



Decorating nursing homes for the holidays, organizing blood drives and baby-sitting the children of professors are just some of the service projects that Alpha Phi Omega members are dedicated to. Features, page 10

Wednesday, November 29, 2000

www.skiff.tcu.edu

Fort Worth, Texas

Gore's fight for presidency continues

By Ron Fournier
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Gore, his fight for the presidency spread across five courts, sought a speedy recount of Florida's contested ballots Tuesday to ensure "no question, no cloud" hangs over the nation's 43rd president. Republicans said the votes were counted, recounted and now "it's time to wrap this up."

"To stretch it out, as Vice President Gore is doing ... is really unprecedented and it's going to create some problems," GOP vice presidential nominee Dick Cheney said two days after Florida's top election official declared George W. Bush the winner.

GOP lawyers seek 'legal finality' to the election

The declaration triggered Gore's extraordinary election contest.

Three weeks after voters thought they had settled the 2000 presidential campaign, the political morass stretched to the U.S. Supreme Court. In legal papers supporting Bush's appeal of a state Supreme Court ruling extending hand recounts, GOP lawyers asked the nation's highest court Tuesday to bring "legal finality" to the election.

The case has the "potential to change the outcome of the presidential election in Florida, and thus the

nation," Bush lawyers wrote.

Gore's legal team argued in its high court brief that the issue "does not belong in federal court." They want the justices to back the Florida Supreme Court, a Democratic-leaning body that extended the deadline for recounts. U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments are set for Friday.

Fearing the public is growing impatient, Gore asked a Florida court to approve his plan to count 13,000 questionable ballots in two Democratic counties — a process he said would take seven days starting

Wednesday. The judge scheduled an emergency Tuesday evening hearing.

Gore's timetable allows for appeals by either candidate and a decisive ruling before Dec. 12, when state electors must be assigned.

"What is wrong with counting the votes?" Gore asked.

Bush's team quickly noted that the southern Florida ballots had already been tabulated by machine.

"He proposes yet another count and another deadline," Bush spokeswoman Karen Hughes said. "Common sense does not allow it."

Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a Bush partisan, certified the Texas governor's 537-vote victory Sunday. If the totals stand, Bush would be awarded the state's 25 electors, putting him a single vote over the 270 electoral votes required to win the presidency.

With their presidential dreams at stake, the fierce public relations campaign roared onward: Democrats scoured the courts for a quick legal victory to bolster Gore's sagging public opinion polls; Republicans tried to shut down the far-flung legal machi-

nations while Bush was still ahead.

An NBC poll showed the country divided. With a fraction of those polled having watched Gore's Monday night plea for patience, half said he should concede and half said he should fight. The country was equally split on who should be the next president.

Though Democratic leaders remained firmly in Gore's corner, there was talk that the election needed to be settled. "The time has come for this to come to a close," Rep. Bud Cramer, D-Ala., said in statement that mentioned neither Bush nor Gore. An aide, Grace Robinson, later

See GORE, Page 6

Xu finds Asia in Bolivia

Professor's research could expand after visit

By Angie Chang
STAFF REPORTER

Mike Xu, an assistant professor of Chinese studies, may include South America in his research on pre-Columbian contacts between China and Mesoamerica after visiting Bolivia.

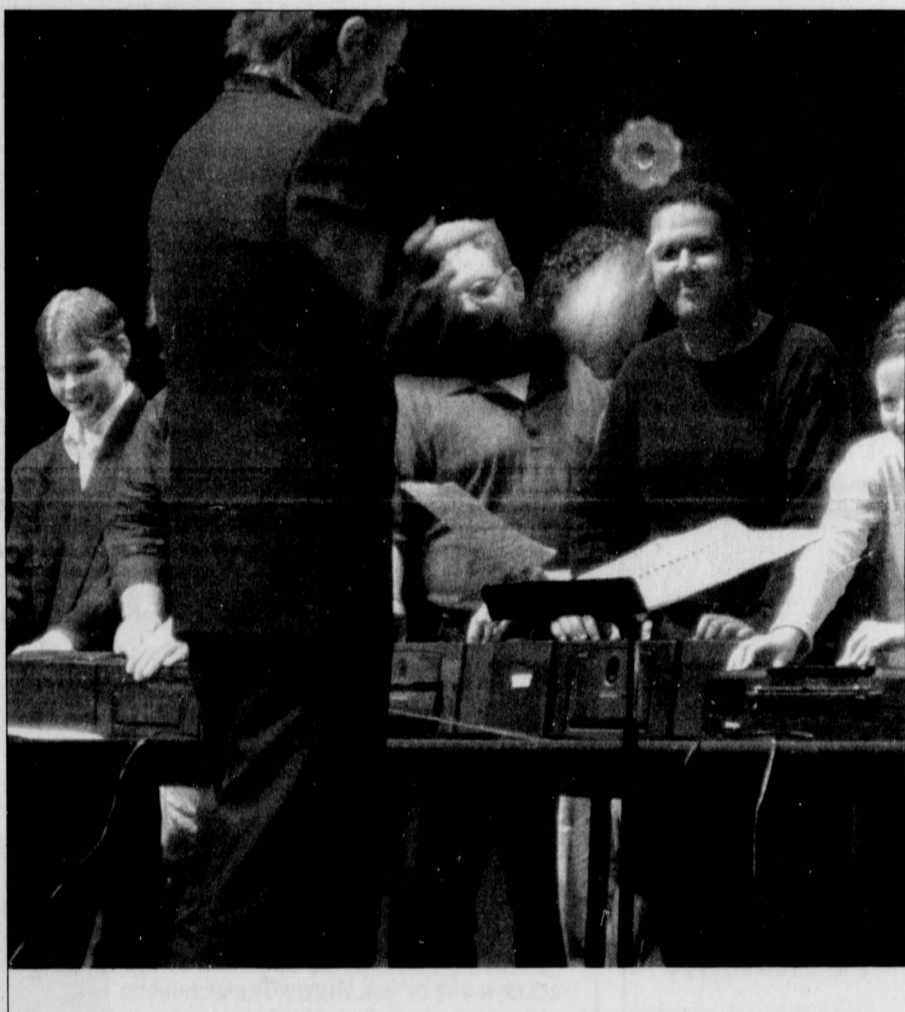
Xu was one of three American delegates attending the First International Conference on Pre-Columbian Trans-Oceanic Contacts two weeks ago. His research had focused extensively on Mesoamerica, a region extending from north central North America to Nicaragua. But after the trip to Bolivia, there was evidence that there has also been Asian influence in South America, Xu said.

Xu said Asian influence was evident as soon as he set foot in La Paz, Bolivia.

"When I landed in La Paz, it felt like I had landed in Lhasa (Tibet)," Xu said. "The colors of dresses, the language and dancing (had) a strong resemblance to those in Tibet. It felt like *déjà vu*."

Xu said the conference included a trip to an archaeological site in Tiwanaku, about 120 miles northwest

See XU, Page 4



Gerald Gabel, associate professor of music, conducts the TCU Extended Radios Ensemble during the Faculty Recital Series Monday night.

Brian Kriz/SKIFF STAFF

Nursing school cited twice for being outdated

Facility improvements made top recommendation by task force

By Elise Rambaud
STAFF REPORTER

The Harris School of Nursing has been cited twice this year for the outdated condition of its facilities. Inadequate classroom furniture, carpet worn to the rubber and antiquated research and teaching equipment were just a few things that a visitor from the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners pointed out.

Rhonda Keen-Payne, dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences, said she was embarrassed that a nursing school with such an outstanding reputation had to apologize for the condition of its building.

The College of Health and Human Science Task Force of the Commission on the Future of TCU has made the need for facility improvements a priority recommendation to the Board of Trustees. All of the task forces' prioritized recommendations will be integrated into the budget and are subject to approval from the board in March, said William Koehler, provost and vice-chancellor of academic affairs.

"When trying to attract graduate and

undergraduate students to your programs, your physical space is really your calling card; it can define who you are," Keen-Payne said. "If prospective students see equipment made in the 1970s, they may seek a university with more modern facilities."

All four departments in the college, nursing, kinesiology, social work and communication sciences and disorders, share the need for upgrades.

Keen-Payne asked all department chairs to take a detailed inventory of all equipment, documenting the age of the equipment and all repair and replacement costs. Implementing the most urgent improvements to the kinesiology department alone would cost at least \$500,000, Keen-Payne said.

Darryn Willoughby, assistant professor of kinesiology and task force member, said they can get by on the equipment they have, but learning on older equipment may be a hindrance to a students' technological competence upon graduation.

Simple improvements such as permanently mounted instructional

See SCHOOL, Page 4

TCU works to be a better neighbor to Fort Worth

By Justin Roche
SKIFF STAFF

Traditionally, a neighbor has been that person you feel comfortable borrowing a cup of flour from, someone to help you fix a flat tire or to have over for a barbecue. A person that you can count on and who can count on you.

TCU wants to be that neighbor, and the final report from the Commission on the Future of TCU recommends creating a Community Relations Office to become that neighbor to the Fort Worth area.

The office, developed by the Community and Strategic Alliances task force, would bring together all the university's efforts involving the community, serve as a contact for the community and help better utilize the university's resources toward projects with the community, said David Grebel, director of extended education and task force member.

"It's a place that would identify a need in the community and then have TCU address and help fulfill that need," he said. "It would not be a place that told people what they could and could not get involved in."

TCU the isolationist?

TCU has been highly involved in

the community, but there has been no organization of those efforts, resulting in ignorance on the part of the entire community as well as the university itself, said Robert Seal, university librarian and facilitator of the task force.

"We talked about people in the community not knowing what TCU was doing, but a lot of times there are people here at TCU who don't know," he said. "It is just different departments not promoting what they're doing, just doing it and doing it well."

Grebel said when the task force began addressing the issue of community involvement, members informed the group of ways departments and schools were involved, showing how disjointed the university was in its efforts. This led to the notion that the university needed a central place where interaction between TCU and the community could be localized.

Seal said some areas of need were TCU's relations with the Fort Worth Independent School District, minorities and the economic development of the immediate area around the university.

"We don't operate in isolation," Seal said. "We're important to the

community and they're important to us. It makes good sense to be a good neighbor and have good relations with the community."

Efforts such as tutoring and mentoring programs, workshops and speakers have all been done by different departments, but the lack of a central office has allowed only the people involved with the programs to know about them, Grebel said.

Fernando Costa, planning director of Fort Worth and member of the task force, said TCU and the city have a symbiotic relationship, where what one does affects the other.

"Mayor (Kenneth) Barr is fond of saying that a great university, such as what (Chancellor Michael) Ferrari is trying to build at TCU, and great cities go hand in hand," Costa said. "That's why it's important to take advantage of the university's resources and for TCU to keep interacting with the community."

Costa said TCU and Fort Worth could work together to achieve more than they might without each other.

Areas where TCU could make an impact on the community are numerous, Costa said. Contributing in areas of art, music and simply be-

See NEIGHBOR, Page 4

HOLIDAY LIGHTS BRIGHTEN NIGHT

Order of Omega's annual Christmas event to take place despite initial problems with insufficient funding

By Michael Davis
STAFF REPORTER

Order of Omega begins the holiday season with its annual Christmas tree lighting at 9:30 p.m. today outside Sadler Hall despite initial problems with insufficient funding for the event.

Ashley Nevin, a senior biology major and Order of Omega president, said the event was made possible by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Don Mills and Susan Adams, associate vice chancellor and dean of campus life, who allocated more than \$2,000 to help put Christmas lights on Sadler Hall. Order of Omega gave more than \$1,400 for the tree, refreshments and fliers.

The House of Student Representatives funded the event last year, but was not allowed to fund the same event for two consecutive years, Nevin said. She said Order of Omega didn't have enough money to cover all the costs.

"Other than the initial problem of funding the tree lighting, everything went really smoothly," Nevin said.

The tree lighting marks the end of the Bank One Spirit of Christmas campaign. The campaign seeks to grant needy children's Christmas

wishes. Students, faculty and staff who picked one of more than 600 Wish Cards can bring their wrapped gifts with the attached Wish Cards to the ceremony. Order of Omega has been working with Bank One since 1980 to provide presents to children who are less fortunate.

After the ceremony, people at the tree lighting will form a human chain to help load the gifts onto a truck. The gifts will then be taken to Bank One and distributed by Child Protective Services on Christmas, said Catherine Collins, a senior history major and vice president of programming for Order of Omega.

"The most amazing part of the night is seeing the over 600 gifts that people have brought," Collins said.

The Word of Truth Gospel Choir will perform from 9:10 p.m. until the event begins, Collins said. At 9:30 p.m. Chancellor Michael Ferrari and his wife Jan Ferrari will arrive in a horse-drawn carriage along with two retired TCU faculty, who will dress as Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

Ferrari will address the crowd and then turn on the lights of the 20-foot tree and those lights decorating Sadler Hall. Unlike last year, this

year the Focus Band from Christ Chapel Bible Church will lead the singing of Christmas carols.

"I think it is going to be much better than last year," Nevin said. "We are really organized this year, and we expect around 2,000 (people to participate)."

Last year more than 2,000 people attended the event, said Tom Sullivan, director of fraternity and sorority affairs.

Order of Omega seniors will read "Twas the Night Before Finals." The Junior Panhellenic, composed entirely of freshmen, will hand out awards for the Light the Campus competition. They will announce the winners of the best decorated residence hall, fraternity house and sorority house, Collins said.

Nevin who worked in last year's Holiday Tree Lighting said the event has gotten even better. Everyone in Order of Omega is involved in some capacity working on committees, she said.

"I'm very excited," Nevin said. "This is the second-longest running tradition on campus."

Michael Davis
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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.

► Programming Council Executive Board interviews will be held today to Saturday. For more information, call the PC office at (817) 257-5233.

► "Globalization and the U.S. Mexican Borderlands: From Alienation to Integration," a lecture by Oscar Martinez from the University of Arizona, will be at 7:30 p.m. today in Moudy Building North, Room 141. The lecture is sponsored by the history department with funding by the Texas Council for the Humanities. A reception will follow the lecture in the Faculty Center.

► Kino Monda International Film Series will present "Letters From the Park" (Spain/1988) at 8 p.m. today in Sid Richardson, Lecture Hall 1. All films in the series are free and open to the public.

► Order of Omega Holiday Tree Lighting will be at 9:30 p.m. today in front of Sadler Hall. The tree lighting will include carols, hot chocolate and an appearance by Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Presents for underprivileged children will be displayed under the tree.

► TCU Jazz presents the 25th annual Fall Jazz Concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium. Admission to the concert is free.

► Alpha Epsilon Delta will have its Christmas party at 6 p.m. Dec. 6. Maps to the party are provided in M-16 in the Sid Richardson Building. Bring a gift for a child and receive credit for a service project.

► Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteers and a coordinator to deliver meals from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays to homebound elderly and disabled in a community near campus. Training will be provided. For more information, call Bea Nealy at (817) 257-7830.

Correction: A music review in the Nov. 10 issue of the Skiff inadvertently identified Paul McCartney as Bill McCartney.

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news digest

WORLD

Bill approved by Dutch parliament will allow euthanasia, physician-assisted suicides

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The Dutch parliament approved a bill Tuesday to allow euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, which would make Holland the first country to formally legalize the practice.

The bill passed by a vote of 104-40. It still needs the approval of the Senate and is expected to enter into force next year.

Advocates say the law puts the Dutch in the vanguard of patient rights, while opponents say it will replace caring with killing.

"Doctors should not be treated as criminals," said Health Minister Els Borst, who drafted the bill. "This will create security for doctors and patients alike."

"Something as serious as ending one's life deserves openness," she told The Associated Press after the vote.

The legislation mandates strict criteria that require doctor and patient have a long-term relationship, making it unavailable to foreigners who want to travel to the Netherlands to end their lives, a government spokesman said.

"There is no possibility for foreigners to come here for euthanasia," said Wijnand Stevens of the Justice Ministry.

The bill adopts guidelines that parliament approved in 1993, establishing the Netherlands' semi-official tolerance of euthanasia. Under that policy it was understood that doctors who followed the guidelines would not be prosecuted, though euthanasia remained a crime punishable by up to 12 years in prison.

Under the guidelines, a patient must be undergoing irremediable and unbearable suffering, be aware of all other medical options and have sought a second professional opinion. The request must be made voluntarily, persistently and independently while the patient is of sound mind. Doctors are not supposed to suggest it as an option.

The new law also allows patients to leave a written request for euthanasia, giving doctors the right to use their own discretion when patients become too physically or mentally ill to decide for themselves.

No other country has attempted to legalize euthanasia, health officials and legal experts said, though it is tolerated in Switzerland, Colombia and Belgium. Australia's Northern Territory approved euthanasia in September 1996, but the federal Parliament revoked the law in March 1997.

In Oregon, voters approved doctor-assisted suicide for the terminally ill in 1994. Since the law took effect in 1997, 43 people have died in Oregon in assisted suicides. The House of Representatives passed a bill in October that would restrict the practice, but President Clin-

ton has threatened to veto the bill.

Euthanasia remains illegal in the United States. In doctor-assisted suicides, the patient administers a lethal dose to him- or herself. Under the new Dutch law, a doctor can also do so directly.

NATION

Report concludes Former CIA Director John Deutch violated security precautions

WASHINGTON — Former CIA Director John Deutch failed to follow "the most basic security precautions" by storing classified information on unsecured computers, the Defense Department's inspector general said Tuesday in the final version of a report on Deutch's security lapses.

The report, virtually identical to a draft copy quoted by The Associated Press in September, said Deutch's conduct was "particularly egregious" because he rejected Pentagon requests that security systems be installed on computers he used at his residence.

While the report completes the inspector general's investigation, it represents only half the inquiry of Deutch that Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered in February. Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said he hoped the other half, an assessment of damage Deutch might have caused, would be completed by year's end.

"We'll wait and see what the damage assessment says," he told reporters. "It's a little hard to determine what we do next until we have the complete review."

Before he served as director of central intelligence from May 10, 1995, through Dec. 16, 1996, Deutch was a top Pentagon official, eventually appointed as deputy secretary of defense. He has apologized for his actions.

STATE

Citizens, officials begin evaluation of Houston Fire Dept. policies, community interaction

HOUSTON — The Houston Fire Department, plagued by accusations of mismanagement and inadequate handling of emergencies, is trying its best to correct the problems it has, its interim fire chief says.

A 17-member committee of citizens and officials has begun evaluating department policies and its interaction with the community. The committee is expected to work for the next six months and present its final report on the nation's third-largest fire department in May.

However, Steve Williams, president of the Houston Professional Firefighters Association, said hiring more personnel and putting more ambulances on the streets is preferable to further study by the committee, which met for the first time on Monday.

stories from the Associated Press

"No one can afford their fire department to go off the side of a cliff," Interim Fire Chief Christopher Connealy said. "We will address these problems."

Connealy took over the department when former Fire Chief Lester Tyra resigned Oct. 12 after an outside audit cited staffing deficiencies and "serious issues of managerial leadership" within the department. Mayor Lee Brown is expected to name a permanent replacement early next year.

The audit also pointed out a number of areas of concern, including mediocre response times by paramedics, staffing shortages and conflicts among top management and between management and the rank-and-file.

The union believes that for the paramedics' unit to become more effective, an ambulance is needed at each of Houston's 80 fire stations, instead of the 62 now scattered across the city, Williams said. Also, about 800 more firefighters and paramedics need to be hired to join the 3,500 department employees currently on staff.

Connealy, who is a candidate for the permanent chief's job, said the fire department's expected accreditation early next year by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International is a sign the department is working well.

Accident involving tractor-trailer rig and a car results in 27-year-old woman's death

DALLAS — A tractor-trailer rig loaded with military ammunition slammed into a car early Tuesday on Interstate 20, killing the smaller vehicle's driver, but law officers said the munitions shipment was mostly intact.

Wreckage and debris blocked both sides of the freeway and authorities diverted rush-hour traffic away from the area as an Army bomb squad from Central Texas arrived.

The tractor-trailer rig loaded with about 9,000 pounds of ammunition, including two tons of parachute flares, was en route from McAlester, Okla., to Fort Hood when it collided with a car at about 2 a.m. in I-20's eastbound lanes near the Interstate 45 intersection in southern Dallas County.

The car's driver, a 27-year-old woman, had crossed the center median before the impact, said Jim Badgett of the Dallas County fire marshal's office.

The vehicle's driver was killed, said Dallas Fire Department spokeswoman Annette Ponce. But she said the driver of the truck was not believed to have been seriously injured.

The truck's load also contained demolition charges, Badgett said.

Hugh Pilgrim, a security dispatcher at the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, confirmed that an accident had been reported but offered no immediate details and said none would be available until later Tuesday morning.

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REPRIORITIZING Renovations to facilities needed

It is where they teach the importance of sanitation and cleanliness to promote health and wellness. It is the building where they teach the newest findings in technology.

Yet it is in this same building that threadbare carpet mars the floors and archaic research and teaching equipment have become commonplace.

The College of Health and Human Sciences Task Force of the Commission of the Future of TCU has made the need for facility improvements a priority recommendation to the Board of Trustees. This comes after the Harris School of Nursing was cited twice in one year by the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners for the outdated condition of its facilities.

But the College of Health and Human Sciences is not alone. Last month, Mike McCracken, dean of the College of Science and Engineering, reported poor classroom and laboratory conditions resulting from outdated equipment, some over 30 years old.

In October, Chancellor Michael Ferrari announced \$30 million will go toward renovations and upgrades of classrooms, laboratories and equipment in each of the TCU colleges.

The recommendation came two months after the new John Justin Athletic Center, Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium, Maria and Robert Lowden Track and Field opened this summer. Each is a state-of-the-art facility.

Renovations to academic facilities is a priority — now. But where were TCU's priorities before?

Don't ask a professor of chemistry who still uses Bunsen burners instead of electric hot plates. Don't even think of asking members of the biology department that are using 30-year-old equipment sterilizers.

They won't be able to tell you.

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.

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A Holiday Season Like No Other...



Create long-lasting memories

Families should spend holidays together, not at the movies

As is common for many on that certain date in November, I gathered with my family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving Thursday. I always love the holidays — the happy bustle, the reunion of loved ones, the random trips to McDonald's ... wait a minute, what was that last one there?

Yes, I was surprised too when I discovered it, but apparently people do go to McDonald's even on a holiday.

My sister went the evening after our overwhelming lunch and did inform me that the fast-food chains were open. Later that night, I found that certain cafés, car dealerships, restaurants and stores keep employees working on Thanksgiving Day for the satisfaction of customers and the continuance of income. Why miss a day of trade for the quaint observation of a holiday?

I understand that we live in a capitalistic society, and I think capitalism truly is an effective economic system. But do we take things a level too far? I believe it is possible that we do at times, and

the holiday activity of some businesses proves it.

Undeniably, there are certain companies and organizations that must remain open: police stations, fire departments, soup kitchens and gas stations — places that are necessary for public safety or feeding those in need. Yet I think it is silly and almost selfish for the wealthy owners of a car dealership to have its offices open and all salesmen present with the thought that one sale will make the whole day worth it. Don't all people, not only the top officials, have the right to take the day off and spend it with their families?

However, I cannot place the blame on employers and company holders alone; regular people like you and me must take responsibility as well. Employers would not leave stores open for business if they truly believed no one would utilize them. On this matter I am as much to blame as anyone. On Thanksgiving night I went out with old high school friends for coffee when I could have just as easily met them at my house and fixed drinks for us there.

This holiday I began to wonder if the time for simply staying in and enjoying loved ones has ended. Perhaps in this day and age, we must always be actively doing and pursuing

some end, and to do this we must have access to businesses. Instead of gathering around in a living room to catch up or share old stories with our loved ones, we must instead go make use of holiday sales or go to movies for "quality family time."

How often do we actually get the chance to slow down for a few minutes, share a meal with our families and enjoy everyone else's company? Can't we go to movies on regular days? I would think that we would all jump at the chance to take advantage of breaking the fast-paced monotony of our everyday lives for the opportunity of doing something different.

With Thanksgiving gone and Christmas coming up around the corner, these things keep coming into my mind. While I know that I cannot give a day off to those required to work the holidays, I at least know that I can be in charge of my own actions and choose to spend them in a way that will create lasting memories and make differences in the lives of relatives.

This time, I won't be at a café away from home.

Commentary



MIRANDA NESLER

Miranda Nesler is a freshman English major from Houston. She can be reached at (m.g.nesler@student.tcu.edu).

Thoughts on Gore and more Put an end to election, shorten finals week

Enough is enough! As a political moderate, with my deepest apologies to Texas, I voted for Vice President Al Gore; however, the vote has been recounted twice and has now been officially certified.

I'm sorry Gore, but it's time to concede and move on with your life. I didn't have a problem with the democratic process running its course, but now that it has, it's time to give up the legal battles and let George W. Bush, the president-elect, prepare to take office.

Palm Beach County is a lost cause, and I'm starting to think they should have their citizenship revoked. In fact, I think all of Florida should have their voting rights rescinded. While I'm on a roll, we might as well just give Florida to Mexico, it would save us a lot of trouble. I'm now convinced that all Florida is good for is college football and Spring Break.

Let's just hope Florida Gov. Jeb Bush never runs for president. For one thing, I think two Bushes is more than enough. We've seen how Jeb Bush runs just one state, much less a country.

How'd he become governor of Florida anyway? After all, I'm pretty sure the man isn't from the state. I guess the Bushes have more in common with Hillary and the rest of the Clinton clan than they'd like to let us believe.

Anyway, I've said all that I think I can stomach on the subject of politics. I just hope we do away with the Electoral College and develop a universal and Floridian-proof ballot that will save us a lot of time in the future.

Now let's move on to more interesting and trivial matters.

In the wonderful city of New York, I read of a joyous little story about a 350-pound woman who attempted to suffocate her 12-year-old daughter by lying on top of her. Since the girl is in stable condition, I don't feel guilty about laughing out loud about this one.

I've heard many interesting and creative ways of murdering people before, but simply lying on top of someone is new to me. The first thing that passes through my mind is what could this woman have possibly been thinking when she not only decided to try and kill her daughter, but to do so through what can only be considered one of the most torturous methods of dying.

I think I'd rather be slowly tortured in some sort of military prison camp than have an obese woman crush me to death. I honestly don't believe it could get much more inhumane.

I wonder what was going through this deranged woman's mind. "Gee, I want to get rid of my daughter, but putting her in a foster home would be too kind. Let's see, if I'm going to kill her, should I poison her or strangle her or hire someone else? Well, I'm kind of tired from all that turkey, so I'll just lie on top of her and take a quick power nap."

Well I guess it seems pretty logical after all. And now meandering into yet another totally random topic, I'm going to ramble about TCU's use of study days on Dec. 7 and 8.

The TCU administration is perfectly aware that no one actually studies during these two days, and I'm pretty confident that the majority of the campus would rather get finals over with quickly so we can start our Winter Break sooner.

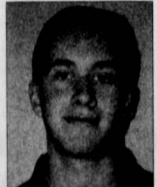
We should find a way to cut three days off the semester and start finals on Dec. 4. This way we can all go home a week earlier like most other schools.

I think this seems simple enough. Also, during finals week I have two days off and a final on Friday. Adding these two, I have four totally empty days in which I could have gone home sooner. And this is true for many other students too. Virtually all of whom have at least one empty day during finals week never actually accomplish anything when they tell themselves they are going to study.

I know this isn't just me, so let's try and do something about it.

Jordan Blum is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from New Orleans. He can be reached at (j.d.blum@student.tcu.edu).

Commentary



JORDAN BLUM

Reindeer find success Santa's team has made leaps to get to its position

You know Dasher and Dancer, Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid and Donder and Blitzen. And you may, of course, recall the most famous reindeer of all: Rudolph.

What you may not know about is the internal politics and power mongering that goes on in the selection of the reindeer that pull Santa's sleigh. Each of the above reindeer has their story of heartbreak and tragedy on their way to the big time.

Dasher came from a poor, tough reindeer neighborhood guided only by a dream and the support of his mother to make it to Santa's team. Comet overcame disastrous Internet investments and Donder overcame bouts with depression and alcohol to earn the right to pull Santa's sleigh. Cupid is still fighting old girlfriends who claim he is the father of their respective children.

Blitzen sports body piercings and branding marks (reindeer versions of tattoos) and has the reputation of arrogance and showmanship, but few know of his charitable deeds and donations in the off-season. He seems to prefer it this way. He wants to keep his reputation because of the potential financial windfall that being the "bad boy of the reindeer gang" can bring.

Dancer and Prancer had long endured the homophobia of others in Santa's polar community before banding together with "alternate lifestyle" elves to form the Association of Northern Gay and Lesbian Elves and Reindeer (ANGLER), which has provided them a sense of belonging in the cold environment that they live in.

And the rest, as they say, is history.

Vixen, the only female of the team, is a single mother of two bucks and a doe. Hers is the story of the struggles of single motherhood and her efforts to provide for her children despite the lack of help, financial and otherwise, from the children's father.

Rudolph's story is well known. Born with the birth defect of a luminous snout, he was long the brunt of jokes and cruelty because of it. Shunned by his peers, he was made a pariah of the reindeer community. Such were the ways of those unenlightened times.

Rudolph persevered only because of his dream of one day pulling Santa's sleigh. Every Christmas Eve, Rudolph would watch as the reindeer took flight and went off into the distance in the cool night. Then one night, fate looked Rudolph's way.

One Christmas Eve, a vicious snowstorm blew across the North Pole. Santa was about to cancel his traditional run until he noticed in the distance Rudolph's nose. How it gleamed, even through all the winds, snow and turmoil. Santa took this as a sign, and he had Rudolph brought to him and latched not just to the team, but in front of it.

The selection of Rudolph, one might assume, helped the other reindeer see the errors of their ways. This assumption is based upon the closing lyric of the famous carol based on Rudolph's story: "And all of the other reindeer /shouted out with glee / Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer / You'll go down in history!" What the carol doesn't tell is of the shameless brown-nosing behavior of the other reindeer.

John P. Araujo is a Master of Liberal Arts major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at (j.araujo@tcu.edu).

The very reindeer that, at first, had called him names and discriminated against him because of his physical uniqueness, now praised him and tried to bask in his glory. This, though, may actually be indicative of Santa's power over the reindeer community.

Is Santa a jolly old elf or is he a reindeer power broker? Reindeer lives and careers have been made and broken based on his decisions, but the question of whether this is done intentionally by Santa or if it is an unavoidable consequence of being limited to just nine reindeer is not easy to answer.

In any case, let us be happy for Rudolph and his newfound success. Perhaps hiring a reindeer with a physical uniqueness can be seen as a positive sign of our changing times. And let us hope that Santa's tradition of delivering toys to good little girls and boys never dies.

Here's to the children of the world. May their futures always be promising and bright.

John P. Araujo is a Master of Liberal Arts major from Fort Worth. He can be reached at (j.araujo@tcu.edu).

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NEIGHBOR

From Page 1

ing available as a community resource would do much to enhance the university's relationship with the city, he said.

Community involvement

Bob Bolen, senior adviser to the chancellor and former mayor of Fort Worth, said there is a lack of communication within the university.

"I'll get stuff in here that I didn't realize was happening until it's over," Bolen said.

A person who served as a TCU liaison to the community would improve the situation, said Nancy Styles, administrative assistant to Larry Lauer, vice chancellor of marketing and communication.

"Right now there's not a targeted person that the community and TCU can communicate with to get ideas flowing," said Styles. "We need somebody who would fulfill that role. They could turn five or six steps into one."

William Ryan, associate professor of communication sciences and disorders, said an office dealing specifically with community relations would get everyone on the same page about TCU's involvement.

The concept of an office that coordinates the efforts of a university makes a lot of sense, said Rebecca Bergstresser, director of community involvement at Southern Methodist University, which deals mostly with volunteer efforts of students, faculty and staff.

"I think that idea would be excellent because it's one way for everyone in the university to have a common point of access. That way you wouldn't have to go through a lot of trouble getting something together if someone's already done it," she said.

Avoiding duplication is just one of the benefits of such an office, said Bergstresser. Being able to use the university's resources to better serve the community would be a help to any institution, she said.

"There is no such entity at SMU that someone could approach that would direct them to other entities. We've suggested it in the past, but it hasn't happened yet," she said.

Who would run the office?

The reasons for such opposition is due to the current method of community involvement, Bergstresser said. SMU, much like TCU, has multiple departments working on different projects competing for funding, unaware of what the other is doing. She said control is why it works this way.

"It boils down to turf issues," she said. "And the concern is, 'If it's not in our department, will it meet the needs of our department?'"

"I think everybody fears someone saying, 'No, this is what we're going to do.' They want to maintain control of the department's efforts. I'm sure there's a way to do things in an efficient way and still give people their authority."

Taking over all the efforts is not what the TCU office would be about, said Ryan.

"This office would not function independently from other already existing programs. It would work with them, not take them over," he said.

The placement of the office will be determined by the chancellor and the vice chancellors, but Ryan said it needs to be high in the system to be effective.

The written recommendation for the Community Relations Office stated the office would not only connect the community with TCU and help in joint efforts, but would also assist in starting some programs.

Grebel said he sees this as a nurturing aspect of the office, a place not unlike an incubator where programs would have help getting started until they were able to thrive on their own.

Seal said having the office under Lauer would allow its efforts to be publicized, but answering to Ferrari would display the importance of community to TCU.

"If you put it at a lower level under a lot of administrative stacking, you defeat the whole purpose," he said.

How effective the office would be depends on how much power it is given, Bolen said.

"I think it will make a huge difference if it's given the authority," he said. "One of the things I always say is 'You never give someone the responsibility to do something without the authority to do it.'"

Funding for the office

Funding for the office would be determined on where it falls in the administrative structure, Grebel said. The recommendation was for it to report to either Lauer or directly to Ferrari.

Seal said funding issues such seed money and salaries would also be determined by the chancellor's cabinet.

"We were told we didn't have to be specific in terms of money," he said. "We just came up with the concept. Ultimately it's up to Ferrari to see if he wants to do it and how he wants to do it."

Ryan said the office would cost the university a minimal amount of money but would help TCU gain standing in the community, visibility and support.

Grebel and Seal both said they knew of no other colleges that had such an office, but that it will be researched before implementation. If such a model can be found, it will seriously be considered.

Another facet of the office would be the development of a Community Relations Advisory Board, a group of appointed people from the community that would provide an outside perspective for Ferrari and the university, Seal said.

"It would be a chance to get direct feedback from the community and have the top man hear it," he said.

However, Seal said the formation of such an office isn't the end-all answer to improving TCU's relations with the community.

"It's not just getting the word out. It's coordinating what we're doing and doing more," he said. "There's always room for improvement."

Costa said the community is taking notice of TCU's efforts to become more involved and coordinated in their outreach efforts.

"We've heard many people say that TCU is taking important steps to overcome some previous perceptions on and off campus that the university was inwardly oriented," Costa said. "The willingness of the administration to do this is impressive."

Justin Roche

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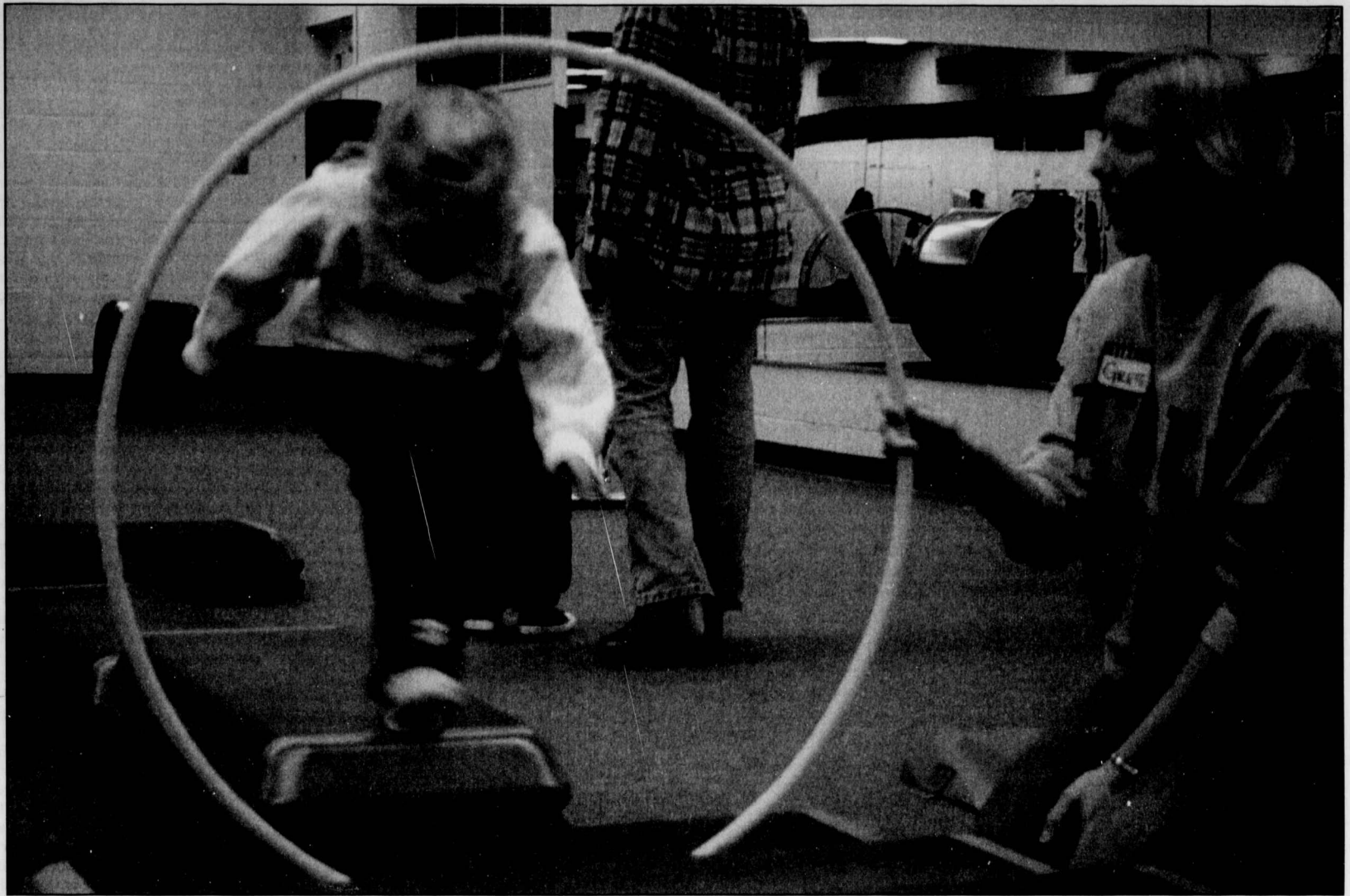
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EOE

Story by Laura McFarland • Photos by Sarah Kirschberg



Sophomore psychology major Grete Brown, an Alpha Phi Omega member, baby-sits Harriet McKinney, the daughter of Mary McKinney, a lecturer in the department of Spanish and Latin American Studies, for the semi-annual "Professor's Night Out." The event offers free baby-sitting for children of all TCU faculty and staff in the Rickel Building.

Alpha Phi Omega serves community through projects

Decorating nursing homes for the holidays, organizing blood drives and baby-sitting the children of professors who need breaks are just some of the many service projects that members of Alpha Phi Omega, TCU's coed service fraternity, have dedicated their time and energy to.

This semester, the TCU chapter of APO was honored with two awards — it was named the 19th largest chapter in the United States and it was given an award for its 15 percent increase in members within the past academic year.

Sophomore psychology major Olivia Breef said she has been pleased to watch the number of members grow over the three semesters she has been in APO.

"Since the semester I pledged, I've watched our group grow bigger and bigger," Breef said. "The number of pledges is growing and we're able to keep them. I think that we provide an organization anyone can join and do something that helps a group of people and still have fun."

APO projects are divided into four areas of service: campus, chapter, community and nation. The service organization has 50 active members and 30 pledges this semester.

APO's friendly atmosphere and purpose were the features that first drew Adrienne Anderson, a senior political science major, to join the organization.

"I like doing community service and I wanted a way to get involved on campus and meet new people," Anderson said. "I found that I really liked the group and I stuck with it."

Once pledges have paid the \$55 dues, they become active members and are required to pay their dues and complete 20 hours of community service.

Laura Johnston, a junior art history major, said most members fulfill the service requirements easily.

"The pledges have a pledge trainer who keeps track of their hours," Johnston said. "If you are behind in hours, they help you find projects to help make up the time."

The group's service-oriented attitude has made them very successful in the number and variety of services it has been able to commit to.

Angel Tree, an event sponsored by the Salvation Army at Ridgmar Mall, is just one of the service projects APO participated in Tuesday night to help give cheer to young and old alike.

Kerri Hartung, a junior Spanish and psychology major, said she met one woman at the event who was searching the red and white cards

Not-so-random acts of kindness

that were hanging on the Christmas tree for one that had the same age as her deceased son. The woman was doing this so that she might be able to bless another boy like she would have blessed her own had he lived to see another Christmas.

The names of children are put on white cards and the names of elderly people are put on red cards, along with the size of clothes they wear.

"Families have to go through an application and interview process and then their children's names are put on the tree," Hartung said.

"Nursing home residents are put on there, too. Then people can come by and get the card and after they go shopping for them, bring the gifts back to Angel Tree. The (child's) first name is on the card so they get to shop for a person, not just a random (child)."

Members of APO also spent three hours decorating the nursing home inside Huguley hospital.

"We helped them decorate for Christmas because they're trying to make a really big deal of it," Hartung said. "The day before we went door-to-door in the home to give each of the residents a card and spend a few minutes talking to them."

For Johnston, the most enjoyable activity that APO participates in is having members go to the James West Alzheimer's Home and play bingo with the residents there. Johnston has been visiting the home since she joined last semester.

"When we talk to them, they tell us about the lives they have led," Johnston said. "This semester, some of the patients I remember from last semester are in wheelchairs because they can't walk as well or they are having problems with their memories. It's a little disheartening, but I still like going."

The largest service project APO hosts each semester is the blood drive.

"Now that we have a relationship set up with Carter BloodCare, most of the work goes toward getting the Student Center Lounge reserved, making fliers to publicize the event and getting people to come," Anderson said.

APO recently hosted its semi-annual "Professor's Night Out," which offers free baby-sitting for children of all TCU faculty and staff in the Rickel Building. Throughout the night, members of the service fraternity helped entertain the children so their parents could have the night off.

For members like Alison Hoffman, a sophomore psychology and religion major, the night was a way of showing appreciation for the professors.

"We understand that the professors work really hard and this is just our way of giving them some time when they don't have to worry about their (children)," Hoffman said. "It gives them a chance to go out and know their children are in good hands."

From 5:30 to 11 p.m., APO President Cori Troxel, a junior history major, and other APO members turned the basement of the Rickel into a vast play area for the kids.

"We had obstacle courses and general playing in the aerobics room," Troxel said. "We had basketball in one of the gyms. We also had board games and a crafts table, where they could make sock puppets."

APO sponsors Eco-bin, a campus-wide recycling program, and sends its members to AIDS organizations like Bryan's House and the AIDS Outreach Center.

"When we go to the home, we play bingo and visit with the residents," Anderson said. "I like to visit with them because they're really interesting and a lot of them have led really amazing lives."

"We also go to the AIDS Outreach Center where people who have AIDS can come and get nutrition advice as well as food. We sack their groceries and take them out to their vehicles and restock the shelves."

The organization's members invited alumni members and active

members to celebrate its 50th anniversary. APO is also looking forward to sending four of its members to the national convention in Philadelphia and hosting the Section 41 Convention in April. APO members in the section will gather at TCU to listen to speakers and attend seminars.

As the semester comes to an end, some members are looking forward to the final events.

Kelly Cowdery, a junior elementary education major, says the two most important group activities at the end of the semester are the Semi-formal, APO's awards banquet, and the activation of the pledges as official members.

"APO has three cardinal rules: leadership, friendship and service," Cowdery said. "At the Semi-formal, four awards are given out. Awards are given to the pledge and the active member with the most service hours. An award is also given to the member who demonstrates the best leadership and to the member who demonstrates friendship to the most people throughout the semester."

Even as this semester ends, APO members are already planning the projects they will perform next semester to further serve the campus and the community, Cowdery said.

Laura McFarland
ldm_77040@yahoo.com



Junior broadcast journalism major Dana Schmitz and junior advertising/public relations and e-business major Justin Galbraith jump-rope with Virginia Browson, the daughter of Charles Bond, a psychology professor.

Popular Lotronex taken off the market

Drug linked to deaths and hospitalizations

By Lauran Neergaard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The maker of a popular new treatment for women's irritable bowel syndrome pulled the drug Lotronex off the market Tuesday after it was linked to a growing number of deaths and hospitalizations.

The withdrawal comes just nine months after Lotronex began selling with great fanfare — and it becomes the seventh banned drug the increasingly embattled Food and Drug Administration has had to deal with in 2 1/2 years.

The problem: Lotronex can cause severe side effects, including a life-threatening intestinal inflammation called ischemic colitis, and constipation so severe that some patients needed parts of their intestines surgically removed.

A review of FDA's records by *The Associated Press* indicates the agency knows of at least eight women who died with intestinal side effects while taking Lotronex, a prescription drug. The agency also has 124 reports of Lotronex patients experiencing hospitalizations, disabilities or urgent medical treatments, and so far has classified 70 of those 124 cases as probably caused by the drug. Two-thirds of those women were sick enough to be hospitalized, the FDA said.

Manufacturer Glaxo Wellcome Inc. contends Lotronex is safe when used by the right patient, and calls it no more risky than some other big-selling medicines. But, saying it was under orders from FDA, the company announced Tuesday that it would cease distribution of Lotronex immediately and recall the drug from pharmacies. About 150,000 people use Lotronex.

The FDA said it offered Glaxo an alternative to yanking the drug from the market, but the company rejected that proposal.

Lotronex initially was welcomed as the first new therapy in decades for irritable bowel syndrome, a mysterious disorder that affects up to 15 percent of Americans, mostly women. IBS is not life threatening but can cause misery. It involves chronic or recurrent abdominal pain, the sudden and urgent need to go to the bathroom and either frequent diarrhea, constipation or both.

In studies, Lotronex offered only modest relief to women whose main IBS symptom was diarrhea. It did not work for men, and was declared downright dangerous for anyone with constipation.

The FDA warned the day it approved Lotronex last February that it might cause serious side effects because four women in clinical trials also suffered ischemic colitis.

Serbs demand help

More Albanians enter buffer zone

By Aleksandar Vasovic
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUJANOVAC, Yugoslavia — A top Yugoslav army commander claimed Tuesday that Kosovo Albanian militants launched more incursions into Serbia, but said the military would not intervene unless provoked.

Yugoslavia's new president Vojislav Kostunica has demanded that NATO live up to its commitment to stop ethnic Albanian attacks in southern Serbia that have killed at least five people.

"There are conditions for this (crisis) to be solved by peaceful means," said Gen. Nebojsa Pavkovic, a Yugoslav army commander who visited his troops on the edge of a contested buffer zone between Kosovo and the rest of Serbia.

Pavkovic alleged that an additional 200 "terrorists" infiltrated into the buffer zone — where Serb police are allowed to patrol with only light arms — from Kosovo in the last few days.

"We won't allow any provocations against the army, and the army has the right to respond to any attack or provocation against it," Pavkovic said.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher expressed concern about the incursions and said the NATO-led Kosovo force has been discussing the issue with Albanian and Yugoslav leaders in hopes of easing tensions.

He said Secretary of State

Madeleine Albright raised the issue with a number of European foreign ministers, including Yugoslavia's, during her visit to Austria that ended Monday.

"Everybody is concerned about (the violence) and wants to do everything possible to stop it," he said.

Boucher said the NATO-led Kosovo Force has closed one crossing point in the area and conducted extensive border searches of vehicles and individuals at crossing sites away from the confrontation areas.

"They have detained suspected Albanian militants, and they have increased patrols and the overall surveillance of the ground security zone," he said.

NATO-led peacekeepers moved into Kosovo after the alliance bombed Yugoslavia to force former President Slobodan Milosevic to stop a crackdown on ethnic Albanians. The peace deal that ended the war created the three-mile-wide buffer zone between the Kosovo boundary and Serbia proper.

The area on the Serb side of the frontier has a large ethnic Albanian population and militants demanding to join Kosovo — who Belgrade says work out of the province — have been attacking Serb forces.

Last week, violence escalated as ethnic Albanian militants launched attacks into the buffer zone, capturing several strategic points in Serbia proper.

Maverick legislator dies Tuesday

By Michelle Koidin
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — Former U.S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, a maverick legislator whose 37 years on Capitol Hill were marked by a passionate defense of the common man and sometimes quixotic battles, died Tuesday in a San Antonio hospital. He was 84.

Family members took him to Baptist Medical Center Tuesday morning as a precaution after he awoke not feeling well, said Adrian Saenz, spokesman for Rep. Charlie Gonzalez, the elder Gonzalez's son. Saenz said the congressman died at 4:30 p.m. CST.

Gonzalez, known widely as "Henry B.," served as chairman of the powerful House Banking Committee and as dean of the Texas congressional delegation from 1961 to 1998. The Democrat charted a deter-

Former U.S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez charted iconoclastic course in Congress

mined iconoclastic course in Congress.

Possessed of intense pride, the sometimes irascible and always unpredictable Gonzalez was often derided in Washington for his unwillingness to work within the system. In his hometown of San Antonio, however, he was celebrated as a hero, a defender of the downtrodden.

Unafraid of crossing swords with top Republicans — he sought to impeach Presidents Reagan and Bush — the ornery Texan didn't shy away from tangling with his own party.

Even after decades in Congress, Gonzalez felt he remained an outsider. "I stand before you today, accepted,

but seen by some as an inconvenient and unwelcome obstacle," he told a closed-door meeting of House Democrats in 1996, beating back yet another challenge to his leadership.

He was credited with crafting tough savings-and-loan bailout legislation and helping expose the industry's 1980s excesses. He also pushed an overhaul of banks' deposit insurance system.

During his stint as Banking chairman, Gonzalez opened investigations that led to the resignation of the government's chief thrift regulator and the conviction of S&L owner Charles Keating. Those hearings proved uncomfortable for Democ-

rats, spotlighting four Democratic senators' ties to Keating.

Gonzalez also probed the Reagan and Bush administrations' friendly dealings with Iraq before the Gulf War. He unearthed evidence that U.S. agricultural credits and illegal loans were used to help Saddam Hussein build his war machine before the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

After Republicans gained control of the House in 1994, Gonzalez lost his chairman's gavel. The usually combative lawmaker also lost his footing, demonstrating little appetite for new crusades.

In 1963, the former college boxer slugged a Republican congressman from Texas who called him a "pinko." And 23 years later, in a San Antonio restaurant, the septuagenarian decked a man who called him a communist.

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Soviet Space members John Southard, a sophomore business major on the guitar; Jordan Richardson, a sophomore film major on the drums; Noah Garcia, a sophomore film major from the University of North Texas on the guitar; and Jim Keith, a graduate of Tarleton State University on the bass, play Tuesday in the Student Center Lounge.

French settlers' bones discovered

Archaeologists hope to complete 300-year puzzle

By Michelle Koldin
ASSOCIATED PRESS

VICTORIA — More than 300 years after famed French explorer La Salle founded Fort St. Louis near modern-day Victoria, archaeologists announced Tuesday they have discovered human bones on the site for the first time.

Texas Historical Commission archaeologists believe the bones belonged to two French settlers, and they hope the find helps complete the puzzle of Fort St. Louis — once a focal point in the struggle between France and Spain to dominate the New World.

"It's almost like a dream come true," said Kathleen Gilmore, a retired University of North Texas professor who has examined the site for three decades and wrote a book about its connections to Fort St. Louis in 1974.

Although the swath of mosquito-infested coastal prairie alongside Garcitas Creek and four miles upstream from Lavaca Bay has been linked to the first European colony in Texas by some historians since 1914, others weren't convinced until eight cannons were unearthed in 1996.

But locating human bones, Gilmore said, "is to fill in the tragic story."

Directors of the \$1.8 million excavation project — financed with \$250,000 in state money and the rest in private donations — believe they may be able to use records to locate possible descendants and then use DNA testing to confirm the identities.

Scientists also will work to determine how the people died and what some of their habits were, such as what they ate.

Most of the yellowish-brown bones — a skull, arm and leg bones, a pelvis — were discovered Nov. 10 by archaeologists who have been excavating the site since October 1999.

A second skull was found this week in the same grave.

The extensive search on the Keeran Ranch — used otherwise for raising cattle and drilling oil — also has turned up numerous artifacts including French and Spanish ceramics, a French coin, buttons, jewelry, musket balls and arrow points. The Keeran Ranch Trust, which owns the land, has given the commission until the end of next year to continue digging.

Project directors say they've already been able to narrow the possible identity of the second set of remains, based on records kept by the French and Spanish: They believe she was either Isabelle Talon or a Madame Barbier, though they have not been able to track down that woman's first name or her husband's first name.

"I'm excited about the discovery," said Paul C. Newfield III, a descendant of Talon. "I hope they are able to ascertain who these people were."

The jumbled bones were found packed in black gumbo clay, about 15 inches below the surface. Archaeologists have been spending several hours a day gingerly scraping with small bamboo sticks to reveal more and more bones and teeth.

Though they believe a cemetery with the bodies of at least 53 French settlers exists elsewhere on the site, project directors point to diaries kept by Spanish explorers who followed the French to the Texas coast for information about the 2 1/2-foot by 2-foot grave.

What's exciting, said project director Mike Davis, is "this is a case of archaeology confirming the historical record."

He said most of the bones belonged to a man who was probably in his late teens or early 20s, and who likely was left behind with 21 others to protect women and children when La Salle set off for Canada.

Project directors believe the second skull may have belonged to a woman since the Spaniards noted that a dress clung to one of the bodies they buried, said Jim Bruseth, the historical commission's archaeology division director.

Aristide the apparent winner in Haiti

By Michelle Faul
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haiti's opposition said Tuesday that it plans to come up with an alternative to a government run by former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who seems certain to have won the country's presidential elections.

In another rebuke of Haiti's months-long election process, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan recommended that the United Nations close its mission in Haiti, saying the U.N. efforts were useless considering the government's questionable legitimacy and increasing isolation.

With six of nine districts reporting, Aristide had 91 percent of the vote, the electoral council announced Tuesday.

"What we have in mind is to sit down with other opposition parties and civil organizations and work out a national democratic alternative,"

Former president has 91 percent of vote; opposition plans for alternate government

Sauveur Pierre Etienne, spokesman for the 17-party opposition alliance Convergence, said Tuesday

Aristide said Monday he would welcome the opposition into his Lavalas party government. The opposition spurned that offer.

The electoral council said turnout for Sunday's elections was 60.5 percent. Opposition groups charged that ballot boxes were stuffed and turnout was dismal.

Etienne said most Haitians boycotted the elections and would not support Aristide.

Most opposition parties have boycotted the process since May, when Aristide's party won 80 percent of the legislature in a vote they charged was rigged to ensure one-

party rule.

In an unusually critical report, Annan accused Haitian leaders of violating basic norms of democracy in refusing to recount the results from May parliamentary elections that gave the Lavalas Family party a majority.

The report was dated Nov. 9, and doesn't cover elections this past Sunday that Aristide is thought to have won. But Annan drew several conclusions that assumed Aristide would regain the presidency given the irregularities in the parliamentary vote.

Annan warned that several Aristide opponents fear the country may be heading toward another "dictatorial and repressive regime" with Aristide at the helm, even though he enjoys the support of the urban and rural poor.

On Monday, Aristide said "it's not in my agenda" to become a dictator.

Annan recommended "with regret" that the U.N. support mission in Haiti be terminated when its current mandate expires Feb. 6. But he said the United Nations would nevertheless try to develop a program of assistance to the Haitian people as they try to cope with a loss in aid. Many donors have withheld funding because of the political crisis.

The General Assembly created the U.N. support mission in March to replace the U.N. civilian police mission that had been training Haiti's national police and a human rights monitoring program.

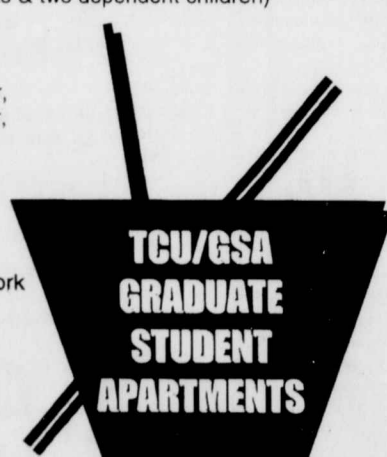
The job of the new mission had been to help promote democracy and human rights, reform the judiciary and encourage development in the country, the poorest in the Western Hemisphere.

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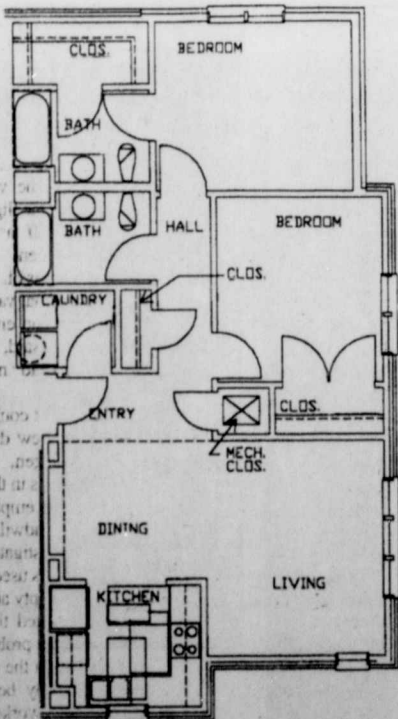
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TCU DAILY Skiff

Ten Frogs named to all-WAC first-team

Tomlinson, Schobel take top honors as best in conference

By Matt Stiver
SKIFF STAFF

The 2000 Horned Frogs scored more points, allowed fewer yards and won more games than any other team in the Western Athletic Conference. It should come as no surprise, then, that the Frogs had 10 players named first-team all-WAC.

"It's a great tribute to our team," head coach Dennis Franchione said. "We have a saying: if the team does well, then the individual honors will fall into place."

After completing the first 10-win season since 1938 and coming within three points of an undefeated regular season, the Frogs placed the most players on an all-conference team in school history.

Senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson repeated as WAC Offensive Player of the Year after a season in which he rushed for 2,158 yards and 22 touchdowns. His 5,263 career rushing yards place him first in the WAC and sixth in the NCAA.

Senior defensive end Aaron Schobel, a first-team selection last year, won Defensive Player of the Year honors. He recorded 6.5 sacks and 54 tackles. Schobel ranks as TCU's career sack leader with 31.

Senior offensive linemen David Bobo, Mike Keathley and Jeff Millican joined Tomlinson on the first-team offense. Bobo was a first-team selection last year, his fellow linemen are first-time nominees.

The nation's No. 1 defense was represented with five first-team selections.

Senior middle linebacker Shannon Brazzell said he was honored to be selected but thought the nation's No. 1 defense deserved more overall.

"Being that we've sustained the nation's top defense most of this season, I think we should have had more than five," Brazzell said. "We are a complete defense. We don't do with just a good front line. We've got everything working and that's why I think we should have had more."

Senior defensive tackle Shawn Worthen and Brazzell, key parts of a defense that allowed just 84.4 yards rushing a game, were each first-time selections. Senior defensive backs Curtis Fuller and Greg Walls were also named to their first all-WAC teams.

Senior placekicker Chris Kaylakie, a first-team selection in 1998, returned this season after making 16 of 18 field goals and scoring 98 points. Kaylakie ranks second all-time at TCU in field goals made.

"The fact that we had so many seniors recognized is a testament to what we've been able to do here," Brazzell said. "In three years, this senior class has gone from 1-10 to 10-1. It's been amazing to be a part of such an amazing turnaround."

Texas-El Paso's Gary Nord was named coach of the year, while Hawaii quarterback Timmy Chang was tabbed freshman of the year.

Matt Stiver
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Ten TCU players named first-team All-WAC

OFFENSE

Offensive player of the year: Senior tailback LaDainian Tomlinson, 2,158 yards, 22 touchdowns.

Senior strong tackle David Bobo, 192 knockdown blocks

Senior quick tackle Mike Keathley, 134 knockdown blocks

Senior strong guard Jeff Millican, 201 knockdown blocks

DEFENSE

Defensive player of the year: Senior defensive end Aaron Schobel, 6.5 sacks, 54 tackles

Senior defensive tackle Shawn Worthen, 51 tackles, 13 quarterback pressures

Senior linebacker Shannon Brazzell, 85 tackles, 15 for loss

Senior free safety Curtis Fuller, 81 tackles, 9 passes defensed

Senior cornerback Greg Walls, 22 tackles, 9 passes defensed

SPECIAL TEAMS

Senior place kicker Chris Kaylakie, 16-18 FGM-FGA, 50-51 PAT

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

Senior strong safety Russell Gary, 55 tackles, two interceptions



David Dunai/SKIFF STAFF

Junior defensive end Chad McCarty puts the pressure on Southern Methodist sophomore quarterback David Page in the second half of the Horned Frogs' 62-7 win. TCU had four offensive players, five defensive players and one special teams player named first-team all-Western Athletic Conference Tuesday.

Lady Frogs bouncing back

N. Texas game more important than Tenn., coach says

By Danny Horne
SPORTS EDITOR

Life goes on.

Things have quieted down around Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, and it's back to business as usual for head coach Jeff Mittie and the TCU women's basketball team after a Monday night loss to No. 2 Tennessee.

The Lady Frogs had little time to think about the game against Tennessee before moving on to their next game. TCU plays North Texas at 7 p.m. today at Daniel-Meyer.

Mittie said the game against North Texas could prove to be even more important.

"It's probably more important because it's the next game," Mittie said. "We have to see how we bounce back from that game."

Fans packed Daniel-Meyer Monday night to the tune of 7,262, setting a record for the biggest crowd to ever see a basketball game on the TCU campus. It wouldn't be a stretch to think that a similar atmosphere probably won't exist with North Texas driving down from Denton, but Mittie said the crowd shouldn't be the only motivation.

"We have to learn to create our own energy," he said. "Everyone knows you get hyped up for that type of game. We need to be more reliant on ourselves and the people within the program."

Mittie said the women's basketball program proved something to itself and the community.

"A lot of people saw us play who had never seen us play," he said. "We showed that we can have that atmosphere at Daniel-Meyer and in Fort Worth."

TCU will have at least one more opportunity to attract a raucous atmosphere when the men's and women's teams play Dec. 28 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. The Lady Frogs are scheduled to play Texas.

"We'd like to think that game can carry that type of atmosphere with it as well," Mittie said.

But for now, the Lady Frogs have to look at what has been learned.

Mittie said his team is still trying to form an identity in women's college basketball, and how they bounce back from a game like that against Tennessee will go a long way toward building that identity.

"We have to find out what kind of team we are," Mittie said. "We will find out whether we're a team that bounces up and down or a team that plays at a high level all the time."

That's what makes the game against North Texas all the more important.

"I was proud of our effort (against Tennessee), but I told the team that we can never be satisfied with a loss," he said. "We can't afford to have a let down against (North Texas). They are a good rebounding team that likes to run the ball up the court in transition."

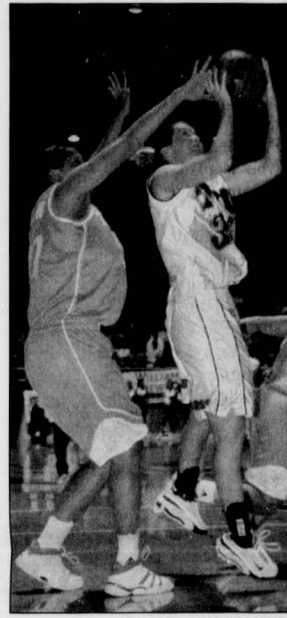
Rebounding was one aspect that was missing for the Lady Frogs against a taller Tennessee squad. An advantage in second chance points and offensive rebounds helped the Lady Volunteers pull away in the second half. After the Lady Frogs were outrebounded 55-42 on Monday night, Mittie said getting on the boards was something the team needed to work on.

"North Texas doesn't have the size inside that Tennessee does, but we know they have a good rebounding club," Mittie said.

Freshman forward Tiffany Evans was one of the few players able to get inside for some rebounds against Tennessee. She pulled down nine boards and added seven points in just her second collegiate game.

Mittie said the first-year forward did a lot of growing up in the game. Evans said she didn't really see it as growing up.

"We all said before the game that



David Dunai/SKIFF STAFF

Junior guard Tricia Payne shoots in front of Tennessee center Shalon Pillow in the Lady Frogs' 83-61 loss Monday. TCU looks to bounce back with a win over North Texas at 7 p.m. today at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

we were going to play with a high intensity level," Evans said. "I've played with some of those (Tennessee players) in high school so I knew I could compete with them. The coaches expect certain things out of me even though I'm a freshman. It's just a matter of going out there and doing it and not being intimidated."

TCU didn't show any signs of being intimidated against Tennessee, but the next test becomes being able to sustain that against North Texas without the record-setting crowd.

Danny Horne
bravestcu3116@mindspring.com

WAC roundup

Football

WAC games

All games

	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	Hm.	Rd.	Neutral	Strk.
TCU	7	1	.875	10	1	.909	6-0	4-1	0-0	W3
UTEP	7	1	.875	8	3	.727	5-0	3-3	0-0	L1
Fresno State	6	2	.750	7	4	.636	5-0	2-4	0-0	W2
San Jose State	5	3	.625	7	5	.538	3-2	4-3	0-0	L2
Tulsa	4	4	.500	5	7	.417	3-3	2-4	0-0	W2
Hawaii	2	6	.250	3	8	.273	3-4	0-4	0-0	L1
Rice	2	6	.250	3	8	.273	3-2	0-6	0-0	L2
SMU	2	6	.250	3	9	.250	3-3	0-6	0-0	L2
Nevada	1	7	.125	2	10	.167	1-4	1-6	0-0	L1

Friday's results

TCU62

SMU7

Saturday's results

Tulsa38

Nevada3

Fresno State37

San Jose State6

Wisconsin34

Hawaii18

Saturday's game

Nevada-Las Vegas at Hawaii, 12:05 a.m.

TCU's next game

GMAC Mobile Alabama Bowl
Dec. 20, 7 p.m. at Ladd-Peebles Stadium
in Mobile, Ala.
No. 13 TCU vs. Southern Mississippi

Players of the week

Offensive — TCU sophomore quarterback Casey Printers threw for 251 yards and four touchdowns in the Horned Frogs' decisive win over Southern Methodist, 62-7. His four touchdowns were a career high. He also rushed for 90 yards and a touchdown.

Defensive — Fresno State redshirt freshman strong safety Bryce McGill had a season-high 13 tackles in the Bulldogs' 37-6 win over San Jose State. He had nine solo tackles and one forced fumble. The Fresno defense held the Spartans to 38 yards rushing.

Special teams — Tulsa junior punter Casey Lipscomb punted five times for 233 yards, an average of 46.6 yards a punt in Tulsa's 38-3 win over Nevada. He landed two inside the 20-yard line, and his longest punt went for 71 yards.

AP TOP 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Saturday, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and ranking in the previous poll:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Oklahoma (64)	11-0	1,765	1
2. Miami (6)	10-1	1,696	2
3. Florida State (11)	11-1	1,640	3
4. Washington	10-1	1,569	4
5. Oregon State	10-1	1,472	5
6. Virginia Tech	10-1	1,407	6
7. Florida	9-2	1,277	7
8. Kansas State	10-2	1,230	8
9. Oregon	9-2	1,183	10
10. Nebraska	9-2	1,142	9
11. Notre Dame	9-2	1,082	11
12. Texas	9-2	915	12
13. TCU	10-1	844	13
14. Purdue	8-3	785	14
15. Clemson	9-2	750	15
16. Michigan	8-3	747	16
17. Georgia Tech	9-2	742	18
18. Auburn	9-2	720	17
19. Northwestern	8-3	499	20
20. Ohio State	8-3	449	21
21. Tennessee	8-3	321	25
22. Louisville	9-2	201	—
23. Colorado State	9-2	170	—
24. Georgia	7-4	126	19
25. Toledo	10-1	73	—

Others receiving votes: Texas A&M 71, South Carolina 42, Mississippi 34, Wisconsin 27, Iowa State 25, LSU 18, Mississippi State 18, Air Force 11, Western Michigan 7, Boise State 6, Pittsburgh 5, North Carolina State 3, Arkansas 2, Syracuse 1.

Loss of cabin pressure led to crash of Payne Stewart's plane

By Randolph E. Schmid
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Loss of cabin pressure and failure to obtain oxygen incapacitated the crew of golfer Payne Stewart's plane, leading to the crash last year that killed all six aboard the chartered Learjet.

But while the National Transportation Safety Board reached that conclusion Tuesday, it was unable to say why the plane lost pressure.

The yearlong investigation was hampered by the plane's extensive damage, its lack of a flight data recorder and the short half-hour duration of the cockpit voice recorder, Board Chairman Jim Hall said.

"All of us wish we had more answers than we have out of this report," Hall said at the end of a four-hour session in which board members questioned investigators.

The accident happened Oct. 25, 1999, after Stewart's chartered Learjet 35 left Orlando, Fla., headed for Dallas.

Flying at 23,000 feet, the pilot acknowledged permission to climb to 39,000 feet in the last contact with the plane. It eventually climbed to more than 40,000 feet and flew on

autopilot for four hours before running out of fuel and crashing near Aberdeen, S.D.

Military pilots sent to observe the unresponsive craft reported that the cockpit windows were iced up.

The loss of cabin pressure could cause this, as well as the loss of enough oxygen to cause unconsciousness. Emergency oxygen was available, but in the older-style plane it had to be activated manually by the crew.

Dr. Mitchell Garber, the board's medical officer, said many pilots believe that when pressure fails they have a minute or two to take action before they need oxygen.

But impairment begins within seconds, he said, and the longer the crew waits to activate the oxygen, the less likely they are to make the right decision. In a depressurization, he said, the first thing a pilot should do is reach for the oxygen mask.

Aircraft systems investigator Kevin Pudwill told the board that some parts of the pressurization system were too badly damaged to determine if they failed.

But, he said, a flow control valve was found turned off and that would

have cut off the incoming warm air from the engines that is used to pressurize the cabin.

Robert Benzon, investigator in charge for the accident, said it could not be determined if the valve had been turned off before the flight, if the crew had turned it off as part of switching to an emergency pressurization system or if it was off for some other reason. Turning that valve off is part of the switch to the emergency pressure system, he said, but the emergency system had not been turned on.

In addition, he said it could not be determined why the crew didn't obtain emergency oxygen, since a backup oxygen tank was in the plane.

The oxygen tank was empty and its flow valve was open, Pudwill told the board. He said the investigators can't tell whether the tank was used up during the flight or was empty at takeoff.

The agency also noted that there had been some pressure problems reported with the plane in the days before the flight. The day before the accident, maintenance workers fixed an engine power problem by replacing a valve that also could have affected pressurization.

The latest Bowl Championship Series rankings were released Monday with Horned Frogs ranked No. 14. With Oklahoma still No. 1, the battle for No. 2 continues to get closer.

Total points derived by adding average poll ranking (PA), with computer averages (CA), number of losses (L) and strength of schedule (SS).

Team	PA	CA	L	SS	Total	Team	PA	CA	L	SS	Total
1 Oklahoma	1.0	2.00	0	0.96	3.96	8 Nebraska	9.5	6.57	2	0.72	18.79
2 Florida State	3.0	1.14	1	0.04	5.18	9 Kansas State	7.5	9.43	2	1.72	20.65
3 Miami, Fla.	2.0	2.71	1	0.08	5.79	10 Oregon	10.0	11.43	2	0.92	24.35
4 Washington	4.0	4.86	1	0.32	10.18	11 Notre Dame	10.5	12.43	2	1.04	25.97
5 Virginia Tech	5.5	5.29	1	0.52	12.31	12 Texas	12.0	9.86	2	3.36	27.22
6 Oregon State	5.5	6.14	1	1.64	14.28	13 Georgia Tech	17.5	10.43	2	1.80	31.73
7 Florida	7.5	6.86	2	0.12	16.48	14 TCU	14.0	13.57	1	3.84	32.41

