TCU SKIFF

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In-Line Hockey club team talks about his recent accomplishments.

Sports, page 6

TODAY'S HEADLINES

Sports: Texas Rangers get new owners, page 6 **Opinion:** Faith will help Haitians survive, page 3 Sports: Frog football may not belong on certain top 10 list, page 6

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NEWS

A class of university students will soon study geothermal energy at the new admissions building site . Tomorrow



HIGHER EDUCATION THE GRADUATE



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHANCE WELCH / Multimedia Editor The number of GRE tests administered in 2009 rose 13 percent from the year before. Despite this trend, marketing professor William Cron said that students should have some work experience and discover their goals before they apply to graduate school or law school.

Prof: Work experience helpful

By Katie Vance Staff Reporter

Although more students are apstudents should hold a job for at of action." least two years to discover their

background...beyond all that, somebody who has a pretty good idea of what they want to do when they get out of the program," Cron plying to attend graduate or law said. "It is also really, really imporschool directly after graduation, tant that this person be a person

Applications for admission to interests and goals, a university graduate schools within the United States increased 4.8 percent be-William Cron, professor of tween the fall of 2007 and the fall Cron said he thought the poor for some students applying for a "Our ideal candidate is going graduate program without work NUMBERS

13% more people took the GRE in 2009 compared to 2008



MLK SCHOLARSHIP Group to raise award funding

By Wyatt Kanyer Staff Reporter

Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream to see society strive for acceptance and diversity. Members of the selection committee for the university's Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship said they are trying their best to preserve that dream.

Committee members said they are working hard to make sure the university community knows that the 28-year-old scholarship is still in existence, and they are seeking to increase funding and support from university faculty and staff.

English professor Bob Frye said the idea for the scholarship came about when he and political science professor Donald Jackson met in Jackson's home in Cambridge, England in the early 1980s. They decided to ask the administration to consider the idea, and, after the scholarship was approved, Frye presented it as part of his speech for Honors Professor of the Year at the Honors Convocation on April 15, 1982.

The scholarship was originally funded by faculty donations. Later, the committee decided to allow staff members to contribute and now, Frye said, members are looking for possible out-

Campus police met with the Student Government Association on Tuesday to discuss safety at the university. To read more, visit dailyskiff.com.

PECULIAR FACT

SHEBOYGAN FALLS, Wis. - A year after a "morbidly obese" dog froze to a Wisconsin sidewalk, the border collie mix has lost 40 pounds and is slowly returning to an active lifestyle. Jiffy weighed about 120 pounds when he froze to the sidewalk in December 2008.

– The Associated Press

TODAY'S WEATHER



Chance of Rain

Tomorrow: Showers 60 / 28 Friday: Mostly Cloudy 36 / 23



official said.

marketing and academic direc- of 2008, according to the Council tor of the MBA program for the of Graduate Schools Web site. Neeley School of Business, said an ideal MBA candidate would have economy was the main motivation professional experience.

to have somewhere within a 650 experience. to 690 GMAT score, probably five

Increasing interest in graduate years of experience and a science school was reflected in the rising

more people took the LSAT in 2009 compared to 2008

0.86%

more people took the GMAT in 2009 compared to 2008

SEE GRAD SCHOOL · PAGE 2

"We are trying to enlarge the number of possibilities," Frye said.

But the committee will not do so until administration has approved such efforts, he said.

"We worked very hard to make sure

SEE SCHOLARSHIP · PAGE 2

NEELEY SCHOOL Baseball superstar speaker at luncheon

By Nathan Wall Staff Reporter

The Dallas business community will receive a visit from Hall of Fame baseball pitcher Nolan Ryan, the featured speaker at a Neeley School of Business event Thursday.



Ryan O. Homer Erekson,

the John V. Roach Dean of the Neeley School of Business, said Ryan, a former part-time assistant baseball coach at TCU in 1994, will talk at the Inter-Continental Dallas from 11:30 a.m. to

Ryan was selected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999 in his first year of eligibility, according to the Nolan Ryan Foundation Web site. In 1993, he concluded a 27-year-old Major League career with a total 5,714 strikeouts and seven no-hitters, the highest totals of any player in history, according to the Web site. The Nolan Ryan Foundation is a nonprofit that raises funds to provide resources for youth.

Erekson said Ryan will speak about current events in the business world

SEE RYAN · PAGE 2

STUDY ABROAD Ghana destination of new program

By Ashley lovine Staff Reporter

The university has added Ghana to its ever-growing list of study abroad destinations.

Komla Aggor, director of the Ghana Summer Study Abroad Program, said that even though students may be hesitant to go to Africa instead of popular European destinations, Africa will be a refreshing experience because it is a lesser known continent.

There are many students that are really familiar with European countries, but this is a new ground we are breaking, a new ground now for students to diversify their knowledge and find out the facts (about Ghana)," Aggor said.

Darren Middleton, assistant director of the program and assistant professor of religion, said the trip will give students insight into humankind's heritage.

"I hope they will come to realize that while Africa is far, far away, in some ways all of civilization wears a bit of Africa, or a portion of Africa, on her face," Middleton said.

Students will participate in seminars, a regional tour and a service learning project while in Ghana. Seminar lecture topics will include the role of religion in West African life, wildlife and biodiversity in West Africa and the changing social structure of Ghana. Aggor said students will visit an orphanage in a small town, where he hopes students will do philanthropy work that transforms their lives. religious communities there.

The program will fulfill three hours in either the cultural awareness or the global awareness core credit, according to the program's Web site, and students will have to submit a journal and a final paper reflecting on their experience in Africa.

The trip is scheduled from May 12 until May 30. The cost is about \$2,450, not including tuition, immunization fees and a visa. Aggor said the Office of Financial Aid offers both merit and non-merit based scholarships for students.

Seven students are already enrolled in the program with their deposits said. paid, and 10 more have gone through the application process, Aggor said. trip will happen because the applicants have already gone through the lengthy process.

This will be Aggor's third study abroad trip to his native Ghana; he took two trips while teaching at John Carroll University in Ohio. He said international education is key for university students these days.

"It's just wonderful, taking American students to my own country, which, in many respects, is different culturally from this one," Aggor said. "For TCU...global experience is part of our focus; I felt that this worked right into what we do."

Middleton said he decided to join the trip because his research had taken him to Ghana as a scholar, and he has done some ethnographic work on the



"One of the things that I think most folks will be struck by, once they visit a place like Ghana, is that religion permeates all of Ghanaian life," Middleton

Middleton said that while people in the Western Hemisphere often make The program requires 10 people to go, a distinction between the religious life but Aggor said he is confident that the and the secular life, that is not the case in the country of Ghana. All of life is religious there, and he said he wants students to see that religion and state

Ghana

Relatively prosperous compared to some of its neighbors, Ghana is often labeled "Africa for beginners."

Capital: Accra Area: 238, 537 sq km Population: 21 million **Climate:** Tropical Language: English, Twi, Ga and Ewe

Source: Lonely Planet

SEE GHANA · PAGE 2

1 p.m Thursday.

NEWS & SPORTS

GRAD SCHOOL continued from page 1

number of admission test takers

270,000 people took the Graduate Management Admission Test in 2009, about 2,300 more dergrad is more (of) an expecthan the previous year, according to the Graduate Manage- are getting higher quality edument Admission Council.

LSATs administered in 2009 ter's, then you are likely not said. Of those 60, two were rose 6.4 percent from 2008, according to the Law School Admission Council Web site. In 2008, the number of LSATs sider herself to be a marketable administered rose only 1.6 per- candidate to an MBA program cent when compared to the year without a few years of profesbefore.

Further, the number of Graduate Record Examination Cron said. "The hidden cost... test takers rose to 670,000, a re- is that students who start out cord 13 percent increase com- in one direction find out they score of a Neeley MBA applipared to last year, according don't like what they have been cant was 608. Today the average to an article in The New York studying or that there is great-Times that cited the Education- er opportunity for them elseal Testing Service.

"Coming out with a degree, themselves more employable by going to graduate school."

adjustment in a career.

Maddison Grigsby, a senior

said that although she was confident in her ability to network and hold a job in this economy, she has seen friends who have It was estimated that about struggled to find a job after recently graduating.

"Undergrad is great, but untation," Grigsby said. "People cation and getting more educa-In addition, the number of tion. If you don't have a masgoing to be marketable for the upper-level jobs."

Grigsby said she did not consional experience.

"There is not just one path," where."

Melissa Moody, a senior (students) don't see the oppor- business information systems tunities for employment right and supply and value chain now," Cron said. "They make management major, said that she is concerned about the job market outlook for when she tiveness of a TCU education was Cron said that a benefit of an graduates, but that the Neeley also increasing the quality and MBA is the ability to make an School has prepared her for the number of applicants. future.

GHANA

continued from page 1

can work together.

Aggor said the program is said he hopes students come back temporary America, where we to go back to Africa. that unites the United States and others," Aggor said. Ghana than separates them.

"I really took the initiative to *contributed to this report*.

Middleton agreed that economics and math major, themselves in Ghanian cul-

international finance major, talk with a lot of my professors and get mentored by some business people in the community," Moody said.

> students take on an internship before considering a direct transition into a graduate program.

> Sixty people entered Neeley's full-time MBA program this year, an increase of almost 50 percent from last year, Cron coming directly from an undergraduate program, Cron said. Neeley's MBA students have an average of four years of professional experience, he said.

plicants to its full-time MBA program, it also received more qualified applicants, Cron said. In 2008, the average GMAT GMAT score is 639.

Cron said the national trends in younger graduate students are not as prevalent at the university. Although the economy is a factor in graduate school interest, he said the reputation of the Neeley MBA program and the attrac-

Cron said he recommends

As Neeley received more ap-

Staff reporter Marshall Doig

RYAN

continued from page 1

and the challenges he is facing.

"(Ryan) really brings this really interesting perspective...of (how), in the sports entertainment industry, important business decisions are made," Erekson said.

Ryan, who is currently the president of team operawas part of a group of inves-

SCHOLARSHIP

continued from page 1

(the scholarship) was approved by the financial aid office, the provost, the chancellor and vice chancellor and that they were OK with this," Frye said. "We have to go through the appropriate channels."

Frye said the scholarship was originally intended to make a push," Wong said. provide an opportunity for racial minorities to attend college, but he is an advocate for the scholarship's broadened availability.

"If a person has financial need and is willing to become a person in public service, then I think (the scholarship) should be on the basis of merit," he said.

Morri Wong, chair of the sociology department and a member of the committee, said the number of recipients decreased during the can be found in the office formal member of the selecpast few years because of little funding. He said a lack of promotion of the scholarship resulted in fewer faculty and staff donations.

tors whose bid to purchase the Rangers was accepted by Major League Baseball on Tuesday.

"We really don't know whether he'll address that or not," Erekson said. "We pretty much leave that open for the potential speaker."

Erekson said professional athletics is an interesting industry.

"The Texas Rangers are retions for the Texas Rangers, ally important for this metro- and 2009 may pay \$25 for politan area," Erekson said.

> Wong said he and the \$500 to \$2,000. other committee members would make brochures to 3.0 GPA, Wong said, and indistribute among groups such as Faculty Senate, Staff apply must be in the top 25 Assembly and the Alumni Association. Committee members will attend the groups' meetings and present a brief pitch to re-introduce

Wong said the scholarship has provided more than \$175,000 in financial support for students since 1982. requirements for the scholarship application is a 750word essay describing how prospective careers for service to humanity.

According to the financial aid Web site, applications in Sadler Hall. Wong said the number of scholarships awarded has varied throughout the years and award amounts have ranged from

the scholarship.

He said it is available to both both improve diversity and current students and incom- reward people for being diing freshmen. One of the verse was a great two-fer," he applicants would use their first heard about the scholar-

Nolan Ryan When: 11:30 a.m. to

1 p.m. Thursday Where: InterContinental Dallas To purchase tickets, call 800-646-4TCU.

Tickets are \$30 for alumni, parents and friends. Alumni who graduated between 1999 their ticket.

Applicants must have a coming freshmen looking to percent of their high school class.

Andrew Fort, a religion professor, said he has been an advocate for the scholarship since its beginning. He said "We're going to get out and he likes that faculty and staff members are involved in the scholarship, which he said could be a tool used to encourage diversity on campus.

> "The idea that we could said.

> Mark Dennis, an assistant professor of religion, said he ship during a workshop the religion department conducted that focused on King's vision. Although he is not a tion committee, he said he was proud to be a part of a cause with values the likes of the MLK Scholarship.

'This notion of those who have been oppressed is something really important in my teaching and in my scholarship," Dennis said.

He said the scholarship resonated with him because of his personal experiences and the religion department's recent efforts to encourage acceptance among people.

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TOP 10

continued from page 6

2001 in the Las Vegas Bowl. After that, the Utes

ture.

and realize there may be more talk a lot about reaching out to

Erica Lawrence, a junior Lawrence said.

students will truly immerse said she plans to take part in the Ghana study abroad trip this summer because of a de-"Students come back and sire to revisit the continent. meant to expose students to the somehow are better people for She said she visited Morocco cultural aspects of Ghana. He the future, particularly in con- two semesters ago and wanted

'There are so many things in Ghana that I wanted to see,"

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finished the decade with three conference championships (one less than TCU) and two BCS wins (two more than TCU) that gave Utah final top five rankings in 2005 and 2009. Include eight bowl trips in the decade to TCU's nine, and there is a solid argument starting to form.

However, Utah's win over Alabama in the 2009 Sugar Bowl trumps any signature win for TCU. In the eyes of the fans, Boise kicked open the door in 2007 over Oklahoma, and Utah made it abundantly clear that mid-majors could beat the best in 2009. The Horned Frogs are yet to prove anything on a national scale. When that happens, TCU deserves its spot on the list. Until then, we don't need pats on the head and, "Aww, that's cute."

We have a winner on our hands in Fort Worth. I hope, and honestly believe, that the next decade could be an even better time to start wearing purple. The program is still waiting for its national-stage win, but it will come soon. Once it does, alright Mr. Maisel - we'll be ready for our close up.

> Josh Davis is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Dallas.

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Phrvnosoma cornutum [Horned Frog]

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FDIO

1 in 4 TCU STUDENTS would choose NOT to have alcohol available at parties









SPORTS



The men's and women's basketball teams face off against the Colorado State Rams. Tomorrow

MLB Group acquires Texas Rangers

By Stephen Hawkins AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) -Chuck Greenberg bought a red Texas Rangers pullover during a rainy late-season series when he was in town preparing a bid to and approved by major league definitely impact where I am and buy the team.

"It sat on my chair for four months. I wouldn't put it on," Greenberg said Tuesday, sporting the pullover while watching the Rangers work out. "On Saturday night, I put it on. It felt pretty good."

still evident three days after his an ownership stake in the team investment group reached an agreement to buy the Rangers from Tom Hicks in a deal that

new CEO and managing general partner - especially on a fact that a lot of those people sunny day at Rangers Ballpark are going to look toward me for with players taking batting practice during winter development it," Ryan said. "I don't know that camp.

The sale still has to be reviewed officials. Greenberg and Nolan Ryan, the Hall of Fame pitcher who is part of Greenberg's group and will remain team president, both believe the process can be completed by the April 5 season opener.

Now Ryan, the Rangers presi-Greenberg's excitement was dent for the past two years, has that will be governed by a board of directors.

will make Greenberg the team's different because I do have some Ryan said.

ownership interest in it and the guidance on the baseball side of I'll feel any more responsibility, but I think how the club does will my interest in it."

The Rangers haven't been to the playoffs since 1999 after winning all three of their AL West titles in a four-year span. They have never won a playoff series.

Texas is coming off only its second winning season (87-75) since its last playoff appearance.

"My expectations today are that we are going to be extremely competitive and if we don't win "My perspective will be a little our division, I'll be disappointed,"

OPINION Who belongs in the college top 10?



Last week, ESPN.com writer Ivan Maisel set off a firestorm of Internet controversy when he published a column listing the top 10 college football programs of the 2000s. Unsurprisingly, after 10 years of failing to agree on a good name for the decade, the mass public also couldn't decide who belonged.

TCU came in at No. 10 on Maisel's list, behind (in order) USC, Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, Ohio State, LSU, Boise

State, Georgia and Virginia Tech. While it was a wonderfully generous move to place both TCU and Boise in the top 10, I'd argue that the writer has been distracted by the "Decade of the Mid-major" talk pushed by the people paid to talk on ESPN.

I think they forgot to squeeze "of injustice" in there somewhere. If the past 10 years have been as good as it gets for mid-majors, we might as well quit. The BCS Championship system doesn't give every team a fair shot at the championship in August. Not until TCU, Boise, Utah or any of the other mid-majors hold up a national championship trophy will we have seen the decade of the mid-majors.

Don't get me wrong, the

growth of TCU's football program is one of the best stories of the decade. However, if you could trade our past decade for, say, the University of Miami's (which included 34 straight wins and two BCS championship trips, winning one), you would in an instant. The 2001 Miami Hurricanes are in the conversation of the best college football teams of all time, and deservedly so. Meanwhile, in 2001, TCU played in the GalleryFurniture.com Bowl.

But Miami isn't alone in their complaints.

As much as I hate to say it, even Utah deserves that No. 10 spot more than TCU. Utah's recent success began with a win over USC. It came in 2001 in

SEE TOP 10 · PAGE 2



CLUB SPORTS IN-LINE



PATTY ESPINOSA / TCU News Now Senior marketing major Matt Benvenuti is an in-line hockey player acting as president of the In-Line Hockey club. He was recently asked to play for the American In-Line Hockey League in Texas.

Hockey player rises to top

By Patty Espinosa News Now News Director

From Newport Beach, Calif., this senior marketing major is more than just a student. In addition to being a member of the Brothers Under Christ Fraternity, Matt Benvenuti is also an sometimes when you make elite in-line hockey player. a highlight reel goal...or He's president of the In-Line Hockey club and was recently asked to play for an American In-Line Hockey League in Texas.

Q: What attracted you to in-line hockey?

A: Well, my friend moved in right next door to me "There's just a lot me to hockey, and so I just of times where it's played with him until I re- just really fun to alized that it was something play. It's not really I really had a passion for. One of the local teams was in-line hockey. You know, we're from Newport Beach, so there wasn't as many ice hockey rinks around the area, so I just started playing with them. And the rink that I actually started playing in has one of the biggest in-line hockey rinks in North America. So playing with them, I had a really high level of competition and I just kind of stuck with that for the longest time.

ing thing about it for you?

A: It's really fast. It's a lot like ice hockey, but it's a lot more speed based with a lot more finesse. There's just a lot of times where it's just restopping, ever. It's really fun even when you make a big stop on defense or something like that...either way it's just one of those things where you just get a rush was a lot of fun."

Q: What's the most excit- lar. It used to be a lot more popular. They used to have the RHL, which was a professional roller hockey league that paid pretty well, but popularity died down a bit. They're starting it ally fun to play. It's not really back up again with these leagues, and maybe it'll go somewhere, maybe it won't. Hopefully it will though.

Q: Do you see a lot of students getting involved with in-line hockey, and these types of leagues?

A: Well, yeah there are and your like, "Wow! That a lot of different schools around the area that have a team. TCU's team plays against UTA, UTD, Stephen F. Austin, Sam Houston State, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Abilene Christian and a few others. So, I've met a lot of people through that. They go to different schools, and I've actually hung out with a few of the guys in Louisiana on their way to the tournament in Mississippi, so it's a pretty cool way to network around, and it's just nice to meet some other hockey players.

Q: And, so you play here at TCU?

A: TCU has a club team too...I'm the president.

Q: Do a lot of your friends play too, or is it something that just you do?

A: Yeah, well, my roommate, Travis Brown, is one of our goalies. We've got about 10 guys. You don't need as many players for inline hockey, so it's kind of a smaller group. A lot of people don't even know that we have a team, but we're getting a lot better. We're just kind of in an exhibition basis, but we have a few games every once in a while. And we're hoping that we get a few more fans to come out, but it's good, it's fun.

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> James R. Mallory Attorney at Law

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stopping, ever."

Matt Benvenuti senior marketing major

Q: So, tell me a little bit about the Texas Terror team.

A: Texas Terror. It's from the AIHL...American Inline Hockey League...I just got picked up by them a few days ago because they said they needed another player. And, so, I started playing on their minor league team, and in the first term they said they needed a few extra players, so they bumped me up to their elite team. I played okay, but I was really tired because I had to play for both teams during the weekends. So, I mean, hopefully I can do a little bit better next time. But I did get a game-winning goal for them, and I did decent in the minor league team. So, it was a lot of fun, and it was good to meet a few new guys.

Q: So, this is a big deal, and it's fun for you.

A: Yeah, it's a really big deal for in-line hockey especially because it's just starting to get really popu-

Q: Is there anything else about you, or in-line hockey in general, that you'd like for other people to know about?

A: Yeah, well, in-line hockey is something that I've always enjoyed doing for the longest time. I just really wish more people knew about it and how exciting it was because everybody that ever comes out to games always enjoys it so much... It's actually a lot faster than ice hockey because there's one less player on the rink. There's just people going full speed the whole time, and there's a lot more goals so it doesn't have the same minuses that ice hockey does, when people say there's only one or two goals a game and stuff like that. So, it's my favorite sport. I like playing

ice hockey too, but in-line hockey's pretty good.



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010 · PAGE 5





Bliss

Today in History On this day in 1756, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria. - The Associated Press

Joke of the Day Q: What did one plate say to the other plate? A: "Lunch is on me!"

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Tuesday's Solution

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See Thursday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.





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by Harry Bliss

OPINION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010 · PAGE 3

DAILY SKIFF Editorial Board

Julieta Chiquillo, Editor-in-Chief Maricruz Salinas, Web Editor Melanie Cruthirds, News Editor Mary Sue Greenleaf, Sports Editor Courtney Jay, Projects Editor

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The Skiff View

Ghana great option for enrichment, experience

he study abroad program in Ghana scheduled for May is a well-needed expansion of the university's programs in Africa.

The university's administration stressed that students get a well-rounded education. The study abroad experience can give them a more informed perspective on the rest of the world.

While there have been many opportunities to go abroad in Europe, and those programs seem to be popular, the scope of study abroad in Africa has been limited to South Africa. Now, with the possible success of the Ghana program, the number of opportunities to learn about African culture can increase.

Students here are accustomed to Western culture, so they should challenge themselves to step outside their comfort zone and visit places like Ghana. Ghana might be a lesser-known West African country, but students will never see the similarities and differences between the cultures if they don't take the first step to travel.

When looking at Africa, many seem to focus on the problems with AIDS and poverty but overlook the richness of the culture. The possibility for students to be philanthropic and do service work while they are there is an added bonus. This is a chance for students to make a difference in someone's life while changing their own.

Multimedia editor Chance Welch for the editorial board. The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

Democrats' arrogance led to Brown victory



Think back a little over a year ago. President Barack Obama had just been inaugurated. The Democrats had 59 seats in the house with a filibuster-proof 60th just a few recounts away in Minnesota.

One year after American voters pushed Republicans out of power, the party is creeping back. The right-wingers got one Senate seat back last week in the Massachusetts special election for the late Ted Kennedy's seat. The state had long been a stronghold for Democrats, but it elected Republican Scott Brown to take the empty seat, the first Republican to hold a Massachusetts Senate seat since 1972. Losing a Senate seat in Massachusetts is a major loss for the Democrats. The defeat falls heavily on the shoulders of Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley, who lost the special election. Coakley's first mistake was taking a vacation in the middle of campaigning. She left Massachusetts in between winning the Dec. 8 primary and the election, a time frame that allowed Brown to gain support. Other mistakes Coakley made in the race included saying that she "looked the other way" in regards to immigration laws and calling former Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling a "Yankees fan" when he campaigned for Brown.

But Coakley's biggest no-no of all? Suggesting that campaigning at "cold" Fenway Park during the NHL's outdoor Winter Classic was beneath her. Living in Massachusetts, she should know that disrespecting the Red Sox and their fans could kill a career not only in the Bay State, but in all of New England.

The loss of Kennedy's seat cannot be blamed solely on Coakley though. Obama wanted the health care reform bill to be more radical than many Senate Democrats expected, which has driven a wedge into the party.



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Faith necessary for survival



As a race of flawed beings living in an unpredictable world, we have become used to seeing multitudinous forms of death, destruction and tragedy. The recent devastating earthquakes in Haiti were unfortunate for many and another lesson in desensitization. However, as it almost always does, the human spirit proved unable to be crushed. Perhaps this is because a faith in something other than themselves is providing the light and inspiration for thousands of human souls to once again triumph over tragedy.

The New York Times has been inundated with articles concerning Haiti and the seemingly hopeless circumstances of its people,

They are turning to the one thing that, if believed fully and wholly and with one's entire soul, can never be taken away; faith.

True, faith in oneself and one's own fortitude, if strong enough, can lift one's spirit, but a faith in a higher power and love greater than oneself seems the much more sustainable and lasting one. Throughout the world, when tragedy has stricken, one will undoubtedly find grief and pain. One will find people at their wit's end, searching for something to believe and something to grasp onto. Faith, whether it be faith in God, in one's ability to survive, or in the fact that everything happens for a reason, can make the difference in a situation of tragic happenstance or a natural disaster.

Looking back at history, one will find that when the light was darkest, people would either give up or give in to their faith. The people of Haiti are experiencing the effects of a disaster many of

They are turning to the one thing that, if believed fully and wholly and with one's entire soul, can never be taken away; they are surviving by faith.

us will likely never know. One of Lejeune's followers, Ricot Calixte, didn't know if his unborn child was still alive in his wife's womb, as a concrete block had hit her in the stomach.

"We don't know if the baby is still alive," he said, according to the Times article. "Prayer can help, I think. As I still breathe, I have faith."

As Calixte so simply summarizes, the true beauty of faith lies in its infallibility.

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Democrats have so many different views on hot topics right now that they are making the post-2008 election Republicans look like they knew what they were doing. And the face of the GOP at that time was Sarah Palin...Sarah Palin!

The arrogant view of the Democratic Party in that they could get anything done without the help of the Republicans just changed with Brown's Massachusetts win. Obama may have ruined any goodwill he had with Republicans, making bipartisan negotiations all but impossible.

Thirty-six Senate seats are up for re-election in November. If the Democratic Party does not become unified and regain some trust with the public before then, that "change" that Obama preached on the campaign trail could come in the form of a Republican Congress when November rolls around.

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but one article catches the eye and stands apart from the rest. Entitled "Amid Rubble, Seeking a Refuge in Faith," the article details how amid the most disheartening and devastating moment of their lives, a group of Haitian people are turning to their faith to pull them through.

Though the Red Cross and other similar organizations have donated near \$37 million dollars in disaster relief funds, nothing will sustain the loss-stricken heart and soul like one's faith.

"Think of our new village here as the home of Jesus Christ, not the scene of a disaster," declared the Rev. Joseph Lejeune as he gathered a handful of beleaguered and broken victims of the earthquake living in a tent city to a prayer service. How is it, though they have likely lost everything in a natural disaster, the likes of which their country has never seen, these people are surviving?



Jean-Louis Nord, a friend of the Lochard family, helps search for bodies through the rubble of their home in the aftermath of the massive Jan. 12 earthquake in Port-au-Prince on Monday.

Democrats place new roadblock to health care bill

WASHINGTON (AP) - Two centrist senators Tuesday threw up a roadblock to salvaging President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, as Democrats agonized over whether to push forward or shift to idle until political resistance subsides.

Sens. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., and Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark. – both face re-election this year in Republican-leaning states — said they would oppose the strategy Democratic leaders are considering to reconcile the es urgent challenges as he addresses House and Senate bills and put comprehensive legislation on Obama's desk.

That approach involves using a special budget-related procedure to The country has lost more than 7 go around Republican opponents in million jobs since the recession bethe Senate, a calculated risk sure to inflame critics on the political right.

Obama's speech to tout plans to energize economy

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama will try to pivot Iraqi immigrant charged with falsely past rocky times for the nation and himself Wednesday night in his first State of the Union address, offering a skeptical public repackaged plans to energize the economy, stem a tide of red ink and strengthen anti-terror visit Maj. Nidal Hasan at a San Andefenses.

He'll also be trying to revive his own "yes we can" image.

One year into office, Obama facand a prime-time television audience at home for the constitutionally mandated ritual of U.S. governing. gan two years ago, unemployment is stuck at 10 percent and the government is grappling with a record \$1.4 trillion deficit.

Man who tried to visit Fort Hood suspect released

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An claiming to be the Fort Hood shooting suspect's attorney has been released from federal custody, despite a prosecutor's objection.

Senan Kahtan Abrahem tried to tonio military hospital earlier this month, and was indicted last week on a federal charge of making a false statement.

During a bail hearing Monday, lawmakers gathered in the Capitol U.S. Magistrate Judge John Primomo released Abrahem on an unsecured bond after hearing he didn't harm anyone and has resumed taking medication for his bipolar disorder.

Hasan's lawyer John Galligan said Abrahem has no connection to his client, who is charged with 13 counts of murder and 32 counts of premeditated murder in the November shooting at Fort Hood near Killeen.

FBI looking into Pittsburgh arts student beating

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The FBI is looking into whether Pittsburgh police officers violated the civil rights of an 18-year-old violist they suspected of carrying a gun by brutally beating him as he walked to his grandmother's house after dark, a spokesman said Tuesday.

The FBI launched an initial probe even though it has not yet received a letter from Jordan Miles' attorney formally requesting a criminal investigation into the Jan. 12 confrontation, spokesman Jeff Killeen said.

Jordan Miles alleges three undercover officers beat him as he walked from his mother's home to his grandmother's nearby. Pictures taken by his mother show his swollen face covered with red, raw bruises and his right eye swollen shut. A bald spot mars his head where he says his dreadlocks were torn out

Afghan warlord re-emerges despite West's demands

KABUL (AP) — He is among Afghanistan's most notorious warlords, accused of widespread abuses including the massacre of thousands of Taliban prisoners. Now he's back, reinstated by President Hamid Karzai in a top army post despite Western demands for sweeping reform.

Karzai this month restored Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum as chief of staff to the commander in chief of the Afghan army — a job he lost in 2008 after failing to cooperate in an investigation into the shooting of a rival.

Although the job has little real power, Western officials and Afghan human rights groups see the appointment as a sign that Karzai remains unable to shake off his ties to warlords and regional powerbrokers despite heavy international pressure for a new beginning as the U.S. and NATO ramp up the war against the Taliban.