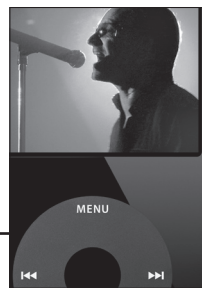


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Neeley School of Business MBA program ranks No. 18

Wall Street Journal ranks Neeley one of top regional schools

By KRISTA HUMPHRIES
Staff Reporter

The M.J. Neeley School of Business' MBA program was ranked No. 18 among regional programs in the nation and was the highest ranked Texas school in The Wall Street

Journal Guide to Top Business Schools.

The Wall Street Journal and Harris Interactive conducted a survey that asked corporate recruiters and any other people who are familiar with the students and have an objective opinion to evaluate MBA programs, said Shirley Rasberry, director of graduate career services.

The recruiters rate the MBA programs on 20 different

school and student attributes, Rasberry said. The key things the survey considers are if the recruiters plan to return to the schools and if they plan on hiring students from that school in the future.

TCU is considered a regional school in the survey because it tends to attract recruiters from this region, rather than national recruiters, Rasberry said.

No Texas schools were

considered national schools, schools that attract many national recruiters, by The Wall Street Journal.

This ranking is the only one that is solely based on feedback from recruiters.

Dan Short, dean of the business school, said it is a great idea to solicit opinions from the recruiters, who are the customers.

"Of all of the rankings, the one that comes from the cus-

tomers, will probably be the most important one," Short said.

He said rankings are important because the school receives visibility, publicity and credibility. But he said he does not like to focus on the rankings.

"Rankings capture part of the story, but not the full story," Short said.

Isela Rodriguez, a second-

EXTRA INFO

Texas MBA program rankings:

- TCU — 18
- SMU — 20
- Rice — 22
- A&M — 28
- Texas — 35



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POINTLESS ON PURPOSE



Stephen Spillman / Staff Photographer
The cast of "The Bald Soprano" rehearses various scenes Wednesday evening in the TCU Studio Theatre, located in the Walsh Center for Performing Arts. The play, which runs through Saturday night, is produced entirely by TCU students.



Short run sees 'Soprano' play to a full house

Show written as pointless comedy

By BETH WREFFORD
Staff Reporter

TCU Theatre's sold-out presentations of "The Bald Soprano," by Eugene Ionesco, began Thursday and will run until Saturday night.

"The show is about people letting their lives become empty," director Kevin Long said. "However, it is comedy, so it's not heavy-handed or trying to

preach. It is about laughing at ourselves."

Scenic designer and technical director Philip Zielke said he agrees.

"The show was written to reflect the pointlessness in English society. As you can tell through the show, almost everything that is done all the way down to the dialogue is pointless," Zielke said.

Zielke said the show is entirely student directed and designed with TCU theater faculty acting as advisers.

"The idea behind a show

like this is that the students get to run the entire production," Zielke said. "We

"The show was written to reflect the pointlessness in English society."

Philip Zielke
Scenic designer and technical director

get to make all of the shots, good or bad. Now granted they are usually good

because we have had some good training, and the faculty would not put someone in the position of not having the knowledge of how to do something like this."

The remaining shows, Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. are sold out, which Long attributes to the small space of the TCU Studio Theatre located in the Walsh Center for Performing Arts.

"It is frustrating," Long said. "Because the theater

is small, and the run of the show is so short, not many people get a chance to see it. I keep wishing we would do a normal run of six performances instead of four, but this is the way it's always been done, and it is all up to the faculty."

Zielke does not believe TCU theater students, who are required to see TCU Theatre productions, eat up most of the tickets before non-theatre TCU students can obtain them.

"The assumption that the

more on SOPRANO, page 2

20/20 to feature TCU student, vice chancellor

By JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF
Staff Reporter

Members of the TCU community will be on ABC's news program 20/20 tonight, covering the topic of the growing relationship between parents and college students and how universities can contribute to parental involvement.



Don Mills

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Heather Fagan, a sophomore education major, will be on the program at 9 p.m. today on Channel 8.

In recent years, students have been staying in closer contact with their parents, and parents have been more active with their children's education, Mills said.

"I'm very excited and nervous how it will turn out," he said.

Shawn Kornegay, assistant director of communications, said 20/20 contacted Fagan for the program and TCU recommended Mills.

Mills has had more than 35 years of experience in student affairs and is knowledgeable and qualified to be one of the featured experts for the show, Kornegay said.

EXTRA INFO

Don Mills will talk about the increasing parent involvement in college students' education on ABC's 20/20.

The program will air at 9 p.m. today on channel 8.

News Brief

Elementary students get taste of university science

"What's in an egg?" and "What's icky, sticky, yummy and gummy?" are some of the classes that will be offered to more than 500 fourth-graders who participate in the sixth-annual Science and Math Mini-University at 9 a.m. Saturday on TCU's campus.

Mini-University, an event instructed by students of the School of Education who seek a career in teaching, is designed to acquaint fourth-graders with hands-on science and math activities, said Janet Kelly, School of Education associate professor and director of the Institute of Math, Science and Technology Education.

"More and more children are losing interest in math and science by the third grade," Kelly said. "I thought the fourth grade

would be a good age to introduce hands-on experience."

TCU student instructors will also receive relevant experience by explaining, presenting and implementing a lesson, Kelly said.

Celeste Hanvey, a student instructor who participated in the event last year, said she enjoyed preparing a science lesson for her class.

"We used edible stuff to teach the kids about density," the senior early childhood development major said. "It was fun for me because they weren't shy, and they were so willing to learn."

The curriculum for half the classes was developed by TCU students in the School of Education and the College of Science and Engineering, as well as alumni who volunteer for the event.

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Puerto Rico welcomes TCU Symphony

Student orchestra performs, learns about Latin music

By CAITLYN TOMASIK
Staff Reporter

The TCU music department vows to contribute to the cultural enrichment of the global society, according to the College of Fine Arts Web site.

Mission accomplished.

The TCU Symphony Orchestra returned late Wednesday after participating in the Festival Iberoamericano de las Artes, a monthlong festival that featured opera, choir, jazz, theater, dance and other artistic performances from around the world in San Juan, Puerto Rico, said

orchestra director Germán Gutiérrez.

"It's huge," Gutiérrez said. "It's really a big festival."

Music graduate student Vince Gerrish said the chance to learn about the music and culture of another country made the trip a worthwhile experience.

"I can't even say how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to play in front of an international audience," Gerrish said.

Sophomore music major Lauren Novak said the exposure to another culture will be evident in future orchestra performances.

"We brought our music there, and now we get to bring their music back with us," Novak said.

The trip gave students the opportunity to experi-

ence the language, dancing, geography and especially the music native to Puerto Rico, Novak said.

"There were so many people that played Latin American instruments that I had never heard before," Novak said. "I got a lot out of it from that perspective."

Gutiérrez said he knew the cultural experiences would be of great value to the students who attended.

"The students not only performed, they were immersed in another culture," Gutiérrez said.

The director of the festival asked the group to perform after attending one of its concerts at TCU, Gutiérrez said.

"It was a very prestigious invitation," Gutiérrez said. "To invite a univer-

sity orchestra was a challenge. There were great expectations, and I think we surpassed those expectations."

Orchestra members said they did not take the opportunity for granted.

"We are blessed to have such a great music program at TCU," Gerrish said.

He said he was grateful for the generous contributions TCU made that allowed them to play. TCU and American Airlines covered the travel expenses for the group.

"For the orchestra to travel abroad, it was not only fun and exciting," Gerrish said, "but having the experience to perform, rehearse and represent TCU was an honor."

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