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TCU

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SGA approves program to relay discounts

By VALERIE COOPER
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association hopes to make students more aware of student discounts available at local restaurants and businesses with the creation of a discount program, the student relations committee chair said.

The program is the result of

a resolution written by committee chair Justin Brown that passed unanimously in the House of Student Representatives meeting Tuesday, which calls for SGA to create a single list of discounts available to students off campus and allows for the possibility of creating signs for participating businesses. Brown said he

hopes to have the list available to students by the beginning of next semester.

"There are a lot of places that offer discounts, but they're not publicized in a way that's useful to students," Brown said.

Brown used the Trinity Railway Express as an example. Students can ride the TRE,

which travels between Fort Worth and Dallas, for free with a valid ID card. The TRE also stops at the American Airlines Center for concerts and sports events.

Many students don't take advantage of this because they don't realize they have this option, Brown said. Restaurants such as IHOP and

Café Express offer discounts to students, but because they're not publicized, students don't know to ask or how much of a discount they offer.

"We used to have fliers that advertised the discount, but now we mainly depend on word of mouth," IHOP assistant manager Jamie Fluary said.

The committee is also considering getting signs to display at the register of participating businesses that advertise these discounts to students. Brown said he hopes this advertising will encourage other local businesses to offer discounts as well.

See **DISCOUNTS**, page 2

Quality care comes from questioning, nurse says

By KAILEY DELINGER
Staff Reporter

Good nurses ask questions. That's the bottom line, said an Arizona State University nursing expert.

Alyce Schultz, the associate director of the Center for the Advancement of Evidence-Based Practice, presented a lecture called "Promoting Evidence-based Practice at the Point of Care: Creating a Spirit of Inquiry" on Tuesday to a group of about 45 nursing faculty members and Fort Worth-area nurses in the Bass Building. Susan Mace Weeks, director of the TCU Center for Evidence-Based Practice and Research, said Schultz's topic can be applied by staff nurses in hospitals everywhere.

"Evidence-based practice is helping staff nurses at the bedside identify clinical questions and find answers to those clinical questions," Weeks said, "whether it's through existing professional literature or through research projects."

Asking those questions and getting them answered, Schultz said, is what facilitates better care from nurses.

Many times, the ASU clinical professor said, patients think they are getting evidence-based care when really the care procedures being carried out are somewhat arbitrary.

An example, Schultz said, is the removal of Demerol as the drug of choice in pain management. The first research results suggesting the replacement of Demerol in treating pain were released in 1992, Schultz said, but Demerol is still being used in some hospitals today.

For that very reason, the nurse said, today's nurses need to be trained to think critically.

Schultz went on to enumerate instances in which asking questions about why things are done the way they are has improved the quality of care in hospitals.

Examples ranged from reducing patients' pain to addressing families' perceptions regarding end-of-life care. With the implementation of care based on research evidence, Schultz said, care was improved in each case.

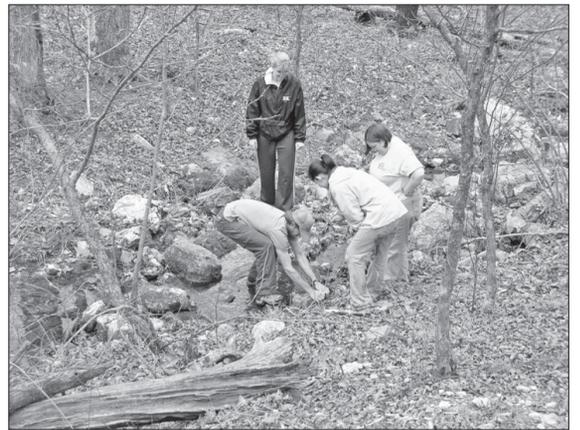
But evidence-based care doesn't start and end in hospitals, Schultz said. Nursing students in undergraduate programs should be prepared to ask questions and apply research in practice, she said.

See **NURSE**, page 2

FOR HEAVEN'S SNAKES!



(LEFT) Pygmy rattlesnake rests in a bed of leaves. This is one of many animals herpetology students have seen and examined. The class might be canceled after this semester because of the hiring of a new professor who is an expert in another area. (TOP RIGHT) Students in the herpetology class search for animals during one of the class field trips. Herpetology is a branch of zoology that studies reptiles and amphibians. (BOTTOM RIGHT) A worm snake lies on sticks and concrete while being observed by students.



COURTESY OF Andrew Brinker

Hands-on zoology class could be canceled next semester, professor says

By LAUREN PARKER
Staff Reporter

A class that has provided a unique learning experience for students may be extinct after this semester, said an environmental science professor.

Andrew Brinker, the current professor of the herpetology class, said this semester will probably be the last time the course is offered because the new professor in the

department is an aquatic vertebrate biologist.

Herpetology, which has been taught on campus for 30 years, is a branch of zoology that studies reptiles and amphibians and the role of the animals in global ecology, said Derrick Townsend, a senior Spanish and biology major.

"This class is different from others on campus because it is more hands-on; we don't

just read about the animals in books, we see them in real life, and that's what makes it different," Townsend said.

Although the class is small at 15 students, it is a favorite among students who have taken the class.

One of the things that separate this class from others at TCU is the field trips.

"The field trips are to give students field experience,"

Brinker said. "Finding any animal in the wild is much more rewarding and memorable than reading about them or looking at preserved specimens."

Brinker said students get both an academic and practical background in this class by both discussing a paper on a specific species then examining the preserved species to gain hands-on experience. He said the goal of the class is to

educate students on the general natural history of reptiles and amphibians and to leave the class with the ability to identify local species.

"I took this class with the idea that it would be an easy science," said Greg Moore, a senior criminal justice major. "After I was in the class for a while, it became really interesting. And now, it is one of my favorite classes."

Student to receive hair transplant, prizes after winning game show

By KATIE GIANGRECO
Staff Reporter

A student's dream will come true next week at the New Hair Institute in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Russ Jowell, a 22-year-old senior, won his dream of a full head of hair on ABC's "The Great American Dream Vote" last week.

Jowell was among eight contestants who revealed their wildest dreams on the show in hopes of receiving the most votes from American viewers. He received 30,000 more votes than his final competitor, a woman who wanted to build a Basset Hound sanctuary.

"This is the highest point of my life right now," Jowell said. "It's just all so surreal."

The transplant will take six

to eight hours on Monday, Jowell said. The process will involve doctors taking hairs from the back of Jowell's head and strategically placing them on the top of his head, he said. The hair will eventually fall out, take root and then grow in naturally.

"They've told me the surgery will be relatively painless," Jowell said. "And there are possible side effects of scarring, bleeding, swelling, and the hair could even not come back. But those are rare."

In addition to his \$25,000 hair transplant, Jowell was awarded a 2007 Toyota Solara Convertible, a digital camera, a 40-inch flat screen plasma TV, a windsurfer, a \$10,000 wardrobe, a skydiving trip, a trip to Las Vegas on a private jet and

\$20,000 spending money.

Jowell has yet to receive any of his prizes, but said he's been assured by producers that they're working on getting him his prizes. Jowell said he'll put the \$20,000 spending money toward student loans and living expenses.

Since appearing on the show, Jowell said he's been recognized on campus and students have been asking him about the show, what he won and what the show's host, Donny Osmond, was like.

"Given what's happened, I'm seriously considering a job in front of the camera," the radio-TV-film major said. "I've already been asked to speak at a convention about dreams and perseverance. I think I'm also going to be the newest

model for the New Hair Institute."

"The Great American Dream Vote" placed last in the ratings and was canceled a few days after it premiered, Jowell said.

"An ABC producer called me to say the show had been dropped," he said. "That makes me the first and only winner of the show."

Jowell's friend Leah Neubauer, a junior radio-TV-film major, said seeing Jowell win the show was really exciting.

"Russ' self-confidence is already improving," Neubauer said. "I hope Russ will feel better about himself because it's always been a struggle."



Senior Russ Jowell celebrates with Donny Osmond after being selected to move onto the second round of The Great American Dream Vote.

FOR YOUR INFO

Jowell will be chronicling his hair transplant progress over the next few months on his MySpace Web site: myspace.com/landofsugarman



WEATHER

TODAY: Mostly Cloudy, 62/50
THURSDAY: Mostly Cloudy, 64/49
FRIDAY: Few Showers, 58/48

PECULIAR FACT

BERLIN — A Danish woman whose son locked himself into her car and refused to get out borrowed a policeman's axe and smashed open a window to make the boy change his mind. — Reuters

TODAY'S HEADLINES

FEATURES: 'Blades' must-see slapstick, page 4
OPINION: Summer movies lack originality, page 3

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Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at NEWS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU

NURSE

From page 1

For that reason, Weeks said, TCU's Center for Evidence-Based Practice and Research has taken an initiative to promote critical thinking in its nursing students.

"We began an assessment a few years ago to analyze our curriculum and identify the various ways that we teach evidence-based practice and research," Weeks said. "Our curriculum committee is completing a survey this spring to

look at the implementation of that analysis that we did a year ago."

Paulette Burns, dean of the Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences, said the department is refocusing on areas in which critical thinking has been less emphasized.

"We go into the lab or the hospital, and we do a lot of things like checking to make sure somebody is taking blood pressure correctly, when really what we want to do is teach the students how to think about what that blood pressure means," Burns said.

DISCOUNTS

From page 1

"I eat off campus all the time, since I live off campus," senior psychology major Britany Tagmyer said, "but I'm a college student, so I need

the discounts."

SGA Vice President Thomas Pressly said the system is loosely modeled after one currently used at the University of Texas at Arlington, though colleges all over the nation have a similar system.

"We're all on a college bud-

get, so having these discounts and making sure students know about them is really useful," Pressly said.

Brown said he intends to start contacting local businesses about participation within the next two to three weeks.

"The goal is for students to

have access to discounts at pretty much every business in the area," Brown said.

The SGA also passed a resolution supporting the student honor code and tabled a discussion on the proposed budget to the finance committee at the meeting Tuesday.

CBS morning show hires Dobbs

By GAIL SHISTER
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Already seen seven nights a week at 6 p.m. on CNN's "Lou Dobbs Tonight," big Lou will add CBS's "The Early Show" to his portfolio, the Eye announced Tuesday.

Dobbs will do live, weekly commentaries on the set between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Topics will include his hot-button troika: immigration, public education and free trade.

"I think it will be fun," said Dobbs, 61, who has a one-year deal. "I'm doing what I love to do. They want me to express my views. As you know, I'm never reticent to do that."

Steve Friedman, head of CBS's morning news broadcasts, said he reached out to Dobbs after ABC announced in January that it had signed CNN Headline News' Glenn Beck as a contributor to "Good Morning America."

"I basically said, 'I wonder if Lou Dobbs would be interested?'"

Friedman said. "Lou and I have known each other for years. They talked to us. We talked to them. We made the deal."

While there's no corporate synergy here — Time Warner owns CNN, Viacom pulls the strings at CBS — Dobbs' crossover is not without precedent. CNN poster boy Anderson Cooper does at least five pieces a year for CBS's "60 Minutes."

Ever the statesman, Friedman can't resist taking a shot at No. 2 "GMA" and Beck, who has yet to make an appearance since his Jan. 9 hiring, according to an ABC rep.

"I don't believe in amorphous signings," Friedman said. "If you're in the family, you can't come on occasionally. You have to have a regular spot."

"Lou and I have known each other for years. They talked to us. We talked to them. We made the deal."

Steve Friedman
Head of CBS's morning news broadcasts

Said ABC's equally politic Jeffrey Schneider: "I don't believe in punching down to engage the head of the third-place morning show."

Dobbs said his Tuesday commentaries will be at least a minute in length, followed by chats with anchors Harry Smith, Hannah Storm, Julie Chen and Russ Mitchell.

(Note to CBS: Rene Syler, who got the boot Dec. 1, is still listed as a co-anchor on your Web site.)

Friedman doesn't expect Dobbs to talk about immigration all the time.

"We want a wide, varied Lou. He can talk about money, politics and other issues. Quite frankly, now that we're into 14-year presidential campaigns, he can talk

about that, too."

For Friedman, it's a win-win for both sides.

"We're his morning job. His night job remains the same. He gets to look at a new audience. We get to use his persona to attract a new audience. He's great TV."

For Dobbs, there's no downside, either. "I'm working with good people and talking to more viewers in a different platform. It's as good as it gets."

Well, except for the hours.

Not exactly a morning person, Dobbs, who lives on a 300-acre horse farm in North Jersey, will stay overnight in New York on Mondays so he won't have to commute. (We're guessing Dobbs won't pick up the tab.)

"Lou get up early?" Friedman said with a laugh. "I don't think he's up at 3:45, jogging around Manhattan."

"If you define grouchy as not talking to me before I've had my morning coffee, then I'm grouchy," Dobbs said. "Fortunately, my wife's always nice enough to bring me a cup."

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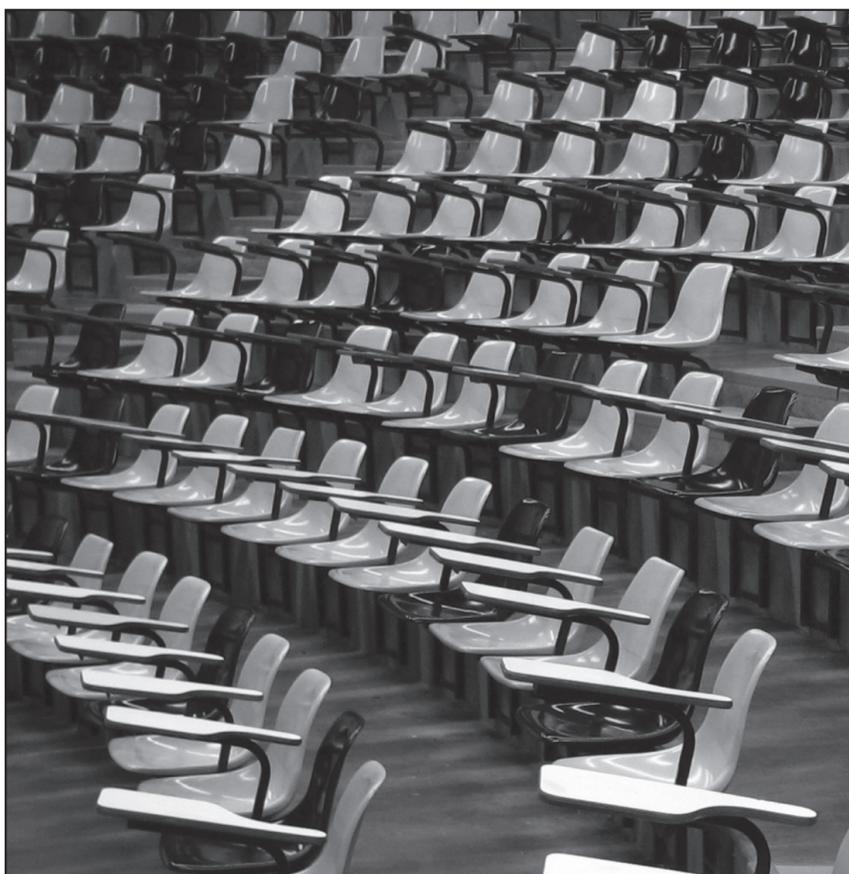
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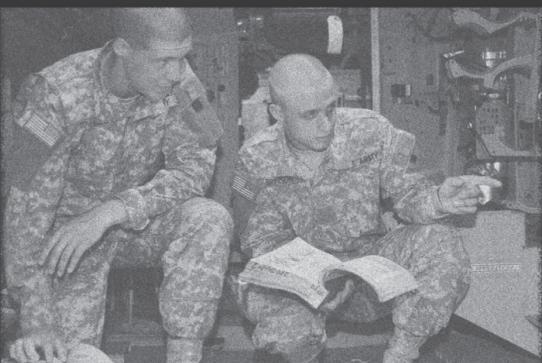
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery."
— Harold Wilson

THE SKIFF VIEW

SGA budget shifts in the right direction

The Student Government Association didn't pass the budget for the first time in years last week.

SGA is trying to reduce the amount of student money going to the Activities Funding Board.

The AFB provides funding for student organizations all over campus, and last year, AFB received about \$76,000 in student money.

SGA is trying to steer about \$16,500 of that \$76,000 budget to Programming Council next year, though.

Critics of AFB's current budget say the organizations record-keeping practices are lax.

Without diligent record-keeping, nobody knows exactly where student money is going except for those spending it.

PC's record keeping practices are established and consistent. And, as an organization, PC is more accountable to the interests of the entire student body

than any single organization.

Individual organizations certainly benefit the entire campus in many ways. However, PC's programming is designed to benefit the entire student body.

SGA is on the right track with the decision, but it should also be commended for getting the budget in with enough time to actually make the decision.

In the past, the budget has often been submitted with just enough time to pass it before the last allowable date, and SGA has essentially been railroaded into passing the budget.

This year, the budget was submitted March 27. The last date to submit it was April 10.

Hopefully, SGA will use this extra time to better spend student money. Obviously, it's trying and is clearly on the right track with the \$16,500 shift from AFB to PC.

News editor Andrew Chavez for the editorial board.

BY BRENDAN KIEFER



Porn industry needs more regulation **Fad popularity rises for organic food**

There is an industry out there that can always make itself known to consumers.

One can have access to its products at home, at work

or even at school. Most of the time, its products are received online.

What is this industry?

It is the Adult Entertainment Industry, and its main product is pornography.

Whether a consumer chooses to view porn is a personal choice; others come across it accidentally. In order to control this issue, Stuart Lawley, chairman and president of the ICM Registry, came up with an idea to add a ".xxx" suffix to Web site addresses so pornographic sites could easily be recognized. This idea, however, was rejected by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. Hopefully, the corporation will reconsider for the safety of consumers.

The newly added suffix promotes safety of not only the consumer, but also the adult entertainment companies, and most importantly, the safety of children. Often, people happen upon pornographic sites accidentally through e-mails, search engines or even Internet pop-ups.

According to Family Safe Media, which collected information from places like Google, PBS and MSNBC, about 90 percent of children from the ages of 8 to 16 have been exposed to pornography. Most of this exposure

occurs when researching for homework. The new suffix allows for an easier way to block Web sites that contain adult content, thus keeping it out of children's reach.

While one would expect that would blow the adult entertainment industry's \$2.5 billion revenue from the Internet, the idea also supports and respects adult entertainment as an industry. In order to acquire a ".xxx" suffix, entertainment providers would have to meet requirements such as securing customer privacy, making sure they do not promote child pornography and avoiding using spam. Most Web sites not of an X-rated nature also supply strict privacy policies, so there is not much of a change.

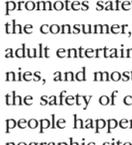
According to the ICM Registry, in return for following the rules, "The best business practices incorporated into the .xxx registration agreement will bring a greater degree of confidence and certainty not (the consumer's) experience." ICM Registry also said this will then provide a certain

consumer-industry trust that will bring a steadier revenue and less complaints about the irresponsibility of the industry.

It seems as though everyone wins in this situation. The unwilling consumers win by being able to block that suffix so they do not have to view it. The adult entertainment industry will be a more responsible industry that will gain a bit of esteem because of the respect they show to the consumers of their content. Children can have the opportunity to never be exposed to the adult entertainment industry either by their computers or by the exploitation of their bodies.

The adult entertainment industry pulls in more revenue than professional basketball, football and baseball combined. For those who would rather use their computers to check ESPN for sports news and scores instead of watching people score of a different kind, the ".xxx" suffix would be very useful.

Hayley Freeman is a freshman English major from Fort Worth. Her column appears Wednesdays.



Hayley Freeman

Organic food sales are up an estimated 15 to 21 percent from last year. Typically, organic food costs up to 30 percent

more than produce in a regular produce section.

People seem to be more concerned about the

types of food they are putting in their bodies, but is it because they really care or because it's what the mainstream person is doing?

Most everyone strives for the "Hollywood" body — tanned, toned and thin. We do this by dieting or even succumbing to eating disorders.

If it is not worth starving yourself to look like a celebrity, why is it worth it to spend 30 percent more on your groceries just because the famous are?

Eating organic foods reduces the risk of eating pesticides and chemicals that nonorganic foods usually have, but it has not been proven that it improves health, said Dr. Emily Senay, on the Early Morning Show on April 2.

If it doesn't improve health, it must make people feel better about themselves or they wouldn't spend the extra buck, right?

Probably not. Many people are falling into the trap thinking that what they eat makes them a certain type of person that somehow feeds their ideas that they are better than they were before they began eating organic food.

The USDA does not offer any suggestion or opinion on whether organic food is better or healthier than nonorganic food. It simply states that the regulations have been met to consider certain food to be organic.

Many people work hard to get their peers out of the mindset that they have to do what "everyone else is doing" in order to fit in. Educators, doctors and even parents struggle daily with this issue.

Whether we eat organic food could be the next problem we encounter. Those who have the extra dollar to buy organic foods usually do, but why?

They do so because "everyone else is doing it." If people see someone eating organic food on campus, they think

to themselves, "Now that person has a healthy lifestyle."

They have made a judgment about that person based on what the person is eating. They do not know if that person exercises or if he or she eats greasy hamburgers for lunch. All they see is that he is having a "healthy" snack.

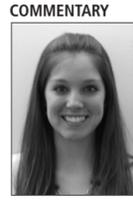
Is it now an option to go eat a brownie? More than likely not. People will go to the grocery store, down the snack aisle and only select food that says "organic" across the front.

People have succumbed to the mainstream.

Instead, we need to realize that everyone is made unique and for a certain purpose. In the end, it does not matter whether we eat organic food while we are in college.

We need to own up to ourselves. If we don't want to eat organic food, then we shouldn't spend the extra money to impress others. It is not our place to impress worldly ideals. Our lives are much bigger than that.

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



Marissa Warmis



SKC.HU

CORRECTION

In a March 30 column titled, "Coal cheaper option, too harmful," the statement that Dallas Mayor Laura Miller and Houston Mayor Bill White object to the new proposed coal-fired plant along with 15 other mayors and about one-third of all Texans

is false. The Coalition of Mayors, which was formed by mayors Miller and White, includes 36 cities, counties and school districts in Texas, said Meranda Carter Cohn, public information manager/acting chief of staff for Dallas, Office of the Mayor.

Summer movie selection lacks originality, full of sequels

There you are, sitting in your favorite theater with a group of friends. As the previews begin to grace the screen, you get a feeling that

you've seen these movies before.

Déjà vu? Nope.

You really have seen all of these movies once, maybe even twice. As previews for this summer's anticipated blockbusters begin rolling into theaters, one has to ask, "Where has all of the originality gone?"

Over the weekend, I went to see "Blades of Glory." I

don't know what was more surprising, the fact that I actually liked a figure skating movie or that five of the six movies previewed before the film were the final episodes of a trilogy. That's right: "Spiderman 3," "Ocean's Thirteen," "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," "Shrek the Third" and "The Bourne Ultimatum."

In fact, the only original movie trailer that I saw was for "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," an Adam Sandler/Kevin James film where the two star as heterosexual firefighters posing as a gay couple to qualify for the NYPD's domestic partner benefits.

Oh, wow, a movie full of

gay jokes? Slightly homophobic men caught in homosexually suggestive situations? I feel like I've seen that somewhere before. Oh yeah, for reference, see every comedy made in the last 25 years.

How could we ever live with just one installment of that brilliantly crafted series? Not to worry. If the movie succeeds, I'm sure that the studio will follow the original with two inspired sequels: "Chuck and Larry: My Big Fat Gay Wedding" and "Chuck and Larry go to San Francisco."

Sequels are the bane of any moviegoer's existence. All that these follow-up movies do is capitalize on the success of a previous

film, sans the good writing and inspired acting.

Seriously, how many original movies do you think have pre-written sequels these days? Hmmm, I'd guess about zero. It's all about the cash. If someone made a movie about a bunch of crack-addicted orangutans running an ice cream shop in Queens, do you think that they would bother penning a sequel? Probably not. But, if said film made a killing at the box office despite its utterly idiotic premise, you can bet that those chimps would return to the big screen for another wacky misadventure. Maybe something involving snowboarding and an evil genius hell-bent on destroy-

ing the Sun?

Even today's "original" movies often consist of quasi-stolen plots or similar styles. For example, consider "Surf's Up," another in a long line of animated animal movies. The movie, slated for June release, chronicles a surfing contest featuring a bunch of computer generated penguins and chickens. Do you think this movie would have ever been made without the success of "Finding Nemo" or "Madagascar"?

Seriously, "Surf's Up" seems to be the end result of "Happy Feet" (that penguin movie) and "Chicken Run" having a baby, except "Chicken Run" had been popping pills for the length

of the pregnancy. Do you think this movie was made to be an original experience? No, it was made to draw in the wallets of "Default Animal Movie" fans.

While this summer's movie slate seems to be nothing more than a slew of sequels and stolen concepts, take heart. There will be an utterly original and awe-inspiring nugget of cinema in there somewhere. Better enjoy it while it lasts because, as soon as the opening weekend's box office returns come in, someone's going to start penning a sequel.

David Hall is a freshman news-editorial journalism major from Kingwood. His column appears Wednesdays.

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ON THE DOWN LOW

Is the recording industry targeting students for illegal downloading?
TOMORROW

Reviews *of the* Week

MUSIC

Kings of Leon album appealing to rock music fans

By MATT MABE
 Staff Writer

On Kings of Leon's new album, "Because of the Times," the band takes lots of risks and stretches their sound into a new universe.

The band's first album, "Youth and Young Manhood," released in 2003, sounded like a band of kids playing in your living room.

On "Aha Shake Heartbreak," released in 2005, the band's sound was a little more refined. Singer/guitarist Caleb Folowill's lyrics and hound-dog singing

voice made fans out of girls everywhere, and it was one of the best party-rock records ever.

But "Because of the Times" catches the band in a place where they've achieved major success all over the world (especially in the UK). They've toured with legends like Pearl Jam, U2 and Bob Dylan, and Kings of Leon's new album demonstrates how these major artists and bands have influenced them over the past year and a half.

The record shows the Kings now better than ever, with more intricate songwriting and sounding like they're playing in a huge empty stadium.

The opening track, "Knocked Up," clocks in at over seven minutes and has an airy aroma of U2 about it with guitarist Matthew Folowill's chiming, heavily reverbed guitar work.

"Charmer" has a strong Pixies taste to it, with crunchy distorted bass courtesy of bassist Jared Folowill (yes, everyone in the

band is family) and a repeated shrieking howl by Caleb.

"Fans" is a punchy, toe-tapping track in which Caleb thanks the UK fans that have loved them and embraced them from the start in which he sings, "Oh the London scene, / Cause England's Queen makes you love the tales I breathe, / And those rainy days they ain't so bad when you're the King."

"Because of the Times" closes with the epic "Arizona." Like the album's opener, "Arizona" is a very airy song that just floats through your stereo. Caleb's lyrics on this track are probably the album's best in which he sings, "She waits, / Thinkin' that it's sexy, / She must be plumb crazy, / I kinda think I like her."

If you're a fan of rock music, "Because of the Times" is definitely something you should not miss out on. The Kings are out on tour now in support of the record, and you can see them in Dallas May 13 at the House of Blues.

★★★★★



RCA RECORDS

TV

'Sopranos' episodes building up to big ending

By DAVID BIANCULLI
 New York Daily News

We wait nine months for an original episode of "The Sopranos," and when the show finally returns, the highlight of the opening hour is watching Tony Soprano play Monopoly? Well, yes.

It's a great scene — showcasing Tony (James Gandolfini) and his wife, Carmela (Edie Falco), sister Janice (Aida Turturro) and brother-in-law Bobby (Steven R. Schirripa) in all their inebriated, uninhibited, unstable glory, as Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" plays on their stereo.

It also propels the plot and helps establish the themes for the show's final nine climactic installments: family, legacy, mortality, resentment and revenge.

Still, even the most fervent and forgiving fans of the HBO series (and I count myself among them) have to start looking at the clock and stop excusing every scene as merely a foundation for the Big Ending.

After last year's season of simmering, this mixture has to boil — fast.

The first two hours of this final cycle are good — alternately funny, dramatic, poignant and surprising — but they're all mostly tease. At this point, "The Sopranos" can't afford to play too many games. It should go directly to the big showdowns — do not pass go, do not collect \$200.

Tuesday night at a preview party at Radio City Music Hall, HBO unveiled the first two episodes (on HBO, the first new episode arrives April 8 at 9 p.m. EDT). The same two — a smaller number than usual — were sent to critics, suggesting that major fireworks, too incendiary to reveal, are just around the corner.

They better be. The first two episodes show Tony and his New York counterpart, the incarcerated Johnny Sack (Vincent Curatola), both contemplating their own mortality, and

Sack's loyal lieutenant, crusty Phil Leotardo (Frank Vincent), turning 66 and confiding to Tony, "Being a boss is a young man's game."

But the game is almost up, and "The Sopranos" is finishing by giving almost everyone around Tony — the FBI, the New York mob, even some of his own cronies — a reason to target him or his loved ones.

At this point, series creator David Chase can go only so many ways with this story. Tony dies, Tony goes into the witness protection program, or one of Tony's dearest family members is either killed or

drawn into the illegal activities Tony himself is weary of running.

If Chase chooses the right path, all's well that ends well. But if "The Sopranos" ends without a savory sense of closure — like one more Russian stranded up a tree — then Chase will have stranded the viewers, too.

For now, I still love being on the ride as "The Sopranos" winds down. But this novel for TV can't be judged completely until the final chapter. In this case, it's not just the journey that counts. It's the destination.



James Gandolfini plays Tony Soprano on "The Sopranos."

MCT CAMPUS

MOVIE



Will Ferrell (left) and Jon Heder star in the new Paramount Pictures film "Blades of Glory."

'Blades of Glory' a must-see slapstick

By SUSAN GILMARTIN
 Staff Reporter

Think of a typical Will Ferrell movie, complete with a straight male-figure skating duo, and you have "Blades of Glory." I found the movie hilarious, but, when it was over, I did not leave wanting more. It is another one of those stupid humor, quotable films, complete with child prodigies, drunken skaters and death-defying tricks on the ice.

Chazz Michael Michaels, played by Ferrell ("Anchorman"), and Jimmy MacElroy, played by Jon Heder ("Napoleon Dynamite"), are banned from figure skating after an all-out brawl at the awards presentation of the world championships. Chazz and Jimmy were com-

peting against each other and tied for the gold medal.

Both continue their lives with dead-end jobs and, three and a half years later, Jimmy's stalker finds a way around the rule book that allows Chazz and Jimmy to skate once again.

The only thing is that they must compete together in the pairs division.

The two had to face their rivals Stranz and Fairchild Van Waldenberg, Will Arnett (NBC's "The Office") and Amy Poehler (NBC's "Saturday Night Live"), an obnoxious brother-sister duo.

For those who are figure skating fans, there are quite a few cameos, including Scott Hamilton, Brian Boitano, Dorothy Hamill, Peggy Fleming and Nancy Kerrigan.

"Blades of Glory" was light and fun to watch and keeps you laughing the entire time. It should be added to the list of quotable films, as are most of Ferrell's movies.

Heder's role was much more effeminate than his role in "Napoleon Dynamite." Although he played a straight character, when paired together with Ferrell, their coach, played by Craig T. Nelson ("The District") said, "You're the girl." This meant Heder would be the skater that was lifted during the routines.

I was a little distracted at some of the poor special effects with the skating routines, but there was not much expected from a comedy.

It is a must-see if you enjoy slapstick humor and Will Ferrell in spandex.



PARAMOUNT PICTURES

★★★★★

MOVIE

'The Lookout' shows talent, quality

By SAM ORTIZ
 Staff Writer

"He who has the money has the power!" screams Chris Pratt, a former high school hockey star handicapped in a tragic car accident.

The film "The Lookout" plays out the story of his unlikely alliance with a crack team of determined bank robbers when his promising career on ice is suddenly cut short. The former athlete goes to work as a janitor in a local bank, but cleaning floors soon gives way to criminal enterprise when he is recruited to help clean out the very bank that employs him.

The prime ingredient that screenwriter and first-time director Scott Frank ("Minority Report") did not fail to include was a cast of breathtaking and talented actors. Veteran actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt ("Brick") portrays lead character Pratt in stunning perfection. His ability to become his character in each and every scene was rather outstanding, though his past success definitely preceded him. Frank wrote an emotionally diverse and difficult character to portray, but Levitt pulled it off, managing to show the roller coaster of pain and desolation in which Pratt lived. As usual, Jeff Daniels ("Good Night and Good Luck") also delivered a great performance as Pratt's live-in roommate and close pal Lewis.

Since Daniels and Levitt always give great performances, the big surprises of the film came from Matthew Goode ("Match Point") and Isla Fisher ("Wedding Crashers"). It was refreshing to see Goode rely on a feature besides his charming good looks to pull through a scene and to see him play a completely different character than his usual choices. Goode shined brightly as the film's antagonist Gary and proved himself as more than just that "cute British guy." The audience was most taken aback to see Fisher play a sane woman, as opposed to her "Wedding Crashers" character. (I don't think we will ever forget that one). "The Lookout" was a great choice for her and an even better choice since she did well. So if you need a

reason to see this film, it is mainly to see a cast of talented, yet extremely underrated, artists perfect their craft.

In addition to the phenomenal acting, the film itself was put together well. Besides the fact that Pratt's condition was similar to "Memento," it was completely different from a lot of movies made these days. The cinematography was edgy and edited very well, and that's not discounting the precise sound editing. But perhaps the best technical quality was the script itself.

Frank has a history for writing some of the better screenplays in Hollywood and this is one of them for sure. The dialogue flows naturally and still manages to be beautifully written, which is extremely rare.

If you don't go see this movie, you are missing out because not only is it a technical marvel, but it is entertaining. There isn't a moment when you want to get up to go to the bathroom because the film manages to mesmerize each and every person. During Easter weekend, make it a point to go and keep your eyes glued directly to the screen.

★★★★★



Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars in the new Miramax film, "The Lookout."

MIRAMAX FILMS



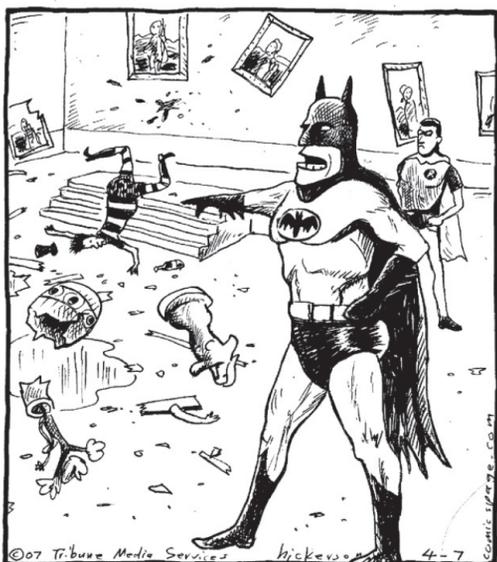
TODAY IN HISTORY
1776: After the successful siege of Boston, General George Washington begins marching his soldiers from their headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., toward New York in anticipation of a British invasion.

WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE

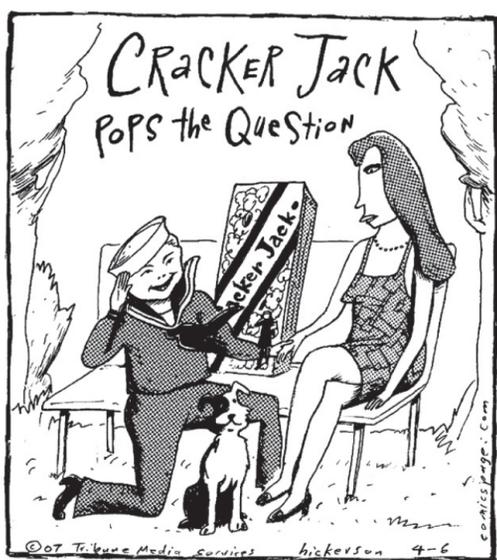
Q: What kind of animal cleans the sea?
A: A mermaid.

The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson



"Just look at this mess, Robin! It could only be the work of one man ... and there he is now: The Bungler!"



"I realize I'm no prize, Dolores, but I can offer you all the candy-coated popcorn and peanuts you want."

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

Directions

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

See Thursday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

Tuesday's Solutions

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

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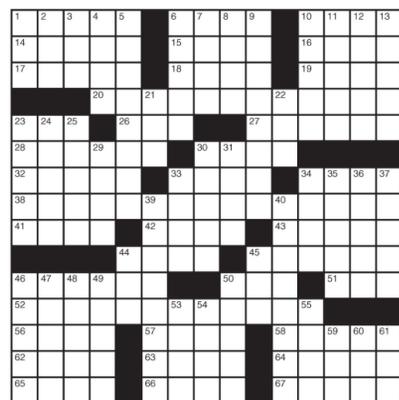
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ACROSS

- 1 Lord's domicile
- 6 Strike with an open hand
- 10 PC junk mail
- 14 Soap substitute
- 15 Devil's domain
- 16 Irwin of golf
- 17 Closet type
- 18 Verdi heroine
- 19 Saharan
- 20 Davis with Lolotrigida
- 23 Spanish queen
- 26 Wow!
- 27 Graduation souvenir
- 28 Meaningful gesture
- 30 Jack of talk shows
- 32 Prim and proper
- 33 Caron title role
- 34 Maglie and Mineo
- 38 Idle with LaSalle with Estrada



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

4/4/07

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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- 7 Han Solo's love
- 8 Actor Alan
- 9 Banana's cousin
- 10 Some area rugs
- 11 European capital
- 12 Dress style
- 13 Olympian's quest
- 21 Moray
- 22 Patriotic org.
- 23 German industrial city
- 24 Funny-car fuel
- 25 Once more targets
- 29 Pleasant former husbands
- 30 Feeling of wounded pride
- 31 Jai
- 33 Lo-cal
- 34 Medicinal fluids
- 35 Saudis
- 36 Strong cotton thread
- 37 Sport with clay targets
- 39 Scientific investigation

DOWN

- 1 de mer
- 2 French friend
- 3 Nice no
- 4 Designer Cassini
- 5 Outlaw
- 6 Alan Ladd film

- 40 Set off, in a way
- 44 Bar rocks
- 45 Fr. holy woman
- 46 Exploratory vessel
- 47 Take it easy
- 48 Actress MacDowell
- 49 Prepares to lay eggs
- 50 Welcome
- 53 Nick's missis
- 54 Affair of honor
- 55 Holy cow!
- 59 The Greatest
- 60 Kettle
- 61 USNA grad

See Thursday's paper for answers to today's crossword.

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SPRING INTO ACTION

See how the Horned Frogs football team is looking this spring as it prepares for the fall season.
THURSDAY

Students partake in powerlifting sport for fun, competition

By TIM BELLA
 Staff Reporter

In sports, when people go against the grain of what other people are doing usually will, more often than not, attract attention from their peers.

On any given day in the weight room of the University Recreation Center, people will find a trio of students doing just that through a practice called powerlifting.

While it should not be confused for a sport more aesthetically pleasing such as bodybuilding, powerlifter Chris Smith said he enjoys powerlift-

ing because a lot of people aren't doing it, and it can also be intimidating to other weight room patrons.

"This stuff is so unconventional that we scare people out of the gym," said Smith, a senior criminal justice major. "It's not like doing curls in the mirror."

Joining Smith are Travis Bailey and Joe Holland, who is considered the man behind the trio's powerlifting madness.

Holland, a senior chemistry major, took up powerlifting just a couple of years ago as a way to fill the void left by high school athletics.

The group's lifting is based off a structured plan called the Westside Plan structured by renowned trainer Louie Simmons, who is considered to be a revolutionary for the advances he has done for the sport.

Simmons' Westside Plan is an intense program known for its unorthodox use of boards and chains among other things during the course of a lifting practice session.

Holland said anyone thinking about getting into powerlifting should think long and hard before putting themselves through the regimen to which powerlifters subject themselves.

"If you're looking for a fun recreational sport, this is not the sport for you," Holland said.

Still not convinced? Then look

no further than this past weekend's 2007 Texas State American Powerlifting Federation Championship at the Hilton Hotel Westchase in Houston.

Holland, competing in the 275-pound weight division, topped out at 705 pounds on the deadlift, while Smith maxed out at 550 pounds in the 242-pound weight division.

Although Bailey, a junior entrepreneurial management major, did not participate at the competition, he did serve as a handler during both Holland's and Smith's lifts.

The numbers may speak for themselves, but what isn't seen on the outside is the 6,000-calorie per day intake that the three lifters put in their bodies on an average day.

Of course, when talking



COURTESY OF Joe Holland
 Senior Joe Holland practices a deadlift before competing at the 2007 Texas State American Powerlifting Federation Championship.



COURTESY OF Joe Holland
 Senior Joe Holland attempts to squat during a powerlifting competition Saturday. Holland's max squat lift during the competition was 705 pounds.

2007 TEXAS STATE POWERLIFTING FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Holland's Lifts

- First attempt: 620 lbs (successful lift)
- Second attempt: 705 lbs (successful lift)
- Third attempt: 715 lbs (unsuccessful lift)

Smith's Lifts

- First attempt: 480 lbs (successful lift)
- Second attempt: 550 lbs (successful lift)
- Third attempt: 575 lbs (unsuccessful lift)

about competitive powerlifting, the topic of performance-enhancing drugs is bound to come up in conversation.

With the APF being a lifting federation that does not perform drug tests on registered lifters, Holland said the issue of whether to use illegal performance-enhancing drugs is a personal choice for lifters.

And, for this powerlifting crew, they enhance themselves legally through a steady diet of protein, vitamins and fish oil while continuing a strenuous workout regimen.

"If you want to go where the

best (lifters) are, you have to go where people make sacrifices," Holland said.

Although the daily grind in the gym may not always be glamorous, these three lifters said they always enjoy what they are doing together.

"It's not fun all the time," Bailey said. "Most people wouldn't think it is fun, but we get a lot of enjoyment out of it."

And, after every competitions, they are not simply powerlifters, they are friends.

"Afterward, there's a lot of beer drunk and stories told," Holland said.

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