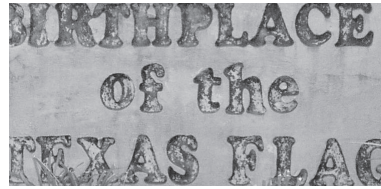




Tomorrow
Find out what the plus/minus system means for students.



Tomorrow
Check out Friday's features page for our last small town of the week.



Sports
The volleyball team took on Texas State Wednesday night. Players are now preparing for their next match **Page 6**.



TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Council limits transfer credit amount

By MEREDITH ANDREWS
Staff Reporter

The University Council approved changes in the number of credit hours that can be transferred in and the number of classes a student can take during the three-week session in May.

The changes were approved in May and will be implemented before advising begins for the spring 2007 semester.

The University Council is made up of academic deans, elected and appointed representatives from each college and students, said Nowell Donovan, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"The real change is the limitations of the hours a student can bring in once they have enrolled," said Patrick Miller, registrar and director of enrollment management.

William Slater, dean of the College of Communication, said he thinks if students are getting a TCU degree, their classes should be taken at TCU.

"The new transfer requirements are aimed primarily at ensuring the integrity of the TCU degree," Slater said.

Scott Nollet, an associate professor of mathematics, said he can't assess whether a student has taken previous math

courses at a community college or TCU based on their current academic performance.

After students earn 54 cumulative hours from TCU, they may not transfer credits in from community colleges, Miller said. However, a student may transfer credit hours from an upper-division school or university, provided it has been preapproved by the appropriate academic dean.

Before a student earns 54 credit hours at TCU, he or she may transfer up to 12 semester hours from a community college, Slater said.

If a freshman has taken a class before entering TCU, it

does not count as part of these 12 hours, Miller said.

The 12 hour limit came from comparing TCU to other universities' policies, Miller said. Compared to other universities, such as Duke University, Northwestern University and the University of Notre Dame, 12 hours is a lenient allowance of transfer credits from a community college, Miller said.

Donovan said there is flexibility for approved special situations and study abroad programs.

The number of hours a student can take during a summer session will also be limited.

Previously, a student was

allowed to take more than one class during the three-week miniterm in May; however, students will now be limited to four credit hours during each three-week miniterm, Slater said.

This means if students are in a three-week class, they may not enroll in an additional class for another session if the class starts during the three-week miniterm, Donovan said.

Donovan said each day during the three-week miniterm counts for about a week, which, he said, makes it hard for students to manage more than one class at a time.

"It's not in the student's best

interest," Donovan said.

During other summer sessions, a student may not take more than seven credit hours at one time, Slater said.

Rebekah Fear, a senior theater and radio-TV-film major, said she thinks the new policy on transfer credits should be extended to junior-level hours.

"I understand, but it's frustrating when trying to graduate early with two degrees," Fear said.

Sara Spratt, a sophomore speech pathology major, said she did not think taking courses at another school would

See **CREDIT**, page 2

Communication key in leadership, instructor says

By ALY FLEET
Staff Reporter

The best way to become a successful leader is to learn how to deal with people, said a marketing instructor at Wednesday's Leadership in the Lounge Series.

In front of a crowd of about 50 students and faculty, Bob Akin, a marketing instructor, said the biggest problems students will have in business are people problems.

"You've got to motivate people to do things," Akin said.

Akin is the first speaker this year for the Leadership in the Lounge Series, which is hosted by the TCU Leadership Council. The council hopes the series will encourage students to become better leaders by listening to professionals' experiences and successes, said Clea Wang, a member of the Leadership Council.

Akin stressed the importance of leading by example.

"Do not delegate and sit back to watch other people work," he said.

Emily Taylor, a freshman business premajor, said she especially liked Akin's three fundamentals of leadership: get to know everyone around you, understand their situations and learn to communicate successfully.

Another important aspect of leadership, Akin said, is learning to communicate and getting to know the people around you.

At a previous job, Akin said he made index cards detailing each of his employees' information. They included addresses, birthdays, anniversaries and the names of their children. When special dates arose, he'd send them a card, he said.

"The greatest thing you can ever do is get to know your people one by one," Akin said. "If you do that, they'll go the extra mile for you."

Akin pointed out the importance of See **LEADERSHIP**, page 2

SOLEMN SALUTE



U.S. Air Force Cadet and computer science major Solomon Sonya stands guard at the flags near Sadler Hall Wednesday evening. ROTC members take 15 minute shifts at the flags in honor of the prisoners of war.

VICTORIA PUENTE / Staff Photographer

Greeks to receive recycling options

By KELLY FERGUSON
Staff Reporter

Residential Services is working to place recycling bins in Greek housing, a part of campus that currently does not have containers to place recycled items in, said the director of Residential Services.

Recycling bins for paper, aluminum and plastic are located in the trash rooms of non-Greek residence halls, said Craig Allen, director of Residential Services.

Jenna Lewis, a chapter resident assistant for Pi Beta Phi, said Greek residents would probably use recycling bins if they were available.

"There's no reason for recycle bins to not already be in Greek halls," said Lewis, a junior management major.

The AV Environmental Club's president agreed that increasing recycling options on campus is important and said the club is working to improve the current recycling system.

Bethanne Edwards, president of the AV Environmental Club, which focuses on recycling and community cleanup, said the club is looking into working with Residential Services to promote recycling but have not yet contacted them.

"Expanding recycling on campus is on our short list of priorities," Edwards said. "It's the gateway to opening people up to caring about other environmental issues."

Edwards said this is the club's second semester on campus so it is still working on developing relationships with administration officials.

If students give feedback to the university about recycling they could help increase recycling on campus, Edwards said.

"Individual students have a lot of power"
Bethanne Edwards

Edwards said.

"Individual students have a lot of power," Edwards said. "If students show they have a desire for something, the administration is usually pretty responsive."

Allen said he would be glad to work with the AV Environmental Club to improve recycling.

"If they have ideas about awareness and publicity, I'd be happy to pay to put posters up in residence halls," Allen said.

Allen said he would like to see students initiating recycling awareness programs. Students should work with their resident assistants to promote responsibility in their halls and encourage each other to recycle, he said.

"There's a lot of things we could tell students to do," Allen said, "but if students tell each other to do things, they listen."

Freshman business major Chase Daigle, said he recycles because it is convenient.

"The trash cans and recycle bins are right outside my door so it's easy," said Daigle, who is a resident of Clark Hall.

Joey Bryce, a freshman business major, said he doesn't recycle but would consider it if other students promoted recycling.

"I love our environment," said Bryce, who is a resident of Brachman Hall. "It's just a hassle to take that extra minute to sort through trash."

Hispanic Heritage Month events to educate

By RACHEL MCDANIEL
Staff Reporter

Hispanic Heritage Month begins Friday, and TCU has several events planned, including a sand castle-building contest and a Latin jazz performance, as part of the nationwide celebration honoring the Hispanic culture.

TCU prides itself on being a global, world-class university, and celebrating Hispanic Heritage month is just another way to promote the mission statement, said Greg

Trevino, director of Inclusiveness and Intercultural Services.

"We are trying to give students an insight on Hispanic culture," Trevino said. "The Hispanic culture is part of American culture. It's who we are."

Beatriz Gutierrez, a sophomore communication studies major, said she moved to Fort Worth with her family from Guanajuato, Mexico when she was 5 years old.

"We want other TCU students to see where we're

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH EVENTS INCLUDE:

- Tue, Sept. 19
Inclusiveness Luncheon with speaker Miguel Leatham
SC Rooms 207-209
11:30 a.m.
Aztec Pyramid Sand Castle Fiesta
University Rec Center
5:30 p.m.
- Wed, Sept. 27
KinoMonda Film Series: "Lone Star"
Sid Richardson Building, LH1
6:30 p.m.
- Thu, Sept. 28
Fiesta de los Frogs
4 p.m. Frog Alley
- Sun, Oct. 1
Alumni Mixer Panel
Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center
6:30 p.m.
- Tue, Oct. 10
Latin Jazz Performance and Food Tasting
SC Lounge
Noon

coming from and why we are the way we are," Gutierrez said.

Trevino and Gutierrez are part of the TCU Hispanic See **HERITAGE**, page 2



JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF / Photo Editor
The blue recycling bins in Smith Entrepreneurs Hall are there for students and faculty to conserve reusable items, but how often are the bins being used?



WEATHER
TODAY: Sunny, 89/66
FRIDAY: Partly cloudy, 93/73
SATURDAY: Thunderstorms, 96/76

PECULIAR FACT
Two men in New Hampshire donated kidneys to each other's wives in a four-way surgical swap at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital on Wednesday. —Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES
OPINION: Students should watch their words, page 3
SPORTS: Volleyball to begin conference play, page 6

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CREDIT

From page 1

affect the quality of the education a student receives.

Students must have written approval from the academic deans of their majors before they take courses outside of TCU in order to receive credit for those classes, Slater said. He added that this is not a new stipulation.

LEADERSHIP

From page 1

treating employees well.

"Be loyal to your subordinates," he said. "Do not micromanage the people around you. Empower them."

Lilly Frawley, a freshman nutrition major, said she learned a lot from Akin's speech.

"A crucial part of being a good leader is communication and showing people you care," Frawley said. "Then, people will go out of their way for you."

Attendance at the series was higher than it has been at any previous Leadership in the Lounge Series event, said Wang, a junior biology major.

The Leadership Council will host another Leadership in the Lounge Series Nov. 1.

HERITAGE

From page 1

Heritage Month Committee, which planned the month's events.

The events will begin Tuesday with an Inclusiveness Luncheon. Miguel Leatham, an assistant instructor of anthropology, will speak about Mexican-American culture in Fort Worth.

An Aztec pyramid sand castle-building contest is also planned for Tuesday at the University Recreation Center.

Trevino said the events are starting Tuesday so they won't be overshadowed by Family Weekend.

Other events include a movie showing on Sept. 27; Fiesta de los Frogs, a Latin-theme pregame festival before the Sept. 28 football game; a mixer for alumni and students Oct. 1; and a Latin jazz performance to close out the month Oct. 10.

The Sept. 27 showing of "Lone Star," a 1996 movie about the mixture of cultures at the Texas-Mexico border, will be shown as part of the KinoMonda World Film Series, said John Singleton, director of International Student Services and organizer of the film series.

Singleton said he chose the film with help from students on the Hispanic Heritage Month Committee, including Gutierrez.

"We wanted a movie that

"We are trying to give students an insight on Hispanic culture. The Hispanic culture is part of American culture.

It's who we are."

Greg Trevino

Director of Inclusiveness and Intercultural Services

portrayed stereotypes that cultures have about other cultures," Gutierrez said.

It's important for students to learn about Hispanic culture because of the increasing diversity in the American population, Trevino said.

"With the population shifting, people are going to be working with and managing people of Hispanic descent," he said. "If they don't know the ins and outs of the culture, it could be a disadvantage down the road."

There are about 540 Hispanic students at TCU, which constitutes about 6 percent of the student body, according to the 2005 Fall TCU Factbook.

Trevino said the number of Hispanic first-year students this year increased dramatically.

The number of Hispanic freshmen increased from 115 in fall 2005 to 151 this fall, said Wes Waggoner, director of freshman admission.

Gutierrez said she has noticed the increase of Hispanic students as well.

Discovery of 65 bodies in Baghdad setback for U.S. security efforts

By MARK BRUNSWICK AND HUDA AHMED
McClatchy Newspapers

Authorities found at least 65 bodies dumped throughout Baghdad on Wednesday, and at least 25 people died in other violence in a setback to the U.S. military's efforts to reduce sectarian violence in Iraq's capital city.

The hands of most of the dumped victims were bound, and they were blindfolded. Most of the dead appeared to have been shot to death, and many showed signs of having been tortured.

The apparent resurgence in execution-style murders, which are often associated with sectarian violence and death squads, came as U.S. and Iraqi patrols have been sweeping Baghdad neighborhoods in search of insurgents and sectarian militiamen.

Since Operation Forward Together began on Aug. 7, U.S. officials have boasted that such killings in Baghdad declined by more than 50 percent in August, compared with July. U.S. officials wouldn't provide specific numbers, however, and have said that their comparison doesn't include victims of car bombings, mor-

tar attacks and other so-called mass-casualty violence.

Statistics released by the Baghdad morgue suggest that the decline in violence from July to August was less than 18 percent, with 1,529 violent deaths in August and 1,855 in July.

Wednesday's deaths, however, clearly fall into the category that the U.S. military is tracking.

The daily total was the highest since the security sweeps began and the second highest so far this year. The most executions — 80 — occurred on Feb. 23, the day after a Shiite mosque was bombed in Samarra, setting off the current round of violence.

The bodies were dumped throughout the city. Ten were found in the Shula neighborhood in western Baghdad and another 10 were found in Sadr City in the east, both Shiite Muslim strongholds of anti-American cleric Muqtada al Sadr. Forty-five of the victims were discovered in predominantly Sunni Arab parts of western Baghdad, including five in the Dora neighborhood, which had already been swept by U.S. and Iraqi forces, police said. Most of

the victims were found in groups of four or five.

U.S. officials said they hadn't been able to verify the reports of the bodies.

Police said they'd been unable to determine a pattern in where the bodies were dropped. No one was near police or military checkpoints, police said. Shiite Muslim militias have been accused of infiltrating Iraqi police and army units.

An officer from the police station in the Amel neighborhood in north central Baghdad, speaking on the condition that he not be named, said that many of the incidents appeared to involve day laborers, drivers or police officers who may have been abducted as they began their workdays and then were killed shortly afterward. In most cases, police found no identification on the bodies, which were photographed and taken to the morgue.

Such execution-style killings have become more frequent since the Samarra mosque bombing, although bodies bearing signs of torture have turned up almost daily since 2005.

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DEVASTATING CASUALTIES

Police said Wednesday they found the bodies of 65 men who had been tortured, shot and dumped, most around Baghdad, while car bombs and mortar attacks killed at least 39 people and wounded dozens more.

-Associated Press

THE SKIFF VIEW

Communication not senseless

Senseless Acts of Comedy will perform in the Student Center Ballroom this semester because the troupe was denied access to Moudy 141 North after teachers complained.

The Student Center might be a fine replacement venue for SAC, but the issue should have been resolved through simple communication when the first complaint occurred.

Keeping facilities in proper order for education should be a priority, but TCU should also work to accommodate student organizations — especially those offering alcohol-free entertainment — something the university eagerly promotes.

SAC has been performing for four years, and oftentimes, more than 300 students attend its free shows.

While faculty and staff complained equipment was not respected, they did not speak directly to SAC.

SAC members said they focused on cleaning up the room and prop closet after these complaints were brought against

them, but efforts to discontinue the organization's use of the room continued.

The Student Organizations Committee decided last week it could only recommend whether the group should be allowed to use the room or not. Committee members suggested instead, that all interested parties meet to discuss the issue.

But SAC members decided the fight to keep Moudy 141 North wasn't worth it.

The issue is not whether complaints about the misuse of equipment were warranted. Rather, faculty who had qualms about the organization's use of the room should have approached SAC members directly.

SAC puts themselves out there through the use of jokes, costumes and props — all in an effort to give students a chance to relax in the midst of a hectic week.

Faculty members should have been more respectful than to inform SAC a week before the first scheduled show that they were not permitted to use the room.

—News editor Kathleen Thurber for the editorial board

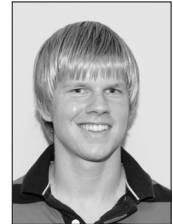
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Students' unintentional 'hate speech' encourages prejudices

When the Rev. Fred Phelps and his congregation picketed the funeral of Matthew Shepard in 1998, carrying signs that read "God hates fags" and "Matthew Shepard rots in hell," most Americans reacted in outrage. And rightfully so.

COMMENTARY



Matt Messel

We live in a culture that preaches tolerance.

As educated college students, we pride ourselves in being open-minded. Through years of schooling, we have learned to accept, or at least tolerate, those of different races, creeds, sexual orientations and abilities.

We would never participate in hate crimes, as did Phelps and his band of bigots. Or would we?

Sadly, American soci-

ety is fraught with the same hate crimes it so deliberately denounces. And college campuses are among the worst places for these crimes.

You witness it every day while walking to the University Recreation Center, sitting in The Main or perhaps even in your place of worship. Often, you are the perpetrator.

"That's so gay." "She's so retarded." We hear and speak these words every day and think little of them. "It's just part of our culture. We don't mean anything by it," we tell ourselves.

These idioms are ingrained in our society. We blur the words out of our mouths and do not give them a second thought.

There is a term for such phrases — hate speech. Yes, hate speech. It is the most subtle and prevalent form of hate crime in our nation

and schools, and we take part in it every day.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines hate speech as speech that attacks a person or group on the basis of race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.

Take a moment to think about what phrases such as "That's so gay" or "That's so retarded" really mean. We always associate these phrases with something negative.

What we don't do is remember that there are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and mentally retarded people in our midst who have to put up with these negative connotations every day. Whether these people admit it, it hurts. How could it not?

Imagine living in a world where there is a subtle prejudice against your sexual orientation or disability hidden behind a guise of toler-

ance and acceptance. Imagine what it would do to your sense of self-worth.

Every time we utter one of these phrases, we are committing a hate crime. In America, we are hypocrites. We preach tolerance and, at the same time, degrade those who are different than us.

It's time we fess up to our discriminatory actions and stop trying to justify comments that eat away at other's self-worth. It's time that we put an end to everyday hate crime.

You can start with yourself. Next time a phrase such as "That's so retarded" spurts from your mouth, stop and think about what it means. By critically thinking about our own words and actions, we can stop this unintentional hate speech.

Once you have made the conscious decision to stop, help others out. When you hear a friend

say something such as "That's so gay," tell him or her how hurtful such phrases are to people with differing lifestyles or disabilities. This will help your friend critically think about his or her words as well.

It is through these small steps that we can reverse the tide of this subtle hate speech on campus and in our nation.

We have the opportunity to realize the vision of Martin Luther King Jr. who so poignantly proclaimed:

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'"

Let's make that day today. Let's stop the hate.

Matt Messel is a sophomore sociology major from Omaha, Neb. His column appears every Thursday.

Search engines take advantage of Internet users

The Internet is a scary place.

It is an incredible tool, a breakthrough in technology and a luxury our generation often takes for granted.

COMMENTARY



Jordan Cohen

But it is also, in many cases, a blueprint of our private lives.

With the ever-advancing progress in the capabilities of search engines, virtually limitless archives of information are, literally, at our fingertips. We use Internet searches daily, but still barely scratch the surface of the never-ending black hole of information the World Wide Web has to offer.

Looking for a vacation spot? Can't remember the lyrics to a song on the radio? Doing research for a psychology paper? Need driving directions? So many of us begin our quest for even the most seemingly everyday knowledge with a search engine. And why not? This method is the easiest, most direct way to obtain such information.

But our electronic inquiries are not really as private as many of us think. While we may receive a wealth of effortlessly attainable knowledge from search engines, what we do not realize is the wealth of effortlessly attainable knowledge the search industry also receives on us.

According to a science and

technology Web site Playful.com, America Online, the fourth most popular search engine, recently made a blunder that allowed the public to browse the search patterns of 658,000 Internet users over the course of three months. An unauthorized AOL staff member released the data with the intention of providing researchers with the means for coming up with better search tools. AOL has since removed the information, but large amounts of it are still circulating on the Internet, according to the Aug. 21 issue of USA Today. And while AOL has apologized for the availability of such data, the real regret should be that records like these even exist.

"Nothing ever invented - not the diary, not reality TV, not MySpace pages - gives us such a raw imprint of our thoughts, desires, needs and impulses as search engines," said Kevin Maney, USA Today Technology columnist, in a recent issue.

And while AOL is the only search giant to have let the cat out of the bag, so to speak, it certainly is not the only engine recording the entries of its users. Both Yahoo and MSN have given search data to the government, according to USA Today.

Search records can also be sold to advertisers who will specifically target an audience based on the interests that their searches so explicitly reveal. Advertisers' intimate knowledge of

potential consumers gives them the opportunity to get a head start on their competition.

But allowing anyone to take advantage of such personal data seems unethical, if not eerie, and the use of these records could easily spin out of control. Such power in the wrong hands could have cataclysmically devastating effects.

And while the records of our intimate quandaries and impulse thoughts are not attached to actual names, with the amount of personal information about ourselves we unknowingly surrender, they may as well be.

"With enough puzzle pieces, in this case, it's very possible to figure out who someone is," said Jim Harper of the Cato Institute.

Storing data about searchers is an invasion of privacy and should be made illegal.

I shudder to think what a hacker could do with access to such neatly organized banks of private information.

The current liberties of the search industry are not only disturbing, but also dangerous. Because it is legal for search engines to collect and store such data, our most private thoughts and personal information are completely accessible — at least to those crafty enough who know how to exploit it.

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

Extreme evangelism not effective

They are found in downtown areas with megaphones, preaching of Scriptures and threats of eternal hell at the top of their lungs. These people believe the only proper way to live a fulfilling life is to do it their way. If you are lucky, you might even see them on TV performing "miracles,"

COMMENTARY

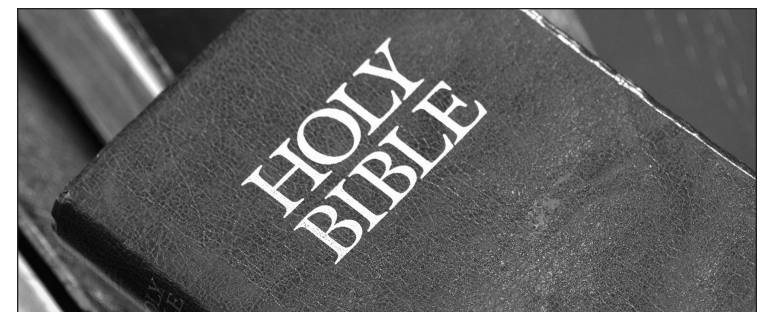


Saerom Yoo

which almost always involves somebody fainting, while hysterical spectators look on with awe and reverence. I'm talking about extreme evangelists.

In various parts of the Bible, the Scriptures urge Christians to rapidly spread the Gospel to all parts of the world. For example, 2 Thessalonians 3:1 reads, "Pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored." This verse does not mean to hold a sermon on the streets where people are trying to enjoy their weekends away from work and school. It also does not mean to televise some phony miracle so people will immediately adopt Christian beliefs.

Unfortunately, many avid evangelists boast the mistaken view that the invasive means are valid and necessary to "save" somebody. Perhaps they should open their eyes and notice that most people, Christians and non-Christians alike, are repulsed with such actions. Christians do not appreciate the negative image of Christianity these extreme evangelists project to the public, and non-Christians do not appreciate being told they're evil and that



BETTY UDESEN / SEATTLE TIMES/KRT

Satan rules their lives.

A famous televangelist is Benny Hinn, who hosts the 30-minute TV show "This is Your Day" on various religious networks. He has "healed" people who were suffering from various illnesses, and he claims to have prophetic abilities.

In 1989, Hinn predicted that in the mid-1990s: "God will destroy the homosexual community of America. But He will not destroy it with what many minds have thought Him to be, He will destroy it with fire. And many will turn and be saved, and many will rebel and be destroyed."

Extreme evangelists, such as Hinn, project and promote a negative image of Christianity. Not only is falsely claiming to have prophetic abilities blasphemous, but preaching messages of hatred to or about any group of people is extremely unchristian.

A shrieking voice over the megaphone might spread a message rapidly, but it's as effective as chucking a Bible at someone's head. In fact, many people who might have given Christianity a chance refuse to because these extreme evangelists give them the impression that Christians are crazy.

Imagine you grew up as a Christian, going to church, learning about Jesus and

studying the Bible. Then, one day a random Buddhist walks up to you to tell you that you're wrong, evil and that you're missing out on the true fruits of life. Would you feel saved or attacked? Obviously, your impression of Buddhism and its followers would not be a positive one.

Evangelism is about influencing somebody to make a life-changing decision. It is both a commitment and an alteration of one's lifestyle. It is not much different from someone making the decision to become a vegetarian for the rest of their life. It is a decision people make for themselves because they want to, not because they are afraid to burn forever in hell or because they are told it is the "only way to live."

A stranger has not earned the trust or the credibility to influence anybody's decisions in life. To be an effective evangelist, one must take the time to get to know another, to relate to another, and hopefully show by example, what it means to be a Christian. As corny as it sounds, actions do indeed speak louder than words. It is a slow process, but it is the only successful one.

Saerom Yoo is a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from Pusan, South Korea. Her column appears every Thursday.

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Campaign against child sex predators draws critics

By JASON TRAHAN AND CHRIS COLGIN
The Dallas Morning News

For a while this summer, it seemed that the usually quiet town of Murphy was overrun with men trying to meet underage girls for sex. In separate incidents, police arrested four men on charges of online solicitation — all within about a week.

None of the men actually lived in Murphy. And it was hard to imagine that this small Collin County town had suddenly spawned an epidemic of cyber-pedophilia. So why were so many alleged child predators interested in traveling there?

Perverved Justice.

This summer, the Murphy police began working with Perverved-Justice.com, an Internet watchdog that received nationwide attention after helping NBC's "Dateline" run stings on dozens of men caught trolling chat rooms to meet children for sex.

Some say the volunteer organization is a selfless grass-roots movement that helps stop potential molesters before they can hurt children. Others call it a vigilante outfit that uses harassing tactics that trump on privacy rights — including online-posting of the names and addresses of innocent family members who are related to potential pedophiles.

In Murphy, Perverved Justice has helped police jail a retired eye doctor, a business traveler, a former sailor who says he is addicted to sex and an office worker. All the court cases are pending.

"Every one of these men came here, or planned to, thinking they were going to meet with a 13- or 14-year-old child," said Murphy Police Chief Billy

Myrick. "So even if these guys don't live in Murphy, this shows their willingness to come here, or near here, and that's a great concern for us."

Xavier Von Erck, who founded the Oregon-based site three years ago, says that his organization has been integral in more than 200 arrests and at least 76 convictions of child predators, and has exposed the deviant behavior of more than 1,000 men all over the United States.

"We've had a conviction every week of the year so far," Von Erck said. "We don't expect that number to go down."

He added: "I want pedophiles to go to a Web site and see a 12-year-old girl or a 15-year-old boy and think to himself, 'Oh, I better not talk to them because I could get arrested and show up on a nationally viewed Web site.' I want us to work as a deterrent."

But some law enforcement experts worry that the group's aggressive actions and questionable evidence-gathering methods result in some people being treated as if they are guilty without being convicted of a crime.

"I'm a strong proponent of citizen involvement with law enforcement," said Brad Russ, director of training for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Justice to train police across the nation to combat computer crimes.

At least 21 men in Texas have fallen into Perverved Justice's trap, and so far, three have been convicted, the group says. In Murphy, Perverved Justice has accounted for about one-third of the city's 13 felony arrests so far this year. "That's a big deal for a city and a



MICHAEL MULVEY/MCT
Brad Russ, director of the Training and Technical Assistance Program for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, poses near a TV monitor with children's identification information during a conference in Dallas on Aug. 24.

department of this size," Myrick said.

Roughly 60 volunteers who pose as children range in age from college freshman to retirees work for Perverved Justice. They enter Internet chat rooms and wait.

Within minutes, men begin sending them private messages. They sometimes send pictures of themselves nude or masturbating. If a man solicits sex, the volunteer finagles his phone number and address. In phone calls, volunteers with young-sounding voices seal the deal.

In one of Murphy's cases, a man traveled from Tyler to the Dallas area for a rendezvous.

"The work they do is unbelievable," said Murphy police Officer Kevin Carter, who encouraged his chief to work with Perverved Justice after seeing the

group's results on "Dateline's" popular "To Catch a Predator" series.

Lt. Chad Bianco of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department in California said child predator investigations can take months of an investigator's time — which resource-strapped, small- to mid-sized law enforcement agencies don't have.

Perverved Justice "is a tool that costs nothing but gets the same outcome," Bianco said.

His office has arrested more than 50 people in front of "Dateline's" cameras.

"Law enforcement agencies that don't use this are dropping the ball," Bianco said.

In February, Fort Worth school percussion instructor Anthony Horton, 28, was caught talking dirty

BY THE NUMBERS

- 24.8 million: The number of children ages 10 to 17 who use the Internet
 - 13 percent: Children who have been sexually solicited online
 - 4 percent: Children aggressively solicited after online contact (through meeting requests, phone conversations, gifts, etc.)
 - 1 percent: Children asked to run away from home by a solicitor
 - 5 percent: Online sex solicitations reported to authorities
 - 12 percent: Children who told their parents about online solicitations
 - 2: Number of children out of 1,500 surveyed who said they were sexually assaulted by someone who solicited them online. (Both were girls, and authorities were told in both cases.)
- SOURCES: A study funded by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. For the study, 1,500 children between 10 and 17 were interviewed in 2005, and U.S. Census Bureau population statistics were used to extrapolate the number of total children thought to be Internet users.

to a volunteer pretending to be 13. After news of the bust was posted online, calls poured in from "all over the United States," he later told Fort Worth school officials.

According to school documents, Perverved Justice told him that unless he sought help and could prove it, they would begin printing fliers labeling him a pedophile.

Within hours of quitting his teaching job Feb. 28, Irving police arrested him after they say he tried to solicit one of their officers posing as a 14-year-old. The case is pending in state court.

Fort Worth police would "reluctantly" work with such a group, said Lt. K. Rodricks, who heads that department's special investigations section. "We don't want to get in the business of adding to Internet vigilantism."

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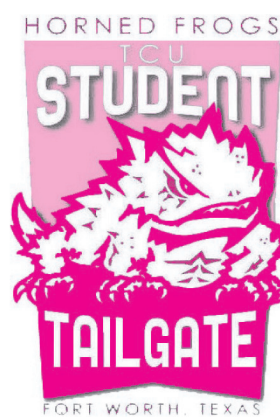
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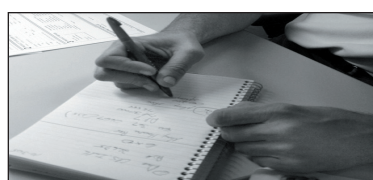
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FAMOUS QUOTE

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— Thomas Jefferson

TODAY IN HISTORY

1793: After more than two centuries as a royal palace, the Louvre is opened as a public museum in Paris by the French revolutionary government.

Quigmans

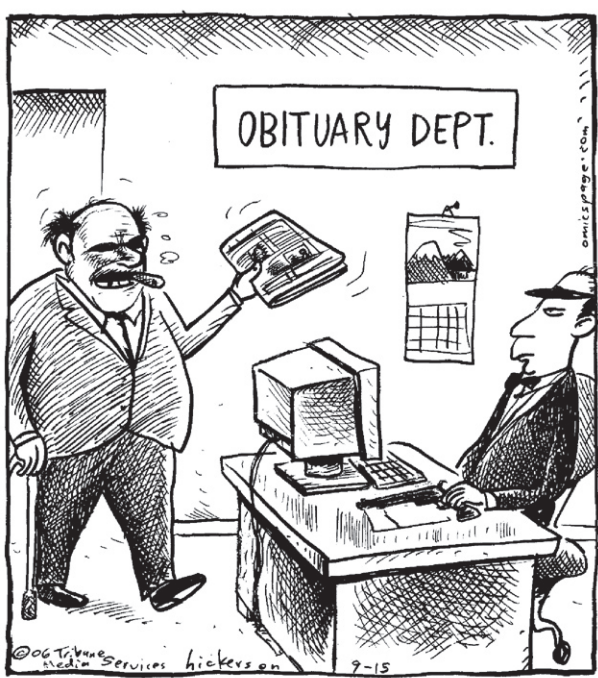
by Buddy Hickerson



Yet another devastating side effect of global warming: Ned has lost the urge to order Baked Alaska.

Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



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

Directions

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

Wednesday's Solutions

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

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

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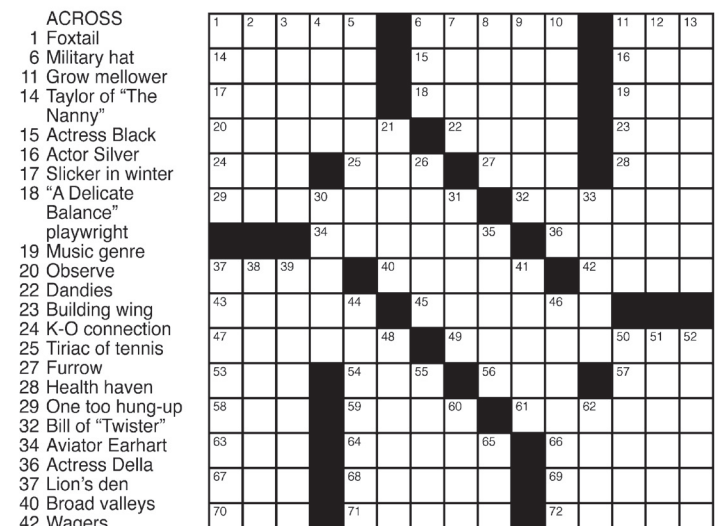
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M	E	S	A	G	A	D	E	S	T	A	T	E	
S	T	A	T	U	E	P	A	T	E	R			
U	B	O	A	T	C	A	R	E	S	S	I	N	G
I	A	N	F	A	T	E	D	R	O	E			
T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	D	G	I	A	N	T
P	O	R	T	E	N	T	M	O	S	T			
O	N	E	I	D	A	J	O	B	E	G	A	D	
S	I	T	S	C	R	U	D	E	N	O	V	A	
S	O	R	T	E	I	D	E	R	D	Y	E	D	
E	N	O	S	S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

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TODAY IN SPORTS

With the anticipated TCU-Tech matchup coming Saturday, read about how the school is preparing for the football game.

Runners to compete at Texas A&M for first time

By KATHLEEN THURBER
News Editor

The men's cross country team travels to Texas A&M Saturday for a meet, which the coach and players say will reveal how they compare to other Texas schools and will serve as training for upcoming conference and regional meets.

After finishing second in the North Texas Invitational, cross country coach Eric Heins said he was pleased with the team's performance, but said he will continue a strenuous training schedule.

"We went into last weekend tired, and we'll go into this weekend tired," Heins said.

He said his training philosophy is to run as much as possible early in the season and during the summer so the team is prepared later in the season to do well at conference and regional championship meets.

Senior Alex Morris said Heins, who came to TCU this season, is working the team much harder than previous coaches. He said last weekend's second place finish

gave the team incentive to keep training — even if that training includes running about 75 miles each week.

"It was a confidence booster," he said. "It shows that we belong at the top of the meet."

Heins said one of the challenges with Saturday's meet is that the team has never competed at Texas A&M before so they don't know what to expect from the course like they do in other meets.

"We're kind of starting from scratch," he said.

However, Heins said the 5-

mile course is relatively flat, something that should benefit the team since last weekend's course included hills. They have also continued to train for incline running this week.

Heins said the hardest thing for runners to overcome is the mental part, being able to say, "Hey, I can finish this."

Senior J.T. Reinert said he thinks being able to run as a team and being able to talk to other team members helps each runner to stay motivated.

"Being able to run as a group helps us stay strong,"

he said, adding that this brings a depth to the team, which he said he hopes will allow them to score more points at Saturday's meet.

Morris agreed and said he is motivated to keep up his endurance through a race, because he doesn't want to let down his team members.

He said Saturday's race should let the team know where they are in comparison to other schools.

"We're going to compete hard and see where we stack up," Morris said.

**SPORTS BRIEF
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY**

by MARCUS MURPHREE
Staff Reporter

The men's and women's cross country teams earned a pair of second-place finishes at the 29th Annual North Texas Invitational Cross Country Meet on Saturday.

Leading the men's team was junior Matt Manly who finished in the top 10 with a time of 20:54.81 on the four-mile course. The women's team ran a two-mile route and had two finishers in the top five with senior Calandra Stewart in third and freshman Carlene Mayfield finishing fifth.

Junior Steven Solazzo was the second Horned Frog to cross the finish line with a time of 21:20.65 as he led the core pack of TCU runners through the course.

The final results for the men's race came down to a tiebreaker between the TCU and UNT runners who were the sixth men to cross the finish line for their respective teams.

Junior Houston Bolin's 20th-place finish beat out Matt Peters of UNT by eight seconds and two places, according to the race scorecard.

The women's race had TCU finishing second by a 25-point margin over third place Oklahoma State, according to the race scorecard.

Finishing two places behind Stewart was Mayfield in her first collegiate race.

Head coach Eric Heins said the two-mile women's course called for a different race-day strategy than he had the girls preparing for during the week.

"We didn't do a good job of attacking the race," Heins said.

Volleyball team learns from mistakes; women look forward to conference play

By RACHEL MCDANIEL
Staff Reporter

The women's volleyball team will start conference play this weekend against Wyoming.

The Horned Frogs enter conference games following a disappointing tournament loss to Mississippi Saturday that snapped a five-game winning streak.

"We competed hard and played great," head coach Prentice Lewis said.

"It was really the most solid we have ever played," said senior middle blocker Anna Vaughn said. "There were no pushover games. Each team was competitive."

Vaughn said she was disappointed about the loss to Ole Miss, but it showed the team things it needed to improve on going into conference play.

"We always need to work on

blocking," Vaughn said.

Freshman outside hitter Lauren Otto believes that the team's biggest weakness right now is their consistency.

Overall, Vaughn says she is happy with the way the season is going so far.

"We have really good chemistry and are communicating really well," she said.

Vaughn also said she was excited about how the defense has been playing, but said that is something they will have to continue to improve on.

"Our record shows we've been playing hard," Otto said.

Lewis said the team is taking each game one at a time and not looking toward any match past the current one.

The players also insisted

they weren't going to disregard any team until it's all over.

"Any night, any team can beat another," Vaughn said. "You just have to show up and play the game."

Vaughn said the team is ready to start conference play and are looking to improve on last year.

"Wyoming will be a good starting point," Vaughn said.

Lewis, however, isn't worried about any particular team but her own.

"As a program you can't worry about what's going on outside," Lewis said. "We just focus on what we need to do as a team."

The Horned Frogs open conference play Saturday when they host the 6-3 Wyoming Cowgirls at 2 p.m. in the University Recreation Center.



KATIE RUPPEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior middle blocker Anna Vaughn serves up the ball against Texas State Wednesday night. TCU won 3-0. For more information, visit dailyskiff.com.

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