



NEWS

TCU is breaking ground on a new classroom for piano students. **TOMORROW**



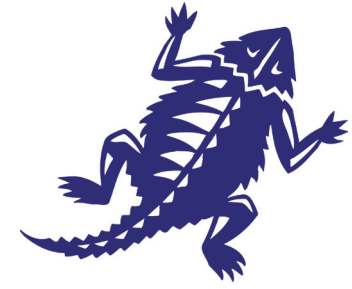
ISSUES

Students and faculty express their opinions about the war in Iraq. **PAGE 4**



SPORTS

Find out who the new recruits are for the football team. **TOMORROW**



TCU

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Greek organizations planning unity week for upcoming April

By DIA WALL
Staff Reporter

The Greek community is working to unite for a week of philanthropy and fun.

The Greek organizations are drafting plans to hold a week-long celebration coined "Greek Week," which would unite the 15 sororities and 14 fraternities on campus.

Panhellenic President Hannah Munsch said they hope the

week of events will take place sometime in April, if each organization's schedule permits but stresses they are still in the early planning stages.

Matt DiLeo and Lindsay Rames, former directors of community relations for the Interfraternity and Panhellenic councils, began drafting the proposal last year.

The proposed idea will combine all Greek councils

to create and host a full week of events. The Interfraternity, multicultural Greek, national Pan-Hellenic and Panhellenic councils will all have influential and integral parts in deciding what those exact activities will be.

Additional questions such as where the event will be held and what part each sorority and fraternity will play have not yet been answered, and

a formal committee will be assembled sometime soon, said Matt DiLeo, IFC president.

"I think it's a great way to show the true meaning of what being in a sorority or a fraternity is," said Jessica McNeil, a junior nursing major. "To see all the groups together doing positive things on campus would show everyone the positive side of greek life."

Rames got the initial idea

for hosting a "Greek Week" from a leadership program and thought the concept would be beneficial here.

"The goal of the program would be to help unite the entire Greek community at TCU," Rames said.

DiLeo said the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs approved the idea late last semester and once the committee is assembled, the arrange-

ments will be made concrete. An informational meeting was held Jan. 29 to discuss potential activities and events for the organizations to host during the week.

"We just implanted the idea into the presidents' heads," DiLeo said.

Later this week, "Greek Week" committee members will be elected to start setting up the event.

Gas drilling to aid students

By ERICK MOEN
Staff Reporter

The university will drill for natural gas on its property in order to financially boost all operations for several years to come, the provost said during a Staff Assembly meeting Tuesday.

Provost Nowell Donovan said the drilling will be into the Barnett Shale reservoir 7,000 feet underneath campus.

The money from the drilling will be used to further university interests and help create a better breeding ground for leaders, Donovan said.

The information was given in a presentation Donovan called, "The Handshake Moment." He defined it as the moment when a student shakes hands with the Chancellor and said everything a university does relates to that moment.

Donovan said the message delivered at commencement is that a student has earned or merited a degree and that the degree is of the highest quality TCU can deliver.

"We're bound to each other by a whole series of promises," Donovan said.

To help define these promises, Donovan gave an assessment of the school's academic goals. John Householder, Staff Assembly chair, said Donovan's assessment described, "Where we are and where we're going with academics."

Donovan said the university had students of distinction, and that the faculty, "exemplified the TCU teacher/scholar model."

However, Donovan emphasized that the school needs to continue down its current path of improving academic facilities.

"We still have quite some way to go," Donovan said.

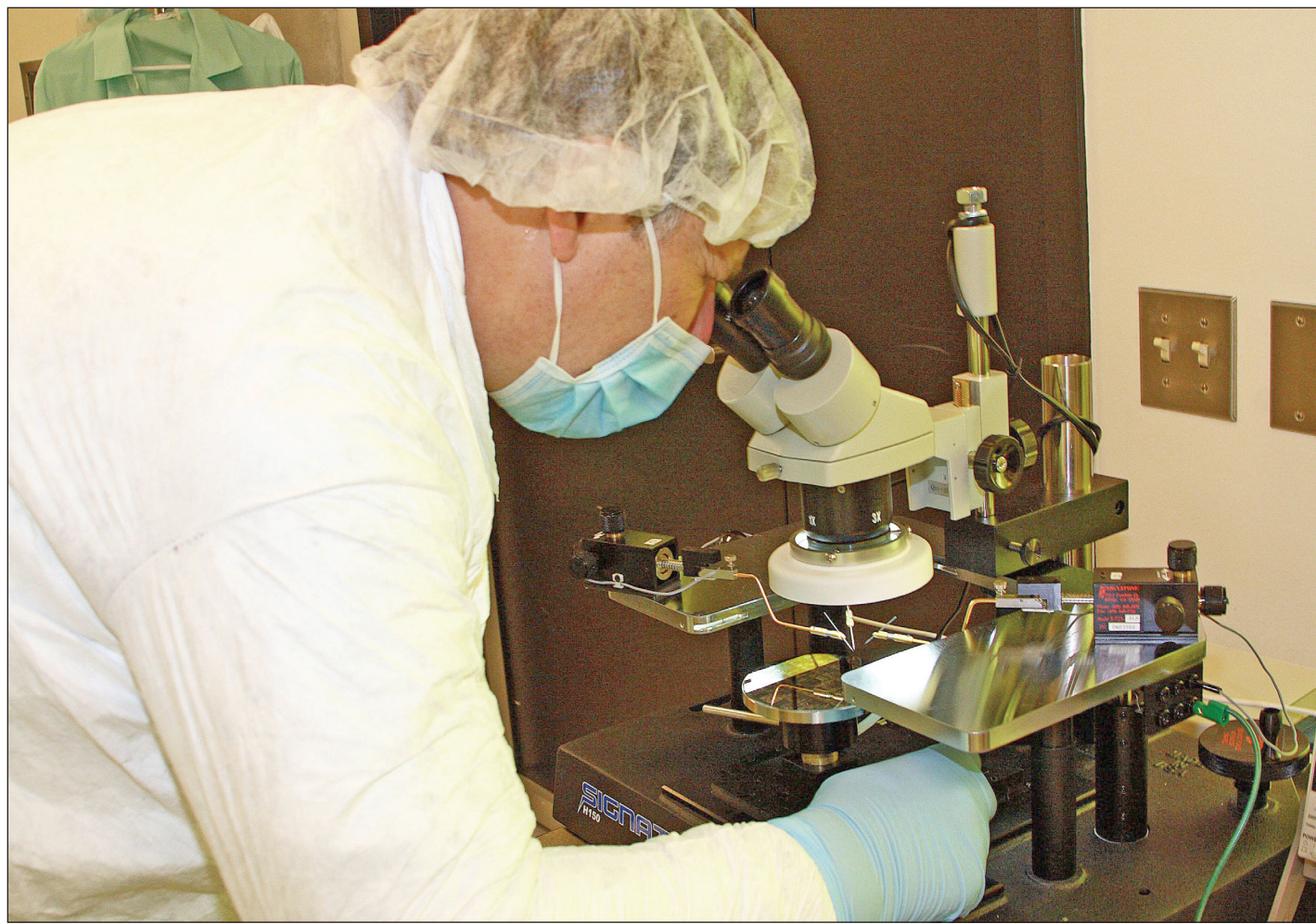
He said the money from the natural gas should help make progress toward achieving the university's goals.

"We are 100 percent certain there is money underneath us and that it will help us in the coming years," Donovan said.

The plan calls for the university to utilize horizontal

See **MEETING**, page 2

KEEP IT CLEAN



Professor, students utilize 'clean room'

By MICHAEL BEST
Staff Reporter

The wafers made by a professor and five students in TCU's clean room may not be tasty like Nilla Wafers, but they're probably more useful.

Engineering professor Edward Kolesar will open his course, theory and fabrication of microelectronic devices, to five undergraduate students who will fashion silicon wafers next semester. The wafers will be used to perform specific functions inside electronic devices, Kolesar said.

"What we're making are the fundamental building blocks," Kolesar said. "When you connect the building blocks together on a circuit board, then you make a high-level system that would play music, record music, store information and retrieve information, any of the electronic functions that you're used to."

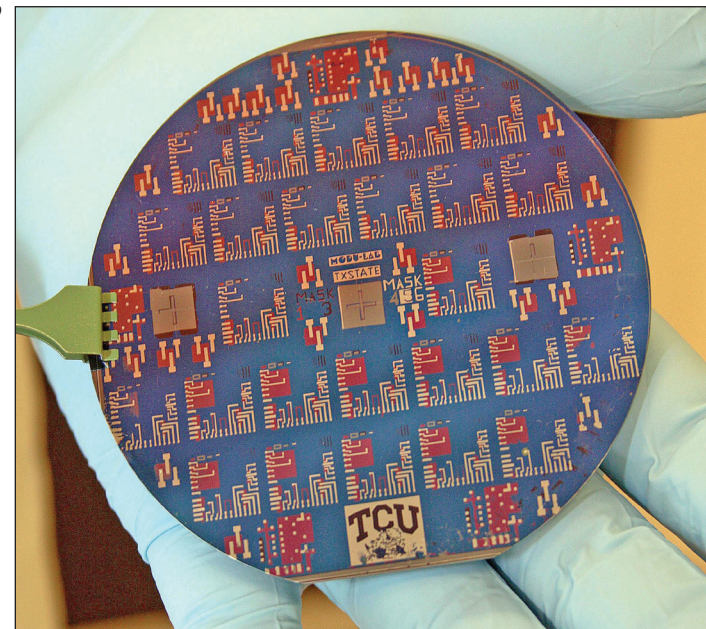
The clean room, an ultra-clean environment for fashion-

ing microelectronics where the wafers will be made, is located on the second floor of the Tucker Technology Center.

Kolesar chose two students he had worked with in years prior, juniors Brandon Least and Jeff Tippey, to participate in the course for elective credit this semester as a test run, Kolesar said.

The room is unique because it is one of only three university-owned clean rooms in the United States undergraduates have the opportunity to use, Kolesar said. He said courses at most other universities involving clean room use are typically only available to graduate students.

"It's quite impressive for a small school to have a nice clean room," said Tippey, an electrical engineering major. "The small class sizes, combined with the benefit of actually having a clean room for undergraduates to use, makes TCU a premium engineering school in my mind."



JASON FOCHTMAN / Staff Photographer

(TOP) Ed Kolesar examines a silicon wafer under a microscope. (BOTTOM) Wafers, such as the one shown, will be made inside the university's clean room.

Least, a mechanical engineering major, and Tippey work in four-hour lab shifts on Mondays this semester, each fashioning a 4-inch-wide circular silicon wafer throughout the course of the semester, Least said.

Workers in the clean room are required to wear a pro-

ective suit of gloves, a coat, a hairnet, shoe covers and a mask to ensure that the clean environment is not compromised, and that no harmful chemicals touch their skin, Kolesar said.

"The quality of air and the

See **ROOM**, page 2

SGA requires community service hours

By VALERIE COOPER
Staff Reporter

Student Government Association representatives are now required to complete 10 hours of community service a semester, the SGA deputy chief of staff said at a meeting Tuesday night.

SGA Deputy Chief of Staff Lauren Nixon presented the new service requirements to SGA members, which include five hours of service to the university and five hours to the community, during the SGA's weekly meeting.

Community service hours are defined by SGA legislation as: "Services to or for members of the community or organizations that exist outside the body of TCU." University hours are defined as: "Service to or for members of the student body or student organizations such as philanthropy and working campus-wide programs."

Nixon, is responsible for organizing service opportunities each semester and documenting representatives' hours.

The new requirement is the result of a bill written by Speaker of the House of Student Representatives Tori Hutchens, which was passed at the Nov. 14 meeting.

"Our mission statement includes service, but we don't have anything in our code that addresses service, either to the community or to the university," said Hutchens.

Part of SGA's purpose is to encompass "the spirit of the TCU community through service, programming and legislation," according to the SGA mission statement.

The meeting was the first open to the 18 new SGA representatives who were elected in November to serve this semester. Members also discussed lobbying in Austin for the Tuition Equalization Grant on Monday and the upcoming joint assembly with the Faculty Senate.

Symposium creates cultural discussion

By JENIGHI POWELL
Staff Reporter

Senior Allison Robinson has spent four years encouraging conversation about cultural and ethnic issues facing students.

Robinson's idea evolved from forums on black and cultural issues and interracial dating to the Black Student Symposium held Tuesday in the Student Cen-

ter Lounge.

Inspired by activist Tavis Smiley's State of the Black Union program, Robinson created a similar panel discussion among black faculty, staff and students. The symposium was an effort to generate positive dialogue in the black community on campus, Robinson said.

"My co-moderator, James Earl,

a senior speech pathology major, and I just sat down and brainstormed ideas about what we wanted students to talk about," Robinson said.

Robinson and Earl posed several questions ranging from the disproportional female to male ratio to the responsibility of black students on campus to the panel. Audience members were also

encouraged to ask or respond to questions.

"I really wanted it to be an open discussion of issues and ideas and not just a panel responding to questions," Robinson said.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Darron Turner, history professor Juan Floyd-

See **ISSUES**, page 2



KYLE ROHANE / Staff Photographer

History professor Juan Floyd-Thomas discusses the influence black teachers had on his life at the State of the Black Student Symposium on Tuesday afternoon.



WEATHER

TODAY: Sunny, 87/67

THURSDAY: Cloudy, 49/39

FRIDAY: Partly cloudy, 54/37

PECULIAR FACT

BANGKOK, Thailand — A 76-year-old woman from Thailand who got on the wrong bus 25 years ago and ended up living at the other end of the country has been reunited with her family, officials and domestic media said Tuesday.

— Reuters

TODAY'S HEADLINES

OPINION: Shuttle buses inefficient, page 3

SPORTS: Rifle to compete in Sectionals, page 6

CONTACT US

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU

ROOM

From page 1

cleanliness of the facility are cleaner than a surgical suite," Kolesar said.

Air in the clean room is purified and recirculated 13 times each hour to flush out any bacteria or dust in the

room because any particle can damage the wafer, Kolesar said.

The clean room contains a high-resolution monitor connected to a video camera, which is used instead of a microscope to see the circuits being created, Kolesar said. He said circuits are created using photolithography,

a process that uses ultraviolet light projected through a shaped mask to form a pattern on the aligned wafer.

Six different layers, chosen because of their unique electrical function, are added to the wafer through a process involving photolithography, chemical washing and drying and heating, Kolesar said.

The wafers in their final stage are tested using an electric probe station, which connects to the wafer with small probes to test the circuits for conductivity, Kolesar said.

Upon completion of the course, students will take their finished silicon wafer home as a mark of their achievement, Kolesar said.

MEETING

From page 1

drilling and fracturing, the process of cracking the rock with pressured water.

Donovan said the Barnett Shale was the least risky drilling investment in recent years.

He said the TCU Energy Institute has been formed for further research on the situation and will be a great opportunity for the college of science and engineering as well as the business school.

When the new buildings are completed it will give opportunities for many departments to widen out. Donovan also said a new honors college will be established to help the university achieve its mission statement. It will reside at the heart of the old student union, which Donovan said is fitting.

"It will honor what we are all about, academic excellence," Donovan said.

Donovan's presentation focused on how TCU can meet the expectations of what he said a university should be.

Donovan said the university's

appeal stems from the personal relationships built up between students and faculty. He said he planned on improving this appeal by hiring 18 new faculty members as part of the school's effort to lower the current student to teacher ratio from 17.7 to 1 to the university's goal of a 13 to 1 ratio.

Donovan also talked about improving the number of students with an "international experience." He said this experience consists of studying in another country or becoming more aware of other cultures through classes.

The university would like to increase the percentage of students with this experience from 21 percent to 100 percent by 2012.

Angela Kaufman, minister to the university, also reported on the new student emergency fund.

Kaufman said the fund was restarted with a \$50,000 donation from an anonymous donor after the recent hurricanes.

The fund will be able to enable students to receive money to pay for emergencies and travel costs for family deaths.

ISSUES

From page 1

Thomas, business school adviser Deidra Turner and Zoranna Williams, recruitment coordinator for the nursing school, represented faculty and staff on the panel.

When a question about barriers facing black students attend-

ing college was posed, most agreed education in black communities needed to be made a priority.

"If the education system looks at black students as a problem, then those students will feel alienated," Floyd-Thomas said. "Parents also need to emphasize that black students need to get books instead of balls and microscopes as well

as microphones."

Students spoke of their responsibility to get involved as positive role models in black communities.

"I know that, right now, I don't have money to give, but I can give my time," said panelist Teneisha Brown, a sophomore social work major. "What I am giving will change, but the value of what I am giving doesn't."

Mixed feelings arose around the topic of administrative view and appreciation of minority students. Students felt uncertain in their admission. However, faculty provided positive reassurance.

"You were all chosen to be admitted because of what you brought to the table," Turner said. "You bring a lot more than what reflects back to you in the mirror."

One topic was more campus involvement from black students.

"I hear a lot of African Americans say they don't like TCU because there are not enough black people on campus," said Desmond Ellington, a sophomore theatre major. "I challenge them to get involved and step outside their comfort zone and meet new people."

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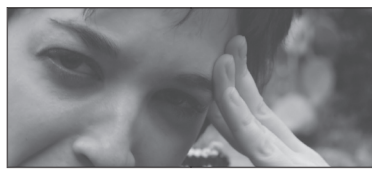
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith."
— Henry Ward Beecher

THE SKIFF VIEW

Global warming our generation's problem; act now

Our grandparents had world wars to worry about. Our parents had AIDS and the nuclear scare, and our generation has the most imminent problem of all: the state of our planet.

By now, I'm sure you're sick of hearing about global warming and how we are ruining our planet with fossil fuels and waste. But it doesn't matter because it's not just the far left crying for action anymore.

Businesses, politicians, college campuses and scientists are all taking significant action to save the Earth.

In January, General Electric Co. formed a partnership with AES Corp. to do its part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, according to a Jan. 16 Associated Press article in "The Boston Globe."

As an industry, these companies represent those most affected by mass caps on emissions, and the way they are facing global warming sends a message to the rest of the world that this is a real problem.

Even more impacting, both red and blue politicians in Washington are bleeding green. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Barack

Obama, D-Ill., joined forces in January to promote a plan to issue mandatory caps on greenhouse emissions for power plants, industries and oil refineries.

Colleges are getting in on the act, as well. Harvard University recently put in place water-conserving toilet handles, Arizona State University is offering its first degrees of all levels on environment challenges this semester, and New York University plans to purchase millions of kilowatts of wind power this year.

It's certainly not too late for TCU to make a difference, as well. Our school has the opportunity and the resources to lead the South on environmental conservation.

And it all begins with you.

Campaign our school to take action: Bring your own coffee mug to Starbucks (you get 10 cents off your drink if you do), bring your own canvas bag to the grocery store and get educated on how to conserve energy.

It's time to get in the mindset that our planet is in danger and we're the only ones who have the power to save it.

Features editor Amber Parcher for the editorial board.

BY BRENDAN KIEFER



I'll take all of these.

Common courtesy has become common obstacle for society

Latin, Michael "Kramer" Richard's career and common courtesy — what do all three of these things have in common? That's right, they're dead.

COMMENTARY



David Hall

Just before finals last semester, I was headed over to Smith Hall for my poetry class. Noticing there was a female student walking behind me, I followed the universal "man law" of holding the door open for a lady. I swept the door open, moved off to the side and then looked up at her for the final step: acknowledgment.

Instead of a polite nod or the standard "thank you," I was treated to a face full of confusion. She stared at me for a good five seconds as tumbleweeds rolled past and crickets chirped before I finally gave her the "Yes, I am holding the door open for you" head tilt. Could someone really be so surprised by a standard act of kindness? Has common courtesy really become that uncommon?

I wish I could say that's the worst of it, but I've experienced some weird things in the realm of polite door opening. Besides being surprised to receive it, the gamut

of emotions it can inspire is amazing. Among other things, I've been blown past without any expression of thanks whatsoever.

I've also received a few "hairy eyeballs." For those of you who are unfamiliar with the expression, it's pretty much a cross between "I can open the door for myself you filthy man-pig" and "I'm going to stab you in the spleen while you sleep."

Look, I wasn't trying to set the Women's Liberation Movement back 30 years; I was just trying to be nice. Sorry.

While some seem stunned or adverse to receiving acts of kindness, just as many people are too self-absorbed or oblivious to give them. I see people forget "please" and "thank you" in The Main all the time. Hard-working guys slave over the grills for hours every day making countless orders, and we can't even muster a "thank you" to let them know their work is appreciated. Come on, people.

The open road is also a place where the rules of civility seem to fly out the window. Turning your blinker on seems to give people an open invitation to try and kill you. Instead of saying "please let me over," the blinker serves as a de facto "speed up and pass me because I suck" signal for most modern drivers.

But why? Why would someone risk knocking a merging vehicle full of orphans or fluffy kittens into the great beyond? Is getting to Krispy Kreme three seconds faster really going to make the donuts taste better?

Apparently, even the quasi-philanthropic Foundation for a Better Life deems the lack of common courtesy a big problem nowadays. They even run a series of PSAs on the subject. One that comes to mind takes place in a rainy, crowded city.

A distinguished looking businessman who is obviously late for the token "important suit-and-tie meeting" hails a cab. Seeing a family stuck in the rain, he selflessly gives up his cab to them, even ushering them to the taxi under cover of his umbrella. Cheesy? Sort of. An example of how things should be? You bet.

Sure, we often get too wrapped up in our own lives to give everyone the respect and kindness that they deserve. However, if we do, we make the world a better place. In the words of the ancient Greek fable writer Aesop, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

David Hall is a freshman news-editorial journalism major from Kingwood. His column appears Wednesdays.

Less-than-stellar shuttle service boils down to administration

The TCU shuttle-bus system, T.R.A.C., was designed to alleviate the disastrous parking situation by shuttling

COMMENTARY



Clint Duncan

students from the distant lots they are forced to park in to their campus destinations. It is unreliable, inefficient and desperately needs to be improved.

Picture this: It's around 1:50 p.m., and the temperature is below freezing. A male student gets out of his class in a building on the east side of campus. Because the parking lots around the building were full, he was forced to park at the Sandage Lot, which is about a quarter of a mile away. But no worries, right? The TCU shuttle bus will be there for him.

He makes his way to the place where it will pick him up. Students begin to congregate. After five minutes, there are more than 20 students. They wait in the cold for more than

20 minutes for the shuttle bus to pick them up.

So what's going on here? Why can't our shuttle-bus system reliably provide the basic service it's supposed to? The main reason is that the guidelines that the bus drivers follow to transport students are poorly designed.

James Kelley, an employee of Five-Star Coaches, the company hired to provide shuttle services for TCU, said bus drivers are instructed to wait five minutes at each stop and to leave when a student enters the bus.

How does that make sense? By the afternoon, most students are able to park near the buildings they have classes in. So, why wait five minutes at the outlying lots for students who aren't going to come? And in the morning, students are not going to be leaving the campus, so why wait near the buildings?

Drivers should wait where students are most likely to be. In the morning hours, this is at the outlying lots; in the afternoon, on campus. This should be a

general guideline for the bus drivers to follow.

Bus drivers also constantly cause students to be late for class. This problem could be easily solved by giving bus drivers general schedules of class times.

Then they could make sure to get the students who are on the bus to class on time, even if it means leaving the students who aren't on the bus. They could also make sure they are at the school when students are getting out of class so they can take them to their cars. All of these easy steps would tremendously help the shuttle-bus system.

So, whose fault is it that the shuttle-bus system sucks? While there are three culprits — the bus drivers, the bus company and the administration — the administration should ultimately be blamed. They have the responsibility to make sure we are receiving the best service possible and, as it is, we aren't.

Clint Duncan is a senior finance and accounting major from Arlington.

Buying American cars less financially sound as gas prices rise

Ideally, I'd like for my next new car to be made in America by an American carmaker.

I'd prefer a good-quality, well-built small car that is moderately priced, gets excellent gas mileage, has sufficient pep for freeway on-ramps and will last 150,000-plus miles if well-maintained.

I'd like side air bags as a foil to loony drivers who willfully run red lights and cause deadly right-angle crashes. I'd like a CD player and a cup holder — two features missing in my 15-year-old Toyota Tercel. But I could manage without a global positioning system or built-in DVD player.

Although I'd ideally prefer an American car, I've been buying vehicles built by foreign manufacturers for 25-plus years. They generally seemed better-built, had fewer maintenance problems, lasted longer and drew better ratings from consumer reports.

It was a little 1975 Chevrolet Vega station wagon that drove me away from American cars. As a young, financially struggling reporter with a wife staying at home with our two preschool daughters, I bought the Vega used for \$1,000 cash but soon paid more than that in repairs.

One of the car's most maddening features was a standard transmission plagued by sticking gears. I sometimes had to crawl under the car and unstick the gears with my hands.

I began thinking about that vexatious Vega this week while doing research on federal fuel economy standards. For many years now, Congress has refused to raise corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards because

it wants to protect U.S. automakers who make much more money selling big SUVs and pickups than little, fuel-efficient cars.

But with gasoline prices having escalated as high as \$3 a gallon in recent years, one has to wonder: Was Congress really doing domestic automakers a favor by neglecting to set significantly higher CAFE standards that would have forced them to focus on building more high-quality, fuel-efficient small cars?

U.S. automakers have been taking a financial

bath in recent times, in part because their gigantic, gas-gulping SUVs and pickups have become notably less de rigueur in the wake of spiraling fuel prices and the specter of global warming. Had Congress mandated substantially higher CAFE standards a decade ago, U.S. carmakers almost certainly would be better positioned today to compete with the Toyotas, Hondas and Kias of the automotive world in the small-vehicle market.

We need to raise CAFE standards significantly — by perhaps 5 to 10 miles a gal-

lon over a decade — to help slake our thirst for foreign oil and curb air pollution. Higher standards also could reduce fuel consumption and lower pump prices. The passage of new standards in 1975 paved the way for a near-doubling of fuel economy over the next decade.

But since then, we've made little progress on fuel economy, despite major improvements in engine efficiency. As gas again became cheap in the late 1980s and 1990s, Americans bought bigger cars with greater horsepower. The average weight for new U.S. cars and light trucks for the 2006 model year was a record 4,142 pounds, an 11 percent jump over 1997 models, according to a Bloomberg news service report.

My criteria for a new car might dictate that I buy something like a Toyota Corolla. (My wife, Nina, and

I have owned three Corollas and liked them very much.) But I'd prefer to buy a car built in America by a U.S.-based automaker, if I can find one closely comparable in price, quality, fuel economy and reliability to a Corolla.

The badly built American small cars of the 1970s helped pave the way for a successful U.S. invasion by foreign automakers, who now have a sizable number of manufacturing plants in America. It's my understanding that small cars made by U.S. automakers have improved substantially in more recent times.

If so, I could distance myself from the memory of that dreadful little Vega and buy American for the first time in more than a quarter-century. How about it, Detroit?

Jack Z. Smith wrote this article for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. This article was distributed by MCT.



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FLAK *over* IRAQ

"I have friends over there whom I really care about, and I don't want them to die because of one administration's pride."

-Senior Ryan Ferguson

"Even though a lot of lives have been lost, I feel it is important that we are over there as long as it takes to secure our safety."

-Freshman Kendall Harlan

ANALYSIS

Students, faculty debate legitimacy of troops overseas

By JESSICA REHO
Staff Writer

Following the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Bush administration launched Operation Iraqi Freedom and began sending American troops into Iraq on March 20, 2003. In May of that same year, when no weapons of mass destruction materialized, some believe President Bush just came back with a new plan: The United States redefined the goal of

invasion as regime change. Now it has been four years and billions of dollars, and some ask, for what?

As 2006 began, it was estimated that 2,172 U.S. soldiers and more than 30,892 Iraqi civilians had been killed, according to the international politics textbook "World Politics Trend and Transformation," by Charles W. Kegley Jr., and those numbers are growing. Some students and faculty, along with others around the country, including a percentage of Congress, are beginning to question U.S. presence in Iraq. Some wonder if it isn't time to just throw in the towel.

On Jan. 25, TCU hosted a Search-

light Symposium on the subject of a just war. Several professors including Nadia Lahutsky, associate professor of religion, and Eric Cox, assistant professor of political science, spoke their opinions on the matter as TCU students eagerly listened and asked questions.

At the symposium, Cox talked about the United Nations' lack of support for the war. He stated that it was not legal for the United States to invade Iraq, according to the U.N. Charter, and that it was not out of self-defense. He said at this point, Bush is at historic levels of unpopularity.

Manochehr Dorraj, professor

of political science, shares similar beliefs.

Dorraj teaches several courses at TCU, including an introductory course to politics and an International Politics class among others. He said he thinks this war is tragic and a major mistake on the part of the Bush administration, as it is taxing for the American and Iraqi people alike.

"There are so many unintended consequences — we are trying to solve a political problem militarily," Dorraj said. "The presence of American troops in the postcolonial era as an occupying force is an element that feeds the insurgency."

Jennifer Moore, a senior nursing major, believes that the government started out with good intentions, mainly freedom for the Iraqi people. However, she questions the definition of that said freedom.

"I can hardly believe that anyone's interpretation of freedom is American troops on every street corner and living in fear of death on a daily basis," Moore said. "Force and fighting just don't seem to be working anymore. I think it's high time to re-evaluate the course of action."

Ryan Ferguson, a senior political science major, has a slightly different reasoning for his opposition.

"I don't like the war because, whether intentionally or unintentionally, we entered the war under false pretenses," Ferguson said. "I don't like the war because I am unsure that the good we're doing over there is enough to outweigh the consequences."

"Perhaps the reason that makes me not like the war the most is that I have friends over there whom I really care about, and I don't want them to die because of one administration's pride," he said.

Alison Lewis, a sophomore political science major, said she disagrees with where the war is now, but not necessarily the ideology behind it.

She said she consents that Saddam

Hussein was an evil dictator who needed to be removed from power but believes there may have been other more peaceful routes to consider.

Landon Cox, a freshman political science major, said he realized his views may seem decidedly liberal compared to other students' opinions but feels the war may have been "a last ditch effort of a declining hegemon in order to retain and exert its influence."

He said he is not in favor of any of Bush's new plans for the war either.

"I don't feel that Bush's surge plan will work since increasing the focus on militarization would only make the conflict worse, and we can't just withdraw our troops since they're a sort of peacekeeping unit," Cox said. "I believe a new approach is needed, one that recognizes the need for diplomacy but also knows how to settle conflicts of political violence, an approach that I feel the U.S. can offer with the right strategy and leadership."

Not all TCU students are in opposition to the war.

"Even though we have been in Iraq a lot longer than maybe anyone could have predicted, and even though a lot of lives have been lost, I feel it is important that we are over there as long as it takes to secure our safety," said Kendall Harlan, a freshman advertising/public relations major.

Jenna Harris, a freshman biology major, feels this is no excuse. She said even if one has no thoughts on the war, in a political sense, that it is still necessary to be concerned about fellow Americans.

"I am not entirely sure how I feel about the war; I have mixed feelings, but I do support our soldiers," Harris said.

"I think that it is sad that they are over in Iraq fighting and dying, and for the most part, it seems people don't even care anymore."

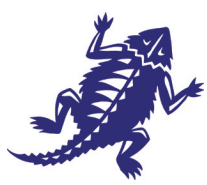


Peace Action participants Robert Grebel and Lyndsay Pedan protest while former ambassador to Iraq Paul Bremer spoke at Ed Landreth Hall on Jan. 28, 2006.



U.S. Army Reserve Lt. Col. Jody Creekmore, left, addresses U.S. soldiers before a joint convoy with Iraqi troops. Creekmore is responsible for helping train Iraqi soldiers in Muqdadiyah, Iraq. Students and faculty at TCU disagree about whether to keep troops in Iraq.

NANCY YOUSSEF / MCT



SIGNING DAY

Find out who the new recruits are for the football team.
TOMORROW

Rifle to compete at NRA Sectionals

By **MARCUS MURPHREE**
Sports Editor

The rifle team will take aim at the National Rifle Association Sectionals this weekend with a chance to keep its undefeated season alive.

The sectionals will put the team in a position to qualify for the NCAA Championships. Last season, former Horned Frog Celeste Green qualified for the nationals and took 10th place in the individual smallbore rifle competition.

Led by a trio of rookie shooters, Erin Lorenzen, Lauren Sullivan and Simone Riford, the young squad continued setting personal records while facing the

UTEP Miners last weekend, head coach Karen Monez said.

Both Lorenzen and Riford set personal bests while in El Paso. Lorenzen's new personal best of 593 in air rifle broke Lauren Sullivan's school record of 592. Riford also recorded a personal best scoring a 581 in the smallbore event.

Last weekend's win against UTEP marked the fifth straight match in which the Horned Frogs have amassed more than 4,600 points on their aggregate team score. Carrying the Horned Frogs through the match was Sullivan, whose composite score for smallbore and air rifle shooting was 1,172 points.

"(Sullivan) had a very good match; she shot a 581 smallbore, and then backed it up with a 591 air rifle," Monez said. "Those are two very good scores back to back."

Final team adjustments will be made before hosting this weekend's NRA Sectionals, Monez said.

One of the key adjustments before the sectionals will be a different type of target than what the team fired at in El Paso. The team will be shooting at an electronic target rather than a paper target, Monez said.

Although the women have fired on an electronic bull's-eye before, last week's training was used on a paper target.

"I think they prefer shooting on the electronic target," Monez said. "With a paper target, you need to find your natural point of aim, and it is very difficult with multiple targets. With electronic targets, you are shooting at one bull's-eye every time."

MATCH INFO

NRA SECTIONALS AND NCAA QUALIFIER:
• Feb. 10-11
• All day
• TCU Shooting Range

Some modifications in technique will be analyzed this week before the competition.

"We'll evaluate performances from last weekend, identify the stronger points and weaker points and try to make some improvements in weak areas," Monez said.

Monez said the strategy heading into sectionals is getting the shooters to continue to shoot high individual scores in order to garner a high team score.

"I tell the girls to focus on their individual performances, and that's what it takes to make a good team score," Monez said. "They are the only one who can influence what they will shoot."



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer

Tanya Gorin, sophomore, takes aim at a target in the rifle event versus the Air Force Academy on Jan. 28. The team will shoot at the NRA Sectionals this weekend.

PERSONAL RECORDS SET VS. UTEP

NAME	EVENT	SCORE
Erin Lorenzen	Air Rifle	593 (TCU Record)
Simone Riford	Smallbore Rifle	581

Frogs gain new associate athletics director from Miami

By **MICHELLE NICOU**
Staff Reporter

A new associate athletics director for NCAA compliance joined the Horned Frog family Monday.

Andrea Nordmann came to TCU from the University of Miami where she served as assistant director of compliance for financial aid. She replaced Kyle Brennan, who resigned Oct. 3 to accept a

position at Ball State University in Indiana. His reason for the move was to be closer to his wife's family, said Marcy Girton, associate director of athletics and senior women's administrator.

The position has been vacant since then, but assistant athletics directors of compliance John Cunningham and Kyle Yates split the job responsibilities.



NORDMANN

Nordmann's responsibilities include overseeing athletic eligibility and financial aid, as well as answering questions from coaches or athletes regarding interpretation of the NCAA rules, Cunningham said.

TCU called all the well-known conferences during its search, including the Big 12, Big 10, Pac 10, the SEC and the ACC, Girton said, and Nordmann received a recommendation from the ACC.

Nordmann said the welcoming atmosphere TCU projects and the quality of the sports teams were big draws for her.

"When I came for my interview, I really felt like it was a good family atmosphere," Nordmann said on her first day. "I really enjoyed my visit here. It's a team here. Fort Worth is a great area, and the sports programs have done very well here."

Girton, who helped hire Nordmann, said the athletic department looked for someone carrying years of experience in the specialized field from a university of comparable size.

"Andrea's coming from Miami, which is a private school that's good in football and several other sports, so her experience there is similar to TCU," Girton said.

Nordmann's experience as women's basketball coach and player also helped her land the position out of a pool of 75 applicants, Girton said.

With her past in college athletics, Nordmann said, she is

able to better understand the frustration that can arise over an NCAA policy.

"Coaches always have difficulty understanding why some of the rules and regulations are in place and sometimes don't agree with them," Nordmann said. "I think having been a coach myself and a student-athlete, I understand what they're all going through, and I understand some of those rules and regulations might not be the greatest thing."

Cunningham said Nordmann will be an asset to all the coaches and players she works with daily.

"I think she's really going to be strong in communication between coaches, players and staff and make sure that everybody's working together to follow NCAA rules," Cunningham said. "That's really her strength."

February 3 – April 8 at the **Amon Carter Museum** in Fort Worth
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