They drew stiff opposition from Christian education supporters who charged the rules would force small schools to close.

Although the tighter rules were approved last month, they can be modified next week at the board's monthly meeting because they have to be approved at three consecutive meetings, Brumley said.

"(Gov. Mark White) sure doesn't want to be hit by church fundamentalists, pastors, and parents for these regulations."

RONALD JOHNSON,
Accelerated Christian
Education

The new plan would require private schools to give their students standardized tests to prove they are being properly taught.

A final draft of the changes has not yet been sent to board members, Brumley said.

But "I think the new proposal will satisfy most of the people involved," he said.

The three Republican gubernatorial candidates have criticized the original standards, but a spokesman for Gov. Mark White said there was no pressure put on the Board of Education to ease the regulations.

A leader of the nation's largest Christian education firm predicted, however, that the issue would surface again after the November election. He said the modification may have come because of White's bid for reelection.

White has taken no public stand on the issue, but because members of the state board are appointed by the governor, the rules' opponents have tried to tie the issue to White politically.

Ronald Johnson, a top official of Accelerated Christian Education of Lewisville, the largest supplier of Christian school material in the country, said students using the Christian program will do well on standardized tests.

"I really think this is a political issue," Johnson said. "Right now Mark White is being hit by the coaches and band leaders for no pass, no play. He's being hit by the teachers for the competency testing. He sure doesn't want to be hit by church fundamentalists, pastors and parents for these regulations."

Proposed aid angers some

By Craig Winneker
Staff Writer

The United States' involvement in Nicaragua and the recent proposal for a \$100 million aid package for the contras has many TCU students talking.

Doug Dowler, a sophomore political science major, is opposed to giving the counter-revolutionary forces from Nicaragua any aid.

"I think funding for the contras is the wrong approach," Dowler said. "The contras are not a viable political or military force in Central America. Any money spent on them is a waste, and perpetuates the conflict at a low level of violence."

Greg Marcus, a sophomore pre-major, said he thinks funding should be a secondary approach.

"We should try diplomacy first, but if it doesn't work we should send the contras some money. I'm really bothered by the whole situation and really don't want to think about it anymore."

Many students are not fully aware of the situation and declined to comment. But others, like Robert Rathmell, a sophomore music major, voiced strong opinions.

"I believe in the sovereignty of the people to choose their own government. Capitalism doesn't work for everybody," Rathmell said. "Despite the fact that some liberties have been suspended, the overall health of the Nicaraguan nation has improved."

Ricardo Peres, a freshman music major, said he thinks the United States should not provide aid to the contras.

"I think that the United States has many internal problems it should worry about and leave other countries alone," Peres said. "The trouble in Nicaragua is their government's problem not yours."

Political science professor Michael Dodson, who has taught several courses on Latin American affairs, said he thinks Reagan's plan is the wrong approach.

"What the president is demanding seems excessive even to members of his own party," Dodson said. "I think that he will get less than he is asking for, but the House will pass the aid package when it comes to a vote. This is the worse thing that can happen."

Dodson said giving the contras aid would delay the advent of multilateral negotiations.

"Giving aid commits the United States to supporting a group of people who are utterly without credibility in Nicaragua and throughout Central America," he said. "They are hated."

Rathmell said he feels a more diplomatic approach is needed to resolve the Nicaraguan conflict.

"The United States needs to develop a more liberalized approach toward Communist countries," he said. "We should deal more economically and socially with them and less militarily. This approach worked in China."

Reagan's plan is not even solvent," Rathmell said. "He is not aiming to resolve the problem. He's aiming to prolong it. It's a Vietnam-like mentality."

Summer school brings a variety of students

By Yvonne Webb
Staff Writer

Some might associate summer school with catch-up work and failure redemption, but that is not always the case.

TCU summer school students range from older continuing education students to those students who live in the area but attend other schools, TCU Registrar John Deupree said.

Students attending summer classes at TCU can expect to see the traditional core requirements such as English, math, science and physical education.

For students looking for more excitement, TCU offers travel study courses through a number of its academic departments. Many of the programs offer both graduate and undergraduate credit.

Students interested in travel-study courses should consult the sponsoring department for each of the programs.

Summer housing for on-campus students will be held in Sherley Hall, which will be converted temporarily into a coed hall.

While the programming of events demands the attention of an entire programming council during the academic year, a summer program coordinator will be responsible for planning activities on campus during the summer sessions, said Ann Trask, sorority and program adviser.

Last summer, TCU students had a Fourth of July picnic, went on a camping trip and visited Casa Manana.

"Summer programming is pretty low key," Trask said. "Students are given the opportunity to express their programming needs at registration when they fill out a form listing their likes and dislikes."

For more than 2,000 expected TCU students, summer school will be business as usual, Deupree said.

Deupree said his office didn't expect to see any changes in the number of students who enroll in summer school compared to previous summers.

"We have no reason to expect anything different and we're not doing anything different," Deupree said.

Business as usual means students will attend classes for two hours a day, four days a week during one or all three of the different sessions.

Although more sessions are offered during the summer, registration for summer school doesn't create the problems that occur during fall and spring, Deupree said.

He said his job actually becomes easier in the summer because there are "not as many students involved. There are just more sessions."

Registration for the three-week mini-term begins May 20. Students planning to attend either of the two five-week terms must register June 9 or July 14, respectively.

INSIDE

General Motors will soon be laying off 1,700 assembly line workers. See Page 3.

How many Texans are exceeding the 55-mph speed limit? Is the speed limit, which went into effect in 1974, losing its followers? See Page 3.

Five TCU students have joined the Fort Worth Rugby Club. See Page 4.

WEATHER

Today's weather will be partly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. High temperatures are expected to be in the upper 70's.

OPINION

Student responds to column in 'spirit of love'

By Randy Riddle

Editors note: This column was written in response to the column by Brett Hoffman, printed in the March 21 edition of the Skiff.

Dear Brett, I don't really know you, although we pass in the hall at Brite. I feel I must write this to you though, if not as a friend then as a brother in Christ.

I would rather say these things to you in private, but as you have chosen to raise these issues in public print, I am bound to approach you in the same venue. I'm truly sorry for that.

Initially, I was angered by your column in the Skiff ("Liberal theology no excuse for liberal living.") Upon reflection, I have come to realize that my anger was largely due to my

own pride.

I felt that you had exposed Brite, and thereby me, to ridicule through your implication that Brite is a hotbed of antinomians and through your use of what, even to outsiders, were obviously sweeping generalizations about "liberal theology" (whose?) and "typical liberal theologians" (Rauschenbush? He supported prohibition).

I was afraid that others would think, because of your example, that all Brite students are so lacking in critical discretion that we all create strawmen that are easily knocked down.

But alas, that may be true; injurious as it may be to my pride, it is a tendency I must own up to.

Whether we sling verbal darts at "fundies" or "liberals," it amounts to the same thing—we attack the label and ignore the humanity of those we label.

Having been thus chastened, I am still left with concern for you about your article and the sentiments it presents. You identify "liberal theology" as the source of the ills of seminary education and immoral lifestyle among ministers and seminarians.

You say that "a theology that diminishes the working of the Holy Spirit and allows one to live in sin is not a theology that will set free those who are suffering from the consequences of sinful acts."

But no theology, liberal or conservative—both labels are crippled by their generality and by the way they cynically exchange sides—no theology will ultimately set anyone free from suffering. Only God does that.

Theology is a way that we cope with our limited ability to express our experience of the Ultimate in terms that help us to "make sense" of that experience. This effort at "making sense" is, ideally, aimed at helping us to share our experience with others and to integrate that experience into the totality of our lives.

The problem that people in the grip of immorality have is not bad theology, it's separation from God.

Bad theology is any theology that inadequately represents the ultimate concern and understanding of its adherents—whether they be "liberals" or "conservatives." Sometimes such theology is the result of sin, but it is seldom the cause.

The message of the Gospels is that God forgives sin. An apostle tells us in Romans 8 that, empowered by God's Holy Spirit, we may be free from condemnation under the law

of sin and death. Our theology is not what saves us—God does that for his own reasons.

What then of those who wish to serve as a minister? I can speak only as a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and thereby as a person in what is known—speaking of labels—as "The Reformed Tradition."

In our tradition, while an "inner" call from God is assumed in those who so aspire, the church knows only about the "outer" call—the call of the church for one of its own to be the church's representative to itself and the world. The church extends this call based on its assessment of a person's "gifts and graces" and how these enable that person for such representative ministry.

The seminary's role is to provide academic instruction and opportunity for practical experience that will prepare the candidate for the "educated ministry." To accuse the seminary or an "overemphasis on academics" is merely to accuse it of doing its assigned task.

Its role is not to mold its students into a particular moral stance that may or may not be at variance with the lifestyle they had when they came to the seminary. The Holy Spirit does the molding—if we allow ourselves to be molded.

My chief source of concern for you though, Brett, is not that you "shoot from the hip" in your article, or that you don't understand how people are called to ministry. My fear is for what damage such an article may have done to the church and to you and to those outside the community of faith.

We are called to care for one another, and if your concern is really for the spiritual lives of

those you see as deluded by some amorphous "liberal theology," your responsibility as a Christian is to minister to them through admonition and encouragement and love.

By, instead, writing about them in a public forum you hold the Body of Christ up to ridicule by the unchurched and make yourself useless to God as a channel through which God's healing love may flow to those you believe to be deluded.

We Christians have too often divided the church and alienated the world by our unself-critical pious pronouncements on the activities of others. None of us is immune to this tendency, and I find it helpful to remember that even the apostle Paul, years after his conversion and at the height of his ministry still found within himself the words of the seventh chapter of Romans (vv. 19-20):

"For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin which dwells within me."

Our role as Christians is to proclaim the liberation that Paul proclaimed in the succeeding chapter. It is this that I am now proclaiming to you Brett, in the hope that you might do the same for me some time and that I might be given the grace to receive your words in the same spirit of love with which I now write to you.

Randy Riddle is a masters of divinity student at Brite Divinity School.

What Do You Think?

This is an editorial question to you, the reader. The TCU Daily Skiff welcomes your response on the form provided below. The response must include your name, classification, major or position with the university and phone number to be valid.

TCU has recently increased the cost of tuition. The increase in tuition is from \$162 to \$172 a semester hour. The administration has justified the increase in tuition because of three areas where the additional funds will be allocated.

One of these areas is an Academic Services Center, tentatively planned to be located in the Ricketts Center. The center will help students with basic skills improvements. This center is viewed as necessary because of possible required proficiency tests in English and math for the completion of the new core curriculum.

Another area that would receive some of the additional funds generated from the tuition hike is an Alcohol Awareness program. The program, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Planning E. Leigh Secret said, would use several tens of thousands of dollars.

One hundred thousand dollars has also been allocated for improved lighting on campus. Another major project includes housing renovations, partially funded by an increase in housing fees.

However, this will be another rise in an already expensive education. Are the proposed hikes truly justified by the suggested improvements? And are all the improvements necessary? Some say no. Others agree with the administration.

What do you think? Are the increases in tuition and housing costs justified by the suggested improvements?

Yes No
comments:

signed:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jesus not a pacifist

On Thursday, March 27, in the reader's response section of the Skiff, a student posed the question: "Is it appropriate for a Christian university to have an ROTC program? How do you resolve the pacifism of the Prince of Peace with such a program?"

In Matthew 10:34, Jesus said, "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword." Hardly a statement made by a prophet of pacifism.

Jesus Christ was not a pacifist. In fact, he went on to say to his disciples that he would set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother.

He meant that in following him, his disciples would be divided from the world. His opponents would be destroyed with the same sword He used to separate his followers from the world. Therefore, I think it's inappropriate to refer to Jesus as a pacifist.

Also included in the letter, and the day's "What Do You Think?" section, was the premise that TCU is a Christian university. As for whether or not TCU should have an ROTC program, Lord knows.

—Lynn Gentry
Senior, Advertising/PR major

TCU DAILY SKIFF

Views expressed herein are solely those of the staff and contributors. Unsigned editorials represent staff consensus. Signed editorials are the opinions of the writers.

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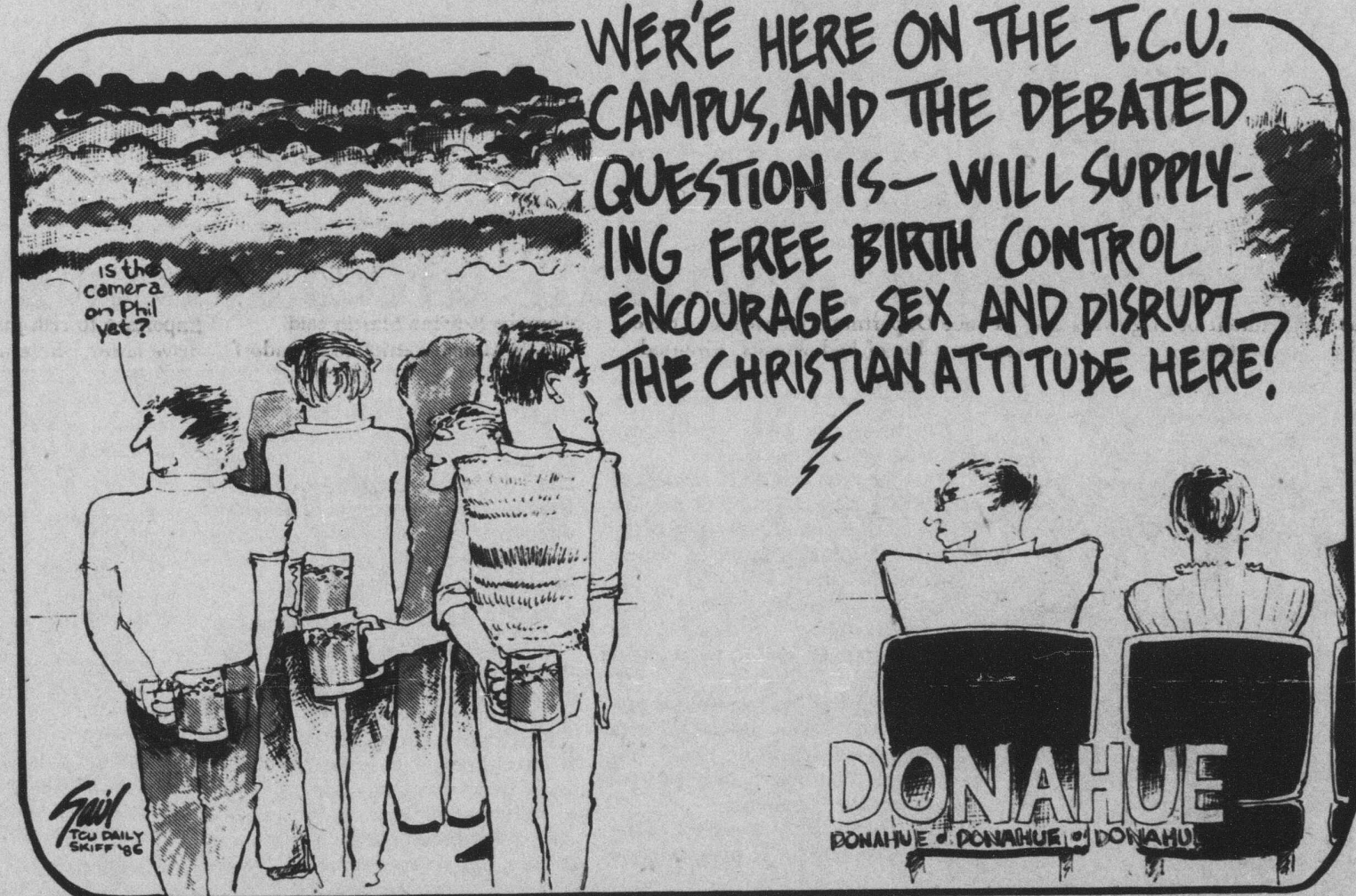
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Free birth control shouldn't be offered

Many large state colleges offer free birth control to their students. TCU as a Christian and private university, however, should not offer this service.

Birth control is the student's responsibility not the university's. The reason: TCU is not here to allow students to afford to have free sex.

Many TCU students are in favor of this service. They feel that it is too much trouble to go to the drug store for these items. And, they say they often don't have the money.

But, don't students always find money for the pure necessities: shampoo, toothpaste and soap? TCU doesn't provide these items free of charge to students. And they shouldn't be expected to do so.

Sure, a general health service would be a nice addition to the TCU campus. But, aren't college students old enough to take care of birth control on their own?

TCU does not need to provide this incentive. Students are old enough to provide for themselves—they say they are mature, independent and responsible. Why should students depend on TCU to prevent this problem, when they can do so on their own?

To begin with, this is not TCU's role to play. A college provides an education not parental guidance.

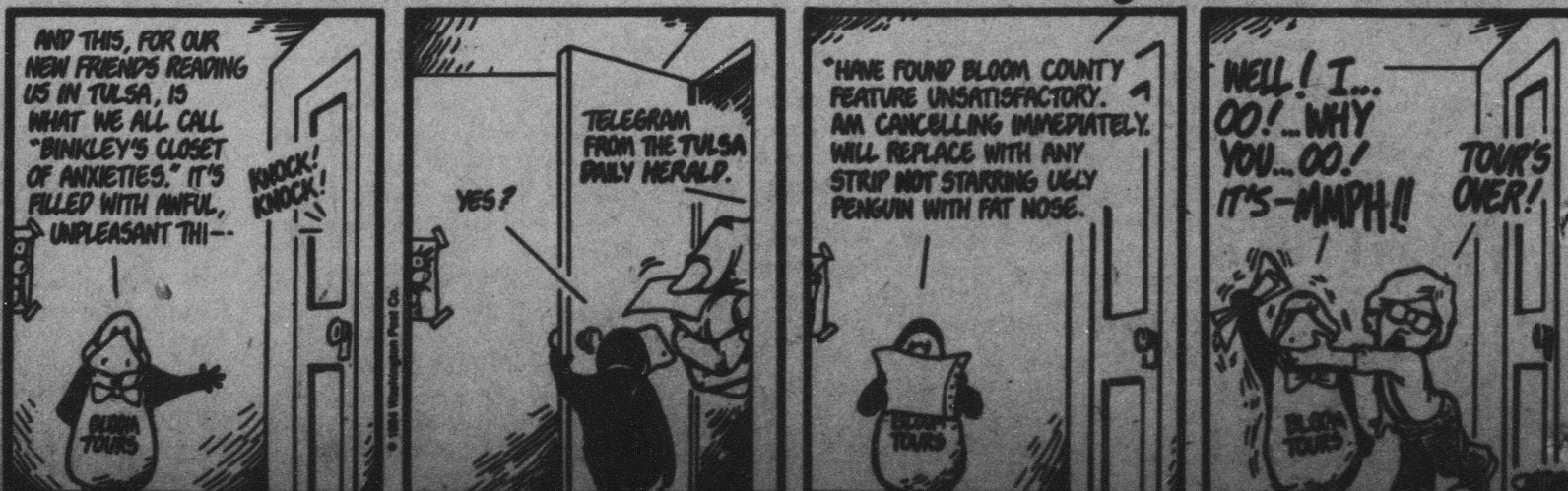
Second, it is not moral for a Christian university to recognize and promote sexual activity among students.

Historically, Christian theologians viewed all premarital intercourse as fornication and, in doing so, it was considered immoral because the enjoyment of any sexual pleasure outside of marriage was considered a moral sin.

Although TCU is here to help with students' transition to adulthood, it should be allowed to maintain the morals that it represents and offering free birth control, in effect, breaks down the system on which this university is based.

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



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Exhibit - Artist R...
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By Lauren Co
Staff Writer

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REGIONAL SCOPE

GM to lay off 1,700 at Arlington



Exhibit - Artist Rob Erdle talks with Lynn Gurney Tuesday in the Student Center gallery where Erdle's art is on display through April 18.

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—General Motors will lay off 1,700 assembly plant workers on April 14 because of slumping car sales, company officials say.

Another 110 salaried employees will also be idled, according to Nancy Keiser, GM spokeswoman.

The layoffs, announced Tuesday night, will allow GM to eliminate the second shift at its Arlington plant.

The layoffs will be for an indefinite time, said John Childers, president of United Auto Workers Local 276, representing the estimated 1,600 hourly workers in the layoff.

Childers and Keiser had opposing views on the length of the layoffs.

The union official said his advice to the laid-off employees is: "If there's a job out there, you'd better take advantage of it."

Keiser said the layoffs are based strictly on slow demand for the Oldsmobile Cutlass and the Chevrolet Monte Carlo, the two automobiles assembled in Arlington.

"That could turn around next week," she said.

We're diversified, but at the same time you can't take that many people off a payroll in a community without it being extremely harmful,' Tom Vandergriff, a GM dealer and former mayor of Arlington

Based on GM figures, the layoff would cut about 40 percent of the plant's 4,400 employees. Production will be cut by 50 percent.

"They will be bumped off strictly by seniority," said R.E. "Pete" Peterson, UAW Local 276's shop committee chairman.

"It's a serious blow," said Tom Vandergriff, a GM dealer in Arlington and former mayor who spent about a year in the early 1950s trying to get GM to locate a plant in the city.

"We're diversified, but at the same time you can't take that many people off a payroll in a community without it being extremely harmful," Vandergriff said.

Only about 500 of the employees actually live in Arlington.

four-day Easter weekend.

Idled workers with at least one year of seniority will be able to draw both the government's unemployment benefits and GM's "sub fund" benefits aimed at softening the impacts of layoffs. The fund is part of the UAW's contract with GM.

Most of those laid off are expected to draw up to 95 percent of their take-home pay, less the fund's administrative fees. The amount includes about \$203 a week in government benefits.

Local 276's benefits' office estimated that workers would average about \$350 a week in combined benefits, more than they could earn by taking more available jobs in the area.

Arlington workers and the full-size Cutlasses and Monte Carlos aren't the only ones to feel GM's inventory adjustments this spring and summer.

GM also announced layoffs at plants in Van Nuys, Calif., Pontiac, Mich., and Bowling Green, Ky.

GM spokeswoman Betsy Hayhow in Detroit said she is not aware of any new car product line being scheduled for Arlington. But she also said GM plans to continue Monte Carlo production.

55-mph limit receives praise, complaints

By Lauren Coleman
Staff Writer

The 55-mph speed limit that went into effect in 1974 as a measure to reduce fuel consumption and allay gas shortages is slowly losing followers.

Many motorists simply disregard the set limit and continue to drive over 55-mph hoping never to get caught, while others make use of radar detectors to subvert the police in their enforcement of the law.

Last year, 83.7 percent of Texas drivers using rural interstate highways exceeded 55-mph, and 65.3 percent of drivers exceeding the limit on urban interstates, according to the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

Sergeant O.D. Young of the Fort Worth Police Department said he thinks the chances of the law's repeal in Fort Worth are slim.

"We'd lose highway funds, and taxpayers would be picking up a bill that they wouldn't want to," Young said.

Young said the repeal would be "out of line" because of the need to reduce the number of accidents and intoxicated drivers.

"I don't know why we should up the speed just because people want to drive faster. The 55-mph limit has been a winner for us," Young said.

TCU campus police officer John Pacheco does not want to see the law repealed, either.

"I worked with the Fort Worth Police Department for awhile. I have seen a lot of bad wrecks. Granted,

there are a lot of people saying that the 55-mph limit doesn't do any good. The bottom line, however, is that it does save lives," Pacheco said.

It is obvious, Pacheco said, that if one were to be in a traffic accident, the slower the speed of the car, the less the impact of a hit. There is more braking time when a car is at a slower speed, he said.

"I think that the 55-mph speed limit should stay just as it is," Pacheco said.

Many TCU students, however, would like to see the law repealed.

"I think that the speed limit should be revised, because it's ridiculous to go 55-mph on 3- and 4-lane highways. It only causes traffic congestion," sophomore Edwina Martin said.

TCU freshman Patrick Middendorf

said there are some highways not heavily populated that are traveled primarily by trucks.

"The whole essence is to get somewhere faster," Middendorf said.

"I think that with the 55-mph speed limit, many people drive between 60-70 mph. If this limit were raised, I think people would be driving even faster. I don't think that you would be saving that much time unless you were traveling on a long trip," sophomore Julie Liebman said.

Senior Glenn Steelman said he thinks the 55-mph speed limit should remain for basic safety reasons.

"I think that this is the only way that the number of car accidents are going to be reduced. People's lives are too important to risk just so that we can drive faster," Steelman said.

Letter finds sheriff

DALLAS (AP)—Jim Bowles may not consider himself the Sheriff of Texas, but Uncle Sam seems to.

A letter from a woman in India addressed only to "The Sheriff, Texas, USA" found its way to the desk of Bowles, sheriff of the second-largest county in Texas.

"I have no earthly idea how I got it," Bowles said Tuesday. "But I'll accept the courtesy and flattery from Uncle Sam."

The Feb. 2 letter from Asra Farooq of Hyderabad, India, asked "The Sheriff" for help in tracking down her husband. She wrote that her husband took her family's dowry of jewels and fled to the United States a week after the couple was married in India in 1984.

"It is nearly two years since this

ordeal began and I am helplessly lamenting and the nightmare of my dark future haunts me day in and day out," Farooq wrote.

"I, being an innocent victim of (her husband's) criminal act, request you to treat the case on humanitarian grounds and do your best to trace his whereabouts and enforce his arrest, so that I may be out of his wedlock," she added.

Bowles said his investigators are trying to confirm the woman's claim that an international arrest warrant has been issued in India for her husband.

If so, Bowles said his office would issue a warrant in Texas, where the woman said her husband might be.

In the meantime, Bowles isn't about to shun his new title.

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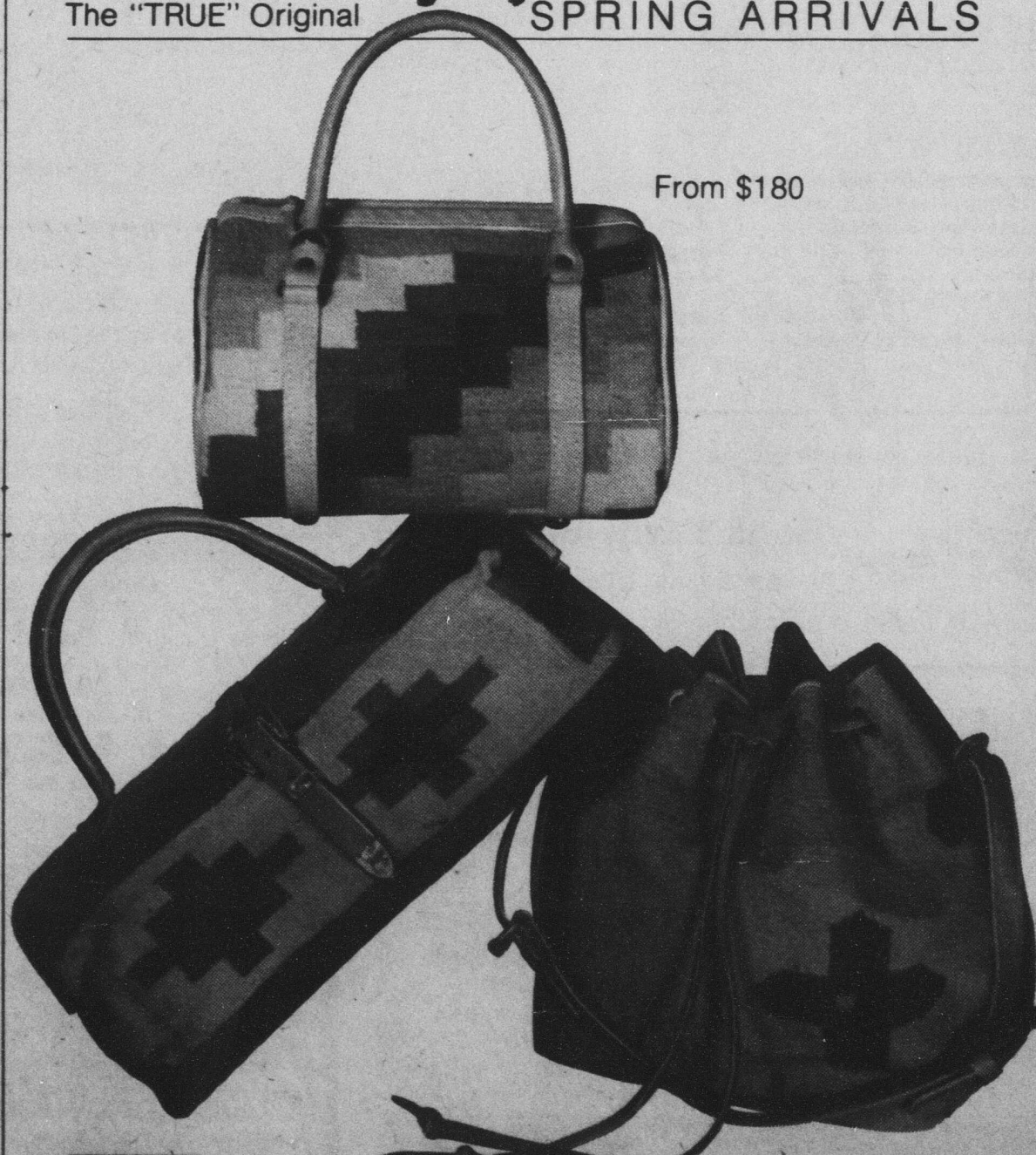
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SPORTS

Heaven'd be Final Four-ever



John Paschal

Final Four-ever. The pearly gates of basketball would never be so shiny.

That only 40 minutes of thoroughbred college basketball is played after weeks of ketchup-thick anticipation is a crime most heinous. It's like saving your pennies since childhood, then buying a used four-door when you're 16.

A couple of weeks ago, 64 college basketball teams entered the fabled NCAA tournament with "Destination Dallas" etched across their collective psyche. About 700 players wriggled in their sheets at night, dreaming of bagging a last-second spherical prayer that would rock Dallas enough to send Houston reeling into the Gulf.

Ten trillion fans envisioned that magical Monday night when their lanky heroes would gallop to and fro on shiny plywood deep in the heart of Texas. While ten beanpoles played keepaway, the fortunate fan would eat balogna sandwiches and drink beer, bet money, win money, and go dancing in the streets after his team's victory.

Dream away, net-heads, because it's a dream worth having. The Final Four has become the Academy Awards of college sports. A tuxedo affair that requires no tuxedo, the Cuatro Finale is more exciting than a bulging Christmas stocking. Steven Spielberg couldn't produce greater visual effects. Hitchcock couldn't devise a steamier plot. Truly, the Final Four has it all.

ALL. Including one flaw big as a South Texas mosquito. In the midst of the tallest humans on Earth, the Final Four is too short.

Too much of a good thing is a great thing, a wise man once said. Once I said it, I was much obliged to explain.

But those among you of a nomadic bent need no explanation. You wheeled the 45-or-so miles to BIG D and plunged headlong into the Final Four ballyhoo. You experienced a

world of roundball hysteria ne'er seen within Lone Star boundaries. You flew with the Cardinals on Greenville Avenue. You prowled with the Tigers at the Starck Club. You partied with Jayhawks and asked them what a Jayhawk is. You caroused with Duke dudes and asked them what in the hell is a Blue Devil.

Perhaps in the morning you had to ask again. The night stole your memory like Johnny Dawkins steals an inbounds pass. But darned if this wasn't Final Four-play. The teams hadn't even taken to the courts, but the city was on its ear.

What else but unbounded excitement would spur thousands to sit in an arena Friday afternoon and witness a Dallas premiere—a lot of talented 20-year-olds practicing.

Grown men watched boys half their age and twice their size nonchalantly tossing basketballs through metal and twine. And it wasn't a passing glance.

Men, with young sons potted in Air Jordan high tops, followed every step of their idols. Each surely told his wide-eyed son—who, no doubt, figured to be right there on the court in 10 years—that he once scored 35 in a junior varsity game.

Dorks? You bet. Lots of 'em. But happy dorks, all. How the players must have chortled silently at the sight of thousands gazing upon their footwork, their passing drills, their left-handed layups.

Ten years of practice and not one spectator, save for a girlfriend here and about. One afternoon of practice and thousands of fans, here, there and everywhere.

But it was fun. It was real fun. In fact, it passed the "Is it really that fun?" test in record fashion.

When money is no object—no object whatsoever—that's when you're having fun. Fans bought everything and anything. 8 bucks for a T-shirt, 25 for a sweater.

And 1,500 greenbacks got you a Final Four ticket. Heck, these days you can get your own college basket-

ball player for that, provided he's somewhat of a poor ball-handler or something.

Fifteen hundred dollars. That's a Final Four-midable amount of cash. But hey, there's no need for Final Four-bearance when one has Final Four-titude. Buy that ticket, dude, because it's once in many moons when you get a chance so magnificent.

But such blue-bloodian spending sheds some incandescence on that problem of basketball brevity. Here we are, most of us humans with human characteristics, waiting all year for the big Four to grace our open-armed Metroplex. And POOF! They play a grand total of 120 minutes—two hours to those of you who actually are not humans—and they're outta here. Gone. Fifteen hundred dollars is a lot of moola for a two-hour play.

Thanks, you open-armed Metroplex, you. Thanks for gawking at us. Thanks for making us household utterances. Thanks for spending your hard-earned cash to watch us show off for a couple of hours.

Too short. Saturday, I found out just how short a college basketball game really is.

At halftime of the 'Ville-LSU game, a friend and I played wiffle ball. Just a short four-inning pitcher's duel. Arriving back at the cathode-ray tube holder, it became known to us that four innings of wiffle ball equal precisely one half of a Final Four game. People, that just ain't right.

And Monday night's big game—the consummation of an entire year of great college hoops—spanned the length of a couple of rinse cycles.

It's all wet. Would it be too much to ask of two groups of epidermis-covered stringbeans to play all night on the final night of the season? This ain't the intramural championship. Let's see some action. We can hardly finish our chips and hot sauce and first cold one before Billy Packer and Brent Musburger critique the first half.

Cmon. Show some stamina. Take some No-Doze and play ball. Otherwise, your tournament will be short enough, and dead enough, to shove in a jar of Final Four-maldehyde.



Hey, scrum bags - Members of the Fort Worth Rugby Club prepare to get rough on the worn grass of Forest Park. Several current and former TCU students play for the Fort Worth team.

Rugby club plays, parties as one

By Heather Steine
Staff Writer

Grunts and thuds are heard as 16 grass-stained and sweat-covered bodies clash together in a scrum, trying to gain possession of the ball. It is a sunny Saturday afternoon at the Forest Park playing fields, and the Fort Worth Rugby Club is playing the Houston Old Boys.

Five students from TCU have found more than just a team to play rugby with. They have become a part of the Fort Worth Rugby Club.

"The team is like a fraternity. It's more than a sport— it's a brotherhood," said sophomore Randy Barone.

Barone, TCU sophomore Houston Morford and Will Brannon, a recent TCU graduate, and Charlie Willis and Jeff Coffey, who attended TCU for two years, have all joined the Fort Worth Rugby Club.

The club, which started in 1971, is the only organized rugby team in Fort Worth. The club has a head coach, Peter Ravine, who is from London, a scrum coach, Mike Kwedar, a president, Mark Mowrey and several other officers.

TCU does not have any rugby

teams, but Kwedar said rugby is growing rapidly at the college level.

"UTA, Stephen F. Austin and (Texas) A & M are a few colleges that have rugby teams, but rugby in the United States is still in the process of establishing roots and developing traditions," Kwedar said.

Anyone can join the Fort Worth Rugby Club. Members range in age from 17 to 39 and have jobs in many different fields—from medicine to sales. Dues are \$40 for the entire season that lasts from September through May. The club has A, B and C teams that give everyone an opportunity to play. (Anyone who is interested in joining the club can contact Kevin McNeerney at 861-4200.)

"The club has a lot of team spirit and dedication to the sport," Kwedar said, "and there are sometimes as many as 42 guys at the Tuesday and Thursday night practices."

"Rugby players have a certain pride in the fact that rugby is the only game that has remained an amateur sport," Kwedar said.

Rugby is the British form of football and the father of American football. Besides the technical differences between rugby and football, rugby has many social traditions.

"It's as much a social club as it is a sport," Morford said. After the practices the team goes to the Pig and the Whistle Tavern to socialize. One rugby tradition is that the home team always throws a party with food and beer for the visiting team.

"The party's half the game," Coffey said. At the party, the opposing team gets to know each other and join together to sing rowdy beer-drinking songs. When the Fort Worth Rugby Club goes to England on tour this summer, the players in England will even put the Fort Worth players up in their homes.

"There is a special camaraderie between rugby players," Coffey said. "Even between opposing team members. If someone's new in town and they play rugby, all they have to do is look up the rugby club in town and they'll automatically have an instant set of friends."

The Fort Worth Rugby Club fulfills different needs for each player. Some play to stay in shape, some play to take their frustrations out and others play because they like the social aspects of the game. But whatever the reasons for playing are, one unique aspect of the Fort Worth club is that everyone plays because they want to.

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