

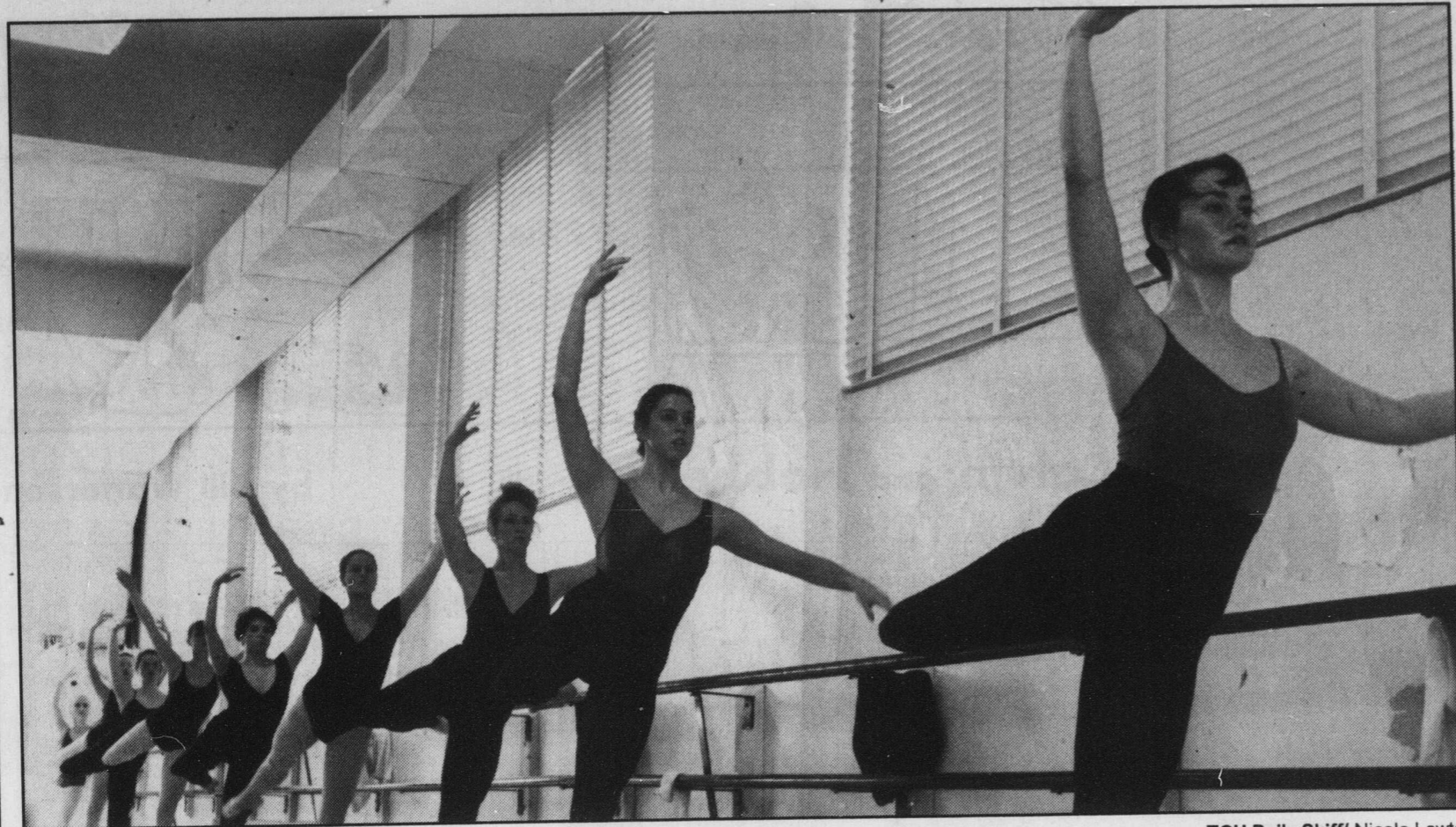
# TCU Daily Skiff

Friday, February 26, 1993

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

90th Year, No. 78

## BARRE TENDERS



TCU Daily Skiff/ Nicole Lewton

Students practice dance positions at the barre in Li-Chou-Cheng's Advanced Ballet III class.

## Gay rights bill controversial

### Proposal would change employment, custody laws

By MICHELLE GRAY  
TCU Daily Skiff

A controversial bill to repeal the law prohibiting homosexual marriages in Texas has been proposed in the state legislature.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Glen Maxey, D-Austin, an openly gay legislator and Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston, who has a high gay constituency, will be among three other gay-rights bills to be considered.

The bills would repeal the law prohibiting homosexual sodomy and allow gay parents to have custody of their children after a divorce. Another would prohibit discrimination against gay and lesbians in such things as employment and housing.

Jean Giles-Sims, chairwoman of sociology, said the same-sex marriage bill proves homosexuals have the same needs and desire for social

recognition and legal protection as heterosexual couples.

"Homosexuals do not enjoy the same benefits as married couples do," she said. "They receive hardships in terms of insurance or inheritances."

"It (the same-sex bill) is practical in consequences and in spirituality," she said. "Homosexuals want the same kinds of religious commitment and sanctification of a relationship as heterosexuals do."

Currently, Giles-Sims said, the laws discriminate against homosexuals, and she doesn't believe they will change in the near future.

James Thomas, director of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, said he doesn't believe people are ready for a same-sex marriage bill.

"Our people do not feel the immediate problem or issue is the same-

see Bill, page 4

## Cuts may affect space station, Super Collider

By JOHN KING  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is signaling that it would not stand in the way if the atom-smashing super collider and the space station were targeted by lawmakers looking for deeper spending cuts, according to White House and congressional sources.

The president himself said Thursday that he supports both programs. Yet he acknowledged that others will disagree and that "they can be debated on the floor of Congress."

Several conservative Democrats who oppose the super collider or the space station or both, have told administration officials they will renew their annual attempts to kill the multibillion-dollar projects.

For these lawmakers, deeper cuts are considered crucial political cover for supporting

new spending in Clinton's \$30 billion economic stimulus program and higher taxes in the broader economic package.

"The president, I think, is enlisting everyone to come up with more cuts," said Kansas Democratic Rep. Jim Slattery, a leading super collider opponent. The House wanted to kill the project last year, but the Senate saved it.

Clinton has pledged to seek more cuts as he turns the outline of his economic plan into a formal budget document to be presented to Congress in early April. In addition, the president has said repeatedly he is open to additional cuts originating in Congress.

On Thursday, Clinton criticized Republicans who have called for more cuts without being specific, and then noted that some Democrats have suggested cuts "that I honestly disagree with, and there ought to be a debate on that in Congress."

He mentioned the space station and super collider.

"I thought about those programs and I debated them," Clinton said. "But at least those are specific and they can be debated on the floor of Congress."

White House polling, while showing strong public backing for Clinton's overall economic plan, shows the public is deeply skeptical about both the extent of the real cuts in the Clinton plan and the new president's ability to get Congress to trim spending.

"Their instinct is to not believe people who say they are going to cut spending," said a Clinton adviser familiar with the polling. "So I think Clinton will be well served by adding to the cuts."

According to Congressional Budget Office figures, killing the super collider would save as much as \$290 million in next year's budget and as much as \$3 billion over

five years.

Wednesday a General Accounting Office study showed construction of the controversial project was running behind schedule and over projected cost. Texas lawmakers denounced the report as inaccurate, even as Slattery and others said it would be crucial ammunition to super collider opponents.

The super collider project includes a 54-mile tunnel, located near Waxahachie south of Dallas, that could allow scientists to study the breakdown of atoms.

Led by Budget Director Leon Panetta, some in the new administration tried several weeks ago to kill both the super collider and space station. CBO figures show more than \$10 billion would be saved by killing NASA's space station, which is also behind schedule and running over projected costs.

There is no unanimity within the administration on either project.

Panetta lost out to administration supporters of the projects, including Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who helped save the collider last year as Senate Finance chairman. Vice President Al Gore also supports the projects, especially the space station, and in the end, so did Clinton.

Clinton proposed \$2.3 billion for the space station next year and said he wants to see it redrawn and scaled back.

Aides say Clinton is developing a modest package of additional cuts himself, both to convince the public he is serious about reducing the deficit and for leverage in negotiations with Congress.

"There are some cuts we considered but could not do, either for internal or external political reasons," said a senior White House official. "But if they were in the final pack-

see Clinton, page 5

## Tour de TCU race rounds up ISA week

By KRISTI WRIGHT  
TCU Daily Skiff

Students, faculty and staff will race in the "Tour de TCU" bicycle race sponsored by International Student Association Sunday at 1 p.m. in front of the Student Center.

"We hope to get good participation, a good crowd and good weather," said Christian Kaschuba, a coordinator for the event.

The race begins in front of the Student Center and follows Main Drive around Frog Fountain and the parking lots.

Participants race two laps around the course in the qualifying heats and three laps in the semifinal heats and final race, said Marcus Luer, vice president of ISA.

Participants progress to the final races by winning their heat or getting a top time, said Luer, a graduate student in business administration.

"The winner gets a fantastic trophy and there are a lot of other prizes," Kaschuba said. "Participants have nothing to lose and have good things to win."

"This race is really just for fun," said Steven Kintigh, director of recreational sports. "Most college students who do any type of regular and moderate exercise are in good enough shape to ride in the race."

"The course is a sprint," he said. "Other bike races in town are usually 10 to 12 miles."

The "Tour de TCU" race course is three-tenths of a mile around, so each race is just under a mile. There are separate races for men and women.

Any student, faculty or staff member may sign up to enter the race in the International Student Affairs Office today or Sunday before the race, Luer said. There is no entry fee.

Participants may share bicycles, and helmets are provided, he said.

"Friends may share a bike," Luer said. "If you both make it to the final round, then we will make sure you both have a bike to ride in the final."

"We want everyone who is interested to participate," he said. "We also want a lot of people to come and watch the race. KTCU is announcing and playing music for the event."

"A bike shop is donating several items to give out as door prizes. It will be a good time for everyone," he said.

This year's race is hopefully the beginning of a new tradition for International Week, the race coordinators said.

"Bike racing is an international sport," Luer said. "It is very popular in Europe, especially in France and Italy. We hope the race exposes people to something different and fun."

ISA went to the Recreational Sports Department for help in coordinating the event.

Recreational Sports was very willing to help organize the race, Kintigh said. He has tried to put together a campus bike race on and off for the last nine years.

Kintigh is an alumnus of the University of Indiana which sponsors a similar race called the "Little 500" every year.

"The Little 500" draws hundreds of racers and a crowd of over 20,000 each year, Kintigh said.

"Of course we don't expect that kind of crowd this year, but we would like to see 25 to 30 participants and a lot of spectators," he said.

This year's race is just the beginning for TCU, Luer said.

"Next year we hope to have an even bigger and better race," he said.

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Columnist questions the validity of horoscopes.  
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Rachel Hesse is recognized for her basketball abilities.  
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**Mosaic**  
Museum exhibits, Christian rapper are featured.  
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### METROPLEX

Today's weather will be sunny with a high of 42 degrees. The weekend will be sunny with high temperatures in the 50s.



## Mardi Gras festivities include feast of fantastic costumes



TCU Daily Skiff/ Camie Melton

The Zulu parade starts the Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans Tuesday.

By CAMIE MELTON  
TCU Daily Skiff

This religious holiday was full of devils, royalty and leather.

The widest variety of costume creations was on display last week at the New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration.

Mardi Gras, meaning Fat Tuesday, is historically a time to celebrate the last day before Lent in medieval Catholicism, said Nadia Lahutsky, associate professor of

religion studies.

Lent is traditionally a time of fasting and not eating certain foods, fats and dairy products. The idea was for everyone to have a big fat-filled feast so nothing would go to waste during the Lent season, she said.

"Many have borrowed what they wanted from this holiday," Lahutsky said. "A lot of people seem to feast, but I bet many don't follow it with a fast."

Mardi Gras historically includes

costumes. One reason why people began dressing up for the holiday was because only certain races were allowed to dance in public during Mardi Gras. Those who were banned from dancing dressed as other races in order to party in public, she said.

Dressing up is one aspect of Mardi Gras that has not been lost. One would be hard-pressed to find a wider variety of costumes than at

see Mardi, page 5

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# News

## U.S. soldiers wounded in Somalia



**MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)** — U.S. Marines and Nigerian soldiers pounded at snipers with machine guns and grenades for five hours Thursday, shutting down relief activity in this devastated city with the heaviest shooting in weeks.

One Somali was killed, and three U.S. Marines and two Nigerian soldiers were wounded in the firefight in an area rocked by anti-foreigner rioting Wednesday that left at least five Somalis dead. Sniper fire hit the hotel where most foreign journalists stay.

U.N. headquarters three blocks from the battle and a relief agency a half-mile away also reportedly

came under fire. Most of the shooting came from the Nigerians, who fired without restraint at any niche they believed might harbor a sniper.

In the southern port of Kismayu, about 2,300 U.S. and Belgian troops combed the city for weapons and rounded up fighters loyal to warlord Mohamed Said Hirs, known as Gen. Morgan.

He faces a midnight Thursday deadline to move his forces north of Kismayu or face Western attack. At least 60 sullen fighters in dusty civilian clothes surrendered in Kismayu. They gave up 43 rifles and machine guns.

Relief workers in Mogadishu stayed in their compounds and aid deliveries were at a standstill for a second consecutive day. The chief U.N. spokesman in New York, Joe Sills, said there were no immediate plans to pull out U.N. workers.

## Middle East peace talks to resume in April

**GENEVA (AP)** — The United States and Russia will invite the Arabs and Israelis to return to Middle East peace talks in April in Washington, Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher said Thursday. His announcement came just a day after he concluded separate talks in Jerusalem with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, saying he was unable to set a date to resume negotiations. Christopher did not say whether the Palestinians had dropped their

objections to phased rather than immediate repatriation of 396 Palestinians deported to Lebanon on Dec. 17 by Israel. If they have not changed their position, issuing invitations could be a pressure tactic to compel them to go along or risk isolation. A joint statement by the United States and Russia said the negotiations would be held in Washington in April. Because of the Jewish Passover and Christian Easter, April 19 appeared the earliest possible starting date.

## Hill applauds female attorney general



**NORMAN, Okla. (AP)** — Anita Hill says she wonders what Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson would have thought of President Clinton's appointment of Janet Reno as attorney general.

"In this country, for the first time ever, we have a woman as the highest-ranking law enforcement agent," she said Wednesday in an

address to about 300 people at a forum sponsored by the Women's Resource Center. Reno, the state attorney in Dade County, Fla., "will bring a new sensitivity to the bias in enforcement laws," Hill said.

Hill drew national attention in 1991 with her allegations of sexual harassment by Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, who denied the allegations and was eventually confirmed by the Senate. Hill, who is on sabbatical from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, was the keynote speaker for the forum. She received the center's first Sojourner Truth award.

## New evidence entered in King trial

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Two policemen transporting an injured Rodney King from one hospital to another detoured for nearly two hours, stopping at their station to show the beating victim to colleagues, a prosecutor said Thursday.

In an opening statement, Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Clymer also accused the two defendants of trying to convince medical personnel at both hospitals that King was under the influence of the hallucinogen PCP when there was no such evidence.

The surprise allegations about Officers Laurence Powell and Timothy Wind came as the federal government launched its effort to do what state prosecutors could not — win convictions in the videotaped beating.

The acquittals of Powell, Wind and two other white officers on most state charges ignited three days of deadly mayhem in Los Angeles, and the federal trial has had an undertone of racial tension since jury selection began.

The multiracial jury listened raptly as Clymer outlined the case and played for them a newly enhanced version of the videotape shot by an amateur cameraman. Clymer said he would prove that Powell and Wind, along with Officer Theodore Briseno and their supervisor, Sgt. Stacey Koon, violated King's civil rights. He said the three officers brutally clubbed, kicked and stomped the black motorist who "was not a threat," and Koon did nothing to stop it. Their actions, he said, violated their department's policy on use of force.

## Perot meets with Senate candidates



**DALLAS (AP)** — Representatives from Texas Senate campaigns will meet with Ross Perot Friday to discuss issue forums his political organization may hold for voters before the May 1 special election. The Perot organization, United We Stand, America, Inc. asked candidates earlier this week to come together because it wants a role in the rest of the campaign.

"We've talked in terms of candidate forums throughout the state," said Sharon Holman,

spokeswoman for the Perot group. "We want to make sure that all candidates have an equal opportunity to speak."

All the major candidates are sending representatives to meet the Dallas billionaire whose independent campaign reshaped the 1992 presidential race. Former attorney general Jim Mattox, who appears to have adopted Perot's tactic of running without formally declaring a candidacy, plans to personally attend.

Perot, who won about 21 percent of the presidential vote in Texas, reorganized his supporters group last month. A director for the Texas organization was hired two weeks ago. There have been no decisions about whether to endorse a candidate, Ms. Holman said.

# Chivalry lives

## Campus organization revives the Middle Ages, escapes reality

By **ANDY GRIESER**  
TCU Daily Skiff

*Gather close, said the bard,  
And I'll sing you a song  
Of princesses fair  
And warriors strong*

Bards, princesses, warriors — they are figures of fantasy from the Middle Ages, a time of honor and upheaval some cannot seem to escape.

Fantasy is real life for members of the Society for Creative Anachronism. The society attempts to re-create the Middle Ages, to bring a simpler time into today's technological world.

The TCU chapter of the national society was officially recognized last semester. The chapter has between 15 and 20 people on its roster, about 11 of whom attend meetings and events regularly.

The society's goal is to recreate the feel of life in the Middle Ages without some of the drawbacks, said Heath McCrady, knight-marshal of the TCU chapter.

"We try to keep the chivalry without the sexism," McCrady said. "You're expected to be polite to

ladies, pay compliments and carry things for them."

The organization deals with aspects of daily life in Western Europe from about 600 A.D. to about 1600 A.D., McCrady said.

For example, emphasis is placed on art and etiquette, he said.

"There are people who like to do weaving and clothmaking, people who study period games, pretty much anything you want to know," he said.

*Gather near, sang the bard,  
And I'll tell you a tale  
Of Arthur and Merlin,  
Of the Holy Grail*

The stories of old, books or films about swords and sorcery, are the fascinations that bring members to the society, said McCrady, a senior English major.

"As a kid, I was a big fan of fantasy films: Conan and swordfighting, medieval stuff, castles and stuff like that," he said.

Another big attraction is the illusion of living in a simpler time, McCrady said.

"No homework, no trying to find a job, no this, that and the other," he said. "I know a lot of people who

have a flair for the dramatic get into it because the SCA has some really neat ceremony stuff: court, where everybody shows up in full court garb and they come in with these grand and elaborate parades and whatnot."

Society members are encouraged to develop personae based on history, McCrady said.

"A lot of it is the opportunity to play pretend, to dress up in clothing you don't normally wear and pretend to be someone you're not," he said. "Especially for people who like old Errol Flynn films and stuff, it's an opportunity to pretend you're living in a world like that, which is just a hell of a lot more fun to live in."

"When I'm wandering around at an SCA event, people don't come up and call me by the same name people call me when they want to tell me I did poorly on my homework," he said. "Part of that is that the terms of address are different."

Until recently, McCrady went by the name of Corwyn McCormick.

"I will probably be changing it soon," he said. "There are too many Corwyns running around."

Society President Dave Morgan

goes by Marcus Wolfgang Faulks, McCrady said.

"Dave has one of the better-developed personae: he has a much, much better idea of who his character is," McCrady said.

Swords clashing in the hot sun: man against man, in a time when skill, not a trigger finger, determined the outcome. It's part of the simplicity that's proven so alluring to society members, McCrady said.

"We've done one demo (tournament) already," he said. "We may try to do one demo a semester, like at the Student Activities carnival or at the one in the spring semester. As far as tournaments... for one thing, they tend to involve people who aren't TCU students, which tends to create additional paperwork, so that's something we're thinking about, but we don't have definite plans for."

"As far as the sports club side of it, for the people who like the fencing and the swordfighting, we have weekly fighter practices anyway," he said.

*Come close, cried the bard,  
For the fire is low;  
All things come to an end  
And my time is now*

## Bill/ from page 1

sex marriage issue," Thomas said.

"We're still facing discrimination, hate crimes and bashing physically and verbally."

"Society has to deal with those issues before the issue of homosexual marriages," he said.

Opponents of the bill have said only men and women married to one

another should be recognized in the law.

Carl Jennings Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Crowley, said he does not believe in same-sex marriages.

"I think only men and women were physically made by divine design to be married," Jennings said. "Same-sex marriages are denied by nature of creation."

He said being prejudiced against an individual is wrong, but there is a

greater issue in family and marriage.

"I don't see a benefit to society in redefining marriage and family to be equivalent of homosexual partnerships," Jennings said.


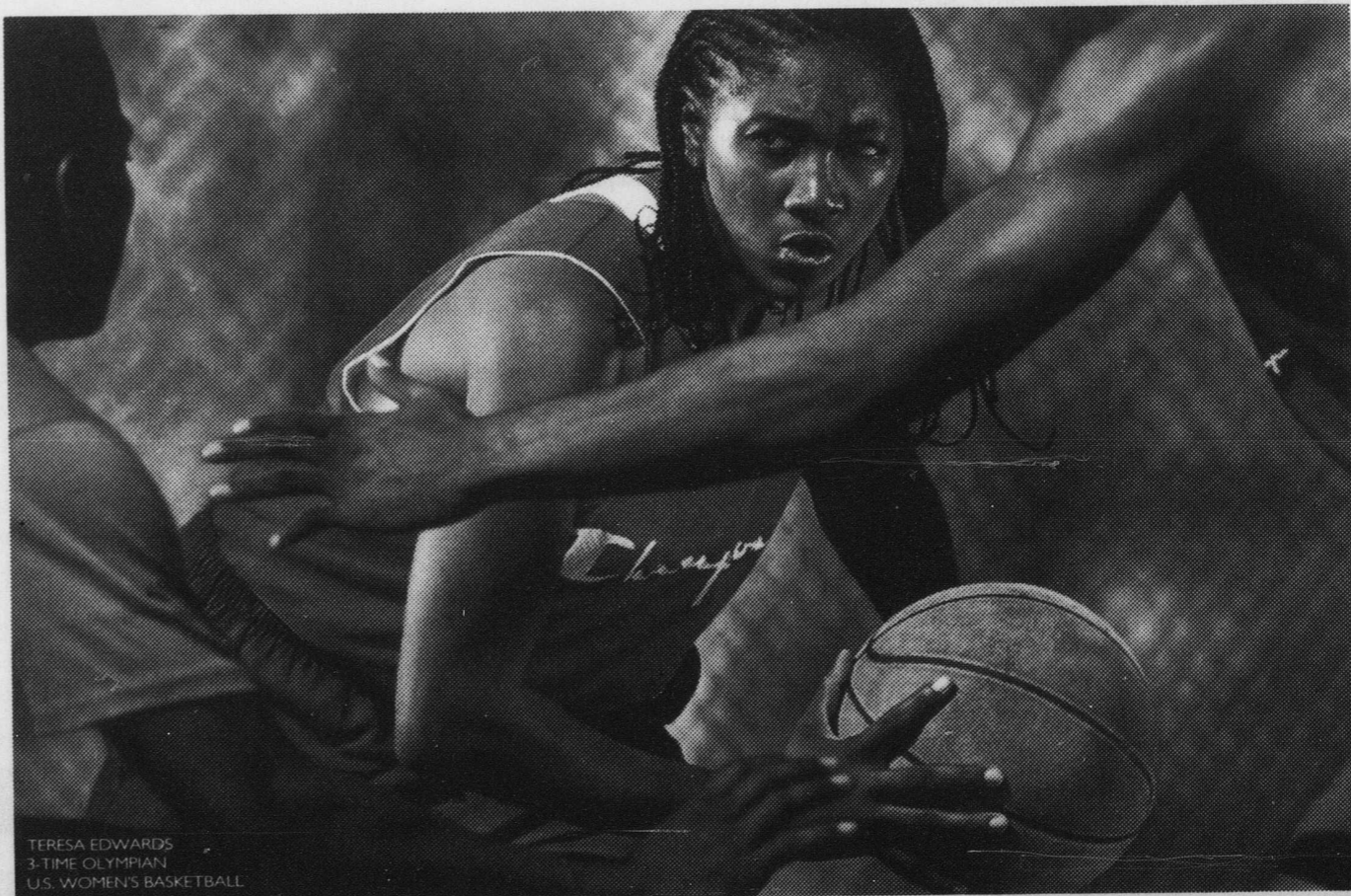
At University Ministries, the Rev. John Butler disagrees with Jennings.

"There is no theological or rational reason to prevent same-sex marriages, in light of physiological and biological current research with regard to homosexuality," Butler said.

Connie, who asked that her last name not be used, is co-chair of UTA Gay and Lesbian Association. Connie said she and her lover are not interested in marriage, since they've said their vows to each other.

"It's more of a political thing in the aspect that homosexuals are not recognized couples in the world," she said.

"I don't think (the bill is) gonna pass. There's too many legal loose ends," she said.

TERESA EDWARDS  
3-TIME OLYMPIAN  
U.S. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

6 *Beating the guys back in the neighborhood when I was a kid*

WE'RE PROUD THIS CHAMPION

*made me think I was pretty good. But at the same time, I*

WORE CHAMPION FOR THE U.S.A.

*always knew it's not about how good I am, but how good I can be.* 9

IN THE 1992 SUMMER GAMES

*In sports, in life and in our clothes, it takes a little more to make a Champion.*

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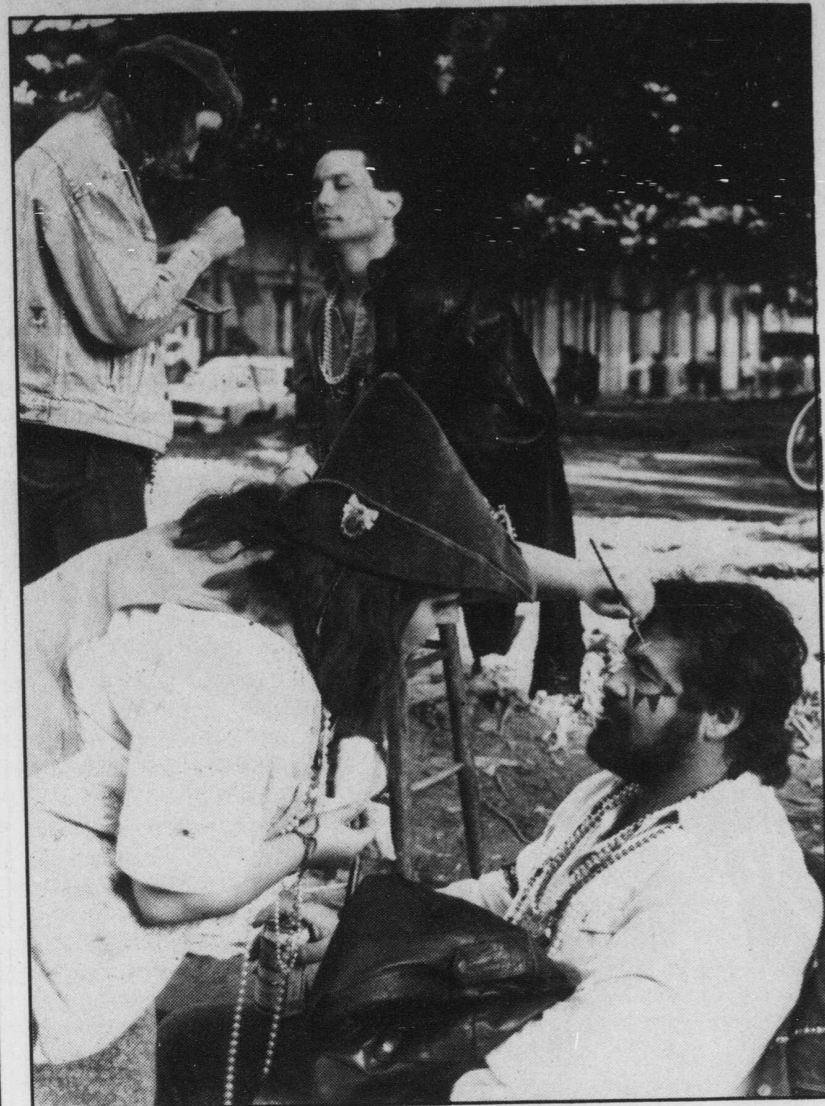
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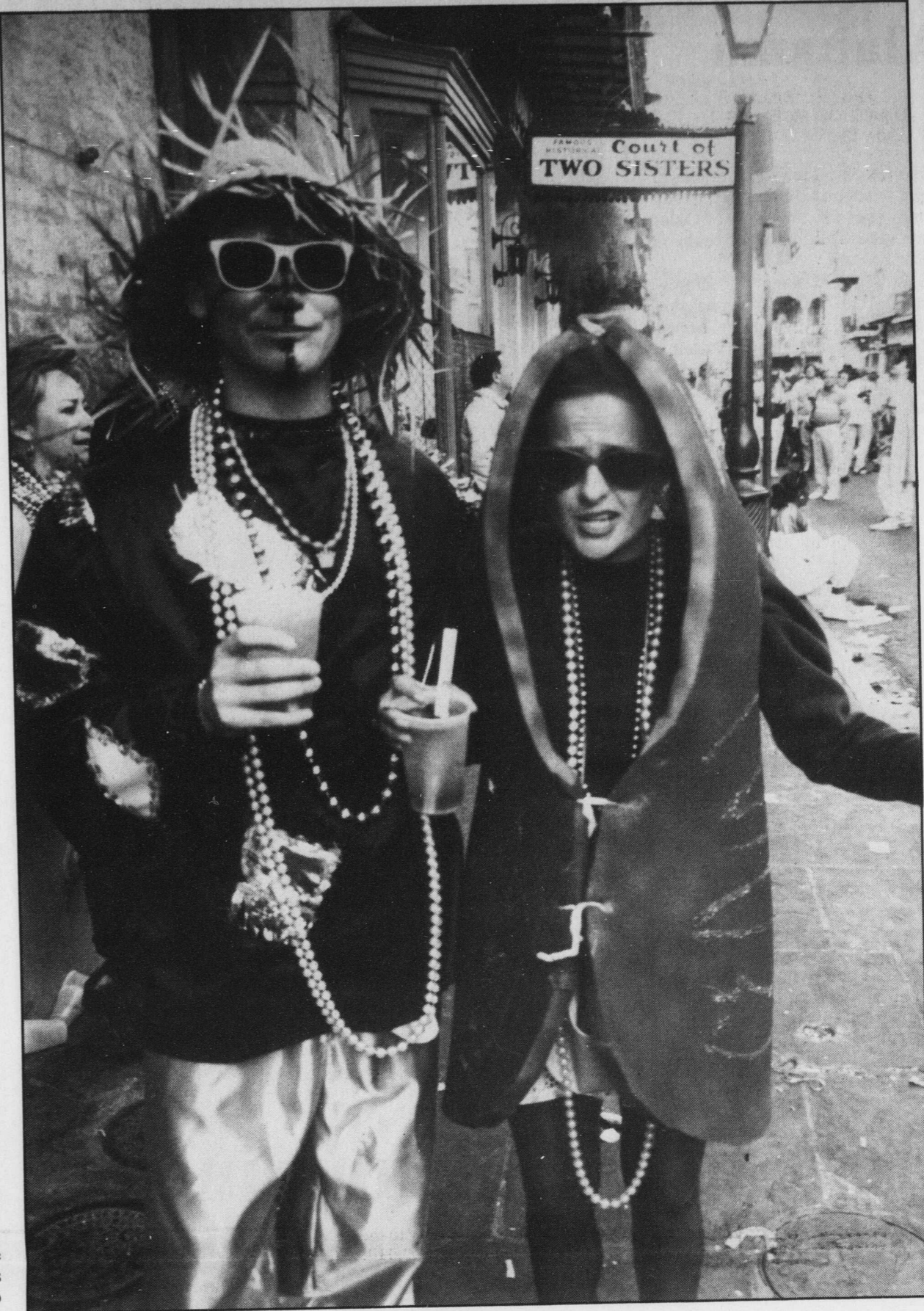
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# News



**Left:**  
Face-painting was one way Mardi Gras celebrants could be someone else for a day.



**Right:**  
Shiny pants and a foam bean costume keep this couple from going unnoticed in the streets of New Orleans.

Photos by Camie Melton

## Mardi/ from page 1

New Orleans on Fat Tuesday. A nun with a whip, a 10-foot tall peanut, royalty, prostitutes and a gorilla are just a few of the unique costumes that were seen on the streets of New Orleans.

There were also people dressed in formals for the Mardi Gras balls, a couple dressed in their own ethnic garb and many other costumes that were unrecognizable. However, the people dressed in drag drew the largest crowds.

"If someone is very masculine in dress, manner and occupation, Mardi Gras may be just the occasion for him to express a more feminine component of his personality or fan-

tasy life," said Jack Scott, director of the university's counseling center.

The accessory of choice was, of course, the infamous Mardi Gras beads. Anyone lining the parade routes managed to catch a healthy dose of beads to don throughout the celebration.

The Shriners made a fashion statement all their own. The Shriners, who appeared to be 50 years old on average, careened down the parade route on orange motorcycles. Their matching orange shirts had red lapels and were topped off with green polyester pants with orange stripes down the side.

Costume creativity grows as the days pass, so by Tuesday the more a person can stand out, the better.

Leather and chains appeared to be the theme in many areas of town. This shock value is normal, Scott said.

"Shock value is the norm in situations like that," he said. "The whole idea is to be noticed. It's all part of the mood that people catch. It's like an infection."

Religion is not completely forgotten during Mardi Gras. Two men came out to the parades night and day holding 8-foot tall banners that read "Repent or perish" and shouted through megaphones.

There were others who tried to disguise their religious message. Fake \$5 bills were laid strategically on the ground with lines of scripture on the back. Others passed out maps of New Orleans that included a map to Heaven.

## Clinton/ from page 1

age, we would not object."

When asked if the White House was trying to nudge Congress toward proposing any specific cuts, a third adviser said "logic says you look at the big programs" such as super collider, the space station and veterans' programs.

They may be tempting targets but they are popular programs with some powerful constituencies. NASA has

enjoyed continuing support because the space station work is spread among 37 states.

Aides said Clinton wants to maintain his support for the super collider because Sen. Bob Krueger, the Democrat named to fill Bentsen's Senate seat, faces a tough special election in May. Key budget decisions will be made much later in the year.

## Campus and community unite in volunteer work

By JENNIFER VOKOLEK  
TCU Daily Skiff

TCU and Fort Worth-area volunteer organizations will join Saturday to unite the campus and community.

Lisa Snyder, president of the TCU Community Action Network, said local organizations interested in participating can call the University Ministries Office with requests for volunteers to do chores the agencies don't normally get done.

The groups are excited to have students willing to do jobs that aren't

always fun, she said. Cleaning and other chores are at the top of the list.

"It's important to volunteer," Snyder said. "It helps others and yourself when you give back to the community after all it has given you."

The University Ministries Office has sign-up sheets for organizations like the Fort Worth Food Bank, the Warm Place, and the Campfire Organization, she said. Volunteers are contacted by phone and given their assignments.

Kids Day is one of the activities

planned for TCU CAN Day.

Lynn Poindexter, the hall director for Colby Hall, said the Residence Hall Association will be working with the Boys and Girls Club from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day to give about 70 children an afternoon of entertainment.

Jimmy Flint, a resident assistant in Moncrief Hall, said there are athletic events, an alcohol and drug awareness program, and a luncheon in the Rickel Building planned for the kids.

"We've planned Kids Day in such a way that keeps the kids from getting bored and having fun," he said.

Poindexter said no volunteers are needed for Kids Day, but positions are available for all other volunteer projects.

Know anything...  
**... news?**  
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# Sports

## Picks better than Jim Jackson derby

The Prognosticator is compiled by Greg Riddle, Ty Benz, Rick Waters, Alan Droll and William Hatfield.

It's Thursday and Jim Jackson is still a Maverick. Something is definitely wrong here. The NBA trading deadline is but hours away and Kendall Gill is still in Charlotte, Vlade Divac is still basking in the sun in Hollywood and Todd Day is still freezing his butt off in Milwaukee. These are just a few of the names that have been entered in the Jim Jackson Sweepstakes.

Dallas, their big bad 4-46 record, and Moe, Larry and Curly front office (Rick Sund, Norm Sonju and Keith Grant) would be better suited for the Wrangling Brothers Circus than the NBA. Although with the way they've played this season, the Mavericks have probably gotten more laughs than Bozo the Clown.

Just about every team in the NBA has made some kind of offer for Jackson, but has been politely refused by the Mavericks front office, who says they are waiting for the best offer. Who do they think they are going to get for Jackson anyway? Michael Jordan?

Take what you can get and admit you made a mistake by drafting Jackson. He may have scored a lot at Ohio State, but he is nothing but a spoiled, selfish brat, who thinks he is too good to play for the Mavericks.

NBA ought to adopt a new rule called the Jim Jackson Rule that forces a rookie to play for the team that drafts them for under a million dollars. Then you wouldn't get all of these big time college studs with their overinflated egos, holding out all year for a contract that pays more than established All-Stars like Charles Barkley or David Robinson.

One thing that has always bothered me as a sports fan. Why can't professional athletes be content with a nice little million dollar contract, lace up the high tops and get on with the season? Would make the fans a whole lot happier, management look a lot better, and teams like the Mavericks a whole lot better.

Time for a little survey for our readers:

1. Who would you rather have the Mavericks trade Jim Jackson for?
  - A. Walt Williams of Sacramento
  - B. Cedric Ceballos, Nigél Knight and Oliver Miller of Phoenix
  - C. Any team's No. 1 draft pick next year
  - D. Dennis Rodman of the Detroit Pistons
  - E. Todd Day and Moses Malone of Milwaukee

Day and Malone (Will he ever retire?) are the likely choices, but if the Mavericks were smart (which they haven't proved to be yet), they would take the Kings' offer of Walt Williams and run all the way to a Swiss bank, because it would be the steal of the year.

Williams, a rookie from Maryland has played lights out for a team that is almost (And we stress the almost) as bad as the Mavericks. Saw that Williams had just an ordinary night the other day against the Lakers, scoring 30 points, including three 3-pointers. Bet Maverick fans wish the team had somebody besides Derek Harper who could score 30 points on any given night.

Enough about Jim Jackson. Knowing the Mavericks, he'll probably still be around come next week.

Now that it is February, baseball has started again. Seems like it never ends doesn't it?

How about those TCU Horned Frogs? The Frogs have won 11 in a row, including a 10-8 win over No. 22 ranked Oklahoma. Baseball team could become the first major athletic team this school has had ranked in the Top 25 in who knows how many years.

The scary thing for the Frogs, is that, despite their 13-3 record, they are tied with Baylor for the worst record in the SWC. Maybe with four teams ranked in the Top 25, the conference will finally get some much needed respect in something.

Speaking of baseball, Spring Training for the Major League clubs is just around the corner. Local fans have to be thrilled about the moves the "St" Rangers and "L" Astros made in the offseason.

Texas picked up Tom Henke, Manny "Spike" Lee, Craig Lefferts and Charlie Leibrandt among others, and are hoping for a revival from Julio Franco and Jose Canseco, who

suffered through injury plagued seasons last year.

Houston fans must think that Ross Perot is managing the team the way they handed out the bucks over the winter to Doug Drabek, Greg Swindell and Tom "Garden of" Edens. Owner Drayton McClaine also spent over \$30 million signing Craig Biggio, Steve Finley and Ken Caminiti to long term deals.

Houston fans are already getting out the confetti and getting set for the victory parade (bet that makes the Houston police shudder, huh?). Uh, hey Houston, chill out, remember a team in your division called...the Braves?

As we continue to hear moans and groans about Mavs owner Donals Carter and company, let's take a moment of silence for the poor, dear (ex)fans in San Diego. O.K., thanks. The reason is that ownership, crying that their broke, has dismantled a team that was once a contender into a team that will battle the new expansion team, Colorado, for the cellar in the mighty NL West.

Yep, ownership let All-Stars Randy Myers and Benito Santiago leave via free agency, traded slick

### PURPLE PROGNOSTICATOR

Skiff SPORTS	SMU at Rice	Houston at Texas	N. Carolina at Florida St.	UCLA at Duke	Michigan St. at Iowa	Seton Hall at Connecticut	Virginia at Wake Forest	Michigan at Ohio St.	Marquette at Memphis St.	Oklahoma St. at OU
Greg Riddle last week: 5-5 overall: 29-17	Rice	Houston	Florida St.	Duke	Iowa	Seton Hall	Wake Forest	Michigan	Marquette	Oklahoma St.
Ty Benz last week: 7-3 overall: 28-18	Rice	Houston	N. Carolina	UCLA	Iowa	Seton Hall	Wake Forest	Michigan	Memphis St.	OU
Alan Droll last week: 3-7 overall: 15-31	Rice	Houston	N. Carolina	Duke	Iowa	Connecticut	Wake Forest	Michigan	Memphis St.	Oklahoma St.
Rick Waters last week: 7-3 overall: 23-23	Rice	Houston	N. Carolina	Duke	Iowa	Seton Hall	Wake Forest	Michigan	Memphis St.	OU
Billy Hatfield last week: 4-6 overall: 22-24	SMU	Houston	Florida St.	Duke	Iowa	Connecticut	Wake Forest	Michigan	Memphis St.	OU
GUEST BOX Beth Bollinger last week: 6-4 overall: 24-14	Rice	Texas	N. Carolina	Duke	Michigan St.	Seton Hall	Wake Forest	Michigan	Memphis St.	OU

fielding shortstop Tony Fernandez to the Mets for nothing, a pitcher with a 3-9 record last year (Wally Whitehurst) and a prospect better known for college football success not his baseball (D.J. Dozier), and now is going to trade its best starting pitcher, Andy Benes, and its second best outfielder, Darren Jackson, because they both won their arbitration cases. So, don't complain Dallas fans.

Before we go to the picks this week, let's give a season update on our Prog pickers and chokers. The

sports editors, Greg Riddle and Ty Benz, are fighting it out for first place as Riddle is attempting to do something only the Atlanta Braves and Minnesota Twins have ever done, go from last to first in two seasons. And right on their heels is... the guest picker.

Meanwhile the rest of the pickers are slipping as none of them are above the "Mendoza Line" (.500 record). We even have our version of the Dallas Mavericks, "Sweet" Alan Droll, who has found life picking this

year very sour. He is on pace to set a new Prog record...for futility. He's so bad that he resorted to flipping a coin to decide his choices...and did better than he did the week before.

SMU at Rice - Hey Rice, can you say...choke. Yep, those collars were pretty tight Wednesday night when the Owls sleepwalked through a loss to that eastern power...Fordham. Really, the Southwest Conference isn't the worst basketball conference in America when its co-leader loses to a team like Fordham. For their

sakes, I hope they were looking past the Rams. Now as wrestling people would say, "they are getting ready to rumble in the Jungle," as Rice's student body is eagerly awaiting the Rodney Dangerfield of the SWC, first place SMU "We don't get any respect" Mustangs and their running and gunning fast break style of play. Too bad it won't matter because Rice is too tough inside as Brent "Great" Scott will dominate SMU's Greg Kinzer. Scott goes wild, scores over 30, and Rice rolls over SMU, 88-75.



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