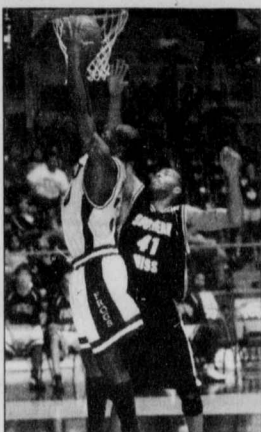


SPORTS

Home court advantage

The Horned Frogs ended their five-game losing streak with a win over Southern Miss, 85-78.

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FEATURES

TCU isn't just a place to learn, it's also a place to fall in love. Page 5



OPINION

Students need to take an active stance and help get professors more support for research. Page 3

TCU DAILY SKIFF

100 years of service to Texas Christian University

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Thursday, February 13, 2003

Officials back non-discrimination policy

BY BRENT YARINA
Staff Reporter

As public universities wait to see how a Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action will affect their admissions policies, Dean of Admissions Ray Brown said TCU will continue its practice of evaluating students on an individual basis.

Brown said the university's admissions department is governed by the statement of non-discrimination, which prohibits TCU from discriminating on the basis of personal status, individual character or group affiliation. He said no student will be admitted to the university for any single reason, because TCU looks at every element a student can bring to the university during the admissions process. "As we become more selective, more stu-

dents who are qualified and able to do the work here will be turned away," Brown said. "We simply don't have space for them."

He said TCU creates a diverse university by attracting students with different life experiences. Therefore, Brown said diversity has little to do with a person's race.

Brown also said TCU doesn't use affirmative action to create a diverse campus.

Cornell Thomas, special assistant to the chancellor for diversity and community, said

the university is trying to create a diverse way of looking at life so students going into careers will know how to work with people from other cultures and backgrounds.

Thomas said the university needs to create an environment where a number of "voices" can be heard if TCU wants to be recognized for its global perspective and diverse, supportive learning community. To attract the most voices, he said, TCU considers students' essays and conversations as

a large part of the admissions process.

Rishad Gandhi, a junior marketing major, said he feels TCU should implement affirmative action because it would increase diversity. He said a select few departments on campus have an adequate number of minorities, but some have almost none.

Gandhi said TCU falsely represents itself as a diverse institution to international students. He said the university promoted itself as a place of higher learning for all races, which really isn't true.

Brown said the Community Scholars Program plays an important role in creating a diverse university. He said the program was created to build positive relations with local high schools because students from these areas thought TCU was too expensive.

"I want a really diverse bunch of students here," Brown said. "I don't want TCU to be a place where every student has the same life experiences. All students who are here should take pride in the fact that they've earned their admission to TCU."

Chris Taylor, a sophomore finance and accounting major, said affirmative action should not exist because causes the students who worked hard to believe they have been cheated and makes minorities feel unwelcome.

"I think that admissions should be based on the quality and character of the student," Taylor said. "Race should never even be considered or known to admissions."

Brent Yarina
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Opinions vary on promotion

Some say money will bring in fans, but the support will be superficial

BY JESSICA SANDERS
Staff Reporter

Some students and players say a new promotion giving \$500 to the most spirited student group at men's basketball games may only reward superficial fans, but officials argue it will boost attendance and improve atmosphere.

Tim George, director of marketing for athletics, said the promotion will last until Feb. 22 and is funded by a donor who wanted to promote spirit for the men's basketball team.

But some basketball players said the promotion was not a good idea.

"If you've got to pay students to come to the game, then they are interested more in the money than the actual game," said Junior Blount, a senior guard.

Sophomore guard Corey Santee said genuine support from fans makes a big difference in the team's performance.

"I hope they're not coming just for the money," Santee said. "I hope they're coming to see us play."

Assistant basketball coach Jai Steadman said an energetic audience helps the team play and also helps bring in new recruits.

"We have a lot of talented recruits coming to the games," Steadman said. "We need the TCU students and fans to help us be energetic."



Stephen Spillman/Photographer

Members of the Hyperfrogs entice the basketball players to be their valentines for the rowdy fan contest.

(More on PROMOTION, page 2)

SACS may key in on evaluation

If the university cannot show documentation of how evaluations are used to improve departments and what is expected of graduates, then TCU could be found inadequate with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools visiting team, said Melissa Canady, director of assessment.

"Evaluations are used to find out how the university is meeting the goals and objectives that we are setting," Canady said.

An Academic Program Assessment Plan was established in 2001 to evaluate to what extent the university meets the requirements set by the self-study report, said Bob Vigeland, chairman of Institutional Purpose and Effectiveness. The academic program assessment results will be collected every two years after the first year, he said.

"This program started only fairly recently so I don't think it's far enough along to show a huge improvement," Vigeland said. "We don't have all the documentation needed to show the SACS visiting team, but because of the program we will have some."

The academic program assessment has several requirements, Canady said. Each department must show that they have a defined purpose and expectations for students upon graduation, she said.

Canady said one instance of a department defining student expectations could be AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences stating that graduates should be able to think critically. The English department could say that students should be able to critically analyze a text, Canady said suggested. Ways for the English department to ensure that students acquire the skills would be for students to take certain classes, she said.

"The assessment plans provide an opportunity for our depart-

(More on SACS, page 2)

University hosts reading festival

BY SARAH CHACKO
Staff Reporter

Children from surrounding communities will be coming to TCU this weekend to fall in love ... with reading.

Ernie Horn, executive director of Score A Goal in the Classroom, said the second Valentine "Fall in Love with Reading" Festival, hosted by the TCU Reading

Frogs and Score A Goal in the Classroom, will be held Saturday morning in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

The program encourages reading among elementary students, Horn said.

"Children spend their first few years learning to read and the rest of their life reading to learn," Horn said.

TCU's participation makes a significant difference in the program, Horn said. He said since college stu-

dents have a current understanding of education, they realize the importance of role models and making good decisions.

"When college students and staff mentor young students, it gives them encouragement to excel," Horn said.

At the festival last year, an estimated 4,200 children and 240 volunteers came to read, Horn said. The children are given free books donated from various businesses and take turns reading with adult volunteers, he said.

Davis Babb, associate athletics director for development, said when he read to children at the event last year, the corridors were packed.

"It allows us touch their lives in some way," Babb said. "They walk away feeling reading is fun."

In addition to special events, the TCU Reading Frogs send approxi-

mately 600 students, faculty and staff to schools during the year, Horn said.

Patrick Smith, principal at North Hi Mount Elementary, said students paired with mentors show less problems in conduct, have less absences and perform better in reading and general studies. Students are more attentive just by being around role models, he said.

"They see the level of reading they can achieve," Smith said.

Katie French, a freshman education major and one of the festival's volunteers said the event is a good service opportunity for her career in education.

"I feel like I'm making a difference," French said. "Children are the future of tomorrow. I'd like to positively impact them so that they can impact the world."

Interested volunteers should meet at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum 8 a.m. Saturday.

Sarah Chacko
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Love at first bid

If you have been looking everywhere for your Valentine and you haven't found him yet, maybe you should look under the nearest tree.

Members of Brothers Under Christ attracted attention and advertised their date auction by handing out fliers while tied to trees, rails and light posts Wednesday in the courtyard between Reed Hall and Sadler Hall. Other members will do the same today, BYX vice president Eric Anton said.

Tim Savage, a junior radio-TV-film major, will be auctioned off at 9 p.m. today in Sid Richardson Building, Lecture Hall 1 with 25 of his fraternity brothers. He said he volunteered to be tied to a light post in good fun.

"We needed some advertising and I decided to do it because I had some free time," Savage said.

Anton, a junior e-business major, said last year's auction raised \$1,100 and that this year's goal is to raise \$2,500 to benefit the fraternity's



Joi Harris/Skiff staff
Junior news-editorial journalism major Ashley Menzies advertises the Brothers Under Christ fraternity date auction by tying himself to a tree.

annual Island Party.

Bids on the 25 members start at \$10. The men also come with pre-planned dates such as a Bon Jovi/Goo Goo Dolls concert, Disney's Princesses on Ice or a hockey game.

— Nyschicka Jordan

The Weather

THURSDAY

High: 64; Low: 54; Rain

FRIDAY

High: 70; Low: 43; a.m. Showers

SATURDAY

High: 63; Low: 36; Mostly Cloudy

LookingBack

1910 — William Shockley was born. Shockley helped invent the transistor, which heralded a revolution in radio, television, and computer circuitry.

1965 — Johnson approved Operation Rolling Thunder, a sustained bombing of North Vietnam that he and his advisers have been contemplating for a year.

1991 — Sotheby's announced the discovery of a long-lost manuscript of Huck-leberry Finn by Mark Twain.

WatchFor

The women's basketball team has a 10-12 record, but the Lady Frogs might have discovered a way to find the offensive consistency they have been searching for all season. See Friday's Sports Page for more information.

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THE PULSE

www.skiff.tcu.edu

CampusLines

Your bulletin board for campus events

■ **The Sex Feud** hosted by Hyperfrogs, will be at noon today in the Student Center Lounge. For more information, contact Lindsey Jones.

■ **Sophomore Spotlight** hosted by University Career Services, will be from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at the Dee J. Kelley Alumni and Visitors Center. This is a program that aides sophomores with majors and careers. For more information, call (817) 257-7860.

■ **TCU Dating Game** hosted by Programming Council, will be at 7:30 p.m. today in the Student Center Lounge. Some single students will compete for a date. Free flowers will be given to the first 100 people. For more information, call (817) 257-2912.

■ **May 2003 Degree Candidates** should file their Intent to Graduate forms in the office of their academic dean. Each dean's office has a deadline for filing and requires time to process the intent. All degree candidate names must be submitted to the Registrar by Friday. For more information, check the graduation Web site.

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moudy Building South, Room 291, mailed to TCU Box 298050 or e-mailed to skiffletters@tcu.edu. Deadline for receiving announcements is 2 p.m. the day before they are to run. The Skiff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, taste and space available.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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 Journalism Department Chairman Tommy Thomason

PROMOTION

From page 1

Senior chemistry major Jamie Riggs, who said she regularly attends basketball games, said she the promotion doesn't help spirit. "They are just here to get money for their club," Riggs said. "They don't care about basketball."

However, Joel Gardner, a junior marketing and management major, said the promotion will help attendance and morale in the long run. "When people come to games, they'll see how much fun it is," said Gardner, part of the participating Pi Kappa Phi group. "Once you get in the door it's a lot more fun."

Two student groups participated in the promotion during Wednesday's game against Southern Miss.

Hyperfrogs, whose members were holding signs and waving purple balloons, won Wednesday's contest.

Hyperfrog member Matthew

Perry, a sophomore management major, said the Hyperfrogs are working harder at spirit to give them an edge in the contest.

"We're trying to win some money," Perry said. "Normally we would paint our faces, but we didn't have money for paint."

Delta Tau Delta won the contest Saturday with close competition from Pi Kappa Phi and Brothers Under Christ, George said.

Delta Tau Delta President Adam Brown said his group brought signs, wore purple and had painted faces.

"We had seats right on the floor under the basket and this allowed us to interact with the players themselves," said Brown, a sophomore finance and accounting major.

Brown said Delta Tau Delta plans to use the money to help renovate their chapter room.

"The money is a good incentive," Brown said. "But I don't think you can fake school spirit."

Delta Sigma Phi President Philene Molz said the groups were coming to see if they could

win the money.

"I think that word got out that they really were giving out \$500 each night," said Molz, a senior finance and e-business major. "By the second (game), there was a big difference. There were more students, more purple in the crowd, it was more rowdy. I think the team felt it too."

Any group of at least 20 students will be awarded points for painting their faces, bringing signs and wearing purple, George said.

"The biggest point value is if you were the ones that we deem the loudest, the craziest at the game," George said. "We hope the students will use their imagination with that to help them get noticed."

George said he hopes the contest will inspire a tradition of rowdy basketball fans.

"I hope in the future that it won't necessarily be about the money," George said. "In a way it conditions our students to come out and helps build spirit, to get it started."

Jessica Sanders
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SACS

From page 1

ment to focus on what's important for students when they graduate," said Bill Ryan, chairman of the communication sciences and disorders department. "It's a way for us to show what students are accomplishing in communication sciences and disorders."

The university has to come up with ways to evaluate the departments to show what steps are being taken to achieve the purpose and objectives, Canady said. The results of the evaluation must be used to improve and develop the program, Canady said.

"The process is not only to show what the mission statements and purposes are, it is to see how well we are meeting the goals and objectives set by the departments," Canady said.

Jennifer Higa, a professor of psychology, said it is hard to find a common issue being addressed when evaluations are returned.

"Everything now seems to be outcome based," Higa said. "If you have a set of objectives you must document what you have done to achieve them."

Bonnie Melhart, director of SACS self-study, said the self-study report is vital for the university to receive reaccreditation from SACS, because it is the outline for the visiting committee to review the campus.

skiffletters@tcu.edu

NewsBriefs

Panel says CEO should act as chief ethics officer

Corporate ethical issues begin with personal values, a panel of three area business leaders said at the first Dorothy Garrett Martin Delta Gamma Memorial Lectureship at TCU Wednesday evening. The panel was comprised of Maribess Miller, a TCU graduate and partner

at PricewaterhouseCoopers; Juan Muldoon, president of Bimbo Bakeries USA; and Daniel Feeham, CEO of Cash America. The panel said a main problem dealing with ethics is that there are no clear-cut answers. "No one sees themselves as unethical," Miller said. "It's one shade of right versus another shade of right." The solution to corporate ethics' problems

might be found in governance, the panel said. "I've often said the CEO is the chief ethics officer," Miller said. Junior marketing and entrepreneurial management major Anna Phillips said she enjoyed the presentation. "It brought a lot of good points to the table like the importance of core values," Phillips said.

— Emily Baker



Ty Hulasz/Photo editor
 Management professor Charles Williams lectures his Skills for Effective Managers class in the newly opened Steve and Sarah Smith Entrepreneurs Hall.

Entrepreneurs Hall opens after 15 months of construction

The Steve and Sarah Smith Entrepreneurs Hall officially opened its doors Wednesday. Construction for the building began 15 months ago, and professors say they are glad to finally move in.

"I thought it was fabulous," said William Cron, professor of marketing.

Everything in the 13 new classrooms is state of the art, said David Minor, director of the James A. Ryf-

fel Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. "I really think that this will raise the prestige of the (M.J.) Neely School of Business," he said.

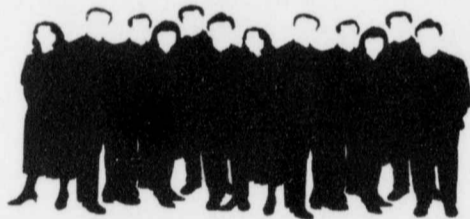
Cron said everything went smoothly in the new classroom. The only thing he said was lacking were erasers.

The Sub Connection sandwich shop reopened earlier this week on the first floor of Smith Hall after previously being located in Dan Rogers Hall.

Lauren Hanvey

NUMBERS DON'T LIE

MOST TCU STUDENTS CHOOSE ABSTINENCE OR PRACTICE SAFE SEX CONSISTENTLY ...



72% OF TCU STUDENTS REPORTED THAT THEY DID NOT ENGAGE IN SEXUAL INTERCOURSE OR THAT THEY USED A CONDOM IF THEY DID HAVE SEX WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TCU ALCOHOL & DRUG EDUCATION CENTER
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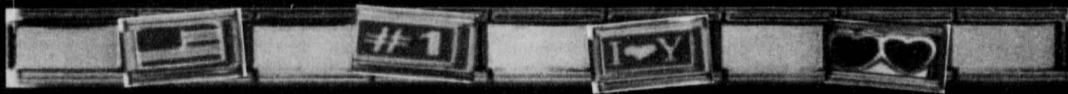
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OPINION

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The Skiff View RESEARCH

Professors need more funding

Imagine, if you will, being at school all day, sitting in a classroom and dealing with professors.

Then imagine going home and spending your spare time studying.

Sound like something you do (or should be doing)?

We're not talking about students. We're talking about professors.

Professors take on additional work to further their own education and to help ensure students have a better learning environment.

But now there's a slight problem — there may not be funding for professors to continue this research.

Last week, a memo from the Faculty Senate stated that almost \$83,000 would be cut from the Research and Creative Activities Fund. This means professors may get money to start their research, but then they may need to find outside funds to continue it.

Because they already don't have enough to do in between teaching, grading and researching, let's send them out to find their own funding too.

In response to the cuts, about 60 faculty members from the College of Fine Arts and Add Ran College of Humanities and Social Sciences e-mailed a petition complaining to the administration.

It's something we rarely hear about on this campus — people actually banding together, picking a stance and doing something about it.

And it's our professors doing it.

It's about time we learned from them. They're research greatly affects students and it's time we told the administration how much research money is needed.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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WriteUs

Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be signed and limited to 250 words. Only letters delivered via e-mail or floppy disk will be considered. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Building South, Room 291

Your View

Letters to the Editor

Number of volunteers is greater than you think

I was astonished by the Jan. 24 article "Schedule time to help others out" in the TCU Daily Skiff. Emily Turner bashed students for not volunteering based on her experience with her sorority sisters. Making generalizations based on a small population of students only hurts your viewpoint of TCU students because the majority of students are exceptionally involved in community and school activities.

Not every TCU student falls into the same category as her sorority sisters. I am a junior, non-sorority woman. Besides volunteering for Young Life on a regular basis, I have been involved in community service in a variety of ways.

Now, maybe I am a rare individual who volunteers regularly and am surrounded by those who do. But, on the same scale, we need to look outside our own worlds and not generalize about all students from the standards of sorority sisters.

— Shannon Flynn, junior speech communication major

I agree it would be beneficial for us all to venture outside of our own worlds for a little while and help others. But, on the same scale, we need to look outside our own worlds and not generalize about all students from the standards of sorority sisters.

Draft should include all economic, social groups

In a Jan. 23 commentary, Wayne Madsen said Rep. Charles Rangel's proposal of a military draft would include both female and male soldiers. However,

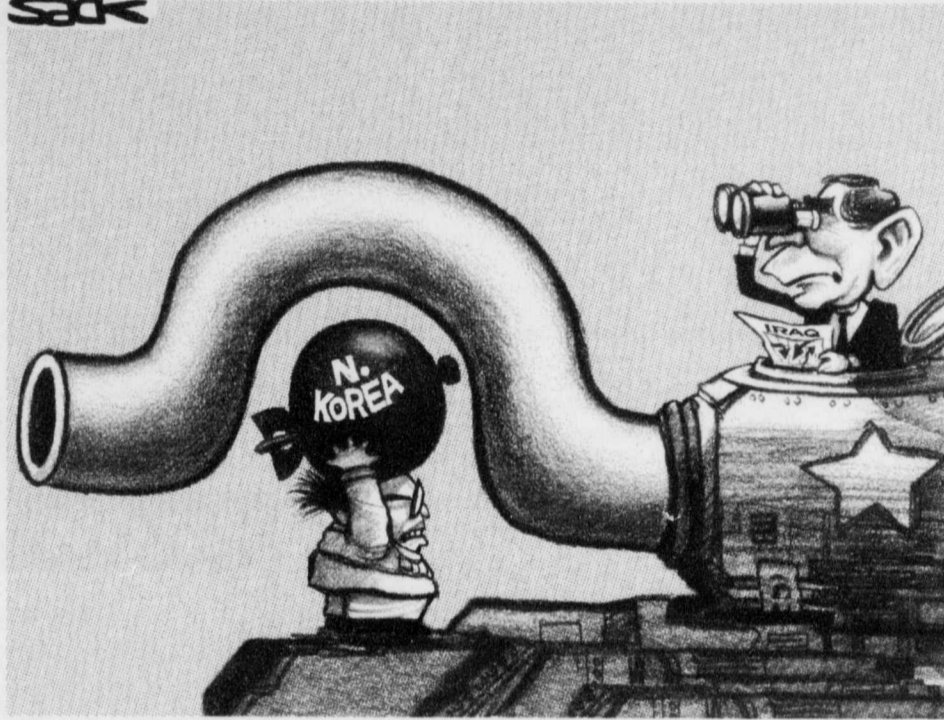
would the draft be equal between the people of different economic backgrounds? I agree with Rangel's proposal because it keeps the wealthy elites from escaping the draft. President Bush and former Vice President Dan Quayle, for example, served in the National Guard and military reserve units just so they couldn't be drafted. The draft should include everybody no matter what their socioeconomic status is. Is it fair that Pedro, the son of a poor Mexican migrant worker, has to go to war, while Walter, the son of a wealthy governor, goes to Canada on a very long snowboarding trip?

War is not in any shape or form the right thing to do in the situation our country is in. However, I think in the event of war, everybody should equally serve his or her time. In the end, the people drafted will get a better understanding of what it takes to keep our country's freedom alive.

When the time comes for the U.S. government to make the decision whether military service should be compulsory or voluntary, I feel that the government will make it compulsory, especially during wartime. If we ever go to war with Iraq or North Korea, there will eventually be a bill that will be passed re-instating the military draft. I feel that the military draft should include males and females between the ages of 18 and 22; it should also include even percentages of all races, classes and educational levels. I don't think anybody should be excluded from the draft, because we all live in the same country and should all be willing to serve and fight for our country.

— Charlie Jones, sophomore mechanical engineering major

STAR TRIBUNE
S&K



HELP WANTED

The Skiff opinion page is now hiring columnists. Students must have excellent writings skills and be self-motivated, reliable and open to criticism. Previous journalism or Skiff experience is preferred, but not required. Students of any political persuasion or background will be considered. To apply, contact Opinion Editor Brandon Ortiz at b.p.ortiz@tcu.edu.

Point/Counterpoint

The Issue: Should the United States implement a universal health insurance?

U.S. doesn't need universal health insurance

Private health care may help solve medical coverage issues

Millions of Americans either have inadequate health insurance or no health insurance at all. Some people believe that the United States should implement universal health insurance as a solution.

While public health insurance was implemented on a limited scale in the United States, the program has many theoretical and proven flaws. Besides universal health insurance, other proposals also exist. While health care coverage needs help, there are better alternatives to universal public health insurance.

From my understanding, universal health insurance is government administered, all-purpose health insurance that would cover all U.S. citizens. The idea sounds great in theory, but that type of insurance could also produce significant problems.

With universal health insurance, the choice of doctor and type of medical care could be restricted — a problem that already exists with private HMOs. According to the Web site (www.whitehouse.gov), Medicare cost more than \$220 billion last year. Universal health insurance

would be even more expensive. While these possibilities are theoretical, an example of a flawed universal health insurance already exists.

The U.S. Armed Forces currently uses a health insurance program called TriCare. Active-duty members are required to enroll in one out of three versions of the program.

When the government originally implemented it, I remember soldiers and their families complaining about TriCare problems. Regular medical appointments, such as annual physicals or other exams, sometimes took weeks to schedule. TriCare would not initially pay if a soldier used an unauthorized medical provider, even during an emergency.

Many civilian doctors would not accept TriCare because they would either be reimbursed late or at lower-than-desired rates.

After service members lodged numerous complaints, the government finally instituted reform efforts for TriCare. While the TriCare reform efforts are admirable, I personally believe private solutions would be better than TriCare or similar universal health insurance.

One such proposal is medical savings accounts. In this proposal, people would receive inexpensive "catastrophic" health insurance and the savings would be put into an IRA-type account. Health insurance would pay for a medical emergency, and the account money would pay for medical non-emergencies.

Forbes, Inc., has implemented this type of health coverage for its employees, and seen

positive results. Insurance premium costs have dropped because most employees use account money to pay for routine medical care. The "catastrophic" insurance is still available to cover medical emergencies if they arise. For Forbes employees, this solution provides quality health care at an economical cost.

Along with this proposal, other solutions with limited government involvement might work.

One such solution is health insurance tax credits. In this proposition, tax credits would be given to lower-income people or small businesses to help defray the costs for private health insurance. My aunt, Rose Chu, co-wrote a study for the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration that showed small businesses pay proportionally more for employee health insurance despite their smaller size.

Health insurance tax credits could help small businesses provide better private health insurance to employees without the problems from universal public insurance. At less government expense, tax credits could help lower income people afford their own choice of a private plan.

Limited government solutions and the preservation of private health insurance may help solve some of the problems with health care.

Admittedly, health insurance and health care in the United States need reform. However, while reforming health care, one should remember the Hippocratic oath: "... First do no harm."

Eugene Chu is a junior political science major from Arlington. He can be reached at e.l.chu@tcu.edu.



Eugene Chu

Private health insurance fails to protect everyone

Business is not always better when it comes to insurance

Many of you are not going to believe what I am about to tell you. It will fly in the face of everything you believe.

Some of you might call me a communist or socialist. But what I am going to say is hardly grounded in ideology.

Listen close, because if you really consider the facts, you might end up agreeing with me.

The free market isn't always better, at least not when it comes to delivering health care. Sometimes, private enterprise is so loaded with bureaucracy, inefficiency and red tape that filing your taxes seems painless, quick and easy.

And the best example of this is private health insurance, which cannot effectively deliver health care to all U.S. citizens and still maintains profitability. A significant percentage of the population is stricken with the high premiums private insurers must charge to stay in business.

And it is literally a matter of life and death. More than 18,000 uninsured Americans die each year because of delayed necessary medical care, according to a study last year by the Institute of Medicine. To put that in perspective, it's about six times the number of people who died in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, Florida and Connecticut — combined.

The number of uninsured people is so great that it outnumbers the populations of Texas, Florida and Connecticut — combined. Not only does private health insurance leave a big chunk of the population uncovered, it is more expensive than public insurance.

And not by a little, but by a lot.

In 1998, \$3,701 a person was spent on health care in the United States. Canada, which has a single payment form of health insurance, spent \$2,049 a person. As a result, the United States spent 14.2 percent of its gross domestic product on health care. Canada only spent 9.6 percent.

Collectively, we paid more for less. And insurance isn't getting any cheaper.

Conservatives charge that Canadians hate national health care, but the evidence says just the opposite. In one poll, 96 percent of Canadians preferred their system to the U.S. model. Other studies have shown Medicare, which is what Canadians call their health program, to be the country's most popular government program.

I know. It makes no sense.

From birth, we are taught that anything the government can do, businesses can do better. Government doesn't have to compete with anything we are told, so it is complacent and resistant to change. Since there is no profit motive, agencies have no incentive to cut costs.

In the twisted world of Washington, we are led to believe that government agencies seek to increase costs even if it's not warranted because their prestige is measured by the size of their budget.

Some of that is true, of course, but most of it is rooted more in ideology than reality.

Large CEO salaries and the necessary profit motive aside, private health insurance is more expensive because it is decentralized. Each insurance company must hire its own army of bureaucrats, who examine claims, shuffle paperwork and pay hospitals. Work that would otherwise be done only once in a public agency is duplicated several times over in the free market.

About a quarter of all health care workers do not deliver medicine at all; they sort through the endless array of forms and paperwork that insurance companies, hospitals and doctors require.



Brandon Ortiz

One study showed that for every dollar the insurance industry received in 1988, it paid 33.5 cents for administration, marketing and overhead — and that doesn't include profits. That's more than 11 times what the Canadian system paid for those expenses.

And the most repugnant aspect of the insurance industry is that it actually spends money — and lots of it — to deny coverage.

Insurance companies cannot offer affordable coverage to the neediest, sickest U.S. citizens and stay in business. It thus has to spend millions to ensure which groups are a gamble, a process known as underwriting. These underwriters separate the population into groups in an effort to generate a profit from each one. Young, healthy people make up one, the elderly and disabled another.

The end result is that those, who need health insurance the most, are effectively cheated.

Because of the insurance industry's hesitation to take a risk, taxpayers are left footing the bill for the elderly and the poor through Medicare and Medicaid. (Not that insurance companies should be charities; I'm just illustrating the limitations of private insurance.)

Republicans and moderate Democrats have tossed around proposals to create de facto universal coverage through tax credits. But this does nothing to correct the inherent flaw of private insurance.

If anything, it encourages inefficiency by feeding the beast.

We are a country of rugged individualists who love capitalism and distrust the government. And to a certain extent, are rightly so.

But we're shooting ourselves in the foot by assuming business is always better.

And then we're paying more to clean the wound.

Opinion Editor Brandon Ortiz is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at b.p.ortiz@tcu.edu.

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National/International Roundup

Court throws out attempt to try Sharon for war crimes

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The Belgian Supreme Court threw out an attempt by a group of Palestinians to bring Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to trial for war crimes, but left the door open for the plaintiffs to try again after Sharon leaves office.

The Palestinians were seeking to try Sharon over a 1982 massacre in refugee camps in Lebanon, using a Belgian law that allows the country's courts to hear cases of war crimes committed anywhere in the world.

A lower court dismissed the case last June, saying Sharon could not be tried for war crimes because he does not live in Belgium. It said he also enjoyed diplomatic immunity as the head of the Israeli government.

The Supreme Court upheld Sharon's immunity, but said charges could be brought against nonresidents under Belgium's "universal jurisdiction" law. That left open the possibility of a future investigation once Sharon retires and loses immunity.

The Supreme Court said investigations could proceed against former Israeli army commander Amos Yaron, who was also named in the original complaint filed with Belgian prosecutors two years ago.

Danny Shek, a senior official from Israel's Foreign Ministry who attended the court hearing, said he had "mixed feelings" on the ruling.

The decision halts the legal process against Sharon, but it also allows "Belgian courts to let cases be brought against foreigners with no connection to Belgium, and this is very grave," he said.

The case has cast "a shadow on the relations between Belgium and

Israel in the past year and a half," he said.

Chibli Mallat, a lawyer for the group of victims, said that while he was disappointed with the ruling on Sharon, he was happy the case against Yaron could proceed.

"It is a landmark step for international law," he said.

Police cancel Amber Alert after father makes up story

BALTIMORE (AP) — Maryland's first Amber Alert was canceled Wednesday after police said the father of a missing 2-month-old girl fabricated a story that she was taken by an unlicensed taxi driver.

Police continued to search for the infant, A'Shia Jenkins. They declined to say whether the father, 20-year-old Kenneth Jenkins, is considered a suspect in Tuesday's disappearance.

Jenkins told police he got into a taxi with A'Shia and her twin sister, but the driver pulled over several blocks later and demanded money at gunpoint. The father told investigators the driver told him to get out, and he was able to escape with one child before the car sped off.

Maryland issued an Amber Alert, relaying information about the case through radio and television broadcasts and electronic highway signs. The alert is named for Amber Hagerman, a 9-year-old Texas girl who was abducted and killed.

Design defect cause of spacecraft breakup

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — An unmanned spacecraft that broke up last summer as it embarked on a mission to study comets was probably doomed by a defect in its design, NASA's chief engineer said Wednesday.

Contour had been orbiting the Earth for a month when it fired its rocket motor for 50 seconds Aug. 15 to send it on a trajectory to collect data from at least two comets. The spacecraft was never heard from again.

Days later, telescope images showed pieces moving away from Earth along the same path and at roughly the same velocity Contour was expected to travel. Scientists surmised the spacecraft had broken up.

Faulty design had placed the motor too far up the body of the spacecraft, allowing hot exhaust gases to apparently heat the probe and trigger its breakup, Theron Bradley Jr. told the Associated Press.

Nation's supply of oil hits lowest level in decades

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's oil supply dropped another 4.5 million barrels last week, leaving inventories the lowest since 1975 and below what the industry considers necessary for smooth operation.

The Energy Department said Wednesday crude stocks were at 269.8 million barrels, just below the lower end of an inventory range needed to assure enough oil is available for efficient refinery operation.

While inventories are low, "it doesn't necessarily mean there will be shortages. ... Refineries are still running," said Ron Panting, an economist for the American Petroleum Institute, the trade group of the major oil companies.

He said API's statistics show slightly more oil in inventory — 271.6 million barrels — than the number released Wednesday by the government's Energy Information Administration, the DOE's statistical arm.

Air defenses strengthened in D.C.

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Air defenses around the nation's capital have been strengthened amid a heightened terrorism alert and a warning from CIA director George Tenet that al Qaeda attacks could occur as early as this week, defense officials said Wednesday.

Avenger anti-aircraft missiles have been stationed around Washington, along with extra radars, and the Air Force has stepped up its combat air patrols over the capital, they said.

In testimony Wednesday before the Senate Armed

Services Committee, meanwhile, Tenet reiterated that the danger of attack is rising.

"The bottom line here, Mr. Chairman, is that al Qaeda is living in the expectation of resuming the offensive."

— George Tenet
CIA director

"If given the choice, al Qaeda terrorists will choose attacks that achieve multiple objectives, striking prominent landmarks, inflicting mass casualties, causing economic disruption and rallying support through shows of strength," the CIA director said. "The bottom line here, Mr. Chairman, is that al Qaeda is living in the expectation of resuming the offensive."

Tenet also said he is worried that the new audio message attributed to Osama bin Laden is a prelude to a strike.

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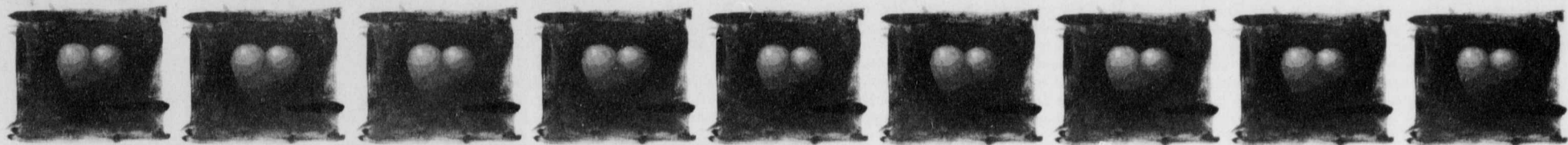
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FEATURES

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Horned Frog LOVE

Valentine's Day

Celia and Craig Martin

Alyson and Kory Nelson



Alyson Outenreath fell in love with Kory Nelson the first time she laid eyes on him. His first thought was that maybe she could help him pass Intermediate Macroeconomics. Luckily, that impression didn't last long.

"I remember sitting in the back of the room as Dr. Harvey began addressing the class," Kory said. "Just then I looked up and immediately saw Aly. All time just seemed to stop. At that moment, I knew I would fall in love, or if anything else I was sure she could ensure my passing Macro."

As Alyson and Kory got to know each other more in class, a relationship bloomed, and the two began dating in spring 1993.

"The first thing we ever did together was have lunch at a little café in the business building," Alyson said.

Alyson was a junior at the time and with Kory being a sophomore, the couple graduated within a short time of each other the following year.

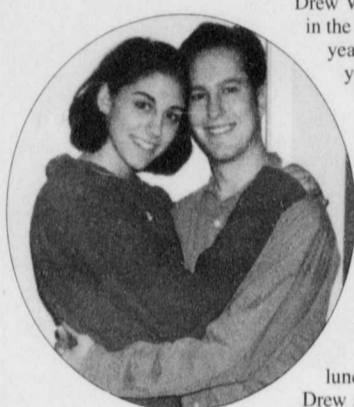
Kory's graduation marked when the couple's relationship went from just dating to more.

"Kory had the people around him put one letter each on the top of their graduation caps, and it spelled out 'Aly, Marry Me?'" Alyson said. "I was in the stands about in shock. I couldn't believe it. Of course, I said yes."

The couple married in February two years later. They live in Dallas, close to their families who also live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

"In February, we will have been married for seven years," Alyson said.

Stacie and Drew Wolle



Drew Wolle and Stacie Stalmach met in the spring semester their freshman year. It wasn't until their junior year that they started to date, though.

"We had met through a mutual friend, and so the three of us would walk from philosophy to the dance building. But we didn't really notice each other at that time," Stacie said.

Drew and Stacie agree that most of their memories from TCU are as friends.

"But, we did have a lot of lunch dates in Eden's Greens," Drew said.

As the two grew closer into a couple,

Drew became more supportive of Stacie's dance major.

"Drew was a faithful fan of the dance concerts, so he became a regular at the dance building," Stacie said. "But most of our special memories from on campus come from simply meeting between classes."

Drew graduated in December the following year, and Stacie graduated shortly after in the spring.

Within two years, the couple was engaged.

"We took a trip to Los Cabos, Mexico, in December 1998, and I proposed there one beautiful starry night," Drew said.

Drew and Stacie have been married for three years.

"We live in Austin and have a beautiful 16-month-old daughter named Heather," Stacie said.



Story by: Jenny Eure
Artwork by: Nathan Sharp
Photography courtesy of couples



It was April 1994. Celia Cullen, then a senior, walked nervously over to talk to Craig Martin. The two were attending their Honors History dinner at the Coofs Beer Plant. Celia was interested in graduate programs in Europe, and a friend had told her she should talk to Craig, who had already been accepted to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

"I was very nervous," Celia said. "I had to drink one of those Strawberry beer things Coors was experimenting with to get my nerve up to introduce myself. I can't remember anything else except that I was so nervous to talk to someone new and that I was concentrating on my questions. I must have thought he was nice because I believe I ended up talking to him the rest of the party."

After the party, Celia followed Craig to 7-11 for ice cream. They then went to pick up a catalogue over at Craig's about the University of Edinburgh for Celia.

"That night he asked me out for a date," Celia said. "I said 'yes' and that was that."

For the next month until graduation, the couple spent so much time together they barely studied.

Following graduation, Celia ended up going to graduate school outside of Windsor, England, and Craig attended the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. They bought train passes and ended up seeing each other almost every weekend.

"That Thanksgiving I took the train to Edinburgh where Craig met me at the station and with an antique ring he had purchased on the Royal Mile he proposed as I stepped off the train onto the platform," Celia said. "I immediately said 'yes' as we received applause from the other passengers."

Craig said he was nervous about his proposal. "I thought she wouldn't like the way I proposed," he said. "Many scenarios were running through my head."

In September 1995, Craig and Celia came home to Texas and were married in Robert Carr Chapel.

They now live near Valley Forge outside of Philadelphia. The couple went to New York for the TCU vs. Army game this year.

"We love being a Horned Frog couple," Celia said. "It makes life so nice. We cheer for the same team, our friends all know each other, and we will always have that common bond."



Sweethearts growing together

BY MEGHAN YOKER
Skiff Staff

Next time women, don't waste so much time getting ready.

Your plans may not be worth such extensive preparation.

Because after all, senior Jason Groom said you should not expect to find your true love at a mixer or fraternity party.

Feel sad now, but know that not all of us are as lucky as he was when he came to college.

Groom and his high school sweetheart, senior Tiffany Boyd, are engaged after four years together. He never even needed to look.

The couple, both of Roanoke, got engaged Jan. 16 when Groom resorted to an old game of hangman.

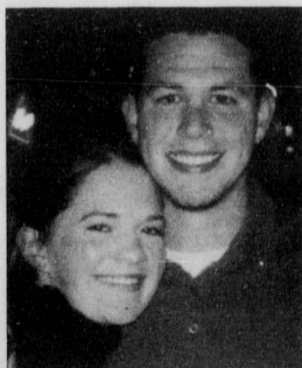
"I asked Tiffany out in high school by spelling out 'Will you go out with me Saturday night?'" Groom said. "This time, I gave her a ring and game of hangman asking her to marry me."

Groom, an e-business major, said he was glad that he and Boyd were friends first, because finding someone at TCU would have been a lot more difficult.

"A lot of (women) at TCU come to get their 'Mrs.' degree, just to get married," Groom said.

Boyd, a marketing major, said she and Groom were always good friends, so dating and coming to college didn't change their relationship a whole lot.

"My parents thought I was following him to college," Boyd said. "And maybe I was, but it wasn't really intentional."



Photos special to the Skiff

Boyd's father, Bill, said there was a significant chance that the couple's relationship wouldn't last through college, but he is happy that it did.

"I have known Jason since he was in third or fourth grade," Bill Boyd said. "I'm glad that TCU has allowed their relationship to grow and evolve."

Groom said they took a lot of UCR and lower-division business classes together and have always had plenty of mutual friends.

The couple said they will be married May 22, 2004, in Robert Carr Chapel, a year after they have graduated.

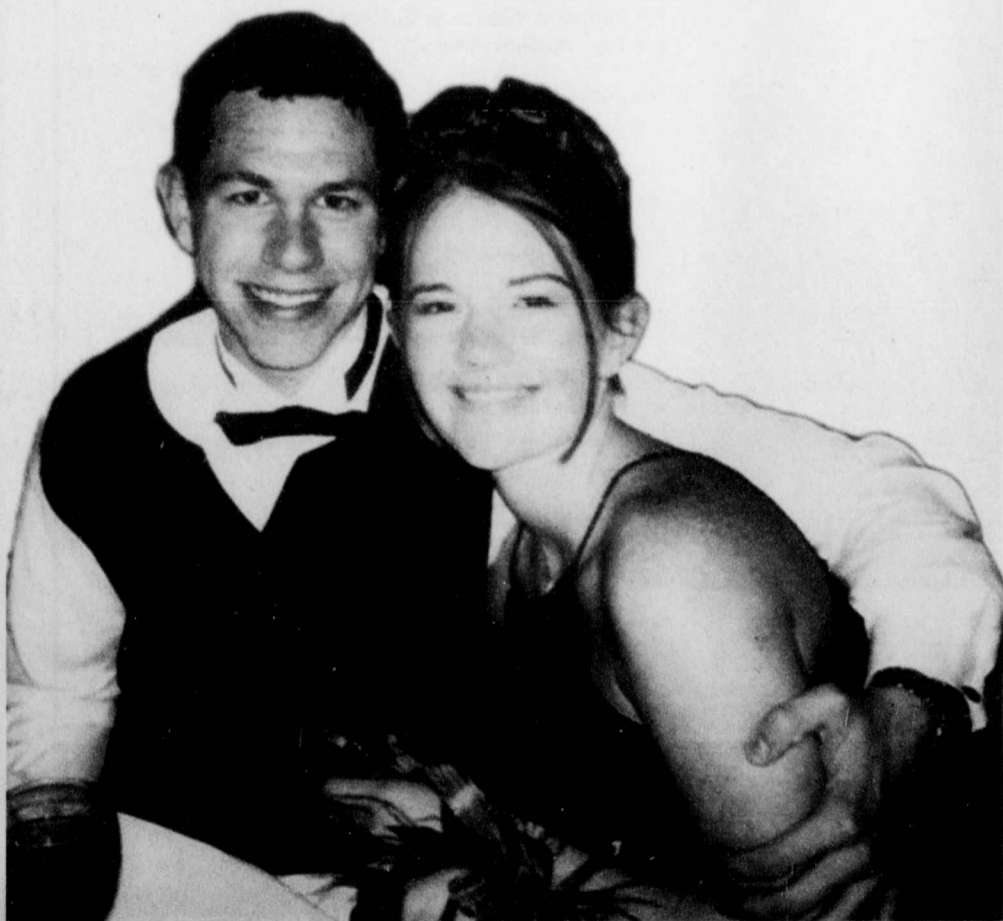
"I'm a little bitter because I thought our wedding date had been booked out from under us," Boyd said. "When I asked a woman from the chapel about it, she called me 'madam' and threatened to charge me \$400."

Carolyn Rowell of University Ministries said wedding services at Robert Carr Chapel cost \$400 for alumni and \$100 for current students and that the price of a wedding depends on when it is, not when you reserve the chapel.

"You have to draw the price line somewhere, and graduation seems to be the easiest place to do it," Rowell said. "If you graduate on Saturday, and get married the next Saturday, you pay alumni prices."

The earliest time a couple could get married in Robert Carr Chapel is in June of 2004, Rowell said, so love-struck fools should reserve their date early.

Meghan Youker
m.m.youker@tcu.edu



Crews recover more remains, continue to search lake

BY LISA FALKENBERG
Associated Press

HEMPHILL — Crews nearing the end of an initial ground search for space shuttle debris in Sabine County found more remains of astronauts, an official said Wednesday.

Sheriff Tommy Maddox said Wednesday that "significant amounts" of astronaut remains were found Tuesday in the southeastern part of Sabine County.

"Lord have mercy on all the other things found," he said without giving details. Other items found Tuesday included a sealed door and a window.

Meanwhile Wednesday, dive teams using sonar equipment continued battling poor visibility in the muddy waters of the Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Despite sunny weather, underwater visibility was limited to about 20 inches for dive teams from NASA, the FBI, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, and the Texas Department of Public Safety, said EPA spokesman Dave Bary.

"As of close of business (Tuesday), nothing had been pulled from the lake," he said.

A 32-foot Coast Guard boat arrived from Mobile, Ala., and on Wednesday was aiding the search in the reservoir stretches along the Texas-Louisiana border.

"It's more a case of feel than see," Bary said. "That takes time."

Bary said debris that divers have investigated has turned out to be tree stumps and other items unrelated to the shuttle.

On Wednesday, members of a new command team and search crews from the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are expected to arrive and eventually take over coordination of the search in five East Texas counties.

Their first meeting is expected to take place today, said Red Anderson, a U.S. Forest Service spokesman who will join the team based in Nacogdoches.

"There will be a formal transition, but it will take place in an office setting," Anderson said. "We're not going to change ribbons or anything."

National Guard troops, locals and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers helping with the ground search will be phased out and relieved by new crews from around the country, Anderson said.

"They've got to be absolutely exhausted," said Traci Bowen of the Texas Forest Service. "If you're familiar with where they're searching, you know that some of these people just need to be relieved."



Rona Ramon, widow of Israel's first astronaut Ilan Ramon, and son, Assaf Ramon, pay their respects beside his coffin Monday at Lod Air Force Base outside Tel Aviv, Israel. *Rueven Castro/Flash 90*

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P U L T E C O M

Three NATO members continue to block U.S. military planning to defend Turkey

BY PAUL GEITNER
Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — France, Germany and Belgium rejected a scaled-down U.S. proposal Wednesday for NATO preparations in case of war in Iraq, prolonging the alliance's worst internal crisis since the end of the Cold War.

NATO diplomats said the third day of emergency talks ended after about an hour and would resume today.

For the past month, the holdouts have blocked the start of military planning to help defend Turkey — the only NATO member bordering Iraq. France, Germany and Belgium say such a step could under-

cut U.N. efforts to resolve the Iraq crisis peacefully.

Washington and the 15 other NATO nations have reacted with increasingly harsh language, arguing the division weakens NATO's solemn bond of mutual defense and sends a dangerous message of disunity to Saddam Hussein.

Diplomats had said the three holdouts still wanted to link any decision at NATO to Friday's report to the U.N. Security Council on Iraq's cooperation with U.N. weapons inspectors.

French President Jacques Chirac told his Turkish counterpart by phone Wednesday that France "would assume its obligations

if Turkey were really threatened," said Chirac's spokeswoman, Catherine Colonna, in Paris.

But he stuck to France's position that it is not possible to make advance plans on Turkey's defense in the absence of a U.N. Security Council decision to use force against Iraq.

Greenspan criticizes Bush's proposed round of tax cuts

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats praised Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan on Wednesday for criticizing President Bush's new round of \$1.3 trillion in tax cuts as too expensive in light of soaring budget deficits.



GREENSPAN

The White House, meanwhile, was pushing ahead with efforts to build support in Congress.

"If the economy needs a little umph...why wait?" Bush said, touting his plan with a group of small investors in Alexandria, Va.

Greenspan, delivering the Fed's twice-a-year economic outlook to the House Financial Services Committee, was acclaimed by Democrats on the committee for his tough comments before a Senate panel on Tuesday. He told committee members that any future tax cuts should be paid for either by raising other taxes or trimming spending so that the nation's deficit situation would not be made worse.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., praised Greenspan, a Republican, for staying consistent in his opposition to budget deficits in the face of strong pressure from members of his own party to support Bush's plan.

"The chairman has long believed, as have most economists, that while deficits are not instant death, they are over the long term a negative for the economy," Frank said. "I very much appreciate the chairman's consistency in reaffirming that in the face of very strong political praying that he would go the other way."

As in his Senate testimony, Greenspan urged lawmakers in the House to quickly move to reinstate tough budget rules that require any future tax cuts or spending increases to be paid for by tax hikes or spending cuts elsewhere.

He said allowing those budget rules to expire would be a "very bad mistake.... Before any actions are taken with respect to appropriations for next year, I certainly trust that these rules will be re-established."

Greenspan said all the demands for tax relief and new government programs were "very clearly straining the capacity of the system" just when the government needed to be preparing for the cost of the baby boomer generation's retirement.

Bush met late Tuesday with a group of 10 Republican senators in an effort to build support for his tax cut package in the Senate, where the plan is expected to face the heaviest opposition.

As part of the sales effort, the administration released a letter signed by 100 economists who support the Bush plan, seeking to counter opponents who on Monday touted their own letter from economists — including 10 Nobel prize winners — opposed to the proposal.

The Fed chairman two years ago gave critical support to Bush's first round of \$1.35 trillion in tax cuts. But in an appearance Tuesday before the Senate Banking Committee, he said another round of tax cuts to stimulate the economy was unnecessary, predicting that the economy would rebound with stronger growth once the uncertainties of a war with Iraq were resolved.

While saying he has long favored the centerpiece of the plan — eliminating taxes on stock dividend payments to investors — Greenspan said the government could not afford the \$1.3 trillion price tag for all the tax cuts given the projections for large budget deficits during the same period.

Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Wells Fargo in Minneapolis, said Greenspan's reservations about the impact of further tax cuts on the deficit will force the administration to scale back its proposal.

publicans, the program will have to go through substantial modification in Congress before it becomes law." Delivering a basically upbeat forecast of economic prospects before both the House and Senate committees, Greenspan said the stop-and-go recovery from the 2001 recession should gain strength this year, especially after the current uncertainty over a possible war with Iraq dissipates.

If that forecast proves correct, Greenspan said, then the economy won't have a need for further stimulus from tax cuts.

"I am one of the few people who is still not as yet convinced that stimulus is a desirable policy," Greenspan told the Senate panel on Tuesday.

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AIDS vaccine may not provide complete protection

BY DANIEL Q. HANEY
Associated Press

BOSTON — The death of three monkeys that had gotten an AIDS vaccine in a Boston lab suggests that a closely watched strategy intended to blunt the deadly progression of HIV may not provide

total protection from the disease.

For several years, researchers have concentrated on crafting vaccines that prompt the body to mount a vigorous challenge to HIV and hold the virus in check.

Much of the enthusiasm for this approach comes from experiments

on monkeys, which appear to survive for years with these vaccines even after they receive high doses of the monkey form of HIV.

However, at a conference Wednesday, researchers from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston who helped develop the

strategy reported that monkeys eventually appear to fall sick and die, even after showing promising resistance to the virus.

"This suggests that viral escape will prove to be a challenge," Dr. Daniel Barouch, one of the Boston researchers, said at the 10th Con-

ference on Retroviruses in Boston.

In his experiment, three of four vaccinated monkeys got sick during three years of follow-up after their shots with an experimental vaccine created by Merck & Co.

Typically these new vaccines take a two-step approach. The

first, called the prime, is HIV genes that are injected into muscle, where they are taken up by cells and result in production of viral proteins. The second is the boost, often a harmless hollowed-out virus that carries in more HIV genes.

Shuttle showed no signs of damage

BY TED BRIDIS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — NASA's top official assured Congress Wednesday that mission controllers detected no unusual readings from Columbia suggesting the crew's lives were threatened in the days preceding its mysterious breakup over Texas.

Sean O'Keefe, who recently took over as head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, also promised that investigators will discover the cause of the accident that killed seven astronauts and that a review board will operate without interference from NASA insiders.

O'Keefe pledged that the findings of the independent panel will be made public "as soon as the ink is dry." He said he would not add anything to the panel's report before its release.

Under questioning by lawmakers, O'Keefe said NASA had no signs from Columbia itself that its delicate thermal tiles might have been damaged on liftoff. Cameras captured a chunk of foam from the shuttle's external fuel tank as it broke away at liftoff and appeared to strike Columbia's left wing.

"If there was any indication, they likely would have showed up during that 16-day mission," O'Keefe told Sen. John Breau, D-La. He said there were "no abnormalities that would suggest the problem."

Asked whether the age of Columbia — the oldest of NASA's four shuttles — might have played a role, O'Keefe noted that Columbia's airframe and other systems were inspected rigorously before each mission.

"The age factor, again the investigation may prove that was a contributor," O'Keefe said. "But in terms of our efforts to make sure that wasn't a factor, it appears every element of diligence was done."

O'Keefe said the space agency is committed to future flights but does not know when they can resume. He said that NASA's schedule for shuttle missions — which anticipated five flights starting in fiscal 2004 — will be "adjusted as needed once we determine when we can return to flight."

"We know the lesson from this terrible accident is not to turn our backs on exploration simply because it is too hard or risky," O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe said that during the 16-day mission, "we had no indications that would suggest a compromise to flight safety."

Lawmakers from House and Senate space panels pressed O'Keefe about whether a review board appointed to investigate the Columbia accident will be sufficiently independent.

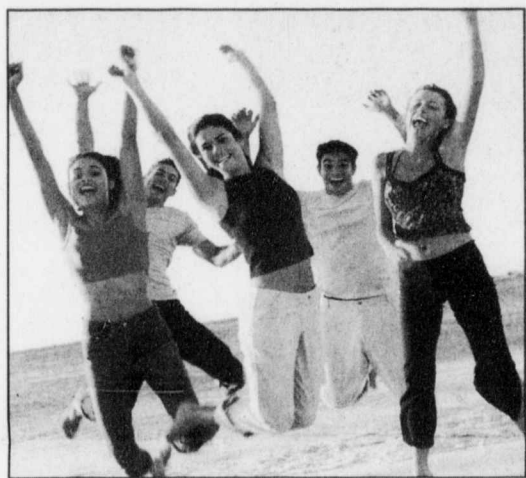
"You have our assurance that this distinguished board will be able to act with genuine independence," O'Keefe said.

Rep. Ralph Hall of Texas, the ranking Democrat on the House Science Committee, described Wednesday's panel as "one of the most painful hearings I've ever had the duty to try to get prepared for." He also called for a thorough investigation.

"Anything less would be a disservice to the brave men and women who died on board Columbia," Hall said.

O'Keefe called the board's members — led by retired Navy Adm. Hal Gehman — "some of the best in the world at what they do," adding that they have been involved in 50 major investigations among them. They began meeting within 30 hours of Columbia's loss, he said.

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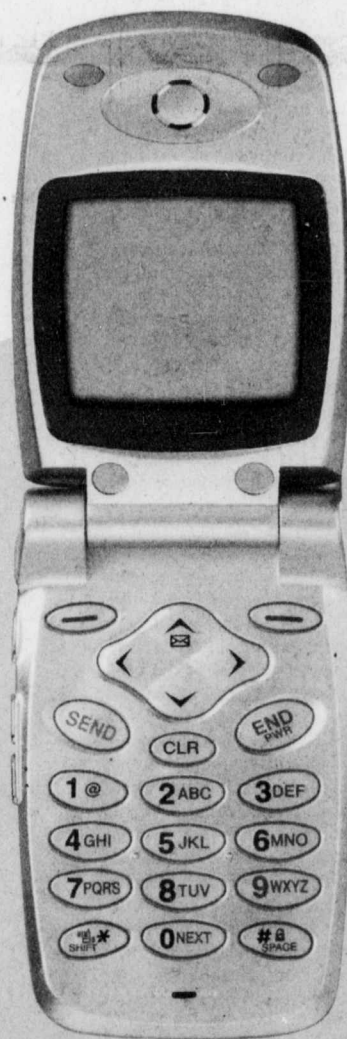
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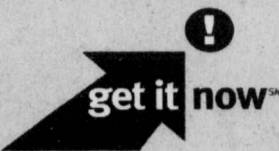
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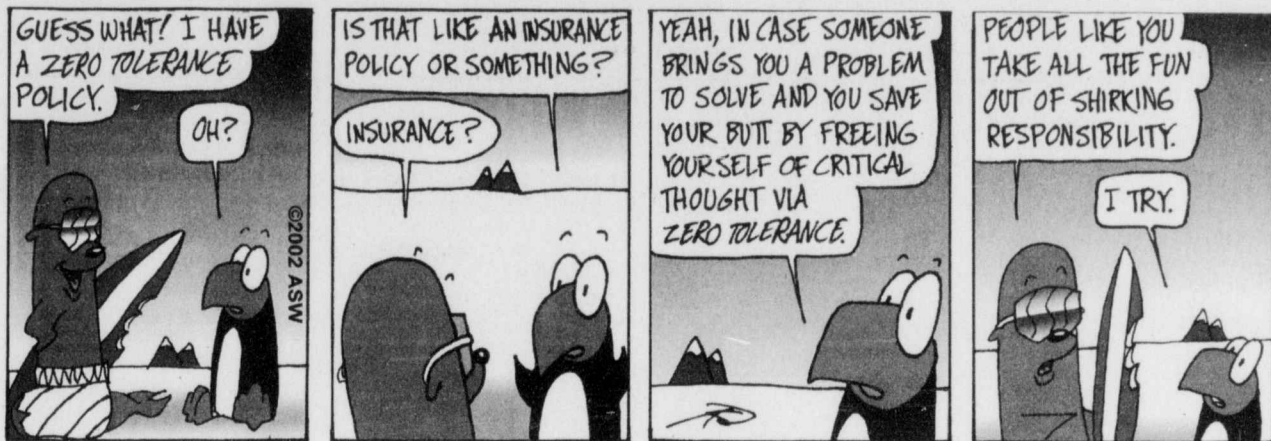
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Today's Funnies

Perry Penguin

by Andrew S. Williams



The Adventures of Skully

by William Morton



Quigmans

by Hickerson



Purple Poll



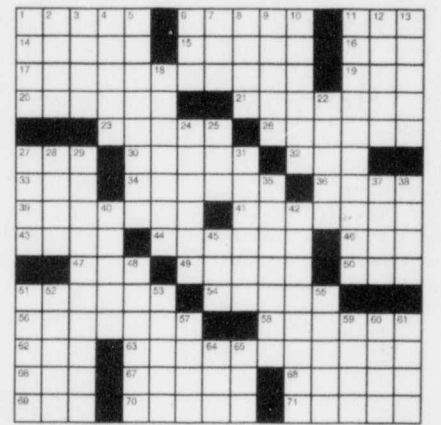
Q: Does it take incentives for you to go to a basketball game?

A: YES 56 NO 44

Data collected from an informal poll conducted in TCU's Main Cafeteria. This poll is not a scientific sampling and should not be regarded as representative of campus public opinion.

Today's Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Goddess of agriculture
 - 6 Nautical position
 - 11 LAPD call
 - 14 Essential acid
 - 15 Film
 - 16 Actress Farrow
 - 17 Document signers
 - 19 Weightlifter's pride, slangily
 - 20 Make certain
 - 21 Musical partner of Mary Ford
 - 23 Support for the arts?
 - 26 Formal, informally
 - 27 Harper Valley org. of song
 - 30 Fork parts
 - 32 Draft org.
 - 33 Unit of work
 - 34 Regard highly
 - 36 Dramatis personae
 - 39 Masters city
 - 41 In haste
 - 43 Gull's cousin
 - 44 Stored fodder
 - 46 Mighty tree
 - 47 Citric cooler
 - 49 Biblical outcast
 - 50 Bread choice
 - 51 Works of fiction
 - 54 Oscar de la ...
 - 56 Cupidity
 - 58 Permafrost region
 - 62 Encountered
 - 63 Major blood vessel in the neck
 - 65 Dismally
 - 66 Afore
 - 67 Manhattan Project project
 - 68 American buffalo
 - 69 Sol's syndrome
 - 70 Window catches
 - 71 Narrow cuts



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Wednesday's Solutions

- 5 Plato's teacher
- 6 Athos, to Aramis
- 7 Hope or Dole
- 8 Mr. Knievel
- 9 Shown on TV
- 10 Courtesy title for men; abbr.
- 11 High-ranking diplomat
- 12 Overly devout
- 13 Dismally
- 18 Stands up to
- 22 Actor Joe
- 24 Necessitate
- 25 Director Spike
- 27 Bog substance
- 28 Faithful
- 29 Makes worse
- 31 Mexican shawl
- 35 Vivid purplish red
- 37 Do in, as a dragon
- 38 Little child
- 40 Beneath
- 42 Makes uneasy
- 45 Celtic god of the sea
- 48 Old Testament prophet
- 51 Appointed
- 52 Out in the open
- 53 Diver's acronym
- 55 Blacksmith's block
- 57 Swelled heads
- 59 Lucy's partner
- 60 Mob violence
- 61 Landers and
- 64 Ref's relative
- 65 Some wts.

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The Sideline

Poor sportsmanship leads several NCAA suspensions

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (AP) — The Ohio Valley Conference suspended both coaches and one player for a game, each for their roles in a bench brawl between Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee State.

Interim commissioner Ron English reviewed the tape of Monday's game in which 19 players were ejected.

"This situation did not include wild swinging, punching and kicking by multiple players," he said. "There were a few select punches thrown and the game officials were able to identify those individuals involved, and took the appropriate action."

He suspended Eastern Kentucky coach Travis Ford and Tennessee State interim coach Hosea Lewis for one game because they violated the league's sportsmanship rule, which prohibits players from leaving the bench.

Tennessee State athletic director Teresa Phillips anticipated the suspension by deciding to fill in for Lewis for the next game. Phillips will become the first woman to coach a men's Division I basketball team when Tennessee State visits Austin Peay Thursday.

English also suspended Josh Cooperwood for one game. Under NCAA rules, player Cedric Bryson of Tennessee State and players Champ Slaughter and Kenyatta Dix of Eastern Kentucky are suspended for one game because they were ejected for fighting.

Texans talk to NFL officials to change overtime policy

HOUSTON (AP) — The newest member of the NFL's competition committee already is on record as favoring changes in the league's overtime policy.

Houston Texans' general manager Charley Casserly said Wednesday that he and the Texans submitted a proposal during the season that would give each team an overtime possession, instead of the current sudden death policy.

"We're already on record with the league that we'd like to see one possession for each team," Casserly said. "Whatever happens after that happens."

And what if a team scores, then successfully recovers an on-side kick, robbing the other team of a possession?

"So be it; that's football," Casserly said.

Trip to Tennessee encourages senior Lady Frog

Editor's note: This is a recurring feature on the Sports Page, which will explore the insights into the lives of TCU's athletes.

The trip to Knoxville was very memorable. As a senior, I have gone into a few places that really knocked my socks off, but Tennessee is in a whole other league.

Our trip started off with a rocky plane ride to Knoxville and a couple sitting behind me talking about their season tickets to see the Lady Vols. I am not a big fan of airplanes. I believe I sweat more on the takeoff and landing than I usually do in practice. As I got off the plane, the couple said,

"We will be yelling, but not necessarily for you." I replied, "That is OK, we will just act like you are cheering for us."

I have seen the Tennessee crowd on television. It is so knowledgeable about the game. The deafening roar of the crowd is timely at certain points of the game to help give the Lady Vols an extra lift.

When the team landed we were invited to a TCU alumna's house for lunch. Sherri Parker Lee was kind enough to feed us lunch as well as have other TCU fans over to meet us. It is not often that we get such gracious invitations. The food was great and I even got to meet Joan Cronan, athletic director for Tennessee women's athletics. This was as memorable as they come, because I aspire to be as famous as she has

become in women's athletics. I someday want to be an athletic director as well.

After watching senior forward Grace Gantt play several games of pool, and sophomore forward Tiffany Evans and senior guard Candace Baldwin play fetch with the dog, we headed to practice at Thompson-Boiling Arena. This could be women's basketball Mecca. Championship banners cover every inch of the rafters. As we exited the bus head coach Jeff Mittie said, "I am giving you one minute to stare and then we get to work." Practice went well and then it was off to bed.

Game day brought many memories. We started off with breakfast and then headed over to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Wow — what a neat facility, rich in tradition, and honoring the sacrifice of many women to make the game what it is today. A picture of junior guard Kim Ortega and junior forward Tracy Wynn was displayed with the other national champions from last year. (Ortega and Wynn were part of the Seward County Community College team that won the 2002 NJCAA National Championship.) As I looked over the Hall of Fame plaques on the wall, many great coaches have been honored. Before too long, our own Coach Mittie will be inducted as well.

Finally, the game we have waited for all year was here. As I walked into the gym, chills ran over my body. During warm-up, fans began to fill the seats in the enormous arena. The first five minutes of the

game were rough for the Lady Frogs, but we soon turned the tide and let the Vols know we were not giving up without a fight. It was a one-point game at half time, which was very encouraging since we have not played well on the road this year. We carried the hustle and fight over into the second half. The defensive effort of both teams was at a high, and both teams hit big shots. In the end, the game came down to the last four minutes with the Lady Vols on top. They gained a victory, and we earned a moral victory. We played hard and realized that on this trip to Knoxville, after playing against the No. 3 team in the nation, that we can play with anyone in the country. It just takes effort and stubbornness to not give up.



PAYNE

Home court advantage



Senior guard Junior Blount goes under the Golden Eagles' David Haywood to score two of his 11 points. The Frogs won 85-78, ending their five-game losing streak.

Inside The Numbers

20 points scored by sophomore guard Corey Santee

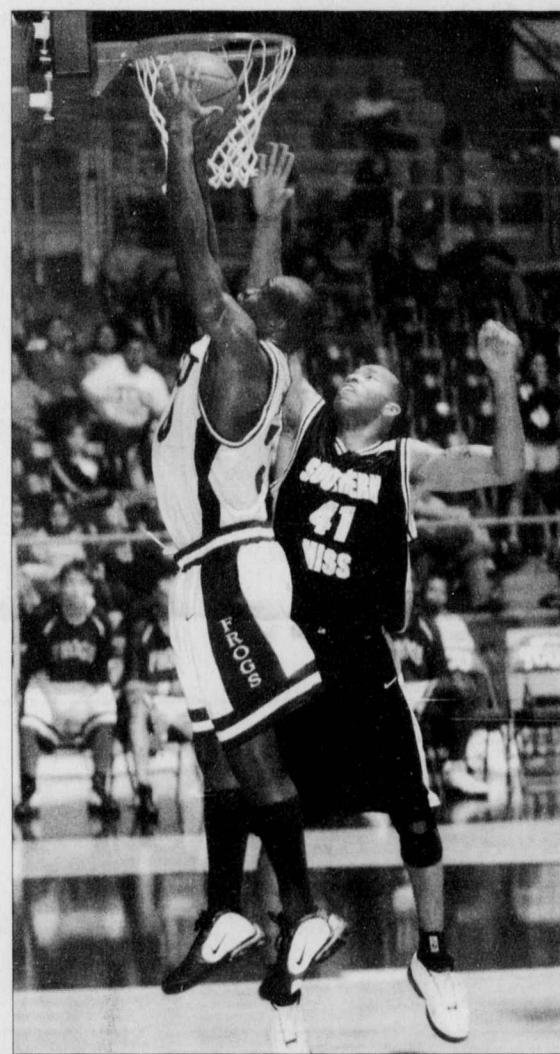
38 total number of TCU rebounds

75 percentage of three-pointers made by senior guard Junior Blount

22 total number of Southern Miss personal fouls

80.8 percentage of TCU free throws made

35 number of minutes played by senior forward Bingo Merriex



Senior forward Jamal Brown lays up over Southern Mississippi's Charles Gaines late in the second half of Wednesday's game.

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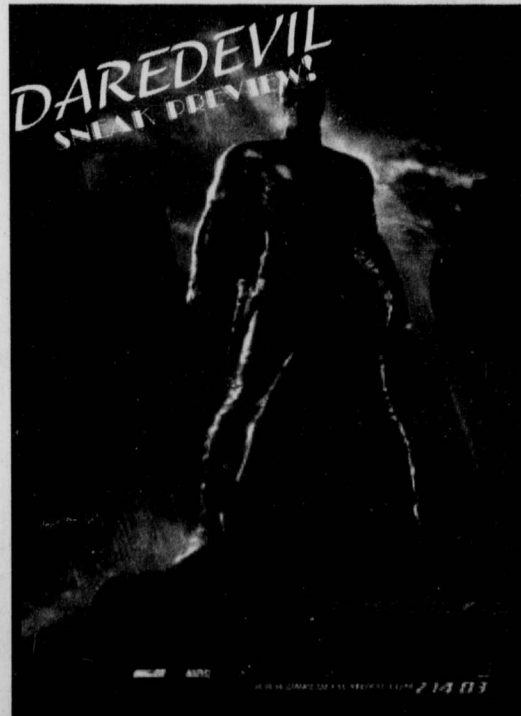
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