

OPINION | 3

THE DOPING DEBATE

Should the Giants' Barry Bonds' record of alleged steroid abuse trump his achievements as a player?



SPORTS | 6

ROAD RULES

The Frogs test their mettle against top-ranked Rice when they head to Corpus Christi.

TCU DAILY SKIFF

WWW.TCUDAILYSKIFF.COM

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Melanoma affects younger population, experts say

By Jacquilee Killeen
Staff Reporter

Spring break is a time of year when many students enjoy being in the sun, a decision that poses many risks.

According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancer is the most common type of cancer accounting for more than

50 percent of all cancers.

More specifically, the ACS reported that melanoma, which tends to occur at a younger age than most cancers, accounts for more than 4 percent of skin cancer cases and causes the majority of skin cancer deaths.

Heather Masterson, 33, a for-

mer TCU student, was diagnosed with melanoma when she was 24.

"I think most people have a misconception about skin cancer, and if you have a severe form of skin cancer and don't find it in time, there is a slim chance that you will live for more than five years," Mas-

terson said. "My father-in-law died from melanoma, so it is a really serious issue in our family."

The ACS recommends using products with an SPF of 15 or more and staying out of the sun from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m..

Jeff Marcinowski, a senior See **CANCER**, page 2

FIVE WAYS TO LOWER THE RISK OF MELANOMA

1. Protect the skin by wearing clothing, including a shirt and a hat with a broad brim. Baseball hats can protect the head but they do not protect the ears, neck or lower part of the face.
2. The most effective way to limit exposure to UV light is to avoid being outdoors in sunlight too long. Keep in mind that sunlight can reflect off water, clouds, sand, concrete and snow.
3. Apply a sunscreen with a SPF of 15 or more 20 to 30 minutes before going outside, so the skin can absorb the protective agents.
4. Wear wrap-around sunglasses with at least 99 percent UV absorption, which provide the best protection for the eyes.
5. Avoid tanning beds and sun lamps.

— WWW.CANCER.ORG

TV ratings to include students in 2007

Skiff Staff

The method used to calculate national ratings for network television soon will include the TCU students.

Those living in dorms, Greek housing, college on-campus apartments and off-campus housing will be included in the Nielsen National People Meter Sample in 2007.

The Nielsen Ratings, a system offered in more than 40 countries developed by Nielsen Media Research, determines audience size and what programs audiences are watching. To calculate a rating for a particular program, the company divides the number of viewers watching that show by the total number of television owners.

Nielsen's clients, like CBS, FOX, MTV and ESPN, wanted the ratings to include college students to maintain the integrity of the sample, said Laura James, vice president of client communications for Nielsen.

She said only college students See **NIELSEN**, page 2

Iraq civil war not probable, Rumsfeld says

By ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dealing with a civil war in Iraq would be the responsibility of Iraq's own security forces, at least initially, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told Congress on Thursday.

Testifying alongside senior military leaders and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Rumsfeld said he did not believe Iraq would descend into all-out civil war, though he acknowledged that sectarian strife had worsened.

Gen. John Abizaid, the top U.S. commander in the Middle East, said the situation in Iraq had evolved to the point where Sunni-Shiite violence was more of a threat to U.S. success there than the insurgency, which continues taking a deadly toll on Iraqi and American troops, and to impede efforts to stabilize the country.

Rumsfeld said the key to avoiding civil war is for Iraq's political leaders to form a government of national unity.



ANDREW CHAVEZ / Assistant Photo Editor

Jeff Catton, a local falconer, and his hawk search a downtown Fort Worth parking lot for grackles Thursday night. Catton and other area falconers have used the birds to reduce the number of grackles in the city.

DEADLY SKIES

Grackles a nuisance, students say; staff using air horns

By BRE'ANNA EMMITT
Staff Reporter

They haunt from the trees. They swoop through the air. They leave their mark on clean cars. And they are more than some students can bear.

They sport iridescent feathers and gawking yellow eyes. They can be more than a foot long. And above TCU's campus, they flood the skies.

They are birds. Big black birds. Grackles. And according to one TCU student, "Those birds are evil."

Students and Fort Worth residents are complaining about their excessive stay in town, and according to officials, their population just won't go down.

But they're protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which makes killing the birds illegal.

So what can TCU do to control the grackle problem?

"Somebody said something about some guy driving around blaring loud things," said Aaron Giombolini, a junior radio-TV-film major. "I mean come on, can that

really be true?"

True it is. And one physical plant director said it's not only true, but also a proven method.

"We've taken two-by-fours and clapped them together to scare them out of the trees," said Robert Sulak, director of landscaping and grounds. "That worked OK but wasn't all that easy to do, considering we had the whole campus to cover. We found that a horn works the best."

Sulak said the system is effective but simple.

"We've got an employee that stays after work and drives around campus in a little scooter with a horn on it to scare them out from roosting in the trees," Sulak said. "So far, it seems to work. It's a little inconvenient and annoying for the people around the horn, but it's better than having the droppings on your car or the sidewalk."

Still, some students think the efforts to scare off their feathered foes are not taken far enough.

"I think they should be killed," said See **BIRDS**, page 2

Spring Break goes should take care, be safe, official says

By BRE'ANNA EMMITT
Staff Reporter

For many, Spring Break is a time to let loose and have some care-free fun. But some officials say what a student does in that one week of not-so-clean fun could have a lifetime of consequences.

TCU Police sent an e-mail Thursday to all students giving guidelines for them to follow in order to avoid Spring Break dangers.

"Some students die," said Laura Crawley, assistant dean of campus life for health promotions. "Every year, there are a couple of students, nationally, who lose their lives."

According to the U.S. Department of State travel Web site, these deaths are often a result of automobile

SPRING BREAK ADVICE

- Drink responsibly
- If you have been drinking, do not drive
- Watch for careless drivers
- Do not leave your drink unattended
- Stay off of balcony rails while drinking
- Leave your contact information with family
- Prepare a list of emergency contact information before you leave
- Use the buddy system
- Never appear as if you are lost
- Stay hydrated
- Wear sunscreen

— TCU POLICE

accidents, drowning or falls that can occur during alcohol or drug abuse.

"We've had several students over the years who drank too See **BREAK**, page 2



TY HALASZ / Staff Photographer

Sophomore finance major Brett Buesnel and junior history major Lance Kearns enjoy "fruit-ka-bobs" at the Safe Spring Break Luau on Thursday night outside the University Recreation Center.

Institute puts focus on at-risk children

By LESLIE HONEY
Staff Reporter

A team of researchers in a development center on campus is working to help children communicate with their parents and to teach parents to become "healers for their children," said the director of the Institute of Child Development.

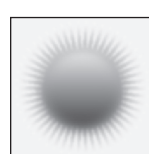
Karyn Purvis said the institute has been serving at-risk children, or neglected and abused children, especially adopted children, for the last eight years by conducting research-based interventions.

Purvis said psychologists conduct interventions between

parents and children, and researchers perform psychological research. However, she said psychologists at TCU are unique because they perform the research and apply that knowledge during interventions.

The institute works to improve the condition of at-risk children through summer camps at Starpoint School, parent camps that are held twice a year at the YMCA Camp Carter in Fort Worth, home programs and training seminars in the Kelly Alumni Center.

"Children that have been harmed is the sickness for which we are the medicine," See **CENTER**, page 2



WEATHER

TODAY: Sunny 83/60
SATURDAY: Partly Cloudy 83/59
SUNDAY: Partly Cloudy 85/60

FUN FACT

A \$10,000 bill was shipped to Chase Bank's corporate archives for safe keeping. The bill bears the face of U.S. Senator Salmon P. Chase, for whom the bank was named. — ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY'S HEADLINES

OPINION: Abortion ban goes too far, page 3
FEATURES: Rockers hit the dance floor, again, page 4
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CONTACT US

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

BREAK

From page 1

much and have gotten really sick. We've also had students who have gotten their drinks spiked," Mike Russel, assistant dean of campus life, said Thursday. "I think the biggest thing is car accidents. Students are too tired or have had too much to drink when they decide to drive."

Crawley said TCU also sees an increase in Health Center visits for checks for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

"With the Health Center's concern for student privacy, we can't say how much of an increase we see," Crawley said. "But overall, nationally, and certainly at other institutions I've worked at, we expect to see people come in for that."

STDs and pregnancies that occur during Spring Break are often related to alcohol or drug use, according to a study published in the Journal of American College Health.

A 1998 study of 783 students was conducted at a beach-front destination in Panama City, Fla., to determine the prevalence of binge drinking during Spring Break. The survey said the consequences of binge drinking include severe liver

damage, neurological problems and heightened risk of suicides and STDs.

The study also found the average college-age male consumed 18 drinks per day and the average female had 10 drinks. In addition, nearly half of the students drank until they became sick or passed out at least once over Spring Break, according to the study.

The Web site also says there is an increased risk for robbery,

rape and sexual assault during Spring Break, especially when students are under the influence of alcohol or drugs and get lost in an unfamiliar area.

In an effort to curb unhealthy behavior during Spring Break, Programming Council and Hyperfrogs hosted an event called Safe Spring Break this week.

Kristen Chapman, special events director for Programming Council and Safe Spring

Break, said she hopes the safety tips given during Safe Spring Break have helped counter the dangers associated with break.

"There are so many stories of incidents — accidents, injuries, illnesses, even deaths — associated with Spring Break," Chapman said. "Even if they did not happen to anyone on campus, we should still make an effort to remain safe and smart over the break."

CENTER

From page 1

Purvis said.

David Cross, associate professor of psychology, said the institution has an international reputation in the area of adoption.

"We are in the process of exporting the knowledge we've gained from working with adoptive families to other similar situations, such as

families with an autistic child," he said. "I want to see this make the biggest impact on the world as it possibly can."

Last year, Purvis worked with a "highly dangerous" adopted child in a residential treatment facility in Illinois, she said. After speaking at a statewide initiative in Chicago, Purvis was invited to conduct interventions with the child.

"The girl had incident reports where she had to be restrained, arrested or taken to a hospital

an average of once every five days for 12 months," Purvis said. "She's been six months now with an average incident report of one in every six weeks."

Purvis said the premise of the institute's work is to help parents learn to "heal" their children.

"We are teaching children to communicate and teaching parents to recognize physiological signs of problems in their children," she said.

Purvis and Cross are co-authors of "The Healing Par-

ent," a book that explains the methods of healing that a parent or professional can learn. The book will be published in November.

The institute was formally founded in June, said Tim Barth, chairman of the psychology department, but the activities the institute provides have been taking place for six to seven years.

Barth said if things move forward, he hopes a new building will be built for the institute,

which is located in the Winton-Scott Science Building.

Purvis said, "The more resources we have, the more students we can train, and the more children we can help."

The institute is funded partly by Vision In Action, by the department of psychology and by grants and philanthropic foundations.

Cross said that besides the donations they have received through VIA and grants, they have many resources, including

about 12 undergraduate students, three graduate students and \$300,000 to \$400,000 in nonmonetary gifts.

Cross said people come to the institute when they have tried everything else, and Purvis will show them how to "cure their kids."

"I tell people Karyn is a child whisperer," Cross said. "There is not a child on this planet that she can't reach and help, and she has insights about how to help very difficult kids."

BIRDS

From page 1

Curtis Shideler, a senior RTVF major. "Their population definitely needs to be decreased."

Shideler said the birds are not only pesky, but also scary, too.

"It's like watching the movie, 'The Birds,' but being in it," Shideler said. "I kid you not. During the summer, when I worked on campus and walked the same path every day, they would swoop down at my head because they're so territorial. I don't want to sound weird, but I would carry something in my hand so I could hit them when they tried to attack me. I almost got one once."

Another student agreed with Shideler.

"They seriously lead me to want to be inhumane," said Megan Fischer, a junior RTVF major. "I'm not fond of the grackles. I wish there was a way they could be humanely decreased."

Sulak said the grackle population wasn't unbearable until about two years ago.

For now, Sulak said, the air horn seems to work. But if the problem gets worse, he said, TCU will take more extensive measures.

"In Fort Worth, they've fired blank shotgun shells and a lot of other techniques," Sulak said. "If they get worse on campus, we'll have to send someone off to get certified to do other techniques like that."

CANCER

From page 1

finance major and member of the golf team said, "It's just a given that I should always put on sunscreen because I am a golfer and I am in the sun all of the time."

According to the ACS, the

percentage of melanoma cases among white men and women has decreased from 6 percent to less than 3 percent since 1981, but it recommends that people should have moles that are a suspicious size, shape or color checked immediately.

Masterson was suspicious about a black spot on her back and sure enough, even

though she was only 24, her spot ended up being a malignant melanoma.

Cynae Johnson, a junior nursing major, said she is aware of the risks of skin cancer and the importance of sun safety.

"People are ignorant to the effects of the sun, not only how damaging it is to your skin, but

how damaging it can be to your entire body," Johnson said.

Masterson recommended that everyone have their moles checked annually and should use precautions while in the sun.

"Going to a dermatologist can save your life and because I was cautious, it saved my life," Masterson said.

NIELSEN

From page 1

whose families are already monitored by Nielsen will be asked to use People Meters, which are devices attached to televisions that allow Nielsen to develop ratings for different programs based on what the viewer watches.

Gerald Grotta, an emeritus professor in the Schiefel School of Journalism and president of Grotta Marketing Research, Inc., said: "With all the talk about the aging Baby Boomers turning 60, maybe we need some of the much smaller segment of college-age students to help balance things. Otherwise, we'll end up with nothing but reruns of

Golden Girls and commercials for Depends."

Nielsen Media Research completed a two-year pilot program including college students and found more accurate results for the ratings, James said.

James said she is confident that People Meters will be welcomed on college campuses because the students and

colleges in the pilot program allowed Nielsen to track viewing habits on campus.

Grotta said he thinks including college students in the survey will give everyone a better understanding of the television audience.

"For those advertisers who want to reach this age group, why not count (the students)?" Grotta said.

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HAVE FUN, BUT NOT TOO MUCH

An American Medical Association survey says that drinking and debauchery endanger the health of college women and is warning girls not to go wild on spring break.

— Associated Press

THE SKIFF VIEW

Required college acceptance unfair

In a plan that insidehighered.com has hailed as “brilliantly simple,” students at San Marcos High School in San Marcos are now required to gain acceptance to Austin Community College before they are allowed to receive their high school diplomas.

Well, the plan may be simple, but it is certainly not brilliant.

Although this might benefit many students who lack the resources to apply for higher education or are unable to find locations to take the state’s standardized testing, it is also hurting others who are either unwilling or unable to go to college. Though the plan’s designers require that every student — regardless of income level — be walked through the process of applying for financial aid, it does not change the fact that some families, even with university-granted money, are unable to afford education past the high school level. Some households — probably unlike those of ACC’s administrators — need their children at home to help support the family immediately after high school. Unfortunately,

poverty does not plan its schedule around a two-year degree plan. Now, such students are forced to make a choice — be damned by dropping out of high school, or be damned by finishing it and having to factor college-life into the equation.

More alarming is the fact that Mary Hensley, ACC associate vice president of instructional support services and independent school district relations, is one of the founders of the new plan. The loophole here is blatantly obvious — how much of this goodwill act is for the students, and how much is for Austin Community College?

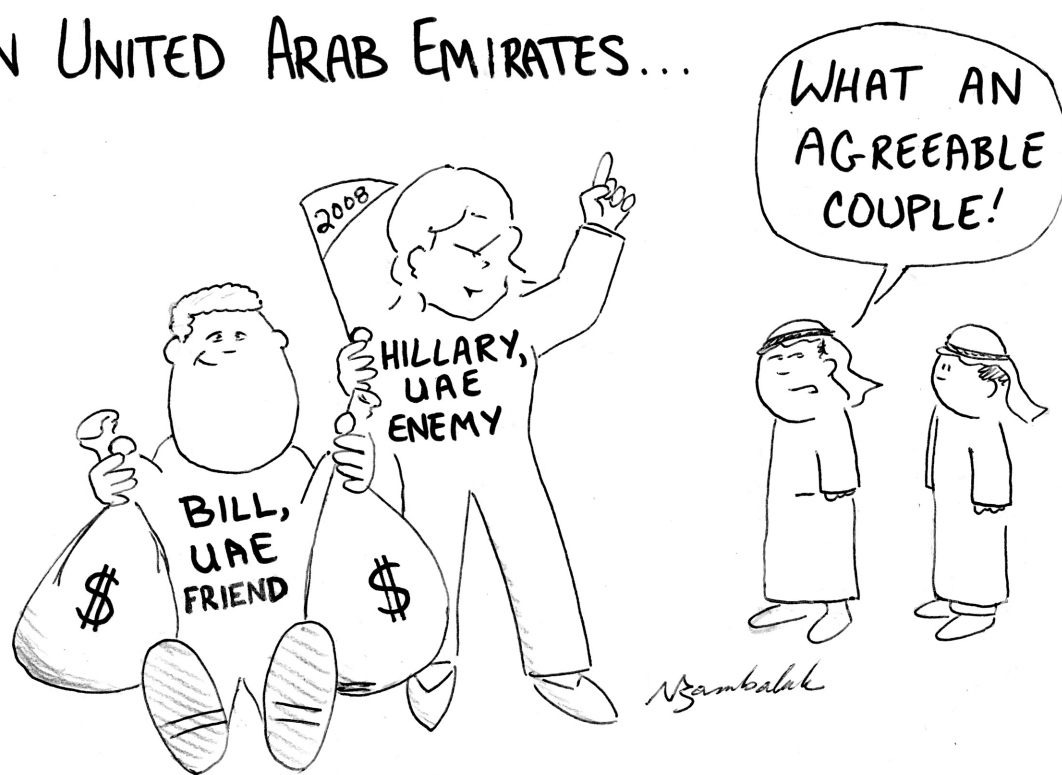
Most smaller colleges would love to increase their national recognition and prestige. But at the price of poor high school students? It’s been said that children are the nation’s most precious resource; to a certain extent, ACC is tapping that resource for personal gain.

According to the not-so-fine-print, the students are the ones we’re supposed to be helping. So are we?

Sports editor Travis Stewart for the editorial board

NEWSREAL • NICHOLAS SAMBALUK

IN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES...

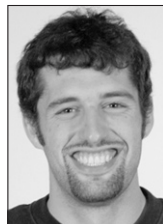


POINT

Bonds' steroid use not enough to overshadow early successes

And just when we thought Giants slugger Barry Bonds was in the clear. Or on the Clear. Or was it the Cream? At this point,

COMMENTARY



Travis Stewart

it’s pretty much anything under the sun that can fit in a syringe. Just after the nationwide buzz about Bonds’ grand jury testimony regarding his alleged steroid abuse was starting to settle down, two San Francisco Chronicle reporters relit the fuse on the steroids powder keg by releasing parts of their soon-to-be published book “Game of Shadows” to Sports Illustrated. The book details — and I mean details — a variety of claims surrounding Bonds’ rampant steroid abuse and even profiles some of his shadier contacts and trainers.

Welcome back to that uncomfortably warm glare of the steroid spotlight, Barry.

But even with this brutal — yet not totally convincing — documentation, the biggest question still remains: Where will Bonds’ place in history be?

Isn’t that really the most pressing issue? Regardless of what drugs Bonds did or did not take, his career will soon be at an end, and Hall of Fame voters everywhere will be at an impasse.

Well, here’s the truth of the matter: Bonds should go to Cooperstown anyway.

The accusations outlined in “Game of Shadows” say Bonds began using steroids in 1998 — still well before baseball commissioner Bud Selig had even addressed performance-enhancing drugs, much less placed bans on them. Though taking medicines without prescription was obviously illegal at the time, Bonds, by Major League Baseball’s legal description, was not doing anything wrong.

Granted, there is a tremendous amount of room for moral interpretation there, but keep in mind that eight years ago, the culture of baseball was hopelessly intertwined with the abuse of steroids and growth hormones. To twist the time-proven adage, what is right is not always legal, and what is legal is not always right. It may sound crazy, but alcohol was once illegal too, and I know a lot of drinkers out there who wouldn’t say it’s immoral.

Even if you can’t rationalize taking or abusing steroids, it’s not like Bonds was just some pinch-hitter languishing in the dug-out before his late-career surge to the record books. Through the 1998 season, Bonds already had 411 home runs, 1,216 RBIs, 1,917 hits, 395 stolen bases, 8 gold gloves, 3 National

League MVPs and 9 All-Star appearances.

That’s no slouch. So what will we choose to remember Bonds by — his questionable choices late in his career or his sparkling numbers before the breaking point?

More so, how much of America’s collective indictment of one of history’s most prolific sluggers is based on quality of character instead of quality of career? Bonds has always had an acrimonious attitude toward the media and egomaniacal sense of self — but should we be factoring such values into our Hall of Fame equation?

Take Kirby Puckett, for example. Puckett, the lovable bowling ball of baseball ability, ended up in Cooperstown for a variety of reasons — his legendary Game 6, his temperament, his impossibly circular frame. But with Puckett, most of us will choose to ignore his post-baseball sexual assault charges and his alleged extramarital affairs.

If we substitute Puckett’s World Series heroics and award-winning smile for Bonds’ terrific numbers, could we then grant Bonds the same leniency?

For all he’s accomplished in baseball, can’t we take what he has done and use it to look past what maybe he shouldn’t have?

Sports editor Travis Stewart is a junior broadcast journalism major from Sugar Land.

COUNTERPOINT

Player's behavior ruins game

It’s a sad day for baseball fans.

As I read Mark Fainaru-Wada and Lance Williams’ article in Sports Illustrated

COMMENTARY



Darren White

Wednesday, which accuses mega-slugger Barry Bonds of rampant steroid use, I was reminded of the words

Paul Simon wrote almost 40 years ago:

“Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio? A nation turns its lonely eyes to you.”

What makes it such a sad day is not that baseball has forfeited another hero, it’s that the game itself has lost what was left of its innocence.

Fainaru-Wada and Williams’ indictment of Bonds is truly comprehensive. Boasting more than 200 sources, grand jury testimony and witness interviews, finding a hole in the paper trail against Bonds is a tall order. And Bonds’ categorical denials hold little weight either. The idea that an athlete who makes his living with his physical performance would be unaware of what substances he was putting in his body is either totally untrue or woefully negligent on Bonds’ part.

The question is: How does this affect Bonds’ once-impressive record-breaking feats? Having already topped Mark McGwire’s single-season home-run record (which is also dubious), Bonds is

quickly approaching Hank Aaron’s 755 career home-run record, which stands as the last offensive record from baseball’s now long-gone years of innocence.

Whether baseball commissioner Bud Selig (or Bonds himself) acknowledges it, the steroid controversy does affect the record books. Does Barry Bonds’ record stand against anything put up by Roger Maris, Babe Ruth or Mickey Mantle? Of course not.

These records were measurements of pure sport. The records set by Bonds have an outlying catalyst — namely steroids. Though Bonds did have a successful career before noticeably bulking up in ’98, he wasn’t making Maris turn over in his grave before he started using. Anyway, unlike ball players today, most records before steroids were set back when the athletes were just drunk. If anything, athletes were playing with a disadvantage.

Bonds’ drive for the record is tainted. When Aaron approached the career home run record, previously held by Ruth, he fought racism and prejudice. According to the Sports Illustrated article, Bonds started taking steroids because he was jealous of the notoriety fellow slugger McGwire received after he shattered Maris’ single-season home run record.

Finally, whether steroid use was illegal in baseball at the time doesn’t change the fact that it was ethically reprehensible.

As a baseball fan, I’m disgusted. I’m disgusted that in the record books, Ted Williams’ .400 batting average is going to be only a line away from a “baseball player” who is really nothing more than a genetically engineered lab rat. I’m disgusted to think that Bonds’ plaque will sit between Yogi Berra and George Brett’s plaques in the Hall of Fame.

I’m disgusted that the league of Jackie Robinson continues to sit idly by, as cheaters destroy the game I, and many other Americans, love.

Baseball is the sport of the American people — the national pastime. Growing up in South Florida, I can still remember the first time my dad took me to spring training game. I hounded ball players for autographs. We bought hot dogs, I tried to catch foul balls, and was hooked on baseball for life.

Or so I thought.

It’s just not really baseball these days. These days, it’s a sport corrupted by our era, pumped full of pills, and dressed in the clothes of yesterday’s heroes.

Now, I just feel foolish believing that a single sport could somehow embody the spirit of our entire country.

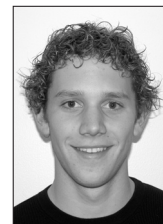
Joe DiMaggio died seven years ago this Wednesday. Wherever he is, once again, our nation turns its lonely eyes to him, and those, now, forever, long-gone innocent days.

Features editor Darren White is a junior news-editorial major from Tyler.

South Dakota's abortion ban gives mother's rights to government

Last Monday, South Dakota passed legislation banning virtually all abortions in the state, and, according to an Associated Press

COMMENTARY



Dan Plate

article published earlier this week in the Skiff, “setting up a court fight aimed at challenging the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.” This decision is better known as *Roe v. Wade*, one of the most controversial Supreme Court rulings of all time.

The South Dakota bill would make it a felony, punishable by up to five years

in prison, for doctors or others to perform an abortion unless it was necessary to save the mother’s life. There would be no exceptions for rape, incest, drug complications, or numerous other complex situations. Never mind the fact that it could be a situation in which all of the above were elements of the equation.

It’s not likely that all these factors would clash in one instance, but what about cases where the pregnancy will undoubtedly yield a child with severe mental and/or physical health complications? If you ask me, it should be up to the child, but since we can’t ask an unborn person to answer that question,

doesn’t it make sense to ask the closest person to that unborn child?

I’m not pro-choice. I believe that in most cases, abortion is an unacceptable choice. I also believe that in isolated instances, like those described above, abortion should at least be an available option. South Dakota has made this option obsolete, which will ultimately cause more than a few mothers and their children physical and emotional pain.

I think there is a fine line between acceptable and unacceptable reasons for abortion. I’m not about to draw that line. In fact, I’m not quite sure where it should be drawn. It might be impossible to draw that line,

but it most certainly is not impossible to get a little closer than South Dakota has.

The bill will inevitably open up a whole new debate about when a mother’s life is considered in danger. Where is the line drawn as to when the mother’s life is in danger? It’s another gray area, a color that will forever be associated with this topic.

South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds said: “In the history of the world, the true test of a civilization is how well people treat the most vulnerable and most helpless in their society. The sponsors and supporters of this bill believe that abortion is wrong because unborn children are the most vulnerable

and most helpless persons in our society.”

If unborn children are the most helpless people in our society, a 16-year-old rape victim can’t be far behind.

I don’t believe that a teenager and her boyfriend should be able to decide to get an abortion simply because they don’t want to raise the child. There is adoption, a wonderfully attractive alternative to abortion in instances like this.

The good thing (one of few good things) about this bill is that it erases abortion from the list of options in these cases.

In reality, there is no single solution to the abortion problem. I think leav-

ing it solely to the discretion of the mother (as in *Roe v. Wade*) isn’t a great idea. But, at the same time, I believe it is much more of a decision to be made by the mother than a decision to be made by a state bill.

According to the AP article in the Skiff, the law will be tied up in court for years and will probably not take effect unless the Supreme Court upholds it. If that happens, it will be a pioneer for similar legislation, something that could ultimately take the choice of abortion out of mothers’ hands and put it into the hands of the law.

Dan Plate is a freshman pre-business major from Ogallala, Neb. His column appears every Friday.

COURTNEY REESE
MIKE DWYER
ADRIENNE LANG
TRAVIS STEWART
STEPHANIE WEAVER

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LONE STAR SOUNDS

The 20th annual South by Southwest Music Conference returns to Austin Wednesday. Headlining acts this year include Morrissey, Lyle Lovett and Belle & Sebastian.

Bands revive dance-rock trend

By JOHN-LAURENT TRONCHE
Staff Reporter

Dancing days are here again. In the mid-1960s, dancing and rock 'n' roll went hand in hand. Hits like "Louie Louie" and "Jailhouse Rock" transcended music genres.

Then in the late-1960s, dance music and rock seemed to go separate ways.

As rock music matured, artists began to explore and incorporate different styles of music into traditional rock 'n' roll, said Mark Sanford, music director for KOAI-FM, "The Oasis."

"Dance music went to Motown," Sanford said. "Rock went to blues and Southern country."

Then, in 2003, Electric Six had a hit with "Danger! High Voltage." "Danger!" was three-and-a-half minutes of disco riffs, screaming saxophones and a steady dance beat. Suddenly, it was hip to dance again.

"When we started the band, we always said we were like a mix of Kiss and Talking Heads," said Dick Valentine, Electric Six frontman. "You take a new-wave band, and you take a hard band — put them together, and that's us."

Though very different in sound, bands like the Killers, Bloc Party and Franz Ferdinand now find themselves together under the flag of dance-rock.

Franz Ferdinand frontman Alex Kapranos has been especially welcoming of the dance-rock moniker. The band's biography even says, "Alex wanted



Courtesy of 230 Publicity
Detroit City rockers Electric Six helped pioneer the latest wave of dance-oriented rock music.

to make music that girls could dance to."

Even though Electric Six is one of the many bands tagged under the dance-rock label, Valentine is quick to separate himself from it.

"We did consciously do it, but we didn't do it because of a trend," Valentine said. "It wasn't because we started listening to LCD Sound-system or anything like that."

Dance-rock often recycles old sounds into a modern package, Sanford said.

"(People) want the rhythmic sensibility of disco but want the rock influences," Sanford said.

Adam Moerder, a writer for the indie-rock mega-site Pitchfork Media, said he credits the dance-rock trend to musicians' desire to reproduce the music they grew up with, including bands such as The Clash, The Cure and Duran Duran.

"Just as power chords and minor progressions became the

default setting of grunge rip-off bands like Bush and Silverchair, sixteenth hi-hats and Wire guitar licks now permeate many of today's new rock (songs)," Moerder said.

Though there are occasional highlights in the dance-rock realm, such as LCD Soundsystem, Death From Above 1979 and Franz Ferdinand, Moerder said, he doesn't expect the trend to continue indefinitely.

"It should last for about three or four years, or until Puddle of Mudd makes a dance-rock album, whichever comes first," Moerder said.

Amanda Redmon, a senior radio-tv-film major and modern rock manager at KTCU 88.7 FM "The Choice," said she believes the dance-rock fad is just part of the larger everything-old-is-new-again mantra.

"I think that music always comes full circle," Redmon said.

In the past two years, British bands have pioneered the move to dance-oriented rock, Redmon said.

"With rock music, it always starts with the British, and then an American rock band will find a way to do that," Redmon said.

Though she enjoys the dance-rock sound, Redmon admits the novelty is fast-fading.

"I think (the bands) are good, but (the trend) is getting old already," Redmon said. "We have music put in our face so much we get sick of it."

CD REVIEW

Metal act lacks luster

The Gypsy Tea room plays host to California metal group Bleeding Through March 25, as the group tours in support of its third studio album "The Truth."

The new album and the upcoming show are sure to take listeners back to high school — a time when the budding metalhead was far less discerning and willing to buy into the "different" trends.

In that high school spirit, the best way to describe the album is by analogy: Bleeding Through is to metal as 98 Degrees is to pop music. They are just another example of a throwaway group that caters to a very specific niche genre with a generic sound and flashy packaging.

This becomes evident the moment you pick up the CD case to discover the typical "band covered in blood" photos in the jacket. In this case, the pictures look like a warped Gap commercial as tattooed models pose for black and white photos with massive chunks ripped out of their bodies. The text in the jacket changes direction and size in some sort of failed attempt to look like Mark Z. Danielewski's "House of Leaves" — which, at least in my high school, was required reading for the so-called counterculture.

From the first growling scream, the unoriginal elements from a variety of metal bands begin to come out. Elements from bands ranging from Dream Theater to Hatebreed are littered throughout the album. Ironically, the band's Web site refers to the album as "trend-proof middle finger toward the glut of oversaturation that threatens to destroy a scene this band



Courtesy of Warm Fuzzy Publicity
Bleeding Through's latest album "The Truth" features a mixture of loud guitars and growling vocals.

helped to build." In spite of this, the album vacillates between percussive and melodic sounds in a fairly artful way. It is clear that, musically, the group knows how to play even if it is not very unique.

The group is strongest when it allows the guitars, keyboard and vocals to coalesce into a discernible melody; however, it also could be mistaken for a metal version of My Chemical Romance when it does. During these sections, vocalist Brandon Schieppati shows that he is capable of more than destroying his vocal chords. It would be better for everyone if he would just sing a bit more — and this is coming from a Pantera fan.

It could be that in my early 20s, I am too old to appreciate the heavier metal bands and their sense of style. But more likely, the band needs to take a serious look in the mirror before railing against following metal trends.

weeklycalendar

Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
The Cult Ridglea Theater 7 p.m.	James McMurty The Aardvark 8:30 p.m.	"Why We Fight" Museum of Modern Art 2 and 4 p.m.	Hank Williams III Gypsy Tea Room 8 p.m.	Ted Leo and the Pharmacists Gypsy Tea Room 8 p.m.	Matisyahu Nokia Theatre 8 p.m.	South by Southwest Music Conference Austin, TX
If you love the 80s, break out the jean jacket, and head down to Camp Bowie to hear classic tunes and new hard rock material that only die-hard Cult fan have heard.	McMurty, the son of novelist Larry McMurty, is known for his story songs about down-and-outers. Saturday, he brings his rough-hewn style that him a Texas songwriting star.	"Why We Fight" is a film focusing on America and war. Winner of the 2005 Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, "Fight" is part of the Modern's popular film series.	The son of country royalty, Hank Williams III has an uncanny knack for sounding just like his grandfather. He takes his old-style country sound to Deep Ellum Monday.	Sounding like a Clash revival, Leo and company bring their alternative/punk/folk sound to Dallas before settling into their three-day run at SXSW.	More than just a novelty, get into the reggae mood with the beat-boxing sounds of Hasidic Jewish rapper, Matisyahu, and special guests Balkan Beat Box.	The biggest music event in Texas hits day two in Austin, with a cavalcade of artists. Highlights Thursday include John Vanderslice, Spoon and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah.

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***Failure to Launch-PG-13** (Fri-Thurs) 12:15, 1:20, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:45

***The Hills have Eyes-R** (Fri-Thurs) 12:20, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40

***Aquamarine-PG-13** (Fri-Thurs) 1:25, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

***Ultraviolet-PG-13** (Fri-Thur) 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35

***16 Blocks-PG-13** (Fri-Thurs) 11:50, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 10:10

Madagascar's Family Reunion-PG-13 (Fri-Thur) 11:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15

Eight Below-PG (Fri-Thur) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55

Date Movie-PG-13 (Fri-Thur) 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:25

Firewall-PG-13 (Fri-Thurs) 12:05, 2:40, 7:35

Final Destination 3-R (Fri-Thur) 5:10, 10:20

The Pink Panther-PG (Fri-Thurs) 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05

Curious George-G (Fri-Thur) 12:45

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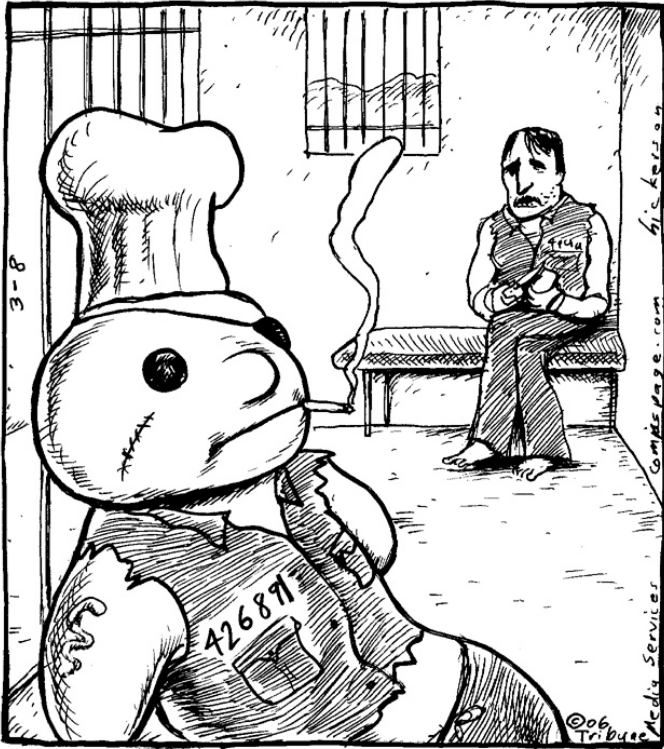
"If all the year were playing holidays; To sport would be as tedious as to work."
— William Shakespeare

TODAY IN HISTORY

1876: The first discernible speech is transmitted over a telephone system
1964: The first Ford Mustang was produced.

Quigmans

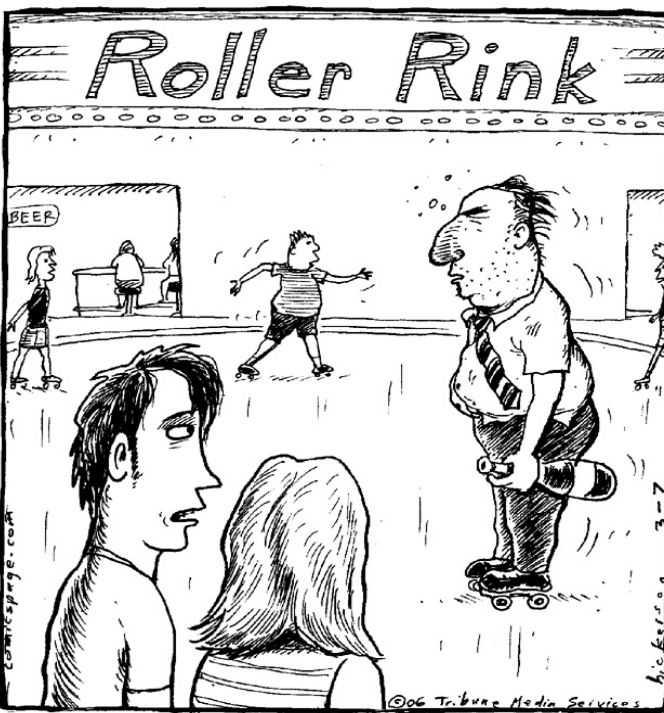
by Buddy Hickerson



"You weren't meant for prison, Dough Boy ... You're not like us ... You got the potential to rise."

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by Buddy Hickerson



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

Directions

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

See the March 21 paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

Thursday's Solutions

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

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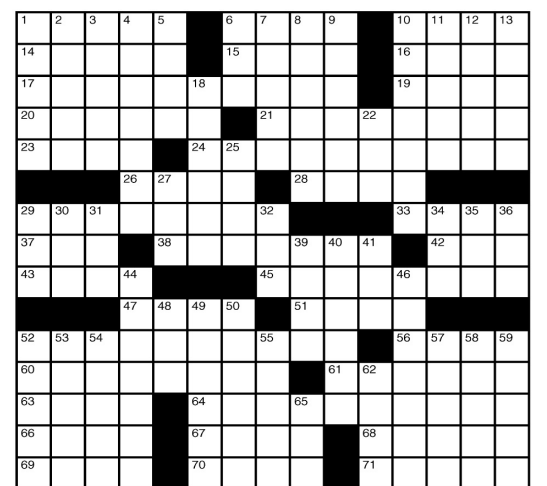
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1 Ionian Island
6 Tube watcher?
10 Some HDTVs
14 States forcefully
15 Back then
16 River of NYC
17 Like transistors
19 Small combo
20 O.T. prophet
21 1968 Simon & Garfunkel hit
23 Buddhist sect
24 Anti-missile strategy
26 Actress Turner
28 Sp. miss
29 Anterior
33 Trounce
37 "Iron John" author
38 Hint to puzzle's theme
42 Spanish gold
43 Picked from a lineup
45 Asian evergreen
47 Apple product
51 Head of France?
52 Exploited juveniles
56 Harnessed pair
60 Friendless brand
61 Parking structure
63 Calla lily
64 Branch of particle physics
67 Disfigure
68 Composer Erik
69 Anti-fur org.
70 Male offspring
71 King Arthur's father



By John Underwood
New York, NY

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

DOWN
1 Court docket
2 Convex
3 Kindred anew
4 Southwestern bean
5 Govt. farm group
6 Sci. class
7 Studio sign
8 Eightsomes
9 BMW, to some
10 Used tire
11 Leslie of "Gigi"
12 Sports shoes brand
13 Use a poker
18 Country Twain
22 Back position
25 Poetic measure
27 Fermented liquid; abbr. subj.
29 J. Edgar Hoover's org.
30 Aged
31 Seeded purchase
32 Tiny amount
34 French king
35 Coffee vessel
36 Weightlifter's pride, slangily
39 European defense assn.
40 Come into focus
41 Make lace
44 Quandary

46 Withdraw
48 "ER" extras
49 Hilo farewells
50 Spanish road
52 Part of a vise
53 Goddesses of the seasons
54 North Slope dweller
55 Set in motion
57 Solid ground
58 Texas A&M student
59 "The Monk's Wedding" writer
62 Korean apricot
65 Washington in NYC

See the March 21 paper for answers to today's crossword.

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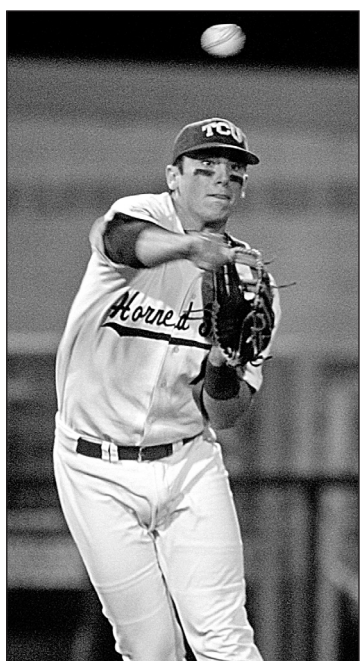
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TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

1888: HW Boxing champ John L. Sullivan draws Charlie Mitchell in 30 rounds.
1913: William Knox becomes first in American Bowling Congress to bowl 300.



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Photo Editor
Sophomore Matt Carpenter throws to first base during the Frogs' matchup against Oklahoma Tuesday at Lupton Stadium.

BASEBALL

Frogs to face No. 1 team in weekend tournament

By MICHELLE NICOU
Staff Writer

The TCU baseball team will travel to Corpus Christi this weekend to face No. 1 Rice, Texas A&M at Corpus Christi and No. 13 Arizona State in its third preseason tournament, the Whataburger Classic.

The Horned Frogs will see Rice for the second time this season on Friday afternoon as they try to avenge a 12-6 loss to the Owls in the third game of the 2006 campaign, but head coach Jim Schlossnagle was not shy in admitting the Owls' talent.

"We'll have to play the best game that we've ever played

because they are way better than we are — plain and simple," Schlossnagle said.

Junior right fielder Austin Adams said the team is up to Schlossnagle's challenge, but needs to work on holding leads late in the game, a problem it experienced when it previously played Rice.

"I think we should have beat them last time," Adams said. "It was one of those things; they came back and got us at the end.

"Definitely, we want some payback. The team's offensive hitting has been going real well, and we've seen them before."

Despite the pitching staff's

early struggles with consistency, the hurlers were in better form against Florida Atlantic last weekend, and senior left-hander Brad Furnish, Sunday's scheduled starter against the Sun Devils, said the staff is focused on improving. Furnish threw a standout seven-inning no-hitter versus Stephen F. Austin Feb. 19.

"We do a lot of drills in practice, and we have been playing some top teams, so that helps us, too," Furnish said.

Adams said TCU does not regularly look at scouting reports for tournament opponents until a couple hours before the game.

"Instead of worrying about the other team, we just try to stick to our game plan," Adams said.

Schlossnagle said the team has one goal for the weekend:

to be a competitive squad. "We just need to play well," Schlossnagle said. "We played well over (last) weekend, and we need to try to get back to that."

THE WHATABURGER CLASSIC (MARCH 10 - 12):

DATE	OPPONENT	TCU STARTER	OPP. STARTER
MARCH 10	No. 1 Rice (13-4)	Jake Arrieta (4-0, 1.37 ERA)	Eddie Degerman (3-0, .90 ERA)
MARCH 11	Texas A&M at Corpus Christi (9-8)	Sam Demel (1-2, 3.80 ERA)	Will Norman (2-1, 5.91 ERA)
MARCH 12	No. 13 Arizona State (15-5)	Brad Furnish (1-1, 2.61 ERA)	TBA

WOMEN'S GOLF

Athlete says squad ready to upset Aggies

By NATALIE MERRILL
Staff Reporter

When the women's golf team tees off this weekend at the Texas A&M "Mo" Morial Invitational, head coach Angie Ravaoli-Larkin said its main focus will be believing in the strength of each player's game.

"We are going to focus on confidence and playing our own game," Ravaoli-Larkin said.

Junior Catherine Matranga also said confidence will be an important factor going into the tournament.

"We are working on having a lot of confidence, and it's there for most of us now," Matranga said. "We want to show A&M that we can win on their course."

Although A&M is ranked No. 20 by Golfweek, Matranga said, she thinks the team is strong enough to beat the Aggies.

"We know we are just as good, if not better," Matranga said. "We've all been working really hard knowing that this is what we want really badly right now."

Ravaoli-Larkin said one way for the Lady Frogs to manage this feat is to concentrate on strengths they have and play their own game.

"We need to focus strongly on our short game," she said. "We have been building off some of our good rankings."

Ravaoli-Larkin also said the players have been hitting well on their long shots, keeping

them straight and getting to the greens. Although this is one thing that will help the Lady Frogs in the future, the coach said, the present is where they will play for now.

"We take it one tournament at a time," Ravaoli-Larkin said. "We don't really put emphasis on one tournament over another."

Junior Camille Blackerby, along with Matranga, will be playing No. 1 and No. 2 for the team, respectively, thanks to their play at the Lady Puerto Rico Classic Feb. 24 through Feb. 26. Ravaoli-Larkin said she is looking forward to their play at A&M, along with their teammates sophomore Carrie Morris and junior Elin Emanu-

elsson, as well.

"I'm looking for (Blackerby and Matranga) to do some great things," she said. "Carrie had one of her best performances at Puerto Rico and almost a breakthrough ... The game is there physically and technically."

Matranga said all that is left for the team to do in order to win the tournament is to increase its mental toughness.

"It's not the game — it's on us now," Matranga said. "We just need to go out there and do it."

Ravaoli-Larkin said she thinks her team is fully capable of doing just that.

"It's anybody's ballgame when you tee it up," Ravaoli-Larkin said.

THE WEEKEND IN TCU SPORTS

FRIDAY:

Women's basketball: TCU @ BYU, 2:30 p.m., Denver
Baseball: TCU vs. Rice, 2:30 p.m., Corpus Christi
Track and field: NCAA Indoor Championships; Fayetteville, Ark.
Women's golf: Texas A&M MoMorial Invitational, College Station
Swimming and diving: NCAA Sectional D Diving Meet; Columbia, Mo.

SATURDAY:

Women's basketball: MWC Championship game, TBA, Denver
Baseball: TCU vs. TAMU-CC, 1:30 p.m., Corpus Christi
Track and field: NCAA Indoor Championships; Fayetteville, Ark.
Women's golf: Texas A&M MoMorial Invitational, College Station
Swimming and diving: NCAA Sectional D Diving Meet; Columbia, Mo.
Rifle: NCAA Championships; Colorado Springs, Colo.

SUNDAY:

Baseball: TCU vs. ASU, 11:30 a.m., Corpus Christi
Women's golf: Texas A&M MoMorial Invitational, College Station
Swimming and diving: NCAA Sectional D Diving Meet; Columbia, Mo.
Rifle: NCAA Championships; Colorado Springs, Colo.

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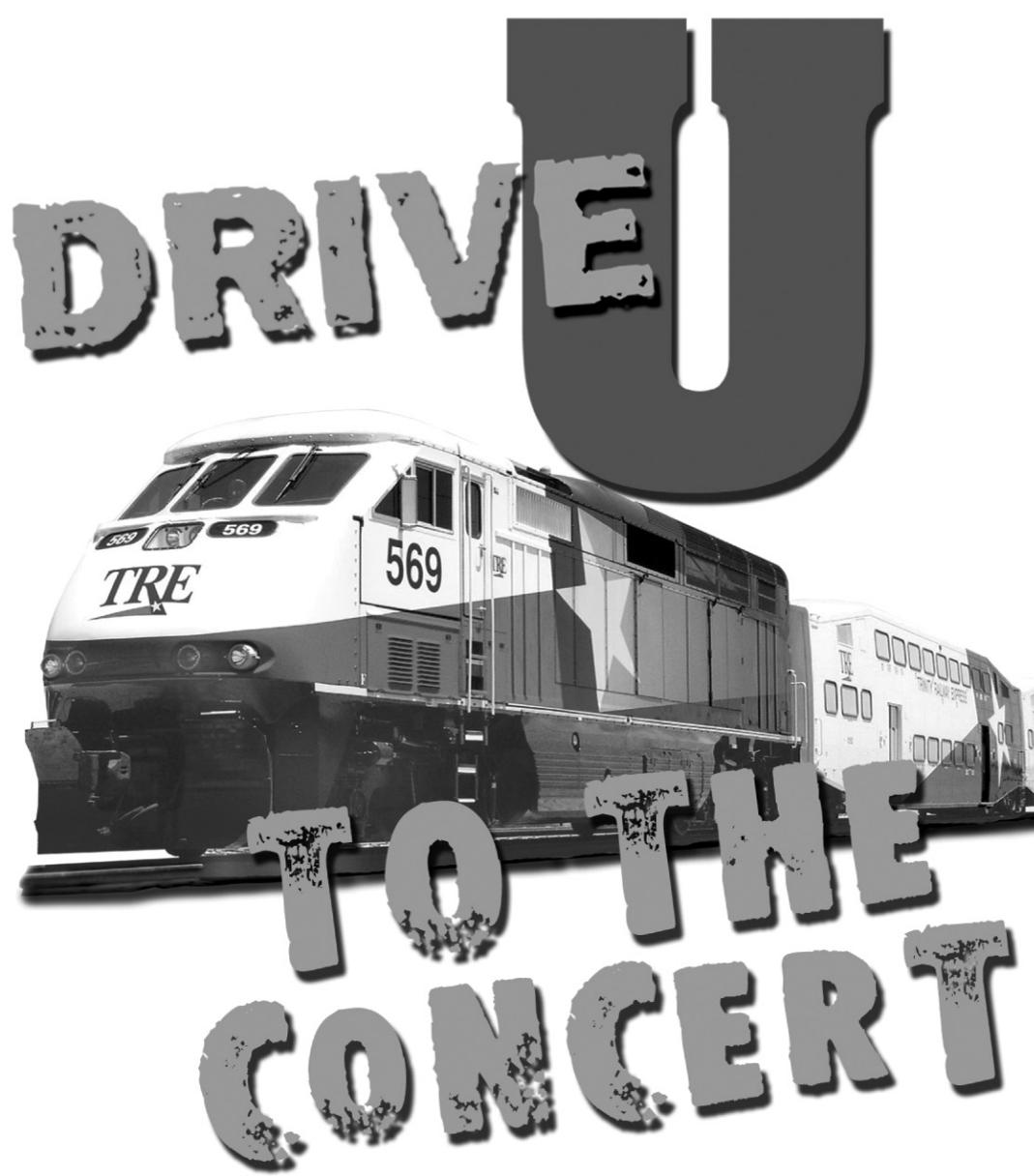
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