



The women's basketball team returns home to face Wyoming on Saturday. Sports, page 8



CollegeACB.com, a new forum for college gossip, is gaining a tremendous amount of support from advertisers. Tomorrow in News



National statistics show that business students cheat more than students from any other academic discipline. Tomorrow in News

GI BILL

University to help fund veterans' tuition

By Alexandria Bruton
Staff Reporter

The university intends to honor the commitment made by the veterans who have served the country by pledging to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program, which would fund tuition for incoming veterans, Chancellor Victor Boschini said.

Boschini said agreeing to participate in the program seemed like the right thing

for the university to do to help veterans. He said the university looks for opportunities to help bring students with a diversity of experiences to campus and he hopes the Yellow Ribbon program will accomplish that goal.

Mike Scott, director of scholarships and financial aid, said incoming veterans who choose to apply to the university will be eligible to receive maximum funding for their tuition under the Yellow Ribbon program, which seeks to fund veterans'

tuition at private universities that decide to participate.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Web site, the program is an addition to the GI Bill, which provides educational benefits to veterans, and will completely cover tuition for veterans who meet the criteria set forth in the bill.

According to the current proposal, only veterans, reservists, guard members and active-duty service members who were previously entitled to 100 percent educa-

tional benefits under the post-Sept. 11 GI Bill will be able to receive funding.

According to the department, tuition will be funded by both the VA and the participating university. The VA will cover tuition at the participating university up to the cost of tuition at the most expensive in-state public university. Up to half of the difference can be optionally waived by the private university, and the VA will

SEE GI BILL · PAGE 2

TOP DVD SALES

- 1 Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa
 - 2 Space Buddies
 - 3 Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa/The Penguins of Madagascar
 - 4 The Secret Life of Bees
 - 5 Zack and Miri Make a Porno
 - 6 Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist
 - 7 Open Season 2
 - 8 Fireproof
 - 9 Lakeview Terrace
 - 10 Oliver & Company
- Billboard

If you can't make it to New Orleans...

There will be a Mardi Gras celebration Monday in the Campus Commons hosted by Programming Council and the International Student Association. The event will feature the band Professor D, the TCU Soul Steppers, stilt walkers as well as cultural drumming, international students' band performances and henna tattoos. The free event begins International Week, which will be celebrated with a World Cultures Exhibition Fair, an International Food and Movie Fair and a World Sports Day celebration.

From combat to coming home, military veterans are adjusting to civilian life in the college crowd. Hear about their tales of transition.


Features, page 6

PECULIAR FACT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Other than having a bit of a headache, a Kansas City woman was uninjured after a bullet fired at her ended up tangled in her hair weave. Police said the 20-year-old was in a convenience store parking lot late Wednesday when a man flagged her down and told her that her ex-boyfriend still loved her.

— Associated Press

TODAY'S WEATHER

 **70 47**
HIGH LOW
Sunny
Tomorrow: Showers
53 / 29
Saturday: Sunny
59 / 35



RUMOR HAS IT



Clemson wide receiver Aaron Kelly runs for a touchdown with Florida State defenders Michael Ray Garvin and tackle Budd Thacker in pursuit during the second quarter at Memorial Stadium in Clemson, S. C., during the 2007 season.

Clemson could fill out schedule

Billy Wessels
Staff Writer

The Frogs are attempting to improve the strength of their non-conference schedule by adding a second team from the Atlantic Coast Conference to their schedule.

A South Carolina newspaper is reporting the Frogs have agreed in principle to play Clemson University this

upcoming football season.

According to a story published on The State's Web site Thursday, multiple sources have confirmed the Frogs will fill the Tigers' empty slot in their schedule, Sept. 26, originally slated to be Central Michigan University.

Calls and e-mails made to TCU athletics director Danny Morrison and director of athletic media relations Mark Cohen were not returned at the time of

publication.

The story reports that a contract is expected to be signed today and an official announcement could come soon afterward.

Currently the Frogs' non-conference schedule will include a road game against the University of Virginia, also of the ACC, and home games against longtime rivals Southern Methodist University and Texas State University.

Student welcomes Bush home with signs

Sophomore says he's using the profit to help pay for college

By Courtney Jay
Staff Reporter

A Dallas neighborhood showed some good old-fashioned Texas hospitality to former President George W. Bush and his wife because of a student's idea.

Sophomore economics major Patrick Bibb started a lucrative business by making signs to welcome the Bushes to his Dallas neighborhood.

Bibb said he was looking to make some extra money during winter break to help pay for his tuition. So, he said, he decided to design and sell yard signs to welcome the former president and his wife to their new home in the North Dallas neighborhood of Preston Hollow, which is where Bibb grew up.

Bibb sent out a letter to neighbors informing them of the signs and encouraging them to welcome the Bushes.

The letter also informed them of the charity their purchase would benefit. Bibb said he is donating \$2 from every \$20 sign purchase to the library of nearby Pershing Elementary School to honor Laura Bush.

Bibb's parents helped with the start-up costs of making 100 signs but, Bibb said, he had no idea how quickly the first 100 would go. Bibb said he has sold more than 800 signs in all, including one to former Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman.

Media outlets from across the country took interest in Bibb's signs. His story was featured in D Magazine, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, the Dallas Morning News, several local television stations and on BBC-Radio and FOXNews.com.

But not all reactions to the signs were positive, Bibb said. He said some who read the stories bashed the former president in online blog posts. Signs were also allegedly stolen from various places in Preston Hollow, he said.

Bibb said he isn't sure if the signs were intentionally stolen. He said they could have been picked up because of city ordinances.

Whether the signs were stolen or not, Bibb said his intention for the signs was not political.

SEE BUSH · PAGE 2

Author to take historical approach on eating disorders

By Madison Morgan
Staff Reporter

Young women can stop counting calories and start taking control.

That's the message of award-winning author and journalist Courtney Martin, who is coming to campus Monday to discuss her book, "Perfect Girls, Starving Daughters," and how disordered eating, food and fitness obsession have become normalized among college women, a university official said.

Martin said she was encouraged to write her book after college when she

began mentoring young women.

"I saw how crippling the media was on women's self esteem and I felt a duty to be a voice for these women," Martin said. "There is no reason to settle for self-hate."

Martin said she is always encouraged when universities that she has visited start body image discussion groups, she said.

"A lot of times I receive e-mails from young women after my lecture about how much of a wake-up call I gave them," Martin said. "The lecture really forces you to reflect on the choices you're making and whether or not they are worth it."

Martin said she encourages both women and men to attend her lecture.

"We are all wrestling with who we are and what our place is in this world," Martin said. "It is important for us to realize, however, that perfection is an illusion."

Ariane Balizet, assistant professor of Medieval and early modern British literature, went to high school in Colorado Springs, Colo. with Martin and said her message would benefit students who face an image-obsessed media everyday.

"Her lecture should be incredibly interactive and really insightful for young

Eating disorder lecture

What: Courtney Martin discusses her book "Perfect Girls, Starving Daughters"
Where: Brown-Lupton University Union Ballroom
When: 5-7 p.m. Monday

women," Balizet said. "Her approach to the topic is unique in that she doesn't just rely on medical studies, she takes a historical approach and explains how some of these expectations for perfection are handed down by our parents."

NEWS

Radiation riddle remains after scientist's research

By Suzanne Bohan
Contra Costa Times

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — A large tract of land not far from E. John Ainsworth's Pleasanton, Calif., home bears no evidence of the research on radiation health effects he led in the 1960s, at the height of the Cold War.

But it was there, at a military installation in Dublin, Calif., called Camp Parks, that sheep, burros, goats and pigs were placed inside a triple-fenced pasture. A machine then bathed them in dangerous gamma rays, which penetrated deep into tissue and damaged their cells.

Ainsworth's pioneering work in Dublin, and also in San Francisco, helped in the development of the handful of approved drugs for treating those exposed to the damaging rays. It also deepened understanding of radiation's effects on tissue, blood and DNA.

And his insistence that the nuclear threat hadn't ended with the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall kept alive the military's largest radiation health effects research program, based in Maryland. Experts now consider the program critical to national security.

"Greater minds in Washington had decided it (the program) was no longer necessary," said Tom Seed, a senior scientist with the countermeasures division at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Md., speaking of his institute.

But Ainsworth, who served as its scientific director from 1989 to 1998, and the officer heading the lab vigorously lobbied the Department of Defense to keep it running.

The DOD rescinded the closure order.

Then came the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Soon after came the discovery of an al-Qaida training manual for making a "dirty bomb," composed of radioactive material and conventional explosives. And Mideast instability and hostility toward Western nations continue to stoke fresh fears about nuclear proliferation.

"All of a sudden, there was a realization that the threat hadn't gone away but was just reconfigured," Seed said. "It was a different form, but still sizable."

The lab is now regaining its prominence and employs a staff of 150. "It's growing by leaps and bounds," said Terry Pellmar, who retired last month as the institute's

scientific director.

In addition, Ainsworth and Glen Reeves, a colleague at the lab, established a successful program to work with Russian radiation experts after the Cold War ended. They did it, Ainsworth said, to keep the newly unemployed Russian scientists from seeking work with countries antagonistic toward Western nations.

"Having them go to bad places was not in the world's best interest," Ainsworth said. He and Reeves also arranged for the transfer of radiation research from the Soviet Union previously unavailable in the West.

The large animals served as proxies in the quest to find radio protection for civilians and for military personnel. In both San Francisco and Dublin, dogs taken from the pound were used in tests, Ainsworth said.

In Dublin, the farm animals were tested in a fenced-in pasture, which in turn was surrounded by another fence, and then another — to keep trespassers out of the dangerous area.

He and other researchers observed the experiments from a shack on a distant hill, equipped with binoculars. The studies yielded numerous insights, he said.

From those experiments with dogs, for example, Ainsworth and others learned that not only did gamma rays destroy bone marrow, but they caused damage to the lining of the intestine. So only treating bone marrow, then a common procedure for radiation exposure, might not be enough.

The work also helped researchers understand which animals' biology more closely matched humans, and therefore made more effective research subjects.

There was little controversy then over the use of animals for medical studies, Ainsworth said.

Since then, however, options have narrowed for the use of animals, and one 2005 study cited such limitations as "a major bottleneck" in the development of new or improved drugs for radiation injury treatment or prevention. In 2008, the Food and Drug Administration also issued revised guidelines on the use of animals in research, including animal welfare issues. That report, however, reiterated the agency's mandate that "when human efficacy studies are not ethical or feasible" scientists are required to use animals for research leading to the approval of drugs.



CINDI CHRISTIE / Contra Costa Times via MCT
During the Cold War, E. John Ainsworth of Pleasanton, Calif., photographed on Jan. 30, led studies on animals for the military to figure out the health effects of radiation. Ainsworth has received numerous awards for his research.

Pellmar, the former scientific director of the radiobiology research institute, said she still points new radiation biologists to older studies like Ainsworth's findings on large animals.

"There's been a tremendous

amount that's already been done that they can build on, instead of reinventing it," she said.

"Dr. Ainsworth did some of the seminal work on understanding the biological effects of radiation," Pellmar said.

2009 to be 'tough' in Afghanistan

By Nancy A. Youssef
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — One day after President Barack Obama authorized another 17,000 more soldiers and Marines for Afghanistan, the top military commander there predicted a "tough year" ahead, saying there likely would be more attacks on U.S. forces as they move into places where they haven't been before.

"Even with these additional forces, I have to tell you that 2009 is going to be tough year," Gen. David McKiernan, the top U.S. military commander in Afghanistan, said Wednesday at a Pentagon briefing.

Obama on Tuesday authorized sending the additional forces to Afghanistan beginning in late spring in what appeared an effort to shift the military focus from

Iraq to Afghanistan, a cornerstone of his presidential campaign.

To meet the president's request, Defense Secretary Robert Gates ordered the deployment of 8,000 Marines from Camp Lejeune, N.C., and 4,000 soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash. Approximately another 5,000 support troops are expected to receive deployment orders "at a later date," a Defense Department statement said.

The Marines will be deployed to southern Afghanistan, where the U.S. is expanding its forces to fight the opium trade, which the Taliban uses to fund its forces. Since 2001, British and Canadian forces have been in charge of that area, but violence there has increased recently with a rise in opium poppy production.

Coalition and civilian deaths are at their highest levels since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001.

"What this allows us to do is change the dynamics of the security situation, predominantly in southern Afghanistan, where we are at best stalemated," McKiernan said.

The first Marines could arrive in Afghanistan by May. The Army brigade is expected to arrive by mid-summer. They will have a dual mission — help double the size of the Afghan Army to 134,000 by the end of 2011 and provide security in Afghan communities, which increasingly are falling under Taliban control.

McKiernan also said there's "a possibility" that the additional forces will allow the military to use fewer air strikes in Afghanistan, which have been responsible for hundreds of civilian casualties and raised tensions between the U.S. and Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

GI BILL

continued from page 1

match the amount the university contributed.

Scott said the university decided to fully participate in late January. He said that once the in-state tuition amount has been deducted from tuition, the university will waive 50 percent of the difference, the maximum allowed under the program.

Other private universities in Texas have yet to make their final decisions.

Lori Fogleman, director of media communications at Baylor University, said Baylor's participation is still being discussed and that Baylor is awaiting further details about the program before agreeing to participate.

Sean Smith, director of financial aid at Trinity University, said Trinity has not agreed to or discussed participation in the program yet.

Scott said that while other campuses may be hesitant to participate because of the in-

cluded costs, the university is fortunate to have enough funds and quickly made the decision to participate despite the recent budget cuts.

"Financially, this is a great investment for the university," Scott said. "A relatively small amount will be spent to bring students with unique perspectives and experiences to campus."

Suzanne Weldon, university veteran affairs officer, said there are about 72 veterans currently enrolled at TCU.

Scott said that once the details are finalized, the university could enroll up to 50 eligible veterans as early as next semester.

The GI Bill is set to go into effect in August.

Scott said the university will allocate the necessary money for the program once the details are finalized in August. He said participating in the program will have no impact on the amount of funds available to other students receiving scholarships and financial aid.

NUMBERS

This is what the Yellow Ribbon program would look like if applied to this school year. The program and GI Bill will take effect Aug. 1.

\$26,900

Estimated 2008-2009 TCU tuition.

\$8,532

Amount the new GI Bill would grant Texas veterans.

\$9,184

Amount of aid that both the Yellow Ribbon program would provide and the Veterans Affairs would match.

Sex mogul held in alleged murder plot

By Eugene W. Fields
The Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The owner of a nationwide online escort business that includes more than 1,900 escorts in Orange County, Calif., is facing murder-for-hire charges in Phoenix.

David Elms, 37, is being held in the Maricopa County jail in Phoenix on charges that he was trying to hire someone to kill a 32-year-old woman, according to the Phoenix Police Department.

According to authorities, Elms also planned to have a 62-year-old man seriously injured as a possible

coverup to the murder-for-hire.

Elms is the owner/operator of Hawthorne, Calif.-based TheEroticReview.com, a Web site where potential clients or "hobbyists" can submit reviews and search other reviews on escorts or "providers."

The Web site allows members to rank their experiences with escorts on a scale of one to 10, post pictures and leave detailed comments.

The site covers all 50 states and lists escorts by city and area code.

Elms has been in and out of trouble with the law, including last summer when he was accused of violating his probation stemming from a 2006 conviction for posses-

"He doesn't understand what this business is really about."

Riah Star
escort

sion of a firearm and drugs.

Riah Star, an escort who has been reviewed 66 times since 2005, said Elms' legal troubles stemmed from his success with the Web site: "He doesn't understand what this business is really about. The power went to his head."

BUSH

continued from page 1

"The sign is not intended to be a political statement," Bibb wrote in the initial letter to his neighbors. "It is simply a way of saying thank you to a man and his wife for numerous years of public service to our state and our country."

Bibb said Bush was appreciative and called to express his gratitude.

Bibb said he doesn't sway on either side of the Bush debate but, politics aside, the former president was sincere and extremely nice on the phone.

Allie Beth Allman, a mem-

ber of the university's Board of Trustees, said she bought 25 signs from Bibb. Allman owns a real estate company in Dallas and sold the Bushes their new home. She said her joint interests in TCU and the Bushes led her to buy so many signs.

Allman said she gave the signs to anyone who wanted one and also placed some on a few of her rental properties. She said when the Bushes pulled in to the neighborhood they were in awe of the signs.

"It was just so neat when they pulled in," Allman said. "They loved all those signs."

Bibb said that because of his

busy schedule he will pass part of the business to TCU alumnus Gregg Bartus.

Bartus is a Neeley School of Business graduate and owner of the Greenville Avenue location of SIGNARAMA in Dallas, where he printed the signs for Bibb.

Bartus said the biggest change in the business is that Bibb will no longer have to deliver the signs to customers.

"We're going to provide a location for people to come by and pick up the signs versus him delivering them," Bartus said.

Bartus said he will continue to make Bibb's stated donation to the library, keeping Bibb involved.

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

Pledge to aid veterans honorable

The university's decision to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program should be commended. Beginning in August, the program, a component of the new GI Bill, will allow private universities where the tuition is higher than the most expensive in-state public university to waive some or all of the remaining tuition.

Each private university can elect whether to participate in the program, and colleges are even given the flexibility to choose how many veterans they will waive tuition for and how much of the tuition they will waive.

The university's willingness to partner with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to cover the remaining balance for up to 50 veterans is impressive, especially considering the current state of the economy. Because private universities are not required to commit to the program, many may choose not to participate at all for financial reasons.

The benefits of this program are obvious.

Before the addition of the Yellow Ribbon provision, the GI Bill covered tuition for veterans at public universities only, which seriously limited veterans' options. Certain private universities may have stronger programs than the state's public schools, and everyone should be able to choose the school which best suits his or her needs.

Veterans in particular will appreciate having more options concerning where they will go to school because they are coming from such strictly regimented environments.

The university's commitment to help veterans will not only benefit them, but the student body as well because of the diversity of experiences the veterans will bring to the community.

It is about time that veterans are able to attend private universities free of cost, and it's admirable that our government and our universities are working together to give back to these men and women.

News editor Logan Wilson for the editorial board.

The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

Infidelity has blurry gray areas

DENISE NILAN

I was with a group of guy friends the other night and, while they were enjoying cigars and whiskey, I felt the need to contribute some sort of masculine sentiment. So I began to tell a story a friend of mine had told me at the gym earlier that day.

I'll call my friend Tom for the sake of his privacy and future love life. Tom was at the grocery store when he struck up a conversation and exchanged numbers with two separate girls, one blonde, the other a brunette. When Super Bowl Sunday came a few days later, Tom invited blondie to join his celebrations. He then texted the brunette and made plans to hang out with her after the Super Bowl.

Now here's the twist. It turns out that, when the blonde girl showed up at the party, she brought with her the brunette Tom was texting. The two happened to be roommates.

One might think this would be awkward for Tom, but Tom laughed it off and enjoyed the first half of the game in peace with his new friends.

It was during the second half of the game that things got interesting. That was when the trio relocated to a hot tub. Mere seconds before the situation turned out to be a porno flick Tom says, "I'd love to ladies, but I have a girlfriend."

This reaction caught me off guard, as my initial reaction was that Tom is really

a stand up guy.

However, deeper thinking made me question why a guy with a girlfriend was getting digits and skinny-dipping with girls in the first place.

Still, my all-male audience grunted with dissatisfaction. The listener with a girlfriend seemed the most disappointed of all.

Where cheating begins seems to be incredibly misunderstood. Is it emotional or physical that is unforgivable, or is it both?

Was Tom cheating simply by being with the girls? I can't decide if it would be more hurtful for the girlfriend to hear that he spent hours talking to these girls and getting to know them, or that he saw them in their underwear.

Cheating is a fickle thing because unless you talk about it with your significant other, you don't know what the lines are.

According to a study on sexual infidelity versus deep emotional or love infidelity, men were more sensitive to sexual infidelity, while women were more distressed by deep emotional or love infidelity. Now, this isn't to say there aren't exceptions, nor is this information an excuse to partake in either type of cheating, but it is evidence of the different connections.

Obviously, the line of cheating is never clear.

Denise Nilan writes for the (California Polytechnic State University) Mustang Daily. The column was distributed by UWIRE.



Robert Slack is a sophomore theatre major from El Paso.

Venezuela on path toward dictatorship



MICHAEL LAUCK

Facing the prospect President Hugo Chavez's final elected term in office, the Venezuelan people voted to approve a referendum that gave the leader the opportunity to rule their country for life.

The passage effectively removes the previous restrictions that placed term limits on elected officials. Despite a flurry of protests and staunch opposition to the proposal, Chavez is now slated to stay in power beyond 2012, when he will be up for re-election.

Apparently, Chavez thought the people needed a little more "convincing" after they defeated a similar proposal just around 15 months prior.

Chavez said unlimited terms will give him more time to implement a socialist revolution. This is obviously a very viable strategy since it has historically worked so well for Cuba and Soviet Russia.

Anyone can see through Chavez's thinly veiled actions. This is just another step toward instituting a dictatorship in Venezuela.

Hitler, Mussolini and Napoleon eroded the restrictions in place to protect democratic values until the people were completely under their control.

Two of those men also considered themselves to be socialists.

The situation makes me wonder about the virtues of democracy. Whether one agrees with Chavez's plans or not, it is unfeasible to support a leader who continually eliminates safeguards and somehow manages to convince Venezuelans to spit on their own constitution.

Democracy can be a beautiful thing, but sometimes it is 51 percent of the people voting to trample the other 49 percent.

In the end, the situation in Venezuela can be a lesson for Americans: We cannot allow the erosion of liberty to be a voted option.

Government must be limited and never allowed to pass its boundary even if some people want it, because if you give them an inch they might just take a mile.

Michael Lauck is a freshman broadcast journalism major from Houston.



MCT

U.N.'s failure to act for peace discouraging

ALEX S. TURNER

The U.N. was created to ensure that the horrors of World War II would "never again" unfold against the people of the world. It was a noble claim and a pronouncement that was desperately needed.

Unfortunately, it is a mission that the U.N. has yet to live up to. Instead of "never again," genocide has happened again, again and again with little or no real intervention by the U.N.

Experts at SPIEGEL International have concluded that since the creation of the U.N., there have been more instances of genocide than in the entire first half of the

twentieth century. Although the statistics are disputable, there have been reports of at least 37 separate genocides around the world. The reasoning behind the dispute is the idea that the definition of genocide is debatable. I for one find the dispute to be bureaucratic nonsense. How would one define genocide? Perhaps, a mass murder of innocent civilians, or a mass murder of a particular ethnicity or race. Either of those definitions is vague enough to allow for action to be taken against vicious regimes.

The problem with the U.N. is that it is made up of representatives of countries who all have their own agenda. The genocide in Darfur is a perfect example of the inadequacy of the U.N. to carry out its

original mission. Genocide in Darfur has been ongoing since before Colin Powell, then-secretary of state, testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in 2004. Why haven't troops mobilized, invaded, and overthrown the regime that at the very least is allowed to go on, or at the worst is encouraged?

One could speculate that it is because of China's interest in Sudan's oil field and concerns that U.N. involvement in the region would disrupt the oil supply. For an organization who promised us "never again," the U.N. has fallen very short of its objective.

Alex S. Turner is a freshman political science major from Dallas.

Campus Voices

In light of campus shootings, should students be able to carry concealed weapons on campus?



No way. We already have the police here to take care of us. We don't need weapons.

John McCord
freshman premajor from Houston



No, I don't. Even though school shootings are tragic, adding guns wouldn't solve the problem. I worry about how students would feel if they knew the person behind them had a gun on them.

Jared Cobb
assistant director, TCU Transitions



No. Allowing students to have weapons would create unstoppable violence.

Shelly Newkirk
sophomore social work major from Springfield, Mo.



I don't think so because it's not safe to have weapons on campus. Off campus is fine if you have your concealed hand gun license, but not on a college campus.

Lee Cannan
freshman premajor from Houston



Maybe just pepper spray, like for girls who want it.

Ginny Dean
freshman international communications major from Houston



I think they should, like if it's a tazer or something. But not a gun. And not during the day, but maybe at night.

Britney O'Donnell
freshman education major from Houston

NEWS

Woman's discharge raises debate about Army policy

By Malcolm Garcia
McClatchy Newspapers

TOPEKA, Kan. — These days Amy Brian, a former Kansas Army National Guard specialist, can hold hands with her partner without fear of discovery.

She can sit next to her in a restaurant booth and not worry about what people think, what they might say, what they might do.

Still, Brian cannot forget how her service in the Guard officially ended last month after a civilian co-worker said she saw Brian kissing a woman in a Wal-Mart checkout line.

"I got along with everybody," said Brian, 34, seated on the couch of her Topeka home. "My close friends knew I was gay. I never said it — it was just known and wasn't a problem."

Brian is the only gay person to be discharged from the Kansas Army National Guard under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which was introduced during the Clinton administration in 1993 and which the military began implementing in 1994. About 12,500 lesbian, homosexual and bisexual service members were discharged under the policy between 1994 and 2007. Figures for 2008 are not yet available.

The policy bans military recruiters or authorities from asking someone about his or her sexual orientation, but it also prohibits a service member from revealing if he or she is gay.

"This decision was not based on performance, but federal law," Sharon Watson, public affairs director for the Kansas adjutant general's office, said of Brian's discharge. "We recognize the sensitivity of the issue. It's a federal law all military must follow."

Before the policy was put into place, gay men and lesbians were barred from serving in the military. When he ran for president in 1992, Bill Clinton pledged to change that. But after he was elected, Clinton had to compromise with "don't ask, don't tell."



Amy Brian, a Topeka, Kan. woman who served in Iraq, was discharged from the Kansas Army National Guard after an investigation spurred by a co-worker's report about her being a lesbian and anonymous e-mails that outed her to her superiors.

Top civilian and military leaders in the Defense Department have expressed support for the policy. In 2007, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said he believed homosexual acts were immoral and worked against good order and discipline in the services.

During the most recent presidential campaign, Barack Obama said he would work to end the policy, but because it is dictated by federal law, the rule cannot be overturned except by Congress.

Brian saw herself as one of the people the Guard needed. She had grown up with stories about the Guard from her father, who was in the Navy during the Vietnam War, was a Guard member most of his life and served in the Persian Gulf War. She remembered her mother ironing his uniform. Brian would polish his boots.

She joined the Guard in 1991 as a

high school senior and served until 1994, when she married. She had a son and eventually divorced. She re-enlisted in 2003. The following year, just as she was preparing for a deployment in Iraq, she told her parents she was gay.

"I just found myself," Brian said. "My mom and dad were supportive. They knew their grandson was being taken care of and that the woman I was with was good for me. They just didn't want me to flaunt it."

The reality of her deployment to Iraq did not hit Brian until she landed in Kuwait and found herself living in a tent and bathing with bottled water.

She then drove in a convoy from Kuwait to Camp Anaconda in Balad, Iraq.

Everyone, she said, knew she was gay. It didn't seem to matter.

In October 2005, Brian left Iraq and returned to her full-time job at the U.S. Property and Fiscal Office,

which is part of the Kansas Army National Guard's Topeka headquarters.

She worked as a secretary and then moved up to purchasing and contracting. She completed college and enrolled in Friends University to earn a master's degree in business administration.

Her life was on a roll.

But last July, everything came to an abrupt halt. A gay guardsman urged her to delete her MySpace page, which included a photograph of Brian with her partner. Someone, the guardsman told her, had a problem with that.

Then in August 2008, a lieutenant told her she was being investigated for homosexual conduct. A civilian co-worker claimed to have seen Brian kissing a woman at a Wal-Mart.

Someone else began sending a barrage of anonymous e-mails to as many as 12 officers in Brian's chain

of command, saying Brian was gay. The e-mails gave the address of a Web site — not her MySpace page — showing her photograph and revealing her sexual orientation.

The accusations led the Guard to begin an investigation. Brian chose not to request a hearing before a board of three officers. To do so risked a dishonorable discharge if they found her guilty.

Instead, she resigned from the U.S. Property and Fiscal Office in September. She continued her military affiliation until her separation from the Guard became effective Jan. 13. She received a general discharge under honorable conditions.

"Each (accusation) alone may not have been enough," said Brian's appointed counsel, Maj. Jared Maag, senior defense counsel for Trial Defense Services for the Kansas National Guard. "But combine them, the command obviously thought

they had enough to go forward."

Maag said he has requested a low re-entry code for Brian, which would make it easier for her to re-enlist should the "don't ask, don't tell" policy change.

But Brian said she doesn't know if she would re-enlist. Losing her \$22-an-hour job was bad enough, but she also lost her education benefits, which prevented her from completing her master's degree.

Angry and "stressed out," she removed her son from school and left Topeka for two months to recover from the shock. She cashed out her 401(k) to make ends meet until she returned to Topeka and found a job managing a store that sells glasses and contacts.

Brian said she is not a vengeful person.

"I was not discharged for a criminal act," she said. "My last evaluation was great. Everyone knew I was gay. No one said anything about it."

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WOMEN'S TENNIS



Senior's Macall Harkins, left, and Anna Sydorska congratulate each other after scoring a point during their 8-7 victory in a match against SMU last spring. Harkins and Sydorska were the No. 11-ranked doubles team in the nation at the time.

Freshman finding her way at right time for busy team

By Luke Urban
Staff Reporter

The No. 21-ranked women's tennis team, with up-and-coming freshman Gaby Mastromarino, looks to continue its recent strong play this weekend when it hosts North Carolina State University and a No. 15 University of Miami squad at Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center on Saturday and Sunday.

Mastromarino and the team are 3-2 this spring after topping Auburn University 4-3 nearly two weeks ago.

Head coach Jefferson Hammond said Mastromarino has made a smooth transition to becoming a college tennis player, especially with the demands of school and shorter practice time.

Hammond said she has gained confidence through her consistent play on the court.

Mastromarino said there are things she has been working on to

improve her game.

"Just finding a balance between my power and consistency will probably go a long way for me," Mastromarino said.

Mastromarino said she gets along well with the whole team, both on and off the court, and that her teammates have made her and fellow freshmen Kayla Duncan feel like part of the team.

Hammond said Mastromarino's presence and effort has helped the team this year.

"I think the team is stronger because of the friendships she has made and her willingness to always compete during practice," Hammond said.

The two matches this weekend will give the team and Mastromarino another chance to prove they can keep up their recent good play.

Hammond said the key to the two matches this weekend is to come out strong.

Miami moved its record to 8-1

TCU vs. N.C. State

When: 1 p.m. Saturday
Where: Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center

TCU vs. Miami

When: 11 a.m. Sunday
Where: Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center

with a win over a No. 5-ranked Stanford University team last weekend.

"Miami has a reputation for mentally tough players," Hammond said.

The No. 48 N.C. State Wolfpack dropped its record to 1-5 with the loss to Winthrop University on Saturday in Raleigh, N.C.

The team will be on the road next Thursday at Texas Tech University before returning home to face the University of Alabama on Feb. 28.



Sophomore guard Helena Sverrisdottir works the ball toward the baseline against sophomore center Liz Dunsworth in the second half of the Lady Frogs' game against Air Force on Jan. 17. The team has won its past five games and now sits in second place.

BASKETBALL

continued from page 8

ers look forward to home games because they are more comfortable in their gym.

Ostermann said the remaining home games should help the team as it closes out the regular season.

"It seems like we've been on

the road a long time," Ostermann said. "Any time you get back home things are more familiar, and we're looking forward to that."

Rentschler said the team has a goal to sweep the rest of conference play. Ostermann took that goal a step further.

"We've got a basketball team that has aspirations of winning

the Mountain West regular season, winning the Mountain West Tournament and making a bid into the NCAA Tournament," Ostermann said. "All of those goals are still in reach."

After their game against the Cowgirls, the Lady Frogs will host the University of New Mexico at 6:30 p.m. next Wednesday in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

MLB

Griffey's return to Seattle will only help Mariners

By Bud Withers
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — John McLaren, who was around Ken Griffey Jr. as a bench coach in the 1990s, puts Junior's return to Seattle in a context more glowing than even some of the most jubilant Mariners fans.

"I've been thinking about this a lot," said McLaren, M's manager for parts of the 2007 and 2008 seasons. "All the top players that have been to the top of the mountain the last 15 years — Bonds, Clemens, A-Rod — have fallen down.

"Except for Junior. That just reassures you how great he's been."

If there's a downside to the return of Griffey, those who were around him during his Seattle days don't think it's a considerable one.

"We all need to understand this is not the Junior of '95, '97, all those great years," McLaren said. "But he still knows how to play the game. He's still got a presence in the clubhouse, which they need."

Former outfielder Jay Buhner,

one of Griffey's closest friends with the M's, said he knew it was a "tug-and-pull" decision for Griffey.

"It was a family decision, and you know what, it's the ultimate feather in Seattle fans' hats," Buhner said. "He felt Seattle was family. Nowadays, with all the money and coming and going, it's great to see a hometown hero going to end where he started."

Buhner, though, thinks this could end up being about much more than sentimentality.

"You bring a guy back to a comfortable environment with people you know and love, have him let his guard down a little bit, let fans embrace him ...," Buhner said, referring to the possibility of a solid year for Griffey. "If anybody can elevate his game to another level (it's him), I think a lot of deja vu will come into play. If his knees hold up, this stadium is built for his swing."

As much as Griffey might contribute on the field, his presence in the clubhouse will be watched

almost as closely.

Said Buhner of Griffey, "He openly accepts that role and I think he's going to be huge in the clubhouse. You know as well as I do, it's been dead in there the last seven or eight years.

"He IS the Seattle Mariners. How can a guy like that not have a huge presence?"

With the Mariners, Griffey sometimes reached out to the lesser figures on the roster, drawing them into his web of tomfoolery. Ex-catcher Tom Lampkin remembers Griffey chartering a small plane once for an off-day and taking Buhner, Lampkin and pitcher Frank Rodriguez to his home in Orlando.

"Frank was pretty damn close to the 25th guy (on the roster), and I wasn't too far from it," Lampkin said.

Lee Elia, the former coach under Lou Piniella, said, "I couldn't be happier. I truly believe in his heart, he wanted to come home to Seattle and finish it out."



Ken Griffey Jr. follows through after hitting a two-run home run in the second inning against the Seattle Mariners at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago last August. Griffey's White Sox beat the Mariners 15-3.

8.0

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2:00p 5:00p 8:00p 11:00p

GRAN TORINO [R]: 6:40p 9:50p

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU [PG-13]: 11:15a 2:30p 6:15p 9:30p

PAUL BLART: MALL COP [PG]: 1:00p 3:45p 7:20p 10:50p

PUSH [PG-13]: 11:45a 3:10p 7:10p 10:40p

TAKEN [PG-13]: 12:15p 4:00p 7:30p 10:20p

THE INTERNATIONAL [R]: 11:30a 3:00p 6:30p 10:10p

PINK PANTHER 2 [PG]: 11:10a 3:30p

TYLER PERRY'S MADEA GOES TO JAIL [PG-13]: 12:45p 4:15p 7:40p 11:00p

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FEATURES



Find out about how the local Circle Theatre is teaming up with TCU's theatre students.
Tuesday

Veterans adjust to college life on the homefront

By Chance Welch
Features Editor

Exchanging their troop fatigues for plainclothes and trying to fit in with other TCU students, military veterans adjust to a new life where lessons are learned in the classroom and not on the battlefield. Suzanne Weldon, who handles Veterans Affairs issues and academic eligibility in the Registrar's Office, said there are 72 veterans on campus, 16 of which are listed as disabled.

Junior advertising/public relations major Heidi Lee transferred out of the Army into civilian life after a knee injury. Coming back to college was different for her because she was out of the service six years before deciding to get her degree. Set to graduate next December, Lee is listed with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs under Chapter 31 in the Vocational Rehabilitation Program where the service will pay for a person's college tuition and fees, books and school supplies.

The question of identity is one of the difficulties Lee said veterans like her face when coming out of the service onto college campuses.

"I think the major adjustment that most soldiers coming back have is the loss of camaraderie that they have instantly with the platoon or group they were in," Lee said. "I know that some of the people I saw that came out just felt like they were kind of floating around with nothing to hang onto because they didn't have those shared experiences."

Whether it's the haircut or the way they walk, Lee said she can point out a veteran in plainclothes from a mile away. She has kept in touch with her fellow TCU veterans, even helping them network and make friends via a Facebook group called "The Vets of TCU."

With more media focus on suicide rates in the Army, which have been rising for four consecutive years, and soldiers returning home with post-traumatic stress disorder, Lee said the extending deployment dates and multiple tours of duty can add even more stress on top of all the explosions and gunfire that combat brings.

"I think they're sending these kids over for multiple tours so they know what they're going back into," Lee said. "You don't have someone telling you what to do, where to be and what to wear.

But to go back and forth like that, particularly if you already suffer from post-traumatic stress, that has to have an effect."

Constant ringing in the ear stemming from tinnitus received after working with explosives. A scar above his lip where he was hit with a rifle.

These are some of the damaging effects that you can see on Iraq War veteran and junior advertising/public relations major Chris Simcho's body. Through two tours of duty in the Iraq War he picked up a few injuries along the way, but Simcho said he's fortunate when it comes to the rising number of veterans making the transition to civilian life with scars on the inside.

Simcho, a disabled veteran, said that he doesn't suffer from PTSD but when he came home he experienced some of the symptoms

"I think the major adjustment that most soldiers coming back have is the loss of camaraderie that they have instantly with the platoon or group they were in."

Heidi Lee
junior advertising/public relations major and Army veteran

associated with it. He would get anxious when he was in crowds, always look for the exits in buildings and use other tactics that were standard operating procedure in Iraq.

This phenomenon where a person will continue to scan his or her environment for threats is called hypervigilance, and it's listed in the American Psychiatric Association's fourth edition of its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV-TR) as a symptom of PTSD.

These symptoms eventually stopped with time, he said. Simcho said some of the factors contributing to PTSD include the effect that distance has on a soldier if he has a family at home. For him, he said, it's not so much the explosions and gunshots that



Photo illustration by CHANCE WELCH / Features Editor

rattle the soldier's mind as much as the constant push and pull of deployment dates.

"People will find out that their wife or girlfriend has been cheating on them or doesn't want to be with them anymore and they can't deal with distance," Simcho said. "There's a lot of territory that comes with being in the military, especially overseas. That's hard on people because being away from family you might have a kid, although I hope that's a reason to not kill yourself."

The Sept. 11 attacks in 2001 was the catalyst that caused Simcho to enlist in the Marines Corps. He was attending Heald College's School of Business in his native state of California at the time he felt the call of

duty to serve his country.

He dropped out of school the next week and signed up to join the Marines. Five months later, he was in boot camp and a little over a year later, he saw the beginning of the Iraq War with the 1st battalion of the 1st Marines weapons company in March 2003.

The transition from the battlefield to college campus has gone smoothly, Simcho said. He said the smaller class sizes at TCU made for an atmosphere that didn't overwhelm him like a larger public university would. At 26 years old, Simcho said adjusting to the college atmosphere is harder if one is older than the average age of an undergraduate student.

Simcho said he tends to stick

with other veterans because they are closer to him in terms of age and experiences.

"I think meeting veterans is easier to do, and that's one of the bigger adjustments being a veteran in college is that you find yourself older than the usual crowd," Simcho said. "For me to go out and attend a party to get to know people would feel pretty awkward."

Christopher Gillett, a senior psychosocial kinesiology major and veteran of the Air Force, said it was never a question of if he would go back to school, it was only a matter of when he was going to get his college education.

Gillett stayed in the service while his wife got out of the Air

Force to go to college in North Carolina. Gillett left on a medical discharge with a back injury and waited a few years until his wife graduated before going back to college, first at Tarrant County College and then at TCU.

"If I wasn't in the Chapter 31 vocational rehab, there would be no way I could afford TCU," Gillett said.

Gillett said he has a few friends who are veterans but said that he doesn't stay within one group when it comes to fitting in.

"If we just hung out with each other, we'd really limit ourselves," Gillett said. "I don't have a problem meeting other friends. I have a lot of friends who are 20 years old. It keeps me young too."

Social work student highlights issues in campus gay community



CHANCE WELCH / Features Editor

Sophomore social work major Shelly Newkirk recently conducted a survey of gay students to see what issues in the LGBT community mattered most to them.

By Maricruz Salinas
Staff Reporter

Representatives of the TCU Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community expressed a lack of unity within the gay population in addition to the broader campus, according to a study on the support of LGBT students within the university.

A research project led by sophomore social work major Shelly Newkirk and her mentor Tracy Dietz, associate professor of social work, extensively surveyed five students from the gay community.

The participants, who were kept anonymous, were asked to relay their experiences within the college community. Questions asked ranged from comparing high school experiences to college experiences and their opinion of the level of advocacy and support within campus grounds.

The study, conducted between December 2007 and April 2008, examined the effects on the fear of hate acts, the undertones of heterosexism, the assumption that there is no need for progression in gay rights, and anti-homosexuality in accordance with beliefs based in religion.

All five students exhibited levels of cautiousness and discomfort attributed to the campus atmosphere, according to the report.

According to the research, four out of the five participants said they had experienced at least one instance of harassment on campus, mainly derogatory comments concerning their sexual orientation.

The project clarifies that the small sample size does not accurately represent all of the campus's LGBT community. Individuals not openly gay were not interviewed in the research, the report said.

Newkirk and Dietz concluded the campus lacks a valid support system for LGBT students. Dietz said fear, isolation and the lack of support remain the top issues concerning the LGBT community.

Blade Berkman, junior social work major and former president of the TCU's Gay-Straight Alliance, said the caution not only originates from the fear of coming out on campus but also coming out to family members.

"It's not so much what they'll face here with the students. It's also what they'll face with their parents," Berkman said. "It's a college setting so there's also the possibility of being cut off from your family."

Newkirk said she hopes the study will bring awareness to the growing LGBT community and their quest for equality.

"I feel like at TCU there are a very large number of students who are closeted," she said. "They're either trying to change and not be gay or they just don't feel comfortable enough to come out."

Berkman said he agreed that the atmosphere of the campus directly interferes with student's levels of comfort.

"These people don't have the opportunity to be who they are," he said. "They don't call it 'Texas Closeted University' for nothing."

Corte Gilbert, president of GSA and senior criminal justice and theater major, recently conducted

a less-formal survey of more than 100 students online and through the V-Day Campaign's booth at the TCU Info Fair.

Gilbert said students overall would like to see more activity from the GSA regardless of their personal opinion.

"I think students believe there should be fear and non-acceptance, when actually there's not nearly as much homophobia as there used to be," Gilbert said. "I think people base it on past fears that make it harder to

"I think students believe there should be fear and non-acceptance, when actually there's not nearly as much homophobia as there used to be."

Corte Gilbert,
president of GSA

see that change happening."

Dietz, future co-advisor to GSA, conducted a similar study about TCU's LGBT community with another student researcher in July 1997. She said she found the progress on campus between the two studies disappointing but the activism of gay students has increased.

"Over the years, (GSA) has really been more visible on campus," Dietz said. "Ten years ago, to my knowledge, there was no movement to get something formalized

at a higher level."

Newkirk, who received the approval for the project after she presented the proposal to the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Initiative, used a grant to develop the project.

Since completion of the research project, Newkirk has released a video on YouTube titled "If I Could Speak Freely" that has caught the attention of many, including Chancellor Victor Boschini.

Newkirk will meet with Boschini to discuss a possible resource center for LGBT students, as well as working toward more recognition of the gay community on campus.

Berkman said the stability of the gay awareness movement relies on the university's stance on institutionalizing the office.

The bureaucracy of the situation handicaps the movement toward a more gay-friendly environment, he said.

New GSA officers encourage different levels of activity within the GSA, and solidifying a faculty member as an official officer will sustain the rising activity level of the gay community, he said.

Dietz said that as part of the faculty, she feels a responsibility toward any group that has been oppressed and discriminated against.

"For faculty and staff who've taken time to think about it, they would say we need to do something for this group of students that hasn't been heard — (Students) who may be oppressed on this campus, who don't feel safe in certain settings and who are in classrooms and hear hate language against their group," Dietz said.

ETC.



Today in History

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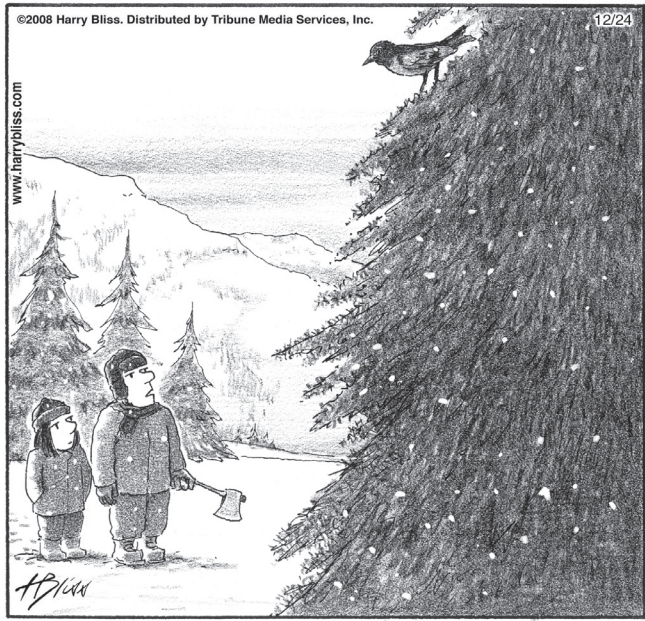
— History Channel

Joke of the Day

Q: What did Geronimo say when he jumped out of the airplane?
A: ME!

Bliss

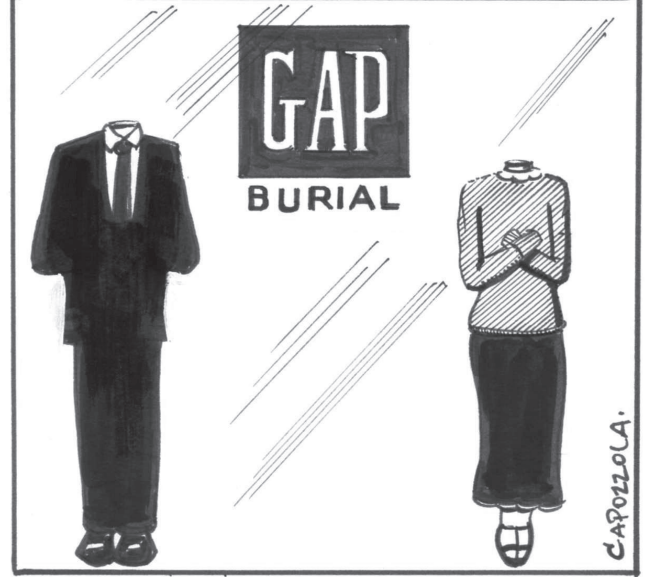
by Harry Bliss



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	9	7		1				2
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Directions
Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

See Tuesday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Thursday's Solutions

4	8	2	3	6	5	7	9	1
5	7	3	4	9	1	8	2	6
1	9	6	8	7	2	4	3	5
2	1	7	9	4	6	5	8	3
8	5	4	1	2	3	9	6	7
6	3	9	7	5	8	2	1	4
7	2	5	6	3	9	1	4	8
3	4	1	2	8	7	6	5	9
9	6	8	5	1	4	3	7	2

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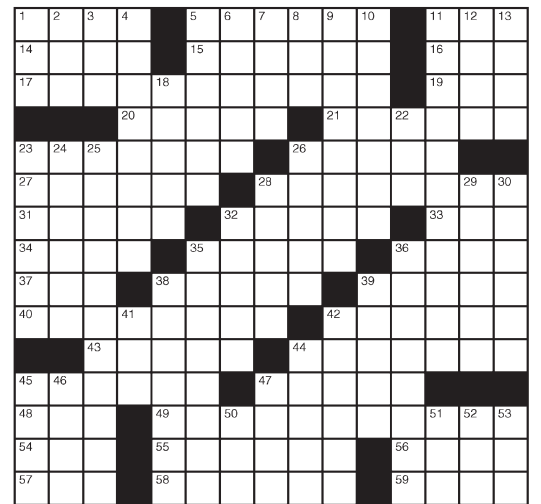
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19 Stum
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21 Nabokov title
23 Pet rodent
26 One under legal age
27 As one
28 Forest dweller
31 Prospector
32 Lacy houseplants
33 Sleeve card?
34 Ugandan despot
35 Clamps
36 Fundamentals
37 Part of USNA
38 Threescore
39 Powerful influence
40 Top vote getters
42 Awaken
43 Reddish horses
44 Fell as ice
45 Texas capital
47 Crude workman?
48 Pressure meas.
49 Widget
54 Old name of Tokyo
55 Money set aside
56 "Das Lied von der..."
57 Juan Capistrano
58 V-shaped fortifications
59 Eurasian deer

DOWN
1 Ernie of the PGA
2 Old French coin
3 Swiss river
4 Disconnect
5 Soaked up some rays
6 "Enigma Variations" composer
7 Studio apts.
8 Angle or pod lead-in
9 Mischievous children
10 O'Brien and Rostand
11 Fidget
12 Search for
13 Luke's Jedi mentor
18 Bury
22 Angeles
23 Kindhearted
24 Type of magnetism?
25 Midget
26 Comic
28 Adam and Benjamin
29 Place blame
30 Sat on eggs
32 Repairs



By Ed Voile Gillette, WY

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

S	T	E	P	F	U	R	O	R	Y	E	A	S
O	O	Z	E	A	M	I	G	O	A	M	N	I
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D	E	N	E	B	W	I	L	L	N	E	V	E
T	A	B	U	S	C	T	R	A	R	E		
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A	B	N	O	R	M	A	L	S	E	A	T	E
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A	T	L	I	O	S	M	A	N	E	R	I	E
R	E	E	L	R	E	B	E	C	M	I	N	D

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Religion Directory

<p>Episcopal</p> <p>Trinity Episcopal Church welcomes TCU students. Sunday services are 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Holy Eucharist with Choir 11:30 Eucharist with contemporary music. 3401 Bellaire Dr. South at Stadium Dr. 817.926.4631</p>	<p>Catholic</p> <p>Holy Family Catholic Church Pastor: Rev. Joseph Pemberton Mass Times: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 7:45 a.m.; 9:15 a.m.; 12:00 Noon 6:15 Pershing Ave Fort Worth, TX 76107 817.737.6768 www.holyfamilyfw.org Young Adult Ministry: Contact Amy at HFSAYAM@gmail.com</p>	<p>Presbyterian</p> <p>St. Stephen Presbyterian Church 2700 McPherson Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas 76109 817.927.8411 office www.ststephen-pcusa.com Service Opportunities Abound...Go to our website for more information Worship 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Sundays</p>	<p>Church of Christ</p> <p>Make your life count! Join God's mission at Southside Church of Christ 2101 Hemphill St. Fort Worth, Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m. college class at 11:00a.m. Evening worship at 6:00p.m. Wednesday Bible Study at 8:30p.m.</p>
<p>Bible Church</p> <p>College Impact: Christ Chapel Bible Church Sundays @ 11am in the Bubble www.collegeimpact.org Exalt "A Midweek Refuel" Wednesdays from 7-8pm in West Sanctuary. Ryan McCarthy College Minister 817.703.6939 ryanm@christchapelbc.org</p>	<p>Disciples of Christ</p> <p>South Hills Christan Church (DOC) Rec Dottie Cook Minister Worship 8:30 and 10:50 Young Adult Sunday School with breakfast 9:45 3200 Bilgade Road 817-926-5281 Call for directions</p>	<p>United Church of Christ</p> <p>First Congregational Church, UCC 4201 Trail Lake Drive, Fort Worth 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Service Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday School All Ages 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service www.fwfccucc.org Open and Affirming, Welcoming All!</p>	<p>Evangelical</p> <p>Trinity Vineyard Fellowship www.trinityvf.org Come experience the God you always knew existed and always dreamed you would encounter. 910 Collier St, Ft. Worth TX 76102 (817) 521-8773</p>

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SPORTS

See how the women's tennis team fared in its two home matches this weekend. Tuesday

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team aiming for fifth straight win



TCU junior guard TK LaFleur fights several Air Force defenders for an offensive rebound during the second half of the game Wednesday night.

By Mark Bell
Staff Reporter

The last time the Lady Frogs' basketball team played the University of Wyoming, it was a high-scoring affair.

The Lady Frogs (17-8, 9-3 MWC) eked out a 81-78 win in Laramie Jan. 21, but will look to do better defensively when they face the Cowgirls on Saturday.

"Giving up 78 points is far more than we would like," associate head coach Brian Ostermann said. "We have to do some things better defensively against them."

Junior guard TK LaFleur said it is a matter of not letting the Wyoming (13-11, 5-6 MWC) players get their first option on offense.

"Their players are all capable

TCU vs. Wyoming

When: 5 p.m. Saturday
Where: Daniel-Meyer Coliseum
The first 150 fans receive a free pair of Pink Cross.

of scoring so we want to contain them and not let them all go off," LaFleur said. "We have to understand what each player wants to do and try to make them do something different."

The Lady Frogs are riding a four-game winning streak and play three of their last four games at home. Sophomore forward Rachel Rentschler said the play-

SEE BASKETBALL • PAGE 5

EQUESTRIAN

Horned Frogs ready for crosstown rivalry

By Elise Smith
Staff Reporter

The equestrian team, who will face off against rival Southern Methodist University this weekend on their home field in Mansfield, is hoping that a win will give the team momentum to finish off the season strong.

Head coach Gary Reynolds said the hunt seat team has been on a roll the past several competitions and is finally beginning to perform well. He said there has been leadership on the team from sophomore Milana Trimino, who is 7-1 on position on the flat this year.

Kelsey Huffman, a sophomore member of the Western team, said she's looking forward to competing against SMU again.

"Last year when we competed against SMU it was a very good matchup because they were a strong team and there was a friendly rivalry," Huffman said.

Reynolds said the team won the last matchup against SMU and that if the team executes its patterns well, it will come out on top again.

The competition was originally

going to be in Dallas this weekend, but SMU didn't have enough horses at their barn for the competition, Reynolds said.

Only TCU's English team will be competing this weekend because SMU does not have a Western team.

Huffman said even though the Western team was not competing this time, they would support their fellow teammates.

"The whole Western team will help the English team girls get their horses ready, help them remember their patterns on the flat and even help them clean their boots," Huffman said.

Reynolds said the atmosphere of the team has been filled with excitement and the team is working hard to get in extra practices and improve its strength and conditioning.

"The team dynamic is really excellent," Reynolds said. "I'm really excited about the future of this team."

The team will face its next opponent, New Mexico State University, on Feb. 28 at their home field in Mansfield in their second to last competition before the National Championships.

BASEBALL



Senior infielder Corey Steglich hits during the first team practice of the season.

Season begins against highly ranked Fullerton

By Travis L. Brown
Staff Writer

Following coach Gary Patterson's lead from the 2005 football season, head baseball coach Jim Schlossnagle scheduled a national powerhouse to test the Horned Frogs in their first series of the season.

The baseball team opens its season this weekend with a series at Cal State Fullerton, Baseball America's 5th best team in the nation. "After the weekend you're going to find out where you are and what your weaknesses are and what your strengths are," Schlossnagle said. "It's been good from a preparation standpoint because you're not going to ease into the season. Coach Patterson and I talked about this a lot. He felt when they opened up with Oklahoma, their practices leading up to the season where more intense. This time next week we'll have a better feel for our team."

Junior pitcher Tyler Lockwood will get the nod Friday night to kick off the season. Lockwood finished the 2008 season with a 7-2 record and a 2.75 ERA. Lockwood moved from the bullpen March 20 last year and started 11 games in 2008.

"We just want to throw a lot of strikes and keep the ball down in the zone and not put guys on," Lockwood said. "We want to just do what we do in practice every day."

Saturday's probable starter is sophomore Sean Hoelscher. Hoelscher had a 7-3 record last season with a 5.02 ERA in 15 starts.

Sunday could be the first showing of TCU freshman pitcher Kyle Winkler from Kempner High School in Sugar Land, Texas. Winkler was the 19th-ranked high school recruit in Texas by Baseball America and was selected by the Milwaukee Brewers in the 37th

round of the 2008 MLB draft.

Cal State Fullerton returns sophomore pitcher Daniel Renken who could cause some offensive trouble for the Horned Frogs. The 6-foot-4 pitcher went 5-5 last season as a freshman with a 4.11 ERA in 81 innings pitched. He stuck out 80 batters in 2008.

"From what I remember last year, the first couple games they liked to throw a lot of fastballs outside and challenge you," said senior infielder Ben Carruthers. "We did a good job the first few games putting good swings on balls."

The Horned Frogs will look to break the single season fielding percentage record again this season, returning three of four infielders. Freshman Taylor Featherston will start his first collegiate game playing shortstop.

"We really can't even tell they're new," Carruthers said about the freshman starters. "I don't even know they're freshmen anymore. They've impressed me a lot this spring. I'm anxious to see how they will play because I know they will be great."

The outfield is the only concern in the field for the Horned Frogs. With the loss of Clint Arnold from last season, the team is left without a true starting center fielder.

"I think we'll fall off a little bit on defense in the outfield because we don't have a true center fielder that has really taken over the position as of yet," Schlossnagle said. "We're looking at a lot of people there."

Schlossnagle said the keys to winning this weekend are for the team to play aggressively on offense, conservative on defense and force the Titans into mistakes.

"We're just happy to get the season started," Carruthers said. "We've been practicing with each other for three weeks now, and it's good to see a different team and a different uniform."



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