

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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## NEWS

Review the platforms of the candidates in the gubernatorial race. Tuesday



## NEWS

A former university basketball player returns to finish his degree and mentor young adults. Tuesday



## HAITI RELIEF

# DYEING TO HELP



Miyu Kaneshing tie-dyes a T-shirt at an event held by the Programming Council to raise funds for a Haiti relief charity through the university. Students tie-dyed shirts to booming Beatles music in support of the victims of January's Haiti earthquake during the "Come Together! Hope for Haiti" fundraiser in the Campus Commons. Ashley Harris, a member of PC, said the goal of the event was to raise awareness and collect donations for those still suffering in the earthquake's aftermath by allowing students to tie-dye T-shirts for free. Freshman business major Vernon Titcomb, also on PC, said a tie-dye event was already planned for the spring, but because of the situation in Haiti, the council decided to make the event a fundraiser for the relief effort.

-Staff reporter Marshall Doig

## WOMEN'S STUDIES

# Program to offer funding for travel

By Jennifer Ivy  
Staff Reporter

New reimbursement travel grants offered by the TCU Institute on Women and Gender and the TCU Women's Studies Program will allow students involved in gender or women's studies to broaden their horizons and gain a new perspective, a university official said.

Laura Prestwood, director of the Women's Studies Program, said the \$400 reimbursement travel grant will give students involved with gender or women's studies research the opportunity to travel and further their education off campus by offsetting travel costs.

"I think (the grant) will give students the opportunity to present their work or to hear work that is being done by other students and faculty around the world in their discipline," Prestwood said.

The grant, formed by donations made by the community to the Institute on Women and Gender, will be awarded individually to five students who are in need of financial support for

A scholar reviewed popular arguments for and against abortion in his speech Thursday. Go to [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) for the story.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Check out the Skiff's new Arts & Entertainment blog at [AEUnderground.wordpress.com](http://AEUnderground.wordpress.com) for the latest news and reviews on music, videogames and film.

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A biblical archaeology professor discussed the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Visit [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) for the full story.

## PECULIAR FACT

**SOUTH BEND, Ind.** — Police arrested a South Bend man for drunken driving after other motorists reported their vehicles were struck by a hose from a gasoline pump dangling from the fuel tank of the man's truck.  
— The Associated Press

## TODAY'S WEATHER



**45 38**  
HIGH LOW

Chance of Showers

Tomorrow: Mostly Sunny  
57 / 38

Sunday: Slight Chance of Showers  
53 / 42



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

## ENGLISH

# Department debuts apprenticeship

By Sarah Fleischer  
Staff Reporter

Multimedia skills, extracurricular involvement and a strong resume helped one writing major win a newly established memorial apprenticeship presented at this year's English department Creative Writing Awards ceremony Thursday.

The apprenticeship is called the Christine Salmon Gauthier Apprenticeship, said Brad Lucas, associate professor and English department chair. Martha Salmon, the donor for the apprenticeship and Gauthier's mother, said at the event that the apprenticeship is in memory of her daughter, an English major who graduated in 1994 from the university and died in January 2007.

The apprenticeship was awarded for the first time to Spenser Davis, a junior writing and film-TV-digital media major. He said he hopes the apprenticeship will help him develop his research and writing skills.

"I'm really excited to work with different kinds of faculty from all areas of the English department," Davis said. "I'm looking forward to helping research and helping out a lot with what the department does and getting people excited about English and becoming English majors."



SARAH FLEISCHER / Staff Photographer  
James and Martha Salmon (left and right) stand by junior film-TV-digital media and writing major Spenser Davis, winner of the Christine Salmon Gauthier Apprenticeship on Thursday at the Creative Writing Awards ceremony.

According to an article written in Reed, the English department newsletter, the apprenticeship recipient will learn new media technologies, provide service to local community organizations to enhance university outreach efforts, support the English department faculty and serve as a peer resource.

Lucas said the apprenticeship recipient would also have the responsibility to help students who are undecided majors recognize if English is the right major for them. The student who receives the apprenticeship, which lasts

one academic year, would be paid at a rate above minimum wage, Lucas said.

Ann McDonald, director of development for AddRan College of Liberal Arts, said financial need was part of the criteria for the person who received the apprenticeship at the request of Gauthier's parents. The student who received the apprenticeship had to be a junior or senior English or writing major with 54 or more hours.

Lucas said Gauthier's parents wanted to honor her in a way that was

SEE AWARDS · PAGE 2

## Women and Gender Studies Reimbursement Travel Grant 2010

Open to students from all fields  
Applications are due electronically by 5 p.m. March 5 at [j.green@tcu.edu](mailto:j.green@tcu.edu)  
Awards will be announced by April 23

SEE GRANT · PAGE 2

## JOURNALISM

# School may get honors program

By Andrea Drusch  
Staff Reporter

Sophomore strategic communication major Kari Berdelle said she hopes to bring the networking opportunities and real-world experience of the Neeley Fellows program to the Schieffer School of Journalism.

"I thought it was a really cool program to have because they get a lot of opportunities that I feel would be relevant to the journalism school too," Berdelle,

Berdelle, a representative for the College of Communication, said the idea was part of her platform when she ran for her position in the House of Student Representatives in 2009. She said her first steps would be researching the program at the Neeley School of Business.

According to the Neeley Fellows' online brochure, it is an undergraduate honors program that selects 30 exceptional freshman pre-business majors each year for summer internships, service learning projects, research projects at Fortune 500 Companies and other privileges.

Neeley Fellows Program Director, Beata Jones, said the program was proposed by a former dean of the business

SEE SCHIEFFER · PAGE 2

## QUICK NEWS

### Slain professor focus of electoral campaign

The focus of the race for Tarrant County district attorney has turned to the 2004 murder of a former TCU professor.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that in a mailer for Joe Shannon's campaign for district attorney, Allen Walker, daughter of slain professor Laura Lee Crane, acknowledged Shannon's pivotal role in sending one of her mother's killers to Death Row.

Crane was abducted Jan. 30, 2004 by Edward Lee Busby Jr. and Kathleen "Kitty" Latimer while running an errand at the Tom Thumb at 3050 S. Hulen St. The former education professor and Star Point School director died of

asphyxiation after her abductors wrapped her face in duct tape.

Busby, who was driving Crane's vehicle, confessed to the crime after Oklahoma police pulled him over for an improper right turn. He led investigators to the body, which was discovered on Feb. 3, 2004 in southern Oklahoma.

Shannon, an assistant district attorney at the time, prosecuted the case along with another assistant DA. His opponent in the race, Kirk Claunch, has been a private attorney for 18 years but has never prosecuted a case, according to the Star-Telegram.

In Shannon's mailer, Walker said she had "seen firsthand what it takes to fulfill the responsibilities and obligations of this office."

Shannon's mailer arrived three days after a Claunch mailer criticized Shannon for losing the 1977 murder trial of Cullen Davis, a man accused of killing his estranged wife's 12-year-old daughter, according to the Star-Telegram.

James Riddlesperger, a political science professor at the university, said bringing up past successes or failures in a political race could affect the outcome because voters consider candidates' records. However, Riddlesperger said he does not think Claunch's mailer makes much difference because the Davis murder trial happened so long ago.

— Staff reporter Lawrence Embry

# NEWS

## GRANT

continued from page 1

travel, Joanne Green, director of the Institute on Women and Gender and chair of the political science department, said.

All majors are welcomed to apply for the grant, but the emphasis of study must deal with gender or women's studies in some capacity, Green said.

Awards are available for full-time students from all disciplinary areas including the social sciences, humanities, science, engineering, health sciences, fine arts, communications, ballet and modern dance, business, education, and theological studies, according to a campus-wide e-mail sent to students by the Women's Studies Program and the Institute on Women and Gender.

Applicants must fill out a form and write a 250-word statement about the significance of their proposed project and purpose of travel. Applicants also must turn in a resume and a tentative budget to Green via e-mail.

Jessica Krzemien, president

of the Women's Network and senior history major, said even though her area of concentration did not qualify her for the grant, she would urge other members of the network who are eligible to apply.

"It gets expensive to go to conferences and to go do research in other places, so it's important to have grants like this," Krzemien said.

Fran Huckaby, assistant professor of social studies and member of the Women's Studies Advisory Board, said the grant would be a great opportunity for students to advance their scholarship and extend the scholarly aspect of the university experience. She said it would allow students to enhance their studies by conducting interviews or visiting places, like historical archives, that might be helpful in improving their research.

Prestwood said she hoped students from every major will apply for the grant, not just women's studies students, to have the chance to travel when they otherwise could not afford to do so.

## SCHIEFFER

continued from page 1

school. The majority of the process involved working with the director and council of the university's honors program because the Neeley Fellows courses needed to coincide with honors program's requirements, she said.

Berdelle said she is in the process of speaking with John Tisdale, associate director of the Schieffer School of Journalism, and said she hopes to urge Schieffer School administrators to offer a similar program to strategic communication and journalism majors. She said the Schieffer School would be ideal for the program because it would allow students to study real-world convergence and the integration of cutting-edge technology in the communications field.

"The biggest thing about the journalism school is networking, and that's the same at the business school," Berdelle said. "This would be a huge networking tool, and that's really

what I'd like to see come out of this more than anything."

Tisdale said he thought the program sounded like a good idea, but he could not make a judgement about it without a written proposal from Berdelle. Most upper-level strategic communication classes already include an experiential learning element in their curriculum, and many classes even have their own clients, he said, including professor Peter Noble's class which had Exxon-Mobil as a client last semester. Tisdale said the Fort Worth Star-Telegram also worked with junior and senior journalism students in the public affairs and sports writing classes.

The journalism school already has a student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Public Relations Student Society of America and a Washington, D.C. internship program for student networking. In addition, the school participates in the departmental research of the university's honors program.

Jones said the current sophomore Neeley Fellows are all also part of the university's Honors College. She said the Fellows program has more requirements than the regular honors program.

Out of the 27 Neeley Fellows 2009 graduates, all of them are now in the workforce or in a full-time graduate program, Jones said. The average starting salary of a Neeley Fellow is 25 percent higher than the average Neeley School graduate, she said.

In the Schieffer School, funding for the program would be a problem, Tisdale said, because the journalism school does not have the same financial resources as the Neeley School. It would be hard to convince already busy journalism faculty to take on more work with no additional compensation, he said.

Jones said the Fellows program does not have any full time employees, but that many faculty members support the program as part of their job requirements.

Jones said she could not release exact figures for the program's expenses, but the primary expense of the program, she said, is student travel. Participating students go to New York during the spring break of their sophomore year, and to Santiago, Chile, during the spring of their junior year. While students pay for transportation and program fees, the Fellows Program pays the majority of the cost of the trip, she said.

Meagan Wayland, a senior accounting and management double major, said her participation in the Neeley Fellows program had been a valuable part of her experience at the university.

Wayland said she hopes to work for a public accounting firm in the Dallas-Fort Worth area after attending graduate school.

Former Neeley Fellows who have entered the workforce are giving their employers a positive impression of the program's graduates, she said.

## AWARDS

continued from page 1

true to her spirit. The Salmons wanted the apprenticeship to be reflective of Gauthier's appreciation of English, Lucas said.

McDonald said Salmon described Gauthier to her as someone who loved English and writing.

"From what I remember Martha saying about her daughter, she was really very articulate, very literate, very deeply immersed in literature, and... she was a voracious reader," McDonald said.

Salmon said Gauthier had a lifelong love of learning, knowl-

edge about the power of the written word and a passion to make life better for others.

"The apprenticeship's purpose is to memorialize her deep love of learning, her knowledge about the power of language and her generosity of resources to others," Salmon said.

In the beginning, Salmon was presented with several suggestions of ways she could donate, McDonald said. Suggestions included an endowed scholarship, an essay award and a gift to the Institute for Critical and Creative Expression. Of all the ideas, Salmon said she loved the idea of an apprenticeship, McDonald said.

### Creative Writing Awards Spring 2010 Winners

**The Women's Wednesday Club Award for Undergraduate Fiction:**  
Kylie Haddix

**The Woman's Wednesday Club Award for Research Paper:**  
Natalie Raymond

**The AddRan English 10803 Award:**  
Grace Hughston

**The Harry Opperman Short Story Award:**  
Elora Davis

**The Thursday Group, TCU Women Exes Award for Non-Fiction Prose:**  
Katie Terhune

**The C.S. Lewis Prize for Christian Literature:**  
Elora Davis

**The Mortar Board Prize in Literary Criticism:**  
Joshua Coad

**The Siddle Joe Johnson Poetry Award:**  
Kelli Trapnell

**The Nancy Evans Memorial Award for Texas Writing:**  
Mary Martin

**The Neil Daniel Drama Contest:**  
Sara Dozier

**The Lorraine Sherley Prize for a writing portfolio:**  
Kelli Trapnell

**The Bill Camfield Memorial Award for Humor and Satire:**  
Scott Heaton

**The Margaret Rose Marek Memorial Multimedia Writing Award:**  
Chelsea Smith

**The Bob Frye Satire Award:**  
Josh Coad

**The Australia Tarver Award for Critical Essay on Race, Post-Colonialism, or Multi-Ethnic Studies:**  
Peter Mosley

**The Betsy Colquitt Graduate Poetry Award:**  
Peter Mosley



For a complete list of this year's winners visit [www.dailyskiff.com](http://www.dailyskiff.com).

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March 2010

Reggio Emilia

Trier

Nagaoka

Bandung

Budapest

Toluca

Mbabane

*The World in a Year*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																		
<p>8 Come in for a Taste of the Green Try a Green Tea Latte in the Café</p>	<p>2 <b>National Anthem Day</b></p> <p>3 Stammtisch—German Language Group 3:30-4:30</p>	<p>4 <b>National Poundcake Day</b></p>	<p>5 <b>Barnes &amp; Noble Gift Cards make the PERFECT Gift!!!</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>8 <b>New Release—Chelsea, Chelsea, Bang Bang</b> By Chelsea Handler</p>	<p>9 <b>"Meet the Music" With Dr. Punch Shaw 7:00 pm in the Café</b></p> <p>10 Stammtisch—German Language Group 3:30-4:30</p>	<p>11 <b>Johnny Appleseed Day</b></p>	<p>12 <b>Uncle Sam's Birthday</b></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 <b>Spring Forward—Daylight Savings Begins</b></p>	<p>15 <b>Spring Break Begins</b></p>	<p>16 <b>New Release—The Girl Who Chased the Moon</b> By Sarah Addison Allen</p>	<p>17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b></p>	<p>18 <b>Story time—Irish Folktales 10:00 am in the Reading Room</b></p>	<p>19</p> <p>20 <b>Spring is HERE!</b></p>	<p>21 <b>Baha'i New Year</b></p>	<p>22 <b>New Release—Caught</b> By Harlan Coben</p>	<p>23 <b>Stammtisch—German Language Group 3:30-4:30</b></p>	<p>24</p> <p>25 <b>Duane "DOG" Chapman . At the Bookstore Today 6:00—7:30</b></p>	<p>26</p> <p>27 <b>First Fire Engine Tested</b></p>	<p>28 <b>Palm Sunday</b></p>	<p>29 <b>Passover begins at Sundown</b></p>	<p>30 <b>New Release—Deception</b> By Jonathan Kellerman</p>	<p>31 <b>TOMORROW April 1st Alex Lemon Poetry Reading 5:30 pm</b></p>

DAILY SKIFF

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# OPINION

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*The Skiff View*

## New travel grant good for research diversity

If you've never heard of the university's Institute on Women and Gender, chances are you're not alone.

With the odd event here and there throughout the academic year, the program goes largely unnoticed on campus. Officials with the institute and the women's studies department said that the purpose of a new grant, worth \$400 in travel costs, is to increase the number of opportunities that students doing research on gender or women's issues receive to study outside the university. Not only does this award increase the potential for scholarship in a rarely publicized field, but it also helps extend the reach of the university's academic integrity. Yes, research on gender equality presented to one's classroom has value, but the same findings presented to a group of hundreds of scholars in New York, for instance, is worth inestimably more.

Each year, students from several departments, including modern languages, business and environmental science, receive scholarships to study outside of Fort Worth, the state and even the country. While the award may be worth less than some might wish, its creation signals an important opportunity for the university to further embrace diversity in research.

*News editor Melanie Cruthirds for the editorial board.*

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

## Criticism of student loan proposal unreasonable

EDITORIAL

Given a choice, would you use taxpayer money to subsidize banks, or to help students pay for college?

It's rare for a public policy question to be this big a no-brainer. But that's the right way to describe the Obama administration's proposal to save an estimated \$80 billion over 10 years by making all student loans directly through the government rather than private lenders, and direct that money toward education programs.

The House has passed legislation to eliminate the middleman - companies such as Sallie Mae - from the process, but the proposal is stalled in the Senate amid filibuster threats.

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan wants to use the money for programs that help students get to college and succeed there, crucial steps for the country if U.S. companies are to compete globally long-term. The biggest of these programs is a \$40 billion increase in Pell Grants, which would improve affordability for students now and reduce indebtedness later.

The plan also includes \$8 billion for early childhood education, an essential ingredient for success later in life, and more money for community colleges, low-interest Perkins loans and college tuition tax credits.

In concept, the proposal isn't that dramatic; the government already makes the majority of student loans. However, a very profitable slice currently goes through private companies that lend out federal money and collect fees and interest, even though taxpayers bear the risk of default. This piece of the market would be eliminated.

Lenders, supported by some lawmakers from both parties, are arguing against the plan, trying to protect what

Duncan calls their "free ride." Perhaps sensing that public opinion isn't on their side, they've suggested an alternative that would limit their profits but also save the government far less.

One of the primary arguments against the bill is that it represents a government takeover. But this argument is purely political, not substantive, as the government provides virtually all the capital for student loans already.

The industry also says the bill will cost jobs. Sallie Mae estimates it would be forced to lay off some 2,500 people, though it doesn't account for positions that would be regained because the plan calls for private companies to service the loans. Regardless, saving these jobs isn't worth \$80 billion.

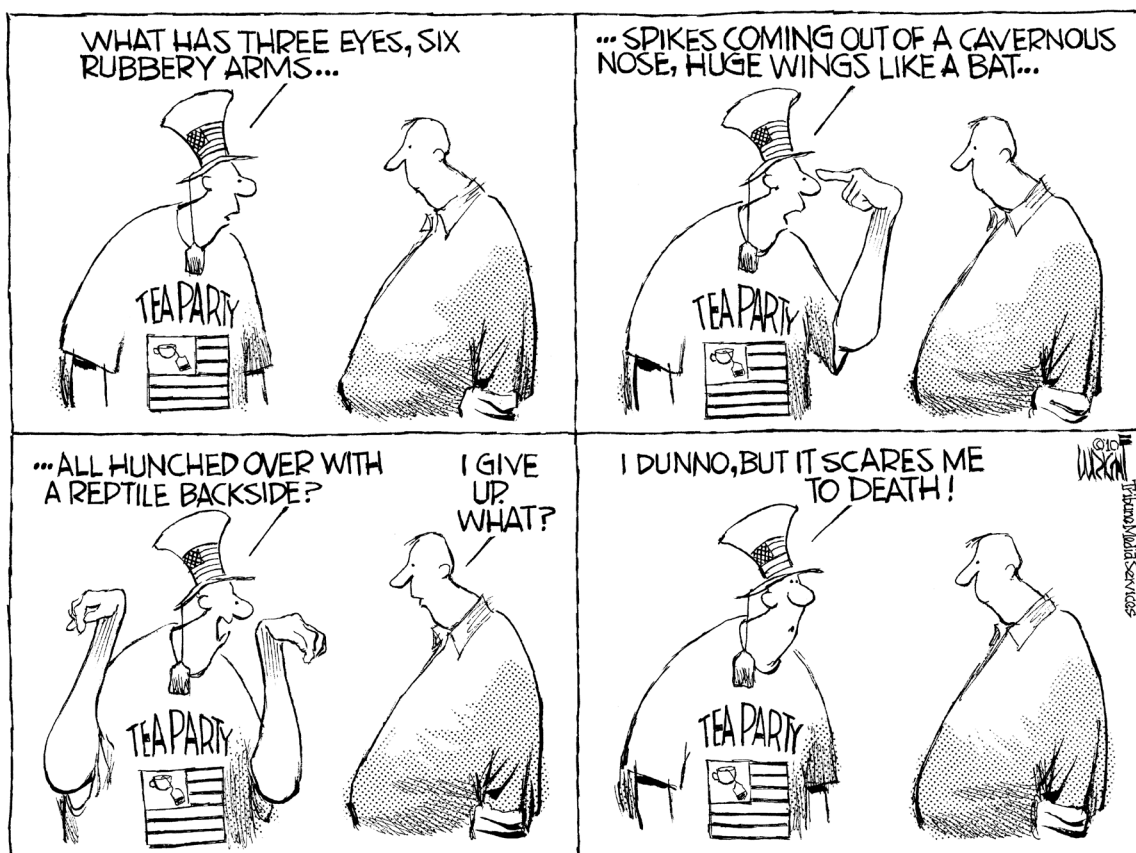
The lenders argue they can serve students better, and they're at least partly right, which is why the government would still contract with them to service the loans.

But during the economic collapse, many private lenders stopped offering loans altogether, forcing colleges to turn to the more reliable direct lending programs instead - hardly a shining example of excellent customer support.

It's one thing to lose your car loan when credit markets freeze up. It's quite another to be unable to attend college. Student lending is too important to be left to market vagaries.

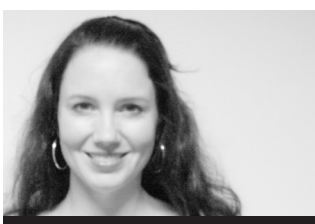
This plan eliminates corporate welfare and funds key education programs without adding to the deficit. The Senate should pass it without delay so that colleges will have time to implement it in time for the next school year.

*The following editorial appeared in the San Jose Mercury News on Tuesday.*



Don Wright is a political cartoonist for *The Palm Beach Post*.

## Woods' apology cocky and insincere



CHRISTI ALDRIDGE

On Feb. 19, Tiger Woods broke his three-month silence with a long-awaited 14-minute televised apology. I watched, cringing, as Woods read woodenly from a prepared statement, saying things like he thought since he had "worked so hard" he was "entitled" to "enjoy the temptations" all around him that fame and fortune had brought. He mentioned thinking he didn't have to live within normal marital boundaries, apparently including being faithful. I don't know who wrote this speech, but those things made him sound really arrogant.

I also felt for his mother, who sat there looking at the ground like she'd rather be anywhere else but in that room. When Woods stated that he wanted the paparazzi to leave his family and children alone, I wanted to laugh. He brought this on himself and his family. The whole thing seemed impeccably scripted, carefully worded (though I would have left out the "entitlement" part) and extremely insincere.

There seems to be a gender divide in reactions to the apology. Most women are not happy with it, and most men seem to be fine with it. According to CBS News, some college-aged female golfers were asked how they felt about it. They all said that it was "shocking" and that they felt terribly sad for his wife, who must be brokenhearted.

In an article from the Providence Journal, men at a barbershop and women at a nail salon were surveyed about the apology. The men said it was fine with them, because "men just cheat sometimes." They also expressed that once Tiger started winning again, all would be forgiven. In

my experience, that is how most men are viewing the situation.

The women asked about it said things like he had only apologized to keep his sponsors, and that he should have more self control in his personal life. Most women do not think his wife, Elin, will remain with Tiger because he is unable to change.

**It seems to me that Tiger doesn't owe the public, other players, or others an apology more than his wife.**

Writers on ESPN.com claimed that Tiger's apology should be "good enough" for the public, even if it seemed staged or not emotional enough. But is it the public whom Tiger should really be concerned about? What about his wife and family? It seems to me that Tiger doesn't owe the public, other players, or others an apology more than his wife. Perhaps this all should have been kept private.

My friend Allison said she thought Tiger seemed like a teenager who apologized just because he got caught. From the point of view of a non-sports fan (and a woman), this is pretty much what I think, too.

Is sex addiction a real addiction, similar to alcoholism and drug addiction? I'm not sure. It seems a little hard to imagine that Tiger really does have a sex addiction after the statements he made during this apology. I think the man was just having fun, personally. Too bad he didn't think of all the people that fun would end up hurting.

Tiger should have stayed single, and he would have been a stud. Now he's just an embarrassment, and it doesn't matter how many tournaments he wins, he can never possibly win back his wife's heart. It was noted on ESPN that Tiger wasn't even wearing his wedding ring during this apology, and his wife was noticeably absent. That says it all.

*Christi Aldridge is a senior strategic communication major from Hillsboro.*



United States team member Tiger Woods flashes a smile while practicing his putts before the first round of the 2009 President's Cup at Harding Park Golf Course in San Francisco, Oct. 8.

## QUICK NEWS

### Afghan government claims Taliban stronghold

MARJAH, Afghanistan (AP) — The Afghan government took official control of the southern Taliban stronghold of Marjah on Thursday, installing an administrator and raising the national flag while U.S.-led troops worked to root out final pockets of militants.

The ceremony was held in a central market as U.S. Marines and Afghan troops slog through bomb-laden fields in the north of the town. The Marines and their Afghan partners are trying to secure a 28-square mile area believed to be the last significant pocket of Taliban insurgents in Marjah.

Militants and allied troops are still getting caught up in gunfights in some areas, NATO said.

But the number of residents returning has increased in recent days.

### McCain invokes 2008 campaign promise at summit

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama has upbraided Sen. John McCain for resorting to political "talking points" at a summit Obama organized to resolve fights over a health care overhaul.

After McCain used time there to complain that Obama reneged on a campaign promise to bring "change in Washington," the president bluntly told the Arizona Republican that "we're not campaigning any more. The election is over."

McCain retorted that he's "reminded of that every day."

McCain said people don't understand why health care legislation was produced with dealmaking "behind closed doors." He said Obama promised better governance during the campaign "and what we got was a process you and I both said we would change in Washington."

### Let's clean up the language, Calif. lawmakers say

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California lawmakers have a history of trying to keep the state's air and waters clean. Now they're tackling language.

The state Assembly is scheduled to vote on a resolution Thursday calling for a statewide "Cuss Free Week," to occur annually during the first week of March. If approved, it would go to the state Senate for a final vote on Monday.

The resolution by Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, D-La Canada Flintridge, was inspired by a South Pasadena teenager, McKay Hatch, who founded a No Cussing Club at his junior high school in 2007. His efforts to stamp out profanity have generated international attention, with 35,000 members joining the No Cussing Club's Web site.

### Whale that killed its trainer won't be isolated

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Trainers will continue to work with a killer whale that grabbed one of their colleagues and dragged her underwater, killing her, but SeaWorld said Thursday it is reviewing its procedures.

People lined up to get into the Orlando park a day after the whale named Tilikum killed veteran trainer Dawn Brancheau as a horrified audience watched. Tilikum had been involved in two previous deaths, including a Canadian trainer dragged under water by him and two others whales in 1991.

"Many people are asking about the future care of Tilikum, the whale involved in the incident," the blog post said. "We have every intention of continuing to interact with this animal, though the procedures for working with him will change."

### Feds: Gas build-up led to fatal Conn. plant blast

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. (AP) — A volatile natural gas and air mixture large enough to fill a professional basketball arena had accumulated in tight quarters in a Connecticut power plant shortly before an explosion that killed six workers, a federal safety investigator said Thursday.

Donald Holmstrom, of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, said the practice of cleaning pipes at the under-construction power plant, known as a "gas blow," put 400,000 cubic feet of gas mixed with air into an area close to the plant's power block, and near many ignition sources.

The Feb. 7 explosion ripped apart the nearly completed 620-megawatt Kleen Energy Systems plant as workers for O&G Industries Inc. purged the gas line.



# ABUNDIO'S STUDIO

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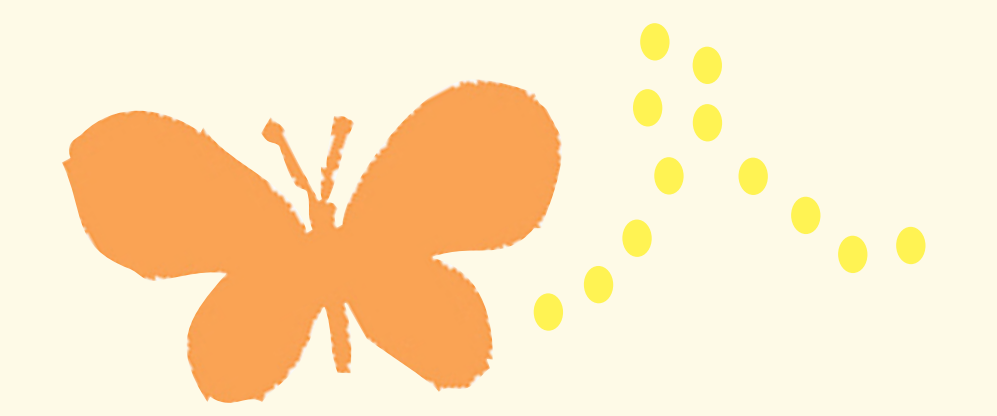
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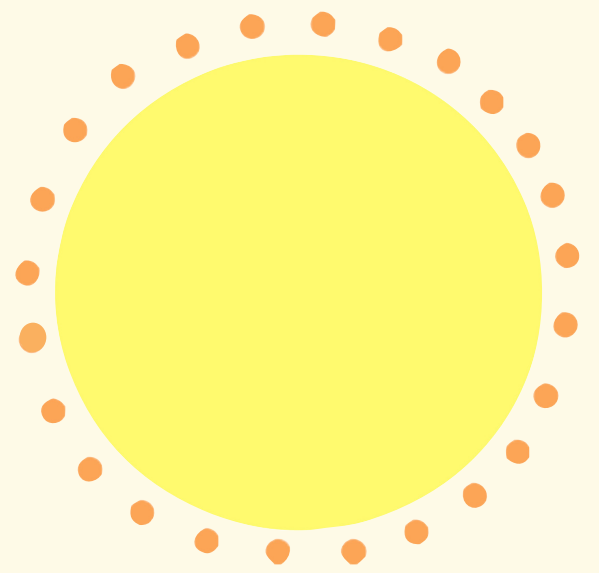
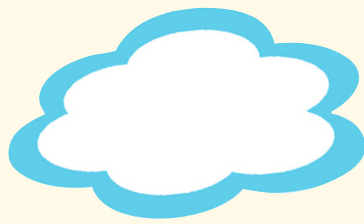
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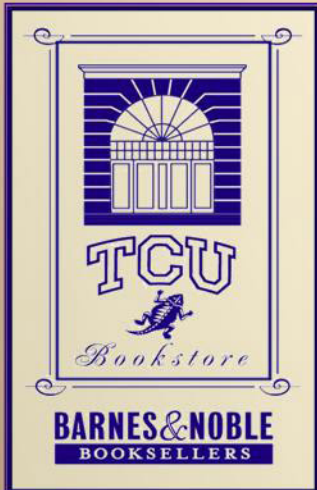
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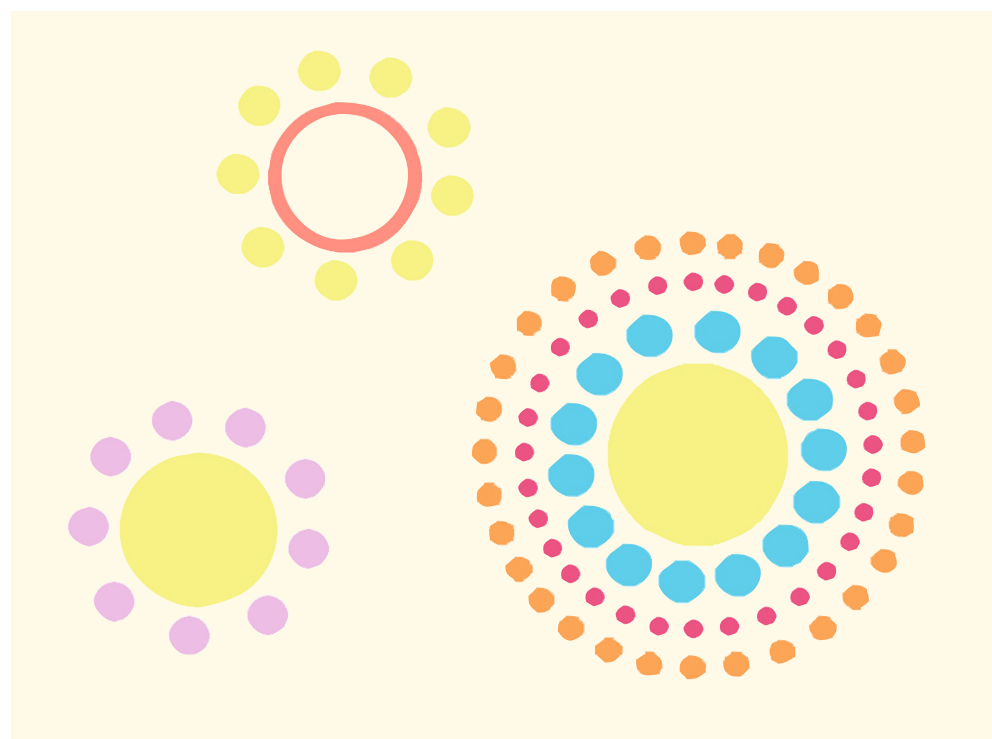


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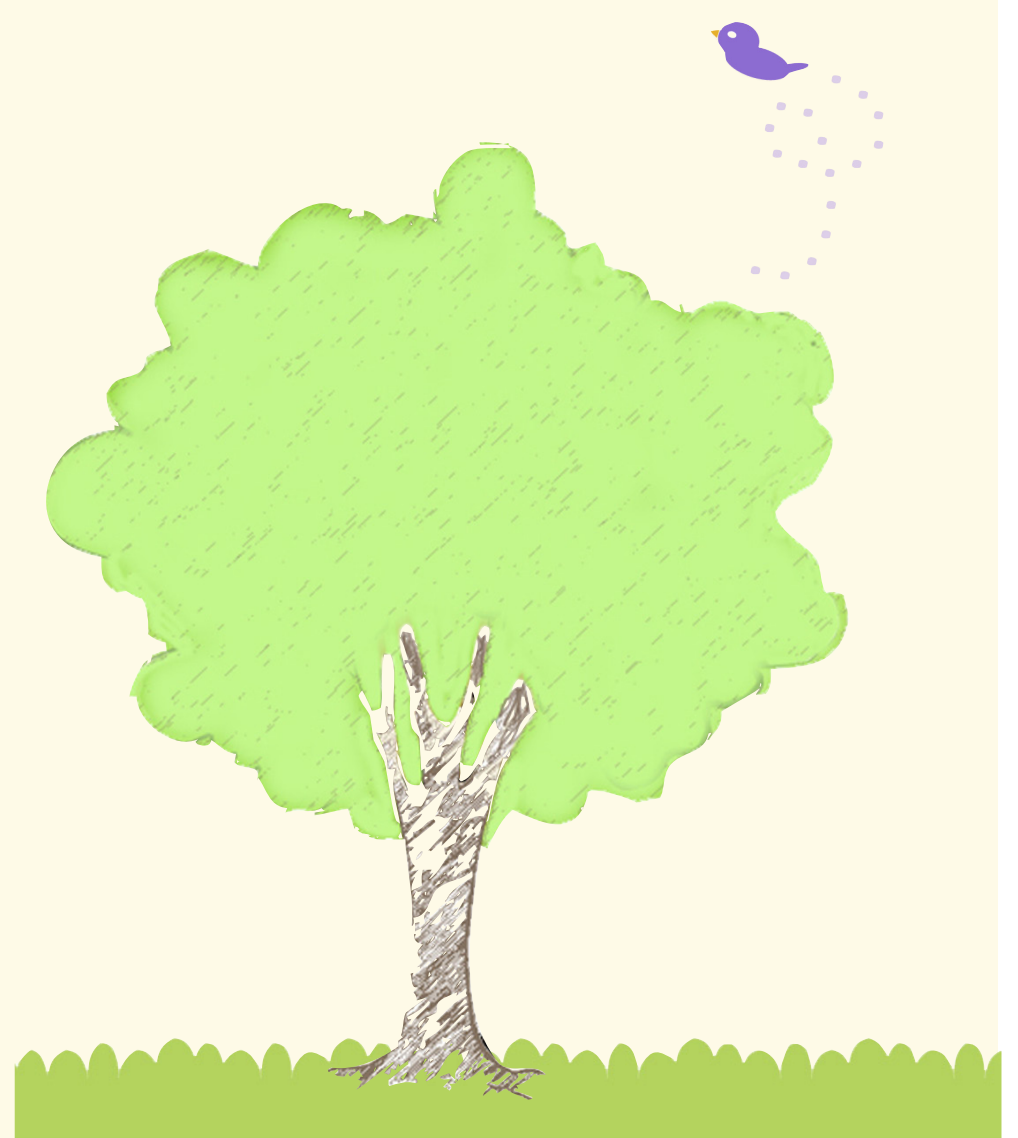
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# SPORTS



For coverage of weekend sports go to [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com).

## TENNIS HARD HITTER



JIM BOYD / Staff photographer  
Junior Katarina Tuohimaa takes a swing in the Horned Frogs' loss against Arkansas in the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center on Sunday.

## Tennis match-ups on road

**By Steven Bocanegra**  
Staff Writer

The men's and women's tennis teams will hit the road this weekend for two non-conference matches. The men will travel down to College Station to take on Texas A&M, while the women continue a long road stretch with a trip to Tuscaloosa, Ala., to take on the Crimson Tide.

The men are coming off a strong performance Saturday at home against Wichita State, in which they took care of the Shockers 5-2, advancing the Frogs to 4-2 overall. No. 17 Texas A&M is coming off impressive back-to-back wins Sunday over Wisconsin and Laredo Community College.

Nichols said he looks forward to the challenge and emphasized the importance of the doubles matches.

"We want to come out with a lot of energy in doubles, and it's important to get the doubles point," he said. Head coach Dave Borelli said the Frogs have a great chance of winning at A&M. "We have always played well all the time over there, and we play well on their courts," he said.

While he is optimistic about the match, he said he sees the game as a stepping stone to the team's ultimate goal of reclaiming the Mountain West title and advancing in the NCAA tournament.

The women will continue to add up the frequent flier miles after a trip Wednes-

day in Ann Arbor, Mich., against the No. 8 Wolverines. The Lady Frogs must take another long trip Saturday to face the Crimson Tide at Alabama Tennis Stadium.

The Crimson Tide is ranked No. 26, just three spots ahead of the Lady Frogs.

### Women's Tennis TCU vs. Alabama

**When:** 12 p.m. Saturday  
**Where:** Tuscaloosa, Ala.

### Men's Tennis TCU vs. Texas A&M

**When:** 6 p.m. tonight  
**Where:** College Station

## OPINION

# Conference shake-ups may hurt Frog football



**RYNE SULIER**

Be careful what you wish, TCU faithful, because with conference realignment stewing and brewing, your Horned Frogs' BCS appearances might go from endangered to extinct by 2016.

**Scenario 1:**  
After head coach Gary Patterson received a contract extension through 2016, he stated that he believed TCU could win a national championship without being in a BCS conference.

But that was before real talk surfaced that the Mountain West may be divided and squandered; TCU's Fiesta Bowl debacle may in fact have been its own Custer's Last Stand.

Pac-10 commissioner Larry Scott said expansion is something that will be looked at with a fresh set of eyes.

If the Pac-10 plays Eastern Expansion and partakes in annexing BYU and/or Utah, the Mountain West may as well begin packing for its own Trail Of Tears.

The MWC has already been dogged by its lack of top-to-bottom competition. Without the Cougars and Utes providing the Horned Frogs with annual top-25 beef, TCU may

be stuck with the Boise State situation — a great team, but playing against not-so-great opponents.

And if the Pac-10 successfully expands, forget about the MWC getting that automatic qualifier BCS bid.

Competing with Boise for the non-BCS slot in the Bowl Championship Series would be tough after losing to the Broncos on the big stage, and a weakened conference slate would probably give the edge to the Broncos.

While there has been some swirling about the MWC expanding itself, this expansion wouldn't necessarily be adding quality to the conference.

TCU could end up the odd-man out, just like when the Southwest Conference folded. Five years after joining the MWC, TCU may be pushed back into relative obscurity, much like during its WAC and Conference USA stints.

By 2016, Patterson may have come full circle since his arrival at TCU.

**Scenario 2:**

The Pac-10 would probably like to expand into the Colorado market, and stealing the University of Colorado from the Big 12 would leave a hole that would sensibly be filled by TCU in terms of location and old SWC ties.

The Big 10 has also made it clear in statements that the timing is right to look into expansion.

Although expanding into

Northeastern states make sense in terms of market size, Missouri and Nebraska could also easily be plucked from the Big 12.

Once again, TCU would seem to be a viable candidate to fill at least one of the voids.

A dream come true, right? But the main argument made against non-BCS schools (that they do not play the annual slate of conference games that cannibalizes the Big 12 or SEC) holds much truth.

TCU would likely still not close the recruiting gap between Oklahoma and Texas, and it is likely that the Horned Frogs would fall into the ranks of the handful of Big 12 teams chasing the Sooners and Longhorns year after year.

Oklahoma and Texas make up eight of the last 10 Big 12 championship representatives in the BCS.

By 2016, TCU may have the clearer route to get to a BCS game if it were a member of the Big 12, but the road would be a far more difficult trek year after year.

While it seems Pac-10 and Big 10 expansion is likely, whichever conference makes the first move will dictate TCU's and, inevitably, the MWC's fate. Everything may work out just fine, but be careful what you wish for.

*Ryne Sulier is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Plano.*

## BASKETBALL

# Teams prepare for Saturday games

**By Kylie Osterloh**  
Staff Writer

After clinching its 20th victory of the season, the women's basketball team (20-9, 10-3 Mountain West) hopes to maintain its lead in the MWC standings when facing conference opponent Colorado State (13-13, 5-8 MWC) in Fort Collins on Saturday.

Although the team played Tuesday, it entered the game after a seven day lay-off.

"I think that the break has been good for us," head coach Jeff Mittie said. "I think we are really energized right now."

TCU defeated the Rams 78-51 at the end of January this year in Fort Worth. The Lady Frogs held the Rams to a 10 percent shooting on three-point field goal and capitalized off of CSU's 22 turnovers.

CSU's sophomore guard/forward Kim Mestdagh, the team's leading scorer and three-point power shooter, was

### Men's Basketball TCU vs. Colorado State

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday  
**Where:** Daniel-Meyer Coliseum

For a full story go to [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) following the game.

### Women's Basketball TCU vs. Colorado State

**When:** 3 p.m. Saturday  
**Where:** Fort Collins, Colo.

Follow the action on The Mtn. and go to [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) for a full story following the game.

held to only five of 16 field goal attempts last contest.

TCU's junior forward Emily Carter reflected upon the reason the team was successful during their Tuesday night defeat of UNLV.

"The main thing that we were focused on was giving it our all and playing our game," Carter said.

A win this weekend will mark the Lady Frogs' 21st victory of the season and preserve their spot at the top

of the MWC standings.

"I think we are about as healthy as we can be going into the stretch here," Mittie said.

While the No. 1 MWC Lady Frogs head to Fort Collins, the men's team for the CSU Rams heads to Fort Worth for a conference showdown against the Horned Frogs in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum on Saturday. The Frogs are 4-9 in conference and 12-16 overall while the Rams rest at 6-7 in MWC play and 15-12 overall.

## WINTER OLYMPICS



DMITRY LOVETSKY / Associated Press  
United States' gold medal winner Bill Demong is flanked by United States' silver medalist Johnny Spillane, left, and Austria's bronze medal winner Bernhard Gruber during the flower ceremony for the Men's Nordic Combined Individual event from the large hill at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada on Thursday.

## Olympics Update

Thursday proved to be yet another successful day for the U.S. athletes present at the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver.

In the men's nordic combined, Bill Demong won the gold, his second medal of these Winter Games. He was joined on the podium by teammate Johnny Spillane who took home the silver.

On the ice, the women's

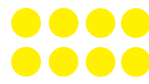
hockey team lost the gold to Canada 2-0 putting them on the podium with the silver.

Freestyle skier Jeret Peterson won the silver medal in the men's aerials competition.

The ladies' free skate event was ongoing before press time.

— Sports editor Mary Sue Greenleaf

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Gold



Silver



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