



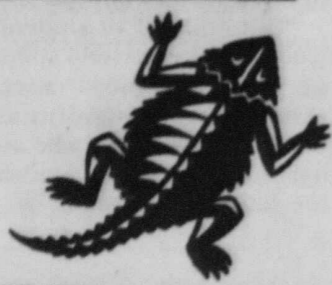
NEWS
Programming Council is putting on a Spa Day.
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Plan a summer weekend trip with our guide.
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The baseball team is prepped and ready for the San Diego State Aztecs.
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TCU

DAILY SKIFF

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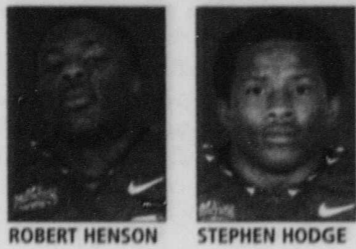
WWW.DAILYSKIFF.COM

Students arrested on misdemeanor firearm charges

By ANDREW CHAVEZ AND ASHER FOGLE
News Editor and Staff Reporter

Two football players who were arrested last week on misdemeanor weapons charges after being confronted by an off-duty police officer are out on bond, according to court documents.

Robert Leandro Henson, 21, and Stephen Eugene Hodge, 19, were arrested at about 12:15 a.m. April 20 at South-



ROBERT HENSON STEPHEN HODGE

according to a police report. Both men told police they are residents of the apartment complex, located at 5500 S. Hulen St.

Henson and Hodge were charged Monday in Tarrant County Criminal Court No. 9 with unlawful carrying of a weapon, according to court documents, and Hodge was also charged with illegally discharging a firearm.

According to the police

report, Willingham saw Henson holding a black handgun. Henson handed the gun to Hodge, according to the report, who "raised the firearm into the air and fired several rounds." Willingham then identified himself as a Fort Worth police officer, pointed a shotgun at Hodge and told him to put the gun down, according to the report.

Willingham then detained the men and confiscated a .45

caliber handgun, Fort Worth police spokesperson Lt. Dean Sullivan said.

At the time of his arrest, Henson had three outstanding local warrants for class C misdemeanors, according to municipal court, in which he was granted community service.

Both were put in jail early April 20 and released after each posted a \$1,000 bond. The cases have been turned

over to the Tarrant County district attorney, and, if convicted, they could face up to two years in county jail and a \$4,000 fine, Sullivan said.

Head coach Gary Patterson did not return phone calls or e-mails to his office Thursday to comment about the arrests, and Mark Cohen, director of athletics media relations, said Patterson was busy with recruiting. See FOOTBALL, page 2

Company donates millions for program

By JILLIAN HUTCHISON
Staff Reporter

This week, TCU received the single largest donation from a corporation in its history.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation gave a multimillion-dollar donation to support University Career Services and the Neeley School of Business' Next Generation Leadership Program.

In a press release Wednesday, BNSF Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Matthew K. Rose said BNSF wants to help TCU develop leadership programs that will benefit BNSF Railway and other businesses and organizations in the region.

Shawn Kornegay, assistant director of communications, said BNSF has hired TCU students as employees and interns and has had a strong working relationship with TCU in the past.

The newly named BNSF Next Generation Leadership Program recently completed its first year, said Christine Riordan, associate dean for external relations of the Neeley School of Business.

Riordan, who headed the group of faculty members who came up with the idea, said the program offers business students a two-year innovative leadership development experience. It gives accepted students opportunities to learn about leadership and about their strengths and weaknesses, as well as a variety of other issues related to leadership. With the donation, Riordan said, the program will continue to benefit students.

"The BNSF endowment ensures the sustainability of this program," Riordan said. "The BNSF endowment now supports the program and its associated activities."

See DONATION, page 2



Team Zeus competes in the Tug O' War competition at Greek Games. Team Zeus won the competition. The goal for the Interfraternity Council was to raise \$5,000 for McDonogh 35 High School in New Orleans.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN

Week ends with games, funds for New Orleans school



Pi Kappa Phi freshman Jimmy Hopper competes in the men's pie-eating competition for Team Athens. Hopper won the contest at the inaugural Greek Week.

By DIA WALL
Staff Reporter

Greek Week wrapped up on a positive note last night.

All four Greek councils raised funds for McDonogh 35 High School in New Orleans.

Students sold T-shirts and tickets to both the National Pan-Hellenic council step show Wednesday night and Thursday night's concert to comprise the donation, but the total will not be calculated until early next week.

Matt DiLeo, Interfraternity council president, said they hoped to give at least \$5,000 to the citywide access school.

Although the goal has been set, all the money raised will be donated to McDonogh 35, said See GREEK, page 2

Studio to perform 'Carmen' opera

By LISA FALCONE
Staff Reporter

The TCU Opera Studio will be performing "La Tragedie de Carmen," a classic tale of love, jealousy and revenge performed entirely in French this weekend at the Music Building South.

Adapted from British director Peter Brook, the long production has been condensed into 90 minutes.

"It is concise yet dramatically powerful," said Richard Estes, the director of the TCU Opera Studio.

Don Jose, a Spanish officer, falls for a gypsy girl, Carmen, who falls for a bullfighter, Escamillo. Don Jose's downward spiral into an obsessive, jealous spell leads to murder and shame.

The original Carmen, composed by Georges Bizet, is filled with colorful dancing and large crowd scenes. TCU's adaptation will focus on the violence and despair of Carmen's world of obsession, depression, delusion and death.

"In this version, tragedy is emphasized," Estes said.

Chelsea Coyne, a senior vocal performance major, will play the lead as Carmen in Friday's and Sunday's performances. See OPERA, page 2

FOR YOUR INFO

Showtimes:

- 7:30 p.m. today
- 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday
- 2:30 p.m. Sunday

Admission: \$10 per adult; \$5 for children under 12 and senior citizens; free for TCU ID holders and any student with ID.

Task force, police to offer free VIN etching on students' cars

By LESLIE DYER
Staff Reporter

The Tarrant Regional Auto Theft Task Force is teaming up with TCU Police to offer a free VIN number acid-etching service in the alumni parking lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday.

VIN-etching is an acid-etching process that embeds the

VIN number on car windows, said crime prevention officer Pam Christian.

The VIN number is the vehicle identification number found in each car where the windshield meets the dashboard, Christian said.

"The VIN number is printed onto a special adhesive strip, which is covered by an acidic gel," said Sgt. Steve Safran of the Hurst Police Department. "After a couple minutes, the strip is removed and the number is permanently embedded into the glass."

VIN-etching is done for the owner's security and to discourage thieves, Christian said.

"VIN-etching keeps thieves from scrapping parts," Christian said. "So it is an effective theft deterrent."

Christian invited the task force to campus after she received numerous requests for a VIN-etching event.

"I get requests all the time," Christian said. "Once I feel like I have enough people interested to make an event successful, I invite a company to satisfy the requests."

Although burglaries are more common than theft on campus, VIN-etching will be beneficial for students after graduation, Christian said.

Students such as Keilah Walker, a junior accounting major, are taking advantage of this event.

"I'm a junior and will be graduating soon," Walker said. "It would be worth it for me to get etched now because it will be useful when I'm out in the real world."

VIN-etching is offered free by the Hurst Police Depart-

ment, as well as by the Auto Theft Task Force, and now even comes standard on some new cars, Safran said.

However, students said they are more inclined to do this on campus than find it elsewhere.

"Since it's made available to me here, it will be so much more convenient for me," Walker said.

In addition to VIN-etching, TCU will offer registration in the statewide Help End Auto Theft campaign, Christian said.

"HEAT is a voluntary vehicle See VIN, page 2

FOR YOUR INFO

TIME: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHEN: Tuesday
WHERE: Alumni parking lot



WEATHER

TODAY: Isolated T-Storms 78/58
SATURDAY: AM Showers, 78/56
SUNDAY: Partly Cloudy, 74/63

PECULIAR FACT

BERLIN — A pregnant cow being chased by police and firefighters caused more than \$30,000 worth of damage on a three-hour rampage through the German city of Hanover. — Reuters

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NEWS: Student grief program launches, page 6
OPINION: Adopt retired greyhounds, page 3
SPORTS: Check out spring sports stars, page 12

CONTACT US

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

OPERA
From page 1

"She is provocative and a seductress," Coyne said. "But I feel as if she carries an intense sense of darkness and death with her throughout the show."
Coyne said the show has been incredibly challenging, not only from an acting standpoint but also vocally.
Joanna Fernandes, a vocal performance graduate student, will play the character Micaela in Saturday's matinee production.
"Micaela is basically a religious, country girl who is in love with Don Jose," Fernandes said. "Out of all the characters, she is the most naive and innocent."

Fernandes, a 27-year-old from India, is looking forward to the weekend.
"It's been a really wonderful experience," Fernandes said. "Actually, being on stage is the most fun. There is lots of energy and excitement."
Estes has been with TCU for 15 years, and this is his 21st production. Overall, TCU has presented about 60 operas.
Estes has received praise for his work in The New York Times, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, Opera News, Opera Magazine (UK) and Musical America.
"It's a complete production, very to the point," Estes said. "I would imagine this is a nice introduction to opera for students."

DONATION
From page 1

In addition to the grant, the University Career Services Center will be renamed as the BNSF Career Services Center to recognize the

support BNSF has given to TCU.
Executive Director of Career Services Patricia Bergmaier said the donation will allow Career Services to offer more support and services to both students and alumni.
"Career Services is very

appreciative of this gift," Bergmaier said. "It will greatly enhance the career guidance for our students and help provide recruitment sources for BNSF and other Fort Worth companies."
Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said it is

important for TCU to have a first-rate career center.
"The number of students who will be positively affected by an enhanced career center is very significant, not just for students who are here now, but for students in the future," Mills said.

VIN
From page 1

registration," Safran said. "Texans can sign this agreement saying that their car is not normally operated between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. If an officer sees this vehicle on the road in Texas they may stop it and ask for ownership verification."
Also, an addition to this registration form allows stu-

dents to protect their vehicles from crossing the border.
"They can grant additional authority at that time to have their vehicle stopped any time of day if it is driven from Texas to Mexico," Safran said.
Students will also receive certificates for their insurance companies.
"Some insurance companies offer price breaks for having an action against theft like VIN etching," Safran said.

FOOTBALL
From page 1

and could not comment.
"Coach Patterson addressed that in the paper," Cohen said, referring to an article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.
Patterson told the Star-Telegram that Hodge and Henson are embarrassed about the incident and discipline will be handed out according to

team policy. The players, Patterson told the newspaper, is likely to be suspended.
Henson's cell phone was out of service, and Hodge did not return phone calls. Both men did not return e-mails seeking comment.
The arrests come less than a year after three scholarship athletes got into legal trouble, and three other athletes were charged with crimes within months of leaving the team.

GREEK
From page 1

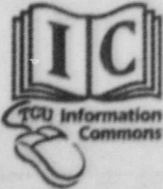
Blayne Rhynsburger, a junior accounting major and member of the Greek Week team.
Representatives from all 30 organizations and all four councils were in attendance for opening ceremonies Monday.
"This week has been a success," said James Parker, assistant dean of campus life. "It has been phenomenal and fun to watch from my perspective."
On Monday night, about 300 people were at opening ceremonies and about 150 people attended a speech on diversity.
Tuesday's baseball game against Texas Tech was rained out, and about 100

Greek students were honored at a dinner for 4.0 GPA earners.
About 250 people were at the step show Wednesday, and there was a surprise probate by Alpha Phi Alpha at the end. Jason Wallace, step show organizer and National Pan-Hellenic council president, said he was pleased with not only the number in attendance, but with the people in attendance as well.
"We attracted a very diverse crowd," said Wallace, a sophomore news-editorial journalism major. "That was our aim."
Last night, more than 300 students participated in the Greek Olympics. The events that made up the Olympics included a tug of war, chariot race, pie-eating contest,

slip and slide relay and a dodgeball game.
The different organizations were teamed up in random order and competed in all five events. For many Greek students, it was a unique experience meeting students from other councils.
"It's my first experience meeting NPHC and Multicultural Greek council members," Rhynsburger said.
Other participants such as Amanda Kruse, a freshman criminal justice major and a member of Chi Upsilon Sigma, were simply excited to go play games and have fun with fellow students.
"I love that it brings all the sororities and fraternities together," Kruse said. "I just love it."

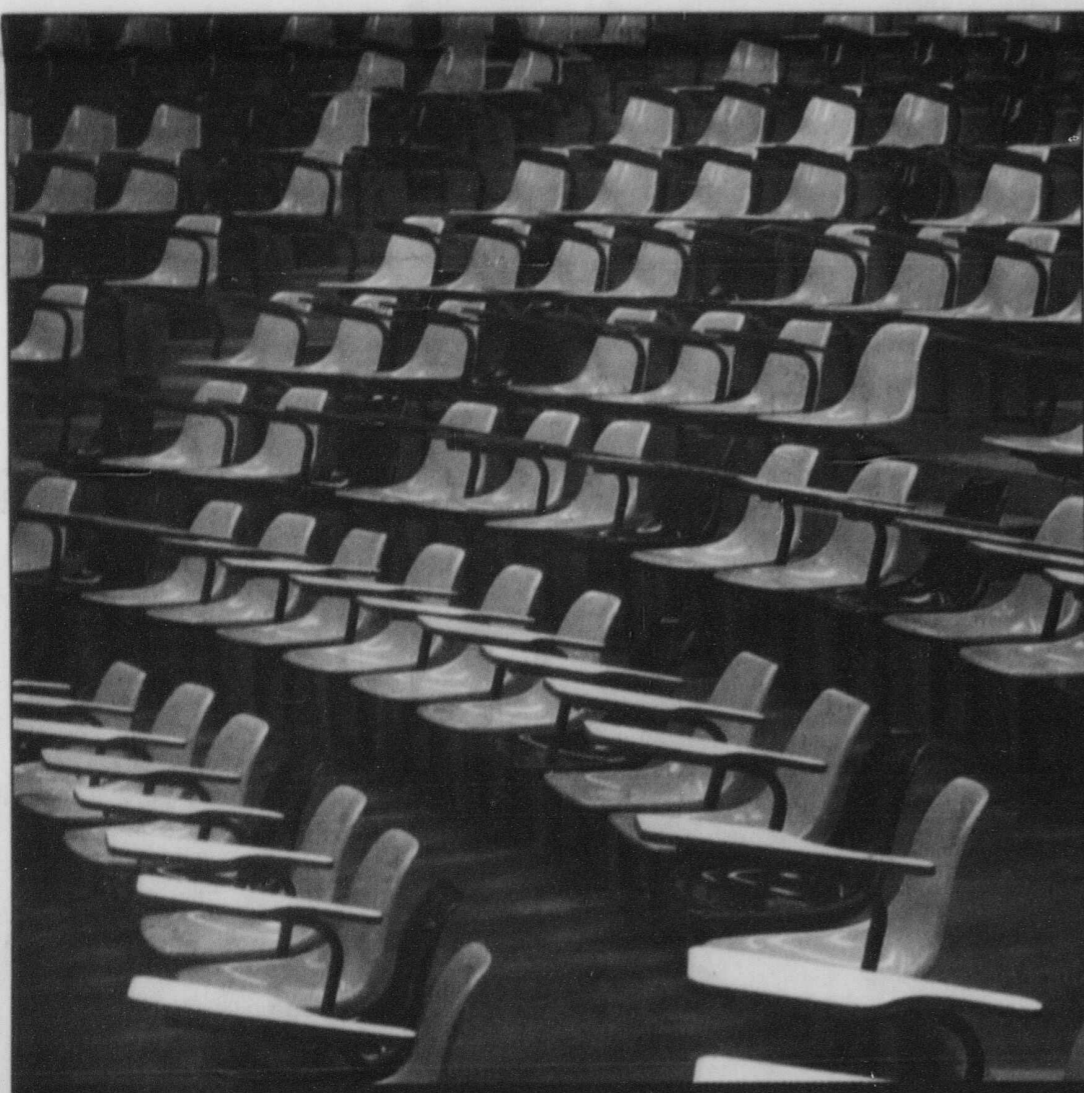


Congratulations Seniors!



From the Mary Couets Burnett Library and Information Commons

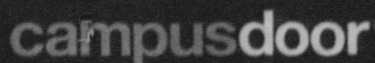
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| Michael Bucklin | Mayra Pastor |
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| Sean Heller | Kaleigh Roberts |
| Christina Hicks | Stephanie Shepard |
| Stephanie Lehne | Oyewole Talabi |
| Justin Mcleod | Sin Wan |
| Dang Nguyen | |



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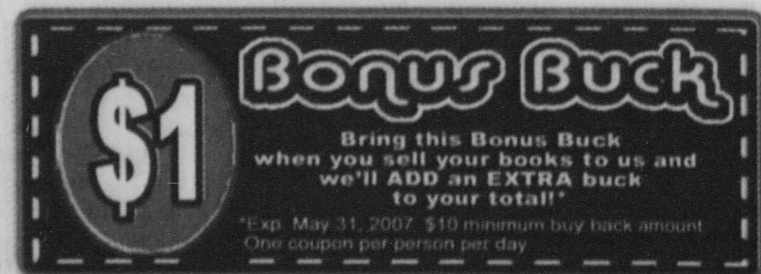
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COMMENTARY  Michelle Anderson

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Editorial
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MARCUS M

Council to put on Spa Day for students before finals

By LEIGH ANN WEAVER
Staff Reporter

Massages, manicures and pedicures ... What could be better than a day at the spa? Thanks to Programming Council, you may not have to go far to experience one.

PC is hosting its last event of the semester on May 2.

The 2nd Annual Spa Day will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge and will include an oxygen bar, free manicures, pedicures and chair massages.

"Spa Day was pioneered last by the Special Events and Spirit Traditions committee last year and we wanted to make it a campus tradition," said Aaron Wolfe, PC Vice Chair.

The oxygen bar is a kind of aromatherapy that you inhale from oxygen tanks that are similar to those given in the hospital, Wolfe said. It's highly recommended again for this year's Spa Day, he said.

Also included will be free manicures, pedicures and chair massages. There will be a sign up table in the Student Center Lounge on May

"Spa Day sounds like a 'girlie event' with the manicures and pedicures, but getting a free massage on the last day of class would be nice."

Chris Draper

Sophomore
entrepreneurial
management and e-
business major

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We figure this will be the easiest way for the students to get what they want without having schedule conflicts, and it will hopefully reduce the wait, if there is one," said Jodi Settle, head of the event.

The massages will be 10-minute chair massages, provided by the Fort Worth School of Massage, and some of the massage therapists from the University Recreation Center, Settle said.

"Spa Day sounds like a 'girlie event' with the manicures and pedicures, but getting a free massage on the

last day of class would be nice," said Chris Draper, a sophomore entrepreneurial management and e-business major.

The manicures and pedicures will include foot and hand massages, it will also include a free nail painting, which will be provided by Nail Creations, from Overton Ridge, Settle said.

"My nails look so bad right now because I don't have any time to get them done, so I am very excited about Spa Day coming up," said Meghan Leal, sophomore graphic design major.

Spa Day will also include free finger foods such as sandwiches, drinks and cheese and cracker plates.

"We wanted to go with the relaxing and healthy theme but to add a little fun there will also be a chocolate fountain with all the fruits to dip," Settle said.

It's a totally different event from the Finals Bash, which is this Friday, but it should be really fun, Wolfe said.

"It's the last day of classes with free massages, what could be better," Settle said.

30-year-old abduction case advances through warrant

The Yomiuri Shinbun

TOKYO — The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department on Thursday obtained an arrest warrant for the leader of a group of North Korean agents on suspicion of abducting two Saitama Prefecture children to North Korea in 1974, the police department said.

Yoko Kinoshita, a 59-year-old woman who was a board member of a trading company in Tokyo, is believed to have masterminded the abduction of the children of Hideko Watanabe, who is believed to have been murdered. Kinoshita reportedly is living in North Korea under the name Hong Su Hye, and the Tokyo police department will soon ask Interpol to put her on its wanted list.

According to the police department, Kinoshita instructed a 55-year-old woman to abduct the two children — Kiyomi and Tsuyoshi, then 6 and 3, respectively — in mid-June 1974. The woman was tasked with confining and taking care of the children.

Kinoshita was a board member of Universe Trading in Tokyo at that time.

The company closed around November 1978.

Kinoshita left Japan in May 1979 for Hong Kong, and her whereabouts had been unknown. But it was found out this year that during between 2000 and 2002, she telephoned an acquaintance in Japan asking for money. It is believed that Watanabe, 32 at the time she was last seen, was murdered in December 1973, immediately after her husband disappeared.

Suspicious radio signals were intercepted by police communication facilities late at night in mid-June 1974, when the two children allegedly were abducted on board a spy boat to North Korea from a beach in Obama, the Tokyo police department said.

Police said they had determined the time and place that the children were abducted because the interception date and time conformed to the statement by a person related to Universe Trading who told police details of the abduction.

Police believe the time when the children were abducted was mid-June 1974, based on the statements by

former employees at Universe Trading, who said Kinoshita used to leave the beach at Obama for North Korea by spy boat, and that the woman who took care of the children was missing until mid-July 1974.


Police analyzed records of radio signals at police communication facilities in the areas along the Sea of Japan and found that suspicious signals were transmitted off the beach at Obama late at night at almost the same time as the abduction.

According to the police, the woman looking after the children also told people related to the company she waited until nighttime to put the children on the spy boat.


Police assume the radio signals were communications between the crew of the spy boat and others including the woman looking after the children, who was waiting on the beach with the children.


The woman is living in Tokyo with her 58-year-old husband, who also was an employee of Universe Trading. Police said she has been refusing to answer questions.

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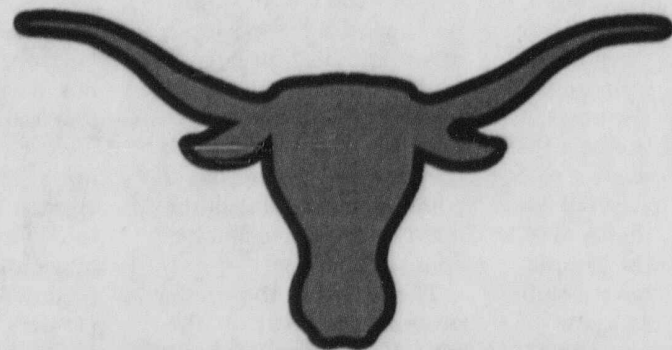
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- Starting July 15th through
- August 15th, enter your student ID number via the www.GoFrogs.com web site.
- Each student may request and purchase ONE ticket.
- Lottery to be held if more ticket requests than tickets available. Students notified of results by **Wednesday, August 29th.**

Ticket Distribution

- Must be a valid student as of the **Fall 2007** semester.
- Students begin to pick-up tickets in the main ticket office located in the DMC on **Monday, September 3rd.**
- Each student must claim his/her own ticket with student ID.
- Students who wish to sit together will need to pick up tickets at the same time.



GOFROGS.COM

Counselors reflect on treating mentally ill students

By HOLLY K. HACKER
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — College students struggle with becoming adults, handling relationships and independence. They might get depressed, even write an essay laced with violence or profanity.

So when do routine troubles become severe enough that college officials need to do something? That's often hard to tell, some college counselors and administrators say, reflecting on the mentally ill Virginia Tech student who fatally shot 32 people, then himself.

"What happened at Virginia Tech is an extreme example that makes for great conversation. But the truth is, if we treated every undergraduate who was depressed as about to exhibit a manic episode, we'd have to confront virtually every student in campuses across the country," said Dean Bresciani, vice president for student affairs at Texas A&M University.

Colleges say they can and do look for warning signs, but they simply can't predict whether a student will erupt into violence. They're also bound by laws that restrict access to mental health records and can make it difficult to get a disturbed person necessary treatment.

Monday's rampage at Virginia Tech raises questions about what campuses should do when students exhibit disturbing or threatening behavior. Some professors and counselors say it's a painful call to review their practices.

"I can't say that we could have prevented a Virginia Tech, but you can identify people

who are ticking bombs, and you can keep a watch on them and you don't have to wait for them to commit crimes," said Murray Leaf, an anthropology professor at the University of Texas at Dallas.

This week, UTD's faculty senate voted to add rules on how professors should handle disruptive students. The decision is unrelated to what happened in Virginia — rather, it was a reaction to a few cases in which students have been hostile, Leaf said.

The new rules, which campus administration must approve, say a professor can request that a threatening student be barred from class or campus until the dean of students can resolve the matter. The rules also define disruptive behavior to include stalking, being abusive and other things.

Leaf said there have been a few cases in recent years of students bullying faculty members, threatening lawsuits or using menacing language.

"My sense is there may be one or two on campus at any time, but not to the level of Virginia Tech."

College officials across Texas say they don't keep exact numbers on students with serious behavioral problems, but it's rare. Most students who seek counsel-

ing are dealing with typical challenges: general anxiety or depression brought on by homesickness, the stress of schoolwork, or troubles with a roommate or significant other. Some students have more serious issues, such as severe depression, an eating disorder or bipolar disorder.

COUNSELING ON THE RISE

"There's no question that across the nation, we've had higher numbers of students

coming in for counseling. And we also have higher numbers of more serious mental health issues," said Jane Bost, associate director of UT's counseling and mental health center.

She attributes the trend to several factors: newer medications that help students who otherwise wouldn't be able

to attend school and function well. There's more academic pressure than 15 or 20 years ago. And there's less stigma attached to seeking help.

The potential for violence has prompted college officials to craft policies on handling troubled or disruptive students.

For instance, UT's policy states: "Every supervisor, administrator, and university official is responsible for responding promptly and thoroughly to allegations of campus violence and reporting such behavior." That

applies to violence by students and staff alike.

UTD's policy says students in danger of harming themselves or others should be encouraged to go to the hospital, and the college should contact the proper medical or legal authorities. There are also instructions on how to pursue hospitalizing a student who refuses to go voluntarily.

The shooter at Virginia Tech, Cho Seung-Hui, was briefly hospitalized in 2005.

A court had found that Cho, who was accused of stalking two female classmates, was "an imminent danger to self or others." But he was let go and referred to outpatient treatment.

In Texas, people can be hospitalized against their will if they pose an immediate, serious threat to themselves or others.

"It is a high burden, and it should be," said Barry Sorrels, a criminal defense lawyer in Dallas. "It's not a rubber stamp. It has to be backed up by evidence."

And as Cho's case shows, someone can still be hospitalized and released, and then later commit violent acts.

"Nobody can predict the future, and any time you're talking about state of mind and mental capacity there's always shades of gray," Sorrels said.

Those shades of gray can surface in class assignments. Cho, an English major, wrote two plays that dealt with murder and pedophilia. They were so disturbing that a professor and other students took notice.

'HARD TO JUDGE'

But just because students

write about violence doesn't mean they'll commit it.

"Sometimes it's really hard to judge. Some kids are writing grotesque materials just to shock you," said Robert Nelsen, an associate provost who teaches fiction writing at UTD. And he said creative writing professors see violent or obscene writing "more often than you think you would see it."

Nelsen said he advises them to get counseling and tries to monitor them.

In other cases, when students seem depressed in their writing, Dr. Nelsen says he's walked them over to the counseling center.

Beth Newman, an English professor at Southern Methodist University, said she's encountered "worrisome" students, but no one who was aggressive and hostile. She said faculty members know whom to call if they think a stu-

dent is depressed. "I often do that, and a lot of other people do as well," she said.

Privacy laws restrict how much a mental health provider can tell others about a patient. But Leaf at UTD says he believe colleges could do more to keep professors, deans and counselors connected.

"I think the Virginia Tech disaster embodies the problem, but it's certainly not the only thing that does," he said. "You have to act like a small town. You have to know each other."

Bost said colleges need to be careful in the aftermath of the Virginia Tech shooting.

"We don't want to swing to being overreactive," she said. "There are people with mental health issues that we don't want to further stigmatize."

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Grief program looking to have long-term impact

By AUNDREA EICHMAN
Staff Reporter

In reaction to the significant amount of students who have experienced deaths in their families, Mental Health Services and a campus priest plan to continue what they say is a successful grief support group.

Laura Crawley, assistant dean of campus life for health promotion, said campus life has been looking to have a grief program for a while.

It is a group made up of students and "two folks with tremendous experience with grief, hope and loss," Crawley said.

The group's facilitators are Monica Kintigh, a psychologist at the Health Center, and the Rev. Charlie Calabrese, a Roman Catholic minister and director at the What About Remembering Me Place.

Kintigh said the group, which ran this semester for six

weeks, started because there were more than 10 students who lost a parent between Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2006.

"There were some people invited to attend that lost family members, and then we opened it up to the entire community," Kintigh said.

In this group, students may share experiences with each other and recognize their experiences may be a lot like others', Kintigh said.

She said for one session, students brought in pictures of people they lost and had the opportunity to share stories of loss.

"It's the first set of holidays students have to go through

without their loved one ... The birthday celebrations and having to go through graduation that make it difficult," Kintigh said.

In the fall 2007 semester, Kintigh said she might have another ongoing group or also a retreat.

"The goal was to help students manage and cope with grief and find a place where they can feel supported and connected."

Monica Kintigh
Health Center
psychologist

"It's really hard for college students to come to an ongoing group for six weeks," Kintigh said. "We tend to offer groups in a response to a perceived need."

There were, on average, about eight students at each weekly session, Kintigh said.

"The goal was to help students manage and cope with grief and find a place where

they can feel supported and connected," Kintigh said.

Students need places where they can go to work with their grief, so they can put it aside to focus on school, Kintigh said.

"I also try to help students understand that it is OK for your grades to slip a little bit because you're distracted by a loss," Kintigh said.

The group process is not right for everybody, Crawley said, but students help one another, and it all has to do with the students' comfort level.

Kintigh said she has worked with Calabrese before with a faculty and staff grief group.

"He and I are a really nice match because I have the counseling background but he also has the grief facilitation background," Kintigh said.

Calabrese said he went through a seven-week grief-

training program in 1989 for the WARM Place.

"Grief comes like waves unexpectedly," Calabrese said.

Calabrese said his role in the group is to "provide a safe environment where people who are grieving a death can process what they are going through."

Caitlin Christensen, a sophomore secondary education major, said she lost her grandmother last year and she just wanted to be with her father. She said she is the kind of person who likes to handle things on her own and did not tell a lot of people about her grandmother's death.

Christensen said she probably would not attend counseling because death is part of life

FYI

For more information about the support group, contact:

- Monica Kintigh
m.kintigh@tcu.edu
(817) 257-7863
- The Rev. Charlie Calabrese
c.calabrese@tcu.edu
(817) 257-7830

and, in her case, it was somewhat expected.

Grant Gossett, a sophomore history major, said if someone was not able to go home immediately after a death in the family, the group would be helpful because someone with professional help is available if needed.

Crawley said 9.5 percent of students who responded to a national health behavior survey conducted this year experienced the death of a family member or friend.

"You're supposed to be focused on socials, your career and graduating," Crawley said.

She said the three places students might find help for grief from loss and death is at campus life, the counseling center or University Ministries.

Cell phone plan to improve campuswide communication

By JENNIFER BURK
McClatchy Newspapers

MACON, Ga. — Mercer University students who don't feel safe on a nighttime walk through campus soon will have the option of setting an alarm to notify campus police if they don't reach their destination.

That's just one of the features included in a new cell phone plan designed specifically for Mercer students.

Starting this fall, all Mercer freshmen — officials anticipate about 620 of them — will be enrolled in the cell phone plan, said Terry Whittum, senior vice president for enrollment management. Current students

may decide if they wish to purchase a plan, but they are not required to.

Mercer is one of a growing number of universities that offer students a cell phone plan with admission. Georgia Gwinnett College also plans to offer the technology in the fall.

The Mercer cell phone plan, which is supported by Rave Wireless and Sprint Nextel, will allow campus administrators to better communicate with students.

"Even with the land lines in (the residence halls), there was always the issue of being able to communicate with our students," Whittum said.

Now with just a few strokes

of a keypad, a text message may be sent instantly to all Mercer cell phones, allowing administrators to alert students of potentially dangerous situations, such as hazardous weather, Whittum said.

The phones also would give Mercer officials the capability to alert the university community in the event of a tragedy like the recent one at Virginia Tech, said Mickey Belote, Mercer's associate vice president for information technology. However, the cell phone plan has been in the works for about nine months and was not developed as a result of the shootings, he said.

Freshmen probably will pay a

\$180 to \$190 fee each semester for the base plan, which they automatically will be enrolled in, Belote said. The exact cost still is being finalized, he said.

A base phone is provided free of charge, but upgraded phones, such as a RAZR or Treo will be available for a cost.

Students also may choose to upgrade their plans to get

additional minutes.

Among its features, the phone offers Global Positioning System technology that will allow students to track the progress of the trolley from downtown Macon to Mercer. Although students may activate the GPS to notify campus police of their whereabouts, federal regulations prevent the university from tracking

students, Belote said.

Students may use the phones to access their e-mail as well as the university's course management system, which allows students to check grades and assignments.

Sprint Nextel will ensure Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses have the infrastructure to guarantee coverage, he said.

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By AMBER PA
Features Edit

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Deep in the Heart of Texas

It's summer. You have been working all week, and you have two glorious days of freedom. Where can you go to get away for the weekend without destroying your hard-earned bank account?

AUSTIN

By AMBER PARCHER
 Features Editor

It's an island of cool, refreshing lakes and rolling green hills in a sea of dry Texas flatlands; the ultimate weekend trip. Spend some time in this city and fall in love with it. But, with too much to do and see, here's a narrowed-down list of the must-do's in the state's capital.

PLACES TO SEE

Austin is the capital of Texas, so the entire city is fittingly centered around the majestic domed building where Congress Avenue dead ends. Living up to the Texas motto that everything's bigger here, the Texas State Capitol is taller than the U.S. Capitol. Take a free day tour by calling the Visitors Center at (512) 385-8400.

But, if no school means no history

lesson, bathe in something less touristy at Austin's three-acre long natural spring fed pool. Barton Springs is a refreshing 68 degrees year-round and a favorite local watering hole. The summer staple attracts people from all walks of life, from hippies to topless sunbathers (yes, it is legal to forego the bikini top here). This jewel of Austin, nestled in Zilker Park at 2101 Barton Springs Road, is well worth the \$3 price of admission.

After soaking in the blazing sun and frigid water at Barton Springs, meander down to the Congress Avenue Bridge around sunset for an unforgettable sight. (The squeamish may want to stop reading here.) Each evening from about April to November, 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats soar up from under the bridge and blanket the sky in search of food. These bats make up the largest urban bat colony in North America. Summer is prime bat-viewing

time as they're most active on sweltering August nights. On top of the bridge and on the banks of Town Lake are the best viewing points for this beautifully unusual attraction.

Spread out from downtown slightly north to Austin's hill country. Those that say Texas is flat haven't seen Mount Bonnell — this massive limestone formation towers 200 feet over the city. Hike up the steep stairs with for a rewarding view of the Austin skyline or look directly down at Lake Austin and its surrounding mansions. It's a romantic, breathtaking view located at 3900 Mount Bonnell Road.

SHOPPING

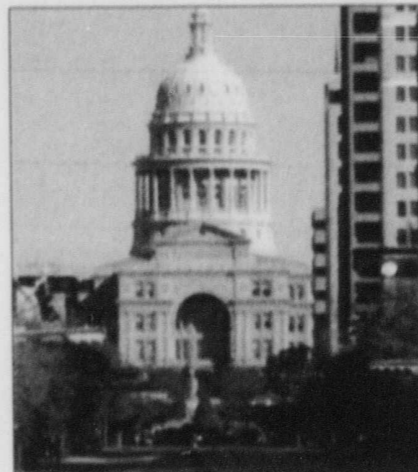
This hippie town is also chic, so take advantage of it with the blocks of eclectic yet stylish vintage stores in downtown Austin. On the Drag, otherwise known as the four blocks of Guadalupe Street, from Martin Luther King Boulevard to 23rd Street, vintage rocks at clothing and jewelry stores like Blue Velvet or Cream. While the price tags usually reflect the stores' coolness factor, a few minutes spent digging around the sales bin is bound to bring up something useful under \$15.

But eccentricity is at its best at a place the locals like to call SoCo. SoCo, or South Congress Avenue, is another stretch of restaurants, music venues, hotels, coffee houses and shops. Check out the black door and sequined sign on the corner of South Congress Avenue and Academy for the colorfully fashionable Creatures Boutique, where shoes (vegan-friendly without leather) are the focus. Nestled amongst all the women's clothing boutiques at 1512 S. Congress Ave. is the quirky antique shop Uncommon Objects, with an array of home furnishings, clothing and jewelry to add that weird factor to any home or style.

Food junkies can die happy on the



The Blanton Museum of Art, as seen from the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, opens to the public April 30 on the University of Texas campus in Austin.



A view of the Texas State Capitol building from Congress Avenue. The building is taller than the U.S. Capitol, and visible from almost any point downtown.

corner of Fifth Street and Lamar Boulevard at the world's largest Whole Foods Market (Austin is the company's headquarters). This 80,000-square-foot giant of a supermarket is an experience on its own. Walk for free through aisles and aisles of unique organic food, the chilly beer ally, the meat butchers with slabs of pork and beef slung menacingly on oversized metal hooks, the fish market where no live lobsters are kept because locals complained their captivity was inhumane, and onto a 3-foot high flowing chocolate fountain. Food samples and sit-down dining of various cultures are dispersed throughout the market. After getting lost in the store for hours, enjoy a spicy Pad Thai from the Asian cuisine on the roof of the whole building next to an open music venue that doubles as an ice skating rink in the winter.

RESTAURANTS

Austin sticks to its Texas roots with local barbecue joints such as Stubb's, with \$10 platters of beef brisket, pork loin or ribs. After stuffing down the

entire cow, nurse a cold beer while listening to daily live music there. Like most food joints in Austin, Stubb's doubles as a music venue, boasting moderately big names such as Los Lonely Boys, Kings of Leon and the Burden Brothers, as well as lesser known artists of all genres. Visit stubbsaustin.com for music listings.

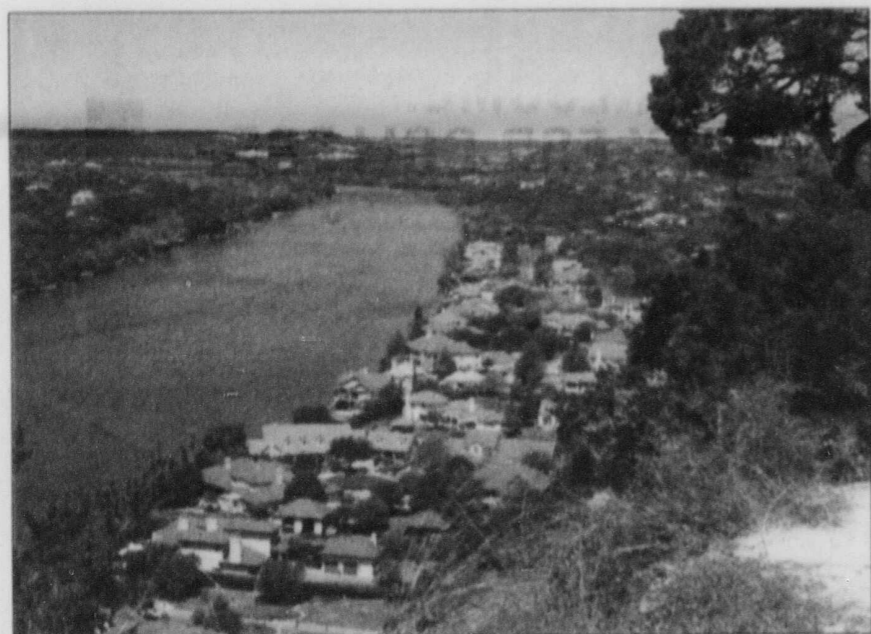
The other Texas cuisine, Tex-Mex, is also abundant in Austin. Polvo's on South First Street serves up potent margaritas (by the pitcher!) and interior Mexican entrees that taste significantly less-commercialized and processed than chain restaurants of the same genre.

For the late-night partier who wants to chow down on everything after spending all his or her money on beer, Magnolia Cafe is a goldmine. Unlike the other 24-hour local Austin restaurant Kerbey Lane, Magnolia Cafe offers more than just breakfast with tacos, pasta, burgers, enchiladas and rich chocolate desserts lining its menu, and all at a fair price. Most entrees are under \$8.00.

Austinites like their coffee, and they like to sit and drink it in comfortable, smooth atmospheres. That explains the multitude of hole-in-the-wall coffee shops, each with its own personality. The inconspicuous Spider House, hidden behind 29th Street and Guadalupe Street, unfolds into a cafe and bar outside with rickety tables and chairs, a modest stage for the occasional acoustic guitar player, and everything from plastic skulls to blinking Christmas lights hanging in the trees above the patrons. Spider House is open until 2 a.m. daily.

MORE

There are just too many great places to experience in a few days, so check out austintexas.org to plan the next trip.



The rolling hills in Austin provide one of the city's many attractions. Here, Lake Austin wraps around residential areas and under the 360-arch in the distant background.

SAN ANTONIO

By ASHER FOGLE
 Staff Reporter

The second-largest city in the state of Texas is four hours south on I-35: San Antonio. With its rich history and exciting present, the city and surrounding area can provide more than enough adventure for one trip. To help sort through the countless places and activities, we've compiled a list of our favorite things to do for around \$15 or less.

PLACES TO SEE

No trip would be complete without visiting the Alamo, San Antonio's most recognizable attraction. Inside the old mission's walls, enjoy the pretty landscape in the heart of the city and take a moment to read about Texan independence in the Long Barracks Museum. Admission is free, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and opens at 10:30 Sunday. 300 Alamo Plaza, (210) 225-1391, thealamo.org.

During the Depression, the River Walk was built to combat flooding through the heart of Downtown and beautify the area. Since that time, dozens of shops and restaurants have opened their doors on the level of the water. Strings of brightly colored lights hang from the branches of that reach over cobblestone paths. Music from mariachi bands drifts over the heads of people as they walk along, careful not to fall in. Admission is free, dinner at one of the restaurants is not. 110 Broadway,



"Visit the Alamo" is the cry of tourists and the tourist bureau of San Antonio. However, the city has much more to offer in museums and culture than just the legendary mission that became a fort in Texas' war with Mexico.

Suite 440, (210) 227-4262, the-sanantonioriverwalk.com.

Three wacky attractions sit across the street from the Alamo. Check out 16 galleries of unbelievable exhibits, artifacts and videos in the Guinness World Records Museum. Get lost in the elaborate special effects of Ripley's Haunted Adventure. Finally, ride through the life and times of Davy Crockett on the Tall Tales Ride. Admission is \$15.99, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and open until 12 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 329 Alamo Plaza, (210) 226-2828, haunted-guinness-crockett.com.

Channel your inner John Wayne at Enchanted Springs Ranch, in Boerne, 40 minutes northwest of San Antonio. The replica Old West town is in the middle of a working cattle ranch in the Hill Country. You can

stay at one of the rustic guest cottages after a day of touring the area, used for a variety of western films and commercials. Admission is \$10.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. 42 Hwy 46 West, Boerne, (830) 249-8222, enchantedspringsranch.com.

SHOPPING

On the South side of the San Antonio River, La Villita used to be an eclectic residential area. Now the historic district is packed with unique shops, restaurants and art galleries. Stained glass, jewelry, clothes and pottery intermingle with the 10 showrooms. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. 418 Villita #900, (210) 207-8612, lavillita.com.

From the level of the river, you can walk straight into the entrance of the Rivercenter, a shopping mall in the middle

of downtown. In addition to mall clothing staples such as Gap and Forever 21, the center offers drugstores, music shops and Texas souvenirs. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. 849 E. Commerce, (210) 225-0000, shoprivcenter.com

Jump on the trolley to Market Square. El Mercado is the largest Mexican marketplace outside of Mexico. Find great bargains on clothing, home items, jewelry and countless other imports at El Mercado, the Farmer's Market and on Produce Row. Grab a meal at one of the authentic Mexican restaurants in the area. The square comes alive throughout the year during sHispanic festivals, complete with food, mariachi music and dancing. Free Admission. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 514 W. Commerce, (210) 207-

8600, marketsquaresa.com.

The Shops at La Cantera offer an upscale alternative off of Anderson Loop 1604 West. Store such as Anthropologie, Apple, Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co. and Burberry are located in this open-air mall. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. 15900 La Cantera Parkway, 210.582.6255, theshopsatlacontera.com.

RESTAURANTS

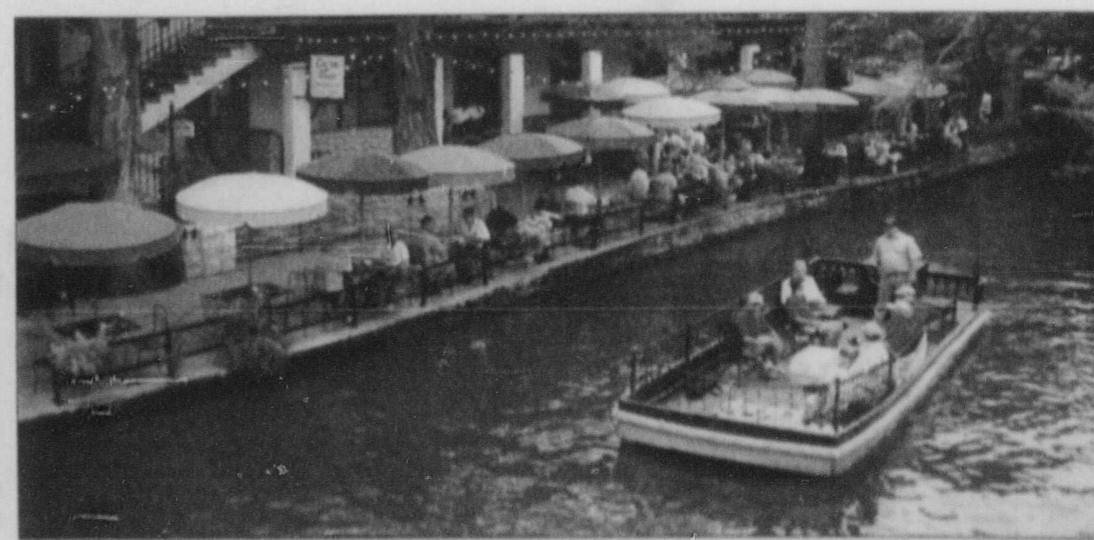
With its rich heritage, San Antonio boasts a diverse spectrum of cuisine options. Here are some of our favorite Mexican restaurants, though:

Casa Rio was the first business to open on the River Walk. Diners can sit in indoor tables or on the stones next to the water while they enjoy their meals. The food is moderately priced, and the atmosphere and location

are excellent. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. 430 E. Commerce St., (210) 225-6718, casa-rio.com.

La Margarita Mexican Restaurant and Oyster Bar in the heart of Market Square offers sizzling fajitas and delicious margaritas. Average meals range from \$8 to \$25. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, and open until 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 120 Produce Row, (210) 227-7140, lamargarita.com.

If you're hungry late at night, Mi Tierra Cafe is open 24 hours on Produce Row in the Market, a couple blocks from the Riverwalk. They serve breakfast all day and have a bakery with traditional Mexican pastries and candies. Margaritas come in grande, jumbo and one-liter sizes. Meals range from \$6 to \$15. Open 24 hours a day. 218 Produce Row, (210) 225-1262, mitierracafe.com.



Visitors drift past colorful table umbrellas as they travel along the River Walk in downtown San Antonio.

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Special Congratulations to Vicky Witt! You are an inspiration to us all!

Iowa man arrested for sending bombs to investment companies

By MARK MORRIS AND TONY RIZZO
McClatchy Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A clue buried in a huge pile of financial records led to an Iowa man's arrest Wednesday in a mail-bomb intimidation scheme involving threatening letters from "The Bishop."

That shadowy figure led a 21-month campaign of terror and intimidation against investment companies and corporate officials in an effort to manipulate the price of two publicly traded stocks.

Methodical research by a U.S. postal inspector eventually led authorities to arrest and charge John P. Tomkins, 42, a machinist and family man from Dubuque, Iowa, who once worked weekends as a substitute letter carrier.

Federal prosecutors in Illinois accused him of sending unarmed pipe bombs

to investment companies in Kansas City and Chicago earlier this year. He is charged with mailing a threatening communication and possession of an unregistered explosive device.

A spokesman for Kansas City's American Century Investments, an employee of which discovered a pipe bomb in the firm's mail facility in late January, said company officials were thrilled to hear of the arrest.

"There's a collective sense of relief across the organization," said Chris Doyle. "The way they wrapped this up is akin to a 'Law & Order' episode."

More than 100 investigators from a swath of federal agencies worked the case. The big break came about five weeks ago when Tomkins' name surfaced with many others from federal reports that the Securities and Exchange Commission uses to track insider trading.

A postal inspector matched the information to the dates when threatening letters were sent and then calculated who had the most to gain.

Over a recent weekend, the inspector identified Tomkins as the top suspect and phoned an SEC contact, who confirmed the calculations. Investigators then turned up more links between Tomkins and the crimes, court records show.

David Colen, acting assistant postal inspector in charge of the Chicago office, said the U.S. Postal Inspection Service's expertise in mail fraud and explosives was critical.

"It was a good marriage of our strong suits," Colen said. "Once we identified our suspect, it came together pretty rapidly."

According to inspectors in Dubuque and Chicago, authorities arrested Tomkins without a struggle at 7:03 a.m. Wednesday as he stepped from his car at work. They questioned him before sending him to Chicago for an afternoon court appearance.

At the same time, inspec-

tors working with agents from the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives descended on his home and a rented storage facility. Inspectors used a remote-controlled robot to open the door of the storage facility but found nothing threatening immediately, an investigator told The Kansas City Star.

After speaking with Tomkins' wife, who cooperated, investigators took her and the couple's three grade-school-age daughters to a safe location as authorities began searching the home.

Even after agents interviewed Tomkins, they were not certain why Tomkins called himself "The Bishop," Colen said. Investigators also could not identify what triggered the string of threatening letters and pipe bombs. Money, though, certainly was at the root of it, Colen said.

"This was a financially motivated crime," Colen said.

Investigators in Dubuque said they could not yet discuss what they recovered from Tomkins' home and the storage facility. Still,

court records in Chicago indicate authorities have already amassed considerable evidence since identifying Tomkins as a suspect.

Court records describe at least five broad categories of evidence linking Tomkins to The Bishop:

— **Handwriting:** Experts matched samples of Tomkins' handwriting — taken from bank records and mortgage and employment documents — with writing found on at least four of the mailings.

— **Photography:** In a letter sent to an investment company official in October 2005, The Bishop included a photograph of the official's home, taken through a car window. Investigators matched details from the car, such as body style and upholstery details, to the Chevrolet Lumina. Two weeks ago, inspectors watching Tomkins determined that his 1993 Lumina matched the photo.

— **Bank records:** ATM records show Tomkins withdrew money in Altoona, Iowa, in March 2006 near a mailbox from which some of The Bishop's mailings may

have been posted. He also used a debit card in Kissimmee, Fla., on July 24, 2006. Three mailings were postmarked on July 17 from nearby Orlando.

— **Investment documents:** SEC records show that Tomkins controlled an account identified as the only non-institutional investor holding options on the two companies whose stock he allegedly was trying to manipulate.

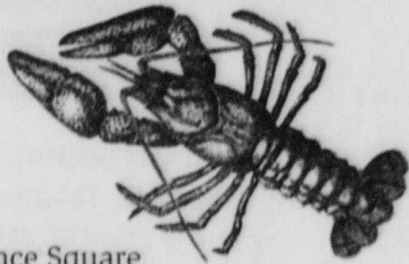
Court records show he had investments valued from \$6,095 up to \$73,000 in the companies whose shares he wanted to increase in value.

Spokesmen for the companies, 3Com Corp. and Navarre Corp., declined to comment or did not return a call.

— **Retail transactions:** The month before The Bishop mailed the pipe bombs to Kansas City and Chicago, Tomkins purchased PVC pipe and end caps from a home improvement store in Dubuque. Forensic examiners determined that PVC pipe sold at that store was the same brand as that used in the pipe bombs.

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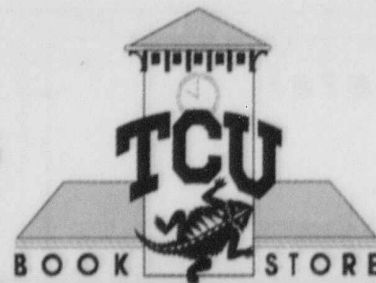
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Heed advice to prevent illnesses where the sun don't shine.

By JESSICA PERALTA
SqueezeOC

Nobody likes being sick. But feeling sick down there can add embarrassment to the misery.

Here's a list of a few common problems of the genital and surrounding areas in case you were too embarrassed to ask about them.

MALE CONDITIONS

— Enlarged prostate: The condition is seen in men as they age, but not all men show symptoms, said Dr. Neyssan Tebyani, urologist at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center.

An enlarging prostate is a natural process that occurs as a result of testosterone, which stimulates the prostate gland to grow. As the prostate enlarges, it blocks the flow of urine out of the bladder, which can cause symptoms.

Symptoms can start in the 40s and include weak urine stream, frequent urination and an increase in urgency to urinate.

Treatment can include taking saw palmetto for milder symptoms, and taking medications like alpha blockers (which treat symptoms) Proscar and Avodart (which can decrease the size of the prostate) for moderate or severe cases. If those don't help, there are more invasive surgical options available.

— Prostate cancer: A cancerous growth of the prostate gland, this condition is the most common non-skin cancer affecting men in the United States, said Tebyani.

The majority of patients show no symptoms, but some may suffer from urinary frequency and difficulty. Risk factors include increased age

and a family history of prostate cancer. Black men are more at risk.

Screening for prostate cancer includes a rectal exam and blood test.

Treatment includes radiation, surgery, lowering testosterone levels via injections, and freezing the prostate gland (cryotherapy).

Prevention tip: Avoid eating excessively fatty foods, since high-fat diets have been linked to prostate cancer.

— Erectile dysfunction: This refers to the inability to initiate or maintain an erection, said Dr. Aaron Spitz, urologist at UCI Medical Center. Most of the time, the underlying cause of ED is poor circulation because of elevated cholesterol, hypertension, diabetes, etc.

Younger men who are otherwise healthy probably suffer

from psychological causes leading to anxiety.

Treatment includes oral medications such as Viagra, Cialis and Levitra, injected medications, vacuum devices, and surgical implants.

FEMALE CONDITIONS

— Urinary tract infection: A bacterial infection in the bladder affecting an estimated 20 percent of women at some time during their life, said Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, obstetrician-gynecologist at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center.

Symptoms can include burning with urination, increased frequency and/or urgency to urinate, blood in the urine, fever, chills and lower-back pain. Sexual intercourse can facilitate the bacteria's movement into the female urethra and bladder.

Antibiotics treat this infection.

If left untreated, the infection can spread to the kidneys.

Prevention tips: Take cranberry juice or tablets, urinate after sex, and drink six to eight glasses of water a day to flush out bacteria.

Candidiasis: Commonly known as a yeast infection, this fungal infection will occur at least once in 75 percent of all women, Johnson said.

Symptoms include itching, irritation and a thick, white vaginal discharge. These infections often result after taking an antibiotic, which kills the protective lactobacilli microflora of the vagina. Yeast infections are not sexually transmitted.

Treatments include over-the-counter antifungal preparations like Monistat and prescription antifungals.

Prevention tips: Drink plenty of water, urinate after sex, eat

a low-carbohydrate diet (yeast tends to grow when blood sugar is high), and consume live culture yogurt or acidophilus supplements.

— Urinary incontinence: This means the involuntary loss of urine. There are two types of urinary incontinence — overactive bladder and stress incontinence, said Dr. Karen Noblett, urogynecologist at UCI Medical Center.

Overactive bladder is when you can't make it to the bathroom in time after getting the urge to urinate. Overactive bladder is possibly due to abnormal nerve signaling, but the cause is mostly unknown.

Symptoms include increased frequency and urgency to urinate. Treatment includes bladder re-training for milder symptoms, medication, and surgery for more severe cases.

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The Contender (DLP) - R (Fri-Sat) 12:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
(Sun-Thurs) 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05
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(Sun-Thurs) 12:10, 2:55, 5:35, 8:15
Travels (DLP) - R (Fri-Thurs) 1:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
To the Land of Women (DLP) - PG-13 (Fri-Thurs) 1:00, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40
Vacancy (DLP) - R (Fri-Sat) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 8:30, 10:45
(Sun-Thurs) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 8:30
300 - R (Fri-Thurs) 7:00, 9:50
Are We Done Yet (DLP) - PG (Fri-Thurs) 12:45, 3:05, 5:30, 8:05
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Disturbia (DLP) - PG-13 (Fri-Sat) 12:35, 3:10, 5:40, 8:20, 10:50
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Perfect Stranger (DLP) - R (Fri-Thurs) 10:25
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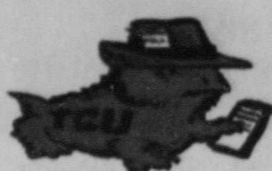
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THREE-GAME SET

Baseball team ready for Aztecs

By BILLY WESSELS
Photo Editor

After coming from behind to beat in-state rival Texas Tech Wednesday night, the Horned Frogs baseball team now turns attention to conference rival, the San Diego State Aztecs.

The 8-6 victory for the No. 27 Horned Frogs (31-10, 12-2) over the Texas Tech Red Raiders (25-18, 7-10) marked the first time they have come back from a four-run deficit to win a game since March 22, when they beat the BYU Cougars 6-5.

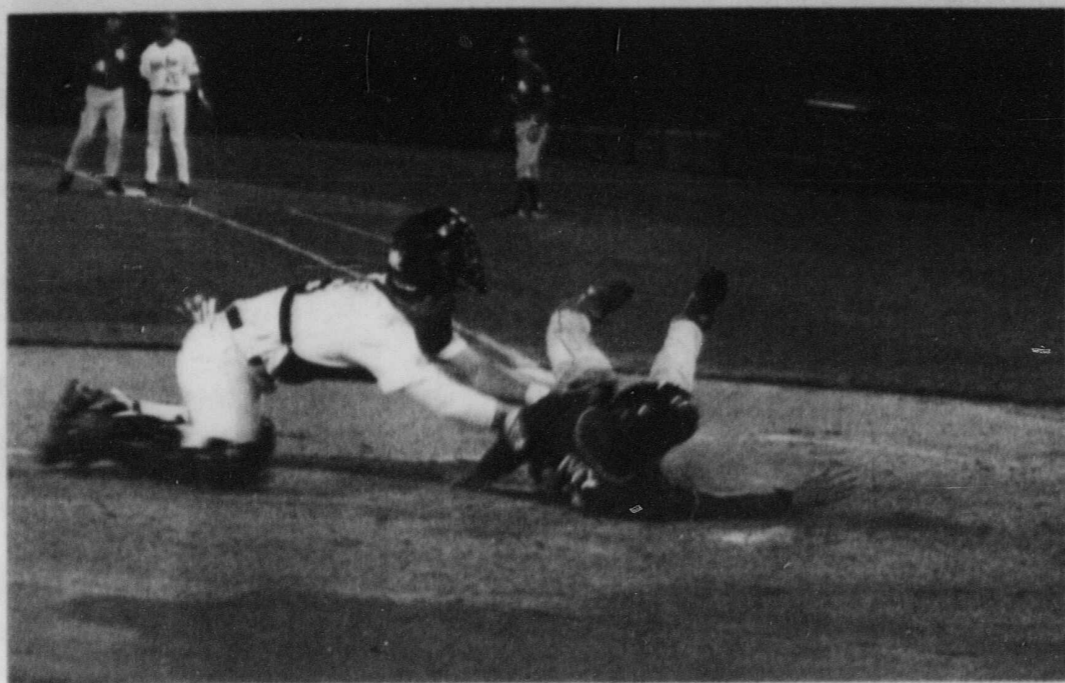
"Obviously, you grow stronger in those situations," said Schlossnagle on Thursday about Wednesday night's game. "I thought last night was a reflection of an experienced team and a team that has a lot of character."

Now the Horned Frogs will face the San Diego State Aztecs (27-18, 11-4), who are currently in second place in the Mountain West Conference.

"They certainly pitch very well, and they have as much or more pitching depth than we do," Schlossnagle said. "All bets are off when you have two teams that can really pitch."

Junior reliever Sam Demel said the Aztecs are extremely confident, and the Frogs will need to play solid to beat them.

"They are com-



Junior catcher Andrew Walker tags out an Oklahoma Sooner runner during the Frogs' victory April 17. The Frogs will play the San Diego State Aztecs in a three-game series beginning Friday. TCU is 31-10 overall for the season.

ing in, and they think they are going to take the series from us," Demel said. "Last year, they were extremely talented. They are playing well, and we have to play like we have been against BYU and (Texas Tech)."

Last year, the Aztecs took three of the four games against TCU, including one in the conference preseason tournament. All of those games were played in San Diego.

"We didn't hit their pitching very well at all last year," Schlossnagle said. "They have as good of pitching or better this year. On paper it looks like they were a better

offensive team last year."

The Aztecs are coached by soon-to-be inducted Major League Baseball Hall-of-Famer Tony Gwynn. Gwynn played for the San Diego Padres for 20 seasons and for the Aztecs for three seasons during his college years.

"Luckily he won't be out there playing so that will be good for us," junior outfielder Clint Arnold said.

As a team, the Aztecs have an earned run average of 3.94 and have 338 strikeouts compared to 161 walks.

"I know they have a lot of talent and I think they are a good team," Arnold said. "This is going to be a battle this weekend. It is going to be a lot of fun."

The three-game series will begin Friday night at 6:30 in Lupton Stadium.

Frogs spring sports stars

By MARCUS PARCHER AND TIM BELLA
Sports Editor and Staff Reporter

As the semester comes to a close, it seems only fitting to pass out accolades and awards for what we have seen on the playing field this semester. The end of every season has an award ceremony where there are some surprises and some awards that are of no shock value to the average fan, so without further ado, here are the Spring 2007 Horned Frog Superlatives.

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Dell Guy, Track and Field: This freshman sprinter from Las Vegas has been grabbing headlines during the outdoor season and has been an integral member of the 400-meter relay team. In addition to earning TCU Men's Athlete of the Week Honors, he qualified for the NCAA regional in the 400. Honorable Mention: Stephanie Futscher, Swimming & Diving.

COACH OF THE YEAR (TIE)

Karen Monez, Rifle, and Gary Reynolds, Equestrian: Success starts at the top, and in the case of Monez and Reynolds, they both led upstanding programs in their second and first years at the helm, respectively, to national postseason appearances. Monez, who was named the NRA's Distinguished Coach of the Year, guided the rifle team through a regular season that saw it place no lower than second in any event, and a fifth place showing at the NCAA championships. Reynolds' equestrian team also saw great success, becoming the only team in the history Varsity Equestrian to qualify for the national championship competition in its inaugural season. Honorable Mention: Angie Ravaioli-Larkin, Women's Golf.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Ashley Davis, Women's Basketball: During her senior year, she surpassed 1,000 career points and is one of only nine Lady Frogs to have accomplished this feat. She was selected to compete in the College Slam Dunk and Three-Point Contest at the Men's Final Four in Atlanta. Her three-point shooting throughout the season contributed to 10 percent of the team's total points. As a senior, her leadership on the court showed when she started in all 32 games during the season and brought the team to its seventh consecutive NCAA Tournament. Honorable Mention: Jon McLean, Men's golf

GAME OF THE YEAR

TCU vs. Air Force, Men's Basketball: A defensive showcase by the Horned Frogs led to an upset of the then-No. 14 Air Force Falcons on Feb. 24. The final score read 71-66, but the victory was made even sweeter as it put an end to a daunting 11-game losing streak from the Horned Frogs. Point guard Ryan Wall came off the bench and led the team with 19 points and drained four 3-pointers. Other notable performances that day came from Alvarado Parker with 12 points from the field and Brent Hackett who spotted 11. The game broke a three-year drought against ranked opponents. Honorable Mention: TCU vs. Oral Roberts, Baseball.

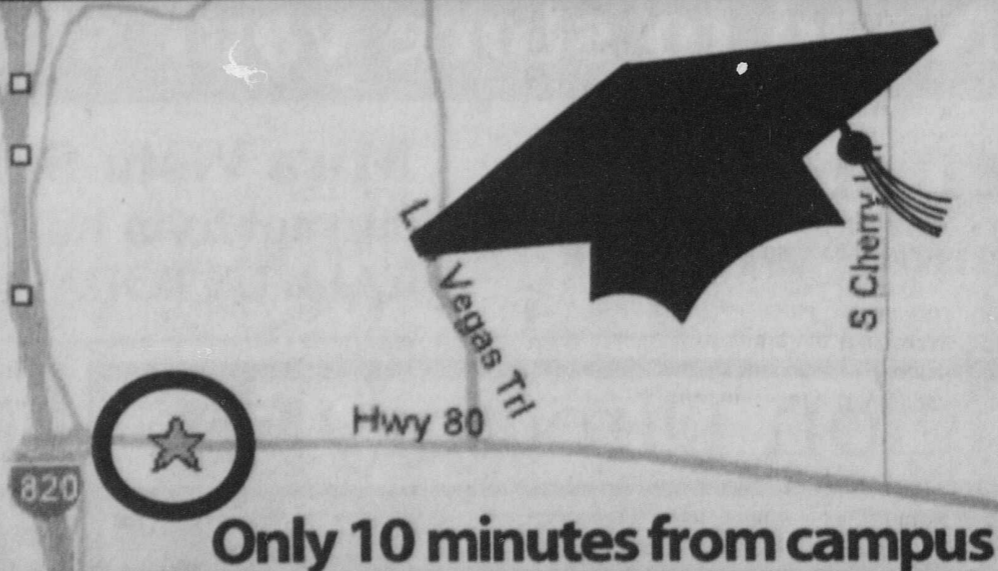


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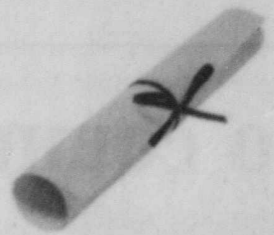
For continuing coverage on TCU Sports
Goto **dailyskiff.com**

Game updates will continue through classes until May 7th

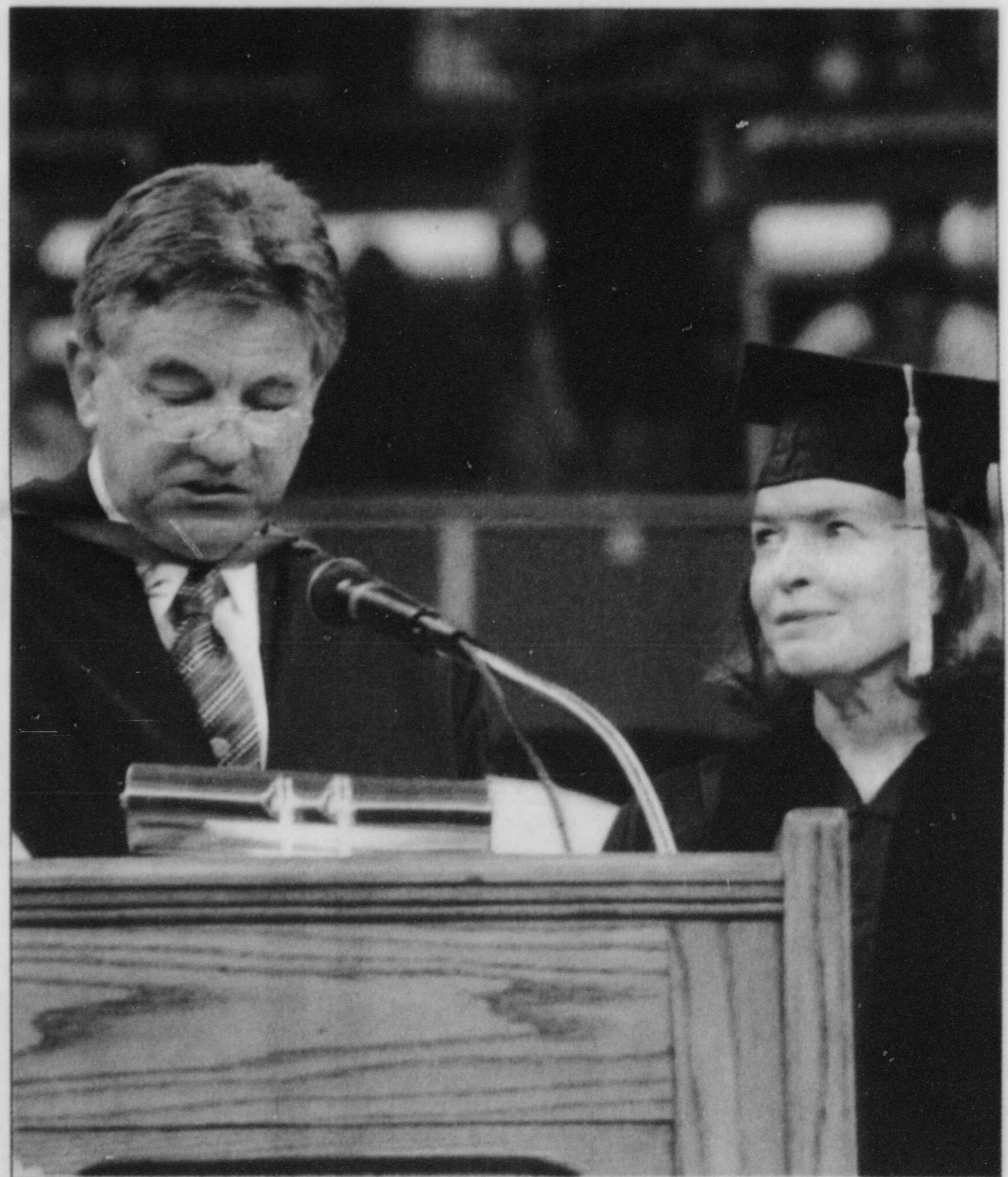




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No commencement ceremony speaker for May graduates

By MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE
Staff Reporter

TCU's largest graduating class will end its undergraduate career May 12.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said this spring will see the largest graduating class in the history of TCU. Because the graduating classes are progressively growing larger, there will be no speakers at the commencement ceremony, he said.

The ceremony will be held in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

To accommodate the large size of the graduating class, the ceremony will be divided into two sections, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Between the two ceremonies, a gathering for parents, students and faculty members will be held on the Alumni and Visitors Center grounds, Boschini said.

Margaret Kelly, executive director for community projects at TCU, said a saxophone quintet will perform the Star Spangled Banner at

both the ceremonies.

Kelly said according to the Registrar's Office, there are 1,387 degree candidates for May commencement and 15 or 16 students who could graduate with 4.0s.

Elise Connor, a senior advertising/public relations major, said she is not thinking much about the ceremony.

She said she was glad the ceremony is coming because it means she has succeeded and she is moving on with her life.

"It's a nice way to end my four years at TCU and symbolically," Connor said. "I guess it's neat because it represents all my hard work to get to this point."

Boschini said he will address two issues at the ceremony.

"My comments to the graduates will center around two themes: First, thanks for studying at TCU, and second, best wishes in the years ahead of you — remember to be a lifelong learner," he said.

"... best wishes in the years ahead of you — remember to be a lifelong learner."

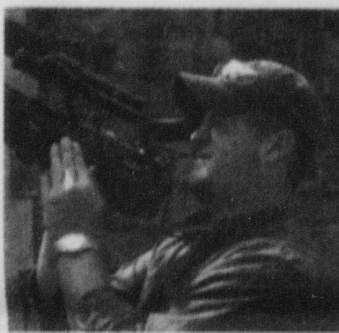
Victor Boschini
Chancellor



Students celebrate their graduation with silly string during the ceremonies for the class of 2006. This May, the largest class in TCU history will graduate.

SKIFF ARCHIVES

Brandon Knieper



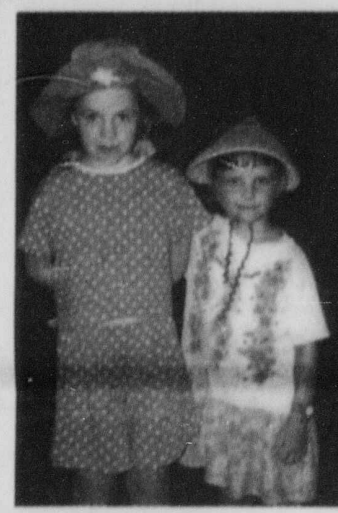
Brandon,
You've always dreamed of producing a movie! Now's your chance! Go for it! We love you and are very proud of you!
Congratulations!
Mom and Dad

Sarah Senne



Sarah,
From your first day of kindergarten to graduation from TCU, it has been a joy to watch you grow academically and personally.
Congratulations, Mom and Dad

Claire Sellers




Claire,
Congratulations!
Gail

Courtney Iverson



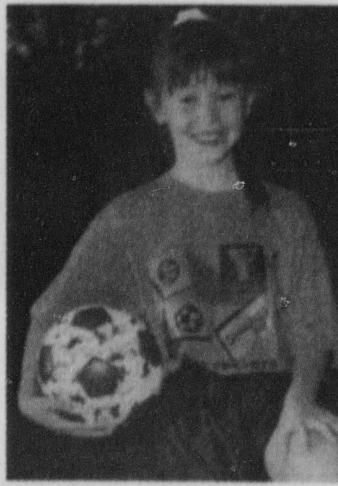
Courtney,
Thanks for the TCU experience! Couldn't be more proud, and thank God for you! We love you more than anything in the world!
Mom and Dad

Katie Decker




Congratulations Dolly! We are very proud of you.
Love you mucho!
Mama and Daddy

Melissa Shemenski



Melissa,
I always dreamed that you would go to college, study abroad and make the dean's list! I am so proud of you!
Love,
Dad

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Stu

By LESLIE DYE
Staff Reporter

The semester is winding up, but students are still celebrating. Students' weeks of stress are finally over.

"Finals before are weeks," said sophomore chain manager like you always and ready for graduation to do.

Michael studio art stress is so of just have self from it overwhelm you.

Students time away is the most relieve this so in differ.

One of the stress relief Bagzis said.

Car

By MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE
Staff Reporter

The time Daddy's pager opens need for work all grown up earn your keep question is actually.

Job search as Monster Builder.com popular wa potential ing print because of practically according to news special.

Students use varied methods to ease stress

By LESLIE DYER
Staff Reporter

The semester is winding down, but stress levels are winding up.

Students said the last few weeks of school are the most stressful times of the year.

"Finals week and the week before are the most stressful weeks," said Holly Bagzis, a sophomore supply and value chain management major. "It's like you always have something to worry about. There's always another test to get ready for or another presentation to do."

Michael Stewart, a junior studio art major, said, "The stress is so high that you kind of just have to remove yourself from it so it doesn't overwhelm you."

Students said taking some time away from their studies is the most effective way to relieve this stress, but they do so in different ways.

One of the healthiest forms of stress relief is working out, Bagzis said.

"I think working out is a great stress relief," Bagzis said. "It feels good to sweat it out in the morning — it clears your head."

Ashley House, a sophomore history major, added that working out releases endorphins.

"Endorphins make you happy," House said. "And being happy is even a stress relief in itself."

Others said the break they needed was just a little down time.

"I take a lot of naps during finals week," said J.P. Wilson, a freshman music education major. "After I wake up, I focus better."

However, some students said they do not have time to put their studies on hold, so they opt for a more short-term relief.

Colton Johnson, a sophomore biology major, said he mentally removes himself from the situation.

"Sometimes I close my eyes and imagine being somewhere

else," Johnson said.

Students said that being social was another way they relieved their stress.

"I try to go out with my friends," said Jamarri Aikins, a freshman psychology major. "Then I don't feel so loaded down."

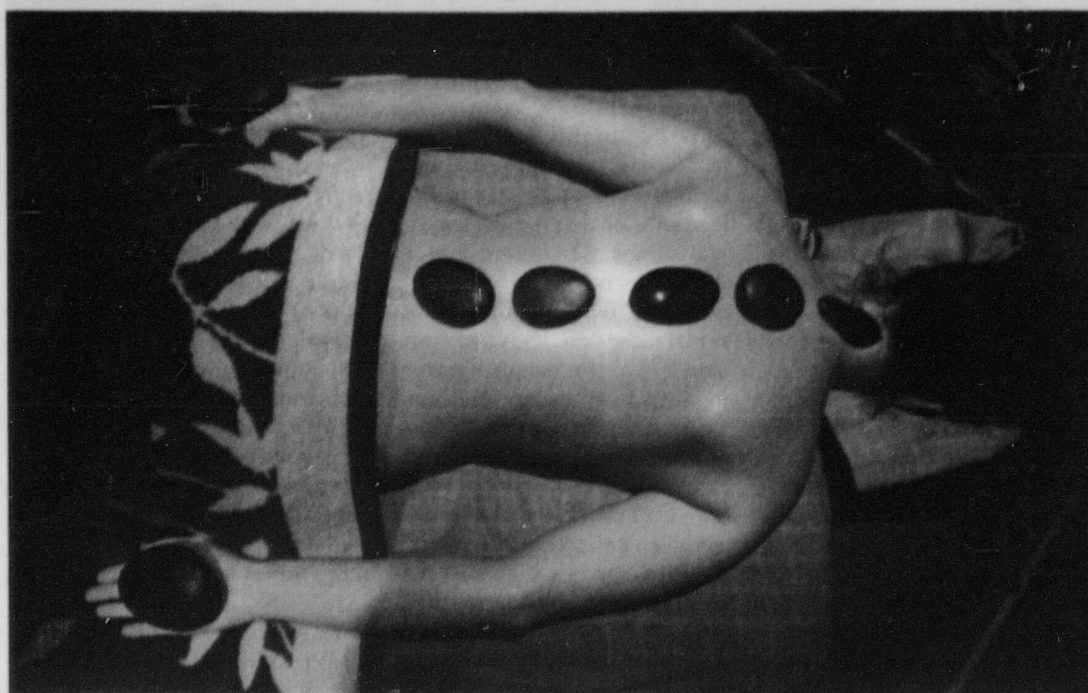
Some of the social activities students said they enjoy included cooking, tanning, playing sports and dancing.

"I like to bake," said Tara Wanzeck, a freshman nursing major. "It kind of helps me unwind. And after you do it, you have something yummy to eat."

Lauren Riuzzi, a freshman premajor, said that laying out or tanning is her stress reliever.

"Being in the sun — or the fake sun if the weather is bad — makes me feel good," Riuzzi said. "If you feel good during this time of year, then it seems to go by faster and easier."

Creighton Dryden, a sophomore history major, said he likes to surround himself with



At many spas, heated river rocks are applied to chakra points on the back. The smooth stones produces re-energizing responses, according to its brochure. Massages are one of the many ways students relieve stress before finals.

friends to take his mind off of school.

"I like to play sports or go dancing with a bunch of people," Dryden said. "If I can have

fun with my friends then I don't feel so stressed out."

Although finals are the most stressful time of the year, some students remain optimistic.

Josh Bagby, a freshman premajor, said, "Finals week doesn't have to be awful, you just have to know how to handle the stress."

Career Services official: Networking key to finding job

By MICHAEL BEST
Staff Reporter

The time draws near when Daddy's pocketbook no longer opens at your wish. No need for worry though; you're all grown up, and it's time to earn your keep. Now the only question is: Who in the world is actually going to hire me?

Job searching Web sites such as Monster.com and Career-Builder.com have become a popular way to find out about potential careers, overtaking print medium want-ads because of the ease of use and practically unlimited space, according to a PBS Frontline news special about converging

media. These two sites respectively attract 18 and 21 million unique visitors a month, more traffic than other job search engines according to their company representatives.

Randy Horne, senior advertising/public relations major, said he used these sites and Hotjobs.yahoo.com to find work. He said each Web site houses practically identical features, and employers typically post the same jobs on all three sites.

Horne, 22, said he got a few job offers but wasn't satisfied because, "they didn't want to pay me enough paper."

Employment-seekers look-

ing to work in a specific field or geographic area might try one of the many specialized job search systems, including USAjobs.org, which focuses on government jobs, and Texasjobs.com, focusing solely on the Lone Star State.

Job-hunt.org is a Web site specifically tailored to inform people who have lost their jobs or have struggled to find one. An advice piece found on the site labeled "The Dirty Dozen Online Job Search Mistakes" states that the Internet is a valuable tool to find jobs, but job-seekers do themselves a great disservice by using an Internet-only approach to find

a dream job.

"Even if you have a job and can only job hunt at home in your spare time, don't focus all of your attention online," according to the Job-hunt.org Web site.

According to Job-hunt.org, "People are hired by people, so the Internet is only useful as a way to reach the people with the job opportunities. Use the Internet as a part of your job search toolkit."

Kimshi Hickman, associate director of University Career Services, echoes this sentiment. She said the best

approach to finding a job is to use a variety of job-seeking methods. Hickman said one benefit that can't be found on a job Web site is the social network.

"Networking is key to finding a job," Hickman said. "Don't wait until you graduate to start. Your network is anyone that you know. Talk with the people in your network, regardless of whether you think they have a job in the area you're looking for or not."

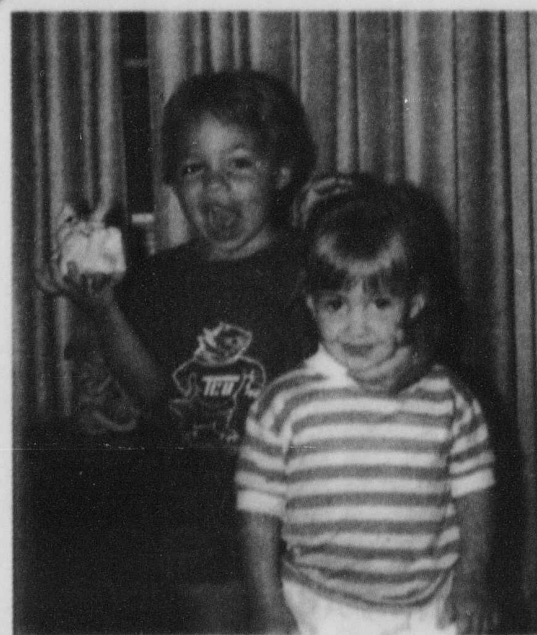
Although networking gives the job seeker a definite edge,

some employers solely use job posting sites in a relatively new practice as a measure to avoid discrimination, Hickman said.

Aside from visiting the career center and frequently skimming through Frog-jobs.net, UCS' job Web site designed specifically for TCU, Hickman suggested that students search thoroughly and start soon.

"Truly you want to find a job before it hits the networks," Hickman said, "and your competition becomes thousands of other people."

Bear Lankton



Bear,

You were destined to be a Horned Frog. I am proud of you. Congratulations Graduate!

Love,

Mom

Kevin Saxe



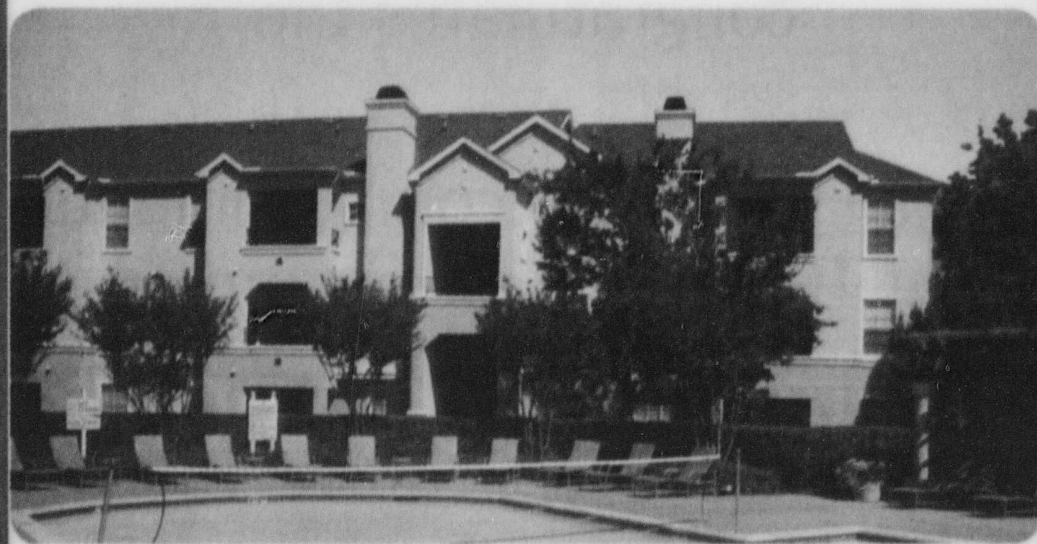
Kevin,

We are all so proud of you and your accomplishments at TCU! You are an incredible son, brother, grandson, nephew, uncle, and friend! May the Lord bless you in all your future endeavors!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, David, Ally and Connor

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National student organization visits Congress to protest soaring, 'out of reach' college costs

By SALLY DADISMAN
McClatchy-Tribune

With almost \$40,000 of debt in student loans after graduating from University of California-San Diego in 2005, Jennifer Pae has had enough. Pae, along with around 400 other students rallied in Washington, D.C., in March to protest what they see as a major problem in higher education funding: There isn't enough.

"College is quickly becoming out of reach," Pae said. "Four hundred thousand qualified high school students can't go due to costs. We need to ensure education must be a legislative priority this congressional year."

While convening at the Capitol, United States Student Association delegates, who came from 20 states and almost 300 campuses, had the chance to make 150 Congressional visits. Congressman George Miller, D-Calif., the current chair of the House Committee on Education and Labor, joined the students.

"It's empowering to have students coming to fight for their rights," said Carmen Berkley, who is the grassroots legislative liaison for USSA's executive board. "(The rally) being in front of the Capitol building, it says a lot that ... we're the ones representing all students from every walk of life all across the country."

Berkley and Pae, who is president of the USSA, along with many others, held the rally to celebrate the organization's 60th anniversary and to launch National Student Lobby Day. Fighting the bitter cold, students came to voice their concern over the rising cost of education.

"Although the weather made it extremely cold, for all of the students it's a deep issue many students are impacted by," Pae said.

A main reason for having it

on Capitol Hill was to get the message to the public, but also to members of Congress, she said. Pae highlighted the fact that almost two-thirds of the 15 million students graduating college will, on average, be leaving with almost \$20,000 in debt.

Also during the rally, students were able to meet with congressional representatives and staffers. "All of the people we went to were very receptive," said Berkley, who is a senior studying political science and communication at the University of Pittsburgh. "They knew about their education policy, but they weren't as well-versed on higher education. We were able to give them stories from the constituents, and they said things like, 'We never thought of that way.'"

The newly elected Democratic Congress has made recent steps toward raising the Pell grant, the federal government's main financial aid program for low-income students, but Berkley wants to remind Congress not to let other programs suffer in return.

"It's important that we are not cutting programs in place of others," she said. "Yes, students had a major victory with the increased Pell grant, but if we get \$250 more for the Pell grant that doesn't mean we should lose millions of dollars in other programs."

Berkley, who says she will be at least \$60,000 in debt when she graduates this year, notes what she calls a "change in tone" with Congress' new Democratic majority.

"With the Democratic congress things haven't changed as fast as everyone would like, but at least the conversations with staffers we're having is different," she said. "Last year, a lot of the people who were in office would say, 'We understand what

you're saying, but we're not really interested,' or, 'Students aren't really our constituents.' But this year we heard, 'We understand what you're saying students, and we're on your side. We realize that you vote us into office and we're going to listen to you.'"

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chairman, is contributing to this change by pushing his Student Debt Relief Act Bill. The bill would provide a raise in Pell grants, lower interest rates, debt relief and extends the college student tax deduction among other things.

In his blog on The Huffington Post, Kennedy, calling the new Congress the "Do-Something Democrats," states his support for increased education funding. "We need to get the priorities of Congress straight, and one way to do so is to insist that a college education be a basic right for all, not just an expensive privilege for the few," he wrote.

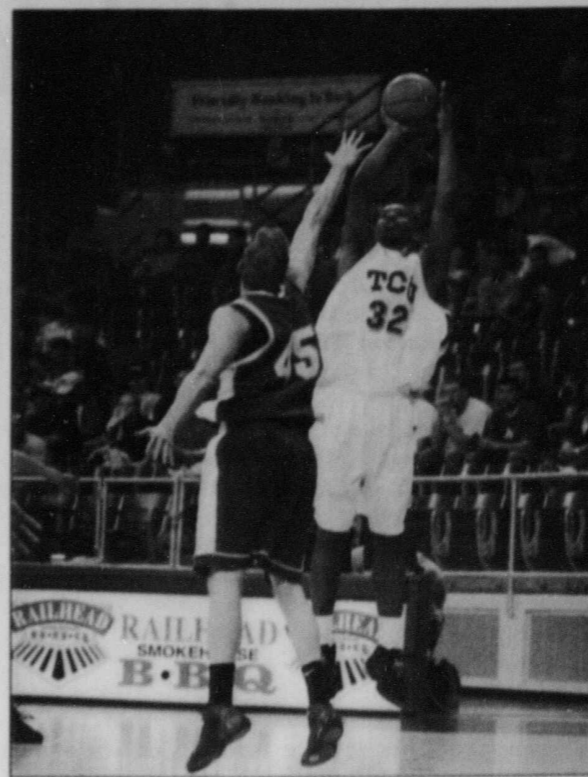
In the end, Berkley hopes there is more awareness of higher education issues.

"We should all be very cognizant of how the legislative bodies are responding to legislature on higher education," she said.

Pae also notes the difference a little time makes. "Looking at high levels of debt 20 years ago, student financial aid packages were predominantly grants," Pae said. "Now they're predominantly loans."

A first generation college graduate in her family, Pae puts a face on the struggle.

"I wouldn't have gone to school had it not been for federal financial aid programs," she said. "We need to make sure these programs are secure, otherwise we're shutting the door to many qualified students."



ROBYN SHEPHERD / Staff Photographer
Sophomore forward Kevin Langford attempts a shot over an Air Force Academy defender during the Frogs' 71-66 upset of the Falcons.

Frogs beat Falcons in great season win

By Marcus Murphree
Sports Editor

The men's basketball team charted a landmark win when it upset the then No. 14 ranked Air Force Falcons at Daniel Meyer Coliseum, Feb. 24.

It was the first victory over a ranked opponent for the Horned Frogs since they upset the then No. 10 Louisville Cardinals, February 17, 2004.

The Frogs beat the Falcons 71-66; a month earlier Air Force beat TCU 72-39.

The victory knocked the Falcons down to No. 25 and was a factor in keeping the team from earning an NCAA tournament bid.

The Horned Frogs, led by forwards Kevin Langford and Alvarado Parker and point guard Ryan Wall went on to win 13 games, more than doubling the total from the 2005-2006 campaign.

The win put an end to the longest losing streak of the season and put a breath of new life into the Horned Frogs who went on to win in the first round of the Mountain West Conference tournament.

Renée Ducote



Renée,

You've always had your eyes on the future. Now you've made it. We are so very proud of you.

Love,

Mom and Dad
Jeremiah 29:11

The staff of University Career Services

congratulates the
Class of 2007
on all of their accomplishments
at TCU and their upcoming
graduation.

We especially recognize the following graduates:

Elise Connor
Melody Martinez
Mark Standish

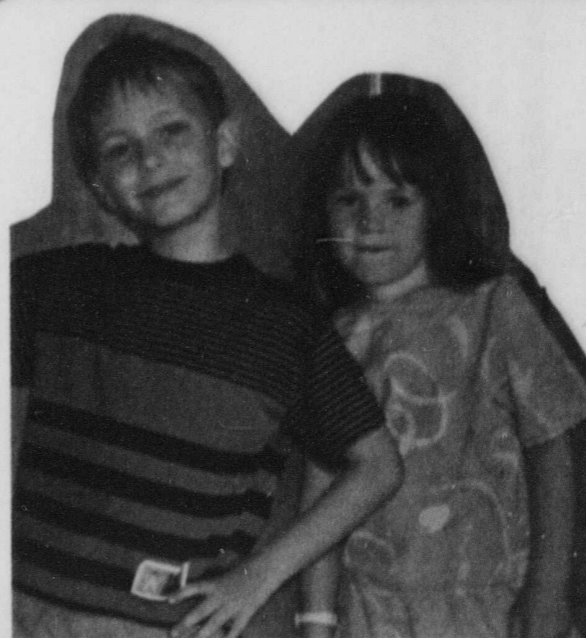


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June 1991 Ben and Claire

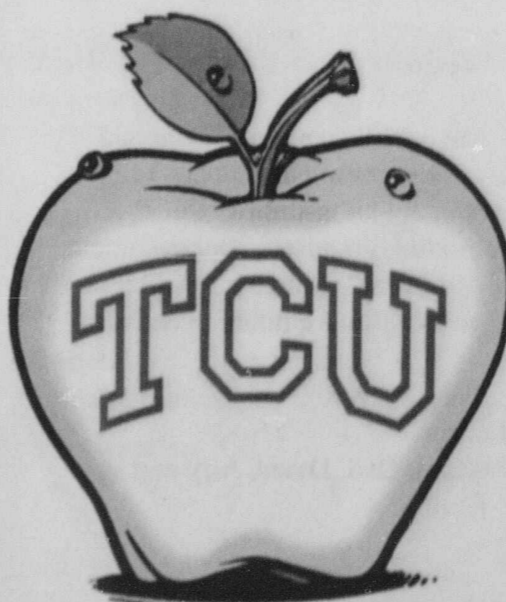


Ben and Claire,

Two working moms having kids, being there for each other. Moves, distance, job and life changes, our families coming together for holidays and vacations. What are the odds that you would both go to TCU and then WOW! graduate together. CHEERS!

Love always,
Your families

The School of Education would like to Thank and Congratulate our Senior Mentors on a job well done!



Daniel Bess
Stephen Calder
Hannah Dakel
Chelsea Edge
Meredith Esory
laMonique Flournoy
Yvonne Garcia
Joelle Hart
Brooke Hobart
Kelly Howard
Kendra Jackson
Dyne Kahan
Amanda LaGrone
Ashley Ohi
Katie Yopp

More college graduates face bigger student loan burdens

By PAMELA YIP
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — There's no disputing that a college education is a great investment. College graduates can expect to make \$1 million more over their lifetime than someone with just a high school diploma.

But more college graduates find it's taking longer to pay for their investment. As student loans have become a larger part of the college tuition bill, many graduates are leaving school with unmanageable debt levels that can affect their financial security, career and lifestyle choices for years after college.

"A college degree is a good investment and becoming increasingly necessary," said Luke Swarthout, higher-education associate with the State Public Interest Research Groups, a consumer organization. "But more of the cost of college has been pushed onto the shoulders of students. For a whole set of borrowers, this debt could affect their choices after college."

The trend affects those pursuing careers at both the high and low ends of the income spectrum, from doctors to teachers and social workers.

"I would like to go into social work or another community-oriented occupation, but I will be hard-pressed to do so until I pay off my student loans," said John Jevitts, a student at the University of Connecticut. "College should provide new opportunities for students like myself, whether those opportunities are intellectual, economic or career-related. Student-loan debt blocks many students from fully realizing the promise of a college education."

The nation's system of funding college tuition has put an increasing debt burden on students and their families. Tuition costs have soared at the same time that aid grants have been cut in favor of loan programs.

Among college graduates in the class of 1992-93, 49 percent reported taking out student loans, and for them, the average debt burden was \$10,179.

For the class of 2003-04, 65 percent took out loans, and the average debt burden had risen to \$18,887, according to the College Board.

And the trend is expected to continue. This year Congress cut funding for federal student-loan programs, putting even more of the burden on students and their families.

There is a silver lining, though. President Bush signed legislation giving students more freedom to consolidate their loans by repealing what is called the "single holder rule." Under that rule, borrowers who had all their federally guaranteed student loans with one lender could only consolidate with that lender.

The move — long advocated by student and consumer groups — came two weeks before the June 30 deadline to apply to consolidate loans. Now, loan rates will climb 1.84 percentage points, thanks to rising interest rates.

But the new law is a small fix to a big problem for many graduates.

"Large amounts of debt put graduates in a hole that can take years, even decades from which to emerge," said Richard A. Davies, senior managing director of retirement and college savings plans at AllianceBernstein Investments, which recently issued a report on how college debt affects students after graduation. "Funding a college education isn't just about those four years. It's about a young adult's ability to start a family, buy a house and, ultimately, even to one day retire."

AllianceBernstein conducted an Internet poll of 1,508 college graduates ages 21 to 35 on their college finances and expe-

riences as well as their current circumstances, attitudes and lifestyles. Of respondents still paying off education-related debt, 44 percent have delayed buying a home, 28 percent have postponed having children, and 32 percent had to move back in with their parents or live at home longer than expected.

What's more, 43 percent said they postponed graduate school, and 39 percent of those with college debt said they left a job they liked because they didn't make enough money.

Other research shows that today's college graduates pay more for tuition as a percentage of their starting salary, and they also pay more payroll taxes than their counterparts did decades ago.

And this doesn't even begin to account for the credit-card debt that many students have.

A Dallas research analyst got a rude awakening when her salary wasn't big enough to let her repay her student loan.

The woman, who didn't want to be identified because she didn't want colleagues to know her situation, returned to school to get a graduate degree in hopes that it would lead to a better-paying job in California, where she was living.

"It didn't," she wrote in an e-mail. "I had to move back South and was able to get a job in Dallas. Even then, I got paid at the lower end for my job industry with 30 years' work experience, which didn't give me enough money to live and pay my student loans. I am paying on my graduate loan, but my undergrad loan is still deferred."

Student loans are a particularly vital source for minorities, she said.

"Minority students get loans because that's probably the only way they can afford to get into college, but they don't get the jobs to help them pay back loans," she said. "Even if they

get a job, salaries are usually at the low end, and the income is not enough for them to live and pay student loans. That leads to deferment, where the interest is added back into the principal, causing the loan to be increased over time, making it even more difficult to pay off the loan."

Of her situation, the woman said, "I'm now 51 years old, and I think I'll be paying back student loans until I die, not to mention retire."

Of course, most people pay off their student loans.

The student loan default rate has fallen to around 4.5 percent. That's a result of efforts by the government to get control of the situation in the early 1990s, when the default rate topped out above 22 percent.

But just because the default rate has fallen doesn't mean that many people aren't struggling more than earlier generations did to pay off their loans.

Alan Collinge of Tacoma, Wash., borrowed a total of \$39,000 for undergraduate and graduate school and has three degrees in aerospace engineering. He defaulted on his loans after he lost his job in 2001.

"It would be about two years before I again found any type of full-time employment," Collinge said. "During this time, I worked as a cook on a remote island in Alaska, and my loans went into default."

He said Sallie Mae, the nation's largest student-loan lender, denied him a hardship deferment on his payments, tacked on fat penalties and refused to remove them.

"The loan has since been transferred to the Department of Education, which now claims that I owe about

\$105,000, which may as well be a million," said Collinge, who established studentloanjustice.org, a Web site for those struggling to pay student loans. "I cannot get a job in the aerospace field with my abysmal credit record."

Sallie Mae executives said they gave Collinge every opportunity to resolve his situation.

"We have made multiple attempts to help him manage his student loans," said spokesman Tom Joyce. "He made nine payments over a period of 162 months. Of those nine, one was on time and for the full amount."

A borrower who asked to be identified only as a chiropractor in the Panhandle said he defaulted on his student loans because he couldn't earn enough money consistently to repay them. He owes \$308,000.

He hasn't been able to renew his chiropractor's license because of his loan defaults. He has been seeing a few patients but only taking cash for payments.

He has stopped treating personal-injury patients because he didn't want to risk being asked during court testimony whether he is licensed in Texas.

"I'm not making the income that I could be," the 57-year-old said. "What kind of future do I have? None."

So what's the solution? Experts say students should consider the finances of their college investment and plan carefully.

"A lot of kids are going through college without really considering that this is a debt that must

be repaid," Collinge said.

Before students take out loans, they must figure out what their monthly payment will be — and whether their chosen career is likely to provide enough income to service the loans. If not, students should choose a less-expensive college, a more-lucrative career, or a more-frugal post-college lifestyle.

Of course plans don't always come off the way we'd like. But it's better to have a realistic plan than to take out loans blithely assuming you'll be able to repay them.

Also, students should choose a repayment term carefully and be sure they understand the rules regarding student-loan repayment and the options for consolidating loans.

Those who default on federally backed student loans pay a high price financially and professionally.

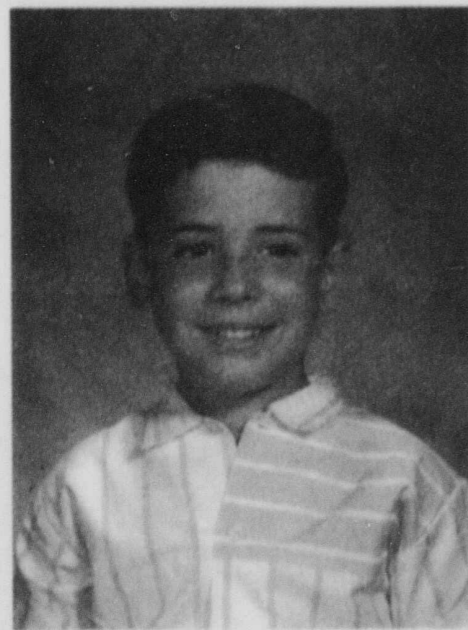
"The debt is unique in that there is simply no escaping it," Collinge said.

The Internal Revenue Service can seize your tax refund to pay your student loan. You can't discharge your loan by filing for bankruptcy, and the federal government can garnish your wages to pay the loan. That applies even in Texas, which has strict prohibitions against wage garnishment.

What's more, professional licensing boards will deny you a license if you default on student loans.

If you think you'll have trouble paying off your federally guaranteed student loan, contact your lender immediately to work something out. You don't want to mess with Uncle Sam.

Chris Manfredini



Chris,

You're a precious son, with an infectious smile, who loves life and all its challenges. May you continue your journey of life with that warm smile, inner strength and your desire to be "the best you can be." Go TCU kicker #44!

Congratulations!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy, Maria,
Vincent, and Taylor, too

Matt Owens



Matt,

Every child born into the world is a new thought of God, an ever-fresh and radiant possibility.

-Kate Douglas Wiggin

Here's to you Matt and to all that you have accomplished at TCU!

Love,
Mom, Dad, John and Samantha

Kristi Rae Walthall



Kristi,

It's been a great journey between kindergarten and TCU graduations. We've enjoyed seeing you become the accomplished person you are today. We wish you the best this world has to offer as you travel down your path of success. "Run Kristi run!"

Congratulations,
Mom, Dad, Papa, Grandma,
Keri, and Jeremy

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Recent grads seek ways to bridge health care gap

By ANN TATKO-PETERSON
Knight Ridder Newspapers

The nagging pain of a chipped tooth in the back of his mouth constantly reminds Jarrett Mason about what adulthood has not brought him: medical and dental benefits.

The 21-year-old is not alone. This month, many students graduating from high school and college will no longer be eligible for medical coverage under their parents' plans.

A Commonwealth Fund study found that 13 million young adults in the United States were without medical insurance in 2004. Almost 50 percent of high school graduates and two of five college graduates are uninsured for a portion of the year after graduation, according to the study.

Usually, once children are 18 and not in college full-time, they lose coverage under their family's employer-sponsored group plan. Rarely, do they seek coverage on their own.

"Youth never thinks it's going to have a problem," said Bruce Gray, owner of Specialists in Health Insurance Services in Walnut Creek, Calif. "They don't know that John Muir (Medical Center) charges \$6,000 to \$10,000 a day. Everything has been provided for them by their parents up to this point."

The wake-up call does not come until the first major accident or illness, and the prohibitive costs that accompany those.

But it is an unnecessary gamble. Options exist to bridge the medical insurance gap between graduation and the first job. Some are affordable, others cost more. The trick is knowing what you need and

where to find them. "Graduates are worried about their future," said David Andrews, vice president of product management for Assurant Health. "But health insurance is the part that gets left behind."

Mason falls under that category. He graduated from high school three years ago and went to work for Albertson's. He said steep union fees prompted him to quit the \$8.39-an-hour job that came with a benefits package.

Now, he lives with his mother. This summer, he hopes to take an art class at Diablo Valley College. He has a job application pending at Mervyn's.

Urgent dental care, such as his chipped tooth, would be covered by most medical insurance plans. But Mason lives with the pain because he has more pressing concerns.

"Not having benefits, yeah, it's tough," he said. "I used to skateboard all the time. Now, I worry about breaking my leg and having to go to the hospital. You got to be careful when you don't have health benefits, but I've got bigger worries. I need a job to pay my bills. That's how I got to spend my time — finding a job."

A recent survey by American Independence Corp. found that 88 percent of college students are concerned about losing insurance between graduation and their first job. Almost all of them are unsure about the options available to them.

Most of those options depend on a graduate's health

and living circumstances. Here are a few examples:

— COBRA: This option is best for graduates with a pre-existing health condition, especially one requiring regular treatment. It extends the coverage provided by their parents' medical plan for a period of time, usually six months. However, individuals may have to pay the entire premium, meaning this option could cost \$300 to \$500 a month.

— Temporary/short-term: This covers most graduates, whether remaining in state or traveling, but only for a short period of time, usually no more than 18 months. It is the best option for graduates with imminent employment or for those facing a waiting period before their employer's plan takes effect.

Several companies offer short-term plans, including Healthegrad.com and Assurant Health. Rates range from \$46 to \$138, depending on the deductible and coverage.

Short-term providers do not cover pre-existing conditions. However, if medical coverage is not interrupted, then a pre-existing condition is immediately covered when an employee-sponsored plan goes into effect. Short-term plans can prevent interruption of coverage, if activated before losing benefits under a parent's plan.

— Long-term: This is available to almost anyone in good health. It is best for individuals

who expect to be unemployed, self-employed or without medical benefits for 18 months or longer. Also, long-term care can cover families and expenses such as maternity.

Rates depend on the plan selected. Plans costing \$65 to \$100 a month usually mean high deductibles and co-pays. To lower those, individuals will pay a much higher monthly premium, ranging from \$150 to \$200.

Picking an option usually comes down to what is affordable.

Jan Parr of San Pablo graduated last month from Contra Costa College with a degree in mass communications. While in school, she worked part-time as a switchboard operator.

She discovered the harsh

reality of being uninsured last fall when she had bronchitis.

"I didn't realize I had it," said Parr, who would not reveal her age except to say she is in her 40s. "I was running into a grocery store, trying to get there before it closed, when I started wheezing. I'd never done that before. I had to go to a doctor, even though I knew I had to pay out of pocket."

The doctor visit and antibiotics cost Parr \$500.

Despite that incident, she remains without medical insurance.

"I can't afford it right now," she said. "The most I could afford to pay at this point is \$10 a month. There aren't many options to accommodate that."

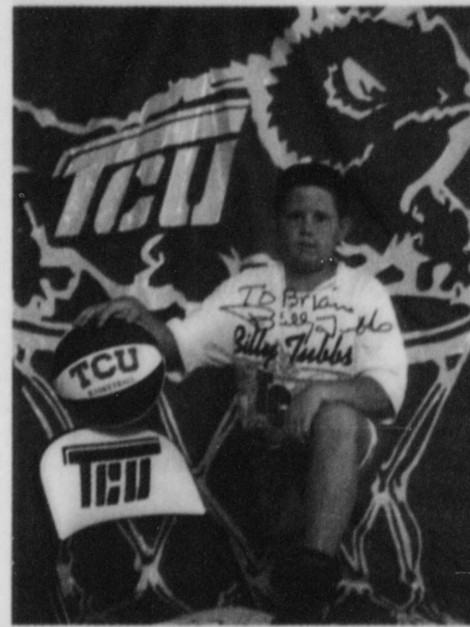
The hard part is knowing

where to find those options. That is one thing some companies are working to change.

In 2005, American Independence Corp. targeted parents of graduates with its short-term insurance, provided through Healthegrad.com. This year, after polling 1,300 college students on six campuses, the company is marketing directly to graduates through e-mails and advertising.

"We discovered that 88 percent of students are concerned about losing medical insurance and 74 percent are interested in finding a solution for themselves," said David Ketting, the company's co-chief operating officer. "The interest is there. Now, we have to find a way to get them the information they need."

Brian Lee Allen



Dear Brian,

Congratulations upon achieving your goal of graduating from TCU. You are a winner and have worked hard to earn this degree. Continue to carry in your heart Philippians Chapter 4 verse 13. We're very proud of you. Congratulations, again on a job well done.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Dovie Dockery



Dovie,

With attitude and the right outfit, the world can be yours!

We love you!

Mom and Dad

Congratulations Class of 2007



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Choosing major key to graduates' economic success

By MARYANNE GEORGE
Detroit Free Press

Before he graduated from the University of Michigan, Chris Kurecka landed a job in his field at Ford Motor Co. with a starting salary of nearly \$60,000 and a signing bonus of \$1,000.

His story is not that unusual — especially in high-tech fields like his, computer science and engineering.

Despite the struggling Michigan economy, many college graduates today are getting jobs in their fields, and they're making more money than they did last year, studies show.

"Eighty percent of engineering grads at U-M have job offers out of college," said Kurecka, 23, who is studying for a master's degree in industrial engineering. "I knew I would get a reasonable job offer."

With college costs soaring and students often using loans to finance an education, the value of a college degree is coming under more scrutiny by students and parents as they try to get the most bang for their buck.

And as corporations become more international, students must also prepare to compete in a global economy where outsourcing is growing. Although pursuing a high-tech career isn't the only way to be successful, choosing a marketable major requires balancing personal interests with today's economic realities, educators and employers say.

GETTING A JOB

Studies of graduates with bachelor's degrees at Michigan State University found that within three months of graduation, 70 percent have found jobs in their field or a related field, according to Phil Gardner, director of MSU's Collegiate Employment Research Institute, which tracks employment trends of its graduates.

"The kids who are most successful at getting through school are the ones who find a major that matches their interest," said Gardner. "Some parents want them in the top 10 majors with high pay and the kids are struggling to say 'I want to be in family services.'"

Other students focus too narrowly on technical skills and are toppled by waves of change that make their new skills obsolete, Gardner said.

"You need breadth and depth to survive," he said. "You can be a technically trained liberal arts major or liberally trained engineer."

However, some students don't recognize the shift from a manufacturing economy to a knowledge economy, which competes globally.

"We went from a linear economy that needed workers to engineer products that come out one end, to a knowledge economy that's like a spider web where everyone is connected," Gardner said. "They need a lot fewer people. These kids don't see that they are competing with India and Chi-

"You need opportunities to test your skills. Don't be too focused on landing the big job. Sometimes you pigeon hole yourself and don't play to your strengths."

Georgette St. Amant
Market director for Meijer

na, not just U-M, Purdue and (Case Western Reserve)."

The technical expertise in these countries is also growing faster than in the United States, according to the National Academy of Science. Last year, China graduated 600,000 engineers and India graduated 350,000 compared to 70,000 in the United States.

Nationally, engineering dominates the top 10, with starting salaries ranging from the high \$40,000s to the low \$60,000s, according to a survey by the Pennsylvania-based National Association of Colleges & Employers released in September.

But salaries vary, depending on the field. Students graduating in majors such as psychology and communications can expect much lower starting salaries of about \$30,000, according to the survey.

Some degrees, such as those in the health professions, remain very marketable, Gardner said.

Because of a nationwide shortage and aging baby boomers, nurses are in demand. Starting salaries are between \$40,000 and \$44,000, studies show. Other

specialties such as lab technologists and physical therapists are also offering good job prospects, he said.

STUDY THE MARKET

Kurecka, 23, who graduated in May with bachelors' degrees in computer science engineering and mathematical sciences, was hopeful he would land a good job out of college. But he worked hard to get there. He earned two degrees and had five summer internships while he was in college, key factors in his early success, he said.

He works in information technology at the Ford Systems Integration Center in Allen Park. Ford is also helping to pay for his master's degree.

He said he was interested in science, computers and engineering as a child, so majoring in those subjects in college was a natural choice. But he was also aware that engineering jobs paid well.

He advises students to study what interests them but to also study the job market. Getting internships before graduation and using career-planning services on

campus also are important, he said.

"Get the facts up front," Kurecka said. "Don't say senior year 'I need a fifth year to fix all of this.' Start thinking about this in high school and more seriously in freshman and sophomore year. I overhear people say 'I'm studying sociology but I don't know what I want to do with this.'"

Jaime Engelhart, 22, of Lake Orion never dreamed her passion for zoology would lead to a job as a college recruitment coordinator.

After graduating from Michigan State University in August with a bachelor of arts in zoology, Engelhart hoped to land a job at the New England Aquarium in Boston, where she had done a summer internship as a marine mammal trainer.

But when the aquarium didn't hire her, she took a job as a recruitment coordinator at MSU's Lyman Briggs College, a science-oriented residential college she attended. With \$15,000 in student loans that she must begin repaying in January, the \$30,000 starting salary, plus benefits and tuition assistance for graduate work seemed pretty attractive, she said.

These days she travels around the state to college recruiting fairs. On Tuesday, she went to Notre Dame Preparatory School in Pontiac to talk to students about MSU.

"This is not where I saw

myself going but it's another path to get to where I want to be," said Engelhart, who is now considering studying for a master's degree in student affairs administration. "There are a lot of fields kids do not know about until they get to college."

WHAT EMPLOYERS WANT

Georgette St. Amant, a market director for Meijer in the south Detroit area, recruits at the Wayne State Business School. She says employers look beyond a graduate's education.

"We're looking for experience, attitude and social skills," St. Amant said. "You could have the very best business administration degree but maybe you can't relate to people. You need opportunities to test your skills. Don't be too focused on landing the big job. Sometimes you pigeon hole yourself and don't play to your strengths."

Karen Fuller, director of Ford's College Graduate Program, which rotates new engineers through several departments to learn about the company, said she looks beyond technical expertise and internships to find leadership skills.

"We want to know if you've worked as a tutor, or a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity," Fuller said. "Even if you don't have a job in your field all jobs show initiative. Sometimes you must work your way into your dream job."

Kate Nelson



Kate,
Use your unique talents and personality to "design" a better world. We're so proud of you and love you very much.
Congratulations!
Mom and Dad

Brian Montgomery



Brian,
Words cannot express our excitement for your graduation day. We are very proud of you and we know you will be successful in your new career.
Congratulations and all our love,
Mom and Dad

Angie Nickens



Angie,
How quickly the years have gone. You are my pride and joy. Congratulations!
Love,
Mom



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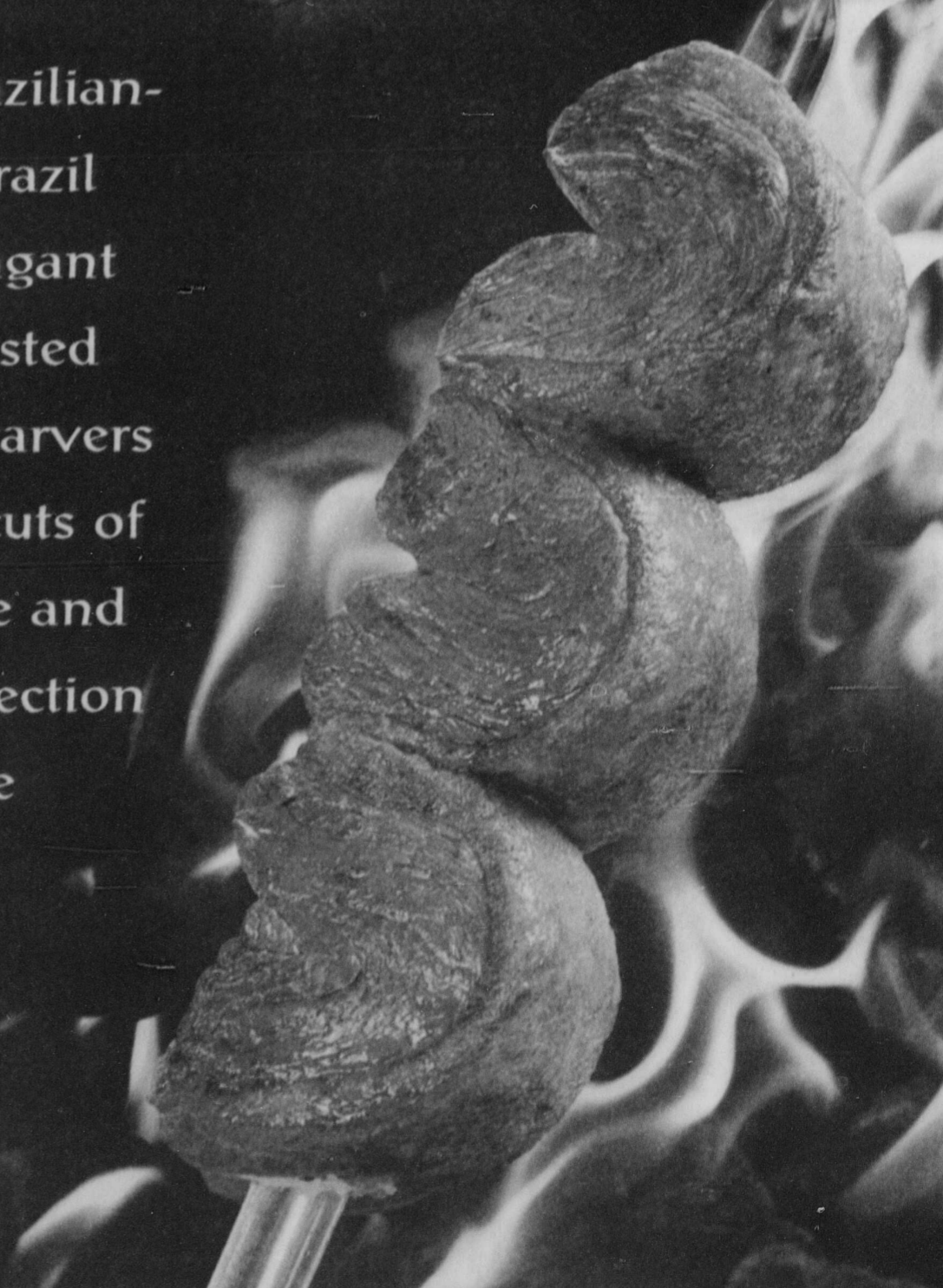
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Anthropology major first to graduate with honors

By SUSAN GILMARTIN
Staff Reporter

With inflection and attitude in her voice, the vivacious side of a 21-year-old senior emerges as she talks about a more serious side: her studies.

Senior Angela Campbell is the first anthropology major to graduate with departmental honors. Campbell, who is also double-majoring in religion, said she feels like she is ready to graduate, but the more she reflects on what she learned at TCU, the more she realizes what is out there to learn.

Campbell applied to many schools and narrowed it down to TCU and New York University. The decision came after visiting both schools and talking to professors and student foundation members during a visit to campus while she was still in high school, she said.

"There were so many people here that wanted to talk to me about my interests, where I was going and classes that I should

take," Campbell said. "The faculty and staff seemed to care a lot, so that was the deciding factor for me."

Campbell began her freshman year as a premajor and began taking honors religion classes and an anthropology class to fulfill her University Curriculum Requirements. She said she enjoyed those classes and decided to continue her education by majoring in both subjects.

Miguel Leatham, an anthropology lecturer and Campbell's adviser, said Campbell has a high level of intellectual engagement and is committed to international and social relations.

Leatham nominated Campbell for the Departmental Scholar Award from the Anthropology, Sociology and Criminal Justice Department, and the department unanimously approved her for the award, he said.

Balancing work and school has been hard for her because employers are not always sensi-

tive to college students because of their hectic lifestyles, Campbell said. She works at Beauty Brands and is a double major with a minor in Spanish. Campbell credits her adviser for telling her what classes she needed to take in order to graduate in four years.

Campbell said she decided to join Alpha Chi Omega because she wanted to get involved on campus and not rely on what she already knew about Fort Worth. She said the women in the sorority understand that she is academically focused and has a job and that she is proud to be a part of that organization.

Josh Cauthen, a senior political science major and friend of Campbell's, said Campbell is very committed and passionate about her work. She makes a point to do her best because she loves what she studies, Cauthen said.

Cauthen said he first met Campbell during their freshman year at a mandatory com-

mon reading. He said he was interested in what she had to say during the discussion and they got to know each other on the walk over to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum for the Chancellor's Assembly.

Work and school make it difficult to find time to spend together, Cauthen said.

"We find time whether we are just studying together or having lunch or dinner together," Cauthen said. "We are involved in a lot of the same organizations, so we get to see a lot of each other when we are working on projects and things like that."

In addition to her membership in Alpha Chi Omega, Campbell is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, a leadership honor society, and Phi Beta Kappa, an undergraduate honors organization. Campbell is also on the dean's list and has won the Departmental Scholar Award from the Anthropology, Sociology and Criminal Justice Department.



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor
Angela Campbell will be the first anthropology major to graduate with departmental honors. Campbell, also a religion major, was awarded the department's Scholar Award.

After graduation, Campbell eventually wants to be a professor in graduate studies and focus on gender studies research. She said she plans to take a year off from school to research different universities so she can decide where she wants

to attend graduate school. "I am going to get a job and move in with some friends," Campbell said. "It will be nice since I have been studying so hard. I haven't really gone out much, so it will kind of be my college experience."

Katrina Zielinski



Katrina,

We wish you the best of luck as you gather up your things and head off into the world! We're so proud!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Brian Walker



Brian,

Congratulations on this latest accomplishment in your life! We are proud and pleased to see how you have developed and grown.

Mom and Jim

Vanessa Van Auken



Vanessa,

You've always been a star in my eyes! Continue to dream big and may all your dreams be realized. Congratulations and well done!

Love,
Mom

Congratulations to the graduating seniors of Sigma Kappa Sorority!



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Erica Bensik
Elizabeth Burger
Clair Bondarewicz
Merrell Bryant
Elizabeth Butler
Sarah Cox
Dovie Dockery
Chelsea Edge
Amanda Edgemon
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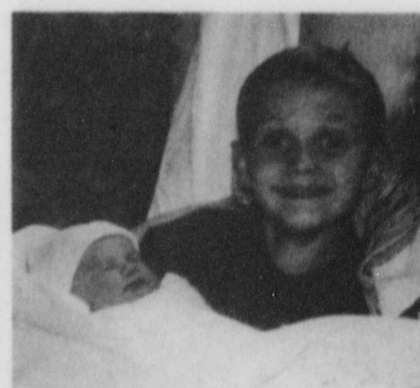
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Heather Padgett
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Erin Vaughn
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ΣΚ

Hunter Shelburne



Hunter,

Since childhood, you have been comfortable among different cultures, different places, different worlds. You've always generously shared your wit, creativity and wisdom with us and the world around you.

We've watched with joy and pride as you've grown through each new stage. You now take this step of graduation, and enter the next portal of adventure, full of potential.

We know you are ready, and we love you like crazy!!!

Mom, Dad and Sarah

'Quarterlife crisis' growing among dissatisfied young workers

By JAMIE MALERNEE
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — He thought he knew what he wanted to do with his life.

So Jamie Deitchman spent nearly four years and \$30,000 to get a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering.

After school, he was hired to do tech support and congratulated himself on becoming an adult. There was just one problem.

"I hated waking up in the morning," said Jamie, 28, of Coconut Creek, Fla. "In tech support, anyone who calls you has a problem and it's your fault. You spent the whole day talking to people having a bad day, and so you start having a bad day. I was miserable."

His sister, Heather Deitchman, of Royal Palm Beach, Fla., was having her own career meltdown. She graduated college with good grades and a bachelor's degree in marketing but couldn't find an opening in her field and had to take a retail job at the mall.

"I had to move back in with my parents," Heather, now 25, recalled. "I was making \$14,000 a year with a degree from a private university. I felt like I'd done all that work for nothing."

Neither imagined finding the right career would be such a problem. But career confusion and frustration are growing sentiments among 20-somethings — so much so that an entire crop of "Quarterlife Crisis" books have appeared in bookstores, offering life and job advice.

A recent study on aging and job satisfaction shows that young workers, ages 18 to 34, are more "extremely dissatisfied" with their jobs than any other age group, with nearly half feeling burned out and

one in four seeking an entirely new career.

Robert Morison, co-author of the 7,700-person survey and executive vice president of the Texas-based business management Concours Group, says today's 20-somethings have unusually high expectations because of the way they grew up: during a time of economic prosperity, seeing young adults making easy fortunes during the tech bubble of the 1990s.

Since then, the bubble has burst, job and salary growth has slowed and positions have moved overseas.

Yet young workers still want high salaries, quick promotions and moderate work hours. And for good reason, he added: They have big student debts, face soaring housing costs and are suspicious of big corporations, which they associate with corruption and downsizing as much as their parents equated them with job security and good benefits.

The result, Morison said, is often a grumbling young worker and an equally annoyed Baby Boomer boss.

The upside of this phenomenon: What makes this generation spoiled also makes them smart. Morison said these high expectations, when combined with a bit of patience, could eventually make today's young workers happier and healthier than generations before.

"They insist that the workplace be friendly and entertaining. They insist on learning and growing," he said. "I wish I'd been more insistent early on in my career for more learning opportunities."

SO MANY CHOICES

Megan Garber, assistant director of career development and outreach at the University of Miami, said

the problem of choosing the right career starts early on for many young adults.

The majority of middle-class students now attend college as an automatic step on the path to adulthood, she said, but have little idea what they want to study when they get there. Or worse, they graduate with the wrong degree, along with tens of thousands of dollars in debt.

This generation has so many opportunities, Garber said, that they are increasingly indecisive and slower to take on adult responsibilities. Mom and Dad can share some of the blame for that.

"Their parents are a lot more involved, and for (students) to get out there and become independent and choose their careers, it takes more time," she said. "We call it 'emerging adulthood.' Development is taking longer."

Garber knows this from experience. She is 26 and only a few years ago had no idea where her life was headed.

"I graduated from college as a business major, but I didn't know what I wanted to do," she admits. "It's very normal. Our average student changes their major three to five times."

Garber kick-starts students by pushing them out of the collegiate nest long before graduation, encouraging them to do internships, attend meetings and speak with people in fields that interest them.

The technique worked for Nadira Bickram, a Pembroke Pines, Fla., resident and student at Nova Southeastern University.

She switched her major several times before discovering passion for a field she didn't know existed until she started doing research: cultural psychology.

"Actually go out there and speak to doctors and even volunteer," she said. "The more you know, you can say, 'OK, this is what I want,' or 'This is what I don't want.'"

COST OF HAPPINESS

Generation X and Y want it all.

They'd like to make big bucks. But after watching their parents work long hours, forgo vacations and, in the end, face large cuts in benefits and Enron-like scandals, experts say today's 20-somethings have all but given up on the idea of job security and are looking for a career that offers much more than money.

Namely, they want a career that fulfills a personal talent or calling while also allowing them to have time for their family and friends.

"They insist on the ability to mix work and life," said Morison, the co-author of the worker satisfaction study.

The reality? They often have to sacrifice one for the other.

This realization came slowly to Amy Perez. By 29 she was making six figures a year as a Miami lawyer. Yet instead of feeling powerful and rich, she was bored by 70 hours a week of monotonous paperwork.

"Here I was at this big national firm, I had a nice office overlooking Biscayne Bay ... and I felt trapped," she said. "I felt like the fluorescent lighting was sucking the marrow out of my bones."

Peter Manzi, a vocational consultant with the National Career Development Association, notes that today's 20-somethings may feel more trapped in their jobs than past generations because of exploding debt, the rising cost

of living and high expectations for success.

"With all previous generations, the 20s was a period when it was OK to experiment with different jobs," Manzi said. "Nowadays, there is pressure to get the big jobs because they have bigger loans and more obligations."

Median wages for male, full-time workers ages 20 to 24 have fallen by 25 percent since 1975 when adjusted for inflation, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

DEBT, EXPENSES RISING

At the same time, in the past 20 years, young Americans with debt have seen the amount they owe nearly triple, according to Federal Reserve statistics also adjusted for inflation.

And while many Baby Boomers may see a six-figure salary as plenty of cash, young adults are increasingly aware that's what they'll need to buy even a median-priced home in many urban markets.

On top of that, Manzi said, studies show young Americans place more importance on money than previous generations — perhaps because it is necessary to pay for the technology they've come to depend on: laptops, flat-screen TVs, iPods and more.

"Everybody expects a good-paying job, but the younger generation expects it sooner," Manzi said. "This generation is probably the most materialistic."

For a while, such concerns kept Perez, the Miami lawyer, in a job that didn't fit her. But eventually, she took a huge pay cut and became a real estate agent.

"I love it," she said. "When I tell people who are not attorneys, they say, 'Oh my God, are you crazy?' But invariably, when I tell other attorneys what I've done, nine times out of 10 their response is, 'You're so lucky!'"

In the end, the Deitchmans chose jobs that balanced economics with a more fulfilling calling.

Heather Deitchman now teaches art at Glades Central Community High School. She moved out of her parents' home and can afford her own place and car. More important, she says, her new career is more rewarding than the one she originally planned.

"Teaching high school is probably the biggest challenge of my life," she said. "I thrive on pressure."

Jamie Deitchman used his frustration to fuel his ambition.

All the time he had been working in tech support, he had worked as a DJ and karaoke provider on the weekends as a hobby.

He never thought playing music was a practical career. Then one day he got a call for a DJ job on a Wednesday. He took it.

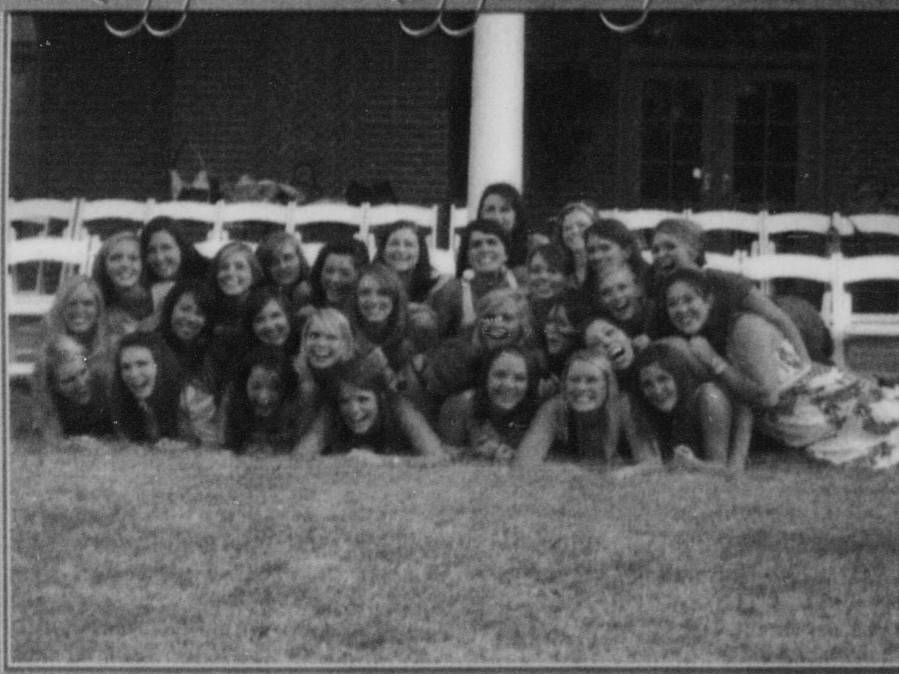
"I realized if I just got one or two more jobs a week, I could be making the same money (as my day job)," he said.

Deitchman quit tech support and now runs his own DJ-karaoke company, working at parties and clubs. He has a Web site and hired another employee.

While he admits working for himself is less secure, he no longer dreads getting out of bed in the morning.

"Now, going to work is playing music," he said. "I get paid to do that!"

Kappa Kappa Gamma



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Congratulations seniors!

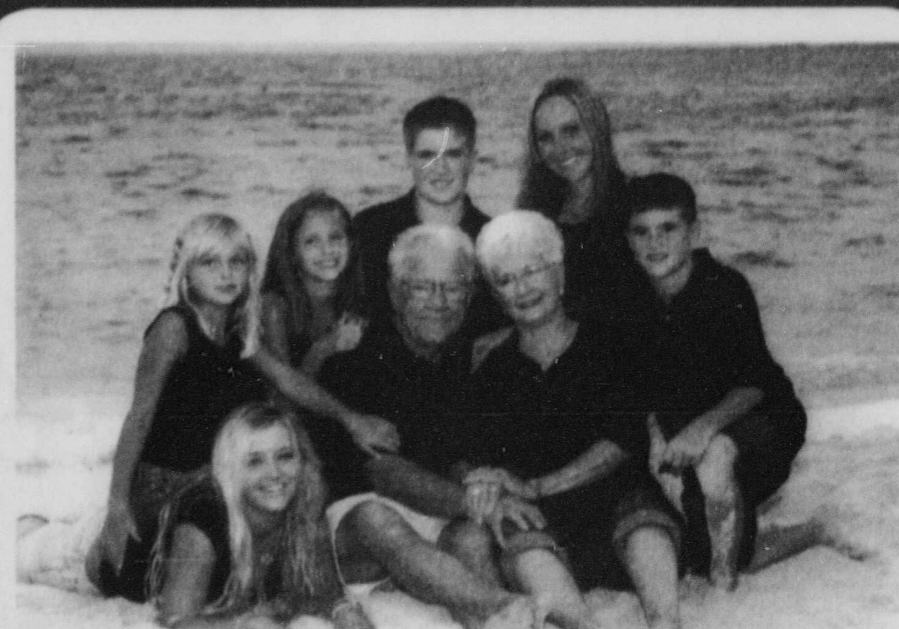


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Brittani Cate

Brittani,

Life is full of triumphs but it is the struggles that will be the path to your success. You will not be remembered for the tangible things acquired in life but instead the lives you touched along the way. You have always been independent with a kind spirit. Take these qualities that the Lord has blessed you with and follow His guidance. You are a shining light in our lives,

Love,

Daddy, Mom, Brook

TCU Daily Skiff
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By MELISSA Knight Ridd
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Manners found lacking during graduation time

By MELISSA M. SCALLAN
Knight Ridder Newspapers

When President Bush left the stage after speaking to graduates at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College recently, a bevy of elected officials and audience members followed suit.

Some people exited early with good reason. Bush was meeting individually with seven families of slain soldiers. Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour and Gulfport, Miss., Mayor Brent Warr were riding with him.

But some in attendance were upset that a number of state, local and county officials didn't stay for the

entire ceremony.

"I found it fairly offensive," said Jennifer Ford, a graduate from the Jackson County campus. "It was an honor to have the president there, but the ceremony was for us, and we deserved respect. There were so many people who left after his speech. Those people came there just to see him, not us."

With graduation season in full swing, the early exit of elected officials and special guests likely will continue. While there is no official protocol for those invited to attend these ceremonies, most people agree it's bad manners to leave before it

ends — or worse, before it starts.

A political science professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and a cooperative education teacher at Biloxi High School agreed with Ford that it's rude to leave a ceremony before it's over, no matter who you are.

"It's what your mama told you to do," said Joseph Parker, who teaches at USM. "It's just respectable behavior."

Jane Lamb, who teaches business and social etiquette as part of her classes at Biloxi High, agreed.

"Just because it's widely done doesn't mean it's OK," she said. "I think a

lot of people look up to the elected officials and look to them as an example."

Officials at the community college said they haven't received any complaints about the mass exodus, but Ford said the graduates definitely noticed.

The elected officials and special guests were sitting in specially designated areas, so it was obvious by the empty seats in that section that those attendees left early.

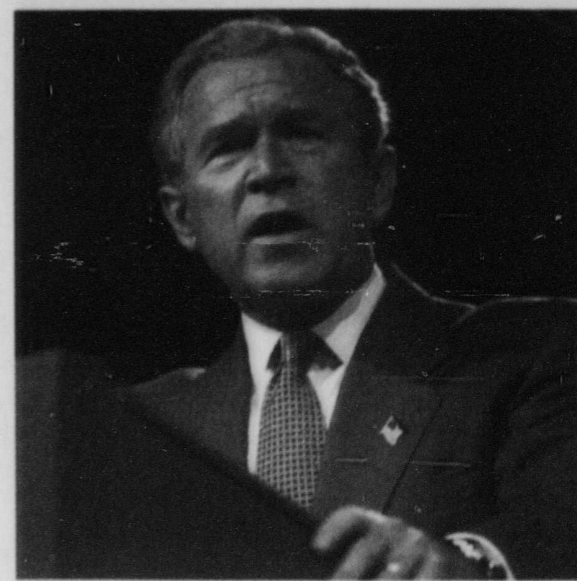
Ford said she and her classmates also didn't appreciate those who left after their family and friends received their diplomas.

"Even if you're there to see one graduate, the others deserve respect too," she said.

Parker and Lamb said most people could use a refresher course in graduation etiquette.

"There's a lot of bad manners at graduation," Parker said. "People shouting and screaming and names can't be heard. Or people leaving once their son or daughter gets their diploma. It's a general state of bad manners."

Lamb agreed. "We try to tell them to tell their parents to celebrate after everyone has received their diplomas."



MCT/Chuck Kennedy
President George W. Bush spoke to graduates at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College recently, and several officials and audience members left the ceremony after his speech.

Congratulations to our Seniors

Adrienne Lang

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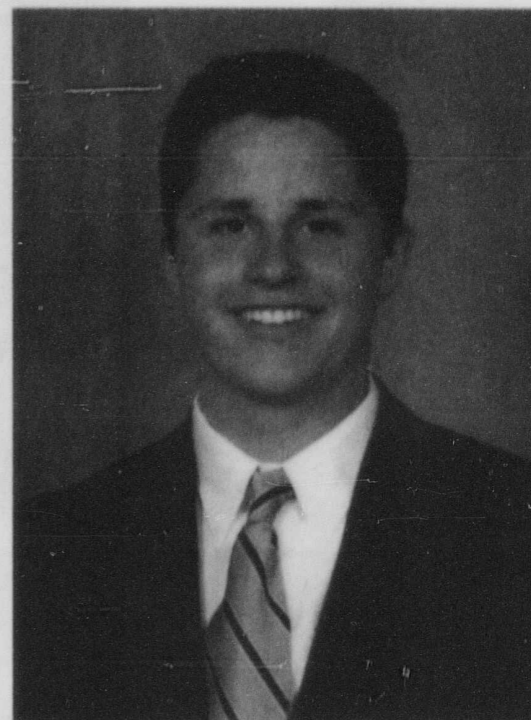
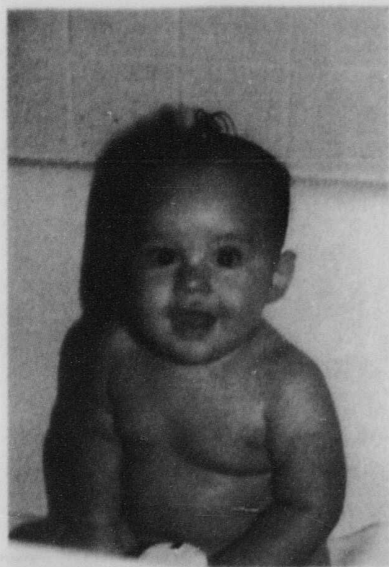
Go Get 'Em Girl!

With your brain, your work ethic and your natural charm, we know you'll get what you want in life. Any psychology doctoral program is lucky to have you.

To our favorite TCU Chancellor's Scholar, loving congratulations on this recognition of all your effort.

Mom and Dad

Kyle Mitts



Kyle,

We are so incredibly proud of you and your accomplishments! Your family loves you lots and lots and lots; and it will be with great pleasure as we continue to watch as you truly are "livin' the dream."

Love,

Mom, Dad, Ryan and Kenzie

Average college degree often takes five, six years

By CAROL BILICZKY
Knight Ridder Newspapers

When David Peake started at Kent State University, he had his heart set on being a doctor.

But by his fourth year, he had decided the fit wasn't right. So he took a deep breath, changed majors to psychology and took a fifth year of classes to graduate.

He's not alone. Every year, tens of thousands of students nationwide slip into a fifth, sixth and even seventh year in pursuit of a bachelor's degree — something that many never anticipated.

"If you think about the credit hours you need to get out in four years, everything has to go right," said Darrell Glenn, director of performance reporting for the Ohio Board of Regents. "There's very little margin for error."

In Ohio, the median time to graduate is four years and one semester, according to the regents. That means half of the students graduate sooner

and half take longer. Nationwide, 57.5 percent of students graduate within six years, said Caren Scoropanos of the College Board, a not-for-profit organization of 4,700 colleges and universities.

In fact, six years — not four — is the time frame that today's educators commonly use to clock their graduation rates.

Over the long term, about 70 percent of students who start college eventually graduate, though not necessarily at the school where they began, according to Glenn's interpretation of census data and federal reports.

But the challenge is what lies in between. Many students get sidetracked for understandable reasons. Some must work while going to college, which can reduce the course load they take. And some get closed out of programs or courses they need, which puts them behind.

For example, students who don't get into the University of Akron's competitive nursing program must wait a year before trying again, said Dr. Karla Mugler, dean of University College and associate provost.

When students make a 180-degree switch in direction — from engineering to art, for instance — they almost automatically extend their timetable.

"Many of our students change their majors, which adds about one semester," said Sally Kandel, an associate vice president of research, planning and institutional effectiveness at Kent State.

"If they change colleges and majors, it'll add two semesters — a full academic year," she said.

And some fields of study simply take longer to complete. The state median for engineering students is 4.8 years, and it's 4.7 for health care, for example.

All that can reduce a college's graduation rates. The University of Cincinnati is at the bottom in the state: Just 19 percent of students at the main campus finish a bachelor's degree in the traditional four years, according to the regents.

At Kent State, the four-year graduation rate is 27 percent; at UA, it's 34 percent.

But the numbers — all are for the universities' main campuses — can be misleading. They track only students who graduate from the college where they started. There's no way to track students who transfer.

And some schools have cooperative education programs in which students alternate work and classroom experience. At Cincinnati, which has the third-largest such program in the country, one-third of freshmen are in co-op programs such as engineering, business and architecture.

Still, schools that scoot

their students out the door in four years tend to be more selective.

At the private College of Wooster, 68 percent of students graduate in four years, said Dean of Students Kurt Holmes.

"It's harder to fall through the cracks here," he said. "If you need a course and it's closed out, we can make it happen. We can deal with one student. Big schools may have 60 in the same situation."

But even big schools can have high graduation rates.

At Ohio-supported Miami University, 72 percent of students on the main campus graduate within four years. That's the highest rate among Ohio's public colleges.

The difference lies in the students Miami recruits and the care it takes to watch over them, said Vice Provost John Skillings.

The typical Miami student's ACT entrance score is 27 or 28 on a scale of 36. Although both Kent State and UA have hon-

ors programs to attract good students, too, many students at Ohio's public universities have scores in the low 20s.

Unfortunately, most parents would be startled to learn that Miami and Wooster are not the norm, and that college could be even more costly than they envisioned, college officials say.

A full-time student taking an extra year at UA or Kent State could tack on about \$8,000 or more in tuition and fees. That could mean more student loans, or more checks for Mom and Dad to write.

As for Kent State's Peake, the decision to change majors was painful, but it has paid off. Although he had to take out more loans, he feels he's in the right place — so much so that he's in Kent's master's program.

But this time he aims to do things differently, finishing the three-year program in two years so he can get a job in school counseling. "I want to get life started," he said.

Elizabeth Lynch



Elizabeth,

You should be proud! I know we are. God bless you, you are certainly on your way to doing great things.

Love,

Mom and Keith

Elise Connor



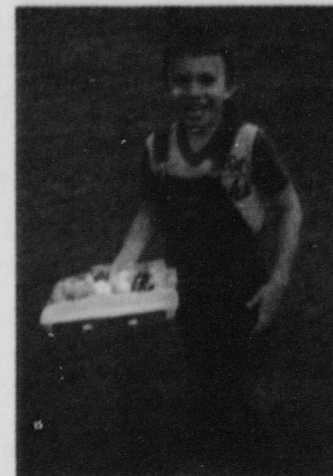
Elise,

You have always been ready to take on the world. It's now yours for the taking. We love you and are very proud of you!

Congratulations!

Mom, Mike, Papa and Gan

Derek Morgan



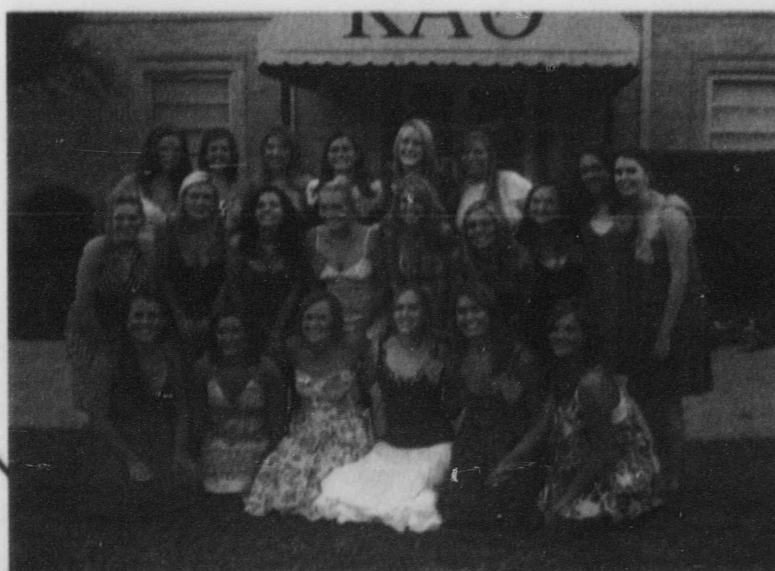
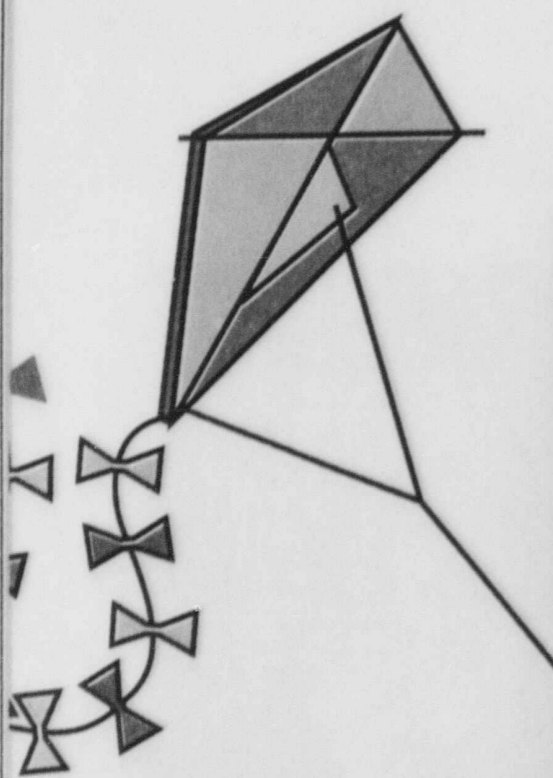
Derek,

You've finally made it! We are so proud of you!

Congratulations, Mom, Dad, Jared, Jessie, and Kyle

Kappa Alpha Theta

Congratulates Our 2007 Graduates!



Paige Passmore
Meghan Mach
Jennifer Huddleston
Maggie Speight
Suzanne Hulsebosch
Meredith Andrews
Kate Cunningham
Kristin Zimmerer
Amber Grzeszyk
Tara Stricklan
Kristen Yoree
Cassidy Moore
Adrienne Lang
Jennifer Bickerstaff
Chloe Edwards
Wheeler, Katie

Ashley Vasilek
Stephanie Sherwood
Belbury Doherty
Laura Fisher
Geri Ravenhill
Meghan Bothe
Morgan Bennett
Jen Wright
Cari Nemes
Kelsey McIntyre
Lyanna Schwieters
Paige Collins
Amy Schubert
Christina Reisenweber
Suzanne Evansmeyer
Kerri Higgins

Casey Motes



Casey,

I was proud of your "first" graduation and I am so proud of this final graduation. You have always been brave enough to follow the beat of your own drum. Keep following that beat towards the exciting future you have worked so hard to build!

I Love You!!!!

Mom

Crystal Victoria Jones



Crystal,

You have always come out on top! Now, find your creative spirit and let it grow. It will be our privilege to watch you choose your path in life as you explore a world of your own. We are so very proud of you. Congratulations!

Love,

Mom and Dad

Division I athletes graduate at higher rate

By EMILY BADGER
The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. — NCAA President Myles Brand is fed up with all the talk of student-athletes who don't graduate, who don't take their academic progress seriously.

He offered this counter-argument: Division I student-athletes are graduating at a higher rate than their peers in the overall student body on a national average.

That stat — 63 percent for student-athletes compared to 61 percent overall — was in the latest batch of graduation-rate data released by the NCAA. The numbers are based on the same data, focusing on students who entered college from 1996-99 and graduated within six years, that was partially released earlier this fall in breakdowns by sport.

This week, the numbers were broken down by school and further segregated by gender and race, then compared with the national average as measured by the federal graduation-rate formula.

"I would say that our academic achievement of our student-athletes, especially over the last several years, is one of our greatest success stories," Brand said Thursday, echoing remarks that were prepared in the NCAA's formal release.

Then he departed from the celebratory script. "Having said that," he went on, "there are critics that ignore the research and data and continue to peddle the myth that student-athletes are poor students."

The NCAA is combating that "myth" with academic reform and a new system for measuring the progress of that reform. The NCAA calculated the graduation rates using the federal formula and the NCAA's own "graduation success rate," which accounts for

nearly 30,000 Division I transfers who are left out of the federal statistics.

Using the latter rate, 77 percent of Division I student-athletes graduated; 86 percent of female student-athletes graduated; 66 percent of football players graduated; and 56 percent of black football players graduated.

"The facts are out there," Brand said, almost defiantly.

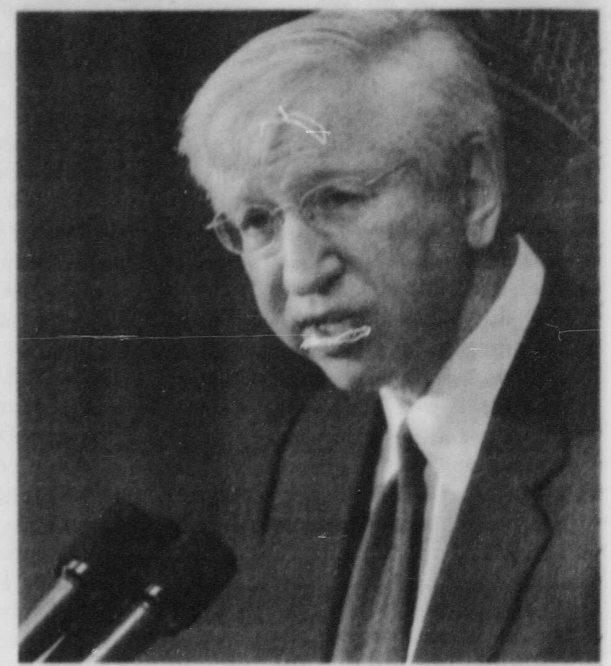
When asked about the discrepancy, though, between the graduation rates of football and basketball players and the higher rates of "Olympic

sports" athletes, he pointed to Florida's defending national championship basketball team as an example of a revenue-producing team whose athletes graduated.

But while figures show that UF had a 100 percent graduation rate in the 1999 incoming class, that doesn't include any player on last season's title team.

Using the federal rate — the only one that allows for comparisons with the overall student body — UF's athletes (57 percent) did not outperform the overall student body (79). Nor did athletes at Florida State (57 percent compared to 66), UCF (45 compared to 57) or Miami (68 compared to 71).

Each school, though, had significantly higher numbers when calculated by the GSR.



Myles Brand, president of the NCAA, is fed up with talk of student-athletes who don't take academic progress seriously.

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Miriam Hoffman Roach

Miriam,
You have always been a kind and loving person. You are strong and intelligent, too. Congratulations on your graduation as a nurse. You will excel in everything you do.

With deepest love and support,
Daddy and Wendy

Pattie Parker

Pattie,
You always told us the world revolves around you. Now we know it's true! Follow your dreams, count your blessings and give thanks, be yourself, take a chance, make a difference and love with all your heart! We are very proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Jim

Congratulations 2007 Tri Delta Graduating Seniors

Lesa Adams	Jamie Crum	Meagan Glenney	Emily Lamport	Berkeley Robin
Megan Barro	Courtney Dowling	Jamie Hayes	Tricia Lockwood	Lauren Shufford
Caroline Baum	Brittany Dunlap	Leslie Honey	Fallin Massie	Winnie Simmons
Molly Bower	Meredith Emory	Kristin Howard	Kristina Miller	Caroline Smiley
Kendall Clay	Pamela Evans	Ashely Howie	Lee Ann Price	Kiley Smith
Elizabeth Cordaro	Lindsay Farrell	Kristin Kern	Michelle Pung	Meg Smith
Lindsay Cottier	Lindsay Garrett	Laura Lammert	Nora Reardon	Lindsey Stone

Don't be stumped by interview

By JILLIAN HUTCHISON
Staff Reporter

Your mind goes blank, and you break out in a cold sweat as you grapple for the answer while your potential employers look on.

It is not uncommon for students to be stumped by a question in a job interview, but it's important to try to be prepared for those difficult and unexpected questions, said Chuck Dunning, associate director of University Career Services.

"If you're caught completely off guard, it's OK to ask for a few moments to think about your answer," Dunning said.

Dunning advised students to never think out loud in an interview and to know what they're going to say before you open your mouth.

In order to be well prepared for an interview, Dunning said, prior to the interview, students should write down at least six "peak moments" or experiences in which they excelled. Dunning said to make note of the skills and knowledge used in those moments. After doing this, Dunning said the student will be prepared for almost any question that may come up in an interview.

"Do your homework," Dunning said. "And be prepared to answer technical questions."

Dunning said making up an answer to a technical question related to the

job, is a "job killer."

"If you're honest and show what you don't know, employers will respect that," Dunning said.

Sophomore criminal justice major Derek Townsend said a question that he's been asked before is, "What do you have to offer?"

He said he answered the question but wasn't sure what kind of answer the interviewers were looking for.

Career counseling intern Robert Phillip a question like that is an opportunity to talk about general skills in the field the interview is for. He said to highlight conflict resolution and interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a team and solve problems.

He also said he doesn't like being asked if he can efficiently do the job he's interviewing for.

"I wouldn't be here if I couldn't," Townsend said.

Sophomore e-business major James McCombs said an interview question that frustrated him was when the interviewer asked if he'd ever made a mistake.

"I focused on the positive and how I learned from that mistake," McCombs said.

Phillip said it's OK to talk about a time when a mistake, though not your worst one, was made and how it was used as a springboard to become more confident.



RaShonna Blumenberg, 17, interviews for a job at a Chicago law firm with Roland Burris, former Illinois attorney general and a partner in the firm of Jones, Ware and Grenard. The associate director of Career Services said it's important to be prepared for tough interview questions. He said students should write down five "peak moments" in which they excelled before an interview.

Q&A

Tricky interview questions

- 1. Tell me a little bit about yourself.**
 - Be prepared to talk a little bit about your background relevant to the job you're applying for. Pinpoint specific strengths and qualities.
- 2. How does this job fit into your goals and where you want to go?**
 - Be able to talk about some options and how this job would fit into that exploration.
- 3. What are your weaknesses?**
 - Answer this question honestly and genuinely. Talk about how you're working on that weakness so it's not a problem on the job.
- 4. Ethics**
 - Be prepared to talk about ethical decision-making and a situation where you've had to rely on ethical principles.

FYI

Other Tips

1. Be prepared to follow up on anything you claim about yourself. Have examples that support those qualities.
2. Be prepared to talk about anything on your resume in detail.

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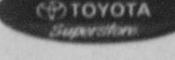
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Jeniffer Berry



Niffer,

LOOK OUT DIANE SAWYER. HERE I COME!
Jen, you always have given 100% whether for work, study, volunteerism or play. Never forget your values and you will succeed.
"...And dance like no one's watching."
I am so proud of you.

Love,

Mummy

Dennis Siaw-Latley



Opanyin,

You have always made us proud in everything you do. Congratulations on making it this far, and excelling through it all. We are excited to see where you go next! We love you!

Love,

Mom, Stella, Chris, Andrew and the family in NJ, CA and Ghana