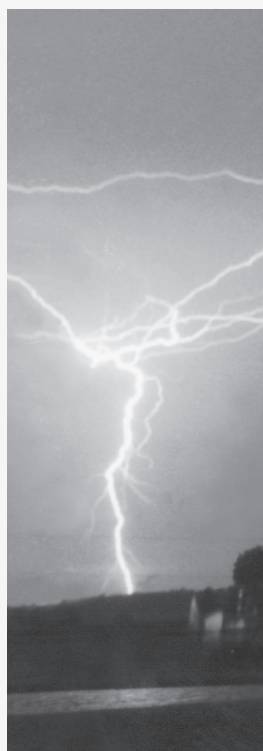


TCU DAILY SKIFF

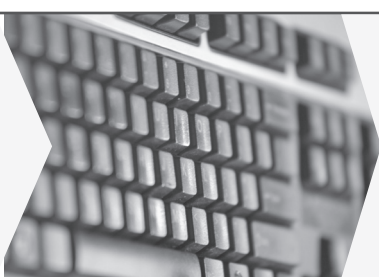
DAILYSKIFF.COM · THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009 · VOL. 107 ISSUE 26



The Frogs will have to face Air Force in another game filled with bad weather. How will that affect the game?
Sports, page 6

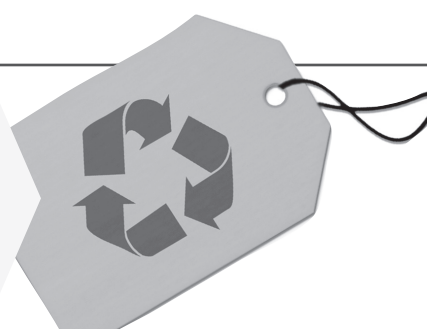
NEWS

Students could soon have the option to place on-campus food orders online.
Friday



NEWS

How did the university fare in a recently released sustainability report card?
Friday



FILM-TV-DIGITAL MEDIA

PRESS START

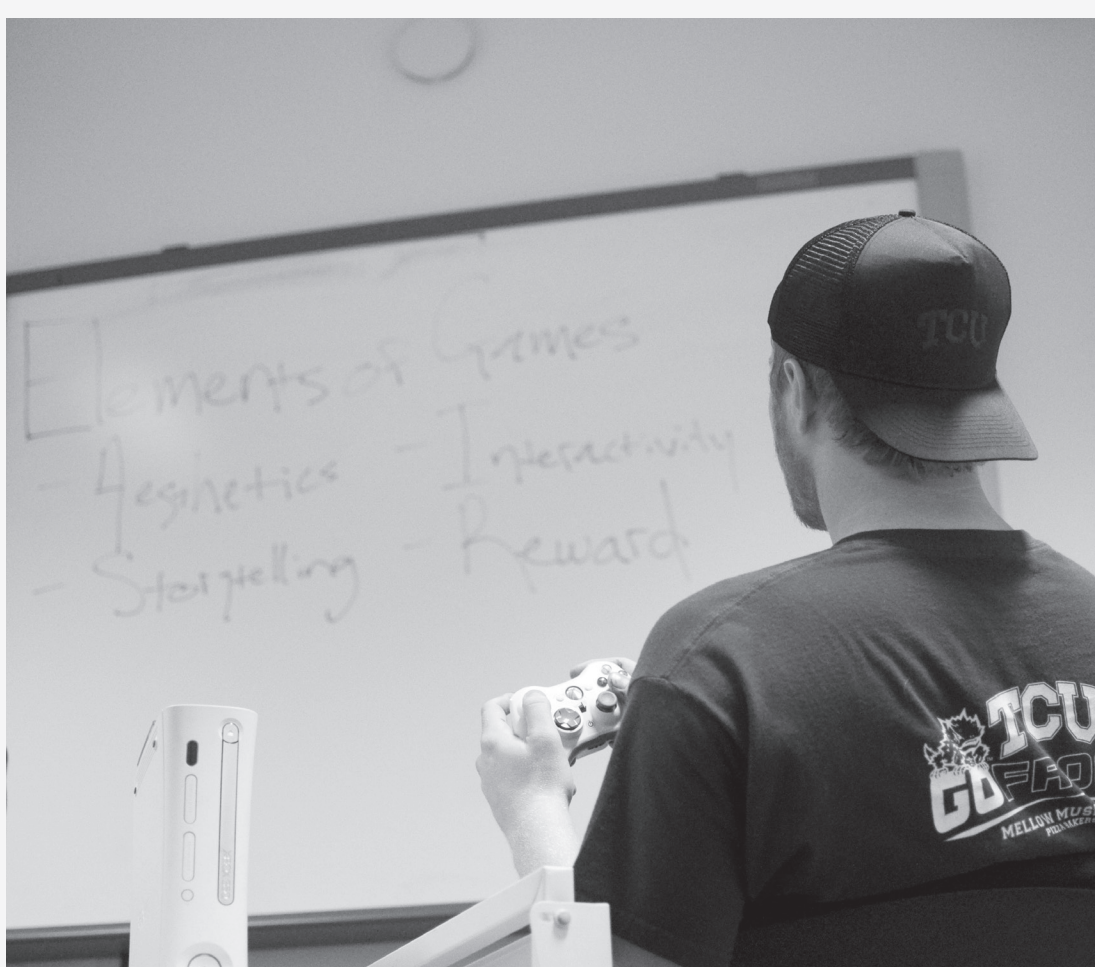


Photo illustration by CHANCE WELCH / Multimedia Editor

Video game class becomes reality

By Alex Butts
Staff Reporter

David Crouch, a senior film-TV-digital media major, might use video games next semester to earn credit toward his major.

Crouch said he planned on taking the new class called critical video game analysis, which will be available in spring 2010.

"I think mine and most people's reactions when we first heard about a video game class was like, 'What? Really?'" Crouch said.

He said he thought the concept of analyzing video games made sense for FTDM students, though.

"This is another form of digital media that's just as relevant to us and future generations as the television was to our parents and the radio to our grandparents," Crouch said. "Of course, three hours of Wii Tennis a week isn't bad either, and us FTDM majors get to have a little fun while earning that analysis credit."

Amber Watts, a new FTDM instructor, would teach the class offered Thursday nights from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Watts said FTDM majors who had taken media analysis could take the class.

Watts said the class would integrate multiple elements of video

games. She said she thought she would teach video game history in the first part of the semester.

"Video games actually have a fairly long history but because they're fun," Watts said. "They're usually not considered relevant for academic study. You could argue that video games impact your daily life much more than cinema."

In addition to history, the class would involve critical analysis of race and gender issues in the games, Watts said. The class would also include lab time during which students would play video games

SEE VIDEO GAMES · PAGE 2

HOUSING

Campus to boost number of beds

By Xan Angelovich
Staff Reporter

Between the years 1989 and 2005, the university's enrollment grew by about 28 percent.

In contrast, the university's housing only grew by 15 beds, a university official said.

"What we were doing was driving students off campus, and losing some of the residential character," Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills told parents at a meeting last week.

University officials laid out the details of a campus housing plan at the Parent Council meeting Friday — a plan intended to meet the hike in enrollment and to increase the percentage of students living on campus.

Craig Allen, director of Residential Services, said the university's strategic goal would be to have two-thirds of undergraduate students living in campus housing within a few years. That would require between 4,850 to 4,900 beds.

The range of beds needed fluctuates due to enrollment changes each year, Allen said. However, the number should remain in that range.

After Colby Hall is renovated next fall, the university would only need about 800 more beds to reach its goal, Allen said.

It is too early to know where the 800 beds would go, but Worth Hills would be a logical place to consider, Mills said.

Residential Services planned to fund the additional beds by tapping a sav-

SEE HOUSING · PAGE 2

HARDCOVER FICTION BEST SELLERS

- 1 The Lost Symbol by Dan Brown
 - 2 An Echo in the Bone by Diana Gabaldon
 - 3 The Last Song by Nicholas Sparks
 - 4 The Help by Kathryn Stockett
 - 5 Hothouse Orchid by Stuart Woods
 - 6 South of Broad by Pat Conroy
 - 7 Alex Cross's Trial by James Patterson and Richard DiLallo
 - 8 The Year of the Flood by Margaret Atwood
 - 9 Hardball by Sara Paretsky
 - 10 Spartan Gold by Clive Cussler with Grant Blackwood
- The New York Times



Show construction workers a little more respect.

Opinion, page 3

PECULIAR FACT

SEOUL — A South Korean passenger jet was grounded just before taking off so that crew members could catch a sparrow that was flying around in the cabin, airline officials said on Wednesday.

—Reuters

TODAY'S WEATHER



80 60
HIGH LOW

Heavy Rain

Tomorrow: Chance of T-storms
63 / 53

Saturday: Sunny
74 / 57



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

FOOTBALL

Speaker: TCU 'easy choice' for the NFL

By Justin White
News Now Reporter

The university will take part in a different kind of bowl game in 2011. The Horned Frogs will lend their facilities to the National Football League's American Football Conference champion when the Super Bowl comes to North Texas.

Bill Lively, the president and CEO of the North Texas Super Bowl XVI Host Committee, visited the campus Wednesday morning to talk about the university's involvement with the process.

Lively said the AFC champion will practice at the university and stay at the Omni Hotel in downtown Fort Worth, while the National Football Conference champion will stay in Irving.

The committee chose the univer-

sity because of its good football program, indoor practice field and accessible facilities, he said.

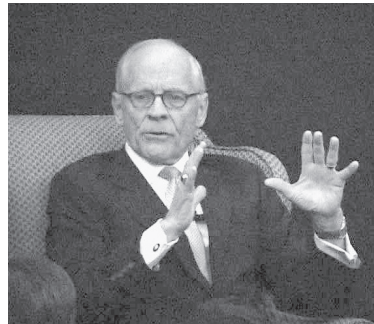
"It's a good place," Lively said. "There was no debate about it. It was an easy choice for the NFL."

This will be the first Super Bowl to split the teams' practice sites into two different cities, Lively said. The Super Bowl will be a way of uniting Fort Worth and Dallas together, he said.

"If I-30 is a football field, Fort Worth is the west goal post and Dallas is the east goal post, (then) the stadium and Arlington are the fifty yard line," Lively said.

Lively spoke as a part of the Neeley School of Business' Tandy Executive Speaker Series.

David Dibble, director of development for the Neeley School, said it will be a great promotional opportunity for the university.



JUSTIN WHITE / News Now Reporter
Bill Lively, president and CEO of the North Texas Super Bowl XVI Host Committee, addresses his audience Wednesday morning at the Kelly Alumni Center.

"I think TCU is going to be on the map for a lot of people in the community, and much more so than ever before," Dibble said.

Super Bowl XVI is scheduled to be played at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium on Sunday, Feb. 6, 2011.

CRIME

No criminal charges in sexual assault case

By Chris Blake
Staff Reporter

A sexual assault reported by a female student in early September is still under investigation in the Campus Life office, a university official said.

TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham said the female student hasn't pursued criminal charges but could change her mind and pursue charges at any time.

Nick Whitesell, assistant dean of

Campus Life, said the Campus Life office, along with the TCU Police Department, was involved in the case from the beginning. Students can be brought up on charges for violating the code of conduct at the same time they are under criminal investigation, he said.

"We're not a court of law at the university so just because you're going through our discipline process doesn't mean you're not going to be going through the legal process or vice versa," Whitesell said.

Sgt. Cheryl Johnson of the Fort Worth Police Department said the state cannot file charges against the offender without the cooperation of the victim.

"It comes down to the constitution that you have a right to face your accuser," Johnson said. "If (the victim) doesn't want to cooperate, it's almost impossible to pursue it."

Campus Life considers all cases that it investigates on an individual

SEE ASSAULT · PAGE 2

COUNSELING

Women's support network offered

By Jourdan Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The pressures accompanying the adjustment to college can be rough, but a new program designed to bring incoming students together could help make the transition much smoother.

Fusion, a women's support group, was created this month for incoming freshmen, transfer students and students troubled with adjusting to college.

The group was designed to offer support in an interactive, fun and discussion-based environment, said Kelsey Latimer, a counselor at the university's Counseling, Testing and Mental Health Center.

In addition to discussion and expression through creative outlets, such as arts and crafts, Latimer said the support group would be structured around the students' wants and needs.

"Group therapy is really effective," Latimer said. "It normalizes

Fusion Counseling Group

For more information, contact the Counseling, Testing and Mental Health Center at (817) 257-7863 or visit counseling.tcu.edu.

SEE FUSION · PAGE 2

NEWS & SPORTS

VIDEO GAMES

continued from page 1

like Nintendo Wii titles, "Rock Band" or "Guitar Hero" and Microsoft Xbox games.

FTDM would provide the video game systems, Watts said.

Richard Allen, chair of FTDM, said he thought the class would provide an intellectual awareness of video games' place in the entertainment industry. The class would be an opportunity for students to see fun games in an educational light.

Allen said Watts formulated the original idea for the class.

"When we hired her, this is the kind of class we were hoping she would teach," Allen said. "I think everyone would like to take credit for it because it's such a good idea."

Watts would be the first person to teach a class involving video games at the university, Allen said. The fact that she is a younger teacher and had used video games more than some of the older professors made her the right person to teach the class, he said.

Watts said she looked forward to seeing students critically observe something like video games that they might not have

Industry Facts from the Entertainment Software Association

1. Sixty-eight percent of American households play computer or video games.
2. The average game player is 35 years old and has been playing games for 12 years.
3. Forty percent of all game players are women.
4. Thirty-seven percent of heads of households play games on a wireless device, such as a cell phone or PDA, up from 20 percent in 2002.
5. Eighty-four percent of all games sold in 2008 were rated "E" for Everyone, "T" for Teen, or "E10+" for Everyone 10 and older.

previously observed.

"My goal as a teacher is to help students understand how things they do in their daily lives actually have larger meanings," Watts said. "Video games are taken for granted, but they're worthy of being studied."

HOUSING

continued from page 1

ings account that is set aside for renovation purposes, Allen said. One goal for the 2009-2010 school year was to keep cost increases on housing at a minimum, he said.

"We were successful for keeping interest rates on housing at 3 percent," Allen said. "And slightly under that for some housing."

Residential Services kept the spending to a minimum despite adding free laundry facilities in all residence halls this year, Allen said.

The improved facilities led to more upperclassmen living on campus, creating a larger demand for housing, Allen said.

"I talk to juniors and seniors all the time," he said. "And in

fact, our junior and senior wait list numbers are very strong and continue to grow."

Allen said that sophomores, juniors and seniors typically used to move off campus but that the quality of the experience as freshmen and sophomores influenced older students to stay on campus.

University policy requires freshmen and sophomores to live on campus.

High demand for campus housing resulted in wait lists for the fall semester as well, and many students were put into triples or converted lounge spaces, Allen said.

There were 3,540 beds on campus this semester, including the converted spaces, Allen said.

"We hope to return those spaces to their intended use, which is lounge space," he said.

ASSAULT

continued from page 1

basis, Whitesell said. Punishment for violations of the code of conduct could be anything from a verbal warning to expulsion from the university depending on the offense.

The sexual assault reportedly took place on or around Aug. 30, but the female student did not report it to campus police until Sept. 9.

Forcible sex offenses have decreased since 2006, according to crime statistics in the Campus Police Web site. Ten cases were reported in 2006, four in 2007 and two in 2008, according to the statistics.

Ham said acquaintance rape can occur because the college setting gives students

more freedom than they have ever had before.

"For the first time you've got young men and young women away from home, allowed to do whatever their personality thinks is OK," Ham said. "People are putting themselves in situations at parties and stuff like that where they're indulged too much in the spirits and their judgement gets impaired and they make bad judgements."

Whitesell offered ways students could avoid putting themselves in potentially harmful situations. Students should make sure they leave a party with the people they arrived with, know where their friends are during a party and never put a drink down and pick it back up to drink again, he said.

FILM-TV-DIGITAL MEDIA



Film director Rod Hardy came to visit the TCU campus this week and ended up directing a film. The project has a cast and crew consisting of mostly students.

ROSE BACA / Web Editor

FOOTBALL

continued from page 6

strong play of the Falcons' defense in his press conference Tuesday.

"Air Force is leading the nation in takeaways, so this will be the second week in a row that we will face a team ranked high in that category," Patterson said. "They have played really well defensively and are among

"Air Force has been doing this for a long time, so you got to prepare at an earlier stage so we can know what we're getting ourselves in to."

Alex Ibiyoye cornerback

the top three in the league in almost all statistical categories."

The Falcons are number one in the country in turnover margin, and have scored five defensive touchdowns in their first five games.

The Frogs have plowed to an average of 220 rushing yards per game through four contests, while Air Force has allowed an average of 120 yards on the ground.

However on the opposite side of the ball, Air Force is a powerhouse on the ground.

The Falcons rank second nationally in rushing behind their triple-option attack, but could be slowed slightly with quarterback Tim Jefferson under center. Jefferson re-injured his

right ankle in last week's overtime loss to Navy. He returned to the game, but couldn't get Air Force into the end zone. The Falcons haven't scored an offensive touchdown since the third quarter of their Sept. 19 win over New Mexico.

Patterson said the Horned Frogs' young defense could be a liability against the unconventional offense.

"The problem is, they run the triple option very well, but they line up in a 100,000 different formations," Patterson said. "They run a lot of plays very well, including reverses and any kind of option pass or drop-back pass you can name ... They will also run a no-huddle, so you have to be able to think on your feet. You've got to tackle well, play leverage well and keep your eyes in the right place."

The defense has been preparing for the Air Force offense since last spring, Patterson said.

Cornerback Alex Ibiyoye said the squad is prepared.

"Since the summer, we've been doing a little Air Force in everything we do," Ibiyoye said. "Air Force has been doing this for a long time, so you got to prepare at an earlier stage so we can know what we're getting ourselves in to."

Wide receiver Jimmy Young had a five reception, 100-yard game against the Falcons last year, but said he isn't concerned with producing a repeat performance.

"I'm just looking forward to winning against Air Force, I'm not really concerned with the stats," Young said.

FUSION

continued from page 1

and validates students' issues and concerns a heck of a lot better than individual counseling can because the student then has proof that other students are going through the same kind of thing they are."

Latimer said one reason for establishing group therapy was that students can provide support and advice from different perspectives than counselors.

Latimer said that she and Elizabeth Koshy, a psychologist at the center, would lead the group, and that they said she wanted to focus on meeting the individual needs of the students as well as the needs of the group as a whole.

"It's really kind of open," she said. "We're looking to leave it open, and then target what the issues are that the students are bringing in."

Assertiveness and communication are topics that would be addressed in the weekly meetings, Latimer said.

Other topics include, but are not limited to, eating and body image issues, addiction, setting boundaries and learning to say "no" to peer pressure, she said.

Other schools, such as Boston College and Georgetown College in Kentucky have started similar support groups.

According to the Boston College Web site, three women's support groups have been established. The groups address body image, sexual experiences and concerns, as well as sexual identity issues.

Latimer said the university's Fusion group would blend women's issues and college transition issues.

The group was advertised at the activities fair, in residence halls, in TCU Announce and on the counseling center's Web site. Few female students have joined Fusion thus far, but Latimer said the group

sought to add two or three more members. Latimer was not able to release the number of members in the group for confidentiality reasons.

She said the group would work best with five or six members.

Veronica Rios, a freshman psychology major, said she thought the group sounded interesting and that she would be interested in joining because of her psychology major.

Female students interested in joining Fusion should contact the Counseling, Testing and Mental Health Center to set up an interview. Latimer said the purpose of the interview would be to determine the student's goals, what the group can do for her and to ask questions about the group.

If a large number of students expressed interest in joining Fusion, Latimer said the Counseling,

"Our goal is to offer mental health intervention in different modalities ... in order to best meet the needs of our student population."

Elizabeth Koshy psychologist and group therapy co-leader


Testing and Mental Health Center would consider the addition of other meeting times in order to keep the groups small and effective.

"Our goal is to offer mental health intervention in different modalities ... in order to best meet the needs of our student population," Koshy wrote in an e-mail.

She also wrote that if there was student interest in a male therapy group that the Counseling, Testing, and Mental Health Center would be willing to provide that service.



VS.



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OPINION

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The Skiff View

Video game course 'ahead of the curve'

Many if not all students at the university have spent nights rocking out to "Guitar Hero" while neglecting homework. Now film-TV-digital media students can actually receive class credit for it.

Beginning in the spring, FTDM students will be able to get class credit for a class that will study the history of video games, analysis of race and gender in the games and lab time in which students would get to play games. With the video game industry grossing billions of dollars annually, nearly \$18 billion in non-PC hardware, software and accessories in 2007 alone, according to a gamespot.com article, it's good to see the university recognizing the contribution that the gaming industry has made to society.

A study of the importance of this form of entertainment can only serve to further prepare FTDM students to be able to influence the world through video games.

Will Mario and Luigi eventually be thought of alongside Plato and Aristotle in the classroom one day? No one knows for sure, but the study of the two pipe-hopping, turtle-stomping Italian brothers and their impacts on contemporary society aren't foolish to contemplate.

As time goes on, video games will inevitably become an even larger part of our society. Realizing their importance now is a reminder of how the university is staying on the cutting edge, and students in the FTDM department should appreciate that.

However, just taking the class to beat your friends at Wii Sports isn't a bad reason either.

Editor-in-chief David Hall for the editorial board.

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

Today's minorities hurt by affirmative action



ALEXANDRA AGGOR

"Well, it's a lot easier for you guys to get in anyway ... it's harder for me!" After hearing this from a friend of mine, I felt a great sense of uneasiness. My friends and I were discussing graduate school and acceptance. As far as America is concerned, I am "African American." My background is null. In accordance with that, I believe that affirmative action can actually hurt minorities in an effort to diversify the classroom.

One reason this policy is defective is what the experience that I just mentioned represents, which is that minorities can be affiliated with racial preferences. This poses a problem in our diverse society where stigmas are very easily formed and other groups feel a sense of unfairness. However, whether racial preferences are unjust toward non-minorities is less of a concern than are the implications directed toward those who are supposed to benefit from it. To put it more specifically, it implies that minorities, including women, are less capable of meeting qualifications than their counterparts. If racism is defined in Webster's Dictionary as "a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities," then this too could be considered rather racist. Academic performance is not linked with race or gender. What message does this send to those not included in this program?

Despite some discrepancies, the idea behind affirmative action in educational institutions is a forward-thinking one that makes every bit of sense: create diversity. It is true that diversity is beneficial in having a wholesome, multi-dimensional experience in the classroom. This should be enhanced and supported in every way possible.

But there are more accurate ways of

Why should children of upper-class minorities be beneficiaries of affirmative action? Are they disadvantaged too?

evaluating students.

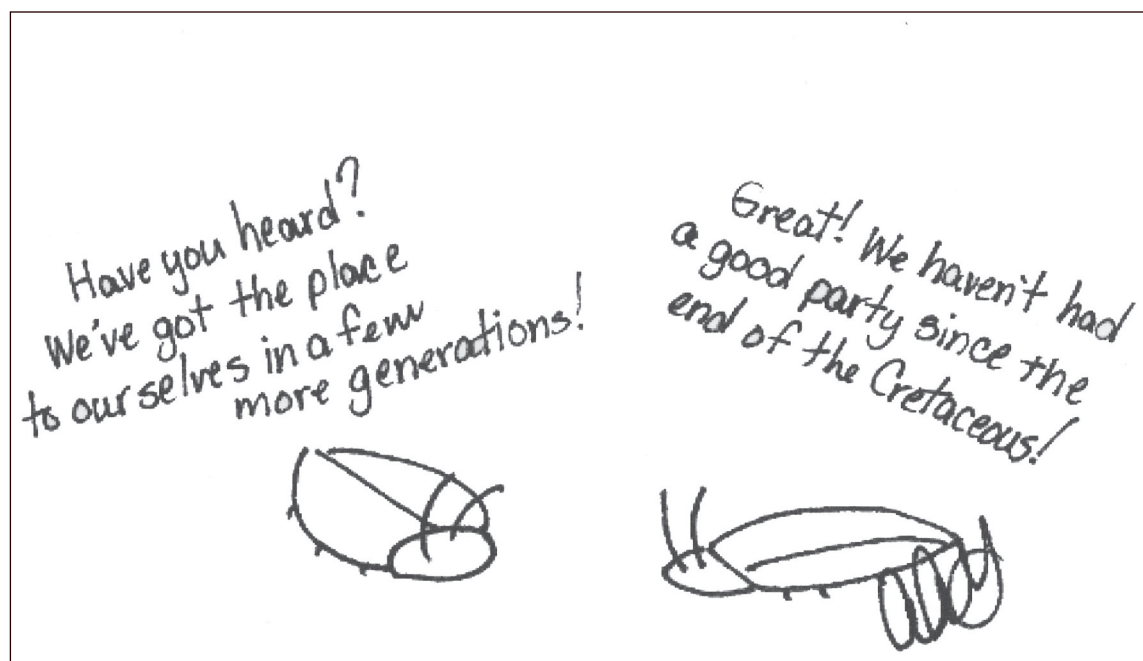
Economic opportunity should be the key indication that a person is disadvantaged, because we can see what is equal and what is not. Why should children of upper-class minorities be beneficiaries of affirmative action? Are they disadvantaged too?

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the idea "that ending affirmative action would cause a diversion of highly qualified minority students away from the elite colleges and universities appear to be unfounded." In other words, qualified minority students don't need special requirements in order to be accepted and therefore do not affect the ethnic composition of the student bodies in selective universities.

We should be cautious not to make generalizations about minorities or use affirmative action as a reparation for slavery or the racism and sexism of the '50s. By doing that, we are marginalizing people instead of creating one standard for all to share that could potentially bring about a better respect that other races that have so yearned for.

Affirmative action does not aid in defeating the stereotypes of women, immigrants, children of immigrants, blacks, Native Americans and so on. By tailoring requirements to race, we are saying, "Hey! They are different." It would be unfortunate indeed for a participant in this program to graduate from a respectable school only to find that their employer is really thinking, "Well, it was easier for him to get into Yale anyway." Instead, send the message: I can compete, you can compete, he or she can compete.

Alexandra Aseye Aggor is a sophomore international communications major from Shaker Heights, Ohio.



Alissa Garrett is a mathematics graduate student from Fort Worth.

Scary movies are meaty fun



CHRISTI ALDRIDGE

It's October, which means that it is time for my favorite Halloween pastime: watching scary movies. As a feminist, sometimes the classic "damsel in distress" stories just don't do it for me. Why does everyone who has sex get killed in horror movies? Why are women so helpless and walk into that dark room alone, no matter how much I yell "NO" at the screen?

I realized something interesting after doing a little research on my favorite genre. Did you know that horror movie audiences are primarily composed of women? Yep, we love the scares, ladies. According to Entertainment Weekly, men stop wanting to watch horror after a certain age, and women apparently never grow out of it. I'm not sure if this is really true, but I am one of the girls that never grew tired of horror films. So what is appealing about horror for us chicks?

Firstly, seeing women get to be strong and at times, wielding the

violence. We are tired of seeing women be victims. There is a certain satisfaction in seeing Nancy send Freddy Krueger to hell, Carrie freaking out at the prom and all those cool chicks in "Death Proof" exacting revenge on Kurt Russell. I know I get a sick sense of satisfaction when Buffy dusts another vampire, or when Laurie Strode outsmarts Michael Myers in "Halloween."

Secondly, women like the thrill. Men have their action movies. What do we get? Jennifer Aniston in yet another romantic comedy?

I'd rather watch "Ginger Snaps" any day over that tripe. "Ginger Snaps" was the first "feminist" horror movie I ever saw (that was received as such, in any case). Ginger, the protagonist, is bitten and turns into a werewolf. The transformation stood as a metaphor for the other changes in her body, specifically due to the onset of puberty. It's a great film co-written by a woman that appeals to girls.

Another horror movie that is great for feminists is a Swedish vampire movie called "Let the Right One In." It's a beautiful story of an androgynous vampire who appears to be a young girl and the young boy who falls in love with her. See, now you have your romance and your horror and there's nothing cheesy about that movie.

I know I get a sick sense of satisfaction when Buffy dusts another vampire, or when Laurie Strode outsmarts Michael Myers in "Halloween."

I recently saw "Jennifer's Body" starring the ubiquitous Megan Fox. I am not a Megan Fox fan, but I am a fan of the writer, Diablo Cody, so I gave it a chance. The movie's two central characters, Needy, played by Amanda Seyfried, and Jennifer, are both superficial female stereotypes. Fox played the "hot chick" and Seyfried starred as Needy, her homely best friend. Clichés aside, I enjoyed the film immensely. Watching the old "man-eater" stereotype come to life was gruesome fun.

For me, women and horror go together. Horror brings out our protective instincts, and through it we can live out all our butt-kicking fantasies. Real life may be a drag sometimes, but in my fantasies, staking the vamps and devouring the boys is all in a day's work.

Christi Aldridge is a senior strategic communication major from Hillsboro.

Campus workers deserve respect



WYATT KAYNER

With the constant construction on campus, it is easy for students to focus on the inconveniences it brings. It can be hard for students to not be perturbed after waking up to the incessant beeping of a dump truck going in reverse or the sudden crash of rubble falling onto another pile of rubble.

As the construction rages on and more people become frustrated with its invasion, it is a true test of one's patience to keep from complaining. But it is also important to remember there are a number of workers laboring hours on end to ensure the job gets done.

And like all human beings, these workers deserve respect. The campus community cannot take for granted those who are layering bricks to make sure the campus has beautiful buildings. Such respect encompasses more than simply making comments about performing hard work or smiling at them in passing.

TCU students can be proud to say the university noticed this fact.

I recently walked by the Milton Daniel Hall construction site and noticed the workers eating lunches they brought to the site. For some reason, at that moment I felt guilty. I wondered if the workers had been offered meals at Market Square. I became angry because I believed they were eating sack lunches because they did not have any other choice.

About a week later, when I was eating at Market Square, I walked

by a manager. I suddenly stopped, remembering the workers eating from brown bags and mini coolers. I faced the manager and asked if workers were allowed to eat there. I was somewhat shocked to hear him say, "Yes, anytime."

I go to a college that is for the people, I thought to myself — cheesy, I know. Such ethical euphoria is one that more college students should have, especially TCU students.

Those two words pretty much made my week. My point of view changed from disgruntlement to pride.

I go to a college that is for the people, I thought to myself — cheesy, I know. Such ethical euphoria is one that more college students should have, especially TCU students.

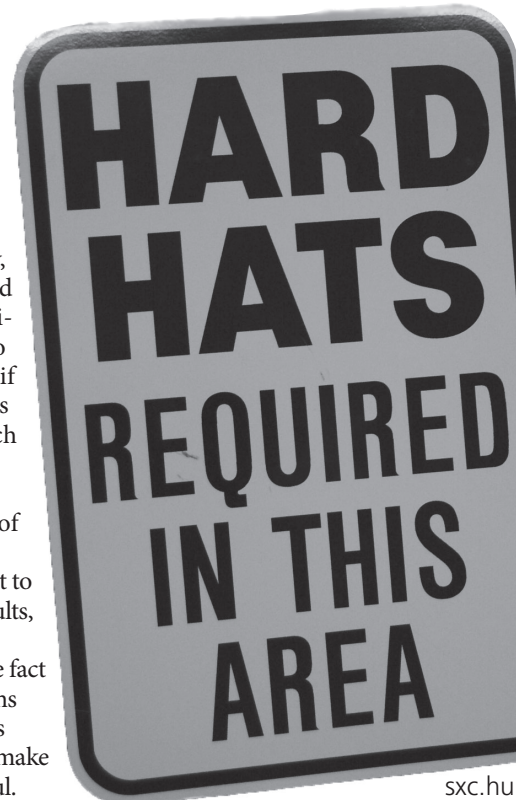
Like any university, TCU has its issues and the campus community is given the right to voice its disdain. But if students were to focus on the positives, which are numerous, before the negatives, they would see what kind of school they attend.

Before students want to criticize TCU for its faults, they need to focus on positive aspects like the fact that the university opens its doors to the workers who work tirelessly to make TCU's campus beautiful.

Furthermore, students need to remember that those workers endured the recently erratic Fort Worth weather and deserve credit. Classes are stressful and college is busy, but students should take a break to admire the amount of labor these workers put forth.

TCU respects them for the work they do by offering them a meal at Market Square. Students can express their gratitude by at least letting the workers know they are appreciated. Something like, "Thank you for all you do," is all it takes. It is not awkward to be polite, especially if the person deserves it. As a student at a school like TCU, there is little reason not to be polite.

Wyatt Kayner is a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from Yakima, Wash.



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FEATURES



Unlock the mystery of the "Wild Frog" — the football team's trick play.
Thursday

From gossip to gore

By Anna Waugh
Staff Reporter

Penn Badgley from The CW series "Gossip Girl" took a break from the drama of the Upper East Side to play lead in the thriller "The Stepfather."

Badgley, 22, plays Michael Harding, who comes home from military school to discover his mother's boyfriend has moved in. The not-so-cozy family situation quickly turns into chaos as Michael's suspicions lead to a man-of-the-house rivalry. "The Stepfather" opens Oct. 16.

On Monday, several collegiate journalists participated in a college conference call with Badgley.



MCTCAMPUS

Q: How is this film different from other thrillers?

A: There are actually a surprising number of differences between "The Stepfather" and a lot of modern thrillers or horror films. First off, it is a thriller, it's not straight up horror. It's not a slasher the way that I think maybe the original was in 1987. But it's a simpler story-driven thriller. It isn't full of twists and turns, and I think for that reason people might not be getting what they're expecting going in, but they'll be pleasantly surprised. Also, you know who the killer is from the first frame of the movie. It's explained in the beginning, so rather than it being the usual game of Clue where you're wondering who it is, it's really a different kind of thrill.

Q: How is this film different from anything you've ever done before in the past?

A: First off, it is a lead roll in a film and that is different from anything I've done. Probably the biggest differences were two things. One, I didn't really have much to say even though I was a lead. The character is fairly quiet and he's borderline petulant; I really didn't want to make him petulant, but he's sort of pissed off coming back from military reform school and he's partially reformed, but he's definitely bitter a little bit from the whole experience and not sure how to approach his family... And then the physicality of the role. Aside from getting in shape a little bit, I also was required to do some stunts, and I had to do stuff that I'd never done in a role which was really fun.

Q: From everything that you've said about the physical challenge, is that really what attracted you to the role of doing a thriller movie?

A: Right from the first start the thing that attracted me to it was just the fact that it was a new area and just something different. And yeah, actually, the physicality was something that I was drawn to because the climax of the film, I don't actually want to give anything away, but it becomes a bit of a head-to-head battle between myself and the stepfather ... I did a couple of my own stunts, and I had the bruises and scrapes to prove it.

Q: What do you think college students can take away from this film?

A: There's a universal vulnerability in being a teenager, and I think you get that with this kid especially. He's very vulnerable as far as his family is concerned. He's been away from them for maybe a year or two and he comes back and there's a stranger in his home ... Anybody who might have had any stressful relationship with their parents — which I think is to say everybody at one point in time, especially when you go away for college — that's when your parents start pulling every trick they can to get you to appreciate them and love them one last time before they feel like they lose you forever ... Aside from that, the fact that he's a teenager in general. He's just sort of unsure of who he is and how he fits into the world, and the thing that makes that even more difficult is his own family and them having to really work to accept him again.

Q: What was your most memorable experience working on this film?

A: There's a sequence that takes place outside on a rooftop where we were shooting in the rain, in movie rain, and movie rain is really heavy in order for it to read on camera, so the second it turns on you're soaking wet. And we shot this over a three-day night shoot, which happened to be scheduled on the only three days where it's below 50 degrees in LA ... I was like in this little thin cotton T-shirt and jeans all night for three nights under these rain machines in freezing cold weather and it came to this point where I couldn't get dry in between takes ... At the time it was really close to unbearable, but I look back on it fondly because honestly the whole movie was an incredible experience for me. I'd never done a big picture like this, let alone a lead in a big picture, so it was just, in so many ways, an awesome time.

Q: Who do you personally identify with more in terms of the character of Dan Humphrey and the character of Michael in "The Stepfather"?

A: Surprisingly, it's actually Michael. You know, Dan is more relatable in a lot of ways because he's just sort of the every man, and he's pretty ordinary in most ways. Michael has this stressful relationship between his parents, or at least he has that feeling of alienation, and not that I would relate to that specifically, but he has problems, whereas I feel like Dan Humphrey doesn't really have problems ... For me, Michael is just much more of a real, vulnerable kid.

Preview

Local band releases diverse album

By Naheil Qudah
Staff Writer

If you're tuned in to the local music scene, you might have heard the name Jefferson Colby before. You might have even heard the trio's driving bass lines, pulsing percussion and experimental guitar work along Berry Street on some busy weekend night. Self-described as a hybrid between Pink Floyd and Nirvana, the band has been pumping out songs and live shows since their formation in 2004.

The three musicians — film-TV-digital media major Danny Mabe, brother and TCU alumnus Matt Mabe and friend Jeff Moore — are releasing their second full-length album, "Octopus," on Friday.

Danny Mabe, the band's guitarist and lead vocalist, said the album contains a number of brand new songs, in addition to tracks some may have heard them play on stage during the past few years. The album is about not wanting what you have, he said.

Matt Mabe, the band's drummer,

said listeners could expect a blend of different genre influences and tempos as they hear the band's songs.

Moore, the bassist, said the musical variety on the album is characteristic of Jefferson Colby's sound.

"It's an amalgam of everything we've done so far," Moore said. "I'm very excited about it."

The tracks were recorded in what Moore called a marathon: a single session lasting roughly 16 hours. Because the songs were recorded in the same sitting as their last release, a six-track EP called "My Cosmic Self," it should be no surprise that there are elements of similarity across the two albums.

What separates them is the added depth of melody on "Octopus" as a result of several interesting additions that were recorded in a later session: piano, synthesizer, Mellotron and female backing vocals are featured on several tracks.

The band has a strong local presence, as illustrated by three consecutive years of nominations in the annual Fort Worth Weekly Music Awards.

But the musicians agree that Jefferson Colby is not limiting the reach of its music to the Lone Star state.

"I want to play everywhere," Matt Mabe said.

His brother agrees.

"I wish I was in a different city every day, playing a different set list," Danny Mabe said.

Their talent hasn't gone unnoticed: earlier this year, the trio turned down a five-album record deal because they wanted to retain creative rights and freedoms.

"I got really scared when there was a publishing agreement that was 50-50," Danny Mabe explained. "Like, how is someone else supposed to own my thoughts — my own thoughts that came out of thin air?"

That air is still filled with potential, it seems.

"We have a whole 'nother album written, we just haven't recorded it yet," Matt Mabe said.

The band plans to release their next album, "Semantics (Metaphysical Mood Music)," in 2010.



NAHEIL QUDAH / Staff Photographer

Clockwise from top: Jeff Moore, Danny Mabe, Matt Mabe.



NAHEIL QUDAH / Staff Photographer

Left to right: Danny Mabe, Matt Mabe, Jeff Moore

Join the band at The Moon tomorrow for the release of "Octopus." They will sell the album for \$5.



SXC.HU

MADISON DONAHUE / Staff Designer

ETC.



Today in History

On this day in 1871, flames spark in the Chicago barn of Patrick and Catherine O'Leary, igniting a 2-day blaze that kills between 200 and 300 people, leaves 100,000 homeless and destroys 17,450 buildings.
—History Channel

Joke of the Day

Q: What do you get when you cross a telephone with a very big football player?
A: A wide receiver!

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4		7		5					6
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Directions

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

See Friday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

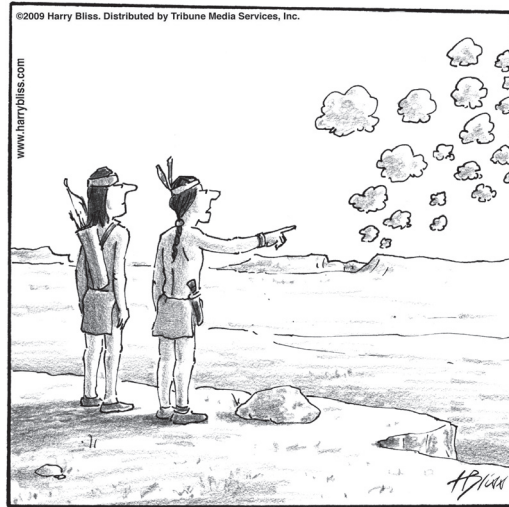
Wednesday's Solution

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

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by Harry Bliss



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16 "Dixie" hymn
17 Get hitched quick
20 Hip-hop mogul who married Beyoncé
23 Soft court stroke
25 Wallowing place
26 Pasture
27 Colorfully patterned fabric
31 Songstress
34 RCA Victor pooch
37 Altar consent
38 Small family businesses
41 Driver's lic. et al.
42 Lend a hand
43 Fast time
44 Gander
46 Embarrassed
48 World Series mo.
49 Stir-fried dish
54 Legend automaker
57 Cross shape
58 Yellowish earth tone
59 Hush-hush activities, briefly, and a hint to the hidden theme in 18-, 23-, 38- and 49-Across
61 Magician
62 Region
63 Shoshoneans
64 ___ the side of caution
65 College official
66 Like slasher
67 1954-1977 defense gp.
DOWN
1 "Judge ___": Stallone film
2 School tool
3 Big name in gas
4 Admit one's guilt to serve less time
5 Threat-ending words
6 Rodeo rope
7 Weird AI
8 Yankovic parody of a Michael Jackson hit
8 It's pumped in gyms
9 PC program
10 Holy wars
11 Elvis ___ Presley
12 Swing set site
13 Epsilon follower
19 Water gun stream
24 Desk phone unit
25 Orchestra leader
27 Third afterthought, in a lit.
28 Old Italian money
29 Paradise
30 Eddie of the '40s-'50s
31 German artist
32 Dimwit
33 "___ Excited": Pointer Sisters hit

By Donna S. Levin 10/8/09

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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



Check dailyskiff.com for a preview of today's soccer match against Air Force.

SIMULATION

SNOWBALL



Courtesy of ELECTRONIC ARTS

Quarterback Andy Dalton completes a pass to wide receiver Bart Johnson in this week's simulation of the TCU/Air Force game. TCU won with a score of 41-14 in a snowy match in Colorado Springs. Visit dailyskiff.com for the video



FOOTBALL

Weather could play role in Saturday's game

By Josh Davis
Staff Reporter

If the weather report is any indication, TCU might have a tough time throwing the ball against Air Force in a cold, wet game Saturday night. Fortunately for the Frogs, relying on the running game should be a safe bet.

TCU has won its last 26 games when rushing for more yards than passing, and has won 33 straight when they rush for more than 167 yards.

Senior tailback Ryan Christian won't play at Air Force, but the Frogs' run game should be fine, said head coach Gary Patterson.

"We feel like we have four or five guys who are very capable," Patterson said Tuesday. "If we run Joseph Turner 20

30 times a game, he probably won't stay healthy. To be able to have him carry 10 to 15 times and work in Matthew Tucker as the other big back, along with Ed Wesley, Ryan Christian, Jercell Fort and Chris Smith is a good mix."

Online weather forecasts continue to move to colder temperatures and predict lows in the mid-20s Saturday night, along with a chance of showers and snow.

If past statistics are any indication, quarterback Andy Dalton won't mind the weather either. The top two rushing games of Dalton's career have come in the rain - last year's 91-yard effort in a win at Stanford and an 86-yard game in the Frogs' Sept. 26 win at Clemson.

TCU vs. Air Force

When: 6:30 Saturday
Where: Colorado Springs, Colo.
Coverage:
• CBS College Sports
• KTCU
• Live chat on dailyskiff.com

fensive team overall, ranking only behind TCU in total defense in the Mountain West Conference. However, the Falcons' strength is their pass defense, which ranks fifth in the NCAA. So far this year, the Air Force run defense has been slightly more porous, ranking 46th in the nation.

Patterson acknowledged the

SEE FOOTBALL · PAGE 2

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball looks to continue winning streak against Utes

By Seth Dahle
Staff Writer

Senior middle blocker Courtney Edwards, who received her third Mountain West Player of the Week honor Oct. 5., will look to lead the volleyball team once again Thursday night when the Horned Frogs take on Utah in Salt Lake City.

The team is coming off two consecutive wins against Air Force and San Diego State.

Against the Falcons, Edwards, who finished with 15 kills on 19 swings, notched her career-best

attack percentage (.789). Against the Aztecs, she tallied a match-high 16 kills.

The number is also third-best in school history and fourth-best in the MWC record book.

"I try to go out there and play my hardest every game and do whatever I can to help my team out," Edwards said.

On the season, Edwards ranks 10th in the nation with a .413 attack percentage.

Head coach Prentice Lewis said Edwards' success has made her star appeal visible to all teams and coaches in

"She's our go-to (player.) Everybody on the team knows it. Everybody wants her to get the ball. Everybody in the conference knows she's our go-to person. She's getting it done for us."

Prentice Lewis
head coach

the conference.

"She's our go-to (player)," Lewis said. "Everybody on the team knows it. Everybody wants her to get the ball. Everybody in the conference knows she's our go-to person. She's getting it done for us."

Junior outside hitter Irene Hester also came up big in TCU's 3-1 (25-20, 25-11, 20-25, 26-24) win over SDSU with her third double-double of the season (10 kills, 14 digs).

Outside hitter Lauren Otto also marked her name in the record books after Thursday's

match. The senior became just the seventh player in Horned Frog history to reach 1,000 kills.

The Utes, coming in at 11-5 and 4-0 in Mountain West play, are tied with Colorado State at the top of the standings.

Junior Karolina Bartkowiak leads the team with 3.05 kills per set and is second on the team in digs (2.34 per set).

On the defensive side, junior Keisha Fisher leads with 3.78 digs per set, while senior middle blocker Chelsea Sandberg blocks 1.07 attempts per set.

TCU vs. Utah

When: 8 p.m. tonight
Where: Salt Lake City

The Horned Frogs, who are just 2-10 all-time against Utah, will rely on their league-leading defense. The team tops the Mountain West in digs with 15.38 digs per set.

Should TCU (15-4, 4-1 MWC) prevail, the Horned Frogs will be tied with the Utes for second place and keep pace with Colorado State.

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