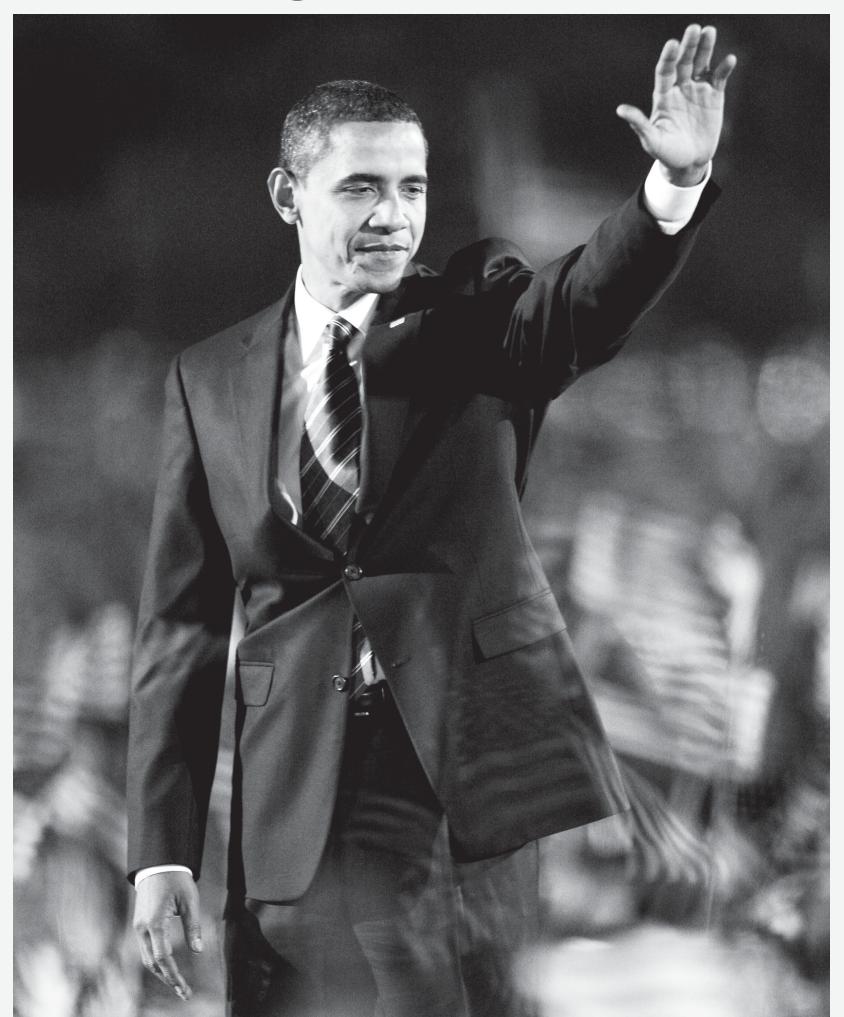
DAILYSKIFF.COM · WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008 · VOL. 106 ISSUE 39

'Change has come'



CHUCK KENNEDY / MCT

See a slide

show of

election

photos.

President-elect Barack Obama waves to supporters Tuesday night in Grant Park in Chicago after giving his acceptance speech after it was announced he has won the presidential election.

bama wins history-making election

By Steven Thomma McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Barack Hussein Obama was elected the 44th president of the United States on Tuesday, swept to victory by an anxious country eager

to change course at home and abroad. Obama, 47, becomes the first African-American in U.S. history to win the presidency and the first from the generation that came of age after the turbulence of the 1960s. He built his campaign on a mastery of the Internet

forever. His biracial background reflects the changing demographics of America in the 21st century. And his victories in formerly Republican states in the South, Midwest and West reflect a changing political order in the making.

After an epic struggle, the first-term Democratic senator from Illinois defeated Republican John McCain, 72, a hero of the Vietnam War and a fourterm senator from Arizona.

as an organizing tool that will change ocratic gains across the country that votes in the Senthe way presidential campaigns are run promised him a solid working major- ate. ity in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

> Democratic challengers ousted Republican incumbent Sens. Elizabeth Dole in North Carolina and John Sununu in New Hampshire. Democrats also picked up open Republican Senate seats in New Mexico and Virginia.

However, they failed to oust Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, apparently dashing their Obama was at the vanguard of Demhopes of gaining a filibuster-proof 60

Eager for a popular mandate to reshape the government, Obama appeared well on his way late Tuesday night to become the first

dailyskiff. com Democrat to take

a majority of the popular vote since SEE OBAMA · PAGE 2

Students react to outcome of historic race

By Mischa Astroff and Michael Carroll **Staff Reporters**

Students at the NAACP/Delta Sigma Theta watch party danced with excitement as the election was called in favor of Democrat Barack Obama while students at the Campus Commons watch party discussed what the new president would mean for the country.

Lauren Gray, a senior and president of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, said those in attendance at the party in the University Recreation Center were thrilled with the

"We're so happy here at the watch party because there's history in the making," Gray said. "We would have been surprised if it went the other way because of all the support behind him."

Attendance in the Campus Commons was sparse throughout the entire evening. However, a few students, such as sophomore speech pathology major Megan Herman, were still resting on the lawn as the electoral votes were tallied.

"I'm watching the election because

SEE PARTY · PAGE 2

Early voting eases stress of **Election Day** poll workers

By Logan Wilson and Rose Baca Staff Reporters

Long waiting lines were reported in voting stations across the country as Americans stormed to the polls Tuesday in what could be record numbers for the election of President Barack Obama, but traffic was slow at polling stations near

Helen Pierson, election judge at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, said traffic at the station was slow and steady, most likely because of the high percentage of early voters.

Republican John McCain received 55.4 percent of the votes in Tarrant County, and Obama received 43.7 percent as of 11:04 p.m. Tuesday.

In Tarrant County, voter turnout was

Tarrant

County Votes

341,518 total votes,

John McCain /

Sarah Palin

55.44 percent

43.81 percent

Joe Biden

Barack Obama /

269,858 total votes.

about 65 per-Early cent. voters totaled 425,893, and about 98 percent of precincts had reported 165,831 Election Day voters as of 11:04 p.m. Tuesday.

Pierson said the line was out the door and

into the parking lot at 7 a.m. However, voter turnout slowed later in the day because 1,299 of the area's 2,250 registered voters had cast their votes early, she said.

At 2:45 p.m., Pierson said 380 votes had been cast at the site.

Unlike in past elections, the St. Stephen voting site had no major problems, Pier-

"We've experienced high levels of cooperation," Pierson said. "People in this area tend to be well-informed and edu-

SEE VOTING · PAGE 2

ANALYSIS

New president-elect to face tough issues in White House

By Chance Welch

Staff Reporter Isolated T-Storms

Manochehr Dorraj is a professor of political science. Dorraj, who teaches courses in comparative politics and international relations, earned a doctorate in government at the University of Texas at Austin.

Q: NBC News has just called it for Barack Obama. Have there been any recent presidential elections that have been called this

A: Is there a problem to call it this early? Well, this looks pretty solid in the corner of ready for change. Secondly, what Obama

if you call it early, but some of the states like California and Oregon and Washington that are clearly in Obama's column are going to give him more than 270 electoral votes that he needs so as the evening goes on, we will know for sure that the projection is confirmed, so I don't see a problem. If it was a close race, yes, there would have been a problem.

Q: What do you think some of the factors have been in Obama's performance to-

A: First and foremost, the country was

Obama. It's not a close race. It would be hasty the candidate brought to the table was a bright, intelligent, younger man who comes from a multi-racial background and has a tremendous ability to bring the different people from different races and ethnicities and persuasions together. He seems to be a bridge-builder, a healer in some ways, but also he has tremendous charisma, and that charisma is enhanced by terrific oratory skills and the fact that he also represents a different genre of American leaders and their sensitivity to empathize with the rest of the

SEE DORRAJ · PAGE 2



MANOCHEHR DORRAJ



TODAY'S WEATHER

Tomorrow: Partly Cloudy

74 / 46

74 / 47

Friday: Sunny

ELECTION 2008

OBAMA

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Jimmy Carter eked out 50.1 percent in 1976.

Obama sealed his victory by holding all the states that went Democratic in 2004, then picking off Republican states including Iowa, New Mexico and Ohio.

Ohio was particularly important: No Republican has ever won the presidency without Ohio. No Democrat had won the White House without it since John Ken-

There as everywhere, the faltering economy dominated voters' minds and tilted the political landscape solidly against the Republicans as the party of power and responsibility — in the White House.

Interest was intense.

More than 40 million Americans already had voted by Tuesday morning, and total turnout was expected to top 130 million. The turnout rate was likely to rival the modern record of 67 percent set in 1960, the highest since women were granted the right to vote in

The Democratic wins came at a moment of history when the country was unusually anxious, as eight years of a Republican presidency are ending with an economy sinking into recession, markets in turmoil and U.S. troops at war in Afghanistan and Iraq.

President Bush, whose popularity plummeted following his close re-election four years ago, was all but invisible Tuesday, shunned on the campaign trail and watching the returns in the seclusion of the White House.

He voted earlier by absentee ballot in Texas, where he expects to move after leaving office Jan. 20.

Bush loomed large over the election as both Obama and McCain vowed to change course.

From the start, Obama ran on the promise of change, both in policy and political style. Unknown outside Chicago just four years ago, he seized the national stage with a keynote speech to the 2004 Democratic National Convention that gave voice to a hunger for a less confrontational and divisive politics.

That appealed particularly to a new generation of young Americans, drawn into politics in large numbers, who helped Obama defeat New York Sen. Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination in a 50-state marathon that pitted his promise of change against her offer of experience.

Obama vowed to change tax and economic policy to help the working and middle classes, expand health care to the uninsured, withdraw troops from Iraq and rebuild frayed relationships and alliances with countries around the world.

He also promised to raise taxes on the wealthy to help finance his expansion of programs for the

McCain, too, promised change. He urged voters, particularly independents, to consider his long tradition of maverick reform that often challenged his own party. "I am not president Bush," he in-

But it was all but impossible for McCain to shake the Bush legacy a burden made worse when Vice President Dick Cheney decided to issue a public endorsement of McCain on the final pre-election weekend. It was the subject of one of the final ads of the campaign aired not by a proud McCain, but

Flying home to Phoenix Tuesday afternoon, McCain and his aides sounded a sentimental note about the campaign.

"We've had a great ride, a great experience, and it's full of memories that we will always treasure," McCain said as he spoke with reporters on his plane.

McCain's chief campaign strategist, Steve Schmidt, later told reporters that McCain was already facing a hostile political landscape as the face of the Republican Party when Wall Street collapsed in big albatross."



Results as of 11:30 p.m.



270 needed to win

President McCain **Obama** Electoral 129 338

Senate 35 seats

Won	10	15
Leading	4	3
No election this cycle	26	37
TOTAL (provisional)	40	55

(provisional)	40	33
House 435 sea	ıts	
Won	91	155

51

40

Governors 11 seats

Leading

Won	3	5
Leading	1	1
No election this cycle	17	22
TOTAL (provisional)	21	28

Independents/other: Senate: 0 seats

September, and voters grew even angrier.

'We did our absolute best in this campaign in really difficult circumstances," Schmidt said. "We did the best we can in historically difficult circumstances from a political climate. It is highly doubtful that anyone will ever have to run in a worse political climate than the one John McCain had to run in this year. The party's been very unpopular. The president's approval numbers, you know, were not helpful in the race, but the party as a whole is unpopular with the American people and that was a

continued from page 1

it will decide the future of this country for the next four years," Herman said.

Mandy Carnes, a junior advertising/public relations major and a member of the Marines, and Austin Lindert, a sophomore criminal justice major and member of the Army, watched with their own futures in mind.

'This election will impact our careers directly," Carnes said.

Others in attendance at the NAACP/Delta Sigma Theta watch party said they were happy for the newly-elected president.

"I'm proud," said freshman electrical engineering major Devin Johnson. "It seems like a lot of people are disappointed, but it's all going to be for a better change. Obviously, things are going to get better, you've just got to give (Obama) time to work with it."

Mariel Bongiovanni, sophomore communications major, said he didn't expect the way the networks broke the news of Obama's victory.

how they cut into the coverage to announce it," Bongiovanni

"I thought it was surprising

Marina Guerra, junior neuroscience major, said the election on in the nation."

didn't necessarily result in the victory of the better man.

"I don't think there was a best man in this election," Guerra said. "Certain stances that each candidate took appealed to different people."

Brittany Richards, a junior advertising/public relations major, couldn't contain her excitement as it was announced Obama had won the election.

"This is so exciting," she said. "It's historic. I have a lot of confidence and faith in Obama. I feel like we will see some change. Maybe not immediately, but there will definitely be some change and some positive things going

VOTING

continued from page 1

cated. We've only had boring problems."

More than 130 million people nationwide were expected to vote, a turnout rate that could approach, or possibly exceed, the modern record of 67 percent set

Stormy Lovett, election judge at the Paschal High School voting site, said things went smoothly throughout the day, except for a few instances when people showed up but were registered in other counties.

Lovett said many TCU students came to Paschal thinking they had registered in Tarrant County when they were still registered in their home counties.

One TCU student from Austin showed up at 2 p.m. thinking he was registered in Tarrant County, Lovett said. Once he realized he was still registered in Travis County, he quickly decided to drive to Austin to cast his vote, she said.

"He looked at me and said, I guess I'll be going to Austin. Road trip!" Lovett said. "I hope he's voting for my candidate."

Another student cried when she realized she wouldn't be able to vote because her voting site was more than five hours away, Lovett said. The woman eventually voted on a provisional ballot but was worried her vote wouldn't count, she said.

"The girl was crying, 'I want-

ed to vote for Obama," Lovett said. "I told her all you can do is pray."

Malia Hubbard, a senior neuroscience major, voted at Paschal, but not before running into a few setbacks. She said someone had changed the voting address on her registration card without her knowledge, which led her to show up at the wrong polling site.

Hubbard said she was certain her candidate would win the election, although she is apprehensive about what will happen afterward.

"It could either be the best or worst decision that I've ever made," Hubbard said.

Information from McClatchy Wire Services was used in this report.

DORRAJ

continued from page 1

world. The whole idea and image he promotes of where he wants to take the nation and for that matter, the world, and a message of change that he would repeat in his campaign.

Q: In past presidential elections, a lot of analysts have been saying that college-age voters and youth voters are apathetic and they haven't been turning out as much. Do you think this turns

politicization of galvanization of the youth was used against the political system. This time around

the youth is using the political system that is primarily electoral system to change it from within, so they're banking their hopes and aspirations for a better future in

Q: As it's projected that Obama will be going into office, what kind of challenges do you think he will face? **A:** Well he faces tremendous

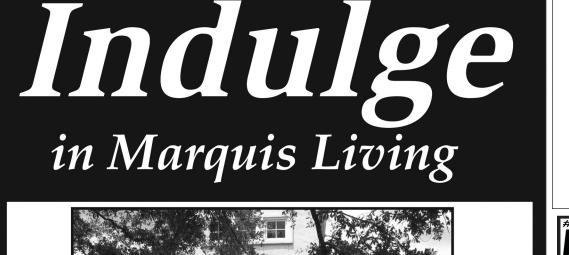
challenges. First and foremost, he is residing on an ailing economy. We are clearly in a recession, an economic downturn and a whole mortgage crisis which was but-A: Yes. He galvanized the youth tressed by a housing crisis which vote, and it made a big difference was buttressed by a banking and in his campaign because he gave financial crisis. These are trethem something to hope for, mendous challenges domestisomething to identify with. What cally and economically, but also is happening is, in the 1960s, the we have challenges globally. The American political capital has diminished around the world. America is now involved in two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and he faces the challenge of returning the economy to productivity and solvency, to providing jobs and opportunities, and mending the banking system and revamping America's place in the world politically and economically, restoring America's leadership and political credibility around the world. I would say that because the challenges are enormous, this also has the potential of making him a very tremendous president if he rises to those challenges and proves to be a good steward of the state and can govern effectively not only in this country but also be a statesman globally.

(Franklin) Roosevelt became 'Roosevelt" as he is known by historians as a great president because he came to power during the Great Depression, when economically America was in dire straits and was facing down Nazi Germany and royal Japan and tre-

mendous challenges abroad and at home, and he managed to rise to the occasion and provide remedies to both of those domestic and international challenges. If Obama proves to be the type of political leader who can also rise to those challenges, then his name will go down in the American annals of history as a great president.

Q: One of the key criticisms from the McCain campaign in this election was that Obama didn't have enough experience in terms of being a junior senator compared to McCain. Do you think he might have any problems

A: No, I don't think so. He has proved to be a very bright and intelligent man, and his choices for the people who he has surrounded himself with shows good judge ment so far. His choice for vice president, his choice of advisers, his choice of the brain trust he gets his advice from, the type of campaign that he has run, which has been successful, all of these indicate that here is a man who has a bright mind, quick instincts and terrific political acumen who can rise to the occasion, and if there is someone who can learn on the job, it's him. He has all the equipment, all the necessary qualities to become a great president, I think. Some of the things will come with experience. They said the same thing about president (John F.) Kennedy, but they did not prevent him from rising to the occasion to become a great president that he was. I don't see that as a major obstacle, and on the other hand, if there's someone with a great deal of experience but has the wrong direction for the country, and if the experience they have looks into the past rather than the future, that experience is not an asset, it's a handicap.





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OPINION

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The Skiff View

Political fervor shouldn't die on election night

This election season might be over, but students' political involvement should not be.

The presidential race between John McCain and Barack Obama is described as historic, not only because of the candidates running for office but also because of how it has stirred young people into action. Young voters across the nation participated in rallies, raised awareness about their preferred candidate and went to the polls in record numbers, galvanizing a demographic that is often reproached for being apathetic toward politics. When the United States sneezes, as the saying goes, the rest of the world catches pneumonia. The electoral race has gripped not only young Americans but young people from all nations as they weigh the fact that the next American president faces the daunting task of leading the United States through the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression and a volatile foreign affairs scene. Young people's efforts to encourage one another to vote and educate themselves and others about the issues that matter to them is commendable, but this energy should be constant and not another fad. The opportunity to participate in a democracy and have a voice is a right in the United States but a privilege in other parts of the world, and young Americans should not take it for granted. It is imperative that students keep up with the news to remain informed and be able to make educated decisions and have meaningful discussions with their peers and others. Seeing young people come together to discuss politics intelligently is a breath of fresh air, and at a college campus, these conversations should be a common scene. At the end of the election season, young people should not put out embers but feed the fire.

News editor Julieta Chiquillo for the editorial board.

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

Meal plan should better cater to residents in Worth Hills



JOHN WILLIS

They had all the warning in the world. The outcome was imminent for more than a year. Nearly everybody analyzing the situation said it wouldn't turn out well. But nobody in control elected to do anything about it. It was like somebody seeing dark clouds and hearing the thunder but being surprised it rained shortly after. The lack of foresight is unprecedented and makes it difficult for me to chant the three letters that abbreviate this usually great place.

If you think those three letters are U-S-A, that's not what I'r

S-A, that's not what I'm talking about. I'm talking about TCU. The failure of the current meal plan is strikingly similar to the current financial crisis or turmoil or failure — whatever your preferred

news source may call it. Shortly after it was announced the Brown-Lupton University Union would be open for the current semester, the prospective meal plan was announced. Just like financial analysts and economists predicted the eventual failure of our sound financial market, TCU student leaders and the student body voiced their disapproval of the potential new meal plan. If you read the Skiff or logged onto Facebook, it was pretty clear the student body didn't support the proposed plan — and if you look at the plan, there's little reason that it

would.

We have shifted from a minimum \$1,400 per semester plan with more than five different options on campus to a plan that costs \$1,799 or more and is centralized to one location. Of course that isn't going to be welcomed. To add to the gross negligence of convenience and flexibility, TCU has com-

who are mostly freshmen now, almost every single one of them lived in a freshmen dorm last year. That means those students were accustomed to a meal plan

Worth Hills, beside Brachman residents

pletely alienated the group of students

being the Worth Hills residents.

most affected by the change — that group

Of the more than 600 students living in

that was marked different. Now, not only do those residents have a different meal plan, but they also live the farthest from the BLUU.

The school's response? Ride the Frog Shuttle. That sounds great, except for the fact that the bus is constantly running late, and the route is based upon getting to the middle of campus instead of the

to the middle of campus instead of the BLUU. Keep in mind that new students must live on campus for two years, and campus residents must purchase a meal plan.

Regardless of how inflexible and inconvenient the current plan is — especially to Worth Hills residents — I still think if the quality of food is improved,

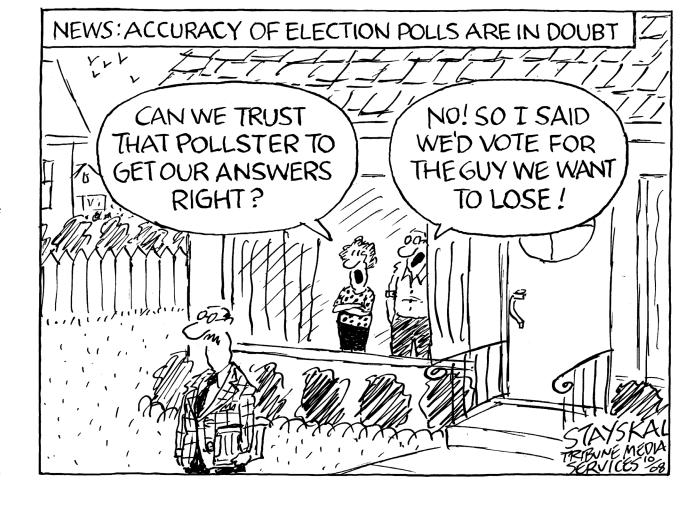
inconvenient the current plan is — especially to Worth Hills residents — I still think if the quality of food is improved, students would almost be universally satisfied. College students are very open to change. Most of our lives change from week to week, if not daily. Unfortunately, the food in the BLUU is still painfully mediocre and inconsistent, as well as the customer service.

As far as customer service, with the exception of a few genuinely friendly workers, I am consistently amazed at what I see. On the positive side, it might give the BLUU a homely atmosphere in which the workers yell at each other and sometimes students too, but it certainly isn't professional. If we're going to invest in fancy employee uniforms and metal chairs with an engraved horned frog in the background, one would only expect that we would develop a standard for customer relations. However, it simply isn't the case.

I don't have enough fingers to count the number of times I've seen an employee raise their voice at somebody impolitely who is asking for something reasonable. How can you blame somebody for wanting a little extra meat when the portions on the plate wouldn't feed a first-grader? Interacting with workers at the BLUU is often like being a new student at a big public high school — extremely awkward and slightly intimidating.

A recent Skiff article examined the innovative process used in Market Square to recycle uneaten food to feed farm animals. When reading the article, I was fairly impressed with the process, but I had to laugh. I just hoped the pigs enjoyed eating the food I left on my plate, which I didn't like.

John Andrew Willis is a sophomore environmental science major from Dallas, TX.



School supplies should go green



Since the birth of the TCU Barnes & Noble bookstore, a few new environmentally focused supplies have popped up on the shelves. Until recently, they were placed on the very bottom shelf near the back of the supply area, but now they have emerged at the top shelf supporting the theme semester "Think Purple, Live Green."

But these supplies should always be available, not just in the theme semester. As conscious student consumers, we must put in some extra time to read the consumer label and make an environmentally ethical decision — "Do I purchase the 'green' supplies and act as a steward of the Earth for the sake of future generations, or do I get the notebook with the flowers on it?" To me, it's a simple question to answer, but then again I'm not a fan of highly-ornamented notebooks.

As a student body, we must place a

greater demand upon the bookstore for more of these similar sustainable items. The more individuals interested, the more our requests will be addressed. Already after sending numerous comments to the Barnes & Noble suggestion box last semester, I have seen a

It is surprising to see how few ecofriendly supplies we have compared to the wasteful ones.

greater selection of eco-friendly pencils, biodegradable pens, green-supporting zip-drives and 100 percent post-consumer content recycled notebooks and filler paper. In terms of resourcefulness, these supplies are a no-brainer. It is as easy as: 1. Create waste 2. Re-create with the waste 3. Use the new creation 4. Re-create the re-created waste, and so on. Why shouldn't we buy everything that has been recycled and eliminate the large stretches of landfills?

It is surprising to see how few ecofriendly supplies we have compared to the wasteful ones. I would rally for a completely renewable paper supply because the differences between the two are nearly invisible beyond the label. After visiting other colleges, I was shocked (and quite delighted) to find at least 85 percent to 90 percent of the notebooks and filler paper were made by Environotes, a company that produces environmentally friendly school supplies. Personally, I feel there is no reason TCU should not follow with other universities or even lead the way. If we are to take this year's theme semester seriously, I suggest a bit of action on the behalf of the university, especially in the easiest area: school supplies.

All in all, I highly suggest checking out the eco-friendly supplies at the TCU bookstore. If you are to purchase a new set of pencils, make sure you grab those E+Co. writers made from 100 percent recycled bags, or grab some Environotes loose-leaf filler paper made from 100 percent recycled paper and 30 percent post-consumer waste. Being an educated consumer requires nothing more than a thoughtful person. So think about the picture beyond yourself and make a choice for the future.

Gretchen Wilbrandt is a junior environmental science major from Woodstock, Ill.

Women play lead rolls in politics, should play lead rolls in movies, too



Last Friday, I was tired and needed a break from the relentless election news, so I checked out two trailers, both for upcoming comedies, from the Internet Movie Database.

The first was 17 Again. In it, Matthew Perry plays a middle-aged man whose wife and two children are apparently not his biggest fans.

Just as Perry is wondering if his life has been a big pit of pointlessness, a chance encounter with a guy who looks a lot like Santa Claus turns him into Zac Efron. Second chances and life lessons are sure to ensue.

The second was Bride Wars, in which Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway are best friends since childhood, that is until wedding planner Candice Bergen accidentally schedules both of their weddings on the same day at their dream location.

This turns the two characters into vindictive harpies, trying to ruin the other's life. I would say that life lessons ensue, but the trailer froze about a minute before it was over and to be honest, I wasn't all that eager to find out.

I thought, what would happen if the genders were swapped and 17 Again was about a mom who gets a second chance, and Bride Wars was about two catty grooms. The first would be highly unlikely, and the second would be nearly impossible.

That made me really sad, especially considering later that day, I took a two-hour train ride home to vote in an election, where for the first time in my lifetime, a woman was on a major party ticket.

While we rightfully wonder why it still has taken so long for women to reach the top position in the country, sometimes I wonder why we aren't bothered about why women aren't on top of more movie posters.

Politics trumps movies every time, but film is the mirror that reflects our society. Less movies with female leads are very indicative of less women in the lead role, so to speak, in politics or business.

But wasn't "Sex and the City" a big hit, you ask? Or earlier, wasn't there "Baby Mama," with Tina Fey and Amy Poehler?

Yes, films starring females and aimed at female audiences have been on the rise. But look at the women in these movies: they're mostly preoccupied with relationships and starting families.

Traditionally female concerns, to be sure, but you couldn't swap out a woman for a man in those and still have the same movie.

You could swap out a man for a wom-

an in many of the top-ten movies of the year so far and still have an amazing plot and identifiable characters.

A lot of this probably has to do with a lack of female directors and screenwriters. In a May 24 letter to the Los Ange-

les Times, Jennifer Warren and Jacqui Barcos, both board members of the Alliance of Women Directors, wrote: "Legions of talented and accomplished female directors would give their eye teeth to direct a genre, tentpole or blockbuster summer movie. But they are never given the chance."

If there were more women behind the camera in Hollywood, maybe we would see more female characters not solely defined by their femininity, but you could count on your fingers the number of movies in the last six

When one examines both the elections and the movies, it's clear to see women still have a long way to go.

months directed by women.

Last Friday, as I cast my vote, I felt a sense of empowerment, both in knowing that I had had my say and by seeing Sarah Palin's name on the ballot, despite the fact our views aren't exactly the same on every issue and don't need to be.

I don't think I've ever had a sense of empowerment after watching a movie trailer. When one examines both the election and the movies, it's clear to see women still have a long way to go.

Valerie Hannon is a senior newseditorial journalism major from Allen.

NEWS

Religious makeup of U.S. changing SGA slow to act on resolution

By Katie B. Martinez Staff Reporter

Growing up in a two-faith household, Margaret Foland, whose mother is a devout Catholic and father is a Southern Baptist, said the only fights she remembers growing up were over religion.

The junior theatre major was raised in the Catholic Church, a faith she embraces to this day, with the exception of one little bump in the road.

"My faith wavered and when I got into high school," she said. "So I have come full circle from doubting my own faith to defending it wholeheartedly."

Foland's experience is an example of the changing landscape of religion in America, which a Pew Research Institute Survey says is becoming increasingly more fluid and diverse.

The report, released earlier this year, included 35,000 respondents nationwide and found the current American religious marketplace to be characterized by constant movement with every major religious group simultaneously gaining and losing large numbers of adherents.

The survey showed that 37 percent of married Americans have a spouse of another faith, and 28 percent of respondents left the religion in which they were raised for another, or none at all. And when considering those who left one form of Protestant-based faith for another, the number of affiliation changes rose to 44 percent.

These results came as no surprise to Tim Carson, senior minister of University Christian Church.

Carson, a Brite Divinity School graduate, has been a pastor for 25 years and has witnessed first hand the increasing fluidity in American religious practice.

"We are a Disciples of Christ congregation," he said. "But when I take a poll of how many people grew up Disciples, it's maybe 25

Carson said he believes many

people these days pick congregations based on location more often than the tradition in which the congregation is rooted.

"We have a lot of young people here that are just looking for the place they can find God," he said. "And this seems to be the place where they feel that, regardless of where they came from or how they got here."

Carson said he believes the shift will continue, but America will remain a largely religious society.

"The heart hungers of the soul will always be there, but the way they are going to be met in the future will be, I think, in some radically diverse ways," he said.

The reality, Carson said, is the U.S. is a religious nation, with only four percent of Americans identifying themselves as atheist or agnostic, but not an exclusively Christian

"We are a democracy that allows religious freedom," he said. "Within that democracy are practicing Christians... and Jews and Muslims and Buddhists, and that is not necessarily a bad thing, it's just different."

Carson said a greater concern of many religious leaders is that the percentage of persons who are unaffiliated are actually larger than what is in the report, because people have a tendency to be kind to themselves in surveys.

The survey names the unaffiliated group as having the largest gain with 16 percent of Americans not currently identifying with any particular faith, while only 8 percent say they were not affiliated as children.

'What we experience in actual living churches is that a much larger percentage of the population does not participate," he said.

Another growing trend Carson said is problematic is piecing together traditions or beliefs from different faiths into a personalized belief system.

"It's a bit like snatching body parts and putting them all together into a new body," he said.

"Sometimes they aren't consistent or complimentary and when people do that in an unthoughtful manner they end up with peculiar combinations."

The blending of religious practices is something Jack Hill, associate professor of religion, said is prevalent in the writings and conversations he has with his students.

Hill said while many of his students do identify with a particular faith, closer inspection sometimes reveals a more individualistic prac-

"I will have some students that fill out the questionnaire at the beginning of the semester and indicate that they are Baptist, but once you get to know them you learn that they are doing some yoga meditation during the week," he said. "So it's a little bit of a syncretistic, personal spirituality.'

Rather than a fad or a trend, Hill suspects this practice could signal

By the numbers

4 percent of Americans say they are atheist or agnostic.

10 percent of Americans say they are former Catholics.

25 percent of Americans age 18 to **29** say they are not affiliated with any particular religion.

37 percent of married Americans have a spouse of a different faith. **44** percent of Americans have left the faith in which they were raised for another or none at all.

51 percent of Americans are affiliated with a Protestant-based faith.

SOURCE: THE Pew Forum on Religious and Public Life

a new axial age in religion.

"I think a potential change is coming in the next generation or two or three in terms of how people identify religiously," he said. "People are not necessarily going to be identifying so much institutionally or even with a particular faith, but they are going to have a little more complex experience of spirituality."

to publish professor reviews

By Kimmy Daycock Staff Reporter

A system to publish professor evaluations supported by a Student Government Association resolution that passed two years ago faces many hurdles, an SGA official said.

Candace Ruocco, SGA academic affairs committee chair, said getting relevant and objective information about professors published for students would be time consuming and require a lot of extra work. The university already evaluates professors as part of a mandatory procedure at the end of the semester, she said.

Every semester, the university compiles student-generated evaluations aimed at giving professors feedback on their course.

Ruocco said another concern is that there are several adjunct professors, and it would require even more time to gather information from them.

An SGA resolution passed in 2006 states the Academic Affairs Committee is in charge of developing a system to evaluate professors and publish the evaluations. Unlike bills, resolutions are nonbinding.

Myra Mills, SGA parliamentarian, said getting students to take the evaluations seriously is another con-

"I think if students knew that the evaluations were going to help other students then they would take them more seriously," Mills said.

Mills said the program that closely resembles what the resolution aims to implement is a Web site called Rate-MyProfessors.com, which is not affiliated with TCU.

RateMyProfessors.com is the Internet's largest database of studentgenerated, collegiate professor ratings, according to the Web site.

Catherine Wehlburg, executive director of the Office for Assessment and Quality, said the current course evaluations are designed to give feedback to faculty on their performance. Publishing the evaluations would be were not designed, Wehlburg said. The evaluation should provide information to improve the current course, not evaluate how a teacher might be viewed by a student, she

Mills said among the things students may want to know about professors is information about their teaching style and their grading

Knowing how much tests are

"I think if students knew that the evaluations were going to help other students then they would take them more seriously."

Myra Mills

SGA parliamentarian

worth or if the professor grades attendance may affect a student's decision to take that class, Mills said. Making that information available to students would be helpful resource,

Ruocco said the resolution is a good idea, adding she is interested in doing research and seeing if her committee can come up with a way to make progress on the resolution. She said she isn't sure about what other information SGA would compile for the evaluation.

Teresa Blackwell, a Spanish professor, said she has no problem with the information being published, but said she doesn't think it would be beneficial to students. The purpose of the evaluations is for professors to see where they need to improve or what they are doing that students like, Blackwell said.

As far as how seriously students take the current course evaluations, Blackwell said most students do take

using them in a way in which they them seriously, and the evaluations are valid.

However, Claire Sanders, a history professor, said she has a problem with the publishing of evaluations. Evaluations are part of personnel records for professors and are confidential, Sanders said. As for SGA-compiled evaluations, Sanders said she isn't sure if she would want them published. It would depend on what information SGA is looking for, she said.

Professors make adjustments to their syllabi over time, Sanders said. If students are going to use evaluations to see how a professor teaches, there should be a disclaimer stating that the student shouldn't expect the professor to use the exact syllabus that has been published, she said.

Christina Holbert, a sophomore music education major, said she would use the information if it were published because she would want to look at the different teaching styles among professors.

"A lot of people have difficulties with teachers because of the way they teach, and if you have something to help you determine what the teacher's going to be like a little bit, you could probably save yourself a lot of trouble in the long run," Holbert said.

Mark Munns, a junior neuroscience major, said the information would be somewhat useful, but the current course evaluations aren't a good representation on how a professor teaches.

RateMyProfessors.com and other programs like that have more useful information for students as far as how a professor teaches, Munns

However, Ryan Frazier, a senior political science major, said if the information were available to him, he probably wouldn't use it.

"If the evaluations are published, it kind of defeats the purpose of them," Frazier said. "They are supposed to be confidential thing between you and the teacher so that you can let them know accurately what their performance was."

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ELECTION 2008

Bad luck, mistakes plagued McCain

By William Douglas McClatchy Newspapers

PHOENIX — John McCain survived three airplane crashes, more than five years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam, the Keating Five political scandal and being written off as a presidential candidate in 2000 and 2008.

But Tuesday night, McCain couldn't survive Barack Obama's well-oiled campaign and the tide of history, as voters elected America's first African-American presi-

By all accounts, McCain shouldn't even have come close. The electoral environment was toxic for Republicans in 2008, given the nation's economic crisis, opposition to the war in Iraq and the abysmal approval ratings of President Bush, the titular head of the Republican Party, whom McCain stood by on most matters.

"We fought our way through the most challenging environment in my lifetime," said Mark Salter, McCain's senior adviser and the co-author of the Arizona' senator's autobiographical books, before the results were known. "And it was one damn thing after another.

"The campaign starts off, the frontrunner goes bust and implodes, fighting his way through New Hampshire with no finances to put into another state. Huge celebrity wins the Democratic nomination and beats (Hillary) Clinton to do it. The economy is awful. Bush is deeply unpopular. Win or lose, he (McCain) ought to be very proud of what he's managed to do in this campaign."

McCain's campaign may have been a victim of circumstances, but it also suffered from self-inflicted wounds, according to knowledgeable Republicans inside and outside the campaign.

His inability to stick to a prevailing theme while his rival stuck to a message of change; his decision to suspend his campaign to return to Washington and deal unsuccessfully with the economic crisis;

and — some said — his selection of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate all contributed to his downfall, several campaign officials, associates and Republican observers said.

"What was the message?" said Bill Dal Col, a McCain campaign contributor and GOP operative who managed publisher Steve Forbes' 1996 presidential campaign. "I know they worked hard to get it out, but all the public knew about John McCain was anti-terror: stop."

A former McCain campaign aide was more succinct.

"They were heavy on tactics, light on strategy," said the aide, who requested anonymity because of his fondness for McCain. "You could count the number of themes it had on your fingers and toes: Country First, Reform, Peace, Prosperity, the economy, and so on and so on."

The message problem crystallized in September, when the economic crisis exploded. The morning that the Lehman Brothers investment bank went down, McCain said the fundamentals of the nation's economy were sound. He then spent days backtracking, shifting to warning that the economy is in "crisis."

That was the canary in the coal mine," Dal Col said.

To demonstrate his commitment to solving the crisis, Mc-Cain suspended his campaign to rush back to Washington to work on an economic rescue package. The gambit was to show McCain as a man of action. He didn't rush to Washington right away, however, but stayed in New York to do an interview with CBS News anchor Katie Couric and a speech for former President Bill Clinton's

In announcing his decision, McCain canceled an appearance on David Letterman's TV show. When Letterman found out that McCain was taping the Couric interview instead of flying to Washington, Letterman launched a



Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) gives his concession speech after it is announced that Sen. Barack Obama (D-III.) won the presidential election Tuesday in Phoenix, Ariz. nearly nine-minute comedic tirade

against McCain that received enormous traffic on YouTube. Letterman kept it up night after night

On Tuesday, Dal Col said Mc-Cain fumbled the episode.

"It fell apart, going to the White House and not doing anything," Dal Col said. "It's almost like he set himself up."

Some McCain associates and GOP officials said that McCain also suffered from his decision to seek to consolidate the party's conservative Republican base during the general election instead of during the primaries. That left an opening for Obama to cultivate the independent-minded voters that were supposed to be McCain's strength.

"The campaign should have been solidifying the conservative base in the months after he had the nomination, when no one was paying attention" said the former McCain aide. "Instead they were running a general election campaign in the spring, going on a poverty tour, the 'Black Belt' in Appalachia. Had they tended to the base earlier, then there would be no need for a Sarah Palin-like pick because conservatives would have been on board."

The choice of Palin elicited mixed reactions.

Some called her selection genius in the immediate afterglow of the Republican convention. She gave the McCain campaign a chance for voters to make history by electing the first woman vice president. It also made evangelical conservatives, who were always wobbly on McCain, a little less nervous, and her eagerness at attacking on the stump freed McCain to appeal more to centrists, for awhile.

But the Palin glow didn't last long. Interviews revealed a candidate whose knowledge was shallow on domestic and international issues, and the selection of the freshman governor undercut McCain's attacks on Obama, a freshman senator, for being inexperienced. That, in turn, raised questions about whether McCain's most important single decision was considered or impulsive.

"It caused a huge number of voters to question his (McCain's) judgment," said one GOP official, who asked not to be identified so as not to appear disloyal to Mc-Cain. "It mitigated the experience argument. It was a choice designed to appeal to the base in a year when the Republican base is as small as it's been in decades."

Palin's VP candidacy will have lasting impact

By Jason George Chicago Tribune

WASILLA, Alaska - At a recent rally for Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin in Ohio, Jennifer Magyar didn't hesitate when describing her job: "I'm a hockey mom," she said proudly.

Just as quickly, though, she lowered her voice to discuss her politics before Palin. "I don't want to say this too loud here, but I was a Democrat," she said, sporting a wide grin and a homemade "Palin 2012" T-shirt.

Win or lose, Palin has secured a place in electoral history, and the political and social impact of her candidacy will be debated for years to come.

Sen. John McCain had hoped that picking Palin — the nation's first female Republican vice presidential nominee - would win him the votes of Democratic and independent women voters like Magyar. And Palin's gender was a topic the governor addressed herself in her first campaign speech, calling primary votes for Sen. Hillary Clinton "18 million cracks in the highest, hardest glass ceiling in America."

"But it turns out the women of America aren't finished yet," she added, "and we can shatter that glass ceiling once and for all."

Following that August speech, however, Palin's popularity steadily slipped; and for weeks, polls showed that men ended up accounting for most of her support. On Tuesday, only about four in 10 voters told exit pollsters that they found Palin qualified to lead the na-

Though Palin may have longerterm political aspirations, the debate over her first foray on the national stage has already begun.

"I think it's changed things," said Susan MacManus, a political science professor at the University of South Florida. "I don't think we'll see a retrogression to the non-diverse tickets of before, The days of the all-white, male ticket are over."

That remains to be seen. Palin has highlighted or downplayed her gender in various — at times conflicting -



BRIAN BAER / Sacramento Bee via MO Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin arrives to hear Sen. John McCain give his concession speech Tuesday in Phoenix, Ariz.

ways throughout the campaign. Once, she called herself a feminist, but later said she doesn't like such labels. She often spoke of the skill needed to balance being a state governor and mother of five. She has been the pit bull and the lipstick.

It's a complexity within the candidate that reflects the complexity within the female electorate as well, MacManus said.

"Palin's candidacy has showed once again that women voters are not monolithic. Women don't vote as one."

Cynthia Harrison, a women's studies professor at George Washington University, said this reality was further seen in Palin's case because she appeared on the national stage seemingly overnight and without a longbuilt base like Clinton.

"There have always been women involved in politics who operated outside the mainstream, and Palin is surely one of them," she said. "But I think it's going to take more

of a Clinton-type candidate to reach the top. That takes years of working your way up."

Palin has repeatedly blamed the media for why her candidacy didn't catch fire with women voters as much as the GOP had hoped.

After voting in Wasilla Tuesday, Palin flew to Arizona and got to speak without a media filter: She delivered remarks at the Election Night rally as a GOP vice presidential candidate.

It was another first.







NEWS & SPORTS

DE could miss Packers game

By Judd Zulgad

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Jared Allen wore a wrap on his right shoulder Sunday as he dressed in the Minnesota Vikings' locker room following a 28-21 victory over Houston. Asked about the injury, Allen didn't express much concern.

"I don't know, it's football, you get beat up,' he said.

Turns out Allen was more beat up than most. Coach Brad Childress said Monday that Allen suffered a sprained shoulder that could force the Pro Bowl defensive end to miss Sunday's game against NFC North rival Green Bay.

"I don't know what exactly he will be able to do this week, or if he will be able to make it to next weekend," Childress said. "We'll just have to evaluate that as we go."

Officially, Allen suffered a sprained AC joint, but Childress said as of early Monday afternoon he had yet to discuss the results of an MRI exam with Vikings head athletic trainer Eric Sugarman.

The sprain — which really is a separation or dislocation — was to be graded from one to three, with three being the worst. Childress did not know where Allen's sprain ranked and with players off today Childress won't address the media again until Wednes-

The decision on Allen's availability could come down to his pain threshold, which apparently is very high given that he continued to play Sunday.

"Some people are able to take it and some people are able not to take it. I'd say it has to do with that," Childress said.

Allen was at Winter Park on Monday receiving treatment. He poked his head out of the training room at one point during the media-access period but did not speak with reporters.

The Vikings (4-4) trail the were throwing the ball.

division-leading Packers by one game and obviously can ill-afford to lose one of the league's best pass rushers. Allen had two sacks Sunday against the Texans and now has four in the past two games. His seven sacks are tied with Pro Bowl defensive tackle Kevin Williams for the team lead.

One reason Allen and Williams have been so successful is because opponents are put in a pick-your-poison situation when it comes to blocking one or the other. Double teams on Allen mean more opportunities for Williams and vice versa.

"I don't know what exactly he will be able to make it to next weekend. We'll just have to evaluate that as we go."

Brad Childress

vikings coach

This is just the latest bit of potentially bad news for the Vikings defensive line. A week ago, Fox Sports reported that Kevin Williams and nose tackle Pat Williams both could face fourgame suspension for violating the NFL's steroid policy. Both Williamses played Sunday, and so far the league has yet to acknowledge the report.

Allen came off the field late in the second quarter Sunday one play after he sacked Texans quarterback Matt Schaub for a 9-yard loss. Childress told Yahoo! Sports that Allen needed a pain-killing injection at halftime in order to finish the game. Although he was able to return, Allen appeared to get more plays off than usual. One reason might have been the Vikings attempted to get all of their starting linemen some time to rest because of how much the Texans

"He's a tough guy," Childress said of Allen. "There are people that leave the game and don't come back and play with an AC sprain. They can't tolerate it with what they do. That happened in the first half and he was able to press on. We just weren't going to be able to keep him off the field."

Allen appeared to be politicking at times to get back in.

"I can remember once in my headset saying, 'Hey, just settle down. This guy was going to take the snap anyway," Childress said. "But you'd rather have a guy that's trying to get out there as opposed to somebody that is trying to get off the field."

While Childress made it clear there is concern about Allen's availability for Sunday — "That is a painful, painful injury to live with, particularly the way he plays," Childress said — it would be surprising if Allen does not

"You know what, each game I think guys play through something," veteran safety Darren Sharper said. "Whether it's a sprain, a tear, a pull, a bruise. This day and age, the NFL is so rough and the game is so violent that I think each player is playing through something. Whenever you're a tough guy, like all of our guys are, you can push through things like that."

Allen, whose backup at right end is Brian Robison, has only missed one game in his four-plus seasons because of injury. That came during his rookie season in 2004 with Kansas City when a knee injury forced him to the sideline. Allen sat out two games last season, but that was because of an NFL suspension.

Allen could have added motivation to get on the field against the Packers given that he was credited with only two tackles in the Vikings' 24-19 loss at Green Bay in their regular-season opener. That game marked Allen's debut with the Vikings after being acquired from Kansas City and signing a six-year, \$74.5 million contract.



Charlie Scheeler, member of the investigating staff for former Sen. George Mitchell's report, looks over at former New York Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens before testifying before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington on Feb. 13 about the illegal use of steroids and other performance enhancing drugs in baseball.

By Jim Baumbach

Newsday

The federal judge presiding over the defamation lawsuit Roger Clemens filed against his former trainer said Monday in a Houston court that he is "agonizing" over what to do with the case.

Lawyers for the trainer, Brian McNamee, have argued in court filings that the suit should be thrown out, or at the very least, moved to New York.

Lawyers for both sides met before U.S. District Judge Keith P. Ellison Monday in Houston, arguing their cases for about two

Afterward, Ellison gave no indication of when he might make investigating steroids in sports since.

a decision.

over these claims," he said.

Judge still deciding Clemens case

Clemens filed this lawsuit against McNamee in January in response to McNamee's contributions to former Sen. George Mitchell's report on steroids in baseball. McNamee said Clemens took steroids in 1998 and steroids and human growth hormone during the 2000 and 2001 seasons.

Press, Richard Emery, one of McNamee's lawyers, argued that McNamee's statements were protected under a deal he made with federal prosecutors.

IRS agents Jeff Novitzky and

since 2003, were a part of the "I really have been agonizing meetings McNamee had with Mitchell and his staffers during the summer of 2007.

> Clemens vigorously denied McNamee's statements, and he filed his defamation lawsuit hours after CBS aired its "60 Minutes" interview in which Clemens denied taking performance-enhancing drugs.

Clemens repeated those deni-According to The Associated als under oath at a congressional subcommittee hearing in February, but two weeks after that, the leaders of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee asked the FBI to investigate whether Clemens told the truth. Matthew Parrella, who have been The FBI has been investigating

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something to prove."

Patterson said he knows this is "I believe the a big game, and neither team has anything to hide.

"I don't think we need to say much about this one," Patterson said. "When you play against a team like Utah this late in the season, everyone knows what they have."

In a matchup of two top-10 defenses, Patterson said the two teams share some similarities.

"We are power football teams that play action and try to throw the ball vertical," Patterson said. "Defensively, you've got both teams coming right at you."

The coach said he wants to keep the past behind him and not worry about happened last year.

"We are throwing history out their 0-2 record at Rice-Eccles Staget the job done."

do not need to follow tradition.

Oklahoma game made us a better football team with some of the road games we had to play and getting ready for BYU."

Gary Patterson head coach

game in a couple years either, but we beat BYU."

the window," Patterson said. "We dium, the home of the Utes. "We understand it's going to

I hadn't won a Thursday night be a great atmosphere," Patterson said. "Utah has great fans. It's going to be a loud stadium. The key for us is playing smart."

This matchup won't be the first time this season the Frogs play in a rough environment. TCU lost 35-10 at then-No. 1 University of Oklahoma in front of a crowd of

"I believe the Oklahoma game made us a better football team with some of the road games we had to play and getting ready for BYU," Patterson said. "If we had played a lesser opponent, we would have lost one down the road because we wouldn't have been ready for that experience. We definitely would have lost to Colorado State, because we didn't The Frogs are trying to forget play very well but found a way to



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I PUT AWAY PUPPY THINGS *

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by Harry Bliss

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by Jay Schiller and Greg Cravens

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35 FDR's Blue Eagle

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37 Sling mud
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39 RPM part

40 Gushes forth 41 Lovers' meeting 42 Bard's before 43 Bullring shouts 44 Opp. of suffix 45 Fire from a low-

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57 Kuwaiti leader 58 Stead 59 Angry 60 Ms. McEntire 61 Impoverished

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3 "Lethal Weapon" star 4 Tchaikovsky ballet

By Edgar Fontaine

Dighton, MA

6 Wanderer

7 Apple product 8 Way to be tickled 9 Applied

10 Wild time 11 Broadcast 12 Double-crosser 13 Attempt 21 Kissers 22 Holiday song 25 Candy brand 26 Gallico novel,

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37 Magnificent 38 First public

27 Laughing 29 Medley meals 30 Potpie veggies 41 Cut back 44 Offered a devout petition 46 Love in 32 Merchandise 33 Watchful 34 Hook's mate Limousin

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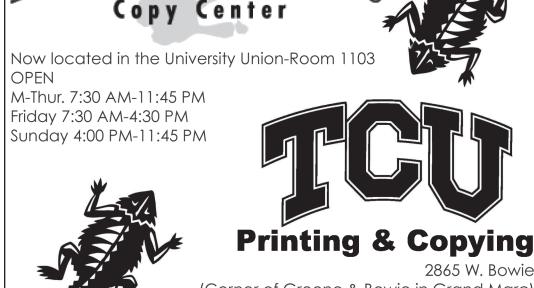
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FOR SALE

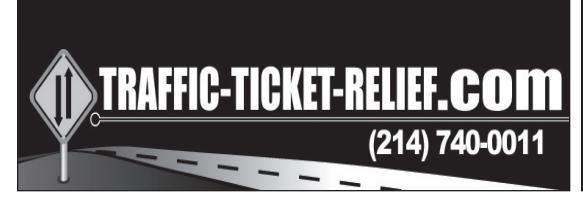
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SPORTS



See what a Utah fan thinks about playing against the Horned Frogs. **Tomorrow in Sports**

FOOTBALL

BRING ON UTAH



Head coach Gary Patterson takes the field with his team after halftime during the game against Wyoming on Oct. 25.

Frogs ready for third top-10 foe

By Brittany Adams Staff Reporter

Three days after the Horned Frogs remained undefeated in Mountain West Conference play with a victory against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, head football coach Gary Patterson told reporters at his weekly news

conference he was looking for- Frogs 27-20. This year, the game ward to Thursday night's game against the University of Utah.

"Our energy is great," Patterson said about his team. "There is no room for weak hearts for this game. We definitely have to be well prepared."

Last year, Utah came to Fort Worth and defeated the Horned

Tareasell Seniors

TCU Volleyball invites all faculty/staff

out to honor our graduating seniors on

Senior Night!

CATCH THE ACTION:

TCU vs. Wyoming Cowgirls

Tomorrow Night at 7!

has BCS and conference title implications.

"In a game like this, we have to come out fighting," sophomore quarterback Andy Dalton said. "We do have a chip on our shoulder and feel like we have

SEE FOOTBALL · PAGE 6

TCU VS. UTAH MATCHUPS

TCU to hand Utes first loss

By Billy Wessels Sports Editor

Quarterbacks

TCU: Sophomore Andy Dalton continues to shine since returning from injury and is making a run at all-conference quarterback recognition. In his last three games, he has completed 44 of his 70 pass attempts, thrown for 655 yards and has nine touchdown passes compared to zero interceptions. Expect his hot streak to continue.

Utah: Senior Brian Johnson recorded his 22nd win last week against the University of New Mexico, setting a new school record. Johnson has completed 160 of his 240 passes, thrown for 1,820 yards and has 14 touchdown passes compared

to eight interceptions. Advantage: TCU

Running Backs

TCU: Senior Aaron Brown led the Frogs in rushing last week with 60 yards on nine carries and passed Mike Luttrell (72-74) for 10th place on TCU's all-time rushers list with 2,343 yards. The Frogs have the No. 12 rushing offense in the nation, averaging 224 yards on the ground per game.

Utah: The Utes have been using a two-headed rushing attack so far this season, with junior Matt Asiata carrying 102 times and senior Darrell Mack toting the rock 101 times. Asiata leads the team with 531 yards and nine touchdowns.

Advantage: TCU

Wide Receivers

TCU: Sophomore Jimmy Young recorded his fifth receiving touchdown of the season last week against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, making it three straight games that he has at least one touchdown grab. Young leads the team with 43 grabs and 729 yards.

Utah: The Utes have another two-headed monster at the wide receiver position. Senior wide outs Freddie Brown and Brandon Godfrey each have 37 catches through nine games. Brown leads the team with 463 receiving yards and four touchdowns.

Advantage: Utah

Offensive Line

TCU: The front line for the Frogs has been exceptional all season, paving the way for that No. 12 rushing attack and keeping Dalton on his feet, allowing just four sacks over the last five games. Senior center Blake Schlueter has started in 17 straight games.

Utah: The Utes offensive line has also played well, helping the team accumulate 405.3 yards of offense per game so far this season. Senior right guard Robert Conley has played in 46 of the team's last 47 games and has recorded 23 pancake

Advantage: TCU

Defensive Line

TCU: The defensive line for the Frogs is one of, if not the best, in the nation. It is the main reason TCU has the most sacks in the nation with 38 and the No. 1 rushing defense in the nation, allowing 38.9 yards per game. Junior defensive end Jerry Hughes

QUARTERBACKS



Johnson





Brown Asiata



Young **Brown**

OFFENSIVE LINE



Schlueter Conley **DEFENSIVE LINE**



Hughes

leads the nation with 14 sacks.

Kruger

Utah: The Utes' rush defense is one of few comparable to TCU's, ranked No. 8 in the nation at 89.6 yards per game. Sophomore defensive end Paul Kruger has 47 tackles, 14.5 for loss, and 6.5 sacks.

Advantage: TCU

Linebackers

TCU: Very similar to the defensive line, the linebacker corps for the Frogs is one of the best in the country and is a major reason TCU has the No. 2 total defense, allowing 214.5 yards per game. Senior linebacker Robert Henson recorded four tackles last week, 2.5 for a loss, and had an interception.

Utah: The Utes' total defense is also comparable to TCU's with the No. 8 total defense, allowing 266.2 yards per game. Junior middle linebacker Mike Wright leads the team with 55 total tackles. Wright also has a sack, a tackle for loss and a fumble recovery.

Advantage: TCU

Secondary

TCU: The Frogs sport the nation's No. 22-ranked pass defense, allowing 175.6 yards per game through the team's first 10 games. Senior strong safety Stephen Hodge has started all 10 games for the Frogs this season and has accumulated 56 tackles, six for a loss, two sacks and two forced fumbles.

Utah: Once again, the Utes are comparable to the Frogs in a defensive category. The Utes are ranked No. 24 in the nation and allow 176.6 yards per game on the ground. Junior cornerback Sean Smith is tied for second in the Mountain West Conference with three interceptions.

Advantage: TCU

LINEBACKERS



Henson



Wright

DEFENSIVE BACKS



Hodge



SPECIAL TEAMS



Smith

Sakoda **Evans**



Patterson Whittingham

PREDICTION

These two defenses are very evenly matched, but Utah is yet to play a ranked team. TCU is too pumped to lose here. Frogs win 31-13.

Special Teams

TCU: The Frogs are the No. 2-ranked kickoff return team in the nation, averaging 28.87 yards per return on 23 kickoffs. Freshman kicker Ross Evans is tied for seventh in the nation for field goal accuracy of players with at least 15 attempts, making 86.7 percent of

his field goals. Utah: Senior punter and kicker Louie Sakoda earned serious recognition when he was named the 2007 All-American kicker and punter. This season, Sakoda is averaging 42.5 yards per attempt on 38 punts and he has a long of 81 yards. Sakoda has also made 17 of his 19 field goal attempts.

Advantage: **Utah**

Coaching

TCU: Head coach Gary Patterson heads into his 98th game as TCU's sideline guru. He has a record of 71-26 and his Frogs are still No. 1 in time of possession, averaging 34:47 per game. The Frogs also lead the nation in first downs allowed with 11.8 per

Utah: The Utes' head coach Kyle Whittingham will be coaching his 48th game as Utah's head coach. His record is 33-14. The Utes are No. 4 in time of possession, averaging 32:57 per game. Utah's defense allows 14.44 first downs per game, good for No. 5 in the nation.

Advantage: TCU

Football Game

What: No. 12 TCU at No. 8 Utah TV: CBS College Sports

When: Thursday, 7 p.m.





