



# The New Exponent

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Lux et Veritas

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## A Closer Look at the TWC Residence Hall Staff

By Kathryn Paden  
Residence Life Coordinator

Question #1 - Who are those guys? Are they the ones who get your toilet fixed, give you your room key, put on movie nights and Twister tournaments, pour out your beer when you get caught, and tape up fliers that eventually get torn down? Are they smiling faces in the hall, door un-lockers, secret-keepers, and shoulders to cry on? Either way, they are TWC's Resident Assistants, or R.A.'s for short.

The hall staff is composed of 9 very talented and gifted students who earn the title of Resident Assistant and are supervised by the Coordinator of Residence Life. They are first and foremost students who work very hard in their academics. They are made up of SGA officers, "theater kids", athletes, honor students, sorority sisters, fraternity brothers, choir members, classmates, and

future teachers, artists, historians, doctors, and lawyers. Their different skills and backgrounds are what make them mesh so well together in one unified team.

After a week and a half of very carefully planned staff training at the end of their summer vacation, and after all the residents have checked in to their rooms, the fun begins for the RA's! Whether they are setting up a relay for the Ice Cream Olympics, filing resident paperwork, planning a

Super Bowl party, holding a meeting, or healing a broken spirit, the expectations are laid upon them for the entire year. This year's hall staff has worked very diligently to make residents' experience the best, safest, and most enriching it can possibly be.

Question #2 - What does it all mean? The current hall staff members had this to say about what being an R.A. means to them:

Rachel Guyton, sophomore: Being an RA has had a tremendous impact on

my life. I have met so many people that I know that I will be friends with for the rest of my life. My job on hall staff has been one of my favorite college experiences at TWC.

Bobbie Newcomb, senior: I enjoy being an RA for the opportunity to meet new people. I enjoy knowing that I may have had a hand in their development through their journey. I would challenge those who want to make a difference in others lives to become an RA and help someone achieve their dreams big and small.

Janessa Stultz, senior: An RA is a Resident Assistant who should always be Readily Available and also Really Attentive to the needs of her residents. Being an RA has taught me a lot about myself and has given me some life experiences that will stick with me forever. You establish a lot of friendships with the people around campus and will find joy in helping ...

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## Fighting Back: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

By Ashley Ham  
Staff Writer

After years of gruesome attacks by Palestinian paramilitary organization and political party, Hamas, and centuries of hostile contempt by surrounding Arab countries, Israel has finally gone on the offensive in the southern part of the country on the border of the Gaza Strip. Tradition continues in the Middle East as a fight for territory and Israeli existence continues along the Mediterranean Sea in Gaza.

At the close of 2008, a massive assault launched against Hamas destroyed Palestinian homes and buildings, as well as the economy in Gaza. Israel retaliated in response to the constant bombardment of rockets and violence. The Israeli military also aimed to destroy the underground tunnels used by Hamas to smuggle weapons and supplies from Egypt to the Hamas militia extremists. The destruction has taken its toll in Israel and Gaza alike, resulting in an intervention and negotiating

peace talks by the UN and Egypt. An unofficial cease-fire is taking place in the Gaza Strip now, and so far neither party is planning to carry on with attacks. Hamas demands that Israel remove its current border blockade, which is, in part, a major contribution to the poor economic status in Gaza.

Although some of the tunnels along the Egyptian-Gazan border have reopened, Israel has requested that Egypt have stricter regulations of the border to prevent Hamas from smug-

gling more weapons into the country and rearming for another possible attack. Israel hopes to leverage Hamas by exchanging Hamas military prisoners in return for an Israeli soldier, captured along the border in 2006. While there is no official cease-fire or peace document signed by either feuding group, the UN and Egypt are optimistic that the peace in Gaza can continue while the world holds its breath for the weeks to come, anticipating the next move in the Middle East's struggle for peace.

## Did you ever wonder?

By Lonnie Mays  
Staff Writer

Why is it that when you prepay for your gas the pump shuts off between fifty and twenty cents before the prepaid amount? Could it be to keep your tank from overflowing? There has to be a reason for this to happen.

Way back when gasoline was below a dollar a gallon, a bell was strung in front of the pumps. When an automobile ran over the bell it would cause an attendant to rush out to the waiting vehicle. He would pump your gas, check your fluids, and wash your windshield; they would even

give you glasses or other gimmicks for filling up your tank. It always amazed me that they would do all this work and never have your tank go past the pre-specified amount.

Computer technology has become a very important part of our everyday lives. People are totally dependent upon it for their daily survival. Computer accuracy is much more reliable than human error.

So what is the reason for the early shut off? It is so that the computer doesn't run over the preset amount. Now you don't have to wonder.

## The Roosevelt Reprisal

By Meredith Galyon  
Copy Editor

If you are under the impression that the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt is no longer living on, you obviously haven't heard of the Teddy Roosevelt Reprisal. For a chance to see a live version of Theodore Roosevelt, on February 28, 2009, at 7:00 PM in Townsend Auditorium, Tennessee Wesleyan College along with Citizens National Bank will be sponsoring a Theodore Roosevelt Reprisal, an act performed by Joe Wiegand that will be a fund raiser benefitting the American Legions Memorial.

Our own Dr. Eric Love has a personal connection with Wiegand, being friends with him since they were in speech class when they were kids. After chatting about their speeches backstage at an Optimist Club speech contest, Dr. Love mentioned something about Roosevelt being a part of his speech, which sparked a common interest between him and Wiegand, who also showed a profound interest in the president. When Wiegand moved away, they later met up at Sewanee, where Wiegand was Student Body president, and pitched the idea to Dr. Love of a...

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ESTABLISHED 1895

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## Hall Staff

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... others. You also must be prepared to make mistakes and learn from them. If you are interested in being an RA, you must be willing to step out of the box and get creative.

Kris Ford, senior: You need to be caring and helpful. You definitely want to care about your residents. Whether it's a clogged toilet or a personal issue, you have to be available to help out in whatever way you can. It's key to a successful hall staff.

Philip Ross, senior: Be-

ing an RA is rewarding. However, in order to be an RA you have to live above reproach because no matter what, somebody is always watching, but I love the pressure and like being a leader on campus!

Kirby Vinson, sophomore: Being an RA gives you the opportunity to lead and learn, to be responsible for a group of people and showcase that ability in prime fashion. You learn to be a functional part of a cohesive team. Strong-minded, strong-willed, team-oriented, approachable, friendly, multitasking, non-judgmental people who aren't in it

for the financial perks or the recognition and view the job as a real job with rules and consequences are the kinds of people who make successful R.A.'s.

Zack Dolberry, senior: Being an RA has allowed me to get more involved on campus and in the community. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys experiencing something new everyday!

Autumn Lowry, senior: Being an RA is being a help to students. It's being a mediator when two best friends just aren't getting along, and it's being a friend when some of my

residents cross their toughest bridges in life. Being an RA is tough, trying, and sometimes scary. However, I'd never take it back. The bonds I have formed and shared with my residents are some of my best memories here at TWC.

Ashley Wilson, junior: An RA's job is much more than just late night phone calls and fire alarms. Accepting the responsibility of an RA and the ability to be a positive role model to my peers is the most rewarding challenge I have taken on in my college career.

Question 3 - How can I become a part of this won-

derful opportunity? Start thinking about it! Applications for the 2009-2010 Hall Staff are now available; go by Kathryn's office and pick one up today, along with additional information about the position. Applications may be turned in to Kathryn's office up until Friday, February 27th at 5pm, and upon turning in your application you must also sign up for an interview date and time.

If you have any more questions, contact Kathryn Paden at ext. 5255 or [kpaden@twcnet.edu](mailto:kpaden@twcnet.edu)

## Super Bowl Wrap-Up

By Brandon Keys  
Staff Writer

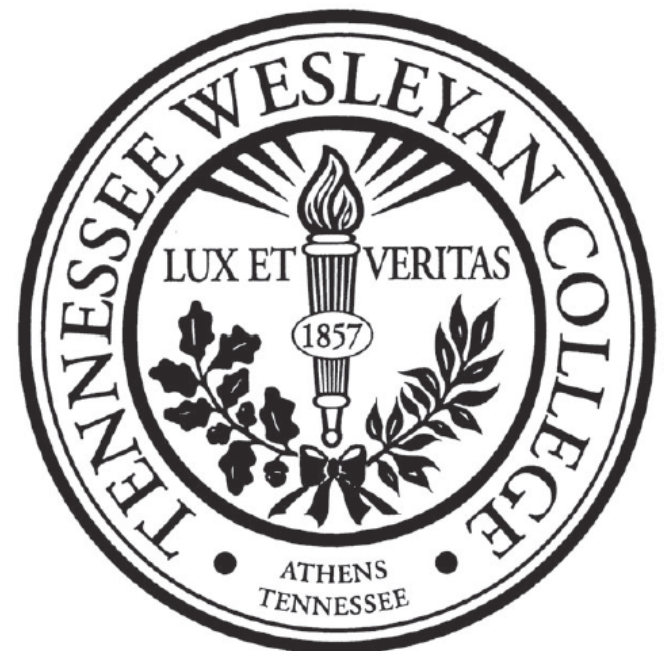
After seeing last year's remarkable turn of events shock the football world, I was ready for anything during this Super Bowl. Maybe another thrilling comeback from an NFC underdog could happen, or even the expected dominance of one AFC powerhouse. To my surprise, neither of these took place.

Instead an aging sure-fire Hall of Famer went toe to toe with the leagues' best defense and came up short. Arizona Cardinals' quarterback, Kurt Warner, fought valiantly right up to

the last play to continue his team's success in the playoffs. The Steelers' defense proved too much though, stripping Warner of the football on the final play. This one play was surprising given Warner's success during the game. He was 31 of 43 for 377 yards and three touchdowns, two of which fell into the hands of Ultra-Pro Larry Fitzgerald. He had a productive playoff game, finishing with seven catches for 127 yards. Though, when it came to clutch offensive plays, Pittsburgh answered the call.

Driving from their own ten yard line because of a penalty, Ben Rothlisberger

and Santonio Holmes led the Black and Gold down the field for what would prove to be the Cardinals' undoing. Arizona's defense had been suspect all year, and it showed in the end. It's too cliché to say Defense wins championships but here you can say Defense lost it for Arizona. Rothlisberger hit Holmes in the back corner for the game winning score with 35 seconds to go. The final score for Super Bowl 43 was 27-23.



# Incoming Obama Administration

By Mallory Hayes  
Staff Writer

Even before the conclusion of the 2008 Presidential election, speculation was underway about who would serve as Cabinet members in an Obama Administration. It was assumed that the candidate that advocated total and complete "change" would neglect the traditional emphasis on experience and appoint mostly Washington outsiders. Experience, however, has turned out to be more important to Obama now that he is no longer just a candidate for President. His administration consists largely of seasoned veter-

ans who are by no means strangers to Washington politics.

Obama's surprise pick of running mate, Joe Biden, was sworn in alongside the president on January 20. At the time of the announcement, many speculated that the Vice Presidency would go to Sen. Hillary Clinton, who had, after all, secured the second most votes of any candidate in Democratic Primary history. Biden, however, was seen by Obama to be experienced enough to be second in line for the presidency.

Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, received the nomination for Secretary of State. As the senator had

petitioned during her bid for the Presidential nomination, her abundance of overseas and foreign policy experience made her quite qualified to be the chief U.S. diplomat to foreign nations during a time of political unrest abroad.

President Obama's choices of commerce and treasury secretaries were far more critiqued by both sides of the isle. Bill Richardson, the governor from New Mexico, was nominated as commerce secretary. Prior to being approved by the Senate, however, Richardson was accused of trading state contracts in exchange for campaign financing. The governor withdrew his nomination in early January.

Obama's nomination of Timothy Geithner as Secretary of the Treasury has drawn tremendous outrage from many on Capitol Hill. Geithner underwent Senate trials for failing to pay income taxes over a four-year period. Reportedly, he did finally acknowledge the mistake and repay the amount, but not until just days before he received the nomination for treasury secretary. The Senate approved Geithner's nomination on January 26 by a 60-34 vote.

While most agree

that nominating a person who neglected to pay his taxes is not the kind of change Americans voted for, many are relieved that Obama "changed" his stance by enlisting mostly Washington insiders who are experienced in the roles that will be so critical in the coming years.

## Reprisal

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...one man show based on Roosevelt's character. Wiegand followed through with his plan and traveled around the country, from his home at Sewanee to Alaska, Florida, New York, and even performing at the White House for the Bush family on Roosevelt's 150th birthday. He also performed at Roosevelt's birthplace. Since Roosevelt was a republican, a lot of Republican organizations, New York state (where Roosevelt was born), and historical societies have booked Wiegand for performances.

The term used for what Wiegand does is a "reprisor", or a person who does reprisals. "I've seen some reprisals in my life, but I don't think I'd seen anyone do Teddy Roosevelt until Joe," said Love. "He's amazing. He just turns into Teddy Roosevelt--he's so good at what he does."

For both Love and Wiegand, Theodore Roosevelt was an inspiring person. "I've always been amazed by Teddy Roosevelt," said Love. "I mean, here's this geeky guy from the East who went out and made a name for himself by sheer force of his will. It's incredible." Roosevelt is most known for his organization of the Rough Riders, the first U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment during the Spanish American War. "When you look at his life from 1858 to 1919, he wasn't just a president--he was leading what he called "the strenuous life", and making a name for himself. The opportunity I have to reprise him is only a fraction of what it would be to actually be with him," said Wiegand.

Wiegand became interested in his role of Roosevelt through his background of politics and public policy, and after reading The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt by Edmund Morris. "It struck a cord with me," said Wiegand, "and I thought there was something special here. It's a lot of fun for me to do, especially in a college town where there is a lot of historical interest."

For more information about the upcoming show, visit [www.teddyroosevelt-show.com](http://www.teddyroosevelt-show.com), or contact Dick Pelley or Eric Love.

