



LEGAL

6

Statewide effort to arrest Texas residents with outstanding warrants begins.

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Goodall to bring environmental discussion to campus

By **Kim Burdi**
 Staff Reporter

British anthropologist and primatologist Jane Goodall will be featured at the Roots & Shoots exhibit on Monday, John Trybus, manager of tour outreach and public relations at the Jane Goodall Institute, said.

As part of the event, which is co-sponsored by TCU and Fort Worth Country Day School, Goodall will advocate for listeners to identify problems and plan projects to make positive changes in their communities, he said. Goodall's lecture will be open to the public.

"The lecture is going above and beyond the next 50 years," Trybus

said. "It will be giving a reflection of her past and current work, and how each and every one of us can play a role in securing the future of the planet."

Goodall, known for her landmark study of chimpanzees for more than 50 years, tries to make it a point to visit local Roots & Shoots programs when she is on tour, he said.

"She can kill herself speaking and raising awareness about chimps and animals, but if you don't inspire the next generation to be proper stewards of the environment, then the work is not complete," Trybus said.

Goodall considers Roots & Shoots her legacy, Trybus said.

"This year is extremely exciting because it is the 50th anniversary

of Goodall's pioneering chimpanzee research in Africa, as well as the 20th anniversary of Roots & Shoots," Trybus said.

Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Carol Thompson said everyone has been impacted by Goodall even if they don't realize it.

See **JANE GOODALL** 2

'AMERICAN IDOL' 2

Local supporters react to the end of TCU grad's 'Idol' journey.



TRANSPORTATION 3

New T shuttle to West Seventh Street attracts steady number of students.

the **T** **Takes you places.**

ALUMNI

Halperin cut during 'American Idol' elimination

By Mandy Naglich

Staff Reporter

America voted, and Thursday's results revealed TCU grad Tim Halperin did not make the top 13 cut for "American Idol."

After the nation's vote chose 10 finalists, the judges selected three "wild cards" to allow a total of 13 contestants to stay in the running to win the competition.

After receiving lukewarm feedback from the judges on Tuesday, Halperin walked onto the stage last night, flashed the Horned Frog sign and took his seat as the waiting began. Host Ryan Seacrest said Halperin was not in the top 10 about an hour into the show.

Then, Halperin had to wait to see if he would be selected as a wild card.

Sophomore strategic communication major Becka Adkins said, "It was really nerve-racking just waiting and waiting."

With just 18 minutes left in the show, the audience found out Halperin would not be given the chance to sing for the wild card.

Adkins said she was in an advertising class involved with Halperin's local support group, "Team Tim," so

she had been following Halperin's journey on "American Idol." She said it was exciting to have a TCU alumnus on a popular show like "American Idol" and have the whole campus know about him.

"It's still awesome that he had the opportunity and brought TCU along," she said. "It's a shame he won't keep going."

Senior marketing major Mike Vosters was a huge help in bringing the campus along on Halperin's journey. He was a member of "Team Tim" and a close friend of Halperin's for almost four years, he said.

He said he will miss "Team Tim."

"It was great to have everyone united under a common cause," Vosters said. "We all came together and created a whole website in 36 hours. We were trying to start a movement and really wanted to make a difference in his life. Now, I can't wait to see Tim come home and start working with him again."

The two met freshman year when they bonded over their shared interest in the music industry, Vosters said. They have been working together ever since.

Vosters said Halperin had already garnered a following in the Midwest and in south-

western states.

"Obviously my first reaction is I'm disappointed," he said. "But Tim was well on his way even before 'American Idol.' He is just incredibly smart. He was on his way all on his own."

Junior strategic communication major Kia Igel is one of those fans from the Midwest. She is from Halperin's hometown of Omaha, Neb.

Many people in Omaha were watching Halperin and will be disappointed, she said.

"It's cool that I have two connections with him — TCU and Omaha," Igel said. "We went to the same high school, and I know the whole high school was pulling for him."

Ann Loudon, the chancellor's associate for external relations, said Halperin was honored by the support from home.

"Tim is very grateful for all the support from 'Team Tim' and TCU," she said. "I know Tim is going to be fine."

Loudon said she was impressed by Halperin's actions during the show.

"On commercial breaks I saw the true Tim," she said. "He was going over to all of the contestants and giving them hugs, being supportive."

During the announcing of the last wild card spot, viewers might have heard Loudon's group yelling for Tim.

"I had a clear eyeliner

straight to Tim, and I was just screaming, 'Pick Tim' and hoping for that last spot [for him to perform]," she said.

At press time Thursday night, Loudon said she had not been able to talk to Halperin after the announcement of the results. She said no one was able to talk to the contestants yet.

Ron Pitcock, who is the J. Vaughn and Evelyn H. Wilson Honors Fellow, helped with the "Team Tim" project and was disappointed to see Tim eliminated from the show.

"We were hopeful, and we really wanted the best for Tim," he said. "He performed well and represented himself and TCU so very well."

From a teaching perspective, Pitcock said it was an excellent opportunity for journalism and public relations students to see a real case of the use of social media.

He said seeing students dedicate so much time to one movement both in and out of the classroom was really remarkable. He was also impressed by the students that created a website for Tim in just one weekend, he said.

"My biggest frustration is that Tim's story didn't get out on 'American Idol,'" he said. "He is such a great, authentic guy and does so much for others. I wish 'American Idol' would have showcased Tim as a person more."



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Tim Halperin presents a special edition of his "We Fight Back" song at a Susan G. Komen book signing event at the TCU Bookstore.

CRIME

SMU's stadium vandalized with TCU-related messages

By Patrick Burns

News Editor

Southern Methodist University's Ford Stadium was vandalized sometime between last Friday and Monday with messages referring to TCU, an SMU official said.

Kent Best, executive director of news and communications for SMU, said the

vandals sprayed 15 or 16 sections with TCU-related messages using an orange-colored aerosol foam similar to silly string on concession stand covers around the stadium and on a golf cart. Most of the messages were "TCU" and "TCU Frogs," according to photos on smudailymustang.com.

Best said he did not know the specifics regarding the

monetary value of the damage done to the stadium, but said that it would be inexpensive and should be completed by today.

Best said in a *Daily Mustang* article that there were cameras outside the stadium but that the vandals were not caught on tape. He added that they do not have any suspects as of Thursday evening.

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FORT WORTH

Mills: New shuttle route receives positive feedback

By Cathy Pham
Staff Reporter

In the first three weeks of running a shuttle to the West Seventh Street entertainment district, the T attracted around 50 riders using the service each weekend, Joan Hunter, communications manager for The Fort Worth Transportation Authority, said.

The new route began in the middle of February and runs every hour Friday and Saturday nights from 6 p.m. to midnight. The shuttle begins at Worth Hills, drives to Frog Shuttle stops like the Brown-Lupton University Union and then goes directly to West Seventh Street.

Students can catch an early movie, eat dinner at The Movie Tavern, go shopping and leave by midnight, Hunter said.

"Any new service is going to start out small," she said. "And I don't think that's changed."

Hunter said it was important to make students aware that the T is there

for their convenience and if they only have an hour to spend, they can try the T and come back. Hunter said she wanted to urge students to try the shuttle route because it would be important to receive feedback and see how they feel about it.

"We don't want this to be transportation where people can feel like they can get drunk and they'll have a ride home. We want this to be a place where people can go for evening entertainment."

Don Mills
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

"If nobody uses it, then maybe people aren't familiar with the fact that it's available," she said.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills said the university would

like for the T to be a permanent fixture if enough students used it.

"We'll make the decision based on whether or not there is sufficient ridership," Mills said. "I know so far, they [the T] are pretty pleased."

He said he had heard little feedback from students, but what he had received was positive.

However, Mills said he had concerns about the T shuttle being available after midnight.

"We don't want this to be transportation where people can feel like they can get drunk and they'll have a ride home," he said. "We want this to be a place where people can go for evening entertainment."

Mills said he would certainly want to hear and address any student concerns. He said the university is also looking to expand the service from just Fridays and Saturdays to Thursdays as well.

Dalton Goodier, a junior English and history double major, said he planned to use the T this

weekend with his friends. He said he had heard many younger students living on campus, international students and students who do not have cars were excited about the T's service.

Goodier is a member of the Student Government Association and helped write the bill to bring the T shuttle to TCU.

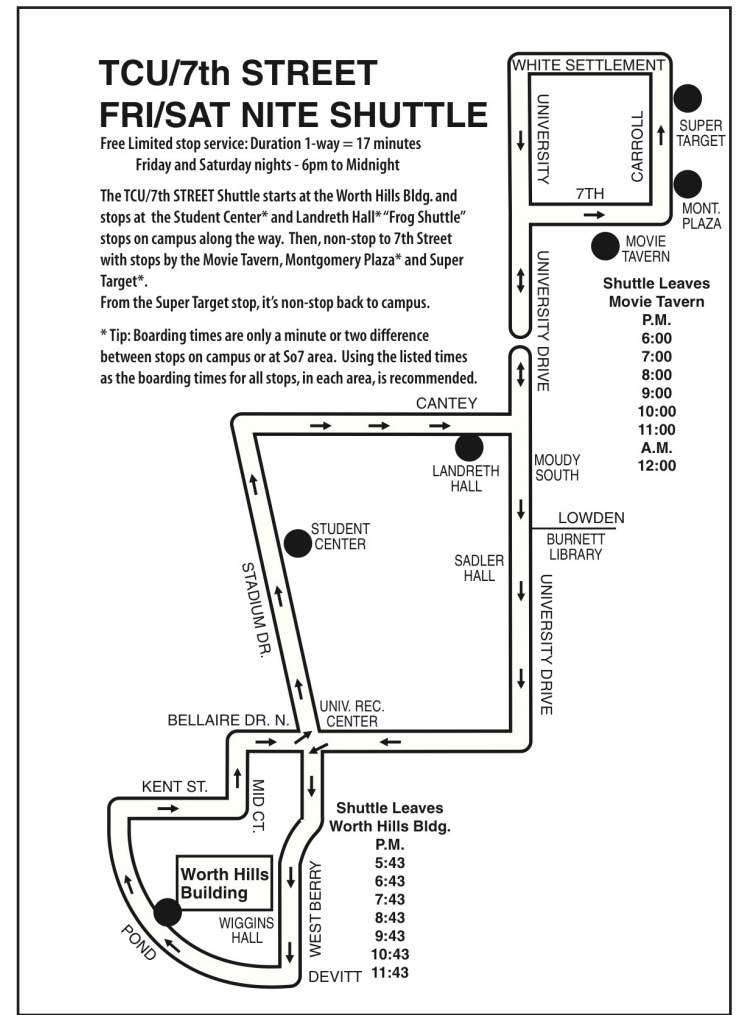
"If a lot of people use it, we can get more shuttles, more routes, and hopefully have it open for a later time," he said.

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Picks up at Worth Hills and Frog Shuttle stops.

West Seventh Street entertainment includes Movie Tavern, Montgomery Plaza and Super Target



Courtesy of the T

Continued from page 1 JANE GOODALL

"She is one of the most important scientists in history," Thompson said. "She became part of the global community to try and change the environmental future."

"She's an inspiration to me. She's a complete visionary."

Carol Thompson
Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology



COURTESY OF JANEGOODALL.ORG

Jane Goodall and members of Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots plant trees in Singapore.

a service for people, animals and the environment and that it has a large following in Texas. The Roots & Shoots program is also on many campuses throughout the United States and the world, he said.

Thompson said, "Sometimes students are interested in environmental issues, but they don't have opportunities to act on it. One of the things Roots & Shoots enables youth to do is to create their own

projects and exercise their abilities to change the world positively."

According to *Newsweek*, the nation's first college Roots & Shoots environmental summit was organized by students at TCU in 1997. Fifty delegates from colleges and universities around the nation came to learn more about environmental issues and how to start chapters on their own campuses.

Trybus said the program is

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The Skiff View

University values can help students succeed

The job market is thin for new graduates — we know that, but some college graduates are making the best of it and are giving back at the same time.

In 2009, there was a distinct upturn in students working in the private sector for nonprofit organizations, according to a Wednesday article in *The New York Times*. Students who were unable to find jobs in the traditional sector were finding out that their desire to give back to the community along with their degrees were very marketable to nonprofit organizations.

These ideals are alive and well at TCU. Students are always looking to get involved and to give back, and now it turns out that these feelings can equate to post-college employment in the current, desolate employment market.

Although these jobs aren't exactly traditional, their starting pay is often directly comparable to private-sector employment in similar positions, but these opportunities come with the sense of giving back to the community and personal fulfillment that a corporate career may lack.

These jobs also offer a great starting point for a career. They offer real world work experience in the fields of the student's interest and can springboard an individual into a more lucrative private sector-job in the future, if they so please.

Multimedia editor Matt Coffelt for the editorial board.

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

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"JOBLESS CLAIMS HIT A 3-YEAR LOW THIS WEEK AS THE PRIVATE SECTOR CONTINUED ADDING JOBS... MOST OF THEM DRUG TESTING CHARLIE SHEEN."

Drew Sheneman is a political cartoonist for The Star-Ledger.

Dating sites should remove 'race preference'



Wyatt Kanyer

Although the U.S. rarely experiences any large-scale occurrences of racism or segregation nowadays, there are still means by which Americans are expressing segregation. They just think they're doing so in private.

According to a report in *Time* that examined racial preference in dating websites, whites were more likely to state they had no racial preference but still only communicated with fellow whites.

On the other hand, black people were more likely to state they were interested in other blacks on their profiles but were also more likely to communicate with whites.

In the many racial divides that have occurred in history, many have opted for excuses instead of solutions, which have only helped to widen the gap between races.

Psychologist Jerry Mendelsohn said in the report that segregation has become a social norm and "is sort of built into the social scene for the time being."

That statement sounds more like an excuse than a solution.

And while some racial issues will likely never be fixed, there are solutions to this sort of segregation.

Websites like eHarmony and match.com advertise as if they will help ambitious singles find love, but they subconsciously encourage stereotypes in their advertisements.

Think: when was the last time a TV ad for a dating site featured a biracial couple? Although they might occasionally feature a Hispanic or black couple, they have failed to represent what might be considered "rare" couples.

Many times, the human mind operates on schemas, or small — and many times arbitrary — details that are used to identify a situation or experience. For example, when someone sees a lion on TV, he or she might remember the time he or she went to the zoo as a child.

In the same way, when Americans see couples on TV that feature two individuals of the same race, they ultimately accept that portrayal as a norm.

Although this form of advertising does not seem racist, it can assist in perpetuating stereotypes, which encourages racist sentiments, and racist sentiments have been shown to have a negative impact on cogni-

tion, according to a study by *Psychology Today* titled "Racism Breeds Ignorance."

In the study, 86 students were asked to write an essay about a boy named Tyrone or Erik. Afterward, they were asked to complete 30 math problems. The researcher found that those who wrote an essay that identified Tyrone as African-American and characterized him with stereotypes surrounding African-Americans ended up scoring lower on their math problems.

Therefore, perpetuating stereotypes can have a negative impact, both socially and mentally.

Going back to the websites themselves, it would be more beneficial to eliminate requiring an individual to express his or her racial preference on these websites.

First, it puts too much emphasis on identifying a "type," which is a term often used in relationships. Also, it automatically assumes race should be an important aspect of selecting a significant other.

All of this is not to say that these dating sites are a barrier for progress. They are, however, a microcosm for a much larger issue — the common nature of perpetuated stereotypes in the U.S.

Wyatt Kanyer is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Yakima, Wash.

Limbaugh's comments foolish



Bailey McGowan

Dear expressively and ideologically challenged talk show hosts: Please take your comments elsewhere.

Rush Limbaugh made comments Feb. 21 on his radio show about the first lady's food choice at a dinner in Colorado.

Admitting his comments were below the belt was just the first step in Limbaugh's ultimate demise as credible, at least on this issue.

Limbaugh said he didn't believe Michelle Obama was following the advice she's been giving through her new healthy eating initiative. In an interview following the radio talk show, Limbaugh said, "Some people are suggesting that my comments were below the belt. Well, take a look at some pictures. Given where she wears her belts, I mean she wears them high up there around the bust line. Isn't just about everything about her below the belt when you look at the fashion sense she has?"

Limbaugh's comments were below the belt, but in the end, he is the only person who looks like a fool.

First, examine what the first lady's new program is really all about. As stated by the website, "Let's Move!" is a comprehensive initiative dedicated to solving the problem of obesity within a generation so children will grow up healthier and be able to pursue their dreams.

"Let's Move!" lists five points to obtain this goal. They are, according to the website, "creating a healthy start for children, empowering parents and caregivers, providing healthy food in schools, improving access to healthy, affordable foods and increasing physical activity."

All of these points deal with children and the



ASSOCIATED PRESS

atmosphere surrounding them to create an optimistically health-conscious environment. That being said, it does require adults to make fit choices so they can be positive role models for children.

Part of learning to live a better lifestyle is learning balance. Americans are encouraged to enjoy their food but eat less and make half their plate fruits and vegetables, according to a press release by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The USDA also encourages Americans to balance calories with physical activity. Obama's plan runs parallel to all of the ideals. So far, even if her meal of ribs did contain the proposed 1,500 calories, she is following her own plan.

There are multiple factors to consider. She was on vacation, usually a time to enjoy oneself and remember that the moment doesn't last forever, and skiing, a physical activity. Enjoying one extravagant meal while on vacation is hardly reason to judge, especially if one's own waistline is obviously nowhere near healthy.

"I'm trying to say that our first lady does not project the image of women that you might see on the cover of the *Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue* or of a woman Alex

Rodriguez might date every six months or what have you," Limbaugh said.

While this statement is loaded for a number of reasons, at the root of this evil is the misconception of weight and worth. Genetically, not all women will measure up to those standards, nor should they.

This comment is a prime example of the ridiculous standard of beauty for women in our society. In 2003, 40 percent of newly diagnosed cases of anorexia came from girls aged 15 to 19, according to *nationaleatingdisorders.org*.

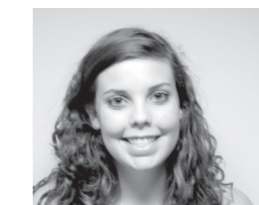
On college campuses, 91 percent of women said they were attempting to control their weight through dieting, and 22 percent of them said they dieted often or always.

These numbers are a grotesque example of how the ideas of healthy and beautiful are on opposite ends of the spectrum. Obama is attempting to align the next generation's mind toward what is healthy, but that requires changes on this generation's part.

Limbaugh's comments were below the belt, but in the end, he is the only person who looks like a fool.

Bailey McGowan is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Burk Burnett.

'Cutting' videos show need for help



Emily Atteberry

YouTube is home to every great viral video, like "The Bed Intruder," "Star Wars Kid," and "David After Dentist." But besides these hilarious "videos du jour," YouTube contains a dark subculture of videos depicting self-injury.

In a recent study published in the journal *Pediatrics*, researchers studied the 100 most-viewed videos that appear when one searches "self-harm" and "self-injury." With more than 2 million views, on average, almost every video had explicit pictures of injuries, most commonly cutting.

However, cutting is only one form of self-injury. The Mayo Clinic defines "self-injury" as "the act of deliberately harming your own body, such as cutting or burning yourself." In most cases, people who self-mutilate don't do this as a suicide attempt; instead, it's simply their way of dealing with emotion, pain or anger.

Fourteen to 24 percent

of teens have purposefully harmed themselves, said lead author of the *Pediatrics* study, Stephen Lewis of the University of Guelph.

When I initially heard about this growing trend in videos, I was hesitant to believe it. In my disbelief, I searched for "self-injury" and "self-harm" and was sucked into the dark underworld of "trigger videos."

But even other videos supposedly discouraging the behavior glamorized it and failed to offer any resources or help.

Moreover, other popular self-injury videos were informational, instructing people how to hide or treat their scars.

In a statement given shortly after the study was released, YouTube stated it does not encourage harmful activities, but it cannot possibly prescreen all videos. They rely on users to flag offensive videos, which employees can then evaluate.

But as the study pointed out, the vast majority of these videos had never been flagged, because the viewers watching them don't find them offensive.

As someone who had friends suffer the addiction of self-mutilation, I find YouTube's excuse that they just "don't have time" to take down these videos as infuriating and insulting.

Other companies are being proactive to offer resources to help sufferers. For example, when one looks up "suicide" on Google a national hotline number automatically appears. YouTube says it is considering the feasibility of such a similar function for "self-harm" and "self-injury" searches.

If there is one thing that needs to be discussed openly in America, it's mental illness. Maybe people seem to lack compassion for self-harmers, calling them "immature" and their behavior "cries for attention." Yet that is exactly who they are — people who need our attention. These problems will not be resolved simply by ignorance.

YouTube must address and abolish this subculture of self-harm videos before it finds itself having to answer to the parents of a child who committed suicide.

If you find yourself in need of immediate psychological help, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. If you seek counseling through TCU, call 817-257-7863. As shown above, you are not alone.

Emily Atteberry is freshman political science and journalism double major from Olathe, Kan.

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FORT WORTH

Ticket arrests will not include campus parking

By Katie Terhune
Staff Reporter

Fort Worth will be part of a statewide effort to arrest people with outstanding warrants from unpaid speeding tickets and other violations starting this weekend, according to a press release from the City of Fort Worth. However parking violations issued by campus police would not be included in the effort, said TCU Police Lt. Ramiro Abad.

The Great Texas Warrant Roundup will be from March 5-12, according to the release. The release also noted law enforcement officials will increase their efforts to find and apprehend people who have warrants.

Jesse Hernandez, Fort Worth's city marshal, said the marshal's office will step up endeavors to serve warrants in the city.

"This is a concentrated effort on Class C misdemeanor warrants, primarily traffic fine warrants," he said.

Hernandez said the focus also included city code violations warrants, such as having a dog not on a leash or illegal dumping of trash. However, warrants are not being issued for unpaid parking tickets because they are classified as be-

low a Class C misdemeanor.

Hernandez said law enforcement officials around the state were employing different strategies to serve the warrants.

"We're hoping that if people learn we're out there even more vigorously looking for them, that they will come in and take care of their business with the court."

Jesse Hernandez
Fort Worth City Marshal

"Here in Fort Worth, for example, in the marshal's office I have twenty deputies that on a daily basis go out and serve warrants," Hernandez said. He said other, smaller regions around Texas might have fewer resources with which to deal with the warrant sweep. In the past, towns with only one or two marshals have teamed up with local police departments to increase success rates.

Even people who have moved or received a ticket in a town they are not a resident of can still be arrested,

Hernandez said. Neighboring cities and jurisdictions swap information to have the most up-to-date information about the whereabouts of suspects, he added.

"There's a redoubled effort to find these folks," Hernandez said. "The chances of getting caught are greater during this time period."

Hernandez said the goal was to get people with outstanding warrants to just pay the fines, rather than risk the hassle of being tracked down by city marshals.

"We're hoping that if people learn we're out there even more vigorously looking for them, that they will come in and take care of their business with the court," Hernandez said. "Ultimately that is the best approach, because if we find them out in the street we're going to arrest them. If we arrest them, chances are we're going to impound their vehicle, so then they're going to be inconvenienced, they're going to go to jail, they're going to have to pay the money to get out and then they're going to have to pay money to get their vehicles out as well."

Freshman pre-business major DeShay Hazzard said arresting people for unpaid speeding tickets was an over-

reaction on the part of the marshal's office.

"People should be more responsible about taking care of stuff like that, but not where they need to go out and find them and take them to jail," Hazzard said.

Hazzard said police efforts would be better spent pursuing people who have committed more serious crimes.

"They could be finding... child molesters and rapists, and take them to jail," she said.

Freshman political science and history double major Christian Lueck said he thought the roundup was a good idea.

"If you have a ticket and you don't pay it, that's not right," Lueck said. "I consider that stealing."

Lueck said he had never received a speeding ticket but that if it happened, he would pay immediately rather than face the wrath of local law enforcement.

Fort Worth residents can check if they have a warrant by visiting fortworthgov.org/applications/warrantsonline. People with a warrant are encouraged to contact the municipal court in which the citation was issued to pay their fines immediately.

NATIONAL

Wisconsin gov: Return to work or take pink slip

By Scott Bauer
Associated Press

Wisconsin's governor threatened Thursday to issue thousands of layoff notices within 24 hours if Senate Democrats who fled to Illinois fail to return for a vote on a measure that would cripple public unions, and their Republican colleagues also stepped up the pressure by authorizing police to round up the missing lawmakers.

The efforts marked the most drastic steps in the standoff that has extended more than two weeks, halting action on Gov. Scott Walker's plan to end most collective bargaining for state workers, which he says is critical to solving the state's budget crisis.

On Thursday night, a judge ordered around 100 protesters who had been spending the night there for weeks to leave, although he said they could return during regular business hours. During a hearing over access to the Capitol, police said they found 41 rounds of .22-caliber rifle ammunition scattered

at several locations outside the building.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Walker said he will issue layoff notices to 1,500 state workers on Friday if his proposal, which also would force the workers to pay more for benefits, isn't passed. Because the Senate Democrats left, the chamber doesn't have a quorum.

While Walker said he is actively working with some of the Democrats in hopes of striking a deal, he told the AP he won't compromise on the collective bargaining issue or anything that saves the state money.

"I can't take any of that off the table," he said. "We cannot tear apart this budget. We cannot put this burden on local governments. But if there are other ways they are willing to work with us to find a pathway back, I think that's what people want."

Democratic Senate Minority Leader Mark Miller confirmed there were talks with Walker, but he did not think they were close to reaching a deal.

MEXICAN DRUG WAR

Obama pledges more aid to Mexico

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

President Barack Obama and Mexican President Felipe Calderon agreed Thursday to deepen their cooperation in combating drug violence and declared a breakthrough in efforts to end a long-standing dispute over cross-border trucking.

During a joint news conference at the White House, Obama praised Calderon for his "extraordinary courage" in fighting the violent drug gangs that have been responsible for deaths on both sides of the border. Obama pledged to speed up U.S. aid to train and equip Mexican forces to help in those efforts, but he also acknowledged that the United States must stem the flow of cash and guns to Mexico that have aided the drug runners.

"We are very mindful that the battle President Calderon

is fighting inside of Mexico is not just his battle; it's also ours," Obama said. "We have to take responsibility, just as he's taken responsibility."

"We are very mindful that the battle President Calderon is fighting inside of Mexico is not just his battle; it's also ours."

Julie Susman
Junior graphic design major

Calderon's visit comes three weeks after U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jaime Zapata was shot to death in northern Mexico with a gun smuggled in from the U.S. The incident raised questions in the U.S. about Mexico's ability to control violence and has Obama administration officials considering arming U.S.

agents working across the border to ensure their safety.

Mexican law forbids foreign law enforcement agents working in the country to bear arms, and Calderon vehemently expressed his opposition to making an exception for U.S. personnel. But he said Zapata's death showed a need to consider alternative methods for protecting agents.

"His death must urge us to work together to ensure a prosperous and peaceful future for our region," Calderon said.

Obama said the U.S. is seeking extradition of several suspects arrested in Mexico in connection with Zapata's death.

Tensions between the North American allies were already heightened ahead of Zapata's death. Secret State Department cables released last year revealed a grim assessment by U.S. officials of Mexico's ability to fight drug cartels, saying the country has limited



CHARLES DHARAPAK / ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama and Mexico's President Felipe Calderon take part in a joint news conference, Thursday, March 3, 2011, in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

intelligence-gathering capacity and quoting Calderon as saying politicians could be tempted to return to a tacit policy of tolerating the gangs.

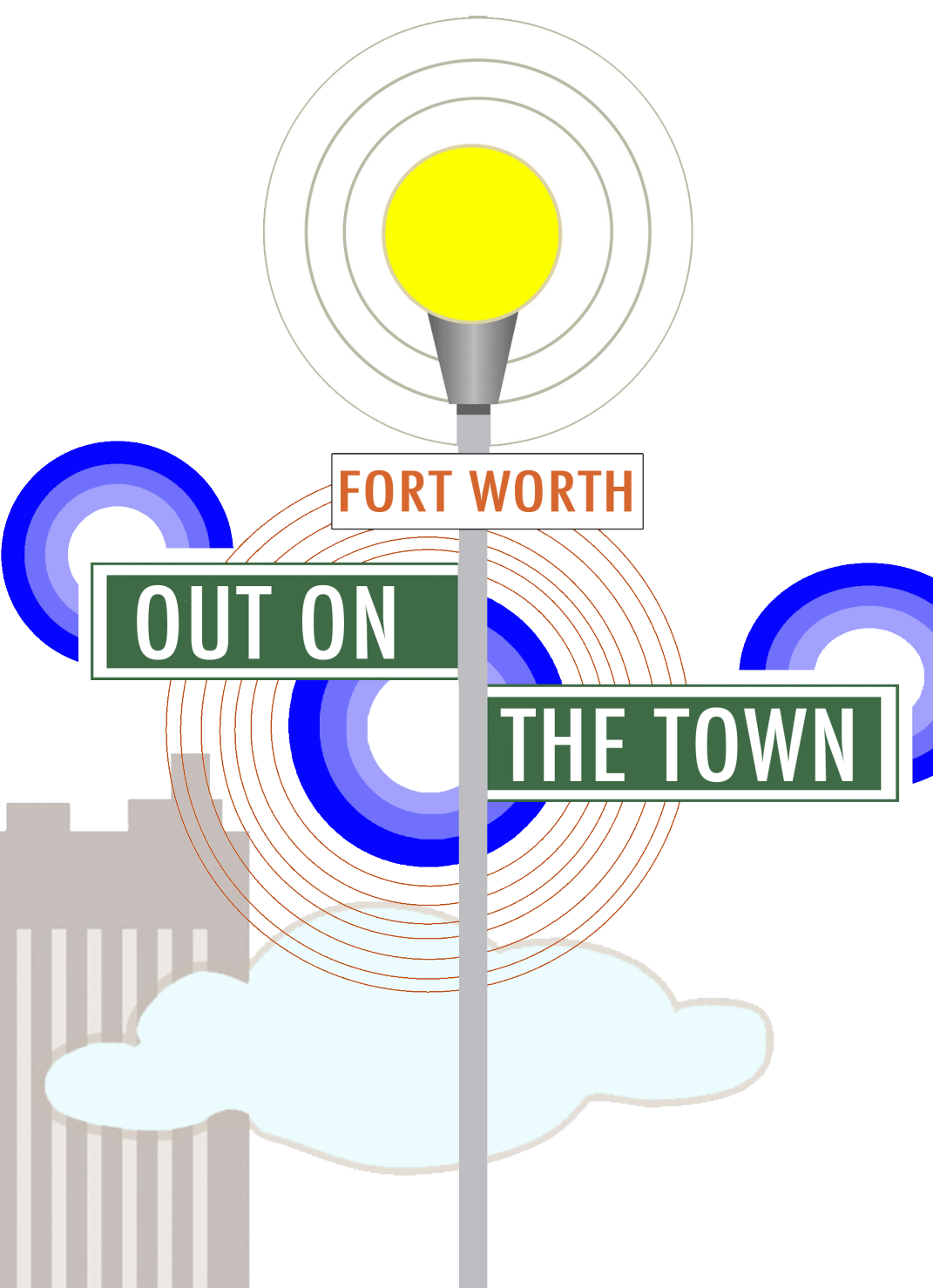
In a show of confidence in Calderon's efforts, the Obama administration said it would continue to send aid to support Mexico in the drug war. A senior administration official said the U.S. plans to speed

up implementation of the \$1.4 billion Merida Initiative, with \$900 million to be doled out by the end of the year. The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, was not authorized to speak publicly about the agreement.

Stephen Johnson, director of the Americas Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said

that given the breadth of the U.S.-Mexico relationship, it was critical that Obama and Calderon meet before tensions escalated further.

"There are junctures like this where leaders have to get together and work through any misunderstanding that there might be, and then agree ways on ways to move forward," Johnson said.



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WEIRD NEWS

Associated Press

Police: Ohio DUI suspect drinks in front of cop

ELYRIA, Ohio (AP) — Police in northern Ohio say a man who was asked during a traffic stop whether he'd been drinking took a swig from an open can of beer and told the officer, "Yes." According to Cleveland's

WJW-TV, the Elyria (eh-LEER'-ee-uh) police report says 25-year-old Stephen Supers was pulled over early Wednesday because the officer had observed him speeding.

The report says that after Supers took the drink in front of the officer he failed a series of field sobriety tests. Supers is scheduled to appear in court Tuesday on

charges including driving under the influence, driving on horseback and possession of marijuana.

A message was left at his home phone number in Elyria on Thursday. Court records do not list his attorney.

Livestock rounded up after crash at stockyard

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (AP) — The roundup was reminiscent of the old West, although the setting was in western Kentucky.

Stockyard workers mounted up and helped corral several calves which escaped after a crash in front of a Bowling Green stockyard.

Bowling Green Police say the trailer was being towed to United Producers Livestock Center on U.S. 31-W on Tuesday when a car ran into the rear of it. Witnesses said the trailer brake lights and turn signals weren't working.

Officer Monica Woods told the Daily News of Bowling Green that the rear door

came off of the trailer and nine calves escaped.

Three stockyard staffers on horseback and using lassos aided police in rounding up the cattle with no injuries to them.

No one in the vehicles was reported seriously hurt.

Thieves stealing expensive golf club heads in Pa.

GREENSBURG, Pa. (AP) — State police are investigating a strange case involving decapitated golf clubs in the Pittsburgh area.

State police say they have surveillance pictures of a couple that have removed and stolen the heads from 13 expensive drivers in five different incidents between Feb. 14 and 21 at Dick's Sporting Goods stores in Greensburg, West Mifflin, Robinson Township and Pittsburgh's South Hills suburbs.

Investigators believe the couple are re-using the stolen driver heads to make custom clubs — or selling the stolen heads to someone who is doing that.

NATIONAL NEWS

Associated Press

CDC: A third of Americans don't sleep 7 hours

ATLANTA (AP) — More than a third of U.S. adults sleep less than seven hours a night, and many of them report troubles concentrating, remembering and even driving. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported the statistics Thursday in two separate studies.

In one study, about 35 percent of people surveyed in 12 states said they slept less than seven hours a night, on average.

The second study based on a national survey found about 23 percent said they had trouble concentrating because they were tired. Another 18 percent struggled to remember things, and 11 percent had difficulty driving or commuting.

US study says sex down among young adults, teens

ATLANTA (AP) — Apparently, fewer teens and young adults are having sex, according

to a federal study which offers numbers but doesn't examine the reasons.

Why is it decreasing? "That's the \$100,000 question," said Bill Albert, chief program officer for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

Some experts say an emphasis on abstinence may have played a role. Some say concern about sexually spread diseases may have been a factor — perhaps instilled by parents who watched the AIDS crisis unfold. Still others suggest this is a generation of kids who are less inclined to experiment with drugs and sex than their predecessors.

The study, released Thursday, is based on interviews of about 5,300 young people, ages 15 to 24. It shows the proportion in that age group who said they had had some kind of sexual contact dropped in the past decade from 78 percent to about 72 percent.

There are other surveys of sexual behavior, but this is considered the largest and most reliable. "It's the gold standard,"

Albert said.

Health scientist Anjani Chandra of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention described the decline in sex as small but significant. She declined to speculate on the reasons. It's difficult to look for a trend earlier than 2002 because previous surveys did not gather as much detail about various types of sex, she added.

However, data over the years on vaginal intercourse among never-married adolescents shows a steady decline since 1988. That seems to be in sync with other CDC studies showing an overall drop in teen pregnancy.

That the trend began in the late 1980s seems to undermine the idea that abstinence-only sex education — heavily emphasized during the 2001-2009 presidency of George W. Bush — is the explanation, Albert said.

But it is possible those messages contributed, he added.

The leading influence on sexual activity among young adults is what parents teach and what peers are doing, experts

said. And for whatever reason, smaller proportions are "doing it" than in the past.

Still, the CDC report may be surprising to some parents who see skin and lust in the media and worry that sex is rampant.

"Many parents and adults look at teens and sex and see nothing but a blur of bare midriffs. They think things are terrible and getting worse," Albert said.

The sex study looked at older adults, too. It was based on in-person interviews of about 13,500 men and women ages 15 to 44, conducted in the years 2006 through 2008. The results were compared with those of a similar survey done in 2002.

Unemployment aid requests fall to near 3-year low

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of people requesting unemployment benefits last week plunged to a nearly three-year low, bolstering the likelihood that companies will increase the pace of hiring this year.

Applications for unemploy-



ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Feb. 17, 2011 photo, businesses solicit students as they fill out job applications during the Springfield Collegiate Career Job Fair at the University of Illinois Springfield, in Springfield, Ill.

ment benefits fell by 20,000 to a seasonally adjusted 368,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. It was the third decline in the past four weeks. Applications are now at their lowest level since May 2008.

The four-week average for applications, a less volatile figure, fell last week to 388,500. That's the lowest level since July 2008, the last time the four-week av-

erage was below 400,000.

Applications that remain consistently below 375,000 tend to signal steady declines in the unemployment rate. Unemployment benefit applications peaked during the recession at 651,000.

Analysts are predicting strong job gains in the February employment report, which the government will release Friday.

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- Bene
- It may involve an exaggerated age
- With 19-Across, serious warnings
- Not much
- See 17-Across
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- 1938 "The War of the Worlds" broadcast, for one
- Keystone enforcer
- Blazing
- Go-aheads
- Side
- Lone breakfast pastry?
- Garden product word
- Attacks
- Igloos and yurts
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- Cherished breakfast pastry?
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- Got for nothing
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- Newspaper supply
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- Machining
- Prelate's title: Abbr.
- Unevenly worn
- Cross words
- Actors Flogen and Green
- Big gun or big chess
- Desire and then some
- Clinton Treasury secretary
- In one piece
- Award with a Sustained Achievement category

DOWN

- Orderly movement
- Nirvana #1 album
- "In _"
- Scorned lover of Jason

By Matt Matera 3/4/11

4 Lose it

5 Michael's nemesis on "The Office"

6 Boarding pass generator

7 Sponsors

8 Brand of nonstick cookware

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10 Michael of "Caddyshack"

11 Gallantry

12 River island

13 NFL stat

21 Show-what-you-know chances

22 Machining

26 Prelate's title: Abbr.

27 Unevenly worn

29 Cross words

30 Actors Flogen and Green

31 Big gun or big chess

33 Desire and then some

34 Clinton Treasury secretary

35 In one piece

36 Award with a Sustained Achievement category

40 "Isy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polka Dot Bikini," for one

43 Broad

44 Endangered great apes

45 x, at times

47 Baseball star who reportedly said, "I think there's a sexiness in infield hits"

50 Caruso, for one

53 A couple

54 Acrobat developer

55 Rachel Maddow's station

57 Serious lapses

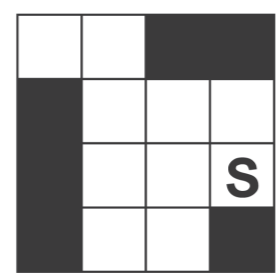
58 Zero's home

59 Dangle

60 Tater

61 _ Simbel, site of Ramesses II temples

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"Copy Paste Character"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (240pts)

How to play:

Spell the phrase in the grid above it, writing each unique letter only once.

The correct solution will spell the complete phrase along a single continuous spelling path that moves horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Fill the grid from square to square - revisiting letters as needed to complete the spelling path in order. Each letter will appear only once in the grid.

Thursday's Solution



"Translate Google" Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (180pts)

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

Directions

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

See Tuesday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Thursday's Solution

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

Associated Press

Average retail Texas gasoline prices jump 22 cents

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Retail gasoline prices have jumped 22 cents this week across Texas in the biggest hike since Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005.

AAA Texas on Thursday reported the average price at the pump was \$3.30 a gallon. Nationwide gasoline prices rose 20 cents, amid unrest in the energy-producing Middle East and rising crude oil prices, to reach \$3.43 a gallon.

The highest previous Texas gasoline price spike recorded by the travel group was between Aug. 31 and Sept. 5, 2005, in the days after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. Retail gasoline prices then rose 40 cents in one week in Texas and 35 cents nationwide.

Amarillo has the least expensive gasoline in Texas this week, at \$3.26 per gallon. Drivers in El Paso are

used to buy a watch at a store matched some of the missing cash.

Dallas-area officer accused of stealing drug cash

DALLAS (AP) — The head of a Dallas-area police department's narcotics unit is accused of stealing cash seized during drug busts. Mesquite police Sgt. John David McAllister was arrested Thursday on a charge of theft of government money. He faced an initial court appearance.

The FBI in December received a tip that the 22-year department veteran was stealing confiscated drug money.

An undercover operation Tuesday involved \$100,000 in bundles put in a vehicle. Investigators say the 42-year-old McAllister searched the vehicle, found the cash and while transporting the money was videotaped slipping a bundle into his pants.

Investigators say money that McAllister allegedly

used to buy a watch at a store matched some of the missing cash.

Mesquite police say they were aware of the federal investigation and will review cases involving McAllister.

Texas comptroller says cuts will not solve deficit

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas comptroller told the House Appropriations Committee on Thursday that she can't imagine solving the current budget crisis through cuts alone.

Susan Combs spoke at a hearing designed to be a reality check for conservatives who think the budget can be balanced by slashing state services. The current two-year budget cycle is \$4.3 billion short and, under the Texas Constitution, that deficit must be made up by Aug. 31.

The state is also facing another projected \$27 billion shortfall in the next two-year budget, but that was not the subject of Thursday's

hearing.

Committee Chairman Jim Pitts, a Waxahachie Republican, asked Combs to testify after he introduced a bill to spend \$4.3 billion from the state's Rainy Day Fund to cover the deficit. In opening Thursday's hearing, he tried to communicate the gravity of the problem, which left lawmakers silent and stonewalled.

"The budget adopted by the Legislature last session, and signed by the governor, exceeded the comptroller's measure of available revenue," Pitts said. "This committee, and this Legislature, has very limited options: the use of the Rainy Day Fund, further reductions ... or deferring payments into the next biennium."

While Combs never called on the committee to dip into the Rainy Day Fund, she presented a detailed history of how it had been used in the past and how spending it would not hurt the state's credit rating. She also examined the other options.

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SPORTS

FOOTBALL

2011 TCU football schedule finalized

By Ryne Sulier
Sports Editor

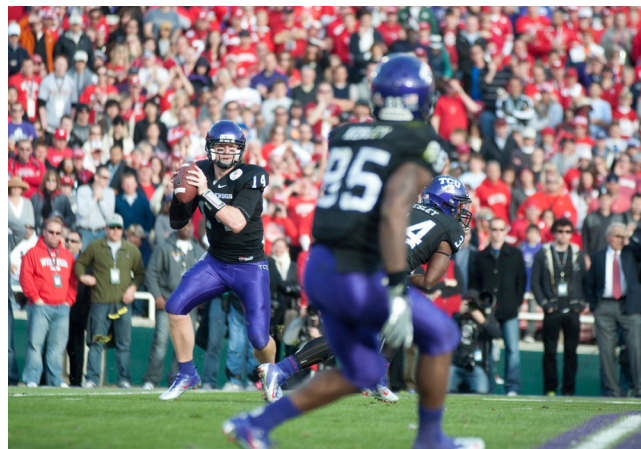
The Mountain West Conference has placed TCU's football schedule on the window sill to cool until its Sept. 3 season opener at Baylor.

The MWC on Thursday announced the dates of the Frogs' seven conference matchups for the Frogs' seventh and final year as a MWC member. TCU's second road game of the season will represent their conference opener Sept. 10 at Air Force.

The Frogs will then play three nonconference games, all home dates against Louisiana-Monroe on Sept. 17, Portland State on Sept. 24 and Southern Methodist on Oct. 1 before their next conference game at San Diego State on Oct. 8.

The Frogs will play their first MWC home game against New Mexico on Oct. 22 following a bye week before playing former MWC rival Brigham Young on Oct. 28 at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

The BYU game will be nationally televised on ESPN2 and marks back-to-back seasons TCU has played a nonconference opponent



MATT COFFELT / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Former TCU quarterback Andy Dalton looks to throw to Jeremy Kerley after a play-fake to Ed Wesley during the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1.

at Cowboys Stadium to fill a scheduling void left after Texas Tech backed out of scheduled nonconference matchups with the Frogs.

TCU then will go on the road to Laramie, Wyo., to play Wyoming on Nov. 5 and to Boise, Idaho, to play Boise State on the blue turf Nov. 12. It will mark the first and only MWC matchup between TCU and Boise State before TCU moves to the Big East in 2012.

The Frogs then will wrap up the regular season at home versus Colorado State on Nov. 19 and UNLV on Dec. 3, with another bye week sandwiched between

the final MWC games over Thanksgiving weekend.

Here is the full 2011 TCU football schedule:

Sept. 3 - at Baylor
Sept. 10 - at Air Force*
Sept. 17 - vs. Louisiana-Monroe
Sept. 24 - vs. Portland State
Oct. 1 - vs. SMU
Oct. 8 - at San Diego State*
Oct. 22 - vs. New Mexico*
Oct. 28 - vs. BYU, 7 p.m.
Nov. 5 - at Wyoming*
Nov. 12 - at Boise State*
Nov. 19 - vs. Colorado State*
Dec. 3 - vs. UNLV*
* = Conference game

TENNIS

No. 52 TCU faces ranked OU



CAROLINE HARDWICK / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Idunn Hertzberg returns the ball during a match against Washington on Feb. 25. Their next match is against Oklahoma on Saturday at home.

By Dalton Goodier
Staff Writer

The No. 52 TCU women's tennis team will play Oklahoma at the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center Saturday. TCU last defeated Oklahoma 6-1 in 2008. The Frogs will aim for their second home victory of the season following a close 4-3 loss to No. 21 Washington. The Frogs are finished with preseason play and are now entering the main part of their schedule, head coach Dave Borelli said.

"I usually divide the schedule into three parts," Borelli said. "In the beginning of the season, we try to figure out who needs to play where and we get used to playing each other. Then we start to challenge ourselves with some matches so we can get ready for conference."

Friday's match against Washington marked the beginning of the second part of the season, and the Sooners represent another formidable challenge.

Oklahoma comes into Saturday's match ranked

No. 22 in the country and just advanced to the semifinals of the Blue Gray Tournament. Borelli pointed out that OU will be the definite favorites on Saturday but that TCU has played tough in several losses this year. Against Washington, TCU dropped several shortened sets that Borelli said he was confident the team could have won. As the season wears on and the Frogs push for a spot in the NCAA Tournament, it is Borelli's hope that the Frogs can pull off upsets against quality programs.

Senior Katariina Tuohimaa said the upcoming match was like any other and that she was not affected by its magnitude.

"We're just trying to get better every day," Tuohimaa said. "We're getting to know each other better and hopefully we can find a way to win."

Tuohimaa, of Helsinki, Finland, is considered the team's top player and one of three seniors leading the team. TCU is 1-3 on the year but has had matches against North Texas at the

Berkeley Invitational and against Southern Methodist postponed. However, Borelli said he thought the team was very close to coming together and that he hoped a sense of continuity will help the Frogs despite the slow start to the season.

"This is one of the best groups I've ever coached," Borelli said. "Their chemistry is great and they all work hard; I've really enjoyed coaching this season."

Oklahoma is 7-2 this season with a victory over TCU Mountain West Conference foe UNLV. The Sooners' only losses came to Stanford and Notre Dame. Five of the Sooners' seven wins this season have come at the expense of ranked teams.

No. 52 TCU vs. No. 22 Oklahoma

When: Noon Saturday

Where: Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center

Follow live updates on go-frogs.com

Free pizza will be provided to students attending the match.

Have a great story idea?
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SPORTS

TRACK & FIELD

Four Frogs compete for chance to qualify for NCAA Championships

By Luis Ortiz
Staff Reporter

Four of TCU's track & field athletes will travel to Blacksburg, Va., this weekend to compete at the Virginia Tech Final Qualifier. The meet is an opportunity to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships in College Station next weekend.

On the women's side, senior sprinter Kristal Juarez and sophomore Kelsey Samuels will represent the Frogs, while senior Mychal Dungey and junior Cameron Parker will represent the men's squad.

TCU was originally supposed to part take in the NCAA Qualifier in Ames, Iowa, but due to the small number of athletes, TCU track & field media relations contact Jaime Handy said in an e-mail that coach Darryl Anderson decided to compete in the Virginia Tech Final Qualifier.

Samuels won the Mountain West Conference championship in women's shot

put. Dungey won the MWC championship in the men's 200, and Parker won the MWC championship for men's triple jump. All of the athletes will compete in their respective events.

According to the Mountain West Conference website, the all-conference selections are awarded to the top three finishers in each event.

TCU ended the MWC Championships last weekend with seven titles, three of which belong to senior sprinter Jessica Young. Young won in the women's 60, women's 200 and women's 4x400. She was named the fastest collegiate female runner in the country after finishing the 60 in 7.17 seconds.

The women's squad finished second in scoring while the men finished fourth to conclude the conference championship.

The Mountain West Conference announced the men's and women's indoor track & field All-Conference Teams this week. Here are TCU's representatives:

Men's All-Conference Team

Mychal Dungey (200 meters)
Richard Knotts (long jump)
Jack O'Brien (800 meters)
Cameron Parker (triple jump)
Charles Silmon (60 meters, 200 meters)
4x400-Meter Relay (Mychal Dungey, Lavon Collins, Narada Jackson, Sean Zurko)

Women's All-Conference Team

Samantha Collins (long jump)
Whitney Gipson (long jump)
Stormy Harrison (shot put)
Kristal Juarez (400 meters)
Larissa Matthews (60-meter hurdles)
Kelsey Samuels (shot put)
Jessica Young (60 meters, 200 meters)
4x400-Meter Relay (Quinterra Charles, Kristal Juarez, Teneshia Peart, Jessica Young)

TCU Track & Field

What: Virginia Tech Final Qualifier
When: All day Saturday
Where: Virginia Tech — Blacksburg, Va.

EQUESTRIAN

No. 6 TCU heads to Delaware St.

By Brooke Crum
Staff Reporter

The No. 6 Horned Frogs equestrian team will return to action Sunday at Delaware State and travel for the first time to the Hornets' Gambler's Choice Equestrian Center.

Sunday will mark the fifth time in program history for the Frogs and Hornets to meet. TCU leads the all-time series, 4-0.

"We are preparing to become national champions, and this trip to Delaware is a stepping stone to get us ready for the big game in April," TCU assistant coach Kindel Huffman said. "Delaware State is not a team to underestimate, and we have never been to Delaware. Our team is riding great and ready for the challenge."

After going 0-3 at the Best in the West Tournament in Fresno, Calif., last weekend, the Frogs head to Delaware ranked as No. 6 in the Varsity Equestrian National Polls with a 5-3 record.

In their last outing, the Horned Frogs' Victoria Lee and Kelsey Huffman both claimed MVP honors, but then No. 5 TCU dropped a 7-5 decision to No. 8 Baylor on the final day of competition in Fresno.

"We are preparing to become national champions, and this trip to Delaware is a stepping stone to get us ready for the big game in April."

Kindel Huffman
Assistant Coach

Senior Ashley Aikman has gone 5-2 in horsemanship this season with one MVP award.

On the hunt seat side, junior Taylor Frederick has captured four wins in equitation over fences, and Victoria Lee has posted one MVP honor to go along with three victories. In equitation on the flat, senior

Tassie Munroe is 4-3-1 on the season.

The Hornets come into this weekend with a 4-8 overall record. In horsemanship, Shelby Bonnevillie claimed two MVP accolades for Delaware State. Amanda Hotz has led DSU in reining, recording five victories.

Kayla Blair has posted 13 wins combined between the flat and fences on the hunt seat side. Frayser Tuttle has nine victories between the two events with two MVP accolades in equitation on the flat.

The Frogs are shooting for their fifth win over the Hornets on Sunday as well as their second victory over DSU this season.

In January, the Frogs dropped DSU, 15-5, at Hudson Oaks — the Frogs' home equestrian center. The Frogs outscored Delaware State, 1,550.5-1,428.5. Senior Jessica Hagen, Frederick and junior Courtney Chown all earned MVP honors.

BASEBALL

No. 8 TCU travels to Texas Tech



PAIGE MCARDLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior pitcher Kyle Winkler throws a heater against Kansas during their series. Texas Tech is the next three game series and will be held in Lubbock this weekend.

By Myka Williams
Staff Writer

Riding a three-game losing streak, No. 8 TCU (4-4) will hit the road for the second time this season for a three-game series in Lubbock against Texas Tech.

TCU is 3-1 against Big 12 Conference competition so far this season, taking two of three against Kansas in the season series opener and a 2-0 shutout of Baylor on Feb. 22 in Waco. The Red Raiders (8-2) are hitting .347 and averaging 7.9 runs per game, led by Red Raiders' junior infielder Kelby Tomlinson.

The last time TCU came off three straight losses was in March 2008, when the Frogs were swept by Wichita State. Junior shortstop Taylor Featherston said it was surprising but that there's still plenty of baseball left.

"That's eight games in but nothing to freak out about," Featherston said. "We have to get things clicking and it will take time. Baseball is a weird game with new lineups and guys trying to figure out what's going on. It's been a tough week, but I'm still confident in our guys and we'll get better."

Head coach Jim Schlossnagle agreed after a 4-3 loss to Dallas Baptist on Tuesday

that TCU hadn't been getting any easy game so far this season but that the Frogs wouldn't see better results unless the team changed how it played.

"Until we decide to play different, it won't get any better. We don't do ourselves favors by throwing the ball around the field or [not] catching the ball in the outfield. We have to find a way to start our season over."

Taylor Featherston
Shortstop

TCU has blown its last three games in the ninth inning. Schlossnagle said his team hadn't bunted consistently, hadn't pulled the ball and had committed bad errors with a season-high four errors in Tuesday's loss.

"This is not anybody other than us," Schlossnagle said. "Until we decide to play different, it won't get any better. We don't do ourselves favors by throwing the ball

around the field or [not] catching the ball in the outfield. We have to find a way to start our season over."

Schlossnagle said the new NCAA regulation bats, which are similar to wood bats, and the new pitching timer, which was instituted by the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee, were not the causes of the Frogs' rough stretch, Schlossnagle said.

"I don't think the bats are in our heads," Schlossnagle said. "They're better than wood and everyone's swinging the same bats. It is what it is, and if we want to achieve what we would like, we need to beat good pitchers."

Yet TCU has had some batters swinging for average. Redshirt sophomore Jantzen Witte is batting .367 and junior Brance Rivera is batting .419. TCU Athlete of the Week Kyle Winkler said what the team is doing now isn't working and that it will learn from that. The junior right-handed pitcher also said the team has been giving up plays that it shouldn't.

"We'll have to get better and stop regressing," Winkler said. "Whether it's a change in senior year or us in general, we have to get better and that's really it."

BASEBALL

No. 8 TCU travels to Texas Tech this weekend for chance to snap losing streak.

SPORTS

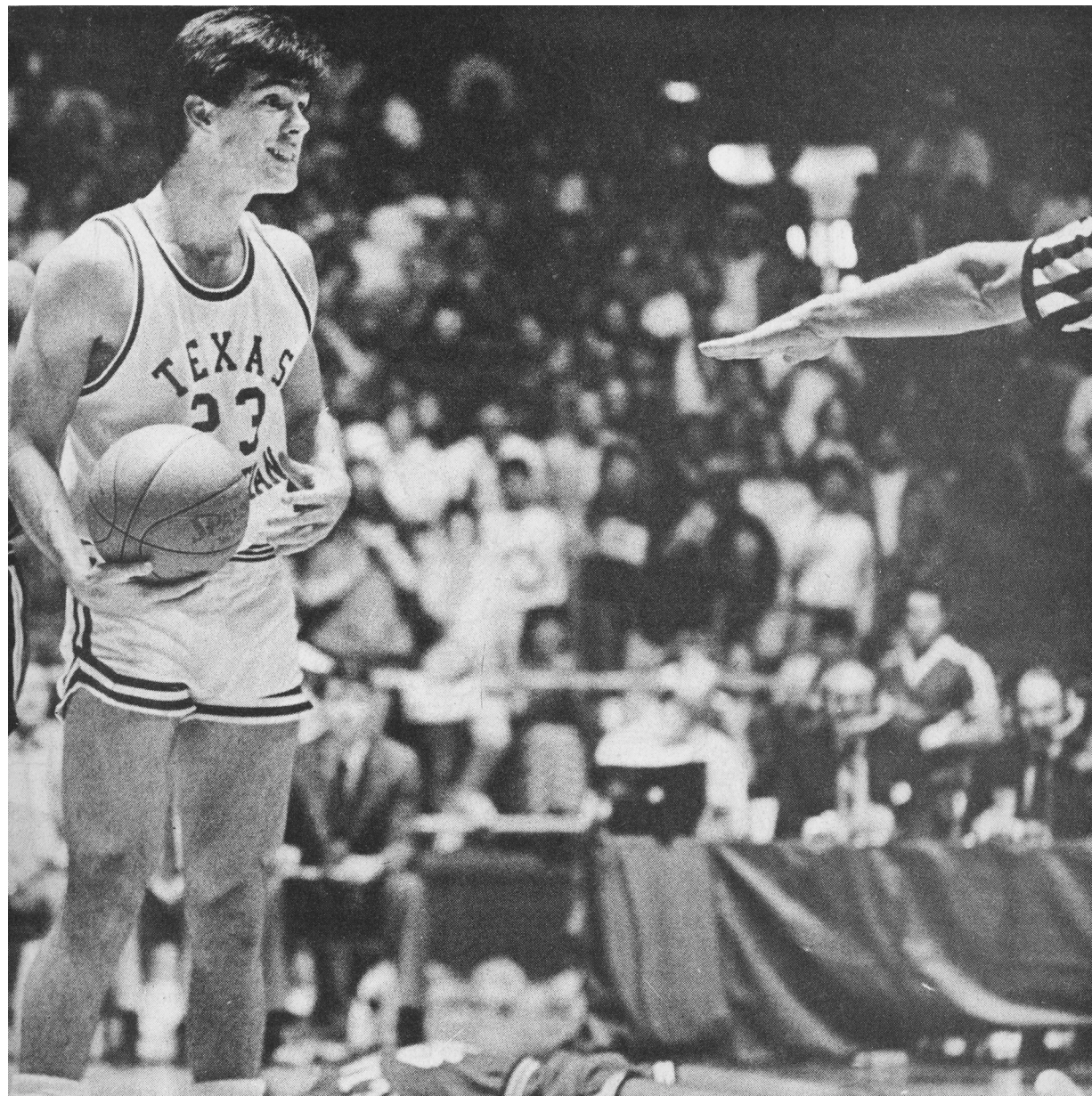
FOOTBALL

TCU has announced their complete schedule for the 2011 season.



ED REINKE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pittsburgh coach Jamie Dixon calls a play during the first half of their NCAA college basketball game against Louisville in Louisville, Ky., Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Jamie Dixon argues a call made against him during the 1987 season. Dixon, a 1987 graduate, is now a coach for Pittsburgh.

Q&A

Pittsburgh coach Jamie Dixon talks Big East, TCU past

By Kayla Travis
Staff Reporter

Jamie Dixon, former Horned Frog basketball player and current head coach of No. 4 Pittsburgh, said there's no secret to the Big East. TCU basketball's 2012 destination is the toughest conference to play in, he said. The Big East currently has eight teams represented in the Associated Press Top 25 — most of which will likely end up in the NCAA Tournament. What does this mean for the TCU basketball team, which just finished the regular season 10-21 overall and 1-15 in Mountain West Conference play? The MWC has two AP Top 25 representatives in No. 3 BYU and No. 9 San Diego

State. Dixon, who lettered at TCU from 1984-87, has won multiple coach of the year awards and set the all-time record for most wins at Pitt after six seasons as head coach with 163. As a player at TCU, Dixon was a part of two Southwest Conference title teams his junior and senior year and earned All-SWC honors in '87. Dixon received his bachelor's degree in finance from TCU in 1987 and earned a master's degree in economics from UC-Santa Barbara in 1992.

Here is an excerpt from my conversation with Dixon, who talks about what TCU can expect from the Big East, as well as his reflections on his time spent at TCU and

how the game has changed since then:

How has college basketball changed since you played for TCU in '87?

"It was my senior year that they added the 3-point line, and that was by far the biggest change in college basketball."

You pitched the idea of TCU joining the Big East to TCU Athletics Director Chris Del Conte. How did that conversation come about?

"I was down there for Hall of Fame weekend and recognizing our needs to add another team to the Big

East and with the obvious resources that TCU has, I thought it was the perfect fit. Maybe more recognizable to me because of my connections to the two entities."

With TCU moving into the Big East Conference, and your university already being a part of the conference and having an outstanding premiere basketball program, what can the team expect entering in the Big East in 2012?

"It's pretty widely known how strong the Big East is and it's probably no doubt the toughest conference in the country. But I don't think there are any secrets out there on the Big East and basket-

ball. All the strong programs are there."

As a student at TCU, what was your favorite moment as an undergraduate?

"My favorite moment was pulling up my freshman year and seeing the sign for Texas Christian University."

What hall did you live in?

"Milton Daniel."

What auxiliaries were you involved in outside of basketball?

"[Laughs] ...time didn't allow me to participate in other activities outside of basketball and schoolwork at that

point."

How was it playing for the university?

"It was a great four years. Every year, every moment. I think that is reflected in the long-term friendships that I've maintained with players, managers, trainers and students that I went to school with."

Tell me about your famous "miracle shot" against Texas in '86.

"To beat Texas and to win the Southwest Conference Championship was really the culmination of hard work and a group of guys coming together."