



NEWS

Theater students prepare to present their new play later this week.

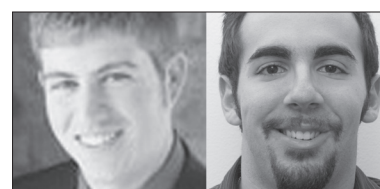
TOMORROW



FEATURES

A Christian ministry cares for the homeless in east Fort Worth.

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SPORTS

Two sports editors preview this weekend's battle for the Iron Skifflet.

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TCU

DAILY SKIFF

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IFC considers punishment for fraternities' bid-night skirmish

By ANA BAK
Staff Reporter

The Interfraternity Council met Sunday for three hours to create a proposal that outlined sanctions against four fraternities involved in an August brawl, but James Parker, assistant dean of Campus Life, said Monday he had yet to see it.

Josh Schutts, coordinator of fraternity and sorority life and IFC adviser, said he and Dane Pearson, chief justice of IFC, would present the proposal to Parker but as of Monday evening, Parker said in an e-mail he had not seen it.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, also said Monday

that he also had not seen the proposal, but expects to see it today or Wednesday. He said Dean of Campus Life, Susan Adams, will also see the proposal.

Mills said repercussions for the fraternities could be anything from probation to suspension.

The brawl, which occurred on IFC bid night Aug. 29 on the lawn

of Martin Moore Hall in Worth Hills, led to the arrest of three men. Two of the men arrested are members of Phi Delta Theta and the other is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham said about 75 to 100 people were involved and Fort Worth police were called in to assist in break-

ing up the fight.

Mills said Campus Life is dealing with the three men who were arrested.

On Sunday, IFC met in the Brown-Lupton Student Center and heard representatives from the four fraternities: Delta Tau Delta, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Sigma and Sigma Alpha

Epsilon.

"They gave their account of the fight, what they saw, what they found out from their point of view," Schutts said.

IFC executive board members and the IFC judicial board were present at the meeting. The board is made up of delegates See **IFC**, page 2

ALL-AMERICAN



MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE / Photo Editor

Chris Qualls, a senior communications and geology major, works out at a local park for his upcoming American Gladiator call back. Out of 350 people at the audition in Chicago, Qualls and three others were called back. Qualls was first approached about the audition by his roommate, Scott Nichols, a senior advertising public relations major who saw an article in Time magazine about a new version of "American Gladiator."

Senior auditions for 1990s TV show revival

By AMANDA SHIMKO
Staff Reporter

A student is looking to follow his childhood dream of becoming an American Gladiator.

Chris Qualls, senior communications and geology major, followed that dream all the way to an audition in Chicago.

"American Gladiators" is a tournament-style show with events including obstacle courses, jousting, tug of war,

rock-climbing walls and other competitions designed to test physical strength.

"I loved the show as a kid," Qualls said. "My roommate and I TiVo the old episodes on ESPN Classic every night."

NBC announced in August it would be reviving the 1990s hit "American Gladiators" and would be holding casting calls across the country to audition the new breed of gladiators and

guest fighters.

While there is a casting call in Arlington on Sept. 22, the date coincides with the homecoming game, Qualls said. Instead, he attended auditions held Sunday in Chicago.

Out of about 350 people, Qualls was one of four called back for a second meeting next week in Dallas.

A month ago, Scott Nichols, senior advertising/public

See **GLADIATOR**, page 2

FOR YOUR INFO

Want to audition?

Visit nbc.com/casting for more information.

Want updates?

Visit biggladiatorbaby.blogspot.com for a glimpse into Qualls' journey toward his dream.

Symposium to feature former representative

By JOE ZIGTEMA
Staff Reporter

Students, faculty and members of the community will gather to hear the leader of the Iraq study group speak at the annual Jim Wright Symposium on Tuesday in the Brown-Lupton Student Center Ballroom.

Lee Hamilton, who currently serves on the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council, formerly served in the House of Representatives for 34 years, according to the Web site for the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress.

While in office, Hamilton served on several committees relating to the Middle East, one of which was the bi-partisan committee on the Iran conflict. Wright said he appointed Hamilton during his tenure as Speaker of the House.

Hamilton, who Wright said is known for his bi-partisan views, also served as chair of the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress. As a member of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, he drafted several House ethics reforms, according to the 9/11 commission Web site.

Wright said he was gratified that Hamilton could find a spot in his schedule to appear on Tuesday.

"I think it's a great favor to TCU and an honor for us to feature someone of such accomplishments and distinction," Wright said.

The symposium, Wright said, has featured speakers like presidential hopeful Bill Richardson and five of the past six Western Hemisphere Nobel Peace Prize winners, and is one of many outstanding opportunities TCU offers.

"These opportunities are one of the attractive things about being in the student body here at TCU," Wright said. "You have access to some unusual opportunities to hear people that have

See **WRIGHT**, page 2

FOR YOUR INFO

For Tickets

Call the TCU Box Office at 817-257-5770 to reserve tickets. Tickets are \$10 to the public and \$5 to TCU students and faculty/staff.

Russian news execs visit, share struggles

By JOE ZIGTEMA
Staff Reporter

Apparently, newspapers everywhere struggle with problems like advertising, circulation and printing color.

Even in Russia.

Schieffer School of Journalism Director Tommy Thomason said after talking with an 11-member delegation of Russian news executives, he was reminded that journalists from both countries face the same issues.

"We come from different languages and cultures and different nations, but we're both journalists," Thomason said.

The delegation, hosted by the Rotary Club of Fort Worth, is part of the nationwide Productivity Enhancement Program, which brings Russian entrepreneurs and business owners to the United States for business training and cultural exchange, according to a press release from the Rotary Club.

Through the next two weeks, the group will hear lectures on various topics, including the role of specialty newspapers, advertising and public relations, online media and personnel management.

"I'd like for them to be able to go home with some real, tangible things they can do in the newspapers they own and operate to run their businesses even better," said Brad Hancock, Rotary Club member and assistant director of the Neeley Entrepreneurship Center.

The delegates, most of whom own and operate their respective newspapers, will stay in the homes of volunteers and make visits to several businesses and newspapers in the area, including TCU's journalism and business schools.

Thomason, who spoke to the delegates Monday

See **NEWS**, page 2

Director looks to revamp Rec programs

By DAVID SPENCER
Staff Reporter

The new assistant director of fitness and wellness is adding to programs to get the University Recreation Center and its new programs in shape.



CINTRON

This fall, Stacy Cintron, a Florida State University alumna, replaced Trey Morrison as the assistant director of fitness and wellness at TCU.

With her new position,

Cintron hopes to create a more organized environment in the Rec Center while providing more fitness options for students, Cintron said.

"The University Recreation Center is now working to instill some organization and sense of structure to the program," Cintron said.

The Rec Center has new software and programs to cater to the needs of students regardless of their present fitness levels. The new fitness options are offered in the Rec Center and include hip-hop aerobics, boot camps and "Tone-N-Tighten" programs, Cintron said.

"Since it is open all day,

you just come after class to refresh your mind and body," said Isela Renteria, a sophomore nursing major. "It's fun interacting with other students while dancing and having fun. It is a real stress reliever."

This year, the Rec Center staff cut its wellness program and chose instead to focus on three specific fitness options: group exercise, personal training and massage therapy.

"We are trying to focus on just a few programs," Cintron said. "We want to push the personal training opportunity among students."

In the future, the center

will focus on the importance of nutrition education and making programs available inside and outside of the Rec Center, Cintron said.

"A lot of residence halls want to do something students can learn from," Cintron said. "Programs have already been put on that show how students can do efficient workouts in their own rooms."

Junior communication studies major Brad Keiser, who works at the Rec Center, said many students want to make healthy choices but are unaware of what to do.

See **FITNESS**, page 2



WEATHER

TODAY: Partly cloudy, 90/72
TOMORROW: T-storms, 90/70
THURSDAY: Sunny, 92/68

PECULIAR FACT

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Jack Hanna and an 11-month-old flamingo became trapped while trying to squeeze through an airport security turnstile.
— Associated Press

TODAY'S HEADLINES

OPINION: "Banned Book Week" kicks off next week, page 3
SPORTS: Volleyball team wins weekend tournament, page 6
OPINION: Lyrics not to blame for misguided youth, page 3

CONTACT US

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU

GLADIATOR

From page 1

relations major, said he was glancing through an issue of Time magazine when he came upon information about the show and casting.

Nichols approached his best friend and roommate, Qualls, with the idea.

Qualls said it didn't take him very long to decide he wanted to audition.

"It took about 10 minutes," Qualls said.

Qualls' mother, Donna Davis, said he exemplifies the qualities that his gladiator hero, Nitro, portrayed.

"Chris always encourages others and lifts them up," Davis said. "Nitro would encourage others and I would point that out to him."

Davis said she believes her son has the ability to overcome any obstacle.

"He isn't afraid of anything," Davis said, "except me."

Nichols said he has been a coach and cheerleader for Qualls through the process.

He was there cheering when Qualls was put through an endurance obstacle, which included as many pull-ups as possible in 30 seconds, 10 up-downs, a ladder exercise, running cones and ended with a 40-yard dash, Qualls said.

Nichols has even gone so far as to start a blog chronicling the road to Gladiator Arena.

Qualls described the whole experience as surreal.

If he is chosen he already has some ideas on what he would like to be called.

"I would love to be the next Nitro," Qualls said. "Except my gladiator name would have to be Big Baby."

FITNESS

From page 1

"I think we offer something for everyone of all fitness levels," Cintron said. "It is a fun way for students to recreate and stay healthy."

The Rec Center provides fitness classes seven days a week from 6:15 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. Schedules and class information are available online at campusrec.tcu.edu.

FOR YOUR INFO

Fitness Classes at the Rec Center

TNT Tone-N-Tighten

Monday 12:10 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Friday 12:10 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Hip-Hop Aerobics

Tuesday 7:45 p.m.-8:45 p.m.
Wednesday 7:45 p.m.-8:45 p.m.

Boot Camp

Monday 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 12:10 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Thursday 12:10 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

WRIGHT

From page 1

been there and done good things."

SGA President Jace Thompson said he's grateful Wright made his home at TCU.

"I think it's a testament to where we are going as a school that such honorable people would come and share their knowledge with [the student body]," Thompson said.

The symposium is co-sponsored by the Center for Civic Literacy, Leadership Fort Worth, the Women's Policy Forum and the Student Government Association.

Dinner seating is full, but open lecture seating will be available without RSVP for the event, which starts at 6:30 p.m.

NEWS

From page 1

about trends in the media and where they are today, said they asked excellent questions that showed more insight into American journalism than one might guess.

After talking with a woman about the problems facing her Russian magazine, Thomason said, "Had she been speaking English,

she could just as well have come from Omaha as she did from Siberia, which was literally where she was from."

Yelizaveta Kaminskaya, executive editor of the Krasnodar News in Southwest Russia, said she was looking forward to visiting the newsrooms of local papers.

"It's very interesting to me how the city newspapers work, because I'm an

executive editor of a daily city newspaper, and I hope I will find many useful things here," Kaminskaya said.

Bill Lawrence, a Rotary Club volunteer, said the purpose of the program isn't just to teach the delegates about the industry, but also to provide a cultural exchange between the delegates and their hosts.

"They can learn more

about our lifestyle and the home hosts, and people they meet can learn more about their lifestyle," Lawrence said.

As part of the cultural exchange aspect of the program, the delegates will take tours of downtown Fort Worth and the stockyards, travel to Dallas' West End, attend a Texas Rangers baseball game and the TCU-SMU football game this weekend.

Microsoft cuts prices for college students

By CLINT SWETT
McClatchy Newspapers

College students often receive significant discounts on tech products, but a new offer from Microsoft Corp. lives up to its billing as "the Ultimate Steal."

The company announced Wednesday that students who are enrolled and have a valid e-mail address from an educational institution can get the Office 2007 Ultimate suite of software for \$60, down from a list price of \$680. The promotion runs through April 30.

The software has been sold at that price at some campus bookstores, but now it will be more widely available through down-

loads, Microsoft said.

Microsoft already offers Office Home & Student, with many fewer features, for \$150.

Part of the motivation for offering the software at a low price is that Microsoft would like to turn users into loyal Office customers.

In addition, the company is constantly combating software piracy and lowering the price makes it less tempting for students to use counterfeit programs.

To get the software, students must submit their e-mail address to ultimatesteal.com. They then will be sent instructions on how to acquire the software, which must be downloaded from Microsoft as a

trial version.

Downloading the 502 megabyte software package takes about 33 minutes over a 2-megabit Internet connection. Customers who would rather have the software on a disk would pay an additional \$12.95 for shipping.

Those who then pay the \$60 fee will be sent an electronic "key" to convert the trial version to the full version.

The trial version allows the student to use Office applications such as Word, PowerPoint or Excel about 25 times. After that limit is hit, the software will allow the user only to view documents, not modify them or create new ones.

IFC

From page 1

to the council from the 10 IFC fraternities on campus.

Matt DiLeo, IFC president, said the judicial board drafted the proposal to be given to Parker.

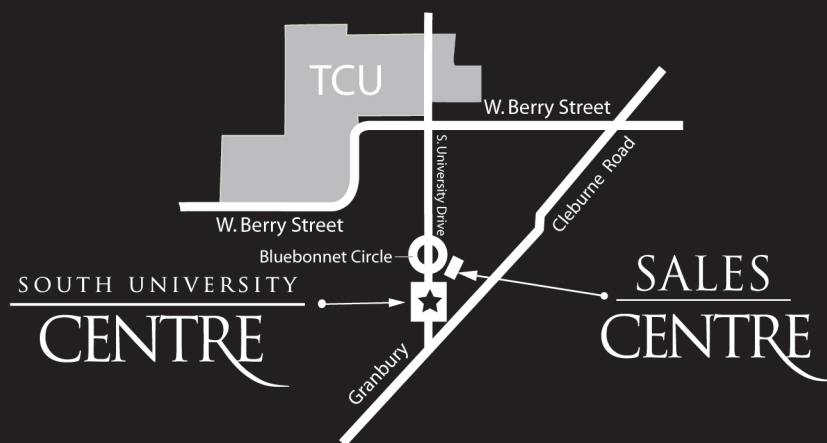
Schutts declined to tell the specifics of the proposal.

"We hope (the proposal) will be approved by (today) in time for the IFC meeting," DiLeo said. The weekly meeting will be at 5:45 p.m. today.

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THE SKIFF VIEW

Increased security important

Administrators' efforts to increase security on campus and to create stronger forms of emergency communication should be applauded.

Less than six months after the Virginia Tech Massacre, local universities are preemptively taking measures to protect their campuses and their students.

Currently, TCU has four means of crisis communication: e-mails, a recorded information line, the TCU home page and the media, which are necessary in order to maintain a high level of campus security.

Having more than one line of communication available to students protects against instances similar to Virginia Tech. But TCU is taking security a step further and has created a committee to look into even more ways to get in touch with the campus community in a crisis.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the committee is looking into bringing an outdoor loudspeaker system, as

well as a phone messaging system to campus to use as communication in the case of an emergency situation.

The phone messaging system would allow administrators to send mass text messages to students informing them of any dangerous situations. This seems to be a practical idea because of the attachment many students have with their cell phones. Even in class, it would be difficult not to notice if everybody's phones were vibrating at the same time.

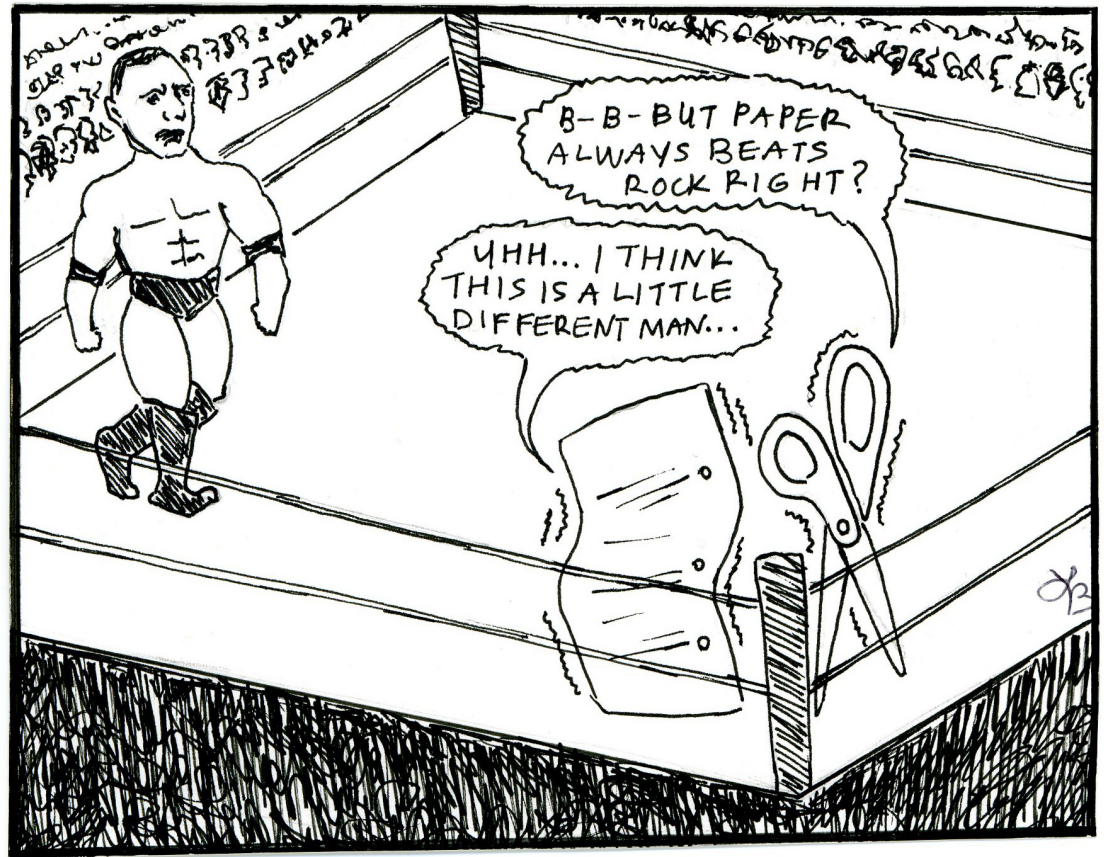
Also, the side doors of the dormitories are now only open during daylight hours. This limits access points for unauthorized entrance in dorms and, therefore, further protects residents.

Though these security measures are still in the planning stages, it is good to see TCU taking the initiative to work toward a safer campus.

Measures such as these are important because they instill a sense of security in students and better protect the campus.

News editor Bailey Shiffler for the editorial board

BY LANA BLOCKER



Apathy toward reading allows disregard of author's passing

In the United States — a country that prides itself for intellectual freedom — there are still organizations that try to censor great literary works because of so-called controversial material.

The week of Sept. 29 will mark the American Library Association's 26th annual "Banned Books Week" in which the ALA encourages readers to protest this censorship by reading books that have been taken off some shelves.

However, according to a recent Associated Press article, one of every four adults said they did not read a book last year, meaning that the ALA's fight against unnecessary censorship is also a fight against a growing apathy toward books.

It is perhaps because of this apathy and a fascination with the lives of celebrities that the death of one of America's greatest authors on Sept. 6 garnered only a passing mention by the media.

That author, Madeleine L'Engle, wrote the classic children's novel "A Wrinkle in Time," which is

listed as the No. 22 most banned book from 1990-2000 on the ALA Web site and won the 1963 Newbery Medal. This award is given annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, according to the ALA Web site. Incidentally, one copy of the book is available in the Mary Couets Burnett Library's juvenile collection.

First published in 1962, "A Wrinkle in Time" blends Christian themes with science and fantasy as two children search to find their missing father, a scientist who was working on unravelling the secrets of the "tesseract," a wrinkle in the fabric of time and space.

"A Wrinkle in Time" is revolutionary, not only because L'Engle is a female writer writing about a female protagonist in a genre typically dominated by men, but also because it is one of the few literary classics that portrays women in a positive light as scientists.

This is especially significant when the time period in which the book was written — a decade prior to the feminist movement of the 1970s — is taken into account.

Although the novel's overall theme is the power

and ability of love to shape the universe, it has consistently been on banned book lists since 1985. Reasons for the ban range from promotion of witchcraft to listing Jesus Christ as one of several religious figures, scientists and philosophers who defend Earth from evil, according to a 2004 USA Today article.

While all Americans enjoy the First Amendment right to express their religious viewpoint, denying an entire community access to an award-winning book infringes on the rights of the members of that community to have equal and open access to literary works. Not to mention the fact that the growing apathy toward reading cannot be countered when significant and interesting books that generate necessary discussion by challenging societal norms are pushed off the shelves.

As one of the most free countries in the world, America should celebrate freethinking authors like Madeleine L'Engle and honor her death by encouraging the widespread reading of her books throughout "Banned Books Week."

Talia Sampson is a senior news-editorial journalism and international relations major from Moorpark, Calif.

Lyrics not scapegoat for all

Eons ago, back in the day when MTV played music videos and Tom Cruise didn't jump on couches, you actually deigned to spend your

allowance on CDs. Some of those probably had the dreaded parental advisory sticker on them. Those are the ones you stashed far and deep in your dresser lest your parents find them and pop a blood vessel.

Gone are those days. But lyrics today are as explicit as ever, causing disgruntled Wal-Mart executives and prompting grandmas to pray an extra "Hail, Mary" for our generation's collective soul.

The Inclusiveness and Intercultural Services office hosted a student panel Wednesday to discuss the effects of song lyrics on today's society.

"It is getting to a point

where we have to stop and look," said Jared Stratford, a sophomore radio-TV-film major and one of the panelists. "Is this what we want our children to listen to?"

Stratford cited hip-hop and rap as music usually associated with unwholesome messages. He said that while there are positive artists in these genres, the negative ones sell more.

"Everyone wants to be from the ghetto," Stratford said. Hip-hop and rap are not the only ones taking the heat. Rock and pop have been criticized for promoting violence, promiscuity and drug use.

Sensitivity to the issue of lyrical content reached a high in 1999 when Marilyn Manson was accused of influencing Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the shooters in the Columbine High School massacre.

Parents, politicians and religious figures took turns lambasting Manson's music, which they claimed had fueled the teenagers' mur-

derous rampage.

Even though Manson is not one to garner much sympathy, he was unfairly made a scapegoat of the massacre, along with video games and the Internet.

We vilify the media because it is easier to do so than to look around and admit we are the problem.

Yes, a lot of what you hear on the radio is not pretty, and in an ideal world, 50 Cent would sing about puppies and green fields instead of oral sex. But the music industry caters to us.

"They sing about what's going to appeal to the masses," said Brittany Richards, a sophomore musical theater major and a member of the panel.

If we demand obscenity, then artists will deliver. In that sense, the music scene is not so much a negative influence as it is a snapshot of today's youth.

Music alone won't thrust people into a life of crime and vice. I like rock, and so far I haven't been compelled to sacrifice any kittens to Satan. If a teenager finds that the lyrics to a rap song legitimize criminal behavior, then that should be a sign of deeper issues.

Our parents can't trap us in a bubble to shield us from the media, but if they raised us right they can trust we have enough sense to screen the messages.

Julieta Chiquillo is a sophomore news-editorial major from San Salvador, El Salvador.



Study of Arabic language needs more supporters

Words do count. When words are misconstrued, they can easily incite and inflame hatreds. When properly studied and appreciated for what they are — vessels of culture — language can lead to understanding other people.

Take the word "madrasa" as an example. All too many people in the West, when they hear the word, conjure up a sinister breeding ground for terrorists. Madrasa is simply the word for "school." It is for exactly this reason that the opening of the Khalil Gibran International Academy in New York City is so important.

Named for the famous Lebanese poet — a Christian — this secondary school has a mandate to "prepare students of diverse

backgrounds for success in an increasingly global and interdependent society," and to equip graduating students "with the skills they need to become empowered independent thinkers who are able to work with cultures beyond their own."

This school is not meant to educate foreigners but to build understanding among American students toward the people of the Middle East. Inclusive in this mission is a curriculum of intensive Arabic language studies.

Why then are the critics of the Khalil Gibran school feeling so threatened and believe the study of Arabic by American children leads to terrorism?

What the critics fail to see is that Arabic language

instruction is an investment in our future security. It is, of course, the undeniable responsibility of government to provide security for its citizens. We can and have tightened our borders to foreign tourists, students and businessmen, put U.S. citizens through rigorous and sometimes invasive airport security checks, even absorbed the heavy financial costs of these measures.

And yes, it has provided a certain amount of security. But enduring security will only truly be assured when people understand one another. We cannot as a nation turn our backs on the world as reflected in our misconceived rejection of the Khalil Gibran International Academy and what it stands for.

Wouldn't it be wiser to embrace the teaching of Arabic and other languages to expose our youngsters to the world beyond our borders? Primary schools in a Washington suburb have initiated Arabic language training this year, encouraged by business and government leaders who say bilingual speakers are needed to help the United States compete in the global marketplace. Bilingual education is in our security interests, too.

The Iraq Study Group reported that the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, with a staff of 1,000, had just 33 Arabic speakers with only six of them able to converse fluently. The report went on to argue that U.S. interests in Iraq suffered because of

the lack of Arabic proficiency at all levels of engagement. In Iraq, we have seen that understanding the culture and the language often is a matter of life and death.

The need for Arabic speakers in America is readily apparent. While there has been an increase in the number of students studying Arabic in recent years, the numbers are still small when compared to the sheer volume of students studying other languages. These numbers need to rise. We need to encourage students and critics to embrace with open arms the Arabic language and check their political baggage at the door.

By targeting the academy in Brooklyn or any class in America that teaches Arabic language and culture,

we stand to lose a great deal as a nation. We lose the chance to understand the message of individuals before they resort to violence and terror. We lose the chance to reach out and befriend people from another culture to see what unites us rather than what divides us. We lose the chance to train a generation of Americans in language skills which our State Department, CIA, FBI and military are so desperate for.

Finally, we close ourselves off to the global village and lose that uniquely American value that has made us the object of admiration in the past: inclusiveness.

Wendy Chamberlin is the president for the Middle East Institute. Her column was distributed by MCT.

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Defense classes a new necessity for freshmen

By WES SMITH
The Orlando Sentinel

Jennifer Woodbury of Orlando, Fla., sent her daughter Abby off to college with the usual boxes of clothes, dorm decorations and snacks.

But Abby, 18, also headed for campus packing a punch, not to mention an eye gouge and a throat jab.

Concerned about reports of date rapes, carjackings and assaults on young women everywhere, her mother signed Abby up for a no-nonsense back-to-school special: Self-Defense 101.

Abby and a group of friends from Lake Highland Preparatory School learned their ABCDEs — “Attack him. Blind him. Choke him. Drop him. Escape.” — in the college-prep course at Fighting Chance Combat Systems.

This unique martial-arts school in Orlando, Fla., charges \$250 for a two-day, 10-hour course that teaches women methods for escaping armed assailants.

Self-Defense 101 trains students to handle attack scenarios including attempted date rape, parking-lot and dorm-room attacks, bar and club assaults, carjackings and muggings at ATMs. Additional training includes techniques for profiling potential date rapists and precautionary measures to avoid being drugged, stalked or abducted.

“Abby is going to be on her own for the first time, and there are criminals out there, so I definitely feel better sending her off with these skills,” said Woodbury, who may join other mothers in taking the course.

They were led to Fighting Chance by Mary Ann Gruenberg of Winter Park, Fla., who sought a self-defense program for her daughter Katherine, 18, after seeing news footage on the abduction of Kelsey Smith. The Kansas teenager was slain after being kidnapped in a Target parking lot in June.

“It struck me that as she walked

“I have no compassion for predators. If one attacks you, there is a 98 percent chance of survival in the first 2.5 heartbeats.”

Jeff Moldovan
Fighting Chance founder

out of that Target she looked just like our Lake Highland girls,” Gruenberg said.

CLOSE COMBAT

Some studies have claimed that up to 25 percent of female college students are sexually assaulted, even though most experts agree that at least half of sexual assaults go unreported.

Law-enforcement professionals traditionally have advised women to cooperate with attackers and hope for the best rather than try to fight them, said Jeannette Emert, crime-prevention officer at the University of Central Florida.

But Emert, a 22-year veteran, no longer shares that traditional thinking.

“From what I see nowadays, being cooperative doesn’t pay off; people are shot and killed anyway,” Emert said.

“Someone with specialized martial-arts training has tools,” she said. “I believe you should practice using those tools, follow your gut instincts, and use them if needed.”

All martial-arts programs offer self-defense training, but few have close-combat-disarmament courses taught in scenarios and settings specifically for women, said Fighting Chance founder Jeff Moldovan, 54, a veteran movie stuntman, bodyguard and martial artist with advanced skills in Dragon Fist kung fu and ninjitsu.

But Moldovan warns that students in his program must show no mercy

to the bad guys.

“I have no compassion for predators. If one attacks you, there is a 98 percent chance of survival in the first 2.5 heartbeats. Women can’t get into a long struggle with a stronger, heavier opponent,” he said. “They have to be quick and lethal, going for the eyes, throat and nose.”

Moldovan and his partners—fellow martial artists Susan Saddler, 34, and Robyn Graham, 23 — developed six basic techniques for their class. Each is designed first to quickly disarm and immobilize attackers by inflicting pain or disrupting their breathing. The goal is to seize control of a weapon and get out of harm’s way.

The methods — with intriguing names such as “snake trap” and “dishrag” — are borrowed and refined from a wide range of martial arts. They rely on leverage, “fluid strength” and speed rather than muscle, which makes them especially useful to young women — even those who are not naturally aggressive, Moldovan said.

“I’ve had students ages 14 to 74, and women find that they are not as helpless as they think they are in these situations,” he said. “It is physics and anatomy, not extraordinary strength. But some have a hard time understanding that until they try.”

Katelyn Van Allen, 18, refused to



Fighting Chance founder Jeff Moldovan and instructor Susan Saddler demonstrate a gun-disarming technique at a Basic Weapons Disarming class at Fighting Chance Combat Systems in Orlando.

come downstairs when her mother, Anne, invited Moldovan to their Lake County home for an introduction to Self-Defense 101.

“I did not want to do it at all; it seemed stupid,” she said. “I thought that I could just carry pepper spray, and I’d be fine. But our mothers forced us to go to the class.”

Shy, reluctant Katelyn turned out to be one of Moldovan’s prized pupils — and nobody to mess with.

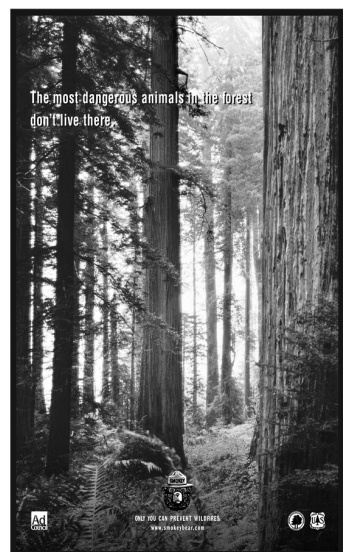
“At first, I was worried that some things seemed a little violent, but they explained that someone who is trying to harm you deserves what he gets,” she said.

Her mother could not be prouder — or more relieved.

“She came out of her shell. She even busted a trainer’s lip,” said Anne Van Allen, who believes Self-Defense 101 should be mandatory in schools.

“There is so much craziness out there,” she said. “I don’t want my kids to be victims.”

JACOB LANGSTON / Orlando Sentinel via MCT



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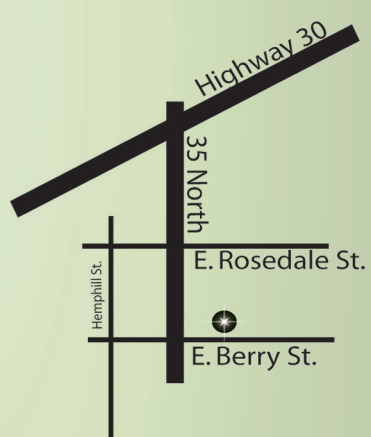
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ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
finding the ways that work



MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE / Photo Editor

Donations from area supermarkets and restaurants allow The Beautiful Feet to serve two meals a day, seven days a week. The ministry sees 200 to 300 people on Sundays.

Echoes of Matthew 25

Local ministry provides refuge, food for homeless

By AMANDA SHIMKO
Staff Reporter

The sun beats down on broken faces and wearied bodies taking rest on the steps of an aged soup kitchen bustling early in the morning. Inside, others climb the staircase to a wide sanctuary where pews double as a sanctuary for a much needed nap. The burden of life's hardships is written all over their faces.

But the sound of laughter, of talking, of conversing with old friends seems to overshadow the solemnity of the moment.

Sunday morning means it is time to worship.

The ceiling fans have to work overtime to cool down the excitement when the worship service starts.

"I have never experienced a church with so much power in a service and love for people," said Cassia Triebel, a junior health and fitness major, who volunteers her time at the worship center.

The music begins as the words are projected on the wall, not that it seems to make much of a difference. It appears the congregation knows the words by heart.

Twenty-six years ago some seminary students decided to minister to homeless at the Fort Worth Water Gardens with coffee and doughnuts.

Two of those students are keeping the ministry alive today.

Mike and Sarah Myers have seen the humble beginnings in the Water Gardens, to the Sunday worship services in a borrowed room at a Catholic soup kitchen. They were there when the building was donated to them and now they are able to serve the homeless every day of the week.

Mike Myers said he never expected this to be the direction his education would take him. He originally was interested in youth ministry.

When he started experiencing this type of ministry, though, he said, he fell in love.

This job has allowed him to see more of what Jesus did, Mike Myers said. It is not the typical view one might have of Jesus, he said, but the Jesus that would spend his time with the lowly and those "at the bottom of the well."

And that was just the beginning. The Beautiful Feet Ministries in east Fort Worth is based on the lessons set forth in Matthew 25, Mike Myers said.

'For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink.'

Donations from area supermarkets and restaurants allow Beautiful Feet to serve two meals a day, seven days a week. The ministry sees 200 to 300 people on Sundays alone.

Sam's Club, Albertsons, Kroger and Starbucks are just a few of the companies that give to the ministry.

Private donations are also readily accepted, such as the time a resident assistant from TCU had her hall make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the kitchen.

'I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.'

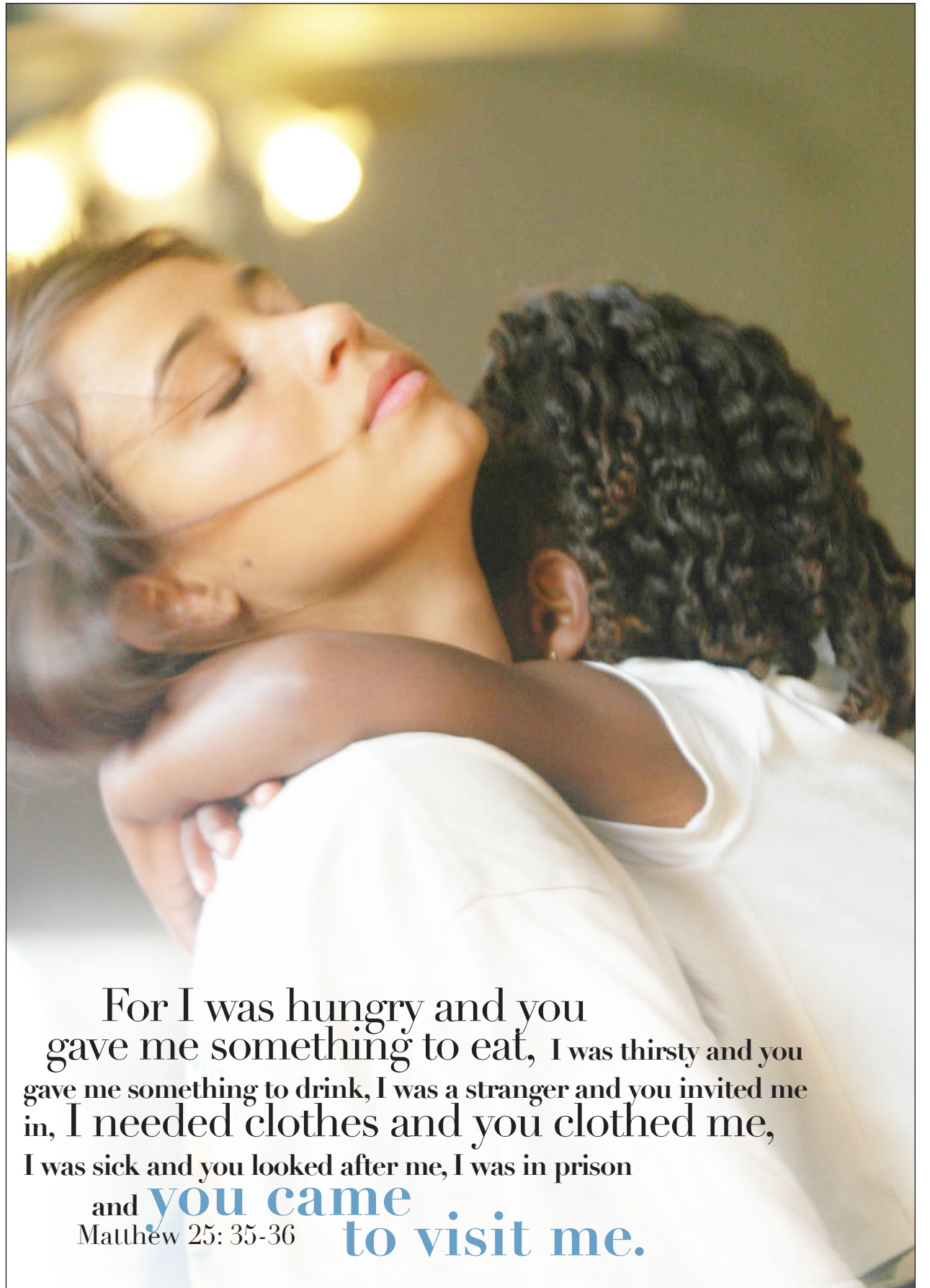
During the hot summer months, when walking to the ministry on Sundays might seem a daunting task, volunteers drive the Beautiful Feet bus around local shelters and neighborhoods picking up children and adults and bringing them to the building.

The visitors take shelter from the heat indoors, where a bevy of fans function as the building's only form of air-conditioning.

People sleep wherever they can fit. A moment to steal, where they can relax and truly sleep in an environment they know is safe.

"The best thing about Beautiful Feet is it has a good environment that makes you feel welcome," said Lawrence Terrell, 55. "You can just come as you are."

That environment is what has kept Terrell and his friends com-



MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE / Photo Editor

Anne Pennebaker, a sophomore pre-health professions major, volunteers at Beautiful Feet regularly. During the hot summer months volunteers drive the Beautiful Feet bus around local shelters and neighborhoods picking up children and adults and bringing them to the building.

ing back for the past 10 years.

Howard Edmonson, a 47-year-old Sherman native, said the greatest thing about Beautiful Feet is everything.

"The people are nice and respectable," Edmonson said. "They will help you if you want to help yourself."

'I was naked and you gave me clothing.'

Sarah Myers said they always pray that God will use the donated clothing as a ministry to the people.

While some shelters might sell the clothes at an inexpensive price, Beautiful Feet gives the clothes away, she said.

Every Sunday people line up against a wall in the sanctuary, anxiously awaiting a bag of clothes.

"It is important for them to have clothes to go to work in," Sarah Myers said, "especially when they are going out trying to get a job."

There is never enough men's clothing, Sarah Myers said. In fact, she said, they ran out of clothes to give out last Sunday.

With the winter months coming up, blankets and coats

are in high demand, Myers said.

'I was sick and you cared for me.'

Medical and dental care is provided free of charge for the homeless once a week, thanks to local doctors and nurses that volunteer their time.

Christian Community Health Clinic is housed inside Beautiful Feet and works alongside the ministry.

Brenda Parmer, a nurse, volunteered one time three years ago to see what the experience was like.

Parmer has been there every week since.

"This is something that I enjoy because it feels like we are providing something people need," Parmer said.

The clinic provides basic services for its patients including checkups.

Health problems can range from high blood pressure to chronic disease, the medical staff said. This summer, they have been seeing a lot of severe spider bites because of the outdoor living situations of some, Parmer said.

Dr. David Capper, a physician who has been at the clinic from its first day 17 years ago, said the inherent humbleness that a service

like this brings is invaluable.

"The rewards that we get back are greater than those that we bestow," Capper said.

'I was in prison and you visited me.'

At least once a month, the Beautiful Feet crew travels to Carswell in Fort Worth to lead a worship service at the only hospital at a federal women's prison.

Every Friday night, the Myers and volunteers go out in the community, anywhere from shelters to known homeless hangouts, and take their ministry to the masses.

Previous Friday nights have been spent watching movies, passing out hot dogs and snow cones at shelters or distributing hygiene kits that they have made.

Although the Beautiful Feet volunteers cannot meet all the needs of the homeless, Mike Myers said, they try to meet what they can.

Mike Myers said they are looking for all students to come and make a difference in the spiritual life of people on the streets as well as inner city youth and children.

"Someone can make a difference in a small amount of time," Myers said. "It's a pretty neat reward."

Tarrant County by the numbers

63% of the homeless men have served a term in jail.

38% of the homeless women have served a term in jail.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definitions of homelessness:

Homelessness: people living on the street, in shelters, in transitional housing programs specifically for homeless and disabled.

Chronic homelessness: unaccompanied people with disabilities who have been homeless for at least a year or people who have had four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.

Chronically homeless
1,076 / 23%

Otherwise homeless
4,202 / 78%

A large proportion of the homeless is centered on the near-east side of downtown of Fort Worth.

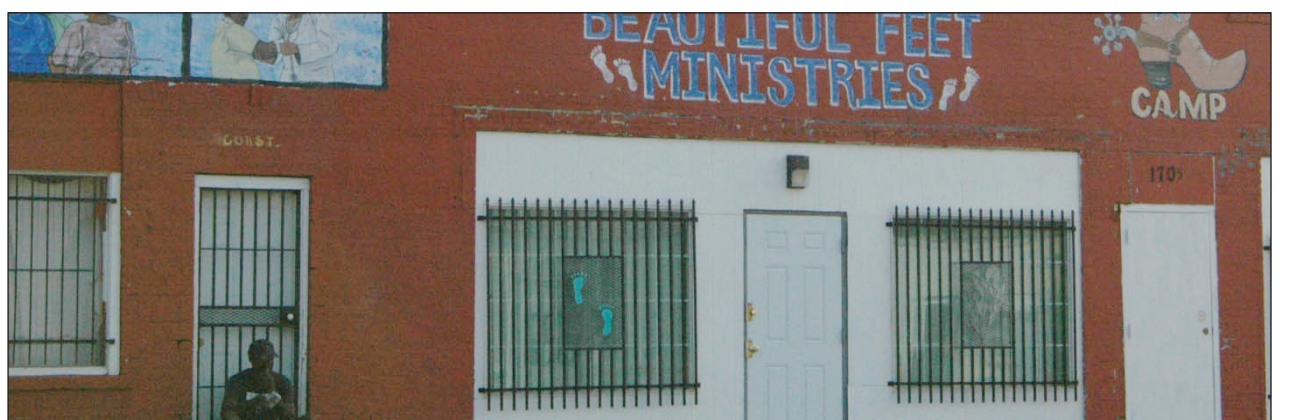
Primary reason for homelessness:

38% of men said their primary reason for homelessness is unemployment.

23% of women said their primary reason for homelessness is domestic violence.

93% of homeless in Tarrant County are in Fort Worth

SOURCE: From Tarrant County Homeless Coalition 2004 survey



MICHAEL BOU-NACKLIE / Photo Editor

Unlike other shelters, which sell clothes at a cheaper price, Beautiful Feet gives clothes away. Every Sunday people line up against a wall in the sanctuary, anxiously awaiting a bag of clothes. With the winter months coming up, blankets and coats are in high demand.

Lack of job security harsh realization for NFL kickers

By JASON KING
McClatchy Newspapers

He crammed his belongings into a box last week and left Arrowhead Stadium -- probably for the last time.

His name has been erased from the team roster, his locker assigned to someone new. Instead of preparing for Sunday's game at Chicago, former Kansas City Chiefs kicker Justin Medlock is back in his native California, wondering what went wrong.

The snap was good. The hold was down.

Yet somehow Medlock missed a 30-yard field goal in the Chiefs' season-opening loss at Houston.

"I can't make any excuses," Medlock said. "This is a business, and I didn't perform. My first kick with the Chiefs was basically my last."

Medlock booted a meaningless field goal later in the game, but it didn't matter. His initial shank led to his release the day after the loss. One week into the 2007 season, and the first kicker taken in last spring's draft is already out of a job.

"Here's the thing you need to know about kickers," Chiefs coach Herm Edwards said. "If it doesn't work out, there's always another guy out there. You can always find another kicker."

The same day Medlock was released, the Chiefs signed Dave Rayner, who started for Green Bay last season before being cut during training camp in favor of highly touted rookie Mason Crosby.

Still, one has to wonder how many misses Rayner will be allowed before he, too, gets the hook from Edwards.

More and more these days, kickers are being disposed of like junk mail, with even the most seasoned veteran realizing that one or two mistakes could be enough to cost him his roster spot.

"With kickers, it's not about, 'What have you done for me

lately?' " former Chiefs stand-out Nick Lowery said. "It's about, 'What have you done for me today?'"

For Chiefs special-teams coach Mike Priefer, cutting Medlock after just one miss hardly seemed harsh. Priefer points out that Medlock struggled during the preseason and that his kickoffs were falling short.

Heck, Priefer was on Jacksonville's staff in 2002 when the Jaguars went through four kickers in one season.

"Justin didn't do what we needed him to do," Priefer said. "That was a huge miss on Sunday. It wasn't like it was a 55-yarder in the wind. It was a 30-yarder in a dome. Coach (Edwards) had been very patient with Justin, but, at some point, you have to move on."

Patient? Medlock was around for only one game.

Rayner just hopes he's not the next name on the transaction wire. He knows the empty feeling that accompanies being released. The Packers cut Rayner despite a preseason in which he made all four of his field goals while leading the league with a 72-yard kickoff average.

"When you're a kicker," Rayner says, "you're definitely playing a position that doesn't get a whole lot of respect."

It does seem rather odd.

Each week, games in the NFL are won by narrow scores or with last-second field goals. Yet kickers rarely carry much clout in the locker room. Their salaries aren't exactly astronomical compared with their teammates, and they don't seem to be held in very high regard by upper management.

Only four kickers in the last 20 years have been selected in either the first or second round of the NFL draft.

Lowery is the Chiefs career scoring leader, but he said he was cut 11 times before finally hitting his stride. Morten Andersen is the NFL's all-time

leader in points with 2,445. But the team that drafted him, New Orleans, released Andersen after the 1994 season when people thought he was losing his touch.

The following year, while kicking for Atlanta, Andersen tied an NFL record by kicking three field goals over 50 yards in one game against the Saints.

"Time and time again you see teams thinking it's worth it to cut a kicker that's a dependable asset to their teams," Lowery said. "It's like the Tiger Woods model: You can drive the ball 350 yards and hit the fairway 16 of 18 times. But you still have to be able to putt. You've got to have a closer. It's the most crucial part of the game."

"Some coaches just have a lack of awareness and appreciation for the uniqueness of the position. There are only a few people that can be consistent."

"And the ones that can are worth it."

Chances are good that, at some point today, Bears kicker Robbie Gould will attempt either a field goal or an extra point against the Chiefs.

Sure beats hammering nails.

That's what Gould was doing as a member of a construction crew when the Bears called him in October 2005 and offered him a contract.

"This game doesn't sit around and wait for anyone," Gould said. "There's always someone out there ready to replace you, especially when you're a kicker. Luckily I made the most of my chance."

In just his second NFL season, Gould ended up in the Pro Bowl after connecting on 32 of his 36 field-goal attempts in 2006. He also kicked for the Bears in the Super Bowl against Indianapolis' Adam Vinatieri, arguably the best kicker in the league in recent years.

Vinatieri went undrafted out of South Dakota State

and instead got noticed while starring for Amsterdam in the World League of American Football.

Andersen was out of football and broadcasting NFL Europe games before re-signing with the Falcons last fall. He was 46.

Maybe that's what Herm Edwards meant when he said "you can always find a kicker" when the one you have goes cold.

"There are 32 jobs in the world for NFL kickers," Chiefs punter/holder Dustin Colquitt said, "and there are probably 40 guys who can fill those spots. After that there's a pretty significant dropoff. Once you get one of those jobs it's up to you to keep it."

Not that it's always easy. Along with the pressure-packed situations in tight games, kickers must also deal with the public backlash when they miss a field goal or extra point.

Medlock was booed during his Arrowhead Stadium debut after missing a short kick.

"When the game is tied 14-14 and you miss a kick, everyone knows it was you," Colquitt said. "No one looks back at the two or three picks the quarterback threw or the fumble by the running back. It all goes to that one moment, in crunch time, when mistakes simply can't be made."

Chiefs quarterback Brodie Croyle said kickers are in a tough position.

"I think they get treated unfairly sometimes," Croyle said. "They may get booed for missing a field goal at the end of the drive, but, before that, someone else may have done something stupid that kept us from scoring a touchdown. That stuff gets forgotten about."

Beginning with today's game at Chicago, Rayner said he hopes to garner attention -- for the right reasons.

"I like the pressure," he said. "I like that games come down to field goals and you get to

be the hero. I enjoy what I do. It's one of the greatest jobs a guy could have."

Back in California, Justin Medlock doesn't know what's next.

Medlock's agent is keeping his phone by his side in case another organization requests his services. If not, the Chiefs have hinted that they may want Medlock to join their practice squad.

"If they offered me the chance to come back, I'd want to do it," Medlock said. "I'm not eliminating the possibility. They're just giving me some space right now to see what happens."

Edwards said he still believes Medlock will be a NFL kicker someday. But with the Chiefs struggling on offense, Edwards said the organization wasn't in a position to develop a kicker. They needed someone more dependable.

Granted, Edwards thought Medlock would be that guy.

"We did everything we could to allow this kid the chance to be successful," Edwards said. "It just hasn't worked out for him so far."

When Medlock does get his second chance, he hopes things will be different than his first.

The Chiefs were so confident in Medlock's abilities that they traded Lawrence Tynes to the Giants during the offseason. That left Medlock as the only kicker on the training-camp roster.

"It might have been good to bring in some other guys," Medlock said. "Not so much for the competition, but just to save my leg. By those last few weeks my leg was dead. I played those last two games with a lot of soreness. You can't be sore when you're playing games."

"I'm not trying to make excuses, though. I missed a 30-yarder. You can't do that and expect to keep your job very long."

"I'll be fine. I've already put the Chiefs thing past me. I've

been through a lot tougher things in my life than being cut by a football team."

Lowery, who still follows the team closely, said the Chiefs' biggest mistake was putting so much stock in a rookie kicker and trading Tynes, who made three field goals in the Giants season-opener last week.

"He had the potential to be an All-Pro," Lowery said of Tynes. "I know he missed a kick in the playoffs last year, but they should've given him one more year to see if he'd continue to improve. I think he would have."

"To me, every time you have a chance to nail down a position where you know you have someone you can depend on ... that's a tremendous opportunity. Some teams just don't have the patience."

SMU

From page 8

guessed that Arkansas State would make it into two columns.

I mean, come on. This is TCU football. The Frogs are better than that "football" being played at Gerald J. Ford Stadium.

With that being said, this game is Smoo's season. Just swap out "Baptists" for "Methodists," and this is the Baylor game all over again -- except that might be giving the Mustangs too much credit.

Putting out the fire of the losing streak and taking back the Iron Skillet is needed more than Lindsay Lohan needs designer drugs, and it is the next step in a season that has left more questions than answers.

Horned Frogs nation needs this. If anything, please Febreze the lingering smell of the last two games.

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The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



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"You appear to have some sort of seasonal disorder."

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		3		4	1			9
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		8	9			2	4	

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

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

Friday's Solutions

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

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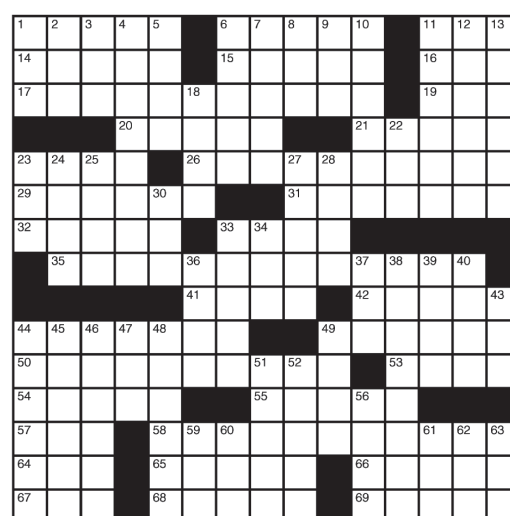
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- 1 Che's cohort
- 6 Basketry willow
- 11 Put on
- 14 Occurrence
- 15 Line dance
- 16 U-turn from WSW
- 17 2007 Masters winner
- 19 Actor Jude
- 20 Ancient market
- 21 Military blockade
- 23 Town on the Firth of Lorn
- 26 "The Producers" star
- 29 Save from a pickle
- 31 Large drinking cups
- 32 Chips in chips
- 33 Whirl around
- 35 Lila Kedrova's Oscar winner
- 41 Potter's need
- 42 Skylit courtyards
- 44 Magic-lamp boy
- 49 Disarm a bull
- 50 Philosopher of paradoxes
- 53 Sister of Osiris
- 54 Dispatch boat
- 55 Sound
- 57 NASA's moon vehicle
- 58 Colorado explorer
- 64 Period of history
- 65 Make used (to)
- 66 Plains tribe
- 67 Pompous person
- 68 Mystery writers' award
- 69 Pleasure craft



By Edgar Fontaine
Dighton, MA

9/18/07

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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

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- 6 Earthy color
- 7 Sub detector
- 8 Party in power
- 9 Trip taken in vain?
- 10 Captive's cost
- 11 Wipe from memory
- 12 Wild ass
- 13 Handrail posts
- 18 Seepage
- 22 Capital
- 23 pro nobis
- 24 Automobile pioneer
- 25 Regarding
- 27 Bay window
- 28 Bean of bean sprouts
- 30 PC port
- 33 Boulder
- 34 Greek letter
- 36 You wish!
- 37 Arctic explorer
- 38 African nation
- 39 Aphrodite's son
- 40 Te Kanawa
- 43 Part of Q & A

- 44 Decorative bush
- 45 Prying tools
- 46 Inner selva
- 47 Uno y uno
- 48 Lulu
- 49 Joint groove
- 51 Davies of the LPGAs
- 52 Swiss mathematician
- 56 Black as night
- 59 Terminate
- 60 Pester
- 61 Quadrennially prominent grp.
- 62 Unit of elec.
- 63 Have dinner

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

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GAMEDAY

A full position-by-position breakdown of Saturday's rivalry game.
TOMORROW

QUICK SPORTS

Team lacks offensive punch in Sunday match

The soccer team got a full dose of Big 12 and Pac 10 competition at home this weekend and was able to split the two weekend matches.

After pulling out a 2-1 victory against in-state rival Texas Tech on Friday, Arizona State came to Garvey-Rosenthal Stadium and secured a 2-0 shutout Sunday — the first game in which goalkeeper Kelsey Walters has allowed more than one goal.

Walters, a freshman, allowed just her second goal in more than 300 minutes in front of the net against Texas Tech and gave up another two goals Sunday to the Sun Devils.

Sophomore midfielder Michelle Nguyen and freshman forward Jackie Torda ignited the Horned Frogs' offense against the Red Raiders, earning their second and third goals of the season, respectively.

Sunday's game was much the opposite with the team manufacturing seven total shots compared to Arizona State's 25-shot total.

Sports editor Tim Bella

Men's golf finishes toward bottom of tourney

Strong final-day play helped the men's golf team avoid a last-place finish at its weekend tournament.

The team finished tied 14th out of 16 teams and shot 34-over as a team at the Carpet Capital Collegiate in Rocky Face, Ga.

The Bill Montigel-led team finished 29 shots back of tournament co-champions, Alabama and South Carolina.

Sophomore Travis Woolf was the top finisher for the Horned Frogs, shooting even-par during the three-round event and finishing tied for 10th overall.

Junior Robby Ormand shot two-over for the team, good for 22nd place.

Sports editor Tim Bella

Early-season struggles do not alter magnitude of heated rivalry game

PRO FROGS

By **TIM BELLA**
Sports Editor

When driving back from my buddy's place after Thursday's mind-numbing loss, I started to smell something.



TIM BELLA

The problem was that it did not smell like baby powder slapped onto a infant's butt, freshly cut grass on a midsummer's day or my mother's made-from-scratch chicken parmigiana. Heck, it did not even smell like the overbearing perfume emanating from the girl you just met at Whataburger at 3 a.m.

The 2007 season was burning, and it started to suffocate the hopes and dreams of this season. Funky-perfume-girl sounds pretty good right about now.

If the Texas loss Sept. 8 was a swift kick to the groin, then Thursday's overtime defeat must have felt like Air Force punted your dog into the Trinity River.

I am not going to touch on this a lot, but when has throwing the ball in the final minute of a tie game on the opponent's 22-yard line ever been a good idea? When has driving drunk ever been acceptable? How about making out with your buddy's girlfriend? I mean, you wouldn't even run that play in Madden or NCAA Football on PS2, let alone in a real game against real

Division I players.

It is almost as if the offensive coaching staff watched the "Seinfeld" episode in which George Costanza does the opposite of what he has always done before the fourth quarter.

"If every instinct you have is wrong, then the opposite would have to be right," Jerry Seinfeld tells Costanza.

Wrong.

So as the 2007 season seems to be burning, a red and black fire extinguisher of hope is sprinting toward Amon G. Carter Stadium.

SMU was on the schedule. Honestly, I like to say "Smoo" in honor of Stephen Colbert, so let's go with that.

If anything can snap Horned Frogs nation out of the collective rut it has been in the past two weeks, beating a dead horse of a program in the Mustangs — pun intended — is a good way to get the season back on track. Not to mention the Frogs should come into Saturday's game looking to take back what's rightfully theirs: their pride. Oh, and the Iron Skillet would be nice too.

After watching "Smoo" give up 45 points to Arkansas State and seeing Phil Bennett's unintentionally funny facial expressions after the game, it should make TCU fans feel grateful for the type of program Gary Patterson has built during his tenure. By the way, I never would have

See **SMU**, page 6

PRO 'STANGS

By **JORDAN HOFEDITZ**
Sports Editor, The Daily Campus

The Battle for the Iron Skillet has gotten less prestigious as the weeks go by.

The Mustangs are coming off a lackluster performance in Arkansas and the Horned Frogs have back-to-back losses against teams they had chances to beat.

There will definitely be two teams with something to prove on the field Saturday. In 2005, TCU was coming off a big win and the Mustangs were coming off a tough loss to Baylor.

SMU had something to prove, while TCU was on top of the world and got knocked down by the seemingly lowly Mustangs.

SMU won't have the luxury of that this year. In TCU's two losses, the Horned Frogs have battled hard and fell short at the end. In SMU's two losses the team was out of the game from the beginning.

Things are looking bad at SMU and there is no apparent bright spot. There could be one thing, though.

TCU is looking for anything to turn their season around. Sure it's against lowly SMU, who TCU consistently runs around saying they are better than, but they will look to prove it any way possible. They might be thinking a little less than they should about SMU.

The only thing the Mustangs can take to heart is that they looked worse last week. TCU sees SMU as their whipping boy, a team they can stick it to anytime, anywhere, any way they want to.

That's also the thought they had two seasons ago. That was an SMU team that finished the season 5-6. This year's team might pray for just six losses, but this could be the game that turns the season around.

Coming into this season, this was a game a lot of people were really excited about. I hate to say it, but TCU isn't tearing anyone up these days.

Sure, they won 27-0 against Baylor. Congrats, you beat a team that is in a major conference for their baseball program. So TCU, quit your Big 12 wanna-be belly aching, and realize that you're currently not even the best team in your non-BCS conference, and that won't change even if you beat SMU 100-0.

The thing is, if SMU loses, yeah, everyone expected that. If TCU loses, wow, it could be the end of the world in Fort Worth.

So do I expect SMU to walk into far west Dallas and pick up an easy win?

Of course not. I'm not blind.

But I think SMU might be putting up a better fight than TCU expects. And at the end of the day ... we've had the skillet for the past two seasons, so there.

At the end of the day, SMU is in a major metropolitan city, has a real mascot and doesn't wear purple.

CROSS COUNTRY

UNT Invite brings win

By **MARCUS MURPHREE**
Associate Editor

Perhaps head coach Shawn Winget has a crystal ball because his predictions for last weekend's North Texas Invitational became reality.

During a Thursday interview, Winget said he was looking for strong performances out of senior Matt Manly and sophomore Festus Kigen in the men's race.

Kigen came out on top of the men's 8K in his first race at the University of North Texas after being scratched from last season's four-mile competition. His time of 24:41.43 beat Patrick Strong of UNT by more than 30 seconds.

"Festus ran a nice smooth race and looked good," Winget said. "Meanwhile, Matt is getting back into his old form."

Manly took sixth overall in the competition, a three-place improvement from last season's ninth-place finish. The work of these two helped carry the men's squad to a third-place team finish in the race compared to a sixth-place spot in last season's opener.

"It was their first race at that distance this season and they are improving each week," Winget said.

The women's team gained its first team victory of the season by placing the top five runners in the first 14 finishing spots within a span of 54 seconds.

"We had a solid pack with all seven runners in the top 20 spots," Winget said.

The underclassmen talent keyed the placement of the team. Freshman Tanja Ivandic took second place overall in the women's race, while sophomore Dani Selner crossed the line in sixth place.



SKIFF ARCHIVES
Junior Amanda Foust competes in the 2006 UNT Invite. She finished in 24th place of 38 runners this year.

Carlene Mayfield, who was the team's No. 2 runner last season, is still recovering from an injury last summer. Mayfield, a sophomore, finished in 22nd place out of 38 runners compared to her fifth-place finish in last season's race.

This race marked the first women's team win of the season for the Horned Frogs and was an improvement from last season's second-place finish behind the Baylor Bears. This season, Baylor was not eligible for a team placement in the meet because only two runners competed. A minimum of five are required for a team scoring.

The day after the race, the team began training for this weekend's competition at the Texas A&M Invitational with a lengthy recovery run.

"We did a recovery run between eight and 14 miles," Winget said. "Some of the freshmen ran eight, while the upperclassmen

VOLLEYBALL

Team continues tournament success

By **BILLY WESSELS**
Staff Writer

The volleyball team tied its best start in school history thanks to its third tournament win in as many tries.

The team won the Nike Invitational this weekend at the University Recreation Center behind consecutive sweeps of Sam Houston State, Alcorn State and Gonzaga. The three wins raised the team's record to 13-2 — a mark that ties last season's 13-2 start. The tournament win comes one week after winning the Molten/LaQuinta Invitational and two weeks after receiving top honors at the Maine Volleyball Tournament in Orono, Maine.

"We have had a good season so far," head coach Prentice Lewis said. "It is always great when you have a fantastic season, but at the same time, we have another match this weekend. It's not that (what we have done has been) erased, but now its time to do something bigger and better."

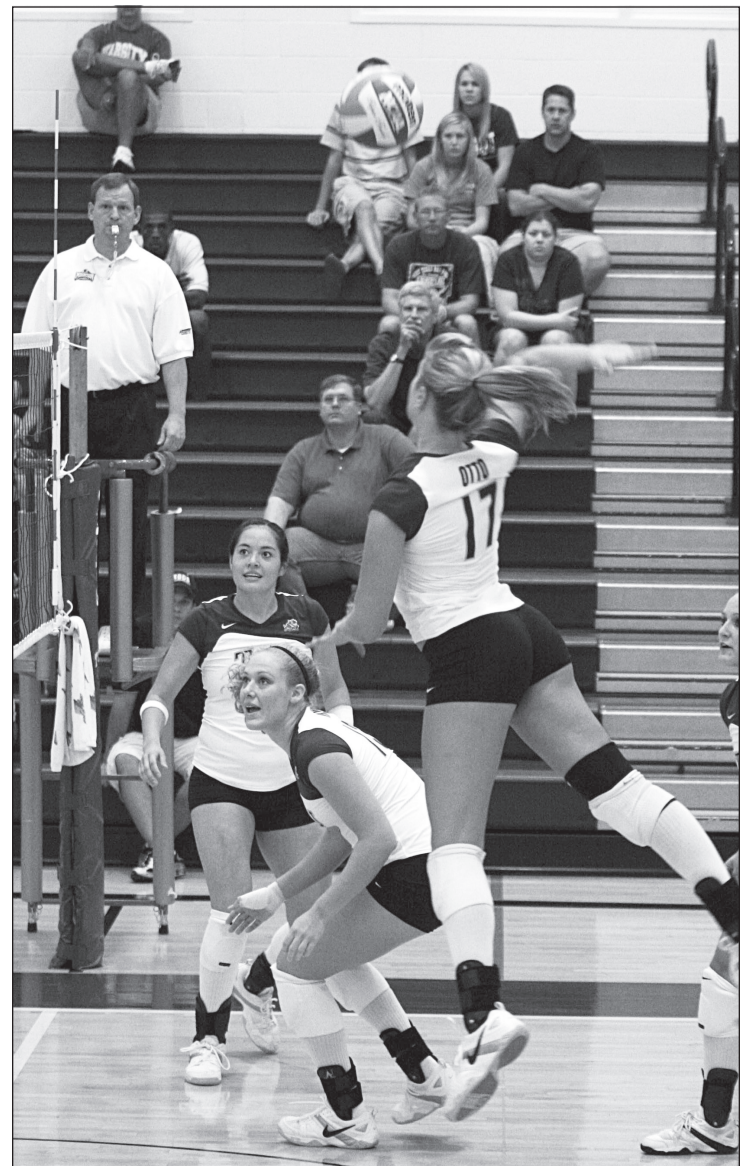
Sophomore outside hitter Lauren Otto said this has been a good season so far, but she wants more than just trying the record.

"I want to beat it," Otto said. "I want to get the new one and have the record instead of just trying it up."

The raised level of conditioning as well as the increased familiarity with tournament opponents are some of the things that make early-season tournaments beneficial, Lewis said. "It is all about getting that same desire, that same hunger out of the team repeatedly," Lewis said. "I feel this team represents what this coaching staff would like them to be. We have grown a ton, but we feel there are still more things we can work on."

The team will have its conference home-opener this week against Wyoming and Otto said the team is still trying to gain respect in the Mountain West Conference.

"We were ranked eighth in conference coming into this season," Otto said. "That's not really where we want to be, and that's not where we think we should be. We are excited about going out there, and we have nothing to lose. The only place we can go is up."



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer
Lauren Otto goes up for a spike during Saturday's game against Alcorn State.

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