



NEWS
The theatre department prepares to present its last show of the season.
TOMORROW



FEATURES
Meet the pioneer of the TCU Cello Ensemble.
FRIDAY



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A TCU basketball player is healthy and ready to go again.
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TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Program works to counter low Hispanic attendance

By RACHEL MCDANIEL
Staff Reporter

A recent study found Hispanic students are choosing colleges and universities because they are close to home, which could be good news for schools like TCU that say they want to raise their minority student population.

TCU is in the middle of a community that has a high percentage of minorities — especially Hispanics — yet the

number of Hispanic students at TCU remains low.

Fort Worth has a Hispanic population that accounts for nearly 33 percent of its total population, according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates. Fifty-five percent of the students enrolled in the Fort Worth Independent School District are Hispanic, according to the district's 2006-2007 profile.

Last year 3,587 students graduated from FWISD schools.

Sixty-six came to TCU this fall. Twenty of those students were Hispanic, said Amanda Sanchez, a research analyst in Institutional Research.

A study conducted by Excelencia in Education, an organization that aims to increase Hispanic achievement in higher education, found almost half of all Latino undergraduates are concentrated at 6 percent of colleges nationwide.

These colleges, which the study called Hispanic Serving Institutions, had low costs, close proximity to home and an approachable campus. All were located in large Latino communities. There are more than 37 Hispanic Serving Institutions in Texas, including private universities such as St. Edward's in Austin and the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. TCU is not one of them.

The Reasons

TCU is not alone in its low percentage of Hispanic students. Southern Methodist University had a student body last year that was 6 percent Hispanic, according to its fact sheets. Baylor's freshman class was 9.2 percent Hispanic, according to its factbook.

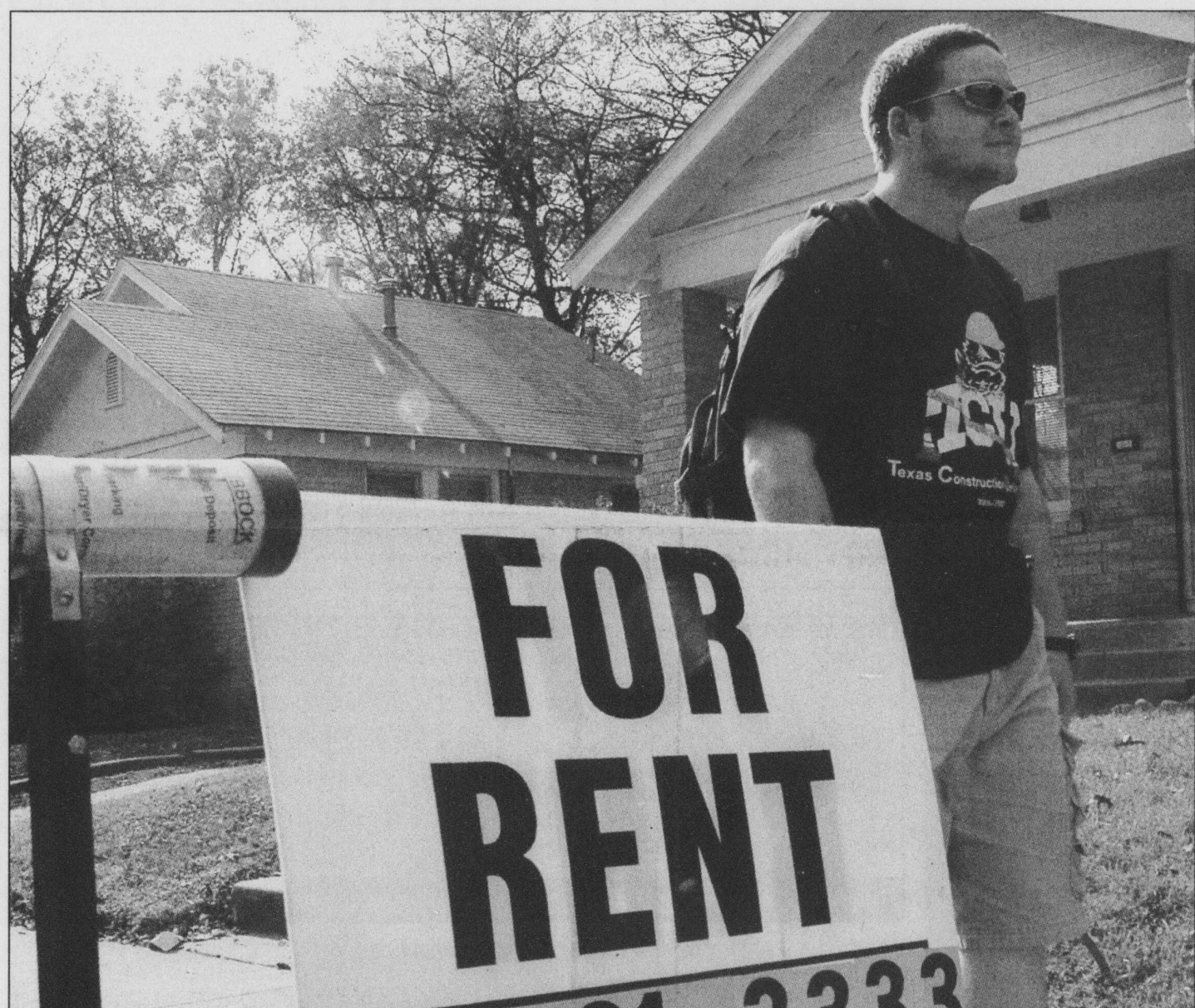
But this may not be because of anything TCU is failing to do, said Mike Marshall, assistant director of admissions.

"Not many (Hispanic) high school students are aware of how to prepare for college," he said. "The curriculum that they are taking in their high schools isn't preparing them for college, so they're not prepared to make the transition."

Although 26 percent of the Hispanic Serving Institutions named in the Excelencia study were private schools, for many Hispanic students private

See **HISPANIC**, page 4

EASY LIVING



John Fairleigh, a senior criminal justice major, walks by a sign on Lubbock Avenue. A recent housing study indicated Fort Worth was the second most affordable college town in the nation. Last year Fort Worth was ranked fourth most affordable.

Fort Worth ranks high in affordability

By CAROLINE LOCKWOOD
Staff Reporter

Fort Worth just got beat out by Muncie, Ind. But Cowtown still finished better than 117 other college towns for housing affordability.

The third annual Coldwell Banker College Home Price Comparison Index concluded Fort Worth is the second most affordable college town in the nation, behind Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

Coldwell Banker based their study on cities and towns that are home to 119 Football Bowl Subdivision (I-A) schools. The subject home for the study was a 2,200 square-foot home with four bedrooms and 2.5 baths.

The 2007 average price for this type of home in Fort Worth is \$151,250. Other Texas schools on the list include fifth-ranked Texas Tech in Lubbock, the University of Houston and Rice University, which were tied for eighth place

with an average price of \$169,736.

Some students are skeptical of the results. Ali Gray, a junior marketing major, said she was shocked when she heard Fort Worth ranked on the most affordable list.

"That can't be right," Gray said. "I live in that same type of house, and I think my rent is pretty expensive."

Junior economics major Kyle Mathis

See **HOUSING**, page 2

Class makes food for area homeless shelter

By ALYSSA DIZON
Staff Reporter

It's not every day students get to make sandwiches during class — and get graded on it.

Students in the generalist practice with communities class and a few volunteers met at University Christian Church and made about 575 sandwiches to distribute to the homeless at the Presbyterian Night Shelter on Wednesday.

Sawyer Powers, a junior social work major, said she and her classmates have participated in service projects on their own, but were excited to do a group project.

"One of the major goals of our class was awareness and to make people aware that hunger and homelessness are close to home, part of the community," Powers said.

The kitchen was abuzz with students spreading mustard and assembling meat and cheese during their 2 p.m. class Wednesday. In the evening, they

went to the shelter to distribute their sandwiches and interact with the homeless, Powers said.

Powers said the class originally wanted to make the sandwiches in the Student Center Lounge, but was told students needed a place that followed the proper sanitation and food-handling rules. She said they needed to find a location at the last minute that had a food-handler's license and was still close to campus.

Alicia Hawley, a junior social work major and a member of University Christian Church, said she got permission from the church to use its kitchen for their project.

Money for the sandwich supplies was donated by TCU's National Association of Social Workers, which many of the students in the class belong to.

Also, this week from Monday to Thursday, Powers

See **SANDWICH**, page 2

Fraternity to host pageant, award scholarship money

By DAVID SPENCER
Staff Reporter

Alpha Phi Alpha will crown its ninth Ms. Black and Gold — the recipient of \$1,000 in scholarship money — at the annual pageant today.

This evening in the Student Center ballroom, Alpha Phi Alpha will judge eight contestants to see who is eligible to hold the crown and title of Ms. Black and Gold.

The ninth annual Ms. Black and Gold pageant serves to promote scholarship in the community, said Gary Briggs, a sophomore political science major and member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He said scholarship is one of the major aims of the organization.

"At the beginning of the fall semester, Alpha Phi Alpha advertises an interest meeting," said Tiffany Willis, a junior psychology major and Ms. Black and Gold 2006. "At this meeting they let the girls know what is involved and see if this is what they want to do."

There are multiple parts to the pageant, Willis said. "Before the actual pag-

ean't," Willis said, "the girls are interviewed by a panel and talk about their strengths, weaknesses and why they want to be Ms. Black and Gold."

The pageant begins with a group dance by the contestants, followed by their personal introductions, an evening gown and swimsuit section and the presentation of the contestants' talents.

"This year we have talents that include dancing, playing piano and spoken word," said Jason Wallace, a senior advertising/public relations major and the president of Alpha Phi Alpha.

Winners of Ms. Black and Gold will receive

See **PAGEANT**, page 2

Professor: Racial issues apparent on campus

By CAROLINE LOCKWOOD
Staff Reporter

White privilege and racial tension are serious problems on the TCU campus, the social work chairwoman said Wednesday.

Linda Moore, professor and chairwoman of the Department of Social Work, spoke at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni and

Visitors Center as part of the monthly inclusiveness luncheon held by Inclusiveness & Intercultural Services.

"You can feel isolated on this campus as a student of color because a lot of groups are not as welcome as others," Moore said.

Moore said she has had several black students ask why white

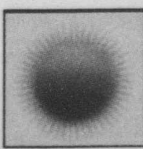
females step off the sidewalk or tighten their purse whenever a black male walks by. She said white people should put themselves in the shoes of others.

"You're a good student. You work hard. You've come to college because you want to do good things for yourself," Moore said. "But when you walk on a sidewalk on TCU, people don't

say hi, they revoke."

Moore said whites are taught not to recognize white privilege, because they believe they can't possibly be oppressors, when in fact they are. She also said racial tension is on the rise due to the amount of disparity between whites and other races, Moore said.

See **RACE**, page 2



WEATHER

TODAY: Sunny, 66/40

WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy, 70/54

THURSDAY: Partly cloudy, 75/57

PECULIAR FACT

HUNTSVILLE, Ark. — A high school teacher killed a raccoon with a nail gun after discovering the planned subject of a skinning demonstration was alive.

— Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NEWS: Private college presidents' salaries on rise, page 2

OPINION: December grads get rude reactions, page 3

SPORTS: Player bounces back from injury, page 6

CONTACT US

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

PAGEANT

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scholarship prize money. The first place contestant will receive \$1,000, the second place contestant will receive \$500 and the third place contestant will receive \$250.

"Judging the contestants will be TCU professors, faculty and staff," Wallace said, "and we always have one graduate from the fraternity come back and judge."

After winning the local competition, the winner will go to the district competition, followed by the state competition in Houston and then the national competition in Washington, D.C., Wallace said.

Study: Private college presidents' salaries up

By OLIVIA WINSLOW
Newsday

Presidents of 81 private colleges across the nation made more than \$500,000 each in total compensation in fiscal year 2006, up 200 percent from five years ago, while salaries for presidents of public colleges rose rapidly as well, with eight institutions paying their presidents at least \$700,000 in 2007, compared with just two the year before.

These are among the findings reported in an annual survey released Monday by the publication the Chronicle of Higher Education.

The Chronicle's list showed

a dozen presidents had compensation packages that topped \$1 million, including three still at their institutions -- William R. Brody at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Shirley Ann Jackson at upstate Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and James W. Wagner at Emory University in Atlanta.

The other nine earned multimillion pay packages thanks to deferred compensation or bonuses when they left office. Topping that list was Donald E. Ross, who stepped down as president of Lynn University in Florida after 34 years, taking with him more than \$5 million in

deferred compensation.

The survey reported salary data for private colleges from 2005-06, the most recent year available; and 2006-07 for public colleges.

In New York, New York University president John E. Sexton topped the compensation list with an \$849,121 pay package. Martin Lipton, chairman of NYU's board of trustees, praised Sexton's performance in leading one of the nation's largest private universities. He said in a statement that Sexton has successfully overseen a record number of freshman applications, an ongoing \$2.5 billion fundraising

campaign and the continued expansion of the arts and science faculty.

Stuart Rabinowitz of Hofstra University had the highest pay of college presidents on Long Island, according to the Chronicle, with compensation of \$584,478. Hofstra Board of Trustees chairman John D. Miller praised Rabinowitz's leadership over seven years, citing "dramatic strides in reputation and quality."

Noting the marketplace for compensation for college presidents, Miller said the board felt Rabinowitz's compensation package was "entirely fair and appropri-

ate ..."

Similarly, Long Island University board chairman Edward Travaglini praised the record of 23-year president David Steinberg. Travaglini said LIU is the seventh largest private university in the nation and Steinberg had presided over significant growth in academic programs and the endowment, which approaches \$100 million.

Travaglini added that LIU trustees have a "very diligent process" that sets executive compensation and takes into account the "competitive landscape in compensation among college presidents."

SANDWICH

From page 1

said, students organized a food drive throughout campus with collection boxes in every dorm, Greek house, The Main, Einstein Bros. Bagels and Potbelly Sandwich Works.

Leslie Lovett, the social work professor teaching the class, said juniors enroll in her class every year and are given the task of meeting a need in the community.

"This is what social workers do," Lovett said. "We identify an unmet need and advocate that need."

But addressing hunger and homeless needs were not the students' only concerns.

Hawley said her class started planning the project at the beginning of the semester. She said everyone had so many different ideas that they decided to incorporate as many of them as possible to raise awareness not only at TCU, but also throughout Tarrant County.

The week after Thanksgiving break, the class will have a clothing drive for women at Safe Haven of Tarrant County to make students aware of domestic violence, Hawley said. She said a representative from Safe

Haven of Tarrant County will also speak to students Nov. 26.

At the end of the semester, the students will be graded on their project in a presentation to the chancellor, the provost, the dean, faculty of the Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences and other invited staff. The presentation will describe the work students put into the project and the knowledge and skills they have gained, Lovett said.

Lovett said a lot of people only talk about how they can help the community, but "these students are doing something."

RACE

From page 1

One of several disparities Moore pointed out was the difference between the percentages of white college graduates versus other races. Whites have a graduation rate of 35 percent, followed by blacks with a 17 percent rate, Hispanics with 15 percent and American Indians with 10 percent.

Moore said black students are less likely to finish college because of isolation. She added that this is a major problem on the TCU campus.

Other disparities include health, drug, missing person and hate crime rates, Moore said.

She said every hour, a hate crime is committed and every day, eight blacks, three whites, one Hispanic and three Jewish people are victims of hate crimes.

Moore said there should be no reason why blacks are victims almost three times more than whites.

"When white people think of oppression, they think of negative behavior by others, but not themselves," Moore said.

Moore said white privilege teaches racism and only occurs in individual acts. Though a person may not use racial slurs or commit hate crimes, Moore said, they might still be committing racist acts.

"If you support a system that keeps another race out of an educational institution, or keeps them having a higher level of poverty or keeps them out of a health care system, it becomes white privilege," Moore said.

In a study done recently by the New York Times, 80 percent of blacks believe they are worse off today than they were five years ago, and they don't expect their lives to improve. Whites polled were twice as likely to think the lives of blacks have improved in the past five years, according to the study.

"The income gap has grown, poverty has increased and the black man's income has declined," Moore said. "So why do so many whites believe things are getting better?"

LaTanya Johns, assistant director for the center of professional communication in the Neeley School of Business,

said she was not shocked by the statistics Moore presented, and little is being done about the situation.

"Things are not getting worse; they are staying the same," Johns said. "But I don't see it getting better."

Marcia Hensley, assistant director for executive development in the Neeley School, said she has a black male friend who has suffered from stereotypes.

"Yesterday we were just talking about how people follow him around in the mall if he doesn't dress up," Hensley said. "He thinks it's going to stay bad, but I think it's going to get better."

If people do not become open-minded and take action soon, Moore said, not only will other races be affected, whites will be too.

"If we keep silent, we keep equity incomplete, we infer dominance and protect stereotypes," Moore said. "It doesn't just distort the people we oppress; we distort ourselves too. It's been 40 years since the big push. People should start feeling like things are getting better."

HOUSING

From page 1

said he felt the same way Gray did about the rankings.

"I live in about a 2,000-square-foot house that really isn't that nice, but I still pay a pretty high rent," Mathis said. "I'm interested in what everybody else out there is paying for their houses."

Though some students may be shocked, this is not the first time TCU has landed in the most affordable

category. Last year, Coldwell Banker ranked TCU as the fourth most affordable market, with the same average price as 2007.

Amy Beck, a junior business major, said she thinks the rankings make sense.

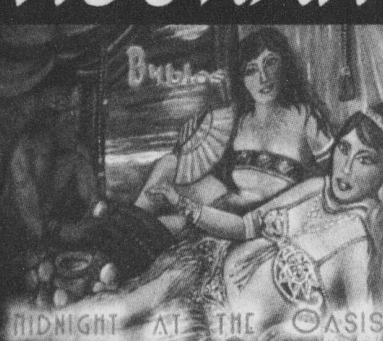
"I'm originally from California, so obviously I think the prices here are beyond reasonable," Beck said. "I think people should be pretty satisfied with what they pay here for rent."

Coldwell Banker listed Stanford University in Palo

Alto, Calif., as the most expensive college market in the nation, with an average price of \$1,677,000.

The Mountain West Conference was ranked the eighth most reasonable out of the twelve conferences in the nation. The average price for a home in a Mountain West Conference college town is \$324,189. San Diego State University ranks as the most expensive market in the conference, with an average home price of \$618,750.

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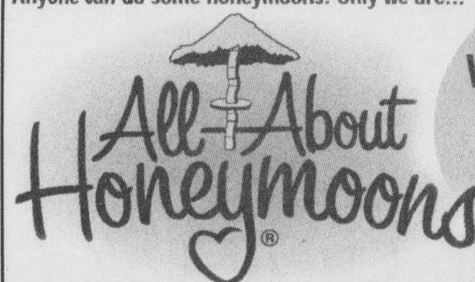
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"One reason I don't drink is that I want to know when I am having a good time."

— Nancy Astor

THE SKIFF VIEW

Tuition increase may hurt diversity

Tuition is rising yet again, and although financial aid has risen as well, TCU must ensure the changes don't adversely affect the diversity of the TCU campus.

Administrators said the 8.4 percent increase is due to faculty and staff expenses and rising insurance, health care and utility costs. To not increase the tuition would compromise some of the services the university offers, they say.

There's also an 18 percent rise in the financial aid available, although not 18 percent will be spent going toward each award, administrators said.

Though the increase in financial aid is a relief, it is minuscule compared to the potential impact it could have on students and in turn, the university, if it is not applied correctly.

TCU among many other four-year universities, has always emphasized diversity. This year, the university accepted 148 international students, compared to the 95 last year.

But diversity is not just about diverse geographical origins. It doesn't end with race or gender. Diversity means different experiences in all aspects, and sometimes, those experiences come from different socioeconomic backgrounds.

The digits following the dollar sign on a TCU diploma's price tag can potentially cast out a significant number of qualified applicants from lower income backgrounds, potentially hurting the diversity of the student body.

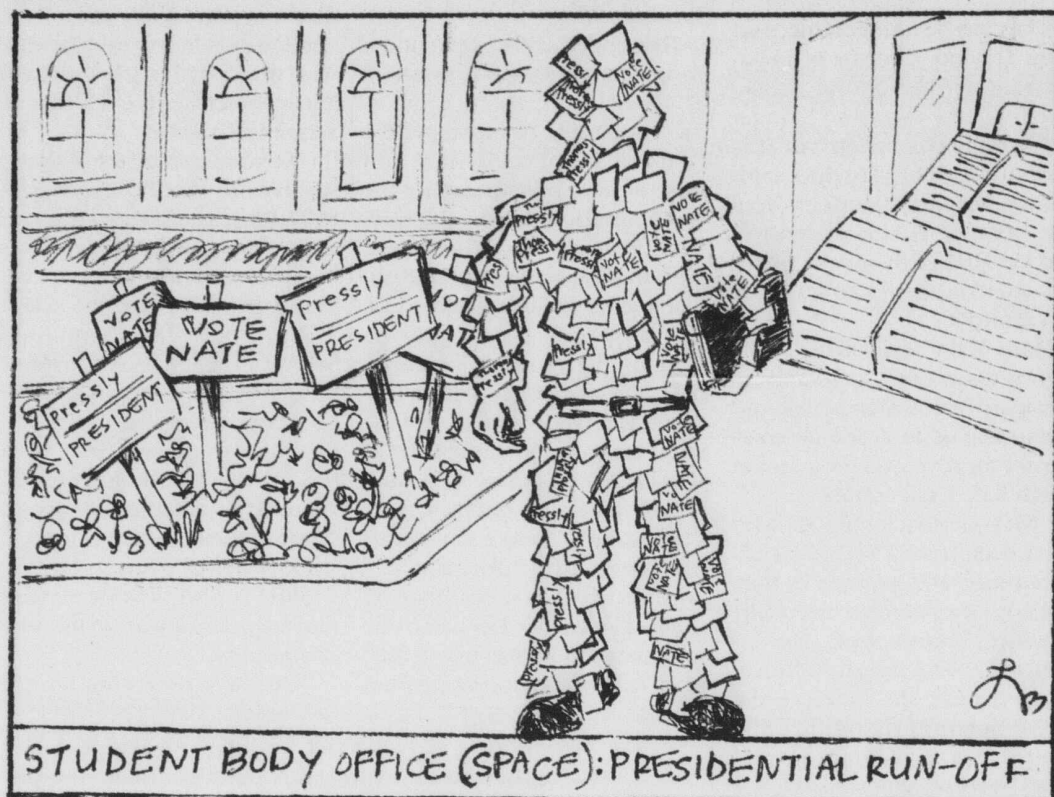
Sure, the truly qualified students will be helped through academic scholarships, but tuition is expected to continue rising.

The university should take advantage of this 18 percent increase in financial aid funds and aim to recruit students from lower social classes.

Administrators may never know what kind and variety of quality students the university will be missing out on.

Features editor Saerom Yoo for the editorial board.

BY LANA BLOCKER



Leave cynicism behind when talking with December grads

"Oh yeah ... You're graduating."

For premature December graduates, that's the phrase of the month in almost every conversation.

The emphasis on graduating makes it all the more painful. Well, that and the look of genuine, pained pity that flashes across people's faces as that word escapes their lips.

It's as if St. Peter just flew in and tipped us off: the Apocalypse is imminent. The four horsemen are fast approaching, and they'll arrive Dec. 15 — smack in the middle of "Pomp and Circumstance" playing like a funeral dirge at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Then comes the routine interrogation.

"But why? Why would you so abruptly end what little remains of your childhood? What about enjoying college? What about treasuring your youth?"

That's not what early December graduates want to hear.

It's not like these things don't cross their minds.

Of course, there are good things about graduating early, like saving money or impressing people with ostensible "ambition."

"Diving head first into adulthood while everyone else savors the sweetness that is college isn't too appealing, either."

Kailey Delinger

But, as the big day approaches for many December graduates, the benefits of saving money and demonstrating academic determination take the back seat to more sentimental values.

With the help of the reactions from May-graduating peers, the approach of a December graduation brings more dismal issues to attention.

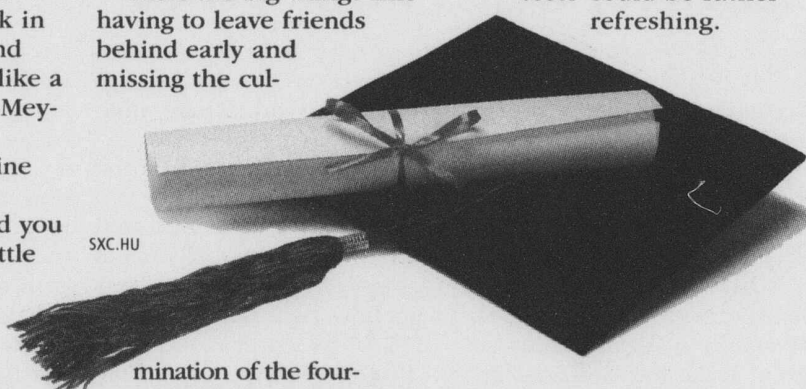
There are big things like having to leave friends behind early and missing the cul-

a 401k? And these stock options you mention, what does that mean?

But even the smaller things make December graduation a second-rate alternative to the big spring-time commencement.

What's the cold weather protocol? Jackets under graduation gowns? Ear-muffs built into the caps? And what about flowers and greenery for pictures? Still, it will be a nice ceremony. It will be fun to celebrate the end of what has been four years full of growth and learning.

Leaving behind the college regimen of Red Bull and saltine crackers in the days leading up to tests could be rather refreshing.



mination of the four-year journey so many groups of friends have shared together.

Diving head first into adulthood while everyone else savors the sweetness that is college isn't too appealing, either.

Wait ... what? It's time to worry about health insurance? What is

Just, please, for the sake of all of those approaching graduation, leave the doomsday tone out when you note that they are, in fact, finished with college.

Kailey Delinger is a senior news-editorial journalism and Spanish major from Fort Collins, Colo.

Sobriety beneficial to learning, health

Most college students don't need an excuse for drinking.

And if they do, there's always the pre-party before a formal, tailgating before the game, pounding shots for a friend's 21st birthday or having some brews just because the weekend is coming.

It doesn't matter what the occasion is to your average college student. The independence of college life provides

the perfect atmosphere for reckless behavior; Parents aren't around, but their money is.

Many college students see this as a passing phase of their life, as much a part of college as going to class. But it's really not a phase that passes.

It's a lifestyle that can have lasting effects on body and mind.

Most beers average about 150 calories, with lighter beers ranging closer to about 100. Stouter brews may contain up to 200 or

more calories.

Take the median of these figures and multiply it by a night's consumption.

One six-pack is about 900 calories consumed — calories for which the body has no use.

If the potential of a beer gut and the added weight aren't enough, being a student and drinking is counterintuitive.

In the classroom the stu-

"A weekend spent drinking wipes out the brain cells the student spent all week developing."

Michael Best

dent expands the mind, trying to learn and retain valuable information pertinent to his or her future job.

A weekend spent drinking wipes out the brain cells the student spent all week developing.

And it is during these moments of altered consciousness that a student is most likely to make a poor decision he or she will regret long after

sobriety sets in.

In light of recent TCU run-ins with the Texas Alcohol and Beverage Commission, staying sober may also prevent a major drain on the pocketbook.

College is a time to prepare for the real world, and the behavior and habits one develops during the four or so years of upper level academia are likely to form the mold for the future.

Once a person develops a routine of drinking, it is hard to break.

Some say it is the college atmosphere that contributes to this problem, but the individual is ultimately responsible for his or her own actions.

The next time a party rolls around, try staying sober.

There are many laughs to be had at the expense of the drunks around who think you're laughing with them when you're really laughing at them.

You may be surprised to learn you can stay sober and still have fun.

And you feel so much better the next day.

Michael Best is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Longview.



Foreign service officers should have to serve in Iraq

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is right to insist that U.S. Foreign Service officers have an obligation to

serve in Iraq, even if they don't do so

voluntarily. An order telling U.S. diplomats that if they are called to serve and refuse will result in dismissal from the Foreign Service has prompted a mini-revolt among U.S. diplomats, but Secretary Rice should stand her ground.

It's no secret that the war in Iraq is unpopular in some sectors of the government. Nor is there any secret that, when the war began, diplomats who actually knew something about

"It's hard to see how Iraq will ever get back on its feet, but as long as the mission in Iraq remains a national priority, our best diplomats should be there to try to get the job done."

Miami Herald

the region were rudely shoved aside by civilian minions of former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. They wound up botching the job completely, but that's not a sufficient reason for U.S. diplomats to refuse an assignment to Baghdad.

It is hard to see how Iraq will ever get back on its feet, but as long as the mission in Iraq remains a national priority, our best diplomats

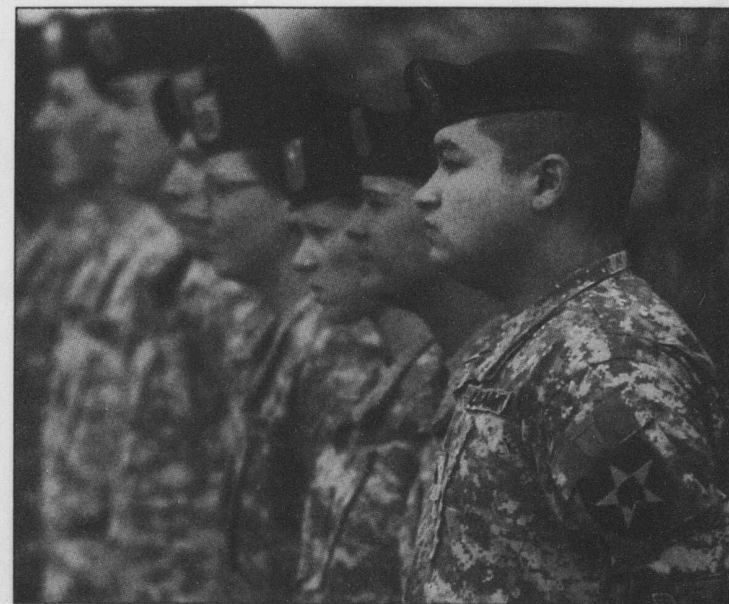
should be there to try to get the job done. Already, as Secretary Rice pointed out, 1,500 Foreign Service officers have voluntarily served in Iraq, and now it's time for others to step up.

In a heated meeting in Washington last week, several hundred employees of the State Department complained about the call-up. One likened it to a "potential death sentence." Agreed —

it's a dangerous posting, but, unfortunately, that's part of the job. Foreign Service officers occasionally have been sent on "directed assignments" to remote or dangerous parts of the world. It happened in Vietnam and it will no doubt happen again.

It's not up to the Foreign Service officers to decide if they like the policy or the way the administration is implementing it. Extra danger pay, leave time and preference on next assignments have been offered as incentives. They signed up to do a job and they should serve.

This editorial appeared in The Miami Herald and was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.



Sgt. Brian Kerrigan rejoined his Styker unit at Ft. Lewis, Wash., Thursday Oct. 11.

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HISPANIC

From page 1

schools can be intimidating, said Greg Trevino, director of Inclusiveness & Intercultural Services.

"There's a perception that TCU is unattainable," Trevino said. "Many Hispanic students feel that because TCU is expensive, and because of their own financial situation, there's no way they can afford it."

Many of the students in FWISD high schools don't go to college because of citizenship issues, said Roxanne Wueste, academic coordinator for advanced programs at North Side High School.

"We educate a lot of kids who don't even have a Social Security number, and as soon as they graduate, they become essentially invisible," Wueste said.

North Side High School, located near the Stockyards, is 94 percent Hispanic. The school has a graduation rate of 40 percent, Wueste said. For many of the families, finances play a big role in whether the students go to college or not.

"A lot of Hispanic families can't afford for their kids to go to college because they depend on them to work and to help the family survive," Wueste said.

Despite all of this, North Side had the highest number of Hispanic graduates — five — come to TCU out of all FWISD schools.

Filicia Hernandez, a sophomore business major and graduate of FWISD high school Diamond Hill-Jarvis, said she thinks there aren't enough programs helping Hispanic students get into college.

"No one really talked to us about college," Hernandez said.

Another reason TCU isn't a prime choice for Hispanic students is because of its lack of Hispanic students, Trevino said.

"One reason more Hispanic students aren't coming here is

because they know that TCU is a predominantly white campus, and that the minority population — the Hispanic population — definitely is not very big," Trevino said.

Hernandez said people find it surprising she was able to attend TCU.

"It seems that most people I talk to find it really rare and quite an accomplishment for me to be a student here," she said, "not because I had to compete with the largest incoming freshman class at the time, but because I am a Latina."

Maria Ibarra, a junior movement science major also from Diamond Hill-Jarvis, said one of the main reasons she came to TCU was because it's close to home.

"I'm very family-oriented, and I didn't want to go to a school that was too far away," Ibarra said.

Although TCU is less than 15 minutes away from her home, she said, she still suffered from a little bit of culture shock coming from

schools — seven from FWISD, one from Arlington ISD and one from Dallas ISD.

"It was initially set up to go after high schools within FWISD that we didn't really get a lot of applications from," said Trevino, who works with sophomore and junior students in the Community Scholars Program.

"We were losing a lot of quality students to schools like Baylor, SMU, Rice, Stanford and Harvard, which are phenomenal schools, but the students weren't even looking at TCU," Trevino said.

Right now, the Community Scholar Program has 96 students, 52 of whom are Hispanic, Trevino said.

"This is one way that we're trying to make inroads with the Hispanic community, by trying to increase the number of Hispanic students here," Trevino said.

SMU is also actively seeking minority students from the local community.

"We have recruiting speci-

the community a chance at a future that would not be readily available to them otherwise."

The Community Scholars Program was also the deciding factor for Ibarra.

"The other schools I applied to didn't offer me what TCU offered in scholarships and financial aid," she said.

Showing the local Hispanic high school students attending TCU is an achievable goal is important, and this program helps to do so, Trevino said.

"I think that we have to show the community that TCU is a good school for Hispanic students, meaning we have to have good programs in place, we have to have a good environment for them to feel comfortable in, and we have to show that our alumni are supportive," Trevino said.

The Community Scholars Program is the only program in place that directly aims to bring minority students from FWISD to TCU. The program is aimed at the cream-of-the-crop of high school minority students, excluding many students who don't have good enough grades or test scores.

Trevino said TCU's goal is not to bring in minority students just because they are minorities.

"I don't want to see Hispanic students coming in just for the sake of having Hispanic students coming in," he said. "We need to strive to get the best students to apply and be admitted to and graduate from TCU, regardless of their race."

The Future

In order to get Hispanic students to TCU, the most important thing is to educate local high school students on what's available after getting a diploma, Trevino said.

"We have to do a better job of getting out and about in the high schools, letting them

cally for minority students," said Kathleen Hayden, visits coordinator at SMU. "We have organizations that are affiliated with local high schools. They go to the schools and host on-campus activities directed at bringing Hispanics to SMU."

Students in the Community Scholars Program receive scholarships that cover about 60 percent of their tuition, Trevino said. The rest comes out of pocket or from student loans or outside scholarships, Trevino said. For most of the community scholars, this scholarship is the difference between coming to TCU and going to Tarrant County College.

"Without my scholarship I would not have been able to attend TCU," Hernandez said. "This program really gives minority students in

"We need to strive to get the best students to apply and be admitted to and graduate from TCU, regardless of their race."

Greg Trevino

director of Inclusiveness & Intercultural Services

a high school where the majority was Hispanic to TCU, where Hispanics are the minority. But Ibarra said that wasn't necessarily a bad thing.

"I think it offers a different outlook on American culture for students like me who come from primarily Hispanic communities," Ibarra said. "You're forced to interact with people outside of your culture."

Getting Here

Despite the odds against local Hispanic students who want to come to TCU, there are students who make it here — many of them thanks to a program put in place to bring minority FWISD students to TCU.

The Community Scholars Program is for high-achieving minority students from nine participating local high

there's no way to look it up," he said.

Athitsos said his frustration with the one-sided nature of ASL dictionaries and study materials prompted him to work on a solution that would enable people to look up signs according to their movements using a camera-equipped computer.

"It's something I would really have used when I was a student," he said.

Stanley Sclaroff, Boston University computer science chair, is collaborating with Athitsos in his research. Sclaroff expressed similar frustrations with ASL dictionaries and also highlighted a few deficiencies.

"At present, what would one do if encountering a new sign in use?" he said. "The best dictionaries at the moment

include some video examples, but the index of signs is keyed in English. ASL and English are completely different languages. Imagine trying to look up a new English word you've heard, but using a Cantonese character set?"

Sclaroff said their goal is to provide gesture-based search methods to the deaf community as well as parents of deaf children and students learning ASL.

"There is an ever-expanding availability of digital video recordings of ASL," he said. "Literature, plays, poetry, news reports, et cetera. Providing a gesture-based search engine, a sign language Google, would help to quickly sift through such content so that those familiar with ASL have equal access in the digital age."

Athitsos said he sees his

research benefiting a wide range of people not limited to members of the deaf community.

"It would help people like me who are peripherally involved with sign language," he said.

Athitsos and his fellow researchers were recently awarded a \$900 thousand grant from the National Science Foundation to continue their research. He said he is glad to have the funding because he doesn't see his research as a short-term project but has high hopes for its future.

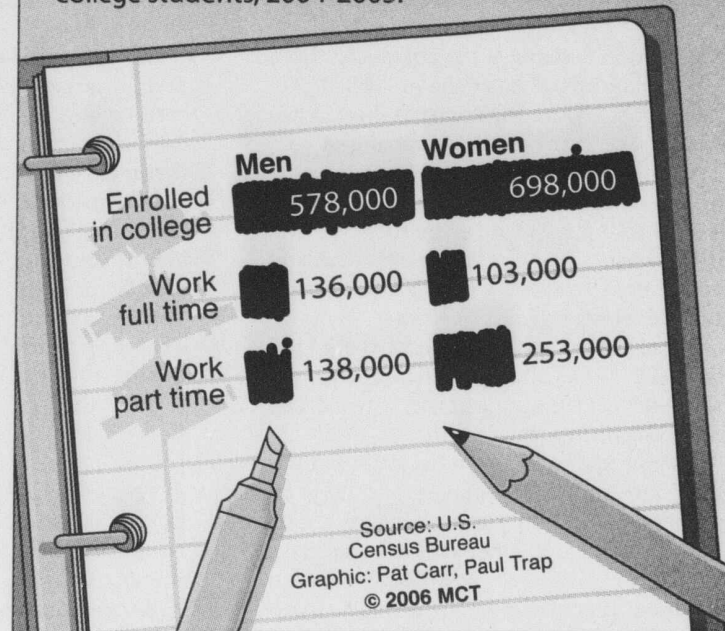
"This is work for several years to come," he said. "It would be great if this system could be deployed in schools where children could find them useful."

Carole Neidle, Boston

BizFact

Hispanics and higher ed

Job status of Hispanics who are full-time college students, 2004-2005:



them know about going to college period," he said.

He also said it's important for current community scholars to get out into the community and spread information about TCU.

Hernandez volunteers at Paschal High School's Go Center, which helps prepare students for the college admissions process. She also helps with the TCU Minority High School Conference and with College Night.

While Hernandez does her part to bring in more minority students, she said TCU should put in a little more effort, as well.

"While TCU builds on the campus and various programs like Panhellenic and athletics, it would be great if they were given the challenge to build on the ratio of minority students, especially Hispanics," she said.

Trevino, who graduated from TCU in 1995, said he is happy with the strides TCU has taken to increase its Hispanic population.

"When I graduated, it was only 4 percent, so the

said. "They've done a good job increasing the numbers, but I think we need to continue to promote what we have in place so that Hispanic students feel they can succeed here."

From an admissions standpoint, going after strictly Hispanic students isn't the goal, Marshall said.

"We're just looking for students who have been successful both academically and personally," Marshall said. "As an institution, we have a social role to prepare students for anything that they would experience out in the real world, so that when a student leaves here, no matter what their race, they can interact with all kinds of different people."

In the end, it all comes down to making TCU a better place, Trevino said, regardless of race.

"I would like to see a good quality student coming in regardless of what their ethnicity is," he said, "because I think that individual would be a lot more open to learning, and that's our job, to help students learn."

sos' only collaborators. Neidle said she doesn't see the physical distance between them being a problem.

"For most of our collaboration, we have been working at relatively close range, but even then, much of our communication has been electronic," she said. "I'm confident that distance won't be a problem for the new project that we're undertaking."

UTA program for hearing impaired receives \$900,000 grant

By PHILLIP BOWDEN
The (UTA) Shorthorn

ARLINGTON — A new University of Texas at Arlington professor is using his computer skills to help members of the deaf community learn American Sign Language.

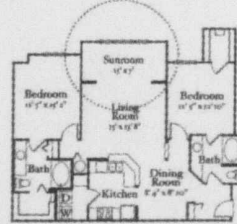
Vassilis Athitsos, computer science assistant professor, said his motivation for his current research involving sign language started nearly eight years ago when he took an ASL class.

"When I took sign language, I felt I was the worst student in the class," Athitsos said.

He said he did well in his previous language courses but had a tough time with sign language. He became frustrated with the lack of study materials available.

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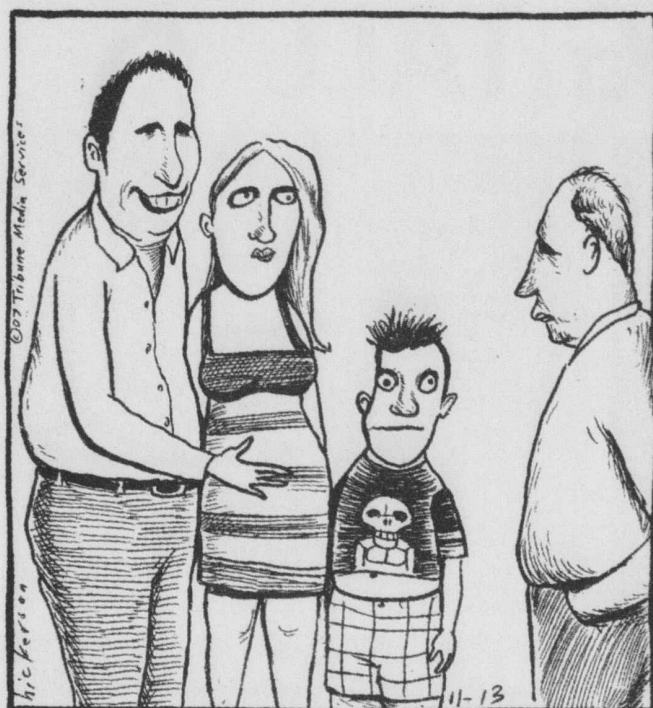
WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE

Q: How does the man on the moon get his hair cut?

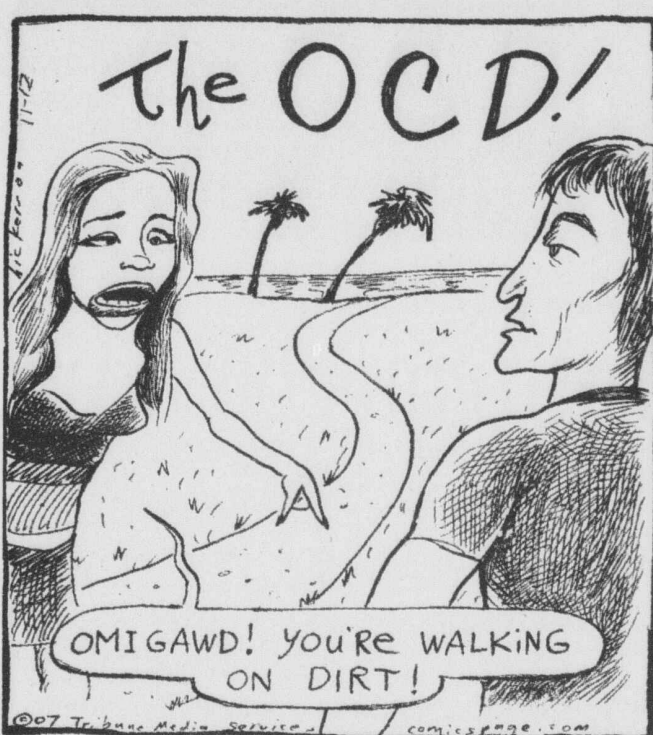
A: Eclipse it.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



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

Directions

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

See Friday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

Wednesday's Solutions

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

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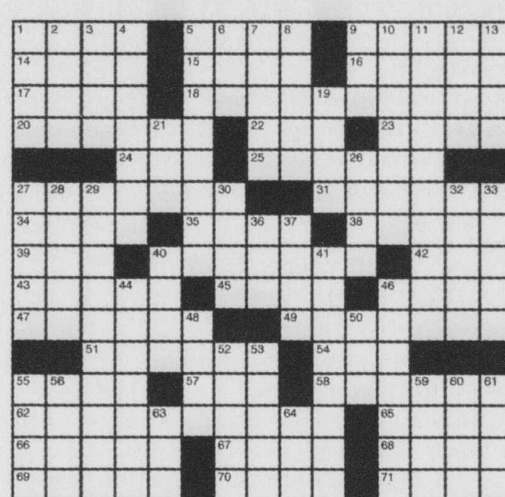
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ACROSS

- Going by yacht
- Queries
- San Antonio shrine
- Cosmonaut Gagarin
- Educator Horace
- Muggy
- Kuwait ruler
- Start of Ed Howe quote
- Football, to many
- Lowest digit
- Roman way
- Wash. neighbor
- Inscribed slabs
- Part 2 of quote
- Vienna's river
- Start a new hand
- Sushi choice
- Social conventions
- Put a stop to
- Part 3 of quote
- Tax letters
- Absinthe flavoring
- Diving bird
- Punta del
- Cavalry weapons
- Part 4 of quote
- Assemble
- Quilters' gathering
- "SportsCenter" sn.
- Corrida cry
- Peruse again
- End of quote
- Unclothed
- Twilight, poetically
- Sicilian resort
- Asian sea
- Peddles
- Went under
- Tradition source

DOWN

- Old assents
- National sport of Japan
- Stoltz of "Mask"



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

11/15/07

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PLAT	SLOB	ILLIAD
RODE	TEAR	NINNY
OMAN	ANTI	HANSE
BANDON	TERI	UN
ENO	IDO	EMAILS
STU	ISLA	GOE
ESCAPE	ED	CONVICT
TINA	LEO	ENKI
EDITOR	SAT	LARGE
MED	PIS	AMY
PREOPS	STE	SEA
FREETHINKERS		
SLATE	DEAN	EPIC
TINES	DRNO	RICO
PLAINS	AMES	FAST

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

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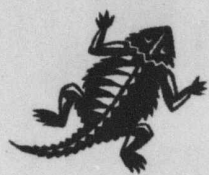
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RUNNING AWAY

A cross country runner heads to a national competition.
TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Illinois quarterback improves numbers as sophomore leader

By TERRY BANNON
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — The 2007 season has featured more highs than lows for Illinois football in general and quarterback Juice Williams in particular.

And it's how Williams handled the long, hard days against Western Illinois, Iowa and others that has given him a chance for highs such as Saturday's, when he threw four touchdown passes to lift the Illini to a stunning 28-21 victory over then-unbeaten and top-ranked Ohio State.

Nobody would have guessed when the Illini were 1-1 after an unimpressive victory over Western Illinois that they would be where they are now: 8-3 and in the running for a New Year's Day bowl game, possibly even a BCS game.

"The lowest point had to be after the Western Illinois game," Williams conceded.

That game was part of a rough September for Williams. He was knocked out of the opener against Missouri after being sandwiched by two tacklers, the collision bruising some bones around his eyes. He watched redshirt freshman Eddie McGee almost rally the Illini to an upset victory over the Tigers in St. Louis.

Williams then completed only 12 of 26 passes with an interception against Western in a 21-0 victory that raised more questions than it answered.

"I was just walking around alone, being sad and quiet, even after a victory," Williams said. "It was kind of selfish on my part — there's more to the game than personal success."

"I prayed about it and went out there to fix the mistakes I made. Mistakes are correctable. You have to put extra work in."

Passing may never be Williams' strength, but it's not Ron Zook's job to develop the next John Elway for an NFL team, it's to win by whatever reasonable means. Williams is a weapon for Illinois because he can run when he has to — 710 yards and a 5.0 average this year

— and operates the option well.

He ran for four first downs — one on fourth down, three on third down — on Illinois' final possession, eight-plus minutes of ball control that wrapped up Saturday's upset of Ohio State. That was after he burned the Buckeyes with those four TD passes, a career high.

Zook has endured the dynamic sophomore's growing pains, and on Saturday his faith was rewarded.

"Last year he didn't know what he didn't know," Zook said. "This year he has a lot better feel for the game, he knows what's going on. He knows enough now."

Williams has become enough of a passer that teams have to respect him, improving his completion percentage from 39.5 in '06 to 56 percent this year. Last year, and even early this season, his

passes too often resembled misguided missiles. He missed open receivers high and low.

This year he's doing a better job of moving to the second receiver if the first is covered, or the third if the second isn't open.

"That's where he has improved so much," Zook said. "Last year, we told him where to throw the ball, basically."

McGee is more of a pure passer and Zook has used him, but the coach has been resolute in sticking with Williams as his starter.

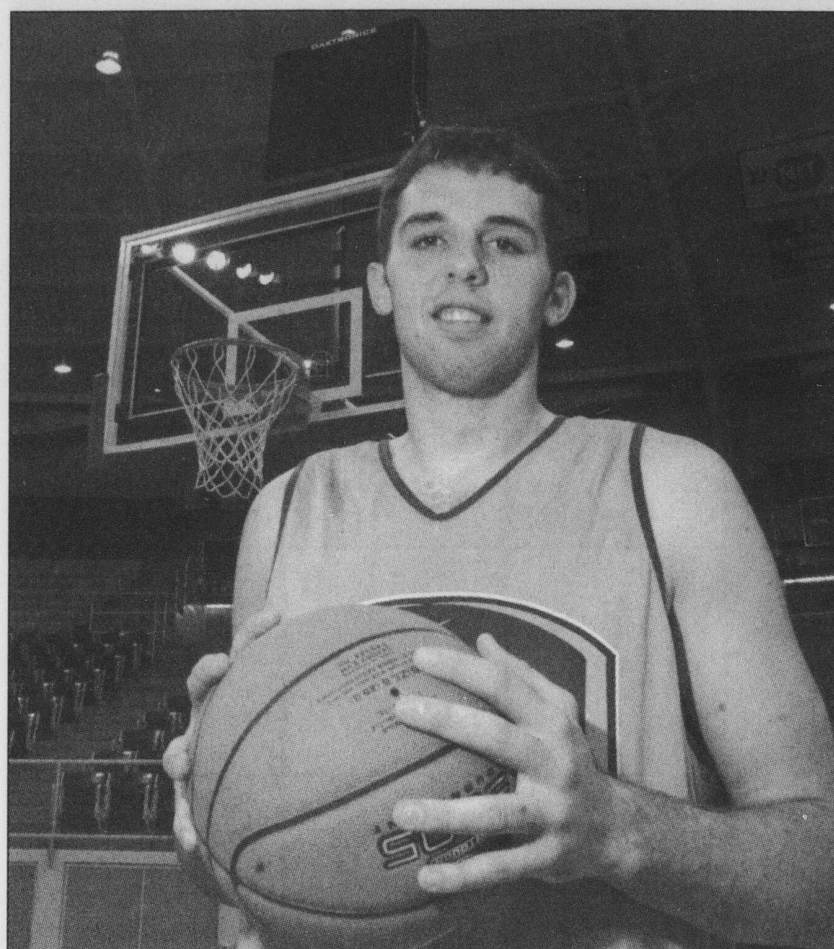
Zook showed his commitment after the 10-6 loss at Iowa on Oct. 13, when he gave McGee a chance to win the game in the fourth quarter. He stuck with Williams for the following game, a home loss to Michigan.

"I felt things change after the Iowa game," Williams said. "I told myself to forget about everything else and just go from here on out."

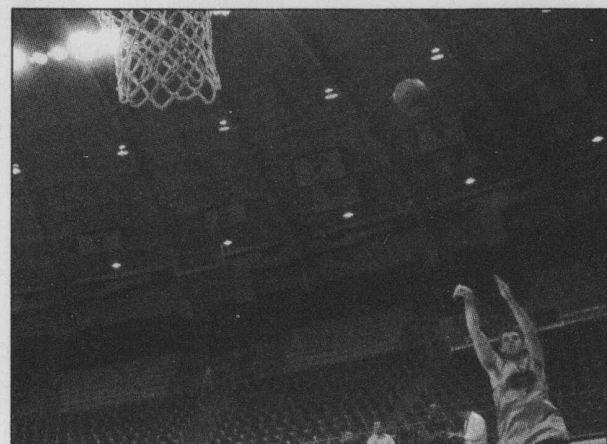
"Playing quarterback is all about confidence and eliminating negativity when things go bad. I had a knack for being hard on myself when things went bad. It comes with experience, to be poised in the pocket and make plays."

MEN'S BASKETBALL

STANDING TALL



LEFT: Redshirt freshman center Luke Tauscher is seeing his first action this season after having to sit out last season with a back injury. TOP: Tauscher's injury required off-season surgery. BOTTOM: Tauscher shoots a 3-pointer at the end of an afternoon practice at Daniel Meyer Coliseum.



Redshirt freshman returns to court

By ANA BAK
Staff Reporter

It was an injury many thought would end his career for good.

Luke Tauscher was a touted prospect coming out of Southwest High School standing at 6 feet 11 inches tall.

The Fort Worth native was tabbed as one of the state's top 50 players following a season in which he averaged 16 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocks a game. He even decided to stay close to home, giving an early commitment to be a Horned Frog.

This is what he wanted. And then, as quick as the release of one of Tauscher's three-point attempts, it went sour.

Men's basketball head coach, Neil Dougherty, said Tauscher had only practiced two or three days before suffering a back injury that would cost him his true freshman season in purple.

"It didn't look good at all," Dougherty said. "There was a chance he may have never been able to play again, but our focus was to stay positive."

Tauscher said he thought the pain was just from back spasms, something he had been dealing with his whole life.

"My back had been hurting for a while," Tauscher said. "Then, the doctors said I had popped a disc loose, and it had pinched a nerve, making me lose 6 percent of my left leg muscle."

Tauscher, a Fort Worth native who was recruited as part of the

team's 2006-07 recruiting class, had to sit out his first season. So as it was, Tauscher watched from the sidelines.

The cheers he heard booming from the bleachers weren't for him, but for his teammates.

"It was a kick in the butt," Tauscher said. "I was told in Christmas 2006 that I would not be playing that season."

But he stuck by his teammates and watched helplessly from the sidelines as the team trudged through a 13-17 campaign last season.

But now, following back surgery in the offseason and grueling physical therapy, his year of waiting is a thing of the past.

"I learned to be real patient," Tauscher said. "There was no other choice for me."

Although he still goes through physical therapy, the doctors have cleared him to play.

The center, who started playing the sport when he 4, said he

loves the competitive aspect of basketball.

His mom, Jane Tauscher, said she's very proud of him, but his play on the court still makes her worry before every game.

"I always get nervous," she said. "I always get a stomach ache before every game."

As tall as he is, he said he's gotten used to it and said it's genetic. He said his parents are both over 6 feet.

"Honestly, I'm used to my height," Tauscher said. "But it helps — I'm not going to lie, it helps."

Dougherty said the team was lucky to have Tauscher back after only a year. He said he made sure Tauscher felt like part of the group emotionally.

"He's getting better each day," Dougherty said. "Obviously, he's not in the same shape as everyone, but he's closing in the gap."

In his first two games in purple

and white, Tauscher has given the team a low-post presence off the bench on both ends of the floor. He is averaging 6.5 points and eight rebounds a game, highlighted by a team-high 12-rebound performance in TCU's 76-49 win against Rice on Tuesday.

Jason Ebbe, a sophomore point guard from Houston, was Tauscher's roommate last year. He said he looked out for him off the court.

"He lived like an animal," Ebbe said jokingly. "But really, I would make him make his bed. I felt for his siblings."

Ebbe, who was also injured during his freshman season last year, said it was ironic that he and Tauscher, who were the first two players to sign as part of the team's 2006-07 recruiting class, were hurt.

"I felt for him," Ebbe said. "I mean, I was hurt but I knew I was eventually going to get to play, for him it was unclear."

Ebbe said he admired Tauscher for sticking it out for a year.

"I don't know how he did it," he said.

As the 2007-08 season moves on, it looks like Tauscher's patience might just pay off after all.

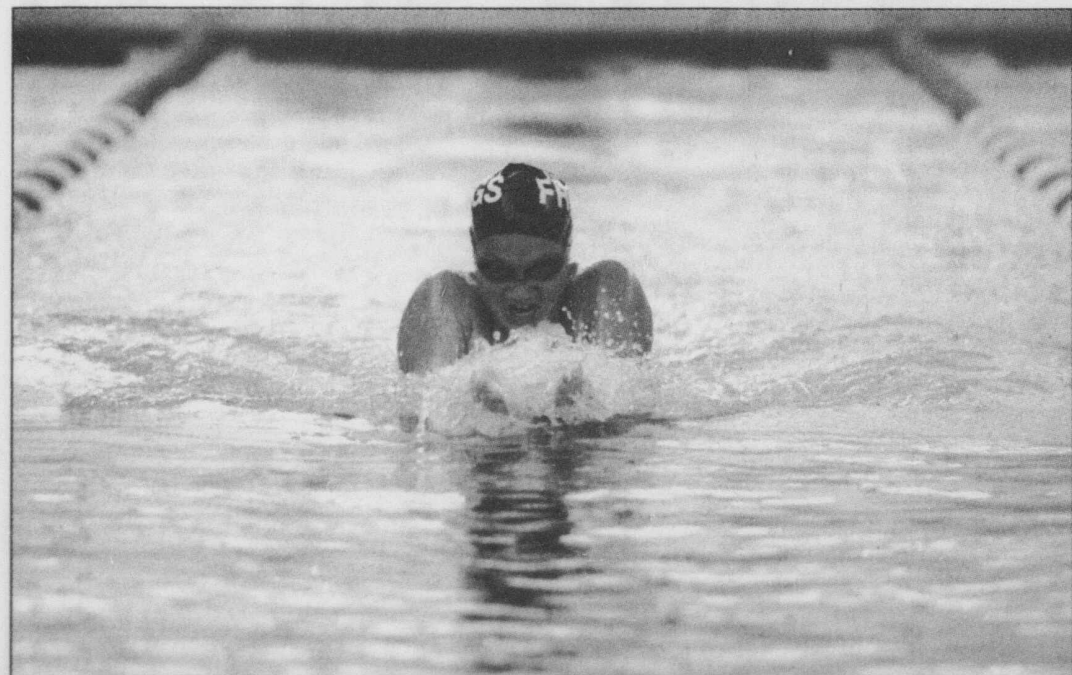
DAILYSKIFF.COM



View a slideshow online and hear Tauscher tell his story.

SWIMMING & DIVING

IN THE WAKE



Senior Maribeth Pottenger competes in the breaststroke against Centenary on Oct. 26. The men's and women's swimming and diving teams will try to bounce back after losses to Wyoming when they host UNLV at the University Recreation Center on Friday.

VOLLEYBALL

Team bids farewell to seniors with home match against Rams

By JOE ZIGTEMA
Staff Reporter

The volleyball team has an emotional hurdle to conquer before heading into next week's conference tournament.

As the team welcomes Colorado State to the University Recreation Center on Thursday for its season finale, it will honor its three seniors in their final home game as Horned Frogs.

Head coach Prentice Lewis said she will miss her departing seniors — Calli Corley, LeMeita Smith and Loren Barry.

"For me, I love all my kids, so it's hard losing any of them," Lewis said. "But you get another group of new kids you have to take care of, so the pain goes away quicker than if you didn't get any new kids

to work with."

Corley said the match Thursday will be emotional.

"I'm very thankful to those who are coming here and the people who come and support us," she said.

Even with tonight's match being so emotional, the team welcomes one of the conference's best, Colorado State. The Rams, ranked No. 17 in the nation and tied for first in the conference standings with University of Nevada, Las Vegas, rank atop the conference in hitting percentage, assists, kills and blocks.

The match could also help decide seeding position for next week's conference tournament. At 8-7 in conference, the Horned Frogs have a half-game lead in the standings, and the

team could be seeded anywhere between No. 4 and No. 6 in its first-round matchup. Possible first-round matchups for the Horned Frogs include Brigham Young University, the University of Utah and the University of New Mexico.

The Horned Frogs, who set a team record for most digs in a season last weekend at No. 25 UNLV, rely on defense to keep games close. Sophomore defensive specialist Kate Lynn Blackwood said the team has worked on its defense all year, which has helped propel them to 21 wins, good for second most in TCU history.

"We've been working on touching every ball, and we work on defense a lot in practice," Blackwood said. "That's how we get by in games."

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