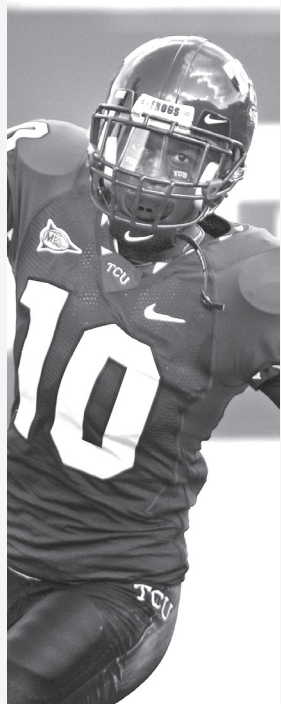
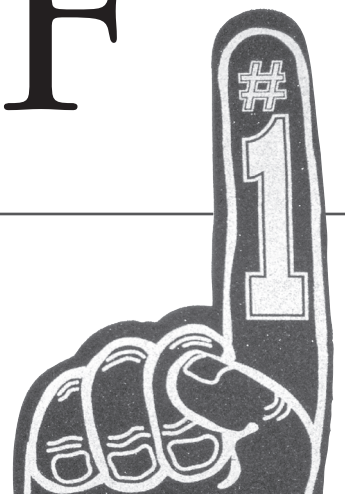


TCU DAILY SKIFF

DAILYSKIFF.COM · WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009 · VOL. 107 ISSUE 51



The Frogs BCS lobbying just needs to stay on the field. Sports, page 6

SPORTS

Check dailyskiff.com for a recap of Tuesday's women's basketball game.

NEWS

Find out about the university's large and spirited alumni base in the Los Angeles area. Thursday

BEST IN THE WEST



TCU Horned Frogs head coach Gary Patterson calls a play during a punt return against University of New Mexico on Saturday. ROSE BACA / Web Editor

The university will extend head coach Gary Patterson's contract at a press conference today at 10 a.m., according to Media Relations. Patterson was named Mountain West Conference Coach of the Year on Tuesday and looks to add a BCS bowl win to this season after leading the Frogs to their first 12-0 campaign. For more information see **Sports, page 6**.

SCHARBAUER HALL

AddRan to pack bags for big move

By Taylor Drodgy
Staff Reporter

Eight AddRan College of Liberal Arts departments, along with the AddRan dean's office, will be moving into the new Scharbauer Hall in late December.

Andrew Schoolmaster, the dean of AddRan College, said the John V. Roach Honors College and the departments of political science, modern languages and literatures, Spanish and Hispanic studies, philosophy, economics, sociology and anthropology and criminal justice will move into Scharbauer Hall Dec. 28 and 29.

These departments were chosen to move based on the budget, the size of Scharbauer Hall, the departments' current residences and an examination of the total program, Schoolmaster said.

The new building will help build learning communities, Schoolmaster said. He said he hopes being located closer together will help the departments interact.

Schoolmaster said faculty members are excited at the prospect of new offices. Offices of faculty mem-

Departments moving into Scharbauer Hall:

- John V. Roach Honors College
- Political science
- Modern languages and literatures
- Spanish and Hispanic studies
- Philosophy
- Economics
- Sociology and anthropology
- Criminal justice

SEE SCHARBAUER · PAGE 2

TOP iTUNES DOWNLOADS

- 1 Bad Romance
Lady GaGa
- 2 TiK ToK
Ke\$ha
- 3 Fireflies
Owl City
- 4 Replay
Iyaz
- 5 Meet Me Halfway
Black Eyed Peas
- 6 Whatcha Say
Jason Derulo
- 7 3
Britney Spears
- 8 Party In the U.S.A.
Miley Cyrus
- 9 I Gotta Feeling
Black Eyed Peas
- 10 Down (feat. Lil Wayne)
Jay Sean

— iTunes



Commemorative legislation is a waste of time.

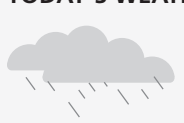
Opinion, page 3

PECULIAR FACT

STOCKHOLM — Designer jeans labeled "Made in North Korea" will go on sale this Friday at a trendy department store in the Swedish capital, marking a first foray into Western fashion for the reclusive communist state.

—Reuters

TODAY'S WEATHER



48 32
HIGH LOW

Chance of Rain

Tomorrow: Partly Sunny
45 / 31

Friday: Chance of Flurries
43 / 30



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.

IMPROVE TCU DAY

Campus gets creative with proposals

By Taylor Drodgy
Staff Reporter

Out of more than 400 students that submitted ideas for change on campus during Improve TCU Day, only one suggested floating the Brown-Lupton University Union above the ground using helium balloons.

This, and many other more practical ideas, were submitted to the Student Relations Committee of the Student Government Association by students writing on graffiti boards around campus or talking to representatives at booths stationed around campus two weeks ago.

Myra Mills, senior music education major and chairwoman of the Student Relations Committee, said while the event had a great turnout, numbers were not the highest priority.

"One good idea would have made the whole event worthwhile, and we received plenty of suggestions," Mills said.

Some of the more common suggestions were a parking garage, meal plan changes, and lower tuition, Mills said. She said these suggestions were not always accompanied by feasible solutions, but the results show the administrators that these are valid and shared concerns.

Alex Collins, sophomore class representative, said people were very willing to offer their opinions.

Mills said the committee also received some unusual suggestions that showed students' creative side.

"Some of my favorites were things like 'puppies and bunnies to play with during finals week,' or 'make the BLUU float via helium balloons,'" Mills said. "There's no way the BLUU is going to float like the house on 'Up,' but just to stop and think about it brought a smile to my committee."

Mills said the event gathered more ideas and less complaints than last year.

Almost all ideas will be considered for implementation on cam-

pus, Mills said. The committee will compile a list of ideas, pick a few to work on, and then pass the list along to other committees and administrators. Committees like Dining Services, Campus Advancement, Programming Council, and SGA Executive Branch will address other ideas, as well as departments like TCU Police and the library. Some of the ideas that the Student Relations Committee said they wished to address included editing the shuttle schedule, making campus cash available at sporting events, keeping Market Square open one hour later, and stocking marshmallows near the hot chocolate, Mills said.

The three most creative ideas were awarded \$25 iTunes gift cards. The first prize was given to a student who suggested a daylight savings time notification because international students are often unaware of the standard time change.

SEE IMPROVE · PAGE 2

SCHIEFFER SCHOOL

Journalism program goes to Washington

By Jourdan Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Next fall, Schieffer School of Journalism students could have the option to spend the semester in the nation's capital.

The director of the Schieffer School, John Lumpkin, said the department planned to launch The Schieffer School in Washington program in fall 2010.

"The Schieffer School in Washington will be a program for juniors and seniors that will provide virtually a full-time internship and also a way to continue to make progress toward their degrees," Lumpkin said.

Through coordination with nonprofit The Washington Cen-

ter, Lumpkin said the internships would relate to the student's course of study, either journalism or strategic communication.

"The Washington Center is a well-established coordinator of away learning for colleges and universities around the country," Lumpkin said.

The political science department already partnered with The Washington Center, and that some Schieffer School students interned in Washington through the political science program, Lumpkin said.

The Schieffer School in Washington program would be tailored to the interests of the journalism and strategic communication students, Lumpkin said.

"We are going to take more re-

sponsibility for our students now and provide some special learning opportunities they wouldn't have been able to get through the political science department," Lumpkin said.

Larry Lauer, vice chancellor for government affairs, said the Schieffer administration decided to start the program because of the opportunities available in Washington.

"The opportunities are varied and incredible for students in whatever major they're in in the Schieffer school to get real, hands-on experience in the nation's capital in an internship," Lauer said.

Other opportunities for journalism included internships with net-

SEE JOURNALISM · PAGE 2

SGA

Technology to record reps' voting tendencies

By Jourdan Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The words "yea" and "nay" will no longer be heard echoing in the Brown-Lupton University Union Chambers when the Student Government Association's House of Student Representatives gathers to vote on legislation. Thanks to new technology that was installed last month, a simple click will do.

The electronic voting system, including a laptop and wireless keypads, allows the House to record the representatives' votes accurately and quickly, said Kim Turner, assistant director of Student Activities.

Lizzy Caudill, parliamentarian in the House and a junior political science major, said the House has assigned each representative a numbered keypad.

"For each piece of legislation, we vote on it via the clicker, so that way it appears on the screen," Caudill said. "We can see statistics, we can see graphs and we also save those for our records to post online so the constituents can see how the representatives are voting for them."

SEE CLICKER · PAGE 2

NEWS

JOURNALISM

continued from page 1

work news operations and Washington bureaus of other major media, Lumpkin said. For strategic communication students, internship opportunities could include working with lobbyists, Congress, congressional offices and think tanks such as the Center for Strategic and International studies.

"For the news students I think it's important to realize that every important news organization in the world is represented (in Washington)," Lauer said.

The long-term job opportunities, relevant to a specialty of political reporting, also caused the Schieffer administration to start the program, Lumpkin said.

Lumpkin also mentioned

that the school's namesake was reason for starting the program as some consider alumnus and CBS journalist Bob Schieffer one of the

"For the news students I think it's important to realize that every important news organization in the world is represented (in Washington)."

Larry Lauer
vice chancellor for government affairs

greatest political reporters to practice in Washington.

Students would take courses toward their degree

in addition to their internship and earn 12 to 15 credit hours, Lumpkin said.

"It will be a very, very busy time for them, there's no question about it," Lumpkin said. "It will involve going to school at night, it will involve a lot of work on weekends, but for the right student with the motivation and the right ambition, I think it will be great."

Lauer said students would also have access to the Newseum, a high-tech museum about the news. He also said the students would meet periodically with Schieffer.

Lumpkin said requirements for the program included junior or senior standing because the program would fit best into the degree plan during the fall of the junior or senior year. He also said prerequisite courses

included the classes necessary needed to take upper division courses on campus.

He said students interested in the program should expect to pay somewhat more than a regular semester at TCU due to the higher cost of food, housing and transportation in Washington. For an estimated cost, students should refer to the university's political science Web site because the cost would be about the same as the political science semester in Washington, Lumpkin said.

According to The Washington Center Web site, the cost estimate for the 2010 fall internship program and housing is \$8,995.

Lumpkin said complete details about the Schieffer School in Washington program would be available by the end of the fall semester.

SCHARBAUER

continued from page 1

bers from the economics, sociology, anthropology and criminal justice departments have been located in trailers for about 20 years, Schoolmaster said.

"I know they are excited to leave the trailers behind," Schoolmaster said.

Scharbauer Hall will have three different classroom styles. There will be large, tiered seating classrooms as well as typical seating classrooms that seat 34 students and smaller classrooms with tables.

Schoolmaster said the building will also have an anthropology lab, a multipurpose room, two computer labs and six team rooms. It will also house a debate chamber. This debate chamber will be used mostly for guest speakers and other academic functions.

Sociology professor Jeff Ferrell said he and his colleagues are looking forward to being more centrally located on campus. Most of the department's classes will be held in the building near the professor's offices, facilitating interaction between students and professors, Ferrell said.

"In our old location it could

be a little difficult to find us; now we look forward to being more integrated into the campus and into student activities," Ferrell said.

While he is looking forward to the new office, he will miss the culture of the trailer location, Ferrell said.

"In our old location it could be a little difficult to find us; now we look forward to being more integrated into the campus and into student activities."

Jeff Ferrell
sociology professor

"Over the years, we and the students have come to have a certain pride in the trailer," he said. "It's our little home, however modest it may be."

Senior fashion merchandising major Katy Moloney said the new building will make classes more convenient for people who live on campus. However, the location of the building will be inconvenient for commuter students whose other classes are typically on the other side of campus, Moloney said.

CLICKER

continued from page 1

Merillat Pittman, speaker of the House and a senior political science major, said another benefit of the new voting system is the ability to know by how large or small of a margin a vote passed.

Pittman said the electronic system also added a professional element to procedure in the House.

"People feel the position is more legitimate when it is being tracked and when they are holding something that works so officially," Pittman said. "I think it adds a little bit of importance to it."

Caudill said the House also wanted the representatives to take voting more seriously and to be more conscious of their decisions.

Previously, voting took place orally, Turner said.

Before the implementation of the new voting system, Caudill said she did not have a way of tracking voters' decisions.

"We had no way of knowing who exactly voted for or against (the legislation); it was just pure numbers," Caudill said.

Turner said the new voting system eliminated the roll call and division votes that had to be taken if the vote could not be determined by oral consensus.

Pittman said the electronic voting system will also make voting more transparent.

"In the past, you were able to hide your voice amongst the majority and not really be noticed," Pittman said. "Now ... there's no way to

do that. We're sure that every single person is voting and we're sure of how they voted."

"(The new voting system) does not change when we vote, it doesn't change the choices people are given when they vote. It simply changes the way we record the vote."

Kim Turner
assistant director of student activities

The only changes in voting procedure include an increase in accuracy and ac-

countability, Turner said.

"(The new voting system) does not change when we vote, it doesn't change the choices people are given when they vote. It simply changes the way we record the vote," Turner said.

She added that the electronic voting system had always been planned for the university union, but it just took a while to get the system up and running.

Pittman said the House webmaster, Christina Durano, planned to have the voting results of each meeting posted to the Student Government Association's Web site by the end of the semester.

"We're excited to experiment with (the new voting system) and think it's going to really help us," Pittman said.

IMPROVE

continued from page 1

The second prize was given to a student who submitted two ideas. The student suggested that students should be able to use Campus Cash at football games, and the addition of a bike rack near Samuelson outside Market Square.

Lastly, a prize was given to a student who wanted a place to

buy supplies, like Scantrons and pens, in the library.

Senior nursing major Tory Becker said reaching out to students for new ideas and suggestions for the university is important.

"I hope they follow through on the ideas people submitted, like the marshmallows with the hot chocolate and changing the shuttle schedule so it's more convenient," Becker said.

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OPINION

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The Skiff View

Frog football not only success story this year

A Horned Frog team set a record for wins and is making an appearance in national postseason play, and this time we're not talking football.

The national waves coming from TCU are not only coming from Amon Carter Stadium this fall as the volleyball team received its first ever bid to the NCAA tournament after finishing the season ranked second in the Mountain West with a 26-6 overall record. The team travels to the University of Texas to take part in the Austin Regional hosted by the No. 2 Longhorns. The Horned Frogs' first match will be Thursday at 4:30 p.m. against the Rice Owls.

With the Frog football team done with its undefeated regular season and not playing this weekend, what better way to get a Horned Frog athletics fix than to watch TCU in a national tournament? The university is providing a free bus ride and ticket for any Frog fans interested in cheering on the volleyball team in Austin, so go experience some history being made. Thursday is a chance to show the Longhorns how Horned Frog fans can rally around their teams before Texas takes on Nebraska in football this weekend. The nation has had a chance see how scary good the Frog football team is and how loud Frog fans can get. Share the love and support for the Horned Frog volleyball team in its quest to put the university on the map for more than just football.

Sports editor Travis L. Brown for the editorial board.

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

Focusing on fluffy bills a waste of time



WYATT KANYER

Congress has been busy since President Barack Obama was elected. Members have had to address the stimulus plan and health care, two of the most important facets of Obama's goals while in office. But the bills being passed in Congress don't always involve issues that will affect the country as a whole.

Sometimes, Congress finds itself caught up in fluffy talk known as commemorative legislation. This is responsible for a multitude of arbitrary honors and distinctions that designate certain days to individuals or achievements. Congress recently honored Confucius' 2560th birthday and issued a resolution that congratulated the Yankees on winning the 2009 World Series, according to a CNN.com report.

With the current political landscape in this country, Congress cannot afford to focus on commemorative legislation even though its members know commemorative legislation can be the key to incumbency.

Senators and representatives are supposed to please the people who elected them because they want to be re-elected. If they cannot please their districts by accurately representing their voters' opinions on issues like health care, immigration and the like, they can salvage their voters' respect by supporting district heroes or recognizing important days.

In the case of the Yankees' World Series victory, New York representatives Eliot Engel and Jose Serrano banded together

in the House to see to it that the team received its congratulatory recognition.

But as fewer congressmen and women opt to represent their own opinions rather than their constituency's, it seems like they want to have their cake and eat it too. They want to be able to vote on conscience when it comes to national issues, but seek their constituents' counsel only when it comes to remembering Joe Smith's 100th birthday.

The idea of these bills is centered upon the idea of appeasing the voters because they are not a congressman's top priority, as much as he or she will claim they are.

Commemorative legislation is like a rotten apple. On the outside, it looks shiny, fresh and delicious. On the inside, however, there are intricate tunnels that politicians have chewed as they scheme to rally voters and achieve re-election.

Voters pick the commemorative legislation apple without inspecting it. They see the outside of the apple, which seems like a kind sentiment ("It's so nice that Rep. Engel took time out of his busy schedule to support his local team.") Then, they take a bite to find that the legislation was skin deep. The meat of their congressmen and women's decisions is not what they expected, but they didn't know because it was masked by commemorative legislation.

On rare occasion, it can be a tool to enact positive change. For instance, days designated to recognize unjust war practices in Africa or raise funds for disease can educate an uninformed audience. Sadly, most of the commemorative legislation honors a materialistic baseball monopoly like the Yankees or the 34 years of legislation has made the square dance the national folk dance.

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



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

Albino hunt raises fears



ANDREA BOLT

Instead of being targeted in protest and receiving denouncement of their skin color, albinos in east Africa are so highly valued for their unique skin conditions that people have taken to killing and dismembering them due to the belief that their body parts promote luck and wealth.

A study entitled "Through albino eyes," recently released by the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies claimed that albino children and adults in Tanzania and Burundi are unable to live freely and are living in fear and danger of albino hunters hired by witchdoctors, occult practitioners and big-money traders. According to the report, hundreds of albino children are taking shelter in Tanzanian schools for the disabled or in emergency shelters erected by police in Burundi to escape and avoid attacks.

According to the study, at least 44 Tanzanian and 12 Burundian albinos have been killed since 2007. The BBC published a story last year, "Living in fear: Tanzania's Albinos," which cited the murder and mutilation of a 7-month-old Tanzanian baby by a witch doctor working under the belief that potions made from

an albino's legs, hair, hands and blood can increase a person's wealth. This is a problem that can be and needs to be readily ceased and solved.

I find myself absolutely disgusted with humanity as a whole in the fact that pressing issues in Africa such as this, concerning people's lives outright, are overlooked in light of popular news stories about Angelina Jolie and Madonna adopting African babies. Do not misunderstand or misread me. I am all in favor of international adoption and adoption in general. However, the attention today's society pays to celebrities and tabloid news is altogether shameful. On top of that, I know how many issues there are concerning Africa and its people. HIV/AIDS, disease of all kinds, famine and starvation, racism and genocide, extreme poverty, civil war, genital mutilation, prostitution — the list could extend forever.

I realize that considering the bulk of Africa's woes and troubles, the persecution of albinos is merely a small tree compared to a whole forest. But this is an issue of immediacy, and 10,000 people or more are living and hiding in fear of being murdered and dismembered because of a skin condition and a pervasive belief in myth.

Why doesn't South Africa take the funds it is receiving in anticipation of the 2010 FIFA World Cup and donate to the countries of Tanzania and Burundi to build sanctuaries for persecuted and targeted albinos? Better yet, why doesn't

"Where is the World Health Organization? Where is the United Nations? Where is Amnesty International? Someone else needs to take up the torch and work to solve this problem now."

someone or some entity provide funds in order to educate the people of these countries that albinism is simply a condition of lack of pigmentation in the skin and albinos are people as well, merely people with a skin condition that does not make their severed body parts "lucky" or give them supernatural powers of any sort?

This hunting and murdering of albinos has persisted for years now. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Society have advocated well in regard to public-health education and anti-discrimination awareness raising; now more need to step up. Where is the World Health Organization? Where is the United Nations? Where is Amnesty International? Someone else needs to take up the torch and work to solve this problem now. These people need and deserve to be free to live their lives without fear of dismemberment or death due to a mere skin condition and a myth.

Andrea Bolt is a junior news-editorial journalism major from The Woodlands.

University founded on hopes for equality for all people

COURTNEY EMERSON

I remember talking with a good friend about how I did not attend our hometown's pride parade. Apparently, some in my circle of friends thought I didn't go because I hated gay people. I was insulted by the assumption and asked why. My friend simply said, "Well, you do go to TCU."

One can find both the most virtuous and the most self-righteous persons in a church. Though Christians are scattered along that spectrum, I believe that they're mainly known as self-righteous frontrunners of anti-gay demonstrations. And at a school like TCU, that's the same label given to its students and faculty. When I tell friends I attend TCU, they pay attention to the "C" and label me as religious and anti-gay.

Let's look into the history of the foundation of TCU. According to Universities.com, in 1873, brothers Addison and Randolph Clark founded the AddRan Male and Female College. They were part of the 19th century Campbellite movement, an ancestor of the Disciples of Christ

church. The Campbellites were proponents of education and endorsed open-minded intelligence.

TCU is self-governing and is merely affiliated with the church. The two institutions operate with different boards of trustees and act independently of each other in various policies. Those policies include ones of open-mindedness and anti-discrimination. I investigated what the "C" in TCU means as far as homosexual issues go. I began questioning some Christian minds at TCU, and questions took me to Stephen Sprinkle: an openly gay associate professor in Practical Theology and director of Supervised Ministry. Preaching in the church since he was 15 years old, Sprinkle is ordained in the denominations Disciples of Christ and Alliance of Baptists.

"I feel good about being here," Sprinkle said. "I have faced problems in my life, but no more or less than any other gay person."

Sprinkle even holds the title of first field educator ever to be tenured at Brite. Field Education is described as the experience in the real world of the

field you're studying in and including it in your education. He is a part of a silent curriculum theory — a theory involving professors who belong to racial, gender or sexual minorities. With their teachings, there's another certain learning that goes along with them.

"TCU is no more conservative or liberal than North Texas," he said. "But I stay at Brite because this institution is a good one. The administration is supportive of diversity. As for the church, sadly, there is a deep anti-gay feeling in almost every denominational group that I know anything about, including the United Church of Christ and Protestant Episcopal Church."

Sprinkle said Brite is the only seminary in more than a third of the country that welcomes people without regard to their sexual orientation, gender expression and gender identity. Sprinkle is scheduled to teach the course "Ministry in the LGBT community" starting in the spring. He has devoted more than three years researching hate crimes of homosexuals in the U.S. His work can be found on a blog titled: "Unfinished Lives" (un-

finishedlivesblog.com). His site tells dozens of stories about the lives and deaths in the LGBT community.

"LGBT people are still supposed to be invisible and silent," he said. "I want to make sure their stories aren't lost or forgotten."

Unless something changes, people on the outside will never know

TCU's open-minded policies. Gay people do exist in the ministry, and though Brite is included in this wave of acceptance, it won't be recognized for a long time.

Courtney Emerson is a senior advertising/public relations major from Kingwood.



MCT/AUTUMN CRUZ
 Randall Won, left, places a ring on the finger of Joseph Weems during their wedding ceremony officiated by deputy commissioner of civil marriages, Jacki Rhodes, at the Sacramento County Clerk Recorders Office in California in June 2008

NEWS

Mystery abounds in death of Maine couple

By Glenn Adams
Associated Press Writer

WEBSTER PLANTATION, Maine (AP) — A man who loaned money to friends despite his own financial troubles was killed along with his wife in their trailer home during the weekend, jolting this community that is home to about 70 people and only a couple of paved roads.

On Tuesday, residents were left wondering what happened to Michael and Valerie Miller.

Investigators released scant details as they searched for a middle-aged woman believed to have been the last person to have seen the Millers alive an hour or so before they were found on the kitchen floor Saturday afternoon.

Family members were told that the Millers were side by side, with Valerie's head across her husband's chest. Police declined to release any details, other than to say the deaths were ruled homicides.

"There's only a limited number of people who knew

what went on in that house," said Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety. "We are not going to be getting into a lot more details in this case until it's a lot farther along."

Family members gathered late Tuesday afternoon at the victims' home, about 50 miles northeast of Bangor.

One of the couple's sons, Matthew Miller, 26, called the killings "very strange." He said the family is willing to put up money for a reward, if necessary, to get information leading to arrests.

Valerie Miller's brother, Kevin White, said his brother-in-law helped others and provided loans. He also said Michael Miller didn't believe in banks.

Michael Miller ran what might be called an informal pawn shop. A neighbor, Terrence Mulligan, said locals would give him firearms and other possessions in return for a loan, "then they'd come pay him and he'd give them back."

Detectives are aware that

Miller loaned out money, but aren't speculating whether it had anything to do with his death, McCausland said.

Miller, who filed for bankruptcy 10 years ago, was able to loan money to friends because he lived frugally, White said. He was a seasonal employee of Walpole Woodworkers, which operated a mill that made cedar fences, and was laid off on Nov. 20.

When it came time to pay taxes, Miller would drop by the Webster Plantation home of Theo Jipson. The 81-year-old Jipson was the tax collector for 57 years until her retirement in March.

"He always said if I need any help, give him a holler," Jipson said.

He also owned a property in Lincoln assessed at just \$8,700, but he was behind on his property taxes. He was delinquent on taxes for the past three years, according to the Lincoln tax assessor's office.

Webster Plantation is among the most rural places in one of the nation's most rural states.



PAUL SANCYA / AP Photo
In this Nov. 16 photo, General Motors Corp. President and CEO Fritz Henderson speaks during a news conference at company headquarters in Detroit.

General Motors CEO out after just 8 months on job

By Ken Thomas and Tom Kirsher
Associated Press Writers

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors Co. CEO Frederick "Fritz" Henderson stepped down Tuesday after the board determined that the company wasn't changing quickly enough.

Chairman Ed Whitacre Jr. said at a hastily called news conference that he will serve as interim CEO, and an international search for a new CEO and president is planned.

Whitacre thanked Henderson for his work during a period of challenge and change, but said it is time to accelerate the pace of rebuilding the largest U.S. automaker.

The resignation comes just eight months after Henderson, 51, replaced former chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner, who was ousted March 29 by the Obama administration's government's auto task force.

Henderson has been with GM his entire career and was the government's choice to run the beleaguered company after Wagoner left. Whitacre, picked

by the government in June to be chairman of the new GM, is considered an industry outsider, having run AT&T Inc. for 17 years.

Whitacre and the board have become increasingly active in the company's decisions, at times challenging some of Henderson's decisions. In November, the board voted to abandon plans to sell GM's European Opel unit. That reversed an earlier option favored by Henderson to sell it to a consortium led by Canadian auto parts supplier Magna International Inc.

"Based on the determination of the board and the pace of the change in the company, it was determined that it was best to initiate a change in direction," spokesman Chris Preuss said.

An Obama administration official said in a statement that "this decision was made by the Board of Directors alone. The Administration was not involved in the decision."

Henderson replaced Wagoner a few months before GM entered bankruptcy protection and led the company through

a painful government-led and court-supervised reorganization.

With the government's help, the company emerged from court protection in just 40 days cleansed of massive debt and burdensome contracts that would have sunk it without federal loans.

Henderson continued to downsize the automaker after its emergence from bankruptcy. He sought to scale down GM to just four core brands: Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick and GMC.

While he has largely succeeded in that goal, attempts to sell the company's other brands have hit obstacles. Earlier this week, Swedish luxury sports car maker Koenigsegg Group AB backed out of a deal to buy GM's Saab brand. GM said Tuesday it has some interested bidders but will wind down Saab if nothing materializes by the end of the year.

GM also is winding down Pontiac and was successful in winning a tentative sale of Hummer to a Chinese construction machinery maker.

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For further information contact Dr. Dan Williams:

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Today in History

On this day in 2001, the Enron Corporation files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in a New York court, sparking one of the largest corporate scandals in U.S. history.
— History Channel

Joke of the Day

Q: What do you call a pig that does karate?
A: A pork chop.

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		2	4	3		8		
5			6		8			4
				7	9			6
	4							5
2	3						4	9
8							7	
	9		3	1				
1			5		2			6
		8		9	6	1		

Directions

Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

See Thursday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

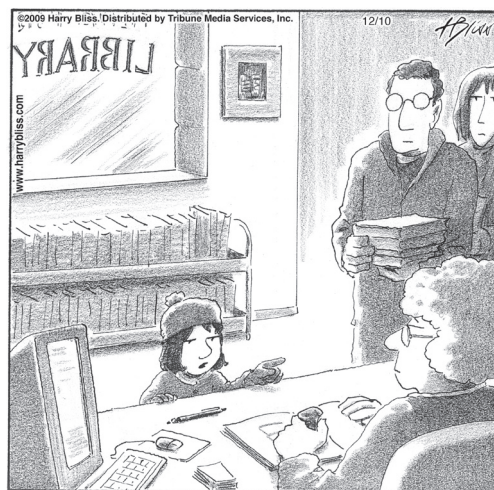
Tuesday's Solution

7	2	5	8	1	6	4	3	9
4	3	9	5	2	7	6	1	8
8	6	1	4	9	3	5	7	2
6	4	2	7	8	9	1	5	3
5	9	7	3	6	1	2	8	4
3	1	8	2	4	5	9	6	7
9	8	3	6	5	4	7	2	1
2	5	4	1	7	8	3	9	6
1	7	6	9	3	2	8	4	5

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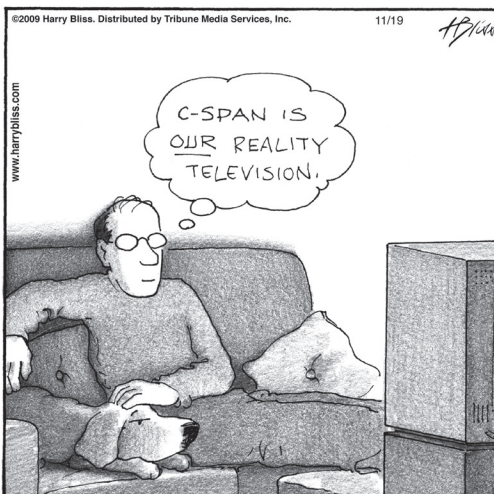
by Harry Bliss



"Where are all your Santa Claus books – fiction or nonfiction?"



"Whaddaya say we head home and curl up in front of a nice warm football game?"



TODAY'S CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Square after Connecticut Avenue
- "Take a hike!"
- Wax remover
- Jessica of "Sin City"
- Israeli seaport
- Choice in a booth
- Nightly news show segment
- Match starter
- Danger
- Add color?
- Veiled consent?
- "Abner"
- "Big Apple" show
- Houston Aeros' org.
- Brass or pewter
- Overlap a part
- Breakfast corner
- Long Island
- Poker Flat chronicler Harte
- To the point, in law
- Author Nin
- Evian, par exemple
- "1955 Disney animated film featuring Darling Dear
- ...cone
- Capote, on Broadway
- Candy in 12-piece dispensers
- Pisa place
- Two-time opponent of Ike
- Come down in buckets; also, when applied in sequence to the answers to starred clues, this puzzle's theme
- Witty Bombeck
- Light refrain
- Equally divided
- Ginger cookie
- Gobbled up
- Doctor's advice

- ### DOWN
- Life
 - Not windward

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20									21			22
				23					24			
27	28	29							30	31	32	
36									37			38
39									40			
44									45			
48									49			
									52			
64	65	66							67			
68									69			
71									72			

By Ed Sessa

12/2/09

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

H	A	S	A	T	F	R	E	T	Q	U	I	T	
A	M	O	C	O	R	A	R	A	U	N	D	O	
R	O	U	T	S	O	D	I	C	I	C	E	D	
M	R	P	I	C	K	W	I	C	K	C	L	A	D
			A	N	N	O	L	I	K	E	L	Y	
C	H	I	C	L	E	S	D	E	S	K			
C	A	S	H	E	W	T	E	R	M	I	N	A	L
C	H	A	I	O	I	L	C	A	T	O			
P	S	Y	C	H	I	C	S	P	O	K	I	E	R
			K	E	N	T	T	O	U	S	L	E	D
C	L	I	F	F	S	S	A	L	T				
I	D	O	L	T	R	I	C	K	Y	D	I	C	K
T	O	N	I	A	E	R	O	E	E	R	I	E	
E	P	I	C	T	E	E	M	A	C	T	I	N	G
S	A	C	K	E	D	D	A	R	O	S	E	S	

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SPORTS



What does coach Gary Patterson have to say about his new contract?
Thursday

FOOTBALL

STAYING ON TOP

By Sara Humphrey
Staff Reporter

Any speculation about the university's head football coach Gary Patterson resigning and taking a job at another university could be proved incorrect this morning.

Patterson and the university have agreed to a contract extension and an official announcement is expected Wednesday at 10 a.m., according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram Web site.

According to the Sports Illustrated Web site, Patterson's contract could be extended by at least 2 years and include raises for his assistant coaches.

The base salary under Patterson's current contract, which was extended last year to 2014, is \$1.7 million per year, according to Star-Telegram.

Patterson is in his ninth season as the university's head coach and his 12th season overall at TCU, according to Star-Telegram. He has a record of 85-27.

According to the ESPN Web site, Patterson has been mentioned among possible candidates to replace Charlie Weis as Notre Dame's head coach, but university officials said Patterson was never contacted.

According to the university's athletics media relations office, Patterson is among two other finalists to receive the George Munger Award, given by the Maxwell Football Club to the national coach of the year.

Patterson was hired as defensive coordinator for the



Fort Worth Star-Telegram / MCT / RON JENKINS
Head coach Gary Patterson holds the Mountain West championship trophy following TCU's 51-10 win over New Mexico in Fort Worth on Saturday.

university's then-head coach, Dennis Franchione, after the 1997 season. In 2000, the university was ranked No. 1 in total defense in the country.

With Patterson as the head coach, the university was ranked No. 1 in the country in total defense again in 2002 and 2008, according to the athletics media relations.

Patterson has led the university to four straight bowl victories for the first time in school history, including the win over Boise State last season in the Poinsettia Bowl, according to Athletic Media Relations. TCU is one of seven

schools nationally to have a current bowl winning streak of at least four in a row.

Patterson has led the team to a 12-0 record this season, the first undefeated season since 1938. This year's team has also won seven consecutive games by at least 27 points.

The university is ranked No. 4 in the BCS and will find out Sunday in which of the BCS bowl games it will play.

Athletics Director Chris Del Conte could not be reached for a comment. University administrators declined to comment, citing lack of knowledge on the subject.

Sob stories not Frogs' BCS lobbying technique



ROBERT BEMBER

Last holiday season Mack Brown, head coach of the Texas Longhorns, got more air time than Santa Claus. You couldn't turn on a TV, open a newspaper or listen to the radio without having to listen to the soft-spoken and omnipresent Brown lobby for a berth in the National Championship game.

In case you missed it, the Horns knocked off rival Oklahoma in the Red River Shootout 45-35. On Nov. 1, the eyes of Texas received a big, black eye at the hands of the Texas Tech Red Raiders. In the waning minutes of a late Longhorn comeback in Lubbock, then-freshman safety Blake Gideon forgot how to catch when a Graham Harrell pass was deflected up into the air and straight through Gideon's arms.

Shortly after, the Longhorn secondary watched Tech wide receiver Michael Crabtree tip-toe down the sideline rather than knock him out of bounds. Crabtree then sprinted into the end zone and stomped on the Horns' championship dreams with a second left on the clock.

Brown began a campaign of political sorts when the Red Raiders got trounced by the Sooners, lobbying for his Longhorns to play in the Big

XII Championship Game. It didn't work.

Fast forward to today. The Horned Frogs sit at 12-0 and as it stands, are on the outside looking in on the National Championship Game. But don't expect head coach Gary Patterson to sing the same Christmas carol Brown was crooning a year ago.

Patterson has built his success with a blue-collar approach and recruits that buy into that attitude. That's why instead of having cameras fill the Four Sevens Team Room for a sob story, Patterson and his boys will be grabbing their lunch pails, rolling up their sleeves and beating each others' heads in on the practice field for the next month.

The Frogs can play with anyone and have made their statement all season long. No public relations firm necessary, Boise State. Boasting the nation's No. 2 defense and No. 5 offense speaks volumes.

Knocking off a No. 14-ranked BYU on the road and notching another road victory over a team that will play for the ACC title in Clemson only adds to it. The dismantling of the currently No. 25 Utah Utes shouldn't be forgotten either.

Whether it's because he'll be too hoarse from yelling at his players or because he doesn't want to take away from the university's first undefeated season since 1938, Patterson won't be lobbying and complaining that the Frogs deserve a title shot. It's not his style.

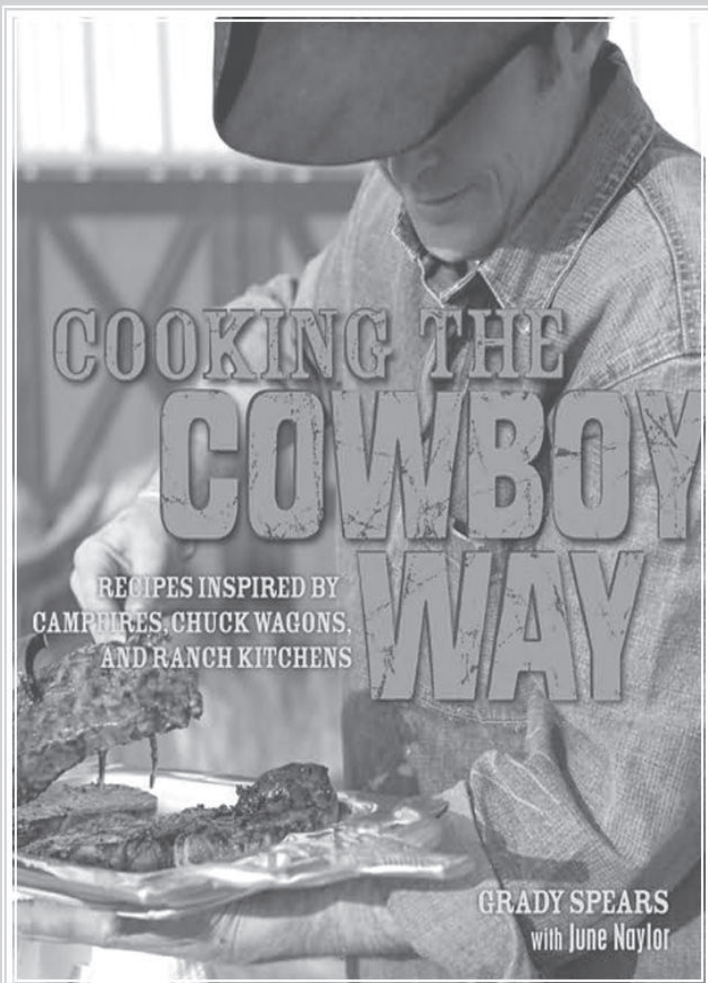
Since the idea of a national championship got between my ears, I've done some pretty out-there things. First, I cheered for the Fightin' Texas Aggies for the first time in my life. Just a couple months ago I wore purple into Kyle Field, refused to hump it (another weird Aggie tradition in which fans put their hands on their knees during yells) and secretly hoped the Oklahoma State Cowboys would slap the Ags back into the R.C. Slocum era. But I pulled for the Aggies, and I still don't know how I kept down my Thanksgiving dinner in the process.

But why? Here I am hanging on every play of teams that are trying to pull a miraculous upset out of thin air so my Frogs can score a trip to Pasadena. When did a trip to a BCS bowl become so commonplace to me? But that's exactly what has happened.

The more I focus on a National Championship, the more I take away from what's been done. Yeah, there's nothing wrong with being greedy in this case. If you've watched the same Frogs as I have, you'd likely agree that this is one of the best teams in the nation.

So let's not take away from that. Less than a week after Thanksgiving, don't forget how thankful we should be for what's already been accomplished this season by the Horned Frogs.

Robert Bember is a senior news editorial journalism major from Houston.



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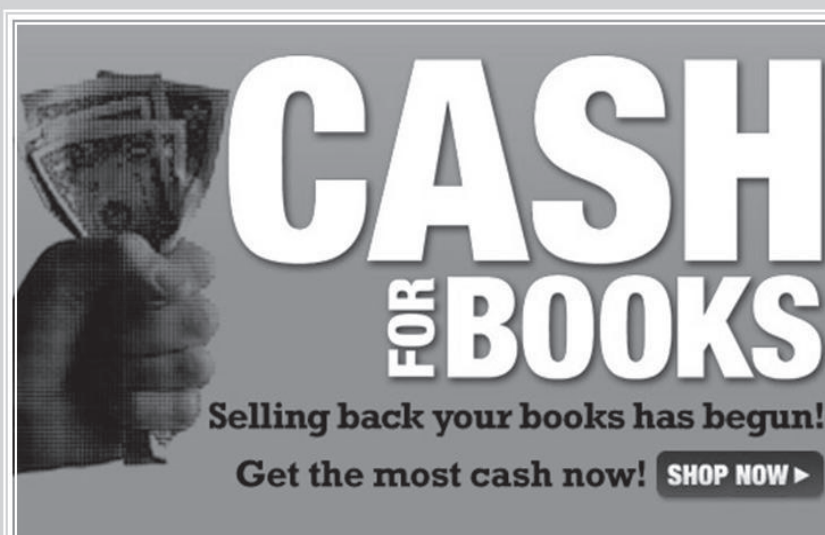


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