



Inside

TCU challenge course teaches learning experiences.
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TCU DAILY

Skiff

WEATHER FORECAST

High 66
Low 51

Mostly
sunny



THURSDAY
APRIL 15, 1999

Texas Christian University
96th Year • Number 102
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Pulse NEWS BRIEFS

Campus

Two men rob student at gunpoint, steal car

A male student was robbed at gunpoint and his automobile stolen Wednesday night after two males approached the student between Clark Hall and the Tom Brown/Pete Wright Residential Community, according to an e-mail sent out by Campus Police.

Around 9:30 p.m. the student was walking from his off-campus home when two males confronted him and demanded his money at gunpoint, the e-mail stated. The student was then forced back to his home, where the suspects took his automobile.

Police recovered the automobile a short time later at another crime scene about five miles from campus, according to the notice. TCU and Fort Worth police responded immediately by increasing their patrols of the area.

Police were unavailable for comment late Wednesday night.

College

Holocaust survivors recognized, honored

ATHENS, Ohio (U-WIRE) — Although many people today know the horrors of the six million Jews killed during the Holocaust, Ohio University sophomore Erica Twersky said mentioning the mass genocide never happened in her family for years.

Many people from Twersky's mother's family were killed during the Holocaust, but when her mother moved to a Cleveland neighborhood with a group of Holocaust survivors, her mother said parents tried to protect their children from the sadness of the Jewish people, she said.

Today, though, things have changed.

Under the theme "Unto every person there is a name," Tuesday was Yom Hashoah, an internationally observed Holocaust remembrance day, and OU students recognized the day with their own voices.

—The Post
Ohio University

Students say U.S. is lying about Kosovo

LEXINGTON, Ky. (U-WIRE) — Americans are not being accurately informed about the military involvement in the Kosovo province of the former Yugoslavia.

This was the opinion of demonstrators who stood outside of the Whitehall Classroom Building Tuesday, distributing flyers to inform University of Kentucky students about issues concerning the NATO airstrikes in Kosovo.

"It's almost worse than the information given by the Serbian media. It's propaganda used as a justification for military action," said Kristina Vuskovic, a math professor.

Vuskovic was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, the Serbian capitol which is being targeted by NATO airstrikes.

Vuskovic said she believed the international community should be involved in the situation, but in a diplomatic way.

Depicting signs that proclaimed "Hi, I'm a civilian, bomb me" and "Warning: illegal, immoral war against Yugoslavia," the demonstration was organized by a group of philosophy graduate students.

—Kentucky Kernel
University of Kentucky

ID cards to have different numbers

By Tom Sullivan
STAFF REPORTER

New students won't be the only ones receiving new TCU identification cards when they arrive here in August.

The current purple ID cards will be replaced by more durable, color versions. Every member of the TCU community will receive new cards in the fall.

Due to the implementation of PeopleSoft software, social security numbers will no longer be used as personal ID numbers.

Emily Burgwyn, director of stu-

Durability, pictures also to be improved

dent affairs information services, said although social security numbers have been used as ID numbers at TCU for more than 20 years, the new numbers will allow students to keep their SSNs anonymous. She said some people have expressed concerns in the past about the use of SSNs as ID numbers, although most students are satisfied with the current ID card system.

"The SSN has not been an huge

problem for the students," she said. "Students are really quick to report their cards have been lost or stolen."

Burgwyn said the numbers will still be nine digits, although a specific format has not yet been determined.

In addition to new identification numbers, the cards will also feature color photos and pictures of campus landmarks. Amon G. Carter Stadium and Frog Fountain

will be featured on the right side of the card.

"Most everybody complains about their pictures," Burgwyn said. "The new card will have color photos and will also be more durable."

Burgwyn also said the current cards can be demagnetized too easily.

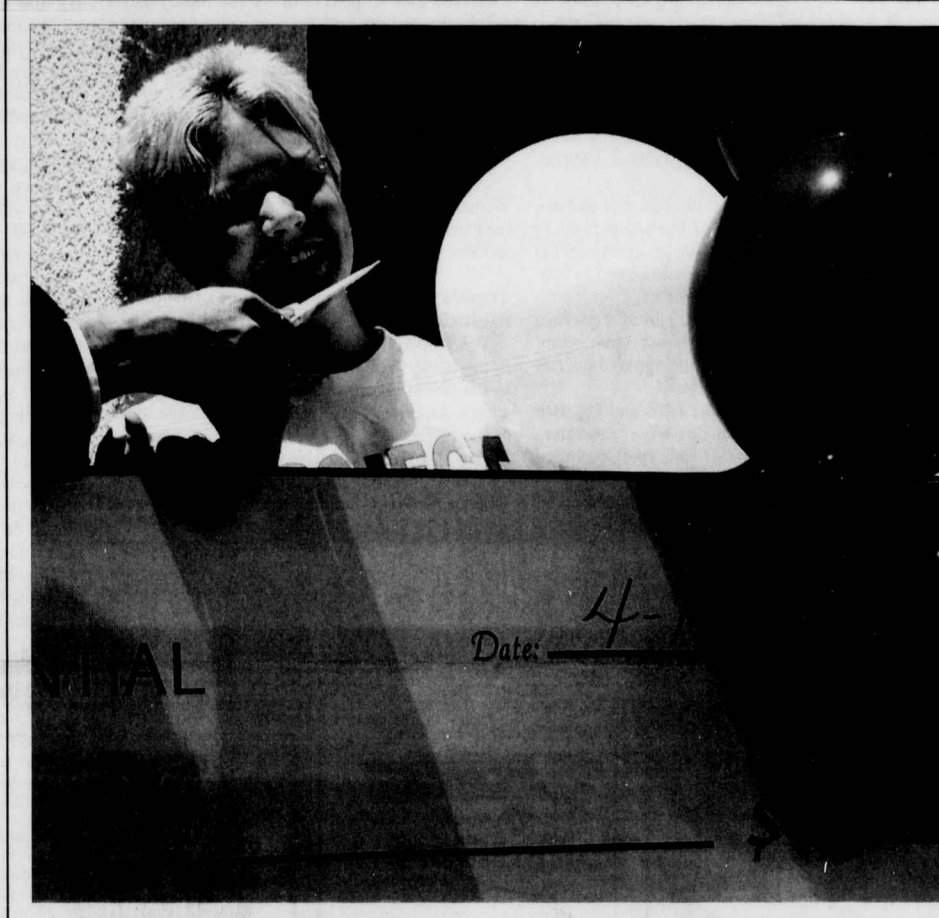
"Eventually, the new card will have many uses and it was critical to get a card that is very durable."

Gorland Mar, associate art director and creator of the new card, said the new card will be a nice improvement over the old one.

"The athletic Horned Frog on the card and the TCU logo above the head shot will add to the card," he said. "I thought the fountains and the stadium would be great representations."

Betty Morgan, manager of ID card services, said students, faculty and staff will like the card's

Please see ID CARDS, Page 4



And the winner is...

Patrick Pannett/PHOTO EDITOR

(Left) An excited Elizabeth Wilson, a freshman sociology major, is presented Wednesday with a \$2,500 check from BNC Residential Inc., the management company of Park Ridge Apartments. (Below) Donna Butler, manager of the apartments, tells Wilson of her contest win, which was determined by the date the lucky resident moved in.



Ambassador to speak at convocation

By Jared La Ron Hooker
STAFF REPORTER

Swanee Hunt, ambassador to Austria and 1972 TCU alumna, will speak about the relationship between diplomacy and activism for Honor's Week convocation at 11 a.m. today in Ed Landreth Hall.

As ambassador, Hunt helped in the establishment of the Bosnian Peace Accord, a document that was signed in December 1995 and brought peace between Bosnia, Herzegovina, Croatia and Yugoslavia. She also helped organize the League

of Women Voters in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which published a voters' guide to women candidates and pushed for new election rules.

Kathryne McDorman, director of the TCU Honors Program, said the Honor's Week Committee wanted to choose someone who has been committed to his or her work and made a contribution — a humanitarian.

"We are always looking for people who have made outstanding contributions in their fields," she said. "With the situation in Kosovo, her interest into the crisis and conflict would be timely." Hunt was a pioneer in the field of women's studies, and as a founder of the Women's Foundation, she helped to raise a \$10-million endowment to promote women's economic self-sufficiency.

Daniel Worden, a junior English and philoso-

phy major and chairman of the TCU Honors Cabinet, said Hunt will inform students about international events.

"She has played an active part in events that will affect the future of international relations which students don't know much about," he said.

Hunt is the youngest daughter of oil billionaire, H. L. Hunt.

Despite her family's wealth, she spends most of her time with the poor, giving away at least half her yearly income, according to an article in TCU Magazine. Hunt also shares her home with the homeless, students and rulers and often hosts up to 100 people a week in her house in Cambridge, Mass., where she lives with her husband, Charles Ansbacher, and two of their three children.

Valerie Gillen, assistant director of Women and Public Policy Program told TCU Magazine, "People often put adjectives like 'oil heiress' before Swanee's name, and that just doesn't convey who Swanee is."

Hunt has a doctorate in theology, a bachelor's degree in philosophy and two master's degrees in psychology and religion. Currently, she is the director of the WAPPP at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, which emphasizes women's roles within the public policy process.

She also has been involved in the Women's Rights Network, the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, the Women's Economic Leadership Summit and has written columns and publications for many American and international newspapers, magazines and journals.



Swanee Hunt

Ballot battle Three local candidates compete for District 9 city council seat

By Joel D. Anderson
STAFF REPORTER

The lines of the political battlefield have been drawn, and the TCU area seems to have found itself in the midst of a potential war — for votes.

The three candidates for the District 9 city council race will face off in a forum at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center, 3320 W. Cantey, behind Ed Landreth Hall. Bob Ray Sanders, a long-time columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, will be the forum's moderator. The election will be held on May 1.

Cathy Hirt, who is currently the district's representative, said members of the TCU student body should take interest in this race because of several issues that are uniquely important to the area.

"From a student point of view it's very hard to understand what all of the issues are because you're so mired in student life," she said. "Just watching local politics take place for free is a good experience. Some of the

issues the candidates will be discussing directly impact their lives. The role of TCU to the larger community is vital."

The candidates vying to take over Hirt's seat are Wendy Davis, a local attorney who lost the race to Hirt three years ago; David Minor, a local businessman; and Dan Roberts, a neighborhood activist who once held a seat on nearby Flower Mound's city council.

Hirt said the five sexual assaults of women in the TCU area in the past year make community safety a substantial issue in this council race. She said the Berry Street revitalization is an another important issue that will affect TCU students.

"The Berry Street initiative is anchored by the fact that TCU is at the west end of the street," Hirt said. "There are a lot of kids at TCU who probably don't have cars, and who want more things to do. There is a need for a better array of opportunities for students to do. We need to develop the area around TCU, not

Elderly generation will have financial impact

By Jared La Ron Hooker
STAFF REPORTER

Aging — it's not something that interests young people on a daily basis, but for this generation and future ones, it may become a big financial problem.

An article in the March 1, 1999, issue of U.S. News & World Report said next year, for the first time in history, people over 60 will outnumber children 14 and younger.

Recent trends show that people are living longer and having fewer children. The result is increased costs for Social Security, rest homes and pension funds, according to the article.

Keith Whitworth, an adjunct faculty member in the sociology department, said the increasing financial responsibility for the aging population will affect the current student population over time.

"There will be a gradual increase in (America's) population over the next 40 years, so economically it affects the United States in that there will be fewer workers supporting the aged," he said.

From the sociological perspective, the

elderly are classified as: the young-old, who are between the ages of 65 and 74; the old-old, who are between the ages of 75 and 84 and the oldest-old, who are 85 years old and above.

"Currently, the United States has a proportion of three taxpayers per every one retired worker, but it's projected that by the year 2030, that ratio will reduce to 1.5 taxpayers to every one retired worker because of people living longer and disengaging from society," Whitworth said.

Charles Becker, an economist and associate professor of economics, said in the future, this imbalance will cause governments to have a bigger deficit.

"If the government adds the national deficit to the social security deficit, we will have a mega-deficit that will be hard to overcome," Becker said.

Today's parents and college-aged students are referred to in sociology as the "sandwich" generation. This means people between the ages of 18 and 50 may be responsible for the care of their children

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Pulse

Announcements of campus events, public meetings and other general campus information should be brought to the TCU Daily Skiff office at Moody 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.

William Shakespeare's "Macbeth" will be presented by the TCU Theatre at 8 p.m. this week through Saturday in the University Theatre. Performances will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 257-5770.

Tickets are on sale for the fourth annual "Battle at the Ballpark" between the Horned Frogs and the University of Texas at The Ballpark in Arlington. The game will be at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, April 20. Tickets are \$5 and are available through the ticket office at Ext. 7967.

Sign up to volunteer for the School is Cool Jam, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 22 at the TCU track. Fifth graders will come to campus to enjoy a fun-filled day of pizza, games and activities, while being encouraged to stay in school. Volunteers are needed to help the kids play games, and nursing students are needed to serve as first-aid volunteers. For more information contact Deb Warner at 257-4537.

The American Cancer Society, Fort Worth Metro, has started a new support group for young adults who have survived childhood cancer. The group meets from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the American Cancer Society office, 3301 W. Freeway, Fort Worth. The group will discuss topics such as life, college, work and relationships. The next meeting is today. For more information, call 737-9990.

The Wesley Foundation will meet at 5:30 p.m. today at the Wesley Building, 2750 W. Lowden. Call 924-5639 for more information.

The Catholic Community will meet for mass and dinner 5:30 p.m. today in Reed Hall, Room 214. Sunday mass will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in the Student Center Ballroom.

Disciple Student Fellowship will meet at 5:15 p.m. today at University Christian Church for fellowship and a meal.

Can't find a summer job? Look at www.JobMonkey.com for free information on job opportunities.

News ROUNDUP

World

Philippines fest bombing during morning hours leaves 12 dead

LEGAZIPI, Philippines — A bomb exploded during a village festival before dawn Thursday on the Philippine island of Batan, killing at least 12 people and wounding 50 others, police said.

Police said they have not determined the motive for the attack on the northern island off Albay province, southeast of Manila.

The victims, most of whom were teen-agers, were hit by shrapnel made of what appeared to be pieces of steel pipes, said physician Jose Daet.

One of the injured, 16-year-old Prime Balute, said he saw "many people lying on the ground, many of them not moving."

Balute, who suffered stomach wounds, said he heard a loud explosion as he was dancing and fell stunned to the ground, temporarily losing his hearing.

Police Col. Mauricio dela Cruz, regional police investigation chief, said he has sent a team of investigators to the island.

The victims were taken to Legazpi, the Albay provincial capital, a two-hour boat ride from Batan. Legazpi is about 210 miles southeast of Manila.

Pakistan test fires long-range missiles three days after India's test

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan test fired a ballistic missile Wednesday that is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and hitting deep inside its uneasy neighbor India, intelligence sources said.

The Ghauri II, an advanced version of a previously tested ballistic missile, has a range of 1,200 miles, making it the longest-range missile in Pakistan's arsenal.

The test was not a surprise, with analysts anticipating Pakistan would respond to a missile test conducted Sunday by India.

According to reports in Pakistani newspapers, India was notified Tuesday of Pakistan's plans to test fire the missile, in line with an agreement the prime ministers of the two countries signed in February.

The agreement was signed as part of a package to reduce tensions between the South Asian neighbors, both of whom exploded underground nuclear devices last year.

With the underground tests, India and Pakistan declared themselves nuclear powers — generating fears that the next step would be the development of a nuclear weapons arsenal.

Pakistan says it doesn't want to embark on an arms race, but won't be left behind if India begins developing nuclear arms.

The two countries have fought three wars in the past 51 years and their new nuclear status has caused many world leaders to express a fear that another confrontation between Pakistan and India could escalate into a nuclear war.

Nation

Laws to demand insurance to equally cover mentally, physically ill

WASHINGTON — Insurance plans no longer could impose tighter limits on hospital stays and outpatient visits for mental health treatment than they do for physical illnesses under a proposal Wednesday to revise a 1996 law.

That law stopped employers from setting lower dollar amounts for mental health coverage. But many businesses now limit the number of hours patients can spend with therapists or days they can be hospitalized.

"We must make treatment for this illness as available and as routine as treatment for any other disease," said Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., who is sponsoring the legislation with Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M.

Wellstone and Domenici, who also led the push for the 1996 law, both have had family members with mental illnesses.

The law took effect in 1998 and expires in 2001. Before the law, most insurance plans had lifetime caps on mental treatment typically ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 — far below the \$1 million to \$2 million allowed each individual for physical ailments.

Smaller businesses are exempt from the law as are companies whose insurance costs rise more than 1 percent because of the mental health coverage.

The new legislation would remove the expiration date and broaden the coverage to include all businesses with more than 25 employees. The cost-based exemption would end.

The Washington Business Group on Health, an employer-sponsored lobbying organization, has estimated that 75 percent of its 160 mostly larger employers comply with the law without restricting visits. But many smaller companies have imposed visit limits, according to insurers, employers and benefit consultants.

Because of the caps, patients sometimes avoid treatment until they have to be hospitalized or are suicidal, according to mental health advocates.

At a Virginia, Minn., clinic, a 40-year-old woman with depression recently had to be hospitalized twice because her insurance had run out and she was not being treated for her depression.

Topics for 1980s stamp set chosen, include Berlin Wall, figure skating

WASHINGTON — From the deadly seriousness of the Berlin Wall and Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the fun of figure skating and frivolity of video games, Americans have picked their favorite topics of the 1980s.

The 15 topics selected by voters across the country will appear on a set of stamps to be released in January, the Postal Service said. It's the fourth set of stamps to be chosen by public ballot.

Ten sets of stamps will be issued, one for each decade of this century.

A post office committee picked subjects for the first five decades and the public has now voted on subjects for the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Subjects for the 1990s will be selected during

nationwide balloting scheduled for May.

"The Celebrate the Century program continues to give the American public a voice in how the 20th century will be remembered in years to come," Postmaster General William Henderson said in a statement. "Once this one-of-a-kind collection of stamps is completed next year, it will serve as a unique chronicle of American history, providing decade-by-decade glimpses of our past, as we head into the future."

In the 1980s voting, video games collected 268,746 votes to become first choice.

The end of the Berlin Wall earned 265,147 votes and Washington's Vietnam Veterans Memorial was third with 258,515. Fourth was the movie "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," with 239,189 votes, and Cabbage Patch Kids were fifth at 207,505.

In September, the public voted on which subjects would best commemorate the 1970s. The yellow smiley face topped that voting, followed closely by "Sesame Street," disco music and Earth Day.

The 1960s stamps were voted on last May. Winners included the first Moon walk, the integrated circuit, lasers and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

Stamp subjects for the 1950s were determined by popular vote in February 1998. The public's top choices were drive-in movies, teen fashions, cars with tail fins and chrome and 3-D movies.

State

Bill allows out for drunk drivers, weakens DWI laws, MADD says

AUSTIN — A bill that would lower the legal blood alcohol level for Texas drivers has been weakened by a House committee, Mothers Against Drunk Driving said Wednesday.

The bill to lower the legal blood alcohol level from .10 percent to .08 percent was approved Tuesday by the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence. But the panel amended it to make DWI offenders eligible for deferred adjudication.

The amendment by Rep. Miguel Wise, D-Weslaco, would allow all drunk drivers — even those with a blood alcohol level much higher than .08 — an escape route from conviction and would weaken DWI laws, MADD said.

"Local prosecutors presented no evidence to suggest this measure will reduce drunk driving deaths and injuries," said Bill Lewis, public policy liaison for MADD. "The intent of this amendment is not to save lives, but rather to make a significant change to the DWI laws that has little public support."

Bill supporters have said the difference between the .10 limit and .08 for a 170-pound man would be between having five and four drinks in one hour. For a 137-pound woman, it would be between having three and four drinks in one hour.

The bill, which has already passed in the Senate, now heads on to the full House for consideration.

These stories are from the Associated Press.

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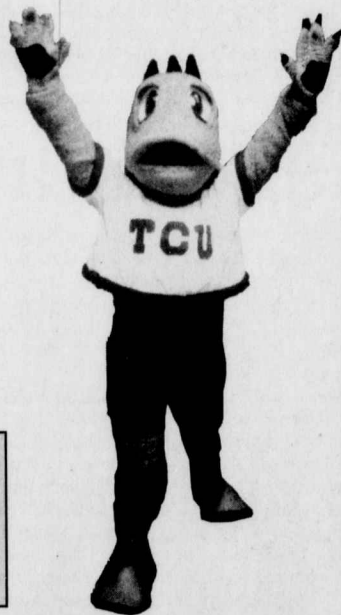
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HELP WANTED

Students can have voice on committees

Every decision that affects TCU students is not necessarily made on the third floor of Sadler Hall. Twenty-one committees make decisions, some more often than others, concerning anything from parking ticket appeals to who will serve as editor of the *Skiff*.

Students serve on a majority of these committees. Though some may not sound too exciting — for instance, the Library Committee — they are important to our university. And our university should be important to you.

Over the next few weeks, House of Student Representatives Vice President Sarah Burleson will attend various organization meetings to recruit students to serve on these committees. In the past, students have been appointed to the committees, but the result has been a lack of participation. If students volunteer instead, they will hopefully care a little more about the committee's purpose.

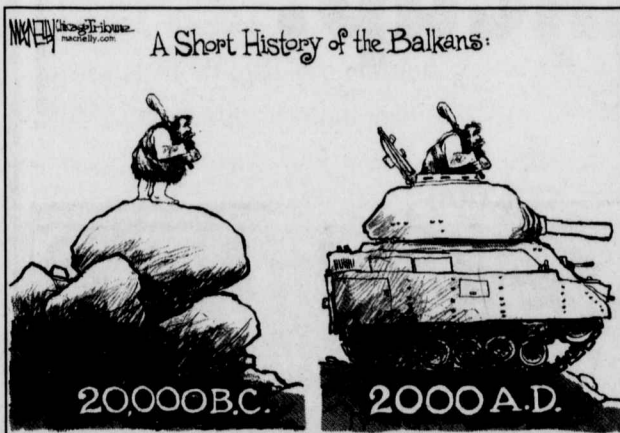
And why shouldn't they? The Evaluation Committee reviews how professors are evaluated at the end of each semester. The Academic Appeals Committee hears the cases of students who have been accused of cheating or other academic misconduct. Students should have just as much input as faculty members when committees such as these make decisions that could change a student's academic life forever.

It is important that faculty members are not the only voices heard on these committees. TCU is here because students are here. Students should take an active role in the way their university is run. If students don't, then faculty and administrators will. It is time we stop complaining and start acting like we care about our fellow students and about our school.

Editorial policy: The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. Unsigned editorials represent the view of the *TCU Daily Skiff* editorial board. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor: The *Skiff* welcomes letters to the editor for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. To submit a letter, bring it to the *Skiff*, Mundy 2915, mail it to TCU Box 298050, fax it to 257-7133 or e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu. They 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.

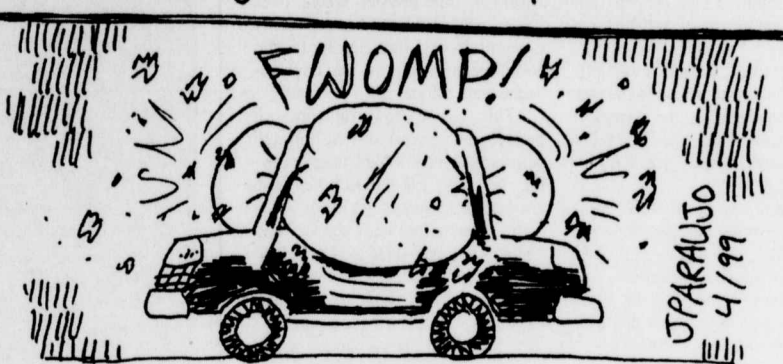
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First, there were driver-side airbags.
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 Then came side-impact airbags.



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John Araujo/SKIFF STAFF

Student hopes to find happiness out of college

A girl in freshman orientation was the first one to ask me the question. I remember looking at the ground, desperately trying to explain my decision to her and to myself.

Since then, I've been asked by dozens of people — my advisor, my friends, the prospective high school student attending a Monday at TCU and, more recently, the lady who registered me for next semester. And though I'm about to end my sophomore year, when asked about my decision I still revert back to that sad, little freshman, unable to answer what seems to be a rather harmless question: Why did I come to TCU?

This is quite possibly the most loaded question ever presented to me. It is not simply a question about what higher institution of learning I chose to attend, but about my life and my future. Most of all, however, it is a question about my courage.

I never planned to attend TCU. I didn't even know I'd be here until only a few days before the May 1st deadline. I had never made a campus visit, and I wouldn't have known a Horned Frog if it danced a happy jig on my head. But I was not simply in the dark about TCU, though. I didn't

know anything about the 11 colleges I applied to. The fact is, I never wanted to go to college. So why did I come? Probably for the same reason that many of us are here. I didn't have the courage not to.

From the time I entered school, my family always considered me the smart one. My three brothers are smart, too, but I was always thought to be exceptional. I was expected to make straight A's throughout grade school and junior high school. I was expected to maintain a superior grade point average in high school. And I was expected to go to college. Unbeknownst to anyone, however, I hated school. By senior year I decided that college was not for me. I told my parents that I wanted to take a train somewhere out west and write after high school. They laughed, explained what a waste it would be for me not to go to college and tried to persuade me to become a doctor.

And so I'm here. Not because I want to be, but because I felt I didn't have anyplace else to go or the courage to try.

But I'm not happy here. I'm not content with working for a degree that I don't want. I'm not satisfied with going to college for my parents, my grandparents or my aunt who seems to think that a piece of paper with my name and the TCU seal will be my grandest achievement. "A degree will open doors," she says, without ever wondering if those doors are the ones I wish to walk through. "There isn't much you can

do these days without a degree," she encourages, without ever asking what it is I want to do.

And I am not alone in my concerns about college. When I asked a friend why she came to school she replied with a straight face, "Where else would I go?" Another of my friends mentioned quitting school, but expressed concerns of dying (her parents would kill her). Still another wants to be a farmer in Africa. Instead she's stressing over western civilization tests and tuition costs.

And so it seems we are a generation without courage. Afraid of the unknown, afraid of our parents and afraid to face the vast, abundant landscape of Africa. In short, we are afraid to chase our dreams or even dream at all for that matter. We were misled to believe that without a college degree we have no chance to be successful or fulfilled as people. I, for one, was told that without a degree I would be nothing. "There's already two strikes against you," I was told. "You're black and female."

But I'm beginning to think that being nothing is better than being something I don't want to be. And should I ever muster the courage, I just might take that westbound train. I just might find happiness.

And isn't happiness a great achievement, mom and dad? I believe it's one goal that very few reach.

Savahn Dorris is a sophomore English major from Joilet, Ill.

Commentary



SAVAHN DORRIS

Code of ethics exists

The salivating, story-hungry reporter runs through the night. She ducks behind trees and garbage cans so the person she is following won't see her. The person goes into a building. The reporter skulks beneath the window, her ear to the glass. The light on her tape recorder glows as she records the person's condemning words. The next morning the story is splashed across the front page of the local paper....

There is an accident. Police, fire truck and ambulance sirens wail into the rainy afternoon. A five-car pile-up on the interstate cost one woman her life. The reporter comes up to the woman's husband as he's being wheeled into the ambulance on a stretcher and demands, "Sir, how do you feel about your wife's death?"

Stereotypes about journalists all seem to be harsh. And, like so many other stereotypes, these are ingrained in the psyche of the American public. Even college journalists face snide jokes, leers and laughter. And the frustrating part about all this is that, in general, they are not true!

Sure, there are a few unscrupulous journalists. Who don't hold to high ideals, and who sell their soul for the great scoop or the killer quote. But a whole profession should not be maligned for the faults of a few of its representatives. Lawyers have already become the butt of the nation's jokes — are reporters doomed to follow the same path?

Actually, all journalists are not callous and unfeeling. There are reasons behind what we do, but no one seems to care. And these senseless stereotypes hinder all reporters from completing their job.

No one wants negative publicity. That's understandable, but it's not very practical for the nation as a whole. "Watchdog" has become a buzz word in journalism today, but it's true nevertheless. Without the press watching out for the Joe Q. American, he (or she) would be taken advantage of as a consumer, a tax payer, a citizen and more. If reporters can't delve into reporting about the government, how will we know what they are doing — both good and bad?

Reporters also get blasted for talking to victims, or the families of victims. But stop and think about this for just one second. If these people don't want to talk, then sure, the reporter should respect that. But the reporter, most of the time, is not trying to hurt the victim. The victim's comments can be very illuminating, and, most of all, they can help people in similar situations not repeat the tragedy.

What those who ascribe to this stereotype need to remember is that most journalists have a personal code of ethics that they uphold. I have one, and it includes such things as writing balanced stories, never fabricating information and quoting sources accurately and in the correct context. Journalists have a job that brings them attention and has the potential for making many people angry. People remember the paparazzi who may have caused Princess Diana's death, but they forget about the reporters trying to interpret issues like campaign finance reform for the average citizen.

Negative images tend to stick around more than positive ones — it's human nature. But that's no excuse. Most people agree that stereotyping other races and religions is wrong. Now people need to realize that stereotyping professions is wrong, too, and they must work at eliminating it. If not, the latest reporter joke will soon be more common than the latest lawyer joke.

Opinion editor Erin Brinkman is a senior English and news-editorial journalism major from McGregor, Texas.

Abstinence a realistic option for teens

In our instant-gratification culture, we sometimes forget the reasons for promoting abstinence among young people. Some of the most compelling reasons cry and need regular feeding.

The teen-age pregnancy rate in the United States has fallen since 1990, as has the teen abortion rate. But our country still has the highest teen birth rate among developed nations. And, according to the Texas Kids Count Project, Texas ranks 47th out of the 50 states in its teen birth rate.

We know that teen mothers are less likely to finish high school, less likely to get good jobs and more likely to end up on welfare than their child-free peers. Yet at the same time, avoiding sex altogether is treated as impractical, impossible advice for the adolescent faced with difficult decisions.

If we don't want to think about a high

moral ground, we ought to at least think about AIDS. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which studies issues affecting disadvantaged children, more than 3 million teen-agers contract STDs each year. This constitutes a fourth of all the cases of STDs contracted annually.

Why do teen-agers have sex, unprotected sex, sex that results in pregnancy and disease? Why does the heat of the moment take precedence over the life beyond it?

Mary Pipher, author of "Reviving Ophelia," and a host of girl-centered organizations tell us it happens in part because of a lack of self-esteem. The same need for acceptance that drives teen-agers to do so much else wrong — join gangs, bully anyone outside the established circle of friends — frequently inspires them to have sex. If the average high school girl thought she would be the only experienced woman on her block, she might think twice before taking the plunge. Instead we have a climate, fostered primarily by television and film but also by public schools, that convinces that doubting teen-ager she's the last American virgin.

For guys? The double standard rules.

Even as girls may seek acceptance with boyfriends or peers through sex, they still have to reconcile this desire with the potential backlash from the locker room. Boys have no such check on their attitudes; they're encouraged to be the first guy on that hypothetical block. As a culture, our reaction to a man who has graduated from college and remains a virgin is one of enormous surprise, even disbelief.

It's amazing that something as mysterious, sacred and life-changing as sex has become subject to the same forces of peer pressure as T-shirts and tennis shoes.

Advocacy of abstinence is scoffed at, as a general rule. It surfaces occasionally in True Love Waits campaigns or in programs particular cities have developed to combat teen pregnancy, but it's generally discredited as a viable option for amorous adolescents. Why? It's not "realistic."

But abstinence is, lest we have forgotten, the only foolproof way to avoid pregnancy and disease. Sex educators who don't give this option decent coverage in the classroom are doing a disservice to the children they are supposed to help. Sex education is about hav-

ing all the information possible to make informed decisions about sexual activity, and waiting to have sex is the best way to avoid sex-related problems. From a purely practical standpoint, abstinence should dominate discussions of wise sexual choices.

Yet it's also a disservice for adults not to expect more than instant indulgence from their own children and students. If society expects that "they're going to do it anyway," they will; without anyone trusting in young adults' self-control or ability to see the bigger picture, these kids have little reason to believe in it themselves.

We would do well to remember that waiting — for marriage, ideally, or at least until the teen years are over — cares for more than the body; it protects the vulnerable soul from the scars of rejection and regret.

Our conviction and our courage to speak about sex shouldn't be abandoned to the power of the televised majority. We owe the next generation a lot more than latex and "good luck."

Robyn Ross is a senior news-editorial and English major from Marble Falls, Texas.

Commentary



ROBYN ROSS

Strikes a 'sustained campaign,' officials say

NATO bombings of Yugoslavia could continue into the summer months

By Laura Meyers
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — NATO's air campaign in Yugoslavia could stretch into the summer, U.S. officials suggested Wednesday, as the first Apache attack helicopters began arriving in Albania as part of a major buildup of forces.

Clinton administration officials, in closed-door meetings with congressional officials, have signaled NATO is poised to continue the air campaign for several weeks longer, possibly into midsummer if Serb forces continue fighting ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told lawmakers that while bombing has been hampered by weather, conditions usually improve in the Balkans in June and July, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity. That would make it longer than the U.S.-led, six-week Gulf War in 1991.

"This is going to be a sustained campaign," said one lawmaker who was briefed.

In the move to bolster the NATO force, the Apaches began arriving in Albania, and the Clinton administration was preparing within

days to call up of at least several thousand military reservists and deploy 300 more warplanes to join NATO airstrikes. That would bring the total air power to 1,000 aircraft — two-thirds of them American.

Maj. Gen. Charles Wald, a strategic planner for the Joint Chiefs, called the massive buildup and intensifying air campaign against Serb forces "an indication of our resolve that we're going to see this thing through to the end."

Some 82 fresh U.S. warplanes already ordered to Europe also began arriving Wednesday, including 24 F-16 jet-fighters, four A-10 "tank killer" attack airplanes, 15 Marine EA-6B radar jammers to interfere with Serb air defenses and 38 refueling tankers. The Pentagon said Serbs fired dozens of surface-to-air missiles at allied planes Wednesday night in the biggest show yet of enemy anti-aircraft fire.

U.S. Army Gen. Wesley Clark, commander of NATO, has requested the number of Apaches be doubled to 48, U.S. defense officials said. That would mean adding several thousand U.S. soldiers to 2,500 now in Albania to operate the Apaches and multiple rock-

et launchers that would be used to clear a strike path for the helicopters.

No decisions have been made on increasing the Apache force, authorizing deployment of 300 more U.S. planes and calling up reserves, the Pentagon said.

Military leaders at NATO and the Pentagon, meanwhile, accused Yugoslav forces of attacking and killing ethnic Albanian civilians Wednesday in retaliation after a NATO airstrike hit a Serb military convoy in southern Kosovo. The Serbs blamed NATO for up to 64 civilian deaths, saying allied aircraft struck refugees in a convoy instead.

Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said the incident happened Wednesday afternoon local time east of Djakovica in southern Kosovo, the same area in which the Serbs reported that NATO bombs struck the refugee convoy.

Bacon said NATO was still investigating, but NATO pilots reported they hit only military vehicles in the convoy, which was apparently in the vicinity of a separate convoy of Kosovar refugees.

Clark told Bacon he had received "verbal reports of the possibility" that after military vehicles in the refugee convoy were hit, "military people got out and ... began to attack civilians in the middle of the convoy."

Bacon said Clark told him there may be reconnaissance imagery available to show what happened. "We don't know what the full facts are,"

the spokesman said.

In a separate development, Bacon said U.N. relief workers told NATO that 600 women and children entering Albania reported being attacked Wednesday by Yugoslav aircraft. The refugees had been traveling between Prizren in Kosovo to Kukes, Albania,

when two tractors in their convoy were struck by Serb aircraft about two hours before they arrived at the border, Bacon said. The Pentagon didn't know what type of aircraft was involved or whether refugees were killed.

On the diplomatic front, the Clinton administration cautiously welcomed a German proposal that could result in a bombing pause — but only after Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic begins withdrawing his forces from Kosovo.

The plan announced in Bonn on Wednesday by the Foreign Ministry offers Milosevic a 24-hour suspension of NATO airstrikes when his forces begin withdrawing.

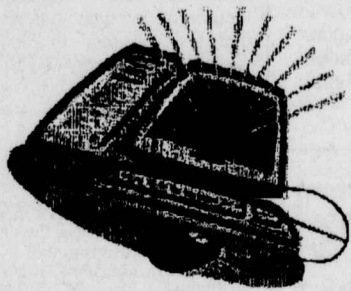
NATO would "permanently suspend" airstrikes once the pullout is completed, and a U.N.-authorized military force would deploy to Kosovo to protect returning refugees. The province would be placed under U.N. administration until a permanent peace settlement.

Previously, NATO had been pushing for a NATO-led peacekeeping force.

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart called the plan constructive and said it would not include halting attacks before Milosevic meets NATO's demands.

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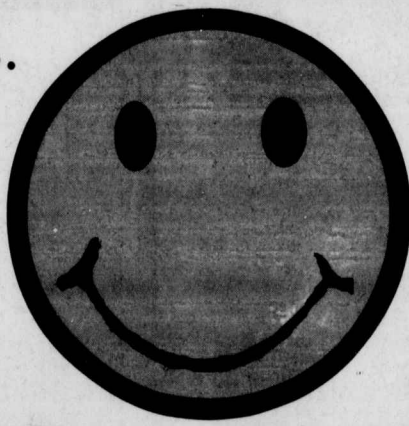
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Lewinsky coverage recognized with Pulitzer

Beth J. Harpaz
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The Monica Lewinsky scandal inspired three Pulitzer Prize-winning entries, while The Oregonian was honored Monday for using the story of a local french fry business to illustrate an overseas economic meltdown. The Associated Press, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal each won two of journalism's most prestigious awards.

A special music citation was given posthumously to Duke Ellington on the centennial of his birth in recognition of his musical genius.

The AP won both photo awards — spot news photography for the aftermath of the embassy bombings in Tanzania and Kenya, and feature photography for illustrating the Lewinsky scandal and President Clinton's impeachment.

Maureen Dowd's funny and insightful columns on the impeachment for The Times brought her the commentary award.

"I'm just so grateful to President Clinton that he never spoke the words, 'Young lady, pull down that jacket and get back to the typing pool,'" she said.

The Times also won for national reporting, with the Pulitzer committee singling out Jeff Gerth for praise, for a series that disclosed the sale of American technology to China with U.S. government approval despite the risk to national security. The series prompted investigations and changes in U.S. policies.

The prize for international reporting went to The Journal for coverage of the Russian financial crisis. The Journal's Angelo Henderson also won for feature writing category for his portrait of a Detroit pharmacist driven to violence by his encounters with armed robbers.

"God is so good," Henderson said. "This is just amazing ... You hear all your life, in journalism — Pulitzer. And it's something in your heart you always aspire to."

The impeachment provided ample mate-

rial for yet another winner: the Seattle Post-Intelligencer's David Horsey, who won for editorial cartooning. One cartoon, "Beltway Apocalypse," shows "Mount Monica" erupting in a chaotic capitol. Another had Clinton asking his beleaguered wife and daughter if it would be helpful for him to say he could feel their pain.

Richard Read's series in The Oregonian of Portland, which won for explanatory reporting, followed a load of frozen french fries from a field in the Northwest to a McDonald's in Indonesia. By chronicling the fate of one load of fries, the series illuminated the causes and effects of Asia's economic woes and the layoffs, stock market gyrations and financial uncertainty that followed in the United States.

A brass band played as the newspaper's 350 staffers used champagne to wash down hundreds of orders of McDonald's french fries to celebrate the honor.

The AP swept both photo categories for the second time — something no other organization has done.

One of the AP's winning feature photos, shot by Susan Walsh, showed a grimacing Clinton vowing to stay in office while his wife, poised and resolute, stood behind him.

"We couldn't be happier or more proud," said Louis D. Boccardi, AP president and chief executive officer.

"It's overwhelming. It's just a tremendous tribute to the staff," said Vin Alabiso, AP vice president and executive photo editor. "We are definitely getting out the champagne!"

Including the 1999 awards, the AP has won a total of 45 Pulitzers, including 27 for photos. The New York Times has won 79, The Washington Post 32, and the Los Angeles Times 24.

The Post won the public service award for a series on reckless gunplay by city police officers who had little training or supervision. Leonard Downie Jr., the

paper's executive editor, said the staff was "particularly pleased because this is the kind of the journalism that we're all in this business for — journalism that really matters, it makes a difference in the community."

The prize for breaking news reporting was awarded to The Hartford Courant in Connecticut for coverage of a shooting rampage in which a lottery worker killed four supervisors and himself.

The paper's publisher, Marty Petty, told her staff: "The winning of this award really validates what we all knew: This is the best newsroom in the country."

The Miami Herald won for investigative reporting for exposing pervasive voter fraud in the city's mayoral election. The computer-assisted reporting led to the election results being overturned.

The Herald's projects editor, Judy Miller, held back tears as she thanked everyone who worked on the project. "Everyone involved was simply a beat reporter who stepped up in a big way," she said.

The prize for beat reporting was awarded to Chuck Philips and Michael Hiltzik of the Los Angeles Times for stories on corruption in the entertainment industry, including illegal detoxification programs for wealthy celebrities and a resurgence of payoffs to disk jockeys for promoting certain songs.

"My God, the Pulitzer. I mean, who would have imagined anyone even read it?" Philips said.

The prize for criticism went to Blair Kamin of the Chicago Tribune for his coverage of architecture, including a series on the development of Chicago's lakefront. Kamin's entry was moved to beat reporting by the Pulitzer jury, but was returned to criticism by the Pulitzer board, which makes the final decisions.

The award for editorial writing went to the Daily News of New York for its campaign to rescue Harlem's Apollo Theatre from financial mismanagement that threat-

ened the landmark's survival.

"This is very special because we feel like the Apollo Theatre deserves better treatment than it's getting," said the News' editorial page editor, Michael Goodwin.

This was the first year that online exhibits were permitted in the public service category, so long as they were accompanied by exhibits representing traditional print stories. One finalist, The Philadelphia Inquirer, included in its submission an online entry dealing with the police manipulation of crime statistics.

Pulitzer Prizes were also awarded for literature, drama and music. Michael Cunningham's "The Hours," a complex novel related to Virginia Woolf's "Mrs. Dalloway," won the award for fiction.

Margaret Edson, an Atlanta kindergarten teacher, won the drama award for her play "Wit," which portrays a woman's battle with ovarian cancer. But she said she would never leave teaching: "We're in the middle of studying insects and nothing can take me away."

The history prize was given to "Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898" by Edwin G. Burrows and Mike Wallace, which grew out of a project the two history professors worked on as graduate students.

The biography prize went to "Lindbergh," A. Scott Berg's book about the aviator Charles Lindbergh.

The poetry prize was given to former U.S. poet laureate Mark Strand for "Blizzard of One." The general nonfiction prize was awarded to John McPhee for "Annals of the Former World."

Melinda Wagner won the music prize for her composition "Concerto for Flute, Strings and Percussion."

The Pulitzers, the most prestigious awards given for journalism, are presented annually by Columbia University.

The awards carry a prize of \$5,000, except for public service. The organization that wins in that category gets a gold medal.

FORUM

From Page 1

just for the neighborhood, but for the students."

District 9 includes the TCU area, the downtown business district and the hospital district. Hirt said the district, with approximately 50,000 constituents, is one of Fort Worth's smallest council districts. She said the district is the only land-locked district in addition to having all its boundaries within city boundaries.

Hirt said District 9 is important because of its diverse constituency. She said it has the second largest Hispanic population and includes the business district downtown and the hospital district.

Jane Graham, a member of the University West Neighborhood Association, which is helping to organize the event, said TCU students and members of TCU faculty are urged to come to the forum.

"We definitely encourage TCU students and faculty to come out and hear what the candidates have to say," Graham said.

Hirt, who is leaving office after two consecutive terms, will attend the forum and still plans to maintain an active role in community affairs.

"It's the right time to step down," she said. "I think if you devote too much time to politics, you tend to lose sight of what's happening in the community."

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Pulse

Campus

Baseball team loses non-conference game

The baseball team traveled to Stillwater, Okla., Tuesday to compete in a non-conference game with the Oklahoma State Cowboys. The Frogs lost 21-9.

Senior shortstop Jimmy Mousadakis led the Horned Frogs at the plate with a 2-for-3 night and a two-run homer in the second which temporarily tied the game at 2-2. TCU was plagued by a season-high six errors on the night, however, which led to 12 unearned runs for OSU.

The Frogs overall record now stands at 23-16. They return to Western Athletic Conference play this weekend with a home series against Air Force.

Men's tennis falls to Southern Methodist

The sixth-ranked Southern Methodist Mustangs defeated the 16th-ranked Horned Frogs, 5-2, at the Bayard Friedman Tennis Center Wednesday afternoon.

Sophomore Esteban Carril, the No. 10 player in the nation, defeated sixth-ranked Ignacio Hirigoyen in straight sets, 6-3, 7-6.

The only other Horned Frog to win his singles match was sophomore Petr Koula, who defeated Jon Wallmark, 6-7, 7-6, 6-1.

In doubles play the team of Carril and sophomore Martin Jirak defeated Wallmark/Toby Hansson, 8-4.

SMU's win breaks the Frogs' nine-match winning streak at the Friedman Tennis Center. TCU ends the regular season with a 13-5 overall record and a 4-1 record in WAC play.

Next up for the Frogs is the WAC Championships April 21-24 in San Diego, Calif. They are the No. 2 seed and the Mustangs are No. 1.

NBA

Sixers snap two-game losing streak

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia 76ers ran into a team whose playoff hopes are sinking faster than their own.

With a scintillating 29-8 run in the second half that may have saved their season, the Sixers handed the Toronto Raptors their fifth straight loss with a 96-78 victory Wednesday night.

NBA scoring leader Allen Iverson snapped out of a shooting slump to score 20 points as Philadelphia snapped a two-game losing streak that included a horrendous 91-72 loss to the Knicks on Tuesday.

The Sixers, who entered the game tied with Cleveland for the eighth and final playoff spot in the East, appeared as dead as any team in the race in the first half against Toronto, defiling the First Union Center with their worst shooting half of the season (22 percent).

Wizards beat Knicks in overtime

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tracy Murray hit a 22-footer with 1:04 left in overtime to break the last tie and the Washington Wizards snapped the New York Knicks' three-game winning streak with a 95-89 victory Wednesday night.

The victory was just the second in eight games for the Wizards, who are 2-4 under interim coach Jim Brovelli. It also marked the second consecutive home game in which they have come from behind in the fourth quarter and won.

Otis Thorpe and Rod Strickland scored 18 points each for the Wizards, who dressed 10 players because of injuries to Juwan Howard and Terry Davis and a virus that sidelined Tim Legler. Murray scored 13.

Climbers learn ropes, build confidence

By Jeri Petersen
STAFF REPORTER

Sometimes learning the ropes means getting on them.

At the TCU challenge course, a variety of experiential educational opportunities are offered to groups who want to learn team-building and leadership orientation skills and to individuals who want to personally challenge themselves.

The challenge course was set up seven years ago through a grant from the Alcohol and Drug Education Center, and is run by the recreational sports department. It is located at the northwest corner of the Amon Carter Stadium by the parking lots.

Steve Cummins, coordinator for experiential education, schedules the course and tailors programs to fit the needs of a particular group or individual.

"The course has two components," Cummins said. "Low elements include activities where participants have to come up with a solution to a problem presented to them. Some challenges are physical, but most are cognitive."

"Within the process, group members develop certain skills. We may focus on communication or support and encouragement, depending on the group's needs."

The high elements include a 45-foot climbing tower where individuals can practice rock climbing and rappelling skills, a power pole, a zip line and an incline log, Cummins said.

"Individuals often utilize the high elements as a risk-taking exercise to improve personal confidence," Cummins said. "They may want to build confidence in order to perform better at their job."

The course is available at no charge to groups on campus.

"Anyone who is interested just needs to call recreational sports to schedule the course," Cummins

said. "They outline the problem ... they want to work on, and we tailor a program for them."

Cummins said about 15 students, staff and faculty are trained facilitators for the challenge course.

"They receive 40 hours of training initially, then they have one day of retraining every year," Cummins said. "There is always a facilitator on the course with a group."

Debbie Fultner, an instructor in nursing, said she uses the challenge course every semester to help her students learn to work together as a group.

"Our graduating seniors take the course at the beginning of their second senior semester," Fultner said. "These students are working on projects in community health, so they have to work closely together in solving problems. This is the first time they have worked outside a hospital setting."

"The challenge course is more than just an exercise. We hope that whatever we incorporate they will continue to use as they attempt to solve problems in health care programs."

Community nursing students work in small groups to help organizations in the community improve conditions within their own confines.

Julie Dovenbarger, a senior nursing student, said her group of five students worked on a project at St. Joseph's Garden, a new Alzheimer's facility.

"Our goal in this course is to find something that will make our chosen community better in some way," Dovenbarger said. "We came up with an orientation packet for new employees. We felt it would promote better patient care by helping the staff feel more comfortable in working with patients."

Dovenbarger said the most ben-

eficial thing about the challenge course was getting to know other members of her group and developing teamwork.

"The course helped us learn the different personality types within our group — who was more likely to take charge, and who was good at taking direction," she said.

Fultner said nursing students use the challenge course to help them understand the group process.

"We learn give-and-take processes, how to identify group resources, always for the purpose of reaching a goal," she said. "We use blocks where we have to get from one place to another using certain rules. It's a lot of working out problems to get to a destination as fast as we can. We have to assess the situation, make a plan, and if it doesn't work, re-evaluate it, all within a time limit."

Fultner said the exercise helps students recognize the strengths of each person in the group and to utilize those strengths in different situations.

"Everybody can learn how to work better together," she said. "The challenge course teaches listening and negotiation skills. You get a lot more accomplished in a certain amount of time with this kind of experience."

Dovenbarger said she first participated in the challenge course as a member of her sorority executive committee.

"Committee members do the challenge course each time a new board comes on," she said. "Also, the freshman class does it to help them get to know and trust each other."

Cummins said a wide variety of groups on campus utilize the course.

"Fraternal and sororities, Programming Council, MBA classes, theater and psychology classes, alumni and parents groups have



Members of the TCU community, such as these nursing students, use the TCU challenge course to learn team building and strengthen group dynamics. Individuals can also use the course to build self-confidence.

used it," Cummins said.

Margaret Faust, Upward Bound coordinator, said the challenge course is invaluable to her program, which is a year-round college preparation course for high school students.

The challenge course is used in summer orientation at the beginning of a six-week summer camp, Faust said.

"Because students will be living together for six weeks, we use the course for bonding purposes," she said. "We use the ropes course,

where students learn to climb and pull as a group."

Faust said it's a given that the exercise will build confidence in the students.

"Some students won't be able to climb the high ropes. The ones who can't support the ones who do," she said. "They act as cheerleaders and are there to catch (the high climbers) if they fall. They build confidence in themselves and a trust with one another that serves as a good base for the rest of the camp."

Rec Sports have ups and downs

By Jeri Petersen
STAFF REPORTER

Intramural sports

Registration for doubles sand volleyball ends Wednesday for men's, women's and coed divisions. Captains' meetings are on April 22 or 23 at 4:30 in Rickel Room 105.

The softball tournament is in progress this week, with finals on Sunday at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. on the Intramural Fields.

Club Sports

The Ultimate Frisbee club suffered losses in four games played in the Centex tournament last weekend.

The club will play in a college sectionals tournament Saturday in Houston. Other teams participating will be Baylor University, Rice University, Texas A&M University, and probably the University of Texas, club member Luke Townsend said.

The men's lacrosse team beat Trinity 11-9 last weekend.

Club President Pete Hoffman said high scorers for the game were David Burgoyne, Ryan Donovan and Chris Ream with two goals each. Freshman goalkeeper Dwight Clasby had 18 saves, he said.

Hoffman said last week's game was similar to the win over Texas

Tech University on March 27.

"We came out strong and were leading 7-3 at the half," he said. "Trinity mounted a very good rally and came back to tie it at 9 with five minutes to go. I was happy our guys hung in there and pulled out a win."

The club advances to the quarterfinals and will host Rice University in a playoff game at noon Sunday at the Intramural Fields. Rice beat the Frogs the last time the two faced each other.

"We have the home-field advantage this time, and we feel confident we can beat them," Hoffman said.

The men are the No. 2 seed going into the playoffs, Hoffman said.

The women's lacrosse team had their hopes for making a playoff position dashed last weekend when Trinity's win in another matchup knocked them out of playoff contention.

However, three women from the TCU club will play in the All-Star game Saturday at A&M.

Club co-captain Tracy Glasheen said she, Kelly Coulson and Ashley Lang will play with team members from Texas Tech, A&M and Baylor on the North team against the South team consisting of UT, Trinity and Southwest Texas State University.



Sophomore Esteban Carril returns a shot in Wednesday's match against SMU. Carril won his match, but the Frogs lost, 5-2, at the Bayard Friedman Tennis Center.

Gretzky apparently leaning toward retirement

By Tom Canavan
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hockey is on the verge of losing its greatest player.

After setting virtually every scoring record, Wayne Gretzky seems to be ready to call it a career.

Gretzky has invited his family to come to New York on Sunday for the New York Rangers' regular-season finale against Pittsburgh, an end to a second straight non-playoff season for the Blueshirts.

While there has been speculation and reports over the past two days concerning the Great One's future, Walter Gretzky said his son's mind was made up.

"I would strongly suspect that Sunday will be his final game," the elder Gretzky told radio station CKGL in Kitchener, Ontario. "I haven't talked to him personally. He's talked with his mom, but most likely he will announce a retirement."

He said he asked his son last summer when

he would retire, and he replied, "The day that I stop enjoying it is the day I'm finished."

The Rangers were reportedly set to make a big push Wednesday to convince Gretzky against retirement, the New York Daily News reported Wednesday.

Should he then still decide to retire — as has been speculated — the Rangers would hold a news conference on Saturday to make the announcement official and allow fans to give him a proper sendoff the next day, the newspaper said.

Mark Messier, who won four Stanley Cups with Gretzky while playing for Edmonton in the 1980s, reserved judgment.

"Everyone else is insinuating that he's retiring — but everybody except the most important person, and that's himself. So we'll just wait and see the way things turn out and what Wayne himself has to say," Messier said.

Speaking Tuesday via satellite from New York to a conference on the state of hockey in Canada, Gretzky reminisced about the sport and

sounded much like a 38-year-old man ready to hang up his skates.

"Hockey has been a part of my life as long as I can remember," he said. "I lived it and I breathed it as a kid and as an adult. It's the only job I've ever had."

If this is the end, Gretzky will leave with statistics and awards that are staggering by any standard.

He had 894 goals and 1,961 assists in 1,483 regular season games, including nine goals and 51 assists in 66 games with the Rangers this season. In the playoffs, the Great One had 122 goals and 260 assists in 208 games.

For his career, he was a nine-time winner of the Hart Trophy as league's most valuable player; 10 times the league's leading scorer; a four-time Lady Byng winner as the most gentlemanly player; a five-time winner of the Lester Pearson award as NHL's outstanding player, and twice the winner of the Conn Smythe Trophy as most valuable player in playoffs.

This hasn't been a typical season for Gretzky,

who missed 11 games with a neck injury. He had played in 223 straight games since signing with the Rangers as a free agent in 1996.

The injury was the second in Gretzky's career involving a disc. In 1992-93, he missed most of the season with a lower back injury before coming back to lead the Los Angeles Kings to the Stanley Cup finals.

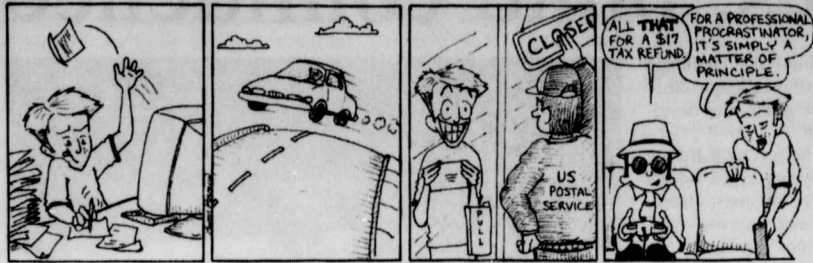
The 1998-99 season has included at least one milestone for the NHL's leading career scorer. His ninth goal of the year gave him 1,072 as a professional, moving him past boyhood hero Gordie Howe.

After the Rangers' win over Tampa Bay on Monday night, Gretzky admitted he was thinking about retirement but had not made a decision.

"I have 1,000 different thoughts, to be honest," Gretzky said.

"It's time to think about it. ... All of a sudden it's become a bigger issue than I imagined," he said. "Let's see what happens over the next five or six days."

RUDY



by Aaron Brown

Chaos

by Brian Shuster



Academia Nuts

by John P. Araujo



AcademiaN@aol.com

Texas Critter University

by Jamie Elizabeth Brinkman



Lex

by Phil Flickinger



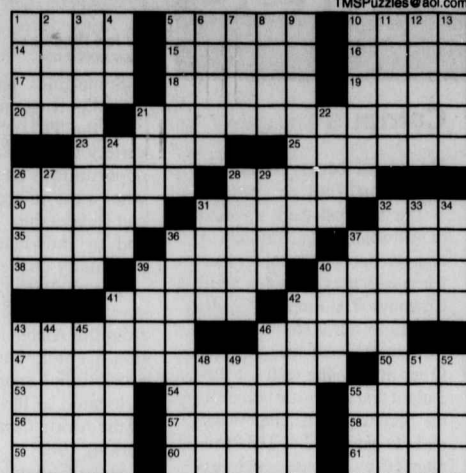
lexcartoon@yahoo.com

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 The World According to
 - 5 Assassinated Egyptian leader
 - 10 Chanel of fashion
 - 14 Track shape
 - 15 Old-womanish
 - 16 Jacob's twin
 - 17 Foolish person
 - 18 Heroism
 - 19 Flit
 - 20 Jima
 - 21 Purdue player
 - 23 Brings up
 - 25 Let in fresh air
 - 26 Refuse
 - 28 Hollow tubes
 - 30 Effective use
 - 31 Deserve
 - 32 Choose
 - 35 Fasten wingtips
 - 36 Talk-show host O'Brien
 - 37 Highland hillside
 - 38 Pen fluid
 - 39 Painter Hals
 - 40 Crocodile
 - 41 Sulks
 - 42 Noblemen like Macbeth
 - 43 Peaceful protests
 - 46 Saddle strap
 - 47 West Virginia player
 - 50 Faberge item
 - 53 Country hotels
 - 54 Plumbing woes
 - 55 Prayer closer
 - 56 In of
 - 57 Awards honcho
 - 58 Comic Carvey
 - 59 Lawman Wyatt
 - 60 Libertines
 - 61 Once more

- DOWN
- 1 Asian desert
 - 2 Affirm
 - 3 Arkansas player
 - 4 Y. Arafat's supporters
 - 5 Relishes
 - 6 Diarist Nin
 - 7 Pickle choice
 - 31 Castle's defense
 - 32 Syracuse player
 - 33 Whittle
 - 34 of the d'Urbervilles
 - 36 Valparaiso player
 - 37 Noggin
 - 39 Typeface
 - 40 God of thunder
 - 41 Posts on a bulletin board
 - 42 Learned papers
 - 43 Photographer's order
 - 44 Greek colony
 - 45 Piano adjuster
 - 46 Conical dwelling
 - 48 "la Douce"
 - 49 Shallow notch
 - 51 Hereditary factor
 - 52 Sink one's teeth into
 - 55 Nabokov novel



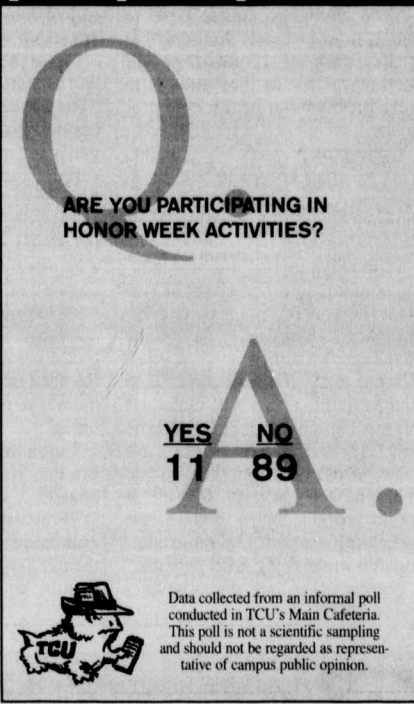
By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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purple poll

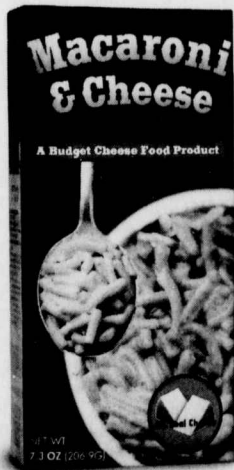


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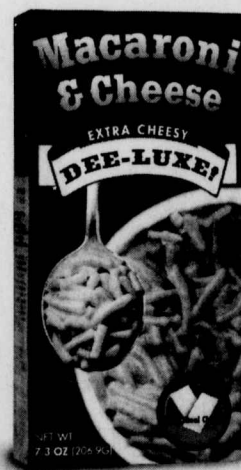
Data collected from an informal poll conducted in TCU's Main Cafeteria. This poll is not a scientific sampling and should not be regarded as representative of campus public opinion.

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