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TCU

NEWS The Undergraduate Council passes a new Latino studies minor. TUESDAY



DAILY SKIF

OPINION Paris Hilton's new TV show is an embarrassing look at society. PAGE 3



SPORTS

The baseball team opens its first conference series against the University of New Mexico Lobos. PAGE 6

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008 Vol. 105 Issue 89 www.dailyskiff.com

N.J. attorney general investigates JuicyCampus

By DAVID HALL Staff Reporter

The New Jersey attorney released Tuesday. general is investigating JuicyCampus.com for what it calls allow users to anonymously post "unconscionable commercial comments on message boards practices," according to a statement from her office.

JuicyCampus and the companies associated with it have ment, New Jersey is "inves- the site chooses the colleges it ampus contains "uncompli-

geared toward specific supported colleges, including TCU.

been subpoenaed, according tigating whether JuicyCampus. features, how the users' school mentary references to the naed JuicyCampus' most The college gossip Web site unconscionable commercial are implemented. practices and misrepresentations to users."

Lime Blue of Reno, Nev., which the subpoena. According to the state- owns JuicyCampus, reveal how

The attorney general's

The statement said JuicyC- such matters.

to a statement from the office com is violating the state's affiliations are identified and physical characteristics, race, recent advertising provid-Consumer Fraud Act through how parental-consent forms ethnicity and implied sexual er, AdBrite, requesting the experiences of students."

The office also subpoe-

details of the business rela-It also said though JuicyC- tionship between the two, office didn't return calls ampus warns against post- according to the statement. The subpoena requests that seeking more details about ing offensive content, the site Requested materials include doesn't have tools to track how JuicyCampus represented itself to AdBrite, including See JUICY, page 2

Partnership to research wind energy

By HILARY WHITTIER Staff Reporter

security.'

U.S.

of wind installations.

By BIBEK BHANDARI

Staff Reporter

Oxford University in England and TCU will team up with the world's largest wind-energy producer to conduct a five-year research project to focus on the impact of wind power development, Chancellor Victor Boschini said Wednesday during a news conference.

The research, funded by FPL Energy LLC, will be coordinated by TCU's Institute for Environmental Studies and Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute, Boschini said.

Mike Slattery, director of the Institute for Environmental Studies, said the partnership among TCU, Oxford and FPL will launch a ground-breaking initiative to better understand the wind energy development in the U.S.

"Our goal is to play a leading role in supplying the science base for what will be a major area of societal concern in this century," he said. "We want to provide both energy and environmental

TJ Tuscai, senior vice president of business man-

agement for FPL, said it is an exciting time for TCU

because Texas is responsible for about 40 percent

He said the wind industry has gone through tremendous growth, and the company expects it to continue growing in Texas and throughout the

The research initiative, valued at several million

See PROJECT, page 2

dollars over five years, is an important and signifi-

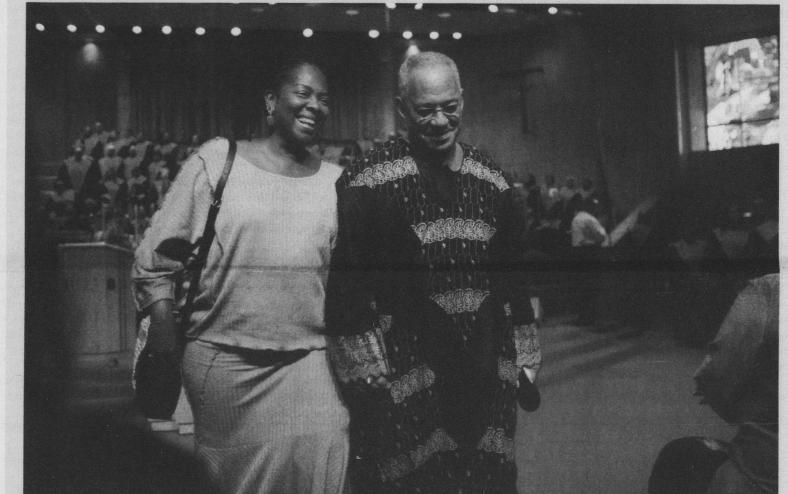
cant investment for FPL, Slattery said. The company will provide financial support for both Oxford and

Korean group

aims to inform

The Korean Student Association has been

SAFETY CONCERNS



actually," ng in a beting more, endurance ique — the



o improve.

CU

lege

approved by Student Development Services, making it TCU's newest multicultural student organization.

Sang Byeon, a doctorate Biblical interpretation student at Brite and president of KOSA, said the primary mission of the organization is to "promote Korean culture and fellowship between Korean students" at TCU and "harmonious communication" among the members and other people interested in Korean culture.

Bomi Lee, a marketing major and secretary of KOSA, said it was necessary to establish the organization because of the increasing number of Korean students at TCU. The organization will help integrate Korean students and act as a forum for fellowship, she said.

John Singleton, director of International Student Services, said there are 34 Korean students from outside the U.S., and the organization would help create opportunities to look after one another and foster their See KOSA, page 2 E. JASON WAMBSGANS / Chicago Tribune via MCT

The Rev. Jeremiah Wright and his wife, Ramah Reed Wright, leave after Sunday service at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago in 2006. The university decided Wednesday to move an appearance by Wright off campus, citing concerns for the security of the TCU community. The minister's controversial remarks have caused some to question his scheduled appearance.

'Security issues' push controversial guest off campus

By JULIETA CHIQUILLO Staff Reporter

An event honoring Sen. Barack Obama's, sity officials will not give details.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said security seriously." on campus is a priority but did not elaborate on the nature of the concerns.

in America," Boschini said in an e-mail. quet March 29 despite recent media reports "Threats to a safe and secure campus end up on the pastor's controversial remarks. D-Ill., pastor will be moved off campus eroding everything we are trying to accombecause of security concerns, and univerplish in higher education. Therefore, when executive committee of TCU's board of trustconcerns arise in this area I take them very ees decided Wednesday to move Brite's

institution located on campus, issued a state- Police and the Fort Worth Police Depart-"Security issues have become the No. 1 ment Monday affirming its decision to give an

issue for college and university presidents award to the Rev. Jeremiah Wright at a ban-

According to a university statement, the Black Church Summit events off campus in The Brite Divinity School, an independent response to security issues noted by TCU See WRIGHT, page 2

Local symphony director joins faculty

By BIBEK BHANDARI Staff Reporter

The hands of a local maestro percussions, trumpets and horns benefit greatly by the opportu- and academic way," he said. of the TCU Symphony Orches- nity to work with him." tra.

School of Music.

"It is a great honor for us to

school," Gutierrez said. "He is excited to be a part of TCU. one of the most talented con-

American Music Festival.

Harth-Bedoya said in a phone

have him associated with our interview from Canada he is dent at the School of Music, said

"I'll be able to share my knowlwill soon help guide the flutes, ductors today. Our students will edge and experience in a formal

Gutierrez said Harth-Bedoya's Richard C. Gipson, director of expertise and skills as a con-Miguel Harth-Bedoya, music the School of Music, said Harth- ductor will benefit the students director of the Fort Worth Sym- Bedoya would primarily be and the School of Music. Harthphony Orchestra, is now the working with graduate conduct- Bedoya is inviting the winners of distinguished guest professor ing students. However, under- the annual Concerto competition of conducting in the School of graduate students will have an to perform with the Fort Worth Music, said German Gutierrez, opportunity to work with him on Symphony and also inviting othdirector of orchestras at the special events, such as the Latin er student conductors to rehearsals under his supervision.

Andres Jaime, a graduate stu-

it would be a good opportunity to have a platform to showcase talent and practice with a professional orchestra.

Harth-Bedoya said his classes are going to have a practical emphasis because the professional world is different from conducting music in music schools.

"It's going to be like an apprenticeship," he said. "I want the students to learn not from me but through me. I'm already open-See GUEST, page 2

WEATHER TODAY: Sunny, 72/49

TOMORROW: Mostly sunny, 74/48 SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, 70/47

PECULIAR FACT

TOKYO — Japan created a government post to promote animation and named a popular cartoon robot cat named Doraemon to the position. Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NEWS: People's dependency on Internet grows, page 4 **OPINION:** Text messaging depletes social skills, page 3 SPORTS: UCF football player dies during practice, page 6

CONTACT US

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at NEWS@DAILYSKIFF.COM

TCU Daily Skiff | Thursday, March 20, 2008



2

the types of ads requested by view with the Skiff on Feb. 28 JuicyCampus.

of AdBrite, said in an e-mail ship with JuicyCampus. that Adbrite removed its three weeks ago, well before the subpoena was issued.

He wrote that JuicyCamacceptable-use policy.

the Associated Press. JuicyCampus founder Matt Ivester said in an earlier inter-

that AdBrite knew what it was Philip Kaplan, the founder getting into with its partner-

"They're completely aware program from JuicyCampus of the content," Ivester said. "We don't foresee any future issues.

Google provided ads for pus had violated AdBrite's JuicyCampus before AdBrite and was also supoenaed. AdBrite agreed to cooper- Like Adbrite, Google pulled ate fully with the investiga- its advertising application, tion, New Jersey Attorney AdSense, from JuicyCampus, General Anne Milgram told citing the site's content.

KOSA From page 1

culture to present it to the community

ture and more, he said.

share Korean culture with Korean politics and history. other students," Byeon said.

would have a chance to learn about Korea and its diverse culture. Byeon said the organization

plans to coordinate different The organization will also events during International help freshman Korean stu- Week and have a music fesdents adjust and understand tival in conjunction with the the American lifestyle, culture School of Music. He said the and academics by providing organization will also parthem information on various ticipate in various events topics, Byeon said. KOSA is organized by other student a forum to promote various organizations and contribute aspects of Korean culture to various cultural activities such as music, food, litera- at TCU, including seminars with distinguished Korean-"We want to add one more Americans and Koreans in culture at TCU and want to the area to familiarize with

Any student can be a Andrew Kim, a junior KOSA member by paying a kinesiology, health and fit- \$10 annual-membership fee ness major and a KOSA mem- and learn different aspects ber, said he could help the of the Korean culture, Lee incoming Korean students said. However, members are learn and adjust to the Amer- expected to attend meetings ican culture since he is a Tex- and volunteer at the events as native. Also, he said, he KOSA organizes, he said.

GUEST From page 1

ing this channel and the chal- in New York City. He started lenges are great. It's a complex his job as a music director profession but rewarding,"

student at the School of Music, the Auckland Philharmonic in said conducting is a challeng- New Zealand, Eugene Syming profession and hopes to phony in Oregon and the Los learn the techniques and pro- Angeles Philharmonic. He is

of Music in Philadelphia and a master's from Julliard School for the New York Youth Sym-Danaila Hristova, a graduate phony and has conducted for

degree from Curtis Institute

PROJECT From page 1

TCU and FPL's internal resources from multiple departments.

"We think it is remarkable that FPL is providing funding," Boschini said. "We are very appreciative."

Slattery said the project with FPL and Oxford, which is ranked among the world's leading research and teaching institutions, focuses on three primary areas - wind turbine impact on bats and birds, ecological impacts and socioeconomic impacts.

The avian and bat impact studies will produce a greater understanding of the interactions of the birds, bats and wind turbines, Slattery said.

In regard to ecological impacts, he said research will be conducted to test how wind energy reduces atmospheric carbon.

He also said there will be a focus on socioeconomic impacts of wind projects that will be analyzed on a local and regional basis.

Boschini said this partnership will be beneficial to students.

"This collaboration with FPL and Oxford will afford unprecedented research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students," he said.

Ellen Schwaller, an environmental science major, said society is changing and this partnership will help students become more attuned to environmental problems, such as over-population and pollution.

"It is with great anticipation and pride that we look to the next five years," she said. "More than anything, I think students are ready to contribute and want to contribute."



A crowd at the meerkat exhibit at the Fort Worth Zoo photographs the animals on half-price Wednesday.

could not be reached for comment.

J. Luther King Jr., chairman of the TCU board of trustees, said controversial opinions should be freely expressed at the university, but the board's primary concern is the security of students, faculty and staff, according to the statement.

King did not return calls Wednesday the venue change from TCU Police and night seeking comment on the state-

The Rev. Brad Braxton, an ordained "I do not have sufficient information Baptist minister who will deliver the keynote address at the banquet, said late Wednesday he had not been informed Tracy Syler-Jones, associate vice chan- about TCU's decision to move the event Brite leaders agreed with the decision, he plans to attend the event regardless of in the United States," he said.

Newell Williams, president of Brite, clips of sermons in which he accused the U.S. government of sponsoring terrorism that led to the Sept. 11 attacks and called on blacks to condemn the United States for alleged racism.

> Braxton said Wright's appearance at the Brite event should be seen not as a problem but as an opportunity to promote discussion that transcends racial lines. He said a lack of understanding of the black religious tradition is part of the missing context that has led to the misrepresentation of Wright's words.

"This notion that raising a serious critique is unpatriotic, separatist and hateful is inaccurate, and it does not do justice cellor for marketing and communication, off campus. Braxton, a professor at the to the rich protest tradition of the black declined to elaborate on the statement. Vanderbilt University Divinity School, said church and the larger tradition of protest



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Rememb kid thinkin ing under covering y monster un couldn't se vou couldr didn't exist now that w up, why do ing still fal egory? Often pe recognize t ing a text 1 communica living, brea being. Even person you hear you, t right throu they only w The com ated comm ory says th social conte major distin computer-n munication face conver

WRIGHT From page 1

ment.

TCU Police Chief Steve McGee declined to comment on the security issues cited in the statement.

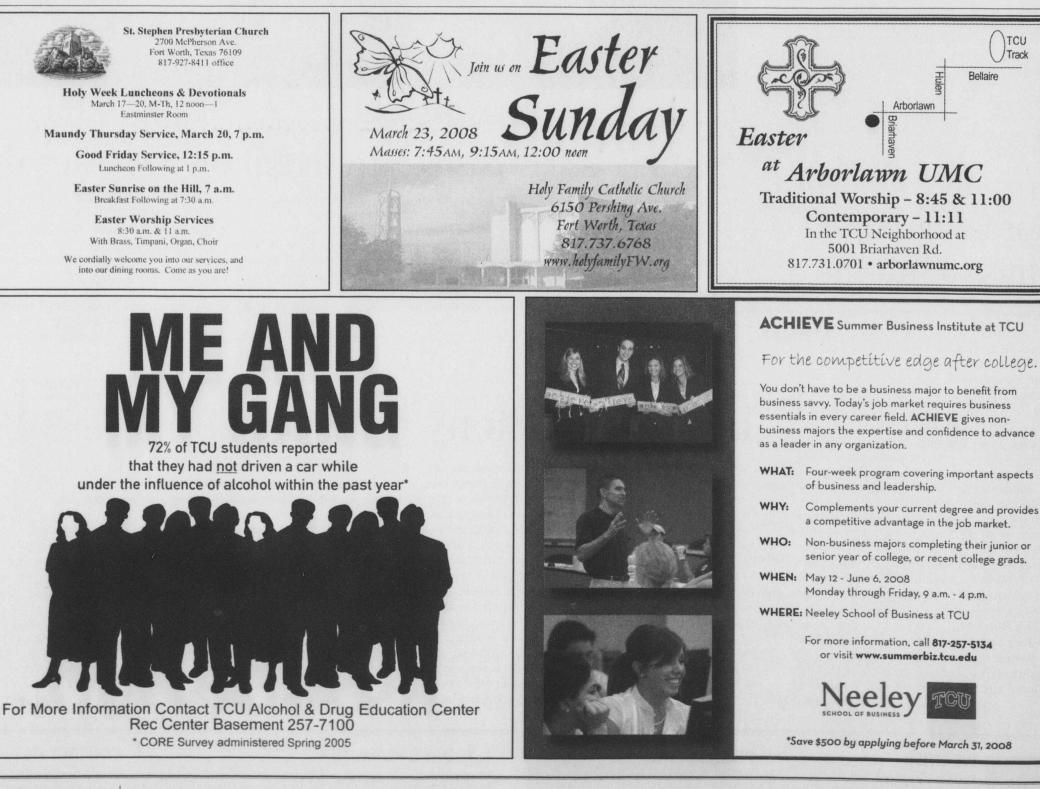
Capt. Billy Cordell of the Fort Worth Police Department said he learned about did not know any details about the secu- ment. rity concerns.

to say anything concrete about it," Cordell said.

cesses from Harth-Bedoya. the recipient of several awards A Peruvian native, Harth- including an Emmy Award in Bedoya has a bachelor's 2000.

and the divinity school will announce the the change in location. new of the location of the event, according to the statement.

Braxton said the purpose of the sum-Wright has stirred a nationwide debate mit is to address issues within the black about race following the release of video church.



TCU DAILY SKIFF TCU Box 298050, Fort Worth, TX 76129 hone: (817) 257-7428 Fax: (817) 257-7133

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LETTER TO Hone Alun

I attended the years 19 School of T remont for f

I have ren from my res ashamed to al report that oring Jerem

Let's use s words: "No. God bless B School. God

Editorial B

ANDREW CHA **BAILEY SHIFFL** SAEROM YOO JOE ZIGTEMA LINDSEY BEVE







QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is the unknown we fear when we look upon death and darkness, nothing more."

- J.K. Rowling

3

THE SKIFF VIEW Web site investigation long overdue

inally, someone is doing something about JuicyCampus.

After months of racy, insulting content on the college gossip Web site, someone is finally holding the site accountable for its reckless abandon in policing its posts.

The New Jersey attorney general's office is investigating whether JuicyCampus violated state law through unconscionable commercial practices and misrepresentation to users, and has subpoenaed JuicyCampus' leaders and the site's former ad servers, AdBrite and Google's AdSense.

The AdSense application was pulled by Google in February after it violated Google's policy. And three weeks ago, after the Web site's founder, Matt Ivester, said he didn't foresee any issues with AdBrite, it pulled its ads from the site as well. See a pattern here?

If no company will endorse the site, it must have a problem.

Ivester said in a previous Skiff interview that it is the responsibility of users to create

the discussion forums that they want. "It's a gossip Web site," Ivester said. "Don't make it into a bigger deal than it is." Maybe Ivester's right. Maybe it isn't a big deal that half the campus is "TCU's biggest slut" and (insert random name here) is (insert dirty insult here).

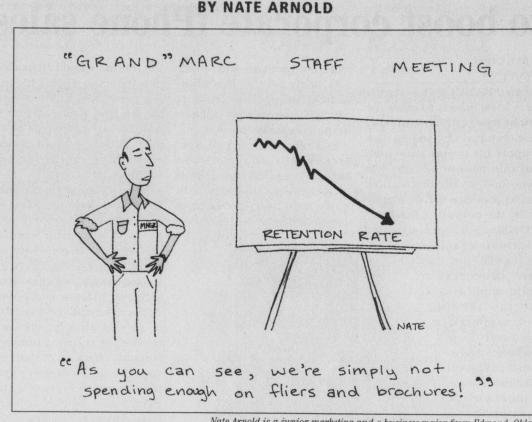
However, the state of New Jersey thinks this is a big deal, and it plays for keeps.

Although Ivester claims that blocking offensive comments would not be a realistic goal, the site can pinpoint what university every post comes from. That is something the New Jersey attorney general's office will want to investigate.

The Internet was created as a shared-communication tool, not an outlet for people to sit at their computers and make unwarranted comments which, in many other forums, would be considered libelous.

Go ahead, New Jersey, take this site to the cleaners. That's juicy news.

News editor Joe Zigtema for the editorial board.



Nate Arnold is a junior marketing and e-business major from Edmond, Okla.

Sunday night 'sext' messages ruining traditional booty calls

doin

12:58 a.m.: Nothin. U 1:06 a.m.: Prb about

COMMENTARY movie. Ok. Want to

Sonya Cisneros cial lines. He

of the black the missing nisrepresenting.'

egory?

serious criand hateful ot do justice of the black n of protest

12:56 a.m.: Hey. What u theory emphasizes that

2 watch a 1:07 a.m.: 1:30 a.m.:

join? What used to be referred

to as "booty calls" have transformed into text messages - the art of "sex-

Remember being a little kid thinking that by hiding under the sheets and covering your ears, the monster under your bed couldn't see you? What

you couldn't see or hear

now that we are all grown

up, why does text messag-

Often people refuse to

recognize that when send-

ing a text message, they're

person you're texting can't

communicating with a

living, breathing human

being. Even though the

hear you, they can see

right through you — if

The computer medi-

ated communication the-

social context clues is the

major distinction between

computer-mediated com-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

munication and face-to-

face conversation. The

ory says the absence of

they only want to.

ing still fall into this cat-

didn't exist, right? But

participants in a computer-mediated conversation often lose attention easily because there is no one physically present to stop

them from doing so. This could be where mass text messaging, or "sexting," comes into play. For example, you receive a "sext" and 30 seconds later all of your roommates receive the same one. There are a multitude of things that fuel these

"sext" messages and most have to do with alcohol. To someone who has just taken a shot of liquid courage, a text message is nothing more than a "Hey. In case you're not thinking about me, now

you will." What people

would never say to

they usually don't

think twice about

sending in a text

One of my

favorites was

"I'm a cud-

dler. You

like to

Of

cuddle?

recent personal

message.

someone face-to-face

course, the classic "sext" is one that is sent at 2:30 a.m. Sunday night, "What r u doin?"

What do think I'm

doing? Probably sleeping. Although text messages may be more convenient, nothing will replace a genuinely-placed phone call

> Sonya Cisneros is a senior news-editorial journalism and communication studies major from Fort Worth.



Paris' search for new BFF sure to be reality TV gold

With fame, money and a boyfriend, Paris Hilton seems to have it all. But apparently, she needs a new best friend. And a

COMMENTARY reality show to go with it.

The series, tentatively titled "Paris Hilton's My

Jillian Hutchinson New BFF," will make its debut later this year on MTV.

On the show, 20 candidates will compete for the prize of becoming Paris' new best friend forever. What girl doesn't want a

doesn't want that friend to be Paris? Although people have

best friend? And what girl

mission for a best friend. It seems so desperate. Of course, conventional means of finding friends for Paris would not be nearly as entertaining. Surely her future friends are Paris Hilton wannabes or potential party pals. A friend forever?

Probably not. On the show,

contestants must prove themselves in areas of loyalty, endurance and "girl politics."

At least those are good qualities to have in a friend and all the qualities that seem to be needed in the college life of friendship and living with girls.

Paris' show seems to reach an all-new level of shallowness and only continues to prove that her life is centered on being rich and famous.

Will there only be one season and therefore only one BFF? Or will there be multiple seasons and several best friends, just in case one doesn't end up being so loyal or so good at "girl politics?"

> Perhaps others will follow Paris'

lead and other "Paris' show seems to celebrities and rach an all-new level maybe even of shallowness."

average people Jillian Hutchinson will begin their search for a

best friend on national television.

Shallow as it may be, the show is sure to be entertaining. Whether we watch or not, we can be thankful for the friends we do have, friends we didn't find through auditions and tele

- drunk or not. G2G.

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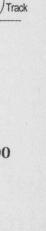
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grads.

oring Jeremiah Wright. Let's use some of Wright's words: "No. No. No. Not God bless Brite Divinity School. God #\$@%\$# Brite

I attended Brite during the years 1967-69, then the School of Theology at Claremont for four years. I have removed Brite from my resume. I am

al report that Brite is hon-WRIGHT

JORDAN HAYGOOD

MARCUS MURPHREE

BRETT LARSON

ANA BAK

We marched with Martin Luther King Jr. and Cesar Chavez. We fought a good fight against racism.

Honoring pastor wrong choice;

Alumna 'saddened and ashamed'

In the writings of a Native American psychiatrist, years ago I found for honoring these words, "Teaching hatred and bigotry creates another generation of wounded children."

SXC.HU

Brite has crossed over into the land of the far, far left. I am deeply saddened and ashamed.

Shelby Dawson Tallchief is an alumna of the Brite Divinity School.

been searching for love on television for several years, something seems different about setting out on a

vision.

Jillian Hutchison is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Omaha, Neb.

China can't cover up oppression as Beijing Olympics draw closer

During its nearly six decades of rule over Tibet, China has done its best to suffocate Tibetan language and culture. Thousands of monasteries have been destroyed. Tens of thousands of Tibetans have been killed. Religious freedom is non-

existent. And "When better to draw displaying the attention to your Dalai Lama's cause, and force the photo is vergovernment's hand, boten. The than in the months protesting before the Olympics?" **Tibetans** want greater auton-

omy and an end to Beijing's iron rule.

For China, these protests, coming just months before the world is set to descend on Beijing for the Summer Olympics, are beyond inconvenient. They shine a spotlight on China's troubling human rights record - and re-insert the disputed status of Tibet into the international conversation.

Of course, that's what the Tibetans want. When better to draw attention to

your cause, and force the government's hand, than in the months before the **Olympics?** Pro-democracy demonstrators used that strategy to perfection in South Korea when, a year before the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, they forced the col-

lapse of an authoritarian regime, and elections. Democracy has since become a habit in South Korea, with

free and fair elections held every five years.

Tibetan protesters aren't just masters of timing. They also know that the best way to embarrass Beijing is to highlight how the new, more open China hosting the Olympics is the same old China that brutally suppressed dissent at Tiananmen Square in 1989.

This time, though, China can't simply flex its muscle and smother the uprisings. The longer the protests

continue, the more closely the rest of the world will scrutinize China's governance of Tibet. Exile communities are keeping the pressure on by holding demonstrations around the globe: in Chicago, New York, Switzerland, Nepal, Australia and New Delhi, to name some locales.

The Beijing government is frantic to contain the story. China has banned foreign journalists from traveling to Tibet, and tourists reportedly are being ordered out. But Radio Free Asia continues to report on the Chinese crackdown. Information, in the Internet age, respects no borders. And image is one thing China government can't control.

So as Beijing prepares to use the Olympics to showcase what's right with China, it should remember that the games will also draw attention to what's wrong.

> This editorial appeared in The Chicago Tribune on Tuesday

Editorial Board ANDREW CHAVEZ BAILEY SHIFFLER SAEROM YOO JOE ZIGTEMA LINDSEY BEVER

Editorial Policy ASHLEIGH WHALEY

ied Gandhi.

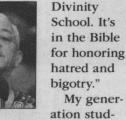
The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. The Skiff View editorial represents the view of the TCU Daily Skiff editorial board listed to

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ashamed to hear the nation-



NEWS

TCU Daily Skiff | Thursday, March 20, 2008

Application software designed to boost corporate iPhone sales

By REX CRUM MarketWatch

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple Inc.'s latest efforts to make the iPhone more attractive to business customers by adding new support for corporate e-mail and information systems has some analysts divided on how much the device will be accepted by the corporate market. On March 6, Apple unveiled

a software development kit, or SDK, for thirdparty developers to build applications for the iPhone, and support for Microsoft Corp.'s Exchange Active-Sync that will give the iPhone features such as push e-mail and other capabilities.

These changes could make the device

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which is enormously popular in the enterprise market.

Research called the moves for Macs over time." "positive developments" for



its goal of selling 10 devices. million iPhones this year,

handset market.

necessarily make the iPhone consumer market. more attractive to enterprise users.

wireless devices," he wrote.

However, Andy Hargreaves, of Pacific Crest Securities, said

more competitive with prod- the iPhone should attract new ucts such as the BlackBer- developers to Apple's technoly from Research in Motion, ogy platforms, and "will likely be the first Apple device for millions of corporate users, In a report this week, Toni and positive impressions Sacconaghi of Bernstein could drive stronger demand

Hargreaves estimates that Apple and the iPhone, but the addition of the SDK and questioned whether the efforts ActiveSync support will, over will be the next year, drive 5 million iPhone sales to corporate customers.

> Sacconaghi believes architectural differences between ActiveSync and the BlackBerry service already "present a barrier for many corporate IT systems." Because of that, Sacconaghi said he doesn't expect the iPhone to become a standard-issue device at many large corporations. The device is more likely to find a niche with smaller business that will offer support for employees' personal iPhones.

He said the biggest stimulus enough to iPhone sales will probably to help the be a price cut, or new models company reach with lower prices than current

Hargreaves, on the other or have much of an impact hand, believes the iPhone on the device's position in the could end up not only succeeding in the enterprise mar-Sacconaghi said the SDK ket but lead to a halo effect for is "critical to Apple's main- Apple's Macintosh computers taining the iPhone's (market) similar to the one created by positioning," but that it won't the success of the iPod in the

Hargreaves estimates that Apple holds less than 2 per-"We note that many mobile cent of the worldwide share enterprise applications likely of the corporate PC market, to be available on the iPhone and that improved enterprise (such as Salesforce.com) are support for the iPhone "sugalready available for other gest that (the) Mac could see meaningful growth in the enterprise markets" through Apple's 2009 fiscal year. Hargreaves said that every 1 percent gain by the Mac in enterprise markets could add 25 cents to Apple annual pershare earnings, and help make up for slowdowns in the con-

Americans find themselves in dark ages without Web access

without the Internet.

They might have to

read."

Bob Papper

media professor at

Hofstra University

By TIM BARKER St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. LOUIS - It may not be the end of the world. But it can feel like it.

You open your Web browser, only to be greeted by an obscure error message suggesting something is wrong with your Internet connection. Hit the refresh key. Nothing.

Reboot. Check the modem. Still nothing. Then comes that sinking feeling in the pit

of your stomach as the realization sets in: No e-mail. No eBay. No MySpace. No YouTube. It's as if you've been transported back to

electricity and running water, too.

Such has been the transformation of the accessory to necessity. Never is that more obvi- switch to broadband, the role of the Internet ous than those times when you

want to go online, but can't. "I suspect for a lot of peo-

ple, if you cut that cord, they wouldn't know what to do with themselves," said Bob Papper, a media professor at Hofstra University. "They'd be paralyzed without the Internet. They might have to read."

For decades, the television set

has been the centerpiece of the American which actor played the lead role in the 1987 home. Nothing else challenges it in terms of movie "The Princess Bride?" Or maybe you time spent watching it. But a recent study by The Pew Internet & American Life Project ater. suggests Americans actually place a higher value on their Internet connections.

The December survey — the results were released last week - asked participants which technologies would be hardest to give up. The Internet, at 45 percent, narrowly edged out TV, at 43 percent. Five years earlier, a similar survey rated the Internet at 38 percent and TV at 47 percent.

For Dan Miller, a freshman at St. Charles Community College in Missouri and an avid online gamer, the choice is easy. He'd give up TV without a second thought.

Five nights a week — Fridays and Saturdays are game-free - he joins five other members of his Skull Gaming team to play Counter- increasingly more real than imagined. Strike, a so-called first-person shooter pitting counter-terrorists against terrorists. Play sessions generally last five hours.

online friends is critical. There aren't, he said, nence. many other entertainment options near his home in O'Fallon, Mo.

do," Miller said. "I don't know what I would do, actually."

It isn't just gamers who find themselves relying on the Internet. Since 2000, Internet activity in the general population has soared. The Pew group has been tracking U.S. usage since March 2000, when 46 percent of Americans said they spent time online. In December's latest survey, that number surged to 75 percent, with more than half of country using broadband.

It is that group — the folks with faster connections - that tends to be most attached to the Dark Ages. Might as well take away your the Internet, said Lee Rainie, director of the Pew group.

Dial-up users are more casual in their Internet, which has wormed its way into our approach, generally using the Internet for lives during the past decade, morphing from e-mail and limited surfing. But once they

> changes in their lives. It begins to matter more, he said. "They'd be paralyzed

"They spend more time online. They do more things online," Rainie said. "They think online first when solving a lot of their problems."

Those problems come in a wide range of flavors. Need a recipe for Asian fried rice? Want to settle a bet with a friend over

just need directions to the nearest movie the-

The anxiety that accompanies an Internet connection disruption is fueled by more than just the desire for convenient access to information. One of the biggest problems is coping with the feeling that things are happening without you. Your friends are still having fun. Conversations are taking place. Your e-mail box is filling up with messages in need of replies.

"There is a kind of compulsive behavior. It's the kind of thing where you try to keep on top of it," said Steve Jones, a professor of communications at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

That need to stay current, however, is

A few years ago, Jones used to play a game with his students. He would ask them to go 24 hours without using the Internet and to For Miller, access to the Internet and his keep a journal documenting their digital absti-

Not anymore.

"So much of what they do relies on the "If I didn't have the Internet, that's five hours Internet," Jones said. "I couldn't in good con-

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COLLEGE NIGHT

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WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE Q: What does a cat sleep on?

A: A caterpillow.

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+ Cliex "You look different ... have you lost weight?"



"We're close - she's wagging her tail!"



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Wednesday's Puzzle Solver

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

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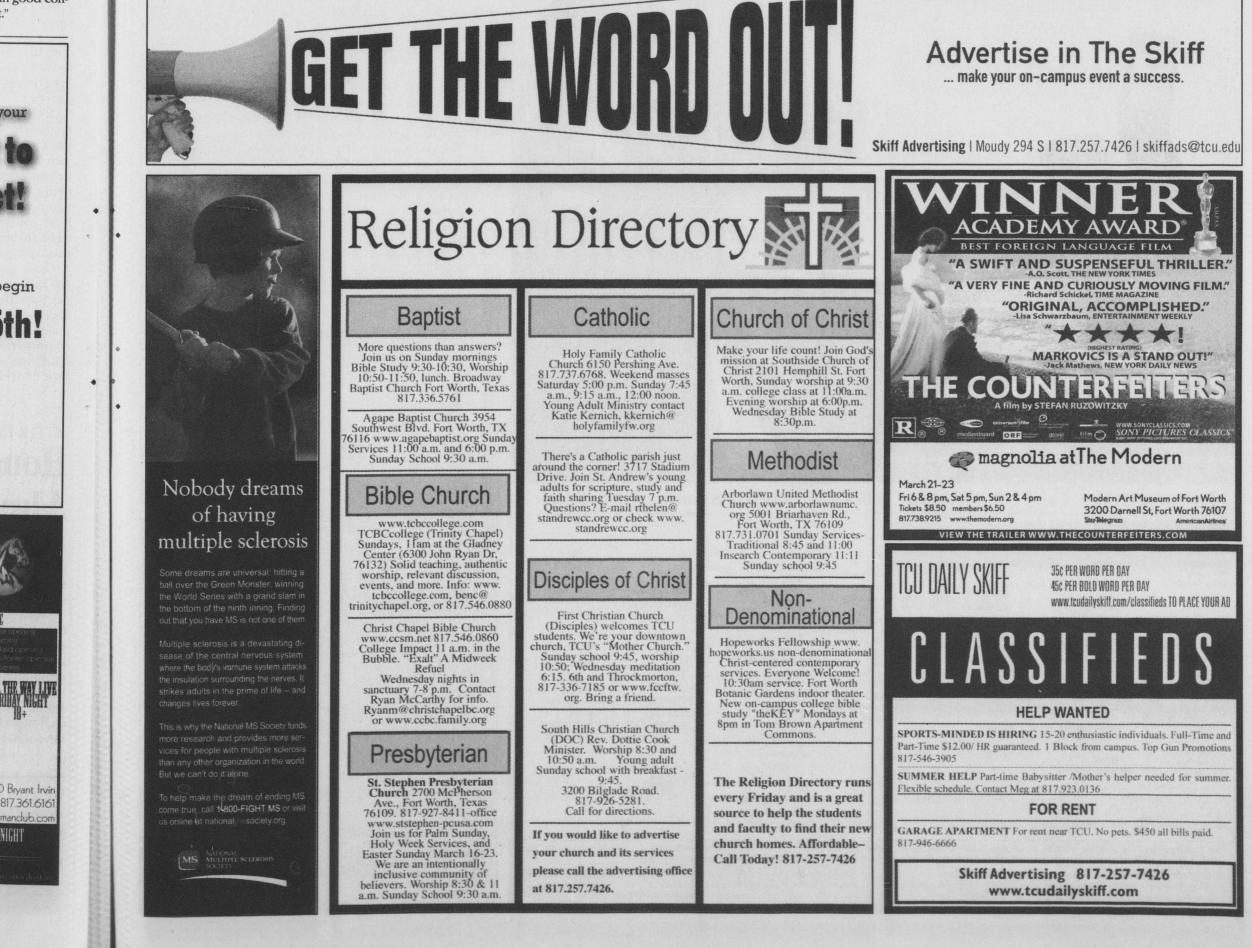
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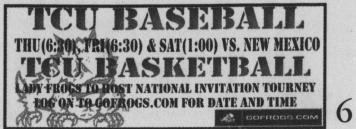
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CONFERENCE CALL

See how the Horned Frogs perform in their conference series against the University of New Mexico Lobos. AFTER THE GAMES AT DAILYSKIFF.COM



BASEBALL Rested team to face first conference rival in series

By JOHN BOLLER Staff Reporter

Rain could actually end up help- 19 RBIs. ing the baseball team.

extra time to rest and prepare for scheduled to start Saturday. the beginning of conference play New Mexico.

games against the Lobos (11-8).

New Mexico's offense is led by its in hits and on-base percentage.

Because of the recent severe starting pitchers in the series is which swept the Horned Frogs weather in the Fort Worth area, the junior right-hander Willy Kesler. three games to none. TCU baseball team did not have Kesler, who is 4-0 on the season to play McNeese State on Tuesday and has a 1.90 ERA with 18 strike three games, driving in 12 runs night, allowing the Horned Frogs outs in 23.2 innings pitched, is in two of the wins.

tonight against the University of series, junior right-hander Seth Garrison is expected to start on TCU (9-8) has had the upper- the mound for the Horned Frogs. hand in six out of the last seven Garrison is 0-3 with a 6.61 ERA in 16.1 innings pitched this season.

On offense, the Frogs have a leadoff hitter, junior first baseman lineup that is led by four upper-Kevin Atkinson. Atkinson leads the classmen. Juniors Ben Carruthers team with eight doubles and is second and Matt Carpenter, along with seniors Clint Arnold and Bryan Freshman catcher and designat- Kervin have played in all 17 games

ed hitter Rafael Neda is key to the this season and have accounted for Lobos' offense with a team-high 28 of the teams 58 RBIs.

TCU is coming off a series One of the Lobos' probable against rival No. 23 Wichita State,

New Mexico has won its past

Last year the Horned Frogs In the opening game of the took the season series against the Lobos 2-1.

> FOR YOUR INFO New Mexico vs. TCU When: 6:30 p.m. today Where: Lupton Stadium Stakes: This is the Horned Frogs' first conference game. It's also the first of a three-game series.

> > veri70nwireless



Senior midfielder Clint Arnold went 1-2 in TCU's 3-2 win over UTA. The Horned Frogs start conference play today with a three-game series against the University of New Mexico.



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FOOTBALL Florida player dead; cause still unknown

By PADRICK BREWER (University of) Central Florida Future

OVIEDO, Fla. - A UCF football player died Tuesday mornconditioning drill.

after rescue personnel trans- nal defibrillator." ported him from the Nicholpractice.

that they did not know what said. caused Plancher's death but to pass physicals to practice. arrived at the fieldhouse.

"We are still in the fact-gathering process," Tribble said. not play last season, Planch-"Following the completion of er was known for his work

"We received a call at 10:49 this morning from the medical Pa

By JULIETA

Staff Report

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staff, from the trainers," UCF police Chief Richard Beary said. "At 10:52, we had officers ing after a spring strength and on scene. When they arrived on scene, the medical staff was Ereck Plancher died at Flor- performing CPR and had him ida Hospital in East Orlando attached to an automatic exter-

Officers then took over CPR son Fieldhouse following the until fire rescue arrived on the scene, who also performed UCF director of athletics CPR and took him to Florida Keith Tribble said Tuesday Hospital, where he died, Beary

Beary said Plancher was that all athletes were required not conscious when officers

Tribble said though he did

