DAILYSKIFF.COM · WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2009 VOL. 106 ISSUE 64



The women's basketball team prepares to move on without its injured top contributor. Sports, page 6

TOP ITUNES DOWNLOADS

- My Life Would Suck Without You Kelly Clarkson
- Gives You Hell The All-American Rejects
- You Found Me The Fray
- Just Dance Lady GaGa & Colby
- Heartless Kanye West
- Single Ladies (Put A Ring Beyonce
- I Hate This Part The Pussycat Dolls
- Love Story Taylor Swift
- Circus Britney Spears
- 10 I'm Yours Jason Mraz

—iTunes



Organic produce is great if it's local. Opinion, page 3

PECULIAR FACT

TOKYO — Seven diners in northern Japan fell ill and three remained hospitalized Tuesday after eating blowfish testicles prepared in a restaurant not authorized to serve the poisonous delicacy.

Associated Press

TODAY'S WEATHER



Partly Sunny

Tomorrow: Mostly Sunny Friday: Mostly Sunny 57 / 36



remember to recycle this newspaper.



Brite Divinity School appoints a new director for the Black Church Studies **Tomorrow in News**



Students aren't seeing an increase in insomnia despite a national trend. **Tomorrow in News**

CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE

Police aim to update camera technology

By Madison Morgan Staff Reporter

Campus police are working to improve security around campus due to an increase in campus parking lot break-ins, a campus police official said.

Steven McGee, chief of TCU Police, said he attended a technology show put on by The American Society for Information Science & Technology in order to preview the most productive surveillance cameras to place on campus.

surveillance cameras for the Police Depart- most effectively, he said.

ment that are more consistent in the way they operate and have updated technol-

"Before if someone had their laptop stolen in the library we would have to watch hours of video," McGee said. "With this new equipment we can isolate the area where the student was sitting and the program itself will only show footage where there was any sort of movement or activity."

The cameras currently being used have different operating systems and were put in by different departments, McGee said. McGee said he is looking at a system of This has kept the force from using them

But cameras do not prevent car break- to park." ins; students do, McGee said.

"Students cannot leave valuables such as iPods or GPS systems in plain sight," McGee said. "There have been instances in which thieves have busted in windows just to see what was in a backpack or gym bag."

McGee said campus police use the cameras that are operating now to monitor suspicious activity in parking lots.

"If we see a car pass up several open parking spots we immediately send out an officer to investigate the activity," McGee said. "If someone doesn't take a front row parking spot, they're probably not there

McGee said he continues to use alternative methods to catch thieves by placing officers in unmarked tinted cars around

"We're not Big Brother," McGee said. "We are simply trying to deter the bad guy and if a potential thief sees someone waiting in their car they are less likely to attempt a break-in."

McGee said officers have detained people in the process of breaking in and charged them with criminal trespassing.

SEE POLICE · PAGE 2

MIXING IT UP



The Mountain West Conference is leading an effort to make changes to the current format of the Bowl Championship Series. The proposed changes to the system, which is filled with controversy nearly every college football season, will make it easier for conferences like the Mountain West to gain automatic bowl bids and easier access to the big-time bowl games. Will the Horned Frogs and the rest of the Mountain West Conference be able to make the changes to college football that fans so desperately want? See page 8

UNIVERSITY DRIVE

Development on hold due to recession

By Annie Cooper Staff Reporter

WestBend, a new mixed-use commercial real estate development on University Drive across from University Park Village, halted construction due to the bad economy, the project's developer said.

WestBend is the first large commercial development in Fort Worth to halt construction, according to a Fort Worth Business Press article.

Tommy Miller, senior partner of the project's developer, Trademark Property Co., said the project's initial goal was to open a 32,000 square-foot development in the spring of 2010. However, the capital markets became volatile and the retail economy became especially fragile, delaying the project-

ed opening one or two seasons, he said. Trademark Properties is hopeful that

things "scab over" in the market and that an emphasis in real estate and leadership construction will begin again by the end of the year for a spring 2011 opening, Miller

"We have a lot of prospective retailers that we are in negotiation with and we are confident that the lineup is strong," Miller said.

Retailers Anthropologie and J. Crew agreed that delaying construction would be in the project's best interest, Miller said. Heather Cohen, vice president of J.Crew real estate, said no one is immune to the

economic environment. "We are delaying our opening and will continue to assess the leasing progress that the developer has," Cohen said.

According to the company's Web site, J. Crew sales increased after the first family appeared at the inauguration dressed in cus-

tom J.Crew designs. Brian Kym, a senior finance major with early 2010 is not smart business."

and an intern for Trademark Property Co., said he makes it his job to be aware of the economic climate.

"In today's market we can only expect a handful of new stores," Kym said. "Stores have to be healthy themselves to go around signing leases."

Kym said he enjoys working on projects that will in turn cater to the university but that approval for funding by equity finan-

ciers is incremental. A commercial developer has to find retailers to lease spaces to be able to deliver a plan to the financiers, Kym said.

"You are approved as long as you deliver,"

he said. "That is how the system works." Miller said it might be a while before new developments get underway.

"Opening any new project in 2009 or

GRANTS AND LOANS

Bill could benefit thousands on campus

By Mark Bell Staff Reporter

The proposed federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill could give students additional help in paying for college, a university official said.

Increasing the annual limit on Pell Grants and Stafford loans will allow students to borrow less from the more expensive private student loan programs, said Mike Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid.

The Jan. 15 stimulus package proposal ould increase the maximum I by \$500, increase the limit on unsubsidized Stafford loans by \$2,000 and provide \$490 million to "In a worst

case scenario

at least the

increase in

cover the

tuition."

increase in

student loan

support college work-study programs, according to the for a student press summary of the bill.

Senior financial aid advisor Kathryn Blackham said cur- money will rently 847 students receive Pell Grants at TCU and 3,134 students receive funds from Stafford loans.

Mike Scott

director of scholarships and According student financial aid to the U.S. Department of

Education Web site, the Pell Grant is a need-based grant for low-income students while the Stafford loan is not a needs-based loan.

Scott said the increase in the Stafford loan is greater than the increase in tuition for next year. Tuition will be raised from \$26,900 to \$28,250, he said.

"In a worst case scenario for a student at least the increase in student loan money will cover the increase in tuition," Scott said. "This will have an immediate

NUMBERS

The proposed federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill:

The maximum Pell Grant increase

\$2,000

unsubsidized Stafford loans

million to support college work-study programs

SEE FUNDING · PAGE 2

NEWS



JASON FOCHTMAN / Multimedia Editor Ana Carolina Quintanar, freshman biologoy major, walks to the Brown-Lupton Student Union for lunch Tuesday. Campus was closed due to ice. The Dallas/Fort Worth area is still under an ice storm warning through noon today.

Ice closes 251 area schools

As of 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, the area to close, including TCU, ac-day, but only the Corner Store and recorded high temperature was cording to nbcdfw.com. 41 F and the low was 26 F, and 0.4 inches, according to Accuweather.com.

Tuesday's weather caused 251 schools in the Dallas/Fort Worth Union was open until 9 p.m. Tues-

An ice storm warning remained the accumulation of ice totaled in effect until 6 a.m. today, according to the National Weather Service.

The Brown-Lupton University

Market Square remained open.

Today's weather will feel a bit warmer, with a forecasted high of 45 F and a low of 25 F, according to the Weather Channel's Web site.

— Staff reporter Maricruz Salinas

NATIONAL SECURITY LANGUAGE INITIATIVE

Arabic ignored despite incentives

By Kathleen Carroll

The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

HACKENSACK, N.J. — Arabic language classes are still few and far between, despite cash incentives from the federal govern-

A new class at Passaic County's vocational high school in Wayne, N.J., may be the only public school "One of the class in the state, while classes in Mandarin Chinese have mushroomed in recent years and are now offered in more than a dozen North Jersey districts.

Both are considered "critical need" languages by the federal government, which set aside \$114 million to kick-start new classes under the 2006 National Security Language Initiative.

Across the nation, 90 percent of the grants have funded Chinese classes, federal education officials said, with the rest split among Arabic, Hindi, Farsi, Russian, Japanese and Korean.

"What you're seeing in New Jersey is a little microcosm of what's going on around the country," said Nancy Rhodes, director of foreignlanguage education at the Center for Applied Linguistics.

That's due in part to a wellfunded initiative by the Chinese Ministry of Education to send trained teachers to U.S. schools. Instructional materials for Chinese lessons are readily available, and the government offers technical support for American teachers.

Arabic has had no such support – in part because it is spoken in 21 countries, with no one nation taking the lead in promoting the language overseas, said Mohammed Abdul Aleem, chief executive of Human Assistance and Development International, which advances Arabic language and culture in the United States.

"Our growth has been more organic," he said.

cal Institute decided to offer the class after repeated requests by students, 7 percent of whom speak Arabic at home. Forty-one are enrolled this year, said spokeswoman Sandy Woods.

It could be a savvy choice: Arabic language skills are keenly need-

concerns is money. Lagree (Arabic) is a critical need, but we're trying to meet a lot of critical needs in a very difficult fiscal situation."

Jan Furman

Northern Valley regional school district superintendent

ed by the federal government, and fluent speakers are often propelled into top jobs. This month, President Barack Obama tapped North Bergen native John Brennan, who studied Arabic and embarked on a 25-year career in the CIA, as his homeland security and counterterrorism adviser.

Most of the students in the Passaic County tech class have a personal connection to the language through their family or faith. It is taught by a William Paterson University professor and paid for by grants for the school's "college connections" program, which brings university instructors on campus and allows students to earn college credit. While state education officials don't officially keep count, it's the only public school course they know of.

During a recent class, students

Indeed, Passaic County Techniand instructor Dina Kataw-Aidabole reviewed vocabulary and shared insights into Arab culture. A word for "sandal" also can refer to wooden shoes worn in the shower, which originated in Turkish baths, she told students.

"Yes, even in a house you have to take off your shoes," added student Ferdi Abedinoski, 17. "The carpet has to be clean."

"Yes, that's another cultural thing we should know," said Kataw-Aidabole.

Abedinoski said he wanted to study Arabic to enhance his religious education and because "it's a big language in the world ... it has a lot of influence."

Such classes are unique nationwide. Less than 1 percent of schools that offer world languages teach Arabic, according to a 2008 study by the Center for Applied Linguistics. Three percent of those schools offer Chinese, compared with less than 1 percent a decade

The Northern Valley regional school district, which runs two competitive high schools in Demarest and Old Tappan, received a National Security Language Initiative grant to start a Chinese class three years ago. The district also has offered Japanese classes for nearly a decade, said Superintendent Jan Furman.

But for now, Arabic is not on the table.

"One of the concerns is money," Furman said. "We're trying to hold on to everything we can. ... I agree (Arabic) is a critical need, but we're trying to meet a lot of critical needs in a very difficult fiscal situation."

The district picked Chinese because "it's spoken by the largest group of people in the world right now," she said. "The more our kids can be fluent in this language, the more opportunities they will have."



continued from page 1

"We can't arrest them on theft unless they actually break the window and we would rather save the student the cost of replacing a window," McGee said.

in hopes to trap a potential thief.

McGee said he also posted new officers at certain loca-Mary Couts Burnett Library and Brown-Lupton University Union because of their late hours.

said funding will never be an conscious of my surroundissue when it comes to ensurings." ing student's safety.

"I will do pretty much anysaid. "However, I believe that price of the new system is unawareness is the best way to determined.

MONDAY: JAN 26

Your Body Day"

REC Center: 4-6

Free Consultation with a Trainer

Free Massages

'How to Eat

Free Bio-feedback

Union"

Healthy in the

Be a Friend to

actively protect oneself."

Boschini said he believes the university is safe place, especially considering its size, primarily because of good awareness among members of the campus community.

Alyssa Dolny, sophomore education major, said the off-McGee said another preven- campus crime alerts that stutive measure taken by campus dents receive via e-mail from police is closing all but one Detective Vicki Lawson proentrance into the parking lots vide students with the knowledge they need to maintain that awareness.

"I really appreciate the fact that TCU takes the time to protions on campus including the vide its students with information that ensures their safety," Dolny said. "When the occurrences happen close to where I live on campus it impacts me Chancellor Victor Boschini greatly and makes me more

McGee said that the cameras should be on campus soon, thing — regardless of cost — and until the TCU Police Deif I am convinced it will en- partment finalizes how many hance our safety," Boschini cameras will be purchased, the

FEED YOUR BODY & SOUL WEEK

JAN 26-29, 2009

FUNDING

continued from page 1

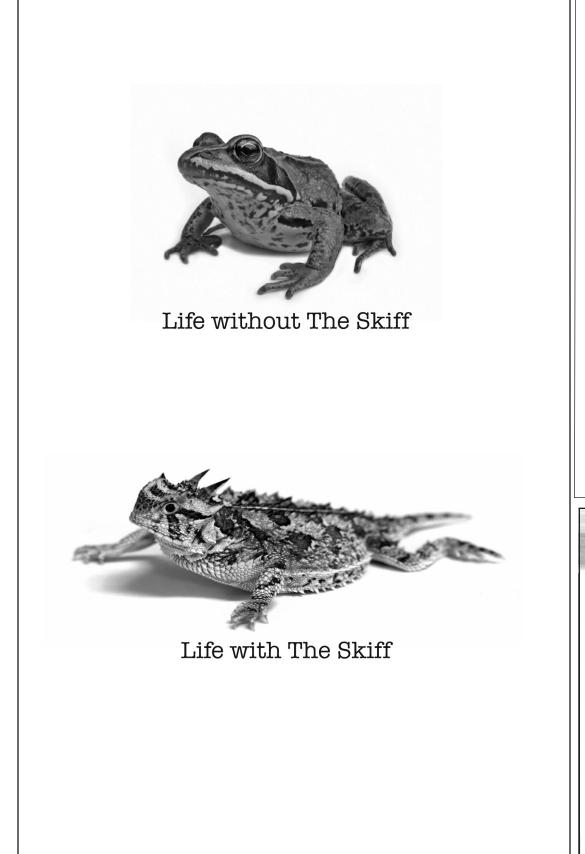
impact on the cost for students next year."

The increase in work-study funds is important because with the federal minimum wage slated to increase in July, additional funds will be needed to pay work-study students, Scott said. The money will help the university keep at least the same level of work-study students and probably enable hiring more, he said.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Web site, The federal minimum wage will increase to \$7.25 per hour effective July

The entire higher education component of the bill is a step in the right direction and is happening quickly enough to help students when they need it, Scott

"I think this is a great thing," Scott said. "It's a good effort to keep students in the educational system, and it's probably something that will be done in time to actually make a difference."



Do you know Ana? In high school, she was the head cheerleader and prom queen. Currently, she is an officer for every student organization at TCU. She is friends with all the right people, looks the right way, and wears the right things. She's smart, pretty, and rich. From the outside, her life seems perfect. But, Ana has a secret...

Meditation in

Free T'ai Chi

demo, on the

Jarvis Hall -10AM

Commons-12PM

find out @ www.counseling.tcu.edu

WEDNESDAY: JAN 28 THURSDAY: JAN 29 "Community

TUESDAY: JAN 27 Town Hall T'ai Chi the Meeting" Commons' Free ORSL

Faculty/Staff T'ai Chi Demo East Campus @ 12PM

BLUU AUD. -7PM

The Good Body."

Panel Discussion

BLUU Ballroom@ 12PM

Resource Day"

A key note address by Remuda Ranch.

Body Image and TCUAL LIFE

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

Proactive students key to campus safety

The recent rash of crimes against the TCU community has been disconcerting. Considering the smash and grab parking lot breakins and the knife-point robbery against a couple coming out of The Aardvark last semester, it can be scary to walk to your car at night.

It is a comfort though, to know that the campus Police Department is exploring different methods and better technology to keep us safe.

There are some who might protest the "Big Brother"-type eye in the sky, but if a robber were to knock them down on the sidewalk and take their wallet, those same people would probably be grateful the cameras were there since that technology could be instrumental in bringing their attacker to justice.

But as Steven McGee, chief of TCU police, reminded us, cameras don't always prevent crimes; people do. The cameras may serve as a deterrent if they are mounted in plain sight and constantly monitored, but the key to not becoming a victim is for students to be aware of their surroundings and be responsible for their own personal safety.

This can be as simple as scanning the parking lot before they head to their car or not leaving valuable items in cars. Attending the campus crime-watch meetings and becoming more involved with and educated about what's going on in the neighborhood would also be helpful.

Women on campus have access to the Froggie Five-0 program at night where student workers act as escorts to anywhere on campus. There are self-defense and rape prevention courses offered on campus free of charge.

The sophisticated cameras are a good thing, but they can't take the place of personal responsibility. Sometimes there is nothing that can be done to prevent a crime from happening, but it's not that difficult to be proactive in your own defense. You can't always count on there being a cop in the bushes.

Opinion editor Katie Martinez for the editorial board.

The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

Government can't solve the abortion dilemma



This month marks the 36th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, and keeping with that momentum, one of the first things President Barack Obama has promised to do in his first term is implement the Freedom of Choice Act.

FOCA will supersede all existing laws regulating abortion, even state laws requiring parental consent for minors.

Many have said this new "freedom of choice" is an epic landmark in the progress of this great nation, but it is evidence of a depraved and selfish generation that can be more concerned with the inconvenience of having children than taking responsibility for their own flesh and blood.

We all have compassion for those who are victims of rape or incest, and rightly so, but statistics gathered by social science research group the Alan Guttmacher Institute show this is the case in less than 1 percent of abortions in the U.S.

"Every Child a Wanted Child" is the proudly boasted Planned Parenthood slogan we so often hear, but in truth the figures speak for themselves.

AGI research shows that America has successfully managed to "not want" 50,000,000 children.

The topic of abortion is not about choice and privacy, and it is not in and of itself the real problem. It is merely a symptom of a greater issue at stake: the declining moral fiber of man and his attempt to put a Band-Aid on an open wound.

I don't want government to control me any more than the next person, but why can't we take this freedom to choose and choose life?

A sharp, hard line divides churches concerning the Bible's alleged silence on the topic, but nine of the early church Fathers, from Cyprian to Tertullian, spoke out against abortion. It was declared a sin in the Apostolic Constitutions in the year 390.

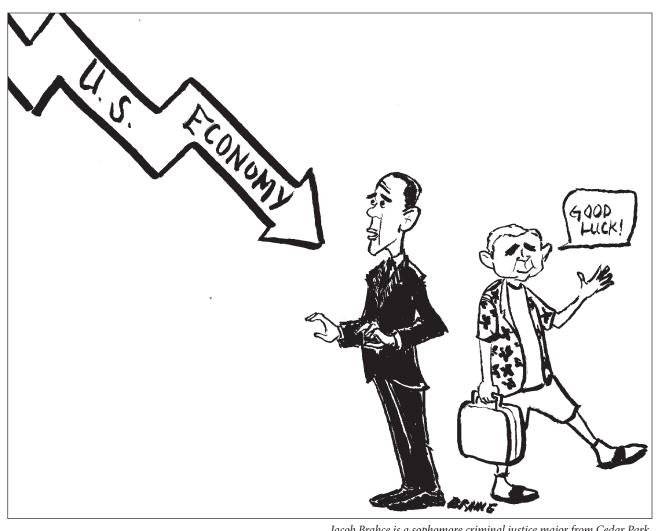
Abortion is a highly sensitive topic and there is healing for those who have gone through it.

It is no one's place but God's to judge, but denying life to the "least of these" is wrong and not from God.

As the prophet Isaiah states in 5:20, "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil."

The government will never be able to fix the hardened heart of man; only God in his great mercy can.

> Andrew Weatherford is a junior religion major and pastor of Deliverance Bible Church in Fort Worth.



Jacob Brahce is a sophomore criminal justice major from Cedar Park.

Buy local, not organic produce to support community businesses



GRETCHEN WILBRANDT

As much as I am a passionate scientist, enthusiastic about the restoration and preservation of the Earth, I think about more than just figures, graphs and insects. With a strong community foundation, I believe that local interests and values within the community become extremely important.

A shift from globalization to local ization occurs and voila, a self-sustaining society is formed! These ideal groups of people would recognize and fulfill meaningful relationships with each other as well harmoniously residing with the Earth. OK, so I am being highly idealistic here, but my point is that we need to support local produce rather than organic for the benefit of our community and support of the local economy.

Local produce has a great deal of variation in definition. Some define locality by city, state,

region, amount of travel (within a day's distance) and local cuisine. While Texas is a large state, I try my hardest to buy within its boundaries. If faced with two items, one organic from California or one from northern Mexico, I pick the product with favorable proximity. "Localvores," as we commonly can be classified, have their own definition that helps them support their community, whatever the boundaries.

Now when it comes down to the impact of local purchasing, it is vast. Many small or private farms rely on their local sales to stay in production and save their land from development. Other people find the freshness of closer produce more favorable. One of the most significant impacts is the reduction of fossil fuels. I buy as close to home as I can to help out the Earth while simultaneously building up a strong local economy. When you support a local farmer, it builds them a larger profit to then turn over to organic farming upon demand. Because of local buyers supporting farms, requests can be for more organic

and sustainable farming practices. Overall, people support a myriad of ideas

The United States Department of Agriculture list of restricted pesticides is gigantic, but certain chemicals can still be used to treat plants. While harmful chemicals aren't often used, if we don't know about adverse affects, they could be out on the fields now! The last revision of the restricted pesticides added eight new banned chemicals that had been in

from taste to environmental health.

production under the organic label until 2006. Though most organic products have been closely scrutinized for the sake of public health, it is important to read the label and look for adequate organic certifica-The qualms that I often file with

rganic produce is the locality. Is buying organic melons from Chile more environmentally friendly than purchasing local melons from Mission, Texas? It all comes down to what you value now. As time progresses and we watch the further global development, perhaps your mind will change, but for now, get me to the local Cowtown Farmers'

> Gretchen Wilbrandt is a junior environmental science major from Woodstock, Ill.









Many factors contribute to university's falling application numbers



The university's application numbers are lower than in previous years.

Ray Brown, dean of admissions, and others said the decline is likely due to the elimination of the FastApp, a more concise application option. But, whether that is the case, we should continue to strive to be a place where qualified individuals seek education.

I firmly believe that TCU offers the best overall university experience in Texas. However, it's hard to sell that belief to potential students when our



already outrageously expensive tuition continues to rise during an economic TCU was founded on Christian val-

ues and has a conservative atmosphere. We have great on-campus ministry, and there are more churches than liquor stores within walking distance to campus. The university has little tolerance for drugs, even marijuana. We have

great Greek life and used to have a good student tailgate to prove it.

What makes TCU desirable beyond its superior education are the amenities it's able to offer as a private school. The student-teacher ratio is low. The Campus Recreation Center has the newest technology and offers everything found in most top-quality workout facilities. The library has everything students need to study and more.

Every semester there is a new, cool building to explore. The campus is wellpatrolled and most students feel safe.

The university offers top-notch facilities and services, but the areas where the school falls short might be the difference between a student attending Southern Methodist University, Vanderbilt University, University of Texas at Austin or the University of Oklahoma.

My theory of why TCU fails to impress in some areas is that the school is eager to impress but sometimes forgets to cater to the actual student. I find it disheartening, but I can't come up with any other explanation for the gross negligence of forethought in the meal plan.

But at least we're doing all this stuff to be more green, right? I can't wait to see some evidence. I applaud the initiative in signing the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment and the "Think Purple, Live Green" theme semester, but besides the Purple Bike Program and the mandated printing restrictions for professors, there has not been a substantial change.

It seems as though TCU is simply perpetuating the illusion of caring.

Perhaps we should refine the approval process in the Physical Plant, which requires a 99-step process to change anything larger than a light bulb, and then I might actually see the installation of solar panels on the Rickel Building while I'm still an undergraduate.

I hope TCU begins a trend of turning talk about potential into tangible improvement. In doing so, as with regulatory operations, the school must recognize the need to put the interests of the students first.

John Andrew Willis is a sophomore environmental science major from Dallas.

NEWS & SPORTS

Stalin still a hometown hero

McClatchy Newspapers

GORI, Georgia — After their short, brutal war last summer, Russians and Georgians bitterly disagree about a lot of things. When it comes to the legacy of the blood-soaked Soviet tyrant who was born here, however, some of them see eye to eye.

At the J. Stalin State Museum erected in his hometown, the tour guide didn't hesitate for a moment when she was asked recently: What do you think about Joseph Stalin?

"He was a hero," said Tamuna, a young woman with dark hair, who didn't give her last name.

Before he was the ruthless strongman whose paranoid reign led to the deaths of millions, Stalin was born Josef Vissarionovich Djugashvili in this Georgian town not far from the white snows of the Caucasus mountains.

Despite the fact that Russia's military bombed Gori and then occupied its streets last August, some in Gori have kept a soft spot for Stalin, a name he took meaning "man of steel."

The affection, ironically, mirrors the resurgence of Stalin's popularity in Russia, a country that's battered Georgia not only with tanks but also trade and visa sanctions.

During a poll of millions of Russians conducted by a state TV channel last year, Stalin was in first place in early voting for the country's greatest historical figure before finishing third. He bested names such as Dostoyevsky and Lenin.

Tina Khakhriashvili, who was walking past the Gori museum earlier this month with her daughter, would vote for him.

"We haven't changed our opinion of Stalin. He was a great person," Khakhriashvili said. "Because of him, everyone knows about Georgia."

Khakhriashvili's family used to live in the separatist province of South Ossetia, but they fled after Russia's invasion and the torching of ethnic Georgian villages by local militias that followed. She waved off the suggestion that such an experience would sour her on the memory of Stalin and his rule from Moscow. "This was another time," she said.



TOM LASSETER via MCT

A worker at the gift shop in the Stalin museum in Gori, Georgia, wears a Soviet-era uniform Jan. 11.

A McClatchy Newspapers reporter boy was a bastard. A local merchant, who chatted with a handful of people in Gori one afternoon couldn't find a single person who disagreed.

"Of course, people have bad feelings about Russia," said Bichiko Chechelashvili, a security guard. "But for me, he was a good man."

Chechelashvili was standing close to a giant statue of Stalin that still looms over Stalin Square in downtown Gori.

The museum celebrating Stalin was dedicated in 1957, about four years after his death.

Befitting a man whose government frequently removed people's images from photographs after they'd been purged, effectively denying that they'd ever existed, the museum makes little deviation from the narrative of Stalin's life that he preferred.

Museum officials said it was only last year that they allowed a picture of Leon Trotsky, a rival for power who was stabbed in the skull with an ice pick on Stalin's order. The photograph is a small one.

There's no mention of Stalin's mother beating him as a child or of his drunken cobbler father screaming that the young

policeman and priest were mentioned as possibly being his real father, according to a recent biography.

Nothing is said, either, about the countless people who later died by firing squads, starvation, savage beatings in dim interrogation rooms or just crumpling to the ground for the last time after years of forced labor in gulags.

There is a souvenir shop, where a woman dressed in a Soviet-era military uniform will sell you a bottle of sparkling Stalin wine — with the old man himself on the label — for 30 Georgian laris, about \$18. Or a thin volume of the poetry Stalin wrote as a young man for three laris.

Sitting in his office, with a piece of shrapnel from a Russian bomb resting on the desk, museum director Robert Maglakelidze tried to avoid discussion about Stalin's legacy.

"He was an important figure, and of course we are proud that he is from Georgia and went on to rule such a big country," Maglakelidze said. "But I can't say he's the greatest person in Georgian history."

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

More wins than losses mark arbitrator's career

By Jim Salisbury The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — Sometimes you just get the feeling that things aren't going your way in a salary arbitration hearing.

Tal Smith had a good chuckle recalling such an event the other day.

In 1986, he was representing the Kansas City Royals in an arbitration case against pitcher Bret Saberhagen.

After both sides made their arguments, the arbitrator slid a piece of paper over to Saberhagen and requested an autograph.

"That sort of distressed us," Smith said in a telephone interview from his office in Houston, where he runs a consulting business and serves as president of baseball operations for the Astros. "Needless to say, we lost that one."

When it comes to salary arbitration in baseball, Smith has seen it all. He argued his first cases in 1974, the year baseball adopted the process, when he was an executive vice president with the New York Yankees.

Over the years, Smith and his staff have prepared more than 900 arbitration cases, with more than 160 going to a hearing.

Smith said he doesn't know what his record is, though it is over .500.

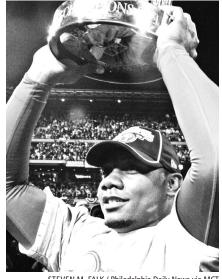
"I know we lost our last one," he said. "Before that, we won six in a row."

The last one took place 11 months ago. Smith represented the Phillies in a historic showdown against slugger Ryan Howard. The Phillies contended that Howard should be paid \$7 million, a figure commensurate with what elite players in his service class made. Howard's advisers, led by agent Casey Close, argued that their man's special accomplishments made him worth \$10 million.

Howard won the largest salary ever for a first-time arbitration-eligible player.

He added to his legend by leading the majors in homers and RBIs in 2008. Barring a settlement, Howard will head back to the arbitration table next month (the date has not been made public). Howard is seeking \$18 million for 2009. The Phillies have once again hired Smith to argue; they contend that Howard is worth \$14 million. If there's a hearing, an arbitration panel will pick one salary or the other.

Smith, who could not comment on the what he does."



STEVEN M. FALK / Philadelphia Daily News via MCT Philadelphia Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard holds up the trophy in October after the Phillies won the World Series in Philadelphia. Howard received the largest salary ever for a first-time arbitration-eligible player, marking arbitrator Tal Smith's last lost case.

specifics of Howard's case, has a long history of representing the Phillies. He has argued seven of the eight cases the club has had during the arbitration era, winning all but Howard's.

Smith was the Astros' general manager from 1975 to 1980. He built a club that won 93 games in 1980 and was named Sporting News executive of the year. But Smith was fired after the Astros lost the National League Championship Series to the Phillies.

Before the 1981 season, the Oakland Athletics asked Smith to help them prepare arbitration cases against two players. With Smith's help, the A's prevailed in both. His company, Tal Smith Enterprises, was born.

Since 1994, the company has handled only arbitration cases for teams.

Rex Gary, a Philadelphia-based player agent who has argued more than 30 arbitration cases, has found himself across the table from Smith several times.

"I don't see it as a conflict of interest," Gary said. "There's no way Houston's interests diverge from another club's when Tal argues a case."

Gary added that Smith is "very good at



ETC.



Today in History

The space shuttle Challenger explodes 73 seconds after lifting off from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on this day in 1986.

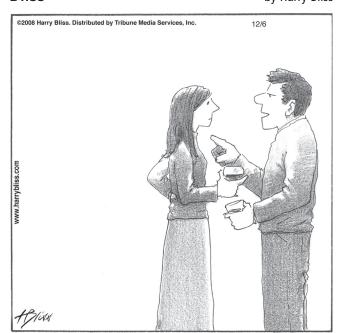
- History Channel

Joke of the Day

Q: How do they drink water in the South? A: From Dixie cups.

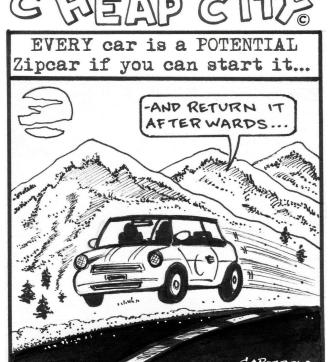
Bliss

by Harry Bliss



"Yes, I am arrogant, but in all the right places."

Michael Capozzola's



SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Directions

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

See Thursday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

Tuesday's Solutions

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

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By Willy A. Wiseman

3 "Paper Lion"

46 PAT value 47 Perk up 50 Silver or Leibman

51 Noble Italian family 53 Chinese secret society 55 Kenny Loggins'

purchased on the sly? 43 Slick

dedicatee

44 Chemical suffix 45 Beethoven

rhinoplasty 61 Pariah 64 Actress

Washbourne 65 Son of Eve

66 Driving

maneuver 67 Any part of EAP

68 Spelling of "Trick" 69 Tierney and

Tunnev 70 Speed contest 71 Spots

DOWN Jazz singing 2 Professional

New York, NY star Alan 4 Wet out 5 New Guinea

language 6 Man-lion figure 7 Continental crust 8 Grain-field weed

9 Convent head 10 Necklace fastener 11 Isle of 12 Put a stop to 13 Kite backdrop

21 Sham doctor 22 "__ Got Mail" 25 Mend 26 Very much 27 China's Sun 28 Explosive

38 Poivre

sound 29 Surfing the web 30 Became old hat 32 Legal phrase 33 __ Ridge Boys 36 Frozen over

40 Small portion 56 Abu Dhabi ruler 57 __ fide 58 Hautboy 41 Colonial blackbird 42 Diminutive 59 Very dry 60 Yale alumni

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

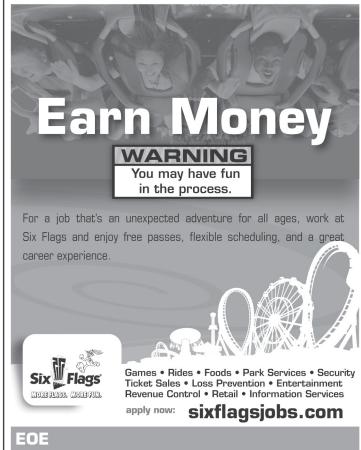
1/23/09

47 Squirrel's stash 48 Not accented 49 Thus far 61 Earlike part 62 Pierre's 52 Val d' . Fr. 63 Play on words



Failed, failed, failed. And then...

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SPORTS



See a quick recap of the men's road game against San Diego State University. Tomorrow

FOOTBALL

BUSTERS



Sophomore wide receiver Jeremy Kerley returns the ball during a game against Stephen F. Austin on Sept. 6.

Conference wants changes to BCS format

By Billy Wessels Staff Writer

It's a million-dollar question: Will the Mountain West Conference get an automatic bid to a Bowl Championship Series

According to a USA Today article released Monday, MWC officials are seeking an automatic berth into a BCS bowl.

Attaining automatic BCS qualification is quite a lucrative endeavor.

The Big 12 Conference received approximately \$22.5 million this season because of its involvement with the BCS, thanks to the University of Oklahoma's berth in the national championship game and the University of Texas' appearance in the Fiesta

million, said Danny Morrison, athletics director. If a team from one of these conferences appears in a BCS game, the conferences share an additional \$9.5 million, of which \$6 million is awarded to the conference the team belongs to, he said.

received \$6 million because of Utah's appearance in the Sugar Bowl plus a one-fifth share of the remaining \$13 million, Mor-

rison said.

breakdown, the Longhorns conferences can be eligible for and Brigham Young University earned approximately \$1.8 million and the Frogs earned approximately \$955,555.

According to the BCS media

"Right now, if it was only a one-year review cycle we would have automatic qualification, but unfortunately it is a four-year review window."

Javan Hedlund football contact for the Mountain West Conference

Under the current BCS guide, if no team from a nonsystem, each conference that BCS conference were to get into doesn't have an automatic BCS a BCS game, those five conferberth gets a portion of \$9.5 ences would share 9 percent ference. "We have the highestof the BCS' net revenue, approximately \$9.5 million. That team at No. 6. We had three that don't automatically qualify money would then be broken teams in the top 25, all in the down with the highest-rated conference getting the bulk of that amount.

Morrison said MWC officials are attempting to adjust the cur-In other words, the MWC rent timeframe the BCS uses to decide conferences that get automatic BCS bids.

Morrison said this past sea-

automatic BCS bids.

The MWC was the seventhrated conference after the last examination period, leaving them just shy of an automatic bid, he said.

The BCS uses three criteria to determine which conference get automatic bowl bids, according to the BCS Web site. These include "the ranking of the highest-ranked team in the final BCS standings each year, the final regular-season rankings of all conference teams in the computer rankings used by the BCS each year and the number of teams in the top 25 of the final BCS standings each year."

One MWC official said the conference was deserving of an automatic bid.

"Right now, the Mountain West is sitting pretty," said Javan Hedlund, football contact for the Mountain West Conranked (non-BCS conference) on recruiting for the conferences top 16 team which makes that stronger."

Hedlund said the BCS would look at the conference differently because it has nine teams, as opposed to the Big East's eight and the Big 12 and SEC, which each have 12.

In the final BCS standings, son was the first year of a four- released before the national year examination period used championship game, Utah was West, you have the opportunity

was No. 16.

According to the BCS Web site, there is a chance the MWC can get an automatic BCS bid beginning after the 2012 regular season.

"The 2008-2011 regular seasons will be evaluated under the same standards to determine if other conferences will have annual automatic qualification for the games after the 2012 and 2013 regular seasons," according to the site. "The champions of no more than seven conferences will have annual automatic berths."

Hedlund said the BCS' schedule wouldn't immediately benefit the MWC.

"Right now, if it was only a one-year review cycle, we would have automatic qualification, but unfortunately it is a four-year review window," Hedlund said.

Hedlund said another issue about the BCS is the effect it has because of the amount of money granted to teams every year.

"If you are in a (automatically qualifying) conference, when you go to a recruit's home you can say that if you go undefeated and win your conference you have the opportunity to play for a national title," Hedlund said. "Our coaches say if you go undefeated and win the Mountain After the team-by-team by the BCS to determine which ranked No. 6, TCU was No. 11 to play in a BCS game."

MEN'S BASKETBALL



PAIGE McARDLE / Design Editor Freshman guard Kevin Butler attempts to hold on to the ball during the game against

New Mexico on Saturday night. **Short break to follow**

game against SDSU By Michael Carroll Sports Editor

Following Saturday's 69-52 loss against the University of New Mexico, head coach Jim Christian was almost as disappointed for the fans in attendance at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum as he was of his team's performance on the court.

"I'm just disappointed for our team," Christian said. "We had a great crowd here tonight. They came out to see a team that plays with heart — a team that fights to the end — and unfortunately we didn't give them that tonight and I'll take full responsibility for that."

The offensive and defensive errors that plagued the team against New Mexico will need to be corrected for the team to add to the win column against Mountain West Conference opponent San Diego State University (13-5, 3-2 MWC) tonight.

The Horned Frogs (13-7, 4-2 MWC) are currently in a first-place tie with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in the Mountain West.

Freshman guard Ronnie Moss should return to the lineup for tonight's game in San Diego after missing last weekend's game because of a violation of team policy, Joe Monaco, assistant director of sports information, wrote in an e-mail.

Senior forward Kevin Langford will look to continue his recent hot streak on offense. Langford has posted back-to-back scoring outputs of 36 and 21 points and leads the team with 14.4 points per game. Junior forward Edvinas Ruz-

gas needs to bounce back from Saturday's game in which he connected on one of five shots and finished the game with a total of four points. Both the Horned Frogs and the

Aztecs are coming off conference losses. SDSU fell to Brigham Young University on Saturday but has won six of its last eight games overall.

The Horned Frogs have their first extended break of the semester following tonight's game. A six-day rest will end when the team battles the University of Utah Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

CARROLL'S CORNER

Men's soccer needs to make a comeback



You probably hear it all the time from avid players and followers of soccer: "Just give it a try. It's the most popular sport in the world. I promise you'll like it."

But being in a part of the world where American football, baseball and basketball reign supreme, there's little chance you'll take your soccer-loving friend up on his or her offer.

"It's too boring, there isn't enough scoring and everybody on the field flops trying to draw a penalty," you say to your friend, who scoffs at your response.

Athletic officials at our university should seriously consider taking the appropriate measures to bring back a men's soccer team.

Despite some beliefs concerning the sport, there is little doubt that it is in fact the most popular sport in the world, and it will reach the level of popularity it deserves in the United States in the near future. The billions of other people that enjoy the sport can't be wrong, can they?

North Texas is a hotbed for soccer activity. Youth leagues, club teams, high school squads and teams at the college level are numerous. Some children, like me, spend the entirety of their youths playing and loving the sport of soccer.

But something is clearly missing from the local soccer scene a men's team at TCU.

Yes, we have a women's team that draws a lot of support and has had recent success under head coach Dan Abdalla, but the absence of a men's team is both inexcusable and unexplainable.

Our neighbor to the east, Southern Methodist University, has a men's team and a women's team. SMU's men's team has consistently been one of the top soccer programs in the nation. Sixteen players on their current roster are from places around North Texas.

The Final Four of the NCAA Men's Soccer Championship were held in Frisco last month. Each of the four remaining teams had two players from the North Texas area.

As I said before, not only is our area thriving with soccer activity, it is overflowing with talent — talent just waiting to be put to use at the college level.

Athletic officials at our university should seriously consider taking the appropriate measures to bring back a men's soccer team.

Funding was apparently the problem when the last men's soccer team at TCU was forced to fold after the 2002 season, but now that our school is firmly entrenched in the Mountain West Conference I believe an attempt should be made to resurrect the team. There is far too much untapped local soccer talent near TCU for officials not to consider getting a team started up once again.

Only four of the nine schools in the Mountain West have a men's soccer team. It's time to add a fifth.

The likeliness of this happening anytime soon is undoubtedly low. But I'm begging you, university officials, just give it a try — I promise you'll like it.

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

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Team adjusts to playing without injured guard

By Katie Ruppel Staff Reporter

After a loss last weekend against the University of New Mexico, the Lady Frogs prepare for yet another game today without one of their key players.

Junior guard Eboni Mangum said she has decided to sit out for the rest of the season after playing 12 games with a torn ACL in her right knee.

"I'm just rehabbing right now," Mangum said. "The recovery just didn't go like it usually does. I'm still in pain."

Jeff Mittie, the women's head basketball coach, said Mangum was the team's best defender and a competitive player when it came to getting to the rim, even with her injury.

"Very few people have the toughness to fight through and play," Mittie said. "Very few people have the structure in the leg and the strength to allow you to even try it."

Junior guard TK LaFleur also commended Mangum's strengths.

"She would hustle, grab some loose balls and get tips," LaFleur said. "Her defensive presence made a huge impact on us."

Mittie said the team has been slacking in Mangum's strong ar-

eas — defense and driving the ball — and he hopes they will step it up today in the game against San Diego State University.

"I think this game is about getting mentally tougher and physically tougher," Mittie said. "For us to have success we have to be the aggressors in this game."

Sophomore guard Helena Sverrisdottir said the team has been preparing for SDSU's quick guards and intense defensive pressure, much like that from Texas A&M University.

She said SDSU is one of the best teams in the Mountain West Conference, and the Lady Frogs are hoping for a win after two home losses this season.

'Maybe we're losing, but we feel like we're not playing as good as we can," Sverrisdottir

And as far as filling in for Mangum, Sverrisdottir said the team has to "find other ways to find the spark in the defense."

Mangum said she will have surgery for her torn ACL on Feb. 6, and will then go through a sixor seven-month rehab. Mittie said he hopes Mangum will be ready to play again by late sum-

mer or early fall. And though she won't be on leader there is."



CHANCE WELCH / Features Editor

Junior guard Eboni Mangum plays defense during a 62 to 46 loss to BYU. Mangum will miss the remainder of the season with a torn ACL in her right knee.

the court, Mangum said you can count on her to be on the sideline with support.

I gotta support my girls," she said. "I'm like the biggest cheerTCU vs. SDSU

Where: Daniel-Meyer Coliseum When: 6:30 p.m. tonight