



**CENSORSHIP 5**

Opinion writers debate removal of controversial word from "Huck Finn."

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# NEXT STAGE

Miss Texas Ashley Melnick to reenroll after returning from 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience.

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Miss America contestant, Ashley Melnick, Miss Texas, greets spectators during the "Show Us Your Shoes" parade, Friday, Jan. 14, 2011 in Las Vegas.  
JULIE JACOBSON / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**STYLE ON-THE-GO 2**

My Plates working with university for TCU license plate.



**STUDY ABROAD 6**

Funding granted to students for research abroad.





## STATE

# Purple-themed license plates available in May

By Bryn Zimmermann  
Staff Reporter

Personalized license plates took on a whole new meaning after the My Plates auction Thursday night at the Cowboys Stadium.

My Plates spokesperson Kim Drummond said the auction allowed for participants to bid on custom words for their personal license plate.

"Texas has never had seven character license plates personalized before last Thursday night," Drummond said.

College students could participate by simply purchasing a license plate from the web site, Drummond said. The company would be constantly coming out with new license plate designs that customers could choose to personalize with different letters and numbers, she said.

My Plates has been working with TCU to finalize a design for the university, Drummond said. She said she anticipated for the plate to be

available for purchase by the first week of May.

Nathan Losch, a sophomore business major, said he was excited for the TCU license plate to come out.

"Everyone has so much TCU spirit, I think it would be awesome to see them around campus."

**Jennifer Miller**  
Sophomore speech pathology major

"It would be pretty cool just because you see all the UT license plates and Texas Tech license plates, but you don't really see many TCU license plates," Losch said. "But if there was a purple license plate, everyone would know TCU."

Richard Oliver, the assistant director of facilities at the university, hoped the license plate would let Texas know

that the Horned Frogs are here, he said.

"I think it would be neat, maybe the Horned Frog with a rose in its mouth, or something like that," he said.

Drummond said the Longhorn design has been the highest selling plate among college students, but said it could be because it has been selling longer than other college plates. She added that the top seller among all of the designs was the Lone Star Black.

Sophomore speech pathology major Jennifer Miller hoped to see the license plates on campus once they became available.

"I'm from California so I don't know if I would be able to get one, but I think for Texas as a lot of people around here would," Miller said. "Everyone has so much TCU spirit, I think it would be awesome to see them around campus."

According to the company's website, about a thousand Texans witnessed Thursday's state history with the first-



COURTESY OF KIM DRUMMOND

ever auction of license plates that set big records. My Plates estimated that 33 seven-letter plates sold for a grand total of \$138,650, according to the website.

Of that amount, an estimation of \$78,422.50 would go to the state general revenue fund, according to myplates.com.

Drummond said this auction was revolutionary because it offered participants the opportunity to have seven letter words on their license plate to represent the

individuals' interests and hobbies. Among the highest-selling words included "FERRARI" "COWBOYS" and "GO HORNS."

"Your license plate is a legal document of sorts in the state of Texas," Drummond said. "It is how law enforcement identifies you on the road. So, there can be only one person assigned to each combination."

Drummond also said that My Plates was revolutionary because it raised money for the state by giving a people a

choice, whether it be the letters used in the license plate, or the design on the plate itself.

"It's been a popular program because it's not a catch," she said. "We didn't come to you, or the state didn't come to you and tell you we are going to slap a \$20 fee on your car registration. That's not fun."

"Since November of 2009, Texas has purchased more than 34,000 My Plates and that has put 2.6 million dollars in the general revenue fund," Drummond said.

## CAREER SERVICES

# Specialized advisers now available

By Crystal Galvan  
Staff Reporter

New specialized career advisers will begin working with students on a more personal level within Career Services, rather than providing only general assistance to students.

Assistant director Terrence Hood said Career Services will be assigning a career adviser to each college and will ultimately establish more specified services for all majors. The initiative has been building momentum since its beginning in November through efforts to gain the support of the deans of the colleges, he said.

"We wanted each student to have one central point of contact," Hood said.

Career Adviser Rachael Thomas agreed that the attention to students would be more specialized.

"We are going to be spending a lot more time in our respective colleges," Thomas said.

Career advisers would be stationed in their colleges so that students will become familiar with their adviser, Thomas said.

"We want to do targeted presentations and workshops for each college."

**Terrence Hood**  
Assistant Director of Career Services

Hood added that the program would work more closely with faculty to help promote their services.

Advisers planned to go into classrooms and "conduct presentations on specific career-related topics," Thomas said.

The program would also eventually offer more specialized workshops, such as career fairs for each major, Hood said. This would be in addition to the networking

nights that are currently offered and can be viewed on the Career Services website.

"We want to do targeted presentations and workshops for each college," he said.

The workshops and presentations would address the specific needs and questions for each major, Hood said. Career advisers could also help build resumes that are typical of the industry students hope to get into, he said.

The more general approach would be a thing of the past as Career Services shifted to make their services more accessible to students of every major, Hood said.

"It's a more cutting edge career center," he said.

Currently, only 30 percent of students use Career Services, Hood said, and the new program would encourage students to take full advantage of the various tools and events it offered.

Questions?  
Comments?  
Suggestions?

Tell us!  
Visit the  
Suggestion Box  
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## BUSINESS

# Neeley Entrepreneurship Program nationally recognized

By Heather Noel  
and Kim Burdi

Staff Reporters

The Neeley Entrepreneurship Program was named the 2011 National Model Undergraduate Entrepreneurship Program at the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship annual conference.

Out of the 47 schools that entered, the Neeley Entrepreneurship Program was one of three finalists that presented a formal presentation at USASBE's annual

conference in South Carolina, according to a news release from the university.

Ray Smilor, a professor at the Neeley School, said what set the university's program apart from the other finalists was the emphasis placed on the philosophical approach to entrepreneurship. "I think the judges were genuinely impressed with our philosophy and approach, which has to do with incorporating the values in the ventures," Smilor said.

Smilor said TCU's program focused on accessing students' core values and

talents and applying them to entrepreneurship.

**"[Students can] create a company that not only makes money but creates meaning for everybody associated with it."**

**Ray Smilor**  
Neeley school professor

**"[Students can] create a company that not only makes money but creates**

meaning for everybody associated with it," Smilor said.

Senior marketing major Kevin Gibbs said the recognition will benefit the university as a whole.

With the 2011 National Model Undergraduate Program, the Neeley School will be another accolade for the university, Gibbs said.

Keith Hmieleski, assistant professor of management, said he was responsible for forming the "values theme" of the program's proposal. By applying student's values and talents, students become fully engaged in the work

they do, Hmieleski said.

"[Students will] have the innate ability to do it, and at the end of the day it will be meaningful to them as well," Hmieleski said.

Smilor, Hmieleski and Director of the Neeley Entrepreneurship Center Brad Hancock were the team of presenters at the conference.

Smilor said it was the collaborative effort between themselves and others over the past 10 years that helped the program gain the achievement and recognition from USASBE, the largest academic associa-

tion for entrepreneurship in America.

According to the university news release, Smilor's personal achievements were also recognized. Smilor received the John E. Hughes Award for his contributions to entrepreneurship throughout his 30 years of involvement in the field.

Curt B. Moore, assistant professor of strategy and entrepreneurship, was also recognized for his individual research in the field of entrepreneurship, Smilor said.

"It was a triple crown for us at TCU," Smilor said.

## HEALTH

## Official: Jump in flu cases not cause for alarm

By Emily Sears

Staff Reporter

The number of flu cases on campus has risen since before the break, but an official at the Brown-Lupton Health Center said students should not be overly alarmed.

"It is just the winter. People come back from Christmas break with the germs, and it spreads," Health Services Administrator Stacey Simpson said.

The Health Center will offer free flu vaccinations to all students until March, she said.

"Right now is when the flu peaks, and then it dies down around March when spring comes," Simpson said.

**"Right now is when the flu peaks, and then it dies down around March when spring come."**

**Stacey Simpson**  
Health Services Administrator

Despite the fullness of the Health Center's waiting

room, this year's flu season has shaped up to be better than the 2009-2010 season, Simpson said.

"It's not worse than last year," she said. "It's a lot better this year."

Last year, the university had about 600 students with flu-like illnesses, according to a previous *Daily Skiff* article. This year, the vaccine would protect students from the swine flu as well as several other types of flu, according to an informational flyer produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



EVAN VUCCI / ASSOCIATED PRESS

A nurse prepares a flu vaccination for a customer in Rockville, Md Aug. 27, 2010. The Health Center will offer free flu vaccinations to all students until March.

## LEGAL

## Hearing in civil case begins this morning

By Libby Davis

Editor-in-Chief

A hearing that will determine if a civil suit filed against the university will continue to trial is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. today.

The suit, originally filed in 2008, alleges that university officials attempted to cover up a 2006 sexual assault.

The plaintiff, identified only as K.S., and her lawyers claim in the lawsuit that the university "attempted to cover up the misconduct of the miscreant

athletes by urging K.S. not to report the drugging and gang-rape."

The university also failed "to exercise direction and oversight to assure the health and safety of the student, by ratifying the deviant behavior of athletes."

According to her lawsuit, K.S. was drugged and sexually assaulted in 2006 by three former university athletes: Virgil Taylor, Lorenzo Jones and Shannon Behling. Criminal charges were dropped in 2008, according to *Daily Skiff*

archives.

University officials Victor Boschini, Nowell Donovan, Ray Brown, Daniel Morrison, Kyle Brennan, Gary Patterson, Neil Dougherty, Gayle Boydston and Susan Adams are also named in the lawsuit as defendants.

The university's counterpetition claims that TCU "had no legal duty to protect the Plaintiff from the criminal acts of Behling, Jones and Taylor."

If the case continues past the hearing, the trial will begin Monday.

## POLITICS

## House votes to repeal health care bill

By David Espo

Associated Press

Swiftly honoring a campaign pledge, newly empowered Republicans pushed legislation to repeal the nation's year-old health care overhaul through the House Wednesday night, brushing aside implacable opposition in the Senate and a veto threat from President Barack Obama.

The 245-189 vote was largely along party lines, and cleared the way for the second phase of the "repeal and replace" promise that victorious Republicans made to the voters last fall. GOP officials said that in the coming months, congressional committees will propose changes to the existing legislation, calling for elimination of a requirement for individuals to purchase coverage, for example, and recommending

curbs on medical malpractice lawsuits.

Republicans also intend to try to reverse many of the changes Democrats made to Medicare Advantage, the private alternative to the traditional government-run health care program for seniors.

Like the repeal bill itself, these other measures will require Senate approval and a presidential signature to take effect, and the prospect is for months of maneuvering on the issue.

Debate across two days leading to the vote was markedly restrained, as lawmakers in both political parties observed self-imposed vows of civility in the wake of the shooting rampage in Arizona that left six dead and Rep. Gabrielle Giffords wounded.

But there was no mistaking the significance many first-term Republican lawmakers

attached to a day they had long waited for, finally getting a chance to speak and then vote on the House floor against a law they had campaigned for months to repeal.

### TRAFFIC TICKETS

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## PERSPECTIVES

The Skiff View

## Changes will help students find jobs

The university boasts exceptional resources for students, and Career Services' push to make advising more personalized falls right into line.

Having an adviser for each of the university's colleges is a great idea. Students will now know exactly where to go if they have questions about résumés, job interviews or entering the professional field. Those things are often stressful enough for students without having to navigate multiple offices to find who they need to talk to for answers to their questions.

With the overhaul of Career Services should come advisers who are knowledgeable in different job markets and work fields. Students will be able to get specific advice that is relevant to where they want to go after they graduate. Also, they might be able to make more network connections through those advisers before they leave the university. In this case, any little bit helps.

Career Services has put the ball back in the students' court by making it easier to take advantage of its services. Now students must recognize the resources that are being provided by the university and actually use them. After all, if students do not have the initiative to seek out ways to make themselves more marketable now, the job hunting will only be more difficult down the road.

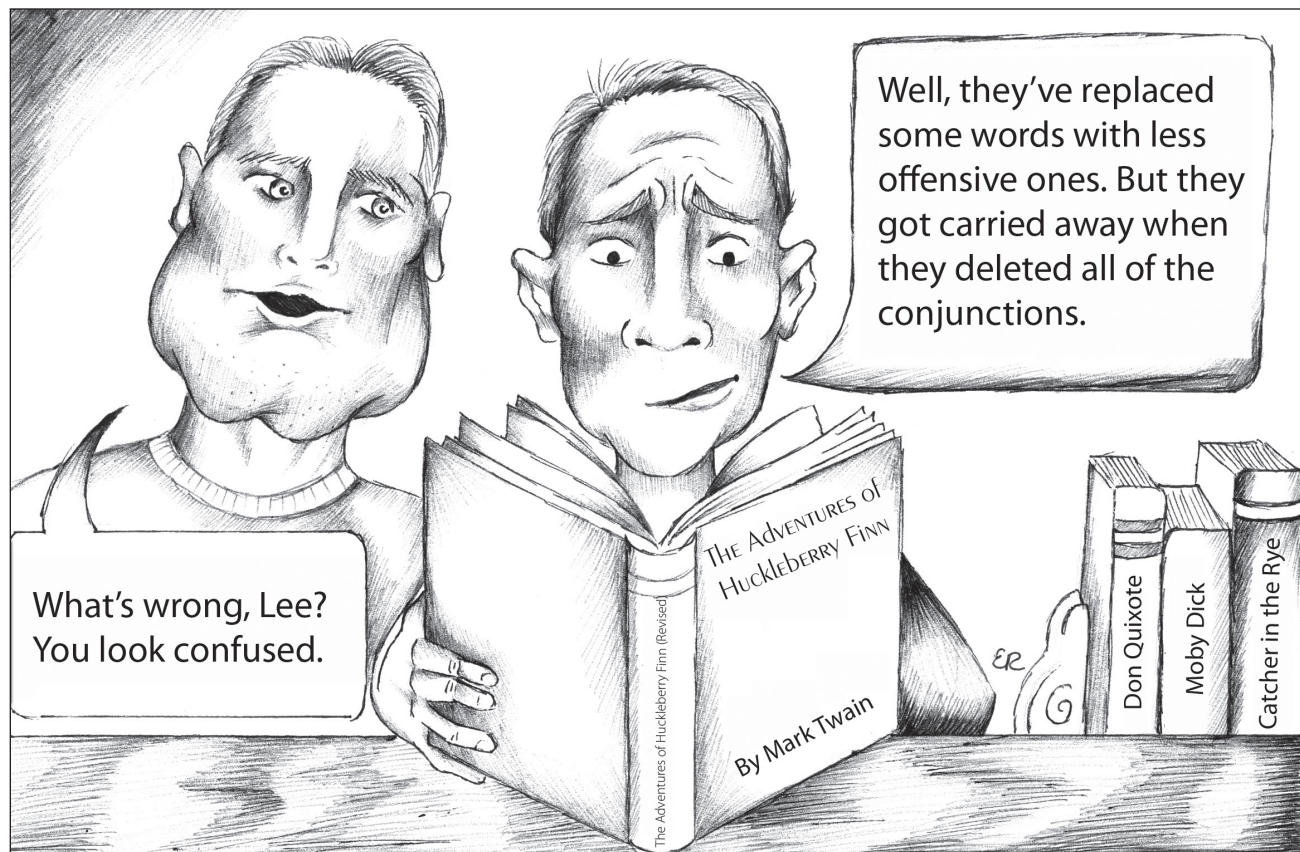
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Liz Rector is a junior strategic communication major from Katy.

## Grinding bans don't help schools' cause



KC Aransen

Every dance I've attended in high school had "grinding" as the featured thing to do. According to Wikipedia, "grinding is a type of close partner dance where two or more dancers rub their bodies (especially the genitalia) against each other in a sexually suggestive manner."

Of course, there was some controversy among administrators about this particular type of dancing, and some administrators even went so far as to walk in between students who were grinding in order to make room for "the holy ghost." Most students tended to blow off or laugh at the administration's attempt to keep students away from each other.

Now some administrations across the country have taken up this anti-grinding cause, banning this type of dancing from school dances. One Delaware school made its students sign a contract promising they would not grind at dances.

This has enraged many students, and some have planned dances off school property to protest the school dances. At one Vermont high school, student refusal to attend the upcoming dance where grinding was banned led to the cancellation of the dance.

*It seems almost logical that if their students can't grind at their school dances, then they may find somewhere else to do it (places like clubs, parties, etc.)*

The ban becomes a problem when protesting students decide to plan out-of-school dances. There, they more than likely have few or no chaperones to monitor their dancing or any other activities in which they decide to participate.

This move may hurt more than help the administrators' attempts to keep their students' purity intact. It seems almost logical that if their students can't grind at their school dances, then they may find somewhere else to do it. Because of students' protests, some schools may face a financial burden because of a lack of ticket sales.

Rules such as the grinding ban show a lack of respect on the administrations' part toward their students. Though a ban on grinding may be fine for younger students, such as those in middle school, high school is where students are supposed to be treated with more respect because they are supposed to be more mature.

In these cases, the administration no longer treats students as the future adults of America, but instead as the children they were considered to be in junior high. This creates a lack of respect on the students' part from the administration. Rules banning grinding may, at the end of the day, accelerate what the administration seems to fear and cause discontent throughout schools.

It seems as though, in failing to view their students as adults, the administrations ban on grinding shows a refusal to compromise with their students. It seems that many schools would rather ban grinding outright than talk to their students about why they have problems with grinding. Perhaps if they had treated the students respectfully and discussed the subject rather than banning the now-forbidden dance altogether, there would be far less student outcry.

KC Aransen is a sophomore psychology major from Arlington.



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## PERSPECTIVES

# What the Huck? Should Twain's classic be censored?

*No: Rewrite disregards author's intent, could have negative impact*



**Wyatt Kanyer**

Monday marked the 25th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which meant it was the 25th time Americans came together across the nation to serve in honor of perhaps the greatest civil rights activist in U.S. history. In the midst of this positivity, however, loomed the negativity of ignorance.

NewSouth Books, an Alabama-based publisher that, according to its website, "gravitate[s] to material which enhances our understanding of who we are and which asks us to stretch in our understanding of others," will release a rewrite of Mark Twain's American classic "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" next month that will feature a replacement for a historically controversial word in American history: the "N-word."

The decision came after Auburn University professor and Mark Twain scholar Alan Gribben suggested the change be made in order to make the book more accommodating to teachers who were reluctant to use a book with such language.

While NewSouth is striving to uphold its principles in doing so, this rewrite eliminates Twain's original intent in including the word in his work.

According to an opinion piece in *The Huffington Post* by Craig Hotchkiss, education program manager at the Mark Twain House and Museum, Twain grew up in Missouri using the N-word and seeing black people as inferior to whites. As he grew in age and knowledge, however, Twain realized the bigoted nature of the word, at which point he became more tolerant.

Huckleberry Finn is, among other things, a representation of Twain's transformation of racial awareness, Hotchkiss writes.

"[Twain] used his story of

the boy Huckleberry Finn to illustrate his own epiphany about American racism and to offer a cautionary tale at a time when American society was receding back into the same depravity that had earlier torn the nation apart in the Civil War," he writes.

Hotchkiss' piece demonstrates the fact that the rewrite not only ignores the clear racial barriers that existed at that point in history but also that it eliminates the reason why the book was written in the first place: because of Twain's personal growth in understanding.

*Ignoring racism would, in essence, ignore the positive impact of brave leaders like Dr. King and remove a substantial amount of history that defines the advances the U.S. has made in accepting diversity.*

While those issues need to be addressed, experts and common citizens alike must also recognize the degree to which Twain's creative license and personal experience is being ignored.

Furthermore, one must also consider whether the publisher is making an attempt to make amends for centuries of racial inequality.

NewSouth is based in Alabama, a state that has been a center for racial inequality throughout U.S. history.

The company's aforementioned goal is admirable; however, there is no quick fix for centuries of racial pain and suffering experienced by black people nationwide.

Lastly, the rewrite will feature the use of "slave" instead of the N-word.

This word choice only further damages Twain's original intent. Slavery was only one example of racial inequality in the U.S.

Even after the days of slavery, there were severe, clear racial divisions generations later in the segregated South, divisions which Dr. King and others fought to defeat.

This racial tension was due in large part to Jim Crow laws

and Black Codes, which were in place for almost 90 years. It would be irrational and illegal if history books were printed without mention of the Crow laws, so it is inappropriate for NewSouth to print a historic work without demonstrating the laws' effects.

Also, modern-day racism does not feature the use of the word slave. More times than not, it features the N-word.

It seems, then, that using slave instead of the N-word is a close-minded decision by NewSouth, as it only highlights a chapter in the history of American racism.

Ignoring racism would, in essence, ignore the positive impact of brave leaders like Dr. King and remove a substantial amount of history that defines the advances the U.S. has made in accepting diversity.

Stretching our understanding of each other should not include eliminating the realities of history, no matter how gruesome those realities may be.

*Wyatt Kanyer is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Yakima, Wash.*

*Yes: New edition allows concerned parents to let children read classic*



**Jessica Peterson**

Producing a new version of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" that replaces the "N-word" with the word "slave" allows the book to continue to reach into the lives of generations to come.

In a society where change and progress are valued,

removing offensive terms allows for a more comfortable read. In classes, students learn equality alongside peers of every race and background.

However, confusion swirls when the teacher assigns an highly praised and beloved book for the class and students find racial slurs embedded throughout the text.

Literature in its original form definitely has a place in the world and is important to preserve. But who is to say that a changing society does not create a demand for modified accounts?

Parents who love the story of Huck Finn can now willingly give the book to their children and not have conflicting thoughts on what is or isn't appropriate. The story's plot is unchanged and the historical differences remain intact, but the potentially harmful terms are gone.

*Children of a new age and upbringing can indulge in the stories of their parents' and grandparents' childhood without learning or developing socially inappropriate language.*

Children of a new age and upbringing can indulge in the stories of their parents' and grandparents' childhoods without learning or developing socially inappropriate language. Public education is continually changing in order to keep up with modern times and guide children in the right direction.

A major goal in modern society is to encourage color-blindness in school, careers and relationships. This modified version of a classic

story aids in furthering that idea.

The new version of "Huckleberry Finn" is purely a new edition, not a complete replacement of the old. Books are continually produced in new forms, and classic novels now include "interpretations" alongside the original text. This version is simply another form as well. Those who prefer to read the original text are free to do so, and producing new versions does not mean that all prior versions will be destroyed and never mentioned again.

This is another tool for parenting, if nothing else, that allows parents to censor what their children read if they so choose. Generating a more sensitive version of the story may even bring more readers to "outdated" books such as this one.

Keeping literature alive in various communities is an important objective, and contemporary revisions such as this can help achieve that goal. If literature continues to play an active role in society, education and the spread of knowledge, will prevail.

*Jessica Peterson is a sophomore criminal justice and psychology double major from Canton.*

## PRO CON



ILLUSTRATION BY AKMAL MARIKAR



## STUDY ABROAD

# Anonymous donor funds student's trip to Uganda

By Emily Agee  
Staff Reporter

Thanks to the Institute on Women and Gender, senior Catelyn Gray traveled to Uganda for free last summer.

Gray was awarded a travel grant worth \$500 from TCU's Institute on Women and Gender and Women's Studies Program. Again this semester, the IWG and Women's Studies programs have been offering the grants.

Chair of the Women's Studies Student Awards Committee, Karen Steele, said all full-time students from all majors were eligible for the awards.

"These awards were made available through an anonymous donor," Steele said. Students could be awarded up to \$500.

"I was so happy when I found out I didn't have to pay for the whole trip myself."

**Catelyn Gray**  
Senior social work major

Gray, a social work major, said a friend encouraged her to apply for a travel grant. She went to Uganda to work on her honors thesis project involving children and their basic needs.

Gray said that the Women's Studies grant paid for her plane ticket to Uganda. She said when she found out she received an award, she felt several different emotions.

"It was a huge relief," Gray said. "I was so happy when I found out I didn't have to pay for the whole trip myself."

She was also granted money for her research from the John V. Roach Honors College.

Gray said going to Uganda was the chance of a lifetime. She spent three weeks there helping local children, however, she said her trip was cut short due to political instability.

"I actually had to leave a week early because there was a bombing," Gray said.

Gray said she hoped many people would want to take advantage of this program because of her experiences.

Steele said women were not the only students eligible for the awards. Senior political science major Keome

Rowe was the only male who received an award last semester.

Rowe used his grant to travel to upstate New York last November to research his honors thesis topic. Rowe said he visited the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library for his research project about Eleanor Roosevelt.

"It's researching Eleanor Roosevelt as setting the stage for what future first ladies would do as far as political activism," Rowe said.

Rowe said without his award, he probably could not have afforded to go on his trip.

Steele said there were several guidelines students would need to follow if they wished to apply for an award this semester. She said students should know they must travel within one year of receiving the award.

The awards are given in the fashion of reimbursements. Winners are expected to attend the Women's Studies Breakfast on April 15 in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni Center.

To apply for an award, students must submit a 250-word proposal, resume and a budget justifying expenses.

Steele said many students applied last year and nearly all received travel grants.

"We definitely exhausted our resources last year," Steele said.

She felt it would be fantastic if they had even more students apply this year, she said.

## How to apply for a grant from Institute on Women and Gender and the Women's Studies Program

**What is required:** 250-word proposal, résumé, and a budget justifying expenses

**Who:** Open to all students  
**Application deadline:** 5 p.m. Jan. 28

## Students who wish to request more information regarding Women's Studies travel grants can contact:

Karen Steele  
Chair of the Women's Studies Committee  
817-257-6255  
k.steele@tcu.edu  
or  
Laura Prestwood, Ph.D.  
Director of Women's Studies  
817-257-6216  
l.prestwood@tcu.edu



COURTESY OF CATELYN GRAY

After passing out porridge at Victory Primary School, senior Catelyn Gray plays with the kids before their next lesson started.



COURTESY OF CATELYN GRAY

Senior Catelyn Gray poses for a picture with the fellow volunteers from Uganda, the UK, Australia and Canada.



NATIONAL

# Melnick will return to classes in fall after top-12 Miss America finish

By **Brittany Turner**  
Staff Reporter

After finishing in the top 12 in Saturday's Miss America Pageant, senior broadcast journalism major Ashley Melnick said she now plans to return to classes in the fall.

Ashley made it to the evening wear portion of the pageant but was eliminated just before the talent segment. Although Ashley did not win the Miss America title, her mother, Terri Melnick, said Ashley gave it her all.

"She went there prepared, and she did the best that she could do and there are no regrets," Terri Melnick said.

On stage, Ashley said she thought she would be able to perform her talent, but regardless of the outcome, she just wanted to sing on national television.

"When my name wasn't called, it hurt, it really did. My chest stung," Ashley said. "It's hard, when we worked so hard and there we are sitting on stage realizing that

the end of the road just happened."

Along with her duties as Miss Texas, Ashley said she planned to take a full load of classes next fall to graduate on time. She also said she planned to take the LSAT in the fall in hopes of pursuing law school in the future and becoming a journalist.

She said she was still very passionate about her duties as Miss Texas and will continue to do appearances around the state.

"I will continue promoting my platform and really getting in to being an advocate for autism," Ashley said. "I'm still going to be going to numerous schools across Texas to share my story about my brother, Ryan, and autism and about differences and adversity."

Ashley said she felt being a broadcast journalism major helped her in the interview portion of the pageant.

"It taught me to be strong and determined and to make sure I got those interviews right," she said. "And all the

tools that I learned, I put forth in the interview."

Ashley said she felt confident during the pageant but had no idea what to expect going up against the best of the best.

"She went there prepared, and she did the best that she could do and there are no regrets."

**Terri Melnick**  
Ashley Melnick's mother

Once she made it into the top 12, she prepared for the next segment with mental exercises that she practiced two to three times a month at Mental Management Systems in Flower Mound.

According to the website, the Mental Management System is "a recognized performance enhancement program that is taught and used by World and Olympic Champions throughout the world." The business provides

instruction on mental preparation for athletes, businessmen and stage performers. Mental Management Systems helps clients work well under pressure, maintain a positive attitude, reach goals and teaches them how to succeed in competition, according to the website.

Ashley said she will still attend Mental Management even though the pageant is over.

"The tools you learn in mental management you can use in everyday life," she said.

Ashley said she was shocked that the winner of the Miss America pageant, Miss Nebraska Teresa Scanlan, was only 17 years old.

"She is so articulate and so well-spoken and genuine," Ashley said.

Ashley added that all of the Miss America contestants seemed to have great chemistry.

"There was no cattiness, no negativity," she said. "All of us really got along because we realized that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."



COURTESY OF ASHLEY MELNICK

Miss Texas Ashley Melnick puts up the Horned Frog hand sign during the events surrounding the Miss America pageant.

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# WEIRD NEWS

Associated Press

## British lawmakers told off for tweeting in Commons

No tweeting in the House, please. The deputy speaker of Britain's House of Commons has asked lawmakers not to use Twitter while sitting in the chamber. Lindsay Hoyle intervened after Kevin Brennan, a Labour lawmaker,

noted midway through a debate on education that two other lawmakers there were tweeting about the debate on Twitter.

Brennan complained the lawmakers should have voiced their arguments in Parliament so other lawmakers could have a chance to rebut them, instead of making comments online.

Hoyle warned Wednesday that lawmakers should not

use Twitter to update followers while they sit in the Commons.

## Mass. police chief: Man tried to sell me fake gold

Police say a Boston man picked the wrong mark when he tried to sell him fake gold jewelry at a grocery store.

The man approached William Pace on Sunday and offered to sell him a bracelet and chain marked as 14 karat gold for \$100. Two problems — Pace is the police chief in Randolph, Mass., and he owns a jewelry store.

Pace, who was out of uniform, tells The Patriot Ledger he could tell the gold was fake by its look and feel.

The suspect, identified by police as Johnnie Butts, will be issued a summons to appear in court on a charge of attempt to commit larceny by false pretense.

Police are trying to determine if Butts sold any fake jewelry to others before approaching Pace.

## Burglar suggestion in Cookeville: 'Eat more fish'

Cookeville police say a

burglar left this note on an apartment bulletin board: "Eat more fish."

According to the Cookeville Herald-Citizen, the words were found last week on a dry erase board.

The apartment dweller told police someone gained entry by busting open a front door.

The victim said liquor, a Bible and \$30 in money were taken.

## Tucson restaurant to offer African lion tacos

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A Tucson taco restaurant al-

ready has served up python, alligator, elk, kangaroo, rattle-snake and turtle.

What's next? Lion meat.

Boca Tacos y Tequila says it's accepting prepaid orders for African lion tacos, to be served starting Feb. 16. Orders must be placed by Feb. 7 and owner Bryan Mazon says there are already a few reservations from curious customers.

Mazon says his restaurant started offering exotic tacos on its menu every Wednesday about six months ago and has tried "just about anything we can get our hands on."

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- Volkswagen model since 1979
- Stare
- Charm
- Unit of capacitance
- "Would...?"
- Baseball's Moises
- Tough handicap to overcome in a joust?
- Words after post or suffer
- Beginning
- Hoopster featured in a news magazine?
- Leo, for one
- Manhattan neighborhood acronym
- Ready to serve
- Uncertain concurrence
- Gave a buzz
- Snaps
- Mineo of "Rebel Without a Cause"
- What "purls of wisdom" is an example of?
- HBO competitor
- king
- Hokkaido native
- Shoot for, with "to"
- Old Italian bread
- Puts on
- Biol. branch
- Was familiar with Britain?
- Unlikely lint-gatherer
- Without delay
- Bow tied by mortal hands?
- Pinup Hayworth
- Pianist Gilels
- Church parts
- They have heads and handles
- Mug imperfections
- Symbol of strength

**DOWN**

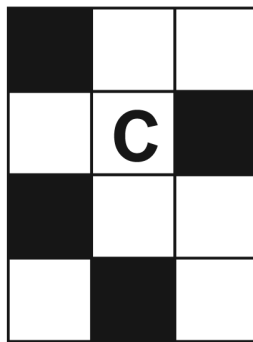
- LaGuardia alternative, familiarly
- Suffix with Caesar
- Like jibs
- Movie poster words
- For a specific purpose
- Big name in guitars
- Pledge of Allegiance ender
- November 2006 Nintendo release
- Barbie's beau
- Took one's place at, as a post
- Cries following charges
- Cuervo tequila
- Remove from office
- Sound of reproach
- End for free
- Capital of Rwanda
- Cookie information, perhaps
- Relax, as tense relations
- Ancient Aegean region
- Cordage fiber
- Retina-brain link
- Jerk
- Stand out
- Calypto offshoot
- Like ugly remarks
- Fast sports cars
- "...pronounce you..."
- Naval attire
- Loyal Japanese dogs
- Sluggards
- "The Matrix" hero
- Modern dash-mounted device: Abbr.
- Croquet venues
- Creole vegetable
- Windows alternative
- Handy bag
- Kasbah headgear
- "I didn't need to know that!"
- Best seller
- General at Antietam
- Step up from dial-up

By Mark Bickham 1/20/11

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

P	E	T	S		R	I	N	G	O		P	C	P				
A	C	H	E		A	R	O	A	R		A	R	E				
C	H	I	P		S	P	A	R	S		S	U	N				
T	O	N	I	G	H	T		M	O	I	S	T	E	N			
					K	A	N	E		T	A	L	L	T	A	L	E
S	P	F		A	R	I	A		I	L	O						
E	R	A	T	M	A	N		N	Y	L	O	N	S				
M	O	S	S		A	N	K	L	E		E	X	E	C			
I	F	T	H	E	N	T	O	A	D		Y	M	A				
					A	S	A		O	G	L	E		G	O	B	
G	O	L	F	C	L	A	P		L	A	Z	E					
C	L	O	T	H	E	S		D	E	R	A	N	G	E			
L	I	P		E	X	N	A	V	Y		I	B	E	X			
E	V	E		W	I	E	L	D		R	A	N	I				
F	E	Z		S	E	R	F	S		E	R	A	T				

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## "Backgammon"

How to play:

Spell the phrase in the grid above it, writing each unique letter only once. The correct solution will spell the complete phrase along a single continuous spelling path that moves horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Fill the grid from square to square - revisiting letters as needed to complete the spelling path in order. Each letter will appear only once in the grid.

## Wednesday's Solution



## "Chilean Mine Rescue"

Sample



"Freeze"

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

## Directions

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

See Friday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

## Wednesday's Solution

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

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# NATIONAL NEWS

Associated Press

## Bentley apologizes for 'brothers and sisters' remark

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley apologized Wednesday for his inauguration day remarks about only Christians being his brothers and sisters and said he would work over the next four years for people of all faiths and colors.

Bentley said he didn't mean to insult anyone with comments he made from the pulpit of a church once led by Martin Luther King Jr. He said he was speaking as an evangelical Christian to fellow Baptists.

"If anyone from other religions felt disenfranchised by the language, I want to say I am sorry. I am sorry if I offended anyone in any way," Bentley said Wednesday.

Bentley, who spoke at the church during a King holiday

event after his official inaugural address, said no one should hate anyone else because of color or religion.

Speaking with reporters after meeting with several members of Alabama's Jewish community and other faith leaders at his Capitol office, Bentley said he will be a governor for everyone, not just Christians.

The Republican is a former legislator and Southern Baptist deacon who emerged from the back of a crowded GOP field to win the governor's office. He told the church crowd just moments into his new administration that those who haven't accepted Jesus as their savior are not his brothers and sisters.

"Anybody here today who has not accepted Jesus Christ as their savior, I'm telling you, you're not my brother and you're not my sister, and I want to be your brother," Bentley said.

Some in the crowd at the church said "Amen," but groups representing other faiths in Alabama called the remarks shocking.

The Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish group that fights discrimination, said it sounded like Bentley was using the office of governor to advocate for Christian conversion.

## Tell-tale letdown: Poe visitor again a no-show

Telltale hearts beat with anticipation during a rainy, midnight dreary and beyond, hoping the mysterious visitor to Edgar Allan Poe's grave would return after a one-year absence.

But once again, the unknown person who for decades has left three roses and a half-empty bottle of cognac at Poe's grave on the anniversary of the writer's birth

failed to appear Wednesday, fueling speculation that he may have died.

Four impostors came and went overnight. The real one never showed. Around 5 a.m., the dozen Poe fans who were left began to wonder if the eerie ritual is indeed nevermore, so they walked to Poe's tombstone and performed their own tribute by leaving roses and drinking a cognac toast.

A fascinating tradition that ran for some 60 years and was never fully explained appears to have ended at the downtown Westminster Hall and Burying Ground.

"I think we can safely say it's not car trouble, and he's not sick," said Jeff Jerome, curator of the Poe House and Museum. "This doesn't look good."

It would be an ending befitting of the legacy of Poe,



STEVE RUARK / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jeff Jerome, curator of the Poe House and Museum, opens a gate at Westminster Church and Cemetery in Baltimore, the burial place of author Edgar Allan Poe.

the American literary master of the macabre who was known for haunting poems such as "The Raven" and grisly short stories including "The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Fall of the House of Usher"

and "The Pit and the Pendulum." He is also credited with writing the first modern detective story, "The Murders in the Rue Morgue." He died in 1849 in Baltimore at age 40 after collapsing in a tavern.

# TEXAS NEWS

Associated Press

## Amazon.com sues Texas for sales tax audit

Online retail giant Amazon.com is suing the state of Texas to produce the audit report on which the state based its demand for \$269 million in uncollected sales taxes.

The state made the demand of the Seattle-based retailer in September, citing the sales tax audit. The Austin American-Statesman reports the comptroller's office is withholding the audit report, backed by a Dec. 16 attorney general's opinion that it was protected by attorney-client privilege.

The state contends that Amazon.com is on the hook for the sales taxes not collected on Texas online sales because Amazon has a distribution center in Irving, a Dallas suburb. Other companies with retail outlets or other types of physical presence collect sales taxes on its online sales.

## Super Bowl crowd in Texas could surpass 100,000

Super Bowl attendance could surpass 100,000 for the first time in 24 years

when \$1.3 billion Cowboys Stadium debuts as host on Feb. 6.

Not all of those fans will have seats, or even be able to see the game in front of them. Still, the NFL says it will count "several thousand" Cowboys season ticket holders who pay \$200 each to watch on TV from an outdoor plaza on the east end of the stadium in suburban Arlington.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said Wednesday the plaza plan was a first for the Super Bowl.

An estimated 93,000 fans will be inside the stadium. The last Super Bowl with more than 100,000 fans was in 1987 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. The record of 103,985 was set in 1980, also at the Rose Bowl.

## Border security survives first round of Texas cuts

One area of state government has survived the initial round of cuts: border security.

Budget writers try to spare spending on border

security operations while scaling back heavily on education, college funding and health care programs for the poor.

The lead House budget writer, Rep. Jim Pitts, said Wednesday the decision reflects a commitment to "ensure the safety of all Texans."

Texas is facing a \$15 billion revenue shortfall, but that number could be as high as \$27 billion when population and enrollment growth are taken into consideration.



TONY GUTIERREZ / ASSOCIATED PRESS

The temperature might be 75 during the first Super Bowl week in Dallas-Fort Worth.

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## Frog Feature

Getting to know Christopher Price, senior tennis player.

By **Brittany Rainville**  
Staff Reporter

Senior tennis player Christopher Price is co-captain of TCU's varsity men's tennis team this season. The Houston native, who transferred to TCU from Duke after his freshman year, finished with a 16-11 overall record in singles last year and was ranked as high as No. 37 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association national doubles rankings, finishing at No. 46.

### What are you hoping to achieve this semester?

"We made goals as a team. Our first goal is to win Mountain West Conference again, regular season; we didn't win it last year. Win conference, be top 25 in the country, and make the sweet 16 [at the NCAA tournament]. Those are our biggest goals as a team."

### How did you get involved with tennis?

"My Dad played college tennis. He played his whole life, and my mom plays too, recreationally. I just picked it up from them, and I've been playing my whole life."

### Was tennis a big sport at your high school?

"Yeah, but I actually only went to high school for one year. I played when I was there, and it was pretty big, but then I was traveling a lot around the country playing tournaments, so I did school online for three years."

### What's the most important aspect of your game?

"For me, if I serve well, then everything else goes well, but if my serve is off, it's a lot harder for me, so definitely the serve."

### Who's your favorite tennis player?

"I'd have to say [Roger] Federer. I think he's the best ever. Such a classy guy."

Are you playing tennis in college to go pro?

"Yeah, that's my goal. I definitely want to play after I graduate. I have one more semester after this, and then I'm going to go try and play for a little while and see how it goes."

### Where do you see yourself in five years?

"My dream would be to be playing at Wimbledon, but I know it's really, really hard. Hopefully that, but if not, probably here getting an MBA or something."

### Do you have any superstitions before matches?

"I have like a million. It's ridiculous. They'll make fun of me I'm sure, but I stick my foot over the line when I serve, drink my water a certain way, I touch the net, I do a lot of stuff. It's pretty entertaining and weird, but it's funny."

### Do you have specific workout and practice routines?

"We always warm up for 20 minutes. We do rhythm, hit some cross-courts and then we'll end playing points. It's about a two-and-a-half-hour practice."

### How do you feel about your new role as co-captain?

"It's great. [Emanuel] Brighiu and I — he's my doubles partner — we're both co-captains. We just try to lead; we have a lot of leaders on the team. We have two more seniors, Zach [Nichols] and Cameron [Nash], who help lead a lot. We really do a good job as team."



RYNE SULIER / SPORTS EDITOR

We all hang out, we're really good friends, so I don't feel like we're the only leaders. I think everyone participates."

### Do you play tennis because you're good at it? Is it a stress reliever for you?

"When I was growing up, I used to get really nervous playing, but now I just enjoy it. It's like my passion."

### Has tennis affected your personal life at all?

"Yes, definitely. Growing up I missed out on a lot of stuff. Like, online school, I wasn't really around people, so I lost touch from a lot of people from Houston. I pretty much just met friends at tennis tournaments, like the same people I would see all the time at tournaments. I didn't have prom or anything like that."

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### Continued from page 12 BASKETBALL

smaller players, most people aren't sure if that's going to be the sport for you, but I liked it, so I kept after it," Henson said. "I didn't really worry [about] what people had said to me because it's something I like to do."

She quieted many of those doubts at Christian Heritage Academy, the high school she attended outside of Oklahoma City, Okla. Henson led the 2A program for the first time in school history. Her senior season, she averaged 15.6 points, 4.6 assists and 2.6 steals per game in addition to shooting 42.5 percent from 3-point range.

Whether she can achieve similar success in college

"You never know with a player, because you try to look at the NBA guys and you go, 'Mugsy Bogues was able to do this, you know Spud Webb and those type of players,' but you've got to get them in the mix to see."

**Jeff Mittie**  
Head Basketball Coach

basketball remains to be seen, but one thing is sure — her skills can translate to a match-up nightmare for the opposition.

"It's a different factor," Mittie said. "It's a different dynamic to the game. You've seen some teams that have said, 'We're not

sure what to do with this player."

That uncertainty may mean an increasing role on the court for Henson in the future. In the meantime, her coach will continue to get Henson playing time. He used examples of shorter players in the history of the NBA to justify the opportunity.

"You never know with a player, because you try to look at the NBA guys and you go, 'Mugsy Bogues was able to do this, you know Spud Webb and those type of players,' but you've got to get them in the mix to see," Mittie said.

Bogues was 5-foot-3, and Webb 5-foot-7. Henson would have to be something special at 5-foot-0, but that won't slow her down. She's been speeding by doubters for a long time now.



## SPORTS

## FOOTBALL

## Texas Tech cancels TCU appearance

By Ryne Sulier  
Sports Editor

TCU Athletics Director Chris Del Conte confirmed Wednesday that Texas Tech has cancelled its scheduled Sept. 10 football game at Amon G. Carter Stadium.

It is the second consecutive year Tech has backed out of its scheduled football game with the Frogs. Texas Tech last played TCU on Sept. 16, 2006, losing 12-3.

Associate Athletics Director Jack Hesselbrock told ESPN that Texas Tech needed to drop a nonconference game to compensate for a ninth conference game after the Big 12 Conference re-

aligned to a 10-team conference. TCU offered to relocate the game to Cowboys Stadium, but Tech declined.

Last season, Texas Tech backed out of the scheduled game due to TV scheduling conflicts with ESPN, and TCU ended up playing Oregon State in Cowboys Stadium in its season opener, defeating the Beavers 30-21.

TCU was scheduled to play Boise State in Fort Worth in 2011, but Hesselbrock said the Mountain West Conference is attempting to reschedule the game to be played in Boise, Idaho, because TCU will leave for the Big East in 2012.

TCU will still play Big

12 member and rival Baylor on Sept. 3 in Waco. The Frogs are also scheduled to play SMU on Oct. 1 in Fort Worth for the annual Battle for the Iron Skillet.

It is unclear which non-conference opponent will replace the Red Raiders on the 2011 schedule after TCU's 21-19 Rose Bowl victory over Wisconsin and 13-0 season record, but it's unlikely the Frogs will be able to slot a high-profile opponent with such short notice. With BYU and Utah jetting from the Mountain West Conference, TCU's nonconference scheduling void will likely have BCS ramifications in 2011.

## OPINION

## Players' struggles give inspiration



Ryne Sulier

I can't play football worth a darn using both of my arms. I wouldn't have started for my high school football team if I had three arms, and I would have needed five arms to play for TCU.

Chance Anthony needed just one arm to be awarded the 2011 High School Football Rudy Award, named for the most inspirational high school football player in America.

Anthony caught his first career touchdown pass on homecoming night. He benchpresses 235 pounds and has been a two-year starter for Breckinridge County High School in Hardinsburg, Ky. Anthony was born with his right arm ending just below his elbow.

True inspiration. "One hand or not, you can still catch a football and still catch a basketball," Anthony said during a Fox 41 interview. "Sometimes my friends forget I've only got one hand. I do as much as anyone else at school. It's how you deal with adversity that counts."

Some students may remember TCU placekicker Drew Combs, who received the 2008 College Football Rudy Award. Combs was born with a left arm that ended just below his elbow.

Combs started every game the last two seasons for the Frogs and recorded three tackles in his career as the placekicker. He recorded a career-best eight touchbacks in 2008.

*So many athletes throw ability and talent away, and those who received a second chance probably shouldn't have.*

Anthony and Combs aren't the only athletes deserving of such recognition, but they are great examples.

The runner-up to Anthony for the Rudy Award was paralyzed in a car accident when he was five years old. He was wheeled onto the field, where he then dragged himself into a defensive line position and plugged the middle of the line to make a difference on the field.

The second runner-up, Tray Waite, lost his mother in a car

accident, his grandmother to cancer and his father to jail time. He mustered a 3.8 GPA while excelling on the football field.

With the dedication, work ethic and perseverance it must have taken to get so far on a competitive athletic level without two hands, paralysis or a childhood without parents, it's hard to wonder where these young men could have gone had they been blessed with what so many of us take for granted.

So many athletes throw ability and talent away, and those who received a second chance probably shouldn't have.

Tie Reggie Bush's left hand behind his back for a season after violating NCAA rules. Make Michael Vick play strapped in a potato sack after he tortured and killed dogs for sport.

If Anthony and Combs weren't given any other choice but to play — and succeed — at a disadvantage, then why not put the Jeremiah Masoli criminals of the sporting world, as well as the Shawne Merriman sports cheaters of the world, at the same disadvantage when they flagrantly disregard their privileged blessings to be collegiate and professional athletes and role models?

It's just a thought.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## TCU carries streak, beats BYU 54-51

By Seth Dahle  
Staff Reporter

In a battle of the top two teams in the Mountain West Conference, the TCU Lady Frogs prevailed, defeating the BYU Lady Cougars, 54-51, in the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Wednesday evening.

It was TCU's seventh straight win, keeping the Lady Frogs perfect in 2011. Senior guard/forward Helena Sværriðottir scored 16 points and made four three-pointers. Senior guard Emily Carter added 15 points despite shooting just 3-for-16 from the field. TCU was outrebounded

45-34, but held BYU to just 32 percent shooting in the second half.

The Lady Frogs improved to 13-6 on the season and are 5-0 in MWC play. BYU fell to 11-7 and 3-1 in conference play.

Check out [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) for the full game story.



PAIGE MCARDLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman center Latricia Lovings and teammates celebrate after Lovings stole the ball from a BYU player Wednesday at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

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## OPINION

Wide receiver is a true inspiration with only one arm.

## SPORTS

## TENNIS

Chris Price dreams of Wimbledon after TCU.

# Freshman point guard doesn't let height slow her down

By Josh Davis

News Now

Freshman Meagan Henson claims she's been the shortest player on every basketball team she's ever been on. The shortest in YMCA, the shortest in middle and high school, the shortest on Amateur Athletic Union teams and now, naturally, shortest in college. But the Lady Frogs' reserve point guard hasn't allowed her roughly five-foot frame to slow her down yet — Henson fights size with speed.

The women's basketball team lists Henson at 5-feet, but programs are notorious for fibbing an inch or so in favor of the home team. She would be an easy target for shot blockers — if only they could catch her. Henson darts around the court using quick cuts and blink-and-you'll-miss-it crossovers to get open looks at the basket.

"I think as she understands her role better, you'll see her play better, but she's certainly been exciting when she's been in the game."

Jeff Mittie

Head basketball coach

With a disadvantage not only in height but in reach as well, Henson had to learn to first and foremost to protect the basketball.

"I think one of the main things that's helped me is ballhandling," Henson said. "That's my responsibility. There's always going to be good shooters or good rebounders, but that's not going to be what I need to do."

Lady Frogs head basketball coach Jeff Mittie has

known Henson since she was a preteen. She played on an AAU team with his daughter, so Mittie was willing to take a chance on Henson's unique skill set. Even if she didn't immediately contribute as a player, Mittie believed she had the tools to get better.

"[We] felt good about all the other things," Mittie said. "Her attitude was going to be great, her work ethic was going to be great and all those things have been very good."

On the court, Henson hasn't been perfect, but no freshman is.

She's appeared in 12 out of 18 games for the Lady Frogs this season, averaging 5.4 minutes per appearance. Her stats aren't eye-popping, but her breakneck pace has turned heads.

"I think as she understands her role better, you'll see her play better, but she's certainly been exciting when she's been in the game," Mittie said.

This is mostly a learning year for Henson. She's happy to be getting some clean-up minutes but happier to learn from All-Mountain West Conference seniors Emily Carter and Helena Sverrisdottir.

"Everyone wants to play, but I'm learning from Helena [and] Emily," Henson said. "There's just been great senior leadership, so it's been a good time for me to learn and mature."

Her teammates don't give her too hard a time about her height.

"I've known most of them for a while, so they're pretty much used to it," Henson said. "And if they do [give me a hard time], you know, it's okay."

She's used to doubters.

"As far as being one of the



See **BASKETBALL** 10

Freshman Meagan Henson (left) stands next to senior Helena Sverrisdottir before the Frogs 54-51 win over BYU Wednesday.

PAIGE MCARDLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## ONLINE

Get the full breakdown and analysis from the TCU Lady Frog's 54-51 win over BYU on Wednesday at the DMC. The conference win extended TCU's win streak to seven games.