



## NEWS

Women from the Neeley School of Business "Dress for Success." **TUESDAY**



## FEATURES

The Oscars are coming up Sunday. Get educated on who's who. **PAGE 4 and 5**



## SPORTS

See how the Lady Frogs performed against the Wyoming Cowgirls. **PAGE 8**



TCU

# DAILY SKIFF

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## Repeat of break-in prompts increase in cameras

By **SONYA CISNEROS**  
Staff Reporter

In the wake of a break-in to the women's swim team locker room Sunday, police say more surveillance cameras are being added to the University Recreation Center.

Before the most recent break-in, cameras only monitored the

most populated areas of the University Recreation Center but are now being installed to monitor every entrance and exit to the building, TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham said.

Due to the similarity between an intrusion in 2005 and the break-in Sunday, added security measures were

warranted, Ham said.

The building security is being increased at a fast pace, Ham said.

TCU Police personnel began overseeing the installation of cameras and new locks Monday, he said.

The amount of cameras in the Rec Center will be

increased from 16 to 32, Ham said.

The additions are estimated to cost less than \$20,000, Ham said.

Karen Sandifer, a member of the swim team who saw the suspect in the locker room Sunday, said the installation of more cameras is "a step in

the right direction."

All cameras on campus are recorded digitally and store recordings for up to one week, Ham said.

Police dispatchers monitor cameras in the parking lots and academic buildings as their staff allows, Ham said.

Police are hoping to create

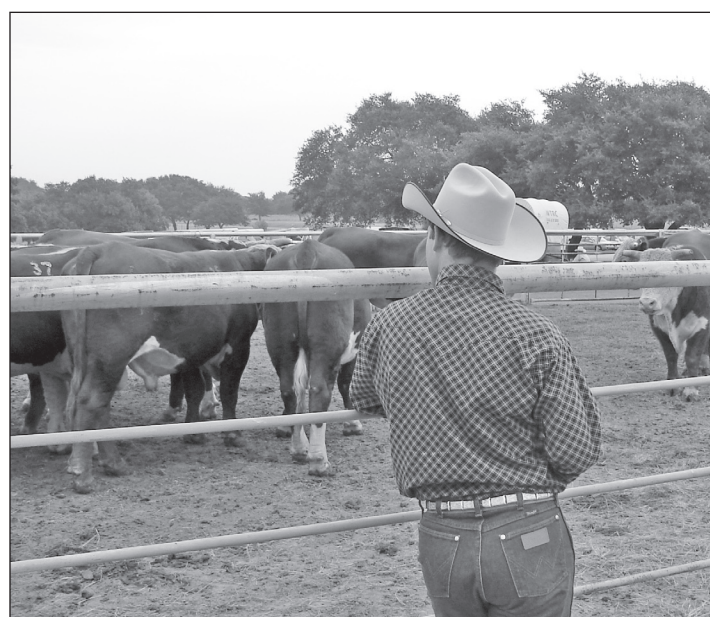
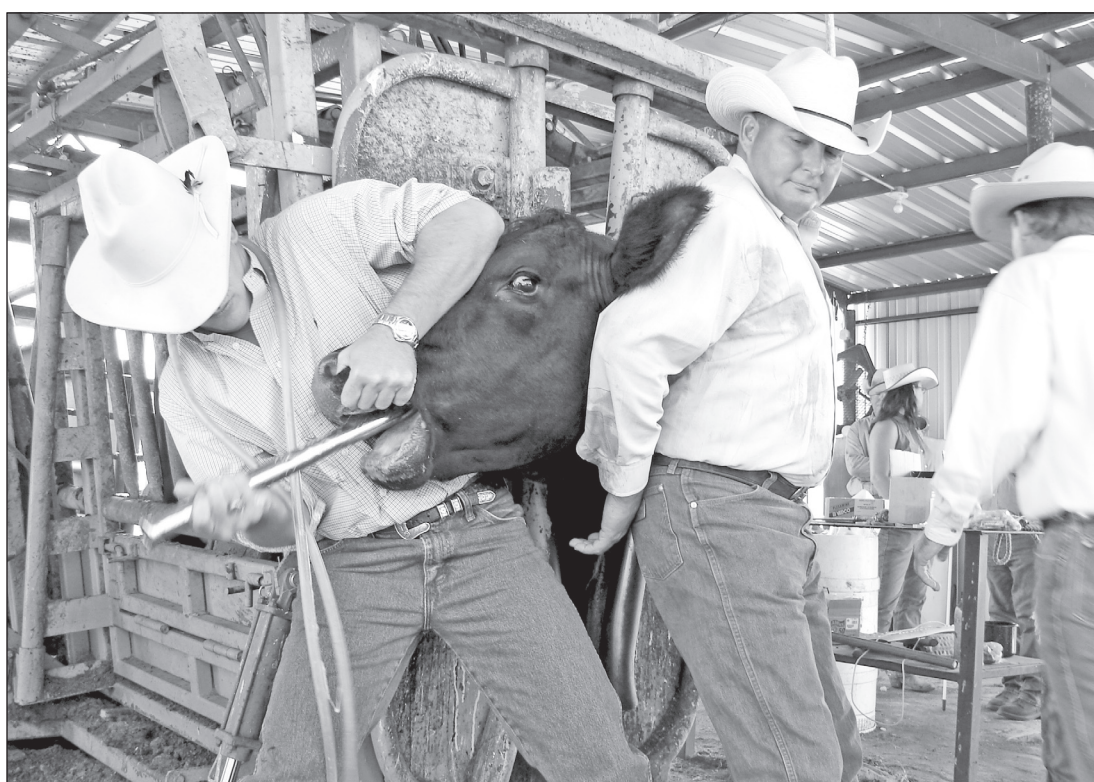
another division in the department solely for the purpose of monitoring surveillance cameras 24 hours a day, Ham said.

The investigation on the locker-room break-ins is still ongoing, he said.

Ham declined to comment on

See **CAMERAS**, page 2

## LEARNING THE ROPES



TCU RANCH MANAGEMENT  
(LEFT) Clay Richardson, '06 graduate of the Ranch Management program, inserts a Rumen tube into the esophagus of a cow to vent gas from the stomach as Kerry Cornelius, director of the program, lends a hand.  
(ABOVE) Daniel Bowles watches bulls in an enclosure at the Dudely Brothers ranch. Bulls are later sold individually at an auction.

By **ASHLEIGH WHALEY**  
Staff Reporter

Agriculture-industry experts in southwest Texas are teaching ranch management students what they won't learn in textbooks this week during one of five weeklong trips the students will take this year.

"The Great White Fleet," a caravan of white Suburbans, takes 29 ranch management students across five regions in Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma to learn about particular agricultural methods and

practices inherent to each region, said Kerry Cornelius, director of the ranch management program.

"They've been dealing with a seven-year drought here in the Southwest region," said Tylor Braden, a student in the ranch management certificate program who is on the field trip. "We're learning all the different ways producers have been confronting this challenge."

Students will learn how professional ranch managers

are adapting to the ongoing changes faced in agricultural business, said Eric Brast, assistant director of the Institute of Ranch Management.

"No textbook can provide that kind of information," said Brast, estimating that 40 percent of the ranching curriculum is taught outside of the classroom.

Jeffrey Geider, director of the Institute of Ranch Management, worked in the region after graduating from TCU in 1981 and returned with his students Monday.

"The people here are the same," Geider said. "What changes is how they manage through difficult situations like droughts."

Charles Taylor, a research scientist at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, showed students a demonstration plot of burnt land from one, five and 10 years Wednesday. The purpose was to inform them of what to implement when doing their own rangeland brush control and fire maintenance, Cornelius said.

"Students have to build a diversification of ranching operations, so we try to expose them to as many different environments as we can," Geider said. "There are a lot of sheep and goat operations in this area, which is something a lot of students don't have exposure or background in."

What students learn in southwest Texas this week could be used in the future

See **RANCH**, page 2

## Athletic department gets highest cumulative GPA ever

By **MICHELLE NICOUD**  
Staff Reporter

Horned Frog student-athletes are giving the athletic department a reason to cheer after achieving their highest semester and cumulative GPA in fall 2006, said the director of the athletic academic services office.

The athletic department GPA of 2.91 for fall 2006 rose from the 2.85 mark student-athletes, as a whole, made in spring 2006. The 2.91 mark is the highest it has been

since officials started keeping track of the GPAs in 1999. The cumulative GPA also increased from 2.86 to 2.90, inching closer to the 3.0 departmental goal.

Chris Uchacz, director of the athletic academic services office, said the GPA rise is the result of the unity and understanding between the coaches, professors, athletic department and athletic academic support staff.

"When you take those four different areas and combine

"We want student-athletes who are going to try to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the field. We put a lot of value on that."

**Dan Abdalla**  
Head soccer coach

them, it's the recipe for success," Uchacz said.

Each of the teams has an academic adviser through ASSO who looks at the team's progress each semester, Uchacz said. The adviser ensures the student-athletes are in manageable combinations of classes at times that don't interfere with practice. He said an associate athletic director also oversees each sport.

The addition of the equestrian team did not affect the

GPA in a positive or negative manner, Uchacz said, but helped maintain the current standard.

Tutoring is one of the main services offered through the AASO, and the office provides more than 190 tutoring sessions per week for core classes, Uchacz said. Tutoring is also based on requests for help in upper-level classes, he said. He looks for graduate students to do the job, but, if nobody is found, under-

See **GPA**, page 2

## USC professor to lead documentary, media criticism discussion

By **JOHN BOLLER**  
Staff Reporter

A documentary filmmaker and professor from the University of Southern California will visit Friday through Sunday to discuss autobiographical documentaries and media criticism.

Michael Renov, professor of critical studies at USC, is the radio-TV-film department's Green Honors Chairman.

"Dr. Michael Renov is an internationally-known scholar

on the study of documentary," said Richard Allen, chair of the radio-TV-film department.

Allen said Renov has explored the historical and theoretical frameworks of autobiographical films where the filmmakers themselves take center stage.

"We, as a society, are emerged with the sounds and images of different mediums every day," said Renov, author of "The Subject of Documentary." "It is important for us to try and

understand these sounds, images and their meanings."

The radio-TV-film Green Honors Chairman invited Renov for his efforts and contributions in the study of documentary, Allen said.

The Green Honors Chair program's mission is to have distinguished scholars, scientists and writers come to campus for a few days. During his or her visit, the invited guest will stimulate ideas to both the

faculty and students while still keeping the "town and gown" relations with the community, according to the Cecil H. and Ida Green Honors Chair Guidelines.

Renov first visited TCU last semester and discussed the current curriculum of the RTVF department with both faculty and students.

"I came to TCU in the first semester to listen," Renov said. "I wanted to hear feed-

back from the faculty and students to make sure that we are using the best curriculum when teaching."

This semester, Renov will be discussing autobiographical documentary from his latest book, Allen said.

"This will be the first time that students will be able to hear about autobiographical documentary from an academic point of view," Allen said.

Allen said Renov will also be

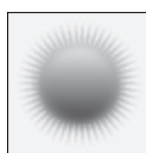
explaining media criticism.

"He will explain what exactly a media critic does," Allen said. "Our students have not been exposed to the critical aspect of media."

It will be a great way for students to learn about the scholarship of media, also, Allen said.

Peter Luby, a senior sociology major and RTVF minor, said he is looking forward to Renov's visit.

See **GRADES**, page 2



### WEATHER

**TODAY:** Cloudy/ Windy 70/58  
**SATURDAY:** Scattered Storms, 66/42  
**SUNDAY:** Sunny, 64/46

### PECULIAR FACT

**OCONOMOWOC, Wis.** — A man said he broke into an apartment with a cavalry sword because he thought he heard a woman being raped, but the sound actually was from a porn his upstairs neighbor was watching.  
— Associated Press

### TODAY'S HEADLINES

**FEATURES:** Staff picks for Oscar wins, page 4 & 5  
**OPINION:** Take time to give to those in need, page 3  
**SPORTS:** Undergrad is equestrian team's S.I.D., page 6

### CONTACT US

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at [NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU](mailto:NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU)



**RANCH**

From page 1

to make money in similar regions like New Zealand, Australia and the High Deserts of the western United States, Brast said.

Alumni own and operate four of 10 ranches on the field trip and often serve students meals along the way, Cornelius said.

TCU alumnus John Welch manages Spade Ranches, which Cornelius said is one of the largest cow and calf operations in Texas and the

first stop on the trip. "My favorite part so far was meeting Mr. John Welch who I think is an unbelievably intelligent man, but very down to earth," Braden said. "It was a tremendous opportunity to speak with him."

Braden said the field trips set the ranch management program above others in the nation.

"People give us information that is real and that you would have a hard time otherwise garnering because they know our students are there for a trustworthy purpose," Brast said.

**CAMERAS**

From page 1

whether he believes the suspect is a student until — and if — an arrest is made.

The method the suspect used to enter and exit the building has been established, Ham said, but cannot be disclosed.

Sandifer, an early childhood education major, said she feels some peace of mind knowing there has been an addition of security to the building.

But the most peace of mind will come when the suspect is caught, she said.

Steve Kintigh, director of campus recreation, did not return several phone calls seeking comment.

**GRADE**

From page 1

of the Faculty Senate, said he wanted the new grading system to affect all students immediately.

"My preference is and was, was and is, to do it all at once because doing it this way is going to have people sitting in the same class next to one another who do the same work getting different grades, and that's never, I think, a good idea," Fort said.

The decision to grandfather the new grading system

was made because of student opposition to the addition of pluses and minuses to their transcripts, Fort said.

"I want it to be clear that it was the students who emphatically and forcefully asked for it to be this way," Fort said.

Jace Thompson, president of the Student Government Association, said SGA worked to ensure students' opinions about plus/minus grading were heard at the administrative level.

"SGA feels like the concerns were heard and really met," Thompson said. "I think that the overwhelming sentiment is that we're pleased with the results."

**GPA**

From page 1

graduates with an "A" in the student-athlete's class and a teacher recommendation will be considered.

Head soccer coach Dan Abdalla said his players found the tutoring helpful on the way to a Team Academic Award from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. The soccer team was also recognized for its work in the classroom with 12 players selected to the Academic All-Mountain West Conference squad in the fall, Abdalla said.

"I think a lot of the credit goes to the staff in the athletic department — Uchacz in particular," Abdalla said. "They

do a great job letting the girls know what they can do for them and helping them to be successful."

Recruiting student-athletes who are focused on both academics and athletics is important, Abdalla said.

"We want student-athletes who are going to try to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the field," Abdalla said. "We put a lot of value on that."

Uchacz said that although his office will work with any student-athlete, more attention is paid to the student-athletes considered "at-risk" for eligibility, or those with a GPA of 2.40 or below.

"We spend a lot of hands-on time with those student-athletes teaching them time-man-

agement, how to network with faculty and how to be successful students," Uchacz said.

To compete as an NCAA student-athlete, freshmen must maintain 1.80 GPAs, sophomores 1.90s and juniors and seniors must keep minimum GPAs of 2.0, Uchacz said.

Mary Minor, a senior sprinter for the Flying Frogs, said student-athletes look to tutors because of their practice schedules.

"With practice and stuff, sometimes it's hard to talk with teachers," Minor said. "If you can't talk with the teachers about it, being able to talk with the tutor and break it down helps," Minor said.

Andrea Morgado, a junior tennis player, said the women's tennis team's 3.44 GPA, the highest among all 30

sports teams, was the result of a solid balance between academics and athletics.

"If we have a match one day, we usually have the next day off to go talk to our teachers and catch up," Morgado said.

While Jack Hesselbrock, the associate athletic director for internal relations, said he thinks that much of the academic success comes from coaches, faculty and the AASO, he also thinks the spirit of TCU also plays a part.

"People on campus care about everyone," Hesselbrock said. "It doesn't matter if you're an student-athlete, you're in the band or you write for the Skiff. When I was in school here, and you were not doing well, somebody knew about it and checked on you."

**Blackwater USA investigation under way; investigators say \$10 billion misspent in war**

By BILL SIZEMORE  
The Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va. — A two-year investigation has finally begun to shed some light on the trail of taxpayer dollars that paid for Blackwater USA's famously ill-fated security mission in Fallujah, Iraq, in March 2004.

Blackwater's contract was less than a month old when four of its security operatives were ambushed and killed, some of their bodies mutilated and hung from a bridge in an incident that changed the course of the Iraq war.

Blackwater was at the bottom of a four-tiered chain of contractors. The Moyock, N.C.-based company says it billed the next company up the chain \$2.3 million. At

the top of the chain was KBR, a subsidiary of Vice President Dick Cheney's former employer, Halliburton Co.

Now the Pentagon has calculated that by the time KBR got around to billing the government, the tab to the taxpayers for private security work had reached \$19.6 million. The government is moving to take that money back, charging that it was improperly spent.

Last week, federal investigators identified \$10 billion they said has been squandered in the war because of contractor overcharges and unsupported expenses. More than a quarter of that amount, \$2.7 billion, was charged by Halliburton.

Because of the Fallujah ambush and its fallout, Blackwater is center stage in a case study of the booming, multilayered world of wartime contracting and whether the safety of America's private soldiers takes a back seat to corporate profits.

Congress will likely be grappling with those issues for months, if not years. Already two House members, Reps. David Price, D-N.C., and Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., have introduced legislation aimed at injecting more transparency and accountability into the contracting process.

Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., also has called for aggressive monitoring of Iraq contracting.

According to the latest Pentagon estimate, 100,000 civilian contractors work in Iraq — almost as many as there are uniformed soldiers. As many as half of those are said to work for security companies.

One of the most persistent critics of the private military industry is Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif. For two years he has been trying to get to the bottom of the Blackwater-to-KBR chain and how much it cost taxpayers.

The Democratic takeover of Congress in November landed Waxman in the chairman's seat of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, allowing him to pursue the investigation more aggressively. Now he is beginning to get some answers.

Until recently, not even the Pentagon had been able to sort out the players. Last year, the Army told Waxman it could find no indication that Blackwater had been hired to provide security under KBR's multibillion-dollar contract to support the U.S. military operation in Iraq.

But this month the Army said extensive research had revealed that Blackwater had in fact been

hired through two intermediary companies.

Furthermore, the Army said, that appears to be a violation of KBR's contract, which prohibits hiring private security services. So the Pentagon has moved to take back the estimated \$19.6 million that KBR charged the government for security services.

It is still unclear whether that amount was all for work performed by Blackwater or included other security providers.

It's not even completely clear that KBR was the prime contractor. One of the companies in the chain also had contracts with another company, Fluor Corp. But Fluor has denied hiring Blackwater.

KBR is disputing the Army's findings and said in a statement that its contract does not prohibit its subcontractors from hiring private security.

A key question for congressional investigators is whether the taxpayer dollars paid to KBR, based in Houston, ever reached the security personnel on the ground.

Family members of the four dead Blackwater contractors are suing Blackwater, charging that the company — in the interest of cutting corners and turning a profit — sent their loved ones into hostile territory without the protection of armored vehicles, rear gunners or automatic weapons.

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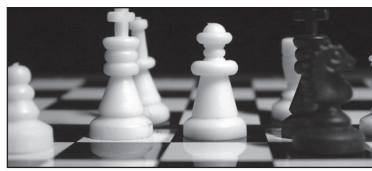
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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing."

— Emo Philips

**THE SKIFF VIEW**

**Child care for employees, students best option**

An on-campus child care option would be a step in the right direction in making life easier for some students, faculty and staff.

A 2002 survey showed that 38 percent of faculty, staff and students had children who would benefit from on-campus child care. The same survey by a research task force at TCU showed that 31.1 percent of the university's faculty, staff and student population was already using an outside child care system.

Certainly for some, there are probably advantages to an outside child care system.

But the university should still look into on-campus options.

Those on-campus options should be low in cost and available to both employees and students.

In promoting diversity among the university's student body, there is certainly a necessity to draw on people with a variety of life experiences.

Hopefully, such a low-cost child care option would make it easier for college-

age parents to enroll — thus enhancing the diversity that is so often sought after.

Additionally, there are many jobs at TCU where the pay is less than desirable, and many parents are working in those jobs.

A low-cost, university-supplemented option would benefit many employees in that regard.

The university cannot simply be expected, however, to undertake such a program at a complete loss. There must be an upside for the institution.

That's why the university should seek out an option that would also function as an environment that fosters research and study.

As the chair of the Faculty Senate Student Relations Committee pointed out last week, having such a facility could benefit students in the education, health and science realms by providing additional research opportunities.

Beginning the discussion now is taking the issue in the right direction. Ultimately, however, administrators will have to consider the gains for students and employees over the possible costs associated with such an undertaking.

*News editor Andrew Chavez for the editorial board.*

**BY BRENDAN KIEFER**



Horned Frog baby-sitting service.

**Take time to give to those in need**

According to a Star-Telegram article from Feb. 19, Vijay Devarajan, a 25-year-old from Arlington, plans on climbing Africa's tallest

**COMMENTARY** mountain, not for the fame, but for charity.



Marissa Warms

I look up to Devarajan because his acts of service reach beyond city

limits. I think it is important for all of us to serve in some way in our community because not only does it bring a sort of self-fulfillment, but it is a way to show concern for others.

Kilimanjaro is an about a 19,340-foot mountain with three volcanic peaks and is considered the tallest free-standing mountain in the entire world. Devarajan will be one of 90 employees from Accenture, a technology consulting company, to attempt the climb.

Accenture is trying to raise \$500,000 to help an AIDS clinic in Kenya, \$6,000 of which Devarajan plans to raise on his own.

The employees are not climbing this mountain for fame by any means; they do not care if their names appear in any book or newspaper declaring they've made it to the top. Their priority is raising awareness, not for themselves or their company, but for a problem in Africa they feel is being avoided.

"There's a certain lack of understanding of the plight of Africa in general," Devarajan told the Star-Telegram. "A story like this is another way to open people's eyes as to how bad it



Mount Kilimanjaro

SXC.HU

is out there. The number of kids with AIDS in Africa is just astounding."

It is comforting to know there are still people in this world who care for others. It seems as though that number has been dwindling for years. It opened my eyes and made me realize there are plenty of things I can do to help others, that don't even include leaving the state or country.

I participated in Up 'Til Dawn this year, addressing letters to friends and family asking them to donate to St. Jude's Research Hospital. At the end of the semester, there is a party to find out how much money the letters raised. It's amazing how those events can make someone feel. It was one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life.

Accenture works with a charity based in the United Kingdom, VSO, and its main goal is to combat HIV and AIDS in Africa. It has been organizing fundraisers, such as the hike up Kilimanjaro, for years.

There are plenty of ways

to get involved on this campus and in the city of Fort Worth. Race for the Cure with the Susan G. Komen foundation is an amazing way to help those who suffer from breast cancer.

When we struggle with things in life, we should take a step back and realize how much worse things could really be. After all, we are living most people's dream by being able to attend a school like TCU.

We have many opportunities to serve and provide for the less-fortunate, all we have to do is take a little time out of our lives and step up.

Devarajan will not use any of the money he raises for personal expenses to Africa; the entire sum will go to the clinic in Kenya. He should be a role model for many of us. Think of the things he is sacrificing. We can make a difference, too, if we take the time to realize there are people in need of our time and help.

*Marissa Warms is a junior advertising/public relations major from Irving. Her column appears on Fridays.*

**Small shops have more than caffeine**

The atmosphere of small, privately-owned coffee shops is often better than that of Starbucks, which some may find too

**COMMENTARY** crowded and will object to the fact that they are a national chain.



Michelle Anderson

Just when you think Starbucks has taken over the coffee world, something new pops up: a crowd of "anti-Starbucks" people who seek out local shops to the sometimes overpowering Starbucks.

While Starbucks made drinking coffee and tea drinks popular with people of all ages, I often wonder how far this should go. Thanks to Starbucks, you can now see anyone from an 11-year-old kid with a frappuccino at the mall to a professor sipping tea in class. Starbucks gives teens and college students a place to gather in large numbers and partake in drinks and snacks. According to the company fact sheet, Starbucks is the largest multinational chain of coffee shops with 7,102 locations worldwide. With such a high volume of stores, it makes it easy to obtain the coffee or tea that any working individual may crave.

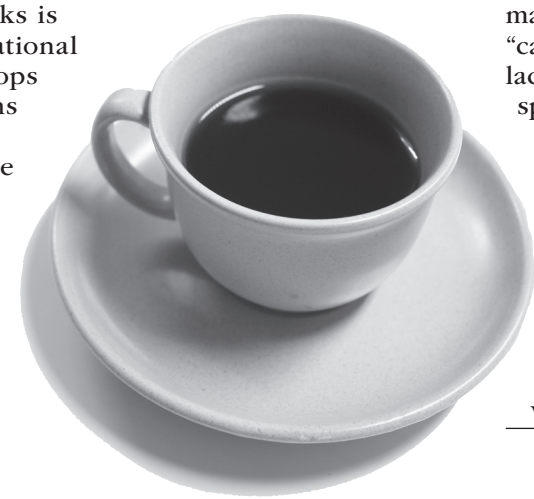
Due to its popularity, Starbucks is often incredibly busy during peak hours,

with cashiers rapidly taking orders to give in to the needs of its fast-paced customers. In contrast, independently owned coffee shops often operate at a much more leisurely pace, engaging in conversations with customers.

Maybe for some, chatting and waiting for beverages at a leisurely pace is not to their liking. But for many people, coffees and teas are an escape from daily hassles, and because employees at small coffee shops often know their customers, they can nearly predict their customers' orders.

Many local coffee shops offer specialties that keep customers coming back for more. Sophomore psychology major Kailin Oliver explains that local coffee shops want to provide their customers with a beneficial setting, that is unlikely of national chains. Her favorite local coffee shop happens to be Eurotazza.

"Eurotazza knows that Starbucks has many locations throughout the Fort Worth area.



SXC.HU

Instead of the traditional Starbucks decor, Eurotazza provides its customers with a unique atmosphere including European-style decor, a fireplace, many tables and coffee with a very rich, distinct taste," Oliver said.

Small coffee shops offer an environment that make people more likely to stay for longer periods of time. Stephanie Buck, a sophomore Spanish and Latin American studies and political science major, said local shops stick to the philosophy that every customer counts. They also are aware that large corporations are more focused on numbers and profit and less on the charm of the small business.

Buck adds that Starbucks tends to rush its preparation of beverages.

"Places such as Starbucks tend to burn their espresso shots or are just in such a hurry that some of the art of coffee gets 'lost in translation' as they say," Buck said.

While Starbucks does deserve credit for serving high-quality products that many associate for their "caffeine fixes," it often lacks the relaxing atmosphere of smaller shops.

For those in search of an escape from the fast-paced caffeine fix of Starbucks, consider taking in the atmosphere of a small coffee shop to make it easier to cope with the sometimes overwhelming daily ritual.

*Michelle Anderson is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Tyler. Her column appears Fridays.*

**Academy should award films, actors based on talent**

The Oscars: Is the Academy a group of art aficionados or the gavel of morality?

After a stunning 79-year run and a stable position as

**COMMENTARY** the most prestigious award in the business, why can't the Academy get it right? Sadly, too many times the winners are not



Sam Ortiz

called up onstage at all but cast aside for another film, another director or another actor.

"For Your Consideration" is the immortal slogan accom-

panying every film sent to the Academy in a dire plea for a nomination and, hopefully, a gold statuette. Lobbying, although the least of our worries, is one of the causes of this mistreatment of art. Films and artists are peddled as if they are products, hoping to sell for the highest bid. Not only is this a defamation of the cast and crew involved, but a low blow to the industry as a whole. Bribing and thrusting a film into the Academy's faces should not guarantee anyone a spot on the list, no matter how convincing the tactics may be.

Perhaps the most appalling entity to sway the

Academy is politics. It hurts me to hear about the Academy's anti-Semitic and pro-Caucasian past, but it hurts me even more to hear their solution. Awarding an Oscar to people simply because they are black, Jewish or Hispanic doesn't rectify the situation or give restitution. The only way to make things right would be to make a fair ceremony, judged solely on the work and solely on the merit of that work. This is not to say that every minority who has won an award didn't deserve it, but it is to say that some did not. Why place the movie titles next to the nominee if his performance in that movie isn't

the only thing being judged? It seems that the Academy would be just as content to have a list of names they can simply choose from, making sure to make the most politically sound choice.

Before the 78th Annual Academy Awards, Russell Crowe was involved in an incident where he lost his temper and attacked hotel personnel. All the media could discuss was how he was most likely to be excluded from the Oscars for his behavior and come February, he was. What he did was awful, but does that make him any less of an actor? The Academy shouldn't care how he leads his personal life; the

basis of the awards isn't on his moral character but rather his performance in a film. One could easily formulate a list of people the Oscars generally snubs, but perhaps the biggest loser is Leonardo DiCaprio. The Academy hates him. He chooses risky films, sways from the media, is politically liberal and stays rather reclusive. He is facing his third nomination this year and has always left empty-handed. His work has been constantly thrilling and amazing to watch, but he always loses out to Oscar politics. Sean Penn and Johnny Depp have been shunned for years for those same reasons. Luckily for Penn, the Oscars

responds well to headlines such as "Oscars Too Conservative" and "Why Can't the Oscars Loosen Up" and gritted their teeth as they awarded him and Tim Robbins in the same year.

My only hope is this year, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will prove me wrong and, for the first time in years, choose a list of winners based on talent and merit. In the meantime, it is our job to recognize the films that are the true winners and make our own decisions.

*Sam Ortiz is a freshman political science and theatre major from Shreveport, La.*

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## CULTURE SHOCK

Find out what TCU is doing to bridge the student body's cultural divide.  
**WEDNESDAY**

# And the nominees are...

## BEST PICTURE

By ALY FLEET  
 News Editor

### "BABEL"

Starring Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Gael Garcia Bernal, Adriana Barraza and Rinko Kikuchi, Babel portrays the interconnection of people, despite their physical and geographical boundaries. The film is, by far, the most likely Best Picture winner. Not only did the film take the Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture Drama in January, but it received more Oscar nominations than any other film this year. With seven total nominations, "Babel" is up for an Oscar in writing (original screenplay), music (score), film editing, directing and has two supporting actresses nominees (Barraza and Kikuchi).

### "THE QUEEN"

"The Queen" chronicles Queen Elizabeth's reaction — or lack thereof — to the death of Princess Diana in 1997. Starring Helen Mirren as Queen Elizabeth and James Cromwell as Prince Phillip, the film was nominated in five other categories, including costume design, music (score), writing (original screenplay), best actress and directing. Although Mirren may stand a chance for a best actress win, as she took both the Screen Actors Guild award and the Golden Globe in the same category, the likelihood of The Queen winning Best Picture is very low.

### "THE DEPARTED"

Martin Scorsese's most recent film has received much critical praise since its release. Following the experiences of a police mole within a New York crime organization, "The Departed" features a star-studded cast that includes Leonard DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson, Mark Wahlberg and Martin Sheen. The film is also nominated in the categories of directing, editing, actor in a supporting role (Wahlberg) and writing (adapted screenplay).

### "LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA"

Yet another Best Picture nomination for director Clint Eastwood, "Letters from Iwo Jima" examines the World War II Battle of Iwo Jima from a Japanese perspective. The film was also nominated for directing, sound editing and writing (original screenplay). Out of the five Best Picture nominees, "Letters from Iwo Jima" is by far, the least known and least likely to win the Oscar.

### "LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE"

The only comedy up for nomination this year, "Little Miss Sunshine" captures the journey of a young, awkward wanna-be pageant queen. The film stars Steve Carrell, Toni Collette, Greg Kinnear, Alan Arkin and 10-year-old Abigail Breslin, a nominee

for best supporting actress. The film won the Golden Globe for outstanding performance by a cast in a motion picture and is also nominated in two other Oscar categories, including writing (original screenplay) and actor in a supporting role (Arkin).



TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

"Little Miss Sunshine" is nominated for Best Motion Picture of the Year.

## BEST DIRECTOR

By MICHAEL DODD  
 Copy Desk Chief

### CLINT EASTWOOD "LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA"

Eastwood, the man made famous for his roles in Western films and as Dirty Harry, has been making a major name for himself as a director over the last two decades. From 1992's "Unforgiven," which won him his first Academy Award for Best Director, to 2004's "Million Dollar Baby," which gave him his second, Eastwood has risen above many other actors-turned-directors, but that may be his problem. While trying to legitimize his new station as a director, Eastwood's films have all been unabashed stabs at Oscar glory. His two films of 2006, "Letters from Iwo Jima" and "Flags of Our Fathers" were well-done, but the nature of them isolates fans and are widely unwatched. "Million Dollar Baby," which grossed more than \$100 million domestically, is the exception. Until he can use his talents as a director to make a film the public truly feels is worth watching, his attempts at garnering another Oscar should fall by the wayside, much like his films.



WARNER BROS. Entertainment

Clint Eastwood is nominated for Best Director for "Letters from Iwo Jima."

### MARTIN SCORSESE "THE DEPARTED"

Although casting liberally outspoken Alec Baldwin as a conservative right-wingist in love with the Patriot Act was a nice politically-satirical touch, Scorsese's "The Departed" is anything but a politically driven film, like the glut of recent Academy Award darlings. And, unlike many of the other nominees in this category, Scorsese has created a film both entertaining for a mass audience and done so with a touch of directorial panache. And, considering this film overall appeal from intellectuals to the average American Joe, Scorsese should finally have his Susan Lucci moment and take home the Oscar, a feat even Eminem has accomplished.

### STEPHEN FREARS "THE QUEEN"

Taking a historic theme, Frears' "The Queen" is not exactly a piece of directorial mastery. Although Helen Mirren's portrayal of Queen Elizabeth was meant to be sharp and dignified, the filming seemed just as static and unmoving. The movie is viewed much like a play as if the camera were set up in front of the characters. The acting and writing is superb, but some actual direction would have been nice. It would seem Frears, who did in fact come out of filming with an enjoyable picture, sat back and let everyone around him work while he just let the camera roll. And, just because the end product may be a good movie, everybody else's hard work shouldn't warrant Frears' an Oscar.

### ALEJANDRO INARRITU "BABEL"

Once again, the Academy Awards have decided to honor a film seemingly not on the basis of its overall appeal but rather on its message, no matter how stilted or obvious it might be. Inarritu's third major film, "Babel," follows four story lines set in three different areas of the world with four different languages. Just as last year's Best Picture winner, "Crash,"

was lauded for its portrayal of telling people that, yes, racism is actually a bad thing, "Babel" informs viewers that they are a part of a global society and language barriers do not mean people are necessarily different based on their ethnicities or linguistics. While covering the ensemble cast is well-done, to an extent, the film, as a whole, is unnecessary. Anyone liv-

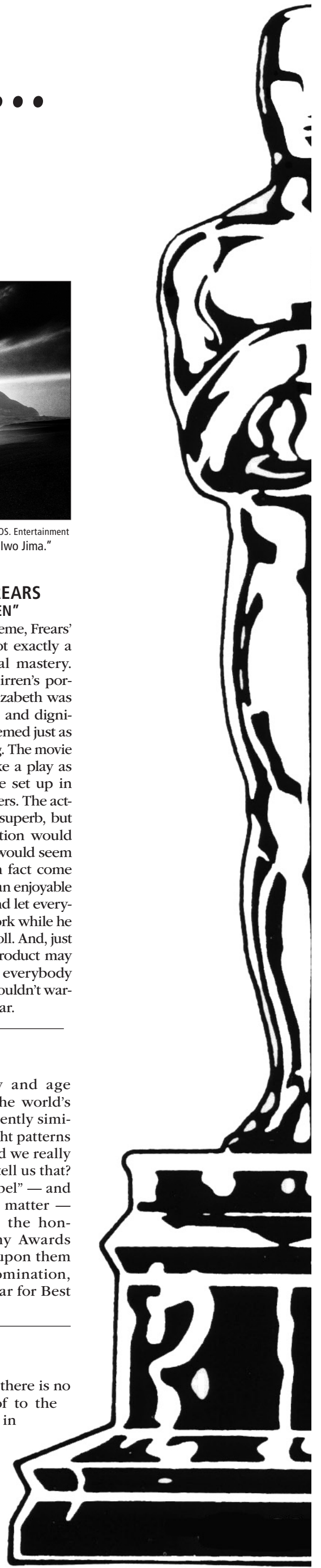
ing in this day and age should realize the world's people are inherently similar in their thought patterns and interests. Did we really need a movie to tell us that? Inarritu and "Babel" — and "Crash" for that matter — do not deserve the honors the Academy Awards have bestowed upon them with a mere nomination, let alone an Oscar for Best Director.

### PAUL GREENGRASS "UNITED 93"

With no survivors to tell them what truly happened aboard United flight 93, Greengrass and the others behind the film created a fictionalized retelling of the events, which were born upon rumors of heroism from the passengers who supposedly fought the hijackers intent on continuing the carnage of September 11. This is

a film that didn't need to be made. If the filmmakers wanted to remind viewers about the events, it was unneeded as there is almost no way that people have already forgotten what happened that day in September 2001. If they wanted to truly tell the tale of heroism in the skies, there is no way they could hon-

estly do so since there is no substantial proof to the events heralded in the film. And a film that should never have seen the light of day doesn't deserve to be honored by the Academy.



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## BEST ACTOR

By MICHAEL DODD  
Copy Desk ChiefLEONARDO DICAPRIO  
"BLOOD DIAMOND"

Considering the fact that DiCaprio should have easily won this category for his portrayal of Billy Costigan in Martin Scorsese's "The Departed," if the Academy felt his role in "Blood Diamond" was better, then he should have an even easier time taking the golden statue for Best Actor.

RYAN GOSLING  
"HALF NELSON"

Taking a turn from his "The Notebook" role, which thrust him into the hearts of innumerable teenage girls, Gosling portrays a high school teacher with a drug problem. Gosling's depiction of Dan Dunne is realistic enough, but a role that has been so overplayed is not worthy of an Oscar, no matter the level of acting involved. Junkies, stereotypical or not, have been so overused that portraying one seems to take on no real imagination or thought. It is no longer a consideration of method acting. Just slip in a few movies and the character is created. All the guesswork and originality is gone. And so is the acting.

PETER O'TOOLE  
"VENUS"

O'Toole may be extremely well-cast in his portrayal of an aging actor — since he is one — but the question of whether a person pretty much just playing himself deserves an Oscar for acting is raised. Until people filmed in documentaries are honored or at least nominated in this category, O'Toole's portrayal of Maurice, which is, in essence, a portrayal of himself set in a fictionalized setting, is not deserving of the award.

WILL SMITH  
"THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS"

Just as is the case with his opponent in this category, Gosling, Smith's role in "The Pursuit of Happiness" is something anyone who has been to the movies has seen numerous times before. Smith plays a down-and-out single father trying to overcome adversity and ascend into a higher class. While the film is a tearjerker at heart, Smith's lack of originality in a role that has already been overused should make for an unhappy trip to the Oscars for Smith.

FOREST WHITAKER  
"THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND"

Coming from a film that is widely unknown among the American public, Whitaker's role in "The Last King of Scotland" should not be enough to warrant an Oscar win.

At some point, the Academy needs to realize films are a form of entertainment and a movie that is not an indicator of that fact should not be honored with a win.

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

By ALY FLEET  
News EditorADRIANA BARRAZA  
"BABEL"

Though Babel is coined as an "international film" and features English, Spanish and Japanese speaking characters, Barraza plays a mostly English-speaking role for the first time in her career. She portrays the loving nanny of two American children who, through an unexpected chain of events, loses everything she has worked for and gets deported back to Mexico. Barraza delivered a heart-breaking performance and, next to Jennifer Hudson, has a good chance of taking the award.

CATE BLANCHETT  
"NOTES ON A SCANDAL"

Despite playing a supporting role in Babel, Cate Blanchett was instead nominated for her portrayal of an art teacher in the lesser-known "Notes on a Scandal." In the film, Blanchett's character engages in a love affair with one of her 15-year-old students and, in turn, becomes the subject of a fellow teacher's obsessions. Though Blanchett has won the Best Supporting Actress award before — for "The Aviator" in 2004 — she is unlikely to win this year. Her castmate Judi Dench has a much better chance of winning her Oscar for Best Actress.

ABIGAIL BRESLIN  
"LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE"

At only 10 years old, Abigail Breslin has appeared in more blockbusters than many of her fellow nominees. In 2002, she appeared with Mel Gibson in "Signs" and, two years later, in "Raising Helen" with Kate Hudson. Always playing a quirky character, Breslin is a memorable child actress. Though the chances of her winning the Oscar are fairly low, at her age, it truly is an honor just to be nominated in one of the big six categories.

RINKO KIKUCHI  
"BABEL"

In Babel, Rinko Kikuchi delivered an eerily realistic portrayal of a deaf and sexually frustrated teenage girl. After Babel's release, Kikuchi's was hailed by many critics as the next up-and-coming actress. She just recently signed on to do a new film "The Brothers Bloom"

along with Adrien Brody, Rachel Weisz and Mark Ruffalo. Although her breakthrough performance may have opened the door to more opportunities, it's likely not enough to garner an Oscar, especially considering her lack of on-screen time compared to the other nominees.

JENNIFER HUDSON  
"DREAMGIRLS"

Although Hudson was voted off of American Idol nearly three seasons ago, the public seems to have forgiven her. Amidst a cast of big-name stars such as Beyonce and Eddie Murphy, Hudson has been named the standout performance of the film for her portrayal of the talented, but overweight Motown singer Effie White. In January, she won the Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actress and more than likely she'll win the category once again.

MARK WAHLBERG  
"THE DEPARTED"

Wahlberg portrays Sgt. Dignam, who places an undercover cadet in the mafia but is unaware one of his own men is in the same mafia working for its boss. As a teenager, Wahlberg pursued a life of petty crime and drugs before getting his break. Wahlberg left "New Kids on the Block" before they were famous and started up "Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch." This model-turned-singer-turned-actor credits this role as one he is most proud of. This is Wahlberg's first Academy Award nomination, but director Martin Scorsese is most likely to take an Oscar for this movie.

## BEST ACTRESS

By MICHELLE EUPERIO  
Staff ReporterPENELOPE CRUZ  
"VOLVER"

Cruz portrays Raimunda, a Spanish woman who deals with a series of surprising events including hiding a dead body and the reappearance of her mother who died five years ago. This is her first Academy Award nomination and she is the second Spanish performer to be Oscar-nominated. Although this former Spanish soap star has won the best actress award for her performance in "Volver" at Cannes Film Festival, European Film Awards and Goya Awards, she is unlikely to take home an Oscar. Last year, she was named Actress of the Year at the Hollywood Film Festival.

KATE WINSLET  
"LITTLE CHILDREN"

Winslet portrays Sarah Pierce, a disconnected wife and mother who has an affair with a neighbor that could destroy both marriages. This is Winslet's fifth Academy Award nomination. She is unlikely to win this category but can still take pride in being the youngest actress to receive that many nominations. She was nominated for best actress for her role in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," which she says was her favorite role. Winslet has won other awards for her performance in "Titanic" and "Sense and Sensibility."

JUDI DENCH  
"NOTES ON A SCANDAL"

Dench portrays Barbara Covett, a lonely teacher who becomes obsessed with a new teacher and catches her in an affair with a student. This is Dench's sixth Academy Award nomination. She previously won best supporting actress for her eight-minute performance as Queen Elizabeth I in "Shakespeare in Love." She has won many different awards for her past performances on film and theatre and shares the possibility with Meryl Streep to win this award after Helen Mirren.

MERYL STREEP  
"THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA"

Streep portrays Miranda Priestly, the cold-hearted, difficult fashion editor whose outrageous demands make the lives of her two assistants a challenge. Streep said she wanted to learn the reason behind people vilifying women in such powerful positions and the pressure those women face. This is Streep's 14th Academy Award nomination and she has won awards for her roles in "Sophie's Choice" and "Kramer Vs. Kramer." "Entertainment Weekly" named her the Best Modern Actress. Streep has a great chance of winning this award if Helen Mirren does not.

HELEN MIRREN  
"THE QUEEN"

Mirren portrays Queen Elizabeth after Princess Diana's death and shows the changes the queen had to face with the British monarchy. She is the only actress to play Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. At the Venice Film Festival, her performance for "The Queen" received a five-minute standing ovation. She has won the best actress award from the Screen Actors' Guild and the Golden Globes and she is most likely to be victorious in this category.



Helen Mirren is nominated for Best Actress in a Leading Role in "The Queen."

MIRAMAX FILMS

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

By MICHELLE EUPERIO  
Staff ReporterALAN ARKIN  
"LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE"

Arkin portrays a heroin-addicted grandpa who gets kicked out of his nursing home and joins his family on a road trip to his granddaughter's beauty pageant in California. Directors almost declined Arkin the part because they thought he was too masculine for the role. He credits his big break as being

part of the original company of Second City in Chicago. He has been nominated for best actor in "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter" and "The Russians are Coming the Russians are Coming." This is Arkin's third Academy Award nomination and next to Eddie Murphy has a good chance of taking the award.

JACKIE EARLE HAYLEY  
"LITTLE CHILDREN"

Hayley portrays Ronnie J. McGorvey, a sex offender who is released from prison and causes panic and hatred in his new neighborhood. This is Hayley's first Academy Award nomination and first film since his 12-year hiatus from

acting. While he wasn't acting, he was a limousine driver, furniture re-finisher, security officer and pizza delivery man. This comeback role has led him to win many of the critics' choice awards, but he is unlikely to win this award.

DJIMON HOUNSOU  
"BLOOD DIAMOND"

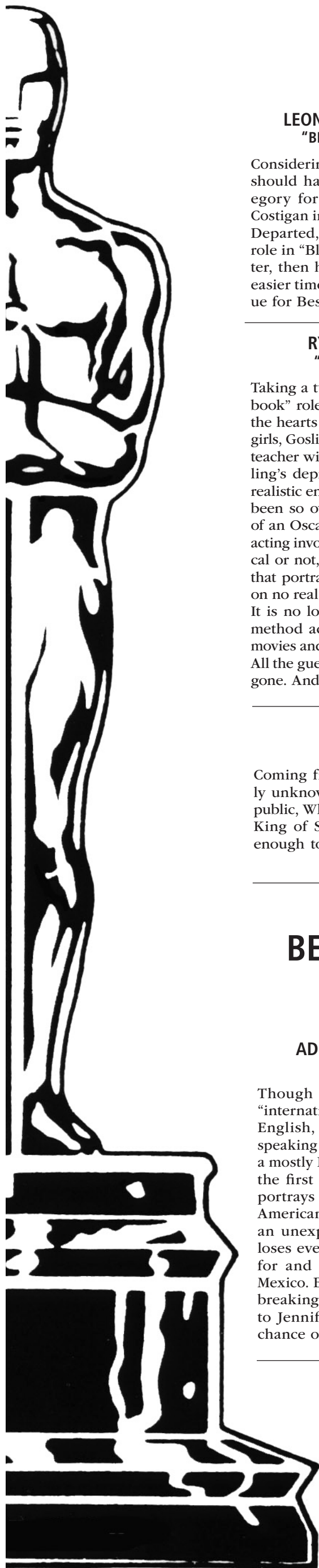
Hounsou portrays Solomon Vandy, an African husband and family man who hopes to save his family through the sale of an enormous diamond. Hounsou had childhood dreams of being a professional soccer player, boxer or psychologist but never dreamed of working with Steven

Spielberg or Leonardo DiCaprio. This model-turned-actor is the second male African to receive an Oscar nomination, but will unlikely win this category. This is his second Academy Award nomination and he was previously nominated for best supporting actor in "In America."

EDDIE MURPHY  
"DREAMGIRLS"

Murphy portrays a black Motown singer named James "Thunder" Early, who, in the early 1960s is unable to make the crossover leap to the white music audience. This is Murphy's first Academy Award nomination and he is known for comedies such as "Shrek," "The Nutty Professor" and "Beverly Hills

Cop." This comedian, voted "Most Popular" in high school, credits his big break to his time as a cast member of "Saturday Night Live." He has recently won the Golden Globe and Screen Actors' Guild awards for best supporting actor in "Dreamgirls," and is most likely to win this category.



## STAFF PICKS

## Michael Dodd's Picks:

- Best Picture: "The Departed"
- Best Actor: Leonardo DiCaprio — "Blood Diamond"
- Best Actress: Meryl Streep — "The Devil Wears Prada"
- Best Supporting Actor: Mark Wahlberg — "The Departed"
- Best Supporting Actress: Abigail Breslin — "Little Miss Sunshine"
- Best Director: Martin Scorsese — "The Departed"

## Aly Fleet's Picks:

- Best Picture: "Babel"
- Best Actor: Leonardo DiCaprio — "Blood Diamond"
- Best Actress: Helen Mirren — "The Queen"
- Best Supporting Actor: Mark Wahlberg — "The Departed"
- Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Hudson — "Dreamgirls"
- Best Director: Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu — "Babel"



## Instructor fights affirmative action

By KRISTEN JORDAN SHAMUS  
*Detroit Free Press*

DETROIT — Eric Russell didn't get his wish, didn't get admitted to the University of Michigan Law School next year.

But that's OK with him — as long as his rejection was without consideration of his race or gender.

Russell, a 30-year-old white Auburn Hills, Mich., resident, got word recently that his admission to the law school was denied. He said he is prepared to believe the university followed Proposal 2 — which bans the use of race or gender in making admissions decisions.

"The university stated publicly that they're in compliance," he said Feb. 15. "I'm going to take them at their word until anything to the contrary surfaces."

But he said he'll keep fighting to make sure Proposal 2, approved by voters in November, remains the law of the state.

A soft-spoken and reserved instructor of Spanish and German at Wayne State University, Russell is the latest in a line of people who have fought to end affirmative action in the state's university admission policies, a stand that places him in the company of Ward Connerly, Barbara Grutter and Jennifer Gratz.

He remains a party in the federal case challenging the Nov. 7 referendum's constitutionality, with Russell defending the ballot question and saying he believes the issue of fairness outweighs the need for affirmative action. The American Civil Liberties Union, the NAACP and the group By Any Means Necessary are among those challenging the constitutionality of the ban, arguing it only made it onto the ballot through voter fraud and that it is, on its face, discriminatory. A scheduling conference is set for March 21 before U.S. District Judge David Lawson in Detroit.

At issue for Russell is the fundamental right of voters to have their will carried out.

"People were very angry about this," he said. "People who were not even applying to the University of Michigan were very upset, and I was too."

Russell's belief that the issue comes down to a question of fairness notwithstanding, affirmative action supporters say the referendum — and the fight to implement it, represented by Russell — comes down to racism.

"He's a front man for segregation, and that whatever he's saying, the truth of the matter is that he's aiming to exclude thousands of black and Latino students from the universities of this state," said Shanta Driver, spokeswoman for By Any Means Necessary.

"The real heroes are the Latino and black students who are standing up for their rights, building a new civil rights movement and demanding equality."

Then, after the election, he said he was outraged to hear University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman pledge to fight the ban.

"I believe she was slapping the voters in the face, and the applicant pool as well," Russell said. "To me, her underlying message was ... essentially we'll do anything we can to not follow this."

After that, Russell sought out Terence Pell, president of the



AMY LEANG / MCTCAMPUS  
Wayne State University adjunct instructor Eric Russell applied to the University of Michigan Law School but was rejected.

Washington, D.C.-based Center for Individual Rights, to represent him in a lawsuit Russell filed in Washtenaw County Circuit Court seeking an order requiring the university to immediately comply with the ban. As someone with an application to Michigan's law school, he had standing to file in court.

Last month, the University of Michigan announced it would comply with the referendum, leading Russell to drop that lawsuit.

The federal case is pending. He is the only individual mentioned in the case on the side supporting the ban, while the By Any Means Necessary has more than two dozen opposing it.

"I'm not suing for admission. I'm suing for equal treatment under the law without regard to race," Russell said several weeks ago. "If they reject me because my GPA is too low, because my test scores are too low and they don't think I'll be able to cut it in their program, then so be it."

## Student serves as equestrian publicist

By MICHELLE NICOU  
*Staff Reporter*

An undergraduate student has been hired to take the reins and handle the media relations job for the equestrian team.

Rob Beuerlein, a junior sociology major, said the director of media relations, Mark Cohen, approached him about the position.

"Mark (Cohen) just came up to me, and we discussed it," Beuerlein said. "I was willing to take on the new project. It's a great opportunity for me to fill a need within the department."

Cohen said Beuerlein has an excellent sense of his duties and has received assignments not normally given to student assistants. Nationally, the hiring of students to these positions is not out of the ordinary, he said.

Beuerlein is currently the only undergraduate to hold a position in media relations this year.

Cohen said Beuerlein is not the first TCU undergraduate to hold a media relations position. Cameron Harris, a 2006 graduate, was the sports information director for the rifle team.

"It's not uncommon across the board (that) when you have top-notch student assistants at schools, they'll be given some sports to oversee," Cohen said. "It's a chance to get your feet wet in a profession and gives them a chance to see if this is something they really want to do."

Media Relations Coordinator Ryan Schulz, the former media representative for the equestrian team, said, despite covering the women's basketball, soccer and both the cross country and track

and field teams, he was not overwhelmed by the job. The change served as a reward and opportunity for Beuerlein, a hard-working student, Schulz said.

Beuerlein said he will continue his student assistant duties of interviewing the opposing coaches after games and setting up for press conferences and he will now create a media guide, send meet results to local media and update the Web site.

Beuerlein said he is a good fit for the job because he isn't afraid to try fresh ideas in order to increase the equestrian team's media exposure.

"I am going to try to think of a lot of innovative ideas and think outside the box," he said. "I'm very aggressive and want to try out every option."

His ideas include running feature stories in local and national media and hosting a meet and greet at a baseball game, Beuerlein said.

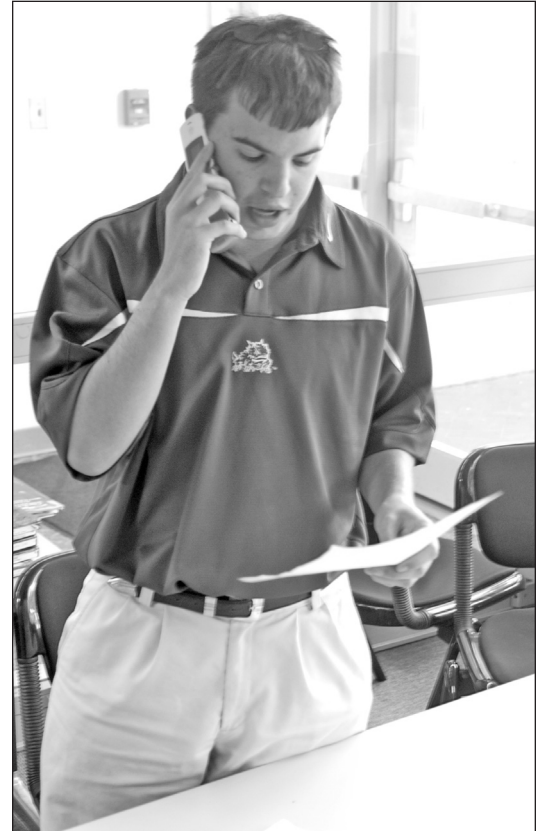
Head coach Gary Reynolds said Beuerlein is well-informed about the sport.

"(Beuerlein) has really studied the team, the girls that are on the team, and in,

just a few weeks, has moved down the 'trail,' so to speak."

The experience Beuerlein gets at TCU will be a boost to his resume later, Beuerlein said.

"Professionally, this is one of the biggest steps forward I can image, because I want to go into either collegiate or professional sports," Beuerlein said. "As a junior, I'm going to get two years of experience doing this. I think that's going to be real valuable."



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor  
Junior Rob Beuerlein prepares for an interview on KTCU. Beuerlein handles media relations for the equestrian team and is the only student in the department.

## Smith's body granted to daughter

By NIKKI WALLER AND JENNIFER LEBOVICH  
*McClatchy Newspapers*

MIAMI — A Broward County, Fla., judge ruled Thursday that Anna Nicole Smith's 5-month-old daughter should get her body.

Richard Milstein, a court-appointed guardian, will act on the baby's behalf.

Broward Judge Larry Seidlin directed Milstein to consult with all three parties who vied for her body — Smith's mother, Virgie Arthur; her longtime attorney, Howard K. Stern; and ex-boyfriend Larry Birkhead.

"I was concerned about Danny," said Seidlin, who choked up in tears several times while issuing his decision. "He's in the ground in the Bahamas. Anna Nicole wants to be in that ground."

Danny is Smith's son, who died last year.

Seidlin announced Broward Judge Lawrence Korda will now hear the paternity case. As soon as the court break began after 3:30 p.m., Birkhead's attorney, Nancy Haas, ran to file an emergency motion for paternity.

Seidlin cautioned his ruling would not make everyone happy.

"I hope when you hear it you handle it with the respect and dignity Anna Nicole Smith would want," said Seidlin.

Seidlin originally said he'd reach a decision by Friday, but wrapped up testimony before 3:30 p.m. today.

Earlier in the day, Seidlin heard testimony from friends of Smith's and one of her ex-boyfriends took the stand in the battle over where she will be buried, saying he went along with Smith's wishes to get pregnant even though she'd recently miscarried and was heavily using prescription drugs.

Photographer Larry Birkhead, who contends he

is the father of Smith's 5-month-old daughter, told the court that, after Smith had a miscarriage, he "waited until she was cleared up," but acknowledged that he knew that if she conceived, she would have a high-risk pregnancy.

Birkhead said he tried to get Smith off drugs and sometimes took her medication away.

During the hearing, Birkhead was asked to read from nasty e-mails he wrote to Smith, including one in which he listed the names of a half dozen people she slept with — one of them called "Bar whose Tracy."

Day six of the hearing began with a rambling speech by Seidlin, in which the judge talked about the relationship Smith had with Birkhead and her mother, Virgie Arthur, saying they both apparently fell out of favor with her when each one tried to get Smith to stop using prescription drugs.

One person she didn't push away was Stern, who Seidlin said could be called "an enabler because he lived in the home and may have known" about her use of prescription drugs.

"We want Dannielynn to have a better life," he said of Smith's daughter. "A healthier life and not a dysfunctional life that Anna Nicole may have suffered."

Earlier, Seidlin declined to address the issue of paternity. Both Birkhead and Stern claim to be Dannielynn's father, and Birkhead has filed a suit in both California and Florida demanding DNA tests.

Milstein, the attorney appointed to represent Smith's infant daughter, said he or the baby's true father and guardian — whoever that may be — should choose where Smith will rest.

Seidlin said he will write his ruling late Thursday and will announce his decision in court Friday.

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Friday, February 23	Saturday, February 24
<b>Ghost Rider PG13-</b> 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50, Midnight	<b>Ghost Rider PG13-</b> 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50, Midnight
<b>Reno 911 : Miami R-</b> 12:00, 1:55, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00, Midnight	<b>Reno 911 : Miami R-</b> 12:00, 1:55, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00, Midnight
<b>Bridge to Terabithia PG-</b> 12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15	<b>Bridge to Terabithia PG-</b> 12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
<b>Music and Lyrics PG13-</b> 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55	<b>Music and Lyrics PG13-</b> 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55
<b>Hannibal Rising R-</b> 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	<b>Hannibal Rising R-</b> 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
<b>Norbit PG13-</b> 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:25	<b>Norbit PG13-</b> 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:25, Midnight

Sunday, February 25 - Thursday, March 1

**Ghost Rider PG13-** 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50  
**Reno 911 : Miami R-** 12:00, 1:55, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00  
**Bridge to Terabithia PG-** 12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15  
**Music and Lyrics PG13-** 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55  
**Hannibal Rising R-** 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00  
**Norbit PG13-** 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:25

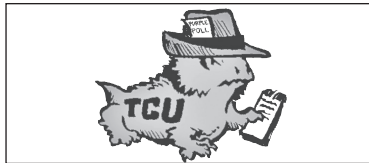
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# Cowgirls ride over Lady Frogs



ROBYN SHEPHEARD / Staff Photographer  
Helen Roden takes a shot from the top of the key against the Wyoming Cowgirls. The Cowgirls snapped the Lady Frogs' 19-game home winning streak.

## Wyoming hands TCU first home loss on hardwood since 2005-2006 season; title odds slimmer after 61-50 defeat

By ELISA GOMEZ AND MARCUS MURPHREE  
Staff Writer and Sports Editor

The Lady Frogs 19-game home winning streak was halted by the Wyoming Cowgirls in a 61-50 loss, last night at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. This is the second time in conference play Wyoming has defeated the Lady Frogs this season.

A rocky first half had TCU down 30-27 as the team descended into the tunnel to regroup after losing an early six point lead. Shooting problems continued for the Lady Frogs as the team's field goal percentage was a dismal 28.9 during the first half, 14 percent lower than the season average. The Lady Frogs continued smothering defense with 11 turnovers in the first half, but fouls continually put the Cowgirls on the free-throw line where the team didn't seem to miss. The Cowgirls made 11 of 12 from the line during the opening half.

The second half brought little hope for the Lady Frogs as the team saw a four-game winning streak go to the wayside when they fell behind by 11-points.

TCU continually put Cowgirls on the free-throw line and eventually Wyoming

finished the night with 23 of 29 free throws. The top scorers from Wyoming were guards Jodi Bolerjack and Aubrey Vandiver who each compiled 19 points. Bolerjack's performance eclipsed her season average by eight points.

TCU was led by powerful play in the paint by Hanna Biernacka who picked up 14 points. As a whole, the Lady Frogs had 36 points from below the basket, but could not seem to find a groove from the field where they shot a sub par 29.4 percent. The season average before the game was 42.7

Another key factor in the game was the play from the bench as Wyoming tacked 21 points on the board from the non-starters, while TCU managed only nine from those who came off the pine.

TCU's shooting from beyond the perimeter was lackluster when the squad finished the night with only one 3-pointer out of 12 attempts on the night.

Wyoming was not much better from 3-point land as the Cowgirls could only muster a 2 for 10 showing from beyond 25 feet.

For a more in-depth look at last night's conference contest visit [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com).

## Relive glory days of DMC, give men's basketball hope

By TIM BELLA  
Staff Reporter

Not too long ago, I had an epiphany. After a late night of the usual college activities,

COMMENTARY



Tim Bella

which would eventually end with Whataburger, I came to the conclusion that when it was all said and done, the TCU men's basketball season could give me hope.

That's right. I said "TCU men's basketball" and "hope" in the same sentence. Contrary to popular belief around campus, the sky doesn't fall when the two phrases are in the same sentence (but just in case, take cover).

Mind you, this was my thinking when the losing streak was at seven and since then, has spread like an infectious disease and has turned into an 11-game skid.

The date that has been circled on my calendar for a month now, Feb. 24, should give fans a hint as to whether the program can eventually become serious again. Of course, Feb. 24 is upon us, and tomorrow, Air Force, a top 15 team in the country and a team that punched its ticket to the Big Dance long ago, comes to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum for a 1 p.m. tip-off.

Enter hope.

Not convinced that head coach Neil Dougherty is capable of defeating a nationally-ranked opponent, let alone win a game, with a team in the midst of yet

another losing season? Look no further than three years ago when Dougherty enjoyed what has turned out to be arguably his signature win in TCU's 25-point embarrassment of then-No. 10 Louisville. The Frogs were 9-12 before the win, and the confidence they gained from the win undoubtedly helped springboard them to 21 wins and an NIT appearance the following season. But, this still doesn't change the fact Dougherty has gone 20-55 in conference play in nearly five seasons.

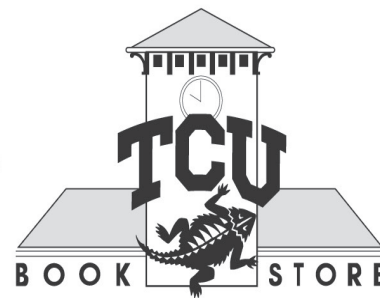
When witnessing the post-game pandemonium at mid-court on ESPN, you could tell hope was on the way. One could tell because the fans in attendance believed it could happen. This feeling has been absent in the coliseum the past few seasons, and when a team goes 16-40 over two seasons, you're lucky just to have players' parents and other relatives show up.

With a 1 p.m. Saturday game-time maybe students will bring a football-type atmosphere, which has been in hibernation since December, to the coliseum for just one game.

Since the NCAA tournament selection committee doesn't look too kindly upon 10-15 clubs in the middle of 11-game losing streaks, consider tomorrow to be our March Madness. What seems like the impossible can become reality, but they need our help.

Besides, what happens if we win? Will you be joining me as we storm the court after the game, acting as if we've never done that before? Now, that is hopeful thinking.

# TCU BOOKSTORE Calendar of Events



March 2007

S M T W T F S

## Did you know?

March will see the Bookstore relocated yet again. Be sure and come find us at our new temporary location on the pad of our old building site.

1 <b>Book Adoptions Due</b> March 15 is the day that professors need to turn in book orders.	2 <b>Walk on Over!</b> Just in Yellow Box flip flops for spring break.	3 <b>Get the Card!</b> Featuring gift cards from merchants such as Sears, Home Depot and Radio Shack.
4 <b>Women's History Month 3/1 - 3/31</b> This month famous women in history will be acknowledged for their work.	5 <b>Exodus to Temp #2</b> Larger temporary bookstore reopens.	6 <b>Shopaholic and Baby</b> Sophie Kinsella 20% *
7 <b>Get Smart w/ selected titles from the DUMMIES series from Willey Publishing.</b>	8 <b>Energizer Batteries</b> When you buy a pack of batteries get a free issue of Rolling Stone® Magazine.	9 <b>Share Builder</b> Sign up online for the Sharebuilder® investments and get a \$50 gift card from Barnes & Noble.
10 <b>New Item!</b> Get your Bermuda shorts for Spring Break.	11 <b>STORE CLOSED</b>	12 <b>Spring Break Hours</b> 3/12/2007- 3/16/2007 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
13 <b>Nineteen Minutes</b> Jodi Picoult 20% *	14 <b>Spring Break Hours</b> 3/12/2007- 3/16/2007 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.	15 <b>Spring Break Hours</b> 3/12/2007- 3/16/2007 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
16 <b>LANCÔME PARIS</b> New item High Resolution Eye w/Collaser-48.	17 <b>STORE CLOSED</b>	
18 <b>Need Money?</b> Come by and get cash for your used books.	19 <b>Gift idea for Grads</b> Get a 5 piece gift set for your graduate for just \$27.98.	20 <b>Daddy's Girl</b> Lisa Scottoline 20% *
21 <b>U-Turn Magazine</b> Get your free issue of U-turn magazine at the TCU Bookstore.	22 <b>See You at Lunch</b> Academic ad-min luncheon.	23 <b>Diploma Frames</b> Get a diploma frame for only \$150 with several finishes to choose from.
24 <b>Need School Supplies?</b> We have it all so you can have it all from pencils to matte boards for all projects.	25 <b>We Speak Greek</b> Check out the new <a href="http://www.bncollegegreek.com">www.bncollegegreek.com</a> website for all Frat. and Soro. merch.	26 <b>LANCÔME PARIS</b> GET BRONZED! w/ Lancome BRONZERS.
27 <b>Grace Eventually</b> Anne Lamott 20% *	28 <b>Senior Grad Fair</b> Come by the Rickel from 3 - 6 p.m. to get all your graduation tasks done at once!	29 <b>Gifts for Grads</b> Get that special gift whether it be a diploma frame or a shirt.
30	31	

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