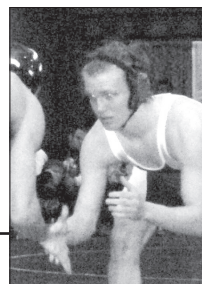


Find out what the wrestling club is up to this semester.



Find out more about the Greek's 50th anniversary on campus.

DAILY SKIFF

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Mary Nell Kirk, executive assistant to the chancellor, works in her office Tuesday on the third floor of Sadler Hall.

Lana Hunt / Staff Reporter

Devoted to TCU

Secretary to the chancellor in 15th year of dedication

BY LESLIE WINCHELL
Staff Reporter

The face of TCU may not be as obvious as one thinks. It is not the students, the staff or even Chancellor Victor Boschini.

Often dressed in purple, Boschini's executive assistant, Mary Nell Kirk, is very much the face of TCU and frequently greets people when they visit.

"Mary is often the first person people see when they walk into my office," Boschini said. "She possesses the great gift of making everyone that comes into the office feel comfortable."

Kirk, who has worked in the chancellor's office for 15 years, has assisted the last three chancellors but remains elusive to most of the TCU community.

"I just love my job and dealing with all the new people

and trustees," Kirk said. She wouldn't describe herself as a people person, but loves all the different elements her job entails, she said.

Boschini said Kirk helps him keep his days in line. "She organizes my calendar, which is very demanding, and leaves me little note cards that schedule my daily events," Boschini said.

Kirk's organization skills also extend to her home life. Described by her husband, Jon Kirk, as accommodating, gracious and conscientious,

Kirk embodies those qualities in every aspect of her life.

"Her three children and grandchildren are her life," said Donna Johnson, executive assistant to the provost.

The devoted mother and grandmother has never missed any of her children's football games and regularly spends time with her four granddaughters.

"We always take the grandkids skiing, and we love to travel," Jon said.

Along with family trips, the

more on KIRK, page 2

Cheerleading squad to stunt Saturday

Officials give OK, lift temporary ban

By TRAVIS STEWART
Staff Reporter

Despite the lack of a permanent head coach, TCU cheerleaders will be allowed to tumble and perform stunts at this weekend's Homecoming football game against Army, cheerleading captain Magean Thompson said Wednesday. Coach Jeff Tucker was fired Monday for undisclosed reasons pending an appeal process, temporarily banning the team from stunting at football games.

Thompson said the cheerleading squad was granted permission to stunt by associate athletics directors Scott Kull and Jack Hesselbrock. However, the team will not be able to form pyramids, multi-level stunts that are anywhere from two to three people high. Thompson also said that one of the assistant coaches will likely take over during the appeal process.

Tucker said he is pleased that the team's hard work will pay off.

"I think that it's great that they're going to be able to do what we've trained them to do," Tucker said.

It is a significant blow whenever a college cheer-

leader is placed under show restrictions, he said.

"I think the students are definitely being penalized," Tucker said. "What some people fail to realize is that college is these student's retirement. Not many people go into cheerleading as a profession, so this is the pinnacle of their career."

Although some cheerleaders have threatened to walk away from the squad, Tucker said, the team needs to focus on the rest of the year more than the current situation.

"You don't cheer for a coach," Tucker said. "You cheer for a university. Anybody can be replaced."

Even though the cheerleaders will be allowed to stunt this weekend, Thompson said, she still wants Tucker back.

"He genuinely cares," she said. "There is a difference between being under a coach that can coach and both coaches and cares."

Tucker said the first step of the appeal process, which is a mediation process between him and administration, will begin today.

Both Kull and Sharon Barnes, director of employee relations, refused to comment on the planned proceedings of today's meeting.

Police: Cameras keep campus safe

Primary concern is freshman lot

By JAMIE CRUM
Staff Reporter

Smile, you are on campus camera.

Security cameras, which use digital video recording, record 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but don't worry. TCU Police say they are not watching the community's every move.

TCU Police Chief Steve McGee said 65 security cameras on campus have proved to be beneficial in preventing

and solving crimes and keeping the campus safe.

McGee said the cameras are sporadically monitored throughout the day for student safety. He said the cameras are intended to be an additional tool available to the officers.

Sgt. Kelly Ham said it is very important that the cameras' locations not be disclosed. Ham said cameras were recently installed in some academic buildings, but the primary focus remains on the freshman parking lot, since students are often walking there late at night.

"Any time a girl calls for a Frog-

gie-Five-O, our cameras focus on her and remain there until she is picked up," Ham said.

While the police tout the protection the surveillance offers, The American Civil Liberties Union has expressed reservations about the possible invasion of privacy.

Frank Colosi, a local cooperating attorney for the ACLU, said that even though it is a form of protection, it is offensive.

"The question is, if the level of protection crosses the line of invading civil liberties," Colosi said.

TCU Assistant Police Chief J.C. Williams said he does not believe

the security cameras invade privacy because they are in public places like the parking lots.

Students who were interviewed said they value the protection the cameras offer.

Emily Schmeltekopf, a freshman ballet major, said she was unaware of the cameras in the parking lots, but now feels safer.

"I think it is a great idea for the cameras to watch girls waiting for Froggie," Schmeltekopf said.

McGee said the cameras are not only there to keep students safe but to keep property safe as well. The police are able

more on CAMERAS, page 2

'Turning rhinestones into stepping stones'

TCU graduate makes cut on 'The Apprentice'

By RACHEL COX
Staff Reporter

Meet Marshawn Evans: a Miss America finalist, a litigator with a passion for the courtroom, a contestant on Donald Trump's "The Apprentice," "One of America's Top Ten College Women" as named by Glamour magazine and — of course — always a Horned Frog at heart.

This 26-year-old woman has led a life full of accomplish-

ments, and shown a true passion to change the world.

Her motto, she says, is: "Successful people are those who see past today and dream of a greater tomorrow."

Marshawn graduated from TCU in 2001 with a degree in political science and attended law school at Georgetown University in Washington. She now works at a law firm in Atlanta.

Mary Evans, Marshawn's mother, said she knew her child was truly gifted when she was only 3 years old.

"She could talk and walk at a very early age," Mary said. "It was amazing the way she went on and on talking all

the time; she could really tell you what she wanted and believe me she did!"

Mary said she could see the competitive edge and drive in her daughter early on, and knew she would accomplish many goals in her lifetime.

"I remember when Marshawn was in elementary school; I had to have many teacher conferences about her problem with talking in class," Mary said. "She always had



Marshawn Evans: "Successful people are those who see past today and dream of a greater tomorrow."

EXTRA INFO

You can see Marshawn Evans on "The Apprentice" at 8 p.m. tonight on NBC.

something to say; she is very outspoken and this was evident at a very early age."

Marshawn said she learned to channel her passion for communication into a lifelong career.

"My parents knew that I had a gift and wanted to make sure I wasn't scolded for it, but rewarded," Marshawn said. "I now own a successful public speaking consulting company and am a litigator

more on EVANS, page 6

Threats possible at football games, authorities say

Bomb squad, private security officers attend all home games for safety

By TASHA HAYTON
Staff Reporter

TCU authorities say they are alert to the possibility of a bomb threat at a football game and have Fort Worth Bomb Squad officers on duty.

But they also say it is not always possible to prevent suicide.

A University of Oklahoma student committed suicide Oct. 1.

The Dallas Morning News reported Joel Henry Hinrichs III died after he detonated an explosive device near the Sooner football stadium during a game. No others were harmed by the explosion.

TCU police officers and security personnel are always alert for anything outside the ordinary, but it is difficult to prevent someone from doing something harmful to himself or others, said Steve McGee, chief of TCU Police.

"You just can't stop everybody," McGee said.

The security policy at football games will not be changed because of the Oklahoma incident, McGee said.

The police already have a contract with the Fort Worth Fire Department Bomb

Squad. Two bomb officers, as well as private security officers, are present at every football game, McGee said.

He said the goal is to look for anyone suspicious. A person wearing a puffy jacket on a hot day is a good example of someone suspicious, McGee said.

"We do our best to be vigilant," McGee said.

If a bomb or explosive device is found, the police will secure the area and call the bomb squad. McGee said it is best to use the well-trained bomb officers immediately.

If a student is found with a bomb or a weapon, he or she would be arrested and charged with criminal and student misconduct, McGee said.

The Dallas Morning News reported Hinrichs was a 21-year-old engineering major at OU.

Jonathan Weldon, a senior electrical engineering major at TCU, said it is not difficult for someone to build a bomb, and it is easier for an engineer to do.

"Someone who is as knowledgeable as an engineer

more on THREAT, page 2