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Obama needs to stick to his word: Change. Tomorrow in Opinion



Are street cars returning to Fort Worth? Tomorrow in News

SGA ELECTIONS

Candidate off ballot for excessive absences

By Julieta Chiquillo News Editor

Sophomore Justin LaPoten, who lost his vice presidential candidacy for Student Government Association and legislative seat late Monday night, said Tuesday that he wants reimbursement for his campaign expenses after he was removed from SGA for poor attendance at meetings.

LaPoten's name was removed from the SGA ballot Monday — the day before elections - after the SGA Judicial Board unanimously upheld a decision to remove LaPo-



ten from SGA because of toral race. three unexcused absences at House meetings and poor attendance to committee meetings.

Elections began midnight Monday and end today at noon.

LaPoten said he is upset that SGA took so long to bring up the had been caught three weeks sooner, SGA and he could have worked out an arrangement so he could have remained in the elec-

"Someone dropped the ball, and there was negligence, and I paid a price for it," LaPoten said.

He said he will seek about \$450 compensation for campaigning expenses from SGA.

Speaker of the House Haley Murphy said the attendance report she received Monday revealed LaPoten had three unexcused absences for weekly House of Representatives issue, adding that he believed if the problem meetings. Murphy said she then contacted the Finance Committee, to which LaPoten belonged, and discovered he had attended only one committee meeting all semester.

According to the Student Body Code, four unexcused absences at House meetings is basis for removal from SGA, but Murphy said the three unexcused absences to House meetings combined with LaPoten's poor attendance to committee meetings gave SGA reason to remove him.

Murphy said committees have no roll call sheets, and the Finance Committee did not report LaPoten's pattern of absences.

"The real work of House gets done in the committees, and for him not to attend any

SEE ELECTION · PAGE 2

CORRECTION

tournament. Sports, Page 6

Matt Williams, a candidate for SGA vice president, and Ryan Hoff, a candidate for SGA treasurer, should have been included in the list of candidates running for office on Tuesday's front page.



Hoff

Creative Writing Contest The deadline for the **Creative Writing Contests** is Nov. 14. Entries must be submitted in hard copy form to the Department of English office and as a Word attachment via e-mail to CreativeWritingAwards@tcu. edu by 4 p.m.

Candidates cited for election violations The SGA Elections and

FINE TUNED



Students head local 'green' roof project

Plants to adorn building roof adjacent to Botanic Gardens

By Melissa Hawkes Staff reporter

Two environmental studies graduate students are delving into an unknown concept in Texas: bringing plant life up to the rooftop level on a building in Fort Worth.

Jon Kinder, an environmental studies graduate student, decided to pursue "green roofs" as a research project and was joined by fellow classmate David Williams. Kinder and Williams are both in their final terms and have been involved in the project for a vear and a half.

Williams said the Botanical Research Institute of Texas has noticed the pair's research and has looked to them for guidance in building a green roof.

Regulations Committee has acted on the following campaign violations:

Presidential candidate Kelly Barnes was fined \$75 for soliciting votes within 50 feet of three computers, a violation of the Student Body Code. Joey Parr, chair of the Elections and Regulations Committee, said Barnes and campaign staff were at the entrance of Market Square soliciting votes with two laptops, but outside Market Square there are two computer terminals from which students can vote. Parr said Barnes received a fine because his offense was considered more serious than the other two.

Treasurer candidate Greg Hamre was given a warning for sending an unsolicited e-mail. Parr said a student in Hamre's mailing list on Facebook has the same name and major as another student, so Hamre e-mailed both to guarantee the person in his mailing list would receive the message.

Treasurer candidate Marlon Figueroa received a warning for printing fliers for a campaign meeting using SGA equipment. Parr said Figueroa meant to print the fliers at Frog Prints, but because it was closed, he went to the SGA office to print the material, in violation of the Student Body Code. Parr said Figueroa paid for the copies.

TODAY'S WEATHER









Student musicians perform at the Student Composers Concert at PepsiCo Recital Hall on Tuesday night.

"BRIT has used the data we have gotten throughout the entire study to basically get informed about how they want their roof to form and function," Williams said. "BRIT wants a native plant community on the roof and nobody has done that here in Fort Worth, so they are turning to us and the research we are doing."

Cleve Lancaster, director of development for BRIT, said the students have been critical in developing the plan for the roof, which will be 20,000 square feet. He said the building is adjacent to Fort Worth Botanic Gardens and will be the headquarters for BRIT. The building is slotted to open in April 2011, he said.

Tony Burgess, a professor of environmental sciences who oversees the project, said he educated the two students on the different

SEE GREEN · PAGE 2

Marines say Naval diversity much improved from '60s

By Logan Wilson Staff Reporter

Members of the United States Marine Corps may wear the same uniform, but the Corps itself has never embraced diversity so fully, members of the Navy said at a luncheon Tuesday at the Kelly Alumni Center.

Keynote speaker Robert Schneller Jr., who received a Ph.D. in military history from Duke University, is a historian for the Contemporary History Branch of the Naval Historical Center. He provided the audience with a brief history of diversity policies in the military, focusing on their impact in the Navy.

Schneller said dozens of books have been published since the 1970s about blacks in the military, but there has yet to be a comprehensive scholarly book published on racial, ethnic and gender diversity policies and practices in the military. The Navy, he said, recently began a project to do just that.

He said he first became interested in studying naval diversity policies after speaking to Wesley Brown, the first black man to graduate from the United States Naval Academy in 1949. Schneller, who has pub-



LOGAN WILSON / Staff Reporter Lt. Gary Nunn answers questions from the audience at a luncheon about Naval diversity on Tuesday.

lished eight books, said that throughout his research he has been interested to see how much racial and gender relations within the military have changed.

"Name calling among midshipmen in the '60s was common, but by the '90s no

SEE MILITARY · PAGE 2

Speaker: Inclusiveness key to good business leadership

By Krystal Upshaw Staff Reporter

Successful leadership in business includes motivating others into giving their best to the organization and embracing employees' different cultural backgrounds, an American Airlines executive told MBA students Tuesday at a Neeley Speaker Series event.

Denise Lynn, vice president for global human resources services at American Airlines, said one thing all people have in common, regardless of their background, is the desire to be appreciated.

"Diversity starts with the point that a person has a different life story," Lynn said.

American Airlines has a history of diversity and inclusiveness within the airline industry. In 1963, American Airlines hired the first black flight attendant, Lynn said. Today, about 32 percent of American Airlines' employees are minorities, and women make up 40 percent of the company's employees, Lynn said.

The company has 16 employee-resource groups that help the company appeal to a variety of customers, Lynn said.

One positive outcome from these groups

arose when the company's Indian Employee Resource Group helped to start international flights to Delhi, India, because of responses the company got from focus groups that target Indian employees, according to the company's Web site.

In order for people to feel included and valued, it's imperative to engage all employees in business conversations because everyone holds the company's best interest at heart, Lynn said.

Company leaders also receive training on cultural awareness in order to create inclusive work practices within the company, Lynn said. One way company leaders challenge their team is to encourage employees to embrace other's differences, she said.

Part-time MBA student Mishael Hernandez agreed with Lynn's statement that diversity is more than what's on the surface.

"Diversity doesn't just mean color or what's obvious like the things you can see," Hernandez said. "It's the things beyond the surface that you gain more knowledge about as you spend time with a person."

It's important for people to feel like they are included within the workplace because

NEWS

ELECTION continued from page 1

shows a lack of dedication," Murphy said.

Murphy said she expects SGA to draft legislation to enforce roll call in committee meetings to prevent similar situations from happening again.

Joey Parr, chair of the Elections and Regulations Committee, said LaPoten's breach of the Student Body Code was not an election code violation, but because he was removed from SGA, he automatically lost his candidacy.

Murphy said SGA's administrative assistant presents attendance reports every two weeks, but Monday's attendance report was

QUICK NEWS

The Student Govern-

ment Association House

of Representatives passed

a bill Tuesday that clari-

fies how legislation is pre-

sented to SGA on a time

the author of a bill pro-

posal can introduce the

proposal and petition the

Executive Board to declare

the proposal an emergen-

cy measure, so it can be

voted on in the House in

the same meeting. The bill

also allows SGA to vote on

bill proposals that affect a

specific committee in the

same session. Previously,

all bill proposals intro-

duced to the House were

tabled to committee and

brought back up in the

— Staff reporter Matt Syme

following meeting.

The bill specifies that

constraint.

SGA passes bill

addressing short-

notice legislation

one week late. Murphy said the last time she reviewed an attendance report was Oct. 20, when records showed LaPoten had two unexcused absences. House minutes show LaPoten's third unexcused absence occurred Oct. 21, she said.

LaPoten, who filed for candidacy Oct. 27, had already been sent a warning about his first two unexcused absences, recorded Sept. 30 and Oct. 7, Murphy said.

Murphy said LaPoten was notified about his removal from SGA and subsequent removal from candidacy immediately after she made the decision based on the attendance report Monday.

LaPoten said classes and other commitments kept him from

MILITARY

continued from page 1

diversity."

opportunities.

world.

one would dare utter a racial

epithet," Schneller said. "The

Navy evolved from a racist in-

stitution to one that embraces

the U.S. Marine Corps in 1990,

said that he never had to expe-

rience the circumstances Sch-

neller described. The military,

he said, has given him many

it used to be," Nunn said. "I do

what I do for the Navy for this

country so that we can continue

the Navy, Nunn said the recent

election has shown that Ameri-

cans can break through barri-

ers. He also said he hopes this

will influence other areas of the

Lt. Carol Gibbins, an alumna,

also said her experiences with

the Navy have been positive.

She now serves as a medical

and nursing recruiter at Navy

April Brown, assistant direc-

Recruiting District Dallas.

Of racial relations outside

to live the way we do."

'The U.S. military is not like

Lt. Gary Nunn, who joined

attending committee meetings, adding there was miscommunication with the committee. He said he could have been present at the Oct. 21 meeting, but was not certain because such a long time has passed.

"Let's say I did miss it. I would have been notified, I could have dealt with it, we could have talked about it instead of five hours before running for vice president for SGA, I'm kicked out," LaPoten said.

Rusty Roeger, member of the Judicial Board, said LaPoten appealed Murphy's decision to the Judicial Board, which convened 9 p.m. Monday for a hearing. Roeger said LaPoten told the board he recalled being at the

tor of Inclusiveness and Inter-

Oct. 21 meeting, but he could not present evidence to back his claim. In addition, LaPoten had the chance to reject minutes for the Oct. 21 meeting, when he was marked with an unexcused absence, but he approved those minutes in the following meeting Oct. 28, Roeger said. LaPoten told the board he did not look at the minutes before approving them, Roeger said. The three absences combined

with the absences to committee meetings prompted the Judicial Board to uphold the speaker's decision to remove LaPoten, Roeger said.

> Staff reporter Matt Syme contributed to this report.

"The Navy evolved from a racist institution to one that embraces diversity."

Robert Schneller Jr. historian for the **Contemporary History** Branch of the Naval Historical Center

ciety whether it's corporate or the military or nonprofit or education. Our country seems to be very progressive now in maybe ways that it wasn't 40 or 50 years ago."

Lt. Joshua Rupert, who Brown said was instrumental in arranging for the speakers and having the Navy sponsor the luncheon, said it is important for the Navy to continue its efforts toward maintaining a diverse and accepting environment.

"It's important to match the population," Rupert said. "We're trying to look like the rest of America."

GREEN

continued from page 1

plants and soils that live on the Texas prairie. After he supplied the knowledge, it was up to the students to create an ecosystem that would work best on rooftops in Texas, Burgess said.

He said the BRIT building was the driving force behind the entire proj-

The design and planting is in progress now. Williams said he and Kinder have built six modules to mimic the roof of the new BRIT building ...

The plants that will be used on the building can be prepared one to two years ahead of time in trays on the ground, Williams said, adding that those trays can be put on top of the roof a week before the opening.

"It is expensive, but the saving is in the energy cost and in the life time of the roof," Burgess said. "In a hot climate in Texas, soil provides a great insulation to keep buildings cooler."

The research is funded by Burgess and the environmental studies department; about \$6,000 has been spent on the project so far, Burgess said.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency's Web site on green roofs, other benefits include reducing roof storm water runoff, providing a habitat for birds and insects, absorbing air pollution and protecting underlying roof material.

The two students spent last summer researching and gathering plants and soil at the Fort Worth Nature Center, the largest city-owned nature center in the United States, Williams said.

Williams refers to himself as the "soil

AIRLINE

continued from page 1

of the amount of time they spend in the workplace, Hernandez said.

In terms of diversity, the United States has come a long way for women and minorities in the workplace, but it's

still a work in progress, Lynn said. MBA student Kendra Stevens said cultural awareness in the workplace is still unsatisfactory.

ANNOUNCING

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and water guy," while referring to Kinder as the "plant guy." The students built 15 test modules that were modeled after mini roofs and left them out during the hot summer months to see which ones would last, Williams said.

"Our issue was that nobody had really done green roofs in a really hot climate like we have in Texas," Williams said.

Williams said he and Kinder would have to use native plants in the area if they were going to successfully build a "green roof" in Fort Worth.

"The Fort Worth prairie is being cut in two by urban development, and there are two very rare plants that grow at the Fort Worth Nature Center that we are trying to preserve," Burgess said.

Burgess said the rare plants are the Comanche Peak prairie-clover and the summer gay feather. If the students could build a habitat on a roof top, then they could get the rare plants up on there and save them, he said.

The concept of "green roofs" may be new to Texas, but the technology started decades ago in Europe, Burgess said.

He said the "green roof" idea originated in the 1950s and 1960s in Europe when people were tired of the urban setting, adding that the Chicago City Council building was a leading innovator in establishing green roofs in the United States.

"They wanted to green up these cities," Burgess said.

Currently, the art department is discussing putting a green roof on the top of the Moudy Building, Burgess said.

Williams said they are hoping to find some funding and backing to make the project come to life.

"I've seen people shy away from a person because of their ascent or background," Stevens said.

When people take the chance to embrace others' differences, they gain a lot from one other, Stevens said.

The Neeley Speaker Series is sponsored by professional services firm PricewaterhouseCoopers and hosted by the National Association of Women MBAs at the Neeley School of Business.



cultural Services, said IIS tries to offer a broad range of topics on diversity through its Monthly Cultural Lunches, which have been held every other month this semester. She said the topic of this particular luncheon was

important to her. 'I was a Marine officer, and it's really close to me because I know that the Marine Corps had very few African-American female officers at the time I entered the Marine Corps," Brown said. "It was a unique journey to be sometimes the only person represented by gender and by race."

Brown said the timing of the topic was also appropriate.

"At the time I wasn't even really thinking about the election, but as the day got closer and the election got closer I began thinking, 'Wow, this is pretty interesting that we were talking about topics of how the military was integrated and really how far it's come, and then now we look at a presidential election and how far we've come as a country," Brown said. "I hope it impacts all of our so-



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was established by Sandra and Michael Brown to provide a full tuition scholarship to a student who demonstrates both academic excellence and significant potential as a fiction writer. The scholarship will be given to a rising junior with 54 or more credit hours and will provide full tuition for the junior and senior years.

To apply:

Interested students must submit a writing portfolio of at least 50 pages. The portfolio must include an example, or examples, of the student's original fiction - either short stories or part of a longer work - and an introduction that discusses the student's writing, goals, and interests. Two letters of recommendation must be included.

Deadline:

Portfolios must be brought to the English Department Office, Reed 314, no later than 5 p.m. on November 21, 2008.

Contact:

Dr. Dan Williams - English Department Chair - 817-257-6250

tcu

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

SGA should consider new election protocol

This year's Student Government Association election season has shed light on a valuable lesson.

Sophomore Justin LaPoten was removed from the vice presidential candidacy Monday because of excessive absences in House of Representatives and committee meetings.

This happened after weeks of campaigning, which can cost hundreds of dollars out of the candidates' pockets. Basically, it was too late.

Speaker of the House Haley Murphy reviews attendance reports every two weeks; the latest review before LaPoten was pulled from the ballot took place Oct. 20, when he received a warning for his absences in early October. He filed for candidacy on Oct. 27, and another attendance review was due a week after that, Nov. 3, but someone dropped the ball. Thus, action wasn't taken until Monday.

There were many moving parts in this fiasco. There was negligence as well as systematic flaws. It would be foolish to dwell on the details of what went wrong, but the ultimate result was that the candidate's money and time were wasted.

Murphy did the right thing by removing the candidate, but it could have saved the candidate and SGA some trouble by acting faster.

Moral of the story: In future elections, SGA should make it a part of protocol to check the record of those filing for candidacy for any details that might make them ineligible to run.. If the candidates the student body elects are going to lead this university well, SGA must ensure that candidates have proved themselves worthy of consideration for its highest offices. Anything less would be a failure to the students it pledges to serve.

Web editor Saerom Yoo for the editorial board.

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

Obama's election good for women in politics

LAURA SCOTT

Not in the White House, but women still won.

OK, I admit it. My kids were right. I was wrong.

Barack Obama clearly was the best choice for Democrats to nominate for president. Of course, you will figure that hindsight allows me to say that, but it really was evident even before the election last Tuesday.

the best hope, as presi-Obama gives

town mayor, her ability to balance family and politics and her speech-giving skills.

She was not a substitute who could appeal to many Hillary Clinton voters, as early reports about her would have us believe, but Palin obviously energized a GOP political base that was becoming ho-hum about McCain's candidacy. She got the crowds out, you betcha.

Palin likely has a political career ahead of her, which could start with a U.S. Senate race after Alaska figures out what to do with dishonored GOP Sen. Ted Stevens. This election, too, seemed to signal a women's liberation of a new sort. Several leading Democratic women officeholders signed on early with Obama, rather than Clinton. This seems to me an abrupt departure from the past, as Democratic women have tended to stick together in campaigns. The "defectors" include Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius and Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill. As a result of their decision to publicly and passionately back Obama, they are going to have much sway in the new administration. Sebelius often is mentioned for a position in the new president's Cabinet. Can't get much more powerful than that. Finally, this election guarantees that women will have a strong advocate in the White House, and not just the president. Michelle Obama is not likely to be as Hillary Clinton was to Bill and try to broker a health-care compromise. But she shows promise in underscoring the concerns of women trying to balance all they have to do in life, and of being a role model in that regard. I predict that Michelle Obama will be every bit as popular among voters as Laura Bush. That adds to the opportunity for success by a historic presidency that wants to make us whole again.



It's amazing how quickly things can change.

Two years ago, the stock market was humming along, there was no credit crisis and the most important issue on voters' minds was the war in Iraq.

Last summer, gas skyrocketed to more than \$4 a gallon in many parts of the country. The stock market began to plummet, and trillions of dollars in retirement savings were wiped out. An unpopular president became even more unpopular as the economy continued to

No president can please everybody, but i think his statement in his victory speech about listening to everyone's point of view will be incredibly important in rebuilding our nation.

Compromise a crucial element

elect Obama if it weren't for this perfect storm.

Recently, the price of gas has dropped rapidly to below \$2 a gallon here in Fort Worth - an issue that was once a pressing concern is now much less of one.

Now that Obama has been elected, what will his first priorities be in an ever-changing world? Will he still focus ance company first?

Obama has promised much, and I think the advisers he surrounds himself with will be key in how the next four years will play out. It will be important for him to reach across the aisle and choose some Republicans too. If Obama and the Democratic-controlled Congress go too far to the left, they will begin to alienate the independents who helped them win last week, and they will lose seats in the next election if that happens.

President-elect Obama has inherited a huge mess, and it's going to take some time to clean up. Our nation and the world have very high expectations of him, and only time will tell if he is successful.

No president can please everybody, but I think his statement in his victory speech about listening to everyone's point of view will be incredibly impor-



Don Wright is a political cartoonist for The Palm Beach Post.

dent, of bringing us together in a time when we desperately need leadership that is inclusive of all Americans. The great emotion that swelled the nation, from Grant Park in Chicago to people watching election results on their TVs at home, would not have happened with any other candidate, in the primaries or in the general election.

With Hillary Clinton, who was Obama's fierce opponent in the Democratic race, I fear the partisan sniping in this country wouldn't even have taken a rest 24 hours after the election.

Some know I was a Clinton supporter earlier. I suppose it was the woman thing. The realization that a woman finally had real political power and also was quite capable of running the country made her an appealing candidate. She appealed to many other women as well.

When Clinton failed in the Democratic caucuses to get enough delegates to beat Obama, many of her other supporters were very upset. They threatened last summer to vote for John McCain in November.

Yet, as Nov. 4 neared, we didn't hear from them anymore. And, judging from election exit polls, women voters went strongly for Obama. The new presidentelect drew more than half of women voters, and one report said it was as high as 56 percent. Men split between Obama and McCain more evenly.

Women voters in the last couple of decades have become a force. So last week's election was a reaffirmation, once again, that issues of education, children and health care must be on a candidate's priority list.

Women voters do not look at these or other issues necessarily the same way, but candidates must learn to assess the appeal to women voters of stands they take in any given election.

Even though the leading woman candidate fell short of the White House in the primary, in a number of other ways women advanced this year as major players on the national stage.

Start with Sarah Palin. You may believe she was a drag on the GOP's chances because voters were turned off by her inexperience and folksiness, but clearly she struck a chord with many who admired her background as governor and smallLaura Scott is assistant editorial page editor at the Kansas City Star.



Letters to the editor: The Skiff welcomes letters to the editor for publication. To submit a letter, e-mail it to opinion@dailyskiff.com. Letters must

include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions

Many political analysts question whether Sen. Barack Obama would have been able to become Presidentfirst on energy policy like he has said he would do, or now that gas prices are temporarily much lower, will he instead tackle creating a national health insur-

tant in rebuilding our nation.

Matthew Rosson is a sophomore prebusiness major from Lincoln, Neb.

SATIRE Big trucks should be used for working, not polluting and intimidating public



I am a lifelong Texan. Born in San Antonio, raised in Houston and attending college right here in Fort Worth, I have great respect for the customs of the Lone Star State.

However, there is one de facto Texas tradition that needs to go the way of the dodo: ridiculously large pickup trucks not being used for their designated purpose.

Pickup trucks are designed for hauling things. It's perfectly acceptable to have one if you are a rancher, construction worker or someone trafficking large amounts of illegal fireworks from Guatemala who gets through border patrol by hiding them inside teddy bears.

It's not like I sell high-potency firecrackers or anything, but if I did, I would be outside of Red Cactus at 7 p.m. Tuesdays. The secret word is "Rico Suave."

Getting back to the topic at hand, Ford F-4000s with large naked lady mud flaps are meant to be hauling firewood across a large swath of rough terrain, not cruising the mean streets of Highland Park. It's not like all that extra space in the truck bed is necessary, anyway. Mom's groceries can easily fit in the back of the extended cab, but try not to spill the milk on the console of the DVD entertainment system! If they're not using them for work,

maybe the operators of these monoliths weren't there. It's about 140 years too are driving them for the scare factor.

The desired result is something like this: "Look at my truck! It is so huge! It could crush yours! Therefore, I am awesome and better and you! Cower in fear of my Dodge Super Mega 'Roid Rage Ram! Pay attention to me because my parents don't!"

Yes, I will admit that I am scared of the people who drive so-called "lookat-my-trucks," but not for the reason they want. I am scared for the mental state of anyone who is willing to shell out the cash for gas for a truck that gets 2.3 miles per gallon on the highway.

Seriously, check the Internet. Ford doesn't even list the miles per gallon that the '09 edition of its Super Duty line of trucks gets. Next to the MPG rating is the always comforting "N/A," short for not applicable.

Hmmm, curious. My only guess is this truck runs on the busted eardrums of those anywhere in a 12-mile radius when its V158 engine starts up. Therefore, it requires no gas and is the best truck ever. Or maybe it has a gross vehicle weight of more than 8,500 pounds, thus exempting it from the EPA's MPG tests. Also, why is it that these large trucks are often outfitted

with about 17

Confederate

flags? I learned

about the Civil

War one time in

I'm pretty sure

pickup trucks

eighth grade, and

late to save General Lee.

Even if somebody could somehow swing into the Battle of Gettysburg with his or her gigantic motor vehicle in hopes of saving the Confederacy, I'm sure both armies would put aside their hostilities for a while to fight off the invasion of the metal wagons of death from the future.

So, let's recap. Big trucks are meant for hauling things and doing work. They are not meant for Taco Bell trips, intimidation of small children or commentary on the political situation of 1860s America.

There are cheaper, more fuel efficient alternatives out there that are a lot less obnoxious and make you look like much less of a idiot.

> David Hall is a junior newseditorial journalism and history major from Kingwood.

> > SXC.HU

Editorial Policy: The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

SPORTS



JULIAN H. GONZALEZ / Detroit Free Press via MC

The Detroit Red Wings' Marian Hossa was taken down by two Vancouver Canucks including Mattias Ohlund as he drove the puck against goalie Roberto Luongo in the first period in Detroit on Oct. 16. Vancouver went on to a 4-3 win in overtime.

Despite superstar status, Hossa is relaxed

By Helene St. James Detroit Free Press

DETROIT — He is a prankster, this Marian Hossa, a big kid. He'll get you on an elevator, distract you from getting off on your floor, then laugh at you when you figure it out.

But instead of getting angry, you find yourself laughing with him, because well, he's Marian Hossa.

He has played for the Red Wings for a month now, and in that time has looked like the most brilliant signing of the summer. He's on pace for some 40 goals, 60-odd assists and more than 100 points, and he's doing all that while playing so hard in his own end he often leaves his teammates breathless.

Of course the Wings had seen Hossa, a veteran of nine seasons, before signing him. But he'd always been with an Eastern Conference team, so the look-sees happened maybe twice a year, which is why experiencing him up close, every day, every game, has been such a delightful revelation.

"I knew he was a really good player when he got here, but I didn't realize that he was this good," Niklas Kronwall said. "I mean, he's so strong on the puck, even just going against him

he is.

For example: On Oct. 24 against the Thrashers, Hossa picked up the puck just inside Atlanta's blue line, cut in off the left flank and faked a shot before dragging the puck around ex-Wings defenseman Mathieu Schneider and popping it into an empty net.

That was one of eight goals Hossa scored during his first 13 games, for a total of 17 points. He failed to register a point only twice in those 13 games.

"He's just so talented, and he works so hard," coach Mike Babcock said. "He's good without the puck. He's so big, and so strong, and I think that's the biggest difference between him and our other guys — what are you going to do to him?"

Part of the appeal of the Wings, Hossa said, "is that I like the setup of the team. Every line has something special, along with the defense and goaltending. I like learning from the older guys here, like Nick Lidstrom and Chris Chelios, future Hall of Famers. You don't have that on other teams, because they don't have those types of players. Even at their age they work hard, they stay after practice."

In turn, Hossa has infused the

in practice, it's amazing how strong Wings with the type of energy that is often missing on a team coming off a Stanley Cup win.

> "He's brought excitement, and we haven't been an excited group," Babcock said. "That's one of the things that you really cherish, is his energy, and I think Pavel and Homer have been caught up in that."

> Hossa was put on a line with Pavel Datsyuk and Tomas Holmstrom at the start of camp, and the three practically shouldered the team through October, finishing the month among the topfive offensive producers.

> "I can shoot more, and I can be faster, because Hossa is faster," Datsyuk said. "And he backchecks, so that give me more rest, because he is so good at backcheck. That helps me a lot."

> Tomas Kopecky has known Hossa since they were teenagers growing up in their native Slovakia, where Kopecky was friends with Hossa's younger brother, Marcel.

The past few years they've worked out together during the summer in Trenein, and when talks of Hossa coming to Detroit began this summer, Kopecky did everything he could to help. When the sale was made, Kopecky even offered Hossa a place to

stay until he found his own.

It was like inviting a teenager into the home.

'You know what, I barely saw him," Kopecky said of Hossa's time as a house guest in the weeks leading up to training camp. "He was always in his room and on his computer, playing with his iPhone and his Apple computer. I had to drag him out of his room to ask him if he wanted dinner."

Hossa took the team to dinner in Vancouver on Oct. 31, because "we kind of forced him to take us out," Cleary said. "It was good, nice on his part, a good little team-building. He's like the rest of the superstars we have on our team — really laid back and easygoing."

Hossa is always on the lookout for a way to "get" a friend. Last month the Wings were on a long trip, and at one point he was in an elevator with Kopecky.

"He comes up with really stupid stuff to do," Kopecky said. "He knows I was on the 15th floor, and he just pushed 16th and then he started talking to me to distract me, so I have to go up and then back down. Stupid stuff like that, he loves it. He's like a kid; like, sometimes I think he's like 12."

NASCAR

continued from page 6 second tier of success. Hendrick Motorsports announced last week that it was making cuts. One of those cut will be Stevie Reeves, the spotter for Jimmie Johnson, who is going for his third straight championship.

"The thing that has gone on at Hendrick Motorsports, a lot of it has just been trying to make the company better," Johnson said. "Everybody is always looking at how you can do it for less and more lean and different things like that. So those all apply to what has gone on at Hendrick, trying to make the team better, trying to be lean and more efficient. I think that is the way any business operates."

Nearly every team polled by The Kansas City Star in Phoenix said it has or will cut jobs.

Those plans will surely intensify with Friday's news regarding GM.

Jay Frye, the president and general manager of Red Bull Racing, got the news about GM early Friday morning.

At mid-morning, Frye, whose team uses Toyotas, said, "I would say we would be very concerned. Car manufacturers are a very, very important part of what we do."

Davis, also affiliated with Toyota, said of the GM news: "It's a sad time for our country. Here we are with one of our mess. mainstay corporations ... facing something like that."

Another event of the past week sent ripples through the and is taking steps to reduce garages. That was the election costs for teams. of Democrat Barack Obama as president.

That event, Petty said, created a large amount of uncer-

tainty in the sport. people in this garage are Republicans," Petty said. "They were convinced that when they woke up on Wednesday morning, that if Obama was cars, hiring less engineers or president, the world would that kind of expertise."

start spinning the other way. With the economic and political uncertainty, they don't know what to do. That does affect this sport."

Jeff Burton said he was intrigued by the prospect of Obama's presidency.

"There are a lot of good things that I see there, and there are a lot of things that concern me. ... But I think for our country, and even for the world, it's a remarkable thing for a young guy like that with little experience to be elected president—and of course the first African-American to be elected president. That's some special stuff. That's real special stuff," he said.

One thing that seemed to unite everybody in the garages is the view that somehow, some way, the costs of racing must be contained.

To be competitive in Sprint Cup currently, it can cost up to \$25 million a year per car. Rusty Wallace, a former driver and current television analyst who also owns a Nationwide series team, sneered when he talked about costs.

"We got to do whatever it takes to get a huge cost saving right now," Wallace said. "This thing is spiraling out of control financially. End of story."

Some think it is up to the teams to do that. Others think it is up to NASCAR to find a way out of the economic

NASCAR chairman and CEO Brian France says his organization is concerned

"There are none more significant than the new car," France said. "What we said is once you get through the spooling up process of "Ninety-nine percent of the the teams figuring out that they don't need to build 15 or 20 cars per season. ... So as we go along into 2009, the teams will be building less

NUMBERS continued from page 6

usually can't have Tomlinson's num-

whether the person is worthy of the or college level. number.

Hesselbrock said a player or coach must meet two criteria to have his or any time. ber because they must come to her number retired. First, the indiachieve high academics, character vidual must have been inducted into

Second, the individual must not have discredited the university at

Hesselbrock said an older player will likely have his number retired before a more recent player. Athletes that were good yesterday cannot have their number retired before someone that may have played better or just as good 20 years ago. Tomlinson is an exception. "Some characteristics of noteworthy players would be all-Americans, national leaders, Heisman candidates, won a Masters, Olympic gold medalist, an all-time in something," Hesselbrock said. "You can't pitch a no hitter and be solid the rest of the way." The administration also considers timing of when the player might be available and what game would be appropriate to accept the honor, Hesselbrock said. The Chargers had a bye week, and it wasn't TCU homecoming or the pink-out game that allowed Tomlinson to attend "L.T. day" on Nov. 12, 2005 when TCU played the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Hesselbrock said. Hesselbrock said the athletic administration is in the process of retiring two numbers next year in TCU football: a defensive end and a running back. He said he wanted to keep the names secret because he wants it to be a surprise to those being honored. "We'll probably retire one at the beginning of the football season and one at the end," Hesselbrock said. Talks are also ongoing in men's basketball. Hesselbrock said new head coach Jim Christian and former head coach Neil Dougherty brought up the idea to honor basketball standout Kurt Thomas. Two players are being discussed about possible number retirement, but Hesselbrock said he wanted to keep the names a surprise. Sammy Baugh is the only TCU player to have his number retired in both college and professional football: #45 for TCU and #33 for the Washington Redskins. Davey O'Brien never had a number retired in professional football, but annually since 1981 the Davey O'Brien National Quarterback trophy has been awarded to the NCAA's top quarterback of the year.

and ability in their first year to be considered to wear #5.

number, Hesselbrock said there is a heritage committee composed of five people, three within the TCU administration and two outside who have close ties to TCU. that debates

the TCU Hall of Fame, but more importantly be admitted into the TCU

As far as retiring an athletic Legends Room, which is located on the second floor of the John Justin Center.A TCU legend is someone who brings notoriety and prestige to the school by standing out as a performer at either the professional





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Frogs are supposed to be green, anyway.

TCU Horned Frogs think purple, live green. Visit themesemester.tcu.edu/pledge and sign the Live Green Pledge. TCU DAILY SKIFF



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 · PAGE 5

ETC.



by Harry Bliss

Today in History

After sailing across the Atlantic Ocean, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus sights a Bahamian island, believing he has reached East Asia on this day in 1492. — History Channel

Joke of the Day Q: What did the football say to the football player? A: I get a kick out of you.

Bliss



"Forget it, Larry. We're not bringing it home."

MoreOn TV

by Jay Schiller and Greg Cravens



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35 Cain's nephew

36 Larger-than-life

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40 Deflected 53 Post sans 42 Inquest official 43 Exploitive one postage 54 Knobby 44 Study group 45 Reclined 55 Domesticate 56 Good grief! 47 Tomei of "In the 57 Telephoned Bedroom" 58 Surprise attack 50 Dictation taker 59 Pisa's river 52 This and more 63 Wicked



Failed, failed, failed. And then...

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DAILYSKIFF.COM

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

LEGENDS



(From left) Sammy Baugh, LaDanian Tomlinson and Davey O'Brien represent TCU in their glory days of college football. The three are the only players in the university's history to have their numbers retired.

Few Frogs have retired numbers

By Phil Mann Staff Reporter

The athletic administration is in the process of retiring two numbers next year in TCU football, an athletics offical said.

The identities of a defensive end and a running back are being kept under wraps in order to surprise the honorees, said Jack Hesselbrock, associate athletics director for internal operations.

"We'll probably retire one at the beginning of the football season and one at the end," Hesselbrock said.

Talks of retiring numbers are also ongoing in men's basketball, Hesselbrock said. New head coach Jim Christian and former head coach Neil Doughbasketball standout Kurt Thomas, he said.

Two players are being considered for possible number retirement, but Hesselbrock said he wanted to keep the names a surprise.

In the university's storied sporting history, three players and one coach have been officially honored.

Former football quarterbacks Sammy Baugh's #45 and Davey O'Brien's #8, as well as former baseball head coach Frank Windegger's #30 are the only jersey numbers retired at TCU.

Former TCU and current San Diego Charger, running back La-Dainian Tomlinson has his number retired, but a player may ask

erty brought up the idea to honor for his permission to wear his #5 by writing him a letter, Hesselbrock said.

> "If you're going to wear my number and represent me," Hesselbrock said as though he were Tomlinson. "I want you to be the things I was."

> Tomlinson was unavailable for comment.

Hesselbrock also said having Tomlinson's number retired is important to his legacy.

'You can't go out goofing around, cutting class and barely passing," Hesselbrock said. "This has to be something you honor. Not only the number, but the jersey and the school."

Hesselbrock said freshmen

SEE NUMBERS · PAGE 4



Find out how the swimming and diving teams are preparing for their Thursday night meet.

WOMEN'S SOCCER Team denied NCAA tourney bid

By Travis L. Brown Staff Reporter

Despite the best record in school history, the soccer team failed to receive an at-large bid to the women's NCAA tournament.

The team finished with a record of 14-4-2, claiming the No. 3 seed in the Mountain West Conference Tournament. The team won its opening-round match against the No. 6 seed, San Diego State, but fell in the semifinal round to Utah. Brigham Young University beat Utah to claim the MWC tournament title and at-large bid to the tournament.

Junior forward Lizzy Karoly and sophomore forward Jackie Torda were named to the MWC All-Tournament team for their performances in the tournament. Torda scored the game-winning goal against SDSU to give the Horned Frogs their first postseason win in school history. Karoly assisted on



Freshman forward Jordan Calhoun dribbles the ball against BYU on Oct. 16.

Torda's goal and scored the gametying goal in the Utah game with a minute remaining in the game.

BYU was the only MWC team to get a bid into the tournament,, and the Lady Cougars will play Virginia PAIGE McARDLE / Staff Photographe

Tech on Nov. 13.

The Horned Frogs will return all but three players. The team will also lose one starter.

No one from the soccer team could be reached for comment.

Rising costs spread gloom in NASCAR

By Jim Pedley

McClatchy Newspapers

AVONDALE, Ariz. — During the November NASCAR weekend at Phoenix International Raceway, an atmosphere akin to that of the final week of grade school settles into the garage area.

There is, after Phoenix, but one race left on the 10-month, 36-race schedule. Travel-weary officials, drivers and crew members normally turn giddy with thoughts of the approaching offseason.

This year, however, giddiness

aside — and to a certain degree, replacing talk of actual racing – are angst and gloom about a

global economy in tatters. On Friday, news swept the garages that General Motors was running out of money and facing bankruptcy.

On Saturday, Kyle Petty was asked if he would describe the situation facing NASCAR as a crisis. With the look of a condemned prisoner, he said "yes."

Big-time racing has an intricate and intimate relationship with the world economy. Truly, the busiis down considerably. Pushing it ness of NASCAR is business.

When a company sponsors a car or a race or a track, it is advertising—buying rolling billboards. For the past couple of years, there has been plenty of billboard space available.

"Certainly this is the hardest time I've seen in terms of available sponsors," said Bill Davis, owner of Bill Davis Racing.

In recent weeks, the deteriorating economy has begun to take a toll on NASCAR teams.

Teams have announced job cuts — and not just teams on the

SEE NASCAR · PAGE 4



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