



**NEWS**  
A retired astronaut discusses math and science education.  
**DAILYSKIFF.COM**



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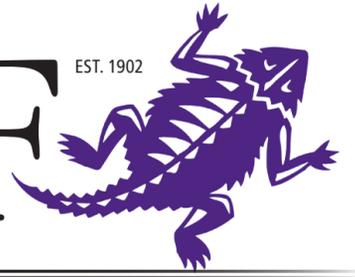


**SPORTS**  
The Horned Frog baseball team comes home for its series against Mcneese State.  
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TCU

# DAILY SKIFF

EST. 1902



TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008  
Vol. 105 Issue 87 [www.dailyskiff.com](http://www.dailyskiff.com)

## Brite to honor Obama's pastor despite criticism

By LONDON DINNIN  
Staff Reporter

Sen. Barack Obama's former pastor will be honored at a Brite Divinity School banquet March 29, despite recent concerns from the public in response to media reports of

the pastor's harsh past sermons.

A statement released Monday from Brite stated that the school would continue to honor and recognize the Rev. Jeremiah Wright at the fourth annual State of the Black Church

Awards Banquet for his 40-year ministry linking divine justice and social justice.

The release also stated that Brite does not endorse all of the statements or views of any of the church leaders recognized by the school.

Newell Williams, president of Brite, said the decision to continue to honor Wright came after careful review of his ministry and conversations with church leaders who worked with Wright in the past. Williams also said the con-

text of a sermon in print could be viewed differently than if it were heard in person.

In an interview with the Chicago Tribune, Obama denounced the controversial sermons from Wright in which See **WRIGHT**, page 2

DAILYSKIFF.COM



Watch a video of one of the Rev. Jeremiah Wright's speeches.

## Provost hopes for new start with UDLA

By JULIETA CHIQUILLO  
Staff Reporter

TCU's provost said he hopes the new rector at Mexican sister school Universidad de Las Americas-Puebla would help repair a damaged relationship with the university.

Nowell Donovan, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said he expects the installment of Luis Ernesto Derbez as UDLA's rector will generate a review of TCU's relationship with UDLA.

"We would love to see relationships start to develop again," Donovan said.

The new rector at UDLA promised a conciliatory approach toward students and faculty and to repair the troubled school's reputation.

The university announced March 5 that Derbez, a former Mexican government official, will take up a five-year term as rector April 1, replacing writer Pedro Angel Palou, who resigned in November, said Maria Lopez Aguilar, subdirector of communication at UDLA.

The appointment follows more than a year of unrest at the university caused by the temporary cancellation of 571 scholarships, several faculty and staff firings and the temporary closing of the student newspaper, La Catarina.

Derbez addressed students and parents at a fair for prospective students March 8 and announced the addition of 26 new faculty members for the upcoming fall semester, Lopez Aguilar said. He also informed the audience about the creation of a business advisory council that would partner the university with local businesses to provide job opportunities to students, Lopez Aguilar said.

According to local newspaper Milenio, Derbez said in a press conference that restoring UDLA's good standing with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is one of his goals.

SACS, which accredits universities in 11 U.S. Southern states and abroad, placed UDLA on yearlong probation in December.

See **UDLA**, page 2



JANET SCHWARTZ / MCT

Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, left, leaves a press conference with then-Mexican Foreign Minister and new rector of UDLA, Luis Ernesto Derbez, in Mexico City on Sept. 8, 2004.

## MOVING ON



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Head men's basketball coach Neil Dougherty was released by the university Sunday after the team returned from the Mountain West Conference with a first-round loss, ending the Horned Frogs' season with a 14-16 overall record.

## Search for new head coach starts

By JOE ZIGTEMA  
News Editor

The university has hired a search firm to help find a replacement head basketball coach after Neil Dougherty wasn't retained for his seventh season, the athletics director said.

Athletics director Danny Morrison said TCU hired Dallas-based Eastman & Beaudine Inc. for support with the search for a new head coach. The university also used the firm in 1997 to search for a replacement for then-retiring See **DOUGHERTY**, page 2

DAILYSKIFF.COM



Discuss coach Dougherty's release from the basketball program.

## Eateries' closings result in five layoffs

By VALERIE J. HANNON  
Staff Reporter

Six of 11 former employees of Edens and Deco Deli returned to work Monday in The Main, while the others face anywhere from a week to six months before returning to TCU, said the marketing manager of Dining Services.

Former Edens and Deco Deli employees Belinda Leon, Peter Thipp, Ernestina Lopez, David McKenzie, Carla Wilson and Jana Crabtree took shifts from The Main that worked with their schedules, said Legia Abato, marketing manager for Dining Services.

Sandra Camp, a former supervisor at Edens, said she was not on the schedule to work this week because of an oversight and would be back soon.

Thipp, a former chef for Edens, said he was informed by Dining Services administrators that he would have a job in The Main before Spring Break. He said he is happy to remain at TCU because he enjoys the people he sees every day.

"My regulars will see me and say 'Hey, Peter! Where's my beef?' like a joke," Thipp said.

Abato said layoffs are common for most Dining Services employees at the end of every school year because the school requires fewer staff during the summer, but she said most staff members are offered the opportunity to be rehired in the fall.

"Summer's happening a bit earlier for them," Abato said of the laid-off Edens and Deco Deli employees.

See **DECO**, page 2

DAILYSKIFF.COM



Comment about the decision to layoff workers at Deco Deli and Edens.

## Professor to speak on global differences among Christian faiths

By BIBEK BHANDARI  
Staff Reporter

A speech today by an expert in Catholic social thought will help students understand religious diversity on campus, the university minister said.

Georgetown University professor Peter C. Phan's work on global Christianity and ecumenism, promoting the union between religions, will help the TCU community understand the Christian and religious diversity on campus, said Angela Kaufman, minister to

the university.

"His work is immensely relevant for all of us today to hear because it's a reminder about how large God's world really is," she said.

Phan, former president of Catholic Theological Society of America, will speak three times today about Christianity in today's world.

Kaufman said Phan's visit will provide a chance for the TCU community to "explore the diverse mosaic that is Christianity."

Timothy Lee, assistant professor of church history and director of

the Asian (Korean) Church Studies program at the Brite Divinity School, said Phan's lectures will help the TCU community become more aware of diversity of Christianity in terms of cultural and continental diversity because Christianity is no longer a "Western religion" but a "global religion."

Lee said students and faculty can learn about religious diversity from Phan's expertise in the Asian-American theology. Phan, who emigrated from Vietnam in

1975, has doctorates of sacred theology, philosophy and divinity and is the author of various books covering different aspects in theology. His teaching career began at 18 and extends from Hong Kong to various U.S. universities.

"He will help guide students to formulate their own positions on the issues regarding the relationship between Christian missions and world Christianity," Lee said.

Hao Tran, a seminary student See **SPEECH**, page 2



**WEATHER**

TODAY: Thunderstorms, 60/44  
TOMORROW: Sunny, 71/46  
THURSDAY: Sunny, 73/51

**PECULIAR FACT**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A truck carrying crates of bees flipped over on a California highway setting loose millions of the swarming insects. — Associated Press

**TODAY'S HEADLINES**

NEWS: Mediator discusses abortion, DailySkiff.com  
OPINION: Pennies unneeded in currency system, page 3  
NEWS: NCAA president to speak at TCU, DailySkiff.com

**CONTACT US**

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## DOUGHERTY

From page 1

athletics director Frank Winderger, which ended with the hiring of Eric Hyman.

Hyman served TCU for more than seven years and was named the 2003-04 Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal National Athletics Director of the Year before leaving to occupy the same post at University of South Carolina in 2005.

Dougherty, who came to TCU as a highly regarded assistant after seven years at the University of Kansas, was informed Sunday afternoon that he would not return to the team next year, Morrison said. Morrison did not give an exact date when the decision was made.

"We evaluate every coach at the end of every season," Morrison said.

The TCU Athletics Media Relations Department has denied the Daily Skiff interviews with any TCU coach or player except regarding upcoming opponents.

"We appreciate Neil's contributions to TCU over the last six years," Morrison said in a statement released Sunday. "He cares deeply about the student-athletes and always had their best interests at heart. He put a lot of time and effort into the job, and we wish him the best in the future."

Dougherty declined to comment at his home Monday, but his colleagues spoke volumes about the coach's performance on and

off the court.

Roy Williams, current University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill head coach whom Dougherty served under at Kansas, said he trusts Dougherty immensely.

"He's really one of the great young coaches in college basketball," Williams said. "He's a great young man, a great coach and the kind of guy I would want my son to play for. That's as great a compliment as I can give anybody."

Eddie Fogler, former head coach at Vanderbilt University and South Carolina whom Dougherty served under from 1989 to 1995, said Dougherty's ability to relate to parents and student-athletes makes him a great recruiter.

"Parents have a great comfort level with Neil — his whole family background is

terrific," Fogler said.

Brigham Young University head coach Dave Rose said Dougherty faced a tough challenge in changing conferences and playing the farthest distance of any other Mountain West Conference school. Although Rose is 5-0 against TCU since it joined the conference in 2005, he said TCU was a consistent and well-coached basketball team under Dougherty.

"(Dougherty) is such a personable guy," Rose said. "When you sit down and talk with Neil, after five or 10 minutes you feel like you've known him all your life."

After six seasons at TCU since joining the team in 2002, Dougherty's career record of 75-108, which includes three last-place

conference finishes, ranked 309 out of 320 among Division I coaches in winning percentage for coaches with at least five years experience, according to NCAA records.

TCU finished this season 14-16 overall and 6-10 in conference play with a 198 RPI, which is a computerized index for ranking teams, earning a seventh-place finish in the conference, the team's best since it joined the MWC in 2005. The team's season ended with an 89-88 loss to eventual conference champion, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in the conference tournament quarterfinals.

The Horned Frogs posted a 21-14 record in Dougherty's third season when the team was a member of Con-

ference USA, the team's most wins since the 1998-99 season, which included a berth in the National Invitation Tournament quarterfinals. TCU posted season records of 6-25 in 2005-2006 with a 287 RPI and 13-17 in 2006-2007 with a 182 RPI, respectively, both last-place conference finishes.

According to TCU's latest tax filing, Dougherty was the second-highest paid employee in the 2005 reporting period other than officers, directors and trustees at the university, earning \$492,452 in compensation and \$95,665 in employee benefits behind head football coach Gary Patterson, who earned \$1.1 million in compensation and another \$101,081 in employee benefits.

## WRIGHT

From page 1

the just-retired pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago called on blacks to condemn the U.S. and accused U.S. leaders of state-sponsored terrorism that invited the September 11 attacks.

"We bombed Hiroshima, we bombed Nagasaki and we nuked far more than the thousands in New York and the Pentagon, and we never batted an eye," Wright said in a videotaped sermon he gave on the Sunday following Sept. 11, 2001 that was posted on the Internet.

Wright also said in a taped 2003 sermon available online, "The government gives them the drugs, builds bigger prisons, passes a three-strike law and then wants us to sing 'God Bless America.' No, no, no, God damn America, that's in the Bible, for killing innocent people. God damn America for treating our citizens as less than human. God damn America for as long as she acts like she is God and she is supreme."

Obama said he didn't attend the controversial Wright sermons that are now circulating on the Internet. This report contains material from McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

## DECO

From page 1

Abato said she didn't know how many positions would be available in the new Brown-Lupton University Union but said it would probably be the same number currently available, if not more.

Meanwhile, the closing of the two restaurants led to

larger crowds in The Main during lunchtime, said Viola Mack, Dining Services cashier.

Peyton Bryant, a freshman pre-major, said his daily schedule wasn't affected much by the closings.

"I did go to Deco and Edens maybe once every few weeks, but I did go to The Main more often than not,"

Bryant said.

Shannon Harman, a freshman art education major, said she and her friends went to Edens all the time and miss it.

"We were excited to see Peter," Harman said.

Former employees who have not been rehired by Dining Services could not be reached for comment.

## UDLA

From page 1

Derbez also said he would attempt to smooth things over with faculty who left the university and listen to their side of the story, according to Milenio.

Mark Ryan, former dean of colleges and professor of international relations at UDLA who was fired in May, said he is open to such talks. He said the university faces a major challenge to repair the damage to its reputation and its financial and structural stability, but Derbez's appointment is a hopeful sign.

"I think the university community desperately needs a reconciliation, and there is no way to bring that about without some approach to the sectors of the community that have been alienated," he said.

Edward Simmen, UDLA's former official historian who was fired in January, said it is appropriate that Derbez examine the faculty dismissals.

"The depletion of all the faculty with doctorates was so destructive," he said.

Simmen, who holds a TCU doctorate in British literature, said Derbez is a competent man with an impressive resume. Simmen said he met Derbez when he joined UDLA as academic vice rector in 1980 and kept in touch with him until the early 1990s.

A member of former Mexican President Vicente Fox's executive cabinet, Derbez served as Secretary of Economy from 2000 to 2002 and as Secretary of Foreign Affairs from 2003 to 2006, according to a press release on UDLA's Web site. Derbez, who was UDLA's academic vice rector from 1980 to 1983, has also held posts in the World Bank, Johns Hopkins University and the Monterrey Institute of Tech-

nology and Higher Education in Mexico, according to the press release.

Sonia Corona, a fifth-year communication major at UDLA, said she hopes Derbez's academic and political experience will help improve the university. Corona, former news editor of La Catarina, said she expects more openness from Derbez, but freedom of speech requires not only openness from the rector but from different sectors of the university.

"I hope there is a better relationship between the administration and the students, which is what was missing in the past administration," she said.

Yunuen Castellanos, a fifth-year international relations major, said Derbez has approached students to introduce himself and ask about their concerns. Although Castellanos said Derbez has made a good impression, students have to wait months after he takes office to have a more accurate opinion of him.

"The fact that he is showing interest leaves us somewhat at ease," she said.

Derbez will cease his duties as Secretary of International Relations for the National Action Party this month, Lopez said.

Arturo Langdon, UDLA's interim leader and delegate for the governing board, will continue at the university, Lopez said.

Derbez graduated from Universidad Autonoma de San Luis Potosi in Mexico with a bachelor's degree in economics, according to the press release. A Fulbright scholarship recipient, Derbez continued his studies in the University of Oregon, where he received a master's degree in economics, and Iowa State University, where he received a doctorate in economics, according to the press release.

## SPEECH

From page 1

at Brite and president of the Brite Asian Student Association, said the entire day is dedicated to a communal setting, chapel service and conversations that encourage the Brite community and the church members to engage in an interreligious dialogue.

"This speech is going to promote religious inclusiveness regardless of what cultural influence you have," Tran said. "As we engage in religious dialogue, we become a better educated society that recognizes and embraces not only similarities but differences."

### FOR YOUR INFO

#### Speeches by Peter C. Phan

"At Jacob's Well: An Interfaith Encounter. A Missiological Reading of John 4:4-42"

When: 11 a.m.

Where: Robert Carr Chapel  
Open to the public

"World Christianity and Christian Mission: Are They Compatible?"

When: noon

Where: Weatherly Hall  
Open to everyone in the Brite and TCU communities

"Reading Religious Texts Interreligiously — Possibilities, Challenges, Experiments."

When: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Kelly Alumni Center  
Open to everyone in the Brite and TCU communities

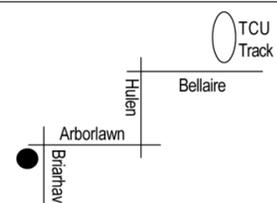
## BASEBALL

From page 6

start to its season, going 3-14, a record that includes six- and five-game losing streaks.

TCU and McNeese State are both coming off winless three-game series. The Cowboys were swept by the University of Texas-San Antonio over the weekend.

The big bat for the Cowboys is junior shortstop Shon Landry, who leads the team with four home runs, 20 runs batted in and a .636 slugging percentage. Landry also ranks second on the team with .333 batting average.



**Easter**  
at **Arborlawn UMC**  
Traditional Worship - 8:45 & 11:00  
Contemporary - 11:11  
In the TCU Neighborhood at  
5001 Briarhaven Rd.  
817.731.0701 • arborlawnumc.org



Join us on **Easter Sunday**  
March 23, 2008  
Masses: 7:45 AM, 9:15 AM, 12:00 noon  
Holy Family Catholic Church  
6150 Pershing Ave.  
Fort Worth, Texas  
817.737.6768  
www.holyfamilyFW.org

# Holy Week at TCU

## Thorns

A Worship Experience

Tuesday, March 18th at 7:00 PM

Student Center Ballroom

Sponsored by Christ Fellowship and  
Campus Crusade for Christ

## Holy Thursday

Mass and Washing of the Feet

Thursday, March 20th at 8:00 PM

Annie Richardson Bass Building\* Room 107

Sponsored by Catholic Community

## Good Friday

March 21st at 8:00 PM

The Celebration of The Passion & Death of Jesus Christ

Annie Richardson Bass Building\* Room 107

Sponsored by Catholic Community

## Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday March 23rd at 6:30 AM

Sadler Hall Lawn

Sponsored by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life

Immediately followed by Liturgy of the Eucharist

Annie Richardson Bass Building\* Room 107

Sponsored by Catholic Community

\*The Annie Richardson Bass Building is located at the corner of Lubbock & Bowie, south of Dan Rogers Hall. Use the Northeast Entrance  
Office of Religious & Spiritual Life • www.faith.tcu.edu • x7830

### TCU DAILY SKIFF

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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"It takes a great deal of courage to stand up to your enemies, but even more to stand up to your friends."

— J. K. Rowling

**THE SKIFF VIEW**

# Dougherty's release good call

On Sunday, three days after the men's basketball season closed, so did something else. Neil Dougherty's tenure as head coach is over.

Dougherty will not return to fulfill the last year of his contract for obvious reasons — empty stands and losing streaks.

Since leaving his position as assistant coach to Roy Williams at the University of Kansas to come to TCU, Dougherty has had six years of ups and downs.

At games in the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, fans were missing from the stands — a sign of an evident and lurking problem. This past season, Dougherty even tried recruiting fans from the Greek community and elsewhere to build encouragement for a team he said was desperate for it. While his efforts slightly paid off and attendance grew, it wasn't enough to win games and keep the coach here.

"We appreciate Neil's contributions to TCU over the last six years," said Dan-

ny Morrison, TCU athletics director, in a press release. "He cares deeply about the student-athletes and always had their best interests at heart. He put a lot of time and effort into the job, and we wish him the best in the future."

Although his efforts to recruit fans were admirable and his passion for the team was clear, it's not enough to make up for his poor record.

This season's 14-16 record was his highest since TCU entered the Mountain West Conference, but the regular season road record, 1-12, is what kept the team from success.

Dougherty's inability to win on the road kept the team from ever being a serious competitor.

Danny Morrison's decision was probably not easy, but it was best for the program. While morale might take a hit, the decision will benefit the team in the long run.

*Associate editor Ashleigh Whaley for the editorial board.*

**BY JEREMY ARNOLD AND WHITNEY WALLER**



*Jeremy Arnold is a junior religion major from Sugar Land and Whitney Waller is a junior religion and English major from Garland.*

# Renewed interest in safety overdue

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's muscle has atrophied for 25 years. Its ability to protect the public from dangerous goods fell victim to bud-

get cuts, staff reductions and blind

faith that the free market would cure all ills.

Last week, that began to change. The Senate overwhelmingly approved a bill that would drastically increase the commission's budget over the next three years. It would establish a Web site to warn consumers about safety problems, give regulators better tools to enforce existing laws and hike the maximum fine for companies that knowingly flout safety laws.

The House passed a similar, but less expansive, bill in December. Differences between the two bills should be ironed out quickly and President George W. Bush should sign it immediately. Unlike the version passed by the Senate, the House bill doesn't grant "whistle-blower" protection to corporate insiders who come forward with evidence of corporate malfeasance. Congress has granted whistle-blower protections in four other laws enacted since 2002. Extending them here would help bring to light willful disregard of safety laws.

Another key difference is that the Senate bill allows

state attorneys general to block distribution of unsafe products in their states.

That works as a "force multiplier" for the undermanned CPSC, increasing enforcement, which protects consumers. It should be included in the final bill.

The product safety commission's problems have been decades in the making, but until last year there seemed little sense of urgency about resolving them. The CPSC has fewer than 400 employees and a budget of just \$63 million. That's less than half the workers and budget it had two decades ago (when adjusted for inflation). Yet the number of categories of products it regulates has grown to more than 15,000.

With so much responsibility and so small a staff — the department that tests toys consists of one person — it's no wonder the commission can't protect the public. It investigates just 10 percent to 15 percent of the reports it receives of product-related injuries or deaths.

Last year's seemingly unending parade of product recalls — pet food, tires, lead-painted toys and dangerous jewelry — was a long overdue wake-up call for Congress. Consumers expect and deserve to be protected from unsafe toys and dangerous products.

*This editorial appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on March 10.*

# Costly coins add burden to economy

Nicolas Cage starred in a preposterous thriller a few years back that included a secret clue to riches — the "National Treasure" of the title — embedded on U.S. money.

Turns out riches are embedded in U.S. money, specifically nickels and pennies — and there's nothing secret about it.

Because of the soaring cost of zinc, copper and nickel, it now costs the U.S. mint 1.7 cents to make each penny and 10 cents to make a nickel. The dime and the quarter are still worth more than their cost of production — the dime costs 7 cents and the quarter checks in at 10 cents — but that could change if the global commodities surge continues.

Making money that is worth less than the cost of ingredients is a bad deal for taxpayers. U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., chaired a hearing last week on a bill to allow the Treasury Department to change the composition of coins to something cheaper — steel, for example — without prior congressional approval. That could save taxpayers \$100 million a year.

But why stop there?

The use of electronic money — debit cards, transit cards, car-operated parking meters, I-PASS, etc. — becomes more popular every year, making those jangling coins even less useful or necessary. Why not let this surge in commodity prices be the catalyst to make cheaper coins — and get rid of the penny?

Its ingredients are expensive and its usefulness has all but disappeared. It takes three cents today to buy what one cent purchased in 1979. Pinch pennies? A lot of people just toss them.

There would be costs to killing off the penny. Coin-operated businesses say they would have to retool. But in the long run, this

would save money.

Feeling nostalgic for the penny? Currency isn't exactly immune to change. Half-cent, two-cent, three-cent and 20-cent coins were once in circulation in the U.S. They are gone, and the penny deserves the same fate.

Yes, there's one problem with this. Yes, we live in the Land of Lincoln. We revere Abraham Lincoln. We would lose a symbol of his immense importance to this nation by doing away with his coin, the penny. But Lincoln has a

respectable home on the \$5 bill — a spiffed up, harder-to-counterfeit version of which was just unveiled Thursday by the Treasury Department. Lincoln also could anchor the \$1 coin.

We suspect the practical Lincoln would acknowledge it's not wise to keep the diminished penny in the 21st century — even if it commemorates him.

It costs 1.7 cents to make each penny. Who needs it?

*This editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Monday.*



# U.S., Colombia outcasts after tensions ease in South America

Now that the tensions in South America have eased, Colombia and the United States find themselves more isolated than before.

The dispute erupted when Colombian President Alvaro Uribe sent his forces into Ecuador to attack Colombian rebels without informing the Ecuadorian government beforehand.

Rafael Correa, the president of Ecuador, charged this action violated international law. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez

criticized President Uribe for acting as a lackey of the U.S. government. Ecuador and Venezuela mobilized troops on Latin America's border. President Bush vowed support for Colombia.

Correa and Chavez then got into a heated exchange with Uribe at the Latin American leadership summit in the Dominican Republic.

On hearing this, on the eve of International Women's Day, Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner observed, not without irony,

that women were accused of being emotional, but emotion was what she was observing in the actions of the masculine presidents of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. The audience laughed, and her remark helped defuse the crisis. Thanks to the good offices of the presidents of the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Guatemala, the war threat ended.

But in its wake, several things have become clear.

First, armed incursions from one country into another, such

as Colombia's invasion of Ecuador, are now off-limits for the leaders of Latin American countries.

Second, Colombia's main guerrilla group, the FARC, has discredited itself with its own recourse to violence. Its use of kidnappings has alienated Colombian society at all levels.

Third, the nations of the region now better understand the need to broker a negotiated solution to Colombia's long civil war. The military solution promoted by Uribe and the United States would only

prolong the brutality of the war and threaten the stability of the region.

Fourth, the isolation of the Uribe government at the regional level became obvious, as did concern about his alliance with Washington. Colombia is perceived as Washington's proxy, seeking to stop the advance not only of progressive politics but the political and economic integration of South America.

Fifth, whoever becomes the next president of the United States will have to deal with

a very different Latin America than the one U.S. leaders are used to. The free-market economic policies dictated by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have come at a painful cost to most people in the region. Progressive governments have shunned those policies and are offering popular alternatives.

Colombia and the United States are now the odd ones out.

*Cecilia Zarate-Laun is the program director of the Colombia Support Network, based in Madison, Wis.*

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# Dancing to memories

## Professor perseveres in spite of injuries, family's opposition

By ANTOINETTE NEVILS  
 Staff Writer

Her father was never supportive of her dancing. Her father seemed to point out the downsides to dancing, such as the short life span of the career, possible injuries and a cliché career path for women.

It wasn't until she was 30, when Suki John choreographed an emotional piece, that her father finally supported her decision.

The ballet John choreographed hit home for her and her father, because it was about the Holocaust, which John's mother and grandmother survived years ago.

John said her family's background is what motivated her to do something with her life, because she knows it's likely that she may not have been here today. John dances because she feels it is meaningful to her life and to others, and it is also what she loves to do.

John wanted to tell her family's story through dance. Her mother and grandmother are Holocaust survivors, and her father was an American G.I. during World War II.

John's grandmother and mother were placed in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

John said she was staying in Budapest during the time she choreographed the Holocaust ballet, which was where her family was from and where people understood the experience.

She said her father came and saw her ballet and finally accepted her passion for dance. When the former Yugoslavia dance company was not going to perform her ballet because they did not like the movements, she had to convince the dancers that the ballet was about the Holocaust and not meant to be pretty, but emotional.

This also showed John's father that dance can be serious, which allowed him to finally take her dream seriously.

"He came right when things were falling apart," John said. "But he said the dance was really good and saw dance as real, not for princesses."

### Living to dance

One day, John asked her mother, "Why am I doing this with my life when there are so many problems in the world?"

Her mother said when she was in the concentration camps she would think about beautiful things, such as music and dance.

John said her mother told her, "It's not enough to stay alive for just bread and shelter, but you stay alive for things that make life worth living."

John's mother had wanted to be a dancer but was born with back problems. However, her mother started a dance class while she was in the concentration camps during the Holocaust. It was a way to keep the children distracted and busy.

Her mother always supported her love for dance, John said. Her parents took her to ballets and musicals when she was young, which made her interested in classical ballet, John said.

She started dancing at age 5 when she took her first class in body movement in New York.

"I wanted to be a ballerina," John said.

However, as she got older she became more interested in the theatre and dance and the "interaction" between the two. She enjoys the singing, dancing and acting they both entail.

John earned a bachelor's in theatre arts from the University of New Mexico and her master's in choreography and dance history from New York University. She also holds a doctorate in comparative literary and cultural studies from the University of Connecticut.



Suki John lectures about ballet during the renaissance period Monday in the Palko Building. John teaches an active dance class and a lecture course at TCU.

"I'm so curious about dance and dance history," John said. "These things are so interesting to me. I'm constantly learning."

### Thriving to teach

John said she has a great passion and love for dancing, theatre and teaching, which is why she now teaches at TCU.

She said she wanted to work with accomplished faculty who could help her become a better teacher.

Patty Solorzano, a junior modern dance major who takes two classes with John, said John brings a lot to the dance department.

"She has a lot of experience and she knows a lot of dance history and research," Solórzano said.

Having wanted to be a classical ballet dancer since she was child, she received a part in Sleeping Beauty at a ballet company in Paris. But the part did not help her get into the company, and she soon realized that this is not what she wanted to pursue.

"They wouldn't let me audition for the company because I was too short," John said. "That was it for me for classical ballet."

While feeling separated from the classical ballet world, she became interested in modern and Cuban-modern dance, John said.

She chose to never stop dancing despite her many challenges.

### Putting pain aside

One of her biggest obstacles was overcoming chronic tendonitis, which stopped her from dancing for two years, John said.

She was a graduate student at NYU when her ankles began to hurt so badly she could barely walk.

After going to doctors and therapists, she was diagnosed by her ballet teacher who figured out the problem and how to fix it.

"It was an inflation of the tendon in both ankles due to years of overuse, abuse and misuse of the body," John said. "I was

dancing with a non-structured body."

This did not keep her from dancing. She stayed in school and focused on other things, such as dance history, journalism, and video and camera work. Her injury did not hold her back from dancing at her school, she said.

When John got better, she had to re-learn her ballet technique.

"I got very discouraged, but I never lost the desire to dance," John said.

After her injury and finishing graduate school, she became skilled in the unique genre of Cuban-modern dance.

"Cuban dance is so different and the professional dancers there are extraordinary," John said. "It turned me around."

Solorzano said the dance department never taught Cuban mod-

*"My mother wanted me to do what she couldn't do. She wanted me to help keep the world a beautiful place."*

Suki John

ern dance until now, and she enjoys it.

John said she believes dance is an international language and an experience that hits home to make people think and be inspired. Dance can touch someone on many levels, she said.

She said her unique heritage and background motivates her to make dance meaningful and to teach others about dance and dance history despite the obstacles.

"My mother wanted me to do what she couldn't do," John said, "She wanted me to help keep the world a beautiful place."

### MOVIE REVIEW

## Animaged rendition of children's book amuses, entertains people of all ages

By GEORGE CAGLE  
 Staff Writer

"Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!" was one of my favorite books as a child. Considering Hollywood's recent tarnishing of "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat," I did not look forward to "Horton's" film debut with much enthusiasm.

However, "Horton" was magnificent in capturing the creativity, innocence and delight found in Dr. Seuss' stories.

The film's plot follows Dr. Seuss' creation very closely. An elephant named Horton discovers a tiny world popu-

lated by man-like creatures called "whos" inside a speck of dust and vows to protect them. Although the other animals in the Jungle of Nool believe Horton is being ridiculous, Horton just rears back and replies, "I meant what I said and I said what I meant. An elephant's faithful one hundred percent!"

Featuring an all-star cast headed by Jim Carrey and Steve Carell, this film features comedy will be enjoyed by children and adults. Instances of verbal and physical humor are found throughout the movie, such as when Horton attempts to cross a bridge that is so feeble that it cannot even support a feather,

or the conversations between the Mayor of Whoville and his son, JoJo.

"Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!" will thoroughly amuse

anybody who is fan of Dr. Seuss and everybody can learn from the story's lesson: "A person's a person, no matter how small."



Courtesy of BLUE SKY STUDIOS

### MOVIE REVIEW

## Comedic story of courage heartfelt, filled with laughs

By ROGER MOORE  
 The Orlando Sentinel

Every generation needs its "My Bodyguard," its "Three O'Clock High," a come-of-age/face-your-bullies comedy about boys being boys being beaten up by other boys.

Thus, "Drillbit Taylor" is a laugh-out-loud riff on just that subject, just those boys and one fearsomely psychotic bully.

"Drillbit Taylor" is about three dorky high school freshmen who hire a homeless bull artist to protect them, train them and make life tolerable in a new school. It's a Judd Apatow production that leans more toward the sweet than the edgy. But it's still an amusing hour and a half at the movies.

The "freakishly skinny"

Wade, aka "Skeleton," and the cherubic Ryan, aka "T. Dog," barely survive their first few days at school. Wade (Nate Hartley) sticks up for a bullied kid (David Dorfman) and that brings the tuggish, emancipated (no parents to report to) Terry down on them all.

The freshman go to the Internet and find a bodyguard.

"Drillbit" is a safe movie, by Team Apatow standards (he produced, Seth Rogen came up with the story, Steven Brill directed). The Rogen "Superbad" formula of skinny, brainy guy paired with fast-talking cherub isn't as comically subversive here, or as raunchy. These "freaks and geeks" are younger, more like the TV show that gave Apatow his start.

KEELY DOERING / Designer





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**TCU VS MCNEESE STATE**  
**TCU TENNIS TODAY**  
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BASEBALL

# Squad faces last test before conference play



TCU ATHLETICS  
Junior Matt Vern attempts a bunt against Cal State Fullerton. The Horned Frogs face McNeese State before conference play starts.

By BRETT LARSON  
Sports Editor

The Horned Frog baseball team made it through a tough Spring Break schedule, featuring series against top-15 teams Ole Miss and Wichita State, and now faces McNeese State before the start of conference play.

TCU went 4-4 over break, taking the series against Rivals No. 14 Ole Miss 2-1, but was swept by No. 23 Wichita State to close out the week.

TCU started break with a 3-1 loss against Ole Miss before reeling off four straight wins.

The Horned Frogs swept their two-game series against Prairie View A&M, allowing one combined run and setting two season marks. In the first game of the series, TCU

hit a season-high 10 runs and followed with its first shutout of the season in the second game, where five pitchers combined to hold the Panthers to three hits.

TCU finished its seven-game home stand 6-1 before traveling to Wichita State, its first away games since March 2. The Horned Frogs' bats went cold against the Shockers, scoring only four runs in the series.

McNeese State has had a tough

See **BASEBALL**, page 2

**FOR YOUR INFO**  
**TCU vs. McNeese State**  
When: 6:30 p.m. today  
Where: Lupton Stadium  
Stakes: TCU was swept in its last series against Wichita State.

COMMENTARY

# NCAA president fails large sports programs

By JOSH DAVIS  
Staff Writer

The NCAA is a business. We are constantly reminded of this when annual talks of a college football playoff system come up. When the intelligence of a play-in game for the NCAA basketball tournament is questioned every March, it is a financially-motivated decision. If the NCAA is a business, the name Myles Brand should send investors running for the hills.



DAVIS

Since he became president of the NCAA in 2003, he has been a constant nuisance for Bowl Champion Series conference Division I athletics programs. He has stressed the importance of academics in the lives of student-athletes, but considering the NCAA's past role in that area, he is both extremely noble and phenomenally hypocritical.

Brand has become so jaded in his mission of equality for all NCAA schools, he has lost sight of rule No. 1 — the NCAA is a business.

The fact is, the only collegiate sport that routinely makes money is college football, and at certain schools, men's basketball. So to work around the lack of football teams at smaller schools like Wagner College, a Division I school in New York with 2,000 students, the powers had to get clever.

The NCAA makes it work by

depending on the BCS schools to cover the difference by profit sharing.

The question is, what happens when members of the BCS decide they don't want to share the money anymore? They realize the political entity that creates the recruiting rules isn't worth much without their money?

Brand is slowly forcing the BCS schools to think about these questions. The answer may be abandoning the NCAA and forming something new that will make the "business" of the depleted NCAA look miniscule in comparison.

And the hard-nosed stance on education that Brand became known for?

Bye-bye Kevin Durant. See ya Greg Oden, O.J. Mayo and Michael Beasley. Maybe one more year, but a degree? Maybe they'll get around to it between their seventh and eighth years in the pros.

The lightweights hold the power and the president spouts off well-meaning rhetoric that would be unrealistic in an all-but-perfect world.

Do small programs want to keep their athletics programs running thanks to money from the big schools, or do they want education to be the premier facet of their league?

As for Brand's opinion, just ask him tonight at 7 p.m. in Ed Landreth, where there will be a symposium about the state of the NCAA, football and college athletics.

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