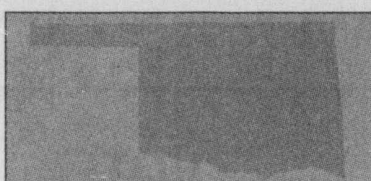
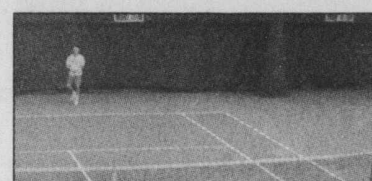


NEWS
A boy receives a special gift from the Starpoint School.
TOMORROW



OPINION
Oklahoma legislator's rhetoric on gay's damages state's reputation.
PAGE 3

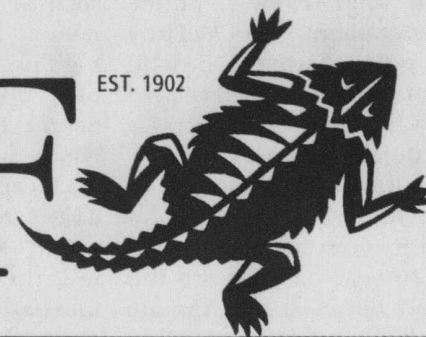


SPORTS
The men's tennis team heads to Las Vegas where it will take on three teams in three days.
PAGE 8

TCU

DAILY SKIFF

EST. 1902



THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008
Vol. 105 Issue 92 www.dailyskiff.com

Wright won't show in Dallas, cites security, 'media frenzy'

Bomb threat to Ill. church preceded move from campus

By ANDREW CHAVEZ
Editor-in-Chief

Five days before TCU moved an appearance by the Rev. Jeremiah Wright off campus for safety reasons, his Chicago church received a bomb threat, Chicago police said. But TCU officials said that event didn't weigh on the decision to not host the pastor.

Wright, whose sound bites have stirred controversy after being aired repeatedly on national TV in past weeks, canceled three appearances in Dallas scheduled for this weekend. Two of those events were scheduled to be held on TCU's campus but were moved by the university March 19 because of security concerns.

The Rev. Rickey Hill, executive pastor at Friendship-West Baptist Church, where Wright was scheduled to appear Friday and Saturday, said Wright told the church's senior pastor he canceled the appearances because he didn't want to endanger the lives of churchgoers, his family or his own life.

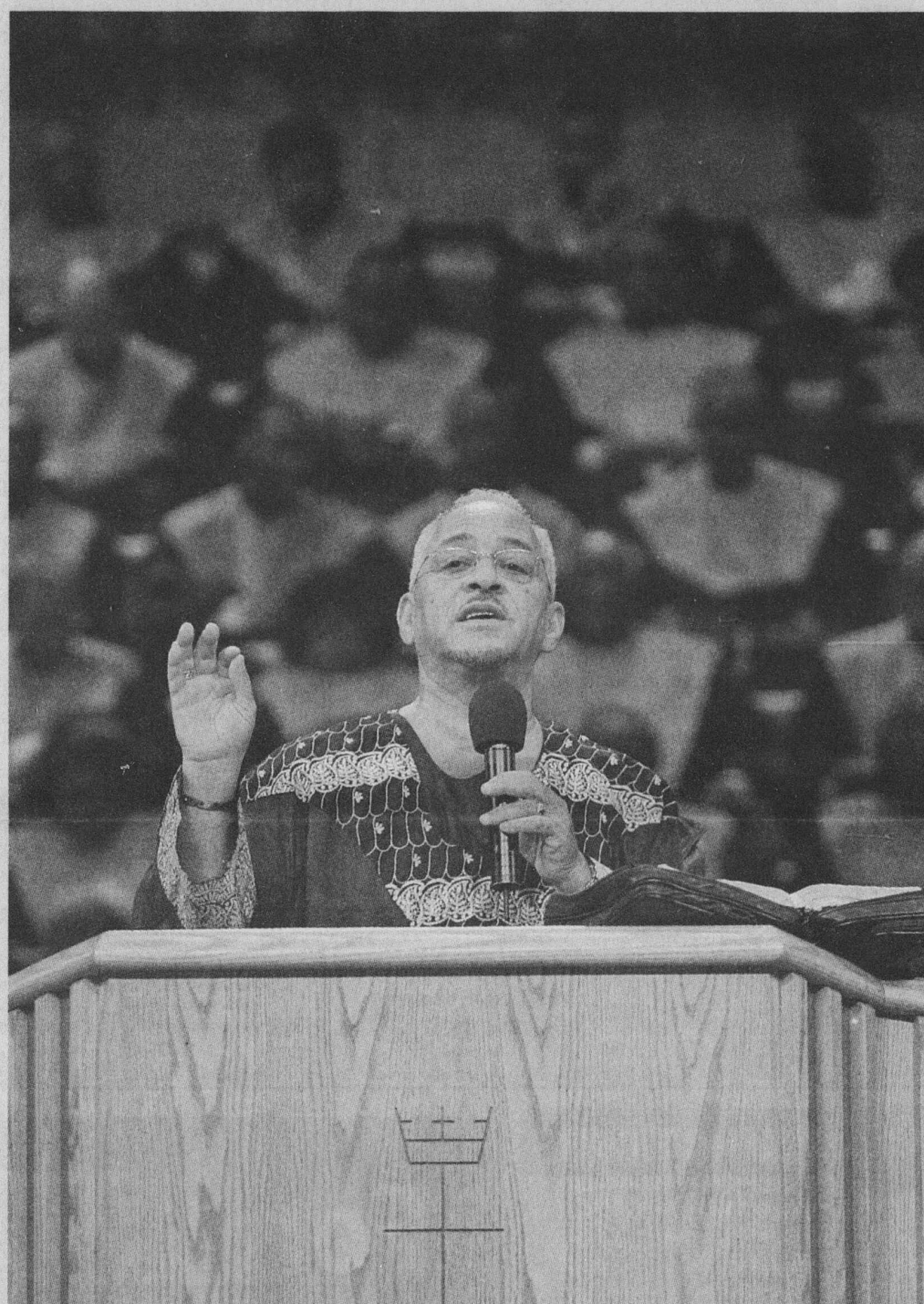
Tracy Syler-Jones, associate vice chancellor for marketing and communication, said Wednesday that TCU Police advised the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees about security issues surrounding the event before they voted to move it off campus.

"They felt strongly that it was their duty to move these events off campus based on the information they received from TCU Police," she said. Syler-Jones said the university won't release what the information was or how it was received by TCU Police, except to say that police officials consulted with the Fort Worth Police Department and concerns were specific to the TCU event.

"The security issues that were raised after campus police conferred with the Fort Worth Police Department were solely related to the campus event and not other security issues," Syler-Jones said.

Calls to TCU Police and the Fort Worth Police Department spokesman weren't returned Wednesday, and TCU Police declined last week to comment about the event's move.

Officer Marcel Bright, news affairs officer for the Chicago Police Department, said the bomb threat was phoned into Trinity United Christian Church in Chicago on March 14.



The Rev. Jeremiah Wright gives a sermon at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago in 2006. Wright, whose comments have sparked controversy after being aired in the national media, canceled his weekend appearances in Dallas.

Presidential hopeful Barack Obama attends Trinity United.

"A caller stated he was going to blow up the church and hung up," Bright said. He said the church staff immediately phoned police.

Special agent Ross Rice, spokesman for the Chicago Field Office of the FBI, said agents responded along with Chicago police but nothing was found.

He said "nothing else of a credible nature has been reported" since.

Wright also canceled scheduled appearances at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston, where he was scheduled to preach Sunday. FBI spokeswoman Pat Vil-

lafranca of the Houston FBI field office, and the church's business administrator, Maurice Carr, said there hadn't been threats received against Wright.

Carr said Wright cited a "media frenzy" in an e-mail to the church as a reason for canceling in Houston.

In Tampa, Fla., where Wright also can-

See **WRIGHT** page 2

DAILYSKIFF.COM

A pastor at Friendship-West Dallas discusses his church's standing on the Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

Faculty Senate to investigate retake policy

By MICHELLE ANDERSON
Staff Reporter

The Faculty Senate is investigating whether to revise TCU's course retake policy because it is more forgiving than many other universities', a faculty senate member said.

The committee is researching what the impact would be on student GPAs if the current policy is changed, said Blaise Ferrandino the academic excellence committee chair.

There is no limit to how many times a course can be retaken and any grade can be retaken at TCU. The only grade calculated into a student's GPA is the last attempt at the course. Credit is given once for a course that is retaken and students run the risk of not making a better grade the second time they take a class.

"Students could take advantage of the policy if it is too lenient," said David Bedford, a Faculty Senate member.

Committee members are considering if they should change the policy to allow only failing grades to be retaken and what to do with the grade after the course is retaken.

If the committee's research finds the need to revise the current policy, it will offer a recommendation to the Faculty Senate in the fall.

"TCU is unusually generous in its policy," Bedford said.

SMU and Baylor University allow students to retake a course if the grade is a D or lower, according to a study done by the committee. SMU

See **RETAKE** page 2

Study: Youth vote will play key role

By ANNA HODGES
Staff Reporter

His favorite movies include "The Godfather" I and II, and he enjoys watching "SportsCenter," playing basketball and listening to the jazz sounds of Miles Davis.

Yes, Democrat Barack Obama, like the other presidential candidates, has a Facebook profile. He, Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican John McCain all have photo albums, wall posts and a detailed profile.

In this year's presidential election, candidates are reaching out to young people in ways they never have before. Obama, Clinton and McCain are trying to appeal to young voters through popular youth-dominated networking sites, such as Facebook, MySpace and YouTube.

And it is all for good reason. According to a November 2007 survey by the Harvard University Institute of Politics, America's 18- to 24-year-olds are following politics more than ever, voter turnout is increasing and young people are expected to make a difference in the 2008 presidential campaign.

The Harvard study said 41 percent of young See **VOTE**, page 2

Outside hobbies essential to presidential well-being, author says

By KATIE WINTER
Staff Reporter

Ever wonder what presidents do outside the White House?

Presidents in the 19th century were interested in hunting and fishing, but 20th century presidents loved golf, a former professor and best-selling author said Wednesday.

Paul F. Boller Jr., best-selling

author and TCU emeritus professor of history, explored the hobbies of America's 43 presidents at an interview symposium Wednesday called "Presidents at Play: Observations by Dr. Paul F. Boller Jr."

Boller said hobbies have been essential to the health and well-being of presidents.

Bob Ray Sanders, an adjunct

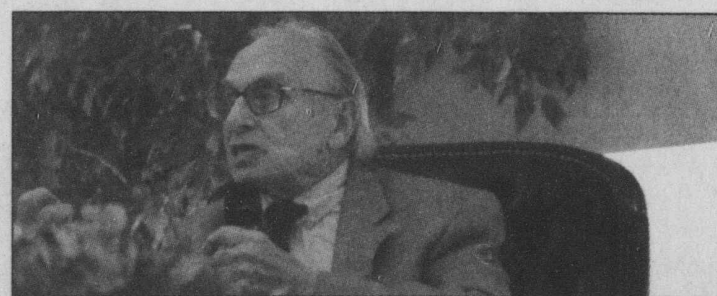
journalism professor and Star-Telegram columnist who conducted the interview with Boller, said he was fascinated by Boller's book and extraordinary mind of history.

Boller said his fascination with presidents came about because of presidents' diverse personalities.

"If you understand someone's recreational activities and

hobbies, you understand them a little better," said Boller, who uncovered little-known dimensions of presidents' lives in his current book "Presidential Diversions: Presidents at Play from George Washington to George W. Bush."

Boller said former President Dwight D. Eisenhower made the game of golf a "presidential See **PLAY**, page 6



Author Paul F. Boller Jr. speaks during a symposium Tuesday afternoon about his book titled on the hobbies of presidents throughout American history.

WEATHER
TODAY: Afternoon sun, 85/63
TOMORROW: Isolated storms, 70/55
SATURDAY: Showers, 75/61

PECULIAR FACT
CINCINNATI — An 18-year-old is able to buy a prom dress thanks to a man who paid her \$504 for a newspaper, telling her to keep the change.
— Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES
NEWS: Army fights to attract qualified recruits, page 6
SPORTS: Lady Frogs advance to WNIT round 4, page 8
NEWS: Professor to speak about writing changes, page 5

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WRIGHT

From page 1

celebrated appearances, police spokeswoman Laura McElroy said police hadn't dealt with threats at Bible-Based Fellowship Church, where Wright was scheduled to appear.

Joe Russo, who was responsible for President Clinton's security arrangements during his 20-year career with the Secret Service, said threats like those received by Wright's church are a regular part of appearances by high-profile figures.

"Bomb threats happen across the board — it doesn't even have to be a controversial person," Russo said. Most of the time, though, there's no device found, he said.

"When you're talking about terrorism, their effect is mass casualty, and they want to shock, so they're not calling first," said Russo, who is now a senior vice president at T&M Protection Resources, a private firm that specializes in high-

level security, executive protection and explosive detection.

Russo said a private person such as Wright, unlike presidential candidates or other high-profile government figures, doesn't bring his own Secret Service protection, which means the burden falls on local police, or in TCU's case, campus police.

Hill at Friendship-West said there haven't been any threats directed to the church, although he said police will be present. He said additional security measures won't be necessary.

"Nothing has changed, nothing will change — other than the fact Rev. Wright won't be with us in person," Hill said.

Michael Sorrell, the interim president of Paul Quinn College in Dallas, which will host another Friday event at which Wright was scheduled to speak, said the security at the college will be the same as it would be for any other event.

Calls to the Dallas Police

Department and the Dallas FBI office Wednesday about security for the Metroplex events weren't returned.

Staff reporters Valerie J. Hannon and Julieta Chiquillo contributed to this report.

FOR YOUR INFO

National Black Church Studies Forum and Black Church Consultation

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday
Where: Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas
Admission: \$15

State of the Black Church Summit

When: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday
Where: Paul Quinn College, Dallas
Admission: \$15

Reception and Award Banquet

When: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday
Where: Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas
Admission: \$125

VOTE

From page 1

adults surveyed indicated they would "definitely be voting" in a primary or caucus and 61 percent said they would "definitely be voting" in the 2008 general election.

Exit polls and turnout data from primaries nationwide show the Harvard survey's predictions have been accurate so far. The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, known as CIRCLE, has found that youth voter turnout has increased dramatically in primary contests nationwide. CIRCLE is a non-partisan organization that studies youth involvement in politics.

The Democratic Lean

According to CIRCLE, 18- to 29-year-olds made up 17 percent of the overall vote in the 2008 Texas primary. This percentage represents an increase from 6 percent in the 2000 election. CIRCLE estimated that more than 171,000 young people participated in the Republican primary and 449,000 in the Democratic primary.

The lopsided turnout in Texas can be explained by the fact that the Republican race was over by the time Texans voted, said Adam Schiffer, assistant professor of political science. He said that although it remains highly unlikely that the Democratic nominee will win Texas, the Texas Democratic Party seems to be resurging after years of dormancy.

Schiffer said 18- to 29-year-olds are the most Democratic-leaning voters in the electorate.

"They have come of age politically during an

unpopular Republican administration, so it's natural that they would gravitate to the opposition party," he said. "The good news for Democrats is that most voters stick with their party ID for the rest of their lives, so this generation is likely to remain Democratic."

The Issues

Both parties are devoting attention to issues young voters say they are concerned about.

According to a poll by Rock the Vote, young voters ranked issues of concern in the following order of importance: the economy (17 percent), the war in Iraq (12 percent), health care (11 percent) and college affordability (10 percent). Rock the Vote is a nationwide nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that aims to increase youth involvement in the political process.

Democrats Obama and Clinton both oppose the war in Iraq and advocate immediately beginning the withdrawal of troops, according to the candidates' Web sites. Republican candidate John McCain has said more troops are needed in Iraq to ensure long-term success.

Brittney Dubose, a sophomore radio-TV-film major, said she thinks young people are getting involved in the election because the candidates are addressing important issues and are making more of an attempt to relate to the young demographic.

"What happens to us depends on the kinds of decisions they make," she said.

The Final Race

Melanie Harris, a self-proclaimed "Hillary supporter

from the beginning," said she has been surprised and encouraged by the reaction of traditionally conservative TCU students to the Clinton and Obama campaigns. Harris, an alumna, said that although Texas was crucial in the March 4 Democratic primary, she does not think TCU students will vote Democratic in the general election.

"With so many students coming from conservative backgrounds who haven't really taken the time to develop their own party ID, most students will probably vote for McCain," she said.

Olivia Chilton, TCU College Republicans state elections chair, agreed.

"Come November, TCU students will be for McCain," she said.

However, according to a non-partisan blog, techpresident.com, which tracks the effect the presidential candidates are having online, Obama is currently in the lead in the online social-networking campaign. Obama, followed by Clinton and McCain, has the highest recorded number of YouTube viewings, MySpace friends and Facebook supporters.

It is too early to tell whether online support will translate into actual votes, Schiffer said. However, Obama has benefited the most from his superior online organization, he said.

"It's likely that the early enthusiasm for him that spread across social-networking sites helped generate the 'buzz' that pushed him to the front of the Democratic pack, despite his relative inexperience," Schiffer said.

"He (Obama) has used the Internet not only to break all fundraising records but to rewrite the rules for how to raise money in a campaign," Schiffer said. "His emphasis on bottom-up campaigning, rather than relying on a small number of wealthy donors, has given him a wide base of enthusiastic support that has, at least in most states, translated into increased turnout."

RETAKE

From page 1

also averages both grades.

"We are in the minority in having no limitations on grades that can be retaken," Ferrandino said.

Of the students admitted to TCU in 2001 and 2002, 1 percent repeated classes they made a B in, 13 percent repeated C's, 44 percent repeated D's and 42 percent repeated F's, Ferrandino

said. Students currently enrolled at TCU cannot be included in the survey because of privacy laws, Ferrandino said.

One student said she put more effort into the class she retook because she wanted to improve her grade.

"I would be upset if they changed the policy in such a way that it would not help my GPA as much as possible," said Catherine Bruni, a sophomore communication studies major.

There are two motives for why people retake classes, said Stuart Youngblood, the Faculty Senate chair.

"Some try to maximize their GPA and others just got off on a bad foot," Youngblood said.

For students trying to get into graduate school, the retake policy can be really beneficial for their GPA, Youngblood said.

For freshmen and sophomores in foundation classes, it is a matter of mastering the material, Youngblood said. If they can retake the class for a higher grade then they have a better chance of making good grades in their upper level classes, Youngblood said.

"People should exert their best effort from the start but all of us mess up at some point so a do over is not unreasonable," Bedford said.

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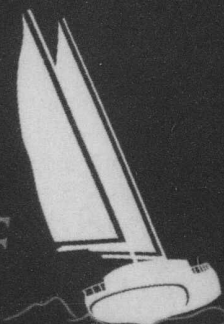
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COMMENTARY



Kara Peterson

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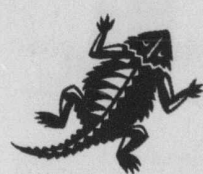
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LETTER TO Past

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Editorial B
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Even the fear of death is nothing compared to the fear of not having lived authentically and fully."

— Francis Moore Lappe

THE SKIFF VIEW

Course retake policy should be more strict

The Faculty Senate, in a wise academic move for the university, is investigating the course retake policy.

As it stands, students can retake any course and their grade will be replaced by the most recent attempt. There is also no limit to the number of times a student can retake a course.

Yes, this might sound great to students, especially those who may have slacked off freshman year and will be more likely to attend that 8 a.m. class now.

But for a university that is striving to hold itself to the highest of academic standards, this policy is too lenient and allows students too much freedom.

Other comparable universities have more strict retake policies. SMU, for example, only allows students to retake a course if the student's grade is a D or lower, and after the course is completed, the two

grades are averaged.

In comparison, TCU's policy looks weak and ineffective. It allows students to take courses with a less-serious attitude, because if they do badly, they can just retake the course and replace the grade.

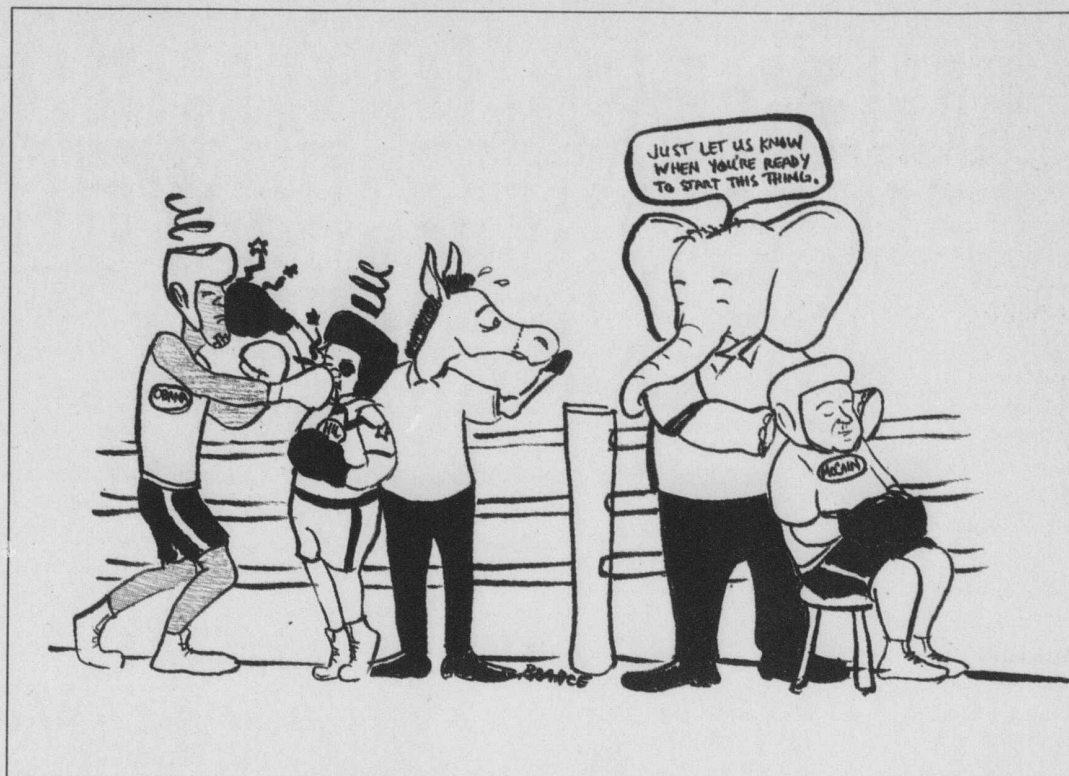
Even though the current policy allows students to work toward a higher GPA, that GPA will be respected more if it comes from a reputable school with a high standard of academia.

With the recent switch to the plus/minus grading system coupled with the addition of new areas of study on campus, TCU is making a push to be an even more respected institution.

The implementation of a more strict course-retake policy would only add to this push and would send a message to employers and other universities that TCU is serious about academics.

Managing editor Bailey Shiffler for the editorial board.

BY JACOB BRAHCE



Jacob Brahce is a freshman criminal justice and political science major from Cedar Park.

Anti-gay Okla. legislator a state embarrassment

Oklahoma is known for its violent storms, but recently, a different kind of storm has created news in Oklahoma and beyond. Her name is Sally Kern.

Kern is a Republican state legislator in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Her office is in the state's massive Capitol building, located near downtown Oklahoma City. It was there, in the Oklahoma Capitol's rotunda, where hundreds of protestors gathered March 18 to ask Kern for an apology.

But, she wasn't in the building. In January, Kern met with a group of about 50 Republicans in Oklahoma County and delivered a speech. Just more than three minutes of that speech made it to YouTube, where the clip has drawn more than 1 million views since it was first posted March 7 by the Victory Fund, a group that supports gay and lesbian political candidates.

In the three-minute clip, Kern is heard railing against what she calls "the death knell of this country." The death knell, according to Kern? Homosexuality.

Kern's most inflammatory statements about homosexuality, however, came later in her speech when she said, "I honestly think it's the biggest threat our nation has, even more so than terrorism or Islam."

First, I'd like to make one thing clear — terrorism and Islam are not synonymous. Second, surely Kern is aware of the irony in her statement; she works just two miles from the Oklahoma City National Memorial, where terrorism caused the deaths of 168 Oklahomans in 1995.

Still, Kern argues that homosexuality is a bigger threat.

Since recorded portions of her speech have appeared on YouTube, Kern has refused to apologize, according to NewsOK.com, the online version of The

Oklahoman. Certainly, that is her right. Threatened as it may be by the "death knell" of homosexuality, this country still recognizes Americans' right to free speech — even Kern's. But that's hardly the issue.

At the heart of the matter isn't that Kern said some inflammatory things. Instead, it's the group she targeted. If she hadn't chosen homosexuals, but had instead assaulted another minority group, would there be a controversy? Sure, but it would have been short-lived; Kern would have been handed her walking papers a week ago.

Fortunately, groups like the Victory Fund, and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays have spoken out against Kern's hate-filled speech. It was members of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and other church groups that protested at the Oklahoma Capitol on March 18, asking for Kern to apologize and meet with local gays and Muslims.

Celebrities have also joined the fracas. On March 14, Ellen Degeneres played a clip of Kern's speech on her daytime talk show and then called the legislator's office, only to be notified that the office's voicemail box was full. Comedian Margaret Cho has pledged her support to the Victory Fund, as well.

Even fellow Oklahoma government officials are taking a stand. Jim Roth, who is Oklahoma's Corporation Commissioner and openly gay, said he took an oath to serve 100 percent of the state's citizens, according to NewsOK.com, but he said, "I regret that Rep. Kern doesn't show the same respect for 100 percent of her constituents."

Instead, Kern is weathering the storm, and remains a legislator in Oklahoma's House of Representatives, serving District 84 — a large swath of western Oklahoma City.

Sadly, if I still lived in my childhood home, Kern would be representing me.

Kara Peterson is a advertising/public relations graduate student from Fort Worth.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

University's distance from Wright detrimental to discussion of race

I am writing this letter in response to the comments the chancellor made about the Rev. Jeremiah Wright that were published in the Dallas Morning News and picked up by other news media.

Specifically, Chancellor Victor Boschini commented that: "Giving an award [to Wright] is another matter, and in this specific case in light of Rev. Wright's recently discovered remarks, TCU would not give such an award." Additionally, recently the Board of Trustees voted to prohibit Brite Divinity's award ceremony honoring Wright from occurring on campus because of safety concerns.

As a TCU alumnus, a former board member of TCU's D.C. Metro Area Alumni Chapter and current member of the National Alumni Board, I feel compelled to address the chancellor's comments and the Board's recent decision.

Let me begin by saying that this letter is not meant to admonish any of TCU's leadership for personal views regarding the substance of Wright's comments that were captured and published to the general public. I have dear friends in the TCU administration and leadership circles that have been advocates for me on many occasions and I respect their feelings about Wright's comments.

In my opinion, Wright's widely publicized comments were indeed over the line, and similar to Sen. Barack Obama, I reject those views without equivocation. His comments do not reflect my view of our country. However, I am writing to express my disappointment in the chancellor's comments and to encourage discussion on a tough social issue

facing the graduates of our campus — race relations in America.

I take issue with his comments for three main reasons. First, it fails to fairly and fully consider either the context of Wright's lifetime of preaching and service to the community. That is to say, it appears the chancellor's judgment of Wright is based on the isolated comments published in the media rather than his 36 years of service to his community. I am disappointed because it does not appear the chancellor considered

"...learning to change the world through higher education is not for the timid or faint of heart."

Zuberi B. Williams

Wright's entire record before making them.

Second, the comments were dismissive of the thoughts and views of the Americans to whom Wright was ministering and suggest Wright's comments had no value other than to offend a majority of Americans. They failed to recognize they were based on real concerns and beliefs by many Americans and are a part of conversations that happen in churches all over the country on any given Saturday or Sunday. These are individuals that our graduates will encounter in their lives and at the workplace and who are part of our national community.

Third, it failed to take advantage of an opportunity for TCU to lead in a national discussion regarding race relations in America. A recent New York Times arti-

cle found that Wright's comments coupled with Obama's speech has sparked a new and modern dialogue about race in America on college campuses. Students are using those comments to engage in discussion and learn more about different views and the basis for those views.

In distancing Wright from the university, it has also helped to distance TCU away from this important discussion. Moreover, with Wright coming to campus to receive an award, our university missed the opportunity to be at the forefront of this discussion.

We could have leveraged his appearance to allow our students to lead discussions on race in America with the world watching. In my opinion, that experience would have been a great way for our students to "learn to change the world." I appreciate that it is often difficult to negotiate the area of race in America. But it has been my experience at TCU and other graduate schools I have attended that learning to change the world through higher education is not for the timid or faint of heart.

It is important to engage and tackle difficult issues, especially when they are placed in your lap. I learned more about myself and other people while I was at TCU than any other time of my life. My time there gave me tools I need to succeed in my profession, with my family and be part of my community. I did not acquire those tools by dismissing the views of others or distancing myself from tough situations.

Zuberi B. Williams is an alumnus and an assistant attorney general for the District of Columbia.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pastor's comments don't evoke true meaning of Golden Rule

I was at Brite Divinity School on Good Friday.

TCU was vacant, but some of the Brite faculty were in their offices. I'm guessing they, like me, were there because of concerns about Brite's plans to honor the patently offensive Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

While I paced the sidewalk for two and a half hours walking around the outside of the Robert Carr Chapel, Moore

and Beasley buildings waiting to speak with somebody from Brite, my wife and I noticed that the clock on the steeple of Carr Chapel had stopped working, and the hour still tolled an hour behind.

It reminded me of the relationship between Wright and Brite. Wright does not know what time it is in history. He has embraced a type of unkind theology that says he can get

away with saying mean things about nice people to accomplish an end. He teaches his congregation that the following is acceptable speech from a pulpit.

Pick one statement by which to get offended — "The U.S. of KKK-A," "Condoskeezza Rice," "Bill (Clinton) did us, just like he did Monica — ridin' dirty" (while humping from the pulpit), "God damn America."

In an understatement, it's fair to say Wright does not live by the Golden Rule.

What is the acceptable context for a person called reverend to pretend to screw a young lady in the pulpit or break the Third Commandment?

Brite knew what it would look like to recognize a presidential candidate's offensive pastor in an election year and

decided to go for the headline anyway.

They deserve the grief.

Why am I so upset? In my mind, I can picture my three daughters as children singing the song "Jesus loves the little children of the world." In Wright's church, would a child ask, "Mommy, what does God damn America mean?" As a Fort Worth resident for more than 40 years, the potential of

that little girl's question filled me with angst.

The pain continued as I heard the chimes from Carr Chapel playing the TCU alma mater. The hands on the clock were still stuck at 9.

Charles Felts is an alumnus from Fort Worth.

Editor's note: Brite decided to honor Wright last year, before the controversy was prevalent in the national media.

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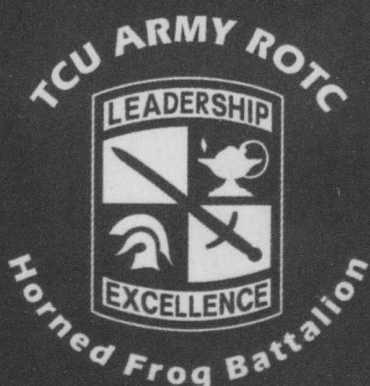
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By CHRISTI
Staff Report

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Lecture to explore writing methods in new media

By CHRISTINA SCHAMS
Staff Reporter

The preset rules of writing — Times New Roman font, one-inch margins and double-spacing — are changing, a Michigan State University associate professor said.

Danielle Nicole DeVoss, associate professor of writing, rhetoric and American cultures and associate chairwoman and director of the Professional Writing program at Michigan State, said her lecture, "Intellectual Property, Multimedia Composing and Digital Writing Research," will focus on how writing

is changing shape and how copyright changes in digital spaces.

She said she will discuss the ethical and legal dimensions of intellectual property, which is copyright law for new media.

DeVoss said digital spaces have made it easier to share material, which is especially helpful when students are asked to create digital material for the classroom.

She said she encourages undergraduate students to think about the way writing has developed because it is important for their future.

"When they are working with nonprofits, with corporations or in their professional life, they are not going to be writing five-paragraph essays," she said.

The lecture will examine examples from YouTube and a few past legal cases, she said.

Brad Lucas, assistant professor and director of undergraduate studies in rhetoric, composition and new media writing, said

DeVoss' lecture will appeal to students who have an interest in communications, copyright and digital writing.

"Some of the nitty-gritty research-related and theoretical stuff — I think graduate students will eat that stuff up."

Danielle Nicole DeVoss
Michigan State professor

people, but particularly to graduate students who plan to teach.

"Some of the nitty-gritty

research-related and theoretical stuff — I think graduate students will eat that stuff up," she said.

Joddy Murray, assistant professor of rhetoric and new media, said students must learn to write using all the digital tools that are available in an increasingly digital environment.

Murray said he teaches new media writing to help students understand the different environments and how their writing needs to change.

"Being a writer today does not mean just writing on 8 1/2 by 11 sheets of paper,"

Murray said. The English department and a TCU Instructional Development Grant will sponsor the event.

FOR YOUR INFO Intellectual property lecture

Who: Danielle Nicole DeVoss, Michigan State University
When: 7 p.m. today
Where: Brown-Lupton Student Center Room 203
Admission: free

New generation of Cubans uses Web to express ideas in Florida

By ALFONSO CHARDY
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — The young men and women sitting around a living room somewhere in Havana laughed and talked as if they were guests at a party.

But what they were telling their counterparts in South Florida was serious business. They railed against "tyranny," the persistent "repression," the potential for a "social explosion," rumors of a new rafter exodus and their annoyance that the media is not recognizing the efforts of young dissidents.

Witnessed by reporters in Miami, via Internet video phone, the Havana living-room chat

with five University of Miami students opened a window into a little-known dimension of post-Fidel Castro Cuba. Last week's exchange occurred as Cuban officials and Cuban emigres friendly to the regime met on the island to discuss easing rules restricting travel.

To some Cuba experts, the unvarnished assessments offered by the young men and women in the Havana living room reflect embryonic unrest — perhaps sparked by Raul Castro himself when last year he encouraged debate about the problems of the Cuban revolution.

"There may be a cause and effect here, with Raul's encouragement of open discussion in the island," said Brian Latell, a former CIA analyst on Cuba and Latin America and now senior research associate at the University of Miami's Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, which organized the Havana living-room chat.

Latell added that while Cuban youths are becoming more outspoken, their complaints may not amount to a movement.

"I don't see anything organized, yet," Latell said. "But there may well already be an incipient youth unrest."

One example was an episode in November at the Universidad de Oriente campus in Santiago when an unusual student protest allegedly occurred following a report of a female student's rape in September.

According to accounts from human rights groups reporting information from independent journalists in Cuba, a group of angry students prevented the university rector from leaving her office when they concluded

she was not interested in improving security and other conditions at the campus.

To the young men and women in the Havana living room last week, Cuba's young people represent the tip

of the spear for change — one that may strike peacefully or violently.

Organizers said the location of the living room and the Cubans, ages 18 to 25, could not be identified in order to protect them from Cuban government reprisals.

University of Miami students addressed the young Havana men and women via a telephone call linked to the live video image projected on a large screen.

One of the first topics was what kind of change young Cubans want.

"We, the youths of Cuba, want change," said one of the young men, adding that "structural, political change" was necessary.

He said the problem is generational — aging people in power and powerless youths in the urban centers. "The gerontocracy is in power and on the other side is youth, each time more powerful."

The young man also said the generational conflict will "shatter the regime, and this has us very hopeful."

A 25-year-old man jumped in to explain that the current generation of Cuban youth could not identify with the older people in

power because experiences were different.

"Our generation was formed after the fall of the Berlin wall and after the transition to democracy in eastern Europe," he said. "So we have not shared the hard struggle of those in power, who fought against [former Cuban dictator Fulgencio] Batista, who fought against a tyranny which in the end led to another tyranny."

He went on to say that perhaps the greatest threat to the Cuban government is not a potential U.S. invasion, as Havana officials often claim, but angry youth.

"There is a generational conflict which also includes a political conflict," he said. "Thus, the generation today does not feel committed to the same ideals of the Cuban revolution or anything of the sort. They are hollow words."

In answer to a question on whether Cuban youth will wait for change or take action, the Havana group laughed nervously. Then one young man said, "Well, in Cuba it is not logical for that to happen, but it could happen some day in the same way as in Venezuela or Burma."

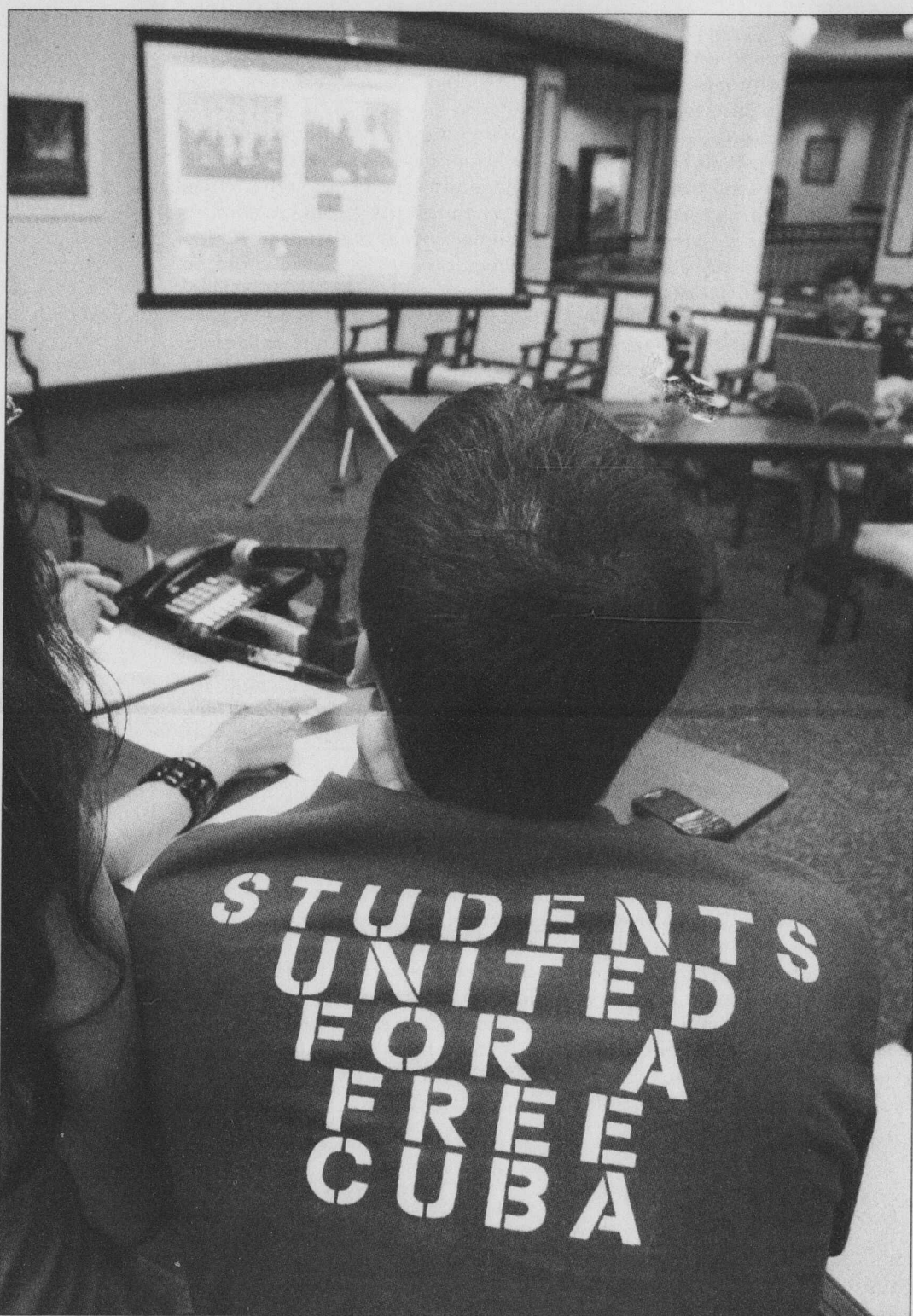
He added, "Young people here are tired that their rights are violated, that their right to life is crushed and they may no longer accept it and there could be a social explosion."

The conversation took an unexpected turn when Vanessa Lopez, 21, of the University of Miami group, asked why dissident groups mostly feature older people.

Several in the Havana group quickly rejected that notion, but acknowledged that there is a perception that only older people are dissidents because the media focus on longtime leaders.

He cited an example.

"On March 10, a group of young people went to lay a floral wreath at the grave of a fallen brother," the young man said. "We were arrested and taken to a police unit. There we saw one of the legendary leaders of the opposition, [Jorge Garcia Perez, known as] Antunez, and the media only spoke about Antunez. But they did not mention the five young



University of Miami's Dr. Andy Gomez speaks with students at an unidentified location in Cuba live on the Internet on March 16 at the Institute of Cuban Studies on the University of Miami campus.

people who were there, too." One of the women identified herself as a member of a gay-rights group and spoke of discrimination against homosexuals.

"Our work is aimed at defending the homosexual, discriminated against both by the authorities as by society itself," she said.

Andy Gomez, the University of Miami assistant provost who

moderated the discussion, said the Havana youth were a mixture of students and former students expelled from schools for being dissidents. At least two were women, he said.

The University of Miami students were members of CAUSA: Students United for a Free Cuba, a group linked to a broader Cuban-exile-advocacy organization known as Raices de Esperanza or Roots

of Hope.

Toward the end of the conversation, one young man commented on the recent defection of Cuban soccer players, noting rumors in Havana of a possible new rafter exodus similar to the one in 1994 that brought 37,191 to South Florida.

"If there is a small opening toward the shore, not one Cuban will remain in Cuba," he predicted.

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Army, Marine Corps face recruiting challenges

By NANCY BARTLEY
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — A high-school graduate with no criminal record, Rody Garcita seemed like a solid prospect for Army fatigues.

At 35, Garcita is single, lives with his parents in Seattle and works as a nurses' aide in an adult-care center. He sees the Army as the key to a better life.

"I want to improve myself," he said. "I want to serve this country and maybe go to college."

At the Army recruiting office on Jackson Street in Seattle, Garcita sat quietly at a desk taking a practice test for Army admission. But once he was finished, he was disappointed to learn he had not reached the necessary 36 points to pass.

He plans to take the test again.

Garcita's Army dreams may hinge on his ability to do algebra, the part of the test he found the most challenging. He remembers taking the subject in high school, "but it's been a long time."

For military recruiters, cases like Garcita's can be frustrating. At a time when the Army and Marines have relaxed their standards for new recruits in an effort to increase their fighting forces, the military can't afford to lose many prospects.

After five years of controversy over U.S. involvement in Iraq and nearly 4,000 combat deaths, finding qualified candidates and persuading them to enlist is difficult, recruiters say.

Each recruiter is faced with a quota of one high-school graduate and one high-school senior a month in a state with 1,594 total active Army enlistments last year — only 80 percent of the recruiting goal. The Army is trying to appeal to prospective soldiers through advertising and marketing. Although the approach is soft-sell, the underlying message is as direct as the "Uncle Sam Wants You for the U.S. Army" posters of decades past.

Finding qualified recruits is like "looking for a needle in a haystack," said Lt. Col. Ken Swanson, who's in charge of recruiting offices in most of Washington state and Alaska, as well as parts of Oregon and Idaho.

In November, the Pentagon set a goal to increase the Army by 65,000 actively enlisted soldiers to

547,000, and the Marines by 27,000 to 202,000.

The Army Reserve also faces challenges. It exceeded its nationwide goal with 27,004 enlistments last year, but Army Reserve officials have said they expected to lose many of these soldiers to the active-duty branch.

The war's unpopularity in many circles has made one traditional source — high schools — a tough sell for recruiters.

Recruiters often rely on what they call "prospecting" trips to places where young people gather, whether it's outside schools or in bowling alleys or coffee shops. Or they use an 18-wheel truck and semitrailer to go to schools and shopping malls, giving young men and women a chance to play video games with Army information, view films about the Army and talk with

soldiers.

When they're not directly selling the Army one-on-one, recruiters seek community visibility through a series of partnerships, from endorsing Brahma bulls at the Monroe Rodeo to stock cars at Monroe's Evergreen Speedway and minor-league baseball games.

To draw more people into their ranks, the Army and Marines are granting waivers to those who earlier would not have been accepted.

In 2007, the Army issued waivers for 18 percent of its recruits, primarily for misdemeanor convictions such as carrying a weapon onto school grounds, fighting or stealing, according to the Pentagon.

Of all the military branches, the Marines granted the most waivers, about 11,000 in 2007 — 69 percent of those for drug use, according to the Pentagon. Because of the Marines' strict anti-drug policy, recruits with previous drug-use convictions need to get waivers.

"The waiver process has changed like society has changed," Swanson said. Years ago, a kid caught drinking behind the school would be driven home by police and the parents would handle the punishment. Now the youth is arrested and a record follows, Swanson said.

Waivers also are needed for recruits who have been on Ritalin for Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder, as well as for those who have

been in counseling or had asthma, Swanson said.

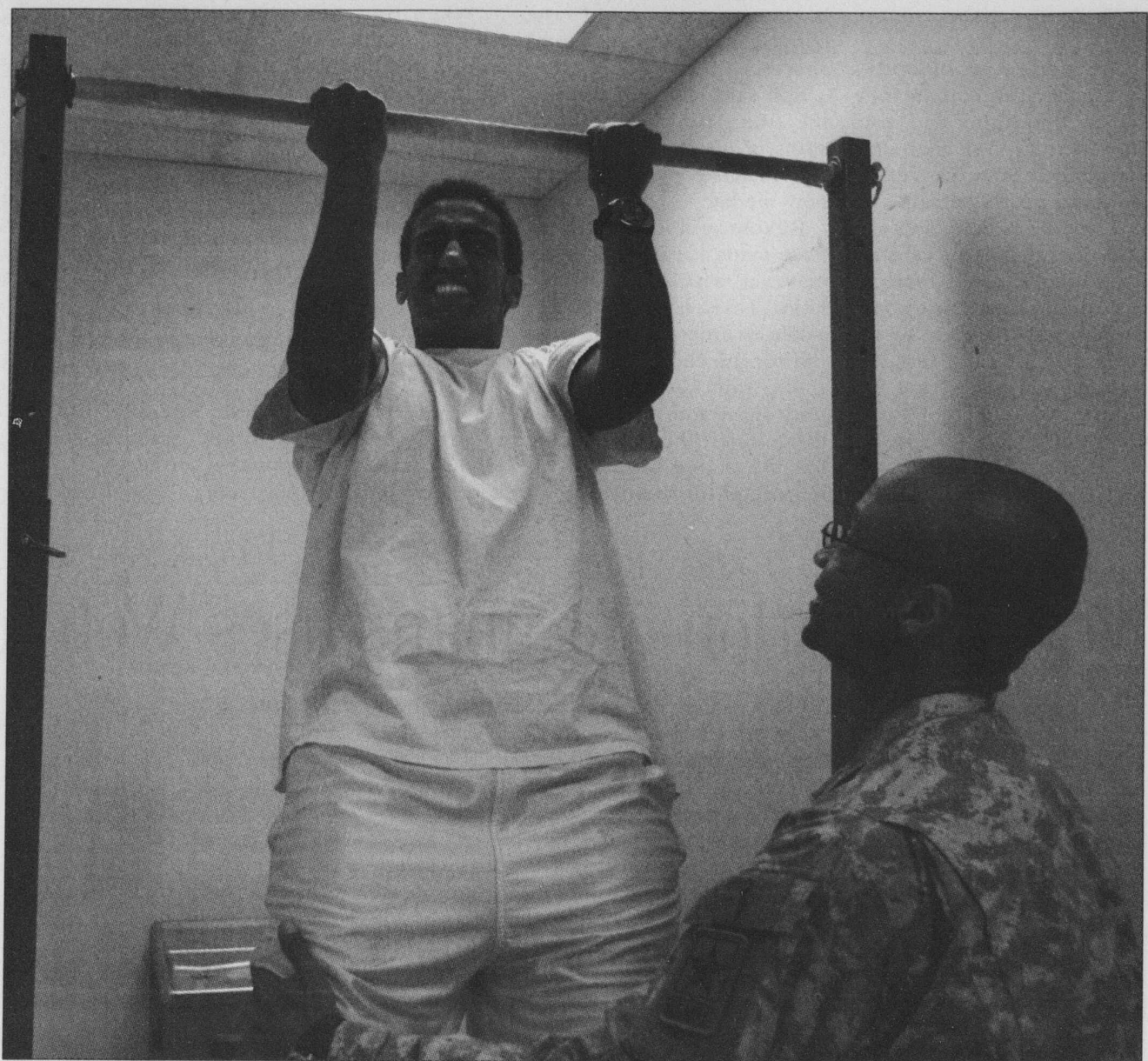
Sgt. 1st Class James Veach of the recruiting office at Seattle's Northgate Mall said one recruit who tested well on the entrance exam needed a waiver because he had seen a psychiatrist to help him overcome shyness. The waiver, which the military grants based on what's in medical records, was not granted.

Swanson is quick to point out that the Army does not accept everyone who wants to enlist. Nor would the Army want just anyone, he says.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Montano of the Army's Tacoma Mall recruiting office is often asked why the Army doesn't recruit criminals with multiple felonies.

"Would you want someone like that guarding your house?" he asked. "Then why would you want him guarding your country?"

Montano, who has joined recruits



Staff Sgt. Sven Rawlins helps recruit Rim Woldetensae try out some pull-ups at the Northgate recruiting office in Seattle on Tuesday. Recruiters for the Army and Marines Corps have recently met increased difficulty finding acceptable recruits.

been in counseling or had asthma, Swanson said.

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"Would you want someone like that guarding your house?" he asked. "Then why would you want him guarding your country?"

Montano, who has joined recruits

on two-mile training runs, calls them his kids and is proud to be their mentor. His job can involve telling recruits that basic training "is going to suck," that the Army enlistment bonuses are a good deal, or that some people have to take the written test again in order to pass it.

On one day at the Northgate office, Pvt. Kayla Agustin, 18, a Shorewood High School graduate, returned from advanced training to work for two weeks as a recruiter.

"She's my recruit," Veach said, as he praised her accomplishments.

Seven months ago she walked into the office with a friend just looking for information.

What she got, she said, "was a whole new lifestyle. And so far I love it."

Although the Army has been accused of targeting minorities, the Pentagon reports that almost 76 percent of Washington state's recruits

last year were white, while 7 percent were Hispanic, 6 percent African American, 5 percent Asian and the rest were other races. Eighty-five percent of the recruits were male.

Swanson said he cannot afford to ignore any group as potential recruits because the need for soldiers is so great.

As the pressure to recruit continues, so does the Army's \$200 million-a-year advertising campaign, which came about after nationwide enlistment hit an all-time low in 1999.

Ads depict Army service as career-oriented and don't show a hint of battlefield, although joining means a strong likelihood of deployment to Afghanistan or Iraq.

Swanson is candid about the risks.

"You will go into harm's way, but you will be well-trained and well-equipped and led by some of the best in the world," he said.

PLAY

From page 1

game" because after he played it, every president since then has played, including former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

"LBJ is known for treating the people he worked with like his golf ball. He would coax them, pleaded with them and swore at them," he said.

Former President Abraham Lincoln had humor as one of his diversions, Boller said. Lincoln thought

that humor was crucial during the Civil War and the slaughter of 600,000 Americans, he said.

"Lincoln would be often caught in tears, but if someone could tell him a joke or make him laugh, it would make him feel better."

Boller also said former President George Washington was an art collector, an image most people don't think about when recollecting the nation's first president. They "think of a cherry tree," Boller said.

Boller called former President

Franklin D. Roosevelt the most active of presidents. He said the night before Roosevelt's inauguration, he invited a heavyweight-champion boxer to the White House to spar and then woke up the next day and delivered a speech he wrote himself.

Boller has written five books about presidents, their wives, campaigns, inaugurations and diversions. Boller said diversions are the games presidents played and their sports and cultural interests.

The best source for information

about presidents is their own writings, like letters and diaries, or memoirs of people who knew the president, Boller said.

Despite advancements in technology, Boller said, he still relies on libraries for information.

"If I were to continue writing, I would get into the Internet and computers more," Boller said. "But for now, I enjoy getting my research myself."

Sanders said people who aren't presidential scholars could read Boller's

book and find out certain things they never knew.

"You find out how your favorite president spent their leisure time and official time in office," Sanders said.

Alice Carter, director of research advancement, said she enjoyed listening to Boller on Wednesday and hearing about the presidents' lives.

"Boller is very sharp and intelligent," Carter said. "He has opinions but is able to step back from his opinion and view people in a balanced way."

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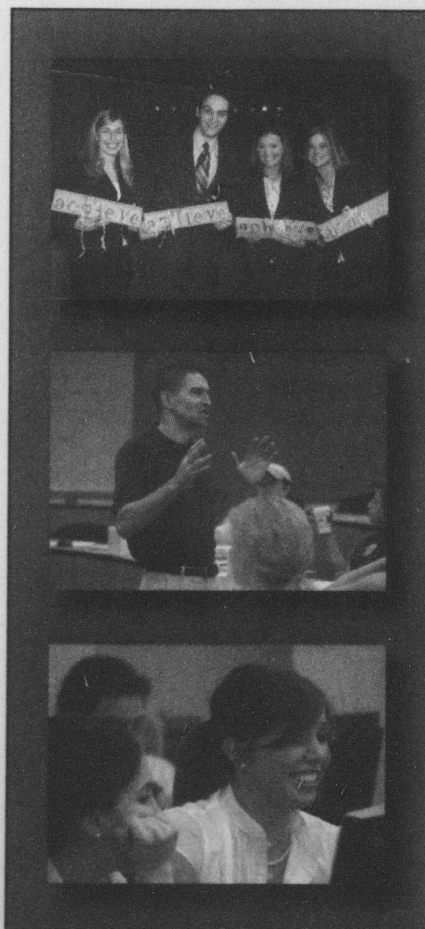
Friday, March 28
7:30 PM Ed Landreth Auditorium
The Four Freshmen
with the TCU Jazz Ensemble
Curt Wilson, director
Admission is \$20 at the door

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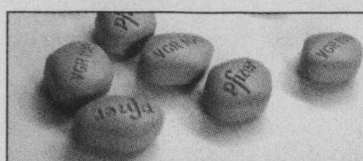
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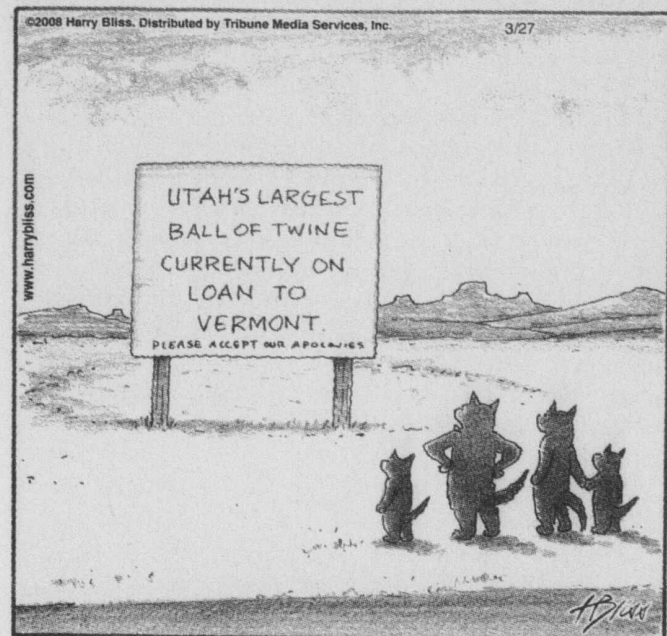
WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE

Q: What do you get if you cross a dinosaur with a plate?

A: A tyrannosaur.

Bliss

by Harry Bliss



"No way!"



"They're baseballs. You throw 'em."

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

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

Wednesday's Solutions

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

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

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD

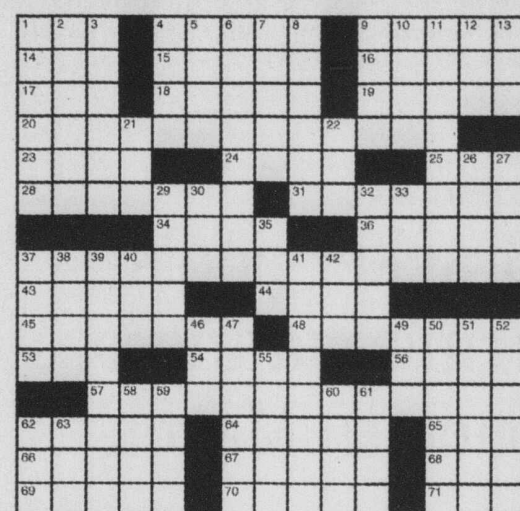
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4 Earthquake
9 Car lifts
14 Make a miscalculation
15 Banks of baseball
16 Square
17 Salton or Sargasso
18 Faces the day
19 Saturn or Mercury
20 Start of Evan Esar quip
23 Jumble
24 Turns right
25 Poetic meadow
28 Cowboy movie
31 Lay waste to
34 The best... plans...
36 Designer Ashley
37 Part 2 of quip
43 Actress Witherspoon
44 Fencer's instrument
45 Adjusts the pitch
46 Comebacks
53 Seine
54 Unsolicited ms. encl.
56 Viral lump
57 End of quip
62 Bloodsucker
64 Transmitter
65 Drs. group
66 Come to terms
67 Baldwin and Guinness
68 Obtained
69 Overbearing
70 Bubbly
71 Big Band, for one



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA
3/27/08

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

STAFF	PLIE	MEAT
LAURA	LADS	ELMO
IKNEAD	AVACATION	
META	ATE	APIARY
	KOTO	BPOE
ADVICE	READ	RAGS
ROOST	BEADS	NEO
SOWHAT	ELSE	ISGNU
ONE	DAVIT	STERN
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- DOWN**
1 Confer
2 Intertice of a leaf
3 Free of charge
4 Desiccated
5 Poetic name for Ireland
6 Badge of honor
7 Blockade
8 Interlocked
9 Self-defense system
10 All over again
11 Cool it!
12 Set of parts
13 Mata Hari, for one
21 Steaming
22 Half an African fly?
26 Emerald Isle
27 Winged
29 Actress Barkin
30 Unpleasantly chilly
32 Icy rain
33 Touch with tenderness
35 Coloring agent
37 Teheran's country
38 Borot filler
39 Residents of a new region
40 Tempe sch.
41 Spatula
42 Speller's contest
46 Compass dir.
47 Petty dictator
48 Be obligated
50 Devastate
51 Nervous vibration
52 Horizontal layers
55 Sedimentary rock
58 Hot pair in poker
59 Collective pronoun
60 Small notch
61 Intrusive
62 Scientist's office
63 Pridelutness

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

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Athletics has tentative timetable for new basketball coach

By BRETT LARSON
Sports Editor

The TCU men's basketball team may have a new head coach as early as April 7, according to the assistant director of athletics media relations.

Assistant director Joe Monaco said the team hopes to have a new coach hired in time for the NCAA Tournament National Championship



SUTTON



PETERSON

game, which is on April 7. "There's no real rhyme or reason to the date, but it's just the best-case scenario," Monaco said.

He said a thorough search is currently underway, and it has no specific deadline.

A source with knowledge of the situation told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that TCU officials met with Buzz Peterson and Scott Sutton regarding the position Tuesday.

Monaco said he could neither confirm nor deny any potential candidates for the position.

Peterson is currently the director of player personnel for the Charlotte Bobcats, an NBA franchise. He has previous college head coaching experience with Coastal Carolina University, University of Tennessee, University of Tulsa and Appalachian State University.

Sutton is currently the head coach of the Oral Roberts University Golden Eagles.

The Golden Eagles entered the NCAA Tournament this year as a 13 seed following a 24-9 season and Summit League championship.

Oral Roberts was defeated in the first round by four-seed University of Pittsburgh.

Neil Dougherty, who is not returning after six seasons as head coach, replaced Billy Tubbs after his resignation following his eighth season.

Dougherty was hired March 25, 2002, 19 days after the Horned Frog basketball season ended that year.

TCU athletics director Danny Morrison announced Dougherty would not be returning March 16, three days after the Horned Frogs' season ended with a loss to University of Nevada, Las Vegas in the Mountain West Conference Tournament.

COMMENTARY

Bracket pools bring madness back to March

By JOSH DAVIS
Staff Writer

It all hit me at once. As I sat in Buffalo Brothers Pizza & Wing Co., reminding everyone in earshot that I picked West Virginia over Duke for roughly the 287th time, about to pull my bracket out of my pocket, it hit me, and my skin crawled.

I'm "That Guy" in everyone's NCAA Tournament pool.

You know, "That Guy" — he's the one who beats you over the head about picking Winthrop over Washington State as he rambles about RPIs and free-throw percentages, the one who sends out no less than one e-mail per day reminding everyone in the fraternity/office/truck stop NCAA pool where they stand and why their picks are superior and the one touting Stephen Curry like he's his illegitimate son.

How did I get to this point? When did I become everything I hate? Maybe it's a stretch to compare myself to Vader, but ...

I think it's because March is the only time the dormant-college-basketball fan in me gets to put on his face paint and hatred of Greg Paulus and get into a game. I mean I did wander into a couple of TCU men's basketball games this season, but I was mostly driven by the free T-shirts and anywhere from four to 12 send-home hot dogs. So when I get to fill out a bracket and become a die-hard Western Kentucky Hilltopper fan for 40 minutes, I tend to go a bit overboard, even though I have no clue what a Hilltopper is.

So sit there and listen as I ramble about how Memphis led the country this season at 0.86 points per possession allowed. And don't judge me if I live and die on every Xavier possession.

But you have full permission to kick me if I ever refer to myself as a "bracketologist."

I'm "That Guy," and for three weeks a year, I'm king.

At least until the guy who doesn't watch basketball but heard UNC was pretty good wins my pool by a point.

COMMENTARY



Josh Davis

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RED RAIDING
Ladies advance to fourth round of WNIT

By LORI DANN
McClatchy Newspapers

LUBBOCK, Texas — Adrienne Ross was having the kind of game she had dreamed of on her brother's former home court.

Playing in front of a section full of purple-clad fans from her hometown of Hobbs, N.M., TCU's senior guard had 14 points and two assists in the first half of the third-round Women's NIT matchup with Texas Tech.

But the halftime scoreboard told a different story. The Lady Frogs' early 12-point lead had turned into a four-point deficit, and their season was in jeopardy.

"The seniors were the last ones out of the locker room and I told them, 'I'll be darned if this is my last 20 minutes,'" Ross said.

Ross and fellow senior Lorie Butler-Rayford made sure that wasn't the case, helping TCU rally for an 81-74 victory Wednesday night that erased an 0-for-37 streak against the Lady Raiders and continued what is now the longest-running season in the program's history.

Ross finished with 23 points on 10-of-20 shooting, while Butler-Rayford added 15 points and 15 rebounds as the Lady Frogs (23-11) survived 13 lead changes and nine 3-pointers by Tech (17-16). They now advance to the final eight, where they will meet the winner of Thursday night's Colorado-Villanova game.

For Ross, whose brother Ronald was an All-American on Tech's 2005 NCAA Sweet 16 team, the victory was "indescribable."

For TCU coach Jeff Mittie, it was a huge relief, especially after seeing signs of fatigue in his team midway through the second half. He switched to a zone defense to

help conserve some energy, then watched the Lady Frogs close the game with a 21-12 run, getting a couple of key buckets from freshman Helena Sverrisdottir.

"I liked our whole mentality down the stretch," Mittie said. "We were very aggressive."

Inconsistency has been Texas Tech's downfall this season, and it was a factor again against TCU. The Lady Raiders shot 48.6 percent from the field in the first half and held a 22-15 rebounding edge, but they hit only 34.6 percent in the second half and were outrebounded 24-12.

Guards Keisha Walker and Jordan Murphree gave Tech a lift with 16 and 14 points, respectively, but TCU's Jenna Holse helped hold Tech's leading scorer and rebounder, Dominic Seals, to just six points and three rebounds.

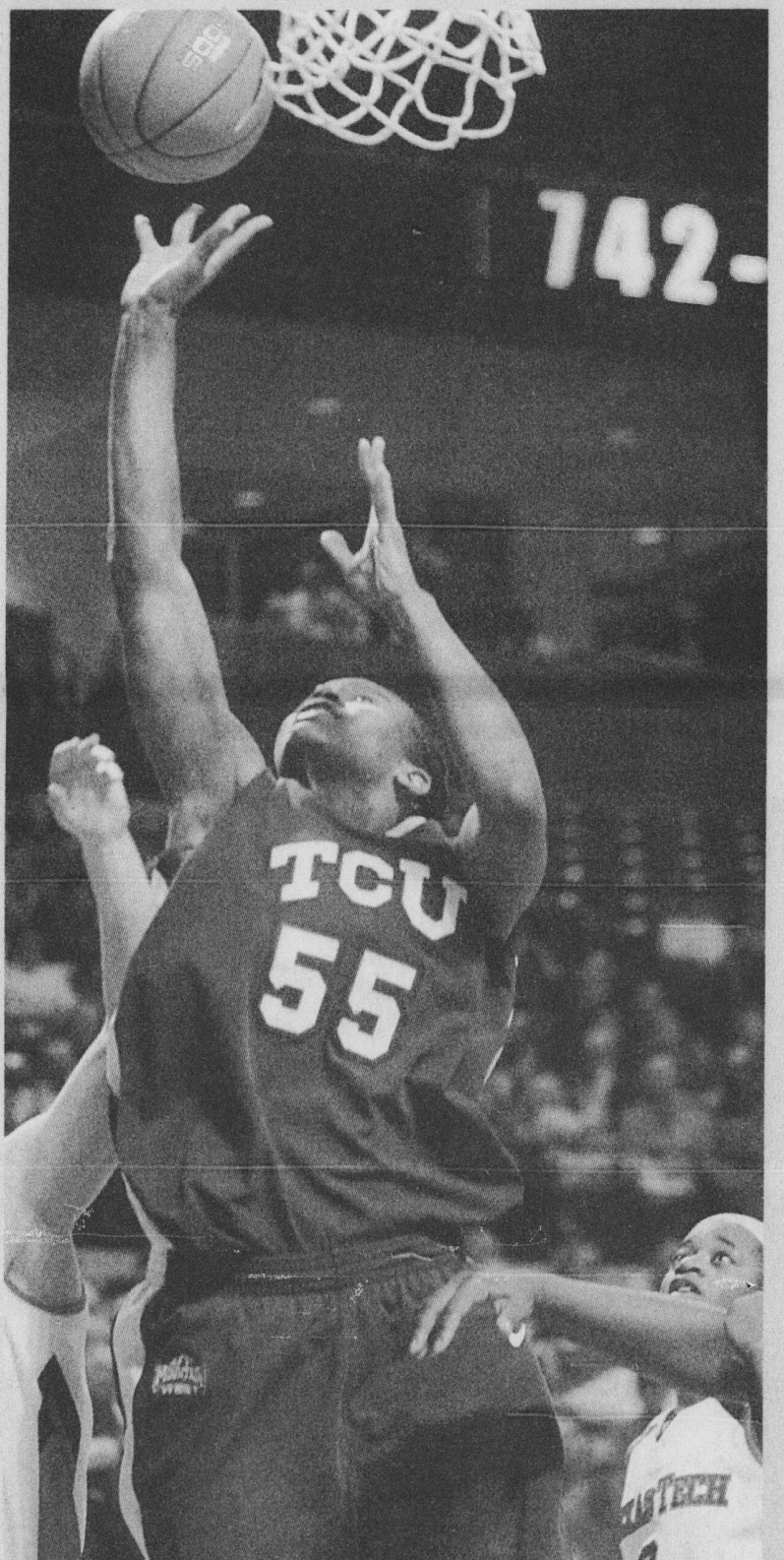
The Lady Raiders looked especially tentative offensively in the final minutes.

"We didn't have the sense of urgency that (TCU) did down the stretch," Tech head coach Kristy Curry said. "They came up huge on the glass and in transition. They were just more aggressive, and good things happened for them."

TCU closed the game much like it started it. The Lady Frogs hit six of their first seven shots to take a quick 14-5 lead that they eventually stretched to 12. Ross had 10 of TCU's first 21 points.

When Tech countered, going up 51-44 early in the second half, TCU went on a 9-0 run to half the momentum.

"Our defense toughened up and our rebounding got better," Mittie said. "That was where we had to make our stand or they were going to run away with it."



COLEMAN MOREFIELD / The (Texas Tech) Daily Toreador
Junior center Micaela Younger attempts a layup against Texas Tech in the third round of the Women's National Invitation Tournament. TCU won the game 81-74, advancing to the fourth round with its first-ever win against Texas Tech.

MEN'S TENNIS

Team travels to Las Vegas for three conference opening games



ANNIE COOPER / Staff Photographer

Freshman Zach Nichols returns a lob against Columbia University. The tennis team starts conference play today in Las Vegas.

By KYLE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

The men's tennis team will take its 13-5 record on the road when they travel to Las Vegas to open conference play against three different opponents in three consecutive days, starting today.

These three matches, against Air Force, Brigham Young University and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, will mark the start of Mountain West Conference play this season for TCU. The Horned Frogs will try to duplicate last year's 5-1 regular season conference record by getting off to a good start in Las Vegas.

At 13-5 on the season, the Horned Frogs have already eclipsed their win total of 10 last

year with seven regular season matches left. Head coach Dave Borelli said the primary reason the team has had such a turnaround is because of recruiting.

"When you get good players, you look better," Borelli said. "I certainly think we are a more talented squad and a more capable squad this year."

Borelli also said trouble with players on probation for violation of NCAA rules contributed to the team's sub-par record last year. With the problems from last season, Borelli said the team has come a long way.

Senior Cosmin Cotet, who has been on the team since the 2005-2006 season, and freshman Adrian Simon said the team's chemistry is at a high level.

"I think our greatest improvement is our friendship," Cotet said.

Simon added to this sentiment when he said, "We all get along with each other, like a family."

The team's only loss in conference, during the regular season last year, came against the San Diego State University Aztecs. The Horned Frogs are currently ranked No. 31 in the nation, and they will try to continue their regular-season winning streaks against all three opponents.

The three matches in Las Vegas are a part of the Horned Frogs' regular season-ending nine-game road trip. TCU started its away stretch with matches in California against Fresno State and Pepperdine universities.

The Horned Frogs took the

FOR YOUR INFO
Tennis in Las Vegas

Teams: Air Force, BYU, UNLV
When: 4 p.m. today, noon Friday and noon Saturday
Where: Las Vegas
Stakes: The games are the first three in Mountain West Conference play.

first match against Fresno State 4-3 but were swept 7-0 against Pepperdine.

Following the Las Vegas trip, the Horned Frogs will conclude conference play with a three-game, three-day stretch in Provo, Utah, where they will face the University of Utah, San Diego State and the University of New Mexico.