

FROG FEATURE 7

Calculus professor stands out with awards and interesting acquaintances.

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SO CLOSE

Frogs take No. 8 BYU down to the wire, page 11

The Frogs held the lead at halftime. TCU held BYU to 64 points, which matched its lowest single-game total this season.
 JULIE JACOBSON / ASSOCIATED PRESS

STUDENT LIFE 2
 SGA receives permit to house two live horned frogs on campus.



SAFETY 3
 Froggie Five-0 hires female drivers too.



CAMPUS

University receives final permit to house horned frogs on campus

By Sydney Hicks
Staff Reporter

After receiving the necessary permit from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, TCU will be able to house two live horned frogs on campus after it finalizes designs for their habitat, Student Body President Jackie Wheeler said.

Preston Patry, a senior political science major, said by having the horned frogs on campus, students could see what a real horned frog looks like and show support for the university.

"I'm pretty proud to be a Horned Frog and would love to have [them] on campus," Patry said.

The horned frog is the state reptile and a protected species, so it is illegal to obtain the horned frog without proper permits, Patry said.

The permits were obtained through TCU biology professor Dean Williams, who already had permits for biological research on horned frogs. Patry said the permit to house the horned frogs on campus was an extension of Williams' research permits.

Patry, who has been working to obtain live horned frogs for the university since

his freshman year, according to *Daily Skiff* archives.

Wheeler said SGA wanted to help get the horned frogs on-campus and that the project has been an important step for TCU school spirit. The most difficult obstacle had been accomplished by getting the permit to house the horned frogs, she said.

"This just gives us one more step forward toward solidifying a tradition...[and] adds some history to the school."

Cy Goudge
Senior geography major

SGA just had to wait to finalize the design for the habitats and determine exact pricing, Wheeler said. SGA has allotted \$20,000 in its budget to bring the horned frogs to campus, she said.

The plan says that one horned frog will be housed in the Brown-Lupton University Union, while the other would be in an outdoor terrarium by the University Recreation Center, Wheeler

said.

Patry said the TCU Rangers, a campus football spirit group, will be the organization primarily responsible for taking care of the lizards on a day-to-day basis. The Rangers would undergo a "crash course" training from Williams and receive information on how to care for the lizards, he said.

Senior Cy Goudge, former TCU Rangers president and geography major, said the exact details, like how many times a day the horned frogs will be fed and when the habitat will be cleaned, have not been decided yet.

Goudge said in future years, the Rangers hoped to expand its responsibilities, such as standing by the horned frogs during Monday at TCU tours. The live mascots on campus would become a talking point to help recruit prospective students during campus tours, he said.

He said having a live mascot is a tradition both students and alumni could support in years to come.

"This just gives us one more step forward toward solidifying a tradition... [and] adds some history to the school," Goudge said.

INTERNATIONAL

Tunisian student worries about family's safety during revolt



EMILIO MORENATTI / ASSOCIATED PRESS

An army soldier tries to calm down laborers from Bangladesh, who used to work in Libya and fled the unrest in the country, as they try to force their way into a U.N. storage facility during a protest in a refugee camp at the Tunisia-Libyan border, in Ras Ajdir, Tunisia, Thursday, March 10, 2011.

By Christa Acuna
News Now Reporter

This semester Slah Mbarek said he turned his focus away from school and tennis to his concern for his family's well-being during the eruption of violent protests in his hometown of Tunis, Tunisia. He said he heard the fear in their voices and violence in the background in daily Skype video chats with his family.

"You just hear helicopters going everywhere and shooting going everywhere," he said. "So all I hear is that they're scared and I just try to stay on Skype with them as much as possible."

In recent weeks, Tunisia experienced major political turmoil after Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, Tunisian president for 23 years, fled the country after citizens protested for a democracy.

Mbarek, a junior information system and supply and value management major, said shortly after he returned back to the U.S. after winter break, the violent protests began to rage and the government im-

posed curfews on citizens.

"I was concerned about my family more after the president left," he said. "Because after, he left behind like 3,000 commandos and snipers."

He said the violence started in the south of the country but drastically spread to his hometown while he was home in late December and early January.

"I saw a lot of people on the streets," he said. "I heard that people were getting killed."

Mbarek lived in Tunisia until he was 13 years old, and then moved to Paris before coming to play tennis at TCU in the spring of 2009.

He said since he was young when the government controlled several big companies in the country, as well as restaurants, night clubs and hotels.

Tunisia never had freedom of speech. Not only did the government block some of the citizens' most important rights, it also blocked out the media to minimize the exposure of political unrest, he said.

Through this time of media blockage, Mbarek utilized so-

cial media sites, such as Facebook, to stay informed on the revolution. He said Tunisians began publishing videos on Facebook so the rest of the world could have a view into the political turmoil through a citizen's eyes.

The violent background noise in the daily Skype video chats with his family was similar to what Mbarek said he saw in the videos.

Javier Bravo, a junior economics major and friend of Mbarek, said he noticed Mbarek kept his emotions to himself throughout the revolution, but still kept his usual, positive attitude.

"As a friend, I always tried to keep up with what was happening in his country so I could be there and support him as a friend," Bravo said.

Although the political upheaval hasn't ended, Mbarek said he's optimistic about going back home to a democracy one day.

"I don't think my family will ever leave," he said. "We were just born there. We will never leave."

Staff Report

Caroline Wiersgalla won the runoff election for the position of Vice President of External Affairs

on Thursday. Wiersgalla, a junior entrepreneurial management major, defeated Hunter Sprague, a junior business major, by a total of 465 to 243 votes.

Brett Phillips, student activities coordinator, wrote an e-mail that encouraged students to thank both candidates for a professional campaign effort.

Are we missing something?

email editor@dailyskiff.com
with your story idea

ALUMNI

Halperin returns to Fort Worth

By Chandler Cochran
News Now

TCU alumnus Tim Halperin competed in this season of "American Idol" until getting voted off Thursday, March 4. Now, one week later, Halperin said he is excited about the next chapter in his career, beginning with a return to Fort Worth.

Halperin, who graduated this past May, has been playing music since high school, but said he really became serious about pursuing his career as a singer-songwriter after enrolling at TCU in 2006.

"There were several moments in college where I had some great opportunities and opened for some great bands," Halperin said. "I think it was more just the whole mentality of going for it."

He went for it, alright.

Halperin submitted a MySpace video audition for the show along with 17,000 other Americans. He said only 10 or 15 of those made it to the Hollywood round.

His performance of the song "Something" by the Beatles received rave reviews from the judges, but his last song, where Halperin sang "Streetcorner Symphony" by Rob Thomas left them unimpressed. All three judges said they didn't think it represented his best work. Halperin, however, said he defended the song choice.

"I was able to get this new refreshing motivation to keep going with music because I saw that it really met a need in people's lives and that it became this sense of hope for so many people."

Tim Halperin
TCU Alumnus

"I feel like it was me, because the stuff that I perform is a combination of rock, pop and soul," he said. "And I felt like that song played to my strengths."

Unfortunately for Halperin, he did not receive enough votes from America to continue to the next round of performances.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Tim Halperin performs at the TCU Bookstore to help support a Susan G. Komen book-signing event last semester.

Halperin said he plans to take full advantage of the recent publicity of being on what is consistently one of the top TV shows in the nation, according to Nielsen ratings.

He returned to Fort Worth on Wednesday to attend numerous interviews scheduled for the next week or more. He appeared on the Kidd Kraddick show on 106.1 KISS-FM Thursday morning. Afterwards, he hopes to participate in a large event to begin his next phase of promotions, he said.

To show his thanks for the fans who supported him on American Idol, Halperin said he released a free song from his new album, which will be released in September. The song is called "The Last Song" (available at noi-setrade.com) and was meant to give fans a sneak peak of the new album. This will be his third album released.

Halperin became a common name on the TCU campus after he wrote the song "We Fight Back" for the TCU-BYU football game this past fall. The game and song promoted Frogs for the

Cure, helping raise awareness for breast cancer research through the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The music video for the song has over 30,500 hits on YouTube as of Thursday.

The song was released with a music video that involved TCU students, staff, alumni and breast cancer survivors. Halperin says it was the survivors who made his efforts seem appreciated most.

"I just was so encouraged by survivors and their response to the song" Halperin said, "I was able to get this new refreshing motivation to keep going with music because I saw that it really met a need in people's lives and that it became this sense of hope for so many people."

No matter how successful he may become, Halperin said his loyalty will always be with the university.

"Of course when I kick off any kind of opportunity, whether that be small shows in different markets or doing some radio stuff, it will always happen in Fort Worth first," he said. "That's where I like to start things off."

CAMPUS

Froggie Five-0 jobs not gender-exclusive

By Kerri Feczko
News Now

It turns out, Froggie Five-0 has a feminine side.

Jill Pollock, a junior psychology major, is one of four female drivers for the student escort service and disproves the belief that women cannot work for Froggie Five-0.

"That's everybody's first assumption — that Froggie is all boys, and I'm like, 'Well, hello. I work for Froggie,'" Pollock said.

Students often expressed their concern about females driving for Froggie Five-0, she said.

"I've had girls refuse rides or argue with me about whether or not I can keep them safe," Pollock said. "Or [they] insist that I call a male driver, in which case I've usually told them no because that's silly."

TCU Police Sgt. Alvin Allcon said any student can apply for a position at Froggie Five-0.

"It's not something that has any way, shape or form, any kind of stipulation to exclude females," Allcon said.

Although safety is the main concern for Froggie Five-0, student drivers are not advised to take action against any potential attacker, Allcon said.

"Obviously if something were to occur, we would hope they would involve the police rather than the [Froggie]

Five-0," he said.

Morgan Halboth, a freshman political science major, said she was surprised when a female Froggie Five-0 driver picked her up, but was not against it.

"It was a little awkward and unusual because you're normally supposed to have a male there," Halboth said. "But she was fine, she drove me from point A to point B."

Halboth said she thought female drivers did not make Froggie Five-0 any less safe. When it comes down to it, males and females can both drive a golf cart, she said.

Pollock said just the presence of an escort, male or female, in a golf cart has been enough to keep students safe.

"Most of our escorts are to the library and back, or to and from the parking lots," Pollock said. "So it really doesn't matter who's there as long as there is a service moving you."

According to Froggie Five-0's website, the service began in 1996 and now escorts over 3,100 students each month.

Pollock said she was the only female driver when she first started working for Froggie Five-0 almost two years ago, and was also the first female Froggie Five-0 supervisor. She said women have been able to apply for any position in Froggie Five-0 and has encouraged more to do so.

Just what is a Horned Frog?

The horned frog is actually a lizard. It gets its "nickname" from the rounded body that makes it look like a frog.

The Texas horned frog is a protected species and it is illegal to have one without a permit.

The horned frog's diet is mostly made up of ants, but it also eat beetles, spiders and grasshoppers.

The horned frog lives in hot environments as a way of controlling its body temperature.

The number of Texas horned frogs has declined in recent years because of losses of habitat.

Some Native Americans regard the horned frog as sacred.

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PERSPECTIVES

The Skiff View

Froggie Five-0 should allow male passengers

Most everyone at TCU remembers learning about Froggie Five-0 while touring campus. Moms nodded in approval as a guide explained how the service would keep their daughters safe when walking across campus at night. The boys grumbled in the back as they were told that the service is only available to female students but that they are welcome to apply to be drivers.

Somewhere along the lines, that translated into: "Only girls can use Froggie, and only boys can be drivers."

To set the record straight, anyone can drive for Froggie, but only female students can ride.

Junior Jill Pollock, a female driver, said students are often confused when they see her pull up, and some even refuse to ride with her for safety reasons.

Froggie Five-0's administrators have defended the decision to allow female drivers, but they have not acknowledged the other half of the issue — allowing male riders.

TCU Police Sgt. Alvin Allcon wrote in an e-mail that the program is designed as a security escort for female students only, and though it has been discussed on numerous occasions, it does not allow male passengers at risk of the security issue of female students.

Froggie Five-0 should re-evaluate its stance on male riders, just as it might have once thought twice about allowing female drivers.

Male students are equally susceptible to the dangers of walking around campus alone at night, and female drivers are equally capable of keeping passengers safe.

Opposition to either demonstrates gender-discriminative behavior that's inappropriate and simply uncalled for.

Web editor *Andrea Drusch* for the editorial board. The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

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SHENEMAN *The Star-Ledger*



"GAS PRICES AND FOOD PRICES ARE BOTH GOING THROUGH THE ROOF. WE CAN DRIVE TO THE GROCERY STORE, BUT WE CAN'T BUY ANY FOOD."

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

Activist's message about Islam misguided



Wyatt Kanyer

Life experiences can be used in a variety of ways. A negative life experience can become a stepping stone for motivation to change. A positive life experience can assist in directing one's next endeavor.

Life experiences often result in change for the good — when in the right hands, that is.

Brigitte Gabriel, an individual known for her activism against radical Islam, has decided to use her past life experiences, which were negative, to form generalizations.

Gabriel grew up in Lebanon, and radical Muslims bombed her village. According to an article in *The New York Times*, Gabriel said she was left injured in a pile of rubble after the bombing.

Today, Gabriel claims radical Islam also has infiltrated the United States, according to the article. In a response to this infiltration, Gabriel formed an organization called ACT! for America, which strives to educate Americans about the threat radical Islam poses while solving

the issue of radical Islam's influence on the United States.

Brian Fishman, a representative from the Combating Terrorism Center at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, said in the article Gabriel's claims were not aiding in limiting radical Islam.

"When you've got folks who are looking for the worst in Islam and are promoting that as the entire religion of 1.5 or 1.6 billion people, then you only empower the real extremists," he said.

Fishman's comment demonstrates the fact that Gabriel is highlighting a faction of Islam that is dangerous that only exists largely in nations where Islam is the predominant religion.

Gabriel's efforts, then, are largely based on her own disdain for Islam based on firsthand experience.

Furthermore, while Americans did experience this type of an attack on 9/11, it was not as personal as Gabriel's account from Lebanon.

Most of Gabriel's support comes from groups that are conservative evangelical Christians, Jews and Christians who are hard-line supporters of Israel and tea party Republicans.

In fact, it was at a tea party rally in Fort Worth on Sept. 18 that Gabriel broadcast her message.

What's more, Gabriel has claimed that ACT! for America is not affiliated with any religious or political preference, yet

she regularly appears on conservative talk radio and talk shows, such as "The O'Reilly Factor."

Gabriel's denial of ideological affiliation and the subsequent affiliation with ideological groups suggests that she has a radical agenda, which can be found in her rhetoric. She uses statements such as "hate-mongering" and "ideologue" to describe racial Islam, yet ironically fails to recognize that she is portraying herself as a hatemonger and ideologue by using those terms.

Divisive rhetoric and action like this, not limited only to Islam, has also caused recent chaos in the United States, as shown by January's Tucson shootings.

Although the United States was attacked in a serious manner on 9/11, no one has the right to perpetuate violence. As far as I'm concerned, there's no reciprocity of violence.

Gabriel has allowed her past experiences, which were truly devastating, to be an excuse for irrational revenge.

Her goal should not be to perpetuate the feelings she felt as a young girl in Lebanon. Instead, Gabriel's best bet would be to appeal objectively to the fact of the matter — not every Muslim is a radical and violence does not deserve more violence.

Wyatt Kanyer is a junior news-editorial and Spanish double major from Yakima, Wash.

Gender-neutral housing can help LGBT students



Andrea Bolt

Tyler Clementi killed himself by jumping off the 213-foot tall George Washington Bridge. Clementi's heterosexual roommate at Rutgers University had been secretly broadcasting Clementi's homosexual encounters in their dorm room.

On Sept. 21, Clementi's roommate Dharun Ravi posted, "Anyone with iChat, I dare you to video chat me between the hours of 9:30 and 12. Yes it's happening again," according to an abc-news.com article. In this instance, gender-neutral housing may have spared Tyler Clementi's life.

What about bathroom sharing? What about when significant others pay visits? Gender-neutral housing, allowing heterosexual and LGBT students the option to choose to live with a same or opposite-sex roommate, is a considerate and evolved solution.

An average student has enough stress stemming from the hassles of college and its sometimes convoluted, disappointing housing component. Students may not get to room in their favored dormitory or apartment, or they may end up roped to a roommate with whom they get along even less. With lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender students, potential roommate issues are immensely intensified. What if roommates

of LGBT students aren't comfortable living with an LGBT person in close, dorm-sized quarters? What about bathroom sharing? What about when significant others pay visits? Gender-neutral housing, allowing heterosexual and LGBT students the option to choose to live with a same or opposite-sex roommate, is a considerate and evolved solution.

Spurred by Clementi's tragic death, Rutgers will offer gender-neutral housing in three dorms starting this fall.

Joan Carbone, Rutgers' residence life director, said in a March 1 article from Fox News that the idea was brought to life after conversing with LGBT students and hearing from them the difficulty involved in finding an accepting roommate.

Jenny Kurtz, Rutgers' director of the Center for Social Justice Education and LGBT Communities, part of Student Affairs, said in a March 4 article from *Rutgers Today* that she believes in the program and the fact that traditional housing is not appropriate or ideal for all students.

"In the last decade, there has been a steady rise of college students across the country requesting gender-neutral housing options, including students at Rutgers," Kurtz said. "Transgender students in particular thought it would make housing more equitable for people who identify as transgender and may not feel comfortable rooming with someone of the same legal sex. The program also increases options for all students to choose a roommate with whom they are compatible, regardless of gender," Kurtz reported to *Rutgers Today*.

California's Pitzer College began offering mixed-gender dorms last year. According to a March 2010 *Los Angeles Times* article, Kayla

Eland, female, and Lindon Pronto, male, began sharing a room last year on the second floor of their dorm. Neither is gay and they are not a couple; they are simply compatible roommates. Eland said that a roommate's personality and study habits are more important than gender.

"This might not be right for everyone," she said of sharing the small, cinderblock-walled room with a man. "But I think it's important to have the right to choose where you want to live, how you want to live and who you want to live with."

Whether straight or LGBT, no student wants to dread his or her living situation. Balancing classes, exams, extracurricular activities and having any semblance of a social life is enough.

Tiffs with a roommate over whose food is whose or keeping the light on while studying is completely normal; taping your roommate's sexual activities is not. Students' homes away from home may be tiny, lacking in luxuries and bare-boned, but they must provide some sort of comfort. The place where you relax and should feel most safe and secure should be with a roommate who enhances that feeling.

Hopefully, gender-neutral housing will become a nationwide phenomenon and then a regularity. Students of every sexual orientation deserve to be able to choose who they feel most safe and comfortable living with. Unfortunately, Tyler Clementi will never know this feeling, but that doesn't mean we can't prevent others from suffering his same fate.

Andrea Bolt is a senior news-editorial journalism major from The Woodlands.

PERSPECTIVES

Film provides support for stutterers



Danny Peters

In a few minor ways, I psychologically mirror King George VI from the Oscar-winning movie based on his trials and tribulations involving stuttering, "The King's Speech." The movie is primarily about King George VI's stuttering problems and how they affected him throughout his regal life. The crux of the movie is that it relates to the general public the psychological problems that come with stuttering and how strongly they can affect the sufferer — and perhaps that the stutterer through individual perseverance can overcome his or her stuttering.

Throughout my childhood and most of high school, I had a moderate stuttering problem. Like King George VI, I stuttered not like the stereotypical Porky Pig, repeating certain letters in rapid-fire fashion, but I had trouble getting certain sounds out of my mouth and was blocked by random pauses of incomprehensible babble.

Not only do certain words not come out correctly, but stutterers like King George VI, me and others speak "normally" when singing, when we are with friends or family or when we are using profanity, oddly enough. Stuttering is an extraordinarily complicated physiological and emotional problem, and stutterers have waited long enough for a movie such as "The King's Speech" to draw the curtains on the issue for the public.

The psychological problems that come with stuttering mostly deal with individual levels of

confidence, not to mention the problems stuttering creates with children in school. The biggest issue is how stuttering is dealt with in school. Some students who stutter are often cast aside by their peers and don't receive enough attention from the school at large for their legitimate problem. Not being able to emit a certain syllable or word is one of the most frustrating things I and other stutterers have dealt with or will ever deal with in our lives, and this is a small similarity that we share with King George VI.

Hopefully, "The King's Speech" has given sufferers of stuttering a small shred of confidence concerning their problem and gets them to attempt to fix it.

I applaud the creators of "The King's Speech" for bringing to light a psychological problem that was once beset by public myths, such as stuttering is caused by bad parenting or otherwise it is the stutterer's fault and that the person can fix it easily — this is definitely not the case. Even with therapy, stuttering is difficult to cure, and some people like me simply grow out of it when providence smiles upon us.

Hopefully, "The King's Speech" has given sufferers of stuttering a small shred of confidence concerning their problem and gets them to attempt to fix it. At the very least, the public now knows a tiny bit more about this sad affliction, and perhaps they will be more accepting of the problem and more interested in developing cures and various therapies.

Danny Peters is a senior writing major from Fort Worth.

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 Sunday services 8, 9 and 11am
 Wednesday service at 5:30pm at 1701 Hemphill Street
 Church school for all ages at 10am
 Welcome TCU students, faculty and staff!

Catholic

Holy Family Catholic Church
 Mass Times Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 7:45am, 9:15am, 12:00pm
 Pastor Father Jeff Poirot
 www.holyfamilyfw.org

Bible Church

CCBC College Impact:
 www.collegeimpact.org
 Wednesdays @ 8pm in Main Sanctuary, 3740 Birchman Ave. 76107 Exalt first Wednesday of month @ 8pm in Main Sanctuary. Contact Ryan McCarthy 817.703.6939
 ryanm@christchapel.org

Mckinney Memorial Bible Church
 College Ministry - Journey
 Sundays @ 10:45am.
 www.journeyfw.com.
 Shuttle Pick up Sundays @ 8:30 & 10:30am at the BLUU, 4805 Arborlawn Fort Worth.
 Main Services 9:00 & 10:30
 Contact Curt
 curt@mckinneystudents.com

Church of Christ

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 ssoc.org

Episcopal

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STAFF

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students spend break giving back

By Katie Terhune
and Natalie Smith

Staff Reporters

Most students look forward to spring break as a time to relax at home or hit the beach. But this year, some TCU students chose to spend their week off giving back, either locally in Fort Worth or out of the country.

Erin Taylor, a senior social work and religion double major, volunteers 32 hours a week with Catholic Charities, an organization whose goal is to reduce poverty in the U.S., as part of an internship for social work. Taylor works with the homeless as part of the Street Outreach Services Team.

"We go into the woods or we climb under bridges and go to abandoned buildings to find people who sleep outside or in their cars," Taylor said.

The volunteers bring blankets, bottled water, bus passes and hygiene products to homeless in the area. Taylor said TCU students should make an effort to get out and volunteer in the community.

"I think from a TCU perspective we kind of live in our own little bubble, in our own TCU world," she said. "And whenever we're able to get out and see other types of people and other versions of reality it helps us get a better grasp of the community around us."

Taylor also said giving back to the community was a good way to live out TCU's mission statement.

"Especially if you want to be an ethical leader in a global community, it helps us broaden our perspective of the global community," she said.

Taylor said it would be great to have more students get involved over the break, either with a TCU-sponsored volunteer opportunity or with Catholic Charities.

"I think students are looking for meaningful ways to use their time."

Rosangela Boyd

Director of Community Involvement and Service-Learning

"I would highly encourage them to do it," Taylor said.

She said anyone could find a volunteer opportunity or program that appealed to them.

"I work with the homeless department, but there's also refugee services, foster care, health care and financial assistance," she said. "Pretty much anything you would want to get involved with, there's an opportunity to do it [through Catholic Charities]."

Rosangela Boyd, TCU's director of Community Involvement and Service-Learning,

said a number of students were volunteering through TCU during the break. The opportunities for students include a trip to Georgia to work with Habitat for Humanity, as well as an opportunity to work with the homeless in Tarrant County and an international trip to do community development in Nicaragua.

"I think students are looking for meaningful ways to use their time," she said.

Boyd said more students were getting involved in volunteering, and that this year at new student orientation, the majority of students had participated in community service experience in high school.

"I believe it's becoming more a part of the culture for this generation, that they want to see what they do having an impact," Boyd said. "It's not going to be everyone, but there is always a group there that will see that as having more meaning than sunbathing on the beach."

Boyd said many students are choosing to volunteer over the break as a way to meet people or spend time with their friends.

"It's not like you're going by yourself and doing forced labor," she said. "That sense of community, of sharing it with people who have the same interests as you have, I think is a big draw."

Boyd said her hope was that spring break volunteer opportunities would encourage students to stay involved throughout the school year.

"By participating for that week and becoming engaged they will come back with the motivation to continue to [volunteer] locally," she said.

Some students also go abroad to volunteer in other communities.

Leah Richardson, a junior political science major said, Tepeyac is a community in Nicaragua and is a spring break destination for TCU students eager to volunteer wherever they are needed. Richardson said this will be the third year that she has gone on the trip. She said helping others has to be the best way to spend a week off of school.

Richardson said while in Nicaragua they will work with local people to develop goals for meeting the needs of the community. Richardson and others who volunteer will work to improve the education, health and other aspects of life for the people of the village, she added.

"I think it is a great opportunity to do volunteer work and visit a different country," Richardson said. "I enjoy giving back to those who are less fortunate and learning about another culture."

NATIONAL

Giffords to attend April shuttle launch

By Ramit Plushnick-Masti
Associated Press

A Congresswoman has shown so much progress in her recovery from a bullet wound to the head that friends and family are making plans for her to attend the launch of her husband's space shuttle mission next month in Florida, a person close to the family told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the family and doctors have not yet publicized the decision. A news conference was scheduled for Friday morning at the Houston hospital where Giffords is undergoing rehabilitation.

Giffords was shot in the head Jan. 8 at a political event outside a grocery store in an attack that killed six people and wounded 12 others.

Family and friends of Giffords have been expressed optimism in recent weeks that she will be able to attend the launch of her astronaut husband, Mark Kelly. The topic has also been of great speculation in the media and the gen-

eral public amid hope that she would be able to beat the odds from her horrific injury and see her husband rocket into space.

While doctors have said attending the launch is the goal, they have tempered the optimism with important medical considerations about the congresswoman's health.

Dr. Gerard Francisco, the head of the team of doctors overseeing Giffords' rehabilitation, said last month that a decision would be based on the progress of her recovery, how independent her movement is, and whether she could handle the commotion of traveling.

TIRR Memorial Hermann, the rehabilitation center where she is being treated, and her doctors declined to confirm Thursday whether she would attend the launch. C.J. Karamargin, a spokesman for Giffords in Arizona, said getting her to Cape Canaveral was still the goal as she continues to recover in the time from now until the launch next month.

"The plan has always been for the congresswoman to attend. If that is possible, it will happen," he said.

IMAGE MAGAZINE

ON STANDS MARCH 23

GRAB AN IMAGE DAY: MARCH 28

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Sex Talk: sex on campus

Falling Whistles & Invisible Children

Spiked Heels: Theatre TCU's risqué play

Study Abroad: pictorial representations of

Frog Feature

Getting to know Bob Doran, university mathematics chair

By Kaileigh Kurtin

Staff Writer

Bob Doran, the mathematics department chair at TCU, has experienced an abundant life full of accomplishments and connections to people like John Forbes Nash, Jr., subject of the movie "A Beautiful Mind." He has solved a mathematic problem that no one else could solve, yet stays humble about his numerous accomplishments.

When did you start with TCU?

I came here in 1969 in the fall...and I have basically been here ever since. So it has been about 42 years.

What sparked your interest in mathematics?

I was always surprised by people who could do advanced mathematics from the time I was small. I was not a very good student, and I have told students this many times on the first day. Until I met my now wife...she was going to be valedictorian of our class and I wasn't a very good student and I wanted to take her to the junior prom. So I asked her and she said she'd love to go with me, and that changed my life, basically. I thought, 'Wow, I am going to have to shape up and work hard.' So I began to think about that, but I had not worked for so many years that after high school I basically decided I had to go into the military. That is how I went into the service first. I was sent from Iowa to Fort Hood, Texas. When I got out of the military then I went to the University of North Carolina and I thought, 'I am going to have to get some math skills.' So I took the lowest level algebra course they had at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in the summer of 1958. The discipline I learned in the military really helped me as a student. I applied this same discipline primarily to this math class, thinking that I would not do very well, but I did very well. I took two more that same summer. I was not going to do any more math

until somebody actually dared me to take calculus. I had made A's in all the preliminary classes, so I thought well I will try it. I got a wonderful teacher... Dr. Fred Lott...and he took a special interest in me. He said, "You have a lot of mathematical ability, I think you should think about being a math major." I actually had loved math by then.

Can you describe the problem that you solved that no one else could?

After I came [to TCU] I was able to solve a really major, major problem in mathematics that had been unsolved for many years, posed by the American Mathematical Society president. He had posed this problem in 1949 and it remained open for many years until about 1970 when I solved it. It made a big splash and it was one of the reasons why I was invited to the Institute for Advanced Study because I had solved that big problem. When I solved it I did it in five lines, which made everybody look foolish. In fact [the president] wrote me a note. He said, 'Dear Mr. Doran, Thank you for demolishing all the ridiculous contortions of all your predecessors. I enjoyed the proof.'

How long did that take you?

I worked on that about five years very intensely, and with no hope necessarily thinking that it would happen, either. You might spend the rest of your life working on it and never get it. This is the problem with math research. Somebody asks

the question, you don't know if it is true or false... there are questions that you can ask that are impossible to answer.

How did you come to know John Forbes Nash, Jr., the man "A Beautiful Mind" the movie was made about?

That has a lot to do with the fact that I was chairman of the board of trustees at the Institute for Advanced Study, because he lives in Princeton. I know him and we have had meals together and things like that. He is fine today, but in the movie he had serious problems, mental issues.

What do you consider one of your greatest mathematical achievements?

In 1989 I was the CASE (Center for Advancement and Support of Education) (Circle of Excellence) national gold medalist for the whole United States. I am the only one at TCU who has ever received that...Every year 500-600 universities in the whole country put forth their nominee and somehow you get it.

What advice can you give to general students?

My very first thought for the day that I usually start every class with no matter how advanced it is or otherwise: real happiness is not something that happens to us, but something that happens through us. So the principle of success, in my view, is what everybody is seeking. What's my definition of success is to make every person who comes across



KAILEIGH KURTIN / STAFF WRITER

my desk successful. As you live your life through, do everything that you can to place yourself below others so that you help other people achieve their goals...You have to make others successful, as a corollary you become successful.

What advice can you give to students pursuing mathematics?

The first thing I would say when I talk to young people that have a lot of ability in mathematics is to be sure and be true to that ability, and not go off and say, 'Well I just want to make money with this ability,' rather than to seek the truth of it. When I see somebody that has a lot of ability, I tend to try and encourage them to go all the way with that, see where God will lead you with it.

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WEIRD NEWS

Associated Press

Police: Cigarette smoke gave away crawl space perp

SOUTH GREENSBURG, Pa. (AP) — Police say a car theft suspect was found in a western Pennsylvania office building's crawl space after his cigarette smoke gave away his hiding place. South Greensburg police

Chief Scott Fanchalsky says officers searched for 30-year-old Daniel Block for hours Wednesday afternoon before two employees smelled smoke coming from above the ceiling on the fourth floor.

Officers crawled in after Block and he surrendered peacefully.

WTAE-TV reports that Block had been putting gas

into a stolen car when an employee at the gas station called police. Fanchalsky says officers tried to take him into custody but he escaped and ran into the office building, prompting a lockdown. It was not clear if Block had an attorney.

Man in women's clothes found dead along Ark. road

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Authorities are investigating whether an Arkansas man whose body was found dressed in women's clothes

was targeted in part because of what he was wearing. FBI spokesman Steve Frazier says Wednesday that federal investigators are looking into the death of 25-year-old Marcal Camero Tye as a civil rights matter. Local authorities say they haven't ruled out a hate crime, but they're also considering other motives. Authorities believe that a car dragged Tye's body, dressed in women's slacks, a blouse and a bra, for about 100 feet along a highway near Forrest City, in east-

ern Arkansas. It's not clear whether the dragging killed him. Autopsy results weren't immediately available. A driver spotted Tye's mangled body before sunrise Tuesday morning. Authorities also found a dark wig and shoes nearby.

Facebook post prompts arrest in giant gator death

BASTROP, Texas (AP) — A man who boasted on Facebook that he killed an 11½-foot alligator has been arrested in Central Texas.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Warden Fred Ensinger said Thursday the gator was discovered near a creek in Bastrop County about a week ago. He calls the gator an "anomaly," nearly twice the size of gators rarely seen this far from the Texas Gulf Coast.

Ensinger says the suspect's Facebook postings about shooting the big gator helped authorities track him down. Ensinger wouldn't identify the suspect because he hasn't been charged with what is likely to be a misdemeanor.

NATIONAL NEWS

Associated Press

Oil rallies on Saudi news, erasing most of decline

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices tumbled nearly 3 percent Thursday before recovering on reports that Saudi police opened fire at a rally in the eastern part of the country.

Benchmark West Texas Intermediate for April delivery fell below \$101 on weak economic news from the U.S. and China, but rallied back quickly after the report from Saudi Arabia to be down just 67 cents at \$103.73 per barrel in afternoon trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Oil fell as low as \$100.62 Thursday morning, the lowest price in a week. The reaction to the Saudi development shows how sensitive the market is at the moment to news from the Middle East. Oil prices soared above \$100 per barrel last week as an uprising in Libya essentially shut down the country's exports.

Earlier in the day, economists were warning that the recent surge in fuel prices will eventually slow economic growth.

The U.S. is consuming more gasoline than a year ago, even though the price has jumped 50 cents per gallon in just three months. But consultants who track spending on gasoline say Americans may finally be pulling back.

Motorists have started to

spend less on gasoline than they were spending at the same time last year, according to SpendingPulse, a research firm that tracks retail spending. Consumers were buying more in February, and that trend was supposed to continue toward the summer.

The rapid increase in gas prices "blew through" everyone's comfort level, SpendingPulse Vice President Michael McNamara said. It's unclear how long this will last, but McNamara called it the first real sign that consumers are rearranging their habits to conserve gas.

Economist Michael Lynch said consumers will cut back on driving even more in coming months if oil remains above \$100 per barrel. "We're past the point of, 'Oh, it's only going to be up for a few days,'" Lynch said. "I think people are already starting to change their behavior, and they're modifying their vacation plans as we get closer to the summer."

Spending fight: Back to the bargaining table

WASHINGTON (AP) — After dispensing with their opening gambits, lawmakers are renewing budget-cutting bargaining, as voters demanded in the last election and will scrutinize in the next one.

It's a delicate balancing act for members of Congress, particularly senators facing re-election next year. Some lawmakers, mainly Demo-

crats, bucked their parties in a pair of votes Wednesday that both rejected the House's deep spending cut plan and killed a less onerous Senate alternative.

The two versions were nearly \$50 billion apart on how to cut over the next seven months, through the current budget year that ends Sept. 30. Neither stood a chance of passing. Senate Democrats brought them up to cancel each other out and move forward with negotiations on a compromise.

Top Democrats said Thursday that Republicans need to show some flexibility to avoid a government shutdown — the latest temporary spending measure expires March 18.

"We're looking for some give on the Republican side," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. Citing House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and first-term tea party-backed lawmakers, Schumer said Boehner "needs something to bring his ... freshmen into the real world."

To Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, the votes were only a start. A supporter of abortion rights, she nonetheless voted for the House-passed measure that would cut spending by \$61 billion and strip public support for Planned Parenthood.

"These aren't serious," Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., said about the two measures that went down to defeat. "Who would pay attention to either one of these bills if they're not serious?"

TEXAS NEWS

Associated Press

Suburban Fort Worth mayor, councilman rumble

FOREST HILL, Texas (AP) — A quarrel between a suburban Fort Worth mayor and city councilman erupted into a fist fight at City Hall that sent both men to the hospital.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reports that Forest Hill Mayor James Gosey and Councilman Damian Dalcour have had a long-standing feud.

The mayor, who was suspended for misconduct in December, went to City Hall Wednesday to pick up an election form.

Observers say Dalcour objected to the mayor's presence and the two began fighting. Police and paramedics were called.

City Manager Sheryi Ipaye says Dalcour went to John Peter Smith Hospital with a hurt shoulder and Gosey to Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth with an injured tooth.

It is unclear whether criminal charges will be filed or any disciplinary action will be taken.

Texas jobless rate holds steady as state adds jobs

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas Workforce Commission says the state's unemployment rate held steady at 8.3 percent in January as more than 44,000 jobs were added.

Agency figures released Thursday show that the state added jobs for the fourth consecutive month while the jobless rate remained below the national rate of 9.0 percent.

Trade, transportation and utilities added 15,800 jobs in January, by the far the most of any sector. Education and health services added 7,600 jobs.

The commission says the state has added 253,900 jobs over the past year.

Commission Chairman Tom Pauken says employers are continuing to expand their work forces.

Fort Worth cop accused of sexual assaults, jailed

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A former Fort Worth police officer suspected of sexual assault is back in jail and accused of sexually assaulting four more women while on duty. The Fort Worth Star-Tele-

gram reports that 33-year-old Daniel Lopez was in the Mansfield Jail on four warrants accusing him of sexual assault. Three of those are aggravated. His bail is \$100,000.

Authorities say a woman reported that Lopez sexually assaulted her Thanksgiving night.

Betty Arvin, of the Tarrant County district attorney's criminal division, says while investigating that case, police discovered three others.

All the alleged offenses involve women Lopez detained while on duty.

Lopez had worked for the police department since 2004. He resigned Dec. 7, the day before his first arrest.

He was free on bail when arrested Tuesday on the four new warrants.

Inmate seen at Houston hospital hours after escape

HOUSTON (AP) — The search continued Thursday for an inmate who was spotted at a Houston hospital hours after he was injured while escaping from a Southeast Texas prison 90 miles away. David Puckett, 27, suffered cuts and wounds to his upper body while scaling a fence with razor wire during his escape from the Stiles Unit prison in Beaumont sometime after 7

p.m. Wednesday, said Jason Clark, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. At 10:45 p.m. Wednesday, Puckett walked into St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston's Texas Medical Center.

"As he was entering the hospital, he noticed law enforcement and he turned around and left," Clark said. A review of hospital surveillance video confirmed it was Puckett.

Prison officers found blood and pieces of Puckett's white uniform near the fence, Clark said.

Officials said Puckett might be driving a white pick-up Chevy truck that was reported stolen in Beaumont. The truck, with Texas license plate number 27NKB6, also has a decal on the driver's side that says, "AGS Solutions."

Clark said authorities are now searching for Puckett statewide.

Puckett, who was serving a 30-year prison sentence for aggravated assault of a police officer in the Southeast Texas county of Lavaca during a high speed chase, had been in the prison system since February 2002.

He is described as 5½-feet tall and weighing about 155 pounds with brown hair and eyes.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

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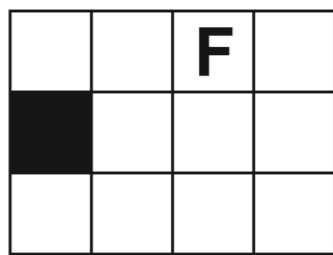
ACROSS
1 Equipped with
6 Across
6 See 1-Across
10 May or Ann
14 Permission
15 Natural shade
16 Turon memoir
17 Game show about bribery at a checkpoint?
20 Warning
21 Understanding words
22 Elite octet
23 Paragon of redness
25 Maneuver
27 Game show about an Algerian governor's search for his spouse?
31 Miss who inspires poets
32 1,000-yr. realm
33 One-time neighbor of French Indochina
37 Arabic is one of its two official langs.
38 Surfer's guide
42 "Exodus" hero
43 Suffix with grammar
45 Nonsense
46 Links coup
48 Game show in which "Stuttering pig" might be a clue?
52 Biblical betrayer
55 dicit
56 Up in the air
57 They may be wild
59 Stage group
63 Game show in which couples confess indiscretions?
66 Relax
67 Slobbering canine
68 Mobile one of song
69 Balk artist
70 Tech support caller
71 Worry about

DOWN
1 As well
2 Chew (out)
3 Gander, e.g.
4 It's as likely as not

By Donna S. Levin 3/11/11
5 "In ___ Speramus": Brown U. motto
6 Bothers
7 Dull discomfort
8 Timber producer
9 Pension start?
10 Transmits
11 They're not pros
12 "Famille members"
13 "Family Ties" mom
18 Feudal holding
19 Strauss's "___ Nacht in Venedig"
24 Slaughtering on a diamond
26 Notion
27 Former Cunard fleet member, for short
28 Slarry-eyed bear?
29 Make
30 Bonnie Blue's daddy
34 "I hate the Moor"
35 Woodstock singer before Joan
36 Manner
39 "La Douce"
40 "Points of initial progress"
41 Some motel guests
44 Napoleon vessel?

Thursday's Puzzle Solved
L A N D O A M T O O S A D
E P C O T T I A R A P I A
O E A C G R E A K E R A R T
A S A P E M M E T R E E
H O S P I T A L O G O S
E A T I N T O H U E S
P L A N S L A T E P A S S
P T L A C E T O V I E
S A L E S T A X A T E S T
M O O N E M P O R I A
N A T I O N A L O G O B T
O D O R R I I S A C E S
T O P S W I T C H B L A D E
I R A A V E R T P E N N E
F E Z G A S E S I D E A S

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47 Recanted in embarrassment
49 Der ... : Adenauer epithet
50 "That sly come stare": "Witchcraft" lyric
51 Church area
52 Out
53 His Super Bowl MVP performance was his last NFL game
54 Out
58 Play to ___
60 Cryptic character
61 Italian volcano
62 Comedy routine in fielder ...
64 ... and Bud's partner in the routine
65 QB's scores



"Freetown, Sierra Leone"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (220pts)

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



"Lobamba, Swaziland"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (180pts)

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

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

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J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., left, and Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., arrive to vote on the spending bill in the Senate, at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, March 9, 2011.

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TRACK & FIELD

Young on track for NCAA title; possible Olympic run

By Landon Haaf
Staff Reporter

Senior sprinter Jessica Young said she is doing what she envisioned this year on the track.

Young is now listed as the second fastest female collegiate runner in the country after her performance at the Mountain West Indoor Championships at the end of February.

According to TCU Athletics, Young's gold medal-winning time of 7.17 seconds broke the MWC record, the Albuquerque Convention Center venue record and a TCU program record. Young also took home the gold in the 200-meter dash with a time of 23.20 seconds, breaking former Horned Frog Virgil Hodge's MWC Championship meet record.

Young said she doesn't focus on breaking records when she prepares for a meet.

"I am more mentally prepared to win the race that I'm running, and breaking records is something that comes along with that," Young said. "I try not to chase times or records."

Young's accomplishments this year come after taking the entire 2010 season off from competition. The break was necessary for resting her body after a taxing 2009 season, she

said.

"Most of that time was spent not doing too much, just stretching out and getting on a treadmill, doing stuff off the track and not doing a lot of work with my body," Young said.

Young transferred to TCU from the University of Richmond for her sophomore season. She redshirted in 2008 and returned to action as a Frog in 2009. Her 2009 campaign was a decorated one, with several honors including a second place finish in the 100-meters at the NCAA Championships.

After her 2009 season, Young was selected as an alternate for Team USA at the IAAF World Championships in Berlin. She said that experience helped her a lot in developing into the sprinter she is now.

"It was a great experience," Young said. "It was great being close to professionals, watching them prepare and seeing what they do."

Young has plans to return to Team USA after graduation, and said she will try out for the Olympics.

"My goal is to go to the next level with track & field," she said. "I definitely love running and I love the sport so



COURTESY OF BETH HALL

Senior Jessica Young broke two Mountain West records this weekend while taking the gold medal in both the 100-meter and 200-meter events.

that's what I'm going to do."

Young said she hasn't made up her mind on graduate school. She said she plans to focus on the Olympics and possibly take a year off from school, but is definitely going to attend graduate school.

The next Olympics will take place in London in 2012.

Up next

The NCAA Indoor Championships are this weekend in College Station. Young said she is trying not to put too much pressure on herself going into the championships.

"I'm just trying to relax and go into it with a clear head thinking that I'm just going to

have fun and run fast," Young said.

The Frogs have never had an individual national champion in track & field. Young said that to be the first to accomplish anything is always great, and that it is her goal to be an individual national champion at the indoor

championships.

Young had a chance to be a national champion two years ago, and ended up earning a second place finish.

Young will compete in the 60-meter, the 200-meter and will be a member of the 4x100 relay team at the championships this weekend.

FROM UNDERDOGS TO HORNED FROGS...

CHAMPIONS

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BASEBALL

No. 7 Frogs test 4 game win streak against HBU

By Cathy Pham
Staff Reporter

After a four-game winning streak No. 7 TCU (8-4) team will play winless Houston Baptist in a three-game weekend series. The Huskies, losers of 12 straight this season and 13 overall, have averaged 3.2 runs per game compared to TCU's 5.2 runs per game. The Frogs will try and better their .500 home record (4-4) at Lupton Stadium over the university's spring break.

The Horned Frogs defeated UT-Arlington 7-3 on Tuesday. Defense allowed the Frogs to win their fourth straight after losing three in a row despite racking up 55 hits in the last four games. Mavs starting pitcher Chase Weaver was credited with the loss and the Mavericks

slipped to .500 on the season at 6-6.

TCU head baseball coach Jim Schlossnagle said defense made the difference for the Horned Frogs, especially since UTA outhit TCU 11 to 10.

"Four plays were the difference in the game because we got outhit," Schlossnagle said after Tuesday's win.

Highlights of the game included Featherston's home run in the third inning and sophomore Josh Elander kept up the winning streak when he walked the fourth run of the game. Featherston is now on a nine game hitting streak.

Schlossnagle said senior Joe Weik's catch to end the top of the third was the play of the game.

"I certainly am glad we scored those three runs in

the bottom of the eighth inning, they looked big in the ninth inning," he said.

Junior left fielder Jason Coats said he feels better about his swing and wanted to keep up the momentum in the game against the Mavericks.

"I had been squaring balls up, but sometimes my approach was a little inconsistent," Coats said. "We looked at moving my hands back a bit, staying true to my approach and the results are showing."

The Houston Baptist Huskies's played Stephen F. Austin last week and lost to the Lumberjacks 6-0. Sophomore Tyler McCarty took the loss for Houston Baptist, allowing one run on three hits through six innings and four runs on four hits in the seventh inning for his third loss of the season.

Looking ahead

The Frogs will continue play through spring break at UT-Arlington Tuesday. It will be the Frogs' second Tuesday evening road game of the season before the Frogs begin their first Mountain West Conference series at UNLV March 18-20.

Winkler stretches Frog's MWC Pitcher of the Week streak to three.

Junior Kyle Winkler has been named the MWC Pitcher of the Week, the second such honor for Winkler this season and the fourth in his career. Winkler struck out nine Red Raiders in eight scoreless innings in a 7-0 victory over Texas Tech last weekend.

Sports editor Ryne Sulier contributed to this report.

SPORTS

RIFLE

Frogs will defend NCAA crown

By Natalie Smith

Staff Reporter

The defending national champions will shoot for back-to-back national championships this weekend — literally.

The TCU women's rifle team was one of eight squads to qualify for the 2011 NCAA Rifle Championships hosted by Columbus State University on March 11-12. The Frogs will have a chance to defend their crown with the unique privilege of being the only all-girls squad to win a NCAA Rifle Championship.

The Frogs finished their 2010-11 season with a 4,699-4,620 win over Air Force in an NCAA Qualifier.

The win over the Falcons marked the Frogs' 23rd consecutive win before heading into the NCAA Championships.

In preparation for the championship, head rifle coach Karen Monez said the team is coming into the rifle range day after day to practice its shooting. Shooting daily is what drives them to reach that section, she said.

Sophomore Sarah Scherer said there is a lot of preparation that goes into a national championship. Walking through the competition is a good way to get ready, she said.

"You have to mentally pre-

pare yourself for that unique circumstance," Scherer said. "Visualization and how you put yourself in that moment and performing well, and it helps get over any extra pressure."

Monez said the Horned Frogs are riding a tremendous performance into the national championships with an undefeated season. The rifle team has not lost a match in over a year.

"It's been a great season and throughout the season they have set personal records and reached their goals just about every competition," Monez said.

Scherer, a sophomore nutrition major, has been a big contributor to the overall success of the team.

She was one of TCU's January Scholar-Athletes of the Month, named one of TCU's Athletes of the Week in October and was the USA Shooting Athlete of the Month for January.

In preparation for the upcoming championship, Scherer said she has improved individually and the team has improved as a whole. After having one title under her belt, Scherer said she has confidence going into the national championship.

"This year I'm trying to be a little more critical with

my position and shooting technique," she said. "It has helped me almost feel more ready, more prepared because I know I have walked through all the steps and have been more critical with my shooting."

Sarah Beard, a sophomore biology major, has been another great contributor to the team's success and will be one of the team members going to the championships.

Beard said the team has improved as a whole by gaining more experience.

"We know each other coming into the season this year and have become a family in many ways," Beard said.

For this upcoming match, Beard said they are approaching this match the same way they have in the past: with confidence knowing that they are one of the best teams.

"We don't get too wrapped up in our scores," Beard said. "We approach it as, 'I am going to try as hard as I can and if it's not a good score it's not a good score.'"

NCAA Rifle National Championships

When: March 11-12 all day

Where: Columbus, Georgia

Check DailySkiff.com for

weekend sports updates.

Weekend Events

By Kayla Travis

Staff Reporter

Men's golf

The TCU men's golf team will head west to play in the Las Vegas Invitational for the Southern Highlands Collegiate Masters. The Horned Frogs tied for 11th place at the John Hayt Collegiate Invitational in Jacksonville earlier this month.

When: All day Friday through Sunday

Women's tennis

After a solid victory over Lamar on Wednesday, the team will return to action Saturday against the University of Miami (Fla.). Senior Katariina Tuohimaa was named one of TCU's Athletes of the Week on Thursday.

When: Noon Saturday

Where: Fort Worth

Equestrian

TCU's equestrian team (6-3) will try to add to its home winning streak as it gears up to take on No. 2 Georgia on Saturday. The Horned Frogs and the Bulldogs faced each other last fall, with the Frogs winning 11-9.

When: 9 a.m. Saturday

Where: October Hill Farms, Hudson Oaks

Men's tennis

The 68th-ranked men's tennis team are back on the road again, traveling to California on Saturday in hopes to bounce back from a loss against No. 19 Texas Tech team last Sunday. TCU will match the UC-Irvine Anteaters, who are currently ranked 38th. The following day, the team will travel less than 100 miles to the University of San Diego to try to end their opponent's six-match winning streak. The 20th-ranked Toreros have only lost two matches this season.

Men's tennis vs. UC-Irvine

When: 2 p.m. Saturday

Where: Irvine, Calif.

Men's tennis vs. San Diego

When: 3 p.m. Sunday

Where: San Diego

Women's golf

While the men are enjoying the bright lights in Las Vegas, the women's golf team will be in Baton Rouge today participating in the LSU/Cleveland Classic. The 29th-ranked team is no stranger to the tournament and finished second overall last year and eighth in 2009.

When: All day Friday through Sunday

Where: Baton Rouge, La.

BASKETBALL

Horned Frogs hang tough with No. 8 BYU; Cougars survive 64-58

Staff Report

TCU took the lead into halftime against the Mountain West's top-seeded Brigham Young, but No. 8 BYU came up with the key plays in crunch time during a 64-58 Cougar victory in the quarterfinals of the 2011 Conoco Mountain West Championship at the Thomas & Mack Center.

The loss put an end to TCU's season as the Frogs finished with an 11-22 overall record. BYU, which improved to 29-3, advanced to the MWC semifinals, where it will face New Mexico, which defeated Colorado State in its quarterfinal game.

The Frogs put together one of their gutsiest efforts of the season Thursday in an attempt to stave off elimination. The squad

led by as many as four points just before halftime and took a 31-30 edge into the locker room.

BYU regrouped early in the second half, recording a 7-0 run to open the period to move on top by six points. TCU was able to keep the game within reach the entire second half until a last-ditch effort in the final minute after senior guard Greg Hill, who had exited the game earlier with an ankle injury, returned to the floor. Hill followed with seven straight TCU points on a pair of 3-pointers, including one on which he was fouled, to pull the Frogs to within two, 60-58.

Cougar guard Jimmer Fredette, the national scoring leader, followed with a pair of free throws with 12 seconds left to push BYU's lead to four

points. TCU junior guard Hank Thorns was then blocked on a layup attempt on the following possession, and BYU guard Jackson Emery provided the game's final margin on two additional free throws with 4 seconds remaining.

Hill and Thorns tied for the TCU team lead with 15 points each. Thorns scored 13 in the first half while going 3-for-3 from beyond the arc. He added a game-high six assists. Hill finished the contest 4-of-9 from 3-point range. Both Frogs pulled down five rebounds. Junior guard J.R. Cadot and sophomore forward Garlon Green also reached double figures with 12 and 11 points, respectively. Cadot paced TCU with six rebounds.

TCU experienced a hot-shooting opening period from

outside the arc while building its halftime lead. The Frogs made 7-of-12 attempts from 3-point range in the opening 20 minutes, which matched the squad's most 3-pointers in a half this season. The squad finished the game 9-for-19 from outside.

While the Frogs leaned on their shooting early, it was a gritty defensive effort that gave the squad a shot at victory. BYU's 64 points matched the squad's lowest total in a game this season, while Fredette was held to 24 points or fewer for only the 11th time. When combined with the two teams' regular-season meetings, TCU held Fredette to three of his 11 lowest totals of the year.

Also scoring in double figures for BYU were forwards Charles Abouo and Noah Hartsock with 14 and 10 points, re-

spectively. Abouo and forward Kyle Collinsworth totaled eight rebounds each while leading the Cougars to a 33-25 advantage on the glass, which BYU was able to turn into a 17-2 edge in second-chance points.

TCU and BYU went back-and-forth in a first half that featured seven ties and eight lead changes. The Cougars were able to build a seven-point lead in the first eight minutes before three consecutive Frog 3-pointers by Thorns, Green and Hill evened the score. Another Green trey with 1:35 remaining in the half gave TCU its largest lead at 34-30 before Fredette drilled a 3-pointer of his own to bring BYU back within one point with 40 seconds left.

The Frogs' sharp shooting trailed off in the second half as the team made only 9-of-23

attempts from the field following intermission. Just as costly were seven second-half turnovers that resulted in 17 Cougar points. TCU was able to keep itself in the game in the final 20 minutes because of its defense, as BYU was limited to only 36.0 percent shooting in the period. The squad made only 6-of-23 attempts from outside the arc for the contest.

Notes

TCU held BYU to 64 points, which matched its lowest single-game total this season. The Frogs are only one of three teams to hold the Cougars under the 70-point mark in 2010-11.

The Frogs, who led 31-30 at intermission, became only the fifth team this season to own a halftime lead against BYU.

RIFLE

Team shoots for back-to-back national championships in Georgia this weekend.

SPORTS

TRACK
& FIELD

Jessica Young eyes NCAA National Championship, Olympics.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Frogs take on UNM in MWC semifinals

By Dalton Goodier
Staff Writer

No. 2 seeded TCU is set to begin Mountain West Conference Tournament play today when the Lady Frogs take on No. 7 New Mexico in the semifinal round today at 4:30 p.m. The Frogs' regular season performance of 21 wins and nine losses earned the team the No. 2 seed as well as a bye into the semifinals. The winner of the tournament automatically advances to the NCAA Tournament. TCU's performance will go a long way in determining whether or not the Frogs receive an invitation to the NCAA's.

The Horned Frogs capped a 13-3 conference season by winning their final three games. TCU lost only one game at home in conference this season, going 7-1. This was the eighth straight season that the squad has finished in the top three in conference play. In addition to playing for the basketball program's first MWC Tournament title, TCU is attempting to make the NCAA Tournament for the 10th time in 11 seasons. The Lady Frogs have reached the semifinals three times over the last five years and owns a 2-5 tournament record. Last season, the Frogs lost 69-57 to Utah in the semifinals.

New Mexico (13-17) earned their spot in the semifinal game after upending San Diego State 65-57 Tuesday and eliminating Wyoming 67-61 Wednesday.

"We wanted to stay in Vegas," said Lobos coach Don Flanagan in a UNM Athletics release after UNM eliminated No. 3 seeded Wyoming. "We love Vegas."

While New Mexico sits four games below .500, the Lobos are riding a three-game winning streak and defeated the Aztecs and Cowgirls in tournament play after being swept by both teams in the regular season. TCU split the regular season match-up with UNM — TCU defeated UNM 84-71 Feb. 26 in the Pit while the Lobos ran past the Frogs 65-54 at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Jan. 26. It was UNM's first conference win of the season and TCU's first conference loss —

the Lady Frogs shot 9.1 percent in the first half and 27.3 percent overall in a loss which snapped a season-best eight game win-streak.

The Lobos lead the all-time series 9-8 but the Frogs have won three of the last five meetings.

Seven current Frogs have played in the tournament before, led by senior Emily Carter and guard/forward Helena Sverrisdottir with four appearances apiece. Sverrisdottir is averaging 11.5 points and 6.5 rebounds a game in tournament play, including a 16 point, 13 board performance in 2009 against UNLV. Sverrisdottir, an Iceland native who has been nicknamed "Ice" by teammates and coaches, is the only Lady Frog in program history to have over 1,000 points, 500 rebounds and 500 assists under her belt for her collegiate career. Senior center Micah Garoutte averages 6.6 points per game.

The Lady Frogs performance in the tournament likely will leave a lasting impression on the NCAA Tournament selection committee as TCU strives for a spot in the Big Dance. Winning the tournament will earn the Frogs a coveted automatic bid, but the team can still receive an at-large bid without winning the MWC Tournament. With two wins over AP-25 opponent this season (No. 21 Oklahoma and No. 22 Houston), TCU has the opportunity to pad its resume starting today.

If TCU defeats the Lobos it will continue to the championship round Saturday at 3 p.m. versus the winner of today's Utah/BYU game. The championship game will be televised on Versus.

Conoco Mountain West Conference Women's Basketball Championship Semifinal Round

No. 2 TCU vs. No. 7 New Mexico

When: 4:30 p.m. today

Where: Thomas & Mack Center — Las Vegas, Nev.

TV: The Mtn.

Radio: KTCU-FM 88.7

GoFrogs.com: Follow

GameTracker or listen live.



Senior Helena Sverrisdottir brings the ball upcourt against Air Force earlier this season. The Frogs face UNM today in the first round of the Mountain West Championship.

CARRIE ADAMS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER