## TCU SKIFF EST. 1902

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The Skiff previews the 2008 Horned Frog football season. Special section

#### CORRECTIONS

Michael Phelps' name was misspelled on the front page of Wednesday's newspaper.

In a photo on the front page of Wednesday's paper, students were playing roulette. The game was misidentified in the photo caption.

**BEST SELLING VIDEO GAMES OF 2008** (millions)

1	Grand Theft Auto IV	\$6.3
2	Super Smash Bros. Brawl	\$5.4
3	Mario Kart Wii	\$4.7
4	Wii Fit	\$3.6
5	Guitar Hero III	\$3.5



COMING WEDNESDAY





Residential Services pilots free



Students voice their opinions about the new dining hall.

## Fraternity booted from chapter house

By Victoria Maranan Staff Reporter

lost its charter and been kicked out of its house, a university official said.

Josh Schutts, coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life and IFC adviser, said the decision was made by the national orgasummer.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student TCU's Phi Kappa Sigma chapter has affairs, said the decision had been considered for more than a year. He also said the fraternity was penalized for "misconduct," but declined to elaborate.

> Hamilton Smith, executive director of the Phi Kappa Sigma International Fra-

nization in conjunction with TCU this ternity, declined to comment about the value chain management major and the situation.

Schutts said past events influenced this decision but declined to specify what these events were.

"There are some issues from the past involving mostly risk management," he

Gerald Ewbanks, a senior supply and

president of Phi Kappa Sigma, said there were certain events in the past year and the fraternity tried to "straighten things out." He declined to discuss details.

Craig Allen, director of Residential Services, confirmed that the Phi Kappa Sig-

SEE PHI KAPPS · PAGE 2

## WORK IT OUT



Chancellor undecided on alcohol age change

Other college leaders disagree

By Mischa Astroff Staff Reporter

University officials from some of the nation's best-known colleges are pushing for lawmakers to consider lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18, but the chancellor said he is unsure of his stance on the issue.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said he is weighing both sides and has yet to make a decision.

However, Boschini said the university will abide by state and local laws regarding alcohol consumption.

The Amethyst Initiative is a movement that began in July with members of the Annapolis Group, a group of about 120 liberal arts colleges that agreed the drinking age in America was not an effective means to promote responsible drinking habits.

According to the Amethyst Initiative's

weekend? Let the Skiff help you pick. Features, page 8

#### **PECULIAR FACT**

DARWIN, Australia - An Indian woman gave birth to a healthy boy aboard a jet airliner while flying to Australia to reunite with her husband.

— Associated Press



Get ready for your fantasy football season with some draft tips Sports, page 12

#### **WEATHER**

Today: Partly Cloudy 98 / 74 Tomorrow: Partly Cloudy 95/74 Sunday: Isolated T-Storms 95 / 73

#### **CONTACT US**

Send your questions, complaints and hot tips to the Skiff.

news@dailyskiff.com



AUSTIN BOWLER / Staff Photographer Participants in the Center for Healthy Aging exercise program stay healthy in a class at the University Recreation Center. The program is sponsored by the nursing and kinesiology departments.

## Elderly stay active in special rec class

By Jackie Rodriguez Staff Reporter

Recreation Center.

Former TCU staff member Roberta

Corder has found her way back to TCU

through the doors of the University

Sporting a pink T-shirt and gray leg-

a workout session.

"It's good for me," Corder said, holding a large exercise ball. "Otherwise, I get lazy and stay in bed."

Corder is a participant in a new exercise program for older adults developed by the Center for Healthy Aging, within the Harris School of Nursing gings, Corder, 68, was all smiles after and Health Sciences, in partnership

with the kinesiology and nursing departments.

Linda Curry, executive director of the Center for Healthy Aging, said the primary goal of the program is to offer resources for older adults.

"Older workers are not retiring, and

SEE SENIORS · PAGE 2

## Shakespeare festival to debut June 2009

By Chelsea Smith Staff Reporter

For the TCU theatre department, summer without Shakespeare just didn't seem sweet.

"A community that is as rich in culture and fine arts as Fort Worth, it needs to have a professional Shakespeare company," said Harry Parker, theatre department chair. "It's really a dearth."

Parker and associate theatre professor T. J. Walsh hope to help fill that void with the June 2009 debut of the Trinity Shakespeare Festival at TCU.

"Our goal is to do Shakespeare professionally, and do it well," said Walsh, the project's artistic director. "If we do that, this festival can last a long, long time.'

Allied Theatre Group at Stage West brought the Bard to local audiences ev- meeting our expenses."

ery summer via the city's Shakespeare in the Park program. However, the 25year-old series folded before the 2002 season due to a lack of public funding, the group's spokesman Jerry Russell wrote in an e-mail.

This latest take on the Shakespeare summer program is made possible by a grant from the university's Vision in Action fund, which allocates money to programs that will enhance TCU's academic profile. Walsh said the university will provide a total of \$272,000 to cover production costs during the festival's first and second year.

'The festival wouldn't happen if we hadn't secured the grant," said Parker, who will act as the event's managing director. "If we sold every ticket possible for every performance in the summer of 2009, it wouldn't even come close to

Parker said money from the grant will cover the price tag of hiring professional actors, directors and designers to work alongside TCU theatre students in producing two of Shakespeare's most popular plays, "Romeo and Juliet" and Twelfth Night." The actors will perform the shows in repertory, meaning the same cast will perform in both shows on alternating nights. Saturdays will feature a matinee and an evening show, so theatergoers have the option of seeing both shows in one day. Tickets are expected to sell for about \$20.

Anticipation is already building for the festival's debut.

"People kept asking us when the Shakespeare festival was going to come back," Walsh said. "It's tradition. He's considered the greatest writer in the English language and he needs to be seen."

Web site, a signatory is responsible for pledging both themselves and their institutions to play an active role in the national discussion on lowering the drinking age.

TCU is not committed to the initiative, however, Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said he is in favor of lowering the drinking age.

"I think lowering the drinking age

SEE ALCOHOL · PAGE 2

### Library to run 24 hours a day as of next week

#### By Kimmy Daycock

Staff Reporter

Beginning Tuesday, the Mary Couts Burnett Library will be open 24 hours a day for five days a week.

June Koelker, dean of the library, said because of the Labor Day holiday, the library will open at 7 a.m. Tuesday morning and will stay

been a

three-year

effort from

open continuously until Friday night "It's really at 8 p.m. Normally, the

library will open Sunday at noon and stay open continuously until student Friday at 8 p.m.

Koelker said Saturday the hours of 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. will go unchanged.

"This has come about because a group of students identified that the library's hours were not sufficient for their academ-

government and from student leaders on campus to try to get 24hour access."

**Thomas Pressly** SGA president ic needs," Koelker

In March 2007, INTERCOM, a group of student leaders from organizations, such as the Student Government Association, Panhellenic Council and the Residence Hall Associa-

said.

#### ALCOHOL continued from page 1

**NEWS** 

would be beneficial to the TCU campus," Mills said. "A school would be more in its place to educate about responsible legal drinking rather than policing illegal underage drinking."

thoughts about the Amethyst have to hide their drinking." Initiative.

"The sooner we allow teens to drink, the more alcohol will become a common commodity and less of a luxury," sophomore music performance major Brandon Polson said. "Teens would be less

professor of kinesiology, specifi-

cally researched the impact of re-

sistance training on older wom-

for Healthy Aging Research Com-

mittee, said many of the women

she studied noted an increased

ability to perform daily tasks af-

ter exercising. Phillips said among

the participants was a woman who

went to the salon three times a

hair herself, which changed after

lon when she wanted to," Phillips

said. "That was because she now

has the ability to hold her arms

above her head for a longer period

After Phillip's original research

she began exercising.

of time."

the changes.

week because she couldn't do her

"She only went to the beauty sa-

Phillips, a member of the Center

Students expressed mixed likely to binge drink if they didn't

Some students, however, don't agree starting to drink at a younger age is the best decision.

start drinking at 18," junior edu- Hopkins University and Dartcation major Darius Yaites said. mouth College.

pressed interest in continuing with

the exercise program. Participants

from the original program and

newcomers now meet on a weekly

gram's instructor, said she uses a

variety of techniques to engage

participants, including playing

"They are so dedicated," she

Participants in the exercise

program must be at least 60 years

old and are required to be cleared

by their doctor before enrolling,

which costs \$200 per semester.

The enrollment fee is \$120 for

participants who are already mem-

Center. Only 20 participants are

music from their generation.

Cynthia Bird, the exercise pro-

basis at the rec center, she said.

"I've been able to wait until I'm 21 without alcohol and I think it's for the best that the legal drinking age stays at 21."

There are 129 signatories of the Amethyst Initiative which "I don't think it's necessary to include Duke University, Johns

project ended, participants exallowed per semester.

Under the Center for Healthy Aging, the Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences created a new interdisciplinary healthy aging minor. The minor requires students to take Sociology of Aging, Interdisciplinary Approaches to Healthy Aging and a directed studies course. In addition to these courses, students must take nine hours of classes within the departments.

Like the exercise program, the goal of the minor is to improve the quality of life for older adults, Curry said.

"We need to recognize that the majority of people visiting the hospital are older. That's what bers of the University Recreation makes this minor so important," Curry said.

the fraternity also lost the privi- he said. "But it's a colony now as

not active in its national organi-The Phi Kappa Sigmas expect

In the meantime, they will have

late-night hours.

eficial because it will give students the opportunity to study more and improve their grades," said junior radio-TV-film major Caroline

## **Enrollment up at Energy Institute**

#### By Krystal Upshaw Staff Reporter

A rising demand for land professionals has caused enrollment in TCU's petroleum land practices program to double since last fall, a Neeley School of Business official said.

Marcia Ivey, assistant director of executive development at the Tandy Center for Executive Leadership, said the program was prompted by interest in the Barnett Shale, a large natural gas reserve encompassing more than 5,000 square miles and covering at least 17 counties in North Texas.

"We realized there was a need for people to be trained in the area of land practices, and we wanted to try and meet that market need by giving this program," Ivey said.

The nondegree certificate program, created by the TCU Energy Institute in partnership with the Neeley School, debuted last fall with 15 students, and so far 30 people have enrolled for this fall, Ivey said.

John Baum, director of the program, said the program's curriculum targets students who already have undergraduate degrees in an energyrelated field or people with extensive experience in the energy industry.

'We like to have people with degrees, but it doesn't have to be in geology," Baum said.

There are 40 seats in the fall class, Baum said.

Ken Morgan, director of the TCU Energy Institute, said he expects the class to reach full enrollment.

training because the state of Texas has doesn't have any requirements or tests for being a land professional. We hope that our PLP experience will help land professionals meet state requirements should that ever be mandated," Morgan said.

The 55-hour program touches vital fundamentals in the energy industry such as technical, legal and ethical issues that affect land professionals. The program also requires a field trip to a gas drilling site and the Tarrant County Courthouse, which Morgan said will help students have a better understanding of the responsibilities and activities of land professionals.

Baum and Morgan teach courses in the program along with other faculty members, including Provost Nowell Donovan.

Baum said the program does not guarantee a job upon completion, but it does work with graduates to help them find employment.

'We are finding that people are having good luck finding jobs," Baum said.

The Energy Institute and the Neeley School also offer customized programs for energy companies such as Holland Acquisitions, a land management company based in Fort Worth, which participated in the customized program.

"We meet with the company to discuss the goals they have for the knowledge of their employees, then we show them our existing curriculum and we ask them for ways that they would like for it to be altered, and we work with each instructor to make "There's a great need for the sure it happens," Ivey said.

### SENIORS

continued from page 1

they don't have to," Curry said. "Exercise and engagement with others keeps people young."

According to 2000 U.S. Census Bureau, seniors — adults age 65 and up — make up 9.6 percent of Fort Worth's population.

Carol Pope, adviser for the Center for Healthy Aging and associate professor of kinesiology, said the exercise program focuses on activities that improve balance, strength, flexibility, endurance and cardiovascular health. Pope said she became interested in developing an exercise program after learning of research conducted by another kinesiology professor.

Melody Phillips, an assistant

#### PHI KAPPS continued from page 1

ma's dormitory in Martin Moore Hall, did not stay empty. "The fraternity is not there [any-

more] so there are other students living there," Allen said.

Ewbanks sent a letter to the TCU Greek community Thursday morning assuring it that the fraternity would still participate in Greek activities regardless of

#### LIBRARY continued from page 1

tion, proposed an extension of library hours to the Board of Trustees.

Thomas Pressly, SGA president, said 24-hour access to the library was needed to accommodate the growing residential community on campus.

"It's really been a three-year effort

from student government and from student leaders on campus to try to get 24-hour access," he said.

Koelker said security needs for the late-night hours were a concern. After midnight on any of the 24/5 nights, a security guard placed at the front of the library will check to make sure students have their TCU ID cards with them when they come

show their TCU ID cards, they will not be allowed to enter.

As another safety precaution, with the exception of finals week, certain areas of the library will be off limits to students after midnight, Koelker said. The east side of the library where the archives are located will be closed, along with the base-

lege to host social events where alopposed to active." A colony is a fraternity that is zation.

to be chartered again by the next year, Ewbanks said.

to act upon the goals and objectives set by their national organization in order to regain their charter, Schutts said.

"It's still a recognized chapter,"

to the library, she said. If they fail to ment and the media library.

Koelker said food will be available at Bistro Burnett during the

"I think that it will be very ben-Keith.



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## SEPTEMBER 2008

"Phi Kappa Sigma will concohol will be served because they tinue its participation and representation on IFC, compete in are on alcohol probation. However, intramurals, conduct recruitment the probation had nothing to do and engage in philanthropies and with the decision that removed the community service," Ewbanks fraternity from the house, Schutts

said.

wrote, "The only difference besaid. James Parker, the director of Fratween this year and those of the past is our absence in the house ternity and Sorority Life, said the on campus and social probation Phi Kappa Sigmas remain recognized regardless of the changes.

for the fall semester." Besides losing their facilities,

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14 Imagery, Ink Writing Workshop with Helen Jones—4:00 p.m. in the Reading Room	15 The 2009 TCU Academic Calendars are now available	16 TONIGHT @ 6:00 Don't miss Sandra Brown here at TCU Barnes & Noble	17 TONIGHT @ 6:30 Don't miss Bob Schieffer at the Ed Landreth Auditorium	18	19 BRISNGR The Inheritance Cycle #3 By Christopher Paolini RELEASED	20 SMU VS TCU TONIGHT!!! Pick up your BEAT SMU shirt TODAY!!!
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28 <u>Whateverittakes.org</u> Bags designed by your favorite musicians to help support poverty alleviation, environmental conservation and the protection of children, available here at TCU Barnes & Noble.	29 Visit our website at: <u>TCU.bkstore.com</u>	30 New Release: Snowball, By Warren Buffet	At th Bar	e TCU nes & le Cafe		

# OPINION

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#### The Skiff View

## New academic programs enhance curriculum

CU has added a new fancy dining hall and fully renovated, state-of-the art facilities to campus. But that's not all. In addition to the new buildings, more academic programs have been introduced to enhance students' education.

With the university growing at a rapid pace, it's no wonder new programs are being added at the same rate.

The psychology department recently added a child development major. The new program allows psychology majors to specialize in working with children. Jackie Pennings, research coordinator for the TCU Institute of Child Development, said there was a demand in the department for the program.

TCU also added a certificate for international studies and a healthy aging minor. The certificate can be added to any major and is designed for students looking for academic experiences in international communities. The program will increase students' communication skills and allow students to interact in a global stage, which is what TCU is all about. As for the healthy aging minor, students will become more aware of the needs of older adults.

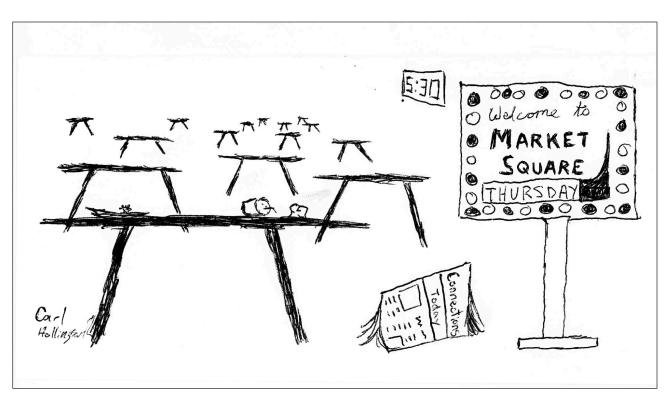
Students need these opportunities, and it is up to the administration to promote them. Well done TCU.

Those working toward adding more variety to career choices should be applauded for constantly taking advantage of new opportunities to campus. Expansion is what the campus needs and wants. For example, the number of students who enrolled in the non-degree petroleum land practices program has doubled since last fall.

The expanding curriculum allows students to broaden their horizons and develop a well-rounded mind.

*Opinion editor Patricia Espinosa for the editorial board* The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.





Carl Hollingsworth is a sophomore political science major from Shawnee, Kan.

## Grad student wishes returnees well

For the last time, and the love of all that is good and holy, yes, I did graduate last year. That was me flopping up on stage, shaking hands with Chancellor Boschini . No, I didn't intoxicate my way into thinking I'm still a senior and, no, I don't have severe separation issues. I'm back for my master's degree, and Career Services tells me a lot of people do it.

Being that this is my victory lap, I have come to appreciate several things about the first day of the school year. This is, after all, my fifth. To fully experience all of these things, you must be up at the crack of dawn with the rest of us overachievers who leave all our prerequisite classes unfinished until the last possible second.

Getting to campus at about 7:45 a.m., I am the first to observe the fashion show leaving the Grand Marc.

I'm really not sure what time you have to get up to look like a model at

8 a.m., nor am I sure how you could muster that level of determination at that asinine hour of the day. However, the fact that you can navigate the construction on campus and walk the full three-quarters of a mile to class in what appears to be four-inchheels should seriously be commended. That's impressive.

After gathering my books, I come to encounter a rare breed indeed the lone freshman. Normally, this species runs around in packs due to the safety in numbers philosophy, which really translates into — if one of us is late, we're all late, and they can't do anything about it. I'm an adult now. But on this still morning, just as the sun is cresting over Dan Rogers Hall and pouring down the sidewalks of east campus, one bug-eyed freshman scampers toward the library, laptop in hand, hoping that his 8 a.m. class was only a figment of his imagination. Little does

he know, he'll still have a three-hour trek around Sid Richardson Building before he'll find Lecture Hall 1. Be strong, little buddy.

Ah, and who is this fine gentleman stumbling down the sidewalk toward the dorms? No doubt, one of our finest scholars coming home from a latenight study session down on Lubbock Avenue wearing only one flip-flop after his buddies threw the other one on the roof trying to get the beer bong down after he threw it up there. What a goof. Word of advice, gentlemen – take it easy. That's pretty much all senior year amounts to; don't give it all before football season even starts.

Yes sir, welcome back to everyone. I hope you all enjoy your time here, because until TCU designs a law degree, I'll have to graduate for real someday soon.

Andrew Wilson is an accounting graduate student from St. Louis.

## Drinking age should remain at 21

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., speaks to a crowd at the Democratic National Convention in Denver August 21.

## Clinton's speech successful in attempt to unite Party

Hillary Clinton's Tuesday night speech at the Democratic National Convention in Denver was as effective as her gaudy, orange pant-suit. It kept my attention, served its purpose and was aesthetically disturbing.

It all began with a stunning video homage to the former first lady's life work followed by a heartfelt introduction by daughter Chelsea Clinton, whom I actually had the opportunity to speak with when she came to campus last semester.

I asked Chelsea Clinton one simple question: If any song could play whenever you entered a room, what would it be? Her answer: "Beautiful Day" by U2. My unspoken answer: Of course you would. To be honest, I was expecting something a little more creative like "Get It Shawty" by Lloyd, but that's what I get for setting high expectations for public figures.

However, at this particular venue, Clinton, with her aggressive one-liners and call for party unity, met the expectations of pundits on cable television.

This address was highly anticipated because of the heated primary race in which Barack Obama emerged as the party's nominee for president. According to a Gallup Poll conducted in March, 28 percent of Clinton supporters claimed they would throw their support behind GOP nominee John McCain if Obama won the primaries. This fear of a party severance has continued to resonate in the weeks leading up to the convention. As predicted, unity was a consistent theme in Clinton's speech.

"The time is now to unite as a single

Hillary Clinton's Tuesday night speech party with a single purpose," Clinton the Democratic National Convention said.

It was particularly nice when all her sad anecdotes about middle-class American struggles were tied to unity. If she wanted a smooth transition from depression to excitement, it was flawlessly executed.

Some of the aesthetic choices in regard to broadcasting on MSNBC were fascinating also. I especially liked when Clinton spoke about helping every child live up to its God-given potential, the camera cut to a grinning Latino boy stolen right out of an orthodontist commercial. It showed the same kid two more times, along with a variety of spectators from different ethnic and age groups. They planned that one out nicely.

Clinton also stepped up to the plate and went on the offense against McCain, a move which until that point had not been made during the convention.

Despite her amusing little quirks, Clinton gracefully achieved what was necessary: she pushed to rid the party of its internal kinks and pointed the arrow at McCain. We will await the Republican response from St. Paul, Minn., next week while the Obama camp capitalizes on momentum garnered from its convention.

As tactful as Clinton's speech was in effort to unite the party, there is still one question I'd like to ask her the next time she's strolling around the campus commons: Is coming in second place really like kissing your sister?

Joey Parr is a senior radio-TV-film and political science major from Fort Worth.

A group of 120 college presidents is pushing to lower the drinking age to 18, in an effort to curb binge drinking on campus. They've got an impressive name, the Amethyst Initiative, named after the ancient Greek words that mean "not intoxicated."

These college leaders hope that a lower drinking age will encourage more responsible drinking. They also think it will cut the excessive, furtive, forbidden thrill of drinking — "pregaming," in kidspeak — before a frat party or other public appearance. But we think these top academics forgot their Econ 101. Legalizing something generally invites more indulgence, not less.

Yes, binge drinking is widespread, entrenched and pernicious. And that is surely frustrating for college officials. But their strategy reeks of surrender.

Kids under age 21 don't drink because it's illegal. And they won't stop drinking if it is legal. Another problem with lowering the drinking age: Surveys — and experience — suggest that making alcohol abundant and available to 18-year-olds also opens the spigot wider for 17- and 16-yearolds and even younger teens.

The current age threshold doesn't stop many underage college students from drinking, But there's evidence that the higher drinking age has curbed some binge drinking. In 1984, when Congress effectively mandated the 21-year-old age limit, 45.4 percent of college students engaged in binge drinking, which is defined as five or more drinks in a row at any point in a two-week period. That's according to Monitoring the Future, which conducts an annual national survey of drug and alcohol use by young people. By 2006, that figure was 40.2 percent. Meanwhile, the percentage of students who reported drinking every day fell by more than a quarter.

Statistics on the effects of the higher drinking age on driving fatalities are even more dramatic. As legal drinking ages have gone up, the number of young people ages 16 to 20 killed in alcohol-related crashes has plummeted by nearly 60 percent — from 5,224 in 1982 to 2,121 in 2006. This



even as the number of young people killed in non-alcohol-related crashes has increased by 34 percent.

Some of that drop is attributed to other factors, including safer cars and increasing seat belt usage — and greater awareness of the perils of drinking and driving. But the trends are known and predictable: When states lowered their drinking ages in the 1970s, alcohol-related crashes involving teens rose. Do the math. Does anyone doubt that putting alcohol in legal reach of 18-year-olds wouldn't instantly result in more accidents and drunken driving deaths?

The argument most often trotted out to defend this proposal is fairness: If an 18-year-old is old enough to fight in a war, he or she should also enjoy the right to drink. That sounds like a compelling rationale. Except it's wrong. Society confers different rights and responsibilities at different ages

— in many places, even a 24-yearold can't rent a car, for instance. The right to join the military and fight at 18 doesn't automatically qualify you for every other right and privilege of adulthood, particularly if experience

and statistics show that it's a bad idea. Those college presidents are right to be alarmed about underage drinking on campus. But we'd rather see them pouring their energies into making sure that authorities enforce local laws against serving or selling to minors. And making sure that residence hall advisers are riding herd, not looking the other way. And pioneering new campaigns to convince college kids that they risk their health, and their lives, with heavy drinking.

Lowering the drinking age would transfer responsibility — and in some cases legal liability — from colleges and their presidents to the immature shoulders of 18-year-olds. That would be lethal and unwise.

> *This editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Wednesday.*

Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. To submit a letter, e-mail it to opinion@dailyskiff.com. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.

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### Prairie dogs said to benefit water supply

#### **By Laura Bauer** McClatchy Newspapers

**NEWS** 

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Jeffrey Harsh admits he would try just about anything to save the prairie dog.

Not content to sit and watch counties and landowners across the plains wipe the land clean of the critters, he wants to do something - plead the case of the prairie dog, if you will.

His recent plea has some wildlife preservationists nodding their heads in agreement but other folks, well, chuckling in their chairs.

The theory — espoused by others over the years — is that by burrowing the land above one of the world's largest underground water supply, prairie dogs loosen the soil and allow rain to seep through and recharge it.

More prairie dogs throughout the plains would mean more rainwater into the depleting Ogallala aquifer, which supplies water to eight states, including Kansas.

"Prairie dogs can penetrate the zone (of the Ogallala) that rainwater can't do on its own," said Harsh, who owns an animal refuge in western Kansas' Logan County. "People have deemed them as being from the dark side ... but, yes, the prairie dog is a major player in allowing the aquifer to be replenished."

Some say that's just a myth, one more effort to save the prairie dogs.

Many farmers and ranchers have maintained that the animals cause havoc on their land. Through the years, their population has been significantly scaled back to a slight fraction of what it once was.

The war over the critters has become so fierce it landed in a Logan County courtroom last year. One farmer, Larry Haverfield, understands the need for prairie dogs and wants them on his land. But when other farmers complained, the county intervened and did what state law allows counties to do: lay poison when landowners won't.

But as for that theory about the

water supply?

"Help recharge the (Ogallala) aquifer?" Joel Schneekloth, a regional water resource specialist with the Colorado State University extension, asked with a laugh. "I've heard a lot of wild, goofy ideas, and this is one of them."

Schneekloth says there's no proof, no scientific evidence that says one of cattle ranchers' worst nightmares could be a water-supply blessing. As Schneekloth put it: "In our business, we have to go with science and what you can prove."

OK, Harsh and some wildlife preservationists said, then do some analysis. See whether it's true. And do it soon.

"Do it before it's too late, before they're all gone," Harsh said. "My goal is to lighten up on the poor critters ... they are being obliterated."

There is no harm in studying the idea that prairie dogs could help the aquifer, some say.

"It's always a good question," said Jack Cully of the Kansas Cooperative and Wildlife Research Unit at Kansas State University. "And maybe someone can come up with an answer."

That's the hope. Jonathan Proctor, the southern Rockies and Great Plains representative for Defenders of Wildlife, said it would benefit everyone to know what effect if any — prairie dogs have on the aquifer.

that any large burrow system allows rainwater to percolate into the ground far better than without them," Proctor said. "Clearly, holes in the ground help. How much they do, I have no idea."

Prairie dogs have become popular targets for eradication in recent years. Many farmers say the creatures eat grass meant for cattle, attract rattlesnakes and leave behind a maze of holes in pastures.

"If you are a farmer or a rancher, prairie dogs have never been one of the things you wanted too many of," said Heather Whitlaw, wildlife diversity biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. right?

"But somebody who is really passionate about cute little creatures, prairie dogs are the ones for them because they are awfully cute."

Cute, yes, but black-tailed prairie dogs are also considered a keystone species. That means they affect the prairie ecosystem in many positive ways, from being a main food source for various species to loosening up the soil with their digging, increasing its ability to sustain plant life.

That is why some landowners don't mind the animals, even though they can be pesky. Sometimes they have to fight to keep them.

Especially in Kansas, where a century-old state law allows county government to go on private land uninvited and poison prairie dogs if the landowners will not. The bill for the poison goes to the landowners.

Haverfield, of Logan County, knows that all too well. He has been billed for thousands of dollars after the county ordered poison to be put on his land.

A farmer who thinks the prairie dog is a vital player in the ecosystem, Haverfield wants to preserve them on his land. He installed 25 miles of barrier fence to try to manage the animals so they don't go into neighboring land.

We're making an effort to try to hold prairie dogs in on us," Haverfield said. "We want them here. It would seem to me that we "It seems to be fairly obvious need more prairie dogs to help our ecosystem and help all these other animals." One problem with Harsh's theory about the aquifer, say scientists and biologists, is the relatively small number of prairie dogs across the plains. There are not enough animals to make a significant difference in the aquifer, they say.

> "In this business, in agriculture, you always hear of snake oils, things that promise more than they will ever give you," Schneekloth said. "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Saving the aquifer? That's not going to happen."

Maybe not. But they are cute,



People wave flags in Batumi, Georgia, as they watch the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Dallas deliver humanitarian aid Wednesday.

## Aid to Georgia port diverted west

By Shashank Bengali McClatchy Newspapers

BATUMI, Georgia — The United States scuttled its plan to sail humanitarian aid into Georgia's main seaport Wednesday as Russia denounced the deployment and sent a naval task force into the waters off nearby Abkhazia.

A U.S. Coast Guard cutter steered its humanitarian cargo instead to Batumi, 50 miles to the south, avoiding a potential confrontation with Moscow in the increasingly tense Black Sea.

In what would have been a strong show of support to an embattled ally, the U.S. military had intended to send the cutter Dallas to Poti, Georgia's main commercial port, escorted by the USS McFaul, a destroyer. Poti is under Georgian control, but Russian forces operate two checkpoints just outside the town, which sits on the Black Sea 15 miles south of the breakaway Georgian province of Abkhazia.

Instead, it was Russia that moved to assert its authority by deploying a naval task force armed with anti-ship and antiaircraft missiles in the waters off Abkhazia, which it occupies, the Russian Itar-Tass news agency reported Wednesday. The agency called it a "peace and stability" mission.

Hours before the Russian announcement, U.S. officials decided to reroute the Dallas to Batumi, where the McFaul anchored Sunday with a small cargo of aid. Even before crews began to offload the Dallas' modest cargo

38 tons of bottled water, baby food, soap and other supplies conflicting accounts emerged of who decided to redirect the vessel Tuesday night and why.

A U.S. official in Georgia said that the decision was made "at the highest levels of the Pentagon" but wouldn't elaborate. The official requested anonymity, citing the sensitivity of the subject.

In Washington, however, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said a U.S. military assessment team in Georgia had made the decision. The team, he said, and transportation capabilities in Batumi were familiar and in better condition than those in Poti.

"Batumi was used because it was the military assessment that it was the best port for the expeditious delivery of the relief supplies," Whitman said.

It was unclear whether U.S. officials knew in advance of Russia's naval deployment. Amid the contradictory accounts, it was impossible to determine whether U.S. officials had blinked in the face of Russia's aggressive posture or opted on their own for a more restrained course.

As late as Tuesday night, a U.S. disaster assistance team in Georgia was preparing to dispatch trucks to Poti to receive the cargo, while the U.S. Embassy was planning

to send journalists by helicopter from the capital, Tbilisi, to witness the ship's arrival.

Military officials aboard the Dallas said the Russian presence wasn't a deterrent.

"The question of safety didn't come up. We had all the cards on the table," said Navy Capt. John Moore, the commodore of the task force that includes the Dallas.

Georgian officials, however, acknowledged the sensitivity of sending the ship to Poti. Although the bulk of Russian forces withdrew from Georgia last week after two weeks of conflict, Russia has asserted a broad right to maintain troops far outside the conflict determined that the infrastructure zone, in what may be a violation of a French-brokered cease-fire agreement.

Not including Abkhazia, which Russian and Abkhaz forces control, there are 11 Russian checkpoints in northwestern Georgia, including two on the outskirts of Poti, Western diplomats say. Three more are within 25 miles of Poti, near a main highway leading to Tbilisi.

Western diplomats say that seven of those checkpoints, including those in and around Poti, violate the cease-fire agreement. Russia has defended the checkpoints.

"Of course it is safer in Batumi," said Levan Varshalomidze, the governor of Georgia's Ajara region, which includes Batumi. "There are no Russians here."

Moscow has condemned the deployment of the Dallas and the



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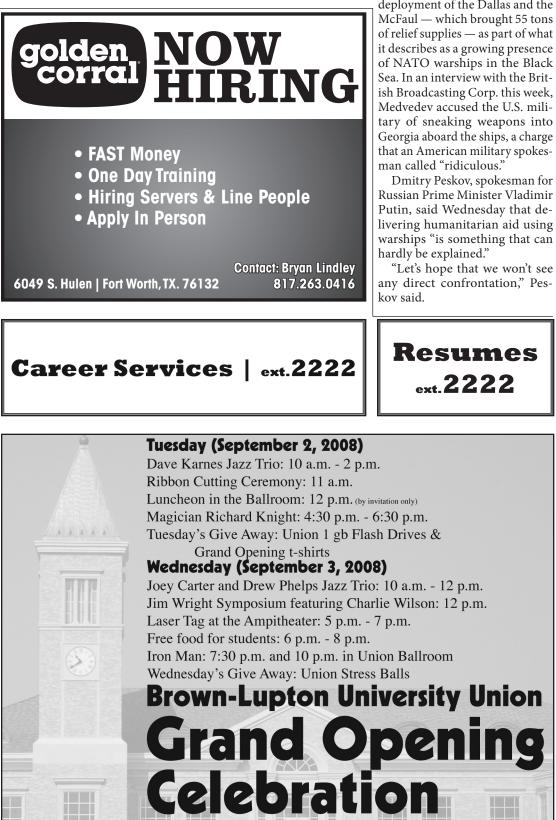
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#### NEWS

## Students use survey to find roommates

#### By Dana Hull and **Shelby Martin** San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif. - University of California-Berkeley sophomore Katie Nelson says that she always has one burning question about potential dorm roommates.

"You wonder if they are going to be a psychopath," joked Nelson, 19. "After that, the next question is: Are they messy?"

Compatibility is key when it comes to communal living, particularly when the room is smaller than most studio apartments. The night owl won't appreciate the early riser, and the neat freak will have little tolerance for the total slob. So some Cal students have used StarRez, a company that specializes in housing and conference software, in their search for compatible roommates.

Think of it as Match.com for modern dorm life.

"It's kind of like online dating," said Martin Takimoto, director of marketing for residential and student services at Cal, which began rolling out the StarRez program last spring.

Students create an online profile and complete a survey. But instead of asking questions about majors and musical taste, the questions focus on the issues that can make or break roommate relationships: tidiness, sleep schedules, study habits and just how many friends they want dropping by at 3 a.m. The StarRez portal then spits out a list of their closest roommate matches, complete with a percentage representing each one's compatibility. Students can send messages to potential matches and chat further.

"If you find out your potential roommate has a 6-foot py-thon, you can still say 'no way!" said Jason Dell, a spokesman for StarRez, which has 250 college ego, met his roommate, Allen uses teams of staff and students Berkeley," Takimoto said.

campuses as clients. Freshman Patricia Lin, 18,

of Milpitas, used StarRez as she began the process of signing up for university housing. Lin, who graduated from

Presentation High School in San Jose, Calif., was paired up with Joanna Lee, 17, of Torrance, Calif.

Their majors are different. Lin is studying psychology, Lee molecular cell biology. But the two, who moved into their new room in Davidson Hall last weekend, were matched up in part because they both said they want their dorm room to be mellow and conducive to studying.

They've been placed in a "triple," with a third roommate from Saratoga, Calif. Classes started this week.

Saturday night was the first night the roommates spent together. Everything is going well, "but apparently I snore," Lee said. "Just a little bit," Lin said. Snoring is not a StarRez question.

In previous years, Cal students who received housing assignments were briefly surveyed refrigerator here and then the a morning person, and she was via e-mail about their sleep schedules, level of tidiness and whether they smoked, and then were matched up based on basic criteria. Those who hadn't requested a specific roommate were assigned one based on that survey.

But since February, students have been able to log on to the StarRez Web site to create more detailed profiles for potential roommates for the fall semester. Users can use a screen name, make queries, direct fellow students to their Facebook or MySpace profiles, and accept or decline roommate offers.

Still, you never really know how something is going to work out until you meet the old-fashioned way: in person.

Graydon Rose, 18, of San Di-



Joanna Lee, 17, left, and Patricia Lin, 18, settle into their dorm room at UC Berkeley on Sunday. UC Berkeley is trying a new pilot program using profiling software to match up compatible roommates.

Cheong, 18, of San Leandro, to help match roommates. for the first time Sunday, as both students arrived with their parents and mounds of back-toschool gear in tow. Rose and his folks were already organizing the closet when Cheong arrived. The two shook hands, then got down to business.

microwave here," Rose told Cheong.

Rose is studying political science, Cheong civil engineering. "For me, I don't mind partying as long as he doesn't come home really, really late," Cheong said. "And I guess another thing for me is I don't like it when people borrow stuff without

asking." The pair weren't sure what part of their profiles made them a computer match.

San Jose State University uses another software program to match freshmen moving into university housing. Stanford University matches incoming freshmen in a similar way, but they won't know who they'll room with until they move on campus next month. Stanford also

But as with online dating, any Web-based profile is sure to gloss over personality flaws.

GARY REYES / San Jose Mercury News via MCT

Maggie Saremi, 19, of the San Fernando Valley, felt her first roommate wasn't the best fit. "I was my roommate's third roommate," Saremi said of her "I thought we could put the match last spring. "I'm more of up until the crack of dawn."

She acknowledges that the way she answered the questionnaire could have skewed her profile.

"I don't think I honestly answered all the questions because I didn't want a psychopath," she said. "So I was like, I never party, because I didn't want to room with a big partyer."

She didn't have to worry. The roommate didn't party. She stayed up all night on her laptop, often with a blanket pulled over her head.

This fall Saremi is rooming with two good friends.

Cal's StarRez survey avoids things like hobbies, academic majors and musical taste.

'We do want students to be exposed to the diversity that is

### Support for Obama popular at grade school in Indonesia

#### By Warren P. Strobel McClatchy Newspapers

JAKARTA, Indonesia — One of the better-selling books on the U.S. presidential race at the modern, multilevel Gramedia bookstore in Jakarta is "Jangan Bunuh Obama!" or "Don't Kill Obama!" As the title indicates, many Indonesians fear that an assassin's bullet or some other plot could stop him from reaching the White House.

The fact that there's another candidate in the race named John Mc-Cain barely seems to register.

It can't be said that Obama-mania has broken out in the bustling Indonesian capital of some 14 million, where the Democratic candidate spent a three-year interlude as a boy. But there's excitement in many quarters, including the school he attended and among his former classmates

Obama came to Jakarta in 1967 after his mother was remarried to an Indonesian college student named Lolo Soetoro. Obama spent third and fourth grades at the Besuki School, a public primary school along a leafy, narrow street in the city's diplomatic quarter.

The teachers and principals from 40 years ago are all gone, the school has been renamed Menteng 01, and On the eve of Obama's acceptance was glad to be known as the school that "Barry" attended.

Menteng 01 has never been an Islamic madrassa, as some of Obama's political enemies have insinuated. School officials and a former classmate said that religion was a subject of academic study, but not indoctrination.

"We are very proud of finding that one of our graduates became No. 1 in (a) superpower country," said Vice Principal Solikhin, who like many Indonesians uses only one name. "We all believe he will win the election."

as he mentioned the news that three ored people to lead."

men, one with hunting rifles and ammunition, had been arrested not far from the Democratic National Convention in Denver. A federal prosecutor said they posed no direct threat to Obama.

On the campaign trail, Obama hasn't emphasized his years in Jakarta, and by some accounts it wasn't a particularly happy time in his life. In fact, his fans here may have a

case of unrequited love.

Widiyanto, who also uses one name, said he sat next to the chubby kid he knew as Barry Soetoro in third grade. He mused that an Obama victory in November might lead to a visit to Indonesia by a President Obama. "But will he still remember us or not?"

Now the successful owner of a cable manufacturing business, Widiyanto said that when Obama became a U.S. senator, he and fellow classmates did some research to confirm that Barack Obama was Barry Soetero. Six months ago, they sent him a picture of the young Obama among his classmates. They received a supply of photos — from Obama's secretary.

He remembers the kid who made a good target in stickball games because he was too chubby to run fast, who was an ace at drawing superheroes such as Batman it has a high academic reputation. and Spiderman, and who liked to annoy girls, or get their attention, of the Democratic nomination, it by poking them in the arm with a sharpened pencil.

> No conversation about Obama lasts long without getting around to the subject of skin color and the simple fact that Obama, like Indonesians, isn't white.

> Gillyan Carol was leafing through a copy of "Jangan Bunuh Obama!" one of more than a half-dozen Obama titles for sale at Gramedia. She wasn't going to buy the book because of the price, but she was curious about its subject.

"I'm interested in his personality. He's humble, simple, like ordinary people," she said. "I'm sure he will Solikhin's bright mood dimmed win. ... This is the time for the col-





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## September 2 - 6, 2008

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#### Tuesday (September 2, 2008)

Dave Karnes Jazz Trio: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: 11 a.m. Luncheon in the Ballroom: 12 p.m. (by invitation only) Magician Richard Knight: 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. walking throughout the building doing magic tricks Tuesday's Give Away: Union 1gb Flash Drives and Grand **Opening t-shirts** 

#### Wednesday (September 3, 2008)

Joey Carter and Drew Phelps Jazz Trio: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Jim Wright Symposium featuring Charlie Wilson: 12 p.m. Laser Tag at the Amphitheater: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Free food for students: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Iron Man: 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Union Ballroom Wednesday's Give Away: Union Stress Balls

#### Thursday (September 4, 2008)

Market Square, The Corner Store, 1873 Grand Opening: 10:30 a.m. Mariachi de Oro, Roaming Mariachi Band: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Taste of the Globe International Studies Display: 11:30 a.m. Caricature Artist Adam Pate: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. outside of Market Square Kinomondo Film-Union Ballroom: 7 p.m. Thursday's Give Away: Union ID Card Holders

#### Friday (September 5, 2008)

Everyone wear purple! Gaming by Game Stop: 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. Pat Green Concert: 8 p.m. in the Campus Commons Opening Act: Mickey and the Motorcars Friday's Give Away: Union Highlighters

#### Saturday (September 6, 2008)

Tours from 11am-6pm SGA Reunion Lunch: 12 noon (by invitation)

### **NEWS**

## Doctors argue value of self-breast exams

#### By Maura Lerner

(Minneapolis) Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — For decades, doctors and advocacy groups have urged women to examine their breasts every month for unusual lumps.

Now many of those same experts have a different message: Never mind.

Earlier this month, Danish researchers published the latest report to cast doubt on the value of monthly exams. In studies of nearly 400,000 women, they found that even diligent self-examinations don't save lives. In fact, they may do more harm than good, by triggering a lot of unnecessary follow-up tests.

Over the last few years, cancer experts have quietly backed away from what was once considered a pivotal part of the fight against breast cancer.

"I don't think that we're pushing it as much as, say, 10 years ago, when you used to ask every patient 'are you doing it?' " said Dr. Andrea Flom, head of the Minnesota chapter of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

In fact, the American Cancer Society stopped recommending breast self-exams five years ago and now calls them "optional." Even the Susan G. Komen organization, best known for its Race for the Cure, decided last year to drop the recommendation.

"It has been a bit of a culture change within the organization," admits Dr. Eric Winer, Komen's chief scientific adviser, who is also director of breast oncology at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. For years, it was believed that

self-exams could find breast cancer

in its earliest stages, when it's most treatable.

But doubts have been growing since 2002, when a huge study in China found that women who checked their breasts monthly were no less likely to die of breast cancer than other women, in spite of intense coaching in how to do the exams properly.

This month, scientists took a fresh look at the growing body of evidence, including a huge group in Russia. Once again, they found no sign that self-exams cut the death rate. Instead, the women who examined their own breasts found more harmless lumps and had twice as many unnecessary biopsies as other women, according to a July 15 report published by the Cochrane Library. The conclusion: Self-exams "cannot be recommended."

One reason for the change of heart is technological.

"You used to find breast cancer by feel, and the technology changed," Trombley said. "We're finding fewer of them by feel and much more of them by imaging."

Along with mammograms, experts now emphasize what they call "breast health awareness." Essentially, that means being aware of changes in the breast, without necessarily going on a monthly scavenger hunt.

Flom, a Twin Cities obstetrician, admits that doctors may be sending mixed messages. "You sort of get this ambivalence," she said. "I'm not going to tell a patient who does [selfexams] every month 'you need to stop doing that.' I'm not. But if I have somebody who never checks their breasts, I'm not going to tell them 'you need to start tomorrow."





BOB HALLINEN / Anchorage Daily News via MCT

Wedding planer and mother Amie Haakenson sits in the downstairs den of her south Anchorage, Alaska, home in late July. Many women who work outside the home, including those with helpful kids and husbands, have come up with a new housekeeping standard, according to sociologists and family relations experts.

#### By Federica Narancio

McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Many women who work outside the home, including those with helpful kids and husbands, have come up with a new housekeeping standard, according to sociologists and family relations experts. It's called "clean enough."

No crumbs visible around the toaster, it stipulates; just don't look under the toaster. The tub isn't grimy, but it doesn't gleam either, which is why God invented shower curtains. And you could knit a scarf with what's behind the refrigerator.

"Clean enough to be healthy, dirty enough to be happy," is the way that Elizabeth Sherrill, 52, of Kansas City, Mo., put it.

"Clean enough" is the inevitable compromise in a country where couples who spent 26.5 hours a week on housekeeping in 1965 now spend just 17 hours, according to University cially single ones. They juggled

Robinson.

To put a finer point on it, women said their time spent housekeeping dropped from 24 hours a week in 1965 to 12. while men's increased from 2.5 hours to 5.

Something had to give and it was standards. But the clean-house pressure stayed on women, said Marla Cilley, 52, the creator of a popular motivational Web site for women, www.flylady.net. "Women care more about their homes because it is a reflection of who they are," she said.

Not surprisingly, today's "clean enough" standard sits ill with mothers and grandmothers who washed curtains, scrubbed pot bottoms and put spring cleaning on their calendars.

Relief is on the way, said Deborah Carr, a sociologist at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., in the form of baby boom mothers — espeof Maryland sociologist John enough obligations themselves,

Carr said, to be more forgiving time with my mom because I of "clean enough" tidiness than their own mothers were.

Lynda Mota, 47, a teacher from Onsted, Mich., said that when she was young, her mother used to threaten her with a

"Women care more about their homes because it is a reflection of who they are."

#### Marla Cilley

creator of www.flylady.net

belt if she resisted doing chores. When Mota married, the pressure persisted.

"My mother called me and told me she couldn't come over anymore to my home because of the mess," Mota said. "I told her that was fine, because I wasn't going to clean anymore so she wouldn't come over.

"Boy, was that a mistake! I missed out on some wonderful

was bullheaded."

"I married my prince charming and he does help," said Amie Haakenson, 36, of Anchorage, Alaska. "It's 50-50 easily here, with chores and things that need to get done. We have to; we are each working 50-50 of the hours."

But many women said that their husbands, particularly older ones, took to housekeeping the way cats take to bullfighting.

According to sociologist Carr, the real difference is between an older generation of women who considered housekeeping their top priority and a younger one that considers housekeeping far less important than jobs or kids.

As Carr put it: "We've spoken to daughters who wanted their husbands to be good partners, do the dishes and cook. And their mothers would say: 'You better appreciate him. I hope he doesn't leave you because you are not cooking enough."

#### **REBECCA BENCOWITZ** EMMA BULLOCK NICHOLE BURGESS Jocelyn Caliel MARISSA CHANEY



#### NEWS

## Underwater, a new world

By James Janega Chicago Tribune

OFF ATWATER BEACH, Wis. This place should be an underwater desert.

But as the trio of researchers wearing scuba tanks and lead weights drops through the water, the landscape of rounded stones 30 feet below is disturbingly full of strange, new life.

In just a few years, the gravel and white boulders that for centuries covered the bottom of Lake Michigan between Chicago and the Door County peninsula have disappeared under a carpet of mussels and primitive plant life.

The change is not merely cosmetic. In the last three years or so, scientists say, invasive species have upended the ecology of the lake, shifting the distribution of species and starving familiar fishes of their usual food supply.

Signs of the shift have been hard to ignore. Mats of dead, smelly algae wash ashore on Lake Michigan from Chicago to the Straits of Mackinac, castoffs of a vast underwater expanse seen from boat decks and from hilltops at Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan.

Multiple strains of E. coli bacteria and botulism spores thrive in the new underwater garden, leading scientists to suspect it is contributing to beach closings and the widespread deaths of migratory birds. Meanwhile, fishermen notice the lake trout, salmon and whitefish are getting skinnier each season.

"The lake is changing faster than we can study it," said University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee researcher Harvey Bootsma, whose small team of researchers hunts explanations from this new lake bottom in weekly dives off the Wisconsin shore.

Some ecologists and fishery managers say the Great Lakes may adapt, noting that some fish seem to be eating the most common in-

vasive species. But experts also say the species are fueling change in the lakes at a rate far faster than they have ever seen.

'We don't necessarily know all the impacts, but we know enough to know that they are being catastrophic," said Alliance for the Great Lakes executive director Cameron Davis.

None of the key species leading the change — mussels, algae and round gobies — are new arrivals. The zebra mussel famously invaded Lake Michigan two decades ago, and its cousin, the quagga mussel, wasn't far behind.

But in the last handful of years the quagga has taken off with alarming speed, exploding across the lake floor.

While zebra mussels like to attach themselves to rocks and man-made structures, the quaggas also can colonize sandy bottoms deeper in the lakes. Between them, the species filter lake water ceaselessly, making it so crystal clear that light can penetrate far deeper than before.

That change has allowed a native species of algae called cladophora to run rampant. It now can grow in 30 feet of water, twice as deep as a decade ago, and its waving tendrils cover vast offshore areas.

Round gobies, an invasive fish species from the Black Sea willing to eat the mussels, love this new environment. They breed in prolific numbers and are now the most abundant fish species found in many parts of the lake.

Together, these species have not only altered the clarity of the water but also devoured and filtered out the nutrients that used to sustain plankton and shrimplike diporeia at the base of the lake's food chain, starving what larger fish are left.

To be sure, the Great Lakes ceased to be a wholly natural ecosystem long ago. Alewives sneaked into the lakes in 1873. People began stocking rainbow trout and chinook salmon shortly after that,



DAVID TROTMAN-WILKINS / Chicago Tribune via MCT University of Wisconsin researcher Dr. Harvey Bootsma collects samples of phosphorous trapped inside a syringe from a benthic container covering Quagga mussel specimens in the waters of Lake Michigan in July.

salmon to the mix by 1933.

By the 1950s, the most important fish in the native food chain lake trout, ciscoes and spiny sculpins — were nearly gone in the lower lakes and severely reduced in Lakes Michigan and Huron. Still, scientists say perch, salmon and the alewives on which they foraged formed a relatively stable ecosystem until the invasive mussels began devouring key microscopic nutrients.

"Now all the forage fish are way down in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron," said Henry Vanderploeg, a Great Lakes research ecologist for the National Oceanic and

and added brown trout and coho Atmospheric Administration. "There's a crisis. The mussels are really messing up the food chain."

It's possible fish will weather the changes. Fishermen have caught lake trout with gobies in their stomachs, and smallmouth bass in Lake Erie have doubled their size in 10 years by feasting on gobies, said Marc Gaden, spokesman for the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission.

There also are signs that Lake Michigan whitefish have been eating zebra and quagga mussels. 'That shouldn't surprise anyone," Gaden said. "That's now the new food source."

# College culture list puzzles freshmen

By Robin Cowie Nalepa McClatchy Newspapers

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Pop quiz: Who's Johnny Carson? What was the Exxon Valdez? Ever use a typewriter?

So easy, you say. Well, guess again.

Touchstones most of us take for granted have little or no place in the pop culture lexicon of those born in 1990, like much of the freshman class at the University of South Carolina.

For 11 years, Beloit College in Wisconsin has published a list of cultural landmarks that resonate with 18-year-old freshmen and just make the rest of us feel really old (even though the college's Web site states it is "not deliberately designed" to do so).

For instance, for today's college freshmen, shampoo and conditioner have always been available in the same bottle. And Wayne Newton has never had a mustache.

Using the Beloit College Mindset List as a study guide, we took to the USC campus - where classes began Thursday — to see what some students in the class of 2012 do and don't remember.

Like many of us, Sharae Moultrie, 18, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., drinks Coke from plastic bottles. She does, however, remember drinking the soft drink from a glass bottle — once — when she visited the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Atlanta.

At least she knew what to do with the glass bottle. A typewriter encounter didn't turn out as enjoyably.

"I tried to play with it, but I we asked. didn't know how to use it," Moul-

trie said. "My mom had one. Our computer broke, and she tried to get me to use it."

Sally Free, 18, of Raleigh, N.C., said she never had used a typewriter but had seen one once at her grandmother's house. Oh, ouch.

New students milling around the Russell House, USC's university union, and eating lunch on the patio said, sure, they had read some of the Harry Potter books, but they could offer only blank stares or head shakes when questioned about Atari gaming systems, Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain, or whether to call the country that invaded Georgia Russia or the Soviet Union.

Bernadette Reimer, 18, of Oak Ridge, Tenn., knew the Exxon Valdez had something to do with "a leak or something." She remembered the commercials where a dish soap was used to wash oildrenched birds and baby seals "up north somewhere."

Andy Bakker, 18, of Denver, Colo., knew plenty about Brett Favre, knew the elder George Bush was president when he was born, and pegged the "Summer of Love" as 1968.

Yet, Joseph Jamison, 17, of Aiken, S.C., was pretty confident the season-long hippie fest in San Francisco occurred in 1975 and "had to do with love or being free or whatever," while Meera Patel, 18, of Florence, S.C., got props from her friend for declaring it the title of a book.

But perhaps the most telling answer of all was given by a young woman who shall remain nameless.

"Ever heard of Johnny Carson?"

"No — was he a president?"

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# REVIEW



A new exhibition comes to TCU's Fort Worth Contemporary Arts. Next Friday

## New Maxima is not all it's advertised to be

#### By Greg Laver Staff Writer

The 2009 Nissan Maxima SV is advertised by Nissan USA as the return to Nissan's past, with the reinvention of its fourdoor sports car concept. This is a much needed change as the past few editions of the model have simply been large, soft and alloy Altimas. This was Nissan's shot at fixing this problem, and it has still missed the mark. I could sit here and ramble on about the features it has or needs, but, really, the problem is simple.

The car lacks focus. It is too soft and smooth to be a sports sedan, but is still to sporty to be a true luxury car. It is like Nissan had all the parts and criteria to make the car a four-door sports sedan, and then could not be bothered to do anything with them.

For instance, examine the new exterior. Although I love the new aggressive lines and stance, as well as the hints to the GT-R and upcoming 370Z. Nissan drops the ball with the car's hideously chromed front grill. The only company that tends to get away with that is Mercedes-Benz, and the Maxima's

#### 2009 Nissan Maxima SV

Interior: 3.5/5 Exterior: 3.5/5 Value & Fuel Economy: 3.5/5 Fun: 3/5 Dealership Service Review: 3.5/5

lines to not lend well to that chrome piece. Instead, Nissan should have taken a page out of Audi's book and made a black mesh grill or something a little less gaudy.

However, Nissan, in trying to keep the traditional luxury feel of its past Maximas, had to make several sacrifices, which all detract from the sporty nature of the vehicle.

First is the gearbox. Nissan USA, in several interviews, has stated its intentions on adopting the CVT gearbox to most of its models, as a way to increase overall fuel economy. This adoption is a good thing, increased fuel economy in this time of high oil prices, and upcoming government regulations is essential to the success of any automaker. However, a CVT gearbox is

exactly the opposite of sporty. They are smooth and brilliant machines, making for an uneventful drive everywhere you go. In a sports car or sports sedan though, you do not want that. Instead, a sports car should occasionally just turn around and smack you or maybe even punch you in the face, and this will never happen in the Maxima. Taking the a car up to its redline to shift is an event, and that's why nothing will ever truly beat a manual for a true driving enthusiast.

Nissan recognizes that most people interested in a Maxima probably do not want a true manual, which is correct but the answer is not found in a CVT. Instead, like almost every other maker of sports sedans, Nissan should have used a double clutch gearbox, perhaps one similar to the one found in the brand's own GT-R. These gearboxes maintain the sporty feel while still allowing the driver to just leave the car alone if he or she is in traffic, and does not want to deal with the constant shifting from a manual.

Then, of course, you get to the rest of the interior which is on the whole very good. However, in a few little places, it really gets on my nerves.

First off is the center trim, the stan- cept. Instead, why did they not just adverdard model without any packages has a "graphite" trim which looks modern and contemporary, sort of carbon fibre-esque. But then when you add the sports or premium packages, it switches this trim out for a cheap looking wood. When I think modern sports car, I do not think wood trim; I think brushed aluminum or carbon fiber, not cheap wood.

Then, of course, you get to the shifter itself which is so small it looks like Nissan realized right before production that it forgot about it and then just threw something together. As a part of the driving experience, a shifter is an important link between the driver and the car. Thus, it should have been designed to be a more integral part of the car. Thankfully, though, after you switch the car into drive you can use the far more sporty paddle shifters, which allow you to manually swap the cogs in a car that does not have any cogs and is faster in its automatic mode.

Now this may all seem like a boat load of criticism toward the new model, but really it's more of a shot at the marketing team that tried to force the four-door sports car con-

tise the Maxima as what it is? The Maxima is a very comfortable luxury sedan that has a little bit of go to keep things interesting. While its constant mesh (CVT) gearbox is poor for feeling like a sports car, it is great for making you be utterly comfortable in everyday traffic, and the supple leather seats just absorb your stress, not your body during high G turns.

In all the Maxima SV is good; but the vehicle is just not the product that is advertised — it's like getting Lucky Charms without any marshmallows. It is simply not what was expected, and is no fourdoor sports car. If you had expected a good luxury car with a little flavoring to keep things interesting it would fit the bill quite well and is certainly a good rival to its competition as a four-door sedan in the \$30,000 price range.

Final thoughts: If you want a sports sedan, the BMW 328i and the new Audi A4 are far more of what your seeking. However, the Maxima is still quite good, and is a very good rival to the Honda Accord V6 for just a comfortable car with some pizazz.

## 1 100 100 27. measure

## Which 'wich store is worth your business?

#### **By Erica Hochstedler** Staff Writer

If you want to go to a sandwich shop near TCU, you might want to make a list of pros and cons. Especially since there are seven eight if you count Einstein's Bros. Bagels — within walking distance for. The best deal it has is the \$5 of campus.

#### Pot Belly

The closet sub shop to campus, literally across the street, Pot Belly is a TCU classic that everyone seems to love. Its toasted sandwiches are inexpensive and never skimpy. They load up on lots of meat and all the fixins'. I've heard no complaints about any of its specialties.

#### Lenny's Sub Shop

row of them along Berry.

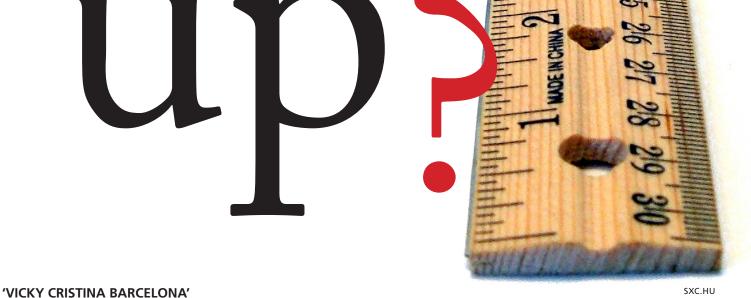
your sandwich. They even have loyalty cards that give customers their 10th sandwich free.

#### Subway

On the same side of the street as Which Wich, Subway continues to serve the foot long subs it is known foot long sub menu. Its subs come hot or cold, but hot simply means heated up in the microwave. The foot long makes a perfect meal for the absolutely famished or for those who want two meals for the price of one.

#### Quiznos

Keep strolling down Berry, and you'll pass Quiznos and its warm toasted sandwiches of many varieties. Its sandwiches are not quite as This is the first sub shop of an hearty as those from Pot Belly's or Which Wich. The cost for a



#### Lenny's serves typical cold subs wich of the same size as Pot Belly's and a few hot subs. The bread at at Quiznos is likely to be more exthis shop was a bit dry, but some pensive. might forgive that with the 10 percent discount for TCU students.

#### Which Wich

Across the street from Lenny's, its sandwiches are similar to Pot Belly's toasted sandwiches but with lighter, fluffier bread. They also provide more choices on condiments, such as honey mustard and my favorite, avocado. However, if you have never been to Which Wich, be prepared for the wall of paper bags on which you write down what you want on

#### Loafin' Joe's

This last sub shop on Berry Street serves lightly toasted sandwiches on fresh bread. The subs are good at Loafin' Joe's, but the real reason to go is for their homemade sweet potato chips, or regular kind for those less adventurous.

Whether you live on campus or off campus, the TCU area of Berry Street provides numerous options for any type of sandwich or sub you might crave.

#### **'TRAITOR'**

## Two films end the summer movie season with substance

By Luz Huertas Castillo Staff Writer

"Barcelona, my mind is full of foreign people faces ..., I don't exist any more, Barcelona; ... being your sounds wife, your extroverted labyrinth" tells us the song that accompanies the characters along the latest Woody Allen film, "Vicky Cristina Barcelona." This rueful comedy is one of the best films of the year as it ingeniously combines art, passion, romance and madness in an exotic ambience.

"Vicky Cristina Barcelona" is the story of two friends who travel to Barcelona for the summer. Vicky (Rebecca Hall) and Cristina (Scarlett Johansson) have similar ways of thinking but very different ways of feeling: Vicky is practical, committed and serious — a girl who knows what she wants — while Cristina is the opposite, dreamy, passionate, adventurous and only sure of what she doesn't want in life.

During their trip, they meet Juan Antonio (Javier Bardem), a famous painter with a tempestuous past relationship with Maria Elena (Penelope Cruz), his former wife. Having noticed the interest of Cristina for him, Juan Antonio invites the two friends to Oviedo, his hometown to, among other things, drink



Javier Bardem, Penelope Cruz and Scarlett Johansson appear in Woody Allen's "Vicky Cristina Barcelona."

short trip that Vicky's and Cristina's feelings and perspectives of life start an interesting metamorphosis.

Although these changes are adequately expressed by Scarlett Johansson's performance, it is Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz who seduce the audience. On the one hand, Bardem's Juan Antonio involves the viewers with his strategic and charismatic way of seduction, which is deeply related to the way he embraces his art. Cruz's Maria Elena, on the other hand, is the perfect combination of both vulnerability and aggressiveness, a wonderful artist with a permanent sense of autodestruction. These two characters, condemned to neither live together nor apart, find briefly good wine and make love. It is in this in this story their third connection, Allen film can provide.

which makes them reach an ephemeral harmony.

Finally, the unnamed but omnipresent lover: the impressive city of Barcelona, showing herself sometimes sophisticated and artistic as through Gaudí's works of art and sometimes profligate and shameless as through her prostitutes. Barcelona, the perfect lover, makes the public fall in love with both of her extremes with fascination and fidelity. After London (Match Point, Scoop), Barcelona is the perfect choice in this new stage of Allen's filmography that looks for new sceneries for tragedy and comedy. The ultimate outcome of this stage, Vicky Cristina Barcelona" promises the satisfaction that only a Woody

**By Valerie Hannon** Features Editor

Filmgoers looking for "Traitor" to be an alternative to the raunchy comedies that continue to dominate the theaters will find a wellpolished, well-intentioned political thriller. However, all of the good intentions and good production values still result in an ultimately hollow experience.

Director and screenwriter Jeffrey Nachmanoff and Steve Martin, who wrote the story together, surely deserve praise for portraying the Islamic religion with a sensitivity and complexity not often seen in modern political thrillers. The faith of Samir Horn (another solid performance by the always superb Don Cheadle) is never in doubt even as the audiences question the motivations behind his actions. It's these actions, which involve committing a series of major terrorist attacks against Americans, that may make audiences apprehensive in embracing the character. The filmmakers never in the least suggest that the terrorists are in the right, let alone that they represent Islam as a whole, but they spend so much time portraying them working out and implementing their plans like some sort of anarchic "Ocean's Eleven",



Don Cheadle and Jeff Daniels star in "Traitor," which premiered Wednesday.

if they are supposed to be rooting for them.

The other side is represented by FBI agents Roy Clayton and Max Archer (Guy Pearce and Neal Mc-Donough, respectively), who are following Horn's trail. Clayton, in particular, provides a nice counterpoint to Horn, being the son of a Baptist preacher as well as having a Ph.D. in Arabic studies. Jeff Daniels also stands out in a small but pivotal role (seriously, any attempt to describe it would result in major spoilage).

The score by Mark Kilian (Rendition) adds just the right amount of tension to the proceedings, and the numerous global locations (inthat viewers may start wondering cluding Yemen, France and Nova

Scotia, to name a few) puts even 'The Bourne..." series to shame. It's great to see a suspense thriller that feels like an actual movie after many that feel just like long "Law and Order" episodes.

In the end, however, audiences may be wondering along with the characters whether the choices they made along the way were justified. After a summer of action films like "The Dark Knight" that raised a lot of the same questions, but in a cartoonish environment, viewers will be glad to see these questions being raised in a real-life atmosphere. They just might be hoping the filmmakers actually provided some semblence of answers to those questions.

BLAIR CULWELL / Staff Designer

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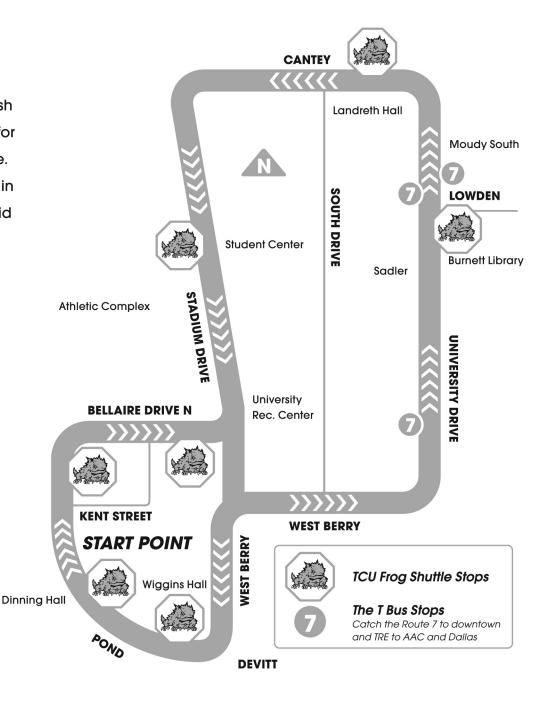
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### **NEWS & SPORTS**

#### **NEW MEXICO** continued from page 12

kickers and punters, which can make a game pretty amusing at times," Patterson said. "It all depends on how they get out there and handle it. Both teams also have new return men. All of these things can make for interesting games."

The Horned Frogs' running back situation could also make the game interesting.

"Ryan Christian will start the game Saturday," Patterson said. Joseph Turner isn't exactly where we want him to be, but he will play. It's one of those workin-progress situations. Aaron (Brown) always plays a part in things. It will be an interesting deal to see who gets off to a good start and who will step up."

Patterson added that the Lobos' defense has improved from last year, when TCU put up 37

#### FANTASY continued from page 12

like Owen Daniels, Tony Scheffler or Todd Heap, in the fifth or sixth round.

A note on auction drafts: Do not let yourself become enamored with any one player; the top five guys at each position score roughly the same amount of fantasy points when the season is over, so why take a premier No. 1 guy when you could take two No. 3's or three No, 5 at any position?

The key to any good draft is knowing your league rules. Review them an hour before the draft. Keep them in front of you. A player's value can vary widely depending on points per reception, yardage points and return yards.

Keep every team's depth chart close at hand, and take fliers on these guys in the later rounds.

Sleepers:

Jericho Cotchery - He racked up more than 1,000 yards receiving last year on a team that put all hope in a free agent running back to save an offense without a quarterback or an offensive line. Now he will be the leading wideout opposite Laveranues Coles – whom he doubled in both receptions and yardage last year - and catching



TCU defeated the University of New Mexico, 37-0, last year at Amon Carter Stadium.

points.

"New Mexico is a lot like us in that they are very good at stopping the run," Patterson said. They are bigger up front than they have been in the last couple of years, so we have to be ready to go at them."

balls from the venerable Brett Favre. The newest Jet has been targeting him long and often in practice and preseason games.

season with the Jets, Jones rushed for more than a 1,000 yards despite the weight of the expectations of all those Jets fans and the lack of even an above average offensive line see above. This offseason, the Jets spent considerable coin shoring up the offensive line, most notably adding former Steeler Pro-Bolwer Alan Faneca, and he won't be facing his normal diet of 8-man fronts either, as defenses drop back to pick off the NFL's all-time leader in throwing balls to the wrong team.

Devin Hester - In today's NFL, when you think Chicago Bears, you think Hester. Last year, he was their entire offense - even if he did it all on special teams. After one full season and two offseasons to learn the wide receiver position he could be ready to live up to the flashes he has shown thus far in his receiving career.

SOCCER continued from page 12

different?'

that the fans at the home games provide a great boost for the team.

Patterson, who was the de-

fensive coordinator and safeties

coach at New Mexico before com-

ing to TCU, said this is going to

be a tough game for both teams.

said. "Why would you want it any

"It will be a fight," Patterson

"The fans are one of the best parts of playing at home," said sophomore defender Cheryl Martin. "They make it such a great experience. The crowd is great, the fans are the best and that's really what I play the game for."

Students can get in for free with their TCU ID cards.

In other soccer news, junior forward Lizzy Karoly and sophomore goalie Kelsey Walters received Mountain West Conference Offensive and Defensive Players of the Week honors Monday.

'They both worked extremely hard this summer so it was nice to see them have a good game and to get some recognition for it," Abdalla said.

TCU plays Xavier today at 7 p.m. and Ole Miss on Sunday at 1 p.m.

### Pennsylvania college's football program resurrected after 48 years of absence

By Joe Juliano The Philadelphia Inquirer

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, Pa. - If excitement and enthusiasm count for anything when Lincoln University returns to the football field Saturday for the first time since 1960, then the Lions will win all their games and contend for the national championship.

"Everybody is extremely excited," said sophomore running back Myles Fleming, his smile growing wider with each sentence he spoke. "You can feel the energy building. We're all trying to get a win — our first win in 48 years. It's a really big event."

Of course, enthusiasm can go only so far. The Lions, with an overwhelming number of freshmen and sophomores on their 70man roster, will be learning on the fly, playing eight of their 10 games against Division II programs in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

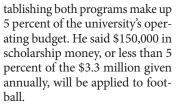
The university is using the reestablishment of football to enhance its student life, attract interest from alumni and get the word out to high school students and their parents about the quality of the institution.

"It gets our name out there and encourages enrollment," university president Ivory V. Nelson said Wednesday. "The best analogy I see is if you think about what happened at Rutgers. Their football program started winning and their popularity soared."

Lincoln also has started a marching band that will make its debut Saturday when the Lions host George Mason at Avon Grove High School, where home games will be played.

Nelson said the costs of es-

Charter



"The way we view it is to provide additional opportunities for young people to enhance their college life."

#### Ivory V. Nelson university president

"The way we view it is to provide additional opportunities for young people to enhance their college life," he said.

Nelson said the university plans to accept bids next year for construction of a football stadium and other athletic facilities. The Lions are practicing on their baseball field.

The job of creating a football program from scratch belongs to 32-year-old head coach Olabaniji "O.J." Abanishe, who played at Langston (Okla.) University and spent four seasons there as offensive coordinator before Lincoln hired him last year.

"In a first year, there's always a ton of teaching," he said. "It's a twoyear process as far as the offense and defense and techniques and everything from an organizational standpoint, because everything is 'the first time.' It's new to everybody."

Abanishe attracted several transfer students, including quarterback Kareem Dennis, who played for Lincoln High in the Northeast and at Edward Waters College in Florida.

Many players are like sophomore linebacker Brandon McElwee, who figured his football days were over when he graduated from Gloucester High in South Jersey to attend Lincoln, only to discover the opportunity to resume his career.

"I felt like I had to be a part of this," he said. "I wanted to be a part of history."



Thomas Jones - In his first

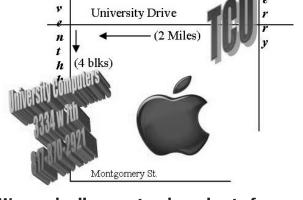
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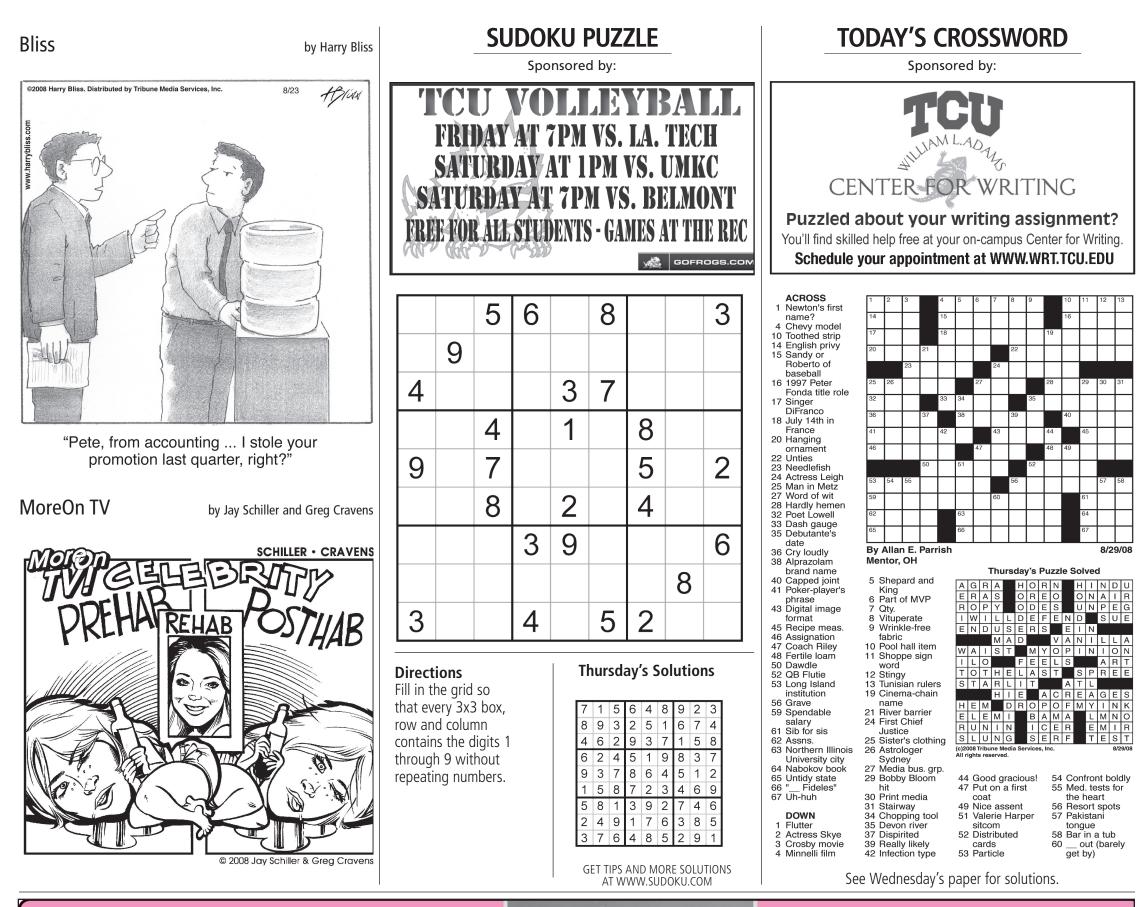
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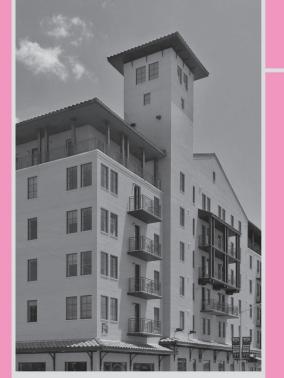


#### Today in history

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# SPORTS

Check www.tcudailyskiff.com to follow the Horned Frogs' weekend action.

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## FANTASY FOOTBALL FANTASY WORLD



Chicago Bears utility man Devin Hester could see significant time on offense this season, making him a great late-round pick.

## Feature backs top draft choices

By Erick Moen Staff Writer

people to yet another season of Belichick bashing, Eli jokes and fantasy football guidance with a good dosage of Gulf Coast bias.

I'd like to thank you for reading this column when you probably should be listening to the professor your parents pay for, and I'll do my best to make it worth your while.

Many drafts have already finished, but for those of you with commissioners smart enough to allow a full preseason before the nation.

draft, let's work on draft strategy.

Fantasy football pundits all Welcome ladies and gentle over the net are pointing to the end of the two-stud running back draft approach; this of course is where one selects the top running back available in the first two rounds. The critics have a good point — wide outs are performing better and seeing the ball more, while clear cut, everyday down backs are going the way of the Dodo — but, depending on your league settings, finding a couple standout runners is still the fastest way to league domi-

The key is to focus on uncontested lead backs like LaDanian Tomlinson, Frank Gore, Ryan Grant and Steven Jackson, while avoiding situations like in Miami, Tampa Bay and Seattle. The winners of those skirmishes will eventually become commodities, but there is no reason to reach for their participants early in the draft.

JIM PRISCHING / MCT

The tight end class is extremely deep this year, so let someone else reach for Antonio Gates or Jason Witten in the third round; in the meantime, solidify your core and pick up a solid tight end,

SEE FANTASY · PAGE 10

## FOOTBALL Road game, conference foe early test for Horned Frogs

#### By Billy Wessels Sports Editor

The football team will begin that will be present in the conthe season against a conference opponent, the New Mexico Lobos, for the first time since 2003 when they beat Tulane 38-35 as members of Conference USA.

Head coach Gary Patterson knows starting the season on the road against a conference opponent isn't easy.

"Starting off the season with a conference game against a team a challenge," Patterson said. "Playing against a conference games, you want to make sure opponent on the road is always you play well." tough. We understand that it is

Patterson said the intensity ference is similar to the intensity the team experienced by playing Big XII opponents the last three years.

"It's not just about the winning and losing; it's also about the emotions, the sense of pride and the recruiting ties," Patterson said. "We have opened our last couple of seasons against Oklahoma and Baylor, and like New Mexico will be quite now New Mexico. With all the recruiting eyes that are on those

Patterson said he took some-

going to be a very good crowd what unconventional methods and a loud crowd." ing on the road.

'We put our kids in tough situations," Patterson said. "We started playing the Lobo fight song and the crowd noise at practice. You have to prepare yourself and help your kids so they know what they are going to see. You have to put them in a situation where they can be successful (come game time)."

Aside from the crowd factor, Patterson thinks special teams play will be a major factor in tomorrow's game. "Both squads have young

SEE NEW MEXICO · PAGE 10

#### SOCCER

### Team hopes to add 2 wins over weekend

By Michael Carroll Staff Reporter

After an impressive start to the season with a 5-0 victory over Stephen F. Austin State University on Aug. 22, the soccer team marches on with two home games this weekend.

about this weekend's opponents, head coach Dan Abdalla a challenge.

"We know they're both gohard-working teams, so they are both going to be games where we have to make sure we bring our top-level game," Abdalla said.

The team will look to build upon its high level of confidence after its quick start to the season against Stephen F. Austin.

"We've been working hard this preseason," red-shirt freshman defender Katie Taylor said. "If we win both of these games Although not much is known it's going to be a good heads-up for the season to come."

In preparation for the games said his team can expect quite this weekend, the team has focused its practice time on keeping the field more compact, ing to be very well-coached, staying connected defensively and transitioning more quickly, Abdalla said.

The players and coach agree





Junior midfielder Michelle Nguyen dribbles the ball in last year's game against UT- San Antonio. The Frogs will host Xavier and Mississippi this weekend.



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