

## NEWS

The plus/minus system inches closer to finalization.  
**TOMORROW**



## FEATURES

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**FRIDAY**



## SPORTS

The Lady Frogs try to extend their home-winning streak to 20 games.  
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TCU

# DAILY SKIFF

THURSDAY

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## Police discover two suspects in string of vandalism crimes

By ASHER FOGLE  
Staff Reporter

TCU Police have identified a group of teenagers they say are responsible for \$20,000 worth of theft and vandalism on campus over the last three years.

A group of 14- to 15-year-old boys from the TCU area have been linked to several incidents with damage totaling about \$20,000, according to police estimates. The

total includes the Dec. 28, 2006, vandalism of a campus bus stop and a radio-tv-film department truck windshield that caused about \$10,000 worth of damage, TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham said.

Police received a tip Tuesday from Crime Stoppers concerning potentially stolen TCU property in the creek behind Colonial Parkway, Ham said. Ham said the property was

located behind the home of one of the suspects. He also said police have connected the events through interviews with the suspects and conversations with their parents. At press time, he did not know the exact number of people involved in the vandalism but said some of the suspects have admitted to the crimes.

"They were basically coming over every weekend after mid-

night and vandalizing — nuisance types of crimes," Ham said. "But, as you can see, they elevated over the last year to where they got very, very destructive."

The earliest reported incident was a January 2004 fire in a construction dumpster behind Amon Carter Stadium, he said. The fire also spread to the side of the football team's equipment trailer, causing about \$8,000 of damage, said Ross Bailey, asso-

ciate athletics director.

The suspects, Ham said, also admitted to the November 2006 theft of a bicycle from the freshman parking lot and the vandalism of a golf cart in the overflow parking lot.

This past weekend, Ham said, the boys stole concession stand items from the football stadium and poured liquid cleaner on new countertops, causing damage to the surfaces.

Legal charges in the case are pending while the investigation continues, he said, but the families involved are willing to make financial restitution for the damage and have assured police this kind of behavior will not repeat itself.

"These are not gang members; these are average academic students, freshmen at Paschal High School," Ham said.

## Residential policy gives 24-hr visitor flexibility

By SONYA CISNEROS  
Staff Reporter

This is the real world — almost.

In an effort to make living on campus more reflective of life outside TCU, the new residence halls will have a 24-hour visitation policy, an administrator said.

The visitation policy was adopted after considering the maturity level and social and study habits of students, said Craig Allen, director of residential services.

Allen emphasized that the visitation policy will allow visitors, not additional roommates, and said administrators aren't endorsing intimate relationships with live-in partners.

Allen said some parents have voiced concerns about the policy. He referred to an e-mail from a parent concerned that TCU, being a Christian university, was sending a bad message.

Terry Pollard, a parent of an incoming freshman, disagreed.

Pollard said she doesn't have a problem with the policy as she had 24-hour visitation when she was a student at the University of Texas at Austin.

She said students are old enough to make their own decisions, and that college is the time parents must trust their children to make good choices.

Dan Lienemann, a resident assistant in the Tom Brown-Pete Wright Residential Community, said there haven't been many problems in the on-campus apartments, which have a 24-hour visitation policy, and therefore doesn't foresee any problems in the new buildings.

Allen said the policy will require different methods of enforcement, but won't be any more difficult than enforcing rules in other residence halls.

The resident assistants will have to work harder to get to know each of their residents so they can be sure of who lives in the building and who doesn't, Allen said.

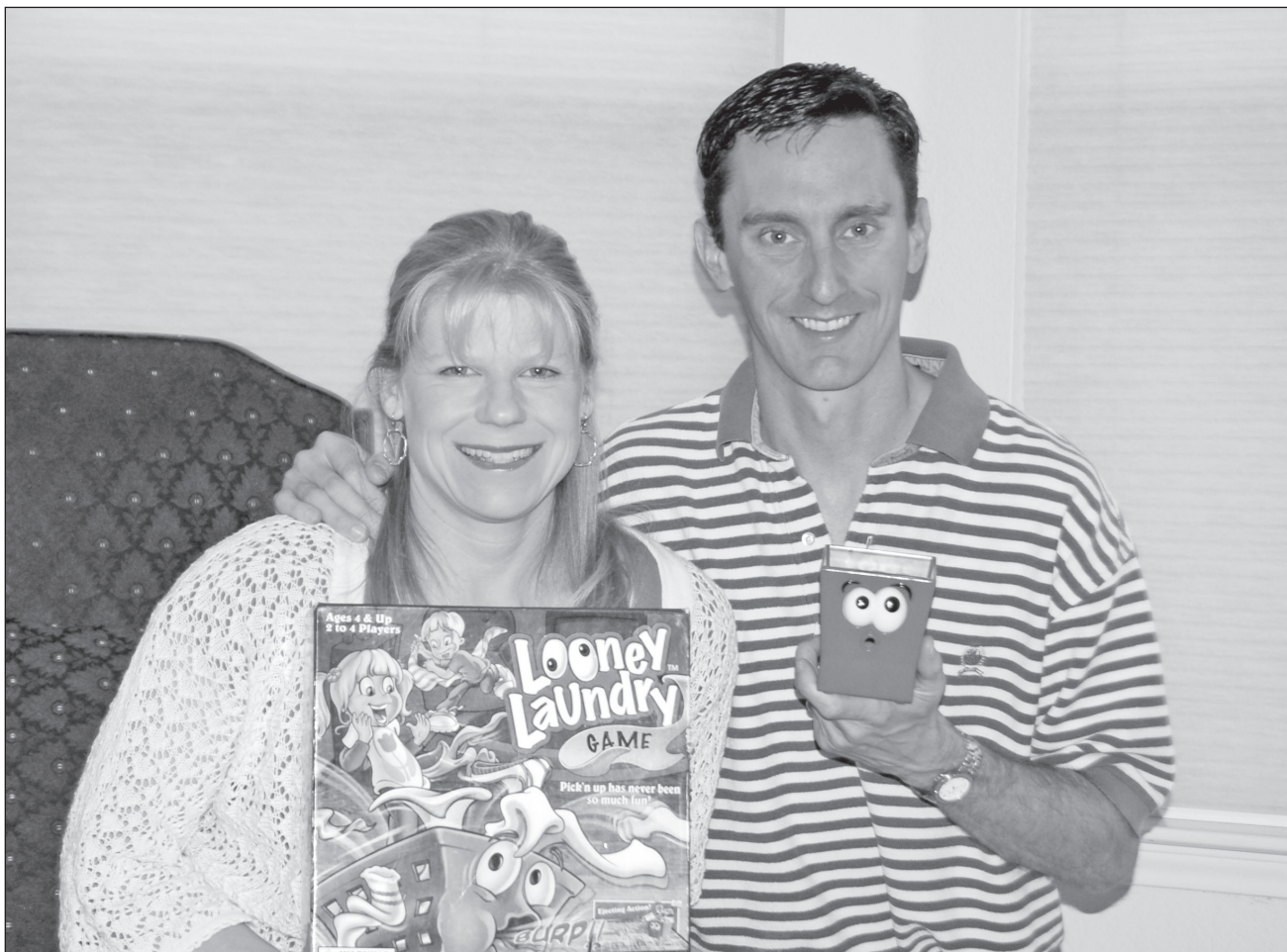
He said aside from observation, the only way a resident assistant will know of someone violating the visitation policy is if a resident tells them.

The policy states that students who have visitors staying in their rooms for more than two consecutive days will have to get approval from their hall director.

Lienemann said most of the time, if there's an issue with visitors overstaying their welcome, a roommate

See **DORMS**, page 2

## ALUMS IN TOYLAND



BLUEBONNET GAMES

Scott Kuehn, class of '91, and his wife, Julie, class of '94, show their award-winning board game Looney Laundry. The game was originally created as an ice-breaker for Scott's involvement with Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

### Alumni couple creates award-winning game, 'Looney Laundry;' game sells in toy stores including Toys 'R' Us, FAO Schwarz

By JOHN BOLLER  
Staff Reporter

During the week, TCU alumni Scott and Julie Kuehn are an ordinary married couple, but on weekends and evenings, they are board game entrepreneurs.

Scott Kuehn graduated from TCU in 1991, and Julie Kuehn graduated in 1994 — both of whom were radio-TV-film majors, Scott Kuehn said.

Scott Kuehn first created his game, "Looney Laundry," as an ice-breaker for his involvement with Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

"I was thinking of ideas to make

the children feel more comfortable," Kuehn said. "It made sense, and the kids loved it."

When Kuehn saw that children enjoyed the game, he sent his idea to Grand Prix International to produce a Looney Laundry prototype.

"We produced 5,000 games for the Kuehns," said Michael Fisher, president of Grand Prix International. "We try to make the product as inexpensive as we can. We just create their idea, they go and sell it."

The Kuehns created their own Web site, bluebonnet-games.com, and soon thereafter, retailers would

come knocking on their door.

"Where this was going at that time, I had no idea," Kuehn said. "I felt like I had a strong idea and something that no one else had."

In the first 11 months, more than 1,000 "Looney Laundry" games had

See **GAME**, page 2

#### FOR YOUR INFO

You can read or buy "Looney Laundry" and "Toss-a-Chore" at [bluebonnet-games.com](http://bluebonnet-games.com).

## Police statistics indicate fences decreasing crime

By ASHER FOGLE  
Staff Reporter

Although construction of new fences around campus has decreased the number of vehicle burglaries in many parking lots, according to TCU Police data, additional methods are being implemented in other areas where crime remains frequent.

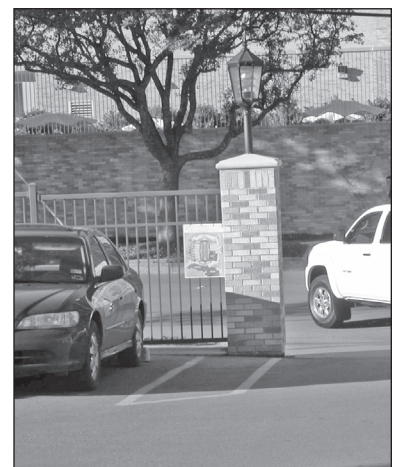
TCU Police statistics indicate that fences on campus have made parking lots safer, significantly decreasing the total number of vehicle burglaries, yet crime in certain areas is consistently high.

Fences around the formerly higher-crime area of Worth Hills have made access harder for thieves and there has been a drastic decline in burglaries since construction, said TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham.

During the 2005-2006 school year, there were 10 burglaries of vehicles in Worth Hills, according to TCU Police crime statistics.

A fence along Berry Street was completed during the fall semester, and two incidents of burglary have

See **FENCE**, page 2



SAEROM YOO / Staff Photographer

A car is shown leaving the fenced-in parking lot on the south side of the University Recreation Center. TCU Police data shows that there has been a decrease in the total number of vehicle burglaries since the creation of fences like this one.

## AddRan looks to hire faculty member to teach Chinese

By MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE  
Staff Reporter

An upcoming Chinese program might grow with support from other departments.

TCU currently only offers one Chinese course, but the course is being taught in English with an emphasis on culture solely. Sharon Fairchild, dean of the department of modern languages, said the AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences hopes to add an actual language component to the curriculum.

The Chinese culture and

civilization course is important because it can't be taught like mathematics, Fairchild said.

"You need to learn about the culture and the other elements which make up the language," she said.

Currently, six students are enrolled in the Chinese Culture and Civilization course.

Fairchild said the department is working on a proposition to add a full-time faculty member to teach Chinese.

"We would also hope that with a new Chinese pro-

gram, we would have other departments that would send us their students, such as political science or the ROTC program," Fairchild said. "Especially, since the state department is pushing for students to learn new languages."

Adding a Chinese language course could benefit the Asian studies minor, which political science professor Carrie Currier became the chairwoman of in November.

"The Asian studies minor has been around for 10

years, but it hasn't been widely publicized," Currier said. "Those of us who are interested in China felt it was necessary to have a Chinese language course."

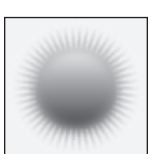
Currier also said that in her research of Chinese programs nationwide, TCU was one of the few institutions that did not offer Chinese as a course.

"Even Paschal High School has adopted Chinese into their curriculum, so recommending it as a language course was a natural choice," Currier said.

Currier also said a Chinese program would aid in developing a study abroad program in China because learning a language is the first step in developing an interest in a region.

Ann Vu, president of the Asian Students Association, said having a more diverse language program would make TCU more appealing to a more diverse group of students.

"TCU already has a lot of classes about China and the economy," said Vu, a senior biology major. "A Chinese course makes sense."



### WEATHER

**TODAY:** Mostly sunny, 76/55  
**FRIDAY:** Few Showers, 70/60  
**SATURDAY:** T-Storms, 67/45

### PECULIAR FACT

MILAN, Italy — A man is suspected of hiding his dead father in a freezer for two years so that he could continue to collect the old man's pension.  
— Reuters

### TODAY'S HEADLINES

**NEWS:** Admissions staff learns Spanish, page 4  
**OPINION:** No-smoking rule wrong, page 3  
**SPORTS:** Learn about Caleb Bulls, page 6

### CONTACT US

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at [NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU](mailto:NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU)



**FENCE**

From page 1

been reported this academic year in both lots closest to the football stadium, which will soon also be fenced in, Ham said.

He said the fences are effective because "crooks don't like to be bottled in."

"We can trap them, and that's exactly what's happened," Ham said. "That's why we've been able to make so many arrests in there and in the other parking lots."

TCU Police have arrested nine separate groups during the 2006-2007 school year that were related to burglary of a motor vehicle, Ham said.

Gates across the Cantey

Street exit have made it easier for TCU Police to arrest suspects in the freshman lot.

"If we get a call that there's somebody snooping around in there, all the officers have to do is block Frog Alley and then send another car in there," Ham said. "And they're either going to have to abandon their vehicle and run on foot — make it a foot chase — or we've got them."

Despite the increase in arrests, police statistics do not show a decline in the number of burglaries of vehicles in the freshman and overflow parking lots when compared to the previous year.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, 17 thefts occurred in the two lots, and 18 burglar-

ies have been reported since August 2006.

TCU Police will install several cameras during Spring Break to monitor the license plates of cars entering parking lots around the coliseum and football stadium, which will assist in apprehending suspects, Ham said.

Mikey Bernick, a junior accounting and finance major, lives in Tomlinson Hall in Worth Hills.

Although he believes burglaries have decreased because of the fences, he said he wishes residents had access through the gate at the Berry Street entrance.

"It's just annoying when you are trying to get home," said Bernick, the president of Kappa Sigma. "I like the fence idea, but

FOR YOUR INFO		
Parking Lot	August 2005 - 2006	August 2006 - February 2007
Worth Hills incidents	10	2
Freshman and Overflow incidents	17	18

the gate I don't agree with."

Chari Perkins, the head resident assistant of Wiggins Hall, said that TCU Police informed her on several occasions last year when residents' vehicles were burglarized.

She said she does not know of any Wiggins Hall residents who have been burglarized this year.

"I feel that crime has definite-

ly gone down," said Perkins, a senior marketing major. "Driving around is a change to get used to, but to me it isn't a big deal."

In addition to other security measures, fences have been installed around several new parking lots, such as the one on Sandage Avenue.

Ham said the university is trying to make all parking lots "very difficult for the bad guys

to get in there and do something they shouldn't."

"When you work for a police department for a university, you're constantly fighting that battle between access for the students and security for the students," Ham said. "You want the students to have easy access, but you don't want the bad guys to. So you've got to have that fine balance."

**GAME**

From page 1

been sold. Soon, 43 retailers were selling "Looney Laundry" in their stores, as well as appearing on gaming-industry Web sites.

"I first agreed to sell the game in my store because the creator was a local Texan," said Sandy Challinor, owner of The Owl's Nest in Southlake.

"When we tested the game on kids, we were very pleased with the results and confident that 'Looney Laundry' would sell," Challinor said.

Toys 'R' Us and FAO Schwarz were selling "Looney Laundry" on their Web sites, which would eventually lead to Creative Child Magazine naming the game as the recipient of its Preferred Choice Award in 2006.

"The game is a fresh, humorous look at laundry that will

appeal to boys and girls aged 5 to 9," according to an article published in Creative Child Magazine.

Recently, "Looney Laundry" was entered into the American International Toy Fair competition in New York City. The competition was Feb. 11 through Feb. 14, according to the Toy Industry Association's Web site.

This is the largest trade show in the Western Hemisphere according to the Toy Industry Association's Web site.

More than 1,500 manufacturers, distributors, importers and sales agents from 30 countries showcase their toy and entertainment products.

"I am optimistic that we will get positive results from our market representatives at the toy fair," Kuehn said. "In past fairs and exhibitions we entered 'Looney Laundry' in, our market representatives have given us good news."

The results from the toy fair will not be available to the Kuehns for about another week, Kuehn said.

"We have to wait for our market reps to send the information back to us," he said.

He said the next step for "Looney Laundry" will be a toy fair in California.

"We will use the results from New York and go to California and do it all over again in a few weeks," he said.

"Looney Laundry" is not the only thing that the Kuehns have developed. The couple also developed another game called "Toss-a-Chore".

"It is another way to teach children that work can be fun," Kuehn said. "It is great a feeling to bring joy to those who play our games."

Toss-A-Chore has become a popular seller in stores.

"Toss-A-Chore is one of our top sellers," Challinor said. "Within a few weeks we were

ordering more because the demand was so high."

The Kuehns are enjoying their involvement in creating new board games, but it is still just a hobby.

"This is still just a side project for my wife and I," Kuehn said. "I do have ideas for other games. I want to see how successful Looney Laundry is to see if it is worth it to make another game."

**DORMS**

From page 1

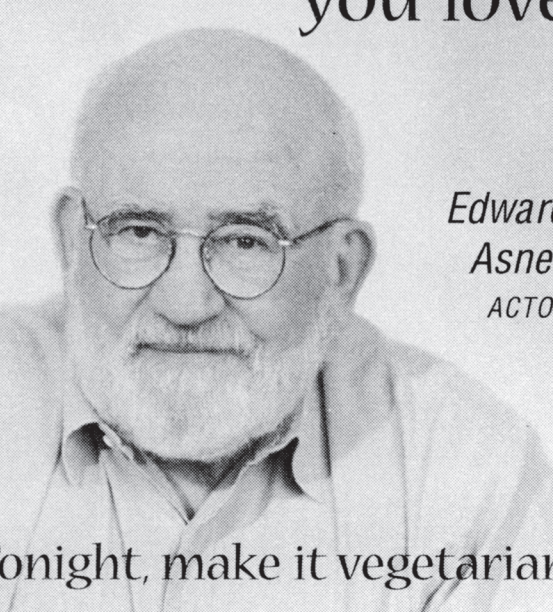
will inform the resident assistant to get the issue resolved.

He said most couples who choose to live together do so off-campus.

Allen said the policy is meant to treat students like adults, but students must act accordingly.

He said visitation policies will continue to change as some residence halls will become coed.

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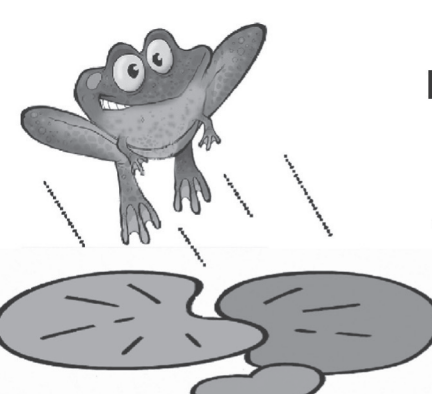
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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"You can't make up anything anymore. The world itself is a satire. All you're doing is recording it."

— Art Buchwald

**THE SKIFF VIEW**

**Company's no-smoking rule goes too far**

Scotts Miracle-Gro Co. has been hovering through headlines the past two years because of health care policies that indicate human resources will start firing smokers.

An article in the "Billings Gazette" from December 2005 called out the new non-smoking regulation, but that was just the beginning of a series of new regulations the company is taking to lower health care costs by keeping employees in a fit state.

More recently, a "BusinessWeek" cover story gave an inside look at where these policies have saved lives, as well as ended careers for members of Scotts Miracle-Gro. One executive, Joe Pellegrini was a triathlete who had an indulgent lifestyle devouring high-fat, high-protein foods. The company's health care intervention for his eating habits ended up saving his life when doctors discovered a 95-percent blockage in Pellegrini's heart. Meanwhile, a 30-year-old lawn-care worker, Scott Rodrigues was fired for being a smoker roughly two weeks after he was hired. He violated the tobacco-free

policy so his termination was just, but a larger question gets raised by this firing.

How many companies will begin throwing the book at employees who are at risk toward corporate health plans?

A healthier America would be a wonderful goal, but with a growing demand for instantaneous service, fast food lifestyles and glorified professional eaters such as Takeru Kobayashi (the hotdog eating champion from Japan) are becoming part and parcel of modern society.

Perhaps raising the price for health insurance co-payments and premiums will help change the habits of these workers. If raising the price does not work, firing very well could be the best alternative. As a whole, people need to examine their personal lifestyle choices and embrace the gifts companies give such as dental plans and health insurance instead of squandering these benefits with reckless abandon.

Competing in a company picnic pie-eating contest is one thing, challenging the system with aggressive lifestyles is crossing the line.

*Sports editor Marcus Murphree for the editorial board.*

**OOFSPOOF BY ROLF NELSON**



**Consumers be wary of products; some foods may contain bacteria**

Before getting out a jar of Peter Pan for a tasty peanut-butter treat, it might be a good idea to reconsider.

On Feb. 13, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report to the Federal Drug Administration on a recent epidemiological study in which 288 cases of salmonella were discovered in 39 states. These cases were all traced back to one simple food product, which many Americans delight in daily: peanut butter.

It all started in a little plant in Sylvester, Ga., where the population is about 5,900. This plant, owned by ConAgra Foods, is one of the largest peanut butter plants in the nation.

It produces Peter Pan peanut butter and some batches of Great Value peanut butter, the store brand you can find on the shelves of Wal-Mart. The number denoting that a product was created at this plant is "2111."

With this outbreak of salmonella, the epidemic of mad cow disease in 2003 and various reports of E. coli, I think the Food and Drug Administration should do more to check the sanitation in food plants. They need to check food production plants more frequently because of the high probability of contamination. The last time the ConAgra plant was inspected was in February 2005. The FDA should inspect these major plants at least every year, if not twice a year. Peanuts used in peanut butter must be heated to a high temperature in order to kill germs, so the most likely cause of this epidemic would be contamination in either equipment or the jars in which the product is held. However, it is not only the responsibility of the FDA to inspect these plants; it is also the duty of the companies to ensure quality products by constantly maintaining and cleaning their workspaces. The FDA should also find a way to inspect farms or ranches where the ingredients are grown or where the animals are kept to see if anything is out of line. According to the Organic Consumers Association, some animals are fed other animal parts and plants are tainted with dangerous



MCT

chemicals. Consumption of meat and chemically enhanced crops can lead to disease and further health problems.

One of the first cases of salmonella popped up in August 2006. Since then, about 300 more cases have caused Americans to get sick. Instead of the reports of food-borne illnesses increasing, I believe that our trust of the quality of the food we eat should rise. I do not want to be afraid to eat my PB and J.

ConAgra received a tough blow in which it must do damage control in order to recover. Not only has it lost a pretty penny in refunds and in closing down its Georgia plant, it has also lost the trustworthiness of its name.

If one has delighted in a delicious peanut-buttery treat which had the label "2111" on the jar, carefully watch for symptoms, such as fever, diarrhea and abdominal pain, which usually begin 12 to 72 hours after ingestion. Food companies and the FDA can only do so much to protect consumers. I believe one is better off reading the labels and checking the news often for reports like this. I took a peek at the CDC's Web site at cdc.gov and found some highly informative tips about cases of food poisoning, prevention and suggestions on avoiding sickness. As for what products to buy, the power is in the hands of the consumer. Choosy consumers choose healthy.

*Hayley Freeman is a freshman English major from Fort Worth.*

**Don't let age dictate attitude; stereotypes aren't always true**

Last week my grandmother turned 90 years old and danced at her party.

Only in the past year has my grandmother said she is beginning to actually feel old.

Age is a number that represents us chronologically, but does it really represent who we are? A political scientist would argue age is an excellent basis for making an educated guess about a person's political view.

For example, people in their early 20s are more likely to be politically liberal than those in their 30s. Marketing divisions target specific age groups as more likely to consume or have the financial capacity to consume specific goods.

It is not likely, for example, that a 50-year-old will purchase video games or that a 20-year-old will buy a home security system. And yet, every day there are stories about people acting outside the stereotypical limits of their age.

Mozart, for instance, was 3 years old when he began composing music. And my grandmother danced at her 90th birthday party.

So what is it that enables people to act in ways atypical of their ages?

In the case of my grandmother, I believe the adversity she faced in her youth forced her to find a strength in herself, which she has never lost. Until she was a teenager, Eva Jessner, my grandmother, was a member of Germany's privileged class, but, during Adolph Hitler's Nazi regime, things changed drastically.

By this time, the depression had hit everywhere, but, in Germany, the extreme poverty became a political tool for Hitler, who blamed the depression on Jews, Poles, Catholics and other groups that did not fit his twisted concept of Aryan supremacy.

Although the Jessners were a Jewish family, Eva had been raised a Christian Scientist by her grandmother, so you can imagine the emotional turmoil she faced when she was forced to return to Germany and wear the yellow star.

By the time she came to America, her grandmother had been picked up by the Nazis and would never be heard from again. Her mother, who had been perpetually ill as long as Eva had been alive, died after being kicked out of a hospital when a nurse found out she was a Jew.

Eva's two sisters were both sent to concentration camps but fortunately would survive. And so, with her family torn apart and with barely enough money to get by, Eva had to find the strength within to get herself out of Germany. Teenagers are not supposed to be mature enough to take care of themselves, but if Eva had waited around for someone to tell her what to do, she may very well have ended up in one of the death camps.

So maybe we can guess a few things about people based on their age, but we can't let age dictate who we are. If we find the strength within to overcome adversity, then we too will have a reason to dance when no one expects us to.

*Talia Sampson is a junior news-editorial journalism and international relations major from Moorpark, Calif.*

*Karen Heller is a columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer. This column was distributed by MCT.*

*Hayley Freeman is a freshman English major from Fort Worth.*

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**Population needs lesson in everyday, communication etiquette**

She was talking loudly and insistently, and that might not have made a difference except that she was alone in the stall of a ladies' room. Sure, times are tough all over, but who knew matters had gotten this bad?

Of course, she wasn't alone, going off the deep end. She was chatting on her cell phone. In a place created for privacy, she abandoned the privilege, encouraging eavesdropping, though, alas, there was nothing interesting to purloin. Isn't eavesdropping always like that? Rarely are you privy to really juicy conversations.

The other day, I was in a hotel restaurant and ascertained that the overnight guests chatting nearby were married, but clearly

not to each other. Frankly, I didn't realize that people still had the time, legal counsel and emotional fortitude for such behavior. As is my luck, the couple's conversation was exceptionally dull, too, something to do with sweaters and energy costs.

Why, they might as well have been married to each other.

Anyway, having lived through the '80s, when restrooms were used for more intriguing recreation than chatter — it was common to find four people jammed into a nightclub stall — I can attest that the cell-phone business is annoying and wrong. If people need updated etiquette lessons then, all right, I'm here to provide them:

1. If you don't wish to invite eavesdropping, avoid using a cell phone in quiet places. This would mean the train. And the elevator. Or a restaurant. And a public restroom. Especially the restroom. Don't engage strangers in lengthy conversations in public restrooms, either. We have the Internet for that.

2. Disconnect. Cell phones and laptops plug us into the modern world, but there are times, and places, where we should detach. Such as while relaxing or exercising. Working on a laptop at the beach or talking on the cell during a hike is annoying and wrong. It reminds other people around you of the very life they're trying to escape. People did without

such technology for centuries. You can do without for a few hours.

3. E-mail is not an opportunity for verbal flashing, bombarding people with hostile comments, egregious grammar and wretched spelling. Correspondence, in any form, is a reflection of ourselves. Just because e-mail is fast doesn't mean it should be gratuitous and sloppy. Relative anonymity isn't an excuse for personality disorders, puerile taunts and gross misconduct. Treat strangers with the respect, dignity and kindness you would friends and family.

4. Leave dietary issues at home. If you're invited to someone's table, accept the bounty offered. Push what displeases you to the side. Hosts should cease inquiring,

and guests should stop itemizing issues. It's only food, not global warming, and listing all your restrictions and phobias isn't only passive-aggressive, it's unattractive.

5. There is such a concept as too casual. Bank officials shouldn't first-name customers. When asking for donations, or doing business with someone, proper manners work wonders. Young people shouldn't first-name relative strangers old enough to be their grandparents. You think this is ageist? Fine, it's ageist. It appeared we had reached the apogee of bedroom casual when flip-flops were worn to the White House. But this was wrong. Young people have taken to wearing pajamas and slippers on the street. There's an axiom that when you're

young and good-looking, you can get away with wearing anything. This, however, is the exception.

6. Realize that when asking a favor, you're asking someone to do work for you. So the proper response is to say "thank you." Or possibly send a note, even a gift. Gifts are nice. They make an impression. It isn't proper to ask repeatedly for considerable favors, unless you're offering some form of compensation. Such as a gift. The improper response to someone's doing you a favor is to ask for yet another favor. This, like so much modern behavior, happens to be annoying and wrong.

*Karen Heller is a columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer. This column was distributed by MCT.*

**Editorial Board**

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AMBER PARCHER

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# Admissions realizes need for learning Spanish

By JILLIAN HUTCHISON  
Staff Reporter

It was nearly five years ago the admissions staff recognized the growing need for knowing Spanish. They decided to learn the language, and they took it seriously — all the way to Guatemala.

“Learning Spanish was an attempt on our part to signal to the community that we really wanted to build some bridges,” said Ray Brown, dean of admissions.

Although most prospective students will know English, Brown said, it is important that the admissions staff be able to communicate with

parents. He said they have developed a bilingual brochure especially for that purpose.

Wes Waggoner, director of freshman admissions, recently began taking Spanish classes through the TCU Extended Education program.

Waggoner said he has encountered a fair number of times when students’ parents spoke only Spanish and he wanted to be able to reach out to them.

“I want to greet them, to make them feel comfortable and respect their culture,” Waggoner said.

Waggoner said he would like to participate in an immersion pro-

gram someday, much like the one Joan Yates, administrative assistant for international admissions attended a few summers ago.

Yates attended an immersion program in Guatemala with other members of the admissions staff for two weeks.

She said she went to school every day for seven hours, followed by three or four hours of homework.

Because she works in international admissions, Yates sometimes receives Spanish transcripts and e-mails and said she is now better able to understand them.

Karen Scott, director of interna-

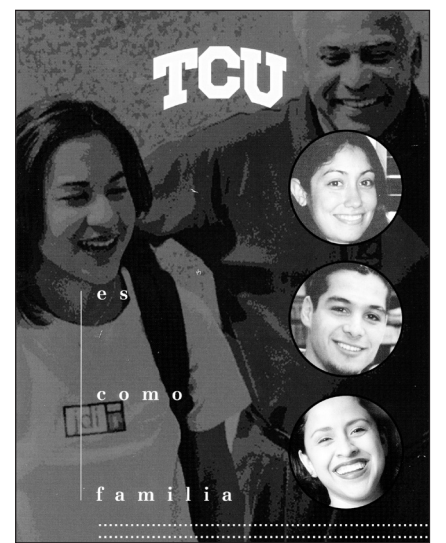
tional admissions, has been taking Spanish for the last seven years and said she has seen the benefits.

“I can travel on my own to Latin America and feel comfortable,” Scott said.

Besides allowing her to travel and read Spanish on her own, Scott said learning Spanish is a message to the community.

“We recognize this is a multilingual world,” Scott said.

Although the percentage of students or parents who speak only Spanish is small, Waggoner said, the need for Spanish happens often enough that they can’t dismiss it.



OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS  
The admissions office developed this bilingual brochure for Spanish-speaking parents of prospective students.

# Hiccups prove incurable for ‘remedy’-ridden teen

By OWEN MORITZ  
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Florida teen Jennifer Mee has had the hiccups for four weeks. And no one knows why.

Even worse, no one knows how to stop it.

The 15-year-old freshman started hiccuping on Jan. 23.

She is hiccuping close to 50 times a minute, stopping only when she’s sleeping.

She’s had blood tests, a CT scan and an MRI. The teen recently had strep throat, and an MRI showed a vertebra compression, her mom said, but doctors still aren’t sure what’s causing

the painful hiccups.

Drugs haven’t worked. Neither has holding her breath, putting sugar under her tongue, sipping pickle juice, breathing into a paper bag and drinking from the wrong side of a glass.

Not to mention people trying to scare the daylight out of her.

The teen said she’s surprised by the volume of suggestions she’s received — although so far nothing has worked.

“I knew it was going to come to this, but not this far, where everybody is spending so much (time) to find out what is the matter with me and is trying to help me,” she said on NBC’s “Today” show.

There’s been so much interest in Jennifer and her predicament that rival networks tried to woo her for interviews.

When “Today” brought the girl and her mom to New York, representatives of ABC’s “Good Morning America” called their home 57 times on Sunday and slipped notes under her New York hotel room door, the family said.

“They kind of made me feel guilty,” Rachel Robidoux, Jennifer’s mother, told Florida’s “St. Petersburg Times.” “But I felt it wasn’t right to ditch the ‘Today’ show.”

Spokesmen for both ABC and NBC did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

# House proposes military bill to remove troops from Iraq

By RENEE SCHOOF  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. Adm. Joe Sestak commanded a carrier battle group in combat near Afghanistan, then in the Persian Gulf in the run-up to the Iraq war.

Now a freshman member of the House of Representatives, Sestak, a Pennsylvania Democrat, has introduced a bill calling for withdrawing all American forces from Iraq by the end of this year, while strengthening the U.S. military presence in the region and in Afghanistan.

Sestak, who defeated 10-term Republican incumbent Curt Weldon in November, has a Ph.D. in political economy and government from Harvard University. He served as the director of defense policy on President Clinton’s National Security Council and once was the director of the Navy’s anti-terrorism unit.

His bill would cut off most money for military operations in Iraq by Dec. 31.

“I honestly believe that in the next few months we will move to this position,” Sestak said in an interview. “It may not be my bill, but it will be something very similar.”

The main reason, he said, is that the war in Iraq is hurting American national security: It’s diverted resources and attention from the fight against terrorism in Afghanistan and from other challenges to U.S. interests around the world.

“We diverted our attention, our resources and our forces ... to Iraq,” he said. “To my mind Afghanistan is the poster child for what isn’t being done in this world where the real war on terrorism is elsewhere, not Iraq.”

While focused on Iraq, he said, the military has been unable to move effectively from World War II-era tanks to 21st-

“The real war on terrorism is elsewhere, not Iraq.”

Joe Sestak

House of Representatives

century high-tech communication and intelligence.

Spending on the war also has diverted investment from what he calls three “pillars of national security”: health, education and economic development at home.

He rejects the worst-case scenario arguments that Iraq will descend into genocide and a regional war if the United States leaves.

“It changes all the incentives,” Sestak said of his withdrawal plan.

Iraqi sectarian leaders would realize that without the American military holding down the violence, “they would have to accept the consequences that if they go too far, the retaliation against them might go too far.”

Iran and Syria want to see

the United States bleed in Iraq, Sestak said. But once the United States is gone, they’d want to avoid getting into a proxy war. Moreover, mostly Shiite Muslim Iran doesn’t want Sunni Muslim terrorists growing powerful next door, he said.

Sestak’s bill calls for moving Iraq-based American forces to bases outside the country but nearby and to Afghanistan or other trouble spots and sending some home. A strong U.S. presence near Iraq would permit special forces to be sent in on counterterrorism missions or to support Iraqi forces from the air, he said. American efforts to rebuild Iraq’s government and economy would shift to diplomacy.

Sestak said that what got him into politics wasn’t Iraq but his little daughter, Alexandra, age 5, who was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor in July 2005. She’s doing well after surgeries and chemotherapy, and Sestak hopes that buys time until a cure is found.

The walls of Sestak’s office are covered with his child’s art. He wears her blue plastic bead bracelet. Life in the cancer ward, he said, made him realize that he was fortunate to have access to top care, and inspired him to ponder how to improve the nation’s health system. When doctors advised him to resume a normal life, he opted for politics. He serves on health-related House subcommittees and on the Armed Services Committee.

## Stopping

Folk medicine and science have invented an endless number of ways of stopping hiccups. They often involve stimulating a nerve.

### How a hiccup happens

- Muscle spasm pulls air in
- Glottis stops air flow, causes a sharp sound

### Hiccup causes

- Over 100 causes have been
- Often involves irritation of a nerve running to or from the diaphragm

**Example:** Swallowing hot or irritating substance

- Diseases of the chest or abdomen can also cause hiccups

### Some remedies

- Drinking water, swallowing sugar, bread or ice, pulling tongue, pressing throat or eyeballs (stimulate vagus)
- Holding the breath (inhibits diaphragm)
- Breathing in a paper bag (raising CO<sub>2</sub> in blood, which inhibits spasms)
- In extreme cases, blocking a nerve with anesthetic or surgery

SOURCES: The Merck Manual, Current Medical Diagnosis & Treatment

ILLUSTRATOR: Keith Simmons, RESEARCHER: H. McComas/ MCT

# Flamingos forego familiar flocking, lead alternative lifestyles at Dallas Zoo

By KATIE MENZERSD  
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — And you thought flamingos were flamboyant before.

Flamingo research, under way at the Dallas Zoo, is uncovering things you might not know — or might not want to know — about this long-legged pink beauty. Although captive flamingos tend to mate for life, the birds flock together in ways you might not expect.

Sometimes two male flamingos pair up, and sometimes two females do. They even have

threesomes and, when the mood is right, foursomes.

But before you start saying some flamingos are philanderers, realize that four pairs of the birds at the Dallas Zoo have been together for a decade or more. Love is always alight in the bird exhibit.

“The male-male pairs tend to be good fathers,” said zoologist Jeanette Boylan. “They are very attentive.”

Although flamingos are common eye candy at zoos worldwide, keepers have had problems getting the birds to reproduce in captivity. That’s

why the Dallas Zoo’s staff began researching captive flamingo sexuality more than a decade ago and has worked with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and other research groups to publish the Flamingo Husbandry Guidelines, a how-to guide for understanding flamingos, which was first published in 2005.

It details flamingo mating behavior, a complex dance that begins subtly but culminates in an explosion of avian indulgence. The performance usually starts with simple “head flagging,” where all members of the flock —

male and female — stand up with their long necks stretched toward the sky and wag their heads back and forth very quickly.

That often leads to a “wing salute,” where everybody opens their wings wide to shamelessly expose the black feathers on the underside.

Then, the group may start another behavior, such as marching in unison or performing an “inverted wing salute,” where the birds push their wings back behind them almost like they’re in the gym working on their triceps.

But it all ends the same: an

enormous flamingo sex orgy where all the birds begin mating with their chosen one or ones at the same time.

Of course, with committed same-sex pairs — which happen more often in captivity because of the small flocks at zoos — the mating doesn’t result in what mating is meant to.

Trios and quartets are rare and seem to form under specific circumstances in captivity.

A male-female-female trio might form when a second female joins an established heterosexual pair or a female attracts a male who already

has another pairing.

A male-male-female grouping might form when one member of a homosexual male pair attracts a female mate or a female attracts a second male mate.

“You can tune in now since the wild things are in mating season at the Dallas Zoo.

A baby flamingo hasn’t been born at the Dallas Zoo since 1989. The zoo had some eggs two years ago, but they weren’t viable. This time around, zoo officials have their fingers crossed that some hatchlings will arrive soon.

“We’re always hoping, every year,” Brown said.

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**TODAY IN HISTORY**  
**1819:** Spanish minister Do Luis de Onis and U.S. Secretary of State John Quincy Adams signed the Florida Purchase Treaty, in which Spain agreed to cede the remainder of Florida to the United States.

**WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE**  
Q: How many psychiatrists does it take to change a light bulb?  
A: One. But the light bulb has got to want to change.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



"I love it when he gets angry."



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

**Directions**

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

See Friday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

**Wednesday's Solutions**

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

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**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

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- 1 Bea Arthur sitcom
  - 6 Worker's gear
  - 11 TV network
  - 14 Studio stand
  - 15 Mooring basin
  - 16 Drawing on the IRA
  - 17 Start of Evan Esar quip
  - 19 Tony-winner Hagen
  - 20 King Arthur's paradise
  - 21 Adenoidal
  - 23 Establish in office
  - 26 Part 2 of quip
  - 27 Want too much
  - 28 Eminem's Dr.
  - 30 Bad day for Caesar
  - 31 Ostich's cousin
  - 32 Choice
  - 35 Dispatched
  - 36 Part 3 of quip
  - 38 Epidermal opening
  - 41 Glossy cotton fabric
  - 42 Gallivant
  - 45 Stuntman
  - 9 NASA vehicle
  - 10 Secretarial talent, in brief
  - 11 Holy war
  - 12 Caused to move
  - 13 Most passe
  - 18 Tended tots
  - 22 Faultily
  - 23 Rink flooring
  - 24 de plume
  - 57 End of quip
  - 62 Mama in wool
  - 63 Knight's mail
  - 64 Avoid capture
  - 65 Behold
  - 28 Forces
  - 29 Commuted
  - 33 Ski trail with densely packed snow

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
17					18					19			
20					21				22				
23	24	25					26						
27					28	29				30			
31					32	33	34			35			
36					37								
38	39	40			41					42	43	44	
45					46				47	48			
49					50				51	52			
53					54	55							
56					57	58					59	60	61
62					63					64			
65					66					67			

By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA

2/22/07

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

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

- DOWN**
- 1 Shea player
  - 2 Exclamation of satisfaction
  - 3 Function
  - 4 Formalized argument
  - 5 London lift
  - 6 Book name
  - 7 Cognizant of
  - 8 Ken or Lena
  - 9 NASA vehicle
  - 10 Secretarial talent, in brief
  - 11 Holy war
  - 12 Caused to move
  - 13 Most passe
  - 18 Tended tots
  - 22 Faultily
  - 23 Rink flooring
  - 24 de plume
  - 57 End of quip
  - 62 Mama in wool
  - 63 Knight's mail
  - 64 Avoid capture
  - 65 Behold
  - 28 Forces
  - 29 Commuted
  - 33 Ski trail with densely packed snow
  - 34 Harnessed group
  - 36 Big-time perp
  - 37 Meant
  - 38 Part of gravel's make-up
  - 39 Frighten into defeat
  - 40 Asylum seeker
  - 42 Obtained
  - 43 Last of a log
  - 44 Moines
  - 48 Energetic drive
  - 50 KC player
  - 51 Cubic meter
  - 52 Creative answer?
  - 54 Japanese wrestling
  - 55 Privy to
  - 58 Mined mineral
  - 59 Buzz
  - 60 Tokyo, formerly
  - 61 Game pieces

See Friday's paper for answers to today's crossword.

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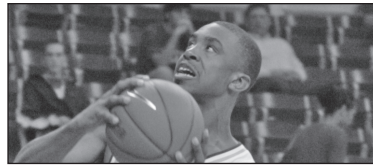
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**TODAY IN SPORTS**

See how the men's basketball team has been preparing for the final home contest of the semester against the Air Force Falcons.  
**TOMORROW**

# Q&A

with Caleb Bulls



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor  
Freshman Caleb Bulls returns a shot against UT-Pan American on Jan. 24. Bulls transferred from Tyler Junior College before the spring season.

By KYLE ARNOLD  
Staff Writer

**Q: When and why did you start playing tennis?**

A: I started playing tennis when I was 11 or 12, and both of my parents played so I just got into it through them.

**Q: What has been your biggest match in your career?**

A: I would probably say my first match at TCU this spring. Before this, I went to junior college and it was good, but this was everything I had worked and practiced for.

**Q: Do you prefer to play in singles or doubles matches?**

A: I really actually prefer doubles a little bit more, probably because I've won more in doubles so far. Also, it's just nice to have a teammate out there with you because it can get a little lonely during singles.

**Q: Do you have a specific routine before your matches?**

A: I usually like to get a good meal in beforehand and crank up the iPod for a little bit. Then, I take a shower, get warmed up and go.

**Q: What parts of your game are you happy with and what do you need to work on?**

A: I'm happy with my forehand for sure and my consistency; I get to most of the balls. I could definitely work on making my serve a little more offensive, as well as my backhand.

**Q: Which opponents look as though they are going to present a big challenge and which are you especially excited about facing?**

A: Baylor is probably going to be the biggest challenge. They are always ranked top five, and they have a really good team. I'm excited about playing some of our conference teams just because we get to go to San Diego. Also, I'm excited about playing Texas A&M because I grew up close to there.

**Q: How do you keep focus on the tasks at hand throughout the season?**

A: I think a lot of it is time management. If you can stay on top of your courses, it's usually not too big of a deal. If you know when you're going to practice and set aside time for practicing and whatever else you do during the day, it's usually not that difficult to accomplish everything.

**Q: Do you have a specific off-season plan that you go through?**

A: I will probably take a week or two off at the beginning and let the body rest up and everything, but I usually can't take that much time off without getting too excited to play again. So, once I get into the middle of the summer, I will start playing a ton of matches again and that will lead up to the school year.

## Lady Frogs aiming for conference lead, face Cowgirls at home

By AMBER PARCHER  
Features Editor

Now tied for second place in the Mountain West Conference, the Lady Frogs are ready to put their current four-game winning streak to the test tonight.

The Lady Frogs (19-7, 9-3) will play the Wyoming Cowgirls in a critical conference match-up with a home-court advantage.

The Frogs have not lost a home game in a school-record 19 games, but they did lose to the Cowgirls on Jan. 20 when the teams last played each other.

With the conference tournament rapidly approaching, senior guard Ashley Davis said the team is ready to put it all on the line tonight.

"We're a team of veterans — we know what's on the table," Davis said.

Although Wyoming, 16-8 and 7-5 in the Mountain West Conference, is sitting in fifth place in the conference standings, this game is critical because the Frogs are only one game behind conference frontrunner Brigham Young University (10-2 MWC).

Davis said the team knows that if it wins the rest of its games, they will play BYU in the conference championship.

"It's kind of like our backs are against the wall," Davis said. "But we play better under pressure."

Senior forward Hanna Biernacka said the team is preparing for Wyoming by

focusing on its own game.

"They're a good team," Biernacka said of the Cowgirls. "It's going to be a good physical game, but we have to relax and play our game."

Head coach Jeff Mittie said his team has been playing at a more intense level but has room for improvement for Thursday.

Mittie cited an increased defensive effort as one of the advantages for the Frogs, but said he is worried about the team's ability to sink shots. In the last game against the Utah Utes, the Lady Frogs shot only 34.1 percent from the field compared to the season average of 42.7.

"We have to play a smart game against Wyoming," Mittie said. "They have a lot of good scorers."

As the end of the season nears, Mittie said the team is getting better at finding its tempo in games.

"People get caught up in momentum, but how many times does momentum change during the game?" Mittie said.

"It's more important to play at a higher level consistently," he said.

Whether the Frogs find their cadence against the Cowgirls remains to be seen.

**FOR YOUR INFO**

The Lady Frogs will host the Wyoming Cowgirls at 7 p.m. tonight in the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer  
Junior guard Helen Roden completes a pass against the Air Force Academy on Feb. 10. The Lady Frogs look to extend their school-record of 19-home-game-win streak when they play Wyoming tonight.

## Frogs receive confidence before Beach Classic tourney

By BILLY WESSELS  
Photo Editor

The Horned Frog baseball team is riding a wave of confidence heading into its four-game weekend on the East Coast.

TCU moved up three spots to No. 18 in the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Poll after sweeping Oral Roberts University (2-3), and now the Frogs (6-1) have high expectations going into the Baseball at the Beach Classic hosted by Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina.

"Sweeping a quality team like that will boost our confidence going into a big weekend," junior relief pitcher Cody Dunbar said. "We are going to come into this tournament wanting to prove something and still make a statement."

Head coach Jim Schlossnagle said that confidence can greatly affect a team, especially in baseball.

"Baseball is such a game of failure that if you're not consistently trying to find a way to maintain your confidence and believe that you can do it, baseball will eat you alive," Schlossnagle said.

Junior catcher Andrew Walker said a way to fight off overconfidence is to stay within the team.

"Don't listen to what other people have to say outside of the team," Walker said.

This weekend trip will give the Frogs a chance to play two more top-30 ranked teams. The two ranked schools are the host school, the No. 30 Coastal Carolina Chanticleers (7-0) and the No. 29 North Carolina State Wolfpack. The other two teams the Frogs will face in the Classic will be the Notre Dame Fighting Irish (2-1) and the UNC-Wilmington Seahawks (3-4). The Seahawks, Fighting Irish and Wolfpack all were in the NCAA tournament in 2006.

"It's going to be a good tournament with a bunch of quality teams," Dunbar said. "It's going to be good for us to see how we match up. If we go 4-0 like we want to, it should boost us up and show that we are going to make a statement this year."

The four games the Frogs will be playing in three days will give the team some quality experience for tournaments they will compete in later on in the season, Schlossnagle said.

"It's a good preparation for a regional," Schlossnagle said. "It's good to play at different times, which has a chance to happen when you play in a conference tournament with odd times."

During the NCAA regionals, a team can play up to five games in four days.

Schlossnagle has already decided three of the starting pitchers he will use this weekend.

Junior Jake Arrieta (2-0) will start Friday night in the first game for the Frogs. Chris Johnson (1-0) and Chance Corgan, both juniors, will start Saturday, but Schlossnagle has not decided which will pitch in the final game.

The Frogs will open the Classic against the Chanticleers at 11 a.m. on Friday.



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer  
Senior thirdbaseman Steven Trout finishes an at bat against Oral Roberts Saturday. The Frogs will play in the Baseball at the Beach Classic this weekend.

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