WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

VOLUME 108 • ISSUE 17





TOMORROW

A TCU student will compete for a global business award

_ www.DailySkiff.com



By Lizzie Ferguson Staff Reporter

For author Amy Tan, it was her relationships that influenced her foundation for her writing.

The relationships between Tan and her parents, readers, language, faith and fate made five of her books best-sellers.

The John V. Roach Honors College put on a question-and-answer session with Tan ex-

2

AWARENESS

Hazing prevention week promotes responsible Greek life.

clusively for honors students as part of the annual Fogelson Honors Forum Tuesday in Milton Daniel Hall. The session gave students an opportunity to ask Tan questions and hear her read from her memoir, "The Opposite of Fate."

Tan grew up with a dad who was an ordained Baptist minister and a mother who told her gory stories, which she said inspired her when she wrote. In her child-



hood, she would read the Bible and loved the more grotesque parts of the stories, like when David killed Goliath. Tan's mother told her gory stories that consisted of warnings of things that she had actually seen and experienced.

It was these kinds of stories that led Tan to love fairy tales as well.

"Jane Eyre" was one of Tan's favorite romances because she could relate to Jane

3

FACE LIFT Stadium renovations won't break the bank throughout the story. Banned books, like "The Catcher in the Rye," also inspired Tan's writing. It was those books that Tan said she always bought no matter how many times she got sent to counseling with the youth minister or how many times she had to go out and buy the book.

Tan wrote about mother-daughter rela-

See **Q&A** 7

EDUCATION Study: merit pay does not raise scores

By Dorie Turner

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) - Offering big bonuses to teachers failed to raise students' test scores in a three-year study released Tuesday that calls into question the Obama administration's push for merit pay to improve education.

The study, conducted in the metropolitan Nashville school system by Vanderbilt University's National Center on Performance Incentives, was described by the researchers as the nation's first scientifically rigorous look at merit pay for teachers.

It found that students whose teachers were offered bonuses of up to \$15,000 a year for improved test scores registered the same gains on standardized exams as those whose teachers were given no such incentives.

"I think most people agree today that the current way in which we compensate teachers is broken," said Matthew Springer, executive director of the Vanderbilt center and lead researcher on the study. "But we don't know what the better way is yet."

The study comes as the Obama administration encourages school systems to link teacher pay and tenure to how students perform on tests and other measures of achievement.

The researchers looked at fifth- through eighth-grade math teachers from 2007 to 2009. A group of about 300 teachers started out in the study; half were eligible for the bonuses, the other half were not.

"I think most people agree today that the current way in which we compensate teachers is broken."

Matthew Springer

Executive director of the Vanderbilt center

The bonuses were given out based on improvements in scores on Tennessee's standardized exam, which is used by the state as part of the federal No Child Left Behind requirements.

Springer was quick to point out that his study looked only at individual bonuses, not extra pay doled out to teams of teachers or an entire school. He said more research is needed.

"Some people were initially disappointed when they saw the results, but quickly turned around and said, 'Well, at least we finally have an answer," he said. "It means pay can't do it alone."

AWARENESS Anti-hazing program visits campus

By Christa Acuna

Staff Reporter

The display of green flags on the Campus Commons lawn is one way the university is increasing hazing awareness around campus this year during National Hazing Prevention Week, Fraternity and Sorority Life Coordinator Gaius George said.

George said the university will actively participate in hazing prevention this week by placing hazing awareness tables outside of Market Square, bringing in a guest speaker, showing the movie HAZE, and holding a Crossing The Line webinar, an online seminar that explores the negative impacts of hazing in a school community.

The green flags represent the 1,700 student lives lost every year from alcohol related deaths, according to the Gordie Foundation website.

According to the site, the organization's goal is to increase hazing awareness on campuses in memory of Lynn Gordon "Gordie" Bailey Jr., an 18-yearold who was found dead at his fraternity house at the University of Colorado at Boulder in September 2004. Bailey was encouraged to consume excessive amounts of alcohol on his fraternity's bid night, then left to sleep it off on a couch where he was found dead the next morning.

According to the Fraternity and Sorority Life website, the university defined hazing as "any action taken, or situation created intentionally, whether



MATT COFFELT / MUTI IMEDIAEDITOR

Students make their way through a National Hazing Prevention Week display in the Campus Commons. Each green flag represents one of the 1,700 annual alcohol related student deaths.

on or off the campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule."

"We need to make sure that the awareness is out there and let everybody know that hazing is a serious issue," said George. "Hopefully after the week is over the awareness on campus will increase, and hopefully everybody will understand that hazing is something that's unacceptable."

Hazing awareness tables will be outside Market Square all week and Crossing The Line will be held Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 1 p.m. in the Beck Geren room on the third floor of the Brown-Lupton University Union.

National Hazing Prevention Week

Crossing the Line webinar: When: 1 p.m. Wednesday Where: Beck-Geren room in the Brown-Lupton University Union Hazing awareness tables: When: All week Where: Outside of Market Square

POLITICS



Tea party, GOP reach truce before election

By Jim Kuhnhenn Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tea party

activists and the Republican establishment are quickly joining forces for the fall elections as fresh cash and energy flow to the upstarts.

Separate tea party groups still squabble over roles for Republican insiders within the movement, but the conservative activists and GOP stalwarts have reached a truce for the common goal of defeating Democrats, heeding calls for unity from Republicans including Sarah Palin.

One group — the nonprofit Tea Party Patriots — on Tuesday announced a \$1 million donation from an anonymous donor, a shot of cash to be spent before the election on voter mobilization efforts. The Tea Party Express is preparing to assist specific candidates, building on its targeted advertising campaigns during primary races in Delaware, Alaska and Nevada.

Meanwhile, the Republican Party and GOP-allied outside groups are already helping some tea party-backed candidates, most notably Sharron

Angle who is seeking to unseat Senate Majority leader Harry Reid in Nevada.

"Ultimately, that's what we all hope happens, as citizens," said Tea Party Patriots co-founder Mark Meckler. "The political parties support the candidates that the people support, not the other way around."

"I think the tea party's been a very constructive movement in American politics."

John Cornyn **Texas Senator**

It's hardly unusual for opposing forces to coalesce after primaries to confront the opposition party. But the vigor with which tea party activists went after longtime Republican office holders - such as Sen. Robert Bennett in Utah and Rep. Mike Castle in Delaware — had raised the prospects of a rift that would be difficult to heal.

But Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, the head of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, was offering plenty of salve Tuesday.

"I think the tea party's been a very constructive movement in American politics," he said. "People are tired of everything thrown at them from Washington, and they are not going to take it anymore. We have embraced their enthusiasm and their energy in the Republican primaries and now we're strongly behind all the Republican nominees, including a number of candidates who are very actively supported by the tea party movement."

To be sure, the tea party and the Republican Party are far from strangers. Start with the movement's financial backing. The Tea Party Express, a group formed by a longtime California GOP consultant, has raised more than \$5 million and financed about \$2 million in advertising to help candidates.

The organization was an offshoot of a political action committee created to support John McCain's Republican presidential run in 2008, and its chief strategist is Sal Russo, a Sacramento Republican operative who has worked for nearly 50 years helping run party campaigns, including those of Govs. George Deukmejian of California and George Pataki of New York.

Funds for stadium complete



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MEDIA RELATIONS The proposed design for the Amon G. Carter stadium renovations to begin this November.

By Chris Blake

News Now Sports Director

The renovation of Amon G. Carter Stadium, scheduled to begin when the football season ends in November, will represent a rare accomplishment in college athletics.

Athletic Director Chris Del Conte said TCU's stadium would be the first in the country to be renovated or built using money that was raised before the project began.

With the stadium funding already completed, revenue from ticket and suite sales to go straight to the bank. Del Conte said all the added features, such as a club level and luxury suites, were a necessity in building a stadium in this generation.

"When they built stadiums years ago it was just for seating for a spectator," Del Conte said. "Now they want all the amenities that go along with that and it's indicative of things that you're being sold."

The new version of Amon G. Carter Stadium will have a seating capacity of 40,000, smaller than the 44,008 fans it holds today. The University of North Texas started construction on a new stadium of its own last year because of seating issues at its old one.

UNT's stadium, Fouts Field, was built in 1951 for a capacity of 20,000 fans. Much of UNT's drainage system runs under the stadium, and since it was constructed using codes from nearly 60 years ago, it would have been a difficult renovation project.

"There was really no way to bring it into a new age and so we...felt like for us to be committed to Division I football, to be able to recruit for the Division I level, that we needed a place where we could attract the very best student-athletes and create a great place for our fans," UNT Athletic Director Rick Villarreal said.

The new stadium at UNT, which is being built and will open for the 2011 season, would become a positive thing for not only the university, but for the city of Denton as well, Villarreal said. It will bring more revenue to the city because of the nights people will spend in hotels and the food they will buy at the grocery stores for their tailgate parties. The stadium's capacity is expected to be 30,000, about the same as Fouts Field's current capacity.

"I think for the community it's a place like we've never had," Villarreal said. "It gives us the ability to bring in concerts and additional high school games to our area."

"We have an unbelievable product right now at TCU, but our stadium is not indicative of our product, (But) our infrastructure is not enough to handle the capacity we have."

Chris Del Conte Athletic Director

Although concerts and other big events have not been mentioned as possibilities for the renovated Amon G. Carter Stadium, the stadium at TCU will have one thing in common with Dallas-Fort Worth's newest professional stadium: Cowboys Stadium. Both were designed by HKS Sports and Entertainment Group.

The HKS renovation plans call for elevators and escalators, a new seating bowl, a new press box, upgraded restrooms and better concession stands.

"We have an unbelievable product right now at TCU, but our stadium is not indicative of our product," Del Conte said. "(But) our infrastructure is not enough to handle the capacity we have."

By putting \$105 million from 34 donors into the renovation project, Del Conte said there is a not only an advantage visually and for the fans, but for the football team as well.

"If you continue to reinvest in your program you make it that much stronger and you have a compounding effect when you can sustain success for a long, long time," he said. "If you don't reinvest, you become a one and done."

International politics Iran, Germany clash at summit

By Edith M. Lederer

Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iran's president on Tuesday predicted the defeat of capitalism and blamed global big business for the suffering of millions, but Germany's chancellor said market economies were key to lifting the world's least developed countries out of poverty.

The clash of visions at the U.N. anti-poverty summit drew a line under the stark differences on easing the misery of the one billion people living on less than \$1.25 a day.

More than 140 presidents, prime ministers and kings are attending the three-day summit which started Monday to assess and spur on achievement of U.N. targets set by world leaders in 2000. The plan called for an intensive global campaign to ease poverty, disease and inequalities between rich and poor by 2015.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, however, never mentioned the Millennium Development Goals in his speech to the 192-member General Assembly.

Instead, he took aim at capitalism and called for the overhaul of "undemocratic and unjust" global decision-making bodies, which are dominated by the United States and other Western powers. While Ahmadinejad didn't single out any country, he said world leaders, thinkers and global reformers should "spare no effort" to make practical plans for a new world order — reform of international economic and political institutions.

"It is my firm belief that in the new millennium, we need to revert to the divine mindset...based on the justice-seeking nature of mankind, and on the monotheistic world view...," the Iranian leader said in a brief speech intertwining philosophy and religion with the current state of the world. "Now that the discriminatory order of capitalism and the hegemonic approaches are facing defeat."

Ahmadinejad proposed that the United Nations name the coming 10 years "the decade for the joint global governance."

Soon afterward, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the world's fourth-largest economic power, took an opposite tack, likely speaking for the rest of the capitalist world.

Stressing that "the primary responsibility for development lies with the governments of the developing countries," she said the key to economic prosperity was good governance and a flourishing capitalist economy.



AARON JACKSON / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks at a summit on the Millennium Development Goals at United Nations headquarters on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2010.

We mean it.	dailyskiff.com	HANK MILLIGAN Owner JOBOB SERVICE Auto Repair AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR • FOREIGN & DOMESTIC • DIESEL • ASE certified technicians	
		 A+ Rating with the Better Busi Emission repair State Inspections 	ness Bureau 10% off order up to \$50
		warranty & one stop auto repair! 3970 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76107 817-738-5912	
		www.jobservice.com	MasterCard

PERSPECTIVES

The Skiff View

Attendance for speech an uplifting sight

t was often the case that speakers who came to campus were received in high anticipation by the community but with very poor attendance. Tonight's speaker, best-selling author Amy Tan, spoke to a full crowd at Ed Landreth Auditorium.

It's good that a speaker as well known as Amy Tan, author of "The Joy Luck Club" and "The Bonesetter's Daughter," received such a large welcome from the university community. Tan gave a provocative and insightful speech about her inspirations and her writing. It was a speech deserving a large audience.

Chances are, however, that the big turnout Tan received is a rare occurrence. Last year, the community received criticism for its low football turnout. Two weeks ago, Elena White, the granddaughter of well-known gubernatorial candidate Bill White, had an embarrassingly small attendance of six. Of the thousands of students that attend the university, only six decided to attend an event that provided insight into the mind of a major Texas gubernatorial candidate.

Tuesday's grand audience was an uplifting sight. Hopefully, it's not a onetime phenomenon.

Web editor Maricruz Salinas for the editorial board.

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

Libby Davis, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Mark Bell, Associate/Opinion Editor Marshall Doig, NEWS EDITOR Andrea Drusch, News EDITOR Kayla Mezzell, News EDITOR

Melanie Cruthirds, MANAGING EDITOR Madison Pelletier, Sports Editor Maricruz Salinas, WEB EDITOR Jason Pan, WEB EDITOR Matt Coffelt, MULTIMEDIA EDITOR



Don Wright is a political cartoonist for The Palm Beach Post

FDA correct in not reclassifying cough syrup



Danny Peters

When considering lumping dextromethorphan, the active ingredient in cough syrup, with the abuse of other controlled substances, the Food and Drug Administration almost made using and purchasing cough syrup for its legitimate purpose akin to buying possibly addictive painkillers through your local pharmacy. As of Sept. 14, an FDA panel voted against reclassifying dextromethorphan as a controlled substance and requiring a prescription for it. The FDA usually follows advisory panel suggestions, but it is not forced to follow them. Parents with screaming, coughing children can breathe easy for now.

The main reason the FDA considered placing the chemical, dextromethorphan, on the controlled

substance list was because a number of children are getting high off of a process called "robotripping." To do that, the person takes a dose that is 10-20 times higher than is needed for alleviating a cough. This high dose make the person hallucinate and "zombie-walk," among other strange effects. The high dosage that makes one high also comes with very dangerous side effects, including a comatose state, depressed respiratory system, psychosis and other bad effects.

Granted, the bad side effects come from abnormally high doses. The fact that the FDA considered reclassifying dextromethorphan, if only for the acts of some very unintelligent children who are tempting fate and Darwin's Law, seems unnecessary.

Dextromethorphan was specifically excluded from the Controlled Substances Act in 1970 because of its lack of abuse potential. If the FDA places dextromethorphan on the controlled substance list, mothers with screaming, cough-ridden toddlers would have to bear going to over-filled doctor's offices to get a prescription for some simple cough medicine to alleviate their children's hacking.

Going to a doctor's office for a prescription for cough medicine could turn out to be a double edged sword if the reclassification passes. People with various sicknesses have been known to get sicker at doctor's offices with all the patients coughing and sneezing various bugs into the air — myself included. With that being said, the FDA should examine the practicalities of forcing parents to get prescriptions for cough medicine for their children.

The one positive outcome of the discussion regarding dextromethorphan is the panel's view regarding underage children buying cough medicine. If people under the age of 18 are no longer allowed to buy cough medicine and other substances containing dextromethorphan, the rate of abuse should go down. Congress would have to pass a law to limit sales to anyone under the age of 18. People over the age of 18 should know the extreme bodily dangers of dextromethorphan abuse and how plain ignorant it is to abuse it.

> Danny Peters is a senior writing major from Fort Worth.



TCU Box 298050 Fort Worth, TX 76129 news@dailyskiff.com

Phone (817) 257-7428 Fax (817) 257-7133

Circulation: 3500 Subscriptions: Call (817) 257-6274 Rates are \$30 per semester. Location: Moudy Building South Convergence Center, Room 212 2805 S. University Drive Fort Worth, TX 76109

tion: Newspapers are available free on campus and surrounding locations, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$.50 and are available at the Skiff office. www.dailyskiff.com

The TCU Daily Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Enristian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the Schieffer School of Journalism. It operates under the policies of the Student Publications Committee, composed of representatives om the student body, staff, faculty and admin Dished fuesday through Friday during fall and spring sem pt finals week and holidays.

COPYRIGHT All rights for the entire contents of this newspaper shall be the property of the TCU Daily Skiff. No part thereof may be re or aired without prior consent of the Student Publications Director. The Skiff does not assume liability for any product and services ac herin. The Skiff's liability for misprints due to our error is limited to the cost of the advertising.

STAFE

Design Editor: Julie Susman Advertising Manager: Courtney Kimbrough

Student Publications Director: Robert Bohler Business Manager: Bitsy Faulk Production Manager: Vicki Whistle Director, Schieffer School: John Lumpkin

Tea party a good alternative



Jacob Brahce is a senior political science major from Austin.



Shane Smith

The past several months have been full of suspense in regard to the tea party movement and its effect on the November elections. Although slow, the Republican Party appears to be coming to its senses. In the recent Delaware Senator GOP primary, candidate Christine O'Donnell defeated the Republican establishment incumbent Mike Castle and the GOP is now supporting O'Donnell.

The GOP and Democrats are not all that different as both parties want power and control, which means a large government. The tea party is offering what many Americans have been looking for: candidates who practice a form of constitutionalism along with strong morals and values. It is in the best interest of the establishment Republicans to support tea party candidates because many states will see establishment incumbents knocked off by tea party candidates this November.

The tea party is not a centralized organization or party like the Democrats and Republicans. It is nothing more than everyday Americans who feel their very freedoms are slowly vanishing due to the growth of government. I find that both establishment Democrats and Republicans are making a mistake in their view of the tea party. Both parties attack the tea party, which in itself represents a large portion of the American population. It is beyond me why both establishment parties would be attacking a true American movement.

The Republican Party has grown into a large government party, not all that different than the Democrats. Tea party members are supporters of limited government, and they truly view the U.S. Constitution as the supreme law of the land in this great country. Tea party members are not all alike. Some are black, some are white, some liberal and some conservative. The movement is only attempting to get into the face of the federal government to tell it to back off, and I believe the Founding Fathers would proudly support the tea party.

The tea party will be represented by strong candidates this November who will also be running under the "R" banner of the Republican Party. Kentucky Republican Senate candidate Rand Paul is not a far right extremist; he is only a man who views the government in the same way the founders did. He views the government as a necessary evil that must be controlled by the people. That is what the tea party movement is all about. The Republican establishment should be worried, because the Republican Party is becoming the home of all those involved in the tea party movement.

However, I would like to make one point very clear. Tea party members are not taking over the Republican Party. The Republican Party is turning back to its roots of limited government, and the tea party is only helping the Republican Party turn back to its focus on limited government and prosperity. Establishment Republicans should be afraid because they are not supporters of limited government, which the party was built upon.

The tea party is nothing but a healthy movement, and the movement will go down in history as one where the American people stood up to defend America from its own government. Thomas Jefferson warned of a government that became too big and a government that began to ignore its own boundaries. The fact is, the federal government has ignored its limits as set by the Constitution for over 100 years, and the tea party movement is only letting the government know that it's time for the people to take back their country.

Shane Smith is a senior secondary education major from Fort Worth.

Negative public opinion of both parties makes for unusual election



Jack Enright

In 1964, Barry Goldwater was chosen to be the Republican candidate for president. Goldwater, a strong conservative, lost overwhelmingly to Lyndon B. Johnson, who won re-election less than a year after being sworn in following the Kennedy assassination. This occurred due to Goldwater being too conservative to attract moderates.

In 1994, Democrats lost majorities in both the Senate and the House of Representatives after proposing controversial health care and gun control bills. Republicans controlled Congress for the first time in 40 years.

Ultimately, I think Democrats will keep both houses, but the leads will shrink in both and possibly allow Republicans to take over in at least one house in 2012.

Now, in 2010, we see some of both. The Tea Party replaced establishment Republicans with lesser-known candidates in the primaries. With the Democrats having a 16-seat lead in the Senate and a 77-seat lead in the House, Republicans have some work to do to regain majorities.

However, according to a *New York Times* article, 80 percent of Americans view the economy negatively now, although more than 50 percent rated it as good in 1994 when they voted out the Democratic majorities in both houses. The economy is a primary issue among most voters, and Democrats are seen as being out of touch by introducing liberal bills like they did in 1994. With grim views of

the economy and a raucous tea party, it seems the time is ripe for change. Republicans are hoping to capitalize on the anger over the economy and controversies such as the healthcare bill and the Gulf oil spill.

But despite the strong wave of conservative sentiment, Congressional Democrats are still viewed more favorably than Republicans. While 63 percent of Americans view Congressional Democrats negatively, it is 73 percent with Congressional Republicans, according to a recent *New York Times/CBS* News poll. Coupled with a slew of tea party newcomers that emerged in the Republican primary, it could help Democrats retain their majorities in Congress.

To predict what will happen in 2010, we have to look at what is going on in both houses. Democrats have a 77-seat lead in the House out of 435, and a 16-seat lead in the Senate out of 100. Representatives in the House are elected every two years, while Senators are elected every six years at staggered intervals. This year 37 Senate seats are up for grabs (but none in Texas). Looking at the numbers, Democrats will almost certainly keep control of the Senate and probably the House, although Republicans have a chance in the House. Ultimately, I think Democrats will keep both houses, but the leads will shrink in both and possibly allow Republicans to take over in at least one house in 2012.

The party that has control of either house sets the stage for the next two years. Congress will either continue Obama's policies with a Democrat majority or try to reverse them with a Republican majority. If one house is Republican and the other Democrat, the two could act as a check-and-balance, although the White House will still be Democratic.

With an unusual political climate, it is important to stay informed and vote on Election Day Nov. 2. You must register to vote 30 days in advance, so if you haven't already, register today and be sure to vote.

Jack Enright is a sophomore political science and economics double major from Tomball.



SPEAKER

Author brings stories of life and writing to campus



Author Amy Tan reads to a crowd Tuesday evening in Ed Landreth Hall.

YOUR NEWSPAPER...

is now available in dorms and...

Dutch's Buffalo Bros. Red Cactus Potbelly Einstein Bagels



Audience members watch on as Amy Tan speaks Tuesday night. The show, which was free, had all tickets claimed.

By Sara Neal

Staff Reporter

Before Amy Tan became a best-selling author, she was just another student browsing through CliffsNotes to get by in class, she said.

Now that her books top *The New York Times* best-seller list, Tan said she understands that, while writing, "a story must be felt."

Met with both laughter and applause Tuesday evening, Tan spoke to a full house in Ed Landreth Auditorium at the Fogelson Honors Forum.

Chancellor Victor Boschini introduced Tan by giving a brief overview of her life and works, such as cementing herself as a fixture of American pop culture by appearing as herself in "The Simpsons." She became a writer after rejecting her mother's expectations for her to become a doctor or concert pianist, he said.

In more than an hour of speaking, Tan described the experience of finding a CliffsNotes version of one of her own novels, "The Joy Luck Club," in which the biography page listed facts that, though true, were not exactly as she would have described them herself.

She then went on to tell about growing up as the child of Chinese immigrant parents with her father, a baptist minister, and her mother, who spoke only broken English.

Tan said both her father and brother died of brain tumors while she was still a teenager and that, for a period of time, she hated her mother and the woman's eccentric advice.

After her mother moved the family to Sweden, Tan said she graduated from

high school early, attended college and then dropped out of graduate school. Subsequently, she said she became a wellpaid, freelance business writer working 90 hours per week, but realized it was not fulfilling work.

"What I decided to do was to find something that would be meaningful in my life, that would have nothing to do with making money and would have nothing to do with proving anything to people," Tan said.

Her journey as a writer led her to start asking questions about her mother's secret past, she said. Through getting to know her mother and her family history, Tan said she began to understand what 'feeling a story' meant.

"Being a writer is about discovering all these things and about questioning my life, always," she said.

Her discussion was followed by a brief question and answer facilitated by junior political science major Kimberly Dena.

Though the audience consisted mostly of community members, several students waited in line to meet Tan and have copies of her books signed after the forum.

Katie Walker, a junior writing major, said she considers herself a fan and has read many of Tan's books on her own.

"I was excited to hear what she had to say, about her writing process especially," Walker said.

Jason Lam, a junior math major and descendant of Chinese immigrants, said Tan's books reminded him of his own family because of how the grandmother character talks.

"It felt just like home," he said. "Her books are really personal, but she was really humorous and I liked that."

THEDAILYSKIFF.COM

Continued from page 1 **Q&A**

tionships in her books not to give her opinion about the subject but to figure out who she was and what she believed, she said. Many of Tan's beliefs came from her mother, so to distinguish her own beliefs from her mother's, she had to figure out what she believed in and why things happened.

Tan's relationship with her mother influenced her integration of Chinese words into her English novels, she said. Tan kept some words in Chinese to add emphasis to her writing and because they were the words her mother would use, and Tan considered them iconic.

She also kept the words to help with the idea of language as an identity.

"I am very lucky that I have been able to have a bilingual background," she said. "There are sociolinguistic qualities of language that are not translatable."

It was these words that are not translatable that helped Tan express herself in her writings.

One relationship that Tan struggled with in her career was the one between her and her readers. Some people who read her books will generalize her writing and assume that her representation of Asian culture is the only one.

"If my books and literature in general [are] seen as representative, it can be dangerous because it can create warped images of that culture," Tan said.

Faith versus fate was another relationship that Tan struggled with but also influenced her writing. Because of her father's emphasis on faith, his background in ministry and her mother's emphasis on fate, Tan questioned the two ideas constantly and when something bad happened in her life.

In Tan's books, she used her own and the character's reasonings of why things happen to express the conflict that these two ideas bring.

The New York Times best-sellers by Amy Tan: "The Joy Luck Club" "The Kitchen God's Wife" "The Hundred Secret Senses" "The Bonesetter's Daughter" "Saving Fish from Drowning"



Senior Justin Floyd, religion and sociology major, grills with Pete Luby yesterday at the Taste the Faith event in front of Jarvis Hall.

MANT TO WRITE? HE DAILY SKIFF VANTS YOU VANTS YOU VANTS YOU Ward a journalism major? Not a problem. We'd love you to contribute! Contact Libby Davis at editor@dailyskiff.com for more information.

POLITICS **Obama adviser Summers leaving at end of year**

By Julie Pace

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama's top economic adviser, Lawrence Summers, plans to leave the White House at the end of the year, a move that comes as the administration struggles to show an anxious public it's making progress on the economy.

While administration officials Tuesday quickly sought to paint the announcement as an expected development, Summers' departure shakes up an economic team that has been under fire for its handling of the recovery. It's also a team already in transition following the recent departures of other high-profile Obama advisers.

In a statement, the president said he is grateful for Summers' service during a time of "great peril for our country."

"While we have much work ahead to repair the damage done by the recession, we are on a better path thanks in no small measure to Larry's wise counsel," Obama said.

Summers will return to Harvard University, a move a senior administration official said was always part of Summers' long-standing plans. The official said the president asked Summers last fall to stay through 2010 in order to see through the

country: Abbr.

"While we have much work ahead to repair the damage done by the recession, we are on a better path thanks in no small measure to Larry's wise counsel."

President Barack Obama

passage of financial regulatory legislation and the continued implementation of the economic stimulus package. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity in order to discuss internal White House matters.

Summers is the third high-level mem-

ber of Obama's economic team to leave in recent months, following the departure of budget director Peter Orszag and Christina Romer, head of the Council of Economic Advisers, both of whom left this summer. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner would be the only one of Obama's top-tier economic advisers to remain with the administration should be stay through the end of the year.

Geithner said in a statement that Summers' insights were essential in helping "guide us through the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression."

Summers' departure was first reported Tuesday by Bloomberg News.



02010 Thinking Machine, Inc. All Flights Reserved

AT WWW.SUDOKU.COM

crossword solutions.

Don't ask, don't tell repeal halted



JEFF CHIU / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former U.S. Marine Morningstar Vancil, right, is hugged by Robert C. Potter office in San Francisco, Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2010. According to its website, the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 is the only post whose membership is predominantly Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered.

By Anne Flaherty

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans on Tuesday blocked an effort by Democrats and the White House to lift the ban on gays from serving openly in the military, voting unanimously against advancing a major defense policy bill that included the provision.

The mostly partisan vote dealt a major blow to gay rights groups who saw the legislation as their best hope, at least in the short term, for repeal of the 17-year-old law known as "don't ask, don't tell."

If Democrats lose seats in the upcoming congressional elections this fall, as many expect, repealing the ban could prove even more difficult — if not impossible — next year. With that scenario looming, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said that a lame-duck session was being planned and that lifting the ban would be taken up then.

The episode upset advocates who believe that neither President Barack Obama nor Reid did enough to see the measure through.

"The whole thing is a political train wreck," said Richard Socarides, a White House adviser on gay rights during the Clinton administration.

Democrats included the repeal provision in a \$726 billion defense policy bill, which authorizes a pay raise for the troops among other popular programs. In a deal brokered with the White House, the measure would have overturned the 1993 law banning openly gay service only after a Pentagon review and certification from the president that lifting the ban wouldn't hurt troop morale. But with little time left for debate before the November ballot, the bill languished on the Senate calendar until gay rights groups, backed by pop star Lady Gaga, began an aggressive push to turn it into an election issue.

Earlier this month a federal judge in Los Angeles declared the ban an unconstitutional violation of the due process and free speech rights of gays and lesbians. The decision was the third federal court ruling since July to assert that statutory limits on the rights of gays and lesbians were unconstitutional.

Reid agreed to force a vote on the bill this week and limit debate, despite Republican objections. A Nevada Democrat in a tight race of his own this fall, he also pledged to use the defense bill as a vehicle for an immigration proposal that would enable young people to qualify for U.S. citizenship if they joined the military.

Republicans alleged that Reid was using the defense bill to score political points with the Democratic base.

Democrats countered that the bill merely reflects public opinion. Recent polls suggest that a majority of Americans think the ban on gays in the military should be overturned.

"We're going to fight for this," said Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

But at least for now, the question of how and when to change the policy returns to the Pentagon, which had set a December deadline to complete a study of the effects of lifting the ban. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said that he supports Obama's goal of repeal, but Gates made it clear he thought the process should move gradually.

Fort Bliss shooting probed

By Associated Press

CRIME

FORT BLISS, Texas (AP) — The FBI is investigating why a retired Army sergeant walked into a Fort Bliss convenience store and shot two employees, one fatally, before he was gunned down by responding officers, the agency said Tuesday.

It was unclear whether Steven Kropf, 63, of El Paso, had any relationship with either victim, the FBI said in a statement. The agency described the Monday shooting at the West Texas Army post as an isolated incident and said it was investigating a possible motive.

FBI officials did not return calls to The Associated Press.

Authorities believe Kropf walked into the store about 3 p.m. and shot Bettina Maria Goins, who was pronounced dead at the military hospital, and another woman, who remained hospitalized Tuesday, the FBI said in its statement. Both women were civilian employees of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, which runs merchandise operations for the military, including fastfood restaurants and convenience stores.

Goins, 44, worked at another Fort Bliss store and was at that particular convenience store to pick up more Halloween candy, her daughter told the El Paso Times. Maria-Laura Nasti said her mother was an innocent bystander.

"He took her away from us. It was sense-

less," Nasti said.

At a news conference Tuesday, post commander Maj. Gen. Dana Pittard said the post was safe.

"Fort Bliss is still, and remains still, one of the safest installations in the country," he said, adding that officials plan to "take a good look" at the private weapons policy at Fort Bliss.

"Fort Bliss is still, and remains still, one of the safest installations in the country."

Maj. Gen. Dana Pittard Fort Bliss post commander

The shooting came nearly 11 months after 13 people were killed in a shooting rampage at Fort Hood in central Texas near Killeen. Maj. Nidal Hasan, an Army psychiatrist, is charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder in the Nov. 5 shootings.

Hasan, 40, was paralyzed in the shooting and remains jailed. An Article 32 hearing — similar to a civilian grand jury proceeding — is scheduled for next month, when a military officer will hear testimony from victims and determine if there is enough evidence to warrant a trial.

TCU DAILY SKIFF 35¢ PER WORD; 45¢ PER BOLD WORD PER DAY www.tcudailyskiff.com/classifieds TO PLACE YOUR AD Classifieds

Help Wanted

Part Time, Great Pay

Sale Associate. \$10/h+bonuses. Green lifestyle boutique off 7th Street. Flexible hours. info@thegreenergood.com 817.732.1500

Child care needed! My son attends the Kinderfrogs school. Needing a student to pick him up M-F 3pm and hang out in their home or dorm till shortly after 5pm. Excellent opportunity for a special ed student. Weekly pay 70.00. 817.925.3470

Sales Positions Available!

Local established sales company has 4 Sales positions and 10 Marketing positions available! Located in Arlington on I-20! Weekly pay! Bonuses! Sales commissions! Average \$750 to \$1,500 WEEKLY! Proud member of the BBB. Set your own hours! Must have transportation. We train, no experience needed! If you are motivated and love earning money, CALL TODAY! (817) 225-5156

For Sale

For Sale Motor Scooter 2003 Piaggio Lt 150, 1897 miles, top case, cover, charger;\$2000;817-994-0647

For Rent

A beautiful 3 bedroom, two bath home near Lake Benbrook, open floor plan, updated kitchen, new carpet, tile, large backyard, covered patio, alarm system, two car garage w/ add boat parking and storage shed. Renting for \$1350 a month. 817.602.4459



THE SKIFF.

FOOTBALL Patterson: SMU game to be like any other, not a 'humiliation'

By David Stein

Staff Reporter

Head coach Gary Patterson is taking his No. 4 Horned Frogs to the movies, and he hopes they don't like the ending.

Patterson said he planned to show SMU's celebration video from its 2005 win over the Frogs during practice today. For the first time this year, TCU will not have any returning players from the 2005 squad.

"SMU's a good football team. It's always a war when we play over at [Gerald J.] Ford Stadium."

Gary Patterson Head football coach

In 2005, the Frogs went to Dallas and lost 21-10 to SMU. The loss came one week after TCU upset then-No. 7 Oklahoma in Norman. It was the Horned Frogs' only loss that season and the only loss to SMU in eight games under Patterson.

"SMU's a good football team. It's always a war," Patterson said. "It's especially a war when we play over at [Gerald J.] Ford Stadium.

Patterson said he saw something

on TV that said TCU was going to Dallas to humiliate SMU. When the Frogs travel to Dallas Friday night to play their in-state rival, Patterson said he would treat it like any other game.

Patterson said SMU head coach June Jones has been running the ball more effectively, which has been reflected in offensive rankings. Last year, SMU finished 98th in the country in rushing. In three games this year, the Mustangs now rank 49th.

The SMU rushing attack is led by sophomore Zach Line. At 235 pounds, Line is a big running back that plays well in the Mustang system of offense, Patterson said.

On the TCU side of the ball, Patterson said he wanted to create more opportunities for senior wide receiver Jeremy Kerley.

"Kerley's one of those guys who gives you a lot of problems in certain situations, and we've got to keep doing it [to other teams]," Patterson said.

Patterson also said he was still looking for a short-yardage running back similar to last year's leading rusher Joseph Turner, who graduated. TCU is 43-39-7 against the Mus-

tangs all-time. The series has been played annually since 1921 except for 1925, 1987-88, when SMU did not field a team, and in 2006.

TCU will be the highest-ranked team ever to visit Gerald J. Ford Stadium, which opened in 2000.



Former Horned Frog Jerry Hughes hoists the Iron Skillet after beating SMU last year.

SKIFF ARCHIVES



Penalties to blame for Cowboys' sad showing



OPINION

After a loss to the Chicago Bears on Sunday, both coaches and players from the Dallas Cowboys cited petty mistakes as the cause for the unimpressive performance. I, for one, feel that there is a major underlying theme to the Cowboys' game-time struggles.

When considering why Dallas has only won one playoff game in my little sister's lifetime (who by the way is a high school freshman), I'm surprised that few people seem to consider the one disturbing trend: penalties. You can blame a lack of leadership, you can blame underachievement by players, but the numbers speak for themselves — penalties are a major issue in the Dallas franchise.

The Cowboys have consistently been huge penalty gatherers in the NFL over the past decade. In eight out of the past 12 years, the Cowboys have ranked in the top 10 in both penalty yardage and penalties received. In every season since Wade Phillips became the head coach, the Cowboys have hit the top five.

As of now, this season is no exception. The Cowboys already have 18 penalties for a total of 131 penalty yards. Alex Barron's little holding incident during the final play of week one cost Dallas a victory against the Washington Redskins. In addition to that, six penalties took away 50 yards (and far more momentum) in last week's effort against the Chicago Bears. If there's any one subject that needs to be addressed immediately, I say it's avoiding that infamous yellow flag.

I'm really curious to see how Wade Phillips and the rest of the coaching staff handle this situation. In the past, the coach has shrugged off questions about penalties, stating that there wasn't much of a correlation between penalties and wins. Veterans such as

tight end Jason Witten, however, have been vocal since the pre-season in disagreeing with Phillips' stance. Now that Dallas' penalty issues are in the national spotlight, perhaps now Uncle Wade will have a change of mind. If Dallas fails to put together the discipline needed, the likelihood of a strong playoff run appears to be fading fast.

More than likely, someone out there still feels that the Cowboys' biggest concern relies in finding a better kicker, firing Wade Phillips or revamping the offensive line. Perhaps all of the above. I still hold to the contention that for every yard lost with a holding or false-start violation, another one that Tony Romo and the Boys needs to be picked back up. Even with the talent that the Dallas Cowboys have, 3rd and 15 is never easy to pull off against a NFL defense. When the Cowboys start to mature out of the "petty mistakes" that are penalties, perhaps we'll see a re-emergence of a playoff contender.

> J.D. Moore is a freshman journalism major from Little Elm.

VOLLEYBALL

Early strength not enough for victory

By Ryan Osborne Staff Writer

The TCU volleyball team lost to crosstown rival SMU 3-1 Tuesday night in front of more than 1,000 fans at the University Rec Center and a national TV audience.

The loss dropped the Frogs to 9-5 for the season and snapped their six-game winning streak.

TCU had control of the match early in the first set, jumping out to a 3-0 lead. The Frogs did not trail during the set and, at one time, they led 17-7 before clinching the set 25-18 off a kill by Jordan Raines.

The second set was a different story — it was closer than the first one with several ties early in the match, until SMU took the lead for the first time. The Frogs scored two quick points to regain the lead again, but lost it shortly after and couldn't get it back.

Later in the set, TCU Head Coach Prentice Lewis called a time-out with SMU ahead 23-19. The Frogs responded by scoring three straight points, capitalized by a kill from Irene Hester to tie it 23-23, but that was as close as TCU came to winning a set the rest of the night. SMU scored two straight points, won the set and tied the match at 1-1.

The Mustangs controlled the third set with ease and maintained a 4- or 5-point advantage throughout, before clinching the set 25-17 and gaining a 2-1 match lead.

In the fourth set, SMU carried its momentum over and got out to a 12-6 lead. Lewis called a time-out with TCU down 17-13 and the Frogs responded by tying the set at 22-22, before SMU scored three straight points to clinch the match.

Hester led TCU with 21.5 points, while fellow Senior Christy Hudson had the Frog's highest attack percentage at .333.

The Frogs will be back in action Saturday afternoon when they travel to San Diego to begin Mountain West Conference play against San Diego State. The Aztecs are 5-7 and have lost six straight games. Senior Irene Hester sets the ball against SMU on Tuesday. The Frogs would go on to lose 3 games to 1.

Eagles' Reid changes mind, names Vick to start

By Rob Maaddi

NFL

AP Pro Football Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Michael Vick earned himself a starting job by being — of all things — a pocket passer.

Vick will take over as the Philadelphia Eagles' No. 1 quarterback, coach Andy Reid said Tuesday, a day after he announced he would go back to Kevin Kolb.

"When someone is playing at the level Michael Vick is playing, you have to give him an opportunity," Reid said. "This isn't about Kevin Kolb's play. You're talking about Michael Vick as one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL right now."

Vick is considered the greatest scrambling quarterback in NFL history, but he won the job over Kolb by demonstrating he no longer has a run-first mentality.

Kolb missed the last six quarters because of a concussion, and Vick played well in his absence. Kolb was cleared to practice and was expected to run the first-team offense on Wednesday.

"Kevin is fine. It's not an injuryrelated issue," Reid said. "It's not about judging him. He's going to be a championship-caliber quarterback."

"This isn't about Kevin Kolb's play. You're talking about Michael Vick as one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL right now."

Andy Reid Philadelphia Eagles' Head Coach

Vick threw for 175 yards and one touchdown and ran for 103 yards in a 27-20 season-opening loss to Green Bay. He had 284 yards passing and two TDs in a 35-32 win at Detroit on Sunday.

Kolb started two games in his

first three seasons before he became the team's No. 1 quarterback after Donovan McNabb was traded to Washington. Kolb struggled in the first half against the Packers in the season opener, but he became the first QB in league history to throw for 300 yards in his first two career starts last year.

Though the Eagles have been grooming Kolb to be the starter since drafting him in the second round in 2007, Vick forced Reid to make a difficult decision by playing better than he did when he was a superstar in Atlanta.

"Michael did an exceptional job and my job is to evaluate the players," Reid said. "It's my obligation to make the proper decision."

Vick's start against the Lions was his first in nearly four years. A three-time Pro Bowl pick during six seasons with the Falcons, Vick missed two seasons while serving an 18-month sentence in federal prison for his role in a dogfighting operation.





<u>Sports</u>

TOMORROW Find out where to park for the SMU vs. TCU football game



TCU's Taylor Featherston bats against Arizona during a regional game in May.

SKIFF ARCHIVES

Baseball coach Schlossnagle's contract extended through 2016

By Leah Watkins

Staff Reporter

Athletic Director Chris Del Conte announced a contract extention through 2016 for head baseball coach Jim Schlossnagle Tuesday. Schlossnagle has been the head coach of the TCU base-

ball program since 2003 and had prior coaching experience at Elon College, Clemson, Tulane and UNLV.

According to GoFrogs.com, the TCU Athletics official website, Schlossnagle has coached the baseball team to seven consecutive conference championships and postseason appearances. Also, in the seven years Schlossnagle has been at TCU, he has set the top seven win totals in the program's history.

The 2010 baseball season was Schlossnagle's most successful year at TCU. He led the team to its debut at the College World Series and ended the season with a record of 54-14 and a No. 3 ranking overall.

Schlossnagle has received the Mountain West Conference Coach of the Year award five years running and picked up the honor of the 2010 National Coach of the Year last season.

Del Conte and Schlossnagle were not available for comment before press time.