

TCU Daily Skiff

Friday, August 28, 1992

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

90th Year, No. 3

Campus officer promoted to crime prevention duties

By JOE LATTANZI
TCU Daily Skiff

The smiling, blue-eyed, red-haired lady working at the Campus Police information table in the Student Center this semester is the university's new crime prevention officer.

Connie Villela started her new duties on Aug. 1, and she was promoted to sergeant at the same time.

"I consider my new job a tremendous challenge," she said. "I'm looking forward to this semester."

Villela's training and experience in rape crisis and suicide intervention counseling and crime prevention gave her a tremendous advantage during the selection process for the position, said Oscar H. Stewart, chief of the Campus Police.

"Connie started at TCU as a physical security officer at the residence halls," Stewart said. "She did a great job and her ability to relate to the students and provide them crisis counseling and personalized crime prevention tips really stood out."

As the Campus Police crime prevention officer, Villela coordinates and manages the university's crime prevention program. She provides advice and assistance on all matters concerning staff, faculty and student safety and security and campus physical security.

The most important part of her job is making students more aware and sensitive to the threat of crime, Villela said.

"I would like to see crime prevention become something that is constantly emphasized," she said. "I would like to see repeated lectures

and training throughout the semester for the students, faculty and staff. Repetition will help everybody learn to react immediately to threats to their safety and security."

Some of the things that need to be constantly emphasized throughout the semester are off-campus crime, on-campus vehicle thefts and burglaries, residence hall security, and campus parking regulations, Villela said.

Villela is an 8-year veteran of the Campus Police Department where she worked in the patrol and physical security sections before taking the crime prevention position.

Shortly after joining the Campus Police, Villela attended the Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy on the northwest campus of Tarrant County Junior College and acquired

340 hours (about three months) of basic police officer training.

She was commissioned as a peace officer by the State of Texas upon graduation from the police academy.

Villela also has a commission as a physical security officer granted by the Texas State Board of Private Investigators.

Her specialized police training includes 40 hours of crime prevention training from the Crime Prevention Institute in San Marcos, Texas. Villela also has 48 hours of rape crisis training.

Prior to coming to the university, Villela worked for the Federal Protective Service of the U.S. General Services Administration as a contract physical security guard supervisor.



TCU Daily Skiff/ Aimee Herring
TCU Police Officer Connie Villela hands out safety brochures.

see Deter, page 2

Commissioner's gripe concerns minorities

By MICHAEL HOLMES
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Joining a GOP accusation that Bill Clinton favors trial lawyers, Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry said Wednesday that the lawsuit problem is growing and "every Jose in town wants to come along and sue you for something."

Perry later said he didn't mean to offend Hispanics and apologized.

"To anyone that is offended, I certainly apologize," he said. "But that ain't the issue that we're talking about."

State Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, defended Perry, although the lawmaker said he and the Republican commissioner differ on presidential choices.

"I've known Rick since 1986," Lucio said. "I just know Rick too well to believe he would try to be rude to the Hispanic community or belittle the Hispanic community."

"I'm for Clinton," he said. "I'm also a tort reformer. There is lawsuit abuse in the Rio Grande Valley that we need to look at."

A lawyer for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and a Texas civil rights advocate both criticized Perry.

"I don't think there's any way you can take those statements except as intending to be insulting to a specific group of people," said Judith Sanders-Castro of MALDEF. "He certainly isn't talking about Dallas or West Texas."

"This is a classic case in my view of why you have to have lawsuits,"

said Jim Harrington of the Texas Civil Rights Project. "You can't depend on people like Rick Perry to protect minorities. The only way you get these folks to comply with the equal rights protection of the constitution is to sue them. He may not like that."

Perry's comments came at a news conference where the Republican campaign arm, Victory '92, accused Democratic presidential candidate Clinton of being "in the back pocket" of plaintiffs' lawyers and contributing to a lawsuit boom.

Perry said lawsuits and malpractice insurance costs had driven doctors out of small towns and were closing rural hospitals.

"There are people being denied health care in rural Texas because of the frivolous lawsuits of those ambulance-chasing lawyers out there," Perry said.

But he said everyone is in jeopardy. "Whether you're a father wanting to coach a Little League baseball team or do whatever, you are exposed in the litigious society that we live in today," Perry said.

"I mean, it is silly," he said. "Every time you turn around somebody is slapping a lawsuit on you. And I can speak from experience... Let me tell you, I've got to have a legal-sized notepad single-spaced now to list all the lawsuits. Every Jose in town wants to come along and sue you for something."

"And that is what we're address-

see Clinton, page 2



TCU Daily Skiff/ Jennifer Biggins
Announcer Tara Wokaty helps Amy Petrie, Jen Jones and Dresden Skees look for love - namely, Chris Hightower - at the dating game at 7 p.m. Thursday in front of the Student Center. The Dating Game is part of the Howdy Week activities, which will continue until Saturday.

Writing Center receives Union Pacific donation

By MICHELLE GRAY
TCU Daily Skiff

The Writing Center will receive another gift from the corporation that initially helped establish it in 1988.

The Union Pacific Foundation has given a grant of \$150,000, payable over three years, to add to the \$240,000 donated prior to opening the center.

Students who regularly frequent the English Writing Center will have the convenience of allowing Writing Center tutors or faculty to read, edit and file their papers back into the student's file without meeting with the tutor or faculty member in person.

The network computer link, consisting of 25 plugs or jacks, will access connection to the Writing Center, the English department and with the university computer network, said William Koehler, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

The computer resource will complete access to five other computer labs on the campus. If a student is in the library, Winton-Scott Hall or business computer labs, that student would have access to the writing center computers, Koehler said.

This resource will improve writing, Koehler said.

"The way it was usually done," he said. "Students would turn their drafts in, the faculty member would

mark the errors with a red pen and hand it back, and the students, in that process, didn't learn to be better writers."

"Now, a student can turn in a draft, the faculty member comments or critiques it and the student redoes it responding from the critique," he said. "The students are learning and understanding."

The resource will pay off for students, said Associate Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs Larry Adams.

"The traditional way is the student will submit a paper, work in the writing center and then is given an analysis," Adams said. "The hardware allows for more."

However, the new system will not change individualized tutoring between student and teacher, said Christina Murphy, director of the Writing Center.

"It's important for students to have individualized attention for success," Murphy said.

"We're not taking the human out of the process," Koehler said. "Students and faculty can just go back and forth. It will improve their writing ability."

The resource is set to be completed at the end of next May.

Bill Adams, university board member and former Union Pacific

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Inside

The Big Apple
Columnist tells of his adventures at the Democratic National Convention. **Page 3**

SWC Preview
Sports columnists preview the top three teams in the southwest conference. **Page 6, 8**

Friends in high places
Garth Brooks announces proceeds from new album to benefit disadvantaged. **Page 7**

Outside

Today's weather will be increasingly sunny. The high temperature will be near 88.

Saturday will be sunny with a high of 95 degrees. Sunday will be clear to partly cloudy with temperatures in the mid-90's.



Cliburn Foundation donates international contest archives

Curator appointed to conserve video and audio records

By BETH AINE BOLLINGER
TCU Daily Skiff

The Van Cliburn Foundation announced last spring that it would give its archives of its piano competitions to the university.

The transfer of materials adds to other Cliburn documents the university has had in storage for many years.

The transfers have come about as a result of the university's close association with the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, since its 1962 inception.

In the early years, the preliminary through final rounds of the Cliburn Competition were staged at the university. The competition's preliminaries are still held on campus.

Due to "the close association and the fact that TCU is continuing to be involved in the Cliburn, this seemed the logical place for it to come," said Roger Rainwater, director of special collections.

The archives are currently housed in the Mary Couts Burnett Library. All of the original materials which the university holds occupy a conference room on the second floor of the library, across from the music library.

Archives of the competition consist of records in many different forms. Original audio and video tapes of the performers and also restored copies on VHS are housed separately in the music library. The original copies, which are on outdated tape formats, are in the process of being transferred to VHS.

Other archives include transcripts of contestant interviews with audition tapes, as well as "paper records of the competition and foundation but most of it relates to the competition, scores for commissioned pieces of music for orchestra and piano, along with posters, photographs, scrapbooks and programs," Rainwater said.

Laura Dubiel has recently been appointed curator of the Cliburn Archives. Her main objective for now is to focus on the preservation and organization of the newly acquired archives. Dubiel said she is expecting this part of the project to take approximately three years.

Dubiel said she wants to organize the archives by competition. This way, a casual browser can go through each competition and look at tapes of artists through the preliminaries and on into the final rounds, she said. The individual will be able to see every

performer through every phase of the competition, and the viewer will be able to see the growth of the artist, she said.

Another goal of Dubiel's is to make aids to the Cliburn materials which make it possible for the individual to use this resource in a variety of different manners, she said. The browser will be able to follow an artist through competition or see many different interpretations of the same piece. The browser will also be able to examine a whole competition or just the final rounds, she said.

At the moment, the main objective is to "stabilize the collection in terms of conservation," Rainwater said. "We're trying to get new copies made in a format that we have machines available to play; so much of the material is in obsolete forms."

No plans are underway for expansion of the area which the Cliburn Archives presently occupy. Although the collection will expand with each subsequent competition, the archives are not expected to require more space in the immediate future. It would be advantageous, however, for the archives to have their own climate-controlled area in

see Records, page 2

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CAMPUSlines

CAMPUSlines is provided as a service to the TCU community. Announcements of events, meetings and other general campus information should be brought by the Skiff office, Moudy 291S or sent to TCU Box 32929. The Skiff reserves the right to edit for style and taste.

The University Christian Church will hold a free lunch for all university students at noon Aug. 30.

Mellon Fellowship nomination information is now available from Priscilla Tate, associate dean of AddRan College. The fellowship is for those interested in graduate studies in teaching and scholarship in higher education in a humanistic discipline.

Parking permits must be affixed by Aug. 31 to vehicles using university parking areas.

David Appleby, international authority on Brazilian music, will speak at 4 p.m. August 31 in Ed Landreth Hall Room 103 as part of the Wine-sanker Lecture Series and Global Theme Semester: Mexico and Latin America.

Black Student Caucus would like to invite new and returning students to a Get Acquainted Social on Tuesday at 6 p.m., room 202 in the student center. Free food.

HELPlines

The Volunteer Center, a service of the United Way, needs volunteers. The Center can be reached at 860-1613 for information about the following or other opportunities.

Volunteers are needed at the Fort Worth Rehabilitation Hospital to help with physical rehabilitation. Call 370-4700 and ask about the volunteer program.

State criminal justice failing, comptroller says

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Crime is increasing in Texas, and Comptroller John Sharp said Thursday that the state suffers from too many violent criminals and a bewildering criminal justice maze. "Clearly, the system is not working," Sharp said. "In fact, it's on the verge of breaking down. From the largest Texas cities to the smallest rural communities, the number of crime victims is growing, and people who haven't yet been affected by crime know it's only a matter of time."

In releasing early findings from a study on the efficiency of criminal justice programs, Sharp said more Texans died from gunshots than from traffic accidents in 1990.

Texas has the nation's 11th highest rate of violent crime and fourth highest for property crime.

"We have one of the world's highest rates of criminal violence, one of the world's most bewildering criminal justice systems and one of the world's highest rates of incarceration," Sharp said.

"We have a massive bureaucracy that regularly disappoints the taxpayers who must pay the bills," he said.

Although Texas is spending increasing amounts on prisons and criminal justice programs, crime continues to grow, Sharp said.

That's the reason for his study, he said. "Should we continue to do certain things because that is the way we've always done them, or can we find innovative new ways to get better results for the same amount of money — or even less?"

Records/ page 1

the future, Rainwater said. Oral histories will eventually be taken from the Competition Founders and early board members, Rainwater said. These histories will be added to the collection, providing a background for the competition, he said.

While the study won't be finished for a few weeks, Sharp said results now available point to six factors causing problems:

- the criminal justice system is fragmented and lacks any across-the-board agreement on goals or planning. State and federal funds support duplicate programs;
- any change in one part of the system causes more problems for other parts;
- the Ruiz prison reform lawsuit has dictated how Texas prisons are run;
- the war on drugs has increased the burden on courts and prisons;
- a "so-called get tough on crime posture" has been costly and not very effective; and
- the criminal justice system can't solve "the root causes of crime — things like poverty, drug addiction, poor education and the decline of the family."

Sharp said the state is spending billions on a system that isn't working. Since 1981, the national crime level has dropped overall, but Texas' rate increased 29 percent from 1981 to 1990, he said.

Deter/ from page 1

She started working at the FPS in May 1980. She was responsible for supervising 20 guards who provided protective services for the Federal Center and other federal buildings and installations in Fort Worth.

Villela said she learned how to deal with people as an FPS employee. She carried those lessons with her to the university.

"I treat the students, faculty and staff at TCU like I would want to be treated," Villela said. "I try to treat everybody with respect and courtesy."

Students, staff and faculty can request crime prevention services from the Campus Police by calling Villela at 921-7276.

"We're proud to have Connie as a Campus Police officer," Stewart said. "She willingly works extra shifts and at all hours. That's the kind of person she is. She's likeable, dependable and a self-starter."

Clinton/ from page 1

ing today — just the overwhelming ease with which lawsuits are filed," he said. "You drive along that road in the (Rio Grande) Valley from Harlingen to Brownsville and it seems — I'm sure I'm exaggerating just a tad — but that every other billboard says, 'Hurt in an accident? Call me.'"

Asked about his comments, Perry told reporters that he didn't mean it as an insult.

"If anyone took that as a racial slam, then they certainly were misreading it," he said.

He said subsequent criticism of him was an effort to draw attention from the argument that too many frivolous lawsuits are hurting the state.

"It's strictly a smokescreen

they're throwing up . . . to divert people's attention from the issue at hand, tort reform in the state of Texas and this nation," Perry said.

Responding, Sanders-Castro said, "Somehow or other, the trial lawyers and the Mexican-Americans in the state of Texas are responsible for the economy, which is causing hospitals to close and businesses to leave. That's a big stretch."

The Victory '92 group said it would be running newspaper ads urging votes for President Bush and criticizing Clinton for being too cozy with trial lawyers. The ads are to appear in Texas cities Clinton visits on his two-day bus tour.

"We have a legal crisis in this country," said Rob Mosbacher,

chairman of Victory '92.

"Small businesses are going broke," he said. "Doctors are leaving medical practice and it's due in large part of the abuse of our legal system by a greedy group of lawyers. Bill Clinton is in the back pocket of these lawyers."

Clinton called the attack off-base.

"If ever an administration has been in the pocket of special interests it is Bush and (Vice President) Quayle," he said.

Clinton said he has some disagreements with trial lawyers and that he favors alternative dispute resolution and national guidelines on malpractice suits.

Insanity Fair

by Joe Barnes



Siege

by Andy Grieser



Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



Skiff classified ads 921-7426



Hold a piece of tape up to your eyes, dim the lights and try to fill out your taxes.

Now you're seeing things from her point of view.

Almost everybody has to file taxes, but not everyone can do it on their own. Volunteer and help make someone's taxes less taxing. Call 1800 829-1040.

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Skiff Classifieds. Employment: BEDFORD EMPLOYMENT needs after school child care for eight-year-old. Light housework and cooking after school, 354-7999. For Rent: Apartment in lovely wedgewood home for rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, living dining kitchen with cook stove, refrigerator, garbage disposal, dishwasher. washer, dryer. \$550 per month utilities paid 12 month lease, 294-1222. For Sale: 1978 Pontiac Sunbird, 80,000 original miles runs great \$600 Day phone 877-9697, evening 922-9656. Etcetera: GREEKS & CLUBS RAISE A COOL \$1,000.00 IN JUST ONE WEEK! PLUS \$1000 FOR THE MEMBER WHO CALLS! And a FREE HEADPHONE RADIO just for calling 1-800-932-0528. Ext. 65. Typing: Student Discount Budget Word Processing # 738-5040. TYPING SERVICES, 924-6324. Term papers typed on time. Laser printed. Rush orders & credit cards accepted. One block from TCU in Nations Bank building. Accuracy+Plus 926-4969. Free Grammar and Spelling Correction.

Donuts -n- More. Purchase any size coffee and receive a 1/2 dozen donut holes free with this ad! Across University next to Jon's Grille expires 9/4

\$5.00 off any membership with this ad! Only at Campus Tanst+ Featuring new Wolff Beds. Plus...Hair - Nails - Unique Boutique Across from TCU Campus at 3005 South University Drive 921-3900

LOANS up to \$1,000.00 per item!* We also carry a wide selection of unredeemed merchandise, like cameras, electronics, jewelry and stereos. Plus, there's a 30-day guarantee on the purchase of any unredeemed item. Uncle Joe's Pawn Shops. Ask about our 50% off VIP card. All major credit cards accepted *\$25 charge for 30-day loan

Fresh

We had crusty s our mouths back th young. And the qu harmless.

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CLAY GAILLARD

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His reply Clay Ga to TCU fro Okla., pop

Opinion

Fresh perspective needed to keep degree from becoming diploma

We had crusty stuff on the corners of our mouths back then. Back when we were young. And the question was sweet and harmless.

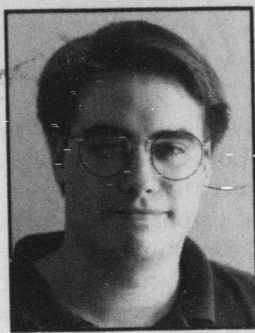
"So, little one, what is it you want to be when you grow up?"
We would rehearse our cutest looks and make astronomical projections — the president, an astronaut, a princess, etc. Then we'd go dig out the cigar box of crayons and draw ourselves bright-eyed and bushy tailed.

It is a shame, now, that very precious few of us can be what we were in those hope-filled works of art.

Now, the crusty stuff is gone. Young is hardly the word. And the question is so much more ominous.

"So, college student, what is it you are going to do when you graduate?"

Promptly, we show off our 16-odd years of education and answer, "Um...I dunno."



STEVE KLINETOBE

This is the common answer. This is the truth. It frightens us and sends future fathers-in-law searching for blunt instruments.

But we can't be blamed. It isn't our fault that our future is so uncertain. The world is smaller, and the employ-

ment guarantee of a college degree hardly exists anymore.

Now, the college degree is all too common. If not everybody has one, everybody wants one. It is nothing more than an extension of the high school diploma.

A degree used to put us in the lead. Now it is a necessity just to keep us up with the rest of the pack.

More and more, you hear the moronic statement, "Just get a degree, any degree, and then do what you want."

If we were able to do what we want to do we'd all go home, crawl up into the attic and dust off a few of our childhood dreams.

Maybe get our business degree then jump straight into the oval office. Or, receive our advertising degree then catch the next space shuttle to the moon. Or, complete our education then fly on over to the Land of Eternal Happiness to dance through the daffodils and kiss a couple of frogs.

But, as sad as it may seem, we can't. Our fields of study are saturated, and employers know this. They don't want the run-of-the-mill student who just popped

out of the academic machine with tired old theories and outdated styles. They want new blood, creative blood. Someone who will look at their field with an entirely new perspective.

So, where do they turn?

Lately, there is a new trend. Employers don't look to the students who have spent four years studying their field. They, instead, turn to students who have been studying something entirely different.

It has become an anxious game of guessing and hoping. And it is wearing a deep hole in the concept of a college degree, or an education altogether.

The role of the university, among other things, is to prepare us to face the job market competitively. Not to simply produce average Joes and Janes, but to help students build the fresh, new perspective so desired in the workplace.

Our university needs to supply us with

this perspective. Professors should abandon the proven techniques that will simply get us by and give us something we can really use, something brave and daring, something impressive.

And it is our role to be critical, to improve that which we hear. To take an average concept and make it something to ohhh and ahhh at.

We need to push a little harder, and think a little more than the rest of the pack. Nothing else will make our degrees stand out from the rest of the crowd. Nothing else will help us become what we want to be — bright-eyed and bushy-tailed with, perhaps, a bit of crusty stuff on the corners of our mouths.

Steve Klinetobe is a senior English and journalism double major from Albuquerque, N.M., who is the managing editor of Image magazine. He's also engaged.

Small-town intern discovers wild ride of convention in the Big Apple

It was a culture clash from the beginning. I had begun the day at D/FW Airport, one of the most spacious airports in the world, but in the late afternoon I was in an airplane that was rapidly descending upon something that looked like a beached aircraft carrier.

I was assured by the flight attendant that it was, in fact, La Guardia Airport and that the short runway sticking out over the water was plenty long enough for a DC-10.

I wasn't convinced until I was on the ground collecting my bags.

I had come to New York City to do an internship through the Washington Center at the Democratic National Convention.

But what many people asked, including myself, was what was I really doing there. After all, I am a moderate conservative, not really partisan, not really an urban student, majoring in English at an ultraconservative southern university.

To most people, I just didn't fit the picture. What I realized as the internship progressed through its two weeks was that it didn't matter what I came for or what my expectations of the program were. And I suppose that it didn't really matter what I believed.

The nature of the internship was such that any goals or assumptions I ventured to formulate became obsolete so fast that I soon stopped trying to predict and started to just enjoy the wild ride I was on.

I had no idea that I would get a chance to ride around Manhattan in a limousine at two o'clock in the morning with some of my new friends. Or that I would get to visit with the governor of Oklahoma about the economy of our home state over brunch at the Plaza. Or that I'd run into U.S. Rep. Bill Sarpalis of Texas who I had met when I was about 8 years old.

Gene Alpert, a political science professor at TCU, assured me before we left that absolutely anything could happen at a political convention and I certainly would not be disappointed.

There was literally something new around every corner.

I was with a photographer who was waiting to photograph Mario Cuomo when he came to practice his nominating speech far under the massive podium. I had gone to find a cup of coffee for the wait when a Secret Service agent the size of a defensive lineman came around the bend in the corridor and ordered me against the wall with a point of his finger.

I was standing there waiting to be shot for not having the right credentials or something when Senator Albert Gore and his entourage walked by, waving and smiling. If I hadn't have been too scared to move I might have gotten to meet him.

I hate missing opportunities. I was assigned to work for the *New York Post* before and during the convention, and the *Post* was a lot of fun.

Even Jackie Mason was kind enough to stop by. When I told him that my boss wasn't there he sat down and talked to the other intern and me a while. He even asked me if I was Jewish.

I think he was kidding.

The entire internship was a whirlwind of bars, politicians, reporters, Broadway, parties, hype and politics. I was lucky to experience all of it from the standpoint of someone who was completely in awe of the whole process and yet a part of it at the same time.

I even managed to get a major lesson in practical politics: a guy called and said that he was the lieutenant governor of New York and that he needed to talk to this certain *Post* reporter. So I walked over and told the reporter, who was on another line, who was on hold for him.

His reply: "Take a message; this is the governor."

Clay Gaillard is a junior English major who comes to TCU from the sprawling metropolis of Texhoma, Okla., population 746.

PURPLE POLL

Are you going to graduate in 4 years or less?

Yes	No
68	31

Today's Purple Poll question was asked of 100 students who were dining in the Main Cafeteria on Wednesday evening.

EDITORIAL

Every Jose?

Rick Perry latest to insert foot in mouth

Ah, the things small children and politicians say. Take for example what fell out of the mouth of Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry on Thursday.

Perry, speaking to support accusations that Bill Clinton favors trial lawyers, let loose the comment that every Jose wants to sue you and every trial lawyer wants to help.

It seems every other sign on the road from the Rio Grande to Harlingen says, "Hurt in an accident? Call me," by Perry's estimations, anyway.

Whoops.

In Perry's defense, he was quick to add, "I'm sure I'm exaggerating just a tad."

Maybe a little more than that.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Blaylock wrong!

I would like to preface my comments regarding Jeff Blaylock's article on abortion with the admission of my own bias. And, unlike Mr. Blaylock, I hope to make a point, not a mess, about the proper method of addressing an opinion issue.

There is a certain type of article, which seems to reappear in the *Skiff* in the same form no matter what subject. It is an article designed to create response and is often based on other articles, not research. However, in response (Yes, you got my attention, but not for the right reason), I would like to ask Mr. Blaylock to be a bit more creative and relevant to situations at hand and at least to use correct terminology when including bias in an article.

You included your opinion or bias. Good. You made fun of the vice president. Fine. I like "Doonesbury" better — it takes up less of my time. You even defended a sitcom that is loosely based on reality. Bravo! However, I believe the names of the two camps you mentioned are more properly called "Pro-Choice" and "Pro-Life," as the boldface poll beside your article on Wednesday clearly states. (Or was that intentional?) And Dan Quayle defended his daughter, not abortion, way back when that was current. He said he would respect her, despite any presupposed abortion and conflict of opinion.

Why don't you write a column based on the results of asking real people their experiences? Be different. Don't base your argument on a rehash of an old debate between two wispy American icons, an MCI saleswoman/TV actress and a feather.

Furthermore, Mr. Blaylock, have you ever researched the origin of opinion? Where does it originate? You, Mr. Opinion Editor, should know. No idea? We draw on our past experiences to make decisions about our reality. Opinion can be a dangerous thing, especially when emotions are involved. Especially when we have no facts. If we come from most religious backgrounds, we believe in the sanctity

of life. If we are taught that we come from dust and return to it, period, then where do we place judgment, Jeff? What did you think of chapel Sunday, when the Jewish rabbi talked about the value of life?

Warning, opinion enclosed, based on experience.

What experience? I have a mother; I am human, and I respect the process that got me here. (No, not the TCU recruiters). Consider these statements, Jeff... maybe you can come up with a point for your next article.

Q: Would you trade your life and this article for the ability to bite the tube that fed you in you mother's womb?

Q: Have you seen the problems that a "choice" can create? Who let you see them?

Q: Have you seen the problems that a "life" can create? You've lived to create this one.

By the way, speaking of experiences, have you Mr. Blaylock, ever had a human being sucked out of your body? I haven't. I won't. Mr. Blaylock, I do know what happened to my baby sister. I didn't give out cigars. And yes, I have an opinion now.

Q: I don't like to assume things, but should I assume that most pro-choice and pro-life activists have already been born? I understand Jeff; why your last article read the way it did. You probably couldn't help tripping over your umbilical cord on the way out of the office? Or was it the office?

Jeremy P. Crawford
Sophomore music theory/composition major

The *Skiff* welcomes letters to the editor if they are double-spaced typed and one page or less in length. All letters must be signed. The *Skiff* will not publish unsigned letters. All submissions must include the writer's classification, major and phone number. The *Skiff* reserves the right to edit or reject any letters to the editor. Letters may be sent to the *Skiff* at TCU Box 32929 or delivered to the *Skiff*'s offices, Moudy 291S.

'Stupidest' state's favorite son not nation's best hope

It's 'Beverly Hillbillies' all over again

Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines. The presidential race is upon us. Can you feel the excitement? I didn't think so.

It's hard to imagine two less appealing men running for president. On the right, we have George Bush, who whines about the need to get rid of lifetime politicians even though he's been in government for the last 30 years. On the left, we have Bill Clinton, governor of Arkansas.

Governor of Arkansas. Can any other three words provoke more fear and laughter in the mind of the conscious voter?

Now, don't get me wrong. It's not that I hate Clinton's politics (I do), it's that no one — Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative — from the nation's stupidest state deserves to lead the entire nation.

I've been trapped in Arkansas for 15 years (a fact I will curse 'till the day I die), so I am pretty well qualified to slam my fair (or should I say poor?) state. We are at least 50th in everything but teen pregnancies, a field in which we proudly lead the nation.

And just wait — given enough time, we may even sink below Washington D.C. and U.S. possessions like Puerto Rico and Guam. Clinton can brag all he wants about having gone to Oxford, but isn't there a possibility that he made it there on some sort of scholarship program for people from dumb states? He can also brag about having been elected governor six times by the people of Arkansas, who served as the inspiration for "The Beverly Hillbillies."

Electing Clinton as president would also bring on a whole host of other problems.

Take foreign policy. Some people (the Democrats, to name a few) say that foreign policy isn't a factor anymore. But when the last four years featured the collapse of Communism, the invasion of Panama and a war in the Middle East, the fact is that the U.S. will always have to find someplace to meddle with.

And as far as international meddling goes, Bill Clinton wouldn't change a thing. He knows a popular field when he sees one, and foreign policy is about the only area George is loved in these days.

So watch Bill continue to say he agrees with basically everything Bush is doing in other lands and let George take the fall if anything bad happens. Bill Clinton has no experience, no ideas and no right to say anything about foreign policy.

George Bush is taking a lot of heat for doing nothing domestically in his four years as president. But if the whole world is collapsing around you and asking for your guidance, wouldn't you be obligated to answer?

A president is regarded as our representative to the world. It's Congress' responsibility to create a domestic policy, and all they've tried to do is spend, spend, spend. All Bush or any president can really do is say "yes" or "no" to their proposals.

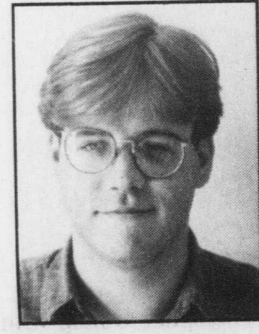
Bush has said "no" with vetoes 33 times in less than four years — more than any other president in history. George Bush is basically riding the brakes as Congress' 18-wheeler careens down the spending mountain. Bill Clinton would floor it.

One can always hope — hope that Americans will awake from their slumber and realize that life is not a rerun of "The Beverly Hillbillies," no matter how much they like Jethro and Ellie Mae.

When it all comes down to it, just close your eyes, hold your nose and pull the voting lever with your free hand.

And hope for better choices in '96.

Carl Kozlowski is a senior English major and motion picture connoisseur who would rather be from anywhere in the world other than Little Rock, Ark.



CARL KOZLOWSKI

TCU Daily Skiff
An All-American Newspaper

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News

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Mexico, Latin America featured in Global Theme Semester

Editor's Note: This story is the first in a series of articles the Skiff will be running about the Global Theme Semester. The Skiff will run a special page every Tuesday with information about the Global Theme Semester, as well as guest columns from faculty members about aspects of the semester's Mexican - Latin American theme.

By SCOTTIE BUZBEE
TCU Daily Skiff

The university's first Global Theme Semester is aimed at educating about the culture, government and history of Latin America and Mexico.

The Global Theme Semester is a campus wide effort and includes guest lecture series, conferences, exhibits and special academic courses, all related to a certain region of the world. Once every year the university will designate, and concentrate on a new specific area of the world and dedicate its time to exploring the area's history and culture.

The Theme Semester will officially be inaugurated during fall convocation on Sept. 17, when the *de facto* mayor of Mexico City, the Hon. Manuel Camacho Solis, will be the guest speaker.

A series of courses will be held

throughout the semester in each department focusing on a different aspect of the Latin American and Mexican culture and communities. The courses, which are offered by

"The purpose of the series is to enrich the entire community - students, staff, faculty - and to broaden the international dimensions of the curriculum and campus life."

LARRY ADAMS,
associate vice chancellor
for academic affairs

the history, journalism, political science, radio-TV-film, Spanish and master of liberal arts program, are included in the regular semester schedule.

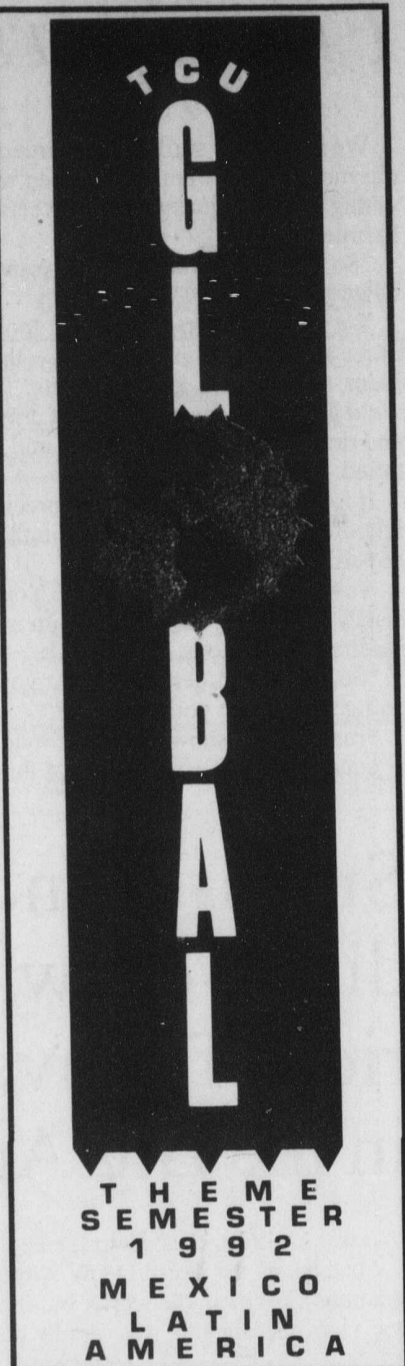
The semester will also include several guest speaker series in addition to fall convocation. David Appleby, an international authority on Brazilian music, will be speaking 4 p.m. Monday at Ed Landreth Hall Room 103. Appleby is featured as part of the Winesanker Lecture

Series and will speak on "Heitor Villa-Lobos: Heir of a Legacy of Brazilian Music."

"The purpose of the series is to enrich the entire community — students, staff, faculty — and to broaden the international dimensions of the curriculum and campus life," said Larry Adams, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. "Our goal is to prepare students to live and work successfully in a world comprised of interdependent societies."

Each of the university's schools will be having an educational series to discuss globalization of our society. The M.J. Neeley School of Business, for example, will be having a Global Communications Day on Oct. 1 at the Center for Productive Communication in the Tandy building.

The day will give students the opportunity to witness the Green Honors Lecture featuring Adolfo Aguilar Zinser, a chance to watch the international video conference with business people of Latin America and the chance to see the AT&T Language line display. The focus is to provide an opportunity to interact with the different languages, currencies and business etiquettes native to Mexico and other Latin American countries.



Gift/ from page 1

chairman, has helped provide for the grants.

"Union Pacific has been a wonderful corporation," Koehler said. "It prides itself in being members of the community and actively supporting

the community."

The networking will also provide campus access to information resources around the world through international academic networks.

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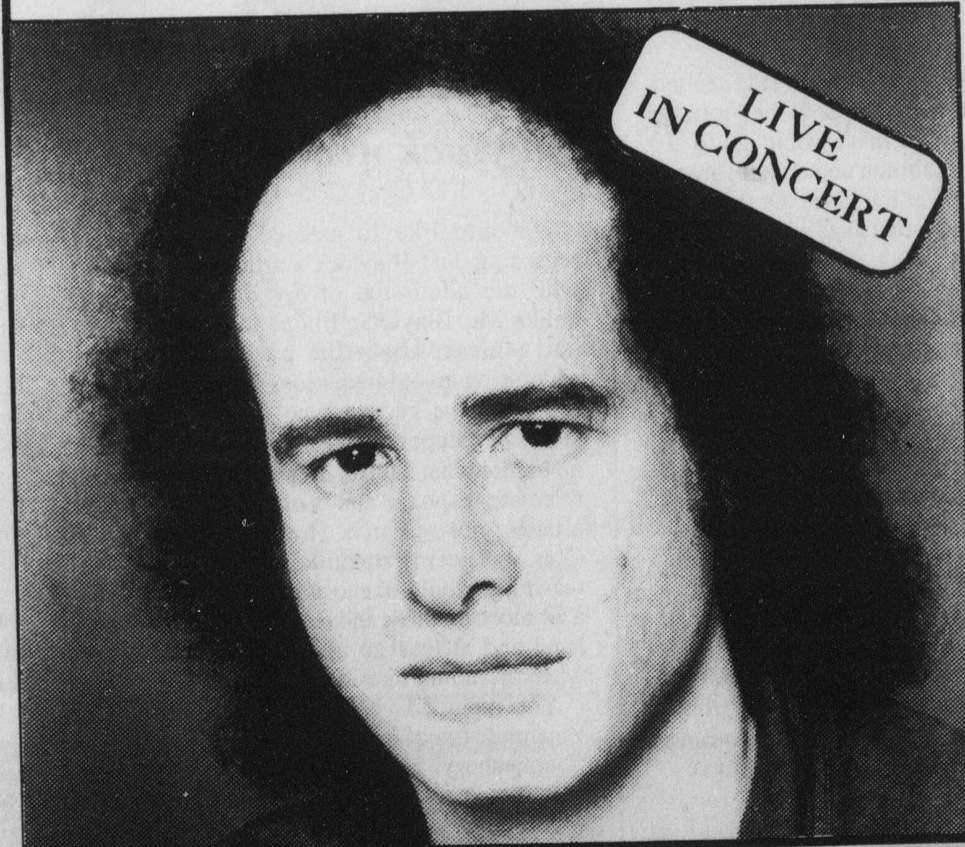
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Operation Rescue founder jailed after pro-life demonstration

By SUSAN FAHLGREN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Operation Rescue founder Randall Terry and the Rev. Joe Slovenec were jailed Thursday after a state judge ruled they had violated a demonstration limit issued

during the Republican National Convention.

State District Judge Eileen O'Neill found the two in contempt of an Aug. 6 temporary restraining order that prohibited protests from within 100 feet of any abortion clinic or within 25 feet of any person entering or

leaving the clinics.

However, in an order signed late Thursday afternoon, the Texas Supreme Court ordered the release on \$100 bond of the Rev. Keith Tucci, executive director of Operation Rescue and one of five other people jailed previously for disre-

garding the anti-protest order.

The order, signed by Chief Justice Thomas Phillips, came after attorneys for Operation Rescue filed a writ of habeas corpus in Tucci's behalf, claiming he had been "illegally restrained of his liberty." The court said it was "of the tentative

opinion" that the writ should be granted. Tucci, who had been jailed for one week, was released after an Operation Rescue member posted the bond.

"This is ultimate victory," Tucci of Charleston, S.C., said as he left jail about 7:30 p.m. "This thing is unjust,

it's not right, and we will not submit to it."

Operation Rescue attorney Jay Sekulow, chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice, likened the order releasing Tucci to a temporary injunction which the Supreme Court will review after attorneys for Planned Parenthood file a reply. However, he said he did not think Tucci would be headed back to jail.

"The tentative grant was an extremely positive development," he said. "The Supreme Court sent a message by ordering (Tucci's) release that there are serious constitutional issues at stake here."

Sekulow said he would file identical writs with the 1st Court of Appeals in Houston Friday morning, and said he hoped to obtain the release of the other protesters Friday.

Spokesmen and attorneys for Planned Parenthood could not be reached for comment on Tucci's release Thursday night.

Terry and Slovenec surrendered to the Harris County Sheriff's Department at 6 a.m. Thursday.

"We are going to jail this morning because we preached, prayed and made a plea to the president inside this 100-foot zone," Terry told reporters outside the jail. He maintains the order violates his First Amendment rights to free speech. "This is not China. This is America and this is deplorable."

But Neal Mann, attorney for Planned Parenthood Inc., said the anti-abortion protesters are no strangers to arrest and sought a national audience for their antics.

Terry of Harpersville, N.Y., and Slovenec of Cleveland, Ohio, joined the Rev. Pat Mahoney, national spokesman for the Washington-based group, Bob Jewett, the Rev. Flip Benham, Wendy Wright and Tucci in jail. Tucci's release leaves six protesters still behind bars. All have been fined \$500 for violating the anti-protest order.

Each can be released if they swear in court that they will abide by the order, which is scheduled to expire on Sept. 3. If the protesters do not swear by the temporary order, the judge said each will spend up to six months in jail. The first four group members have been jailed since Aug. 13.

A 10-day hearing to determine whether O'Neill will issue a temporary injunction on her order wrapped up Wednesday.

Another anti-abortion protester, the Rev. Norman Weslin, leader of the Lambs of Christ, also was arrested after demonstrating outside a west Houston abortion clinic during the convention on Aug. 17.

But after a hearing Wednesday, O'Neill found insufficient evidence to hold Weslin in contempt of violating the order. He remained held on criminal trespassing charges, however.

Planned Parenthood sought the order before the GOP Convention when leaders of the anti-abortion groups said they would block clinics to "rescue the pre-born."

Abortion rights activists, who organized as the Houston Defense Coalition during the convention, continue to link arms outside clinics each morning to keep anti-abortion protesters from blocking the doorways and harassing patients.

Operation Rescue members, meanwhile, have been holding daily rallies at a church camp and staging demonstrations outside clinics.

During Wednesday's hearing, O'Neill was shown videotapes taken by abortion rights activists at two protests staged outside the Planned Parenthood clinic near downtown Houston, where abortions are performed.

The tapes showed on Aug. 18, Terry led a group of ministers in preaching across the street from the clinic. The next day he used a bullhorn outside the clinic to preach.

Slovenec preached on the street near the same clinic with a bullhorn Aug. 19. He testified in a hearing Wednesday that he knew he was within the restricted area.

Planned Parenthood spokeswoman Susan Nenney said the most recent jailings send a message nationwide.

"We will not rest as long as harassment of our clients continues at Houston facilities," Nenney said. "It's very significant the founder of Operation Rescue is in jail. It speaks highly of the Houston judicial process."

Sekulow said he plans to appeal the jailing of Terry and Slovenec.

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AUG 28 1992

Sports

TCU, Tech to battle for second



This is the last in a three part series previewing the Southwest Conference football season. Ty Benz gives a brief overview of TCU. Rick Waters looks at Texas Tech and Greg Riddle previews the Texas A&M Aggies.

TCU HORNED FROGS
1991 RECORD: 7-4, (4-4)
HEAD COACH:
 Pat Sullivan, first year
STARTERS RETURNING:
 Offense - 8, Defense - 9
PREDICTED FINISH: 3rd

For the first time in almost ten years, the TCU football team has a chance to make the Cotton Bowl as new head football coach Pat Sullivan brings his winning background to Frogland.

Sullivan brings something the Frogs have never had, a winning background at a major university. Sullivan will attempt to use his experience as a player and a coach. He was a three year starting quarterback at Auburn where he led the Tigers to a 27-7 record while winning a Heisman Trophy in 1971. His coaching experience is at his alma mater where he served as offensive coordinator the past two seasons, and his changes are apparent immediately.

Gone is Jim Wacker's frantic style of football that produced excitement, but only two winning seasons in nine seasons. The run-and-shoot offense has been phased out in favor of a more balanced attack that will feature two running backs.

"You have got to run the ball to be successful," Sullivan said. "It's a big advantage if the defense doesn't

know if your going to run or pass.

Leading the Frogs' offensive attack is fragile senior quarterback Leon Clay. Clay, who has suffered two season ending injuries the last two years, must stay healthy if TCU is going to be successful as he has passed for almost 2,000 yards and 24 touchdowns the past two seasons. If Clay goes down, then the Frogs are in deep trouble.

"The thought of Leon going down hasn't entered my mind," Sullivan said. "In all my years at Auburn as an assistant coach, my quarterbacks haven't missed a practice, let alone a game."

And Clay will operate a strong offensive attack as eight starters return from a year ago, while the defense is anchored by seniors Tunji Bolden, Brad Smith, and Tony Rand. But TCU's season depends on one thing: keeping Clay healthy. If Clay stays healthy then the Frogs will win eight games, including an upset of Texas, while gaining its first bowl berth since 1984.

TEXAS TECH RED RAIDERS
1991 RECORD: 6-5, (5-3)
HEAD COACH:
 Spike Dykes, 6th year
STARTERS RETURNING:
 Offense - 6, Defense - 8
PREDICTED FINISH: 2nd

Last season, the Texas Tech Red Raiders snuck up on their Southwest Conference foes like their masked rider mascot. After losing four of their first five games, including SWC defeats to Texas A&M and TCU,

plains of Lubbock. But a team meeting proved to shift the Raiders' momentum upward on their roller coaster of a season.

"After getting killed by A&M, we were something like 1-4 and our season was going nowhere," said head coach Spike Dykes. "We called a meeting and basically refocused ourselves."

Tech went on to win five of their final six games (all against SWC opponents) and finished in a tie for second in the conference race.

Coming into this year, Dykes and the Red Raiders are bubbling with confidence and optimism, as they try to fulfill the team's slogan, "Bustin' Through in '92."

"There are so many great things about this team," Dykes said. "Everyone is working hard and has a super attitude."

With 14 starters and 33 lettermen returning, Texas Tech will enter the fall with more experience in key positions than at anytime in recent years.

"We have a nice nucleus coming back from a team that finished pretty strong," Dykes said. "We have a chance to be a really good team. We had a great spring. We have guys who have more quickness, more strength, and more guys who have played."

For 1991's momentum to carry over, Tech's offense must again be potent.

An experienced line should give junior quarterback Robert Hall both options to run and plenty of time and protection to pass. The Raiders' backs and receivers should help Tech capture the distinction of the conference's top offense.

With four returning offensive linemen, Coach Dykes can be assured of intensity, dedication and aggressiveness. Tackles Charlie Biggers and Stacey Petrich are coming off solid spring practices. They will be joined up front by center Brad Elam and Stance Labaj, both prime all-SWC possibilities.

The grunts and groans of the line's hard work is sweet music to the ears of quarterback Robert Hall. The junior signal caller is truly one of the nation's hidden talents. Twice last season he set Red Raider records for total offense, burning Rice for 443 yards and Houston for 481 yards in the season finale.

Hall's strong right arm may only be his second-best weapon. His ability to scramble netted him 278 yards rushing and 6 TDs. Whether through the air or on the ground, Hall enters the fall as a legitimate big play artist.

Although silky-smooth Rodney Blackshear has departed, Tech welcomes back a trio of explosive receivers. Junior Lloyd Hill looked impressive during the Red Raiders rise from the SWC cellar, catching 22 passes for 424 yards. Joining Hill are speedy junior college transfer Darrell Mitchell and former running back Donald Marshall. Coach Dykes believes defenses will be hard pressed to stop the triumvirate when they feel completely comfortable with the offense.

If the Raiders are to compete for the SWC crown, their running game must improve. Sophomore Byron Morris bulldozed his way to a team-leading 514 yards and five TDs. Unfortunately, no other experienced back will join Morris in the backfield. However, a pair of redshirt freshmen appear to be top future prospects. The fullback position also is undecided, though junior Bruce Hill is the favorite.

Defensively, Texas Tech welcomes back eight starters and may see as much limelight this fall as the offense. If that is to happen, the Red Raiders need to improve last year's atrocious 24 points allowed per game. Tech has had a year to become familiar with the new 3-4 defense, Dykes switched to a year ago.

Two-thirds of the front defensive line return in senior Harry Dyas and junior Shawn Jackson. At 256 pounds, Dyas is a reliable run stopper. Jackson is considered an all-SWC candidate. Last season, he recorded four sacks and 14 QB hurries.

The linebacking position should be one of the strongest on the defense. Seniors Mike Liscio and Ben Kirkpatrick are back off quality 1991 seasons. The 3-year lettermen combined for 132 tackles last fall.

Free safety Tracy Saul was All-SWC in 1991, and is a pre-season All-America selection, as well as a possible Jim Thorpe Award candidate (nation's best defensive back). Saul has 20 career interceptions and needs just nine more thefts to become the NCAA's all-time leader.

Coach Dykes must also find replacements for the Red Raiders' kicking game. Both All-American punter Mark Bounds and kicker Lin Elliott are gone.

Texas Tech's high powered offense and maturing defense will put the Raiders in the top of the SWC race, challenging Texas A&M. With a winning non-conference record, Tech could find themselves in the Top 25 and a Christmas-time bowl game.

A&M starts revival

By TY BENZ
 TCU Daily Skiff

During Wednesday night's Disney Pigskin Classic in Anaheim, every Southwest Conference football coach started praying feverishly for the favored Texas A&M to rally from a 7-0 third quarter deficit to Stanford.

The reason was simple, if the No. 7 Aggies were upset by Stanford, ranked 17th, a new wave of SWC football bashing across the country would have started.

Again. When Arkansas left for the Southeastern Conference two years ago, critics were digging a grave and writing a tombstone for the SWC. And it looked like they would be right as Texas and Texas A&M tried to follow the Razorbacks. It took action from the state legislature to prevent them from leaving and a promise of improvement from other SWC schools to keep them home.

A big reason for the down slide starts with Miami, Fla. Two years ago at the Cotton Bowl the 'Canes thrashed Texas 43-6 (which sent quarterback Peter Gardere into a coma that he still hasn't come out of). This blowout started UT's disastrous 1991 year as the Horns, the SWC's longtime king, into a 5-6 tailspin last year, despite the No. 3 defense in the nation.

After crushing 1990's SWC king, the Hurricanes had a showdown with last year's great pre-season hope, the Houston Cougars and its Heisman candidate David Klingler on national television. A national audience watched the 'Canes expose UH's porous defense and weak offensive line when they thrashed the Cougs 40-10. Apparently Illinois watched those tapes because the next week they thrashed Houston 51-10 on national television. The SWC's best chance for a national championship totally fell apart on the way to a 4-7 season.

When Tulsa upset A&M 35-34 in the second week, the nation howled with glee as the once great SWC was in tatters. The bashing continued all season long and into post-season play as the lackadaisical play by SWC teams continued. The three bowl bound teams, Arkansas, Baylor, and A&M, went 0-3 in post season and were outscored 53-17. The Cotton Bowl was a snoozer as Florida State beat the Aggies 10-2 in one of the most boring Cotton Bowls ever.

If the SWC is to improve then two things must happen: attendance must continue to rise and the bottom of the conference must improve.

There is talk in Rice that this could be the year for a breakthrough. Running back Trevor Cobb is a big league player and has a chance at the Heisman. But questions still surround the defense and quarterback.

Things have gotten so bad at SMU that the school is thinking of abolishing its football program as the team continues to lose since coming back from the death penalty.

Despite all the pessimism in the air, SWC coaches are talking turnaround this season.

"I think we have a strong conference," TCU head football coach Pat Sullivan said. "It just doesn't have the following or the recognition that the other conferences have."

That's why everybody breathed a collective sigh of relief when the Aggies and sophomore quarterback Jeff Granger rallied from a horrible first half as A&M beat Stanford and new head coach Bill Walsh 10-7.

This is what the SWC teams need to do - beat quality non-conference opponents. Last year the SWC non conference record (excluding Arkansas) was just 14-12, but even that is deceiving as SWC teams were only 4-9 against non conference opponents with winning records. If the SWC is going to wipe the smear off its face and stand tall, this record has to improve.

And the Aggies could have started a new trend last Wednesday when they held off the Cardinal. The next couple of weeks is crucial to rebuilding the image of the conference. If the SWC is going to rise out of the ashes and hold a modern day renaissance then the top teams need to beat the good non conference teams.

Unless the people of Texas want to hear more belligerent SWC jokes like - "Why did Dennis Erickson (Miami's head coach) vacation in Texas? Because he wanted to get as far away from college football as possible." The best way to stop these types of jokes is for somebody other than A&M to step up and upset a big name school early in the year.

Then.....the SWC jokes and bashing will stop, and the critics will be silenced.

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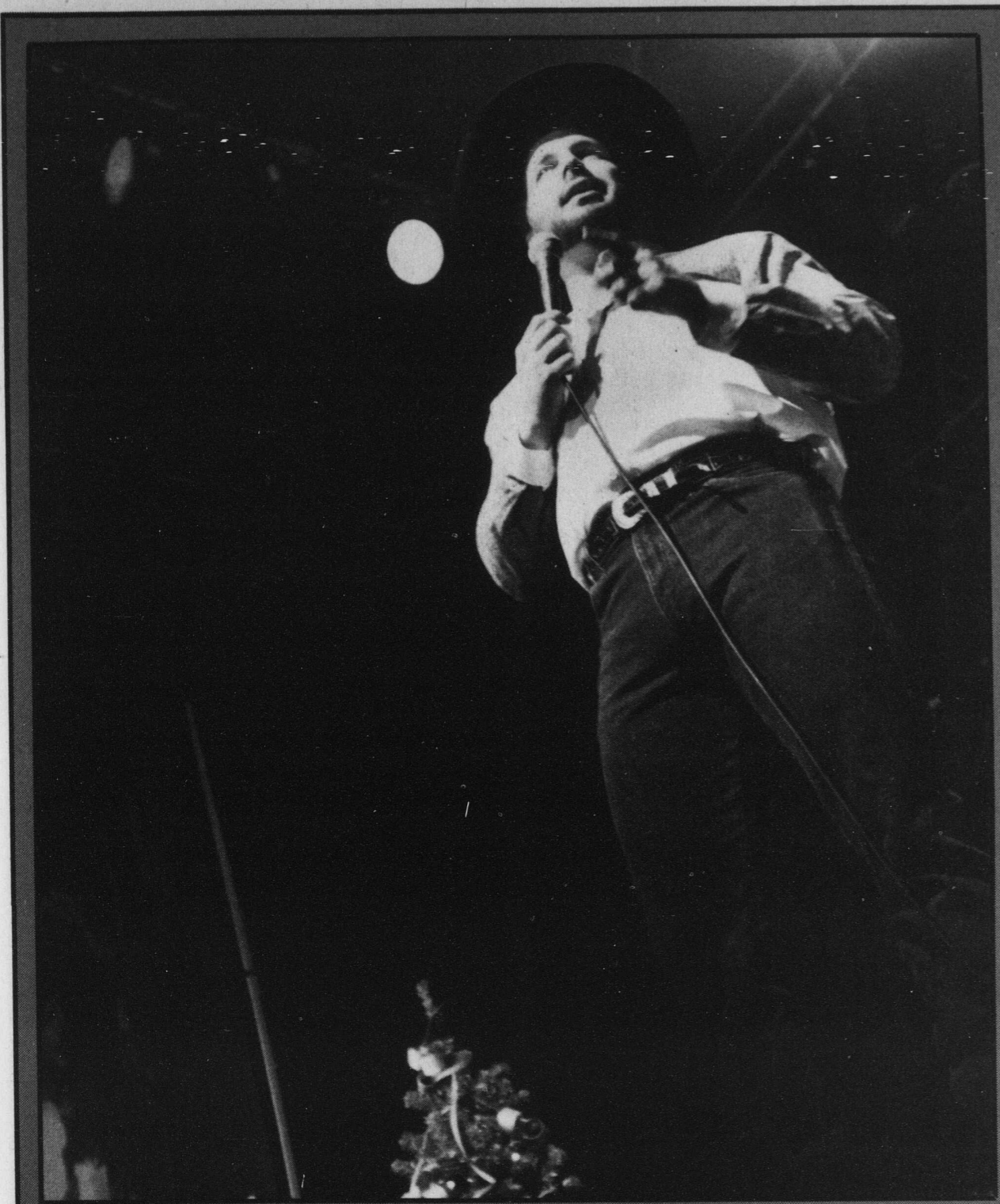
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Country singer Garth Brooks announced his efforts to support the Feed the Children organization with proceeds from his Christmas cassettes and compact disks, at a press conference held at Billy Bob's in Fort Worth last weekend.

Friends in low places

Garth Brooks uses album proceeds to help support Feed the Children

By Chris Ward
Special to the Skiff

Country music superstar Garth Brooks is never one to shy away from flair and showmanship. Such was the case Sunday afternoon at Billy Bob's Texas when he held one of the most energetic and friendly press conferences since Jim Wacker left the Metroplex.

Brooks was in town to discuss an upcoming Christmas album which will raise money for Feed the Children, an international charity aimed at relieving hunger. *Beyond the Season*, Brooks' first stab at Christmas music, went on sale Tuesday. For every copy of the album sold before Christmas Day, one dollar will go to Feed the Children. Sales of the album are expected to raise three million dollars.

"With the birth of Taylor (Brooks' daughter), it hurts even more to think of children in this world going hungry," Brooks said.

"Children are the last chance the world has at innocence and purity. When we extend a hand to our children, we extend a hand to our future."

The Billy Bob's stop was the first of six press conferences to be held throughout the U.S., and was the only one open to the public. The public's presence is what made this conference

unique.

Although he admitted that he's much more comfortable with a guitar in his hands, Brooks handled the barrage of questions — which included some off-the-wall material — with his trademark humble, down-home charm.

After fielding questions from the press for about 30 minutes, the public had their chance to speak with the man. And speak they did.

Several over-eager parents

After fielding questions from the press for about 30 minutes, the public had their chance to speak with the man. And speak they did.

used their children as props to get to speak with Brooks. One woman said her 3-year-old son insists that they call him Garth and managed to get Brooks to shake the confused, horrified-looking boy's hand. Another parent rambled on about her son's jungle gym accident, prompting Brooks to give the boy a wave. Aside from that, most of the questions were extremely insightful.

As expected, the question arose about the possibility of Brooks adding a second show in

Dallas. The singer said there wasn't, however, plans are being worked out to film a second TV special at Texas Stadium next summer.

"We've obviously found the perfect crowd for our TV special, now we just need to get the details worked out," Brooks said.

When asked his opinion of the ticket scalping occurring for his Oct. 17 show, Brooks said that he is determined to beat the scalpers.

"Whether I have to play in Dallas four, five or six days, if that's what it takes, I'll do it," Brooks said.

Perhaps the lightest moment of the afternoon came when one man said he heard a rumor that Brooks had learned to do the "Achy Breaky" dance.

"Other than a real good slow dance, I don't think I can do anything like that in these jeans," Brooks quipped.

The press conference was also an ideal time for Brooks to drum up publicity for his upcoming LP, *The Chase*, which will hit the shelves September 22. The first single will be the gospel song "We Shall Be Free." Other cuts will include a version of Little Feat's "Dixie Chickens" as well as a song about Brooks' father entitled "The Night I Called My Old Man Out."

PSYCHOS, CRAZIES AND ALAN ALDA

THREE NEW MOVIES ATTEMPT TO SCARE FILM GOERS OUT OF SIX BUCKS

By Carl Kozlowski
TCU Daily Skiff

Americans have always seemed to have a particular fascination with the dark terrors of psychopathic killers. Whether by watching "Gerald" and "A Current Affair," or by reading the latest wave in true-crime books, the psycho-killer trend is hotter than ever.

Riding on the heels of the Oscar-winning "Silence of the Lambs," three recent films have tried to scare moviegoers out of their six bucks. All three have their moments, but the end results are either predictable or laughable, and sometimes both.

"Single White Female" is gaining the most attention and the most money at the box office. And truth be told, it's probably the best of this bunch. "SWF" stars up-and-coming actress Bridget Fonda and perpetual star-in-waiting Jennifer Jason Leigh as two twentysomething women in New York who become roommates after Fonda kicks her boyfriend out for cheating on her. The only problem is, Fonda didn't really check Leigh's references. And this movie shows what a problem that can be.

Soon everything imaginable is going wrong in Fonda's life, and it becomes clear that Leigh is playing manipulative games designed to take over her life. How long will it take Fonda to stand up for herself and find a tactful way to get Leigh out of her life? And how long will it take the film's makers to get to the inevitable less-than-tactful conclusion?

The problem with a movie like "SWF" is that the very premise and commercials scream out the ending: A psycho's messing with your life, and you've gotta get rid of them. The only twists involved are the ways Leigh inflicts sadistic pranks on Fonda's life, and the high style in which director Barbet Schroeder (Oscar-nominated for "Reversal of Fortune") handles the familiar material.

Schroeder creates a dark, unsettling New York of loneliness and madness, giving it the feel of "Silence of the Lambs" without as strong a story to back it up. Leigh and Fonda also give the film strong performances that rise this well above the usual level of the psycho genre.

It's too bad the film's message seems to be that successful single women have to go loony and kill people or have other loony women destroy their lives. But if you find a predictable conclusion and an underlying sadistic feel to your enjoyment, "Single White Female" is above the B I'm giving it for its technical qualities.

"Raising Cain" is the other major film of the trio, with John Lithgow starring in director Brian DePalma's return to his Hitchcockian roots ("Body Double," "Dressed to Kill") after bombing big-time with "Bonfire of the Vanities."

"Cain" features Lithgow as a scientist whose marriage is slowly unraveling due to a bizarre child-raising experiment involving his own daughter. When Lithgow goes on the prowl for other children to use for his evil ends, the story spins off into a wacky ride through his fractured, split-personality mind.

DePalma keeps the audience wondering what's really happening, and who's doing what to whom. The different personality switches and blackouts lead to different versions of the same events, and for the first hour the film is a rollicking hoot to watch.

But the last half-hour, when things are finally explained, collapses into a ridiculous conclusion in which we see Lithgow wearing a dress for the first time since his intentionally comic performance in "The World



Friends for life...

Bridget Fonda and Jennifer Jason Leigh star as Allison Jones and Hedra Carlson, two roommates locked in psychological warfare in director Barbet Schroeder's *Single White Female*, a Columbia Pictures release.

According to Garp" ten years ago. The final, supposedly stunning, shot left the audience groaning. See "Garp" instead. Better yet, see DePalma's source material, "Psycho," if you want real chills instead of unintentional laughter. Score it a C+.

"Whispers in the Dark" is the least-known of the bunch, but this thriller involving a psychiatrist who's trying to figure out if a dead woman patient was the victim of a brutal murder or just kinky sex boasts a great cast and plenty of twists and style. Just like "Cain," the majority of the film delivers a rocking, intense good time before devolving into the stupidest climax I have ever seen.

Just take a look at the cast of hot newcom-

ers, including Annabella Sciorra ("Jungle Fever"), "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle"), Anthony LaPaglia ("29th Street"), "One Good Cop") and Jamey Sheridan (TV's acclaimed "Shannon's Deal").

Then try to figure out what Alan Alda's doing in the middle of all this. That's right, Alan Alda's in the middle of a thriller involving kinky sex, doublecrossings and a couple of brutal murders. Think twice, realize who's out of place and save yourself six bucks. The ending is a stunning disappointment, but also a howler. If you're a connoisseur of films that are so bad they're good, this is one for you. Score it a C-, but with an intelligent ending, it would have been an A.

Phantom: Tragic Tale Turned into Farce

By Leann Simpson
TCU Daily Skiff

The lights in the theater dim, signaling the audience to settle in their seats. One haunting note from the orchestra lifts to the ceiling and the show begins.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's isn't the only *Phantom of the Opera*, but it's the best one. After viewing playwright Arthur Kopit's adaptation of the classic Gaston Leroux novel, I was appalled at his audacity to rob his audiences of a beautiful, enchanting experience.

But, Kopit was not alone in his crime of turning the wonderful tale of the disfigured musical genius obsessed with a beautiful young soprano at the opera into a comical farce. He was assisted by director Van Kaplan.

In Kopit's hands the phantom is no creature of horror, but turned instead into comical figure, a creature to be laughed at. In the second act — at the climactic moment when the phantom learns his father's identity — the phantom mourns his ugliness while his father agrees that it was certainly no face for a tenor or a baritone for that fact. That joke ruined a beautiful scene.

"This tale has no room for comic relief," said Jennifer Bauer, a senior English major.

Halfway through the first act my companion whispered to me, "I can't believe this. This the rape of a classic."

In trying to add comic relief to this tragedy, Kopit only succeeds in breaking its concentration, making the plot choppy and disjointed. The actors seem to be forcing the comedy, making the entire show become very uncomfortable.

The hero of this show is composer Maury Yeston. The show contains some of the most beautiful voices I have heard. Lisa Vroman, as Christine, the innocent object of the phantom's desire, has a voice so

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Aggies class of SWC

TEXAS A&M AGGIES
1991 RECORD: 10-2, (8-0)
HEAD COACH:
 R.C. Slocum, 4th year
STARTERS RETURNING:
 Offense - 9, Defense - 7
PREDICTED FINISH: 1st

It has been rumored that Texas A&M fans are already reserving their tickets for the Jan. 1 Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

Not so fast!
 Any thoughts that Texas A&M was going to be invincible and run away with the Southwest Conference football race went flying out the window Wednesday night in Anaheim, Calif.

The No. 7-ranked Aggies stunk up Anaheim Stadium for three quarters before coming to life in the fourth to salvage a 10-7 victory over No. 17-ranked Stanford in the Disneyland Pigskin Classic.

After finishing last season with a 10-2 record and No. 12 national ranking, despite having 60 underclassmen on the squad, A&M was supposed to be the class of the SWC in 1992.

However, after battling Stanford to a near standstill, A&M came away with more questions than answers. The Aggies' performance has given hope to teams like Texas Tech, TCU and Texas that there still may be a race in the SWC yet.

The biggest question mark is at quarterback, where Davey O'Brien finalist and All-SWC quarterback Bucky Richardson has departed for the NFL's Houston Oilers.

The Aggies tried three different quarterbacks Wednesday night without much success. Sophomore Jeff Granger was supposed to have guaranteed A&M a spot in the Cotton Bowl when he decided to return to the gridiron this summer rather than playing baseball. Against Stanford, Granger was miserable in the first half. After being benched, he returned in the fourth quarter to rally

the Aggies.

"When you think about an offense, the first person you look to is the quarterback," Slocum said. "We've had a guy like Bucky Richardson that made the big plays for us and was such an influence from a leadership standpoint. He made the players around him better. We have very little experience and that is a concern."

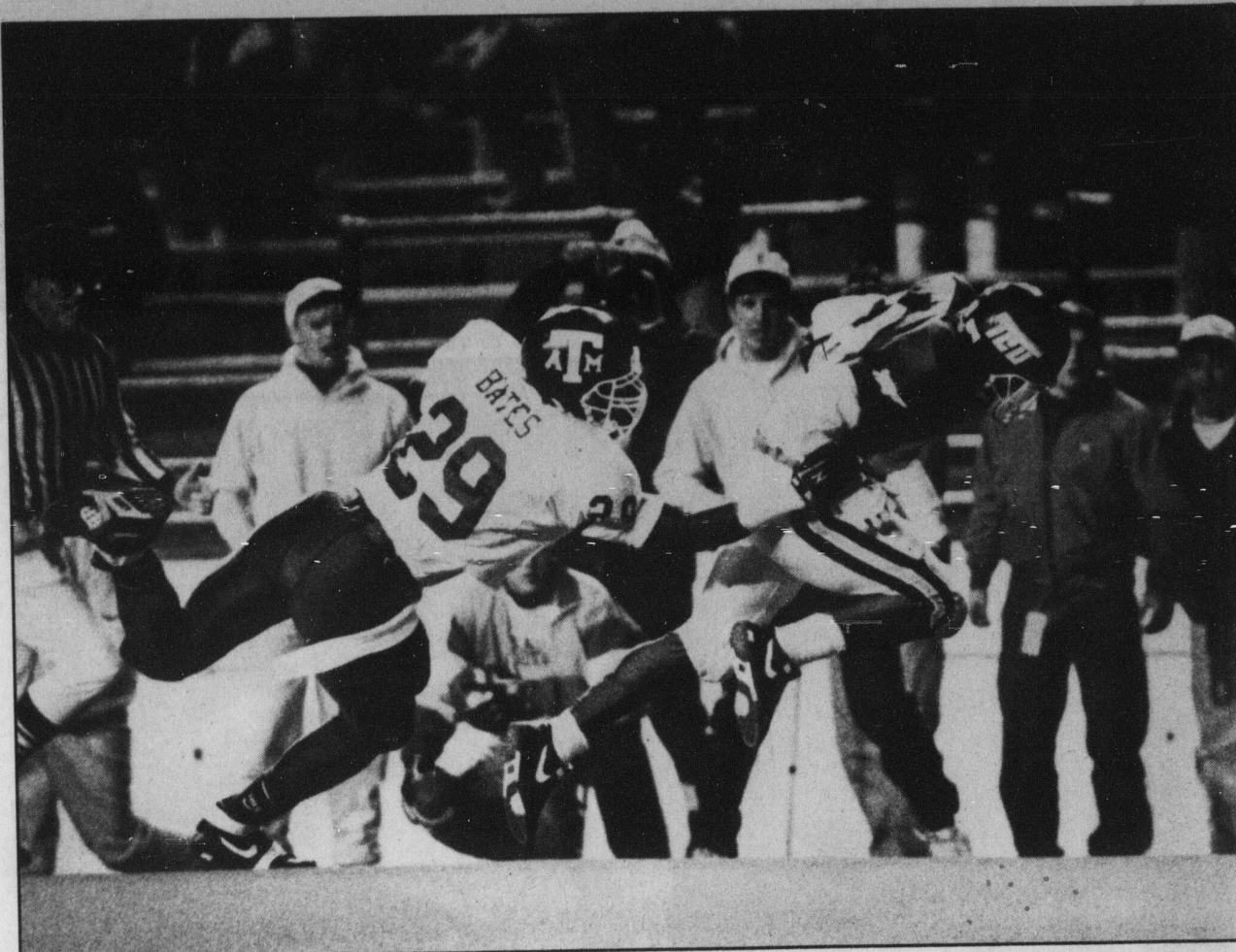
With the quarterbacking job up in the air, A&M will focus more on its ground assault this season. Not a bad place to start considering nine starters return on offense, including four offensive linemen. Last year, the Aggies set a school record by scoring 402 points.

Leading the ground attack will be senior fullback Doug Carter. In 1991, Carter rushed for 359 yards while averaging 5.1 yards per carry. However, his most vital contribution to the Aggies is the blocking he does for tailbacks Greg Hill and Rodney Thomas. As a redshirt freshman last year, Hill rushed for 1,216 yards, breaking the SWC freshman rushing record previously held by Earl Campbell.

The offensive line, a huge question mark going into last year, supplied plenty of answers in 1991 as the Aggies led the SWC in rushing. Guards John Ellisor and Tyler Harrison and tackle Dexter Wesley all return, but all missed spring practice with injuries.

When the ground game bogs down, A&M has a young but dependable group of wide receivers to throw to. Junior Tony Harrison leads the way after snaring 31 passes for 577 yards and six touchdowns. A potential game breaker for the Aggies is sophomore Brian Mitchell, who set a school record by averaging 27.3 yards on each of his 19 receptions last year, but he broke his leg against Stanford last night and is out indefinitely.

With some questions on offense, it will be the Aggies stout defense that will lead the team to another SWC title and Cotton Bowl date. Seven starters return on defense, including five on the defensive line. The Aggies' "Wrecking Crew" defense



TCU Daily Skiff/ Jessica Mann

Junior free safety Patrick Bates will have a hand in the Aggies run to the Cotton Bowl.

chewed up and spit out a very potent Cardinal offense.

The linebacking core will lead the Aggies' demolition of SWC offenses. Senior Marcus Buckley, a Fort Worth native, is a terror at outside linebacker. Buckley, a preseason All-American candidate, led A&M with 13 sacks.

"Marcus Buckley is the next outstanding linebacker in a long line of outstanding linebackers at Texas A&M," Slocum said. "He is an impact player and has developed into a leader on defense."

Junior inside linebacker Jason Atkinson led the team in tackles last year and will help ease the loss of SWC Defensive Player of the Year Quentin Coryatt. Reggie Graham, Jessie Cox and Otis Nealy are also solid prospects.

Last year, the Aggies recorded a SWC record 56 quarterback sacks. They also led the nation in total defense, allowing only 222.4 yards per game.

Any question why this group is

called the Wrecking Crew?

The defensive line of A&M played a big part in that success. In 1991, the Aggies defensive front employed a "Six-Pack" approach with six defensive linemen rotating in and out of the lineup. Noseguard Mark Wheeler has graduated, but A&M still has plenty of ammunition left in its arsenal.

Defensive end Sam Adams earned SWC Defensive Newcomer of the Year honors last year after recording 5.5 sacks and 35 tackles. He will be joined on the line by Lance Teichelman, Eric England and Kefa Chatham.

The defensive secondary is the biggest hole in the Aggies defense. All-American cornerback Kevin Smith and safety Chris Crooms were lost to the NFL and three reserves from last season have graduated. This leaves senior cornerback Derrick Frazier and Patrick Bates to hold down the fort until some of the younger players gain experience.

"We were hit hardest in the defen-

sive backfield," Slocum said. "We put a lot of pressure on our cornerbacks with our aggressive approach and Derrick Frazier is one of the best man coverage corners in the country."

If there were any doubts about the Aggies' kicking game, they were solved Wednesday night. Kicker Terry Venetoulis nailed a game-winning 40-yard field goal late in the game while punter David Davis constantly pinned the Cardinal deep.

Despite the offensive shortcomings against Stanford, the Aggies are still a heavy favorite to repeat as conference champs solely because of their defense. Anyone who holds Stanford to seven points has one heck of a defense.

The Aggies will avenge last year's loss to Tulsa, but will not go through their SWC schedule undefeated. However, it is the SWC, and the Aggies have too much talent to keep them from going to the Cotton Bowl, where they will meet the Syracuse Orangemen.

Phantom/ from page 7

sweet that one can easily understand why he fell in love with her singing; and Keith Rice, as the impetuous, suffering phantom, vocally matches her in their love duets. Vroman, deservingly enough, was hired this week to tour in the Broadway national tour of Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*, reprising her role as Christine.

Other cast members include Anna Maria Alberghetti as Carlotta, the self-deluded opera house manager. She is giving the unfortunate task of adding the comic relief to the production. Alberghetti is often reminiscent of Ursula the sea witch from Walt Disney's *Little Mermaid* with her jealousy of Christine's voice. Jamie Ross gives a good perfor-

mance as Gerard Carriere, the Phantom's estranged father.

Both Webber and Kopit follow Leroux's storyline fairly closely, but Webber's *Phantom* is a melodic extravaganza, while Kopit's is a reflection of the musical comedies of the forties. Audience's best bet would be to save their money for the next Webber tour.

Casa Manana is located at 3101 West Lancaster. Performances times are 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. *Phantom* runs through Sept. 6.

Ticket prices range from \$14 to \$21 and are available by calling (817) 332-CASA or any Rainbow-Ticketmaster location.

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