

NEWS A boy receives a special gift from the Starpoint School. TOMORROW



OPINION Oklahoma legislator's rhetoric on gay's damages state's reputation. PAGE 3



SPORTS The men's tennis team heads

to Las Vegas where it will take on three teams in three days. PAGE 8

TCU AILY SKIF **THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008** Vol. 105 Issue 92 www.dailyskiff.com

Wright won't show in Dallas, cites security, 'media frenzy'

Bomb threat to Ill. church preceded move from campus

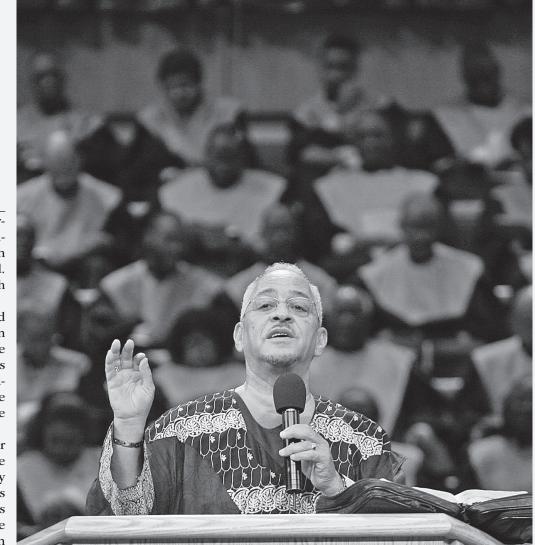
By ANDREW CHAVEZ Editor-in-Chief

Five days before TCU moved an appearance by the Rev. Jeremiah Wright off campus for safety reasons, his Chicago church received a bomb threat, Chicago police said. But TCU officials said that event didn't weigh on the decision to not host the pastor.

Wright, whose sound bites have stirred controversy after being aired repeatedly on national TV in past weeks, canceled three appearances in Dallas scheduled for this weekend. Two of those events were scheduled to be held on TCU's campus but were moved by the university March 19 because of security concerns.

The Rev. Rickey Hill, executive pastor at Friendship-West Baptist Church, where Wright was scheduled to appear Friday and Saturday, said Wright told the church's senior pastor he canceled the appearances because he didn't want to endanger the lives of churchgoers, his family or his own life.

Tracy Syler-Jones, associate vice chan-



Faculty Senate to investigate retake policy

By MICHELLE ANDERSON Staff Reporter

The Faculty Senate is investigating whether to revise TCU's course retake policy because it is more forgiving than many other universities', a faculty senate member said.

The committee is researching what the impact would be on student GPAs if the current policy is changed, said Blaise Ferrandinothe academic excellence committee chair.

There is no limit to how many times a course can be retaken and any grade can be retaken at TCU. The only grade calculated into a student's GPA is the last attempt at the course. Credit is given once for a course that is retaken and students run the risk of not making a better grade the second time they take a class.

"Students could take advantage of the policy if it is too lenient," said David Bedford, a Faculty Senate member.

Committee members are considering if they should change the policy to allow only failing grades to be retaken and what to do with the grade after the course is retaken.

If the committee's research finds the need to revise the current policy, it will offer a recommendation to the Faculty Senate in the fall.

"TCU is unusually generous in its policy," Bedford said.

SMU and Baylor University allow students to retake a course if the grade is a D or lower, according to a study done by the committee. SMU See **RETAKE** page 2

Study: Youth vote will play key role

cellor for marketing and communication, said Wednesday that TCU Police advised the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees about security issues surrounding the event before they voted to move it off campus.

"They felt strongly that it was their duty to move these events off campus based on the information they received from TCU Police," she said. Syler-Jones said the university won't release what the information was or how it was received by TCU Police, except to say that police officials consulted with the Fort Worth Police Department and concerns were specific to the TCU event.

"The security issues that were raised after campus police conferred with the the church and hung up," Bright said. He Fort Worth Police Department were solely said the church staff immediately phoned related to the campus event and not other police. security issues," Syler-Jones said.

Police Department spokesman weren't agents responded along with Chicago police returned Wednesday, and TCU Police but nothing was found. declined last week to comment about the event's move.

Officer Marcel Bright, news affairs officer for the Chicago Police Department, said the ances at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church bomb threat was phoned into Trinity United in Houston, where he was scheduled to Christian Church in Chicago on March 14. preach Sunday. FBI spokeswoman Pat Vil-



E. JASON WAMBSGANS / Chicago Tribune via MCT

The Rev. Jeremiah Wright gives a sermon at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago in 2006. Wright, whose comments have sparked controversy after being aired in the national media, canceled his weekend appearances in Dallas.

Presidential hopeful Barack Obama attends lafranca of the Houston FBI field office, Trinity United.

"A caller stated he was going to blow up

Special agent Ross Rice, spokesman for Calls to TCU Police and the Fort Worth the Chicago Field Office of the FBI, said

> He said "nothing else of a credible nature has been reported" since.

Wright also canceled scheduled appear-

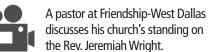
and the church's business administrator, Maurice Carr, said there hadn't been threats received against Wright.

Carr said Wright cited a "media frenzy" in an e-mail to the church as a reason for canceling in Houston.

In Tampa, Fla., where Wright also can-

See WRIGHT page 2

DAILYSKIFF.COM



By ANNA HODGES Staff Reporter

His favorite movies include "The Godfather" I and II, and he enjoys watching "SportsCenter," playing basketball and listening to the jazz sounds of Miles Davis.

Yes, Democrat Barack Obama, like the other presidential candidates, has a Facebook profile. He, Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican John McCain all have photo albums, wall posts and a detailed profile.

In this year's presidential election, candidates are reaching out to young people in ways they never have before. Obama, Clinton and McCain are trying to appeal to young voters through popular youth-dominated networking sites, such as Facebook, MySpace and YouTube.

And it is all for good reason. According to a November 2007 survey by the Harvard University Institute of Politics, America's 18- to 24-year-olds are following politics more than ever, voter turnout is increasing and young people are expected to make a difference in the 2008 presidential campaign.

The Harvard study said 41 percent of young See **VOTE**, page 2

Outside hobbies essential to presidential well-being, author says

By KATIE WINTER Staff Reporter

House?

and fishing, but 20th century Jr." presidents loved golf, a forauthor said Wednesday.

Paul F. Boller Jr., best-sell-

Ever wonder what presi- the hobbies of America's 43 ducted the interview with uncovered little-known dimendents do outside the White presidents at an interview Boller, said he was fascinated sions of presidents' lives in Presidents in the 19th cen- "Presidents at Play: Observa- dinary mind of history. tury were interested in hunting tions by Dr. Paul F. Boller

mer professor and best-selling been essential to the health personalities. and well-being of presidents.

ing author and TCU emeritus journalism professor and Star- hobbies, you understand them

with presidents came about to George W. Bush." Boller said hobbies have because of presidents' diverse

Bob Ray Sanders, an adjunct one's recreational activities and

professor of history, explored Telegram columnist who con- a little better," said Boller, who symposium Wednesday called by Boller's book and extraor- his current book "Presidential Diversions: Presidents at Boller said his fascination Play from George Washington

> Boller said former President Dwight D. Eisenhower made "If you understand some- the game of golf a "presidential



IICHELLE ANDERSON / Staff Reporter

Author Paul F. Boller Jr. speaks during a symposium Tuesday afternoon about his book See **PLAY**, page 6 titled on the hobbies of presidents throughout American history.

WEATHER TODAY: Afternoon sun, 85/63 TOMORROW: Isolated storms, 70/55 SATURDAY: Showers, 75/61

PECULIAR FACT

CINCINNATI — An 18-year-old is able to buy a prom dress thanks to a man who paid her \$504 for a newspaper, telling her to keep the change. - Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NEWS: Army fights to attract qualified recruits, page 6

SPORTS: Lady Frogs advance to WNIT round 4, page 8 NEWS: Professor to speak about writing changes, page 5

CONTACT US

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WRIGHT From page 1

celed appearances, police such as Wright, unlike presispokeswoman Laura McElroy dential candidates or other said police hadn't dealt with high-profile government figthreats at Bible-Based Fellow- ures, doesn't bring his own ship Church, where Wright was Secret Service protection, scheduled to appear.

sible for President Clinton's case, campus police. security arrangements during his 20-year career with the said there haven't been any Secret Service, said threats threats directed to the church, like those received by Wright's although he said police will church are a regular part of be present. He said additionappearances by high-profile al security measures won't be figures.

"Bomb threats happen across the board — it doesn't ing will change — other than even have to be a controver- the fact Rev. Wright won't be sial person," Russo said. Most with us in person," Hill said. of the time, though, there's no device found, he said.

terrorism, their effect is mass host another Friday event at casualty, and they want to which Wright was scheduled shock, so they're not calling to speak, said the security at first," said Russo, who is now the college will be the same a senior vice president at T&M as it would be for any other Protection Resources, a private event. firm that specializes in high-

tion and explosive detection.

which means the burden falls Joe Russo, who was respon- on local police, or in TCU's

> Hill at Friendship-West necessary.

"Nothing has changed, noth-

Michael Sorrell, the interim president of Paul Quinn "When you're talking about College in Dallas, which will

Calls to the Dallas Police

RETAKE From page 1

also averages both grades.

"We are in the minority in no said.

Of the students admitted to a B in, 13 percent repeated C's, GPA as much as possible," said

said. Students currently enrolled at TCU cannot be included in why people retake classes, said the survey because of privacy laws, Ferrandino said.

One student said she put having no limitations on grades more effort into the class she GPA and others just got off on a that can be retaken," Ferrandi- retook because she wanted to bad foot," Youngblood said. improve her grade.

"I would be upset if they TCU in 2001 and 2002, 1 per- changed the policy in such a cent repeated classes they made way that it would not help my 44 percent repeated D's and 42 Catherine Bruni, a sophomore mores in foundation classes, percent repeated F's, Ferrandino communication studies major.

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level security, executive protec- Department and the Dallas FBI office Wednesday about secu-Russo said a private person rity for the Metroplex events weren't returned.

> Staff reporters Valerie J. Hannon and Julieta Chiquillo contributed to this report.

FOR YOUR INFO

National Black Church Studies Forum and Black Church Consultation

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday Where: Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas Admission: \$15

State of the Black Church Summit When: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

Where: Paul Quinn College, Dallas Admission: \$15

Reception and Award Banquet When: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday Where: Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas Admission: \$125

VOTE From page 1

adults surveyed indicated they would "definitely be voting" in a primary or caucus and 61 percent said they would "definitely be voting" in the 2008 general election.

Exit polls and turnout data from primaries nationwide show the Harvard survey's predictions have been accurate so far. The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, known as CIRCLE, has found that youth voter turnout has increased dramatically in primary contests nationwide. CIRCLE is a nonpartisan organization that studies youth involvement in politics.

The Democratic Lean

According to CIRCLE, 18to 29-year-olds made up 17 percent of the overall vote in the 2008 Texas primary. This percentage represents an increase from 6 percent in the 2000 election. CIR-CLE estimated that more than 171,000 young people participated in the Republican primary and 449,000 in the Democratic primary.

The lopsided turnout in Texas can be explained by the fact that the Republican race was over by the time Texans voted, said Adam Schiffer, assistant professor of political science. He said that although it remains highly unlikely that the Democratic nominee will win Texas, the Texas Democratic Party seems to be resurging after years of dormancy.

Schiffer said 18- to 29-year-olds are the most Democratic-leaning voters in the electorate.

"They have come of age politically during an

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unpopular Republican from the beginning," said

The Issues

cerned about.

remain Democratic."

Rock the Vote, young vot- McCain," she said. ers ranked issues of conof importance: the economy (17 percent), the war in Iraq (11 percent) and college affordability (10 percent). in the political process.

according to the candidates' and Facebook supporters. Web sites. Republican cansuccess.

omore radio-TV-film major, he said. said she thinks young peographic.

"What happens to us said.

The Final Race

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administration, so it's she has been surprised and natural that they would encouraged by the reaction gravitate to the opposi- of traditionally conservative tion party," he said. "The TCU students to the Clingood news for Democrats ton and Obama campaigns. is that most voters stick Harris, an alumna, said that with their party ID for although Texas was crucial in the rest of their lives, so the March 4 Democratic prithis generation is likely to mary, she does not think TCU students will vote Democratic in the general election.

"With so many students Both parties are devoting coming from conservative attention to issues young backgrounds who haven't voters say they are con- really taken the time to develop their own party ID, most According to a poll by students will probably vote for

Olivia Chilton, TCU Colcern in the following level lege Republicans state elections chair, agreed.

"Come November, TCU stu-(12 percent), health care dents will be for McCain," she said.

However, according to a non-Rock the Vote is a nation- partisan blog, techpresident. wide nonpartisan, nonprof- com, which tracks the effect it organization that aims to the presidential candidates are increase youth involvement having online, Obama is currently in the lead in the online Democrats Obama and social-networking campaign. Clinton both oppose the Obama, followed by Clinton war in Iraq and advocate and McCain, has the highest immediately beginning recorded number of YouTube the withdrawal of troops, viewings, MySpace friends

It is too early to tell whethdidate John McCain has said er online support will transmore troops are needed in late into actual votes, Schiffer Iraq to ensure long-term said. However, Obama has benefited the most from his Brittney Dubose, a soph- superior online organization,

"It's likely that the earple are getting involved in ly enthusiasm for him that the election because the spread across social-networkcandidates are addressing ing sites helped generate the important issues and are 'buzz' that pushed him to the making more of an attempt front of the Democratic pack, to relate to the young demo- despite his relative inexperience," Schiffer said.

"He (Obama) has used the depends on the kinds of Internet not only to break all decisions they make," she fundraising records but to rewrite the rules for how to raise money in a campaign," Schiffer said. "His emphasis Melanie Harris, a self-pro- on bottom-up campaigning, claimed "Hillary supporter rather than relying on a small number of wealthy donors, has given him a wide base of enthusiastic support that has, at least in most states, translated into increased

turnout.

There are two motives for Stuart Youngblood, the Faculty Senate chair. "Some try to maximize their

For students trying to get into graduate school, the retake policy can be really beneficial for their GPA, Youngblood said.

For freshmen and sophoit is a matter of mastering the material, Youngblood said. If they can retake the class for a higher grade then they have a better chance of making good grades in their upper level classes, Youngblood said.

"People should exert their best effort from the start but all of us mess up at some point so a do over is not unreasonable," Bedford said.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Even the fear of death is nothing compared to the fear of not having lived authentically and fully."

— Francis Moore Lappe

3

BY JACOB BRAHCE

Course retake policy should be more strict

THE SKIFF VIEW

he Faculty Senate, in a wise academic move for the university, is investigating the course retake policy.

As it stands, students can retake any course and their grade will be replaced by the most recent attempt. There is also no limit to the number of times a student can retake a course.

Yes, this might sound great to students, especially those who may have slacked off freshman year and will be more likely to attend that 8 a.m. class now.

But for a university that is striving to hold itself to the highest of academic standards, this policy is too lenient and allows students too much freedom

Other comparable universities have more strict retake policies. SMU, for example, only allows students to retake a course if the student's grade is a D or lower, and after the course is completed, the two

grades are averaged.

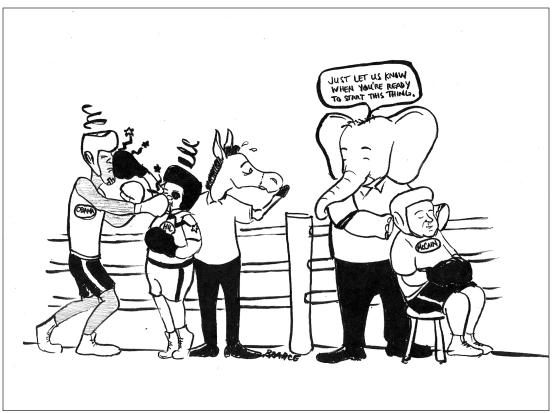
In comparison, TCU's policy looks weak and ineffective. It allows students to take courses with a less-serious attitude, because if they do badly, they can just retake the course and replace the grade.

Even though the current policy allows students to work toward a higher GPA, that GPA will be respected more if it comes from a reputable school with a high standard of academia.

With the recent switch to the plus/minus grading system coupled with the addition of new areas of study on campus, TCU is making a push to be an even more respected institution.

The implementation of a more strict course-retake policy would only add to this push and would send a message to employers and other universities that TCU is serious about academics.

Managing editor Bailey Shiffler for the editorial board.



Jacob Brahce is a freshman criminal justice and political science major from Cedar Park.

Anti-gay Okla. legislator a state embarrassment

Oklahoma is known for its violent storms, but recently, a different kind of storm has created news in Oklahoma and beyond. Her name is Sally Kern. Kern is a Republican state legislator

COMMENTARY



testors gathered March 18 to ask Kern for an apology.

But, she wasn't in the building. In January, Kern met with a group of about 50 Republicans in Oklahoma County and delivered a speech. Just more than three minutes of that speech made it to YouTube, where the clip has drawn more than 1 million views since it was first posted March 7 by the Victory Fund, a group that supports gay and lesbian political candidates.

Oklahoman. Certainly, that is her right. Threatened as it may be by the "death knell" of homosexuality, this country still recognizes Americans' right to free speech — even Kern's. But that's hardly the issue.

At the heart of the matter isn't that Kern said some inflammatory things. Instead, it's the group she targeted. If she hadn't chosen homosexuals, but had instead assaulted another minority group, would there be a controversy? Sure, but it would have been short-lived; Kern would have been handed her walking papers a week ago.

Fortunately, groups like the Victory Fund, and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays have spoken out against Kern's hate-filled speech. It was members of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and other church groups that protested at the Oklahoma Capitol on March 18, asking for Kern to apologize and meet with local gays and Muslims.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR **University's distance from Wright** detrimental to discussion of race

I am writing this letter in response to the comments the chancellor made about the Rev. Jeremiah Wright that were published in the Dallas Morning News and picked up by other news media.

Specifically, Chancellor Victor Boschini commented that: "Giving an award [to Wright] is another matter, and in this specific case in light of Rev. Wright's recently discovered remarks, TCU would not give such an award." Additionally, recently the Board of Trustees voted to prohibit Brite Divinity's award ceremony honoring Wright from occurring on campus because of safety concerns.

As a TCU alumnus, a former board member of TCU's D.C. Metro Area Alumni Chapter and current member of the National

facing the graduates of our campus — race relations in America.

I take issue with his comments for three main reasons. First, it fails to fairly and fully consider either the context of Wright's lifetime of preaching and service to the community. That is to say, it appears the chancellor's judgment of Wright is based on the isolated comments published in the media rather than his 36 years of service to his community. I am disappointed because it does not appear the chancellor considered

> "...learning to change the world through higher education is not for the timid or faint of heart."

Zuberi B.

cle found that Wright's comments coupled with Obama's speech has sparked a new and modern dialogue about race in America on college campuses. Students are using those comments to engage in discussion and learn more about different views and the basis for those views.

In distancing Wright from the university, it has also helped to distance TCU away from this important discussion. Moreover, with Wright coming to campus to receive an award, our university missed the opportunity to be at the forefront of this discussion.

We could have leveraged his appearance to allow our students to lead discussions on race in America with the world watching. In my opinion, that experience would have been a great way for our students to "learn to change the world." I appreciate that it is often difficult to negotiate the area of race in America. But it has been my experience at TCU and other graduate schools I have attended that learning to change the world through higher education is not for the timid or faint of heart. It is important to engage and tackle difficult issues, especially when they are placed in your lap. I learned more about myself and other people while I was at TCU than any other time of my life. My time there gave me tools I need to succeed in my profession, with my family and be part of my community. I did not acquire those tools by dismissing the views of others or distancing myself from tough situations.

In the three-minute clip, Kern is heard railing against what she calls "the death knell of this country." The death knell, according to Kern? Homosexuality.

Kern's most inflammatory statements about homosexuality, however, came later in her speech when she said, "I honestly think it's the biggest threat our nation has, even more so than terrorism or Islam."

First, I'd like to make one thing clear - terrorism and Islam are not synonymous. Second, surely Kern is aware of the irony in her statement; she works just two miles from the Oklahoma City National Memorial, where terrorism caused the deaths of 168 Oklahomans in 1995.

Still, Kern argues that homosexuality is a bigger threat.

Since recorded portions of her speech have appeared on YouTube, Kern has refused to apologize, according to NewsOK.com, the online version of The

Celebrities have also joined the fracas. On March 14, Ellen Degeneres played a clip of Kern's speech on her daytime talk show and then called the legislator's office, only to be notified that the office's voicemail box was full. Comedian Margaret Cho has pledged her support to the Victory Fund, as well.

Even fellow Oklahoma government officials are taking a stand. Jim Roth, who is Oklahoma's Corporation Commissioner and openly gay, said he took an oath to serve 100 percent of the state's citizens, according to NewsOK. com, but he said, "I regret that Rep. Kern doesn't show the same respect for 100 percent of her constituents."

Instead, Kern is weathering the storm, and remains a legislator in Oklahoma's House of Representatives, serving District 84 — a large swath of western Oklahoma City.

Sadly, if I still lived in my childhood home, Kern would be representing me.

Kara Peterson is a advertising/public relations graduate student from Fort Worth.

Alumni Board, I feel compelled to address the chancellor's comments and the Board's recent decision.

Let me begin by saying that this letter is not meant to admonish any of TCU's leadership for personal views regarding the substance of Wright's comments that were captured and published to the general public. I have dear friends in the TCU administration and leadership circles that have been advocates for me on many occasions and I respect their feelings about Wright's comments.

In my opinion, Wright's widely publicized comments were indeed over the line, and similar to Sen. Barack Obama, I reject those views without equivocation. His comments do not reflect my view of our country. However, I am writing to express my disappointment in the chancellor's comments and to encourage discussion on a tough social issue

Williams

Wright's entire record before making them.

Second, the comments were dismissive of the thoughts and views of the Americans to whom Wright was ministering and suggest Wright's comments had no value other than to offend a majority of Americans. They failed to recognize they were based on real concerns and beliefs by many Americans and are a part of conversations that happen in churches all over the country on any given Saturday or Sunday. These are individuals that our graduates will encounter in their lives and at the workplace and who are part of our national community.

Third, it failed to take advantage of an opportunity for TCU to lead in a national discussion regarding race relations in America. A recent New York Times arti-

Zuberi B. Williams is an alumnus and an assistant attorney general for the District of Columbia.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pastor's comments don't evoke true meaning of Golden Rule

on Good Friday.

TCU was vacant, but some of the Brite faculty were in their offices. I'm guessing they, like me, were there because of concerns about Brite's plans to honor the patently offensive Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

While I paced the sidewalk for two and a half hours walking around the outside of the Robert Carr Chapel, Moore

I was at Brite Divinity School and Beasley buildings waiting to speak with somebody from Brite, my wife and I noticed that the clock on the steeple of Carr Chapel had stopped working, and the hour still tolled an hour behind.

> It reminded me of the relationship between Wright and Brite. Wright does not know what time it is in history. He has embraced a type of unkind theology that says he can get

away with saying mean things about nice people to accomplish an end. He teaches his congregation that the following is acceptable speech from a pulpit.

Pick one statement by which to get offended — "The U.S. of KKK-A," "Condoskeeza Rice," "Bill (Clinton) did us, just like he did Monica — ridin' dirty" (while humping from the pulpit), "God damn America."

to say Wright does not live by the Golden Rule.

What is the acceptable context for a person called reverend to pretend to screw a young lady in the pulpit or break the Third Commandment?

Brite knew what it would look like to recognize a presidential candidate's offensive pastor in an election year and

In an understatement, it's fair decided to go for the headline anyway

They deserve the grief.

Why am I so upset? In my mind, I can picture my three daughters as children singing the song "Jesus loves the little children of the world." In Wright's church, would a child ask, "Mommy, what does God damn America mean?" As a Fort Worth resident for more than 40 years, the potential of

that little girl's question filled me with angst.

The pain continued as I heard the chimes from Carr Chapel playing the TCU alma mater. The hands on the clock were still stuck at 9.

> Charles Felts is an alumnus from Fort Worth.

Editor's note: Brite decided to honor Wright last year, before the controversy was prevalent in the national media.

Editorial Board

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Lecture to explore writing methods in new media

By CHRISTINA SCHAMS Staff Reporter

The preset rules of writing - Times New Roman font, one-inch margins and doua Michigan State University associate professor said.

Danielle Nicole DeVoss, Professional Writing program rial for the classroom. at Michigan State, said her

is changing shape and how copyright changes in digital with nonprofits, with corpo- students who have an interest cal stuff — I think graduate spaces.

She said she will discuss life, they are not the ethical and legal dimenble-spacing — are changing, sions of intellectual property, which is copyright law for new media.

DeVoss said digital spaces associate professor of writ- have made it easier to share will examine ing, rhetoric and American material, which is especially cultures and associate chair- helpful when students are YouTube and a woman and director of the asked to create digital mate-

She said she encourages lecture, "Intellectual Prop- undergraduate students to assistant professor and direc- people, but particularly to erty, Multimedia Composing think about the way writing tor of undergraduate stud- graduate students who plan and Digital Writing Research," has developed because it is ies in rhetoric, composition to teach. will focus on how writing important for their future.

going to be writing five-paragraph essays," she said. The lecture

examples from few past legal cases, she said.

Brad Lucas, and new media writing, said

rations or in their professional in communications, copyright

ing. "Some of the nitty-gritty research-related and theoretical stuff — I think graduate students will eat that stuff up." **Danielle Nicole** ment," he said.

DeVoss said lecture will appeal to most

and digital writ-

"When they are working DeVoss' lecture will appeal to research-related and theoreti- Murray said. students will eat that stuff and a TCU Instructionup," she said.

Joddy Murray, assistant sponsor the event. "She repre- professor of rhetoric and new sents the cut- media, said students must ting edge in learn to write using all the writing in a digital tools that are availdigital environ- able in an increasingly digital environment.

Murray said he teaches new she thinks the media writing to help students understand the different environments and how their writing needs to change.

"Being a writer today does not mean just writing on 8 "Some of the nitty-gritty 1/2 by 11 sheets of paper,"

The English department al Development Grant will

FOR YOUR INFO Intellectual property lecture

Who: Danielle Nicole DeVoss, Michigan State University When: 7 p.m. today Where: Brown-Lupton Student Center Room 203 Admission: free

New generation of Cubans uses Web to express ideas in Florida

DeVoss

Michigan State professor

By ALFONSO CHARDY McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — The young men and women sitting around a living room somewhere in Havana guests at a party.

But what they were telling their counterparts in South Florida was serious business. They railed against "tyranny," the persistent "repression," the potential for a "social explosion," rumors of a new rafter exodus and their her office when they concluded

annoyance that the media is not recognizing the efforts of young dissidents.

Witnessed by reporters in Miami, via Internet video phone, the Havana living-room chat

with five University of Miami stu- of the spear for change - one dents opened a window into a lit- that may strike peacefully or viotle-known dimension of post-Fidel lently. Castro Cuba. Last week's exchange occurred as Cuban officials and Cuban emigres friendly to the regime met on the island to discuss fied in order to protect them from easing rules restricting travel.

To some Cuba experts, the

November at the Universidad de Oriente campus in Santiago when an unusual student protest allegedly occurred following a report laughed and talked as if they were of a female student's rape in September.

According to accounts from human rights groups reporting information from independent journalists in Cuba, a group of angry students prevented the university rector from leaving

she was not interested in improving "...the generation today security and other does not feel committed conditions at the

to the same ideals of campus. the Cuban revolution or To the young anything of the sort." men and women **Cuban student** in the Havana liv-

organizer

ing room last week, Cuba's young people represent the tip

Organizers said the location of the living room and the Cubans, ages 18 to 25, could not be identi-Cuban government reprisals.

University of Miami students unvarnished assessments offered addressed the young Havana men as in Venezuela or Burma." by the young men and women and women via a telephone call in the Havana living room reflect linked to the live video image projected on a large screen.

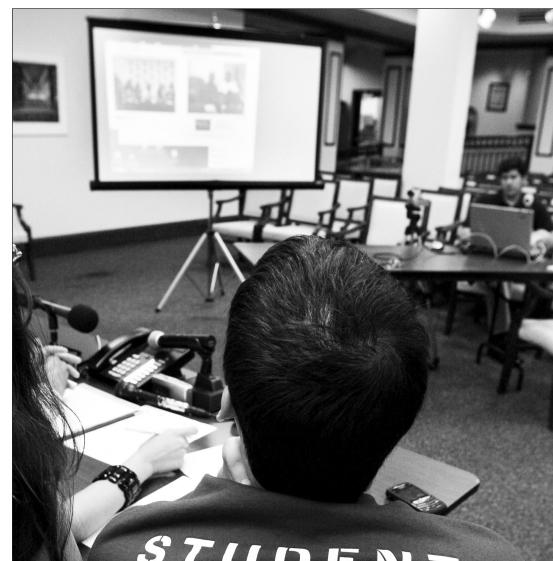
One example was an episode in power because experiences were different.

> "Our generation was formed after the fall of the Berlin wall and after the transition to democracy in eastern Europe," he said. "So we have not shared the hard struggle of those in power, who fought against [former Cuban dictator Fulgencio] Batista, who fought against a tyranny which in the end led to another tyrannv."

> He went on to say that perhaps the greatest threat to the Cuban government is not a potential U.S. invasion, as Havana officials often claim, but angry youth.

"There is a generational conflict which also includes a political conflict," he said. "Thus, the generation today does not feel committed to the same ideals of the Cuban revolution or anything of the sort. They are hollow words."

In answer to a question on whether Cuban youth will wait for change or take action, the Havana group laughed nervously. Then one young man said, "Well, in Cuba it is not logical for that to happen, but it could happen some day in the same way



embryonic unrest — perhaps sparked by Raul Castro himself when last year he encouraged debate about the problems of the want. Cuban revolution.

"There may be a cause and effect here, with Raul's encouragement of open discussion in the island," said Brian Latell, a former CIA analyst on Cuba and Latin America tional — aging people in power and now senior research associate at the University of Miami's Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, which organized the Havana living-room chat.

Latell added that while Cuban youths are becoming more outspoken, their complaints may not amount to a movement.

"I don't see anything organized, yet," Latell said. "But there may well already be an incipient youth unrest."

One of the first topics was what kind of change young Cubans

"We, the youths of Cuba, want change," said one of the young men, adding that "structural, political change" was necessary.

He said the problem is generaand powerless youths in the urban centers. "The gerontocracy is in power and on the other side is youth, each time more powerful."

The young man also said the generational conflict will "shatter the regime, and this has us very hopeful."

A 25-year-old man jumped in to explain that the current generation of Cuban youth could not identify with the older people in

He added, "Young people here are tired that their rights are violated, that their right to life is crushed and they may no longer accept it and there could be a social explosion."

The conversation took an unexpected turn when Vanessa Lopez, 21, of the University of Miami group, asked why dissident groups mostly feature older people.

Several in the Havana group quickly rejected that notion, but acknowledged that there is a perception that only older people are dissidents because the media focus on longtime leaders.

He cited an example.

"On March 10, a group of young people went to lay a floral wreath at the grave of a fallen brother," the young man said. "We were arrested and taken to a police unit. There we saw one of the legendary leaders of the opposition, [Jorge Garcia Perez, known as] Antunez, and the media only spoke about Antunez. But they did not mention the five young

people who were there, too." One of the women identified herself as a member of a gay-rights group and spoke of discrimination against homosexuals.

"Our work is aimed at defending the homosexual, disauthorities as by society itself," she said.

Andy Gomez, the University

moderated the discussion, said of Hope. the Havana youth were a mixture of students and former students expelled from schools for mented on the recent defection being dissidents. At least two of Cuban soccer players, noting were women, he said.

students were members of criminated against both by the CAUSA: Students United for a Free Cuba, a group linked to

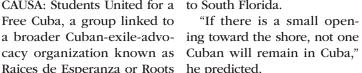
cacy organization known as Cuban will remain in Cuba," of Miami assistant provost who Raices de Esperanza or Roots he predicted.

versation, one young man comrumors in Havana of a possible The University of Miami new rafter exodus similar to the one in 1994 that brought 37,191 to South Florida.

JEFFREY M. BOAN / El Nuevo Herald via MCT

University of Miami's Dr. Andy Gomez speaks with students at an unidentified location in Cuba live on the Internet on March 16 at the Institute of Cuban Studies on the University of Miami campus.

Toward the end of the con-





Ben E Keith Beverages seeks a full-time TCU student 21+ years of age beginning April 1, 2008. Position entails market calls two to three time a week for several hours. Schedule is flexible

Questions or Concerns, please contact Tony Dressell at 817-568-4000 or by e-mail at tonydressell@benekeith.com.





NEWS

Army, Marine Corps face recruiting challenges

By NANCY BARTLEY The Seattle Times

6

SEATTLE — A high-school gradufor Army fatigues.

a nurses' aide in an adult-care cen- branch. ter. He sees the Army as the key to a better life.

said. "I want to serve this country sell for recruiters. and maybe go to college."

test for Army admission. But once he was finished, he was disappointed to learn he had not reached the necessary 36 points to pass.

He plans to take the test again.

Garcita's Army dreams may hinge on his ability to do alge-

bra, the part of the test he found soldiers. the most challenging. He remembers taking the subject in high school, "but it's been a long time."

For military recruiters, cases like Garcita's can be frustrating. At a time when the Army and Marines have relaxed their standards for new recruits in an effort to increase their ball games. fighting forces, the military can't afford to lose many prospects.

After five years of controversy over U.S. involvement in Iraq and nearly 4,000 combat deaths, findrecruiters say.

Each recruiter is faced with a quota of one high-school graduate and one high-school senior a month in enlistments last year - only 80 percent of the recruiting goal. The Army is trying to appeal to prospective soldiers through advertising and marketing. Although the approach is soft-sell, the underlying message is as direct as the "Uncle Sam Wants decades past.

Washington state and Alaska, as well follows, Swanson said. as parts of Oregon and Idaho.

547,000, and the Marines by 27,000 to 202,000.

The Army Reserve also faces chalate with no criminal record, Rody lenges. It exceeded its nationwide Garcita seemed like a solid prospect goal with 27,004 enlistments last year, but Army Reserve officials have At 35, Garcita is single, lives with said they expected to lose many of his parents in Seattle and works as these soldiers to the active-duty

The war's unpopularity in many circles has made one traditional "I want to improve myself," he source — high schools — a tough

Recruiters often rely on what At the Army recruiting office on they call "prospecting" trips to Jackson Street in Seattle, Garcita sat places where young people gathquietly at a desk taking a practice er, whether it's outside schools

> or in bowling alleys or coffee shops. Or "Would you want they use an 18-wheel someone like that truck and semitrailer to go to schools and shopping malls, giving young men and women a chance to play video games with

Jason Montano Army Sgt. 1st Class

When they're not directly selling the Army one-on-one, recruiters seek community visibility though a series of partnerships, from endorsing Brahma bulls at the Monroe Rodeo to stock cars at Monroe's Evergreen Speedway and minor-league base-

Army information,

view films about the

Army and talk with

To draw more people into their ranks, the Army and Marines are granting waivers to those who earlier would not have been accepted.

In 2007, the Army issued waivers ing qualified candidates and per- for 18 percent of its recruits, primarisuading them to enlist is difficult, ly for misdemeanor convictions such as carrying a weapon onto school grounds, fighting or stealing, according to the Pentagon.

Of all the military branches, the a state with 1,594 total active Army Marines granted the most waivers, about 11,000 in 2007 — 69 percent of those for drug use, according to the Pentagon. Because of the Marines' strict anti-drug policy, recruits with previous drug-use convictions need to get waivers.

"The waiver process has changed You for the U.S. Army" posters of like society has changed," Swanson said. Years ago, a kid caught drink-"looking for a needle in a haystack," en home by police and the parents office is often asked why the Army for information. said Lt. Col. Ken Swanson, who's in would handle the punishment. Now doesn't recruit criminals with mulcharge of recruiting offices in most of the youth is arrested and a record tiple felonies.



Staff Sqt. Sven Rawlins helps recruit Rim Woldetensae try out some pull-ups at the Northgate recruiting office in Seattle on Tuesday. Recruiters for the Army and Marines Corps have recently met increased difficulty finding acceptable recruits.

been in counseling or had asthma, on two-mile training runs, calls them last year were white, while 7 per-Swanson said.

waiver because he had seen a psychiatrist to help him overcome shyness. The waiver, which the military grants based on what's in medical Pvt. Kayla Agustin, 18, a Shorewood records, was not granted.

the Army does not accept everyone who wants to enlist. Nor would the Army want just anyone, he says.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Montano of

gate Mall said one recruit who tested to suck," that the Army enlistment percent of the recruits were male. well on the entrance exam needed a bonuses are a good deal, or that some again in order to pass it.

On one day at the Northgate office, weeks as a recruiter.

he praised her accomplishments.

his kids and is proud to be their cent were Hispanic, 6 percent Afri-Sgt. 1st Class James Veach of the mentor. His job can involve telling can American, 5 percent Asian and recruiting office at Seattle's North- recruits that basic training "is going the rest were other races. Eighty-five

Swanson said he cannot afford to people have to take the written test ignore any group as potential recruits because the need for soldiers is so great.

As the pressure to recruit contin-High School graduate, returned from ues, so does the Army's \$200 million-Swanson is quick to point out that advanced training to work for two a-year advertising campaign, which came about after nationwide enlist-"She's my recruit," Veach said, as ment hit an all-time low in 1999.

Ads depict Army service as career-Seven months ago she walked into oriented and don't show a hint of Finding qualified recruits is like ing behind the school would be driv- the Army's Tacoma Mall recruiting the office with a friend just looking battlefield, although joining means a strong likelihood of deployment to

guarding your house? Then why would you want him guarding your country?"

In November, the Pentagon set who have been on Ritalin for Attena goal to increase the Army by tion Deficit and Hyperactivity Dis-65,000 actively enlisted soldiers to order, as well as for those who have

Would you want someone like love it." Waivers also are needed for recruits that guarding your house?" he asked. guarding your country?" Montano, who has joined recruits

What she got, she said, "was a Afghanistan or Iraq. whole new lifestyle. And so far I

Although the Army has been "Then why would you want him accused of targeting minorities, the you will be well-trained and well-Pentagon reports that almost 76 per- equipped and led by some of the cent of Washington state's recruits best in the world," he said.

Swanson is candid about the risks.

"You will go into harm's way, but

PLAY From page 1

game" because after he played it, every president since then has played, tears, but if someone could tell him the White House to spar and then including former President Lyndon B. a joke or make him laugh, it would Johnson.

"LBJ is known for treating the peo-He would coax them, pleaded with them and swore at them," he said.

Former President Abraham Lincoln had humor as one of his diversions, Boller said. Lincoln thought

Americans, he said.

make him feel better."

Boller also said former President about when recollecting the nation's first president. They "think of a cherry tree," Boller said.

Boller called former President

Roosevelt's inauguration, he invited "Lincoln would be often caught in a heavyweight-champion boxer to woke up the next day and delivered a speech he wrote himself.

Boller has written five books about ple he worked with like his golf ball. George Washington was an art collec- presidents, their wives, campaigns, I would get into the Internet and tor, an image most people don't think inaugurations and diversions. Boller computers more," Boller said. "But said diversions are the games presidents played and their sports and cultural interests.

that humor was crucial during the Franklin D. Roosevelt the most active about presidents is their own writings, book and find out certain things they Civil War and the slaughter of 600,000 of presidents. He said the night before like letters and diaries, or memoirs never knew. of people who knew the president, Boller said.

> Despite advancements in technology, Boller said, he still relies on libraries for information.

> "If I were to continue writing, myself."

The best source for information idential scholars could read Boller's way."

"You find out how your favorite president spent their leisure time and official time in office," Sanders said. Alice Carter, director of research advancement, said she enjoyed listening to Boller on Wednesday and hearing about the presidents' lives.

"Boller is very sharp and intellifor now, I enjoy getting my research gent," Carter said. "He has opinions but is able to step back from his opin-Sanders said people who aren't pres- ion and view people in a balanced



Friday, March 28 7:30 PM Ed Landreth Auditorium The Four Freshmen with the TCU Jazz Ensemble Curt Wilson, director Admission is \$20 at the door

Saturday, March 29 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Ed Landreth Auditorium and PepsiCo Recital hall 28 Middle School and High School Jazz Ensembles Admission is FREE

Saturday, March 29 7:30 PM Ed Landreth Auditorium The TCU Jazz Ensembles Featuring SMSgt. Joe Jackson Jazz trombonist and conductor of the USAF Men-of-Note Curt Wilson, director Admission is \$10 at the door

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by Harry Bliss

TODAY IN HISTORY

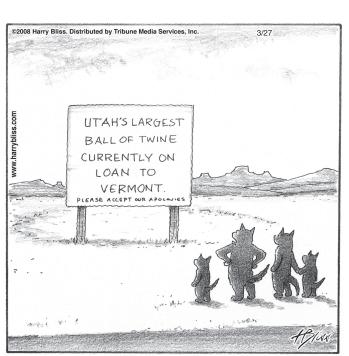
1998: The Food and Drug Administration approves the use of the drug Viagra, a medication that treats impotence.

WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE

Q: What do you get is you cross a dinosaur with a plate?

A: A tyrannosaucer.

Bliss



"No way!"



"They're baseballs. You throw 'em."

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

> See Friday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

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

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BASEBALL, BABY

Keeping up the Las Vegas trend, the Horned Frog baseball team travels to Sin City to take on the UNLV Rebels.

TOMORROW



MEN'S BASKETBALL Athletics has tentative timetable for new basketball coach

By BRETT LARSON Sports Editor

The TCU men's basketball team may have a new head coach as early as April 7, according to the assistant director of athletics media relations.

Monaco said the team hopes ment National Championship Monaco said.



Assistant director Joe game, which is on April 7. "There's no real rhyme or to have a new coach hired in reason to the date, but it's ther confirm nor deny any time for the NCAA Tourna- just the best-case scenario,"

He said a thorough search has no specific deadline.

of the situation told the Fort vious college head coaching League championship. Worth Star-Telegram that TCU experience with Coastal Carofficials met with Buzz Peter- olina University, University in the first round by four-seed Dougherty would not be son and Scott Sutton regard- of Tennessee, University of University of Pittsburgh. ing the position Tuesday.

Monaco said he could nei- University. position.

Peterson is currently the Tulsa and Appalachian State

potential candidates for the coach of the Oral Roberts Tubbs after his resignation Vegas in the Mountain West University Golden Eagles.

The Golden Eagles entered is currently underway, and it director of player personnel the NCAA Tournament this 25, 2002, 19 days after the for the Charlotte Bobcats, an year as a 13 seed following Horned Frog basketball sea-A source with knowledge NBA franchise. He has pre- a 24-9 season and Summit son ended that year.

Sutton is currently the head head coach, replaced Billy University of Nevada, Las following his eighth season. Conference Tournament.

Dougherty was hired March

TCU athletics director Oral Roberts was defeated Danny Morrison announced returning March 16, three Neil Dougherty, who is not days after the Horned Frogs' returning after six seasons as season ended with a loss to

COMMENTARY

Bracket pools bring madness back to March By JOSH DAVIS

Staff Writer

It all hit me at once. As I sat in Buffalo Brothers Pizza & Wing Co., reminding everyone in earshot that I picked West Virginia over Duke for roughly the 287th time, about to pull my bracket out of my pocket, it hit me, and my skin crawled.

COMMENTARY



I'm "That Guy" in everyone's NCAA Tour-

nament pool.

You know, "That Guy" — he's the one who beats you over the head about picking Winthrop over Washington State as he rambles about RPIs and

Josh Davis

free-throw percentages, the one who sends out no less than one e-mail per day reminding everyone in the fraternity/office/truck stop NCAA pool where they stand and why their picks are superior and the one touting Stephen Curry like he's his illegitimate son.

How did I get to this point? When did I become everything I hate? Maybe it's a stretch to compare myself to Vader, but ..

I think it's because March is the only time the dormant-college-basketball fan in me gets to put on his face paint and hatred of Greg Paulus and get into a game. I mean I did wander into a couple of TCU men's basketball games this season, but I was mostly driven by the free T-shirts and anywhere from four to 12 send-home hot dogs. So when I get to fill out a bracket and become a diehard Western Kentucky Hilltopper fan for 40 minutes, I tend to go a bit overboard, even though I have no clue what a Hilltopper is.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RED RAIDING Ladies advance to fourth round of WNIT

By LORI DANN McClatchy Newspapers

she had dreamed of on her broth- man Helena Sverrisdottir. er's former home court.

the last ones out of

the locker room and

I told them, 'I'll be

darned if this is my

last 20 minutes'."

Adrianne Ross

senior guard

of purple-clad fans from her hometown of Hobbs, N.M, TCU's senior guard had 14 points and two assists in the first half of the third-round Women's NIT matchup with Texas Tech.

But the halftime scoreboard told a different story. The

Lady Frogs' early 12-point lead they hit only 34.6 percent in the had turned into a four-point defi- second half and were outreboundcit, and their season was in jeop- ed 24-12. ardv.

last 20 minutes," Ross said.

ler-Rayford made sure that wasn't and three rebounds. the case, helping TCU rally for an

help conserve some energy, then watched the Lady Frogs close the LUBBOCK, Texas _ Adrianne game with a 21-12 run, getting a Ross was having the kind of game couple of key buckets from fresh-

"I liked our whole mentality Playing in front of a section full down the stretch," Mittie said. "We were very aggressive." "The seniors were

Inconsistency has been Texas Tech's downfall this season, and it was a factor again against TCU. The Lady Raiders shot 48.6 percent from the field in the first half and held a 22-15 rebounding edge, but

Guards Keisha Walker and Jor-"The seniors were the last ones dan Murphree gave Tech a lift with out of the locker room and I told 16 and 14 points, respectively, but them, `I'll be darned if this is my TCU's Jenna Lohse helped hold Tech's leading scorer and rebound-Ross and fellow senior Lorie But- er, Dominic Seals, to just six points

The Lady Raiders looked espe-81-74 victory Wednesday night that cially tentative offensively in the



So sit there and listen as I ramble about how Memphis led the country this season at 0.86 points per possession allowed. And don't judge me if I live and die on every Xavier possession.

But you have full permission to kick me if I ever refer to myself as a "bracketologist."

I'm "That Guy," and for three weeks a year, I'm king.

At least until the guy who doesn't watch basketball but heard UNC was pretty good wins my pool by a point.

erased an 0-for-37 streak against final minutes. the Lady Raiders and continued what is now the longest-running urgency that (TCU) did down the

season in the program's history. 10-of-20 shooting, while Butler- on the glass and in transition. They Rayford added 15 points and 15 were just more aggressive, and rebounds as the Lady Frogs (23-11) survived 13 lead changes and nine 3-pointers by Tech (17-16). They it started it. The Lady Frogs hit six now advance to the final eight, of their first seven shots to take a where they will meet the winner quick 14-5 lead that they eventuof Thursday night's Colorado-Vil- ally stretched to 12. Ross had 10

lanova game. For Ross, whose brother Ronald was an All-American on Tech's up 51-44 early in the second half,

victory was "indescribable." For TCU coach Jeff Mittie, it was a huge relief, especially after see- our rebounding got better," Mittie ing signs of fatigue in his team said. "That was where we had to midway through the second half. make our stand or they were going

"We didn't have the sense of stretch," Tech head coach Kristy Ross finished with 23 points on Curry said. "They came up huge good things happened for them."

TCU closed the game much like of TCU's first 21 points.

When Tech countered, going 2005 NCAA Sweet 16 team, the TCU went on a 9-0 run to half the momentum.

"Our defense toughened up and He switched to a zone defense to to run away with it."

COLEMAN MOREFIELD / The (Texas Tech) Daily Toreador

Junior center Micaela Younger attempts a layup against Texas Tech in the third round of the Women's National Invitation Tournament. TCU won the game 81-74, advancing to the fourth round with its first-ever win against Texas Tech.

MEN'S TENNIS Team travels to Las Vegas for three conference opening games



ANNIE COOPER/ Staff Photographer

Freshman Zach Nichols returns a lob against Columbia University. The tennis team starts conference play today in Las Vegas

By KYLE ARNOLD Staff Reporter

to open conference play against ing three different opponents in ing today.

Air Force, Brigham Young Uni- ble squad this year." versity and the University of lar season conference record by has come a long way. getting off to a good start in Las Vegas.

Horned Frogs have already Adrian Simon said the team's and Pepperdine universities. eclipsed their win total of 10 last chemistry is at a high level.

year with seven regular season matches left. Head coach Dave ment is our friendship," Cotet The men's tennis team will Borelli said the primary reason said. take its 13-5 record on the road the team has had such a turnwhen they travel to Las Vegas around is because of recruit- when he said, "We all get along

"When you get good players, three consecutive days, start- you look better," Borelli said. "I ence, during the regular season certainly think we are a more last year, came against the San These three matches, against talented squad and a more capa- Diego State University Aztecs.

start of Mountain West Confer- tion of NCAA rules contributed ence play this season for TCU. to the team's sub-par record last The Horned Frogs will try to year. With the problems from duplicate last year's 5-1 regu- last season, Borelli said the team

At 13-5 on the season, the 2005-2006 season, and freshman California against Fresno State University of Utah, San Diego

"I think our greatest improve-

Simon added to this sentiment with each other, like a family." The team's only loss in confer-The Horned Frogs are currently Borelli also said trouble with ranked No. 31 in the nation, and Nevada, Las Vegas, will mark the players on probation for viola- they will try to continue their first match against Fresno State regular-season winning streaks against all three opponents.

> The three matches in Las Vegas are a part of the Horned the Horned Frogs will conclude Frogs' regular season-ending conference play with a three-Senior Cosmin Cotet, who nine-game road trip. TCU started game, three-day stretch in Provo, has been on the team since the its away stretch with matches in Utah, where they will face the

The Horned Frogs took the Mexico.

FOR YOUR INFO

Tennis in Las Vegas

Teams: Air Force, BYU, UNLV When: 4 p.m. today, noon Friday and noon Saturday Where: Las Vegas Stakes: The games are the first three in Mountain West Conference play.

4-3 but were swept 7-0 against Pepperdine.

Following the Las Vegas trip, State and the University of New