

FEATURES | Coming tomorrow
PIXEL REVOLT
 The Skiff looks at the music and photography of Austin musician John Vanderslice.



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JACKED IN
 Cell phones, iPods and the Internet have become standard issue for TCU students. Is it possible to for them to survive without electronics?

TCU DAILY SKIFF

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BRIAN PETERS / Photographer
 After serving as representative for the AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Student Government Association his first semester, Thomas Pressley, a freshman political science major, is now the speaker of the House of Representatives.

Official: Freshman showing skill

By KATHLEEN THURBER
 Staff Reporter

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m. many students can be found wandering The Main or the University Recreation Center, but each week one freshman sits, with gavel in hand, preparing to lead the Student House of Representatives meeting.

Thomas Pressley, speaker of the House in the Student Government Association, said that after serving his first semester as a representative for the AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences, he was looking to get more involved in SGA in the future — but not necessarily right away.

However, he said, when the position of speaker of the House opened in January after John

Campbell resigned for personal reasons, he decided to apply.

"It was nice to see that doors do open, and I can get more involved," said Pressley, a freshman political science major.

Jace Thompson, vice president of SGA, said the position was created with the new student body constitution last semester.

Though Thompson said in the future this position will likely be held by an upperclassman, Pressley has proven himself a qualified leader, and his classification with the university has not been an issue.

"He'll step up when it's needed and knows how to be an effective leader by earning respect, not demanding it," Thompson said.

As speaker of the house, Pressley is responsible for running and creating agendas for the House and House Executive meetings, for sending House e-mails, ensuring that bills are relevant to the student body and meeting with the SGA adviser each week to discuss long-term goals and issues that have come up in the House.

These responsibilities previously fell under the vice president, something Pressley said last semester appeared to be a tremendous workload.

"I can't imagine having this position and Jace's and being able to carry an academic load," Pressley said, adding that he and Thompson usually work more than 10 hours in the SGA office

each week.

As a president for the Youth and Government Senate in Louisiana during high school, Pressley said, he felt he was capable of handling the position.

The Youth and Government Senate is a weekend conference where students write and debate bills relevant to current issues, he said.

Pressley said he was in charge of setting the docket and managing the debates, an experience he said taught him parliamentary procedure and helped him to realize he was capable of leading other students.

Jason Ratigan, academic affairs chairman, said he was initial-

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Bush backs Iraq growth to questions

By TOM RAUM
 Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Beginning the fourth year of an unpopular war, President Bush defended his Iraq record Monday against skeptical questioning. He said he could "understand people being disheartened" but appealed to Americans to look beyond the bloodshed and see signs of progress.

Bush fielded questions for nearly an hour at the City Club, a forum known for its tough interrogations of world leaders. Not only was he grilled on Iraq, but he also was asked to justify his warrantless wiretapping program, U.S. relations with Pakistan and his domestic priorities.

The president was asked why he deemed Iraq — which turned out not to have weapons of mass destruction — as enough of a threat three years ago to launch an invasion, in contrast to nuclear-ambitious Iran today.

"One difference was that, in Iraq, there was a series of unanimous (U.N. Security Council) resolutions that basically held the Iraqi government to account, which Saddam Hussein ignored," Bush said. Still, he said Iran was a concern, on the question of nuclear weapons and on its role in Iraq.

The White House has accused Iran of meddling in Iraqi politics and of supporting armed militias in Iraq by sending men and weapons, including components for increasingly lethal roadside bombs. Iran and the United States have agreed to talk about Iraq, but Bush said, "It's very important, however, for the Iranians to understand that the discussion is limited to Iraq. We feel like they need to know our position."

As the president delivered the latest installment in an upbeat defense of his Iraq policy, opponents used the day after the third anniversary of the invasion to step up their criticism.

Three potential 2008 presidential candidates — Democratic Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson and Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska — offered critical assessments at the International Association of Firefighters' legislative conference in Washington.

Biden said it was time for Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to "be told to go home" and for Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff "be given his walking papers."

Richardson said U.S. involvement in Iraq had been "badly mismanaged"

See BUSH, page 2



BRANDON WADE / KRT Campus
 Members of a swift-water rescue team take Ed and Tricia Gutierrez to safety after floodwaters hit their home in Arlington on Sunday. Despite the much-needed rain, the area drought continues, weather officials say.

NOT ENOUGH

Rain fails to end area drought

By BRE'ANNA EMMITT
 Staff Reporter

Despite the drenching storm that barreled through much of Texas this weekend, the region still remains in a drought, officials say.

Stacie Hanes, meteorologist for the National Weather Service, said Fort Worth is ahead in rainfall for 2006, but it has not been enough to cancel out last year's deficit.

"Normally, we see about 6 inches of rain through March 20, but this year we have already seen over 10 inches," Hanes said. "So we are ahead of schedule for the year, but we still aren't caught up."

Hanes said last year only brought in about 18 of the 34 inches expected in

Fort Worth annually.

"We only got about half of the rain we were supposed to get last year," Hanes said. "This rain definitely helped put a sizeable dent in things, but we obviously need more to get out of the drought."

Hanes said before this weekend, Fort Worth was in a deficit of about 16 inches and still needs another 11-12 inches to recover from last year's dryness.

The rain also may temporarily help the wildfire conditions, though fires could still break out.

"Even though we've had all this rain, the humidity levels in Tarrant County are unusually low and the grass is still dead," said Lt. Steve Creed of the Fort

See FLOOD, page 2

Changes pending in sushi options

By MICHAEL DODD
 Staff Reporter

TCU Dining Services is planning to change how sushi will be offered on campus throughout the remainder of the semester and into following years.

"In fall, we are going to renovate the Far East section of The Main, and sushi will be the premier offering," said Legia Aboto, district marketing manager for Sodexho, the food management company with which TCU has a contract.

The major question is whether to continue offering the pre-packaged units or change to a made-to-order style of sales, said Rick Flores, general manager for Sodexho.

There are plans to have select nights, most likely in the middle of the week, when sushi can be made to order up front in Far East in order to acclimate the workers to the provided area and see what can be done with it, Flores said.

"It will be cool to allow students to call out their orders



MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE / Photographer
 The Far East Fusion counter in The Main now features a new addition of freshly prepared sushi adding to its menu.

and have the sushi rolled right in front of them," Flores said.

In the week before spring break, The Main offered sushi every day and averaged a daily sale of 230 units, Flores said. Prior to it being offered in The Main, sushi had been sold in Frog Bytes where it had been averaging about 100 units per day.

"We do not know whether it was The Main or the fact that it is now known to be prepared

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Frog Bytes searching for another pizza brand

By MICHAEL DODD
 Staff Reporter

Frog Bytes may soon be getting a major face-lift with the departure of the Pizza Hut brand and the welcoming of another.

Changes could begin as early as the end of the semester, said Rick Flores, general manager for Sodexho Campus Services.

"We're in the fact-gathering stage to find a new brand to fill that space," Flores said.

Flores said TCU Dining Services wants to offer students a wider variety.

"We are looking to have full-



BRIAN PETERS / Photographer
 A change is being considered in the pizza brand sold in Frog Bytes. Dining Services wants to give students an opportunity to order a whole pizza or pizza by the slice, which Pizza Hut is unwilling to do.

size pies and sell them either whole or by the slice," Flores said.

Pizza Hut is unwilling to make larger pizzas, said Legia Aboto, district marketing man-

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WEATHER
 TODAY: Sunny, 56/34
 TOMORROW: AM Clouds, 60/40
 THURSDAY: Cloudy, 53/35

FUN FACT
 After two Oklahoma men accidentally dialed 911, dispatchers were able to record four hours of the their plans to set fire to a car.
 — ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY'S HEADLINES
OPINION: Mind your "ain'ts" and "fixin' tos", page 3
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SPORTS: Lady Frogs still down one player, page 8

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PIZZA

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ager for Sodexho.

Although Flores said Pizza Hut's sales have been steady over the years, Aboto said Sodexho will look for a brand that will show a consistent increase in profits.

"It is used more as a default choice and not a destination," Aboto said.

As of right now, possible pricing changes are undetermined, Aboto said, and depend on the brand Sodexho decides to use.

Earlier this semester, Dining Services met with four

focus groups to discuss the Pizza Hut issue, Aboto said. They consisted of males and females and were separated into groups of freshmen, sophomores, resident assistants and the Student Government Association.

"Pizza Hut is hot or cold," Aboto said. "Students either like it or not."

Flores said the imminent move to the new Student Union also poses a problem, especially in regard to equipment needed, such as new pizza ovens.

"The question is whether we should make a large investment on something that may not be here in a year or

two," Flores said.

Although the plans are still being formulated, some students say they feel the possible changes could enhance pizza sales.

Sophomore biology major RyAnn Jeffery and senior biology major Amber Morse the changes should make it sell better by offering students more options.

Vanessa Vargas, a freshman accounting and finance major, said she eats the pizza offered now about once a week, and the proposed changes shouldn't make a huge difference.

"As long as it is pizza, people are going to buy it," Vargas said.

SGA

From page 1

ly nervous when he heard a freshman would be filling the speaker of the House position because the situation had potential to create problems among other representatives in the House because of Pressley's age.

However, Ratigan said, Pressley's restrained leadership style is appropriate for the House and has caused the situation to turn out well.

"He's got a good idea of what the House is doing and how to direct it," he said.

Ratigan said the addition of

this position has helped separate the House and Programming Council, allowing the House to better focus on accomplishing its goals.

Pressley said he plans to remain involved in SGA throughout his college career, and he said he would like to work on increasing student involvement.

He said one of the reasons he came to TCU was because of the friendliness of the campus, and he loves to see students get involved in SGA events and other organizations.

"Our students care about what's going on and that's nice to see," he said.

However, Pressley said, he would like to create more competitive elections in the future because this would show that students understand the importance and commitment that goes into each SGA position.

He said he understands that students do not want to sit in a meeting for two hours every Tuesday and that he is trying to run the House meetings more efficiently this semester.

Although the meetings and participating in SGA are a time commitment, Pressley said, seeing SGA activities help students makes it all worthwhile.



BRIAN PETERS / Photographer

An entire weekend of rain left standing water in front of the University Recreation Center Monday.

FLOOD

From page 1

Worth Fire Department. "And just because we had flood levels yesterday, it could very well dry out again to risk levels in just a couple of days."

Terry Schmidt, a conservation biologist for the Corps of

Engineers, said the rain has also helped local lakes recover from extremely low levels, although they still need more in order to reach normal elevation.

"At Benbrook Lake, we've come up about 3 feet since 5 a.m. on Sunday," Schmidt said. "Now we're just under 5 feet below normal and we expect to see it rise another foot or

so over the next day."

Fort Worth may be on its way, but Hanes said it is impossible to predict when the drought will end.

"Some droughts last for years on end, and we hope that isn't the case," Hanes said. "We're hoping for an active spring with some more good thunderstorms and a lot of rain."

SUSHI

From page 1

fresh that have led to the near doubled sales," Aboto said.

A change in sushi pricing for both the packages and made-to-order units is also under consideration.

"Anything made to order will cost more than prepackaged sushi since it will be a premium product," Aboto said.

Still, some students are unsure about eating the sushi

on campus.

Sophomore nursing major Amy Gilmore said although the one time she ate the on-campus sushi she got sick, she would most likely eat it again as long as she knew it was fresh.

Rachel Sauer, a sophomore entrepreneurial management major, said she only eats sushi when she knows it is made fresh.

"Being able to see that the sushi is made fresh is better than picking up a package that

you don't know when it was made," she said.

Junior marketing major Calli Corley said that although she is skeptical about cafeteria sushi, a specific place will make it both easier and more ideal for students.

Although Dining Services has been seriously considering these changes since the early part of the semester, for right now, the campus' sushi will continue to be rolled daily and prepackaged for sale in The Main.

BUSH

From page 1

by the administration."

Hagel, in an interview at the conference, said many of the predictions and promises made by the administration have fallen short, such as that oil revenues would pay for the war and the conflict would be short. He also pointed to Vice President Dick Cheney's assertion last May that the insurgency was in its "last throes."

"There's been a credibility erosion for three years," Hagel said.

On Capitol Hill, some Democrats said there had been progress in Iraq, as Bush asserted, but they said it was clouded by problems across the country. They said Bush had gone to war without enough troops.

"Some positive signs do not mitigate this administration's gross miscalculations and stunning incompetence in Iraq," said Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the No. 2 Democrat in the House.

Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said the "policies of the Bush administration and the civilian leadership of our military have

made America less safe and left Iraq on the precipice of all-out civil war."

Bush pointed to success in stabilizing an insurgent stronghold in Tal Afar, a northern Iraqi city of 200,000 near the Syrian border.

The White House made no attempt to screen either the audience or the questions, said spokesman Scott McClellan.

Cheney, attending a political fundraiser in Hanoverton, in northeast Ohio, also defended U.S. involvement in Iraq and said decisions on troop levels would be made without political consideration.

Redesign



TYLER COCHRAN / Photographer

Sophomore interior design major Maelen Richie displays an award presented to her from the TCU Police for the new design of TCU Police cruisers.

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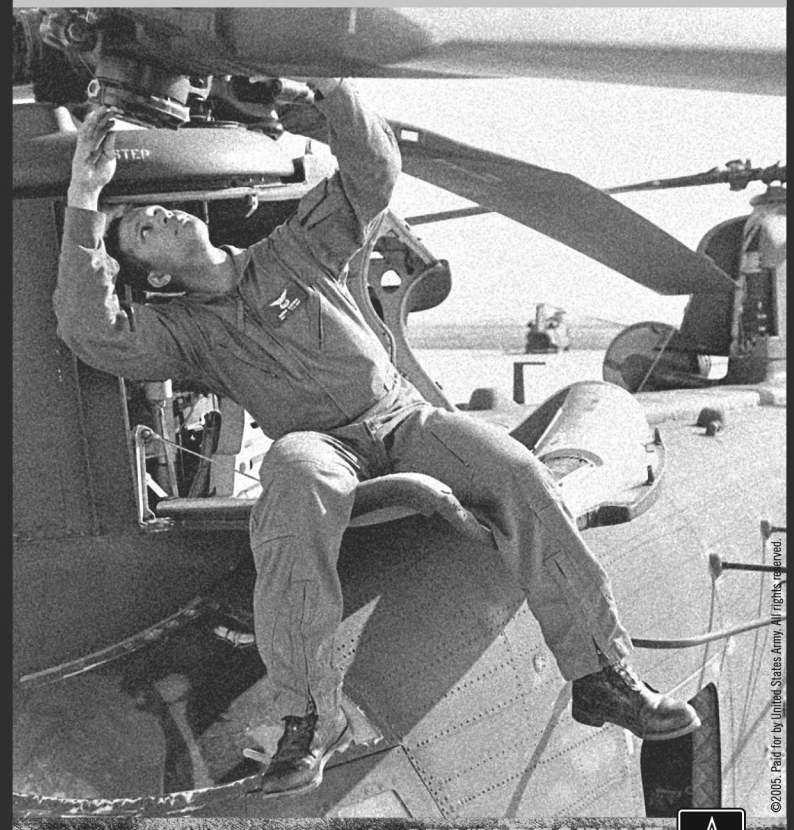
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DUE PROCESS DUE...

The Supreme Court refused to hear appeals for two Texas death row inmates, so both will receive new trials because they were denied attorneys, among other reasons.

—Associated Press

THE SKIFF VIEW

Prevention should be main issue

Everyone knows about the war on terror. Since the horrific events on that September morning nearly five years ago, our country has steadfastly battled the forces that made 9/11 possible. Almost 3,000 people died that day, and America responded.

Across the globe, millions of children are feeling a similar loss, but for a completely different reason — AIDS.

So then where is the war on disease? In a report released by Save the Children, a British charity that works to better the futures of children worldwide, 9 million African children have lost a mother to AIDS. Yet, the world has done little. Or at least not enough.

Charity leaders said existing donors must allot 12 percent of their donations toward the care of orphans — this, according to the report, would equal out to more than \$6 billion.

But which issue is more pressing: Prevention of the disease or care of the

countless children it has left orphaned? If wealthier nations agree to step up their efforts to help children who lose parents, the free fall of youth without mothers might be slowed — but not stopped.

The only real solution to the problem is to fight the disease at its roots, not its fringes. Though AIDS has historically been treatable but not curable, one of the biggest problems has not been caring for the sick, but detecting them. Because of the lack of proper testing facilities, many African adults are unaware they are sick until it is too late to do anything about it. Countries south of the Sahara Desert represent only 10 percent of the world's population but 60 percent of all people living with AIDS — yet there aren't enough testing facilities?

Perhaps that requested 12 percent would be better spent on the utilities necessary for timely detection, a resource that could not only help the children of today, but also the ones of tomorrow.

Sports editor Travis Stewart for the editorial board.

NEWSREAL • NICHOLAS SAMBALUK

LEAVE YOUR MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.
IF YOU'RE MEDIA OR THE PUBLIC, I NEVER TOOK STERIODS, AND
IF YOU'RE MY 'ROID DEALER, LEAVE THEM WITH MY BUTLER.



BARRY BONDS COVERS HIS BASES

Students should know, use proper language for success

Walking up the stairs in the Bass Building a few semesters ago, I overheard a conversation between two young women.

"That's so ironic," one of them said, turning to the other.

"Ironic?" the second girl asked, turning up her nose. "That's not a real word."

TCU students aren't the only ones who have a vocabulary problem.

One of my professors frequently discusses the "statue" of limitations on certain laws. My friends and I are in a heated debate over whether the "statue" is a stone sculpture or perhaps a nice copper.

Words are tools that, if properly employed, have tremendous weight. They can calm a friend or break a heart. They can set your résumé or term paper apart from the pack. Every time a word is misused, it loses some of its value as a precision instrument.

I understand that certain terms are characteristic of regional dialects. I've watched helplessly as "y'all" and "fix-in' to" have sneaked past my defenses and infiltrated my own speech. Some usage, however, is just plain wrong.

"Whatever" is not the proper response to any question or statement. Nor is its abbreviated, more annoying form, "whatev." "Womens" is not the plural of "woman."

All college students should know the proper conjugation of verbs like "to be," "to have," "to go" and "to do." Also, I may lose it if I ever hear the phrase "done gone" again. You

went to the bar Saturday night. You did not "done gone." If you're old enough to drink, you're old enough to know the difference.

The word "all" never has an "s" in it. "Alls you got to do," is not proper. Even less correct is the form I usually hear — "alls you gots to do."

A lot of the language I hear on campus is fine for casual conversation. However, the problem occurs when students use the same language with professors and employers that they use with friends in the hallways. Formal writing also has its own set of rules and requirements.

A university education is meant to prepare students for professional jobs. Improper grammar is not the way to make your point in a business proposal.

I am not saying that my speech is perfect. My conversations are peppered with fillers such as "like," "ummm," "errr," and my personal favorite, "weeeelllll." And although I don't speak the King's English all the time, I have a couple of superb grammar and usage books to consult when I need them. With the right tools — and after some practice — three-syllable words don't seem as scary.

My suggestion? Go to the bookstore and charge a dictionary and a thesaurus to send-home. If you don't own a decent writing manual, maybe throw in a copy of Strunk & White's "The Elements of Style," just for good measure. Your parents probably won't mind as much as they did when you spent \$30 on TCU flip-flops.

Lacey Krause is a senior periodical design major from Emporia, Kan.

Support troops despite politics

As I sat at my gate, a full two hours early eating a \$5 McDonalds chicken sandwich that tasted like grilled dust, I began to rant inside my head. Why does

COMMENTARY



Christina Ruffini

fly have to be so difficult? Why do I always seem to get sexually harassed by the security guy? Since when does fast food chicken facsimile

cost five bucks? I put in my headphones in an attempt to drown out my rage and prevent the voices in my head from overtaking me and inducing schizophrenia. I sat back in my blue plastic chair and stared straight ahead.

Across from me were two soldiers coming through security. When I say soldiers, I mean children in uniform. The girl looked like she was 14, and the boy should have been firing a football across his high school's end zone, not firing a weapon across enemy lines. They were both being shipped out.

While I stared at the teenagers on their way to defend our country, more and more uniforms entered the terminal.

Some of them were old; some of them were young. Some were with their wives; others were with their parents. A few were alone. They were different races, genders and ranks, but they all had two things in common — a

uniform and a mission.

As I sat completely mesmerized, a toddler in pink with pigtail ran across my feet and tripped. Before I could reach down to see if she was alright, a desert camo-clad colonel swept down and scooped her up in his arms. He walked his daughter back to their family and kissed her on the forehead. I couldn't help but wonder when he would be seeing her again.

An hour and a half later it was my turn to board the plane. The ever-enthusiastic ticket agent called my boarding group, and there was a mad dash toward the motionless line onto the gangway. Two passengers in front of me was a boy about my age in his dress uniform heading to Carson army base in Colorado Springs, Colo., then to Iraq.

"Are you on this plane?" the ticket agent asked.

"Yes, Ma'am," he replied with an enthusiasm that only a new recruit still has. The agent asked for his ticket and began typing something into her computer. Then she handed it back to him. He looked at his ticket, looked at the agent and then ran out of line toward his stoic family standing behind us.

"They put me in first class," he exclaimed with his mid-Texas twang. "I get to fly first class; how cool is that!" Each family member took their turn looking at the ticket and giving him one last hug. He was motioned to

the front of the line and all the passengers smiled at him as he gave one last wave, a salute and walked out of sight. The instant he could no longer see her, his mother broke down into tears.

I was proud of him when he got on that plane. We all were. As I walked past him in his leather clad first-class cabin, handing his coat to the flight attendant, I realized something.

It does not matter if you think George Bush is a gift from God or the harbinger of the Anti-Christ. I don't care if you think the war in Iraq is a monument to America's fostering of new democracies or the biggest foreign affairs disaster since the Bay of Pigs.

There is a line that must be drawn between supporting the war and supporting our troops. It is not an all or nothing proposition. These men and women do not create our country's policy — they enforce it. They leave their parents, wives, daughters and sons behind to go fight for our country. That alone should never be overlooked.

In the DFW terminal there is a sign that reads "To America's brave from America's proud, our hearts go with you."

So, to the men and women of the armed services: thank you. I don't support the war, but I support you. Whatever you do and wherever you go, my heart goes with you.

Christina Ruffini is a junior international communication major from Colorado Springs, Colo.

YOUR VIEW

Fair Trade Movement provides emphasis on quality of life

I am writing in response to the recent article and staff editorial published in the Daily Skiff about the fair trade movement here on campus and our recent involvement in United Students for Fair Trade's Justice at Jazzman's campaign. The insinuations that Jazzman's would be forced to shut down if it were to sell 100 percent Fair Trade Certified coffee are simply untrue and show a basic misconception about how Fair Trade Certification actually works. Since both Dr. Harvey and the staff editorial called for the need for more education, I will gladly begin that now.

First of all, I would like to dispel the nasty rumor that fair trade is nothing short of a death warrant for profitable businesses. If this were true, companies like McDonald's, Dunkin' Donuts and Exxon Mobile would not deal in the enormous amounts of Fair Trade Certified coffee that they

do. On the contrary, according to the Specialty Coffee Association of America, Fair Trade Certified coffee is the fastest growing segment of the U.S. specialty coffee market today. In 2004, the total revenue for fair trade coffee rose more than 77 percent, giving impoverished farmers an added \$26 million more than what they would receive through conventional trade according to 2005 Fair Trade Coffee Facts and Figures on TransfairUSA. Farmers achieve higher profit margins as a result of higher levels of efficiency, not necessarily because of higher prices. The fair trade supply chain cuts out extraneous intermediaries or "coyotes," shortening the gap between producer and consumer.

I will concede one point: Fair trade does establish an alternative to the conventional free market concept. Instead of placing ultimate value on profits, fair trade places the

ultimate value on human life and the quality thereof. In a world where "money doesn't buy happiness" and nearly 90 percent of U.S. citizens state that it is important for companies to not just be profitable, but to be mindful of their impact on the environment and society as well (Natural Marketing Institute), the fair trade movement and the Justice at Jazzman's campaign seem right on cue.

To end, I would just like to express my wish for the opinion columnists to do their research more carefully in the future, especially when it comes to on-campus leadership. I am not the president of Frogs for Fair Trade. That respectable position passed on to Ericka Strickland and Seth Harris months ago. I have taken a position within the national organization of USFT.

Rory Phillips, junior, United Students for Fair Trade Southwest Regional Coordinator.

YOUR VIEW

Nudism promotes acceptance without labels

The opinion piece on social nudism printed March 8 is right on. Social nudism is about body acceptance, the celebration of the natural environment and wholesome living. It helps us establish relationships based on who we are, not based on the class-laden distinctions of clothing and jewelry. We have no idea of how our clothes and jewelry label and pigeonhole us until you see people from the perspective of a nudist. Instead, we learn to value and deal with people based on the kind of people they are, their attitudes and approaches to their work, their friends and their life.

Although the article maintained we don't need to become a nudist society, we could do worse. In nudist communities there is respect

for others, women are not seen as sex objects, people are held accountable for their behavior by their peers and children grow up with a more mature respect and awareness of the body instead of the post-Victorian prude/prurience conflict that leaves most teenagers in today's society agog and completely unprepared for how to deal with members of the opposite sex.

Social nudism promotes family values, celebrates the human body and promotes its acceptance. We celebrate the natural environment, and because naturists are so close to the environment, we work hard to preserve it. As the article suggests, try being nude a little more often. You may find what many of us have discovered — a

wonderful sense of freedom and alignment with the natural world. Try skinny-dipping sometime. You have? Then you already have a sense of how much better swimming is without being encumbered by a swim suit. Hot tub? Same thing. Sauna? Sauna treatments were never designed for clothing. And nude sunbathing? Nothing feels better than the soft morning sun as it warms you while a gentle breeze plays over your body.

The only thing I would take issue with in the March 8 article is that I see social nudity as sensual. Few experiences are more so, but it is not sexual. When people understand that, the fear starts to go away.

William J. Schroer of Battle Creek, Mich., is a member of the board for the Nudist Action Committee.

COURTNEY REESE
MIKE DWYER
ADRIENNE LANG
TRAVIS STEWART
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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.

Protestors demanding new election in Belarus

By MARIA DANILOVA
Associated Press

MINSK, Belarus — Thousands of opposition supporters gathered in the center of the Belarus' capital Monday for a second night, hoping their protest would help overturn a presidential election that the United States said was flawed by a "climate of fear."

Their numbers were smaller than on election night, and prospects for a Ukraine-style "Orange Revolution" seemed remote. But with overnight temperatures at 28 degrees Fahrenheit, protesters set up a dozen small tents and vowed to turn the demonstration into a round-the-clock presence.

The small but assertive move could rally others to the cause. But it could also prove unacceptable to authorities. Officials put on a show of force, with busloads of riot police fanning out into nearby streets and courtyards and preventing people from approaching the main square.

Police had only a small and unobtrusive presence at the protest the previous night, when an estimated 10,000 people braved the freezing cold and snow to register their outrage after authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko was declared the overwhelming winner of Sunday's elections.

Lukashenko asserted Monday that his foes had failed to topple him in a foreign-backed "revolution."

International observers said the vote fell short of democratic standards. Europe's main human rights organization said it was a "farce," and the

United States called for a new election. Lukashenko's main opponent refused to accept the outcome, calling the longtime leader an "illegal, illegitimate president."

However, the leverage of the international community seemed limited, and even many of the protesters appeared to have little appetite for a prolonged vigil and a possibly violent confrontation.

The election result, if it stands, would entrench the status of Belarus as one of the least independent of the former Soviet republics.

Some 5,000 gathered in Oktyabrskaya Square in the capital, about half the number that came out Sunday night for a protest whose size was extraordinary in a tightly controlled country where police have cracked down swiftly on unsanctioned opposition gatherings.

The diminished crowd suggested to many that the opposition was losing momentum. "There aren't enough people" a young man hollered into a cell phone amid the din of the rally.

But Alexander Milinkevich, the main opposition presidential candidate and symbolic heart of the protests, called on the demonstrators to gird for a lengthy campaign. He is demanding an election rerun.

"Our protest will be long and strong," he vowed. "We will never recognize this election. It's not an election but an anti-constitutional seizure of power."

The crowd thinned as hours passed, but many shared a

determination to go to the bitter end.

"We plan to stay here overnight and to stay until the moment when the vote is pronounced falsified, when the authorities admit this and a new election is announced," said a 21-year-old student who gave his name only as Alexander, one of a dozen people sitting among the tents.

A few tents "may not change much, but if people lose their fear they will join us," he said.

Milinkevich visited the growing makeshift tent camp, taking sips of tea from a cup he was offered and saying: "We're together."

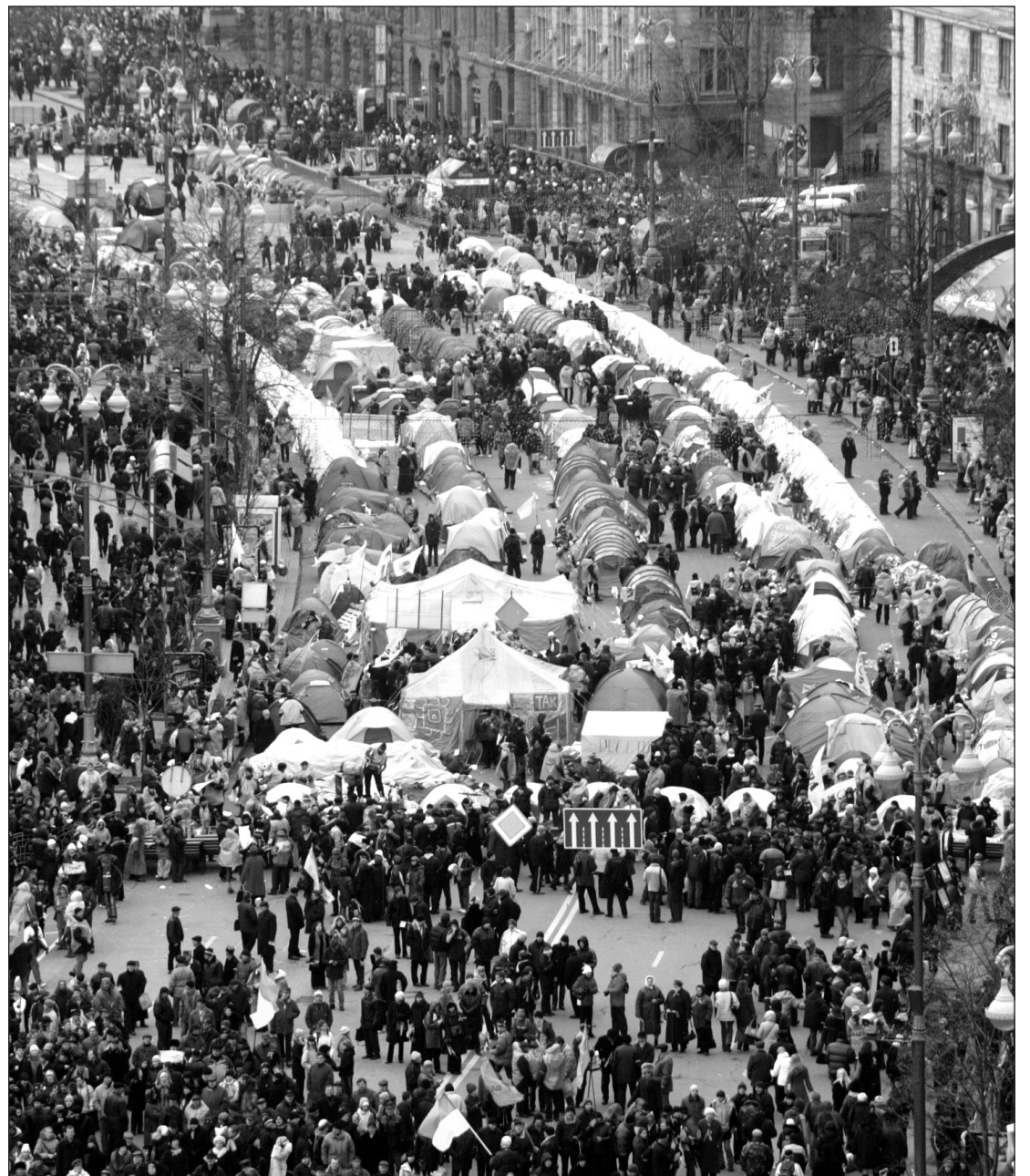
As the rally was about to begin, busloads of riot police streamed into Karl Marx Street near the square. Security forces in helmets and camouflage uniforms disembarked from the buses, jogged into neighborhood courtyards and prevented pedestrians from walking toward the square.

On the square, a 45-year-old woman who gave her name only as Irina said she was scared about the prospect of bloody police action, but "if Lukashenko stays in power, it will be even worse."

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the election was flawed by a "climate of fear," and hinted that penalties such as travel restrictions "are things we will look at."

"We support the call for a new election," McClellan said. "The United States will continue to stand with the people of Belarus."

A cheer went up from the crowd in the square when



EFREM LUKATSKY / Associated Press
Hundreds of tents and thousands of demonstrators are seen in the main street of the Ukrainian capital Kiev.

a speaker reported the U.S. statement.

By contrast, Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday congratulated Lukashenko in a telegram and said the results would help strengthen the alliance of the two former Soviet nations.

The chief electoral official said Monday that Lukashenko, who has ruled with an iron fist since 1994, won a "convincing victory" with 82.6 percent

of the votes — a number Milinkevich called "monstrously inflated."

Lukashenko scorned the opposition, saying voters had shown "who's the boss" in Belarus. "The revolution that was talked about so much ... has failed," he told a nationally televised news conference.

He asserted that Sunday's protest leaders were in the pay of Western ambassadors and claimed there was no crack-

down because the opposition is weak.

"Who was there to fight with? Nobody, understand? That's why we gave them the opportunity to show themselves, even though it was illegal."

But the observer mission from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said Monday that the election did not meet standards for a free and fair vote.

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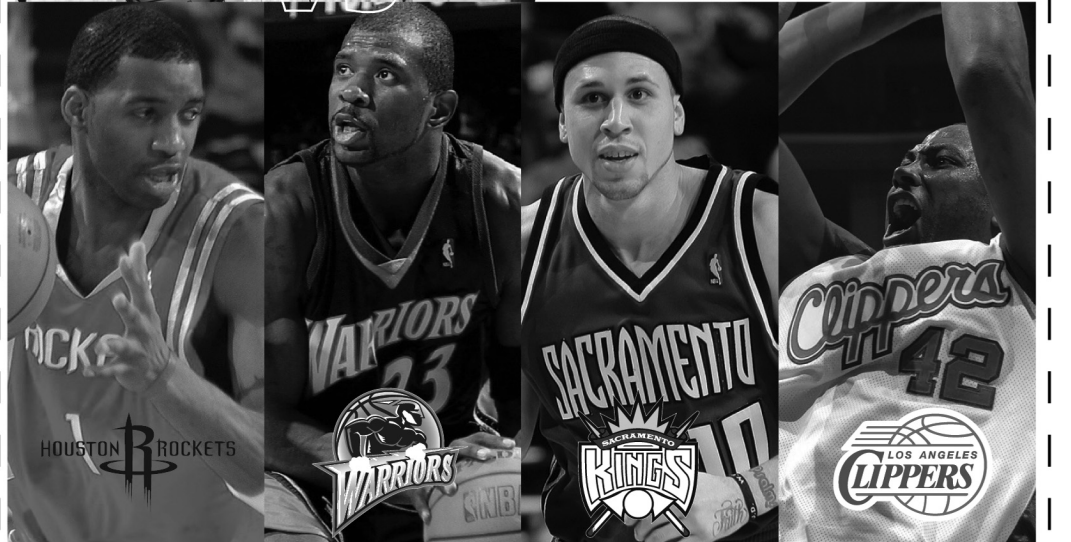
Dr. Pigliucci is a Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He has published numerous articles and books on evolution, genetics, and the philosophy of science.

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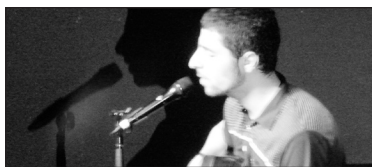
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WITHIN AUSTIN'S LIMITS

From Art BrutB to Islands, check out the latest unsigned bands to showcase this year at South By Southwest.

CUT OFF

Is there life without a cell phone?



APPLE

By KATIE MCMILLEN
Staff Reporter

For some students, it's a fate worse than death.

Just the thought of walking to class without a cell phone to talk on or an iPod to listen to makes a shiver run up their spines.

They get to class, and there is a computer staring them in the face. They can't surf the Internet or read junk e-mails.

Some may think, "Is this kind of life really worth living?"

Worth it or not, four TCU students did it for a day — and lived to tell the tale.

Relying on cell phones, the Internet, instant messenger, e-mails and even TV to communicate with others has become a staple — some say a necessity — for TCU students — and after four students took the challenge of going a day without these conveniences, most said they would not survive long-term at TCU without them.

"Now our life is made easier through the Internet and cell phones," said Ryan Thomas, a senior religion major. "Certain things you can go without for a certain period of time, but eventually you have to use it because things go by so fast."

He said TCU students have a lot they need to accomplish in relatively little time, and technological devices allow them to work more quickly.

Thomas had given up the Internet for this study when the university was closed Feb. 19.

"I had to walk over to see if the Rickel was open," Thomas said. "It's a five- to 10-minute walk, while it would take 30 seconds to look it up on the Internet."

Time was also an issue for senior modern dance major Amy Jo Berto when she gave up her cell phone — but in a different way.

"What was actually hardest was that I didn't have (my cell phone) with me to tell the time," Berto said. "It was hard that my phone was off, and I didn't have that luxury."

Berto said she usually talks on her cell phone as she walks to class and was able to appreciate her surroundings more without it.

"I didn't say, 'Oh my gosh, there's a tree there that I've never seen there before;' I'm not completely zoned out when I'm on the phone," Berto said. "I can still look at what is going on around me — I was just more aware without it."

Berto said living without her cell phone for the day would have been harder if she hadn't told those who call her regu-

larly they would not be able to reach her, but she did have a problem when a faculty member could not reach her to confirm a meeting the two had together that day.

"(My teacher) e-mailed me about it, but I hadn't e-mailed back," Berto said. "This caused her to worry. Lack of communication wasn't a problem until we couldn't communicate to fix it."

Krista Jennings, a sophomore ballet, modern dance and English major, said she had a problem being without her cell phone when she went to the Health Center for medical attention but could not call her mother to tell her.

"If it had been more serious, it probably would have been more of an issue," Jennings said. "It's easier if you live here. I couldn't use a land line to call my family without (it costing) lots of money."

Jennings said that with her family living in Georgia, her cell phone is an essential item for her to keep in touch.

Similarly, Berto is from Washington, and said she used calling cards to call home until she started dating someone from her home state and began calling back there more often.

"I only got my cell phone last year when I came back for junior year," Berto said. "It was mainly because I started dating Jon, and Mom realized we were probably going to spend a lot of money on calling cards."

Thomas said he remembers back in high school when it cost a lot more money to have a cell phone.

"In high school people had them, but it wasn't a necessity," Thomas said. "It used to be just who had the money for them, but now we need them in case of emergencies and to save time."

He said phones and calling plans are cheaper now, so more people can afford a cell phone. Since more people have them, students have become more dependent on them and now cannot function the as well without them, he said.

Without cell phones, the students participating in the experiment expressed frustration because they could not communicate with their friends to make plans.

"The only way I would have been able to get in touch with someone would be to see them on the way home — I wouldn't have seen anyone out that late," Jennings said, as she recounted her walk home from dance rehearsal at 10 p.m.

Berto and Jennings said TV was a form of communication that was easy to go without.



MORGUEFILE.COM

A cell phone attached to a TCU student's ear is a common sight on campus. In 2005, projected student spending on electronics, including cell phones and iPods, was \$8.2 billion.

Both, however, said they had experiences where they would have had to cut themselves out of communication with their peers who were watching a TV show in order to avoid the communications from advertisers.

Avoiding communication is exactly what an iPod allows students to do as they walk to class sporting little white plugs in their ears.

Jennings said she is less obsessive about her iPod now than when she first got it, but that she missed having it in the down times of her day.

Cameron Summers, a junior engineering major, was the only one of the four students who said the modes of communication TCU students use are not a necessity.

"It's definitely easier to be at TCU and have all this stuff, but you don't need it," Summers said.

He said he could not give up his cell phone for the experiment because his lifestyle depends on it, but Summers said if he had never had it, he could get along with using a land line, driving or walking to reach friends just the same.

"As many times as they wouldn't be able to get in touch with me on a land line they wouldn't be able to reach me when I couldn't answer my cell phone," Summers said.

Regardless of necessity, most college students are using com-

puters, cell phones and other means of technology to communicate, and they are paying big bucks to do so.

According to the National Retail Federation's 2005 Back-to-College Consumer Intentions and Actions Survey, college students or their parents were projected to spend \$8.2 billion on electronics, including cell phones, computers, laptops, organizers and calculators, as students headed back to college this year.

Although business may be booming for those who sell electronics, others are scrambling to keep up with the effects the gadgets are having on the way college students communicate.

The dependence on technology for communication is causing problems for marketers, said Robert Largen, an adjunct instructor in the Schieffer School of Journalism who also works in marketing.

Largen called today's college students "the gener@ion."

"They basically are a group that's continually online — they're always connected," Largen said.

He said the gener@ion is less predictable in its media habits and has caused a shift in control of communication from the marketers' hands to the consumers' hands since people can now consume information in many different



ways and on many different time schedules.

He said he studies the media habits of young people to find out how the group wants and needs to be communicated with, in order to launch effective marketing strategies for the demographic.

Largen said technology has made today's college students independent.

"They're dependent on the technology, but because it allows them to cast such a large net, they're not dependent on any one source — they can make their own choices," Largen said.

He compared giving up the modes of modern communication for a day to giving up speaking and hearing for a day.

"It's almost like going into solitary confinement," Largen said.

Although they did it for a day, the students involved in the experiment said going without their means of communication made life at TCU hard.

Years ago people might not have imagined a society so interconnected through technology, but now it's just a way of life.

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FAMOUS QUOTE

Some national parks have long waiting lists for camping reservations. When you have to wait a year to sleep next to a tree, something is wrong.

— George Carlin

TODAY IN HISTORY

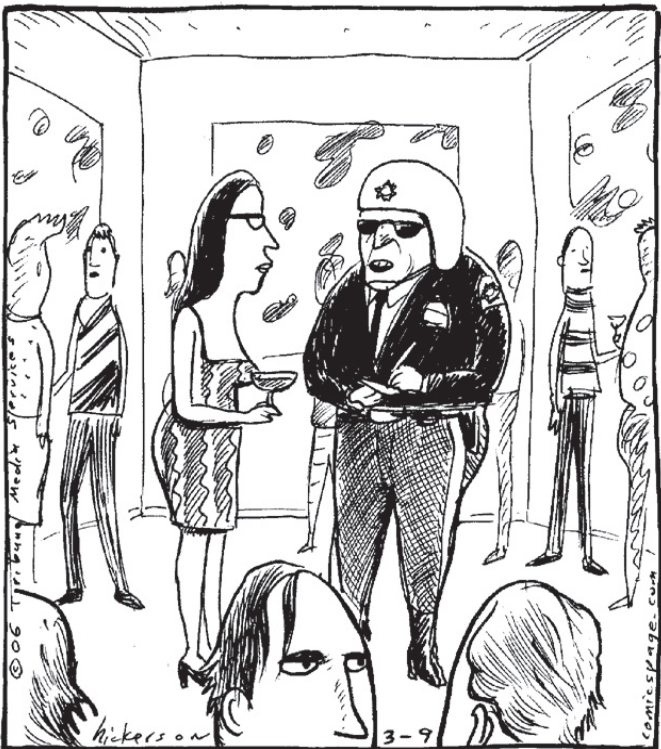
1965: 3,200 civil rights demonstrators, led by Martin Luther King Jr., marched from Selma, Alabama, to the State Capitol at Montgomery.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



"It's our son, doctor ... He's lost the will to leave."



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

Directions

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

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

Solutions From 3/10

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

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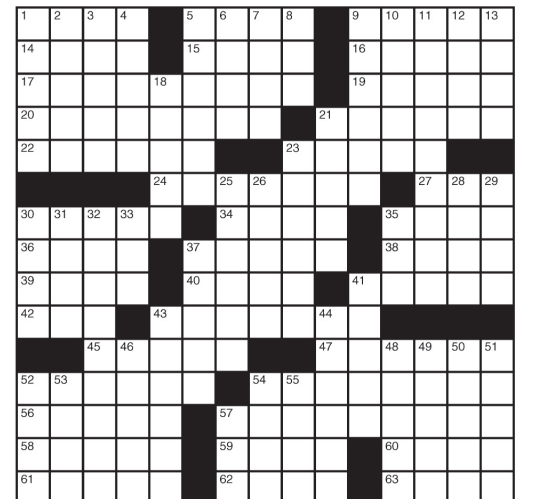
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ACROSS

- 1 Be in front
- 5 Melville's captain
- 9 Ferber and Best
- 14 Sax type
- 15 Cable
- 16 French pancake
- 17 Illinois stream?
- 19 Downgrade
- 20 Not connected
- 21 England's Seven Years' War acquisition
- 22 Royal residence
- 23 Bring brunch
- 24 Opens stoppages
- 27 Cipher code
- 30 On the wagon
- 34 Aesop's loser
- 35 Corset cord
- 36 Swabbie's wave
- 37 Gray wolves
- 38 Goes wrong
- 39 Like Nestor
- 40 Elvis Presley
- 41 Bunk
- 42 One off the wagon
- 43 Add water
- 45 Stackable snacks
- 47 Unbroken
- 52 Inhabitant of ancient Crete
- 54 Summit
- 56 John Jacob or Mary
- 57 Carolina smoked entree?
- 58 Takes by theft
- 59 mater
- 60 Stately display
- 61 Sound judgment
- 62 Dog tired
- 63 Fair



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY

3/21/06

Solutions From 3/10

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

- 37 Strike repeatedly
- 38 Mortician's vehicle
- 39 Guernsey or Anglesey
- 40 Whimper
- 41 "la Douce"
- 42 Pat lightly
- 43 Quahogs
- 44 Relative speed
- 45 Time and Life, briefly
- 46 Guernsey or Anglesey
- 47 Whimper
- 48 "la Douce"
- 49 Pat lightly

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

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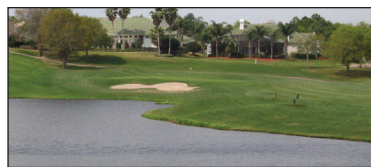
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TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Absence remains in guard rotation

By CARLOS QUALLS
Staff Reporter

Imagine being on a team going into battle with your leader in points, assists and rebounds absent.

That is the reality for the women's basketball team, as junior guard Natasha Lacy missed the teams' NCAA tournament first-round victory over Texas A&M and will again be absent tonight against No. 3 Rutgers in Trenton, N.J.

Team officials would not comment further on the matter other than comments made to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Lacy leads the team with averages of 14.4 points, 7.4 rebounds and 3.9 assists per game.

Although news of her not accompanying the team for its first-round tournament game was just made available this past weekend, she has not practiced with the team since its loss in the conference tournament to BYU on March 9.

Team officials say no comments were made regarding the matter because nothing was set in stone as to her availability for the tournament. Teammates and coaches were not aware she would not be accompanying them until Friday, the day the team left for Trenton.

Head coach Jeff Mittie dismissed the idea of team violations or legal



Junior guard Natasha Lacy attempts to drive around Utah sophomore Marie Warner during a January matchup between the Lady Frogs and Utes at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

issues and told the Star-Telegram it was personal matters that Lacy had to deal with. Team officials did say she is still a part of the team.

Mittie told the Star-Telegram that this was a situation that needed immediate attention.

Mittie also could not give a set date for Lacy's return but did say she could return if the team advances to the Sweet 16. He said the situation would be re-evaluated if the team advances that far.

"We will evaluate that next week," Mittie told the Star-Telegram. "That will be something that we will have to get back and see where we are at."

Sophomore guard Adrienne Ross said the team has no choice but to

adapt and come ready to play. She said the team has the same mentality as Lacy does as far as getting the ball up the court and that a lot of different players have the ability to play different positions.

One player who stepped up in Lacy's absence against A&M is close friend and sophomore guard Moneka Knight. She scored a career high 14 points and had a team high 6 assists.

Mittie told the Star-Telegram the team must continue to step up and make plays in Lacy's absence. He said this is the opportunity for somebody else to come in and make plays.

Tonight's game starts at 8:30 and will be aired on ESPN2.

BASKETBALL ADVANCE

Frogs to face Rutgers in second-round game

By CARLOS QUALLS
Staff Reporter

Two days after beating No. 6 seed Texas A&M, the No. 11 seed TCU Lady Frogs will attempt to beat their second consecutive higher-seeded opponent of the tournament when they play No. 3 seed Rutgers tonight.

The Frogs (19-11) relied on balanced scoring and fierce rebounding in their opening round victory against A&M.

Junior forward Ashley Davis led the way with a career night in both categories. She had 20 points, 12 rebounds and shot 4-of-7 from beyond the arc. Davis said in a press release from both TCU and Rutgers that the team will be ready for the challenge the Scarlet Knights (26-4) will bring.

"They are a great team," Davis said in the release. "We know they play very physical and rebounding will be a big thing we have to do. We are looking forward to playing the same game and playing aggressive and keeping them off the glass."

Along with keeping Rutgers off the glass, TCU will be forced to keep senior guard Cappie Pondexter out of the paint. Pondexter is averaging 21.5 points per game.

Davis said it will be no different from all the other great players the team has played this year.

"Cappie is one of the best players in the nation and she is definitely what keeps that team going," Davis said. "Just like any other game, we've faced great players all year. They also have other great players that could step up, so we can't just focus on one player."

Frogs head coach Jeff Mittie agreed



Sophomore Moneka Knight lands on Texas A&M's A'Quonesia Franklin during the second half of their first round game of the NCAA women's basketball tournament Sunday, in Trenton, N.J.

with Davis' comments on Rutgers' versatility.

"You start with Pondexter but you don't end there," Mittie said about Rutgers' talent level. "Campbell (Michelle) is a veteran in there, and defensively they can put a lot of pressure on you."

Much like Davis' comments regarding her earlier, Pondexter said this game will be no different from the others when it comes to the Frogs defending her and her teammates roles.

"I know I am the focal point of every team's defense," Pondexter said in the release. "We just have to have every player bring what they can. That's the bottom line."

Pondexter said she is paying no mind to the notion of TCU having something to prove as the underdog team tonight.

"Every team has something to prove now that it is March Madness," Pondexter said.

All quotes provided by TCU media relations.

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