

am may be ranked No. 1, but the past is the past and they've set their sights on this upcoming eason PAGE 7





TOMORROW

Find out why Senseless Acts of Comedy members are now



ITYSKIF

**TUESDAY** 

August 29, 2006

### Student mistakes robber for friend, witnesses describe suspect

By LAURA FLORES Staff Reporter

A TCU student who was robbed said she initially thought the attacker was a friend who was playing a joke on her.

On Friday around 9:45 p.m. Christine Bowling, a senior fashion merchandising major, was robbed while walking from a friend's house on West Biddison Street off Stadium

Bowling said she and two female friends were walking when a man in purse. Bowling, who said she did not Detective Vicki Lawson of the TCU

remember a truck passing by, said she Police Department were also called when she was attacked and said they happen to you," Bowling said. thought it was a friend until the sus- several times and were not able to be called the police, who arrived within pect got out of the vehicle. She said reached for comment. Kirk Byrom, 10 minutes. The two witnesses were said that at the beginning of the the man then dragged her against the truck and demanded that she give him the purse, which was resting on her her in the collarbone, took her purse and drove off, Bowling said.

"I don't know if they were waiting for me, or if it was a right time, right place kind of thing," Bowling said.

A reporter went to the TCU Police Station and was unable to obtain a black truck got out and stole her information. Sgt. Kelly Ham and

Fort Worth Police Department, was tially describe the suspect. also called but said he did not have for comment.

A campus-wide e-mail sent by the TCU Police Department said the suspect was driving an F-150 crew-cab pickup truck and was parked on the

Bowling said her two friends left

neighborhood police officer with the able to describe the truck and par-

Bowling, who was walking shoulder. The suspect then punched any information on the situation. between her two friends, said they When transferred to another officer, were leaving a friend's house to go they were also unable to be reached to another friend's house, and that the street was active with people that night. She said her first reaction was not to run because she thought it was a practical joke, but when she was punched, she became startled and was ready to run.

"You never really think it could the e-mail.

The police who took the report school year people are on the prowl and know that students, particularly female students, are walking around and can be targets for this type of crime, Bowling said.

The suspect was described as a 6'2"-6'3" Hispanic male, between 230 and 240 pounds wearing a black Tshirt, black shorts and a black cap, according to the e-mail.

Fort Worth Police will continue to investigate the crime, according to



### **Teacher network** International allows European students to study education abroad

By ELISA GOMEZ Staff Reporter

TCU is hosting European students who will study American teaching techniques as part of an education studies semester abroad program.

The European Teacher Education Network allows students studying education to take classes in either America or Europe. There are currently eight students from Europe taking classes at TCU, and they said that so far, it has been a good experience.

Robbert Gommans, 20, from the Netherlands, said there are a few minor differences between American and European universities, including bigger class sizes at TCU and less access to teachers.

Mieke Roles, 22, also from the Netherlands, added, "A lot of people here say 'hello' or 'hi,' but back home in Holland, many people don't do that.

Guro Olsen, 22, from Norway, said the assignments and exams differ from her classes back home. Instead of taking just one final exam at the end of the year, she now has various assignments and a few See EUROPE, page 2

### orientation helps students embody Fort Worth way

By RACHAEL EMBLER Staff Reporter

While classes started Aug. 21, international students arrived for a two-day orientation Aug. 10, which was aimed to integrate more than 500 international students from more than 80 countries into the local, academic and national communities, according to the International Student Services Web site.

International orientation is one of more than 20 departments, programs and organizations to aid international students in daily life, according the International Student Services Web site.

After office hours Thursday, John Singleton, International Student Services director, was helping an international student find a job on campus, which he said is one of the many duties his job requires.

Singleton, who has worked with international students for 11 years at three universities, said the department helps students find jobs on campus and fill out immigration paper work, but does not help them find off-campus housing.

See ISA, page 2

### Fence built to reduce crime, police chief says

By RACHEL MCDANIEL

Staff Reporter

A new wrought iron fence being built by the TCU Physical Plant along Bellaire Drive is an attempt to protect students from car burglary, the TCU

Steve McGee, police chief, said the fence, which will be permanent, is being built in the Worth Hills area in response to several car break-ins that occurred last spring.

"Any time we can contain an area and control access, we decrease crime," McGee said.

"Criminals don't like to feel trapped," he said.

McGee said burglary of motor vehicles - a misdemeanor crime - is a major problem on campus, and it is becoming more widespread on college campuses. Harold Leeman, associate director of major projects at the Physical Plant,

said the fence should deter crime. "It's kind of hard to carry off a stereo while jumping a fence," Leeman

The wrought iron fence with brick columns should be completed within two to three weeks and will be a continuation of the fencing around the baseball and soccer fields, Leeman said. It also will be accompanied by trees and shrubbery.

There was mixed reaction to the fence from the student body. Chari Perkins, a senior management major, said she thinks the fence

is a good idea. Perkins, who has lived in Wiggins Hall for three years, said many of her friends have had their cars broken into, and she believes the fence

"It's a really good safety measure," Perkins said.

Julie Smith, who lives in Beckham-Shelburne Hall, disagreed.

"It makes me feel really fenced in," said Smith, a sophomore early childhood education major.

The fence will have a gate at the south exit to Bellaire Drive, and students will have to leave from Pine Drive and Kent Street, McGee said. There are no immediate plans for additional fencing, but McGee said he

hopes to eventually put a fence up around all campus parking lots.



Worth Hills receives fencing around the area in an effort to decrease car break-ins.

### iPod plays part in speech communication course



By MARCUS MURPHREE Staff Reporter

The Apple iPod started as a personal music device, but is now making its way as a portable education tool.

Amber Finn, instructor of communication studies, started ready or equipped for the new podcasting in the Basic Speech Communication class this semester as part of a pilot operation for Web-based classes.

"We are already doing audio lectures through e-college, so now students can watch and listen to the lectures," Finn said.

The idea for using the iTunes fea-

by Jess Price, a media producer for the Center for Instructional Services.

casts came up last January, but Finn said. some TCU faculty were not quite technology. The podcasts are part of the

emerging iTunes U program, Price The program has already been

put into affect at Stanford University and Duke University, Finn said.

According to the Apple Web site, solution.

ture of podcasting was introduced iTunes U is a Web service that provides access to educational content to the lecture, or there could be a for university students to use.

We could be one of a handful Finn said. Price said the idea for the pod- of universities to have i'Tunes U,"

Though the podcasts are currently only being used in the College of Communication, there are hopes to continually integrate the podcasts into other classrooms, Finn said.

One problem with using the podcasts in all the lectures is the risk of lowering attendance in classes, Finn said, though she offered a

"They could be used in addition few key points online for students,"

Price added that using the same material from lectures in podcasts could be useful in classes, and that while it may prompt students not to come to lecture, it could also be useful to review lectures.

Price said athletes travel and miss class, so it makes sense to use podcasting material in these situations

Finn said another problem with podcasting is that some students See PODCAST, page 4



WEATHER TODAY: Partly Cloudy, 91/68 WEDNESDAY: Sunny, 92/68 THURSDAY: Sunny, 95/71

**FUN FACT** 

An American helped foil a burglary in northern England while watching Beatle-related Webcam. He saw intruders breaking into a sports store and alerted local police

**TODAY'S HEADLINES** 

NATIONAL: Bush visits Katrina site, page 5

OPINION: Doin' the Dirty, page 3

SPORTS: Track and field ranks first, page 7

#### **CONTACT US**

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU

### EUROPE

will be student-teaching next semester. The other return to their universities Pennsylvania. in Europe.

ing forward to their stay and in the network. activities, which may include some sightseeing.

Gommans said. "University have studied abroad. More lish," Nichols said.

we are really lucky to be a part of it."

tests. Olsen will be stay- universities in the United ing at TCU for the entire States involved with ETEN, ate student in the School school year because she according to its Web site. Other universities include Georgia State Universistudents in ETEN stay here ty, Ball State University for one semester and then and Indiana University of

Dale Young, TCU repre-The students in ETEN are sentative for ETEN, said the being housed at the Grand- school is very fortunate for new perspective on teach-Marc and said they are look- being selected to take part ing

from TCU studied in "TCU has been a great Europe, and in the past

life has been special, and than 47 European students have studied at TCU since it has been a part of the TCU is one of only four network, Young said.

Ashley Nichols, a graduof Education, traveled to Budapest, Hungary last year to finish her student-teaching. Nichols, who plans to teach English as a second language when she graduates, said the experience gave her a

Being an outsider trying Last year, 34 students to learn a different language helped me to understand what my students will go university to be a part of," five years, 149 students through when learning Eng-

"We seek to develop a sense of independence for international students," Singleton

He said that by the time students need off-campus housing, they should be able to set it up on their own.

Tara de Fonseka, a freshman business major from Sri Lanka, said the international orientation was "a very friendly introduction" to TCU.

She added that she wasn't as afraid as some international students who came to Fort Worth because she had already traveled internation-

United States.

Vincent Heng, a transfer student from Australia, said he was afraid of not being able to make friends.

"I'm like the new kid on the block," Heng said.

Heng, a sophomore biology major, said he felt that international orientation helped because that is where he made most of his friends but wishes there would be American students to get to know at orientation as well.

De Fonseka said if she could change one thing about international orientation she would have preferred to be familiarized with the facilities around the school.

She said that not knowing where her classes were located or where to eat made her nervous.

The office of Internationorganizes international orientation, hosts several schoolwide events with international Greek organizations.

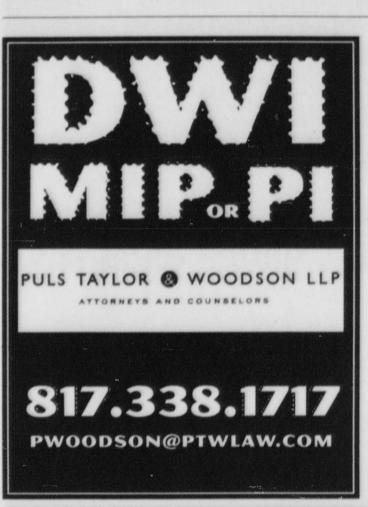
ally, including two trips to the emphases, such as international week, the international cooking series and the weekly Kino Monda foreign film series, according to its Web

Michelle Fabrega, president of the International Student Association, said the studentrun organization works to support international students.

Fabrega, an advertising/public relations major, said ISA is planning several trips, including a trip to Hurricane Harbor and to a ranch, so students can see what Texas is like outside

Dang Nguyen, student development chairman of ISA, said the hardest part about going to school in a foreign country is a break down of communication from growing up with different experi-

Nguyen said he would like al Student Services, which more participation in ISA activities by American students and more cooperation from the



#### **Don't Procrastinate**

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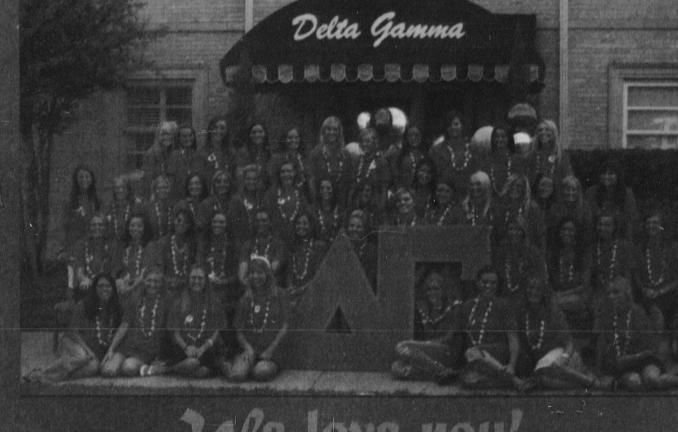




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By DAWN MI The Charlest What is Pluto's cha that the w mers decid belong in COMMENTAR

Dawn Miller

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> AMY HALL **ADRIENNE LESLIE HO!** KATHLEEN JENNIFER E



**BLUSTERY FORECAST** 

Tropical Storm Ernesto is making its way to Florida, where forecasters anticipate its development into a hurricane.

-Associated Fress

THE SKIFF VIEW

#### Make plan A before using unsafe Plan B pill

The Food and Drug Administration announced its approval for the overthe-counter sale of the Plan B pill Thursday, an emergency contraceptive that is currently only available by prescription.

While Plan P. reduces the odds of pregnancy by 89 percent if taken within 72 hours of having unprotected sex, it does so through administering two high doses of levonorgestrel - a synthetic hormone that works to prevent fertilization and implantation of an egg, according to the Food and Drug Administration Web site.

Though this method may sound like an easy fix to unplanned activities from the night before, the high levels of hormones administered in pills such as Plan B have not been proven to be safe for one's body, especially in younger women, who, according to the FDA Web site, were not fairly represented in the sample that tested the pill.

Because of this factor, women under 18 will still need a prescription to obtain the pill. But what about college-aged women who are right on the cusp of this age group that might be harmed from this pill?

We might be safe, but we also might not be. And why not err on the side of caution and reserve the decision to administer Plan B to professionals who are better prepared to judge if it is a safe option.

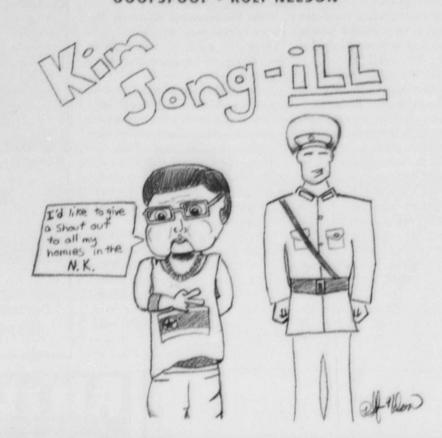
Some argue that if the pill is not available over-the-counter it will be difficult to obtain in enough time to make it effective. However, not allowing it to be purchased at your local Walgreens is not the same as banning it all together — it could still be obtained through planned parenthood centers or from physicians.

If a woman is truly concerned about the risk of pregnancy, she should see a doctor about getting on a regular birth control pill that will provide the same protection as the Plan B pill but will start preventing pregnancy before sexual intercourse instead of after.

It's called an emergency contraceptive method for a reason. And, just like dialing 911, it is supposed to be reserved for absolute emergencies. Taking Plan B should be reserved for the same dire situations instead of being readily available at drug stores.

ws editor Kathleen Thurber for the editorial board

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COMMENTARY

29, 2006

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### Large companies need help with assisting customers' needs

Why is it that the country's largest organizations have some of the most inept customer service representatives?

COMMENTARY



It is almost impossible to get connected to someone who can offer any kind of help

without having to transfer you to another person.

Being transferred from person to person would not be so bad except for the fact that before you are even connected to anyone, you have to wade through numerous automated menus

These menus are intended to speed up the process, but in reality they are just slowing it down. They ask you to enter information such as your phone number and address, but as soon as you get somebody on the line, you are asked to repeat the same information you just input.

There is absolutely no point to the automated system if the customer service representative is going to ask you for the exact same information.

Once you have finally made it through the menus and are connected to a person who is supposed to be able to help

you, unfortunately, there is another glitch. It inevitably seems as if the person you are talking to is either driving through a tunnel or can barely speak English. If, in fact, the representative can speak English, it is not, in the least bit, clearly.

If the main consumer of a certain product speaks a certain language, then it only makes sense to require the customer service representative to speak the same language

I recently had an ill-fated brush with my cable company, Charter Communications, when my cable and Internet were disconnected for no apparent reason. I called to see what the problem was and encountered every single situation described above.

In the end, I went through a total of seven different customer service representatives, including three supervisors, in the pursuit of getting my cable and Internet services back.

Going through so many representatives is not only a total waste of my time, but Charter's as well. In the end, it was only after I became hostile with the three supervisors did any real action take place.

It took a total of 12 days, after the company missed three scheduled appointments, and more than three hours on the phone before someone finally made it out to my apartment, which is located less than one mile from one of Charter's Fort Worth offices.

Why is it that a company that has no problem taking money from its customers is too busy to actually make an appearance when it makes a mistake? If a consumer is late with a payment, that consumer is slapped with a late charge. But if the company itself misses its own deadline, there are no repercussions.

In the end, I guess there isn't much a person can do. Yes, you can always change companies or service providers if you are allowed to (I'm not), but that doesn't really get anything done at that moment.

I don't want to make it sound as though everyone who is a customer service representative is bad at the job because I finally found a woman at Charter who was very good at it. She even tried to walk me through a couple of troubleshooting processes since she was not able to send out a technical work-

To answer my question at the beginning of the article, I think the old Tootsie Roll Pop commercials said it best: "I guess the world will never know."

> Jeff Eskew is a senior broadcast journalism major from China Spring

COMMENTARY

### Save sexual activity for someone special, not everyone on campus

Last week, classes resumed and we all fled our homes for the greener pastures of TCU. Or should I say the blazing heat and

chaotic con-

struction?

it's a small

pay for the

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Anyway,

price to



of freedom that we all enjoy in college - freedom that we sometimes

You can see it in the highfives of the frat boys and the nervous giggles of the girls. It has the unmistakable scent of sweat and cheap cologne and it glazes its victims over with a feeling of emptiness and depression. The villain, my friends, is casual sex.

I know, I know. You've heard the same song and dance 2 million times before. Why shouldn't you just put this paper down, and head off to your next class? Before you do that, however, I would highly urge you to reconsider.

This is in no way, shape, or form like a pastor's "fire and brimstone" sermon. You know, the kind that used to scare the crap out of you when you were 5 - the kind that said your entire family would burn in eternal hellfire because you cheated on your spelling test. It's a

tad bit different.

Look, I'm not trying to be a buzz kill. Odds are if you've already put your mind to dancing the horizontal mambo with every hot girl in your English class, there's nothing I can do to sway your actions. However, I advise you to take a good, hard look at yourself before you do.

Sex, put on its proper pedestal and treated with respect, is one of the finer experiences of human existence. However, our society has turned it into a glorified manifestation of faux love involving no more genuine attachment than two horses at a stud farm. Do you want to have dirty horselike sex while a bunch of farmers watch? Didn't think so - that would be disgusting.

The fact of the matter is that humans were given the gift of love, something that no other animals can engage in, or even comprehend. But what do we do with that gift? We bastardize it. Guys do it by purchasing the jumbo boxes of condoms at Sam's Club and then convincing girls that it means they are interested in safe sex, not the fact that they "do it" with a bunch of sketchy partners carrying an untold numbers of STDs. Girls do it by using the "I just want to have some fun" defense. I've got news for

you sweetheart, puppies and cotton candy are fun; sex with multiple partners is not.

I also understand that

the whole "sex after marriage" concept is almost non-existent in today's world. At no point in this column am I advocating total and complete sexual abstinence. If you care deeply about someone and just can't wait for the wedding day, go right ahead. Be safe, be smart and use protection. Just make sure that it's someone who you could see yourself spending the rest of your life with because you never know when little "Kevin Ir." could be on the way. Five minutes of sexual action while listening to John Mayer's "Your Body is a Wonderland" isn't worth spending the next five decades of your life with someone whom you don't truly love.

The bottom line is that we all make mistakes, I am by no means perfect, and neither is anyone else What we all need to realize is that we have the power to shape our lives, and every action that we perform either leads toward a fulfilling life or an existence steeped in regret. The choice is ours.

David Hall is a freshman news-editorial journalism major from Kingwood. His column appears every Tuesday

COMMENTARY

### Solar system change exciting revolution, lesson for students

By DAWN MILLER The Charleston Gazette

What is most surprising about Pluto's change of status is not that the world's leading astronomers decided Pluto doesn't really belong in the same category as the

rest of the planets. COMMENTARY It's the emotional Dawn Miller reaction this decision has brought out in people.

One astronomer referred to "hate mail" he received from elementary students. News reports used phrases suggesting that Pluto had been unceremoniously kicked out of "an elite cosmic club." Others used soothing phrases, assuring us that Pluto is still there, but implying that we may see him less often.

"It's like an amicable divorce," said Jack Horkheimer, director of the

Miami Space Transit Planetarium, in an Associated Press interview.

Oh, the riveting drama of scientific taxonomy. Can't you just hear the maudlin soap opera music?

Yet, I do admit an emotional attachment to Pluto, and it has nothing to do with the cartoon dog, despite what the more doltish broadcasters suggest. Pluto is just cool. In elementary science classes, we learned that it was farthest from the sun, but not for long. Because Pluto's orbit crosses Neptune's, in 1979, Pluto became the eighth planet from the center. Neptune was the farthest.

How we 10-year-olds enjoyed being right where old textbooks were wrong. What's more, that condition would last until 1999 - a very cosmic sounding date in the distant future, but still in our lifetimes. Then, true believers, Pluto crossed back into ninth place, where it will stay for 228 years.

So, you see how special we young astronomers were. We got to "see" something that won't happen again until 2227 (by Earth's calendar, of course).

There is something about knowledge acquired during childhood that seems more special and precious than all the things we learn later. I don't know if it is because we are so innocent and trusting then, or if it's because the whole world seems at once mysterious and yet observable and knowable.

For some reason, we develop emotional attachments to facts whether they are true or not - that we learn during those

curious, intellectually spongelike years. Mercury is interesting because it is so close to the sun. Venus has mystique. Mars is the most Earth-like. Jupiter has the spot. Saturn has rings. But once you get past that, so

many balls of cold rock going in circles can be difficult to differentiate. But there's Pluto, mixing up the orbit every couple hundred years, keeping things interesting.

While the International Astronomical Union debated Pluto's classification, I carried one of our front-page stories on the subject to a fourth- and fifth-grade class where I am a Read Aloud volunteer. They were already following the story.

An inflated, yellow plastic sun hung overhead. Throughout the

classroom, roughly to scale, were the other planets in their respective orbits, dangling from the drop ceiling. "What will we do with Pluto?" they asked.

Some recent news stories lamented that Pluto's change of status would cause trouble for schoolteachers, who will have to "scramble" to alter lesson plans, just as the school year opens. Bah! Elementary astronomers understand that science is a journey to discover knowledge. Scientific fact is amended with the benefit of new information and further reflection.

What better lesson could today's students have than to see the process in action? Even in being demoted, Pluto still busts science class out of a dull orbit.

AMY HALLFORD **ADRIENNE LANG LESLIE HONEY** KATHLEEN THURBER JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF

JOHN-LAURENT TRONCHE JORDAN COHEN MICHAEL DODD JEFF ESKEW **Editorial Policy** 

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e-mail it to LETTERS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

#### **PODCAST**

don't have iTunes.

"Students can also use Windows load iTunes, but it takes longer to run with it," Finn said

Some students in the College of iTunes." Communication have already started using the podcasts, Finn said. Justin Colvard, a sophomore bio-

chemistry major, said he uses the podcasts beyond the classroom walls. "I listen to the lectures while running," he said. "It is easy to just get

on iTunes and download." Katie Glonek, a graduate student and teaching assistant for the **Basic Speech Communication class** admits she has not used the podcast yet, but did say it was a good way for her students to consolidate their time

class," Glonek said. "Professor back at the end of the eight-week Finn has tailored the course so course.

the podcasts are supplemental to

Playing into modern technological trends was one of the goals of podcasting, Price said.

'We were trying to meet the Media Player if they do not down- needs of the majority," Price said. "There are students everywhere with iPods, so we know they have

Bekah Dale, a freshman business major, said she was surprised classes are using podcasts, but said it makes sense because it seems that everyone has iTunes or iPods.

Since the project is still in the trial phase, there will be an evaluation taken at the end of the halfsemester communication class, Finn said.

Jennifer Smolik, another teaching assistant for the Basic Speech Communication course, said the podcasts are still going through a trial run.

"This is mainly a test period," "I don't think students will skip she said. "We will get our feed-

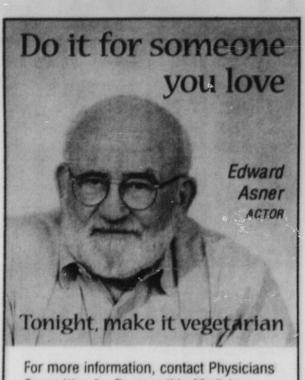
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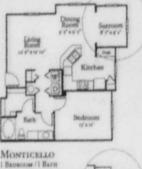
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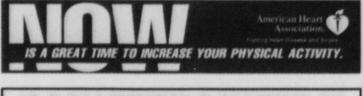
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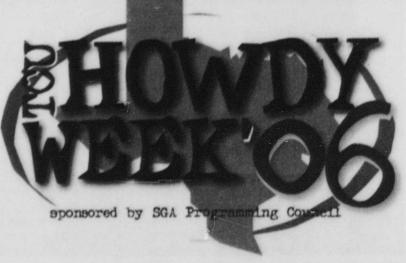
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Amanda Garrison

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Lindsey Twynham



Tuesday. August 22

Merchants Fair 11:00AM-2:00PM ~ SC Lounge

Back to School with Mr. Belding

6:00pm ~ SC Ballroom

Wednesday, August 23

Sociology Society Meet & Greet

5:00рм-6:00рм

Disciples on Campus Cookout

5:00pm-7:00pm ~ Sadler Lawn

Delta Sigma Theta & Sigma Lambda Alpha Block Party 7:00PM

Prime Time Praise 7:00PM ~ SC Lounge

Thursday, August 24 Frogpalooza

5:00pm-7:00pm ~ Sadler Lawn

TropiAKAI Luan 7:00PM ~ Rec Center

Catholic Mass & Free Meal 5:15PM ~ Reed Hall 214

Friday. August 25

Construction Celebration with Live Music

Noon ~ Main Campus

Movie Night 9:00pm ~ Foster-Waits Lawn

Showing V for Vendetta Saturday, August 26

Meet the Frogs 11:00AM ~ Amon Carter Stadium

Wednesday, August 30

**Activities Fair** 4:00рм-7:00рм ~ Rec Center

Sophomore Splash 5:00рм-8:00рм ~ Rec Center Pool

Intercultural Student Welcome 8:00pm-11:00pm ~ Rec Center Pool

Thursday, August 31 Church Fair 11:30AM-1:30PM ~ Sadler Lawn

TCU Daily

STEVEN THO McClatchy N

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By MARTIN I GARY FINEO McClatchy N Tropical:

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Still, fore storms have sify between and that Er to adhere to "I can as

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### Bush returns to Gulf Coast on Katrina anniversary

By WILLIAM DOUGLAS AND STEVEN THOMMA McClatchy Newspapers

President Bush saluted the resilience of Hurricane Katrina survivors here Monday and promised that their plight hadn't been forgotten a year after the storm cut a swath of death and destruction along the Mississippi and Louisiana coasts

"Even though we've been through about one year together, one year doesn't mean that we'll forget," Bush told community leaders at a luncheon in Biloxi, Miss. "As a matter of fact, now is the time to renew our commitment to let people down here know that we will stay involved and help the people of Mississippi rebuild their lives.

nger

26

30

Bush's stops in Mississippi and New Orleans were part of a two-day trip to mark the first anniversary of a hurricane that killed 1,695 people, displaced 770,000 others and caused at least \$96 billion in damage when it hit land on Aug. 29, 2005.

Bush is using the anniversary to reassure gulf residents and Americans that his administration is on top of the recovery effort after doing an admittedly poor job in the initial days following the hur- of the Army Corps of Engi-

Before leaving Washington, he was briefed by Homeland Security officials on Tropical Storm Ernesto, which has cut through the Caribbean, put lorida on alert and caused some jitters in this region.

Last week, the White House put out a four-page document detailing what the administration has cone for Gulf Coast residents in the past year.

It said that Bush's stewardship helped secure \$110 billion in federal funds for recovery efforts, for repairs New Orleans' damaged levee system in time for the 2007 hurricane season and for removing tons of post-Katrina debris from the gulf.

But several experts say that even those recovery efforts have been problematic. Of the \$110 billion, only \$77 billion has been released and only \$44 billion has been spent.

Funds from a \$17 billion program to rebuild about 204,000 homes in Louisiana and Mississippi are just now starting to flow into the region. Federal emergency officials have expressed confidence that New Orleans' levees are ready for a major hurricane, though the head

neers, which repaired the system, said it's not clear whether the levees can withstand a big

Bush acknowledged some of the problems on Monday, particularly in getting people back into their homes.

"I know there's some frustration," he said of federal-state efforts to get homeowners money so they can rebuild their properties. "The checks have begun to roll. They're beginning to move."

Still, despite White House attempts to show Bush leading a more focused recovery, his early handling of Katrina's aftermath continued to dog him. An Associated Press-Ipsos poll released this week showed complaints about Katrina have eroded confidence in Bush's handling of the disaster and trust in the country's ability to handle

The survey found that 31 percent of Americans now approve of the way Bush handled the hurricane, down from 46 percent a year ago. It also found that 56 percent don't believe that the country is ready for another disaster.

Bush doesn't share the

nation's pessimism. He marveled at the progress made in one neighborhood that he had visited four days after Katrina

"I was struck by the beauty of the beaches," he said. "The beaches were pretty rough after the storm, as you know. Today they are pristine and they're beautiful. They reflect a hopeful future, as far as I'm concerned.'

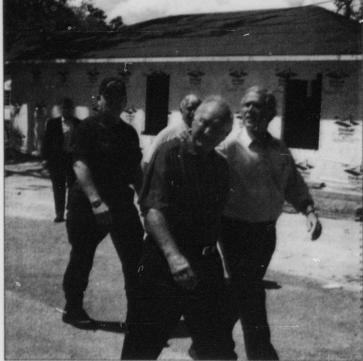
Sensing a politica! opening, Democrats planned to counter Bush's trip with a broad array of events on the Gulf Coast and around the country designed to underscore complaints about the federal government's response to the hurricane

The main effort was a three-day trip to the region starting Monday by 25 House Democrats and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., the House minority leader. Their schedule included tours, town hall meetings and daily news conferences.

Individual Democrats planned a conference call Tuesday morning along with the Campaign for America's Future, a pro-Democrat group, to outline the federal government's "failures" and to charge that hurricane rescue and recovery was hurt by "the conservative ideology of disinvestment, cronyism and corruption.

Several Democratic congressional candidates planned media events Tuesday to link their Republican opponents to the failures of the Federal Emergency Management Agency after Katrina.

In suburban Philadelphia, for example, Democratic House candidate Joe Sestak planned to use a Tuesday news conference to ask, "Do the people of this district want more of the same FEMA-style government, or do they want a new direction in the way Congress handles the critical needs of the American people?



U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Atlen, Biloxi Mayor A.J. Holloway and President George W. Bush visit a home under construction in Biloxi, Miss.

### Ernesto expected to hit Florida as tropical storm

By MARTIN MERZER, ERIKA BOLSTAD AND GARY FINEOUT McClatchy Newspaper

Tropical Storm Ernesto took its sweet time over the storm-disrupting mountains of Cuba Monday afternoon, a modestly favorable development for Florida.

Ernesto was predicted to directly strike South Florida Tuesday, but as a strong tropical storm with a speed of 70 mph sustained winds rather than a minimal hurricane with 75 mph winds.

The distinction was slim, but certainly encouraging for a state hit or brushed by eight hurricanes in the past were ordered or suggested.

sify between Cuba and South Florida, and that Ernesto habitually has refused

to adhere to forecasts. "I can assure you that the probability is not zero that Ernesto could become a hurricane," said Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center in West Miami-Dade County,

In addition, meteorologists said Ernesto, like many storms that arrive from the south, could produce more of a water event in Florida than a wind event. Five to 10 inches of rain could fall on parts of the region, swamping some areas.

With that in mind, long lines formed for fuel and food, officials in Miami-Dade and Broward counties ordered schools to close Tuesday and limited evacuations

"As long as we are preparing and Still, forecasters emphasized that many not panicking, then everything will be storms have been known to rapidly inten- okay." Charlene Strauss said as clerks delivered bottled water to the empty shelves of an Albertson's supermarket in Plantation, Fla.

With gasoline lines stretching for inland flooding.

blocks in some areas, Gov. Jeb Bush praised South Floridians for taking prestorm precautions, but urged them not to overreact. He said fuel inventories were abundant throughout the state.

A tropical storm warning and hurricane watch covered the Florida east coast from Vero Beach south through Broward and Miami-Dade and to Key West. That means tropical storm conditions are expected within 24 hours and hurricane conditions are possible.

Emergency managers urged everyone in the region to calmly begin shuttering their homes and businesses and otherwise preparing for Ernesto, preferably this evening, when the weather is still good.

Conditions will begin deteriorating Tuesday morning or afternoon, with forecasters warning of torrential rain, strong wind and the possibility of coastal and

southern coast Monday morning and forecasters predicted up to 20 inches of rain in some places. A report for Cuba's Radio Rebelde said officials in Guantanamo and Santiago de Cuba were concerned that heavy rain could propel mudslides into

The system barely clung to tropical storm status as it slowly roamed over Cuba's mountains. The duration of that trip substantially weakened Ernesto and should give it less time to regain strength over water before it reaches South Flor-

"I don't think anyone is going to complain about that," Mayfield said.

Meanwhile, managers of the Federal Emergency Management Agency prepositioned 70 truckloads of water and food at the Homestead Air Reserve Base, 50 truckloads in Jacksonville and 720 truck- if necessary," Tittle said.

The center of Ernesto reached Cuba's loads of ice elsewhere in the southeastern United States, according to Miami-Dade

In other developments:

At the Kennedy Space Center, officials scrapped all plans to launch Atlantis early this week and prepared to move the shuttle off the pad and back to its hangar. a laborious process that will keep the spaceship and its six astronauts grounded for at least 10 days, and probably much

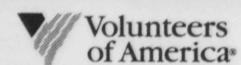
Leaders of the Florida National Guard prepared to call up troops and deploy them where needed, according to spokesman Lt. Col. Ron Tittle. About 100 Guard soldiers, mostly experts in planning, will be called to active duty today, he said, with the main force likely to be called out Tuesday.

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- W.C. Fields

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

1958: Pop sensation Michael Jackson is born in Gary, Indiana. 2005: Hurrican Katrina, the most destructive hurricane ever to hit the United States, makes landfall on the U.S. Gulf Coast, near New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson

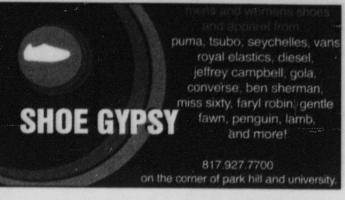


Sick of needless expense on perfume, Francine prepared for her night out by rolling around on her magazines.



#### SUDOKU PUZZLE

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	6	4			7	2		
9			2	4		5		1
9				3		8	6	
7		5		8				
	1		6		5		4	
				9		3		2
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4		7		5	8			9
		2	3			1	8	

#### Directions

Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

> See Wednesday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

#### Friday's Solutions

4	3	5	2	6	9	7	8	1
6	8	2	5	7	1	4	9	3
1	9	7	8	3	4	5	6	2
8	2	6	1	9	5	3	4	7
3	7	4	6	8	2	9	1	5
9	5	1	7	4	3	6	2	8
5	1	9	3	2	6	8	7	4
2	4	8	9	5	7	1	3	6
7	6	3	4	1	8	2	5	9

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1 Leading 6 Earring site 10 Yorkshire guy 14 Hold contents

15 Sitting on 16 Walkiki's island 17 Surrender 20 Pouch

21 Listens to again 22 "Hawaii" writer 27 Twin Cities

suburb 28 Anticipates with terror 29 Deuterium discoverer 32 Last of cash?

33 Mountain lake 36 i surrender 41 Kin by marriage 42 "Hud" co-star

44 Exist 47 Fraternity frock 48 Areca nuts

50 \_\_nova 52 Complained peevishly 54 Features 57 Lofting tennis

58 Surrender 64 Emerald Isle 65 Abel's sibling 66 Half of the U.A.R. 67 Prom partner

68 Exaggerated publicity Take step:

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Armstrong 7 Great Gian Physicist Nie

See Wednesday's paper for answers to today's crossword.

Pull up 40 Big name in

New York, NY

13 Rotating

18 Holm and Hunter 19 "\_\_ Coming to

24 Eur. particle accelerator

26 Flee 30 Fam. member 31 Pamphlet

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Take Me Away Ha, Haaa!"

43 Dr. Tim's 44 Humbled

46 \_\_ de corps 48 Coll. hotsho 49 Represent in 53 Houen's river 53 Coeur d'\_\_, ID 55 Part of M.I.T. 56 Freeze, Fidol 59 Cool or groovy

60 Potash 61 Miner matter 62 Disencumber 63 Pronounce

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SOCCER

By MICHELLE Staff Reporter The TCU was scorele the Rice Ov Stadium.

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STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Staff Photographe Sophomore Justyn Warner passes the baton to junior Delwayne Delaney in a TCU track meet.

TRACK AND FIELD

### Men's track and field team ranks first in magazine

The 2006 men's track and field team broke the Southeastern Conference's seven-year streak of being

ranked first in relays by "Track and Field News." "It is a big honor to receive recognition from a source as well-respected as 'Track and Field News,' said Darryl Anderson, the track and field head coach.

Teams were ranked on their overall performances in eight events and scored on their rankings in each event. TCU placed high in most events including second place in the 4 X 100 and third place in the sprint medley. Although TCU placed first overall, they did not place first in any single event.

"Most people thought a bigger school would be ranked first, but TCU proved everyone wrong," said Lewis Banda, a senior and former member of the relay team. "Everybody was happy about it because all of our hard work in the

heat paid off."

Anderson said he was surprised when he found out the results.

Otis McDaniel, junior relay team member, said the relay team was successful because of hard work from athletes and coaches working to put together the best team possible.

"Everybody was determined to run hard all the time," McDaniel said.

McDaniel said if the members of the team continue to be motivated, they will be able to repeat their success

"We're capable of winning championships," McDaniel said. "We just have to do even better next year."

The honor has given the team more momentum

leading into the new season, Anderson said. "Receiving this honor has challenged the team for the 2007 season and will help in recruiting new

athletes for the 2008 season," Anderson said. Banda said more high school students will now know

about the track and field program, and it will raise the level of athletes that comes to the university.

TCU has always been nationally known in relays because the coaches do a good job developing athletes and helping them improve," Anderson said.

Anderson said being first in the nation in relays is a step toward winning an NCAA championship.

In an article titled "Indoor sports facility planned, delayed by football practice" in Thursday's Skiff, the reporter wrote that the athletic indoor practice facility "is part of a \$100 million anonymous donation for campus construction." The \$7 million donation to TCU for the practice facility came from both an anonymous donor and the Jane and John Justin Foundation. The practice facility construction will be part of the \$100 million Campus Commons

In the same article, Lisa Albert, communications specialist, was referred to as the assistant director of communications.

SOCCER

### Frogs kick off season with defeat

By MICHELLE NICOUD Staff Reporter

The TCU women's soccer team was scoreless in its season opener Friday night with a 0-1 loss to the Rice Owls at Garvey-Rosenthal Stadium.

Head coach Dan Abdalla said the team, which includes eight freshman and six seniors, played tentatively the entire match and didn't take advantage of its scoring chances.

"For a young group, as we have, they've got to recognize that you can't just sit back," Abdalla said. "And the older players need to do a better job giving them instruction, helping them out and being active and involved themselves."

The crowd of 1,216 cheered loudly at the first regular season game, despite the fact that the Horned Frogs were never able to establish themselves as a force.

"The atmosphere is completely different," sophomore defender Courtney Johnson said. "There are huge amounts of crowds. People can come after school, as opposed to still being in school for the previous 4 p.m. Friday games, so there's a lot more of a community supporting us.'

TCU prepared for the Rice match by doing on-field drills for two weeks prior to the game. Before that time, preparation included voluntary daily workouts with strength and conditioning, which a large number of the players attended, sophomore defender Caroline Starns said.

"It's not a mandatory workout, but we're pretty much always there," Starns said. "We work out, we run, we lift like we would when two-a-days start. Coaches aren't there because they aren't allowed to be, but we push ourselves just like they are there."

The Rice Owls finished second last year in Conference USA, but Johnson said the Horned Frogs did not approach the team any differently than any other opponent and that positive thinking is important to a successful season.

"Pretty much for every game, it's the same - you want to go out hard, you want to go out aggressive," Johnson said. "You don't want to fear anybody, but we want to respect everybody as well."

Starns is holding the team to high expectations she thinks can be reached if the team works as

"We have been working our tails off this month," Starns said. "We worked hard last season, but I really think we are going to win a lot of games this year."



JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF / Staff Pho Senior TCU player Casey Glass battles a Rice defender at Friday's game. TCU lost the game 1-0. For the

results of the TCU vs. Tech go to Skiff online.

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