

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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Gary Patterson's contract extension was made official at a press conference Wednesday.

Sports, page 8

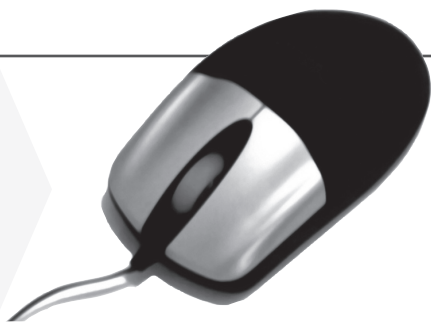
## NEWS

Find out why the future of the Writing Associates program is in danger. Friday



## SPORTS

Check **dailyskiff.com** this weekend for Skiff coverage of the Big 12 Championship game live from Cowboys Stadium.



### HOLIDAYS AT TCU

## DECK THE COMMONS



CHANCE WELCH / Multimedia Editor  
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills finishes counting down to the lighting of the Christmas tree in front of the Brown-Lupton University Union on Wednesday night.

### FORT WORTH

## Weather forecast: Snow day unlikely

By **Chandler Cochran**  
Staff Reporter

Students expecting a snow day Friday shouldn't hold their breath.

The area south of Fort Worth is predicted to get snow Friday, but there is only a 30 percent chance of flurries Friday afternoon, and they would affect the area closer to Waco than Fort Worth, said meteorologist Daniel Huckaby of the Dallas-Fort Worth National Weather Service office.

The National Weather Service Web site reported snow accumulation of 0.3 inches in Fort Worth on Wednesday.

Provost Nowell Donovan said snow like Wednesday's would not send students home tomorrow.

"Snow like we had (Wednesday) which was not settling ... there's no way we're going to cancel school for that," Donovan said. "Ordinary snow just landing on the streets isn't a major problem because we never get enough of it. But the ice is a totally different matter."

He said statistics for car accidents when there is ice on the ground shows how dangerous icy conditions can be for drivers. The university has to think about not only its students, but also the people who drive in at 5 a.m. to open the school every day, Donovan said.

If there are serious amounts of ice on the roads early enough in the day, Donovan said he would seriously consider closing school early to allow commuters to drive home safely be-

SEE **SNOW** • PAGE 2

### HARDCOVER FICTION BEST SELLERS

- 1 **I, Alex Cross**  
by James Patterson
  - 2 **Under the Dome**  
by Stephen King
  - 3 **The Lost Symbol**  
by Dan Brown
  - 4 **Ford County**  
by John Grisham
  - 5 **The Help**  
by Kathryn Stockett
  - 6 **The Wrecker**  
by Clive Cussler and Justin Scott
  - 7 **True Blue**  
by David Baldacci
  - 8 **The Lacuna**  
by Barbara Kingsolver
  - 9 **The Gathering Storm**  
by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson
  - 10 **Pursuit of Honor**  
by Vince Flynn
- The New York Times



Tips to avoid Facebook stalkers.

Opinion, page 3

### HEALTH

## Campus buys flu vaccines from SMU

By **Emily Siegel**  
Staff Reporter

Free seasonal flu shots will be available for university students at the Brown-Lupton Health Center because of a purchase from the Southern Methodist University Memorial Health Center, a university official said.

Stacey Simpson, administrative assistant at the Brown-Lupton Health Center, wrote in an e-mail that the university did not receive its small order of seasonal flu vaccines because suppliers focused more on manufacturing the H1N1 vaccine.

Simpson wrote that the co-medical director of SMU Memorial Health Center, Nancy Merrill, asked the

TCU health center if the university would like to purchase SMU's excess supplies of the seasonal vaccine, and TCU accepted the offer.

The university received 1,200 seasonal flu vaccines from SMU, she wrote.

"Because of the surplus, TCU has been able to offer more than one free flu clinic," Simpson wrote.

Today will be the last free flu clinic of the year. The health center will be open during office hours as well as after office hours for the clinic, she said.

Cheryl Strange, a registered nurse at the health center, will be administering the flu shot to students today.

Strange said she hoped all the vaccines will be used.

If students haven't already received

### Free Flu Shots

**When:** Today 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Brown-Lupton Health Center  
**Who:** All students with ID

the seasonal flu shot, now would be a good time to get one, she said.

"Hopefully they will be coming," Strange said.

The flu season is just starting, which statistically begins at the end of November to the beginning of December and does not end until the beginning of April, Strange said.

Students receiving the seasonal flu

SEE **FLU SHOTS** • PAGE 2

### DINING SERVICES

## University adopts its own coffee brew

By **Vicky Watson**  
Staff Reporter

Dining services has teamed up with a local coffee brewing company to provide another gift option for students to take home this winter break.

Aduro Bean Micro-Roasters has created a blend of coffee exclusively for the university, said Kelly Raw, marketing manager for Dining Services.

Although the university name and logo have not yet been approved for use in the brand, the blend is now available by the cup at Union Grounds. It will be available in bags to brew at home before the semester is over and will continue after the holidays, said Nancy Crabb, manager and chief marketer of Aduro Bean Micro-Roasters.

"We're excited about it," Crabb said. "Our hope is that things migrate to where our coffee gets ordered at Union Grounds as opposed to Starbucks."

The blend was designed by Rupert Crabb, manager and chief roaster of Aduro Bean Micro-Roasters.

"It's a delightfully malty and chocolatey blend with a hint of spice," Rupert Crabb said. "That's because of a very unique bean we use."

Rupert Crabb said the bean is pro-

**"What we like about our product, aside from the fact that it's ours, is that it's not mass-produced. It's a high-quality product. It is fair trade and organic."**

**Nancy Crabb**  
manager and chief marketer of Aduro Bean Micro-Roasters

cessed differently than most coffee beans.

"They put it in a big warehouse during the monsoon season and leave all of the windows open," he said. "It allows the bean to suck up the monsoon moisture. They add a malty, peppery

spice to the blend."

"What we like about our product, aside from the fact that it's ours, is that it's not mass-produced," Nancy Crabb said. "It's a high-quality product. It is fair trade and organic."

Raw said the university appreciates local businesses.

"It feels good to have our consumers buy stuff that goes straight into the community," she said.

The blend was decided on in a taste test, Raw said.

"They gave us about eight profiles of coffee blends," she said.

The dining committee voted and narrowed the eight to three, she said.

"Students and faculty could come by and have a free sample of three coffees," Raw said. "It was a blind tasting, so they didn't know which was which and neither did we. The blend that won is currently being produced."

The winning blend is available by the cup at Union Grounds in three sizes: tall, grande and venti for \$1.65, \$1.85 and \$2.00, respectively.

### TRUSTEES

## Board adds oil and gas executives to its ranks

By **Kim Little**  
Staff Reporter

Two oil and gas entrepreneurs have joined the university's board of trustees.

The new trustees, Bruce Hunt and Duer Wagner, attended their first board meeting in November. Hunt is president of Dallas-based oil and gas company Petro-Hunt Corp. He is a parent of two TCU graduates and one current undergraduate student. Wagner, who is an alumnus, heads an oil and gas company named Duer Wagner III Inc., with offices in Dallas and Fort Worth.

Luther King, chairman of the board said the Committee on Trusteeship voted to add Hunt and Wagner to the board of trustees. The Committee on Trusteeship is made up of current trustees who review all trustees whose terms are expiring and review potential and new trustees, King said.

"We meet once a year," King said. "The term for a board of trustees member is four years. As the fourth year is rolling around we review the upcoming trustees for reappointment."

Chancellor Victor Boschini said that some years the Committee on Trusteeship decides to add members and other years it does not. He said the chair of the Committee on Trusteeship is the board's vice chairman, Clarence

SEE **TRUSTEES** • PAGE 2



Please remember to recycle this newspaper.



# NEWS

## CAMPUS LIFE

# Students to swap unwanted goods

By Anna Waugh  
Staff Reporter

Forget holiday shopping. The TCU Public Relations Student Society of America is providing holiday swapping with Frog Trade on Thursday.

Frog Trade is a trading event where students can exchange their used items for other items in a more sustainable way to acquire new things, said Tiffany Rogers, vice president of chapter development of TCU PRSSA.

Rogers, a junior strategic communications major, said the idea for the event came to her when she saw a video in instructor Keith Whitworth's sustainability class at the beginning of the semester. She said the video, "The Story of Stuff," mentioned people throw away 99 percent of the items they buy within six months because they break or people do not want them.

By spinning that statistic into an event where students trade items they no longer want for items from other students, Rogers said the initiative is cutting down on waste and helping the environment.

"It's basically trying to stop that whole 'buy it, use it, throw it away' and make it 'buy it, use it, let somebody else use it,' so that we don't get rid of those things so quickly and they don't end up in landfills before they need to," Rogers said. "There's usually totally useful items; we just don't want them anymore."

Rogers said the TCU PRSSA and sororities and fraternities have been donating items students can trade for, and anything from books to clothes to furniture and electronics can be traded. She said the timing is perfect for the event since stu-

dents are preparing to move or leave their dorm rooms at the end of the semester.

Aryn Young, a sophomore biology major, said she planned to attend the event. She said she needs to clean out things before the semester ends and hopes to trade for some interesting items.

"I think it's like any garage sale," she said, adding that sustainability is a plus. "You're hoping that you find something really neat that someone else didn't want. And the fact that you don't have to pay for it is awesome."

Whitworth, a sociology instructor, said he was pleased when Rogers approached him with an idea to combine concepts learned in his class with

"I think it's like any garage sale. You're hoping that you find something really neat that someone else didn't want. And the fact that you don't have to pay for it is awesome."

Aryn Young  
sophomore biology major

her advertising class. He said he worked with students to brainstorm an idea, and they decided on the Frog Trade event.

Whitworth said the average American creates 4.5 pounds of waste daily and the event will help the university think about reusing and recycling belongings instead of disposing of them at the end of the semester. He said he hopes students

## Frog Trade

**When:** Noon to 4:30 p.m. today  
**Where:** Sadler Lawn

"make a statement about consumerism especially during the holiday season."

"If we can all learn to use less and reuse when possible, then our world will be a better place," Whitworth wrote in an e-mail. "As Americans, we are socialized to consume and focus on materialism. This type of materialistic lifestyle has unintended negative consequences within the social, environmental, and economic spheres."

In addition to Frog Trade being a sustainable event, it will also be a fundraiser with a drawing for an Omni Theater and The Museum of Science and History package and a \$100 gift card to The Greener Good, an eco-friendly store, Rogers said. There is a minimum donation of 50 cents to be entered into the drawing, and proceeds raised will be split between the TCU PRSSA and the Purple Bike Program. Any left over items will be donated to Goodwill.

Rogers said she hoped Frog Trade will be the start of more green events on campus, adding that the university should do more to improve its grade on the sustainability report card, of which TCU recently received a C-minus for the second consecutive year.

"We're a part of that report card, and we're a part of that movement of TCU," Rogers said. "We need to be a little bit more knowledgeable about these issues and ways that we can prevent harm to the environment."

## SNOW

continued from page 1

fore the weather worsened.

Robert Sulak, Physical Plant director of landscape, said employees would be ready should the area get snow or ice Friday.

"We spread sand along the major walkways," Sulak said. "We try to have access from the dorms to the dining areas. It takes time to get everything done. We put out ice melt and sand, but sand really can't go out until the ice is already

there because it just covers it up."

He said the Physical Plant monitors the weather to know when it needs to organize for a large snow or ice storm, but it already has ice melt and sand supplies prepared.

Students who woke up early Friday morning saw snow flurries, but the ground was too warm for it to cover large areas. Huckaby said the ground temperature was 40 degrees and the air temperature did not reach below freezing for very long.

Huckaby said his office would have to keep track of temperature changes to make more precise predictions about Friday's potential snow accumulation.

Junior advertising/public relations major Alyssa Underwood said she woke up after the snowfall had already ended.

"I figured it would be (gone) though because it's Texas," Underwood said. "It'll be snowing in the morning then 80 degrees later that day."

## TRUSTEES

continued from page 1

Scharbauer.

The board officially voted to add the new members in April but they did not start until last month's meeting, the second and final meeting of the year, Boschini said. The new members were nominated in January, he said.

A bylaw states that the board can have up to 50 members, Boschini said. With the addition of the two new members, the board has 46 members.

King said the board does not normally have the maximum number of 50 members. He said they like to keep the

number of trustees in the 40s.

The board tried to find a well-rounded group of trustees who can contribute to the school in different ways, King said.

"We want to pick individuals that love TCU," King said.

The board looks for people who are willing to give time to attend meetings and review material, King said. He said the board also looks for a balance geographically and a balance in gender.

The board currently has 12 women and 34 men. About 32 trustees are from the Dallas-Fort Worth area, according to the 2009-2010 catalog. Other trustees hail from Houston, Austin, San

"We meet once a year. The term for a board of trustees member is four years. As the fourth year is rolling around we review the upcoming trustees for reappointment."

Luther King  
chairman of the board

Antonio, Midland and Albany, as well as Miami, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Newtown Square, Pa.

## FLU SHOTS

continued from page 1

shot will be asked a multitude of questions, Strange said. The first question to ask a person is if he or she has an egg allergy, which can counteract with the medicine in the seasonal flu shot.

"We have a questionnaire

that we want (students) to read over and let us know if any of the questions pertain to them...especially the allergy to eggs," Strange said.

Students receiving the shot most likely will not feel any pain at the injection site, Strange said. Students who experience soreness the next day should take two anti-

inflammatory pills, such as Tylenol, and they'll be fine, Strange said.

Students generally tell the nurse which arm they prefer the injection in, but that the dominant arm is the best place for the shot, Strange said.

"The soreness will work its way out quicker," she said.



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## MINUTES FROM TCU

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How are you going to stand out in this crowd?

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- Everything you Need to Know to Land a Government Job

Build connections with employers and alumni at a cocktail reception, practice dining etiquette at a gourmet dinner and enjoy breakfast with the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs celebrating your years at TCU.

## January 23-24 The Hilton Arlington

For more details and to register, visit [www.careers.tcu.edu](http://www.careers.tcu.edu)  
\$95 registration fee includes meals, transportation and hotel accommodations. Fee can be charged to your student account. Space is limited, deadline to register January 13th. Open to December, May and August graduating seniors.



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# OPINION

DAILY SKIFF

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*The Skiff View*

## Swap trash for treasure at today's Frog Trade

Holiday shopping is for the brave among us. Who really wants to stand in endless lines, waiting for hours on end for mechanical hamsters or \$3 toasters?

Frog Trade, offered by the university's Public Relations Student Society of America, provides a great alternative to sore feet and bad attitudes. Today and today only, bring your used items to Sadler Lawn from noon to 4:30 p.m. and trade them for other students' used items.

Not only will you experience the rush of finding a great bargain, you'll be helping out the environment — something everyone should feel good about. The whole idea for Frog Trade aims to cut down on the 4.5 pounds of waste the average person produces every day. With the end of the semester approaching, many students are packing their stuff and taking the essentials back home for break. This creates a lot of trash, and sometimes items that are still good are thrown away.

Even if you just want to pass on a couple of items, think purple, live green and go to Frog Trade.

*Opinion editor Libby Davis for the editorial board.*

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

## Keep African lands in farmers' hands



Africa is known for its natural beauty and roaming troves of animals. Unfortunately, it is perhaps more easily recognized for its negative aspects that include persistent ethnic conflicts, which are primarily a result of a late colonization process that drew artificial boundaries, divvying up the land according to the whim of European "explorers."

While this is abhorrent in itself, the status and authority of government remains a pertinent issue. This is most easily seen in Rwanda and Zimbabwe. The former has been torn apart because of ethnic cleansing efforts and an overly zealous army. The latter has been run by Robert Mugabe for the past 20 years, while he has essentially reigned as a dictator, oppressing his own people to permit his own opulent lifestyle.

Yet, these issues have risen to the forefront of global awareness as HIV/AIDS becomes more prevalent in the region and as Feed the Children continues to bombard televisions with starving children and their hapless parents. While this measure of poverty seems striking, it is in fact a reality for a large portion of the continental population. But as the United Nations, the Red Cross and the Red Crescent continue their efforts in the region, other organizations have begun to exert their influence. The newest financial trend is agribusiness, focusing specifically on underdeveloped areas within African states. One of the most prominent is Dominion Farms, an Oklahoma-based company run by Calvin Burgess. According to Business Weekly, Dominion leases 17,000 acres near a village in Kenya. Burgess claims that the area was formerly incapable of supporting crops, but villagers disagree.

In Kenya, farming for profit is a foreign concept. This is not to say that the introduction of this capitalistic endeavor would be harmful, it is simply not a native practice. These villages practice subsistence farming, which means they provide only for themselves and what they believe will be needed during a year. Burgess, after establishing contacts through a missionary group in his church, claimed to be moved by the sight of "two members of the ... tribe, dressed in suits," pleading for help. He believed that his agricultural efforts would provide jobs to tribe members and would also compensate those who had to be relocated. After signing a 25-year lease from Kenya's Lands Ministry in Nairobi,

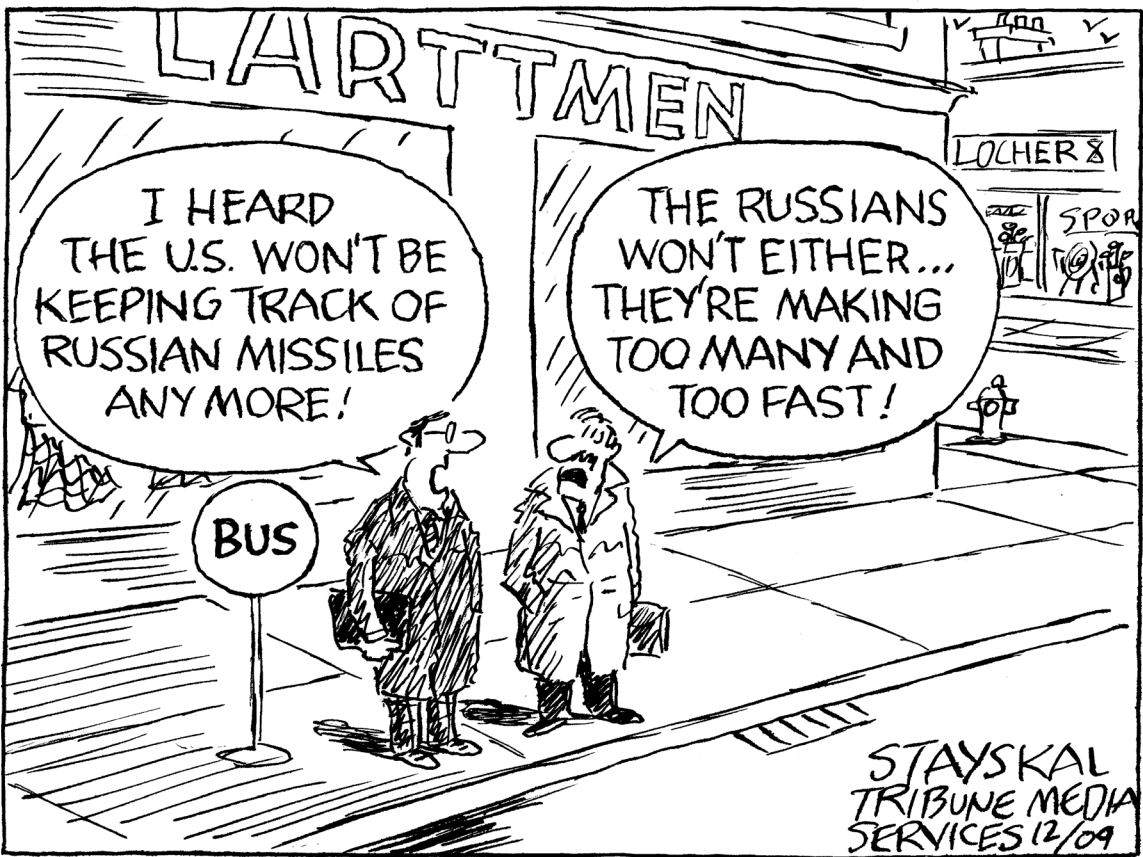
By acquiring these private assets in the name of "capital development," a terrible precedent is being set in which Africans are considered unable to sustain themselves.

Burgess made auxiliary payments to various groups to ensure that the plan could continue unhindered.

Unfortunately, the people of the Luo tribe and members of other tribes in similar situations are unhappy. They feel they have been slighted in what appears to be an orchestrated business deal rather than an attempt to assist foreign people in need. Villagers claim that their crops have been flooded because of misrouted irrigation flows, and those who are hired to work on the farm receive marginal positions for menial pay. This trend is not only present in Kenya, but extends to other African states as well. Both Sudan and Ethiopia have leased out large amounts of land to foreign investors.

The issue with this is not so much an ethical dilemma, as hearsay and bearing false witness can result in presumptions about the operations of these companies. But the main issue is that these governments are claiming rightful usage of land, even if individuals currently occupy them. By acquiring these private assets in the name of "capital development," a terrible precedent is being set in which Africans are considered unable to sustain themselves. Foreign assistance is certainly appreciated, but when it becomes so overwhelming that the natural citizens cannot even participate, its purpose is obscured. Investment, especially in agriculture, is a great way to begin to strengthen development in African states. However, it should be done in a methodical and inclusive way so that African farmers are both educated about new technologies and how to sustain their own crops. Additionally, they should be provided with the increase in income that accompanies capitalistic ventures. To exclude them from this process is to take advantage of the natural resources and empower the governments to continue to act autonomously and without the consideration of their citizens. Not only is this irresponsible, but it represents these agribusiness corporations, not as the munificent providers that they claim to be, but as neo-colonial powers, exercising their monetary influence in a negative way. Surely this is not the type of perception that Americans want for their international endeavors.

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



Wayne Stayskal is an editorial cartoonist for the Tampa Tribune.

## Afghan surge poorly planned



President Barack Obama's 2008 White House run was characterized by many great speeches. Fantastic illustrations. Emotional anecdotes. Personal stories. People cried, people laughed, and Republicans fumed as Democrats rejoiced.

That was then. The president announced Tuesday in a speech from West Point that he would order 30,000 more troops to fight in Afghanistan, a number significantly lower than the 40,000 he proposed earlier. According to CNN.com, he said more troops would assist the 140,000 troops already there (from the U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO) in further preventing Taliban re-emergence and "allow (the U.S.) to further accelerate handing over responsibility to Afghan forces."

Obama went on to personally address the troops in the audience. And, again, the promises rained down.

"As your commander in chief, I owe you a mission that is clearly defined, and worthy of your service," he said.

That sounds more like a campaign promise than a presidency promise to me. Yes, President

Obama, you do owe them a clear mission. Now, give it to them.

The president did present one specific but implausible promise. He said the 30,000 troops would enter Afghanistan on a six-month timeline and that the United States would look to begin an exit strategy by 2011. That means 30,000 individuals will have to make the transition to Afghanistan in six months, with the hope of getting to go home a year later. This is a promise that might be hard to keep. Obama also said in the speech that he wanted forces to be out of Afghanistan by 2011.

Even worse, the Pentagon does not agree with that timeline. In fact, according to the CNN report, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who is actually in Afghanistan, said a 12-month entrance strategy would be more realistic.

And this is not the first time Obama suggested a troop surge that some have called hasty. He said in a speech in February that he would push for an 18-month exit strategy from Iraq, where U.S. forces are not only fighting terrorism, but also cultural and religious battles between groups like the Arabs and Kurds.

If it's not the issue of plausibility, it's the issue of affordability that must be taken into account. According to the report, this deployment will cost \$30 billion a year to carry out, an expenditure the U.S. economy cannot handle. Furthermore, almost half of the national budget is geared toward military

If it's not the issue of plausibility, it's the issue of affordability that must be taken into account.

spending already. And if that's not enough, the Department of Defense had budget cuts in December of 2008 after the national GDP showed a decrease.

According to a column by Martin Feldstein of the Wall Street Journal, those in the Department of Defense and Office of Management and Budget who determined the cuts said the decreased GDP meant that "everyone" would have to make cuts, not just defense. Now, those cuts will be for naught, as the budget will actually be \$30 billion higher.

Granted, our GDP has improved since then, and many economists say the increasing employment opportunities are a good sign, but our economy simply cannot afford to make these kind of unnecessary moves. I hope the president didn't forget about the health care bill and the stimulus. Those were pretty big investments. His party can't be too happy that he is pushing for this troop surge.

But hey, with a national debt of \$12 trillion, what's another \$30 billion?

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

## Tips to avoid Facebook stalking



There's an old saying that goes "To catch a thief, send one."

While I try not to steal stuff often (everyone takes a fruit or cookies from the BLUU at some point, right?), I'm afraid I may have another vice: Facebook stalking. There, I admitted it, and they do say the first step to recovery is admitting you have a problem. However, from what I've read and heard, I'm not the only person on campus doing this. From my insight, I have a few tips for those of you out there, probably mostly girls, who feel as if you may be getting looked up by someone like that creepy kid in your astronomy class.

1) Keep your Facebook private. Most people do this, and it definitely makes a Facebook stalker's job harder as he now has to request to be your friend. A Facebook stalker seeing that you profile is public is like a kid in a candy store. Keep it private and you can keep caps on who can see your information.

2) Do not put up pictures of yourself in a bikini or revealing clothes. Doing this is like finding

gold to Facebook stalkers. Especially if you are endowed with certain gifts or have a badonkadonk. Many Facebook stalkers will specifically look for these pictures and will proceed to show them to all their friends. Unless you like a bunch of creepy guys looking at your pictures (which is a problem reserved for another article) try to avoid doing this.

3) Don't add people you don't know. Usually a rule of thumb is if you never met them or only bumped into them somewhere once, don't add this person. Usually, their thought goes, "Hmm he/she is pretty hot. I should add them to look at their pictures." Unless you think the other person is also attractive, probably not a good idea to do this. Another problem from this is that they now have the opportunity to annoy you with Facebook chat, which brings me to my next point.

4) Be careful whom you chat with or what you say. So you've added that one guy from your Connections class that you didn't really know, but he looked friendly enough. When he chatted you up on Facebook, you even responded and had a short conversation. Now



SXC.HU

however, he constantly chats it up with you. It seems like every time you're online, he is too. Chances are, this guy is Facebook stalking you. With this situation watch what you say because he may get the wrong impression if you write the wrong thing. Even better, just don't respond. Hopefully he'll get the point. If that doesn't work, just take a last-ditch measure and block him. However, only do this in the most severe cases.

To be completely honest, Facebook stalking is mostly an innocent activity. I would surely rather have someone do this than really stalk me. However, some may feel as if their privacy is being violated. These tips will help you to cut down on that, but in the end, accept that when you put your info online, if someone wants it bad enough they can get it.

*Michael Lauck is a broadcast journalism and economics major from Houston.*



NEWS

Man controls mechanical hand with brain power

By Ariel David  
Associated Press Writer

ROME (AP) — An Italian who lost his left forearm in a car crash was successfully linked to a robotic hand, allowing him to feel sensations in the artificial limb and control it with his thoughts, scientists said Wednesday.

During a one-month experiment conducted last year, 26-year-old Pierpaolo Petruzzello felt like his lost arm had grown back again, although he was only controlling a robotic hand that was not even attached to his body.

“It’s a matter of mind, of concentration,” Petruzzello said. “When you think of it as your hand and forearm, it all becomes easier.”

Though similar experiments have been successful before, the European scientists who led the project say this was the first time a patient has been able to make such complex movements using his mind to control a biomechanic hand connected to his nervous system.

The challenge for scientists now will be to create a system that can connect a patient’s nervous system and a prosthetic limb for years, not just a month.

The Italy-based team said at a news conference in Rome on Wednesday that in 2008 it implanted electrodes into the nerves located in what re-

mained of Petruzzello’s left arm, which was cut off in a crash some three years ago.

The prosthetic was not implanted on the patient, only connected through the electrodes.

“[The patient] didn’t have to learn to use muscles that do a different job to move a prosthesis, he just had to concentrate and send to the robotic hand the same messages he used to send to his own hand.”

Paolo Maria Rossini  
neurologist

During the month he had the electrodes connected, he learned to wiggle the robotic fingers independently, make a fist, grab objects and make other movements.

“Some of the gestures can not be disclosed because they were quite vulgar,” joked Paolo Maria Rossini, a neurologist who led the team working at Rome’s Campus Bio-Medico, a university and hospital that specializes in health sciences.

The €2 million (\$3 million) project, funded by the European Union, took five years to

complete and produced several scientific papers that have been submitted to top journals, including Science Translational Medicine and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Rossini said.

After Petruzzello recovered from the microsurgery he underwent to implant the electrodes in his arm, it only took him a few days to master use of the robotic hand, Rossini said. By the time the experiment was over, the hand obeyed the commands it received from the man’s brain in 95 percent of cases.

Petruzzello, an Italian who lives in Brazil, said the feedback he got from the hand was amazingly accurate.

“It felt almost the same as a real hand. They stimulated me a lot, even with needles ... you can’t imagine what they did to me,” he joked with reporters.

While the “LifeHand” experiment lasted only a month, this was the longest time electrodes had remained connected to a human nervous system in such an experiment, said Silvestro Micera, one of the engineers on the team. Similar, shorter-term experiments in 2004-2005 hooked up amputees to a less-advanced robotic arm with a pliers-shaped end, and patients were only able to make basic movements, he said.

Experts not involved in the study told The Associat-



AP PHOTO / Courtesy of Bio-Medical Campus University  
This undated photo made available from the Bio-Medical Campus University of Rome on Wednesday shows Pierpaolo Petruzzello’s amputated hand linked with electrodes to a robotic hand, seen at top left, as part of an experiment, called LifeHand, to control the prosthetic with his thoughts.

ed Press the experiment was an important step forward in creating a viable interface between the nervous system and prosthetic limbs, but the challenge now is ensuring that such a system can remain in the patient for years and not just a month.

“It’s an important advancement on the work that was done in the mid-2000s,” said Dustin Tyler, a professor at Case Western Reserve University and biomedical engineer at the VA Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio. “The important piece that remains is how long beyond a month

we can keep the electrodes in.”

While that approach is necessary when the whole arm has been lost, if a stump survives doctors could opt for the less invasive method proposed by the Italians, connecting the prosthesis to the same system the brain uses to send and receive signals.

“The approach we followed is natural,” Rossini said. The patient “didn’t have to learn to use muscles that do a different job to move a prosthesis, he just had to concentrate and send to the robotic hand the same messages he used to

send to his own hand.”

It will take at least two or three years before scientists try to replicate the experiment with a more long-term prosthesis, the experts said. First they need to study if the hair-thin electrodes can be kept in longer.

Results from the experiment are encouraging, as the electrodes removed from Petruzzello showed no damage and could well stay in longer, said Klaus-Peter Hoffmann, a biomedical expert at the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the German research institute that developed the electrodes.

Federal Reserve releases most positive outlook in two years

By Jeannine Aversa  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The economic recovery gained traction in late fall as shoppers spent a bit more and factories bumped up production. That assessment Wednesday by the Federal Reserve marked its most upbeat view since the economy tumbled into recession two years ago.

The Fed’s new snapshot of business barometers nationwide found that conditions have generally improved since the last report in late October.

Eight of the Fed’s 12 regions surveyed reported some pickup in activity or improved conditions, the Fed said. Those regions were: Boston, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas and San Francisco.

The four other regions — Philadelphia, Cleveland, Richmond and Atlanta — described conditions as little changed or mixed.

The new report adds to evidence that the economy is rebounding after the worst recession since the 1930s.

The main challenge for Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, who will be on Capitol Hill on Thursday seeking confirmation for a second term, is to sustain the fledgling rebound, especially after the benefits of government support fade next year.

To that end, the Fed is expected to hold a key bank lending rate at a record low near zero when its meets on Dec. 15-16. Economists predict the Fed will keep rates at super-low levels well into next year.

With Wednesday’s survey also finding that inflation remains under control, the Fed has leeway to hold rates at record lows. The central bank hopes that will entice people and businesses to step up spending, which would bolster the economy.

Although the jobs market remains lousy, the Fed survey found some scattered signs of improvement in some markets.

In the Boston region, some businesses were starting to hire and reverse pay cuts or wage freezes implemented earlier in the year. The St. Louis region noted that the service sector recently started to expand.

Still, holiday hiring expectations nationwide were mixed, the Fed report said. And most private economists predict that even as the pace of massive job losses slow, the nation’s unemployment rate — now at a 26-year high of 10.2 percent — will continue to climb into next year. Some predict it will rise as high as 11 percent by the middle of 2010 before slowly drifting down.

The Fed warned last week that it could take five or six years for the job market to return to normal.

That’s why Bernanke and others think that consumers — while appearing to hold up fairly well now to all the negative stresses — may turn more cautious in the months ahead, restraining the recovery.

Consumers in late November spent more, with general merchandise and auto sales improving across much of the country, the Fed report said. Unsure of customer demand, most merchants were keeping stocks fairly lean during the holiday season. Yet some retailers suggested that they have recently become more optimistic

about the holiday sales outlook.

The Fed survey also found that manufacturing conditions generally showed some improvements.

Biopharmaceutical companies in the Boston region noted that revenue increased. The Dallas region reported stronger activity for makers of high-tech equipment, paper and petrochemicals. Upticks in food-related production also were mentioned in some regions.

Many manufacturers said they were “optimistic about the near-term outlook.” But makers of construction-related materials were still pessimistic, mostly because of expectations that problems in the commercial real estate industry will be prolonged.

In fact, commercial real estate conditions continued to deteriorate, the Fed report said. Most regions were plagued by rising vacancy rates, down-

ward pressure on rents and little, if any, new development.

By contrast, the housing market — sales and construction activity — improved across much of the country, according to the Fed survey. A collapse in the housing market, which dragged down home prices, thrust the country into a recession. A sustained turnaround in housing is a key ingredient for a lasting economic recovery.



MCT / Eric Seals  
Shoppers wait in long lines at a Target store in Madison Heights, Michigan, as they took advantage of holiday sales on Friday.



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# FEATURES

## Homemade gifts for Santa’s list

By **Katie Ruppel**  
Features Editor

Tired of generic, store-bought gifts this Christmas season? These easy, home-made presents will surely fulfill your creativity craving! And boys, what better way to woo your girlfriend or make your mother proud than with a gift from the heart?



### Chocolate Chip Cookies in a Jar

- small bowl
- clean 1-quart jar with lid
- ribbon
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups of chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar

Mix flour, baking soda and salt in bowl. Pour into the jar. Add chocolate chips, brown sugar and granulated sugar into the jar, respectively, packing down each layer. Put on the lid. Attach a chocolate chip cookie recipe\* by punching a hole and tying with ribbon around the lid.

Good gift for: mothers, girlfriends

*\*the chosen recipe could make the ingredients above vary, but the Skiff is not permitted to print copyrighted recipes*

[www.meals.com](http://www.meals.com)



SXC.HU




### Book Frame

- old book with sturdy cover
- X-Acto knife or box knife
- photograph
- glue

Open the book and trace the size of the photograph on the front cover. Use an X-Acto knife or box knife to cut and peel away the bookboard, leaving the bookcloth in tact. On the front cover, cut a smaller opening in the bookcloth, leaving a one inch frame of bookcloth. Cut a diagonal line in each corner and fold bookcloth behind the cover, giving the frame a clean look. Glue the photograph onto the first page of the book. You can also make the frame on the cover larger than the photograph and use the knife to cut into some of the pages to give it more depth.

Good gift for: grandmas, librarians, book lovers

[www.wikiHow.com](http://www.wikiHow.com)



### Shaped Soap Bars

- mild bar of soap
- 1/2 cup warm water
- thick cookie cutters
- 1 cup measurer
- grater
- bowl
- food coloring (optional)
- ribbon (optional)

Grate 1 cup of soap into bowl. Slowly pour 1/2 cup of warm water into the bowl and knead together. Add all the water and continue to knead until the mixture reaches a thick dough consistency. Add food coloring to your own desire. Lay the mixture out on a flat surface and press the cookie cutter into it. Make sure the entire cookie cutter is filled with the mixture. Dry the soap for 24 hours on the cookie cutter side so both sides dry. Pop out the soap and tie on a ribbon for an elegant look.

Good gift for: smelly friends

[www.familycrafts.about.com](http://www.familycrafts.about.com)



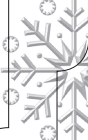
### Fleece-tied Blanket

- 2 yards of fleece fabric (can be different patterns/colors or the same)
- sharp scissors
- tape measure or ruler
- one 4" X 4" piece of paper

Place the two pieces of fabric on top of each other. Take the 4" X 4" piece of paper and place it in one corner. Cut out around the piece of paper and repeat for each corner. Lay the tape measurer out from one corner to another. Cut 4 inches into the fabric every 1 inch, making fringes along each side. Repeat for both pieces of fabric on every side. Take the 2 fringes from the separate fabrics and tie them into a basic knot. Repeat for every fringe, and you have a new blanket!

Good gift for: babies, friends who couldn't pay their heater bill

[www.allkindsofbabystuff.com](http://www.allkindsofbabystuff.com)




### Bath Salts

- 2 cups Epsom salt
- 1 cup sea or rock salt
- 1/4 tsp. Glycerine
- food colors
- essential oils or perfume appropriate for bathing
- extracts from the kitchen work well, vanilla, lemon, cinnammon or mint
- jar with lid
- bowl

Mix salts together in a bowl. Stir in glycerine, food colors and oils or perfume. Thoroughly dry the jar since salt will absorb any moisture in them. Scoop the salts into the jars and seal them tight. Decorate the jar for an extra pizzazz, or add the list of ingredients for those with sensitive skin.

Good gift for: a romantic endeavour, someone needing a hygiene hint

[www.chemistry.about.com](http://www.chemistry.about.com)



### Record Bowl

- record
- oven safe bowl/pot
- cookie sheet

Set oven to 200 degrees. Place the record on top of the bowl or pot, which you will then place on the cookie sheet. Put the record in the oven for 8 to 10 minutes, watching closely. Once the record starts to form over the shape of the bowl or pot, take it out and quickly mold it into the bowl shape you want. If you're not satisfied with the first run, just stick the record back in, let it warm up again and re-mold it. Please don't use a valuable record for this project, you will be sorry.

Good gift for: musical friends, parents who want to be hip

[www.thriftyfun.com](http://www.thriftyfun.com)

## Review

### ‘Dormitory of Doom’ is doomed from the start

By **Katie Ruppel**  
Features Editor

The student-directed and produced film “Dormitory of Doom” has a catchy title with potential. That potential is quickly stomped on with the bad acting in the first scene that foreshadows the majority of the movie.

The film begins with some friends hanging out in their dorm, complaining about how dirty, loud and unlivable the place is. A strange man claiming to be the new resident assistant eavesdrops and begins to tell them a tale of true hell in their very dorm.

The acting is either overdone or underdone; sticking with one type of acting could have had a humorous twist but mixing the two together makes the director's goal for the type of film confusing.

It is ambiguous whether the film was supposed to be a spoof of a scary movie or a serious horror movie because the script leaves characters underdeveloped and the plot incoherent. The humor could have saved the movie but the quirky comments and sexual innuendos did not pan out with the slow, unnatural acting. Even the drunk party scenes are unbelievable.

To top it off, the mysterious main character, Ernie, takes unusual acting to a new level with his overblown moaning and unexplainable transformation from a college boy with noisy dorm neighbors getting on his nerves to (spoiler alert) a masked killer who murders his entire dorm's occupants as well as the dean of the school in revenge. In revenge of what is the unanswered question.

However, the camera angles from Ernie's point of view are unique with his hands interacting in front of him and his mother even pinching the camera as if they were his cheeks.

Unfortunately, the rest of the camera work may have been equally innovative but was not cut well during the editing process. The sound effects also suffer from editing as some of the punches sound like a broken snare drum and the stabs like boxed wine being punctured.

The gore scenes are also weak. The two extremes between lack of gore completely or globs of fake blood make the killing scenes not only unbelievable but plain inconsistent.

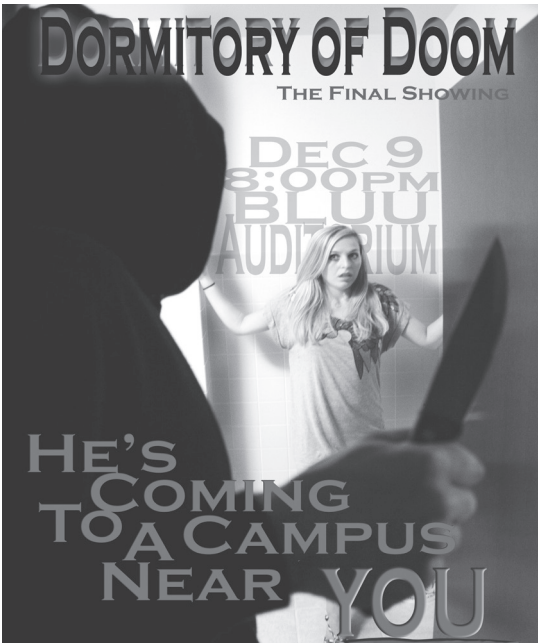
However, the score by music composition major Kyle Roderick is well-composed and well-

timed traditional horror music that makes the killing scenes more dramatic.

There were also a few original camera shots and the surprise ending was a funny twist. With more coaching from director Daniel Chapman, a sophomore FTDM major, the actors could have made more of the humor work out.

In the end, the bloopers during the credits show the actors and crew having a fun time making the film, which is one crucial part of making of a good movie. The director had the audacity to take on the challenge of a horror movie and can hopefully clean up the mistakes for his next project.

The film will be showing in the Brown-Lupton University Union Auditorium on Dec. 6.



Courtesy of GEORGE CAGLE

“Dormitory of Doom” is a student-directed short film about a masked killer who stalks the campus.

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NEWS & SPORTS

ACCOUNTING

Neeley among highest CPA pass rates in Texas

By Victoria Watson  
Staff Reporter

For the second year in a row, Master of Accounting graduates at the university have achieved one of the highest pass rates in Texas on the Certified Public Accountant exam. In the July-August 2009 test window, university Mac graduates passed the uniform accounting exam at a rate of 71.78 percent, said Elaine Cole, public relations manager for the Neeley School of Business. Graduates of the program scored one of the highest pass rates in Texas for the exam last year during the same testing window, she said.

The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy reported Southwestern Adventist University, Rice University and Hardin-Simmons University with the highest statewide CPA pass rate. The first two schools had a 100 percent pass rate but only one candidate each. Hardin-Simmons had a 83.33 per-

cent rate and six candidates. TCU, which ranks just below Hardin-Simmons, had 67 candidates.

Ray Pfeiffer, an accounting professor, said TCU scored the highest of the eight schools it considers competitive for master's programs in Texas, which does not include Hardin-Simmons.

Pfeiffer credits the quality of students the program attracts and the strength of the Mac program for its success.

"It certainly helps that the education we give them in our master's program is very strong," Pfeiffer said. "We have really high-quality courses taught by some of our best faculty members."

Brian Wallace, a Mac student, said the numbers give students confidence that they will be well prepared.

"This is the test that is dreaded and feared by everyone," he said.

The Mac program is not solely based on students pass-

ing the exam, Pfeiffer said.

"It's a little too narrow to focus on just what's on the CPA exam," he said.

The exam is only part of the greater picture, Wallace said.

"They do a good job for preparing us for passing that CPA exam, which is a major hurdle for us coming out of school," Wallace said. "Working into an educated individual who has the certification to go ahead and start being a contributor to your employer is perhaps more important."

Pfeiffer said the recognition caused by the pass rate helps the school attract more applicants.

"People that are applying to MAc programs want to know that the degree they get will get them a good start in their career," he said. "Any news that our program is doing something that is helping our students become stronger candidates for jobs and then better professionals certainly is helping."

VOLLEYBALL

Team proud of wins versus big-time California squads

By Seth Dahle  
Staff Writer

It has been quite a year for the TCU volleyball team.

The Horned Frogs' 26 wins and 13 conference victories are the most in school history, and the second-place finish in the Mountain West Conference marks the best finish since the team was runner-up of the 2004 Conference USA regular-season.

But now, TCU can add another monumental feat to the record book — its first NCAA tournament appearance.

Thanks to a solid RPI ranking (44), a 12-1 finish and key wins against New Mexico, Colorado State, Long Beach State and UC-Irvine, the Horned Frogs (26-6, 13-3 MWC) received an at-large bid and will take on the Rice Owls.

"It's fantastic for these young ladies to have this opportunity and get there," head coach Prentice Lewis said. "I'm excited because I know what it means and I know everything that goes on, so it's very easy for me to explain it to our athletes."

With no postseason tournament in the Mountain West, TCU concluded the season with critical wins against Long Beach State, a tournament qualifier, and UC-Irvine (No. 69 RPI).

"It was huge," senior Katelyn Blackwood said. "Long Beach State is the Big West champion

and UCI was No. 2 (Big West), and we took them both out. It was just showing everybody that this small, little, private Texas school could play with big California teams."

In the two matches, the Horned Frogs averaged a .282 hitting percentage and combined for an astounding 120

**"We're thrilled to have the opportunity, and it's even better since it's against Rice. We played them last year and had a poor performance, so we know we can do it if we just play well."**

**Christy Hudson**  
junior volleyball player

kills as a team.

Junior Christy Hudson averaged 14 kills, while senior Kourtney Edwards tallied 28 kills total.

Rice (23-8, 11-5 C-USA) is making its third appearance in the Big Dance and is on the heels of a conference championship win against Tulsa. After defeating the Hurricane, the Owls upset No.17 LSU in its regular season finale.

"They're a great team," Lewis said. "It'll be a great battle."

Ashleigh McCord (3.93 kills per set) and Natalie Bogan (3.23 kills per set, .344 hitting percentage) lead a speedy Owl offense, while Tracey Lam (5.44 digs per set) and Bogan (.96 blocks per set) control the defensive end.

"They're very quick," senior Lauren Otto said. "We're just going to go down there and play hard, play like a team and play like we have all season."

Although TCU is in the Omaha Regional, the team's first destination is Austin, where No. 2 Texas (24-1, 19-1 Big 12) awaits next door.

"We're thrilled to have the opportunity, and it's even better since it's against Rice," Hudson said. "We played them last year and had a poor performance, so we know we can do it if we just play well. This year we've definitely been picking up our game a lot so we're just excited to play in the UT gym and show what we're made of."

TCU has even offered a free bus ride and ticket for fans, students, and staff members who want to make the three-hour trip.

Colorado State, the Mountain West champion, and New Mexico were the other two conference teams that made the tournament.

The Horned Frogs' match is slated for Thursday, December 3 at 4:30 p.m.

PATTERSON

continued from page 8

to climb," Patterson said.

When signing the extended contract, Patterson said his first priority was his staff.

"Head coaches get most of the accolades but you forget that to have a coach have success it means you have to have a great staff, players, program, and the universi-

ty backing you up," he said. "There is no way we could do this as a university, as a football program without them."

In the previous recruitment years, the only thing hanging over the university's head was not having the opportunity to play for a BCS game and the national championship, Patterson said.

"Those walls were knocked down," he said.

The athletics department and program has been built slowly but correctly, he said.

"You don't make quick decisions, and you make decisions for the right reasons, even though you don't win at the time, and you keep moving forward," Patterson said. "You don't fall down the mountain, you set stones in place that are going to protect you and catch you."

BCS

continued from page 8

loser of the SEC Championship whether it is Florida or Alabama. Either would be highly ranked, bring plenty of fans and the bowl would keep its SEC connection.

2) This is where things begin to get interesting. Fiesta would have the next pick once the Big 12 Champion (Texas) goes to the title game. They could consider the runner up in the Big 10 (Iowa), Boise State, the Cincinnati/Pittsburgh winner and TCU. The Horned Frogs would be more appealing than Cincinnati or Boise as they will likely be the No. 3 team in the country and Fiesta Bowl Chairman of the Board Alan Young said, "(How well a fanbase travels) is quite important. It really is an issue to us and is always a concern, but we're convinced at this point that TCU would be a great travelling team and bring a lot of alumni and fans to the valley."

The decision would come down to TCU and Iowa for the second pick, and I think the Fiesta Bowl will have to lean towards Iowa. The Hawkeyes have a massive fanbase, which would satisfy advertisers and bowl officials. They need to fill the stadium as best they can, and Iowa simply has a greater ability to do that than Cincinnati, Boise State or TCU. I think the Fiesta Bowl makes the safest move from where they stand and picks Iowa second.

3) Next up, the Orange Bowl gets to consider who they would like to play, Clemson or Georgia Tech. If Clemson wins the ACC Championship, then TCU is clearly not an option. The

Frogs already won on the road in the rain over Clemson and there's no reason to revisit it. But if Georgia Tech, a one-point favorite, wins the ACC, TCU would be an appealing choice along with Cincinnati. If the Fiesta Bowl passes on Iowa the first time around, the Orange Bowl would also have to strongly consider the Hawkeyes.

If Cincinnati wins their final game (effectively the Big East Championship at Pittsburgh), I think the Orange Bowl would make the most geographically reasonable pick and take the Bearcats. However, if the one-point underdog Pittsburgh Panthers pull off

**I believe the Fiesta Bowl is most interested in TCU and will do what they have to in order to assure they get the Frogs.**

an upset, we're very likely to see SuperFrog in Miami. The difference between Pitt and TCU is too great to pass up the No. 3 team. I think Cincinnati will pull through and claim an Orange Bowl bid.

4) If the Frogs fall this far, there is no way the Fiesta doesn't scoop them up here. The Fiesta representatives seem the most interested in TCU, but I think financially they have to take Iowa first. If they land both, there will be a celebration Sunday in Arizona.

If the Fiesta Bowl takes a risk by selecting TCU with the second overall pick, I can see the Orange Bowl gladly taking the Hawkeyes. That would leave Cincinnati or Boise as

possible opponents in the Fiesta Bowl. While putting any two of the three small schools (TCU, Boise St. or Cincinnati) against each other would be a nightmare as far as filling the stands and getting sponsor money goes, if they had no choice, Cincinnati would be the pick. It would at least set up a new matchup of undefeated teams. If Pittsburgh wins, there would be no choice but TCU vs. Boise State, round two, in the Fiesta Bowl.


5) Finally, the Sugar Bowl is left with another easy pick — this time, because there is no other choice. If Cincinnati or TCU are still around, they have to be selected here. If not, the only other teams that have a realistic shot at a BCS game are Iowa and Boise State. Three of those four will have been selected at this point, so the remaining team, most likely Boise State, would get the most appealing bowl matchup against Florida or Alabama.

I believe the Fiesta Bowl is most interested in TCU and will do what they have to in order to assure they get the Frogs. If they know the Orange Bowl will take us third if they pass the first time, I think they will take a risk and pick TCU second. I could also see them taking Iowa first with the knowledge they can pick the Horned Frogs later on. We will not see the exact order Sunday, as they just announce the games once they're finalized, not the picks.


It is TCU's turn to knock down the BCS door, and they'll do so in Glendale, Ariz.

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

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—History Channel

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4				6				
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8	3					4	9	1
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**Directions**  
Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

See Friday's paper for sudoku and crossword solutions.

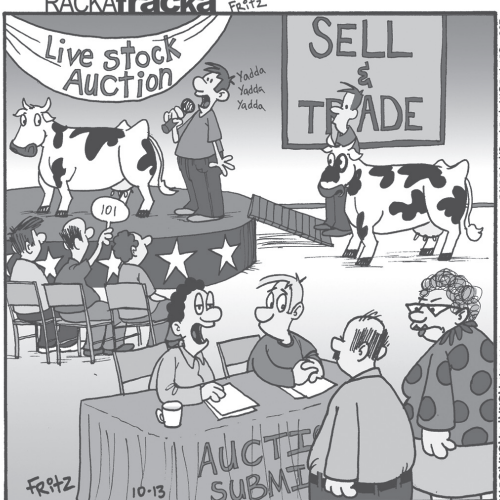
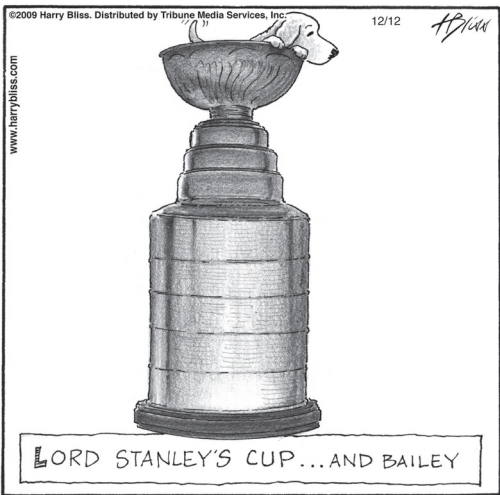
Wednesday's Solution

9	6	2	4	3	5	8	1	7
5	1	7	6	2	8	9	3	4
3	8	4	1	7	9	5	6	2
7	4	9	2	6	1	3	8	5
2	3	1	8	5	7	6	4	9
8	5	6	9	4	3	2	7	1
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1	7	3	5	8	2	4	9	6
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  - 16 Positive terminal, at times
  - 17 "Imagination at work" company
  - 20 N.Y. summer setting
  - 21 Sale condition
  - 22 Deceived
  - 23 Stranded motorist's aid
  - 25 Cambodian money
  - 26 Fried-dough carnival treat
  - 30 General on a Chinese menu
  - 33 Fiesta Bowl site
  - 34 Work units
  - 35 Group including flower children's children, briefly
  - 36 Pants fabric
  - 37 Big conflict
  - 38 Actress Blakley
  - 39 Je t'...: Parisian's "I love you"
  - 40 Bouquet holder
  - 41 Drambuie ingredient
  - 42 Govt. ID issuer
  - 43 Doors #1 hit covered by José Feliciano
  - 45 Innermost part
  - 46 Grant and Vanderbilt
  - 47 Spotted cat
  - 50 Exceptional
  - 52 Subway alternative
  - 55 "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" author
  - 58 Cream of the crop
  - 59 Doughnut shapes
  - 60 Merrie England
  - 61 Begat
  - 62 School founded in 1440
- DOWN**
- 1 Slight advantage
  - 2 Stowe novel
  - 3 Quaker Oats trademark
  - 4 Marseille Mrs. Mount McKinley's state
  - 6 Sub station?
  - 7 Puzzle center?
  - 8 Subj. taught bilingually
  - 9 More risqué
  - 10 Spy's briefing contents, briefly
  - 11 Firewood order
  - 12 Correct, perhaps
  - 13 Empire State Building style
  - 18 "Silent Spring" author Carson
  - 19 Inventor Howe
  - 24 Winesap, e.g.
  - 25 Contrition
  - 26 Singer James et al.
  - 27 Explorer aided by Sacagawea
  - 28 Dogma-rejecting spiritual genre

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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55						56				57				
58						59				60				
61						62					63			

By Barry C. Silk

12/3/09

63 Ad. or word that can follow the end of 17-, 26-, 43- or 55-Across

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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12/3/09

- 29 Junk
- 30 Court bouncer
- 31 Show contempt
- 32 Kind of daisy
- 35 Silly
- 38 Stop and shop, e.g.
- 40 Artistic merit
- 43 Came menacingly into view
- 44 Large game fish
- 45 1950s- '60s
- 47 Laudatory poems
- 48 City SW of Bogotá
- 49 Mideast bigwig
- 50 Scream
- 51 Opening for dynamic
- 53 Pakistani tongue
- 54 Surfboard fin
- 56 Way to go: Abbr.
- 57 How the weasel goes?

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# SPORTS



Fans will have the opportunity to celebrate BCS Selection Sunday with the Frogs. Friday

FOOTBALL

## DOWN TO BUSINESS



Head coach Gary Patterson calls a play from the sidelines during a home game against Texas State on Sept. 19. PAIGE McARDLE / Staff Reporter

## Patterson signs on through 2016

By Sara Humphrey  
Staff Reporter

National reports that the university's head football coach, Gary Patterson, was extending his contract were confirmed Wednesday morning by university officials.

Patterson accepted a contract extension to remain in the head coaching position through 2016, said Chancellor Victor Boschini.

The football team's suc-

cess has helped the university reach its goal of providing its students with a "total university experience," Boschini said. "The excitement on the field extends way beyond the field and the students who play on the team. It is also carried over to our campus, our city, and really across the country," he said. "I am pleased today that we can look forward to many more exciting Horned Frog football teams, especially with Coach Patterson."

The university's athletics director, Chris Del Conte, said Patterson wanted to cross out any rumors or speculation that he was leaving the university.

"He wanted to come out and say 'Hey, this is my house. I am not leaving my house,'" Del Conte said.

Patterson extending his contract is a new beginning for the university but also a continuation of what the athletics department has been doing, Del Conte said.

"We want to keep the whole team together as we continue to build our program, and that was the big thing we needed to have happen," he said.

Patterson said although he does not feel like the athletics department's work is done, they are now crossing the threshold of what they want to do as a football team and a university.

"We still have a mountain

SEE PATTERSON · PAGE 6

FOOTBALL

## Where TCU stands in the BCS shake-up



JOSH DAVIS

This Sunday, the football team will find out where they will be spending early January. While the Fiesta, Orange and Sugar Bowls are all possibilities, reading the BCS tea leaves and an understanding of how the bowls are chosen leaves one option most likely.

First and foremost, there is an order to how the BCS bowls select teams every year. Once the automatic qualifiers are placed in their bowls, the remaining slots are "drafted" from eligible schools.

TCU will be selected in one of the final five spots, as they are the highest-ranked non-BCS team. Where they

go depends a lot on money, somewhat on politicking and very little on producing the best matchup. Welcome to the wonderful world of the Bowl Championship Series.

Also, this is going on the assumption that the nearly two-touchdown favorite Texas Longhorns win the Big 12 Championship. If they were to lose, Nebraska would be in the Fiesta Bowl and Texas would fall to the Orange Bowl and TCU would have a very realistic shot at a place in the National Championship game.

With that in mind, the finals picks should play out like this:

1) In what is considered the no-brainer of the remaining choices, the Sugar Bowl would select first to replace the SEC Champion, who will be in the National Championship Game. They will pick

SEE BCS · PAGE 6

### BCS SELECTION

- 1) The National Championship takes the BCS No. 1 and No. 2 teams.
- 2) The other bowls are filled in with their automatic qualifiers based on conference championships (Rose: Pac 10 and Big 10, Orange: ACC, Sugar: SEC, Fiesta: Big 12), as long as they are not the BCS No. 1 or No. 2.
- 3) The bowls that lose one of their automatic qualifiers to the championship get the next two picks of eligible

teams. If Texas wins, it would likely mean Sugar would have first pick, followed by Fiesta.  
4) After that, the order of the final three picks rotates yearly. This year, it's Orange, Fiesta then Sugar.  
5) The Big East Champion (Cincinnati/Pittsburgh winner) and the highest ranked non-automatic qualifying team in the top 12 (TCU) are guaranteed a BCS bid somewhere in the final five picks.



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