

TCU Daily Skiff

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Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

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Stress of holiday season leads some to depression, not joy

By JENNIFER SCOTT
TCU Daily Skiff

The holidays may be the season to be jolly for some people, but for others they are times of tears and sadness.

Kelly (not her real name), a freshman pre-major, said she can't remember having a truly merry Christmas.

"It wasn't anything specific that anyone did," she said. "I just remember always feeling sad at Christmas, and it seems to get worse every year."

Like many others, Kelly suffers from holiday depression, or holiday blues syndrome.

Holiday depression is similar to any other kind of depression in both its physical and psychological symptoms, said Jack Scott, director of the Counseling Center.

Physical symptoms of the depression include problems with eating or sleeping, either too much or not enough, while psychological symptoms include intense feelings of sadness and feelings of being unwanted or unloved.

"It's basically just an acute case of the blues," Scott said.

These "blues" can strike before, during or after holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, and are basically seen as a stress reaction to social demands such as holiday parties and family reunions. Unmet expectations in personal life, and biological factors such as lack of sleep also contribute to the depression, Scott said.

"There are so many parties to go to and gifts to wrap that people take on all the responsibilities and get caught up in the rush," he said. "They end up overextending themselves and don't get proper nutrition or sufficient

rest." This overextension leads the person to feel that he or she lacks control of his or her life, and the holidays become synonymous with unmet expectations and guilt, he said.

For students, especially freshmen, many factors can lead to holiday depression.

According to the "Stress Calendar," a handbook given to all resident assistants and hall directors during summer training, campus officials are told to look for pre-Christmas anxiety and depression due to fear of final exams and projects.

The calendar also warns of depression due to financial strains as bills are due, and because of an increased pressure to perform sexually before the holidays and a long separation.

The thought of seeing how friends have changed since graduation also affects freshmen going home for

their first holiday, said Lynn Poindexter, Colby Hall director.

"Everyone wants to have a story about how great their grades are and how great they are doing, and if they don't have such a good story it can be a problem," Poindexter said.

Kelly said the lack of control and guilt over unmet expectations surrounding the holidays cause her to become depressed and almost lethargic, while she rarely gets depressed at other times during the year.

"It's not that I don't like Christmas," she said. "It's just that it seems like everything is happening all at once and I can't slow down enough to do anything right. It gets to the point where I tell myself that I'm not worthy of having a happy holiday."

The pressures of exams and bringing home good grades to her parents, along with retrospection of the past year play major roles in her depression, Kelly said.

"I think New Year's Eve has always been the worst point of the holidays for me," she said. "It always causes me to look back and see the things I should have done, and look forward to the new year and see things that I need to do and know I probably won't."

Scott said the feelings described by Kelly are common to all people, but each person approaches the feelings in a different way.

"All of us should expect to be a little sad during the holidays because it is a sentimental time and we're more in touch with our emotions," he said. "If we take the responsibility to feel the emotions and not bottle them up inside we can structure them in a meaningful way and they won't ruin the holidays."

People who suffer from holiday depression should learn to balance

their activities and reduce their stress through good nutrition, sufficient sleep and effective exercise habits, Scott said.

They should also organize their time and make sure there is room for everything that is important to them throughout the year so that the holidays are not as rushed, he said.

Finally, people with holiday depression need to maintain an effective support system with people that they can talk to in order to work through their feelings, Scott said.

People should simply allow themselves to enjoy the day they are in and not let themselves be overwhelmed by time, he said.

"You should use and do whatever works best for you, within responsible reason, to help overcome the depression," he said. "I say 'within

see Holiday, page 2

D E C E M B E R 1 9 9 2



TCU Daily Skiff/ Jennifer Biggins

Mary Nelson and Amy Dickson contemplate the AIDS Quilts on Monday in the Student Center Ballroom. The quilt was presented by the university and the Fort Worth/Tarrant County NAMES Project.

Tarrant County works on campus to promote world AIDS awareness

By BETH AINE BOLLINGER
TCU Daily Skiff

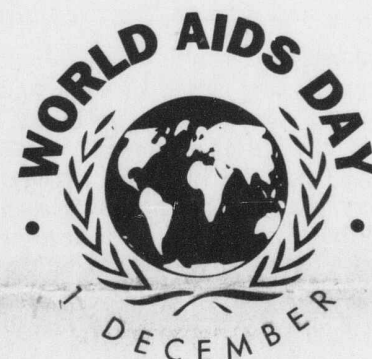
Today marks the observance of the fifth annual World AIDS day, sponsored by the World Health Organization.

Following the WHO's theme of "A Community Commitment," the Tarrant County World AIDS Day Committee has scheduled activities that focus on the role the community plays in the AIDS crisis.

Activities center on the display of 128 panels of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, made by friends, family and loved ones of those who have died of AIDS. There will also be an Interfaith Service at the United Methodist church on Campus Drive and a Candlelight Vigil at the Frog Fountain.

The WHO hopes to raise awareness, compassion, hope and understanding for those who live with AIDS and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, according to a WHO press release. The WHO also wishes to stress the fact that AIDS is not a disease that just the homosexual community, according to the release.

The homosexual community is acting more responsibly and taking



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR WORLD HEALTH

measures to stop the spread of AIDS, while the number of AIDS cases in the heterosexual community has gone up drastically, said Kathy French, Education Coordinator for the Fort Worth/Tarrant County NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt.

"While a vast majority of those dying are still gay, college kids are becoming the biggest risk group," French said.

"Students who know someone with AIDS or have lost people with AIDS are deeply affected (by the Quilt)," she said. "There is still a feeling that 'it can't happen to me' among students."

French said community involvement has been positive. TCU students have come up to her and asked her if they needed any extra help and many different people have come to see the quilt, she said.

"Education is the key, because this is a preventable disease and we can stop it," she said. "If an individual is not affected by the disease, then the individual will be affected by the community through rising health costs."

"Community involvement is critical because education comes from many different sources, not just from the AIDS target groups," she said.

Efforts like World AIDS Day bring about greater awareness on a large scale, French said. They also bring about education about safer sex, and act to break down barriers between people, she said.

"AIDS is a problem we all deal with as human beings," she said. "It is something we all need to work at together to try to solve. By having AIDS Day we bring more publicity to the problem and hopefully the message will sink in."

see Aids, page 2

Bank, campus group provide Christmas for underprivileged kids

By CHRIS NEWTON
and LEIANN SIMPSON
TCU Daily Skiff

Two thousand underprivileged, abused or neglected children will receive gifts this year because of the annual Spirit of Christmas program sponsored by TeamBank and the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (PRS).

"The Spirit of Christmas is about giving children a reason to look forward to the holidays," said Ron Steinhart, chairman and chief executive officer of TeamBank. "I think you have to get involved to know what a genuinely heartwarming experience it is."

"Receiving a gift through the Spirit of Christmas lets a child know someone cares," said Louis Greve of Child Protective Services. "This program gives people a chance to directly contribute to helping an unfortunate child have a special Christmas."

The PRS investigates any abuse or neglect referrals and collects 2,000 names of children in foster homes, economically struggling families, families with substance-abusing parents, or children who are physically, emotionally or sexually abused.

These names are then given to TeamBank, which makes cards with the children's name, situation and Christmas wish.

This year, Order of Omega, the Greek honor society, is responsible for distributing the cards to university students who want to participate in the program.

"It's really popular on this campus," said Carrie Brewer, Order of Omega president. "Students can go shopping and get exactly what the child wants."

Over 500 cards have already been distributed around the campus. Cards for the program are available until Wednesday in the Student Center.

The Order of Omega has arranged for the students to present their gifts at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at 10 p.m. Wednesday in front of Sadler Hall. The students will also sing Christmas carols and listen to speaker Steve Wacker.

"I believe this program is important because every child should have a happy Christmas and if this is the only gift the children get it should be something they need," said Sheree Helge, Order of Omega member.

"It's important that people realize

see Gifts, page 2

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METROPLEX

Today will be sunny with a high temperature of 60 degrees. Wednesday will be cloudy with a high of 58 degrees.

Building parking garage would cost \$10,000 a space, vice chancellor says

By JAY WARREN
TCU Daily Skiff

A parking garage is a solution still being considered for the university's parking problem.

There are three proposed parking garages in the university's master plan, said Edd Bivin, vice chancellor for administrative services.

The first garage will probably be built on the south side of the Bass Building, Bivin said. The other two proposed parking facilities are located on the east side of the Moudy Building and an underground parking garage in front of the Student Center, he said.

The university has been exploring ways of building and paying for a parking garage, Bivin said. Currently, there are no funds set aside for the garage, he said.

Bronson Davis, vice chancellor for University Advancement, said it is difficult to get somebody to donate a large sum of money for a parking garage.

The university is looking into having a private company build and operate the garage, Bivin said. If a private company was used, the garage would still be built to the university's specifications, he said.

Whether the garage is owned by a private company or by the university, students will have to pay some kind

of a fee to use it, Bivin said. The fee would help to cover the cost of building and maintaining the structure, he said.

Bivin estimated each parking space would cost \$10,000 to build and maintain.

"There will have to be some way to charge the users," he said. "We can charge either on an access basis or on a permit basis."

A priority for the university is to make sure the garage does not interrupt the flow of traffic in the neighborhoods, Bivin said. The entrances and exits to the garage will be planned so they will coordinate with the current traffic flow, he said.

"The garage will not be intrusive to the surrounding neighborhoods," he said. "Also, we will make the parking garage resemble the architecture of the campus."

A reconfiguring and relighting of the stadium parking lot and an expansion of the Worth Hills parking lot are also contained within the master plan, Bivin said. The ditch behind the fraternity houses could be filled in to add parking spaces, he said.

A temporary solution to the parking problem is being presented by the Student Concerns Committee of the House of Student Representatives. The committee has proposed that all freshmen with cars be required to park in the lower stadium parking lot

behind the new Ranch Management Building, said Ben Hall, committee chairman.

"It would open 750 spaces in the upper stadium parking lot," Hall said. "We hope that this will help to alleviate some of the parking problems on the east side of campus."

The Student Concerns Committee has also proposed adding lights and a security guard for the stadium parking lot, Hall said. The proposal will be presented to the office of Don Mills, the interim vice chancellor for student affairs, sometime this week, Hall said.

Some have proposed not allowing freshmen to bring cars on campus. Mills said the university does not plan to enforce such a proposal.

"The culture of Texas is such that not allowing freshmen to bring cars to school could prove to be a disaster," he said. "Also, public transportation in Fort Worth is barely adequate. This would put us at a competitive disadvantage."

An alternative solution to the parking problem is offering a shuttle service to run between the Worth Hills area to the Student Center and to the east side of the campus. However, a shuttle may not be financially feasible, Mills said.

"Our campus is an in-between size

see Garage, page 2

Aids/ from page 1

According to a press release, Texas ranks fourth in the nation in the number of AIDS cases reported, with almost 17,000 cases. Tarrant County recently had its 1,000th case of AIDS reported, according to the release. An estimated 10,000 to 18,000 people in Tarrant County have been infected with HIV, according to the release.

In order to show their support and understanding for those who live with AIDS and HIV, students are asked to wear a red ribbon folded like those on the trees lining University Drive, French said.

"The ribbon symbolizes the people we have lost to the disease," she said. "They are a memorial."

"I would like for students to know that this is something that is close to them," she said. "The young generation will have to deal with the AIDS problem. I hope that they will be a lot smarter than my generation."

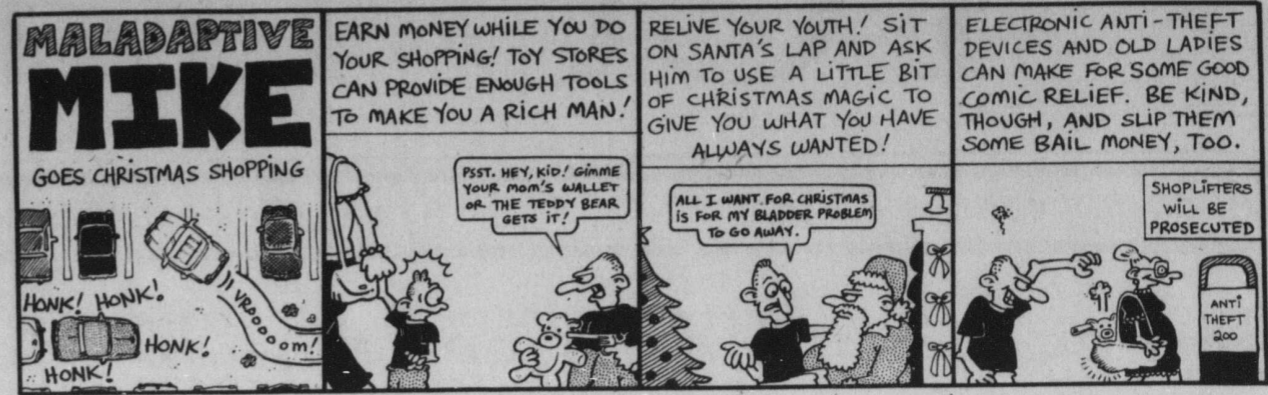
Ten Points on AIDS for World AIDS Day:

1. AIDS is a worldwide problem that has touched every continent.
2. Human Immunodeficiency Virus, which causes AIDS, can only be spread through unprotected sexual intercourse with an infected partner, infected blood or blood products and from an infected mother to a child before, during or shortly after birth.
3. The sexual transmission of AIDS can be prevented through abstinence or sexual intercourse between two uninfected monogamous partners. The use of latex condoms during intercourse can reduce the risk of spreading HIV.
4. Infection through blood can be prevented through discarding needles, syringes and other skin-piercing instruments after use.
5. It is important to remember that HIV is not transmitted through shaking hands, touching, or hugging. There is no danger in ordinary social contact.
6. Isolating individuals with HIV or AIDS is a violation of their human rights and hurts the individuals.
7. The spreading of accurate information is necessary to stopping the spread of the disease.
8. AIDS is a disease affects men, women and children of all races and of all sexual orientations. No one is immune.
9. AIDS is a problem the whole world needs to come together to combat.
10. Every individual can work to stop the spread of the disease through understanding the facts and helping other people to do the same thing.

The above information was listed in the resource booklet from the American Association for World Health, "A Community Commitment."

Insanity Fair

by Joe Barnes



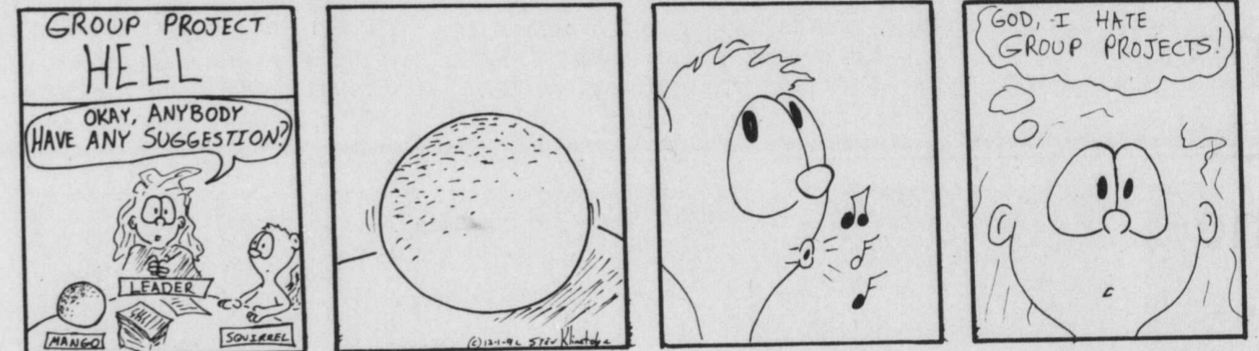
Hemlock

by Andy Grieser



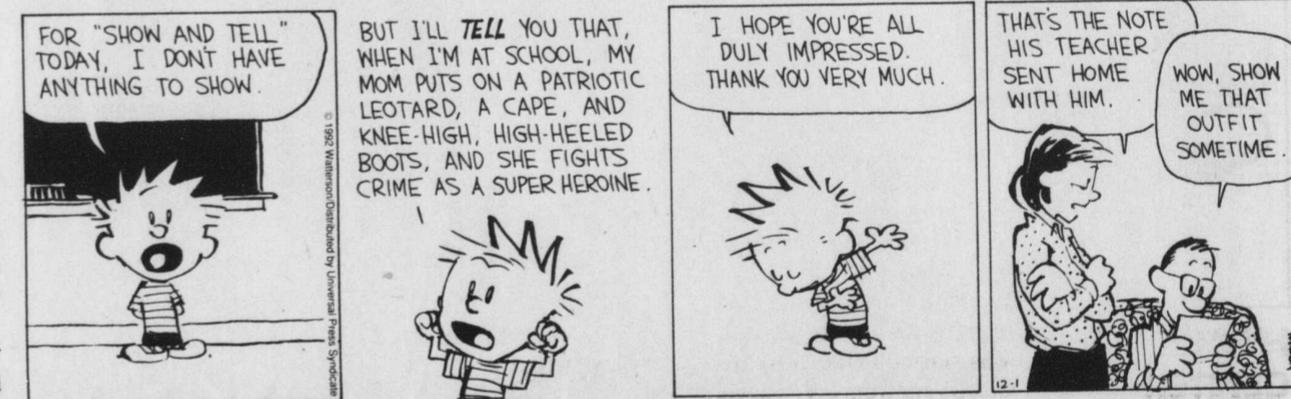
Nigel & Me

by Stev Klinetobe



Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



Garage/ page 1

school," he said. "We are big enough to have a parking problem, but not big enough to be able to need and afford a shuttle service."

An estimate for a shuttle service was made about five years ago, Mills said. At that time, to lease, insure and man a bus would cost approximately \$50,000 a year, he said. That number goes up to \$70,000 to buy a shuttle bus, he said.

If the university did provide a shuttle service, students would probably have to pay a fee to use it, he said.

There are a number of reasons why the parking situation is worse this year than in past years, Mills said. A major reason is an increase in enrollment for this school year, he said. When there are more students on campus, that means there are more cars, he said.

At least 150 spaces were lost in the stadium parking lot with the construction of the Ranch Management Building, Mills said. Also, approximately 60 spaces were lost this past summer when the city of Fort Worth made Stadium Drive a no parking zone, he said.

In addition, the university added and enlarged existing handicapped parking spaces to make parking more accessible for disabled people, Mills said.

Gifts/ from page 1

that many of the Christmas wishes are not for toys; they are for things that these children really need," said LaVaun White, a TeamBank employee. "Things that we take for granted. Many of the children have never received presents before. One 14-year-old girl just wants an electric razor so she can shave her legs. If everyone helps, we can make this Christmas a little brighter for those who are less fortunate than ourselves."

Last year, the program collected 60,000 gifts for 18,600 children across Texas. This year, Fort

Worth's goal is to collect 6,000 gifts for 2,000 children. State-wide, the goal is to raise 67,000 gifts for 21,600 children.

The Spirit of Christmas program has received national honors since its conception in 1980. Among its awards are the Presidential Citation for Private Sector Initiatives and the Department of Human Services Award for Outstanding Volunteer service.

Bill Bates of the Dallas Cowboys and his wife Denise Bates are honorary chairpersons for the 13-year program.

What's news? Find out in the TCU Daily Skiff

Holiday/ page 1

responsible reason' because I don't mean getting drunk or high and crashing your car. That's not responsible, and it's not a solution."

Kelly said she is hopeful, as she is every year, that this holiday season will be filled with cheer instead of tears.

"I know I have to go into the season with a good attitude or it's all

over from the beginning," she said. "I know I have to be organized and not let myself get worked up over little things. I just hope I can remain upbeat and focus on the spirit of the holidays."

"I just know that anything is better than crying for three weeks like I did last year."

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HEALTH CENTER

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Opinion

Well, folks, let's hear it for one more reveille from Dennis's horn

Well, the semester's end is finally upon us. So, this being my last opportunity to blow my own horn, I've decided to write about... well... me!

It seems that almost everyone on campus has an opinion, good or bad, about me and what they presume I stand for. Well, I guess I ought to set the record straight so everyone won't go home for winter break thinking I'm a really awful guy... or maybe they will. Here it goes:

I don't HATE anybody. Sure, I strongly dislike loads of people like those who stand in mass in front of various doctors' houses, chant and pray at the top of their lungs, and wave aborted fetuses around like they were rubber chickens, but hate is too strong a word. Moreover, I don't dislike these fetus flaggers because they happen to be wacked out Christians. I can't stand them and their religious rituals.



DENNIS WATSON

enough complete sentences to write a letter. My intent this semester has been to entertain y'all, and your letters have given some of that entertainment back to me. I think that the people who submit

because they have redefined the word "rude," and I HATE impoliteness.

Speaking of impoliteness, I would like to thank everyone who wrote letters in response to my columns (and the hick who called me a "fag" on the phone, but couldn't form

letters to the editor only have negative comments about the columns. I know I've offended a whole bunch of you, but just remember... your school paid me to do it!

In all honesty, though, I can't believe more people didn't get the humor in my columns. A friend of mine actually asked me this weekend if I really believed everything I wrote, or did I write it just to generate controversy. Believe me, folks, I could've been even more harsh, but I let you off easy.

Besides, to create controversy on this campus, one needs only to say something like "Bush is a weenie," or "I don't believe in God," or — my personal favorite — "Let's scrap the music department because it's simply a refuge for those who can't handle getting a REAL education." Simple, huh?

I'm consumed with bettering myself in regards to other individuals' race, religion and sexual orientation. I believe that to resolve the racism and homophobia that still exist in our country, we all need to do a lot less preaching and lot more listening if we're ever going to get anything accomplished.

Black individuals won't stop being black, and homosexuals shouldn't be forced to deny their orientation. No one on this planet can erase what others have done before them, but we're all responsible for where it is we're going as both a country and a race... the human race.

But I can't solve all the problems of the world. So, I might as well poke fun at 'em. Like Somalia, if people try to grow food in a desert, they ought to expect to starve. Or how about Yugoslavia, cold war ends, civil war erupts, so what? Nobody stopped

America when it erupted into a war over... well, I'm not really sure, but I think it had something to do with slavery.

People shouldn't expect others to act as they do, or believe what they believe. We're all different, and that won't change. We, as individuals and Americans, need to realize that everyone has his or her own opinion, and to consistently try to impress our beliefs and ideologies on others only creates conflict.

Just because I think I'm the greatest human to grace this campus, or better yet, this planet, doesn't mean that my opinion is any better than anyone else's; it just happened to work out that way.

Dennis Watson, the Watsonator; Dennis the Menace, the Brimstone-eater, Watsonarama, Denny Big Mouth, Elementary My Dear Watson.

Statistics ignoring precancerous virus don't eliminate need for diagnosis

Forty years ago, cancer of the cervix was the leading cause of death from a malignant disease in women. During the 1920s, Dr. Papanicolaou discovered malignant tumors of the cervix leaked cancerous cells in the vaginal discharge. Later, he developed a technique to sample cells from the cervix painlessly. The term "pap smear" was derived by shortening his name.



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By performing yearly pap tests, it is possible to diagnose, evaluate and treat precancerous conditions, reversing the process before cancer develops. Even cancer of the cervix in its early stages is curable! Since the pap test was started in the '50s, the death rate from cervical cancer has declined dramatically.

An abnormal pap smear does not necessarily mean cancer. It takes years for cancer of the cervix to develop. When the practitioner takes a pap smear, he or she is looking for changes in the cervical cells call dysplasia. "Dysplasia" does not equal "cancer." It is an early warning sign that normal healthy cells have become somewhat abnormal or precancerous.

All medical personnel agree that the Pap is a screening test and not 100 percent accurate. A Pap test taken every year will help verify the accuracy of the previous year's smear and better protect against an undetected condition.

If there is an abnormality, the test helps detect it in the precancerous state. This is why it is important to have a Pap test every year.

The human papilloma virus (HPV or venereal warts) could generate precancerous states in women. Clinically, HPV appears as a pink to gray wart which may occur singularly but more often there are clusters of jagged lesions resembling a cauliflower.

They occur on the moist genital and anal areas. Sometimes they may be associated with itching, burning or tenderness but usually there are no symptoms. Also there can be subclinical lesions which are flat and not visible. They are found on the cervix, vagina, the male and female external genitals, peri rectal areas, mouth and throat.

HPV is spread through genital, anal and oral sexual contact. The incubation period is usually 3 weeks to 8 months. But remember, some of these warts remain subclinical or flat (not visible to the naked eye) for years.

Although chlamydia may statistically be rated as the number one STD on college campuses, it is this writer's opinion that HPV is more rampant. For some reason HPV is not considered by some to be a reportable STD in the U.S. as are gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, herpes and AIDS.

Even though statistics may not be indicative, all practitioners who treat HPV have noted and reported an increase in epidemic proportions in the college and in the general populations.

You are at risk if you or your partner have had unprotected sex (without condoms) with another person just one time. Examine yourself regularly for signs of visible warts.

While most HPV infections are not a serious threat to your health, women have more serious complications. This viral STD can cause cervical changes and abnormal Paps.

Yearly checkups are essential. If you have HPV, you will probably need more frequent exams.

Preventing the spread of HPV is somewhat difficult because the virus can remain in the body even after the removal of visible warts. Often the virus is still contagious even though there are no signs of the warty growths.

The virus can produce new warts after the old ones have been eradicated. Unless you practice abstinence form sexual intercourse, latex condoms are the only means available to aid in the prevention of this HPV epidemic.

Donna F. Behl is the nurse practitioner of the Brown-Lupton Health Center.

EDITORIAL

AIDS Quilt

Each panel is a lesson in misfortune, mortality

It has already touched most of us in some way. If it hasn't yet, unfortunately one day it will.

It is an epidemic: the disease for which no pills or treatment can cure. Sure the pain can be alleviated, but the fatality cannot be avoided.

While all of the educational programs are helpful in preventing the spread of the disease, those who have already been taken will never come back.

AIDS is no longer the disease of the homosexuals or the druggies. AIDS knows no ethnic or socioeconomic boundaries.

Arthur Ashe. Magic Johnson. Ryan White.

AIDS knows no religious or gender boundaries. It strikes whomever it chooses.

People who had blood transfusions in the '70s are now finding out the blood they got was tainted with the virus. Some dentists and doctors learned their sterilization techniques weren't foolproof, and their patients were infected.

It can happen anywhere, to anyone. So why ignore it, why pretend it can't be you? In fact, it can.

Portions of the AIDS Quilt will be on display again today in recognition of World AIDS Day. The Quilt is on the second floor of the Student Center in the Ballroom.

The Quilt, in its totality, includes 22,000 panels, each 3 feet by 6 feet in size — the approximate size of a human grave. Each panel dons the name of one of the victims. Some have the dates of their lives, other have symbols — carousels, flowers, colored fabric — all symbolic of the person who

died. The Quilt is for the families, for the friends, for those left behind.

The Quilt is also for us, those fortunate to be untouched by the disease, as a reminder, perhaps as a warning. A reminder that these were people like us. People with families, jobs and friends. Talented people — musicians, athletes, writers. Others were just children — some not even old enough to know what AIDS was. A warning that these people were like us.

Walking through the display is not easy. The people inside were carrying tissue boxes because many people were crying. Many people, who didn't even know the names on the Quilt, were crying.

AIDS is not like cancer or any other disease for that matter. It is not a cold that will go away. It is not an ailment that drinking orange juice and eating healthy foods will protect you from.

There is no medicine, no cure. Only warnings.

Don't be stupid and reckless with your lives. Be careful. College is a time to experiment and have fun, but think before you act.

If you have sex with a person, you don't only run the risk of getting pregnant, you run the risk of getting AIDS. Most forms of VD can be treated and cured. Most will go away in some time. AIDS won't.

The Quilt grows larger and larger with each life claimed by the AIDS epidemic and our only protection is ourselves. Each panel on the Quilt is a lesson: We are not invincible.

Take the time to look at the panels, and recognize what they are saying to you. Be careful and be smart.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Help wanted

Programming Council is now accepting applications for next year's executive board. The positions available include Administrative Assistant, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Promotions Coordinator.

PC is also seeking applicants to chair the following committees: Concerts, Films, Forums, Homecoming, Parents' Weekend, Performing Arts, Recreation and Travel, TGIF and Visual Arts.

Our focus for the next year will be on new, innovative programs.

We hope to combine the efforts of a wide variety of programming organizations in order to provide consistent, quality university programming.

We encourage all students who are excited about new ideas and any area of university programming to come by the Student Activities office in the Reed-Sadler Mall and pick up an application.

Filing ends Friday.

Chris Hightower
Vice President for Programming-elect

Mind your manners

On Nov. 23 at the TCU-Fort Sill basketball game, I had the unfortunate experience of listening to TCU boys shout ugly, rude remarks to the referees and the opposing team. Loudly chanting "Ref, you suck!" and calling a Fort Sill basketball player "Water Boy" throughout the game, simply because he got a drink of water at the beginning of the game) were two of their many derisive comments.

After the game I sought out the player whom the boys had ridiculed and personally apologized on behalf of the boys and TCU. Then I proceeded to the boys and told them how "extremely rude" they were. One boy responded, "It's our job."

Let's support TCU by saying positive things, not by putting others down. I expect this from TCU Horned Frog fans; I expect this from a Christian university.

Chandra Wisniewski
freshman, business

The Skiff will accept letters to the editor until Thursday. Our last edition is Friday.

School's presenting Rodney King as role model hurtful

Dangerous message being broadcast

The three r's used to be reading, writing, and arithmetic. But in Tustin, Calif., the school system has added another: reprobation.

Professor Rodney King made his classroom debut last week. Two weeks ago, he spoke to a group of students at Tustin High School. In his "lecture," King spoke of his 1991 beating, the subsequent trial and his reaction to the verdict and the officers who were acquitted by it.

Who are we trying to kid here? Rodney King is a role model? He is a person worthy of attention and study in our schools? He is an individual the nation's young people should listen to? It may seem absurd, but this is exactly the message being sent to students in Tustin.

During his life, Rodney King has spent more of his time in a courthouse than a schoolhouse. All this would be inconsequential if he had learned from his mistakes in life and was teaching a valuable lesson to children, but he continues to run into trouble with the law.

Perhaps the organizers of the Rodney King seminars failed to peruse his resume. Once one sees his qualifications, it is easy to determine Rodney King belongs nowhere near our schools.

In 1991, King was placed on parole in California for an armed robbery conviction. During the beating trial, both the prosecution and the defense agreed that King had a blood-alcohol level of 0.19, more than twice the legal limit.

Two months after the beating, King was arrested when his wife, Crystal Lynette Waters, told police he had severely injured her during an argument and, as a result, she feared for her life.

Then on July 17, 1992, King was arrested again 40 miles south of Los Angeles. He was again charged with driving while intoxicated. Okay, let's sum up his qualifications: King is a convicted thief, an admitted drunk, and an alleged violent assaulter. He seems more qualified to be a Kennedy than a role model.

The fact of the matter is that Rodney King is constantly in trouble with the law, and he should not be given an influential place in society until he demonstrates that he can abide by the law. More importantly, this man needs our help more than he needs our homage. He deserves a helping hand rather than a classroom lecture. If Rodney King can get his act together and if he can obey the laws enacted by society, he can and should be a powerful voice of influence for our nation's youth. But as long as he stays in the headlines as an alleged criminal, we are sending a dangerous message to the children who hear his voice.

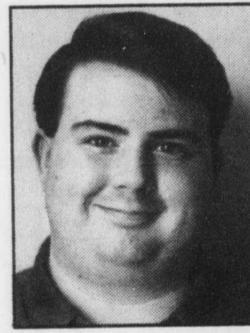
A larger question that looms before us regards the school system that would allow King a forum. Is this what our schools are teaching? Every year we grow more disturbed at our failing educational system, wringing our hands about falling SAT scores and going hysterical over how we compare to Japan.

Rodney King in our school system is further proof of wasted time, wasted opportunity and wasted tax dollars. Yet we scratch our heads and wonder why our educational system is not working.

It was a terrible thing that Rodney King was so heinously beaten, but we cannot allow him to be promoted in our schools as a hero or role model simply because he was hurt by the police. If we allow King's status as a victim to supersede his status as a convicted and alleged chronic criminal, we will do a disservice not only to the students and the taxpayers, but to King himself.

Rodney King is a victim. However, we shouldn't forget that he is also a criminal. Rodney King, though, is not a role model and he should not be treated like one.

Jeff Jeter is a senior political science major.



JEFF JETER

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D E C 0 1 9 2

News

Forgotten contributions topic of Native American heritage lecture

By WANDA MOSLEY
TCU Daily Skiff

Frank McLemore, director of the Tribal American Network of Dallas, spoke about the contributions people of color have made to the United States during a lecture Nov. 24 in the Student Center Lounge.

The contributions include much of the food consumed and medicine used in the United States. McLemore said approximately 40 percent of the foods we eat were cultivated by American Indians, and 30 percent of pharmaceutical medicines used in this country comes from the herbal foods of American Indians.

McLemore also discussed what he called "distorted" history of the voyage of Christopher Columbus, noting the word "Indian" has been changed from "Indios," which is Spanish for "godlike."

He said the nation of India did not exist at the time of Columbus' voyage and his classifications of people were based on assumptions.

McLemore also discussed the origins of the Thanksgiving holiday. He said Thanksgiving was the result of an American Indian chief named Massasoit who taught a group of Pilgrims the basic survival skills needed to live in what is now the Northeastern part of the United States.

Even though they were near starvation, Massasoit was touched by the Pilgrims' determination and assigned members of his tribe to teach the European settlers how to cultivate foods that could grow in

their climate, how to build shelters and how to make clothes to be worn in the winter months, McLemore said.

McLemore's lecture also included a brief discussion of how institutions of higher learning tend to exclude the contributions of people of color from their curriculums.

For example, McLemore said many people do not know Jim Thorpe, the Olympic athlete, was also the founder of the National Football League and a member of the Sack and Fox tribe.

McLemore's topic focussed around a portion of a documentary called "The Winds of Change," which looked at the lives of the Onedega, or "People of the Hills," and how they supplied the "framework for the (U.S.) Constitution."

The Onedega people are a self-supporting nation of 12,000 people who live six-miles south of the Syracuse, NY, according to the video. They are classified as being a "sovereign" nation, which means the Onedega are not American citizens, the video said.

When traveling between countries, the Onedega use their own passports which are recognized by the United States and many European nations, the video said.

The video also showed how the different ways the "People of the Hills" are working to preserve their nation. For example, in March of 1974 they voted to evict non-Indian people from their land. In previous years 36 men married non-Indian

women and brought their brides home to live in the Onedega nation, the video said. The video also said people living in the Onedega nation are not required to pay rent or taxes.

According to the video, this created a problem for the Onedega because a person's membership and their right to own land is based on their clan membership.

In clan-oriented societies, husbands leave their homes to move in with their wives, McLemore said. Women own all the land and are essentially the heads of their households, he said.

Because of hard economic times, many of the Onedega men are forced to move to larger neighboring cities to work in various construction jobs, according to the video. These jobs allow the men to send money home to support their families. Native American men are responsible for such well-known buildings as New York's Rockefeller Center, the video said.

Originating from the Iroquois people, the ancient sport of lacrosse is described as "the game" of the Onedega people and can often lead to a college scholarship for some of its people, the video said.

McLemore was invited by the Native American Student Association as a part of Native American Heritage Month.

Mike Charlie, president of the association, said the lecture is the first major presentation the organization has sponsored since its formation last semester.

Russian court upholds decree to dissolve Communist party

By ALAN COOPERMAN
Associated Press

MOSCOW — A court Monday upheld Boris Yeltsin's decree dissolving the top leadership of the Communist Party, but the compromise ruling also gave ammunition to his opponents on the eve of a crucial parliament session.

Russia's Constitutional Court ruled 11-2 that the Russian president acted constitutionally when he banned the party's Politburo and other national bodies after the failed hard-line coup in August 1991.

The 13 black-robed judges said millions of rank-and-file Communists could resume grassroots activity and file lawsuits to reclaim some of the vast party assets Yeltsin nationalized.

The court left open the possibility that Communists could gradually rebuild a national organization.

Both sides claimed victory following the decision, which came as delegates to the Congress of People's Deputies arrived in Moscow.

Hard-liners who had challenged

Yeltsin's ban had hoped the court would declare his decrees unconstitutional and provide grounds for his impeachment by the parliament, which convenes Tuesday in the Kremlin.

Because the ruling was mixed, the impact on the 1,046-member Congress was uncertain.

While chances of Yeltsin's removal appeared slim, the partial reversal of his ban could still spark an impeachment proceeding and boost the former Communists who dominate the parliament.

"The Constitutional Court's verdict heats up political passions, having put an extra trump card in the hands of defenders of the Communist idea," Monday evening's Izvestia said.

Yeltsin's opponents have said they will try to soften his economic reforms, force changes in his Cabinet and block a renewal of his decree-making power.

The president made no public comment on the court decision.

"We consider the ruling satisfactory," his adviser and political

strategist, Gennady Burbulis, told reporters.

Yegor Ligachev, the party's former ideologist, said the ruling would allow the party to "both revive and unify."

He predicted former Communists who have formed various smaller parties would unite and seek to regain party property. The party once controlled vast holdings, including office buildings, newspapers, apartments, bank accounts, resorts, schools and hospitals.

The timing of the verdict had raised suspicions that the court was trying to influence the political process. The balanced decision preserved its apparent independence.

Chief Judge Valery Zorkin announced Yeltsin had authority to take state property away from the party.

He said other property, whose source has not been determined, should not have been seized without court approval.

"The ruling has all the qualities of a compromise," said Andrei Makarov, a Yeltsin lawyer.

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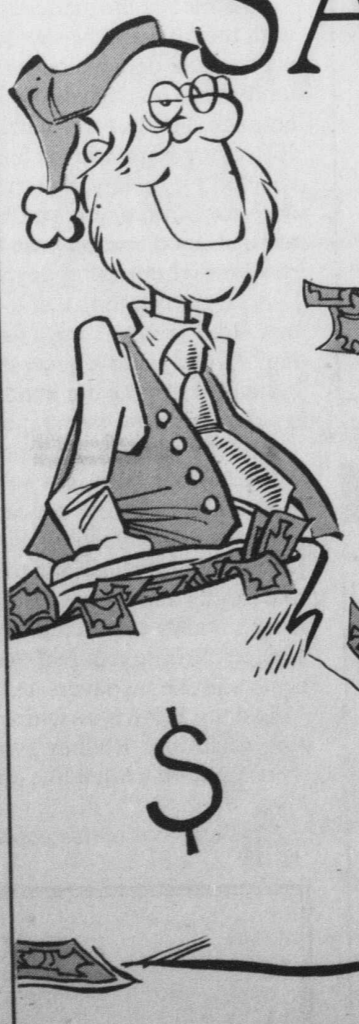
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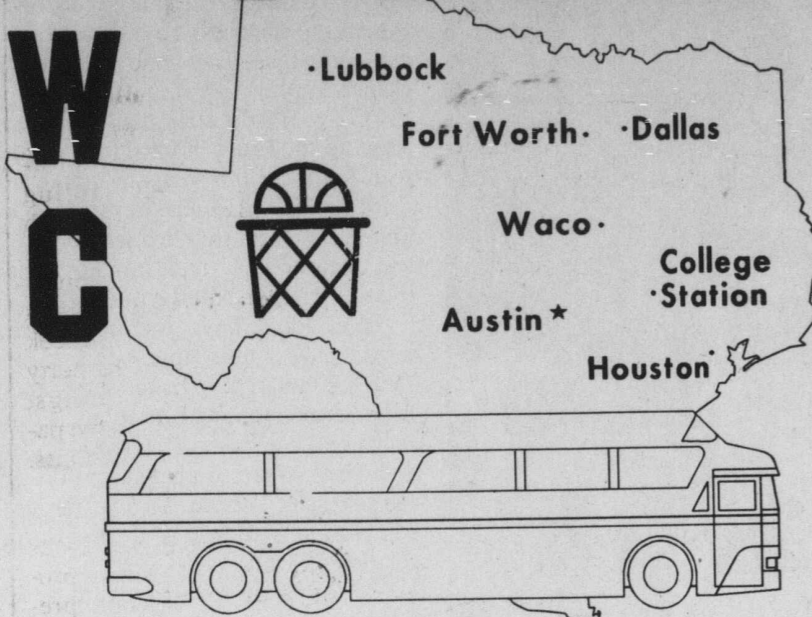
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Sports

SWC TOUR



Aggies battle Baylor for cellar

By GREG RIDDLE
TCU Daily Skiff

This is the first in a series previewing the upcoming Southwest Conference men's basketball season.

Texas A&M
Coach: Tony Barone
1991-92 record: 6-22
SWC 2-12
Returning Starters: 4
Predicted Finish: 8th

The big question in College Station this basketball season will be, can the hoopsters win more games than the football team? It is doubtful. The Aggies' 11 wins will be tough to match.

Texas A&M comes off a probation-ridden 6-22 season that included a last-place finish in the Southwest Conference with a 2-12 mark. Whatever could have gone wrong for A&M last year did. The Aggies had a near brush with death in Waco, when toxic fumes engulfed the arena prior to a game at Baylor. The Aggies then lost their leading scorer and rebounder for 11 games with a broken bone in his foot.

"Our kids will go into the season more experienced having gone through last season," said head coach Tony Barone. "The kids didn't get down last year, but each of our players will have to improve. The big lesson we have to learn is what it takes to win. We were close to winning several games last year, but close doesn't count."

Will things get any better this sea-

son? Barone, in his second season with the Aggies, returns four starters and seven lettermen from last season's squad. The Aggies enter the year with only eight scholarship players, after being limited to only two a year ago because of the probation sanctions.

"We only have eight kids on scholarship and every team we play will have 14," Barone said. "From a numbers standpoint, we must have help from our walk-ons. They did a great job last year, but most of the teams we play have 14 good players who were highly recruited."

One of the biggest keys to A&M's success this year will be the play of point guard David Edwards, the shortest player in the SWC at 5'9" after TCU's Brent Atwater. In his first year with the Aggies last season after transferring from Georgetown, Edwards was one of the SWC's most exciting players. Edwards averaged 13.8 points and 5.7 assists per game, was a second team All-SWC selection and was a member of the SWC's all-defensive team.

"Coach Barone made people want to win when he came here," Edwards said. "We never let anything get us down last year. I am the second man in control of the team on the floor. I just want to be the best leader for this team that I can. Playing with people like Dikembe Mutombo and Alonzo Mourning at Georgetown helped improve my game so much, but Coach Barone lets me do a lot more than dump the ball inside."

When Edwards does dump the ball inside, he looks first for forward Damon Johnson. Johnson led the Aggies in scoring and rebounding with 15.6 points and 7.7 rebounds per game. Johnson missed 11 games

with a broken bone in his foot, but was honorable mention All-SWC and played on the SWC all-star team that toured Australia this summer. With the loss of Shedrick Anderson and Anthony Ware to graduation, Johnson is the Aggies' only returning big man with any experience.

The Aggies, with one of the smallest lineups in the conference, will look to newcomers Lance Broderick, Keith Morgan and Brett Murray to carry the bulk of the load inside along with Johnson. Broderick averaged 20 points and 12 rebounds a game while earning all-state honors in Illinois.

Morgan, at 6'10", is the tallest Aggie and could eventually become the team's starting center. Murray transferred from Southwest Texas State and could see a lot of action at forward after sitting out last season.

With the lack of height in the middle, the Aggies will probably feature an uptempo, fast-break, three-guard style of play a lot of time. Look for the brother tandem of Chuck and Corey Henderson as well as Tony McGinnis to join Edwards in the backcourt.

The Aggies will play arguably the best non-conference schedule in the conference. A&M plays road games against UNLV, Alabama, New Mexico and Notre Dame, while Missouri, Florida and South Alabama visit College Station.

It may be a few years before the Aggies can start making NCAA Tournament plans, but they will improve on last year's record. Look for the Aggies to battle Baylor for the cellar in the SWC.

Baylor

Coach: Darrel Johnson
1991-92 record: 13-15
SWC 5-9
Returning Starters: 3
Predicted Finish: 7th

By RICK WATERS
TCU Daily Skiff

The Runnin' Bears? Mmmmmmm.

No, it's not a new Boy Scout troop in Waco. It's the style new head coach Darrel Johnson wants to integrate in the Baylor basketball program this season.

Southwest Conference foes can expect the Bears to press full court, utilize the fast break more in their offense and unload from three-point land.

Johnson's up-tempo style is not the only novelty he brings to Baylor. Johnson also brings a taste of success to the hungry Bears, who haven't had a winning campaign since 1989.

Johnson comes to Baylor from NAIA powerhouse Oklahoma City University. At OCU, Johnson led his team to back-to-back National Championships, amassing a two-

year 73-3 record. He has a 54-game winning streak going into Tuesday's clash with Hardin-Simmons.

Johnson loses Baylor's sixth all-time leading scorer in David Wesley and is left with no returning starters scoring in double digits last season.

The Bears will be led by junior swingman Willie Sublett who will try to rebound from a disappointing campaign last season. Sublett hampered by a hip injury, put up only sub-par numbers. He averaged 8.1 points and 4.3 rebounds a game last season.

Johnson is hoping Sublett can return to the form he showed his inaugural season when he captured Freshman of the Year honors in the Southwest Conference.

"Willie is quality basketball player and athlete," Johnson said. "He will definitely be counted on to show some leadership on the court."

Joining Sublett in the starting lineup should be the sophomore backcourt duo of Aundre Branch and Joe Blasingim. Along with Sublett both players should feel very comfortable playing Johnson's wide open, fast break game.

Johnson is counting on the duo to connect from beyond the three-point arc more often, as perimeter shooting increases in importance in Johnson's offensive scheme.

"One of the things that is important to me is that we have an effective perimeter game," Johnson said. "If we can hit from the outside it will open things up on the inside for our big men. The bottom line is if we can hit from outside 15 feet, we can do so much more with our offense."

With Johnson's fast-paced game, Baylor also must be strong coming off the bench.

True freshmen Eric Dortch and Darnie Humphrey and sophomore Nelson Haggerty should also make an impact and receive considerable playing time at the guard position.

"I can't emphasize enough how important our bench strength is especially when we start conference play," Johnson said. "Everybody is going to have to contribute for the Baylor Bears to be successful."

The Bears have several options at the forward and center positions. Johnson's biggest struggle will be finding the big men to keep up with the up-tempo offense.

At forward, one option is senior Ulises Asprilla. Asprilla has been used primarily as a role player his first three seasons. He may need some time to adjust to a starting role, Johnson said.

Unfortunately, Johnson's candidates for the forward spot are bleak after Asprilla. Sophomore David Hamilton could be sidelined with a foot injury for the majority of the season and senior Anthony Lewis sat out last season with academic problems.

However, if Lewis could return to his 1990-91 form (7 points and 5 rebounds a game), the Bears could assured of an inside force.

Johnson may have to rely on true freshman Jason Vickrey from Pasadena Sam Rayburn.

At center, Baylor has their own version of "The Chief." Junior Alex Holcombe returns after averaging 7.6 points and 4.6 rebounds a game. With Holcombe's shot blocking ability, he should help Johnson's run-and-gun scheme at the defensive end of the floor.

Behind Holcombe are senior Brian Zvonecek and freshman Doug Brandt. Again, the Bears are weak in experience.

This season will be humbling for the successful first-year head coach. With a new offense and inexperience in the front court, the Bears are in for a long season. The Bears should be only better than the Aggies and finish in 7th place.

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Mustangs, Frogs to fight for respect in SWC

SMU
 Coach: John Shumate
 1991-92 record: 10-18
 SWC 4-10
 Returning Starters: 5
 Predicted Finish: 6th

By TY BENZ
 TCU Daily Skiff

For the first time in the John Shumate four year regime at SMU, hopes are high and the feelings are positive about Mustang basketball.

The reasoning behind this is simple, as all five starters return from last year's 10-18 squad that faded late, losing their last seven games. But with most of the bench players also returning, Shumate is promising better results this year and is confident that his experienced team that returns six seniors could surprise some people.

"I think that we are going to be a lot better than people anticipate," Shumate said. "We've got six seniors coming back. We'll be the most experienced team I've coached at SMU."

Shumate's hopes this season will be centered around the one-two, inside-outside punch of seniors Mike Wilson and Tim Mason. Wilson, a second team All-Southwest Conference guard who averaged over 16 points a game last year will be "Mr. Outside." Mason, a rugged power forward, who averaged over six rebounds and 13 points a game, will be the main man inside for SMU. With these two leading the way, the Ponies will try to crack the .500 mark for the first time under Shumate.

But if the Mustangs are going to crack the .500 barrier and make some noise in the SWC this season, three things must happen. The Ponies inside play must be improved, a leaky bench must be repaired and the Ponies dismal outside shooting must get better, particularly from beyond the three-point line.

SMU is very thin inside in both

size and depth. Other than 6-10 senior center Greg Kinzer the Ponies are painfully thin inside. Kinzer, who averaged only seven points a game last year, must stay out of foul trouble because after him SMU is tiny inside. Rail thin 6-8 small forward James Gatewood will back up Kinzer as the Ponies don't have any other experienced depth inside. If SMU is going to improve this year, then somebody needs to step up and play solid inside.

"We'd like to strengthen our front court first of all," Shumate said. "We need more consistent play in the paint from guys like Mason and Kinzer."

Because of this lack of depth inside, Shumate will play a three guard offense that features Wilson, Gerald Lewis and junior shooting guard Troy Dorner, who averaged almost six points a game last year. What crippled the Ponies all season long was the inability to hit the three-point shot. For the season, SMU hit only 24 percent of their trey attempts. If the Ponies are going to improve, then this must also rise.

But perhaps the most glaring weakness for SMU was the lack of a decent bench. Last year the Mustangs bench was outscored by a total of almost 200 points by opposing benches. This could pose a problem again as the Ponies only have Gatewood and sophomore guard Chad Allen coming off the bench that have any experience, but these two had trouble scoring all last year.

But despite all these questions, Shumate and the players have nothing but positive things to say as the Ponies are hoping to make an impact in the SWC race this year.

"The race will be a tight one," Shumate said. "You can't tell who's going to do what this early, but I'm confident we will be a factor."

But this is unlikely to happen because the Ponies return basically the same team as last year that was overmatched at times, particularly inside. SMU simply doesn't have the horses to match up with most of the SWC. Expect the Ponies to stay in the lower part of all year long, struggling to stay competitive against bigger and stronger teams.

TCU
 Coach: Moe Iba
 1991-92 record: 23-11
 SWC 9-5
 Returning Starters: 2
 Predicted Finish: 5th

By WILLIAM HATFIELD
 TCU Daily Skiff

The TCU Horned Frogs will sport a new look when they take the floor for the upcoming basketball season.

Gone are Reggie Smith, Michael Strickland, Mark Moton and Albert Thomas, mainstays on the last three Frog teams. With the loss of center Kurt Thomas for the year due to injury, TCU will be without the services of five key players from last year's 23-11 squad that reached the second round of the NIT.

But don't feel too sorry for coach Moe Iba. With the return of steady performers Allen Tolley and Brent Atwater, and the addition of transfer Eric Dailey, TCU should once again find themselves battling for bragging rights in the Southwest Conference.

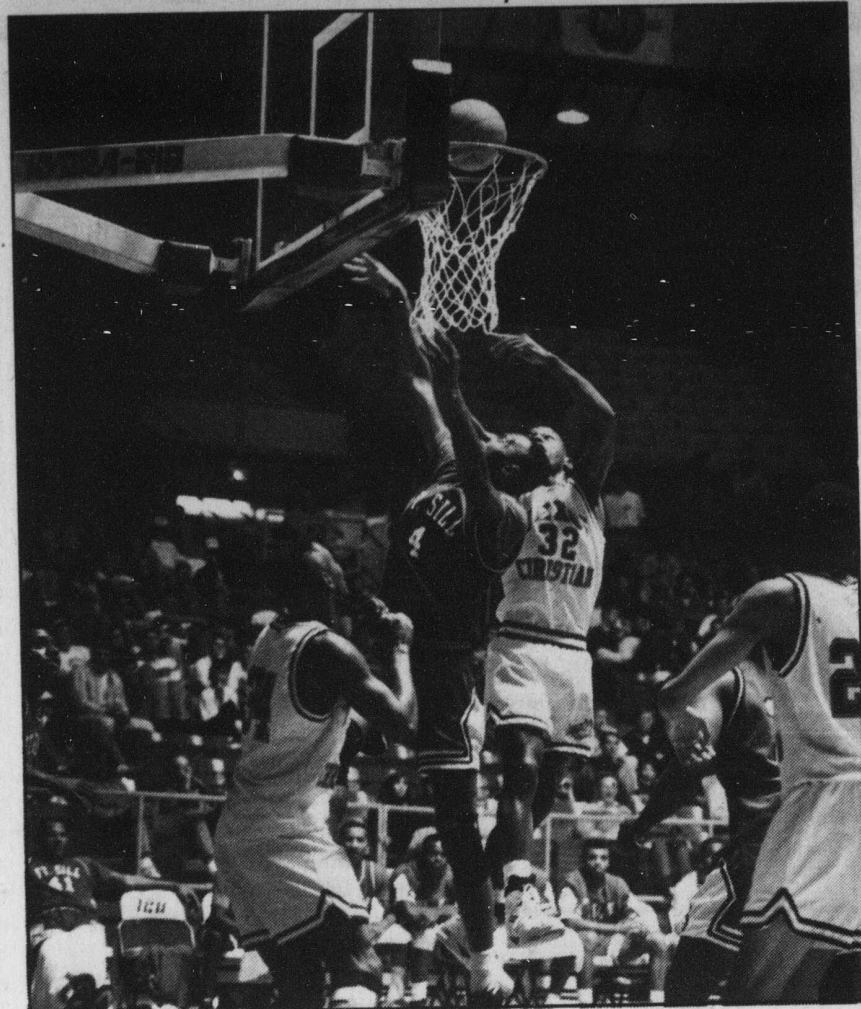
The Frogs may not have the talent or depth to dethrone Texas and Houston as SWC champions, but the Frogs do have enough left in the cupboard to surprise a lot of folks.

"We have a chance to have another excellent ballclub," said Iba, who enters his sixth season as head coach with a 83-66 mark at TCU. "The players and coaches are going to concentrate on having the best team possible."

The faster the old and new Frogs mesh will be a deciding factor in the Frogs' success this season. Iba said the team will be in a transition period at the beginning of the season, as players like Dailey, Myron Gordon and James Williams get integrated into Iba's system.

"It's going to be hard to tell what type of team we are going to have," Iba said. "We won't know until December is over how the team will shape up."

TCU will be solid at the point guard position with the return of



TCU Daily Skiff/ Aimee Herring

TCU will look to challenge for the SWC title this season with eight new players. Senior Allen Tolley (32) will help provide leadership for the young Frogs along with point guard Brent Atwater.

Atwater. The 5-foot-8 senior led the SWC in assist to turnover ratio and dished out 5.2 assists for the Frogs last year. He even chipped in seven points and averaged an ironman-like 38 minutes a contest.

"He is an experienced leader on the court and will be a key player to determine how good we'll be," Iba said.

Another key player will be Tolley. The 6-foot-5 senior has been a three-year starter for TCU. Tolley's flexibility is one of his greatest assets, as Iba plans to use him at shooting guard and both forward positions. While tenacious defense has been Tolley's trademark over his career, Iba said he must step up his offensive

production this season to compensate the loss of Strickland.

"Tolley needs to be more of an offensive minded player," Iba said. "This is something we've talked about since before the season."

A newcomer that has already provided an early offensive punch is Dailey. The 6-foot-6 forward poured in 26 points in last week's exhibition victory over Fort Sill. Dailey sat out last season after transferring from Western Carolina. Iba says the year Dailey has spent in the program will make him a greater impact player this season.

Iba also cited the enthusiasm of the new players as an early season strength of TCU. With the loss of

Thomas and junior college transfer Chris Foreman for the season with leg injuries, TCU finds itself down to nine healthy scholarship players. The new players had better be enthusiastic, because everyone will be called on to contribute for TCU this year.

"We're thin," Iba said. "Everyone is going to need to step it up a notch and contribute. Everyone will get a chance to play."

TCU's inside strength, a strong point for the Frogs the past four years with Smith, will be a major question mark for TCU. Thomas re-broke his tibia and will redshirt this season. His loss means TCU is a smaller, less experienced team in the middle.

"We don't have the dominate inside player this year," Iba said. "We had better take better shots and have better shooting percentages."

Iba will use freshmen Byron Waits and Chris Ward to plug the middle. Iba also sees Gordon as a key player. The Frogs will use a three-guard rotation as well.

Gordon is a 6-foot-6 forward who averaged 16 points and eight rebounds for Mineral Area Community College in Missouri.

As has been the case in the past five years, Iba will rely on junior college transfers to continue TCU's winning tradition. But Iba is pleased with the freshman class that will see extensive playing time this year.

Jentry Moore and Raymond Roberts both are shooting guards that led their high schools to state championships in California and Oklahoma respectively.

TCU will get plenty of opportunities to showcase their talent against some top teams in the country. The Frogs have one of their best schedules ever. Non-conference clashes with Louisiana Tech, Depaul, Oklahoma State and Tulsa highlight the schedule. The Frogs also tangle with Texas, Houston and Baylor in conference matchups.

All this should add up to an exciting, if unpredictable season, for TCU.

"We are going to have to be very hard-nosed and work very hard to win," Iba said. "But we should get better each week and be successful."

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