

FRIDAY

AUGUST 25, 2000
98th Year • Number 3High 99
Low 78Partly
cloudy

TCU DAILY

Skiff

TODAY



Just one year after graduating from TCU, Jennifer Falletto and Carman Lacivita have landed themselves atop the TCU alumni-founded theater acting troupe, Amphibian Productions. Entertainment, page 7

Fort Worth, Texas

www.skiff.tcu.edu

98th Year, Number 3

Construction on technology center delayed

City-issued permit needed before building can begin

By Melissa DeLoach
STAFF REPORTER

Construction on the William E. and Jean Jones Tucker Technology Center, scheduled to begin in July, will begin as soon as TCU receives a building permit from the city of Fort Worth, said Will Stallworth, associate vice chancellor for Plant Management.

Though a groundbreaking ceremony was held July 19, Stallworth said the construction delay comes in part from modifying building plans to comply with various safety inspections and new fire ordinances.

"We've been waiting roughly 45 days (for the permit)," Stallworth said. The permit should be approved in a matter of days, he said.

The 86,700-square-foot technology center, located between the Sid W. Richardson and Annie Richardson Bass buildings, will house the dean of the College of Science and Engineering, a professional development center for community outreach projects, and the departments of computer science, engineering and mathematics.

William Koehler, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said 70 percent

of the \$25 million cost has been raised. Although all the funds have not been raised, the Board of Trustees has authorized construction to begin once the permit is approved.

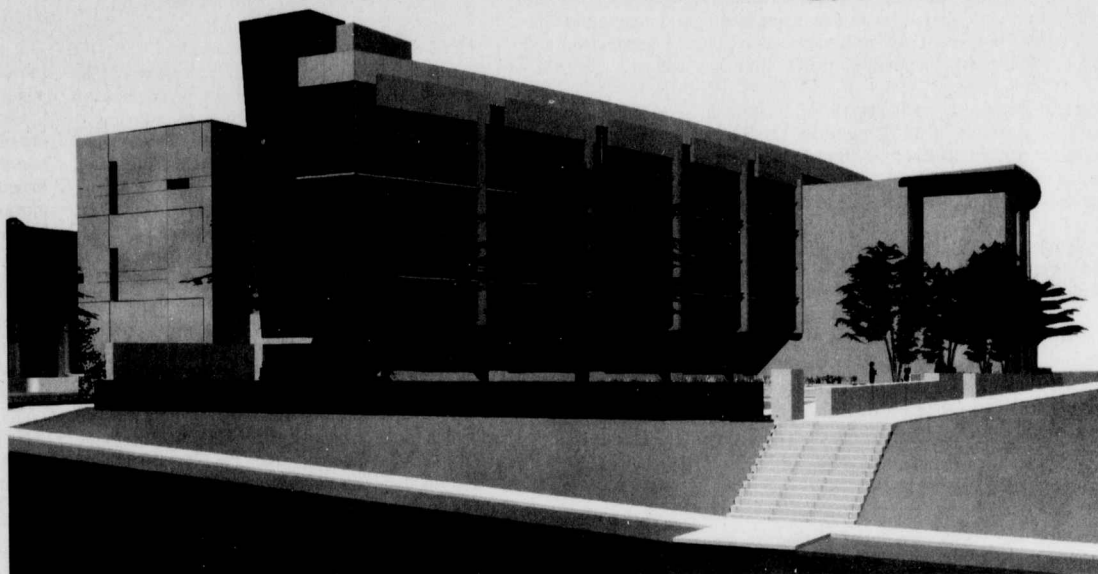
"The dilemma one has at this point is that the construction market is very inflationary in the Metroplex," Koehler said. "The inflation rate goes up five to 10 percent each year. So rather than wait until every last penny is raised, it's economically a better solution for us to go ahead and start building, avoid construction inflation and then continue to raise money."

By the time the building is completed in 15 to 18 months, all funds will probably be raised by outside gifts and donations from alumni and area philanthropists, said Mike McCracken, dean of the College of Science and Engineering and a member of the building steering committee.

Richard Rinewalt, chairman of the computer science department, said the new building will allow for all the departments to be under one roof rather than in its current setup, where classes are scattered throughout the campus. There will also be

See TUCKER, Page 8

Below is an artist's rendering of the future William E. and Jean Jones Technology Center.



Location:
Between Sid W. Richardson and Annie Richardson Bass buildings

Estimated Cost:
\$25 million; 70 percent raised

Estimated Date of Occupancy:
Fall 2002

Departments housed:
computer science, engineering, mathematics

pulse

briefs

NATION

Fire destroys 2,000 acres; threatens East Texas homes
NACOGDOCHES — An East Texas forest fire sparked by lightning strikes has consumed more than 2,000 acres and now threatens more than 150 homes, state officials said Thursday.

A group of state agencies and volunteers were working to extinguish the blaze, which started Tuesday afternoon, the Texas Division of Emergency Management said Thursday.

The Division of Emergency Management is a part of the Department of Public Safety.

The fire has prompted many Nacogdoches County residents to round up livestock and evacuate their homes voluntarily.

Restrictions imposed on re-opening of pipeline

CARLSBAD, N.M. — The nation's deadliest natural gas pipeline disaster in decades has brought down new restrictions on operators of the line that exploded, killing 11 campers and critically burning another.

El Paso Natural Gas Co. must prove the line that exploded early Saturday and two neighboring lines are safe through a series of tests before putting the lines back in service, the U.S. Office of Pipeline Safety said in a seven-page order Wednesday.

Among other things, the order requires the pipelines to pass pressure tests as well as X-ray and ultrasound structural testing. Investigators found corrosion in one section of pipe that blew Saturday.

"I find that the resumed and continued operation of El Paso's pipelines without corrective measures would be hazardous to life, property and the environment," says the order signed by Stacey Gerard, associate administrator for pipeline safety.

Gas company spokeswoman Norma Dunn declined immediate comment.

These stories are from The Associated Press.

The 411



Krystal Powell/SKIFF STAFF

SGA President Ben Jenkins gives Programming Council information to Candace Lawrence, a freshman chemistry major, and Megan Tyson, a freshman radio-TV-film major, at the Activities Fair Thursday afternoon near Frog Fountain.

Dining Services revamps campus eating experience

Changes intended to enhance facilities, atmosphere

By Emily Ward
STAFF REPORTER

Between adding a Starbucks Coffee counter in the Mary Coats Burnett Library and offering poetry readings in the new Worth Hills cafeteria lounge, TCU Dining Services has been working on enhancements to dining facilities since early summer.

The Main, Eden's Greens, Deco Deli, Frog Bytes and Worth Hills cafeteria have all seen changes these past few months and should see more in the near future, said Richard Flores, general manager for TCU Dining Services.

"This is a customer service business, and if our product is not presentable, then the student will not buy it," Flores said.

Alterations to The Main include a "show piece" of desserts, display plates for meals served that day, a complete "bagel stop" and general aesthetic improvements

that help take away the cafeteria look, Flores said.

"We have changed all our signs so they are not handwritten," he said.

New standing signs around campus lawns help direct people to different dining facilities, and Frog Bytes prices are now more clearly posted for each item.

"International and Co." and the "Main Market," both areas in The Main, will serve as action stations where foods like Cyberwraps and rotisserie chickens are prepared in front of customers.

"Aesthetically, (The Main) looks a lot nicer because of the showcases and cleanliness," said senior geology major Emily Seidel. "But it still seems a little cluttered because there is (not a) good flow of traffic."

The crowds that pour in daily to The Main are why Dining Services is encouraging students to

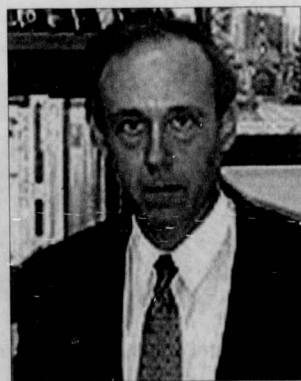
take advantage of other dining facilities such as Deco Deli, Eden's Greens and the Worth Hills cafeteria, Flores said.

Both Eden's Greens and Deco Deli have had minor changes that make the overall atmosphere more comfortable and inviting, he said, and they now offer more choices for vegetarians and people with special dietary needs.

For more options on another part of campus, "Worth Hills is your place, whether you live in the Greek area or somewhere else," said Cedric Rogers, Worth Hills manager for TCU Dining Services. With the many changes already made for the cafeteria, "I want students to make this their home away from home," he said.

Complete with a new game room and lounge area, the Worth Hills cafeteria has been improved

See DINING, Page 5



Bob Lusch,
Dean of the Business School

► Previous position: Dean of the University of Oklahoma College of Business Administration

LUSCH AIMS TO INCREASE MBA PROMINENCE, FUNDS

Cutting-edge programs, curriculum key to success

By Melissa DeLoach
STAFF REPORTER

Raising the graduate program in the M. J. Neeley School of Business to the stature of its undergraduate program is the stated goal of Bob Lusch, the new dean of the business school.

Lusch, who began his formal duties as dean July 1, said cutting-edge, innovative programs like the electronic business program and the entrepreneurship center are needed to bring notoriety to the business school.

"We want to protect the undergraduate program and make sure that it continues to remain strong as it has been by improving the quality of the programs and curriculum," Lusch said. "We really want to hitch our star through to the MBA program and work on growing the quality and size of the graduate school to be equally as strong as the undergraduate school."

Bob Greer, associate dean for graduate programs of the business school, said that much of Lusch's focus for the business school this year will be on implementing two new programs: supply chain management and a finance center in the graduate school.

"He is very interested in establishing higher level quality in everything that we do," Greer said. "He wants the major players of industry to call us first when they are looking for employees. (Dallas/Fort Worth) is a perfect place to establish such programs and bring visibility to TCU."

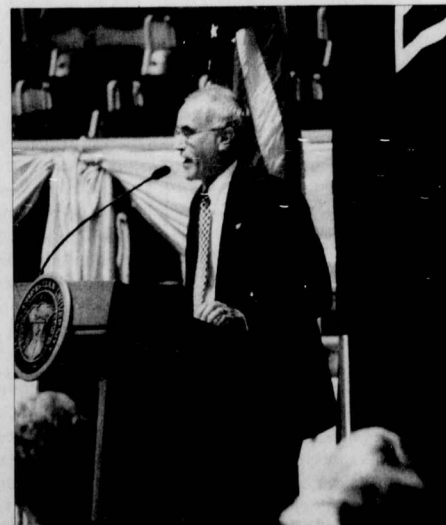
Lusch said that his main priority for the business school this year will be geared toward fundraising.

"He has been very active externally since he has been here," Greer said. "I hesitate to guess how many businessmen and alumni he has come in contact with over the course of a month, but he has already invited new people to join the international board of visitors and these are people with very prestigious backgrounds. He has such positive relationships with everyone he meets and his reputation as a national figure in marketing speaks highly of TCU and the business school."

Prior to coming to TCU, Lusch taught marketing and accounting at the University of Ok-

See LUSCH, Page 6

On a mission



Hillary Morgan/SKIFF STAFF

Chancellor Michael Ferrari speaks at the opening luncheon for faculty and staff Tuesday at Daniel Meyer Coliseum. The event marked the beginning of a new campaign that will make TCU mission statement more prominent throughout the university.

pulse

campus lines

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.

► **Neeley Student Resource Center and Career Services** will be hosting "We want you to graduate ... and get a job" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Tandy Hall Atrium. NRSC will provide information on how to graduate and Career Services will have resources on learning how to find a job. Snacks will be provided.

► **Howdy Week Activities:** A Merchants Fair will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge.

► **The Women's Shelter** will have volunteer training from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 11, 14, 18 and 21 at the Arlington Human Services Building Conference Room A. Potential volunteers must complete an application and interview prior to the training session. Interview dates are Aug. 21 to Sept. 6. Applications are available online at (www.womensshelter.org) or by calling 817-548-0583.

► **The American Cancer Society** is looking for volunteers. They are matched with specific jobs, depending upon their skills, interests and time availability. The greatest need in Tarrant County is for cancer survivors and minority (bilingual) volunteers. For more information call 817-737-9990.

► **Fight Hunger at the Plate** will be at 2:05 p.m. Sept. 17 at the Texas Rangers vs. Kansas City Royals game at The Ballpark in Arlington. Lower home run porch tickets are \$17.50 and upper reserved are \$10. Fifty percent of each ticket sold will benefit the North Texas and Tarrant Area Food Banks. To order tickets call 817-273-5137 and reference account #: 21153.

► **Truth Band** will be performing a free concert 7 p.m. Aug. 25 at Connell Baptist Church off Camp Bowie and Hulen. A love offering will be taken at the concert.

► **4th International Film Festival** will be Sept. 16 to Oct. 18 at local libraries. The event is sponsored by the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. Participating libraries are: Central Library, 500 W. 3rd St.; East Regional Library, 6301 Bridge St.; and Southwest Regional Library, South Hulen and Briarhaven. Contact libraries for film titles and show times. For more information call 817-871-7791.

TCU DAILY

Skiff

Since 1902

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news digest

WORLD

Newly-elected vice president of Paraguay from a different political party than the president

ASUNCION, Paraguay — An opposition leader was declared the winner Thursday in Paraguay's elections for a vice president, creating an unprecedented power-sharing arrangement with the president from the ruling party.

The victory by Julio Cesar Franco of the Liberal party deals the ruling Colorado Party its first major election defeat since 1947.

Backed by a popular vote, Franco takes his post beside the unelected President Luis Gonzalez Macchi, whose popularity has sharply fallen since he was put in power.

Gonzalez Macchi was installed amid the chaos following the March 1999 assassination of Vice President Luis Argana. Gonzalez Macchi's predecessor, Raul Cubas, was accused of being behind the slaying and was forced from office.

The vice president's post has been empty since the killing. Franco won the Aug. 13 election with 47.78 percent of the vote, to 46.98 percent for Colorado's Felix Argana, the son of the slain vice president, the electoral board announced.

A third candidate won 1.47 percent, while the rest of the votes were null, election board president Alberto Ramirez said at a press conference.

Cesar Franco is to be sworn in for the remainder of the elder Argana's term, which concludes Aug. 15, 2003.

Muslim rebels wanting independence kill five hostages in Philippines, one still missing

COTABATO, Philippines — Muslim rebels have killed five truck drivers they abducted this week in the southern Philippines, and a sixth hostage remains missing, a military official said Thursday.

Police found the bodies Thursday in a coconut grove in Buluan in Maguindanao province, about 565 miles south of Manila, near where they were abducted by separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels two days earlier, the official said. The victims had been shot and hacked.

The rebels blocked the two trucks of the six men, apparently thinking they were transporting rice. The cargo turned out to be animal feed, and the guerrillas instead abducted the six men at gunpoint, according to regional army spokesman Maj. Julieto Ando.

The sixth man remains missing, Ando said. The military has blamed the MILF for various recent attacks on civilian and government targets in Mindanao, where the rebels are fighting for a separate Islamic state.

A smaller but more extreme Muslim rebel group, the Abu Sayyaf, is holding 12 foreign hostages and a dozen Filipino Christian evangelists on impoverished Jolo Island, also in Mindanao. After Libyan-mediated negotia-

tions for their release hit snags, the leaders of Germany, France and Finland — who all have citizens among the hostages — urged the Philippine president Thursday not to use force or take any action that could endanger them.

"We use this opportunity to underline our firm view that the safe and early release of the hostages is the first priority," German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, French President Jacques Chirac and Finnish President Tarja Halonen said in a letter.

Libya has agreed to pay the \$1 million per Westerner demanded by the rebels, negotiators have said — though Libya insists its funds will only go to development projects in Mindanao.

But a deal to free the hostages fell through last week when rebels accused the military of planning to attack once they were released.

NATION

Boys Town residents vote to change name of home for troubled youth to include females

BOYS TOWN, Neb. — It's now Girls AND Boys Town.

In a shower of confetti and balloons, Boys Town officials announced Thursday that residents had approved a name change for the home for troubled youth.

Nearly seven of every 10 residents voted in favor of the change, intended to reflect the growing role that young girls now play at the home made famous by the Oscar-winning 1938 Spencer Tracy movie.

Ballots were distributed Wednesday to the home's 1,000 residents at all 18 sites from California to New England, including the 500 youths age 10 to 18 at the main Boys Town campus west of Omaha.

"I think it's a big, positive thing," said Walter Caldwell, the home's 18-year-old "mayor," or student body president. "I did think it would pass by a little more than it did."

He said he was first against the change, arguing that tradition was worth keeping, but "I decided if it would save the life of a girl who didn't know Boys Town was here to help, it was the right thing to do."

The 83-year-old institution announced last week that it would ask its residents to vote on the switch to Girls and Boys Town.

"The children have spoken!" the Rev. Val Peter shouted to nearly 900 residents, staff members and supporters attending Thursday's announcement. "To all of the girls of America and the boys of America, I would implore: Keep hope alive. Keep hope alive."

When the Rev. Edward Flanagan started the home for wayward boys in 1917, girls were not included in the original charter because of the belief that girls could be adopted more quickly than troublesome boys.

stories from the Associated Press

The home was at first called Father Flanagan's Home for Boys. The residents voted to change the name to Boys Town in 1926.

The first girls were admitted to Boys Town in 1979, when five were enrolled. Today, girls make up nearly half of residents.

Peter said girls were first in the new name because officials didn't want to divide the words "boys" and "town."

The name of the incorporated village of Boys Town, Neb., will not change.

STATE

State Supreme Court upholds \$11 million award to family of neglected elderly woman

AUSTIN — In a ruling hailed by consumer advocates as a major protection for nursing home patients, the Texas Supreme Court on Thursday upheld an \$11 million award to the family of a woman who died from injuries suffered in a nursing home.

The case stems from a lawsuit filed on behalf of Martha Hary, who was admitted in 1994 to Horizon's Heritage Western Hills Nursing Home in Fort Worth.

According to court documents, she was forced to lie in her own waste for days, and suffered from malnutrition, septic shock and bed sores, including one so large it exposed her hip bone.

Her family discovered her injuries in August 1995 and moved her to a hospital. She was eventually transferred to another nursing home, where she died in 1996 at age 76.

Hary's estate sued Horizon, and a Tarrant County jury awarded the estate \$2.37 million plus prejudgment interest in actual damages and \$90 million in punitive damages.

But the trial judge, citing a state law that caps the amount of damages in cases involving health care providers, reduced actual damages to \$1.5 million.

Citing another state law, the judge reduced the punitive damages to \$9.48 million, or four times the amount of the actual damages before the cap was applied.

Horizon appealed, and with help from several groups, including the Texas Health Care Association and the Texas Medical Association, sought to eliminate the punitive damages under the state's Medical Liability and Insurance Improvement Act.

That law was passed in the 1970s to reduce the problem of availability and affordability of doctors' medical liability insurance. The law created a \$500,000 cap for actual damage awards that could be adjusted for inflation.

The Supreme Court, however, ruled 9-0 that the Legislature did not intend the law to apply to punitive damages.

Although Hary's lawyers hoped to get the original \$90 million judgment reinstated, they called Thursday's ruling a "tremendous victory" for nursing home patients.

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Skiff

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Part-time baby-sitter needed. Tuesday-Thursday 2-6 p.m. 1 1/2 year old. For more information please call (817) 738-6346 for more information.
Flexible Work Schedule. Family in west Fort Worth needs responsible college girl to pick up children at 3:00 p.m. from school near TCU, assist with homework, help with dinner, and do some light housekeeping. No weekends. Successful candidate will love children, have own car, be punctual and dependable, and exercise good judgment. Salary is open and will be commensurate with experience and willingness to take on additional duties. Fax resume to (817) 926-2568 and call (817) 926-4969.
St. Stephen Presbyterian Church (very close to TCU) is seeking child care givers for children, birth

through older elementary. Sunday mornings, some Sunday nights, Tuesday nights, some Wednesday nights, Thursday nights. Flexible self-scheduling, \$7 per hour. For more information call (817) 927-8411.
Wanted child care for great 6th grader. Need to be available before and after school. Parents work schedule varies. Guaranteed weekly salary. Must have car and enjoy kids! Call (817) 926-6888.

TEACHING

The Princeton Review wants instructors! If you have great SAT, GRE, LSAT, GMAT or MCAT scores, like money, and want to have more fun than you deserve, call (817) 735-8555 or email at info.ftworth@review.com

OFFICE WORK

Downtown Ft. Worth law firm looking for students to fill messenger positions. Mornings and 1 afternoon schedule available. Must have vehicle and good driving record. For more details, please contact Pat Alexander (817) 878-0500.
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HELP WANTED - PART-TIME - LOCATED NEAR TCU. Light office duties (filing and light typing - must be computer literate). Run errands- need dependable car. Flexible hours but prefer afternoons. 12:30/1:00 to 4:30/5:00 p.m. Hourly wage plus mileage.

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ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

Interested in coaching in the future? TCU Women's Basketball is looking for a manager. Includes travel with team and film work. If interested, call Coach Lonnette Hall at (817) 257-546
TCU Daily Skiff WEB EDITOR. Must have previous HTML experience. Call 257-7427.

CAMPAIGN

\$7-9 an hour. Walk for Congressman Martin Frost (D) Mon-Sat, 4:30-8 p.m. Contact Sondra Haltom (817) 277-8111 schaltom@aol.com. Paid for by Martin Frost Campaign.
Clean Water Action is hiring motivated people as campaign organizers to help protect the environment. Flexible hours, part-time available, \$8-10 per hour. Walking distance of TCU. Call Laurie 924-1981. Get paid to make a difference.

CAMPAIGN

Young, healthy non-smoking women needed for egg donation program. Excellent compensation for time. Call 540-1157.

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TCU does not encourage the consumption of alcohol. If you do consume alcohol you should do so responsibly, and you should never drive after drinking.

REAL SURVIVAL

Life more than a TV script

Wednesday evening, Richard Hatch was awarded \$1 million and a Pontiac Aztec after he was chosen as the winner in the CBS hit summer series "Survivor." The game show was an unabashed hit with viewers — at least one episode received Nielsen ratings higher than shows being televised on NBC, ABC and Fox combined.

The popularity of "Survivor" is a testament to the shameless need of the American public for entertainment. The "reality-based" television game show is anything but realistic when compared to the survival game 118 crew members of the Russian submarine Kursk faced as they struggled for nine days to conserve air, energy, food and water while they waited for a failed rescue.

There were no television crews, no contests, no alliances and no final words. There certainly wasn't the promise of a medical airlift should anything go wrong. There was only the fight against time and the hope of rescue.

Yet this real-life, in-your-face, man-vs.-nature drama didn't draw the undivided attention of the public like the staged, fully documented pop culture gimmick was able to. The 6 p.m. news doesn't seem to appeal to those who are obsessed with the "virtual reality" shows presented on television.

Circumstances are controlled on television shows, even those based on reality, and viewers know this. Compassion isn't necessary because some other power has already decided the outcome.

However, knowing, caring about and, most importantly, understanding the people and events presented in the news is essential to functioning in a global community. At the core of every news event is the opportunity to educate oneself — to grow as a human being.

News is the true reality-based show and the prize is much larger. If we win, we gain the ultimate understanding of ourselves and of the world around us.

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, Moudy 2915; mail it to TCU Box 298050; e-mail it to skiffletters@tcu.edu or fax it to 257-7133. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. The Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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Dana Summers/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Branch out for higher education

Racially dominant colleges lack real-world experience

If you attended the first pep rally of the school year, you might have noticed that the number of black students at TCU has been increasing over the years. The number of black students enrolling who are not athletes is becoming as common as the yearly construction.

Four years ago when I was trying to decide where to go to school, I wanted to go to a historically black college or university. I went to Xavier University in Louisiana for a summer program during high school and fell in love with the "black college experience."

During the 1960s, going to a black school was just the right thing for black students to do. It helped your "pro-black" image at that time. This was also around the same time when the first black students enrolled at TCU. However, if the black college experience was as "solid" as our elders claimed it to be, why did any of us choose Texas Christian University over Texas Southern University?

Any current student or alumnus of a black college will probably tell you that as an African-American, going to a black college teaches you about your history and gives you a sense of pride in your heritage.

The administration of Howard University in Washington, D.C., one of the largest black universities in the country, describes it as "the

largest community of African-American scholars in the world." They say, "Coming to Howard is about connecting with the life, the mind, the heart of a tradition, the soul of a people."

Black colleges, like most colleges, are known not only for tradition. Many historically black colleges, such as Florida A&M University and Southern University in Louisiana, are known for having some of the best marching bands in the country. And we can all think back to last semester when "Tampax was there" while Louisiana's Grambling State University's dance girls strutted their stuff for the Tampax ad.

Black colleges also have some of the best homecoming celebrations I've ever heard of and some of the most notable alumni of the African-American community. Debbie Allen of the 1980s sitcom "Fame" and her sister Phylicia Rashad who played Claire Huxtable on "The Cosby Show" are graduates of Howard and Lionel Richie of The Commodores attended Tuskegee University in Alabama.

Don't get me wrong. All of that is well and good. But when I'm sitting down for a job interview and my future employer asks me about my college education, I don't want the highlight to be a commercial for tampons.

I'm not taking anything away from historically black colleges and universities. My mother and father went to TSU and Dillard University in Louisiana, respectively. I will always love black colleges for the innumerable things they've done for African-Americans throughout history. Discrediting any black college is like discrediting my own heritage and myself.

Commentary



YONINA ROBINSON

But the "black college experience" just isn't cutting it these days. Any worthwhile college education should go far beyond the classroom and heritage. Today's workforce is made of more than black people. Today, as a matter of fact, African-Americans are only a small percentage of America's professional workforce. And because college is supposed to prepare me for the real world and my career, I want my college experience to also teach me how to work with and interact with cultures other than my own.

So why would I go to a college where I am the dominant race and don't have to challenge myself to branch out and work with people unlike myself, when these skills are needed in order to achieve a full college experience?

Unless a black person planned on working for Black Entertainment Television or Johnson Publishing Company — who publishes *Ebony* and *Jet Magazine* — the last time I checked very few big businesses are dominated by African-Americans. So what good would it do to learn to work with only African-Americans?

Like many of the alumni, I came to TCU so my collegiate education wouldn't be purely social. Sure, black colleges also have the best parties on either side of the Mississippi. But do like most of us have learned to do here at TCU. Go there, party and come back to TCU for your education.

Trust me. In a few years, you'll thank me. You're welcome.

Yonina Robinson is a senior broadcast journalism major from Mobile, Ala. She can be reached at (dovelove79@hotmail.com).



Dana Summers/SPECIAL TO THE SKIFF

Essay answers questions

Struggle with MS expressed through writing

Yesterday, I had a great deal of hope for her future. Then I clicked my e-mail button.

Tucked away in my mailbox was the most beautiful essay I have ever read. The author's mother sent me the e-mail in response to a question she couldn't give in person. I asked how her daughter was doing. She used her daughter's essay to answer.

As I read the essay, I realized that the author's very words are being stolen from her. Her words. They told of her love and passion. They talked of her suffering and the pain she sees her family going through. She talked of the thief who is stealing her ability to write.

She was talking about her battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

A battle in which she is determined to guard her spirit against the enemy who is slowly trying to take away her ability to speak and write her beautiful words for the world to hear and see.

She could be totally dejected — giving up. She is a writer — a brilliant writer — yet her craft is steadily being pulled away. I have read her work now and I see her talent. I see what is being taken from her. Yet she still fights back. With her love and determination to live she refuses to have her spirit caged.

I almost stopped reading the essay so I could get to class a little early. My high school journalism teacher sent me the e-mail, and like many of the other things she has sent me, I thought it was just another inspirational story she found on the Internet and wanted to share with me. Then I got to the bottom of the page. There I read the author's name. It was her daughter's name.

I wanted to cry. I did cry. I had been listening to my teacher, her mother, talk so lovingly

about her for over four years. When she told me about the disease that was attacking her daughter, I saw how much it hurt her. I know that she is consumed with pain because something is hurting this talented young girl, and she is helpless to stop it.

I have met her daughter a few times. They weren't in-depth interviews, but I could sense the incredible spirit she possessed. It makes me so sad to think that brightness might be stolen.

But then I read the essay again. And again. The vivaciousness I sensed in her when we met was still there — in those beautiful words.

Today, I have a great deal of hope for her future. Even if she could never write another word, she would still have them. In her head and heart. Her very soul is filled with them, and this disease will never be able to take that away from her.

Laura McFarland is a freshman journalism major from Houston. She can be reached at (L.d.mcfarland@student.tcu.edu).

Commentary



LAURA MCFARLAND

quote unquote

"The years from 18 to 22 are very crucial in a person's life. Angela was lucky I didn't kill her."

-Angie Ravaloli-Larkin, women's golf coach describing her early player-coach relationship with golfer Angela Stanford

"With every year that goes by, you get farther removed from the students. I don't want to see that happen. I'm going to be involved in the life of this campus."

-Ray Brown, dean of admissions on his new position

"Not even Pontius Pilate would wash his hands with this stuff."

-Daniel Bramlette, senior radio-TV-film major laments the hand soap in the Moudy Building

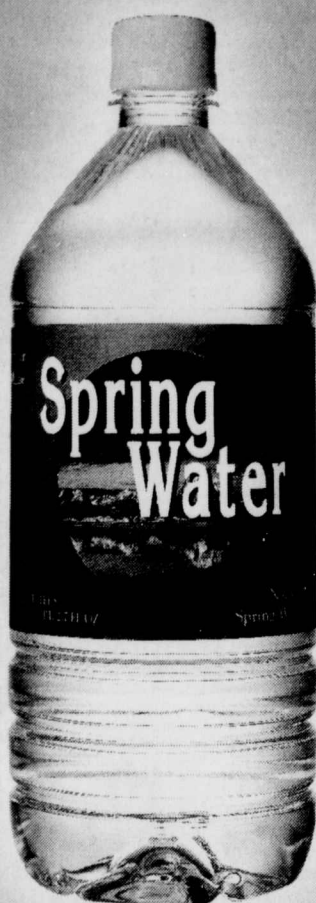
"The people at real risk are the children of Iraq who are dying everyday. It is easy to forget how good we have it."

-Mandy Mahan, junior religion major on the dangers of being arrested while protesting to raise awareness of U.N. sanctions against Iraq

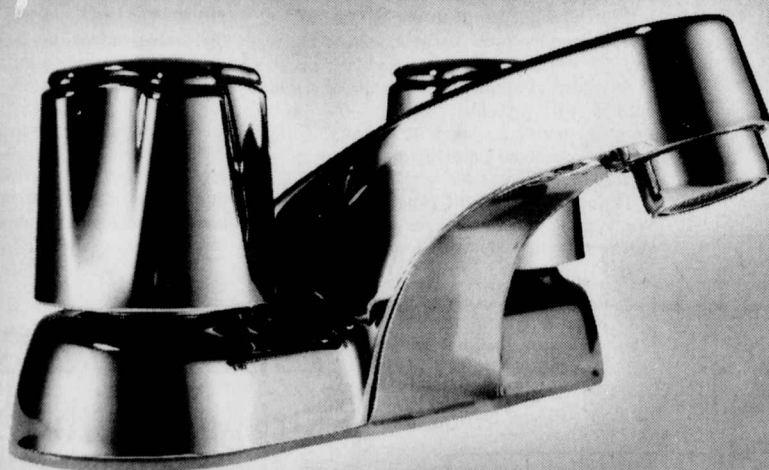
"Only the most elite academic institutions can be sorry in sports and still remain highly ranked academically."

-William Koehler, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs on the relationship between a university's image and athletic program

from the Skiff this week



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DINING

From Page 1

"to make things as convenient as possible" for students on and off campus, Rogers said. "And since we are not as busy as The Main, we can accommodate more students."

Some other new features at Worth Hills cafeteria include continental breakfasts served on weekday mornings for students on the go, and late-night hot meals Monday through Thursday from 10 p.m. to midnight.

"Within a month or so, I am hoping to be where we want to be," Rogers said. "And change is the key to getting us there."

Emily Ward

e.e.ward@student.tcu.edu

Refreshing changes

TCU Dining Services has made a number of changes to many on-campus dining facilities.

The Main

- Dessert display
- Show plates
- Bagel stop
- Action stations

Worth Hills

- Lounge area
- Game room
- Continental breakfasts
- Late-night hours

Mary Couts Burnett Library

- Starbucks coffee counter

Eden's Greens and Deco Deli

- More vegetarian meals

Jury awards woman \$11 million for crash injuries

By Melissa Nelson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITTLE ROCK — A jury Thursday awarded an aspiring opera singer \$11 million for injuries she suffered in last year's crash of an American Airlines jet in Little Rock.

Kristin Maddox had sued the Fort Worth based airline, saying damage to her voice box and hands ruined her dream of having a professional music career. She sought \$35 million; American suggested an award of \$3.6 million.

"This isn't over for the survivors for Flight 1420," Maddox said. "This will never be over. I live with it every night in my dreams. My personal relationship with Jesus

Christ is the only thing that will allow me to heal."

Maddox was traveling with a singing group from Ouachita Baptist University when the plane crashed June 1, 1999, while landing during a thunderstorm at Little Rock National Airport. Eleven people were killed and more than 80 were injured.

Neither Maddox nor American Airlines attorney Spence Fricke would say whether they would appeal the jury's decision to give Maddox \$11,015,000 after the four-day trial in U.S. District Court.

Maddox's lawsuit was the first to go to trial. Several others have been settled out of court and Fricke would not predict the effect of

Thursday's decision in other cases.

In testimony Thursday, an airline witness said that while Maddox had a good voice, she was probably not strong enough to become an opera star.

Maddox, 23, had a "light but lovely voice" that lacked the power and thrust needed to fill a large auditorium, said Dorothy Sawatski, a former opera singer, now a voice teacher at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

"She would have had to have much more training to sing at the Metropolitan Opera," Sawatski said, evaluating a video of one of Maddox's college performances that had been played for jurors earlier in the trial.

"She had a very, very fine voice

and came across well with the audience," Sawatski said. But she said performing well in college did not mean Maddox would have made it on the professional level.

"Professionalism is a tough, tough world," she said.

In closing arguments Thursday, Fricke said that while Maddox should be compensated for her injuries, the jury should be reasonable.

"A trial like this is not a lottery," he said.

Maddox's attorney, Bob Bodo, told jurors that no amount of money would make up for her pain and the loss of a career that could have rivaled opera stars Beverly Sills or Luciano Pavarotti's.

Russians grieve over military deaths

Family members mourn 118 victims in nuclear submarine explosion

By Angela Charlton
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW — Reeling from shock and heartbreak, relatives tossed flowers Thursday into the waves of the frigid, gray Barents Sea in tribute to 118 men killed when their nuclear submarine crumpled in an explosion and sank to the silt below.

While some family members still insisted they want the bodies retrieved before they will mourn, most boarded a Russian ship for the area near where the Kursk went down Aug. 12, as their anger over the tragedy that transfixed this nation turned into grief and resignation.

Wives, mothers and fathers with ashen faces huddled together and

looked over the deck railings. An Orthodox priest and Muslim cleric led prayers for the victims, then the relatives threw fresh flowers and wreaths, including one from President Vladimir Putin, into the sea. The boat circled the floating flowers before returning to shore.

The disaster has been a grueling ordeal for the families, many of whom found out about the sinking only from television reports, then endured days of a confused rescue operation, then only heard from Norwegian divers that their sons and husbands were dead.

Earlier Thursday, many relatives of the crew clustered to watch the laying of a foundation stone for a memorial to the Kursk in the town of

Vidyayevo, where the ship had been based. Two women fainted, and several people fell onto the grassy slope sobbing and kissing the earth.

"Farewell, my son!" one woman wailed.

Putin and the government came under heavy attack from Russians for the slow, contradictory reports on the disaster. In an unusually humble response for a Russian leader, Putin said on national television Wednesday night that he felt "responsible and guilty" for the tragedy.

Boris Vlasov, a former submarine officer who was on the relatives' boat Thursday, recalled how he accompanied his son Sergei to the Kursk when it left for the military exercises that

would take his life.

"He said, 'Dad, it's three days,'" Vlasov said on ORT television.

Vlasov said he was reluctant to throw flowers into the sea. "I don't want to throw a wreath. I am waiting" to see Sergei's body, he said.

Russia is negotiating with Norwegian and Dutch companies for help lifting the submarine and recovering the bodies. But such a project was not likely to begin at the site above the Arctic Circle until next spring, Russian officials say.

A spokesman for the Norwegian company cautioned Thursday that any attempt to raise the vessel must be weighed against the environmental risk of a potential radiation leak.

Israeli military denies divers' link to cancer

Inquiry to decide whether military put navy seals at risk

By Emma Blijdenstein
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEL AVIV, Israel — After each dive into the polluted Kishon River, Israeli navy seal Yuval Tamir spent nearly an hour scrubbing putrid grime from his skin.

Commanders brushed aside his health concerns and Tamir logged 1,100 hours in the dark waters during a 23-year career — until he was diagnosed with skin and colon cancer 18 months ago.

Forty divers in the 750-man elite unit have contracted cancer — and 16 have died — but the army so far has refused to acknowledge a link between the diving and the disease.

Now, an independent commission is trying to determine whether the military knowingly put the men at risk — and has raised troubling questions about the military's priorities.

While the army maintains it is cooperating with the inquiry, it has not addressed the question of exactly when it became aware of dangerous pollution levels. The army spokesman says training sessions stopped in 1990, and that since then, only crucial underwater missions have been carried out, the last one two months ago.

The elite units, including the seals, have always been considered one of Israel's key weapons against terrorism.

Veterans of commando units often make a smooth transition into high-ranking government jobs. Prime Minister Ehud Barak and his predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu, are both graduates of Sayeret Matkal, an infantry unit.

The Kishon River and the adjacent Haifa Bay are lined by chemical companies that have been pouring toxic waste into the water for decades.

While the Ministry of Environmental Protection pollution levels have dropped in recent years, the river is still considered a health hazard, with signs along its banks prohibiting swimming.

Yoram Aviram, a lawyer who represents the navy divers, said it has been widely known since 1956 that the Kishon was polluted. Nonetheless, it was the navy's preferred training area for many years.

Former diver Zvi Stern, 48, who served in the unit from 1970 to 1990, said he and his colleagues sometimes spoke of their fears.

"Every time I went into the water, my skin would burn, my eyes would be red and bulging," said Stern, who has undergone 20 skin cancer operations since 1998.

Stern said that when at one point he refused to dive, he was locked up at the base for two weeks. In another routine disciplinary measure, commanders would force divers to drink Kishon water from their flippers.

Tamir said his suspicions grew with every new report that a comrade had contracted cancer or died of the disease.

Texas parole rate climbing; political motivations questioned

By Natalie Gott
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — The state's parole rate climbed in July to its highest point in a single month since Gov. George W. Bush took office five years ago, but the chairman of the parole board says politics did not play a factor.

Nearly 29 percent of eligible convicts were approved for parole in July, new statistics show. A year ago, about 18 percent of eligible convicts were paroled and the rate has been climbing.

Parole Board Chairman Gerald Garrett said the increase is a result of policy changes that are starting to impact the parole rate.

However, Democratic Party chairwoman Molly Beth Malcolm said the

new figures show there are problems with how the prison system is run and the increased parole rate is politically motivated.

"When you cut through the bureaucratic explanations, it appears that the parole board has been holding people in prison longer than necessary at a high cost to the taxpayers or they are now releasing inmates early to minimize the budget shortfall," Malcolm said in a prepared statement.

Garrett dismissed Malcolm's explanation.

"She was miles off in her assessment in what's happening now and particularly why it is happening at this point of time," Garrett said.

Garrett said the parole rate has

been rising steadily and Malcolm's comments seem "to suggest that something like this current approval rating could happen overnight. We are talking about two years in the making to get where we are."

Bush spokesman Mike Jones said Malcolm's comments do not hold much weight.

"It's a very strange and convoluted argument at best, obviously not based on any actual facts," Jones said. "The facts are that the Texas crime rate, particularly violent crime rate, continues to fall."

Garrett said that when he was appointed chairman in July 1999, many people suggested that the parole approval rate would be kept "artificially low" because Bush

was campaigning for president.

"Some people just flat out said 'we know you are not going to release anyone on parole because of the election,'" Garrett said. "The rate has gradually increased for over a year now. It is amazing to me that someone would now come forward that would say that now that the rate has come up, it is politically motivated."

Garrett said the parole rate is increasing because of rehabilitation programs for inmates inside prisons; they are better prepared for life outside incarceration.

The increase also is based on an aging inmate population. Older inmates are not as likely to commit crimes when they are released, Garrett said.

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DEAN

From Page 1

lahoma and is a former dean of the OU College of Business Administration.

Steven Mann, an assistant professor of finance, said Lusch's personality traits will benefit the university.

"He will have high standards and is ambitious and will inspire others," Mann said. "His extreme intelligence is striking."

At the undergraduate level, Lusch will recommend to the undergraduate curriculum board to begin developing classes that involve experimental and activity-based learning in upper-division business courses.

"I really want the students to get beyond the book knowledge, which is really important, but also get them to do things," Lusch said. "Companies are going to hire people not only for what they know, but for what they can do. We would like an undergraduate to leave with a portfolio of things that they have done that shows the applied skills that they know."

Melissa DeLoach

m.d.delouch@student.tcu.edu

Investigation opens possibility of broader tire recall

By Nedra Pickler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The government is investigating the safety of Firestone tires beyond the 6.5 million that have been recalled, opening the possibility of a broader recall.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Thursday its investigation includes all 47 million ATX, ATX II and Wilderness brands.

New NHTSA Administrator Sue Bailey, who came on the job Monday, would not discuss specifics of the investigation but said, "If we feel there is a defect affecting safety, we will issue a recall."

Congress also is getting involved. House Commerce Committee Chairman Tom Bliley, R-Va., said Thursday that he will send four committee staffers to Dearborn, Mich., today to meet with Ford Motor Co. officials and review company documents related to the recall.

Government looking at safety of all Firestone tires

The kind of tires being recalled are standard equipment on the Ford Explorer and other light trucks made by the company.

Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., has scheduled a Sept. 6 hearing and plans to invite Ford and Bridgestone/Firestone officials to testify.

Bridgestone/Firestone has recalled all P235/75R15 ATX and ATX II tires as well as Wilderness AT tires in the same size made at a plant in Decatur, Ill. NHTSA is investigating 62 deaths and more than 100 injuries that could be linked to those tires, some of which have been reported to suddenly lose their tread.

The Center for Auto Safety filed a lawsuit to force the companies to broaden the recall beyond those 15-inch truck tires to all ATX, ATX II and Wilderness ATs still on the road.

On Thursday, a former tire expert

for Bridgestone/Firestone also called for a greater recall, saying that defects in Wilderness, ATX and ATX II tires have been known at the highest levels of company management since the 1970s.

"As long as those tires are being made and used, the potential for more deaths is real," said tire consultant Max Nonnamaker.

Bridgestone/Firestone spokeswoman Cynthia McCafferty said the 6.5 million tires recalled are enough.

"We believe that the scope of the recall is appropriate," McCafferty said. "We are still working very closely with NHTSA on this investigation. We still haven't determined that a problem exists with these tires, we've just determined that the problems are of higher instances than with other lines."

Ford executives held a news conference Thursday and said it was irresponsible to call for a wider recall when the companies are already

straining to meet demand. They also repeated their contention that all data point to the one recalled tire size as the source of the complaints.

Those calling for a broader recall "are causing people to be concerned about good tires," said Helen Petruskas, Ford's vice president of safety. "Every time that happens, it means some customer with bad tires who needs them replaced has to wait that much longer."

Petruskas and Tom Baughman, Ford's director of truck engineering for North America, said there was still no cause determined for the reports of tread separation. Baughman said finding a cause would be a "needle in a haystack" because the number of complaints — 2,030 — is small compared to the number of tires produced — 14 million.

Ford said as of Thursday afternoon, 861,874 tires had been replaced, 13.3 percent of the total

number recalled.

NHTSA is asking other automakers that use the Bridgestone/Firestone tires for information regarding their performance. The agency also sent a letter to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. asking for information about its tires to conduct a peer analysis. Ken Weinstein, NHTSA's associate administrator for safety assurance, stressed Goodyear is not under investigation.

Meanwhile, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported Thursday that former workers for Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. say shoddy quality control may have caused tire problems similar to those cited in the Firestone recall.

The ex-workers from the plant in Tupelo, Miss., testified earlier this year in lawsuits against Cooper. They said they used sharp tools to poke holes in tires to remove bubbles and that solvents were used to make old rubber easier to mold.

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Arts & Entertainment

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Page 7

movie

review

► Bring It On
Universal Pictures



Ever been behind the scenes of a cheerleading competition? Well, now is your chance. Director Peyton Reed takes a "Clueless" approach to "Bring it On," with valley-girl dialogue and snotty high-school characters. The San Diego Toros' cheerleading squad is facing a new year, a new captain, a possible sixth national championship and one injured cheerleader. As you might think, this championship is the No. 1 priority, considering that fans are prouder of the cheerleading squad than the football team. And this year, the competition is fiercer than usual.

Kirsten Dunst plays Torrance, the captain and lead role. This character is pretty much the same upbeat and innocent girl as her role in "Drop Dead Gorgeous," without the Minnesota accent. She manages to pull off a character that is lovable and not annoying.

Most cast members are newcomers, but you might recognize a few faces from recent teen flicks. Eliza Dushku, the new addition to the cheerleading squad, has been absent from the screen since her role in "True Lies." Jesse Bradford, from "Romeo and Juliet" and "Hackers," stars as Dunst's love interest.

The plot may seem overdone and only aimed at high-school audiences, but with silly dialogue and fierce competition scenes, the film is fun for people of any age.

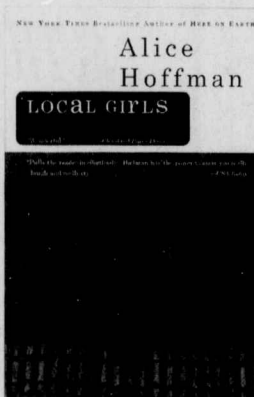
So if you want to see cute cheerleaders of either sex, short skirts, skimpy bathing suits and entertaining and rousing competitions, bring it on.

Rating: ★★★
Lindsay Williams

book

review

► Local Girls
By Alice Hoffman



Alice Hoffman's newest book, "Local Girls," is also one of her finest. The *New York Times* best-selling author of books such as "Here on Earth" and "Turtle Moon" uses the same personal sentiment found in all her works to tell the tale of the Long Island neighborhood of Franconia.

Weaving in Franconia and its small-town ways, the author introduces us to Gretel Samelson and her unusual family.

At the opening of the story, Gretel's mother, Frances, whisks the two of them away to Atlantic City to flee Gretel's adulterous father. However, Frances' cousin Margot, who is also her best friend, soon retrieves the two and drives them back home. The wise Margot tells Gretel, "When a marriage breaks up, it's the children who suffer, so baby, hold on tight," which are words that will ring true in her future.

As Gretel drifts through life, her humor remains high despite her parent's divorce and the downfall of her brother. She shares everything from her secret dreams to her first experience in love with the same zest and true human spirit throughout each moment.

Hoffman's story is addictive from the word go. This fiction is full of humor, drama and a healthy amount of sarcasm. As it details Gretel's life from the ages of 9 to 19, you feel as if Gretel is an old friend sharing her most intimate memories. Her story is incredible and, although chock full of forks in the road, proves to be enjoyable.

Reading "Local Girls" is like opening a diary and enjoying a guilty afternoon of secrets. The story's flowing style and thought-provoking events make it hard to resist — you'll be lucky if you can put it down. Although the book is female dominated, this is a must read for anyone who knows what it is like to pick up the pieces and heal.

Rating: ★★★
Christina Hager

Story by Victor Drabicky

BOUND FOR BROADWAY



ALUMNI-FOUNDED TROUPE PERFORMS ON CAMPUS



(Above) Kathleen Milne, artistic director of Amphibian Productions, and TCU graduate Jamie Wollrab talk over ideas for upcoming projects. (Left) Wollrab and junior theater and lighting design major Chad Jung discuss lighting options.

Special to the Skiff

In fall 1998, two TCU theater students barely had enough room to produce their studio show "Look Back in Anger" in the basement of Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium.

After two years and 13 shows together, the roommate team of Jamie Wollrab and Carman Lacivita performed their rendition of Lanford Wilson's "Burn This" under a \$45,000 lighting grid and sound system in the University Theatre last week.

Just one year after graduating from TCU, Wollrab and Lacivita have landed themselves atop the TCU alumni-founded

acting troupe, Amphibian Productions.

"(Amphibian Productions) is something I have been wanting to do ever since graduation," said Wollrab, the troupe's head of directing. "I was tired of all this Britney Spears and *Scream 3* fluff. People are hungry for something new and that is what we are giving them."

Lacivita said Amphibian Productions is more than just "fluff-free" acting.

"We are producing plays that we normally would not get the chance to do," Lacivita said. "We are in fact creating our own opportunity."

Lacivita and Wollrab are also creating

opportunities for many other TCU students.

In addition to the duo, alumni Lara Maerz and Kathleen Milne, senior David Petersen and junior theater and lighting design major Chad Jung are helping to run the troupe, and the entire crew for "Burn This" was comprised solely of TCU students.

Milne, artistic director, said she is lucky to be working with the group.

"It's a rarity that you get the opportunity to work with people you respect so much and you get along with so well," she said.

Wollrab said working with people like Milne is only one of the reasons the troupe is calling Fort Worth and TCU home.

"We can't make it on our own, and we have a lot of contacts here," Wollrab said. "The theater department allowed us to use their theater and has gone out of its way to help us out."

Lacivita said TCU's involvement in Amphibian Productions is another reason why it is important that the troupe consists primarily of TCU alumni and students.

"We see this as a chance to give back to TCU since it gave us so much when we were here," said Lacivita.

But Lacivita and Wollrab also see Amphibian Productions as a resource for future alumni and current TCU students.

"We are giving students a chance to meet with alumni and make some contacts," Wollrab said. "They can see what life is like after TCU theater and have contacts in a working theater troupe."

Lacivita said he thinks the troupe will have long-term effects on the TCU theater

department.

"The troupe allows the theater department to be seen and recognized as a department that gets people working in the industry," Lacivita said.

"People in the theater industry will get to see a product that was made almost entirely by TCU students."

Although Amphibian Productions has only existed one summer, Lacivita and Wollrab are already making plans for larger, longer-lasting productions.

Lacivita said he is looking forward to Amphibian Productions' next show.

"Hopefully, next year we can (work on a production) that lasts the entire summer rather than just a few weeks," he said. "After that, hopefully, Jamie and I will be able to turn Amphibian Productions into a career. I am looking forward to spending the rest of my life working with him."

"WE SEE THIS AS A CHANCE TO GIVE BACK TO TCU SINCE IT GAVE US SO MUCH WHEN WE WERE HERE."

-CARMAN LACIVITA

Victor Drabicky
vmdtcu@swbell.net



Special to the Skiff

TCU graduates Jennifer Faletto and Carman Lacivita work together on a scene for Amphibian Productions' rendition of "Burn This."

upcoming

events

► Today

► Performances of the musical, "The King and I," will be at 8 p.m. at Casa Manaña Theatre. Tickets are \$18 for students and can be purchased by calling the TicketMaster Arts Line at 467-ARTS or by calling the Casa Manaña box office at 332-2272 ext. 3.

► "Spy in a Mini-Skirt," a musical comedy, will be at 8 p.m. at Pocket Sandwich Theatre. Tickets cost \$10. For more information and reservations, call 214-821-1860.

► Hip Pocket Theatre will present "Waiting for Godot" at 9 p.m. at the Oak Acres Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call 246-9775.

► "The Dead President's Club," a comedy/fantasy, will be at 7:30 p.m. at Circle Theatre. Tickets are \$15-20.

► "Smokey Joe's Café," a musical revue, will be at 8 p.m. at the Music Hall at Fair Park, Dallas. Tickets cost \$9-55.

► Saturday

► Performances of the musical, "The King and I," will be at 2 and 8 p.m. at Casa Manaña Theatre. Tickets are \$18 for students and can be purchased by calling the TicketMaster Arts Line at 467-ARTS or by calling the Casa Manaña box office at 332-2272 ext. 3.

► "Spy in a Mini-Skirt," a musical comedy, will be at 8 p.m. at Pocket Sandwich Theatre. Tickets cost \$14. For more information and reservations, call 214-821-1860.

► Hip Pocket Theatre will present "Waiting for Godot" at 9 p.m. at the Oak Acres Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call 246-9775.

► "The Dead President's Club," a comedy/fantasy, will be at 4 and 8:30 p.m. at Circle Theatre. Tickets are \$15-20.

► "Smokey Joe's Café," a musical revue, will be at 2 and 8 p.m. at the Music Hall at Fair Park, Dallas. Tickets cost \$9-55.

► "Let's Just Say What We Got," presented by A Modern Dance Company, will be performed at 2 and 8 p.m. at the Addison Conference Theatre Centre.

► Sunday

► Performances of the musical, "The King and I," will be at 2 p.m. at Casa Manaña Theatre. Tickets are \$18 for students and can be purchased by calling the TicketMaster Arts Line at 467-ARTS or by calling the Casa Manaña box office at 332-2272 ext. 3.

► "Spy in a Mini-Skirt," a musical comedy, will be at 7 p.m. at Pocket Sandwich Theatre. Tickets cost \$8. For more information and reservations, call 214-821-1860.

► Hip Pocket Theatre will present "Waiting for Godot" at 9 p.m. at the Oak Acres Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call 246-9775.

► Auditions for "Forever Plaid" will be at 5 p.m. at Theatre Arlington. For more information, call 817-275-7661.

► "Smokey Joe's Café," a musical revue, will be at 2 and 8 p.m. at the Music Hall at Fair Park, Dallas. Tickets cost \$9-55.

TUCKER

From Page 1

room for future expansion, he said.

"The building will give us the room that we need to provide our students with a more conducive working environment," Rinewalt said. "There will be more work space, including more high-tech computers and better lighting available in the classrooms and lab facilities for students whose work requires a much higher degree of concentration."

Special features include two general access labs with late-night hours accessible to all students, McCracken said. High-tech classes with audio and visual equipment built in will also be an asset to the building, he said.

The department of engineering will also increase its laboratory

space from 4,000 to 14,000 square feet in the new facility, said Walt Williamson, chairman of the department of engineering.

"Currently, lab space is our single biggest constraint," Williamson said. "We can only handle so many students in our programs because of safety concerns. In the new building, we will be able to have the capacity to grow in enrollment and thus explore options not thought possible until now."

Robert Doran, chairman of the mathematics department, said he expected the departments to begin teaching joint classes.

"Although we are the least technical of the three disciplines, we welcome the opportunity to share and use the technology that will be available," he said.

—Walt Williamson,
Engineering
department chair

Melissa DeLoach
m.d.loach@student.tcu.edu

Man kills two children with pitchfork

By Brian Melley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MERCED, Calif. — A stranger broke into a farmhouse, terrorized five children who were home alone and stabbed two of them to death with a pitchfork before he was shot and killed by sheriff's deputies.

Three girls escaped through windows of the house during the attack Wednesday morning and ran across farm fields to a neighbor's home, where they called 911.

"It's such a shock," the children's father, John Carpenter, said Thursday. "You keep pinching yourself. I have to wake up."

Authorities said they knew of no connection between the family and the attacker, Jonathon David Bruce, 27. He was identified through fingerprint records from a 1999 arrest for being under the influence of methamphetamine and fighting with police.

The attack occurred while the children's parents were out of the house. Carpenter, 34, was at work at the time, and his wife, Tephania

Dad grateful for three who survived attack

Carpenter, 34, had taken her car in to have the brakes checked.

About 8 a.m., the oldest daughter, Jessica, 14, found a naked man in the living room, pulling his pants on. He had pushed furniture against the walls of the house to barricade himself and the children in.

Jessica said she ran to her room and locked herself in. She picked up the phone to call for help, but the line was dead.

She escaped through a window to a neighbor's house. No one was home, and when she returned to her house, Anna, 13, and sister Vanessa, 11, were fleeing, too.

Anna said the man had told her to lie down, then jabbed the pitchfork at her, cutting her hands when she tried to defend herself.

The youngest girl, Ashley, 9, had come in from another room and yelled, "Stop it!" When the attacker turned his attention to Ash-

ley, Anna and Vanessa ran down a hallway, pushing a bookshelf out of the way to get into a laundry room, where they locked themselves in.

The man came to the door and said, "Let me in, I'll be nice to you," Anna said. The girls fled through a window in the laundry room and went to a neighbor's house, where they called 911.

"They could hear Ashley screaming as they were running, and then she went quiet," the father said.

On her call to the 911 dispatcher, Jessica said: "There's somebody in my house who I don't know. (He's) stabbing my brother and sister with a pitchfork. You have to be careful, he's going to kill them."

When deputies arrived, they entered the house through a front window and saw the assailant coming at them with the pitchfork.

"He was pointing it at them and going right after them, he wouldn't stop," said Assistant Sheriff Henry Strength. "They were hollering at him to stop, but he wouldn't stop. Finally they had to shoot him."

Deputies fired 16 rounds at Bruce, Strength said. An initial series of shots knocked Bruce to the floor, but he began to get up again with the pitchfork, prompting the final blasts, Strength said.

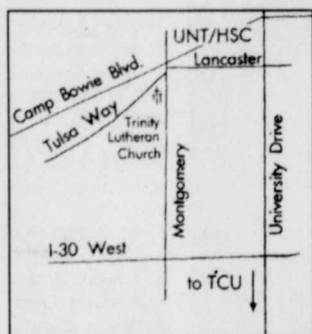
Ashley and 7-year-old John William Carpenter were found dead in their beds. The family doesn't plan to return to their home, John Carpenter said, though he said he was hanging on to something to be grateful for.

"I've got three daughters alive," he said. "There are people who have had it worse, come home to nothing."

"Somewhere there's a Mom and Dad feeling sorrowful like I am," he said, referring to the killer's parents. "I'd rather be on my end. Can you imagine having a son like that?"

Be Our Guest!

Come to a special luncheon for students
Sunday, August 27



9:15 Bible Class
10:30 Worship
11:45 Luncheon

Transportation will be provided
at 9:45 a.m. from the Student Center.

Trinity Lutheran Church
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2000 Retreat

Friday & Saturday
August 25TH & 26TH

Speaker:
Rev. Carolyn Bullard-Zerweck

Cost \$25.00
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and application in
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Sunday Worship begins at 10:55 a.m.
Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.
Dr. Donald R. Hogg, Pastor

Westminster Presbyterian Church
7001 Trail Lake Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76133
(on the corner of Trail Lake and Alamesa)
telephone 292-1155

<http://home.swbell.net/wpcfww>

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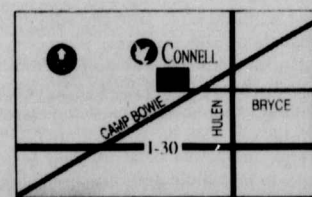
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pulse

sidelines

Stanford moves up two places at LPGA Qualifying Tournament

Angela Stanford jumped into a tie for 16th place after shooting a 73 yesterday at the LPGA Sectional Qualifying Tournament in Venice, Fla.

Stanford, the most decorated women's golfer in TCU history, has a 54-hole total of 220 strokes. She tees off for her round at 7:40 a.m. Saturday.

The top 70 finishers advance to the Final Qualifying Tournament in October at Daytona Beach, Fla.

WAC preview

The Skiff counts down the Western Athletic Conference football teams for the upcoming 2000 season. Our No. 1 pick will appear in the Sept. 7 football preview issue.

9 Nevada Wolf Pack

Location: Reno, Nev.
Enrollment: 12,500 (public)
Home field: Mackay Stadium (natural grass) 31,545

Player to Watch: Senior quarterback David Neill threw for 3,402 yards and 20 touchdowns last year. Nevada will need to score often to compensate for an inexperienced defense.

Fourth and Long: Nevada will make its WAC debut against TCU Sept. 9. First-year head coach Chris Tormey will return nine starters from a team that finished 3-8 while competing in the Big West Conference last year. While the WAC may not be the BigTen or the Southeastern Conference, the Wolf Pack will face stiffer competition this fall. After opening with potential blowout losses against Oregon (72-10 last year) and TCU, it might not be a season to remember for Nevada.

8 Tulsa Golden Hurricane

Location: Tulsa, Okla.
Enrollment: 4,300 (private)
Home field: Skelly Stadium (artificial turf), 40,385

Player to watch: Quarterback Josh Blankenship, 1999 WAC Freshman of the Year. With quality receivers returning, Tulsa will need to use Blankenship's right arm to set up a green running game.

Fourth and Long: First-year coach Keith Burns will have 16 starters from last season's 2-9 squad. Tulsa's defensive front seven, which returns all starters from last year, is still a year from dominating. However, this hurricane warning has been downgraded to a football depression. Best news in Fall 2000 for Tulsa fans: Men's basketball team begins practice in late October.

7 San Jose State Spartans

Location: San Jose, Calif.
Enrollment: 27,000 (public)
Home field: Spartan Stadium (natural grass), 30,456

Player to watch: Senior tailback Deonice Whitaker. A preseason candidate for the Doak Walker Award, Whitaker averaged 5.6 yards per carry last season and scored 10 touchdowns. He will receive more than 137 carries as San Jose tries to balance its offense.

Fourth and Long: San Jose loses quarterback Chris Kasteler (2,239 yards, 13 touchdowns), who keyed the Spartans' spread offense. They will now turn to junior Brennan Crooks, who threw only 28 passes last season. If Whitaker cannot take some pressure off Crooks, San Jose can expect little more than to match last season's 3-7 record.

to our readers

The Skiff sports staff wants to know how we are doing. We welcome your comments, suggestions, rants and raves. E-mail us at skiffletters@tcu.edu or drop by Moudy 291S. Selected letters will be printed on the sports page.

Thompson arrested Wednesday

TCU prospect allegedly stole weights

By Matt Stiver
SKIFF STAFF

Tyson Thompson, the jewel of TCU's 2000 football recruiting class, was arrested early Wednesday morning outside Irving High School for allegedly stealing approximately \$200 of weights from his alma mater.

He is currently being held in the Dallas County Jail on \$10,000 bond.

The arrest clouds Thompson's prospects for enrolling at TCU.

The former Irving standout didn't enroll in school this fall after failing to meet the minimum academic requirements mandated by the NCAA. As a result, Thompson lost both his scholarship and his access to all TCU facilities, including the Rickel Building and the Walsh Complex.



THOMPSON

Thompson was seen in his car outside of the high school at approximately 3:40 a.m., said David Tull, a spokesman for the Irving police department.

When a security guard approached Thompson's car, he drove away, Tull said. An Irving police lieutenant in the area noticed Thompson's car traveling at a "high-rate of speed" with the headlights turned off.

After Thompson was stopped for speeding, he was later placed under arrest when the officer found the weights in his car.

TCU head football coach Dennis Franchione and the high school's administrators refused to

comment on the arrest.

Officials with the Irving Independent School District said it was too soon to say whether charges would be filed against Thompson.

Tony Thetford, a spokesman for the school district, said the district has a history of working with students and parents for repayment of damages in cases of vandalism and theft.

"We like to avoid prosecution if at all possible," Thetford said. "There are times when things can be worked out."

Since Thompson is no longer enrolled at the high school, his case will be evaluated when fur-

ther information becomes available, Thetford said.

Following a senior season in which he rushed for over 2,933 yards and 32 touchdowns, Thompson was selected as a first-team All-American tailback by *USA Today* and *Parade Magazine*.

He committed to TCU early in September and signed a letter of intent on Feb. 2. After signing as a partial qualifier, Thompson was declared academically ineligible in August when he failed to attain sufficient standardized test scores.

Matt Stiver

m.r.stiver@student.tcu.edu

Women's soccer ready for opener

Team to face Houston, Baylor over weekend

By Victor Drabicky
SKIFF STAFF

As September approaches, the signs of the punishing summer heat can be seen in the dead grass, faded parking spot lines and the cracked concrete of the Main Campus parking lot. Thanks to the blistering summer sun, the TCU women's soccer team will begin their season in better shape than in recent years.

Senior defender Jackie Rodriguez said she feels the entire team has benefited from the heat. "We have a lot more speed," Rodriguez said. "We had a really strong spring season, and a lot of the girls have gained a step since last year."

Junior midfielder Jeanine Rodgers said she is ready to see how much the team has bettered in the off-season.

"We have had a million two-a-days, and I think everyone is just ready to play a real game and see how much we have improved," Rodgers said.

The women's soccer team plays its first game today at the University of Houston.

Rodriguez said the game against the Cougars will be a real test of the team's physical fitness.

"Last year we played Houston here, so we didn't have to deal with

Weekend lineup

The women's soccer teams kicks off the 2000 season this weekend starting tonight in Houston.

Who: TCU at University of Houston

What: Women's soccer season opener

When: 8 p.m.

Where: Houston

What: Women's soccer alumni game

When: 6:30 p.m. Saturday

Where: Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium

Who: TCU vs. Baylor University

What: Women's soccer home opener

When: 6 p.m. Sunday

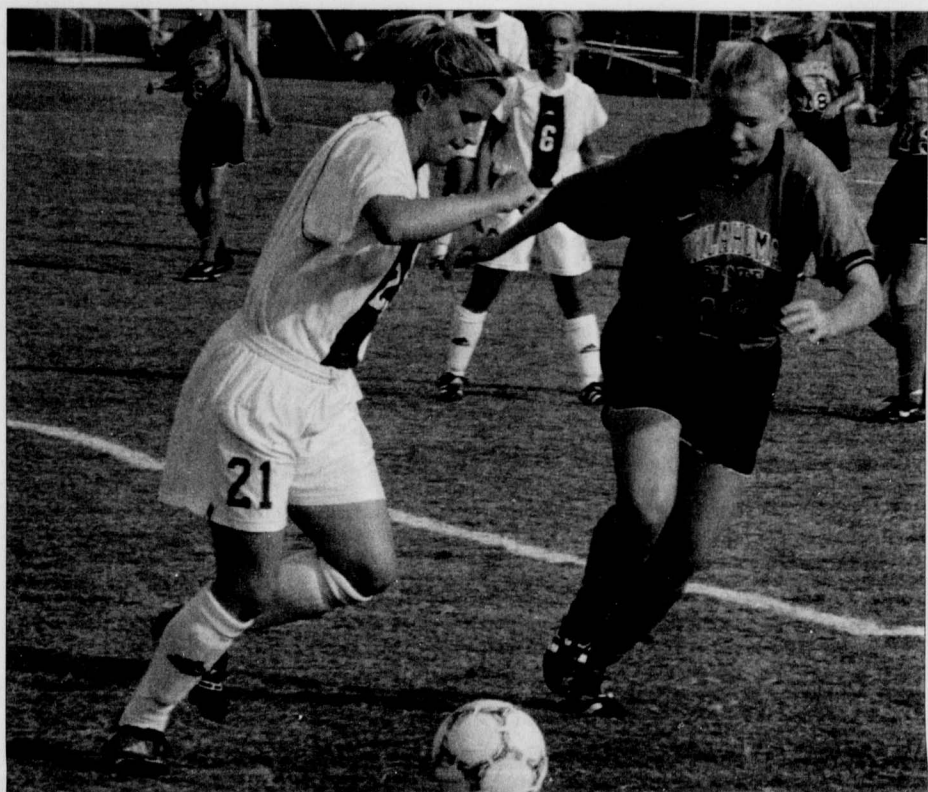
Where: Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium

the humidity as much," Rodriguez said. "This year the game is in Houston and fitness will be our key."

"We are in better shape and have picked up some really quick freshmen in the off-season, so we should be able to keep up with their quick outside players."

In the off-season, the Frogs' picked up five freshmen players, including midfielder Adrienne Jett, to add more speed to the lineup.

Jett said her transition into Division I soccer has been smooth.



Junior midfielder Jeanine Rogers battles an Oklahoma State defender for the ball in a game last season. The Lady Frogs open the 2000 season tonight at the University of Houston and play their first game in the new Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium against Baylor on Sunday.

"I have just been absorbing everything the coaches and players have been telling me," Jett said. "I'm ready to do whatever the team wants me to do."

In addition to the incoming freshmen, the Frogs will also regain Sherry Dick and Jennifer Maunder, who missed most of last season due to injuries.

Rodriguez said that Dick and Maunder's impacts will be felt immediately.

"Sherry will give us a lot of

strength up front and will fit in where Allison (Calleri) left off," Rodriguez said.

Before her injury last season, Dick and Calleri were tied as the team's leading goal scorers, with four goals each through eight games.

Rodriguez said the team's improvements will help them forget last year's disappointing finish at 9-11.

"We gained more speed, we have a better attitude and we communi-

cate a lot better," Rodriguez said. "It may take us a few minutes to settle into our new stadium, but I think we are all more than ready to start playing."

The women's soccer team will play in the annual Alumni Game on Saturday before hosting Baylor University at 6 p.m. Sunday in the newly renovated Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium.

Victor Drabicky

vmdtcu@swbell.net

Volley Frogs move into Daniel-Meyer Coliseum

By Jeff Barthel
SKIFF STAFF

After pioneering the TCU volleyball program five years ago, head volleyball coach Sandy Trout said this season will be even more special because it is the first time the team will play multiple games at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Last year, the Frogs played all but one of their matches in the Rickel Building, with one preview match at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum against Hawaii. Although TCU lost to the Western Athletic Conference champion Rainbows, the attendance at the match broke the school record.

This season, TCU will host five matches at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

"The move (to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum) will help us be better prepared to play in other big venues," Trout said. "We like to play for the big crowds."

Athletics Director Eric Hyman said there are advantages to playing in both facilities.

"Playing in the Rickel Building offers a huge

home team advantage," he said. "But there are limitations to how many people (could) fit in there."

Hyman said the program's increase in visibility on campus has made more games in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum necessary. The Rickel Building seats only 500 people, while Daniel-Meyer Coliseum has a capacity of 7,200 fans.

"The volleyball program has a tremendous opportunity to grow," Hyman said. "They're about ready to bust at the seams."

For the program to continue its current growth, the two seniors on the current roster, Amy Atamanchuk and Bethany Toce, must step up as leaders, Trout said.

"Atamanchuk is a consistent force for our team, as well as a good leader," Trout said. "She is a great kid, good student and a hard worker."

Trout said Atamanchuk and Toce will play a major role in the development of the freshman class.

"This is the most athletic group of freshmen we have ever had here at TCU," she said. "They worked really hard in the off-season and have gotten into great shape. Two freshmen, Tori Barlow and Courtney Beach, should see significant playing time and make an immediate impact on the team."

Jeff Barthel

j.barthel@student.tcu.edu

Quarterbacks battle for top spot

Texas coach not making any decisions on starting position

By Jim Vertuno
AP SPORTS WRITER

AUSTIN (AP) — Major Applewhite tells himself every day, "Don't press." No need to get anxious or frustrated by fumbles, dropped passes or receivers running bad routes.

In his battle with Chris Simms to be the starting quarterback for Texas, Applewhite is focusing on winning the job, not worrying about what could lose it. It was a lesson learned over the summer from Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning.

"You take advice from somebody like that and you practice it," Applewhite said. "It's easier said than done sometimes."

Like Wednesday night, when Texas held its first scrimmage of the preseason.

Simms worked exclusively with the first-team offense and guided four touchdown drives — including two scoring passes — against the second-team defense. Applewhite, the Big 12 offensive player of the year in 1999 and holder of 37 school records, worked solely with the second team offense. He fumbled the ball away on a bad exchange with a running back and never got his team into the end zone against the No. 1 defense.

Their passing statistics were similar. Simms went 5-of-9 for 64 yards and Applewhite was 7-of-12 for 97 yards.

"Chris might throw a great pass and you want to come back with

one, but you can't worry about that," Applewhite said.

"I thought they both performed extremely well," said offensive coordinator Greg Davis. "What we're doing right now is just playing. Major has a track record, and a good track record. We gave Chris more time (with the first team) because Major's already seen a lot of things."

"I don't know that you're going to see a huge separation between them," Davis said. "We've said all along we think we've got two good ones."

Even so, Texas can't start both players against Louisiana-Lafayette on Sept. 9. Although coach Mack Brown has said both could play, Davis says the Longhorns won't script plays in order to get both of them on the field.

"We don't want to paint ourselves into a corner," Davis said.

The quarterbacks duel has been the focus of preseason camp and the players and coaches are getting weary of questions about who will start.

"I'll be asked that after every practice from now on," Brown said after the scrimmage. "We've got people wanting me to declare a starter after the first day of pads."

We're not going to talk much about the situation. We're going to watch it, we're going to follow it."

A key measuring stick is Applewhite's recovery from a knee injury in last season's Cotton Bowl loss to Arkansas. Applewhite said the knee is fine.

"It feels great," he said. "It responded real well (in the scrimmage). It's back to 100 percent. I'm fully functional."

Going

against the No. 1 defense could aid his return, Applewhite said.

"The rush comes faster, the coverage is tighter, so it might be a blessing in disguise," he said. "It's only going to make me a better player."

The competition remains good-spirited. Applewhite high-fives Simms after good plays and Simms publicly dances around reporters' questions about who will start. The practice sessions are a welcome relief from the debate, Simms said.

"The greatest thing about coming out here is you don't pay attention to the thing you guys are trying to make up," he told reporters.

"We're trying not to talk about it," Simms said. "There's no reason to. You just go out and play football for now."

"I don't know that you're going to see a huge separation between them."

—Greg Davis, Offensive coordinator

today's menu Aug. 25, 2000

The Main Lunch

Mongolian Wok
Meat lasagna
Lemon dill cod fillet
Rotisserie chicken
Dinner
Carved London broil
Fried catfish
Barbecue brisket and ribs
Oven-browned pot roast

Worth Hills Lunch

Chicken stir fry
Cajun catfish
Dinner
Closed

Eden's Greens Lunch

Salmon Croquettes
Penne with tomato and
wine sauce
Green beans amandine
Garlic rice

Frogbytes

Same as The Main

Tomorrow at The Main:

Lunch: Deli bar, Waffle bar

Dinner: Meat loaf

All menus subject to change.

Lex



by Phil Flickinger

Academia Nuts



by John P. Araujo

Off the Mark

by Mark Parisi



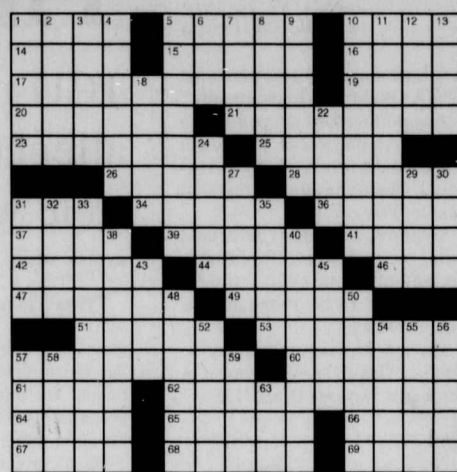
I Need Help

by Some Guy



Crossword

ACROSS
1 Float on the wind
5 Lots
10 Pronto letters
14 First name in mysteries
15 38th-parallel peninsula
16 Single-handedly
17 Temple tree
19 Cinch
20 One behind the other
21 "The Family Circus" cartoonist
23 Methods
25 Damp
26 Preserved for later
28 Surrender
31 Baby's seat?
34 Loos or Baker
36 Trial's locale
37 Idescent gem
39 Swindle
41 Gilbert of "Roseanne"
42 Tours topper
44 Baseball teams
46 Dine
47 Excitingly strange
49 Medicinal fluid
51 Cut-price
53 Brandy cocktail
57 "Apollo 13" star
60 Basic character
61 Colorado resort
62 Aerates
64 Alternative to etc.
65 "Peanuts" character
66 Dryer trappings
67 Have confidence
68 Appears
69 Theater backdrops
DOWN
1 Woven fabrics
2 Panoply
3 Custard tarts
4 Look after
5 Removing floating matter
6 Flatfoot
7 Saudi or Syrian, e.g.
8 Jeans material
9 Seafarer
10 Evaluates
11 Short musical compositions
12 Arkin or King
13 "Rape of the Lock" poet
18 Davis of "Beetlejuice"
22 Chicken dish
24 Descendant
27 Needle cases
29 Spiritual guide
30 Lowest high tide
31 Ear flap
32 Peak
33 Narrowly restricted in outlook
35 " of God"
38 Deadly
40 Spooky state
43 Amphitheater row



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8/25/00

Solutions

45 Neighbor of Egypt
48 Christmas songs
50 Electropositive elements
52 Sprite
54 Adorable one
55 we all?
56 Musical intervals
57 Always
58 Romantic occasion
59 "Auld Lang"
63 Plant secretion

Purple Poll

Q: Did you watch the final episode of "Survivor"?



A: Yes 52 No 48

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.

Welcome Parents!

Our journey as a church and as individuals is full of vision and hope.

The opportunities for service, growth, worship, fellowship
and support are abundant in our church.

Please join us this Sunday as we make the journey together.

Disciples Student Fellowship meets in the
College Lounge at UCC on Thursdays
at 5:15 p.m. for complimentary dinner.

Sunday Worship Services at 8:45 and 11 A.M.
Sunday School at 10 A.M.

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Senior Minister
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