

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

DAILYSKIFF.COM · FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009 · VOL. 107 ISSUE 47



Student publications staff picks this weekend's highlight football games. Sports, page 8

## SPORTS

Check [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) for live updates and video from Laramie during the TCU vs. Wyoming game this weekend.



## NEWS

Campus alcohol violations are on the rise. Tuesday



## NO PLACE TO GO



A homeless man sleeps on the street across from the Union Gospel Mission shelter.

CHANCE WELCH / Multimedia Editor

## FWISD wrestles with homelessness

By Chilton Tippin  
Staff Writer

Each day, Jo Carter, the liaison specialist for homeless students in the Fort Worth Independent School District, sorts through a massive stack of forms on her desk.

The forms, which steadily increase in number each day, ask a series of questions that help to identify students in need of assistance because they are homeless. The forms are the only way the school district has of seeking these children in need, and they cannot reflect actual number of homeless children, Carter said.

And, with a sour economy and high unemployment, the number of forms and the number of students requesting help for necessities such as food, clothing and

ties, and that includes shopping for clothing for students who submit requests.

"Last year we provided about 460 students with uniforms and clothes, this year we're already almost at half that. We're already at 200, and we're only three months into the entire school year."

Jo Carter specialist for homeless students in the Fort Worth Independent School District

transportation has increased, she said.

Part of Carter's job is to make sure that students within the FWISD receive these necessities,

and that includes shopping for clothing for students who submit requests.

"Last year we provided about 460 students with uniforms and clothes," Carter said. "This year we're already almost at half that. We're already at 200, and we're only three months into the entire school year."

By the time she enters her office after such a shopping trip, Carter said she usually sees eight or 10 more clothing requests waiting on her desk.

"Last year we had the hurricane, and I didn't even do this much shopping," she said.

This year Carter has counted about 600 forms, but in the past the forms have reached numbers between 800 and 1,200.

SEE HOMELESS · PAGE 2

## FINANCIAL AID

## Early app deadlines irrelevant for office

By Melanie Cruthirds  
Staff Reporter

Contrary to findings from an article out earlier this month on SmartMoney.com, applying early to some colleges might not be a sure bet to secure adequate financial aid, a university official said.

Mike Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid, said while the university did have an early action application deadline in November, decisions from his office on financial aid would not be made until February. He said arrangements for academic scholarships followed the early action deadline and the Dec. 15 deadline for award consideration.

"In all honesty, at least here, applying early does not mean you will receive more financial aid," Scott said. "Applying late means you may not get any (aid)."

Scott said he thought the only area of university student financial aid that might be affected by an earlier-the-better mentality might be so-called performance scholarships, like those for theater study and athletics.

"We don't even begin looking at freshmen for need-based financial aid based on the FAFSA until the end of February," Scott said. "We do academic scholarships during that time (though)."

Bre Akers, a junior strategic communication major, said that although she applied early and was accepted to TCU, she was currently encountering

SEE MONEY · PAGE 2

## REC CENTER

## University organizes charity run for schools

By Chandler Cochran  
Staff Reporter

The TCU Wellness Center and Recreation Center will organize the TCU Turkey Trot 5k run-walk Friday, a human resources official said. The event stars at 3 p.m. at the entrance to the University Recreation Center.

Marilyn Porter, data control coordinator for the office of human resources, said the event should be a hit.

"I'm so excited. It's going to be a hoot," Porter said. "A lot of people won't be able to (finish) it ... but we're hoping we get a lot of donations for the kids."

Senior communication studies major Robert Tofan said he is not a long distance runner, but will do his best to keep the pace for the Turkey Trot

### Turkey Trot

**What:** Student and faculty 5K run/walk

**When:** 3 p.m. today

**Where:** Meet at the main entrance outside the University Recreation Center

**Why:** Donated supplies go to the nonprofit stay-in-school initiative "Communities in Schools."

**Web site:** [www.wellness.tcu.edu](http://www.wellness.tcu.edu)

**Phone:** Human Relations Office, Marilyn Porter - (817) 257-6305

**Or Campus Recreation:** Jay Iorizzo - (817) 257-7062

SEE TURKEY · PAGE 2

## TOP DVD SALES

- 1 Star Trek (Three-Disc)
  - 2 Up (4 Disc Combo Pack)
  - 3 TStar Trek (Single-Disc Edition)
  - 4 Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (Widescreen Edition)
  - 5 Monsters, Inc. (4-Disc Edition)
  - 6 Up (Single Disc Widescreen)
  - 7 Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (Blu-ray/DVD Combo)
  - 8 Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian
  - 9 Angels & Demons
  - 10 Julie & Julia DVD
- Amazon.com



Woman had right to miss her deployment to Afghanistan. Opinion, page 3

## PECULIAR FACT

NEW YORK — The launch of Wikipedia, emergence of the iPhone and the election of U.S. President Barack Obama were among the 10 most influential moments on the Internet in the past decade, according to the annual Webby awards.

—Reuters

## TODAY'S WEATHER



62 47  
HIGH LOW

Showers Likely

Tomorrow: Slight Chance of T-storms

61 / 45

Sunday: Sunny

69 / 45



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

## ACTIVITIES

## Event marketing stirs controversy

By Rachel Wilson  
Staff Writer

When an event is advertised as a "free concert" or "dishing on everything from guys to fashion," no one expects to hear the name "Jesus". In fact, people have gotten upset about it.

AFTERdark and Girls' Night Out, two recent campus events, were not advertised as outreaches, and many people were surprised when the Christian gospel was presented to them, students said. However, the university isn't making any plans to change the way future events like these are advertised.

"Both of those events I didn't see as a problem at all because I feel like you could easily figure out what it was just by looking at the advertisement," Brad Thompson, a TCU Student Activities advisor, said. "When I saw the advertisements, I knew who was putting it on. To me it was obvious."

Briana Wucinski, a freshman who attended AFTERdark, a free concert that featured Christian inspirational speaker Joe White, said she didn't know the event had anything to do with outreach.

"My biggest surprise was definitely when he brought out the cross ... I'm not a huge Christian, and so that was very abrupt, in-your-face Christianity," Wucinski said.

The big surprise was part of the plan, said sophomore AFTERdark coordinator Katie Runyon, but no one was trying to hide anything.

"We kind of wanted it to be more of a mystery," Runyon said. "That was the targeted market plan ... but in no way was the truth meant to be hidden."

George Low, an associate professor of marketing, said there was nothing illegal about the way AFTERdark and Girls' Night Out were advertised, but the method used does raise an ethical question.

"Whether they intended to mis-

lead or whether they didn't intend to mislead, if they in fact misled, then that becomes an issue," Low said.

Kim Raines, a sophomore AFTERdark coordinator, said she expected some adversity to the message being presented.

"The reason we brought it to TCU is because we believe its truth," Raines said. "We knew that people weren't going to agree with that, but we didn't think our advertising would be what would offend them."

Melissa Crutchfield, a junior who helped bring Girls' Night Out, a night of girl-talk with inspirational speaker Marian Jordan, to campus, was surprised that women found the event offensive after the speaker began to share her Christian testimony.

"Marian was just a speaker brought in to TCU to share her life story in hopes that it would relate to girls our age, and meet them right where they are," Crutchfield said.

SEE RELIGION · PAGE 2

## QUICK NEWS

### No arrests in October sexual assault

The Fort Worth Police Department has not made any arrests in the search for the suspect in the Oct. 13 sexual assault, Sgt. Chad Mahaffey wrote in an e-mail Tuesday.

He said he could not release anymore information because the investigation is ongoing.

TCU Police Sgt. Kelly Ham referred questions to Director of Communications Lisa Albert, who said she had no new information.

A female student reported that

she was sexually assaulted on campus Oct. 13 at about 9 p.m. The suspect was described as a tall, white man in his early 20s with straight blond hair and a mole on the right side of his face.

—Staff reporter Chris Blake

## NEWS

## HOMELESS

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Otis Thornton, the homelessness coordinator for Fort Worth, said the problem in helping homeless children does not center on funding so much as it does on locating them.

He said many children considered by the U.S. Department of Education to be homeless do what is called "doubling up," a situation that occurs when students from low-income families move in with friends and relatives.

"It's a consequence of low-income families not having a place to stay," Thornton said. "And it results in low-income families having to move around a lot."

This presents just one difficulty in counting the students because it requires officials in the school district to know what families and students are living in each house, he said.

"It is often very difficult for counselors to know where the students are actually living," Thornton said.

Carter said that in addition to doubling up, there are students sleeping in motels, emergency shelters and cars.

"This isn't, 'Hey can I spend the night tonight?'" Carter said. "It's, 'Hey, I've

got nowhere to go and if my aunt doesn't let me live here I'm going out on the street.' So there's a lot of house-hopping."

Thornton said another problem with the forms is that they rely on the truthfulness of the people filling them out.

"Many of these students are teenagers, and at that age you are trying to conform or be cool," Thornton said.

Steve Dutton, president of Samaritan House, a permanent supportive housing complex in Fort Worth, said many of the students are wary of filling the forms out truthfully.

"They're dealing with a lot of issues," Dutton said. "It's not just being homeless, but the bias and the stigma that comes along with it."

According to a report from the American Community Survey, the number of children living in poverty in Tarrant County is 85,536.

Thornton said this number is significant because it represents the number of children who are homeless or who are most likely to become homeless.

The idea that people are homeless primarily because of drug addiction problems or laziness is a misconception, he said.

"The poorer you are, the more likely you are to be homeless," he said. "The primary reason for being homeless is that people can't afford homes."

Almost one-fourth of the homeless population in Tarrant County is children under the age of 18, Thornton said.

"Those kids typically aren't homeless because they aren't making enough money," he said. "Typically those kids aren't homeless because they are crack heads. So there's obviously something else going on there."

Dutton said children can become homeless as a result of several factors, including divorce, domestic violence issues and lack of ability to pay child support.

One of the leading factors this year is the economy, he said.

"The bad economy increases the number of homeless families and therefore the number of homeless children," Dutton said. "When the economy is down, not only is it increasing the number of homeless families, but it's decreasing the number of people who can give monetary donations."

Carter said young children who are homeless are particularly vulnerable because of several developmental issues.

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## RELIGION

continued from page 1

As for the way Girls' Night Out was advertised, Crutchfield and the other event coordinators just used what they were given, she said.

Low said while fault lies with the coordinators for not being blunt about their intentions, the students also have

some responsibility.

"I think part of it is a certain amount of student naivete, if you will," Low said. "If you're going to go hear a band entertain after a football game, you're probably going to find out what the band's music is before you go. Same kind of thing here."

In the face of some admittedly upsetting and even

harsh responses, Crutchfield, Runyon and Raines said they remain optimistic about the effect their events will have on the campus.

"Overall, I feel as though a movement is occurring on campus of students who are passionately living their lives to show others the true love and hope that is found in Jesus Christ," Crutchfield said.

## MONEY

continued from page 1

problems paying for the ever-increasing school tuition. Unlike some other students who applied for funding via the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, Akers knew her choice of school prior to hearing of her aid eligibility.

"I am from out of state, (and) I needed to know as early as I could to decide where I would be moving and to start financially planning," Akers said. "I wanted just for my own sanity to have an idea of where I was going and ... to take a final trip to that school."

The SmartMoney.com article looked at early decision deadlines, which were binding, and the availability of state and college financial aid offerings. It stated that many financial aid awards from states and schools are given out on a first-come, first-served system.

Although she used Stafford and private loans to help cover education costs for her first two years at the university, Akers said she was denied the private awards this semester. Akers said with the loss of this funding, her parents had to dip into their 401(k) plan and retirement funds to meet the remaining balance.

"I feel that half the stress that I have is because of my school finances," Akers said.

"I have this guilt built up because I feel like I am taking away everything my parents have worked (for). The past two and a half years have been nothing but tight budgets and headaches every semester to figure out how to make each month's payment."

Jim Atwood, assistant to the dean of admissions, agreed with Akers' sentiments and said the SmartMoney.com article was not as relevant to university students because the school does not offer an early decision option. The Office of Admissions provides an early application deadline under which a student's acceptance is not binding.

"Sometimes for some forms of financial aid, the early deadline does make a difference," Atwood said. "In a real sense, a lot of the money ... is the money that is dependent upon the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. (For) those awards, nobody is going to get money early."

Atwood said a lot of the confusion about aid packages and applications comes from the various dates associated with applying to schools and the amount of time between each deadline. For example, applicants may not turn in their FAFSA until after Jan. 1, but the early action application deadline for the university is Nov. 1. Additionally, students

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**Bre Akers**  
junior strategic communication major

wishing to be considered for university academic scholarships must apply by Dec. 15.

"A lot of families will not know how much money they're going to get at any school until the middle of March, maybe even April 1," Atwood said. "What that means is students need to apply to more than one school to see where they really stand."

## TURKEY

continued from page 1

dressed as the traditional Thanksgiving turkey.

"I told my good friends. They think it's real funny and they're going to try and come watch me in a turkey costume," Tofan said.

Porter said the Turkey

Trot will benefit Communities in Schools, a nonprofit stay-in-school program. Participants should bring three school supply items found on the wellness Web site, wellness.tcu.edu, as their entry fee.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills wrote in an e-mail that he thought

the run was a good initiative.

"The event enables our community - students, faculty and staff - to do something together. It will enhance TCU spirit and enable us to contribute to the (Fort) Worth community. Plus it is good for our health and fitness. Finally, it will be fun," Mills wrote.

# This Frog Changed Into a Foot & Ankle Surgeon

## TCU Alum ('02) and Foot & Ankle Surgeon Clayton H. Culp, D.P.M.

After seven years of education and training out of state, Dr. Culp has opened a foot and ankle practice in Horned Frog Country. He'll discuss education, training and career options and answer any questions you may have.



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## DAILY SKIFF

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# OPINION

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## The Skiff View

### Events should be open about Christian themes

Both AFTERdark, a Christian music and speaker event, and Girl's Night Out, a "girl talk" event with a Christian speaker, were both advertised without notifying audiences that they were Christian events.

Students who attended AFTERdark showed up expecting to see a live band. Well, they got it – along with a sermon and a giant cross to complete the theme.

The programs were held with good intentions, but the advertising was misleading. Both events meant to emphasize the importance of truth and the love Jesus has for his followers, but they contradict themselves by withholding the truth about their subject matter.

Religion is a personal and, for some, a private affair that should be approached with honesty. Furthermore, by keeping the intent of the events hidden, these programs lure people who might not be comfortable discussing Christianity in a public forum, or who may not be Christian at all.

TCU may be affiliated with the Disciples of Christ, but that doesn't mean all students are Christian. Several faiths are represented on campus.

Advertisers for the events should have marketed them as Christian events even if it might have affected the attendance. At least then they would have a captivated audience – not one surprised by a cross and outreach.

News editor Maricruz Salinas for the editorial board.

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

## Missed deployment a lesson in mercy



WYATT KANYER

A California woman scheduled to deploy for Afghanistan did not arrive to her departure Nov. 6 because she needed to care for her infant son, according to an Associated Press report.

Twenty-one-year-old Alexis Hutchinson made the right choice in this case. According to the report, she was arrested after she missed her unit's flight that was going to Afghanistan. She is currently being held in Georgia, which was supposed to be her departure location.

Hutchinson's decision was obviously a difficult one. According to the report, Hutchinson had asked her mother to care for her 10-month-old son while she was in Afghanistan, but the mother was too busy caring for two ill family members and a daughter with special needs.

This situation did not involve rebellion. Hutchinson said she had no other relatives who were available to watch her son for the length of time she would be deployed. She was in a desperate situation. She literally had no other choice, so she made the one that she had.

It would be easy to say that

**Alexis Hutchinson's situation cannot be approached with our own points of view attached. One must take into account the fact that she was dealing with serious consequences, but her moral commitments were more important.**

Hutchinson was sloppy in dealing with the situation, too, but that was not the case, either. According to the AP report, the U.S. Army requires single-parent soldiers to specify a plan in the case that they are deployed. Hutchinson did not fail to do so. She asked her mother to help, but the mother was unable.

The most inconvenient aspect of this situation is the fact that an infant child would be parentless in an important time of life development. If this boy were to spend the first two years of his life

with his grandmother he would lack the fundamental connection needed between a mother and a child. Furthermore, because his grandmother would not be able to care for him, he would have to be placed under child protection services, which would land him with an entirely new parent.

Perhaps the most confusing fact surrounding this controversy is the lack of communication between Hutchinson and her authority figures. Clearly, she was under the impression that she would not be allowed to stay in her hometown of Oakland, Calif., even if she could not find an alternative care person for her son. However, the Army does allow single parents without another means of childcare the option of refusing deployment, according to a spokesperson from Hutchinson's airfield.

For those in the U.S. who experienced the various attempts to evade deployment during the Vietnam War, this situation could seem fishy. If one were to remove the specific factors that made it an ordeal for this young woman, it would appear to be another case of someone tip-toeing past federal regulations.

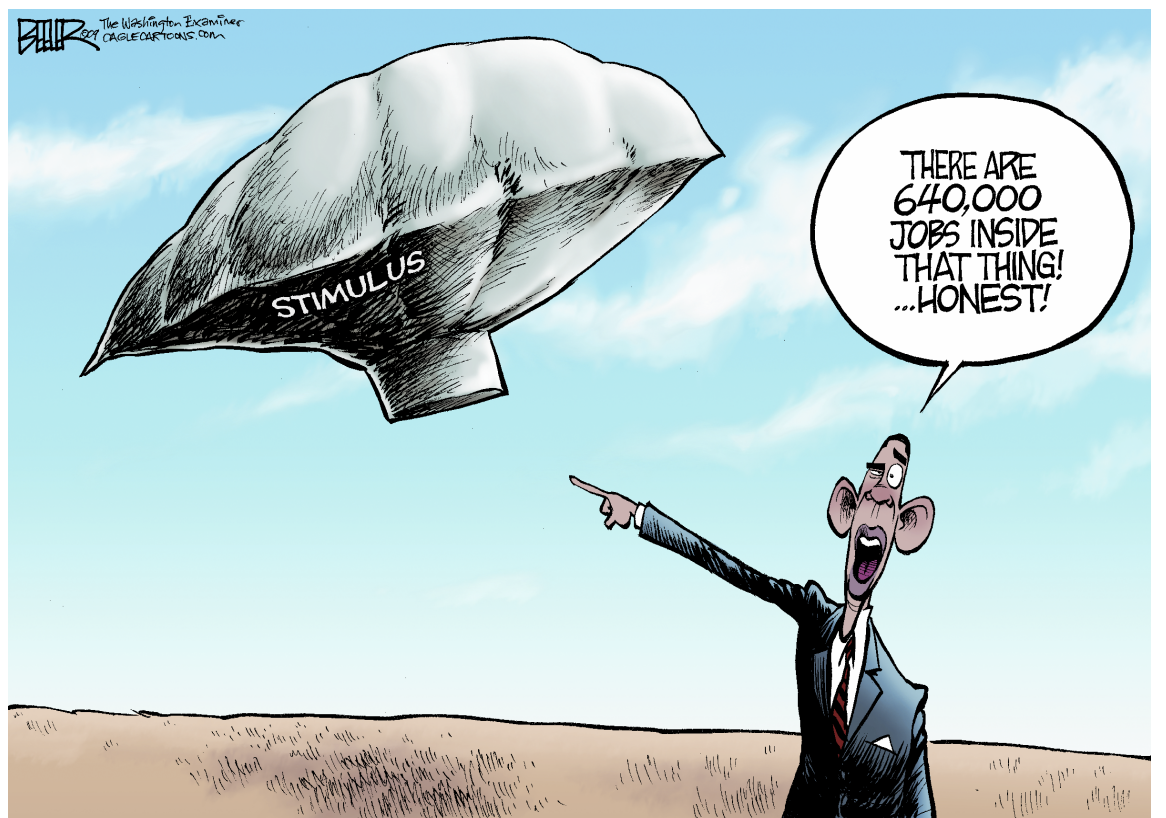
But Alexis Hutchinson was trapped. First of all, she had to establish her priorities: Was she going to pledge allegiance to family or country first? Then, after choosing to follow through on the obligation she made to her country, she had to figure out where to send her only son. After that failed, she probably panicked. She found herself trapped between the law and her conscience.

There was no fork in the road. She could either hand her son off to strangers, or keep him and put her legal status at risk.

In my anthropology class, I have learned more about the emic and etic perspectives. The emic perspective refers to approaching a social or cultural situation as if one were involved in that situation; in short, "taking a walk in someone else's shoes." The etic perspective involves viewing a social or cultural situation by inserting one's own perspectives and beliefs.

While both are useful in an anthropological context, the emic is the most effective in this case. Alexis Hutchinson's situation cannot be approached with our own points of view attached. One must take into account the fact that she was dealing with serious consequences, but her moral commitments were more important.

Wyatt Kanyer is a sophomore news-editorial journalism major from Yakima, Wash.



THE HOAX

Nate Beeler is the editorial cartoonist for The Washington Examiner.

## F2CR's focus on wrong facts



MATT BOAZ

The Alcohol and Drug Center began a new campaign on campus with the slogan "freedom to choose responsibly" coupled with the catchy graphic sporting the acronym "F2CR". While this is certainly an admirable cause, it has unfortunately brought some negative perceptions along with it. Alcohol seems to be an issue at the center of many controversies. Since the drinking age was shifted to 21 in the 1980s due to an ardent campaign by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, there have been strong proponents for lowering the drinking age, promoting alcohol education, and conditioning young people to the idea that alcohol is not a necessary component to having a good time.

Posters have been put on display throughout the Campus Commons and on the billboards located inside most buildings. The two most prevalent state "1 in 4 students prefer not to have alcohol at parties" and "Most TCU students choose not to drink and drive." The first provides a good rational appeal to students that if they choose

not to drink they are indeed not alone. The latter, however, sends a dangerous statement. Underneath the main statement is an asterisk showing that, according to a recent survey, 70 percent of students choose not to drink and drive. While many may see this as a positive, it in fact sends a dangerous message. If only 70 percent are refusing to get behind the wheel while intoxicated, this means that nearly a third of the student body is willfully carousing about in their vehicles while drunk.

By promoting such an idea, it seems to indicate that being

**If only 70 percent are refusing to get behind the wheel while intoxicated, this means that nearly a third of the student body is willfully carousing about in their vehicles while drunk.**

in the minority is acceptable. However, the minority in this circumstance is a group of people endangering the lives of others. Stating that there is in fact a large percentage of drunk drivers on campus does little to combat the problem. When 30 percent of the student body is drunk driving, this is by no means a success and should not be indicated as such.

The Alcohol and Drug Center should take this statistic as a startling discovery and perhaps divert the funds used in printing up these signs toward a more useful response. This could be anything from more education on the perils of drunk driving, to blanket admonishment to those who do participate in this activity. But perhaps the most effective method would be to alert students of the options they have when confronted with a situation of being intoxicated and lacking a ride home.

Many schools offer a "safe ride" program in which a shuttle or taxi service is available for students to call so that they don't feel the need to drive home drunk.

Now, such a program may not be financially feasible, but there are still other alternatives. Notification of taxi services in the area, or even a system of students who are willing to fulfill a similar role would be equally, if not more effective. The efforts of the F2CR program are certainly admirable, but acknowledging the problem and providing steps to prevent and/or solve it would result in a more successful campaign. This is certainly not an effort to condone overdrinking by anyone, but should such a situation occur, having the number of a taxi in one's cell phone may just save a life.

Matt Boaz is a senior political science major from Edmond, Okla.

## Act, but don't dress, your age



CHRISTI ALDRIDGE

Is there an age limit on how we dress? Should there be a dress code for life, or is it about freedom of personal expression?

My daughter is having a "Twilight" themed party this weekend. All the guests will be decked out in their New Moon finery. My daughter insisted it would be "so much fun" if I wore a Twilight shirt as well. I slunk into Hot Topic and nudged two teenagers aside so I could settle on a shirt. I finally choose one featuring Taylor Lautner. Not only is he extremely attractive, but he looks young enough that I felt a little like a sex offender.

I am not old, per se, but why do I feel too old to wear this type of shirt anymore? Do we just wake up one day and say, "You know what, I am now too old for the Hello Kitty and Harry Potter shirts (things in my closet); I think I'll slip on some khakis and a polo (things not in my closet)."

I have always wondered what that age was when people decided to get boring, or if maybe

some of us never quite get there. I have long been obsessed with Emily the Strange, and now boast quite a collection of shirts, bags, shoes and stickers. My boyfriend watched me open another package from the Emily Web site with disdain. "Aren't you getting a little old for those shirts?" he asked disapprovingly. "Yes, I suppose I am," I replied, forlornly folding my cool Hello Kitty Superhero top. However, I did wonder how a man wearing a G.I. Joe T-shirt could be so critical.

I thought about how depressed it always makes me to see older women wearing Winnie the Pooh appliques on sweatshirts, or grandmas sporting Mickey Mouse watches. Maybe they are just being whimsical, and I am being judgmental. Perhaps I feel like my Emily the Strange and Hello Kitty things carry a cool quotient that the Disney characters haven't reached. I am a proud mom but never wanted to look like a soccer mom. I want to be taken seriously, but I want to express my personality.

The way people dress has always intrigued me. I see people of all ages wearing pajamas outside of their homes like we are all lounging around in a spa. I see people, especially here in Texas, wearing absurdities like a winter coat over shorts and sandals. I live in a small town where fash-

**I see people of all ages wearing pajamas out of their home like we are all lounging around in a spa.**

ion faux pas such as men wearing overalls without shirts underneath exist alongside ladies wearing their curlers to the supermarket. Perhaps these naked overall men serve as an example. Be comfortable, be yourself and be happy. I have heard many a man denounce the way Ugg boots look. I would challenge these men to pull on a pair of the now legendary shoes and tell me they are not like walking on a cloud while angels are singing. Sometimes it's not all about what's on the outside. There's always more to the story.

So rock that Mickey Mouse garb, grandma. Dare to wear sandals with socks. Rock your mini with your Uggs, because they are comfortable, darn it. And feel free to be untucked, unmatching and jammied up. Why not? As for me, I'm putting my Emily shirts back in rotation, so if you see me wearing one, please be kind.

Christi Aldridge is a senior strategic communication major from Hillsboro.

# Until Christmas!

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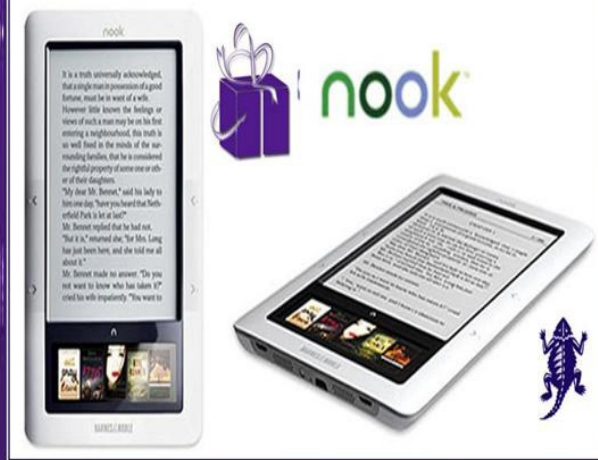
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## HOMELESS

continued from page 2

"We've had students from our shelters that are 5 and 6 years old who have zero knowledge of numbers," she said. "They're in survival mode. Mom is more worried about how we're going to eat tonight. Education often is not a priority."

Homeless students often fall behind both academically and socially.

"Every time you change a school it can be several weeks or months to catch up," Carter said.

One particular eighth grader had already been enrolled in 16 different schools, she said.

"A lot of them are sleepy and hungry — they can't concentrate," Carter said.

In an effort to address the problems faced by homeless children, the FWISD, the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, United Way of Tarrant County and several homeless shelters have banded together and initiated numerous programs.

Thornton said the City of Fort Worth has channeled many of these programs through the Directions Home program, which aims to "make homelessness a rare, short-term and non-recurring experience" by 2018.

"For years and years we tried to do a better job of managing homelessness," Thornton said. "OK, let's push it out of downtown, let's push it out of the TCU area, so no one can see it. Now we are trying to actually fix it."

Thornton said Directions Home, which began a year and a half ago, strives to increase supportive housing, provide service linked with accountability and coordinate homelessness prevention initiatives.

"Homeless people are more likely to die because homelessness takes an incredible toll on the human body," Thornton said. "It's a

matter of life and death, so we want to do things that are a good investment of tax dollars and compassionate at the same time."

One organization at the center of the plan is the Presbyterian Night Shelter.

Carter said the PNS, which is funded largely by grants through United Way of Tarrant County, houses about 100 students.

Teresa Holmes, programming manager for the women and children's center at PNS, said the number of people served by the PNS has grown steadily since her arrival.

"I've been here for five years, and every year the number of people we've served has increased by 50 percent," Holmes said.

The program at PNS helps children by providing them with a child advocate who is in contact with the children's teachers, provides tutoring and oversees a structured study time among other services, she said.

In addition, Holmes said the large community of children at the center helps individuals cope socially because they realize they are not the only children who have faced homelessness.

The women and children's center is set up so that families can graduate through two phases, which help with the assessment and placement of the families.

The first phase is aimed at stabilizing the families, and this occurs as soon as families arrive at the center.

Phase two makes the families eligible to move into semi-private housing, at which time the center starts trying to identify a permanent housing program.

"If we put them in their own apartment, and they're just going to come back here in a year because their needs are so great, we will instead decide to place them in a shelter-plus-care housing program," Holmes said.

Dutton, who oversees

Tarrant County Samaritan House's 66 apartments for homeless people, said there are about 80 or 90 children in his facilities.

While Samaritan House focuses primarily on previously homeless persons who are infected with HIV or AIDS, Dutton said many children "are not infected, but affected by homelessness."

Dutton describes the children as "quiet victims."

"They tend to be more quiet, and depressed and more afraid," he said. "It's a scary, scary thing for a child."

Dutton said that in 2004 Samaritan House began to build housing for entire families.

"Nobody planned on the economy turning south, though," he said. "So it's a struggle."

In order to offset the economic hardships Samaritan House has upped the campaign for volunteers, and done so successfully.

"We have three times more volunteers," he said. "We've documented over 1,000 volunteers."

Samaritan House focuses on counseling, social interaction, and showing the children a lot of love, Dutton said.

"It's a very positive place where kids get a chance to be kids," he said.

Funded by grants from the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, FWISD implemented the Open Doors program.

This program provides the funding for uniforms, tutoring, transportation counseling and the like for the students.

However, the FWISD lacks the manpower and the methods for finding the students.

"With the grant it's not a money issue," Carter said. "It's finding the students and getting the resources to them in a timely manner."



MIKE BROWN / AP Photo  
In this photo released by the NFL, President Barack Obama, Dallas Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware, left, New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees, second from right, and Pittsburgh Steelers safety Troy Polamalu, right, greet children at the White House during the filming of a public service announcement recently in Washington.

## NFL superstars meet Obama

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Dallas Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware has played in dozens of important games and hung out with some of the biggest stars in sports.

Still, he was nervous when he met President Barack Obama.

"It's something like no other," Ware said Thursday. "Being able to meet the most important guy in the United States, the guy with the most power, it was unbelievable."

Ware and fellow NFL players Drew Brees and Troy Polamalu filmed a public service announcement with Obama that will air during the league's Thanksgiving games.

The 90-second spot shows Obama and the NFL stars playing touch football with local children on the White House

lawn. The PSA promotes the league's Play 60 campaign, which encourages physical activity to combat childhood obesity, and the president's community service initiative United We Serve.

"Thanksgiving is a time when families come together, and it is also a perfect time to focus on the importance of keeping kids healthy and active," New Orleans quarterback Brees said in a statement released by the league. "I was honored to spend time with the president on an issue that is clearly important to him. I was also impressed by his wide receiver skills."

Obama wears a Chicago Bears jacket as he plays football with Brees, Pittsburgh Steelers safety Polamalu and Ware. A shorter version of the spot will air throughout the season.

"I was like 'Ohhhh my God,'" when Obama came out in a Bears pullover, Ware said in a telephone interview. "It was me, Polamalu and Drew Brees there, so you know how we feel about the Chicago Bears. But he's a big Chicago Bears fan. He greeted each one of us, and he knew everything about our teams."

Ware is Dallas' representative for the Play 60 program, which began in 2007. The NFL estimates it has committed \$200 million worth of programming, grants, and time for PSAs to the initiative.

"I think it's really important," Ware said. "If the players are getting involved in it, Obama, a lot of important people getting involved in it, sometimes it encourages kids to get out and do those type of activities and show them just how important it is."

The deadline is quickly approaching to apply for the Second Annual

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Interested students must be an English or Writing major and submit a writing portfolio of 50 to 70 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 a reflective introduction that discusses the student's writing, goals, and interests. Two letters of recommendation are required. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA or better and remain active in TCU's literary culture.

## Deadline:

Portfolios must be submitted in hard copy to the English Department Office, Reed 314, no later than 5 p.m., December 4, 2009.

For further information contact Dr. Dan Williams:

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SPORTS

# PICK'EM

The student publications pick'em team is back for more college football action. Each participant will get one point for a correctly selected win out of the chosen games and two points for an upset pick. News Now reporter Maddy Foxx remains in the lead with 42 points followed by Skiff editor-in-chief David Hall with 39 points. Skiff reporter Mary Sue Greenleaf remains in third with 35 points. Skiff news editor Michael Carroll charged ahead and is now tied with Skiff sports editor Travis L. Brown at 32 points. KTCU's Phil Mann brings up the end with 28 points.

	TCU @ Wyoming	Ohio St. @ Michigan	LSU @ Ole Miss	Oklahoma @ Texas Tech	California @ Stanford	UPSET
 <b>Maddy Foxx</b> News Now Reporter						Northwestern over Wisconsin
 <b>David Hall</b> Skiff Editor-in-Chief						Minnesota over Iowa
 <b>Mary Sue Greenleaf</b> Staff Reporter						Michigan State over Penn State
 <b>Travis L. Brown</b> Skiff Sports Editor						Kansas over Texas
 <b>Michael Carroll</b> Skiff News Editor						Kansas over Texas
 <b>Phil Mann</b> KTCU News Director						Air Force over BYU

FOOTBALL

## Frogs must gain "style points" for chance to move up



JOSH DAVIS

Stop me if this sounds familiar. Coming off a huge win, the Frogs go into the mountains. They're playing a team with the reputation of a hard-nosed defense in a loud stadium with only a few diehard Frog fans making the trip. It's freezing and snowing.

TCU doesn't play Air Force

this week, but they will see a similar foe in Wyoming. This isn't a warning that Wyoming might beat us. It's a warning that the same results aren't acceptable anymore.

The Horned Frogs escaped from Falcon Stadium about six weeks ago with a three-point win in the coldest game our football team has ever seen and seemed content just to get off the field and get warm. That week, the nation's voters were distracted with Florida at LSU.

This week, TCU has no excuses — no one ignores the nation's No. 4 team.

Admittedly, Wyoming isn't as good as Air Force. The Cow-

boys have put in a new spread offensive system under former Missouri coordinator Dave Christensen, but it has not been especially fearsome lately. The team has averaged 10 points per contest in its past four games, and it has been shut out twice in that span. The Cowboys also have no equivalent to the Air Force run game. Few do.

But the Frogs have entered a brave new world in which "style points" are hugely important. With just Wyoming and New Mexico left to play, TCU isn't going to positively impact its national rep with these two games. The only way to go is down.

That's why it is so important to jump on the Cowboys early. Nothing less than an epic beat-

**With just Wyoming and New Mexico left to play, TCU isn't going to positively impact its national rep with these two games. The only way to go is down.**

ing will do, and this team is capable of it.

Wyoming is not the usual defense-first squad under the

new coaching staff. The team has allowed nearly 27 points per game this year, including 27 to a UNLV team that TCU shut out. With the way the Horned Frog offense is killing it this year, something more attune to the 52-0 drubbing BYU gave Wyoming on Nov. 7 seems like a good benchmark.

We saw what happened when we made excuses after the Air Force game — no one cared. It's cold. It's far from home. The fans are loud. Get over it and play ball.

Head coach Gary Patterson has said many times that in college football you need to find a reason to hate an opponent for

three hours. Here's a crack at it.

Wyoming represents everything that holds the Frogs back from a national title shot. We came to the Mountain West to join a conference on the rise, and it has. Utah proved that over Alabama in January. But the teams like Wyoming, New Mexico, UNLV and San Diego State have held us back by not making the leap.

Beat Wyoming and New Mexico like a rented mule. Because that's what a national title contender would do.

*Josh Davis is a junior news-editorial journalism major from Highland Park.*

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# SPORTS



Check [dailyskiff.com](http://dailyskiff.com) after the game Saturday for recaps and video of the Frogs press conference.

## Lady Frogs travel to Norman riding home win

By Chris Blake  
Staff Reporter

The Lady Frogs basketball team will travel to Norman, Okla. Saturday take on the No. 20 Oklahoma Sooners at 2:07 p.m.

TCU beat Fresno State at home Wednesday night 63-52 behind three players who scored in double figures, led by junior forward Helena Sverrisdottir's 15-point effort.

The 2-0 Frogs have outscored their opponents 172-82 so far this season, but likely will not have as easy of a time against a Sooners defense that allows 64 points a game. The Oklahoma offense averages 79.5 points per game.

The Sooners, 1-1, lost their second game of the season to Georgia after beating Mercer in their opening game.

The Sooners are coming off the best season in program history, in which they won 32 games, the Big 12 regular season conference title and made a trip to the Final Four. Oklahoma returns eight players from last year's team.

Sophomore guard Whitney Hand leads Oklahoma in scoring at 14.5 points per game. As a freshman, she averaged 9.2 points per game and started 33 contests on her way to earning Big 12 Freshman of the Year honors as well as All-Big 12 Honorable Mention.

Preseason Wooden Award candidate Danielle Robinson and senior co-captain Amanda Thompson will also be a factor for Oklahoma. Thompson is a candidate for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award and has averaged 12.5 points

and 11 rebounds through two games.

Saturday's game will be the 13th time the teams have met. The last meeting was in Nov. 2005, a game the Sooners won 77-63.

Oklahoma leads the all-time series 10-2 and has beat the Frogs in six chances at Norman's Lloyd Noble Center.

After Saturday's game the Sooners will travel to the Virgin Islands to play in a Thanksgiving week tournament, while the Frogs will host Texas Southern on Monday before traveling to the Bahamas for a pair of games.

### TCU at Oklahoma

When: 2:07 p.m. Saturday  
Where: Norman, Okla.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Senior guard Helena Sverrisdottir attempts to snag the ball from a BYU player during a January game at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum.



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