



FROG FEATURE 10

Q&A with TCU Police Chief Steve McGee

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CLARIFICATION

Thursday's cover photo was taken by former Image editor Ronald Villegas.



CAMPUS 3

New director turns TCU Press around



PAGEANT 10

Four Frogs round out Miss Texas finals

FUNDRAISING

\$1.5 million means new building for Brite

By Kerri Feczko

Staff Reporter

Brite Divinity School received the approval of a \$1.5 million challenge grant after five years of fundraising for a new academic building.

The fundraising project combined the efforts of Brite and the university to update Brite's facilities on campus.

The challenge grant was approved by the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation for the purpose of aiding Christian religious organizations and institutions of higher learning. Brite received the grant under the condition that it would raise the remaining balance needed to complete what it calls its "Building a Brite Future Campaign."

Brite President D. Newell Williams said the school needed the new academic building for additional space. The new W. Oliver and Nell A. Harrison Building will provide 24,000 square feet for new classrooms, seminar rooms, a technology-enhanced preaching laboratory, faculty and administrative offices and an area designated for lectures, musical events and dining functions.

The new building will be situated directly east of the current Wayne and Jo Ann Moore Building on Brite's property,

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Ad-

ministration Brian Gutierrez wrote in an e-mail that although there will be setbacks to allow for construction of the academic building, he did not anticipate that it will cause any major disruption of daily campus activities.

Williams said the current Moore Building simply did not offer enough

"[It's a] wonderful location, wonderful building, but only 17,000 square feet and for over 200 students and over 20 faculty, that's not a lot of space."

D. Newell Williams

Brite President

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According to a Star-Telegram article, approximately \$15 million is needed for the construction and operation of the new building.

Williams said he was optimistic that funds will be met because of the hundreds of donations totalling over \$12 million already received. He said there were some donors who already gave but wanted to increase their contribution.

Brite had faced financial challenges in the past. The most recent was negotiations to determine how much Brite owed the university for using the school's facilities and services.

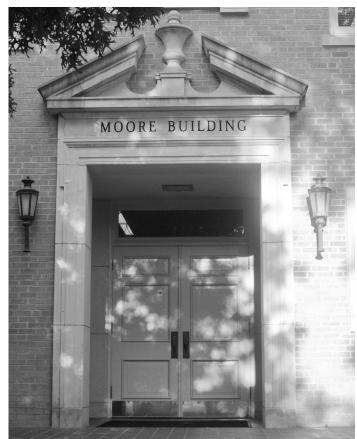
According to a 2009 Skiff report, concerns were raised when the university raised Brite's payment to more than double the previous payment.

According to the Brite Divinity School website, the university and Brite supported a collaborative relationship, although they are completely separate institutions.

Both Williams and Chancellor Victor Boschini said the issue was resolved with mutual satisfaction from both par-

Boschini said that according to tax law, the university was not permitted to give money to contribute to the funding. However, members from both institutions came together to raise the funds which made a breakthrough with the approval of the grant.

The challenge grant was the second grant made to Brite by the Mabee Founplex for students.



MATT COFFELT / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

dation. The last one was made 10 years The Brite Divinity school will get a new academic building. It will be ago in order to fund a residential com- 24,000 square feet and will cost approximately 15 million dollars to build



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Mystery surrounds N Korean leader's trip to China

David Wivell

Associated Press Writer

CHANGCHUN, China (AP) - Mystery surrounded North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il on his strangely timed visit to China while former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was in North Korea winning the release of an imprisoned American.

Kim's Thursday trip to China was his second in three months — unusual for a man who never flies and travels only by armored train. It has not been announced by

That has led to speculation by South Korean media and regional analysts that he may be seeking Chinese aid following flooding in his impoverished country's northwest — and could be laying the diplomatic ground work for the succession of his son, who is thought to be traveling with

Meanwhile, Carter left North Korea on Friday, according to Carter Center spokeswoman Deanna Congileo. She said the elder statesman secured the release of 31-year-old Aijalon Gomes, an American sentenced to eight years of hard labor in a North Korean prison and fined some \$700,000 for entering the country illegally.

Carter, who is well-regarded in North

Korea despite the two countries longtime animosity, met with Kim's father, late President Kim Il Sung, on his last trip to Pyongyang in 1994 — a warm meeting that led to a landmark nuclear disarma-

Kim's travels typically are not publicized by North Korea until after his return. Kim Jong Il watchers will be eager to see television footage or photos of the 68-year-old leader to check his health. In video run by Chinese Central Television in May, Kim appeared thin but vigorous during meetings with China's President Hu Jintao and other officials, despite having reportedly suffered a stroke in 2008.

U.S. officials have stressed that Carter's trip is an unofficial, private visit to negotiate the release of Gomes.

However, such visits, like the journey by ex-President Bill Clinton a year ago to secure the release of two American journalists, also offer an opportunity for unofficial diplomacy between the U.S. and North Korea.

Associated Press writer Jean H. Lee and Kwang-tae Kim in Seoul contributed to this report.

TCU Press stays afloat with new director

By Alex Collins

Staff Reporter

The new Director of the TCU Press has several changes in mind for TCU Press for the coming semester.

Dan Williams' involvement with press began in March when it faced the possibility of closure. He was appointed as the new director on June 1. Williams said he decided to volunteer for the program to ensure that it remained a part of the university.

"This is a tough time for university presses around the country," he said.

Southern Methodist University was one of those that suspended press operations last May, citing "challenging budgetary times" as the reason for its closure, according to the Dallas Morning News.

Alumna Ashley Tambunga served as an editorial assistant for the TCU Press and said that it faced the possibility of closure last spring because it ran into financial troubles. Williams was a big reason why the press is still alive, she said.

Williams said he would work as long as needed to ensure the continuation of the press.

All university presses received support from their host institutions, and TCU Press was grateful for the support it received from the university, he said.

Dean of the Library and Administrator of TCU Press June Koelker said the books published by university presses offered original research that was significant for learning purposes, but they did not sell the same amount of copies as commercial presses.

"This is a tough time for university presses around the country."

Dan Williams

Director of TCU Press

Williams said they published 15 to 20 books to each year, some of which were written by TCU faculty. Employees at the TCU Press went through five to 10 publishing requests a week from varying authors.

Susan Petty, editor of TCU Press, said that sales were good but that the staff hoped to find its next blockbuster to publish.

Koelker said that Williams would work to incorporate new technology, including e-books, to help with the digital shift and that the TCU Press would continue printing paper books as well.

Williams said he was working on mak-

ing the TCU Press a forerunner of the electronic movement.

He said he also planned on creating a more dominant presence on campus for the press because so few students were aware of it. He said he wanted to bring in students to learn marketing or English, especially regarding book publishing.

Koelker said that students could also learn from the press as interns to gain publishing experience.

As director, Williams said his duties will be to supervise all press operations, including editing and

production. He said he was specifically responsible for acquisitions, budget management and press relations.

Before he was appointed to the director's position, Williams said he discussed the position's vacancy with Koelker, who appointed him as the new director on June 1.

COURTESY OF DAN WILLIAMS

Dan Williams was hired as the new TCU Press Director in June. He was already a professor in the English department before this.

Koelker said she hired Williams based on his experience as chair of the English department. She said The TCU Press was fortunate to have someone of William's stature leading the organization.

In addition to serving as director of the TCU Press, Williams said he will continue to teach this fall.

We PIcked the PHInest



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PERSPECTIVES

The Skiff View

University benefits from Brite grant

he university's long-standing relationship with Brite Divinity School is an integral part of its identity as Texas Christian University.

As the university finishes up multimilliondollar projects like residence hall renovations and the Campus Commons, it's only fitting that Brite receive a facelift as well.

While tax laws prohibit the university from actually giving money to the project, members from both institutions came together to raise the funds for a new academic building.

The new W. Oliver and Nell A. Harrison Building will provide 24,000 square feet of academic classrooms for the more than 200 Brite students. The old building will be put to new use along with the new one, and the overall construction project will be of little inconvenience to students.

With the help of a \$1.5 million challenge grant, the school had more than \$12 million of the estimated \$15 million needed for the project. This should come as no surprise to students, who recently received news that the university itself reached a \$250 million fundraising goal two years ahead of schedule this summer.

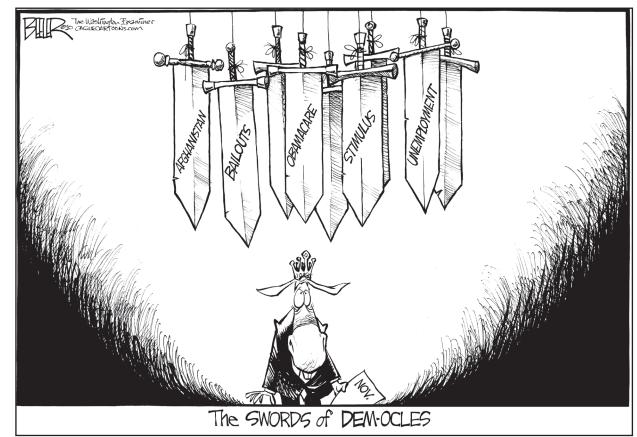
Donors should be commended for their contributions to both projects and to keeping these schools at the forefront of the competition among educational institutions.

News editor Andrea Drusch for the editorial board.

The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

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Nate Beeler is the editorial cartoonist for The Washington Examiner.

Legalize weed but not for tax reasons

If you want to legalize

pot, great, but do not

justify this position by

will be increased.

saying state tax revenue



Michael Lauck

In a great win for common sense, Californians decided to put the question of legalizing marijuana on the November ballot. If successful, this would make it the first state to legalize marijuana.

The war on drugs is a failure. It created an underground economy that has been detrimental to tax

payers as well as those in poor neighborhoods because it created dangerous gangs and drug wars.

Unfortunately, these reasons alone are not enough for some people to support the legalization of marijuana. These proponents bring up one particular reason to legalize marijuana: taxation.

According to a Time magazine article, if California were to legalize marijuana, it could solve the state budget deficit problem by taxing the product and gaining revenue for the government. Many young people I have talked to also make the same argument.

Legalizing pot is a good idea. This reason of taxing to save a state's economy, however, must have been made by someone who was actually smoking pot. People act as if taxing something creates wealth. Taxing, however, does not create any wealth. It was simply a money transfer from one person to another. If all the guys on campus were forced to give a dollar to all the girls, could you argue the whole campus had an increase in dollars? No, because the girls' gain was exactly equal to the guys' loss. The same is true of taxation. Whatever the government gains in revenue, those who bought and sold the marijuana lose.

It is a much different thing to say pot should be legalized because it will increase tax revenue, than it is to say, pot should be legalized to stop tax money from being wasted on a victimless crime. The first, as I explained above, makes no sense. The other, however, creates a world in which we could free-up resources, such as for police, to stop people like murderers and burglars who actually need to be arrested and

sent to jail.

Courts and prisons would also be relieved from people whose only crime was to put something in their body that they wanted there in the first place. Those would-be criminals could now become employees because they would not have felony charges hindering their employment. The result is a gain in the economy for all of us.

If you want to legalize pot, great, but do not justify this position by saying state tax revenue will be increased. Do so because the legalization of marijuana will save the state money, make people safer from drug wars and,give Americans the freedom to put into their body whatever they see fit.

 ${\it Michael Lauck is a junior economics major from \ Houston}.$



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STAF

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PERSPECTIVES

WikiLeaks issue illustrates power of freedom of speech

Somewhere along the

way, Americans in-

terpreted freedom of

speech as free reign to

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to do so.

matter how they choose

VikiLeaks



Wyatt Kanyer

Journalists are known for defending their First Amendment right to freedom of speech because, quite simply, it gives them more opportunity to speak their minds. More than this, the United States and its citizens have been known for valuing freedom of speech. As recently

as 2006, the Supreme Court has had to address whether or not burning the American flag could be deemed an expression of free speech.

Therein lies cause for concern. When freedom of speech was made part of the U.S. Constitution, the intent was to prevent Congress from having power beyond what it was

originally granted. Somewhere along the way, Americans interpreted freedom of

speech as free reign to speak their minds, no matter how they choose to do so.

This misinterpretation has manifested itself on a larger scale in the form of WikiLeaks, a database designed to release, or "leak," documents that have not been printed or made public by major news sources in an attempt to add credibility to important news stories. According to wikileaks.org, the database is based on "the integrity of our common historical record and the rights of all peoples to create new history." Such a statement is admirable. After all, who doesn't want to help make history? However, as is often the case, there is much more to the story of WikiLeaks.

According to an Aug. 13 report by British newspaper the *Guardian*, WikiLeaks released thousands of logs from the war in Afghanistan. Many

of these logs were deemed potentially dangerous by Reporters Without Borders, an international coalition of journalists that seeks freedom of the press and fights media censorship.

According to the report, WikiLeaks shared the war logs with the *Guardian, The New York Times* and German magazine *Der Spiegel.* Representatives from Reporters Without Borders said WikiLeaks released documents that specified the names of hundreds of officials who had collaborated with the United States in security efforts. The representatives argued that releasing these names put the officials at risk of attack and put the U.S. at risk of again becoming a target of terrorist attacks.

"Revealing the identity of hundreds of people who collaborated with the coalition in Afghanistan is highly dangerous," Reporters Without Borders wrote. "It would not be hard for the Taliban and other armed groups to use these documents to draw up a list of people for targeting in deadly revenge attacks."

WikiLeaks was wrong

in this situation, but that's not to say it hasn't done good in other situations.

The database is a true friend for journalists that, in theory, exemplifies the idea of free speech. But the officials from Reporters Without Borders are correct in saying that releasing the war logs put the United States at risk of another attack. WikiLeaks has done and will do much more good than bad, but better judgment must be utilized when it comes to war. It's safe to say our forefathers would have approved of WikiLeaks as a whole too. Benjamin Franklin once said, "Without Freedom of Thought, there can be no such thing as Wisdom; and no such thing as public Liberty, without Freedom of Speech." WikiLeaks made a serious mistake by specifying the names of hundreds of officials involved in the war, but every great organization must fail to succeed, and WikiLeaks will succeed as long as the First Amendment

Wyatt Kanyer is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Yakima, Wash.

Gas drilling safety concerns overblown



Danny Peters

In a controversial battle with residents of the Como area of Fort Worth, Chesapeake Energy decided to pull its request for natural gas drilling permits from the city of Fort Worth and end a drawn-out battle.

The answer surrounding this withdrawal from drilling may be found in the upcoming air quality study concerning natural gas drilling in North Texas. Fort Worth Mayor Mike Moncrief supported funding the \$600,000 study.

Simply put, it seems Chesapeake was tired of the battle, regardless of air quality testing.

Chesapeake withdrew its permit to drill north of Amon G. Carter Stadium and if the company ever pursues the permit again, this will understandably cause some hesitant students and overbearing parents to worry.

Fear not, there will not be any BP-style offshore drilling rig explosions here in North Texas. Natural gas drilling in North Texas is inherently safer because that there are not any volatile gas pockets in the drilling zone such as those that contributed to the Gulf of Mexico explosion. This is due to the fact that the formations in the Gulf are of a sandy nature and give up the gas more easily, versus the rocky formations found in the Barnett Shale. Also, according to Bloomberg.com, the cement job that sealed the well may have been imperfect. Cementing was also a factor in 18 of 39 Gulf of Mexico well blowouts over the past 14 years.

Residents of Dish, part of Denton County, who were worried about air quality due to drilling and had the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Wolf Eagle Environmental test it. The independent data allegedly found high levels of carcinogenic benzene and tolulene.

While seemingly dangerous, Terry Clawson, spokesperson for the TCEQ said, "The mayor's own alleged data indicates readings barely above long-term thresholds that would only be of concern after 70 years of continuous exposure."

This is good to hear, considering the fact that emissions from drilling only last for about two weeks, the length of drilling the well, according to NaturalGas.org.

In short, there is nothing to fear regarding the air quality related to natural gas drilling in North Texas. We can enjoy the economic benefits the Barnett Shale has provided.

Danny Peters is a senior writing major from Fort Worth.



SPEAKER

Students should find passion

By Kerri Feczko

Staff Reporter

Frances Smith Foster, Charles Howard Candler Professor of English & Women's Studies at Emory University, congratulated the university's English Department Thursday for striving to improve its already stable graduate program.

In a lecture titled "The Current Direction of the Humanities and the Graduate Curriculum," Foster offered advice to professors for maintaining the status of the university's programs.

"What I can do...is first of all congratulate you for your decision and your progress on trying to look at your program and make revisions when you're not in crisis mode," Foster said.

At the same time, Foster advised that students should be able to make a living out of what they love.

She said students should not join a graduate program purely for the only reason to find a job, they should also have passion for it.

Foster said gave an example of how she joined a Ph.D program mostly just to secure employment. Under that practical mindset, she found her vocation in teaching.

Mona Narain, associate professor and director of graduate studies for the English department, said that Foster showed great insight of where the graduate program should be going by addressing both realistic and idealistic aspects of this study while reinforcing the passion involved.

"It is in that philosophical sense of educating yourself in a deeper way that I think Dr. Foster really talked about in addition to the very realistic, practical aspects," Narain said.



KERRI FECZKO / STA

Frances Smith Foster spoke on Thursday in Beck-Geren Room in the Brown-Lupton University Union.

EDUCATION

Gay parents a 'no' for local private school

BEDFORD, Texas (AP) — A Christian school in suburban Fort Worth denied admission to a 4-year-old girl after learning her parents are gay.

The couple said their daughter, Olivia, enrolled in a fine arts school Monday, less than a week after she was rejected by St. Vincent's Cathedral School in Bedford.

The private Christian school, which identifies itself as Episcopalian but is affiliated with the Anglican Church in North America, acknowledges it revoked Olivia's spot in class after meeting her mothers at a parents' night last week.

On enrollment forms filled out in June, Jill Harrison said she listed herself as the girl's mother. She crossed out father, and then listed Tracy Harrison's name.

St. Vincent's chaplain Randall Foster said the school takes "a traditional stand on Christian marriage."

"We didn't want to send the tacit message that we endorse the relationship," Foster told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "We cannot do anything that would give legitimacy to same-sex relationships."

Jill Harrison told The Dallas Morning News she expected her children to one day face discrimination because of their parents' relationship. But she said she was surprised it came from a school.

"I can't believe that they would deny a child access to a good school because of my relationship," Harrison said.



7

Bill holds public colleges to more faculty transparency

By Jennifer Iller

Staff Reporter

Though a new bill passed by the Texas Legislature only currently affects public universities, professors at TCU and the University of North Texas said they think it could interfere with an instructor's right to choose his or her own curriculum.

TCU political science professor James Riddlesperger said that while the university, as a private institution, is not affected by the bill, the bill's overall effect is that of a double-edged sword,

According to Texas Legislature Online, Texas House Bill 2504 passed unanimously in June 2009. It requires public institutions of higher education to establish uniform standards and publish online information regarding student evaluation of faculty, course information such as syllabi and required reading, instructor education and teaching experience, and course budget information.

It specifies that information posted must be no more than three links away from the school's home page, and must be accessible without a user name or password.

The writer of the legislation, university alumnae and state Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, said in a *Dallas Morning News* article that the bill will be a great tool to help the consumer.

In light of a sharp increase in the price of tuition, it is very important to have transparency, she said.

Riddlesperger said he believed students would benefit from knowing more about professors when they take their classes. However, a professors' hesitance to publish such information as syllabi and curriculum vitae is not without merit, he said.

"What is troublesome is

when it begins to sound like [the state] is trying somehow to guide the substance of what professors do or their academic freedom," Riddles-

"What is troublesome is when it begins to sounds like [the state] is trying somehow to guide the substance of what professors do or their academic freedom."

James Riddlesperger
Political Science Professor

perger said.

The bill is the first of its kind in the nation, according to a *Dallas Morning News* article.

According to the Texas Conservative Coalition web-

site, it is meant to help families make a more informed choice about course registration

Matthew Eshbaugh-Soha, a political science assistant professor at UNT, said that while the legislation is said to be for parents and prospective students, he wonders who the information is really for. A big worry of faculty academics is that the bill the first step in more government involvement, he said.

Eshbaugh-Soha said he and a majority of his colleagues already post their syllabi and curriculum vitae online. The only difference now is the extra hurdle that says professors have to put information in a specific location, which will increase website costs, he said.

According to an article in the *Dallas Morning News*, other Texas professors said the legislature attempts to interfere with higher education curriculum. Professors interviewed in the article said they believe cultural conservatives would target specific classes and professors based on course content they view as undesirable.

Riddlesperger said he understood the concern, and that he believed introducing controversial topics was simply a part of learning.

"I always tell my students that if I don't say something that offends people during the course of the class then I'm not doing my job...we learn by engaging ideas, even abhorrent ideas," Riddlesperger said.

Similarly, Eshbaugh-Soha said somebody could take information on the syllabus out of context because a syllabus usually isn't the meat of a lecture.

Riddlesperger said he believes there is a high probability the law will interfere with the curriculum. People have to keep in mind that Texas is a conservative state with a conservative political culture and legislators are on a majority vote, he said. They appeal to that conservative prospective and don't have any incentive to protect academic integrity, he said.

Eshbaugh-Soha said the legislation could also potentially cause funding cuts for courses of which the state does not approve.

Texas House Bill 2504Requires public institutions of higher education to:

-Establish uniform standards and publish online information regarding student evaluation of faculty

-Release course information such as syllabi and required reading

-Instructor education and teaching experience

-Course budget information

GRFFK

New Fraternity and Sorority Life director has big plans for campus

By Christa Acuna

Staff Reporter

As Greek life picks up at the start of the fall semester, the new director of Fraternity and Sorority Life Shannon Sumerlin wants to turn plans into action.

The university hired Sumerlin in May to supervise the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council, the two governing bodies that oversee fraternities and sororities on campus.

Mike Russel, executive director for Student Affairs Administration, wrote in an e-mail that Sumerlin met all and exceeded most of the qualifications for the position.

Sumerlin said that getting hired at TCU was a good fit for her.

"I loved working with the students here, the staff here, and just the entire atmosphere of TCU," Sumerlin said. "Continuing my journey in working with fraternities and sororities at a place like TCU was something that fit my style."

Senior strategic commu-

nications major and Panhellenic Executive Board member Megan Smock said that Sumerlin helped make everything happen with her support during events like sorority recruitment, philanthropic events and Panhellenic elections.

"My biggest goal is to have the fraternity and sorority community come together and put themselves out there as the amazing students that they are."

Shannon SumerlinDirector of Fraternity and

Sorority Life

"Shannon has been a huge help and asset during recruitment," Smock said. "Without her, things would not run so smoothly."

Megan Voss, an Southern Methodist University alumna, wrote in an e-mail, "I had the pleasure of working with Shannon as the vice president of recruitment for both my sorority and the Panhellenic Association at SMU and found her to be an excellent mentor and was inspired by her passion for Greek life and ultimately higher education administration."

Sumerlin said she was excited to make advances that had been on the back burner.

"My biggest goal is to have the fraternity and sorority community come together and put themselves out there as the amazing students that they are," Sumerlin said. "They're doing phenomenal things and I want to help increase the visibility of some of the things that they are doing."

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills said that a Greek village was in the university's future plans and that Sumerlin would be involved with the planning in order to determine what would be best for students.

A cost estimate for the housing has not yet been determined.



No autotuning here, say 'American Idol' producers

By Lynn Elber

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Simon Cowell has gone from "American Idol" judge to a potential headache for the show.

A furor over whether Cowell's British talent show "The X Factor" electronically altered contestant voices has prompted "American Idol" to make a pre-emptive strike.

"We have never, nor would we ever, use Auto-Tuning during the 'American Idol' competition," producers of the Fox show said in a statement Thursday, referring to pitch-correcting technology.

"American Idol" viewers can attest that contestants have been regularly scolded for "pitchiness."

The producers' statement, issued in re-

sponse to a query, didn't address a key "American Idol" issue: the replacements for Cowell and another departing judge, Ellen

"We have never, nor would we ever, use Auto-Tuning during the 'American Idol' competition."

Official Statement

American Idol producers

DeGeneres. Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez are the reported front-runners for the judge's panel, which begins its work some-

time after Labor Day.

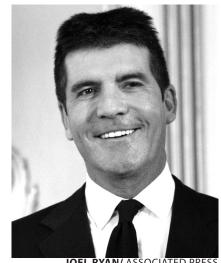
Cowell left the top-rated series at the end of last season and is bringing "The X Factor," which he created in Britain and is hugely popular there, to the Fox network in 2011.

Fans of "The X Factor" have alleged online that pitch-correction software was used to alter some performances. The show's producers responded to the outcry by acknowledging that post-production was used to correct for the interplay of the various microphones used during filming.

The producers vowed to avoid the use of electronic pitch correction.

British media outlets have made hay of the issue, with Cowell a particular target. His photo was featured on the front of Britain's Daily Mirror on Monday, under the caption: "X Faker."

"American Idol" returns in January.



Simon Cowell, during the British Academy Television Awards at the London Palladium in central London.



Some hurt after rough landing

By Robin Hindery

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The tires of a JetBlue airplane caught fire Thursday during a hard landing in Sacramento that left 15 people with minor injuries and sent passengers down emergency slides to escape the aircraft.

Passenger Michelle McDuffie said people onboard felt a thud when the plane touched down about 12:50 p.m. after a flight from Long Beach, but nobody thought there was an emergency until the crew shouted for everyone to exit on the inflat-

able slides. McDuffie saw the

burning tires when she was on the ground.

"I thought, Oh I wish I had gotten my bag off. But I

was just happy that I wasn't hurt," said McDuffie, 33, of Mission Viejo.

The plane appeared to experience trouble with its brakes, and four tires blew out during the landing, airline spokeswoman Sharon Jones said.

The 87 passengers were taken to the

terminal on buses, airport spokeswoman Gina Swankie said.

Everyone was "able to slide down that slide and walk over to our triage," Sacramento Fire Department Capt. Ionathan Burgess said.

'Then they came back on the intercom, sounding surprised or in shock, and said 'I'm not sure how to tell you this, but the wheels caught fire upon landing and the emergency slides had been deployed," Vanatta said.

Hours after the incident, the empty plane had yet to be towed from the runway. About a dozen passengers lingered in the terminal, waiting for their lug-

ing on airport food paid for by JetBlue.

The incident was being investigated by National Transportation

Safety Board.

"I thought, Oh I wish I had got-

ten my bag off. But I was just

happy that I wasn't hurt"

Michelle McDuffie

Associated Press Writers Juliet Williams in Sacramento, and Trevor Hunnicutt. Marcus Wohlsen and Jason Dearen in San Francisco contributed to

14-year-old sails solo toward world record

By Ciaran Giles

Associated Press Writer

MADRID (AP) — A 14-yearold Dutch sailor aiming to become the youngest person to sail solo around the world says she has reached Spain's Canary Islands off northwest Africa but declined Thursday to say where exactly she was.

"Now I'm in the Canary Islands with the first stage of my trip behind me," Laura Dekker wrote on her website. "It was a great first stage that I can look back on with a good feeling.

The message was posted Wednesday but gave no details as to where on the seven-island archipelago she was.

In an email Thursday to The Associated Press, Dekker said she would not specify where she was for fear of attracting the press.

The trip has been shrouded in secrecy since the start. Dekker has also sold exclusive TV rights to her voyage to a Dutch media company.

"Sleeping, eating, navigating and all the other things on board went well," she wrote in the website message.

During her stay she will be

"Now I'm in the Canary Islands with the first stage of my trip behind me, it was a great first stage that I can look back on with a good feeling."

able to catch up on her schoolwork, receive family visits and install cameras on her yacht for a film to be made of the voyage.

Laura set off from Gibraltar on Aug. 21.

Her venture has stirred an intense debate about whether young people should be allowed to sail the world's oceans

After the Canary Islands,

Laura intends to head south to the Cape Verde Islands off west Africa before continuing to the Caribbean on a trip expected to last a year or more.

Laura's website features links titled "My Coordinates" and "Where is Laura," but neither was working Thursday.

Her attempt came after she took measures to reduce objections to her voyage. She purchased a bigger, sturdier boat than the one she originally planned to use and took courses in first aid and coping with sleep deprivation.

In the end, the Dutch court ruled that her preparations were adequate and it was up to her parents, who are divorced, to decide whether to let her make the attempt.

The attempt comes two months after Abby Sunderland, a 16-year-old American, had to be rescued in a remote section of the Indian Ocean during an attempt to circle the globe. Earlier this year, Jessica Watson of Australia completed a 210-day voyage at age 16.

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CRIME

Dallas police chase ends alongside airport runway

Elida S. Perez

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS (AP) — A suspected carjacker led police on an hour-long chase Thursday before crashing through a locked chain-link fence and driving across runways at Dallas Love Field, temporarily halting flights, authorities said

The afternoon chase ended when police surrounded and rammed a pickup truck alongside a busy runway, pulled the shirtless driver from the cab and placed him in handcuffs.

Operations on both major runways were stopped from about 3:20 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., said Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen. One arriving flight

had to make a second approach, and all departures were held on the ground until the chase was over.

The chase began when an undercover police officer spotted a truck that had been reported stolen a day earlier in Fort Worth, Deputy Chief Jesse Reyes said.

Television footage showed police appearing to patiently pursue the slow-moving pickup from expressways to side streets until it drove through the airport fence, along the airport taxiways and past one end of its busiest runway.

Reyes said that once the chase was on a runway "police were prepared to use deadly force." Instead, a patrol car rammed the truck, disabling the vehicle.



LM OTERO / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Law enforcement officers gather around where a chase ended on a taxi runway at Love Field in Dallas, Thursday, Aug. 19, 2010. Police chased a carjacking suspect onto the airport grounds before taking him into custody.

POLITICS

From King to Beck: Big rally at Lincoln Memorial

Philip Elliott

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Glenn Beck says it's just a coincidence his Restoring Honor rally on Saturday at the Lincoln Memorial will take place on the anniversary and at the site of Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Civil rights veterans are skeptical.

"This is going to be a moment that you'll never be able to paint people as haters, racists, none of it," Beck says of the event featuring Sarah Palin and other conservative political and cultural figures. "This is a moment, quite honestly, that I think we reclaim the civil rights movement."

"When we heard about Glenn Beck, it was puzzling," the

Rev. Al Sharpton said. "Because if you read Dr. King's speech, it just doesn't gel with what Mr. Beck or Mrs. Palin are representing."

Beck, a popular figure among tea party activists and a polarizing Fox News Channel personality, is headlining the event, and Palin, the 2008 Republican vice presidential nominee and

"This rally is

about one thing

and one thing

only. And that's

promoting Beck's

political agenda."

Spokesman for Media Matter for

a potential 2012 president candidate, will be a prominent speaker. But Beck told his television audience again on Thursday that it's not about politics.

The event's website says the rally is to pay tribute to America's military personnel and others "who embody our nation's founding principles of integrity, truth and honor." It also is to promote the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, which provides scholarships and services to family members of military members.

The rally, on the 47th anniversary of King's plea for racial equality is drawing a

strong reaction — and several counter-rallies — as the nation looks toward November's elections.

Beck is known for his strong opinions, including his statement that President Barack Obama is a racist; he later told CBS' Katie Couric that he was "sorry the way it was phrased."

But organizers of Saturday's rally are telling attendees not to bring signs, "as they may deter from the peaceful message we are bringing to Washington."

Signs at some tea party events have included pictures of Obama embellished with a Hitler-style mustache, racial epithets and threats to Democratic officials. Such posters have given tea party critics grounds to claim the loose organization of activists is motivated by racism against the nation's first

black president.

"The 8-28 rally is supposedly is about 'reclaiming the civil rights movement,' but it is being led by someone whose idea of a racist is the president of the United States," said Jess Levin, a spokesman for the liberal Media Matters for America. "This rally is about one thing and one thing only. And that's promoting Beck's political agenda."

Elsewhere in Washington, civil rights activists planned to mark Saturday's anniversary of the landmark 1963 speech with rallies and demonstrations, some ending on the National Mall. One group planned a four-story sculpture in honor of King near the Washington Monument. Others

planned to meet at a Washington school.

Sharpton's National Action Network planned a "Reclaim the Dream" rally featuring Education Secretary Arne Duncan, National Urban League president Marc Morial and Martin Luther King III.

In an opinion piece for The Washington Post, King said of Beck's event that it's "commendable that this rally will honor the brave men and women of our armed forces who serve our country with phenomenal dedication." But he also said it was clear the organizers were invoking his father's work.

"My father championed free speech. He would be the first to say that those participating in Beck's rally have the right to express their views," King wrote Wednesday. "But his dream rejected hateful rhetoric and all forms of bigotry or discrimination, whether directed at race, faith, nationality, sexual orientation or political beliefs."

In the 47 years since King's speech, it has become a staple of civil rights history.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," he said on Aug. 28, 1963.

Beck has sought to play down any comparisons to the slain civil rights leader.

And on Thursday, Beck repeated his claim that he didn't realize he was scheduling the event on the anniversary.

"I'm sorry, oh so important media, that I forgot the date," he said in a mocking tone. "It's not the date. It's the message."





GOLE

Woods shoots 65 for his best round of the year

Doug Ferguson

AP Golf Writer

PARAMUS, N.J. (AP) — Yes, that really was Tiger Woods' name atop the leader-board

In his first tournament since his divorce, Woods finally looked like the No. 1 player in the world Thursday at the Barclays when he opened with a 6-under 65, his lowest score of the year, to share the lead with Vaughn Taylor. It was his first time leading after any round on the PGA Tour since the Tour Championship last September.

"It's exciting to hit the ball flush again," Woods said. "It's something I've been missing all year."

He didn't miss much at Ridgewood Country Club. Woods hit all but one fairway and putted for birdie on all but two holes.

Was it just a coincidence that his game showed up so soon after his marriage was dissolved?

"I can't really say that's the case," he said. "As far as golf, it was nice to put it together."

Woods and Taylor both played in the morning, when the greens were smooth and the conditions were only breezy. They had a one-shot lead over Adam Scott, Brian Gay and Ryan Palmer. Scott played in the afternoon, where a gust of wind played tricks on him at the final hole and led to bogey.

Scott endured a long day in the pro-am Wednesday and didn't think Ridgewood

would serve up a 65 to anyone.

"Seeing some good scores this morning made me change my mind," he said.

That one of those scores belonged to Woods was hardly a surprise.

"For him to piece things together can't be too hard," Scott said. "He's very good."

The last time Woods' was atop the leaderboard after any round of any tournament was when he won the Australian Masters on Nov. 15, less than two weeks before his life caved in on him — the car crash after Thanksgiving night, details of adultery, five months away from the game and a broken marriage, which officially ended Monday.



MEL EVANS / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiger Woods answers a question during a news conference after the first round of The Barclays golf tournament Thursday, Aug. 26, 2010, in Paramus, N.J.

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"Intelligence without ambition is a bird without wings."
-Salvador Dali

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COLUMN

MWC crisis averted



Josh Davis

Mountain West Conference Commissioner Craig Thompson is smarter than John F. Kennedy.

He's got to be. It took Kennedy 13 days to end the Cuban Missile Crisis. If a report from The Denver Post yesterday is true, it only took Thompson 10 days to end the equivalent for the Mountain West.

Around 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 17, a nasty rumor hit Twitter.

Sports by Brooks, a sports rumor and gossip site, tweeted that BYU would soon be leaving the Mountain West to move to the Western Athletic Conference for all sports except football, where they would compete as an independent. This came after Utah announced earlier this summer it would be leaving the Frogs' conference for a Pac-10 position in 2011.

Make no mistake, BYU's leaked plan was a nuclear weapon aimed at the remaining teams in the Mountain West.

Boise State is scheduled to join the league in 2011, but with BYU

gone, no one was sure of status. The conference's TV network, The Mtn., has yet to turn a profit and might have been unfeasible without the Cougars. Not to mention, if Boise, Utah and BYU were all out, TCU couldn't have been too far behind.

For much of the next morning, Thompson, the Mountain West and TCU's futures were all closely linked. TCU was not going to the Big 12 or Pac-10. If The Mtn. collapsed, the Horned Frogs' only options would have been to move back to Boise's WAC, where they last played in 2000, or maybe a return to Conference USA, the school's last home.

The Mtn. began when BYU wanted out of the WAC in 1999. Unhappy about Thompson's TV deal (who isn't?), the Cougars were again shaking up the snow globe just to see where the flurries fell.

It was selfish and extreme, and required an equally selfish and extreme move. After all, it was an arms race.

By the afternoon of Aug. 18, Thompson announced Fresno State and Nevada would be joining the conference. Both came from the WAC, and it seemed they were a consolation prize after any chance of an automatic BCS berth walked out of the door with the BYU Cougars.

However, Thompson's quick maneuvering while WAC Commissioner Karl Benson was moving his daughter into USC (all is fair in realignment and war) may have saved his conference.

With Fresno State and Nevada gone, so went the WAC. A conference must have eight teams to be recognized by the NCAA. After Thompson grabbed Fresno and Nevada, the WAC was down to six members for 2011.

Benson said his league will expand again, but the quality of those new members is not likely to be high. And all would have to be Cougar opponents down the line, should they leave.

BYU has not announced their plans yet, but a report in the Denver Post yesterday said multiple sources confirmed the Cougars will return to the Mountain West once they can reach an agreement on the TV argument.

BYU would like to broadcast some of their games on BYU-TV, their own network. The Mtn. will have to allow it, but if the report comes true and the Cougars return it would be a huge win for Thompson.

The league may not have won handily, just as the end of the Missile Crisis was not the end of the Cold War. But in the face of annihilation, survival is victory and Thompson secured the Mountain West's survival.

Josh Davis is a senior broadcast journalism major from Dallas.

BASEBALL

Texas advances in Little League World Series

By Genaro C. Armas

Associated Press

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Powerful Pearland, Texas played small ball before Mason Van Noort's bat gave them a huge boost.

Now the sluggers from the Southwest are headed to the U.S. final of the Little League World Series.

Texas overcame an early 4-0 deficit with four runs in the sixth, including Van Noort's tiebreaking blast to left, for a dramatic 7-5 win Thursday over Auburn, Wash.

"Amazing," said a smiling 12-year-old Jaron Roblyer, whose homer in the fourth gave Texas its first run. "We're one of the best two teams in the United States."

They'll play for the U.S. title Saturday against either Waipahu, Hawaii or Columbus, Ga., who will have a rematch Friday after Hawaii's 7-4 win Thursday night.

Pinch hitter Justice Nakagawa's three-run homer to right-center in the third gave Hawaii a 5-0 lead and Waipahu staved off elimination. Noah Shackles struck out nine and allowed four hits over five-plus innings.

Kobie Buglioli had two RBIs, and Georgia scored three runs in the sixth before reliever Keolu Ramos ended the game by getting a groundout.

The international final Saturday is already set with unbeatens Japan and Taiwan playing for the right to move on to the World Series championship game Sunday.

For now, the Texans may relax and relish a come-from-behind win after staying away Wednesday night from the recreation room at the players' complex to concentrate on their make-or-break game.

"We don't want to do anything stupid that makes us lose a game or something, stay up too late, or get up too early to go to the rec room," Roblyer said.

He's earned a break after the team's come-from-behind performance.

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Purple Poll

Do you really think the stadium needs to be renovated and why?

Web Results

Yes: 83 No: 32

www.dailyskiff.com/purplepoll.html to vote in the new Purple Poll.



"In a way I do, because my parents have...tickets and they come to each game. And they're way far up in the stands... it's just hard in the heat to walk so far."

Nicole Garrison

Junior Advertising Major



"Yes, I think it should be renovated because we have a better football team this year."

Eric Bane

Freshman Biology Major



"When you're No. 6 in the country, and you want that kind of publicity, then yes, you need a new stadium."

Anthony Hernandez



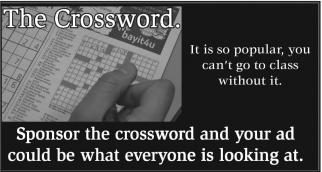
"I don't think it's in desperate need of renovation. I think it's really nice—it's nicer than a lot of the other schools'."

Brittany Henderson

Freshman Communication Studies Major

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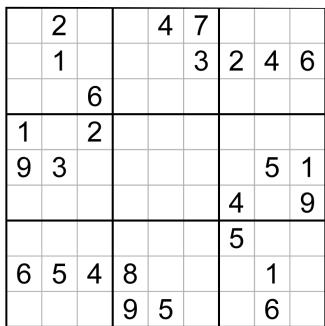
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- ACROSS 1 W.E.B. Du Bois was among its founders
- founders
 6 Coot's cousin
 10 Barcelona-born
 muralist
 14 Of an arm bone
 15 Coastal predator
 16 Hawaii neighbor
 17 "The Wreck of
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- 18 Benefit 19 Far Hills, N.J.-
- based sports org. 20 Oil company's penchant for employee transfers?
- transfers?
 23 Pennzoil letters
 24 Carrier with a
 hub at LAX
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 26 Arena cheer
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- 37 Red 38 Peruvian address
- 38 Peruvian address
 41 "Liz: The
 Elizabeth Taylor
 Story" star
 Sherilyn
 42 Puccini offering
 44 "___ Woman":
 1975 hit
- 45 Muy, across the Pyrenees
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- tears? 50 "Wheel of

- 50 "Wheel of Fortune" buy 51 Half a cocktail 52 "Kinda" suffix 53 Half-witted 56 Pigmentation variations? 60 Pedestal 62 Like Erté's art 63 Any Frankie
- 63 Any Frankie
- Avalon song 64 Follow 65 Gardener, at times 66 Like many a
- motel air conditioner
- 67 Crown's girl, in a 1935 opera 68 "Gotcha"

By Mike Peluso

generally bottled up? 69 One who's

DOWN

- 1 Sculptors' subjects 2 Billy Joel's
- 2 Billy Joel's
 daughter
 3 Has __to grind
 4 Puccini's "O mio
 babbino __"
 5 Asset protection
 plan, briefly
 6 Determined
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- 7 __-Israeli War 8 Equitable way to pay 9 Sobieski of "Joy
- Ride" (2001)
 10 Blue books?
 11 1969 road movie
- 12 Toupee 13 Madre's hermana
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BOTTE

34 Climbers'

S K I D S

SACK

- 39 Man, e.g. 40 See, and then
- some 43 Fighting 47 Kingsley role
 48 Family gathering
 staples
 49 Crowd
- 54 Formal doorstep response
- 55 "Yeah,

H A Y

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

P A V E M E N T B R A K E S S N E E R A T W E E P A L S

A T M A S S I G N R O O F
D R A W L A T O I I N L A
D I G I T A L M N E T F L I X

GAS

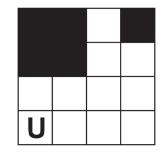
right!!"
57 F and G, but not H
58 Slurpee

BULLSEYE

8/27/10

TRAIL

- alternative 59 __ gin 60 Sportscaster Costas
- 61 Harlem Globetrotters founder



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How to play:

Spell the phrase in the grid above it, writing each unique letter only once. The correct solution will spell the complete phrase along a single continuous spelling path that moves horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Fill the grid from square to square revisiting letters as needed to complete the spelling path in order. Each letter wil lappear only once in the grid.



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Thursday's Solutions



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Directions

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

See Wednesday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Thursday's Solution

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

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BASEBALL

Lupton Stadium is next on university's renovation list

By Josh Davis

Senior Reporter

With the renovation of Amon G. Carter Stadium fully funded and slated for the end of the football stadium, Chancellor Victor Boschini said Monday that the athletic department's next major construction project will be an expansion of Lupton Stadium, the university's baseball stadium, in the next two or three seasons.

Boschini said expansion wouldn't be until the next two years, but any decisions would not be fully approved until the Board of Trustees meets in November. Lupton Stadium opened in 2003, and the university has set attendance records in each of the last three years.

In 2009, elevated patios were added to the right field line and covered porches were added behind first and third base.

While discussing the football stadium renovation, Boschini said the "quality of the stadium did not match the quality of the program."

Boschini said the university aspires to keep all facilities equivalent to the programs they house. While acknowledging that Daniel-Meyer Coliseum was also in need of improvements, Boschini said that after last season's College World Series run, the baseball program is in great shape.

Boschini said Lupton Stadium will be the first to be renovated because the university wants to capitalize on the team's success.

"I think baseball will go first because the momentum is there for baseball, unfortunately for the other sports."

Victor Boschini

Chancellor

"I think baseball will go first because the momentum is there for baseball, unfortunately for the other sports," Boschini said.

Mark Cohen, director of athletics media relations, said the athletic department would not comment on any possible expansion or renovations until they were official university projects.

Boschini said he was not sure when the Board of Trustees approval might come.



MATT COFFELT / STAFF

An interior shot of the TCU Baseball stadium, Lupton Stadium.

Delta Delta Delta



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VOLLEYBALL

Team seeks clean slate from previous loss to University of Texas

By Nathan DeWitt

Staff Writer

The Horned Frog women's volleyball team will begin the 2010 season right where it left off at the end of the 2009 season—in Austin, Texas.

The University of Texas ended the Horned Frog's season a year ago in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

This weekend's mini-tournament will consist of host team Texas,, TCU, McNeese State University and the University of Houston. Each team is scheduled to play three games over a two-day span. The Horned Frogs will to begin the tournament with games against Houston and preseason-ranked Texas (2).

TCU finished with a record of 27-7 in 2008, a school record for wins. Head Coach Prentice Lewis said the squad has been work-

ing hard over the past few months to prepare for the season. The team finished summer camp by dominating the alumnae 3-1 last Saturday, she said.

"This (alumnae) game was definitely to help us get

"This (alumni) game was definitely to help us get better for the season," Lewis said. "We don't play any games just for fun."

Prentice Lewis TCU Head Coach

better for the season," Lewis said. "We don't play any games just for fun."

Returning players senior Irene Hester and junior Christy Hudson, who both hit 0.34 percent in

the alumnae game, will be counted on as leaders for the younger, less experienced players, Lewis said.

She said she hopes the Frogs will continue playing strong on the road as they did last season last season. They were 9-5 in games away from Fort Worth. TCU was 5-3 in season openers under Coach Lewis.

The Horned Frogs lost three seniors to graduation last season, but they have nine starters returning this season.

"We have progressed very well," Lewis said. "We have found surprise people that have stood out."

Lewis said the Frogs know they have to play one game at a time, being careful not to overlook anyone.

"We know their (Texas') tendencies, we know they're a tall team," Lewis said. "We know what we have to do to beat them."



SKIFF ARCHIVE

Senior Irene Hester, junior at the time of the picture, sets the ball against Air Force last season. They went on to win the match 3-0.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Teamwork essential to victory when Horned Frogs play USC

By Jack Matusek

Staff Writer

The TCU women's soccer team takes on the No. 19 University of Southern California Trojans Friday night at Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium.

USC opened the season with a loss to the University of San Diego, a game in the team lost two players to injury, according to the USC athletics website. The Frogs opened the season with a loss to Texas Tech and came back with a win against Texas Southern on Sunday.

Head coach Dan Abdalla said he had already been prepping his team for the upcoming challenge. Abdalla said USC is a talented team and the Frogs will have to play as a team the entire game in order to win.

"This week we really need to find a rhythm and just fine-tune," Abdalla said.

Overall, Abdalla said the team must capitalize on the opportunities available.

"We will get our opportunities. We just have to take full advantage of them," Abdalla said.

TCU junior forward Jordan Calhoun scored two goals in the win against Texas Southern. Last year Calhoun received numerous national awards, including a spot on Soccer Buzz Magazine's Central Region Freshman All-America Squad.

According to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America website, USC

was ranked No. 19 and TCU was unranked in a recent Top-25 preseason poll. In 2009, USC made its fifth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance and was eliminated in the first round.

"The most important thing is to realize that we are playing USC," Calhoun said. "They may bring more intensity than other teams, but they are still just another team."

"We always seem to get up for big games," Calhoun said. "We are going to go out and play a good game."

Senior midfielder Jackie Torda emphasized that the team must come together to defeat USC.

The game against USC is the "first game under the lights at home", Torda said.

"We really have to go out there and work hard and work for each other," she said.

The TCU women's soccer team takes on the USC Trojans Friday at 7 p.m. at Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium.

TCU vs. USC

When: 7 p.m. tonight Where: Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium

TCU vs. Sam Houston State

When: 1 p.m. Sunday Where: Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium



Lupton Stadium may be BASEBALL the next athletics facility renovated. Page 18

SPORTS

The Women's Horned Frogs Soccer prepares for the USC Trojans Friday. Page 19



COURTESY OF TCU ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS

Amon G. Carter Stadium had record setting attendance last season when TCU played Utah. TCU would go on to a perfect regular season, winning the Mountain West Conference.

Record-breaking ticket sales result of last season

of everybody's home-

town team even if you

didn't go to TCU."

Colleen Shutts

Fort Worth resident

By Madison Pelletier

Sports Editor

Horned Frog spirit has taken over the Fort Worth community, resulting in a new record for the amount of TCU season football tickets sold, an alumna said.

"My husband and I both agreed that we really feel like the whole community is getting behind TCU football," Colleen Shutts said. "Its really becoming...kind of everybody's hometown team even if you didn't go

TCU Director of Ticket Operations Sean Conner said over 17,700 TCU football season tickets had been purchased as of Thursday.

Conner said he thinks the increase in sales comes from the excitement generated from last seasons success. The job Coach Patterson and his team are doing on the field has also fueled the increase in sales, he

Conner said the support from the city of

Fort Worth and Fort Worth Mayor Mike Moncrief helped generate the increase in

said the increase in ticket sales reflected the dedication of TCU students, faculty, staff, alumni and the Fort Worth community.

"There's a buzz about TCU football," Cohen said. "It just shows the momentum we have here."

Cohen said he expected tickets to continue to be purchased until the home opener on Sept. 11.

"There's been a steady flow of business at our ticket office," Cohen said. "And it's great when the ticket office is hopping."

This season marks the Shutts' fourth year to own TCU season football tickets. Shutts said she and her husband never had any doubt that they would renew their season

Shutts and her husband share a tailgate spot with 13 people, including her brother and sister-in-law, she said. Shutts said she is Director of Media Relations Mark Cohen big on tailgating but she always makes sure to go into the games. "Its really becoming...kind

"It's nice to have a tail-

gate spot but we want to make sure everyone gets into the game as well," Shutts said.

The previous record for season ticket sales was set in 2007 with 14,490 tickets sold. Cohen said the

increase in ticket sales was reflective of the strong athletics programs at TCU.

TCU broke single-season attendance records in four sports last year, Cohen said.

'We had records in football, soccer, volleyball and baseball," he said.

Amon G. Carter Stadium will be undergoing a \$105 million renovation and is expected to seat more than 40,000 fans after its completion in 2012. If ticket sales continue to rise as expected, Cohen said the stadium could be expanded to seat 50,000.

Shutts said she is excited to have one last season at the quaint little stadium that she has always remembered.

"I know that the stadium is doing the renovation and it's going to be bigger and more beautiful and have a lot more amenities," Shutts said. "But this season I think it will just be about appreciating the old stadium before they make those upgrades."

> Emily Agee and Rebecca Jeffrey contributed to the story.

Season tickets start at \$120 and can be purchased at www.gofrogs.com or by calling (817) 257-FROG.