

The men's tennis team, in its first home match of the season, fell to Texas A&M 4-3 Wednesday night. Sports, page 6



The university commits to participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, which will allow veterans to be eligible for complete funding for their tuition. Tomorrow in News



A business student who started a successful yard sign business receives presidential recognition. Tomorrow in News

## Facebook retracts updated user terms

By Maricruz Salinas  
Staff Reporter

Facebook's chief executive officer announced Wednesday morning that Facebook is reverting to its original terms of use because of negative user feedback about a revision to the terms earlier this month.

Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's CEO, wrote in a Facebook blog post Monday that users license Facebook to use their content when they create an account. According to the original terms of use, this license expired when a user deactivated his or her account.

On Feb. 4, the terms were changed to include a clause that would allow the site to continue using a user's photos and information after his or her account had been terminated.

Zuckerberg wrote in another blog post Wednesday that the company is returning to its previous terms of use, so Facebook cannot control content after an account is deactivated.

Zuckerberg wrote that the current terms of use are a temporary fix until new terms are drafted with clearer language.

The post did not specify how Facebook's

terms of use would change in the future.

Court Allen, a lawyer specializing in intellectual property law at San Antonio-based law firm Cox Smith Matthews Inc., said Facebook was probably trying to protect itself from claims that user content was being misused.

If an account were terminated and Facebook's license to a user's content ceased, there could be concerns about content that is still available outside of someone's profile, Allen said. Depending on the particular circumstances and applicable terms and conditions, the site may have to delete the user's original content as well as any copies of the material,

he said.

"(Facebook) would want to have the ongoing rights to allow for that," he said.

The company probably felt that it had to revoke the new terms in order to appease aggravated customers and to prevent harm to its business, he said.

"People may quit signing up if that perceived onerous term were maintained," he said.

According to the Web site, Facebook can change its contract without notifying

SEE FACEBOOK • PAGE 2

### PAPERBACK NONFICTION BEST SELLERS

- 1 Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama
- 2 Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
- 3 The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama
- 4 Team of Rivals by Kearns Goodwin
- 5 I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell by Tucker Max
- 6 Marley & Me by John Grogan
- 7 The Middle Place by Kelly Corrigan
- 8 The Tipping Point by Malcolm Gladwell
- 9 Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert
- 10 Blink by Malcolm Gladwell  
—The New York Times




Would allowing concealed weapons on campus make us safer? A point-counterpoint. Opinion, page 3

### PECULIAR FACT

NEW DELHI — A hardline Hindu organization, known for its opposition to "corrupting" Western food imports, is planning to launch a new soft drink made from cow's urine, often seen as sacred in parts of India.

— Reuters

### TODAY'S WEATHER

 **61 35**  
HIGH LOW  
Sunny

Tomorrow: Sunny  
70 / 46

Saturday: Mostly Cloudy  
53 / 30



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

## BACK ON TRACK



JASON FOCHTMAN / Multimedia Editor

Junior forward Zvonko Buljan steals the ball from Air Force guard Evan Washington during the first half of the Horned Frogs' 62-50 victory. Buljan lead the team with 20 points, five steals and eight assists.

The Horned Frogs ended their six-game losing streak Wednesday night with a 62-50 win over the Air Force Academy. Just four weeks ago, the team jumped out to a 4-1 record and had a share of first place in the Mountain West Conference. Six straight losses caused the team to drop to sixth in the conference. With only four games remaining before the conference tournament, the win over Air Force could be just what the team needed to return to the success it saw at the beginning of the year.

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### ATHLETICS

## Official: Budget cuts won't limit successes

*Department mulls changing travel plans, team schedules*

By Elise Smith  
Staff Reporter

The athletics department, feeling the pressure of campus-wide budget cuts, is making adjustments with frugality in mind. But a university official said the budget cuts won't affect the performance of the department.

Jack Hesselbrock, associate athletics director for internal relations, said the athletics department will experience the budget cuts starting in June as part of a campus-wide effort to slash 8 percent from the budget. The department is working on minimizing the effects on its teams, Hesselbrock said.

"The one thing that we will not do is anything that will directly impact the student athlete," Hesselbrock said.

The coaches have been understanding of the budget cut because of the current state of the economy, Hesselbrock said.

Among the coaches' concerns is that the budget doesn't affect students, the quality of the department or the standard associated with TCU athletics, Hesselbrock said.

The quality of medical care, travel arrangements and equipment used for the athletic programs will not be affected by budget cuts, Hesselbrock said.

Recruiting for athletic teams will also not be affected, Hesselbrock said.

The department is coming up with ideas to be more frugal, such as ordering team equipment in bulk, planning travel arrangements further in advance and scheduling competitions with competitors who are nearby, Hesselbrock said.

"For instance, the baseball team would maybe play UTA an extra series rather than go to Nebraska to play a series," Hesselbrock said.

Danny Morrison, athletics director, said student athletes will not be negatively affected by having more regional, closer competitions.

SEE BUDGET CUT • PAGE 2

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Campus pioneers honored for breaking racial barriers

By Curtis Burrhus-Clay  
Staff Reporter

The idea of building relationships and challenging social norms was reiterated at the African-American Firsts Dinner on Wednesday night at the Kelly Alumni Center.

Inclusiveness and Intercultural Services hosted the dinner, which honored five black TCU pioneers for their individual accomplishments, and celebrated Black History Month.

Ronald Hurdle, who was the university's first black cheerleader, said he didn't realize he was paving the way for future students at the time.

"We didn't think that we were doing anything special," Hurdle said. "We were just trying to find something where we fit in and that we could enjoy."

The guests of honor answered questions throughout the evening, mostly about their adverse experiences as students.

"I couldn't let the attitudes of a few challenge what I wanted to do," said Mildred Martin Sims, who was the first president of the African-American Alumni Association.

Yendor Reese, a 2007 graduate, said all students must work toward a common goal if they want to see a change on campus during their collegiate tenures.

"You only have four years to make an impact on TCU's direction," Reese said.

Cristina Ramos, program coordinator for Inclusiveness and Intercultural Services, said the honorees' accomplishments should be acknowledged

SEE DINNER • PAGE 2

### FRENCH

## New honor society induction, officer selection set for March

Callie Mason  
Staff Reporter

Parlez-vous francais? If so, you are in luck because a new French honor society is on campus this semester.

Candace Ruocco, a senior French and political science major and president of Pi Delta Phi, the new honor society, said she first got interested in starting a chapter at TCU a few years ago.

SGA passed a resolution in 2006 supporting the expansion of language programs at TCU, such as Arabic, Chinese and Latin, Ruocco said. Despite much lobbying with the modern languages department, the demand for the programs was not high enough for the school to budget more classes and teachers to support classes in those languages, she said.

"It just did not make sense to have classes with only five students in each class," Ruocco

said. "I still wanted to find something to get people excited about foreign languages and to help the department, so we did research on different programs we could endorse."

Pi Delta Phi has 342 chapters in United States and France, according to the society's Web site. The society is currently working on picking a group of charter members, Ruocco said. After the members are selected, they will be initiated into the Pi Delta Phi chapter, she said.

Applicants must have sophomore standing, said Marie Schein, an instructor of French at TCU and moderator of Pi Delta Phi. Students who are accepted into the honor society must also have completed an upper division French class, have a 3.0 GPA in French with a cumulative GPA of 2.8 and be in the top 35 percent of their class, Schein said.

Schein said the new society gives students a

SEE FRENCH • PAGE 2



# National park deer hunt alarms animal rights activists

By Jeff Gammage  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — When drivers approach Valley Forge National Historical Park from the south, they're often greeted by hordes of attentive hosts: Deer.

The animals don't run from the noise of car engines. They don't bolt at the prospect of human contact. They stand and stare.

Soon those sentries may be gone.

Valley Forge officials plan a massive sharpshooting operation to kill up to 1,300 deer during the next four years, eliminating more than 80 percent of the herd and maintaining a much smaller pack through contraceptives.

Administrators say lethal actions are necessary because deer are devouring so many plants, shrubs, and saplings that the forest cannot regenerate.

"Our goal is to restore a natural, healthy, functioning ecosystem," said Kristina Heister, park natural-resource manager. "We feel we need to act now, and we need to act quickly."

The first shoot would take place next winter. Federal em-

ploees or contractors would fire high-powered rifles mostly at night, dispatching deer baited to areas with apples and grain. The rifles would have silencers. Some shooting likely would take place during the day in areas closed to the public.

Technically, park administrators are considering four plans to manage deer, with options ranging from doing nothing to killing most of the herd. But they've already identified sharpshooting as the best alternative.

Angry animal rights activists insist that shooting the deer is unnecessary, unethical, and dangerous to nearby residents.

"Free-living animals can control their numbers, and they do control their numbers," said Lee Hall of Devon, Pa., legal director of the international advocacy group Friends of Animals. "The best way to enable them to do this is to respect how they are, and where they are, because nature works."

She's unsure whether the park's count of 1,023 deer is accurate. Even if it is, she said, to say there are too many deer is to impose a human construct on a vital,

healthy group of animals governed by larger, natural forces.

The deer at Valley Forge, Hall said, get all the blame for environmental degradation, which is at least partly caused by auto emissions, construction and trampling tourists. The Friends of Animals has urged park managers to think about bloodless alternatives, such as extensive fencing — measures that administrators have rejected.

Valley Forge is a 5.3-square-mile oasis of hills, streams, and forests surrounded by houses, hotels, and one of the nation's busiest shopping destinations, the King of Prussia, Pa., mall.

The park draws more than one million visitors a year to the site of the Continental Army's 1777-78 winter encampment. At times, though, deer seem to outnumber people. Lack of natural predators and public hunting combined with an ideal habitat have spawned an exponential expansion.

In 1985, the summer deer population was 165 to 185, according to a study by Pennsylvania State University researchers.

By 1997, the population had more than quadrupled.

From 1997 to 2007, the herd

grew from 772 to 1,023, peaking at 1,398 in 2003, according to a park environmental-impact study. The 2007 total was 193 deer per square mile, which administrators say exceeds scientific recommendations for forest regeneration.

Already lost, Heister said, is what biologists call the forest understory, the saplings and small ground plants. If the situation continued unaltered over generations, what is now forest would become meadow.

Heister said the large number of deer raised the risk of chronic wasting disease in Valley Forge. The park study repeatedly cites the threat of the disease, a contagious neurological illness that kills deer and elk.

But there has never been a case of it in Pennsylvania. Infected herds were identified in West Virginia and New York four years ago.

Park officials also note that there are, on average, 86 collisions between cars and deer in the park each year. More accidents occur on the park outskirts, and all are potentially deadly to drivers.

Hall, of the Friends of Animals, said the solution was to reduce speed limits, install asphalt speed



LAURENCE KESTERSON / Philadelphia Inquirer via MCT

Deer graze in Valley Forge National Historical Park on Feb. 10. Valley Forge officials plan a massive sharpshooting operation to kill up to 1,300 deer during the next four years, eliminating more than 80 percent of the herd and maintaining a much smaller pack through contraceptives.

bumps, and find other ways to restrain drivers, who often use park roads as shortcuts.

The park hopes to reduce the deer population to between 186 and 164 by killing 400 the first year, 400 the second, and between 200 and 250 each in years three and four.

The density of deer would

plummet to between 31 and 35 per square mile.

In other places and with other species, maintaining smaller herds through contraceptives has proved problematic. Even after four years, Valley Forge officials expect to shoot 20 to 50 deer a year indefinitely.

## Larger policy center considered for Bush's presidential library

By Laura Isensee  
The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — George W. Bush's presidential library is taking shape in early designs, evolving from separate buildings at SMU into a single, multi-story complex with a policy institute nearly two-thirds bigger than first proposed.

The overall structure has grown to an estimated 207,000 square feet — akin to an average Wal-Mart Super Center — making it more than twice as large as his father's, the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Texas A&M University.

Just last week, engineers for the younger Bush's library toured the A&M site, looking for design tips. And the National Archives, which has been meeting regularly with Bush architects, is preparing soon for its first major review of the library's preliminary plans.

In interviews, federal architects and Bush officials provided the most details yet about the size of the library and policy center, which mostly will be separated by an internal wall. The building at Southern Methodist University will anchor the north part of a 32-acre tract along North Central Expressway at Mockingbird Lane.

Blueprints have yet to be drawn, and other revisions are likely before the expected ground breaking next year, said Mark Langdale, president of the non-profit George W. Bush Foundation, which wants to raise \$300 million for construction and endowment of the library.

"It's like a cake being baked

in the oven. It's still changing," he said.

The most significant change from the library's May 2007 architect search application involves having a larger Bush policy center.

Some faculty and church members have opposed what they say will be a highly partisan think tank on campus. Bush, who has referred to the center as the Freedom Institute, says it will focus on a broad range of topics, including the promotion of democracy abroad and education reforms.

Library organizers first proposed a 40,000-square-foot policy center and a separate 145,000-square-foot building for the library, museum and storage of Bush documents and artifacts. The National Archives will operate those areas and the Bush Foundation will be housed in and run the policy center.

Langdale said architects recommended last summer pairing it all under the same roof to maximize space and increase aesthetics, flow and building efficiency among a "laundry list" of reasons. Robert A.M. Stern Architects of New York is designing the complex.

The policy institute area now figures at about 66,000 square feet, chiefly because of a larger auditorium and more conference and service space.

Langdale said the overall increase is not significant, only about 10 percent more than originally anticipated — at a time when there were no formal plans, only conceptual ideas. It is, he said, "an evolution of the design."

As for the policy center changes, he said, "We believe the SMU community will view the institute

as enriching the open exchange of ideas on campus."

Among other details:

The library will sit on a hill, shifting from a two- to a three-story building as the incline slopes downward.

The library and museum's size has decreased slightly, by about 5,000 square feet.

The policy center will include a 400-seat auditorium. Previously, Bush has talked of bringing world leaders to speak at his center as well as trying to host a presidential debate.

The separately run library and policy institute — which have different missions — will be divided by a wall, like a townhouse, Langdale said, but will share a lobby.

Putting the two facilities so close is not unprecedented; Jimmy Carter's library and center in Atlanta are attached by a passageway.

The National Archives, responsible at key stages for ensuring that the designs meet federal rules, has been working with the foundation and their architects.

"You don't want to have the building all built and then say, 'Oh, you forgot this,'" said Sharon Fawcett, assistant archivist for presidential libraries.

The Ronald Reagan library in California remains the largest presidential complex of the 13 in the federal system. Its archives, museum, foundation and the Air Force One Pavilion added in 2005 total more than 265,000 square feet.

It went up before Congress gave strong financial incentives to build presidential archives within certain size limits.

## FACEBOOK

continued from page 1

its users.

Chip Stewart, professor of media law, said these terms occur regularly on social networking Web sites.

Stewart said users voluntarily sign Facebook's terms and agreement upon registration.

If Facebook decides to use an image from a terminated account and a user decided to make a case against

it, the user's case would probably not be upheld in court, he said.

"Unless you're being deprived of a major Constitutional right, it won't work as an argument," he said.

The new terms, which took effect Feb. 4, remained largely unnoticed until the consumer advocacy blog the Consumerist posted an article illuminating the shift.

Stewart said one of the reasons the change generated negative feedback is because people did not ex-

pect the license extension.

"It meant less control over a person's content, and it would certainly make you think twice about what's posted," he said.

Facebook created the group Facebook Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for users to post their input for the future terms of use.

Zuckerberg wrote that the Facebook community will have the opportunity to help develop the new terms.

## FRENCH

continued from page 1

chance to feel like they belong to a community of scholars who study French. It is a chance for them to be recognized for their efforts and is a different way to promote the French language in the United

States, she said.

"The goal of the society is to provide an outlook for students that are studying French to be able to come together and recognize French as a legitimate area of study and to support the underrecognized majors on campus," Ruocco said.

The initiation for TCU chap-

ter of Pi Delta Phi is in March, Schein said.

Ruocco said she hopes Pi Delta Phi will be affiliated to a charity by next fall.

The group plans to meet after initiation to decide on who will serve in office for the following semester, Ruocco said.

## BUDGET CUT

continued from page 1

He said the level of competition will not decrease for the respective athletic teams.

Hesselbrock said the athletics department is more focused on what people can do to lessen the blow of the budget cuts than what the cuts are taking away.

"I think that TCU has always been supportive of what we are doing and there has never been a sense that we are being asked to do something that the rest of campus has not," Hesselbrock said.

Athletic Media Relations would not allow the Skiff to interview coaches or athletes for this story.

## DINNER

continued from page 1

no matter one's perspective.

"Regardless of what your ethnic background is, we're all a part of the TCU family and our accomplishments should be celebrated by one and all," Ramos said.

All five honorees recalled hard times but said their stays at TCU were mostly positive.

"Even if they really were

negative, it gave me a different outlook on things," said Jennifer Giddings Brooks, who was the first black Homecoming queen in 1971.

Anthony Cregler, who was one of the 14 black students admitted to TCU in 1965, said he is encouraged with the progress of race relations but that it must continue.

"Once you get past the color barrier, there are a lot of relationships to be made," Cregler said.

# Tibetans simmer with resentment a year after China quashed revolt

By Tim Johnson  
McClatchy Newspapers

TONGREN, China — Scratch only a little bit, and Dorje, a Tibetan nomad, lets loose with a tirade at the people he simply calls "the Chinese," the majority Han who he says will get no respite from Tibetan frustration this year — or for generations.

"After I die," the 53-year-old herder says, "my sons and grandsons will remember. They will hate the government."

On the cusp of the first anniversary of a mass revolt on the Tibetan Plateau that marked the worst ethnic unrest in China in nearly two decades, many Tibetans still seethe at living under China's thumb. Some engage in small-scale civil disobedience. Others, including monks, brazenly display photographs of the Dalai Lama, the exiled leader they revere as a God-king but that China maligns as a "beast." Nearly all gripe about a lack of religious and political freedom.

Another imminent anniversary date adds to the sensitivity of the Tibet issue. March 10 marks 50 years since the Dalai Lama fled to

exile in India after a failed uprising against Chinese rule. Fearful of a spasm of new unrest, Beijing has closed off many ethnic Tibetan areas to journalists and made scattered arrests of organizers of resistance campaigns.

Tibetan monks, nomads and students interviewed recently by McClatchy Newspapers said ethnic tensions have deepened in this eastern region of Qinghai province, which still remains open to reporters.

Authorities in Beijing say rioters killed at least 20 people, including two police officers, during the March 14 riots, while Tibetan exile groups say as many as 200 people died, mostly Tibetan.

China is eager to portray ethnic Tibetan regions as stable. Residents here said that local officials have handed out money so that Tibetans can buy fireworks for New Year festivities even as they arrest those urging a boycott of celebrations, seeing it as a loss of face.

Beijing says last year's revolt justifies shutting the doors on Tibetan regions.

"Since the March 14 incident, it's true that foreign journalists find it harder to go to Tibet. I

think you all know the reasons," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said Feb. 12.

Barry V. Sautman, a scholar of contemporary Tibetan politics at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, said some new demonstrations are likely this year.

"It's almost inevitable given the fact that there are monasteries and nunneries scattered about that there be demonstrations..." Sautman said. "After all, the Tibetan Plateau is as large as Western and Central Europe."

Another scholar said that despite some economic incentives to placate Tibetans, especially those holding bureaucratic jobs, anger in Tibetan regions is not diminishing.

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# OPINION

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*The Skiff View*

## Dining Services whiffed handling of cracker scare

It is a relief that Dining Services is implementing changes to the way it approaches food safety issues. But the fact remains that the peanut butter cracker incident, in which potentially tainted crackers were left on shelves, was bungled in almost every possible way.

The first mistake was obviously that the crackers were left out on a shelf in plain sight when almost every major newspaper and television station in the country was reporting on the massive recall of products made with peanut butter. The crackers being left on the shelves can be explained as an honest mistake, but what followed the discovery cannot be so easily justified.

When first questioned, Dining Services employees said the crackers had been removed from the shelves and then returned after Bistro Burnett received a memo that said the crackers were safe. Unfortunately, the employee could not recall who wrote the memo, where it came from or what happened to it.

Rick Flores, general manager of dining services has been slow to respond to Skiff reporters’ requests for information regarding whether any crackers were sold to students and if anyone reported an illness.

Also, no information was distributed to students or faculty who might have purchased the crackers via e-mail or otherwise after the problem was discovered.

Its a good thing that the department is willing to re-evaluate what steps can be taken to prevent this from happening again, but it is equally important to re-evaluate the way things are handled in the aftermath of a mistake.

The university community places its trust in Dining Services every day, and an important aspect of that trust is not only that the food we purchase is safe to eat, but also that we can depend on them to let us know immediately if, for whatever reason, it is not.

*Opinion editor Katie Martinez for the editorial board.*

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

## Actor’s decision to join ranks of hip-hop bizarre

The media has become obsessed with Joaquin Phoenix.

It’s not because he has a new movie out or is mixed up in a sex scandal. The Academy Award-nominated actor is trading in his acting career to be a rapper. For those who do not know who Phoenix is, he has had top bill in a ton of movies, including his best known role as legendary country singer Johnny Cash in “Walk the Line.” The 34-year-old has been acting since the early 1980s. He has been praised for his work in “Gladiator” and has been nominated for Best Supporting Actor and Best Actor Oscars in previous years.

Fast forward to the present and Phoenix can be seen sporting a bushy beard and dark, Ray-Charles sunglasses. He looks like a homeless junkie, not an aspiring hip-hop artist.

I can understand Phoenix trying to adapt his own style because as a musical artist, uniqueness is important. But I hope his awkward behavior on “The Late Show with David Letterman” last week had nothing to do

with his new profession. If he forgot the names of the co-stars in his new movie, “Two Lovers,” then how is he going to remember the lyrics to his rap songs, which he is supposedly writing himself?

There are a million and one jokes just waiting to happen here, but I am curious as to what his stage name will be or if he will even have one.

If people are still interested, Phoenix fans who are itching to see him in theaters one more time, he is planning on filming a documentary about his transition from movies to music.

No date has been set as to when the documentary will come out, but if M.C. Phoenix wants people to really take his rap career seriously then we can only hope that he does not appear in any more talk shows in the near future. Or at least shaves his face.

*Veronica Grandison is a writer for The Michigan Journal (University of Michigan-Dearborn). This article was distributed by UWIRE.*



*Jacob Bralce is a sophomore criminal justice major from Cedar Park.*

## Obama’s replacement in Senate lost public trust, should resign

The benefit of the doubt had already been stretched thin and taut by the time Roland Burris offered his third version of the events leading to his appointment to the U.S. Senate. It finally snapped like a rubber band, popping him on that long Pinocchio nose of his, when he came out with version four.

Let’s see if we have it right: Burris had zero contact with any of Gov. Rod Blagojevich’s cronies about his interest in the Senate seat being vacated by President Barack Obama — unless you count that conversation with former chief of staff Lon Monk, and, on further reflection, the ones with insiders John Harris, Doug Scofield and John Wyma and, oh yeah, the governor’s brother and fundraising chief, Robert Blagojevich. But Burris didn’t raise a single dollar for the now ex-governor as a result of those contacts because that could be construed as a quid pro quo and besides, everyone he asked refused to donate.

The story gets worse with every telling.

Enough. Roland Burris must resign.

His protests that he had nothing to hide just don’t square with his obvious attempts to hide something, as evidenced by the evolving truths in three sworn statements to the House impeachment panel. His Jan. 8 testimony before that panel contradicted the affidavit he’d filed three days earlier.

On Feb. 5 he submitted a “clarification” detailing the contacts he’d failed to mention on the stand.

Now he has admitted that the governor’s brother hit him up to

Strip this whole wretched process out of the hands of the politicians and give it back to the people.

raise campaign cash, and in at least one conversation, Burris raised his prospects for being appointed to the Senate.

Robert Blagojevich’s attorney has acknowledged that the feds likely have at least one of those conversations on tape. Burris told reporters Monday night that he “talked to some people about trying to see if we could put a fundraiser on,” but “they said, ‘We aren’t giving money to the governor.’”

The hole just gets deeper and deeper, and Burris keeps digging. He has no credibility.

And many Democrats are losing theirs.

Illinois House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, D-Chicago, who chaired the impeachment panel, sat on Burris’ amended testimony for more than a week.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin and Senate

Majority Leader Harry Reid vowed that no Senate appointment by the disgraced Rod Blagojevich would stand — until Blagojevich appointed Burris.

They told Burris to go to the impeachment committee and testify fully and truthfully. And he did not.

And now what? “He went before the state Legislature and he obviously convinced them, but we’ll have to see. ... I hope he didn’t try to avoid or mislead anyone ...” Reid said Tuesday. Durbin is on an overseas trip and hasn’t bothered to comment on the tomfoolery back home. Late Tuesday came word that the Senate Ethics Committee has started a preliminary inquiry.

Finally, remember that Illinois Democrats failed to do right by the people and schedule a special election for this Senate vacancy. If they had done that, voters today might be weighing the lost credibility of candidate Burris, instead of expressing their disgust with Sen. Burris.

Disgraceful. Disgraceful all around.

There’s only one honorable action for Burris: resign.

Strip this whole wretched process out of the hands of the politicians and give it back to the people.

*This editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Wednesday. It was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.*

### POINT • COUNTERPOINT

## Would concealed weapons make campus safer?

*Bill creates more potential for violence, appeals to unfounded emotions*



KATIE MARTINEZ

Being that we spend so much time on a large campus, we get a certain sinking feeling in the pit of our stomachs when violence erupts at another school.

Even though it seems an unlikely event, and God forbid that anything like that would ever happen here, it is a good idea to consider at least once what steps could be taken to protect oneself during an attack.

Proposed solutions in the works in the Texas Legislature are a couple bills that would allow students who are licensed gun owners to carry concealed weapons on campus for their protection.

The bills, drafted by Republican senators Joe Driver of Garland and Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio, would strip universities

in Texas of the right to ban concealed weapons on campus.

While the bills’ intentions are understandable, the number of concealed weapons this would invite onto our campus is a horrific prospect.

These legislators’ answer to the danger posed by someone with a gun is to give everyone a gun.

Although many college students are responsible, I have met more than a few I would not trust to be in possession of something that could take my life without my ever knowing it was there.

I do agree with the principle that a campus should have the means to protect its students and faculty if necessary. But it would make for a much safer environment all around if designated faculty members who have been through proper training courses could have access to a gun.

The weapon could be safely stored in a lock box location in each building or floor and only be able to be accessed by key in

an emergency.

I have heard people that I find to be otherwise reasonable individuals speak out in support of this bill and the only explanation I have for their support is that they are only considering their own level of responsibility and failing to see the trust level it requires them to place in students they have never met.

It is unfortunate that there are mentally imbalanced people out there who make discussions like these even necessary, but turning the TCU campus into something out of a Western flick is not going to make us safer. In fact, it would do quite the opposite.

If the Texas Legislature is more concerned with actual safety than emotion, appearances and the agendas of pro-gun lobbyists (most of whom don’t even attend college campuses), this bill will never pass.

*Opinion editor Katie Martinez is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Fort Worth.*

*Licensed handgun carriers deserve chance to protect themselves*



SHANE RAINEY

Some of us are living in denial, even in the wake of the Virginia Tech massacre.

Thankfully though, not everyone continues to live this way, as Texas Sens. Joe Driver and Jeff Wentworth are drafting legislation that would allow licensed students the privilege of carrying concealed firearms on campus, a measure that should have been passed a long time ago.

Concealed Handgun License holders have the right to protect themselves, and it doesn’t make sense that a licensed handgun carrier, while a student or faculty member at a university, is denied this right in an atmosphere that has proven to be one of the most vulnerable.

People who are granted a license to carry a concealed weapon

are at least 21 years of age, and 21 is old enough to be considered a mature adult. They have the experience and the mentality to know the consequences of their actions, including those involving a firearm.

That being said, I do believe there should be more in-depth training and background checks, as well as specialized testing and instruction relative to carrying in a university setting.

The police are not omnipresent, and we have seen them arrive too late at the scene of these shootings to save the lives of the students who are trapped inside with a killer.

The police are a mainly a reactionary force, and they are great at what they do. But there are not enough officers to be 100 percent proactive. It is citizens’ responsibility and obligation to protect themselves, and to stand up for others if the need arises.

There are three types of people in the world. There are the sheep, who

live in denial of any type of threat. There are the wolves, which prey on the sheep without any compassion or mercy. And then there are the sheepdogs, who recognize the threat and move to prepare for it.

The wolves will attack where they anticipate the least opposition, like a shooter targeting a college campus where no one is armed.

Gun control laws only affect law-abiding citizens, and more specifically, the sheepdog. Notebooks did not stop the massacre at Virginia Tech, but an armed defender amongst the students would have.

Let people be who they are. A college campus is a vulnerable place; so let those of us who realize it be prepared to take the appropriate measures.

*Shane Rainey is sophomore chemistry major from Fort Worth.*



Read student reaction to the concealed handgun on campus debate in Friday’s Campus Voices.



SPORTS

MLB

# Family closer to buying Cubs

By Ameet Sachdev  
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Tribune Co.'s plan to sell the Chicago Cubs took a big step forward as the Ricketts family said Wednesday that it will sell some of its stock holdings to help finance its \$900 million bid.

The family is raising about \$403 million by selling 34 million of its shares in TD Ameritrade Holding Corp., an online brokerage founded by Joe Ricketts, back to the company. The family is the brokerage's second-largest shareholder, after TD Bank Financial Group of Toronto.

"Our family is working to close a deal for the Chicago Cubs, and we are pleased to have reached a mutually beneficial agreement with the company that will help us to do so," Joe Ricketts said.

Proceeds from the sale represent most of the equity the Ricketts family plans to put up to purchase the Cubs, Wrigley Field and a 25 percent stake in the regional sports network Comcast SportsNet, said a person familiar with the bid.

The Ricketts will raise about half the purchase price from family assets and borrow the rest from banks, sources have said. Getting the banks to commit is proving to be tricky in the current economy,

but the family remains confident it can get the deal done, a source said. The family is willing to provide more equity if necessary, the source said.

Chicago-based Tribune Co. entered into exclusive negotiations with the Ricketts last month after selecting its bid from three finalists. The two sides are working on a final agreement, which then must be approved by Major League Baseball. With Tribune Co. operating in bankruptcy, it also is possible that a bankruptcy judge will have to give his approval. The family hopes to close the transaction by mid- to late April, the source said.

Tribune Co., which owns the Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times and other media properties, is selling the Cubs to help pare down debt incurred when real estate titan Sam Zell took the company private in an \$8.2 billion buyout.

Omaha-based TD Ameritrade agreed to pay the Ricketts family \$11.85 per share, a slight discount to its recent closing prices. The stock closed Wednesday at \$12.60, up 4 cents, in Nasdaq trading.

A TD Ameritrade spokeswoman said the price the Ricketts will receive reflects several considerations, including the market environment, comparable transactions, recent closing prices for

the company and other alternatives for the family. The company expects to complete the buyback within days.

The family is selling its stock near its 52-week low of \$9.34. The stock has lost about half its value since mid-September, when it hit a 52-week high of \$23.49.

TD Ameritrade has avoided most of the problems that plagued other financial services companies because it didn't invest in U.S. subprime mortgages.

After the transaction, the Ricketts family stake in TD Ameritrade will shrink to about 17.7 percent from about 22 percent.

The family also will yield one of its three seats on TD Ameritrade's board because its ownership stake will dip below a threshold for stockholders to receive board seats. Joe Ricketts and two of his sons, Tom and Pete, serve as directors. The board has yet to make a decision on which family member will leave, a company spokeswoman said.

Tom Ricketts, who heads the Chicago-based investment bank Incapital LLC, has represented the family in its bid to buy the Cubs. At TD Ameritrade's annual shareholders meeting Wednesday, he was re-elected to a three-year board term. Joe Ricketts' term expires in 2011; Pete Ricketts' term ends in 2010.

MLB



STEVEN M. FALK / Philadelphia Inquirer via MCT  
New York Yankees' Andy Pettitte, left, and Derek Jeter listen to teammate Alex Rodriguez talk to the media about taking steroids during a news conference at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Fla., Tuesday.

# Jeter, Yankees behind A-Rod

By Kat O'Brien  
Newsday

TAMPA, Fla. — Yankees captain Derek Jeter said Wednesday that he supports teammate Alex Rodriguez, but that he does not condone Rodriguez's past use of steroids.

"We're here to support him through it," Jeter said. "I don't condone what he did. We don't condone what he did. Alex doesn't condone what he did."

Jeter, along with about 30 teammates and 200 media members, attended Rodriguez's news conference Tuesday at which Rodriguez addressed his steroid use. Jeter spoke with reporters for nearly as long — about half an hour — Wednesday as Rodriguez did Tuesday.

While Jeter said that everybody makes mistakes and he supports Rodriguez, he is upset by implica-

tions that all players used steroids during that period.

"One thing that's irritating and really upsetting is when people say everybody was doing it," Jeter said. "No, that's not true. Everybody wasn't doing it."

Jeter said he believes Rodriguez, because he gives people the benefit of the doubt. He was surprised at the initial reports that Rodriguez had used performance-enhancing drugs, he said. He admitted being disappointed, saying: "I think everyone's disappointed. He's disappointed in himself."

Although Jeter has long proclaimed himself a staunch opponent of steroid use, he was asked again if he has ever used steroids or experimented with any performance-enhancing drugs or supplements.

"I've never taken performance-enhancing drugs. I've never taken steroids," said Jeter, offering to go

down any list of banned substances and say he hadn't used them.

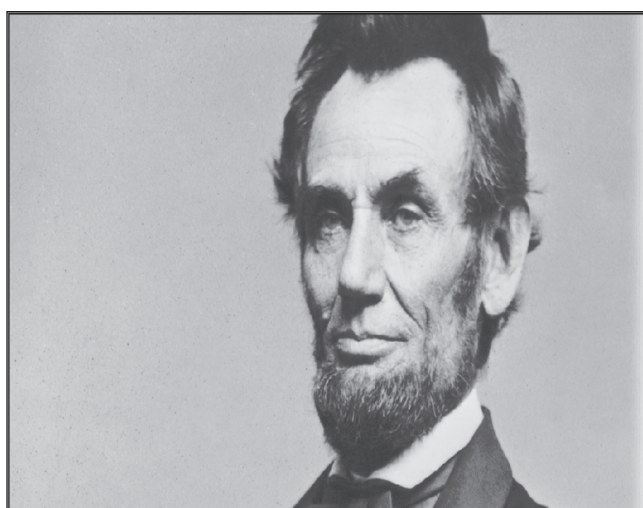
Rodriguez did not speak with reporters, saying, "I'll see you tomorrow, guys."

Several of Rodriguez's teammates talked about his news conference.

Andy Pettitte, who had a similar news conference last February after admitting using human growth hormone, said, "What is important is that you know that your teammate is able to move forward from that."

Mark Teixeira, a teammate of Rodriguez's with Texas in 2003, said: "I thought he did great. Alex is really doing his best to move on and be a good teammate."

Jorge Posada, who left during the news conference to take his family to the airport, said: "I got sad when he couldn't tell us, when he got emotional and said thank you. I felt a little emotional too."



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# ETC.



### Today in History

On this day in 1847, the first rescuers reach surviving members of the Donner Party, a group of California-bound emigrants stranded by snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

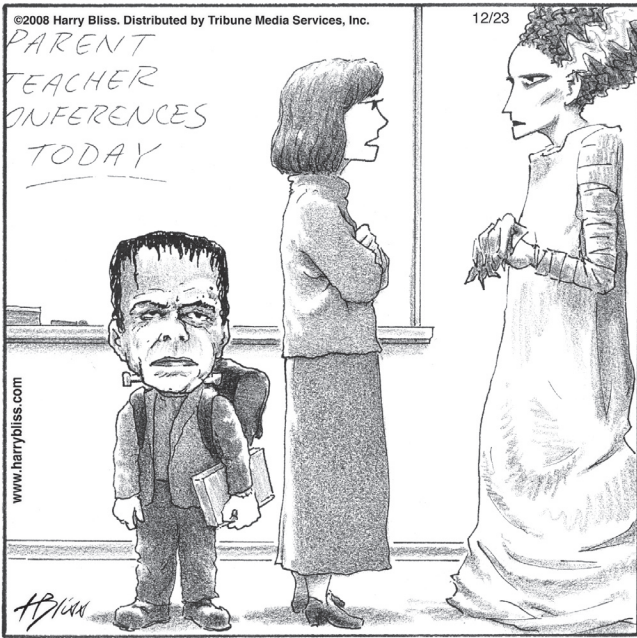
— History Channel

### Joke of the Day

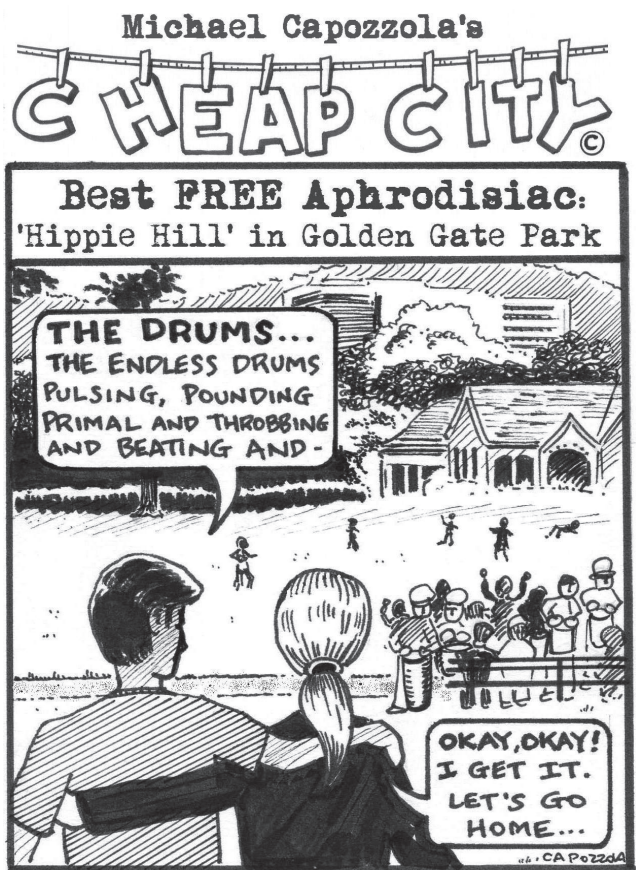
Q: What do you call a cow with no legs?  
A: Ground beef

Bliss

by Harry Bliss



"He's not working to his full voltage."



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

### 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

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

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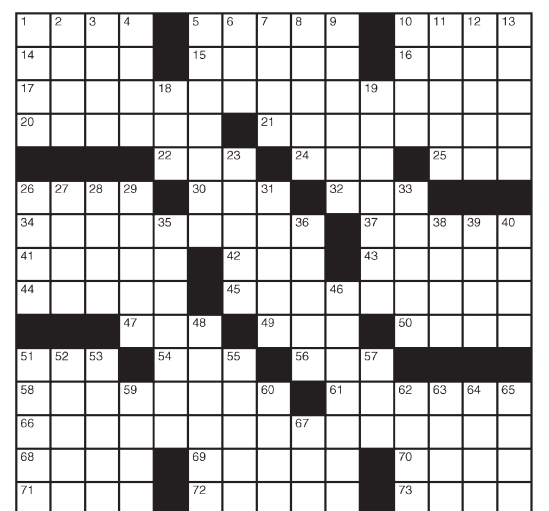
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### ACROSS

- 1 Short distance
- 5 Hullabaloo
- 10 Some votes
- 14 Seep
- 15 Friend in Madrid
- 16 Present starter?
- 17 Start of a quip
- 20 Rink slider
- 21 "Havana" star
- 22 Sawbuck
- 24 Speech on Sun.
- 25 His in Hyeres
- 26 Old sailor
- 30 "Barney Miller" co-star
- 32 Shout of pain
- 34 Part 2 of quip
- 37 Suffers defeat
- 41 Essential acid type
- 42 Explorer Johnson
- 43 "Got Mail"
- 44 Star in Cygnus
- 45 Part 3 of quip
- 47 Dhab
- 49 J.H.S. subject
- 50 Uncommon
- 51 Mai cocktail
- 54 SASE, e.g.
- 56 Observe in secret
- 58 Deviant
- 61 In a chair
- 66 End of quip
- 68 Mythical Hun king
- 69 Founder of the Ottoman dynasty
- 70 Border lake
- 71 Film unit
- 72 Renaissance fiddle
- 73 Take exception to

### DOWN

- 1 Disseminates
- 2 Captured
- 3 Stone or Pound
- 4 Chic
- 5 Like Snow White
- 6 Hesitant syllables



By Adele Mann  
New York, NY

### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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27/09

- 7 Qum coin
- 8 Evil giants
- 9 Andy of "60 Minutes"
- 10 John Lennon's Ono
- 11 Ludwig and Jannings
- 12 "Tomorrow" singer
- 13 Placards
- 18 Thus far
- 19 Actress Jones
- 23 Not by any means
- 26 Large amount
- 27 Wistful phrase
- 28 Reposed
- 29 Itchy skin problem
- 31 Mirage, maybe
- 33 Courting man
- 35 Street crime
- 36 After-shower powders
- 38 Fiji's capital
- 39 Even one time
- 40 Parched
- 46 Mouth the words

- 48 Cast off
- 51 Mongolian invader
- 52 Wane
- 53 Braided linen tape
- 55 Motive
- 57 Evergreen tree
- 59 Eye in Aix

- 60 Wee woolly one
- 62 Hey!
- 63 Polo of "Meet the Parents"
- 64 Ireland
- 65 Heroic exploit
- 67 Highland negative

Editor Ed. S. McKinney first published the TCU Daily Skiff in 1902. McKinney named it the "Skiff" because it was to be "the boat" by which he intended to sail through the financial waters of college to a degree.

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# SPORTS



The baseball team prepares for its first action of the season this weekend in California. Tomorrow

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# WINNING FORM



TCU senior forward Kevin Langford shoots over Air Force junior center Grant Parker in the second half. The Horned Frogs topped the Falcons 62-50.

# Six-game skid ends against Air Force

By Joe Zigtema  
Staff Writer

Head coach Jim Christian told junior forward Zvonko Buljan to pick up the effort for Wednesday night's game against the Air Force Academy at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.

Message received. The junior responded with a game-high 20 points, eight rebounds and five steals in a 62-50 win over the Falcons, snapping a six-game losing streak and putting a wide grin on the Croatian native's face.

"I think we had confidence today," he said. "We played together, and everybody was laughing and smiling and talking to each other."

Buljan shot six of nine from the field, shouldering the bulk of the offense for senior Kevin Langford, the Horned Frogs' leading scorer, who faced post pressure all night and was just 2-4 from the field. He finished with eight points and four rebounds.

"This was a tough team for (Langford)

"I think we had confidence today. We played together, and everybody was laughing and smiling and talking to each other."

Jim Christian  
head coach

to play," Christian said. "They pack it in so hard on Kevin ... those kids are not big but they're tough and they play angles, so it's hard to get in."

Freshman guard Ronnie Moss and junior guard Keion Mitchem both finished in double figures, taking advantage of open looks from the perimeter. TCU shot 40 percent from three-point range as a team.

"You know shots are eventually going to fall," Christian said. "You just got to keep playing."



For a slideshow of the game go to [DailySkiff.com](#)

An 8-2 run midway through the first half gave the Falcons the lead for most of the first 20 minutes, but Buljan kept the Horned Frogs within one at the break with 12 points, four rebounds and three steals.

TCU came out firing in the second half behind an early 8-3 run as Buljan scored all eight. The Horned Frogs never gave up that lead, putting the game out of reach with a 22-4 run in the latter part of the second half. Christian said his team was a bit tentative in the first half, something he stressed at halftime.

"I told them at halftime, 'Just go play. Just relax and go play,'" he said. "And I thought some guys stepped up."

TCU hopes to make it two in a row on the road Saturday in Wyoming. Tipoff is set for 2:30 p.m. and will be televised on the Mtn. Network.

## MEN'S TENNIS



Freshman Slah Mbarek celebrates with doubles partner senior Kriegler Brink after beating a Texas A&M duo 8-5 Wednesday evening. The team eventually lost the match 4-3.

# Aggies snag victory at first home match

By Patrick Burns  
Staff Reporter



For a slideshow of the match go to [DailySkiff.com](#)

As the sun set Wednesday night on the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center, so did the men's tennis team's hopes for a victory against a state rival.

The No. 34-ranked tennis squad lost its first home match of the season to No. 14 Texas A&M University, 4-3. The men's record now stands at 1-4 for spring dual matches. The road won't get any easier, as the team will play each of their next seven matches against teams with national rankings of No. 56 or better, including five top-26 squads.

After starting out strong, winning the doubles matches and gaining a point in the overall score, the men only won two out of six singles matches.

Head coach Dave Borelli said the biggest reason for the loss was the team's less-than-stellar showing in the singles portion of the matches.

"They got on top of us early, and I was disappointed in the play of a couple matches," Borelli said.

Borelli said that although he was disappointed in the loss, especially among the players at bottom of the lineup, the team performed much better overall than they did against the University of Oklahoma in their previous match.

Sophomore Zach Nichols, who won his singles and doubles matches, said it was frustrating to lose to the Aggies, especially since this marks the second year in a row

they lost to a rival team.

"It's always fun to play A&M; it pumps a lot of people up," Nichols said. "I thought we were going to get a win, but there's a reason why they're one of the best 15 schools in the nation."

Senior Kriegler Brink, who won

"Some guys are in a slump in singles. So if they can get out of that and play a little bit more loosely ... then I think we'll be better."

Kriegler Brink  
senior player

his singles and doubles matches, said the inconsistent singles play stems from a lack of mental confidence among some players.

"Some guys are in a slump in singles," Brink said. "So if they can get out of that and play a little bit more loosely ... then I think we'll be better."

The team's next match is scheduled for Feb. 21 on the road against the University of Tulsa.

## POINT • COUNTERPOINT

# Is the NFL Scouting Combine a waste of time for players, teams?

*Prospects' measurables important in determining readiness for pro football*



MICHAEL CARROLL

The NFL Scouting Combine kicked off yesterday in Indianapolis. The annual event is basically a giant job fair for prospective college athletes who have intentions of entering the pro ranks when the NFL Draft rolls around April 25-26.

The draft prospects will run, jump, catch and throw in front of scouts, coaches and general managers of every team in the league. They'll even test the players' intelligence.

It's like a giant beauty contest for titanic, sweaty men competing for higher draft status and thus, more money. A poor day

of workouts could cost a player millions of dollars over the course of his career.

There are those who argue that the Combine is a poor instrument for measuring the abilities of young football players. Instead of focusing on unmeasurable traits like determination, willpower, confidence and a player's pure love for the game, teams have become more and more obsessed with the size, strength and speed of these future players.

In all fairness, there's a big difference between strapping the pads on and playing in a real game and running through extensively rehearsed drills and 40-yard dashes. But in the current state of the NFL, strength and speed are exactly what teams crave.

For several seasons now, teams have had the mentality of drafting athletes and turning them into football players. It's a

"win now league," and having the youngest, fastest and strongest players can go a long way toward reaching the top as quickly as possible.

Sure, play on the field is important, but players still need to meet certain physical requirements or they just won't be able to compete in today's NFL.

The Combine shows teams which players can stand up to the rigors of professional football.

It also gives players like TCU's Stephen Hodge and Jason Phillips, who are participants in this year's Combine, a chance to show they have NFL-caliber talent. Without the Combine, talented players like Hodge, Phillips and others around the country would run the risk of being overlooked come draft day.

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

*Rehearsed drills not the best way to determine athletes' football abilities*



BILLY WESSELS

Every year hundreds of football players head to Indianapolis for the NFL Scouting Combine to begin their quest to become the next Peyton Manning or LaDainian Tomlinson.

But most of the players in attendance won't reach elite status and many others won't even hear their name called in New York on April 25 or 26.

According to the NFL Web site, 328 players will be attending the combine, but with 32 teams and seven rounds of drafting, plenty of players are going to be left out, making this trip especially useless to those players. I think the Com-

bine is useless for everybody.

All you see is what these athletes can do in specific drills, which players practice countless numbers of times before the combine, not in overall game performance.

It's like taking a test you already know the answers to; you just need to remember what they are.

Players know what goes into all seven of the Combine's drills, 40-yard dash, bench press, vertical jump, three-cone drill, 20-yard shuttle, 40-yard shuttle and broad jump, and that is what they work out for. They seem to forget about the fundamentals of football like tackling, catching, kicking and throwing.

I think you can learn a lot more about a player's talent by watching game film and seeing how a player reacts to certain in-game situations than you can by seeing them run in a straight line or jumping high.

I understand most of these things contribute to how well a person plays, but I don't think it is as



Which side are you on? Go to [DailySkiff.com](#) and cast your vote.

big a deal as the scouts think it is.

Besides, the 40-yard dash is essentially worthless. How many times a game do you see a player run 40-yards? If the two defenses are good, like the Pittsburgh Steelers and Baltimore Ravens, hardly ever. But even in games featuring potent offenses, such as the Arizona Cardinals and New Orleans Saints, it isn't the big play that makes them prolific, it is the constant success of smaller plays that set up bigger gains.

So while I wish the best for the two Frogs that will be participating in Indianapolis, Stephen Hodge and Jason Phillips, I don't think the combine is the truest evaluation of an athlete's skill.

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