



SPORTS

The women's tennis programs begins a new chapter **PAGE 6.**



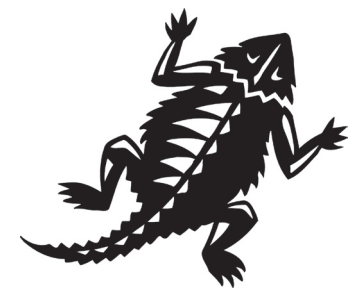
FEATURES

Your hometown is about to seem a whole lot larger than it did yesterday **PAGE 4.**



NEXT WEEK

Tailgating revamped for the 2006 football season. Learn more about the new format and regulations Wednesday.



TCU

DAILY SKIFF

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Comedy troupe protests loss of venue

By CHRISTINA HOLTZEN
Staff Reporter

Members of Senseless Acts of Comedy were dressed in tin foil, wigs and paper bags Thursday in what they said was an effort to make students aware that SAC may lose their performance space.

Members of the group were dressed as homeless people to symbolize that they may not be able to perform in Moody Building 141 North, after four years of using the room, said Justin Kirchoff, senior criminal justice

major and member of SAC.

Cyndi Walsh, director of student organizations, said in a Skiff article Wednesday that faculty and staff members, who use Moody 141, felt their teaching was hindered when SAC used the lecture hall. SAC may not be allowed to perform there because of these complaints, she said.

Student Organizations staff was unavailable to comment on Thursday's protest.

Steve Rupp, a member of SAC, held a sign while standing

by the Addison and Randolph statues, which are located near Mary Couets Burnett Library, that said "Evil Emperor Xenu took all my Moody."

Rupp, a sophomore psychology major, said the sign was supposed to make students aware of SAC's loss and to encourage them to attend Thursday evening's show in the Student Center Ballroom.

Kirchoff said the Student Center may not be a permanent option because SAC members are worried that their shows could

cause a lot of additional work for the Student Center staff because of the 200-person crowd that the show attracts each week.

The troupe's appearance drew quite a stir of laughter among students walking by Thursday morning.

"I've never been to the show, but if they have aluminum on their head, then I'll go," said Stephen Elkind, a freshman biology major.

Michael Flusche, junior advertising/public relations See **SAC**, page 2



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Staff Photographer

Senseless Acts of Comedy members Justin Kirchoff (right), Michael Flusche (middle), and Steve Rupp protest their possible removal today from using Moody Building 141N. Students Stephen Elkind and Ryan Motter view the comical demonstration.

Participation increases in fraternity recruitment



BY LINDSEY BEVER
Staff Reporter

TCU's Interfraternity Council is jumping into a new school year with more than 300 new members, a slight increase from last fall, IFC's adviser said.

Fraternities wrapped up recruitment Wednesday with 308 pledges on Bid Day and welcomed their new pledge classes in front of Sadler Hall.

Although 324 men were offered bids, only 308 signed their bid cards, IFC adviser Jonathan Elder said. However, more men are expected to accept their invitations, he added.

On Bid Day, each potential member receives an envelope with multiple bids and chooses the fraternity he wishes to join by signing that fraternity's bid card, Elder said.

Initially, 380 men registered to go through IFC recruitment this year, Elder said.

IFC President Will Sager said IFC's numbers are up this year, meaning more men went through the recruitment process.

While the number of students involved in fraternity recruitment is growing, the recruitment process itself is shrinking. These new members completed recruitment in three rounds instead of four, said Sager, senior finance and accounting major.

In the past, each fraternity chapter spent two rounds off campus, which was deemed unnecessary, Sager said. The recruitment process was too long, he added.

Still, even with a shorter recruitment process, some students did



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer

TOP: Men rush out of Sadler Hall with excitement after receiving their fraternity bids Wednesday evening. Men's recruitment started Sunday night; BOTTOM: The Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity greet their new members with enthusiasm outside of Sadler Hall Wednesday evening.

not stay until Bid Day, Elder said.

About 56 men did not complete the recruitment process this year, he said.

"Last year, we had about 350 men go through, and I believe about 315 to 320 got bids," Elder said. "About 30 people either didn't receive a bid or withdrew themselves from the process."

Elder said some men do not find places where they feel comfortable. Others might be concerned about the financial commitment, such as annual dues, or they simply lack the time to take part in Greek life, he said.

Elder said the initiations have no bearing on the loss of potential members because initiations are ceremonies that do not include

hazing. Alex St. Amour, IFC vice president of recruitment, said he agrees.

"Every chapter has its own separate initiation," said St. Amour, a junior marketing and management major. "There's no hazing component to initiation."

TCU supports the no-hazing policy, which is state law and is included in the student code of conduct, said James Parker, assistant dean of Campus Life.

Initiation is a serious process, which includes activities such as learning about the fraternity, its history or famous alumni, St. Amour said.

"It's an honor to go through the process; it's when you become a member of that fraternity," he

See **IFC**, page 2

Workers claim unfair treatment by employer

By AMBER PARCHER
Staff Reporter

TCU's campus has become a stage for labor protests against a Dallas-based construction company sub-contracted for work at TCU.

Seven employees from Great Western Erectors, a concrete steel reinforcing company, and an Iron Worker International Union worker have been on campus this week claiming the company mistreats its employees.

William Morales, an employee for Great Western Erectors and one of the protesters, said his company treats its employees unfairly.

"We have no voice or respect in the company," Morales said. "We have no benefits, vacation, or sick days. Often times, there is not water at the work sites, and they make us buy our own safety equipment."

Chancellor Victor Boschini said he talked to an unidentified employee for Great Western Erectors several weeks ago and said the employee did not mention any sort of mistreatment.

"If Great Western Erectors was doing anything its workers are saying it does, I would not want that company on my campus, but I could not substantiate any of their claims," Boschini said. "We have an ethical responsibility to make sure all workers are being treated fairly, but I have not seen these protesters working on site."

Great Western Erectors declined to comment on the situation, but sent a statement that stated the allegations being made by the Iron Worker International Union are false, and are being made in an attempt to organize a union for the workers.

The company is hired by Austin Commercial, which is in charge of TCU's renovations, stated Tracy Syler-Jones, assistant vice chancellor for marketing and communication, in an e-mail Wednesday.

"Austin Commercial has a positive work history with TCU, so we believe Austin and its sub-contractor will work together to resolve these issues," Syler-Jones said. "It is our understanding that their concerns originated at another construction site."

Boschini said the dispute is between Austin Commercial and Great Western Erectors, not TCU.

Martin Ramirez, a representative of the Iron Worker International Union, said he was helping the protesters because "this is about respect, justice, and dignity for the workers."

The protesters are not part of a union, Ramirez said.

Morales said the goal of their protests on campus is to get students to write letters to Great Western Erectors, encouraging the owners to treat their employees better. He said workers from Great Western Erectors have continually been on strike across the country for 14 months.

"We don't do this for fun," Morales said. "We have bills to pay and families to take care of, but protesting is the only way to make this company change. We can't stop now."

Great Western Erectors also has offices in Phoenix and Denver.

Morales said eight other workers protested Wednesday in Arizona as well. He said more than 2,000 letters were sent to the company in Phoenix, and workers have recently received water on some job sites, dental insurance and a small bonus.

According to the Arizona AFL-CIO union Web site, the workers have been on strike since May 2005 and have visited more than 100 companies who hire Great Western Erectors.

Morales and Ramirez said they stayed on public sidewalks because Fort Worth Police told the men they could not protest on private property.

Morales said they will protest on campus again next week.

Greek housing to use student appeal board

By KELLY FERGUSON
Staff Reporter

A new peer discipline board, made up of students from different residence halls across campus, will now hear alcohol appeals from both Greek and non-Greek housing, said an assistant dean of campus life.

Before this year, the Residential Living Commission only heard alcohol appeals for non-Greek housing, said Barbara Hawkins, associate director of Residential Living. The commission had three student-representatives from each non-Greek dorm, she said.

Alcohol violation appeals from Greek housing were heard by one of the assistant deans of Campus Life, James Parker

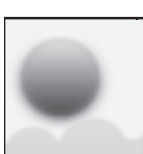
or Shelley Story, Parker said.

"We wanted to make it a more streamlined process," Parker said. "It gives people the chance to have a jury of their peers look at their situation."

Appeals will be heard by a committee of five to eight students from the peer discipline board, and there will be a residential services staff member present at each meeting, Parker said. An appeal will need a majority vote from the student board to either be overturned or upheld, he said.

Board members were selected based on their standings with the university and essays submitted with their applications, Parker said. The board

See **PEER**, page 2



WEATHER

TODAY: Mostly sunny, 96/71

SATURDAY: Scattered T-Storms, 92/72

SUNDAY: Isolated T-Storms, 86/69

PECULIAR FACT

Edvard Munch's paintings "The Scream" and "Madonn," which two armed robbers yanked from the wall of a museum in August 2004, were recovered in relatively good conditions in Norway.

TODAY'S HEADLINES

FEATURES: Tiny town, big heart, page 4

SPORTS: Women's soccer takes on Tulsa, page 6

OPINION: Segregation remains an issue, page 3

CONTACT US

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SAC

From page 1

major and member of SAC, said: "The most important thing today is that we gain respect as an organization."

Rupp added that, because the show is free, he thinks SAC deserves to have a performance space.

Ericka Strickland, a sophomore religion major who passed by the protesters, said: "I support the cause because it is a great alternative to Thursday night fun."

SAC will meet with the Student Organizations Committee Sept. 7 to decide if SAC will be permitted to use Moudy Building 141 North.

IFC

From page 1

said.

Even if incoming freshmen heard about problems that may or may not have occurred, it has not affected IFC's numbers, which have been climbing the last three years, Elder said.

Sager said the IFC has had problems with recruitment infractions in the past, such as fraternities "badmouthing other fraternities," but no major issues arose during the recruitment process this year.

"As of right now, no recruitment infractions have been filed," he said.

PEER

From page 1

consists of 32 students, and there are two members from all but one dorm on campus, he said.

The only dorm without representation is Brachman Hall because of a lack of applicants, Hawkins said.

"We tried our best to make it a wide group of students," Parker said. "We wanted to make it an equal chance for everyone."

Parker said the board is not designed to change policy but rather, it is in place to uphold the student code of conduct.

"I do expect that the students will be fair, and they will make appropriate and necessary decisions," Parker said.

Sparkle Greenhaw, a research assis-

tant in the Alcohol and Drug Education Center, said 392 alcohol violations were written last year.

Of those violations, 114 were reviewed for appeal, Hawkins said, though the number of appeals granted last year is not available.

Many of the violations the board overturned last year were for people who received violations when they did not know their roommates had alcohol in their rooms, said Cameron Dobson, a former member of the Residential Living Commission.

Dobson, a sophomore business major, will serve on the peer discipline board this year and said he enjoyed his experience last year on the commission.

Another board member, freshman premajor Caroline Hirsch, said the goal of the board is to get as much infor-

mation about the situation as possible and to uphold the alcohol policy.

"That way, all students will be held equally accountable," Hirsch said. "We're all a part of the TCU community."

Ashley Tondou, a junior fashion merchandising major, said she agrees that the type of alcohol appeal process a student goes through shouldn't depend on where they live.

"Having a group of students hear an appeal is better," said Tondou, a resident of the Zeta Tau Alpha house. "They'd be more understanding than faculty."

Parker said he thinks the students on the board are capable of making good decisions.

"If there is a legitimate reason to grant an appeal, I think an appeal will be granted," Parker said.

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<p>Sun, September 3</p> <p>Accepted PG13 - 2:10, 6:15, 10:20 Beerfest R - 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45 Crank R - 12:05, 2:05, 4:05, 6:05, 8:05, 10:05 Invincible PG - 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 Snakes On A Plane R - 12:00, 4:05, 8:10 Talladega Nights: The Legend Of Ricky Bobby PG13 - 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 The Wicker Man PG13 - 12:15, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30</p>	<p>Mon, Sept. 4 - Wed, Sept. 6</p> <p>Accepted PG13 - 2:10, 6:15, 10:20 Beerfest R - 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45 Crank R - 12:05, 2:05, 4:05, 6:05, 8:05, 10:05 Invincible PG - 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 Snakes On A Plane R - 12:00, 4:05, 8:10 Talladega Nights: The Legend Of Ricky Bobby PG13 - 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 The Wicker Man PG13 - 12:15, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30</p>	<p>Thur, September 7</p> <p>Accepted PG13 - 2:10, 10:00 Beerfest R - 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45 Crank R - 12:05, 2:05, 4:05, 6:05, 8:05, 10:05 Invincible PG - 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 Snakes On A Plane R - 12:00, 4:05 Talladega Nights: The Legend Of Ricky Bobby PG13 - 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 The Wicker Man PG13 - 12:15, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30</p>

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IRAN'S REFUSAL

Iran refused to stop enriching uranium to meet the U.N. deadline that passed yesterday.

-Associated Press

THE SKIFF VIEW

Advising should be made simpler for all

The beginning of each semester can be stressful for students: new classes, teachers, tests and challenges.

But are the classes you're fretting over even the ones you need to be taking? The professor from your department swears these are the right classes and that you must take them now in order to graduate on time.

It's hard to believe that majority of professors on campus are familiar enough with TCU core curriculum to advise students correctly on every class they need to take each semester. How much does the average physics professor really know about the English courses students need to graduate?

Many professors either don't know enough about advising to help students or simply don't care.

This is not meant to attack TCU's faculty and professors — they are clearly capable of understanding the core curriculum, but it takes time and experience to educate oneself on the curriculum. Faculty members should remain focused on educating their students or conducting research rather than tending to a slue of confused students awaiting their

advising appointments.

The Center for Academic Services offers a slight alternative for advising. The center specifically accommodates students who haven't declared a major; students who have declared a major must be advised by a faculty member in their respective department.

Marsha Ramsey, director of the Center for Academic Services, said, "the center answers questions regarding general core requirements," but added that specific questions about the core curriculum must be answered by faculty members within the department.

It doesn't make sense for this center to specialize in the core curriculum but not to advise the entire student body on those requirements.

TCU needs a center specifically designed to advise students on core requirements, regardless of whether a student has declared a major or not. Professors could spend more time in the classroom performing the tasks they were hired to do instead of wasting time familiarizing themselves with TCU's core curriculum.

-Associate editor Leslie Honey for the editorial board

OOFSPOOF • ROLF NELSON



Katrina pets should be returned to owners

Devastation rocked the lives of tens of thousands of people when Hurricane Katrina struck the United States one year ago this week. People lost their homes and loved ones and evacuated the lives they knew.

Now, amidst the hope they have received from the selfless help of multiple volunteer groups, the evacuees still struggle to rebuild their former lifestyles.

One little-known, but nonetheless painful, loss some Katrina victims are still coping with is that of some of their most well-loved, loyal companions: their pets.

In the chaos of the approaching disaster, many New Orleanians frantically searched for shelter for themselves, their families and their pets. But, unfortunately, most were forced to leave their pets, which were primarily dogs, according to the Hartford Courant. Many temporary shelters did not house pets; others had no room for them. The owners weren't given another option.

Though rescuers took dramatic efforts and were successful in saving thousands of Hurricane Katrina victims' pets, only a quarter of the animals have actually been reunited with their owners, according to WTOP, a Washington news radio station.

The animals that the victims love have been dispersed to other families. Many of these families believed they were saving animals that were abandoned during the hurricane. But now, as evacuees continue to reconstruct their lives and seek to be reunited with their pets, those who adopted them are refusing to give the animals back.

Some of the original pet owners are filing civil suits. "Gracie is just really sweet and she's always happy," said Rhonda Rineker, whose family adopted a German shepherd mix, formerly named Nila, according to a recent issue of People magazine. "It would break our hearts to have to give her up."

Imagine how Nila-Gracie's original owners, Steve and Doreen Couture, must feel. They returned to their destroyed home, having lost all that they own, and are faced with the unnerving task of starting over from scratch. In addition to

the inevitable distress and anguish they have dealt with, they are now also being denied the companionship of the faithful dog they have spent years loving.

Giving up the dog to its previous and rightful owners may, indeed, be heartbreaking. But it is a heartbreak that can in no way compare to the one the Coutures, and countless other residents of New Orleans, have already endured.

Unfortunately, the story of Nila-Gracie is just one of several custody battles currently ensuing over Katrina-affected pets and their conflicting sets of owners.

Victor Marino, former owner of Max, a Jack Russell terrier, even offered his adopters, Tiffany and Jeremy Mansfield, a new dog. The Mansfields rejected Marino's generosity, refusing to give Max, whom they renamed Joey, back to him.

It is beyond my comprehension, how, despite the contributions of time, money and care so many have volunteered to the Katrina relief effort, others can selfishly suspend the torment and emotional strife those affected by Katrina must face. I'm sure the people who adopted the rescued pets were intending to perform acts of charity. Rescuing and caring for a lost animal is a noble deed. But keeping the animal from people who never wanted to give it up, people who have already experienced extreme calamity, is greedy, immature and inappropriate.

There is no way that, in one year's time, the adopters could have developed the same kind of love and affections for the pets that their original owners still have. In the aftermath of great destruction, the evacuees are still recovering emotionally. The love of a loyal pet is one of the most heartwarming and restoring remedies for life's unexpected tragedies. The pets should be returned to those who love them and are still emotionally attached to them.

"My dogs mean everything to me," New Orleanian Russell DeRogers said to CBS News. "That's all I got."

Opinion editor Jordan Cohen is a sophomore English major from Lewisville, N.C.

Increased diversity beneficial to students

The college experience is supposed to be an eye-opening, perception-changing one.

We leave the social upbringing of our youth to be exposed to a different world we've only heard about, or perhaps have seen portrayed on popular television programs. Previous certainties and opinions about life are to be, in the process of four years, reconstructed and re-presented to a waiting world.

I assume that is the way it is also supposed to be at TCU. I received my bachelor's degree from TCU in 2003, and now I am a returning graduate student. I am hoping that, during the second time, my college expectations are better fulfilled than they were when I graduated three years before.

Back then, the ideal of social awakening and expansion I expected to encounter was shattered by the reality of the surprising amount of segregation I experienced.

Of course, I do not mean to imply that there was any preordained plan to purposely divide the campus along racial lines. What I do mean is that there seemed to be an imposing social veil, which was as thick and long as The Great Wall of China.

On one occasion, I was interested in attending a Bible study. It was a well-regarded religious group on campus and composed of white

male students. I had already attended another Bible study group — one composed of mostly blacks, but I wanted to perhaps gain a different perspective on what was taught. Though I expected to be received with the open arms of Christian brotherhood, I was told by the group leader essentially that, "The black group meets next door."

Of course those weren't his exact words. In fact, he was very cordial in implying that I was not welcome to receive eternal wisdom from the Good Book while in his presence. That is not a criticism of him personally; I don't think he realized what he was doing when he kindly suggested I go elsewhere.

But that's the whole point. If a Bible study group endorses segregation, then what hope is there for all the other social organizations on campus?

That event happened several years ago, so I do not personally know what the racial climate is like as of fall 2006, but I have heard several current undergraduate students indicate that the racial rift has not changed much.

"I think the school is segregated, (and) it's been that way since I've been here," said Julia Morrison, a junior biology major. "It's not like there's any kind of discrimination, just preference."

She also pointed out that the division on campus is evident in the way certain groups sit together in The Main.

I know the university itself has made great strides in improving the diversity of the school, and the faculty and staff all endorse a more diverse environment, as well.

But as Zarnell Fitch, a graduate student in the School of Education, said: "I think the solution is for the students to make a change. The school can only do so much."

Though there is going to be division inherent in fraternities and sororities, I believe meaningful diversity can still be achieved through other avenues — perhaps through awareness groups, intercultural groups, etc.

How is the world going to benefit from students with segregationist attitudes? Will employers want to hire someone who has lived in cultural isolation so long that he or she is unable, or unwilling, to associate with anyone outside his or her social group?

The motto of TCU is "Learning to change the world." Let's face it — how can we live up to that motto if we don't even know the world on our own backyard?

— Erick Raven is a first-year graduate student in the School of Education.

Atheism morality not recognized

I love it when a reputable university study proves something I complain about anecdotally. Before, when I would exclaim hyperbolically "man, everyone hates atheists," I didn't actually know it was true. But it is truer than even I would have thought.

In April of this year, a group of researchers at the University of Minnesota sociology department released a study of the most distrusted minorities in the United States. In 2,000 randomly placed phone calls, the researchers posed statements such as, "I would disapprove if my child wanted to marry a member of this group" and asked the respondents to choose from a list of various minorities.

Atheists consistently came out on the top of the disapproval ratings, followed (roughly in this order, depending on the statement) by Muslims, homosexuals, African-Americans, Hispanics, Jews and recent immigrants.

As the study's abstract puts it, "We demonstrate that increasing (American) acceptance of religious diversity does not extend to the nonreligious ..."

That is not entirely surprising, but it is unexpected considering the racially and ethnically volatile history of the United States. Still, this is a Christian country, and from the Puritan work ethic to the witch burnings, in God we trust.

In 1987, about a year before he would become president, George H.W. Bush responded to a question

about atheists at a Chicago press conference: "I don't know that atheists should be considered as citizens, nor should they be considered patriots. This is one nation under God."

Well if the leader of a free country doesn't trust atheists, I should not be so appalled that the rest of America does not either.

But why is this true? Why do we distrust atheists more than Muslims, whom, according to a recent Gallup poll, we think should carry special religious/ethnic identification cards?

The answer lies in a particular assumption that has to be made by the religious majority concerning what it means to be an atheist. In 2002, the Pew Research Center conducted an excellent poll hinting at why atheists are so mistrusted. This Pew study showed that more than 58 percent of Americans think that belief in God is necessary to be a moral person.

This is precisely why, when asked which group "does not at all agree with my vision of American society," almost 40 percent of Americans picked atheists from a long list of minorities. Clearly, a society of morally incapable people would be a bad thing.

The amount of convoluted logic it takes to link immorality to atheism is immense. The truth is that, from Plato to Sartre, secular moralists have succeeded in making completely nonreligious moral systems that function,

in terms of the adherents' actions, as well as or better than religious systems. It doesn't take much research to find out how many Catholic popes, priests and Christians in general have committed completely immoral acts. It takes even less effort to find religious people in general who could, would and do commit acts like this on a regular basis. We've seen, particularly as of late, how violence and religion can easily go hand in hand.

So both religious and nonreligious people are capable of evil. The main thing to keep in mind is that, much like Plato discovered some 2,500 years ago, there is no religious morality without secular morality. Without secular (that is, atheist) moral precepts, the theists among us would be forced to say that morality is simply whatever God says it is. If that's true, then religious morality is no more objective or righteous than any other moral system.

The sole fact that God is powerful or mighty does not make God's choices objective moral truths; God's omnipotent prowess gives God no more power to decide right and wrong than a well-armed dictator.

Theists should, at the very least, not distrust atheists. They should applaud atheists for the reasonable foundations for any moral system at all.

— Lally Gartel is from the University of Illinois. This article was distributed by U-Wire.

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NEXT WEEK

Grammy Award nominee Skillet's new CD is in and we review it in Wednesday's Entertainment Page.



www.sxc.hu

One student shares her experience of living in a small town

By JEFF ESKEW
Features Editor

"Welcome to the middle of nowhere."

This is often the exact reaction many people have when they are traveling through a remote small town.

They look left, then they look right and see a couple of houses, but not much else. "Do people actually live here?" is the common question asked among visitors.

The truth is people do live in these small towns and most will defend their birthplace until they are blue in the face.

This is the case with Rachel Skinner, a senior radio-TV-film major, whose hometown is Lawn, Texas.

Now, chances are you have never even heard of Lawn, which is to be expected, Skinner said.

"It's a big surprise when someone recognizes it," she said. "So I say I'm from Abilene, aka Lawn."

Skinner said she's proud to be from the middle of nowhere even though 'going to town' only meant heading north to the mall or Wal-Mart 30 miles up the road.

Despite the immense amount of pride she has for her hometown, Skinner wasn't always fond of rural life in Lawn.

"We moved from a cul-de-sac full of kids two miles east of Lawn when I entered the sixth grade," Skinner said. "My closest neighbor was a

mile away."

Lawn, like any other small town, has quirks that make the town that much more special to its residents.

"The town used to have a different location, but when the railroad came through, the town moved with it," Skinner said.

With only 353 people in the entire town, and the closest city 30 miles away, you might be wondering what the people of Lawn do for fun. Skinner said the football games are a huge draw for most Lawn citizens, even if they did have to drive 15 miles up the road to the closest high school in the town of Tuscola.

"Anyone who was anyone was there," she said. "When there wasn't a football game going on, most people would just grab a cigarette, a friend and walk up and down the streets of the town looking for trouble or causing it."

Another favorite pastime for the people of Lawn would be climbing up the town's old water tower.

"Who knows how many people have climbed that thing," Skinner said.

So, in a town like Lawn, where there are less than 400 people, no stores, no schools and very little entertainment and recreation, you would think people would be itching to leave. Skinner says that's not the case.

"Actually, a lot of people do stay there," Skinner said. "They marry their high school sweethearts who they probably already have one or even

two kids with before graduation."

It is not unheard of to hear from people who graduated from high school in a class of a thousand, but as you guessed, Lawn is a different story.

"Everyone knew everything about everybody else, and I kind of liked it like that," Skinner said. "I hear tales of people graduating with a thousand other people, and I just react with horror."

That would seem unbelievable when your graduating class has only 64 people, and that was down 19 students from the year before, Skinner said.

Skinner is not optimistic that Lawn will ever become a town anyone will know due to the community's conservative nature.

"Nothing new ever has or ever will come to Lawn," Skinner said. "Everyone there is very set in their ways from the 'good ol' days'."

When asked to finish the phrase, "My town is so small that..." Skinner said the only Internet available to the people of Lawn was dial-up.

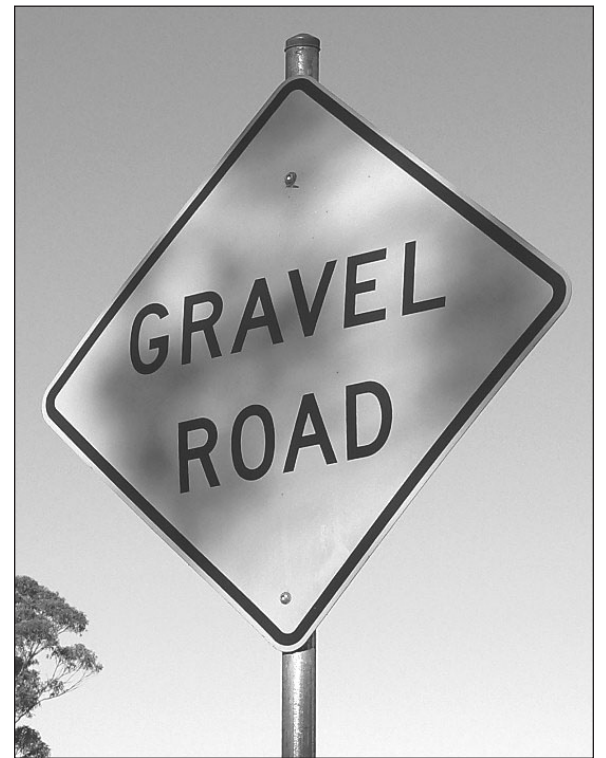
Growing up in a small town may not be everyone's cup of tea, and some may even shutter at the notion of having to live in a town like Lawn, but to Rachel Skinner, home is where the heart is, and her heart is in Lawn.

If you would like your small town to be featured in the Skiff, then send an e-mail to features2skiff@tcu.edu and tell us about your small town.

Where *in the* World?



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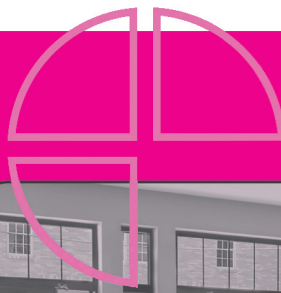


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COURTESY OF Rachel Skinner

With a population of 353 people, Lawn, Texas, is the hometown of senior-radio-tv-film major Rachel Skinner



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QUOTE OF THE DAY
"It is impossible to defeat an ignorant man in argument."
— William G. McAadoo

TODAY IN HISTORY
1689: Russia began taxing men's beards.
1950: First Porsche is completed.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



"Whadaya mean, 'Nature has its own way of dealing with things'? This is business, sweetie."

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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.

Thursday's Solutions

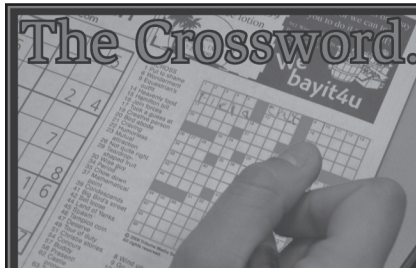
9x9 solution grid: 5 9 7 1 8 4 6 3 2, 1 6 4 2 9 3 8 7 5, 2 8 3 5 6 7 4 9 1, 6 1 5 8 2 9 7 4 3, 9 7 8 4 3 1 2 5 6, 4 3 2 6 7 5 1 8 9, 7 2 1 3 5 8 9 6 4, 8 5 6 9 4 2 3 1 7, 3 4 9 7 1 6 5 2 8

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13x13 crossword grid with numbers

By Arlan & Linda Bushman Chicago, IL

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

13x13 crossword solution grid

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- DOWN 1 Cornhusker's city 2 Heroism 3 Take issue 4 Assimilate 5 Staff symbol 6 Dagger handle 7 Actor Epps 8 Shetland grazers 9 Pass along deceptively 10 Quickly, shortly 11 Music recording hub 12 Twinned pair? 13 Thai's neighbor 21 Diamond 22 Kids' card game 26 Releases 27 Baylor University state 29 Unser Sr. and road 30 Fabric surface 31 Nod (off) 32 Spree 33 Rambo-like singer 34 "Confessions" connection 41 B'way sign 44 Sheathed 46 Greenhorn

- 48 Cartoon cave guy 49 Nosegay unit 53 Pound part 54 Ger. submarine 55 Rub it in 56 Salon supply 58 Emmy winner Falco 59 Kismet 60 Fight-stopping letters 61 Tenant's payment 62 Sleepwear, briefly 63 Eminem's genre

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

Comic strip panels with dialogue: "I know I told you to get comfortable in there...", "But you gotta wear pants when you're in the recording studio!", "THE CHRONICLES", "THAT'S RIGHT!! YOUR MOST HUMBLE NARRATOR IS THE NEW ON-AIR VOICE FOR A BAY AREA ARTIST DOCUMENTARY SHOW CALLED 'SPARK'...", "SHOCKING, NO? I DIDN'T THINK I HAD A CHANCE AFTER MY SHAKY ADDITION...", "AND SPARK AIRS ON PUBLIC TELEVISION... WHICH I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE ON WHEN I WAS A KID...", "BUT HAVIN' MY FIRST REAL JOB SINCE THE TURN OF THE MILLENNIUM TOOK SOME BEATIN'", "IT'S ALL GOOD. THIS IS THE FIRST STEP IN MY QUEST TO BECOME THE NEXT UP-A-POSSIBLE & GREAT ENHANCEMENT SURETY!! STOP"

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*The Illusionist- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 11:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 (Mon-Thu) 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
*Invincible in DLP Digital Projection- PG (Fri-Sun) 11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35 (Mon-Thu) 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35
*Beetlejuice- R (Fri-Sun) 11:25, 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00 (Mon-Thu) 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00
*How to Eat Friend Worms- PG (Fri-Sun) 11:10, 1:50, 4:25, 7:05 (Mon-Thu) 1:50, 4:25, 7:05
*Snakes on a Plane in DLP Digital Projection- R (Fri-Sun) 7:40, 10:10 (Mon-Thu) 7:40, 10:10
*Accepted in DLP Digital Projection- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 12:15, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45 (Mon-Thu) 12:15, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
*Little Miss Sunshine- R (Fri-Sun) 12:00, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 (Mon-Thu) 12:00, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45
*World Trade Center- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 1:30, 4:35, 7:50, 10:55 (Mon-Thu) 1:30, 4:35, 7:50, 10:55
*Pulse- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 9:40 (Mon-Thu) 9:40
*Step Up- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 11:35, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50 (Mon-Thu) 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
*Talladega Nights in DLP Digital Projection- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 11:40, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 (Mon-Thu) 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
*Barnyard: The Original Party Animals- PG (Fri-Sun) 11:50, 2:25, 4:50, 7:35, 10:05 (Mon-Thu) 2:25, 4:50, 7:35, 10:05
*Monster House 3D in DLP Digital Projection- PG (Fri-Sun) 12:20, 2:45, 5:10 (Mon-Thu) 12:20, 2:45, 5:10
*Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest in DLP Digital Projection- PG-13 (Fri-Sun) 12:05, 3:30, 7:10, 10:35 (Mon-Thu) 12:05, 3:30, 7:10, 10:35
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Bible Church
Trinity Chapel Bible Church
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. TCBC college 11 a.m. worship, discussion & all-around great time! Meet at Gladney Center (6300 John Ryan Dr. 76132). Check out www.tcbccollege.com or email benc@trinitychapelbc.org
Christ Chapel Bible Church
www.ccsn.net 817.546.0860 College Impact 11:00a.m. in the Bubble. "Focus" Modern Worship
Wednesday nights in sanctuary 7-8 p.m. Contact Ryan McCarthy for info. Ryanm@christchapelbc.org or www.cccb.family.org
Catholic
Holy Family Catholic Church
6150 Pershing Ave. 817-737-6768. Weekend masses Saturday 5:00pm. Sunday 7:45am, 9:15am, 12:00 noon.
Disciples of Christ
South Hills Christian Church (DOC) Rev. Dottie Cook Minister.
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TODAY IN SPORTS

In 1987, 15-year-old Michael Chang is the youngest man to win the US Tennis Open match.
 — Associated Press

New coach hopes to go far

Former men's assistant coach takes over women's tennis team

By ALEX ZOBEL
 Staff Reporter

With recent changes to the program, including the appointment of a new head coach, the women's tennis team remains confident they can continue to be successful and improve.

Following the appointment of 2005 season head coach Dave Borelli to the men's tennis team, Jefferson Hammond was promoted from assistant coach to head coach for the 2006 women's tennis season.

"We knew Jefferson from the past two years, so it's not such a huge change," said Kewa Nichols, a junior women's tennis player. "I think we're all very excited about him coaching us. We have a lot to learn from him."

Nichols said the team can go as far, if not further, than it did last year.

"We made it to the round of 16 last year, so I definitely think we have the ability and an opportunity," Nichols said.

Hammond, who is billed as the interim head coach on gofrogs.com, said the team's goal is not just to make it back to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament, but to be ranked in the top 10. At the end of last year, the team was ranked No. 15 in the final Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll, a four-spot improvement from the previous season and its highest ranking since 1980, according to gofrogs.com.

Hammond said newcomer tennis player, Macall Harkins, will help them reach their

goals.

"She's a transfer from Illinois who was not given a release to play right away, so she may have to sit the entire year, but we think it was a great move for our future," Hammond said.

Borelli said his close relationship with Hammond and the rest of the team will allow him to stay connected with the program he has spent four seasons building.

"If another coach came in, it wouldn't be appropriate for me to be involved," Borelli said. "With Jefferson, we're so close, I certainly will call him to help me with observations about my men's team as well as him calling me to help with the women's."

Borelli said even though they have contrasting personalities, Hammond shares his philosophy on how to run a successful tennis program.

"I'm a little more out there," Borelli said. "The bottom line is we're both plotters, and we both understand about planting seeds and doing it slowly."

Hammond said he is probably the opposite of Borelli in terms of personality and hopes he can be as fun as his predecessor, while maintaining the success he brought to the program.

"I'm probably not as animated as Dave," Hammond said. "He just made everything fun and has been a fantastic mentor."



COURTESY OF TCU Media Relations

Tennis player Nicole Leimbach, who was ranked No. 3 in the nation in singles in Fall 2005, brings her game to this year's season.

Women's soccer to face strong competition in Tulsa tournament

By Eric Hart
 Staff Writer

The TCU women's soccer team returns to the field this weekend to take on Tulsa and Oral Roberts in the Tulsa University Women's Soccer/Grover Classic.

TCU will play Tulsa at 7 p.m., Friday and Oral Roberts at 1:30 p.m., Sunday. Both games will be played at Tulsa's Hurricane Soccer and Track Stadium.

The Lady Frogs are coming off close defeats to the Rice Owls (1-0) and the Texas Tech Red Raiders (2-0).

Head coach Dan Abdalla said that with a very young and inexperienced team this season, close defeats like these are expected, but he said he expects this weekend's games to challenge his young team.

"With our young team, we need that challenge for our team's character," Abdalla said, according to gofrogs.com.

The TCU women's soccer team has been led by freshman Lizzy Karoly, who had seven shots in the 1-0 loss to Rice, according to gofrogs.com. Freshman Michelle Nguyen had six shots on goal in the 2-0 loss against

Texas Tech. The same type of progress will be expected from the freshmen leaders in this weekend's games.

TCU's opponents this weekend both have at least one early season victory, with Tulsa having a 2-1-0 record, according to gofrogs.com. Tulsa also returns eight of 11 starters from last year's seventh place team in Conference USA. Tulsa leads the all-time series with the Horned Frogs, with TCU's last victory coming in 1999, a 4-3 overtime win.

"Tulsa is a young team that we do not know much about," Abdalla said, according

to gofrogs.com. The last time TCU defeated Tulsa away was in 1987.

Oral Roberts returns 13 letter-winners from last year's squad, according to the Oral Roberts athletic Web site. It finished last season's regular season 10-9-0. The team returns two-time Mid-Conference Defensive Player of the Year Gentry Detter, who is also a three-year letter recipient.

TCU does lead the all-time series 5-1, with the only loss coming in 1997. This match will be the fourth straight time TCU has faced Oral Roberts in Tulsa.

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MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP INITIATIVE
 Letter to Student Newspaper
 September 1, 2006

Dear Fellow Students:
 The Mountain West Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) believes the most important aspects of sport are good ethics and positive sportsmanship. We are very blessed the Conference continues its initiative to enhance this philosophy. We need your assistance to make this effort a success.

The SAAC believes that, in order for an institution to convey a message of good ethics and positive sportsmanship, it must have the involvement and participation of everyone involved with athletics on campus. This includes, but is not limited to, the Chancellor, athletics administrators, coaches, student-athletes and you – the students/fans. It is our behavior that will shape the perception of our institutions and teams by the public, the media and our opponents.

Good ethics and positive sportsmanship are philosophies that must be displayed both on and off the playing field. We must take a leadership role to compete at the highest levels, always endeavoring to win, but doing so with grace, class, dignity and respect.

Please join us in supporting the Conference's Sportsmanship Initiative. Such an effort will help make the Mountain West Conference one of the premier athletic conferences in the country, and represent our institutions well.

Cordially,
 The Mountain West Conference 2006-2007 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

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