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Winter weather's wild winds blow while snow, sleet fall

By SCOTT FARWELL
The Dallas Morning News

Welcome to winter. An arctic cold front has descended on the Dallas/Fort Worth area, spinning off 35-mph wind gusts and causing temperatures to plunge more than 40 degrees. Slush was expected to coat

the roads Thursday morning, and forecasters predict 1 to 2 inches of snow today. With the wind chill, temperatures could feel as cold as 5 degrees.

Thursday morning's commute may have been tricky, but after 12 hours of freezing temperatures and snow, the drive home became more dangerous.

"The road temperatures will be well below freezing," said Steve Fano, a National Weather Service meteorologist. "It'll be a bit treacherous."

Forecasters called a winter storm warning for most of Thursday and expected it to hold through the evening. A tornado watch was lifted

Wednesday evening.

Hundreds of city, county and state road crews spread tons of sand and a sticky de-icing chemical on bridges, on-ramps and overpasses because they are the first to freeze.

The chemical — magnesium chloride — is designed to slow

or prevent water from freezing on pavement.

As ice or snow collects on roads, crews will spread chemicals and sand, which helps motorists gain traction.

The Texas Department of Transportation had 95 dump trucks and 250 work-

ers on standby to confront the storm's aftermath. State crews' first priority is to sand all interstates and major U.S. highways. Once those are passable, crews will sand state highways and then other state roads such as farm-to-market roads.

See **WEATHER**, page 6

Art causes stir among professors, students

By ALEX ZOBEL
Staff Reporter

A 2-foot-tall monkey made of steel, wax and burlap was removed from a student art exhibit in Tandy Hall on Nov. 14 because an assistant dean said its genitalia was inappropriate.

Mark Muller, assistant dean of the School of Business, said he removed the sculpture because he and others around the office found it to be inappropriate for a work setting.

Clayton Hurt, the creator of the controversial sculpture, said he didn't intend to offend anybody with the piece.

"It wasn't for shock value," Hurt said. "I just wanted it to look realistic."

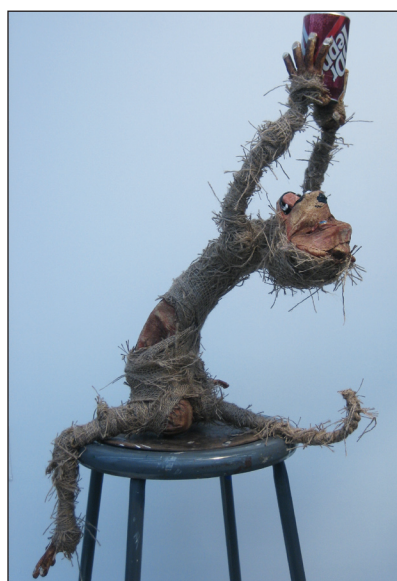
Students were instructed not to submit any art to the show containing nudity. However, Hurt said the genitals of the monkey were not obvious — he thought "no nudity" referred strictly to humans.

The sculpture, titled "Forbidden Wine," depicts a monkey drinking a Dr Pepper. The student curator for the show, with Hurt's permission, put a diaper on the monkey before the show to hide its nudity, Hurt said.

The day after the sculpture was put up, Hurt removed the diaper, and the following day, the sculpture was removed. "I wanted people to see the original version of my work," Hurt said. "I didn't think it was going to be a big deal."

The monkey, which was prominently displayed on a shelf on the third floor of Tandy Hall, was depicted with an erection, Muller said.

"I liked it at first," Muller said. "We'd be glad to have the monkey back if the diaper goes back on." See **ART**, page 2



CLAYTON HURT / Staff Photographer
Studio art major Clayton Hurt sculpted and designed the monkey sculpture "Forbidden Wine," which was removed from the student art exhibit in Tandy Hall.



(LEFT) Sophomore psychology major Kyle Rohane, left, and sophomore religion major Luke Devlin slide down a snowy hill in Worth Hills Thursday afternoon. (RIGHT) Sophomore advertising/public relations major Jeff Callison, left, junior communications major Justin Stevens and sophomore engineering major Karl Slater scrape the ice off their car with their ID cards Thursday morning.

Ice Age

Frigid weather closes campus; Weekend events rescheduled

By KATHLEEN THURBER
News Editor

Students, nonessential personnel take snow day

Campus was closed Thursday because of icy roads and poor weather conditions, said Tracy Syler-Jones, assistant vice-chancellor for marketing and communication in an e-mail.

She said Provost Nowell Donovan is in charge of cancelling classes and that when university officials checked conditions early Thursday morning, the roads were clear and weather was good, but conditions were quickly deteriorating, she said.

There are about 100 classes or labs that meet only on Thursday, according to the class search on my.tcu.edu.

Provost Nowell Donovan said it would be difficult to reschedule these classes and that each professor will have

to decide what he or she will do individually.

"The only realistic way of making these classes up would be to cancel dead days," he said, "and we can't really do that."

Donovan, who teaches a graduate class on Thursday night, said he will e-mail his small class to try and find a time to meet, but he said he would think for a larger class it would be a difficult thing to do.

"I think it's going to require a lot of imagination," he said.

Campus tree remains to be lit

The Holiday Tree Lighting, which was scheduled for 6:45 p.m. Thursday, will be rescheduled some time next week before dead days begin, said Kristen Chapman, Programming Council director of special events.

The concert, which was

See **ICE**, page 6



LESA ADAMS / Staff Photographer

Minister's sermon before accident gives hope, students say

By MICHELLE THOMAS
Staff Reporter

Just three days before a bicycle accident left him in a medically-induced coma, Dustin Salter, former minister for Reformed University Fellowship at TCU, preached to students at Furman University about providence.

In his sermon, posted on Redeemer Presbyterian Church's Web site, Salter

encouraged students to put their trust in God's hands. "There is a God who is infi-

•Updates on Dustin Salter's medical condition will be posted by Grant Beachy on Redeemer Presbyterian Church's Web site at redeemerchurch.net.

•Also, visit Furman RUF's Web site at furmanruf.com.

nite and personal, who controls and directs all things for his glory and for our good," he said.

Salter's own words are helping to comfort students who are devastated and confused about Salter's situation, said Rob Hamby, RUF's current minister at TCU.

Salter was part of RUF's staff at TCU for eight years until moving to Furman Uni-

versity this fall, Hamby said.

He was not wearing a helmet when he fell off of his bicycle while riding with his two sons on Nov. 8, one block from his home in Greenville, S.C.

Salter is the father of three children, Jacob, 9, Nathan, 7, and Meredith, 2.

While his condition has not notably changed since the accident, Salter was moved from the Intensive Care Unit to a private

room on Nov. 24., according to the Redeemer Presbyterian Church Web site.

Initially, Salter underwent surgery to remove blood clots and part of his skull to reduce swelling in his brain, Hamby said.

On Nov. 17 Salter's sedative medication dosage was reduced so that he is not in as deep of a coma

See **RUF**, page 2

Dining Services prepares for holiday season of increased catering orders

By KATHERINE LANE
Staff Reporter

The TCU Dining Services catering department is getting ready for the holiday season and preparing for more orders.

Kathryn Carter, catering director, said the number of orders can pick up during the holiday season, especially when specials are offered.

"During Thanksgiving this year, we had around 40 pick-up orders for all of the fixings in a Thanksgiving meal," Carter said. "Lots of people ordered just a turkey or gravy."

Along with the Thanksgiving staples, desserts were ordered as well, Carter said.

"This year, we offered all of the traditional desserts, along

with some different ones like chocolate derby pie, pumpkin chiffon pie and pumpkin praline pie," Carter said.

The orders mainly came from faculty and staff for Thanksgiving, but the catering department expects to have more orders from students around Christmas, Carter said.

Last year, some students

with remaining money on their dining plans, ordered large cases of meat, Carter said.

"Students were ordering bulk amounts of nonprepared food items, like steaks and chicken breasts, which was a great way to get the money off their cards," Carter said.

Robert Horton, a sophomore finance major, said he

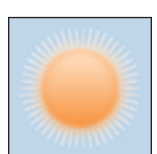
ordered a large amount of uncooked meat last year.

"I bought ribeyes, filets, tenderloin strips, pretty much everything," Horton said.

Horton said he took some of the meat home to Midland and the rest stayed in Fort Worth in his house off campus.

"Students traditionally

See **CATER**, page 6



WEATHER

TODAY: Sunny, 49/28
SATURDAY: Mostly Sunny, 52/28
SUNDAY: Sunny, 49/30

PECULIAR FACT

MOSCOW: A Russian man stopped by police for allegedly driving drunk tried to swallow his keys and then bit an officer who tried to retrieve them, a Russian news agency reported Tuesday. — AP

TODAY'S HEADLINES

FEATURES: Leonardo DiCaprio Q & A, page 5
OPINION: Promise rings reveal insecurity, page 3
SPORTS: Firings leave coach positions up in air, page 12

CONTACT US

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

ART

From page 1

Art department professor David Conn, one of three faculty members coordinating the exhibit said the decision to remove the piece was weak minded.

"It's not a person, it's not a monkey, it's a sculpture of a monkey," Conn said. "There is a statue in Ed Landreth of a woman with an exposed breast, so art down in protest of the should we put a bra on her?"

Muller said the main reason for removing the piece was that some women around the office told him the statue made them uncomfortable.

"There is a statue in Ed Landreth of a woman with an exposed breast, so should we put a bra on her?"

David Conn
Art department professor

The sculpture was purchased for \$500 on the same day an article about the controversial removal of the sculpture was published in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Hurt said the publicity helped him sell the piece.

Seven students have taken their art down in protest of the censoring of Hurt's piece.

RUF

From page 1

as he had been since the accident. On Nov. 21, Salter was taken off of a ventilator and is now breathing on his own, according to the Web site. Updates provided by Redeemer Presbyterian Church's senior pastor say long-term care is being discussed by Salter's wife, Leigh Anne, but no decisions have been reached as to where to go from here.

While surgery has been performed and medication given to reduce the swelling in his brain, the main threat to Salter's recovery is infection, said Grant Beachy, assistant pas-

tor at Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

At this point, there are no signs of infection, he said.

Beachy encourages his congregation to be praying for Salter and to trust God in this situation.

"While we do not know the end from the beginning, our God does," Beachy said. "We press on, trusting his fatherly wisdom, compassion and providence."

Cameron Young, senior graphic design major, sat under Salter's teachings at TCU for three years.

Young visited Salter in the hospital soon after the accident and said Salter's family is staying positive and believes that he will wake up.

"They have a lot of support," Young said. "There are tons of people praying and sending cards and helping take care of the kids."

Young said students at TCU

are somewhat disconnected to the situation and that it's harder to stay positive.

"We just have to remember what Dustin has taught us over the years," he said. "He wouldn't want us mourning. He would want us to go on with hope."

Salter said in his sermon that there is no circumstance that is mere coincidence.

"Coincidence says that the circumstances in our lives are just that: mere coincidence — just mere chance," he said. "Providence says that God has planned all things and brings all that he has planned to pass."

Salter said the question is not why God allows suffering in our lives, but rather, how people respond to suffering.

"Suffering will either make you a bitter person, or it will make you a beautiful person," he said.

Hamby said that students are

having a hard time dealing with this situation but that wrestling through their faith is an important part of a Christian walk.

"There is a lot of confusion, uncertainty and doubt," Hamby said. "All I can tell students is that God is still good, even in the midst of this."

Hamby said between 75 and 100 students have been meeting to pray for Salter since the accident.

"There is a lot of unity in this group," he said. "They understand the seriousness of it and are facing the hard situation with prayer."

Every student is reacting in a different way but are searching for answers and asking God to intervene in Salter's situation, Hamby said.

"God's plan is often a mystery and sometimes involves suffering," he said. "But God is trustworthy and good, even when his ways are beyond our understanding."

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***Nativity Story** in DLP - PG (Fri-Sun) 11:30 (Mon-Sun) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
 ***Turistas - R** (Mon-Sun) 12:00, 2:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
 ***Van Wilder 2 - R** (Mon-Sun) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25
 ***Deck The Halls** in DLP- PG (Fri-Sun) 11:45, (Mon-Sun) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
 ***Dejá Vu** in DLP- PG13 (Mon-Sun) 1:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00
 ***Tenacious D In The Pick of Destiny - PG13** (Mon-Sun) 12:30, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40
 ***The Fountain - PG13** (Mon-Fri) 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20 (Sat) 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 10:55 (Sun) 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
 ***Borat - R** (Mon-Thurs) 1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:30, 10:50 (Fri-Sun) 11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:30, 10:50
 ***Casino Royale** in DLP- PG13 (Mon-Sun) 12:45, 4:00, 7:45, 9:10, 10:55
 ***Flushed Away** in DLP- PG (Mon-Sun) 11:55, 2:05, 4:40, 7:00
 ***Happy Feet** in DLP- PG (Mon-Thurs) 1:40, 4:15, 7:30, 10:10 (Fri-Sun) 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 7:30, 10:10
 ***Stranger Than Fiction** in DLP- PG13 (Mon-Fri) 12:25, 3:45, 7:35, 10:40 (Sat) 12:25, 3:45, 10:45 (Sun) 7:35, 10:40
 ***The Santa Clause 3** in DLP- G (Mon-Thurs) 1:35, 4:10, 7:20, 9:50, (Fri-Sun) 11:10, 1:35, 4:10, 7:20, 9:50

***Blood Diamond** (SNEAK PREVIEW) - R - (Saturday) 7:35
 ***The Holiday** (SNEAK PREVIEW) - PG13 - (Saturday) 7:40

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"No man needs a vacation so much as the man who has just had one."

— Elbert Hubbard

THE SKIFF VIEW

Faculty went too far censoring art

The act of censorship should be reserved for extreme circumstances. The censorship imposed on a sculpture in Tandy Hall was uncalled for.

Not only does censorship breach the right to free speech, but it also undermines the intelligence of the students on campus.

A 2-foot sculpture of a monkey that was anatomically correct was removed after two days of being on display in the building.

Faculty and staff said the piece of art was removed because they did not feel it was appropriate to be displayed in a workplace setting.

The sculpture was originally put on display with the monkey wearing a diaper to hide its nether regions, but the artist, Clayton Hurt, removed the cover-up a day later.

Hurt said he wanted people to have the chance to see his original concept.

It isn't too much to ask of the faculty to let a student artist express his creativity.

Art is supposed to be interpretive and

adding additional materials takes away from others' opportunity to read into the piece.

Adding the diaper was absolutely ridiculous. It is like putting a stain on someone's masterpiece. How would Michelangelo feel if someone put a diaper on the Statue of David?

Young children visit the zoo daily and are exposed to naked monkeys, so why is a sculpture of a monkey offensive to a group of adults who are suppose to be intellectuals?

Although some people might appreciate in Hurt's work, that does not mean it should be denied to the rest of the university to view.

The point is art is meaningful to someone, and obviously the sculpture in question is no different, seeing as it sold for \$500 after its removal.

The next time university officials think about censoring a student's work, it should have just cause.

Features editor Jeff Eskew for the editorial board.

BY RICKY ANDERSON

Proof Global Warming is a Myth



Political correctness numbing

Over the last several weeks, two controversies have exposed the ugly, hidden reality in much of American society.



Erick Raven

Michael Richards' comedy club rant exposed racism against blacks and the film satire "Borat" exposed anti-Semitism. While

it is easy to castigate Richards' judgment or the fools in Borat, it is not so easy to recognize that the heart of the nation is still haunted by its racial past.

Political correctness has done an excellent job in covering up many of America's secret sins. Political correctness, as in anything else, has its positives and negatives. Political correctness has prevented ignorant language from creating more racial division. I fear, however, it has also led to something similar to what fashion magazines do to their models: It has turned people into mechanical productions devoid of reality.

The fact that Richards' rant was bad is obvious, but what we should get out of it is not. The opportunity now exists for each of us to examine ourselves and

see if any of the attitudes expressed by Richards are in our hearts as well. As I said about Ted Haggard in a previous article, it is easy to feel morally superior to someone when there is no mirror to reflect your own soul. The fact is, no one really knows how he or she would have responded had he or she been in Richards' shoes. I do not believe Richards himself knew he could respond in such a manner.

In the same vein, the students who revealed their hidden prejudices to Sacha Baron Cohen (Borat) are now suing him because of their own stupidity. They are basically making the case that the attitudes revealed in the movie are not really theirs and that those attitudes will prevent them from getting good jobs. Whether it was the alcohol or the thrill of being on film that caused the students to express themselves the way they did, I don't know.

But what if the attitudes they hold are no different than millions of their peers across the country? Is the American workforce, or the government even, filled with closet bigots who conceal their real attitudes in order to get good jobs or to be elected? If so, do those same people really have the moral authority to attack Michael Richards

or the students in "Borat"?

Until the nation, person by person, becomes serious enough to examine its own heart and come to terms with the ugliness that is there, racism will continue unabated. It does no good to continue to have conferences, interracial awareness groups or the like if there is no change in those who shows up. Many of these well-intentioned gatherings simply "preach to the choir" and real societal change rarely takes place. The only way the aforementioned gatherings can have any significant impact is if individuals confess or admit — whether to themselves or someone else — their own shortcomings and recognize their need for help.

It may all sound a bit too religious for some, but the old saying, "Confession is good for the soul," is actually true — especially on a volatile topic such as race. When, and only when, we confess, individually and as a society, our own shortcomings can any real change take place. Let Michael Richards and Borat be our teachers in a time when political correctness has made our souls sedated.

Erick Raven is a first year graduate student in the school of education from Grand Prairie. His column appeared every Friday.

Workers overlooked when tipping time comes; Standard 15% not enough for great service

A couple of summers ago, I worked as a to-go server at a Houston-area seafood restaurant. One day, receiving an order that amounted

COMMENTARY



David Hall

to a grand total of \$175, I got hyped for a colossal tip to come that would pay for my next couple of trips to the movies. I spent about 20 minutes putting the massive order together, while falling dreadfully behind on other duties, and had the contents waiting when the recipient arrived.

I was nothing but kind to the customer and graciously carried the gargantuan order out to her Lexus like I was competing in some strange version of the World's Strongest Man Competition. Wishing her a good day and waving as she drove away, I hurried back inside to take a look at what kind of mouth-watering gratuity awaited. To my surprise, a big fat zero accompanied by the words "pick up" was inked on the tip line and seemed to be taunting me like some kind of elementary school bully. Unresolved childhood conflicts aside, I must have sat there with my jaw gaping for about two minutes before I

regained composure. I could barely believe my eyes.

Let me begin by saying that tipping is not a city in China. It is an expected courtesy for a job well-done in a variety of industries, especially in the restaurant business. The most well-known and widely followed law of tipping is to give your waiter or bartender a gratuity that amounts to 15 percent of the total bill after tax.

However, many patrons don't follow it correctly. That 15 percent should be what you tip for average service. If the service was excellent, the tip should range from about 20 percent to 25 percent. Anything on top of that is just gravy. Plus, servers remember who the good tipppers are, and those grateful customers receive nothing short of the movie-star treatment on return trips.

Under-tipping is strongly discouraged. Many times when the service is less than stellar, it is often a result beyond the waiter's control. This could be due to a slow kitchen production or a night with an understaffed waiting crew. Plus, under-tipping is a surefire way to ensure poor service the next time you return to a restaurant, as no fiscally smart member of the wait staff would waish his or her time wooing a guest who will tip poorly. Even if

you have a different server on your return trip, word will get around about your previously poor gratuity, and it's all downhill from there.

But who else should you tip? While everyone knows to tip their waiters, pizza men and bellhops, there are some more obscure professions that deserve to be tipped.

It's nice to tip the people who prepare your carry-out order. By no means is a 15 percent tip expected though, as about 7 percent to 10 percent should do the trick.

Another forgotten soul is the peanut/beverage/cotton candy guy at various sporting events. It's always polite to pass back a buck of your change as a token of appreciation. Also, whenever you enter an establishment with a tip jar next to the cash register, drop your change in or a spare dollar to lighten the days of these often overlooked employees.

While it may seem costly to tip so often, it benefits both the consumer and the workers. Employees get a little extra money and know their hard work is greatly appreciated, and consumers get a smile and good treatment on return visits. It's win-win baby, win-win.

David Hall is a freshman news-editorial journalism major from Kingwood. His column appeared every Tuesday and Friday.

Promise ring tradition reveals insecurity; OK to just date

You all know the movie scene. Boy meets girl. Boy and girl fall in love. An unrealistically short period of time passes and boy pops the question ...

COMMENTARY



Kathleen Thurber

Will you promise me? Wait, that's not right. You must have heard wrong. And you'd be right. You did hear wrong

because I can't think of any movie that fits the "happily ever after category" and adds the step of a promise ring.

Even to the ridiculous people in Hollywood who come up with the cheesy, storybook romances we all know and love, a promise ring has no value. We, like they, should recognize it's a meaningless gesture that most have rightfully left behind.

Giving someone a promise ring is a pledge to become engaged. An engagement is a promise to be married. So, accepting a promise ring is like saying you promise to make an even bigger promise later?

The whole thing makes my head spin.

According to honeymoon.com (yes, such a Web site exists), promise rings were traditionally given to signify a deeply committed relationship. They were a way to say two people were "going steady" with the intention of someday getting married.

If you have to use the term "going steady" to describe the purpose of a promise ring, you know the tradition is dead. Even my grandmother is hip enough to know no one says that anymore.

If you want to promise to get married, then get engaged. There's no need for

an extra step.

And if you have to promise to know you're in a committed relationship, then you're relationship probably isn't that secure in the first place.

Granted, if you are 20 and think you're with the person you want to marry, engagement is probably not the best idea. You've still got classes and homework to deal with, and you may still be relying on Mom and Dad for some support. Oh, and there is that minor detail of not being grown up enough to make this sort of commitment.

In that case, just keep dating.

You can be in a committed relationship without having to put a label on it, and, if in a year or five, you still want to marry that person, get engaged because then you'll know you mean it, and you

won't have to waste money on an extra ring.

According to zales.com and walmart.com, most promise rings range in price from \$120 to \$350, a cost that, according to JustMetal.com, will provide you with a titanium promise ring that says, "I love you."

If we believe a ring can say "I love you," it's no wonder that the divorce rate for first marriages in the United States is 41 percent, with the highest percent of those divorces occurring among 20- to 24-year-olds, according to divorcerate.org.

This staggering number should, at the very least, remind us that we should seriously assess ourselves and our relationships before committing — at least in theory — for life.

While this isn't necessarily a growing trend, the fact that

it exists at all is a disgrace to our generation.

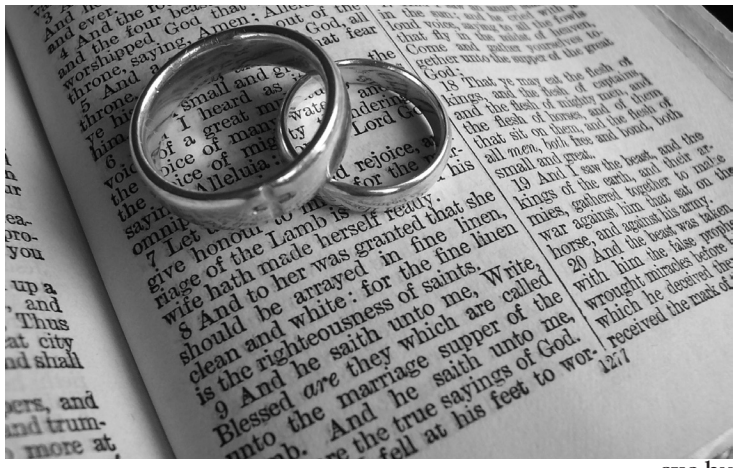
Of the five people I know who have been "promised" in the last few years, all have ended their relationships.

It's good that they ended their relationships before entering into engagement or marriage, but I'll bet that the breakup was even more difficult because of the expectations brought into the

relationship with that promise ring.

If there's one thing you can learn from Hollywood, (and there might only be one thing) remember that we're in college — it's OK just to date someone, there's no need for the frivolous tradition of promise rings.

Kathleen Thurber is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Colorado Springs, Colo.



sxc.hu

Longtime caregiver learning to teach new nurses



STEPHEN SPILLMAN
Stephanie Jones, senior advertising/public relations major, gives blood. Amber Suiter, a phlebotomist for Carter Blood Center, draws Jones' blood for the blood drive in the Student Center last spring.

By MEREDITH ANDREWS
Staff Reporter

Between being a full-time nurse, showing miniature horses, making a 22-year marriage last, watching her high school daughter march in the band and supporting Texas A&M University football for her freshman Aggie, Carla Crider finds time to go to school by taking online classes.

Crider graduated from Tarleton State University and went to teach for one year at an East Texas public high school in

1982. It was a less than pleasant experience, Crider said. After working in a number of jobs she didn't like, she decided she would be a nurse and has been for 11 years.

Crider works at Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth in the labor and delivery and antepartum units, she said. Now she is back in school to take the next step: learn how to be a nurse educator.

The nursing education program is a graduate program in the Harris College of Nursing

and Health Sciences to teach nurses how to teach, said Kathleen Baldwin, program director.

Crider said she chose nursing education because she realized she never stopped teaching. She has continued to educate patients, family and other nurses.

"I like to teach the clinical side," Crider said. "I like to see the 'ah-ha' moments when a concept or skill has been mastered."

The program started in fall 2006 with two students who will graduate in spring 2008 if they stay on track, Baldwin said. More are expected in the future because many students did not want to enroll during the program's first year, Baldwin said.

Crider said she chose TCU because of its reputation, the online program and because of its close proximity to her home.

"I'm not afraid to try something new," Crider said. "It'll be great."

It would be possible for a person to do the nursing education program immediately after receiving a nursing bachelor's degree, Baldwin said, but most nurses

want to gain experience first.

"If you're not comfortable being a nurse yourself," Baldwin said, "it makes it difficult to teach others to be comfortable being a nurse."

The reason for the new program is the need for nurse educators, said Paulette Burns, dean of the Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Nursing schools around the country have been forced to turn away qualified applicants because of the lack of nursing faculty. A 2005 survey by the American Association of College Nursing showed this in about 73 percent of nursing schools, according to the association's Web site.

"We try to invest in programs that there is a need for out there," Burns said.

Crider said not only are there not enough nursing teachers, but the average instructor is also nearing retirement age.

"We have to get new instructors in the field yesterday," Crider said.

At the University of Texas at Arlington nursing education is considered an advanced role, said Susan Grove, the associate dean of graduate nursing programs at UTA.

The advanced role means a student takes seven hours of teaching practicum, along with another master's degree, Grove said.

Each student is required to have another master's degree, such as an advanced practice

degree, because a nurse needs a skill, as well as the ability to teach, Grove said.

The majority of nursing education for the past 15 years has been to prepare advanced practice nurses, Baldwin said.

Grove said the lack of nurse educators contributes to the

style because the hours are more normal compared with working an all-night shift or not being able to take off two consecutive days, Burns said.

Lancaster said many nurses get to the point where they can't handle the hours of being a nurse but still have much to offer. This lends itself to the opportunity to be a nurse educator, she said.

Crider was in a nurse midwifery program at Emory University when she realized the problems with that lifestyle.

"(Birth is) one of life's miracles," Crider said. "However, I quickly realized that I didn't want the hours or the liability."

At TCU, the entire nursing education program is online because many nursing graduate students work and find it easier to fit online classes into their schedule, Baldwin said.

Students at UTA have the option to get the entire degree online or on campus or in a combination of both, Grove said. It depends on what best suits their schedule, she said.

Crider said she likes the convenience of online courses because she does not have to alter her work schedule to come to TCU regularly. At the same time, however, she said she likes having help nearby.

Most of the graduate students like their ability to attend class at 3 a.m. in their pajamas, as opposed to going to class at a certain time, Baldwin said.

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HOLIDAY TRIVIA

Q: Who was the first person to sing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas?"

A: Judy Garland sang it first in "Meet Me in St. Louis."

HOLIDAY

Gift giving guide for couples



By CHRISTINA HOLTZEN
Staff Reporter

By this time of year, you have visions of finals and projects dancing in your head. As if you didn't have enough to deal with, you have to get your significant other a present. Don't fret, the perfect holiday gift giving guide is right here.

Most students said clothes and gift cards are the most popular gift items to give to their significant other.

Rob Coffman, a senior economics major, said he thinks clothes are also an easy way to go.

"I think it is because you only have to find something that looks good, and not what looks good on that person," Coffman said.

He said gift cards are the cop out. It is not creative and something only parents give, he said.

This year, why not step away from the standard gift giving of clothes or gift cards and think outside the box.

Shoppers looking to avoid the hustle and bustle of malls may want to troll online. Gifts.com is one Web site that helps people find a gift for the entire family.

Customers start off by taking a short questionnaire that asks questions about their significant other's personality. After three questions, gifts.com compiles the personality that best fits your significant other and lists several gift item possibilities.

If their girlfriend is "the thinker" according to gifts.com, then she might like a Wizcom InfoScan Handheld Scanner, which is an electronic note taker that is used like a highlighter and loads notes directly onto a PC. For the sudoku lovers, an electronic handheld sudoku game is available.

Other personalities of women classified on gifts.com includes

the Achiever, country clubber, adventurer, deomestic diva, hipster, super mom, natural woman, trendanista and urban sophisticate.

Don't worry ladies — gifts.com has a solution for you, too. Perhaps your boyfriend is "the guy's guy" — and his idea of a perfect day includes going to a Super Bowl game or a trip to a

"I just want quality time together. I also want hugs and kisses this year."

Rob Coffman
Senior economics major

hardware store.

The ultimate gift for most boyfriends is a seven-foot, Bing Bong Beer Pong Table, according to the Web site's Gift Guru Top Pick. They might also like a rock 'n' roll legends T-shirt.

Stores are not the only option in gift giving. Some couples opt for homemade gifts that come from the heart.

Lara Keihner, a freshman advertising/public relations major, said she prefers gifts that remind her of her boyfriend.

"I think if you made a photo book for him or her, then that would remind you of each other," Keihner said. "Making dinner together would also be a great homemade present."

Out of the other students interviewed, most of them said they wanted a simple present.

"I just want quality time together," Coffman said. "I also want hugs and kisses this year."

Rebecca Upjohn, a senior biology major, said she wants something that has meaning

behind it, and it doesn't have to be flashy or expensive.

"I've looked at Web sites to get ideas for things I could possibly make myself for less money," Upjohn said.

If college doesn't allot the time to make homemade presents, then students can shop at stores like Ruby and Cabela's.

Bushnell ImageView 2.1MP Digital Binoculars are one of the more popular items sold at Cabela's, said Jon Wallace, marketing event coordinator for Cabela's. If girlfriends want to buy their boyfriends a more extravagant gift, there is the Liberty Gun Safe, which ranges from \$129 to \$4,000.

The most important thing boyfriends need to know when buying their girlfriend a gift is to not buy them anything practical.

Lynn Schoondergang, owner of Ruby, said men shouldn't be afraid to ask for help while inside stores.

"Any time you buy a gift, buy something that they wouldn't buy themselves," Schoondergang said.

Popular items at Ruby include long necklaces with charms and Rolling Stone magazine bags that depict a past cover of the magazine. This year, Ruby also carries the Rolling Stone magazine wristlets, which Schoondergang said are like clutches.

Although the holidays is a popular time to spend money, you don't have to spend a lot of money on a person to let them know how much you care.

"A lot of people think that gift-giving has to involve a lot of money if you want to give amazing presents," Upjohn said. "However, I think the best things you could have for a fabulous gift-giving season are a creative imagination and a lot of love."

DO's and DONT's for gift giving

DO's:

- Do combine their interests and needs to find gifts that are both meaningful and useful.
- Do avoid giving things like tools for girls or hot pink shirts for guys...unless they specifically ask for those kinds of things.
- Do get concert tickets or tickets for a sporting event
- Do wrap your gift creatively.

DON'Ts:

- Don't be afraid to be personal; brainstorm!
- Don't get something for your significant other if you think it will embarrass them.
- Don't re-gift.
- If you do plan to buy an outfit at Cabela's for a woman, make sure to not purchase the least expensive gear.

RTVF alums earn Emmys

By RACHAEL RILEY
Staff Reporter

Two recent TCU graduates' documentary films have gone to the Emmys — the Lone Star Emmys that is.

The Lone Star Emmys are the regional Texas version of the Emmys, said Greg Mansur, the radio-TV-film instructor who taught the students' documentary film class.

This was the first time TCU entered the contest, Mansur said.

"It's a big deal because we beat out other Texas universities across the state with strong film and news programs," Mansur said.

Former radio-TV-film student Chris St. Pierre produced "Detached," one of the films that won an award.

St. Pierre said "Detached" is about his efforts to resolve a troubled relationship with his

adopted brother.

"It was supposed to be a positive experience having him live with us," St. Pierre said. "But at times, it was like a bomb that went off."

The film was emotional and healing for the filmmaker, Mansur said.

St. Pierre said one of the most compelling moments in the film is when he breaks down after sitting on a couch and sifting through pictures with images of the two boys smiling.

It's interesting when the film producer becomes involved in the story, St. Pierre said.

"You're thinking about all the technical things that go into making a film," St. Pierre said. "But you're also connected with the story being told."

Former radio-TV-film student Chris Greer's film, "Regeneration," was the second film to win an award.

"Regeneration" is about Greer's sister, Angie, who was diagnosed with macular degeneration and was told she would be blind

in a few months, Mansur said.

The film follows her as she travels to New York City to take what could be her last look at the Big Apple, said Red Sanders, the director of "Regeneration."

"Going into the documentary, we hoped to get a glimpse into her struggles to come to terms with her disease," Sanders said. "However, standing atop the Empire State Building looking over Sept. 11 aftermath, she reminds us that what we consider significant pales in comparison to the lives that were lost in the terrorist attacks."

Sanders said Angie reminds viewers that life is precious and that people shouldn't let obstacles stand in the way of achieving goals.

He said the award serves as positive outside validation of the hard work and commitment the team put into the film.

Receiving the award for "Detached" is acknowledgement that long hours, passion and hard work pay off, said Laura Pici, the director of "Detached."

"I think I speak for the

Q&A

LEONARDO DiCAPRIO

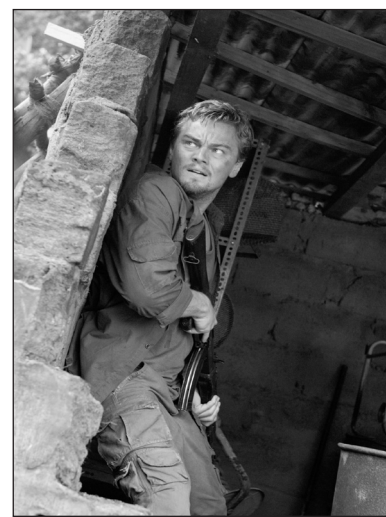
By LESLIE HONEY
Associate Editor

Q: I heard while you were filming on location, you were injured. Can you tell us a little bit about that?

A: We all got pretty banged up. We had some pretty extensive action sequences. In dangerous situations, you have to take a hiatus from your character and realize you just have to get from point A to point B. We knew getting into this project, it would be a rough experience.

Q: The movie is very political. How much did that weigh on your decision to take the role?

A: I think we were very moved by the story. You want to initially be part of an important film like this, and this is socially important in the world today. This was so different than anything I've ever worked on before, especially to work with Djimon (Hounsou) was an appealing aspect of the movie. We both felt honored to be part



WARNER BROTHERS

of a movie of this scale, and that says something about the world we live in.

Q: You lived in Africa and learned an accent for the movie. How did you prepare for these tasks?

A: Both of us (DiCaprio and Hounsou) had to take on different dialects, but I know we both thought it was imperative to go to Africa and meet people and hear stories about what they have been through and situations that were simi-

whole team when I say that this was more than just a class project for us, especially for Chris," Pici said. "We all cared deeply about the family."

Mansur said students should check out the films, which will be screened Thursday, to see what fellow students are doing.

"These aren't students who have been out of school and working for ten years," Mansur said. "They just graduated last year."

The films show and prove what the students can do, Mansur said.

lar to what they went through. We had people who helped with the accents and military aspects of the story. But you couldn't get the makeup of Africa shooting the film elsewhere.

Q: How did this role challenge you as an actor?

A: It was one of the most challenging roles I've ever had to take on. Especially for me, the physicality with the military background of my character and learning the foreign accent and playing a character who is so opportunistic and narcissistic was challenging because we were in Africa and surrounded by people suffering. I didn't agree with the choices of my character.

Q: The movie is about things that are important to different people such as money and one's children. What's important to you as a person?

A: Certainly doing a movie like this, you can't help but be affected in many different ways. Going to an orphanage in Mozambique and seeing people live in poverty makes you want to come home and give back. Everyone felt that way. We were moved by the people there and the circumstances they endure day in and day out. It makes you thankful for what you have and realize what you need to give back.



GREG MANSUR / Staff Photographer

Former radio-TV-film students Chris St. Pierre and Chris Greer won 2006 Lone Star Regional Emmy Awards for their student films. Pierre produced the film "Detached" and Greer produced the film "Regeneration."

FILM INFO

Free film screening of "Detached" and "Regeneration" at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
Where: 3200 Darnell St.
When: 7-9p.m. Dec. 5
Contact Greg Mansur for more information at 817-257-7630.

Should admission requirements for the business school be included in the university catalogue? Read why students and business school officials say YES at dailyskiff.com



Ross Perot Jr. will speak to a sold-out crowd next week as part of Tandy's Executive Speaker Series. Find out more at dailyskiff.com

ICE

From page 1

scheduled for after the tree lighting, was moved up and began at 6:45 p.m. Thursday in the Student Center Lounge.

Chapman said the concert, featuring Tyler Hilton, who played Elvis in "Walk the Line" and appeared on the television show "One Tree Hill," was an acoustic set and said she thought the Student Center would provide an intimate setting.

"It's just a matter of adapting," Chapman said. "You can't control the weather."

She said PC members are still deciding whether to hold the Holiday Craft Fair Friday.

Frogs take temporary time out

Administrators decided Thursday morning to reschedule the women's basketball game against Southern Methodist University, said a member of athletics media relations.

The game, which was supposed to tip off at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, will take place today at 7 p.m., said Tamara Metcalfe, assistant director of athletics media relations.

Both schools have to agree to reschedule the game, but the decision was probably reached because SMU is going through the same weather conditions we are, she said.

As for Saturday's football game against the Air Force Falcons, Metcalfe said everything will continue as planned and the weather "won't affect anything at all."

Some campus amenities trek on

Though Dining Services and the University Recreation Center made some changes Thursday, both were open to students with limited hours.

Craig Allen, director of Residential Services, said he and Rick Flores, general manager of TCU Dining Services, determined what hours Dining Services would be open Thursday morning based on the number

of staff available.

The Main, Edens, NRG in the Rec Center and Frog Bytes were all open and Sub Connection, Bistro Burnett, Deco Deli, Pond St. Grill and the catering offices were closed Thursday.

"The toughest one to make a decision on is Pond St. for us," he said. "We know that we want students out in Worth Hills to be able to eat."

However, he said shuttles were running throughout the day and students in Worth Hills could use these to get to the main campus dining facilities.

The Main closed at 8 p.m., Edens at 1:30 p.m., NRG at 3 p.m. and Frog Bytes at 10 p.m., Allen said.

The Rec Center closed at 9 p.m., three hours earlier than normal, said Sarah Long, a senior accounting major who works at the Rec Center. However, she said, the Rec Center had a full staff Thursday and plans to return to normal hours today.

Hall directors and resident assistants are considered

essential staff and were available all day Thursday, Allen said. And while he said they may not have had regular office hours, all were available in their buildings.

He said their main goal is to, "make sure they have all services needed for students," and that there are not usually any special issues that come up with students on snow days.

Froggie Five-0 puts on the breaks

Froggie Five-0 was not operating Thursday because of concern for the student drivers' safety, said Lt. Abad Ramiro for TCU Police.

The TCU Police, however, operated with a full staff and were open 24-hours-a-day as usual, Ramiro said.

He said they had not been alerted of any problems due to the ice as of Thursday afternoon but that people are out on the roads that probably shouldn't be. He said TCU Police advised people to stay off the roads, but he understands people will not necessarily abide by this advice.

of missed flights.

Forecasters expect warmer weather today. Temperatures are expected to climb into the 50s for the weekend, said Greg Fields, a WFAA-TV (Channel 8) meteorologist.

"Friday is actually going to be a pretty nice day," said Alan Moller, a National Weather Service meteorologist.

Staff writers Tony Hartzel, Paul Meyer, Scott Goldstein, Terry Maxon, Mike Jackson and Tawnell D. Hobbs contributed to this report.

CATER

From page 1

order things like cookie or brownie trays or fruit and vegetable trays," Carter said. "Catering is more for students who are picking up food to take home for the holidays, and catering orders from The Main are great for picking up snacks for a study group."

The smallest order catering can place costs around \$50 to \$60, Carter said. The average order costs around \$100.

"For smaller orders, there are better options for students when ordering from The Main or FrogBytes," Carter said.

Legia Abato, marketing manager for Dining Services, said catering packages ordered through The Main and FrogBytes traditionally pick up toward the end of the semester.

"All orders are placed through e-mail and the students will get menus of various packages offered in their student mailboxes," Abato said. "We ask for the orders to be placed 48 hours in advance."

Students usually purchase these packages for events such as small parties, study groups or graduation parties for students graduating in December, Abato said.

"One thing we have to pay close attention to when planning the catering packages is the weather," Abato said. "For instance, if the roads freeze over, we have students stuck on campus we need to feed, and a large group of students eventually turns into a party, and they need lots of food."

Christmas and graduation in May are the times when the

highest number of orders are placed, Abato said.

"The catering department gets especially busy with pick-up orders during Christmas time," Abato said.

When some of the other dining facilities shut down, Carter said, those employees help out with the large number of catering orders.

The catering department fills orders until Christmas Eve and starts work again around Jan. 5 or 6, Carter said.

"The orders slow down a little, but we are still here for the athletic department," Carter said. "We take care of the teams that return early because The Main and other dining facilities aren't open."

CATERING PACKAGES:

1. The Christmas Tree Special — \$16.99 (Gingerbread Cake filling or Cinnamon Roll filling)
2. Assorted Shortbread Christmas Cookies — \$10 a dozen
3. Assorted Cookies — \$10 a dozen
4. Fruit & Cheese Tray — \$36 (Serves 12-14 people)
5. Fruit or Veggie Tray — \$27 (Serves 12- 14 people)

TO PLACE AN ORDER:

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- Include in e-mail:
 - Order
 - Pick-up Date
 - Pick-up Time
 - Payment Method (ID, cash, check)
- All orders will be for pick up from The Main and must be placed 48 hours in advance.

WEATHER

From page 1

THINKING AHEAD

Commuters faced the impending storm Wednesday with a mix of good humor and caution.

At the Wood Street bus stop in downtown Dallas, some riders said they were not worried about the forbidding gray clouds and gusting winds.

"We're not taking it seriously," said Gregory Banks, a life-

long Texas resident. "They've done this two or three years straight, and the calculations have been way off."

Asked of his plans to prepare at home, Mr. Banks' answer was simple:

"Maybe a shot of brandy," he said, laughing.

Zachary Thompson, director of the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services, said people should turn on their heat, even if they're worried about the bill.

The county has more than \$100,000 to help poor people pay their utility bills, under a joint program with Atmos Energy called "Spread the Warmth."

TRAVEL PLANS UP IN THE AIR

For most people, the weather is expected to be an inconvenience.

However, both American Airlines and Southwest Airlines loosened their ticketing policies in anticipation

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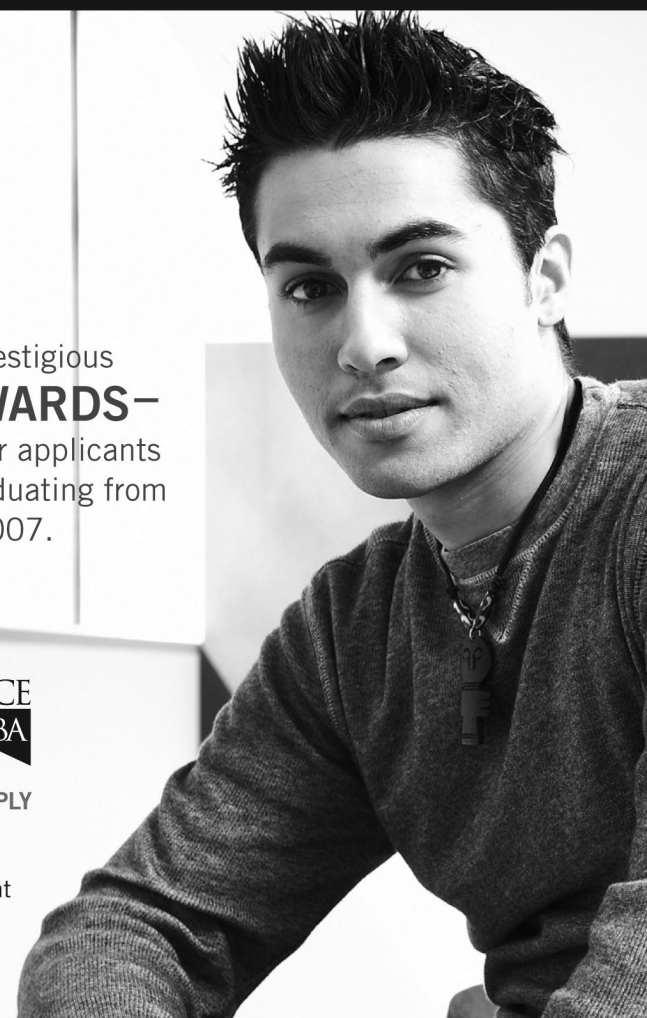
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DECEMBERRRRRRRRRR

Although classes were canceled, students found ways to entertain themselves



LESADAMAS/ Staff Photographer
George Cagle, a freshman premajor, jumps in his laundry basket and uses it to sled down a hill in Worth Hills Thursday afternoon. According to weather.com, Thursday's temperature was 30 F and felt like 18 F.



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Staff Photographer
Junior international communications major Blythe Duffey, left, and junior psychology major Kristin Peckham use a CD case to scrape ice off their car in the Worth Hills parking lot Thursday afternoon.



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Staff Photographer
Freshman premajor Dillon Hale warms up in the cold weather with a cup of coffee from Frog Bytes Thursday morning.



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Staff Photographer
Lydia Akinde, a junior advertising/public relations major, bundles up and keeps the sleet and snow off of her as she walks around campus Thursday morning.

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Friday, December 1	Saturday, December 2	
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Sun, Dec. 3-Tue, Dec. 5	Wednesday, Dec. 6	Thursday, Dec. 7
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MARATHON

Students train to run in White Rock Marathon

By MICHELLE NICOUD
Staff Writer

While most students try to finish the semester without getting too distracted by thoughts of Santa Claus, Christmas lights and the month of freedom ahead of them, some have a larger task — running the White Rock Marathon.

Junior nursing major Madeline Bowles will run the entire 26.2 mile race, while Jennifer Salim, a junior communication studies major, and a group of about 15 members from Chi Omega will participate in the 13.1 mile half marathon.

Junior nursing major Katie Calandro organized the effort for Chi Omega and said she hopes the race can become a tradition.

"We are usually pretty active in intramurals, and girls are always playing in the different sports and doing well," Calandro said. "So, I thought this would be another outlet in which we could make a team and do something together."

Alli Fredrick, a senior Spanish major and Chi Omega member, signed up to maintain her fitness.

"I wanted to get back in shape

after spending the whole summer in Spain," Fredrick said. "I wanted to run in Spain, but it just didn't work out."

Bowles said completing a marathon has been on her list of achievements, but the race also has family ties.

"It's a big goal to accomplish, and I am running it with Team in Training, which supports the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society," she said. "My grandma had leukemia, and (my running) helps raise money for research."

Bowles said her training group runs three to five miles each weekday and completes longer distances Saturdays, ranging from eight to 22 miles. Once the 22-mile plateau is reached, Bowles said, training slows down in order to peak at the proper time.

This Saturday, eight days prior to the race, the distance will be four miles, she said.

The training regimen for a half marathon is similar but only increases by one or two miles during the week and one mile for the longer weekend runs for the race, Salim said.

"(In September), when I started, I'd run three to four miles during the week and then five miles on the weekends," Salim said. "Then, I'd run four and five miles during the week and six on the weekend. Now I'm running 11 miles on the weekend."

Fredrick said she runs four times a week and does cardiovascular training on an Elliptical machine, StairMaster or bike the remaining days. Salim said she also sometimes goes to a spin class.

This is the first marathon for Bowles, Salim and Fredrick, so the objective is simple: finish the race. Bowles has made it a point to run — not walk — the whole length.

"It's just kind of a mental thing, if I walk, I feel like I haven't run a marathon," Bowles

said. "If I walk, then I realize how much pain I'm in, and that makes it harder."

One of the biggest obstacles for a college student is finding enough time to train, Salim said.

"It is more time-consuming than I realized," she said. "If this goes well, I'd do the half again, but while I'm in college, I'd never do the full."

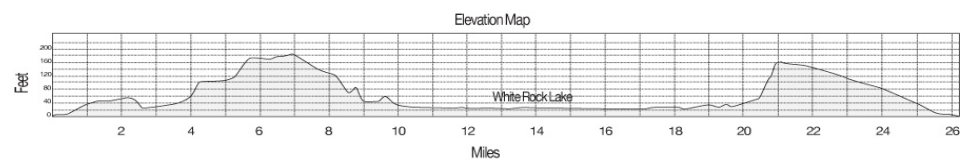
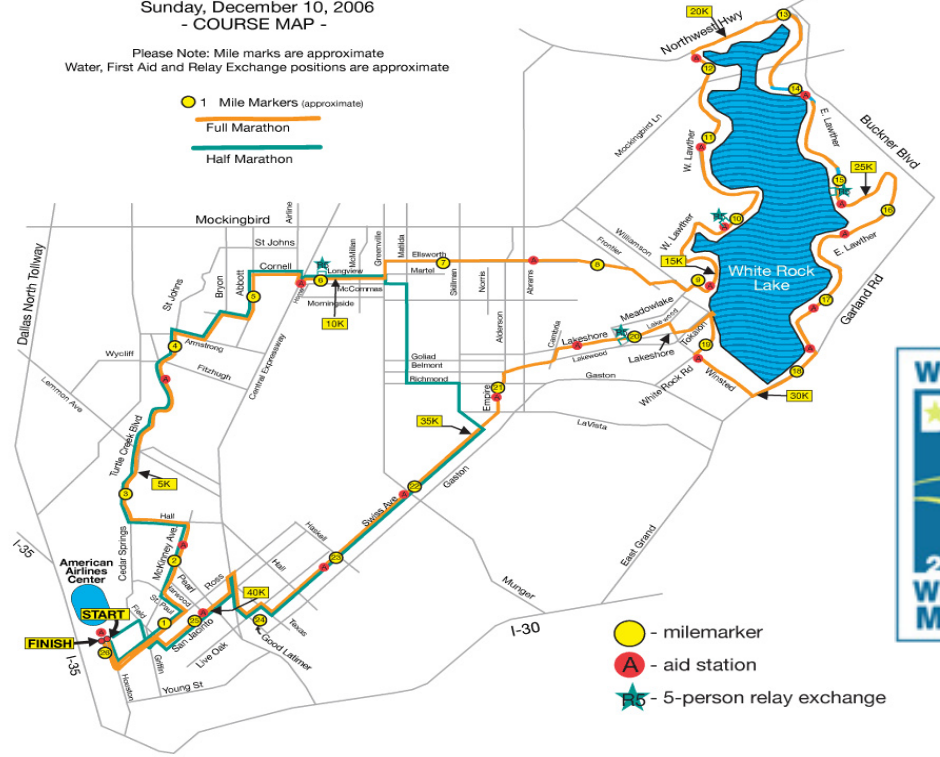
There is less ambiguity with

Bowles, as she said she knows she will eventually run a second marathon.

"It's addicting, and afterward, you're like 'Oh my gosh, I've accomplished so much,'" Bowles said.

White Rock Marathon Start Times
Full Marathon: 8 a.m.
Half Marathon: 9 a.m.

DALLAS WHITE ROCK MARATHON



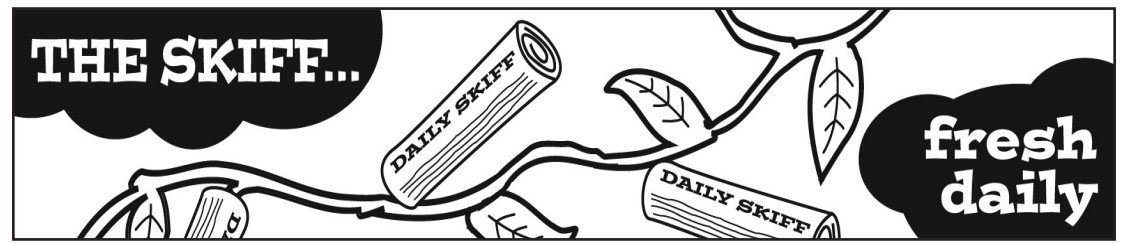
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Students: Campus lacks healthy food options

By KATHERINE LANE
Staff Reporter

Students do care about their physical health and diet, but some are not taking advantage of the healthier options provided by TCU Dining Services, said the general manager.

"The weight-loss and healthy diet trend is not just happening here at TCU," said Rick Flores, general manager for TCU Dining Services. "Sodexho, the company in charge of Dining Services, is nationally and globally giving out information about what is healthy and what is not."

A healthier option in The Main is the combo meal from Grill 155, which can now be purchased with a bottled water or milk and a fruit cup, Flores said. He said the combo meal usually comes with french fries and a soda.

Katie Brooks, a sophomore early education major, said she would eat on campus more often if there were healthier items on the menu.

"It's hard to find something that's good for you with all of the fried foods that are offered," Brooks said. "I would eat at Edens, but the lettuce is not always fresh."

Still, this is a college campus and the items most sold include chicken tenders, chicken fried steak and quesadillas,

said Legia Abato, marketing manager for Dining Services.

"As a consumer, it is the student's choice whether or not they will make a positive decision about what they choose to eat," Abato said.

Drew McCabe, a junior accounting major, said he has not eaten in The Main since his freshman year.

Ashley Norton, a junior fashion merchandising major, said she occasionally eats on campus.

"I don't think the food is prepared as freshly as possible," Norton said. "I do eat salads, which I guess is healthy."

Another way Dining Services is trying to improve campuswide health is through the Balance Mind, Body and Soul Program, Abato said.

According to Sodexho's Balance, Mind, Body and Soul Web site, balancing ones diet is only one aspect of living a balanced life.

The Web site uses a nutrition calculator to display which menu items are vegetarian, vegan and carb-friendly, and shows the nutritional information for most items on the menu, Abato said.

"This is helpful for students who want to look at the week's upcoming menu and plan

Web sites that provide healthier food options:

- balancemindbodysoul.com
- mypyramid.gov
- eatright.org
- healthierus.gov

*TOP 5 FOODS SOLD AT TCU (In no particular order):

1. Sushi
2. Chicken Strips
3. Salad from Edens
4. Sub Connection Sandwiches
5. Pasta from The Main

*according to Rick Flores, general manager of TCU Dining Services

healthy meals, or for students with certain dietary restrictions who need to plan their meals accordingly," Abato said.

Stephanie Dickerson, the Dining Services nutrition counselor, said she checks the recipes to make sure they fit into the balance program and gives presentations to residence halls about having a healthy lifestyle in college.

Nutrition is definitely a priority when Dining Services plans the meals for students, Dickerson said.

"We want to provide healthy meal options, but also have to go with the local favorites like chicken fried steak," Dickerson said. "We don't want to eliminate the fast-food-like choices; we want to educate the students about more healthy options."

The possibility of a 15-pound weight gain the freshman year of college is something students know about and try to work on, Dickerson said.

To dodge the freshman 15, Dickerson suggests having a vegetable or fruit on your plate, exercising regularly and making better choices when ordering a meal.

"When you've been under your parents' rules living at home, coming to college and being able to choose what you eat on your own is like sending a kid into a candy store," Dickerson said.

Lindsay Rodgers, a nutrition coordinator for the Texas Department of State Health Services, said weight gain can occur throughout a student's college career.



CHRISTINA HOLTZEN/Staff Photographer

Freshman advertising/public relations major Elise Hall chooses a healthy salad for lunch Tuesday afternoon in The Main. Nutrition is definitely a priority when Dining Services plan the meals for students, said Stephanie Dickerson, the Dining Service Nutrition Counselor.

"Rather than the freshman 15, it's more like the freshman 5 to 7 and the sophomore 2 to 3," Rodgers said.

Rodgers said preventing weight gain in the first place is the best option.

"A couple of explanations about why students gain weight in college have to do with drinking, more socialization with eating, high-fat foods in dorm rooms and less physical activity than in high school," Rodgers said. "Most

students are not playing as many sports as they did in high school, which leads to a severe drop in physical activity."

Eric Heins, cross country coach for TCU, said there isn't a lot of emphasis put on his players' diets.

"Because we are runners, we don't really have to watch what we eat as much as other people might," Heins said. "It's more about caloric intake versus what we eat."

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	<p>3 Ralph Lauren We have added jackets hats to the Ralph Lauren Polo line!</p>	<p>4 Check out Our Site tcu.bkstore.com Shop early, relax and surf our site anytime from anywhere!</p>	<p>5 Boleyn Inheritance Phillipa Gregory 20%*</p>	<p>6 Need a Gift Card? We got 'em. Check out our wide selection of B & N and other retailers gift cards.</p>	<p>7 Buyback Is Open! Now through December 15th.</p>	<p>8 LANCÔME PARIS Glow Sensuelle for face and body. Produces a year round luminous glow.</p>	<p>9 Show Your Pride! Check our selection of TCU spirit gifts.</p>	
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	<p>17 The Republic of Tea The Bookstore will now be offering the new "Be Well Red Teas" in 9 varieties.</p>	<p>18 Wayne's World We have TCU logo skin covers for your iPod® in a variety of colors.</p>	<p>19 Bowl Game TCU @ Poinsettia Bowl</p>	<p>20 Last Minute Shopping? Come to the TCU Bookstore!</p>	<p>21 Underarmour Underarmour products featuring the TCU logo.</p>	<p>22 LANCÔME PARIS Come check out our fragrance and skin care sets. They make great Christmas gifts!</p>	<p>23 Bowl Game Armed Forces Bowl STORE CLOSES @ 3 P.M. HAPPY HOLIDAYS</p>	
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NFL draft can appeal to eligible college football players

By MICHAEL DODD
Sports Editor

With millions of potential dollars on the line from salaries and signing bonuses, college football players must decide between finishing their academic careers or pursuing the much more lucrative life of an NFL player.

For players who are legitimate NFL prospects, it's a real dilemma: Do they graduate — or even just finish their eligibility — or do they exit early and enter the NFL?

One wrong move both on and off the football field can cost these players top draft spots and even more in salaries and signing bonuses.

Since 2001, 13 Horned Frogs have been picked in one of the seven draft rounds, with six going in the 2001 draft. At least seven of those players finished out their academic careers. Two players played through their full eligibility but left for the draft before graduating, and at least five players are taking more credits or have been in contact with TCU to do so, according to Associate Athletics Director Jack Hesselbrock.

STAYING IN SCHOOL

Head football coach Gary Patterson said he attributes the importance placed on graduation and academic finalization to the kinds of players recruited out of high school.

"We recruit guys where education is important," Patterson said. "We have a class that's given in the spring where we've got agents, accountants and different people that tell them what real life is."

Patterson also said a major lesson learned in the class is the low percentage of players going early into draft actually making it in the NFL and that personal growth is a must for a player attempting to do so.

"What they have to realize is you get a little bit older and mature and all those things add into when you'll get your chance," Patterson said.

LIFE AFTER FOOTBALL

The NCAA has created scholarships that make it easier for those who did leave early to come back and become a college graduate, said

Frank Windegger, former TCU athletics director.

"Whether they are successful or not in the NFL, there are scholarships from the NCAA that make it possible for non-graduate players to get a diploma," Windegger said.

Hesselbrock said these scholarships came about in the 1980s when the NCAA decided to use TV and bowl game revenue to fund the scholarships.

Students within 30 hours of a degree could get the scholarship, which has funded hundreds of former collegiate athletes, Hesselbrock said.

MAKING THE DECISION

Aside from the educational pluses playing a senior year, NFL Draft advancement also plays a factor in a player's decision to declare early or return.

"Players can now test the draft to see in which round they might go and then back out if they want to," Windegger said. "Since each round constitutes a certain amount of money, this is important in the decision-making process of going into the draft or not."

Patterson said many TCU players have taken this step in making decisions about the draft.

"You can get a predraft status and send it out to the NFL, and they'll tell you what they think," Patterson said. "Cory Rodgers did this last year and we've four or five juniors doing it this year."

Hesselbrock said former and current players talked to Rodgers about whether to stay or go.

"They discussed the real business of professional football," Hesselbrock said. "It's a business. College is one of the last times you're going to play, because you love it and that's why a player might stay on for a senior year."

FACTORS OF THE DECISION

Hesselbrock said there are many factors weighing on a player's decision to enter the draft early or stay for a senior year.

"They worry about dropping in the draft evaluation or getting hurt," Hesselbrock said. "They also look at family and financial obligations. And, if they

are 21 years old and healthy, they'll probably go in to help family."

And with so many factors seemingly pushing players toward the NFL draft instead of finishing their academic career, Windegger said former TCU standout and San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson has become a shining example of a player assisted by his decision to return for a senior year and graduate before going into the NFL.

"Coming back for his senior year helped him," Windegger said. "He got more exposure because he should have won the Heisman (award) that year. Against UTEP, He had over 400 yards, an all-time NCAA record."

Patterson also said Tomlinson helped himself by returning for a senior year.

"I think [leaving early] would have hurt him," Patterson said. "The longer you stay with a program the more scouts and the more people you have a reputation with."

Patterson said having a well-established reputation leads to more trust for NFL teams in terms of a player's maturity.

"They're spending money on you," Patterson said. "If they don't know much about you and they don't know what kind of work ethic you have, they might not pick you. A lot of guys mature much more during their senior year."

Patterson said there is the possible detriment of injury or having a bad year associated with staying for a senior year.

"By returning, there's a chance of not doing as well or getting hurt," Patterson said. "But the key is it gives you an opportunity to better yourself and how people think of you."

SHOULD THEY GO?

With so much money available in the NFL, Patterson said, if a player has the skills and can go in the first round, he should go early, but, if not, he should wait and try and improve in his fourth year.

Former USC Trojan quarterback Matt Leinart, 2005 Heisman Award winner, exemplifies the possible problems with deciding to return for

a senior year after being touted as a No. 1 pick in the 2005 Draft to being a No. 10 pick in the 2006 Draft.

Patterson said Leinart's senior season may have hurt him with the NFL teams in the draft, but, he said, his experience gained through the extra season may benefit him later in his career.

"Leinart has probably matured more, and he's actually given himself a chance to the guy at Arizona," Patterson said. "It allowed him to grow up. You can be the Heisman guy one year and not the Heisman guy the next. You have to learn to deal with the negative side and not always having things go your way."

Although the Arizona Cardinals have not been successful thus far this season, Patterson said Leinart's experience and growth has given him the maturity to grow into a better player as his NFL career progresses.

This decision to go before finishing college was also an issue for former TCU offensive tackle Michael Toudouze, who entered last year's draft and went in the fifth round to the Indianapolis Colts. Toudouze was just six hours short of a degree in kinesiology.

"You only get one chance to go to the NFL, so you have to take it," Toudouze said. "I can graduate whenever I want. I'll finish it taking a couple hours here and then and it will be done."

Former TCU wide receiver Cory Rodgers also decided to leave college for the NFL's greener pastures but has met more adversity than success after being drafted in the fourth round by the Green Bay Packers. After a pre-season filled with dropped passes, Rodgers was traded to the San Francisco 49ers, where he now resides on the practice squad.

COACHING ASSISTANCE

With a 16-2 record over the prior two seasons, senior quarterback Jeff Ballard, who said he has the NFL draft in the back of his mind, must decide whether to attempt the draft, a question assisted by the coaches.

"You can never make the decision for them," Patterson said. "My job is to make them the best player they can



BOB LARSON/CONTRA Costa Times/MCT San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson runs over the San Francisco 49ers' Jeff Ulbrich on Oct. 15. Tomlinson graduated from TCU in 2001 and was the 5th overall pick in that year's NFL Draft. Since joining the NFL, Tomlinson has gained a career 11,355 yards and had 104 career touchdowns.

be and to help them get an education. I point out the pros and cons."

Hesselbrock said it is Patterson and his coaching staff's relationship with the players that persuades players to stay on for their final season.

Windegger said the coaches provide the players with honest ideas about what they might be able to achieve within the NFL.

"Players discuss their options with their coaches," Windegger said. "They talk about salaries signing bonuses and become somewhat of a father-figure for the players. In the end, it is the player's decision, but the coaches and parents help in that decision."

The NCAA may be doing its part in giving former college players a chance to achieve their degrees after the NFL, but Windegger said college players need to have more than just a dream of the NFL if they want to leave college early.

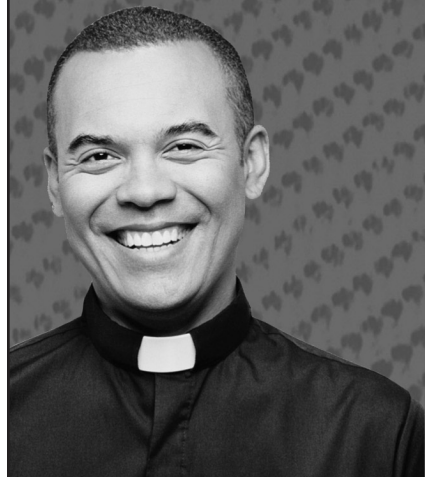
"Every high school player coming into college football dreams of getting into the NFL," Windegger said. "Not all of them have the ability to succeed coming out of college early. It is only for those who have the dreams and the skills that become true NFL ability."

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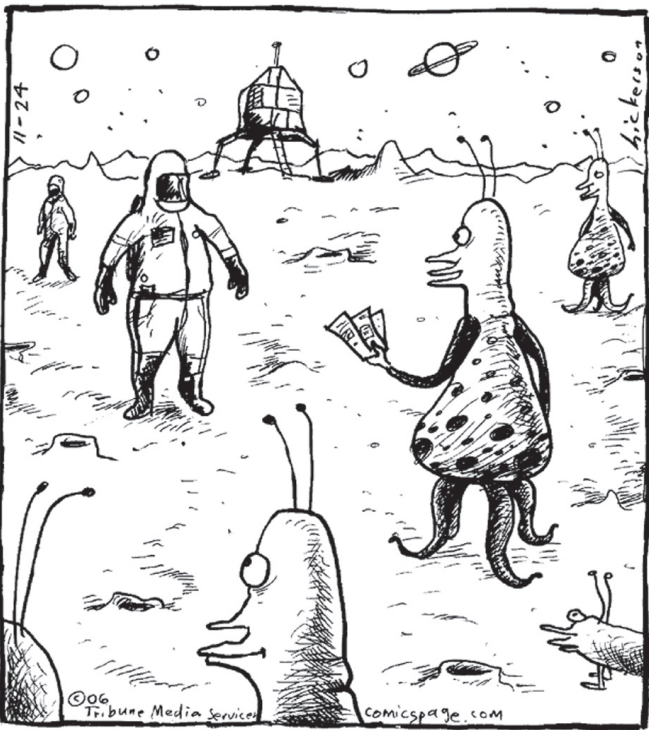


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A: To get to the car accident on the other side.

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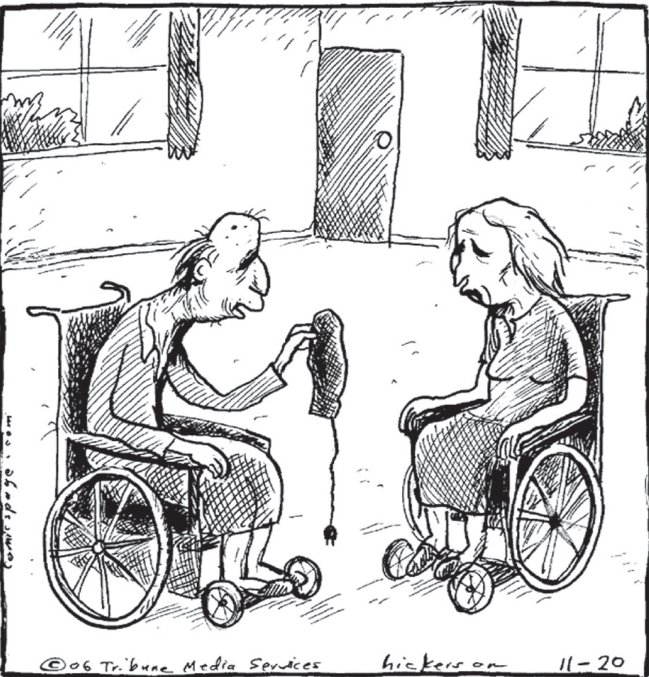
by Buddy Hickerson



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by Buddy Hickerson



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By Barry Silk McLean, VA

12/1/06

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FOOTBALL

Regular season to conclude with home game against Air Force



Andrew Chavez / Staff Photographer
Brian Bonner returns a punt against San Diego State on Nov. 18. The football team plays the Air Force Falcons at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at home.

By **BILLY WESSELS**
Staff Reporter

The Horned Frogs will take the field at Amon Carter Stadium for the last time this season when they play the Air Force Falcons on Saturday afternoon.

This will be the sixth meeting all-time between the two schools. The Frogs (9-2, 5-2) have a 3-1-1 record in the series. TCU beat the Falcons (4-7, 3-4) 48-10 last season on the road.

It was the first meeting between the two since the Frogs won 35-34 against the then No. 23 Falcons in Fort Worth, when both teams were members of the Western Athletic Conference. The two teams played to a scoreless tie in the 1959 Cotton Bowl.

This will be the last regular-

season game for the Horned Frogs this season. After the season ends, they will be playing the Northern Illinois Huskies (7-5, 5-3) in the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl at Qualcomm Stadium on Dec. 19.

Despite the recent talk of bowl games, head football coach Gary Patterson said he has not had a problem getting players to focus on Saturday's game first.

"I don't think anything has changed," Patterson said. "We're just trying to get to 10 wins right now."

Air Force's offense is impressive, Patterson said.

"They're third in the country in rushing offense (241.4 yards per game)," Patterson said. "Wait till you see them throw

the football. Right now they're passing it all over the place."

Patterson said the team prepared earlier in the season for the game against the Falcons.

"We worked two days on them when we had our 16-day layoff (Oct. 5-21)," Patterson said. "We broke down some early film and spent time running the option."

The Falcons' strong offense helps their defense, Patterson said.

"If you control the football, the opponent doesn't have it," Patterson said. "That's one of the biggest worries I have about this game. If you don't get a couple of breaks and go up early, they can control the ball and run the clock."

Patterson said this game will be on offensive showcase.

"This is getting ready to be a hornet's nest on Saturday," Patterson said. "Because they can get it done on offense."

This week's game will also be the last game played in Fort Worth for 22 seniors. Senior players have helped the Frogs win 46 games over the last five seasons.

If the Frogs were to win their last two games this season, they will be at third place in TCU history for wins during a five-year period, trailing the 1931-1935 and the 1932-1936 teams who posted 49 wins.

Patterson said this group of seniors means a lot to him.

"This will be my second recruiting class to graduate," Patterson said. "This group decided to pick TCU when we finished 6-6 (in 2001)."

FOOTBALL

Firings leave college football coaching positions undecided

By **MARCUS MURPHREE**
Staff Reporter

Hirings and firings are a part of sports.

College football is no different when Dark Monday and Tuesday put head coaches on the proverbial chopping block and their careers in jeopardy.

"Dark Monday and Tuesday comes during that first week after Thanksgiving and is a tough time for college coaches," head football coach Gary Patterson said.

In the past week, head coaches from Miami, Alabama, Michigan State, North Carolina, North Carolina State, Arizona State and North Texas have all had their current work services terminated, according to an article in Monday's issue of the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

Patterson's name has been traveling through the sports writers' rumor mill since recent articles in the Sporting News and USA Today said he might be a replacement for Larry Coker at Miami.

"I am humbled by the chance to be mentioned by their program," Patterson said.

Rick Korch, the football sports information director at Miami, would not disclose any information on the subject.

"There is nothing that can be made public on any candidate for the job," Korch said.

During his weekly press conference, Patterson said the matter of finding a good coach for a football team is a matter of finding a coach who is the right fit for what the team and university require.

"A lot of the coaches come up the low road and take lots of jobs, and I've been a great fit for TCU," Patterson said.

The prospect of Miami is not among his current priorities while at TCU.

"This is a pretty dang good job," Patterson said. "If Gary Patterson stepped down

there would be a long list of guys wanting to come to TCU and Fort Worth."

The people and community around TCU keep him coaching for the Frogs, said Mark Cohen, director of athletics media relations.

"He has a contract here through 2012," Cohen said. "He agreed to the contract and had an extension announced last year, the same day we announced we were heading to Houston for the Ev1.net Houston Bowl."

Cohen said that the Miami talk has not affected Patterson's thoughts of coaching for TCU.

"He has never shied away from saying how much TCU and Fort Worth means to him,"

Cohen said.

Patterson will continue manning the sidelines for the Frogs this weekend as TCU has its final home game of the season against the Air Force Falcons at 2:30 p.m. Saturday in Amon Carter Stadium.

2006 College Football Head Coach Firings

- Larry Coker, Miami
- Mike Shula, Alabama
- John L. Smith, Michigan State
- Chuck Amato, NC State
- Dirk Koetter, Arizona State
- Darrell Dickey, North Texas
- Don Strock, Florida International
- Larry Lewis, Idaho State
- Chris Scelfo, Tulane

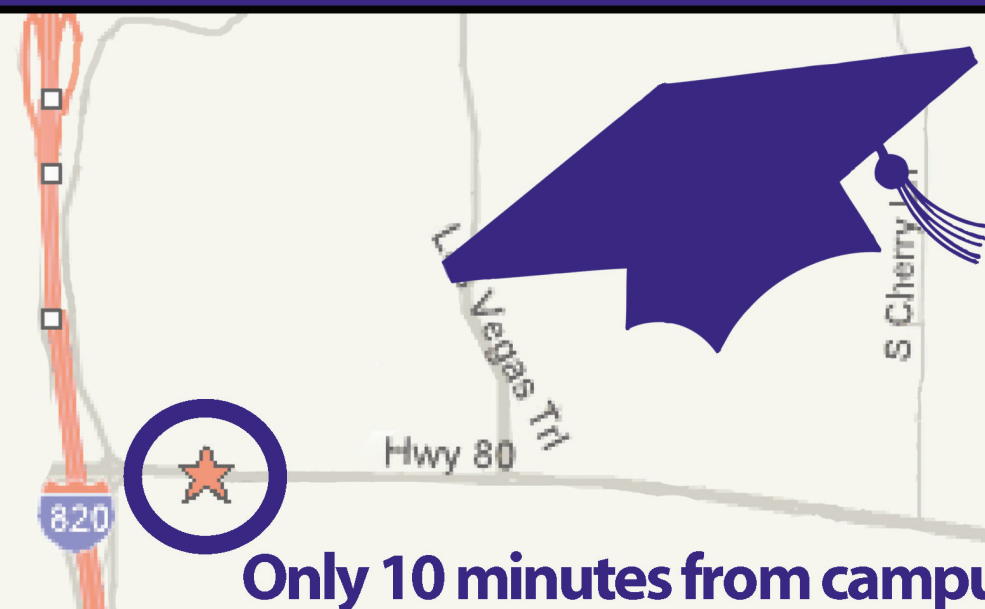


Stephen Spillman / Staff Photographer
Head football coach Gary Patterson gives orders to his football team in the Wyoming game. Patterson's name has floated around as a candidate for Miami's head coach.



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