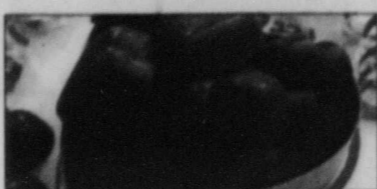


NEWS
A former Horned Frog comes back to complete his degree.
TOMORROW



FEATURES
Whether you're single or in a long-distance relationship, we have a valentine for you.
PAGE 4



SPORTS
The Horned Frogs baseball team won its first home game.
PAGE 6



TCU

DAILY SKIFF

WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2007
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Students support independent aid program

By BAILEY SHIFFLER
Staff Reporter

In an effort to increase funding for the Texas Tuition Exchange Grant, 11 students spent the past two days lobbying at the state Capitol in Austin.

The TEG gives money to private institutions to use for student financial aid and scholarships.

According to a 2007 report

from the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, there are 40 independent — nonprofit and tax-exempt — colleges and universities in the state. These institutions award more than 22 percent of all bachelor's degrees in Texas.

TCU is the third largest recipient of the grant, receiving more than \$5 million in the 2007 fiscal year, according to the report.

Michael Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid, said the TEG was created after an acknowledgment by legislators of the growing number of college-bound students in Texas. He said the grants allow a number of students to go to private schools who would otherwise be attending public colleges and universities.

"The TEG has been one of

the most effective aid programs I think we've ever had the benefit of administering at TCU," Scott said.

Susan Adams, dean of campus life, said TCU has been helping with the TEG lobby effort for at least 20 years. Adams accompanied the 11 students to Austin and said they visited close to 40 legislators.

"The 11 students did an excellent job representing TCU stu-

dents' interest," Adams said. Students such as Jewel Alvarez, a sophomore bilingual education major and recipient of the TEG grant, said lobbying in Austin helped representatives put a face to the name of a recipient.

"I was able to say, 'I'm a person that you're helping if you approve this grant,'" Alvarez said.

The grant is important

because it gives financially limited students the opportunity to get an education at an independent institution, said Kelly Barnes, a freshman political science major. He said they lobbied for an increase in the TEG to correspond with rising tuition rates at TCU.

"To keep up with the 8 percent tuition increase, they'll need to increase the grant money," Barnes said.

Alumnus starts entrepreneurial scholarship

By ELIZABETH DAVIDSON
Staff Reporter

More students could be starting businesses in Fort Worth next fall.

Alumnus Bill Shaddock is working with the Neeley School of Business to establish the Bill Shaddock Investment Fund to support student-run businesses. The fund would provide resources to students who either need the money to further grow their businesses or to students who have ideas and need a little money to get their ideas started, said David Minor, director of the Neeley Entrepreneurship Center.



BILL SHADDOCK

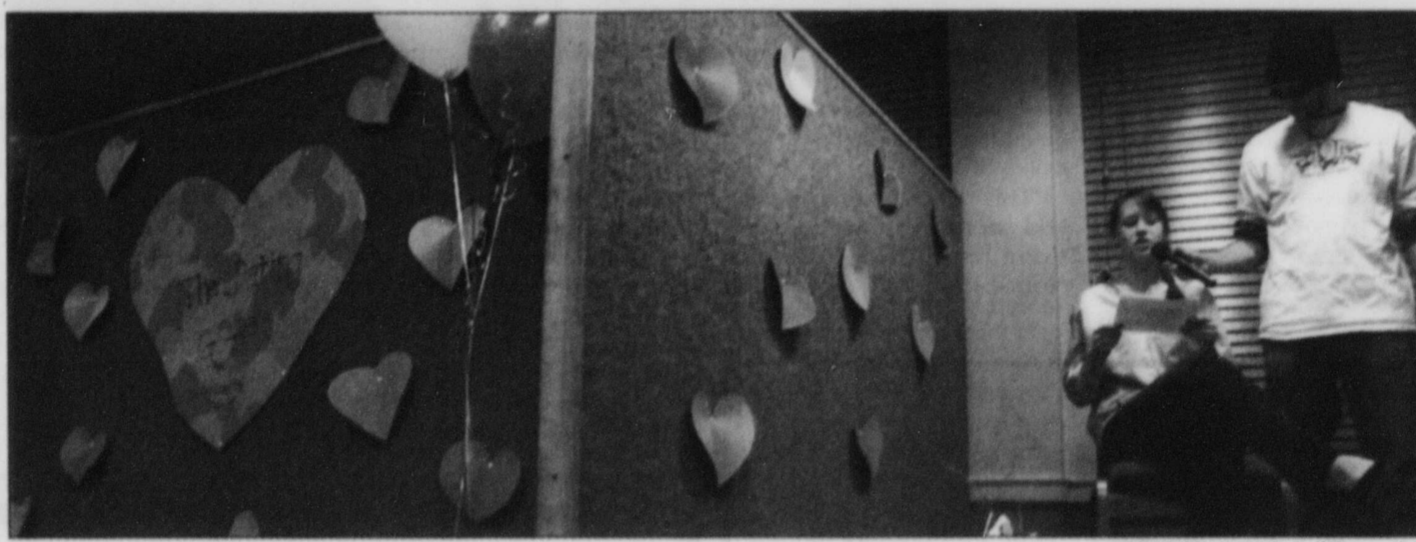
"There are many, many businesses that start for \$5,000 or \$10,000, and they become very big businesses at some point," Minor said. "That would be ideal." The details of the funding are still being determined, but Minor said he believes students will repay the money at low interest rates, if at all. He expects the first investments will be made in the fall. Any student can apply for the fund; it is not only available to business majors.

Shaddock, who graduated from TCU in 1973 with a degree in finance, is the CEO, president or owner of a few businesses in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, such as Shaddock Development and Capital Title of Texas. He wanted to create a fund for entrepreneurial students based on his personal experience at TCU.

"There weren't a lot of programs for people who wanted

See **INVESTMENT**, page 2

The Dating Game



(Above) Freshman Meghan Hanley asks questions to three anonymous dating game contestants who were hidden from view with a screen. Senior Justin Kirchoff acts as one of the MC's for the event. Contestants who finished were rewarded with one gift certificate from several restaurants such as P.F. Chang's and Chili's. (Below) Freshman Alexis Branaman quizzes the three unknown male contestants during a dating game held in the Student Center Lounge as senior Justin Kirchoff, or MC Misc, holds a microphone for her while the contestants are questioned.

By LEIGH ANN WEAVER
Staff Reporter

Going out on Valentine's Day with a complete stranger and not having to pay for the meal? Four couples will be experiencing a very different Valentine's Day this year.

The Programming Council held its first event of the semester Tuesday night called The Dating Game. In honor of Valentine's Day, PC was looking for a way to put a different twist on the most romantic day of the year.

Jodi Settle, director of the event, said the purpose of the game was to get students involved in a fun activity on campus.

"There are a lot of activities that are sorority- and fraternity-based, and SGA and Programming Council try to involve all students," Settle said.

Settle said the goal of the game was to bring a diverse crowd, and the game did just that as members from organizations campuswide made up Tuesday's contestants.

The contestants volunteered

in response to a mass e-mail sent last week by Settle.

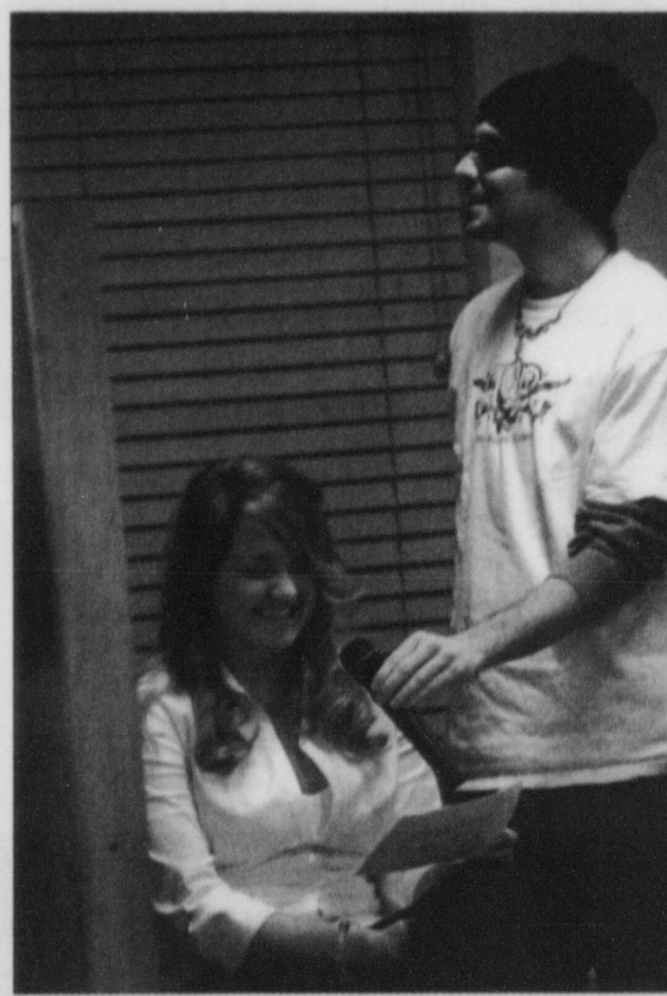
The game itself consisted of four rounds of questioning. Two rounds had a male quizzing three female contestants and the other two rounds featured a female asking questions to three male suitors.

For the couples, PC received donations from local restaurants like Chili's, Uno's Pizzeria, Macaroni Grill and P.F. Chang's China Bistro. In addition to the local donations, the women in the couples also received flowers for their efforts.

Alexis Branaman, a freshman international communications major, was one of the contestants in the first round. She said she was impressed with the way PC pulled off the event and the organization of the way it turned out.

Austin Whisenhunt, a freshman business major, said he had fun because he had never had a date on Valentine's Day before being picked Tuesday.

"They need to do this more often so I can get more dates," Whisenhunt said.



Administration creates pandemic plan in case of disease, viral outbreak

By SUSAN GILMARTIN
Staff Reporter

A communication plan is now in place in case of an outbreak of an airborne virus or disease.

Campus Life has implemented a pandemic plan that includes ways of trafficking information to the public with extra phone lines and Web sites.

Laura Crawley, assistant dean of campus life and health promotion, said the university is trying to be proactive by coordinating plans for an outbreak on campus.

She said a pandemic could be the avian flu or even something the public doesn't know about yet.

The committee has established a plan to inform students about a pandemic on a need-be basis, Crawley said. It is important to share information that the campus can understand but, at the same time, not bombard students with too much information, she said.

"We are looking at a pandemic very broadly, and we are ready for any sort of catastrophic event that happens

FOR YOUR INFO

METHODS FOR STAYING HEALTHY:

- Wash hands frequently with warm soapy water.
- Get enough rest.
- Eat well-balanced meals.
- Exercise
- Avoid close contact with others who are sick.

to the university," Crawley said.

Kristi Scott, a junior nursing major, said she feels safer because the university has

implemented a plan and it is always better to be prepared rather than not.

Phil Hartman, a biology professor, said planning for a pandemic is sort of like having life insurance: You hope you won't need it but it is always good to have those plans available.

"I think the more education you can give the better, but the truth is, people are not going to really sit up and take notice until it is inevitable that a pandemic might be upon us," Hartman said.

The initial planning for a

pandemic began before Crawley started working at the university in 2005, Crawley said.

It is important for students to have plans with their families in case of a pandemic because, "one of the best pieces of advice the university has given is there is nothing we can do better than you can't do with your families," Crawley said.

Senior biology major Antoine Scott said he likes the idea of hoping for the best but preparing for the worst.

See **PANDEMIC**, page 2

"They wouldn't let me cross the border into the U.S. until I could prove I was a citizen," Ulla said.

At the passport fair, applicants can have their photograph taken, pay passport and execution fees and submit an application, Hulme said. Applicants can use a check or money order to pay the \$67 passport fee, the \$30 execution fee and the \$15 photograph fee. Two identical 2 inch by 2 inch photographs can be used instead of taking a photograph at the fair.

Applicants must bring proof of citizenship, such as a certified birth certificate, previous

See **PASSPORT**, page 2



WEATHER

TODAY: Mostly Cloudy, 37/25
THURSDAY: Mostly Cloudy, 37/25
FRIDAY: Sunny, 53/39

PECULIAR FACT

Manila, Philippines: More than 6,000 couples kissed simultaneously in a parking lot at midnight Saturday, setting a world record.
— Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES

FEATURES: Don't let being single stop fun, page 4
OPINION: Give love every day, page 3
SPORTS: Diamond Darlings get new boss, page 6

CONTACT US

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

PANDEMIC

From page 1

He said he thinks the university should protect its students and let everyone know it is a safe campus.

TCU is not the only school in the area that has a plan of action for an outbreak.

Bob Blum, director of health services at the University of Texas at Arlington, said a pandemic task force was formed

there about a year ago. This task force consists of representatives from different organizations on campus, Blum said.

Blum, chairman of the pandemic task force, said the members have been meeting every other week and have been working with Tarrant County Health Department as well as the City of Arlington to form a draft to be finalized today.

Blum said the plan's initial precautions direct students and faculty to distance themselves

socially and to wash their hands in case of an outbreak.

Once a vaccine is found, Blum said, the campus will be notified immediately so it can take the next step to stop the outbreak.

The typical flu season ranges from November to March, with its peak in January and February, according to the Health Center Web site. The Health Center offers flu shots for \$20, but there is not yet a bird flu vaccination.

INVESTMENT

From page 1

to own their own business," Shaddock said. "Education prepared us to work for a corporation; training us for 'Fortune 500 land.' I wanted to impact young people who had visions of their future besides large corporations."

Not only will students gain experience from running their own businesses, but Minor would also like to have a committee of financing and accounting students work on the loaning process side of investments. He also said he would like Shaddock to be a mentor to some of the businesses they invest in.

"I don't think students can learn business by

"Studying business is like learning to swim in the grass by the swimming pool. I want to create a pool where students can actually get in and learn to swim."

Bill Shaddock
Alumnus

watching," Shaddock said. "Studying business is like learning to swim in the grass by the swimming pool. I want to create a pool where students can actually get in and learn to swim."

Michelle Maag, a junior entrepreneurial management major, thinks the investment fund sounds like a great opportunity.

"If there are opportunities to finance your business directly from the school, it can be used to attract new students," Maag said.

Minor said they would spend the next couple of months putting it all together and launch the program in the fall.

"It's a really exciting initiative that I think is unique to TCU and just another initiative that puts us on the map in the world of entrepreneurship and in academia," Minor said. "We'd like to think we've got one of the top programs in the country already, and this just makes us that much stronger."

PASSPORT

From page 1

passport or naturalization certificate, and a current driver's license or state identification card.

The actual application process should take no more

than 15 minutes, Pinto said. Passports will be mailed to students within eight weeks. Students concerned about time limitations can also pay \$60 to receive their passport within two weeks, or \$28.80 to send the applica-

tion through express mail.

"We realize that a lot of students will want to make trips to Mexico over Spring Break or study abroad over the summer," Pinto said. "Now is the perfect time to get it, before Spring Break and the summer rush."

North Korea agrees to close main nuclear reactor

By BAY FANG AND EVAN OSNOS
Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — Four months after North Korea defied the world by testing a nuclear device, its pledge Tuesday to close its main nuclear reactor in exchange for \$400 million in aid leaves unresolved how it would abandon the rest of its nuclear facilities, weapons and atomic fuel stockpiles.

The deal, announced in a joint statement by the United States and four other nations, does not immediately require Kim Jong

Il's regime to give up any existing nuclear bombs but lays out a first deadline for key steps toward disarmament and normalized diplomatic relations.

North Korea pledged to shut down its Yongbyon nuclear reactor and permit international atomic inspectors to return to the country within 60 days. In turn, it will receive 50,000 tons of heavy fuel oil or equivalent "emergency assistance," a down payment on a promised million tons of oil or equivalent aid when it disarms.

President Bush welcomed the nuclear deal, a rare foreign policy victory at a time when the United States faces severe difficulties in Iraq and elsewhere. But administration officials also tempered expectations as some critics noted that the White House previously criticized such overtures to a country the president once branded part of "the axis of evil."

"This is still the first quarter," said Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. "There is still a lot of time to go on the clock. But

the six parties have now taken a promising step in the right direction."

The fate of the deal may rest on whether North Korea is fundamentally prepared to renounce nuclear arms after years of delays and defiance. Pyongyang has reneged on previous agreements and has been accused of developing its uranium-based weapons program even while freezing a plutonium-based one.

The announcement of the deal by North Korea's official news agency said merely that the country was receiving one million tons of oil for a "temporary suspension" of its nuclear facilities — without mentioning

the full disarmament for which the agreement calls.

Meeting the 60-day deadline will be a key benchmark of North Korea's commitment to the process, but it will take more time to determine whether the communist nation is prepared to see the process to conclusion, say veterans of American and multilateral negotiations with the North Koreans.

The plan drew harsh criticism from John Bolton, who until December was the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Bolton said the agreement ran counter to the Bush administration's counter-proliferation policy of not rewarding bad behavior.

"It's a bad, disappointing deal, and the best thing you can say about it is that it will probably fall apart," Bolton said in an interview. "The only reason they were back at the negotiating table was because of the pressure we put on them through financial sanctions. Now we're about to release that pressure."

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 9 article "Body Worlds in Dallas offers realistic depiction of body," a reference was made to an exhibit "The Skin Man," which is not actually in the Dallas exhibit.

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COMMENTARY
Marcus Murphree

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COMMENTARY
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A kiss makes the heart young again and wipes out the years."
-Rupert Brooke

THE SKIFF VIEW

Valentine's for everyone, not just one

It's that time of year again — the one and only Valentine's Day.

Today is traditionally the day to profess love for that special someone and to fill the pockets of Hallmark, Olive Garden and chocolate manufacturers around the world.

And for singles, today is traditionally the day to lament their lack of a loved one or attempt to ignore the over-commercialized holiday all together.

It's no doubt Valentine's Day has multiple meanings depending on where one is in life. For some, it can be good. For others, it can carry a bad stigma.

But what if this day could somehow have just one meaning, for the betterment of everyone?

Rewind back to Valentine's Days in elementary school when everyone would receive a handmade Valentine from every child in the class. There were no exclusions, such as only receiving a Valentine if you had a boyfriend or girlfriend. The idea was to let every child know he or she was special and loved.

Let's bring back those good ol' days, or at least

the thought process behind it, and change Feb. 14 into a universal day of love and acceptance.

The Valentine's Day accepted by society zeroes in on only one small aspect of love.

Love doesn't have to be an exclusive thing. In fact, it shouldn't be. Valentine's Day can still remain a celebration of it. But instead of celebrating loving one person and isolating the rest, it should be a day to celebrate loving every human being.

What if today everyone was recognized as special no matter his or her relationship status, race, gender, religion or status in society? What if today every person made it a point to do something nice for a stranger? What would the world be like if love and acceptance were universally celebrated for just one day?

So while taking that special sweetie out to dinner tonight, remember love makes the world go 'round, and make it a point to smile at a stranger and spread a little love.

The world will be a better place today because we did.

Features editor Amber Parcher for the editorial board.

BY BRENDAN KIEFER



"Back in my day Valentine's was about something. It was about...errr...umm...I think it was candy. And Unicorns. Yeah, Candy and Unicorns."

HE SAID

V-Day offers simple way to show traditional tokens of love to all

COMMENTARY



Marcus Murphree

Think back to elementary school in February. The arts and crafts activities for the week have come to a screeching halt and the valentines box is prepped with pink paper, maybe some bows, and it is dripping with colored Elmer's glue. This little card chest on the front of the desk is screaming donations and love, in a totally non-biased way. Every student gives at least one card to every other student. There is no worry about boys giving cards to boys or boys to girls. It is a harmless display of friendship that seems to be lost once adolescence is reached.

What is wrong with saying there is a reason to care about a friend at least one day a year? It is understood that a date and possibly flowers and wine is a requisite for the evening, but sometimes having a night out during the middle of the week is a good thing. A date like that can alleviate the workweek grind and give two people the chance to enjoy the company of one another.

Girls complain about how guys don't go on traditional dates, so when a guy takes the time to arrange something, even if it is on V-Day, why are they scrutinized for this activity? The opportunity to treat a loved one to a night out should not be seen as a chore but rather embraced. And by having a calendar day where other places of business cater to one's dating scheme, life gets simpler and more routine.

For instance, Byblos Lebanese Restaurant and Hookah Lounge has a four-course Lebanese dinner and belly-dancing exhibition. Not a bad deal for \$69 a couple, and the atmosphere is intimate so the faint smell of passionfruit hookah almost acts as an aphrodisiac. Try achieving that vibe in a dumpsy two-bedroom apartment while watching reruns of Gilmore Girls.

Alas, Valentine's Day is only one day a year, so why do couples not show their love every day? They do show their love, but not through a commercial medium. The cliches of Valentine's make for a fun way to shower each other with silly cards, cute teddy bears and those little hearts with the words on them. Traditional random acts of kindness in a relationship are the driving force behind why people are together, and those do not have to be expressed through the Valentine's Day course of action. But certain things are for V-Day only. Things like a heart-shaped box full of candy and a dozen budding red roses.

Little gifts such as tickets to the Rangers' for opening day, a tin of one's favorite coffee grounds or an engagement ring are the presents that are timeless and do not need to be reserved for the Valentine's cliches.

Today, go out and celebrate. If single life is the current status, call up an old friend and watch a fun movie. If you are in a relationship, appreciate the fact that for one night you can go out for a fancy dinner and not worry about being outclassed. After all, today is the day for couples everywhere.

Christmas brings gifts, Easter brings eggs, Halloween brings orange filled Oreos, so why can't Valentine's Day be the one day a year where people celebrate little hearts with words on them?

Sports editor Marcus Murphree is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Beaumont.

SHE SAID

Holiday should be realistic; don't compare relationships

Every year, one day comes around where candy, flowers, cards and gifts are exchanged in the name of love. It is the inevitable Valentine's Day.

There is some skepticism about how Valentine's Day came to be or why we celebrate it.

In one legend, St. Valentine wrote a letter to a girl he liked during his confinement in prison expressing his love for her before he was sentenced to death,

according to history.com. After his death, Feb. 14 became a day for lovers to celebrate their love for one another.

However, today the holiday has transformed into a day in which men and women are supposed to shower each other with affection and perhaps go out for a romantic candlelit dinner. The pressure to be romantic keeps building.

The Greeting Card Association estimates that 180 million valentine cards are sent each year worldwide, according to a U.S. Census Bureau press release. This makes Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday, only one place behind Christmas.

So what's the big deal about Valentine's Day?

If you are single, it simply reminds you that you don't have someone special in your life. If you are in a relationship, you are expected to do something sweet or buy a valentine for your significant other in fear that if you don't, you may end up sleeping on the couch.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoy flowers and gifts just like most women. However, I don't expect my boyfriend to run out to the store and buy me every heart-shaped chocolate box and bouquet of roses he can find just because it's Valentine's Day.

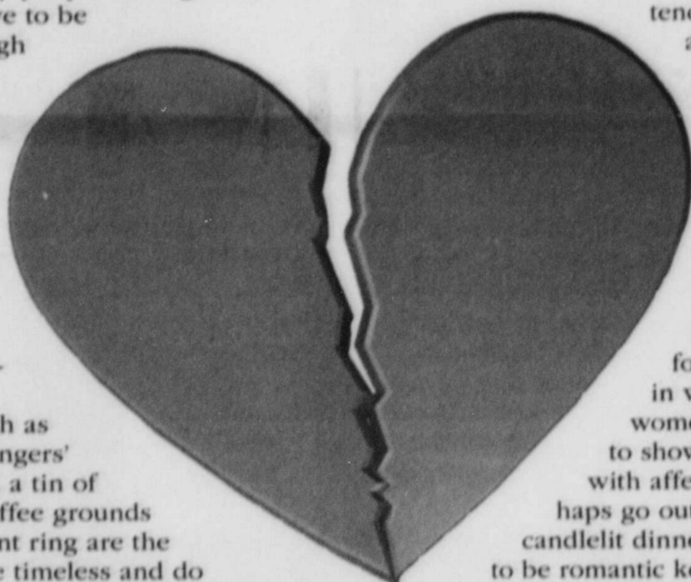
In our consumer-driven world, Valentine's Day has turned into a day where card companies and florists tell us to buy something for our significant other. If we don't, it means we don't love or appreciate them. This simply isn't true. These companies merely use good advertising strategies to play off of our emotions to get us to buy a product, and it works.

In the past, choosing who you love was not as widely accepted as it is today. Many people had arranged marriages or married to settle family feuds or money issues. Today, we have the freedom to be in relationships on our own terms. This is one option St. Valentine never had in his time.

Instead of picking one day a year to express our love for someone, we should celebrate that love every day realistically. This doesn't mean we have to live a fantasy or compare our relationships to those found in a romance novel, but an occasional romantic gesture is appreciated. Also we should take it upon ourselves to do nice things for the ones we love and care for in our lives. We don't need a holiday to remind us.

If you want to take your boyfriend or girlfriend out for a nice dinner or send him or her a card for Valentine's Day, you should. I doubt anyone would object to a thoughtful gift, especially women. Still, you should do it because you want to and not because Hallmark tells you to do it.

Erin Law is a senior advertising/public relations and sociology major from Las Vegas.



Love not fair for all, favors some more than others

Ah, Valentine's Day. The sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and sweethearts walk hand-in-hand down the sidewalk whispering sweet

nothing into each other's ears. Flowers, candies, dates and greeting cards. Love is in the air.

However, for the single people (myself included), Valentine's Day arouses a much different, less euphoric set of emotions.

Loneliness. Despair. Jealousy. Sound familiar? May-

be these feelings rise as the couple at the table across share a romantic kiss. I know, I despise them as well.

Why are some people so lucky in love while others are forced to resort to eHarmony.com? Why do certain people get to marry an Ivy League-educated cheerleader with a law degree while others settle down with a four-fingered, eye-patched, peg-legged butcher from Queens for fear of dying alone? That is a question that has stumped mankind since antiquity.

The confusing bonds of love know no bounds. For example, we all knew the

same type of kid in high school; let's call him Danny. Danny was a self-righteous jerk who didn't have any real friends and had a penchant for acting like he owned the world. Most of his former girlfriends had a personal vendetta against him and wanted to do something like put sugar in his gas tank or spread vicious rumors of genital inadequacy. Danny just rubbed everyone the wrong way.

But, despite all of this, Danny was with a new girl every couple of months. Not just any girls, but some of the top catches in the school. And, as if by some

form of hypno-magic, they were all moon-eyed goofy in love with him.

Love, my friends, is rarely fair or just. Sometimes it defies explanation.

Those who are alone on Valentine's Day feel a lot like Michael Collins, the often forgotten crew member of Apollo 11. There we sit, forced to orbit the moon in the command module while our friends get the opportunity to walk on its surface. Then they come back with whimsical stories of moon rocks and zero gravity shenanigans, making us feel all the worse for missing the experience. Thanks a

lot, Neil Armstrong.

While it's not fun to be alone on Valentine's Day, some therapy can go a long way. For girls, the standard recuperation consists of eating a pint of ice cream and swooning over Ryan Gosling in "The Notebook." Friends can be added, if desired.

Trying to uphold the "solid rock of stoicism" ideal that society projects on males, most guys won't publicly admit their loneliness. To fend off their despair, the single males of the herd will shuffle off to Taco Bell or some other fast food locale and have a farting contest at the conclusion of

the meal. The winner gets to ride shotgun on the way back. Sure, it's not glamorous, but it's how guys deal with their problems.

The elusive grasp of love may have left you out of the loop this year but take heart. Love isn't something you can find just around the corner. It just sort of happens. One day, you're sitting beside each other in class and the next you have five kids. While Michael Collins never did get to walk on the moon, we're all young, and we've got plenty of time left.

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

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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.



Game of Love

Single status shouldn't stop Valentine's Day activities, fun

By JOANNA DEERING
Staff Reporter

So, it's Valentine's Day, and, once again, you find yourself alone.

Instead of dressing in all black to mourn the loss of America's soul due to commercialism, renting all of the chick flicks in your local video store before any happy couples can get their hands on them or calling in to every radio show and requesting "Love Stinks," consider that being single is not a death sentence.

No one is chaining you to your couch and forcing you to eat those five gallons of Ben and Jerry's. Enjoying Valentine's Day — or not — is your choice.

For those who choose to celebrate Valentine's Day, rather than suffering through "Singles Awareness Day," here are some ideas for making it memorable:

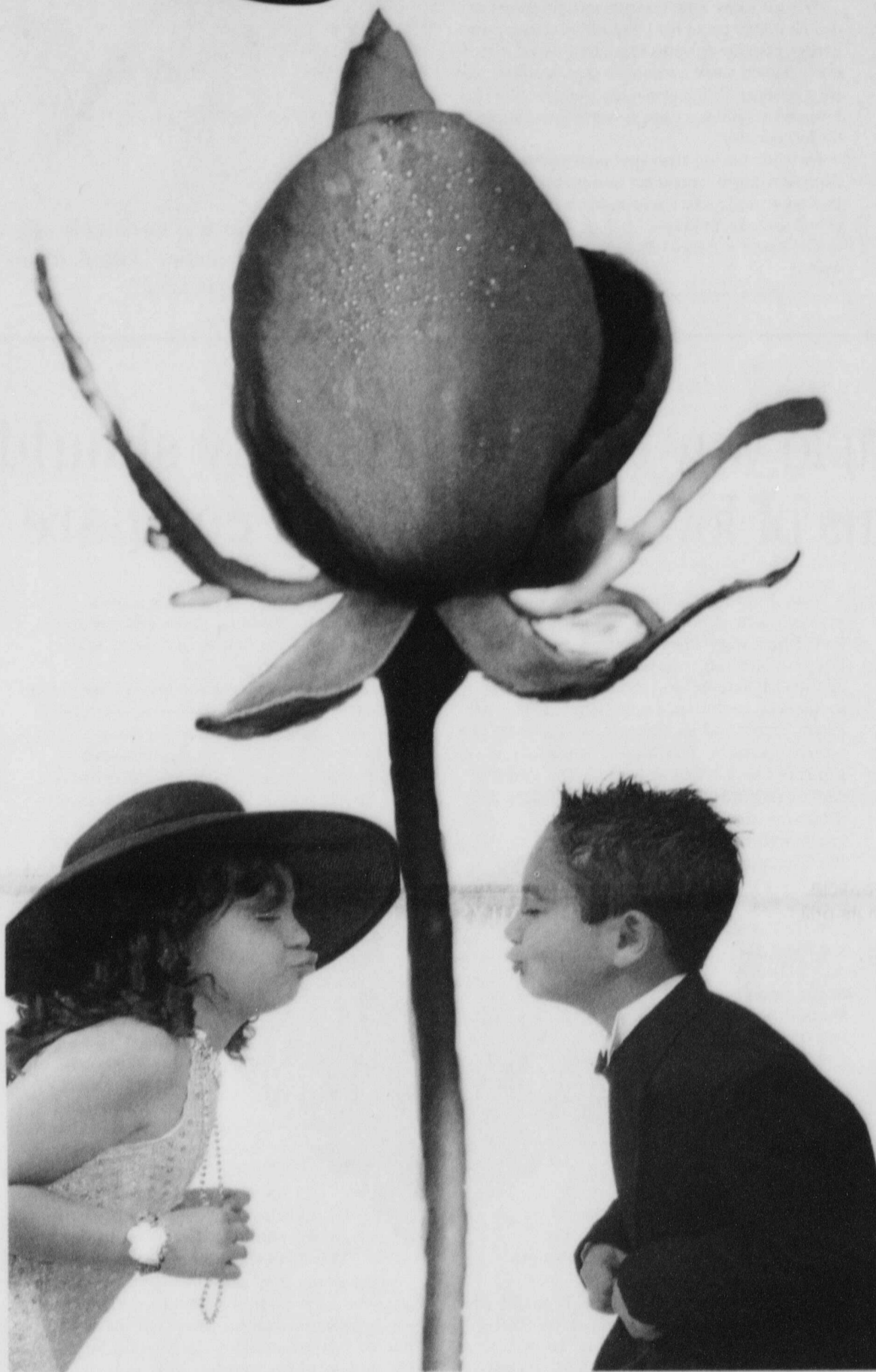
Go ahead and splurge. Buy your own chocolates (or wait until Feb. 15 when they're on sale). Send yourself some flowers. Treat yourself to the video game, DVD, CD, trip to the tanning salon or sporting event that you hadn't allowed yourself to spend the money on before.

Spend time with your friends. Host an "Un-Valentine's" party. Read all of the funny valentine's cards at your local grocery store. Go see a movie. Go clubbing. Go bar-hopping. Eat at your favorite restaurant. Take a carriage ride around Sundance Square.

Give something back. Visit a nursing home. Do volunteer work. Loan a friend gas money (yes, you know the one) without demanding that he pay you back.

Let others know you care. Take the time to write a letter to someone who has made a difference in your life. Call your parents ... and don't ask for money. Visit your parents but not to do laundry. Tell someone you appreciate him or her because a little acknowledgment goes a long way.

Be positive. Don't spend the entire day regretting your lack of a relationship. Be grateful for the people you do have in your life.



Skip presents for presence on Love Day

By SHANNON BELDEN
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is upon us. It's a day for love and chocolates, flowers and romance, teddy bears, hearts and jewelry.

It's also a day for mass marketing and consumerism.

Each year, around Feb. 14, people desperately scramble to pick out the perfect present for the one they adore. According to Hallmark research, more than 180 million cards are exchanged for Valentine's Day (second only to Christmas when about 20 billion cards are exchanged).

Valentine's Day began as a celebration to honor the feats of St. Valentine. In a time when marriage was banned, Valentine secretly joined couples in holy matrimony. He was found out, tortured and beheaded on Feb. 14.

Today, this "celebration of love" puts stress on people (especially men) to figure out the perfect surprise. If they don't, they may have to deal with stress about keeping their relationship intact. It's also a day for single people (especially girls) to find happiness in being alone.

Relationship psychologist Susan Quilliam said couples are defining success by what they've received rather than what they are.

"We're not defining love by sticking with one partner through thick and thin," Quilliam said in a BBC News report, "but whether we take them to the latest restaurant."

However, surveys have shown younger generations are doing their best to stay far away from the romantic influences of this day. According to a study done at Boston University, students are concentrating more on life in general than how to celebrate the day of love.

"Idealistic young people reject the commercialism, the materialism and they're staking a claim and saying, 'No, I don't want to buy into that,'" Boston University professor Nancy McLaren said in a news report by CNN. "This reflects clearly the ambivalence of students at this transitional stage of their lives."

So this year remember Feb. 14 is a day to celebrate love and romance, not to spend obsessing over the perfect gift to get for her (or him).

"I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon."

- Author Unknown

Long-distance-relationship stereotypes not always true

By BAILEY SHIFFLER
Staff Reporter

Eleanor Roosevelt said absence makes the heart grow fonder, and college students in long-distance relationships hope she was right.

According to research conducted at Ohio State University, about 75 percent of students have been, are, or will be in a long-distance relationship at some point in their college career, said Laura Stafford, associate professor at OSU and author of the book "Maintaining Long-Distance and Cross-Residential Relationships."

The interesting results show there are many stereotypes and judgments made about long-distance relationships that have been discovered to be untrue, Stafford said.

She said, according to her research, long-distance relationships are much more stable than proximal relationships, but often because couples involved tend to avoid conflict over the phone.

Sara Shannon, a sophomore psychology major, said one of the most difficult parts of being in a long-distance relationship is fighting over the phone.

"When you get in fights it's not as easy to go ahead and make up because you can't see the person," she said.

Stafford said there are many positive and negative aspects of being in a long-distance relationship.

"Some of the very same things that make long-distance relationships work are the same things that contribute to them not working when they are back together," she said.

According to her research, long-distance couples are much more idealized and romanticized. Couples who live in different cities are less likely to have discussed issues that are important to discuss before marriage.

"The relationship is progressing much more slowly in terms of knowledge about the other person, in terms of not putting on your make-up and hanging out in sweats or being yourself around them," Stafford said.

Stafford said people enjoy long-distance relationships because of the independence it gives them.

Shannon said a benefit of being in a long-distance relationship is that she gets to focus on school more.

Nick Peterson, a freshman movement sci-

ence major, has been in a long-distance relationship since he came to school in August. He said talking to his girlfriend often has helped their relationship.

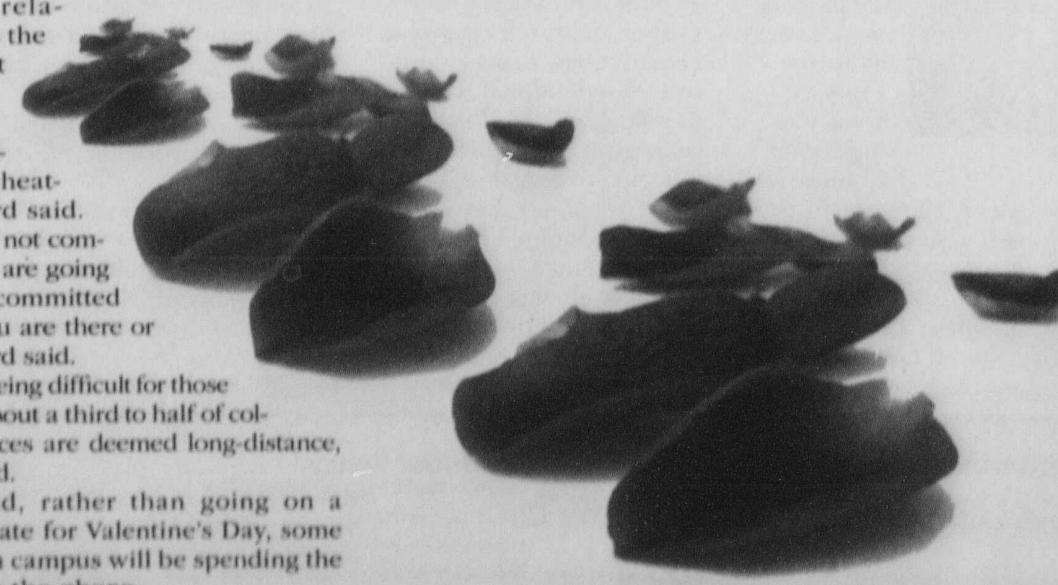
"The fact that we talk so much has made us closer," Peterson said.

Another untrue stereotype of long-distance relationships is the idea that there are higher rates of jealousy and cheating, Stafford said.

"If you're not committed, you are going to be not committed whether you are there or not," Stafford said.

Despite being difficult for those involved, about a third to half of college romances are deemed long-distance, Stafford said.

That said, rather than going on a romantic date for Valentine's Day, most students on campus will be spending the evening on the phone.



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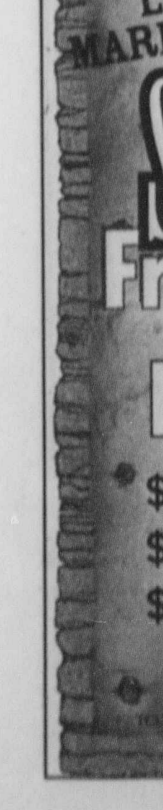
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TODAY IN HISTORY

1929: In Chicago, gunmen suspected to be employed by Al Capone murder seven members of the George "Bugs" Moran North Siders gang in a garage on North Clark Street.

WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE

Q: Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

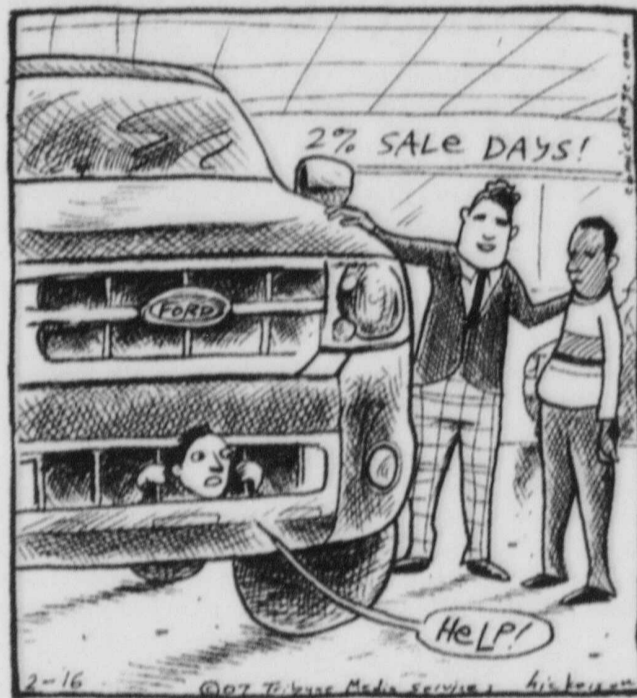
A: Sure, they're very scent-imental.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



Do you really want to break up with me? The Supreme Court ruled that when an officer is threatened, he may discharge his weapon."



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				8	
		7	1	2	9
1	6			5	3

Directions

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

See Thursday's paper for answers to today's sudoku.

TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

1	4	2	7	3	9	6	5	8
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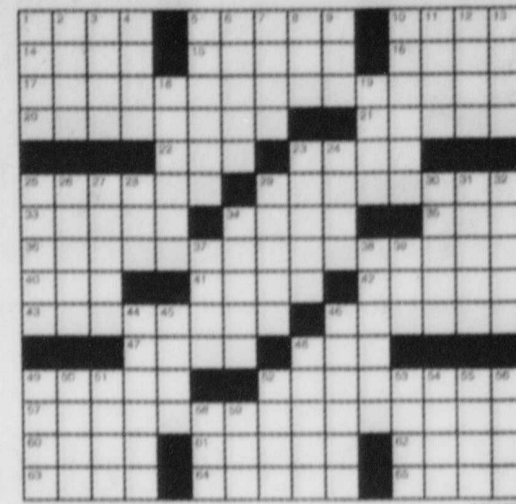
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- Friendly
 - Fellows
 - Server's handout
 - Think piece?
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 - An attentive suitor
 - Undertaking
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 - Shortened sweeper
 - Except
 - Repeat by rote
 - Less familiar
 - Secret love affair
 - Stupefy
 - NFL-er
 - Marriage
 - An attentive suitor
 - Birthday topic
 - Chain unit
 - and well
 - Rocket top
 - Shen
 - Piebiscite
 - Period of many years
 - Thin layer
 - Semiformal
 - An attentive suitor
 - Aground
 - Pisa's river
 - Heathen
 - South-of-the-border sidekick
 - Tiny feathered friend
 - Ornamental rock
 - Swank



By Linda Bushman Chicago, Ill. 2/14/07

- DOWN**
- Like Solomon
 - Yemen port
 - Tear apart
 - Fabricated
 - Tie alternative
 - Complete confusion
 - Cracked somewhat
 - Chum
 - That girl
 - Hand warmer
 - Polish prose
 - of the above
 - PC operator
 - Relishes
 - Classic Chevy model
 - 23 Aground
 - Pisa's river
 - Heathen
 - South-of-the-border sidekick
 - Leads a nomadic life
 - Wish undone
 - "Platoon" director
 - Joker's query
 - Ecole attendee
 - Step component
 - Distinguish oneself
 - Flat-bottomed boat
 - NASA event
 - Unser Sr. and Jr. of auto racing
 - Writer Waugh
 - Bivouac beds
 - Can't stand
 - Put into office
 - Flat-bottomed boat
 - '60s musical
 - Glamour competition
 - Old VHS competition
 - Castle stronghold
 - Pos source
 - Place for a pupil
 - Imprint clearly
 - Public hot spring
 - Hair purchase

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

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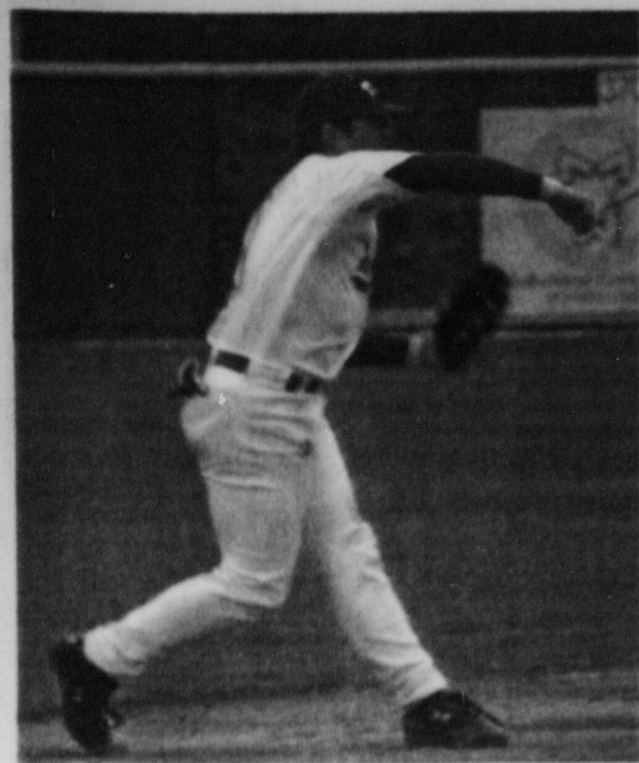
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GOAL
 See what the Dallas Stars are doing to attract more young fans to hockey.
THURSDAY



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor
 Bryan Kervin, junior shortstop, makes a throw to first base against Dallas Baptist University on Tuesday afternoon. TCU won 6-5 in 12 innings.

Trick play leads to Horned Frogs' home victory

By MARCUS MURPHREE
 Sports Editor

Baseball is often described as a game of inches, and the home opener for the Horned Frogs baseball team was no exception.

After two ejections, one home run and an unlikely hero to cap off the evening, TCU pulled out a thrilling 6-5 victory against the Dallas Baptist University Patriots in a 12-inning marathon.

The Frogs (3-1) started out the evening with sloppy fielding after committing four errors in the first four innings, as the team found its way on the wrong end of a 5-0 deficit and digging into its bullpen.

Senior reliever Donald Furrow came into the game with two outs and a runner on third base, and the game took an emotional turn after he retired the first Patriots (3-1) batter he faced.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, frustrations with home

plate umpire Dale Luker became too much for senior right fielder Austin Adams. Adams was ejected for arguing balls and strikes with Luker after he struck out, and then head coach Jim Schlossnagle gave his two cents to Luker and soon found his way out of the game.

"I was protecting Austin," Schlossnagle said. "If anyone gets tossed, it'd best be me rather than a player."

After the pair were sent to showers, a sign of life came from the Horned Frogs as senior center fielder Keith Conlon took the next pitch over the 400-foot sign in center field for a home run to put TCU on the board.

During the middle innings, Furrow continued to mow down the Patriots with four scoreless innings. He struck out five Dallas Baptist batters as TCU's offense continued to chip away at the DBU lead.

"Furrow did a great job at keeping us in the game," junior catcher Andrew Walker said. "He was easy to catch, we threw change ups away and then fastballs to catch them in their big looping swings."

In the eighth, TCU finally drew even with the Patriots after a clutch single from junior first baseman Matt Carpenter.

Conlon started the inning with a single up the middle and then stole second base. Carpenter's single through the right side of the infield put Conlon across the plate.

Conlon finished the evening with two hits and three runs scored.

"He's carried us and is the best player on the field every game so far," Schlossnagle said.

After the late inning heroics by Carpenter and Conlon, the game became a test of wills between

the Horned Frogs and the Patriots as junior TCU closer Sam Demel sought out redemption for his blown save opportunity last weekend.

Demel struck out six batters in his 2 2-3 innings of work before the Horned Frogs finally ended the evening on a trick play orchestrated by Schlossnagle and executed by Walker and sophomore designated hitter Matt McGuirk.

"We ran the stink play, which is like a double steal used to spook a left-handed pitcher," Schlossnagle said.

Both TCU runners broke from their bases, and DBU freshman reliever Ryan Millard panicked and made a low throw toward the plate as Walker slid past the DBU catcher.

"I'm surprised they ran the play with me because I'm not the quickest guy on the team," Walker said.

NCAA regulations pitch Diamond Darlings to marketing dept.

By MICHELLE NICOU
 Staff Reporter

To comply with an NCAA rule, the Diamond Darlings, a group that supports the baseball team, has moved from an arm of the athletic department to a part of the marketing department in its fifth year of operation.

Associate Athletic Director for NCAA Compliance Andrea Nordmann said the rule that facilitated the move from athletics to marketing pertained to an October 2004 regulation regarding "student hosts" for prospective student athletes, although Diamond Darlings President Carey Ellison, a junior move-

ment science major, said the group has never been involved in any recruiting activities.

The 2004 NCAA regulation stated, "Student hosts must be either a current student-athlete or student designated in a manner consistent with the institution's policy for providing campus visits or tours to prospective students in general."

Neither Nordmann nor Assistant Director of Compliance John Cunningham could rationalize why TCU did not act on the amendment until nearly two and a half years later.

The change may have

come in response to problems that have surfaced in other conferences, such as the SEC, Nordmann said.

"At other schools, they would have a group of young ladies that would help out when recruits would come on campus," Nordmann said. "Now, that's not what was happening here, but in order to meet the legislation, that's why the Diamond Darlings had to get moved."

Ellison said the group is no longer allowed to decorate the locker room before the games.

Vice President June Leitz, a junior radio-TV-film major, said the Diamond Darlings

will continue to hand out programs, drive golf carts to and from the parking lot and carry new bats to the players.

Cunningham said the Diamond Darlings could continue their activities as student ambassadors or marketing interns.

"They could move into the marketing aspect of it and be like a volunteer marketing person because that's open to all students at TCU," Cunningham said. "They kind of wanted to keep their group together and decided to do that as marketing interns."

It was not clear though, whether the Diamond Dar-

lings would be permitted to return this season, Ellison said.

"We just found out at the very end of the semester that we were going to be able to have them for sure," Ellison said.

Although considered marketing interns, Ellison said the Diamond Darlings do not actually log hours in the marketing department.

"We're at the games two hours before the game, and we're there the entire game," Ellison said. "We also help the coaches out in the coaches' offices and do mail-outs for them."

The help the group pro-

vides the coaches is not through the marketing department, Ellison said.

Leitz said the group's size has increased from 24 members last spring to 30 this season. More business majors have joined as a result of the new status, Ellison said.

"Before we had a lot of girls who were just interested in baseball, and this year we have a lot more business majors who are interested in pursuing marketing or public relations," Ellison said.

The Purple Hearts, a group that supported the football team, decided to disband because of the rule, Ellison said.



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William H. Johnson's World on Paper

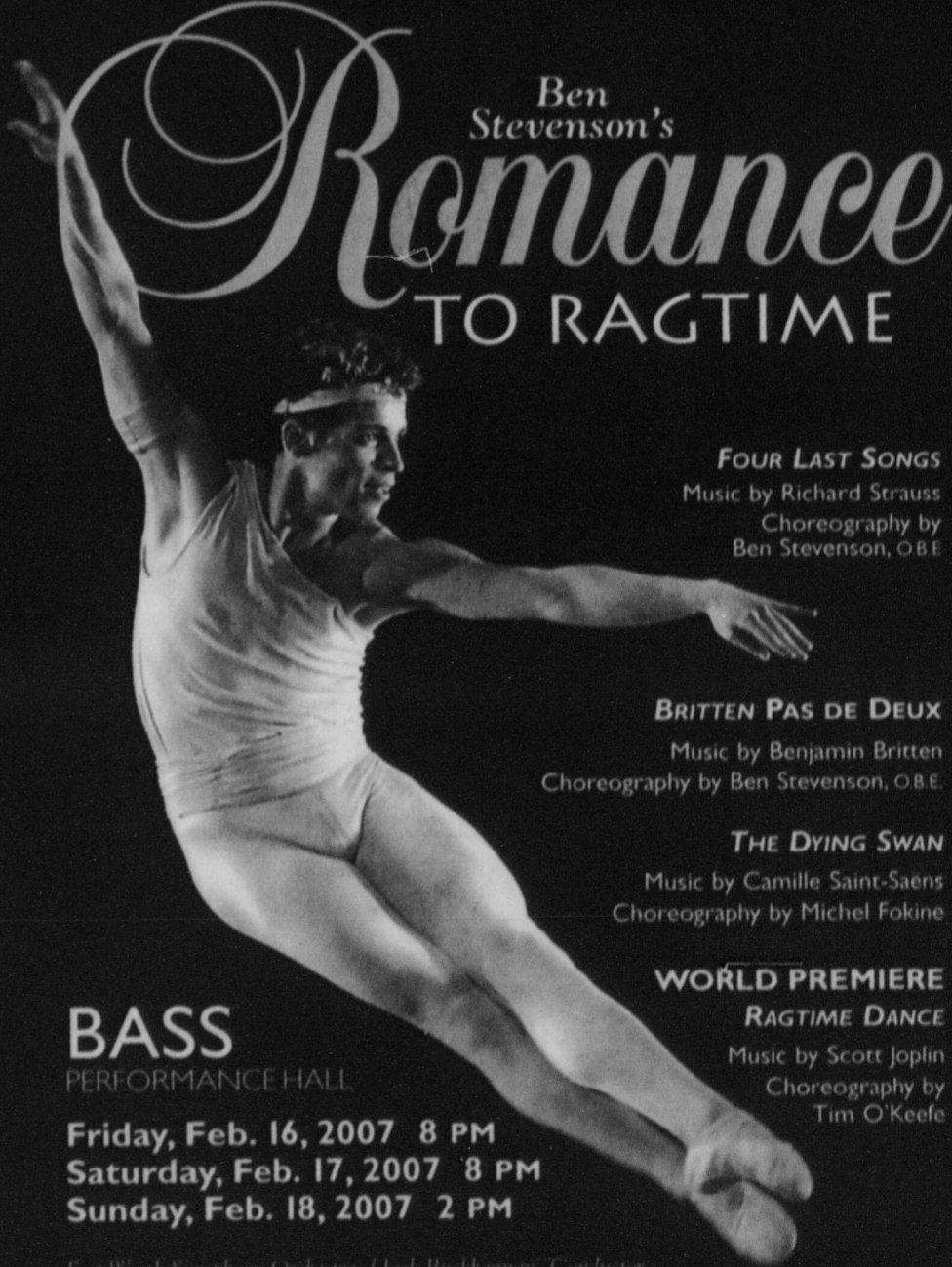
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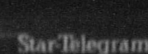
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