



See how the volleyball team fared in its conference-opener last night. Sports, page 6

Lance Armstrong shouldn't attempt a comeback. Tomorrow in Opinion

Professors discuss possibility of sports broadcasting major. Tomorrow in News



Dormitory to get \$10 million renovation

By Mischa Astroff
Staff Reporter

Milton Daniel Hall will soon receive new plumbing, heating and air conditioning in every room as part of a \$10 million renovation at the end of the 2008-2009 school year, a university official said.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the hall will be gutted and rebuilt from the inside out. Student input was considered in the design of the hall's renovations, which will require closing the dorm for a year, said Milton Daniel

Hall Director Christopher Sewalish.

The renovated Milton Daniel Hall will probably lose 5 to 10 percent of its available beds due to the new configurations, Mills said. There will also be an increase in the cost to live in Milton after the renovation, Brown said.

The prices of the rooms and the number of beds will not be known until after the designs are finalized, Brown said. When asked about whether the renovation will take away possible places for students to live on campus, Sewalish said the design isn't set in stone.

"The designers are very conscious of space and bed count and are working hard to maximize space for beds," Sewalish said.

Inside walls will be taken down in order to facilitate an assortment of room designs, Mills said, citing Clark Hall as a model for the desired result of Milton Daniel's redesign.

"We're trying to connect Milton with the Campus Commons and the Recreation Center," Mills said.

Possible designs include a pathway between the Commons and the Univer-

sity Recreation Center or landscaping that emphasizes the area between the buildings. The new design will also include updated technology throughout the building, as well as home theater lounges and possibly an in-hall library, Mills said.

Justin Brown, senior psychology major and student representative on the Milton Daniel committee, said the hall will also be renovated with environmental sustainability in mind. The hall will be renovated to meet Leadership Energy in Environmental Design standards, he said.

HARDCOVER FICTION BEST SELLERS

- 1 DARK CURSE by Christine Feehan
- 2 THE BOOK OF LIES by Brad Meltzer
- 3 AMERICAN WIFE by Curtis Sittenfeld
- 4 DEVIL BONES by Kathy Reichs
- 5 THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows
- 6 THE HOST by Stephenie Meyer
- 7 THE GYPSY MORPH by Terry Brooks
- 8 SILKS by Dick Francis and Felix Francis
- 9 THE STORY OF EDGAR SAWTELLE by David Wroblewski
- 10 SMOKE SCREEN by Sandra Brown

SGA will hand out T-shirts today to promote Spirit Week and Saturday's football game against Southern Methodist University. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., "Pony Down" shirts will be given away at Market Square to the first 1,500 students who show up.

PECULIAR FACT

KATHMANDU, Nepal — Hundreds of disco workers protested in Kathmandu on Monday against a government crackdown on "nude dancing" in its bid to improve the deteriorating law and order.

—Reuters



People should lend a helping hand. Opinion, Page 3

WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny
84 / 61
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny
86 / 62
Saturday: Sunny
86 / 61



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

FACE THE FANS



Bob Schieffer, moderator of CBS' "Face the Nation" and TCU alumnus, signs copies of his new book, "Bob Schieffer's America," at the Barnes & Noble on University Drive. A large crowd of students, alumni and fans gathered for Wednesday's book signing.

Alumnus greeted by crowd at signing

By Katie Martinez
Staff Reporter

Returning to his Fort Worth roots, TCU alumnus Bob Schieffer signed copies of his new book, "Bob Schieffer's America," at the University Park Village Barnes & Noble on Wednesday. Schieffer, the longtime moderator of CBS' "Face the Nation," said he felt good to be back in Fort Worth and even ran into a few old friends at the event.

A line of about 100 fans formed just before the signing began at 1 p.m. Some were TCU students and alumni, others just longtime fans of

Schieffer.

"What's so nice about him is that he never forgot where he came from," said Stubby Goodman, of Granbury. "He genuinely loves Fort Worth, and we love him."

Schieffer posed for photographs with TCU journalism students, whose school is his namesake, and made conversation with fans of his commentaries.

Riki Shackelford, an alumnus, waited almost an hour to get her book signed, but said it was definitely worth the wait.

"I have been educated and entertained by Mr. Schieffer for as long as I

can remember," she said. "I feel privileged to actually meet him."

When asked if he might consider teaching at TCU after his retirement, he smiled.

"I don't want to commit to anything," he said. "But I would like to become more involved with the school."

Pat Schieffer, Bob's wife of 42 years, said she doubts he will ever retire.

"He loves what he does," she said. "I can't imagine him doing anything else."

After the public book signing, Schieffer attended an invitation-only event

SEE SCHIEFFER · PAGE 2

ELECTION 2008

Location of registration not factor in financial aid

By Jessica Reho
Staff Reporter

A recent voter registration incident at Virginia Tech has prompted concern among students that registering using their university addresses might cost them their financial aid.

TCU students need not worry about voting penalizations, because voter registration is not used to determine residency in consideration for federal financial aid, said Michael Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid.

"It's a nonissue," Scott said.

But at Virginia Tech, students were led to believe it was an issue.

In late August, as a voter registration drive-by supporters of Sen. Barack Obama, was signing up thousands of students, the local registrar of elections issued two incorrect releases pertaining to students who used their school addresses to register, The New York Times reported Sept. 8.

The releases warned these students could no longer be claimed as dependents on their parents' tax returns and could lose scholarships or coverage under their parents' car and health insurance, The Times reported. The Internal Revenue Service said this was incorrect, according to the article.

A 1979 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court, Symm v. U.S., allowed students to register at their college address, said Adam Goldstein, an attorney advocate with the Student Press

SEE REGISTRATION · PAGE 2

Students put on country concert at downtown bar

By Rylee Nye
Staff Reporter

Senior entrepreneurial management major Rob Baird is expecting friendly faces and favorable weather tonight as he headlines on the patio at 8.0.

Baird said he has been writing and performing his original Texas country songs since his freshman year at TCU and has a growing repertoire of original songs with a few cover songs mixed in. He released an album in late 2006 and is currently recording for a promotional CD.

Baird is also working to find a road band of musicians that he connects with, manager Matthew Layton said.

"Rob is a captivating individual," Layton said. "People meet him once and they want to be wherever he is."

Matthew Layton
Rob Baird's manager

"It should be a beautiful night out on the patio, and we are hoping to see some familiar faces from TCU," Baird said.

There is a \$5 cover, and guests must be 21 or older to attend. The show will begin at 9:30 p.m. Opening for Baird tonight is Telegraph Canyon, another local band.

SEE RACISM · PAGE 2

Speaker: Flexibility strength of Constitution

By Logan Wilson
Staff Reporter

A TCU alumnus returned to campus Wednesday as part of the university's celebration of Constitution Day.

Jeffrey Richard, president and chief executive officer of the Austin Area Urban League, said he geared his speech, "Racism and the Constitution: Then and Now," toward being a reflection on how far our country has come and how far it may have yet to go.

Richard earned a Bachelor of Science in political science and economics at TCU and a master's degree in urban economic development from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Richard dedicated the speech to his father, who died 11 days ago. He said his father had grace, ambition and intelligence, but when he was born in 1938 there was no real prospect he could accomplish anything because he was black.

"When I was born, my parents couldn't

vote," Richard said. "What if the law hadn't changed?"

Written into the Constitution is the idea that all men are created equal, yet throughout history there are examples of this simple, but profound, idea being disregarded, Richard said.

"We are all captives, prisoners of our own time," Richard said. "But here's the great thing; the best thoughts can transcend time."

Richard said one of the greatest qualities of the Constitution is that it is malleable, and that wiser minds are able to stretch its definitions.

"That's the beauty of this document," Richard said. "It is set in time, and it is timeless. It is firmly rooted in cultural tradition, but it is malleable."

Richard said an example of this is how the definition of the phrase "all men are created equal" has changed. Its original definition meant that all property-owning men are created equal — the current definition means all men and women, property-owning or not, are created

equal. This is important because it has become clear there is something universal about the human experience, Richard said.

"There is no black ambition, no white ambition," Richard said. "There's just ambition."

Donald Jackson, director of the Center for Civic Literacy and Herman Brown professor of political science, said the Constitution is fundamental to understanding America's form of government, and it's important for students to reflect on it.

"Students need to be aware of the tensions and the strains that are on the Constitution, because the Constitution is meaningful only in the sense that each generation understands and accepts it and insists on its continuation," Jackson said. "Otherwise, it's a figment."

Richard, a former student of Jackson, reiterated the importance of the Constitution, which he said has the ability to

NEWS & SPORTS

RACISM

continued from page 1

buttress the hopes of generations. "Our Constitution is among the most unique documents in the world," Richard said. "It captures the aspirations of multiple generations, and it fires aspirations for future generations."

Brian Banks, a sophomore history major, attended the presentation and said it was very enlightening.

"Our Constitution is among the most unique documents in the world. It captures the aspirations of multiple generations, and it fires aspirations for future generations."

Jeffrey Richard
president and chief executive officer of the Austin Area Urban League

"It was interesting how he [Richard] tied racism to the Constitution but also talked about the election and the government in general," Banks said. "The background information he provided also helped the audience relate to him."

Cara Smith, a sophomore political science major, said the most interesting part of the presenta-



JESSICA REHO / Staff Reporter
Jeffrey Richard, a TCU alumnus, speaks to students Wednesday in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center about how the malleability of the Constitution helped shape the country.

tion was Richard's discussion of how America is becoming majority minority, and that minorities once fought to be a part of the general population, but now fight to be the sole minority.

As a recipient of federal funds, TCU is required to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the draft of the Constitution, Jackson said. The university's celebra-

tion of Constitution Day was put together by the Center for Civic Literacy.

In addition to last night's presentation at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitor's Center, the public was invited to symbolically sign the Constitution on the American Bar Association's Web site. More than 2,200 people added their signatures.

SCHIEFFER

continued from page 1

at the Brown-Lupton University Union.

Local television personalities such as CBS station KTVT's former anchorman Tracy Rowlett and NBC 5's Bobbie Wygant mingled with professors and university officials.

Wygant, who Schieffer has credited with helping launch his career, said she was preparing to fly to New York where Schieffer will receive a Lifetime Achievement

Award from the National Academy of Arts and Sciences

on Monday.

"As a fellow professional, I would say that Bob epitomizes the very best of our profession," she said.

Freelance journalist Betty Buckley, who has known Schieffer since the early 1960s, said Schieffer has created an incredible legacy for the city.

"Just like his brother Tom is an ambassador for the United States, Bob is an ambassador for Fort Worth," she said. "Everywhere he goes, he represents us."

Other notable guests included Star-Telegram columnist Bud Kennedy and former Fort Worth mayor Kenneth Barr.

"As a fellow professional, I would say that Bob epitomizes the very best of our profession."

Bobbie Wygant
NBC 5 journalist

"Bob is a great Fort Worth success story," Barr said. "He has been in the spotlight and connected with international news in so many ways and he is obviously very proud of his relationship with TCU."

MATCHUPS

continued from page 6

11 solo tackles. He also has 3.5 tackles for loss.

SMU: Sophomores Pete Fleps and Justin Smart are holding down the linebacker positions for SMU with a combined 45 tackles. Fleps is leading the team with 24 tackles and is tied for the lead with three pass breakups and two fumbles forced.

Advantage: TCU

Defensive Backs

TCU: The defensive backs for the Frogs are coming off an impressive game against Stanford, in which they allowed just 122 passing yards. Stephen Hodge had six tackles and a forced fumble in last

week's victory.

SMU: The defensive backs for SMU have allowed 1,003 passing yards on the season, including 513 against Texas Tech last week. Sophomore Tyler Jones had six tackles and a pass breakup against Texas Tech.

Advantage: TCU

Special Teams

TCU: The Frogs are 13th in the nation in average punt return with an average of 19.88 yards per return. Sophomore Jeremy Kerley is responsible for most of that success with 159 yards on eight returns.

SMU: Senior Thomas Morstead is third in the nation with a punt average of 47.85 yards per attempt on eight punts. The Mustangs have

no one ranked in the top 80 in the nation among punt returners.

Advantage: TCU

Coaches

TCU: Gary Patterson has led the Frogs to victory in all but one game in his tenure as head coach against SMU. Patterson's team leads the nation in time of possession with an average of 37:30 per game.

SMU: June Jones coached some big games at Hawaii, including the Sugar Bowl against Georgia last year, but this is first year in the TCU-SMU rivalry. SMU's defense has allowed opponents to convert 64.4 percent of third downs, ranking them second worst in the nation.

Advantage: TCU

REGISTRATION

continued from page 1

Law Center.

Randall Dillard, director of communications for Texas secretary of state Hope Andrade, said Texas students have two choices: they can either register in the county where they attend

school or in the county of their permanent address. Out-of-state students should consult with officials from their home state on regulations and guidelines, Dillard said.

Oct. 6 is the last day to complete voter registration for the Nov. 4 presidential election, Dillard said.

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WHICH WICH?
SUPERIOR SANDWICHES

WHICH WICH IS NOW ACCEPTING FROG BUCKS

OPINION

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The Skiff View

SGA should pass endorsement bill

If the Student Government Association wants to improve support among students, it has to pass the bill allowing student organizations to support candidates.

There doesn't seem to be a reason for SGA to not allow this bill to pass.

The worst that can happen is students will become more knowledgeable about the candidates and can decide to support them. Isn't that what all politicians, no matter how powerful, want?

SGA might not want to jeopardize the sanctity of its elections with organizations creating Facebook groups to support one of the candidates. However, these organizations and even Facebook groups will be able to educate students and maybe help them to vote for a candidate they feel strongly about.

Although a group supporting a candidate may not help the handful of students in an organization who don't feel the same way as their peers, the groups can help inform its members about the candidate. If someone in a group disagrees, that almost works out better for SGA because that person will and should stand up for what they think. This way of thinking will continue to give students more information about SGA and the candidates, helping them decide to vote for who they truly agree with.

An even better reason to do this is to get the word out about elections sooner.

If you were to tell a group that supports you there is going to be an election next week, that will give them a chance to plan an event to help students understand who and what to vote for.

If nothing else, this strategy should at least improve the number of students who vote so we don't have to see the embarrassing numbers of less than 1,000 students voting for SGA officials on a campus out of about 8,000 undergraduate students.

Sports editor Billy Wessels for the editorial board.

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

YOUR VIEW opinion@dailyskiff.com

Pro-choice doesn't mean supporting equal rights

It is disheartening to read editorials like the one I read in the Sept. 9 edition of the Skiff. The author, who suggests that Gov. Sarah Palin is "not the correct choice to win (Hillary) Clinton supporters," is so misguided. What is most disturbing about her article is her comment in the third paragraph that "Clinton voters were typically older women who support equal rights and opportunities for their gender." She then adds, or at least infers, that because Palin does not support abortion, she does not support equal rights. Then, the author proceeds to denigrate Palin, suggesting that she is someone much less than what I believe history will prove her to be. But that's for another day.

Abortion? Equal rights? I'm trying to understand how anyone can suggest that by being pro-abortion, one is also supporting equal rights. Because the truth is it is exactly the opposite. But I don't fault the writer (and others under 35 years old), as they were all born after the infamous Roe v. Wade decision in 1973, which set off perhaps the most heinous crimes in history; so for their entire lives, they have had to live under the cloud of the "culture of death" that has hovered over our nation ever since that court case. And unless they are prone to search for the truth, all they may know or understand is the environment in which they've grown up — one in which we, as a nation, have often become so complacent, so selfish, so self-serving that we see simple truths as whatever we want them to be. Every day, for example, as many as 4,400 babies are aborted, according to several anti-abortion Web sites; yet it has become so accepted and commonplace that few even take notice.

In any event, regardless of what pro-abortion advocates may believe or want us to believe, science has proved when life — a real "living organism of human species" — begins, it begins at conception. That's not an opinion, that's a fact, supported by science. And for that human species, that child in the womb, science has also verified a heartbeat by the 22nd day after conception.

With the above in mind, let's talk for a moment about the equal rights which the author affirms pro-abortion supporters

so proudly espouse. My response is very simple — every human is endowed by our creator with the right to be born. It is the most basic and fundamental principle of natural law, and is reinforced by our Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. And because that right is God-given, it is not negotiable — no person, no government, no law, no court decision — nothing — should be able to take it away. The right to be born (or the right not to be killed) has to be the starting point — the foundation on which all other laws must be based. And it has to apply to all. Otherwise, at the moment that we the people believe that we have the right to grant or deny the most basic of all human rights, to decide who should be protected and who shouldn't be, who should live or who should die without cause, we have placed ourselves above God, and when we do that, we can't help but lose our way. To demonstrate how far we have fallen, how much we have lost our way, all one needs to do is go back to the third paragraph of the Sept. 9 article — it is so painfully obvious that abortion is the ultimate, most extreme denier of equal rights for all, but especially for our first neighbors, the helpless, the defenseless, the poorest of the poor, the child in the womb. Yet there are many who believe, and want you to believe, that abortion rights means equal rights for all.

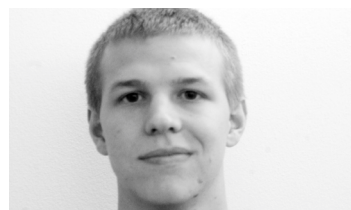
The writer is of course free to support any person or candidate she chooses. But if she is truly in search of one who supports equal rights for all, then the truth — THE TRUTH — is that she need look no further than Palin. If that remains too difficult, perhaps she should try to see Palin through the eyes of her 5-month-old son. While I expect this may prompt some comments, both positive and negative, there is one thing that I ask of anyone who may choose to respond. Please do a little research first. Make sure you really know what an abortion is — that you really understand the various methods used to perform abortions, and that you really understand the excruciating pain most aborted babies endure.

David Mestemaker is the Physical Plant assistant director of resources from Hudson Oaks.



Nate Beeler / MCT

BLUU needs a better nickname



BRUNO BRUELHART

Every time I look at the new University Union, I cannot help but feel a small part of my TCU experience has been robbed from me. With a \$49.3 million price tag, the Brown-Lupton University Union was finally finished Aug. 18, ushering in a new era of students paying an average of \$8 for a meal and getting lost in the process. It has replaced the Brown-Lupton Student Center, a building most sophomores and above could appreciate.

It was in the Student Center that most of my final admissions application was processed and completed. I remember it being the first building I walked into on TCU's campus several years ago. Not only did I receive my first ID card and finish enrolling for class in this building, but I could eat there too as long as I budgeted myself on \$1,700. After several years of enjoying this building, it was brutally demolished without so much as a second thought, all in the name of progress. Well if progress costs an estimated \$155 million

this year alone, I'd like to have a building that doesn't make people roll their eyes when they mention it.

The Brown-Lupton University Union has the unfortunate honor of being called the BLUU while trying not to make a mockery of decent building acronyms. As a TCU student, would it be unreasonable to ask the naming committee not to create silly acronyms for one of the most important buildings on campus? Would it be even more unreasonable for students to have a voice at all in this decision?

What was wrong with the name Brown-Lupton Student Center? Is BLUU easier to say than BLSC or simply Student Center? At least saying, "I'm headed to the Student Center," gave clear indications of where one was going, as opposed to, "I'm going to the BLUU." By that, for all I know you could be headed to the latest Good Charlotte concert to drown out your sorrows in bad music. The BLUU has yet to create a name for itself either. Everyone knew where the old Student Center was and what services it performed. No one is really quite sure yet as to what the BLUU has for services, hours or even food entrées. I discovered it does have three new retail stores and a conference center, but I also am aware TCU spent another \$7.5 million on the TCU Barnes and Noble Bookstore and plenty of other buildings on campus also have conference rooms. The BLUU simply makes me

wonder what its real purpose truly is.

I suppose my biggest complaint with this new building is its name: The BLUU. I am not a scientist or anything comparable to that, but upon careful examination of TCU, nothing here is blue. The acronym BLUU could be an attempt to cash in on the whole "misspelling/bad grammar" craze courtesy of text messaging.

It needs a name TCU students and faculty can appreciate.

Therefore, I humbly suggest re-naming the BLUU to something more recognizable and pro-TCU — a name TCU students can identify with and be proud of. I suggest the PURPL or the People's University Regional Pride and Love. Awesome acronym with a double dose of affection for students and faculty, all in one name. I believe the change is imminent.

Bruno Bruelhart is a junior writing and history major from Hobbs, N.M.

Good deeds part of going life's 'extra mile'



KRISTIN PRICE

We have all gone the extra mile when it comes to studying for a test, finishing those last repetitions in the gym or perhaps cooking dinner for a special person in our life.

Last week, it occurred to me maybe we do this because we are inherently seeking to please ourselves — our innermost conscience — because we know we will reap the reward at a later date. If we study hard enough, we will get that A on our test. If we work out, we will see results when we can fit into our jeans that are one size smaller. And last but not least, if we go out of our way to impress a loved one or someone that is really special to us, well the sky could be the limit. But what about opportunities presented

to us in the most unusual circumstances that most often are ignored by the general public?

For example, a couple of weeks ago I stopped to get gas at a local station. As I was standing in line to pay the attendant behind the register, a man walked in and asked the attendant, "Excuse me, how much do you charge for a jump start? My van is across the street." The attendant looked across the store and asked his co-worker, who was eating a burrito in his greasy work attire. He shouted out, "30 bucks!"

I looked back at the attendant and without thinking looked up at the man, who was dripping with sweat, and said, "It will be 30 bucks."

The man who needed a jump start gazed at the floor for a moment. He looked up with a look of despair but a slight smile and said, "Thank you."

I stood there with my cash in my hand and my pack of gum. There was a moment of awkward silence. The woman in front of me looked as puzzled as I did. Why wouldn't they just help him out? He was obviously just right across the street. As the man walked back outside, I said,

"That is ridiculous."

I ran after the man and caught up with him before he crossed the street. I told him to give me 15 minutes, and I would meet him across the street. My jumper cables were at home. I quickly paid the attendant and raced home to get the jumper cables. We jump started his van, and I turned to him and said, "That will be 40 bucks," and we had a good laugh together. I was happy to put a smile on his face after an upsetting experience on a very hot afternoon.

We all go the extra mile for ourselves or for people we want to impress, but it is the times when life brings us the unexpected opportunities that may be passing us by quite often. Don't you think it is time to jump start your life and pay closer attention to those rare opportunities to go the extra mile for someone that needs a helping hand? I challenge you today to find one way to go the extra mile; not for you, not for someone you know, but for a complete stranger.

Kristin Price is a junior strategic communication major from Fort Worth.

Parking spaces too sought after by commuting students



RUTHIE LEE

Whenever someone asks me about my daily commute to TCU, they inevitably ask me first about the traffic, and I always tell them it's not bad. But then comes the second question, "How about the parking?" Now, they've nailed the problem. If commuters do not have their designated parking spot by 9:30 each and every morning, they are completely on their own for the rest of the day.

Three days a week I arrive on campus at 7:30 a.m. for my jogging class, and of course at this time, all of the parking lots are for the most part vacant. Two hours later, I come back to grab a book for the following class, and while I am rummaging through my trunk, I hear the hum of an idle engine. This is the sound of a hopeful commuter living on the prayer that maybe, just maybe, I am loading up and pulling out for the day. This action would not draw my attention so much except three more cars will undoubtedly follow suit in a hopeful parade within those five minutes. Admittedly, I used to be one of those frantic students swarming around full campus parking lots hoping that maybe someone had left their spot for the day just seconds before my arrival. However, it did

not take me long before I learned the most valuable truth about my fellow TCU commuters — they never leave until after 4 p.m. when no one needs a spot.

Most would assume these commuters hold their spots for an entire day due to the longevity of their class schedule. However, I tend to believe they have a desperate desire to hold on to their highly coveted spots in order to be absolutely sure they have gotten all the use out of it as is possible. It is sort of an "enjoy it while it lasts" philosophy, because they might not have such good fortune tomorrow. Of course, if all else fails, there's always room in the KinderFrogs parking lot.

Ruthie Lee is a freshman psychology major from Fort Worth.

NEWS

Computers help archeologists reassemble Greek fresco parts

By Tom Avril
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — A mighty volcanic eruption smothered the Mediterranean island of Thera in the 17th century B.C., preserving a storied trove of cultural and artistic relics from the late Bronze Age.

When it was excavated in modern times, however, much of the trove was like a giant jigsaw puzzle. Greek archaeologists have labored for decades to reconstruct striking frescoes from pieces that still boast their original creamy whites and deep reds.

Now, scientists from Princeton University have introduced them to tools that are expected to speed up the process considerably: a laser scanner to capture three-dimensional images of the precious fresco fragments, and a computer program that figures how they fit together.

Digital imaging has been used in a few other instances to decode the ancient past. What's different is that the Princeton system was designed with off-the-shelf technology for use by non-computer experts — the archaeologists, who had been doing the reassembly entirely by hand.

"I think this will greatly help our work," says Andreas Vlachopoulos, one of the Greek researchers. "We do not have the painter to ask what he or she has painted 3,500 years ago."

In collaboration with Vlachopoulos and colleague Christos Doumas, the Princeton team reported successful initial results last month at an international computer graphics conference in Los Angeles.

The software sifted through hundreds of random fragments from the island, commonly called Santorini. It correctly identified 10 out of 12 known matches and two additional "new" ones that had eluded the Greek researchers.

The computer also made short work of a fake fresco that the Greek scholars made — and broke — in order to test the system. The software correctly found more than two-thirds of the 253 possible matches.

That's not nearly perfect, but then neither are the archaeologists who perform the same task by eyeballing fragments spread out on a table.

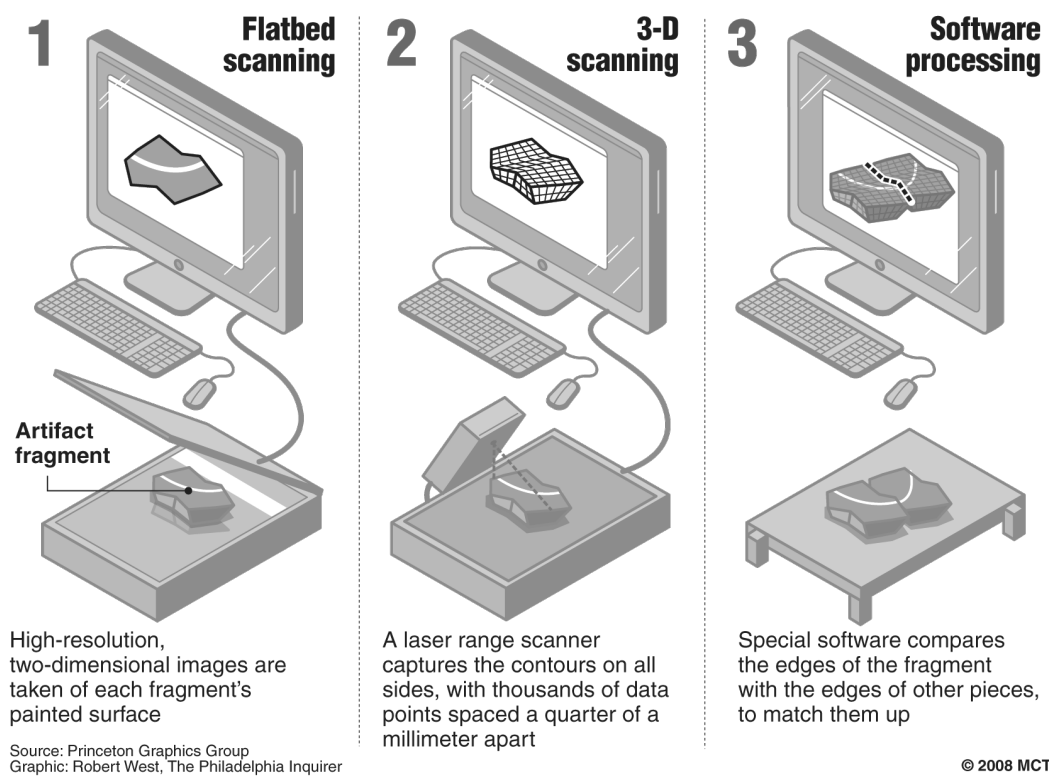
Tim Weyrich, a project leader who recently left Princeton to teach at University College London, says the goal is merely to supplement the human expertise.

"This is such a delicate, complex task," Weyrich says. "We are dealing with the world's experts on this. We are not so overconfident that we think we can write a computer program that replaces them."

The effort began with a chance encounter in 2006. Princeton's dean of faculty, David Dobkin, was in Greece for a board meeting of the university's Stanley J. Seeger Hellenic Fund, which supports Greek studies. While there, Dobkin got to visit Akrotiri, one of the archaeo-

Putting the pieces back together

Computer scientists have devised a new method to help archaeologists reassemble fragments of ancient artifacts, such as ancient Greek frescoes. Unlike previous methods, this one uses off-the-shelf tools and is designed for people with no computer expertise.



logical sites on Santorini, and he met Doumas and Vlachopoulos.

Dobkin is also a computer science professor, so he asked the Greek scholars whether computers might be useful in their work.

A collaboration was born. Last year Vlachopoulos came to lecture at Princeton, and the computer scientists made several trips to Santorini, exchanging information and developing their high-tech method.

Dobkin and his fellow Princetonians had no particular expertise in archaeology, but the Pittsburgh native has been driven since childhood to collect and organize things — among them snow globes and U.S. pennies, which are piled high in his university office.

The challenge of piecing together ancient Greek fragments excited him.

"This seemed like an interesting real-world problem that would stretch our techniques," Dobkin says.

So far, it is unclear just how much the software method will accelerate things. In the paper presented at the conference, the authors estimate that the time to reconstruct a complete painted wall might be reduced from years to months.

But certain tasks cannot be rushed. As the fragile fragments are unearthed, for example, they must first be cleaned and stabilized.

And for fragments where the painted decoration can be clearly seen, the computer is sometimes no faster than the human eye, Weyrich says. The advantage comes with the countless pieces that have no distinguishing decorations, just a background of uniform color.

The laser scanner maps the contours of each piece, sampling thou-

sands of data points. The software then compares the points on the edge of one fragment with those from other fragments to see which ones are a match. It can detect edges that seem to have eroded, and factor them in.

The team also has used a regular 2-D flatbed scanner to capture the decorated front of each piece, but for now those images are used only for documentation, not matching. Eventually, the matching software will make use of both scans.

The project is one of many ways that archaeologists have gone high-tech. At the University of Pennsylvania, for example, David Gilman Romano and others have integrated satellite data with other measurements to map the layout of the Roman city of Corinth.

"There are lots of new archaeological methods that are based on scientific procedures that are changing the way archaeology is done," Romano says. "And this is a good thing. This is creating new information."

The excavations at Santorini are invaluable, says Philip Betancourt, a Temple University professor of art history and archaeology who is not involved with the Princeton project. That's because few other sites from that era are so well preserved, having not been covered by volcanic ash.

The big eruption — believed to have occurred in 1630 B.C., though there is some disagreement — was preceded by several earthquakes. That apparently prompted the island's Minoan inhabitants to flee, as no bodies have been found. It had been a thriving settlement, with ties to nearby Crete and possibly Egypt.

The first evidence of the ancient

community was uncovered on Santorini in 1860, when workers were quarrying blocks to build the Suez Canal. Scholars began formal excavations in 1967, uncovering multi-story buildings, pottery and the dazzling frescoes — what Betancourt calls one of the most important finds from the 20th century.

The paintings, which cover entire walls and even rooms in the mud-brick houses, depict landscapes, scenes of daily life and wildlife ranging from antelopes to monkeys.

So far, the Princeton computer scientists have done the bulk of the work with their new scanning technique. But they are headed back to the island in the next couple weeks to drop off a laser scanner so the archaeologists can do it themselves.

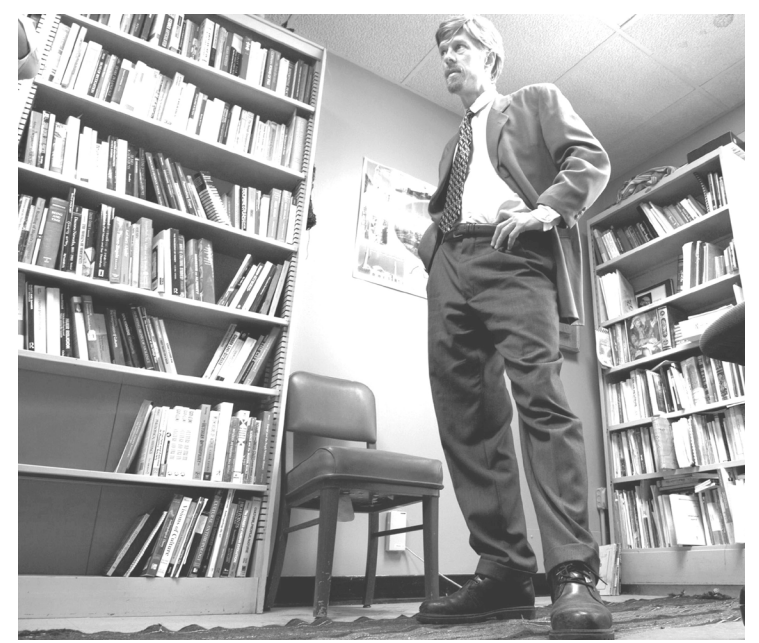
"We really needed to have a system where somebody who knows nothing about computers ... can use this and scan thousands of fragments," says lead author Benedict Brown, who recently left Princeton for a postdoctoral position in Belgium.

Though their stock-in-trade is technology, it turns out that even the computer scientists are able to use their eyes.

When the fake fresco was mailed to Princeton, one student who was not involved with the project happened to see the pieces spread out on a table, and decided to try assembling them by hand. He did pretty much the whole thing.

Vlachopoulos was in town then, and when he saw the results, he was surprised.

If the computer science doesn't work out, he told the novice puzzler, you can always get a job with us on Santorini.



HECTOR AMEZCUA / Sacramento Bee via MCT
Flagg Miller, an assistant professor of religious studies at the University of California, Davis, says the tapes he studies are clues to Osama bin Laden's rise in al-Qaida.

Researchers hope tapes will shed light on life of bin Laden

By Bobby Caina Calvan
McClatchy Newspapers

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — For five years, a University of California, Davis researcher has been replaying hundreds of hours of audiocassettes that, he says, yield deeper — and more complex — insights into the intellectual development of Osama bin Laden.

A collection of 1,500 audiocassettes was carted away from bin Laden's compound in Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2001 and provides a glimpse into bin Laden's rise leading up to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Certainly, few would dare humanize the man the United States calls its most wanted, who seven years after the country's deadliest terrorist attacks is still being sought dead or alive.

Seven years after the attacks, the most brazen ever carried out anywhere in the world, bin Laden still looms large on the American psyche, its politics and public life.

Nearly 3,000 people died in attacks when four hijacked U.S. jetliners crashed into New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and into a rural field in Pennsylvania.

In the years since, the Osama bin Laden who Americans have come to know and demonize has arrived in video dispatches — monologues excoriating the United States and filled with promises of further violence on American soil.

The audio tapes, some dating back to the 1960s, "show his evolution from a relatively unpolished Muslim reformer, orator and jihad recruiter to his current person," said Flagg Miller, an assistant professor of religious studies at UC Davis and the first academic researcher to study the tapes.

"It makes it difficult to separate yourself and realize that this is what led to such horrific things as the 9/11 attack

"You get a sense from these tapes of a man who's seeking. He's a seeker. He hasn't figured it all out. We only have the faintest outlines of the logic," Miller said.

Miller said that bin Laden took many years to hone his message and political platform. At times, he has referred to non-Muslims as "dogs," but has also urged followers to engage civilly with Western governments by launching letter-writing campaigns to protest Israel's policies toward Palestinians, most of them Muslim.

But bin Laden has consistently

labeled the United States as his top enemy, according to Miller. "I'm not interested in simplifying the mind of bin Laden. I'm interested in unpacking the collective debate about al-Qaida."

Only 20 of the tapes contain recordings of bin Laden, but have been a trove of information to shed light on his rise as a key militant in the al-Qaida movement, said Miller, who is fluent in Arabic and undertook the vast — and unfinished — task of translating many of the tapes.

In one recording, a specific place and date unknown, bin Laden recalls his days in the Afghan mountains as Soviet bombs made martyrs of the jihadi fighters.

He described in gory detail the carnage in those mountains. "By the honor that God granted him, the martyr does not feel pain," bin Laden says, according to Miller's translation.

The audiocassettes were first acquired by CNN as part of a haul of items taken from bin Laden's Kandahar home, after the Taliban fled the city on Dec. 7, 2001. CNN offered the tapes to the FBI, but the agency declined to take possession, according to UC Davis officials. The tapes were then handed over to the Williams College Afghan Media Project, located in Williamstown, Mass.

The audiocassettes, some in various stages of deterioration, are now at Yale University, where they are being cleaned, cataloged and digitized — a process that could take years to complete.

Some of the tapes were apparently given to bin Laden as gifts. Miller is scheduled to lecture about the tapes in Berlin this week. A paper based on Miller's research will appear in next month's issue of the journal Language & Communication.

In the end, the insights into bin Laden could add a deeper understanding of the complexities of global terrorism, Miller said.

"There's no doubt he played a part in a number of horrific terrorist attacks," Miller said. The recordings provide an added dimension to bin Laden's role in the wider al-Qaida movement.

Among those who died during the Sept. 11 attacks were the 19 hijackers who commandeered the four American commercial airplanes — ostensibly to become martyrs.

"We're always trying to teach ourselves better, to get beyond the demonization, and it's a question of understanding, of using these cassettes and to seek and learn ourselves what we don't know."

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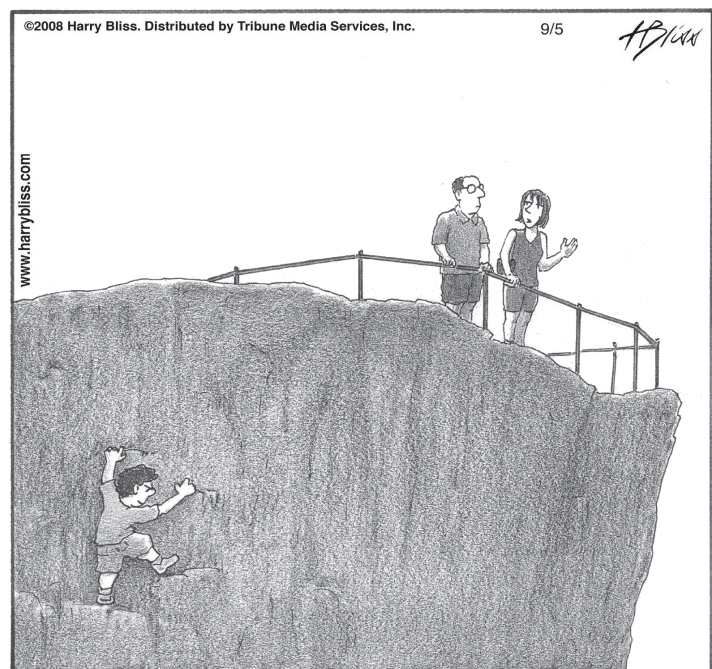
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— The History Channel

Joke of the Day
Q: If two collars had a race, how would it end?
A: In a tie.

Bliss

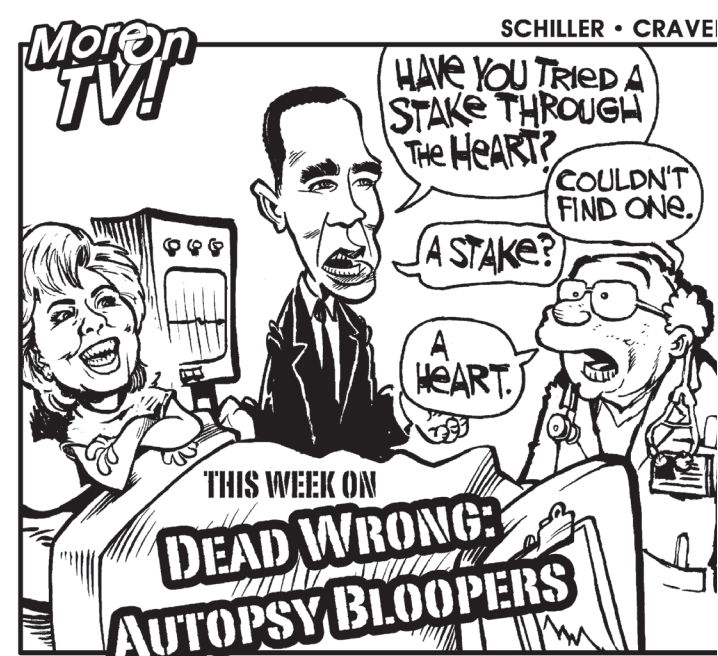
by Harry Bliss



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by Jay Schiller and Greg Craven



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

Directions

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

See tomorrow's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Wednesday's Solutions

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

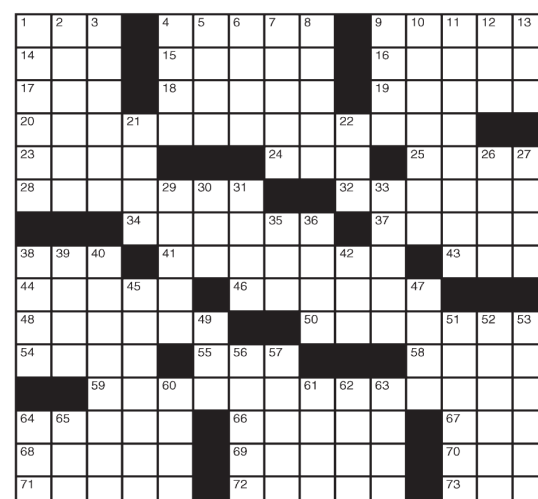
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1 IV quantities
4 Religious tenet
9 Samantha of "The Collector"
14 Cheer in a bowl?
15 Benefit
16 Director of spaghetti westerns
17 Raw mineral
18 Slowly, in music
19 Wide receiver Terrell
20 Start of a quip
23 ___ contendere
24 Japanese honorific
25 Page
28 New business
32 Part 2 of quip
34 Workday start, often
37 Jetson's dog
38 Exist
41 Part 3 of quip
43 Bonus NFL periods
44 Ivan of tennis
46 Start a new lawn
48 Part 4 of quip
50 Beset by problems
54 Spicy stew
55 Egg calls
58 PC operator
59 End of quip
64 Plays' players
66 Canadian tribe members
67 Recline
68 Censor's insert
69 Map book
70 Aachen article
71 Facets
72 Coffee concoction
73 Sounds of hesitation



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

9/18/08

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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- 5 Stove chamber
6 Band of pals
7 Catchers' gloves
8 Island farewell
9 North Carolina university
10 Baubles
11 Enters
12 Sheridan or Sothorn
13 Legal thing
21 Of two minds
22 Mich. neighbor
26 Gossip
27 Those, to Tomas
29 Proof of ownership
30 Durham sch.
31 Equal
33 Shoot-'em-up
35 Writer Burrows
36 Network
38 Likewise
39 Highland dance
40 Penned in
42 Body of water
45 Forced inductee
47 Tap on a table
49 Dress (up)
51 Wagnerian heroine
52 More chilling
53 Laundry machines
56 Out loud
57 Main artery
60 Cobra's kin
61 Shoulder muscle, briefly
62 Carnivore's choice
63 Latin being
64 TV network
65 Will Smith biopic

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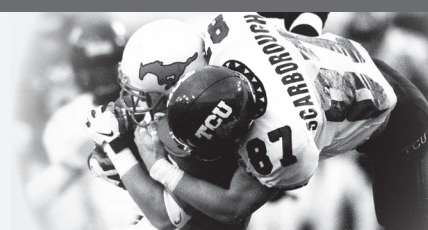
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VOLLEYBALL

SPIKED



PAIGE McARDLE / Staff Photographer

Junior outside hitter Lauren Otto hits around a block against New Mexico Wednesday night. Otto ended the match with 17 kills and 17 digs in the five-set victory. The volleyball team won its tenth game of the season becoming the first team in the Mountain West with 10 wins and an in-conference victory.

Volleyball team wins, at top of conference

By Billy Wessels
Sports Editor

After losing its first match of the season Sunday to the Oklahoma Sooners, the volleyball team returned to its winning ways by defeating the New Mexico Lobos (8-2, 0-1), but it took all five sets to do so.

The Horned Frogs (10-1, 1-0) started off strong in the first two sets (25-16, 25-22), but lost the next two (18-25, 23-25), forcing a winner-take-all fifth set to 15.

The volleyball team came out in the fifth set with the same intensity it started with, winning the final game 15-7.

"Playing New Mexico is never an easy match — they are a great, great team," head coach Prentice Lewis said. "It was very nice to have our first meeting with them at home."

Lewis acknowledged her team's hot start and how they slowed down in the third and fourth games.

"We played really well in games one and two," Lewis said. "And then we were just a

little off in games three and four, that part was a little disappointing."

She was proud of her team to come out and get the job done after losing two tough sets.

"We came out 15-7 in the fifth and took care of business," Lewis said. "That was the important part."

The coach said New Mexico's coach, Jeff Nelson, adjusted his team's lineup after going down 2-0.

"We had no idea of knowing how they were going to rotate," Lewis said. "We were matched up the way we wanted to be matched up in games one and two, but they were smart and they did what they should. In game three they switched their rotation. Then our match-ups weren't the same and that is what drew the errors. But we were able to get back in our rotation for games four and five."

Lewis got a big game from sophomore middle blocker Christy Hudson, who had 17 kills, two service aces and 20 defensive digs.

"We knew they were going to be a really good team," Hudson said. "I just kind of felt it tonight."

Hudson knew her team had the ability to finish what they started in the first two sets.

"We just bounced back after the third game loss and the fourth game was really close," Hudson said. "We were pretty solid in the fifth game because we knew it was our game. When we come out strong we are pretty successful!"

Lewis said the Horned Frogs were pumped in the first two sets because it was her team's first home game in more than two weeks.

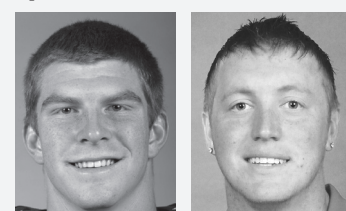
"That is why we were so fired up and did so well in games one and two," Lewis said.

The volleyball team is now the only team in the Mountain West Conference with an in-conference win and double-digit overall wins.

The Horned Frogs will be in action again Friday against the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

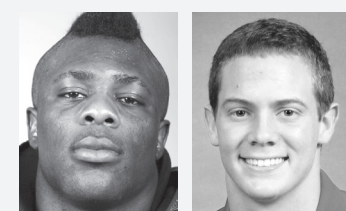
TCU VS. SMU MATCHUPS

QUARTERBACKS



Dalton Mitchell

LINEBACKERS



Henson Fleps

RUNNINGBACKS



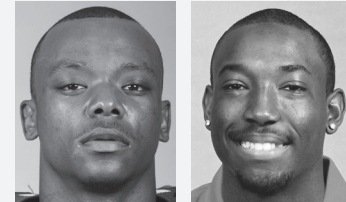
Christian Martin

DEFENSIVE BACKS



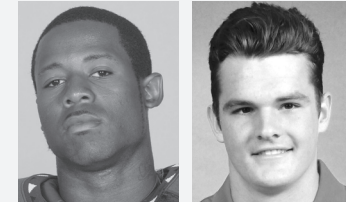
Hodge Jones

WIDE RECEIVERS



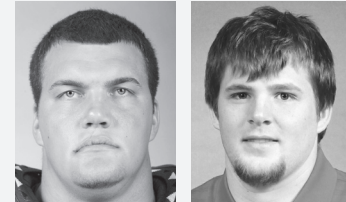
Young Robinson

SPECIAL TEAMS



Kerley Morstead

OFFENSIVE LINE



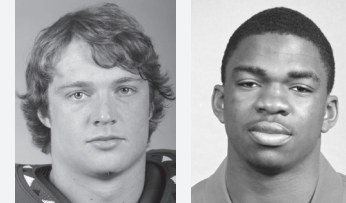
Schlueter Enright

COACHES



Patterson Jones

DEFENSIVE LINE



Panfil Yenga

PREDICTION

SMU's offense is built around getting a big play through the air. TCU will be on the look out and don't expect the Mustangs to get much past them. TCU wins 34-10.

Frogs look strong to keep Iron Skillet

By Billy Wessels
Sports Editor

yards and has the lone score. Advantage: TCU

Wide Receivers

TCU: Jimmy Young continued his dominance of the TCU receiving categories with five grabs for 35 yards against Stanford. Young now has 184 yards receiving, 109 more than any of his teammates.

SMU: The Mustangs have two receivers with more than 200 yards receiving. Those two wide outs have nine of the team's 10 touchdown grabs. Sophomore Aldrick Robinson has 270 yards and five scores, and he also ran a 200m dash in 21.48 seconds at Waxahachie High School. Advantage: SMU

Offensive Line

TCU: The TCU offensive line continues to dominate its opponents, allowing just three sacks through three games. Center Blake Schlueter continues to be the anchor in the middle of the line.

SMU: The Mustangs' line has allowed seven sacks in three games and has not done a great job supporting the running game. Mitch Enright is on the Rimington Trophy watch list with Schlueter for the nation's top center. Advantage: TCU

Defensive Line

TCU: The defensive line for TCU has done a good job all season creating pressure on opposing quarterbacks and stifling opponents' running games. Senior Matt Panfil leads the team with 3.5 sacks for 30 yards lost. Two of those sacks came against Stanford for 26 yards lost, earning him Mountain West Co-Defensive Player of the Week.

SMU: SMU's defensive front has had a hard time getting to the quarterback and slowing the running game, allowing 621 rushing yards and 1,003 passing yards. Sophomore Yuri Yenga leads the team with four tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks. Advantage: TCU

Linebackers

TCU: The TCU linebacking corps has continued to be as dominant as predicted in the preseason. Robert Henson is leading the team with 21 total tackles and

CLUB SPORTS

Club soccer, rugby, volleyball in action this weekend

By Michael Carroll
Staff Reporter

Men's Soccer

TCU's men's club soccer team will head to Nacogdoches to take on Stephen F. Austin University at 3:00 p.m. Saturday. It will be the club's first game of the season.

Kyle Connor, the team's president, said the club is excited about getting the season started.

"We played Stephen F. Austin pretty competitively last year but tied them both times," Connor said. "I think we can beat them

this time around."

The team has a lot of new talent and should be more competitive than ever, Connor said.

Next weekend the team will travel south to College Station to take on Texas A&M.

Men's Rugby

The football team won't be the only people representing TCU in Dallas this weekend.

The men's club rugby team will play at Southern Methodist University at 1:00 p.m. Saturday.

Team member Michael Stewart said the rivalry between the two schools extends beyond the

football field.

"It's just a big rivalry," Stewart said. "You always want to beat SMU no matter what the sport."

The team will return home to play the University of St. Thomas next Saturday on Sept. 27.

Women's Volleyball

The women's club volleyball team will play in its first tournament of the season at the University of North Texas on Saturday.

The tournament will host teams from all over the region, including Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M Univer-

sity, the University of Texas and many others, said Sarah Durkee, the club's co-captain.

"We're really excited," Durkee said. "We've had a really good turn out this year."

Durkee said the team keeps 15 players on its travel squad and another 12 on the practice team, making it a very competitive situation.

"The players earn their playing time," Durkee said.

The tournament will begin at 10 a.m.

The club's next tournament will be hosted by the University of Texas at Arlington on Oct. 4.

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