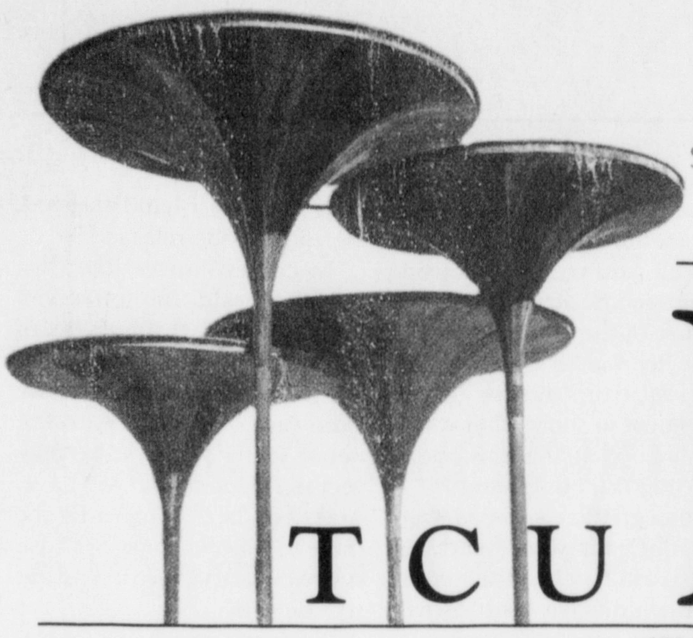
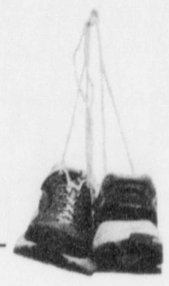


FEATURES | 5
GOING THE DISTANCE
Students aim for more than speed when they run events like the Cowtown Marathon.



NEWS | THURSDAY
PASSWORD, PLEASE.
New campus requirements will make remembering your e-mail password even harder.

TCU DAILY SKIFF
Serving Texas Christian University since 1902
Wednesday, March 2, 2005 | Vol. 102 • Issue 81 • Fort Worth, Texas

Professor's dismissal tied to misuse of equipment

An associate dean said the university wants to protect the rights of all those involved.

By CHRISTINA RUFFINI
Staff Reporter

A communication studies professor who was fired Feb. 10 was dismissed after explicit photographs of one of his former students were found on his university computer, say four TCU sources in a position to know.

Officials declined to comment on the record, but sources close to the situation confirmed privately that communication instructor Ryan Burns was dismissed for misuse of university equipment.

Burns

Donovan

Slater

The 23-year-old woman, a TCU graduate and current student, said the professor threatened to post compromising photographs of her that he had stored on the university server on the internet.

The student spoke only on the condition that her name not be used.

Since his dismissal, Burns has declined to respond to multiple e-mails and telephone calls from the Daily Skiff.

The student said she received an e-mail Feb. 3 from Burns that she perceived to be threatening and reported it to campus police the following day.

Six days after the student said she reported his actions, the professor was dismissed.

Campus police said there is no formal report on file.

The student said she received an e-mail from Burns that said, "Don't forget I still have digital pics."

One university source who had seen the pictures confirmed that they were sexually explicit and also confirmed the existence of the e-mail.

"I had seen the pictures on his computer," the student said. "I know that he still had them on his TCU 'M' drive."

The student said the couple had recently ended a two-year relationship that began in spring 2003.

"I graduated on a Saturday, he asked me out the following Monday and we have been together ever since, until I broke up with him in November (2004), right before Thanksgiving," she said.

The student said that on the night of Feb. 9, the day before Burns was fired, Associate Dean of Campus Life Glory Robinson contacted her and said university officials had found the compromising photographs of her on Burns' computer.

Robinson declined to be

more on PROFESSOR, page 2

Break-in aftermath

Photo Illustration by Stephen Spillman / Photo Editor

Car vandalism, burglary on the rise

Nine counts of car vandalism and burglary have been reported in the last week.

By MONICA MAHORNEY
Staff Reporter

TCU and the city of Fort Worth have experienced an increase in car vandalism and burglaries.

TCU Police Criminal Investigations Sergeant Kelly Ham said the number of break-ins has increased from last year.

"Just in the last week there have been nine burglaries that have been reported," Ham said.

A total of 17 cars have been reported burglarized since Jan. 13, according to a TCU Police case log.

Katie McMillen, a junior ballet and news-editorial journalism major, spent yesterday afternoon waiting for Triump Auto Glass to repair her shattered window.

McMillen had her 1996 Monte Carlo vandalized this past weekend.

"I left my car parked in front of Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Wednesday night, Feb. 23, and the TCU Police notified me Saturday morning that my car had been broken into, and about 10:40 a.m. I found it and nothing was taken," McMillen said.

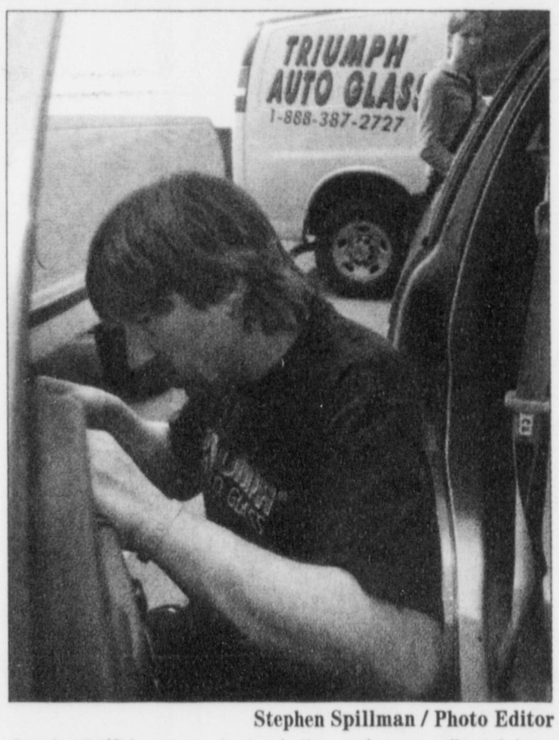
"I've been parking my car on campus for three years and this is the first time anything has ever happened like this," said McMillen.

Fernando Vasquez, TCU director of community service, said students are not the only ones at risk.

Vasquez said his windshield was shattered Feb. 10 in the Student Center parking lot.

"My front windshield appeared to have been hit at close range by a rock or possibly a pellet gun and it must have happened that evening

more on BREAKINS, page 2



Stephen Spillman / Photo Editor
Randy Griffith repairs junior ballet and news-editorial journalism major Katie McMillen's car Tuesday afternoon in the stadium parking.

Money to students could be limited

Don Mills said keeping TEG funding at present levels will cause students to lose money over time.

By MICHAEL BISHOP
Staff Reporter

TCU may lose part of its student population if state officials continue to cut funding for the Texas Tuition Equalization Grant, Jay Zeidman said Tuesday.

Zeidman

Zeidman, a former student body president, and others have been lobbying against proposed cuts in the budget for TEGs.

TCU receives $3.8 million a year from the state, which covers approximately 1,300 students, said Zeidman, a senior political science and economics major.

"A lot of (students) rely on the TEG," Zeidman said. "Each student receives up to $3,500 per semester."

Peter Wirth, a freshman biology major, said the TEG provides students with a lot of financial assistance.

"There is a common misconception that because we are at a private institution that means we have money," Wirth said.

The proposed cuts have the potential to impact more than just the TEG recipients, Zeidman said.

"This affects the entire student body." Zeidman said. "No one wants to see their friends and classmates have to leave and go to another school."

TCU has a small minority base that it is making large strides to increase, Zeidman said.

"Half of the recipients of the TEG, both in Texas and at TCU, are minorities," Zeidman said.

Zeidman said the budget for this year is $73 million, which is down from $80 million last year.

"Officials are planning to cut the budget to as low as $60 million for next year," Zeidman said.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills said the program is important for a lot of TCU students.

"Even keeping the TEG at the level it is now will be a cut over time," Mills said.

Zeidman said it is important that the approximately 40 private institutions in Texas make their voices heard.

"The state schools have such a large voice compared to private institutions," Zeidman said.

Wirth said students can voice their opinions directly to officials in Austin.

"The best thing students can do is find out who their representative is and write them," Wirth said.

According to the TCU Office of Scholarships and Student Financial Aid, the TEG is the only state funded grant for private institutions. It is available to Texas residents who are not pursuing a religion or theology degree or anyone that is a recipient of an athletic grant or scholarship.

Murder mystery takes stage

TCU Theatre's "Book of Days" opening production is at 7:30 p.m.

By RYAN BUTTS
Staff Reporter

All the hard work that goes into producing a major stage play culminates tonight in the Hays Theatre, as the TCU theatre department opens its production of Lanford Wilson's "Book of Days."

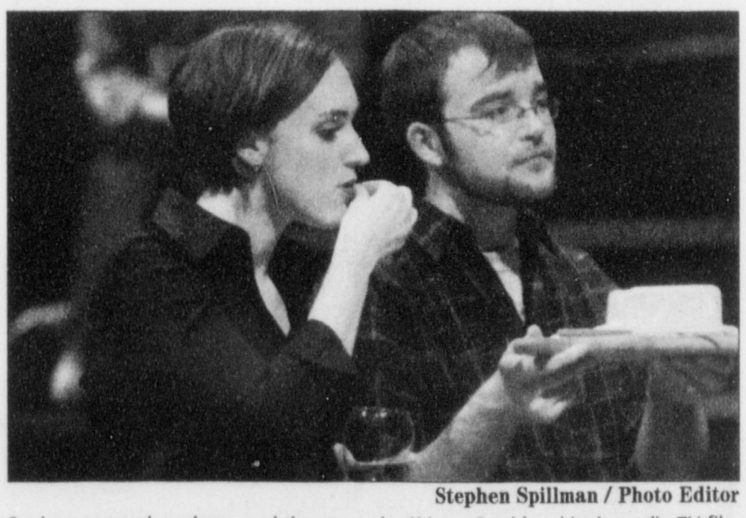
The play, directed by TCU professor T.J. Walsh, is the story of a murder in a small Missouri town and one woman's crusade to see those involved put to justice, according to the theatre department's press release.

Eric Cire, who plays Len Hoch in the production, said he feels good about how the play has come along, but added that an actor's work is never done.

"There are always things you want to fine-tune before a play opens up," said Cire, a junior radio-TV-film major. "But I feel good about it. It's going to be a good show."

Natalie Jagers, a costume designer for the play, said the production is ready after months of planning and rehearsal.

more on THEATRE, page 2



Stephen Spillman / Photo Editor
Sophomore modern dance and theatre major Kristen Quaid and junior radio-TV-film major Eric Cire practice a scene from "Book of Days" during a dress rehearsal Tuesday night in the Hays Theater in the Walsh Center for Performing Arts.

New semester programs added

Tom Brown-Pete Wright RAs and Hall Council stepped up efforts to develop programs for residents this semester.

By SUMMER KENNY
Staff Reporter

The effort to create more of a community atmosphere was expanded to the Tom Brown-Pete Wright apartment complex this semester and it seems to be working well, said Dana Schmitz, manager of the on-campus apartments.

It has been working so well that the Tom Brown-Pete Wright Hall Council was presented with the Hall Council Award Wednesday night at the residential assistant monthly celebration for the first time since 1995, said Ceci Lang, the head RA in the on-campus apartments.

"Our hall council this semester is amazing," said Lang, a senior international marketing and Spanish major. "This is the first semester in a long time that we have had (so) many people involved. It is a dramatic difference."

Several years ago, RAs across campus were asked to put on more programs than in previous years, Schmitz said. This change was not applied to the apartments, because students are given more autonomy than residents in other buildings, Schmitz said.

To support the change, the on-campus apartment program requirements were changed slightly this semester to include three building programs instead of just two, Schmitz said.

The change is a small one, but students may notice an increase in programs because of student leadership in hall council and an RA staff that is working hard on programming, Schmitz said.

"There is a lot of energy in hall council," said Ben Dalton, a junior political science and psychology major.

"We have a very involved group of residents this semester, which brings to the tables very dynamic ideas," Dalton said.

Schmitz said there are still fewer programs in the on-campus apartments than in other residence halls, and most residents do not think there need to be more.

"Junior and senior residents tend to be very busy and are often unable to attend programs," Schmitz said. "(But), I feel not matter how busy you are, it is still

more on PROGRAMS, page 2

Campus Lines

Your bulletin board for campus events

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.

- Ever want to learn about opportunities to explore the world? Stop by the Study Abroad Fair and Cultural Exhibit from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday in the Student Center Lounge. Take a look at beautiful artifacts from all around the world, and see how you can visit these countries first-hand. For more information, e-mail t.williams@tcu.edu.
- TCU London Centre applications for the fall 2005 semester are due March 15. Applications are available in Room 246 of the Rickel Academic Wing in the University Recreation Center or by calling (817) 257-7120.

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PROFESSOR

From page 1

interviewed by the Daily Skiff.

"She said, 'Do you have any body marking or birthmarks that could identify you?' and I said, 'Well, I have a birthmark on my hip, and then I have a scar on my right shoulder,'" the student said.

"She said, 'On your right shoulder?' I said, 'yes,' and she said 'OK.' I could hear it in her tone of voice that was exactly what she was looking for," she continued.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Nowell Donovan said there are many circumstances where actions would be taken against a faculty member for misuse of equipment.

"There are all sorts of things," Donovan said. "Certainly, keeping improper materials that would not pass the usual legal standard" would be a charge that could merit the dismissal of a faculty member.

David Whillock, the associate dean for the College of Communication, declined to comment on the specifics of this case. However, he said that in any situation where a complaint about a professor is being entertained, there is a certain university protocol that must be followed.

"In general, what I would say is that any time any kind of grievance is applied, there are due processes," he said.

Dean of the College of Communication William Slater said the charge of misuse of university equipment is not always enough to merit the immediate dismissal of a faculty member.

"Well, you've got to consider the specific action," he said. "Misuse of the equipment over at the Rec Center is a whole lot different from misuse of the equipment in some other ways; it would depend on how one is misusing the equipment."

Although there are no written guidelines for what materials faculty can have on their computer or university hard drive, faculty are expected to use university equipment for official business only, Whillock said.

"As you go through and check out any kind of equipment that you may have — whether it be photographic, computer, videographic — then you have certain obligations," he said. "If you break those obligations, depending on the level of what you break, you may have your hand slapped, or you may be released."

In circumstances like this, Whillock said, the university wants to protect the rights of all involved.

"We need to make sure we take care of ourselves, in the sense of making sure we protect the students that we have, and we also, unfortunately, have to protect some of those individuals that we don't want to," he said.

Slater said there is zero tolerance for any kind of harassment at TCU.

"The one thing that I can tell you is that the university, and in this college in particular, will not tolerate any kind of sexual harassment," he said.

"There is, I would say, zero tolerance here for that kind of action, and I think our faculty are well aware of that."

BREAKINS

From page 1

between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m." Vasquez said.

Fort Worth police officer Jamie F. E. Johnson patrols South University and Hulen Street.

"If a car is vandalized on campus, TCU Police are notified but if a car is vandalized on a street it then becomes a matter for the Fort Worth police depending on the area where the car is parked," Johnson said.

Johnson said cases of vandalism are hard to prosecute since the crime is considered to be a misdemeanor. Such cases used to be considered a third-degree felony, he said.

Vasquez said he hopes the person responsible is someone off campus and that he knows in his heart the person is not a TCU student.

Ham said he doesn't believe that the on-campus burglaries are connected to each other in any way or that a TCU student may be involved.

The university is taking precautions by setting up video cameras to monitor campus lots, Ham said.

TCU Police are able to give suspicious trespassers that are reported a warning, because the university is private, and if those trespassers violate their warnings they can be arrested and taken to jail, Ham said.

TCU Police sent out a e-mail Monday instructing students not to leave any valuables in their vehicles and to report anyone that looks suspicious on campus to police.

To report an incident, contact TCU Police at (817) 257-7777.

THEATRE

From page 1

Designers began working on the production in December, said Jagers, a junior theatre costume design major. "We're all ready to go," she said.

Philip Zielke,a lighting designer for the play, said that after the long hours of preparation, the play should be ready by now.

"It has come along quite well," said Zielke, a junior lighting design major. "After all this, we'd better have it down by tonight."

Sean Urbantke, the set designer for the play, said the rigors of producing a live stage play have taught him the importance of decision-making and collaboration.

"I've learned how to make executive decisions," said Urbantke, a junior theatre design major. "I've learned when it is the director's job to make a decision, when it's the set designer's job, or when everyone needs to collaborate."

PROGRAMS

From page 1

important to have opportunities to meet your neighbors."

This semester, attendance has been good at all programs, she said.

"The staff has been working to market the programs better, and they have done an excellent job," Schmitz said.

Lang said the RAs wanted to push advertising this semester.

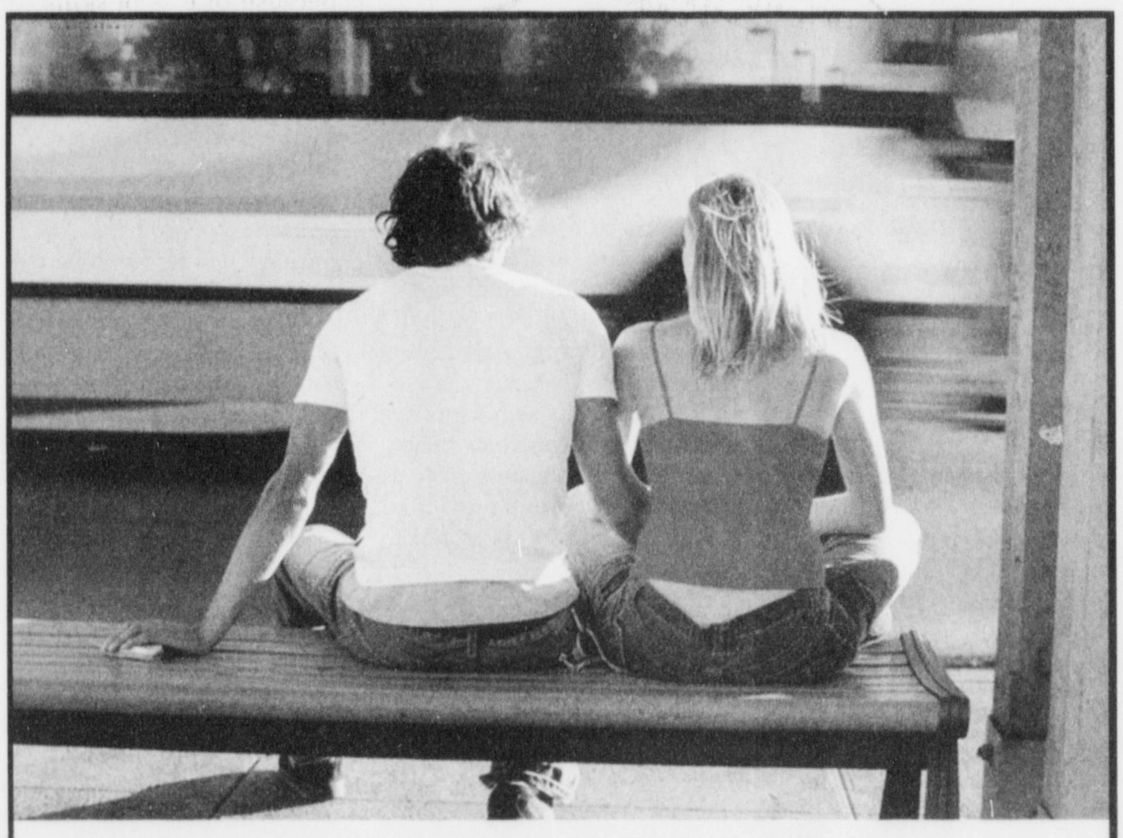
They have been putting door tags or reminders on every apartment door the day of the program, hanging fliers and sending out an e-mail the day before the program.

"If we are really desperate, we run through the building yelling 'FREE FOOD!' and the name of the program," Lang said.

Extra Info

Performances:

- **Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m.**
- **There will be matinee performances Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.**



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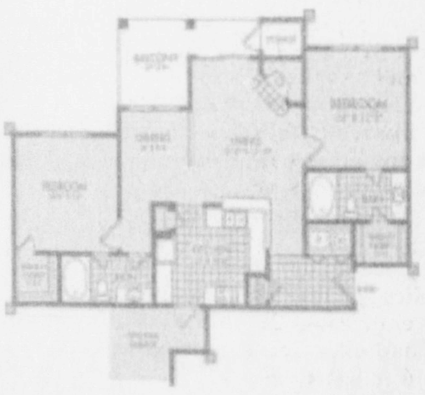
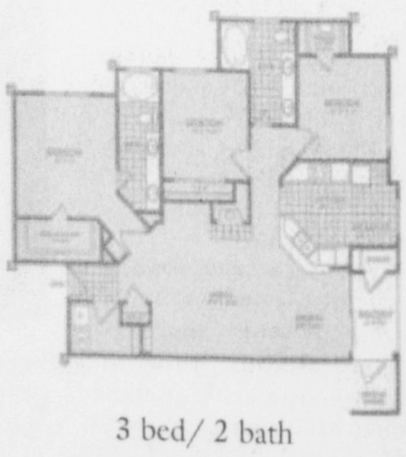


2 bed/ 2 bath



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Skiff View

Parking lots should be watched closely

Students and police need to take precautions

When we park our vehicles in the TCU parking lots, they are left in safe hands, right?

Au contraire.

Cars are broken into on campus like the flowers are tended to: way too often.

A crime alert was sent out by the TCU Police this week saying there has been an increase in car burglaries.

It has not been a small increase, either: At least nine car burglaries have occurred in the last week, according to statistics taken from the TCU Police Department.

We need to take a moment and ask ourselves why that is.

Are there not enough cameras? Are there not enough police patrolling the lots? Is Froggie 5-0 slacking in sighting suspicious people as often as they speed around campus?

Do these burglaries happen at shopping malls as often as here?

We have been advised to take our valuables out of our cars every time we leave it parked.

Some of that is common sense.

Remove those radio faceplates and radar detectors — speeding is bad news anyway. The Daily Skiff staff never breaks the speeding law.

But what about little things, like CDs? You mean we have to take all of them out every night? What if you are cruising down the road and want to listen to the latest Ashlee Simpson CD — OK, maybe that's a little extreme, but you get the idea — and you remember you forgot it in your bedroom, with all your other CDs you had to take out of your car. You are just out of luck for good tunes.

Since the car burglaries are increasing, we do need to take extra precautions so we can avoid future break-ins.

TCU is doing all it can to prevent these unfortunate situations, but we have to take responsibility to make sure our valuables are out of site — though, if you drive a 1979 Ford Pinto, you probably have nothing to worry about.

Your View

Letters to the Editor

Administration giving maternity leave much needed attention

As a female student, I never thought about the rights of female faculty on the TCU campus. I was taken back when I heard that female professors on our campus had unpaid maternity leave. The Family and Medical Leave Act requires TCU to allow female employees unpaid leave. Currently, female professors have to go through a negotiation process with their individual departments. Some departments tend to be more understanding while others require that the professor teach online.

A number of female faculty members met with Chancellor Victor Boschini and Provost Nowell Donovan to present various issues they have dealt with regarding maternity leave. Joanne Green, the director of the women's studies program and a political science professor, presented the need for a paid family leave policy and issues of pregnancy and tenure to the chancellor and provost. The chancellor and provost are working on doing something to improve the unpaid maternity leave for all female faculty, including a family leave policy. For the first time in several years, TCU has hired a chancellor and provost who believe in women's rights. They are accomplishing things that others have overlooked and failed to address.

Amy Cox is a senior communications studies major from Fort Worth, Texas. She can be reached at a.l.cox@tcu.edu

Editors need to re-examine priorities

I am writing to commend the author of "Eating Disorders Distort Reality" published in the February 23rd issue of the Skiff. I want to applaud this strong, young lady for sharing her story with us and providing her insight on a big problem, not only at TCU, but everywhere. Her story helps us see what devastating effects an eating disorder can have and encourages others to seek help.

However, I am also writing to address the editors of the Skiff. I do not understand how an article written about a guy yearning for miniskirts can overshadow an article about a much more serious and legitimate topic. He compares miniskirts to hot dogs! One of the possible causes of eating disorders in young females is trying to please guys like this.

I do not think the author's request for anonymity is an excuse for not publishing her article in the main center space, nor is the fact that she may have submitted it as a letter to the editor (because it surely exceeds the said 250-word limit). Depression, another serious issue and one just as important as eating disorders, got one of the big, main editorial spaces. Maybe this is because it was written by one of the opinion editors herself.

I do appreciate the Skiff's feature story on depression, but maybe it is time to re-examine priorities and realize that eating disorders are more important than miniskirts and cropped pants any day.

Amy Schwalm is a junior psychology major from Plano, Texas. She can be reached at a.m.schwalm@tcu.edu

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Seek out inner beauty on campus

COMMENTARY

Carlos Alvarado

It is quite unfortunate to be a woman on the TCU campus. The pool from which one can draw men is disproportionate to the pool from which men can draw women for dating, romance and other activities. If you have taken any economic classes, then you would know that a result of this is the men are much more valuable and even have an easier time finding women who fit their ideas of beauty.

The problem is that women should be more valuable. Even in an environment where a plethora of women exist, men gravitate to the beautiful ones. This is not just a TCU issue but a global issue as well. Women should be valued for their inner beauty in an equal or higher regard as men, but they are not.

Common, everyday women are rarely seen, as in the movie "Hitch," with a man that is not common, a man that is in the upper tier of beautiful men, so to speak. We will never see Rosie O'Donnell and Brad Pitt together, but we do see Jermaine Dupri with Janet Jackson. We will see common men with beautiful women but surely not vice versa.

The movie "Hitch" is inspiring for both common and less-than-common men because it gives them hope that they, too, can land themselves a beautiful woman. Will Smith's character says he gives guys like Albert "a fighting chance," an opportunity to be seen for the beauty they possess inside. I left the movie thinking I could land any girl I wanted, but luckily I was with the one I wanted: the girl I came to the movie with. Is she out of my league? Yes, but I hope I have had the opportunity to be seen for who I am. I hope she has had the chance to see how beautiful I am inside, the part of me beyond the belly and back hair.

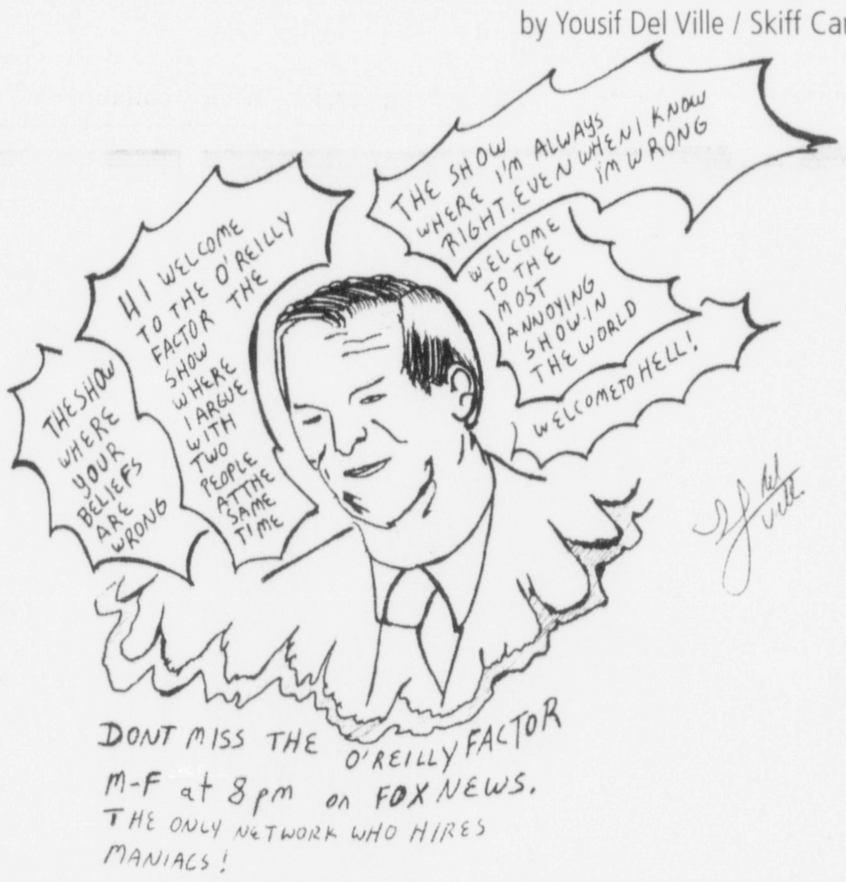
My thoughts of the movie quickly changed. Would I have ever seen her inner beauty were it not for her outward appearance? Will any guy ever see a woman's inner self? Movies like "Hitch" are part of a bigger problem in men's perception of women. We learned in "Hitch" that the model, played by Amber Valletta, is just as down to earth as Albert, but is this often the case? Isn't it more truthful that the woman who is just as down to earth, the woman who will make men happy and has more inner beauty is not the one with the 24-36-24 figure or long, flowing blonde hair but the one who sits next to us in class? She could be the one we pass on our way to class every single day and not even notice.

I know it is easier for guys like me on this campus to find women who are beautiful inside and out, but it is harder for the women on this campus who are beautiful primarily on the inside to be found. I am lucky in that the woman I have found is as beautiful inside as she is out, but to tell you the truth, were it not for her outer beauty I never would have known there was more. I would have missed out on this time I have spent with her and maybe will get to spend with her in the future.

I am not here to lecture men about finding the inner beauty of all the women on our campus, because I can't. I would be a hypocrite if I were to do so. All I can say is that this campus is full of beauty, inside and out, but the majority of it is in a place we men will never see. I just want to be a voice saying that it is there, it is right next to us in class, it walks by us and it is standing right in front of us as we shuffle through the line in The Main. My goal is not to lecture but to enlighten, because it would be a shame to see all this beauty to go undiscovered.

Carlos Alvarado is senior news-editorial journalism major from Weslaco.

by Yousif Del Ville / Skiff Cartoonist



Holidays no excuse for abuse

COMMENTARY

Robert Ensminger

Valentine's Day passed a couple of weeks ago, but I still have a lingering thought in my head from when a friend of mine said, "I can't break up with him; it's Valentine's Day." Now, granted, Valentine's Day is a special holiday for relationships and probably not the best day to break up with somebody, but let's evaluate the guy she's with, okay? First he is abusive — not physically (that I know of) but verbally. Second, he doesn't call her for days at a time. He treats her like dirt, and basically doesn't give her the time of day.

Perplexing still is that she wants to break up with the guy, but won't just because of a holiday. This is an abusive relationship that won't end because she doesn't want to depress him on Valentine's Day! Well, it has been two weeks since Valentine's Day, and she is still with this guy. Her reason? She doesn't want to break up with him and make him lonely on Spring Break. Not only is she staying with an abusive guy who neglects her, but she is lying to herself and staying in a relationship that is a façade because she doesn't want him to be depressed.

There are many things in life that can be really stressful. School can suck the life out of you. Jobs have people making you do stuff you don't want to do, but a relationship is the one part of a person's life that should be pure. A relationship should be the part of life that people can come to without fear of rejection or abuse. One should be able to confide in his or her significant other and deal with the other stresses of life, not add to them.

Do most people have relationships like this? No. Many relationships continue regardless of abuse or other problems. There are situations where people get married because of unwanted pregnancies even though the couple do not love one another. Many relationships, like the one mentioned, continue due to those involved not wanting to "hurt the other's feelings." There are bad relationships that continue because one person is scared to break up with the other. People desperately try to get their partners to hate them so that the partners will break up with them. It is ridiculous to see relationships become so tainted.

It seems simple enough for people to stay out of bad relationships, but it's amazing to see how many go on. Many stay in relationships that are abusive, neglectful and even harmful, and continue to ruin the one part of their life that should be pure. Though I've desperately tried to tell my friend she would be much happier if she just broke up with her boyfriend, she sacrifices her happiness for the extent of another person's feelings. And her decision will only lead her to a continued cycle of unhappiness. There is always another holiday and excuses can only go so far.

Robert Ensminger is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Fort Worth.

Degree doesn't equal dough

COMMENTARY
Natalie Holland

The sound bite rings in my ear: The woman tells President Bush that she has to work three jobs. Bush chuckles and talks about how great that is. She is a typical American, he said.

Unfortunately, she does represent a great number of Americans who have to work longer and harder to get by. However, that's no laughing matter. Working three jobs is not the American dream; it's a nightmare.

When I graduate and get a job as a teacher, my income, for a three-person family, will be within federal poverty guidelines. No American should go through four years of college and still be in poverty.

Sometimes I wonder why we bother studying late at night, typing all these papers and spending so much time and money to complete these classes. Will this college degree we are working so hard for really do us any good?

Politicians ramble about improving skills to better prepare Americans for a "global economy" and "the job market of tomorrow." The ridiculous part remains that Americans are not out of work because of lack of skills.

More people graduate high school and go to college than ever before. Mexican and Chinese workers do not possess more skills than American workers, yet it is overwhelmingly beneficial for companies to take jobs to those countries. Businesses pay workers abroad significantly less, get tax breaks and pollute the environment without fear of consequence.

Watch the economy: Technology and high-paying jobs are not what are increasing; jobs in the service industry are. If you want to be a manager, waitress, cook, cashier or hairdresser, you may be OK.

As a salary manager for seven years, I made what looked to be a decent salary. My 60-hour work-week included coming in early, staying late and putting in six-day work weeks during holidays. When I divided my "decent" salary by the amount of hours I worked, I made what the stock boy did.

Salaried means slavery when working in corporate America.

When I was in management, a degree wasn't required. Target, Kroger and others now require degrees when they did not before. Other companies are requiring master's degrees for the same job when a bachelor's previously sufficed. The jobs are not getting any better, yet the employees are expected to.

A college degree proves a few things. Four or more years of consistent effort and achievement required for the degree proves you are "trainable." It proves that you go along with the rules and get the job done.

It may help you in your job search, but as the economy continues to go global and the middle-class continues to shrink, it may just be another worthless piece of paper.

Natalie Holland is a columnist for The News Record (University of Cincinnati). This column was distributed by U-Wire.

National/International Roundup

Your link to news outside Fort Worth

ITALY

Pope's condition improving

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II managed to speak in two languages with a top Vatican official Tuesday, the first clear sign the pontiff was regaining his voice after throat surgery.

The meeting with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger reinforced Vatican statements that the 84-year-old pope was making strides in vocal and respiratory therapy less than a week after receiving a breathing tube. It also sent a message that John Paul can remain engaged in key church affairs from his 10th-floor suite at Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic hospital.

"The pope spoke with me in German and in Italian," said Ratzinger, a German who runs a powerful Vatican office that deals with issues of Roman Catholic doctrine. "I am happy to say that the Holy Father is fully alert mentally and also able to say the essential things with his voice."

Ratzinger did not elaborate on what the pope said or how long he spoke, but his rare meeting with reporters strengthened the image the Vatican is putting forward: The pope is rebounding and remains in control.

The Vatican has never officially confirmed John Paul's other major health concern, Parkinson's disease, which causes progressive loss of muscle control and is expected to complicate his recovery. But Ratzinger indirectly acknowledged the pope's condition, saying an association for Parkinson's sufferers wrote the pope to express thanks for helping the image of those afflicted.

"The Holy Father has the courage to appear in public as a person who suffers and who continues to work," Ratzinger told Vatican Radio.

"He is well. His condition is improving," papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls told reporters. He said the pope "spent a good night" and celebrated Mass in his suite.

Doctors had told the pope to rest his voice for several days after a tracheotomy Thursday. He is undergoing daily therapy to learn how to breath and speak with the tube in place.

"Everything is normal," Navarro-Valls said. "He is a good patient."

The Vatican canceled the pope's Wednesday general audience. The Rome daily Il Messaggero reported John Paul hopes to say "Grazie" — "Thank you" — at Sunday's prayers.

The Vatican has offered few precise details on the pope's condition and has not said when he might be able to leave the hospital. The next official health update is expected Thursday.

However, it appears likely his current hospitalization will be longer than the last: 10 days of treatment at Gemelli for breathing problems that began Feb. 1. Italian reports suggest the pope could be under medical care until Easter — March 27 — even if there are no setbacks.

British Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor said it appeared the pope will "do what he can" to manage church affairs during treatment.

"Naturally (his duties) have been reduced in recent months and that will continue, to a certain extent, in the future depending on his health," Murphy-O'Connor said. "I don't think anything dramatic has happened at this time."

Fifty-five Polish pilgrims prayed beneath the pope's room Tuesday, and brought him presents from his native Poland: honey for his throat and drawings by hospitalized children, said Viktor Nichtmauser, a member of the group.

WASHINGTON

New safety concerns arise

WASHINGTON, D.C. — More than half of all Americans now live on or near a coast, a major evacuation worry in case of hurricanes, tsunamis or other natural disasters.

One possible answer: vertical evacuations that could send people fleeing upward in high-rise buildings rather than away from a stormy coast.

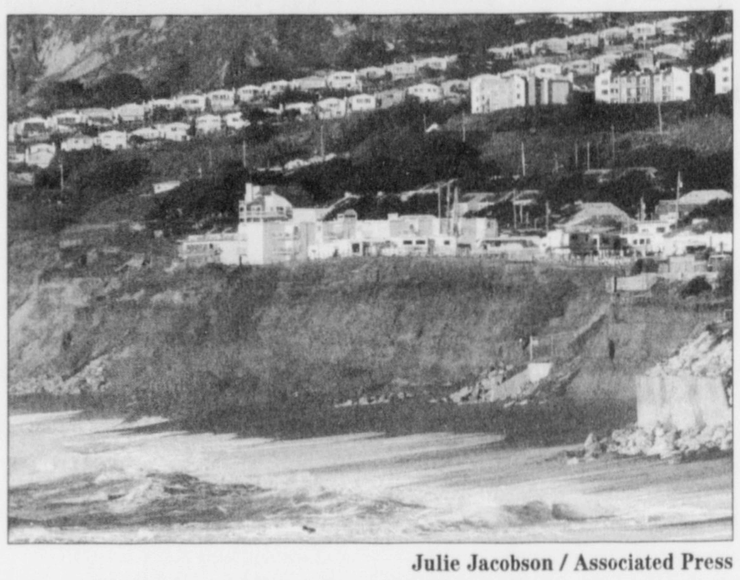
Coastal growth also poses environmental and economic challenges to local governments, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Tuesday.

Some 153 million people live in coastal counties, an increase of 33 million since 1980. An additional 12 million are expected in the next decade.

Whether it's tsunamis on the West Coast, hurricanes on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, or winter storms on the Great Lakes, rising populations complicate evacuations and make emergency response more complex.

Road construction, improved emergency communication and better understanding of population and transportation patterns are all crucial, officials said.

"Vertical evacuation — moving people upstairs in taller structures — is a possibility in areas like those at risk of tsunamis, especially on the West Coast," said Richard Spinrad, director of NOAA's National Ocean Service.



Julie Jacobson / Associated Press

Apartment buildings overlooking the Pacific Ocean catch the afternoon sun in Pacifica, Calif. Coastal growth also poses environmental and economic challenges to local governments, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Tuesday, with more than half of all Americans now living on or near a coast.

Going upstairs in a well-constructed building can be as effective as getting on the road and heading inland, Spinrad said at a briefing.

Vertical evacuation has also been proposed in areas such as New Orleans where hurricanes or floods could threaten large urban areas with limited evacuation opportunities.

While tsunamis have drawn little public concern in the United States in the past, the December devastation in Asia has changed that.

And these waves are a hazard in some U.S. areas, especially in the West where a 1964 tsunami damaged much of the California coast. Crescent City was hardest hit with a 20-foot wave killing 11 people and wrecking half the city's waterfront business district. Hilo, in Hawaii, has also suffered serious tsunami damage.

The better-known threat to Eastern and Gulf coastal areas involves hurricanes. Just last year hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne took turns battering Florida and other states, causing 152 deaths and billions of dollars in damage.

The new population data are likely to be used locally in zoning decisions, Spinrad said, such as whether to allow single-family homes or larger condominiums to be built in a particular area.

Tony MacDonald, executive director of the Coastal States Organization, said the expected growth will increase conflicts and put a greater burden on coastal management programs.

The report, an update of one done a decade ago, considers a county coastal if it is on a coast or at least 15 percent of the county's land area is in a coastal watershed. That includes 673 counties, some of them not directly on a coast.

"During the next two decades these areas will see a growing proportion of retirement age Americans," said Thomas Culliton, one of the report authors.

Spinrad said both growth and changes in the makeup of the coastal residents mean changes in the economy of these areas.

Kristen Cossett, a co-author of the study, said that while coastal counties include 53 percent of the population and 52 percent of housing they comprise just 17 percent of the nation's land area.

New laws on death row

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A closely divided Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that it's unconstitutional to execute juvenile killers, ending a practice in Texas and 18 other states that has been roundly condemned by many of America's closest allies.

The 5-4 decision throws out the death sentences of 72 murderers who were under 18 when they committed their crimes and bars states from seeking to execute minors for future crimes.

The executions, the court said, violate the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

"The age of 18 is the point where society draws the line for many purposes between childhood and adulthood. It is, we conclude, the age at which the line for death eligibility ought to rest," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote.

The ruling continues the court's practice of narrowing the scope of the death penalty, which justices reinstated in 1976. Executions for those 15 and younger when they committed their crimes were outlawed in 1988. Three years ago justices banned death sentences for the mentally retarded.

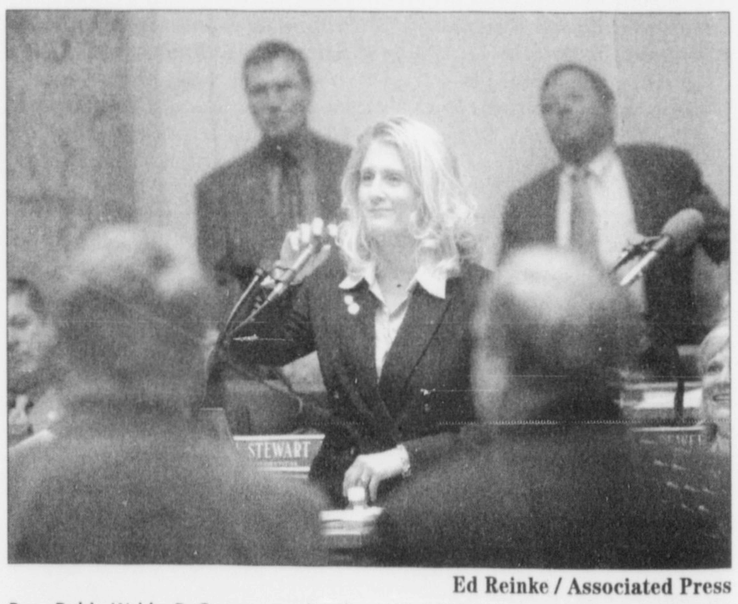
Tuesday's ruling prevents states from making 16 and 17-year-olds eligible for execution.

As a result, officials in Prince William County, Va., said Tuesday they will not prosecute a murder case there against teen sniper Lee Boyd Malvo, who is already serving life in prison in two of the 10 sniper killings that terrorized the Washington area in 2002. Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Paul Ebert had hoped to get the death penalty for Malvo, who was 17 at the time of the killings, but said another trial would now be an unnecessary expense.

Juvenile offenders have been put to death in recent years in only a few other countries, including Iran, Pakistan, China and Saudi Arabia. Kennedy cited international opposition to the practice.

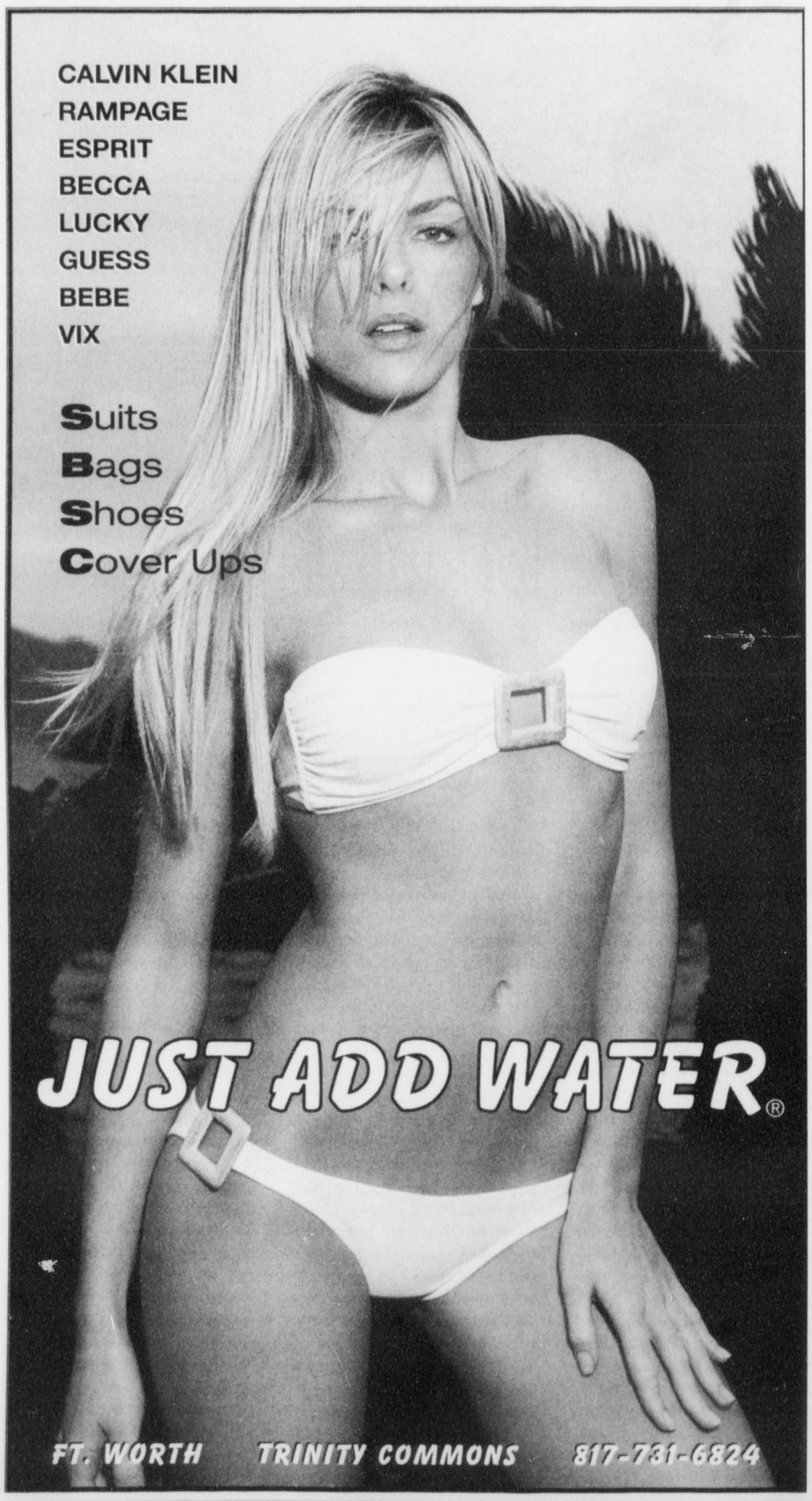
"It is proper that we acknowledge the overwhelming weight of international opinion against the juvenile death penalty, resting in large part on the understanding that the instability and emotional imbalance of young people may often be a factor in the crime," he wrote.

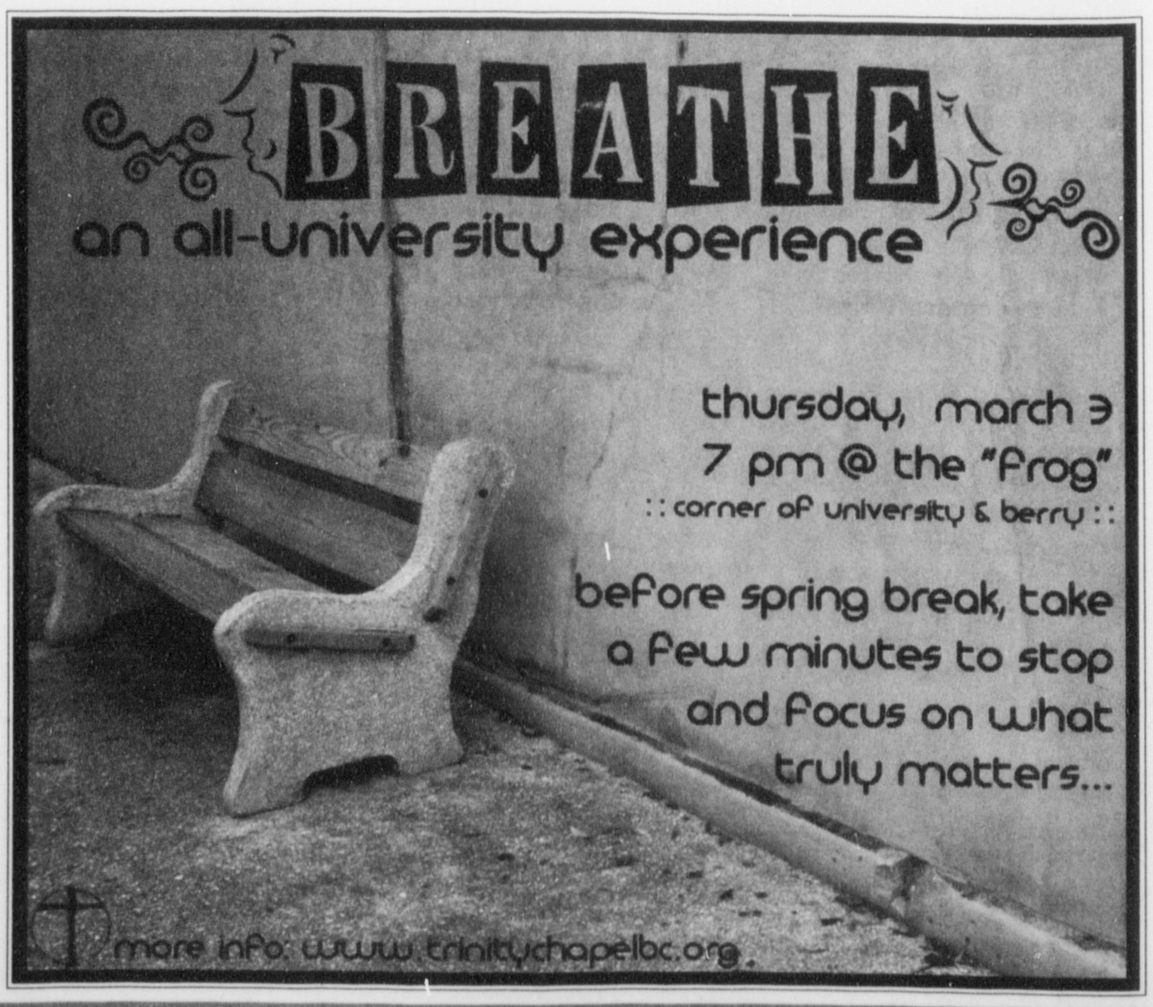
Kennedy noted most states don't allow the execution of juvenile killers and those that do use the penalty infrequently. The trend, he said, is to abolish the practice because "our society views juveniles ... as categorically less culpable than the average criminal."



Ed Reinke / Associated Press

Rep. Robin Webb, D-Grayson, pushes her microphone away Tuesday in the House chamber in Frankfort, Ky., after withdrawing a bill she sponsored that would have prohibited the state from executing juvenile offenders, citing the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling Tuesday that the Constitution forbids the execution of killers who were under 18 when they committed their crimes.





Marathon runners: One is never enough

Photo courtesy of Cici Walker
Cici Walker runs past the state capital in the Freescale Austin Marathon on Feb. 13, 2005.

By CHRISTINE WILSON
Staff Writer

Twenty-four miles down, two to go. The last few miles had been rough — only a few spectators, and the pesky rain wouldn't let up. Luckily, they were in it together.

Twenty-five miles down, only one more to go. A man stumbles and falls at the side of road. Runners around them lose their strength as strong winds funnel into their faces and howl in their ears.

They see the downtown. They turn the corner, and there it is. About three-fourths of a mile to the finish.

Then, Shelby took off. Her years of running track had taught her to sprint the straightaway after the turn.

"The sooner I get there, the sooner I get to stop," she thought.

The last minutes were intense, not to mention painful. But she could see the crosswalk and hear the cheering.

The loudspeaker announced her name, "Shelby Pardue," and she was done. She couldn't feel her arms or legs, but she was done.

She had completed her first marathon in 3:50:53.

But the story doesn't begin at the finish line. Nor does it begin when sophomores Shelby Pardue and Rich Gola began training a couple of months before.

The story of the marathon begins, as does much of the history of Western civilization, with the Greeks. In 490 B.C., according to Greek historian Herodotus, the first battle for democracy was fought at the Greek village of Marathon.

Legend has it that when the battle against the Persians was won, the Athenian messenger Phidippides ran 24 miles to Athens, carrying news of the victory and a warning about the approaching Persian ships. Phidippides, who had fought all morning, pushed past normal limits of endurance to reach Athens in around three hours. After delivering his message, he collapsed and died from exhaustion. The modern marathon, 26 miles and 385 yards, commemorates this ancient Athenian's feat.

This past weekend Fort Worth hosted its own version of the original marathon course, beginning at Second and Houston streets and ending at Fifth and Main streets. The Cowtown Marathon attracted runners from 40 states and five countries, said Joyce Dreslin, media director for the Cowtown events. The Cowtown is the last marathon of the season and the last opportunity for runners to qualify for the Boston Marathon.

"If they haven't qualified yet, this is their last chance," Dreslin said. "I think runners are also attracted by the agreeable weather, and it's fairly flat."

Marathons have come to mean any event or activity characterized by great length or concentrated effort. After Pardue and Gola completed their first marathon, 2004's Cowtown, the pain set in.

"I've never done anything so hurtful," said Pardue, a sophomore from Houston. "I could feel every bone. Every bone hurt — the top of my pelvis, the bones in my back.

"I couldn't sit. I couldn't stand up. I was using my dad as a crutch. I was just trying to function, trying not to collapse, trying not to hurt. But that wasn't possible."

Gola, a sophomore from Haslet, described being unable to feel his arms after finishing the race.

"I asked a friend to hand me a bottle of water," he said, "but I couldn't hold it. I had to give it back. I was so tired."

But he also said, "It's a good hurt. You do it to yourself."

MacKenzie Adams, a junior from Dallas who ran the ING New York City Marathon, experienced the hurt before the race day.

About two months before the race, she woke up with a swollen foot. During her 20-mile run, she had turned her foot on some rocky concrete.

"Ithought it would be better by the end of the week," Adams said, "but when I went to run, I almost started crying."

After taking a week off, she tried running again, but her foot still hurt. After weeks of waiting, she was ready to give up.

"I told myself it was OK, there would always be next year," Adams said. "But I was so upset."

About three weeks before the race, her foot seemed fine, she said, and she visited a physical therapist.

And despite her anxieties about running on a weak foot, he told her to "go for it."

So she did. On Nov. 7, 2004, Adams, bundled in sweats, a long sleeve shirt and gloves, ran with 36,561 other runners from Staten Island through Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Manhattan to finish at Tavern on the Green in Central Park.

"Coming into Manhattan, it was wild," Adams said. "That was probably the peak, I was so excited, so happy. The crowd is the best in Manhattan."

She and her two friends wore Texas-flag running shorts, and the crowd cheered, "Yeah, Texas!" as they passed, Adams said.

The course, which includes five bridges and five boroughs, has more than two million spectators.

"There are places that have less people, but there isn't a time you go by when the crowd isn't clapping and handing out water or oranges," Adams said.

"The minute you cross the finish line, they hand you a medal. I got tears in my eyes. It's such an accomplishment."

Cici Walker agreed. The junior from Mineral Wells finished the Freescale Austin Marathon on Feb. 13. Before last summer, the most she had run at one time was three miles.

"Maybe," Walker said. "Even that might be pushing it."

After running in the summer with her roommate, Walker became interested in marathons. She began looking online at training programs when she found out about the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training.

Team in Training, an endurance sports training program, provides training to run a half or whole marathon or participate in a triathlon or 100-mile bike ride while helping to raise money for cancer research.

Walker said she was able to reach her goal with help from the dedicated coaches who train and educate the team members. In exchange for the training, team members raise money for blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma. Walker raised $2,200.

Even after completing her first marathon in a little more than four hours, Walker doesn't consider herself an accomplished distance runner.

"I wasn't a runner before," says Walker. "And I don't consider myself a runner now. If you have the desire, you can do it.

"I love to run, and I definitely want to run another."

Despite the hardships and challenges, marathon runners aren't content to stop at just one.

"I definitely want to beat my time," said Adams, who may run in Chicago next year.

Gola, too, says his goal is to do it again but faster.

"I want to qualify for the Boston Marathon," he said. "It's like a pilgrimage. It's like you're not a full marathon runner until you finish the Boston Marathon."

But for now, he's pleased.

"It's definitely my blue chip," he said. "It's going on a résumé."

Other Cowtown events include:
3-person marathon relay
10K
5K
Half marathon

Results for 2005 Cowtown Marathon:
Fort Worth, TX
Feb. 26, 2005
Finishers: 637 total, 452 males, 185 females
Male Winner: 2:47:16 | Female Winner: 3:12:27
According to: http://www.marathonguide.com/results

Tips from the marathoners:
- Get a running partner.
- Stick to a schedule.
- Start with a smaller goal like a 5K, 10K or half marathon.
- Try training with a group like USA Fit or Team in Training.
- Eat healthy.
- Drink lots of water and Gatorade.
- Get good running shoes.
- Find someone who has run a marathon to answer your questions as you train.
- Take care of your body immediately if you get hurt.
- Go for it.

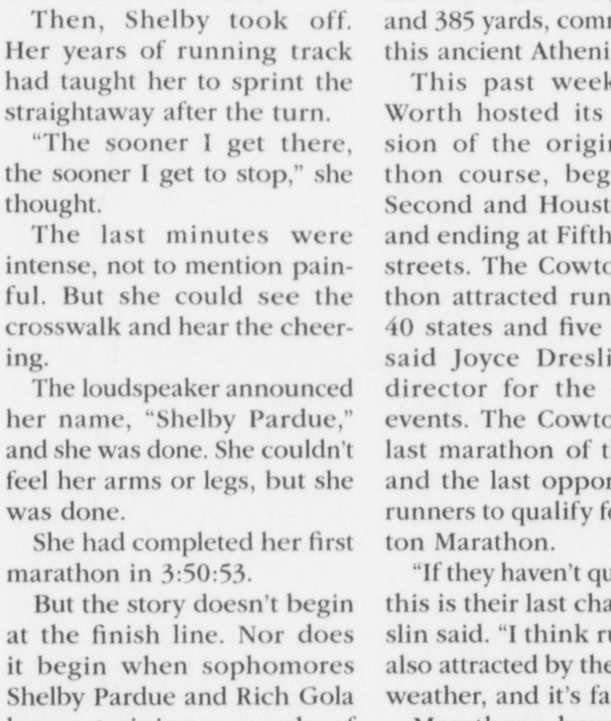


Photo courtesy of Shelby Pardue
Shelby Pardue with Rich Gola at the Fort Worth Cowtown Marathon, Feb. 28, 2004.

Photo courtesy of Cici Walker
Cici Walker's finishing medal for the Freescale Austin Marathon.

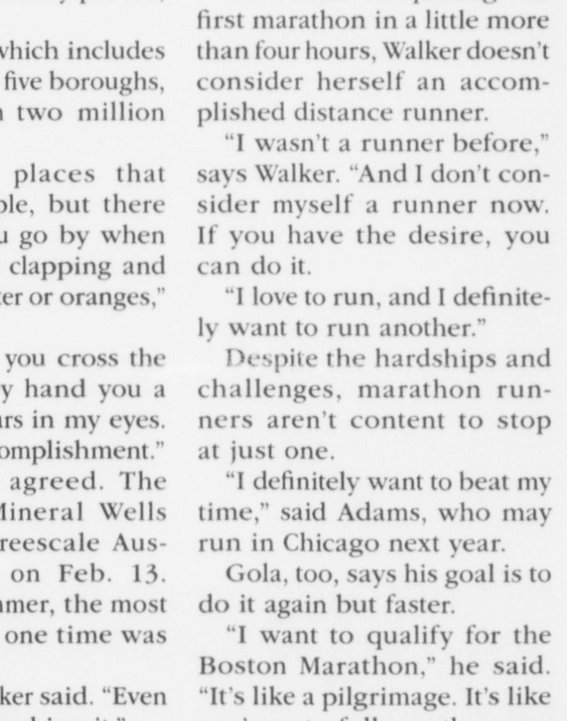


Photo courtesy of MacKenzie Adams
MacKenzie Adams (left) with running partners at the ING New York City Marathon, Nov. 7, 2004.

Brite president's term doubled

Newell Williams focuses on building and program goals for his extended term at Brite Divinity School.

By ASHLEY FANCHER
Staff Reporter

Days turn into weeks, weeks turn into months and, in the case of the Brite Divinity School president, three years can turn into six years.

Williams

The Brite board of trustees extended Newell Williams' contract to 2009. The original three-year contract would have expired in June 2006, said Roy Snodgrass, chair of the Brite board of trustees.

Snodgrass said the board extended Williams' contract "primarily as an expression of strong support and faith in what he is doing."

Williams said he is excited about the next four years.

"I expect it to be challenging and interesting every step of the way," Williams said.

After nearly two years as president of the Brite Divinity school, Williams said he is focused on continuing current projects and completing his goals.

"One of the goals I have is to help Brite find the resources to build academic additions," Williams said.

Brite is housed in a structure built for 100 students and six faculty members. The estimated 300 students and 22 faculty members have outgrown the current building, Williams said.

Williams said he recognizes the need for added space, but is more focused on the work that is done in that space.

"I would be disappointed if all we do in the next few years is build a bigger building," Williams said. "I also want to see programs initiated here to flourish and take root," he said.

Brite has developed black, Latin and Asian church studies that Williams said he would like to see progress and bring in a diverse student body.

"They are programs that I think are needed in our world at this time," Williams said.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said he would like to see Williams continue following the path he is on.

"He has done a marvelous job on so many fronts," Boschini said. "I would very much like to see him continue ... trying to increase the awareness of Brite around the state and around the country," he said.

Williams said he has not seen the new contract yet, but plans on accepting the board's offer.

Snodgrass said the offer was extended in January, and Williams should receive the contract by the end of the week.

Dancers step outside the box

A visiting modern choreographer uses "prop" icons as artistic expression for Spring Dance Concert.

By LAURA MAYBERRY
Staff Reporter

TCU dancers are learning a step or two this week from an acclaimed dancer who has a unique take on choreography.

Elizabeth Johnson, a member of the David Parker and the Bang Group and Sara Hook Dances, is residing on campus while teaching modern dance students a piece she choreographed for the TCU Spring Dance Concert.

"I have a great respect for her as a dance artist educator," said Ellen Shelton, ballet and modern dance chairperson. "She is thoughtful and talented. Her choreographic work is often humorous, physically demanding and engaging."

Junior ballet and modern dance major Allison Ploor said abnormal prop selection is a staple of Johnson's style. This particular piece includes a multitude of Beanie Babies and a "teeny bopper" poster of Orlando Bloom, Ploor said.

Johnson said the props are metaphors for different stages in her life — from her past teenage years to currently being a working mother of three children.

"When she first pulled out the Beanie Babies that we are dancing with, I really wasn't sure what to think, but she has such a creative take on mixing movement with humor that we all just ran with it and had fun," Ploor said of the first day of rehearsal.

"All the dancers are having a good time, and I think it will translate to the audience well," Ploor said. "If nothing else, they can laugh at us being ridiculous on stage with pop culture plush toys."

The 10 members performing were selected based upon Johnson's personal request for "fearless people who would not be afraid to sing if it were required of them."

"I think (the rehearsals) are going great," Johnson said. "The dancers are attentive and learn quickly."

Senior modern dance major Vanessa Watters said she was appointed to perform a duet within the piece and is excited about the way rehearsals have been going.

"It's so refreshing to work with such an innovative choreographer who presents such challenging movement," Watters said.

Johnson said she is impressed with the quality of training dancers have received at TCU.

The Spring Dance Concert is scheduled from April 15 to 17 in Ed Landreth Hall.

New ruling to prohibit execution of minors

A death penalty ruling will have a profound effect in Texas.

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — For almost 12 years, Melissa Pena has waited for the execution of five gang members who raped and killed her teenage daughter and a friend and left their bodies to rot in a Houston field. On Tuesday, she learned that day would never come.

"They should die for what they did to my daughter. This is not right," Pena said.

A closely divided Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that it's unconstitutional to execute juvenile killers, ending a practice in Texas and 18 other states that has been roundly condemned by many of America's closest allies.

The 5-4 decision throws out the death sentences of about 70 juvenile murderers, 28 of whom are on Texas's death row. It also bars states from seeking to execute minors for future crimes, saying such executions violate the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

Twenty-two of the people put to death since 1976 were juveniles when they committed their crimes; 13 of them were in Texas.

The ruling triggered cries of outrage from Texas victims' rights activists, victims' relatives, as well as renewed demands for a moratorium on the Texas death penalty — a demand Republican Gov. Rick Perry immediately refused.

But Perry asked the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to review the state's cases affected by the Supreme Court ruling.

At least two bills pending before the Legislature would prohibit the execution of violent offenders under the age of 18.

"If a bill that brings Texas law in line with the court's ruling reaches my desk I will sign it," Perry said in a prepared statement. "Regardless of what the Legislature does, however, Texas will abide by the court's ruling."

Perry told reporters he would consider signing legislation allowing sentences of life without parole for juveniles, which is now not an option for Texas juries. A life sentence in Texas means a defendant is eligible for parole in 40 years.

Rep. Garnet Coleman of Houston said it was time to end Texas executions, but Perry replied: "The answer is no."

Among the Texas killers affected by the Supreme Court ruling were:

— Efrain Perez and Raul Villarreal of Harris County (Houston), convicted with three others of the gang-rape and beating deaths of Jennifer Ertman, 14 and Elizabeth Pena, 16. Perez and Villarreal were 17 at the time. Pena's father, Adolph, on Tuesday wore a T-shirt with the girls' photos printed on it. "These people are animals," he said at a news conference held by Harris County murder victims' relatives. "They're the scourge of the streets. If they get out, they will kill again."

— Robert Springsteen of Travis County (Austin), convicted at 17 in 2001 of the infamous "Yogurt Shop" slayings in which four teenage girls were bound, gagged and fatally shot in the head at a yogurt shop a decade earlier.

— Jorge Alfredo Salinas, who at 17 carjacked a man in Hidalgo County (McAllen) in July 2001, fatally shot him in the head, and left the man's 21-month-old daughter to die of dehydration and exposure strapped in her car seat in a brush area near the Rio Grande.

Eleven of the juvenile murderers on Texas' death row were convicted in Harris County.

One of them, Johnnie Bernal, was one day shy of his 18th birthday when he shot and killed Lee Dilley as he stood outside a Houston drive-in with his high school prom date.

"Does it make sense that just because he was 17 years and 364 days old he's going to be spared?" asked Harris County prosecutor Roe Wilson, who expressed disappointment that the ruling doesn't allow for individual review of cases.

But Jim Marcus, executive director of the Texas Defender Service, said the decision was long overdue.

"This shows a clear consensus that it's really inappropriate," Marcus said. "It's inappropriate for the same reason that we don't trust juveniles with the right to vote. Juvenile brain and mental development is just not ready."

Janet Green, whose son, Harris County deputy constable Michael Eakin, was shot to death during a traffic stop in 1998 by 17-year-old Michael Lopez, said the Supreme Court was wrong to decide that juveniles are too immature to pay with their lives.

"I've been a teacher for 19 years and kids at 11 know right from wrong," Green said. "They just make poor choices."

Marcus noted that only two other states — Oklahoma and Virginia — have executed a juvenile in the past decade.

"Texas accounts for more than half of the juvenile executions in the modern era of the death penalty," he said. "It's a practice that's not even widely carried out in this country anymore — except in this state."

Texas executed 23 people last year, compared to Ohio, which ranked second with seven executions, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

Faculty Senate to consider changes

Faculty Senate will be considering proposals concerning athletics and representation Thursday.

By JESSICA CHANDLAR
Staff Reporter

Faculty Senate on Thursday may consider eliminating at-large representation and a proposal that would regulate a variety of athletics issues.

The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics has developed a set of proposals and guidelines to assist faculty with maintaining academic integrity among athletes.

"We may endorse the report so we can join with other schools across the country in developing good practices regarding intercollegiate athletics that will benefit both athletes and the university as a whole," Linda Moore, a liaison to COIA, said.

The recommendations deal with admissions, scholarships, curricular integrity, time commitment, missed class time, scheduling of competitions and policies concerning the Office of Academic Advising for Athletes.

For example, one of the recommendations is that coaches could not directly pull an athlete's scholarship, which Moore said is not a major issue at TCU.

"The document wants to protect athletes, which is why it mentions coaches not pulling scholarships without cause," Moore said. "If a coach wants to pull it, he or she has to document the reason so that the student athlete does not lose academic opportunity."

Another item on the meeting's agenda will be an issue concerning faculty representation on the senate.

The Faculty Governance Committee will be proposing the elimination of at-large election seats, which would reduce the size of the Faculty Senate, Carolyn Cagle, chair of the governance committee, said.

The senate is made up of about one senator for every 11 faculty members within a college. There are currently nine senators who have been selected by at-large voting and are supposed to look at the big picture instead of representing a specific college.

If this motion passes then the at-large positions would be eliminated when the senator's term expires, Cagle said.

"The at-large election process was an effort to have a group of people to look at the bigger picture," Cagle said. "We all have the big picture so this is no longer relevant."

Eliminating at-large elections might help the senate be more representational of the various colleges and suggests an optimal size for the group, said Blaise Ferrandino, chair of the Faculty Senate.

The motion to take away at-large elections has proven to be a necessary step to balance and seeks to take away disproportional representation, Ferrandino said.

He said the purpose behind having at-large elections in the first place was to get people to fill senate seats, but that this is no longer an issue because interest in serving on the senate has grown.

The senators will be discussing the Conflict Resolution Policy for Staff and Faculty, which encourages TCU faculty and staff to resolve conflict through discussion and mediation.

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Paul

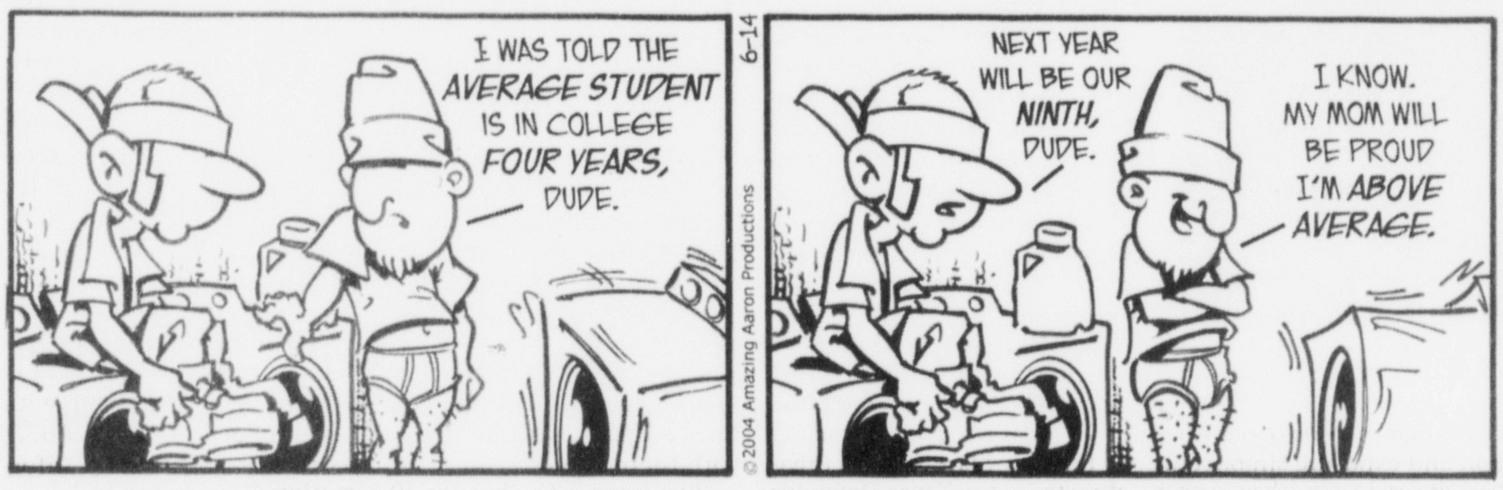
by Billy O'Keefe

A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner

2 Dudes

by Aaron Warner



Today's Crossword

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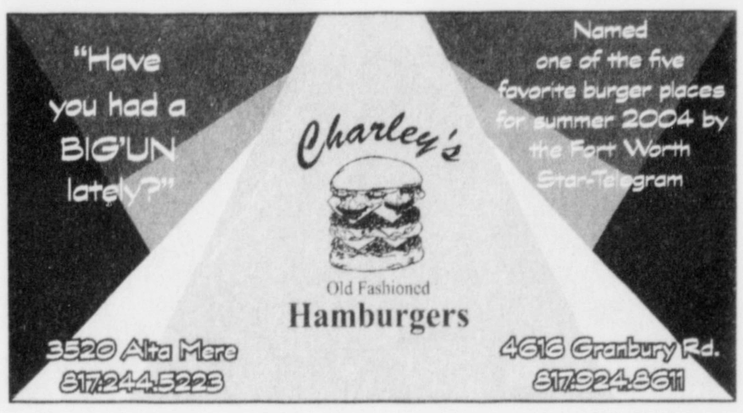

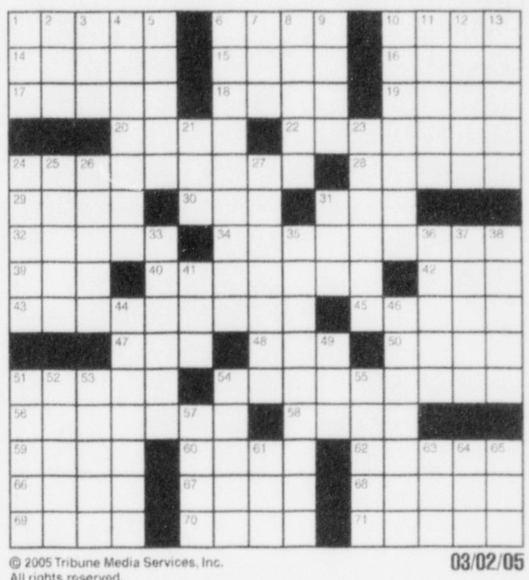

ACROSS
1 Lions' locks
6 Box to train
10 Important times
14 Actress Verdugo
15 "A __ of Two Cities"
16 Kind of duck?
17 Wynonna's mom
18 Spoil
19 Fall garden?
20 Opera singer Gluck
22 Gets
24 Puts on a different case
28 Battery terminal
29 Concludes
30 Shirt size: abbr.
31 __-mo
32 Dreaded mosquito
34 Preparing to shave
39 Grade of wine
40 Wilson's thrushes
42 Lea low
43 Super sensitive
45 Muse of poetry
47 J. Lynne's band
48 Pen
50 Ripened
51 Isolated
54 Verticality
56 Most packed with evergreens
58 Foray
59 Make over
60 Berra of baseball
62 Eucharist plate
66 Hosiery shade
67 Lunchtime
68 Raise spirits
69 Understands
70 Block up
71 Pizza order

DOWN
1 Chess pieces
2 Chicken/king connector
3 Classical prefix
4 All together
5 Goes yachting
6 Pack trailer
7 Basque city
8 Rap-sheet datum
9 Cloth tear
10 Mrs. Roosevelt
11 AM or FM
12 Change the law
13 Perceive
21 Wire measure
23 "Honor Thy Father" author
24 Laugh at a joke, e.g.
25 January in Spain
26 Make sense
27 Closest one
31 Haggard novel
33 Slender and graceful
35 Nervous laughter
36 Mental picture
37 Music units
38 Merchandise
41 Italian author Umberto
44 Grave
46 Tony of "The Odd Couple"
49 Indeed
51 After, in Paris
52 Part
53 French writer Gide
54 Bar accessory
55 Hollow tubes
57 "N __"
61 Sentimental drivel
63 Skater Babilonia
64 & so forth
65 Maiden name indication

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03/02/05

Tuesday's Solutions

S	H	U	T	■	C	A	L	F	■	W	A	S	P	S
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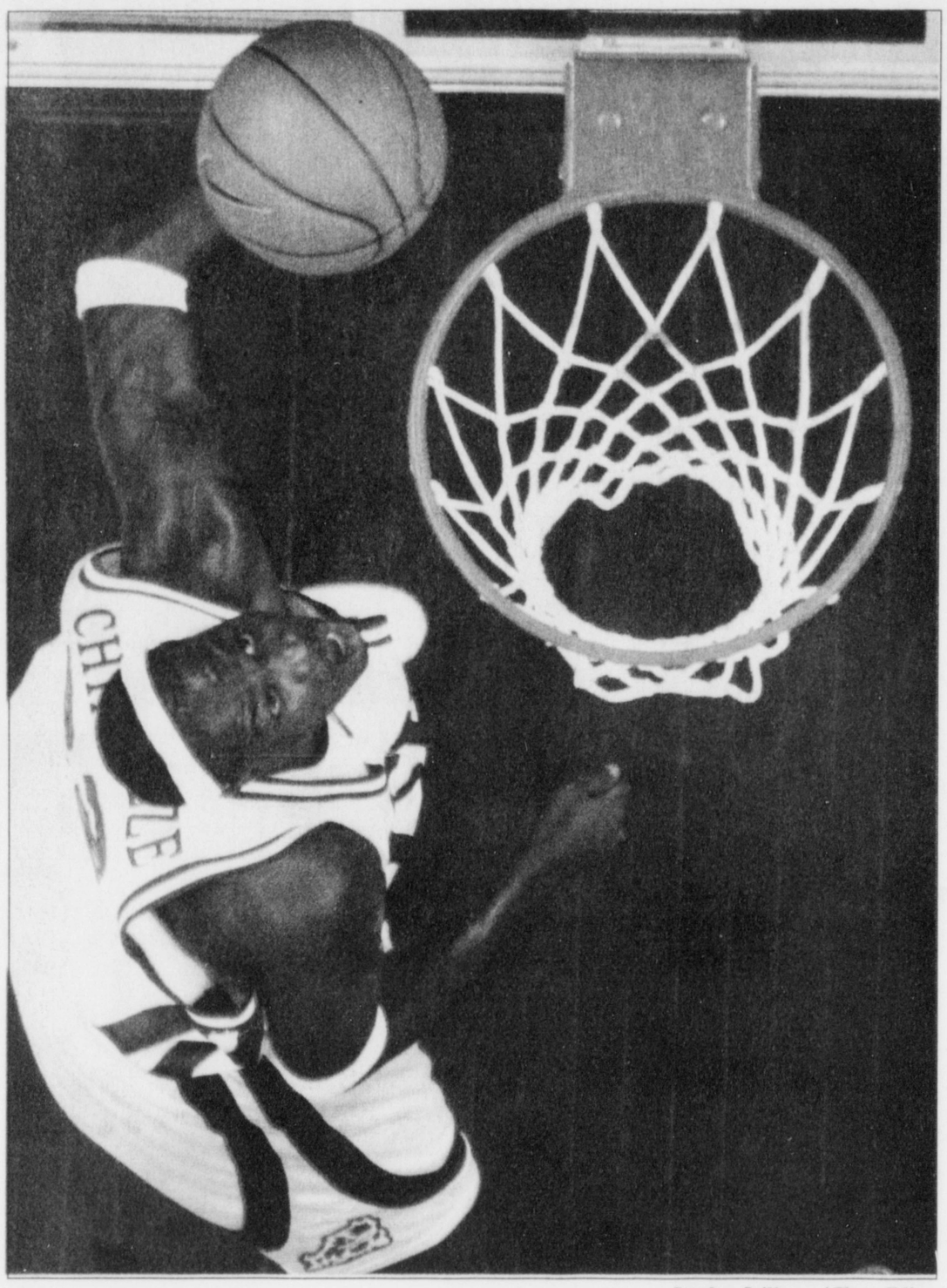
Injured forward gives guidance from the bench



Stephen Spillman / Photo Editor

Junior forward Chudi Chinweze goes for a layup against the University of Texas at Austin last December. Chinweze was injured in the game against Kansas and plans to play again next season.

Men's basketball player hopes to be 100 percent next season.

By BRIAN ALLEN
Staff Reporter

As the Horned Frogs pursue an NCAA Tournament birth, junior forward Chudi Chinweze sits on the sidelines in support of his teammates, waiting for next season when he can get back on the court.

Chinweze suffered both a torn anterior cruciate and medial collateral ligament on his left knee during a game on the road against the Kansas Jayhawks on Dec. 9.

"I was trying to go up strong to the basket, but I lost my footing, and my knee turned the wrong way," Chinweze said.

This is the longest time that Chinweze has been out due to an injury during his career at TCU. During the 2002-03 season, he missed six games but started 22 games. In the 2003-04 season, he played in all 29 games — starting 20 of them — while averaging 10.7 points and 4.9 rebounds.

This season, the junior averaged 21.4 minutes, 11.1 points and 6.9 rebounds a game.

Including the Kansas game this season, Chinweze played in a total of eight games. In a home loss against Old Dominion on Nov. 25, he scored 16 points and collected 6 rebounds. Two days earlier, the junior posted a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds in a win against the Texas Tech Red Raiders at home.

Chinweze said his best game prior to the injury was against Old Dominion because he scored 16 points and had two highlight plays.

As for a medical redshirt, Chinweze said head coach Neil Dougherty and TCU are appealing to the NCAA, which claims Chinweze has played too many games to qualify. A medical red shirt would allow him to be a junior again next season, and he would not lose a year of eligibility.

"I think if I would have played four games, I probably would have been granted a medical red shirt," Chinweze said.

Rehabilitation is a big part of Chinweze getting back onto the court next season. He rehabilitates Monday through Friday, in the afternoons or when he is free, usually for an hour and a half to two hours.

"I don't just do exercises concerning my knee. I do exercises concerning things surrounding my knee," Chinweze said. "I want to get the muscles around my knee stronger."

The junior said he sometimes talks to the players who play his position during practice times. Also, he said the guidance that he gives helps the team become more successful because it is coming from a player's point of view .

At home games, Chinweze gives his guidance from the bench, but he does not travel to road games.

"As a player, being in their position, I am able to talk to them and let them know if I see something on the court that can be exploited," Chinweze said.

Dougherty said he has appreciated Chinweze's contributions on and off the court this season.

"He has been pretty helpful on our sidelines," he said. "A lot of times when players reiterate what the coaches are saying, it helps them as a player too. It's unfortunate that Chinweze has missed this season, but when he is able to play again, hopefully he will have seen some things inside and learned some things inside that will help him when he gets back out there."

Chinweze said he fills the void of not playing in the games by working on the fundamentals of basketball.

"I still lift weights with the team. When guys are shooting around, I'm shooting with them," Chinweze said. "I'm just trying to get back on the court as soon as possible, if I get to shoot free throws, jump shots, dribble the ball where I'm standing or whatever it is."

Extra Info

- Wednesday night vs. South Florida
- Tipoff at 7:05 p.m.
- Senior night for five seniors:
  - Aaron Curtis
  - Corey Santee
  - Marcus Shropshire
  - Marcus Sloan
  - Corey Valsin
- With a win, the Frogs can clinch a record above .500 in conference play.
- The Frogs enter the game 5-2 at home in conference, while South Florida enters 2-5 on the road in conference
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Timeout for reassessment

NHL board of governors and players hold separate meetings.

By IRA PODELL
Associated Press

If there are cracks within the players' association, they weren't evident Tuesday when the rank and file met for the first time since the NHL season was canceled.

"The so-called splinter faction in the union that is going a different direction has been drummed up by a lot of media members and people hoping a deal gets done," St. Louis defenseman Chris Pronger said. "I can unequivocally say everyone is on board and understands the issues better."

The meeting lasted about three hours on Tuesday after beginning the night before with a dinner.

Both meetings were expected to be informational, providing updates on what happened in the failed negotiations the past 5 1/2 months. Union leaders scheduled another meeting for Wednesday in Toronto with player agents.

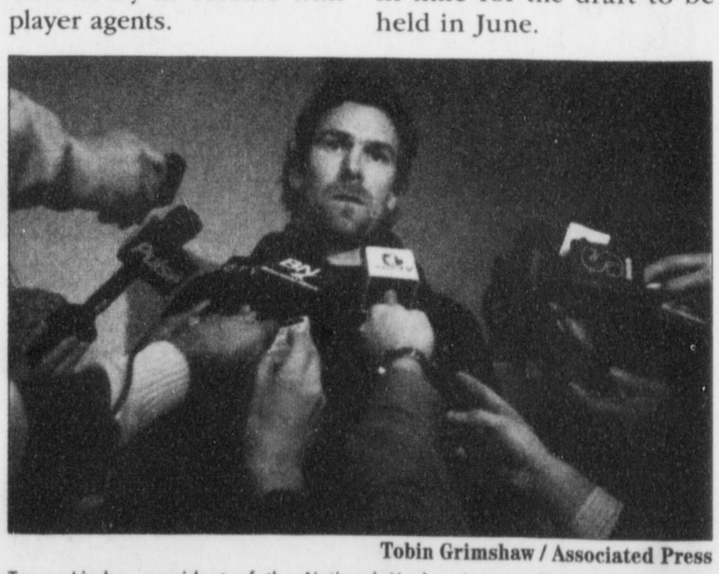
Wayne Gretzky, the managing partner of the Phoenix Coyotes, was absent because he was with his ill mother in Brantford, Ontario.

Gretzky and Pittsburgh Penguins player-owner Mario Lemieux took part in the last bargaining session with the union on Feb. 19, three days after the season was wiped out, in an effort to uncancel the season. But they left disappointed that a deal wasn't in place.

The governors began discussions around 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and were expected to continue talking into the early evening.

In the final week before the season was canceled, owners agreed to drop their demand for linkage. In return, the union agreed to accept a salary cap but the sides never agreed on an acceptable number.

There is no telling when players and owners will sit down at the bargaining table again. The NHL would like to get talks started as quickly as possible so an agreement can be reached in time for the draft to be held in June.



Tobin Grimshaw / Associated Press

Trevor Linden, president of the National Hockey League Players Association, answers questions after an NHLPA meeting in Toronto on Tuesday. More hockey people need to be involved in the collective bargaining process to get the NHL back on the ice, says Linden.