## TCU SKIFF EST. 1902

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University biology professors research how to save the Texas horned lizard. Tomorrow in News



Obama is only a "Sunday Christian." Tomorrow in Opinion

### PRESIDENTS CLIMATE COMMITMENT Act promotes growth in green initiatives

By Alexandria Bruton Staff Reporter

As the university continues working toward becoming a more eco-friendly campus, it will face some challenges, university officials said

Last spring the university signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment.

The act required the university to form a committee, which is headed by Provost Nowell Donovan and made up of students and faculty.

"The committee is charged to document

ability and whether or not the university is in the building as eco-friendly, Boschini said. compliance with the act," Donovan said.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said the university is also working hard to comply with the standards set forth in the agreement.

Since the commitment was signed, green initiatives have become more popular on campus, Boschini said.

He said the Purple Bike Program and Think Purple, Live Green campaign are examples of successful green projects on campus.

Scharbauer Hall is the first building on campus to reach the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environ-

He said the university is working to create a specific plan to accomplish the goals set in the commitment.

According to the act, the university is required to initiate two or more tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gases while a more specific plan is developed.

Donovan said the university has already committed to four actions, including one which makes sure all new construction meets the U.S. Green Building Council's standard.

Donovan said other actions being taken include purchasing energy efficient products

the ways the university moves toward sustain- mental Design Silver standard, which certifies certified by government-backed Energy Star, providing access to public transportation for all faculty, staff and students and establishing a committee that supports sustainability shareholder proposals at companies where the university's endowment is invested.

> Environmental sciences professor Michael Slattery said this semester the university added a new environmental science course titled "Chasing Carbon."

> The course will require students to tackle a different aspect of the agreement each semester, Slattery said.

> > SEE SUSTAINABILITY · PAGE 2

#### your compassion. Opinion, page 3

#### **TODAY'S HEADLINES**

News: Internet is another battleground for the Gaza war, page 2 **Opinion:** Death should be more fun, page 3 **Sports:** Get behind spring sports, Page 8

#### TOP ITUNES DOWNLOADS

- Just Dance 1 Lady GaGa & Colby O' Donis
- **Gives You Hell** 2 All-American Rejects
- Heartless 3 Kanye West
- Love Story 4 Taylor Swift
- 5 Single Ladies Beyonce

—iTunes

# TOUGH BREAK



## MILLER SPEECH AND HEARING CLINIC Grant to offset costs of therapy

By Libby Davis Staff Reporter

The Bank of America Foundation donated a \$20,000 grant that will benefit the Miller Speech and Hearing Clinic, the chairman of the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department said.

Christopher Watts, chair of the department of communication sciences and disorders, said the money will be used to offset costs in providing speech and hearing therapy.

Pam Dunn, administrative assistant at the clinic, said that without the grant there would be many families who couldn't afford the services the clinic provides.

Services at the clinic typically cost \$36 an hour with discounts offered for faculty and students, Dunn said. The clinic helped 90 people from Tarrant,



Obama takes an unconventional route to inauguration. Page 4

#### PECULIAR FACT

GREENFIELD, Calif. - Police have arrested a Greenfield man for allegedly arranging to sell his 14-year-old daughter into marriage in exchange for \$16,000, 100 cases of beer and several cases of meat.

- Associated Press

#### **TODAY'S WEATHER** 60 26 Sunny Tomorrow: Mostly Sunny 39/23 Friday: Mostly Sunny



46 / 33



TCU forward Emily Carter drives the ball against BYU's Stephanie Buhler during the first half. TCU lost to BYU 62 to 46. See page 6

#### WOMEN'S STUDIES Speaker to discuss feminist stereotypes

By Katie Ruppel Staff Reporter

A feminist sociologist will be speaking about the extent of her research as well as the misconceptions and stereotypes of feminism Wednesday at 5 p.m. at the Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center.

Karen Steele, the women's studies program director, said speaker Monica Casper will intertwine the responsibilities, obstacles and experiences of being a woman, mother and feminist in her speech, "Body Politics: Private Talks of a Public Feminist."

Casper's research as a feminist sociologist goes hand-in-hand with the university's focus on sustainability, including subjects such as environmental health and justice, bioethics, and public health aspects of security and war, Steele said.

"Dr. Casper's talk promises to be bold, inspiring, and relevant for many TCU students who wonder how or why one would make the journey to feminist activism," Steele said.

The Women's Studies program and the comment.

Women's Network are co-sponsoring the event.

Megan O'Brien, head of the Women's Network, said this event is the first for the recently revived network, which had been dormant since the fall 2007.

O'Brien is in the process of recruiting more students to join the network, which will meet to discuss women's issues and rights, such as health issues, pay equity and sexism in the arts and other predominately male industries, she said.

O'Brien said she hopes this talk will encourage other young women to join the network and not be discouraged of becoming a feminist.

"We want to reach young college women who, even though they believe women should be equal, will still say 'but I'm not a feminist," O'Brien said. "People assume that a feminist is a lesbian and hates men and doesn't shave her legs, which is not true. The talk will focus on debunking the feminist stereotype ... and where to go from there."

Casper could not be reached for

#### "Body Politics: Private Talks of a Public Feminist"

Who: Monica Casper When: 5 p.m. today Where: Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center

"Dr. Casper's talk promises to be bold, inspiring, and relevant for many TCU students who wonder how or why one would make the journey to feminist activism."

Karen Steele women's studies program director Johnson and Parker counties, and 22 of them received a total of \$11,000 in aid because they couldn't cover the entire cost of therapy, Watts said.

Dunn said the clinic provides a variety of treatments for individuals who are autistic, hearing impaired or have head injuries. They also

SEE GRANT · PAGE 2

## **INAUGURATION** Youth share in Obama's triumph

By Halimah Abdullah McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — For millions of young voters, President-elect Barack Obama's victory was a clarion call to put aside the cynicism and disaffectedness that had defined Generations X and Y and help change the course of the nation.

Their response was a resounding "Yes, we can!"

Throughout the long campaign, a multiethnic coalition of millions of iPhone-wielding, Facebook-friending, tech-savvy, Twittering young voters used all the tools in their arsenal to convince friends, strangers and, yes, even their baby boomer parents to vote for Obama.

During the next few days, thousands of those young voters will crowd into Washington-bound buses, pile into cars and sleep on the living room floors of friends, family and folks they've met through social networking sites - all for an opportunity to witness Obama's inauguration.

This moment — his moment — belongs to the young, and they plan on taking a firm grip on the torch being passed to them.

"My generation is the transition between the old ways of thinking and a more progressive period," said James Baker, 21, a junior political science major at the University of California, Davis. "The past election has demonstrated that young people, if they did vote, they could have a huge impact. That's something people never gave my generation credit for before."

According to exit polls, roughly 68 percent of

### **NEWS**

## Israeli, Palestinian dispute also rages in cyberspace

#### By Shashank Bengali McClatchy Newspapers

JERUSALEM — On the day that an Israeli artillery strike hit his neighborhood in Gaza City, sending a hail of shrapnel through his house and his uncle's, Sameh Akram Habeeb went online and filed a bleak report:

next," Habeeb, 23, wrote Saturday on his blog, gazatoday.blogspot. com. Readers responded with a flurry of antiwar comments from "If I tell you Hamas Greece, Iran, Tunisia and the United States.

Habeeb, a soft-spoken journalist with a degree in English literature, may not consider himself an activist, but he's on the front lines of the vibrant and at times hostile cyberwar over Gaza, a battle for public that shows them opinion that's raged in seemingly every corner of the Internet since the conflict began last month.

An enormous number of people around the world are using blogs, YouTube and social networking argument." sites such as Facebook and Twitter to register their support or opposition to the war. Thousands of images — from Palestinians under siege in Gaza to Israeli neighborhoods that have been hit by Hamas rocket attacks — have filled photo-sharing sites such as Flickr and Picasa.

The clearest sign that the Internet has become a propaganda tool, however, is the brand-new You-Tube page by the Israeli military, at www.youtube.com/idfnadesk. Created at the start of the war, as of Tuesday the page had been viewed more than 685,000 times, making it one of the most visited ful argument." on the site.

national journalists from the Gaza Strip, its YouTube page features some of the only battlefield footage available, and naturally it shows the military in the best possible light and Hamas in the worst. You can watch the Israeli air force blow up a truck that's supposedly carrying rockets, see how "Thanks to God, we all safe but Hamas allegedly rigged a school I don't know what will happen with explosives and watch Israeli soldiers admit a Palestinian child

> is shooting rockets at Israel, that's one thing, but if I can produce a video shooting rockets, that makes a very powerful

for medical care.

#### Mark Regev government spokesman

Israeli officials say that it's part of an effort to win the wartime battle of "hasbara," or public relations, which many think that Israel lost during the 2006 conflict with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah.

"If I tell you Hamas is shooting rockets at Israel, that's one thing," government spokesman Mark Regev said, "but if I can produce a video that shows them shooting rockets, that makes a very power-

With its highly wired popula-

Since Israel has barred inter- tion and large Jewish communities in the United States and Europe, Israel unquestionably has the upper hand in technology, just as it does on the battlefield with its huge military arsenal. So it's not surprising that Israelis have used the Internet in innovative ways.

> On Dec. 30, the Israeli consulate in New York conducted a news conference on the war entirely on Twitter, the social messaging site where users communicate in short, rapid-fire notes, or "tweets."

> As a chance to field questions from a world audience, the experiment succeeded, but with questions and answers limited by Twitter to 140 characters, it didn't exactly make for nuanced discussion, even when consulate staffers rewrote the abbreviations. Take, for example, this exchange:

@carrotderek: "What steps are being taken about the humanitarian situation in the Gaza? Is it enough?"

The reply: "Israel does everything in its power to prevent deterioration of situation." The consulate then inserted a link to a story about Israel allowing humanitarian aid into Gaza.

"As you go through your day, you realize that Qassams are falling every hour, every two hours, just randomly." Peguine said. "You realize that people live under constant threat."

A Facebook group called "I Support the Israel Defense Forces in Preventing Terror Attacks From Gaza" had, as of Tuesday evening, more than 76,000 members. On the other side, a group called "Let's collect 500,000 signatures to support the Palestinians in Gaza" counts more than 531,000 members.





"The one danger, and I always

tell them this, is that they could

also be so disappointed. What

happens if super-Obama can't

fulfill things? Will they become

Huntsville, Ala., were engrossed

in Obama's candidacy and hope

that his presidency will herald a

new era of opportunities for their

generation. During the election

cycle, they discussed Obama's bid

with professors - many of whom

lived in the South during the civil

rights movement of the turbulent

1950s and '60s - and attended

debate-watching parties and wept

"Perhaps since

Obama is from a

generation too

been immersed

in the cauldron

of Vietnam and

the youth vote

John McNulty

Watergate, he sees

with clearer eyes."

assistant professor of political

science at the State University

of New York, Binghamton

young to have

when he won.

Students at Alabama A&M,

disinterested, alienated?'

President-elect Barack Obama speaks to a crowd in October at Bicentennial Park in Miami.

#### OBAMA continued from page 1

voters age 18 to 30 voted for Obama.

The political landscape, however, is strewn with failed candidates who had counted on young voters to propel them to victory, said John a historically black college in McNulty, an assistant professor of political science at the State University of New York, Binghamton.

"This tends to be a special conceit on the Democratic side of the aisle," McNulty said. "Howard Dean, Bill Bradley, Jerry Brown, Jesse Jackson, Gary Hart, Ted Kennedy, George McGovern, Eugene McCarthy — all of these candidates, to various degrees, hoped campus activism and the youth vote would vault them to upset victories in the Democratic presidential primaries. Not one of them made it work."

However, Obama's forwardlooking perspective, uncontaminated by the baby boom generation's fixation on the cultural struggles of the 1960s, resonated with younger voters.

"Perhaps since Obama is from a generation too young to have been immersed in the cauldron of Vietnam and Watergate, he sees the youth vote with clearer eyes," McNulty said.

For the generation that came of age during the prosperous 1990s, the nation's current economic downturn was a stark wake-up call, said Larry Berman, who is Baker's political science professor at UC-Davis. Many young

MIKE STOCKER / Sun Sentinel via MCT

what (Obama's) inheriting," Lewis said. "People's hopes are so high, and he's getting something that is historical. It's not going to be fast. Change is going to happen over time. He's not going to be able to get it done overnight."

As the under-30 crowd relishes its new taste of electoral power, it looks at a nation scarred by economic woes and widespread dissatisfaction with business, media and political leaders, and wonders: what next?

'The collapse of Wall Street and the cost of education is very real to these kids, and they think Obama is going to do something about that," said Gary Rose, a professor and the chairman of the department of government and politics at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

The Obama transition team has worked to keep young voters engaged by capitalizing on the same social networks that helped inspire their mass activism. His team also has met with young leaders to gain their perspectives on the president's agenda.

"We created unprecedented energy and activism and grassroots energy on behalf of Obama. If you look back at many of the superdelegates who endorsed Obama early on, they often cited their children as the reason," said Matthew Segal, the executive director of the Student Association for Voter Empowerment, a national nonprofit organization founded and run by students. "Now we're

"The environment was so empowered. It gave me chills. People were crying. One of my friends

was screaming and crying. For

this moment in time nothing else

mattered. Everyone was happy

for this one common thing," said

Brittani Lewis, 21, a biology ma-

jor at Alabama A&M.

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voters will be entering the job market, or attempting to change employment, at a time when jobs are scarce.

In Obama, young voters see an agent of change, someone who could help them fulfill those hopes and aspirations, Berman said.

"In my entire 33 years of teaching at UC, I've never seen students more motivated or more informed than they were in this election. Compare it to the 2000 election with Al Gore, where there was no real sense of identification, no motivation. This time what you noticed was excitement," Berman said.

#### GRANT

continued from page 1

design the musician's earplugs used by members of the TCU Drumline to prevent hearing loss, she said.

Janet Lanza, an instructor at the clinic, said the program is unique because patients get individual and group therapy at the same place.

"We try to make our therapy meaningful and hands on with kids," Lanza said. "We also work with the families so they can car-

#### SUSTAINABILITY

Despite the growth of some green programs on campus, there are still challenges the university must overcome, Slattery said.

Slattery said he would like to see improvements in the way the university travels.

He said the university should look into carbon offsetting for the greenhouse gas emissions created by traveling during the various study abroad programs.

Donovan said that there are parts of the act that will be more difficult to accomplish than others.

"These changes are not instan- the planet. People need to realize Nowell Donovan taneous," Donovan said. "Some the value of the planet."

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require investment of millions of "I would like to

Web site: w

ready for a steady engagement with the political process.

For Whitney Wildman, 20, a junior at Sacred Heart University, Obama's call for greater service profoundly affected how she sees her role in society. During the election, she decided to double major in history and political science and now plans on becoming a public policy attorney.

As she travels to Washington as part of a bus caravan of Sacred Heart students, Wildman said she'll reflect on this moment in history and her tiny part in it.

"To be there at this time is just

always looking for opportunities to better the community," Pavell said. "We focus on certain areas, one of which being access to affordable health care."

Watts said the grant money will be used to help bridge the gap for those who need help but cannot afford to pay the whole cost.

"What Bank of America has done has opened up the opportunity for a lot of kids and adults to get services who couldn't afford it otherwise," Watts said.

see an emphasis said would be difficult to enact is in education about the interdependence between humanity and the planet. People need to realize the value of the planet."

university provost

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However, as the afterglow of Obama's election wanes, Lewis,

here."

said

who will soon enter the job market, watches the dismal economic news with dismay. Though she feels assured of a job in health care, she worries that her classmates' optimism might be

dashed. "Everyone needs to realize amazing," she said.

ry on and practice what we teach

Once children complete therapy

at the clinic, they exhibit a marked

difference in behavior because

they can communicate their wants

and needs more effectively, Lanza

America in Fort Worth and TCU

alumnus, said that the clinic is a

ties here in Tarrant County, we're

"As part of our foundation activi-

One specific policy that Donovan

"It's difficult because we have one

Donovan said he would like to

"Normally we don't think too

purchasing at least 15 percent of the

university's electricity from renew-

supplier and it's dependent on their

see a greater awareness of green is-

much about the planet," Donovan

said. "I would like to see an empha-

sis in education about the interde-

pendence between humanity and

resources," Donovan said.

worthwhile cause.

dollars."

able sources.

sues on campus.

Mike Pavell, president of Bank of

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## OPINION

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 · PAGE 3

#### DAILY SKIFF Editorial Board

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#### The Skiff View

## Climate commitment only the first step

ast spring, Chancellor Victor Boschini signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment Act, and since then, the university has made some advancements toward fulfilling its commitment.

The commitment calls for universities to reduce their global warming emissions and integrate sustainability into their curriculum to help create a thriving, ethical and civil society, according to the commitment's Web site.

Scharbauer Hall will be the first building on campus to reach the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver Standard based off of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System, which encourages environmentally safe building and development practices. This is one of several aspects of the commitment.

The administration mentions the TCU Purple Bike Program and last fall's theme semester — Think Purple, Live Green — but the program's timeliness has come and gone. Instead of looking back, the university should make a collective effort to look for ways to improve even the little things, such as the recycling system on campus.

According to the commitment's Web site, universities must develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral within two years of signing.

It has been almost a year since TCU signed the agreement, and the committee has not created a plan of action to determine how the university will fulfill its promise.

TCU has made steps in the right direction by implementing programs, such as incorporating sustainability concepts into classes, but the committee that oversees TCU's progress needs to hold the university's feet to the fire if the university is to make significant steps toward fulfilling the commitment.

The administration, students and faculty are publicly committed to make significant changes in the way our campus affects the environment.

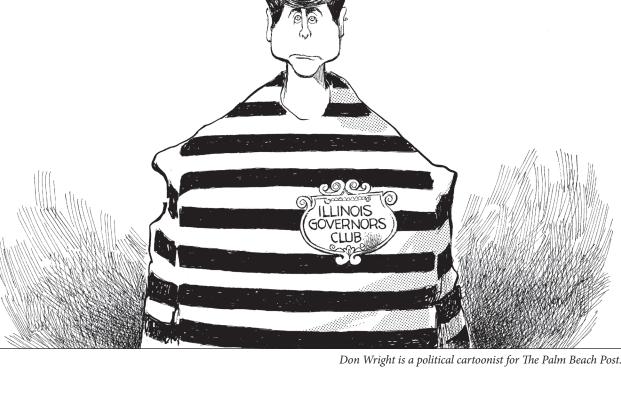
The committee should move quickly to put an effective plan in place so it can continue to fulfill the promise.

*Multimedia editor Jason Fochtman for the editorial board.* The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

## Bush's presidency difficult to defend

In his final news conference, President Bush on Monday took on a task that some might call an impossible mission — defending his administration. Maybe be needed lack Bauer continents.

Bush called the abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib a "disappointment," a word he also used to describe not finding weapons of mass destruction — the stated reason for waging war on Iraq. It was more than a "disappointment" for the families of the thousands killed in the war.



## Sports caskets just a start; Death needs to be an event



Buried in a casket bearing the logo of the New York Yankees? No, it's not the fate of Babe Ruth or Lou Gehrig. It could be your Uncle Sal if he's willing to pony up the dough.

According to a Dec. 15 article in The New York Times by Francis X. Clines, the Branch Funeral Home in Smithtown, N.Y. has begun selling caskets with either the Mets' or Yankees' logo emblazoned on the open cover and pillow.

The cost? A mere \$5,000. Style

vour any man foolish enough to enter the tomb? That is what I call going out in style.

Why stop at baseball logos though? The realm of graves and caskets is fertile ground for fun, fresh thinking.

Are you afraid that no one is going to visit your gravesite when you die? Request to be buried inside a pinball machine, then use the money it earns to help pay for your grandkids' college expenses. Everybody loves pinball, so it'll only be a matter of time before Timmy and Mary are going to Cornell free of charge.

Like competition?



Maybe he heeded jack badel.

Even as Bush spoke, headlines in the Washington Post blared that he had presided over the weakest eight-year span for the U.S. economy in decades. Of course, you can't blame the recession totally on Bush. But neither can the economic policies of his administration be absolved of any responsibility for the situation.

From jobs creation to the gross domestic product, the Bush years' numbers have lagged, growing in such lackluster increments that you would have to go back to the Truman administration or before to find a similar performance.

Bush and Congress both get failing grades for leaving unsolved the funding problems of Social Security and Medicare, entitlements that face huge deficits. The president did propose a sweeping overhaul of the federal tax code, but never pushed hard enough to get it passed.

In his news conference, Bush became visibly upset when asked whether America's moral standing in the world had suffered during the Iraq war. "Most people around the world respect America," he said, adding that maybe some elites in Europe felt that way, but not the people he had met in Africa or Asia.

The remark was hardly comforting when one considers how often human rights are trampled upon in those two Bush was just as defensive when asked about his administration's handling of Hurricane Katrina. "Could things have been done better? Absolutely. But when I hear people say the federal response was slow, what are they going to say to those chopper drivers or the 30,000 that got pulled off the roof?"

We would say that we're happy those 30,000 survived. But we also would note that had Bush's disgraced director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency acted more resolutely, the death toll might have been much less than 1,836 — which is an estimate, because some bodies were never found.

Bush is trying to put his spin on all that occurred during his presidency. Nothing unusual about that. His memoir will undoubtedly be a best-seller because the public craves his perspective. What it doesn't want, however, is fiction. And his depiction of some events must be summed up as denials of the truth.

As a Bible believer, the president should know what Jesus said in John 8:32: "The truth shall make you free."

*This editorial appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer on Tuesday.* 

points? 37 billion.

Who says death needs to be solemn and dignified anyway? No one's going to remember you for that.

As some dead guy once said, "My biggest fear is that no one will remember me after I die." Flair is a must.

Anyone can be buried in a boring, old mahogany casket that lacks any sort of flair. It's the 21st century people; it's time to make death an event.

Do you remember anyone who died in 17th century Europe? No, of course not. That's because they were buried in garden-variety caskets marked by modest crosses. No family crests on the coffins and no dirty limericks or clever sayings on the headstones. It's no wonder that 99.99999 percent of the population is lost to history.

The only man who got it right was William Shakespeare, whose gravesite in the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-upon-Avon reads, "Blest be the man that spares these stones, And curst be he that moves my bones."

Now the Egyptians, on the other hand, knew how to die. Pyramids, hieroglyphics and (presumably) zombie snake armies ready to de-

Make your final resting place an alligator-infested swap, leaving your life's savings dangling perilously close to the water. Next, invite a bunch of ex-convicts to have a no-holds-barred race to see who can get to it first. Winner gets to keep the money. If Pickles knocks his cellmate D-Money into the mouth of a hungry gator during the competition, well that's just a plus. There's surely a place in history for the first person who actually goes through with that.

Big fan of geography? Get sliced up in seven pieces and become the first person to be buried on all seven continents. You know that would be on CNN.

Too long have we been forced by societal norms to accept the after-death process as an act of sadness and reservation. Post-life should be as fun as the lives that the deceased were living. Why be pigeonholed into one way of thinking?

It's time to go out with a bang.

David Hall is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Kingwood.

SXC.HU

## Holiday season shouldn't spurn lack of civility in society

#### ASHLEY TAMBUNGA

As a retail worker at an area mall, I had an up-close and personal view of Black Friday last year and am still wondering: what in the world happened to good will toward men, 'tis the season to be jolly and all that other stuff the holidays are supposed to be about?

Was Wal-Mart's Black Friday sale really worth trampling a New York man to death? Were people so consumed with greed that they didn't notice the pregnant woman, who later had a misWhat in the world happened to good will toward men, 'tis the season to be jolly and all that other stuff the holidays are supposed to be about?

carriage, on the floor? It doesn't make sense to me.

At the store I work for, there were

mountains of clothes in the fitting rooms, draped over racks and all over the floor. I guess extreme bargain hunting makes people forget how to behave like human beings.

It's amazing if you think about it. The mob of 2,000 people who incidentally walked over another human being probably went home, excited about the bargain they scored and eagerly wrapped it as a gift for their loved ones in an act of generosity. Suddenly they become human again, belying the fact that a few hours prior they could not even feign courtesy.

Obsession with materialism caused two deaths on Black Friday. This begs for introspection and change.

Everyone talks about New Year's resolutions, changing into the "new me," but few follow through. Gym memberships are purchased, the liquor cabinet might stay empty for a few weeks, but ultimately we fall into old habits quickly and are all set to abolish them again by next January.

This year, think about the things in your life you can really change. It doesn't have to be a Bono-esque feat, but we can all improve the way we treat others. Start with simple gestures like letting people get in front of you on the freeway, or maybe smiling at a stranger while walking between classes.

It's often the little things you do that have the biggest impact on people you don't know.

Next time Black Friday rolls around, let's try not to kill anyone just to save a few bucks.

Ashley Tambunga is a junior English major from Fort Worth.

Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. To submit a letter, e-mail it to opinion@dailyskiff.com. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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#### **NEWS**

## **Obama traces Lincoln's train route to inauguration**

#### By Jeff Gammage

The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — One fragment is a poster-size patch of discolored red-and-white cloth, the other little more than threads and fibers. Both pieces come from the same source. And both are more than what they seem.

"Relics," said Andrew Coldren, curator of the Civil War Museum train journey."

Both swatches were snipped from a giant U.S. flag that President-elect Abraham Lincoln raised at Independence Hall during the 1861 rail voyage that took him through Philadelphia to Washington for his inauguration. On Saturday, nearly 150 years later, another president-elect from Illinois will partly re-create that trip, traveling by train to his inauguration.

Barack Obama plans to hold an event in Philadelphia that morning, then head south through Wilmington and Baltimore, joined in those cities by Vice President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr. They are to arrive inclusive, like in Washington that evening.

Details of Obama's Philadelphia visit have not been released. During Lincoln's stop, the newly elected Republican strived to connect himself to the strength and wisdom of the Founders. Philadelphia was the last Northern city Lincoln saw before venturing into the South, perilous ground for a politician opposed to slavery. The only known photos of Lincoln on his inaugural trip were taken in Philadelphia. And it was in Philadelphia that Lincoln was told of a plot to kill him days later in Baltimore.

At the time, there was no Secret Service. Lincoln sneaked through Baltimore, at night, in disguise — and was ridiculed afterward for cowardice. Of course, Obama won't be sneaking anywhere. And the evidence of his inaugural journey won't be limited to a few blurry photographs and a couple of pieces of flag.

His partial retracing of Lincoln's route seeks to highlight his inaugural theme, "Renewing America's Promise," through events in Phila- Ohio, east to Pittsburgh, then

and Washington, where it is to be renewed.

"I think it's very smart politics," said Michael J. Kline, author of "The Baltimore Plot: The First Conspiracy to Assassinate Abraham Lincoln," a new book from Westholme Publishing. "He wants to show he's appreciative of a part of Philadelphia, "of Lincoln's epic of the country that was strongly supportive of him, and to suggest that he wants to be inclusive, like Lincoln, even of people who didn't support him."

> "He wants to show he's appreciative of a part of the country that was strongly supportive of him, and to suggest that he wants to be Lincoln, even of people who didn't support him."

#### Michael J. Kline Author

Lincoln's convoluted journey lasted 12 days and covered 1,600 miles, taking him north and south and east and west. Trains were slower then, requiring stops for fuel and water. River crossings, which often relied on ferries, could be major undertakings.

It's also true Lincoln wanted to see and be seen, to draw on the energy of the crowd. In the age before radio, presidents communicated through speeches, and the serpentine route allowed Lincoln to speak out before his March 4 inauguration.

He departed Springfield, Ill., on Feb. 11, 1861, moving through Indianapolis and Cincinnati. He turned north through Columbus,

delphia, where the promise was re- north again to Cleveland. His train alized in 1776; Baltimore, where it hugged the shore of Lake Erie as it was defended in the War of 1812; moved northeast to Buffalo, N.Y., turned east to Albany, and then due south to New York.

From there, Lincoln traveled southwest to Philadelphia, west to Harrisburg, back to Philadelphia, and finally southwest through Baltimore to Washington.

In 1865, after Lincoln was assassinated in Washington, his funeral train bore his body back to Springfield over the same circuitous route.

The president-elect arrived in Philadelphia about 3:45 p.m. on Feb. 21, his Lincoln Special train greeted by a cannon salute as it rolled into the Kensington station.

"Philadelphia welcomed Lincoln," Kline writes in "The Baltimore Plot," "like the Second Coming."

Banners, firehouse bells, bands and cheering crowds greeted Lincoln as he rode in an open carriage to the elegant Continental Hotel at Ninth and Chestnut streets.

People massed outside that evening, hoping to glimpse the president-to-be. Fireworks lit the sky. Late that night, detective Allan Pinkerton informed an exhausted Lincoln of the plot to kill him in Maryland, a Southern-leaning slave state.

Lincoln took the news soberly. Historians would debate the true nature and threat of the plot, but there's no question that Lincoln's staff believed his life was in danger.

The next morning, Lincoln rode three blocks to Independence Hall, emotionally moved to be in the building where the Founders had labored, where the Declaration of Independence had been signed, where the Liberty Bell was housed. Outside, an estimated 30,000 people were gathering, drawn despite the cold of the morning and the chill of the times. Like much of the country, Philadelphia was suffering terrible unemployment and economic turmoil.

Talk of civil war was rife. And while Philadelphia was a staunch Union town, it was influenced by Delaware, a slave state.

At Independence Hall, Lincoln



Fragments from a flag that Lincoln raised at Independence Hall inspire "great reverence," says Andrew Coldren, curator of the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia.

was met by Theodore Cuyler, president of the city Select Council. Cuyler lectured the president-elect about the sacrifice of the Founders and the sanctity of the hall, telling Lincoln that the Union must "be preserved by every concession short of eternal principle itself." In the parlance of the era, "con-

cession" was shorthand for compromise over slavery with the Southern powers.

me that in my hands is the task of restoring peace to our distracted country," Lincoln answered. "I can say in return, sir, that all the political sentiments I entertain have equal chance."

been drawn ... from this hall in which we stand."

Referring to the Declaration of "You have kindly suggested to Independence, Lincoln went on to say, "It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights should be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that all should have an



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#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 · PAGE 5

## ETC.



#### **Today in History**

The theologian, musician, philosopher and Nobel Prize-winning physician Albert Schweitzer is born on this day in 1875 in Upper-Alsace, Germany (now Haut-Rhin, France).

— History Channel

#### Joke of the Day Q: Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants? A: In case he got a hole in one

## **TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

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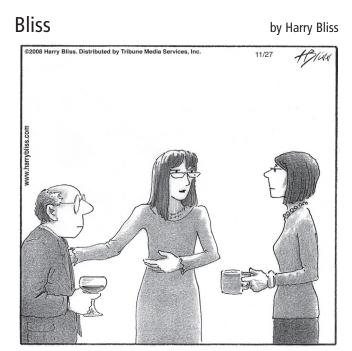
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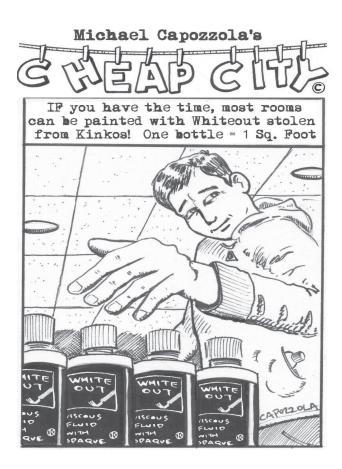
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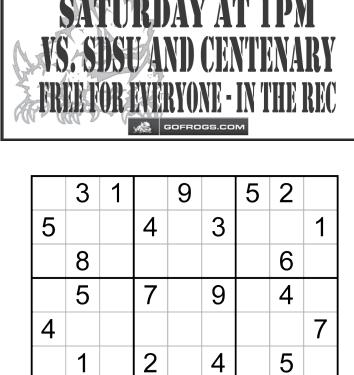
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"Miranda, this is Larry, my old therapist — Larry knows all my secrets ... and some of yours."





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

Directions

See Thursday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

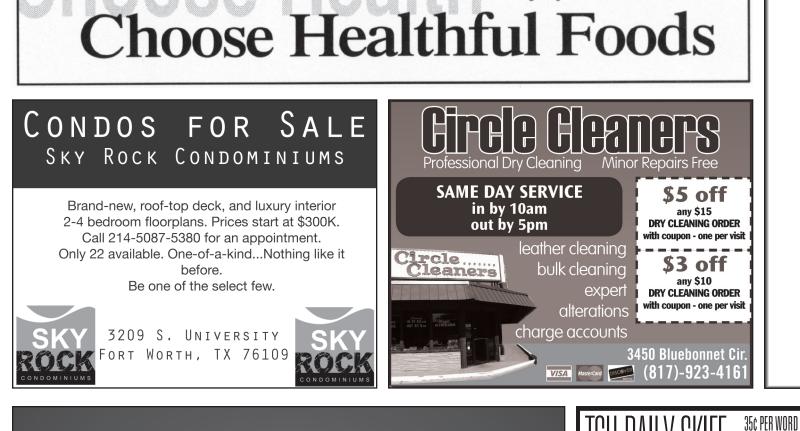
#### **Tuesday's Solutions** 1 2 4 3 6 5 9 8 7

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#### PAGE 6 · WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009

## SPORTS



Track and field travels to Lubbock this weekend. Tomorrow

## **CARROLL'S CORNER** Spring sports season offers plenty of punch



MICHAEL CARROLI

For some, the end of fall sport As sweet and (notice I said "sport") signals the beginning of a lull in their level of passion for college athletics.

Sure, there were other sports in action during the fall semester, like volleyball, swimming and diving, soccer, tennis and golf, but we all know football reigns supreme in Texas, and that's no different here at our university.

Finishing the season with an 11-2 record and a No. 7 ranking was just at the university. about all Frog fans could ask for this season, especially when you consider the two losses came against the No. 2 and No. 5 teams in the country.

As sweet and exhausting as the football season was, it's time for students to put their support behind the other great sports teams at the university.

The men's and women's basketball teams are putting together good seasons so far, and both teams are just now entering the conference portion of their schedules.

Under the direction of new head the current sport of the season, coach Jim Christian, the men's basketball squad has won its last four contests and seems to be improving with each passing game.

The women's team, coming off a disappointing loss against BYU last night, has compiled a 10-6 re-

exhausting as the football season was, it's time for students to put their support behind the other great sports teams

cord this season, including a 2-1 conference record. But the team has beaten two No.3-ranked teams this season and was off to a good start in conference play until last night's misstep.

You never know. Both the men's and women's teams could qualify for the NCAA tournament in March. Certainly, that would pull you out of any sports lull you might be experiencing at the time.

And while basketball might be

don't forget that the swimming and diving teams are also still in action and have just embarked on the second half of their campaigns.

The tennis and golf teams will also resume play in the near future and track and field will head to Lubbock this weekend for the Texas Tech Invitational, their first meet of the season. The first home track and field meet, the Horned Frog Invitational, comes in March.

If none of the above-mentioned sports action has sparked your interest in Horned Frogs athletics this semester, just wait until baseball season arrives.

The Horned Frogs will first step onto the diamond Feb. 20 on the road against Cal State Fullerton. The first home game against Dallas Baptist University is scheduled Feb. 24 at Lupton Stadium.

Sports season doesn't end just because football's does.

With the pressure of the new semester already bearing down upon us, taking some time to release our frustrations by cheering on our fellow Horned Frogs would be time well spent.

> Sports editor Michael Carroll is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Coppell.



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL • TCU 46, BYU 62 FALLING SHORT



TCU guard Helena Sverrisdottir attempts a shot against BYU forwards Keilani Moeaki, left, and Stephanie Buhler, right.

## BYU downs Lady Frogs

#### By Travis L. Brown Staff Writer

The Lady Horned Frog basketball team lost its claim to the top spot in the Mountain West on Tuesday with a 62-46 loss to the BYU Cougars.

Turnovers and poor field goal shooting caused the loss. The Lady Frogs shot 22.4 percent from the field in the game and 18.8 percent from beyond the arch. They also turned the ball over 20 times, resulting in 19 BYU points.

"We looked tired tonight," head coach Jeff Mittie said. "We weren't very tough tonight. Our starters were playing a lot of minutes. It's hard to grind on them."

BYU shot 40.3 percent from

game in a 2-3 zone, TCU struggled to defend passes near the basket, allowing 30 points in the paint. The Lady Horned in the first half, reaching a low of Frogs also struggled in transition allowing 14 points off the fast break.

"It was a sloppy game tonight," Mittie said. "Their defense forced us into some things we didn't want to do. They looked to me like they really wanted to push tempo and they were able to get fast breaks because of that."

TCU stayed in the game with its free throw shooting, finishing at 77.8 percent. The Lady Frogs were fouled 17 times resulting in 21 points from the penalty stripe.

BYU sophomore Mindy Nielthe field, hitting five from three- son finished with a game high point range. The Cougars took 22 points. Nielson also pulled

Despite playing most of the ily Carter and Helena Sverrisdottir each scored a team-high 11 points for the Lady Frogs.

> TCU shot only 22.7 percent 15.8 percent with three minutes remaining in the half.

> "This is one of the more disappointing offensive performances we've had in my tenure here, certainly at home," Mittie said. "Just credit to BYU, they guarded us well. You hope you get more rhythm as the game goes on, but it didn't work out that way."

> Mittie plans to regroup and rest before the Lady Frogs' next game against the Air Force Academy Jan. 17 at home.

"I think we have to get some rest and hopefully we can freshen their legs up a little bit and hopefully their mind too, because obviously after a game

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ten shots from the free throw line sinking seven.

assists. Sophomore guards Em- confidence," Mittie said.

down six rebounds and dished 4 like this you worry about their

### **PRO FOOTBALL** On or off the gridiron, Dungy a model of class

#### By Dan Pompei Chicago Tribune

The Titans, Panthers, Giants and Chargers lost over the weekend. The rest of the NFL lost Monday.

That's because Tony Dungy, one of the best coaches and finest men in the business, decided to step away from football.

"We just felt this was the right time," Dungy said at a news conference in Indianapolis. "Don't shed any tears for me. I got to live a dream most people don't get to live."

In my 23 years covering the NFL, no one has been more universally respected and well-liked than Dungy. No one coached, won and lost with more grace. I've come across ball boys with more ego.

He did things for the right reasons. He always had time for everybody. In a profession in which Jon "Yeah, that's the ticket" Lovitz probably would thrive, Dungy couldn't even put a spin on something, let alone lie. He is as true blue as the family dog.

What Dungy proved is that Leo Durocher didn't know what he was talking about. This nice guy still would have mattered even if he had finished last.

But Dungy won more games (139-69 record) than all but 18 coaches in NFL history. He also became the first coach to make the playoffs for 10 straight years and the only black to win a Super Bowl.

Dungy, who interviewed for four head-coaching jobs before

ed for his impact on the game. an opportunity and mentorship. I Because he is reserved, it's been easy to write him off as soft and to overlook his considerable contributions.

Dungy changed the game in the 1990s, popularizing the defensive scheme he learned as a safety with the great Steelers teams in the late 1970s. He tweaked it to reflect changes in the game, and it became the Tampa-2.

They say Dungy never won anything until he had Peyton Manning, which is true. It's also true Manning never won anything until he had Dungy. With the two of them working in concert, the Colts have had a chance to win the Super Bowl as consistently as any team in football over the last seven seasons. Dungy also led the Bucs to the brink of a Super Bowl before being replaced by Jon Gruden.

Subsequently, other teams wanted a piece of Dungy, and they kept hiring his assistants. Lovie Smith is a proud Dungy disciple, and he summed up the way a lot of people were feeling with this statement Monday:

"I'm happy for Tony and his family but sad for our league because we are losing one of the all-time great coaches. He is one of the modern-day pioneers of our game. His resume includes achievements no other NFL head coach has accomplished, which I'm sure will lead to a spot in the Hall of Fame. And as great of a coach as he is, he's an even better person.

"I owe Tony a lot. I would finally being hired by the Bucs in not be in my position today if it the world won.

1996, really has not been credit- wasn't for him providing me with learned a tremendous amount of football in my time with Tony in Tampa and made a friend for life. I'm proud to be a member of his coaching tree."

Mike Tomlin, who will try to lead the Steelers to the AFC championship Sunday, got his first NFL job from Dungy. Herm Edwards coached under him. Dungy brought Rod Marinelli to the NFL. If the Rams or Lions are smart enough to hire Leslie Frazier as a head coach, they'll find that Frazier, who worked for Dungy in Indianapolis, is the closest thing to him in the NFL.

Jim Caldwell put himself in position to succeed Dungy by learning from him. He was Dungy's quarterbacks coach in Tampa Bay and Indianapolis, and now he is the Colts' head coach.

At 53, Dungy is too young to retire. And he really isn't retiring. He's moving on to more important things.

Certainly, Dungy was profoundly affected by the suicide of his 18year-old son, James, in 2005. But even without that tragedy, Dungy never was destined to coach until he was Joe Paterno's age.

He has talked about walking away for five years.

He will spend more time with his family, work with a prison ministry, mentor teenagers and young adults and help fathers realize their responsibilities. He knows he has a powerful forum as a successful former NFL coach.

So you and I and the NFL might have lost Monday. But the rest of



