



NEWS
Five AD/PR students work to raise awareness for area caregivers.
TOMORROW



FEATURES
A traveled geography lecturer has been changing the face of his department.
PAGE 5



SPORTS
The newest standout of the women's golf team is making a big impact in the Mountain West.
PAGE 8



TCU

DAILY SKIFF

WEDNESDAY

March 21, 2007
Vol. 104 Issue 89

EST. 1902

WWW.DAILYSKIFF.COM

School officials ensure students, parents finances valid

By BAILEY SHIFFLER
Staff Reporter

The payments TCU receives from a lending company under investigation by the New York attorney general's office are given back to students through grants and scholarships, an administrator said Monday.

The university has a one-year-old revenue sharing partnership with Education Finance

Partners, the loan company that finances the recommended Private Loan for Horned Frogs, said Michael Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid.

EFP, one of the companies under investigation by the attorney general, has paid TCU about \$12,000 under its arrangement, Scott said.

According to the attorney

general's office, New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo sent letters to the presidents of colleges and universities across the country announcing the "ongoing investigation of potential conflicts of interest and illegal conduct in the student loan industry."

Chancellor Victor Boschini said he is confident with the

integrity of the financial aid department.

"I think we always do what's best for our students and, whether the attorney general agrees with that or not, is really not my concern," Boschini said.

The letter warned against financial agreements, or revenue sharing, as well as the establishment of preferred lender lists.

In his letter, Cuomo said he

suggests that schools should fully inform students and parents of how they construct preferred lenders list as well as any financial benefits the schools receive from these private lending companies.

Scott said TCU reviews its preferred lender list every year, taking into account interest rates, number of students approved for loans, payback

benefits and how many students are generally eligible for the benefits. TCU does not receive any benefits, such as vacations or donations from any lenders on the preferred lender list.

The Private Loan for Horned Frogs, a revenue sharing loan between TCU and EFP, was established a year ago to direct

See **LENDING**, page 2

SUPER WOMAN



(TOP LEFT) Lourdes Carpinteyro started working at TCU by cleaning sports uniforms and is now a housekeeper for the university. (TOP RIGHT) Carpinteyro with her bosses' sons Wayne, Ben and Victor (from left) 50 years ago. (BOTTOM LEFT) Carpinteyro with her husband Jose at the 2006 football banquet. (BOTTOM RIGHT) Carpinteyro cleans up some of the garbage in the basement of Martin-Moore Hall.

Residential Services worker shows compassion to students

By LINDSEY BEVER
Opinion Editor

With pride welling in her deep brown eyes, the 70-year-old TCU housekeeper gingerly turns the pages of her photo albums, showing off the faces of students she

cheerfully serves each day. In her thick Mexican accent, Lourdes Carpinteyro brags about the students in her pictures, all of whom lovingly call her Lulu.

"I call them my bambinos," she says with a doting smile.

"I love all my childrens. I'm very proud, very proud of these kids."

Lulu began serving TCU 24 years ago when she took a job washing sweaty sports jerseys. To Lulu, the teammates, coaches and manag-

ers were like family.

With a chuckle, Lulu remembers collecting aluminum cans so she could afford to cook chicken and rice, Mexican soup and fresh guacamole for the teams to

See **LULU**, page 2

Former RUF minister dies

By ELIZABETH DAVIDSON
Staff Reporter

Eight years ago, Dustin Salter came to TCU and brought Reformed University Fellowship with him.

The Rev. Dustin Salter, 37, died Monday, March 19, 2007, at 3:40 p.m. surrounded by his family. More than four months ago he fell off of his bicycle in Greenville, S.C., and

suffered a traumatic brain injury.

The Rev. Salter was an amazing teacher who loved the students he worked with, said Ronald Pitcock, assistant English professor and a friend of Salter's.

"Dustin really thought of the students as his own children," Pitcock said. "He could bring so many people together."

RUF started out as a group of only 12 members, but quickly grew under the Rev. Salter's leadership.

When he left last spring to be the minister at Furman University in

See **SALTER**, page 2



The Rev. Dustin Salter, who died Monday afternoon, speaks in front of students April 19, 2006. Salter died as a result of complications after a bicycle accident last semester.

SKIFF ARCHIVES

Board votes to rid clause from Faculty Handbook

By BAILEY SHIFFLER
Staff Reporter

The board of trustees will vote next week on a resolution that proposes the removal of one of the last remaining vestiges of the anti-communism McCarthy era from the Faculty and Staff Handbook.

Provost Nowell Donovan said he will bring the resolution to the board next week.

On March 1, the Senate unanimously voted to suggest to the board that the loyalty paragraph, referencing anti-government groups, be edited out of the handbook. The section states that no person employed by TCU should be affiliated with an organization that advocates governmental change of the United States.

Suzy Lockwood, chair of the Faculty Senate, said the paragraph was added when the world was a different place. She said the paragraph contradicts portions of TCU's vision statement because it does not fully respect diversity.

"In the academic arena, one thing that we really do value is that we can have discourse about different viewpoints," Lockwood said, "and the loyalty paragraph doesn't really support that."

Andrew Fort, former chair of the Faculty Senate, said the paragraph was noticed in passing and was seen as "embarrassing and from another era."

Lockwood said the Statement of Professional Ethics section added in 1993 covers any important aspects of the loyalty section that need to remain in the handbook.

According to the Statement of Professional Ethics, professors have the rights of all other citizens but need to avoid creating the impression of speaking for their college or university when speaking as a private person.

"We're updating and bringing the handbook more in line with where we are in society right now," Lockwood said.

AddRan College hosts new deans this spring

By NATHAN BASS
Staff Reporter

The university will soon host two candidates vying to become the new dean of the AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Philip G. Cohen, from the University of Texas at Arlington, will visit campus March 27 and 28, and F. Andrew Schoolmaster III, from Eastern Kentucky University, will visit April 2 and 3.

Cohen said he believes the AddRan school already has a strong foundation in which both students and faculty excel.

"The school has extremely strong undergraduate and graduate programs," Cohen said. "The faculty is also committed to a teacher-scholar model, and many of the departments emphasize experiential learning such as mentored research experiences and internships."

Cohen is dean of the graduate school and vice provost for academic affairs at UTA. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Delaware and is also an English professor at UTA.

Schoolmaster, current dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at ECU, went to Kent State University to earn his Ph.D. and is a geography professor at ECU.

Schoolmaster was unavailable for comment by press time.

Mary Volcansek has been dean of the AddRan school since it was reorganized in 2000 to include only humanities and social sciences. She will be returning to the faculty as a political science professor in the fall.

The selection process began last fall when Nowell Donovan, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, formed a selection committee that narrowed the search to the final two candidates.

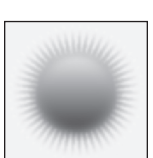
"This is a very important position," Donovan said. "This particular dean has the most important position in liberal arts promotion, and the AddRan school deals with a lot of courses in respect to the core curriculum."

The committee was comprised of five faculty members, one student, one member of the board in the AddRan school and an outside source.

David Grant, chair of the religion department, served as chair of the search committee.

"We had very good applicants," Grant said. "Right now, we're just looking forward to their visit and giving the faculty a chance to visit with them as well."

Donovan said a decision will most likely be made between the two candidates soon after Schoolmaster's visit in April.



WEATHER
TODAY: AM Clouds/ PM Sun, 74/62
THURSDAY: T-Storms, 74/63
FRIDAY: T-Storms, 75/61

PECULIAR FACT
HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — A judge, who had a secondary role in the recent Anna Nicole Smith proceedings, was charged with smoking marijuana in a city park, police said Monday.
— Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES
OPINION: Tourney offers new ad chances, page 3
NEWS: E. coli scare opportunity for change, page 6

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

LULU

From page 1

express her appreciation. Today, Lulu works in Residential Services, scrubbing showers, washing windows and vacuuming carpets.

Lulu's life is quite different from the dream she once had of becoming a hair designer.

As the oldest of 12 siblings in Puebla, Mexico, 17-year-old Lulu stepped into her late mother's role and went to work as a shampoo girl in a local beauty shop.

"I worry about my father," she says, shaking her head. "I wasn't sure if he'd have enough food."

But at the age of 21, Lulu came to Chicago for a six-month vacation on Valentine's Day and never moved back home. She fell in love, got married and, once

again, she got a job working in a beauty shop, this time in Chicago for \$30 a week plus room and board in a small apartment above the shop. However, her sketchbook full of hair designs was never used in the way she imagined.

"I want to be a designer for the hair, but I never go to school or get a license to work in the beauty shop," she says as she smoothes stray hairs back into place. "I would have if I had the money."

Instead, Lulu settled for odd jobs, building hearing aids and making tiny parts for torpedoes for an electronic company in Chicago, waiting tables in Fort Worth and harvesting cherries and strawberries in the California fields where she slept with her husband and baby.

Her struggles continued.

When her husband left her after 17 years of marriage, Lulu

returned to the home she left many years before.

"I love my country, but it's very different," she explained, looking down at her fingers as they trace the wooden tabletop. "The rich are rich, and the poor are poor — forever. We don't have much money. We can never go to nice restaurants in Mexico ... they turn us away."

And at 38, Lulu found herself with an illness she did not ask for, empty pockets she could not fill and a family unable to help.

Lulu realized her poor diet in Mexico made her ill. And her family denied her the financial assistance she needed because they had not a penny to spare.

"Get a job," they told me. But I was too old to get a job in Mexico," she says quietly. "My family made me feel like a stranger."

But Lulu made it back to

America with a \$300 donation given to her by a woman she did not know. Three decades later, Lulu lives as a permanent resident with her second husband, Jose, and is glad to be near her four children and seven grandchildren.

And Lulu has a few more kids to look after. Many TCU students have been touched by Lulu's compassion.

James McCombs, a sophomore e-business major, is a resident assistant in Brachman Hall but lived in Clark Hall last year when Lulu cleaned the dorms.

"The way she interacts with you gives you that feeling like she's almost your grandma, that you're everything to her," he says. "She just has a feeling of love that no other housekeeper has."

Even Mike Sinquefield, previously the athletics equipment manager and Lulu's former

supervisor, says Lulu treated him like family.

"She always treated me like a son," he says. "It was more than work for her; it was her family, and she wanted it that way. She's a jewel of a lady."

Overcoming many obstacles, spreading joy to those around her, being content when dreams fall through, Lulu says she has no regrets.

While some have urged Lulu to hang up her mop, her love for the job and financial needs keep her working. Since the university has no mandatory retirement age, Lulu says she isn't planning her retirement just yet.

"I don't think about my age; I don't think that I'm 70 years old," she says. "I'm just happy."

And students like McCombs are influenced by her life and commitment to her job.

"I think she feels blessed with what she has," McCombs says, smiling, "and I hope she knows that her job makes a difference, at least in my life. Yes, she's a housekeeper, but she still does it with a passion. Her attitude has affected my attitude to work harder and with more love."

In one word, McCombs sums up the beloved housekeeper. "Selfless," he says, "selfless."

CORRECTION

The Mar. 9 issue of the Skiff incorrectly classified Larry Kitchens as a professor. He is the director of the Center for Instructional Services.

LENDING

From page 1

students and parents unfamiliar with the loaning process to a private loan company that TCU has researched and feels confident recommending, Scott said.

"We felt that it was the best combination of approval rates, interest rates, repayment benefits and all that type of stuff," Scott said.

He said the revenue sharing aspect of the partnership was not discussed until after they had decided EFP was the company with the most competitive product. The payment made to TCU is a small percentage of the profit EFP receives when a student starts paying back the loan.

Scott said the relationship with

EFP can be rearranged if another lending company comes up with a more competitive offer for students.

Scott said TCU has not yet submitted any documents to the attorney general's office but is in the process of gathering information.

EFP has received inquiries from the attorney general's office and is cooperating fully with the investigation, Tamera Briones, a chief executive officer at EFP, wrote in a letter to Scott.

She also wrote that EFP responded immediately by launching its own independent review of its programs to ensure that it is in compliance with legal and ethical obligations.

According to a press release from the attorney general's office on March 15, Cuomo notified

more than 400 colleges and universities to end relationships with lending companies that have the potential to mislead students and compromise their ability to obtain the best student loan rates.

Dallas Martin, the president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, wrote a letter to Cuomo in response to the investigation defending the financial aid offices his organization represents.

"You have done them a great disservice and have dishonored their good names," Martin wrote. "What is worse is that you have encouraged students and parents to mistrust the advice and counseling of financial aid administrators and schools, which will only lead to bad decision-making by consumers to their detriment."

SALTER

From page 1

Greenville, there were enough RUF members to fill the floor and balcony at the chapel they met in, Pitcock said.

The Rev. Salter was transported from Greenville back to a local facility in Fort Worth on Jan. 31. He was placed under hospice care when his condition worsened the week before Spring Break.

The Rev. Salter graduated from the University of West Alabama in 1992 and from Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, Fla. before he became the RUF minister at TCU.

Under the Rev. Salter, RUF became one of the largest cam-

pus ministries on campus, said Walt Jones, an RUF intern.

"He was such a gatherer," Jones said. "If you got to know Dustin you wanted to be around him more. He loved the gospel and he loved to preach. People could see that so they wanted to come back to hear more."

University Minister Angela Kaufman said people were also drawn to the Rev. Salter because of his genuine personality.

"He was one of the most real people I knew," Kaufman said. "There was no pretense or need to pretend to be someone he wasn't."

Jones said he will remember the Rev. Salter's laugh.


"He had this really great, really loud laugh. That's the


first thing you recognized about him," Jones said. "It was always fun to go to restaurants with him because everyone would look over and see who was laughing so loud."

Every week, the Rev. Salter would always say the same thing to students before he left TCU, said Rob Hamby, the current RUF campus minister.

"He'd say, 'You're never so good that you stand in need of God's grace. You're never so bad that you stand outside of God's grace,'" Hamby said. "Dustin made RUF a place to find grace."

The Rev. Salter is survived by his wife, Leigh Anne, sons Jacob, 9, and Nathan, 7, and daughter Meredith, 2.

WFAA presents
the
gordon keith  show




People are calling
the gordon keith show
"the funniest show on
local television."

Tune in and see what you're
missing.


www.wfaa.com/gordonkeith

the gordon keith show
THURSDAY NIGHT 10pm



Earn Over \$100,000 while still in college!

Nuclear Propulsion Officer



- Launch your career before you leave college
- Sign up for the **NUPOC** program up to 30 months before graduation
- Nuclear Propulsion Officer on Nuclear-Powered Aircraft Carriers or Submarines
- Graduate-level Navy Nuclear Training earning substantial credit toward a Master's Degree


Benefits

- \$15,000 sign-on bonus + \$2,000 upon completion of training
- Earn over \$3,000 per month
- Full Medical and Dental
- **No uniforms. No drills.**

Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- United States Citizen
- Physically qualified according to Navy Standards
- All majors are eligible with one year of Calculus and one year of Calculus based Physics

For more call information:
(800) 492-4841



NAVY
accelerate your life.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A will finds a way."
— Orison Swett Marden

THE SKIFF VIEW

Libraries should be filter-free

The Fort Worth Public Library is considering adding filters to regulate Internet access at public libraries, according to an article in Tuesday's Fort Worth Star-Telegram. The filters would be implemented to help control the material users under 17 could have access to on public computers.

Our libraries should remain free of restrictions, despite concerns from parents and watch-dog groups about obscenity and what young people should be allowed to explore.

Although the filters might only be installed on children's computers, the burden of regulating Internet content around minors should be carried by library staff and those minors' parents.

The filters applied to the computers would restrict Web sites deemed inappropriate for young people. They could also automatically restrict searches using words or phrases also deemed inappropriate.

For example, blocking the word "breast" could also restrict searches for "breast cancer."

Libraries should be allowed to control what young computer users are exposed to, but there are better and more efficient ways to do so.

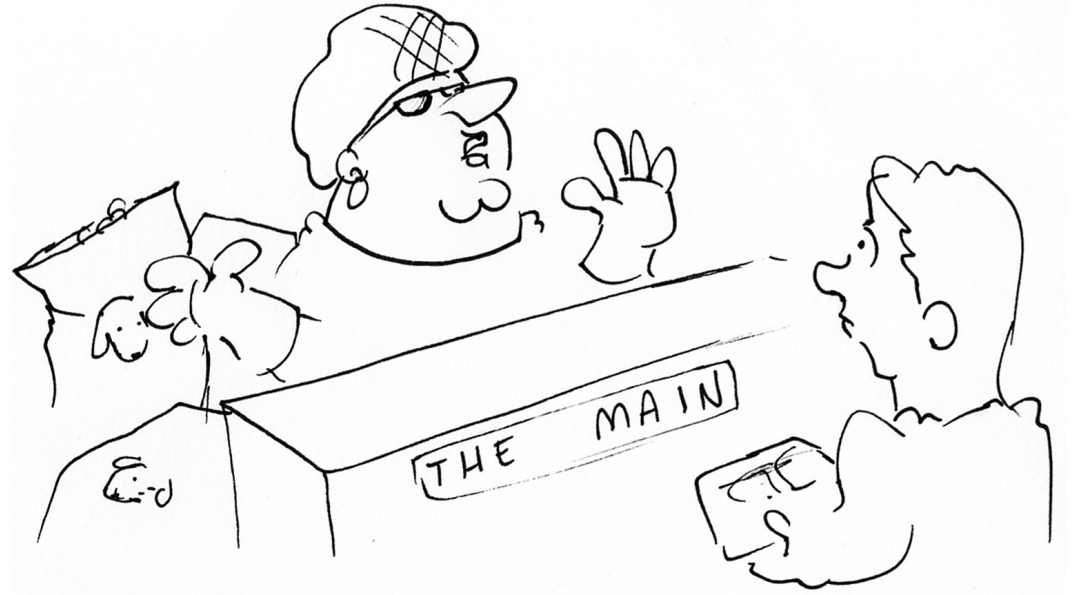
Libraries could institute a "chaperone system" whereby staff members watch over children's computers when minors are present. Libraries could request to help young users when searches might be of a sensitive nature.

But blocking the content at the source before computer users even get a chance to decide whether the material is inappropriate isn't helping anyone.

Libraries are a source of information and should remain so; it's not up to library staff members to decide what content should and should not be viewed.

Managing editor John-Laurent Tronche for the editorial board.

BY BRENDAN KIEFER



"Sorry, we're closed today. Our main supplier had a recall."

Channel surfers might overlook benefit of watching commercials

TV commercials. Most people hate them with a passion only surpassed by their ire for Satan's favorite confection: candy corn.

COMMENTARY
In fact, we all know someone, possibly even ourselves, who begins compulsively flipping channels the microsecond advertisements grace the screen.

But why? As sacrilegious as it may sound, commercials play a much bigger role in everyday life than most people think.

First of all, commercials give us pop culture icons who can define generations. Who among us wouldn't be able to pick out Jared?

"I used to weigh 2,400 tons, but I lost it all thanks to a combination of Subway and super-secret-sandwich-funded liposuction." In fact, if we came across an American who didn't know who Jared Fogle was, we would wonder what kind of industrial-strength oven cleaner they have been huffing for the past seven years. A little pop culture IQ never hurt anyone, and people might be surprised how much they can gain from commercials.

Television advertisements can also work the fascinating magic of promoting a business owner to the level of "trusted friend" in the eyes of the consumer. This process is usually best per-

formed by a local advertising magnate who has been airing commercials in a certain metropolitan area for decades.

For example, in my hometown of Houston, we've got a guy named Mattress Mack. He is a furniture kingpin who has been providing the Houston area with affordable couches and recliners for quite a while. His commercials follow a very simple formula: Talk really, really fast about his wares and end every ad with the phrase, "Gallery Furniture saves you money!" while shoving a fistful of dollars toward the camera.

Now, I'm not sure what Mattress Mack babbles on about during his crazy, supposed furniture-related rants. Maybe he talks about how his customers owe him their souls and seven years of hard labor after purchasing a bedroom set. Maybe he insists that Gallery Furniture reserves the right to sell any and all credit card numbers that pass through its system to the Polish mafia. Quite frankly, I don't care what it is. All I know is that it is my life's mission to purchase a La-Z-Boy and/or a big screen TV from Mack.

Mattress Mack isn't just a business owner, he's like a friend. I've grown up with him on the TV screen. Now, I wouldn't accept fizzy, strange-colored drinks from a lot of people, but Mack makes the cut.

Lastly, nothing beats a finely crafted TV commer-

cial. While the airwaves are filled with sleazy car salesmen and advertisements for technical schools trying oh-so-delicately to pass themselves off as real universities, seeing a good commercial makes suffering through all of the crap seem worth it. I get the same feeling of satisfaction in the pit of my stomach after a good commercial as I do upon finishing a good book or a good movie. For reference, see virtually every Budweiser ad that ever aired during the Super Bowl.

Whether it is sharpening one's pop culture acumen, bringing an old friend into one's home or having a chance to view a great ad, TV commercials are much more than meets the eye. So next time, before we hit the remote, think of all the things we might be missing.

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



MCT CAMPUS

Tournament offers new advertising chances

While many college students used Spring Break as a chance to go visit exotic locations and just get away for a couple of days, I spent the break in a small town with some of my best friends, watching a lot of college basketball.

COMMENTARY
The March Madness tournament is the greatest sporting event of its kind, giving 65 teams the chance to become this year's national champion.

The only part of this grand event that needs some improvement are the commercials that run during the games.

Many of the commercials that air during regular programming are leftovers from the Super

Bowl, including my favorite Bud Light commercial with "rock, paper, scissors" being played, but others are just horrendous.

The worst of the commercials are the ones for brands consumers see every day, but these commercials have had a basketball spin put on them to accommodate for the tournament.

The most ridiculous of these commercials was by far the one for Esurance.com. The commercial has Erin Esurance playing basketball against three robots. Her coach, who looks like Tom Selleck with his shirt partially unbuttoned, claims the robots are trying to prevent her from getting cheap auto insurance. He then draws up a "play" called "Quote. Buy. Print." to help her score, and therefore, get a great rate on auto insurance.

It doesn't help that I already consider Esurance.com commercials to be among the worst on TV, but making a basketball version for the sole purpose of running during the tournament drove me up a wall.

Speaking of driving, other bad commercials were for various cars. While the convertible commercials were not funny and, frankly, a little difficult to understand, the worst car commercials came from Pontiac.

My least favorite Pontiac commercial was one where a Kansas Jayhawks basketball fan had Texas Tech coach Bob Knight tied up in the back seat of her new Pontiac car on the way to Kansas' next game.

CBS, the company that

televised the tournament, should try and make the tournament have the same effect on commercials as the Super Bowl.

Part of the reason for the lack of interest in developing grand commercials such as the ones used on Super Sunday is because some of the tournament games are played during hours in which people are supposed to be at work or in class.

While the official Nielsen television ratings are not available yet, Zap2it.com reported that CBS won the ratings battle versus FOX, NBC and ABC for Friday because of the boost they received from the basketball tournament. Therefore, people are definitely still watching the games, whether they are skipping work or school or were just lucky enough to have nothing better to do with their time.

There are still many games played during the evening hours and on weekends that anyone can watch, whether they have to work.

That would be the perfect time to debut new and exciting commercials to entice people to purchase products.

These new commercials would be a win/win situation for everyone since the advertising agencies have another market to design advertisements for, and it would keep viewers entertained when every team uses five timeouts in the last three minutes of every game.

Photo editor Billy Wessels is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Wazahachie.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

After reading the opinion piece, "Know how money helps AIDS in Africa before opening pocketbook," by Ryan Claunch on March 9 in the Skiff, I noted factual errors concerning the U.S. government's \$15-billion, five-year response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Emergency Plan/PEPFAR). Mr. Claunch's assertion that U.S. government funding to fight AIDS in Africa has declined and that prevention is taught solely through abstinence-only programs is inaccurate. Mr. Claunch writes,

"Another problem keeping information about AIDS from reaching people in African nations is cutbacks in funding from the United States, a major player in the fight against AIDS."

The United States is not just "a major player" in the fight against HIV/AIDS but leads the world in its response to the pandemic. U.S. funding for PEPFAR has risen from \$2.3 billion in fiscal year 2004 to \$2.7 billion in FY 2005 to \$3.3 billion in FY 2006 to \$4.6 billion in FY 2007.

For FY 2008, President Bush has requested \$5.4 billion for the Emergency

"The United States is not just a 'major player' in the fight against the HIV/AIDS but leads the world in its response to the pandemic."

Plan. The Emergency Plan is on track to exceed its original commitment of \$15 billion over five years. By the end of FY 2008, the American people will have invested \$18.3 billion in

this global fight.

The Emergency Plan supports the most comprehensive, evidence-based prevention program in the world. PEPFAR supports prevention activities that focus on sexual transmission through the ABC approach (abstain, be faithful and the correct and consistent use of condoms where appropriate), mother-to-child transmission, the transmission of HIV through unsafe blood and medical injections and greater HIV awareness through counseling and testing. In PEPFAR's 15 focus countries during FY

2006, about 61.5 million people were reached by community outreach programs promoting ABC and other related prevention strategies.

Condoms are an integral part of this approach, which the United States applies in ways tailored to local circumstances. From 2004 to 2006, the U.S. government supplied 1.3 billion condoms worldwide-lending support to comprehensive ABC approaches based on the epidemiology of each country. Many African nations have generalized HIV epidemics, with sexually transmitted

HIV affecting all elements of society. With infection so widespread, data has shown that all three elements of ABC need to be used to see a decline in prevalence. (For more information please see "Speeding HIV's Deadly Spread.")

*Valerie J. Elston
Public Affairs Coordinator
Department of State*

ONLINE

For more information about the president's \$15 billion, five-year initiative to fight HIV/AIDS around the world, visit www.PEPFAR.gov.

Editorial Board

JOHN-LAURENT TRONCHE
MARCUS MURPHREE

ANDREW CHAVEZ
LINDSEY BEVER
AMBER PARCHER

Editorial Policy

The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. The Skiff View editorial represents the view of the TCU Daily Skiff editorial board

listed to the left. The Skiff View is the collective opinion of the editorial board and may not reflect the views of the individual writers. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinion of

the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.
Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. To submit a letter,

e-mail it to LETTERS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.



Courtesy of EMILY PETERSON
Sean Peterson (left) and Winston Allen celebrate in front of the United States Capitol after the Journey of Hope on Aug. 12, 2006. The Journey of Hope is a 4,200-mile-long cross-country bike trip put on by Push America.

Pi Kapps to bike across country

By SAEROM YOO
Staff Reporter

Eight Pi Kappa Phi fraternity members, among others around the country, will be biking an average of 75 miles a day this summer for those who might not be able to.

They are raising funds and training to participate in a cross-country biking trip, about 4,200 miles long, designed to allow participants to interact with the disabled and those who have a passion about helping them.

Journey of Hope is one of the many events put on by Push America, a nonprofit organization for the disabled headed by Pi Kapp.

Senior advertising/public relations major Chad Snyder said this summer will be his second time to participate in Journey of Hope.

"It's probably the best thing I've done my college career," Snyder said. "I couldn't get enough the first time."

Trey Flowers, a senior religion and political science major, said Pi

Kapp stands out because of its service-rich tradition and commitment to the disabled.

Flowers said he has an aunt who is deaf and his mother taught special education at a school for the deaf.

Snyder said the experience is unique because the participants have the chance to see where the money they have raised goes.

At the end of each day of biking, the participants have the opportunity to serve, give and interact with those with common goals of helping the disabled and the disabled themselves.

Besides the annual Journey of Hope event, Pi Kapp members serve the disabled community through service such as volunteering at KinderFrogs, building wheelchair ramps and hosting empathy dinners, where guests are given the chance to step into the shoes of disabled people.

Alex Alessandro, a junior finance and entrepreneurial management

major who is on the biking team, said his experience with the disabled who overcome obstacles daily has been humbling.

He said he expects his biggest challenge during the two months to be the monotony of biking.

Each team member has to raise at least \$5,000 in order to participate; the fundraiser is mostly conducted through letters to family and friends. Several participants this year from the university chapter have set their goals higher than the required minimum.

The eight men hope to raise \$50,000 cumulatively, members said.

The three Journey of Hope routes are 64 and 67 days long; two of them begin in San Francisco and the third in Florence, Ore. All three routes end in Washington, D.C.

Flowers said the group going this year will be the largest ever to go from the TCU chapter of Pi Kapp. Last summer, two people participated, he said.

Insurgency, increased U.S. presence overshadowing progress made in Iraq

By HANNAH ALLAM
McClatchy Newspapers

BAGHDAD, Iraq — On the fourth anniversary of the war he peddled as a historic liberation campaign, Ahmad Chalabi sat in his fortress-style villa in Baghdad on Tuesday and pondered what might have been and how it all went wrong.

Chalabi absolved himself of mistakes and insisted he had no regrets.

Instead, he recited a litany of missteps he blames on the Bush administration, the U.S. military and newly minted Iraqi politicians who couldn't overcome their "parochial" interests for the good of the nation.

"The war was a success," Chalabi declared, "and the occupation a failure."

Four years and five assassination attempts since he returned from exile,

Chalabi, 62, said he's proud that Iraq has an elected government, a constitution approved by the people and an 80-percent debt reduction brokered largely by the United States. But he conceded that those successes are overshadowed by an entrenched insurgency, undisciplined Iraqi forces, an expanding U.S. troop presence and a leadership plagued by sectarian rivalries.

Chalabi prefers not to dwell on the faulty prewar intelligence he pushed on hawkish U.S. leaders or his stewardship of the purges of former Baath party members, which cost thousands of Iraqis their livelihoods just after the U.S.-led invasion in 2003.

In his account of the war, the beginning of the end was the decision to create a U.S. occupation authority instead of immediately handing the reins to Iraqi opposition leaders such as, say, Chalabi himself. That may have been the plan; the Pentagon airlifted Chalabi and his followers to Nasiriyah on April 6, 2003, where they called themselves Free Iraqi Forces.

"The United States changed its status from liberator to occupier," he said. "We warned them, very strongly, that they would lose the moral high ground in Iraq. They did. The U.S. administration, in my view, is suffering the consequences of this decision."

Other grave errors followed, Chalabi continued, settling into a plush armchair and reaching for his favorite snack — a nutrient-rich biscuit his chef makes from Tibetan goji berries purchased abroad.

On the American side, he said, there was the Coalition Provisional Authority's "incompetence" and "cavalier attitude toward Iraqi funds."

Next came the U.S.-appointed transitional government, which he dismissed as "the CIA's dream team and a disaster for Iraq."

U.S. officials, he said, didn't include the firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in early political processes and paid dearly when his Shiite militiamen staged two bloody anti-American uprisings in 2004.

Iraqi politicians share the blame for the country's disarray, Chalabi said. Their sectarian agendas usurped national interests, and corruption spread unchecked. Worse, he

said, was the use of state-sponsored violence to settle political disputes between the triumphant Shiite-led government and the nation's disgruntled Sunni minority.

"This escalated sectarian tensions," Chalabi said. "It brought to the forefront extremists who gained credibility with the people."

Out of the government but still a Baghdad insider, Chalabi keeps busy with a newfound focus on humanitarian issues such as the dismal, overcrowded conditions in Iraqi-run prisons and the return of displaced Sunni families to neighborhoods commandeered by Shiite militias.

These are hardly the problems he expected four years after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein.

"Had it gone well? There would be peace in Iraq," he said. "Iraq would've been pumping 3.5 billion barrels of oil today. There would be full electricity, massive reconstruction."

Marquis

at Stonegate



Get out of the dorm and live in luxury.

1, 2 & 3 bedroom floor plans available

4200 Bridgeview Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76109

817.922.5200 • Fax 817.922.5204

BUY RECYCLED.



AND SAVE.

When you buy products made from recycled materials, recycling keeps working. To find out more, call 1-800-2-RECYCLE or visit www.environmentaldefense.org



ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
Finding the ways that work

TRAFFIC TICKETS

Defended in Fort Worth, Arlington, Richland Hills, Benbrook, Crowley, Hurst, Euless, Grapevine, and elsewhere in Tarrant County.

- No promises as to results.
- Any fine and any court costs are not included in fee for legal representation.

James R. Mallory
Attorney at Law

3024 Sandage Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76109-1793
817.924.3236

www.JamesMallory.com



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Healthcare Administration
Master of Public Administration



By 2015, healthcare costs will hit \$4 trillion and account for 20 percent of the US economy (CMMS).

- 36-hr NASPAA-accredited graduate program
- No leveling courses
- Internships and scholarships
- Apply now for Fall 07 and Spring 08
- Further info at www.mpa.pols.ttu.edu and 806-742-3125

Get a Seven Year Career Head Start

Eagle U at TCU, June 26-30, 2007

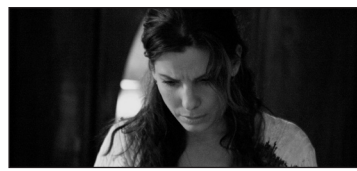
- Land your **DREAM JOB** • Get **BETTER GRADES** in less time
- Conquer the **TOUGH INTERVIEW** • Achieve **FINANCIAL FREEDOM**

1.888.732.4538 • www.eagleu.com



"Eagle U teaches you the keys to success that you don't learn anywhere else. It's fun too!" -Bryce Tomberlin, TCU Student and Eagle U grad

Special offer! All TCU students will receive a \$200 discount off the tuition for Eagle U (offer valid for TCU program only). Limited Seating is available.



BOY MEETS WORLD

Geography lecturer excites, inspires students through world travels

By JENNY ROBERTSON
Staff Reporter

For Jeff Roet, the best way to explain the world is by looking down.

The geography lecturer said he was "born with a spatial hardwiring and 3-D awareness" that enables him to envision the world as a map.

"By the time I was 6, I could read a map better than anyone," Roet said. "I could glance at one that was upside down and still understand what it all meant."

Although Roet showed an early propensity for geography, it took a sudden change for his gift to evolve into a near-obsession.

At age 19, Roet took the trip that made his life. Back in the 1960s, when he was "studying fun" at the State University of New York at Buffalo, a friend inherited enough money to buy 40 of his closest pals round-trip tickets to India.

A year later, with enough adventures and memories to last a lifetime, including visits to Nepal, Afghanistan, Lebanon and Greece, Roet returned home with a new focus.

"India was where I decided to become a geographer," he says. "I had to find geography on my own."

He explains that his atypical love of maps at a young age did not allow for a clear-cut path such as a love for music or mathematics can.

"If a kid is talented at playing the piano, you get him lessons," Roet said. "But what are you supposed to do with a kid who can keep his parents from getting lost on a road trip?"

DREAMS OF FARAWAY PLACES

After Roet received a bachelor's degree in geography, he worked odd jobs to make enough money to travel again.

His next trip was to Belize, where he lived on an island off the coast in the village of Caye Caulker. He was paid \$10 per week to live in a house by the water. Roet snorkeled the barrier reef and ate fresh lobster daily. Electricity was reserved for Friday and Saturday nights "to keep the beer cold," and he and his nine friends could go sailing whenever they wanted.

"I had enough money to stay for six months, but I left after three because it just didn't feel right to be a beach bum," Roet said with a smile. "I decided to go back and become a productive member of society."

Northwestern University gave him a full scholarship for six years while Roet earned his master's and doctorate in geography. He met his future wife, Jeanette, at a geography conference. And soon, he began dreaming about teaching.

"There was nothing I wanted to do except be a professor and study geography," Roet said. "But, at the time, it was difficult to get a job. It was early July, and I started to lose hope."

When his hope began to slop away, he decided to drink heavily one Saturday night.

"I was so depressed about not finding a job that I told Jeanette I was going to the store to buy vodka and grapefruit juice so I could knock myself out," Roet said.

When he returned home, he made himself a huge cocktail. As he brought the glass to his lips to take the first sip, the phone rang.

"It turned into a celebration party," Roet said with a chuckle. "I was not out even when I thought I was."

Soon after, Roet moved south to teach at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

CHANGING THE FACE OF TCU GEOGRAPHY

In 1999, Roet was offered a position at TCU in an effort to resurrect the university's geography program.

"I was known as a program-builder," Roet said. "Since I have been here, we have established a major and average about 12 majors per semester. Geography is now secure at TCU."

Roet's vision for the department also includes field trips. Every upper-division geography class has the opportunity to travel. Roet has taken students on field trips all over the world, including Italy, France, Honduras and Australia. This semester, Roet will take a group of 12 students to Barcelona, Spain, during Spring Break.

"Geography is about places," Roet said. "It doesn't work to teach in a classroom."

Ben Tillman, an associate professor of geography who has taught geography at TCU for six years, said Roet "goes the extra mile to encourage students to get into geography."

Tillman said Roet gets excited, and students enjoy his company.

"The students always get a kick out of how fast he walks at the head of the line," Tillman said. "He'll just keep on walking even when the light changes."

A CULTURED FAMILY

School is not the only place Roet shows his enthusiasm for geography. At home, the walls are covered with pictures of his family in exotic places, souvenirs from their travels and maps of all kinds, Roet said.

A special map hangs at the foot of the stairs. It is a map of the world stuck with red, white and green pins. Each pin has a number on it, indicating the order of each place he has visited. Roet and his wife are in constant competition to see who can visit the most countries — they are currently tied at 35.

Their 6-year-old daughter, Jordana, has already been to 12 countries.

"I've only lost one tooth at home," Jordana said. "My favorite trip was to Hungary. Mom and Dad let me jump in mud puddles while they did a wine-tasting."

When driving home from Jordana's cheerleading practice, Roet had an idea.

"Let's go get Mommy from home, and we'll eat some pho from our favorite Vietnamese restaurant," Roet said. "It will make us all feel much better."

Roet drives across Fort Worth to the corner of Belknap and Beach streets to Pho Nam. He places three orders of a noodle dish.

Jeanette shares her meal with Jordana, who anxiously digs in. After she is finished, Jordana regains her energy and asks to take a trip to the Vietnamese supermarket across the street.

"Look Jordana," Jeanette said. "Pig stomach, ears and heart!"

"Over here," Roet said. "I found some ducks! I think we should get one that doesn't still have its head."

The family sweeps through the store, finding items to take home with them. Roet purchases a frozen duck, a two-toned colander, a bag of mushrooms and four plates.

"Now we've had our field trip for the day," Roet said. "We visited another country without ever leaving town."

"Travel is a personal journey," he said. "In India at 19, I started to become the person I am today.

With travel, you grow, and you also see how people find the right answer for them.

You begin to see the shades of gray instead of just black and white."

Taco Bell E. coli scare opportunity, exec says

By NANCY LUNA
The Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. — At a recent investor conference, an executive tied to Irvine, Calif.-based Taco Bell described the company's brush with E. coli as an "opportunity" to develop better farm safety procedures.

"Opportunity" may not be the word of choice for 71 of its customers who last year got sick on Taco Bell food.

Still, the idea has merit. The widely publicized E. coli poisonings connected to Taco Bell, along with recent high-profile outbreaks connected to other companies, is prompting grocers and restaurants to re-examine their food safety procedures.

"The best way to avoid the carnage of a train wreck is to do everything you can do make sure the wreck never happens," said Steve Lash, director of supply chain management for El Pollo Loco in Irvine.

To help shed light on food safety, El Pollo Loco let The Orange County Register observe its produce-safety procedures — a system of random audits, lab tests and field inspections conducted from field-to-fork. Food safety experts say the chain's system is among the toughest in the industry.

"They're proactive in every way, from the plant facility all the way down to the field," said Brian Mansfield, of Primus Labs, a food-safety auditor whose clients include El Pollo Loco, Albertsons, Safeway and Carl's Jr.

At El Pollo Loco, food-safety testing starts at the farm.

The chain insists that its produce suppliers, about 10 companies, conduct about six lab tests before the raw vegetables are packed and shipped to restaurants. Such downstream protocols have been standard practice at the company for eight years.

Since expanding from Mexico to United States in 1980, El Pollo Loco says it can't recall a produce

related outbreak tied to its restaurants. Produce accounts for about 56 percent of the chain's menu.

To protect customers, and its reputation, El Pollo Loco doesn't rely solely on safety reports. Instead, chain leaders follow a seeing-is-believing approach.

"We'll actually roll up our pants and go out to the fields," said Yvonne Mackay, El Pollo Loco's quality-assurance director.

Mackay's three managers, as well as third-party auditors hired by the chain, probe farms and produce plants several times a year. Over the past three years, 11 produce fields have been inspected, Mackay said.

In the field, El Pollo Loco reviews everything from worker hygiene to field restroom sanitation to adjacent land use. The latter check is considered critical, as feces from nearby animal farms can contaminate the ground, as was the case last year when more than 200 people became ill from E. coli tainted spinach.

By trudging through fields and packing plants, Mackay said her company is "plugged into every point of the supply chain."

From the farm, checks move to the chain's independent produce suppliers, inspected twice yearly.

"We're not known for being easy," said supply chain director Lash.

One of those suppliers is Los Angeles Salad, a City of Industry plant that cranks out 500,000



Employees inspect bunches of romaine lettuce coming into the processing line Feb. 26 at Los Angeles Salad Co. in City of Industry, Calif. Random samples are taken at least twice to ensure product quality.

pounds of produce a week. Some of its products include Trader Joe's brand bagged butternut squash and the chopped iceberg and romaine lettuce served in El Pollo Loco salads.

During a recent tour of the 25,000-square foot plant, The Orange County Register observed the journey of a bin of romaine lettuce, which lasts about the amount of time most people take a shower.

When lettuce arrives at the plant, workers pluck pieces from different 800-pound bins to get an 8-ounce composite sample. Each sample is sealed in a sterile container and sent to an in-house lab for analysis.

Random samples are taken at least two times as the lettuce makes its way through the plant.

The second sampling occurs when employees — wearing shower caps, lab coats and sterile gloves — inspect the lettuce as it rumbles on a conveyor belt. The lettuce then is chopped and bathed in a chilled chlorinated wash. Even the wash itself is tested every 30 minutes to ensure it meets industry stan-

dards, said Robert Maldonado, Los Angeles Salad's quality assurance manager.

After the washing, lettuce is spun dry and placed into a 2 1/2-pound vacuum sealed bag — at which point more samples are taken for testing. In the lab, incubation tests can detect pathogens after nine hours — enough time to trace and pull any bad batch before it hits El Pollo Loco restaurants 48 hours later.

Fast food rivals describe such testing as gold standard.

This is "what the future will be like," said David Theno, senior vice president of quality and logistics at San Diego-based Jack in the Box.

In the 1990s, Theno instituted pathogen testing of "finished" burger patties at Jack in the Box in the wake of E. coli deaths that rocked the beef industry. Back then, restaurant chains pushed to increase lab analysis as a way to reduce E. coli illnesses.

Overall, E. coli cases have fallen since the mid-1990s, coinciding with the tighter scrutiny of the beef and poultry sector, federal health officials say.

Woman dies in Gaza accident; parents honor death with play

By CHRISTIAN HILL
McClatchy Newspapers

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Cindy Corrie never imagined losing one of her children, nor did she believe she would survive such a loss.

Then, on March 16, 2003, the unthinkable happened. Her 23-year-old daughter, Rachel, was crushed beneath an Israeli bulldozer as she stood defending the home of two Palestinian families in Rafah, Gaza.

Cindy, 59, and her husband, Craig, made up their minds then to keep their daughter's words and message alive, despite their loss.

"In fact, within the hour, we did start making decisions," Cindy Corrie said. "One was because Rachel's words (in diaries and e-mails) had had such an impact on us, that those words needed to be available to people. She had worked on that. That was something she wanted to see happen."

Rachel Corrie's voice can still be heard four years after her death, with last week's opening of the controversial play "My Name is Rachel Corrie" in Seattle.

And her voice continues to resonate, in her hometown of Olympia, Wash., and elsewhere.

For some, it's a message of peace, a calling for nonviolent protest to right what's wrong in the world.

For others, it's a sad tale of a misguided youth who paid for her naivete about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with her life. Still others associate Corrie with the Palestinian extremists working to destroy the Jewish state.

It may be too soon to consider Corrie's legacy, but her death affected a lot of people in ways they are still dealing with.

At the time of her death, Corrie's parents were enjoying their newfound life as empty-nesters by traveling and hiking. Then, virtually overnight, they became the public face for many Americans of a bitter struggle in the world's geopolitical hot spot. Corrie died a few days before the commencement of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

After Rachel's death, her message of peace became theirs when Craig and Cindy visited Gaza.

Her parents started the Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace and Justice to fight oppression and advance human rights. The nonprofit foundation moved from the Corrie home to the third-floor of a downtown Olympia office building in December. The foundation listed its net assets as \$23,573 at the end of 2005, according to its IRS return.

The Corries were invited to 40 talks last year, and still are overwhelmed by the public response.

"Right from the beginning, we were awestruck by some of the very personal responses from different places right after Rachel was killed, and it continues," said Craig Corrie, 60.

The Corries continue to lobby for a U.S. investigation into their daughter's death. An

inquiry by the Israeli military cleared its forces of any wrongdoing.

The Israeli report characterized as "illegal, irresponsible and dangerous" the behavior exhibited by Corrie and other members of the International Solidarity Movement, which describes itself on its Web site as a "Palestinian-led movement committed to resisting the Israeli occupation ... using nonviolent, direct-action methods." The report said the bulldozer was clearing land to search for explosives and not to demolish the Palestinian home, although eyewitnesses dispute that claim.

The Corries contend that the Israeli inquiry was anything but the "thorough, credible and transparent investigation" that former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon promised President Bush.

The Israel Defense Forces did not respond to an e-mail seeking comment.

A resolution sponsored by U.S. Rep. Brian Baird, D-Wash., calling for a U.S. investigation into Corrie's death never advanced out of committee, and Baird acknowledged there's little chance of its being successfully resurrected given the U.S. government's ardent support for Israel.

The Corries sued Caterpillar, the manufacturer of the armored D9 bulldozer that ran over their daughter, for compensatory and punitive damages. They allege the company "was aiding and abetting violations of international law by providing the IDF with the bulldozers used to destroy (Palestinian) homes."

The U.S. District Court in Seattle dismissed the lawsuit in November 2005, but the Corries appealed the decision to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. The appeal awaits oral argument.

Members of the International Solidarity Movement were forced to leave Gaza although they continue to support the Palestinians. Israel changed its entry requirements so those entering must declare they have no association with the International Solidarity Movement or any other group that aims to disrupt Israeli military operations. The change occurred after the death of Corrie and Tom Hurndall, another International Solidarity Movement volunteer, who was fatally shot by an Israeli soldier.



STEVEN HERPICH / MCT
Craig and Cynthia Corrie discuss their daughter at the couple's new Rachel Corrie Foundation offices Monday in downtown Olympia, Wash.

Lawyer questions attorney general's bank-fraud intervention

By BARBARA BARRETT
McClatchy Newspapers

RALEIGH, N.C. — Four years ago, in Asheville, N.C., a lawyer filed a document saying the U.S. attorney general had intervened in a local bank-fraud case and prevented investigators from questioning one of Congress' most powerful members, Rep. Charles Taylor.

As Washington swirls with allegations that the Justice Department and White House intervened in federal prosecutions across the country, a review shows U.S. attorneys in North Carolina have gone after Democrats — and a few Republicans, too — during the Bush administration.

But many in the western part of the state recall a particular case a few years back that was handled quietly in the North Carolina mountains, when a pair of lawyers thought that

Taylor, a North Carolina Republican, ought to be questioned over a loan-fraud case that involved the bank he owns.

"Essentially the question is, 'Why was he not interrogated? Why was he not interviewed?'" asked Forrest A. Ferrell, the lawyer who leveled the charges in 2003. "He knew about it all and should've at least been interrogated about it."

Ferrell still believes that John Ashcroft, who was then the attorney general, or other top officials prevented the interrogation of Taylor. But he wouldn't go into further details last week.

When the allegations surfaced in 2003, the Justice Department didn't comment about whether Ashcroft or his aides blocked an investigation of Taylor. The Justice Department and Taylor couldn't be reached for com-

ment Tuesday, and an assistant at Ashcroft's Washington consulting firm said he'd have no comment.

In the Taylor case, Ferrell represented a local lawyer caught up in a bank-fraud scandal earlier in the decade.

The man, Thomas Jones, was convicted of trying to defraud the Blue Ridge Savings Bank of Asheville, N.C., with bad loans. Taylor, who was then the congressman for the region, owned the bank.

Trial testimony, along with FBI interviews were introduced as evidence, raised questions about Taylor as well. Jones and other defendants testified that Taylor knew about and even encouraged the fraudulent loans.

At the time, Taylor held one of the most powerful posts in Congress, serving as chairman of an Appropriations Committee subcommittee. Although his subcommittee didn't have jurisdiction over the Justice Department, he held powerful sway in funding matters.

In Asheville, investigators never

interrogated Taylor.

Ferrell contends that someone in Washington — either Ashcroft or his subordinates — intervened.

"My information was that the U.S. attorney general in D.C. prohibited the U.S. Attorney's Office in North Carolina from interrogating Charles Taylor," Ferrell recalled last week. He'd give no other details.

"My information was confidential," he said.

Ferrell filed a motion, requesting an investigation into prosecutorial misconduct.

The U.S. attorney for the Western District of North Carolina at the time, Robert J. Conrad Jr., filed a vigorous response, saying the claims of interference weren't true.

"The premise of the defendant's motion is simply wrong," Conrad wrote.

He said Ferrell had no concrete information to back up his claims.

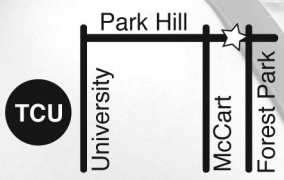
Nothing came of the motion. Jones was caught in a separate embezzlement charge, and Ferrell withdrew from representing him.

Free Bleaching



Inquire about free bleaching for the month of March and April. Please bring this ad.

Park Hill Dental Building
Dr. Erin Duyen Tran, DMD.
2417 Park Hill Drive, Ste. B
Fort Worth, TX 76110
817.921.2900



Circle Cleaners

VISA 3450 Bluebonnet Circle
MasterCard 923-4161 DISCOVER

SAME DAY SERVICE
in by 10am -
out by 5 pm

professional dry cleaning
minor repairs free
leather cleaning • bulk cleaning
expert alterations
charge accounts

\$5 off

any \$12
DRY CLEANING ORDER
with coupon - one per visit

\$3 off

any \$7
DRY CLEANING ORDER
with coupon - one per visit

MOVIE TRADING COMPANY

BUY

SELL

TRADE

Movies, Video Games, CDs and More

25%

Off Any Single Used Item
With Coupon

4604 Southwest Loop 820 • 817.731.6659
5 minutes from TCU campus



ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The Horned Frogs are on the road this week against the BYU Cougars in the second conference baseball series of the season.
TOMORROW

Freshman golfer swings big in Puerto Rico



Courtesy of VALENTINE DERREY
 Freshman Valentine Derrey follows through on a shot from the fairway in a round. Derrey won the Lady Puerto Rico Classic last month in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.

By ALEX ZOBEL
 Staff Reporter

In Mountain West Conference women's golf, February was the month of Valentine.

And no, the MWC wasn't giving heart-shaped cards to all the women's golfers, but they did give the Golfer of the Month Award to TCU freshman Valentine Derrey.

In her second ever collegiate tournament, the 19-year-old won the Lady Puerto Rico Classic in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico last month.

The field included 10 of the top-50 players in the country including the nation's top-ranked player, Georgia's Taylor Leon, who Derrey beat by two strokes.

Derrey shot a 1-over-par 257 which put her in a five-way tie for first. She shared medalist honors with Georgia's Alina Lee, Alabama's Jenny Suh, Oklahoma State's Pernilla Lindberg and Auburn's Mariana Macias.

Derrey finished the first round of the tournament two shots ahead of the entire field, shooting a 5-under-par 67. She took just 32 strokes to complete the back nine that day, tying a TCU record set by former All-American Brooke Tull in 2004.

The last time a TCU freshman won a tournament was when Angela Stanford won the Texas A&M Monica Walsh Memorial Tournament a decade ago.

According to the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings, Stanford is now ranked No. 66 on the Ladies Professional Golf tour, coincidental to Derrey's current No. 66 ranking by Golfstat.

Derrey's golf game is char-

acterized by her ability to hit the ball long and straight, said senior Camille Blackberry, teammate of Derrey.

"She hits it hard and straight every time," Blackberry said. "That's extremely important on harder courses that are tough to navigate."

Head coach Angie Ravaoli-Larkin said that in addition to her great ball striking ability, Derrey's best attribute on the course is her intensity.

"It's the intangibles. Her intensity and focus probably make her better than anything else," Ravaoli-Larkin said. "I very rarely find someone that is as intense as I am out there, but she gives me a run for my money."

Chipping is what she needs to work on, Ravaoli-Larkin said.

"My long game and my putting are where I can save strokes," Derrey said. "I need more accuracy when I am chipping."

Derrey said she would like to pursue a professional golf career but doesn't know if she will be able to.

Ravaoli-Larkin said there is no doubt in her mind that Derrey could play professionally.

"It's not a question of whether or not she can do it," Ravaoli-Larkin said. "It's a matter of when."

"I very rarely find someone that is as intense as I am out there, but she gives me a run for my money."

Angie Ravaoli-Larkin

Head coach

Blackberry agreed with Ravaoli-Larkin.

"Valentine definitely has the potential to play in the LPGA," Blackberry said. "She's got the drive, determination and focus that it takes to compete at that level."

Ravaoli-Larkin said she knew Derrey was a world class player when she came to TCU, but that she was surprised at how quickly she adjusted to playing at the college level and being in a different culture.

Derrey lived in Caracas, Venezuela for five years before moving to Paris in 1993.

"International players have so much more to deal with," Ravaoli-Larkin said. "Adjusting to college is hard enough with studying and practicing, but she also had to adjust to a whole new culture."

Derrey said she hasn't had any problems adapting to her new life in Fort Worth, and her teammates said they are impressed with the progress she's made.

"Language was probably her biggest barrier at first," Blackberry said. "Her English has improved so much since we first met. She picked it up so fast I don't think it will be a problem."

Derrey, a business major, is

trilingual, speaking French, Spanish and English fluently.

She's also no stranger to success.

Before coming to TCU, Derrey won the 2005 Junior French Championship for players under 18. She was a runner-up at the 2004 and 2005 French Team Championships as well as at the 2005 Duke of York Tournament. She finished second at the 2004 British Girls Open Amateur Championship and has been a part of French National teams since 2001.

Derrey has been playing golf since she was eight. She grew up golfing with her parents and siblings.

Derrey's older sister Stephanie, 20, plays golf for North Carolina State.

The future of the women's golf program at TCU looks promising. Not only have they gotten off to a solid start this season, but the play from their freshman has been outstanding.

Thanks to their fourth-place finish in their first match at the Central District Invitational in Parrish, Fla., their sixth-place finish in Puerto Rico, second-place finishes at the SunTrust Lady Gator Invite and the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational, the team is currently ranked No. 27 in the nation according to the latest Golfstat poll.

Keep your eye on TCU women's golf this season. With the impact that Derrey has made on the team so far this season, they should be a powerhouse in the MWC.



MESQUITE
P O L I C E
D E P A R T M E N T
WWW.MESQUITEPOLICE.ORG

NOW HIRING...BUT ONLY THE BEST

• **POLICE OFFICER**
 \$48,744/YR START, \$62,196/YR AFTER 5 YEARS

• **DETENTION OFFICER**
 \$13.94/HR START, ADDITIONAL MERIT INCREASES

• **PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER**
 \$14.00/HR START, \$15.75/HR AFTER 9 MONTHS

