# TCU SKIFF EST. 1902

DAILYSKIFF.COM · TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008 · VOL. 106 ISSUE 46

Independent spirit makes

Tomorrow in Opinion

By Chance Welch

Staff Reporter

in the decade.

wage was a factor, and even though there

aren't any full-time employees on mini-

mum wage, the wage increase applies to

Find out more about one of the Frogs' leading rushers. Sports, page 8

#### **TODAY'S HEADLINES**

News: Final director candidate visits Schieffer school, page 2 **Opinion:** Texas fans need to be polite, page 3 Sports: Women's basketball 2-0, Page 8

#### **TOP 10 MOVIES** (millions of dollars)

- Quantum of Solace \$70.4 1
- 2 Madagascar: \$36.1 Escape 2 Africa
- 3 Role Models \$11.7
- 4 Highs School \$5.9 Musical 3: Senior Year
- 5 Changeling \$4.2
- Zack and Miri 6 \$3.2 Make a Porno
- Soul Men 7 \$2.43
- The Secret Life of 8 \$2.4 Bees
- 9 Saw V \$1.8
- 10 The Haunting of \$1.6 Molly Hartley
  - Associated Press

some student workers.

Texas great.

Boschini said the trustees also approved parts of the budget that called for a 5 per-In response to the current economic cent increase in student financial aid and climate, the Board of Trustees approved an 8 percent reduction in budgets across Friday a 3 percentage-point reduction of the university. The Board of Trustees also the tuition increase rate, lowering it to 5 voted to give faculty and staff a pay raise percent, which Chancellor Victor Boschini based on merit, Boschini said. Not every employee will be given a raise, but instead said is one of the smallest tuition increases a pool of 3 percent of the compensation Boschini said the increase was needed budget will be handled by supervisors in each department who will determine if to keep the same amount of services ofemployees will get the raise on a case-byfered to students without having to fire or lay off any employees. He said the govcase basis, Boschini said. Student employernment-mandated increase in minimum ees are not a part of that merit pay raise

> program, he said. Students should expect to see tuition increases in the coming years consider- meets with student athletes, Intercom is

ing the rising expenses of these services, theonlygroup but nothing is ever decided in advance, Boschini said.

Tuition for the 2008-2009 school year is \$26,900, according to the TCU Web site. Tuition for the 2009-2010 academic year would rise to \$28,250.

Thomas Pressly, outgoing Student Government Association president and member of Intercom, a group of student leaders, said students pitched ideas to the Board of Trustees student relations committee about cost-cutting measures last week. One of the ideas presented was modifying the shuttle schedule so that it doesn't make as many trips, Pressly said. Other than the athletic committee that

Changes will be made in the meal plan next semester. Tomorrow in News

# **Trustees approve 5 percent tuition hike**

that allows the Board to speak with student representatives,

Tuition 2005-2006: \$21,280 2006-2007: \$22,980 2007-2008: \$24,820 2008-2009: \$26,900 2009-2010: \$28,250

Pressly said. The Board of Trustees student rela-

tions committee is one of nine committees with about 12 members that the 43 trustees are split up into, Pressly said. The proposals are being considered mostly by different campus departments and Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs.

SEE TUITION · PAGE 2

# SIGNING OFF



Career Services upgrades programs

**By Landon Dinnin** Staff Reporter

A recent move to Jarvis Hall is not the only change at the University Career Services.

John Thompson, executive director of Career Services, said Career Services is revamping itself through new interview and resume programs, among other changes.

With the new optimal interview feature, students can go online and record mock interviews via webcam. After recording, students can watch the recorded video and



Women deserve respect after 2008 election. Opinion, page 3.

#### **PECULIAR FACT**

NEW YORK – This winter, New Year's Eve revelers will have a close-up view of Times Square's first environmentally friendly billboard powered entirely by wind and sun. Construction on the 35,000-pound sign advertising Ricoh Americas Corp. is to begin this month across the avenue from the building where the ball drops on New Year's Eve.

- The New York Times







Stephen Baldwin, an actor and author, speaks to the community at the TCU Barnes & Noble at a book signing to promote his latest book, "The Death and Life of Gabriel Phillips." The bookstore was a stop on a promotional tour for the book, which was released earlier this month.

# Summit to address concerns over economy

#### **By Krystal Upshaw**

Staff Reporter

crisis, the Neeley School of Business, along with the Luther King Capital Management Center for financial studies and the Fort Worth Business Press, will host an economic summit for the local business community today at the Brown-Lupton University Union.

Robert Francis, editor of the Fort Worth Business Press, said the idea for the summit came from the number of Fort Worth Business Press readers who focused on articles written on economic issues and questions that bankers have received from customers.

"We haven't been as hard-hit as the rest, but we're starting to feel the effects," Francis said in reference to Fort Worth. "I hope people will be proactive."

The summit aims to prepare the Fort Worth business community for the upcoming economic and credit challenges. The forum will open with economist O. Homer Erekson, John V. Roach Dean at the Neeley School of Business.

Joseph Lipscomb, director for Luther ket president of King Capital Management Center, said the summit is designed to prepare busi-In response to the growing economic nesses for changes that will take place financial industry in the banking system and its effects on the business community.

> There will be four breakout sessions in the later half of the event which will focus on oil and gas, finance, real estate and risk management, Lipscomb said.

> The sessions will have a panel of professionals from each field to talk to business leaders. Lipscomb said the summit will shed light on challenges ahead for businesses.

"I think it gives the business community the opportunity to hear from a lot of lenders," Lipscomb said.

Panels will feature industry experts such as Larry Brogden, adjunct professor at the Energy Institute and partner in Four Sevens Oil, who will speak on the oil and gas industry.

The panels will consist of four or five different bankers that will talk about what's going to happen in the next six months, Francis said.

Compass Bank, will speak on the along with Greg Morse, chief executive officer of Worthington National Bank. Bankers will give insight on what new strategies are available to customers for financing their businesses.

Charles Reynolds, local president for Hub International, will speak on the risk-management industry along with two other business leaders in that industry. Rick Jenkins, Fort Worth market president of Southwest Securities, will be one of the panelists for the real estate industry.

Neeley

School of

**Business** 

summit

When: 7:30

a.m. to 10:45

Brown-Lupton

a.m. today

University

Union

Where:

The event is free and open to the business community. A continental breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m., and the Brian Happel, Fort Worth mar- forum begins at 8 a.m. at the BLUU.

self-critique their performance.

Thompson said the new offerings are advantageous for those who are busy and do not have the time to go to the Career Services office but still want to see how they would perform in an interview situation.

The optimal resume program helps students easily build resumes and cover letters online for potential employers. Once students have completed a resume and cover letter, they are able to upload

SEE PROGRAMS · PAGE 2

# Study abroad takes leaders to Europe

**By Brittany Adams** Staff Reporter

The psychology department and Neeley School of Business are teaming up for a new study abroad program this summer.

The new program, Enduring Lessons in Leadership, will be located in London and the Isle of Skye, Scotland.

Natasha Chapman, associate director of the Leadership Center, said she thinks going to London and Scotland will give the students a "unique way to learn about leadership." In London, the students will learn about leaders important to the area like Winston Churchill, Ghandi and Queen Elizabeth, how they led and their impact, Chapman said.

Dianna McFarland, coordinator of psychology in leadership minor, and Greg Stephens, from the Neeley School of Business, will take up to 20 students with them from June 9 to June 19.

The class will be considered a 4,000-level contemporary topics class worth three credit hours toward the requirements for business or psychology major or minor.

McFarland said the activities while in London will include sightseeing, a scavenger hunt and other "loosely planned activities with a leadership theme."

The experience will be more inwardly centered in Scotland, Chapman said.

"It will be a personal journey made of

#### SEE ABROAD · PAGE 2

# **NEWS**

TUITION continued from page 1

"While keeping the university moving forward, we can also look at some of the smaller things that students may not even realize that can cut costs," Pressly said.

Mills said the Board of Trustees doesn't make specific decisions on which cuts will be made, but the board can give guidelines on having a balanced budget. Mills said he isn't worried about having a balanced budget this year.

"If we had to do that every year for three or four years, then it probably would show up in a decrease in quality but certainly for next year, I don't see that as a problem," Mills said about the budget cuts.

Mills said he would have reservations with cuts in pay for faculty and staff, but at this point those cuts don't seem likely.

Publication costs for the Daily Skiff and TCU Magazine will be considered when looking at possible cuts as well as how the TCU administration corresponds, Mills said. Mills said he has seen excess copies of the Skiff and the TCU Magazine left in the newsstands. Also, many departments will be looking at whether correspondence needs to be handled with e-mail or regular mail, he said.

Danielle Marshall, a senior advertising major and inclusiveness representative for Intercom, said she was relieved that the concerns of the student body were addressed before any decision regarding tuition was made. Marshall said she was relieved that the increase was only 5 percent, unlike last year's increase of 8.4 percent. She said she hopes that number can decrease in the future.

"I wish I could have seen more of a decrease, but we took baby steps," Marshall said. "Maybe next year it will be four percent or three percent but now there is a decrease so that's what we want."

The next meeting for the Board of Trustees is scheduled for April 2009.

#### By Brian Smith Staff Reporter

The third candidate for the Schieffer School of Journalism's director position gave a different outlook on the future of journalism than his two predecessors.

Craig Flournoy, who serves as an assistant professor at Southern Methodist University, said Monday in the Moudy South Building that the turmoil currently affecting the industry benefits young people because it allows them to move up the ladder faster.

"The idea that you could get a meaningful assignment in

#### PROGRAMS continued from page 1

the documents onto frogjobs. net, an online job-listing service maintained by Career Services, Thompson said.

Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs, said because the economy is getting tougher, it is imperative for students to work for internships and build portfolios, and for the university to bring more companies to campus.

"It is an important time for us to make certain that we are doing

ABROAD

communities."

continued from page 1

Flournoy said. "That's not the way it is now." Flournoy cited a University

of Georgia study, which showed that 75 percent of journalism majors who graduated in 2007 found a job, and 60 percent newsrooms need to offer exclufound a job in their chosen career path.

Young people [in journalism] have a more optimistic, positive view than any time in the last two decades," Flournoy said.

In order to reverse the downward trend in circulation affecting most large newspapers, Flournoy said a change in the business model is needed. For

the first year was impossible," almost two decades, many papers collected record profits but did nothing to expand their coverage while the Internet overof information, he said.

Journalist says youth contributing more to news

As a remedy, Flournoy said sive online content to serve local audiences more efficiently.

Flournoy also said newspapers need to adjust to the explosion in popularity of blogs.

"I think they have to learn that a journalist no longer has a one-way communication with the audience," he said.

Flournoy won the Pulitzer Prize in 1986for his investigation of racial discrimination in

Texas while working for the Dallas Morning News. It was the first time the paper had ever took them as a primary source received the award. Flournoy worked for the Morning News for more 20 years from 1979 to 2000.

> In addition, Flournoy has served as an instructor of journalism at Louisiana State University and Sam Houston State University. He earned a Ph.D. in journalism history at LSU in August 2003.

John Tisdale, interim director of the Schieffer School, said the search committee would likely meet this week. Tisdale said it is his intention to have a rec-

public housing trends in East "Young people [in journalism] have a more optimistic, positive view than any time in the last two decades."

#### **Craig Flournoy**

assistant professor at Southern Methodist University

ommendation made before the Thanksgiving holiday. He also said the future director would likely not start until the next academic year because of obligations of the candidates.

everything possible to provide students with the resources so they can be successful in searchson said. ing for jobs," Mills said.

An overhauled Career Services Web site that will be up and running Dec. 1 will allow students to look at sample resumes and access the new programs implemented by Career Services more easily, Thompson said.

Career Services also joined with the Neeley MBA program to subscribe to the Web site Going Global. The Web site helps students find the more than 2,000

international jobs and internships that are available, Thomp-

LaTanya Johns, director of the graduate career service center, said Going Global is good for students who are considering working in global companies where they need to have some sensitivity to other cultures because it provides information on how other countries conduct business and what is appropriate and inappropriate.

"We have several students who

even from the U.S., and some of them very well may decide once they have completed their studies to go back to their home country," Johns said. "So I would like to be able to provide resources for them if that is indeed their goal."

Carlos Berti, a senior economics major from Guatemala, said upon graduation he plans on finding a job in either Spain or Florida.

"I would be able to save a lot of money not having to travel around the world trying to find are not from the state of Texas or a job, because traveling is never

cheap," Berti said. "It would also be a lot easier and save a large amount of my time."

Because about 45,000 students graduate in Texas every year, Career Services is trying to better prepare students by improving their interviewing skills and making them more competitive in the job market, Thompson said.

"We have to do something that will raise the student perception of Career Services and let them know that we serve all students," Thompson said.

#### QUICK NEWS

#### Runoff election decides SGA treasurer race

Sophomore Marlon Figueroa was named Student Government Association treasurer Friday afternoon, defeating junior Greg Hamre by 183 votes.

Figueroa won the run-off election with 992 votes to Hamre's 809 votes.

A runoff was instituted when neither candidate secured 50 percent of the initial vote.

Hamre received 1,403 votes in the initial election, almost 300 more than Figueroa. Sophomore candidate for treasurer Ryan Hoff had 281 votes.

"I'm very pleased with the results," Figueroa said. "I campaigned very hard."

Figueroa said Hamre ran a great race and extended his best wishes. "I think we both would have made

land said.

Attention Skiers and Snowboarders: CD Ski & Sport

experiences, according to the organization's Web site ..

'Those strategies include the indoor and outdoor activities," use of natural environment like Chapman said. "The students the Scottish countryside, expewill learn to bring their leaderriential learning such as feelship to action and impact their ing the force of the wind while standing at the top of a cliff with While in Scotland, the stuthe ocean below as a metaphor dents will go to Columba 1400, of facing the 'winds of adversity' a charitable organization that in life and leadership," McFaroffers leadership development land said.

After a day of workshops and activities, the students will meet back at an old Scottish hunting lodge, where they will be staying, and have a group discussion about what they learned and put their reflections in their journal, McFar-

Norman Drummond, head of Columba 1400, has come to TCU several times, McFarland said. Drummond influenced the development of leadership programs on campus, she said.

"It's just a really neat connection," McFarland said.

Stephens said he took 16 Next Generation Leadership students, Neeley Fellows and psychology in leadership minor students to Columba 1400 in January.

Next Generation Leader-

"The students will learn to bring their leadership to action and impact their communities."

#### Natasha Chapman associate director of the Leadership Center

that passion with others." The cost of the program is \$3,820 per student, but TCU will pay \$950 of the cost, and will include housing, travel within the U.K., meals in Scotland and cultural activities, McFarland said.. Students will have to pay out of pocket for airfare, a passport, meals in London and tuition which is



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The TCU Daily Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the Schieffer School of Journalism. It operates under the policies of the Sudent Publications Committee, composed of representatives from the student body, staff, faculty and administration. The Skiff is published Tuesday through friddr vulturing land spring semeters event finals were and holicaxe.

Subscriptions: Call 257-6274, Rates are \$30 per semester Location: Moudy Building South, Room 291, 2805 S. University Drive Fort March. On-campus distribution: Newspapers are av

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# OPINION

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008 · PAGE 3

## JAILY SKIFF Editorial Board

Bailey Shiffler, *Editor-in-Chief* Saerom Yoo, *Web Editor* Julieta Chiquillo, *News Editor* Billy Wessels, *Sports Editor* Valerie Hannon, *Features Editor*  Joe Zigtema, Managing Editor Michelle Nicoud, Associate Editor David Hall, News Editor Patty Espinosa, Opinion Editor Allie Brown, Multimedia Editor

# The Skiff View

# Take tuition increase with realistic outlook

The Board of Trustees met Friday and approved a 5-percent tuition increase, raising the cost to attend the university to \$28,250.

While no one likes tuition increases, it is good that the university realized TCU's tuition was rising too quickly as its cost is still above average.

According to Inside Higher Ed, the mean cost for a four-year private university is \$25,143 for the 2008-2009 school year.

Chancellor Victor Boschini said the increase will help offset health care costs and some necessary campus repairs. Coming with the tuition increase is an increase of the same amount in financial aid, despite the recent announcement of budget cuts.

While they are small, the university is still making strides to help students in these times of economic struggle.

Despite the expense, TCU still costs less than other private four-year institutions in the area. For 2008-09, SMU tuition was \$29,430. So as tuition-payers, students or parents may be in better shape than previously thought.

Associate editor Michelle Nicoud for the editorial board. The Skiff View represents the collective opinion of the editorial board.

# Texan sports craze should stay polite



Before I came to Texas, my only knowledge of the state amounted to what I had seen in westerns: cowboys and longhorns. Cowboys were the guys with the boots and ten-gallon hats, and longhorns just had long horns. But after coming to Fort Worth three years ago, I discovered I was very wrong.

The Dallas Cowboys and Texas Longhorns are another story. These popular sports teams inspire devoted fans like ents and on goes the never-ending cycle. I know a 9-year-old boy who is so committed to sports that if his team should lose, he puts the blame of their loss on himself. He holds his head and cries with his body tucked into the fetal position as he tries to comprehend how anyone could have possibly beaten his team. The poor kid has to hole himself up in another room to compose himself.

The danger of this sports fanaticism isn't only the emotional stress derived from loss. The danger comes when fans turn take their emotions too far and engage in rude behavior. Cursing, namecalling, trash talking and making vicious threats are never acceptable even if people say they are only joking. Those people think they're being funny, but a poor, disrespectful attitude like that should not be tolerated. This is how kids pick up bad words, aggressive behavior and a lack of respect for others. Now before you channel all that anger toward me for tying this kind of extreme fanaticism with Texans, hear me out. I'm not pinpointing Texans as being the most or only unsportsmanlike group of people - there are certainly people throughout this country who act this way or worse. However, I say this because of what I have heard people shout from the stands and how I have seen people act during my years in Texas. Still, I have to admit Texas' sports obsession is contagious. Before coming to TCU, the only sports I would watch were University of Hawaii volleyball and basketball. I'd only turn to ESPN for the X Games and the Scripps National Spelling Bee, and I absolutely detested watching football and baseball games. But being in Texas has changed me. Since then, I have attended two NBA games, four MLB games and multiple TCU baseball and basketball games. Now, I attend almost every TCU football game. I scream, clap and jump around when they score along with everyone else in the stands. I've even dyed my hair purple and dressed in crazy purple outfits. Being in Texas and being a part of the sports fanaticism here is an experience unlike any other. People are free to be as wild about their team as they like as long as they are respectful to everyone else. With sports, there will be good days and bad days, but as long as there are sports, particularly football, Texans will be always happy. Alyssa Dizon is a senior broadcast journalism major from Aiea, Hawaii. MCT



# Tuition should not be raised in difficult economic times

Recently, according to what I can only assume was a schoolwide e-mail, TCU's Board of Trustees voted to raise tuition for full-time students from \$26,900 to \$28,250. I believe it was called one of the smallest tuition increases in a decade. To me, the worst part of that e-mail was it implied that this 'small' tuition increase of \$1,500 — and an equal 5 percent increase in the financial aid pool, was a favor to students. It must be very, very easy for the Board of Trustees to sit at a round table in its conference room and vote on a \$1,500 increase in tuition, knowing well that their kids don't have to worry about paying for college. They say that they've added an additional pool of \$350,000 to be made available as financial assistance to 'those who qualify. Who qualifies at TCU? I'm not even getting enough money to go here and my family (though not necessarily poor) definitely cannot afford TCU, though my dad was in the Army for 20 years. Side note: it's a great system we have in the U.S. when my dad, who is a veteran of two wars, makes less than bank and business executives who drove us into an economic crisis, but I'll save that rant for another day. The fact is TCU is an expensive private school. A widely accepted opinion is most people's families can afford to send their children here. I work five days a week as a waiter to make up the roughly \$6,000 a year that isn't covered by scholarships, and by the way, loans are just as bad as paying for college now, except you'll pay for it later with interest while trying to start a career. In addition, I can't afford to live on campus, and I drive half an hour to

school everyday. I am behind on my payments even though every Friday night I work at least an eight-hour shift with no breaks. An extra \$1,500 is definitely more than enough to convince me to transfer to another school, even if it is a step down from the TCU. So, Board of Trustees and Chancellor Victor Boschini, I beg you, please send me no more e-mails acting like a 5 percent tuition increase is a favor, because it's not. Want to do me and every other person, rich or poor, who is pouring their hard earned cash into this school, a favor? How about you lower tuition during an economic crisis. It is honestly beyond my comprehension why a school with an endowment of more than a billion dollars would have to raise tuition by even .0000005 percent. A 5 percent tuition increase from a school with this much money isn't a favor, it's an insult. Sincerely,

A student paying for an already overpriced college.

> Nathan Pesina is a freshman English major from Fort Knox, Ky.

#### Frogs beat No. 3 Maryland, 80-68.

Let's think for a minute folks. Your team is about to upset a nationallyranked opponent. You've got two possible explanations for this: a. We're TCU. We know we're good. We've been underrated, haven't gotten the respect and attention we deserve, and now that we've got the opportunity to demonstrate that against a top-quality opponent, we're showing the college sports world TCU can play with the big boys (or girls); or b. We're TCU. We're really not that good, so if we're beating you, it must be because you're not that good either. You must be overrated.

Why in the world would you choose option b? Come on, Frog fans. Get out there and support the Frogs. But do it with some class and even some elementary logic. Leave the "overrated" chant at home.

Michael R. Butler is associate dean of the AddRan College and an associate professor of economics





Wilford "Crazy Ray" Jones to dress in western wear and perform magic tricks from the sidelines and the Bush family to raise the "Hook 'em Horns" sign wherever they go. Whatever the team and whatever the sport, whether it is professional, college or high school, sports in Texas are everything.

For all the other naive out-of-state students, like myself, if you haven't noticed: Texans are more than fans. Look beyond the body paint, dyed hair and the hundreds of dollars spent on tickets and team merchandise. They take sports seriously. It's not just a game to them; it's an emotional attachment. When their team wins, everything is right with the world. When their team loses, there's no meaning to life anymore.

Looking at Facebook after the Utah game, it was quite easy to see that fact. Many students were visually and verbally upset about TCU's fall to Utah in the final quarter of the game. One person had a dozen of the same curse word as his Facebook status.

In my freshman year, I went to the Galleria Dallas, and everywhere I looked I saw burnt orange and red. Apparently, the biggest football game of the season was on the way, and practically everyone and everything had those colors. The overhead lights had colored filters that displayed the University of Texas and Oklahoma University logos on the floor. Even the front shoe display of Dillard's had shoes in the same colors.

Texans are so focused on sports teams that they'll even take offense to the color of one's clothing. Confidently sporting your team's colors shows your dedication and loyalty as a fan. It is a major faux pas to wear Oklahoma University red at the University of Texas at Austin, especially if you're a Texas fan; you're practically asking for an altercation to take place. Suddenly, one's loyalties are questioned, and people treat what a person wears as a serious matter.

Texans live and breathe sports so much so that they impart that lifestyle on their children. Parents dress their children in tiny sports jerseys and cheerleading outfits. Before their kids learn the alphabet, they learn to "Hook 'em Horns" and sing their favorite team's fight song. Then, the kids grow up just as obsessed as their par-

# 'Underrated' chant needs to be silenced

Seriously, is there a more senseless cheer in college sports than the chanting of "overrated" when your team is on the verge of beating a higherranked opponent? It has come up twice recently at TCU — once when the football team defeated then No. 9 BYU, 32-7, and again last Friday night when the TCU Lady

# Americans should respect Palin's, women's accomplishments in '08



On Nov. 6, I needed a pick-me-up after the ugly election fallout. I watched my favorite NBC comedy "30 Rock," which, by the way, I have loved long before Tina Fey became the water cooler celebrity of the year by her uncanny (and hilarious) Sarah Palin impersonations.

One of the episode's subplots really struck a chord with me. In that episode, two characters, a black man, played by Tracy Morgan, and a white woman, played by Jane Krakowski, are having a conflict that turns into an argument over which group has it harder — black men or white women.

The timing of it was not lost on me. Knowing Fey's penchant for timely satire, I wondered if this could be a comment on this year's election. Unlike some people, I don't believe

Fey ruined Sarah Palin's, and by exten-

sion John McCain's, chances at the White House; the Republican Party was doing a fine job on its own by its lack of unity and assumption that evangelical Christians would carry it through.

For the last week I've heard from many people, including Vice Chancellor Don Mills, about how sore the loss over Barack Obama's victory is turning racist and ugly. There is no denying it, and there is no excusing it.

But what I was afraid of the night of the election, and what has unfortunately come true, is sore victory from Obama backers, mostly directed at Palin.

Just look at Fey's message board on the Internet Movie Database; there are people thanking her for winning the election for Obama by exposing Palin for the "idiot" she really is.

I've seen Facebook status updates from friends wishing the (expletive) Palin good riddance. And I've seen more "Go back to Wasilla, Caribou Barbie" posting on message boards than I ever care to see.

We cheer as Obama will become the first black president. And we should, even if our main gripe is with his ideology; this is truly a turning point in our country and impressive when we consider the Civil Rights movement was at its peak no less than 40 years ago.

But the woman's rights movement has made great strides, too. We should celebrate women like Palin, Hilary Clinton and Geraldine Ferraro for showing young girls that dreams of the White House can be within reach, not denigrate them with terms for female dogs and disproportionately figured dolls.

If you don't agree ideologically with Palin, fine by me. Just respect the woman, and respect that her, as well as Clinton's, presence in this year's campaign helped make about 10,000 cracks in the glass ceiling.

In the episode of "30 Rock," Krakowski and Fey's characters complained how hard it is for women, including among their reasons that "we can't be president." I can't help but think Fey, no matter what her political affiliations, knew what she was talking about as she said it.

Maybe both women and blacks still have a long way to go. But until we stop seeing politicians like Obama and Palin as just "the black man" and "the hockey mom," maybe we all have a long way to go.

> *Valerie Hannon is a senior newseditorial journalism major from Allen.*

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.

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.

# **NEWS**

# Skiff leaders chosen

#### By Travis L. Brown Staff Reporter

The Student Publications Committee selected the spring 2009 editor-in-chief and advertising manager for the Daily Skiff on Friday.

The selection for editor-in-chief for the spring 2009 semester was senior Max Landman, a news-editorial journalism major, who currently works as the design editor. He was selected from a pool of four candidates, all of whom are editors this semester.

TCU, I've worked with the Skiff as and English minor, was selected a designer and a design editor, and now I'm just really happy to see it off the last semester I'm here," Landman said.

think any major changes need to ment, but sees work ahead. be made to the Skiff, but he wants to focus more on the Skiff's Web site.

"One thing I'm going to focus on is more devotion to our Web content and to start working more lege advertising.



Landman Raymer

closely with News Now and KTCU, so we can be prepared when the newsrooms combine next year," Landman said. "I think we're doing a really good job overall."

Junior Tiffany Raymer, an ad-"Ever since I arrived here at vertising/public relations major as the advertising manager for the Skiff. Raymer was the only applicant. Raymer said she does not foresee the need for any major Landman said he does not changes to the advertising depart-

"We're having a lot of struggles with the economy and selling ads," Raymer said.

Raymer said she wants to bring a more positive attitude toward col-

# **Doubts swirl about effectiveness** of no-flush urinals in bathrooms

By Frank Greve and Queenie Wong

McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Men since Adam have survived without urinals that flush. By the early 1990s, concerns over water shortages and environmental impact spawned a garage industry for urinals that don't use water.

Since then, the devices, which rely on special oil-filled drain traps, have become the rage in eco-conscious communities nationwide, especially in water-worried California and the arid Southwest. They're now the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. urinal market, accounting for 250,000 of its 12 million units, thanks largely to powerful advocates.

The influential U.S. Green Building Council promotes no-

flush urinals as a way to win its prized Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design endorsements. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers specifies them for the service's future construction. Nobel laureate and former Vice President Al Gore is a board member of Falcon Waterfree Technologies of Grand Rapids, Mich., the leading no-flush urinal maker.

Still, an inconvenient truth hovers over the no-flush urinal industry. It's that many buyers and one-time fans say that the urinals are icky, tricky and costly to maintain.

Among those worried about their performance is Mary Ann Dickinson, executive director of the Chicago-based Alliance for Water Efficiency, a nonprofit that promotes water conservation. She fears no-flush urinals will fizzle and



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Photo Courtesy of FALCON WATERFREE TECHNOLOGIES via MCT No-flush urinals line the wall at the Driving Park Entertainment Center in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada.

deter other water-saving innovations just as underperforming lowflow toilets did in the early 1990s.

"We need to make sure no-flush urinals deliver effective savings before we incentivize their placement," she cautioned.

Other doubters include Wal-Mart, which tested and rejected no-flush urinals for its stores last year; the Army's Fort Huachuca in southern Arizona, whose 870 units make it one of the biggest U.S. no-

"We need to makre sure noflush urinals deliver effective savings before we incentivize their placement..."

#### Mary Ann Dickenson executive director

Alliance for Water Efficiency

flush clients; and the University of Washington in Seattle, which recently canceled plans to install 100 after a trial run.

The Environmental Protection Agency, charged with developing water-savings recommendations for consumer products, is delaying action on no-water urinals. The EPA's WaterSense Web site cites concerns about, among other things, "their long-term cost effectiveness as a result of increased maintenance requirements and life expectancy of (their) liquid seal or cartridge."

does the Palm Beach County, Fla., school system, whose officials say no-flush urinals reduce student sabotage while conserving water.

However, no-flush urinals require distinct cleaning procedures and the fixtures vary in quality and ease of maintenance. And turnover is high among building maintenance staff. Net result: Some buyers find that their housekeeping staffs can't - for whatever reason — keep no-flush urinals in odor-free, efficient operation.

For one thing, urinal drain cartridges, whose list price is about \$40, need changing after 7,000 uses. But who counts urinal uses? Instead, maintenance staffs tend to change cartridges whenever urinals back up, which can be far more often.

Changing cartridges at regular intervals, or the urinal trap oil that some systems require, is no solution. That's because use rates in banks of urinals vary widely. (Given a threeurinal option, the one closest to the door gets 60 percent of the traffic, according to Roger van Gelder, a Seattle environmental and plumbing consultant. The urinal farthest from the door, which provides the most privacy, gets most of the rest.)

Moreover, a sudden surge of water can destroy a no-flush urinal's oil seal by literally flushing the trap. This can happen if a housekeeper empties a mop bucket into a noflush urinal, a practice customary when cleaning restrooms with conventional urinals.

Then there's the yuck factor of changing cartridges, a process that's also a little complicated.

Paul Schaefer, owner of Kirkwood Plumbing, a St. Louis-area contractor who's worked up close with no-flush urinals, asks: "Who wants to go in there and pull out a cartridge that's all calcified up with urine from somebody else?" Craig Hansen, who's overseen Fort Huachuca's no-flush urinals since 1996, found them beyond the capacity of his housekeeping staff. 'People accustomed to coming in, wiping things down, scrubbing the floor and going away, show a lot of resistance to having to do something new that takes some thought," he said. So Hansen turned instead to the fort's higher-skilled — and much higher-paid - operations and maintenance teams to monitor and change urinal cartridges. "Personally, if I were doing this to save money, I wouldn't use no-flush urinals," Hansen said. "I'm doing it because I need to save water - and they do save water."

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The feature in question is the noflush urinal's trap. It's the size of a coffee mug and locks into the urinal drain. Urine flows under the trap's layer of scented blue oil much as vinegar flows through salad oil. At the same time, the oil blocks release of sewer gases in the drain line.

"They're not a problem if they're maintained properly," said Falcon vice president Daniel Gleiberman, whose products are also sold under the Sloan Valve Co. name. Customers with well-trained, well-managed and low-turnover maintenance staffs tend to agree with Gleiberman.

North Carolina, for example, uses only Falcon urinals at the state's busiest rest stop, on Interstate 95 in Northampton County, near the Virginia border. So does the Rose Bowl, in Pasadena, Calif. So do 36 commercial buildings owned by the Liberty Property Trust, including Philadelphia's Comcast Center, Pennsylvania's tallest building. So

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# **SPORTS**

#### CHRISTIAN continued from page 8

In 2005, Christian did not see the field for the Frogs because the team decided to redshirt him. He didn't see much of the field in his first season of active duty in 2006, either. But last year, he rushed for That's a junior varsity player." 321 yards and two touchdowns on 88 carries as the coaches officially moved him from wide receiver to running back. This season, Christian has seen his touches increase, as well as his time in the end zone. He has rushed for 366 yards and four touchdowns to go along with 201 yards receiving on 19 catches in 11 games.

Buchanan said Christian might cause coaches and players to underestimate his skill because he doesn't have the size of a prototypical running back.

"Coaches would watch him on video and he ran like a big, strong running back," he said. "But when he walked out on the field, they would ask, "Where's Christian?" I'd point to him and they'd say, 'No, coach.

#### BASKETBALL continued from page 8

eight assists in 35 minutes of action.

"She just continues to get better and better," Mittie said. "Helena is just a good all-around player and we are just trying to utilize all of the different things she can do."

In addition to the contributions of LaFleur and Sverrisdottir, TCU also benefitted from points off its bench. Sophomore guard Emily Carter connected on five of seven from the field, netting 12 points in 25 minutes, she also had two rebounds and two assists.

With the team now 2-0, Carter said she likes the direction the team is headed.

'We know the talent we have on this team," she said. "It is just about putting it all together. Once we do that, I think we are going to be pretty good."

Despite the success so far, Mittie grabbing seven rebounds during said his team has a lot to work on.

"I did not feel we had the same career-best 28 points in the Lady killer instinct tonight like we did on Frogs' win against Maryland.



See dailyskiff.com for a video interview with Christian's high school football coach.

In the Frogs' Nov. 6 loss to Utah, Christian accounted for 104 yards

of offense, including a 1-yard touch-

down run in the first quarter. "We were watching our younger son, Todd, play on Thursday night (for Aledo)," Jodi Christian said. "So I got about 50 text messages when Ryan scored that touchdown."

Running backs are expected to score touchdowns and extend drives, but an aspect of Christian's game that may go unnoticed is his ability to protect the quarterback.

"One of the things I know TCU likes about him is his ability as a blocking back," Buchanan said. "I think he's definitely one of the best backs they have when it comes to blocking other guys."

Friday," he said. "Our rebounding

isn't good enough right now, and

our defense isn't good enough to

The team was outrebounded 41

to 32 and gave up 16 offensive re-

bounds. UTSA had two players with

double figures in rebounds, while

Sverrisdottir grabbed 10 boards as

scoring by senior forward Onika

Anderson, who recorded a dou-

ble-double with 22 points and 13

rebounds. Senior guard Monica

Gibbs scored 14 points and dished

our basketball team," Mittie said.

"We've got a lot of film to look at.

We've got tomorrow off to get a little

LaFleur was named the Moun-

tain West Conference Player of the

Week for scoring 44 points and

the opening weekend. She had a

body rest and we'll come back Tues-

"I think we learned a lot about

out 11 assists.

day ready to go."

The Roadrunners were led in

the only TCU player to do so.

string some stops together."

### **OPINION**

# Athletes should keep lives private

#### SHANNON J. OWENS

Memo, excuse me, text message to the under-21 student-athletes of the world: we can see your Facebook and MySpace accounts.

Please, I beg you, immediately erase all photographic evidence of underage drinking, perverse or pornographic images, racial slurs and epithets and images of marijuana — especially if you are smoking it.

Please find your identity in private or at least provide an edited version.

If not, your "freedom of speech" could cost you thousands of dollars in scholarship money.

Just ask Buck Burnette. The former Texas football player recently learned the "Eyes of Texas" really were upon him and his Facebook account.

After the election, Burnette changed his status line to "all the hunters gather up, there's a (racial slur) in the White House." His coach, Mack Brown, removed him from the team, and rightfully so, the next day.

Burnette issued an apology and said it was a crass joke, but the damage had already been done.

Maybe he really is a nice, misguided kid. Or he could be bona fide jerk.

The truth about his character comes second to the perception he created on his very public Web page.

Some of you think using inappropriate material on your personal Web pages is just harmless teenage e-chatting shared among you and your friends.

But when words and images are made available to billions of people on earth accessing the worldwide Web, it transcends fun.

Like it or not, your MySpace page or Facebook account is a part of your resume to future coaches.

Western Kentucky recruiter and assistant football coach Stuart Holt said academics, athletic ability and character are the main three things col lege coaches look at in their

future and current athletes. Holt, who helped recruit former Boone High standout Jamarcus Allen, even has a Facebook account due to administrators' encouragement. They want more coaches to monitor the athletes.

"Those are the three factors that determine if we give a kid a scholarship: academics, athletic ability and character," Holt said. "If they're deficient in two of the three we're not going to offer."

Holt admitted he doesn't regularly check Facebook and MySpace accounts anymore. But trust me, there are plenty who do.

"Those are the three factors that determine if we give a kid a scholarship: academics, athletic ability and character..."

#### Stuart Holt

Western Kentucky recruiter and assistant football coach

Don't think "old" coaches aren't up to this new game. Remember, the NCAA had to ban coaches from text messaging kids in the recruitment process.

Your image and likeness is potentially worth millions in big business college athletics. After all, it is the athletes who create the school's brand and that extends to what you do off the field.

So if you see a friend request popping up from the be shocked.

They are simply investigating their future investment.

High school athletic directors here are encouraging more coaches to help students

set boundaries around their self-expression. Orange County (Fla.)



STEWART F. HOUSE / Fort Worth Star-Telegram via MCT Texas head coach Mack Brown paces at the Texas-Oklahoma game in Dallas in October. Brown dismissed Texas player Buck Burnette for having offensive Facebook content.

mer is currently working on a 30-minute educational video for administrators to view this December during their county athletic directors meeting.

He's got a list of college football recruiters that he plans to call in reference to how often they check athlete accounts.

"When there's no checks and balances, anything can happen," Demer said.

And be thankful. Because in high school, those boundaries are for your protection. In college, it's for the school's protection.

That's a lesson I'm sure Burnette would have preferred year college scholarship.

over your personal life.

If there's one thing all adults have in common, it's that we've all been teenagers. Fortunately, we didn't have the opportunity to publicly share our past transgressions with everyone from America to Asia, Australia and beyond.

And yes, you have the right to show and tell anything on your Web page.

And coaches have the right to show you the door. You decide.

What makes you think they won't or haven't already checked your personal pages too?

old ball coach one day, don't

approximate amount of a four-Look, no one wants to lord



Athletic Director Kevin De-

not cost him \$80,000 — the

# FOX won't match ESPN's BCS offer

By Teddy Greenstein Chicago Tribune

It will be four-and-out for Fox and the BCS.

The network has declined to match ESPN's offer for the 2011 to 2014 BCS bowl games. Barring a late snag, those TV rights will be awarded to ESPN, which offered a reported \$500 million for four years.

Fox offered about \$405 million over four years, according to a network official.

Acquiring the BCS title game and four additional BCS bowls would represent a huge victory for

Football" to its stable in 2006. Some critics will bemoan a cable because approximately 16 million U.S. homes do not receive the channel.

firm the deal but did release a statement pointing out that the network has 98 million subscribers.

ESPN was able to offer a higher rights fee because it charges cable and satellite companies approximately \$2.85 per subscriber.

Fox will broadcast this season's Fiesta, Sugar and Orange bowls, plus the BCS title game. ESPN, which added "Monday Night ABC, a member of the ESPN

family, has the Rose Bowl.

In January 2010, Fox will exit sports championship going to with the Fiesta, Sugar and Orange. ABC has the Rose and BCS title game in Pasadena, Calif.

The Rose Bowl has a sepa-ESPN officials would not con- rate agreement with ABC/ESPN through 2014 that gives it the right to shift the game from ABC to ESPN.

ESPN's reported \$125 million-per-year deal represents more than a 50 percent increase over the \$82.5 million Fox is currently paying the BCS.

Given that so many ESPN anchors and commentators have pushed for a college football playoff, it's natural to wonder if this TV revenue.

agreement could lead to one.

The answer: Not anytime soon. BCS officials in May voted to maintain the current format of five BCS bowl games with the title game rotating among the Fiesta, Orange, Rose and Sugar bowl sites.

Any significant change\_the kind that president-elect Barack Obama says he will lobby for\_ will not come until the 2014 regular season/2015 postseason.

This beefed-up BCS deal comes two months after the SEC signed \$3 billion worth of TV deals with ESPN and CBS. That nearly tripled the conference's

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#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008 · PAGE 7

# ETC.



Today in History Shiite Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon free Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite after more than four years of captivity on this day in 1991. -History Channel

## speak? A: He was a little hoarse.

Q: Why couldn't the pony

Joke of the Day



"Hey, fat guy! Jeez, did I just say that out loud?!"

# MoreOn TV

by Jay Schiller and Greg Cravens



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#### PAGE 8 · TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008

# SPORTS



See how the men's basketball team is preparing for its first home game. Tomorrow

FOOTBALL

# SECRET WEAPON



PAIGE McARDLE / Staff Photographer Junior running back Ryan Christian surges forward during the Frogs' 54-7 home victory over Wyoming on Oct. 25.

# RB turning heads despite size

Editor's note: Athletics Media Relations denied interviews with Frogs head coach Gary Patterson and running back Ryan Christian for this story, and Christian declined to be interviewed without the department's permission

#### By Reese Gordon Staff Reporter

Standing 5 feet 11 inches tall at a listed weight of 188 pounds, Ryan Christian doesn't fit the mold of a college running back. But the junior has proven to be effective with his playmaking ability on the football field.

Aledo, a small town west of Fort Worth, is where Christian became a prominent high school athlete. He lettered in track, basketball and soccer. Football, however, gave him a chance to excel. He helped the Bearcats continue their winning tradition under head coach Tim Buchanan as the team made the playoffs in all four years of Christian's high school career.

the football, receiving or blocking. He could even throw it if we asked him to."

But running the football was where he made his mark, forging the path to where he is today.

As a senior, Christian rushed for 2,800 yards and 32 touchdowns, with 1,000 yards coming in a fourgame playoff run. His play earned him district Co-MVP and allstate honors. In his four seasons at Aledo, Christian rushed for 4,826 yards and scored 55 touchdowns on the ground. He also caught 69 passes for 1,245 yards and six touchdowns.

"Right away, you could see he had great speed," Buchanan said. "But that was genetic. His father was a really good player. There was no doubt in my mind that Ryan was going to make someone a great college football player." Christian hurt his opponents with long touchdown runs and big playoff game performances, but his mother, Jodi Christian, said she is more proud of the way her son carries himself away from the field. "His character means more to me than anything else," she said. "He plays with his heart and he encourages everybody else."

**RYAN CHRISTIAN BY THE NUMBERS** 

4,826 Rushing yards at Aledo

High School

55 Rushing touchdowns at Aledo High School

1,245 Receiving yards at Aledo High School

# **BILLY KNOWS BEST** NFL game has lots to learn from sound college rules



BILLY WESSELS

For years I have been saying how the professional football game is better than the college game.

The players in the NFL are bigger, stronger and faster than college players, making the games more exciting because fans are seeing the best of the best.

But this weekend changed my mind.

The NFL players are still bigger, stronger and faster than college players, but the way the college game is played is just so much better than the NFL.

First, the replay system. Isn't the job of the officials to get every call correct?

If that is the case, why do coaches have challenges in the NFL? Every play should be reviewed upstairs like they do in the college game. If the officials

play, they should radio down to an official on the field and tell them they messed up.

If we can put headsets in quarterback's and linebacker's helmets, why can't we get an earpiece for the officials on the field? That way, if something is wrong, the field officials will be told immediately, blow the whistle and then fix what the officials messed up.

The NCAA says every play in college football games is reviewed; whether that is actually happening is debatable because it seems like there are several plays that deserve a second look, and they don't get it. But the idea is great, and it shows their goal is to get the call on the field right.

Second, ties. Everyone knows a tie is like kissing your sister, and there is no place for that in football, or any sport for that matter. Even hockey finally figured it out.

But having a tie in football is just difficult to comprehend, especially with several different ways to score. But to make sure that doesn't happen again, the NFL should do what the NCAA does.

Give each team a possession upstairs find a problem with a starting at the 50-yard line, so

**Everyone knows** a tie is like kissing your sister, and there is no place for that in football.

they don't start in field goal range and let them try to one-up each other. The college game makes scoring a little too easy starting at the 25-yard line, just about in field goal range. They should move back five or 10 yards, but at least they have the system right.

Finally, fines. It seems like in every game somebody in the NFL does something that "deserves" a fine. I know you can't fine a college player because they aren't getting paid, but you don't hear too many complaints from players that the college game is becoming a pansy game.

So despite the higher caliber of player at the NFL level, overall the college game is better, until the NFL changes the rules.

> Sports editor Billy Wessels is a news-editorial journalism major from Waxahachie.



Buchanan said he knew he had a special talent in Christian dating back to the tailback's freshman year.

"He started for us as a freshman," Buchanan said. "He could do it all, whether that meant running

Account Executive:

SEE CHRISTIAN · PAGE 6

yourself in the spotlight.





Rushing touchdowns

\*From 2006 through first 11 games

# Junior guard TK LaFleur brings the ball up the court during the Lady Frogs' 80-68 victory over No. 3 Maryland on Friday. Lady Frogs win first two contests

## By Reese Gordon

Staff Reporter

The women's basketball team improved to 2-0 for the first time since the 2005-06 season by defeating the UT-San Antonio Roadrunners on Sunday.

Sophomore guard Helena Svertriple-double as the Lady Frogs followed up Friday's 80-68 win over No. 3 Maryland with a 73-60 victory against UT-San Antonio.

The Lady Frogs struggled to

the first half, but the team would take a 42-30 lead into halftime due to clutch outside shooting from junior guard TK LaFleur. Their advantage never dipped below double digits in the second half as the team improved to 2-0 on the season. But head coach Jeff Mittie said

risdottir fell two assists shy of a his team lacked energy coming off an emotional win against the University of Maryland, which led to the coach trying to motivate his team during an early timeout.

"On one hand as a coach you separate themselves from the understand it," he said. "On the Roadrunners on the scoreboard in other hand, you know you are

playing an NCAA tournament team and you can get beat today if you don't come to play. I told them they were better than that."

The Lady Frogs would go on to shoot 57 percent from the field in the first half, while holding UTSA to 40 percent shooting. LaFleur led the offensive attack early, as she scored 12 points in the first half, including making three of five on three-point attempts. But the second half belonged to Sverrisdottir, as she finished the game with 19 points, 10 rebounds and

SEE BASKETBALL · PAGE 6



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