



The equestrian team prepares to head to California for the Best in the West Tournament. Sports, page 6



Frustrated by distracted students, some professors have banned laptops from the classroom. Tomorrow in News



Valentine's Day is a corporate scam. Tomorrow in Opinion

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

## Agency at crossroads due to tight funds

By Madison Morgan  
Staff Reporter

Budget restraints will cause the nation's first student-run nonprofit advertising agency, RealWorld, to close at the end of the semester unless the university raises \$100,000 for the program, a university official said.

Claudia Butts, director of RealWorld, said the university funded RealWorld through a three-year TCU "Vision In Action" grant of \$350,000 that expires May 31.

John Tisdale, interim director of the

Schieffer School of Journalism, said RealWorld will try fundraising throughout the semester to stay open but there is no way to predict what the outcome will be.

"The economic decision was not based on what RealWorld did or did not do," Tisdale said. "The agency was making progress with revenue increasing each year; unfortunately it was not enough."

David Whillock, dean of the College of Communication, said \$100,000 in donations from alumni would keep the agency afloat for another year.

Tommy Thomason, former director of

the Schieffer School of Journalism and founder of RealWorld, said the efficiency of the agency was evident through its use of the funding grant received in 2006. Thomason said the original grant was for two and a half years, but through sound money management the agency stretched the grant into three and a half years.

"The situation is an accident of timing," Thomason said. "We were needing money at the same time the university was embarking on the most expensive physical expansion, and anyone who was inclined to give the university money saw their money go

to the expansion."

Butts said RealWorld is unique in that it is the only student-run advertising agency in the United States that works exclusively with nonprofit organizations.

"Last year we made over \$40,000 off of what we charge clients for project proposals," Butts said. "However, we charge way under market value by 25 percent."

Thomason said RealWorld is filling a unique niche in this community by serving nonprofit organizations.

SEE REAL WORLD • PAGE 2

HARDCOVER  
NONFICTION  
BEST SELLERS

- 1 *Outlier*  
by Malcolm Gladwell
- 2 *A Slobbering Love Affair*  
by Bernard Goldberg
- 3 *Dewey*  
by Vicki Myron  
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- 4 *Guilty*  
by Ann Coulter
- 5 *Next 100 Years*  
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- 6 *Multiple Blessings*  
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Gosselin and Beth Carson
- 7 *We Can Have Peace in  
the Holy Land*  
by Jimmy Carter
- 8 *American Lion*  
by Jon Meachum
- 9 *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*  
by Thomas L. Friedman
- 10 *Why We Suck*  
by Denis Leary  
—The New York Times



Is A-Rod's steroid use a problem for baseball? Sports, page 6

PECULIAR FACT

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Senior Muslim clerics have urged Sudanese youngsters to boycott Valentine's Day, saying it is a Western institution that could lead couples astray.  
— Reuters

TODAY'S WEATHER

**70 51**  
HIGH LOW  
Mostly Sunny

Tomorrow: Mostly Sunny  
69/39

Saturday: Sunny  
55/37



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## SPIRITUAL HEALING



JASON FOCHTMAN / Multimedia Editor

Alejandro Chaoul, an assistant professor at the John P. McGovern Center for Health, Humanities and the Human Spirit at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, speaks about combining Tibetan meditation practices with cancer treatment Wednesday afternoon at the Brown-Lupton University Union.

## Speaker links health with meditation

By Katie Ruppel  
Staff Reporter

The Asian Studies program's guest speaker described the practice of meditation with an example the 115 audience members could relate to Wednesday afternoon in the Geren/Beck Room in the Brown-Lupton University Union.

"You are in the mountains, or a particular place of nature that you enjoy, or a sacred place, and suddenly you feel totally in tune. You're totally in tune, not just with yourself but also with others, with the whole world, with the whole universe. And the moment you try to explain it, it leaves. The moment you start thinking, it leaves. The moment you start following a sound, it leaves. So that means you're

distracted from the wisdom."

This wisdom that Alejandro Chaoul alludes to is the goal of meditation, and, in turn, medication.

Chaoul is involved with research that integrates meditation with breast cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Chaoul said when he first visited the Cancer Center, he was overwhelmed by the suffering there. He said that according to the first of the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism, life is suffering. He said the fourth Noble Truth, however, is that there are paths to healing this suffering, and he said he wanted to find a path for the patients.

Chaoul said his solution was a program

based on the mind-body connection that has become more popular in the medical field in recent years.

"Mind and body are all part of the same unity," Chaoul said. "When something happens in the mind, it might affect the body. When something happens in the body, it might affect the mind."

The use of thousand-year-old practices Chaoul acquired from his Indo-Tibetan studies in combination with medical treatment has yielded positive results. He said he is currently working with 75 patients to help them cope with cancer treatment and improve their quality of life after treatment. The program has already helped hundreds of patients during

SEE MEDITATION • PAGE 2

HEALTH INSURANCE

## Aetna to repay students for software glitch

By Chilton Tippin  
Staff Reporter

More than 500 students and alumni will receive reimbursements from the university-provided health insurer Aetna after New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo found that the claims system had not been receiving the frequent updates it needed.

The reimbursements for the 517 TCU students and health care providers will total more than \$34,000, but this amount represents a small portion of the total claims for the university, said Marilyn Hallam, coordinator of the Brown-Lupton Health Center office.

"When you put paper and pencil to that, it turns out to be about one-third of one percent of total claims," Hallam said. "Most of those students or providers are

going to be getting in the neighborhood of \$25 to \$32."

Aetna will reimburse the health insurance claims of more than 73,000 students and 20 colleges nationwide, according to a news release issued by Cuomo's office on Feb. 2.

Hallam said the reimbursements would go to students who received care from out-of-network providers, or providers that weren't on Aetna's list of preferred provider organizations (PPOs).

"With PPOs your insurance has negotiated rates with physicians for a variety of patient interactions," Rae said. "If you decide you don't want to see someone on the PPO list you would go to an out-of-network provider."

Aetna must allot the reimbursements because it had been using an outdated Ingenix software system, Hallam said.

Dr. Mary Rae, director of Health Services, said the flaw in the Ingenix system arose because it under-calculated the reimbursements for these out-of-network cases.

Hallam said the software determines what the market fees are for insurance companies to decide what they are going to pay.

Hallam said UnitedHealthcare owns Ingenix, and will pay \$50 million to revamp the system. But many other insurance companies, including Aetna, who will contribute \$20 million, will pitch in as well, she said.

"Once they develop that new software they will stop using Ingenix altogether," Hallam said.

Under the agreement with the attorney general, Aetna will pay more than \$5 mil-

SEE AETNA • PAGE 2

## RIAA shifts strategy to combat Web piracy

Mass-suing of students stops; University policy remains

By Jordan Smith  
Staff Reporter

Students who download music illegally no longer have to fear being taken to court, but they are now much more likely to get caught and receive minor punishments from the university, a university official said.

Brooke Scogin, assistant dean of Campus Life, said that to enforce its new policy the Recording Industry Association of America has dramatically increased the number of reports it issues notifying Internet service providers of Internet piracy.

According to a December news release from the RIAA, the company will stop filing lawsuits against Internet users who illegally download music. Instead, according to the release, the RIAA will rely more heavily on ISPs like TCU to punish users who pirate music.

The university's policy for dealing with Internet music piracy will remain the same despite the RIAA's shift in strategy, Scogin said. The first time they are caught, students have their Internet access disconnected and must remove all file-sharing software from their computers. They must also forward a cautionary e-mail from Campus Life to 20 of their friends, Scogin said. This ensures that a wide range of students understands the risks of downloading music illegally, she said.

Once they have met these requirements, their Internet is reconnected, Scogin said.

Second-time offenders face similar punishments, but they may also be subjected to disciplinary action such as mandatory community service, Scogin said.

The university does not have a policy in place to deal with third-time offenders, she said, because there has never been one.

Liz Kennedy, a spokeswoman for the RIAA, could not be reached to comment on why the organization decided to change its policy.

According to a December article published in *The Wall Street Journal*, during the past five years the RIAA issued roughly 35,000 lawsuits against Internet users. On its Web site, the RIAA justified its lawsuits because it claimed these users violated the intellectual property rights of artists and caused detrimental financial damage to the industry.

The RIAA relies solely on Internet protocol addresses to track internet piracy, TCU executive director of technology Bryan Lucas wrote in an e-mail. An IP address is a numeric identification number given to each computer that accesses the Internet. This means that when the RIAA notifies TCU that a student is abusing the Internet, the RIAA does not know which student downloaded the music, Scogin said.

Because the RIAA cannot differentiate between users, some suits have been filed under bizarre circumstances. The *Wall Street Journal* reported that among the roughly 35,000 cases, suits were filed

SEE DOWNLOADS • PAGE 2

## NEWS

## DOWNLOADS

continued from page 1

against several single mothers, a dead person and a 13-year-old girl.

The university never provided student information to the RIAA unless it was subpoenaed, Scogin said.

Lawsuits filed by the RIAA can be expensive if the defendant loses. The United States copyright law grants artists the right to collect damages in court of no less than \$750 for each pirated song downloaded.

Sophomore fashion merchandising major Rian Brooks said her family had to pay several thousand dollars to settle out of court after she was caught downloading music

illegally last year. The settlement cost her family roughly 50 cents for every song they downloaded, Brooks said. Had her family lost in court, the damages would have been much higher.

Brooks and her family were surprised when they were reprimanded by the RIAA because they thought they were downloading music legally, Brooks said. They were using a LimeWire account they had paid for, she said.

Many students reprimanded by the RIAA believe they are acting within the law, Scogin said. But paying for programs does not ensure that they are operating legally, Scogin said, and iTunes is the only site whose legality she can guarantee.

## MEDITATION

continued from page 1

the nine years it has been active, he said.

His research shows that meditation, concentration and yogic practices help manage stress, reduce pain, fatigue and nausea and improve cognitive levels and mental performance.

He said, however, that the patient must be willing, active and present in his or her own healing process.

Like the mental presence needed in the meditation example Chaoul gave at the beginning of his lecture, being completely present in one's mind is the key to connecting not only with others, the world and the universe, but also with one's own body, he said.

Alexander Gelinias, a junior mathematics and psychology major, said it was interesting to learn about proven research on Asian practices improving the self.

"I've done martial arts and Tai Chi and that sort of thing, and I've already experienced to a degree the sort of healing effects of having a calm, more relaxed demeanor," Gelinias said. "It was interesting to know there's official research on this and I'm not just a crazy kid who experienced this myself."

Morgan Murrah, a junior nursing major, said that Chaoul's research was innovative, and could be appealing to patients that want to try something besides straight medication.

Carrie Currier, director of the Asian Studies program, said it was interesting to see how all the pieces of the lecture fit together.

"He looked at yoga and meditation but also the importance of religion and spirituality and even brought in health," Currier said. "I think in the end he just brought each of these individual pieces together in a way that really resonates with people."

## AETNA

continued from page 1

lion, plus interest and penalties, for claims involving out-of-network care, according to the news release.

Also under the agreement, Aetna Student Health's claims processing system must be updated frequently, the company must hire an independent third-party examiner and provide enhanced training to all Aetna employees and subsidiaries, according to the news release.

However, tracking down those who qualify for the reimbursements is difficult because it covers students from 1998 to present, she said.

"If they've graduated back in '98 or '99, it's a matter of now having to find those people," Hallam said.

Hallam said Aetna will work hard to locate the people receiving reimbursements.

## REAL WORLD

continued from page 1

Rolando Guerrero, a senior advertising/public relations major and a student member of RealWorld, said the shutdown of the agency was sad because it was really starting to take off.

Guerrero said that last year he worked on a project with the Lena Pope Home, a program for low-income families in danger of gang violence.

"RealWorld gave organizations like the Lena Pope Home the opportunity to use their funds on backpacks and clothes for its young men and women rather than advertising," Guerrero said.

Thomason said he hopes someone will step up and save an agency that serves not only students on campus, but also the Fort Worth community.

"If a downtown agency closes, then its clients will go somewhere else," he said. "When RealWorld closes down, three-fourths of our clients who do a wonderful job serving our community will have nowhere else to go."

## LORD OF THE DANCE



MADDY FOX / Staff Photographer

Members of Soul Steppers practices their step routine behind Milton Daniel Hall Wednesday afternoon. Pictured from left to right: sophomore Chris Blake, broadcast journalism major; freshman Emely Torres, double major in RTVF and Theatre; sophomore Mark Tylanda, business major; and junior Shannon Cossio, psychology major. The Soul Steppers will perform their next show at the Brown-Lupton University Union on March 7.

## ISRAEL

## Model's endorsement tilts election

By Dion Nissenbaum  
McClatchy Newspapers

JERUSALEM — They are calling it "The Refaeli Factor."

It appears that Israeli supermodel and 2009 Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition cover girl Bar Refaeli's 11th-hour endorsement of Tzipi Livni may have been the deciding factor in the race.

Sure, Refaeli didn't actually endorse Livni in the illuminating Time Magazine interview.

And the 23-year-old didn't actually vote for Livni herself because she is on a nonstop party tour to promote the SI Swimsuit Edition.

But the race was so close that Refaeli's quasi-vote of confidence for the foreign minister and Kadima leader might have made the difference.

It is possible that other factors

played a role in Livni's apparent come-from-behind victory over Benjamin Netanyahu and Likud (let's see if the still-to-be-counted soldier vote changes the outcome.)

Netanyahu played defense down the stretch, refused to debate and reacted late to Livni's surge.

The rise of Avigdor Lieberman drained right-wing support from Netanyahu and probably drove some left-leaning voters who were thinking of supporting smaller, more marginal parties to vote for Kadima.

Livni seemed to gain surprising traction in the end with an optimistic, Obama-esque appeal to voters best captured by her campaign poster: Believeni.

You could hear echoes of Obama's message in her election night speech about "hope" and optimism.

"I entered politics when there were camps that fought each other unrelentingly: the Land of Israel versus the peace camp," Livni told supporters. "And today I hear the words 'national camp' once again, and I want to say in a clear voice: The Land of Israel does not belong to the right, just as peace does not belong to the left."

But, down the stretch, it may have been the swing Refaeli voters that turned the tide.

The impact of Refaeli's endorsement is likely to be debated for years to come.

Candidates will soon be crafting new strategies for courting the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition Cover Girl vote.

Now all that is left to discuss is what Cabinet post Livni will give Refaeli.

## Advocates: Human contact endangers manatees' health

By Susan Cocking  
McClatchy Newspapers

CRYSTAL RIVER, Fla. — James and Melody Curtis drove three days from their home in Markham, Canada, to Crystal River on Florida's northwest coast to enjoy what Melody called a "once-in-a-lifetime-experience" — swimming with manatees.

The Curtises and two other guests on American Pro Diving Center's pontoon boat were not disappointed. They got to frolic with up to a dozen of the huge, endangered mammals at King Spring, where the comparatively warm, 72-degree water bubbling up from underground serves as a natural spa for the animals during the cold winter months.

Frigid weather fronts rolling through the region since December have drawn upward of 300 manatees to the 30 or so protected springs of the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge, according to Ivan Vicente, a representative for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. That's roughly one-tenth of the 3,807 animals counted statewide in aerial surveys last month by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

And the heavy manatee presence in Crystal River has, in turn, drawn thousands of visitors from around the world to observe and interact with them.

Manatee tours are a huge business in Citrus County, where about 20 operators in motorboats, kayaks and even helicopters have special-use permits from the refuge to guide visitors to view the region's most precious natural and economic resource. But some worry that all that interaction is changing the animals' natural behavior, making them more vulnerable to illness and death.

"We wouldn't be on the map if it weren't for the manatees, but you don't need to harass them," said Tracy Colson, operator of Nature Coast Kayaking and a lifelong resident of Crystal River. "There has to be a law that says, 'No touching.'"

There is — kind of. Florida statute says: "It is unlawful for any person at any time ... to annoy, molest, harass or disturb any manatee."

But Vicente said touching is tough to prevent because the animals are naturally curious and often approach swimmers and boats.

"If you get in the water, the manatees are going to touch you, so it's very difficult to enforce the law," he said.

Vicente said law-enforcement officers haven't issued a ticket against someone in the water for harassing a manatee in years. But he said dozens of citations are written against boaters for violating speed zones in the refuge.

Melody Curtis didn't see any-

thing wrong with touching a manatee when its leathery, whiskered face suddenly appeared inches from hers at King Spring. At first, she was startled, but she quickly adapted.

"He wasn't intimidating. He hung there looking at me, waiting to see what I'd do," she said. "I made the first move, reaching my hand out, and he rolled on his tummy — like petting a dog."

Told that some snorkelers have attempted to get on top of manatees and ride them, Curtis was horrified.

"I think there are a lot of stupid people out there who ruin it for others," she said.

In the pre-dive briefing, American Pro Diving Center guide Quinn Atkinson told the Curtises' group it is OK to touch manatees.

"Let them come up to you; please don't go after them," Atkinson said. "So only one hand on the manatee at a time. You can rub its belly and rub its back. They don't like the tail or the face or under their armpit."

Learning that a tour guide gave instructions on how to touch a manatee angered Matt Clemons, biologist and operator of Florida Kayak Co. in Crystal River.

"When you tame a wild animal and teach it to roll over to be petted, it is no longer a wild animal," Clemons wrote in an e-mail. "Manatees are not lap dogs, dammit!"

# CITY STREETS

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# OPINION

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*The Skiff View*

## RIAA should target shareware companies

After several years of suing thousands of people, including college students, for illegally downloading music, the Recording Industry Association of America's decision to rely more heavily on Internet service providers, such as TCU, to put perpetrators to rest seems to have gone awry.

Going after college students will only cut off the arm of the monster. The university's policy, which suspends a student's Internet access, forces them to remove all file-sharing software from their computers and requires them to send out e-mails detailing that they were caught illegally downloading music, is a weak reprimand and seems more like an annoyance rather than a consequence.

Instead of attacking the endless number of illegal downloaders, the RIAA should chop the heads off the file-sharing monsters named LimeWire, Ares and BearShare. These are the popular music downloading programs that attention should be turned to.

While putting an end to the numerous legal proceedings, which eventually turned into a giant public relations debacle, is a good move, relying on ISPs is a weak strategy if the RIAA wants to put the kibosh on file-sharing.

Putting part of the issue of illegal downloading in the hands of ISPs is a musty solution because it will merely add a middle man to an already complex problem. Not only do you have a middle man, but the effectiveness of the new policy relies heavily on the collaboration of the ISPs with the RIAA, letting them play bad cop while the RIAA takes a step back from the issue.

*News editor Rose Baca for the editorial board.*

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

## Beware of Facebook scams, identity thieves

How well do you know your Facebook friends? Are they really who you think they are? According to a recent article on CNN.com, maybe not.

Consider the following situation: After a couple of hours studying and doing homework, you find yourself on

With the ever-increasing popularity of Facebook, cases of identity theft and impersonation are sprouting up everywhere.

Facebook. As you log on something on your news feed catches your eye. A status update from one of your good friends from back home reads: "Jack is in HUGE trouble ... if you're reading this please help!!!"

Only a few hours after writing on Jack's wall asking him if he's okay, you receive a message from Jack explaining the situation.

You find out Jack, while backpacking through Europe, was mugged. His money, credit card and passport were all taken and he desperately needs help getting home.

Shocked, you decide to help him get back home by sending him money to an address he gives you.

However, it turns out the real Jack is safe and sound and completely unaware that his Facebook identity had been stolen, and his friends are cheated out of their money.

According to CNN.com, this actually happened to a man living in Seattle. And he's not alone.

In another case, a Wisconsin man was arrested for posing as a woman on Facebook as a way to get high school boys to send him nude photos that he planned to use to blackmail them into performing sex acts.

With the ever-increasing popularity of Facebook, cases of identity theft and impersonation are sprouting up everywhere.

Users should be aware that identity theft could happen to anyone, but the chances are decreased when users choose strong, unique passwords and reset them often, run antivirus software, keep personal information private, and most of all, don't believe everything you read on Facebook.

*This editorial appeared in The Iowa State Daily on Tuesday. It was distributed by UWIRE.*

### YOUR VIEW opinion@dailyskiff.com

#### Music industry not universal sample of country's morals

Andrew Weatherford's Feb. 11 column, "Pop culture a reflection of immoral society," makes the argument that Britney Spears' music is a reflection of society's moral status. I could not disagree more.

Using Spears as a barometer for our nation's moral status is just as asinine as lumping the entire music industry together as one moral sampling. Spears' new single "If U Seek Amy" is a reflection of something else — limited musical ability and lack of depth as a human being.

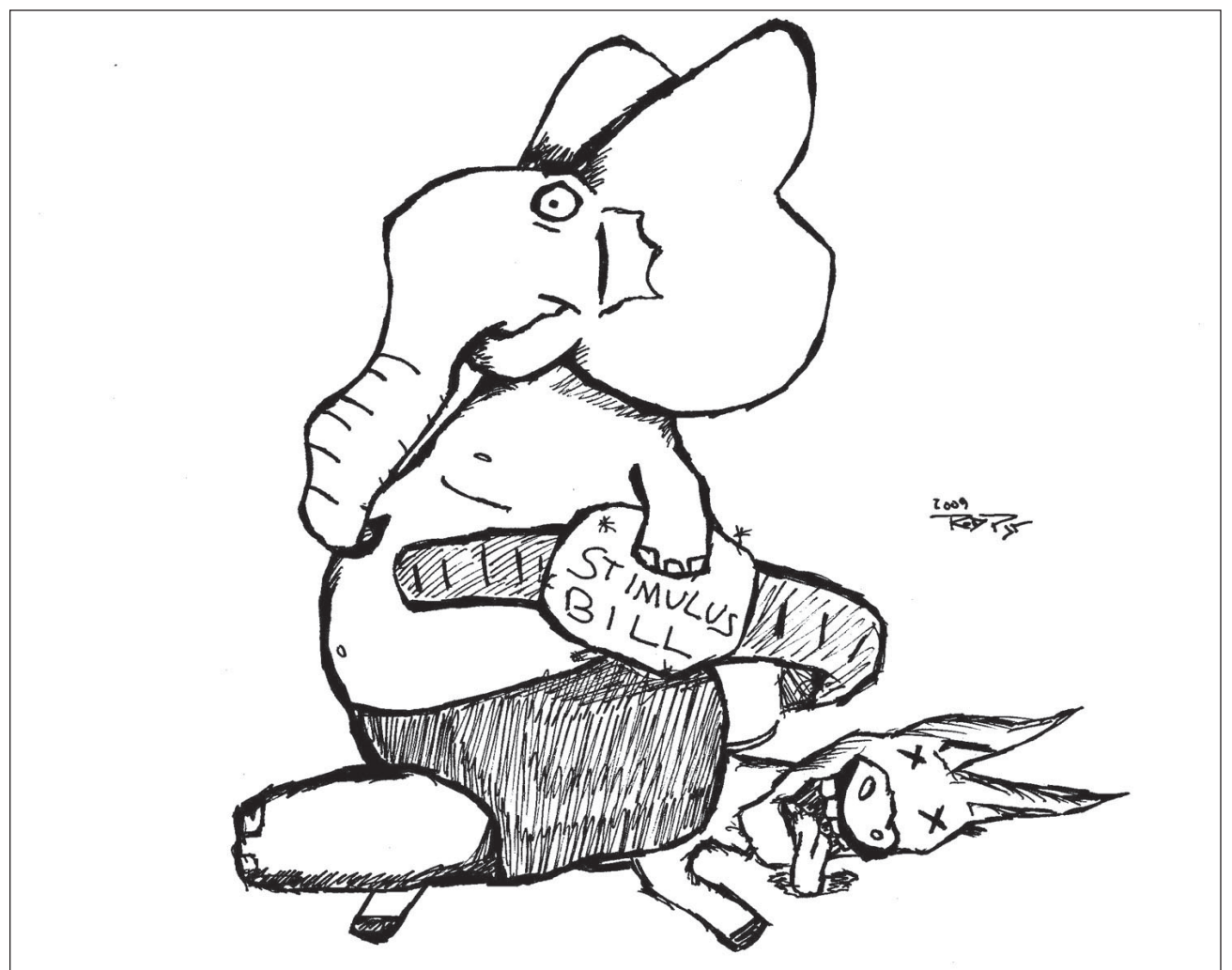
Eminem's music, however, is more on point as a reflection of the circumstances in which he grew up as an impoverished youth. A great deal of his music talks about his dad leaving when he was young, his mom's constant drug problems and the general crime- and poverty-ridden area in which he was raised. Anyone who grew up in those circumstances will have a very different view of things than those who grew up in an affluent society. The point is that all artists are not the same, nor do they represent the morality of 300 million people.

Besides, it's not like we have only immoral music in the music industry.

There is an entire slew of Christian rock music with extremely limited musical quality full of tired, recycled and contrived themes. I much prefer the creativity and originality of an artist like Eminem (even the pathetic music of Spears) than the vacuousness of Christian music. I also find that interesting and creative art has an inversely proportional relationship to its level of religious morality.

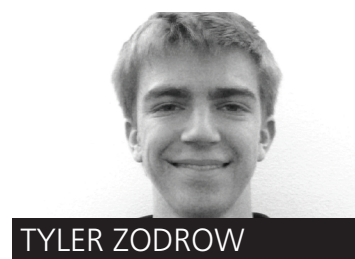
Aside from this, I take great offense to Weatherford's presumption of morality to begin with. The problems with society that I see are not because of a lack of religion but an obsession with first-century morality. In fact, I find the Bible to represent the worst kind of morality imaginable: the clear sanction of slavery, murder and rape as long as it's God's chosen people doing the work — the notion that people are responsible for the crimes of their ancestors, the inferiority of women, the idea that if you do not agree with any of this you deserve the worst kind of torture that should last forever, as well as the notion that brutal torture and murder can represent a great act of love. Who would agree with these acts besides an abusive father?

*Andrew Mabry is a sophomore prebusiness major from Southlake.*



*Robert Slack is a sophomore theatre major from El Paso.*

## Limiting executives' salaries won't solve economic dilemma



TYLER ZODROW

President Obama recently proposed an executive pay limit of \$500,000 for companies receiving significant amounts of federal bailout money.

This is a shrewd political move on Obama's part appealing to the pervasive disgust of corporate greed in this country, but will do little to encourage any substantive change. It could also yield a wave of unintended consequences.

At first glance, punishing the executives who are largely responsible for this economic crash feels right and just. Wall Street had its worst year in at least a decade but still shelled out \$18.4 billion in bonuses, the sixth highest annual bonus rate on record. It sounds blatantly unfair, but the truth is that now is not the time for punishment.

Many believe it's unfair for executives to benefit from taxpayer money even as these companies slide into financial ruin. But they are not responsible for the way Wall Street works. People don't go to Wall Street

to save the world; they go there to make money.

Not only will the pay cap drive out brilliant executives who are desperately needed right now, incoming executives will have subpar experiences and skills.

Companies like American International Group, Inc. are hemorrhaging top talent to places like China and the United Arab Emirates every day. Executives limited to \$500,000, when they could make ten times that elsewhere, don't have much incentive to stick around.

Consider this: Both company A and company B have horrendous years. Both lose lots of money. Company A seeks to hire new executives and will compete to pay competitive wages. Company B keeps the same executives but decides to pay them a fraction of the salary they could get elsewhere. Which company do you think will do better?

Why is the United States government banking on company B?

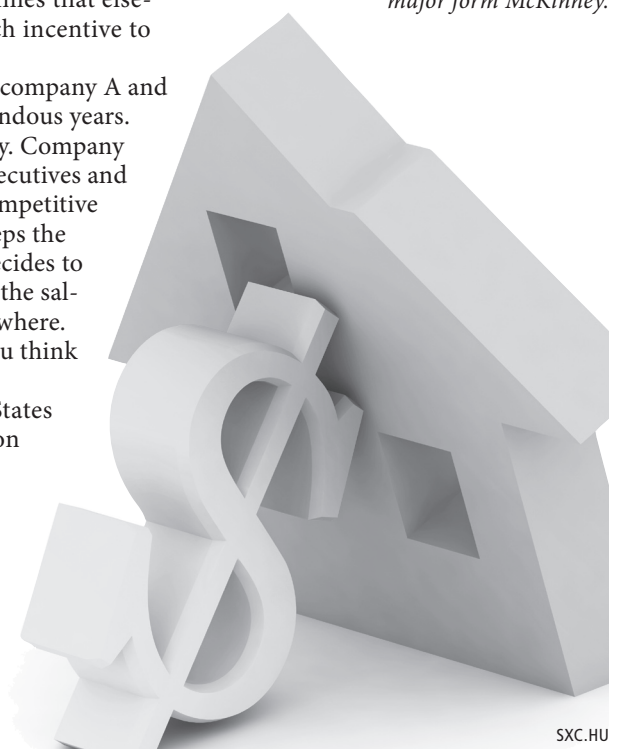
Layoffs are more effective than salary cuts because they allow companies to choose which employees they can afford to lose.

How about new regulations, new incentive programs

or increased oversight to make sure this kind of disaster doesn't happen again? This plan will cripple capitalism, which is the cornerstone of America.

Instead of placing a burden on the handful of executives that can actually fix the economy, the government needs to innovate ways to actually fix the financial system.

*Tyler Zodrow is freshman business major from McKinney.*



SKC.HU

## Vatican should clarify stance on Holocaust

Pope Benedict XVI stirred up another controversy last month when he reinstated a bishop who said of the Holocaust: "There was not one Jew killed in the gas chambers. It was all lies, lies, lies."

Apparently, Pope Benedict either didn't know that British-born Bishop Richard Williamson believes that the Holocaust never happened, or else he misread what a stir the rehabilitation of a Holocaust-denying bishop would cause.

In Germany, where it is against the law to deny the Holocaust, Chancellor Angela Merkel took the extraordinary step of publicly criticizing the reinstatement of Williamson. In protest, Israel's chief rabbinat severed ties with the Vatican. Jews everywhere expressed their outrage, while others had to wonder what sort of vetting the Vatican did on Williamson.

The Vatican responded to the uproar by reiterating Pope Benedict's "full and indisputable solidarity" with Jews and warned against denying the Holocaust. The Vatican demanded that Williamson recant. So far, the bishop has merely issued an apology

to the pope for the trouble this has caused him, without mentioning the Holocaust.

Unlike his predecessor, Pope Benedict sometimes has a tin ear for diplomacy. During a lecture in Germany in 2006, he angered Muslims by quoting from a 1391 text that characterized Islam as being spread by the use of violence. The pope, once

**If Williamson refuses to recant his view on the Holocaust, the Vatican is now in the position to once again cut his ties with the church.**

a theology professor, was apparently taken aback that a scholarly text cited during a university speech could ignite a firestorm.

Eventually, after the Vatican reached out to the Muslim community, the two religions sought more dialogue, always good between religions as well as nations. Jewish orga-

nizations aren't going to permanently turn their back on the Vatican after this latest uproar, either.

But the Vatican needs to do more to correct its stand on the Holocaust and Williamson. He is one of four bishops excommunicated 20 years ago for their unsanctioned consecration by a rogue archbishop, Marcel Lefebvre, also excommunicated. Lefebvre founded the Society of Pius X in protest to the reforms the Catholic Church adopted after Vatican II in the 1960s.

Pope Benedict is reaching out to Lefebvre followers in the interests of uniting the church's differing factions. But on the international front, reinstating Williamson has been terribly divisive, which ultimately will disserve the Catholic Church.

If Williamson refuses to recant his view on the Holocaust, the Vatican is now in the position to once again cut his ties with the church. Then the Vatican will be keeping faith with millions of Catholics throughout the world who have joined Jews to promise: "Never again."

*This editorial appeared in the Miami Herald on Tuesday. It was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.*

## NEWS

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

## Facebook course teaches parents friend requests, status updates

By Lisa M. Krieger  
San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Status Update: Mom and Dad want to join Facebook.

And, like much else about Silicon Valley parenting, they're enlisting experts to learn how.

A new "Facebook for Parents" course, taught at Stanford University, starts this month and is already full. The four-part lecture series even comes with a lab where Stanford students provide one-on-one Facebook tutoring.

"Responsible parenting means being aware of what your children are doing," said Linda Phillips, who is teaching the class with her brother, Stanford psychologist BJ Fogg. Phillips is the mother of eight children — seven of whom are also her Facebook "friends."

Originally limited to those with a college e-mail address, Facebook has opened its digital doors. So what was once a youthful private party increasingly has parent chaperones, sticking out like eight-track cartridges at the Apple store.

A social networking site open to anyone over 13, Facebook allows users to connect with one another by asking to be "friends" with other members. Once friends, users share conversations, photos and daily updates from the elegant — prom dresses and poetry — to the embarrassing — say, Fred silly and drunk at last Friday's party.

Some kids say that a "friend" request from parent is like discovering Dad at your beer pong game. Or bumping into Mom in the dressing room of Forever 21.

When Facebook first opened itself to the public in 2007, students circulated an online petition called "Don't Let My Parents Onto Facebook!" to founder Mark Zuckerberg, pleading for a reversal of the decision. Since then, there has been a proliferation of no par-

ent groups, such as "For The Love of God — Don't Let Parents Join Facebook." One group is hosted by "The Bureau of Endangered Generation Gaps."

Adults older than 35 accounted for 3.6 million — or 9 percent — of Facebook's 2007 demographics, and are the fast-growing segment of users. Many say they enjoy keeping track of their high school crush, that friend from book club or the neighbor's kitchen remodel.

"I think that it is all right if they are getting Facebook accounts," said Amin Ronahi, a Palo Alto High School senior.

"However," he added, "I would rather have them not add me."

Many parents would no sooner read their teen's profile than snoop through his or her diary.

But there is a place for responsible parenting, according to many experts. Connecting online has become a new form of dinner table conversation.

"It's great that more parents are wanting to try this new mode of

**"Responsible parenting means being aware of what your children are doing."**

Linda Phillips  
Stanford University professor

interaction with their very social virtual children," said Larry Rosen, professor of psychology at California State University-Dominguez Hills and author of the book "Me, MySpace and I: Parenting the Net Generation."

"It shows that people really want to learn what their kids are doing," he said.

In the free Stanford class, open to all parents but designed for those

with children younger than 18, Fogg and Phillips teach such subjects as "The ABC's of Facebook," "Ten Steps To Protect Loved Ones," and "Friending, Posting and Updating: Life Skills for the Future."

"It isn't about spying on kids. And it's not just about safety and importance of teaching children to guard their reputation," Fogg said. "It helps you build a relationship."

Some teens say they accept parents as friends. A few simply ignore them, much as they might shrug off a plea to take out the trash. Most fiddle with privacy controls: accepting, but limiting what parents can see.

Stanford junior Kelley Winn added her mom because "let's face it, you can't reject your parents as friends," she said. "As long as they use Facebook as a means of networking or reconnecting with old friends, and not as a way to pretend they're back in college, I think it's perfectly fine for them to be on the site."

It was inevitable that adults would want to join, said Stanford student Zev Karlin-Neumann. "I don't see it as particularly good or bad, just the evolution of a popular social networking site. ... People have adjusted. I know many friends who have 'cleaned up' their profiles."

Kids' advice to their parents: Don't leave gooey greetings. Don't friend their friends. Don't browse their friend's photos. And just as you'd rather not hear about their hangovers, they're not interested in your hot flashes.

Ohio State grad Stephanie Wiseman was conflicted when her mother joined but asked that her friends accept Mom:

"Please make her feel welcome. Friend request her (she has no idea what that is though ... so be patient if it takes a while), and in true Facebook fashion get drunk and write on her wall."

FBI



FBI agent Maureen Lese investigates child pornography cases in Minneapolis on Jan 23.

## Agent uses cool judgment to stop child pornography

By James Walsh  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

MINNEAPOLIS — Employing a respectful demeanor toward suspects who would inspire only revulsion in others, Maureen Lese is in the vanguard of the FBI's attempts to combat one of the fastest-growing illegal activities on the Internet.

"You will find a lot of agents who don't want to work these cases," said Lese, who has focused exclusively on child pornography cases for the past seven years. "People tell me I'm going to get to that point where I'll say, 'Enough is enough.' But I take such satisfaction in the work that I do to stop the predators and rescue children."

Staying cool in the face of offenders who see nothing wrong in their repeated victimization of children, treating them instead with outward respect, she said, is a key tool to uncovering their crimes. She won't divulge too much detail, but there is no doubt that she is one of the best at one of the bureau's ugliest jobs. Last fall she received the 2007 U.S. Attorney's Office Law Enforcement Recognition Award.

"You can lead people to make statements against their own self-interest," said Ralph Boelter, FBI special agent in charge of the Minneapolis office. "Maureen is a master at that."

Sitting down with one suspect at his workplace, Lese was direct and matter-of-fact.

"Do you know why we're here?" she recalled asking.

"Yes," he said. "It's about the pictures."

He told her about the folder on

his home computer marked "private," the one that contained images of him having sex with his three young daughters.

The information Lese pulled out of the man helped lock him away for 30 years. (The man's name is public information, but the Star Tribune is not naming him because it would identify his children.)

"When you start talking to these guys, you never know what you're going to find," she said.

Lese has been an FBI agent for more than 16 years. Her interest in the bureau goes back further.

"I was always interested in law enforcement," she said. "I had this need for justice and to try to make things more fair for people."

She studied accounting and graduated from the University of Iowa in 1987 with a degree in psychology because "I knew that was a way to get into the FBI," she said.

Lese also knew she had to work for a few years after college before the FBI would take her. For three years, she worked at the Illinois Math and Science Academy. She joined the FBI in March 1992.

In the case of Lyle Robert Paton, Lese wasn't the one to catch him. In fact, she came into the case long after his arrest. But her work helped nail the repeat offender.

Paton, a married Minneapolis man with two previous convictions — one involving sex with a 14-year-old boy and another for possessing obscene material — was seen entering the woods of St. Paul's Lilydale Park with a digital camera and five boys. After a resident alerted authorities, a police officer arrested Paton as the group left the park.

Police learned that Paton had been

photographing the boys in the nude. In fact, he'd photographed some of the boys for years after befriending them and their families. In all, investigators identified 25 victims of sexual abuse or exploitation.

A big part of Lese's job, she said, is getting guilt-ridden or disbelieving family members to cooperate and let their children talk to investigators. "It's a hard thing for kids and parents to admit to," she said.

She convinced them in much the same way she convinces offenders: calmly and with respect. In 2007, Paton was sentenced to five concurrent life terms for producing child pornography.

But her strongest skill may be getting the bad guys to spill.

In June 2006, the Minnesota task force learned about Todd Edward Hammond through other pedophiles who had gotten caught in Florida and Kentucky.

The Andover, Minn., man had been having sex with a 12-year-old mentally disabled boy. Hammond took his laptop, a Web camera and the boy to hotel rooms where he sexually assaulted the boy on live streaming video that he sent to other pedophiles' computers.

Like many pedophiles, Hammond had gained parents' and kids' trust. He worked as a mentor to children at risk.

"His victim was one of the kids at risk who needed a father figure," Lese said.

She sat down with Hammond in the Anoka County, Minn., jail and asked him to tell his story. "He was willing to talk," she said.

He was sentenced in July 2007 to 30 years in federal prison.

## Exhibit to celebrate immigrants' roles in aiding Sept. 11 victims

By Elizabeth Llorente  
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

HACKENSACK, N.J. — They bore the brunt of nationwide fears and resentment after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

That backlash obscured the roles of immigrants and other foreign nationals on that day and its aftermath — as victims, as heroes who rushed in and helped as volunteers after the towers fell, and as the widows, widowers and children of those who died.

Now, the Tribute WTC Visitor Center, located near the World Trade Center site, is planning an exhibit, "Renewing Our American Dream After 9/11," in March dedicated to immigrants.

The center is seeking photos and personal accounts that will help capture the effect of Sept. 11 on immigrants.

"I hope this exhibit creates an appreciation of how immigrants were deeply involved and affected by the events of Sept. 11," said the center's curator, Meriam Lobel.

More than 500 of the more than 2,700 people who died in lower Manhattan because of the attacks were foreign-born.

And then there are the roughly 600 immigrant day laborers, she said, who were among the thousands who helped in the cleanup after the towers fell, and who ended up with multiple physical and mental health problems.

"They saw the planes hit, or heard about what happened, and came to Ground Zero to see how they could help," Lobel said. "They cleaned office buildings around Ground Zero, and apartment buildings, and they didn't have the protective masks, and they were exposed to materials that we've since learned were toxic."

Orlando Ramirez, a construction laborer from Jersey City, N.J., hitched a ride to Ground Zero on Sept. 11 as soon as he learned about what happened.

"My hope was to go to help in any way I could. My main purpose was to try to rescue people," said Ramirez, who is from Colombia. "Once I got there, it became clear that if there was anyone to rescue, it would take equipment I didn't have."

Ramirez, 53, returned to the site

after a few days to help clean up. Friends urged him not to return to Ground Zero.

"They mostly worried that terrorists were going to strike again, maybe set off a bomb there," said Ramirez, who worked near the site for two months. "I felt I had no choice, morally."

Now, like scores of others — including emergency responders — who worked at Ground Zero, Ramirez and other immigrant laborers must take medication and use an inhaler for lung conditions stemming from exposure to toxins.

He is one of thousands of Ground Zero workers from New York and New Jersey who have taken part in Mount Sinai Medical Center's medical monitoring program, which also includes treatment and therapy.

"I've never been the same," said Jaime Giraldo, a Colombian immigrant from New York who helped clean contaminated office buildings around Ground Zero and has become progressively sicker over the years. "I've got several chronic sinus and lung problems, and I have recurrent nightmares and deep depression."

"We'd be walking near the site to our jobs, or just look out the window of the office building we were cleaning, and you'd see a limb or a corpse being pulled out from the debris," Giraldo, 49, said. "I cannot sleep. I still see this in my mind as if it were happening all over again."

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# ETC.



### Today in History

On this day in 2002, former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic goes on trial at The Hague, Netherlands, on charges of genocide and war crimes in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo.

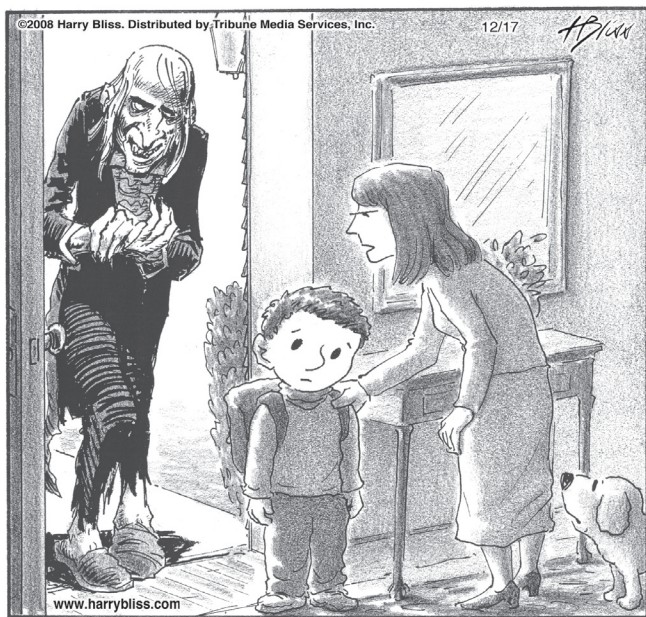
— History Channel

### Joke of the Day

Q: What starts with E, ends with E and only has one letter?  
A: An envelope.

Bliss

by Harry Bliss



“Can we keep him?” I don’t know, Robbie — he’s pretty creepy.”

Michael Capozzola's

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

### 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 Solutions

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

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### ACROSS

- 1 Painter's base
- 6 Thread roller
- 11 Male offspring
- 14 Not from this world
- 15 Surpass
- 16 Brace number
- 17 1941 Bing Crosby movie
- 20 Give an address
- 21 Bancroft or Boleyn
- 22 Fit for farming
- 26 Novelist Ayn
- 29 Yellowish-green olivines
- 32 University in Waco
- 36 Map of lots
- 37 Seraglio
- 39 Indivisible
- 40 1937 Paul Muni movie (with "The")
- 44 Actress Longoria
- 45 Troublesome car
- 46 Heroic in scope
- 47 Pay up
- 49 Supporter
- 52 Cereal grasses
- 54 Wears away
- 55 Dope or skinny
- 58 One of the Ionian Islands
- 61 One of Donne's sonnets
- 68 Crescent
- 69 Van Duyn and Washbourne
- 70 Body's trunk
- 71 Wino
- 72 Some golf tournaments
- 73 Dutch painter

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
17										19			
				20						21			
22	23	24	25			26	27	28					
29					30	31	32			33	34	35	
36					37	38				39			
40				41	42					43			
44				45						46			
47		48				49		50	51				
				52				54					
55	56	57				58	59	60					
61				62	63					64	65	66	67
68				69						70			
71						72				73			

By Josiah Breward, Scranton, PA 2/3/09

### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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### DOWN

- 1 Flap lips
- 2 Samuel's mentor
- 3 Man's title
- 4 Tennis grouping
- 5 Waiting, phone in hand
- 6 Divan
- 7 Shot on the green
- 8 Catchall check-box
- 9 Pindar work
- 10 High shot
- 11 Stupefy
- 12 Writer Wister
- 13 Durante feature
- 18 Dunkable treat
- 19 Gentlewoman
- 22 Cameos and pippins
- 23 Experience again
- 24 Former PLO leader
- 25 Quick meal
- 27 Adam's second
- 28 Tom, Dick or Harry, e.g.
- 30 Us opponent
- 31 Where Pago Pago is
- 33 Circled
- 34 Surfing
- 35 Bounces back
- 38 Melon covering
- 41 Big pot of stew
- 42 Yard parts
- 43 Japanese fighter of WWII
- 48 Whistle sound
- 50 Determine weight by lifting
- 51 Breaks out
- 53 Act division
- 55 Cantor and Lupino
- 56 Stout's Wolfe
- 57 Actual event
- 59 Judah's son
- 60 H... Perot
- 62 Ins. choice
- 63 Jazz style
- 64 Twaddle
- 65 Galena, e.g.
- 66 Wear and tear
- 67 Adams or Knotts

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## SPORTS



The men's basketball team, in the midst of a five-game slide, prepares for BYU. Tomorrow

EQUESTRIAN

## GOLDEN STATE



Freshman Lyndsi Hardin rides Rex Saturday in a competition against Sacred Heart University. The team, which heads to California this weekend, won the match 19-1.

VICTORIA LEE

## Streaking team to head to California

By Elise Smith  
Staff Reporter

The No.7-ranked equestrian team, in the middle of a three-match winning streak, will head to Fresno, Calif. for the Best in the West Tournament this weekend.

They will compete against teams from South Dakota State University, the University of Tennessee at Martin and Fresno State University, the tournament's host.

Head coach Gary Reynolds said he is looking forward to the tournament because both the English and Western teams have been riding at a high level.

The team won its last match against Sacred Heart University, 19-1, where the English team had its first clean sweep of the season.

Reynolds said he has been proud of the team this season.

"It's one of the greatest teams I've ever been involved with," Reynolds said. "They help each other, push each other and they are just a fantastic team."

Emma Carl, a senior and team captain, said the English team has come together over the past several competitions and the skill level of the team has improved.

Carl said the English team will focus on executing the patterns and hitting the marks in position over fences and position on the flat in its upcoming competition.

"Last year at this competition, the patterns were more complex and long, but this year we are taking it step by step and not getting frazzled," Carl said.

The goal for the rest of the season is to stay focused and get through the next six weeks of competitions and then hopefully concentrate on the national competition, she said.

Reynolds said it was important for the all of team members to step up their game and ride their horses precisely, eliminating mistakes.

Carrie von Uhlit, a senior and team captain, said the team is doing really well getting the new riders seasoned for the national competition and hopes the team can peak there.

The Horned Frogs will return from California to face Southern Methodist University on Feb. 21 in Dallas.

Carl said the team is looking forward to the competition against the Mustangs because they are a huge rival and they would love to beat them on visiting turf.

## Phelps' mistake a result of youth

By Rachel Blount  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Only a few months ago, Michael Phelps guest-hosted "Saturday Night Live." One ill-fated party later, Phelps became the show's punchline.

Satirical newsman Seth Myers weighed in last weekend on the snapshot seen around the world: the cell-phone photo of Phelps inhaling from a bong. He chastised USA Swimming for its three-month suspension of Phelps, saying, "Now he won't be able to compete for you in the highly anticipated not-the-Olympics swimming race." Of Kellogg's, which dropped Phelps as a cereal spokesperson, Myers added: "I knew some guys named Snap, Crackle and Pop. And they were drug dealers."

While he joked about the circumstances, Myers didn't take direct aim at Phelps. That seems to be the prevailing public sentiment a little more than a week after the photo was splashed across a London tabloid. Most Americans who cheered Phelps through his run of eight gold medals in the Beijing Games have reacted to his Candid Camera moment with stoner jokes rather than with outrage or scorn.

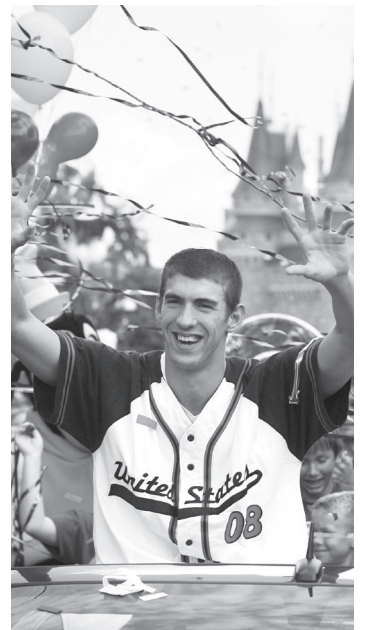
Sponsors including Speedo, VISA and Hilton Hotels issued statements of support. But Phelps has been punished plenty. The suspension, the loss of his Kellogg's contract, three months without USA Swimming funding, global embarrassment and his mother's anger add up to the worst grounding in history. And, given the circumstances, that should be enough.

While we debate whether athletes should be role models, we track their every move, ready to pounce on imperfections. American short-track speedskater Apolo Anton Ohno, who became doubly famous via Olympic medals and the TV show "Dancing With the Stars," learned at a young age how careful he had to be in any public setting.

"In 2002, I went to my first Olympics, and I was 20 years old," he said. "My behavior changed dramatically."

"Once you're allowed to call yourself a U.S. Olympic athlete, there are guidelines and protocol that go along with that. It's important to represent what you'd want your mom or a little kid to see. It's important to be aware of your surroundings and the choices you make."

This is the lesson Phelps still seems to be learning. His poor judgment was compounded by a predator with a cell phone camera looking to make a quick buck. In



JOE BURBANK / Orlando Sentinel via MCT  
Michael Phelps makes his way down Main Street USA in a homecoming parade at the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World, in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, Friday, August 29, 2008.

2004, Phelps' drunk-driving arrest made national headlines.

At 23, Phelps is still a young man who will stumble along the path to adulthood. He deserves some sympathy for having to live out the consequences in the public eye, but he has to accept and deal with that modern peril of his station in life — and with the fact that his responsibilities stretch far beyond himself.

As an Olympian, Phelps receives funding from USA Swimming and the U.S. Olympic Committee. He has an obligation to uphold their carefully crafted image, just as he has an obligation to his sponsors to enhance their corporate personas.

He blew it with Kellogg's, which understandably doesn't want pot smoking associated with kid-friendly Frosted Flakes. Omega watches — believed to be the maker of the timepiece on his wrist in the pot photo — decided his behavior was a "non-issue" for its clientele and expressed support for Phelps. U.S. Olympic Committee officials issued a public scolding and plan to meet with him for what presumably will be a private one.

All those responses seem appropriate. So does some understanding and some forgiveness. Phelps, so perfect in the water, showed us just how human he really is by screwing up on a grand scale.

He has owned up to his mistake, and he is living out the consequences in front of the world. The world, in return, should recognize Phelps' flaws for what they are: proof that our sports idols are, at heart, not so different from us.

## Vancouver indifferent about 2010 Games

By Brian Gomez  
McClatchy Newspapers

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Knowing he couldn't watch figure skating on an empty stomach, Ron Isbell grabbed his Olympic jacket and left his hotel in search of a pizza joint.

Two big slices with lots of toppings hit the spot. He still needed to find a ticket to the Four Continents Championships and some Olympic souvenirs, and he planned to visit venues for the 2010 Vancouver Games.

No big rush, though. Not all Canadians share his enthusiasm.

"I don't think people realize the Olympics are coming," said Isbell, an accountant from Arlington, who stayed in Vancouver for Thurs-

day's one-year countdown celebration. "There doesn't seem to be much spirit."

Maybe it's because Vancouver taxpayers worry they'll bear the cost to finish construction of the Olympic village, once considered the crown jewel of Canada's second Winter Games, now teetering on disaster due to continued financial problems.

Damage control is a must. And it starts with easing fear over the Olympic village.

The Vancouver Organizing Committee tapped \$40 million in contingency funds as its operating budget rose by \$104 million to \$1.63 billion. The city has permission to borrow at least \$350 million since the village's original lender stopped payments in September.

"Taxpayers are footing the bill, whether we like it or not," said a Vancouver taxi driver who gave only his first name, Ismail. "If I'm paying taxes, I like that my money is going to things that really matter, like impoverished people, people that don't have houses, people that can't afford to take care of themselves."

Vancouver graphic designer Dustin Wyatt hardly expects a rallying cry for the Olympics.

"A lot of people are excited about it, and a lot of people haven't even thought about it," he said. "I don't think the whole city is completely on board with it."

Said Vancouver construction worker Cru Belanger, "It's not religion. It's the Olympics. It's not something that's going to change somebody's life."

POINT • COUNTERPOINT

## What does Alex Rodriguez's steroid controversy mean to the baseball world?

Sluggers' mistake could be just what the tarnished, suffering sport needed

Latest steroid scandal yet another slap in the face to all baseball fans



MICHAEL CARROLL

The oft-tormented world of baseball suffered another blow this weekend when Sports Illustrated reported that New York Yankees third basemen Alex Rodriguez tested positive for testosterone and anabolic steroids back in 2003 when he was a shortstop for the Texas Rangers.

Rodriguez, who admitted to taking the substances during an apology Monday on ESPN, said he took the drugs during a three-year period starting in 2001, his first year with the Rangers. Rodriguez hit 156 home runs in his three seasons with the Rangers and was the American League's Most Valuable Player in 2003. He also played in 485 out of a possible 486 games during his tenure in Arlington.

His power and health numbers don't lie — whatever Rodriguez was taking helped him substantially.

While this has been a dark week for baseball, the accusation against Rodriguez and his subsequent admission could be exactly what the sport needed to pull itself out of a tarnished era. If a player of Rodriguez's stature can be caught cheating, how can anyone else in the league feel safe breaking the rules?

But if Rodriguez is being honest when he says he stopped taking the substances in 2003, his drug-free performance in seasons before and after that time prove he is still one of the baseball's greatest players. He is proof that athletes can still be naturally dominant in their sport, something everyone needs to realize.

The league also needs to come clean and announce the names of the other 103 players who tested positive in 2003. Rodriguez doesn't deserve to be the only person facing ridicule.

As far as his legacy is concerned, yes, it will never be the same. But

If a player of Rodriguez's stature can be caught cheating, how can anyone else in the league feel safe breaking the rules?

coming straight out and admitting his wrongdoings was absolutely the best move he could have made. People tend to be more forgiving when you apologize quickly and with sincerity.

Rodriguez still has nine years left on the 10-year, \$275-million contract he signed with the Yankees in 2007. If he can keep producing exceptional numbers throughout the remainder of his career, there's no reason he shouldn't be considered one of the greatest players in history when it finally comes to an end.

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



BILLY WESSELS

All of my life I have been a baseball fan. Unfortunately, most of those years have been spent watching the Texas Rangers.

Don't get me wrong, I love them and I love going to games, but eventually the losing has to stop.

And I thought that losing was finally going to come to an end in 2001 with the addition of superstar Alex Rodriguez.

The stands were packed and people were excited to go see the Rangers and the future Hall of Fame shortstop.

I always got to the stadium early to get a glimpse of the slugger taking batting practice, hoping to get a batting practice foul ball or maybe even an au-

tograph.

One day it happened. The mammoth Rodriguez sauntered over to his line of adoring fans and started signing.

I was third in line and was still worried he would quit before he got to me.

I planned on hanging on to the ball for the rest of my life, giving it to my grandkids and letting them sell the ball that I figured would be worth a lot of money someday.

Now, I don't think that day will come.

Rodriguez has tarnished his reputation and done serious damage to the sanctity of baseball.

Not to mention crush the trust all of his fans had in him.

There is nothing he can do to make this better. All I can think of now is if the best player in the world admits to previous steroid use, what is everyone else using?

Throw this in with the allegations that Roger Clemens used steroids and you are now talking about both the best pitcher and

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hitter in the game over the past decade using the juice.

Maybe former New York Yankee manager Joe Torre was on to something when he said in his recent book that Rodriguez's teammates called him A-Fraud. How about A-Roid, if not liar and cheater?

What are fans supposed to think? My faith in these players and the game is destroyed.

Not to mention my tainted memories and worthless baseball.

Billy Wessels is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Waxahachie.